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Episode 5V16

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered"

Written By

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Directed By

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

January 12, 1998 (WHITE)

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered"

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
JOYCE SUMMERS.....	Kristine Sutherland
JENNY CALENDAR.....	Robia La Morte
SPIKE.....	James Marsters
DRUSILLA.....	*Juliet Landau
OZ.....	*Seth Green
HARMONY.....	Mercedes McNab
AMY.....	Elizabeth Anne Allen
MISS BEAKMAN.....	*Lorna Scott
CORDETTE #1.....	*Kristen Winnicki
FRENZIED GIRL.....	*Tamara Braun
JOCK.....	
KATIE.....	*Jennie Chester
THE BAND.....	Dingoes Ate My Baby

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered"

SET LIST

INTERIORS

SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL
CLASSROOM
HALLWAY
LIBRARY
EMPTY CLASSROOM
SCIENCE LAB
LOUNGE
HALLWAY - ANOTHER AREA
BOILER ROOM
ANOTHER HALLWAY
HALLWAY OUTSIDE LIBRARY

XANDER'S ROOM

FACTORY

THE BRONZE

BUFFY'S HOUSE
LIVING ROOM
HALLWAY
KITCHEN
BUFFY'S BEDROOM
FOYER
BASEMENT

EXTERIORS

CEMETERY

SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL
COURTYARD
WALKWAY

BUFFY'S HOUSE
PORCH
ROOF
NEAR BUFFY'S HOUSE

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Bewitched, Bothered & Bewildered"

TEASER

CLOSE ON A SMALL SILVER HEART

that dangles from a chain.

1 EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

1

- XANDER, pacing, holding the trinket - contemplating it.
BUFFY'S sitting on a headstone nearby.

XANDER

What do you think?

BUFFY

It's nice.

XANDER

But do you think Cordelia will like
it?

BUFFY

I don't know...

(points to her heart)

Does she know what one of these is?

XANDER

Okay, big yuks. When are you guys
gonna stop making fun of me for
dating Cordelia?

BUFFY

I'm sorry. But, never.

(off his look)

I just think you could find someone
more... better.

XANDER

Parallel universe, maybe. Here the
only other person I'm interested in
is unavailable.

BUFFY

(gets the point)

Oh.

CONTINUED

1 CONTINUED:

1

XANDER

Besides, Cordy and I have really been getting along. We don't fight as much. Yesterday we just sat together, not even speaking, you know, just enjoying comfortable silence.

(beat)

Man, that was dull.

BUFFY

I'm glad you guys are getting along. Almost really. And you shouldn't stress about the gift.

XANDER

This is new territory for me. My valentines are usually met with heartfelt restraining orders.

BUFFY

She'll love it.

XANDER

I wish dating was like slaying -- simple. Direct. Stake to the heart, no muss no fuss --

He's cut off when A VAMP RISES FROM THE GRAVE HE'S STANDING ON - RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM. Xander YELLS. Falls back. Buffy leaps from her perch - grabs a stake from her coat.

A VICIOUS BATTLE ensues. This vamp is STRONG and Buffy's almost overcome but finally manages to DUST THE DUDE.

A beat as Buffy recovers. Then she helps Xander to his feet. They start to move off. As they disappear into the distance...

BUFFY

Sorry, Xand. Have to say slaying is a tad more perilous than dating.

XANDER

You're obviously not dating Cordelia.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

2 EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

2

School is about to start and kids rush everywhere. CORDY sees HARMONY and the CORDETTES. They see her too, but keep going. Their heads bowed as they whisper.

CORDELIA
Hey... Wait up!

Cordy rushes to catch up with them - peeved.

CORDELIA (cont'd)
Excuse me? Where's the fire sale?

HARMONY
(cool)
Oh, sorry. Didn't see you.

CORDELIA
Why didn't you guys call me back last night? We need to talk about our outfits for the dance -- I'm going to wear red and black so you'd better switch --

*
*

CORDETTE #1
Red and black? Is that what Xander likes?

*

CORDELIA
Xander? What's he got to do with it?

HARMONY
Well, a girl wants to look good for her geek.

The Cordettes titter.

CORDELIA
Xander is just --

HARMONY
When are you two gonna start wearing cute little matching outfits? 'Cause I'm planning to vomit.

Harmony starts off. The Cordettes follow. Cordelia can't believe it.

3 INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

3

XANDER, WILLOW AND BUFFY are all in English class with MISS BEAKMAN, a tough old dame. The bell rings and students start to rise.

MISS BEAKMAN

Papers on my desk. Anybody tries to leave without giving me a paper is looking at a failing grade.

Xander sits with Buffy and Willow, clutching his paper.

XANDER

Hah! This time I am ready for you.
No "F" for Xander today. This baby's my ticket to a sweet "D minus".

The bunch comes up by AMY, daughter of the cheerleading trophy.

WILLOW

Hey, Amy.

AMY

Hey. Are you guys going to the Valentine's Dance at the Bronze? I think it's gonna be fun.

Buffy and Willow exchange looks, Willow bursting to say something.

BUFFY

Go ahead, you know you want to say it.

WILLOW

(to Amy)

My boyfriend's in the band.

AMY

Cool.

BUFFY

I think you've now told everybody.

WILLOW

Only in this hemisphere.

AMY

(to Buffy)

What about you?

CONTINUED

3 CONTINUED:

3

BUFFY
Valentine's Day is just a gimmick to
sell cards.

AMY
Bad break up?

BUFFY
Believe me when I say "Uh huh".

She hands her paper to Miss Beakman --

MISS BEAKMAN
Thank you...

As does Willow.

MISS BEAKMAN (cont'd)
Thank you...

Miss Beakman looks at Amy expectantly. But Amy just stares deeply into the teacher's eyes. Suddenly, Miss Beakman SMILES and reaches out for a paper that ISN'T THERE. Miss Beakman "puts" the phantom paper on the top of her stack.

MISS BEAKMAN (cont'd)
Thank you...

Amy smiles coolly, moves off. Revealing XANDER, who has seen this whole exchange. He looks after Amy, intrigued. Hands his paper in, starts after Amy. But getting no response from Miss Beakman, stops to say crankily:

XANDER
You're welcome.

4 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

4

Buffy and Willow peel off from Amy with goodbye's, walk down the hall.

WILLOW
I just hate to think of you solo on
Valentine's Day.

BUFFY
I'll be fine. Mom and I are gonna
have a pig-out and vidfest. It's a
time honored tradition among the
loveless.

CONTINUED

4 CONTINUED:

4

Xander comes abreast of them.

XANDER

Did you guys see that?

BUFFY

What?

XANDER

In class. I thought I just saw Amy working some magic on Miss Beakman.

BUFFY

You mean like Witchcraft?

WILLOW

Well, her mom was a witch...

BUFFY

And an amateur psycho. Amy's the last person should be messing with that stuff.

XANDER

Maybe I should talk to --

Now GILES approaches. Xander hushes, gives the others a look.

GILES

Buffy. Might I have a word with you?

BUFFY

Have a sentence, even.

GILES

Good, well-

Giles is unable to finish because, just as they are passing her door, MISS CALENDAR emerges from her classroom. Everyone stops - awkward. It's evident that there is a lot of bad feeling here. Buffy can't even look at her.

CALENDAR

(takes the leap)

Rupert.

GILES

Miss Calendar.

CONTINUE

4 CONTINUED: (2)

4

Calendar reacts to the use of her last name. Still - she forges ahead.

CALENDAR

I - I'm glad we ran into each other, actually. I was hoping we could...
Do you have a moment?

GILES

Oh - well... Not just now. I have a matter I must discuss with Buffy.

He turns to Buffy - who finally glances at Calendar. Cold.

BUFFY

Right. Let's go.

Giles nods to Calendar - a hint of sorrow evident in his eyes. He and Buffy walk off. A beat as Calendar watches them go, Willow and Xander looking from them to her.

5 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

5

Buffy's at the table, watching Giles pace - clearly agitated by his encounter with Calendar.

BUFFY

Are you okay?

GILES

Me? I'll be fine. I'm more concerned about you, actually.

(then)

Ever since Angel... turned - I've been reading up on his earlier activities. Learning more about his habits, feeding patterns, the like...

BUFFY

And?

GILES

There's a disturbing trend. Around Valentine's Day he's prone to rather brutal displays of... what he would think of as affection, I suppose.

BUFFY

Like what?

CONTINUED

5 CONTINUED:

5

GILES

No - no need to go into detail.

BUFFY

That bad.

GILES

Suffice to say it would be best if you stayed off the streets for a few nights. I can patrol. Keep my eye on things. Better safe than sorry.

BUFFY

It's a little late for both.

Off Buffy and Giles - anything but happy Valentine's puppies.

6 INT. FACTORY - NIGHT

6

CLOSE ON A VELVET BOX

Which is opened to reveal an INCREDIBLE ANTIQUE RUBY NECKLACE.

WIDEN TO REVEAL DRUSILLA AND SPIKE AT THE TABLE

Dru has just opened the box and smiles happily over at Spike, who is still chair-bound.

SPIKE

Fancy it, pet?

DRUSILLA

It's beautiful. Sparkly...

SPIKE

Nothing but the best for my-

He's cut off as a BLOODY HUMAN HEART falls on the table before DRU with a sickening, wet plop. Drusilla's eyes widen with absolute delight and we see ANGEL standing at her side, grinning.

ANGEL

Happy Valentine's Day, Dru.

DRUSILLA

Ooooh! Angel... It's still warm.

CONTINUED

6 CONTINUED:

6

ANGEL

I knew you'd like it. I found it in
a quaint little shop-girl.

Angel grabs the necklace Spike got Dru from the box.

ANGEL (cont'd)

Cute.

He leans over to Dru with the necklace in hand. Looks to
Spike.

ANGEL (cont'd)

Here. I'll just...

He starts to fasten the necklace around Dru's neck. Spike
rolls closer.

SPIKE

Leave it. I'll get it.

ANGEL

Done.

(to Spike)

I know Dru gives you pity access -
but you have to admit, it's so much
easier when I do things for her.

Spike seethes. Snaps at Angel-

SPIKE

You'd do well to worry less about Dru
and more about that slayer you
tramped around with.

ANGEL

(smiles fondly)

Dear Buffy. I'm still trying to
decide the best way to send my
regards...

SPIKE

You could rip her lungs out. That
might make an impression.

ANGEL

It lacks poetry.

CONTINUED

6 CONTINUED: (2)

6

SPIKE
It doesn't have to.
(to Dru)
What rhymes with lungs?

DRUSILLA
Don't worry, Spike. Angel will find
his way...
(looks at the heart)
In time Angel always finds what
speaks to a girl.

7 INT. THE BRONZE - NIGHT

7

The Bronze is DECKED OUT for a VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE.

DINGOES ATE MY BABIES play on stage, OZ up front.

XANDER AND WILLOW sit at a table. Xander elegantly dressed
and groomed, fidgets nervously with a SMALL GIFT BOX.

Willow watches the band enraptured. OZ sees her. Smiles.
Willow smiles back - gets that "googley" feeling.

WILLOW
(to Xander)
I think I'm a groupie...

Xander smiles at her, then goes back to being nervous.

ON CORDELIA

Who enters, looking drop-dead. She sees HARMONY and the
CORDETTES. Starts to approach. But they all turn their
backs on her. Cordy stops, hurt. At a loss.

8 INT. BUFFY'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

8

Buffy and her mother are splayed out in front of the tube.
A prodigious pile of junk food surrounds them. They are
nearly comatose with fullness.

JOYCE
Pass me the Malomars.

BUFFY
(doesn't move)
I can't.

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED:

8

JOYCE
 (doesn't move)
 Good.

The doorbell rings. Buffy pulls herself off the couch with great effort.

9 EXT. BUFFY'S PORCH - NIGHT

9

Buffy opens the door. Nothing but the chilly night breeze. She looks around, suddenly alert.

10 INT. BUFFY'S HALLWAY\LIVING ROOM - CONT.

10

Buffy closes the door. Sees that the television now chatters to an EMPTY ROOM. Her mom is nowhere to be seen.

BUFFY
 Mom?

Silence.

11 INT. BUFFY'S KITCHEN - CONT.

11

Buffy moves through the kitchen cautiously. A noise SPINS her around - but it's just a tree branch scratching the window.

She takes a few steps back. We can see behind her, but she can not, that the back door is OPENING. She walks smack into-

JOYCE

Buffy SHOUTS. SPINS - ready to FIGHT.

JOYCE
 Buffy! It's me.

BUFFY
 (letting down)
 Sorry... You startled me.

JOYCE
 I - I went to check the back door.

She lifts a LONG BLACK FLOWER BOX. Hands it to Buffy.

CONTINUED

11 CONTINUED:

11

JOYCE (cont'd)
Somebody left these for you.

Buffy takes the box - cautiously opens it.

CLOSE ON THE BOX

A dozen beautiful, blood red roses. And a card - "SOON."

OFF BUFFY

Dread creeping over her features.

12 INT. THE BRONZE - NIGHT

12

Xander spots Cordelia. Takes a deep breath and approaches.

XANDER
Hey.

CORDELIA
Your clothes. You look so nice.

XANDER
I let Buffy dress me.
(off her look)
Well, not physically...

CORDELIA
Perfect. You just had to make this
harder, didn't you?

A beat. Xander is perplexed.

XANDER
Okay. Clearly the fact that I please
you visually got us off on the wrong
foot here.

CORDELIA
Xander-

XANDER
Let me finish. I've been thinking a
lot about us. The why and the
wherefore. And, you know - once,
twice. A kissy here. A kissy there.
You can chalk it up to hormones. But
hormones only take you so far.
(more)

CONTINUED

12 CONTINUED:

12

XANDER (cont'd)
(then)
Okay. Really far. And maybe that's
all we have here. Tawdry teen lust.
(sincere)
But maybe - not. Maybe something in
you sees something... special in me.
And vice versa. I mean, I think I
do. See something. So-

He thrusts the gift box into her hands. Struck dumb,
Cordelia opens it. Pulls the silver heart from it.

CORDELIA
(pained)
Xander. Thank you. It's beautiful.
I want to break up.

XANDER
(stunned/re: necklace)
Not really the reaction I was going
for.

CORDELIA
I'm sorry. I really am. It's
just - who are we kidding? I mean,
even if parts of us do see
specialness... We just don't fit.

XANDER
(anger growing)
Yeah, okay -- you know what's a good
day to break up with someone? **Any**
day besides Valentine's Day. Were
you just running low on dramatic
irony?

CORDELIA
I know. I didn't mean to do it like
this-

Xander reacts. Tries hard to maintain.

XANDER
Well you did.

He walks off. Cordelia looks down at the heart.

13 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

13

Xander walks the hall, a picture of misery. A few girls who were at the Bronze the night before pass, giggle. A JOCK that he passes slaps him on the back and says with incongruous bonhomie:

JOCK

Dude! Way to get dumped!

Xander sucks it up. Walks on. Then he sees BUFFY, who is power-freaked after her visit from Angel.

XANDER

Buffy. My bud. You would not believe the kind of day --

BUFFY

(cutting him off)

I can't talk right now. It's Angel.

XANDER

Well, do you need help?

BUFFY

It's all right.

She leaves him in the dust. Then Xander sees CORDELIA, HARMONY and the Cordettes standing near by. Harmony smirks.

HARMONY

Gee, Xander, maybe you should learn a second language so that **more** girls can reject you.

Cordelia looks away, ashamed, as Harmony and the Cordettes crack up.

That's it. Xander turns and goes through the doors to the hall.

14 INT. ANOTHER HALLWAY - DAY

14

As soon as he is in he passes AMY. He stops her, grabbing her arm. Sudden purpose in his eyes.

AMY

What are you doing!

Xander backs her slightly against the wall.

CONTINUED

14 CONTINUED:

14

XANDER

Amy! Good to see you! You're a witch.

AMY

No, I'm not! That was my mom, remember?

XANDER

I'm thinking it runs in the family. I saw you working that mojo on Miss Beakman. Maybe I should tell someone about that.

AMY

That's not even -- I never -- that's so mean!

XANDER

Blackmail is such an ugly word...

AMY

I didn't say blackmail.

XANDER

Yeah, well I'm about to blackmail you so I thought I'd bring it up.

AMY

What do you want?

XANDER

What do I want? I want a little respect around here. I want -- for once -- to come out ahead. I want the hellmouth working for me.

He looks at Cordy through the glass in the doors.

XANDER (cont'd)

You and me, Amy... We're gonna cast a little spell.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

15 INT. EMPTY CLASSROOM - DAY

15

Amy is looking at Xander, perplexed.

AMY

A love spell?

XANDER

Just the basic. You know - can't eat, can't sleep, can't breathe anything but little old moi.

AMY

That kind of thing is the hardest. I mean, to make someone love you for all eternity-

XANDER

Whoa. Back up. Who said anything about eternity? A man can only talk self-tanning lotion for so long before his head explodes.

AMY

Then - I don't get it. If you don't want to be with her forever - what's the point?

XANDER

The point is - I want her to want me. Desperately. Then I can break up with her and subject her to the same hell she's putting me through.

AMY

I don't know, Xander. Intent has to be pure with love spells.

XANDER

Right. I intend revenge. Pure as the driven snow. Now are you going to play or do we need to chat some more about invisible homework?

Amy knows she's beat.

AMY

I'll need something of hers. A personal object.

16 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

16

Buffy enters - drops the card that Angel left for her on the book GILES is reading. He picks it up - looks at it.

BUFFY

"Soon?" Soon what, Giles? I mean, you never held back on me until the big, bad thing in the dark became my ex-honey.

GILES

Where did this come from?

BUFFY

He said it with flowers.

(off his look)

This is no time to start being protective guy. I can't just hang around - and I can't prepare when I don't know what's coming.

Giles finally nods gravely.

GILES

Of course - you're right. Sit down.

17 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

17

Cordy is walking down the hall when she sees Xander marching toward her, purposeful. She starts to go the other direction - but Xander cuts her off.

XANDER

Don't flatter yourself. I'm not going to make a big scene. I just want the necklace back.

CORDELIA

What? I thought it was a gift.

XANDER

Last night it was a gift. Today it's scrap metal. I figure I can melt it down - sell it for fillings or something.

CORDELIA

You're pathetic...

A beat. Xander taps his foot impatiently.

CONTINUED

17 CONTINUED:

17

XANDER

Come on. I'm not going to add to the
"Cordelia Chase Cast-Off Collection."

CORDELIA

(stalling)

It's in my locker.

XANDER

I can wait.

Cordelia HUFFS over to her locker. Opens it.

CLOSE ON CORDELIA

Who hides behind the locker door. Waits until Xander isn't looking and then, discretely removes the necklace from around her neck. She's been wearing it under her blouse.

ON XANDER

Who watches Cordelia SLAM the locker door shut. Move back to him with the necklace in her outstretched hand.

CORDELIA

Here. Thank God we broke up. Now
I don't have to pretend to like it.

Xander SNATCHES it from her hand. Moves off.

18 INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

18

The room is dark - except for the light of one candle. Amy has drawn a LARGE FEMALE SYMBOL on the ground in red chalk. Xander, shirtless, kneels in the center of the chalk circle, holding the aforementioned candle - which has Cordelia's name written on it. Herbs and such boil in a lab beaker. A picture of Cordelia sits in front of Xander.

Amy reads from her spell book.

AMY

"Diana, goddess of love and the hunt.
I pray to thee. Let my cries bind
the heart of Xander's beloved. May
she neither rest nor sleep..."

Amy drops the HEART-SHAPED NECKLACE into her brew. The brew ignites and starts to spew RED SMOKE. Amy starts to tremble.

CONTINUED

18 CONTINUED:

18

AMY (cont'd)
 "until she submits to his will only.
 Diana! Bring about this love and
 bless it!

Amy is quaking with cosmic energy as she addresses Xander -
 her tongue urgent.

AMY (cont'd)
 Blow out the candle! Now!

Xander obeys her command. They are plunged into-
 BLACK

A long, silent beat. Then - Xander's shaky voice.

XANDER
 Great. Really. Good spell... Can I
 put my shirt on now?

19 INT. LOUNGE - DAY

19

The next morning. Xander enters, ready for love. Then he
 spots Cordy in the lounge with Harmony. Saunters over. He
 stands near Cordy for a beat, smiling and preening. Finally:

CORDELIA
What?

XANDER
 (all smiles)
 Morning, ladies.
 (seductively)
 Some weather we've been having.

Cordy is obviously surprised by his approach.

CORDELIA
 What do you want? You can't be
 sniffing around for more jewelry to
 melt - 'cause all you ever gave me
 was that Walmart-looking thing.

Xander's smile falters - he moves a little closer to her.
 Speaks softly.

XANDER
 Is this love? 'Cause, maybe on you
 it doesn't look that different-

CONTINUED

19 CONTINUED:

19

CORDELIA
(shoves him back)
What is up? Are you going, like,
stalker-boy on me?

That's enough testing for Xander.

XANDER
Sorry. My mistake.

CORDELIA
Yeah. I'd say so.

Xander moves off, chagrined. Cordelia turns to Harmony.

CORDELIA (cont'd)
What is his deal?!

HARMONY
I know. Did he cut his hair or
something? He looked half-way decent
for a change.

Off Cordy. Confused by Harmony's comment.

20 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

20

Buffy is with Giles, going over further Watcher diaries.

GILES
Ah, here's another. Valentine's Day,
yes, Angel nails a puppy to --

BUFFY
Skip it.

GILES
But --

BUFFY
I don't want to know. I don't have
a puppy. We can skip it.

GILES
Right. Let me get the next batch.

He crosses to his office as Xander enters glumly.

XANDER
I have a plan. We use me as bait.

CONTINUED

20 CONTINUED:

20

BUFFY

You mean, make Angel come after **you**?

XANDER

No I mean chop me into little pieces and stick me on hooks for fish to nibble at cuz that would be more fun than my life.

BUFFY

I heard about you and Cordy. It's her loss.

XANDER

Not the popular theory...

Buffy runs her hand through his hair, looking into his eyes.

BUFFY

You know what I'd like? Why don't you and I go do something tonight. Just us.

XANDER

Really?

BUFFY

Yeah, we can comfort each other.

XANDER

Would lap dancing enter into this scenario at all? 'Cause I find that very comforting.

BUFFY

Play your cards right...

XANDER

Okay. You do know that I'm Xander, right?

BUFFY

I don't know... I heard you and Cordy broke up, I was surprised how glad I was.

She's very close to him now, and since you ask, yes there's heat. Yet her advances are more than sexkittenish -- they're sincere.

CONTINUED

20 CONTINUED: (2)

20

BUFFY (cont'd)
It's funny how you can see a person
every day and not really **see** them,
you know?

XANDER
(enraptured)
It's funny. And it's just getting
funnier.

BUFFY
When you think about it, we make a
lot of sense --

Amy enters, somewhat timidly.

AMY
Xander, can I talk to you for a
minute?

XANDER
(to Amy)
Yeah. Okay.
(to Buffy)
Hold that thought. Tightly.

He goes off with Amy.

21 INT. HALL OUTSIDE LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

21

They stop right by the doors, Xander looking in anxiously at
his newly affectionate Buffy.

AMY
Xander, I don't think the spell
worked out right.

XANDER
Yeah, we bombed. No biggie.

AMY
Well, we could try again. I'm still
pretty new at this.

XANDER
It's okay. You know what? It was
wrong to meddle with the forces of
darkness and I see that now. I think
we've all grown. I gotta go.

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED:

21

AMY

Well, we don't have to cast any spells -- we could just hang out.

XANDER

Sure... what?

AMY

Well, I really liked spending time with you. You're so sweet... It's funny how you can see a person every day and --

XANDER

(his expression drains)

-- not really see them?

AMY

Exactly!

The wind goes right out of Xander's sails. In fact, his sails fall down. He looks in to see

ANGLE: BUFFY THROUGH THE WINDOW

Who smiles seductively at him as Giles reads something to her that she doesn't hear.

AMY (cont'd)

So anyway, I thought it might be fun to--

KATIE

Hi, Xander?

KATIE'S quite attractive, and clearly smitten.

XANDER

What?

KATIE

You're in Mr. Baird's history class, right? I thought maybe we could study together tonight.

AMY

Do you mind? We were talking.

XANDER

I really have to leave right now.

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

KATIE

Well, here's my number if you want
to --

She holds up a little slip of paper, but he takes off. A
beat later and he appears in the frame, takes the paper and
leaves again.

22 INT. XANDER'S ROOM - NIGHT

22

Xander races in and locks the door, exhausted and shaken. He
moves to his bed and starts to lie down. But YELPS and JUMPS
UP when he realizes that he is NOT ALONE. WILLOW sits up,
smiles. Xander, wary, starts to inch for the door.

WILLOW

Sorry. I wanted to surprise you.

XANDER

Good job. High marks.

WILLOW

Don't be so jumpy. I've been in your
bed before.

XANDER

Yeah, Will, but we were in footie
pajamas.

Willow's manner becomes more and more sweetly predatory.
This is a new Willow. Sexual, mature.

WILLOW

Xand. I've been thinking.

XANDER

Will, I think I know what you were
thinking, but this is all my fault,
I cast a spell and it sort of
backfired --

WILLOW

(cutting him off)

How long have we been friends?

XANDER

A long, long time. Too long to do
anything that might change it now.

CONTINUE

22 CONTINUED:

22

WILLOW

But friendships always change.
People grow apart. They grow closer.

XANDER

This is good. How close are we now?
I feel very comfortable with this
amount of closeness. In fact, I
could even back up a few paces and
still be happy... See?

WILLOW

I want you, Xander. To be my first-

XANDER

(weakly hopeful)

Baseman? Please tell me we're
talking softball.

Now she gets out of bed. We see now that she's WEARING HIS
BUTTON DOWN SHIRT. She moves toward him.

XANDER (cont'd)

That's... dry clean only.

WILLOW

Shhhhh. We both know it's right.

She pins him against the door. Tries to kiss him. But he
turns away.

XANDER

It's not that I don't find you sexy-

WILLOW

Is it Oz? Don't worry about him.
He's sweet - but he's not you.

XANDER

Yes he is! And you should go to him.
'Cause he's me.

She nibbles his ear.

XANDER (cont'd)

Willow, don't make me use force...

WILLOW

Force is okay...

He pushes her away.

CONTINUED

22 CONTINUED: (2)

22

XANDER

That's it. This has all gotta stop.
It's time for me to act like a man.
And hide.

He flees, leaving Willow in his room.

23 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

23

A new day. Cordelia approaches Harmony and the others - but they give her the cold shoulder.

CORDELIA

Ha. Very funny. What did I do
now - wear red and purple together?

HARMONY

(cold as ice)

You know what you did. Xander is
wounded because of you.

They start to walk away.

CORDELIA

Are you tripping? I thought you
wanted me to break up with him-

HARMONY

You'd better look at yourself,
Cordelia. Only a sick pup would let
Xander get away - no matter what her
friends said.

Harmony and the others leave Cordelia stunned. Finally she
calls after them:

CORDELIA

**What does it take to make you people
happy?**

24 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - ANOTHER AREA - DAY

24

CLOSE ON

SLO MO - a pair of feet move down the hall. COOL GUY music
plays over. But shen we WIDEN we see that the feet belong to
a terrified XANDER instead of a hip love God.

CONTINUED

24 CONTINUED:

24

Every person in the hallway is STARING at him. The woman all GAPE adoringly and the men all GLARE - enraged. Xander ducks into the library.

25 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

25

Giles sees Xander enter - reacts to his obvious agitation.

GILES

Xander. What is it?

XANDER

It's me. Throwing myself at your mercy.

GILES

What? Why?

XANDER

I made a mess, Giles. See, I found out that Amy's into witchcraft? And I was hurt, I guess, so I made her put the love whammy on Cordy. But it backfired. And now every woman in Sunnydale wants to make me her cuddle-monkey. Which may sound swell on paper but-

Calendar enters - marches up to GILES.

CALENDAR

Rupert. We need to talk.

(notices Xander)

Hey, Xander. Nice shirt.

Calendar tries vigilantly to stay focused. But is drawn all the while like a magnet to XANDER. As she speaks, she rests her hand casually on Xander's arm.

CALENDAR (cont'd)

Rupert, I know you're angry at me and I don't blame you. But I'm not going away. I care too much about you to --

(to Xander, feeling
his arm)

Have you been working out?

Giles grabs Calendar. Moves her away from Xander, livid.

CONTINUED

25 CONTINUED:

25

GILES

(to Xander)

I can't believe you'd be fool enough
to do something like this.

XANDER

Oh no. I'm twice the fool it takes
to do something like this.

GILES

Has Amy tried to reverse the spell?

XANDER

I get near Amy and all she wants to
talk is honeymoon plans.

CALENDAR

Rupert, maybe I should talk to Xander
alone.

GILES

Do you have any idea how serious this
is? People under the influence of
love spells are deadly, Xander. They
lose all capacity to reason. And if
what you say is true, and the whole
female population is affected...

(then)

Don't leave this library. I'll find
Amy. See if we can stop this thing.

Giles begins to go - but remembers Calendar, who stares at
Xander longingly. Giles grabs her.

And he takes off with Calendar in tow. A beat. Then Xander
drags the card catalog in front of the library doors.

He steps back -- and the door opens anyway, since they open
out. Buffy steps around the card catalog.

BUFFY

Alone at last.

Xander looks up to see BUFFY ENTER, WEARING NOTHING BUT A
RAINCOAT AND HEELS. The raincoat is tied with a belt.

XANDER

Buff! Give me a heart attack-

She looks him in the eye. Deadly.

CONTINUE

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

BUFFY

I'm going to give you a lot more than that.

Xander scrambles away from her. But Buffy's right on top of him. Moving in.

XANDER

Buffy. For the love of God, don't open that rain coat.

BUFFY

Come on, it's a party.
(plays with belt)
Aren't you gonna open your present?

XANDER

Not that I don't want to... Sometimes the remote, impossible possibility that you might like me was all that sustained me...

(frustration mounting)

But not now. Not like this. This isn't real to you. You're only here because of a spell. I mean, if I thought you had one clue what it would mean to me... But you don't, so I can't -

Buffy's expression shifts. A flash of DEADLY ANGER crosses her features. Fatal Attraction time.

BUFFY

So - this is all a game to you.

XANDER

A game? I - no...

Buffy's ire rises. She advances on him - menacing.

BUFFY

You make me feel this way and then reject me. What am I - a toy?

XANDER

Buffy, please. Calm down-

BUFFY

I'll calm down when you explain yourself!

CONTINUED

25 CONTINUED: (3)

25

Buffy looks like she's about to inflict bodily harm - but then the doors open and AMY enters. Furious.

AMY
Get away from him. He's mine.

BUFFY turns on Amy. Seething.

BUFFY
I don't think so. Xander? Tell her.

XANDER
What? I - I-

AMY
He doesn't have to say. I know what his heart wants.

Amy starts to move toward Xander. Buffy blocks her.

BUFFY
Funny. I know what your face wants-

And BUFFY DECKS AMY. Amy flies back and hits the floor, bloodied. Buffy turns to Xander - wild eyed.

BUFFY (cont'd)
What is this? You're two-timing me?

Amy starts to incant. Angry eyes boring into Buffy.

AMY
"Goddess Hecate, work thy will..."

Amy raises her arms to Buffy. Her eyes GO BLACK.

XANDER
Uh oh.

AMY
"Before thee let the unclean thing crawl!"

A ball of energy flies from AMY'S HANDS.

XANDER
Buffy!

The ENERGY EXPLODES as it HITS Buffy - engulfing her until IT AND BUFFY seem to VAPORIZE. A beat as Xander and Amy recover.

CONTINUE

25 CONTINUED: (4)

25

Xander moves to where Buffy disappeared. Looks to the floor.

CLOSE ON XANDER

Horrified.

XANDER (cont'd)

Oh my God.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

26 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

26

GILES ENTERS with CALENDAR IN TOW.

GILES
Good Lord, what was that-

XANDER
Buffy.

GILES
Where is she?

CLOSE ON THE FLOOR

Where a LARGE RAT, AKA BUFFY, emerges from the crumpled up raincoat. It darts this way and that, freaked.

GILES (cont'd)
Oh my God.

AMY
(glaring at Calendar)
Why is she here?

XANDER
Do you think we could focus for one minute? You turned Buffy into a rat!

Amy moves to Xander - takes him by the arm.

AMY
Buffy can take care of herself.
Let's go someplace private.

Xander tries to shake her off.

XANDER
Can you...? I'm not going anywhere
until you change her back!

Now CALENDAR takes Xander's OTHER arm. Speaks to Amy.

CALENDAR
You heard him. Undo your magic trick
and get lost.

CONTINUED

26 CONTINUED:

26

AMY

Who made you Queen of the world? I mean, you're old enough-

CALENDAR

What can I say? Xander's too much man for the pimple squad-

Amy fumes. Her eyes go black.

AMY

"Goddess Hectate, to you I pray-"

SLAP. A hand goes around her mouth. Xander.

XANDER

Would you quit with the Hectate!?

Still covering her mouth, Xander moves with Amy to Giles and hands her off to him.

XANDER (cont'd)

No more talky from this one.

27 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

27

Cordelia closes her locker. Is surprised to see HARMONY, the Cordettes and a BUNCH OF OTHER WOMEN - of all ages and sizes - staring daggers at her. Harmony approaches, the others staying back.

CORDELIA

Okay. What now? You don't like my locker combo?

HARMONY

It's not right. You never loved him. You just USED him. You make me sick.

CORDELIA

Harmony, if you need to borrow my Midol, just **ask**.

Harmony slaps Cordelia in the face. Cordy stops, shocked. She turns to go and Katie is there, **slams** her back into the lockers.

28 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

28

CLOSE ON BUFFY RAT

Darting toward a safe corner.

ON GILES, XANDER, ET AL.

GILES

We have to trap the Buffy-rat.

Xander spots her. Follows her into the corner.

XANDER

Good, Buffy. Just...

He's about to pick her up when the library doors SLAM open and OZ strides in. He moves to Xander and PUNCHES HIM.

Buffy Rat, freaked, RUNS OUT THE SWINGING LIBRARY DOORS.

OZ

(looking at his hand)

That - kinda hurt.

XANDER

Kinda?! What was that for?

OZ

I was on the phone all night,
listening to Willow cry about you.
I don't know exactly what happened,
but I was left with the very strong
urge to hit you.

XANDER

I didn't touch her. I swear-

Giles interrupts, coldly furious. Looking at the ground.

GILES

Xander. Where did Buffy go?

Xander and Giles both get down and look at the ground. Amy and Calendar don't move -- they are too busy glaring at each other. Xander notices Oz's puzzled look.

XANDER

Amy turned Buffy into a rat.

OZ

(nods)

Oh.

CONTINUED

28 CONTINUED:

28

GILES

I don't see her.

(to Xander)

If anything happens to her, I'll...

Just - go home. Lock yourself away.

You're only going to cause more problems here. Amy, Jenny and I will work on breaking the spells.

(to Oz)

Oz - if you could aid us in finding Buffy...

OZ

Sure. Absolutely.

Xander is about to speak. But Giles cuts him off.

GILES

Go. Get out of my sight.

Xander takes off - hurt and ashamed.

29 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

29

Xander checks the hall. Sees the GANG of WOMEN, involved in some kind of ANGRY commotion. He heads in the OTHER DIRECTION, but stops as he realizes that the sounds are VIOLENT.

ON THE WOMAN

Gathered around CORNELIA. Now they are HITTING HER, PULLING HER HAIR...

HARMONY

You thought you could do better? Is that it?

CORDELIA

No! I, no....!

FRENZIED GIRL

We'll knock that snotty attitude right out of you!

A SHOWER OF BLOWS rains down on Cordelia. She SCREAMS.

ON XANDER

Who now sees that it's CORDELIA in trouble. He runs toward-

CONTINUED

29 CONTINUED:

29

THE MOB

Sees Xander coming their way. SHRIEK with joy.

KATIE

It's him! It's him!

The mob RUNS toward Xander.

XANDER sees Cordelia KNOCKED to the ground. She's getting trampled... He has no choice but to go forward.

CORDELIA tries to regain her footing. Somebody KICKS her.

XANDER fights through the MANIC WOMEN, who tear his clothes, scratch and grab at him...

HARMONY

Stop! Xander! I love you!

Xander finally manages to get to Cordelia. He lifts her into his arms. She buries her head in his shoulder, crying.

Xander turns and encounters an ENORMOUS FEMALE CAFETERIA WORKER. She blocks his way. Smiles. A beat. Xander RUNS with Cordelia in the OTHER DIRECTION.

30 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

30

Giles and Amy sit at the table, with Amy's spell book open before them. Calendar hovers nearby. Giles is reading intently - but both AMY and Calendar are distracted.

GILES

You must have botched the ritual so that Cordelia's necklace **protected** her from the spell. That one should be reversible. But where did you learn animal transformation?

AMY

Why did you send Xander away? He needs me.

CALENDAR

That's a laugh.

AMY

He loves me. We look into each other's souls.

CONTINUED

30 CONTINUED:

30

CALENDAR

No one can love two people at once.
What we have is real.

GILES

Instead of making me ill why doesn't
one of you try to help?

AMY

You don't know what I'm going through!

GILES

I know it isn't love. It's
obsession -- selfish, banal
obsession. Xander has put himself in
danger and if you really cared about
him you'd help me save him instead of
nattering on about your feelings.
Now let's get to work. Jenny --

But she's gone.

GILES (cont'd)

Damn...

31 EXT. SCHOOL WALKWAY - DAY

31

Xander and Cordelia, back on her feet now, round a corner.
Xander checks behind him.

XANDER

I think we-

They both stop dead in their tracks when they see-

AN EVEN LARGER MOB OF WOMEN

And this group is HOSTILE. ARMED. Led by none other than
WILLOW - who carries an AXE.

XANDER (cont'd)

-lost them...

A moment as they face off with the mob. Willow steps
forward. She has been crying.

WILLOW

I should have known I'd find you with
her.

CONTINUED

31 CONTINUED:

31

XANDER

Will. Come on. You don't want to hurt me.

WILLOW

Oh no? You have no idea what this is like for me. I love you so much. I'd rather see you dead than with that bitch!

She MOVES TOWARD XANDER WITH THE AXE - but is KNOCKED OVER by HARMONY, who tries to get the axe away from her. Xander and Cordelia seize the moment and take off.

32 INT. SCHOOL BOILER ROOM - DAY

32

BUFFY RAT runs down the stairs and into the boiler room. A moment later, OZ follows, holding a FLASHLIGHT.

Buffy Rat disappears behind a furnace pipe. Oz moves slowly around the room, his flashlight searching dark corners.

OZ

Hey. Buffy?

CLOSE ON BUFFY RAT (AND/OR RAT CAM)

Oblivious - she runs along the baseboard. Sniffing. Doing rat things.

Then she turns a corner and runs SMACK into a GIGANTIC (to her, anyway) TOM CAT. The cat HISSES, bares his horrible teeth. Buffy rat backs off and the cat moves off, disappears up the stairs and into the school.

Buffy Rat darts into a dark corner, terrified.

33 EXT. NEAR BUFFY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

33

Xander and Cordelia race down the street. He looks over his shoulder, slows.

XANDER

Now I really think we lost them.

CORDELIA

(genuinely scared)

Dammit, Xander, what is going on? Who died and made you Elvis?

CONTINUED

33 CONTINUED:

33

Xander sees Buffy's house ahead.

XANDER
There's Buffy's place. Let's get
inside. Then I'll explain.

34 EXT. BUFFY'S PORCH - NIGHT

34

JOYCE, surprised, opens the door for Xander and Cordelia.

JOYCE
Xander! Cordelia?

35 INT. BUFFY'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

35

Joyce follows them into the kitchen.

JOYCE
What happened? Why are you all
scratched up? Where's Buffy?

XANDER
She's... around.

JOYCE
Well. Sit down and tell me about it.
(to Cordy)
Why don't you run upstairs and grab
some bandages out of the bathroom?

A beat after Cordy takes off. Xander smiles weakly. Joyce
sighs and smiles back. And keeps smiling. Uh oh.

JOYCE (cont'd)
(brightly)
Let me get you something to drink.
Are you in the mood for cold or hot?

XANDER
I - uh -

Joyce stands, moves to the counter behind him. Then she
turns, puts her hands on his shoulders.

JOYCE
I think it's more of a... hot night.
Don't you?

CONTINUED

35 CONTINUED:

35

Xander drops his head on the table with a thud. Totally defeated.

XANDER

Whatever.

JOYCE

Goodness. You are so tense.

She starts to kneed his shoulders. She's bending down to KISS his neck when-

CORDELIA (O.C.)

What are you doing?! Make me yak!

Joyce snaps her head up. Looks at Cordelia coolly.

JOYCE

Go back upstairs, Cordelia. This is between us.

CORDELIA

Gross. I think not.

Cordy grabs Joyce. They struggle - but Cordy is stronger and easily throws Joyce OUT THE BACK DOOR. LOCKS IT.

CORDELIA (cont'd)

And keep your mom-aged mitts away from my boyfriend... Former!

Now Cordy turns to Xander - pissed.

CORDELIA (cont'd)

Why has everyone gone insane?

XANDER

Insane? It's impossible for you to believe that other women find me attractive?

CORDELIA

The only way you could get girls to want you would be Witchcraft!

XANDER

That is **such a** --well okay yeah, good point.

They are silenced when A ROCK FLIES THROUGH THE WINDOW. Then JOYCE'S HAND appears, feeling for the DOOR LOCK.

CONTINUED

35 CONTINUED: (2)

35

JOYCE
Xander? Honey? Let Joycie in!

A beat. Then Xander and Cordy BOLT.

36 INT. BUFFY'S ROOM - NIGHT

36

Xander and Cordy SLAM into Buffy's room. Xander runs to the window. Opens it and leans out.

XANDER
Good. The mob still hasn't found us.
We should be safer up here --

He's cut off as ANGEL, VAMP FACE AND ALL, appears at the window, grabbing him and pulling him out.

ANGEL
Works in theory...

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

37 INT. SCHOOL BOILER ROOM - NIGHT

37

RAT CAM (BUFFY RAT P.O.V.)

She creeps along, moves toward a bunch of CARTONS.

Suddenly into view comes A BIG, BAD-ASS RAT TRAP - with a TASTY-LOOKING HUNK'O CHEESE on it.

Buffy Rat sniffs CLOSER.

38 EXT. BUFFY'S ROOF - NIGHT

38

Angel pulls Xander closer. Gets in his face.

ANGEL
Where's Buffy?

XANDER
Cordy, get out of here!

Impatiently, Angel **throws** Xander off the roof.

39 EXT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - CONT.

39

Xander hits the ground hard. A moment later Angel lands gracefully next to him. Lifts a dazed Xander with one hand-

ANGEL
Perfect. I wanted to do something special for Buffy - actually - to Buffy. But this is so much better.

Xander KNEES ANGEL, who falters briefly but then BACKHANDS him - sending him flying. Angel pins Xander to the ground, wrenches his head to one side, baring his tender white neck.

ANGEL (cont'd)
If it's any consolation, I feel very close to you right now-

Angel opens wide - moves in for the kill. Hands GRAB Angel and easily pull him off, throw him against a tree.

XANDER looks up - grateful.

CONTINUED

39 CONTINUED:

39

XANDER
Buffy?! How did you-

But he stops when he sees his rescuer. Dumbfounded.

DRUSILLA

Smiles down at him. Extends a hand.

DRUSILLA
Don't fret, Kitten. Mommy's here.

Xander backs away from her. But she GRABS him, helps him up.

ANGEL
(furious)
I don't know what you're up to, Dru,
but it doesn't amuse.

Dru turns on ANGEL, seething. Petting a horrified Xander all the while.

DRUSILLA
If you so much as harmed one hair on
this boy's precious head-

Angel can't believe his ears.

ANGEL
You've got to be kidding? Him?

DRUSILLA
Now, now. Just because I finally
found a real man...

Angel shakes his head, uncomprehending.

ANGEL
A real man? I guess I really **did**
drive you crazy.

He fades back as Dru concentrates on her new boytoy. She gazes at him lovingly. Traces the linens of his eyes, his lips...

DRUSILLA
Your face is a poem. I can read it...

XANDER
Really? It doesn't say - "spare
him" - by any chance?

CONTINUED

39 CONTINUED: (2)

39

DRUSILLA

Shhhhhh.

She BARES her VAMP TEETH.

DRUSILLA (cont'd)

How do you feel about eternal life?

XANDER

Don't you think we could start with
coffee? A movie maybe?

Drusilla smiles - bends to his neck. Xander struggles,
desperate - when, suddenly, THE NIGHT IS FILLED WITH HOSTILE
SHOUTS. Drusilla looks up - wide eyed.

THE MOB

Still led by Willow, but even larger than before. It now
includes CALENDAR and HARMONY and KATIE.

CALENDAR

There he is!

WILLOW

Get them!

DRU AND XANDER are surrounded. Besieged by crying, violent
women. Xander is YANKED from her arms. He and Dru are
separated in the melee.

CALENDAR

Mine! He's mine!

Wild women rip at his clothes, tear at his hair. WILLOW
watches - lover's wrath burning in her eyes as she twists her
axe, waiting for her moment.

Now Xander's knocked to the ground and pinned by a LARGE
WOMAN. WILLOW steps forward. Raises her AXE. Looks down at
him, sorrowful.

WILLOW

All you had to do was love me.

She's about to bring the axe down when Cordelia slams into
her, knocking her to the ground.

40 INT. BUFFY'S FOYER - NIGHT

40

Cordy and Xander make it into the house, just barely managing to close the door against the FRENZIED WOMEN outside.

41 EXT. BUFFY'S HOUSE - CONT.

41

Drusilla is part of the MOB that lays siege to Buffy's house. She pulls the BACK DOOR OFF THE HINGES. Two women run in -- Dru starts to follow -- but SLAMS into an invisible barrier.

Now we see Angel, leaning against a tree nearby. Smirking.

ANGEL

Sorry Dru. Guess you're not invited.

Dru, beyond frustrated, SCREAMS.

42 INT. BUFFY'S FOYER - NIGHT

42

Xander and Cordelia don't have a chance to catch their breath before JOYCE appears in the living room doorway holding a LARGE CARVING KNIFE. She is distraught.

JOYCE

It's never gonna work for us, Xander.
We have to end it.

The other two women who came in the back run up and join Joyce. Freaked, Xander and Cordelia race for-

43 INT. BUFFY'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

43

-where they lock the door.

CORDELIA

Deja vu much? Here's another good reason not to date you. People are always trying to kill me when I'm with you! So - what do we do now? Wait for Buffy to come?

XANDER

I... wouldn't hold my breath.

44 INT. SCHOOL BOILER ROOM - DAY

44

RAT CAM: the trap looms large. The Buffy Rat approaches.

CONTINUED

44 CONTINUED:

44

ANGLE: OZ

Still searching for Buffy Rat, unconsciously sings to himself-

OZ
(theme from "BEN")
"...Ben, the two of us need look no
more... we both found what we were
looking for-"

45 INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

45

Again with the candle light and the red chalk "female" symbol. Giles and a sullen AMY stand at the lab table, with her spell book. A beaker boils with a new brew.

GILES
Right. You go first.

46 INT. BUFFY'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

46

Cordelia and Xander are nailing the door shut. We hear someone trying it.

CALENDAR (O.C.)
Xander? Xander, it's okay, it's me...
(sudden pounding)
OPEN THE DOOR! XANDER!

XANDER
Give me another nail.

CORDELIA
If we die in here I'm gonna kick your
ass! I mean it.

XANDER
None of this would have happened if
you hadn't broken up with me. But
no, you're so desperate to be popular.

CORDELIA
Me? I'm not the one who embraced the
black arts just to get girls to like
me. Well, congratulations, I guess
it worked.

CONTINUED

46 CONTINUED:

46

XANDER

It would have worked fine! Except
your hide's so thick not even magic
can penetrate it!

CORDELIA

(quieter)

You mean, the spell was for me?

A KNIFE comes through the door right between them. Cordy
SCREAMS and they both run down the stairs.

As they reach the cellar floor, glass shatters from the
window, an arm reaching in at them.

47 INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

47

Giles drops a tuft of RODENT HAIR into the boiling beaker.
Again, a great plume of smoke rises.

AMY

"Diana! Hectate! I hereby license
three to depart-"

48 INT. SCHOOL BOILER ROOM - NIGHT

48

RAT CAM

Buffy Rat finally GOES FOR THE CHEESE in the trap.

49 INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

49

AMY

"Goddess of creatures great and
small - I conjure thee to withdraw!"

50 INT. SCHOOL BOILER ROOM - NIGHT

50

Oz is still looking around when he is flooded by light from
behind a bunch of crates. As it dissipates, he steps forward.

OZ

Buffy?

Buffy is on the ground behind the crates, which hide her
delicate situation from view. (i.e. nekkidness.)

CONTINUED

50 CONTINUED:

50

BUFFY

Whoah.

51 INT. BUFFY'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

51

The door FLIES open, the women pouring down.

Cordelia and Xander back into a corner, Xander wielding a heavy wrench.

CORDELIA

Oh god...

XANDER

Get behind me!

52 INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

52

Now Giles adds some hers to the brew. MORE SMOKE.

GILES

"Diana, Goddess of love, be gone.
Hear no more your siren's song!"

53 INT. BUFFY'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

53

Willow heads the pack that converges on Xander. He is buried under their tearing hands.

54 INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

54

Giles throws Cordelia's necklace in the pot. All at once there is a great CGI rush of light from every window and doorway in the place -- all disappearing into the pot.

55 INT. BUFFY'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

55

Everybody stops, staggers back, slightly dazed. Xander is curled up in the fetal position. Meekly he looks around.

56 INT. SCHOOL BOILER ROOM - NIGHT

56

Oz approaches Buffy.

CONTINUED

56 CONTINUED:

56

BUFFY

Uh, hi, Oz. I seem to be having a slight case of nudity.

OZ

But you're not a rat. Call it an up side.

BUFFY

Can you grab me some clothes?

OZ

Oh, yeah. Don't go anywhere.

BUFFY

Really not an issue.

57 INT. SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

57

Giles and Amy look around them. Everything seems normal.

Giles gives Amy a stern look. Sheepishly, she hands him the book of spells.

58 INT. BUFFY'S BASEMENT - NIGHT

58

Xander gets up, Cordelia coming out from the corner as the women look at each other, bewildered. Joyce, in particular, looks disturbed.

JOYCE

What... what did we --

CORDELIA

Boy! That was the best scavenger hunt ever!

She smiles brightly at the others, hoping they'll buy it.

59 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

59

Buffy and Xander walk.

BUFFY

Scavenger hunt?

XANDER

Well, your mom seemed to buy it.

CONTINUED

59 CONTINUED:

59

BUFFY

So she says. I think she's just so wigged at hitting on one of my friends that she's repressing. She's getting really good at that, actually. I should probably worry.

XANDER

Well, I'm back to being incredibly unpopular.

BUFFY

It's better than everyone trying to axe murder you, right?

XANDER

Mostly. But... Willow. Won't even talk to me.

BUFFY

Any particular reason she should?

XANDER

How much groveling are we talking here?

BUFFY

A month, at least. This was worse for her than anyone. She loved you before you invoked the great roofie spirit. The rest of us...

XANDER

You remember, huh?

BUFFY

Oh yeah. I remember coming on to you. I remember begging you to undress me... And then a sudden need for cheese.

(beat)

I also remember that you didn't.

XANDER

Need cheese?

BUFFY

Undress me. It meant a lot to me, what you said.

CONTINUED

59 CONTINUED: (2)

59

XANDER

I would never take advantage of you like that. Okay, it was touch and go for a minute there, but...

BUFFY

You came through, Xander. There may be hope for you yet.

XANDER

Tell that to Cordelia.

BUFFY

You're on your own, there.

He goes off.

60 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

60

Cordy and Harmony are back in lock step, the other Cordettes around.

HARMONY

Cody Weinberg called me at home last night.

CORDELIA

Cody? The one with the 350 SL?

HARMONY

The very one. Said he's thinking of taking me to the pledge dance on Thursday.

CORDELIA

That's so huge!

HARMONY

Yeah! There's just two other girls he's gonna ask first and if they refuse --

They (literally) bump into Xander.

HARMONY (cont'd)

Watch it!

XANDER

Sorry.

CONTINUED

60 CONTINUED:

60

A beat as he and Cordy look at each other. She looks down.

HARMONY

Excuse me, who asked you to share our oxygen? God.

Xander starts off. Harmony calls after him.

HARMONY (cont'd)

I'm glad your mom stopped working the drive thru long enough to dress you.

He just keeps walking, his face grimly set.

HARMONY (cont'd)

That reminds me, did you SEE Jennifer's backpack? It's so trying to be --

CORDELIA

Harmony, shut up.

Everyone stops -- including Xander, who slowly turns, as:

CORDELIA (cont'd)

You know what you are, Harmony?
You're a sheep.

HARMONY

I'm not a sheep.

CORDELIA

You're a sheep. Sweaters are made from your woolly coat.

She moves toward Xander, turning back to face Harmony.

CORDELIA (cont'd)

All you ever do is what everyone else does, so you can say you did it first. And here I am scrambling for your approval, when I'm way cooler than you are because I'm not a sheep! I do what I want, I wear what I want, and you know what? I'll date whoever I want to date, no matter how lame he is!

She grabs Xander's hand and they walk off, leaving Harmony stunned.

CONTINUED

60 CONTINUED: (2)

60

ANGLE: XANDER AND CORDELIA

She is breathing shallow, terrified at her own display of independence.

CORDELIA (cont'd)
Oh, god, oh, god...

XANDER
You're gonna be okay. Just keep walking.

CORDELIA
Oh god, what have I done? No one's ever gonna speak to me again.

XANDER
Sure they will. If it helps, when we're around them you and I can fight a lot.

CORDELIA
You promise?

XANDER
You can pretty much count on it.

BLACK OUT.

THE END