

Buffy The Vampire Slayer

Season 8

Episode 16

"It Just Is"

TEASER

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

The beach is calm and beautiful. The sky is clear. All seems perfect in this quiet little corner of the world.

That is, until a YOUNG WOMAN runs into frame, stumbling as the sand slips out from under her feet. She's scared as hell, and doing everything she can to get out of there.

After a moment of running, she falls to the ground. As she struggles to get up, she looks back. She doesn't see who is following her, but she knows they're there.

She gets back to her feet, but stays put, just looking around. After a beat, still not seeing anything, she turns and starts to run again.

EXT. BEACH - ROCKY AREA - NIGHT

The young woman runs across the beach until she reaches this area. She's out of breath and tired, but she won't let herself stop until she's safe. She looks ahead, and sees something.

YOUNG WOMAN'S POV

In the distance, there is a campfire burning. The FAINT SOUND OF MUSIC can be heard. Something festive.

The woman smiles, though she is on the verge of tears. Finally, some hope. She starts to race toward the fire, but suddenly stops short. Her eyes fill with fear.

YOUNG WOMAN'S POV

In the darkness between the woman and the campfire ahead, lit only by the light of the moon, there stands a man (who shall be called TOCK). He wears a long, alligator skin jacket, sunglasses, and has his long hair pulled back in a ponytail. Yes, he's just a faint little figure at this point, but the description will be handy when we see him up close.

The young woman shakes her head, not believing what she's seeing. Not wanting to believe.

She turns around, to run in the other direction, but that doesn't help much. As she turns we REVEAL SEVEN MORE FIGURES, standing in the darkness behind her.

The young woman begins to cry out of hopelessness as she tries to think of a way out of this.

She looks around, seeing nothing but the rocks that extend into the ocean, and the splintered pieces of a wooden crate that has hit the rocks and washed up on shore.

Finally, she does the only thing she can think of. She begins to climb over the rocks, getting farther and farther away from the beach.

She slips on one of the wet rocks, causing her to fall and scrape her knee. It begins to bleed.

As she gets to the end of the rocks, she finds herself trapped. She looks back.

YOUNG WOMAN'S POV

Tock and the others are getting closer. Tock is already on the rocks, while the others soon will be.

The woman looks toward the ocean. The waves are hitting the rocks hard.

Sucks to be her. Either way she goes, she's not going to be having fun.

She closes her eyes. A tear rolls down her cheek as she makes her decision. Without opening her eyes again, she takes a deep breath and begins to fall into the ocean.

As she falls, an arm reaches out and grabs her. It pulls her back up. She opens her eyes and looks at the owner of this arm. It's Tock. She starts to cry harder, shaking her head in disbelief.

TOCK

Shh. It'll be okay, sweetie.

He looks down at her leg and winces.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Ugly little scrape you got there.
(beat)

Didn't your mother ever teach you
not to waste food?

He smiles at her and VAMPS OUT. She would scream if she could, but she can't.

Tock opens wide, and starts to get closer to her neck.

EXT. UNDERWATER - NIGHT

We are in the ocean now, near the rocks. The waves are still crashing against them. Suddenly, the young woman's body drops into the water.

EXT. TROPICAL BEACH HOUSE - NIGHT

The night is as quiet and calm as we saw it before the attack. The moonlight is especially kind to this beautiful little area.

This is not a fancy rich-person house by any means, but it is still nice. Those who live here have put a lot of work into making it that way. The area is secluded. No tourists here.

WAVES can be heard as they break on the shore in the background. There are also BIRD NOISES and BUG NOISES, however, there is something else.

The SOUNDS OF FIGHTING within the house can be heard. Grunting, hitting of wooden objects against each other, people slamming against walls.

INT. BEACH HOUSE - TRAINING ROOM - NIGHT

Yes, this is a training room. It has a beautiful view, wooden floors, walls adorned with various weapons, punching bag, weights, floor mats. These people know what they're doing.

We can STILL HEAR FIGHTING O.S., as we PAN AROUND THE ROOM.

There's a FEMALE GRUNT.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

Sloppy.

More fighting can be heard.

MALE VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

You're leaving yourself vulnerable.

Still more fighting.

MALE VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

C'mon. I know you're capable of more than this. Don't hold back.

Now we hear the sound of someone hitting a wall. A MALE GRUNT. Sticks hitting each other.

A bo staff flies across the room. There's another MALE GRUNT.

ANGLE ON : THE FLOOR MAT

ROBIN WOOD falls onto the mat, hard. The air is knocked out of him. He just lays there.

ANGLE ON : FAITH

A smile on her face, a bo in her hand.

FAITH

Now that had to hurt.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. BEACH HOUSE - TRAINING ROOM - NIGHT

Faith drops her bo staff, and helps Robin off the mat.

FAITH
Who was being sloppy?

ROBIN
Okay, I might have been mistaken.

FAITH
Ya think?

Faith starts to walk out of the room.

ROBIN
Where are you going?

She stops and turns around.

FAITH
Figured I'd see what's on TV.

ROBIN
We're in the middle of training.

FAITH
The middle? Looked a lot like the
end when you slammed into the ground
back there.

ROBIN
You got lucky.

Faith smiles.

FAITH
Lucky? I kicked your ass.

ROBIN
You recovered well.

FAITH
Yeah, right before I kicked your
ass.

(beat)
Nothing to be ashamed of. I am a
Slayer, after all. Super powers and
all that good stuff.

ROBIN
Fighting isn't always about strength.

FAITH

Actually, most of the time, it kinda is. Don't get me wrong, I'm all for the mental parts, but I don't care how much zen you cram into those tighty-whities, when the game's on, there's nothing like a little brute force to get the kill.

ROBIN

You think so?

Faith gives a shrug with "yup" written all over it.

Robin thinks for a second, and then goes to the back wall. He grabs a knife off of it.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Prove it.

FAITH

Playin' it kinda rough, aren't we?

ROBIN

Take the knife from me.

Faith looks him over, and smiles. She prepares herself for the fight, and takes a couple of steps toward him.

FAITH

Any idea how many times I went through this routine, back in prison?

She looks down at the knife.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Some chick, thinkin' she'd make me her special someone.

Robin jabs at her, but she easily avoids it.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Waving her knife back and forth like she knows what to do with it.

(beat)

They always...

Faith steps toward Robin, and moves to grab his arm, but he moves out of the way.

FAITH (CONT'D)

They always make mistakes. Sooner or later, they slip up.

He shifts the knife position, going for more of a stabbing method.

FAITH (CONT'D)

I got the Slayer in me. They don't. Once they get annoyed, they get too jumpy.

ROBIN

Everyone makes mistakes. Even Slayers.

FAITH

Oh, no doubt. Thing is, I just have to be the one to keep it together for longer. Finish the fight, and then I can make as many mistakes as I want.

ROBIN

Since when do you keep it together?

Faith shrugs.

FAITH

Call me a work in progress.

He comes at her with the knife. She swings at him, but he avoids her. She tries to sweep his legs out from under him, but he jumps over her leg. As he lands, he takes advantage of her momentary delay as she gets back up. He brings the knife down. It looks like he might actually stab her!

However, at the last second, she ducks out of the way, spins, and grabs his arm. She bends it backwards, causing him to drop the knife.

ANGLE ON : THE KNIFE

It hits, and slides across the wood floor, catching the reflection of the overhead light as it does.

Faith watches it for the briefest of moments, then turns back to Robin with a smile.

FAITH (CONT'D)

They always make mistakes.

She lets him go, and heads for a nearby table to get a drink of water. Robin rubs his arm, going to pick up the knife.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Like I said. I got the Slayer in me. I was built to last longer. I make my share of mistakes, but it all evens out in the end. I guess, maybe it is the instinct or whatever. Doesn't really matter though. What matters is that, in the end, I always win. They die, and I live.

She takes a sip of water.

ROBIN

Why do you think that is?

Faith shrugs. Robin starts to walk closer to her.

FAITH

The way of the world. People let
their guard down for whatever reason.
I don't know why it is, it just is.

Robin accepts this answer with a nod. He finally reaches her, and puts his hand on her waist.

ROBIN

Just be careful you don't let your
guard down.

FAITH

Don't worry 'bout me. I ain't leaving
this party till I'm good and ready.

ROBIN

Good to know.

She grins.

FAITH

You worry about me?

ROBIN

We live on a Hellmouth, and you're a
Slayer. Someone has to worry.

She's not sure how to respond to that. She just looks into his eyes. She likes that he worries about her.

After a beat, she turns and walks toward the door.

FAITH

You hungry?

As Faith walks away, Robin can't help but feel as though a sudden cold front has moved in.

INT. SILVER PINEAPPLE - NIGHT

The Silver Pineapple is a small, shack-like bar/restaurant. There are a few tables, where CUSTOMERS are eating, and there are more customers at the bar.

Faith and Robin walk in, and head for the bar. They've been here many times before, so they don't have to stop to take in the atmosphere.

Faith sits on a stool. Robin doesn't.

ROBIN
I'll be right back.

Faith nods an acknowledgment, and Robin heads into the bathroom.

The BAR TENDER walks to where Faith is. He's Jamaican, with a thick accent.

BAR TENDER
Hello. What can I get you tonight?
(then)
No, let me guess. Two beers, and the house sandwiches. Extra fries.

FAITH
(smiles)
Guess we've been coming in here too much.

BAR TENDER
There's no such thing as too much when a customer has money to be spent.

The bar tender winks at her and goes into the kitchen. Faith is left alone.

She picks up a butter knife, and starts to fiddle with it, just wasting time until Robin gets back.

After a beat, she is approached by GRAYSON (skinny, poorly dressed geek type). Grayson speaks with an American accent.

GRAYSON
Hey there.

Faith looks over at him. She checks him out, and smirks.

FAITH
Sorry. Not gonna happen.

GRAYSON
You're quick to assume I was gonna hit on you.

FAITH
Why else would you be coming over here? Pretty sure we didn't go to high school together.

GRAYSON
For your information, I wasn't going to hit on you. I simply wanted to ask you if you had the time.

Faith looks at his wrist. He's wearing a watch.

FAITH

Why don't you tell me?

Grayson smiles and looks down at his watch, a little thrown.

GRAYSON

Okay, fine. I was gonna hit on you.
Did you have to turn me down so fast?

FAITH

Have you seen you?

(beat)

Look, I don't mean to be rude, but I
have a guy.

GRAYSON

Y'mean the one you came in with? He
looked like a high school principal.

Faith laughs.

FAITH

Can't argue there. The guy does have
the posture of a beauty queen.

GRAYSON

Then ditch him. C'mon, I promise,
you'll have a good time.

Grayson puts his hand on Faith's. She looks down at it. At first, she's going to deny him again, but then she stops and thinks for a second. Finally, she looks back up at him.

FAITH

Okay, so say I did go with you. What
then?

GRAYSON

What do you mean?

FAITH

I mean, what kind of a good time can
you show me?

GRAYSON

Oh.

Now Grayson fumbles over his words, not knowing quite what to say.

GRAYSON (CONT'D)

W-Well, I guess we might go for a
walk on the beach. And m-maybe get a
bite to eat.

Faith pulls her hand away.

FAITH

Not really the beach walking type,
and...

She gestures to the rest of the room.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Already grabbing a bite.

(beat)

What else can you do for me?

Grayson doesn't know how to respond.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Oh, c'mon. You can't think of anything
you'd like to do with a girl like
me?

Grayson shrugs.

FAITH (CONT'D)

You're telling me, there weren't any
ideas running through your brain
when you came over here?

GRAYSON

You mean...?

FAITH

You're a smart looking guy. You know
what I mean.

Grayson takes a deep breath and looks away from her.

GRAYSON

I-I could do things... to you. Really
good... things. And--

He gets an idea of what he wants to say, and looks back up.

GRAYSON (CONT'D)

I could take you to the final
frontier. Show you new worlds, and
new civ-- new sensations. Boldly go
where no man has taken you before.

Faith just looks at him for a second with a questioning
expression. And then she smiles.

FAITH

Kinda poetic, aren't you?

She stands up.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Let's get out of here.

She slips her arm through his and they start to walk out of the restaurant.

NINA, a waitress walks up to her. Nina is a Mexican woman, with a strong accent. She looks Grayson up and down, wondering what Faith is thinking.

NINA
Leaving already?

FAITH
Tell Robin, would you?

Nina nods, and walks off. Faith and Grayson walk out the door.

ANGLE ON : THE BATHROOM DOOR

As Faith leaves, Robin walks out of the bathroom. He sees her, and just stands there with a blank expression.

EXT. THE SILVER PINEAPPLE/BEACH - NIGHT

Faith and Grayson walk down the steps of the Silver Pineapple, onto the beach. Once on the beach, and away from the lights of the restaurant, Faith turns to Grayson. She gets close to him, and makes like she's about to kiss him.

FAITH
So what kinds of nasty things did
you have in mind?

Grayson, looks her in the eyes.

GRAYSON
What do you want me to do?

FAITH
Well, for starters...

She puts her hand on his face. It BEGINS TO SIZZLE.

FAITH (CONT'D)
You could show my those pretty little
fangs you've been hiding.

Grayson jumps back, feeling the pain from his face.

GRAYSON
What did you do?

Faith holds up her hand, showing him the palm. On it, there is a tattoo of a cross.

FAITH
It was a birthday present from my
guy. You like it?

Grayson VAMPS OUT.

GRAYSON

A Slayer.

FAITH

You figure that out all by yourself?

She pulls a stake.

FAITH (CONT'D)

So, let's make this quick. I have food waiting.

GRAYSON

I've tasted the blood of Slayers before.

FAITH

Who hasn't? So, did you off one of the little girls or just buy the stuff in a bar?

ANGLE ON : THE STAIRS

Robin walks onto the beach, watching as this plays out.

Grayson rushes toward Faith, determined to bite her. She grabs him, and throws him a few feet, onto the ground.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Are you even trying?

Grayson ROARS as he gets back to his feet. He stares at Faith, planning. Finally, he rushes toward her again. She punches him, stopping him in his path. Then she grabs his shoulders, and bends him, so she can knee his face.

He stumbles back, bleeding.

GRAYSON

You think you've won this? You think you're so powerful?

FAITH

Look who's bleeding.

GRAYSON

You're in for a surprise. You all are. Tock will see to that.

FAITH

Who?

Grayson grins at her. Then he turns and runs like hell.

Faith considers going after him, but brushes it off.

Robin walks toward her.

ROBIN
You're letting him go?

FAITH
I'll get him later. Not like he's
the new crime lord in town.

ROBIN
He's a vampire.

Faith walks to Robin, and kisses him.

FAITH
And I'm hungry. Let's eat. We'll go
hunting later, I swear.

ROBIN
The food'll take a few more minutes.
Let's walk.

FAITH
Walk? Where?

ROBIN
Let's just walk.

They start to walk, toward the water. Faith can tell that Robin is thinking about something serious.

FAITH
You okay?

ROBIN
I'm fine. I'm just a little concerned.

FAITH
Look, I said I'd kill the vamp. I
just need to fuel up first. No big
deal.

ROBIN
It's not just that.

FAITH
Then what?

He doesn't answer. He's not sure how to word it.

FAITH (CONT'D)
I'm a big girl, Robin. I can handle
it.

ROBIN
Fine. It's you.

FAITH
(defensive)
Me?

ROBIN
The way you do things. You're gonna
get yourself killed.

FAITH
It's worked so far.

ROBIN
Before or after the coma?

FAITH
That was a long time ago.

ROBIN
Just before the prison.

Faith is insulted. She stops walking, the waves just hitting her feet as she stands now.

FAITH
You think I'm not good enough for
you.

ROBIN
I didn't say that.

FAITH
But you meant to. It's what you're
thinking, right? I'm just some white
trash whack-job to you. You got your
jollies from her, now it's time to
bail?

ROBIN
No.

FAITH
Then, what?

ROBIN
I don't want to see you killed. You
let the vampires fight longer than
you have to. You tease them, and
stretch it out, and one of these
days, you're going to slip up.

FAITH
Not gonna happen. I'm better than
them.

ROBIN
Everyone makes mistakes.

FAITH

You really think that some nobody vampire's gonna take me down?

Robin hesitates.

FAITH (CONT'D)

You do.

Faith can't believe this. She starts to walk away. Robin stops her.

ROBIN

Wait.

She stops and turns around, wondering what he could possibly have to say to her.

FAITH

You haven't said enough? I get the message. I'm no good. Story of my life.

ROBIN

I just worry about you. I want you to be careful, because I don't like thinking that you could be hurt.

(beat)

I love you.

For some reason, this phrase hits her harder than anything else did. She doesn't know what to say. She's totally thrown.

As she struggles for words, she feels something at her feet. She looks down.

ANGLE ON : THE GROUND

The dead body of the young woman from the teaser has washed ashore at Faith's feet. She has many bite marks on her neck and arms. Her dead eyes seem to be staring right at Faith.

ANGLE ON : FAITH

She looks at the girl with a blank expression, then back to Robin, then back to the girl.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. THE SILVER PINEAPPLE/BEACH - NIGHT

Faith pulls the young woman's body a little farther onto shore, away from the water. She and Robin look the girl over.

ROBIN
That's a lot of bites.

FAITH
Yeah.

Faith studies them a little closer.

FAITH (CONT'D)
And they're from different vamps.
Looks like she was the buffet table
at someone's party.

Robin pulls out his cell phone.

FAITH (CONT'D)
Who you calling?

ROBIN
The police.

FAITH
Oh. Right.
(beat)
You think I should get gone? I am
supposed to lay low, right?

ROBIN
Probably not a bad idea.

Faith stands up and starts to walk away as Robin puts the phone to his ear.

FAITH
I'll grab the food and bring it home.

Robin nods to her.

ROBIN
(into phone)
Yeah, I'd like to report a death.
(beat)
I'm not sure. I found her on the
beach.
(beat)
Right.

Faith looks at Robin, wanting to say something to him. He's too caught up, looking over the girl to notice that Faith is even still there.

Faith turns and walks away.

INT. BEACH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Faith is nowhere to be seen now. The bag of food rests on the table, opened. There's a takeout box next to it, opened with a few fries in it.

Robin walks through the front door, and looks around. He sees the bag.

ROBIN
(calling out)
Faith? You here?

There's no response. Robin walks a little farther into the house. As he does, he notices something.

ANGLE ON : THE BACK DOOR

The sliding glass door is open.

Robin walks to it, and pushes it open a little more. He looks outside.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
Faith?

Still no reply. He turns and starts to walk back to the table where the food is.

As he does, Faith walks out of the kitchen, carrying her sandwich in one hand and two sodas in the other. She's chewing.

Robin's a little relieved to see her.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
Why didn't you answer me?

Faith swallows.

FAITH
Couldn't.

She tosses him a soda as she sits down. He sits next to her and pulls his dinner box out of the bag.

FAITH (CONT'D)
So, how'd it go with the police?

ROBIN

In this town? I'm surprised they showed up at all.

FAITH

Must be a Hellmouth thing. The cops in Sunnydale weren't too quick on the draw either.

ROBIN

I remember.

FAITH

So, what'd they say?

(then)

Wait. Let me guess. Animal attack?

ROBIN

Shark.

FAITH

With those marks? Yeah right.

Robin just shrugs.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Anyway, I guess this means we're in for some vampire hunting.

ROBIN

A whole gang.

FAITH

Sounds fun.

Robin looks down for a second, wondering if Faith even remembers their earlier conversation.

Faith notices this.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Relax. I'm just spoutin' off is all.

(beat)

So, do we know where the lair is, or what?

ROBIN

We'll have to track it down.

FAITH

Right.

There's a long pause. Not much else to say.

Okay, actually, there's a lot to say, but nobody's saying it. Faith takes a sip of her soda. After a beat of wanting to say something, she decides not to. She stands up.

FAITH (CONT'D)

I'm gonna take a shower.

ROBIN

Shouldn't you do that after we go hunting?

FAITH

I feel gross. I'll make it fast.

She walks out of the room, toward the bedroom.

Once she's gone, Robin looks in the direction that she left in. He wants to go after her, but doesn't.

He pushes his food away, and sits back on the couch. There's a lot on his mind at the moment.

INT. BEACH HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Faith walks into the bathroom and closes the door behind her. She turns on the shower, and just stares at the water.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

Faith and Robin are walking down the road now. It's late, and very quiet. Faith's playing with a stake in her hands, while Robin carries a knife.

There's an awkward silence between the two of them. Neither one knows quite what to say.

Finally, Faith looks at him.

FAITH

Almost there.

ROBIN

Yeah.

Back to silence for a moment. Then Faith looks over again.

FAITH

Hate this place. Kinda gives me the creeps. It's got that whole "horror movie" vibe goin' on.

Robin doesn't respond.

FAITH (CONT'D)

So, I was thinkin', maybe tomorrow we could go for a drive. Y'know, get out of this place for the day. Maybe hit the casinos, or whatever. Might be fun.

ROBIN

Maybe.

FAITH

We could even get that whole picnic thing you're always goin' on about. I'm not saying I'll cook, but we could order up some chicken from the Pineapple.

ROBIN

This is our turn.

Robin turns down a small path, leading through tall grass and trees. Faith follows, getting that he's upset.

EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

The cemetery is creepy, to say the least. Some of the tombstones look hundreds of years old, while others look much newer. The grass is tall, reaching over most of the stones.

Faith and Robin walk out, from a small grouping of trees. They continue on the path, looking around.

FAITH

You sure this is the place?

ROBIN

Only one that's had a recent burial, and he had all the right marks.

FAITH

Okay. So, where's this guy buried then?

ROBIN

Over here.

Robin leads the way to a fresh grave. It looks undisturbed.

FAITH

Dirt's pretty smooth. Looks like he's still in there.

Robin doesn't answer. Faith lets the silence continue for a few seconds before she speaks again.

FAITH (CONT'D)

So, I got one of those new Watcher types callin' me the other day.

Robin doesn't respond.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Guy was a prick too. Kept insisting that we send reports, and I was just like, "Whatever."

There's more silence.

FAITH (CONT'D)

I tried calling Giles about it. See if he could get 'em off my back, but he wasn't there. Secretary said he was goin' to see Buffy. Said something's going down.

(extended beat)

I'm not worried though. B can handle whatever gets thrown at her.

Finally, Robin turns to Faith, upset.

ROBIN

Is there something mentally wrong with you?

FAITH

What?

ROBIN

You heard what I told you earlier. Why are you ignoring it?

FAITH

(beat)

Not really sure what you're talking about.

ROBIN

You know damn well what I'm talking about. I told you I loved you, and you brushed me off.

Faith turns away, looking back to the grave.

FAITH

So, you think this guy's ever gonna wake up?

ROBIN

Faith, look at me.

Faith looks at him.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

I told you I love you.

She doesn't respond.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
Say something.

FAITH
It never happened, okay? Forget it.

ROBIN
I'm not gonna forget it.

Faith looks at him angrily.

FAITH
Listen to me. I'm only gonna say this once, okay? You don't love me. I don't know why you said it, but it's not true.

ROBIN
It is.

FAITH
It can't be.

ROBIN
Why?

Faith's just about to respond when a hand reaches from the grave, and grabs her leg. She looks down, then back to Robin.

FAITH
We don't have time for this right now.

Soon, a VAMPIRE begins to crawl out of the dirt. Faith grabs him, pulls him the rest of the way out, and then slams him onto the ground, holding him down.

FAITH (CONT'D)
Speak.

The vampire looks at her and shows his fangs.

FAITH (CONT'D)
Yeah, I'm shakin' over here. Now, why don't you answer a few questions for me, starting with, who did this to you?

The vampire doesn't respond.

FAITH (CONT'D)
You wanna make this harder for yourself? Fine by me.

She touches his face with her tattooed hand. It BEGINS TO SIZZLE. The vampire screams in pain.

Faith takes the hand away. There's a cross burned into the vampire's cheek now.

FAITH (CONT'D)
You wanna talk yet?

VAMPIRE
(scared)
I don't know. I don't know who did this to me.

ROBIN
What'd he look like?

VAMPIRE
Long coat.

ROBIN
That narrows it down.

Faith rubs the vampire's face with the tips of her fingers, threatening to touch him again with the cross.

FAITH
Tell us what you know, and maybe we'll let you walk.

ROBIN
Faith...

FAITH
(not looking back)
I can handle this.
(to the vampire)
Speak.

VAMPIRE
I was taken. I don't know where. Some kind of mansion, or something. Then he came... He said he needed an army.

ROBIN
An army? For what?

VAMPIRE
I don't know. He said I'd be told when I came back.

FAITH
Is that everything?

VAMPIRE
Yes, I swear.

FAITH
Good to know.

With that, Faith stakes the vamp. He POOFS. Faith stands back up, and looks at Robin.

FAITH (CONT'D)
I wasn't gonna let him go.

She starts to walk away. He follows.

FAITH (CONT'D)
We have to find this mansion. I don't think there's a whole lot of those around here.

ROBIN
One that I know about, but it's empty.

FAITH
Then that's the place. Let's go.

They walk a bit more, in silence. Robin finally speaks.

ROBIN
We have to talk.

FAITH
Tomorrow. Tonight, we have work to do.

ROBIN
Fine. Tomorrow.

EXT. CLIFF VIEW ESTATE - NIGHT

Faith and Robin stand at the end of a long driveway that leads up a hill. At the top of the hill, there is an old mansion that's been closed for the season. It sits near the edge of a cliff, overlooking the ocean.

They have obviously gone back for better weapons. Faith now holds a crossbow, and an ax in her hands. Robin is carrying a sword.

FAITH
Nice place.
(beat)
You ready for this?

ROBIN
Let's do it.

They start to walk up the driveway.

INT. THE MANSION - FOYER - NIGHT

Tock is standing at the top of a tall staircase, looking over his MINIONS. Next to him stands ANNA, another vampire. His closest companion.

There are at least twenty more vampires, all looking up at him, holding wine glasses full of blood.

The mansion has a tropical theme to it's decor. Very islandy, in an artificial, rich way.

Tock leans over to Anna.

TOCK

Beautiful, isn't it? It's all coming together.

ANNA

You deserve it.

TOCK

(smiles)

I like to think so.

Tock raises his glass and looks at the contents. He turns to the crowd of vampires, and raises his voice, so all can hear.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Y'know, a little while ago, we would have probably all agreed that more Slayers wasn't something we'd enjoy too much. As I stand here tonight, I have to rethink that opinion a little.

(beat)

Sure, we've had to deal with more fighting in certain areas, but it's avoidable. The important thing is to look at what we've gained.

He looks from his glass, to the minions.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Which is why I decided to break out the good stuff tonight. Slayer blood, imported for your pleasure from our loving friends in Tokyo. We drink to them.

The vampires all raise their glasses, and then take a sip. Tock savors the sweet flavor, and the strong kick of the Slayer blood.

TOCK (CONT'D)

It was worth it, am I right?

He takes a dramatic pause.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Soon, our time will come. The Night of Morel Divineh is getting closer every day. I'm sure you can all feel it. I know I do.

He closes his eyes, taking in the feeling.

TOCK (CONT'D)

It's like a commercial for fabric softener, isn't it? You just wanna wrap yourself in it and take a deep breath... y'know, if we did that whole breathing thing.

He raises his glass.

TOCK (CONT'D)

To the Night of Morel Divineh.

Anna raises her glass.

ANNA

To Tock!

The rest of the minions hold up their drinks.

MINIONS

(all together)

Tock!

And then, from the back of the room, another voice is heard.

FAITH (O.S.)

Okay, now this place is just all kinds of nice.

(beat)

Are these marble floors?

The minions and Tock all look to the front doorway. Faith and Robin stand there.

FAITH (CONT'D)

I'd ask if we could come in, but I'm guessing you don't actually own this place.

(beat)

Which begs the question...

TOCK

(smiles)

It's not a home.

FAITH

Fair enough.

TOCK

What do you plan to do here tonight, Slayer?

FAITH

The usual. I poke you, you die. Nothing too fancy.

Tock laughs.

TOCK

Look around. Do you think you'll win this?

Faith looks around and shrugs.

FAITH

Lookin' to find out.

TOCK

Okay.
(to the minions)
Kill them.

Faith and Robin keep their backs to the wall, so no vamps can get behind them.

ROBIN

Sure is a lot of them.

FAITH

We can handle it. Just gotta know how.

ROBIN

And how would that be?

Faith looks back to him.

FAITH

Follow me.

Faith turns back to the vampires, and checks out the situation. She looks around the room, taking it all in.

Finally, she raises the crossbow, and shoots off two shots. Both arrows find their way to vampire hearts and TWO VAMPIRES POOF. She drops the now-useless crossbow.

The rest of the vamps charge at her and Robin. Faith rushes into the thick of it, swinging her ax. Right away, she takes out another vampire. He POOFS.

A vamp grabs her from behind, pulling her back. She swings her elbow back, knocking it in the face. All things considered, she's actually not doing too bad a job.

Meanwhile, Robin is having a slightly harder time of things. Two vampires are holding onto him, pulling him in two different directions. He's struggling to get free. After some time, he manages to knock the vampire on his left with the back of his sword, causing it to stumble back. Robin then turns to the other vamp, and jams the sword through it's chest. As Robin pulls it back out, the vamp falls. Not dead, but hurting.

Faith turns and sees that Robin is having a hard time. She looks around the room and sees that there's a doorway, leading into the dining room of the house. She looks back to Robin.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Robin!

Robin looks up at her as he struggles. She motions toward the doorway. He nods back at her, getting the message.

Faith decides to clear a path. She swings her ax, taking off the head of a vampire that is standing in her way. He falls, and POOFS O.S.

She grabs another vampire, and throws him across the room, into a female vampire. Both of them go down.

She then punches yet another vampire in the face. Before it can fall, she grabs it, and tosses it into another vampire. Again both go down.

She continues to fight, making her way toward the door. She takes out two more vamps as she does this.

Finally, she reaches the doorway, and goes through it.

INT. THE MANSION - DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Faith walks into the room, which is almost empty. All of the vampires were gathered in the main foyer.

Just as she manages to get out of the swarm of vampires, another one dives onto her from behind. They fall to the ground, and begin to struggle. As she falls, the ax slips from her hand. It lands on the floor, not too far from where she and this vampire are struggling.

The vamp sits on top of Faith and grabs her around the throat, trying to strangle her. Faith manages to flip over, switching places with the vampire.

She punches the vamp in the face three times before the vampire pushes her off of him. Faith falls to the floor next to the ax, and quickly gets to her feet. As the vampire stands, Faith swings the ax, taking off his head. The vampire TURNS TO DUST.

After she takes in the kill, Faith turns around, to see the door. There are no other vampires coming, and Robin is nowhere to be seen. This confuses her. She walks back toward the door, knowing that something isn't right.

INT. THE MANSION - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Faith walks into the foyer again. The fighting has stopped for some reason. Vampires line the walls, and stand in front of the stairway.

Faith walks into the center of the foyer, looking around. The lack of fighting confuses her.

FAITH

Where is he?

None of the vampires answer her. She grabs one and throws him against the wall he stands near.

FAITH (CONT'D)

You're gonna answer me.

Still, the vampire doesn't respond. Annoyed, Faith punches him in the face and turns around, looking at the rest of them.

FAITH (CONT'D)

The one who tells me where he is gets to live.

Again, no response. Faith gets angry and starts to walk toward another vampire, but then she hears something that stops her.

Tock clears his throat from the top of the stairs.

TOCK

Excuse me.

Faith looks up at him. When she does, she sees Robin, beaten and bloody, being held up by the neck by Tock. Anna is standing nearby, watching Faith. She's smiling smugly, filled with pride in Tock.

Faith's face goes blank.

FAITH

You son of a bitch.

TOCK

I'm willing to bet that this one isn't a Slayer.

FAITH

He dies, you die.

TOCK

Still making threats?

Tock tightens his grasp of Robin's neck. Robin winces in pain.

Faith gets angry. She charges toward the stairs. As she gets near them, vampires move to block her. She punches, kicks, and throws some out of the way, but there are still more between her and Robin.

She continues to fight her hardest, but no matter how many vampires she gets out of her way, there always seems to be another one.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Enough!

The fighting stops. Faith looks up at Tock, as do the other vampires.

TOCK (CONT'D)

This wears incredibly thin, sweetie.

FAITH

Let him go. Now.

TOCK

I don't see that happening.

FAITH

Then I'll just have to make it happen.

Faith starts to push forward again. As she does, Tock once again tightens his grasp on Robin. Robin moans. When Faith hears this, she stops short. There are many vampires between her and Robin, and it kills her to see him like that.

FAITH (CONT'D)

What do you want from me?

TOCK

Want? What do I want? I want nothing from you. You came here, remember? You invaded my home. All I want is a nice quiet night, but that seems to be off the menu.

(beat)

I guess I'll just have to rewrite that menu.

FAITH

Do it, and--

TOCK

Oh, enough with the threats. I get it. You're mad. You're going to kill me. I'm dead, not deaf. Still, you don't make an impressive case.

Tock looks at Robin.

TOCK (CONT'D)

What could I possibly put on that blasted menu?

He thinks for a moment, and then a lightbulb goes on in his head.

TOCK (CONT'D)

I've got it!

Tock VAMPS OUT, and looks back to Faith.

TOCK (CONT'D)

I'll put your boyfriend on it.

He grins, and then sinks his teeth into Robin's neck.

FAITH

No!

Faith tries to rush up the stairs, but she is once again stopped by the many vampires.

Tears form in her eyes as she pushes, and punches, and struggles, but she can't get there. She can't push her way through this.

As she starts to realize that there is no way for her to get to him, she looks up at Robin. A tear falls down her cheek.

The ROOM GOES SILENT. There's not a sound to be heard at all.

Faith watches, still struggling to move forward, as Tock drinks from Robin's neck. Robin is limp at this point.

Finally, Tock lifts his head. His mouth is covered with blood. He once again grins at Faith, and drops Robin over the banister.

The vampires below clear the way, as Robin falls onto the marble floor, landing with a LOUD THUD. His eyes are open, but lifeless.

Faith just stares at him for what seems like an eternity. For what might be the first time in her adult life, she is crying.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. THE MANSION - FOYER - NIGHT

Faith is still looking at Robin.

The vampires begin to cheer. Tock walks down the stairs slowly, wiping his mouth.

TOCK

Did he have Slayer blood in him, or was that just after-taste from before?

Faith doesn't look away from Robin. She's numb.

TOCK (CONT'D)

(to the other vampires)

What do you think we should do with her?

(beat)

Should we kill her?

The vampires cheer.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Should we let her go home?

The vampires stop cheering.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Should we lock her in the basement, and use her as our love slave?

There are a few cheers here.

TOCK (CONT'D)

I do hate making decisions. Why ever did I take this job?

Tock walks to Faith and gently rubs her face.

TOCK (CONT'D)

You've got spirit. I like that. It's a challenge.

(beat)

I've seen it before. I kill someone's great love, and the survivor gets this look in their eyes. Not unlike the one you have now. Oh, you might cry, but in your mind, you're probably already planning six different ways to put wood through my chest. Am I right?

Faith doesn't answer. Her eyes shift from Robin to Tock. She looks at him with a look that should probably kill Tock without the need for wood.

TOCK (CONT'D)

But you can't. You can't do anything right now. You can't even move. As much as you want to, you can't bring your muscles to function.

(beat)

It's always interesting to me to see someone like this. Will they ever recover? Will they regain their strength and kill me once and for all? The drama of it is... They should make a TV series out of it.

(beat)

Oh well.

(to his minions)

Kill her.

Tock walks into the dining room.

The minions get all worked up. They start to tug at Faith. Just as it looks like she might be finished, she snaps out of her daze.

She kicks the nearest vampire out of the way, and throws another. She punches yet another. Finally, she turns and runs after Tock. Vampires try to stop her, but they can't. She pushes them aside easily.

Faith goes into the dining room.

INT. THE MANSION - DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

After she gets in, Faith closes the door behind her, and locks it.

Tock, on his way to the kitchen, turns.

TOCK

Odd. Who puts a lock on a dining room?

FAITH

You think I don't have the strength to kill you?

She walks toward him, raising her ax. As she gets close, she swings it.

Tock catches the ax before it hits him. He holds the pose for a moment.

TOCK

You're still not in the game.

FAITH

No?

She uses his grip on the ax to throw him through the dining room window. She then jumps out after him.

EXT. THE MANSION - BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

Faith steps through the broken glass. She's set her mind on killing Tock now. There's vengeance in her eyes.

FAITH

You killed him.

TOCK

You stood by and watched. What's your point?

FAITH

I told you what would happen, didn't I?

TOCK

Once or twice, yeah.

Tock gets to his feet.

TOCK (CONT'D)

That doesn't mean you can actually do it.

FAITH

Watch me.

Faith gets to him and punches him hard in the face. Tock goes flying backward, to the edge of the cliff. He lands hard.

Faith walks toward him again as he gets back to his feet.

When he's halfway up, Faith knees him in the face. He goes back down. When he tries to get back up, she kicks him.

He rolls over, and chuckles.

TOCK

You're getting there.

FAITH

There.

Faith tries to stomp on his face, but he dodges her foot. He leaps to his feet and turns to face her.

TOCK

I can see the pain, and the rage
burning in your eyes. That's good.
Work with that.

Faith swings at him, but he blocks. She tries to kick him,
but he catches her foot and doesn't let go.

TOCK (CONT'D)

It's building. I can see it. All of
that anger is turning you into
something new, isn't it?

FAITH

More like something old.

She flips around, kicking Tock with her other foot. Both of
them fall to the ground. They get back to their feet.

Faith steps toward him again, swinging. He stops her.

She swings again, but he blocks again.

She tries to knee him, but he blocks it. She tries to punch,
but he grabs her arm.

TOCK

It's building. It's coming. It's
going to be something to marvel at.
(beat)
But you're not there yet.

With that, he uses his grip on her arm to swing her around.
He throws her off of the cliff.

Once she's gone, Tock looks at his watch and winces.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Great, I'm missing **Survivor**.

He walks back toward the house.

EXT. THE OCEAN - NIGHT

Faith falls from high above, hitting the water. We don't see
her come back up.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

It's morning now. The sun has just come up. It's actually a
pretty nice looking day.

Faith lays on the shore, unconscious. The waves are washing
up around her. She's dirty, wet, and bruised. She looks dead.

Her hand twitches as she begins to wake up. Finally, she
manages to open her eyes, and look at her surroundings.

She picks up her head and starts to stand up. At first, she doesn't even remember how she got onto the beach.

And then it hits her. All of the memories of the previous night come rushing over her, just like the waves a moment ago.

She takes a deep breath and drops back to her knees. Her eyes fill with pain. The rest of her is just blank.

INT. BEACH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Faith walks into the house, using the back door. She manages to get to the couch, but doesn't sit down. She looks around.

The silence is deafening. The place seems too big, and too quiet. Nothing about it seems real anymore.

On the table, Faith sees the takeout bag. She picks it up, and just holds it in her hand for a moment, wishing she could be back in the life she had when she last saw this bag.

She sits on the couch. For a second, she doesn't move, but then she falls to her side, resting her head on a pillow. She holds the bag close to her as she stares off into nothingness.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - DAY

Tock walks through the foyer, looking at a dozen or so vampires that are still hanging around from the night before.

At his side is Anna. Tock looks at her.

TOCK

I know what you're thinking. you're thinking, "Why did he let her live?"

ANNA

You could have killed her.

TOCK

True. I could have killed her, there's no denying that. But where would the fun be in that? Right now, the Slayer is sitting somewhere, crying. Her heart is broken. Her eyes are red and puffy. Her anger is building.

ANNA

She'll come after you.

They walk into the living room.

INT. MANSION - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

TOCK

I know she will. She'll come, and she'll be filled with all of that rage.

ANNA

Aren't you worried? We have preparations to make. We can't afford a Slayer hanging around us.

INT. BEACH HOUSE - TRAINING ROOM - DAY

Faith walks into the training room, and takes a look around it. She walks to the punching bag, and feels it. There are probably more memories here than any other room in the house. Not all of them involve training.

She looks to the floor mat where Robin fell the night before.

The night before? She can't believe it was less than a day ago.

She looks at the wall. Hanging on it are many stakes, some swords, a mace, and the knife that Robin came at her with during their last training session.

She slowly makes her way over to that wall. She looks at that knife.

Finally, she grabs it.

INT. MANSION - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Tock is pouring two glasses of gin. He hands one to Anna.

TOCK

She won't be hanging around for long. All of that rage might make her a tasty little treat, but the pain she feels will still hold her down. It'll weigh upon her shoulders like a fat little child at a parade. She'll fight, and she'll intend to kill us all, but she will lose.

ANNA

How can you be sure?

TOCK

They always lose. Deep down, I think some of them want it.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Faith is walking up the road with that same look as before. She's determined. Nothing will stop her.

She grips the knife tight in her hand.

ANNA

(prelap)

And what if she just wants revenge?

INT. MANSION - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Tock smiles.

TOCK

I've killed six Slayers. That's not even counting the ones we've killed since the Calling.

He takes a sip of his gin.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Six of them, and there's only one thing they all had in common.

Anna gives him a "what?" look.

TOCK (CONT'D)

The last thing they saw was the side of my head as their lives were sucked out of their necks. She's no different.

Tock starts to walk back toward the foyer.

EXT. CLIFF VIEW ESTATE - DAY

Faith walks up the street, and up the driveway.

INT. MANSION - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Tock and Anna walk toward the foyer.

TOCK

We have a lot of planning to do, Anna.

ANNA

I've told the others to start packing.

TOCK

Good. Stay on top of that. I wanna be out of here tomorrow night. If my guess is right, that should be plenty of time for me to kill the Slayer.

(MORE)

TOCK (CONT'D)

It'll be the capper to our vacation.
I think it'll boost the morale, don't
you?

ANNA

The others'll get a kick out of it.
They always do.

They walk into the foyer.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Tock and Anna walk into the foyer. As they do, they stop
short. This isn't right at all.

REVEAL FAITH, standing in the center of the foyer, holding
the knife, looking at the ground. Her face is still blank.

The front door is wide open, letting a little bit of sunlight
into the room. However, that is not the reason why the dozen
vampires from moments before are no longer around.

The floor is covered with dust. All of it, out of the
sunlight. All of it caused by Faith alone.

Tock has no idea what to think. Anna looks to him, waiting
for him to say something, but he doesn't.

Slowly, Faith's eyes move up to meet Tock's.

FAITH

Ready?

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. MANSION - FOYER - DAY

Anna walks back through the living room doorway, leaving Tock alone with Faith.

Tock looks back, wishing Anna hadn't done that. He looks back to Faith.

TOCK

I see you've come to fight me.

FAITH

Don't much care about the fighting.
I came to kill you.

TOCK

Right.

FAITH

Where is he?

TOCK

Who?

FAITH

Where's Robin.

TOCK

(confused)
He--He's dead.

FAITH

The body. I wanna know where the
body is.

TOCK

We dumped it.

FAITH

Where?

TOCK

In the ocean.

Tock sets his drink down. His nerve is coming back to him.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Made a pretty big splash too. Belly
flop, y'know.

Faith doesn't respond. She starts to slowly walk toward Tock.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Do you really think you're gonna
kill me?

Again, she doesn't respond.

TOCK (CONT'D)

I'm not like the other vampires here.
They were children compared to me.
I've seen more Slayers die than you
can imagine.

Just as Faith gets near him and raises her knife, FIVE
VAMPIRES walk through the dining room doorway. Anna also
returns, through the living room doorway.

Tock smiles.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Looks like you have a little more
work on your hands.

Faith stops walking, and turns her head to face the other
vampires.

They attack her, all at once. The first vampire to reach her
tries to grab her. She avoids him, slits his throat, and
pushes him back. He doesn't die, but he's delayed for a few
seconds, at least.

The other four get to her. She spin-kicks, hitting one of
them in the face. As he stumbles back, she grabs the other
two and throws one of them to the side.

She pulls the remaining vampire close, and holds the knife
to his neck. With one strong jerk of the knife, his head
comes off. HE TURNS TO DUST.

The vampire that she kicked comes back for another try, along
with the slit-throat vampire.

They both try to hit her, but she avoids them with ease. She
knees the slit-throat in the gut, causing him to double over.
When he does, she pushes him out of the way.

The other vamp tries to grab at her, but she won't let him.

ANGLE ON : TOCK AND ANNA

TOCK (CONT'D)

(to Anna)
Let's go.

ANNA

You're leaving? What about the fight?

TOCK

I'll deal with her when it's time.
Come on.

Tock heads up the stairs. Anna follows him.

ANGLE ON : FAITH

Still fighting three vampires all at once. She doesn't look like she's even trying too hard.

She grabs one of them by the head and twists. His neck snaps, and he drops to the ground.

The slit-throat vampire grabs her from behind, while the other vampire attacks from the front.

Faith jumps, and kicks off of the vampire in front of her and flips over the vampire that's behind her. He loses his grip on her as she does this.

When she gets back on the ground, she jams the knife into his back.

INT. MANSION - TOCK'S ROOM - DAY

Obviously the biggest room in the house. Tock and Anna rush into the room.

ANNA

What are we doing?

TOCK

Making sure we live to see the Night of Morel Divineh.

ANNA

I don't get this.

TOCK

You don't have to get this. Where's my suitcase?

Anna doesn't answer him. He looks at her, getting annoyed.

TOCK (CONT'D)

Where is it?

ANNA

You said you killed six Slayers. Why are you running now?

TOCK

Since when do I answer to you? I'm your sire. I answer to nobody.

ANNA

Have you ever actually killed a Slayer? Was any of it true?

TOCK

Every word of it's true.

ANNA

You're a liar. You never should have been allowed to lead any of us.

TOCK

I am your sire.

ANNA

That doesn't mean you're any better than us. You're a coward.

TOCK

Watch your tongue.

ANNA

Or what? You'll run away from me to death?

TOCK

You don't know what you're dealing with here. You don't know how this game is played.

ANNA VAMPS OUT.

ANNA

Why don't you teach me?

INT. MANSION - FOYER - DAY

The only vampire that remains is the vampire that Faith stabbed through the back. Faith is standing in front of him, holding the knife. They're just looking at each other, waiting for the other to make a move.

Finally, the vampire comes at her. As he does, Faith hits him in the face with the back of the knife. He stumbles to the side.

She kicks off of a wall, into the air, and delivers a kick to his face. When she lands, she knees him, then grabs him and slams him into the wall. She pulls him away and slams him back into it two more times, and then throws him to the ground.

She steps on his neck, and looks into his eyes. As he struggles to get free, she twists her foot, breaking his neck.

She takes a step back. He's still alive, and moving a little, but he's unable to get up.

Faith calmly walks to the staircase, and pulls one of the wooden posts off of the banister. She slowly walks back to the vampire, and puts the post through his heart. HE POOFS.

Once he's gone, Faith turns and looks at the staircase. She walks toward it with the same cool determination she's had all day.

INT. MANSION - TOCK'S ROOM - DAY

Tock throws Anna onto the bed. He grabs onto one of the bed posts, and snaps it off, making a stake. He holds it to Anna's heart and tries to push the stake down, but she won't let him.

TOCK

It seems so simple to you, killing a Slayer. But it takes skill. It takes finesse. Everything has to be done just right.

She pushes him off of her, and stands back up.

ANNA

Then why run?

TOCK

Because, something isn't right here. She's not supposed to fight like this.

INT. MANSION - FOYER - DAY

Faith is slowly walking up the staircase now. As she does, flashes of memories rush through her mind.

ROBIN (V.O.)

(from "Touched")

Listen, nobody wants to be alone, Faith. We all want someone who cares, to be touched that way.

She continues up the stairs, slowly. She tries to shake off the memories, but can't.

ROBIN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

(from "Chosen")

Faith, there's a whole world out there that you don't even know about, and a lot of the men in it are pretty decent guys. They'd surprise you.

FAITH (V.O.)
 (also from "Chosen")
 Guy looks at me, let's just say his
 priorities shift.

Faith gets to the top of the stairs, and turns to walk down
 the hall.

INT. MANSION - TOCK'S ROOM - DAY

Tock sits on the bed, looking a little worried. The stake
 sits next to him. Anna stands nearby, not sure what to think.
 Neither of them are in vamp face anymore.

ANNA
 What do you mean?

TOCK
 She's supposed to be broken.

ANNA
 That's how you killed them?

TOCK
 Do you know a better way?
 (beat)
 Slayers are made to kill us. We can
 fight them all night, but we should
 count our blessings if we manage to
 escape with our heads. If you can
 kill one, you're no better than anyone
 else, you just got lucky. Slayers
 don't just die for no reason.

ANNA
 So you make them want it.

TOCK
 I make them beg for it.

ANNA
 Then, why is she...?

Tock shrugs.

TOCK
 It didn't work this time.

ANNA
 This time, she's just really pissed.

INT. MANSION - HALLWAY - DAY

Faith makes her way down the hallway.

FAITH (V.O.)
 (not from an actual
 episode)
 There's another Hellmouth. Some
 tropical little place, out of the
 country.

ROBIN (V.O.)
 An escaped convict's favorite words,
 I imagine.

FAITH (V.O.)
 Sounds a hell of a lot better than
 the last resort I stayed in, that's
 for damn sure.
 (beat)
 You wanna come?

ROBIN (V.O.)
 With you?

FAITH (V.O.)
 You sure you're a principal? 'Cause,
 if this is goin' over your head, you
 might wanna rethink that career
 choice, yo.
 (beat)
 So, you in or not?

ROBIN (V.O.)
 I'm in.
 (then)
 It'll give me a chance to work on
 those language skills, "yo."

Faith reaches the bedroom door and tries to turn the knob.
 It's locked.

She twists the knob harder, breaking the lock. She opens the
 door and walks inside.

INT. MANSION - TOCK'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Faith walks into the room, and stops in the doorway.

Tock and Anna are on the other side of the room, a little
 worried.

Faith walks toward them. As she gets closer, Anna looks at
 the knife that Faith holds in her hand. Faith notices and
 stops walking. She looks at the knife, and then to Anna.

FAITH
 Cold.

Anna doesn't respond.

FAITH (CONT'D)

At first, you don't feel it. For a while, you just kinda look at it, wondering if it's for real, and then the cold comes. It's inside of you. Right in the gut. After the cold comes this rush of pain. Stings like a son of a bitch, but you're kinda relieved. I mean, you get stabbed, you expect it to be wicked painful, am I right? You never expect it to be cold.

She steps toward Anna, and brings the knife up a little higher, threatening. Then she turns to Tock.

As Faith keeps her eyes on Tock, she steps forward. Anna tries to swing at Faith, but Faith blocks her without any problem, and runs the knife into Anna's gut. She leaves it there.

FAITH (CONT'D)

(to Tock)

Guess you won't feel that though. Cold's a pretty useless word when you're a vamp.

Faith grabs the broken bedpost stake off of the bed, and puts it through Anna's heart. She pulls the knife back out, just before ANNA POOFS.

Faith turns to Tock.

TOCK

I've killed more Slayers than you know.

FAITH

They're not me.

Faith swings hard at Tock, hitting him in the face. He's sent flying across the room, slamming into the wall.

He hits the floor, and scrambles to get back up. He VAMPS OUT.

Faith walks toward him. Tock comes at her, swinging. He manages to get in a hit to her face, but it doesn't slow her down. She raises the knife, and tries to stab him with it. He narrowly avoids the blade, and then grabs her arm. He tries to twist it, but she won't let him. She uses the leverage to flip him back onto the floor.

Once he's down, she stands over him and looks at him.

FAITH (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 (from the previous
 night)
 He dies, you die.

As the memory echoes through Faith's head, she just watches Tock. It seems like she's very distracted.

Tock notices this. He starts to wonder if this is exactly what he's been waiting for.

He starts to make a move, but Faith steps on his chest and pushes him back to the ground. She's not letting him go anywhere.

TOCK (V.O.)
 You're still not in the game.

FAITH (V.O.)
 You killed him.

TOCK (V.O.)
 You stood by and watched. What's your point?

This last part echoes in her head. She just keeps looking down at Tock.

FAITH (V.O.)
 I told you what would happen, didn't I?

TOCK (V.O.)
 That doesn't mean you can actually do it.

FAITH (V.O.)
 Watch me.

Suddenly, Faith is angry. Very angry. She throws the knife down at Tock, hitting him in the stomach with it. It sticks there.

Tock winces as the pain gets to him. Faith steps on the knife, driving it deeper.

TOCK (V.O.)
 You're getting there.
 (and from a few seconds
 later)
 It's building. It's coming. It's going to be something to marvel at.

ROBIN (V.O.)
 (from the teaser)
 You're leaving yourself vulnerable.
 (MORE)

ROBIN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

(beat)

C'mon. I know you're capable of more than this. Don't hold back.

Faith bends down, and grabs Tock. She lifts him off of the ground, and slams him into a nearby table, shattering the table. She then throws him across the room.

Tock lands hard. He scrambles to get back to his feet as he pulls the knife out of his stomach. He holds it as his own weapon now.

ROBIN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

You got lucky.

Faith walks toward Tock, not worried about the knife at all.

As she gets closer, Tock comes at her with the knife. Immediately, Faith grabs his arm and breaks it. She grabs the knife from him, and tosses it onto the bed. Faith goes on to punch him in the face.

Tock stumbles back, but gathers himself quickly. He goes at Faith with everything he has. He swings at her, but she avoids him. She swings at him, but he avoids. He returns with a kick to her chest, which causes her to fall back.

She jumps back to her feet, and goes at him again. She almost manages a kick to his head, but he ducks just in time to miss it. While she's still recovering from the failed kick, Tock punches her in the face, and grabs onto her jacket. He swings her around, slamming her into the wall, shattering a mirror that hangs on it. He then throws her to the ground.

ROBIN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Sloppy.

(beat)

Fighting isn't always about strength.

Faith sweeps Tock's legs out from under him, causing him to fall to the ground. Once he's down, she gets back to her feet.

FAITH (V.O.)

Actually, most of the time, it kinda is.

ROBIN (V.O.)

You think so?

(beat)

Prove it.

As Tock tries to get back to his feet, Faith walks over to him, and kicks him in the face. He falls back down. When he does, Faith grabs him and pulls him back up. She punches him over and over again, until his face is good and bloody.

She throws Tock to the other side of the room, near the bed.

Tock struggles to get back to his feet, but he's having trouble now. Faith lets him have the time he needs to get back to his feet as she slowly walks toward him again.

TOCK

You're different than the others.

FAITH

Told you.

TOCK

If you let me live, I'll tell you things.

FAITH

Nothing I need to hear.

Faith finally gets to him, and punches him in the face. Tock tries to recover.

TOCK

There is. There are things you'd like to know.

Faith punches him again.

FAITH

Only thing I wanna be hearing is the sound of you screaming.

She grabs his hand and twists it. It SNAPS. Tock screams.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Oh, c'mon, precious. I know you can do better than that. Let's give us another go, shall we?

Faith twists the hand again. This time, it's more of a CRUNCH.

Tock screams louder.

FAITH (CONT'D)

See? I knew you had it in you.

TOCK

Really. I'll tell you anything. I'll tell you about the Night of Morel Divineh.

FAITH

And that means what to me, exactly?
(then)

I think I prefer the screaming a little more than the talking. Guess I'm not too big on the chit-chat.

TOCK

You don't understand. The--

FAITH

Don't wanna understand.

Faith grabs Tock by the neck, with her tattooed hand, and lifts him off the ground. His neck BEGINS TO SIZZLE and SMOKE.

Tock winces.

FAITH (CONT'D)

Scream for me, baby.

Tock doesn't make a sound. Faith tightens her grip. Finally, Tock screams again.

FAITH (CONT'D)

There's what I'm talkin' about.

Tock is still in a lot of pain, and still screaming. Faith's words would suggest that she's enjoying this, but her face tells another story. Her eyes are filled with pain. No amount of screaming from Tock makes that look go away.

TOCK

Please stop this! Please!

Faith isn't listening to him at all. Her mind is somewhere else completely.

ROBIN (V.O.)

I love you.

FAITH (V.O.)

It never happened...

Faith continues to squeeze on Tock's neck. Tock continues to scream.

ROBIN (V.O.)

I love you.

FAITH (V.O.)

It never happened...

TOCK

PLEASE!

Faith's eyes fill with tears.

FAITH (V.O.)

(from "Revelations")

Ronnie, deadbeat. Steve, klepto.

Kenny... drummer.

(MORE)

FAITH (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Eventually, I just had to face up to
 my destiny as a loser magnet. Now
 it's strictly get some, get gone.
 You can't trust guys.

ROBIN (V.O.)
 I love you.

FAITH (V.O.)
 It never happened, okay? Forget it.

Faith's grip on Tock tightens. The SIZZLE GETS LOUDER.

ROBIN (V.O.)
 I told you I love you.

Faith breaks into full-on crying now.

ROBIN (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 I love you.

Faith's grip tightens one last time. This time, as the SIZZLE
 GET LOUDER, and THE SMOKE GETS THICKER, Faith finally squeezes
 so hard that TOCK'S HEAD POPS OFF, and he TURNS TO DUST.

FAITH (V.O.)
 I love you too.

For a few seconds, Faith stays where she is. She's still
 crying. She walks to the bed and grabs her knife.

Slowly, she pulls herself together, stops crying, and walks
 toward the door. The fight is over. Now comes the pain.

She leaves the room, closing the door behind her. BEGIN
 STANDARD SARAH MCLACHLAN-Y SONG.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BEACH HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

ANGLE ON: THE BED

Faith's bag is on the bed, open. The knife rests next to it.

Faith walks to the bag, carrying a handful of clothes. She
 has her usual tough-chick face back by now as she stuffs the
 clothes into her bag.

After she puts them in there, she closes the bag and slings
 it over her shoulder. She picks up the knife, and sticks it
 in her belt.

She pauses, and takes one last look around the room before
 turning and walking out.

INT. BEACH HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

She walks out of the bedroom, and through the back door without stopping at all.

EXT. BEACH HOUSE - BACK PORCH - CONTINUOUS - DAY

She walks down the porch steps, onto the beach. Walking toward the setting sun.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BEACH HOUSE - BACK PORCH - DAY

It's a short time later. Faith is farther away, her footsteps leaving a trail behind her.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BEACH HOUSE - BACK PORCH - DAY

Another short time later. Now, she's in the distance.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Faith walks down the beach, still carrying her bag. The wind blows through her hair. The waves hit her feet. She's leaving her life behind her, and moving on again. The story of her life.

ROBIN (V.O.)

Everyone makes mistakes. Even Slayers.

FAITH (V.O.)

Oh, no doubt. Thing is, I just have to be the one to keep it together longer than them. Finish the fight, and then I can make as many mistakes as I want.

ROBIN (V.O.)

Since when do you keep it together?

FAITH (V.O.)

Call me a work in progress.

As Faith walks, thinking back on her conversations with Robin, she doesn't notice Grayson walk up behind her.

Still as skinny, poorly dressed, and geeky as ever. He's in vamp face.

GRAYSON

Slayer.

Faith stops walking. She levels off her eyes.

GRAYSON (CONT'D)

Looking a little under the weather
tonight.

Faith turns around, facing Grayson. Grayson GROWLS at her, and then finally comes at her with all he can.

Faith blocks him without even having to think about it. As he tries to punch her, she raises an arm, stopping him. Her bag drops to the ground.

Grayson recovers quickly. Faith pulls her knife, and moves to stab him with it, but he hits her hand out of the way with his arm.

The knife flies out of Faith's hand. She watches it.

ANGLE ON : THE KNIFE

The knife hits the ground, and catches the reflection of the moonlight. It shines back into Faith's eyes.

ANGLE ON : FAITH

As she sees the light bouncing off of the knife.

FLASH TO:

INT. BEACH HOUSE - TRAINING ROOM - NIGHT

(from earlier in the episode)

The knife slides across the wood floor in the training room, reflecting the overhead light as it does.

BACK TO SCENE

Faith's eyes are still on the knife.

Grayson walks up behind her, and grabs her. As he does, Faith comes out of her daze, and starts to struggle with him.

FAITH (V.O.)

They always make mistakes.

As she struggles, it's obvious that she's not doing her best. She could take this guy in a second on a normal day. Still, he has her from behind, and he's smiling.

Grayson finally opens wide, and sinks his teeth into Faith's neck. Faith winces ever so slightly as she feels this.

She raises her tattooed hand, bringing it up to burn his arm. As she does this, she stops and looks at the cross on it for a moment.

ROBIN (V.O.)
Just be careful you don't let your
guard down.

FAITH (V.O.)
Don't worry 'bout me. I ain't leaving
this party till I'm good and ready.

Faith closes her eyes, and forms a fist with her tattooed
hand. She lowers the fist to her side.

Grayson continues to drink.

FAITH (V.O.) (CONT'D)
They always make mistakes.
(beat)
What matters is that, in the end, I
always win. They die, and I live.

Grayson finishes drinking, and pulls away. He drops Faith to
the ground.

ANGLE ON : THE GROUND

Faith's limp head drops to the sand. We stay on this shot
for a moment. There's nothing but silence.

ROBIN (V.O.)
Why do you think that is?

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

We PUSH THROUGH the cemetery. The same one as before, with
the tall grass. The one that Faith hated.

FAITH (V.O.)
The way of the world. People let
their guard down for whatever
reason...

Finally, we come across a fresh grave. It has no fancy
tombstone on it, only a small plaque on the ground.

ANGLE ON : THE PLAQUE

It's a piece of paper inside of a plastic covering. On it is
written:

NAME - JANE DOE

CASE NUMBER - DN1325X5

FAITH (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I don't know why it is, it just is.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF SHOW