

Buffy The Vampire Slayer

Season 8

Episode 7

"Over The Lips"

TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

GILES is alone in the living room, talking on the phone. It seems very urgent.

GILES

What do you mean, you've been trying to reach me? Why didn't you call me?

He pauses. After a moment, he pulls out his cell phone and looks at it.

GILES (CONT'D)

No bloody signal.

(beat)

So what's happening?

(beat)

Yes, I know that. I've been aware of it since before you lot came out of your little hiding spaces.

(beat)

Where?

(beat)

Las Vegas?

(beat)

Yes. Yes, of course. I'll get right on it.

He hangs up. Once he does, he takes a moment to let the news sink in. It's not good.

GILES (CONT'D)

Damn.

EXT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - DAY

XANDER is working at fixing up the garden again. It's looking much neater than before, but still needs a lot of work.

WILLOW walks out of the house. She goes to him.

WILLOW

Hey, sleepy.

He looks back. We now see his left eye for the first time. It's a stunning shade of blue.

XANDER

Hey.

WILLOW

You sleep right through two whole days and then it's right back to work?

She notices the eye.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

It's blue.

XANDER

Yeah, I noticed.

WILLOW

Can you still see out of it?

XANDER

Colors and shapes, but nothing of any use.

WILLOW

I'm sorry. Do you want me to try--

XANDER

No. I think my eye's had enough spells for one lifetime. Besides, it kinda looks cool, don't you think?

WILLOW

Does it hurt at all?

XANDER

Nope. It hasn't hurt since I woke up. Plus, no freaky vision quirks. I'm looking right at you, and I don't even see your underwear.

WILLOW

That's good.

(then)

Wait. Does that mean that you did see my underwear before?

XANDER

(suddenly defensive)

No. I can honestly say that I did not see any of your underwear.

WILLOW

Okay then. Good.

(beat)

Well, I'll be inside, I guess. Let me know if you need anything.

Willow turns around and walks away. Xander turns back to his work.

He pauses and gives a slightly guilty expression.

ANGLE ON : WILLOW

Just before she gets into the house, she also pauses. She thinks for a beat, and then a knowing expression forms on her face too. She walks into the house.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

BUFFY is sitting on the counter, eating an orange. Giles walks into the room, the phone still in his hand.

GILES

Are you aware that there's no cell coverage in this town?

BUFFY

Yeah. Kinda annoying, isn't it? Willow says it's weird too. There's a... cell thing not too far from here.

GILES

Well you could have told me. It seems that I've been unreachable for the last several days.

BUFFY

Oh. Sorry. Anything urgent?

GILES

As a matter of fact, yes. I've been informed of a black market that has appeared in several cities around the world recently.

BUFFY

Black market for what?

GILES

For the blood of a Slayer.

BUFFY

What?

GILES

There are more Slayers now than ever before. The vampires, and other otherworldly creatures have apparently caught onto this fact.

BUFFY

So they're taking their blood?

GILES

A Slayer's blood has always been on the wish list of every vampire.

BUFFY

We have to stop this.

GILES

I know. Which is why we're going on
a trip.

BUFFY

A trip? Where?

GILES

You and I are going to Las Vegas.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - BUFFY'S ROOM - DAY

Buffy is packing a suitcase. Willow is standing nearby, watching her.

WILLOW

Las Vegas?

BUFFY

That's what Giles said. Our plane leaves in a few hours.

WILLOW

Nothing like giving you time to get ready.

BUFFY

I know. If everything I owned wasn't swallowed into a giant pit, I'd be in a pretty tricky place right now. Having a small wardrobe really makes traveling light a lot easier.

WILLOW

So, do you know what the deal is? I mean, why you're going?

BUFFY

Seems that Slayer blood's been hitting the demon club scene. I'm gonna put an end to it.

WILLOW

Wait, so these... whatever-they-are are killing Slayers, and selling their blood, and this makes you want to jump into the fray? That's pretty fuzzy logic right there. Couldn't someone else go?

BUFFY

Like who?

WILLOW

I don't know. Giles said that the Council members have come out from under their desks. Maybe we could send some of them.

BUFFY

As much as I think Giles might like having his run of the Council again,

(MORE)

BUFFY (CONT'D)
 this is my job. I'm the one who got
 these girls into the mess they're
 in. I have to fix it.

WILLOW
 I kinda helped there too, y'know?
 You need a witch on the trip?

GILES (O.S.)
 (calling from
 downstairs)
 Buffy! We're going to be late!

BUFFY
 (calling back)
 I'm coming!
 (to Willow)
 Sorry, Will. This is something I
 have to do on my own.

WILLOW
 This isn't a time for heroics.

BUFFY
 Actually, the new Watchers are kinda
 skimpy with their tweed pocketbooks.
 They'll only pay for two tickets
 this time.

WILLOW
 Explains why we've had such a hard
 time getting extra cash from them.

Buffy zips up her suitcase and picks it up.

WILLOW (CONT'D)
 You'll be careful though, right?

BUFFY
 I promise. If I die, I give you
 permission to kick my ass.

WILLOW
 Don't think I wouldn't.

They walk out of the room.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Xander is sitting on the couch as Giles talks into the phone.

GILES
 (into phone)
 Yes, I know what we're going there
 to do.

(MORE)

GILES (CONT'D)

I just think that it might serve our purpose to have a place to sleep.

(beat)

I know our funds are limited. Ever since you hired that new wait staff, the budgets been shot to hell.

(beat)

I'd like to see you try. If it weren't for me, the entire Council would have collapsed months ago.

XANDER

You tell 'em.

GILES

(still into phone)

Yes, I know it must be terribly hard on you. You must be exhausted from all the time you spent hiding out in that tropical resort.

Whoever Giles is talking to hangs up on him. Giles turns off the phone and puts it down.

GILES (CONT'D)

Prat.

XANDER

I don't actually know what that means, but I agree.

Buffy and Willow come down the stairs.

BUFFY

Packed and ready to go, chief.

GILES

Then we best get to it. I suppose we'll figure out our sleeping arrangements when we get there.

BUFFY

I was thinking we might sleep in beds. I know, it's a weird idea and you're usually the brains of this operation, but I just assumed...

GILES

Yes, well, that would require an ounce of logic or reason, wouldn't it?

BUFFY

I take it you've been talking to the Council again?

GILES
Unfortunately.

BUFFY
You really have to stop doing that.
Can't be good for the blood pressure.

Giles picks up his suitcase.

GILES
Let's get on with it before they
revoke my rental car privileges.

BUFFY
'Kay.
(to Xander and Willow)
Bye.

WILLOW
Be careful.

XANDER
And put five on black for me.

BUFFY
If the Council allows us to.

Xander and Willow walk Buffy and Giles to the door and see them off.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
Tell Dawn that I said bye.

WILLOW
She'll be sorry she missed you.

XANDER
See? I always said that school did
nothing but get in the way.

Buffy and Giles walk out the door.

BUFFY
Bye!

When they're gone, Willow closes the door. She and Xander walk back to the family room.

XANDER
No fair. They always get to do the
fun traveling.

WILLOW
You call being sent to the desert to
track down a group of unknown demons
who are peddling Slayer blood "fun"?

XANDER

In the context of our world? Kinda.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Willow is at her computer. It's open in front of her, but she's flipping through some papers on the table. She can't find what she's looking for.

WILLOW

(calling out)

Xander?

She waits, but there's no reply.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Xander?

Still no reply. She gets up and walks out of the dining room.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Willow walks into the living room, looking for Xander.

WILLOW

Are you in here? 'Cause I know you didn't leave through the front.

She walks to the back window and looks out.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

So that means you probably went out back.

She sees him in the backyard and grins.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

What'd I tell ya?

She walks out the back door.

EXT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS - DAY

She walks out back and finds Xander working in the garden once again.

WILLOW

Xander?

He turns around.

XANDER

Yeah?

WILLOW

Shouldn't you be resting or something?

XANDER

I'm fine. My eye's not bothering me,
and I've had enough sleep to last a
week.

WILLOW

Just don't work too hard, okay?

XANDER

Yes, mom.

(beat)

Only slightly more caring, far cuter,
and way less dad-whipped.

Willow smiles.

XANDER (CONT'D)

So, did you need me for a reason?

WILLOW

Oh. Yeah. I'm looking for a page I
printed up off the internet last
night. It's missing.

XANDER

New spell?

WILLOW

Actually, I found this really cool
website that's all about easter eggs
on DVDs.

XANDER

Easter eggs? You mean, there's a
source of chocolate that I didn't
know about?

WILLOW

(laughs)

No. Easter eggs. It's like hidden
features. Stuff that's there, but
you need to know the special way of
getting to them.

XANDER

Neat. Haven't seen the paper though,
sorry.

WILLOW

Darn. I guess I'll have to reprint
Austin Powers 2. There's all kinds
of really cool stuff on it. A whole
evil menu.

She is about to leave, but finds herself looking around the
garden.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Hey, this place is starting to look pretty nice. There's order in the chaos now.

XANDER

Yeah. There's an actual stone walkway under all of this that will eventually lead to the mini-pond thing.

Willow looks around.

WILLOW

Mini-pond?

Xander motions to the center of the garden.

XANDER

It's over there, under all the weeds. I think. I guess it could just be a hole.

Willow looks at the weeds.

WILLOW

They're actually kinda pretty, some of them. The weeds, I mean.

XANDER

If you say so.

Willow smiles.

WILLOW

Hey, that one kinda looks like a Mohabran plant.

(beat)

And the one next to it looks a lot like Devil's Rose.

Willow looks around the garden some more.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Lethe's Bramble. Terrik root. Golfram. Sesari. Oregano.

(to Xander)

These are all mystical herbs. Except for the oregano.

XANDER

What? They're not just weeds?

WILLOW

No. These are just about as far from weedy as you can get. A lot of these are rare.

(MORE)

WILLOW (CONT'D)

I think a couple of them are supposed to be extinct. Someone had to plant them here. There's no way they could show up in this part of the world by mistake.

XANDER

Okay, I'm lost. What's going on here?

WILLOW

That's what I'd like to know.

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

Buffy and Giles stand in the middle of the desert, looking at something off-camera. There doesn't seem to be much else around.

BUFFY

This is it?

GILES

If my sources are correct.

BUFFY

Sources? Giles, you beat up one wimpy little vampire. It's not like you're connected to the mob.

GILES

Can we get on with this?

BUFFY

Fine. What's the plan?

GILES

I figured we'd go inside and see what's going on.

BUFFY

Correction. I'll go inside, you hide out here.

GILES

I don't think so.

BUFFY

I do. Whatever's in there is powerful enough to take down Slayers.

GILES

Which is exactly why you shouldn't be going in there alone.

BUFFY

Which is exactly why I should. I can't watch my back and yours at the same time in there.

GILES

It's not safe for you alone. I won't have it.

BUFFY

It's not a multiple choice. You're not going in this time. I don't care if I have to knock you out and drag you into the bushes.

GILES

Fine. Have it your way, but you're just looking around and getting out.

BUFFY

Right. And then we'll go back to "headquarters" and work out a plan.

GILES

Be careful.

BUFFY

Aren't I always?

GILES

Not really, no.

BUFFY

Okay, but I will be this time.

Buffy starts to walk away, toward what they were looking at. After a few steps, she turns around.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

You do know that when I said that I'd drag you into the bushes, I was just talking, right? I could totally lift you with, like, one hand.

GILES

Buffy.

BUFFY

Right. Going.

GILES

Be careful.

Buffy walks away, waving back to Giles as she does.

Giles stands there, watching her leave. He's very concerned.

GILES (CONT'D)
 (whispered)
 Please be careful.

ANGLE ON : BUFFY

Walking toward a rundown old bar. It's pretty big, but not the type of place you'd want to take a date. The neon sign on front says "RED'S", but the "'S" part is flickering so much that it might as well not even be there.

There are PEOPLE out front, walking in and out of the bar. Getting in and out of cars. Just like any other popular bar.

INT. RED'S - NIGHT

Buffy cautiously walks into the bar and looks around. What she sees is not what she was expecting.

BUFFY'S POV

The bar is dusty, but other than that, looks like any other bar. There are more people all around, but not one vampire face. The bar looks normal, for all intents and purposes.

Confused, Buffy walks to the bar and takes a seat.

The bar tender, LLOYD, walks up to her.

LLOYD
 What'll it be, honey?

BUFFY
 Coke.

Lloyd can't help but chuckle at that.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
 And rum. Neat. With a twist.
 (beat)
 On the rocks.

Lloyd chuckles again and starts to fill a glass.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
 Is this the whole place?

LLOYD
 You expecting more?

BUFFY
 It looked bigger from outside.

LLOYD
 Yeah, we get that a lot around here.
 Must be an illusion or something.

Lloyd puts the drink in front of her.

LLOYD (CONT'D)
There you go, doll. That'll be six-
fifty.

BUFFY
For one watered down drink?

Lloyd shoots her a look.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
I mean, wow. Good deal.

She reaches into her pocket and pulls out some money. She pays him. Once he goes away, she pushes the drink away, and looks around the place. Finally, she sees something.

BUFFY'S POV

A MIDDLE-AGED MAN in a cowboy hat and boots walks through a door in the back of the room. As he walks through the door, he looks around to see if anyone is watching. Obviously, he doesn't see Buffy.

As he closes the door, it's clear that there's another room back there. A dark room with some fancy lighting, from what little we can tell from our angle.

ANGLE ON : BUFFY

Her interest is piqued.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. DESERT - NIGHT

Giles is still waiting for Buffy to return. He's pacing back and forth, nervously. He checks his watch.

GILES

That's it. She's had long enough.
I'm going--

Just as he turns and is about to charge into the bar, he finds himself face-to-face with Buffy.

GILES (CONT'D)

--Not going in there because you're
out here now.

(beat)

What did you find?

BUFFY

Besides the fact that the pricing
methods of today's business owners
is a flawed system at best? It's a
bar.

GILES

What?

BUFFY

A bar. There's no demon with scales,
or a big fat hellhound. Nothing.
It's a bar.

GILES

So it was the wrong place?

BUFFY

Don't think so. Something was weird
about it. I think there might have
been another room that I couldn't
get into.

GILES

But you just said that there was
nothing in there.

BUFFY

It's called dramatic license.

GILES

How do you plan to get into this
back room?

BUFFY

That's what we have to work on. Let's go.

Buffy leads the way back to Giles' rental car.

EXT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - NIGHT

Xander and Willow are both working in the garden now. Both are covered with dirt.

WILLOW

This is amazing. I can't believe Giles left right before we found this.

XANDER

I'm sure he'll be back with Buffy soon.

WILLOW

Yeah. We should have the whole thing done by then. Make for a big ta-da.

XANDER

If you say so.

Willow stops working and thinks for a second.

WILLOW

Am I butting in?

XANDER

What?

WILLOW

Am I butting in? I mean, this was kinda your thing, and now I'm out here with the dirt and the mud. I don't wanna be a butt-er inner.

XANDER

Your fine. I kinda like the company. Been spending a lot of time alone the past few weeks.

WILLOW

You had a lot to deal with.

XANDER

Yeah. Plus, it was kinda dangerous for me to be around you. Y'know, with the blowing things up and stuff.

WILLOW

I never really thought about how lonely it must have been.

XANDER

Anyway, it helped me find a new hobby, right?

WILLOW

I think it's an old hobby, technically speaking.

XANDER

Huh?

WILLOW

Remember? We were, like, eight years old. You used to go around digging things up. Mrs. Habberly almost shot you for taking one of her prize winning tulips.

XANDER

Oh yeah.

(beat)

I was kind of a strange kid, wasn't I?

WILLOW

Aw. It only lasted a little while. Once you hit high school you got less weird.

XANDER

Y'mean when I made a new hobby out of killing things?

WILLOW

Oh, right. I guess you have a point there. I've always liked strange though. It makes you unpredictable.

XANDER

That's me. I'm a big ball of randomness.

There's a small moment of silence as they continue to work.

WILLOW

So, I wonder how Buffy's doing.

XANDER

I'm sure she's fine. We've seen worse monsters than the demon version of Willy the snitch.

WILLOW

True.

(smiles)

And we always make it out okay.

Xander doesn't smile. He doesn't respond at all. Willow notices this.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Did I say something wrong?

XANDER

Hmm? No. I was just thinking of something.

WILLOW

You seemed a little upset.

XANDER

No. I'm fine.

(beat)

Hey, check this out.

He points at the ground. Willow bends down to see what he's pointing at.

WILLOW

What? I don't see anything.

XANDER

Right here.

He flings some dirt at her, playfully. She jumps and lets out a yelp and a laugh.

WILLOW

Xander!

XANDER

What?

She looks at him, and then flings dirt back at him.

WILLOW

See? How do you like the dirt in your hair?

He dusts himself off.

XANDER

Of course you know, this means war.

INT. OFFICE SUPPLY STORE - DAY

Giles is standing behind the checkout counter of the store. Buffy is standing on the opposite side, just staring at him. This goes on for a long moment, until he finally speaks up.

GILES

What?

BUFFY

What are we doing here?

GILES

You know what we're doing here. We're hunting demons.

BUFFY

I mean, what are we doing *here*. In an office supply store?

GILES

It's owned by an old friend of mine. A Watcher named Harold Mavin.

BUFFY

The Council owns office supply stores?

GILES

Not exactly. Harold retired from the Council three years ago and opened the store. It's only since the Council's recent... reformation, that Harold's been brought back into the mix.

BUFFY

So why isn't he here?

GILES

He's been called to London. He offered to let us use his store while he was away.

BUFFY

That's nice of him, but why? I'm not really sure about the "will it work" aspects of the idea, but I don't plan to slay any vampires by giving them really deep paper cuts.

GILES

Harold was incredibly dedicated to his job as a Watcher. Even after retiring, he kept in the business of hunting vampires.

BUFFY

Okay.

GILES

Follow me.

Giles walks out from behind the counter, to the back of the store. Buffy follows. Giles leads her through a doorway in the back of the store.

INT. OFFICE SUPPLY STORE - BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

They enter the back room, which looks like a small office, with a few book shelves. Buffy looks at the books.

BUFFY

Okay, so the guy has, like, three demon books. I'm not very impressed.

GILES

You haven't seen his supply of weapons.

Giles puts his hand on a large cork-board behind the desk and pushes it aside. Behind it, we find a stash of weapons hanging on the wall (in a slightly recessed area). Swords, stakes, axes... that kind of stuff.

BUFFY

Wow. Finally an office supply store that fits my needs.

Buffy grabs a sword off of the wall and looks it over.

GILES

So now all we need is a plan.

BUFFY

I have a plan.

GILES

Really? What's that?

BUFFY

I'm going to go in there, barge into the back room of that place, and find out what's going on.

GILES

Just like that?

BUFFY

Usually works.

GILES

Remember when we'd actually take the time to plan these things out?

BUFFY

You planned. I went against the plan.

GILES

Right. Of course.

BUFFY

How quickly you forget when you move out of the country.

Buffy grabs a couple of stakes. Giles grabs an ax.

GILES

I'm going with you this time. You'll need backup.

BUFFY

No go. This is a job for the Slayer, not her trusty sidekick.

GILES

Sideki--? Buffy, you can't do this alone.

BUFFY

Assuming I get in there and there's some wonder-demon that kills Slayers on a regular basis, do you really think *you're* gonna stop it? I need to be focused here. If you wanna be helpful, you can wait outside and kill anything that comes out.

GILES

(reluctantly)

Fine.

Buffy walks out of the room with her weapons. Giles stands for a moment. He looks around the room, wanting to be more useful, but knowing that she really doesn't need him there at all. Finally, he follows her.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Willow is putting the finishing touches on a french toast breakfast. She pours a glass of orange juice and sets it on the table, next to the plate that she's already set up.

As if on cue, Xander walks in.

XANDER

Good mornin', happy lady.

WILLOW

Hey. I made breakfast.

XANDER

Ooh.

He looks over at the table.

XANDER (CONT'D)

French toast.

(beat)

Or is it Freedom toast?

WILLOW

I thought I'd leave pancakes to the professionals for the time being.

XANDER

There's only one plate.

WILLOW

I ate with Dawn before she left for school.

XANDER

Oh.

He sits at the table, and pours some syrup on his French toast.

XANDER (CONT'D)

This looks good.

He cuts a piece and eats it. He likes what he tastes.

XANDER (CONT'D)

Wow. This is... Is there something in there?

WILLOW

Yeah. I put a filling inside. You like it?

XANDER

It's amazing. What is it?

WILLOW

If I told you that, I'd have to kill you. Time honored Willow secret recipe... that I just made up.

XANDER

Whatever it is, the Bait-N-Breakfast has some serious worrying to do.

(beat)

Okay, I'd probably say the same thing if you served me a plate of live cockroaches, but I mean it in a very good way.

WILLOW

Thank you kindly, sir.

Xander keeps eating. Willow starts to straighten up.

XANDER

Hey, I'll do the cleaning when I'm done. Why don't you sit down?

WILLOW

It's okay. I did the crime, I should do the cleanup.

XANDER

C'mon. I hate sitting alone at breakfast.

WILLOW

Fine.

Willow takes a seat near Xander.

XANDER

So, you hear from Buffy?

WILLOW

Last night. She said something about a demon bar. She's gonna bust it up sometime today.

XANDER

She didn't happen to mention winning any money for me, did she?

WILLOW

Sorry. I think she's been a little busy.

INT. RED'S - DAY

The door to the bar opens and Buffy slowly walks in. There's nobody else around. The bartender isn't even behind the bar.

She cautiously walks toward the door at the back of the room, keeping an eye out for anyone who might jump out at her. When she gets to the door, she puts her hand on the knob and turns it, trying to be as quiet as possible.

As she pushes the door open, LOUD MUSIC fills the once quiet bar. Buffy almost jumps, but manages to keep her cool.

She looks inside, and finally heads in.

EXT. RED'S - DAY

Giles is waiting by the door, holding a stake. He's nervous, and wants to go in after Buffy, but he stops himself, knowing that she wouldn't be too happy about that.

He looks at his watch, then back at the door.

GILES

(muttered)

Bloody ridiculous.

INT. RED'S - BACK ROOM - DAY

The room is dark, but big. There are strobe lights and a mirrored ball. Your basic club scene.

Buffy walks through the CROWD OF DANCING VAMPIRES, all in vamp face. They seem to either be too drunk, high, or otherwise preoccupied to notice that she's there.

She makes her way toward the bar, not looking very nervous at all.

When she finally reaches the bar, she sees Lloyd. This time, he's in VAMP FACE. He looks at her, and yells over the music.

LLOYD

Hey, sweet thing. My, what a big sword you got there.

The MUSIC STOPS. All of the vampires in the room turn toward Buffy. The lights turn on.

Buffy looks around.

BUFFY

If I wasn't so sure I could kick all of your asses, I might be worried right about now.

Lloyd smiles.

LLOYD

A Slayer? I'm honored.

BUFFY

How do you get it?

LLOYD

Get what?

BUFFY

The blood. I want to know who your supplier is.

LLOYD

Now, why would I go and tell you a thing like that?

BUFFY

Because if you don't, this place is going to get real dusty, real fast.
(looks around)
Not that it looks like the lair of Mr. Clean at the moment.

A voice comes from behind Buffy.

BULL (O.S.)

Slayer.

Buffy turns around.

REVEAL BULL (big, muscle-bound vampire. Bald and with an earring... very Mr. Clean)

BUFFY

I stand corrected.

BULL

You have a lot of guts, coming to a place like this.

BUFFY

I take it, you're the supplier?

BULL

Would you like to know more?

BUFFY

Usually I have to beat it out of the vamps before they tell me.

BULL

I'm not like other vampires.

BUFFY

Good. So you agree to stop dealing in Slayer blood, sit down and be quiet as I stake you, and we'll call it a day.

BULL

(laughing)

Such fire. I like that.

BUFFY

Blah, blah, blah. Taunt, taunt, taunt. You make a quip, I make a quip. Okay, buildup done. Now we fight.

Buffy hits Bull with the back of her sword. He recovers just as she sends a kick toward his head. He blocks it, and grabs her leg.

ANOTHER VAMPIRE steps toward the fight, but Lloyd puts up a hand and shakes his head. The vampire steps back.

Buffy swings her sword at Bull's neck, but he ducks under it. She tries to sweep his feet out from under him, but he jumps over her leg.

She looks at him, wondering where he picked up the reflexes.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Willow and Xander are still sitting. He's finished with breakfast by now.

WILLOW

I wonder where she is right now.

XANDER

Probably at some fancy casino, feeding quarters to a slot machine, or hitting one of the buffets with Giles.

WILLOW

I've never liked buffets. Too much fingering and sneezing.

XANDER

There's always the sneeze guard.

WILLOW

I know, but it's still icky. Things fly around, y'know.

XANDER

True.

INT. RED'S - BACK ROOM - DAY

Bull flies through the air, crashing onto the bar.

BUFFY

Let's see you avoid that.

He tries to get to his feet, but it's not easy with all of the pain.

The crowd of vampires begins to close in around Buffy. She looks at them, taking in the situation calmly.

Finally, at once, they all charge at her.

ANGLE FROM ABOVE

Buffy is lost in the crowd of vampires as they pile on top of her like ants on a cracker. There's a lot of GROWLING and PUNCHING going on.

Seconds pass as the vampires seemingly devour our hero, but then something happens.

A circle of vampires suddenly TURN TO DUST all at once, leaving Buffy in a circle of open space. She's cleared them with her sword.

Still from above, we watch as she continues to cut through the crowd, sending vampire after vampire to the ground with a POOF.

ANGLE ON : BULL

He gets off the bar, and stands back, watching Buffy. A grin forms on his face.

EXT. RED'S - DAY

Giles is still waiting outside. He looks to the door, but sees nothing. He's doing everything in his power to keep himself from going in after Buffy.

Finally, he forces himself to sit on a bench and wait.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Willow and Xander walk into the room.

WILLOW

Planning on more gardening work?

XANDER

I guess so. You up for it?

WILLOW

I have to stop by work for a little while. I'll be home in a couple of hours though.

XANDER

'Kay.

WILLOW

It's nice though. Working out there.

XANDER

Yeah. Very peaceful.

WILLOW

When you're not throwing dirt at me.

He smiles.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Anyway, I guess I'll take off for now. See ya later?

XANDER

I'll be here.

She leaves. He's left standing alone in the living room.

XANDER (CONT'D)

Not like I have anywhere else to be.

He turns around and heads for the back door.

INT. RED'S - BACK ROOM - DAY

Buffy is fighting a large group of vampires. They're all coming at her at once, but with great skill, she manages to keep them back.

Bull starts to walk toward the fight, slowly. As he nears it, he claps his hands. The rest of the vampires back away from Buffy.

Still in fight-mode, Buffy isn't sure what's happening here. She looks to Bull.

BULL

You handle yourself well.

BUFFY

I do what I can.

BULL

Your heart must be pounding right now.

BUFFY

As tends to be the case with the living.

BULL

All of that blood, flowing through your veins. Just imagining it makes me hungry.

BUFFY

If you'd like, I could shove something down your throat before I kill you.

BULL

Or you could just not kill me at all.

BUFFY

Not likely.

BULL

I propose a truce.

BUFFY

And why would I agree to that?

BULL

Because I have an offer for you.

Buffy doesn't respond. She's listening.

BULL (CONT'D)

How would you like to work for me?

BUFFY

Meaning?

BULL

Your blood would be very valuable
around here.

BUFFY

You want me to sell you my blood?

Bull nods. Buffy lets this sink in for a moment.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

And what would I get out of this?

BULL

Money. A lush room in a fancy hotel.
All the food you care to order. You
name it, and it could be yours.

Buffy thinks it over for a long moment. Finally, she lowers
her sword.

BUFFY

Where do I sign?

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. RED'S - DAY

Giles is still sitting, waiting. He stands up again, and paces back and forth nervously. He looks at his watch. It's been too long. Something isn't right.

GILES

To hell with this.

He pulls a stake out of his jacket, and walks into the bar.

INT. RED'S - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Giles walks through the still-empty bar, toward the door in the back. He reaches it and pushes it open. After a quick look inside, he walks in.

INT. RED'S - BACK ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Giles walks into the poorly lit back room, and looks around. He's very confused.

REVEAL the room is totally empty. Not a person, or vampire in sight.

Giles walks around the room, looking for Buffy. He's cautious, not liking this situation at all.

He makes his way behind the bar, and finally finds the answer that he's looking for. An opening in the floor, leading underground.

Without thinking twice, he goes through it.

INT. UNDERGROUND PASSAGE - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Still empty. Giles can hardly see anything in the darkness, but there is a faint light in the distance. He walks toward it, noticing that the floor has a slight incline to it.

As he gets closer and closer, he's able to see that the light is from the sun. There's an opening at the end of the passage, which leads to the outside desert.

He finally reaches this opening, and looks around. In the sand, near the mouth of the passage, he finds tire tracks. Many of them. They all lead off into the distance.

He looks out over the desert, shocked.

GILES

Buffy.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY - DAY

Buffy walks down the hallway, following Bull. She's still holding onto her sword, but is using it more as a walking stick at the moment.

BUFFY

Fancy hotel.

BULL

It's just the beginning. Now that you're with me, you can have whatever you want.

BUFFY

Because of all the money I'll make you?

BULL

That and my stealing stuff.

He stops at one of the doors, and turns to her.

BULL (CONT'D)

This is you.

He unlocks the door and opens it. Buffy goes in first.

INT. FANCY HOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS - DAY

Buffy walks in, and looks around. It's big, and has big windows, but the curtains are drawn.

Bull follows her in and closes the door behind him.

Buffy walks around the room, taking note of the impressive bar, and big screen tv.

BULL

You like?

BUFFY

Beats where I slept last night.

BULL

Makes you glad you didn't kill me, doesn't it?

Buffy just smiles.

BUFFY

So what happens now? Do you bring in a long line of hungry vamps to feed on me?

BULL

Nothing so disgusting, I assure you. All that you need to worry about at the moment is getting rested up, and eating something. We'll talk details later.

BUFFY

So that's it? I can order whatever I want?

BULL

That's how it works around here.

Bull starts to walk toward the door.

BULL (CONT'D)

I'll come back to see you later.

He opens the door and is about to walk through it when Buffy stops him.

BUFFY

Hey.

He turns around.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

So how many others are there? Can I see them?

Bull smiles.

BULL

Not just yet. You get all settled in here first, and we'll talk about the others later.

With that, he walks out of the room.

Once she's sure he's gone, Buffy rushes to the phone and dials. She waits a second, while it rings.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Giles is making his way back to the car. His cell phone rings. He pulls it out and answers it.

GILES

Hello?

BUFFY

Giles, it's me.

GILES

Buffy? Where are you? Are you alright?

BUFFY

I'm fine. Listen, I met the pimp daddy of the vampires, and he took me to this swank hotel.

GILES

Where?

BUFFY

I don't know. The car's windows were all blacked out.

GILES

Can't you look out the window?

BUFFY

Good idea.

Buffy peaks out the window.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

I'm in Vegas. The strip part, I think. With all the casinos.

She looks at a pamphlet near the phone.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

The Royal Grecian Hotel.

GILES

You have to get out of there.

BUFFY

No. I can't.

GILES

Why not?

BUFFY

I need to find out where the other girls are first.

GILES

I don't like this.

BUFFY

I can handle it, don't worry. They're just vampires.

GILES

I still don't like it.

BUFFY

I'll call you later, okay? Once I can get the other girls out of here, we'll meet up with you.

GILES

Be careful.

BUFFY

I will.

GILES

And, Buffy, I want you to stake those vampires at the first sign of trouble.

BUFFY

I got it covered.

GILES

Call me tonight.

BUFFY

Will do. Bye.

GILES

Bye.

Giles is just about to hang up when Buffy says something else.

BUFFY

Hey, Giles?

GILES

Yes?

BUFFY

Check me out, I'm Holly Robinson.

GILES

I don't get that.

BUFFY

You wouldn't. Bye.

Buffy hangs up the phone. We stay with her as she thinks for a moment, then picks the phone back up. She dials two numbers and puts the phone to her ear.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Hi, room service?

EXT. DESERT - DAY

Giles puts his phone away. He stops walking and lets Buffy's new situation sink in.

INT. FANCY HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Buffy is on the bed. There are plates of food all around her, which she is picking at. She's watching tv as well.

Bull enters the room, keeping the door open behind him. Buffy turns off the tv and gets up when she sees him.

BUFFY
Thanks for knocking.

BULL
I'm sorry. Did I interrupt something important?

BUFFY
No, but how did you know I wasn't naked or something?

Bull checks her out.

BULL
Why would I want to miss that?

Buffy cringes a little, but moves on quickly.

BUFFY
So what happens now?

BULL
Now, I introduce you to a couple friends.

He looks back to the open door.

BULL (CONT'D)
Candy. Divine. Come in.

Two girls walk into the room. They're probably about 16 or 17 years old each, but they're made up in such a trashy way that it makes it hard to tell exactly how old they are. They wear leather chokers that hide any bites they might have.

CANDY is a small girl with bottle blond hair. Looks more like a little girl playing dressup with her mother's clothes than an actual adult. She's very reserved.

DIVINE is a tougher looking girl with darker hair. She walks in and looks Buffy up and down.

DIVINE
This her?

BULL
Do you see any other girls around?

DIVINE

Where do you buy your clothes, girl?
The Gap?

BUFFY

(looking at her clothes)
No. Do I look Gappy?

BULL

Why don't I leave you girls alone to
talk?

(to Buffy)

They'll show you the ropes.

Bull walks out of the room. As he closes the door behind
him, he looks back at Divine and Candy.

BULL (CONT'D)

Play nice.

He closes the door and is gone. Divine and Candy look back
to Buffy.

BUFFY

I don't suppose this is the part
where we braid each others' hair and
tell ghost stories?

DIVINE

This is the part where I kick your
ass for coming in here like this.

BUFFY

It wasn't my idea, really. I wanted
to kill the guy.

DIVINE

You would.

(beat)

Now, thanks to you, our prices go
down.

BUFFY

How do you figure?

DIVINE

Supply and demand. Ever hear of it?
More supply, less demand. Less demand,
less money.

BUFFY

Do you enjoy this?

DIVINE

Enjoy what?

(MORE)

DIVINE (CONT'D)

Living in the lap of luxury, as opposed to living on the streets? Eating three squares a day instead of starving? Yeah, it doesn't suck.

BUFFY

You're selling your blood for money. Don't you think that's kinda wrong?

DIVINE

(to Candy)

Look who's preaching.

(to Buffy)

And what brings you here? Selling makeup door-to-door?

BUFFY

I'm here to help you.

Divine laughs.

CANDY

Help us?

BUFFY

I can get you out of this.

DIVINE

And what makes you think we'd want to go?

Buffy notices that Candy seems more open to the idea, but she doesn't speak up.

BUFFY

Because you're better than this. You don't need to sell yourselves like this. You can do better.

DIVINE

Says the girl with the stylish leather boots. You know what I was wearing on my feet a few months ago? Broken up Nikes that I found in a dumpster.

BUFFY

You don't have to go back to that.

DIVINE

And where else can I go?

BUFFY

I know a place, in England. They'll take care of you. Train you to use your strength for something meaningful.

DIVINE

Whatever.

BUFFY

Do you even know what you are? Have they told you what you are? You're a Slayer.

DIVINE

Chosen to protect the world from the big bad wolf. Yeah, they told me that.

BUFFY

And it means nothing to you?

DIVINE

Wolves never did anything to hurt me.

Buffy is annoyed. She turns to Candy.

BUFFY

You can't agree with this. Tell me that you don't agree with this.

Candy doesn't know what to say. She remains silent.

DIVINE

She was worse off than I was. Girl was about this close to death before Bull found her. He saved her life.

BUFFY

You call this saved? You're selling your blood. You're selling your *life*. And for what? A free meal and some pretty damn ugly clothes? You two are young. You can go to school. You can make something of yourselves.

Divine's had enough. She steps up, into Buffy's face.

DIVINE

You better not ruin this for us.

BUFFY

If you consider killing your bosses "ruining it", I don't see how you're gonna stop me.

Before a fight can break out, Bull comes back into the room.

BULL

Change of plans, girls.

He goes to Buffy and Divine and gently separates them.

BULL (CONT'D)

I see you've made friendly.

(beat)

Anyway, get dressed. We're hosting a party.

CANDY

Party?

BULL

No bottling tonight, sweetie. Tonight, we show you girls off to the out-of-towners.

DIVINE

They pay big?

BULL

Oh, that doesn't begin to explain it.

(to Buffy)

You'll find dresses in the closet. Find your size and put it on. Make it snappy.

Bull leads Candy and Divine out of the room.

BULL (CONT'D)

You girls go fix yourselves up, real pretty. We meet in the hallway in ten. Don't be late.

Bull closes the door, once again leaving Buffy alone. She's still annoyed at how her conversation with the other girls went. She thinks for a moment. Finally, she turns and walks to the closet. She pulls out a dress and holds it up to herself.

She looks in the mirror and cringes again.

INT. HOTEL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Divine and Candy are dressed and ready to skank it up. Divine is saying something to Bull, but we don't hear what she's saying.

Bull nods and reassures her, just as Buffy's door opens. Buffy walks out. She's wearing one of the slutty dresses that she found in the closet.

Bull checks her out.

BULL

Nice.

BUFFY

I work out.

She walks to him.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

So what happens now? Do I get a new name? I mean, Divine and Candy can't be their real names, so do I need a sluttier name?

BULL

(chuckles)

Sweetie, your name is Buffy. What's to change?

Buffy is a little insulted, but it passes.

BUFFY

So lead the way, master.

BULL

Not so fast. Our clients want a good time. I need to make sure you girls are at your best.

BUFFY

Meaning?

Bull takes a small bottle out of his coat pocket. Something mystical.

BULL

Just take a sniff of this, and we'll be ready to party.

Bull hands it to Divine. She opens it, looks at Buffy, and takes a sniff. A GREEN SMOKE rises from the bottle, and enters her nose.

BUFFY

You've gotta be kidding me.

Divine is starting to feel pretty good already. She looks at Buffy.

DIVINE

Standard procedure.

She passes the bottle to Candy, who looks at Buffy. Buffy looks back. With her eyes, she's screaming for Candy not to do it, but she doesn't say anything. She doesn't want to blow what cover she has with Bull.

Candy puts the bottle close to her nose. Buffy doesn't care about her cover anymore.

BUFFY

You don't have to do this.

(MORE)

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Do you really want to live your life like this? Letting monsters feed off of you?

Candy looks from Buffy, to Bull. He nods at her, telling her to take it. Candy is used to taking his orders. She closes her eyes and takes a sniff. Same GREEN SMOKE as before.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

No!

Buffy tries to move toward Candy, but Bull grabs her. She turns around and punches him in the face. By the time she finally gets to Candy, it's too late. She's already feeling dandy. She looks up at Buffy. For the first time, we see her smile.

CANDY

Don't worry about it. See? I'm fine.

She starts to giggle. Very unlike her normal self.

Buffy turns back to Bull.

BUFFY

If you think I'm taking that stuff, you're in for the surprise of your unlife.

Bull takes a step closer to her. He smiles and looks into her eyes.

BULL

I don't think you have much choice in the matter.

Candy hands the bottle back to Bull. After he has it, Candy and Divine each grab one of Buffy's arms. Buffy struggles, but can't manage to pull free.

She kicks Divine, who goes down as a result. Before Buffy can do anything to Candy, Candy kicks Buffy's legs out from under her.

Buffy falls to the ground. Candy and Divine pin her down. She fights back, and throws Candy a good distance down the hall. Divine punches Buffy in the face.

DIVINE

You're not getting out of this.

BUFFY

You don't know me very well.

Buffy punches Divine, who falls back, releasing Buffy. Buffy flips to her feet and finds herself face-to-face with Bull.

He's holding the bottle up near her face, ready for this.

The GREEN SMOKE rises from the bottle, surrounding her head. Bull smiles at her. She stumbles backward.

BULL

Now, was that so hard?

Buffy shakes her head, but by now, she's acting very dazed. Finally, she looks back to Bull. She smiles.

BUFFY

I wanna party.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - NIGHT

The ballroom doors open and Buffy, Divine and Candy enter, all smiling and happy. Bull is right behind them, along with a VAMPIRE MINION.

It's a nice ballroom. The walls have flagpoles along them, which makes it look pretty fancy. The floor is a nice wood floor. The tables, chairs and couches that are set up all look really expensive too. This is a quality place.

The room is set up for a big party, but so far, they're the only ones there. Buffy goes to the center of the room, and looks around, twirling. She looks up at the high ceiling.

BUFFY

This place is amazing!

CANDY

I feel like I'm in a Disney cartoon.

BUFFY

But with more selling of the body.

CANDY

Well, yeah. Duh.

DIVINE

(to Bull)

When do our dates get here?

BULL

Soon. Why don't you girls go get some food. Wouldn't want low blood-sugar.

The girls all go off to a table that's been set up, with food on it. Bull turns to his minion.

BULL (CONT'D)

Our guests arrive in a few minutes. Make sure they know the deal. Nobody feeds until I get paid. Make sure they see the price chart.

The minion nods and leaves the room.

Bull walks to the side of the room, where a stereo system is set up. He looks back to the girls.

BULL (CONT'D)

How 'bout some music?

He hits a button and MUSIC fills the room.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Xander is resting on the couch. Willow walks through the front door, and goes to him.

WILLOW
Hey.

XANDER
Hey.

WILLOW
Scooch over. Let me sit.

He moves over. Willow sits next to him.

WILLOW (CONT'D)
Sorry about bailing before. There was some stuff that I had to take care of, and then there was more stuff. Before I knew it, there was a lot of stuff.

XANDER
It's okay. I got to watch a very interesting episode of **Montel**. Seems there's this guy who has a kid, but he doesn't want to pay child support.

WILLOW
Sounds like a jerk.

XANDER
Yeah, that's the conclusion that everyone came to.

WILLOW
Did you work in the garden at all?

XANDER
Actually, I thought I'd wait. I kinda liked working on it with you. The buddy system is popular for a reason.

She smiles.

WILLOW
Thanks. I like it too. We haven't gotten to spend enough time together lately. I didn't realize how much I missed you.

He smiles back.

XANDER

When you think about it, we've been spending time together. The eye thing really brought us closer, I think.

WILLOW

I guess. Maybe it just seemed like we weren't spending enough time together.

As she says that, she realizes how weird that must have sounded. Before she can say something else, he replies.

XANDER

Yeah. It does seem like that.

There's a moment of silence where they're just looking at each other.

WILLOW

Yeah, it does.

Their looks soften. There's an obvious spark between them (not literally). Suddenly, Willow looks away, and stands up, panicking.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

I have to go.

And so she does. She rushes out of the room, leaving Xander alone. He has no idea what just happened.

XANDER

Okay.

INT. OFFICE SUPPLY STORE - BACK ROOM - NIGHT

Giles is sitting, tapping his foot on the floor, nervously.

GILES

Stupid. How could I...?

He turns and looks at a clock on the wall. It's later than he'd like.

He gets up, grabs an ax off of the wall, and leaves the room. He's a man on a mission now.

INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - NIGHT

ANGLE ON : THE CEILING

The MUSIC continues. The lights are slightly dimmer than they were before.

We PAN DOWN to see that the room is now packed with well dressed VAMPIRES.

Most are just enjoying the party, dancing with each other or making out. There are a lot of them.

Bull sits at a table, with the girls standing behind him. There are about five vampires standing on the other side of the table, looking at the girls as Bull speaks.

BULL

You have a chance to have a genuine Slayer in your belly tonight, my friends. Believe me, you haven't died until you've tasted one of these sweet morsels.

Divine makes eye contact with one of the vamps. She's pulling him in with her eyes. Bull notices this. He looks at the vamp.

BULL (CONT'D)

You know you want her. Not like you can't afford her.

The vampire hesitates for a second. Divine gives him another seductive look. Finally, the vamp agrees and pulls out a wad of cash. He tosses it on the table. Bull smiles as he takes it.

BULL (CONT'D)

You won't regret it.

Divine walks around the table, and takes the vampire's hand. She leads him across the room, to a couch. They sit down.

ANGLE ON : BUFFY

Watching this go down.

BUFFY

Okay, I'm worth so much more than her. Who wants to bid?

A RUSSIAN VAMPIRE looks at Buffy, and then to Candy. Candy blows him a kiss.

The Russian vampire throws cash in front of Bull.

RUSSIAN VAMPIRE

I'll take the cute one.

Bull nods and motions for Candy to go around to the Russian vamp.

Buffy is confused.

BUFFY

"The cute one"?
(MORE)

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Since when am I not cute?

(to Bull)

So, is this everyone that's supposed to show up tonight?

EXT. HOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT

Giles bursts through the doors of the hotel, still holding his ax and now carrying a bag on his shoulder. He looks around the place.

It's odd, but the hotel is just like any normal hotel. It's actually pretty nice. It's not a demon hotel or anything like that. It's a bit flashy, with a mirrored floor which belongs in the 80's, but it's still got to cost a pretty penny to stay there.

Giles goes to the front desk and looks at the CONCIERGE. The concierge looks back.

CONCIERGE

Can I help you, sir?

The concierge looks at Giles' ax.

CONCIERGE (CONT'D)

I'm afraid we don't allow weapons in the hotel.

GILES

I'm looking for a girl.

CONCIERGE

I don't think I can be of much help there, sir.

GILES

I'm looking for a specific girl.
Blond.

He puts up his hand to Buffy's height.

GILES (CONT'D)

About this tall. Her name is Buffy, and she would have been in here with some very strange men.

CONCIERGE

Are you a cop?
(re: the ax)
From the distant past?

GILES

I have reason to believe that this girl may be in very serious danger.

CONCIERGE

I'm sorry, but I can't help you. We see hundreds of people in here every day.

GILES

Damnit!

Giles turns and looks around the lobby. As he does, he sees the vampire minion from before walking across the lobby, in human face. Something about him catches Giles' eye. For a moment, Giles can't place it, but then he realizes that the minion has no reflection in the floor.

Giles walks away from the front desk, following the minion.

INT. HOTEL BALLROOM - NIGHT

Divine and her vampire client are sitting on the couch. She's on his lap, allowing him to run his hands over her... neck. As he does, he licks his fangs, preparing himself for his meal. She doesn't seem at all uncomfortable with this situation.

Finally, the client leans forward, and sinks his teeth into her. She closes her eyes, almost as though she enjoys it.

ANGLE ON : CANDY

Not too far away. She's with her Russian vampire. They're standing face to face. She's looking into his eyes, strongly.

CANDY

It's my duty to kill your kind, you know?

RUSSIAN VAMPIRE

I'd like to see you try, Slayer.

She punches him in the face. He comes back with a punch to her face. She recovers quickly, and stares him down again.

CANDY

You're gonna pay for that.

She jumps on top of him, taking him to the floor. Once on the floor, he rolls on top of her and pins her arms down.

RUSSIAN VAMPIRE

You're mine.

He bites her neck. She takes a deep breath through her teeth as his fangs pierce her skin.

As this happens, we ANGLE UP and see Buffy walking past them with another vampire. This vampire is dark, with a long leather jacket, and spiked blond hair.

Totally unlike any vampires we might have ever seen on the show before... really. Anyway, we'll refer to him as MR. DARK. Currently in human face.

They reach the wall, and Buffy leans up against it. Mr. Dark puts an arm on the wall, and leans in close to her.

BUFFY
How do you want me?

MR. DARK
You seem fine the way you are.

He smells her hair before finally coming around and kissing her neck.

MR. DARK (CONT'D)
I've always wanted a Slayer.

BUFFY
Now you have me.

MR. DARK
Yeah.

He VAMPS OUT.

MR. DARK (CONT'D)
I do.
(beat)
Y'know, I can make you one of us.

BUFFY
I think my boss might be a little upset if you killed me.

MR. DARK
That's what I paid for.

Buffy's thrown. She didn't know that the deal involved killing the Slayers.

BUFFY
What? I thought you guys just fed off of us.

MR. DARK
I guess your boss is going for the jackpot this time.

He moves closer and closer to her neck. Just as he's about to bite her, the ballroom doors CRASH open.

ANGLE ON: GILES

As he rushes into the room.

Two vampires rush toward him, but with a swing of his ax, one of them is decapitated and TURNS TO DUST. The other is hit in the chest and put out of commission.

Giles looks around the room.

GILES

 Buffy?!

He can't see her. He continues to look around as more vampires attack him. He reaches into his bag and pulls out a water bottle (the type with the pop-up cap), filled with Holy Water. He pops the cap up, and squirts the vampires that are getting close to him. They SMOKE and back away, in pain.

ANGLE ON : BUFFY

Mr. Dark is looking in Giles' direction.

MR. DARK

 Someone really should take care of that.

BUFFY

 I have a better idea.

Mr. Dark looks back at her.

MR. DARK

 What's that?

Buffy looks at Mr. Dark, a strong look coming over her face. He knows this can't be good.

BUFFY

 I could kill every vampire in this room. That's fun too, right?

With that, she smashes her fist into his face, sending him flying. She turns and heads toward Giles.

Giles sees her coming and smiles.

GILES

 Buffy, thank God. We have to get out of here.

He looks at her.

GILES (CONT'D)

 What are you wearing?

BUFFY

 We're not going anywhere until they're all dead.

Buffy looks around.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
Do you see the other girls?

GILES
(looking)
No.

BUFFY
They're killing them, Giles.

GILES
But--

BUFFY
I know, "But". Tonight's different
for some reason.

Buffy goes through Giles' bag and grabs some stakes. She turns back and faces the vampires, just as Bull comes up to her. He looks big and threatening. Obviously, a battle will ensue.

BULL
You're out of line, girl.

BUFFY
I got news for you, boss.

She throws a stake, hitting him directly in the heart. So much for the big battle.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
I did not inhale.

Bull TURNS TO DUST. The other vampires get a little upset now. They start to head for Buffy and Giles.

GILES
This doesn't look very good, does
it?

Buffy shrugs.

BUFFY
I've seen worse.

She take's Giles' ax from him, and steps toward the vampires.

STAY ON GILES as he watches Buffy in action. We can hear the PUNCHING, and DROPPING and GRUNTING of the battle that we cannot see.

Giles takes all of these noises into consideration, and decides to close the ballroom doors.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE BALLROOM - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT

The doors close. We Can still HEAR THE BATTLE taking place, but obviously can't see it.

We stay on this shot for a very long time.

GILES (O.S.)

Good Lord.

Just as it's getting to the "too long" point, we slowly MOVE OVER, away from the doors, just in time to see one of the flagpoles from the ballroom fly through the doors and stick into the wall. There are four vampires skewered on the pole.

Soon, they all POOF.

We stay on this view, for a bit longer. Just as we begin to wonder why we're still watching this, another vampire flies out of the ballroom, and finds himself skewered.

He goes POOF too.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Some time has passed. Buffy and Giles stand next to the bed, looking over an unconscious Candy. She's bandaged up, and hooked up to a heart monitor.

Buffy looks at her.

GILES

You tried.

BUFFY

Not hard enough.

GILES

Your best.

BUFFY

Not good enough.

(beat)

I should have saved them.

GILES

They didn't want to be saved. The fact that even one made it out of there alive was a testament to your ability.

BUFFY

I waited, Giles. I waited too long, and this is what happened.

GILES

You didn't know that the rules had changed.

BUFFY

I was dealing with vampires. I should know that there are no rules. I should have stopped this before they were...

She can't even finish that sentence. Giles can't comfort her right now. He knows this. He simply puts a hand on her shoulder. They stand in silence for a moment. Finally, he speaks.

GILES

We should go. We've got a flight to catch.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Xander walks into the kitchen, looking for Willow or Dawn.

XANDER

Hello? Will, you up?
(beat)
Dawn?

He doesn't see either of them, but there is a note on the refrigerator.

He goes to it and reads it.

ANGLE ON : THE NOTE

It says "BUFFY CALLED. I'M GOING TO FLORIDA TO ASSIST. WILL CALL SOON. -- WILLOW"

ANGLE ON : XANDER

He takes in the news about Willow leaving. He's not sure what to think. If he wasn't confused before, this doesn't help matters.

He crumples the letter in his hand.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

The curtain is closed over the window, letting very little sunlight in. Candy is still in bed, and unconscious.

ANGLE ON : THE FLOOR

We see a WOMAN'S FEET as she makes her way into the room. She's wearing jeans and boots. That's all we see. She walks to the bed and sits next to Candy.

CLOSE ON : CANDY

She finally begins to stir. Her eyes open slightly, and she groggily looks up at the woman sitting on her bed.

CANDY

Who are you?

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Buffy sits on the airplane, looking out the window. There's a DING sound.

She looks up and sees the "FASTEN SEATBELTS" sign light up.

With a blank expression, she looks back to the window.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF SHOW