

CONNOR

"Father's Day"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN.

INT. MEDICAL LAB - COMPUTER LAB - MORNING

The rays of the morning sun streak through a dew soaked window of a small basement lab housing roughly a dozen desktop computers.

PROFESSOR MARRUS, the lone person in the room, sits at one of them with a pen in her mouth, furiously typing away on the keyboard.

She emphatically presses one particular button and a laser printer in the corner of the room whirs to life.

Prof. Marrus crosses the room, her high heels echoing off the tiled floor, and retrieves her print out.

CONNOR, sporting the beginnings of a beard, peeks his head into the doorway and gently knocks on the door, startling Prof. Marrus.

PROF. MARRUS
(holding her chest)
Oh, hello, Connor.

CONNOR
Hey.
(beat)
Sorry I'm late. It's supposed to rain later, so I took Gabriella to the shop before I came over.

PROF. MARRUS
It's fine.

She sets her print out down next to her computer and takes a sip from a cup of coffee.

CONNOR
So, are you sure this is safe?

PROF. MARRUS
Absolutely harmless. Bridget is just finishing her session.

She walks over to the door he's standing at.

PROF. MARRUS
Shall we?

And she walks out into:

INT. MEDICAL LAB - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Connor is a few steps behind Prof. Marrus, who is striding purposefully down the hall.

PROF. MARRUS

I enjoyed your last paper, by the way. Although I would guess you have a better perspective on nature versus nurture than the average student.

Connor laughs to himself, then nervously scratches the back of his head.

PROF. MARRUS

How is Gabriella's shop? I've been meaning to stop by.

CONNOR

It's good. Really good actually. She hired Kaia's annoying ass little sister to help out last week, since Kaia's due in a couple of weeks.

PROF. MARRUS

Excellent.
(beat)
Nervous?

CONNOR

(unsure)
Well, this is kind of different.

PROF. MARRUS

I assure you sensory deprivation is completely safe. It's one of the oldest forms of psychological study.

ANGLE ON the other end of the hall. A damp BRIDGET REILLY, with a towel draped around her, exits a door with a white coated lab assistant and LAURENCE REILLY.

BRIDGET

(excited)
Hey, Connor!

CONNOR

(nods)
Hey, Squirt.

The two groups converge just outside the door Bridget came out of.

CONNOR
(to Bridget)
Anything I should be worried about?

BRIDGET
(shakes her head)
I didn't feel a thing. I just had a dream about that car chase we were in. So when you gonna teach me how to drive, huh?

Connor holds up his hand, palm down, at his shoulder level.

CONNOR
(smirking)
When you're this tall.

BRIDGET
(frowning)
I'm never gonna be that tall!

CONNOR
(nodding)
Exactly.

Bridget scoffs and Laurence chuckles to himself as he leads Bridget away, pausing to lightly slap Connor on the shoulder.

LAURENCE
We'll see you later, son.

CONNOR
Yeah.

Laurence, Bridget, and the assistant walk towards an exit sign at the other end of the hall. Prof. Marrus holds the door open and Connor enters:

INT. MEDICAL LAB - ISOLATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is essentially bare, save a large tank, almost resembling a coffin, with a thick mass of wires extending from it to the wall across from Connor.

Connor kicks off his shoes and pulls his belt off of his waist.

PROF. MARRUS
Is it odd, still pretending to be related?

CONNOR

Not really. I've got birthdays and Christmases and vacations all in my head anyway. If it helps Bridget not go Katie Ka-Boom, I don't mind.

He pulls off his shirt and takes his pants off, revealing a pair of swim trunks underneath.

CONNOR

So how long am I going to be under?

PROF. MARRUS

It varies. At least six hours. Bridget was so at peace we let her go overnight for twelve.

CONNOR

And you can't see what's going on in my head?

Connor opens the tank up. It's three quarters of the way filled with water. He steps up a three-step ladder and steps into it.

PROF. MARRUS

No, Tiffany and I monitor your vital signs to make sure your body is at rest. If anything like your heart rate gets too high, we'll pull you immediately.

Connor lays back and lets himself float.

PROF. MARRUS

Just relax and let your mind take care of everything, okay?

Connor nods and Prof. Marrus shuts the lid of the tank.

INSIDE THE TANK

Connor clears his throat and closes his eyes. PUSH IN on his face as the screen goes WHITE. We ZOOM THROUGH what appears to be a sparkling tunnel of white light, completely with appropriate WHOOSH sounds.

INT. TAXI - NEXT

CONNOR'S POV

The white light slowly fades into a blurry shot of the front of a taxi and the back of the driver's head.

We slowly come into focus as the driver puts the car in park and turns around. Through the front windshield, we see that it's night time now.

NORMAL SHOT

Connor blinks and rubs his eyes, as if he just woke up from a nap.

DRIVER
That'll be \$15.25, pal.

Connor fishes out his wallet and pays the driver.

INT. TAVERN - NEXT

Connor enters a crowded, seedy dive of a bar. Everyone turns to him and raises their glasses in a salute with a chorus of "Hey!" like he's Norm from 'Cheers' or something.

Laurence, who looks like he's already had a few drinks, stumbles over and wraps his arm around Connor's shoulders.

LAURENCE
(slurred)
Hey, sonny. Glad you could join us.
Come on, we're right over here.

Laurence leads Connor, with Connor actually supporting his body weight, to a table towards the center of the bar. Connor freezes when he sees who is there.

DANIEL HOLTZ, the younger pre-Quor-Toth version, holds up a pint glass full of beer.

HOLTZ
A toast.

PUSH IN on the pint glass as another joins it in frame, this one filled with a thick red fluid. PAN OVER to reveal ANGEL, in full vamp face, cheekily grinning back at Holtz!

ANGEL
Allow me.
(clears throat)
Children wish fathers looked but
with their eyes; fathers that
children with their judgment
looked;...

Angel pauses and looks over to Connor, as does Holtz.

ANGEL
(grinning)
... and either may be wrong.

Holtz and Angel toast, slam, and drink.

PUSH IN on Connor's face as Laurence shakily raises his own glass.

LAURENCE
(slurred)
Hear hear!

Laurence drains the rest of his glass, not seeing Connor's utterly confused look in his direction.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN.

INT. GABRIELLA'S SHOP - SALES FLOOR

PIKE enters the shop, darting his head left and right.

ALICIA SINCAID, standing behind the cash register, perks up at the new arrival, but that quickly fades when she actually sees who it is.

PIKE
Your sister not working today?

ALICIA
Nah. She really shouldn't be when she's-

GABRIELLA (O.S.)
Sick!

GABRIELLA steps out from the back room with a cup of coffee.

GABRIELLA
She's, uh, gonna be out a few days.

Pike visibly deflates with that news.

PIKE
Oh. Damn, I was hoping to catch her today.

Gabriella and Alicia both blink in surprise.

ALICIA
You were?

PIKE
Yeah, I was. Gab, could I talk to you in private?

Gabriella points behind her to the back room.

GABRIELLA
Sure. We can talk in the office.

Pike nods and walks around the counter and into the back room. Gabriella grabs Alicia's arm.

GABRIELLA
(harsh whisper)
He still doesn't know!

Alicia looks down at Gabriella's grip on her arm, then back up at Gabriella. Gabriella sheepishly lets her go.

ALICIA

Whatever. Kaia should've told him a long time ago anyway.

GABRIELLA

Agreed, but that's her business. Not ours.

Gabriella steps into the back room. Alicia rolls her eyes and opens the cash drawer to count the money.

INT. GABRIELLA'S SHOP - OFFICE - NEXT

The office is barely the size of a walk-in closet. It has a small safe on the floor and a desk built into the wall with Gabriella's laptop on it.

Pike pours himself a cup of coffee from the small coffee machine on the counter and takes a seat in a metal folding chair.

Gabriella enters a few seconds later and shuts the door behind her. She sits down in the plush office chair across Pike.

PIKE

(rushed)

Okay, I want Kaia back and I need your help.

Once again, Gabriella can only blink.

GABRIELLA

Uh...

Pike leans forward, resting his hands on his elbows.

PIKE

It hadn't really bothered me until I dropped your watch off here the other day. That was the first time I'd seen or talked to her in months. Since that thing with Carmen when we kind of had it out.

GABRIELLA

Really? That long?

PIKE

Yep. And ya know it's cool hanging out with you and talking 'bout bikes, but... it's not the same.

Gabriella leans back in her seat and crosses her arms.

GABRIELLA

(offended)

Are you saying I was your rebound?

PIKE

No! Not like that, just, I miss her and I hadn't realized how much.

(beat)

When we almost kissed that one time-

Gabriella tenses up at that recollection.

PIKE

I... I know it was my choice to break up with her and I've been all distant since, but I still felt like I was cheating on her.

And that gets Gabriella to relax a bit, sagging her shoulders down.

GABRIELLA

Why didn't you say that before?

PIKE

I didn't want to offend you or stick you in the middle. I know you two are tight.

He bows his head, struggling to articulate himself properly.

GABRIELLA

Hey, it's okay. I'm relieved, to be honest. I... you two belong together.

Pike looks up at her with hope.

PIKE

So... you'll help me?

GABRIELLA

Sure, but I'm not sure how.

PIKE

Just, give me an estimate here.
What are my chances? Has she asked
about me? Mentioned wanting to get
back together? Is she...

(gulps)

... is she seeing someone else?

GABRIELLA

Don't be stupid, okay? Of course
she wants you back. She was hurt
you stopped calling, admittedly.

Pike bows his head again.

GABRIELLA

But no, she hasn't mentioned dating
anyone else.

PIKE

(exhales; looks up)
Okay, so what do I do?

GABRIELLA

("duh")
Uh, maybe call her?

PIKE

Just like that? You think she'll-

GABRIELLA

(exasperated)
I don't know, Pike. I really don't.
And you're not going to if you
don't man up and call her yourself.

Pike sits up in his chair again and squares his shoulder.

PIKE

Okay. Cool. I'll just... call her.

GABRIELLA

Good.

A beat.

PIKE

Could I use your phone? She might
not take it if she knows it's me.

Gabriella sighs and pinches the bridge of her nose as we
WHITE OUT TO:

INT. TAVERN - NEXT

ARC AROUND the room as all the patrons are pounding their fists on the bar tops and tables while chanting in unison:

PATRONS

Chug! Chug! Chug! Chug!

The camera continues moving as the chanting continues. It stops on Angel throwing back a pitcher filled with blood. Some of it runs down the side of his mouth as everyone cheers him on.

He finishes the pitcher and BELCHES while holding it up to a round of applause from everyone but Connor.

An attractive female server passes by him. He grabs her, much to her surprise, and bites into her neck! Connor raises up to stop this, but Holtz grabs his arm and shakes his head.

The customers start pounding and chanting "chug" again as Angel sucks the girl bone dry. Finally he drops her and HOWLS to the ceiling as everyone chants:

PATRONS

Angel! Angel! Angel! Angel!

Angel smiles and takes his seat again while high-five'ing Holtz and a still very much intoxicated Laurence.

HOLTZ

Well done, Angelus.

LAURENCE

(slurring)

Imma gonna go ooze da head...

And he slumps and falls right out of his chair, earning laughter from all those around him.

Connor's gaze is fixed on the dead server laid out on the floor. All the customers just step over her like she's a spilled beer.

CONNOR

(angrily; to Angel)

You just... killed that girl!

ANGEL

Hi there. Vampire. We do that.

CONNOR
 You don't... eat people. Not you.
 That's Angelus.

ANGEL
 Gus Savant ring a bell?

HOLTZ
 Please, Stephen try and relax. How
 often do we get to just enjoy being
 fathers and son?

Connor leans back and across his arms. There's a full beer in front of him with no moisture around the glass. A clear indicator it's at room temperature and thus being nursed.

CONNOR
 Never! That's the point!

He points back and forth between the two.

CONNOR
 (exasperated)
 Plus you two hate each other!

Holtz tenderly places his hand on Connor's shoulder.

HOLTZ
 Of those of us here at this
 table...

They all pause as Laurence tries to pull himself up to his seat and falls back down. Angel snickers to himself.

HOLTZ
 (clears throat)
 ... I'm certain you're carrying
 enough hate for all. Now go on and
 drink your ale.

Connor finally takes a sip of his beer and relaxes a bit.

CONNOR
 It's not hate, it's just...

ANGEL
 (waving his hand around)
 Bitterness? Hormones? Not enough
 sex in your life?

CONNOR
 Hey!

ANGEL

What? I get it. You're angry. I admit it, I was a crappy dad. I let-
 (nods to Holtz)
 -him take you to Quor'Toth, lied to you, tossed you out on the streets, basically did everything I could to make sure you grew up wrong. You want me to say I'm sorry? Fine, I'm sorry. Okay? I'm sorry I was a terrible father.

Angel picks up another pint of blood that wasn't there a second ago.

ANGEL

(muttering)
 Not like I had a good example to learn from. You read the memoirs.

CONNOR

(beat)
 I've made mistakes too. Dunking you into the ocean wasn't a highlight.

Holtz chuckles to himself as he finishes his glass and picks up a full one that, again, wasn't on the table a moment ago.

HOLTZ

I'd best keep my mouth shut then, eh? All I wanted to do was use you to exact my vengeance on Angelus.

CONNOR

You kept me alive in Quor-Toth. Taught me how to fight. To track.

HOLTZ

All so you could kill Angelus. You were a means to an end. Something I didn't realize until my dying breath. And for that, I'm sorry.

Laurence uses the table to pull himself up to his knees so his head is peering over the top.

LAURENCE

Commor... I wuz a good daddy, right? Even if I wazza not a human?

Connor swaps looks with Holtz and Angel, who both nod to him.

CONNOR
Yeah, dad. You were great.

Laurence holds up a finger.

LAURENCE
I'm number one!

And he's down again, taking a couple of the empty glasses off the table with him. Angel snickers again and slaps the table.

ANGEL
Alright! Time to finish up the four
B's of male bonding.

CONNOR
Four B's?

ANGEL
(nods)
Yep. We've got banter-
(holds up a glass)
-brew-
(nods to the dead server)
-bitches-
(stands up)
-and brawling!

Angel spins the nearest man around and drops him with a powerful punch! Two more men jump on Angel's back. Connor and Holtz each rip one off and join in with the brawling.

Laurence finally gets back to his feet, albeit on shaky legs.

LAURENCE
Heyyy! I need more beer!

POW!

He's knocked down from a punch from a vampire in a leather biker jacket and we FLASH CUT TO:

INT. PIKE'S APARTMENT - NEXT

Pike's sitting on his bed with his phone in his hands. His thumb hovers over a button for a beat before he presses it and puts the phone to his ear.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. KAIA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - SAME TIME

Kaia's phone starts vibrating and sliding off of her nightstand. KAIA herself moans and turns over in the bed, but she can't reach the phone.

She rolls the opposite way to her back and butt slides across the bed. The phone falls off the nightstand, but Kaia catches it before it hits the ground and answers it without checking the call screen.

KAIA
(groggy)
Hello?
(beat; no response)
Hellooo?

Pike startles like he was just day dreaming.

PIKE
Uh, hey.

KAIA
(blinks)
Oli?

PIKE
(nervous)
Yeah, it's me. How ya doing? I stopped by the shop and Gab told me you weren't feeling too well.

KAIA
Feeling too...?
(gets it)
Oh! It's just something I ate I think. I'm fine, just didn't feel like going in and I didn't have the heart to tell her.

PIKE
(chuckles)
Clever. Listen, umm, I want to talk to you about something.

Kaia sits up, suddenly on edge.

KAIA
(tentative)
Okay?

PIKE

In person, though. I know the last night of the full moon is tonight, so if you'd rather wait a couple of days...

Kaia runs her hand over her (very) pregnant stomach, contemplating.

KAIA

No, it's fine. I was supposed to help Colby practice his control tonight, but Alicia can cover that.

PIKE

Really?

(stands up)

Great! Well, I've got some errands to run and I dunno how long that'll take, but how about I give you a call back with a time to meet up?

KAIA

That'd be great. Can't wait.

PIKE

Great! Me too.

There's a loooooooonnnnggg pause where neither says anything.

PIKE

Well, yeah, I guess I better get on those errands.

KAIA

Oh! Right. I... I'll see you later?

PIKE

Yep. Bye.

They hang up.

END INTERCUT

Still in Kaia's apartment. She sets the phone down and immediately grabs her hair.

KAIA

Breathe, Kaia. You can do this.

Before she can completely wig out, the doorbell RINGS. She groans and rolls herself off of the bed, slides her feet into a pair of slippers, and walks out into:

INT. KAIA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The doorbell rings again, at a rapid pace.

KAIA

Hold on! I'm coming! I don't move
that fast!

She opens the door to reveal JOSH SINCAID standing on the other side sporting a huge grin.

JOSH

I know.

KAIA

(sighs)
Josh, what do you want?

JOSH

It's time, Kaia.

He clears his throat and hands an envelope to Kaia.

JOSH

Consider yourself served, Big Sis.

Kaia rips the envelope open.

KAIA

You taking me to court?
(reads the letter)
You can't be serious! Josh, I'm
eight and a half months pregnant!

JOSH

(sarcastic)
Oh, damn my terrible timing! Wish
I'd remembered before I went to the
Elders.

(shrugs)

Ah, well. It's all right there.
Kaia Sincaid, I hereby challenge
you to the rights of Alpha of the
Sincaid Clan. If you do not report
to the pit for our fight, you will
forfeit your position to me.

(beat; grins)

And be hunted down and killed.

Kaia steps back and SLAMS the door in Josh's face.

JOSH (O.S.)
(from behind the door)
See ya in a few hours!

We hear his footsteps and LAUGHTER as he walks away. Kaia leans against the door and slowly slides down to the floor, shock all over her face as we WHITE OUT TO:

INT. TAVERN - NEXT

Connor spins a guy by his neck and waist and tosses him over the nearby pool table.

Next to him, the biker guy that decked Laurence earlier jabs a broken pool stick into Angel's chest. Angel yanks it out and smacks him in the jaw with him.

ANGEL
Heart's on the other side, stupid!

Holtz kicks a guy in the groin and follows up with a big uppercut that knocks him over the bar top.

An older gentleman in a ruffled business suit smashes a beer bottle on the back of Connor's head.

Connor turns around clutching the point of impact, pissed to high hell.

He tackles the man to the ground, mounts him, and starts viciously punching him in the face over and over again.

Holtz and Angel finish off the rest of the customers while Connor furiously pounds his victim's face.

The man turns to his stomach and puts his arms up to block, but Connor hooks his punches around and continues to land.

The man turns to his back and to his stomach again, moaning in pain with each hit.

Connor grabs him by the neck and starts to choke him. The man gags and gasps for air, futilely grasping at Connor's arms.

Angel and Holtz step up behind Connor to get a close up view.

ANGEL
(pumping his fist)
Atta boy!

HOLTZ
Yes, Stephen! Take your vengeance.

CONNOR'S VICTIM

(gagged)

Please. I have a wife. And a son.

CONNOR

(cold)

I don't care.

Connor grits his teeth as the man's arms drop limply to the ground. Connor YELLS and SNAPS his neck.

He stands up and lets his victim's head fall to the ground, hissing and heaving his shoulders up and down.

Holtz steps up and places his hand on Connor's shoulder.

HOLTZ

Care for another pint?

PUSH IN on Connor's face before the screen goes WHITE and we ZOOM OUT the white tunnel that took us into this dream state and:

INT. MEDICAL LAB - ISOLATION ROOM - NEXT

ANGLE ON the isolation tank as Connor can be heard yelling and thrashing about in the water.

Prof. Marrus rushes into the room and opens the lid. Connor explodes out of it and falls to the ground. A puddle quickly forms from the water dripping off of him.

PROF. MARRUS

Connor!

(pats his back)

Connor, breathe. You're okay.

Connor pops up to his feet and grabs Prof. Marrus by the throat, slamming her back into the nearest wall.

CONNOR

(furious)

What did you do to me?

PROF. MARRUS

Connor! Stop! Tiffany and I saw your vitals were too high and I came right in!

Connor looks over to the open doorway and the frightened assistant from earlier, TIFFANY, standing there holding a towel. He calms down and releases Prof. Marrus.

CONNOR
I'm... I'm sorry.

PROF. MARRUS
(rubbing her throat)
It's fine. The first time can be
traumatizing for certain people.
(beat)
Do you want to talk about it?

Connor thinks on that for a moment before shaking his head. Tiffany tentatively steps over and holds out the towel at arms length, wisely keeping her distance.

Connor accepts it and begins to dry himself off.

CONNOR
No, not yet.
(beat)
How long was I under?

PROF. MARRUS
Just over four hours. So whatever
happened, it had to be intense.

CONNOR
It... it really wasn't. I guess...
in a way the fact that it wasn't
means it was.
(beat)
I just want to get some rest now. I
can come back later and we can go
over it all.

PROF. MARRUS
I'd like that. I'm sorry, but it's
the scientist in me.

CONNOR
It's fine.

Prof. Marrus nods and gives Connor's shoulder a squeeze. She and Tiffany leave the room and shut the door as Connor starts to get dressed.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Looking in on the driver's side of Connor's car, we see him stoically maneuvering through traffic. He stops at a red light behind a row of cars and hears a barely audible SCREAM.

He looks out his window and sees a BLOND WOMAN being attacked by a VAMPIRE in a shaded part of an alley.

Connor turns away from the attack and starts to drive again when the light turns green. After a few moments, he groans.

CONNOR

Dammit!

He yanks the steering wheel and cuts a sharp U-turn, almost smacking into a car moving the opposite way. Connor speeds back towards the alley and parks on the sidewalk. He bolts out of the door.

CONNOR

Hey! Let her go!

The vampire drops his victim, who falls to her knees clutching her neck.

Connor runs in at full speed, pulling a STAKE from under his shirt.

VAMPIRE

You wanna dance, kid?

A bright light FLASHES between them and a naked white man materializes out of midair and falls to the ground. Both Connor and the vampire stop cold. The man is facing away from Connor, so we can't see his face.

Connor blinks and snaps back to fight mode, quickly jumping over the man and staking the surprised vampire. He rushes over the blond and kneels down to her.

CONNOR

Are you okay?

BLOND WOMAN

(shaken up)

I... I think so.

Connor nods and turns back to the naked man, who is turned on his side and out cold, and his jaw drops. It's ANGEL!

Connor shakes his head and rapidly blinks his eyes.

CONNOR

Dad?

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN.

EXT. CITY STREET - ALLEY - DAY

Connor rushes over to the unconscious Angel as the blond quickly gets to her feet and hauls ass out of the alley.

Connor turns Angel to his back and check his pulse. There's a beat before he realizes how stupid that is.

He rushes over to his car and retrieves a blanket from the trunk, draping it over Angel. Connor hooks his arms under Angel's and starts to drag him back to the car.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

The door unlocks from the outside and is kicked open by Connor, who drags the still unconscious Angel into the condo.

He heaves his father up on the couch just as Gabriella comes out of the kitchen with a sandwich, half in her hand and half in her mouth.

GABRIELLA
(mouthful)
What's going on?

She circles around to the front of the couch just as Connor finishes situating Angel on it. Connor looks back to her.

CONNOR
What are you doing here? Shouldn't
you be at the shop?

Gabriella holds up the sandwich.

GABRIELLA
(still muffled)
Lunch break. Connor, who is-

She freezes, mouth wide open (and showing the chewed up sandwich), when she recognizes who it is.

GABRIELLA
(swallows her food)
An... Angel?
(beat)
That's impossible.

He looks up at her and moves aside to give her some space. She kneels and tentatively touches Angel's cheek.

GABRIELLA
Did you check his pulse?

Connor throws her a withering look and she immediately gets it.

GABRIELLA
Sorry.

CONNOR
It's fine.
(looks back to Angel)
I actually did check it.

GABRIELLA
Where'd you find him?

CONNOR
Rescued this girl from a vamp and he just appeared out of thin air. Physically, he looks fine, but he hasn't woken up.

Gabriella and Connor both stand up, keeping their eyes on Angel.

GABRIELLA
And you're sure it's him? I don't feel any residual magic off him, but still-

CONNOR
(interrupting)
It's him. The scent. I'd never get that wrong. I'm sure of it.

Gabriella goes to her bookshelf and starts running her fingers across the volumes.

GABRIELLA
(searching)
Okay, well, we can try a healing spell.

She pulls one book out as Connor comes to look over her shoulder.

GABRIELLA
The one I used to heal your injuries after I took your soul out could work. I'm gonna need some stuff from the shop.

CONNOR
 (nods)
 Make me a list.

Gabriella grabs a pen and a stack of Post-Its from the top of the shelf and starts scribbling items.

GABRIELLA
 Okay, let me think. Some fine
 Baltic stones. A little death's
 bane and-

ANGEL (O.S.)
 (shaky)
 Connor?

Connor and Gabriella whirl around. Angel's blinking his eyes, waking up.

CONNOR
 (softly)
 Dad.

Connor dashes back to Angel's side as Angel sits up, an action that looks rather painful for him.

Their eyes meet and they hold a gaze with one another.

FADE TO LATER in the scene.

Angel is wrapped up in two blankets now. Connor is sitting the recliner, which has been turned to look directly at the couch.

Gabriella comes out carrying a saucer with a steaming cup on it. She gently sets it on the coffee table in front of Angel and moves to sit on the arm of the recliner next to Connor.

GABRIELLA
 Sorry, we don't stock... blood in
 the house. I hope tea is okay.

ANGEL
 It's fine. Thank you.

He takes a small, cautious sip. Connor hasn't taken his eyes off him yet. Angel looks up at Gabriella and squints at her.

ANGEL
 You... look familiar.

GABRIELLA

I worked for Wolfram and Hart.
Spells and Translations under-

ANGEL

(finishing for her)
-Wesley.

Angel bows his head, remembering his fallen friend.

Connor opens and closes his mouth like he wants to say something, but can't find the words.

CONNOR

I, uh, met Spike about half a year ago now.

Angel looks up to Connor and smirks.

ANGEL

I'm very sorry for that.

Connor smiles. Angel sets the tea cup down, but it's on the edge of the table and tips over.

Connor instinctively thrusts his hand out and the cup stops in mid air with no tea spilling out of it. Angel gapes and looks at the cup, then back to Connor.

He reaches down and takes the cup out of mid air, sticking it back on the coffee table.

ANGEL

Apparently, I've missed a few things.

CONNOR

An apocalypse or two. Picked up some new talents.

(clears throat)

Dad, I... well, uh, what happened to you?

PUSH IN on Angel's completely expressionless face.

EXT. ALLEY (FLASHBACK)

And we're back in the thunderstorm besieged alley that housed the final moments of Angel's 'Not Fade Away'

Angel steps up in front of SPIKE, ILLYRIA, and CHARLES GUNN with a fiery determination in his face.

ANGEL
Let's go to work.

He swings his sword, deflecting the attack of the first incoming demon.

ANGEL (V.O.)
There had to have been hundreds of them. We knew we were gonna lose, but by that point, it wasn't about winning anymore.

Angel impales two demons with one stab of his sword and kicks them both away. He looks back to see Gunn quickly buried under a pile of demons.

ANGEL (V.O.)
Gunn went down first. Given he was basically bleeding out before the battle, I expected as much. Then I heard it.

A loud, ear splitting SCREECH gets Angel to look up back in the sky. A large DRAGON is quickly swooping down towards the melee on the ground.

Angel pauses to cut down three more demons with ease. The dragon dives to ground level and spits out a torrent of fire. Spike and Illyria both dodge to the side, but Angel jumps straight up into the air.

The fire incinerates all of the demons in its path. The dragon flies through the path it just cleared and Angel lands right on its back.

ANGEL (V.O.)
Me being me, if I was gonna go down, that damn dragon was coming down with me.

The dragon screeches and flaps off into the sky again. Angel gets to a stable position and stabs his sword into the dragon's neck!

The dragon turns, twists, and corkscrews in the air, trying to shake Angel off, but Angel holds on to the handle of his sword to stay in place.

The dragon turns and swoops down towards the battle again. It rears its head back and Angel sees Spike right in the target zone.

ANGEL

Spike!!

The dragon spits fire again, lighting up Spike and every demon around him. The dragon pulls up into the sky again as Spike SCREAMS seconds before he DUSTS.

Angel yanks his sword out and drives it into the neck of the dragon again. It squeals and plummets back towards the earth and crashing on top of the Hyperion!

Angel rolls off on impact, yanking his sword out with him. He quickly gets back up and slices the dragon's neck again. And again.

Angel grits his teeth and continues to hack away, getting viscous blood all over him.

The dragon finally goes still. A chorus of GROWLING off screen gets Angel to turn around.

There's at least a couple dozen demons all on the roof with him now.

Angel slowly lifts his sword as the downpour of rain washes the dragon's blood off his face.

He VAMPS OUT and licks a drop of that blood from his cheek.

Then he ROARS and charges right at the demons. They return the battle cry and charge at Angel.

CUT TO an overhead shot as the two sides collide and WHITE OUT TO:

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

Connor and Gabriella both bow their heads. Connor looks particularly pained by the story.

Angel, by contrast, looks his normal stoic self. LESI comes up and hops up on the couch. Angel scratches the dog's head.

ANGEL

I'll spare you the dusty details,
but that was my Little Big Horn.

(beat)

At least I thought it was. I guess
not, given I'm here now.

The room falls into total silence.

INT. STADIUM - NEXT

Come in on a large sand pit surrounded by elevated stands. The same place that Pike and Trevor Sincaid fought in 1x03. The stands are packed with a hooting and hollering audience.

A gate at one end of the pit opens up and a shirtless Josh steps out. He throws his arms up to a boisterous cheer.

PAN UP above him to a set of throne-style chairs where the two CLAN ELDERS are sitting. Josh turns and nods to them. They return the nod and smile to him.

Across the pit, another gate opens and Kaia shakily steps out. She looks scared out of her mind and gets a mix of cheers and jeers from the crowd.

Brother and sister lock eyes as they approach one another in the center of the pit.

ON the stands where CLAIRE SINCAID is sitting, holding the young and very frightened COLBY SINCAID in her lap. Claire doesn't look too concerned about what's about to happen.

Kaia and Josh meet face to face in the center. Kaia's face tightens up, not showing that fear from a moment ago.

JOSH

Didn't think you show.

KAIA

You're a real bastard.

JOSH

(cocky)

And I have you to thank for that, don't I?

(beat)

Do you know what today is, Kaia?

KAIA

(coolly)

The day you die.

Josh chuckles to himself, admiring his older sister's bravado.

JOSH

Today would've been Dad's 55th birthday.

Kaia's face twitches, but other than that, her expression doesn't change. Josh physically starts shaking with rage.

JOSH

(through clenched teeth)
 And he would've been here for it,
 if it weren't for you. Picking a
 friggin' norm over him. A norm
 you're not even with anymore.

KAIA

(sincere)
 Josh, I'm sorry things turned out
 the way they did. If I knew then
 what I knew now, that Oli and I
 wouldn't be together anymore-
 (beat)
 -then I still would've chosen him
 over Dad.

Josh SPITS in her face and steps back from her.

JOSH

Well, in a few minutes, you'll be
 able to tell Dad that personally.

The Elder from 2x03 stands up and raises his arms, then
 slowly lowers them, motioning for the crowd to pipe down.

CLAN ELDER

We have gathered here today to
 settle a dispute that has been most
 troublesome and contentious for our
 clan. First, I hope everyone
 admires our brand new dome. Now we
 won't be rained out anymore.

(motions to Josh)

Josh Sincaid has invoked a
 challenge to Kaia Sincaid for the
 title of Alpha of our clan. This
 challenge will be contested in the
 ancient ways of our forefathers. A
 battle to the death.

The crowd roars their approval again.

A pin-stripe wearing, feeble looking REFEREE comes to the
 center of the pit and waves Josh and Kaia in. Neither of them
 budge an inch.

REFEREE

Okay, fine. I'll just yell.
 (clears throat)
 Rules are simple. Kill or be
 killed. If this goes five minutes,
 you're each allowed a weapon.
 (MORE)

REFEREE (CONT'D)
(motions to Josh)
Any questions?

Josh shakes his head.

REFEREE
(motions to Kaia)
Any questions from you, Kaia?

Kaia doesn't even shake her head, instead holding a steely gaze on Josh.

REFEREE
(to Kaia; sincere)
Good luck.

The ref steps back and a BELL rings. Kaia and Josh begin to circle. Josh is light on his feet, bouncing on his heels like a boxer. Kaia is walking very flat footed, holding her fists low at her sides.

JOSH
(cocky)
Just to make this sporting and give
the crowd a show, I'm not gonna go
furry for the first five.

Josh rushes in, throwing wild haymakers at Kaia's head. Kaia backs straight up, moving her head from side to side to avoid the punches.

Josh shoots a left uppercut to Kaia's stomach that she deflects with both hands, leaving her face wide up for Josh to land a right cross on her chin.

Kaia spins around and falls flat on her ass to the roar of the crowd.

ON Claire and Colby as Colby buries his arms in his mother's shoulder.

Back to the fight as Kaia gets back to her feet, stumbling backwards. She wipes a speck of blood from her lip.

Josh charges in again and Kaia sidesteps and trips him. He stumbles past her and retorts with a spinning back fist. Kaia bends back to dodge and lands a quick jab to Josh's liver followed by a right hook to his chin.

Josh backs out immediately and shakes the punches off. He flicks his tongue out and starts bouncing on his heels again, circling Kaia.

It's all Kaia can do, giving her limited range of motion, to keep Josh in front of her. He steps in and snaps a kick to Kaia's stomach.

She lightly hops to the side and catches the kick under her arm. Josh immediately jumps and lands a reaping circle kick with his free leg that knocks her down again.

ON the referee as he winces.

Kaia lands hard on her back. Josh throws his arms up to the crowd again and again they cheer him on.

Kaia struggles to get up this time. She gets to all fours and Josh kicks her in the butt, knocking her back down on her stomach.

She painfully turns over to her back, clutching her unborn children. Josh kneels over her and grabs her by the throat.

JOSH

And now the age old question.

He punches her right in the face, the impact made more violent because Kaia's head is pressed to the unforgiving floor of the pit.

JOSH

How many licks does it take...

He punches her again.

JOSH

... to get to the center of a werewolf's skull?

And another punch.

JOSH

Let's find out.

And again.

JOSH

(pauses)

Hmm... damn, I lost count. Let's start over.

He rears back even further and really puts all of his strength into another punch.

JOSH

One.

And again.

JOSH

Two.

PULL AWAY as he continues punching and counting. Kaia is completely defenseless and just takes the pounding.

ON Claire and Colby, the latter of which is openly sobbing in his mother's arms. Claire continues to watch the slaughter with no expression on her face.

Back to the fight. Kaia's face is a bloody, swollen mess. Josh continues his merciless pounding.

JOSH

Forty four!

Another punch.

JOSH

How about I get to Dad's age, then switch hands and do it again? That cool with you?

Kaia's body twitches from the intense pain. She manages to lock eyes with her brother.

And she SPITS a mouthful of blood in his face.

This only serves to further enrage Josh. He lands another punch.

JOSH

Forty five!

CLOSE UP on Kaia's face as it gets hit again.

JOSH

Forty six!

A bell rings that Josh doesn't acknowledge. He drops another blow.

JOSH

Forty seven!

He raises up for another and his wrist is grabbed by a set of hands.

JOSH

Huh?

Josh looks over to see Claire is the culprit. She yanks him off and kicks him in the chest to knock him back.

JOSH
Mom?!? What the hell?

ON the referee, who can't help a small smile.

BACK TO Claire as she ignores her son and gets down on both knees, cradling her limp daughter's head in her arms.

Kaia shakily looks up into Claire's rapidly welling up eyes.

KAIA
(weak)
M... Mom?

Claire sniffles and nods.

CLAIRE
I'm going to be your weapon,
sweetie.

KAIA
You... can't beat him.

She strokes Kaia's hair and smiles sweetly at her daughter.

CLAIRE
I know.

She gently releases Kaia's head and stands up.

Claire looks up to her son and her eyes go BLACK. She snarls and bares her rapidly growing teeth.

JOSH
(shaking his head)
I don't want to kill you, Mom.

Claire isn't listening. Her body sprouts fur all over it and in seconds, she's completely transformed into a WEREWOLF.

Josh GROWLS and begins his own transformation.

ON Colby, who is just peeking over the edge of the stands, looking more terrified than before.

The now fully wolfed out Josh and Claire both HOWL to the sky before they barrel into each other like, well, animals.

PUSH IN, past their battle, to Kaia as she rolls to her side and spits out a mouthful of blood. She pushes herself up to all fours and GROWLS.

Josh and Claire, the former much bigger than the latter, roll around on the ground, snapping their jaws at one another. Josh gets the top position and starts slashing away at Claire's body, knocking chunks of fur and skin off.

After a few moments of this, he stands and grabs Claire's neck in his jaws, then HEAVES her several feet away.

Josh ROARS and stalks towards his down mother, who is WHIMPERING and not getting up.

Suddenly, a wolfed out Kaia, leaps on his back and sinks her jaws into Josh's shoulder! Josh HOWLS and throws her off. Kaia gets up on all four paws, her pregnant stomach plainly hanging down.

They charge into one another, wildly slashing and tearing into each other with their claws. Fur and blood fly everyone as they continuously slash away.

After a few gruesome moments of this, they separate and circle.

Brother and sister HOWL and prepare to pounce. They both leap, but Josh is immediately snatched back down. He YELLS looks down to see Claire has her jaws sunk into one of his legs.

Kaia POUNCES on top of him. They land with Kaia mounted on top of him. Kaia rears her paws back, the razor sharp claws protruding from them, and SLAMS them down!

CLOSE UP on Josh. Kaia's paws are embedded in the ground on either side of his head. He shifts back to human form.

CLOSE UP on the heavily breathing Kaia as she shifts back to human form too, although her eyes stay BLACK. She yanks her hands free and grabs Josh's throat with one of them.

She draws her other back to head level and it morphs into a clawed paw. The crowd cheers louder than ever, anticipating the kill.

Kaia grits her teeth and looks over to her mother, who is also back in human form. Then she looks down at Josh, who has a look of defeat on his face.

There's a tense moment before:

KAIA
(choked up)
I'm not a monster.

She releases Josh and gets up off of him. Her tattered clothes barely cover her unmentionables. Josh makes no effort to get up.

KAIA
(emphatic)
I'm not a monster.

She turns and walks away to a chorus of jeers from the crowd. Josh lifts and turns his head to watch her go.

JOSH
You're a coward, Kaia!
(beat)
You're not one of us! You never
were!

Kaia doesn't look back.

KAIA
(softly)
I never wanted to be.

The gate in front of her opens and she leaves the pit.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

Gabriella picks up her keys and purse. Angel is still sitting on the couch, but he's dressed in a set of pajamas obviously too small for him. Connor is sitting next to him.

GABRIELLA
(to Connor)
Are you sure you're okay here? I
can just have Alicia-

CONNOR
I'm fine. Go.

Gabriella nods and leaves. Connor and Angel simultaneously lean back on the couch and cross their arms.

ANGEL
She's a nice girl.

Connor nods.

ANGEL
 Gypsy, isn't she?
 (off Connor's look)
 I can tell. I had a thing for 'em.

CONNOR
 I know.
 (off Angel's look.)
 Read your memoirs. Could use an editor.

Angel chuckles and Connor gets up from the couch.

CONNOR
 I'm gonna take a shower and we'll go someplace. Catch up.
 (beat)
 I'm glad you're back, Dad.

ANGEL
 Me too.

PUSH IN on Connor as he starts towards his bedroom.

And Angel's suddenly there behind him, grabbing his shoulder.

ANGEL (O.S.)
 You might say-

Angel HURLS Connor through the air. Connor lands on the coffee table, destroying it.

He scrambles up and look at Angel, who is in full VAMP FACE now. He giggles in a creepy, very familiar way.

ANGELUS
 I'm perfectly happy to be back.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM

Connor clutches his ribs as he gets to his feet. Outside, a THUNDER STORM starts up. He briefly doubles over in pain. Apparently, it was a BAD landing.

CONNOR
(pained)
Can't be.

Angelus does a three step dance and spins around majestically.

ANGELUS
Oh, but it is. Here you are walking around sans soul. What can I say? I felt left out.

CONNOR
You turned? Just now?

ANGELUS
(shakes his head)
Try I was never Angel to begin with. PtB were content to let us die in that alley, but the Senior Partners just saw an opening to get the guy they always wanted.
(hits his chest)
They have respect for the classics.

Connor flicks his wrists, unleashing his wrist stakes.

ANGELUS
Geez, son, are you copying everything I do? Lost your soul, using my toys, even got a little tarot card reader to call your own.

CONNOR
Shut up!

Connor throws a clumsy attack that Angelus effortlessly sidesteps. He holds his finger up like he's a professor giving a lecture.

ANGELUS
(taunting)
Though you're taking your sweet time to chow down on her.
(MORE)

ANGELUS (CONT'D)

Hey, if you don't have the stomach
for it, Daddy will be more than
happy to fill in for ya.

CONNOR

You stay away from her!

Connor YELLS and charges in like a man possessed, desperately trying to stake Angelus, who simply giggles as he blocks all of Connor's attacks with his hands and arms.

Connor throws his arms out to his side like wings and slams them forward, Mongolian chop style. Angel wing blocks, pushes Connor's arms out, and delivers a sound HEADBUTT.

Angelus follows up with a front spinning roundhouse kick to Connor's face that knocks him for a spin. Angelus keeps spinning and lands a back roundhouse to Connor's chest that knocks him THROUGH the glass of the patio door.

A streak of lightning flashes outside as Connor lands.

Angelus steps out to:

EXT. G&C'S CONDO - PATIO - CONTINUOUS

Connor tries to get up, but Angelus kicks him right in the face and he slumps back down. Angelus looks out to the skyline view and spreads his arms, soaking it all in.

ANGELUS

Ah, the city of angels.

There's a loud clap of THUNDER. Angelus looks down to his son and smiles.

ANGELUS

And guess who's back with a few
days to kill. In more ways than
one.

He lets himself fall forward over the balcony railing. Connor scrambles to his feet and looks over, but he can't see Angelus anywhere.

The rain is too thick for any long range visibility. Angelus's signature CACKLE echoes back to him though.

Connor darts away from the balcony and we FLASH CUT TO:

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

NICK SINCAID is on the floor with his head resting on his hands, watching television. Outside, a thunderstorm rages on.

Out of frame, the front door opens and he looks back. Claire and Kaia stagger in, both supporting each other. They're both badly wounded, Kaia moreso than Claire.

NICK
No way! You won?!

They ignore him and continue limping, going up the stairs.

CLAIRE (O.S.)
Josh should be home soon. He might
need your help getting upstairs.

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - BATHROOM - NEXT

Claire sets her daughter into the shower bay and helps remove her clothes (the camera keeping things tasteful).

KAIA
(weak)
Why did you help me, Mom?

Claire gently moves Kaia's blood-matted hair out of her eyes.

CLAIRE
You knew none of us agreed with
your decisions as Alpha and you
still enacted them.
(beat; sniffles)
You had no chance of beating Josh
in your condition, but you showed
up to fight anyway.

She stands up and turns the water on. It starts to wash the blood off of Kaia's body.

CLAIRE
You're strong, Kaia. Stronger than
any of us.
(beat)
I spent years creating killers
instead of raising children.
(beat; tears up)
But it's nice to know I got at
least one right.
(turns to leave)
I'll get your things from your car.

Claire leaves, shutting the door behind her. Kaia curls her legs under herself and leans her head against the shower bay wall, just letting the water drain the remnants of the fight from her.

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NEXT

Claire steps out from the master bedroom and shuts the door. She freezes when she sees Nick helping a battered Josh up to the top of the stairs.

Josh and Claire hold a stare that Josh gives up. Nick helps Josh into his room and Claire starts down the stairs.

EXT. CITY STREET - NEXT

Connor's car speeds down the street, kicking up waves of water from puddles as he darts between cars.

PUSH IN on Connor's determined face.

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - MASTER BEDROOM - NEXT

Kaia steps out from the bathroom wearing a robe. She sits on the bed and shifts through her personal belongings just as her phone starts ringing.

PULL AWAY from her to the slightly ajar door. Josh is just outside the door, listening in as Kaia answers the call.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. PIKE'S APARTMENT - SAME TIME

Pike shuts his front door behind him.

PIKE
Hey there.

Kaia smiles and all but melts when she hears Pike's voice.

KAIA
(softly)
Hey, Oli.

PIKE
(frowns)
You sound tired. Sure you're not that sick?

KAIA
No, I... well, to be honest, I had to fight today. Someone challenged me for Alpha.

PIKE
(blown away)
Whoa. You okay?

KAIA
Really sore and banged up, but
yeah, I'm fine.

Pike sits down on his bed and silently lets go of a breath he was holding.

PIKE
Well, if you're talking to me, then
you obviously won.
(beat; wary)
So that means-

KAIA
No. I could have, but I didn't.
(beat)
Umm, I'm not looking my best right
now, Oli. I don't know if you want
to see me like this.

PIKE
I don't care what you look like. I
just really need to see you today.
I... I miss you.

Kaia looks taken aback by that proclamation.

KAIA
(glowing)
O... okay. Well, I don't feel right
going out in public right now. I'm
at my mom's now, but do you know
where my apartment is?

PIKE
Gab said you moved, but I never got
specifics.

KAIA
Belmont Hills by the Ralph's on
Glendale?

PIKE
Yeah, I know that place. Is three
hours from now, okay? Traffic's
gonna be ugly in this storm.

KAIA
I'm in 21C. I'll be there. Bye.

END INTERCUT

Kaia hangs up. Josh storms into the room and cracks her in the face with a baseball bat! She falls limp on the bed.

INT. GABRIELLA'S SHOP - SALES FLOOR - NEXT

Gabriella rings up a customer and smiles as she hands their purchases over. Angelus opens the door and steps in.

Now he's wearing black leather pants, a black button up shirt, and a black duster. He holds the door open for the departing customer, leaving Gabriella and him alone in the shop.

GABRIELLA

Hey there. How'd you know where this place was?

ANGELUS

Would it be creepy if I said I sniffed ya out?

GABRIELLA

(smiles)

A little, but I'm used to it with Connor. Bold move, moving around in broad daylight.

ANGELUS

(points behind him)

Storm clouds hiding the sun. My lucky day, I guess.

Gabriella briefly turns her back and Angelus quickly locks the door when she's not looking. She turns back around and waves her hand up and down.

GABRIELLA

Didn't know Connor kept that much cow in his closet.

ANGELUS

Oh, well, I picked up a few things.

(looks around)

So, uh, you work here alone?

Gabriella organizes a few small things on the counter.

GABRIELLA

No, my friend's little sister works here, but she had to leave to go check on my friend. She's pregnant.

ANGELUS

Ah, I see. So are you the one that's been teaching Connor magic?

GABRIELLA

I've been trying. His body's got a natural affinity for it, but he tends to be stubborn. Always prefers to just hack and slice a problem away.

(smirks)

I suppose he gets it from you.

Angelus chuckles to himself and shrugs.

ANGELUS

Well, what can I say? He's a chip off the old fang.

Gabriella giggles briefly before catching herself and covering her mouth.

ANGELUS

So how good is he, actually? With the magic?

GABRIELLA

Nothing special. Not yet anyway.

ANGELUS

Mmm. I see.

Behind Angelus, a set of headlights bear down on the entrance to the shop.

GABRIELLA

What?

Angelus darts over to Gabriella and grabs her from behind just as Connor crashes THROUGH the front of the store!

Connor's out of the car in a flash, holding two crossbows on Angelus, who has Gabriella in front of him as a shield with her arm pinned behind her.

ANGELUS

Hey, took ya long enough to catch up. What, did ya make a sandwich first?

CONNOR

(icily)

Let her go.

Off this standoff, we SMASH CUT TO:

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - BASEMENT - NEXT

Kaia is flung into the cage and the door slams behind her. Claire is already in the cage, laid out on her back and out cold.

Kaia quickly comes to and turns around to see Josh standing there.

KAIA
What are you doing?

JOSH
It's called tough love, Sis. You started turning your back on your kind when you hooked up with that norm.

Josh holds up Kaia's phone.

JOSH
(grinning)
The one I just sent a text to meet at your place in one hour instead of three.

Kaia's eyes go wide. She knows where this is going.

JOSH
He's clouding your mind and, by extension, the progress of our clan, so bylaws say he's gotta die.

Josh starts up the stairs. Kaia rushes up and slams her hands into the bars.

KAIA
(pleading)
Josh, please don't!

JOSH
Please? Please don't? God, you're so weak now. I'm not doing anything Dad wouldn't have done.

Kaia's begging expression changes to menacing in about two beats.

KAIA
And you saw where that got him. If you hurt Oli, I will kill you.

JOSH

Yeah, but he'll still be dead. And you'll be left with the regret of having not killed me earlier. So how do you come out a winner?

He disappears up the stairs and slams the door. Kaia backs away from the cage and runs her hands through her hair.

INT. GABRIELLA'S SHOP - SALES FLOOR - NEXT

Angelus, still holding Gabriella captive, giggles gleefully as Gabriella's eyes flash YELLOW. Angelus glances down at his hostage's eyes.

ANGELUS

Ah ah ah. None of that.

There's a loud CRACK and Gabriella gasps and tenses up. Her eyes go back to normal.

ANGELUS

(grinning)

Hey, ya ever play that game Mercy where two people lock hands and try to see who can bend the other's the furthest?

Angelus visibly tenses up and Gabriella stiffens even more. Angelus turns back to Connor and VAMPS OUT.

ANGELUS

I hadn't noticed before, but she smells so sweet and ripe. God, I missed that scent. Got yourself a real winner here, son.

Angelus turns and LICKS Gabriella's cheek. She tries to pull away, but he holds her head firmly in place.

CONNOR

(barely restrained)

Let. Her. Go.

ANGELUS

(nonchalant)

Whatever you say.

Angelus spins around, still holding Gabriella and THROWS her over the counter. She smacks into the car door Connor is standing behind, knocking it into Connor.

Both of them hit the ground hard and Connor drops his two weapons.

ANGELUS

I don't want to drag this cat and mouse out anymore than you do, so let's skip to the big finale. I'll be at the place guys like us go for answers, if you've found it yet.

ON Connor as she scrambles to his feet with a crossbow in hand, but Angelus is gone.

Connor gets to Gabriella's side and helps her sit up, leaning her against his car.

CONNOR

Are you okay? I got here as fast as I could.

GABRIELLA

(gasping)
I'm okay. Connor, was that-

CONNOR

(bitter)
Angelus.

GABRIELLA

Oh my God. What are we going to do?

Connor helps Gabriella up and over to the counter.

CONNOR

We're not doing anything. This is my fight.

Connor tries to walk away, but Gabriella grabs his arm and yanks him back.

GABRIELLA

Connor, no! Angelus is a monster! Let's tackle this together.

CONNOR

(shaking his head)
I have to do this alone.
(beat)
Part of me has... always thought of Angelus as my real father instead of Angel. The soul was something forced on him, just like me. His natural state is to be without it.

Connor bows his head, as if saying this out loud suddenly makes it true.

CONNOR

And if I have to destroy that, I'm basically destroying a part of me.

(beat)

And you can't be there for that.

He tries to walk away, but Gabriella yanks him back again, her eyes welling up with tears.

GABRIELLA

Connor, please! I... I love you.

(beat)

I don't want to lose you. You're all I've got.

Connor gently removes her hand from his arm and slowly backs away, shaking his head.

CONNOR

I'm sorry.

He steps into his car and reverses out of the shop. Gabriella watches him leave, still in the same place he left her.

INT. KAIA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

The apartment is silent and dark. There's a knocking at the door.

PIKE (O.S.)

Kaia! You here?

The door opens and Pike tentatively sticks his head in. He peers around before fully letting himself in and shutting the door behind him.

PIKE

Kaia?

His phone BEEPS and he checks it as he steps further into the living room.

ON the phone face displaying a text message. 'Goodbye, Oli. I hope your death is slow and painful'.

PIKE

(confused)

What?

JOSH (O.S.)
(mocking)
Hello again, Oli.

ARC AROUND Pike's shoulder to see Josh standing in the hallway.

PIKE
(sneering)
What are you doing here?

JOSH
Kaia sent me over.
(beat; smirks)
You read the text, right?

Pike looks down at his phone, then up at Josh and his eyes go wide.

Josh's eyes go BLACK and he leaps at Pike.

Pike drops to his back and flips Josh over him with his feet.

Josh rolls when he hits the ground and in the course of that, transforms into his wolf form!

Pike pulls his gun, but Josh pounces on him and knocks him to the ground. The gun slides under the dining room table.

Pike moves his head left and right, dodging Josh's snapping jaws. Josh digs his claws into Pike's shoulders, eliciting a SCREAM of pain from Pike.

Pike desperately slaps his hand around on the floor, seeking a weapon. He finally a packaged BABY BOTTLE and shoves it into Josh's mouth, using the bottle as a tool to push Josh off of him and allowing him to sit up.

Pike yanks a lamp off a nearby nightstand and smashes it into Josh's face, knocking him away. Pike quickly scrambles away towards his gun, but Josh pounces again.

Pike sees this one coming and flips the dining room table in the way. He bends down to pick up the gun, but Josh crashes THROUGH the table and knocks the gun back into the kitchen.

Pike kicks up a chair with his leg and catches it in his hand, using it to maintain some separation between him and Josh.

Josh simply throws his body weight forward, knocking the chair into Pike's chest and making him fall into the kitchen.

On his back, Pike picks up the chair with his feet and jabs it at an advancing Josh as he scoots himself back with his hands towards the gun across the floor.

Josh yanks the chair away from Pike and throws it aside. He ROARS and that pause for a battle cry gives Pike enough time to dive for his gun.

He turns and fires, hitting Josh square in the chest. Josh GROWLS and drops to one knee. Pike shoots him again and the impact of the bullet stands Josh up.

Josh HOWLS as Pike continues firing while walking towards him, emptying the entire clip into him. Josh falls back on top of the shattered table and goes still. His body shifts back to human form.

Pike steps away from the dead werewolf and fall backwards into a wall, completely spent. His face sets to a grim expression and he gets back to his feet.

INT. GABRIELLA'S SHOP - OFFICE - NEXT

Gabriella's phone rings. A second later, Gabriella dashes into the room and answers it.

GABRIELLA
(frantic)
Hello?

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. CITY STREET

Looking in the front of Pike's car, Pike himself has a stone cold expression on his face as he drives. He's using his shoulder to press his phone to his ear.

The storm has stopped now and the clouds are clearing to reveal the setting sun on the horizon.

PIKE
She tried to kill me, Gab! Again!

GABRIELLA
(beat)
What?!?

PIKE
Kaia! I called her to set up a get-together. She invites me over to her place, only her brother's there.

GABRIELLA
Oh my God. Are you alright?

PIKE
(beat)
It was kill or be killed.

Gabriella's jaw drops and she pulls her head away from the phone for a minute, realizing what that meant.

GABRIELLA
Okay, Pike, calm down. Maybe this was a setup and she didn't-

PIKE
You're damn right it was a setup!
She sent me a text saying it was right before Josh attacked me! Said she hoped I died slowly.

GABRIELLA
Pike, be reasonable. That doesn't sound like Kaia at all. Please just-

PIKE
(ignoring her)
I'm going to her mother's now. And we're gonna have a little talk.

GABRIELLA
Pike!

And he hangs up.

END INTERCUT

Staying with Pike as he pulls to a stop at a red light. He picks up a gun from the passenger seat, the one he calls 'Benny', and loads a fresh clip into it.

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - BASEMENT - NEXT

Kaia is on all four, breathing heavily.

CLAIRE
(worried)
Kaia, calm down! The moon is rising and if you're this... oh God!

A thumping HEARTBEAT quickly increases in volume as Kaia's eyes go BLACK.

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

The beating heart plays over this scene as well. The handle to the front door is BLOWN off and Pike strides through, pointing Benny and another, much larger, gun in front of him.

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - BASEMENT - NEXT

Kaia has completed her transformation, much to her mother's horror. Claire backs away from the snarling Kaia.

CLAIRE

Oh no.

Kaia turns to her and SLASHES her claw across Claire's chest. Claire spins and careens to the ground, unmoving.

Kaia turns her attention to the cage door and starts ramming into it.

INT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

A growl from upstairs gets Pike's attention. He looks up to see Nick just finishing his transformation to wolf.

Nick LEAPS at Pike and Pike opens fire with both guns, blowing Nick away in midair.

Nick's body (in human form) lands at Pike's feet.

Another growl gets Pike to turn towards the dining room just as Kaia pounces on Pike, knocking him to the ground and forcing him to drop both guns.

Pike immediately gets his feet on Kaia's shoulders and pushes her away. He speed crawls on his hands and feet back to his guns.

Kaia barrels into him again, this time knocking him through the living window and out to:

EXT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - NEXT

Pike lands out on the wooden porch on his shoulder and he rolls to his feet. Kaia hops through the broken window. She jumps towards Pike again.

Pike jumps straight back, sailing over the porch banister while firing both guns and hitting Kaia in her stomach multiple times!

Kaia lands in a crumbled heap in the front lawn. Pike lands on his back and rolls backwards up to his feet, keeping his guns on Kaia.

He slowly backs away until he's at his car. He holsters both guns, gets into his car, and peels off into the night.

ON Kaia as she slowly changes back to human form. Blood pools in the lawn from her stomach.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. PIT

We're back in the pit of the Conduits to the Higher Powers as seen in 2x08. Connor drops into frame, landing on both feet. He's carrying a broad sword.

Angelus steps around from behind one of the stone columns in the room. He's also holding a sword.

ANGELUS

And here I was thinking I was gonna-

Connor whirls around to face his father.

ANGELUS

- celebrate the big three-oh-oh
before you found your way here.

Connor and Angelus start to circle around the stone torch in the center of the room. The light of the flames dances off their faces.

EXT. SINCAID FAMILY HOME - NEXT

Gabriella and Alicia roll up on Gabriella's motorcycle. Gabriella rushes to the unconscious Kaia's side.

GABRIELLA

Kaia? Oh God, Kaia!

Alicia looks down at her sister grimly as Gabriella pulls out her PDA.

ALICIA

(icily)
I'm gonna check the rest of the
house.

Alicia rushes into the house as Gabriella makes a call.

OPERATOR (O.S.)

(through phone)
911, what is your emergency?

INT. PIT - NEXT

Connor and Angelus still circle the torch, maintaining the same distance as before.

ANGELUS

(calls out)
What do ya say, huh?
(MORE)

ANGELUS (CONT'D)

Wanna see the old school kick the
new school's ass?

The CONDUITS speak as if there are multiple people talking in unison.

CONDUITS

It is unworthy. Not our champion.
An anomaly. Send it away.

ANGELUS

An anomaly? Well, now I'm hurt.

Connor slices his sword through the flame of the torch. Angelus blocks and counterattacks. Connor blocks that and their swords clash and hold against one another in the center of the flame.

After a beat, they both pull back, sending SPARKS flying off their grinding blades.

ANGELUS

I never wanted to be your champion anyway! That was Angel's deal. Go ask the Senior Partners if they think I'm an anomaly.

CONDUITS

It does not understand. We speak for the Partners. We speak for the Powers. We represent all. It does not belong.

Angelus freezes as he processes that.

ANGELUS

Say what?

CONNOR

Yeah, Dad, you've missed a few things while you were out of the game.

Angelus reels from that development, but only shows it for a brief moment.

ANGELUS

(to the Conduits)

You're telling me the Partners would shun me for him?

CONDUITS

It boasts without knowledge. It is but one of many. Not our champion.

Connor takes the chance to attack again. Angelus pops his sword up into the air. It lands into the torch pillar, out of Connor's grasp without risking serious injury.

ANGELUS

You wanted me all along, dammit!
 (points his sword at
 Connor)
 Not him!

Angelus pats his chest with his sword to emphasize his point.

CONDUITS

It refuses to believe. The Powers
 have chosen. The Partners have
 decided. The Destroyer is our
 child. Our warrior. Our champion.

Angelus sighs and looks down to Connor.

ANGELUS

Well don't that just beat all. Look
 who put on Daddy's big boy pants.

Connor flicks out his wrist stakes and drops into a fighting stance.

CONNOR

(stern)
 I'm done talking.

Angelus raises his sword.

ANGELUS

Ya know, for the first time in my
 very long, various lives... so am
 I.

Angelus SWINGS at Connor, who ducks and moves to counter.

INT. PIKE'S APARTMENT - NEXT

Pike tosses his keys on the kitchen counter and slowly crosses the room to his gun case. He pulls both of his guns and sets them back into their display holders.

His phone rings and he checks the call screen first. He answers it with a sigh.

PIKE

Hey, Gab.

He yanks the phone away when Gabriella responds with:

GABRIELLA (O.S.)
 (screaming through phone)
 Pike, what the hell did you do?

PIKE
 (defensive)
 I defended my-

GABRIELLA (O.S.)
 (still screaming)
 No, you idiot! You don't
 understand! Th... the babies.

Pike freezes and blinks.

PIKE
 B... babies?

He bolts out of the door as we SMASH CUT TO:

INT. PIT

Connor falls to his stomach and rolls out of the way of an Angelus foot stomp. Connor spins around and up to one knee, barely getting his stake up to knock away Angelus's sword.

Angelus spins with the deflection and lands a kick to the back of Connor's knee that drops him down.

Connor stabs up with one of his stakes, but Angelus jumps over him, landing on Connor's shoulder and kicks off it, sending Connor face first into the dirt.

Connor plants his hands and front flips back to his feet, turning back towards Angelus.

ANGELUS
 Haven't I taught you anything?
 Where's your balance?

Angelus rushes in with wide, errant swings. Connor sidesteps one and does a standing back bend to basically limbo walk under another.

He pulls up and catches Angelus's blade between his palms, slowly overpowering the vampire and turning the blade to the side.

CONNOR
 Right here.

Connor snaps his left leg up over the sword and springs off Angelus's wrists, landing a jumping right spinning kick that breaks Angelus's grip on the sword.

Angelus spins and lands face first away from Connor.

CONNOR
(smirking)
Where's yours?

Angelus HUFFS, blowing up a small cloud of dust around him, and gets to his feet. Connor is in a tight fighting stance, a steely resolve in his expression.

ANGELUS
(nodding)
Alright. Okay. Enough warming up.

Angelus takes his coat off and flings it behind him.

ANGELUS
Time to take the kid gloves off.

Angelus VAMPS OUT and cracks his knuckles. Connor doesn't so much as twitch an eyebrow.

INT. HOSPITAL - INTENSIVE CARE UNIT - NEXT

Pike sprints down a hall towards a convergence of doctors standing with a sullen looking Alicia.

He passes an adjacent hall and is knocked down said hall by an invisible force.

He looks over to see Gabriella across the hall from him, looking seven shades of pissed.

GABRIELLA
(menacing)
You son of a bitch.

PIKE
Whoa. Hold on.

Pike holds one hand out while pushing himself up to his feet with the other.

PIKE
Okay, just listen.

GABRIELLA
No, you listen! Kaia was pregnant.

Pike backs away from Gabriella and puts his hands on top of his head.

PIKE
(blinks)
Was?

All of the anger drains out of Gabriella's body. Now she looks on the verge on tears.

GABRIELLA
(choked up)
The doctors said there was nothing they could do.

Pike slumps back against the wall.

PIKE
(stammering)
Oh God. But she... it was an accident. I didn't...

Now Pike's pissed and gets up in Gabriella's face.

PIKE
I mean, she and I haven't...

He trails off, actually doing the math in his head.

PIKE
She's been pregnant all this time and you didn't tell me?!

GABRIELLA
It wasn't my place to tell.

Pike throws his hands up and turns away from her. He turns back a second later.

PIKE
You're supposed to be my friend!

GABRIELLA
(sharp)
Don't.

She points a finger in his face.

GABRIELLA
Don't even try to make yourself out to be the victim in this! Pregnant or not, you almost killed her!

PIKE
 (struggling)
 They... they attacked me! I was
 defending myself.

GABRIELLA
 And why were you there in the first
 place, Pike?

Pike starts to answer, but no words come out. No excuse for
 that one.

PIKE
 Is... is she okay?

GABRIELLA
 She will be.

PIKE
 I... I need to see her.

He tries to walk past Gabriella, but she puts her hand on his
 chest and pushes him back.

GABRIELLA
 That can't happen.

PIKE
 (pleading)
 Gabriella, please! I can't leave it
 like this. I have to-

GABRIELLA
 The police are here.

Again, Pike shuts up.

GABRIELLA
 And they're going to want to ask
 questions.
 (beat)
 Please. Just go.

Pike slowly backs away from Gabriella, then turns and walks
 down the hall. Gabriella bows her head and walks off in the
 opposite direction.

INT. PIT - NEXT

Angelus has Connor by the leg and swings him like a bat into
 one of the columns. Connor lands face first and doesn't get a
 moment to even feel the pain before Angelus swings him by his
 leg again.

This time, Connor lands on top of the torch and rolls off of it. His shirt quickly catches flames and he continues to roll on the ground to put it out.

Once he's not on fire anymore, he sits up, clutching his ribs.

Angelus stalks towards him, kicking his sword up off the ground and neatly catching it in his hand.

ANGELUS

Some champion you are. Can't even get the torch passed to you properly.

Connor pushes himself away from Angelus, blood dripping down several cuts on his face.

ANGELUS

I guess one could say we've come full circle, Connor. Though I have to express some disappointment here. Losing your soul's only made you weaker. At least when you had one, there was passion there.

(pumps his fist)

Fire!

(sighs)

I bet you've been sitting up at night terrified deep down that you might be just like your big bad wolf of a dad. Well, you don't have to worry about that at all, Connor.

(beat)

Sorry to say, but you just don't measure up.

Connor explodes up to his feet and back somersaults into the pitch black shadows of one of the pit's corners.

Angelus twirls his sword and licks his lips.

Connor comes bursting from the darkness, rearing his hand back for a big punch. Angelus swings his sword and it goes THROUGH Connor as he runs past.

Angelus spins around as Connor disappears.

ANGELUS

What?

And Connor pops up behind him, spins him around, and STAKES him!

CONNOR
 (through clenched teeth)
 Astral projection.
 (beat)
 You're right about not measuring
 up. I'm too far ahead of you now to
 look back.

Angelus's face turns back to his human form and he meets his son's eyes. But it's not Angelus's eyes Connor is gazing into. Connor's face falls as he realizes:

ANGEL
 (softly)
 Connor...

And Angel DUSTS as he falls forward just before we WHITE OUT and ZOOM THROUGH a tunnel of white light to:

INT. MEDICAL LAB - ISOLATION ROOM - NEXT

ANGLE ON the isolation tank as Connor can be heard yelling and thrashing about in the water.

Prof. Marrus rushes into the room and opens the lid. Connor explodes out of it and falls to the ground. A puddle quickly forms from the water dripping off of him.

PROF. MARRUS
 Connor!
 (pats his back)
 Connor, breathe. You're okay.

Connor pops up to his feet and grabs Prof. Marrus by the throat, slamming her back into the nearest wall.

CONNOR
 Is... is it real this time?

He lets Prof. Marrus go, but hangs on to her lab coat. Tears well up in his eyes.

CONNOR
 I thought it was real. I killed...

And Connor drops to his knees as the tears start to fall.

Prof. Marrus slowly kneels down and Connor wraps her up in a tight embrace.

PROF. MARRUS
 (soothing)
 Ssh. It's okay.

She caresses his back as he sobs into her shoulder.

INT. PARKING DECK - NEXT

PUSH IN on Pike sitting at the wheel of his car, sniffing and choking back his emotions. He runs the barrel of his gun down the side of his face as he GASPS for air.

Then he turns and aims it directly at the side of his skull!

His trigger finger shakes and lingers for an agonizing few seconds before he tosses the gun into the passenger seat.

He wipes his eyes and starts the car, then burns rubber out of the deck.

INT. PIKE'S APARTMENT

Moonlight is the only light in the dark apartment. Pike sits on the edge of his bed, his hands cupped in front of his face, almost like he's praying.

Connor appears at the window outside his fire escape. He climbs through the open window and slowly approaches.

CONNOR

Hey. I, uh, I went through something messed up tonight and-

PIKE

(bitter)

Did you know Kaia was pregnant?

Connor's visibly thrown by the question. His expression turns more grim than it was when he first arrived.

CONNOR

Yeah.

PIKE

Well...

(sniffles)

She's not anymore. Thanks to me.

(beat)

Get out.

Connor doesn't bother trying to argue. He climbs back out of the window and starts down the fire escape. Pike gets up from the bed and walks out of frame.

INT. MEDICAL LAB - HALLWAY

Prof. Marrus walks past the isolation room down to another door. She opens it to reveal another isolation room!

ERIC MARRUS, wrapped up in a towel, steps out and walks with her down the hall.

PROF. MARRUS (V.O.)
And you're sure you transmitted
everything I told you to his mind?

ERIC (V.O.)
Dad came back and turned on him.
Gypsy girl said she loved him.
Yeah, I got it all.

Prof. Marrus reaches up and kisses her son on the cheek.

PROF. MARRUS (V.O.)
Go get dressed. I need to record
some notes.

Eric nods and ducks into a nearby room. Prof. Marrus walks alone and we CUT TO:

INT. MEDICAL LAB - COMPUTER LAB - NEXT

Prof. Marrus sits down at the same computer she was at earlier and picks up a small recorder.

PROF. MARRUS
Project Champion entry twenty
three. Subject Bridget has been
implanted with a neurological
trigger as planned. When activated,
subject's powers will manifest
beyond subject's control. Failsafe
has also been put in place.

She takes a sip from a bottled water before continuing.

PROF. MARRUS
Subject Connor's psyche is stronger
than anticipated. First plan of
implanting neurological trigger
failed. Second plan successful.
After intense sensory deprivation
therapy, subject is now more
susceptible to advanced suggestion.
(clears throat)
Plans will be adjusted accordingly.
The next phase is crucial.

She stops her recording and sets the device down. Then she starts typing into the computer.

INT. HOSPITAL - KAIA'S ROOM

CLOSE UP ON Kaia turned on her side with blankets drawn tight over her.

KAIA

Get out.

PAN UP to see Pike standing behind her.

PIKE

Kaia, please. I... I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to-

KAIA

(interrupting)

I would never...

(sobs)

... I would never intentionally to hurt you. And I always thought the same about you.

(beat)

But you killed our babies, Oli.

Pike can't say anything. He can only hang his head in shame.

KAIA

Who's the monster now?

(beat; cold)

Get. Out.

Pike sighs and steps out of the window, back out into the night.

PUSH IN on Kaia's face still bruised and battered face as tears stream down it. She pulls the blanket tighter around her, covering her mouth with it.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

END OF EPISODE