

Buffy
the vampire slayer

Historian's Note: This teleplay is a facsimile of an original shooting script for a non-existent episode. Efforts were made to have it appear as "authentic" as possible. In addition to fitting it into the established timeline, formatting conventions were matched to existing shooting scripts. This includes draft designations and camera references not normally included in spec scripts.

This episode fits into the timeline as follows:

5V17 - 24 February 1998 - "Passion"

Angel continues to torment Buffy. Jenny tries to curse Angel with a soul again, but he stops her - permanently.

5V17½ - Preempted - "Split Decision"

Originally planned as an extra episode for February Sweeps, pulled for a very special "Dawson's Creek" where Dawson discovers it's not actually his creek.

5V18 - 3 March 1998 - "Killed by Death"

A raging fever sends Buffy to a hospital, where her fever enables her to see a normally invisible monster that preys on children.

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BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Split Decision"

Written By

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

May 16, 2004 (WHITE)

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BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Split Decision"

CAST LIST

BUFFY SUMMERS Sarah Michelle Gellar
XANDER HARRIS Nicholas Brendon
RUPERT GILES Anthony S. Head
WILLOW ROSENBERG Alyson Hannigan
CORDELIA CHASE Charisma Carpenter
ANGEL David Boreanaz

SPIKE James Marsters
DRUSILLA Juliet Landau
JENNY CALENDAR Robia LaMorte
OZ Seth Green
THE MASTER Mark Metcalf

LARRY
OTHER VAMPIRE
THE BAND

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Split Decision"

SET LIST

INTERIORS

THE FACTORY

SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL
LIBRARY
GILES'S OFFICE

GILES'S APARTMENT
LIVING ROOM

THE BRONZE

EXTERIORS

SUNNYDALE STREET

BEHIND THE BRONZE

ALLEY BY THE BRONZE

STREET NEAR THE BRONZE

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

"Split Decision"

TEASER

INT. THE FACTORY - EVENING

The factory is in a shambles. Nothing but a burnt-out shell is all that remains of its former glory ... which wasn't all that glorious to begin with.

ANGEL stands at a long table, leafing through a newspaper. He doesn't even look away from the paper as SPIKE wheels up noisily behind him, steering around bits of charred debris.

ANGEL

You know, I love that chair.
Almost as good as tying a bell
around your neck.

SPIKE

Thanks for the sympathy, mate.
Seen Dru?

Drusilla wanders in as Angel closes up the paper.

DRUSILLA

I'm right here, Spike. But Angel
and I are going out.

SPIKE

Out where?

ANGEL

Hunting. House hunting. Nowhere
without stairs or steep inclines,
roller boy.

DRUSILLA

Oh, don't worry, my darling, we'll
bring you back a nummy treat.

Angel takes Drusilla's arm and leads her out. As they go, he tosses a section of the paper over his shoulder to Spike.

ANGEL

Why don't you make yourself useful while we're gone, and look through these.

Spike looks down at the paper, then slowly back up at Angel.

SPIKE

(incredulously)

Real estate ads? Have you gone dotty?

ANGEL

Just look in the fashionable part of town. I'm tired of these fixer-uppers.

He and Drusilla exit as debris falls to the floor.

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL (LIBRARY) - DAY

WILLOW is sitting at a table, taking notes from a large book open in front of her. XANDER sits opposite her, staring very thoughtfully at the ceiling.

Willow eventually reaches a good pausing point and stops to look up at Xander.

WILLOW

Shouldn't you be studying?

XANDER

What's the point?

WILLOW

Learning?

XANDER

Oh, I'm not much for the book learnin', Will. I'm more the "student of life" type. Or would be, if I had more of a life to speak of.

BUFFY walks in, seemingly on some sort of mission, and heads straight back to Giles's office. She barely pauses long enough for:

BUFFY

Hey guys.

WILLOW

Hey Buffy.

XANDER

Not there.

Buffy goes to open the door and walk into the office. The door being locked, however, she ends up just walking into the door.

WILLOW

Oh, ow!

BUFFY

Um, where's Giles?

XANDER

Not there.

BUFFY

Yeah, I got that part. So if he's not there, where is he? Back in the stacks?

She starts walking toward the actual book part of the library.

XANDER

Not there, either. Not here at all.

BUFFY

Okay, so where?

WILLOW

We were hoping you'd be able to tell us. He called in sick today. He's never called in sick before. (to Xander) I mean, has he?

XANDER

Yeah, I always thought Giles was pretty much the "tough guy." You know, in a British sort of way.

BUFFY

You think he's okay?

XANDER

(sarcastically)

Oh, gee, and why wouldn't he be after that whole vendetta thing? You know, the big conflagration at the factory?

WILLOW

Conflagration?

XANDER

Hey, I know big words, too!

BUFFY

Guess I should go check on him.

WILLOW

Well, you know that's what he'd do for you.

BUFFY

Would he? He would. But ... you think he wants someone checking up on him?

XANDER

Yeah. If he needs checking up on.

WILLOW

Oh! Sure, you know big words, but you end sentences with two prepositions.

BUFFY

Okay, I'd better just go check on Giles before you guys suck me into this fascinating conversation.

XANDER

And you know we will suck.

Willow and Buffy give Xander an odd look.

XANDER (Cont.)

You in.

BUFFY

I'm going.

XANDER

Ooh, say "hi" from us.

Buffy leaves, nearly as urgently as she entered. Willow picks her pencil back up and looks at her book for a second. She stops, puts down her pencil, and looks back up at Xander, who has already resumed staring at the ceiling.

WILLOW

I'm worried about him.

XANDER

Will, relax. It's Giles. He's like a big bowl full of stable-ness.

INT. GILES'S APARTMENT - DAY

CLOSE ON: A big bowl full of herbs, slightly smoldering.

ANGLE ON: GILES

As he looks down at a thick, open text and sprinkles a bit of some liquid into the bowl. He is uncharacteristically unkempt, messy and unshaven, wearing a rumpled shirt with the sleeves rolled up.

ANGLE ON: A BOOK

Closed, beside the open one. It's leather-bound, black, and contains an inverted pentagram on the cover with the word "Magicks" in evil-looking print below.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. GILES'S APARTMENT - DAY

Giles continues with his spell, sitting at a table and mixing various ingredients into the bowl as he reads from the book:

GILES

Fortuna mutata praeteritus,
depreador nefas. En claro veritas,
et damnata subjectios....
(Fortune will change to past, lay
waste to what is wrong. Make the
truth clear, and damn the lies.)

Suddenly, he is interrupted by a KNOCK at the door.

BUFFY (OS)

Giles? It's Buffy!

GILES

Innupsit tempus ... tempus
amori....
(Give me time ... time for
love....)

BUFFY (OS)

Giles?

Giles struggles to find his place in the book and continue his spell.

GILES

Tempus amori ... tempus amori....
(to closed door) Buffy, go away!

BUFFY (OS)

Giles, don't-

GILES

Buffy, please, just go! I'll see
you at school.

ANGLE ON: GILES'S FRONT DOOR

As it gets FORCED open by Buffy. As she enters, Giles stands from his table, inadvertently knocking a vial of liquid into the bowl. The smoldering from the bowl increases, though Giles doesn't seem to notice.

BUFFY

School? Where you obviously aren't?

Giles just stares at the door. Buffy glances back over her shoulder at it.

BUFFY (Cont.)

Oh, yeah, I'll pay for that.

GILES

Damn right you will. Look, I appreciate your concern, but my own truancy aside, I really don't think Principal Snyder will abide by your-

Buffy notices the spell paraphernalia on his table.

BUFFY

(accusingly)

What is this? A new recipe for stew?

GILES

It's a very complicated and delicate spell.

BUFFY

So what, you're reliving your youth and summoning creepy demons again?

GILES

Certainly not. I'm simply trying to put things right.

BUFFY

What things?

She walks up to Giles and spies a picture of Jenny Calendar on the table, beside the bowl.

BUFFY

Giles, you can't change the past!
If I could fix what I did, don't
you think I would have done that
myself by now? You think I like
the way things are? What's become
of Angel? What happened to Ms.
Calendar?

GILES

Buffy, I know what's best.

BUFFY

You always say that, but don't you
even see what you're trying to do?
You know it can't work. These-
these ... things, can't help.

*

She idly picks up a bundle of some root or another as an
example, and drops it into the bowl instead of back on the
table. There is a bright FLASH of light.

BUFFY

Oops.

GILES

Buffy, leave now.

BUFFY

Giles, I didn't mean-

GILES

Go!

Buffy slinks out, pulling the door shut behind her (as shut as
it can get after she forced it open). Giles goes about
cleaning the mess that used to be his spell. He looks around
for the books, which have mysteriously disappeared.

*

EXT. SUNNYDALE STREET - DAY

Buffy trudges along a typical Sunnydale street, a look of
lingering anger on her face.

BUFFY

Thinks he's always right. If I
were him and he were me ... he'd
be all (imitating Giles badly)
"You can't tamper with the natural
forces of ... nature," or
something or other.

She stops near a telephone pole, taking notice of a flyer
stapled to it. The large print on the flyer reads "Join the
WHITE HATS! We need you! Tonight, 7:00, at the Bronze."

BUFFY

White Hats? Never heard of them.
Must be one of those "college
rock" bands.

Resuming her angered expression, staring at the ground in
front of her, she continues down the street, OUT OF FRAME.

CAMERA TRACKS TO CLOSE SHOT OF FLYER. We can now see
smaller print on the flyer, which reads "Help us protect
Sunnydale from the coming forces of darkness."

*

SLOW DRIFT to a WIDER ANGLE. Buffy continues trudging
along, head down. We now see a flyer on nearly every
telephone pole on the street.

*

*

*

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL (LIBRARY) - DAY

Buffy enters the library, goes to the checkout desk, and
starts to put down her stuff. She talks to WILLOW and XANDER,
who are seated at the same table as when she left.

BUFFY

Turns out Mr. "Called Out Sick"
was fooling around with some kind
of magic....

GILES suddenly pops up from behind the counter, startling
Buffy. He is cleaned up and dressed in his typical tweed suit.

GILES

Can I help you?

BUFFY

Giles! How did you...? I mean, you
had to change clothes, and-and
shave, and ... that car of yours
can't go that fast!

Giles just continues to stare at her blankly.

BUFFY (Cont.)

So now what? You're going to pretend like it never happened and go along your merry way?

GILES

I'm sorry; what was it that never happened?

BUFFY

Don't even try.

GILES

(confused)

And what is it exactly that I shouldn't try?

BUFFY

Okay, did you hit your head or something? Enough of the soap opera gag!

GILES

I have no idea what you mean. I'm not playing a "gag" on you. (slightly offended) I would never do such a thing, particularly with a student I don't even know. Are you sure you're feeling all right? The Nurse's office is just down the hall.

He comes out from behind the counter and tries to escort Buffy to the doors, but she doesn't budge.

BUFFY

What do you mean, you don't know me? How could you say that? (in realization) Wait, maybe that spell backfired and gave you amnesia!

(pause)

And super speed as an added bonus.

She looks past Giles.

BUFFY (Cont.)

Guys, how long has Giles been here?

Xander's jaw drops open, as if seeing Buffy for the first time. He stands up to meet her.

XANDER

(trying to be suave)

Oh, I don't know. I don't hang out with the books, usually.

Buffy looks at him quizzically as he stands and walks over.

XANDER (Cont.)

Xander. Is me. Hi.

BUFFY

Yeah, I know. Haven't we been through this already?

WILLOW

Hi, I'm Willow.

BUFFY

And I'm getting a major wiggins. And some serious déjà vu. So you all have no idea who I am?

XANDER

Well, I, for one, would really like to change that.

BUFFY

Okay, back off, hormone boy. So that stupid spell turned me into Total Stranger Girl. We'll just have to find another spell to turn me back.

WILLOW

(to Giles)

Ooh, we get to look for spells today?

GILES

Well, I suppose if we're to....
No. No, we have much work ahead of
us. We don't have time to coddle
some girl who may simply be
suffering from some sort of ...
delusion.

BUFFY

Delusion!? Giles, it was your
spell that did this to me in the
first place, so I think it's up to
you to undo it.

Giles glares at her.

GILES

Look, why don't you just have a
seat, and we'll try to get to the
bottom of this, Miss...?

Buffy rolls her eyes.

BUFFY

Buffy. Buffy Summers?

GILES

(realizing)

You're.... Aren't you supposed to
be in Cleveland? When I left the
Council, I was under the
impression that-

BUFFY

Wait, so you have heard of me?

GILES

(matter-of-fact)

You're the Slayer.

WILLOW

What's a Slayer?

GILES

Someone who could be of great help
to us. Into every generation, a
Slayer is born.

GILES and BUFFY
One girl, in all the world-

BUFFY
Enough! Ok, guys, Cliffs Notes
version: I have special powers, I
kick vampire and demon butt, blah
blah. Get it?

GILES
Yes, I suppose that's an adequate
description for anyone lacking any
hint of an attention span.

WILLOW
Great! So do you want to join up
with us? We're forming a club. A
sort of vigilante-fighting-force-
demon-battling kinda club, I
guess.

XANDER
Yeah, we're recruiting at the
Bronze tonight.

BUFFY
Wait, you guys are the White Hats?

WILLOW
Oh, you saw one of my flyers!

BUFFY
No, I saw about a hundred of them.
You might want to tone down the
advertising, with all the nasties
in town.

WILLOW
We need all the help we can get.
It's getting really scary around
here.

BUFFY
That's the Hellmouth for you.

*

GILES

Yes, but it's become much worse
since....

He looks past her, perplexed.

BUFFY

Since what?

She turns around to see

ANGLE ON: ANOTHER GILES

Standing in the doorway. He is also dressed in his usual
tweed, only in a different shade of brown or grey. He sees his
alternate self (who we'll now call Alt.Giles) already present.

BUFFY

And ... you must be the stunt
double?

GILES

Buffy, you're here!

BUFFY

Yeah, and so are you. (indicating
Alt.Giles) And you.

(pause)

Wait, so you remember me?

GILES

Yes, of course. After you left, I
noticed that my spell books were
gone. I figured I should follow,
to see if you had taken them, and,
well ... it would appear that the
spell worked. But given your
interference, it perhaps worked in
ways I hadn't intended.

WILLOW

(to Buffy and
Giles)

So you two know each other?

Buffy nods.

WILLOW (Cont.)
(to Buffy and
Alt.Giles)
But you two don't?

Alt.Giles nods.

WILLOW (Cont.)
(to Giles and
Alt.Giles)
And you two are the same two?

GILES
More or less, I suppose.

They look at each other's similar suits.

XANDER
Which one of you is the evil one?

ALT.GILES
(offended)
Pardon?

XANDER
Neither of you has a goatee, so
it's kind of hard to tell.

GILES
I'll handle this. Xander, please
shut up.

XANDER
One vote for the new guy.

GILES
So none of you know Buffy at all?

WILLOW
No. And we've only known you for a
couple of weeks. Well, the other
you. Er, him.

She points to Alt.Giles.

ALT.GILES

(to Giles)

I only just arrived a month ago.
My personal research showed a
Hellmouth beneath Sunnydale, but
the Council ... well, they didn't
exactly see things my way.

WILLOW

What council?

GILES

(to Buffy)

This is all very interesting. It's
as if history has rewritten itself
to prevent you from coming to
Sunnydale.

BUFFY

But why?

ALT.GILES

Something to do with your spell?

GILES

Perhaps. I was attempting to bring
someone back. Someone dear to me,
who had been wrongfully killed.

(pause)

Buffy attempted to stop me, but
she must have accidentally
triggered the spell as I was
casting it. It appears to have
protected us while changing the
rest of the world.

ALT.GILES

But nothing has changed.

GILES

No, I suppose it wouldn't have,
not from your point of view.
(realizing) Which could mean....

ALT.GILES

Are you thinking what I'm
thinking?

GILES

I assume you've read Tegmark's theories on parallel universes.

ALT.GILES

How there are theoretically an infinite number of possible outcomes, hence an infinite number of possible universes?

ANGLE ON: WILLOW AND XANDER

As they watch the conversation between Giles and Alt.Giles.

GILES (OS)

And it's just a matter of traversing the correct distance.

ALT.GILES (OS)

To travel to any one such parallel reality.

XANDER

You know, it's kinda like watching tennis. Only even more boring.

Return to MASTER SHOT.

GILES

Thanks to my spell, it appears Buffy and I have managed to transport from our reality into yours.

BUFFY

Where we obviously don't belong. So we need to find a way to get home, pronto.

GILES

Agreed. Now then: You didn't take my books?

BUFFY

Nope. No kleptomania for Buffy.

GILES

Then the books, and the spell, are most likely still in our own reality. I suppose this complicates matters a bit.

BUFFY

So what do we do? Click our heels together three times and chant "there's no place like home"?

GILES

Well, we can start by searching here for a way to....

He stops and stares in the direction of the doors. Buffy turns around to see what's stopped him.

ANGLE ON: JENNY CALENDAR

Alive and well, standing at the doors.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL (LIBRARY) - SECONDS LATER

Giles smiles as he watches Jenny enter the library.

JENNY

(to Alt.Giles)

You never told me you had a twin
brother, Rupert.

She stops next to Alt.Giles, but out of his personal space.

ALT.GILES

I don't, exactly. This is, in
fact, also me ... but from another
reality.

Giles continues to smile and stare, speechless.

JENNY

Hi. Well I guess these things are
bound to happen around here.
(noticing Buffy) Did we find
ourselves a new recruit?

ALT.GILES

This is Buffy. The Vampire Slayer.

JENNY

(impressed)

The Slayer? Good. Now we might
actually stand a chance.

BUFFY

A chance?

ALT.GILES

Sunnydale is becoming a very
dangerous place. The death count
is rising, and there have been an
increasing number of vampire
sightings. We suspect that an army
is forming. They've become
organized.

JENNY

We can't face an organized army on our own, but no one wants to listen to us. Except some of the students.

WILLOW

I saw my first vampire a couple of weeks ago. There was this guy, who came out of nowhere, and jumped right in front of us, and his face just ... changed, and ... and that's just not normal!

XANDER

Then Giles shows up, flashes a cross at this guy, and he just freaked. Didn't take much more convincing for us.

ALT.GILES

If I'm right, then we are in dire need of more help.

JENNY

We hoped we could find some at the Bronze tonight. But with you here—

BUFFY

Only I'm not here. Not supposed to be, anyway. Look, as much as I want to help, I just don't belong here. And neither does Giles. My Giles. We have to get back home.

GILES

Perhaps we needn't be in such a hurry. We've had a great deal of experience with vampires and may be of some help to our counterparts here.

He takes a few steps toward Jenny.

BUFFY

And what about the people back home? They need us, too! Besides, they already have a Giles here.

GILES

I should at least take the time to tell them what I know, to give them some bit of an advantage. (to Jenny) Now, am I to understand that—

BUFFY

Are you sure that's all you need time for?

GILES

(snappish)

Buffy, need I remind you that we're here because of our own errors? You can sit here and-and ... pout all you want, but I plan to help for as long as we're here.

ALT.GILES

(trying to defuse
the situation)

Perhaps Willow and Xander could assist Buffy in finding a teleportation spell.

XANDER

(to Buffy)

I'm all yours....

Buffy and Willow look at him.

XANDER (Cont.)

To help you, with the spell-finding.

GILES

Fine. While you take care of that, I can inform Jenny ... and myself ... of what we've learned.

BUFFY

And where are we supposed to start our research? I don't even know what we're looking for. I wasn't the one casting spells, remember?

ALT.GILES

Not to worry. Willow has really become quite good with occult research.

WILLOW

It's a gift.

JENNY

(to Giles)

We're heading to the Bronze to set things up for tonight if you'd like to come along.

GILES

Certainly. I can fill you in on the way. And perhaps point out those who may be sympathetic to your cause. Or at least were, in my reality.

*
*

JENNY

Great!

They smile at one another as Buffy and Alt.Giles look on.

EXT. ALLEY BY THE BRONZE - EARLY EVENING

Giles and Jenny walk side-by-side, Alt.Giles just a step behind. Jenny carries a large duffel bag, and Alt.Giles has a briefcase. Giles looks relaxed and happy.

*
*

JENNY

So she actually did die, then?

GILES

Well, yes, but only for a moment. She defeated The Master in the end, of course.

JENNY

Why "of course"?

ALT.GILES

Oh! I think I see. Yes, the Master arose here as well, only without Buffy here....

Giles stops short, near the door to the Bronze.

GILES

You mean the Master is here, in your reality, free of the Hellmouth?

JENNY

Who do you think is organizing the army?

GILES

That certainly doesn't bode well.

JENNY

Has anyone ever told you you're cute when you're panicked?

Giles's look of panic fades to a smile, and he lets out a bashful little LAUGH.

GILES

Yes, well ... thank you.

Alt.Giles motions to the doors.

ALT.GILES

Shall we get things started?

JENNY

Why don't you go ahead in, Rupert. I just want to talk to ... Rupert about something for a minute.

ALT.GILES

All right. I'll see you both inside then.

Alt.Giles enters the Bronze. Giles removes his glasses and flashes his best smile at Jenny. He puts his hand on her shoulder, a bit too familiarly, considering he doesn't actually know her.

GILES

So, what was it you wanted to discuss?

She looks at his hand, but doesn't remove it.

JENNY

This. There's something you
haven't told me, isn't there?

(pause)

Rupert?

GILES

Yes, I....

He CLEARS HIS THROAT, and takes his hand off her shoulder,
suddenly realizing his impropriety.

GILES (Cont.)

I suppose I should've mentioned,
uh, Jenny and I - my Jenny - I
mean, back in my reality ... we
had a sort of ... well, we had a
"thing" together.

JENNY

I can see why. I mean, I never
noticed anything with our stuffy
Mr. Giles, but you're very
handsome and charming.

(pause)

But ... why "had"?

GILES

We should really go inside.

JENNY

Rupert....

GILES

I can't.

(pause)

All that matters is what's
happening here and now, and that
while I'm here, I will do
everything I can to ... protect
you, Jenny.

She looks at him silently, and as what he said sinks in, she
hugs him. He wraps his arms around her tightly.

INT. THE BRONZE - EVENING

Onstage, A BAND is playing a quiet BALLAD for a sound check. OZ sits behind a mixing board, occasionally making a subtle adjustment to a control, as he talks with Alt.Giles.

ALT.GILES

We could certainly use your support. Everyone's support, actually.

OZ

So vampires are real? Wild.

ALT.GILES

Indeed. Can we count on your assistance, then? And perhaps (indicating the band) some of your friends?

OZ

Yeah, I'm in.

ALT.GILES

Splendid!

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL (LIBRARY) - EVENING

Buffy, Willow, and Xander are seated at a table, with an assortment of large books lying around everywhere. They each have an open book in front of them, reading as they talk. *

WILLOW

So you really spend all your time killing demons?

BUFFY

Not all. Just most.

XANDER

Don't you ever get to have any fun? You know, of the non-demony kind?

BUFFY

Once in a while.
(then, serious)
Not much lately, though.

WILLOW

It must be tough. Having all that responsibility and pressure.

BUFFY

(chipper)

Yeah, but I have you guys. The other you guys, I mean. Back home we're pretty tight. We've faced a lot together.

WILLOW

You mean, we're your sidekicks?

XANDER

So we're like ... The Slayerettes? Or something much more masculine-sounding?

WILLOW

Hey, I think I found something!

BUFFY

Really?

WILLOW

It's a spell for a reality-fold portal. Oh, but it's just a translation. It says we need the original Latin.

XANDER

It says we need the Latin, but it doesn't give us the Latin? Gee, that's helpful.

WILLOW

I think we're going to need some stuff, too.

BUFFY

What kind of stuff?

WILLOW

(reading)

"Pyrian Powder, Crystals of Oracite, and a Fermian Urn."

XANDER

(sarcastically)

Oh, well then why don't we just stop off at the Ralphs on the way?

WILLOW

Wait, there's a magic shop in town, right on Main Street! We could go there.

XANDER

Will, I don't think we can substitute crystals of oversight and a furry urn with brightly colored hankies and a top hat with a rabbit inside.

WILLOW

Not that kind of magic.

BUFFY

No, I think she's right. At least if it's like the one where I come from. Next to the dress store?

WILLOW

That's the one! Oh, but they close at 7:30. And we're supposed to be at The Bronze soon. There's no way we'll have time to find the Latin, check in with Giles, and still get to the shop before it closes.

*
*
*
*

XANDER

Simple: We split up. Will, you and Buffy can find the translation, and I'll run to the magic shop. We can meet back up with Giles and the others at the Bronze.

*
*
*

BUFFY

Xander, wait; it's sundown....

XANDER

Don't worry guys. I'm packing heat.

He whips out a large cross and a stake.

XANDER (Cont.)

Okay, so crystal overbite ... and,
what else?

Willow writes something on a slip of paper and hands it to Xander.

WILLOW

Here's everything we need.

BUFFY

Be careful.

XANDER

I will. Just take care of Willow.

Xander tucks the stake into his pocket, takes the slip, and heads for the doors.

INT. THE BRONZE - NIGHT

Things are looking more organized and orderly in the Bronze than we've ever seen before. Alt.Giles is on the stage, with a microphone in his hand.

ALT.GILES

And this is why we need your help.
Why Sunnydale needs your help!
Without an organized resistance,
no one stands a chance of
survival. We're turning to you,
our town's youth, for support.

Jenny shouts from the back of the crowd. She stands behind a table with a small stack of papers in front of her.

JENNY

We're asking you to sign on with us - literally. (indicating papers) This petition will be sent to the mayor, and with enough signatures showing support and belief, we may get the authorities to listen to us.

In another area off to the side, Giles talks with Oz.

OZ

So in your reality, I've got my own band?

GILES

Well ... you play guitar for them.

OZ

Cool. And a girlfriend?

GILES

Yes. Willow. Willow Rosenberg.

(off Oz's blank
look)

Junior, red hair ... rather shy.

OZ

Right. Who?

Jenny gestures to get Giles's attention.

JENNY

Giles? I could really use you over here.

GILES

Yes. Of course, be right there.

EXT. BEHIND THE BRONZE - NIGHT

Back behind the Bronze, in the darkening twilight, a VAMPIRE stands peering through a heavily tinted window. Inside, we can just make out the silhouette of Alt.Giles, in profile, on the stage. To the left of the vampire, the MASTER steps into view, turning to look through the window.

MASTER

Look at them in there. Like cattle awaiting the slaughter.

(pause)

What do you say to ending their wait?

A CHEER resounds, and we PULL BACK to reveal what looks like as many as a hundred VAMPIRES, champing at the bit.

EXT. SUNNYDALE STREET - NIGHT

Xander runs along, clutching his cross so tight, it's a wonder his hand's not bleeding. He stops for a moment to catch his breath.

XANDER

Brilliant move. Leave the hot superhero chick back at the library, and volunteer for the suicide mission solo. At least we could've died together.

He turns in a circle, looking nervously around him, and ends up facing the same way he started.

XANDER (Cont.)

Next to the dress store. And why would I know where that is?

In frustration, he bangs the cross against the side of his leg ... and lets out a YELP as it cuts into his hand.

XANDER (Cont.)

Ow! Ow! Damnit, what woodshop flunky made this thing? Ever heard of a sander?

*
*
*

He shakes his hand out, flinging a bit of blood into the street. He looks down at the blood.

XANDER (Cont.)

Great. Vampire chum.

As if on cue, a LONE VAMPIRE lurks into view out of the darkness.

XANDER (Cont.)

Great ... vampire chum! Buddy! Pal! Hey, uh, what say we go make with the killing and the drinking of the blood?

The vampire eyes up the cross in Xander's hand and gives him a doubting look.

XANDER (Cont.)

What? This old thing?

He tosses the cross aside.

XANDER (Cont.)
Just burning my hand anyway.
Y'know, that whole vampires-are-
hurt-by-crosses thing.

No response. Xander CHUCKLES, then catches himself and tries to give his best tough-guy glare.

XANDER (Cont.)
But I kinda like the pain.

ANOTHER VAMPIRE walks up.

OTHER VAMPIRE
Good thing.

He pulls the stake from Xander's pocket and points it at him.

XANDER
Hey guys. No need to stake a
brother-in-fangs.

The vampire throws the stake to the ground. Xander takes off running. The two vampires chase after, along with a THIRD VAMPIRE, who runs in from the shadows.

INT. THE BRONZE - NIGHT

Alt.Giles continues talking to the crowd from the stage.

ALT.GILES
I'd like to thank you all for
signing on with us. With your
help, we can protect Sunnydale
from....

The window near him SHATTERS as a vampire crashes through it. Several others follow him inside. More come in through the main entrance, surrounding the crowd. The Master is the last to appear, slowly stepping through the shattered window.

MASTER
(to crowd)
How good of you all to come
tonight. It shall be an exquisite
feast. (to vampires) Kill them
all!

The vampires begin to pounce on the defenseless patrons. Jenny reaches into a duffel bag and pulls out various weapons, handing some to Giles. They make their way through the defenseless crowd, arming them with the few spare stakes and crosses.

A vampire attacks Alt.Giles on the stage. Thinking fast, he grabs the mic stand and swings at the vamp, CLOCKING him with the base.

Meanwhile, the Master drops a drained victim to the floor.

MASTER

Feast, my minions, for this night
will bring about a new age for our
kind!

ANGLE ON: A GIRL

About to be bitten by a vampire. A hand presses a cross against the vamp's face, DRIVING him back toward the wall. As he holds his face in pain, the business end of a stake is DRIVEN into his heart, turning him to dust.

Giles steps into view, his hand on the other end of the stake. He nods to Jenny, who was holding the cross. Jenny hands her the cross

JENNY

(to the girl)

Take this, and get out of here.
Hurry!

The girl stares in disbelief, then heads for the door. Jenny pulls a crossbow out of the duffel bag, and she and Giles head off to another area.

ANGLE ON: OZ

As he watches as two vampires terrorize some FOOTBALL PLAYERS. He grabs a chair and swings it at one of the vampires, which only serves to get his attention. They STRUGGLE over the chair until it breaks apart. Oz falls backwards on the floor, and the vampire lunges to attack him.

Just before reaching Oz, the vampire is grabbed from behind by LARRY. Larry holds the vampire in a full nelson as Oz quickly gets up, grabs a piece of the broken chair, and STAKES the vampire with it.

OZ

Thanks, man.

Larry just nods mutely, so we don't have to pay him as much as Other Vampire.

ANGLE ON: GILES

*

As he struggles with a vampire. Jenny tries to take aim with the crossbow.

GILES

Not yet!

He SLAMS the vampire against the wall and quickly backs away.

GILES (Cont.)

Now!

Jenny fires the crossbow, LAUNCHING a bolt into the vampire's heart and turning him to dust. As Giles catches his breath, he turns to something in the corner. The Master, gazing about at the carnage, turns his attention to the same corner. He frowns, and turns to speak to his right-hand vampire.

MASTER

The vampire vigilante. Killing his own kind to try to save the pitiful humans.

ANGLE ON: THE VAMPIRE VIGILANTE

His face is turned away from us, but his dark spiky hair is all too familiar. He has a vampire pinned against the wall, his forearm on the vamp's throat. The vampire struggles to free himself, then suddenly turns to dust. As we see the stake in the vigilante's hand, Giles recognizes him.

GILES

(calling)

Angel?

The Master and Angel both turn to Giles, caught off guard that someone knows Angel's name. Suddenly, Angel is PUMMELED by two more vampires, who push him out the back exit.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. STREET NEAR THE BRONZE (MOVING) - NIGHT

Buffy and Willow walk side-by-side as they head to the Bronze. Buffy has a stake in her hand; Willow, a wooden cross and a thick book.

WILLOW

And when you ... well, you know.... He turned ... evil?

BUFFY

The evilest. Like, no-soul, kill-your-friends-and-pets evil.

WILLOW

Wow. I thought the films they showed in Health class were effective.

BUFFY

Yep, I'm the poster girl for abstention.

WILLOW

And that's what you want to go back to?

Buffy stops and turns to face Willow.

BUFFY

Want? No. Going back to face the monster formerly known as my boyfriend is the last thing I want to do. Believe me, I'd much rather stay here with you and fight the Big Bad I already know I can beat. It's just I don't belong here.

WILLOW

Yeah, but-

BUFFY

No buts. You know I'm not supposed to be here. Besides, I already messed up my own world; you don't need me doing that here.

Suddenly, one of the vampires who pushed Angel out of the Bronze runs in from a nearby alley and bumps into Buffy, knocking her down and sending her stake scuttling down the sidewalk.

WILLOW

Buffy!

Willow reacts surprisingly fast. Catching the disoriented vampire off guard, she WHIPS her cross at his head, and it somehow manages to get stuck in his collar. The vampire flails at the cross, backs into a building, and hits the ground as the cross finally dislodges.

Buffy dives to pick up her stake and DUSTS the vampire before he can get back up. Willow stands still, stunned by what just happened.

BUFFY

Sorry. Not exactly the best demonstration of my slaying ability.

WILLOW

It's okay. You're just distracted, thinking about Angel and all.

Behind them, there's a LOW GROWL, and the SOUNDS OF A STRUGGLE. Willow gives Buffy a questioning glance.

BUFFY

You'd better go on ahead. Catch up with the others at the Bronze; you'll be safe with them.

WILLOW

You'll be okay?

There's a loud CRASH of garbage cans O.S., as the struggle presumably continues. Willow jumps at the startling noise.

BUFFY

I'll be fine - just go!

Willow heads off down the street and turns the corner as Buffy runs off toward the sounds of the struggle.

INT. THE BRONZE - NIGHT

The carnage continues as vampires feast on innocent extras. Alt.Giles spies a couple of vampires about to descend upon three GIRLS. Charging in between the girls and the vampires, he ushers the girls through the broken window by the stage.

ALT.GILES
(to the girls)
The window! Come on!

Meanwhile, a vampire rushes Giles, knocking him to the ground and making him drop his stake. The vampire crouches down to reach for him, but Giles manages to roll away to one side. As the vampire turns to follow, Jenny KICKS him in the head. He collapses, and Giles DUSTS him.

As Jenny helps Giles to his feet, the Master approaches them, CLAPPING.

MASTER
Very impressive! I love it when
they resist. Gets the heart
pumping, makes the blood rush out
faster!

EXT. ALLEY BY THE BRONZE - NIGHT

Rounding the corner into the alley, Buffy has her stake at the ready, as the PUNCHING and GROWLING get louder. At the end of the alley, she sees Angel, now in vamp face, and another vampire, who has his back turned to Buffy. The two vampires continue to punch and kick one another.

Angel catches a glimpse of Buffy for a second. It's just long enough to get the attention of the other vampire, who glances over his shoulder to look. Unfortunately, he's fallen for the old "look out behind you" gag, and Angel DUSTS him, with a wry smile on his vamp face.

Buffy just stares, silent, unsure if she's looking at Angel or Angelus. He MORPHS to his human form and looks back at her, somewhat embarrassed about having shown his true self to an innocent bystander. He CLEARS HIS THROAT and smiles an awkward but charming smile.

ANGEL

(weakly covering)

Is there a problem, ma'am?

Buffy sees the soul behind his eyes, and knows it's not Angelus.

BUFFY

Angel!

ANGEL

Why does everyone suddenly know my name?

INT. THE BRONZE - NIGHT

The Master stands before Giles and Jenny. Jenny raises her crossbow and fires, but the Master simply dodges out of the way of the bolt, and it WHIZZES by his head. As he returns to standing upright, Giles drives a stake into his chest ... but not far enough to reach the heart. The Master looks down at the stake that is protruding from his chest and lets out a MENACING CHUCKLE.

MASTER

Nice try. But to be around for six hundred years, you have to be thick-skinned.

He pulls the stake out, drops it to the ground, and STOMPS it into splinters.

Jenny tries to run, but the Master grabs her before she can escape, making her drop the crossbow. Giles lunges toward him, but he is held back by the Master's right-hand vampire.

MASTER

A shame, really, to break up such a cute couple.

As Giles watches, the Master sinks his teeth into Jenny's neck. As Jenny goes limp from the shock, the Master quickly drains her, and drops her to the floor.

GILES

No!

MASTER

(to his right-hand
vampire)

You can have that one. He'll
probably taste bitter now.

Giles struggles to break the grip of the vampire holding him as the Master slowly walks away. Just as the vampire is about to bite, he suddenly jerks in pain and turns to dust. Giles turns around to see Oz, standing behind him with a stake in his hand.

OZ

We've gotta bail.

GILES

But Jenny—

OZ

Is gone.

Giles looks down at the spot where Jenny collapsed, and her body is indeed gone. Alt.Giles steps back in through the broken window and gestures to Oz and Giles.

ALT.GILES

Come on! There's nothing else we
can do here.

OZ

Where's Larry?

ALT.GILES

Already gone. We must leave while
the vampires are ... feeding, and
we won't have as much resistance.

Oz picks up the crossbow and climbs out. Giles just stands and stares at the ground where Jenny's body was.

ALT.GILES

Well?

Another moment, then Giles finally looks up.

GILES

You're just going to leave,
without trying to save Jenny? How
could you?

ALT.GILES

I'm afraid I don't have a choice.
And neither do you.

Giles scans the room and sees that the vampires are all in feeding mode, savoring the kill, and enjoying the feast.

Reluctantly, he starts to follow behind his counterpart, but after passing a nearby feeding vampire, he turns back and PUNCHES the vamp in the head. Before getting himself in serious trouble, he is grabbed from behind by Alt.Giles and Oz. They start to pull him along, until he snaps out of his fury and willingly follows them out.

EXT. ALLEY BY THE BRONZE - NIGHT

Buffy runs up to Angel and puts her arms around him. Caught off-guard by this at first, he consents and lightly returns the hug.

ANGEL

Pleased to meet you, too. Now, who are you?

BUFFY

Right. Sorry. Different universe, different Angel. I'm Buffy.

ANGEL

The Slayer? But aren't you in-

BUFFY

Cleveland, yeah. I am. Well, Buffy-From-This-Universe is in Cleveland, but Buffy-From-Another-Universe is here. Is me. I mean, I'm here, obviously.

ANGEL

Should I be scared that I think I followed that?

BUFFY

Probably not, considering we.... I mean, you and I....

Angel just stares at her blankly. It seems he really doesn't know how to finish her sentence.

BUFFY (Cont.)

Never mind, not important now.
Right now, Buffy-From-Another-
Universe needs to get to the
Bronze to find Watcher-From-
Another-Universe so we can perform
a Return-To-Another-Universe
spell.

Angel gets a dire look on his face.

ANGEL

Your Watcher is at the Bronze?

BUFFY

I'm meeting him and my friends
there. Is ... that a problem?

ANGEL

C'mon, we've gotta hurry.

He leads her down the alley, back the way she came.

EXT. STREET NEAR THE BRONZE - NIGHT

Willow, still carrying the spell book and cross, walks briskly toward the entrance to the Bronze. She suddenly stops and glances off to one side, as if she's heard something. Hearing nothing, she turns back to the Bronze, and almost walks into Xander, who is standing right there. Startled, she SCREAMS.

XANDER

Will, it's okay. It's me.

WILLOW

(trying to cover)

Oh. I knew that. Really. But you
can't blame a girl for being a
little jumpy around here.

XANDER

What happened to Buffy?

WILLOW

We got ambushed ... (boastfully)
ooh, and I got to help kill a
vampire ... (seriously again) but
we heard more of them, so she went
off to check and sent me ahead.

She notices that Xander is empty-handed.

WILLOW (Cont.)

Hey, didn't you get the supplies?

XANDER

No. I, uhh ... ran into some vamps
on the way. We should go inside
where it's safe, and wait for her.

He starts to lead her into the Bronze, but something catches
her eye from down the street.

WILLOW

Oh, there they are. Wait a minute:
They?

They look to see Buffy and Angel walking toward them.

BUFFY

(to Angel)

There they are. (calling to Willow
and Xander) Guys, don't go inside!

Angel looks ahead at Willow and Xander, scrutinizing them
suspiciously.

ANGEL

Wait a minute. You said those were
your friends?

BUFFY

Yeah. Well, this universe's
equivalent of my Friends-From-
Another-

ANGEL

Not anymore.

BUFFY

What are you-

ANGEL
(yelling)
Get away from him!

He starts to run toward Willow and Xander, with Buffy following.

WILLOW
Get away from who?

ANGLE ON: WILLOW

As she turns to get an answer from Xander. QUICK PAN TO XANDER, who is now in vamp face.

XANDER
Dunno. Maybe me?

Before Willow can even react, Xander bites into her neck.

CLOSE ON: The cross and spell book carried by Willow, as they fall to the ground in SLOW MOTION.

CLOSE ON: Buffy's reaction in SLOW MOTION as she stops running, horrified, too late to save Willow ... and far too late to save Xander.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. OUTSIDE THE BRONZE - SECONDS LATER

Xander continues to drink from Willow. Angel takes Buffy's arm and practically drags her toward them, as three vampires emerge from the entrance to the Bronze and block their way. Xander lifts his head up from Willow and turns to the newly arrived vampires. *

XANDER

Hey, get your own. She's mine.

Angel turns to see if Buffy's ready to back him up, but she just stares, dumbfounded. As he's deciding if he can take on the group himself, Giles, Alt.Giles, and Oz come running from an adjacent alley, brandishing their weapons. *

ALT.GILES

(to Buffy and
Angel)

There are too many inside. We need
to fall back!

Buffy breaks out of her shock to point at Xander and Willow. As they all watch, Xander begins feeding Willow from a slice in his hand.

ALT.GILES

Oh, dear God.

Oz starts picking off a few of the vampires with the crossbow, as more begin streaming out of the Bronze. Realizing the situation is hopeless, Alt.Giles leads the others in retreat. Oz continues taking a few random shots at the pursuing vampires, who gradually give up the chase.

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL (LIBRARY) - LATER

Giles and Alt.Giles are confronting Buffy. Oz and Angel are looking through books that were left out on tables from the earlier search.

GILES

How could you allow this to
happen?

BUFFY

Giles, I-

GILES

Willow and Xander sacrificed themselves to help us.

(pause)

And there he was ... feeding upon her, while we watched ... while I stood and watched, as he drained the life out of her. Dropping her to the floor, just....

Giles stops, removes his glasses, and rubs his eyes as he attempts to regain composure.

GILES (Cont.)

How could either of us have let this happen?

BUFFY

Maybe we can still get to Willow, before she's-

*
*
*

ALT.GILES

You saw her; it's already too late. It takes merely an hour before....

*
*
*

He trails off, obviously heartbroken to have lost one of his own. Angel looks up from one of the books.

*
*

ANGEL

What was the spell she found? Can you remember the name?

*

BUFFY

I don't know. Some kinda portal.

ALT.GILES

That's all well and good, but there are easily hundreds of different portal spells, each of which opens a different portal to a different-

OZ

Hold on.

Oz reads from one of the books.

OZ (Cont.)
"Reality-Fold Portal" ... that
sound right?

Alt.Giles walks over to Oz.

ALT.GILES
May I see that?

OZ

The book was marked.

Oz hands him the book, and he skims through a couple of pages.

ALT.GILES

I think this should do. And I believe we may have the necessary items here; Ms. Calendar was helping me put together a small collection of magical supplies. But we need the proper Latin text - this is merely a translation.

BUFFY

Willow found the Latin. It was in the book she was carrying.

ALT.GILES

I really must make more of an effort to encourage use of the copy machine.

Giles puts his glasses back on, ready to resume his usual state of efficiency.

GILES

I'll search for the original text. Oz, why don't you help-

OZ

I'm on it.

Oz and Alt.Giles retreat into the office to search for supplies. Giles starts to head quickly back into the stacks. Buffy stops him, with a concerned look in her eyes.

BUFFY

Giles?

GILES

You were right about what you said earlier, Buffy: We don't belong here.

Giles enters the stacks, leaving Buffy and Angel alone in the main area of the library.

ANGEL

Guess you'll be happy to get out of here. A Slayer would have her work cut out for her the way this town is going.

BUFFY

I guess. But at least I wouldn't have to fight alone.

ANGEL

Well, now that Xander and Willow-

BUFFY

That's not what I meant.

Buffy takes a step in. Angel shifts uneasily.

ANGEL

Look, Buffy, I can sense that you and, uh, Angel-From-Another-Universe must have been.... And maybe I'm not all that different from him. But I'm not him.

BUFFY

I know that. It's just that, well, maybe I don't know that.

ANGEL

I don't even really know you. Which isn't to say I wouldn't want to, but ... he's the one who loves you. Don't you want to go back to him?

BUFFY

Very much.
(pause)
But I can't.

ANGEL

Why not?

Tears begin to well up in Buffy's eyes, but she struggles to retain composure.

BUFFY

Do you remember when you didn't
have a soul?

ANGEL

(realizing)

Oh, God. Buffy, I'm sorry.

BUFFY

Not your fault. You're not him,
remember?

(pause)

You're just closer to the him I
fell in love with than the him he
is now.

ANGEL

You know what you're going to have
to do. No one else can. No matter
what you had with him before, you
know that when you go back—

BUFFY

If I go back.

ANGEL

Buffy, I—

Before he can finish his thought, Buffy steps forward and
embraces him. He hesitates for a second, but ends up holding
her tightly. She lifts her head to look at him for a moment,
and he wipes a tear from her cheek.

As they stare into each other's eyes, we SHIFT CAMERA FOCUS TO
THE BACKGROUND to see Giles emerge from the stacks.

GILES

I was able to find the Latin in a
different ...

He sees Buffy and Angel intimately staring at each other.

GILES (Cont.)

... volume.

Buffy lets go of Angel as he turns to Giles.

ANGEL

Good. Then we can get the spell started.

Giles glares at Buffy.

GILES

Yes, the sooner the better.

Alt.Giles comes out of the office carrying a small, brass urn in one hand and a jar in the other.

ALT.GILES

Here is the urn and the Crystals of Oracite.

*

He sets them down on a table.

ALT.GILES (Cont.)

Unfortunately, we don't have any Pyrian Powder, but Aradian should be an adequate substitute. However, there's only enough for a single casting.

He finally notices the awkward silence of the others. Which shows no sign of abating.

Oz finally walks in, carrying a small vial of red powder.

OZ

Man, this stuff smells ... great. Kinda like warm cinnamon buns.

GILES

Very well. Let's begin. Buffy, a word?

He ushers her aside as the others start to set up the ingredients on the table.

BUFFY

Giles, I know what you're going to say, but how can I go back when I know what's here?

GILES

Because, as you well know, you're needed there.

*

BUFFY

But maybe I need to stay
here. And it's not like they
couldn't use me.

*

GILES

Buffy, I understand what you're
going through. When I first saw
Jenny here, you could tell how it
affected my judgment.

BUFFY

And now that she's gone, you're
suddenly ready to skip town? Okay,
I don't mean really skipping town
since this is still Sunnydale, and
we're going back to Sunnydale, and
... that's not the point.

GILES

Then what is the point?

BUFFY

You said yourself that you wanted
to help. To put things right.

GILES

Yes, but putting things right does
not involve staying here just to
be with one's boyfriend.

Angel walks over to Buffy and Giles.

BUFFY

That's not fair.

GILES

(not seeing Angel)
Neither was what he did to Jenny.

ANGEL

Um, we're ready for you. Giles and
Oz have started the spell. The
portal should open soon.

*

*

*

GILES

Buffy, we're going back. End of discussion.

He walks away from her.

BUFFY

Giles, you can't just dictate what I will or won't do!

Before the argument can continue, the library doors BURST open and vampires begin streaming into the room.

ANGEL

We've got company!

Angel immediately dives into the fray, PUNCHING one of the intruding vampires in the chest and sending him FLYING back into another vampire. Oz picks up the crossbow, loads it, and provides backup.

Buffy runs up to help Angel. Giles is about to go after her, but Alt.Giles grabs his arm.

ALT.GILES

The spell! It's already begun! I can't complete it on my own!

Oz FIRES at a vampire, turning him to dust, then dives behind the library counter to take cover. Meanwhile, Buffy and Angel are side-by-side, battling the ever-increasing horde.

Giles sprinkles some of the Aradian Powder into the urn as Alt.Giles reads from a leather-bound volume.

ALT.GILES

En et verbes, temporis apertios
foris. Verus amoveo et temporis
correctum.
(By these words, let time open a
portal. Let reality shift and time
be made correct.)

A small PUFF OF SMOKE rises from the urn as the spell continues.

Buffy and Angel have become separated in the course of battle, but are still more than holding their own.

Oz remains behind the counter, shooting into the crowd of vampires. He stops as something entering from the stacks catches his attention. He turns and immediately FIRES, catching Xander (in vamp face, wearing a leather jacket) in the shoulder, and readies another shot.

XANDER

Okay, who shot that? Someone's gonna answer for putting a hole in my new jacket!

Xander pulls the bolt out, as Willow slowly glides in behind him, looking perfectly normal.

WILLOW

(eerily calm)

We're not here to play, Xander.
You know who we came for.

XANDER

Yeah, but do you know how long it took me to find someone to kill who was my size?

Oz lowers the crossbow and just stares at Willow.

OZ

Who is that girl?

Willow MORPHS into vamp face. Oz's eyes widen; he quickly raises the crossbow again and takes a haphazard shot ... which lands in Xander's other shoulder.

Meanwhile, Giles carefully places crystals into the urn as Alt.Giles continues reading from the book.

ALT.GILES

Temporis congruo verus et reperios
querum patria verus.
(Let time conform to reality and
find those who seek their true
home.)

More vampires continue entering the library, now through both the main doors and the back door by the stacks. One slips through the meager defenses, and Giles is forced to break himself away from the spell for a moment. He quickly grabs a stake from the table and DUSTS him.

As the vampire crumbles away, Jenny – apparently alive and well – is revealed, standing behind him.

GILES

Jenny....

A hopeful smile begins to form on Giles's face. It's short-lived, however, as Jenny shifts into vampire form. Giles remains frozen in place. Jenny steps forward and puts a hand on his shoulder.

JENNY

Isn't this what you wanted,
Rupert? Don't you want to stay
here and protect me?

Before he can answer, she THROWS him backward onto the table, knocking the urn precariously close to the edge. She slowly strokes her hand down his cheek, runs it through his hair, then takes off his glasses. Putting the glasses down on the table, she leans and kisses him gently on the lips.

As she kisses him, Giles lifts the stake up behind her back and lines it up with her heart. He can't, however, manage to get himself to stake her.

ANGLE ON: GILES'S NECK

as Jenny makes her move to bite him. Just before she can do it, she is suddenly DUSTED. Alt.Giles has driven the stake in Giles's hand through her. Giles looks down to see the stake inches from his own chest.

Back near the stacks, Angel is becoming overwhelmed by the onslaught of vampires. Just as he STAKES one, another two grab him from behind, pinning his arms. Xander comes over as the two vampires PULL Angel to his knees.

XANDER

And here's the Master's gift.
Guess we should wrap him first.

With that, Willow hands him a length of chain, and he begins securing Angel with it. Willow looks on and smiles.

WILLOW

Look at him. All chained up like a
bad little puppy.

At the other end of the library, Giles finishes dumping the crystals into the urn as Oz emerges from behind the library counter, FIRING the crossbow on his way to the Gileses.

ALT.GILES

Apertios foris sinus veritas, et
ne congruo ... peragro!
(Open the reality-fold portal, and
let those who do not belong ...
travel through!)

There is a loud WHOOSH, and a swirling mass of light appears near the library counter. The sound of DRIVING WIND continues in the b.g.

GILES

Buffy!

Buffy turns to them, and a horrified look comes across her face as she sees Angel, in chains, being dragged from the room. She runs toward the portal, but passes it by on her way to Angel. Before she can get too far, Oz just barely manages to grab her by the elbow.

OZ

Buffy, you can't.

BUFFY

I have to save him!

Giles takes hold of her other arm.

GILES

We have to go, now!

OZ

You can't save him.

She half-heartedly tries to break free from their grip, as tears begin to form in her eyes.

BUFFY

I have to try. I can't lose him
again!

GILES

And I can't lose you.

With that, he and Oz lead her to the portal. She breaks free and turns back to Angel, just as Giles PUSHES her through the portal. He follows behind her, as the wind immediately dies down and the portal closes.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL (LIBRARY) - DAY

Buffy and Giles tumble into the library a few feet from where they left. The vampires are all gone, but Xander, Willow, and Cordelia are sitting at a table.

Buffy is still in tears as she slowly gets to her feet. Giles reaches out to help her up. *

GILES *

Buffy- *

She jerks away from him. *

BUFFY *

How could you do that to me? *

GILES

Whether or not you're accepting of this fact, you are the chosen one in this reality. No matter where Angel might be, or what consequences may befall him. You can't simply expect to....

He trails off as he notices Xander, Willow, and Cordelia staring at him as if he has three heads. A quick, awkward smile at them, and he escorts Buffy into his office.

CORDELIA

What was that all about?

XANDER

Does anyone else smell cinnamon buns?

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL (GILES'S OFFICE) - CONTINUOUS

Buffy sits on Giles's desk as he paces.

BUFFY

So, you want to continue telling me how wrong I am and get it over with so I can go on with my life?

GILES

Look, Buffy ... sometimes our emotions get in the way of our obligations, but we can't let that interfere with our judgment.

(pause)

And I'm no more immune to that than you are.

*
*
*
*
*
*

BUFFY

Go on.

GILES

You're actually going to make me say this, aren't you?

(pause)

Fine, then. I'm sorry I got you into this predicament. My emotions got in the way of my judgment. And while your obligations remain in this reality, I admit I was at fault for introducing you to the other to begin with.

Buffy, by now, has calmed down.

BUFFY

I told you how much I needed you. I can forgive you, but if you keep this up, I won't be able to deal. If you want me to remember my obligations, just don't forget yours.

With that, she walks out. Giles removes his glasses and rubs the bridge of his nose.

GILES

(to himself)

Fair enough.

INT. SUNNYDALE HIGH SCHOOL (LIBRARY) - A MOMENT LATER

Willow, Xander, and Cordelia watch as Buffy walks over to them.

WILLOW

So, I guess you found Giles, huh?

BUFFY

Yeah.

And there's a pause. Cordelia looks around waiting for someone to speak. Finally, she takes it upon herself:

CORDELIA

Way to be with the brief. So where were you?

BUFFY

Alternate reality. Not fun.

XANDER

Less fun than this one?

BUFFY

Master alive, lots of vamps. You guys would've hated it.

(pause)

You all kinda did, really. There was a Giles there. And Willow was there, and Xander, you were there, and Cordelia, you-

CORDELIA

I was still popular, right?

BUFFY

Actually, Cordelia, you weren't even there.

CORDELIA

No wonder it was so lame. A coolness void, just waiting to be filled. Hey, I should go!

XANDER

Um, did you miss the "lots of vamps" part, Cor?

WILLOW

And Angel?

BUFFY

There. And old Angel. Not the new
and improved fangier Angel.

WILLOW

(sympathetically)

Oh, Buffy....

BUFFY

It's okay, really. Made me
remember that who he is now is
just not the man I fell in love
with. And unless that changes
soon, I'll have to be ready to
take care of him.

INT. THE FACTORY - NIGHT

Spike "paces" impatiently in his wheelchair, doing a little
wheelie with each turn. Drusilla stands nearby.

DRUSILLA

Spinning, spinning ... all that
spinning, makes my head go round
and round.

SPIKE

Well, if Angel would get back and
let us know what he's found, maybe
I could stop my spinning.

Angel enters.

ANGEL

You can stop now, Spike. I'm back.

DRUSILLA

My Angel!

SPIKE

And?

ANGEL

And I've found the perfect place.
It's a bargain, really: I just
need to kill the current
residents, and it's ours.

Drusilla claps out some giddy applause. Angel walks over,
smile on his face, and puts his arm around her shoulder
triumphantly. Spike's glare burns a hole in them both.

BLACK OUT.

END OF SHOW