

# **Somewhere InBetween**

"Ghost Town"

by  
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**TEASER**

FADE IN:

1

INT. VAN - NIGHT

1

CHRIS drives, eyes fixed on the road. DANYAEL rides shotgun, checking and cleaning a shotgun.

In the rear, TWIST, VIVIAN and LYRA all sit together, the two vampires covering more weapons and supply checks.

Lyra looks around, absorbing the quiet, busy sounds the others are making as they work.

LYRA

Isn't anybody going to say anything?

A beat. Looks are exchanged.

VIVIAN

Such as?

TWIST

You know how this works, Lyra. This isn't your first rodeo.

LYRA

I was at Parker's base for almost a week, and none of you have really asked me anything about what I was doing there.

DANYAEL

We'll talk about it when all this is done.

TWIST

Yeah, I mean you've given us the main points, right? Parker's defences are down right now thanks to your breakout, so with Conall finally out of the way this is the ideal time to strike.

VIVIAN

As to why you stayed there so long...

She glances towards Chris, who still hasn't spoken.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... well, that's not for our ears, really.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

TWIST

You came back, that's what matters.

Lyra frowns, not satisfied - but Chris finally breaks the silence:

CHRIS

We're here.

Twist and Vivian swap looks and then crowd towards the front, looking out towards:

2 EXT. FACILITY - NEXT

2

The van rolls to a stop at the top of a long, winding road that ploughs down into:

A huge COMPLEX, full of buildings of various shapes and sizes. A tall FENCE runs round the perimeter, with guard stations at each corner.

3 INT. VAN - NEXT

3

Chris frowns, studying the view.

DANYAEL

Not exactly subtle.

TWIST

Yeah, but bonus points for shiny.

VIVIAN

(to Danyael)

You're absolutely sure you can't get any more support from the rebels with this?

DANYAEL

(shakes head)

All the camps in range are either recovering from Parker's attacks or busy with their own messes.

VIVIAN

So we're on our own.

TWIST

Which is the way we've come to expect it.

LYRA

Chris?

She reaches forward, placing a hand on his shoulder. Without looking away, he reaches back and takes her hand.

(CONTINUED)

CHRIS  
Something's wrong.

LYRA  
What is it?

CHRIS  
There's no power. Look.

He points - there isn't a single light on anywhere.

VIVIAN  
Those guard towers are empty too.

DANYAEL  
What do you think it means?

LYRA  
I did cause a fair amount of  
damage when I left. Perhaps they  
haven't had time to repair yet?

CHRIS  
So where are the people who  
should be repairing any of this?

The others exchange concerned glances. Chris puts the van  
into gear and starts rolling forward.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
We need to be extra careful.  
Knowing what kinds of things  
Parker has lurking in his labs,  
we may be about to run into  
something new.

TWIST  
Yeah, but whatever slithers up  
out of the ground, we can handle  
it, right?

She looks round - but doesn't get much encouragement back.

TWIST (cont'd)  
(smile fading)  
Right?

And as Chris drives on, we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF TEASER**

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

4 INT. FACILITY - FOYER - NIGHT

4

Inside a wide, tall room that serves as a reception area - corporate logos, a main desk and lifts in either wall.

The double doors at the far end are pushed open, swinging freely as the team cautiously step inside.

CHRIS  
Not even locked.

TWIST  
Okay, starting to get a bit of a chill going on here...

Lyra's breath MISTS in the air.

LYRA  
That's because it's cold.

TWIT  
I meant as in 'Twist is scared.'

CHRIS  
No, she's right. It's freezing.

He points - glistening shards of ICE are snaking their way up the walls.

Chris motions for the team to spread out, pacing carefully onward. Chris and Vivian head for the reception desk.

The desk is unmanned, with banks of monitors flickering intermittently.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
Can you get anything working?  
Camera loops, schematics?

Vivian takes a seat, depositing her large shoulder bag down beside her.

VIVIAN  
Give me a second.

Chris calls over to Twist and Danyael:

CHRIS  
Check all the elevators and exits, see which ways we can go from here.

The two vamps head off as Lyra approaches the desk.

(CONTINUED)

LYRA

Chris, can I... can we talk?

CHRIS

In a moment.

LYRA

I'd rather say this now. If that's okay.

Chris glances at Vivian, who nods.

VIVIAN

Go. I got this.

Chris moves over to join Lyra, who SHIVERS a little.

CHRIS

What's wrong?

LYRA

Something happened back at the base, and I...

He places his hands on her arms, pulling her close.

CHRIS

Tell me.

LYRA

Shona, she... she's dead.

Chris exhales, embracing her.

CHRIS

I'm so sorry. How did it happen?

LYRA

We were trying to escape, after we heard Parker talking to Conall and planning the final raid, and... we were cut off, soldiers were coming for us, I tried to keep them back, but I...

There are TEARS in her eyes. Chris wipes her cheeks dry.

CHRIS

Lyra, we both know you did everything you could.

LYRA

If only I'd been stronger, I'd have been able to save her... we could have...

Chris releases her, stepping back.

CHRIS

No. You can't think like that.  
You have to believe that you did  
what you could, and that's all  
there is.

LYRA

Do you want to know what's been  
the strangest thing?

(beat)

I'm not even sure how I'm  
supposed to feel. I mean, I'm  
upset, and... and I want to be  
devastated, but...

She SIGHS, running a hand through her hair. Chris glances  
back at Vivian - still busy.

LYRA (cont'd)

I barely knew here. She helped me  
remember so much, told me who I  
am, where I came from, how I  
became... this.

CHRIS

But you still didn't know her  
well enough.

LYRA

(shakes head)

Does that... am I a bad person?

Chris pulls her close, lifts her head and tenderly KISSES  
her.

CHRIS

Compared to everything we've been  
through and all the evil people  
we've fought, no, I don't think  
that makes you bad at all.

She manages a smile - just as Vivian calls out:

VIVIAN

I got something.

Chris and Lyra head over.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Whatever's knocked out the power  
wasn't anything electrical, if  
you get me. Something's literally  
draining the base dry.

CHRIS

Where is it coming from?

VIVIAN

About a hundred feet below us.

LYRA

Another underground complex?

VIVIAN

You don't know the half of it...

She taps at one of the keyboards, bringing up a 3-D schematic of the base:

ON SCREEN, and the outline of the above ground facility is linked through several vertical tunnels down into a much larger complex below.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

There's a whole city down there.  
I mean, it makes sense - this is Parker's main base, and from what I know about it it's one of the ones that produces the most stuff for him, but still...

She examines the details on screen as Twist and Danyael rejoin them.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... I had no idea it was this big.

CHRIS

(to Twist)

What did you find?

TWIST

Elevators are all out. There's a bunch of staircases going up and down, but most of 'em have been blocked off by rubble.

DANYAEL

(to Lyra)

Are you sure you did all of this?

LYRA

I only came out through one side of the base. There shouldn't be damage beyond that.

CHRIS

Which means something else took a hand to the base after you were done.

Vivian frowns at the screen, rattling at the keyboard.

VIVIAN

Wait, wait... here's something.

She taps on the screen - one room flashes RED.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Somebody tripped a silent alarm down in one of the upper sub-levels.

TWIST

'Upper sub-levels'? That doesn't sound right...

CHRIS

Which means there may be survivors. Somebody who can tell us what's going on.

TWIST

Or, it's a trap.

VIVIAN

If it was a trap, don't you think they went to a bit too much effort to suck us in?

TWIST

(shrugs)  
I didn't say it was a good one.

CHRIS

Let's go.

The team head away from the desk, Twist pointing towards a door marked 'Stairs' as we CUT TO:

The team step off a staircase into a long, dimly-lit corridor. Flickering strip lighting BUZZES overhead.

The team pace onwards, weapons drawn and ready. Distant, muffled CLANKING from unseen machinery echoes all around.

DANYAEL

You think somebody left the air conditioning on?

5 CONTINUED:

5

Twist runs a hand along one frost-covered wall, retracting her hand with a wince.

TWIST

Yeah, for the last seventy years.

They approach a larger chamber:

6 INT. FACILITY - SUB-LEVEL ACCESS - CONTINUED

6

A large freight elevator stands in the middle of the room, smaller personal lifts around the walls.

VIVIAN

I'll see if I can get this working.

She heads for the elevator's control panel.

DANYAEL

Guys. Look.

He points, they follow - and see several large SECURITY DOORS have gotten stuck halfway down.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Looks like they tried to lock the base down.

TWIST

To stop whatever's down there from getting back up, right?

CHRIS

Perhaps.

TWIST

And just to reiterate, but down there is exactly where we're now heading, am I right?

CHRIS

Twist, what's your point?

TWIST

No point. Just making sure we're all aware of the irony here.

There's a loud CLUNK from the elevator.

VIVIAN

Hang on...

Vivian is fiddling with cables and fuse wires - CURSING as she gets a shock off one.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
 Alright, try that.

Danyael hits the power button on the main control panel -  
 and the system LIGHTS UP.

DANYAEL  
 We're on.

VIVIAN  
 I managed to divert enough power  
 from other background systems to  
 get this thing running.

TWIST  
 Does it have enough juice to get  
 us back up?

VIVIAN  
 Guess we'll find out, won't we?

The team assemble on the lift, Danyael at the controls.

DANYAEL  
 Going down. Bottom floor, certain  
 death.

He hits the 'Down' button, and with a series of GRINDING  
 noises, the elevator slowly starts to descend:

INT. FACILITY - SUB-LEVEL - NEXT

The elevator lowers into view at the far end of a wide,  
 dark corridor, stopping with a loud THUMP.

VIVIAN  
 This is it.

They step off the lift, Danyael almost SLIPPING on the icy  
 floor.

DANYAEL  
 Knew I should've worn my New  
 Rocks today...

They advance slowly, checking doors as they pass - most  
 swing open, revealing more LABS and STATIONS beyond.

VIVIAN  
 Wait a second...

Vivian ducks into one room - emerging a moment later with a  
 flat device like a laptop screen.

She fiddles with it, getting the device to boot up. Its  
 soft blue glow brightens the corridor a little.

7 CONTINUED:

7

TWIST

Whatcha got?

VIVIAN

Mobile terminal. Should be able to get wireless access for most of the facility's systems from this.

She taps on buttons - calling up a MAP of the complex. She taps more commands in to highlight the flashing red room.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

(points)

This way.

The team advance, keeping close formation:

8 INT. SUB-LEVEL - LABORATORY - NEXT

8

Twist, Chris and Lyra step into a larger room stuffed full of lab equipment, monitors and other machinery - much of it still whirring and making noise.

TWIST

Alright, where is everyone?

Lyra runs a hand across several surfaces, head to one side.

LYRA

They were here. Recently. Plenty of vibrations still.

CHRIS

Can you pick up which way they went?

LYRA

They ran. In a hurry. Something... they were afraid. Very afraid.

TWIST

(child-like)

They're he-ere...

Chris shoots her a withering look. She rolls her eyes.

TWIST (cont'd)

Oh, stop it.

DANYAEL (O.S.)

Guys? You'd better come take a look at this...

The trio exit the room:

9

INT. SUB-LEVEL - CANTEEN - NEXT

9

And rejoin Danyael and Vivian inside a spacious dining area.

CHRIS

What is it? Did you find...

He trails off, as surprised as the others at what they see:

BODIES. Dozens of them, sprawled out sickeningly across the room. Some in pieces. Some in several pieces.

BLOOD is sprayed up the walls, the floor awash with viscera, spilled food and more mess. Nothing moves.

TWIST

Oh, God...

LYRA

(sways dizzily)

I feel sick... my head...

She ducks to one side and VOMITS noisily.

DANYAEL

Who the hell did this? Escaped lab experiments?

VIVIAN

Something took all these people out before they even had chance to react.

(points all around)

No gunshots, explosives, nothing. No fight back. They didn't even have time.

CHRIS

We need to keep moving.

He goes to Lyra, who wipes her mouth as she straightens.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Are you alright?

LYRA

I'm fine, I'm fine... I'm just... there's just so much death here, I... I couldn't...

CHRIS

It's alright.

He leads her back outside, the others following:

10 INT. SUB-LEVEL - OFFICE SUITE - NEXT 10

But within a cubicle farm administration area, it's the same story all over again:

BODIES strewn across every surface. Cubicle walls knocked down in the struggle. ICE and frost over everything.

With grim expressions, the team move on:

11 INT. SUB-LEVEL - BOARD ROOM - NEXT 11

Only to find that rank and position made no difference to the slaughter. Within a plush executive board room, the scene is the same.

This time, however, the bodies of several NEO-SOLDIERS are among the dead, Vivian turning one over.

TWIST

What took him out?

VIVIAN

Can't say. Looks like he was...  
burned, or something.

The soldiers's skin is blackened and charred - but his clothing is undamaged.

CHRIS

How much further to this alarm  
signal?

VIVIAN

Not far. Few hundred metres.

CHRIS

Then let's keep moving. We need  
to find someone who can tell us  
what we're up against here.

The team exit the room:

12 INT. SUB-LEVEL - LABORATORY - NEXT 12

And Danyael pushes open the door to another laboratory,  
SHOTGUN raised and flashlight strapped to its barrel.

He motions for the others to follow, fanning out and  
flanking him.

Vivian checks the terminal, then points to the far side of  
the room.

The team move in, checking every corner and piece of cover  
they pass. No bodies this time.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

Maybe it was just a -

GUNFIRE booms as somebody starts shooting!

The team dive for cover as BULLETS rattle past them, with monitors and equipment EXPLODING in the volley.

The gunfire stops - frantic, ragged BREATHING can be heard, along with several CLICKS.

Chris mouths 'reloading' to Vivian, who nods, placing the terminal down and readying a HANDGUN.

Chris counts down from three - and the duo LEAP over one of the long islands stretching across the lab!

They get a brief glimpse of a young TECHNICIAN fumbling with a machine gun before Chris TACKLES him to the floor.

TECHNICIAN

Get off me! Get off me!

He struggles, but Chris calmly disarms him and pins him down.

CHRIS

It's alright, it's alright. We're not here to hurt you.

Breathing fast, the technician looks from face to face as Twist and the others move closer.

TECHNICIAN

Oh, God... you're them!

TWIST

Them is us. It's true.

TECHNICIAN

You're the primary targets...  
you're the ones we're supposed to stop!

He struggles again. Chris coolly BOUNCES the man's head against the floor to stop him.

CHRIS

Now, I only have a finite amount of patience for this kind of thing, and after all the trouble we went to in finding you it'd be rather rude to keep lumping us in with the enemy, so...

And Chris lets go. He steps back and stands, leaving the shaken technician on the ground.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
Do you feel like co-operating?

Rubbing his head, the technician slowly rises, eyes flicking from person to person.

TECHNICIAN  
That... that depends. Are you gonna be able to do anything about... them?

TWIST  
(confused; to Danyael)  
I thought we were 'them'?

DANYAEL  
He must mean the other 'them.'

VIVIAN  
Look...  
(reads nametag)  
... Edgar, there's two ways this goes down. You tell us what's going on, or we kick the crap out of you some more and then you tell us what's going on.

She spreads her hands - what's it going to be? EDGAR hesitates, still not sure how to react:

When a hideous, inhuman SCREECH sounds from outside the lab! Edgar blanches, backing away from the doors and BUMPING past the others.

EDGAR  
Oh, God... oh, God...

CHRIS  
What? What is it?

More SCREECHING - which soon expands into a CHORUS of noises, as several new voices join the first!

EDGAR  
(shaking)  
Them...

And as the others look to the doors, raising weapons:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT ONE**

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

13

INT. SUB-LEVEL - LABORATORY - NIGHT

13

The team close up as the SCREECHING, WAILING sounds from outside draw nearer.

DANYAEL

Plan?

TWIST

Hit everything. Several times, if necessary.

CRASH! A louder, deeper GROWL rings out. Right outside.

TWIST (cont'd)

You know what? I'm just gonna stop saying words now.

Chris glances round - Edgar is cowering behind one of the desks, his gun lying forgotten nearby.

CHRIS

Alright, everyone, whatever these things are, let's not forget that we're all -

BANG! The doors fly open - and a horde of monstrous, deformed MUTANTS spill into the lab!

VIVIAN

(wide-eyed)

What the f-

CHRIS

Get down!

Chris pitches his arm round - and a wall of shimmering green ENERGY blasts towards the incoming creatures!

As they SLAM into it, repelled like they were hitting a brick wall, the team get a moment to take a closer look:

Like the tragic results of cross-breeding cross-breeds, the mutants are a hideous mish-mash of body parts given form.

Some are more animal, some more human, all of them frothing with rage and pushing against Chris' energy wall with every limb, tentacle and claw they can muster!

Twist grimaces in disgust at the morass of slavering, malformed beasts pressed up against the magical barrier.

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

I think... I think everything I  
ate in the last twenty years is  
about to come up...

She backs away, hand to her mouth. Danyael looks to Chris -  
straining with effort, trying to keep the barrier up.

DANYAEL

(to Edgar)

Is there another way out of here?

No response. Danyael marches up to Edgar, hauling the  
petrified technician to his feet.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Hey! Is there another way out of  
here?

TECHNICIAN

At the back... sliding panel...  
maintenance access...

Danyael releases him, racing to the back wall. Vivian joins  
him as he starts feeling around for the panel.

VIVIAN

What are you looking for?

DANYAEL

He said there was some kind of  
secret panel back here, but I  
can't find anything...

LYRA (O.S.)

Let me try.

Danyael turns - then YANKS Vivian out of the way as Lyra  
lets loose a SCREAM!

A section of the wall BLOWS OPEN, punching through to the  
corridor beyond.

And a moment later, the panel covering the maintenance exit  
also falls away, flopping to the floor with a THUMP.

VIVIAN

(yells back)

Chris! We've got an exit!

Chris backs up, the wall of energy retreating with him -  
and the mutants on the other side still HAMMERING and  
YOWLING as they try to break through.

TWIST  
 (swallows; grimaces)  
 Okay, nearly sick. Again.

CHRIS  
 For the love of God, Twist - run!

She hurries off, pausing to scoop up Edgar and drag him after her as she dives through the new exit.

Chris is the last, backing up through the lab and bringing the barrier back along with him.

He's at the hole in the wall when he looks around, raising his other hand towards several tall stacks of equipment.

They RATTLE, SCRAPING along the floor - then start to COLLAPSE, falling straight for him!

In one fluid movement, Chris drops the barrier and DIVES through the exit:

Just as the machinery CRASHES down over the hole, sealing it off!

DANYAEL  
 Woah... dude! Nice move.

The blockade JOLTS as the sea of monsters on the other side hits it, scrabbling and clawing to get through.

CHRIS  
 That won't hold them for long.  
 Let's keep moving.

The team hurry off down the corridor, Vivian with the terminal leading the way as we DISSOLVE TO:

PAN ACROSS from the wall to take in the infirmary - its many supplies already heavily raided.

Vivian is patching up Edgar's many cuts and wounds as the others check for more inventory, cracking open frosted-over cabinets and trays.

EDGAR  
 (off Lyra)  
 It wasn't long after she escaped that the warning alarms started. Biohazard alerts started ringing out all over the base, then the lockdown protocols initiated.

DANYAEL

But they didn't work. We saw the shutters - they were only halfway down.

EDGAR

(nods)

That's when the decision was made to seal the Warren.

VIVIAN

That's the code name for the underground complex.

EDGAR

But something started draining the power, so we had to start using shaped charges to seal the staircases.

TWIST

How were any of you supposed to get out?

EDGAR

There's another route. A main access elevator that runs right up to the surface, stopping at every level. But it needs executive access to start.

CHRIS

Meaning Parker.

EDGAR

Or one of his senior staff, yeah. And nobody's seen any of them since those... things started running loose.

VIVIAN

What do you suppose they are?

Edgar points to the terminal. Vivian glances at Chris, who nods, before she passes it to Edgar.

EDGAR

Down in sub-levels eight through twelve we had the main wing of our genetics program. Hybrids, clones, cross-breeds, all that kind of stuff.

TWIST

You're being suspiciously forthcoming...

EDGAR

You guys seem like about the only people who can get me out of this place. I'll tell you anything you need to know.

Vivian steps back, having finished bandaging him up.

EDGAR (cont'd)

I watched those escaped test subjects tear through a room of a hundred people like they were nothing... watched them chew an entire platoon of our neo-soldiers to pieces.

(beat; to Chris)

And then you hold them back, all by yourself. Doesn't matter about protocols now - I'm sticking with you guys.

DANYAEL

Guy's got taste, at least.

Chris moves over to Lyra, away from the others.

CHRIS

How are you holding up?

LYRA

I'm managing. Trying to stay alive stops my brain from having time to think about... things.

Chris smiles, giving her hand a squeeze before turning back to the team.

CHRIS

Edgar, we're going to need to find the source of whatever's draining the power and take care of it. That should allow us to seal the base with the mutants trapped inside, correct?

EDGAR

(nods)

There are self-destruct mechanisms throughout the base. We should be able to trigger a chain reaction to clean the base out once we're clear.

VIVIAN

If I can get to a security booth or something similar, then I should be able to tie into the CCTV feeds around the complex, help us find our way.

CHRIS

Agreed. Let's go.

The team rise, getting ready to move out as we CUT TO:

PAN DOWN from the ceiling, a wall of monitors behind the team as they stand before a desk, facing us as they look at more monitors. And they don't look happy.

REVERSE ANGLE to see what they're looking at - a row of feeds flicking from various cameras around the building.

And there are hundreds of MUTANTS running amok in every corner of the complex!

Some are busy smashing equipment, others are tearing scraps off dead bodies and some are just fighting each other.

TWIST

You guys might wanna stand clear. I think I'm gonna be sick again.

CHRIS

(to Vivian)

Is there any way through this?

She glances at her terminal - glowing red X's hover over at least half of the rooms underground.

VIVIAN

Not that I can see. Or, not without a fight on our hands we may not be able to win.

EDGAR

Let me try something.

He pulls up a chair alongside, rattling away at a keypad.

EDGAR (cont'd)

I might be able to activate some of the security overrides. Divert more power to shunt the lockdown into effect.

The others keep watching the monitors as he types - until Danyael points something out:

DANYAEL

That what I think it is?

The others peer closer - ON SCREEN are a cluster of white-coated FACILITY PERSONNEL, lumbering and lurching drunkenly around.

One approaches the camera - their skin covered with SORES and contusions.

TWIST

Do not say there are more zombies down there!

VIVIAN

No. They're infected personnel.

DANYAEL

Infected with what, though?

Chris moves over to Edgar, who is still typing.

CHRIS

The quicker you can do this, the better...

EDGAR

(shakes head)  
I'm trying, but the master failsafe's been tripped.

VIVIAN

Which only Parker and the senior managers have access for.

LYRA

I can find Parker.

All eyes turn to her. She steps forward.

LYRA (cont'd)

I'm tuned in to him. His... frequency, if you like.

VIVIAN

I think I can reactivate the security overrides if I can get to one of the main substations.

EDGAR

There are manual switches we can try too. If a few of us can get to those and activate them, that should initiate at least a level four lockdown.

CHRIS

Would that be enough to keep  
these creatures inside?

EDGAR

It'll have to be.

CHRIS

Alright.

(beat)

We'll have to split up. Danyael,  
you go with Vivian. The rest of  
you, with me. We'll have to go  
looking for Parker if this  
doesn't work.

The two teams split off, each heading out of a different  
side of the booth. Twist and Danyael are the last to go.

TWIST

We should probably have another  
of those awkward goodbye moments  
we do so well about now.

DANYAEL

We could, yeah. Or we could just  
say we did and get going.

He grins, takes a step, but she calls out:

TWIST

Spook, I...

(he turns)

I'm sorry about Siobhan. I didn't  
get a chance to say anything  
earlier, so I just... I wanted  
you to know that -

DANYAEL

It's okay. Really. She... she  
saved a lot of people. I can't  
really feel bad about that.

TWIST

Still... I'm sorry. If you need  
to talk, or just sit in  
silence...

DANYAEL

(nods)

I know where to find you.

She smiles, and he exits. She hesitates a moment longer,  
taking a last look round at the monitors before she follows  
the others out, and we CUT TO:

16

INT. SUB-LEVELS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

16

Chris' team are up first, Chris leading the way, katana ready, as Twist hovers at his side with a large FLASHLIGHT.

Edgar follows, much more nervous now he's out in the open again, with Lyra behind. Their breath

Twist sweeps the beam left and right, highlighting every nook and cranny up ahead.

TWIST

Clear.

The team advance, hearing the ever-present distant sounds of MACHINERY and occasional HOWL from something inhuman.

LYRA

I feel responsible for all of this.

TWIST

Did you let an army of mega-mutants loose?

LYRA

No, but -

TWIST

Then you're not responsible.

LYRA

I mean about Parker. I told him... when he told me he was dying and said I could save him, I never found out how.

TWIST

It probably involved dissecting you, knowing him.

LYRA

No, I don't think it did. He went to a lot of trouble to keep me safe. Every time he managed to catch up to us, he did his best to keep me separated from whatever was going on.

CHRIS

She's not wrong.

LYRA

If I'd stayed with him, even after...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LYRA (cont'd)  
 even when I heard what he was  
 planning, maybe I could have done  
 something to change all of this.

EDGAR  
 Look, I know I'm not exactly part  
 of the team or anything here,  
 but... none of us knew he was  
 dying. I mean, we knew he was  
 sick, but he'd been more fragile  
 ever since he got shot a while  
 back.

Chris and Twist exchange a look, remembering the event.

EDGAR (cont'd)  
 Maybe... I don't know, maybe  
 there was something else wrong.  
 Something none of us knew about,  
 and that's what he needed you  
 for.

TWIST  
 And besides, the people working  
 down here? All very bad people.

EDGAR  
 Hey!

CHRIS  
 (hisses)  
 Quiet!

The team pull up sharply. Chris reaches over and SWITCHES  
 OFF Twist's torch.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
 (whispers)  
 Movement. Up ahead. Be ready.

The others peer down the gloomy corridor - and sure enough,  
 there's MOVEMENT in the shadows!

Danyael and Vivian are making much faster progress, Vivian  
 consulting her terminal as the duo jog on.

DANYAEL  
 You're sure you know what to do  
 once we find this substation?

VIVIAN  
 Pretty sure, yeah.

DANYAEL  
 'Pretty' sure?

VIVIAN  
Hey, I'm doing my best, alright?

DANYAEL  
Yeah, and I appreciate that, but  
if this isn't going to work -

VIVIAN  
(firm)  
It's going to work.

They come to a T-junction, and Vivian looks down at her terminal - which flickers and promptly SHUTS DOWN!

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
Crap!

She SHAKES it, thumbing the power switch - nothing.

DANYAEL  
I'm not gonna say it.

VIVIAN  
Danyael...

DANYAEL  
I'm not gonna say 'I told you  
so.' I am not that guy.

VIVIAN  
We must be near the source of the  
energy drain.

She steps to the wall, running her hands along several CONDUITS and PIPES running past.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
These are all dead.

DANYAEL  
Meaning what? We're about to run  
into some kind of mutant  
energy... sponge... thing?

VIVIAN  
Knowing Parker? Maybe.

She tucks the terminal under her arm and moves on, a concerned Danyael following as we CUT TO:

Chris' team are pacing slowly forward, Chris and Twist with weapons raised. Edgar taps Chris on the arm, pointing:

A set of large HANDLES are by the wall, and running along the top of the corridor is a heavy SECURITY DOOR.

Chris motions for Twist to follow him as he steals across the corridor, pressing against the wall.

The duo advance on the handles, reaching them - but then hear a SNUFFLING sound from up ahead.

CHRIS  
(breaking silence)  
Now!

They put their weight against the handles - but they don't move! They're ICED OVER, frozen in place!

Edgar fumbles with the torch, shining it down the corridor - and finds several MUTANTS, bounding towards Chris and Twist on all fours!

CHRIS (cont'd)  
Put your back into it!

TWIST  
I am! I just don't have as much  
back as you do!

The handles are slowly CREAKING down, the ice cracking as the duo push all their strength through them.

The mutants are closing in, BARKING like dogs - though they're more like LIONS in terms of size.

The security door starts to RUMBLE, gears grinding at last as it slowly starts to descend:

But the mutants are mere seconds away, and it won't close in time at this speed!

TWIST (cont'd)  
Chris...

Twist throws a last, desperate look at Chris as the first of the mutant dogs LEAPS through the air towards her:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

19 INT. SUB-LEVELS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

19

Twist braces herself as the creature soars towards her:

Before Chris releases the handle, swings his katana in an arc and HACKS the thing in two!

He DUCKS as one half of the creature hurtles over him - SMASHING into the handle and SHATTERING the ice!

Chris darts back and WRENCHES the handle down, Twist's following suit, and the security door SLAMS DOWN.

There's a series of muffled THUDS from the other side as the other mutant hurls itself at the door - but it holds.

Chris turns to Twist - who SMACKS him on the arm!

TWIST

Don't you ever pull something that cool again without telling me first! I almost missed the whole thing!

CHRIS

(grins)  
Next time, I'll work out a hand signal to warn you.

Twist breaks into a grin too, the duo hurrying back to rejoin Edgar and Lyra.

LYRA

(wrinkles nose)  
I don't need to be able to see to know that was unpleasant. I can smell it from here.

EDGAR

(wide-eyed)  
You... you just...

CHRIS

Yes, I did.

TWIST

And tomorrow we'll go to the zoo.

CHRIS

Let's go.

The team take off again, Twist having to half-drag a stuttering Edgar as we CUT TO:

20 INT. SUB-LEVELS - ACCESS CORRIDOR - NEXT

20

Danyael and Vivian turn a corner - the tunnel they're in just keeps going, the walls ever more crystalline as the temperature drops.

DANYAEL

You sure you know where you're going?

VIVIAN

These bases all follow a pretty standard layout.

DANYAEL

Even the big underground ones you didn't know about before now?

VIVIAN

(patient)

Yes, Danyael, even those.

DANYAEL

Just asking, is all. I don't want any more unexpected -

Something HOWLS up ahead, low and plaintive - like a lonesome wolf through a guitar amplifier.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

... surprises.

Vivian checks her handgun, then pauses to examine it - before tossing it aside.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

Hey! What are you -

And she draws a SUB-MACHINE GUN from her bag, loading it with a loud CLICK.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

(beat)

Carry on.

The duo continue - the tunnel opens out into a larger corridor up ahead:

21 INT. SUB-LEVELS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

21

They step out into a more functional part of the base - the sterile decor of the upper levels is gone, replaced by bricks and exposed cabling.

Vivian runs a hand over one bunch of cables, finding a BLUE one and trailing her hand along it.

(CONTINUED)

VIVIAN

We just need to follow this,  
it'll take us straight to the  
nearest security station.

DANYAEL

That's it? No... hidden traps?

GROWLING echoes down the corridor towards them.

VIVIAN

No...

She GRABS Danyaël, hauling him along as she hurries it up.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... but that's no reason to hang  
around.

Danyaël risks a glance behind him as we CUT TO:

22 INT. SUB-LEVELS - GANGWAY - NEXT

22

Chris steps out of an access hatch onto a long railing that stretches across a larger chamber below.

He peers down - it used to be a vehicle hangar, but now all the cars, trucks, tanks and Jeeps are AFLAME.

TWIST

Hey, at least it's not as cold in  
here, right?

She steps forward - but Chris stops her, putting a finger to his lips and then pointing down:

Several MUTANTS lumber around below - these ones bulky quadrupeds, like rhinos.

EDGAR

There's another set of manual  
release handles on the far side  
of that door.

He's pointing to a hatch on the opposite side of the gangway - across thirty feet of open air.

LYRA

I can try to fill the air with  
noise, block out the sound we'll  
make.

CHRIS

No, I'd rather you save your  
strength. Something tells me  
we'll need it.

(CONTINUED)

Chris carefully steps onto the walkway - which CREAKS a little under his weight.

He gingerly takes a few more steps, then motions for the others to follow.

They're about a third of the way across when Twist chances another look down below - the rhinos are still there.

TWIST

(whispers)

Can I ask a stupid question?

CHRIS

You often do.

TWIST

Why are we sneaking if those things are the only beasties around? It's not like they can get up here, is it?

CHRIS

All the same, I'd rather -

But Twist is already leaning over the railing, YELLING:

TWIST

Yoo-hoo!

The rhinos stop, craning their unwieldy heads up.

CHRIS

Twist!

He YANKS her back out of sight.

CHRIS (cont'd)

What the hell are you doing?

TWIST

Would you relax? What's the worst that can happen while we're way up here?

Scowling, Chris looks back down:

The rhinos are still glaring straight back up at him - but the armour-like plates of hide across their back are starting to MOVE, shifting out of place.

Chris watches in horror as leathery black WINGS unfurl from the creature's backs, starting to FLAP!

CHRIS

Run!

BELOW, and the rhino mutants take flight, their powerful wings pushing them up off the ground.

ABOVE, the team race along the walkway, closing in on the hatch up ahead:

Until one of the rhinos SWOOPS in from the side, CRASHING into the walkway and TEARING it in two!

CHRIS (cont'd)

Hold on!

The support cables SCREECH with effort as the whole gantry LURCHES sharply down and to the left.

Twist clamps her hands onto the railing, reaching to hook an arm round Lyra as she loses balance.

Edgar stumbles forward, bumping into Chris as he braces himself against the floor.

Chris calculates the distance left - there's a gap of several feet of dead air.

CHRIS (cont'd)

We'll have to jump!

TWIST

Says you!

CHRIS

We don't have a choice!

He looks over - the first of the flying creatures is swinging back in a wide, lazy arc.

Chris turns to Edgar, grabbing him by the lapels.

CHRIS (cont'd)

I'll give you a push. Ready?

EDGAR

What? No! I - I -

CHRIS

Go!

And Chris half-THROWS Edgar across the space - the technician clattering to safety on the other side.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Twist, you're next! Go!

She doesn't need telling twice - she takes off and LEAPS gracefully across the gap.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Lyra?

He takes her hand, pulling her close.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Hold on tight.

She PECKS him quickly on the cheek.

LYRA

Good luck.

He takes a step back, ready to jump - just as the second rhino SLAMS into the gantry!

The support beams SNAP, the whole walkway spearing downwards:

And Chris LEAPS into the air, grabbing one of the flailing support cables and SWINGING across the gap!

He and Lyra land with a THUMP, but he's quickly back on his feet and herding the others through the hatch.

Behind them, the entire walkway finally gives way, CRASHING to the ground as the two flying creatures SWOOP past again.

Chris checks that neither of them are coming back for another pass - then allows himself a quick SMIRK as he ducks through the hatch, and we CUT TO:

An air vent cover is KICKED open, allowing Vivian to slide through and land inside the substation.

Danyael climbs out awkwardly behind her as she takes a look around:

A frosty console with banks of switches, sliders, levers and monitors are all around, along with a map of the complex.

DANYAEL

(dusting down)

Okay, now what? I mean, the power's still out down here, isn't it?

Vivian pushes her gun into his hands.

VIVIAN

Hold this.

She gets on her knees, crawling under the booth's main control desk.

ON VIVIAN as she PULLS a panel away, exposing thick bunches of cables within.

Danyaël watches as she digs her hands into the console's innards, poking and pulling.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
I just need to reroute a few of the power lines that are feeding whatever's draining them, and I should be able to...

LIGHTS flicker on across the console - and then die.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
Nope, not that one, hang on...

LIGHTS come on again - and this time they stay on.

DANYAEL  
Nice work.

Vivian gets back up, pulling over a chair and wiping the frost from the console.

VIVIAN  
Thanks. Good to know all those hours I spent reading the various operations manuals I stole weren't for nothing, huh?

She starts pushing switches and adjusting controls as Danyaël approaches the station's small windows:

THROUGH THE WINDOWS, and the booth stands over a larger chamber filled with conveyor belts and oversized cylinders filled with fluid.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
Danny, can you give me a hand?

He rejoins her. She points to one bank of controls.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
Every time one of those red lights goes green, hit the button below. Has to be done within three seconds, so be quick.

DANYAEL  
Got it. What are we doing?

VIVIAN

Rebooting the security system,  
basically. This'll be a start  
until I can get stuck into  
disabling the master override.

She attacks the controls - and Danyael does his part too.

24 INT. SUB-LEVELS - RECREATION BLOCK - NEXT

24

Chris' team are passing through a section of the base set  
aside for living quarters. Rooms branch off all around.

There's a loud HUM - and LIGHTING flickers back on, with  
further CLICKS from the doors nearby.

LYRA

What's going on?

EDGAR

Your friend's made it to the  
substation - the security  
system's powering back up!

TWIST

Told you.

CHRIS

Never doubted them for a second.  
Will they be able to close the  
shutters from there?

EDGAR

Not unless they've disabled the  
override by now.

CHRIS

We'll have to assume they haven't  
and keep moving. The more we do  
now, the easier it'll be to herd  
those creatures into one section  
of the base and destroy them.

They move on - but Lyra stops, looking behind her.

CHRIS (O.S.) (cont'd)

Lyra?

He steps back into frame, taking her arm. Her head snaps  
round - she's suddenly on edge.

CHRIS (cont'd)

What is it? Is it... Parker?

LYRA

Yes... no. I... I'm not sure. For  
a second there, I thought...

TWIST (O.S.)

Can we possibly do whatever it is  
you two are doing later?

Lyra bows her head, letting Chris lead her onwards as we  
CUT TO:

25 INT. SUB-LEVELS - SECURITY BOOTH - NEXT

25

Vivian is now at a keyboard, typing commands as she flicks  
through screen after screen on her monitor.

VIVIAN

Alright... if I've got this  
right...

She starts rooting through her bag, taking out several  
random items before she locates a spindle of CDs.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... then somewhere in here...

She unlocks the case and pours the CDs into her hand,  
sifting quickly through them.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... is...

She lifts one up with a triumphant grin.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... this.

She opens her terminal's CD drive and slots the CD in.

DANYAEL

And 'this' is?

Vivian watches as the CD auto-runs, booting up a new  
program on her screen.

VIVIAN

A back door executable that  
should auto-upload onto the  
base's intranet and knock down  
all those pesky ASCII walls.

(off Danyael's blank  
look)

Hacking software. It'll bypass  
the override and allow me to  
restore the security systems.

(CONTINUED)

DANYAEL

And you just happened to have  
that lying around?

VIVIAN

How many of Parker's bases do you  
think I've knocked out by now?

She turns back to her screen, typing rapidly.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Trust me... I've got this.

She keeps typing, Danyael hanging back - until a loud WHIRR  
kicks in as nearby generators power up!

The lights inside the booth FLARE UP brightly, and green  
lights flick on across the console!

VIVIAN (cont'd)

(punches air)

Who is the greatest?

DANYAEL

(looking outside)

Uh... Viv?

She turns, registers his expression, follows his gaze:

The windows outside the booth are filled with INSECTOID  
MUTANTS, stuck to the glass and peering in at them both!

VIVIAN

Oh... shoot.

And the creatures ATTACK - throwing themselves at the glass  
which starts to CRACK, as we CUT TO:

Chris and Twist approach another set of HANDLES, the thick  
shutters hanging above them.

They're at the foot of a long ramp, which leads up into  
another large chamber. GRUNTS and HOWLS can be heard.

TWIST

Whatever's in there, we don't  
want coming down here, so...

She CRACKS the ice over the handle with her elbow.

TWIST (cont'd)

... let's cut the fancy stuff  
this time.

CHRIS

Agreed.

He RAPS at the ice over his handle with the hilt of his katana, placing a hand on the freezing metal.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Ready?

She nods - and in unison they HEAVE...

EDGAR

Oh... oh, no...

He starts to back away from Lyra, who frowns, puzzled.

LYRA

Edgar?

She turns - but he's off and RUNNING!

LYRA (cont'd)

Chris? Twist? Something's...

And then they all hear it - a loud, rhythmic THUDDING. Chris and Twist swap a look, then peer up the ramp:

Where a huge MUTANT the size of a freight train engine stands, glaring back at them both!

CHRIS

Quickly!

He starts to HEAVE against the handle, Twist doing the same - as on the ramp, the behemoth continues to STOMP down towards them ground shaking with every step.

The handles are much less responsive this time, the shutters barely moving despite the duo's efforts.

LYRA

Guys... stand back.

Twist looks up - and sees Lyra sucking in a lungful of air.

TWIST

Ah, crap... Chris! Fire in the hole!

She breaks off, racing towards him and YANKING him aside:

Just as Lyra lets rip with a terrifying SCREAM, the air around her RIPPLING with unleashed energy!

(CONTINUED)

The two handles SLAM down into place, the shutters dropping - but the creature on the ramp has picked up speed, THUNDERING towards them!

The shutters CRUNCH down into the ground seconds before the creature hits:

But with a colossal BOOM, it PUNCHES THROUGH the shutter, sending shards of metal flying towards Lyra!

Sensing them, she dodges to the side - but one shard RAKES along her, and she falls.

CHRIS

Lyra!

He's up and rushing over as the huge mutant continues to power onwards - unable to slow down, it RAMS against the far wall!

Chris helps Lyra up, placing a hand to the bloody WOUND in her side:

TWIST

Chris! We've got company!

He looks up - Twist is racing towards him, and with good reason:

Dozens of smaller MUTANTS are now pouring down the ramp, flooding through the shattered hole in the shutters!

TWIST (cont'd)

Don't just stand there - move!

Twist streaks past Chris, who scoops Lyra up in his arms and follows suit.

Moments later, the horde of SCREECHING, CHITTERING escaped mutants bounds, hops, leaps and slithers past, and we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT THREE**

**ACT FOUR**

FADE IN:

27

INT. SUB-LEVELS - SECURITY BOOTH - NIGHT

27

ON THE WINDOWS, covered with a thick swarm of chitinous, insect-like MUTANTS, clawing at the glass to get in!

PULL BACK to find Danyaël and Vivian - Danyaël watching the cracks spreading across the windows with growing horror.

Behind him, Vivian is busy LOADING another sub-machine gun and also taking several GRENADES from her bag.

DANYAEL

Viv...

VIVIAN

Danny, I'm quite aware of the army of mutant bugs outside. I don't need an update.

Guns prepped and ready, she heads for the air vent the duo entered through, DRAGGING a chair over so she can reach it.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

We'll have to go back the way we came.

DANYAEL

What's to stop these things following us?

She tosses him a GRENADE, which he almost fumbles.

VIVIAN

They're remotely detonated. Set them up around the windows. Soon as we hear those things break through, we blow the room.

She heaves her bag up and into the vent.

DANYAEL

Wait, won't that knock out the security systems again?

Vivian hesitates. Turns to look at him.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

(weary)

Oh, come on!

VIVIAN

It might not. Hopefully the console's blast shielded.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

DANYAEL

Yeah, but that'd involve any part  
of this plan going our way,  
wouldn't it?

A beat. Until another of the windows CRACKS ominously - the  
creatures outside will soon be through!

VIVIAN

Better get moving with those  
grenades.

With a scowl, Danyael starts priming the grenades and  
wedging them into place near each window, as we CUT TO:

28 INT. SUB-LEVELS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

28

Chris' team are running for their lives down an  
increasingly darker corridor.

They pass beneath us - and moments later, a veritable tidal  
wave of mutants pours round a corner in hot pursuit!

Some run, some fly, some crawl - all of them contributing  
to a cacophony of noise as they tear after the team.

ON THE TEAM as Twist risks a look back - and her face falls  
at the sight behind her!

TWIST

Okay, now what? We don't even  
know where we're running to!

EDGAR

There's another set of blast  
doors up ahead, maybe we can -

CHRIS

Edgar, do you honestly think  
we'll have time to close them  
before those creatures catch us?  
(off look)  
Exactly. Now shut up and keep  
running.

The team hurry down a ramp, bearing a hard left and into:

29 INT. SUB-LEVELS - TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

29

A long, circular tunnel, forcing them to lean over to cram  
through. Edgar pushes his way to the front, pointing up  
ahead:

EDGAR

I think there's an access hatch  
we can use this way!

(CONTINUED)

TWIST

Will it take us away from the  
beasties? What are we waiting  
for?

EDGAR

I said I think. I'm not sure.

A baleful chorus of SCREECHES echo down the tunnel.

LYRA

I'll settle for that...

And so on they push as we CUT TO:

30 INT. SUB-LEVELS - AIR VENT - NEXT 30

Vivian and Danyaël are crawling along the narrow air vent,  
Danyaël up front.

DANYAEL

How will we know when they've  
made it into the control room?

VIVIAN

We'll know.

Grimacing every inch, he keeps moving as we CUT TO:

31 INT. SUB-LEVELS - SECURITY BOOTH - NEXT 31

Back in the booth - just as three of the windows finally  
start to SHATTER under the pressure of the mutant  
onslaught!

The glass BUCKLES, cracks spiderwebbing before they BURST  
OPEN, disgorging a sea of thrashing, flailing insectoid  
bodies into the room...

32 INT. SUB-LEVELS - AIR VENT - NEXT 32

And the sound of the breaking glass and CHITTERING mutants  
reverberates up the vent towards the duo.

VIVIAN

Like I said...

She brings up the DETONATOR in one hand, thumbing up the  
safety catch.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... we'll know.

And she hits the red button:

33 INT. SUB-LEVELS - SECURITY BOOTH - NEXT 33

And a series of incendiary KA-BOOMS rip through the booth, filling the frame with flames and scattered body parts:

34 INT. SUB-LEVELS - CHAMBER - NEXT 34

Chris and Twist are HEAVING against a thick security door, much like a bank vault, as they hear the muffled BOOM.

The lights overhead FLICKER, but stay lit - just as the pair finally SLAM the door into place.

They step back - and the door SHUDDERS as the creatures outside reach it at last.

Chris glances at Twist - who mutters a silent prayer, crossing her fingers - but the door holds.

CHRIS

(exhales)

Well, at least we still have -

And the LIGHTS GO OUT.

CHRIS (cont'd)

... power.

Red emergency lighting comes back up.

LYRA

What? What went wrong now?

EDGAR

If the backup generator is on, then that means that either the main power supply is completely dry, or something disrupted the system at one of the security stations.

CHRIS

As in where Vivian and Danyael went?

EDGAR

(nods)

It's another failsafe - it basically powers down the whole base to stop who or whatever caused the disruption from getting any further.

With muted THUMPS still sounding from the security door, Chris takes a look around the room they're in:

(CONTINUED)

It's an observation station, with rows of seats facing a large bay window, which overlooks a larger hall below.

Chris flops into one of the seats, taking a moment, as Lyra glides to his side.

TWIST

Hey, wait, if there was a...  
'disruption' at the security  
thing, then does that mean...

CHRIS

I'm sure Danyael and Vivian are  
fine.

(beat)

Relatively speaking.

Twist slumps into another of the chairs, dejected.

EDGAR

Hey... look where we are.

He moves to the frosted glass, peering out into the hall:

Which appears to be a zoo-like holding area full of CAGES, glass-walled BOOTHS and other cells. All empty. Chris joins him at the glass.

EDGAR (cont'd)

This is the breeding ground. It's  
where all the test subjects are  
brought after the initial DNA  
splicing, so they can be  
monitored during the first stages  
of their development.

CHRIS

You don't need to sound quite so  
enthusiastic, you know.

EDGAR

Sorry. I mean... I know that what  
we do - what we did down here  
isn't exactly...

TWIST

Legal? Moral?

EDGAR

Yeah, those, but still... it's  
cutting-edge. State of the art.

CHRIS

The things on the other side of  
that door looked a long way from  
'state of the art' to me, Edgar.

EDGAR

Yeah... they're the rejects.

LYRA

The failed experiments?

EDGAR

The success rate of what we do is something like seven per cent. That leaves a lot of... junk DNA, if you see what I mean.

CHRIS

But surely you don't keep every failed attempt to do... whatever it is you're doing?

EDGAR

The ones we can destroy, we do. The ones who still hold useful data, we keep.

TWIST

But somebody let them out.

EDGAR

I guess. I was working, same as every other night, when the radio chatter started filling up with screams.

(beat; sighs)

Before any of us realised what was happening, they'd filled half the complex. Killed everything.

CHRIS

All of this doesn't get us any nearer to Parker and finding a solution for this mess.

EDGAR

There is no solution. We get to the surface and destroy the base. That's our only option.

Chris turns - realises Lyra is silent. Frowning, he moves in, noticing her troubled expression.

CHRIS

Lyra? Are you alright?

LYRA

I can feel it again... the presence, it's like... it's like Parker's there, but he's not.

34 CONTINUED: (3)

34

He places a hand to her cheek, looking to the door.

CHRIS

We should keep moving. Try to find a way to contact Danyael and Vivian.

EDGAR

We can get down into the Zoo from here.

He gestures towards a STAIRCASE visible through a doorway. The team follow his lead as he pushes it open.

35 INT. SUB-LEVELS - THE ZOO - NEXT

35

Chris leads the way as the team stroll across the hall, peering into the various cells and cages they pass.

It's even colder in here, everything coated with a thick layer of ice. MIST fills the air.

Twist grabs a CLIPBOARD from outside one cell, leafing through it and reading aloud:

TWIST

'Subject received double dosage of protein A-sixty-seven. Muscle growth and bone density increased exponentially, but higher brain functions deteriorated just as rapidly.'

A little green, she tosses the clipboard aside.

TWIST (cont'd)

And here was me thinking I drew the short straw when he just set me on fire a bunch of times...

EDGAR

Oh, that was you?  
(off look)

I processed the data off that.

Edgar seems proud for a beat - until Twist's cool expression makes him COUGH awkwardly and look away.

Lyra takes Chris' arm, SQUEEZING his hand tight.

CHRIS

Can you still sense something?

(CONTINUED)

LYRA

Not as much down here. There's just something very... familiar about all of this.

WHUMP! There's a muffled sound from overhead, the team snapping to attention.

Chris motions for Twist to take Lyra and Edgar into cover - as he draws his KATANA.

Eyes on the ceiling, he listens - and there's another loud THUMP!

TWIST

(whispers)

Where is it?

Chris points - the ceiling is a busy network of cables, pipes, vents and walkways, with FLOODLIGHTS beaming down.

Chris follows the sound - something is moving overhead, and he keeps just beneath it.

There's a loud SCRAPING noise, and he tenses, ready to attack whatever comes his way.

VOICE (O.S.)

(muffled)

Oh, shiiii -

CRASH! A section of the vent GIVES WAY - and it's DANYAEL who comes hurtling towards the floor!

Chris quickly TOSSES his katana aside and moves to CATCH Danyael - the two of them clattering the floor as Danyael lands heavily.

Dazed, he looks around and finds Chris pinned beneath him, Danyael covered in muck and dust.

DANYAEL

Oh, hey...

VIVIAN (O.S.)

Danyael?

They look up - Vivian peers down from back up in the vent.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Chris! You're alright!

TWIST

Uh, yeah, we're fine too. Thanks.

VIVIAN

Hang on.

She disappears back out of view - there's a series of CLICKS - and then she clambers out of the hole in the vent.

She's hooked up an ABSEILING ROPE, and gently lowers herself the twenty feet down into the chamber.

DANYAEL

Wait a second - you had rope?

VIVIAN

Yeah, and if you hadn't done a Breakfast Club back there, we were both gonna use it.

DANYAEL

Oh.

He's then grabbed and quickly HUGGED by Twist.

DANYAEL (cont'd)

What was that for?

TWIST

You managed not to get eaten. I'm happy.

EDGAR

Did you manage to start the reboot of the security system?

VIVIAN

Yeah, although we had to take out the substation to stop us getting swallowed by mutant bugs.

Edgar thinks - then grins, hurrying off screen.

Curious, the others follow - and find him sitting at a large TERMINAL, attacking the keyboard.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Am I missing something?

EDGAR

You put the jump leads on the process, basically. We can still reconfigure and reboot the system from here.

Vivian pulls up a chair next to him, switching on another monitor and getting into the facility intranet.

TWIST

This is good news, right?

EDGAR

Oh, absolutely. I just need to tell the base that it's not under attack and it'll continue to reactivate every subroutine that got stalled.

Lyra, meanwhile, turns round, frowning. Leaving the others, she wanders off screen.

Vivian frowns as she scrolls through files and folders on her screen.

VIVIAN

Hey... guys?

Chris, Danyael and Twist crowd round.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

I've got something. Last recorded video logs. Time stamp says it wasn't long before we arrived.

She hits 'Play,' and a video window opens:

ON SCREEN, it's handcam footage of PARKER, hand clutched to his chest as he WHEEZES.

He's inside a LABORATORY, but it looks in bad shape - the lights FLICKER, and muffled EXPLOSIONS can be heard.

VOICE (O.S.)

Sir, you need to rest, the surgeons say the implants won't take unless you let your body -

Parker angrily waves the man's comments away.

PARKER

(strained)

I brought you here... to document what I'm trying to do... so shut the hell up and document!

VOICE (O.S.)

But we need to evacuate! When she broke out, she damaged dozens of essential systems, and if we lose power to the Warren, then there's no telling what will -

PARKER  
 (opens eyes)  
 I said be quiet, Clouser!

Parker closes his eyes, trying to restore a sense of calm. As he exhales, he opens them and addresses the camera:

PARKER (cont'd)  
 This is Doctor Angus Parker,  
 CEO... and I am about to perform  
 the first human test of formula  
 six-seven-five-six.

He moves - unsteadily - towards a large glass cabinet, inputting a code on a keypad to unlock it.

Coolant gas flows out as he takes a hermetically-sealed container from inside, carefully placing it down.

Another combination lock is opened before he can reveal its contents - a SYRINGE with a huge needle.

VOICE (O.S.)  
 Sir...

PARKER  
 (snaps)  
 Be quiet!  
 (beat; to camera)  
 As some of you watching this will  
 already know, I am currently in  
 the last stages of a terminal  
 illness brought about by earlier,  
 unsuccessful attempts at personal  
 genetic modification.

Vivian looks to the others. Surprised glances all round.

PARKER (cont'd)  
 My attempts to find a cure have  
 been... varied, but with the  
 sudden departure of... a  
 potential lead, I have no choice  
 but to resort to the option  
 before you.

He takes the syringe from the box - filled with a GLOWING YELLOW substance.

The team watch in fascination - unaware that Lyra is wandering deeper into the Zoo behind them.

ON LYRA as Parker's voice drifts over from the video footage. Lyra feels her way along, still frowning.

PARKER (O.S.) (cont'd)

This video will be made freely available to every employee on base shortly after recording completes. I hope it will demonstrate the full scope of my research, and act as a reminder to you all that despite our... current circumstance, there will be no stopping the goals of this organisation.

Lyra suddenly stops, her eyes widening. She can sense something close by. Something bad.

ON THE TEAM as they keep watching the video - Parker unfastens his shirt and holds the needle over his heart.

VOICE (O.S.)

Sir, I... you don't know what that'll do to you!

PARKER

Aye, lad... that's the idea.

And he RAMS the needle into his chest, GASPING with pain as he injects the full dose of fluid into himself!

ON LYRA as she starts to back away, clumsily bumping across surfaces as she retreats.

ON THE SCREEN as Parker collapses, breath short and ragged, face contorted with pain.

VOICE (O.S.)

Sir!

The camera is all but DROPPED as the wielder rushes to the fallen doctor's aid.

Parker is sprawled on the floor, CONVULSING, with white FORTH spilling from his lips.

The camera whips round towards the door:

VOICE (O.S.) (cont'd)

Help me! Somebody! I need help in here!

He spins back to Parker - who is suddenly SITTING UP, absolutely still.

VOICE (O.S.) (cont'd)

Sir? Are you... can you hear me?

Parker turns slowly towards the camera, staring right at us... and the footage goes to STATIC.

VIVIAN

Damn it!

She starts typing commands, but that's it - no more footage. She turns to the others - and spots Lyra at last.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Hey, is she okay?

Chris turns, just as Lyra all but falls against him. She panicking, her pale eyes wide with fear.

CHRIS

What is it? What's wrong?

LYRA

It's here! It's here!

TWIST

'It'?

THUMP! Something hits the ground nearby - and the vibration is enough to make the team have to check their footing!

DANYAEL

The hell...?

THUD. THUD. THUD. Sounds an awful lot like slow, heavy FOOTSTEPS start to ring out...

... and the team turn as one towards the shadows as a colossal shape starts to emerge from the darkness.

A gigantic HAND, flesh mottled and cracked, grips the side of one of the cells - as another CRUNCHES against a cage.

And as the twelve-foot tall leviathan finally pulls it itself beneath one of the spotlights, the team's jaws drop in unison:

CHRIS

My God...

It's PARKER. More than twice his size, halfway between man and monster, his body grossly swollen and mutated...

... and as his gaze falls on the team - he starts to SMILE...

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF ACT FOUR**

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

36 INT. SUB-LEVELS - THE ZOO - NIGHT

36

The new, monstrous form of Parker lurches clumsily forward, the team backing away with each shuddering step it takes.

TWIST

Tell me that's not what I think  
it is...

Lyra cowers behind Chris, her whole body shaking with fear.

TWIST (cont'd)

I said tell me that's not what I  
think it is!

PARKER

(booming)  
Children...

Parker lumbers forward another few steps, affording the team a better look at what he's become:

His body looks like it's more than doubled in size, some parts too quick for the rest to keep up.

But he's also degenerated way past human - a thick morass of TENTACLES trails from his back, leading off into the darkness.

His right hand is twisted into a huge, gnarled CLAW, and as his lizard-like eyes BLINK slowly, he moves his head - revealing a SECOND FACE growing out of the side!

PARKER (cont'd)

My children...

Chris quickly gestures for the team to split into two - he with Lyra and Vivian on one side, Twist and Danyael with Edgar on the other.

LYRA

Parker? Is that... is that really  
you?

Parker's massive, deformed head turns slowly to locate her.

PARKER

Ly... ra...

His human hand goes to his chest - where a jagged, elongated SCAR can be seen, right where he was injured during Lyra's escape.

(CONTINUED)

Lyra's hand goes to her mouth, her other gripping Chris' arm ever tighter.

LYRA  
Oh, God... no...

Parker THUDS forward towards them - several bunches of the tentacles on his back starting to SNAP and FLAIL around.

VIVIAN  
Chris? Any time you have a plan would be fine by me...

DANYAEL  
Can the plan involve running away?

Chris keeps his eyes fixed on Parker - one hand tightening around the grip of his katana.

EDGAR  
(stutters)  
Sir? Sir... can you hear me? It's Tim Edgar, third technician, I work for you up in the bioweapons division...

Edgar takes a few cautious steps forward. Parker's attention shifts to him - his head revolving smoothly on his neck like an owl's.

VIVIAN  
Edgar...

Edgar waves the comment away, keeping his eyes on Parker.

EDGAR  
Sir... we saw the video. We know what you did to yourself. You know formula six-seven-five-six was highly unstable, that it could have...  
(looks Parker up and down)  
... unforeseen side effects.

Edgar's keeping Parker busy - allowing the team to move into a position to run - or attack.

EDGAR (cont'd)  
I just... I just want to help you. Maybe there's a way we can reverse the process, perhaps we can -

THWIPP! Parker jerks his torso and sends a bunch of TENTACLES hurtling round - which WRAP AROUND Edgar!

TWIST

Edgar!

Edgar SCREAMS as the tentacles start to SQUEEZE - and then he CONVULSES, his body shuddering as the tentacles DARKEN:

Edgar's body is SUCKED DRY in moments, all fluid absorbed into the tentacles as his body starts to CRACK UP.

With a final SQUEEZE, his bone-dry body SHATTERS like dust, the tentacles whipping round like tails!

CHRIS

Run!

The team turn and break for cover, splitting off in two directions.

Behind them, Parker lets out a ROAR of frustration, his claw hand SMASHING through one of the cages.

ON TWIST as she and Danyaël weave through the crowded floor, ducking around cages and cells.

She risks a look back - Parker is hot on their trail, BARGING past obstacles and SMASHING walls down!

TWIST

Why is he after us?

DANYAEL

He probably remembers you!

A bank of MONITORS goes hurtling past them both, SLAMMING into the ground just ahead - blocking their path.

Cut off, the duo spin round - Parker LOOMS over them, features twisted with rage as he ROARS!

Twist looks at her baseball bat, then to Parker, then back to the bat.

TWIST

(sadly)

Sorry, sweetheart... but you just ain't gonna cut it this time.

Danyaël grabs her hand and PULLS her aside as more of Parker's TENTACLES snap into frame, these with barbed tips that THUD into the ground.

ON VIVIAN as she clambers up onto one of the taller cells, allowing a higher vantage point above and behind Parker.

(CONTINUED)

She follows the snaking trail of tentacles running from his back, realising that several thick strands are still reaching off back the way he came.

VIVIAN  
(yells down)  
Hey, Chris! I think I've got  
something! Try following the -

WHAM! Parker's bulk RAMS against the cell she's crouched on top of, bowling her over.

ON CHRIS as he looks up, seeing Parker trying to climb the side of the cell to get her as she regains her footing.

CHRIS  
Vivian, jump!

Vivian looks round, trying to find a new destination - but more TENTACLES rise from either side of her!

VIVIAN  
Uh oh...

The tentacles FLICKER like scorpion tails - and just as they POUNCE, she bravely LEAPS through the air!

She makes it a few feet into space - before one of the tentacles SNAPS round her ankle and HURLS her aside!

She's flung across the Zoo, CRASHING heavily into a network of pipes and cables bunched against one wall.

As she clatters to the floor, stunned, several of the pipes BURST and start venting HOT GASES out into the room.

Parker gets a faceful of these gases, SHRIEKING in pain and lumbering away from them, hands raised.

And as he does, Chris also twigs that one batch of Parker's spinal tentacles are trailing off into the shadows.

CHRIS  
That's it...

He heads over to rejoin Twist and Danyael, who used the diversion to get clear.

TWIST  
What are we supposed to do about  
that thing?

CHRIS  
Danyael, go and check on Vivian  
and then follow the tentacles  
he's not attacking us with.

DANYAEL

What for?

CHRIS

I think they're connected to whatever's been draining the base's power. It may give us a way to weaken him.

TWIST

What about me?

CHRIS

Start breaking open every heating vent you can. He's made it cold down here because this new form of his is more vulnerable to heat. Start fires if you can.

TWIST

With what? You got a flamethrower handy?

CHRIS

Use your imagination! We both know you've got one of those!

Chris takes Lyra's hand and steals away - TOWARDS Parker!

DANYAEL

Hey, wait! Where are you going?

CHRIS

To keep him busy!

Twist and Danyael exchange a desperate look - then split off, running in opposite directions.

ON CHRIS as he and Lyra snake through the Zoo - which is becoming more and more like a bomb site as Parker crashes around, tearing the place apart looking for them.

CHRIS (cont'd)

Alright, remember I told you to save your strength because we'd need it later?

He glances at Parker - who realises they're here at last, letting out a SNARL and heading towards them.

CHRIS (cont'd)

It's later.

LYRA

I don't... I don't know if I can, Chris, he...

(CONTINUED)

She looks towards the incoming Parker, shaking her head.

LYRA (cont'd)  
 You can't feel what I can.  
 There's nothing left of him in  
 there, just... just pain.

He takes her by the shoulders, addressing her directly:

CHRIS  
 Lyra. He asked you to help him.  
 This is how. You need to save  
 him... from himself.

Lyra looks back to Parker - who is HEAVING a collapsed heap of cages aside to get to them.

LYRA  
 (nods)  
 Alright... I'll try.

CHRIS  
 I'll be right beside you.

Katana ready, he stands by her side - as Parker finally HURLS the cages in his path out of the way!

As he STOMPS towards them, building up speed, Lyra raises her hand - taking Chris' hand with the other.

She lets out a low HUM, barely opening her mouth - but RIPPLES of energy flow through the air, stopping Parker dead in his tracks.

GRUNTING with pain, he clamps one hand over his ear as Lyra increases the volume steadily.

Chris watches her, making sure she's handling the pressure, before looking to the distressed Parker.

ON DANYAEL as he clambers over the dislodged sections of pipes and sprawling cables.

He has to dig a little way in before he locates Vivian, cut and bleeding from the impact.

VIVIAN  
 (dazed)  
 Danny...?

DANYAEL  
 It's alright. I've got you.

He helps pull her free of the wreckage. Vivian clutches a nasty GASH on her forehead.

VIVIAN  
What's going on?

DANYAEL  
We're following your lead, before  
things get any -

SMASH! Something shatters overhead and Danyael looks up -  
to the observation booth they first arrived in.

It's swarming with MUTANTS, flooding through the security  
hatch they've managed to batter open!

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
(face falls)  
... worse.

Vivian has to limp, but Danyael gets the duo moving as fast  
as he can, glancing towards the booth.

VIVIAN  
I... I don't know if I can walk,  
my leg...

DANYAEL  
Trust me, you're about to get an  
added incentive.

And the booth's glass SHATTERS at last, disgorging another  
wave of mutants that spill out into the air!

Some fall, some WHACK into the ground, some fly, but enough  
make it down in one piece to add to the situation.

ON TWIST as she looks round, seeing the first batch of  
mutants cascading down from the booth.

TWIST  
(sighs)  
Yep, because things were  
definitely getting too easy for a  
second there.

She turns and HAMMERS at more heating pipes with her bat.  
CRACKS start to appear, GAS venting out of them.

Twist hears another ROAR and looks over - she can see  
Parker towering over some of the cells, fighting forward a  
step at a time like he's walking into a hurricane.

Parker WINCES and GROWLS as clouds of hot gases waft his  
way, even as he fights for purchase against Lyra's attack.

ON LYRA as she keeps the pressure up - but the effort is  
starting to show on her now.

CHRIS  
 (shouting over noise)  
 Let me help you!

She shakes her head, increasing both the pitch and the volume of the note she's now SHOUTING.

Parker manages another step - she's keeping him back, but he's gaining ground every second.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
 Lyra, please! Let me help!

Her voice suddenly starts to FADE - she's running out of juice!

Chris quickly his hand - the one holding hers - and mutters an incantation.

Tendrils of BLACK ENERGY start to form and wrap around their entwined hands. Lyra GASPS, suddenly afraid.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
 It's alright...

BLACK SMOKE starts to rise from him, with delicate BLACK VEINS starting to rise beneath his own pale skin.

CHRIS (cont'd)  
 ... I'm in control.

And he turns his attention back to Parker, raising his katana to aim directly at him:

And a newer, stronger BLAST of energy rockets from its point, engulfing Parker in waves of black energy!

ON DANYAEL AND VIVIAN as they follow the trail of Parker's errant tentacles, the HOOTS and SCREECHES of the mutants pouring into the Zoo echoing all around.

VIVIAN  
 I saw these, thought they might  
 be connected to something we can  
 damage, maybe hurt him somehow...

The tentacles curve round a corner, and Vivian pushes free of Danyael so she can look round first:

And it's a huge GENERATOR, the tentacles covering it like ivy! The generator PULSES slowly, and with each pulse the tentacles covering it GLOW in unison.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
 This is it... this is it!

She starts rifling through her shoulder bag.

VIVIAN (cont'd)  
Watch my back while I find  
something to blow this damn thing  
up with.

He looks around, searching - and then hears something GROWL from right behind him.

He slowly turns - a colossal MUTANT, some kind of three-headed hell hound, is padding round the corner into view.

DANYAEL  
(gulps)  
Good dog...

The mutant dog's three heads BARK, each a different sound.

VIVIAN  
Take care of that. I'll deal with  
the generator.

And she darts off, out of view.

DANYAEL  
(panicked)  
What?

The mutant dog GROWLS again, spittle drooling from its jaws as Danyael turns to face it again.

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
(looking round)  
Uh... uh...

He grabs a FIRE EXTINGUISHER, preparing to lob it.

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
Fetch!

He THROWS the extinguisher at the dog - but it just BOUNCES off one of its heads. The mutant doesn't even flinch.

DANYAEL (cont'd)  
(beat)  
Crap.

And as all three heads start to BARK as one, the mutant BOUNDS towards him, forcing Danyael to turn tail and run!

ON TWIST as she bashes open another pipe - clouds of thick GAS are now flooding the room.

She covers her mouth, trying to waft through the smoke to see where she's going.

TWIST

Chris? Spook? Anyone?

The room is heating up, ICE melting and dripping from every surface. STEAM rises from the defrosting cages.

She sees MOVEMENT just ahead - shadows and shapes moving around in the fog.

TWIST (cont'd)

Chris! Is that you?

But more shapes join the two before her - soon there's a dozen of them!

TWIST (cont'd)

Oh... not good.

And sure enough, it's a fresh wave of humanoid, diseased MUTANTS that lurch out of the fug towards her!

Twist is straight to the attacks, bat SWINGING as she tries to keep the creatures at bay.

ON CHRIS as the blast of energy he's sending fades away, lowering his katana and catching his breath.

Parker has dropped to one knee against the onslaught - but otherwise seems unharmed.

The area is now thick with choking, cloudy gases - Parker's skin is actually BUBBLING at its touch.

He raises his head, starting to rotate it impossibly through a full circle as he takes in the mutants slithering, climbing and flying all over the Zoo.

PARKER

(smiles)

My children...

While he's distracted, Lyra tugs at Chris' arm, and the duo fall back, taking cover nearby.

LYRA

(breathless)

I can't... I can't do any more...  
I'm sorry....

CHRIS

It's alright, it's alright. I  
think I need a moment too.

LYRA

Chris... we're not getting out of  
here, are we?

(CONTINUED)

Chris can't bring himself to meet her sad expression - but as he looks around, he realises something else.

Following his gaze, we pick out more heavy SECURITY SHUTTERS all around the Zoo.

He then risks a look around the booth they're sheltering behind - the Zoo is now swarming with mutants, covering almost every available surface.

CHRIS

They're all here...

He ducks back, starting to GRIN.

CHRIS (cont'd)

They're all in here!

LYRA

What are?

CHRIS

The mutants, they've come from all over the base... they're drawn to him. He's the alpha male. Which means...

LYRA

Which means, if we can seal this room off, we'll trap them all.

Chris glances up, mentally drawing up his plan.

CHRIS

Lyra, I need you to push one last attack to slow him down while I set this up. Everything you've got left. Can you do that?

LYRA

I don't know, I -

He grabs her and KISSES her.

CHRIS

Can you do that?

LYRA

(beat; nods)

It won't be for long.

Chris raises his katana, staring at it.

CHRIS

If I've judged this correctly, it won't need to be for long.

He pauses - then rises from cover, several mutants HISSING as they see him. Lyra rises too, trying to show defiance.

ON TWIST as she batters away at the mutants assailing her - it's become a horde of zombie-like humans, clawed hands reaching for her on all sides...

... until Danyael tears past her, followed seconds later by the gigantic dog-mutant - that BOWLS OVER and TRAMPLES many of the creatures attacking Twist!

Danyael SKIDS on the slippery, wet floor, doubling back and GRABBING Twist as he passes again.

TWIST

What -

DANYAEL

Just shut up and run!

BARGING past a handful of the zombies, the two vampires run for all they're worth - even as the dog-mutant CRASHES back into frame behind them!

ON VIVIAN as she approaches the generator, PULSING more urgently as Parker drains more power to heal himself.

She raises one hand - she's holding two bandoliers stuffed with GRENADES.

VIVIAN

Let's demonstrate a little applied physics here.

She starts to walk forward - several of the tentacles break loose, turning threateningly towards her.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

Immovable object...

She pulls the pins from the grenades as she advances.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

... meet unstoppable force.

One of the tentacles SNAPS round her arm, but she keeps pushing on - even as another wraps round her leg.

Her flesh starts to SIZZLE at their touch - she grimaces, but fights forward another few steps.

VIVIAN (cont'd)

I hope you insured this place, Parker...

And even as more tentacles wrap around her body, starting to CONSTRICT ever tighter - she HURLS the grenades!

ON PARKER as he rises to his feet, messiah like amidst a sea of his warped, degenerate creations...

... just as a massive EXPLOSION rocks the far side of the Zoo, filling the air with FLAMES!

Parker LURCHES forward, feeling the force - as the flames ignite the gases in the air!

The room becomes an INFERNO in seconds, fire FWOOSHING like napalm in every direction.

And in the midst of this maelstrom, in SLOW MOTION, Chris raises his katana - which CRACKLES with black energy.

He THROWS it like an arrow as the air around him fills with FLAMES, engulfing him:

And the katana streaks towards the handle on a security door, RICOCHETING off it - but engaging the release!

As the door starts to descend, the katana is already hurtling off in another direction - straight towards the next door in sequence!

It does the same trick there, STRIKING the handle with enough force to engage it before zipping away again.

ON PARKER as he rears up, FIRE all around, his army of mutants HOWLING as they're incinerated in the chaos.

Parker's own body ripples with FLAMES, dozens of snaking, snapping tentacles BURNING as they thrash around him!

And that's when Lyra steps out before him, sucking in every breath she can even as the fire closes in around her.

She lets out one last, terrifying SCREAM, driving back both mutants and fire as energy SMASHES forward:

And as Parker is struck by the blast, his body starts to BREAK UP, great hunks of meat and bone DISINTEGRATING!

He SCREAMS, a hideously human sound amidst the bestial cries from the creatures all around him.

ON TWIST AND DANYAEL as they keep running, ducking and dodging as fresh gouts of FLAME keep cutting them off:

Until they find themselves in a DEAD END, the collapsed, burning cages having fallen to block their path!

TWIST

Oh, come on! I know we're always  
fighting a losing battle, but  
this is just stupid!

She turns - and the mutant dog, now on fire and even more  
pissed off, is right behind them!

The two vampires back up as far as they can, the BARKING,  
GROWLING mutant padding forward.

And as Danyael's hand reaches for Twist's, clutching it  
tightly, we rejoin:

LYRA, as her final scream finally fails and she drops to  
her knees.

Before her, the badly-wounded Parker FLAILS from side to  
side, crashing into burning debris.

She manages to push herself up, face streaked with soot and  
eyes full of tears as she hears his death throes.

LYRA

I'm sorry, dad... I'm so sorry...

She's forced to turn away as a wall of FLAME bursts past,  
and as she spins, arms raised to shield herself:

A HAND snaps into frame, grabbing her by the throat! Lyra  
GASPS, CHOKING against the iron grip:

And the hand belongs to another, identical LYRA!

She cocks her head sideways as Lyra drops to her knees,  
clawing at her doppelganger's hands, and we:

**BLACK OUT:**

**END OF SHOW**