

CONNOR

"Scruples"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN.

EXT. PARK - DAY

CLOSE UP on a bulletin board. A flyer is hung in front of the other various ads and attached with a staple gun.

The header reads 'Missing. Reward for information'. There's a picture of LESI under it and three phone numbers under the picture.

PULL BACK to reveal GABRIELLA being the person hanging the flyer. She looks a little pale and baggy under the eyes, like she seen much sleep recently.

A hand reaches into frame, holding out a bottle of orange juice.

Gabriella tucks the staple gun under her arm and accepts the bottle with a nod and a smile.

PULL BACK further, showing KAIA retracting her hand. She's holding a stack of the flyers in her other hand.

Gabriella takes a long swig of the juice and sighs.

KAIA

(worried)

Are you sure you've got the energy
for this?

GABRIELLA

(shakes her head)

Not really, but if I have to spend
another day alone in the store or
at home, I think I'm gonna snap.

They start walking.

KAIA

Connor hasn't been around?

GABRIELLA

Not since...

(bows her head)

It's only been a few days.

KAIA

(hands out another flyer)

Way to offer that moral support.

GABRIELLA

I guess he's just not sure what to say around me. I've been a little moody.

(turns to Kaia)

You know how irritating it is to actually have to get up and get the remote when you want it?

KAIA

There you go making excuses for him again.

Gabriella stops walking and rolls her eyes as she turns to her friend.

GABRIELLA

(exasperated)

Kaia.

Kaia holds up her hands defensively.

KAIA

Sorry, sorry.

(beat; serious)

Look, uh, I have to ask you something.

GABRIELLA

(sips the orange juice)

Okay...?

KAIA

Is... is time travel possible?

Gabriella blinks. That came out of nowhere.

GABRIELLA

Kaia, I know you want Pike back, but you're going a little overboard here.

KAIA

(sharp)

Just answer the question. Is it possible?

Gabriella looks a little taken aback at Kaia's outburst, but she covers that up nicely. They move to a bench and sit down.

GABRIELLA

Well, time's not a straight line.
 From all the stuff I've read, it's
 pretty much a dimension all its
 own. All sorts of streams and-
 (shakes her head)
 It's really complex and confusing.
 I've never really studied it in too
 much detail because I don't need
 the added headache but-
 (nods)
 Yeah, it's possible. There's only
 been records of a few demons here
 and there pulling it off. No
 humans.

Kaia nods and looks down, taking all that in.

KAIA

(sighs)
 You know that werewolf that
 attacked Connor?

GABRIELLA

("go on")
 Yeah...?

KAIA

It... it was Colby.

GABRIELLA

(blinks)
 What? You're kidding, right?

Kaia looks up, but straight ahead, not to Gabriella.

GABRIELLA

(disbelieving)
 You're telling me that your brother
 came back from the future and tried
 to kill Connor?

KAIA

I recognized the scent. Plus Colby
 was born with a birthmark on his
 stomach...

She trails off and sighs.

KAIA

(nodding)
 It's him. I'm sure of it.

GABRIELLA

Okay, well I'll look into it. Not sure how much help I can be, but I'll try.

KAIA

(softly)

Thanks.

(moans)

This is all I need. On top of everything else with my clan and Pike and the kids...

GABRIELLA

(confused)

Kids?

KAIA

Oh, that's right. I hadn't mentioned that either. I, uh, I'm having triplets.

GABRIELLA

(exclaims)

Triplets?!?

Both of them look around, noticing the odd stares they're getting from everyone near by.

GABRIELLA

(in a lower voice)

Triplets?

KAIA

Say it three more times and you're repeating what I said at the hospital.

GABRIELLA

(flabbergasted)

Whoa.

KAIA

Said that too.

GABRIELLA

Kaia, you have to tell him.

KAIA

Not yet. I mean, we've been making progress lately.

GABRIELLA

Now who's making excuses?

(beat; wry)

Well, you might wanna tell him soon
because you're starting to show.

Kaia's jaw drops. She yanks her shirt up and runs her hand over her stomach.

KAIA

(horrified)

I am not!

Kaia stands up and waves the stack of flyers in front of Gabriella.

KAIA

We better hurry if we're gonna get
these out before nightfall.

Gabriella nods, choosing not to pursue the topic.

GABRIELLA

Well, look at it this way. You've
got nowhere to go but up from here.

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. SINCAID HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

COLBY SINCAID is doing tumbles on the floor, trying (and failing) to perfect a headstand.

JOSH SINCAID, dressed in a sharp tuxedo, is pacing back and forth in the middle of the room, talking on his cell phone.

JOSH

Tell those caterers I don't give a
damn how short their supplier is. I
said no redheads for the entrees!

He hangs up as Kaia and Gabriella enter the room. Colby finishes his amateur gymnastics and rushes out of the room.

Kaia and Gabriella share a wary expression as they both watch the young boy leave.

KAIA

(turning to Josh)

What are you so worked up about?

JOSH

Blondes are a dime a dozen in this town. You'd think it'd be easy to pick up a few for a banquet.

KAIA

(sizes him up)

Banquet? What's the occasion?

Josh's expression shifts in about two beats, going from furious to arrogant.

JOSH

Well, the place'll be a little emptier come tomorrow, Sis.

(beat; smirks)

I'm getting married in about-

(checks his watch)

Four hours.

He grins proudly. Gabriella and Kaia's jaws both hit the floor. They share an absolutely befuddled look.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN.

INT. SINCAID HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Kaia and Gabriella gape at Josh until Kaia shakes it off.

KAIA
You're what?

Josh's smirk widens.

JOSH
I'm getting married today.

KAIA
I got that part, I'm just trying to figure out how. You don't even have a girlfriend, Josh!

Josh shrugs.

JOSH
Who needs one? That's not how things work for us.

He gives Kaia a pointed look.

JOSH
Well, most of us anyway.

She glares at him.

KAIA
If you'll excuse us for just a moment, Gabriella, Josh and I need to have a little talk.

She grabs Josh by the arm and pulls him out of the living room, leaving Gabriella alone and clearly uncomfortable.

GABRIELLA
Um, okay. I'll just wait here... and try not to get eaten...

She glances around the room awkwardly.

CUT TO:

INT. SINCAID HOME - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Kaia tugs Josh away from the doorway before he wrenches his arm out of her grip. Kaia lets him go but quickly rounds on him.

KAIA
Who's the girl?

Josh's smirk comes back in full force.

JOSH
The daughter of the Cabello clan's
Alpha.

KAIA
The Cabellos? You can't be serious!
(beat)
What's her name?

Josh opens his mouth but pauses and thinks for a moment.

JOSH
It didn't come up.

Kaia looks ready to explode.

KAIA
I don't believe this! No, actually
I do, which makes it worse. Josh,
how could you get married to a girl
whose name you don't even know?

Josh scoffs.

JOSH
That's how things work, Kaia, or
have you forgotten? Dad was looking
for *respectable* suitors for you
before -

KAIA
(pointedly)
Don't.
(beat)
What does your future wife think
about this?

Josh's silence is telling.

KAIA
(furious)
This is absolutely barbaric!
(MORE)

KAIA (CONT'D)

I swear, this whole system is one step above Neanderthals and it's not how things are going to run in this clan, not anymore.

JOSH

Well, it's a good thing I'm not going to be a part of this clan anymore. Once I'm married, I'm a Cabello and I don't have to listen to your crap anymore.

He takes a step back and straightens his tux.

JOSH

The wedding starts at dusk, feel free to bring a date.

With that he brushes past a fuming Kaia and heads down the hall.

Alone, Kaia clenches her fists and turns down the hall.

KAIA

(shouts)
Mother!

She turns on her heel and storms down the hall in the opposite direction.

INT. SINCAID HOME - KITCHEN - NEXT

CLAIRE SINCAID is behind the kitchen counter arranging a bouquet of flowers. She looks up briefly and smiles as Kaia enters before turning back to her flowers.

CLAIRE

(cheery)
So Josh told you the good news.

Kaia looks outraged.

KAIA

You knew about this?

CLAIRE

Of course I knew, Kaia, we had Josh's new father-in-law over for dinner just last week. The entire family knows, Colby's going to be his ring bearer, how adorable is that?

KAIA

(hurt)

How could you not tell me?

Claire's lips tighten and she sets down her flowers.

CLAIRE

Maybe if you spent a little more time with your family you might know what's going on in your brothers' and sisters' lives. Did you know Nick got an A on his last spelling test, or -

KAIA

Mom! Do you even care that Josh is getting married to a girl who's name he doesn't know.

Claire goes back to her flowers.

CLAIRE

That's how these betrothments work, dear. It's tradition. He'll meet her tomorrow just before the ceremony.

And the hits just keep on coming.

KAIA

(blinks)

He hasn't even met her yet? This whole custom is ridiculous. How can you support it?

CLAIRE

(quiet)

It's how your father and I were married.

KAIA

(rolls her eyes)

Oh, there's a compelling argument.

Claire looks back up and locks eyes with her daughter.

CLAIRE

We were very happy together for many years, Kaia.

Kaia looks away.

Claire finishes with her bouquet and wraps a ribbon around it. She hands the flowers to Kaia.

CLAIRE
Try and be happy for your brother.

Kaia looks down at the bouquet sourly.

KAIA
Yeah, right...

CUT TO:

INT. PIKE'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

A CRASH is heard as something breaks off screen just as PIKE sails through the air, limbs flailing before he collides with the couch.

The impact is enough to topple the couch backward, sending Pike sprawling in a mess of cushions and pillows.

CONNOR moves to stand over the downed Pike.

CONNOR
Dude, you suck.

Pike tosses a cushion from his chest at Connor, who easily grabs it.

PIKE
Yeah, well you... hit hard.

Connor extends a hand and helps pull Pike to his feet as Pike rubs a sore spot.

CONNOR
Oh come on, I practically gave you that one.
(scoffs)
Even Gabriella could have blocked that last punch.

Pike moves to right the couch.

PIKE
Who cares, hand to hand is for people who can't afford guns.

Connor snorts.

A knock on the door makes Pike pause, his arms full of cushions. He looks expectantly at Connor, who is absorbed in pulling on a University sweatshirt.

PIKE
(calling out)
It should be open!

A moment later the door opens and TRISH peeks inside.

TRISH
I heard a crash. Is everything all right?

Pike winces.

PIKE
Of course, we were just having a little sparring match.

CONNOR
You mean I was sparring, you were -

PIKE
(quickly)
It's cool, Trish, thanks for checking and all.

She nods but doesn't move out of the doorway.

PIKE
Is there anything else I can do for you?

TRISH
It's about the glamor spell. The month's almost over and it needs to be refreshed, but since the Furies can't do it anymore... well, people are getting restless.
(beat)
They're talking about moving out.

Pike sighs and thinks for a second.

PIKE
It's cool, we can deal with this. Um, for starters, let's call a tenants meeting. Tomorrow night?

Trish nods and seems somewhat cheered.

TRISH

I'll spread the word. Thanks, Pike.

He nods and smiles as she turns to leave.

CONNOR

Hold the door, I've got to go too.

PIKE

We're done, already? I think I'm just hitting my second wind.

Connor picks up his backpack and throws it over one shoulder.

CONNOR

Can't. I've got a paper to write. Just practice the moves I already showed you. Maybe next time you'll actually hit me.

Pike attempts to punch Connor in the shoulder as he heads for the door, but Connor catches his fist. Connor grins cheekily before letting Pike's fist go and giving him a hard manly SLAP on the shoulder before leaving.

When he's gone, Pike frowns and rubs his shoulder.

PIKE

Ow.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - MAIN CHAPEL - DAY

Inside PEOPLE are hurriedly decorating the chapel. At the center of it all an elderly, weathered Latino Man observes everything.

His eyes rest on something and he growls quietly.

OLD MAN

No! Not in here you morons.

He stomps over toward a side entrance, where a pair of CATERERS are wheeling in a serving cart with a blonde WOMAN trussed and gagged on top of it.

OLD MAN

The meat goes to the reception hall, not the chapel.

He jabs a finger in the right direction and glares at them as the caterers turn the cart around and head out the side door.

Just as they leave, Kaia and Gabriella enter from the front of the chapel.

GABRIELLA
Looks like the place.

They stop a short ways in and look around for a moment. Kaia looks angry.

KAIA
Looks like.
(beat; shouts)
Hey! Who's in charge here!

Most of the workers stop and stare. A few slink away.

The only one besides Gabriella who isn't cowed is the old man, who gives Kaia a quick once over and frowns.

OLD MAN
That would be me. Antonio Cabello,
and I know *exactly* who you are.

The two glare, neither backing down or looking away.

KAIA
So you're the one who roped my
brother into this whole fiasco.

The old man lets out a bitter bark of laughter.

ANTONIO
Me? No, Miss Sincaid, your brother
came to me. He heard I had a
marriageable daughter and nearly
begged me to arrange a match.

Kaia is taken back by this.

KAIA
Josh, he - ?

Antonio grins very wolfishly.

ANTONIO
He seemed like a good boy, strong,
head in the right place. He
impressed me despite our clans'
differences of opinion, so I agreed
to the marriage.

KAIA

This whole stunt is a load of crap, Cabello. Josh hasn't even met your daughter yet. He doesn't even know her friggin' name.

Antonio turns away, dismissive of Kaia.

ANTONIO

He has met me, and that is what is important.

Gabriella snorts.

GABRIELLA

Oh, what a crock.

Antonio looks over his shoulder at both of them.

ANTONIO

(pointedly)

Your brother and I both want this wedding to happen, so it's going to happen. What can you do about that?

Hands on her hips, Kaia suddenly smiles.

KAIA

I want to see your daughter.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - HALLWAY

Antonio walks quickly down the hall, one step short of running and obviously trying to leave Kaia and Gabriella behind.

ANTONIO

Do *not* try to talk her out of this. Do you hear me?

KAIA

(sarcastic)

Loud and clear. I just want to wish my future sister-in-law good luck. Make sure she's got that something old, something new.

GABRIELLA

(sarcastic)

I think I have something blue.

KAIA

Then it sounds like we're all set.

Antonio stops in front of a door guarded by two very large WEREWOLVES in human form.

GABRIELLA

Looks like someone has trust issues.

Both women are caught between anger and disgust. Antonio just flicks imaginary lint off his tuxedo jacket.

Kaia gives the other Alpha a dismissive wave of her hand.

KAIA

You can go now. Girl talk and all that.

Antonio crosses his arms and plants himself firmly in place.

ANTONIO

Anything you say to my daughter you can say in front of me.

Kaia grits her teeth, but maintains her faux cheery expression.

KAIA

Fine.

With a nod from Antonio one of the guards opens the door.

INT. DRESSING ROOM

A white dress lies crumpled atop a chair. a pearl necklace and a lacy veil are scattered amidst makeup on a small vanity.

The only thing missing is a bride.

ANTONIO

What?!

He bursts into the room, quickly overturning furniture, searching desperately for his daughter.

ANTONIO

Carmen! Mija!

Kaia and Gabriella crowd into the doorway.

GABRIELLA

Look.

She points up at a small, high window still open a crack. Antonio stops and looks up at the window as well.

He snarls and his face begins to lose some of its human shape. He turns on the guards.

ANTONIO

(furious)

You *pendejos* couldn't do one simple job! Idiotas! Go and get the others, we must find her, quickly.

The two guards scurry off and Antonio follows, pushing straight through Kaia and Gabriella.

GABRIELLA

I can't see why she would ever want to run away from that guy.

KAIA

And I thought my dad was bad.

GABRIELLA

So what now?

KAIA

We find the girl before they do and see if we can force some sense into this whole mess.

Kaia walks into the room and picks up the dress. She sniffs it closely and frowns.

KAIA

(sigh)

Wolfsbane.

GABRIELLA

(confused)

Uh, should I call Connor?

Kaia nods and tears a chunk of fabric off of the dress.

KAIA

Yeah. I could use another nose.

She looks up at the window as it creaks and flaps in the wind.

CUT TO:

EXT. CHURCH - EVENING

Antonio and Josh stand on the steps leading up to the church, surrounded by werewolves both in human and wolf form as they break off into smaller groups heading in different directions.

PAN behind the church to where Kaia, Gabriella and Connor are gathered.

Connor is sniffing the fabric Kaia tore from the wedding dress. He looks away and pulls a face.

CONNOR

This girl wore way too much perfume.

Kaia takes the fabric back.

KAIA

Can you get anything off it? She scattered wolfsbane pollen all over the room. I can't get a damn thing.

GABRIELLA

But on the bright side if you can't find her then neither can they.

Kaia nods. In the distance a wolf howls.

KAIA

Yeah.

CONNOR

I can get a faint trail, but I don't think it's going to last long. How old is this girl?

KAIA

My mom said she was seventeen, why?

Gabriella looks horrified.

GABRIELLA

Seventeen? It's not even legal for her to get married.

CONNOR

(deadpan)

It's not legal to eat people either but that doesn't seem to stop werewolves.

He looks up at Kaia.

CONNOR

If she's not legal to do anything besides see R-rated movies then there aren't too many places she can spend the night.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOTEL - NIGHT

A cheap, rundown motel surrounded by seedy looking buildings. Crickets are chirping in the background.

CUT TO:

INT. MOTEL - HALLWAY - NEXT

Connor, Gabriella and Kaia turn into a grungy, water-stained hallway.

CONNOR

She's definitely here.

Kaia pushes past him and takes the lead.

KAIA

I can smell it too.

She stops in front of a door, takes a long whiff, and slams into the door shoulder first.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The door crashes open as Kaia bursts into the room, just as a girl screams.

Wrapped only in a towel and dripping wet, CARMEN CABELLO stands panicked in the middle of the hotel room.

CARMEN

(desperate)

Please don't make me go back!

Kaia holds up her hands.

KAIA

Just relax, I'm not going to...

Her sentence drops off as another teenage GIRL peeks out of the bathroom, also dripping wet.

GIRL
Carmen! Are you okay?
(to Kaia)
Who are you?

She joins Carmen in the main room and grabs her hand, fingers interlocking and holding tight.

Kaia's eyes go wide.

KAIA
Oh.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN.

INT. PIKE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

There's a loud, rapid knocking at Pike's door. Pike, who is only wearing pajama pants and has a large bag of ICE taped to his shoulder, limps across the room and answers the door.

He opens it to reveal Connor, Gabriella, Kaia, Carmen, and apparently Carmen's girlfriend, DENAHA.

Kaia brushes past Pike, not really taking more than a cursory glance at him.

KAIA
(rushed)
Hey, I need a-

She stops when she finally takes in his bruised appearance.

KAIA
(confused)
What happened to you? Are those
leftover from C-
(catches herself)
I mean that werewolf bounty hunter?

Pike walks past her and takes a seat on the couch again, waving his hand towards Connor, who is helping himself to a beer from the fridge.

He offers one to Gabriella, who turns it down with a wave of her hand.

PIKE
No, this is Connor's idea of
"training" me in hand to hand.
(mutters to himself)
Always thought I was pretty good.
(to Kaia)
Anyway, I'm guessing you all need a
favor?

KAIA
(frowns)
What makes you say that?

Pike points to Carmen and Denaha, who are standing just inside the doorway looking very confused.

PIKE

First time you've been over since that crazy ass night with Rayne and Anubis and you bring two pieces of jailbait along.

Kaia clears her throat and points to the girls.

KAIA

This is Carmen and...?

Denaha does the classic "oh no you didn't!" neck roll.

DENAHA

Denaha.

KAIA

Whatever.

(turns back to Pike)

I need to stash them here for the night while I deal with Carmen's family.

PIKE

(eyes narrowing)

This family got fur?

DENAHA

(blinks)

Fur?

Kaia doesn't answer. Pike looks over to Connor, who is chugging his beer down. Connor wipes his mouth and nods.

PIKE

(shaking his head)

No way! I'm not about to have a pack of werewolves busting my door down again!

DENAHA

What? Werewolves?!?

(turns to Carmen)

You're a werewolf?!?

Uh oh. All eyes are on Denaha. Carmen looks like she's about two feet tall now, ready to hide in a corner.

CARMEN

(nervous)

Umm, yeah?

(stammering)

(MORE)

CARMEN (CONT'D)

P... p... please believe me. I... I wanted to tell you.

DENAHA

Why didn't you? God, my mom got remarried to a Bracken demon.

(beat; softly)

We agreed to be open with each other about everything. And I'm just now learning about the real you?

Kaia and Pike exchange a look. This sounds eerily familiar.

Carmen wraps her arms tightly around herself, almost like a security blanket.

CARMEN

I... it's not the real me. Just... just a small part.

DENAHA

(wry)

Small part. Right. Is that why some chick you've never met is hiding you from your family? What are they gonna do? Eat you?

Dead silence. No one wants to open that can of worms.

DENAHA

(sighs)

You still should've told.

CARMEN

(whining)

How was I supposed to do that? "Hi, Denaha. I'm Carmen and I'm a werewolf. Wanna be gay together?"

Pike groans and gets up from the couch.

PIKE

Okay, cool it.

(beat; sighs)

Look, there's a few vacant places in the building. You two can pick this argument up there.

(pointedly)

Away from me.

Kaia gently taps Pike on the arm, drawing his attention to her.

KAIA
 I'll get you some wolfsbane so
 Carmen's family can't track her.
 (sincere)
 And thank you.

Pike nods and throws on a t-shirt. He motions for Carmen and Denaha to follow him as he leaves the room.

Kaia turns her attention to Connor and Gabriella.

KAIA
 Yeah, would you two mind staying
 here tonight with Carmen and D...
 D...
 (pauses; thinks)
 Whatever the other girl's name is?

Gabriella opens her mouth to reply, but Connor covers it with his hand.

CONNOR
 Why can't you?

Gabriella slaps Connor's hand away.

KAIA
 Because I'm going to go to the
 Elders and figure out a way to stop
 this arranged marriage.

CONNOR
 (offended)
 I'm not gonna waste my night pet
 sitting so you can cock block your
 brother. And if any of them show up-
 (points his thumb to
 Gabriella)
 -what exactly did you expect her to
 do without her powers?

A beat. Connor sheepishly turns to Gabriella.

CONNOR
 No offense.

Gabriella gives him a silent sneering "ha ha" expression.

KAIA
 (crossing her arms)
 Didn't I back you up when you
 thought your dad was back killing
 people?

CONNOR

If I recall correctly, I had to
repay you for gas.

(holds out his hand)

How much was that again?

Kaia looks at Connor incredulously, but he's not wavering in the slightest. She shakes her hand and rummages through her purse, fishing out some money and slapping it into his hand.

CONNOR

(smirks)

Cool.

(counting the money)

I'll stay, but take Gabriella home.

GABRIELLA

(waving at Connor)

Hi, I'm right here.

CONNOR

(turning to Gabriella)

If things get hairy-

He stops and SNORTS at the intentional pun.

CONNOR

I'd rather you be safe. Plus, you
need to rest and keep your strength
up.

Gabriella sighs and nods. He's right.

INT. VACANT APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Pike sprinkles a yellowish pollen around a window sill.
Connor is plugging the AC cord for Pike's iMac notebook into
an outlet.

Carmen and Denaha are sitting on a flower-patterned couch,
tickling and giggling with one another. Apparently, that
argument didn't last too long.

PIKE

(nasally and congested)

Okay, that's all the windows.

(sniffles; to Connor)

Dude, I can't stay here. This
stuff's screwing with my sinuses.

CONNOR

(nods)

I'm fine.

(MORE)

CONNOR (CONT'D)

As long as I can finish my paper.
 (looking around)
 How's this place have furniture
 anyway?

PIKE

Rent skippers. Didn't even bother
 taking their stuff. You cool here?

CONNOR

Yeah, I'm good.

Pike nods and heads for the door, throwing one final look to the girls.

He shuts the door behind them and Connor walks over to stand in front of the loving couple, putting his hands on his hips like a father.

CONNOR

Okay, a few ground rules. One, no
 more giggling. You're not twelve.
 Actually, no talking at all. Two,
 no touching. Matter of fact-
 (motioning with his hands)
 -you have to stay five feet away
 from each other at all times. Three-

Denaha bolts up from the couch, her playful, girly demeanor from a second ago completely gone now.

DENAHA

And what if I don't agree with
 these rules?

Carmen starts hugging herself and looking away again. PUSH IN on her as the debate rages on.

CONNOR

Then I'll slap some seasoning and
 marinade on you, stick a skewer up
 your ass, and hang you out the
 window for the wolves.

Still moving in on Carmen. Connor and Denaha are out of frame now.

DENAHA (O.S.)

You wouldn't.

CONNOR (O.S.)

(icily)
 You really think that?

DENAHA (O.S.)
 Don't be bitter because you don't
 have anyone you love.

CONNOR (O.S.)
 You say love. I say you found a
 frail piece of ass that wouldn't
 backtalk you. How you talk her into
 ditching her wedding anyway?

Their voices fade out as the shot is tight on Carmen's face,
 looking like she'd suddenly rather be anywhere but here.

INT. SINCAID ELDER'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The mid 50s ELDER hobbles on a seemingly gimpy leg to the
 door to answer the POUNDING on the other side of it. He opens
 the door to reveal Kaia and Gabriella.

ELDER
 (frowning; cold)
 Oh, it's you. To what do I owe the
 intrusion?

KAIA
 (walking in)
 We need to have a talk.

Gabriella hesitates for a moment before following Kaia in.

ELDER
 (sarcastic)
 Oh please, come right in.

He slams the door and leads them through the living room
 into:

INT. SINCAID ELDER'S HOME - STUDY - CONTINUOUS

The Elder moves to his desk and starts sorting through a
 stack of papers.

ELDER
 (wry; dismissive)
 Please, try to make this quick. I'm
 too busy organizing all your
 charity drives and scripting your
 new bylaws and-

He jumps when Kaia SLAMS her hands on top of the stack of
 papers, ending his busy work.

KAIA

How in the HELL did you idiots sanction a betrothment with the Cabello clan? They've been our rivals for generations!

ELDER

In your increasingly more frequent absences of late, we were left with no choice but to make a decision.

Kaia leans in, throwing the Elder an intimidating glare.

KAIA

(through gritted teeth)
Rescind it.

ELDER

We can't. Not this far into the process. Only the bride's clan can.
(beat)
And it behooves you to see that this marriage goes off well, so I'd suggest-

KAIA

(snapping)
I don't take suggestions or anything from you. You take orders from me!

Gabriella grabs Kaia's shoulder and pulls her back from the desk.

Rather than react with anger, the Elder simply takes a seat, that fire in his eyes dies down.

ELDER

(sighs)
Kaia, I know you and I have not seen eye to eye, but your father and I were dear friends for years, which is the only reason I'm telling you this.
(beat)
Recently, there have been certain, let's say, maneuvers to attempt to remove you as Alpha.

Kaia's jaw drops.

KAIA

What? Does this have anything to do with Justin?

ELDER

That nitwit? Heavens, no. We're thankful for you dealing with him. No, this actually goes back to your father's declarations about you and your siblings.

KAIA

(frowns)

What declarations?

ELDER

Well, for one, he circumvented the coming of age rule that says you and all your sisters had to be married before your eighteenth birthday.

Kaia looks completely lost.

ELDER

(off Kaia's look)

You... weren't aware of that bylaw?

KAIA

I must've missed it.

The Elder chuckles to himself.

ELDER

Yes, well Trevor did a masterful job of hiding it from you. Ever since your birth, he did an exceptionally good job of protecting you in particular.

KAIA

You mean sheltering me.

ELDER

I know what I said, thank you very much. No, from the second you were born, he protected you.

KAIA

From who?

ELDER

The other Elders.

(beat)

Firstborns in clans have never been allowed to be girls. The bylaws always stated to kill any females who were the first in their litters.

GABRIELLA

(shaking her head)

You gotta be kidding. That's ridiculous.

KAIA

(agreeing)

That can't be true.

ELDER

(coolly)

Name another clan with a female as the eldest child.

Kaia thinks to herself briefly before coming up blank.

KAIA

Well, it's just another antiquated rule that has to go.

ELDER

Whatever the case, Trevor never admitted it, but we always assumed he intended for you to succeed him as Elder. He proposed it just before you turned 18 and was denied. It was only then that he began to search for a suitable mate for you.

(chuckles)

How ironic, wouldn't you say?

Kaia looks like she's reeling from all these revelations. All of the anger seems to have drained from her body.

KAIA

I... I never knew.

ELDER

Of course you didn't. Trevor and Claire even went so far as to remove those passages from the clan documentation they kept in your home.

(MORE)

ELDER (CONT'D)

The same ones you've been going off of since you became Alpha.

The Elder gets up from the chair and now he's the one leaning forward towards Kaia in a threatening manner.

ELDER

Having said all of that, your father's dead now because of you.

(beat)

Help find that young lady and see to it that this marriage happens. If it doesn't, I'll see to it that you're removed as Alpha and replaced with Josh.

Kaia's face tightens back up again.

KAIA

The only one an Alpha is succeeded is through death.

He sits back down, a bit of a cocky swagger in his body language now.

ELDER

(nods)

Precisely.

Kaia lets out a low GROWL, but Gabriella grabs her arm.

GABRIELLA

Come on. We're not going to do any good here.

Kaia lets Gabriella pull her out of the room, never taking her eyes off the Elder as we FADE TO:

EXT. KAIA'S CAR - NEXT

The camera's outside the front of the car looking in through the windshield as Kaia and Gabriella get in and shut their doors.

Instead of starting the car, Kaia just sits there, deep in thought.

KAIA

You know, this is the first time I've ever felt sorry about how things went down with my father. He was always such a...

Words fail Kaia again and all she can do is sigh. Gabriella nods in understanding.

GABRIELLA

So where do we go from here?

KAIA

I don't know. I'm damned either way, aren't I?

GABRIELLA

Didn't he say the other clan can annul the marriage?

KAIA

(shakes his head)

Antonio wouldn't. It'd be showing a lack of control over his clan. He'd kill the girl first.

GABRIELLA

(blinks)

You meant that literally, didn't you?

KAIA

(nods)

It's happened before. I need to sleep on this.

(turns to Gabriella)

Would you mind if I stayed the night? Josh is probably at home and I don't feel like facing him right now.

GABRIELLA

Of course. Though, shouldn't we check on the girl?

KAIA

She's fine with the boys, I'm sure. Plus...

(beat)

Oli has this way of making you feel safe, even if you're not. She'll be fine there.

Gabriella nods as Kaia starts the car.

INT. VACANT APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

The television is on, playing an episode of 'Sex in the City'. Carmen and Denaha are cuddled up together on the couch, giggling.

PULL BACK to show Connor seated at a table in a corner, trying to type on the iMac. The impact of his fingers on the keys gets progressively louder until he's basically pounding them.

He slams the notebook closed and stands up.

CONNOR

I can't take this anymore. I'm gonna go down to the lounge to finish this paper.

DENAHA

(wry)

Aren't you supposed to be protecting us from the big bad wolves?

CONNOR

(walking to the door)

If you're being eaten alive, scream. I'll use the bathroom, smoke a cigarette, make some phone calls, take a nap, then come rescue you.

And he's gone, emphatically slamming the door on his way out.

EXT. PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

Still shot of the front of the complex TIME LAPSES to morning.

INT. PIKE'S BUILDING - REC ROOM - NEXT

Connor's stretched out on a couch with the notebook on his chest, fast asleep and snoring loudly.

Pike slides to a stop in the hallway and runs into the room.

He takes the notebook off Connor's chest and starts shaking his shoulder.

PIKE

(frantic)

Hey, Connor. Wake up!

Connor stirs and swipes Pike's arm off of him.

CONNOR
(groggy)
I'm up. I'm up. Where's the fire?

PIKE
The girl's gone!

That gets Connor's attention. He sits up on the couch.

CONNOR
Which one?

PIKE
(thinks)
Ummm... what was her name again?

CONNOR
The bitch or the mute?

PIKE
The mute.
(grabbing Connor's arm)
Come on!

Connor gets off the couch and follows Pike out of the room.

INT. VACANT APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

Pike and Connor run through the open doorway. The apartment's been trashed and there's BLOOD everywhere. Pike points to a place in the room.

PIKE
(deadpan)
Yeah, the other girl's all over the place. Over there.
(points elsewhere)
And there.

He walks out of frame.

PIKE (O.S.)
Saw some chunks over here. Her arm's in the bathroom sink.

PUSH IN on Connor's face, taking in the gruesome scene.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN.

INT. VACANT APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Connor leans over the lower half of a human leg. It's covered in bite marks with chunks of flesh missing, but there's still a sock covering the foot.

CONNOR

Definitely werewolves. Not many other things stop to have a snack in the middle of a kidnapping.

He looks up at Pike, who's examining another body part and little a bit nauseous.

CONNOR

Call Kaia, we need to see if she recognizes the scents.

Pike pulls out a cell phone and begins dialing. Connor gives the leg another look.

CONNOR

(muttering)

I'm surprised they didn't take the rest for leftovers.

CUT TO:

EXT. OCCULT SHOP - DAY

Kaia's car pulls up in front of the shop and Gabriella climbs out of the passenger's seat. She looks back in at Kaia who's clearly stressed.

GABRIELLA

Are you heading back to Pike's now?

KAIA

Yeah, I'm not sure what to do after that though.

Gabriella tries to give her a reassuring smile.

GABRIELLA

You'll figure something out.

Kaia gives a weak, unconvincing one of her own.

Gabriella closes the door just as Kaia's phone begins to ring.

KAIA
 (muffled)
 WHAT!

The car peels off, leaving Gabriella confused. She stares after Kaia's car for a beat before sighing.

Just as she heads for the shop, her blackberry rings. Gabriella quickly answers it.

GABRIELLA
 Connor?
 (beat)
 Oh, hello, yes it is. May I ask -
 (beat, excited)
 My dog? You found Lesi! Of course I
 can meet you, just -

A balding MAN in his late forties stops behind her. He's carrying a clipboard and looks irritated.

MAN
 Gabriella Heron?

Gabriella turns, phone still to her ear.

GABRIELLA
 Yes?

The man pulls out a badge and shows it to her.

MAN
 California Department of Forest and
 Fire Protection.

Gabriella's excitement begins to drain away.

GABRIELLA
 Oh.
 (into phone)
 I have your number in my caller
 I.D. Can I call you back?

She hangs up.

FIRE MARSHALL
 You reapplied for a business
 license, which means I need to make
 sure everything's up to code.

Gabriella looks torn.

GABRIELLA
Is it possible to reschedule? My
dog is lost and...

The disapproving frown on the marshall's face holds her
answer.

GABRIELLA
Okay.

She pulls out her keys and holds open the front door for the
marshall.

INT. VACANT APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

Kaia sniffs the air and growls.

KAIA
It's Josh, and Antonio, the girl's
father.

She kneels down next to a large chunk of Denaha's torso.

KAIA
Both of their scents are on the
body too. I can smell them even
thru the bane.

Leaning against the doorframe Connor seems to ponder this.

CONNOR
So if daddy and her future hubby
both came to get her I wonder who
got to take Cameron home?

Kaia straightens.

KAIA
It's Carmen. We'll split up, check
out both.

CONNOR
(nodding)
Have fun with that.

Kaia and Pike both look a little surprised.

PIKE
You're not coming with?

Connor shrugs casually.

CONNOR
I have class.

KAIA
This is a little more important
than class, don't you think?

CONNOR
More important to *you*, maybe.

The two glare, each trying to stare the other down.

KAIA
She could be in a lot of trouble!
There's no telling what they might
do to her for running away.

CONNOR
Well I have to turn in a paper or
I'm in trouble.

Neither breaks eye contact, their glare quickly turning into
a battle for dominance. They don't even blink until Pike
physically interjects between the two.

PIKE
Hey, let's just work something out.
(to Connor)
I'll drop you off at campus if you
help me check out a few leads
first.

Connor frowns.

CONNOR
One hour. That's it.

Kaia nods in acceptance.

KAIA
All right, you check my house, I'll
take Antonio's.

Pike shifts uncomfortably.

PIKE
Yeah... maybe that's not the best
idea.

Kaia rolls her eyes and turns to Connor.

KAIA
 Just tell whoever answers the door
 "Thalla gu Taigh na Galla." No one
 will hurt you.

Connor and Pike just blink.

PIKE
 (confused)
 Thalla goo what?

KAIA
 (slowly)
 Thalla gu Taigh na Galla.

Connor pulls out a pen and sticks his bare arm out to Kaia.
 She starts to write out the strange phrase.

PIKE
 So we say this and magically your
 family doesn't eat us?

Kaia nods, still scribbling on Connor's arm.

KAIA
 Pretty much.

Pike considers that for a moment.

PIKE
 Cool.

CUT TO:

INT. OCCULT SHOP - NEXT

The fire marshall is examining a lighting fixture, the same
 one that Connor and Pike repaired in 1x03. He frowns and
 scribbles something on his clipboard.

From where she stands behind him Gabriella tries to sneak a
 peak at what he's writing.

He notices.

FIRE MARSHALL
 Did you do this wiring yourself?

GABRIELLA
 No.
 (beat)
 Not me personally...

The marshall nods, he expected this. Moving on, he stops to inspect some of the supports, which have a few thin cracks running through them.

FIRE MARSHALL
Damage from the recent quakes I
imagine. Definitely not up to code.

Gabriella looks rather distraught, moving to sit heavily behind the counter.

The fire marshall scribbles a few more notes.

FIRE MARSHALL
I'm afraid the structural integrity
of the building may have been
compromised.

Gabriella just slumps, barely even listening as she stares at the counter.

FLASH CUT TO:

EXT. CABELLO HOME - DAY

A bloody WEREWOLF hits the manicured lawn outside a large, highbrow house. The wolf whimpers and tries to get back to its feet, only to be shoved back down by a foot on its back.

The foot belongs to Kaia, who glares down at the wounded werewolf. There's blood smeared across her face and hands.

A GROWL comes from behind, causing Kaia to turn as several other WEREWOLVES slink out of the bushes. Kaia frowns.

KAIA
(commanding)
Do you really want to do this? I'm
pissed off, my hormones are
completely screwing with me, and I
have one hell of a craving for
peanut butter ice cream.

She looks at the werewolf she already took down then back up at the others. She grins, showing a lot of teeth.

KAIA
I'm not dead set on the ice cream
though.

The other werewolves hesitate, exchanging glances amongst themselves.

The front door of the house opens and Antonio step out. He sneers at the remaining wolves before looking up at Kaia, his sneer growing even more.

ANTONIO

Pathetic.

(to werewolves)

Get out of here! Afraid of one female, absolutely pathetic.

The wolves scamper off, tails firmly between their legs. Kaia removes her foot from the werewolf she took down, who limps away as quickly as possible, still trailing blood.

ANTONIO

(to Kaia)

What do you want, woman?

KAIA

Like you don't know. I am not going to let this marriage happen, not when your daughter *clearly* doesn't want it to.

Antonio glowers.

ANTONIO

Who do you think you are? Trying to change the customs that our kind has upheld for thousands of years. You are only causing more problems than before. Now my daughter thinks she can run away from her duty to her clan. All because of you and the way you are destroying your clan. Well you will not destroy mine.

KAIA

(through gritted teeth)

Where. Is. The. Girl.

EXT. SINCAID HOME - SAME TIME

Claire opens the front door, only to find Pike and Connor on the front porch.

CLAIRE

What in the -

Connor pulls up his sleeve and squints at the writing on his arm.

CONNOR
Thalla goo Tag ni - No, uh, Talla
go -

Claire blinks, boggled.

CONNOR
I got it! Thalla gu Taigh na Galla.

Claire frowns.

CLAIRE
Why did Kaia tell you that?

CONNOR
We're looking for the girl.

Very reluctantly, Claire steps back, holding the door open for them. Pike and Connor exchange an uncertain glance, before Connor steps through the door, Pike following closely.

CLAIRE
Follow me.

She heads down the hall.

CUT TO:

INT. SINCAID HOME - BASEMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Claire, Connor, and Pike slowly descend the stairs.

CONNOR
So, what did I actually just say to
you?

CLAIRE
You evoked an ancient code of honor
among our kind.

She stops and looks back up at Connor.

CLAIRE
You saved Josh and Alicia before,
so we're in your debt. Not after
this though.

She continues down the stairs.

CONNOR
Honor? Really? I didn't know people
who settle all their problems by
killing each other had any honor.

Claire's lips tighten but she doesn't say anything.

Down in the basement we can see Carmen, curled in the fetal position in the corner of a locked cage.

PIKE
(horrified)
You put her in a cage?!?

CLAIRE
(shrugs)
Josh was worried she would run away again.

PIKE
How could you do this to her? She's just a girl!

Claire doesn't look concerned.

CLAIRE
It's not my place to interfere.

CONNOR
No, you just make dinner and keep house like a good little Stepford wife, don't you? What's the code to the cage?

Claire folds her arms stubbornly.

CLAIRE
I took you to her, now we're even. I would leave now if I were you, Josh should be back any minute.

She heads back up the stairs.

PIKE
Screw this.

He pulls a gun out and SHOOTS the lock off the cage door. Tucking the gun away again he goes to Carmen's side.

PIKE
Hey, time to get up. We're getting you out of here.

Carmen doesn't move. She blinks and tears fall down her cheeks.

CARMEN
 (weakly)
 I don't want to go.

EXT. CABELLO HOME - CONTINUOUS

Antonio and Kaia still face off.

ANTONIO
 She's not here, your brother took
 her with him.

Kaia sniffs the air. After a moment she nods.

KAIA
 Then we're finished.

She's ready to go, when a very pregnant WOMAN quietly slips out of the door behind Antonio. She moves slowly, hunching as she walks, eyes on the ground.

WOMAN
 (timid)
 Antonio, is everything all right?
 (beat)
 Is this about Carmen?

Antonio whirls around, backhanding the woman, who topples over, barely catching herself before her stomach hits the floor.

ANTONIO
 What the hell are you doing out
 here? Get back inside now!

The woman stumbles as she tries to get back to her feet. She hurries back into the house, only looking back once, directly at Kaia before looking away just as quickly.

Antonio turns back to Kaia with a proud grin.

Kaia looks disgusted.

KAIA
 I used to think my father was a
 bastard. Now I know he was nothing,
 not compared to you.

She wheels and stomps across the lawn toward her car.

INT. SINCAID HOME - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Carmen curls into an even tighter ball, sniffing quietly.

CARMEN

If I leave they'll just hunt me
down again. N-next time they'll
kill me, I know it.

Connor, who is still outside the cage takes a step forward,
looking intently at Carmen.

CONNOR

(accusing)

You called them, didn't you? The
apartment door wasn't damaged, none
of the windows were broken, because
you let them in.

Carmen shudders.

CARMEN

I-I was afraid. I didn't know what
to do...

CONNOR

(rolls his eyes)

Oh God, make it stop!

He stomps into the cage, brushing Pike aside, and grabs
Carmen by the arm, pulling her roughly to her feet.

CONNOR

You're like the crappiest werewolf
ever. Crying and whining in a cage,
because you're *scared* of daddy.
Come on, your little lesbo tickle
buddy had more of a backbone than
you do, and she didn't even have
fangs. But you? You're a pathetic
little mess, and you always will be
unless you stop being everyone's
doormat. Otherwise you might as
well spend the rest of your life in
this cage. Now come on!

Still holding onto her arm, Connor frogmarches a submissive
Carmen out of the cage and toward the stairs. Pike shakes his
head as he follows Connor.

PIKE

Dude, never try to cheer me up.

INT. GABRIELLA'S SHOP - SALES FLOOR - NIGHT

The fire marshall pulls a sheet of paper out of his clipboard
and holds it out to Gabriella.

FIRE MARSHALL

I found seventeen violations in all, several of them I could fine you for, but instead I'm going to shut you down until you get everything up to code.

Gabriella takes the paper numbly, staring at it but not reading.

FIRE MARSHALL

Have a good day, Ms. Heron.

Tucking his clipboard under one arm, he nods to Gabriella and leaves.

Still staring at the report, Gabriella bites her lip, fighting down her emotions. She takes a deep breath and pulls out her Blackberry.

Pressing a few buttons, she holds the phone up to her ear and waits. After a moment someone answers.

GABRIELLA

(falsely cheerful)

Hi, you called about my dog earlier?

(beat)

I'm free right now.

(beat)

Great, I'll meet you there.

She hangs up, grabs her purse and heads to the door. As she leaves she flips the "Open" sign to "Closed," with a mournful look.

EXT. SINCAID HOME - MOMENTS LATER

The front door opens and Connor, Carmen and Pike hurry out. Connor is still pulling Carmen along, although the girl is hardly protesting, just letting herself be led.

PIKE

How exactly are the three of us going to fit on my bike?

Connor frowns.

CONNOR

I -

JOSH (O.S.)

Get your hands off my bitch!

A car door slams and Josh storms up the driveway toward them.

Carmen shivers and clings to Connor, who looks at her in disgust, but looks at Josh with even more disgust.

CONNOR

Sorry, but this bitch doesn't belong to you.

JOSH

Yes she does, and you're not leaving with her. Give her to me and I won't hurt you.

Connor and Pike both snort.

PIKE

Please, I can take you.

Josh looks doubtfully at Pike, as does Connor.

JOSH

Yeah right.

Pike steps forward.

PIKE

No, let's do this. I beat you, we leave with the girl. You win, we leave the girl.

Josh laughs again but steps forward as well. He begins to slip out of his jacket.

As he's distracted, Pike leaps forward and PISTOL WHIPS him!

Josh goes down hard and Pike grabs his jacket, pulling the car keys out of a pocket.

PIKE

Come on!

He runs toward Josh's car, Connor and Carmen right after him.

CUT TO:

INT. SINCAID HOME - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Josh paces furiously, a cell phone pressed to his ear and a large welt under one eye.

JOSH

It was my sister's ex-boyfriend and one of her friends.

(beat)

I mean six of her friends. They were huge. I'm only one man, Antonio!

He looks a little embarrassed.

JOSH (CONT'D)

They jumped me, that's what happened! I could've taken them, but they were cowards and blindsided me. All... six of them!

(beat)

Yeah, now that you mention it, I am a little hungry.

A smile blooms across Josh's face and his eyes glaze over to a jet BLACK.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN.

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

Pike exits the small mini mart, swallowing down of a Twinkie he's snacking on while talking on his cell.

PIKE
(into phone)
Yeah, we're all set. Just need to
get a bus ticket.
(listens)
Alright. Bye.

He comes up to Josh's car and kneels down, resting his arms and head on the door. Connor's in the driver's seat with Carmen next to him on the passenger side.

PIKE
(to Connor)
We're taking her to the station
over on Olympic. Kaia's gonna meet
us there. I've got some friends in
San Diego she can stay with for
now.

Connor nods. Pike stands up and heads towards his bike. We stay with Connor and Carmen, the latter of whom has her head down.

CONNOR
You don't look too beat up about
all this.

CARMEN
It's... for the best. That's what
you all have decided on.

Connor rolls his eyes and frowns.

CONNOR
How about a genuine opinion? Do you
even care that your girlfriend was
a late night snack?

Carmen's eyes well up with tears, but she holds them back, instead choosing to stare out her window.

CARMEN
(choked up)
Daddy only did what he thought was
right.

Connor scoffs as he starts the car.

CONNOR
Yeah, that the problem. Fathers
always think they know best.

Connor floors it, zooming out of frame.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

Gabriella steps out of a cab and sticks her head back through the window.

GABRIELLA
(to the driver)
Just hang tight, I'll only be a
minute.

DRIVER
(heavy Hispanic accent)
Si, ma'am.

Gabriella steps away and walks up to a small pond with an elephant statue in the center of it.

A heavily TATTOOED MAN walking a familiar looking dog on a leash approaches her from behind. The dog BARKS and Gabriella turns around with a huge grin.

GABRIELLA
(squints)
Lesi?
(beat; realizes)
Lesi!

She breaks into a dead sprint. The man lets go of the leash.

Woman and dog practically run into one another and Gabriella scoops the little terrier up in her arms, getting a copious amount of licks all over her face.

GABRIELLA
(relieved)
Oh, baby don't scare me like that
again!

Her eyes slightly glisten with tears of joy. The man steps up to her, also smiling.

GABRIELLA
(grateful)
Thank you so much. I didn't think I
was going to get her back.

TATTOOED MAN

(scruffy voice)

Hey, no problem, sweet thing. Uh,
the flyer said something about a
reward, right?

Gabriella's not paying any attention to him, running her
hands all through the fur.

GABRIELLA

(in a baby-like voice)

Need to get you a bath. You're just
a filthy little thing, aren't ya?

She pulls her hand away and there's black flakes all over her
finger tips. She frowns and rubs two of her fingers together.

TATTOOED MAN

(suddenly nervous)

So, uh, yeah, I'm cool with Paypal
if you don't have the cash right
this second.

Gabriella rudely SHOVES the dog back into his arms.

GABRIELLA

(holding up her fingers)

This is spray paint.

(re: the dog)

You lying bastard, that isn't my
dog!

The man shrugs and drops the dog to the ground. It lands with
a loud YELP.

TATTOOED MAN

Worth a shot.

He turns and walks away. The dog whimpers and runs after him.

Gabriella sighs and hangs her head. Completely dejected, she
turns around and starts back towards the cop.

Behind her, out of frame, the dog barks again.

TATTOOED MAN (O.S.)

Get away from me, you ugly mutt!

There's a loud THUMP and the dog yelps and whimpers.
Gabriella just keeps walking.

INT. GREYHOUND BUS DEPOT - TICKETING - DAY

Kaia signs a receipt and slides it under the bulletproof pane in front of her. The ATTENDANT behind the pane accepts it with a smile.

Connor's standing right behind her.

KAIA
(to the attendant)
Thanks.

Kaia and Connor walk towards a set of benches that comprises the waiting area. Pike is sitting next to Carmen on one of them.

KAIA
So I guess we're all set then.

CONNOR
Yep. Maybe things'll be better for her up in San Diego.

KAIA
(emphatic)
They will be.

Connor looks at her and smirks.

CONNOR
Nice to know you've already decided that for her too.

KAIA
(absentmindedly)
Yeah.

She actually processes Connor's statement and shakes her head.

KAIA
Wait. What?
(offended)
I'm trying to help her find a better life.

CONNOR
Yeah, I'm sure that's what her father thinks too.

Kaia stops and grabs Connor's arm, yanking him to a stop as well.

KAIA
 (through gritted teeth)
 I am not like her father.

Connor crosses his arms and looks her dead in the eye.

CONNOR
 Really? Because it looks like
 you're doing all the same things,
 making all of her choices for her.

Kaia opens her mouth to retort, but she's got nothing.

CONNOR
 Thought so. I'm gonna use the
 bathroom. Be right back.

Connor walks around Kaia and out of frame. Kaia huffs and walks over to the bench where Carmen and Pike are seated.

She and Pike exchange a quick glance. Pike gets the hint and leaves the two girls alone, walking over to the vending machines.

Kaia slowly sits down next to Carmen and hands her a bus ticket without looking directly at her.

KAIA
 You'll leave in a couple of hours.

Carmen doesn't respond. Her eyes float to a magazine in the empty seat next to her. The front cover is the cast of 'Sex in the City.'

PUSH IN on Carmen's face as it tightens ever so slightly, the passivity leaving her features a bit.

KAIA
 And you'll be safe in San Diego. No
 more arranged marriages or any of
 the other stupid clan bylaws.

CARMEN
 (softly)
 I don't want to leave.

KAIA
 (ignoring her)
 I'm gonna work to get all that
 stuff changed for all the clans
 Make things-
 (blinks)
 What?

Kaia finally takes a good look at Carmen, who is now admiring the fine tile work on the floor.

CARMEN

I said... I don't want to leave. I feel like I'm running away.

KAIA

(incredulous)

This is the best thing for you. You know that, right?

CARMEN

Is it really?

Carmen tentatively looks Kaia in the eyes.

CARMEN

I mean, you're an Alpha, too. So, you know all the right things to do.

Kaia starts to answer, but again she's at a loss for words. She looks away, thinking to herself for a moment.

KAIA

(to herself)

Oh God.

(turns back to Carmen)

Carmen, what do you want to do?

CARMEN

(sighs)

Does it matter?

KAIA

Yes, it does.

Carmen looks away again.

CARMEN

I... I don't know. What do you want me to say?

KAIA

Whatever you feel.

CARMEN

(looking back to Kaia)

I mean, what's the right answer? To leave? You're supposed to know.

Once again, Kaia's speechless. They hold a long gaze, each waiting for the other to say something before:

PIKE (O.S.)
Hey! Kaia!

Kaia looks over to see Pike and Connor rushing over towards them. Pike doubles over, out of breath.

CONNOR
We've got company. A bunch of people I recognized from the wedding.

KAIA
That's her family.

Kaia grabs Carmen's arm and yanks her up to her feet. Pike grabs the small duffel bag by Carmen's feet and they take off running through the depot.

EXT. GREYHOUND BUS LOT - DAY

PAN ACROSS a row of busses, catching up to Connor, Kaia, Pike, and Carmen running across the next row back.

Kaia stops and turns a corner, running adjacent to two busses with the others right behind her.

Antonio steps out from the bus at the other end, blocking them. Several other, much larger men, flank him.

Our group goes wide eyed and tries the other direction, but Josh, the Elder from earlier, and another group of people block that route. They're trapped.

The Elder steps forward from Josh's side. Josh himself is sporting a black eye and a furious expression.

ELDER
(sighing)
Kaia, I'm disappointed. I had my suspicions you were involved after speaking to Antonio.

Antonio points his finger accusingly.

ANTONIO
Who do you think you are, young lady? My daughter is not a part of your clan!

Both sides start to close in.

PIKE
(whispering to Connor)
This is gonna end bad.

CONNOR
Don't worry.

ELDER
Kaia, you have one last chance to walk away from this. Just let us have the girl and we won't have to kill you all.

CONNOR
(to Pike)
Okay, now worry.

KAIA
Do whatever you want. But Carmen's staying with us one way or the other.

Antonio steps forward from his group, still pointing that finger.

ANTONIO
(infuriated)
That's not your decision to make!

KAIA
It's not yours either!

CARMEN
(screaming)
STOP THIS!

And that kills all the conversation. All eyes go to Carmen.

CARMEN
It's my choice.

ANTONIO
Carmen, shut your mouth.
(to Kaia)
As for you-

CARMEN
(softly)
No.

Antonio blinks and turns back to his daughter.

ANTONIO
I beg your pardon?

CARMEN
I...
(beat; exhales)
I said no.

Carmen takes a few steps towards her father. Her resolve face is holding, but her trembling arms give her nervousness away.

CARMEN
(to Antonio)
I... I don't want to get married...
(turns to Kaia)
... or run away to San Diego.
(back to Antonio)
I... I don't know what I want. B...
but I think I should be allowed to
figure that out for myself.

ANTONIO
(scoffs)
Who fed you that load of crap?

Antonio's eyes fall to Kaia. He brushes past his daughter and moves towards Kaia. Kaia's fists clench up.

ANTONIO
It was you, wasn't it? Filling her
head with all of this-

He stops as Carmen grabs his arm and spins her around. He instantly PUNCHES her in her jaw, knocking her to the ground!

Pike pulls a gun, but Connor grabs his arm and shakes his head at him.

PIKE
(in a harsh whisper)
Dude, she's no match for him!

CONNOR
Not physically.

Kaia nods in understanding.

KAIA
But it's not that type of fight.

Carmen looks up at her father and slowly gets to her feet again. She wipes the blood from her split lip.

ANTONIO
Carmen, I'll not stand for this
insubordination.

Carmen doesn't answer. She shakily raises her fists into a weak, wide open fighting stance.

ANTONIO
(laughing)
You can't be serious. You really
wish to fight me?

CARMEN
No, but this is what you respect.
So come on. F-fight me.

Antonio takes a step back from his daughter. Kaia can't help a small smirk.

CARMEN
(waves him on)
Come on. Let's go.

Antonio looks down to the other end of the bus. Josh, the Elder, and everyone else's eyes are on him.

ANTONIO
(motions to Carmen)
Josh, be a good son-in-law and take
care of this for me.

Josh starts to step up, but the Elder holds him back.

ELDER
Mr. Cabello, this is not a matter
for the Sincaid clan.

A flustered Antonio looks past Carmen towards the group of men with him.

ANTONIO
Alex? Colin? Shane? Care to deal
with your sister?

Three of the men share confused looks. SHANE CABELLO, a dark haired, blue eyed guy in his early twenties, speaks up.

SHANE
Uh, Dad, why can't you do it?

ALEX
Yeah, Dad! Put her in her place.

Carmen's still in a pathetic looking fighting stance, now starting to circle her father.

CARMEN

Daddy? Did I mention I'm gay? And that girl you tore up was my lover?
(beat)
My lesbian lover.

Antonio's nostrils flare. Now he's really pissed. His fists clench and his eyes go JET BLACK.

He raises his hand to hit her again, but Carmen doesn't back down. Now his arm starts to tremble.

ANTONIO

(growling)
There are no dykes in my clan!

Without even thinking, Carmen SMACKS Antonio right across the face! Her eyes go wide in shock at her actions before she gets her fists back up.

CARMEN

Th... then do something about it.

Antonio's shoulders are heaving up and down. He towers over her, but she's standing her ground, ready to fight.

Antonio's sons are hooting and hollering, cheering their father on.

PIKE

(to Connor; whispering)
Why isn't he ripping her apart?

CONNOR

(smirking)
Because she's already won.

KAIA

(nodding)
Can't bully someone who talks back.

Antonio and Carmen continue to glare at one another. Antonio takes a step closer to his diminutive daughter, almost nose to nose now.

SHANE

Come on, Pop! Rip her throat out!

ANTONIO

(cold)

I have no daughter anymore.

CARMEN

If that's what you want.

With a final huff, Antonio turns and storms away, shoving his way past his dumbfounded sons.

Kaia looks over to Josh, who shoots daggers into her with his eyes before shaking his head and walking away.

Kaia smiles ever so slightly as she walks over to Carmen and puts her hand on her shoulder.

KAIA

You did good, Carmen.

Carmen looks up at Kaia, almost like a student seeking approval from a teacher.

CARMEN

Really?

KAIA

(nodding)

Yeah, and I'm sorry. I didn't realize-

She stops and YELPS as Carmen's eyes roll in the back of her head and she FAINTS.

DISSOLVE TO LATER in the same place. Pike pats the hood of Josh's car as Connor and Carmen drive off in it.

KAIA

(waving to the car)

You sure your friend won't mind.

PIKE

Nah, Anne's a sweetheart. I called ahead to let her know. Shelter's got plenty of space.

KAIA

(beat)

Thanks again for all your help.

Pike looks to his ex girlfriend, almost longingly.

PIKE

Anytime.

Kaia takes a deep breath, steadying herself.

KAIA

Oli, there's something I need to tell you, but... I'm not sure where to begin.

PIKE

(sighs)

Yeah, I can get that. Things have been so weird and complicated lately. I'm still trying to-

KAIA

(frowning)

What do you mean complicated?

She crosses her arms to accentuate the question.

PIKE

I mean complicated. You, me... us.

Kaia throws her hands up in frustration.

KAIA

What's so damn complicated? I'm a werewolf. I've killed people. I've eaten people. It's damn simple if you ask me. You can either deal with it or not.

PIKE

I'm just supposed to accept that? I thought I'd already made up my mind when I pawned the ring-

KAIA

(shocked)

You sold the ring?!?

Pike turns away, also throwing his hands up. He didn't even hear that response.

PIKE

But it's not just you I'm confused about. It's me.

KAIA

(hurt)

When did you take it back?

Pike didn't hear that one either, swept up in his own rant.

PIKE

This isn't just about you. I'm
confused about me.

Finally, he turns back to her.

KAIA

So you returned the ring because
you're having an identity crisis?

PIKE

(patting his chest)

Kaia, I've killed two people in the
last year. Me! I wasn't like that
before!

Kaia's speechless now. She hadn't thought about that.

PIKE

I don't... I don't know what to
think anymore.

He looks away, unwillingly to meet her eyes anymore. Kaia's
bottom lip starts to tremble.

KAIA

Well, when you find yourself, you
know how to reach me.

She turns her back to Pike just as her eyes start to well up
and walks away.

KAIA

Just don't be surprised if I don't
answer right away.

Pike sighs, frustrated with the direction of the
conversation.

PIKE

(calling out)

I... I still want to be a part of
your life!

Kaia stops. Unseen by Pike, she slides her hands up her shirt
and runs them over her stomach.

KAIA

(softly)

You already are.

She walks away again, leaving Pike standing there, just as
confused as he was before the conversation started.

INT. UNKNOWN APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Two MOVERS in jumpsuits set a love seat against a wall next to a veranda window.

They head for the front door, walking past Gabriella and Kaia, the latter of whom is eating a chocolate bar.

GABRIELLA

How'd your clan take the news of you moving out? Didn't you tell me all the children stayed at home until they married?

KAIA

(shrugs and swallows)
Yeah, that's the way it was.
(cheery)
Then I remembered I'm the boss, so I changed that rule.

Gabriella smiles as one of the movers, a well built attractive young man, brings in a dolly stacked five high with boxes. Kaia points down the hallway.

KAIA

(to the mover)
That's for the master bedroom, honey. Last door on the left.

Gabriella and Kaia both turn their heads as he walks down the hall, checking out his ass.

GABRIELLA

Yum...my.

KAIA

(nodding)
Mm hmm.

GABRIELLA

So is the second room for... what was her name again?

KAIA

Carmen? No. Cabello emancipated her. Pike's friend is getting her into a halfway house until she can save enough for her own place.

GABRIELLA

(nodding)

Gotcha. What about the Elder was saying you were getting the boot?

KAIA

Cabello called off the wedding, so I dodged that bullet. I'm sure they'll try another way, but I'll cross those bridges when I get to 'em.

(beat)

Hey Gab, do you need any help at the shop?

Gabriella looks a little surprised at that request.

GABRIELLA

You asking for a job? Cause all my money's getting tied up in the stack of health and safety violations I just got slapped with.

KAIA

I'm fine on money. Clan's got a trust fund set up I can dip into for now. I just... need something to do, ya know?

Gabriella nods and extends her hand.

GABRIELLA

Welcome aboard.

Kaia grins and shakes Gabriella's hand. Gabriella gets a phone call and she steps out of frame to answer it.

Kaia steps out into the center of the still empty dining room. She spreads her arms out and spins around, enjoying the sensation of actually having space for a change.

She stops facing a window with her faint reflection staring back at her. Smiling, she turns to the side and pulls her shirt up over her stomach, affectionately rubbing her hands over her soon to be kids.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

END OF EPISODE