

CLASS

SERIES 1

EPISODE 1

"The Prom"

By

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

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1 EXT. ALIEN DESERT LANDSCAPE - DUSK X

1 *

An alien desert, vast. Sand as far as the eye can see. An ORANGE SKY tells us this isn't Earth.

We find thin FILAMENTS OF LIGHT, floating in the air, seeming to gather. The more we turn, the more we see, a vast CROWD of them, interacting slowly... but seeming to wait.

One approaches us and the light flashes to white, then

CUT TO:

2 INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:00 2 *

A FULL MOON out an open window. Sky full of stars.

CHARLIE (white, 17, reserved, posh) sits watching it, wrapped in a blanket. Another FIGURE moves in the darkened bedroom behind him. It's clear he's just had an intimate encounter.

CHARLIE
Do you know the feeling of dread?

The figure, who we can't make out yet, stops, surprised.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
(still at the moon)
That just beyond what you see, just
beyond what you know, there's
something out there, waiting for
you?

CUT TO:

3 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MAIN CORRIDOR - NIGHT 1; 20:02 3 *

Soundtrack: Charlie's voice. These scenes unfold in silence.

SIGN above the doorway: "Coal Hill Sixth Form College - Barbara Wright Building. Opened 2016 by HRH The Princess Royal".

Pan down to see an ULTRA-MODERN, STYLISH school corridor, everything shut for the night.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Things that wait to harm you?

A SIXTH-FORM STUDENT BURSTS into the corridor, running as if his life depends on it. It does. *

His SHADOW is unnaturally extended behind him, taking up too much room, STRETCHING as he runs...

Beat, and then in THE END OF HIS SHADOW, a massive, burning creature of smoke and flame chasing him in the silence, red eyes, malevolent. This is a SHADOW KIN SOLDIER.

The student rounds a corner. He bursts into:

4 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - QUILL'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:03** 4 *

Slamming the door behind him. He sees a teacher, MISS QUILL (30s, severe) cowering in fright. She gestures hurriedly for him to hide with her.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Things that wait to kill you?

The Student and Miss Quill watch in (silent) horror as the Student's FLAT SHADOW moves from under the door and into the room, rising SCARILY UP THE WALLS. Once inside, The Shadow Kin Soldier EMERGES from it, towering over them both.

CUT TO:

5 **INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:05** 5 *

The Figure steps up behind Charlie. Another boy, MATTEUSZ (17, Polish, handsome, sad). Puts a hand on Charlie's bare shoulder.

MATTEUSZ
(Polish accent)
You are not speaking of...
(looks back at room)
This? Because this I do not dread.
This is a good thing. This might be
the only good thing.

Charlie, a bit otherworldly, doesn't catch this.

CHARLIE
I'm talking about what's coming.

CUT TO:

6 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - QUILL'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:06** 6 *

Still silent. The Shadow Kin Soldier extends a terrible SHADOWY SWORD from each hand.

The Student looks at Miss Quill. She still looks terrified. But now, somehow, she holds what seems to be AN ALIEN GUN.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
What's on its way.

Miss Quill holds the gun out for the Student. We can only make out her words by reading her lips.

MISS QUILL
(silent, screaming)
You have to do it!

MATTEUSZ (V.O.)
The future.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
A possible one. A probable one.

Wide-eyed, terrified, the Student takes the gun.

CUT TO:

7 INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:09 7 *

Matteusz puts on his coat, getting ready to go.

MATTEUSZ
No future is probable. All are
unexpected. Like Beyoncé albums.

Charlie looks at him quizzically.

MATTEUSZ (CONT'D)
Beyoncé?

He does a little Single Ladies dance. Nothing from Charlie.
Matteusz stops, baffled.

MATTEUSZ (CONT'D)
You are not like other English
people.

Charlie smiles, shyly.

MATTEUSZ (CONT'D)
I am glad you've come to the
school, though. Was hard being only
new kid.

CHARLIE
(genuinely confused)
Why?

Matteusz just laughs. Charlie looks back at the moon.

CUT TO:

8 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - QUILL'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:11 8 *

Still silent. Miss Quill and the Student are now backed up
against the wall by the Shadow Kin Soldier.

MISS QUILL
(silent, screaming)
Shoot it! Shoot now!

The terrified student holds up the gun.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
I hope you're right about the
future. I really do.

CUT TO:

9 **INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:12** 9 *

Matteusz, ready to go, kisses Charlie gently on the head.

MATTEUSZ
You are very strange. But you have
a nice face.

He leaves. Charlie watches him go.

CUT TO:

10 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - QUILL'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:13** 10 *

Still silent. The Shadow Kin Soldier raises its swords to cut the Student down. Desperate, confused, the Student pulls the trigger on the alien gun-

But FLEXIBLE TENDRILS shoot out from its handle, wrapping around the Student's wrist. The gun starts to glow.

He looks at Miss Quill, terrified, but she now has a look of resignation. The gun FIRES BACKWARDS into the Student, disintegrating him in a painful (silent) scream.

The gun drops. Miss Quill catches it deftly as it falls. There are SCORCH MARKS on the floor where the Student died.

She opens the door to the hall. There are also scorch marks stretching out from where the Shadow Kin Soldier died as well. The gun has killed them both.

Miss Quill calmly puts the gun into a handbag on her desk. *

CUT TO:

11 **INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:15** 11 *

Charlie looks over at a small, oddly polished CABINET, unusual in design, on a table against his wall. *

CHARLIE
I dread because I know what's
coming.

CUT TO:

12 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - QUILL'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT 1; 20:20** 12 *

As before, but finally, we hear Miss Quill speak.

MISS QUILL
War is coming.

THEME MUSIC RISES - "The Age of the Understatement" by The Last Shadow Puppets.

CUT TO:

TITLES.

13 **INT. APRIL'S FLAT - APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY 2; 07:00** 13 *

Alarm clock! APRIL, 17, upbeat, lonely, switches it off. We see a music stand and a VIOLIN CASE. She sighs, then forces a smile. She rises.

CUT TO:

14 **EXT. LOCAL PARK - DAY 2; 07:20** 14 *

C/U of RAM, 17, Sikh, heartthrob. Eyes closed, A CROWD ROAR fills his ears. He opens his eyes. With great focus and majesty, he kicks a FOOTBALL... Is it Wembley? Is it-

VARUN (O.S.)
Slow.

No, it's just a park. He's kicking goals with his dad, Varun, in traditional Sikh turban. Ram modern, trim-haired, piqued.

RAM
I got it past you, didn't I?

VARUN
And how lucky for your career if your father was always goal-keeper.
Now, concentrate.

He throws the football, hard, at Ram, who catches it with his foot and sends it back past his father, very hard.

CUT TO:

15 **INT. TANYA'S FLAT - SITTING ROOM - DAY 2; 07:30** 15 *

An EXPLOSION on a video game. One of THREE TRIPLETS (ALEX), 17, being cheered on by the other TWO (DAMON, GRAHAM) on a settee. The family is African.

Alex is losing the game, badly. His character is demolished by his opponent, to much groaning.

PAN down the couch to see who did the beating. It's TANYA, 14, small, brainy, their little sister. Who calmly sets down her paddle and starts eating a bowl of cereal.

CUT TO:

16 INT. APRIL'S FLAT - MUM'S BEDROOM - DAY 2; 07:35 16 *

APRIL enters her mum's bedroom with a TRAY OF BREAKFAST. She stops, sees her mum JACKIE setting herself into a WHEELCHAIR.

JACKIE
Oh, sweetheart, I was coming in,
you didn't have to-

APRIL
(sets tray on the bed)
Just in a bit of a hurry, mum.

JACKIE
The Prom?

APRIL
(excited)
I'm recruiting volunteers to help
decorate today! Wouldn't want to
end up doing it on my own!

Rushes out, still excited. Jackie looks worried.

JACKIE
...again.

CUT TO:

17 EXT./INT. STREET/VARUN'S CAR - DAY 2; 08:30 17 *

Ram and his dad are arguing.

RAM
I'm definitely going. Rachel's got
a new dress and everything.

VARUN
She bought a new dress? For a
school dance?

RAM
It's a Prom. Like Americans have.

VARUN
You have try-outs *next month*.
Birmingham will be there- *

RAM
(snorts)
Birmingham. *

VARUN
Ram-

RAM
Dad! God, calm down. I'll be ready.
It's just a Prom.

VARUN
(muttering)
David Beckham never had a Prom.

RAM
No, but he pretty much married one.

CUT TO:

18

INT. OFF-LICENCE - DAY 2; 08:40

18

*

Tanya enters a grotty off-licence, buying a Milky Way. AN OLD WOMAN (buying a large amount of booze) and the COUNTER CLERK greet her. Though young, Tanya isn't wearing a school uniform.

COUNTER CLERK
Still weird to see you without your uniform, Tanya.

TANYA
I'm in Sixth Form now.

COUNTER CLERK
(smiling, ringing her up)
Overachiever.

OLD WOMAN
(non-sequitur)
I caught my husband fiddling with himself on the stairs.

TANYA
He died before I was born, Mrs Linderhof.

OLD WOMAN
I didn't say when I caught him.

Tanya leaves.

CUT TO:

19

EXT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - DAY 2; 08:50

19

*

Ram and Varun pull up in the background, Tanya walks past on her way inside, but we circle around to CHARLIE, watching the school entrance. The camera focuses in on the sign which reads "Coal Hill", then pans downwards to reveal the word "Academy". Underneath, smaller, "Sponsored by EverUpwardReach Ltd".

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*

The school had an OLDER BRICK portion, but that's been ECLIPSED by the new MODERN SIXTH FORM. This is a bright, modern school. Where terrible things are going to happen.

*

Students and teachers enter, all of the non-Sixth Form students in Coal Hill School Uniforms.

Ram passes Charlie, casually KNOCKING HIS BOOKS OUT OF HIS HANDS. As Sixth Formers, they're wearing their own clothing.

RAM
Too easy, posho. It's like pushing over a lamb.

Charlie, confused, picks up his books. Takes out his phone, types in "lamb pushing."

A POLICEMAN exits. Two STUDENTS pass Charlie, talking.

STUDENT #1
Yeah, I guess Kevin never got home last night.

STUDENT #2
Please, everyone knows students at this school disappear. They all just pretend it isn't happening.

Charlie clocks this, gets an odd look on his face.

CUT TO:

20 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - ATRIUM - DAY 2; 08:51

20 *

April picks up a torn-down prom poster and re-tapes it to the wall. Tanya watches her.

APRIL
You coming to help decorate tonight? I need volunteers.

TANYA
My mum says I'm too young.

APRIL
It's for Year 12, so technically you qualify despite, you know... your age. How old are you anyway?

TANYA
Because that question never gets old. Besides, my mum isn't really a "technically" type of person.

Charlie passes them. They watch him go.

APRIL
I think I'm going to ask Charlie to the dance.

TANYA
(groaning)
Oh, man, you just made us fail the Bechdel Test-

APRIL
The what? You're funny.

TANYA
Plus I really don't think Charlie-
Wait a minute. Prom is *tomorrow*.
You don't have a date yet?

Caught, April starts moving away, changes subject:

APRIL
So that's a yes for helping to
decorate?

Tanya watches her go, shaking her head, feeling for April as everyone does. But behind Tanya-

A strange, ominous shadow passes, quickly. Did we see that?

CUT TO:

21 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MAIN CORRIDOR - DAY 2; 08:53 21 *

April talks to Charlie. He's looking around surreptitiously, as if trying to find something.

CHARLIE
But how would one dress?

APRIL
Well, usually the boys wear dinner jackets and the girls wear ball gowns, but we totally don't need to be that gender-specific-

Charlie spots the SCORCH MARKS on the linoleum floor coming out from under their classroom door. Miss Quill passes, two steps ahead of MR ARMITAGE, Headteacher, harried, exhausted. *

MR ARMITAGE
I don't know what they did in your *last* job, but chaperoning a dance is part of-

MISS QUILL
(crisply)
I am *not* a baby-sitter.

MR ARMITAGE
Except... you kind of are...

They pass, Charlie and April watch them go.

APRIL
Anyway, about the prom, I was thinking, you know, that you and I could maybe-

CHARLIE
(polite but firm)
Oh, no. No, I shouldn't think so.

Charlie heads after Miss Quill. April watches him go, stung.

RAM
(passing by)
That was painful.

Ram disappears into the classroom where Charlie went.

CUT TO:

22 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MISS QUILL'S CLASSROOM - DAY 2; 09.202 ***

Miss Quill looms into frame.

MISS QUILL
Look at you all. The cream of the crop. It's no wonder this country only exports Downton Abbey.

Our four - April, Tanya, Ram and Charlie - sit by each other in a room full of classmates.

APRIL
(at her desk, quietly)
I like Downton Abbey.

TANYA
Yeah. All those white people being nice to each other. Gripping.

RAM
You'd watch it if Idris Elba were on it.

TANYA
I'd watch football if Idris Elba were on it.

Charlie, over-hearing, takes out his phone to type in a search, "Reece Elbow-"

It's yanked out of his hand by Miss Quill!

MISS QUILL
Cheating already, Charles?

CHARLIE
...you haven't actually taught anything yet-

MISS QUILL
True. How about our first lesson of the day?

Drops the phone. There's a crack.

MISS QUILL (CONT'D)
Your teacher has awful butter fingers.

She picks up the phone, hands it back to Charlie. The glass display is smashed.

APRIL
You can't do that! That's his
private property!

Miss Quill's laser focus shifts to April.

MISS QUILL
April MacLean. The answer to the
question, Are spinsters born or
made? Got a date for the Prom yet?

TANYA
Hey!

MISS QUILL
(to Tanya)
I don't even need to ask if you've
got one, our wee little skipper of
years. It'll be past your bedtime.

RAM
(arrogant)
I've got a date.

MISS QUILL
But of course you do, Ram. The boy
who hears silent applause every
time he enters a room.

CHARLIE
Are we actually going to learn any
physics today, or are you just
going to keep insulting us?

MISS QUILL
"A good teacher must be able to
multi-task" -- Ofsted.

She turns back to the front and writes an impossibly
difficult PHYSICS equation on the board.

MISS QUILL (CONT'D)
Solve it. And no talking!

The class, cowed, starts baffled work. Our four struggle.

RAM
Is this even in the book?

APRIL
I think she makes half of this
stuff up.

TANYA
It's the Gibbs probability density
in a classical Klein-Gordon Field.

They stare at her.

TANYA (CONT'D)
Well, it *is*.

RAM
We're not *supposed* to get it. She just wants us to feel stupid.

APRIL
It's working.

RAM
I'll bet she *ate* Kevin. *

CHARLIE
He was eaten?

RAM
(exasperated)
Where are you supposed to be from, anyway? You sound like the Queen.

CHARLIE
(beat, flatly)
I'm from Sheffield.

RAM
Yeah, when I close my eyes, all I can hear is an Arctic Monkey.

Charlie looks confused. Ram rolls his eyes.

RAM (CONT'D)
Why am I even talking to you geeks?

MISS QUILL
QUIET! Don't make me send you to detention, Ram. You wouldn't like that.

They return to their work. Charlie catches the eye of MATTEUSZ sitting a few rows up, who makes a hair-pulling gesture at the physics problem. Charlie smiles. Then he types into his phone's smashed screen, "Monkeys of the arctic..."

CUT TO:

23 EXT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - FRONT - DAY 2; 15:35

23 *

The school day is ending. April stands outside the school entrance with flyers, trying to catch the attention of passing students. *

APRIL
And don't forget, tonight's the big decoration! All volunteers welcome.

Charlie approaches her.

CHARLIE
Having a date to the prom is important, yes? Miss Quill and others mentioned it.

APRIL
(looking hopeful)
Well, yeah-

CHARLIE
I shall ask Matteusz as my date.

APRIL
Matteusz? Oh. Ohhhh-

CHARLIE
Is this not right? The schools in
Sheffield were very different-

APRIL
No! No, no, no, no, not at all.
It's great! It... makes sense.
(little clap)
Yay for you!

CHARLIE
Thank you.

He nods at her and heads off.

APRIL
(to herself, sad)
Of course he is. Of course.

CUT TO:

24 EXT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - FOOTBALL PITCH - DAY 2; 16:00 24 *

Ram practises drills with the school football TEAM. COACH DAWSON (huge, young, gorgeous) runs the drills. Varun watches from the sidelines.

RACHEL, (pretty, brunette, bitchy), arrives to watch, too. A mousy PAIR OF GIRLS flee from her. Ram sees her, waves. She waves back. Varun notices and frowns.

The sun is out, casting SHADOWS on the field. Ram pushes the ball past defenders. He's superb, particularly the way he dodges and fakes out other players.

But just as he's about to strike it into the goal, he sees the shadow of one TEAMMATE JUMP to the shadow of another. The ball is stolen off him easily, and the rest of the team runs the other way, Ram left standing, wondering what he saw.

COACH DAWSON
What the hell was what?

RAM
I just-

COACH DAWSON
Twenty laps. Now.

RAM
But I-

COACH DAWSON
Twenty-five.

Annoyed, Ram sets off. He sees Varun glaring at Rachel.

CUT TO:

25 EXT. STREET - DAY 2; 16:05

25 *

Tanya walks home alone, singing to herself, throwing in some dance moves. She's just a kid, after all. She passes a MISSING POSTER for KEVIN, the Sixth-Form Student from the opening.

*

We see her SHADOW behind her. It STARTS TO GROW, stretching abnormally, twisting into different SHAPES, threatening ones-

Tanya stops, looking guilty.

TANYA
No. No. Why would you help decorate for something you can't even go to?
(sags)
Because that sad individual is the best chance you have at a friend.

She sighs, turns around to head back to school AND SEES A TERRIFYING SHADOW SHAPE LOOMING OVER HER!

She screams and runs as fast as she can-

The SHADOW comes after her-

CUT TO:

26 EXT. STREETS LEADING TO TANYA'S FLAT - DAY 2; 16:06

26 *

Tanya keeps running, but how can you outrun your shadow? It looms larger and larger as Tanya turns corners-

She avoids the shadow of a BUILDING as her own shadow merges with it, making an even larger, scarier shape-

Then her Shadow PASSES HER, moving against the sunlight-

CUT TO:

27 INT. OFF-LICENCE - DAY 2; 16:07

27 *

She charges through the door of the off-licence, the fluorescent lights cutting away almost all her shadow.

The OLD WOMAN and the COUNTER CLERK are still there, staring at her in amazement. Tanya looks around-

But of course, everything is normal. All shadows fine. She backs slowly to the door, putting her arm in the sunlight. Her shadow is normal. Of course it is.

TANYA
I'm under far too much pressure.

OLD WOMAN
Tell me about it.

TANYA
Do you... live here?

CUT TO:

28 EXT. CHARLIE'S STREET - DAY 2; 16:10

28 *

Charlie stops outside his house with some trepidation. He takes a deep breath, makes ready to enter his front gate-

APRIL (O.S.)
Coming to help me later?

April arrives, arms full of decorating materials - tinsel, ribbons, etc. Charlie stares at the box.

APRIL (CONT'D)
(beat, then hurriedly)
Not that I'm saying you'd be particularly good at interior decoration or anything because the world is a big place and everyone can do anything they-

CHARLIE
I'm afraid I can't. But thank you.

APRIL
(pleased)
...well, you're welcome.

CHARLIE
You've been very kind to me since I arrived at the beginning of the year.

APRIL
It's always hard to fit in to a new place.

CHARLIE
It is. You're very kind. To everyone.

APRIL
(oddly disappointed)
Yes. That's what everyone says.
(rallies, heads off)
Shame you got stuck with us in Miss Quill's. She's not kind at all.

Charlie watches her go, then enters his gate.

CUT TO:

29 **INT. CHARLIE'S ENTRYWAY - DAY 2; 16:11**

29 *

Charlie enters, setting down his school bag.

CHARLIE
I'm home!

No response. He takes off his coat and walks into his-

CUT TO:

30 **INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - DAY 2; 16:12**

30 *

Where he sees MISS QUILL! Sitting at a dining table with a cup of coffee. She turns to him, shocked. There are tears on her face which she wipes angrily away.

MISS QUILL
(standing)
You took your own sweet time.

CUT TO:

31 **EXT./INT. STREET/VARUN'S CAR - DAY 2; 17:00**

31 *

Varun drives, talking to his son, who's annoyed.

VARUN
Teenage girlfriends aren't real
girlfriends.

RAM
As opposed to what? The gritty
reality of a WAG?

VARUN
Ram-

RAM
She wasn't what distracted me.

VARUN
What was, then?

Ram doesn't answer. They arrive at their house.

VARUN (CONT'D)
We have a plan for your career, and
if that girl-

RAM
I know we have a plan! It's all you
ever talk about! I'm allowed a
distraction from it now and then!

Ram gets out of the car.

CUT TO:

32

INT. TANYA'S FLAT - KITCHEN - DAY 2; 17:15

32

*

Tanya, disturbed, sits in front of her homework, not doing it. Her mother VIVIAN, 40s, workaholic, Nigerian, enters, putting down her handbag after a long day.

VIVIAN
(Yoruban accent)
You're usually done by now.

TANYA
Hello to you, too.

Vivian stretches her back, taking off her coat. She briskly sets the kettle to boiling. Tanya watches her.

TANYA (CONT'D)
Mum? You know this Prom at school-

VIVIAN
(immediately closed)
You are too young to be dancing
with boys-

TANYA
But I'm "technically" in the right
year and-

VIVIAN
Your brain is smart enough to have
allowed you to skip ahead. But you
are still a little girl.

Tanya takes this quite badly.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)
One who isn't even finished with
her homework. Work first. Fun is
for later.

TANYA
When? When I'm 40?

VIVIAN
Oh, there's no time for fun then
either, trust me.

Exits. Tanya sighs and gathers her books to take to her room.

CUT TO:

33

INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - DAY 2; 17:20 33

*

Miss Quill violently eats a chocolate bar. Charlie watches.

CHARLIE
What's the matter? Why are you
upset?

MISS QUILL
Perhaps a better question is, why
aren't you? All the time. At every
moment.

CHARLIE
(ignoring the question)
Did you kill that student? I saw
burn marks that looked like they
were from your gun.

MISS QUILL
You know as well as I do that I am
not allowed to use my gun, *Prince*.

CHARLIE
You'd find a way. Some loophole.
Did you kill that student?

MISS QUILL
(sarcastic, if true)
Yes, I tricked the student into
killing *himself* with my gun.

He waits. Exasperated, she answers.

MISS QUILL (CONT'D)
I also may not lie to you,
remember? I'm sworn to protect you,
after all. Funny how they want me
to do that without weaponry.

CHARLIE
You're meant to sacrifice yourself
if I'm in danger.

She rolls her eyes at this. Charlie takes out his phone,
shows her the smashed screen.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
And if you're sworn to protect me-

MISS QUILL
"Protect". Not "like". And you're
not fitting in enough. The others
think you're weird.

CHARLIE
I am weird here. How did you learn
to fit in so fast?

MISS QUILL
Not all of us were pampered into
imbecility, *your Highness*. Some of
us had to learn survival skills.
Quick assimilation is one of them.
And as long as I am forced to
perform this *slavery*-

CHARLIE
Punishment.

MISS QUILL
(bitter laugh)
To-may-to, to-mah-to. We are alike,
you and me. You deny it. But we are
the same.

CHARLIE
We are *not* the same.

MISS QUILL
Nevertheless, I will fulfill my
"punishment". I will keep you safe
from the things that hunt us. And
you *will not* question me.

She puts on her coat to leave.

CHARLIE
Where are you going?

MISS QUILL
What did I *just* say?

Storms out. Charlie watches her go, thoughtfully.

CUT TO:

34 **EXT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - FRONT WALK - DAY 2; 17:21** 34 *

Quill exits. She pauses on the walk and takes a simple moment to weep. It's controlled and she purposely keeps it quiet, but there is obviously a DEEP GRIEF there that she hides.

She forces herself to calm down, takes a few deep breaths-

Then reaches into her coat for the GUN. She checks it, makes a setting, puts it away and heads out.

CUT TO:

35 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 17:30** 35 *

April, with her Prom decorations. Mr Armitage, holding a key. No one else has shown up. She puts on a brave face.

APRIL
This just means I can do it how *I*
want to.

MR ARMITAGE
Whatever you say, April. Look, I'm
meeting a friend for a quinoa and
kale falafel-
(hears himself)
My god, Shoreditch *has* changed.
(hands her the key)
(MORE)

MR ARMITAGE (CONT'D)
I can trust you with this? Of
course I can trust you with this.

Waltzes off. April picks up the tinsel. Sees how completely inadequate it is for the huge hall. Sighs.

Behind her, a shadow moves, ominously.

CUT TO:

36 INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 17:31 36 *

Tanya flips on her laptop, setting out her homework. Before she can get anywhere, a screen opens. It's RAM.

TANYA
(exasperated)
I just sat down-

RAM (ONSCREEN)
I'm going out with Rachel later. I
need the answers now.

TANYA
Have you paid into my gaming
account?

RAM (ONSCREEN)
Yes, you ridiculous nerd.

Tanya opens her physics textbook.

TANYA
Okay, the first steps you take in
breaking down the formula are...

CUT TO:

37 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 17:33 37 *

April hums as she rolls out a huge roll of butcher block paper on the floor, running the length of the room. She kneels down with a marker in her hand.

APRIL
"A night full of Promise!" I wonder
if that's what "prom" means?

She starts writing the words on the banner. She's angled so she isn't writing in her shadow-

But her shadow moves itself in her way. She sits back, looks up at the lights.

APRIL (CONT'D)
Weird.

CUT TO:

38 **INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 17:45** 38 *

Tanya helping Ram with his homework. He holds up a page.

 TANYA
 (reading it)
 Exactly.

Ram nods to himself and puts the work back down.

 TANYA (CONT'D)
Isn't this great? Two brown people
talking about something other than
what the white folks are up to?

 RAM (ONSCREEN)
 (blinks)
You tell anyone about this, you're
dead. I mean, dead.

Tanya sighs. No friendship here.

But Ram, onscreen, suddenly looks up sharply.

 RAM (ONSCREEN) (CONT'D)
What was that?

Behind Tanya, we see a shadow moving...

CUT TO:

39 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 17:46** 39 *

April has written "A Night Full Of PROMise!!!" in decorative lettering. She sits up.

 APRIL
Or is it "promenade"?

She leans down to write and her shadow suddenly leaks over and holds her wrist down on the paper! She screams!

CUT TO:

40 **INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 17:47** 40 *

Ram is on his feet onscreen, looking closely.

 TANYA
 (alarmed, looking around)
There's nothing. What did you see?
 (turns to RAM)
Was it a shadow?

 RAM (ONSCREEN)
 (shocked)
What do you know about shadows?

Tanya's SHADOW leaps from her wall in the monstrous shape of a SHADOW KIN SOLDIER. She screams as it towers over her.

CUT TO:

41 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 17:48

41

April fights with her shadow, but as she pulls back from the paper, it, too, starts to solidify from 2D into a 3D hand holding her there...

But April is no slouch. She's screaming, yes, but she grabs the first thing to hand - the long plastic box of coloured markers - and starts whacking the shadow with it.

It lets her go and she falls back onto the floor. Finding herself at the feet of MISS QUILL! Who's holding her gun. Miss Quill looks down on her, feigning fright.

MISS QUILL
We're in terrible danger.

CUT TO:

42 INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 17:49

42

Tanya throws things at the SHADOW KIN SOLDIER.

Something RAM (ONSCREEN)
heavier!

Tanya picks up her Physics textbook and hurls it at the Shadow Kin. It goes right through its head.

RAM (ONSCREEN) (CONT'D)
Get out of there!

But it's blocking Tanya's door. It opens a FIERY mouth and roars. Onscreen, Ram scrambles for his phone.

CUT TO:

43 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 17:50

43

April gets to her feet, rubbing her wrist.

APRIL
Thank God! There was a-

She turns, but her Shadow Kin Soldier is gone.

Or is it? A too-long black shadow stretches away from April's feet. April looks to Miss Quill in fright...

APRIL (CONT'D)
What do you mean, terrible danger?

Then she sees Miss Quill is holding her gun.

CUT TO:

44 INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM/ RAM'S HOUSE - RAM'S 44 *
BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 17:51 *

Tanya and the Shadow Kin Soldier move in a circle, Tanya holding a lit lamp in her hand, the Soldier trying to get closer. She notices that it bends a little from the light and some of it dissipates under the strength of it.

Onscreen, Ram has a phone to his ear, watching in horror.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
(into phone)
No, I'm telling you, I'm seeing it
right now! There's someone
attacking her-
(cry of frustration)
Tanya, what's your address?

She turns briefly to the screen, but the Shadow Kin Soldier sees her. It reaches into the computer screen, into Ram's room and KNOCKS THE PHONE FROM HIS HAND.

RAM (ONSCREEN) (CONT'D)
Oh, man, I hate physics.

CUT TO:

45 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2: 17:52 45 *

April backs away from Miss Quill.

APRIL

Miss Quill raises her voice, as if talking to someone else.

MISS QUILL
You think you know what waits for
you here. You think the same plan
will work.

What? APRIL

MISS QUILL
But *I* am what waits for you. And
I... Am war itself.
(to April)
Run.

April looks terrified and starts to run.

CUT TO:

46 INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 17:53 46 *

Tanya is on her bed now, still holding the lamp. Two SHADOW SWORDS grow from the soldier's hands.

TANYA
(terrified)
I'm not afraid of you.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
(whispering)
Oh, no, oh, no, oh, no, oh, no.

SHADOW KIN SOLDIER
(rumbling, not human)
Where is the Prince?

TANYA
...Prince? The singer?

The Shadow Kin Soldier swings a sword. The Sword is ROCK SOLID, but Tanya stops the blow with the lamp. RAM cheers!

CUT TO:

47 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MAIN CORRIDOR - NIGHT 2; 17:54 47 *

April runs like the Student in the opening, passing the scorch marks. Miss Quill runs with her, holding the gun.

MISS QUILL
I can't use the gun. You have to do it. Please.

April, baffled, takes the gun.

APRIL
What's going on?

Then she notices that her shadow is running ahead of her.

CUT TO:

48 INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 17:55 48 *

Tanya holds the lamp in front of her like a weapon.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
More lights, Tanya! Get rid of all the shadows!

TANYA
Well, obviously!

She sees the light switch on the wall, decides to go for it. She aims the lamp directly at the Soldier while scooting past. It bends away from her as she reaches for the switch-

But the Shadow Kin Soldier puts its SWORD through the LAMPSHADE, stopping Tanya's momentum. She falls to the floor.

The Shadow Kin Soldier hefts its swords over her.

TANYA (CONT'D)
Oh, shit.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
Oh, shit.

CUT TO:

49 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MAIN CORRIDOR - NIGHT 2; 17:56** 49 *

April turns a corner and a SHADOW KIN SOLDIER is waiting for her, swords out. She and Miss Quill skid to a terrified halt.

MISS QUILL
Shoot it! It'll kill us both!

April raises the gun, prepares to fire it. It lights up, the TENDRILS shooting out, grabbing April's wrist-

CHARLIE (O.S.)
No!

Charlie leaps onscreen, knocking the gun askew as it goes off, firing BACKWARDS at April. She jumps out of the way-

Her shadow tries to leap, too, but the gun hits them both in a glancing blow. Knocking the Shadow Kin Soldier one way and April the other.

Charlie kicks the gun away.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
April!

CUT TO:

50 **INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 17:57** 50 *

The Soldier is about to swing a sword down on Tanya-

When it suddenly sinks back into the shadows of the room, slipping fast out the closed window and into the night.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
Did you kill it?

Beat, then Tanya's bedroom door bursts open. It's her MUM.

VIVIAN
What is going on in here?

Shell-shocked, Tanya looks to Ram.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)
You're talking to a BOY?

CUT TO:

51 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MAIN CORRIDOR - NIGHT 2; 17:58 51 *

April is unconscious. Charlie shakes her. She wakes slowly.

CHARLIE
April? Are you hurt?

APRIL
I don't... I don't *think* so...

She puts her hand to her chest. Charlie turns to Miss Quill, looking for her gun.

CHARLIE
What the hell do you think you're-

But he stops, because the Shadow Kin sits up, also with a hand to its chest, its shape coalescing from the flatter shadow into a 3D physical presence, HUMANOID and SOLID.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
(terrified)
They've found us!

MISS QUILL
Yes, they've found us! Did you think I was killing students for *sport*?

CHARLIE
Always a possibility with you. It's in solid form. You can fight it!

MISS QUILL
(enraged at his stupidity)
I. Can't. Shoot. The. Gun!

The Shadow Kin starts to rise...

But stumbles, hand to its chest. April grabs hers in concert.

APRIL
Something's not right.

The Shadow Kin stumbles again, April cries out. Confused, Miss Quill finds her gun, turns it to one side, adjusting a setting, sending out a beam from the side.

MISS QUILL
(readout on the gun)
Well, *that's* interesting.

CHARLIE
What's interesting?

APRIL

Okay, seriously, what *is* that thing?

MISS QUILL

(misunderstanding)

It's a displacement gun, one of the few things in time and space able to kill a Shadow Kin.

(clicks it)

It used to be mine.

They look at the Shadow Kin, who watches the gun.

APRIL

I'm guessing that's a Shadow Kin?

CHARLIE

Yeah.

APRIL

What's a Shadow Kin?

Miss Quill's eyes widen at the gun readout.

APRIL (CONT'D)

That's not an encouraging face.

MISS QUILL

The displacement gun tears your body into pieces and scatters them to the far corners of the universe, taking the Shadow Kin with it.

APRIL

Oh. Yuck.

MISS QUILL

But Prince Valiant here had to be all heroic and you must have got a glancing blow...

The Shadow Kin grows a SWORD from each hand and swings them up, ready to fight-

But the action causes it to sag again, hand to its chest. April cries out and does the same.

MISS QUILL (CONT'D)

You sent its heart out into space, which should have killed it, but...

She projects a reading into the air. Figures of April and the Shadow Kin are represented with a heart that beats once in April, then shifts to the Shadow Kin and beats once there.

MISS QUILL (CONT'D)

You both now share April's heart.

(with distaste)

God knows it's big enough.

APRIL

What are you talking about? What is she talking about?

CHARLIE

Your heart is phasing in and out of spacetime, beating once for you and once for...

They all look at the Shadow Kin... Who starts to laugh. A faint FIERY CROWN appears on his head. Miss Quill and Charlie recognise it, shocked. This is-

MISS QUILL

Corakinus.

CORAKINUS

You have the advantage of me, Quill. But you cannot kill me without killing the girl, too.

MISS QUILL

(holds out gun to Charlie)

Not a problem.

(to Charlie)

Kill him, Your Highness.

APRIL

Your what?

CHARLIE

I will not.

MISS QUILL

(shocked, furious)

You would hesitate from killing the leader of the Shadow Kin?

CHARLIE

I would hesitate from killing a friend.

APRIL

(touched)

Aww.

Miss Quill, furious, aims the gun and makes to pull the trigger anyway-

She screams in pain, grabbing her head and dropping the gun.

Taking advantage, Corakinus raises his swords to do damage, but clutches at his chest again. As does April. Corakinus glares at Charlie.

CORAKINUS

This isn't over.

CHARLIE

No. It isn't.

A RIP IN SPACE/TIME opens up behind Corakinus. Still glaring, Corakinus MORPHS from SOLID FORM into the SHADOW ONE bleeding into the tear, like blown smoke, and the tear closes again.

Miss Quill stands, angrily, takes out a phone. She talks into it as she walks away...

MISS QUILL
We've got a problem...

CUT TO:

52 **INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 19:00** 52 *

Tanya flicks on a last light in her room. She's flooded it, no shadows anywhere. She sits down in the middle of the floor, crossing her arms, nervous.

Her phone buzzes. It's a FaceTime call from Ram:

RAM (ONSCREEN)
Are you okay?

TANYA
(whispers)
I'm not supposed to talk to you.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
We just got attacked by a *shadow*.

Tanya looks around her room, at all the lights.

TANYA
I know.

CUT TO:

53 **INT. RAM'S HOUSE - RAM'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 19:00** 53 *

Ram, holding his phone, also surrounded by lights, candles, torches, anything he can find.

CUT TO:

54 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:03** 54 *

SLAP! April's hand-drawn "A Night Full of PROMISE" poster goes up on the Hall wall. It's put up by... *

Miss Quill! She scowls at Charlie, who's drawing another poster while April rests.

MISS QUILL
We have an *enemy* to fight!

CHARLIE
Who's not here at the moment. And
we were told to keep our heads down
and not cause any excitement.

APRIL
Okay, what's going on? What *was*
that thing?

MISS QUILL
A Shadow Kin, you ludicrous Care
Bear! Is this how little you pay
attention in class, too?

APRIL
You keep saying it like it's some
explanation, but it's not.

Charlie sighs and looks at Miss Quill. Then at April.

CHARLIE
Would you believe me if I said I
was from another planet?

APRIL
God, yes. You're weird and don't
know anything about pop culture.
You're either alien or Amish.
(beat, off their looks)
But I'm totally not prejudiced.

CHARLIE
I come from a planet more beautiful
than you could ever believe.

MISS QUILL
We. We come from that planet.

Charlie glares at her. He starts DRAWING A CIRCLE IN PURPLE
on the butcher paper. His planet.

CHARLIE
A world that reminded you of the
value of life's every moment. It
was paradise.

APRIL
So... not Sheffield then.

Zoom on his drawing and it becomes:

55 **EXT. RHODIA - DAY X**

55 *

A planet in space, purple, lush.

55A **EXT. RHODIA - DAY X**

55A *

We zoom across the surface of the planet and whizz towards
the magnificent alien Palace of Rhodia.

*
*
*
*

56

INT. RHODIA PALACE - RECEPTION ROOM - DAY X

56

*

A palace room in marble but the COURTIERS, GUARDS and ROYAL FAMILY are all the students and teachers from Coal Hill in SCHOOL UNIFORM, including the adults (but funny, not sexy).

CHARLIE (V.O.)

My people were the Rhodia. We were a cultured, learned society. Can you picture it?

CUT TO:

57

INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:05

57

*

As before.

APRIL

(frowning)

Sort of. I must have hit my head when I fell.

MISS QUILL

Go on. Tell her.

(at Charlie's silence)

He was their Prince.

Charlie glares at Miss Quill, who's faux-innocently drawing a Poster ("You'll die alone no matter how well you dance.")

CUT TO:

58

INT. RHODIA PALACE - RECEPTION ROOM - DAY X

58

*

As before, but this time, find CHARLIE, dressed in a COAL HILL SCHOOL UNIFORM, sitting on a throne.

APRIL (V.O.)

You were a prince? No wonder you're strange. Royalty don't know anything.

CHARLIE (V.O.)

I am a prince. Without a people.

(beat)

We were at war when it happened. A war against the Quill.

CUT TO:

59

EXT. RHODIA PALACE - NIGHT X

59

*

A Royal ARCHWAY guarded by TWO GUARDS, in Coal Hill Uniforms. Hiding in the foreground is MISS QUILL, with TWO OTHERS, male and female teachers from Coal Hill, all dressed in rival school uniforms. Miss Quill holds her GUN, directing the others to plant a BOMB.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Our teacher here was the Quill's
leading terrorist-

CUT TO:

60 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:08

60 *

As before.

MISS QUILL
Freedom fighter!

CHARLIE
(ignoring her)
The Quill lived on the smaller of
the southern continents. They
mismanaged their economy and grew
resentful of our success-

MISS QUILL
The Rhodia ate up all the planet's
resources, including those of the
Quill. And then they were surprised
when we objected.

CHARLIE
We tried to help you.

MISS QUILL
By making us so dependent we would
never recover.

APRIL
I'm guessing this is an old
argument.

CHARLIE
It doesn't matter. We won.

CUT TO:

61 INT. RHODIA PALACE - RECEPTION ROOM - DAY X

61 *

Miss Quill on trial, a proud prisoner (with the MALE and
FEMALE teachers from the previous scene), not cowed at all,
while the Rhodian QUEEN and Charlie watch her.

MISS QUILL (V.O.)
The Rhodia have a particularly
cruel punishment.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
It is just.

The Queen raises a hand, sentencing the prisoners, who look
devastated, except for the angry Miss Quill.

CUT TO:

62 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:10 62 *

As before.

MISS QUILL
(touching her head)
They release a small creature into
your skull. Called an Arn.

ZOOM FAST INTO:

63 INT. QUILL'S BRAIN - DAY X 63 *

A small round creature with ONE LARGE BLINKING EYE is
attached to Quill's brain, dozens of CLAWS piercing it.

MISS QUILL (V.O.)
It telepathically links you to a
particular Rhodia. You become their
slave.

The Arn turns its eye towards us and gives a cheeky wave with
one of its claws.

ZOOM FAST OUT
TO:

64 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:11 64 *

As before.

CHARLIE
Their servant.

MISS QUILL
It is *slavery*.

CHARLIE
It is *punishment*.

MISS QUILL
If I use a weapon other than my own
hands, the Arn kills me. Yet if I
fail to protect you, I am also
killed. If I try to remove the Arn,
dead again. *Slavery*.

CHARLIE
Our tormentors become our
protectors. The leader of the Quill
bound to the future leader of the
Rhodia. What more civilised
punishment could there be?

APRIL
Wait a minute. Did you always look
like this or were you totally all
alien and had to modify your looks
to appear human?

*
*
*

Angle on - Miss Quill and Charlie staring at her, then:

SMASH CUT:

65 OMITTED

65

66 OMITTED

66

67 INT. RHODIA PALACE - INTERIOR COURTYARD - DAY X

67

*

Previous scene EXACTLY as before but with Charlie and Miss Quill staring at the camera like they're staring at April-

Except everyone is dressed in sweeping alien robes of purple and gold. CHARLIE has GILLS on his neck and a BAND OF BLUE SKIN at his hairline. MISS QUILL has porcupine-like quills.

SMASH CUT:

68 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:12

68

*

As before, Miss Quill and Charlie staring at April, now very human-looking.

CHARLIE
(shifty)
No, why do you ask?

APRIL
To stop you arguing. Because what does that have to do with the Shadow people?

Charlie takes the rebuke, continues with the story.

CUT TO:

69 OMITTED

69

70 OMITTED

70

71 INT. RHODIA PALACE - TUTOR ROOM - DAY X

71

*

Charlie works with a TUTOR, Miss Quill watching over him.

CHARLIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
We were so busy fighting amongst ourselves that we never saw them coming.

None of the three see a SHADOW jump into the Tutor's shadow.

72

EXT. RHODIA PALACE - INTERIOR COURTYARD - DAY X

72

*

Rhodians go about their business, completely unaware that an ARMY OF SHADOWS is rising up on every wall.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
 They can exist as pure shadow,
 living unnoticed and untouchable in
 yours. In this form, they can only
 be killed if you are.

The shadow of a MAN WORKING ON A BENCH grows behind him, stretching up the wall like the others.

CHARLIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 They'll invade an entire world
 before anyone even knows they're
 there. And they only need to be in
 their solid form for the briefest
 of moments.

SHADOW SWORDS grow in the shadows' hands.

CHARLIE (V.O.) (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
 Because why would you ever look for
 your own shadow?

A shadow sword stabs through the chest of the man on the bench, causing him to horrifically blast apart into shadow.

All around him, Rhodians scream and start to flee. A WOMAN flees into camera screaming-

72A

EXT. RHODIA PALACE - INTERIOR COURTYARD - DAY X

72A

*

The same courtyard, now emptied. A slaughter has happened. We can see HIROSHIMA-LIKE shadows of the dead, outlined on the floors and the furnishings...

CUT TO:

73

INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:15

73

*

As before, Charlie a bit stricken.

APRIL
 Wow. It's even scarier when you
 think of it like a school play.

CHARLIE
 They killed everyone. Everyone.
 Rhodia and Quill alike. A planet of
 three billion. All gone. In one
 day.

APRIL
 Not all. You both survived.

Charlie and Miss Quill look at each other, stuck together.

CUT TO:

74

INT. RHODIA PALACE - RECEPTION ROOM - DAY X

74

*

Charlie watches in horror as THE QUEEN is killed by CORAKINUS himself. Corakinus turns to the grief-stricken Charlie.

But Miss Quill is suddenly between them, kicking a shocked Corakinus with an amazing ROUNDHOUSE. Two, three and four martial arts PUNCHES nearly subdue him before he fights back. He swings both swords, but she ducks under them, planting her heel directly in his face, causing him to stagger back.

She grabs Charlie and drags him away from the attacks. Corakinus turns to his soldiers and mouths: "Get them!"

*

MISS QUILL (V.O.)

I saved you.

74A

INT. RHODIA PALACE - VAULT ENTRANCE - DAY X

74A

*

Quill and Charlie flee down an underground room towards the VAULT. Numerous SHADOW KIN SOLDIERS chase them at a distance. Quill falls-

*

CHARLIE (V.O.)

And I saved you.

Charlie could leave her-

But he helps her up. She's resentful. They still flee - the Shadow Kin bearing quickly down on them.

*

CUT TO:

75

INT. RHODIA PALACE - VAULT - DAY X

75

*

Miss Quill and Charlie barely make it into the palace VAULT, slamming it shut behind them, cutting a SHADOW KIN in half.

The room is lit from all corners. No shadows. Miss Quill quickly looks around the cabinets in the room. She smashes the glass on one, taking the GUN.

MISS QUILL (V.O.)

I got my gun back at least. Though
fat lot of good it does.

CHARLIE (V.O.)

And I was able to... save something
valuable.

Charlie stands in front of the CABINET we've seen in his bedroom. He takes a breath, closes his eyes, opens it-

But what does he see? His face is unreadable.

CUT TO:

76 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:18**

76 *

April is rapt, into the story.

APRIL
How'd you get away?

CHARLIE
We were rescued.

CUT TO:

77 **INT. RHODIA PALACE - VAULT - DAY X**

77 *

SHADOW KIN pound on the door, nearly breaking it down. Charlie and Miss Quill turn at the sounds of the TARDIS, seeing it fade into view...

CUT TO:

78 **EXT. RHODIA - NIGHT X**

78 *

The planet in space, as before, but being consumed by shadow. It fades into...

CUT TO:

79 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:20**

79 *

Charlie's drawing. He draws a sad, angry line through it.

CHARLIE
I'm the last Rhodia.

MISS QUILL
And I am the last proud Quill.

CHARLIE
We were saved by someone who knows what it's like to be the last.

CUT TO:

80 **EXT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - NIGHT X**

80 *

Charlie and Miss Quill stand outside Coal Hill, Charlie with the cabinet, Miss Quill putting away her gun, as the TARDIS disappears in the background.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Arrangements were made. We were told to try and fit in and tell people we were from Sheffield.

CUT TO:

81 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:22**

81 *

Miss Quill tapes another poster she's drawn ("If you're reading this, your night is a failure.") to the wall.

CHARLIE
But I don't understand how they found us.

MISS QUILL
(thinks)
That opening Corakinus crawled back into-

CHARLIE
Have you seen anything like it?

Miss Quill shakes her head.

APRIL
Are they coming to kill our planet?
I mean *my* planet, I guess.

CHARLIE
This isn't how they invade. This is different.

MISS QUILL
They've clearly been looking for us. Unfinished business. We should leave.

CHARLIE
They'll follow us wherever we go. I won't spend my life on the run.

MISS QUILL
And yet you hesitate to take your revenge.

APRIL
Revenge?

Charlie is hesitant to answer, but April suddenly SCREAMS! We zoom fast into April's eyes-

CUT TO:

82 **EXT. DARK ALIEN FIELD - NIGHT X**

82 *

CORAKINUS on a windswept, smoky field in an alien landscape. All dark, as if the planet is MADE OUT OF SHADOWS itself.

We can just make out a vast ARMY OF SHADOWS with glowing red eyes, malevolent, dangerous, watching him. The Shadow Kin ARMY. The TEAR in space/time hovers above him.

CUT TO:

83 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:24** 83 *

Charlie's hovering over April, Miss Quill curious.

CHARLIE
April? April!

She seems to be having a seizure, then her eyes flash red.

APRIL
I can see them!

CUT TO:

84 **EXT. DARK ALIEN FIELD - NIGHT X** 84 *

Corakinus raises his sword. The army roars in approval.

APRIL (V.O.)
I can hear his thoughts.

We zoom into the Shadow Kin Leader's red eyes-

CUT TO:

85 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 2; 19:26** 85 *

-and out of April's, which are now normal.

APRIL
He wants *you*. He wants something you have.

CHARLIE
The gun?

APRIL
And he's coming for it. Tomorrow night.
(gasps, dismayed)
We have to cancel Prom!

CHARLIE
No, if they want to kill everyone, they'll just slide into our shadows and do it at home. If we're all here, at least we'll have a chance to protect them.

MISS QUILL
"We"?

CHARLIE
Plus, it's the only chance we'll
have of getting your heart back.

April touches her chest.

MISS QUILL
(thoughtful, to April)
Wait. You can hear his thoughts?

APRIL
They're gone now, but for a minute-

MISS QUILL
For a minute, he could probably
read yours. They've obviously
connected because of the heart. I
told you we should kill her. You
have to make sacrifices in war-

CHARLIE
No one is killing her.

Miss Quill's eyes flare. Mr Armitage suddenly enters, is surprised at what he sees.

MISS QUILL
Leave us! We are *decorating!*

Mr Armitage flees, skittishly.

CHARLIE
(to April)
If you see anything more, you tell
us immediately. Okay?

APRIL
Thank God you said that. Otherwise,
I'd just keep it to myself.

Beat as they take in her sarcasm.

APRIL (CONT'D)
I'm sharing my heart with a
genocidal alien. I'm not allowed to
be a little snappy?

CUT TO:

86 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT - APRIL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 23:00 86 *

April lying in bed, looking out at the stars, hand to her heart, trying to understand what's happened. She glances at a PICTURE OF HER AND HER MUM, happy, mum in the wheelchair. What does the future hold? It's a hard moment.

CUT TO:

87

INT. CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 2; 23:02

87

*

Charlie lies in bed as well, looking over to the Cabinet. It's closed. He touches it, thoughtfully. What's he thinking? Then he flicks off his bedroom light. Blackness.

CUT TO:

88

OMITTED

88

89

INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MISS QUILL'S CLASSROOM - DAY 3; 10:15 * 89

Tanya, Ram, Charlie and April sit with the rest of the class, working on an extremely complicated equation on the board. Miss Quill marks papers at her desk.

April looks to Charlie, then the others, her hand on her heart. No one says anything. No one still says anything.

APRIL
(rushed, to the others)
Look, just be careful of your
shadows at the Prom tonight, okay?

Tanya and Ram look at her, shocked. Their reactions are stronger than she expects.

APRIL (CONT'D)
What have you seen?

CUT TO:

90

INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - EVENING 3; 17:00 90 *

The computer beeps. It's Ram, uneasy, in a tuxedo. Tanya makes an impressed face.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
Yeah, I know. Pure hot Bollywood.

But he seems less sure of himself.

TANYA
Be careful.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
Did you believe all that stuff?
Aliens and Charlie being a Prince?

TANYA
I was attacked by a Shadow. Kind of
opens your mind a little.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
(surprisingly tender)
You take care, you hear?

TANYA
(surprised, pleased)
You, too.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
(beat)
Why don't you just tell your mum
the Prom's been assigned as a
sociology module?

Tanya pauses, then her eyes widen at the possibility.

CUT TO:

91 **INT. APRIL'S FLAT - APRIL'S BEDROOM - EVENING 3; 17:10** 91 *

April's looking a little worried at her dress in a mirror.

JACKIE
You look gorgeous.

APRIL
I don't, but thanks.

JACKIE
April-

APRIL
People always think that nice means
fragile. That I'm somehow going to
break if I'm allowed to see what
the real world is like.
(touches her heart)
I'm tougher than they think.

JACKIE
I know how tough you are.
(wheels herself forward)
And you're not nice.
(off April's shock)
You're kind. There's a difference.
Kind is better. Way better.

APRIL
(frowning at mirror)
Because that's what people always
think when they want a prom date.
"I wonder who's kind?"

JACKIE
April, just because you have to do
a lot for me-

APRIL
I don't mind-

JACKIE
-doesn't mean I stop being your
mum. So stop talking to me like the
roles are reversed.
(beat, less sharp)
(MORE)

*

JACKIE (CONT'D)
You do look gorgeous. And that's just that.

April allows herself a little smile.

CUT TO:

92 EXT. MATTEUSZ' DOORSTEP - EVENING 3; 17:15

92 *

Charlie waits outside a door in a nice suit. From inside, he can hear SHOUTING in POLISH. It gets closer to the door-

Which opens, MATTEUSZ shouting back at an unseen voice-

MATTEUSZ
Ide i nie mozesz mnie powstrzymac!

He turns to Charlie, a little weary-looking.

MATTEUSZ (CONT'D)
Hello.

CHARLIE
Everything all right?

MATTEUSZ
Oh, yes, my deeply religious parents are very happy I'm going to dance with a boy. This has been an evening of love and warmth.

CHARLIE
(missing the pain)
Great!

MATTEUSZ
You are a very strange person. But, you know, with a nice face.

CUT TO:

93 INT. RAM'S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - EVENING 3; 17:20

93 *

A CAR honks out the front window. Varun peeks.

VARUN
She has a *driver*?

Ram bounds down in his tux.

RAM
Uber, Dad.

VARUN
Practice in the morning.

RAM
Oh my god. If you tell me one more time, I might literally go insane.

VARUN
Don't abuse the word "literally".
It's a good word that young people
squander.

RAM
"What's that, dad? Have a good
time? Well, thanks, I sure will."

VARUN
You're facing an important step in
your future very soon-

RAM
(suddenly serious)
You have no idea what I'm facing.

VARUN
(startled)
What? What are you facing?

RAM
(recovering)
At the moment, a very angry Prom
date. Rachel isn't the kind of girl
you want to piss off. I think she
might have murdered her step-mum.

*

CUT TO:

94 EXT./INT. RAM'S HOUSE/RACHEL'S CAR - EVENING 3; 17:21 94 *

Ram bounds out the door and gets into car. Rachel's in the
backseat, beautiful, confident and... quite nice, actually.

RACHEL
You look amazing.

RAM
You, too.

They kiss. Ram laughs to himself.

RACHEL
What?

RAM
Nothing. Just... I tell everyone
you're really mean so they'll leave
us alone.

RACHEL
(smiles)
I tell everyone I'm mean, too. How
would I get any studying done
otherwise?

They drive off, a happy couple.

CUT TO:

95

INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 18:20

95

*

The Prom is in full swing, couples dancing, couples arriving, TEACHERS (inc. Mr Armitage) chaperoning. The dress policy is quite liberal, some tuxes, some suits, some sweats.

Angle on: a poster reading "Death is in the air" with "Death" crossed out and "Love" written in its place. Pan down to Miss Quill, watching the dancers with a sneer.

MISS QUILL
(to dancing couple)
Get some space between you!
Honestly, is that all you people think about?

She turns, pensive.

Angle on: Charlie and Matteusz arriving, handsome together. No one bats an eyelash. April approaches.

APRIL
All these people! This is going to look so good in my college interviews.

MATTEUSZ
Do you not have a date?

April a little crestfallen.

MATTEUSZ (CONT'D)
Is okay. You can dance with us.

April and Charlie are nicely surprised by the kindness. Charlie takes April aside while Matteusz looks confused at the signs: "You might die tonight, so try not to be stupid."

CHARLIE
Any trouble?

APRIL
Not yet. No more visions either.
(nods at Miss Quill)
She's been watching like a hawk.

CHARLIE
How are you feeling? How's your heart?

APRIL
Weird, but okay. I get short of breath, but I'm adjusting to it.
(obv thinking of mum)
It's amazing what the body can get used to.

MATTEUSZ
(coming over)
I do not understand these signs.

Charlie takes his hand AND April's.

CHARLIE
Come on, let's dance.
(imitating Miss Quill)
"For tonight we might die."

CUT TO:

96 OMITTED

96

97 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - ATRIUM ENTRANCE - NIGHT 3; 18:30 97 *

Ram and Rachel approach, taking "looking good" comments from students they pass. The MOUSY GIRLS see Rachel and flee.

RACHEL
I was actually going to tell them how nice they looked.

Ram keeps checking behind them. She notices.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
Okay, seriously, what are you doing?

RAM
Just... nerves.

RACHEL
The great Ram Singh? Nervous?

RAM
(recovers)
We're going to outshine everyone. I don't want to breed resentment.

They laugh but Ram looks behind him as they enter the dance.

CUT TO:

98 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 18:32

98 *

April, Charlie and Matteusz all dancing. Tanya enters with her THREE BROTHERS behind her.

APRIL
Tanya! I thought your mum wouldn't let you come!

TANYA
I told her missing this would stunt my inter-personal development. I had to bring *them*, though.
(turns to brothers)
Go. Get drinks.

They file off. Ram and Rachel enter.

APRIL

Oh, wow.

TANYA

Now, *that's* how you do a prom.

MATTEUSZ

They look like America.

CHARLIE

(a little miffed)

But... *I'm* dressed really nice.

CUT TO:

99

INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:00

99

*

The dance is more crowded. April and Tanya all look around at their shadows. Charlie goes to Miss Quill.

CHARLIE

Anything?

MISS QUILL

Yes, there was a huge attack that I'm keeping secret from you.

CHARLIE

They should have put a creature in your head to make you nicer.

MISS QUILL

Should've but didn't. (Beat).
If there's any trouble, the gun is set for you.

*
*
*
*

Matteusz enters, urgently.

MATTEUSZ

Something is happening to your friend.

They look. Tanya supports April, clearly having a vision.

CUT TO:

100

INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:01

100

*

Another part of the hall. Ram and Rachel dance.

RACHEL

I'm going to the toilet.

RAM

I'll come with you!

Rachel is confused.

CUT TO:

101 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:02

101 *

Charlie and Miss Quill, rushing to April. Tanya is panicking.

TANYA
Is she epileptic? Do we need to
call a-

CHARLIE
April! What do you see?

APRIL
(distant, blindly)
They're opening it. They're opening
a tear.

TANYA
(to Charlie)
And that's a bad thing?

Charlie looks stricken. Oh, yes, that's a bad thing.

CUT TO:

102 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - ATRIUM - NIGHT 3: 19:03

102 *

Ram follows Rachel out into the atrium. She's amused and exasperated. She stops him with a hand on his chest.

RACHEL
You don't have to prove anything to
me. Ram.

What? RAM

RACHEL
I know *you've* got the sporting ego
thing and *I've* got the mean girl
vibe but I like you because I know
deep down that's not true. And that
you know the same about me.

RAM
(smiling shyly)
I do. You're kind of my safe spot.
Away from all the... hard stuff.

RACHEL
We're a good match, you and me.

Ram sighs, relaxing, but touched.

RAM
I think so, too.

They share a warm kiss, then separate.

RACHEL
Good, now please just let me go to
the-

CALLS OUT as a SHADOW SWORD erupts from her chest, spraying blood all over Ram's face. Astonished, Rachel dies, blasted horrifically into shadow. Ram stares in horror at CORAKINUS standing before him.

CORAKINUS
Where is the Prince?

CUT TO:

103 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:04** 103 *

As before, but April speaks in Corakinus' voice.

APRIL
"Where is the Prince?"

Charlie looks to Miss Quill. April suddenly snaps out of it.

APRIL (CONT'D)
Oh, no!

TANYA
What? What did you see?

April runs out of the hall, the others following.

CUT TO:

104 **OMITTED** 104

105 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - ATRIUM - NIGHT 3; 19:05** 105 *

Ram looks up in horror at Corakinus.

RAM
You killed her.

CORAKINUS
Where is the Prince?

Ram gets a look of fury and LEAPS at the Shadow Kin.

CUT TO:

105A **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MAIN CORRIDOR - NIGHT 3; 19:06** 105A *

The others run out and see a distraught Ram fighting Corakinus on their LEFT-

Then on their RIGHT, down the hallway, THE TEAR IN SPACE TIME. A SQUADRON of Shadow Kin Soldiers pour out and start a military march down the hallway towards them.

MATTEUSZ
(to April)
Did you hire a band?

April spins, looking for something. Leaps for the fire alarm on the wall. Pulls it.

APRIL
(to Tanya and Matteusz)
We have to get everyone out of here.

They exit. Charlie raises Miss Quill's gun and starts firing down the hallway.

CHARLIE
(backing away, firing)
Why aren't they sneaking into our shadows?

MISS QUILL
Well, now, that's a *fascinating* question I'll try to cover in Monday's class!

CUT TO:

106 OMITTED

106

107 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - ATRIUM - NIGHT 3; 19:07

107

*

Ram and Corakinus fall to the floor. Corakinus DISSIPATES underneath Ram and gets up behind him, wielding his sword.

SHADOW KIN
I will ask you one last time. Where is the Prince?

RAM
(standing, furious)
I am the Prince.

Grabs a hall chair and clobbers a surprised Corakinus.

CUT TO:

108 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:08

108

*

April, Tanya and Matteusz burst in.

APRIL
Where are the other teachers?

CUT TO:

109 EXT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - CAR PARK - NIGHT 3; 19:09 109 *

Mr Armitage waits, bored, as a SIXTH FORMER throws up into a bin. A female TEACHER walks by with a weeping GIRL STUDENT.

FEMALE TEACHER
Boyfriend dumped her. On Prom night.

MR ARMITAGE
(on barfing sixth former)
"I must be allergic to the punch."

They hear the fire alarm.

FEMALE TEACHER
(weary)
They don't pay us enough.

They both start running back to the school.

CUT TO:

110 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:10 110 *

April is trying to get the dancers to evacuate.

APRIL
Fire! EVERYBODY RUN!

No one pays attention. April suddenly looks furious.

APRIL (CONT'D)
Oh, for God's sake...

She runs to the DJ stand and PUSHES OVER the DJ's stand.

DJ
Hey!

Everyone looks up in the silence as April grabs the mic.

APRIL
Can't you hear the fire alarm?

STUDENT #1
(from the floor)
Turn the music back on!

APRIL
(steaming now)
Why do *none* of you listen to
niceness?! You'd listen to me if I
was some... a-hole telling you how
fat you looked on Instagram!

Angle on - Matteusz looking at Tanya.

MATTEUSZ
"A-hole"?

Angle on - April.

APRIL
I'm a good person! I do good things! And I know my mum says that no one likes a saint-

STUDENT #2
Do they do this at *American* proms?

APRIL
Listen to me. You're all in grave danger.

STUDENT #1
From what?

Charlie and Miss Quill are forced back through the doors, Charlie still firing, Shadow Kin marching in behind them.

APRIL
From the smoke.

Students start to scream and panic.

CUT TO:

111 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - ATRIUM - NIGHT 3; 19:11** 111 *

Ram and Corakinus still fight, Corakinus surprised at how effective Ram is. He swings his sword, Ram dodges it. He stabs, Ram dodges again. It's an impressive football display.

RAM
(panting)
I'm going to kill you.

Corakinus steps back, makes a "bring it" sign with his hand. Ram yells, waits for the swords to move, then TRIES A KICK-Mistake. Corakinus cleanly SLICES OFF RAM'S LEG AT THE KNEE.

Horrified, Ram drops, screaming in shock and pain. Corakinus leaves Ram to suffer.

CUT TO:

112 **OMITTED** 112

113 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:12** 113 *

Charlie blasting away, but there are just too many- They surround the room, military ready, stopping in formation. They're clearly chomping at the bit to kill.

CHARLIE
We have to close that rift!

MISS QUILL
Is that what we're doing wrong? And
tell me, Prince, WHY DO WE ONLY
HAVE ONE GUN?

CHARLIE
I only had time to take one thing
from the vault.

CORAKINUS (O.S.)
Yes. You did.

Corakinus parts the soldiers to enter the hall. They stand to attention.

CORAKINUS (CONT'D)
The Prince of the Rhodia. And his
little pet.

MISS QUILL
I beat you once. I'll beat you
again.

Charlie raises the gun to shoot him, but-

He can't. Because he sees April to one side.

CORAKINUS
(laughing)
Your friend has quite a strong
heart.

MISS QUILL
Oh, please, are you Walt Disney?

Corakinus raises his swords to Charlie.

CORAKINUS
You know why I'm here, Prince.

CHARLIE
(shaking his head)
You can't have it.

CORAKINUS
Then we will just have to cover
this planet in shadow, too.

APRIL
No, you won't.

She steps in between them, her fists up.

APRIL (CONT'D)
You won't kill me or you die
yourself.

CORAKINUS
There is a lifetime of
possibilities other than death,
maggot.

He strikes her with the flat of his sword, knocking her down. Charlie runs for her.

As he does, Corakinus swings his sword, knocking the gun out of Charlie's hand. It falls to the floor. Charlie scrambles after it but-

Corakinus' heavy FOOT smashes down on it, destroying it.

MISS QUILL

No!

There's a sudden rush of screaming as Tanya, her brothers and Matteusz rush back IN to the Hall. Shadow Kin Soldiers have cut them off and chased them back inside.

TANYA

We're surrounded.

All is lost. Corakinus closes in on Charlie and April.

APRIL

(shouting, to Corakinus)
Stop it! You got what you wanted.
Just go!

CORAKINUS

Oh, but I did *not* get what I wanted.

Raises his swords above Charlie and April. Miss Quill readies herself to intervene, moving into her martial arts stance.

MISS QUILL

Nothing left to do but die well.

THE DOCTOR (O.S.)

You know, I never thought that was possible.

Pause, as everyone turns to his sudden appearance.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

"Dying well"? Who wants to "die well"? Surely the aim should be "not dying well".

MISS QUILL

You.

CHARLIE

You?

APRIL

Who?

THE DOCTOR

(looks around him)
Well, this is a bit of a mess,
isn't it?
(MORE)

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
I used to be the caretaker here,
you know, before it got all fancy.
This is going to be quite a clean-
up job.

Corakinus looks at him, with anger, perhaps fear?

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
(grinning)
You've heard of me, haven't you?

CORAKINUS
You are the Great Destruction of
the Universe.

THE DOCTOR
Yes, but most people just call me
the Doctor. There's something I
wanted to ask, what was it... Oh,
yes-
(deadly serious)
What exactly do you think you're
doing here?

CORAKINUS
We might ask you the same question.

THE DOCTOR
Only fair. Turns out I have a soft
spot for people who end up the last
of their species.
(off Charlie)
Which you made my friends here. I
found them a home. Where they were
supposed to live quietly. Plus,
they called.

CUT TO:

114 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MAIN CORRIDOR - FLASHBACK TO SC 5114 *

Flashback to Miss Quill talking into her phone.

MISS QUILL
We've got a problem...

CUT TO:

115 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:13

115 *

THE DOCTOR
(to Corakinus)
This isn't your normal modus
operandi. You invade in secret and
kill all at once. You don't just
pour in like any old boring army.
Bit inelegant for the Shadow Kin,
isn't it?

CORAKINUS
We are here...
(points sword at Charlie)
For the Cabinet.

Beat.

THE DOCTOR
A cabinet? Well, that should be
easy. There's a painfully strange
shop they have here called Ikea-

CORAKINUS
The Cabinet of Souls.

CHARLIE
The Cabinet of Souls is a myth!

CORAKINUS
Then why did you steal it?

CHARLIE
It's the history of my people! I
stole *nothing*, you murderers-

APRIL
What's the Cabinet of Souls?

THE DOCTOR
The centre of the Rhodian religion.
The soul of every Rhodian who dies
is supposed to go there. A
repository for a future paradise.

CORAKINUS
And a weapon.

THE DOCTOR
Yes, that, too. The stored energy
of all that life crammed down to
single specks of light could be
used to destroy - to take a
completely random example - an
entire species.

CORAKINUS
He will use it against us.

MISS QUILL
And who would blame him?

THE DOCTOR
I would. You do not avenge genocide
with genocide.
(beat, quietly)
Trust me.

CHARLIE
(starting to angrily weep)
It doesn't matter. The Cabinet is empty.

CUT TO:

116

INT. RHODIA PALACE - VAULT - FLASHBACK - DAY X

116 *

Back to the Vault, Miss Quill has her gun, Charlie has the Cabinet. She runs to the TARDIS, but he opens the door-

CHARLIE (V.O.)
I knew it would be. Every Rhodian does.

The Cabinet is dark inside. Empty.

CHARLIE (V.O.)
Bedtime stories for children to make death less scary.

CUT TO:

117

INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - HALL - NIGHT 3; 19:16

117 *

Charlie is crying now, but defiant.

CHARLIE
As if death should be anything but terrifying.

CORAKINUS
Then why did you take it?

CHARLIE
I kept it in memory of my people.
All my people. Who are gone.

THE DOCTOR
(to Corakinus)
Yes. There is that crime to answer for, isn't there?

CORAKINUS
(laughing, low)
And who shall make me? You are powerful-

Gestures to the Shadow Kin Soldiers lining the room, who make a scary soldier-type call.

CORAKINUS (CONT'D)
But we are legion.

The situation is serious. April looks around, sees a broken metal chair leg. She grabs it and holds it at her chest, as if to stab herself.

APRIL
(to Corakinus)
Leave. Or I'll *make* you leave.

This gives Corakinus pause.

THE DOCTOR
What's all this about?

Takes out Sonic Screwdriver and takes readings.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Goodness, it *has* been busy here.

CORAKINUS
(to the Doctor)
And why you will not kill me.

APRIL
But *I* will. You leave. Or you die.

CHARLIE
April, no.
(to Corakinus)
If you came for me, *take* me. Leave
these people alone.

THE DOCTOR
Were you all listening when I
talked about not dying well? No one
else is dying today.

CORAKINUS
We shall agree to disagree.

THE DOCTOR
Tell me, Corakinus, for oh, yes, I
know who you are. You have one
weakness. It's why you *sneak*.
(steps in, threateningly)
Even in your most solid form, you
can't exist where there are no-

TANYA (O.S.)
SHADOWS!

Angle on TANYA as she slams on the light switch for the hall,
the lights in the Hall blinking on comically slowly.

The Shadow Kin army look up... But are fine.

TANYA (CONT'D)
Oh, man, I thought that would work.

THE DOCTOR
You thought correctly. You just
need a boost with the voltage.

Thrusts the sonic screwdriver into the air-

The LIGHTS suddenly increase tenfold, a hundredfold-

The Shadow Kin start to scream. And flee, turning into pure shadow and streaming out of the hall-

CORAKINUS
You have not seen the last of us.

THE DOCTOR
Yeah, I get that a lot.

Corakinus turns to leave with the army.

CHARLIE
No! He still has April's heart!

Runs after him. With a roll of her eyes, so does Miss Quill. Then April. Tanya, too. She turns back to the Doctor.

TANYA
You coming?

Runs off. The Doctor, half-impressed, runs after her.

CUT TO:

118 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - MAIN CORRIDOR - NIGHT 3; 19:18 118 *

The Shadow Kin stream into the tear, pushed by the lights.

Charlie, Miss Quill and the others run in.

CHARLIE
I don't care how you do it, but
save her heart. Sacrifice yourself
if you must.

MISS QUILL
I have no choice but to obey,
master.

CHARLIE
Don't call me that!

Angle on - Corakinus, about to follow his army into the tear. He turns for one last look-

Miss Quill moves to fight him-

But he slips behind her, grabbing April. She screams but he drags her to the tear, sword at her throat.

CORAKINUS
I shall be taking my heart with me.

Angle on - Tanya and the Doctor.

TANYA
Do something with your laser
pointer!

THE DOCTOR
It's a *screwdriver*.

He aims it at Corakinus, who still has his sword on April. He's in front of the TEAR now, and his SHADOW STREAMS AWAY from him in the heavily lit hallway, pouring into the tear.

CORAKINUS
And what will you do, Doctor? Kill us both or let us both live. Those are your choices.

RAM suddenly stands up next to him, angry, looking near death, hopping on one leg, but still holding the chair.

RAM
Who says he's the only one who gets to make the decisions?
(to April)
Duck.

She does just as Ram swings the chair, hard, into the face of Corakinus, knocking him back into the tear-

Where he vanishes.

The Doctor immediately points the screwdriver at the tear. It violently shuts-

Almost all the way. There's still a little rip in time that fades in front of them.

The Doctor looks around from Charlie to Miss Quill to Tanya (who's cheering) to April and to Ram. Sees Ram's injury.

THE DOCTOR
That was very brave.

RAM
He killed her. He didn't even think about it. He just...

Ram collapses. The Doctor catches him.

CUT TO:

119 **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - ATRIUM/BALCONY - NIGHT 3; 20:00** 119 *

In the distance, fire trucks pack up. Inside, Mr Armitage and the female teacher talk to a fireman. Tanya's brothers play a small football game in the Atrium. *

Hidden up on the Atrium balcony, the Doctor steps out of the TARDIS, closing the door behind him. Tanya, Charlie, Miss Quill, April and Matteusz all wait. *

APRIL
Will he live?

THE DOCTOR

Oh, yes. But the more interesting question... what to do with the lot of you?

CHARLIE

That opening the Shadow Kin came through. You weren't able to close it all the way.

THE DOCTOR

(nodding)

There's obviously been so much Artron energy around good old Coal Hill that time itself has worn thin - bet they didn't take *that* into account when they renovated - and it can only be patched up so well. Even by me.

*
*

TANYA

Those things'll come back?

THE DOCTOR

They'll have to find you again first. I scrambled the pulsation, but Coal Hill will continue to act like a beacon across all of space/time to any being who might want to use it for mischief. You'll have to be on your guard.

MISS QUILL

Us? Aren't you going to get us out of here?

THE DOCTOR

Why would you be safer anywhere else? Time has looked at your faces. And time never forgets.

MISS QUILL

These... "people" may *disgust* me, Doctor, but they are, in fact, *children*.

THE DOCTOR

I think they've shown some rather impressive spirit, don't you?

(on April and Charlie)

A willingness to sacrifice themselves to save others.

(on Tanya)

Resourcefulness and bravery.

The TARDIS opens. Ram steps out. The Doctor turns.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

(more serious, on Ram)

And the absolute understanding of how precious life is.

Ram still looks grieved. But we pan down him and see-

TANYA
You got your leg back!

Ram pulls up his trouser leg. Underneath, it LOOKS like his leg but under the skin are faint flashing lights & machinery.

THE DOCTOR
I had a few spares in the medical bay.

Beat as everyone stares at him.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
The Lothan. Giant centipedes.
Experts at prosthetic legs.

They still stare. He shrugs.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
(to Ram)
You'll have to get used to it.
Train it to act like your own leg.

Ram looks down at Tanya's brothers, still playing.

*

RAM
What about football?

THE DOCTOR
Unbelievably boring sport. Now,
darts. Darts is something worth
practising for. Maths and alcoholic
beverages. Best way to spend a
morning.

Doesn't see Ram's disappointment at this sentiment.

MISS QUILL
You seriously can't expect these
juveniles to stop whatever might
come through the tears in
space/time.

RAM
Through the what?

APRIL
It's like a Hellmouth.

TANYA
Or that town in Once Upon A Time.

CHARLIE
Or the Vampire Diaries.

Beat, at Charlie knowing this.

RAM
You don't know who Arctic Monkeys
are but you watch Vampire Diaries?

CHARLIE
(awkward)
Well, everyone's very attractive.

MATTEUSZ
Yes. Is true.

THE DOCTOR
(to Miss Quill)
And they won't be on their own.

MISS QUILL
It's bad enough I'm a slave to this
Prince-

THE DOCTOR
You have committed a crime, and you
will be punished.

MISS QUILL
(seething)
I was a freedom fighter for my
people-

THE DOCTOR
That's not the crime I'm talking
about.

He reaches in his coat and pulls out a missing kid poster of
the SIXTH-FORMER from the opening. Miss Quill is shocked. *

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
(harder now)
I can't be everywhere so you will
help these rather amazing humans.
(off the kids)
And they... will help you.

MISS QUILL
(furious)
I can't fire any weapons. I can't
use swords or knives or-

THE DOCTOR
You have your brain, Miss Quill.
Much more dangerous.

Miss Quill, furious, has no words.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
(to the others)
You're an excellent team, you are.
You'll be able to handle whatever
time brings you.

They look at one another sheepishly.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Oh, come on, it's not that bad.
It's certainly no harder than all
the exams you've got these days.
(beat)
Except for Media Studies. It's
harder than that.

CUT TO:

120 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL - ATRIUM/BALCONY - NIGHT 3; 20:03 120 *

They all watch as the TARDIS disappears. Beat.

TANYA
So are we all, like, *friends* now,
or what?

They stare, uncomfortable, at each other. No one knows.

CUT TO:

121 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT - NIGHT 3; 20:53 121 *

Charlie walks with April. Miss Quill a good distance ahead.

APRIL
You really live with her?

CHARLIE
She's not so bad once you get to
know her.

APRIL
Really?

CHARLIE
Oh, no. Not at all. Not even a
little.

They stop at April's house.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)
I'm sorry about your heart. We'll
get it back. I promise.

April puts her hand to her chest.

APRIL
It feels *so* strange. But maybe I'll
be able to see if those things are
coming back.

CHARLIE
You're remarkably calm about this.
You'll be living on a knife edge.

APRIL
All life is on a knife edge.
(off Charlie's look)
My mum was paralysed in a car
accident. She should have died. She
didn't. She adjusted. I'll adjust,
too.

Charlie is quietly impressed with his new friend.

CHARLIE
See you Monday? She's probably not
going to let us out of our
homework.

Charlie leaves, April watches him go, then enters her house.

CUT TO:

122 INT. APRIL'S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - NIGHT 3; 20:54

122 *

Jackie wheels up as April enters.

JACKIE
(excited)
So? How'd it go? Tell me
everything!

APRIL
I'd have to say it was...
uneventful.

Jackie smiles.

CUT TO:

123 INT. RAM'S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - NIGHT 3; 21:15

123 *

Ram enters, nervous, shell-shocked. He listens out for Varun
and then LIMPS up the stairs, stumbling once, catching
himself. His face is a look of fear and devastation. What the
hell is he going to do now?

CUT TO:

124 INT. TANYA'S FLAT - TANYA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 3; 21:30

124 *

Tanya enters and drops on her bed without taking her coat
off. Stunned, she just stares at her ceiling.

Her computer beeps. RAM.

TANYA
Hey.

RAM (ONSCREEN)
Hey.

TANYA
You okay?

RAM (ONSCREEN)
I don't think I'll ever be okay.

TANYA
(beat)
I'm sorry about Rachel.

He frowns, and shows TANYA a FACEBOOK PHOTO of RACHEL on his PHONE. He looks unbelievably sad. *

RAM (ONSCREEN)
Think we could just... I mean, I'm not trying to...

TANYA
I don't want to be alone either.

Ram exhales. She's got it. Beat.

TANYA (CONT'D)
Don't suppose you play World of Warcraft?

CUT TO:

125 INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - NIGHT 3; 21:505 *

Charlie eats a bowl of cereal. He's searching on his phone: "Hellmouth" "DJs" "What's the point of football?"

Miss Quill angrily stands at the stove with a cup of coffee.

MISS QUILL
(off the coffee)
Only good thing this planet came up with.

CHARLIE
That's demonstrably not true.

MISS QUILL
Keep saying "demonstrably". You'll fit right in.
(beat)
How?
(off Charlie's look)
How are you not deranged with grief for your people as I am for mine?
How does the rage not consume your life at every waking moment?

CHARLIE
(angrily)
How do you know it doesn't? A Prince can't simply run around being furious. A Prince is responsible for his people.

MISS QUILL
(attention caught)
What does that mean?
(beat)
The Cabinet of Souls *is* empty?

CHARLIE
(sighing)
I wish it *wasn't* as much as you.

MISS QUILL
We could use it to kill them. We
could kill them all.

CHARLIE
Committing one genocide for
another.

MISS QUILL
Would that really stop you?

He looks at her, doesn't answer. She drinks her coffee.

MISS QUILL (CONT'D)
It wouldn't stop me.

CUT TO:

126 INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 3; 22:00 126 *

Charlie gets ready for bed. He puts on old-fashioned pyjamas. He sits on his bed, looks at the Cabinet.

He checks to see that his door is shut, then he OPENS THE DOORS of the small cabinet-

And unlike in the vault, LIGHTS REFLECT ON HIS FACE.

CUT TO:

127 INT. RHODIA PALACE - VAULT - FLASHBACK TO SCENE 116 127 *

Flashback to Charlie opening an EMPTY CABINET as when he was describing it to the Doctor.

But as the TARDIS door opens and the door of the Vault collapses, he reaches for the Cabinet-

And sees a single glow in the back...

CUT TO:

128 INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE - CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 3; 22:01 128 *

And now we see thousands, *billions* of lights in the Cabinet.

CUT TO:

129

EXT. ALIEN DESERT LANDSCAPE - DUSK

129

The vast alien desert. Sand, ORANGE SKY. Thin FILAMENTS OF LIGHT, floating in the air, crowding around the TWO OPEN DOORS OF THE CABINET, Charlie's face looking through.

The Cabinet of Souls isn't empty at all. It's full, a planet-destroying weapon in waiting.

CHARLIE

Do you know the feeling of dread?

END CREDITS.