

# CLASS

SERIES 1

EPISODE 4

"Co-Owner of a Lonely Heart"

Part 1

By

PATRICK NESS

Draft 6 - Shooting Script

26th May 2016

1                   **EXT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN - ETERNAL NIGHT 8**                   1                   \*

A dark, dark place, the stars obscured behind wavering living SHADOW. A place of ROCKS and CRAGS and PERMANENT NIGHT. The atmosphere is thick, the only colour flashes of RED as we fly through BURNING CITIES and ARMY CAMPS-

Heading towards a BRUTAL BUILDING, half-castle, half-ruin. We fly through the open GATES into the home of CORAKINUS...

CUT TO:

2                   **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, CORAKINUS' INNER SANCTUM - NIGHT 8**                   2                   \*

...where he sits on a THRONE of rock and charcoal, held down by two LARGE SHADOW KIN GUARDS (practical FX), as an OLDER SHADOW KIN (named Rannus), prepares a procedure on Corakinus' chest.                   \*

Rannus forms his hands into a cup shape. A small STORM OF SHADOWS forms there, surrounding a SMALL BLUE LIGHT. Deep breath then he-                   \*

PLUNGES HIS HANDS directly into Corakinus' chest. Corakinus YELLS in agony, his eyes flashing red.                   \*

RANNUS                   \*  
One more moment... The anchor is  
nearly in place!

CUT TO:

2A                   **INT. CORAKINUS' HEART - NIGHT 8**                   2A                   \*

A body of FIRE and DARKNESS, his HEART beats, PHASING OUT OF EXISTENCE every other beat...

Rannus' shadowy hands place the flickering BLUE LIGHT onto Corakinus' human heart.                   \*

CUT TO:

2B                   **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, CORAKINUS' INNER SANCTUM - NIGHT 8**                   2B                   \*

As before.

RANNUS                   \*  
There!

Rannus removes his hands; the hole is healed over with blue light. At the relief from the pain, Corakinus PUNCHES Rannus, knocking him away. Silence as Rannus (who isn't surprised at the punch) slowly looks up from where he's fallen.                   \*

RANNUS (CONT'D)                   \*  
Majesty?



CORAKINUS  
A promising intellect.

RANNUS  
She may succeed where I have not.

CORAKINUS  
She had better.

Rannus knows the score, readies himself for punishment.

In an ELEGANT YET TERRIFYING SPIN, Corakinus flashes around, swinging his sword high in the air, bringing it down on the neck of Rannus-

Rannus squeezes his eyes shut, waiting for death-

But it doesn't come. Corakinus' sword has paused above Rannus' neck. An uncomfortable silence. Rannus looks up, baffled.

RANNUS  
Majesty?

Corakinus doesn't move, looks very troubled. He puts a hand to his heart. The Guards shuffle, disturbed.

CORAKINUS  
(struggling)  
Your mind, Rannus. It is our best.  
Your death would be wasteful.

Rannus stares at him, with astonished HATRED.

RANNUS  
You would... You would show me  
*mercy?*

Corakinus still wavers. We hear the sound of swords being unsheathed. Corakinus turns to see his Guards have grown SWORDS out of their hands.

Corakinus recognises the threat. He stares them out.

He turns back to Rannus, puts his free hand on his heart.

He gains resolve. With a ROAR he raises his sword and CUTS Rannus IN TWO, shoulder to hip. Rannus' body falls to the floor. Corakinus stares at his Guards.

CORAKINUS  
Bring me Kharrus.

Turns in a flourish and we:

CUT TO:

5           **INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 8, 22:30**           5    \*

C/U on April looking surprised. We pull back to see her with her hand on her heart, too, staring at the DESK CHAIR in her bedroom.

Pull back farther to see it's been sliced in two in the same diagonal angle as Rannus, smoke rising from it.           \*

Pull back yet farther to see that April IS HOLDING A SHADOW SWORD emanating directly from her hand.

                          APRIL  
                  (in shock)  
          Oh, my.

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

**TITLES.**

6           **EXT. STREET LEADING TO APRIL'S HOUSE - DAY 9, 08:00**           6    \*

In the clear sky above the street, follow a single FLOWER PETAL caught on a light breeze. It's light, lavender, almost a figure of eight, like an orchid petal.

It flips and tumbles in the wind. We follow it down the street, hearing a VIOLIN grow louder, playing a fast, furious, angry jig.

The petal blows closer and closer before getting STUCK on APRIL'S BEDROOM WINDOW. Pull focus to see her as the violin player. We move through the window to-

CUT TO:

7           **INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 08:01**           7    \*

April plays, angrily, with greater passion than we've ever seen. Drops of sweat flick from her. She reaches a crescendo-

Her VIOLIN STRING SNAPS. She flinches back and shakes her hand. The string snapping has left a cut on her palm.

While she looks, worried, at the drop of a blood, she also sees a LITTLE SHADOW CIRCLE conjuring there. Within it there's a sudden flash of BLUE LIGHT and her cut is healed. She's astonished, worried.

                          JACKIE (O.S.)  
          Break a string?

April closes her hand as she turns to see her MUM (in her wheelchair) in the doorway. Jackie looks worried.

JACKIE (CONT'D)  
(off violin playing)  
That was... emphatic. Anything you  
want to tell me, April?

APRIL  
(turning away)  
What? No. Nothing. Why?

Long beat.

JACKIE  
He's out.

APRIL  
(beat)  
I know.

JACKIE  
(shocked)  
He contacted you?

APRIL  
He even has the same number. My  
phone just said, "Dad."

JACKIE  
What did he say?

APRIL  
I didn't answer. Just like I didn't  
answer any of his letters  
apologising-

JACKIE  
As if we're supposed to just  
forgive him. I mean, I believe he  
was unwell but-

APRIL  
Lots of unwell people don't try to  
kill themselves with their family  
in the car.

JACKIE  
(unhappy)  
Yes.  
(beat)  
All contact is your choice.  
Otherwise, he's breaking the court  
order.

APRIL  
I know.  
(looks up)  
I'm okay, Mum. Really.

JACKIE  
All right. I best get to work. The  
new manager has been hinting I'm  
better suited for back office than  
out on the retail floor.

APRIL  
(frowns)  
That's against the law.

JACKIE  
(defiant)  
So it is.

Jackie exits. April looks at her palm again. It's clear, no shadows at all, no cut. She closes it, worried.

CUT TO:

8                   **INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE, CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 08:06**                   8                   \*

MATTEUSZ checks his outfit in the mirror. He looks over to the CABINET OF SOULS, still closed, inert. Curious, he walks over to it, pausing. Just as he's about to open it-

Charlie enters. He looks at Matteusz, worried. But then he looks resigned.

CHARLIE  
All right.

CUT TO:

9                   **INT. RAM'S HOUSE, RAM'S SITTING ROOM - DAY 9, 08:10**                   9                   \*

RAM finishes packing his bag for school. His mum JANEETA (late 30s, professional) is ready to go to work.

JANEETA  
(bright, cheerful)  
How's the injury healing?

RAM  
(lying)  
Better. Still not up to speed.

JANEETA  
Oh, don't worry, son, injuries are part of it all. Football will wait.

RAM  
(to himself)  
Doubt it'll wait *that* long.

She doesn't hear this, gives him an affectionate kiss.

JANEETA  
Be good, beta.

RAM  
You do know in English that means "second".

She smiles and heads out. Ram finishes with his bag, looks thoughtful for a moment. We see:

--FLASHBACK of April kissing him from last week's episode.

He touches his own lips, then hides the action as VARUN enters in a suit, ready to leave for work.

RAM (CONT'D)  
I thought you'd already gone.

VARUN  
Benefit of being the big boss dentist.  
(sips coffee)  
You... seem like you're feeling a bit better lately, son.

Ram stops, looks at him, decides not to make a fuss.

RAM  
(zips up coat)  
Yeah.

An awkward moment. Varun is clearly trying to love his son here. Ram relents.

RAM (CONT'D)  
I'm doing okay, Dad. It's been hard, but... I've made some new friends.  
(glances up)  
And you haven't told Mum? About my leg or...

Leaves the "or" hanging.

VARUN  
(unhappy)  
You asked me not to-

RAM  
I don't want her worrying-

VARUN  
I don't like the thought of you facing anything alone, son. We will always fight for you. And *with* you, if you let us.

Ram is moved, but tries - like any teen - not to show it too much. But he does hug his father.

VARUN (CONT'D)  
(turning to go)  
Still, as long as this business is all finished and there are no more actual aliens still hanging about.

Doesn't see Ram's face as Ram leaves...

CUT TO:



10                   **EXT. ALIEN DESERT LANDSCAPE - DUSK 9**                   10                   \*

The alien desert that we now know to be the inside of the CABINET OF SOULS. The thin FILAMENTS OF LIGHT - the souls of the Rhodia - float in the air, interacting slowly...

We turn to find the OPENING of the Cabinet, as if hanging in space. MATTEUSZ' face peers inside. He and Charlie (O.S.) talk about them.

                                  MATTEUSZ (O.S.)  
                                  (beat)  
You lied.

                                  CHARLIE (O.S.)  
I did.

                                  MATTEUSZ (O.S.)  
                                  (turns to him)  
Because sometimes Princes *have* to lie?

                                  CHARLIE (O.S.)  
Because... these are the souls of every Rhodian who ever lived. Everyone I ever knew. My family. People I loved. I'm in charge of protecting them.

CUT TO:

11                   **INT. CHARLIE'S HOUSE, CHARLIE'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 08:16**                   11                   \*

Matteusz sits back, thoughtful, and closes the Cabinet, the lights disappearing from his face.

                                  MATTEUSZ  
And because it is not empty, it is also a weapon.

                                  CHARLIE  
                                  (beat, agreeing)  
It's also a weapon.

                                  MATTEUSZ  
One that could destroy entire races. Entire planets.

                                  CHARLIE  
Yes.

                                  MATTEUSZ  
And you know how to do this?

                                  CHARLIE  
                                  (reluctant)  
It's the sole responsibility of the Queen and her heir.

MATTEUSZ  
(slightly distressed)  
Charlie... Charlie, I don't even  
like guns.

CHARLIE  
Yes, that's why it's a  
*responsibility*. One I take more  
seriously than you can ever  
imagine. It's not a burden that  
*should* be shared.

MATTEUSZ  
And that's why you didn't say  
anything?

CHARLIE  
Well, that and the fact that I live  
with someone who isn't scared of  
guns *at all*.

CUT TO:

12 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, ATRIUM, MEMORIAL WALL - DAY 9, 08:40<sup>12</sup> \*

We pan over the COAL HILL MEMORIAL WALL. There are old names  
from World Wars I & II, other conflicts, Gulf War, etc-

But we can also see the names "Pink, R D" and "Oswald, C"  
(followed by Kevin, Rachel, "Carroll, C" & "Dawson, T")  
before focussing on a CARETAKER putting up the new name of  
"Armitage, F". Quill watches, many STUDENTS and STAFF passing  
in the background.

QUILL  
I never even found out what the F  
stood for.

DOROTHEA (O.S.)  
"Francis".

Quill turns and is presented with the warm, professional  
presence of DOROTHEA, a woman of clever and ambiguous mien.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)  
Miss... Quill, I believe?

QUILL  
(suspicious)  
Yes?

DOROTHEA  
(offering her hand)  
I've been wanting to meet you.  
Dorothea Ames, new Headteacher.

QUILL  
That was... fast.

Handshake. Dorothea frowns, sadly, at Mr Armitage's name.

DOROTHEA

True, but people who go missing  
from Coal Hill have a distressing  
tendency to stay that way, don't  
you find?

QUILL

I've only been here a few months-

DOROTHEA

Ah, then don't listen to an old  
gossip like me. Though I  
particularly wanted to meet you,  
Miss Quill.

QUILL

Me?

DOROTHEA

The Governors speak highly of you.

QUILL

The Governors?

DOROTHEA

My dear, if you're going to answer  
everything I say with a question  
then... Well, we'll be fine  
friends, as I do like being the  
one with the answers.

QUILL

But I've never *met* the Governors.

Dorothea moves away, busy, busy, looks back:

DOROTHEA

They think you're a frightfully  
useful member of staff. Must get  
on! More soon!

She disappears in the flow of students. Quill watches her go.

CUT TO:

13

**INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, CORRIDOR - DAY 9, 08:43**

13

\*

April walks down the corridor, still distracted. Ram catches  
up to her.

RAM

April!

APRIL

(distracted)

Hey.

They walk together awkwardly, neither of them breaking the  
silence. Ram waits and glances. And waits. And glances. Opens  
his mouth to say something. Closes it. April is pre-occupied.

RAM  
(quickly)  
So I guess I'll see you later.

And abruptly walks off.

APRIL  
(still distracted)  
Yeah, bye. Wait, what? Ram!

But she's lost him.

CUT TO:

14                    **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, CORRIDOR - DAY 9, 08:44**                    14    \*

Tanya, Charlie and Matteusz walk together among other STUDENTS on their way to class. Tanya is incredulous.

TANYA  
You've never had a Parents' Evening?

CHARLIE  
Princes tend not to.

MATTEUSZ  
My parents always come, but this time...

TANYA  
Maybe Quill can just have a meeting with herself about the both of you and be done with it.

CHARLIE  
We *do* have other classes. I'd like to know my progress. How I can improve.

Beat as both Tanya and Matteusz stare at him.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)  
Don't we *want* to be better students with the help of our parents?  
(off their looks)  
*What?*

TANYA  
I don't think Quill is going to go for that.

CHARLIE  
I'll just order her to. My future improvement is a kind of personal protection.

He turns to head off to a different class. Matteusz and Tanya watch him go.

TANYA  
Hard to forget he's an alien, isn't  
it?

\*

MATTEUSZ  
Yes, is true.

\*

Beat. Beat.

TANYA  
Is he... *all* human? You know. Down  
there?

Matteusz is horrified.

TANYA (CONT'D)  
Nothing! Never mind!

Rushes off.

CUT TO:

15      **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, MISS SHAH'S CLASSROOM - DAY 9, 09:58**<sup>15</sup>

\*

April sits at her desk in the History classroom of MISS SHAH (young, Indian). "Dunkirk" is written on the board and April waits for the class to begin, not speaking to anyone.

The classroom fills with STUDENTS and CHARLIE comes in. He sits down behind April with a smile.

CHARLIE  
Morning.

April just gives an "Mm" in reply. Miss Shah starts to teach.

MISS SHAH  
Now, I just know you'll all have  
done your reading, so, context for  
today's discussion: the mindset of  
the soldier. 338,000 men evacuated,  
100,000 of them straight from the  
beach. You are one of them. What  
are you thinking as the boats  
arrive?

April frowns at this, as if she disapproves.

MALE STUDENT 1  
Am I going to be bombed?

April looks at the student, baffled, almost glaring.

MISS SHAH  
(nodding)  
The Wehrmacht cut them off, and  
they very well could have been  
bombed at any time. So rescue is in  
sight. But will you make it?

April opens her mouth to strongly respond but is beaten by:

FEMALE STUDENT 1  
Yeah, but that's what war is,  
though, isn't it? You're always  
waiting to die.

APRIL  
(whispers to herself)  
You have no idea what war is.

MISS SHAH  
What's that, April?

April looks up, challenged. Hesitates, but then:

APRIL  
We sit here and talk about war like  
we have the first clue. "Mindset of  
the soldier". How can anyone here  
even guess?

MISS SHAH  
Imagination is an act of empathy.  
Of course we can't *know* what it's  
like-

APRIL  
No, you can't-

MISS SHAH  
But we can try to *put* ourselves-

APRIL  
And why should we want to have  
empathy for cowards, anyway?

MISS SHAH  
(taken aback)  
Well, true, the evacuation is not  
without its controversies and we're  
going to be talking about-

APRIL  
If you sign up for war, you sign up  
to die.

MALE STUDENT 1  
That's harsh.

MISS SHAH  
It is, a bit.

FEMALE STUDENT 1  
My dad's in the army. He didn't  
sign up to die. He signed up so  
other people *wouldn't* die.

APRIL  
(getting angrier)  
Don't you think the *other* soldiers  
sign up for the same thing? Someone  
*always* dies in war.

MISS SHAH  
Yes, and what we're after here,  
April, is to try to get inside the  
*fear* of that-

APRIL  
(scoffing)  
*Fear*. What good is a soldier with  
fear? Cowards should be weeded out  
of any army. The soldiers at  
Dunkirk should have stayed and  
fought and *died*. Who'd ever want to  
live as a coward anyway?

FEMALE STUDENT 1  
Most human beings. What's your  
deal?

April looks at her, angrily. Then catches on that everyone is  
staring at her. She seems to come out of a kind of trance.

APRIL  
I don't... What was I saying?

The class just stares, even Charlie.

CUT TO:

16      **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**      16      \*

Corakinus stands in the UNIVERSE ROOM, a kind of 3-D  
planetarium, solar systems and star fields, floating in air.  
He watches one, his back to the door. KHARRUS (female, young,  
sharp) enters.

This is the "control room" of the Shadow Kin. As such it's a  
less ragged, more organised space than the rest of the Realm.

KHARRUS  
Majesty.

CORAKINUS  
(on a display of stars)  
How many worlds have I made submit?  
How much light have I extinguished  
with shadow?

KHARRUS  
(knowing the answer)  
Never enough.

CORAKINUS  
(immediate echo)  
Never enough. We are a trick. We  
are an accident.  
(MORE)

CORAKINUS (CONT'D)

We should never have been born in a  
universe of light.

(contained fury)

But we were.

KHARRUS

Yes, Majesty.

CORAKINUS

We are what is underneath the stars  
that look down upon us. We are what  
the feet of the enlightened races  
step on.

(growing angrier, scary)

This war cannot pause because its  
leader is sharing his heart with a  
little girl!

(turns to her)

Your Majesty is in need of you,  
Kharrus.

KHARRUS

And I will fulfill his Majesty's  
needs.

CORAKINUS

(intrigued)

Be careful of your promises.

KHARRUS

Rannus was seeking to steal your  
heart from the girl, Majesty. It  
was a cowardly approach.

\*

Corakinus grows his shadow swords, threateningly.

CORAKINUS

Rannus fought at my side on many,  
many planets. I am certain you are  
about to say something that will  
prevent your immediate execution.

\*

Kharrus smiles wryly.

CUT TO:

17

**INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, CORRIDOR - DAY 9, 11:00**

17

\*

April is at her locker, struggling to get it open. She  
finally gets frustrated and HITS IT with the flat of her hand-

THE LOCK BLOWS OFF, leaving a black smoking hole. She looks  
at her hand, at a SMALL BLACK SHADOW there on her palm. She  
sighs, desperately.

\*

\*

Her phone buzzes. She reads it. "Dad". She frowns and  
declines the call. She sees Ram walking by, bashfully but  
proudly, pretending he's fronted it out, avoiding her glance.

APRIL

Ram?



He comically drops all pretence, turns to her, sees her face.

RAM  
What's wrong?

She steps out of the way of the locker, showing him the  
smoking hole.

APRIL  
Something weird is happening.

Beat, then he looks straight into her eyes.

RAM  
Wanna skip Quill's class?

She nods, vigorously.

CUT TO:

18	<b>INT./ EXT. RAM'S CAR /STREET - DAY 9, 11:11</b>	18	*
	They're parked down the street from the school. Ram and April sit in the front seats.		* *
	APRIL You're the only person in school who has a car.		* * *
	RAM My mum sells them. We get deals.		* *
	April says nothing.		*
	RAM (CONT'D) You're sure it's the Shadow Kin?		* *
	APRIL (nods) I went off on some weird pro-war tangent in History this morning. That doesn't seem like me at all.		* * * * *
	RAM No. Not even a little.		* *
	APRIL And I haven't even told you what I did to a perfectly innocent chair.		* * *
	She's upset. He reaches over, takes her hand, holds it.		*
	RAM We fought them before. We won.		* *
	APRIL Somehow. But people died. People suffered.		* * *
	They both know she means him. She grips his hand harder.		

RAM  
You kissed me.

APRIL  
I thought we both needed it at the  
time.

He keeps looking at her.

APRIL (CONT'D)  
If you're asking, then *yes*.

They kiss. Then he holds her for a moment across the seat.

APRIL (CONT'D)  
(in the hug)  
I don't want to die, Ram.

He pulls back.

RAM  
You're not going to die. We'll tell  
the others. We'll tell *Quill*, she's  
the one who had the gun. There'll  
be a way to fix this.  
(strongly)  
You're not going to die.

APRIL  
But that's what happens now, isn't  
it? We killed the Coach. We killed  
that Lankin thing-

RAM  
Anyone who wants to kill you is  
going to have to come through me.

APRIL  
Oh, Ram. They probably will.

She turns, looks out of the windscreen and is SHOCKED.

A MAN stands there, looking back, surprised.

HUW  
(through the glass)  
April?

APRIL  
(barely breathing)  
Oh, no.

RAM  
What? Who is that?

He looks confused for a moment, then he figures it out.

RAM (CONT'D)  
(angry)  
That's your dad.

CUT TO:

19      **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, MISS QUILL'S CLASSROOM - DAY 9, 11:13**      \*

The class watches a VIDEO about ASTROPHYSICS. In the darkness, Quill is having a furious whispered conversation with Charlie, Tanya surreptitiously looking on.

QUILL  
You want me to *what*?

CHARLIE  
Parents' Evening. Apparently quite common.

QUILL  
I'm not going to go to your other teachers, hat in hand, and ask after your *well-being*.

CHARLIE  
Your job is to protect me. This protects my future prospects.

QUILL  
They aren't even supposed to know we live together.

CHARLIE  
You'll figure something out. You're always going on about how clever you are.

Quill's eyes narrow.

QUILL  
If we had ever met on the battlefield-

CHARLIE  
But we didn't and we won't. Do this. I command it.

Quill, stuck, returns furiously to her desk. Tanya watches.

CUT TO:

20      **EXT. STREET OUTSIDE RAM'S CAR - DAY 9, 11:14**      20      \*

April slams the door of Ram's car as she exits.

APRIL  
How dare you? How dare you just... show up?

HUW  
You won't answer my calls, April.  
Or respond to-

APRIL  
You're breaking the law. You're not  
supposed to contact me except by  
letter and even then-

HUW  
I just... April, I-

RAM (O.S.)  
Maybe you should leave.

Ram's got out of the car. Looks threatening.

RAM (CONT'D)  
Maybe you should leave *right now*.

APRIL  
I can handle this, Ram.  
(to her dad)  
Because that's the thing you don't  
know. You expect me to be afraid of  
you-

HUW  
I *don't*, I just-

APRIL  
But I'm *not*. You have no idea of  
the things I've seen.

HUW  
I wanted to *apologise*-

APRIL  
For trying to kill us? For  
paralysing Mum?

There's a FLASH OF SHADOW in her HANDS. Ram sees it.

RAM  
April?

April turns to him, surprisingly furious.

APRIL  
I said, LEAVE IT, RAM!

Her eyes flash RED, just like Corakinus.

RAM  
Your *eyes*.

She looks back at him, confused. Huw carries on, oblivious.

HUW  
I miss my daughter. I miss my  
*family*.

At this, April hardens. She looks at her dad. It's scary,  
this is an April we haven't seen.

APRIL  
(voice deep, threatening)  
Maybe you should run.

And she EXTENDS the SHADOW SWORDS from each hand.

RAM  
Oh, no way!

\*

But April still stares at Huw, who backs away, then faster,  
then he RUNS OFF.

The Shadow Swords disappear again. April returns to herself,  
panting, teary. She turns to Ram.

APRIL  
(crying)  
Ram?

Slight pause, as we wonder how he'll react, but then he moves  
to her quickly, hugging her tight.

RAM  
It's okay, it's okay-

DOROTHEA (O.S.)  
(oddly cheerful)  
I'm fairly certain this isn't  
school grounds.

Ram and April part, see Dorothea standing there, smiling.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)  
I believe you both should be in  
Miss Quill's Physics lesson right  
now, correct?

APRIL  
(beat, wipes eyes)  
I'm sorry, who are you?

DOROTHEA  
Your new Headteacher.

Both Ram and April stiffen. They're busted. Ram glances where  
Huw ran, wondering what she's seen.

RAM  
We were just-

DOROTHEA  
Helping out a student who's under  
the weather. It's good citizenship,  
Mr Singh. Please, take Miss MacLean  
home. Hope you feel better and  
we'll see you tomorrow.

Smiles, exits. Ram and April are frozen.

RAM  
Alien?

APRIL  
How did she know what classes we're  
in on like her first day?

RAM  
*Alien?*

APRIL  
(turns to him)  
Can you take me home?

RAM  
Absolutely.

CUT TO:

21                   **EXT. STREET ROUND THE CORNER - DAY 9, 11:16**                   21                   \*

Around the corner, Dorothea watches them drive off, still smiling. Then a PETAL, like the one we saw earlier, drifts by. She watches it until it falls onto the PAVEMENT.                   \*

C/U as she picks it up. It's exactly like the one we saw earlier.

She holds it in her palm, then takes a sharp intake of breath. She pulls the petal away with two fingernails.

There's a BITE on her palm, bloody, leaving a circle like a leech bite.

She looks at it. The petal now has a red patterning to it, as if from her blood. She frowns thoughtfully.

CUT TO:

22                   **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, CORRIDOR - DAY 9, 12:20**                   22                   \*

Quill holds a "Parents' Evening" form in her hand, frowning at it, quite furious, ignoring the students around her. She pushes through the DOOR out to-

CUT TO:

23                   **EXT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, ENTRANCE - DAY 9, 12:21**                   23                   \*

The front of Coal Hill. She sees Charlie and Matteusz in the seating area, talking, other students around, in her way. She approaches from behind them, at an angle so they can't see her, ready to raise hell.

Angle on - the seating area, where Charlie and Matteusz have LUNCH. Matteusz is still reserved, Charlie pleads with him.

CHARLIE  
This is why I didn't tell you. The  
responsibility is... heavy.

MATTEUSZ  
(interrupting)  
How does it work?

Angle on - Quill approaching from behind, about to speak but-

Angle on - Charlie and Matteusz.

CHARLIE  
It only responds to the Rhodian  
leader. I... activate it... And  
each soul finds one of the people  
you wish to... eliminate.

MATTEUSZ  
Do not use that word. That's a word  
very bad governments use.

CHARLIE  
Fine. To *kill*. And each Rhodian  
soul... burns that other soul out  
of existence.

MATTEUSZ  
And there are billions in the  
Cabinet. So you could kill billions  
more.

Angle on - Quill's face, open in shock as she overhears.

Angle on - Charlie and Matteusz again.

CHARLIE  
(more energy)  
But only *once*. They burn themselves  
out while doing it. The whole idea  
is that it's a single use weapon  
you never have to *use*.

MATTEUSZ  
And you never would. Destroy a  
planet. All those lives.

CHARLIE  
(quietly)  
My planet was destroyed.

MATTEUSZ  
So you would become like your  
destroyers?  
(stands)  
It's not just a weapon for killing  
a planet, then. It's suicide for  
its user, too. Because who are you  
after you do that? Who do you  
become?

He leaves.

CHARLIE  
Matteusz. Matteusz!

Gets up to go after him...

Angle on - Quill, still standing there, her mouth open in  
rage and astonishment.

CUT TO:

24      **EXT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, CORAKINUS' BATTLEHOLD - NIGHT 9**      24      \*

Establish Corakinus' Battlehold on the Shadow Kin world.

25      **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**      25      \*

Corakinus and Kharrus stand in the middle of the room,  
observing galaxies and solar systems, zooming in on one:  
ours.

CORAKINUS  
How far?

KHARRUS  
Space travel would take 9,000  
years. That's why we're looking for  
the cracks that lead to it instead.

CORAKINUS  
Still. You found the system. How?

KHARRUS  
The frequency and wavelength at  
which Your Majesty's heart  
disappears. It suggests a specific  
distance. There were 27 systems  
that fit the criteria, but this is  
the only one that plausibly matches  
our experiences there.

CORAKINUS  
"Our"? You fought with us?

KHARRUS  
Yes, Majesty. I am a warrior in His  
Majesty's Horde.

Corakinus, sceptically impressed, looks at the solar system  
again. He puts his hand on his heart.

CORAKINUS  
Somewhere there, this heart beats.

KHARRUS  
And Rannus did one thing right.  
(off his look)  
(MORE)

\*



KHARRUS (CONT'D)

His anchor is going to lead us  
right to it.

CUT TO:

26           **OMITTED.**

26

CUT TO:

27           **INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 13:10**

27    \*

April enters, hand over her heart, Ram hovers at the door.  
April goes to the window, looks out.

RAM

It's different than a vision?

APRIL

Yes. It's like... he's taking me  
over. And I can't stop him.

RAM

That's not true. You didn't attack  
your dad.

APRIL

(breathes, shocked)  
But I wanted to, Ram. I wanted to  
*kill* him.  
(looks at her hands)  
And I could have. I saw exactly  
what I could have done to him.

RAM

(insistent)  
But you *didn't*.

He comes over to her, a little shy.

RAM (CONT'D)

He wants your heart, April. And  
that's one battleground where I can  
guarantee you, he's going to lose.

APRIL

(sighs)  
That was so cheesy, I know I should  
be laughing, but I'm still touched.

RAM

I mean it.

She smiles, also shy. Then she takes his hand.

CUT TO:

28           **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**           28    \*

Kharrus looks at our solar system, her back to Corakinus.

                  KHARRUS  
...the heart *itself* has to slip  
through a tear in space and time in  
order to beat. It's only a matter  
of tracking it properly.

                  CORAKINUS  
Your work impresses, Kharrus. I-  
Stops. Puts his hand on his heart, surprised. Kharrus turns.

                  KHARRUS  
Majesty?

CUT TO:

29           **INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 13:12**           29    \*

April and Ram are close now, foreheads nearly together.

                  RAM  
We need to tell the others. We can  
help you, April. I'm sure we can.

                  APRIL  
I know, just... I'm frightened,  
Ram.

                  RAM  
I've been frightened nonstop for  
the last month. I actually found a  
grey hair yesterday.

                  APRIL  
You know that war? The one I told  
you I fought every day?

                  RAM  
Against the world breaking.

                  APRIL  
...I'm losing.

                  RAM  
Yeah, but the difference now is,  
you're not fighting it alone.

                  APRIL  
Is that a line?

                  RAM  
Is that a... what? No, April, I-  
She kisses him.

CUT TO:

KHARRUS

Are you unwell, Majesty? Should I- \*

He stops her by grabbing her wrist, almost as if he did it involuntarily. His RED EYES becoming noticeably BRIGHTER.

He looks at her, surprised. She raises a hand, strikes it across his cheek-

When he turns his head back, DIRTY TARRY BLUE BLOOD oozes from the scratches. He takes it in his stride, it's clearly a mating prelude.

Her eyes brighten as well.

CUT TO:

31 INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 13:15 31 \*

April raises a hand. Is she going to strike Ram like Kharrus struck Corakinus? But she puts it in his hair instead and kisses him again. He kisses her back. Then pulls away.

RAM  
April, is this... really okay?

APRIL  
(shrugs)  
I'm afraid all the time. And you...  
(teary smile)  
You make me feel safe. Because  
you've seen everything I have.

RAM  
You make me feel safe, too. Isn't that weird? I always thought you were just some Try Hard who-

APRIL  
Maybe less talking, Ram.

RAM  
Sorry, it's just...

Can't find the words. She kisses him again.

RAM (CONT'D)  
I'm still grieving Rachel.

APRIL  
I'm still grieving my heart.

RAM  
Is it wrong to still want to feel  
safe?

April shakes her head. They've given each other permission.  
The kisses get more serious.

CUT TO:

32                   **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**                   32                   \*

Corakinus is SMASHED ACROSS THE FACE by Kharrus. He falls.  
She's on him, punching him again. She straddles him, raising  
a SHADOW SWORD in her hand and PIERCING HIM THROUGH THE  
SHOULDER, pinning him to the floor-

Then she hesitates.

KHARRUS  
Majesty?

He looks back at her, slightly confused.

KHARRUS (CONT'D)  
Are you... not into it?

CORAKINUS  
No, no, it's... You do it well.

She removes her sword from his shoulder.

KHARRUS  
You're regretting it.  
(hurt but loyal)  
As is the King's prerogative.

CORAKINUS  
That is *not* it. I just...  
(confused)  
I find myself wishing to *kiss* you.

Kharrus is horrified, repulsed, but this is her King talking.

KHARRUS  
If... that's what you're into-

Corakinus registers her disgust, quickly adjusts.

CORAKINUS  
Continue with the swordplay.

Kharrus, happy again, stabs him once more.

CUT TO:

33                   **INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 13:25**                   33                   \*

April and Ram in bed together, under the covers, making love.  
April is on top.

She sees that Ram is crying softly, tears coming down his cheeks, almost unaware. She rubs them away with her fingers.

APRIL  
Yeah, me, too.

RAM  
(concerned)  
I'm not hurting you, am I?

APRIL  
No. Am I hurting you?

RAM  
The... The opposite, I think.

They kiss. It's almost unbearably tender.

CUT TO:

34                   **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**                   34                   \*

Corakinus falls on the floor with a GRUNT, completely spent.

KHARRUS  
I trust your Majesty is satisfied.

She steps back, breathing heavy, still holding two swords.

CORAKINUS  
(from the floor)  
I don't suppose...

She waits, intrigued.

CORAKINUS (CONT'D)  
There could be a moment of...  
cuddling?

\*

Kharrus is shocked.

CUT TO:

35                   **INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 13:30**                   35                   \*

April and Ram cuddle tenderly under the sheets. April smiles.

APRIL  
You're shaking again.

RAM  
It's been a weird month.

APRIL  
Yeah, I-

She turns to him, but stops, taking a HUGE gasp, her eyes going wide and bright RED-

CUT TO:

36                   **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**                   36                   \*

Kharrus has her hands INSIDE the chest of Corakinus, like Rannus did in the opening. He's bearing it with great pain.                   \*

Kharrus calls out and removes her hands, blue light flying off them. The shadow holes in Corakinus' chest heal up.

                          KHARRUS  
It is no good, Majesty.

                          CORAKINUS  
She is... *influencing* me somehow.                   \*  
Rannus' anchor has made the  
connection stronger. I will not  
have it!

                          KHARRUS  
But the heart is not *injured*. There  
is nothing to heal.

He pushes her away, almost violently. Then he takes a breath, then another, calming down.

                          CORAKINUS  
It's merely not the heart of a  
Shadow Kin.

He looks at her, expectant.

                          KHARRUS  
I may have a solution, Majesty.

CUT TO:

37                   **INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BEDROOM - DAY 9, 13:35**                   37                   \*

April leans off the bed, wrapped in a sheet, her eyes going back to normal. Ram - also only covering his modesty with the sheet - comforts her.

                          APRIL  
                          (gasping)  
I think it's... I think it's  
passed.

                          RAM  
Okay, but that's it. I'm calling  
the others right now-

He starts to rise, but at exactly the same moment, April's bedroom door opens. Jackie rolls in-

And stops shocked. Everyone stares at everyone else.

APRIL  
(panicked, to Jackie)  
How'd it go with your manager?

CUT TO:

38      **EXT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, FRONT - DAY 9, 13:38**

38      \*

Charlie, Matteusz and Tanya walk outside the front of the school. Matteusz looks at all the strange PETALS, blowing by their feet.

MATTEUSZ  
Isn't this the wrong season for  
blooming?

CHARLIE  
(distracted)  
I don't know. I have yet to see  
seasons here.

Matteusz suddenly hisses and drops the petal. A DROP OF BLOOD on his fingertip. He blinks, unsure what's happened.

TANYA  
(suddenly)  
I don't think I like how you order  
Miss Quill around.

CHARLIE  
...what?

TANYA  
It's a punishment, isn't it? But  
she's meant to protect you, not be  
your servant.  
(pointedly)  
Or your slave.

CHARLIE  
(not getting it)  
I *know*! I don't know how many times  
I've had this conversation with her  
myself-

TANYA  
My dad used to say most people  
don't set out to be monsters. They  
start by getting a little taste for  
it. They like it, so they taste  
some more. Then before they know it-

CHARLIE  
I'm not being monstrous. I'm being  
*just*. Please don't question the  
morality of my culture.

MATTEUSZ  
(to himself, finger in his  
mouth)  
(MORE)

MATTEUSZ (CONT'D)

Yes, he doesn't like it when you do  
*that*.

Charlie gives him a look.

TANYA

If the morality of your culture  
keeps on looking like *slavery*, then  
you're not really going to stop me  
asking questions-

CHARLIE

You don't know what she did. You  
don't know what we suffered. And my  
command over the alien in her head  
may be the only thing keeping all  
of us alive.

TANYA

But she's helping us *here*. And the  
world where you both may have done  
things is gone-

\*

CHARLIE

Miss Quill is my business and I'll  
thank you to stay out of it.

TANYA

Oh, I really don't think you want  
to talk to me like *royalty* again,  
*Prince*.

MATTEUSZ

(looking down)  
There *is* something weird here.

CHARLIE

(annoyed)  
With flower petals?

He turns. We pull back-

The petals ARE everywhere. Drifted into every corner on the  
street, more tumbling in the wind. All of a sudden, there's a  
noticeable number.

CUT TO:

39 INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, HEADTEACHER'S OFFICE - DAY 9, 13:45 39

\*

Dorothea looks into a POTPOURRI BOWL on her desk, a concerned  
frown on her face. The bowl is about HALF FULL of clean/new  
petals.

\*

\*

We pull back. Formerly Mr Armitage's office, it's been  
modernised by Dorothea: elegant panelled desk, softer wall-  
furnishings. Like the office of an expensive therapist. The  
one oddity is a Victorian collection of BEETLES in display  
cases.

Knock on the door. Quill is already coming in:



QUILL

What do you want? There's something  
urgent I need to check at home-

DOROTHEA

I assume you'll be performing the  
Parent and Teacher duties at  
Parents' Evening for Charlie?

(looks at a file)

Charlie... *Smith*, is it?

She sits behind her desk, still friendly.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

Don't see too many Smiths these  
days. It's kind of like "John".  
Have you noticed no one under the  
age of 35 is called John anymore?

Quill is speechless, surprised at this greeting.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

Please sit. I won't bite.

Still confused, Quill takes a seat across the desk.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)

It *is* interesting, though. The work  
I had to do to track down *your*  
story.

She takes out a rather THICK FILE. Quill looks alarmed.

CUT TO:

40

**INT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S KITCHEN - DAY 9, 13:50**

40

\*

April sits, dressed, embarrassed, at a kitchen chair. Ram  
sits an awkward distance apart. Jackie looks at them sternly.

JACKIE

(to April)

Does he at least have a name?

RAM

It's Ram.

JACKIE

I wasn't asking you.

APRIL

Mum, it's okay-

JACKIE

Really? You should still be on your  
way home from school. Did they give  
you a note for this?

APRIL

We didn't... plan it-

JACKIE  
"It just happened." You know better  
than to use an excuse like that.

APRIL  
Mum-

JACKIE  
Do I even need to *ask* if you used  
protection?

April is too horrified to answer. Unfortunately, Ram isn't.

RAM  
It's okay, I had some condoms-

APRIL  
(shocked)  
Ram!

RAM  
Well, I didn't want her to think  
bad of you!

Beat, at the ridiculousness of this.

RAM (CONT'D)  
(to Jackie)  
She saw her dad.

APRIL  
(shocked again)  
Ram.

RAM  
He just showed up at school when he  
wasn't supposed to.

Jackie is appalled at this, looks at April.

RAM (CONT'D)  
She was upset. I took her home.  
(beat, gets up)  
That's... all I got to say.

Another awkward beat. Jackie rolls forward a bit to Ram.

JACKIE  
Don't let this chair fool you. You  
hurt my daughter, I will kill you.

RAM  
I won't need killing. April is my  
*friend*.

Emphasises it, truthfully, touchingly. He nods a farewell to  
April. She's touched but still embarrassed.

RAM (CONT'D)  
(waving his phone)  
If you need me.

She nods. Ram exits out the kitchen door to the BACK GARDEN.  
They wait until he's out the gate to the side-street, then  
Jackie comes rolling up.

JACKIE  
What did your dad say? Did he hurt  
you? Did he lay a hand on you?

APRIL  
Do you really think I'd let him?

JACKIE  
I'll kill him-

APRIL  
Stop saying that. It's... Just stop  
saying that to people.

JACKIE  
He's not supposed to come near you.

APRIL  
He said he wanted to apologise.

JACKIE  
He wants to get rid of his burden.  
He wants to give it to *us*.  
(rolls away)  
I'm calling the Police.

APRIL  
Mum, just leave it.

JACKIE  
Leave it?! What is going on today?  
You've never even mentioned that  
boy's *name* to me, April-

APRIL  
We've... got stuff in common.

JACKIE  
I'll bet that's what *he* says.

APRIL  
God, Mum, he's not Dad!

JACKIE  
(deflates)  
Oh, sweetie. Neither was your *dad*,  
at first.

CUT TO:

41      **EXT. SIDE LANE OUTSIDE APRIL'S FLAT - DAY 9, 13:54**

41      \*

Ram looks at the back gate, wondering if he should go back.  
He decides against it and moves on, dialling on his phone.

RAM  
Tanya? April's in trouble.

Pull focus to see HUW, waiting across the street (unseen by Ram), as if he's been wondering how to approach. He sees Ram leaving. Then he approaches the gate...

...kicking through a small drift of FLOWER PETALS. They tumble away, brushing away a number of the petals. He doesn't look back.

We track around to see that he's accidentally uncovered a BLOODY, HALF-EATEN SQUIRREL...

CUT TO:

42      **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, HEADTEACHER'S OFFICE - DAY 9, 13:58** 42      \*

Dorothea looks up from the file, still friendly.

DOROTHEA  
All of this fascinating information  
and the only thing I keep thinking  
to myself is that you don't really  
seem like an Andrea.

QUILL  
(nervous, what's going  
on?)  
Everyone calls me Quill. Look, is  
this about the Parents' Evening  
thing, because-

DOROTHEA  
(sips tea)  
This isn't the 1950s. Trust me when  
I say I've seen more unusual  
housing arrangements than yours and  
Charlie's. Guardianship is quite  
common.

QUILL  
(surprised)  
Well, yes, I-

DOROTHEA  
Slightly trickier with Matteusz-

Quill is even more surprised.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)  
But he's 17 and that's borderline  
on his own wishes versus those of  
his parents. And if they threw him  
out-

QUILL  
(quite alarmed now)  
How do you know these things?

DOROTHEA  
The Governors like a well-run  
school.

QUILL  
(beat, suspicious)  
I've seen some of the resources of  
the Governors.

DOROTHEA  
(just smiles)  
Yes, robots are rather expensive.  
Not going to be easy to replace.

\*

QUILL  
What do you think you're doing  
*spying* on me-

DOROTHEA  
Tell me, Miss Quill, have you seen  
any squirrels today?

Again, Miss Quill is speechless, this time with bewilderment.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)  
Or birds? Heard any birdsong this  
morning?

QUILL  
...are you quite insane?

DOROTHEA  
(smiles again)  
And what might you make of this?

Flashes her eyes to the potpourri bowl-

Which is NOW OVERFLOWING WITH PETALS.

CUT TO:

43      **EXT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, FRONT - DAY 9, 14:00**

43      \*

Charlie and Mattheusz look at the Petals at their feet (there  
are more of them). Tanya is on the phone in the background.

MATTEUSZ  
Are there... *more* of them than a  
moment ago?

CHARLIE  
Why are you giving me such a hard  
time? It's the duty of the Prince  
to save his people-

MATTEUSZ  
"Duty" is another word of bad  
governments. And how is this  
*saving*? They are souls - they have  
already lived their lives...

Stops on Charlie's look.

MATTEUSZ (CONT'D)

What? What *else* are you not telling me?

CHARLIE

(very reluctant)

It's... It's a children's story. That in the hands of the right person, the Cabinet isn't just a weapon... It's a way to bring them all back.

MATTEUSZ

...what?

CHARLIE

In the hands of a...

(embarrassed)

Hero, the souls take over the bodies instead of burning them. All of Rhodia is reborn in a different shape.

MATTEUSZ

(beat)

An entire race is still killed.

CHARLIE

I know-

MATTEUSZ

And you think you are this *hero*?

CHARLIE

No! I told you, it's a children's story, a way of believing in heaven-

MATTEUSZ

So you *don't* believe it-

CHARLIE

(angry)

It's *hope*! It's stupid and childish and no adult Rhodian ever believed it but it's hope. Of course I'm not the *hero*, but if I can keep the Cabinet safe, then maybe, one day...

(anguished)

I lost *everything*. Please don't take the hope away from me, too.

Matteusz can't answer. Tanya ends the call and joins them.

TANYA

Ram says the Shadow Kin is taking over April's body.

(frowns)

His voice was funny. I think they may have had sex.

CHARLIE  
Ram and the Shadow Kin?

TANYA  
(rolls her eyes)  
Come on.

She hurries off. Charlie and Matteusz follow her.

CUT TO:

44      **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**      44      \*

Corakinus waits for Kharrus to put her hands in his chest.

KHARRUS  
Rannus hoped the anchor on the  
heart alone would be enough to keep  
it in this world-

CORAKINUS  
(impatient)  
I know this, Kharrus-

KHARRUS  
But he was too cowardly to go the  
extra step. To attach the body of  
your Majesty to the anchor as well.

CORAKINUS  
(getting it)  
So when the heart goes, I go with  
it?  
(excited)  
Or *bring her here*-

KHARRUS  
Or you and the girl might both die  
as your shared heart is torn in  
two. That was why he hesitated.  
That was why he failed.

CORAKINUS  
(hard look)  
You are here to make sure that  
doesn't happen, Kharrus.

KHARRUS  
I understand, your Majesty.

CUT TO:

45      **INT/EXT. APRIL'S KITCHEN/BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:30**      45      \*

April goes to the kitchen door, Jackie coming after her.

JACKIE  
We're not finished talking, young  
lady.

APRIL

I can't leave it that way with Ram-

She opens the door. HUW IS THERE.

They stare at each other for a second, then April steps across the threshold, as if defending the house from him. Jackie - furious - approaches from inside. Huw speaks around April.

HUW

Jackie, I just want to-

JACKIE

You're not welcome here. You know the rules of the court order-

HUW

I'm here because there's something wrong with our daughter!

CUT TO:

46                    **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**                    46                    \*

As before. Kharrus still has her hands outside of Corakinus' chest, waiting, listening for a rhythm.

KHARRUS

There will be constant injuries to you as I link the anchor to your body while the heart beats in and out of it. I will be constantly healing you, but the pain will be great.

(to Corakinus)

Are you ready?

CORAKINUS

I am.

Kharrus cups her hands. The shadows around them take on the BLUE LIGHT of the anchor.

47                    **INT/EXT. APRIL'S KITCHEN/BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:32**                    47                    \*

As before. Jackie still inside, April outside protecting the threshold.

JACKIE

You will *not* speak to me of my daughter.

HUW

Our daughter.

JACKIE

And that's *exactly* how you're not going to speak of her.



HUW  
She threatened me today. With  
swords.

JACKIE  
Well, what do you expect-  
(stops)  
Swords?

APRIL  
...they're... more like scimitars.

CUT TO:

48      **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**      48      \*

As before. The intensity is increasing. Corakinus looks into the eyes of Kharrus.

CORAKINUS  
Should you succeed, there is room  
on the throne by my side.

KHARRUS  
You honour me, Majesty.

CORAKINUS  
Yes. I do.

Kharrus suddenly rises.

KHARRUS  
Now!

She PLUNGES her hands into Corakinus' chest.

CUT TO:

49      **INT/EXT. APRIL'S KITCHEN/BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:33**      49      \*

Jackie, still concerned, on April.

JACKIE  
I'm waiting for an answer-

April suddenly SCREAMS and falls to the ground.

JACKIE (CONT'D)  
April? April!

Huw rushes forward to help. Jackie moves outside, elbows him hard to push him back, but otherwise doesn't even look at him.

April rolls over, looks up at her mother-

EYES BLAZING RED.

APRIL

No! No-

CUT TO:

50           **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**           50    \*

Kharrus' hands are deep in Corakinus' chest. He is clearly in agony but trying to be kingly about it.

KHARRUS

I can feel it. I can feel *her*.

She glances up into his eyes. He meets hers and SMASHES a rock surface with his fist.

CUT TO:

51           **EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:36**           51    \*

April yells again and rolls forward. With an angry FIST, she SMASHES a heavy stone garden feature to bits. Just like Corakinus.

APRIL

He's trying to take it.

JACKIE

Who's trying to do what?  
(looks at Huw)  
Your father?

HUW

What? I'm not-

April suddenly rises to her feet. She looks at Huw.

SHADOW SWORDS extend from both hands.

CUT TO:

52           **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**           52    \*

As before, but there's a problem.

KHARRUS

She is fighting it.

CORAKINUS

She is a *girl*! You are a warrior of the Shadow Kin. You will *beat her*.

KHARRUS

Yes, Majesty.

Grips harder. He yells again.

CUT TO:

53        **EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, APRIL'S BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:39**        53        \*

Huw backs away. Jackie watches in horror as April takes a step forward, swords in hand-

But April screams again, stumbling a little.

                 APRIL  
                 No. No, you can't have it!

She swings both swords, as if possibly attacking Huw-

He leaps out of the way and her swords come in contact with the back gate-

CUT TO:

54        **EXT. SIDE LANE OUTSIDE APRIL'S FLAT - DAY 9, 14:40**        54        \*

The back gate BLASTS off April's house-

CUT TO:

55        **EXT. STREET LEADING TO APRIL'S FLAT - DAY 9, 14:40**        55        \*

Ram is in his car, putting on his SEAT BELT. He hears the blast and turns back to April's house. Gets out of his car. Starts walking. Then faster.

CUT TO:

56        **EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:41**        56        \*

April turns towards her father.

                 APRIL  
                 We don't want you.

                 JACKIE  
                 April, what's *happening*?

                 HUW  
                 Jackie, call an ambulance. Call the Police!

He takes out his phone. April LASHES OUT with the sword at it. He drops it, terrified.

It hits the ground, cut cleanly in two.

CUT TO:

57        **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**        57        \*

Kharrus still struggling. Corakinus shoots a SHADOW SWORD out of his hand and SLICES a corner off a stone.

CORAKINUS  
(astonished)  
It isn't working. She is...  
imposing her *will*...

Kharrus looks worried.

CUT TO:

58      **EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:43**

58      \*

April advances on Huw.

APRIL  
You tried to take everything from  
us.

HUW  
(scared but admitting it)  
I did. And I can never apologise  
enough-

APRIL  
You should still be in *prison*!

JACKIE  
April, please!

APRIL  
(to Huw)  
You put her in that *chair*!

HUW  
I know, but honey-

Furious, she lashes out with the sword and CUTS him across  
the upper arm/shoulder. He falls to the ground in front of  
the blasted-out gate, shocked, bleeding, but not seriously.

\*  
\*

APRIL  
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE YOUR DAUGHTER!

She stands over him, both swords blazing.

CUT TO:

59      **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**

59      \*

As before.

CORAKINUS  
DON'T TREAT ME LIKE YOUR DAUGHTER!

Kharrus looks up, alarmed. Corakinus extends both swords.  
Kharrus steps back, removing her hands from his chest. He  
rises over her.

CUT TO:

60 EXT. STREET LEADING TO APRIL'S FLAT - DAY 9, 14:44 60 \*

Ram is now running. Getting faster. \*

CUT TO:

61 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:45 61 \*

Huw, on the floor, slowly pushes back from April.

APRIL  
There is *one* thing you did for me,  
*Dad.*  
(shouts)  
STOP MOVING!

Huw stops. She moves closer to him, standing over him.

APRIL (CONT'D)  
You made me strong. Because I HAD  
to be.

She lowers the sword point to his chin.

APRIL (CONT'D)  
But you are *not* my father anymore.  
You are *not* a part of this family.

HUW  
I know. I deserve it. I'll leave if  
you want me to and never come back.

April hardens, looks fierce. Looks *terrifying*.

APRIL  
It's too late for that.

CUT TO:

62 INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9 62 \*

Corakinus towers over Kharrus. With a savage push, he shoves her away. She flies backwards.

His chest still glows with what she did to it.

CORAKINUS  
You have failed.

CUT TO:

63 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:56 63 \*

As before.

APRIL  
You have failed.

JACKIE  
April, what the hell is going on?!

April raises her swords.

CUT TO:

64           **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**           64    \*

Corakinus approaches Kharrus, murder in his eyes, SWORDS out.

                  KHARRUS  
Your Majesty, I have not yet  
finished-

                  CORAKINUS  
You have.

He raises his swords like April has.

                  CORAKINUS (CONT'D)  
Her heart is strong. It fights  
back.  
                  (eyes flare)  
Like mine used to.

CUT TO:

65           **EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 14:58**           65    \*

As before.

                  APRIL  
My heart is strong. It fights back.  
It always has.

Ram arrives at the gate. Sees what's happening with horror.  
Steps inside.

                  RAM  
April, no!

She looks up at him, savagely.

\*

                  APRIL  
                  (ferocious)  
Why not? He tried to take his life  
and ours with it. Why shouldn't I  
finish the job?

                  RAM  
Because that's not what April would  
do!

She looks up at him, shocked.

CUT TO:

66 INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9 66 \*

Corakinus pauses over Kharrus.

KHARRUS  
(frightened)  
Majesty, please, if you'd only let  
me-

Corakinus raises his swords.

CUT TO:

67 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 15:00 67 \*

As before.

APRIL  
(eyes on Huw, to Ram)  
You have no idea what I would do.  
You have no idea what I'm capable  
of.

RAM  
I know exactly what you're *capable*  
of, but you're April because you  
*choose* not to do it. You told me  
you wouldn't let him break you.

APRIL  
And I won't.  
(to Huw)  
I'll break *him* instead.

CUT TO:

68 INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9 68 \*

Corakinus still has his swords raised. Kharrus looks alarmed. But Corakinus is hesitating.

CUT TO:

69 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 15:01 69 \*

As is April. Standing over Huw.

JACKIE  
April! April, please. Don't do  
this!

April still hesitates.

CUT TO:

70 INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9 70 \*

As does Corakinus. Kharrus is as horrified as Rannus was. \*

KHARRUS  
You would be *merciful*?

Corakinus looks conflicted-

Then Corakinus is enraged. With a YELL he raises one sword-

CUT TO:

71 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 15:02 71 \*

April's sword swing matches Corakinus.

RAM  
April, don't!

She brings the sword down-

CUT TO:

72 INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9 72 \*

Corakinus' sword swings down. Kharrus screams!

CUT TO:

73 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 15:03 73 \*

The sword comes down. Huw screams!

CUT TO:

74 INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9 74 \*

The sword strike COMPLETES. We pull back to see Kharrus, dead, in two pieces on the floor of the throne room, like Rannus (and April's chair) in the first scene. \*

Corakinus' chest still glows, hot and blue. He grabs it and starts yelling in an ongoing pain.

CUT TO:

75 EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 15:04 75 \*

We pull back from April just like we did from Corakinus-

To find the sword tip BURIED in the grass of the lawn,  
April's arm still holding the hilt.

Huw is unharmed. Jackie looks on in shock, as does Ram.



RAM  
...April?

Takes a step towards her, but she SCREAMS, like Corakinus is screaming. Her chest beginning to glow blue and hot.

\*  
\*

APRIL  
(to Huw)  
You TOOK from us! You took so much!  
(heartbroken)  
You made me *hate* you!

HUW  
I'm so sorry-

But April just screams again to shut him up. She looks at Ram, helpless, terrified, furious.

APRIL  
(to Ram)  
I don't think you can save me.

RAM  
April-

Charlie, Tanya and Matteusz arrive at the back gate, out of breath.

\*  
\*

TANYA  
What's going on?

\*  
\*

April suddenly turns to Jackie, sitting in her wheelchair. Her hands begin to glow with the same shadow as Kharrus.

APRIL  
(whispers, to Jackie)  
Forgive me.

She suddenly steps forward and PLUNGES HER GLOWING HANDS INTO JACKIE'S CHEST-

CUT TO:

76      **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**      76      \*

Corakinus stumbles to his knees, calling out in pain as his hands GLOW with BLUE LIGHT-

CUT TO:

77      **EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 15:05**      77      \*

Jackie screams in agony as April's hands are inside her. The others watch in horror.

RAM  
April! What are you *doing*?

\*

TANYA  
Oh, my God.

April pulls her hands out of Jackie with a cry, back into Ram's arms.

Jackie falls from her wheelchair-

CUT TO:

78           **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**           78    \*

Corakinus falls to the ground like April did, collapsing next to the body of Kharrus. No one to catch *him*.

CUT TO:

79           **EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 15:06**           79    \*

April, still in Ram's arms, watches Jackie. Jackie rights herself on the ground-

Then bends her leg.

She sees it in shock. Huw watches on, too. She moves it again. Then bends it completely and unbends it. She looks up to April.

JACKIE  
What have you done?

She does it to the other leg.

JACKIE (CONT'D)  
My God, April. What have you *done*?

RAM  
What *have* you done?

April suddenly stands, her eyes glowing RED.

APRIL  
(horrified)  
He knows. He's found me!

\*

CUT TO:

80           **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, UNIVERSE ROOM - NIGHT 9**           80    \*

Corakinus calls out, but it's in anger, not pain. Looking furious he stands, hand on his heart.

CORAKINUS  
(laughing angrily)  
I know where she is!  
(grins painfully)  
I know the cracks to get to her.  
(MORE)

\*

CORAKINUS (CONT'D)  
(to the body of Kharrus)  
What do you know? You succeeded.

He leaves the room, throwing open the door to:

81      **INT. REALM OF THE SHADOW KIN, CORAKINUS' INNER SANCTUM - NIGHT 9**      81      \*

The two Shadow Kin soldiers from the opening turn as he enters.

CORAKINUS  
Prepare for War. We are going to  
her planet. And we are going to  
kill everyone on it.

CUT TO:

82      **EXT. APRIL'S FLAT, BACK GARDEN - DAY 9, 15:15**      82      \*

April, panicked, grabs her heart.

APRIL  
(to the others)  
Our connection. He's followed the  
trail. He's coming here!

She looks at all of them, staring at her. Little drifts of  
flower petals float around them and swirl in the air.

APRIL (CONT'D)  
(marvelling)  
He's going to kill us all.

MATTEUSZ  
Okay, seriously, is anyone else  
looking at these flowers?

April spins round, as if looking for Corakinus -

APRIL  
I can't let him do that.

Swords grow from each of her hands again.

APRIL (CONT'D)  
He knows where I am.  
(getting angrier)  
But that means I know where you  
are, asshole. And how to find you.

RAM  
April?

April swings the two swords in a samurai-like movement in  
front of her.

-RIPPING A HOLE IN SPACE/TIME.

Beyond is the Realm of the Shadow Kin.

TANYA  
Oh, my God.

CHARLIE  
That's their place. That's the  
Shadow Kin realm.

RAM  
April, what are you doing?

APRIL  
(gritting teeth)  
I'm going to get my heart back.

RAM  
April, no!

But April's already at a run-  
She LEAPS through the hole, swords still out.

RAM (CONT'D)  
APRIL!

The hole starts to close!  
With an alarmed last look at the gang-

RAM (CONT'D)  
(desperate, to Tanya)  
Tell my dad.

He jumps through the hole, after April-

TANYA  
Ram!

It closes behind him.

Charlie, Tanya and Matteusz stand there, shocked. Jackie and  
Huw still on the floor. We pull back to see the whirls of  
flower petals still blowing in.

CUT TO:

83      **INT. COAL HILL SCHOOL, HEADTEACHER'S OFFICE - DAY 9, 15:20** 83      \*

Angle ON: the flower petals on the Headteacher's desk, in a  
pile NOW EVEN BIGGER.

DOROTHEA  
Inert. No apparent intelligence,  
nothing we can argue with, just a  
plant with an appetite. Watch.

\*  
\*

She puts one on her fingertip, winces slightly at the bite,  
then takes it off, showing Quill the blood. She sets the  
petal on her desk.

C/U on the petal. It *absorbs* her blood-

And then it REPLICATES itself.

Dorothea gestures at the petals.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)  
I fed one of these an hour ago.  
From that single drop of blood,  
it's doubled, doubled, doubled  
again.

QUILL  
(comically horrified)  
And it's eating the *squirrels*?

DOROTHEA  
Probably all it can manage at this  
point. But not for long. We think a  
single petal slipped in through a  
crack in space/time just last night  
and look how it's proliferated.  
(leans back)  
And it's not stopping.  
(again)  
Doubled, doubled, doubled again.

QUILL  
(the implications)  
So the ones of us it doesn't eat-

DOROTHEA  
Will be swamped. Suffocated. Oh,  
we're quite doomed.  
(beat)  
Unless you help us.

Quill doesn't answer. Dorothea, still friendly, gives her a  
"Don't give me that" look. She leans forward.

DOROTHEA (CONT'D)  
Oh, there's a way, trust me. And  
I've been authorised to say that,  
if you help us solve our little  
problem here... We may just be able  
to help you solve yours.

QUILL  
Mine?

DOROTHEA  
How would you like to get that  
little creature out of your head,  
once and for all?  
(smiles, chin on hands)  
How would you like to have your own  
free will back to do with whatever  
you please?

Dolly in on a shocked Quill.

Then she smiles.

**END CREDITS.**