

SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR  
Buffy Summers

ANTHONY STEWART HEAD  
Rupert Giles

NICHOLAS BRENDON  
Xander Harris

KALI ROCHA  
Halfrek

ALYSON HANNIGAN  
Willow Rosenberg

DB WOODSIDE  
Principal Robin Wood

EMMA CAULFIELD  
Anya Jenkins

ALEX BRECKENDRIDGE  
Kit Holburn

MICHELLE TRACHTENBERG  
Dawn Summers

DAVID ZAPEDA  
Carlos Trejo

JAMES MARSTERS  
Spike

"Title"

by

Your Name

GRAVE

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- NIGHT

Resume. Buffy and Anya come to simultaneously and stare in shock at Giles, standing in the threshold staring hard at Willow.

Giles?                   BUFFY

Giles!                   ANYA

**Steven gets up.**

**STEVEN**  
**(happily)**  
**Giles!!**

WILLOW  
Uh-oh... daddy's home! I'm in  
wicked trouble now.

GILES  
You have no idea. You have to  
stop what you're doing.

WILLOW  
Oh, sorry. Can't do that. I'm not  
finished yet.

She starts to stand up.

GILES  
Neither am I. Stay down.

He waves his hand and Willow collapses back to the floor.

**STEVEN**  
**(grins)**  
**Whoa!**

ANYA  
How'd you do that?

Willow chuckles.

WILLOW  
That's borrowed power. No way is  
it gonna be strong enough--

GILES  
I'm here to help you.

WILLOW

Thanks but I can kill a couple geeks all by myself. But hey, if you'd like to watch... I mean, that's what you Watchers are good at, right? Watching?

(hard)

Butting in on things that don't concern you.

GILES

You concern me, Willow. Stay on this path and you'll wind up dead.

BUFFY

Willow, listen to him. I don't want to fight you anymore.

STEVEN

**I don't want to fight you, either, Willow. I love you.**

WILLOW

I don't want to fight you, either. I want to fight him.

She rises up and Giles waves his hand again.

GILES

Stay down!

WILLOW

No.

This time Giles' power has no effect on her.

WILLOW

Remember that little spat we had before you left? When you were under the delusion that you were still relevant here? You called me a rank, arrogant amateur. Well, buckle up, Rupert...

Willow's eyes go jet black and her voice deepens, becomes guttural and menacing.

WILLOW

... 'cause I've turned pro.

(chants)

Asmodea bring forth-

GILES

Vincire!

A glowing ring of green energy shoots from his palm and wraps itself around Willow, binding her.

STEVEN

(grins)

Cool!

WILLOW

No! Get it off! Solvo... libero-

Her head suddenly snaps back and she loses consciousness. The binding energy changes hue from green to a deep blue and lifts Willow off the floor. She hangs, suspended in mid-air, unconscious and bound.

Buffy, **Steven** and Anya look uncertainly from Willow to Giles.

BUFFY

What did you do?

GILES

Contained her and her powers within a binding field. It puts her in a kind of stasis for the time- you cut your hair.

Buffy smiles at him, then hugs him, tears in her eyes. Anya watches for a moment, then runs over to him as well.

ANYA

I'm blonde. I colored my hair. Again. I'm blonde.

GILES

(smiles)

Yes, I noticed.

He pulls her into a hug as well. After a moment, he lets them both go.

**Steven walks up to Giles.**

STEVEN

(grins)

Giles...it's great to see you, man...

**He hugs him, and Giles hugs him back.**

**Once Giles lets go of him, he walks over to Willow.**

GILES

I'm very sorry about Tara.

Willow stirs and comes around. Her speech is halting, fragmented, as if she's fighting against a heavy anesthetic.

WILLOW

This... won't... hold me forever.

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- TRAINING ROOM- NIGHT

Giles, **Steven** and Buffy stand together in her training room.

GILES

I came as soon as I heard.

BUFFY

Council?

GILES

The Council haven't a clue- about much of anything, really. No, there's an extremely powerful coven in Devon. They sensed the rise of a dangerous magickal force here in Sunnydale. A dark force fueled by grief.

BUFFY

Willow.

**STEVEN**

**Had to have been. Mine wasn't strong enough.**

GILES

I'd so hoped it wasn't her. And then a seer in the coven told me about Tara. That's when the coven imbued me with their powers.

BUFFY

And sent you here to bring Willow down?

GILES

Buffy, **Steven...**what's happened here?

**STEVEN**

**It's a long story.**

BUFFY

God... I don't even know where to start.

GILES

Well, Willow's clearly been abusing the magicks.

BUFFY

(nods)

She has. She was and I barely even noticed. Giles, everything's just been so...

(sighs)

Xander left Anya at the altar and Anya's a vengeance demon again. Dawn's a total klepto. Money's been so tight that I've been slinging burgers at the Doublemeat Palace... and I've been sleeping with Spike.

STEVEN

(in shock)

Oh my God.

She looks up at Giles, gauging his reaction. He stares at her for a moment, then bursts out laughing.

GILES

I'm sorry...

**Steven snickers, then begins laughing himself.**

Buffy is taken aback, shocked at his reaction, but it's not long until the absurdity of it all hits her and she's laughing hysterically as well.

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- STORE- NIGHT

Anya cleans the mess while Willow floats in the air nearby. Willow is conscious now but still immobilized. She calls out to Anya with her mind.

WILLOW

(v.o.)

Anya...

Anya turns around, confused.

ANYA

Willow?

WILLOW

(v.o.)

I need you, Anya. I need you to do something for me.

ANYA

I know what you're trying to do. I hate to burst your bubble but that mind-control mojo doesn't work on vengeance demons so why don't you just-

WILLOW

(v.o.)

Stop talking and listen.

ANYA

Okay.

WILLOW

(v.o.)

You need to free me.

ANYA

No.

Anya shakes her head and heads for the back room.

WILLOW

(v.o.)

You don't want to call out to them.

Anya instantly stops.

WILLOW

(v.o.)

You want to take away this binding spell.

ANYA

I don't know how.

WILLOW

(v.o.)

I do. Do you want me to tell you?

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- TRAINING ROOM- NIGHT

Giles, **Steven** and Buffy are still laughing hysterically.

GILES

Duct tape?

BUFFY  
On their mouths, so the demon  
could eat them.

GILES  
Because they were figments?

BUFFY  
All of it. You, Sunnydale... and  
I was just some nutcase in L.A.

STEVEN  
(laughs)  
Sounds like a good television show.

GILES  
Of course. Why didn't we see it  
before?

Their laughter gradually subsides and Giles takes Buffy's hand.

GILES  
Can you forgive me?

BUFFY  
For what?

GILES  
I should never have left.

BUFFY  
No. You were right to leave.  
We're just... stupid.

GILES  
I know you're all stupid.  
(smiles)  
I should never have abandoned you.

BUFFY  
No, Giles, you were right about  
everything. It is time I was an  
adult.

GILES  
Sometimes the most adult thing  
you can do is ask for help when  
you need it.

BUFFY  
Now you tell me. I guess... I  
wasn't ready before.  
(MORE)



BUFFY (CONT'D)

It took a long time for that feeling to go away. The feeling that I wasn't really here. It was like... when I clawed my way out of that grave, I left something behind. A part of me. I just don't understand why I'm back.

GILES

You have a calling.

BUFFY

But it was my time, Giles. Someone would have taken my place. So why?

Giles has no answer for her.

STEVEN

I can tell you why.

Buffy and Giles look at him in anticipation.

STEVEN

The Slayer line starts with you. You died by getting drowned by the Master. Kendra was called. After she died by getting her throat slashed by Dru, Faith was called. There's nobody taking your place because Faith is the true Slayer.

BUFFY

Right. What's going to happen to Willow?

GILES

Well, the coven's working on a way to extract her powers without...killing her. And should she survive... you ought to know, Buffy, that there's no guarantee she'll be as she was. Willow has killed a human being. How will she be able to live with herself?

WILLOW

(o.s.)

I wouldn't worry about that.

Buffy, **Steven** and Giles turn to find Anya in the doorway, suspended in air, unconscious. Willow steps out from behind Anya and releases her. She collapses to the floor.

WILLOW

Willow doesn't live here anymore.

FADE OUT

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- TRAINING ROOM- NIGHT

Resume. Buffy looks to Giles, then charges Willow. The witch merely raises her hand and blasts Buffy back across the room where she slams into the brick wall and drops to the floor.

STEVEN

(angry)

Oh...no friggin' way you're gonna--

**Willow raises her hand to Steven, throwing him into the brick wall, into unconsciousness.**

Giles extends his arm and casts his binding spell again.

GILES

Vincire!

The green energy shoots from his hand and encircles Willow. She waves dismissively and dissolves it with a single word.

WILLOW

Solutum. Fool me once...

She looks at the knives and throwing stars hanging on the wall near her and a dozen blades spring to life and hover in the air.

GILES

Willow...

WILLOW

...shame on you.

With a nod of her head, the blades whip across the room directly at Giles.

GILES

Tego!

Giles' spell pulls the sparring dummy from across the room. It stops in front of him just as the knives slam into it. Willow waves the dummy aside just as another ball of green energy forms in Giles' hand.

He winds up like a baseball pitcher and hurls it at her.

GILES

Excudo!

The plasma slams into Willow with tremendous force hurling her backward and through the brick wall of the training room and out into the store proper.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUNNYDALE RESIDENTIAL STREETS- NIGHT

The four refugees walk along the darkened streets.

DAWN

Where are we going?

XANDER

I have no idea.

DAWN

What?

XANDER

I don't know, okay? I can't even run away well and that's something I'm usually good at.

DAWN

Maybe we should go back and help.

XANDER

Yeah, 'cause I've been such a big help already. Standing around like a monkey while Buffy gets shot. Tara's dead and Willow's... losing.

DAWN

Well, standing around feeling sorry for yourself isn't helping either, Xander. Okay? You know if Spike were here, he'd go back and fight.

XANDER

Sure, if he wasn't too busy trying to rape your sister.

DAWN

(shocked)

What?

XANDER

Forget it.

DAWN

I don't believe you!

XANDER

Fine.

DAWN

He wouldn't do that.

XANDER

Is this blind spot like a genetic trait with the Summers women? The only useful thing Spike ever did was finally leave town.

CUT TO:

INT. SENEGAL, AFRICA- DEMON CAVE- DAY

Hideous screams and snarls emanate from the shadows of the cave. The severed head of a horned demon flies out of the darkness and rolls to stop along the cave floor. Spike emerges after it, beaten, burned, bruised and bloody.

SPIKE

(to demon)

Well, that was a bloody doddle and a piece o' piss. You got any more ruddy tests for me, you ponce? I'll take anything you can throw at me if it'll get me what I need to take care of the Slayer. Give her what's coming to her. You just bring it on. Bring on the whole...

He stops at the sound of thousands of legs skittering across the cave floor.

SPIKE

Bloody hell...

A swarm of beetles covers his chest, neck, then his head. He grunts in pain and one scampers up his nose and down his throat.

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- STORE- NIGHT

The store is in shambles. The furniture shattered, the merchandise broken and littering the floor. Walls torn asunder and support beams cracked and leaning drunkenly. Broken electrical lines hiss and spark. Small fires burn here and there. Willow stands among the wreckage, covered in dust, a gash across her cheek. She smirks at Giles who stands across from her, head bowed, beaten and bruised.

WILLOW

Is that all you got, Jeeves?  
'Cause I could stand to go  
another ten rounds. Whereas...  
you can barely stand.

GILES

Your powers may be undeniably  
great... but I can still hurt you  
if I have to.

WILLOW

Boy, you just don't get it, do  
you? Nothing can hurt me now.

She points to the laceration on her face.

WILLOW

This? Is nothing.

She waves her hand and the cut disappears leaving her cheek unmarked.

WILLOW

It's all nothing.

Buffy peers through the shattered wall at Willow and Giles.

GILES

I see. If you lose someone you  
love... then the other people in  
your life who care about you  
become meaningless. I wonder what  
Tara would say about that.

WILLOW

You can ask her yourself.

She hurls a burst of plasma at Giles but Buffy dashes, **followed by Steven**, into the room and push him out of the way. The bolt strikes the support beam holding up the loft. Buffy, **Steven** and Giles tumble to the floor as the entire loft collapses and crashes down around them.

WILLOW  
(to Buffy)  
You're always saving everyone.  
It's kinda pesky.

STEVEN  
(sullen)  
**She couldn't save everyone.**

She reaches down to a pile of burning books and lifts a ball of fire out. It hovers in her hand.

WILLOW  
You probably even think you're  
buying escape time for Jonathan  
and the other one. Well, I got a  
little secret for ya. I can kill  
them from anywhere I want. With  
this. It'll find them... it'll  
bury them. Along with anyone else  
helping those dead men walking.

Buffy gets to her feet, **as does Steven.**

BUFFY  
Don't...

STEVEN  
**Willow, you can't do this...**

WILLOW  
Unless somebody, somehow, can get  
there in time to save them. Oh,  
well...

She tosses the fireball up and it shoots through the ceiling and out into the night.

WILLOW  
Fly, my pretty, fly!  
(smiles; to Buffy **and Steven**)  
See what I did there?

GILES  
(to Buffy)  
Go.

Buffy shares a look with Giles, then runs out after the fireball.

WILLOW  
Good luck!

STEVEN  
Giles, what about me?

GILES  
Follow her.

WILLOW  
No. Stay. I want to have a chat  
with the "other" Slayer.

She begins circling him.

STEVEN  
(nervous)  
What's on your mind, Will?

WILLOW  
A lot of things. You wanted me  
ever since you laid your eyes on  
me. Isn't that right?

STEVEN  
(nods)  
Absolutely.

WILLOW  
Always thought I was this  
incredible woman with this gentle  
soul...right?

STEVEN  
Definitely.

WILLOW  
Well, why didn't you fight for me?

There is a beat.

STEVEN  
I didn't see the point.

Willow just watches him.

STEVEN  
There was no point in trying  
because I know you can't change  
your fate. I mean, I've heard of  
people doing it, but that usually  
takes some sort of spell or  
something. Some people get to do  
it two...or three...or even four  
times. I don't like to change my  
fate. Whatever happens, happens.

WILLOW  
I guess you should tell that to  
your sister. Considering from  
what I know about her, she's on a  
street corner begging for money.

Steven walks up to her, enraged.

STEVEN  
Don't you dare talk about her!

WILLOW  
(grinning)  
Ooh...I hit a nerve...wow.  
Impressive. I'd have never  
thought that there'd be anything  
that I'd say that could make you  
angry with me. You've always  
stood up for me, always defended  
me...always looked out for me.  
And do you know why you do that?

STEVEN  
(sweetly)  
Because I love you.

WILLOW  
No.

There is a beat.

WILLOW  
It's because you have nothing  
better to do.

She fires a bolt at Steven, sending him flying back into the  
shelf, knocking him unconscious.

WILLOW  
(to Giles)  
Thought **they**'d never leave. Now I  
finally have you all to myself.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE MAGIC BOX- NIGHT

Buffy exits the store and looks up as the fireball climbs  
into the night sky.

CUT TO:



INT. THE MAGIC BOX- STORE- NIGHT

Willow paces, circling Giles.

WILLOW

You're such a hypocrite. Waltzing in here with your borrowed magicks so you could tell me what? "Magicks bad. Behave. Be a good girl." Well, I don't think you're in any position to be telling me what to do. Do you?

She looks up at Giles who is pinned to the ceiling. She releases him and he crashes down to the floor.

WILLOW

I used to think you had all the answers, that I had so much to learn from you.

GILES

Willow...

She gestures at him and he shoots back up to the ceiling again.

WILLOW

You were jealous. Still are. Just couldn't bear that I was the one with power. That's why you ran away. That's why you-

GILES

Incurso!

A wave of power shoots out of Giles' mouth and knocks Willow backward. He drops back down to the floor with a thud.

WILLOW

That was rude!

(beat)

Now I forgot what I was saying.

Giles struggles to sit up.

GILES

(panting)

Perhaps you're not as strong as you think you are. You're expending way too much of your mystical energies to maintain your powers. At this rate, you'll burn out... and up.

WILLOW  
Blah, blah, blah

GILES  
Willow, you need to stop.

She teleports across the room and is instantly right in his face.

WILLOW  
What I need is a little pick-me-up.

She attaches her hand to Giles chest and starts draining his power. Giles utters a deep shuddering groan of agony as Willow drains his energy.

After a moment, she breaks contact and staggers backward, leaving Giles to topple over onto the floor. Willow backs up against the counter and slides down to the floor, her head spinning.

WILLOW  
(panting)  
Whoa... head rush. Who's your supplier? This is... wow. It's incredible. I'm so juiced. Giles, it's like no mortal person has ever had this much power! Ever. It's like I'm connected to everything. I can feel... it feels like... I can feel... everyone. Oh... Oh, my god. All the emotion and the pain. No! It's too much. It's just too much!

GILES  
(weak)  
Willow, it doesn't have to be like that. You... you can stop it.

Willow staggers back to her feet.

WILLOW  
Yeah. I can. I have to stop this. I'll make it go away.

GILES  
Willow...

WILLOW  
Oh, you poor bastards! Your suffering has to end.

Willow rises off the floor and disappears in a flash of energy.

GILES

No...

FADE OUT

EXT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- NIGHT

Xander kicks at the door to a crypt with little success. Jonathan and Andrew use their swords to pry at the door of a second crypt nearby. The sword slips and jams Jonathan.

JONATHAN

Son of a bitch!

ANDREW

Butt wipe.

JONATHAN

I wasn't talking to you.

ANDREW

Oh. Reflex.

XANDER

Man, they've really tightened security up here lately. One too many squatters from the Hellmouth.

ANDREW

Hide out in the cemetery... what a fantastic idea.

XANDER

Yeah, I'm working on a whole shut-the-hell-up pitch you might like, too.

DAWN

Xander?

XANDER

I've had just about as much as I can stand baby-sitting a couple of social retards who don't appreciate-

DAWN

Xander!

XANDER

What?

DAWN

What is that?

They all turn and follow her gaze into the night sky. Willow's fireball streaks through the darkness directly at them, Buffy running and vaulting the headstones right behind it.

BUFFY  
Get out of there! Move!

She closes the last few feet and tackles Andrew and Jonathan to the ground just as the fireball slams into the earth where they were standing. The impact and explosion knocks Xander and Dawn off their feet. Xander slams into a gravestone, unconscious.

As Dawn struggles to her feet, the ground beneath her starts to fall away. She starts to slip backward into the hole.

BUFFY  
Dawn! Dawn, hold on!

Buffy reaches for her but it's too late. Dawn drops backward and falls into an underground chamber. She lands on her back with a thud. Caskets line the walls all around her, embedded in and protruding from the walls of the cave.

Seconds later Buffy herself falls in and lands next to her sister. She looks up and rolls to the side as Jonathan's sword falls straight for her head. The sword misses her with inches to spare and embeds itself in the ground. Andrew's sword slides in after it and lands at Buffy's feet as well.

The girls look around warily, not sure what to make of the cave and its bizarre contents. The hole the fell through yawns above them, 50 feet overhead.

Above, Andrew and Jonathan get to their feet and peer down into the hole, then look over to where Xander lies unconscious.

JONATHAN  
(to Andrew)  
Mexico, huh?

They share a look, then run off into the night.

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- STORE- NIGHT

Anya makes her way through the wreckage out onto the main floor of the store. She finds Giles lying unconscious and runs to him.

ANYA  
Giles!

His eyes open.

GILES

Anya...

**Steven slowly regains consciousness and gets up.**

ANYA

**(to Giles)**

I'm so sorry! Willow forced me to free her with her brain. Are you okay?

**Steven rushes over to Giles and Anya.**

GILES

I can see.

ANYA

Oh. It's a... miracle.

GILES

Willow... I can see her. She took the magick I had and now I know where she is. I can feel what... oh, god.

ANYA

Giles, you have to rest.

GILES

**(smiles)**

Silly girl. I'm dying.

**STEVEN**

**Don't be talkin' crazy talk,  
Giles. You're not going to die.**

ANYA

No, you're not!

GILES

It was... it was the only way. I thought there'd be a chance but... I know where Willow is. She's going to finish it.

ANYA

Finish what?

GILES

The world.

CUT TO:

EXT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- DAWN 47

The sun rises, bathing the cemetery in a golden light.

CUT TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

Using roots as handholds, Buffy climbs the walls of the cave toward the hole in the ceiling. One of the roots pulls free and Buffy crashes back down onto an old casket, shattering the lid.

DAWN

Buffy!

Buffy gets up, nearly panicked, looking around desperately.

DAWN

Are you okay?

BUFFY

We have to get out of here.

(yells)

Xander!

DAWN

I think I saw him hit his head.

BUFFY

Xander!

No response. Buffy turns to one of the caskets embedded in the wall and starts working it free.

DAWN

This looks a little like Spike's place. You know, under his crypt? What are you doing?

BUFFY

If we can pull these out, we can use the coffins for height. Maybe get out of here.

She picks up one of the swords and starts hacking at the dirt around the edge of the coffin.

DAWN

Maybe one of the tunnels Spike uses is around here. We can use it to get to his place.

BUFFY  
That's the last place on earth we  
need to be.

DAWN  
Oh. But it was good enough to  
take me there after what he did  
to you?

BUFFY  
What he...?

DAWN  
Tried to do. Whatever.

BUFFY  
Xander...

DAWN  
So it's true?

BUFFY  
Dawn, you may not have noticed  
but we're in really big trouble here.

DAWN  
Why did you not tell me?

BUFFY  
Because you didn't need to know.

DAWN  
Yes. I do. I need to know. I'm  
not a kid anymore.

BUFFY  
Dawn, I'm trying to protect you.

DAWN  
Well, you can't! Look around,  
Buffy. We're trapped in here.  
Willow's killing and people I  
love keep dying. You cannot  
protect me from that.

BUFFY  
Dawn...

XANDER  
(o.s.)  
Hello!

BUFFY  
Xander!

XANDER  
Buffy, you okay? Where's Dawn?

DAWN  
Here. Are Jonathan and Andrew up  
there with you?

Xander looks around.

XANDER  
Nah, they must have skedaddled  
when I was out. Weasels.

He leans farther over the edge and the dirt beneath his  
hands collapses. He barely saves himself from falling also.

BUFFY  
Xander, you got to find some kind  
of rope or something and get us  
out of here!

XANDER  
Right! Okay, I'll take a look around.

BUFFY  
And hurry up before-

Anya suddenly appears in the cave with Buffy. She looks  
around herself, shocked.

ANYA  
Holy frijole.

BUFFY  
Anya, what are you doing here?  
Where's Giles?

DAWN  
Giles?

ANYA  
He's still at the magick shop.

DAWN  
(to Buffy)  
Giles is back? You didn't tell me  
that.

Xander listens from above.

BUFFY  
Did he stop Willow?



ANYA  
No. And things just got a whole  
lot worse.

BUFFY  
How worse?

ANYA  
End of the world worse. Willow's  
going to destroy it.

DAWN  
She can do that?

ANYA  
She can and she will when she  
gets to where she's going.

BUFFY  
Where is she going?

ANYA  
Big old Satanic temple- Kingman's  
Bluff?

BUFFY  
There's no temple on Kingman's Bluff.

CUT TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

A cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Suddenly the ground splits open and a spire topped with an inverted Pentagram rises out up and into the daylight. Willow stands a distance away, arms raised, bringing the temple out of the ground toward her.

CUT TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

BUFFY  
Proserpexa? Who's she?

ANYA  
Way up there in the hierarchy of  
she-demons. Her followers  
intended to use her effigy to  
destroy the world. They all died  
when the temple got swallowed up  
in the big earthquake of '32.

BUFFY

So now 70 years later Willow's gonna make their dreams come true?

ANYA

She's going to drain the planet's life force and funnel its energy through Proserpexa's effigy and burn the earth to a cinder.

BUFFY

Not if I can help it.

ANYA

You can't. Something else Giles said. No magick or supernatural force can stop her.

BUFFY

What does that mean?

ANYA

I don't know. He said, "The Slayer can't stop her" and then he said a bunch of other stuff. He really wasn't too clear.

BUFFY

Anya, what are you-

ANYA

Look, I should get back to him. He's alone.

BUFFY

Is he okay?

ANYA

I don't think he has a lot of time left. I'm sorry.

Anya disappears. Buffy and Dawn stand speechless for a moment, then Buffy looks up and yells.

BUFFY

Xander! Where is that rope?

DAWN

Buffy...

BUFFY

Xander! Where is he?

DAWN  
You heard what Anya said. You  
heard what Giles said.

BUFFY  
I heard and I don't care. I have  
to try.

She bends down and lifts a coffin.

CUT TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

The effigy of Proserpexa is mounted to the temple's spire. Willow stands before it, her arms raised as she starts the doomsday spell.

WILLOW  
From the Pit of Forgotten Shadows,  
awaken sister of the dark...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

BUFFY  
I'm not gonna just sit here while  
Willow incinerates what I'm  
chosen to protect. I have to stop  
her.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

WILLOW  
Always the Slayer... right to the  
last.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

Buffy and Dawn drop the casket and look up, hearing Willow's words.

BUFFY  
Willow?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

WILLOW  
And it is the last, you know? For  
all your fighting, thinking  
you're saving the world...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

DAWN  
Buffy?

Buffy holds up a hand to silence her.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

WILLOW  
...and in the end, I'm the only  
one who can save it.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

BUFFY  
By killing us?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

WILLOW  
It's the only way to stop the pain.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- DAY

Giles listens to her as well, Anya leaning over him, tending  
to his injuries as best she can.

WILLOW  
(v.o.)  
I can't take it anymore. But I  
know you, Buffy.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

WILLOW  
You're a warrior. You won't go  
out without a fight.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

WILLOW  
(v.o.)  
I don't really have time for one.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

WILLOW  
But you should go out fighting.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

BUFFY  
Willow, what are you-?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

WILLOW  
It was me who took you out of the  
earth. Well, now... the earth  
wants you back.

CUT TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

The cave walls start to tremble around Buffy and Dawn. Suddenly the tree roots lining the walls spring to life, fully formed creatures with pincers for hands. The rip themselves free of the dirt and attack the two girls from all sides.

FADE OUT

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

Resume. Buffy picks up the sword and attacks the creatures, hacking, slashing, punching and kicking.

She manages to beat them back and stands guard over Dawn as five more creatures awaken and pull themselves free of the cave walls.

BUFFY  
They'll just keep coming. I can't  
take them all. Dawn... will you  
help me?

Buffy hands the sword to her sister who nods and accepts it.

DAWN  
I got your back.

Buffy smiles at her reassuringly, then picks up the second sword and charges, Dawn right behind her.

CUT TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

With Buffy occupied, Willow is back to her doomsday spell.

WILLOW  
Proserpexa, let the cleansing  
fires from the depths burn away  
the suffering souls and bring  
sweet death.

Magickal energy starts to arc around Willow and between her and the idol. Within seconds, the idol starts to glow white hot. The ground begins to tremble and a vortex of black magick springs up around Willow. She stands at center of the maelstrom, drawing in life energy from the earth and focusing it into the idol in front of her.

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- DAY

Anya sits with Giles as the store shakes and rumbles all around them.

CUT TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

Buffy dispatches another root creature, then ducks as chunks of the cave rain down on her and Dawn.

BUFFY  
Willow...

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- DAY

Anya shields Giles from the raining debris. The rumbling stops for a moment and she looks down at him. His eyes are closed and he's very still.

ANYA

Giles! Giles, don't die. Not yet.  
There are things I want to tell  
you. Thanks a lot for coming. It  
was good of you to teleport all  
this way-

The store starts shaking violently again.

ANYA

Though in retrospect it would  
have been better if you hadn't  
come and given Willow all that  
magick that made her like ten  
times more powerful. That would  
have been a plus.

CUT TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

Energy streams from Willow into the idol as she drains the  
earth of its life force.

Suddenly Xander steps into the energy stream, interposing  
himself between Willow and the idol. The interruption causes  
Willow's energy vortex to dissipate.

XANDER

Hey, black-eyed girl. Whatcha doing?

WILLOW

Get out of here.

XANDER

Oh, no. You're not the only one  
with powers, you know. You may be  
a hopped-up Über-witch but this  
carpenter can drywall you into  
the next century.

WILLOW

I'm not joking, Xander. Get out  
of my way. Now!

She hurls a bolt of plasma at him and throws him backward into the temple spire.

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- DAY

Giles' eyes open.

GILES

There.

ANYA

What?

GILES

It's not over.

CUT TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

Dawn and Buffy fight for their lives. One of the creatures knocks Dawn's sword from her hand and slashes her arm with its claw. Buffy sees her sister go down and calls out to her.

BUFFY

Dawn! I'm coming!

Before Buffy can get there, Dawn leaps up, fire in her eyes, and backflips under the beasts flailing arms. She rolls to her feet, sword in hand and with one fluid motion, impales the creature with her blade. She rips the sword free and swings it around in a deadly arc, separating the creature's head from its body.

Buffy stares at her younger sister in shock.

DAWN

(smiles)

What? You think I never watched you?

All around them the walls come to life again as a new round of creatures pull themselves free of the dirt. Buffy and Dawn stand back to back, swords flashing as they fight side by side.

CUT TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

Willow's energy vortex swirls to life again and she funnels it into the idol in a great glowing stream.



Xander comes to at the base of the spire and stands up, his body cutting off the energy stream once again.

WILLOW

You can't stop this!

XANDER

Yeah, I get that. It's just where else am I gonna go? You've been my best friend my whole life. World gonna end... where else would I want to be?

WILLOW

Is this the master plan? You're going to stop me by telling me you love me?

XANDER

Well, I was gonna walk you off a cliff and hand you an anvil but it seemed kinda cartoony.

WILLOW

Still making jokes.

XANDER

I'm not joking. I know you're in pain. I can't imagine the pain you're in. And I know you're about to do something apocalyptically evil and stupid and hey, I still wanna hang. You're Willow.

WILLOW

Don't call me that.

XANDER

The first day of kindergarten you cried because you broke the yellow crayon and you were too afraid to tell anyone. You've come pretty farending the world not a terrific notion- but the thing is, yeah, I love you. I love crayon-breaky Willow and I love scary-veiny Willow so if I'm going out, it's here. If you want to kill the world... well, then start with me. I've earned that.

WILLOW

You think I won't?

XANDER

It doesn't matter. I'll still  
love you.

WILLOW

Shut up.

She rakes her hand through the air and deep bloody gashes  
appear in Xander's cheek.

XANDER

I love you.

She does it again, this time ripping through his shirt and  
digging deep lacerations across his chest. He doubles over,  
gasping in pain. With great effort, he straightens up and  
faces her again.

XANDER

I... love you.

WILLOW

Shut up!

She extends her hand and shoots a plasma bolt at him but it  
dissipates almost instantly, barely affecting him. He  
staggers toward her as she looks down at her hands, confused  
and panicked.

XANDER

I love you, Willow.

WILLOW

Stop!

She tries to blast him again but this time the result is  
nothing but a few feeble sparks.

XANDER

I love you.

WILLOW

Stop!

Tears stream down her face as Xander reaches her. She beats  
against his chest as he wraps her up in a hug. She collapses  
to the ground with great heaving sobs as Xander holds her.

XANDER

I love you.

As she cries against his shoulder, a wave passes over her. Her hair shifts from black to its normal red, the black veins disappear from her skin and her eyes shift back to their natural state. Xander's own injuries disappear as well.

CUT TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

The root monsters surrounding Buffy and Dawn crumble to dust.

DAWN  
What happened?

CUT TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

Willow clings desperately to Xander, crying so hard she can barely breathe.

CUT TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- DAY

Anya sits on the counter, head in her hands, waiting for the inevitable. Giles suddenly sits up, his injuries healed. Anya runs over to him in shock.

ANYA  
Giles! You're not dead!

GILES  
No...

STEVEN  
(grins)  
Thank God!

Giles gasps as she throws her arms around him in an enthusiastic hug.

GILES  
However I'm still in some pain.

ANYA  
Well, why aren't you dead? Why aren't I dead?

STEVEN  
Why aren't any of us dead, for that matter?

GILES

The threat's gone. Willow's been stopped.

ANYA

Oh. You mean she's...

GILES

No, she's alive. The magick she took from me, it did what I'd hoped it would do.

ANYA

Oh... you dosed her. You knew she'd take your powers all along.

GILES

The gift that was given me by the coven was the true essence of magick. Willow's magick came from a place of rage and power.

ANYA

And vengeance. Don't forget vengeance.

**STEVEN**

**No, we can't forget vengeance.**

GILES.

No. How could I? In any case, the magick she took from me tapped into the spark of humanity she had left, helped her to feel again. Gave Xander the opportunity to reach her.

ANYA

Xander?

GILES

Yes. It was he who got to her in time. He saved us all.

**STEVEN**

**(smiles)**

**Lucky Xander.**

**He gets up and smiles to himself, starting to leave the back room.**

**He stops and walks back to Anya.**

STEVEN

(curious)

Anya, can I talk to you for a minute?

ANYA

(surprised a little)

Sure...

Anya and Steven walk out of the back room.

STEVEN

Anya...I have to say this before  
I say anything else.

(sincerely)

I'm sorry.

ANYA

(a little confused)

For what?

STEVEN

I treated you like garbage over  
these past three years...just  
because you were newly human. I  
guess just part of me was  
thinking that since you'd been  
around humans for so long you'd  
understand our customs, our ways  
of thinking...but I learned that  
everything can't be that simple.  
I was a major pain to you...not  
to mention a jerk and well...I  
just wanted to say that I'm sorry.  
You didn't deserve any of the  
things I was saying to you.  
Point in fact, I really respect  
you and I'm proud of how far  
you've come in this world.

He hugs her.

STEVEN

(smiles)

Thank you for entering our lives,  
Anya. You've made me a better  
person because of it.

He kisses her cheek, then walks out of the Magic Box.

Despite herself, Anya can't help but smile.

She walks back into the back room with Giles.

CUT TO:

INT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- UNDERGROUND CAVE- DAY

Buffy sits down, the implication sinking in.

DAWN  
I... think it's over, Buffy.  
We're all still here.

Buffy breaks down into tears.

DAWN  
(sarcastic)  
Sorry to disappoint you.  
(beat)  
Wait. Is that happy crying?

BUFFY  
Yes, dummy! You think I wanted  
the world to end?

DAWN  
I don't know. Didn't you?

BUFFY  
Dawn... I'm so sorry.

She stands up and hugs her sister.

BUFFY  
(tearful)  
I'm sorry.

DAWN  
It's okay, Buffy. It's okay.

BUFFY  
No, it hasn't been. It hasn't  
been okay. But it's going to be  
now. I see it.

DAWN  
See what?

BUFFY  
You. Things have really sucked  
lately. That's all going to  
change and I want to be there  
when it does. I want to see my  
friends happy again. I want to  
see you grow up, the woman you're  
going to become. Because she's  
going to be beautiful and she's  
going to be powerful.  
(MORE)

BUFFY (CONT'D)  
Dawn, I've got it so wrong. I  
don't want to protect you from  
the world. I want to show it to  
you. There's so much that I want  
to show you.

Dawn and Buffy embrace again, both of them crying now.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- DAY

Buffy hauls herself out of the hole up into the daylight,  
then reaches down and pulls Dawn up after her.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KINGMAN'S BLUFF- DAY

Xander continues to comfort a sobbing Willow high up on the  
bluff overlooking the blue water of the Pacific.

**Steven walks up to see the display.**

**He sighs.**

STEVEN  
(smiling)  
(thoughtfully)  
**Have a nice life, you guys.**

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. THE MAGIC BOX- DAY

Anya helps Giles to his feet and they both make their way  
out of the wreckage of the store into the daylight.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CALIFORNIA FREEWAY- SOUTHBOUND- DAY

The driver of a big rig looks over at Jonathan and Andrew  
sitting in the cab next to him and smiles suggestively.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SUNNYDALE CEMETERY- DAY

Buffy and Dawn walk through the cemetery, arm-in-arm, taking in the beauty of the day and the flowering trees all around them.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SUNNYDALE BUS STOP - DAY

Steven gets on the bus.

DRIVER  
Where ya goin', buddy?

After a beat:

STEVEN  
Los Angeles.

He gets on the bus and it starts to move forward.

CUT TO:

INT. SENEGAL, AFRICA- DEMON CAVE- DAY

Spike lies unconscious on the floor of the cave as the demon's footsteps approach.

DEMON  
You have endured the required trials.

Spike's eyes open and he rolls over and sits up with a groan.

SPIKE  
Bloody right I have. So you give me what I want. Make me what I was so Buffy can get what she deserves.

DEMON  
Very well. We will return your soul.

The demon places his claw against Spike's chest as a flash of blinding white light illuminates Spike's body from within and he screams in agony.

FADE TO BLACK

END