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BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

Season 3 - Episode 6

"BAND CANDY"

TEASER

1 CEMETERY - NIGHT 1

Using every moment of time, even while on patrol, Giles reads Buffy a sample SAT test from a book. She fills in bubbles on an answer sheet. Suddenly A VAMPIRE APPEARS and menaces. Buffy pummels, and finally SLAYS HIM WITH HER #2 PENCIL. Buffy looks at the pencil -- the lead is broken, test time's over, right? Giles hands her another pencil and goes on reading. Buffy grumps that right now they're probably the only people working in all of Sunnydale.

2 CITY HALL - NIGHT - TO ESTABLISH 2

Only one set of office lights still glow.

3 MAYOR'S OFFICE 3

The Mayor and Mr. Trick talk. The Mayor talks about having Mr. Trick give "a tribute." At first it sounds like they are talking about a gift in exchange for a campaign contribution, but it becomes clear it's some kind of sacrifice to a demon. And it's a big one (big demon, big tribute). The Mayor is sure Mr. Trick is the man for the job. He praises Mr. Trick's subtlety. Mr. Trick: This is no time to be subtle. I know a guy who knows a guy who can handle this. We'll subcontract this job.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

4 SCHOOL - THE NEXT DAY 4

Buffy is talking with Willow and Oz as they walk through the halls, heading toward the cafeteria. Willow reminds Buffy she and Oz can't help her study for the SATs tonight: Oz's band is playing at the Bronze this week. Willow took her SATs over the summer. Oz took his last year -- he is a little proud that he is the highest scoring person ever to have failed to graduate. Buffy says she's not free tonight anyway... Mom wants her home tonight.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Xander and Cordelia join them. They're taking the test with Buffy, but they aren't sweating theirs -- Xander's not sure he's going to college, and Cordy Chase is pretty sure she can get into Chase College without scoring especially high. Buffy is carrying a heavier load than the others even when it comes to this.

Ever since she got back, Mom has been uber-Mom. And, come to think of it, Giles has been uber-Mom too. You'd think living on her own all summer would have proved to them that she doesn't need so much controlling, but they're actually worse than they used to be. Bela Karoli's little gymnast girls have less supervision than Buffy. They keep walking and enter...

5 CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS 5

As they enter, they find themselves in a line of students. Principal Snyder is handing each student a cardboard box. Startled, they each take one. Xander looks inside. Chocolate bars. Xander: "Someone got my complaint about the skimpy dessert portions." Snyder explains. It's BAND CANDY. You will sell it to raise money for the marching band. Buffy, "We're not in the marching band". Snyder says that would matter if he's just handed them flutes. He didn't. He handed them candy. Sell.

6 CAFETERIA - LATE 6

[OPTIONAL SCENE] Lunch over, Xander eats candy bars as they contemplate this new Willy Loman aspect of their lives. Cordy flatters Xander into selling hers for her.

7 BUFFY'S HOUSE - AFTER SCHOOL 7

Buffy and Mom. Buffy asks Joyce if it's time to talk about driving lessons again -- she's Miss Daisy. Joyce says no -- she already spends too much time not knowing where Buffy is already, without adding the possibility she's on the highway to Chicago. Clearly, Joyce feels the need to keep Buffy on a short leash right now. Buffy says then it's too bad I'm going to be out all the time selling this band candy. Joyce says she's not buying forty chocolate bars. Buffy says Giles already bought half of them. Joyce agrees to buy the rest. Joyce says they can have a couple after dinner tonight while Buffy does her homework. Buffy tells Joyce she'll be with Giles tonight -- more of the studying/slaying double feature. Joyce isn't happy with that. Maybe Giles has too much influence over you. The slaying is taking up a lot of Buffy's time that Joyce would like to schedule. Buffy feels that short leash tighten around her neck.

8 LIBRARY - AFTER DINNER

8

Buffy and Giles doing a little training. During a break Buffy tells him about the band candy. He's heard nothing about it. She says selling it is going to cut into slaying time, such a shame. She says she tried to get Mom to buy some, but she wouldn't... poor Buffy. Giles buys her out. Giles assumes we're heading out to patrol tonight, but Buffy says Mom is just impossible right now... she's insisting that Buffy study at home tonight.

9 SUPERMARKET - EVENING

9

Xander and Willow are selling band candy. [could mention here that Cordy has Xander selling hers too] They have a card table set up at the entrance to a supermarket. To their surprise, it's selling very well. They have to reach over each other to fill the orders... trying to ignore the other's presence. During a sudden lull in the selling action, they lock eyes. A quick kiss. A "we shouldn't" moment, but they are about to kiss again, when... Cordelia arrives. She brought them some lemonade and guilt.

10 ANGEL'S PLACE

10

Buffy brings Angel some deli blood for dinner, and they talk. He asks how she got away -- she says she started a fire in the prison laundry and then went over the wall. He's getting stronger, starting to yearn for independence, and he snaps at her (verbally only, thank goodness). He apologizes -- he's feeling cooped up. She sympathizes and they kiss. They are not happy -- a feeling of regret that he's getting better, things can't ever be right for them...

11 BUFFY'S HOUSE

11

Buffy walks in to find Giles there. Joyce and Giles are angry that she lied about where she was tonight (they assume she went to the Bronze). They also know that she scammed them a little on the band candy. They tell her, in stereo, about how she needs to act like a grown-up. She says she's trying to and they won't let her -- they're watching her, scheduling her, ordering her around... let me make some decisions on my own, okay? Joyce and Giles are not swayed by this -- in fact, they hardly seem to listen, as they both

COMPULSIVELY MUNCH BAND CANDY.

12 BAND CANDY WAREHOUSE

12

A loading dock. Boxes of band candy are loaded onto a truck. A BOX FALLS, BREAKS OPEN.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A WORKMAN reaches for one of the candy bars. A hand locks around his wrist... it's ETHAN. Ethan: "Never eat the candy."

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

13 CLASSROOM - THE NEXT DAY 13

It's the last period of the day, study hall. Giles is supposed to supervise, but he hasn't shown up yet. Buffy talks with Xander and Cordelia. They tell her that the candy is selling like hotcakes. Xander, "And, ironically, the hotcakes just aren't moving." The students are getting a little restless... where's Giles?

14 HALL OUTSIDE CLASSROOM 14

Snyder, eating band candy, loiters outside the room. He snags the history teacher as she walks by. Snyder, a touch petulant, says Giles took off and Snyder doesn't want to lead study hall. He tells her she has to. The history teacher gives in, but Snyder keeps on whining... everyone expects me to do everything...

15 CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS 15

The history teacher enters. She tells the kids, "okay, we're stuck here together, so everyone... pretend to study until Snyder leaves, then we're all out of here. The kids are thrilled -- what a cool teacher. Not everyone sees the BAND CANDY BAR sticking out of her purse.

16 GILES' PLACE 16

Buffy arrives to check if Giles is okay. Finds Joyce there. They don't seem happy to see her. And she thinks she smells cigarette smoke. Giles says he's fine -- he chose to skip study hall because this is more important. Joyce says she and Giles are making progress, working out a way to coordinate Buffy's life so her home and slayer duties fit together better. Buffy, hesitantly, okay... so I guess we go home, Mom, and you quiz me on my "Is-tos"? (tree is to sap as twinkie is to creamy filling)... Joyce says no, you've studied plenty hard, and you made some good points earlier about freedom and junk... take the keys to my car, go have a great time. Giles can drive me home. Joyce, very adultly, tells Buffy she needs to talk to Mr. Giles some more. Startled, Buffy takes the keys and gets while the getting's possible. Buffy gone, Joyce: Thank god she's gone. Pulls liquor out from behind couch -- who wants more kahlua?

- 17 JOYCE'S CAR 17
 Buffy picks up Willow. They drive. Badly. Willow braces herself against the dash. Buffy thinks Mom is finally listening to her. She told her and Giles that she needed more freedom... and it was the key to the... keys. Willow thinks it's interesting that Joyce and Giles were together. Buffy dismisses it... that thought is too gross to be sustained.
- 18 JOYCE'S CAR 18
 As they weave down the street.
- 19 JOYCE'S CAR / EXT. THE BRONZE 19
 Buffy and Willow park, half-way up onto the parking. They see a line of businessmen in suits lining up to get into the club. Wow. Unusually geriatric crowd.
- 20 GILES' PLACE - LATE 20
 Joyce and Giles are smoking, getting drunk and listening to music. Joyce wants to stay there... we can talk about our dreams. Giles, whose accent has lowered toward the working class, wants to go out instead, have some fun. Joyce says okay and suggests they go to the Bronze. Giles: "That place is dead."
- 21 THE BRONZE 21
 Buffy and Willow enter. DINGOES ATE MY BABIES plays -- that's normal, but chaos roils around them. Ethan, hidden in shadows, watches what's going on: Old people DIVE OFF THE STAGE. The history teacher is clearly stoned. The adults are getting rowdy and the teens are watching, a little scared. It's clear by now, that the adults are all acting like kids. Buffy, "This is what they were thinking of when they made up the word 'huh?'."
- 22 BAND CANDY WAREHOUSE 22
 Mr. Trick checks on Ethan... cool, business-like. A worker has eaten chocolate, and is whispering to another worker. Mr. Trick asks if he ate candy. Guy shakes head no. Mr. Trick kills him. Ethan: Are you sure he ate some? Mr. Trick: no.
- 23 THE BRONZE 23
 Things are even wilder than they were a minute ago. Adults are dirty dancing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Adults are doing that thing where you lie back on the bar and the bartender mixes the drink right in your mouth. Old guys sing Louie Louie on the stage... the band clutches their instruments, standing off to the side. Buffy, Willow and Oz watch, bewildered. Just when they figure it can't get any stranger, Snyder shows up. He latches on to our group. "Hey, guys, this place is cooking, huh?" He is decidedly weird and losery... a leach. Buffy tells Willow and Oz that we have to go find Giles. As we head for the door, we realize Snyder is following: "You guys aren't ditching me, are you?" He follows them out.

24 THE BRONZE 24

As they approach Joyce's poorly parked car, Snyder calls "shotgun." Then, Snyder, "Jeez, Summers, park much?"

25 JOYCE'S CAR 25

Buffy, Willow, Oz, Snyder driving through chaos world. Some adult GANG ACTIVITY. DRAG-RACING VOLVOS. Bad drivers. Willow: "Wow, Buffy, everyone's driving like you." Snyder leans in. "Xander totally likes you." There's an ABANDONED BUS in the street -- the bus driver is trying to get his cap back from adult bullies.

26 STOREFRONT 26

Giles and Joyce walk. And talk. She calls him Ripper. He tells her about all the great things he's done, and that he will do. She's impressed. They have memories of all the things they've done as adults, but those things seem unimportant now. They're eager to take over where they were at seventeen. She admires a cool coat in a store window. Giles... you want that, Baby? I'll get it for you...

27 JOYCE'S CAR 27

Buffy continues to drive, doing her best. Oz: "I'll drive. Stop." CRASH -- they get hit. Buffy, "I'm stopped." Snyder, "Way to screw up." Another car hits them... CRASH.

28 STOREFRONT - NIGHT 28

CRASH -- Giles has just sent a trash can flying through the window of the store. Joyce: "Giles!" But she's not really mad. He gets the coat for Joyce. He is just holding it out to Joyce when... "Hold it!" A POLICEMAN approaches, GUN DRAWN.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

CONTINUED:

Giles is a rebellious delinquent who wants her to punch him in the stomach so Joyce can see how strong he is. And Joyce is empty-headed and weak-willed -- looking to Buffy for an answer -- "can you get us more candy?" Buffy is scared and shaken. She tells them to stay close to her... she'll take care of them.

34 LIBRARY 34

Willow, Oz, Xander and Cordelia. They're all shaken by what's been going on -- the strange things their parents have been doing. (Xander's dad won't come out of the bathroom.) Willow fills them in... it's the candy, it makes you all immature. Xander, "But I've eaten a ton, and I'm exactly the same -- Oh. Right."

35 BAND CANDY WAREHOUSE 35

Buffy, with Giles and Joyce and Snyder looking on, BATTLES her way through HENCHMEN... and ends up facing ETHAN.

36 LIBRARY 36

Willow, Oz, Xander and Cordy work, each person with a book. Cordelia to Willow, "wanna swap?" Willow jumps. Cordelia, "Come on, switch books with me. This one's too thick." Willow exhales.

37 BAND CANDY WAREHOUSE 37

Buffy to Ethan -- you just love chaos, don't you? He says he worships it. She asks if that's all there was to this... chaos for its own sake. He says that's it... nothing more, no secrets. Buffy, "Then, I guess I'm going to beat you up for nothing."

Ethan calls out to Giles. "Help me. I helped you. I got rid of that stodgy old conscience for you. Don't you feel good? Be honest." Giles is confused. He knows he doesn't like Ethan, but can't remember why. Ethan is winning him over with smooth words and memories.

Buffy makes a move for Ethan, but Giles catches at her arm. She is off balance for half a second and Ethan lunges to get away. Buffy shrugs Giles off easily and grabs Ethan. She's quick -- BEATS UP ETHAN. Ethan, beaten, gives up that Mr. Trick hired him to help with a tribute to a demon, TAVORN.

38 HOSPITAL 38

Vampires move through the halls. As they go we can hear some teenaged doctors and nurses, "Eww." "I don't want to do an appendectomy... let's do something else."...

- 39 BAND CANDY WAREHOUSE 39
Buffy hits Ethan again. Tribute? What's the tribute? Ethan doesn't know.
- 40 HOSPITAL 40
The vamps turn a corner to enter...
- 41 MATERNITY WARD 41
A field of bassinets, each one chock full of BABY.
END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR
- 42 BAND CANDY WAREHOUSE 42
Ethan is propped against a wall, looking appropriately battered. Buffy tells Snyder to watch him. Giles and Joyce watch as Buffy talks on a wall-mounted phone to Willow at the library. She tells her to look up a demon named "TAVORN" and find out about some tribute.
- 43 LIBRARY 43
Willow relays the name and the others spring into bookish action.
- 44 BAND CANDY WAREHOUSE 44
While Buffy is turned away, and Snyder is not paying any attention at all, Ethan grabs A HEAVY PIECE OF METAL off the warehouse floor. He is about to clock Buffy with it when... Giles PULLS OUT THE GUN he took off the cop and levels it at Ethan. Snyder: "cool!" Buffy casually KNOCKS OUT ETHAN and makes Giles give her the gun.
- 45 LIBRARY 45
Willow gets back on the phone. "Tavorn eats babies."
- 46 BAND CANDY WAREHOUSE 46
As Buffy reacts. She ushers her group out of there. Joyce: What about that man (Ethan)? Buffy runs back, Ethan stirs. Buffy kicks him in the head.

47 MATERNITY WARD

47

A teary-eyed adult/teen NURSE in the middle of a sea of empty bassinets. "Oh, ghod, I'm going to get in so much trouble." Buffy tries to talk to Giles... they did this to you, to all of you, so the babies wouldn't be guarded. He says, easier ways... except... Buffy gets it... this way you would have all blamed yourselves. But that doesn't help them stop this. Buffy doesn't know where to go next, and Joyce and Snyder are no help -- scared. Buffy takes her mom by the arms, asks her to please come back. Nothing. But Giles is pulling together a bit... he remembers the name Tavorn. He says something in Latin. Joyce is impressed. He recalls that Tavorn is of a class of demons that are sewer dwellers. Buffy says she's going to need their help. Snyder remembers it's his bed time. He takes off.

48 SEWER

48

HIS HONOR THE MAYOR quietly conducts a piece of city business on his phone.

Pull back to reveal the beginning of a ceremony. BABIES are arranged appetizingly in the sewer. GUYS IN ROBES chant.

Buffy bursts in, FIGHTING. She tells Giles and Joyce to move the babies out of here. She fights her way through the demon henchmen and Mr. Trick.

Finally, Buffy turns, and finds herself facing TAVORN... at first visible only as a ring of tendrils curling in around a hole in the curved sewer wall... the tendrils snake toward the helpless babes. Buffy attacks the tendrils... severed tendrils SLITHER off into the sewer like water snakes. Buffy then sees that behind the tendrils, the hole in the wall is backed up by faint suggestions of teeth... a maw. She PULLS A PIPE LOOSE from the ceiling... uses Giles' lighter to ignite the gas side... throws flame deep into the demon. Tavorn SCREAMS. The tendrils curl up and char. Mr. Trick

TAKES OFF.

Buffy turns around, sees that Joyce and Giles have moved the babies a safe distance away. She rushes over to them before they can start to make out again.

FADE TO:

49 MAYOR'S OFFICE

49

The mayor is chewing out Mr. Trick... no more hiring stuff out to "guys you know." Mr. Trick smugly points out that the death of Tavorn is the best possible outcome... no need for messy tributes every hundred years. A thousand years from now, you'll thank me. The mayor says they got lucky. Mr. Trick says a smart man reacts fluidly... that's luck.

50 SCHOOL

50

Xander, Willow, Cordelia, Oz and Principal Snyder. The effects of the candy have worn off. Xander and Cordelia say something that lets him know that Willow and Oz told them everything about how he behaved. He's so embarrassed, he turns and walks off. Then he comes back and gives everyone detention.

51 SCHOOL

51

Buffy walks with Giles... Giles is setting up a practice schedule for the SATs... Buffy goes along with it without a quibble. Joyce, not seeing Giles at first, pulls up to pick up Buffy in the dented family car. An awkward moment between the two adults. Buffy tries to joke through it. Wow, it's a good thing it all got back to normal before you two, you know... conjugated any verbs. Joyce and Giles studiously

look around at nothing. "Yes." "Good thing."

CONTINUED: