

Episode 5V05

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Reptile Boy"

Written and Directed By

David Greenwalt

SHOOTING SCRIPT

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BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER "Reptile Boy" (PINK) 8/20/97

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Reptile Boy"

CAST LIST

BUFFY SUMMERS.....	Sarah Michelle Gellar
XANDER HARRIS.....	Nicholas Brendon
RUPERT GILES.....	Anthony S. Head
WILLOW ROSENBERG.....	Alyson Hannigan
CORDELIA CHASE.....	Charisma Carpenter
ANGEL.....	David Boreanaz
CALLIE.....	*Jordana Spiro
RICHARD/HOODED FIGURE.....	*Greg Vaughan
TOM.....	*Todd Babcock
YOUNG MAN.....	*Coby Bell
TACKLE.....	*Christopher Dalhberg
MACHIDA.....	*Robin Atkin Downes
*FRESHMAN (JONATHON).....	*Danny Strong
*LINEBACKER.....	*Jason Posey

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Reptile Boy"

SET LIST

INTERIORS

SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL

LIBRARY

HALL

HALL OUTSIDE LIBRARY

CLASSROOM

LOUNGE

BUFFY'S HOUSE

BUFFY'S BEDROOM

FRAT HOUSE

BASEMENT

FRAT BEDROOM

UPSTAIRS

FOYER

SECOND FLOOR HALLWAY

THE BRONZE

EXTERIORS

SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL

FRONT OF SCHOOL

BUFFY'S HOUSE

WOODS

FRAT HOUSE

FRONT PORCH

FRONT PATIO

GRAVEYARD

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Reptile Boy"

TEASER

1 EXT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - NIGHT 1

After a beat we HEAR a STRANGE, HIGH PITCHED WAILING --

CUT TO:

2 INT. BUFFY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2

CLOSE ON XANDER - Concerned

XANDER

Is she dying?

BUFFY AND WILLOW

Flank him on the couch. Slumped down in high teen boredom, sodas and junk food pilfered from Buffy's kitchen scattered about, watching T.V. --

BUFFY

She's singing.

3 ANGLE - THE T.V. 3

An EAST INDIAN soap opera on an obscure cable channel: an INDIAN WOMAN sings (in a foreign language) something very heartfelt into a telephone.

4 BUFFY, WILLOW & XANDER 4

XANDER

To a telephone, in Hindi... now
that's entertainment. Why is she
singing?

*

WILLOW

She's sad because her lover gave her
a dozen gold coins but then the
wizard cut open the bag of salt and
the dancing minions had no place to
put their big Maypole...

(gestures)

...fish thing.

XANDER

Uh huh. And why is she singing?

CONTINUED

4 CONTINUED:

4

BUFFY

Her lover? I thought he was her
chiropractor.

WILLOW

Because of that thing he did with her
feet? No, that was personal.

They stare at the screen for a beat. The PIERCING SINGING
continues under:

XANDER

And we thought just 'cause we didn't
have any money or anywhere to go
this'd be a lackluster evening.

WILLOW

Hey, I know -- we could go to the
Bronze, sneak in our own tea bags and
ask for... hot water.

XANDER

Hop off that outlaw train, Will,
before you land us all in jail.

BUFFY

I for one am giddy and up. There's a
kind of hush all over Sunnydale, no
vampires or demons to slay, I'm here
with my friends and --

(re: T.V.)

-- where does the water buffalo fit
in again?

CUT TO:

5 EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

5

PUSHING IN on the quiet, affluent house and then --

AN UPSTAIRS WINDOW IS SHATTERED

And a PRETTY GIRL (17) bursts through the glass, hits the
ground and runs for her life.

A moment later, several dark figures in hooded robes emerge
from other windows and doors like malevolent ghosts and give
chase.

CONTINUED

5 CONTINUED:

5

She bolts into the woods. She's fast.

They're faster.

6 EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

6

She tears through running for all she's worth.

The hooded figures close the gap behind her.

She scales a tall stone wall.

A7 EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

A7

She scrambles over the wall and runs. Three hooded figures scramble over the wall after her.

As she passes a crypt, a HOODED FIGURE coolly steps out and grabs her. She SCREAMS, he purrs:

HOODED FIGURE

Callie... Where are you going?

The girl, her eyes wild with fear, claws at him, pulling his hood off revealing the face of a handsome twenty year old sadist. He deflects her blows and grabs her wrists, puts his face close to hers.

FIGURE

The party ain't even started yet.

And, not without charm, the Figure smiles at Callie. Then nods at the brethren. Several of them hustle Callie back towards the house.

CALLIE

No! no!

The Figure takes a deep breath of the bracing night air and walks out of frame.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

7 INT. SCHOOL HALL - DAY - A COUPLE

7

*

SMOOCH in f.g., part, revealing CORDELIA, laughing in a
HIGHLY AMUSED if somewhat forced manner. She's with a
Cordette. KIDS are arriving for school.

*

CORDELIA

Ha ha ha ha ha.

Cordelia shows the Cordette a magazine (TEEN TIME). Pretty
girl on the cover holding a fishing rod and big lure;
headline: HOW TO LAND HIM AND KEEP HIM.

CORDELIA (cont'd)

Doctor Debbi says when a man is
speaking you make serious eye contact .
and really, really listen. And you
laugh at everything he says... ha ha
ha ha...

8 ANOTHER ANGLE - BUFFY AND WILLOW

8

Heading downstairs.

*

WILLOW

You dreamed about Angel again?

BUFFY

Third night in a row.

WILLOW

What did he do in the dream?

BUFFY

Stuff.

WILLOW

Ooh, stuff. Was it one of those
vivid dreams where you could feel his
lips and smell his hair?

BUFFY

(nods)

It had surround sound. I'm just
thinking about him so much lately.

WILLOW

Well you guys are so right for each
other, except for the, uh...

CONTINUED

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER "Reptile Boy" (PINK) 8/20/97 4A*.

8 CONTINUED:

8

BUFFY
Vampire thing?

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED: (2)

8

WILLOW

That doesn't make him a bad person.
Necessarily.

BUFFY

I'm brainsick, I can't have a
relationship with him.

WILLOW

Well maybe not in the day time... but
you could ask him for coffee some
night.

(off Buffy's look)

It's the non-relationship drink of
choice. It's not a date, it's a
caffeinated beverage -- okay it's hot
and bitter, like a relationship that
way but --

Xander slides into step with them.

XANDER

What's like a relationship?

BUFFY

Nothing I have.
(mulling, to Willow)
Coffee.

XANDER

Huh?

As they pass Cordelia and the Cordette.

CORDELIA

There's really no comparison between
college men and high school boys --
(re: Xander)
-- I mean look at that.

XANDER

Cor, you datin' a college guy now?

CORDELIA

Not that it's any of your business,
but I happen to be seeing a Delta
Zeta Kappa.

XANDER

Oh, an extra-terrestrial, so that's
how you get a date once you've
exhausted all the human guys.

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED: (3)

8

CORDELIA

You'll go to college some day,
Xander, I just know your pizza
delivery career will take you so many
exciting places. Ha ha ha ha.

Buffy, Xander and Willow move off as a bell RINGS O.S.

BUFFY

Ooops, I told Giles I'd meet him in
the library ten minutes ago --
(moving off)
-- there hasn't been much paranormal
activity lately, he won't be upset.

CUT TO:

9 INT. LIBRARY - DAY - GILES IS UPSET

9

Faces Buffy, circles her as:

GILES

Just because the paranormal has been
more normal and less... para lately,
that is no excuse for tardiness or
letting your guard down.

BUFFY

I haven't let my guard down.

GILES

Oh really? You yawned your way
through weapons training last week,
you skipped hand to hand entirely --
I suppose you're prepared if some
demon springs up behind you and does
this!

Without warning, Giles swings at her from behind. Without
turning, Buffy's hand shoots backwards, grabs Giles' wrist.
Buffy pivots and whips Giles' hand around behind his back, in
a painful arm lock.

GILES (cont'd)

Yes, well, I'm no demon...

(beat)

...which is why you should let go now.

She does. He massages his wrist.

CONTINUED

9 CONTINUED:

9

GILES (cont'd)

When you live atop a mystical
convergence it's only a matter of
time before a fresh hell breaks
loose. Now is the time to train more
strictly, hunt and patrol more
keenly, hone your skills day and
night --

BUFFY

And the little scrap of my life that
still belongs to me -- say from seven
to seven oh five in the morning --
can I do what I want to then?

GILES

(beat)

Buffy, you think I don't know what
it's like to be sixteen?

BUFFY

I think you don't know what it's like
to be sixteen and a girl and a Slayer.

GILES

Well, I don't.

BUFFY

Or what it's like to stake vampires
while you're having fuzzy feelings
towards one.

GILES

Ohh... ahh...

BUFFY

And "eee"... digging on the undead
doesn't exactly do wonders for your
social life.

GILES

But you see that's just where being
different comes in handy.

BUFFY

Who needs a social life when they've
got their very own hellmouth?

GILES

Yes! You have a duty, a purpose, you
have a life long commitment. How many
people your age do you think can say
that?

CONTINUED

9 CONTINUED: (2)

9

BUFFY

We talkin' foreign or domestic -- how
'bout none.

Giles sighs, he tried.

GILES

Well here's a hard fact of life: we
all have to do things we don't like.
You have hand to hand this afternoon
and patrol tonight. You'd best come
right here after sixth period and get
your homework done. Don't dawdle with
your friends.

Buffy just stands there pouting.

GILES (cont'd)

And don't think standing there
pouting is going to get to me. It
doesn't.

She pouts. He lies:

GILES (cont'd)

Not getting to me.

CUT TO:

10 EXT. SUNNYDALE HIGH - DAY

10

After school. Cars pulling up, KIDS taking off. Buffy dawdles
on a wall near the street. Xander and Willow move up.

XANDER

Wow, what a long day.

WILLOW

You cut three periods.

XANDER

Yeah, and of course they flew by.
Buffy!

WILLOW

Aren't you s'posed to be doing your
homework in the library --

BUFFY

I'm dawdling. With my friends.

CONTINUED

10 CONTINUED:

10

Buffy tips forward on the wall like she's going to fall -- catches herself by draping her arms over Xander's shoulders.

XANDER

Works for me.

11 ANOTHER ANGLE - FRONT OF THE SCHOOL - CORDELIA

11

Looking luscious, waits expectantly as a sleek, dark BMW (tinted windows, we can't see who's inside) pulls to the curb.

She moves to the car. The dark window rolls down revealing RICHARD (the twenty year old sadist from the teaser) in expensive slacks and sport coat. As are the other two DELTA ZETAS in back.

In the passenger seat is TOM, also 20, but dressed casually. Tom is rich, too, but he's not a prick, he's a low key, decent guy.

RICHARD

Cordelia.

CORDELIA

Hi Richard. Nice car.

As instructed by her teen magazine, Cordelia never takes her eyes off Richard.

We PUSH PAST Richard to Tom, totally engaged by:

12 TOM'S POV - BUFFY

12

Dawdling with Xander and Willow.

BUFFY

Dawdle, dawdle, dawdle... I'm a rebel and I'll never ever be any good...

13 TOM

13

Takes a breath. Something about Buffy...

14 RICHARD

14

RICHARD

So we're having a little get together at the house tomorrow night...

Richard sees the look on Tom's face, follows it to Buffy, never skipping a beat with Cordelia

CONTINUED

14 CONTINUED:

14

RICHARD (cont'd)
...it's going to be a really special evening...

CORDELIA
Ha ha ha ha.

RICHARD
Excuse me.

CORDELIA
(recovering)
Oh I'd love to --

RICHARD
Who's your friend?

Cordelia turns, sees Buffy behind her on the wall clowning with Xander and Willow.

CORDELIA
Her? She's not my friend.

TOM
She's amazing.

CORDELIA
She's more like a sister, really.
We're that close.

RICHARD
Why don't you introduce us?

15 BUFFY, XANDER AND WILLOW

15

XANDER
Okay so tonight, Channel fifty nine,
Indian T.V. -- sex, lies and
incomprehensible story lines --I'll
bring the beetle nuts.

Cordelia walks up, grabs Buffy.

CORDELIA
Come on, Richard and his fraternity
brothers want to meet you.

BUFFY
I don't really want to meet any
fraternity --

CONTINUED

15 CONTINUED:

15

CORDELIA

And if there was a God, don'tcha'
think He'd keep it that way?

Buffy is dragged away.

XANDER

Hey, I believe we were hanging here...

16 ANGLE

16

Cordelia drags Buffy to Richard who has now gotten out of his car. Confident, cool, he flashes his perfect smile at Buffy.

RICHARD

Hi, sweet thing. I'm Richard. And you are?

BUFFY

So not interested.

CORDELIA

She's such a little comedienne!

Cordelia hits Buffy who is about to turn away when Tom appears behind Richard.

RICHARD

What, is she playing hard to get?

TOM

No Richard, I think you're playing easy to resist.

(to Buffy)

Feel free to ignore him. I do all the time.

Buffy hesitates, this guy seems okay.

TOM (cont'd)

I'm Tom Warner. I'm a Senior at Crestwood College and I feel like a complete dolt meeting you this way -- so here I stand in all my doltishness...

*

17 XANDER AND WILLOW

17

XANDER

She's gonna walk away... now.

(snaps fingers)

Okay boots, start walkin'...

18 BUFFY AND TOM

18

BUFFY

I'm Buffy Summers.

TOM

Nice to meet you. Are you a Senior?

BUFFY

Junior.

CONTINUED

18 CONTINUED:

18

TOM

Me too, except I'm a Senior, and in college.

(beat)

So, we have that in common.

(beat)

I major in History.

BUFFY

History stumps me. I have a hard enough time remembering what happened last week.

TOM

Nothing happened last week, don't worry, I was there.

Buffy smiles, not smitten but charmed. Behind them, Richard, with other frat guys looking on, says something to Cordelia. We HEAR her "Ha ha ha ha".

19 XANDER AND WILLOW

19

Xander shakes his head, disgusted.

XANDER

I hate these guys. Whatever they want just falls into their laps. Don't you hate these guys?

WILLOW

Yeah, with their charmed lives and their movie star good looks and more money than you can count...

(off his look)

I'm hating.

20 BUFFY AND TOM

20

TOM

(re: Richard and Cordelia)

So my friend asked your friend to this party we're having tomorrow night...

(lowers voice)

...actually he's not really my friend -- I only joined the fraternity 'cause my father and grampa were in it before me..It meant a lot to them. I know, I talk too much.

(more)

CONTINUED

20 CONTINUED:

20

TOM (cont'd)

Anyway, they're really dull parties
full of really dull people so, uh,
how would you like to come and save
me from a really dull fate?

BUFFY

(beat)

I wish I could but... I'm sort of
seeing someone.

TOM

Oh. Sure, of course you are. Well,
thanks for letting me ramble...

BUFFY

People underestimate the value of a
good ramble.

Tom smiles.

GILES (O.S.)

Buffy!

Buffy turns, sees Giles near the front door of school,
pointing to his watch.

BUFFY

I gotta... nice to meet you.

TOM

Same here.

Buffy takes off. Tom watches her, intrigued.

CUT TO:

21 INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

21

Buffy practices her hand to hand with Giles (who wears much
protective gear). There's a certain not-so-sub-text here:
they're pissed at each other.

GILES

I'm going to attack you. Word of
caution: for your own good, I won't
be pulling any punches.

BUFFY

Please don't.

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED:

21

He comes at her with the short sword -- she kicks it out of his hand. He immediately counters with a wooden rod -- she chops it in half.

He lunges. She sidesteps. He slides past her on the table top.

*
*

GILES

Good. So you're on patrol and I'll see you in the morning.

*

CUT TO:

22 EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

22

Dark, empty, dangerous.

Buffy moves through the dark shadows, her hand instinctively checking the stakes in her belt.

23 ANGLE - A LARGE TREE

23

As Buffy moves past. Something moves in the dark -- a FIGURE, watching Buffy.

24 THE FIGURE'S POV

24

Buffy moves through the graves. The Figure follows.

25 BUFFY

25

Stops, sees something glinting in the leaves at her feet. She kneels down.

26 INSERT - BUFFY'S HAND

26

Picks up a BROKEN SILVER PIECE of an I.D. bracelet. Three letters, E, N and T, can be seen, inscribed in the delicate bracelet.

27 BUFFY

27

Studies the bracelet, then:

ANGEL (O.S.)

There's blood on it.

CONTINUED

27 CONTINUED:

27

Startled, Buffy jumps to her feet, sees ANGEL.

BUFFY
Oh... hi. Nice to... blood?
(studies bracelet)

ANGEL
I can smell it.

BUFFY
(beat)
It's pretty thin, probably belonged
to a girl.

Angel glances around the woods.

ANGEL
Probably.

Buffy laughs. He looks back.

BUFFY
I was just thinking, wouldn't it be
funny to see each other some time
when it wasn't a blood thang?

*

Nothing from Angel.

BUFFY (cont'd)
Not funny ha ha.

ANGEL
What are you saying, you want to have
a date?

BUFFY
No --

ANGEL
You don't want to have a date.

BUFFY
Who said date? I never said date.

ANGEL
Right, you just want to have coffee
or something.

BUFFY
Coffee?

Buffy makes a "that's ridiculous" sound.

CONTINUED

ANGEL

I knew this would happen.

BUFFY

Really? And what do you think is happening?

ANGEL

You're sixteen years old, I'm two hundred and forty-one.

BUFFY

I've done the math.

ANGEL

You don't know what you're doing, you don't know what you want.

BUFFY

Oh I think I do: I want out of this conversation.

She turns to walk away. He grabs her.

ANGEL

Listen. If we date you and I both know one thing's going to lead to another.

BUFFY

One thing's already lead to another. It's a little late to be reading me the warning label.

ANGEL

I'm just trying to protect you. This could get out of control.

BUFFY

Isn't that the way it's supposed to be?

And he pulls her closer. Roughly. There could be a kiss pending -- or an attack. She looks up at him, half scared, half attracted.

ANGEL

This isn't some Fairy Tale: when I kiss you you don't wake up from a deep sleep and live happily ever after.

CONTINUED

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27 CONTINUED: (3)

27

BUFFY

No. When you kiss me I want to die.

She holds his gaze -- then she walks out of frame.

CUT TO:

28 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

28

Buffy is gathering her stuff as students head out.

CONTINUED

CORDELIA (O.S.)

Buffy!

Cordelia moves up.

CORDELIA

Did you lose weight? And your hair...

(Buffy ignores her)

All right, I respect you too much to be dishonest, the hair's...

(makes a face)

...well that's not the point here, is it. The Zeta Kappas have to have a certain balance at their party -- Richard explained it all to me but I was so busy REALLY LISTENING to him that I didn't hear much -- anyway, the deal is they need you to go. And if you don't go...

(her eyes moisten)

...I can't! I'm talking about Richard Anderson, okay? As in Anderson Farms, Anderson Aeronautics...

(she can no longer

hold back the tears)

...and Anderson Cosmetics! Do you have a hankie?

Buffy shakes her head.

CORDELIA (cont'd)

Well you can see why I have to go. These men are rich, Buffy, and I'm not being shallow -- think of the poor people I could help with all my money.

BUFFY

I'll go.

CORDELIA

I'm not going to beg you -- please, oh please -- you'll go? Great! We'll take my car. Oh Buffy, we're just like sisters... with really different hair.

And Cordelia happily moves off. Off Buffy's expression, pre-lap:

CONTINUED

28 CONTINUED: (2)

28

RICHARD (O.S.)
I pledge my life... and my death.

CUT TO:

29 OMITTED

29

30 INT. FRAT HOUSE - BASEMENT - DAY

30

SHOOTING HIGH ABOVE AN ALTER that's built up around a dark circle, like a well -- an apparently bottomless pit.

ANOTHER ANGLE - Richard and other frat minions, in robes (no Tom) are gathered before the alter which has eyes, fangs, diamond shape carvings -- an abstract but frightening representation of some horrible *thing* they worship. Possibly a thing that lives in the bottomless pit.

The basement is cut into the bed rock -- cave-like outcroppings of stone add an ancient touch to the decor.

A YOUNG MAN is naked from the waist up and Richard holds the sword to his chest, carving a large diamond shaped SCAR into his flesh. (Yes, we'll be tasteful.)

YOUNG MAN
I pledge my life and my death...

RICHARD
To the Delta Zeta Kappas and to
Machida whom we serve.

YOUNG MAN
To the Delta Zeta Kappas and to
Machida whom we serve.

RICHARD
In blood I was baptized, in blood I
shall reign, in His Name!

YOUNG MAN
In blood I was baptized, in blood I
shall reign, in His Name!

Richard finishes carving the diamond shape.

CONTINUED

30 CONTINUED:

30

RICHARD

You are now one of us.

YOUNG MAN

In His Name!

The others reply: "In His Name!"

RICHARD

Brewski time!

Someone opens a cooler -- beers are flung about. Someone turns on a boom box. Suddenly it's a bunch of college guys in robes guzzling beer and listening to loud music.

The various brethren congratulate the Young Man. Richard sees something O.S., moves to:

31 CALLIE

31

The girl from the teaser. Chained to the rock wall.

RICHARD

So what's a girl like you doing in a place like this?

CALLIE

Please, let me go.

RICHARD

Let you go. Okay, let me think --
uhhh, no.

She cries. He laughs.

RICHARD (cont'd)

Gawd I love high school girls.

Richard sips his beer, tapping his head to the music, digging his world.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

32 EXT. SUNNYDALE HIGH - ESTABLISHING 32

WILLOW (O.S.)

You're going to the fraternity party?

33 INT. SCHOOL - LOUNGE - DAY 33 *

Buffy and Willow talk, gathering up study books. Xander reads a SKATEBOARD magazine, lounging on the couch. *

WILLOW

What made you change your mind?

BUFFY

Angel.

WILLOW

He's going with you?

(to Xander)

She's got a date with Angel. Isn't that exciting?

XANDER

I'm elated.

BUFFY

I'm not going with Angel. I'm going with... yee gods, Cordelia.

WILLOW

(a little jealous)

Cordelia? Did I sound a little jealous just then? Cause I'm not really... Cordelia?

XANDER

Cordelia's much better for you than Angel.

They exit the upper part of the lounge and head DOWN THE HALL. *

WILLOW

What happened with Angel?

BUFFY

Nothing. As usual. A whole lot of nothing with Angel.

XANDER

(hot diggity)

Bummer.

CONTINUED

33 CONTINUED:

33

WILLOW

I don't understand. He likes you.
More than likes.

BUFFY

The guy hardly ever says two words to
me...

XANDER

Don't you hate that.

BUFFY

...and he treats me like a child.

XANDER

That bastard!

BUFFY

At least Tom can carry on a
conversation.

XANDER

Yeah, Tom -- who's Tom?

WILLOW

The frat guy.

XANDER

Oh, I don't think so, Buffy, frying
pan and the fire, know what I'm
saying?

They wheel into:

34 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

34

Giles, his back to the doors, short sword in hand, deals with
an unseen opponent.

GILES

What if a vampire came up behind you
and did that!

Giles swings the sword to the left while ducking and jumping
to the right.

TRACK WITH Buffy, Xander and Willow as they move into the
room and see there is no opponent, Giles is refining the move
he tried on Buffy yesterday.

GILES (cont'd)

Or this!

CONTINUED

34 CONTINUED:

34

Giles twists, cuts high, then low --

GILES (cont'd)

Hah!

-- then sees the three of them, quickly straightens up with as much dignity as he can muster.

GILES (cont'd)

Oh, didn't see you three...

(under his breath)

...sneaking up like that.

He puts the sword down, turns to Buffy.

GILES (cont'd)

All went well last night?

Buffy nods, pulling out the piece of the bracelet she found.

BUFFY

I found this.

INSERT BRACELET -- as she holds it out.

Willow looks at it as Giles takes it.

GILES

(reads letters on it)

"E" "n", "t"...

WILLOW

I've seen something like that somewhere...

BUFFY

It's broken in two, I don't know what the other letters might have spelled... and there's blood on it.

GILES

I don't see --

BUFFY

Angel showed up. Said he could smell it.

XANDER

The blood.

(Buffy nods)

There's a guy you want to party with.

CONTINUED

GILES

Blood...

WILLOW

Yeah, in Sunnydale, what a surprise.

XANDER

(re: Buffy)

She should probably make the rounds again tonight while we try and figure out who that bracelet belongs to.

GILES

(nods)

Good idea. She'll patrol, we'll reconvene after school --

BUFFY

Hello, "she's" standing right here. And she's not available tonight.

GILES

Why not?

XANDER

Buff, this is a little more important than --

BUFFY

(shut up, Xander)

-- I've got a mountain of homework, my mom's sick and she needs me to take care of her, and I'm starting to feel a little woozy myself.

Buffy touches her forehead. Willow and Xander exchange a look.

GILES

Oh, if you're not feeling...

BUFFY

I'll make a quick pass early this evening, and another one later on, but for the bulk of the evening...

GILES

You need to be home with your mother.

Buffy nods.

CUT TO:

As Xander, Buffy and Willow exit. They walk in silence for a beat.

BUFFY
Well, say it.

XANDER
I'm not going to say it 'cause --

WILLOW
You lied to Giles.

XANDER
(re: Willow)
-- she will.

BUFFY
I wasn't lying. I was protecting him.
From information he wouldn't be able
to... digest properly.

XANDER
Like a corn dog.

WILLOW
Like you don't have a sick mother but
you'd rather go to a Fraternity party
where there'll be drinking and older
boys and probably an orgy?

XANDER
Enh! Rewind, when did they start
having orgies and how come I'm not on
the mailing list?

BUFFY
There's no orgy.

WILLOW
I've heard some really wild things go
on at the D.Z.K. parties.

BUFFY
Look, six days a week I'm busy saving
the world. Once in a great while I
want to have some fun. And that's
what I'm going to have tonight... fun.

CUT TO:

Lectures Buffy.

CORDELIA

This isn't about fun tonight, it's about duty: you're duty to help me achieve permanent prosperity. Okay, do's and don'ts. Don't wear black, silk, chiffon, or spandex -- these are my trademarks -- don't do that weird thing to your hair.

BUFFY

What weird...?

CORDELIA

Don't interrupt. Do be interested if someone should speak to you -- may or may not happen -- do be polite, do laugh at appropriate intervals -- ha ha ha -- and do lie to your mother about where we're going: it's a fraternity, there'll be drinking.

Willow and Xander pass by.

*

XANDER

So Cor, are you printing up business cards with your pager number and hours of operation or just going with the halter top tonight?

CORDELIA

Ahh, are we a little envious? Don't be, you could join a fraternity of rich, powerful men... in the Bizarro world.

BUFFY

You guys want to...
(gestures: join us?)

XANDER

Nah, I gotta digest and all.

Xander and Willow move off. Cordelia studies Buffy, tapping her fingers, thinking hard.

CORDELIA

Make-up, make-up... well, just give it your all and keep to the shadows. We are going to have a blast!

37 ANGLE - WILLOW AND XANDER

37

As they sit some distance away.

WILLOW

I can't believe she lied to Giles. My world is all askew.

XANDER

Buffy lying? Buffy going to frat parties? That's not askew, that's cockeyed!

WILLOW

Askew means cockeyed.

XANDER

Oh.

WILLOW

Well there's nothing we can do about it. We'll help Giles --

XANDER

I'm going to the party.

WILLOW

What?

XANDER

I want to keep an eye on Buffy, those frat guys creep me.

WILLOW

You want to protect her.

(he nods)

And you want to prove you're as good as those rich, snotty guys.

(he nods)

And maybe catch an orgy.

XANDER

If it's on early.

CUT TO:

38 EXT. FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

38

Lots of cars, young folks arriving, MUSIC blasting. Those little white lights strung in trees and along the roof line.

A CAR ROARS UP to CAMERA. We read the personalized license plate: QUEEN C.

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED:

38

Cordelia squeezes her car into a parking place (smashing the car behind and in front if we can afford). Cordelia and Buffy get out. Oh yeah, they look fantastic.

CORDELIA

Why do they park so darn close to you?
(to Buffy)
You up for this?

BUFFY

I don't know... maybe it isn't such
a good idea --

CORDELIA

Me too, let's do it!

Cordelia charges ahead. Buffy reluctantly follows.

39 INT. FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

39

This ain't Animal House. This is a well furnished, wealthy home. But still being partied in by a gaggle of rich young snobs. The men wear coats and ties. The women are sexy but not cheap. WAITERS (actually pathetic guys, some in their underwear, some with fruit hats, all with a big sign PLEDGE hung around their necks) serve drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

THE TACKLE DRINKS A HUGE STEIN OF BEER

*

Standing next to the Linebacker.

*

TACKLE

Beaucoup babes.

*

*

LINEBACKER

Yahh!

*

*

CORDELIA AND BUFFY

In a far corner of the room. Standing alone, perhaps a little awkwardly.

CORDELIA

You know what's so cool about
college? The diversity. You've got
rich people and you've got... all the
other people. Richard!

Richard approaches, hands them each a drink.

RICHARD

Welcome, ladies.

CONTINUED

39 CONTINUED:

39

CORDELIA

Thank you.

Richard toasts, drinks. Cordelia follows suit.

BUFFY

(re: drink)

Is there alcohol in this?

CONTINUED

39 CONTINUED: (2)

39

RICHARD
Just a smidge.

CORDELIA
C'mon Buffy, it's just a smidge.

BUFFY
I'll just...
(setting drink down)

RICHARD
I understand. When I was your age I
wasn't into grown-up things, either.

Buffy gives him a look. He turns to Cordelia.

RICHARD (cont'd)
Have you seen our multi-media room?

CORDELIA
The one with the cherry walnut
paneling and the two forty-eight inch
televisions on satellite feed? No,
why don't you show me?

As they head off:

RICHARD
(re: Buffy)
What about -- ?

CORDELIA
She's happiest by herself.

40 BUFFY

40

Watches them go. Looks around for a friendly face. Doesn't
find one. Turns her back, looks out window.

41 OMITTED
AND
42

41
AND
42

*

A43 INT. FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT - ISOLATED WINDOW

A43

*

We PUSH past a couple of partiers and discover Xander peering in the window. He slides the window up and lithely slips in. falling into step with a PLEDGE WAITER, grabbing a drink off his tray.

*

*

*

*

XANDER

*

Cheers.

*

43 XANDER MOVES THROUGH THE PARTY

43

Unaware of Buffy, still standing off by herself (she doesn't see him, either). Buffy looks down at that drink. Picks it up. Puts it back. Clasps her hands awkwardly together. Looks around for a friendly face. Sees:

A COOL GUY across the way. He toast her with his glass. Buffy picks her glass up, toasts back, not wanting to appear unsophisticated, takes a polite sip -- it's strong. Then she sees the BIG TACKLE, hammered, heading her way.

TACKLE

New girl. Dance. Ahhhyeeahh.

Buffy looks left and right for an avenue of escape as the Tackle lumbers in for a landing. Just as he's upon her, Tom steps between them, takes Buffy's hand --

TOM

Could I have this dance?

-- and pulls her to the dance floor. Perhaps we hear a crash of plates O.S.

44 INT. FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

44

BUFFY AND TOM

Dance to a cool slow song.

CONTINUED

BUFFY
(re: tackle)
Thanks for...

TOM
We're not all a bunch of drunken
louts. Some of us are sober louts.
(Buffy smiles)
I'm really glad you decided to come.
(nothing from Buffy)
And you're not.

BUFFY
No. It's just... I shouldn't be here.

TOM
Because you're seeing someone.

BUFFY
No.

TOM
You're not seeing someone.

BUFFY
Someone's not seeing me.

TOM
So why shouldn't you be here?

BUFFY
I have obligations, people I'm
responsible to... or for... or with,
it's complex.

TOM
You're big on responsibility. I like
that. But there's such a thing as too
mature. You should relax and enjoy
yourself once in a while.

BUFFY
You think I'm too mature.

TOM
I talk too much. Have you picked up
on that yet? Anyway the Hulk is gone
so you don't have to dance with me
any --

He starts to step back -- she doesn't let him go.

44 CONTINUED: (2)

44

BUFFY

He might come back.

He smiles. And she puts her head on his shoulder. And they dance for a couple of beats.

45 ANGLE: XANDER CHATS WITH TWO CO-EDS

45

He swipes the air with a couple of crab claws.

XANDER

Godzilla is attacking downtown Tokyo!
Argh! Argh!

The co-eds laugh.

46 ANOTHER ANGLE - THE TACKLE, RICHARD AND THE LINEBACKER

46

*

Watch him.

TACKLE

Who's this dork?

*

RICHARD

Never saw him before in my life.

*

LINEBACKER

We got us a crusher.

*

*

Richard smiles unpleasantly. Moves off towards Xander. As do the Linebacker and the Tackle.

*

*

47 XANDER AND CO-EDS

47

XANDER

So have either of you seen a pair of girls here? One is about so high --

Richard, the Tackle and the Linebacker suddenly surround him.

XANDER (cont'd)

Hey guys.

The Tackle grabs one shoulder, the Linebacker the other.

RICHARD

New Pledge!

TACKLE

New Pledge!

CONTINUED

47 CONTINUED:

47

And they drag him away from the co-eds, other Delta Zetas gathering around, chanting "new pledge!", blotting poor Xander out of sight.

48 EXT. FRAT HOUSE - FRONT PATIO - NIGHT

48

Buffy wanders out to get some air. We see the party through the large windows or French doors behind her. She looks off into the woods beyond the back fence. Something CRUNCHES beneath her feet. She bends down.

49 INSERT - BUFFY'S HAND

49

Picks up some broken glass.

50 BACK TO SCENE

50

Buffy straightens up and looks up at the second story. We see the broken and partially patched window the girl burst out of in the teaser.

Buffy looks off to the woods where she found the bracelet: is there some connection here?

She turns back towards the house, startled to find:

TOM

You okay?

BUFFY

Yeah. I was just... thinking.

From inside we hear the party and the music crank up. Richard hurries out, tipsy, thrusts a drink in each of their hands. Clinks their glasses with his own.

RICHARD

To my Argentinian junk bonds which
just matured in double digits!

He holds up his glass and drinks merrily. Tom looks at Buffy, embarrassed by Richard.

TOM

To... maturity.

Tom clinks her glass.

BUFFY

(re: drink)

Ahhh, what the hell.

CONTINUED

50 CONTINUED:

50

She downs the whole drink. Tom's a little surprised.

BUFFY (cont'd)
I'm tired of being mature.

Tom smiles.

CUT TO:

51 INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

51

CLOSE on the bracelet fragment, the letters "N", "T".

Willow is typing a list of possibilities on the computer.
Giles stands behind her, helping.

WILLOW
Bent.

GILES
Sent.

WILLOW
Rent.

GILES
Lent.

WILLOW
Kent -- Kent, that's it!

GILES
Her boyfriend's name is Kent.

WILLOW
(typing)
No. Kent Preparatory School. Just
outside town. That's where I've seen
those bracelets.

GILES
What are you doing?

WILLOW
Pulling up their school newsletter
for the last few months, to see if
there's anything about...

She stops speaking. Giles sees it on the computer:

GILES
A missing girl...

52 INSERT COMPUTER

52

KENT SCHOOL NEWS -- a picture of a pretty girl, the girl from the teaser. Headline: CALLIE, OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU.

CUT TO:

53 INT. FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

53

We see two lines of people facing one another. Dancing down the middle of the gauntlet (all hope of escape barred by the Tackle and the Linebacker) is:

XANDER

A hideous wig of long dark curls parked on his head; an (extremely) large bra strapped over his shirt; a painful party smile plastered on his face. Some of the guys swat him with paddles.

XANDER

Okay, big fun... who's next?

He tries to walk away. The big Tackle shoves him back.

TACKLE

Dance, stranger.

Xander dances.

54 BUFFY

54

comes out of a bathroom looking a little wobbly. She touches her head.

55 BUFFY-CAM

55

Her pov of the party. Distorted, a macabre Mardi Gras.

BUFFY

(looking around)

Tom?

56 BUFFY WEAVES HER WAY

56

To the stairs, moves up.

57 OMITTED

57

AND

AND

58

58

*

59 INT. FRAT BEDROOM - NIGHT

59

Buffy stumbles in. A big bed. Looks so inviting.

BUFFY

Okay. Just need to stop spinning for
a...

Buffy collapses on the bed. Out cold. A figure appears
silhouetted in the doorway. Moves to her. Rolls her over.
It's Richard. He admires her unconscious form for a beat then
reaches for her blouse. Undoes the top button. Reaches for
the next button when

60 A HAND

60

Grabs his hand. Spins him around. It's Tom.

TOM

Get away from her.

And Tom hits Richard, hard. Richard is flung back against the
wall.

RICHARD

I wasn't doing anything.

TOM

I saw what you were doing.

RICHARD

I just wanted to have a little fun.

TOM

She's not here for your fun you
pervert!

PUSH IN on Tom.

TOM (cont'd)

She's here for the pleasure of the
one we serve.

RICHARD

(obediently)

In His Name.

TOM

And that goes for the other one, too.

CONTINUED

60 CONTINUED:

60

We now see Cordelia, passed out in a dark corner of the floor. Off Tom's eyes, the eyes of the zealot and true believer,

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

61 INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

61

Willow types at the computer. Giles reads a print-out of the Kent School News.

GILES

Callie Megan Anderson... missing for over a week. No one's seen her, no one knows what happened to her...

WILLOW

This being Sunnydale and all, I guess we can rule out something good.

GILES

(nods, grabs phone)
I'm calling Buffy.

WILLOW

No!

GILES

Why not?

WILLOW

Because Buffy... and her mother...

GILES

Are sick. You're right, we shouldn't disturb them until we know more.

WILLOW

(re: computer,
alarmed)

You mean like if there are others...?

Giles follows Willow's gaze to her computer.

WILLOW (cont'd)

Brittany Oswald, Junior at St. Michael's, disappeared a year ago... so did Kelly Percell, sophomore at Grant...

GILES

A year ago...

WILLOW

Almost to the day.

CONTINUED

61 CONTINUED:

61

GILES

(piecing it together)

An anniversary... or some other event
that has significance for the killer.

WILLOW

Killer? Now there's a killer? We
don't know there's a...

GILES

No. But this being Sunnydale and
all...

WILLOW

Gulp.

GILES

We need to know where Buffy found
that bracelet -- and begin a search
from there.

Giles again reaches for the phone.

*

WILLOW

Good idea, call Angel.

*

Giles looks at her.

*

WILLOW (cont'd)

He was there when Buffy found it --
we're gonna need all the help we can
get.

*

Giles nods, reaches for the phone.

*

CUT TO:

62 EXT. FRAT HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

62

We see the last few partiers stumble out, then Xander, still
in wig and bra, is hurled out by the Tackle and Linebacker.

They shut the door, Xander stops it with his hand.

XANDER

A friend of mine was here --

TACKLE

Party's over, jerkwater. You know, in
that light, with the wig and all,
you're still butt ugly.

CONTINUED

62 CONTINUED:

62

The Tackle slams the door in his face. Xander stands there steaming, HEARING their laughter from inside. He rips off wig and big bra, storms off the porch.

CONTINUED

62 CONTINUED:

62

*
*
*
*

63 INT. FRAT HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

63

Tom, stripped to the waist, kneels before the alter which surrounds the dark pit.

Several ROBED BRETHREN keep a respectful distance from Tom whose arms and chest sport a dozen or more of the sword-carved diamond shapes. Tom is pretty much the high priest around here.

He finishes whatever silent prayer he was offering, picks up the long sword, holds it over the pit as a form of blessing, then hands it to a brethren.

The brethren begins carving yet another diamond on Tom as we (discreetly) PAN AWAY to:

64 CORDELIA - COMING TO

64

Chained to a rock wall. Her hair is mussed and as she takes in her surroundings, her eyes fill with fear. She looks to

65 BUFFY

65

Chained next to her. Buffy is already awake and alert, gazing around the basement, taking everything in. From this angle she can only see Tom from the back (i.e. she doesn't know it's Tom.)

CORDELIA
Buffy... where are we?

CONTINUED

BUFFY

In the basement, far as I can tell.

CORDELIA

What's happening? What did they...?

BUFFY

They drugged us.

CORDELIA

Why? What are they gonna do?

BUFFY

I don't know...

CORDELIA

(really scared)

I want to go home.

CALLIE (O.S.)

No one's going home.

They turn and see Callie as she leans out of the shadows: a once pretty girl who's been chained in a basement for a week.

CALLIE

Ever.

Callie stares at them with the look of the condemned.

CALLIE (cont'd)

One of them's different from the others, nicer...

BUFFY

Tom.

And Tom turns around on the alter. His eyes meet Buffy's. He slips into a robe held by two brethren.

CALLIE

He's the one to watch out for.

Callie leans back into the shadows. Tom gazes at Buffy for a long, creepy beat.

TOM

She's last.

CORDELIA

Last for what? Who's first?

CONTINUED

65 CONTINUED: (2)

65

Tom turns back to his priestly duties. He picks up three round stones, holds them over the pit in a ritual blessing.

CONTINUED

65 CONTINUED: (3)

65

BUFFY
Three stones... three of us.

CORDELIA
Buffy...

BUFFY
Stay calm. We'll get out of this.

CORDELIA
Why'd I ever let you talk me into
coming here!

CUT TO:

66 INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT - ANGEL

66

Moves INTO FRAME, the glass window of Giles' office behind
him.

ANGEL
She found the bracelet in the
cemetery, near the South Wall.

*
*

67 REVERSE - WILLOW AND GILES

67

Willow leans forward, staring hard at something behind Angel.

GILES
South Wall...?
(to Willow)
-- what are you doing?

*

WILLOW
Oh. Sorry. The reflection thing, that
you don't have, Angel, how do you
shave? -- South Wall, that's out by
the college, right near ...
(realizing)
...the fraternity house.

*
*

GILES
A fraternity?

Willow nods, unable to speak.

ANGEL
Could they be taking these girls?

Willow nods again, petrified.

CONTINUED

67 CONTINUED:

67

ANGEL (cont'd)
Let's get out there.

Willow finally blurts out:

WILLOW
Buffy --!

GILES
We don't know this is concrete, let's
not disturb her until --

WILLOW
-- is there. With Cordelia. They went
to a party at the Zeta Kappa house!

GILES
She... lied to me?

WILLOW
Well...

ANGEL
Did she... have a date?

WILLOW
Well...

Losing it, she turns on them both in a sudden Willow-fury.

WILLOW (cont'd)
(to Angel)
Why do you think she went to that
party? Because you gave her the brush
off...
(to Giles)
...and you never let her do anything,
except work and patrol and -- I know
she's the Chosen One but you're
killing her with the pressure, she's
sixteen going on forty --
(to Angel)
-- and you, I mean you're gonna live
forever, you don't have time for a
cup of coffee?

Willow takes a breath, no less surprised by her outburst than
they are.

WILLOW (cont'd)
Okay. I don't feel better now and we
gotta help Buffy.

CONTINUED

67 CONTINUED: (2)

67

Willow runs for the door. They follow.

CUT TO:

68 INT. FRAT HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

68

Buffy, Cordelia and Callie watch as the brethren (including Richard) gather around the alter.

TOM
Machida...

The others murmur "Machida" (pronounced Ma-Kee-Da).

TOM (cont'd)
We who serve you, we who receive all
that you bestow, call upon you in
this holy hour.

Again the others murmur "Machida".

TOM (cont'd)
We have no wealth, no possession,
except that which you give us. We
have no power, no place in the world,
except that which you give us.

OTHERS
Except that which you give us.

69 BUFFY AND CORDELIA

69

CORDELIA
What are they, some kind of cult?

BUFFY
A psycho-cult.

CORDELIA
You gotta do something.

Buffy tests her chains (secured to metal eyes sunk in the wall). They hold her fast.

70 TOM AND THE BRETHREN

70

TOM
It has been a year since our last
offerings... a year in which our
bounty overflowed... We come before
you with fresh offerings... we hope
you find them worthy.

71 BUFFY AND CORDELIA

71

CORDELIA

Offerings... he's talking about us?

Callie peers out of the shadows.

CALLIE

You see anyone else chained up in here?

72 TOM AND THE BRETHREN

72

TOM

Accept our offering, dark lord, bless us with your power, Machida!!

OTHERS

Machida!

Tom drops the stones into the pit. A long silent beat, followed by the sound of the stones PLOPPING into water far, far below.

73 BUFFY AND CORDELIA

73

CORDELIA

What... what's down there?

74 TOM AND BRETHREN

74

TOM

Come forth, let your terrible countenance look upon your servants and their humble offerings! We call you, Machida!

OTHERS

In his name! Machida!

A substantial RUMBLING is heard far below, gathering power and speed. It fills the chamber, growing ever nearer.

75 BUFFY AND CORDELIA

75

Cordelia is terrified.

CORDELIA

There's something down there.

(Buffy nods)

And they're gonna throw us down there with it!

BUFFY

I don't think so.

CONTINUED

75 CONTINUED:

75

CORDELIA
(grasping at straws)
No? Well that's good, that's...

BUFFY
I don't think we go to it, I think it
comes to us...

76 AT THE ALTER

76

The rumbling grows louder and more fierce. The brethren are all glassy-eyed, murmuring "Machida" feverishly. And suddenly, with a great explosion, the HORRIBLE THING bursts out of the big black pit.

MACHIDA is half man, half snake. He has a muscular body (from the waist up) and the enlarged and frightening head of a man with the fangs and horrible eyes of a snake. His skin has the diamond pattern of a snake -- thus the diamond carvings on his "people". From the waist down he is all snake -- and a big 'un, too, his snake body trails behind him into the depths of the pit: God knows how long this guy is.

Machida towers over the brethren and stretches his glistening body so he can look down on Buffy, Cordelia and Callie.

Off Buffy, looking up at the hideous Delta Zeta deity, and Cordelia screaming for all she's worth,

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

77 INT. FRAT HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

77

As before. Machida hovers over the girls.

TOM

For he shall rise from the depths and
we shall tremble before him. He who
is the source of all we inherit and
all we possess. MACHIDA!

OTHERS

Machida!

TOM

And if he is pleased with our
offerings, then our fortunes shall
increase.

OTHERS

Machida, let our fortunes increase.

TOM

And on the tenth day of the tenth
month he shall be enhungered and we
shall feed him.

Richard and a brethren start to unlock Cordelia's chains.

CORDELIA

Feed him. FEED HIM?!

Buffy pulls like hell at her own chains. They hold fast.
Richard and brethren drag Cordelia, whimpering now, before
Machida. Cordelia looks like she's about to lose her mind.
Buffy struggles with her chains.

Machida rises up, ready to dive for Cordelia.

BUFFY

Hey, Reptile Boy!

Machida turns his gaze to Buffy.

TOM

No woman speaks to him!

BUFFY

You don't want her. She's all skin
and bones. Half hour later you'll be
hungry again. Why don't you try me --

CONTINUED

77 CONTINUED:

77

And Tom backhands her viciously, nearly knocking her out.
Brandishes the sword.

TOM

Speak again and I'll cut your throat.

CUT TO:

78 EXT. FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

78

Angel, Willow and Giles exit the Giles-mobile and head for
the darkened frat house.

WILLOW

Looks like everyone's gone.

As they approach, a robed figure steps out of the shadows
behind them. Angel senses the intruder, slows his pace and
suddenly leaps on him.

ANGEL

Hey!

XANDER

Hey!

It's Xander, in one of the D.Z. robes. He pulls the hood
back. There's a tear in the front of the robe.

XANDER

What are you doing here?

WILLOW

There's a bunch of girls missing, the
Zeta Kappas may be involved and
Buffy -- are you wearing make-up?

XANDER

(rubs at his face)

No. I think Buffy's still inside
somewhere with Cordelia.

(points to car)

That's her car.

GILES

Why are you wearing that...?

XANDER

I found it in their trash.

(re: house)

I saw them through the windows,
wearing robes, going down to the
basement. I was going to use it to
sneak in.

CONTINUED

78 CONTINUED:

78

GILES

They may be involved in some kind of ritual.

WILLOW

With the missing girls.

ANGEL

With Buffy.

Angel looks to the house, his anger mounting, and DOES NOT MORPH, but rather changes into a vampire with a fierce growl. Willow and the others take a step back.

*

*

XANDER

Okay, that is the guy you want to party with.

CUT TO:

79 INT. FRAT HOUSE - NIGHT

79

The Tackle and the Linebacker keep a watch in the darkened rooms. They hear someone KNOCKING, move to one of the doors in back, see a dark figure in a robe outside.

XANDER

(in robe)

Got locked out dumping the trash. Let me in, I don't want to miss the "you know what..."

The Tackle peers hard at the robed figure, unlatches the door. The minute he does, Xander hits him as hard as he can in the face.

*

*

The Tackle staggers back.

*

XANDER (cont'd)

(to Tackle)

Where are they?!

Xander doubles over, grabbing his fist in pain as the Linebacker charges him. Angel decks the Linebacker as Willow and Giles charge in behind him.

*

*

*

80 INT. FRAT BASEMENT - SAME TIME

80

Tom stands behind Cordelia, beneath Machida.

TOM

Receive our offering!

CONTINUED

80 CONTINUED:

80

They hear fighting and bodies crashing to the floor above.

TOM (cont'd)

Go!

Richard charges upstairs with several of the brethren.

Machida rises to his full height.

TOM (cont'd)

Feed.

Cordelia cowers beneath him.

Machida dives.

DIVING POV - WE SWOOP DOWN TOWARDS CORDELIA

Who screams bloody murder.

Buffy uses all her strength and rips her chain and eye-hooks right out of the wall.

Buffy whips the chain and hits Machida with it. He rears back, screaming.

The two brethren release Cordelia who scampers to relative safety, and they head for --

Buffy, who finds one of them behind her, one of them in front. She takes out the guy behind without even looking, whipping the chain into his head behind her. Then she spins and kicks and takes out the guy in front.

Tom picks up the sword and charges Buffy who ducks and backs away as he attacks, nearly taking her head off.

81 INT. FRAT HOUSE - UPSTAIRS - NIGHT

81

Angel throws a robed guy to the floor. Willow jumps over the guy's body, heads for the cellar door, disappears inside. Xander is on the Tackle, piggy back, hitting him on the head from behind.

*

XANDER

That's for the wig, and that's for the bra...

Giles ducks a punch from Richard, trips him, looks mildly pleased with himself and moves after Willow.

A82 INT. FRAT CELLAR STEPS - NIGHT

A82

Willow runs down two steps. Her eyes go wide. She turns around and runs back up.

B82 INT. FRAT HOUSE - UPSTAIRS - NIGHT

B82

Willow appears as another robed guy flies through frame.

WILLOW

Some guy's attacking Buffy with a sword!

(beat, realizes:)

Also, there's a really big snake.

XANDER

...that's for the make-up and that's for the last sixteen and a half years!

Xander gives him one last good wallop and leaps off. The tackle falls forward, out of frame, we HEAR him crash. Angel decks two more guys.

WILLOW

Guys, Buffy, snake, basement, now!

They all charge toward the basement door.

82 INT. FRAT HOUSE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

82

Buffy scrambles away from Tom and his attacking sword.

TOM

You... bitch. I'll serve you to him in pieces!

He swings hard. Buffy ducks and counters with the chain, wraps it around Tom's neck. His eyes go wide with surprise and pain.

BUFFY

Tom... you talk too much.

Buffy yanks him over her shoulder and into the wall. Down and out. *

Angel, Xander, Willow and Giles tear downstairs as Machida gathers Cordelia in his arms.

CORDELIA

Hellllppppp!!!

Buffy suddenly looms up with the sword.

CONTINUED

82 CONTINUED:

82

BUFFY
Back off, wormy!

Machida ROARS at her. Buffy raises the sword and brings it down hard and fast on the middle of Machida's snake body, cutting him in half.

83 XANDER, GILES, WILLOW

83

And Angel react.

84 OMITTED

84

85 THE PIT

85

As what's left of the severed snake jiggles and lies still a couple of feet from the upper torso.

86 BUFFY

86

Helps Cordelia up. Willow and Xander un-chain a very freaked out Callie.

CORDELIA
You did it, you saved us.

Cordelia walks right past Buffy and hurls herself into Angel's arms. (He is now not a vamp.)

CORDELIA (cont'd)
I've never been so happy to see
anyone in my whole...
(fights the tears)
You guys, I just really... hate you
guys, the weirdest things always
happen around you!

Tom comes to near the alter. And, unbeknownst to any of our heroes, the snake body begins slowly moving. Until it joins up with the torso. A squooshy sound of flesh and protoplasm meeting and the two halves re-join!

CORDELIA (cont'd)
(to Tom)
You're going to jail for about
fifteen thousand years. Oh god, it's
over... it's really...

That's when Machida, re-joined, suddenly pops up again.

Angel takes a threatening step forward next to Buffy, growls.

CONTINUED

Machida towers over Tom:

MACHIDA

For a hundred years I have given your
forbears wealth and power. And this
is how you repay me. From this day
forth you are alone in the world.

Machida slides back down. Cordelia is afraid to breathe. With
good reason. Machida pops back up, grabs Tom.

MACHIDA (cont'd)

Lil' somethin' for the road.

Machida disappears into the pit with Tom. We hear Tom's
screams, a quick couple of chomps and then silence.

Willow and Xander help Callie toward the stairs.

Buffy moves to Giles.

BUFFY

I told one lie, I had one drink...

GILES

And you nearly got devoured by a
giant demon-snake. I think the words
"let that be a lesson" are a tad
redundant at this juncture.

BUFFY

Sorry, Giles.

GILES

I am, too. I drive you too hard,
because I know what you have to
face... from now on no more pushing,
no more prodding...

Buffy smiles.

GILES (cont'd)

Just... an extraordinary amount of
nudging.

Off them,

DISSOLVE TO:

87 INT. BRONZE - NIGHT

87

A high school freshman (JONATHON), a real young looking one,
stands at the coffee bar. Says to bartender:

JONATHON

C'mon, c'mon. Hurry up.

He gets a cappuccino, moves to Cordelia, hands her the coffee
and a muffin. He looks up at her (being so much shorter and
all) adoringly.

CORDELIA

Thank you, Jonathon. Did we forget
something?

JONATHON

Cinnamon, chocolate, half-calf, non-
fat -- Extra Foam!

He grabs the coffee and hurries out of frame. Cordelia turns
to

88 BUFFY, WILLOW, XANDER

88

Sitting at a nearby table. Xander studies a newspaper.

CORDELIA

Young men. The only way to go.

CLOSE ON NEWSPAPER - We see a picture of the Delta Zeta house
and the headline: FRATERNITY ARRESTED.

XANDER

Says here they'll all get consecutive
life sentences: investigators found
bones of the missing girls in a huge
cavern beneath the frat house... and
other bones dating back fifty years...

WILLOW

They didn't find the snake?

(Xander shakes his
head)

Which means we probably will some
day. Oh goody.

XANDER

(reads)

"A surprising number of corporations
whose Chairmen and Founders are
former Delta Zeta Kappas are
suffering falling profits, I.R.S.
(more)

CONTINUED

88 CONTINUED:

88

XANDER (cont'd)
raids and suicides in the board
room..."

(to Buffy and Willow)
Starve a snake, lose a fortune. Boy,
the rich really are different.

WILLOW
(to Buffy)
Have you heard from Angel?

She shakes her head.

CONTINUED

88 CONTINUED:

88

WILLOW (cont'd)

When he got so mad about you being in
danger and changed into...

(makes a face)

...grrrr... it was the most amazing
thing I ever saw. I mean how many
guys can --

XANDER

Angel, Angel, Angel. Does every
conversation always have to come
around to that freak?

Xander notices Angel standing right next to him. Doesn't skip
a beat.

XANDER (cont'd)

Hey man, how ya' doin'?

ANGEL

Buffy.

Beat.

BUFFY

Angel.

Beat.

XANDER

Xander...

ANGEL

I hear this place serves coffee.
Thought maybe you and I should get
some...

(nothing from Buffy)

...sometime.

(nothing from Buffy)

If you want.

Buffy considers him for a long moment, then:

BUFFY

Yeah.

Angel brightens.

BUFFY (cont'd)

Sometime. I'll let you know.

CONTINUED

88 CONTINUED: (2)

88

And she gets up and goes. Xander, Willow, Angel stare at her departing back. Xander kind of respects what she just did. So does Angel.

ANGLE - BUFFY - WALKING AWAY

Tracking backwards with her. Letting her grow into a tight close up. So we can see how pleased she is. Then she walks out of frame and we --

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT FOUR