

1- SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR

2- ALYSON HANNIGAN

3- NICHOLAS BRENDON

6- EMMA CAUFIELD

7- AMBER BENSON

"Title"

by

Your Name

4- ANTHONY STEWART HEAD

5- JAMES MARSTERS

8- MICHELLE TRACHTENBERG

9- SEAN JOHNSON

Shadow

A Buffy the Vampire Slayer episode written by David Fury and transcribed by Joan the English Chick (pisces@englishchick.com). Original Air Date: November 21, 2000

Transcriber's Notes:

\*I do not own the characters or situations of BTVS, and I claim no credit for the content of this episode. I have merely transcribed what appeared on my screen, with help from the closed captions.

\*I prefer that you link to this transcript on the Psyche site rather than post it on your site, but you can post it on your site if you want, as long as you keep my name and email address on it. Please also keep my disclaimers intact. \*You can use my transcripts in your fanfiction stories; you don't have to ask my permission. (However, if you use large portions of episode dialogue in your fanfic, I recommend you give credit to the person who wrote the episode.) \*I apologize in advance for my lame transcription of the fight scenes. I don't know the names of different punches and kicks. Use your imagination.

Fade in on hospital CAT scan room. Joyce lies on the machine, wearing a hospital gown. We see a glass window, behind which two technicians are standing. The machine makes noises as the part Joyce is lying on slides into it. Close-up on Joyce's face. She closes her eyes. Long shot of the machine. Close-up on Joyce's face again, her eyes open again. She closes them again.

Cut to Dawn fiddling with a bracelet on her right wrist. A hand comes into view and gives her a can of soda. It's Buffy. Dawn looks up at her. She sits down next to Dawn and opens her own can.

DAWN

What is a CAT scan exactly?

BUFFY

I don't know. It's some...x-ray, I guess.

DAWN

Where do they get the CAT scan from? I mean, do they test it on cats or...or does the machine sort of look like a cat?

BUFFY

Dawn, I'm really...

She stops herself as Dawn gives her an apprehensive look. Buffy puts her arm around Dawn and brings Dawn's head to rest on her shoulder. She kisses the top of Dawn's head.

STEVEN

(off-screen)

CAT scan stands for computerized axial tomography.

(sits next to Dawn)

(calmly)

A CAT scan or

(uses air quotes)

"CT scan"

(speaks)

uses high tech computers along with low dose x-rays to generate two or three dimensional images of the human anatomy. It allows the Radiologist to view one thin slice or

(uses air quotes)

"picture"

(speaks)

at a time throughout the entire anatomical area being scanned. The CT scan allows for early detection of certain cancers and it's a valuable diagnostic tool.

Dawn and Buffy look up at Steven.

STEVEN

(smiles)

Hey, girls.

Long shot of them sitting there in the hospital waiting room as various staff people walk by.

Cut to a telephone book, open to a page where we see a large advertisement for the Magic Box.

TARA VOICEOVER

"Your one-stop spot to shop for all your occult needs."

We see Tara and Giles standing behind the counter, looking at the ad.

TARA

Catchy.

GILES

Think so?

TARA

Uh-huh. In a...hard to read sort of way, but I think it's great.

GILES

Oh.

Tara moves away as Giles studies the ad and soundlessly mouths the words to himself. The door opens and Anya enters, followed by Xander and Willow. Anya immediately begins straightening the merchandise on the shelves.

XANDER

I'm just saying, I think it's rude.

WILLOW

I wouldn't call it rude.

XANDER

Rude-ish. Rude-esque. Whatever you want to call it. When a person makes a "destroy all vampires" date, it's simple courtesy to wait for your co-destroyers. Am I right, Giles?

GILES

I'm almost certain you're not, but to be fair, I wasn't listening.

TARA

Oh, the-the new phone book's in with Mr. Giles' ad.

Anya races around the counter, shoving past Tara.

WILLOW

Oh, nice.

ANYA

Yay! Am I mentioned?  
(looking eagerly at  
the ad)

GILES

Not as such.

ANYA

(disappointed)  
Oh.

XANDER

Okay, we were supposed to hook up with Riley this morning, to take on a nest o'vamps holed up in a tomb? So we get there, and guess what? Tell him, Will.

WILLOW

Tomb go boom.

XANDER

Yep. Captain America blowed it up real good. All by his lone wolf lonesome.

GILES

Hmm, uh, rather reckless of him.  
(We see Anya still  
studying the ad.)

XANDER

I'd say very rather.

GILES

All that aside, I should think you'd be pleased to avoid the confrontation.

ANYA

That's what I've been saying. I mean, I for one didn't want to start my day with a slaughter.  
(Suddenly gets a look  
of realization on her  
face; excitedly)  
Which really just goes to show how much I've grown!  
(Smiles hugely. Willow  
and Tara grin at each other)

GILES

Yes, well, um, in any event, uh, since you're all here, Tara and I could use your help researching Buffy's mysterious woman.

XANDER

Oh yeah, this has been fruitful. Trying to look up something you...never saw and don't know the name of.

ANYA

Just do what I do: flip through  
the pages and look busy.

WILLOW

It'd be nice if we knew where she  
was, where she's hiding out.

XANDER

No doubt lurking around some  
sewer or condemned church or rat-  
infested warehouse. You know, the  
usual haunts.

Cut to: a beautiful, well-appointed apartment. Glory  
reclines on a round bed surrounded by shoeboxes. A demon  
dressed in monk's clothing is kneeling on the floor, holding  
a scroll.

DREG

Most beauteous and supremely  
magnificent one, this dark spell  
I hold in my worthless and scabby  
hand is our gift to you, most  
tingly and wonderful Glorificus...

GLORY

(trying on a shoe)  
Please, call me Glory. And get  
up, looking at you is hurting my  
neck.

DREG

(gets up)  
Forgive me, shiny special one. I  
beg of you to rip out my  
inadequate tongue.

GLORY

(reaches out her hand)  
Gimme.

Dreg grins and walks forward, sticking out his tongue. Glory  
waits till he's close enough and then grabs the scroll.

DREG

Oh.  
(laughs nervously)  
I thought...  
(still laughing as  
Glory examines the paper)  
You should know, your elaborate  
marvelousness, that this dark  
incantation has been lost for  
eons...

GLORY

Uh-huh.

(trying on another shoe)

DREG

And great dangers have been faced  
to...

GLORY

(sticking her leg  
straight up in the air)

Does this pump make my ankle look  
bony?

DREG

No! No, no, your terrifically  
smooth one, it is the epitome of  
ankles.

(Glory ignores him,  
trying on another shoe)

To touch such an ankle would be -  
but I'm not touching. I'm backing  
away.

Glory kicks out her foot and the shoe flies off it, hitting  
Dreg in the forehead.

DREG

Ow! Thank you.

GLORY

Dreg, is it?

(Gets up)

DREG

Yes. Dreg. Your creamy coolness  
has honored me by speaking my  
name. Your voice is like a  
thousand sweet songbirds that-

GLORY

(irritated)

Yeah, I never tire of hearing  
that. Look, just so we're clear,  
the spell's gonna work, right?

(Dreg nods anxiously.

Glory turns and goes  
to the window, peeking  
around the curtain)

I mean, nothing worse than a gift  
that doesn't work.

(MORE)

GLORY (CONT'D)

Then I'd have to get all mad and  
kill you!

(apologetically)

It's this whole big thing.

DREG

It will work, your extremeness.  
Provided you have the other items  
you need.

GLORY

Don't worry. I'll have them all  
right.

She walks past him to where a copy of the phone book is  
sitting open to the page with Giles' ad. She tears out the  
page and smiles at it.

GLORY

I'll have it all.

Wolf howl. Opening credits.

Guest starring Clare Kramer, Charlie Weber, Kevin Weisman,  
William Forward, Amber Benson as Tara, and Kristine  
Sutherland as Joyce Summers. Written by David Fury, directed  
by Daniel Attias.

Exterior of the Summers house, day. Riley approaches the  
front door and finds it slightly ajar. He knocks and walks in.

RILEY

(calling)

Hello? Buffy?

He takes off his jacket, then notices something on the floor  
and picks it up. It's a blanket. He frowns, looks up the  
stairs, drops both blanket and jacket and starts up the stairs.

Cut to: Spike holding a pink sweater up to his face and  
inhaling deeply. He lowers the sweater, sighing happily,  
then takes another sniff as Riley appears behind him.

RILEY

What are you doing in here?

Spike whirls around and we see he's in Buffy's bedroom. He  
quickly hides the sweater behind his back.

SPIKE

What, me? I was um...uh...what  
are \*you\* doing here?



RILEY

Looking for the girl who's gonna  
rip your arms off when she finds  
out you were in her bedroom.  
(Walks forward.)

SPIKE

Oh yeah? Well...me too.

Riley glances down, makes a move toward Spike's hands. Spike  
flinches backward and tries to maneuver so Riley can't see  
what he's holding.

RILEY

(bemused)  
Were you...were you just smelling  
her sweater?

SPIKE

(scoffs)  
No.  
(Riley glares at him)  
Well, yeah, all right, I did.  
It's a...predator thing, nothin'  
wrong with it. Just...know your  
enemy's scent, whet the appetite  
for a hunt.  
(He sniffs the sweater again)  
Ah, that's the stuff! Slayer  
musk, it's bitter and aggravating!

Spike presses the sweater against his face and makes angry  
growling noises. Riley snatches the sweater away from him,  
tosses it aside, then grabs Spike by the front of his shirt.

RILEY

Out.

As Riley hustles Spike out, Spike grabs a piece of lacy pink  
underwear from a drawer.

Riley hurries down the stairs, pulling Spike after him.

SPIKE

Hey, watch it! Easy, you're  
bruising the leather!  
(They reach the bottom  
of the stairs and  
Riley lets go)  
Look. I know for a bleeding fact  
the Slayer wouldn't mind me being  
here.

RILEY

Right. What's a little sweater-sniffing between sworn enemies.

SPIKE

Your girl in the habit of buying her enemies drinks? 'Cause she spent the better part of last night with me,  
(smugly)  
doing just that.

RILEY

'Cause you guys are such tight pals.

SPIKE

Yeah.

RILEY

That's good. Tell me another.

SPIKE

Okay, how 'bout this one. Twice in recent memory, she's had the lover-wiccans do a deinvite on the house. Keep out specific vamps. Ever ask yourself why she's never taken my name off the guest list?

RILEY

(falters for a moment)  
Because you're harmless.

SPIKE

Oh yeah, right.  
(scoffs)  
Takes one to know, I suppose. Least I still got the attitude.  
(looking Riley up and down)  
What do you got, a piercing glance? Face it, white bread. Buffy's got a type, and you're not it. She likes us dangerous, rough, occasionally bumpy in the forehead region.  
(patronizingly)  
Not that she doesn't like you...but sorry Charlie, you're just not dark enough.

Riley scowls, grabs Spike, opens the door and thrusts Spike out into the sunlight.

SPIKE  
Hey...Hey! Hey! Hey!

RILEY  
Am I dark enough for you now?

SPIKE  
Bloody pull me back in, you sod,  
I'm starting to sizzle!

RILEY  
You don't know anything about  
Buffy, you never did. I'm the one  
who knows what she needs.

SPIKE  
Oh yeah? That's why you're with  
her at hospital right now, giving  
her what she needs.

RILEY  
(pulls Spike back inside)  
What are you talking about?

SPIKE  
Don't you know, didn't she tell you?

RILEY  
You tell me.

SPIKE  
Mum's sickly. Buffy took her to  
the hospital for a bit of prod 'n  
probe. Bite-sized one went too.  
(needling)  
You know, it's-it's funny her not  
calling you about that. I've  
known since last night.

Riley grabs Spike and shoves him outside. Sizzling noises.

SPIKE  
(OS)  
Blanket! Blanket!

Riley kicks the blanket out and slams the door. He leans  
against the banister looking conflicted.

Cut to Buffy in the hospital, pacing outside a door marked  
"Examination Room." She twiddles her fingers nervously and  
sighs. A hand appears and grabs her shoulder; she spins around.

BUFFY  
(sighs)  
Riley.

RILEY  
Sorry. I heard. I thought maybe  
you'd...need ....

Buffy hugs him.

BUFFY  
I do. I do. I'm glad.  
(pulls back)  
I just, I-I didn't...I mean,  
until we knew what it was...

RILEY  
I understand. How's she doing?

Buffy turns to look at the door.

BUFFY  
Well, she just had a CAT scan. I  
was about to go in and find out.  
Will you...sit with Dawn while I  
talk to Mom? She's in the waiting  
room.

RILEY  
Yeah, yeah, you got it.

STEVEN  
Hey, Riley.

Riley looks at Steven.

RILEY  
(half-wondering/half-jealous)  
What're you doing here?

STEVEN  
Came to see how they were.  
(to Buffy)  
Buffy, now that Riley's here, I'm  
gonna go to the Magic Box. See  
what we can find on our new  
creature feature.

BUFFY  
(appreciatively)  
Thanks for coming by.

STEVEN  
(smiles warmly)  
You got it.

He hugs her.

STEVEN  
Your mom's gonna be fine, Buffy.  
I promise.

He lets go, then looks at Riley.

STEVEN  
(smiles)  
Take good care of her, Finn.

He walks off.

Buffy nods, sighs, turns away. Riley turns in the opposite direction.

Cut to Buffy entering a darkened room.

BUFFY  
Hi.

We see Joyce and a doctor standing in front of a set of CAT scan images stuck on a lighted wall. They turn.

BUFFY  
May I come in?

JOYCE  
Oh, of course, baby, come on in.  
Uh, where's Dawn?

BUFFY  
Uh, she's with Riley. They're  
watching TV in the waiting room.

JOYCE  
Did Steven leave?

BUFFY  
Yeah, he left after Riley showed up.

DR. ISAACS  
Excuse me, I'm just gonna check  
on the status of the OR.  
(Exits)

BUFFY  
The OR?

JOYCE

Dr Isaacs says I'm...lucky  
there's one available on such  
short notice. Some people wait  
for days, sometimes, weeks.

BUFFY

(softly)

Mom, what did they find?

JOYCE

A shadow. I've got a shadow.

(looks at the images  
on the wall)

Somewhere...over there...he  
showed it to me, but, um...they  
have to do a biopsy to find out  
exactly what it is.

Buffy looks upset. They hug.

JOYCE

(voice breaking)

Doctor says it's too early to be  
concerned.

BUFFY

Right.

(pulls back to look  
Joyce in the face)

No concern.

JOYCE

Just a shadow.

They smile bravely at each other. Buffy turns to look at the  
images again.

WILLOW VOICEOVER

I just wish we knew what we were  
dealing with.

Cut to Magic Box. The table is spread with books, Xander,  
Tara, and Willow sitting around it.

WILLOW

It feels like we're going around  
in circles.

In the background we see Anya looking at bookshelves and a  
customer walking through the shop.

XANDER  
Our circles are going around in  
circles. We've got dizzy circles  
here, Giles.

**The door opens and Steven walks in.**

STEVEN  
**Hey, guys.**

The customer walks up to the counter and hands Giles an item.

GILES  
Ah, weeping buddha, shoulders  
your spiritual burden.  
(wraps the item)  
Makes a lovely paperweight too.

TARA  
Maybe she's not in the books.

WILLOW  
What do you mean?

TARA  
I mean, what if she's not a demon  
or sorceress or spirit or  
whatever these books cover?  
(Giles looks over at  
her as he rings up the sale)  
What if she's something else  
altogether?

STEVEN  
**If she's something else  
altogether, we've got a huge  
problem.**

GILES  
Thank you, come again.  
(Hands item to  
customer and comes out  
from behind counter  
toward the table)  
Something new, you mean?

TARA  
(shakes head)  
Something old. So old it pre-  
dates the written word.

STEVEN  
(surprised)  
**Whoa.**

WILLOW  
(thinks of something)  
Giles, the Dagon sphere. You said  
that was created to repel...

GILES  
That which cannot be named.  
(removes glasses thoughtfully)

WILLOW  
So I'm thinking maybe she...

GILES  
Predates language itself?

Willow nods significantly. Xander looks puzzled.

XANDER  
Well hey, if it means I don't  
have to read any more, woo! And  
might I add a big hoo!

GILES  
If Tara's right, then we're blind.  
There's...there's no way we can  
determine...her moves, her  
habits, where she'll turn up next--

He turns around, putting his glasses back on, and is  
confronted by Glory. She has a few items in her hands.

GILES  
Oh! I beg your-

GLORY  
(abruptly)  
Uh-huh.  
(holds up items)  
I want these.

GILES  
Yes, of course!  
(hurries behind the  
counter, taking the items)  
Um, you find everything all right?

GLORY  
No problemo.  
(takes out her purse  
as Giles scribbles on  
a receipt)



GILES

That's, um...

Shot of Xander, Tara, and Willow sitting at the table, ignoring Giles and his "customer." Cash register noises. They continue looking at the books.

GILES

Your receipt.

(hands receipt to an  
impatient Glory)

And...

(puts items in a paper bag)

Thank you!

(hands bag to Glory.  
She smiles and leaves.  
Giles watches her, smiling.)

GILES

(turns back to the  
others, removes  
glasses again)

She could be anywhere. But if she is as powerful as, uh, Buffy says, I imagine it won't be long before she makes herself known.

**STEVEN**

**Hopefully very long.**

Shot of the others sighing and turning back to the books.

Cut to hospital. Dawn is curled up asleep on an armchair. Riley drapes his jacket over her and crouches beside her. Across the room we see Buffy sitting and watching them. Riley comes over to sit next to her. She puts her head on his shoulder. He kisses the top of her head.

Suddenly Buffy sees the doctor approaching. She gets up and walks over to him, leaving Riley behind.

DR. ISAACS

Everything went fine, they're moving her into recovery now.

BUFFY

(nervous)

Do we have the results yet?

DR. ISAACS

Let's, um, sit down over here for a minute.

BUFFY

No!

(more quietly)

Excuse me, no, I...I don't mean to be rude, I just, I've been sitting for hours, I don't wanna sit. I just...tell me, please.

DR. ISAACS

Your mother has...the term is low-grade glioma. It's a brain tumor. The clinical name is oligodendroglioma. It's in the left hemisphere of the cerebrum. In your mother's case the tumor seems to have started there. In other words, it hasn't spread from another part of the body...

He keeps talking but his voice fades out as the camera zooms slowly in on Buffy's dismayed face. Blackout.

Fade back in on Buffy still listening to the doctor.

DR. ISAACS

I know this is very difficult, and, uh, because of the nature of your mother's illness...unfortunately, things may progress very quickly.

BUFFY

Things? What things?

DR. ISAACS

Symptoms. There's a fair variety that might present. Loss of vision or appetite, lack of muscle control, uh, mood swings...

BUFFY

But what can we do?

DR. ISAACS

Well, not much, until we determine if the tumor's operable. Which we are working on.

(Leads Buffy over to some chairs and they sit)

BUFFY

Is there something that I...I mean...can I help?

DR. ISAACS

Well, there's some literature you might want to look at. If we aren't able to go in surgically, there are a number of new treatments that are very promising. Your mother's prognosis is a lot better today than it would have been only a year ago. Even if the tumor's not operable, she has a real chance.

BUFFY

What's a real chance?

DR. ISAACS

Nearly one out of three patients with this condition does just fine.

(Buffy sits back  
looking shocked.

Camera stays on her  
face as the doctor continues.)

Now, let me ask. Does your mother's insurance company require copies of the MRI and pathology reports?

BUFFY

I'm not sure.

DR. ISAACS

(OS)

Well, just let me know as soon as possible. And I could use some information regarding your mom's lifestyle and home environment. For instance, does she use a cell phone?

BUFFY

(frowns)

Uh, I think so. Uh, yeah, she um, she-she has one of those ear things.

DR. ISAACS

OK, is your house near any power lines, chemical plants, waste disposal facilities?

BUFFY

Uh...I-I don't know. Maybe.

DR. ISAACS  
Well, the more we know...

BUFFY  
I'm sorry.

The doctor scowls and writes on his clipboard. Ben approaches and puts his hand on the doctor's shoulder.

BEN  
Excuse me Doc, but they told me  
you're needed in ICU.

DR. ISAACS  
Excuse me, Miss Summers.  
(Gets up)

BUFFY  
(distracted)  
Uh, it's okay.

Isaacs leaves and Ben sits down next to Buffy.

BEN  
Thought you looked like you  
needed a break. Guy's great, but  
he doesn't have the bone in his  
head that tells him when to back  
off.

BUFFY  
You mean...they, they didn't need  
him?

BEN  
Well, I'm sure someone does  
somewhere, they always do. He  
really is a good doctor. Your  
mom's in good hands.

BUFFY  
(smiles)  
Thank you. It's Ben, right?

BEN  
Right.

BUFFY  
He, um, he was just telling me  
that there's nothing I can do.

BEN

Yeah, I'm gonna tell you the same thing. Give yourself a break. Listen, your mom's gonna be unconscious for at least another six, seven hours.

BUFFY

A break?

BEN

Well, I just mean go out, get some air. Come back later on this evening, talk to the doc then if you want. My unsolicited advice of the day.

He leaves. Buffy leans her head back and sighs deeply.

RILEY

(OS)

Buffy.

Riley approaches and Buffy gets up to hug him.

BUFFY

It's bad.

RILEY

I know.

BUFFY

I...

(grabs her coat and  
puts it on)

I have to do something.

RILEY

Do something?

BUFFY

Yeah, like, you know, magic, like a healing spell.

RILEY

Buffy...people get sick. I don't think magic-

BUFFY

That attitude's not helping.

(Riley looks cowed)

I have to try.

RILEY

Okay.

BUFFY

I need to talk to Giles. Uh, will you do me a favor and, and drop Dawn off at school, and tell her I'll meet her at the magic shop in an hour when she gets off?

RILEY

Of course, whatever you need me to do.

(Buffy starts to leave)

Buffy!

(she stops)

What do you want me to tell Dawn...about your mom?

They both look at Dawn, still sleeping in the chair with Riley's jacket over her.

BUFFY

Tell her we don't know anything yet.

Riley nods. Buffy turns and leaves.

Cut to magic shop. Anya is looking through a pile of receipts. We see Xander in the background. Suddenly Anya stops and stares at a receipt.

ANYA

Hey.

(louder)

Hey!

(shouting)

HEY!

Xander turns to look at her. Anya holds up the receipt and waves it as Giles, Willow, **Steven** and Tara come rushing over. Giles wears a large false smile.

ANYA

HEY!!

GILES

Anya, your heys are startling the customers.

XANDER

And-and pretty much the state.

STEVEN

And probably waking up every dog  
in the universe.

ANYA

You sold someone a Khul's amulet  
and a Sobekian bloodstone.

GILES

Yes, I believe I did.  
(takes receipt and  
examines it)

ANYA

Are you stupid or something?

GILES

Allow me to answer that question  
with a firing.

**Steven grins.**

XANDER

She's kidding!  
(to Anya)  
An, we talked about the employee-  
employer vocabulary no-nos. That  
was number five.

ANYA

(grabs receipt back  
from Giles)  
You never sell these things  
together, ever! Bad news! Don't  
you know about the Sobekites?

WILLOW

Oh! I do. It was an ancient  
Egyptian cult, heavy into dark  
magic.  
(Anya nods)

TARA

And the Khul's amulet, wasn't  
that a transmogrification conduit?

ANYA

Damn straight!

GILES

Be that as it may, I still see no reason for concern. I mean, the- the Sobekian transmogrification spells were lost thousands of years ago. And besides, the young woman to whom I sold them would have to have had enormous power-  
(Stops suddenly.)

WILLOW

(quietly)  
Young woman?

GILES

Oh, dear lord.

STEVEN

**Oh, crap.**

Everyone looks alarmed except Xander, who looks confused.

XANDER

What?

Cut to a carousel whirling around, brightly lit, playing cheerful music. Pan down to Riley and Dawn sitting on a bench in front of it. Dawn is holding an ice-cream float, poking at it with her spoon, distracted.

RILEY

You're melting.

DAWN

Oh, um...guess I'm not hungry.

RILEY

Maybe I'm not making this any better.

DAWN

No, I just...this is better.

(They smile nervously  
at each other and are  
quiet for a moment.)

I had my tenth birthday party here.

RILEY

Really?



DAWN

Mm-hmm. We'd just moved to Sunnydale, and...Mom rented the carousel for an entire hour for just me and my friends.

(pauses)

Except I hadn't made any friends yet, so...it was just me and Mom and Buffy riding it by ourselves, over and over and over again...

(Riley smiles)

for the whole hour, just so Mom felt like we'd gotten our money's worth.

(Pause, then Dawn speaks with her voice breaking)  
She's...she's not gonna get better, is she?

RILEY

(leans toward her)  
Absolutely she will. Summers women are tough.

Dawn smiles.

DAWN

I'm really glad you're here.

RILEY

Thanks.

DAWN

Buffy's glad too.

RILEY

(smiles skeptically)  
Yeah?

DAWN

She sure cries a lot less with you than she did with Angel.

RILEY

(surprised)  
Angel...made her cry a lot, huh?

DAWN

Everything with him was all...  
(grimaces, makes claw motions with hands)  
eee, you know?

RILEY

All...?

DAWN

You know..."my boyfriend's a vampire" crazy crazy.

(Riley nods)

Every day was like the end of the world. She doesn't get all worked up like that over you.

Riley looks stung, but tries not to show it. Dawn realizes she didn't say the right thing.

DAWN

I think you've been really good for her.

She smiles encouragingly. Riley tries to return her smile, but he doesn't really feel it.

Cut to magic shop.

BUFFY

So I figured there has to be some kind of mystical cure, right? I mean, like a, a potion, or a spell or something. We have to look.

During this speech the camera pans around the table showing us Anya, Xander, **Steven**, Tara, Buffy, and Willow sitting, and Giles standing, leaning with his hands on the table.

WILLOW

We can look...I mean, we will, but...I haven't seen anything.

GILES

The truth is, uh, the...mystical and the medical aren't meant to mix, Buffy. Sorry, um .. .the human mind is very delicate. Too much can go wrong.

TARA

Yeah, I've heard stories about people trying healing spells...if we did something, it could make things a lot worse, Buffy.

ANYA

We've done just about enough making things worse for one day, haven't we?

Everyone looks guilty except Buffy, who looks confused.

BUFFY

Why? What do you mean?

XANDER

Uh, nothing. Anya broke  
a...bippity boppity boo. A thing.  
Don't worry about it.

ANYA

I did not! I didn't break-

GILES

Anya, Buffy doesn't need to hear  
about your...clumsiness right now.

ANYA

(sighs)  
My clumsiness. I mean, that is  
so-  
(Willow and Xander  
give her meaningful  
looks. She looks at Buffy)  
...like...me. Slippery,  
slippery...butterfingers.

BUFFY

(not fooled)  
What happened?

GILES

Nothing to concern you, uh-

BUFFY

Giles!

GILES

(sighs)  
The, uh,  
(embarrassed)  
demon woman was here, the one who  
attacked you.

Buffy looks alarmed.

WILLOW

It's no biggie, she-she just got  
an amulet and a bloodstone.

ANYA

That can create a monster.

WILLOW

Okay, biggie.

BUFFY

My god, are you guys okay though?  
I mean, did - no one got hurt,  
right?

GILES

Oh no, thankfully, no, uh, no  
violence to speak of.

STEVEN

**Probably 'cause she couldn't  
recognize us.**

BUFFY

Okay, so, that's good...  
(not understanding why  
everyone looks guilty)  
How did she get away with this  
bad mojo stuff?

Pause. The others look at each other in embarrassment.

ANYA

(whispering)  
Giles sold it to her.  
(Buffy looks at Giles accusingly)

GILES

(defensive)  
I, I, I... I didn't know it was  
her! I mean, how could I?  
(sighs)  
If it's any consolation, I may  
have overcharged her.

STEVEN

**(sarcastic)  
Yeah...good idea.**

TARA

Anya figured out what the demon  
lady's up to.

ANYA

Yeah, a few thousand years ago  
there was this cult, the temple  
of Sobek.

BUFFY

Sobek.

ANYA

Reptile demon. Sobekites were  
reptile worshippers.

XANDER

Just once I would like to run  
into a cult of bunny worshippers.

ANYA

(angrily)  
Great. Thank you very much for  
those nightmares.

XANDER

Sorry.

ANYA

Anyway, their high priest Khul  
had great mystic powers. He, um,  
forged an amulet with  
transmogrifying crystal.

WILLOW

Transmogrifying is changing a  
living thing into a different  
kind of thing.

GILES

We've managed to decipher the  
markings that were on the  
bloodstone that I sold - that she  
left with. Um, cobra. She's going  
to transmogrify a cobra.

BUFFY

Okay, so she's making a monster.  
What for? What does it do?

GILES

That's the part...  
(clears throat)  
we're working on it.

BUFFY

Well, you keep working on it I'll  
go kill it.  
(gets up to leave)

GILES

Buffy?

BUFFY  
 (turns back)  
 What? I'm going.

XANDER  
 Buffy, this chick creamed you  
 last time.

BUFFY  
 That's because I wasn't ready for  
 her last time. I am now.

WILLOW  
 But you-

BUFFY  
 But what? Will, I can't just sit  
 here. I have to do something.

STEVEN  
 Then go knit! Buffy, I don't  
 want you going up against her!

BUFFY  
 (pissed)  
 Then it's a good thing you aren't  
 my father.

She leaves.

STEVEN  
 (confused)  
 What does that mean?

XANDER  
 I think it means that you can't  
 tell her what to do.

STEVEN  
 Ah.

Cut to: exterior shot of the Sunnydale Zoo, day.

Cut to: inside the reptile building. Pan across a sign explaining the characteristics of the cobra. We see a cobra case with the snake inside. Pan back across to Glory looking at the case. She punches a fist through the glass, reaches in and grabs the snake. She holds it up to her face, smiling. The snake hisses. Glory hisses back(?). The snake's tail lashes angrily.

GLORY

Chill, worm. I'm gonna make you a star!

(Laughs. We see Dreg watching, smiling.)

Glory takes the snake by the tail and lowers it into a large clay vase, head-first. Dreg watches anxiously, then hands her the amulet. She holds it in both hands, over the mouth of the vase.

GLORY

Chant!

Dreg opens the scroll and begins to chant in a foreign language. Titles at the bottom of the screen translate.

DREG

The form is vessel, rendered new.  
The base is stone, bathed in  
blood. The gem is fire and  
elements rarified...

GLORY

(speaks English)  
Sobek, grant the power...  
(Dreg continues chanting)  
that it may mold this wretched  
creature...that it may be  
reborn...that it may serve...  
(irritated)  
ah! Dark incantations! Always  
overwritten!  
(Dreg stops chanting,  
looks uncertainly at her)  
Why can't they just cut to the-

Suddenly Buffy tackles Glory from the side, slamming her into a wall.

BUFFY

Fight?

Buffy kicks Glory in the face.

GLORY

No fair-

(Buffy kicks her again)

attacking-

(Buffy punches her in the stomach, then in the face)

when I wasn't even looking!

(Buffy grabs her head and begins slamming it against the wall)

Ow!

(She grabs Buffy's hand, removes it from her head, and slams Buffy into the wall.)

No, this is no good.

(Buffy rises and tries to punch her again; Glory grabs Buffy's arm and pulls it behind her)

I'm out of the moment...

(braces her other hand against Buffy's shoulder)

and you're not giving me anything I can use. Dreg! I'm not hearing chanting!

(Punches Buffy in the face, then slams her against the wall)

DREG

(OS)

Yes, Glory.

(resumes chanting)

Glory lifts Buffy to her feet again.

GLORY

Hey, hey. Work with me here.

(Flings Buffy backward against another wall. She slides down to sit on the floor.)

There!

(grabs Buffy's hair and knees her in the face)

That feels more real, don't you think?

(MORE)



GLORY (CONT'D)  
(Pulls Buffy up and  
flings her against  
another wall. Buffy  
lands upside down and  
stares, gasping, as  
Glory approaches. She  
grabs Buffy by the  
throat and lifts her  
up again.

GLORY  
Even if I do have to carry your  
performance.

She throws Buffy across the room. Buffy crashes through the  
glass into the snake case.

GLORY  
(throws up her arms)  
Scene!

DREG  
Cir hayyan win-hud!

GLORY  
(walking toward the vase)  
Arise.  
(louder)  
Arise.

DREG  
Cir hayyan win-hud!

GLORY  
(annoyed)  
Arise!

The vase rocks wildly back and forth. Suddenly it explodes  
as the creature bursts out of it. It looks like a very large  
snake, but with arms. It hisses and sways back and forth.

DREG  
He is arisen!

GLORY  
'Bout damn time!  
(Smiles. Blackout.)

Fade in on the reptile house. Dreg and Glory watch the  
creature arising. Buffy picks herself up and climbs out of  
the cage, unnoticed.

GLORY  
 Spawn of Sobek!

The creature turns toward her and approaches. She smiles and puts her hands on its face.

GLORY  
 The power is yours...  
 (We see Buffy leaving)  
 to see what is unseen. To find  
 what is shrouded in shadow.  
 Already, you know what I seek. I  
 have given you form, now find for  
 me the key. Seek it out in the  
 holy places.  
 (The creature hisses)  
 Yes, yes, yes! Let your vision  
 guide you to its hiding place,  
 and then return to me and tell me  
 where it lies.

Her smile fades as the creature continues to stare at her.

GLORY  
 Now would be good.

She smiles again and claps her hands as the creature turns away.

GLORY  
 (giggles)  
 Fun, fun, fun!

Cut to magic shop. Giles talking to a customer.

GILES  
 Aleister Crowley Sings? Um,  
 sadly, no, I-I don't carry that,  
 but I do have some very nice  
 whale sounds.  
 (Sees Riley entering)  
 Oh, excuse me for a moment.

Giles walks toward Riley. We see Xander also getting up and coming to join them.

RILEY  
 Where's Buffy?

GILES  
 Um, she-she left a while ago.

RILEY

What?  
(sighs)  
Where?

XANDER

That creepy demon woman's  
conjuring some kind of monster.

RILEY

And you let Buffy go after her?  
Alone?

GILES

Uh, "let" isn't really a factor  
when she sets her mind to  
something, you know that.  
(He sees a customer  
approaching the  
counter and hurries off.)

RILEY

(to Xander)  
She'll get herself killed. It's  
crazy.

**STEVEN**

**I tried to tell her that, but she  
wouldn't listen.**

XANDER

Yeah. Crazy. Going off alone,  
half-cocked, instead of waiting  
for much-needed backup...charging  
in with a big old hand  
grenade...oh, wait.

Riley looks a little guilty.

RILEY

This is different.

XANDER

Yeah, it is. Buffy needs  
something she can fight,  
something she can solve. I don't  
know what kind of action you're  
looking for...  
(looks closer at Riley)  
Do you?

Riley stares at him, then looks away.

XANDER  
Hey, I'm not trying to get-

RILEY  
It's cool.

XANDER  
You okay?

RILEY  
(nods)  
Just a little crazed.

XANDER  
I hear ya.

RILEY  
(moving toward the door)  
If, uh, she needs me...  
(He shrugs and leaves.)

Cut to: exterior shot of a church.

Cut to: interior of church. Pan across a statue of Jesus on the cross. Pan down. We see the snake creature moving through the church, hissing. Its eyes are yellow.

Cut to Magic Box. Giles hands something to a customer as the phone rings. He moves to answer it.

GILES  
Magic Box, your one-stop spot to  
shop for-

BUFFY  
(on phone)  
Giles, it's me.

GILES  
Buffy! You all right?

Cut to Buffy in the hospital, on a pay phone.

BUFFY  
No, I'm really not.  
(takes an ice-pack  
from a nearby rack of  
medical supplies; sighs)  
I-I couldn't stop her. I couldn't  
even slow her down.

GILES  
Where are you?

BUFFY  
(puts the ice-pack  
inside her jacket, on  
her shoulder)  
Sunnydale Memorial.

GILES  
Are you badly hurt? I'll, I'll  
come right over.

BUFFY  
No. No, I-I just wanted to warn  
you that that thing she conjured,  
it's loose -- it's a big snake  
thing. Not mayor big, but it's  
pretty  
(winces)  
lethal looking.

GILES  
Do you know why she raised it?

BUFFY  
I don't know yet.

GILES  
I'll warn the others. We'll get  
weapons, we'll fan out-

BUFFY  
Wait. What time is it?

GILES  
(looks at his watch)  
Half past four, why?

BUFFY  
School's out. Dawn's on her way  
over to you. Giles-

GILES  
Understood. We'll keep her safe  
here until you arrive.

BUFFY  
Thanks. And Giles...

GILES  
Yes?

BUFFY  
Dawn's kind of fragile right now.  
About Mom. She doesn't know how  
bad it is.

GILES  
We'll not say a word.

BUFFY  
(sighs)  
Well, my mom's gonna wake up soon, and I should...be there when the doctors tell her.

GILES  
She's in good hands, Buffy. There's really nothing else you can do.

BUFFY  
Okay. Bye.

GILES  
Bye.

They hang up.

Buffy walks off through the hospital halls, possibly limping a little.

Begin slow piano music without words.

Shot of Riley drinking in Willy's bar. Shot of Buffy sitting in the hospital, waiting.

Shot of Dawn sitting at the table in the magic shop, trying to do homework but unable to concentrate.

Cut to bar. Sandy walks over to sit next to Riley. He looks at her.

Cut to hospital. Buffy sits on the hospital bed next to Joyce as the doctor talks. Joyce reacts to the news, turning her head away, then composes herself and turns back as she puts on a brave smile for Buffy.

Cut to a dark room where Riley and Sandy are alone. Sandy smiles up at Riley and runs her hands over his chest, pushing his jacket aside. Shot of Riley's face as Sandy kisses his neck. She pulls back and we see she's in vampire face. Riley looks a little apprehensive as he moves his head aside, exposing his neck. Sandy leans forward to bite him. Riley jerks in pain as Sandy bites him, then slowly he relaxes as she begins to drink. He closes his eyes and puts one hand on the back of her head.

Suddenly he thrusts her away forcefully. Shot of Sandy staring at him, then she crumbles to dust.

Shot of the stake in Riley's hand. Pan up to his face. We see blood running down his neck from the bite marks. He looks a little shaken.

Cut to the snake creature moving across grass, night. It slithers up to the carousel, sees the bench where Riley and Dawn sat earlier. It hisses, its tongue flickers and its eyes glow red for a moment. It moves off.

Cut to exterior shot of the Magic Box. A customer exits holding a bag. Buffy walks up to the door, pauses, and enters.

Cut to inside. Giles is yawning and putting on his suit jacket. Willow is at the counter reading a book, looking tired. **Steven is blinking, trying to stay awake as he continues reading.** Buffy walks in. Dawn sees her and jumps up from the table. We see Xander and Anya in the background as Dawn walks quickly over to Buffy. They hug.

DAWN  
Is she awake yet?

BUFFY  
Yeah. She's waiting for us.

Dawn pulls back to look Buffy in the face.

DAWN  
Can we take her home now?

Buffy tries to smile, brushes hair back from Dawn's face.

BUFFY  
We'll see. Go get your stuff.

Willow and Giles watch with concern. Dawn turns away to gather her stuff.

BUFFY  
(sighs, speaks quietly  
to Willow and Giles)  
So, any monster reptile sightings?

GILES  
None.

WILLOW  
Tara and I did a mini-patrol  
earlier, but biggie snake was  
nowhere to be-

Suddenly the snake creature bursts in through the display window. Everyone turns as it slithers inside and rears up, looking at them. Dawn is in the forefront.

The snake smacks a display case with one arm and it topples over onto Buffy, knocking her to the floor. The snake moves toward Dawn, who screams continuously as it looms over her. Its eyes glow red again. **Steven looks at the snake, then sees where it is.**

**STEVEN**

(yells)

**DAWN!**

**He starts to run toward the snake, but it swings and knocks him back.** Dawn continues screaming as Buffy struggles to get out from under the case, and the snake stares at Dawn. Then it turns and slithers quickly back out the way it came in. Blackout.

Fade back in on the magic shop. Tara and Willow get up from behind the counter as Xander rushes over to Dawn.

**XANDER**

Dawn, you okay?

**WILLOW**

Why was the big snake afraid of Dawn?

**Steven slowly regains consciousness.**

Giles rushes up to Buffy as she frees herself from under the case and stands up.

**BUFFY**

(whispers)

It knows!

**STEVEN**

**It knows what?**

She turns and runs out. Giles runs after her.

Buffy runs out into the street and stops to stare. Overhead shot of the city street as the huge snake slithers down the middle of the street and people run out of its path. A car comes around the corner and screeches to a stop as the creature moves past it. People scream.

Buffy starts to run after the creature. Giles comes out of the magic shop, sees her running, and moves off in another direction.

Shot of the snake moving down an alley with Buffy running after it. Buffy turns as Giles' convertible comes around the corner and screeches to a stop beside her. She jumps in and Giles burns rubber after the creature.



As they round a corner, the creature uses its tail to shove a dumpster out into the car's path. Giles swerves to avoid it and crashes into a pile of garbage bags. Giles struggles to shift into reverse.

BUFFY  
I've gotta stop this monster  
before it gets back to Glory.

GILES  
Glory?

BUFFY  
That's what he called her. Giles,  
she's gonna know Dawn's the key  
if we don't-

GILES  
We will.

Giles backs the car out and they resume the chase.

Cut to: Exterior shot of Glory's apartment building.

DREG  
(OS)  
Please! Please, mistress!

Cut to inside the apartment. Dreg is cowering as Glory throws shoeboxes at him.

DREG  
Perturbed, yet ultimately merciful-

Glory sweeps a pile of shoeboxes off the sofa in annoyance.

DREG  
Please, don't-

GLORY  
What is taking so long, Dreg? You  
told me snakey-wakey would find  
my key. Now why isn't he back  
here with a beautiful message for  
me?

DREG  
I grovel like a bug, most silky  
and effervescent Glorificus-  
(She throws more  
shoeboxes at him)  
Glory! Glory. Your most fresh and  
cleanness, it's just a matter of  
time.

GLORY

(angrily)

Ohh! Everything takes time! What about my time? Does anyone appreciate that I'm on a schedule here?

(Dreg nods nervously)

Tick, tock, Dreg! Tick frickin' tock!

Cut to the snake slithering down darkened streets with Giles' car in pursuit. They careen around a corner and nearly slam into another car. The snake tears down a section of fence that's covered with a tarp, and moves off past it as Giles' car passes the fence with a screech of tires. Giles reverses back into view, and Buffy leaps out of the car and runs through the broken fence, past picnic tables, across a wide expanse of grass.

We see Buffy running across the grass after the snake; she seems to be tiring. The creature knocks over a sign reading "Bike path, closed after dusk." Buffy pauses to grab a piece of chain from another section of fence as the snake flees into a more wooded area. Buffy leaps up onto a large rock as the snake passes around it. She leaps off the rock and lands on the snake's back, looping the chain around its neck. The snake rears up and thrashes, trying to throw her off, but she holds on, tightening the chain around its neck and riding it like a wild horse. It bucks and fights but finally goes still as a gray film comes down over its eyes. Buffy frowns and lets go of the chain, which drops to the ground.

Suddenly the gray film slides aside and the snake rears up again, throwing Buffy off. She flies backward and lands on her back in the grass. The snake turns to growl at her as she gets up. She punches it in the face, making it reel backward. She climbs on top of it and begins punching it in the face, over and over. We see the tip of its tail thrashing and finally lying still as the creature dies. Buffy continues to punch it, grunting with each blow.

Long shot of Buffy crouching over the dead creature and still steadily punching it. Pan up across lawn and trees, and we see the apartment building looming up behind the trees.

Cut to a closer shot of the building with Glory in one of the windows, looking out. Zoom in on her as she frowns and looks from side to side, then lets the curtain drop back over the window as she moves away.

Cut to Joyce's hospital room. Buffy stands beside the bed.

BUFFY

You want me to stay?

JOYCE  
No, I'm fine. I-I think I  
should...talk to Dawn alone.

BUFFY  
(nods)  
Okay.

JOYCE  
Oh. Do I have bad hair?  
(puts hands to her head)  
I don't look like scary mom, do I?

BUFFY  
(smiles)  
No. You look beautiful.  
(She brushes some hair  
back from Joyce's  
forehead. Joyce smiles bravely.)

JOYCE  
Okay. Let's do this.  
(puts her hand on  
Buffy's arm)  
Stay close.

BUFFY  
(puts her other hand  
over Joyce's)  
I will.

Buffy turns and goes to the door, lets Dawn in. Dawn smiles nervously and walks over to hug Joyce. Buffy pauses in the doorway to watch them embrace.

RILEY  
(OS)  
Buffy...

Buffy leaves the door slightly open, turns to walk toward Riley. He's wearing a turtleneck sweater.

RILEY  
You okay? You look pretty beat up.

BUFFY  
(nods)  
Minimal damage of the fighting  
kind. It's all the other kind.

RILEY  
Come here.

He hugs her.

RILEY  
It's okay. Just let it out. I'm  
right here.

BUFFY  
I can't.  
(sniffles, pulls back)  
Not now.  
(glances toward the  
hospital room)  
They need me. If I start now...I  
won't be able to stop.

She bites her lip and we see tears in her eyes. Riley starts  
to lift his hand to her face.

JOYCE  
(OS)  
Buffy?

Buffy turns and walks back to the hospital room door, wiping  
her eyes. Riley watches her enter the room and close the  
door behind her.

Long shot of Riley standing in the hallway, putting his  
hands in his pockets. Blackout.

Executive Producer: Joss Whedon.