

Buffy The Vampire Slayer

Season 8

Episode 4

"Who's The Slayer"

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

BUFFY is strolling down the street, stake in hand. It's calm and peaceful. Nobody is on the streets.

From the video store, DAWN walks out. She sees Buffy and goes to her, looking back to see if anyone is watching.

DAWN

What are you doing here?

BUFFY

What am I always doing when I lurk around the dark streets in the middle of the night?

DAWN

Middle of the night? It's 10:15.

BUFFY

I know, but the reply sounded much cooler my way.

DAWN

What if someone saw you?

BUFFY

I don't know. I'd probably say something along the lines of "Hi."

DAWN

You know what I mean. You're carrying around a wooden stake. What if Ryan or Kirsty saw you?

BUFFY

I've been doing this for a while now. I know how to play it cool.

RYAN walks out of the movie store. He sees the girls talking and walks over, smiling.

RYAN

Hey.

BUFFY

I'm a Slayer of vampires, out on patrol, guarding the world from the evil that lurks amongst us.

Dawn's eyes widen. Ryan looks very confused.

RYAN

Am I missing something here?

BUFFY

Sisterly sarcasm.

RYAN

Ah. Yeah, I have a sister too.

BUFFY

Really? Does she fight evil?

RYAN

No. She is evil.

Buffy smiles.

BUFFY

I'm Buffy, by the way.

She extends a hand, keeping the stake behind her back. Ryan shakes the hand.

RYAN

Ryan. But, I think we've met.

BUFFY

Right. You rented us some movies.

DAWN

(still freaking)

Buffy was just out for a walk. She likes to walk at night.

RYAN

Okay.

BUFFY

My plans also included intruding on my sister's social life and embarrassing her as much as humanly possible in front of her friends, which I think I can safely assume is a mission complete. So I will now go. It was nice seeing you, Ryan.

(to Dawn)

See you at home?

Dawn can't muster words. She just smiles uncomfortably. Buffy walks off.

DAWN

(to Ryan)

Sorry about that.

RYAN

About what?

DAWN

My sister. She's strange. We tried getting her help once, but she managed to convince the doctors that she was sane.

Ryan laughs. Dawn laughs as well.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Right. Laughing. 'Cause of the joking.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Buffy continues to walk. She's not on main street anymore, but she's not far from it. The area is dark and has less buildings on it.

She closes her eyes as she walks, taking in the silence. The gentle breeze.

Suddenly, a hand slaps her upside the head. It's Dawn.

DAWN

What the hell was that?

BUFFY

That was me being fun and amusing.

DAWN

By telling him our secret.

BUFFY

You'd be amazed by how many people still think of that stuff as fun sarcasm.

DAWN

You'd be amazed by how many people think of it as sloppy. We have a job to do here. We shouldn't go around, blowing our cover.

BUFFY

Fine. I won't tell anyone my secret anymore. I promise.

DAWN

Good.

They continue to stroll.

BUFFY

So, is he your new love interest?

DAWN

Ryan?

BUFFY

No, the other "he" that we're talking about.

DAWN

He's my new boss interest.

BUFFY

And that's it?

DAWN

Isn't that enough?

BUFFY

I guess. I'm just saying that if I had a studly older boss man, I'd be thinking about the options.

DAWN

You did have a studly older boss man. Does the name "Principal Wood" ring a bell?

BUFFY

It really would have been easier if his mother just named him "Principal", wouldn't it?

DAWN

Me and Ryan are just friends. That's it.

BUFFY

Fine.

Buffy tucks her stake away. Subject is changing.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Don't know why I bother carrying stakes with me. It's not like there are any vampires in this town.

EXT. OTHER STREET - NIGHT

We see a GROUP OF VAMPIRES surrounding a YOUNG WOMAN.

YOUNG WOMAN

Please, don't hurt me.

The leader of the group of men, CRAINE (woodsy vampire), smiles at her.

CRAINE

Now where would the fun be in that?

The young woman notices Craine's face.

YOUNG WOMAN

W--What are you?

CRAINE

I'm your future, short as it may be.

Craine goes to her and grabs her roughly. He smells her and comes close to biting her, then stops.

CRAINE (CONT'D)

Say, you wouldn't happen to know of
a good hotel in town, would you?

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

XANDER is sitting on the couch, watching TV. He's eating a bowl of cereal.

Buffy walks in and sits next to him.

BUFFY
Xander?

XANDER
Hmm?

BUFFY
Have you left this couch at all in
the past two weeks?

XANDER
Sure I have.

BUFFY
When?

XANDER
There was the time I...

He thinks, then holds up the cereal.

XANDER (CONT'D)
I got cereal. Plus, many countless
bathroom trips.

BUFFY
Please don't elaborate.
(then)
But you haven't actually done anything
in the last couple of weeks.

The subject is touchy for him. He looks at her, then quickly looks away. He closes his eyes, not that it helps.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
Are you okay?

XANDER
Yeah, just give me a sec, okay?

She can tell he's annoyed. She wants to help, but doesn't know how.

After a few seconds, he opens his eyes. He looks at her.

XANDER (CONT'D)

Sometimes I don't know what's worse.
Having an eye that changes modes at
random, or having no eye at all.

BUFFY

It'll get better.

XANDER

That's the rumor. So far unconfirmed,
and highly questionable.

BUFFY

But you can't let this keep you down.
You can't just waste away.

XANDER

What else is there for me to do? We
don't know why we're in town- except
that there's some mystical weirdness-
and there's not much chance of me
holding down a worthwhile job at the
moment, seeing as how I tend to freak
out at times.

BUFFY

There has to be something. I don't
like seeing you like this.

He looks her in the eyes, seeing that she's worried. He tries
to force a smile.

XANDER

I'll find something. There's always
the land of the weed demons that we
call our backyard.

Buffy smiles. She sits back and looks at the TV.

BUFFY

So what's on?

XANDER

I've been meaning to talk to you
about that. I'm worried, Buff. You
don't seem to have anything to do
with your time.

She's just about to respond when WILLOW rushes into the room.
She has a huge smile on her face.

WILLOW

I'm giddy. Can you tell I'm giddy?

XANDER

Well, let's see.

He looks at her huge smile, pondering.

XANDER (CONT'D)

There is something about you that seems happy. I can't quite put my finger on it though.

BUFFY

What's up?

WILLOW

The internet. Finally, my computer is more than just a plastic box that sits on top of the dining room table. I got e-mail and everything. Okay, yeah, it's mostly dirty junk mail, but this spam is somehow comforting.

BUFFY

Spam?

WILLOW

Junk mail.

XANDER

And here I always thought it was a mysterious meat product.

WILLOW

It also means that I might be able to access some of my files that I stored on a server, a couple years ago. Something Giles had me working on.

XANDER

Recipes for various blends of stuffy English teas?

WILLOW

No.

(then)

Well, yeah, but something better too. Scans from a bunch of our old books. Giles had me working on it the summer after we killed Adam. When he was thinking of moving back to England.

BUFFY

Giles was thinking of moving back to England? Before I died?

XANDER

So we can actually research some stuff again?

WILLOW

Yup.

BUFFY

So then the whole "you need to grow up" thing after I came back could have been an excuse?

XANDER

Looks like I might be getting up off the couch after all then.

WILLOW

Well, if you learn how to use the computer.

XANDER

I know how to use the computer.

WILLOW

I mean, for more than looking up smutty websites.

(beat)

Hey, did you happen to put my e-mail address on any of those sites?

Xander gives her a guilty look.

BUFFY

Remind me to talk to Giles about this whole thing.

WILLOW

Anyway, I'm gonna head downtown to see if there's a store that might sell computery stuff. I need a cable, and some ink for my printer.

BUFFY

I'll go with. I have to drop Dawn's name tag off at the video store.

Buffy looks at Xander.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

You wanna come?

XANDER

As much fun as computer shopping and name tag dropping sounds, I think I'll pass. I have things to do here. Very important things.

BUFFY

You know I can see right through your excuses, right?

XANDER

Hey, and I can see right through that outfit. We have so much in common.

Buffy takes the comment lightly until she starts to wonder if he's really joking. Then she uncomfortably stands up.

BUFFY

We'll be back.

Buffy and Willow walk out.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Buffy and Willow make their way down the street. They're just strolling and talking.

BUFFY

So how's it going?

WILLOW

Good. Except for the whole e-mail junk pile I have to sort through when we get home.

BUFFY

I meant the other thing.

Willow finally gets it.

WILLOW

Oh. Y'mean, where I went mental and almost got my past self killed. Which really wouldn't have gotten me very far, when you think about it.

BUFFY

You dealing okay?

WILLOW

I'm dealing. I've gotten pretty good at it the last couple years.

BUFFY

You know I never meant to--

WILLOW

Yeah. I know. I always knew in an outie way, but the innie way wasn't listening.

(beat)

I guess I've needed a good sit-down talk with myself for a while.

BUFFY

Or a "we're about to die" stand-up talk.

WILLOW

That worked too. I never realized all of these things that I've been thinking. It's like looking in the mirror and seeing yourself for the first time.

BUFFY

And what did you see?

Willow thinks about it.

WILLOW

I saw a girl who wore high-heeled boots to battle Glory. Let me tell you, without Slayer ankles that's just not very logical thinking.

Buffy smiles.

BUFFY

The things we do for fashion.

WILLOW

Yeah. But when did *I* start doing them?

Buffy's about to respond when she sees something down the street. She watches as she walks. Willow notices.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

Whatcha lookin' at?

Buffy motions with her head. Willow looks in the direction that Buffy's looking.

BUFFY'S POV

A MOTHER is helping her DISABLED SON (7 or 8 years old) out of the car, into his wheelchair.

BUFFY

Can you imagine what that must be like?

MRS. GIMLY (O.S.)

Horrible, isn't it?

Buffy and Willow turn. They see MRS. GIMLY standing behind them.

MRS. GIMLY (CONT'D)

That's Mary Lauster and her son, Travis. He was in an accident a few months ago. Just got out of the hospital not too long ago.

WILLOW

What happened?

MRS. GIMLY

He was playing with his sister, Jenna. She's older than him. They used to get along so well.

(beat)

Anyway, they were wrestling on the ground, like siblings do, and suddenly he was just screaming in pain. Doctors can't explain it. His bones just couldn't take the pressure anymore.

BUFFY

They broke?

MRS. GIMLY

Not just broke. They shattered.

WILLOW

Ouch.

There's a pause. Then Mrs. Gimly starts to think.

MRS. GIMLY

You have experience with counseling young people, don't you?

Buffy looks at her, a little thrown.

BUFFY

Me? Yeah. I guess so. Why?

MRS. GIMLY

Jenna. She's taken the whole thing pretty hard. The Lausters have tried getting her help, but they haven't had any luck. Poor thing blames herself.

BUFFY

You want me to talk to her?

MRS. GIMLY

If you would.

BUFFY

I don't know. I'm not certified or anything like that. I'm just...

MRS. GIMLY

Just someone, closer to her own age,
who might be able to get her to open
up.

BUFFY

I'm not sure I could... I mean...

MRS. GIMLY

When I contacted your references,
your old boss told me about you. He
said the kids liked you.

BUFFY

I guess.

Buffy looks to Willow for help, but Willow doesn't know what
to do.

MRS. GIMLY

It would mean so much to the family
if you could just try.

Buffy finally crumbles.

BUFFY

I guess I could try.

Mrs. Gimly smiles.

MRS. GIMLY

Good. I'll set it up and get back to
you then.

Buffy forces a smile, trying to seem polite. Mrs. Gimly smiles
back, with a genuine smile.

MRS. GIMLY (CONT'D)

Okay then. I've got work to do. Town
hall needs to run an ad in the paper
and I've been elected to run it down
to the office. I'll see you two later.

Mrs. Gimly walks off.

WILLOW

Bye.

When Mrs. Gimly is gone, Buffy turns to Willow.

BUFFY

Could I get any more screwed?

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

The curtains are closed, so the room has only the light that
the table lamps provide.

The group of vampires from the night before now fill this homely little room (not a chain hotel).

Craine is standing in front of the other vampires. A few of them are on the beds, reading books and scrolls.

CRAINE

Have we located it yet?

One BOOKWORM VAMP looks up at him.

BOOKWORM VAMP

Not yet. But we're close.

CRAINE

Close doesn't do much for me. We need to get out of this town fast. Rumor has it, there's a Slayer in town.

A FEMALE VAMPIRE speaks up now.

FEMALE VAMPIRE

We've dealt with Slayers before.

CRAINE

Those were children. This is different. This is *the* Slayer. The chosen one.

FEMALE VAMPIRE

Aren't they all chosen? Isn't that how the nursery rhyme goes? "Into each generation--"

CRAINE

Shut up! You know what I mean. This is the one from Sunnydale.

FEMALE VAMPIRE

Weren't there a lot of Slayers--

CRAINE

Please! I'm begging you to just shut up. Right now. For the sake of all things right and proper in this world, would you just not open your mouth anymore?

The female vampire backs down.

BOOKWORM VAMP

The problem is, nobody knows where to look. We have nothing to go on.

CRAINE

Then find something. This town is going to be swarming with demons soon. I want to make sure that we're out of here by the time the Slayer is tipped off.

Craine looks around at his minions. There's a sparkle in his eyes as he dreams about the future.

CRAINE (CONT'D)

The night is coming. I can feel it. This world has never seen a power as great as that which is about to be set loose upon it.

(beat)

I don't need Slayer troubles. Once we find what we're looking for, we grab it and get out of here before she gets wind of us.

FEMALE VAMPIRE

Should we maybe have- y'know- not killed that lady last night?

Craine looks back at the female vampire.

CRAINE

Why are you talking to me? I just told you not to talk to me, so why are you talking to me?

Craine looks at the other vampires. He's drawing a blank.

CRAINE (CONT'D)

Anyway, what was I saying?

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. VIDEO STORE - DAY

Buffy and Willow walk into the video store. Willow is now carrying a bag, filled with computer supplies.

As they walk in, there's a KNOCK on the door behind them. They turn to see Mrs. Gimly motioning to Buffy to join her outside.

Buffy looks to Willow, not wanting to go.

BUFFY
Do I have to?

WILLOW
I'm afraid so.

BUFFY
No fair.

Willow smiles and pats Buffy on the shoulder.

WILLOW
We want to be nice to our new neighbors, don't we?

BUFFY
Honestly?

Buffy doesn't continue. She just sighs. Willow holds out her hand.

WILLOW
I'll leave Dawn's tag. You go.

Buffy hands Willow the tag and walks out. She smiles happily to Mrs. Gimly as she greets the woman outside.

Willow continues to the counter of the video store where KIRSTY is sitting on a stool, watching her. Willow smiles.

WILLOW (CONT'D)
Hi.

Kirsty isn't in a smiling mood (if such a thing exists for her).

KIRSTY
Can I help you?

Willow holds out the tag.

WILLOW

I wanted to drop this off for Dawn.

Kirsty takes it.

KIRSTY

Oh, are you her sister?

WILLOW

No. I'm a friend. Roommate, actually.

KIRSTY

Neat.

Kirsty has nothing else to say. Willow is expecting more of a conversation. She looks at Kirsty and notices a pin that she's wearing. It says "EAT TOFU"

WILLOW

So, are you a vegetarian?

KIRSTY

Vegan.

WILLOW

That's cool. I always wanted to go vegan, but I could never do it.

KIRSTY

It's not so hard after a while. You should try it.

WILLOW

I think I'm too much of a bacon fan at this point.

(beat)

If you ever happen to meet my dad for some reason, please never tell him that.

KIRSTY

You don't mind that every slice of bacon you eat comes at the cost of an innocent pig's life?

WILLOW

I try not to think about that part too much.

KIRSTY

Closing your eyes won't make your problems go away.

WILLOW

Yeah, I've been getting that message a lot lately.

(MORE)

WILLOW (CONT'D)

(beat)

It's cool that you have something to give yourself to like that. A cause.

KIRSTY

You should. Nobody should just sit quiet while the world goes to hell around them. Even if you don't support my causes, you should find something of your own.

Willow ponders that for a second.

WILLOW

Yeah.

Buffy walks back into the store, smiling. She reaches the counter.

BUFFY

Hey. What's up?

WILLOW

This is Dawn's boss...

Willow reads Kirsty's name tag.

WILLOW (CONT'D)

...Kirsty. Kirsty, this is Buffy. She's Dawn's sister.

(beat)

And I'm Willow, by the way.

Kirsty gives a quick flash of a smile to Buffy. Just to be polite.

BUFFY

Nice to meet you.

WILLOW

(to Buffy)

So, you seem happy. Did you get out of it?

BUFFY

Nope. I'm meeting Jenna later tonight. I'm having dinner at their house.

WILLOW

Then what?

Buffy smiles bigger.

BUFFY

Mrs. Gimly wants to talk to you. She's waiting outside.

Willow's smile drops. She looks like she just ran over a kitten.

Buffy pats Willow's shoulder.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

We wanna be nice to our new neighbors,
don't we?

Willow shoots Buffy a dirty look and starts to walk out. When she's gone, Buffy turns back to Kirsty. There's a pause. Finally, Kirsty speaks.

KIRSTY

Gimly's a bitch.

Buffy smiles.

EXT. VIDEO STORE - DAY

Willow walks out of the store, and is greeted by Mrs. Gimly.

MRS. GIMLY

Hello, again.

WILLOW

Hi. Buffy said you wanted to see me?

MRS. GIMLY

Yes. She tells me you're quite the
computer whiz.

Willow tries to hide her bag behind her back.

WILLOW

I don't know if I'd say "whiz",
really. I'm much more of a tinkerer.

MRS. GIMLY

Don't be so modest. Buffy says you've
even been scouted by big computer
companies.

WILLOW

That was back in high school.

MRS. GIMLY

A prodigy.

Willow really doesn't want to get roped into something.

WILLOW

No. I mean, my computer skills have
gone down hill since then. Way, way
down hill. You wouldn't happen to
know what a megabyte is, would you?

Mrs. Gimly smiles, thinking Willow is joking, instead of trying to get out of the conversation.

MRS. GIMLY

The reason I'm asking is, the job at city hall that I was telling you about. We're looking for someone to update our system.

WILLOW

What kind of system do you have?

MRS. GIMLY

Paper, mostly. Some micro-film. Which is why we need an update. We want to totally computerize our files. We want to take this town into the new millennium. What do you think?

WILLOW

Me?

MRS. GIMLY

Mm-hmm.

WILLOW

I don't know.

MRS. GIMLY

We'd pay well.

WILLOW

Okay.

MRS. GIMLY

Good.

WILLOW

But my schedule can get kind of weird sometimes.

MRS. GIMLY

Oh, don't worry about that. We've waited this long to update, I think we can afford to take our time.

Mrs. Gimly looks at her watch.

MRS. GIMLY (CONT'D)

Oh! I'm late. I really do have to get going. I'll call you later with details, okay?

WILLOW

You bet.

MRS. GIMLY

Bye now.

WILLOW

See ya.

Mrs. Gimly walks off. Soon after she's gone, Buffy walks out of the video store.

BUFFY

Did we have a nice conversation.

WILLOW

Shut up.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Buffy and Willow walk in. Buffy looks at the couch. Xander is nowhere to be seen.

BUFFY

Where's Xander?

WILLOW

Maybe he went out.

BUFFY

Out? He's barely gotten up since the whole eye thing started.

WILLOW

Okay, so maybe he's upstairs.

Buffy notices something. She walks to the back of the room and looks out the window.

BUFFY

Or he could be in the backyard. I'm gonna go talk to him.

WILLOW

'Kay. I'll be in the dining room.

Willow heads off to set up her computer. Buffy watches Xander for a moment, then heads toward the back door.

EXT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - BACKYARD - DAY

Buffy walks out. She finds Xander, standing in the middle of wildly overgrown plants. He's up to his waist in a mess of plant life.

BUFFY

We're home.

XANDER

Yeah, I heard you come in.

BUFFY

Whatcha doin'? Communing with nature?

XANDER

Actually, I'm waiting for this snake to get off my foot. I'm scared that it might bite me if I move.

BUFFY

Oh.

Buffy moves closer with caution and takes a look.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

That's a snake alright.

XANDER

I figure it'll get off eventually and then I can go shower like I've never showed before.

BUFFY

Snake fear?

XANDER

Not really a fear. It just seems dirty somehow.

BUFFY

Well, if it helps any, I don't think it's poisonous.

XANDER

You're sure about this?

BUFFY

For some reason, it was part of my Slayer training. Don't ask me why.

Xander shakes the snake off and turns around to face Buffy.

XANDER

Would suck to have a Slayer destroy the forces of evil, only to be taken down by a snake bite.

BUFFY

That's true enough.

XANDER

So anything exciting happen in town?

BUFFY

I got conned into playing counselor to a troubled teen. Willow got sucked into computerizing the city.

XANDER

Sounds fun.

BUFFY

Yeah. We also learned a valuable lesson. If you see Mrs. Gimly coming, run. Run like hell, and don't look back.

Xander smiles at her. He looks around the yard.

XANDER

Can you believe these weeds?

BUFFY

Nothing really surprises me at this point.

XANDER

I'm gonna have to take a blowtorch to the place if I want to make a dent in it.

BUFFY

But it'll be fun, right. 'Cause people say that garden work is all relaxing and stuff.

XANDER

Personally, I've always just thought it was back breaking barrels of non-fun.

BUFFY

To each his own.

XANDER

Maybe I could borrow another guy's. Then, to me, his.

BUFFY

You make no sense, but we love you anyway.

XANDER

Well, I'm gonna go into the shed and see what kind of gardening stuff we have. See ya.

BUFFY

Bye.

Xander walks off. Buffy takes a deep breath of the fresh air. She looks around her yard, and eventually back to the ground near where Xander was standing. She squints her eyes and tilts her head.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Or was that one poisonous?

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

The vampires are still at work. Craine is pacing, going through a book of his own.

CRAINE

What we need is a spell. Something to locate this thing.

BOOKWORM VAMP

None of the spells we have will help us here. Something about this place throws off locator spells.

CRAINE

Then how can we find it?

BOOKWORM VAMP

We'll have to try to track it's energy.

CRAINE

How?

BOOKWORM VAMP

Well, in theory, it's emitting an energy field that would dissipate the farther away it travels. If we can map the field, and figure out where it's the strongest, we might be able to locate it.

CRAINE

Wouldn't that just be a fancy locator spell?

The bookworm vamp thinks for a moment.

BOOKWORM VAMP

Well... In a way, I guess. But not in the usual sense of the term.

CRAINE

Whatever. The only thing that matters is that we have a plan.

BOOKWORM VAMP

But we have no way of going about it. We haven't found a spell to use yet.

CRAINE

So find one.

Craine looks at his watch.

CRAINE (CONT'D)

We have four hours until sundown. We move then. Be ready.

BOOKWORM VAMP

But it's not that simple.

CRAINE

Be. Ready.

BOOKWORM VAMP

But...

Craine holds up a finger.

CRAINE

What did I just tell you?

BOOKWORM VAMP

To be ready.

Craine nods.

CRAINE

Good. We're on the same page. Now, do it.

The bookworm gets back to work. Craine is quite pleased with himself. He goes to the window and peeks out. This doesn't last long, as he soon realizes that the sunlight burns. He lets the curtain drop back into place.

CRAINE (CONT'D)

Ow.

INT. LAUSTER HOUSE - FOYER/DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The house is nice. Small, but in a cozy way. The DOORBELL RINGS.

From the kitchen, Mary Lauster rushes to open it.

MARY

(calling out)

Coming.

She gets to the door and opens it. She sees Buffy standing on the other side and isn't quite sure what to think.

Buffy holds out a plate of cookies.

BUFFY

I brought cookies.

MARY
I'm sorry. You are?

BUFFY
Oh.

Buffy shifts the cookies over to one hand and holds out the other to shake with Mary.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
I'm Buffy Summers. Mrs. Gimly sent me.

MARY
Oh! Buffy. I'm sorry. Come in.

Buffy walks in.

BUFFY
Thanks.

MARY
Sorry I didn't realize who you were. I was expecting someone a little older.

BUFFY
Yeah. Sorry.

MARY
Mrs. Gimly said that you worked in a high school?

BUFFY
Yeah, back in Sunnydale. California.
(beat)
I just moved here.

Mary leads the way into the dining room. Buffy follows.

MARY
Sunnydale? Isn't that the town that--
?

BUFFY
Fell into a big hole?

Mary nods.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
That's us.

MARY
Wow. I saw that on the news, and I couldn't believe it. You're lucky to have gotten out of there.

BUFFY

You have no idea.

MARY

A lot of people say it was an act of God that so many people had out of town business that week. The town was almost empty.

BUFFY

Weird, huh?

MARY

So why were you out of town? If you don't mind my asking.

BUFFY

Oh... I left town because of work.

(beat)

Speaking of work, I was wondering if you could tell me a little about Jenna.

MARY

What do you want to know?

BUFFY

Basic background stuff. What she's like.

Mary pulls out a chair and sits down. Buffy puts the cookies down and sits next to Mary.

MARY

Well, she's a normal girl, I guess. She's strong willed. I was always so proud of the fact that she could stand up for herself.

(beat)

But that all changed after...

BUFFY

What happened?

Mary looks back toward the foyer, at the floor.

MARY

It was right over there. She was playing with her brother. They always used to wrestle. Playfully, I mean. I don't know what happened, really. Suddenly, he was screaming in pain and he couldn't move his legs. The doctors say they've never seen anything like it. For some reason, his bones just...

(MORE)

MARY (CONT'D)

(beat)

Anyway, Jenna blamed herself. She hasn't been the same since that day. She's quiet. She keeps to herself a lot. Too much. And she doesn't stand up for herself anymore. The kids at school will tease her, and she'll just take it.

Buffy listens to Mary tell the painful story. She's taking in all of the information.

MARY (CONT'D)

Travis has even tried telling her that he doesn't blame her. He's really been so strong through this whole thing. He keeps saying that he'll walk again soon, but the doct--

She has to stop. She can't bring herself to finish what she's saying. Buffy puts a hand on her shoulder.

BUFFY

It's okay. You don't have to go on anymore.

MARY

Everything is just falling apart, it seems. Sometimes, I just feel like running away. Is that wrong?

BUFFY

No. We all feel like that sometimes. Sometimes, the pressure can just build to the point where we don't think we can handle it.

Buffy looks Mary in the eyes, reassuringly.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

But you know what? That doesn't mean we can't. We're stronger than we realize sometimes. You'd be surprised by how strong you are.

There's a NOISE behind Buffy. She looks back toward the kitchen and sees JENNA (the tough looking girl from Dawn's school in episode 2) standing in the doorway. When Buffy looks at her, Jenna turns and walks away.

Buffy and Mary aren't sure what to do. Just then, the front door opens and Mary's husband, FRANK LAUSTER, walks in. He's pushing Travis' wheelchair. Both are smiling and having fun.

Mary puts on a smile for them.

TRAVIS

Hi, mom.

MARY

Hey, kiddo.
 (to Buffy)
 I'll get Jenna.

Mary's about to get up, but Buffy stops her.

BUFFY

Let me. Please.

Mary pauses, then she nods. She sits back down. Buffy smiles a "thanks" and walks out of the room the way Jenna went.

FRANK

Who's that?

EXT. LAUSTER HOUSE - BACK PORCH - NIGHT

Jenna is outside, looking at the stars. Buffy walks out.

BUFFY

Hey.

Jenna doesn't respond.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

I'm Buffy. You're Jenna, right?

JENNA

Wow. You know my name. It's like I've been touched by an angel.

BUFFY

Actually, your mom told me.
 (beat)
 She told me some other stuff too.

JENNA

Like how I paralyzed my little brother?

BUFFY

She doesn't think that.

JENNA

Why not? It's true. They keep getting all these people to talk to me and try to convince me that I didn't do it, but they don't understand.

BUFFY

Understand what?

Jenna finally looks at Buffy.

JENNA

That I did do it.

BUFFY

Why do you say that? There are medical conditions--

JENNA

Which the doctors can't diagnose in my brother.

(beat)

I felt it happen. I felt his bones break as I was on top of him. I was holding onto one of his arms, and a leg, and all of the sudden, it was like he was a dry spaghetti noodle. He just snapped.

BUFFY

Bones aren't that fragile. You can't think that you're to blame for it.

Jenna thinks for a moment. Recalling.

JENNA

Funny. Every time I replay that day in my head, I can't seem to see it any other way. It happened last May. I woke up. I brushed my teeth. I took a shower. I went to school. I came home. I took away my brother's ability to walk.

BUFFY

Jenna, you...

Buffy stops herself. She's suddenly realizing something.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

May?

JENNA

Yeah. He was supposed to go to camp over the summer. Instead, he was in the hospital.

Buffy is thinking hard. She looks off to the side.

BUFFY

Jenna, it's not your fault.

(beat)

It's mine.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. LAUSTER HOUSE - BACK PORCH - NIGHT

Jenna looks at Buffy, a little confused. Buffy is trying to figure things out.

JENNA

Okay, that's the first time I've heard that one. So, how do you figure this is all your fault.

Buffy looks back to Jenna.

BUFFY

Your mother says that you've become withdrawn. You won't even stick up for yourself anymore. Why?

JENNA

Because I've seen what it's like to hurt someone.

BUFFY

And you don't want to do it again.

JENNA

Would you?

BUFFY

You're stronger now than you were before.

Jenna is surprised to hear Buffy say that.

JENNA

What?

BUFFY

It's more than just being strong. It's like there's a force inside of you. You can feel it. Power. Maybe you've even had dreams.

Jenna is freaked out. She starts to back away.

JENNA

How did you...? Who are you?

BUFFY

I'm someone like you.

JENNA

A freak?

BUFFY

A Slayer.

JENNA

Oh, well, that sounds a lot better.

BUFFY

You're special. You have the chance to become something greater than you've ever imagined.

JENNA

And all I have to do is join your cult and give you all my money, right?

BUFFY

You're not listening to me.

JENNA

That's because you're a freak.

Buffy tries to put a hand on Jenna's arm, but Jenna backs away. She starts to back herself down the porch steps.

BUFFY

I know this is all confusing and weird right now. I'm not doing a good job of explaining it, but if you'll let me show you...

JENNA

Just stay away from me.

BUFFY

Jenna, you have potential. Don't let it go to waste. I can help you figure out what you are, and make sure an accident like what happened with your brother never happens again.

JENNA

What I am?

Not the words Jenna needed to hear. She backs away more and more.

BUFFY

I didn't mean that the way it sounded.

JENNA

Just leave me alone.

BUFFY

Jenna--

JENNA

No. Just leave me alone.

Jenna can't take it anymore. She turns and runs. Buffy watches her go, wishing that things had gone much better.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Craine is sitting in a chair, looking out the window. The curtains are pulled back, so he can see out without pushing them aside.

The other vampires are still working.

CRAINE

Do you know what I'm looking at?

The bookworm looks up.

BOOKWORM VAMP

Umm... The trees?

CRAINE

No, not the trees. I'm looking up at the beautiful night sky, and pondering an age-old question. Do you want to know what that question is?

The bookworm really doesn't.

BOOKWORM VAMP

Y-Yes?

CRAINE

I'm asking myself why the hell we're still sitting here when it's perfectly dark outside!

(beat)

And now I'm asking you that question.

BOOKWORM VAMP

We're working as fast as we can, sir.

CRAINE

We've had how long to prepare for this? A couple thousand years? Why aren't we ready?

The bookworm doesn't respond.

CRAINE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. Did that sound rhetorical to you?

BOOKWORM VAMP

I don't know what to say.

CRAINE

Say "ah-ha, I've got it!", or something along those lines.

One of the other vampires, a GEEKY VAMPIRE, perks up.

GEEKY VAMPIRE

Here we go. I think I found something.

CRAINE

That'll work.

The geeky vampire hands his book to the bookworm. The bookworm reads from it.

BOOKWORM VAMP

Yes. Yes, this'll do just fine.

(to Craine)

We have a spell that might lead us.

CRAINE

Neat. Then let's get the hell out of here.

Craine walks toward the door. The other vampires follow.

FEMALE VAMPIRE

Finally.

CRAINE

Did I say you could talk?

They leave the hotel room, closing the door behind them.

INT. LAUSTER HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Mary, Frank and Travis are sitting at the table. They're waiting. Travis already has food on his plate.

TRAVIS

Mom, I'm hungry.

Mary thinks for a moment, then looks back to Travis.

MARY

Okay, baby. You can start.

Travis starts to eat. Mary looks at Frank.

MARY (CONT'D)

Do you think everything's okay?

FRANK

I don't know. Do you really think this girl can help Jenna?

MARY

We've tried everything else. What could it hurt to let her try?

Just as she's finishing her sentence, Buffy walks into the room, through the kitchen.

MARY (CONT'D)

(to Buffy)

Is everything okay? Where's Jenna?

BUFFY

There was a slight running off incident. I think I might have struck a cord.

MARY

She ran away?

BUFFY

But don't worry, I'm gonna go after her. I just thought I'd give her a few seconds to process things.

FRANK

What did you say to her?

BUFFY

I'm not sure I should talk about that. Privacy issues.

FRANK

You made our daughter run away. I think we have a right to know why.

BUFFY

Mr. Lauster, I understand what you're thinking. I do. I'd be thinking the same thing if someone came into my house like this. The thing is, your daughter is going through a lot of changes in her life right now. She's dealing with a lot of new things.

MARY

Is she having sex? Is that it?

BUFFY

No. I mean, I don't know-- That's not the issue. She's just trying to figure out how to deal with everything and it's not making a lot of sense to her. That said, I think I can help.

FRANK

How? My wife and I have been through our teens. We know what it's like. We could help her ourselves.

BUFFY

I don't doubt that you can help, but- no offense- you're her parents. Teenagers don't really like to get into these things with their parents. Now, I've been through these same issues pretty recently. I can talk to her on her own level, at her own pace. I can guide her through these things she's feeling.

Mary and Frank exchange another look. Finally, Mary nods to Buffy.

MARY

Okay. We want to help our daughter. Where do you start?

BUFFY

First things first, I have to find her.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Willow is sitting at the table, working on her computer. Her eyes are glued to the screen, and she's typing like crazy. She doesn't even notice when a dirty, tired Xander walks into the room and slumps down into a chair.

He looks at her, waiting for her to look up. She never does.

XANDER

So, how's the computer work going?

WILLOW

Mm-hmm.

XANDER

Good. Looking up anything good?

WILLOW

Mm-hmm.

XANDER

Neat. Mind if I light you on fire and do a tribal dance around you in the hopes of bringing forth some much needed rain?

WILLOW

Mm-hmm.

XANDER

Will?

(no reply)

Willow?

Willow finally looks up.

WILLOW

Oh. Hey. Sorry.

XANDER

What's so interesting?

WILLOW

I'm just caught up in the whole internet thing. I didn't even realize how much I missed it. Now I'm going to every site I've ever been to, seeing what's been updated since I last saw them.

XANDER

Anything I'd be interested in?

WILLOW

Not really, just some witchy pages. Spells and chants stuff like that. I did manage to print up a coupon, good for one free chocolate chip omelet at the Bait-N-Breakfast.

XANDER

(sarcastic)

Yum.

WILLOW

How's the green thumb working out for you?

XANDER

I think they gave me a blue thumb by mistake. Or a flashy hot pink one.

WILLOW

Not going well?

XANDER

I worked all afternoon on the thing, and I managed to get a small section in the back corner cleared of weeds. I think they're growing back as I pull them.

WILLOW

(laughs)

They're demonic weeds.

XANDER

You say that as though it weren't possible.

WILLOW

Good point.

There's a pause in the conversation. Nothing much more to say.

XANDER

Buffy still out?

WILLOW

Yup.

XANDER

Long dinner.

WILLOW

Yeah.

XANDER

Well, I guess I'll leave you to your surfing. Don't use the water. I'm gonna take a shower.

WILLOW

'Kay.

Xander walks out of the room. As he leaves, he blinks a few times and shakes his head.

Willow goes back to work.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Jenna walks down the street, alone. She is deep in thought.

The rest of the street is pretty empty. The stores are still open, but not many people feel the need to shop.

ANGLE ON : THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STREET

The group of vampires is making their way down the street, coming from the opposite direction. The bookworm is leading the way. Finally, they stop.

BOOKWORM VAMP

Here.

CRAINE

Here what?

BOOKWORM VAMP

I can perform the spell here. It should lead us where we want to go.

CRAINE

Then do it.

The bookworm kneels on the ground. He flips through the book. He finally finds his spell.

BOOKWORM VAMP

Ah. Here it is.

He reads a little. Then closes his eyes.

BOOKWORM VAMP (CONT'D)

Viserous, keeper of the sight, I
summon thee. Viserous, holder of the
light, I summon thee.

The female vampire leans closer to one of her friends, giggling.

FEMALE VAMPIRE

(whispering)

Sounds like he's saying viscer--

Craine shuts her up with an evil look before she can finish.

BOOKWORM VAMP

Come to me. Grant me vision. Give me
sight beyond sight.

The geeky vampire smirks, but is sure not to make a noise that might upset Craine.

INT. VIDEO STORE - NIGHT

Dawn is putting movies back on the shelves. Ryan is at the counter, doodling.

Dawn looks at a tape as she puts it on the shelf.

DAWN

Hey, we have **The Two Worlds Of Jennie Logan** here?

RYAN

I guess so.

DAWN

My mom was always talking about that movie, but we could never find it.

RYAN

You can bring it home if you want.

Dawn looks down.

DAWN

No. That's okay.

Ryan realizes what he said.

RYAN

Oh! God, I'm sorry. I forgot.

DAWN

It's okay, don't worry about it.

There's a long silence. Ryan is a little uncomfortable. He looks out the window and sees Jenna walk by.

RYAN

Check it out. Freakazoid at twelve o'clock.

Dawn looks out the window and sees Jenna walking. She can tell by the look on her face that Jenna isn't very happy.

RYAN (CONT'D)

I heard she went mental last summer.
Almost killed her brother.

Dawn doesn't respond. She just watches Jenna, wondering what could be wrong.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Dawn?

Dawn snaps back to reality.

DAWN

Hmm? Oh, it's more like two-thirty.

RYAN

What?

DAWN

You said twelve o'clock. It's more like two-thirty.

RYAN

Oh.

(beat)

It was twelve when I said it.

Dawn goes to the window and looks out. Watching Jenna walk by.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Jenna continues to walk. She looks up, and sees the group of vampires across the street. She stops walking and watches them for a moment. Trying to figure out what their deal is.

Craine looks over and sees Jenna watching. He starts to walk toward her.

Jenna starts to back away, then turns and runs. Caine runs after her.

INT. VIDEO STORE - NIGHT

Dawn's eyes widen. She looks back to Ryan.

DAWN

Hey, mind if I take my break? I just remembered something that I really have to take care of.

RYAN

Sure, go ahead.

DAWN

Thanks. I'll be back.

With that, Dawn rushes out of the store.

EXT. MAIN STREET - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT

Dawn looks around. She sees the vampires across the street and is curious about them, but doesn't have time to think about that.

She looks in the direction that Jenna and Craine ran off in, and takes off after them.

ANGLE ON : JENNA

Down the street from Dawn and still running. She looks back to see if she's still being followed. The only person she sees is Dawn, racing toward her, yelling something that Jenna can't make out.

DAWN

(too far away to make out)

Run!

Jenna turns back around to keep moving, but finds herself face to face with Craine. He is in human face at the moment. He smiles at her.

CRAINE

Well, hey there. What's a pretty little girl like you doing in a woodsy little town like this?

JENNA

Who are you?

CRAINE

I am that which you'd least expect.

Jenna doesn't respond. Craine VAMPS OUT. Jenna is shocked, but doesn't jump back. She's too tough for that.

JENNA

What the hell are you?

Dawn finally catches up. She looks at Craine.

DAWN

Get away from her.

Craine looks at Dawn and laughs.

CRAINE

Or what? You gonna easy bake oven me to death?

DAWN

Ever hear of a Slayer?

Craine's smile drop a little. He doesn't respond.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Well, guess what?

CRAINE

You?

DAWN

That's right. So why don't you just take your little fang gang and beat it before I put sharp pieces of wood through you.

Craine looks Dawn up and down. He grins again.

CRAINE

I always did love a good Slayer with my meals.

(to Jenna)

The meal being you, of course.

DAWN

Leave her out of this. You want me.

CRAINE

Actually, I want you both. I got a lot of mouths to feed, sweetie.

DAWN

Oh. Well, in that case--

Dawn doesn't bother to finish her sentence before she kicks Craine in the groin, and grabs Jenna's arm. She pulls Jenna along as she runs the way she came.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Run!

The two girls are gone by the time Craine recovers. He looks down the road at his gang.

CRAINE

(calling out)

Get them!

ANGLE ON : DAWN AND JENNA

They're back near the video store. They see the vampire gang. All except for the bookworm are moving toward them.

The girls stop short.

DAWN

Right. I forgot about them.

JENNA

Who are you?

DAWN

I'm not a Slayer, that's for damn sure.

Jenna doesn't have a clue what to think about any of this. Her mind is being blown.

DAWN (CONT'D)

You know how to fight, right?

Jenna hesitates.

JENNA

No. I'm not...

DAWN

You'd better.

Jenna turns around and puts a hand on her head.

JENNA

I can't do this. This isn't happening.

DAWN

Oh, good. In that case, I'll just be moving along.

(then)

Are you kidding me?

The vampires are getting dangerously close. Craine has made his way down the street and is also getting close.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Look, you don't have a choice. You either help me fight, or we both die.

The vampires stop and wait for Craine's orders. Craine gets close enough to attack and stops.

CRAINE

See, you really shouldn't have done that whole kicking thing.

Craine walks up to Jenna and strokes her head. Jenna wants to throw up, but does nothing.

DAWN

Leave her alone.

Craine walks over to Dawn and tries to stroke her head. Dawn hits his hand out of her way.

CRAINE

You're a pistol, aren't you?

He leans in closer.

CRAINE (CONT'D)

(whispered)

But you're not a Slayer.

A hand comes from behind Craine and taps his shoulder. He turns around and sees Buffy standing there.

BUFFY

I am.

She punches Craine hard. He flies through the air and crashes to the ground.

CRAINE

Get them!

The vampire gang attacks at full force. Buffy takes on most of them by herself, while Dawn takes on one or two.

Jenna backs away and watches. She's torn between her natural instinct to help the fight and her fear of what happened to her brother.

Craine gets up and goes after Buffy. The other vampires let him have her and begin to focus on Dawn. Dawn manages to hold her own, but she doesn't have Slayer powers. She can only last so long.

Buffy punches Craine. As he regains his composure, Buffy turns, grabs another vampire, and tosses him away from Dawn.

DAWN

I don't have a stake!

BUFFY

Neither do I.

DAWN

What kind of Slayer are you?

Buffy and Craine get to fighting again. They exchange kicks and punches. He's a good fighter. Eventually, Buffy kicks him in the gut. He stumbles back.

Buffy grabs another vampire away from Dawn and throws him into a wooden bench on the sidewalk. The bench breaks into pieces.

BUFFY

I'm a resourceful Slayer.

Buffy dives to the wood pieces and grabs two of the sharper ones.

BUFFY (CONT'D)

Heads up!

She tosses one to Dawn. Dawn catches it. Buffy jumps back to her feet and stakes the female vampire right away.

Craine has managed to drop to the back of the fight. He's not paying attention to Buffy anymore. He looks over at the bookworm vampire.

ANGLE ON : THE BOOKWORM VAMP

An unseen force comes over him. His eyes shoot open. THEY GLOW RED. He smiles.

BOOKWORM VAMP

I see it!

Slowly, he stands up and kicks the book out of the way. Craine walks to him.

CRAINE

Where?

The bookworm stares into the distance and starts to walk. Craine follows him.

ANGLE ON : BUFFY AND DAWN

They're still fighting. Dawn hasn't staked any, and she's not having an easy time. She's managing to keep the vampires away from her, but they're starting to get closer.

Buffy is fighting two vampires of her own. She quickly stakes them and looks at Dawn's situation.

The geeky vampire is getting close to Dawn. Buffy throws her stake and gets him in the heart. He TURNS TO DUST.

ANGLE ON : JENNA

Still slowly backing away. She trips on the sidewalk and falls down. She still doesn't know what to think of any of this.

ANGLE ON : BUFFY AND DAWN

Buffy grabs one of the remaining two vampires away from Dawn. She punches him a few times.

Dawn avoids a few swings from the other vampire that's attacking her. She bends down to duck out of the way. As the vampire is off balance, Dawn jams the stake into his chest. He TURNS TO DUST.

BUFFY

Dawn, stake!

Dawn realizes that Buffy doesn't have a stake. Her own stake just went poof with the vampire, so she goes back to the bench wreckage and looks for another one, but she can't find one.

DAWN

There isn't one sharp enough.

BUFFY

Oh, forget it.

Buffy trips the vampire. When he falls to the ground, she grabs a trash basket off of the sidewalk. She slams it down as hard as she can on his head. We don't see this, but we hear the POOF SOUND.

Buffy and Dawn both relax a little. Dawn's out of breath.

DAWN

I almost forgot what one of those looked like.

Dawn looks down at Jenna.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Thanks for the help.

Buffy goes to Jenna and helps her up.

JENNA

It's over?

Buffy looks down the street.

BUFFY

Not yet. Two got away, and the two
of us are going after them.

Jenna doesn't like the sound of that.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Buffy is looking around for sharp pieces of wood to use as stakes. Dawn and Jenna stand nearby.

JENNA

I'm not going anywhere.

Buffy looks up at her.

BUFFY

Don't you realize what's happening here? You're not like other people. You have a gift. You have a purpose in this world.

JENNA

Killing things? No thanks.

BUFFY

You're a Slayer. That's not something to run away from.

JENNA

A Slayer? What's that supposed to mean?

BUFFY

(to Dawn)

I can't believe I'm about to say this.

(beat)

Into each generation, a Slayer was born. One girl with the strength and skill to hunt the vampires. To stop the spread of their evil... I forget the rest.

JENNA

Did you totally flunk out of math class or something? 'Cause I'm counting more than one of us "Slayers" here.

BUFFY

That's changed. There are Slayers all over the world now. Girls just like you and me, who can fight these things. We're the ones who will keep the evil in check.

JENNA

Count me out.

Jenna starts to walk away.

BUFFY

Don't you get it? Don't you understand what this means?

JENNA

I don't care what it means. Look at me. I'm sixteen years old. I'm not even good at gym class. How am I supposed to save the world?

BUFFY

You'll learn. Just like I did.

JENNA

I don't want to learn.

BUFFY

You have so much potential, Jenna. Don't let it go to waste.

JENNA

Potential? This potential destroyed my brother's life. This potential could have killed him. You think of this as some great gift or something...

(beat)

No. I can't help you. I'm sorry, I just can't.

Jenna walks off. Dawn is about to stop her, but Buffy puts a hand up.

BUFFY

Let her go.

DAWN

But--

BUFFY

We have work to do. Let's go.

Buffy turns and heads down the street. Dawn follows her.

EXT. DARK STREET - NIGHT

Craine and the bookworm vamp are slowly making their way down the street. There are office type buildings here, but it's hard to see them. The street lights are out.

CRAINE

How much longer?

BOOKWORM VAMP

We're almost there. I can almost see it.

CRAINE

Hurry. I don't want the Slayer finding us.

BUFFY (O.S.)

Yeah, we don't want that.

Craine and the bookworm take another step before realizing what's going on. Craine finally turns around and comes face to face with Buffy. The bookworm stops walking, but keeps looking straight ahead.

CRAINE

You.

BUFFY

Yup.

Buffy and Craine start fighting. He tries to punch her in the face, but she avoids him and returns with a punch of her own. He is knocked to the ground.

Dawn steps in front of the bookworm.

DAWN

Think you're going somewhere?

The bookworm ignores her. He walks right past her.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Okay, that's not just un-vampy, it's also pretty rude.

BOOKWORM VAMP

It's beautiful.

DAWN

Thanks. I like to think so.

(beat)

Are you gonna fight me at all?

The bookworm vamp still ignores her. Dawn rolls her eyes.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Buffy gets all the fun.

With that, Dawn raises her makeshift stake and stabs it into the bookworm vamp's back. He TURNS TO DUST. As he does, a RED ENERGY CLOUD poofs into the air around him.

DAWN (CONT'D)

That's new.

Meanwhile, Buffy and Craine are still fighting. She attempts to kick him in the face, but he blocks and grabs her leg. He pushes her to the ground.

CRAINE
How do you like it, Slayer?

BUFFY
You rip this jacket and I'll make sure you suffer.

Buffy flips back to her feet and punches Craine in the face. This goes on for another few seconds. Craine smiles.

CRAINE
You're the famed Slayer? The one who defeated the Master, and battled a god, and this is the best you can do?

BUFFY
Actually, no. I'm holding back a little.

With that said, Buffy effortlessly stakes Craine and starts to walk away.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
That's me not holding back as much.

Craine TURNS TO DUST.

Dawn joins Buffy as she walks away.

DAWN
So what do you think they were after?

BUFFY
Don't know. Whatever it is, they're not gonna get it. Wanna get a pizza?

DAWN
Can't. I'm just on break.

BUFFY
Oh. In that case, I guess I'll see you later.

DAWN
'Kay.

INT. VIDEO STORE - NIGHT

Dawn walks into the store, just as a CUSTOMER is leaving. She walks to the counter where Ryan is standing.

DAWN

Wow, a customer. And I missed it.

RYAN

Don't worry. I'm sure we'll have another one in a few weeks.

(beat)

So, how was the break?

DAWN

Very productive.

RYAN

Good to know.

DAWN

Thank you very much.

Dawn gets to the counter. Ryan brushes her shoulder, which is covered in dust.

RYAN

What happened? Sand storm?

Dawn smiles at the joke and tries to think of an excuse quickly.

DAWN

Actually... I tripped. Big pile of dirt.

RYAN

Ouch. You okay?

DAWN

Yeah, it's cool. Just a little dusty.

RYAN

I think the look suits you.

DAWN

Um... thanks?

Dawn gets a little more serious.

DAWN (CONT'D)

So what do you know about Jenna Lauster.

RYAN

I know that she's a freak.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

We're directly across the street from the video store. We can see Dawn and Ryan talking inside.

We PULL BACK to REVEAL a MYSTERIOUS MAN standing in the shadows. He is wearing a long coat.

He continues to watch for a moment, then walks away.

INT. LAUSTER HOUSE - JENNA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Jenna walks into her bedroom. She finds a plate of food waiting for her on her desk, and takes a moment to appreciate the thoughtfulness of her mother.

She takes the plate and sits on her bed. He begins to pick at the food. Her mind is very distant.

She lays down, her eyes still open. Her face is blank.

BUFFY

(prelap)

She's got a lot to deal with.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Buffy is sitting at the table with Willow and Xander.

BUFFY

She's a lot like me when I first found out. I didn't want to believe it. I didn't want to deal with it. I just wanted it to go away.

XANDER

But it can't. She has to deal with it, right?

BUFFY

I'm just hoping that when she finally realizes that, she comes to me. She has all of this power. She's gonna need to learn how to control it.

WILLOW

I'm sure she will. She's just scared right now. Freaking out.

BUFFY

Yeah.

(beat)

I can't even imagine what it must be like for her. I mean, my first day on the job, I freaked out over having to stake a vampire. She hurt someone she loves. It's gonna be hard for her to see the good in that power.

XANDER

And that's where you'll come in.

BUFFY
If she'll let me.

The DOORBELL RINGS. Buffy stands up, a little glad to have something to do.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
I'll get it.

Buffy walks out of the room.

INT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT

Buffy walks to the front door. She opens it. When she sees who is on the other side, her face drops.

BUFFY
Oh my God.

REVEAL HANK SUMMERS standing on the other side of the door. A nervous smile on his face.

BUFFY (CONT'D)
Dad.

FADE TO BLACK:

End Of Show