

Buffy The Vampire Slayer

Season 8

Once And For All

Episode 5

"Purpose"

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

BUFFY and GILES walk through the cemetery. Buffy is carrying a stake, but she is looking down as she walks. Giles is scanning the area for vampires.

BUFFY

It's peaceful here. Just walking, I mean. It's nice.

GILES

Is it something you do often?

Buffy isn't quite sure how to respond.

BUFFY

It's different.

GILES

You never seem to talk about your time away.

BUFFY

There's not a lot to say, really.

Giles smiles.

GILES

I've followed your progress, Buffy. As much as I could. The things you've done...

BUFFY

I have fans. Neat.

(then)

I'm not signing your chest, so don't even ask.

GILES

Buffy...

BUFFY

I know. I just... Maybe someday I can explain or make sense of it. Right now I just want to pretend that things are back to normal. That I'm back to normal.

GILES

But you're not. Something is different about you. The way you carry yourself. The way you patrol.

BUFFY

I know. I'm all grown up now.

GILES

That's not what I meant.

(beat)

You haven't looked up all night.
You're on patrol, but you've barely
looked up all night.

Buffy isn't sure how to respond.

BUFFY

I know.

(beat)

Things are different now.

GILES

I understand that. I'm just saying
that this isn't something that you
have to go through alone. We're here
for you.

Buffy looks at Giles and is about to respond when she feels
something strange. She looks toward the graves.

GILES (CONT'D)

Buffy?

Giles looks toward the graves.

CLOSE ON: GILES

GILES (CONT'D)

Is something out there?

When Giles turns toward Buffy again, he finds himself standing
alone.

A LOUD THUD catches Giles' attention and he turns around.
Rather than run toward the action, Giles stops to watch.

GILES' POV

The moonlight allows Giles to see only the silhouettes of
Buffy and THREE VAMPIRES on a hill in the distance. Buffy
throws one of the vampires over a nearby headstone, folding
him in half the wrong way.

She then turns to a second vampire, and punches her fist
through his chest, pulling out his heart. That vampire TURNS
TO DUST.

The third vampire attempts to run in Giles' direction. Buffy
doesn't run after him. Instead, she throws her stake, which
passes through the vampire, and embeds itself in a tree that
is several feet away from Giles.

The SECOND VAMPIRE TURNS TO DUST.

Giles turns toward the stake in the tree. He walks to it, and finds that half of the stake is hidden within the tree. He attempts to pull it out, but can't.

As he turns toward the hill again, he finds Buffy standing behind him. He jumps, but quickly regains his composure.

BUFFY
Sorry to run off mid-conversation.

GILES
It's okay...
(turning toward the
stake again)
...really.

BUFFY
So, what were you saying again?

GILES
Something about your methods having
changed.

BUFFY
Oh. Yeah.

Buffy turns and starts walking again. Giles follows.

GILES
The way you move is incredible.

BUFFY
It's why I have the fancy title and
the corner office.
(beat)
The only office.
(beat)
Okay, no office. You get what I'm
saying though, right?

GILES
Surprisingly, yes.

BUFFY
So, you think they're getting
desperate? The demons, I mean.

GILES
Hmm?

BUFFY
Those vampires weren't fresh. No
open graves. That means that they
were looking for food.

GILES

In a cemetery? Hardly seems like the ideal hunting ground.

BUFFY

You don't think they were hunting?

GILES

I suppose they could have been cutting through the cemetery on their way to a more bountiful feeding spot. It just strikes me as odd.

BUFFY

Oh, God. You don't think this is one of those things where they're in the graveyard looking for some old guy's crypt which has some old amulet or scroll or something in it, do you? I mean, seriously, why do people keep burying themselves with this stuff? It's not exactly safe, is it? Seriously!

GILES

If they were, we may never know what that object was, or with whom it is buried.

BUFFY

Right. So we're blaming me for this.

GILES

We're not blaming anyone. The simple truth is that we've been here for a month now and we've barely even seen a demon. Whatever Daniel Hewitt and Drusilla are planning to do, we're hardly any closer to knowing now than we were on day one.

BUFFY

If they try anything, we'll stop them.

GILES

As comforting as it is to know that you're now capable of snapping trees in half, I think I'd still prefer to have more information.

BUFFY

We will. Don't worry.

(beat)

Who wants ice cream?

Buffy picks up speed, leaving Giles a few steps behind. He watches her go, not knowing quite what to make of this attitude.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. WILLOW AND XANDER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

BUFFY and WILLOW are sitting on the couch. Willow is flipping through a notebook and making notes while Buffy sits back and watches while playing with an iPod that she is listening to.

WILLOW

Okay, so we have a location, the food, the guests... Do we really want our guests?

BUFFY

It is kinda traditional to have family at the wedding.

WILLOW

I don't think the traditionalists ever met our families.

BUFFY

They're not that bad.

WILLOW

When we went to dinner at my parents' house last week, my mother tried to convince me that I didn't know Xander well enough to get married.

BUFFY

It's kinda sweet that they're so protective.

(off of Willow's look)

I mean... Evil. Your parents are evil.

WILLOW

I'm glad you agree and I'm not just going crazy.

DAWN and RYAN walks from the kitchen, toward the living room, laughing.

DAWN

Stop. Seriously, stop.

RYAN

I am stopped.

Ryan then reaches out in an attempt to playfully tickle Dawn, but she squirms out of reach, still laughing.

RYAN (CONT'D)

See? Stopped.

Buffy watches them as they go about their game and walk into the living room. Her face is expressionless, which causes Ryan to get a little uncomfortable when he sees her.

DAWN

What are you guys doing?

WILLOW

The same thing we've been doing for the past month.

(beat)

Whose idea was this quickie wedding again? There's a reason why these things usually take a good year of planning. I mean, what were we thinking? It's crazy.

BUFFY

It isn't that bad.

WILLOW

No. You're right. I'm just overreacting. What's a silly old wedding anyway, except the single biggest day in the lives of two people who don't plan on ever getting divorced. It's only a lifelong commitment that will change everything forever.

DAWN

You're not even taking his last name and you already live together. How much is really going to change?

Willow looks up at Dawn, a little crazy looking. Dawn quickly grows uncomfortable.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Please don't kill me.

Dawn sits next to Willow and looks over her notes. Buffy goes back to playing with the iPod.

DAWN (CONT'D)

So, what's the big deal here? You have location, food, guests... The last page of this book is full of doodles.

WILLOW

I know! Everything is planned.

(MORE)

WILLOW (CONT'D)

It just seems like I should be doing something. Something isn't right here. It's doomed and I should see why it's doomed, but I don't. Things are going to fall apart and I can't even figure out how or why.

DAWN

Things aren't going to fall apart. You're just an efficient planner.

WILLOW

We'll see.

DAWN

You have it all planned, but we can run the checklist again if you want.

WILLOW

I want.

Dawn reaches over to a table and grabs a piece of paper. She reads off of it.

DAWN

Dress fitting?

WILLOW

Last one was yesterday.

DAWN

Hair appointments?

WILLOW

Scheduled.

DAWN

Bachelorette party? We should totally go to the Bronze.

WILLOW

Only if you're into the gay disco these days.

DAWN

No disco is good disco.

WILLOW

Plus, their shrimp gave me hives. And since I'm not allergic to anything except some brands of disinfectant, I don't even want to know where they got their lemon sauce.

DAWN

Eew.

RYAN

Does anyone want anything from the kitchen?

DAWN

We just came from the kitchen.

RYAN

I know. I'm thirsty.

WILLOW

Nothing for me. Thanks.

Ryan nods and walks back to the kitchen. Willow looks to Dawn, puzzled.

DAWN

Buffy freaks him out a little.

Willow looks to Buffy who is unable to hear what they're saying, but has a distant, kinda glazed over look in her eyes.

WILLOW

I can see why.

Buffy winces and pulls the earphones off.

BUFFY

I know I've been gone for a while and I've missed a lot, but can someone please tell me exactly when Gwen Stefani turned evil, and why nobody has taken action against this evil?

DAWN

She's intimidating to those who don't know her. Especially when she keeps staring them down.

BUFFY

Right. Except, huh?

WILLOW

She's talking about you.

BUFFY

Oh. Good. 'Cause Gwen Stefani is so not intimidating. You meet her in a dark alley and it's not even a little bit scary.

WILLOW

You haven't seen her backup dancers.

DAWN

Point! We're not even close to it.

BUFFY

I'm sorry. What were you saying? I'm intimidating? To who?

DAWN

Stop scaring my boyfriend!

RYAN (O.S.)

I'm not scared!

DAWN

I know you're not, sweetie!
(then, whispered)
Stop scaring my boyfriend.

BUFFY

I'm not trying to intimidate anyone.

DAWN

You barely speak to him. When you do, it's always variation of "we'll talk."

BUFFY

See? I'm showing interest in him.

DAWN

You know what you're doing. I'm not a baby anymore, Buffy. I don't need you standing guard over me.

BUFFY

(beat)

Fine. I'm sorry. I will try to rectify the situation.

DAWN

What does that mean?

BUFFY

Rectify? Oh, don't worry. It's not as gross as it sounds. I just means that--

DAWN

I know what the word means. I want to know what you mean when you use it.

BUFFY

I mean, I will be polite. I will talk to him and put a stop to any intimidation. I promise.

DAWN

Good. Thank you.

Willow giggles as she looks over her notes again.

WILLOW

Rectify.

BUFFY

Now Dawn, I have a question for you and I need you to be honest when you answer.

DAWN

Ookay.

BUFFY

Why do you have this crap on your iPod?

Dawn hesitates and looks a little guilty.

DAWN

It was for my American Idol audition.

(beat)

Which was just for fun with some friends.

(beat)

I didn't even get in to see the judges.

Buffy and Willow exchange looks. There is a long silence in the room, which makes Dawn uncomfortable.

DAWN (CONT'D)

I'm gonna get something to eat now.

Dawn walks out of the room. Buffy and Willow can't help but smile.

WILLOW

I missed this. This is good.

BUFFY

What? The fact that everyone I come into contact with suddenly feels the urge to run into the kitchen?

WILLOW

Maybe you shouldn't talk to me until after the wedding. Slayer powers or not, if you make me fat, I will bring you down.

BUFFY

Thanks, Cordy. Can I speak to Willow now?

INT. WILLOW AND XANDER'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Dawn and Ryan are both sitting at the island, not doing much of anything. Not saying much of anything. Just sitting.

The basement door opens and Xander walks into the kitchen, carrying the laptop. He walks to the island and sets it down in front of Dawn.

XANDER

You have mail.

DAWN

Huh?

XANDER

You left the program open before and it just made that funny ding-dong sound.

DAWN

Ah. Thanks.

Dawn opens the laptop and starts to look through her mail.

XANDER

Don't worry though. I didn't read it.

DAWN

Mm-hmm.

XANDER

I wouldn't do that. It would be wrong. Very wrong.

Dawn is distracted by her e-mail, but Ryan is looking at Xander with no idea why Xander is dragging this out.

XANDER (CONT'D)

(to Ryan)

Okay! Stop looking at me. I did it once. I read Willow's e-mail one time. Is that a crime?

Ryan shrugs.

XANDER (CONT'D)

Probably not though, right?

DAWN

(re: the e-mail)

Huh.

Xander and Ryan look over to Dawn. She's still reading.

RYAN

What's up?

DAWN

Hold on a sec.

Dawn finishes reading her e-mail and then looks away from the screen.

DAWN (CONT'D)

About a year ago, I was writing this paper for one of my classes and I found a reference to this group of monks whose sworn duty it was to protect "a great power". I also found out that most of these guys were killed a few years back. That led me down this path of old books and blurbs about the monks, which made me start thinking that the great power that they were sworn to protect could have been the Key. It could have been me.

RYAN

I'm following so far... Which is kinda unusual.

XANDER

So these were the guys who made you into you?

DAWN

I think so. That's why I sent them a couple of e-mails a while back, asking some kinda vague questions about this power.

RYAN

The monks have e-mail?

XANDER

Not the point.

RYAN

Sorry.

XANDER

(to Dawn)

Did the monks respond?

DAWN

Not until about a week ago.

Dawn looks to Xander.

DAWN (CONT'D)

They had to know my name, right? If this was the same group of monks that made me, they probably knew my name.

XANDER

Those monks died though, right?

DAWN

The ones that did the actual forming, yeah. But they had different sects all over the world, trying to throw off anyone who was looking for the Key. All of those other monks had the same training.

XANDER

Then, yeah, they might have known your name. So, did they give you any other information?

DAWN

They've been into this Key stuff for a really long time, so there's a ton of information that would be kinda interesting.

RYAN

So, what did they say?

DAWN

I'm not sure yet. I can't read it.

XANDER

Want me to help you sound out the big words?

Dawn looks at Xander for a moment before shaking her head and turning the computer screen so that he can see it.

DAWN

It's written in another language. I'm not sure which language either. It doesn't look familiar.

XANDER

Even to you?

DAWN

I know. It's weird and just a little bit annoying. I'll figure it out though.

INT. TENT - DAY

It is day, but since we're in a tent in the underground demon camp, it might as well be night.

The tent is a tall one, with enough room inside for DRUSILLA, HEWITT and DOC to fit comfortably.

Doc sits in the center of the space, with a fire burning in front of him. He is using the light from the flame to read an ancient scroll, which is just one of several. The other scrolls are in a wooden chest nearby.

HEWITT

Enough of this. I'm tired of sitting in this cave, day after day, waiting for you to decipher those scrolls.

DOC

If you would prefer to do the job yourself, you're more than welcome to it.

HEWITT

It's gibberish.

DOC

Only a half-breed like yourself would think that. Such impatient creatures, still living by a human clock.

HEWITT

Would you prefer to wait until the Slayer has killed us all? You know as well as I that it's only a matter of days until she finds this place. When she does, there's not a demon here that can stop her.

(beat)

Half-breed or not.

DOC

I'm getting closer. These things take time.

(beat)

Have you ever written a spell, Mr. Hewitt?

HEWITT

I've worked with witches.

DOC

Witches who can combine elements of other spells, like mixing cake batter from a box. You have never seen how a spell truly comes about.

HEWITT

No, I haven't. What difference does that make?

DOC

How useful do you think any known spell would be to us? Do you think that we can create a ball of light, mix it with a teleportation spell and call it the Key?

Doc puts his scroll back into the chest and closes it.

DOC (CONT'D)

The Key is different than anything in this world, or any other. It is a force beyond nature. I've used that power once before, on a night when every dimension was aligned and the fates were willing to give us our one chance. Do you know what that one chance got us?

(beat)

The holiest of beasts was stricken down, and the second death of the Slayer brought forth the Night of Morel Divineh. Because I failed to realize the blood bond that the Key had with the Slayer, I allowed all of this to come about. I won't let that happen again. I will see the death of this Slayer, and I will see the forces of Hell rise on this plain, devouring everything in its wake.

Doc pulls a blanket over his shoulders and attempts to warm himself next to the fire.

DOC (CONT'D)

In a matter of days, every human being within a hundred miles of this place will be sucked into an unimaginable hell. Including the Slayer.

(beat)

And this time, she's not coming back.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH - CAFETERIA - DAY

AUDRA and MIKE are sitting at a table, eating their lunch and laughing. Mike is holding up his hamburger, and making it speak.

MIKE

"I'm going to eat you! Ha! Ha! Ha!"

Audra stops laughing.

AUDRA

It was funny right until you did that.

Mike puts the burger down.

MIKE

What? It's still funny. The hamburger's all menacing and stuff.

AUDRA

Not really.

(beat)

A chicken sandwich could be though. That'd be funny.

MIKE

You don't know what you're talking about.

Daisy walks to the table and sits down. Instead of placing her lunch in front of her, she sets down a stack of schoolbooks. She hasn't even stopped to think that now might be a good time for lunch.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Daisy, you can be our impartial judge. Which is more menacing, a hamburger...

(he widens his eyes
and nods to her)

...or a chicken sandwich?

(he frowns and shakes
his head)

AUDRA

Way to keep it fair.

DAISY

What do you guys know about Buffy Summers?

Mike and Audra look at each other, puzzled. Mike then looks back to Daisy.

MIKE

I know that she's probably more menacing than a chicken sandwich.

DAISY

Seriously. C'mon.

AUDRA

What is there to be serious about? For starters, she doesn't exist.

DAISY

That's not what Scott March says.

AUDRA

Scott March is an idiot.

MIKE

He really is.

DAISY

He says that she protects people. Like she watches over the town.

AUDRA

It's an urban legend.

DAISY

So tell me the urban legend.

MIKE

Didn't Scott tell you?

DAISY

He only told me the first part before he tried to feel me up.

AUDRA

Idiot.

MIKE

It's not a complicated story. People say that there was a girl named Buffy Summers who lived around here and had a knack for showing up when things got weird.

AUDRA

You'd think she'd prevent the town from falling into a giant hole in the ground.

MIKE

If she existed. Which she doesn't. Which is lucky for us because houses are cheap now and my old apartment smelled like rotten fish and hard boiled eggs.

DAISY

So she never existed?

AUDRA

Not according to any records. I found a mention of a Buffy Summers once, but she was a cheerleader in LA. Not exactly a "save the world" type.

Mike is about to speak, but Audra holds up a hand.

AUDRA (CONT'D)

If you make a "Heroes" joke, I will hurt you.

(then, to Daisy)

Oh, and there were about six billion other matches that were mostly porn.

DAISY

So you've looked into this?

AUDRA

Not far. I typed the name into Google one time last year when I had to write a paper on Sunnydale heritage for Reformation Day.

MIKE

That's the day when we all gather around and pray that the town doesn't fall into another hole.

AUDRA

Why are you so high on Buffy all of the sudden?

DAISY

You don't think it kinda makes sense? What happend that night...

Daisy leans closer and lowers her voice.

DAISY (CONT'D)

That guy was attacking us. He could have killed us without breaking a sweat, but he didn't. Something or someone stopped him.

AUDRA

You really think it was Buffy Summers?

DAISY

I don't know what to think. I do know that I haven't been able to get it out of my mind for the past month. A guy doesn't just fall down and break in half. Someone saved our lives. Someone powerful. I want to find that person.

MIKE

Even if we said we'd help, which obviously we're going to do, how do you track down an urban legend?

DAISY

We live in the age of information. We should be able to find something on her if she did exist.

AUDRA

Umm, are we forgetting that I Googled her already? How much more can we do?

DAISY

Local newspapers, yearbooks, school records, property records that match last names. How long ago was she supposed to have lived here?

Mike shrugs.

AUDRA

Ten... Maybe fifteen years, I guess.

DAISY

Could be worse, I guess.

MIKE

What do you want me to do?

DAISY

You can go to city hall and see if they have any property records from around that time.

(then, to Audra)

You can go to the office and ask about school records.

AUDRA

You think they'll just hand over school records to me?

DAISY

Be creative.

MIKE

What about you?

DAISY

Library. I have ten or fifteen yearbooks to skim through.

There's a long pause.

AUDRA

Actually, you'd only need about half a dozen. That should cover it.

MIKE

(to Audra)

Wanna swap jobs?

AUDRA

No.

INT. WILLOW AND XANDER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Giles is pacing back and forth, holding a piece of paper with a printout of Dawn's e-mail on it.

Dawn and Ryan are sitting on the couch, looking at the laptop's display of the same e-mail.

GILES

Well, it doesn't look familiar. At first, I thought it might be some sort of lost language that you weren't familiar with.

DAWN

I've seen enough samples to recognize most of them though.

(beat)

The thing is, it does look familiar. It's like I should be able to read what it says, but I can't. It's on the tip of my brain.

GILES

If I were back in England, I could run it through the Council's database.

DAWN

And then we could give them even more information that I'd rather they didn't have.

(beat)

This one has to stay in the family. We can work it out if we have enough time. We just need a place to start.

Ryan looks down at the computer screen and then looks to Dawn and Giles. He wants to say something, but he also doesn't want to sound stupid in front of people who actually know what they're talking about.

Ryan sits back on the couch, still thinking about something. Dawn looks back and sees the expression on his face.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

RYAN

Yeah. I was just thinking...

DAWN

Thinking what?

RYAN

Well... I have absolutely no clue what I'm talking about, so it's probably stupid.

DAWN

Consider us warned. Now tell me what you were thinking.

Dawn turns back to her computer screen.

RYAN

Okay.

(beat)

It's probably encoded, right? I mean, if I were going to send some cryptic message to a person in a situation like this and I didn't want the bad guy to snatch it and figure it out themselves, I'd probably encode it. So maybe it's not some old language that a demon might be familiar with.

(beat)

Maybe you need a key to figure it out.

Giles and Dawn both look at Ryan at the same time, and then to each other.

DAWN

We're slow.

GILES

I agree.

RYAN

So I'm not stupid?

DAWN

You're not stupid.

Dawn kisses Ryan on the cheek.

DAWN (CONT'D)
You're brilliant.

RYAN
Don't get carried away.

Dawn stands up and walks to Giles. She looks at the paper in his hands.

DAWN
So I should be able to figure this out. How?

GILES
The answer is inside of you somewhere. Like a memory, hidden deep inside your subconscious.

DAWN
So I should be able to figure this out. How?

GILES
Meditation, maybe. We could attempt to focus your thoughts.

DAWN
Cool. Let's do it.

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH - HALLWAY - DAY

Willow is walking down the hallway, carrying a few books and a cup of coffee. Daisy walks up to her from behind, holding a yearbook.

DAISY
Ms. Rosenberg?

WILLOW
Daisy, hey.

DAISY
Hi.

Daisy looks at the books in Willow's hands and is a little puzzled by them.

DAISY (CONT'D)
Are computer teachers supposed to have books? Isn't that against computer geek union codes or something?

WILLOW

You would think, but sadly, no. What can I help you with?

DAISY

Right. Um... Well, you remember about a month ago when that guy was giving me a hard time?

WILLOW

Yeah. He's not back, is he?

DAISY

He's dead.

WILLOW

Right... So he's probably not back... Right?

DAISY

Right. The thing is, something saved me that night and for the life of me, I can't figure out what happened.

WILLOW

What do you mean?

DAISY

See, when we were attacked, I was knocked out. I couldn't defend myself. There was nobody else around. But when I woke up, this guy was dead.

(beat)

Really, really good and dead.

WILLOW

Wow.

DAISY

Yeah.

WILLOW

What does this have to do with me?

They reach Willow's classroom and stop in the doorway.

DAISY

I was hoping you could help me with something.

WILLOW

If I can, I will.

DAISY

(extended beat)

The thing is, there's this urban legend. It's about this girl who watches over Sunnydale. Protects it. Have you ever heard of it?

WILLOW

I can honestly say that I've never heard that legend.

DAISY

Her name is Buffy Summers.

Willow is thrown and almost drops her coffee, but covers by quickly twisting her ankle.

WILLOW

Damn heels!

She looks back to Daisy.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Sorry. What were you saying before my shoe attacked?

DAISY

Buffy Summers. Have you ever heard of her?

WILLOW

I don't think so.

Daisy brings up the yearbook in her hand and starts to flip through it. It's charred, bent and torn on several pages, but is still a functional book.

Willow watches as she does, getting a little uncomfortable.

DAISY

See, I was looking through some old yearbooks... The few that managed to survive anyway. As I was looking, I found this.

Daisy points to a picture in the yearbook. It's Willow.

Willow winces when she sees that.

WILLOW

Wow. I keep forgetting how horrible that picture really was.

Daisy flips a few more pages.

DAISY

And then I found this...

Daisy points to a blank spot on the book. There's writing under it which says "Buffy Summers - Not Pictured"

DAISY (CONT'D)

She was in your graduating class.
1999. Are you sure you didn't know
her?

WILLOW

I wasn't really a social butterfly
back in those days. I didn't know
most people. Sorry, I can't help.

DAISY

Oh.

Daisy closes the yearbook and lowers it to her side.

DAISY (CONT'D)

Damn. I was this close to being
Jessica Fletcher.

WILLOW

Sorry.

The BELL RINGS. Willow looks back into her classroom, and then to Daisy.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

We're late.

Willow walks into the classroom. Daisy takes a moment to recover from her letdown, and then follows Willow into the classroom.

INT. WILLOW AND XANDER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Buffy, Willow, Xander and Ryan are watching Giles and Dawn set up several candles around the room as they prepare for their meditation experiment.

BUFFY

Wait, so I'm an urban legend now?

XANDER

Like Typhoid Mary.

WILLOW

Bloody Mary.

DAWN

Resurrection Mary.

BUFFY

Either way, it's cool.
(beat)
And a little strange.

WILLOW

I think the point is that these kids are looking for you. What do we do if they actually find you?

BUFFY

They probably won't find me. If they do, we'll figure something out. We could tell them that they have the wrong Buffy Summers.

XANDER

Because there are so many of those hanging around.

BUFFY

No, but I'm not the only one either. Have you googled my name lately? Yow.

GILES

We really should have complete silence for this to work.

XANDER

Which is Giles-talk for "get the hell out."

WILLOW

I have files to grade anyway.

Willow gets up and walks out of the room, up the stairs.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Call me if anything interesting happens.

Xander stands next.

XANDER

I have some work to do too.

DAWN

Gonna give away more secrets?

XANDER

Ha-ha.

(beat)

And, yes.

Xander walks toward the kitchen. Buffy is the next to stand.

BUFFY

There was a time when I was the one Giles loved the most.

(then)

I'll be on patrol.

Buffy walks to the foyer, grabbing a jacket and a stake as she prepares to leave.

Ryan is the only one still sitting in the living room. Giles looks to him.

RYAN
I'll be... Umm...

BUFFY
With me. Let's go.

Ryan looks up to Buffy, a little scared.

RYAN
What? Why?

BUFFY
It's time we had a talk. Grab your jacket.

Buffy walks out the front door. As Ryan stands, he looks to Dawn with fear in his eyes.

RYAN
Goodbye.

DAWN
She's not that scary. Don't let her get to you.

Dawn walks to Ryan and kisses him.

DAWN (CONT'D)
Remember to look her in the eyes, and don't back down. She can smell fear. Good luck.

RYAN
It was comforting up until the kiss.

Ryan walks out of the room, leaving Dawn and Giles alone.

GILES
Now, we're going to need to sit across from each other...

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET - NIGHT

Buffy is already walking down the sidewalk when Ryan runs to catch up to her.

BUFFY
You came.

RYAN
You told me to. Right?

BUFFY

Relax. I just want to have a talk with you.

RYAN

Ask me anything.

BUFFY

Do you go to school?

RYAN

Not at the moment.

BUFFY

Planning to?

RYAN

Not at the moment.

BUFFY

What do you plan at the moment?

RYAN

I'm not really sure.

(beat)

I was going to join the Army.

BUFFY

You? Really?

(then)

That came out more offensive than I wanted it to. Sorry. You just don't strike me as the type who rushes into battle.

RYAN

I'm capable when I have to be.

BUFFY

What does your family think of this?

RYAN

I'll let you know when they speak to me again.

BUFFY

Ah. So you're willing to defy your family.

RYAN

When it's something I believe in, yeah.

BUFFY

That's honorable enough. Hey, speaking of honor... What are your intentions toward my sister.

RYAN
My intentions?

BUFFY
Do you need me to clarify?

RYAN
No. My intentions are good. I have
nothing but good, honorable intentions
toward your sister.

BUFFY
Good.

Buffy takes a turn off of the sidewalk, into a park.

INT. PARK - NIGHT

They continue to walk as they talk.

BUFFY
How was it that you came to meet up
with Dawn in the airport?

RYAN
Coincidence.

BUFFY
No such thing.

RYAN
I wasn't stalking her. I was there
to drop off my sister.

BUFFY
Who you aren't speaking to.

RYAN
Not since that night.

BUFFY
Interesting.

Ryan stops walking.

RYAN
Okay, look...

Buffy stops walking and turns to face him.

RYAN (CONT'D)
I've been fearing this conversation
for a month now, and I'm not really
sure how it's going, so I'm just
going to lay all of my cards on the
table.

Ryan pauses for a moment, taking a deep breath.

RYAN (CONT'D)

That night at the airport was a pretty crappy night for me. I'd just lost the last family member that was speaking to me, and I'm not surrounded by a whole group of friends like you have. I had nobody. And then I saw Dawn.

(beat)

When I saw her, everything else just kinda went away. Everything that we'd been through before. Everything that I've been through since. All of it was just... unimportant. And I know what you're thinking. You're thinking that I latched onto her because I was lonely. I thought the same thing at first, but it's just not true. Honestly, when I'm with you and your friends, I feel like the stupidest person in the world. I feel like this outsider, looking in at this world that I can't really touch and I just want to leave. Then she looks at me. She gives me a smile, or a peck on the cheek and just like before, nothing else matters.

Buffy listens without saying anything. It's obvious that she's starting to see something in him. She's starting to warm up to him a little bit.

RYAN (CONT'D)

At the end of the day, do I think she's in love with me? I really couldn't tell you. What I can tell you is that I am in love with her. I can tell you that I would do anything for her. Give anything. I will stay here, and feel stupid, and talk to the scariest person in the world about my inner most feelings for as long as she will let me.

They continue to stand, without saying anything for a moment. Finally, he starts to look around, uncomfortable.

RYAN (CONT'D)

That was it.

Buffy turns and starts walking again.

BUFFY

You're not stupid.

Ryan catches up to her again. They walk for a few seconds without saying anything, and then Buffy stops. As soon as he notices, Ryan stops too.

RYAN

What?

BUFFY

We're not alone.

Just as she says that, THREE VAMPIRES jump out at them. Two of the vampires attack Buffy, and the third goes after Ryan.

As one of the vampires swings at her, Buffy grabs its arm and twists it with a SNAP. She then throws that vampire to the ground.

Buffy spin-kicks the second vampire that is attacking her, sending it flying into a tree.

The vampire that is attacking Ryan takes his time getting to it. Ryan and the vampire stare each other down for a moment before the vampire charges at Ryan. Ryan grabs the vampire and manages to knee it in the guy, causing it to double over.

Buffy picks up the first vampire that attacked her, and throws him against a light post, bringing the light post down with the vampire and making the area that much darker. She pulls her stake, and puts it through this vamp's heart. He TURNS TO DUST.

Meanwhile, the vampire that Ryan is fighting punches Ryan in the face. As Ryan stumbles back, the vampire grabs his arm and SNAPS it.

Despite the pain, Ryan attempts to punch with his other hand. The vampire catches this punch, but rather than break that hand, he stomps down onto Ryan's leg, breaking it. He then picks Ryan up, and throws him into a tree. Ryan then falls to the ground.

VAMPIRE

Where's your Slayer now?

BUFFY (O.S.)

Right here.

The vampire TURNS TO DUST, revealing Buffy behind him.

After the vampire is gone, Buffy rushes to Ryan and bends down next to him. Ryan is unconscious, and all kinds of bloody.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Ryan?

Buffy looks around the area to see if anyone can help, but there is nobody around. She turns back to Ryan.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

You're gonna be okay.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. WILLOW AND XANDER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The room is dark, save for the light of the burning candles. Giles and Dawn are sitting on the floor, eyes closed. The printed e-mail sits between them.

In the background, we can hear the PHONE RING.

WILLOW (O.S.)

Hello?

(beat)

Buffy? What's...

(beat)

Oh, God. We're on our way now.

Giles and Dawn both open their eyes, knowing that something is wrong.

Willow comes into the room, from the dining room. She looks down at Dawn, and Dawn knows that something had happened to Ryan.

DAWN

Is he okay?

Willow doesn't say anything for a moment.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Willow, is he alive?

WILLOW

He's alive, but they're not telling Buffy anything. He wasn't awake when they got to the hospital.

Dawn and Giles get to their feet.

DAWN

Let's go.

INT. TENT - NIGHT

Doc is still working on his scrolls. Hewitt is standing behind him, looking over his shoulder.

DOC

Everything has changed. Everything is different now. All of the work I did for the Beast is useless.

Doc begins to pace as Hewitt watches.

DOC (CONT'D)

The Key isn't merely energy anymore. It's got free will. It's got the ability to focus that energy. This is no longer about opportunity. The dimensions aren't aligned. The fates aren't smiling down upon us.

Doc sits in a chair and grabs a piece of paper. He begins to write.

HEWITT

I take it we're almost ready?

DOC

Soon, but we'll need a few things in order to make this work.

Hewitt reads over his shoulder again.

HEWITT

Those aren't herbs.

DOC

They're drugs.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Daisy and Audra are walking through the woods with flashlights. Audra is looking down at her cell phone.

AUDRA

We're headed in the right direction, I think. I'm not getting a signal out here.

DAISY

Why didn't he just meet us and take us back here?

AUDRA

He said he had to pick something up.

Daisy holds up a hand.

DAISY

Hold on a sec.

She looks into the distance and sees a light. It's another flashlight.

DAISY (CONT'D)

I see him.

She starts to walk toward the light. Audra stays close.

After a moment, they reach a clearing where Mike is waiting. When he sees them, he smiles.

MIKE

You found me. Cool.

AUDRA

Is there a reason why we're hiking through the woods at night?

MIKE

Because something like this shouldn't wait.

DAISY

Something like what?

MIKE

Well, I was talking to Cassie Donald after lunch. She's a cheerleader.

AUDRA

And she was talking to you?

MIKE

Ha. Funny.

(then, to Daisy)

She was telling me about this spot in the woods where she and some friends had a party. A kinda freaky little party... I'll give details later. Anyway, she said that they found this clearing with what looked like a rock in it. But when they looked a little closer, they found this...

Mike gestures toward what looks like a rock in the middle of the clearing.

DAISY

A rock?

MIKE

Do the looking closer part.

Daisy moves around the rock and bends down to shine her light on it. She wipes some dirt off of it, and uncovers some writing. The writing says "Buffy Summers 1981 - 2001"

The rest is buried, but it is obvious that these are the broken, and half-buried remains of Buffy's headstone.

DAISY

It's a grave. Buffy Summers... Why would she be buried out here?

MIKE

No clue. But it's interesting, right?

Mike picks up a shovel.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Wanna dig?

AUDRA

We're not digging up a body!

MIKE

Eew! No. I meant, do you want to see what the rest says?

DAISY

Yeah, I want to. I want to see.

MIKE

Then let's find out.

Mike starts to dig. Audra stands back, watching.

AUDRA

So... I guess we don't need property records?

Daisy thinks that one over.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Buffy is sitting alone in the waiting room, looking down at the ground. She is deep in thought.

Dawn hurries into the waiting room with Willow, Xander and Giles not far behind. She runs to Buffy.

DAWN

Is he okay? What happened?

Buffy stands and tries to look Dawn in the eyes.

BUFFY

He had a few broken bones. His legs and an arm... He has a concussion, and some bruises, but I think he'll be okay.

DAWN

How did this happen?

BUFFY

Vampires. We were attacked.

XANDER

Vampires attacked you?

BUFFY

I can't explain it. I was fighting off two of them and a third went after Ryan. By the time I got to him, he'd been beaten pretty badly.

DAWN

Can I see him?

BUFFY

Not yet.
(beat)
I'm sorry.

DAWN

It's not your fault.

Dawn hugs Buffy. Buffy holds her for a second, and then lets go.

BUFFY

I can't just sit here. I have work to do.

GILES

What do you mean?

BUFFY

I let this happen.
(beat)
I let myself get soft because it felt good to be home. I got distracted, and look where it's gotten us. Well, I'm not sitting around anymore. If Drusilla and this Hewitt guy are planning something big, I'm going to find them and stop them. Tonight.

DAWN

We can't leave Ryan...

BUFFY

We're not. I am. Alone.

XANDER

I'm going with you.

BUFFY

I can move faster alone.

XANDER

Then slow down, because I'm coming.

GILES

I'll come too.

WILLOW

Me too. I'll go.

BUFFY

We can't all go. Someone has to stay with Dawn.

DAWN

I'll be okay.

Buffy looks to Willow, asking Willow to stay and watch over Dawn. Willow finally nods, but doesn't feel happy about it.

WILLOW

I'll stay.

BUFFY

Thank you.
 (then, to Xander and
 Giles)
 Let's go.

Buffy leads the way out of the hospital. Xander and Giles follow.

Once they're gone, Willow puts an arm around Dawn.

WILLOW

They'll be back soon.

INT. PHARMACY - NIGHT

The pharmacy is closed. Everything is dark and silent.

Suddenly, the door bursts open. Drusilla leads the way into the pharmacy, with Hewitt, Doc and several VAMPIRE MINIONS behind her.

HEWITT

The alarm will be sounding. Get what we need and let's go.

Doc walks behind the counter, to where the drugs are stored. He starts searching for what he needs.

Drusilla walks down the aisles, browsing the contents of the shelves. She isn't looking for anything in particular. She stops when she reaches the makeup and picks up a tube of lipstick.

Hewitt also browses the aisles, but more out of nervousness than anything else. He looks down at his watch.

Doc grabs a bag and begins to throw bottles of drugs into it. Though he is being very careful and precise, he is very graceful.

Drusilla opens a tube of lipstick and looks at the color.

As Hewitt passes her, Dru holds the lipstick up for him to see.

DRUSILLA

Is it pretty?

Hewitt doesn't answer. He checks his watch again and keeps walking.

HEWITT

We don't have all night. Let's go!

Doc doesn't let Hewitt's nagging slow him down. He continues to go about his business.

DOC

It does us no good to rush or fumble.

He drops one last bottle into his bag.

DOC (CONT'D)

Ah.

Doc turns and starts to walk toward the door.

DOC (CONT'D)

Finished.

Hewitt follows Doc toward the door.

Drusilla looks at the lipstick in her hand, and debates whether or not to take it for a moment. Finally, she walks off with the lipstick. She drops a five dollar bill on the counter as she passes it.

EXT. SUNNYDALE MAIN STREET - NIGHT

It's late, so the street is all but empty.

Buffy leads the way down the street with Xander and Giles behind her. She has her Scythe, while the others have swords or axes or something along those lines.

XANDER

Are you sure you know where you're going?

BUFFY

Trust me.

XANDER

Okay.

BUFFY

We're close. Get ready.

As Buffy approaches a corner, she stops walking. Xander and Giles also stop, but aren't quite sure why.

GILES

Buffy?

BUFFY

Wait for it.

After a moment, Dru, Hewitt, Doc and the minions round the corner. They stop when they see Buffy.

HEWITT

Bloody hell.

Giles and Hewitt lock eyes.

HEWITT (CONT'D)

Mr. Giles. So good to see you again.

GILES

Mr. Hewitt... I finally have a good reason to kill you.

Meanwhile, Buffy is paying more attention to Drusilla.

DRUSILLA

(to Buffy)

You've grown.

ANGLE ON : DRUSILLA

A gust of wind blows by her, causing her to close her eyes. She keeps them shut for a moment, smiling. When she opens her eyes again, her smile drops.

Buffy is now standing behind her, with a CLOUD OF DUST surrounding them both... the remains of the vampire minions.

BUFFY

You do look smaller.

With that, Buffy plunges the stake end of the Scythe through Drusilla's chest.

Drusilla lets out a moan as she TURNS TO DUST.

Xander stands in shock as he sees all of this. Giles hasn't taken his eyes off of Hewitt.

XANDER

Sweet... Holy... Mother of...

Buffy turns her attention toward Doc. Doc's EYES TURN BLACK.

In a blur of motion, Doc LEAPS THROUGH THE AIR, pushing off of the pharmacy sign, up to the pharmacy's roof.

Buffy isn't the least bit phased by this. She turns to Xander.

BUFFY

Help Giles.

Before Xander can respond, Buffy rounds the corner and is gone.

Hewitt smiles at Giles.

HEWITT

Your Slayer's gone.

GILES

Doesn't matter.

XANDER

Is this when the dusting happens?

HEWITT

It doesn't have to be like this,
Rupert.

XANDER

Guess not.

Xander sighs and sits down on a nearby bench.

GILES

Let me guess. I can join you?

HEWITT

You don't have to become a vampire.
Listen to me.

(beat)

If the Slayer succeeds, there will
be no place for us. The Council will
die. Thousands of years of work will
become useless.

GILES

Which would be the point.

HEWITT

Is it? There must be a balance in
this world. Good and evil need each
other.

Xander looks at a pile of dust on the ground.

XANDER

So, Dru... New hairstyle?

HEWITT

You know I'm right.

GILES

What I know is that you're insane.
I'm sure you can see the difference
there.

Buffy walks back around the corner.

BUFFY

Seriously? We're not past the banter
yet?

XANDER

It just keeps going on and on.

BUFFY

Kill him already!

GILES

I'm getting there.

BUFFY

We don't have all night.

GILES

Oh, for crying out...

Giles swings his stake at Hewitt, but Hewitt catches Giles' arm. He twists Giles' arm, causing Giles to drop the stake.

Giles punches Hewitt with his free hand. Hewitt stumbles back, releasing Giles.

BUFFY

Is this how the vampire fights always
used to look?

XANDER

Pretty much.

BUFFY

Wow. That's kinda sad.

Hewitt attempts to turn and run off, but Giles grabs him and slams him into the side of the nearest building. Giles then picks up the stake.

As Hewitt turns to attack Giles once again, Giles rams the stake into Hewitt's chest. Hewitt TURNS TO DUST.

XANDER

Finally. Did that take you long
enough?

Xander gets up and joins Buffy and Giles as they start to walk away.

GILES

You didn't help with your constant nagging.

XANDER

Nagging? Your banter was taking like, twenty minutes. I was about to make tea and offer you guys a place to sit.

GILES

You're just jealous because you didn't get to kill anything.

XANDER

Well kinda. Little Miss "I hog all the demons" here.

BUFFY

You're yelling at me for doing my job now?

XANDER

You couldn't spare one vampire minion? I could have taken that other guy too... Doc. I've killed him before, y'know.

BUFFY

Yeah. Good job with that.

They walk off into the night.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - NIGHT

Dawn and Willow are still sitting in the waiting room. Dawn is resting her head on one hand, staring off into space.

Willow looks at the clock and frowns a little. She's worried about the others.

DAWN

It's not as important as we thought.

WILLOW

Hmm?

DAWN

The e-mail. I think it's just a bunch of information that we already had on the Key. Big important energy. Opens the gateway. It's just a letter telling me a bunch of stuff I already knew, mixed with inspirational crap about how special I am and how powerful I could be. It's useless. And it's why Ryan was out with Buffy tonight.

WILLOW

You can't blame yourself for this.

DAWN

I don't know who I'm blaming. It's just stupid, right? He's in here because I needed to find out what I already knew.

Willow doesn't know how to respond to that.

Luckily, before she has to respond, Buffy, Xander and Giles return.

BUFFY

Any news?

DAWN

They won't let me see him until morning.

BUFFY

That's stupid. Maybe I could talk to someone.

DAWN

We tried. They have issues with following the rules.

Buffy sits next to Dawn.

BUFFY

I'm sorry. For all of this.

DAWN

Blame the monks. It's easier that way.

Willow gets up and walks to Xander. They walk to the other side of the waiting room, so they can be alone.

WILLOW

I was worried.

XANDER

Don't worry. Buffy didn't even let me near any of the vampires.

WILLOW

Really?

XANDER

She's kinda freaky, but amazing.

WILLOW

It's probably better that way. The less harm you're in, the better.

XANDER

I guess.

Willow sits down. Xander sits next to her.

XANDER (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

Willow rests her head on Xander's arm.

WILLOW

Yeah.

XANDER

But?

WILLOW

There's no but. I'm just tired.

XANDER

It's been a long day.

WILLOW

It's been a lot of long days.

(beat)

Do you ever wonder if it's worth it?

XANDER

If what's worth it?

WILLOW

All of it.

Xander doesn't respond. He rests his head on hers.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MORNING

Ryan is laying in bed, looking like he's just come out of a blender. His legs and one arm are in casts, and he has more than one bandage on his head. His eyes are closed.

There's a SOFT KNOCK on the door. Dawn walks into the room. When she sees him, she wants to cry.

She notices that his eyes are closed, so she moves softly into one of the nearby chairs.

When Ryan hears her sitting down, he opens his eyes. He smiles when he sees her.

RYAN

Hey.

Dawn stands back up and goes to him.

DAWN

You're awake.

RYAN

Yeah. Go figure.

DAWN

I guess it would be stupid to ask how you're feeling.

RYAN

I'm okay. The last few seconds haven't been too bad.

DAWN

(beat)

So, you're probably about ready to run for the hills, right?

RYAN

Umm... not quite. You've seen the casts, right?

DAWN

I didn't mean like that. I meant...
I'm sorry. For this.

RYAN

It isn't your fault.

DAWN

You wouldn't even be here if it
weren't for me.

RYAN

Why do people always feel the need
to blame themselves?

DAWN

I don't know. Because it's true?

RYAN

Not really. I seem to recall making
decisions for myself.

DAWN

But--

RYAN

Just don't. I'm here because I chose
to be. And I'd do it all again if I
had to.

DAWN

Why?

RYAN

You're smart. Think hard and you
just might figure it out.

Dawn doesn't respond to that. She just looks down and smiles
ever so slightly.

EXT. WILLOW AND XANDER'S HOUSE - DAY

Willow and Buffy have a backpack with them as they walk out
of the house.

BUFFY

Are you sure we have everything?

WILLOW

We can always come back later.

They walk down the front steps and start to walk across the
lawn, toward Willow's car. Before they reach the car, Daisy,
Audra and Mike walk up the sidewalk toward them.

DAISY

Miss Rosenberg!

Willow stops and turns. She smiles politely when they reach her.

WILLOW

Hi, kids. What are you doing here?

DAISY

Do you remember that legend I was telling you about the other day? Buffy Summers?

Buffy and Willow exchange looks.

WILLOW

Yeah. What about it?

DAISY

Well, we found some old property records from 1997 that mention someone named Summers moving to Sunnydale.

WILLOW

What does this have to do with me? I mean... Sorry, I'm just in a hurry.

AUDRA

The records show them moving to this house. We didn't even know you lived here until just now.

DAISY

Kinda weird though, right? You living in Buffy Summers' old house.

(beat)

And you didn't even know it.

WILLOW

I don't know what you want me to say.

DAISY

We found something else. In the woods. It was a grave. Kinda weird though. I mean, it was out in the woods for starters. And the inscription...

(beat)

"Buffy Summers... She saved the world. A lot."

Willow looks down.

BUFFY

Who are you kids again? Are you students?

DAISY

We're in Miss Rosenberg's class,
yeah.

BUFFY

Ah. Well, maybe I can help you. I
went to school with her. With Buffy
Summers.

MIKE

You knew her?

BUFFY

Yeah. And she wasn't this legend
that you're talking about. She wasn't
some game for high school kids to
play Sherlock Holmes with. She was a
person. She was a girl. A cheerleader.
A daughter. A sister. Flesh and blood.

(beat)

And she died. It wasn't a fun death.
It wasn't a mysterious death. She
just died. So as much fun as it might
be for you to track her down and
puzzle her out, you might want to
think about that. Think about the
loved ones that she left behind and
how it might feel for them if you
start telling stories about this
great urban legend.

(beat)

Stop looking. Stop digging up the
dead.

None of the kids know how to respond to this. They just stand
in silence.

Buffy puts a hand on Willow's shoulder.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

C'mon. We have to go.

Buffy turns and starts to walk toward the car again.

Willow looks toward the kids.

AUDRA

We're sorry.

WILLOW

I'll see you in a couple of weeks,
okay?

Willow turns and follows Buffy. The kids turn and start to
walk away.

As Willow gets near the car, she turns and looks back at them. As she watches the kids walk off, MUSIC BEGINS TO PLAY. It is a soft, piano version of the Buffy theme song.

INSERT

As brief glimpse from the end of "I Robot, you Jane" with Buffy, Xander and Willow next to the fountain. They're all laughing.

BACK TO

Willow, watching Daisy, Audra and Mike walking away. She looks down.

INSERT

The rest of the "I Robot, You Jane" scene. All three of them stop laughing and everything becomes kinda awkward.

DISOLVE TO:

A scene from "Welcome To The Hellmouth" where Buffy sits next to Willow in the courtyard. Their first meeting. Xander and Jesse soon join them.

BACK TO

Willow continuing to look down at the ground.

INSERT

A scene from "Passions". Buffy and Xander dancing together at the Bronze.

A scene from "Buffy vs. Dracula". Buffy, Willow, Xander, Tara and Riley at the beach, having fun.

A scene from "Prophecy Girl", Buffy tries on her pretty dress.

A scene from "Some Assembly Required", Buffy and Willow watch as Giles and Xander dig up a grave.

A scene from "The Prom", Buffy gets her class protector award.

A scene from "Living Conditions", Buffy chugs a bottle of milk.

A scene from "Something Blue", Buffy shows off her engagement ring.

A scene from "Noplace Like Home", Buffy brushes Dawn's hair behind her ear.

From "The Body", everyone gathers at the hospital, sharing hugs.

From "The Power", Buffy stands with the bodies of dead Slayers and demons around her. A mist of blood still lingers behind her.

From "Hush", Willow and Tara move the soda machine across the room.

From "Family", Willow and Tara dance and float at the Bronze.

A scene from "Over The Lips", Xander flings dirt at Willow playfully in the garden.

A scene from "Never Kill A Boy On The First Date", Willow and Xander are pretending to be on a date at the Bronze.

A scene from "Welcome To The Hellmouth", Xander picks up the stake that Buffy dropped on the floor.

From "Homecoming", Willow and Xander are trying on their fancy clothes.

From "The Harsh Light Of Day", Xander reacts to naked Anya with a squeeze of his juice box.

A scene from "The Replacement", Xander does the Snoopy dance.

A scene from "Dirty Girls", Caleb takes Xander's eye.

A scene from "Scratch", Willow and Xander attempt to regrow his eye. (copyright 2003, Someplace That Is Else)

A clip from "Hostage", Willow and Xander kiss. Willow wakes up to find Xander next to her in bed.

A scene from "The Long Way Home", Dawn walks through the airport in spy-guy mode.

A scene from "Real Me", Dawn rushes into her mother's room when she hears that Xander might be babysitting.

From "Once More, With Feeling", Dawn dances with the puppet minions.

From "Same Time, Same Place", Anya plays with the pose-able Dawn.

From "Hide And Seek", Dawn and Jenna battle with their staffs.

A scene from "Welcome To The Hellmouth", Giles puts the "Vampyr" book down in front of Buffy.

Also from "Welcome To The Hellmouth", Buffy and Giles watch the crowd at the Bronze.

A scene from "Some Assembly Required" with Giles and Jenny at the football game.

From "Innocence", Buffy and Giles talk in Giles' car.

From "Helpless", Giles cleans Buffy's wounds.

From "Innocense", the gang walks out of the elevator, prepared for battle in the mall.

From "Primeval", the gang charges into the empty Initiative room, ready to go after Adam.

From "Once More, With Feeling", the gang joins hands as they sing "Where Do We Go From Here"

From "The Power", the Scoobies burst through the front door of the newly reformed Summers house.

The MUSIC FADES OUT.

DISOLVE TO:

A scene from "Welcome To The Hellmouth". Buffy approaches Willow.

BUFFY

Uh, hi. Willow, right?

WILLOW

Why?

(then)

I mean, hi. Did you want me to move?

BUFFY

Why don't we start with "Hi, I'm Buffy" and then let's segue directly into me asking you for a favor...

BACK TO

Willow watching Daisy, Audra and Mike walk for a moment. As she watches, she can't help but smile at the way the teens are goofing around with each other as they walk off.

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

(from the flashback)

It doesn't involve moving, but it does involve you hanging out with me for a while...

Finally, Willow turns and gets into the car.

The car pulls away from the curb, down the street.

FADE TO BLACK:

FADE IN:

INT. CRYPT - NIGHT

The crypt is dark. The SOUND OF DRIPPING WATER echoes through the air for some unknown reason.

The sound of MOANING can also be heard.

We PAN ACROSS the crypt, until we reach one dark corner. In this dark corner is a man, tied to a chair. His face is hidden by shadow.

The crypt door opens. Though we can't see who walks into the crypt, we can hear their footsteps as they walk to the shadowy corner.

The man in the chair looks up, letting the light show us his face. It is Doc, once again being used for the surprise ending. This time, he has a gag in his mouth.

Doc looks up at his captor, moaning and groaning.

Finally, his captor pulls the gag out of his mouth. Doc spits and takes a deep breath. He then looks his captor in the eyes.

DOC

Do you think I'm going to help you?

ANGLE ON : BUFFY

She looks down at Doc with a blank expression.

BUFFY

I don't think you have a choice.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF SHOW