

Absolute Angels

by

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READ THRU DRAFT

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INT. CAR (MOVING)- DAY

A station wagon approaches a big city. The radio plays a happy tune.

In the backseat slumps ANNIE. A Goth. Black hair, black lip-gloss and a few piercings. She picks at a McDonald's salad while her black cat SCABBY looks on.

In front of her sits her earthy single mom, SALLY. She flicks through a newspaper. Trying to concentrate on the road while munching on a Big Mac is her latest squeeze - a Tony Soprano wannabe, STEVE.

SALLY

Taurus. "This month brings changes that give you a new outlook on life" - ooh, that sounds exciting!

STEVE

I can't believe you read that crap.

ANNIE

I can't believe you eat that crap. Meat is murder.

STEVE

C'mon!

Steve reaches over the backseat waving the burger at Annie.

STEVE

One bite might clear up those lungs of yours.

ANNIE

Get that out of my face!

HONK! A HORN BLARES

SALLY

Steve! The road!

Steve yanks the wheel righting the car. Annie takes a shot from her inhaler as Sally takes in a deep breath.

SALLY

Phew!
(waving paper)
Wanna know yours baby?

ANNIE

Let me guess. I'll be ripped from my lifelong friends and taken cross country to hell.

SALLY

C'mon. This is a new start. You're gonna knock them out at school tomorrow.

ANNIE

Sure.

SALLY

How could anyone not want to be friends with you?

Steve chokes on his burger.

STEVE

Yeah. Just look at her!

Sally sees Annie's not too happy face.

SALLY

Well baby, you don't dress like normal girls do you?

ANNIE

Whatever. Wake me when we get to Shangri-la.

Annie puts on her headphones and cranks up the volume. She looks out the window as they cross a huge steel bridge entering the gloomy city.

EXT. CITY - DAY

Tall Gothic buildings dwarf old structures. Toothless, drunk vagrants lie in doorways. A newspaper is chucked into a trash can. It's headline reads "Murders UP in last 3 years, Petty crime DOWN 70%."

Hitting traffic the car slows to a crawl. Annie sees cops, paramedics and a small crowd gathered. She peers through the onlookers and spots a dead body - a teenage cheerleader.

SUDDENLY a religious FANATIC *shoves* a sign up against Annie's window! It reads "You're damned to Hell!"

As they move on, he flips the sign over which reads "Yes, YOU!"

EXT. TENEMENT BUILDING - DAY

The car parks as the 'family' look up at the monstrous building.

SALLY
Home, sweet, home.

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Water stains on the ceiling. Grime on all the tile. Annie kicks open a squeaky door to reveal a bare room.

ANNIE
I call this room.

SUDDENLY, a scurrying noise in the ceiling - It moves across the room to a closet. Then - TAP - TAP - TAP.

Annie slowly opens the door - but nothing. A small shelf protrudes at the top. She heaves her body up and peers over -

A HUGE RAT JUMPS OUT at her! Scabby attacks.

ANNIE
Perfect.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

A dark and dreary Gothic relic. KIDS shuffle in like the walking dead.

Annie sees several girls crying by a candle vigil and shrine of a young cheerleader - SIMONE - the girl Annie saw dead in the street.

INT. SCHOOL - DAY

Intimidating metal detectors stand on the school ground entrance manned by security guards.

GUARD
Remove all metal objects, cell phones, electronics and nail files!

FIONA, also a Goth stares at Annie. Annie feels the gaze and turns round. Fiona beams.

FIONA
Cool sterling.

BEEEEEEP! Alarms buzz and a gun is found on a kid who's manhandled to the ground.

JUST THEN, the crowd parts as a group of FIVE TEENAGE GODDESSES parade up to the metal detectors.

They all wear stylish shoes, stockings, pleated pink mini skirts and are trendily coiffed and accessorized - including black armbands.

The guards wave the girls through as they sweep past the Goths.

FIONA
Cheerleaders. One of them was
killed yesterday.

ANNIE
They must feel horrible.

FIONA
They don't feel anything.

GUARD
Next!

Annie walks through the detector. BEEEEEP!

INT. SCHOOL HALLS - DAY

A dingy, overcrowded building. Fluorescent lighting crackles above.

FIONA
Your tax dollars at work.

A loud rumble is heard as the ground shakes and glass clinks.

FIONA
Subway. Passes right underneath
every half hour like clockwork.

Fiona stops at her locker as the very handsome quarterback, JASON and his buddies, JOSH and CORY, listen in.

FIONA
Some say the school was a breeding
ground for demons and that every
time a train goes by, another soul
is cursed.

JASON
(looks at Annie)
This is the gateway to hell. Don't
worry though, you look like you
belong!

Jason makes a horrific goblin face to Annie as Josh and Cory laugh behind him. Annie gives him the finger. Jason stares at her in mock horror.

FOOTBALLERS

Oooo. We're so scared!

The guys stumble down the hall.

FIONA

Jason's captain of the football team which you get by being the biggest dick and not in the good sense. I'm Fiona by the way.

ANNIE

Annie.

Fiona opens her locker which is full of paraphernalia of conspiracy theory, occult and UFOs. A notebook tumbles out. Annie picks it up and sees it's a portfolio teeming with bizarre comic book drawings. But all are of dead bodies.

FIONA

I have a gig at the morgue and draw in my downtime.

ANNIE

Crazy. I've never seen a real dead body - up close and personal that is.

FIONA

Oh. You'll see plenty around here.

ANNIE

What do you mean?

FIONA

This city has a high murder rate. Anyhow the publishers say these aren't inspired.

ANNIE

I think they're cool.

FIONA

(smiling)

We're gonna get along just fine.

Over Fiona's shoulder, Annie spots a wild, sexy 17 year old footballer. He carries a guitar.

ANNIE

What about him?

FIONA

That's Remy. Truly a lost soul.
Plays football by day and sings
love songs at night. Nobody seems
to get him.

Annie dreamily stares after him.

INT. HOME ROOM - DAY

A tinny version of the Star Spangled Banner finishes on the
PA system. A series of chimes ring out.

PRINCIPAL OS

Good morning. Today is Monday
October 7th. Sadly, we've lost one
of our own this weekend. Simone
Mitchell, our senior cheerleader
captain, was taken from us. In this
time of sorrow, we know that some
of you who were close to Simone may
be thinking of taking the path that
she did. So we have set up a crisis
center for your benefit. Suicide is
a terrible choice with no winners.

Jason turns round to face JANEY, a quiet homely girl.

JASON

Perhaps you ought to go Janey? On
second thought, maybe you
shouldn't.

Jason's gang laugh.

FIONA

Don't listen Janey. What comes
around, goes around.

Annie catches Remy's gaze, blushes and looks away.

PRINCIPAL OS

On a brighter note, tickets are on
sale for the Homecoming Game. Oh
and now that the cheerleading squad
are a member short, they'll be
holding tryouts for a replacement.
It's your chance to be a member of
one of the city's finest. Lunch
today is fish sticks and hot dogs.
Have a nice day.

The Home Room TEACHER stands.

TEACHER

A new student joins us today, Annie Hyde. Let's make her feel welcome. Annie would you like to stand and say a few words about yourself?

Annie reluctantly gets to her feet. Beside her, Fiona doodles a cartoon character of Annie.

ANNIE

(bored)

I'm Annie. I'm from California. I'm an Aries.

She sits down.

CLASS

(under breath)

Loser!

FIONA

(smiling)

I thought you'd be a Scorpio.

As the bell rings, ROSA, a hardened gangbanger, walks by.

ROSA

Aw. Two freaks have found each other.

INT. CIVICS CLASS - DAY

Annie and Fiona find seats at the back. Jason and his buddies snigger at them but stop cold as -

the FIVE CHEERLEADERS enter. The squad smile and wave to a few girls. They look over to the football players who *stumble* over each other to pull out chairs for the hotties.

Taking their seats, the girls take out their books, doing everything in perfect syncopation.

FIONA

They came here freshman year and took over the school. Straight A's, "nice" to everybody. All the guys want them, especially Zoe.

Fiona points to the hottest of them all and new captain of the cheerleaders.

FIONA

- but from what I hear south of the border is a no fly zone. Drives guys nuts.

Zoe drops a pen. Josh and Cory jump to pick it up, knocking skulls. Annie and Fiona giggle.

Behind Zoe is another teen queen. MONIQUE. She smiles at Fiona but Fiona looks away. Monique, drops her smile and goes back to the squad.

ANNIE

Ouch. That was cold.

FIONA

Monique used to be cool until she turned to the dark side.

ANNIE

Dark side?

FIONA

"Cheering".

Fiona, upset, starts doodling.

Annie watches the cheerleaders: They lay out everything perfectly on their desks, then all uncannily look up at the same time.

CLEO, the hippest of the five, spies a soda can. She *SLAMS* her hand on it creating a perfectly smashed circle and *tosses* it with precision into the recycle bin.

Behind her, HEATHER, files her nails, then rubs a finger over her teeth. Feeling something, *she quickly files her teeth, then goes back to her nails!*

Annie's stunned - Did she really see that?

Placing her compact mirror on it's side, Annie tries to view the girls but it's difficult to get their reflections. SUDDENLY, her desk is knocked and the mirror *smashes* on the floor.

SHELBY picks up the pieces.

SHELBY

Omigod! I'm so sorry! I'll totally get you a new one.

The teacher, MR. SCHAEFFER walks past.

MR. SCHAEFFER

Shelby, I still need to schedule your college-parent conferences. Zoe, Cleo, Heather and Monique - same for you.

SHELBY

They're in Africa Mr. Schaeffer. Doing their missionary work.

ZOE

Mine are at Disneyland on their annual trip with the blind kids, remember?

MR. SCHAEFFER

Oh, right. Well just give me the forms when you can. I trust you.
(to class)

So have you seen the paper today?

He sees the vacant expressions on his pupils.

MR. SCHAEFFER

Oh I forgot. You guys get your news from MTV.

(holds up paper)

There was another terrorist attack in the Middle East last night. Since 9/11 we all feel a general sense of fear in this country that others have felt for hundreds of years. So do you think the terrorists have done us a favor and woken us up to the world?

Shelby's hand shoots up.

SHELBY

Mr. Schaeffer?

MR. SCHAEFFER

Yes Shelby.

SHELBY

I just think what happened was a travesty and those people should be ashamed of themselves.

CLEO

Girl, you're too soft. They should be shot in a one to one ratio.

HEATHER

Ya! They've created such a mess!

MONIQUE

I think we should start a blood drive for all the injured people.

SHELBY

Oo. Just like we did at Gettysburg in--

CLONK! Zoe kicks Shelby's chair.

SHELBY

Er - junior high school.

MR. SCHAEFFER

Great idea Monique--

The class turns back to Mr. Schaeffer. Annie sees Shelby mouth 'I'm sorry' to Zoe.

MR. SCHAEFFER

--but don't you think what you're saying is a little narrow minded?

ZOE

An eye for an eye Mr. Schaeffer.

JASON

Yeah! We should go in there and kill them all man!

MR. SCHAEFFER

Jason, let's tack on an extra hour to our counselling session.

(beat)

What does our new classmate think?

(looks at his notes)

Annie? What say you?

ANNIE

Well, we see them as criminals but in their world they're freedom fighters. I mean, everyone thought we were a bunch of renegade vigilantes in 1776 and now we have liberty and justice for all. Actually I don't blame them for trying to make their world better.

CLASS - NOT CHEERLEADERS

Terrorist! Traitor!

Heather taps Zoe on her arm nodding towards Annie. Zoe ponders the new kid.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY.

A football COACH screams at the players as they crash into tackling sleds. Josh and Cory *easily* shove them aside, Remy barely makes a dent.

COACH

Remy! You're hitting like a freakin' girl. Why don't you go and join the cheerleaders.

CUT TO:

JASON

who throws the ball to a large RECEIVER streaking towards the oblivious cheerleaders. He catches the ball but his momentum propels him towards a nasty collision with Zoe.

But then, Zoe, without even looking, straight arms the intruder - laying him out flat.

MISS VERONA, the stocky Phys. Ed teacher sees Zoe turned away from the hopefuls.

MISS VERONA

Zoe! A little focus please on the tryouts!

CLOSE ON ANNIE as she watches the cheerleaders.

ANNIE

Haven't you ever wondered what it's like to be in their shoes?

FIONA

Imagine being dead. They're a Starbuck's chain, you're unique.

Fiona notices Annie's gaze. The cheerleaders are clearly disappointed at the clumsy hopefuls.

FIONA

I'm serious. Stay away or you'll be selling Amway before you know it.

Fiona turns back to the squad.

FIONA
 (doing a cheer routine)
 One, two, three, four, get the
 cattle off the floor!

Annie and Fiona giggle. They reach down to pick up their bags and as they stand up, they are FACE TO FACE with all five, unhappy cheerleaders.

ZOE
 Fiona, it takes mad skill to do
 what we do. And you don't have it.

Zoe looks to Annie.

ZOE
 Annie is it? You should think about
 the friends you choose. By the way,
 love the black, always makes one
 look slim.

HEATHER
 Perhaps you should try working out.
 Being in shape always makes you
 feel good about yourself.

Annie glares at Heather, takes a step back and does a perfect backflip. The squad is stunned.

ANNIE
 Three years gymnastics. I feel
 fine.

FIONA
 Let's go Annie. We need to be
 someplace more lively.

INT. CITY MORGUE - NIGHT

A cold dead body is pulled out on a slab. Fiona and Annie stand over it.

FIONA
 Feel it's arm.

ANNIE
 No!

FIONA
 Come on. Don't you want to know
 what a dead body feels like?

Annie slowly pokes the body. Nothing. Fascinated, she moves closer to touch it's face - PROD - nothing. She prods again - *HAAAaaaah!* The corpse *sighs!* The girls shriek and jump back!

DAVE OS
Got you with the last breath, huh?

Annie and Fiona look up to see DAVE and COLIN, two young orderlies, pushing in three dead bodies.

DAVE
Hey. Thought it was your day off?

FIONA
Oh, I um, just came by to see you.

DAVE
Me?

FIONA
I mean you, Colin, the bodies, you know...

Dave gives her an odd smile. Colin stares weirdly at Annie.

COLIN
Who's the new girl?

FIONA
She's getting the nickel tour.
Annie, this is Colin and...
(lovingly)
Dave.

Colin keeps staring. Then moves on with the gurney. Fiona peels back a body bag.

DAVE
Two more upstairs Fi. Kinda nasty.

FIONA
Really?
(sotto)
That's like eight this week.

Fiona inspects the body. Annie peers over her shoulder, disgusted at the sight.

DAVE
I'm telling you there's something going on.

Dave moves in close to Fiona - close enough to smell him.

ANNIE
What's going on?

The spell is broken.

FIONA
(in awe)
Dave has a theory that someone's
killing off the scum of the city.
Let's see.

Fiona grabs the charts from the dead bodies and takes it to a computer terminal. She punches in the names.

FIONA
Yes! Look! Each of these guys have
records - murder, double murder,
cop killer.

DAVE
I knew it!

ANNIE
So they had it coming.

FIONA
Nobody deserves to go out like
this. Not even Simone.

ANNIE
(surprised)
You saw Simone?

FIONA
Yeah. She came through here. Body
twice as mangled, you'd hardly know
she was human.

ANNIE
I thought she jumped?

FIONA
You don't get her wounds just from
jumping out of a window. They come
from something else - something -
animal.

Annie and Fiona look at the bodies.

COLIN
Ooh. We just pulled out a great
spleen the other day. Wanna see it?

INT. ANNIE'S TENEMENT BUILDING - AFTERNOON

Annie and Fiona ride in a creaky old elevator.

ANNIE
(mocking, eyes fluttering)
I just came by to see you Dave.

FIONA
Shut up.

The elevator stops and they haul open the door.

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

Sally looks up to see the girls rush in, pick up Scabby and head past her. Before she can say anything, they're gone.

INT. ANNIE'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

Fiona stares at Annie's messy room. Heavy metal images splatter the walls alongside posters of 'NO to the Death Penalty', 'No to leather and fur' and 'No Blood for Oil'. A chalk outline of the rat adorns the floor with a lit candle.

FIONA
Wow! You're really into this stuff.

ANNIE
Somebody's gotta change the world.

Annie pulls out her Goth collection and lays it out on the bed - supernatural books, trinkets, drawings. She hands Fiona a tiny handmade doll.

ANNIE
Do you have one of these?

FIONA
What is it?

ANNIE
It's a worry doll. Rub it three times and it'll take your troubles away. Take it. It's a present.

FIONA
Thanks.

Annie fires up her Mac. Fiona spots a CD of Marilyn Manson.

FIONA
"The Golden Age of the Grotesque"!
Excellent taste!

Annie snatches the CD.

ANNIE
I thought I burned that.

FIONA
Why?! It rules!

ANNIE
My ex Dylan said it expressed
exactly what he thought about me
when he dumped me.

FIONA
Ben gave me Die My Darling when he
ditched me.

ANNIE
Hmm. How about some Cradle of
Filth?

FIONA
(shaking her head)
Mark. Found out he was a cross
dresser and not the cool kind. How
about Phantom Limbs? Total death
rock.

ANNIE
Uh uh. Troy. Wore more make up than
I did. Stormtroopers of Death?

FIONA
Kevin. Don't get me started.

ANNIE
Metallica? You can't go wrong with
them.

FIONA
Unless it's on the radio when
you're being raped.

ANNIE
(smirking)
Right.

But Fiona's not smiling.

ANNIE
You're kidding?

FIONA
No big deal.

But Fiona's face isn't as brave as her mouth.

ANNIE
You sure?

Fiona nods.

FIONA
Hey, how about this?

Fiona cranks up the volume on a loud, hard Goth tune. The girls scream with glee.

A KNOCK at the door. Annie barely opens it as her Mom attempts to look into the room.

SALLY
Is everything okay in here?

ANNIE
We're fine Mom.

Sally catches a glimpse of Fiona head-banging to the music. She leans in to Annie.

SALLY
(whispering)
I don't want you to fall in with a
freaky crowd.

ANNIE
Mom. I am a freak!

Annie shuts the door. The girls collapse into giggles.

INT. SCHOOL HALLS - DAY

Annie and Fiona are ridiculed as they walk. They stand tall.

INT. MATH CLASS - DAY

Cleo rapidly completes a math equation on the blackboard as test scores are being passed out. MR. IVERS, neat and trimmed, leans back in his chair to look at Cleo's ass.

Annie and Fiona get D's.

INT. STUDY HALL - DAY

Fiona doodles 'Dave and Fiona' in a Gothic font. She looks up to see the cheerleaders do a perfect improvised cheer.

FIONA
(sotto)
They never make a mistake.

She turns to Annie who's eyeing Remy as he hands out flyers.

FIONA
Take a picture, it'll last longer.

Annie's busted.

FIONA
Go talk to him.

ANNIE
And say what?

FIONA
Well you better think of something
because here he comes.

Annie sees Remy approach. She takes a quick shot of her inhaler, looks up and he's there.

REMY
Hey ladies. Can I interest you in a
Toxic Puppy show this weekend?

ANNIE
Wicked! I love them!

REMY
Really? This is our first show.

Annie wants to climb into a hole.

REMY
Here's a flyer.

ANNIE
Bitchin. So you're a rockstar?

REMY
Nah. I just wanna play my tunes and
get my thoughts heard. There's a
lot to say about the world.

Annie's in awe.

REMY
I'd like to see you there Annie.

A COUGH! from Fiona.

REMY
Oh. You too Fiona.

Remy walks off as Annie ogles him.

FIONA
Bitchin? Wicked?

ANNIE
Shut up.

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Annie and Fiona slide down the lunch line as slop is dumped onto their plates. Fiona holds a comic book up to Annie.

FIONA
Creator of Witchblade is gonna be at Jack's Comics tomorrow. Wanna go?

ANNIE
I'm down.

They take their trays and look for a spot to sit. SUDDENLY Annie is SHOVED into Rosa, food splattering Rosa's shirt.

ROSA
What you doing bitch? This is a brand new Diesel.

ANNIE
I'm so sorry!

ROSA
Maybe if you didn't have that shit in your face, you could've seen me. Freak.

Annie looks at Fiona who looks away.

ROSA
What are you looking at her for? Think your friend's got your back?

Rosa gets in Fiona's face, edging her back with her body.

ROSA

Well do you freaky friend?

That does it. Annie breathes in.

ANNIE

Who you calling a freak? She's just the same as you or I.

ROSA

What are you saying? You saying I'm a freak?

ANNIE

No--

ROSA

I think you are. Oh, it's on.

Rosa *throws* a punch at Annie and *nails* her in the chin. A circle forms around the two girls. Annie fights back *clocking* Rosa in the face with a right cross. Pissed, Rosa pulls a knife. Monique stands to step in but Zoe holds her back.

As Rosa *swipes* at Annie several times with the knife, Annie ducks out of the way. Finally, Rosa *lunges* toward Annie's throat, but Annie, *lightening fast*, catches Rosa's wrist and *twists* the knife from her hand, *slamming* Rosa to the floor. Annie picks up the blade and straddles Rosa. She holds the knife inches from Rosa's throat.

KIDS IN CROWD

Do it. Do it.

The cheerleaders lean forward to see what will happen next.

MISS VERONA OS

Hyde! Drop it!

The sea of kids part as Miss Verona appears. Knife in hand, things don't look good for Annie. Monique whispers to Zoe.

INT. GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Annie, face now swollen, sits in front of Mr. Schaeffer and Miss Verona and between Sally and Steve.

MR. SCHAEFFER

This is grounds for a suspension.

(pause)

MR. SCHAEFFER

However, you're new so we would like to give you a second chance. Perhaps what you need is a more constructive school activity. Miss Verona has an idea.

MISS VERONA

For some reason the cheerleading squad have expressed an interest in you. God knows why.

She pulls out a large pink letter.

MISS VERONA

They all signed.

They all lean in to take a look.

ANNIE

They want ME?!

STEVE

You! A cheerleader? What a joke!

SALLY

We don't really think Annie's the cheering type.

ANNIE

I'll do it.

Everyone's taken aback.

ANNIE

We haven't had many breaks lately.

MR. SCHAEFFER

Well that's settled. Can I help in any other way?

STEVE

Hey. We don't need any of that touchy-feely shit. I've got to get back to work.

Steve gets up to go leaving Mr. Schaeffer dumbfounded.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Annie and Fiona watch the cheerleaders as they warm up in the distance.

FIONA

It's a fate worse than death.

ANNIE

Tell me about it. Can't wait til graduation.

FIONA

Me too. What are your plans?

ANNIE

Plan A is to get as far away from here as possible. Plan B - save the world and destroy all evil.

FIONA

Maybe you could start with them.

Fiona looks over to the cheerleaders as Miss Verona approaches. Annie takes a shot from her inhaler.

FIONA

See you at the signing tonight.

MISS VERONA

Annie! Let's go. Bye Fiona.

Annie reluctantly follows Miss Verona to the cheerleaders.

MISS VERONA

You asked for her. You got her.

Shelby waves.

SHELBY

Hi. I'm an Aries too!

The squad stare at Annie's baggy gym clothes.

HEATHER

Makeover so needed.

CLEO

Style counts here sweetie.

MONIQUE

First tip. Take the piercings out.

ZOE

Particularly that one.

Zoe points to Annie's silver cross eyebrow ring.

ZOE

Sharp edges. We wouldn't want you
to get hurt.

Zoe smiles. Annie relaxes and takes out the ring.

ZOE

Fantassimo! Okay girls! Let's start
with something easy.

The cheerleaders take off. As Annie catches up with them,
they smile, pick up the pace and leave her in the dust.

INT. LOCKER ROOMS - DAY

Annie is exhausted. She watches the cheerleaders rub lotion
onto each other - their bodies, Playboy perfect. Annie looks
at her own body and covers up. Suddenly she feels a pain.

MONIQUE OS

You okay?

Annie turns to see Monique.

ANNIE

Time of the month.

MONIQUE

I used to have that fricken bad.
Not any more thank God.

ANNIE

What magic pill are you taking?

MONIQUE

No pill. I just don't get them.

ANNIE

Really?

MONIQUE

Totally!

ANNIE

I wish I was like that.

MONIQUE

I can't have children.

ANNIE

Who'd want a kid in this hopeless
world?

Zoe approaches, filing her nails.

ZOE

We can offer you a world with hope.

ANNIE

By being a cheerleader?

ZOE

Exactly. It gives you a whole new view on life.

ANNIE

Cheering is not life changing.

ZOE

Get out! Each one of us has benefited from it. Heather used to be fat and dumpy. Now look at her.

Heather of course has a perfect figure.

HEATHER

It's true. I was disgusting.

ZOE

Cleo used to get bad grades.

CLEO

Becoming a cheerleader totally focused me.

ZOE

Shelby never pulled a guy.

SHELBY

Now my Nextel never stops chirping.

ZOE

And Monique -

MONIQUE

I used to be like you and Fiona, secretly craving attention. Now I have it a wholebigbunch.

ANNIE

Thanks for the Doctor Phil moment but I'm fine with who I am.

ZOE

Are you?

A long hard uncomfortable stare into Annie's soul.

ZOE
Haven't you ever wondered what it's
like to be one of us Annie? Well
now's your chance.

SHELBY
Initiation time!

ZOE
We're not as sweet as we look.

Suddenly Zoe *slices* her pinkie with the nail file and
daintily sticks it out...

ZOE
Pinkie?

Annie laughs.

ZOE
We know you're into this.

Annie sees a spot of blood on Zoe's pinkie.

ANNIE
Haven't you guys heard of AIDS?

The other cheerleaders giggle. Zoe's pissed.

SHELBY
Zoe's a virgin.

ZOE
(angry)
I'm saving myself!

Zoe calms and waggles her pinkie.

ZOE
So Annie, want in on the action?

Annie stares at Zoe, then puts up her pinkie. Zoe grins, cuts
Annie and clasps the two wounds together.

ALL CHEERLEADERS
(in cheer routine)
Annie! Annie! You're our girl!
Welcome to our brand new world!

INT. DINER - EVENING

Sitting with the girls, a nervous Annie looks at her bandaged
pinkie.

HEATHER

Don't worry. It won't scar.
Tomorrow it won't even be there.

DONNA, a friendly waitress, approaches.

DONNA

Hey girls! Who's the new blood?

MONIQUE

Annie.

DONNA

Hi sweetie. So, the usual?

ANNIE

What's the usual?

DONNA

Burgers - rare.

ANNIE

Oh um, salad for me. I'm a
vegetarian.

DONNA

(not liking it)

Okay - but you girls need meat to
stay alive.

As Donna walks away, Annie feels faint.

ANNIE

Whoa! Major head rush.

Cleo reaches over to the next booth and grabs a newspaper.
She flicks through and comes to the police report section.
With a red pen she circles listings.

HEATHER

I hear Lincoln got a new captain.

SHELBY

She's another out of town. Where
are you from again Annie?

ANNIE

(feeling rough)

San Francisco.

CLEO

I lived there, before the big one.

ANNIE
(woozy)
You mean the '89 quake?

CLEO
Nope. 1906.

ANNIE
Ha ha. Seriously, where are you all
from?

ZOE
We've all moved around a whole
bunch. You like to travel?

Annie nods as Donna places the burgers in front of the girls -
very, very rare. Annie's about to hurl. Donna sets her salad
in front of her.

ANNIE
Thank God. I need to eat.

The cheerleaders watch as Annie eats the leafy greens then
immediately spits them out! The girls laugh and dig into
their burgers.

Annie fixates on the burgers - bizarrely they look SO good.

MONIQUE
You'd look really hot without all
that makeup and with your real hair
color. Let me guess - a redhead?

Annie takes another bite of the salad but this time she
vomits.

CLEO
Ew! Take that out back girl.

Annie struggles to get up, hand over mouth.

ANNIE
Bathroom?

The girls point to the back. Annie turns to go.

ZOE
Wait a minute!

Zoe pulls out a pink scrunchie from her hair.

ZOE
To keep your hair back.

INT. TOILET - DAY

Annie looks at her bandaged finger and sees blood seeping through. Unwrapping it she sees a rancid infection.

She washes the wound, rewraps it and looks at herself in the mirror - She doesn't look good. Her breathing is labored. She takes a shot from her inhaler but it's not working.

INT. DINER - EVENING

Exiting the bathroom, Annie *SLAMS* into someone.

ROSA OS
Look who we have here.

ROSA.

ANNIE
Excuse me.

Annie tries to get by as Rosa blocks her.

ROSA
Uh uh. You got me one week suspension.

ANNIE
(ill)
I can't get into this right now.

ROSA
Too late. You're in it. Deep.

ROSA SWINGS a super fast punch at Annie, but before she connects, her fist is *caught* in Zoe's palm.

ZOE
(menacing)
I think you should apologize before things go Chernobyl.

Zoe squeezes Rosa's fist. Rosa drops to her knees in pain.

ROSA
(in pain)
I'm sorry Annie. Are we cool?

ANNIE
(hardly concentrating)
Yeah. Sure.

ZOE
See that. All you have to do is
talk things out.

Zoe unlocks Rosa's hand to reveal her disgusting fingernails.

ZOE
Gross! Ever heard of a manicure?

Humiliated, Rosa and her posse leave.

ZOE
We've got your back Annie. We're
gonna hit the town. Wanna come?

ANNIE
I--I've got to see my friend.

ZOE
Loyalty. Nice. It's been real.

As Annie heads out the door, the girls wave and shout
pleasant good-byes.

EXT. JACK'S COMICS - EVENING

Fiona waits outside the closed store in pouring rain. She
looks at her watch. The store lights click off.

Fiona sadly walks on. Then - WHHOOOOOSH! a noise above. Fiona
looks up. Just rain. WHOOOOSH! another noise. Fiona tightens
her coat and walks faster.

In the opposite direction, Annie staggers toward the store
but there's no sign of Fiona.

INT. ANNIE'S TENEMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

The elevator grinds opens. Annie stumbles over the bums in
the hallway. Their gnarled faces leer at her. Her heart
racing, Annie fumbles with her keys trying to open the door -
her hand aching. Finally it opens.

INT. ANNIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Annie enters - freezing cold and shaking.

She climbs into bed burying herself under her blankets. Then
suddenly, Annie starts to convulse in short violent spurts,
catching her breath each time.

With one giant jolt, she comes to rest. Her eyes roll over white as an eerie silence fills the room. Annie lies there peacefully - still, as death.

INT. ANNIE'S BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

Annie hasn't budged. The RADIO cracks on.

Through the curtains, the sun's rays creep onto Annie's face. SUDDENLY her bandaged hand *SLAMS* down on the radio shutting it off. Her eyes roll back into place and Annie quickly sits up.

INT. HALLWAY - EARLY MORNING

Sally walks towards the bathroom. The door's locked. She knocks.

SALLY
Sweetie? You okay in there?

INT. BATHROOM - EARLY MORNING

Annie peers into the mirror. She looks washed out and has to lean in closer to see herself clearly.

ANNIE
I'm fine.
(sotto)
I think.

She spots her bandage and unwraps it - she's amazed! The wound is completely healed! In fact, all her scars are gone and her boobs look bigger!

Annie washes off her smeared black eyeliner and takes out her piercings. Wow! Annie's a really pretty girl.

INT. HALLWAY - EARLY MORNING

As Sally's getting desperate, Scabby sidles up to her legs. Sally knocks again.

SALLY
I really got to go kid and you'll
be late for school.

Steve comes down the hallway.

STEVE
Got to shake the weasel.

He *bangs* hard on the door. The door opens and out walks a pierceless Annie. Scabby hisses and tears down the hallway.

SALLY
(stunned)
Where's all the makeup? The metal?

ANNIE
I'm over it.

Steve stares at Annie open mouthed looking at her boobs.

STEVE
Whoa! So much hotter than your mom.

EXT. TENEMENT BUILDING - MORNING

Annie opens the front door and is STRUCK by the sun's glare. She grabs her sunglasses.

EXT. STREET CORNER - MORNING

Annie waits at a crosswalk with a young KID. Half asleep, they move as the light changes.

Then - *SCREEEECH!* A HUGE TRUCK *barrels* through the intersection - it's brakes *locking up*, about to SMASH right into them.

Annie JUMPS into action. Time slows down as she picks up the kid and *dives* to safety. The truck rumbles by, horn blaring. Annie's stunned. How did she do that? Passersby applaud.

INT. SCHOOL ENTRANCE - DAY

Annie passes through the metal detectors - no alarm this time. The guard does a double take.

Boys stop to check out the new hottie. Cat calls and whistles sound out and two girls smile and say "hi" as Annie passes by.

Fiona turns to see what the fuss is about. She's shocked, then disappointed.

FIONA
Ohmigod! What's happened?

ANNIE
They won't let me wear my piercings
for cheering.

FIONA
We have to get you out of there!

Annie delves into her locker.

FIONA
Don't worry about flaking. There's
another one next week unless we're
under martial law. Two more bodies
came in last night, same MO. You
okay? You look a little pale?

ANNIE
(elsewhere)
Mmm? I think I'm coming down with
something.

Annie takes out her books, then SLAMS the door shut. It
buckles and dents inwards!

FIONA
Are they making you take steroids?

Just then Monique approaches.

MONIQUE
Fiona.

FIONA
Monique.

MONIQUE
Hey Annie. Look at you! I told you
you'd look better this way.

Fiona looks quizzically at Annie.

MONIQUE
It's Math next, wanna walk with me?

ANNIE
Er - Fi? Join us?

FIONA
(emphatic)
No. I don't do three ways.

ANNIE
(puzzled)
Oh. Okay.

Annie walks on with Monique leaving a hurt Fiona.

INT. ENGLISH CLASS - DAY

The class read Mary Shelley's Frankenstein. The teacher writes on the blackboard - SCRAAAPE! - Annie, still wearing her sunglasses, instantly blocks the screech from her ears. She looks up to see chalk scraping against the slate - SCRAAAPE!

Then there's a loud animal GROWL. Annie turns towards the noise - it's her nearest classmate breathing. On another girl she sees her heart and veins bulging a deep purple as they pulsate in rhythm - BOOM, BOOM, BOOM.

ENGLISH TEACHER

Annie.

The girl's skin goes back to normal.

ENGLISH TEACHER

Take off your sunglasses. This isn't California.

Annie takes them off but finds the light still too bright. She leans back into the shadow. The bell rings.

INT. SCHOOL HALLS - DAY

Around Annie, kids hurry to classes. THUMP, THUMP, SMASH, POUND, CLANG. A student cracks her gum, it sounds like a cannon blast. Knuckles crack, it sounds like a car wreck. Down the hall, two lovers yell at each other. Annie looks over and realizes that they're whispering - 200 feet away! The subway goes by - it's barrelling through Annie's head. DA-DUM! DA-DUM! DA-DUM!

Annie can't take it. She rushes into...

INT. THE LOCKER ROOM - DAY

NOISE comes from everywhere throughout the school and city - it escalates to a fever pitch. Her hands cover her ears but it's still too much. THEN, it SNAPS off. Sweet silence.

Annie releases her hands and opens her eyes - in front of her are the cheerleaders. They hold out a wrapped gift.

MONIQUE

Present. Coppertone! Been protecting us since 1944. You're going to need a lot of this now.

ZOE

The sun is so bad for you.

Heather passes Annie a contact lens case.

HEATHER

These will protect your eyes. Can't wear shades on the field.

SHELBY

They have different colors too!

ANNIE

Thanks guys. I've been feeling really weird today.

ZOE

Have you eaten?

ANNIE

No.

HEATHER

Low blood sugar.

SHELBY

We have just the thing.

Monique hands Annie a sports bottle.

CLEO

Will totally boost you.

Annie takes a sip and immediately perks up.

ANNIE

Wow! What's in it?

ZOE

Just everything a body needs to work like normal.

EXT. SCHOOL ROOF - DAY

The girls stand on the windy ramshackle roof, five storeys high. Annie takes in the city. It's now more vibrant than ever.

MONIQUE
Isn't it beautiful?

ANNIE
It looks so alive.

ZOE OS
Okay squad, let's get it on!

Zoe and the squad use a ledge as a balance beam. Annie peers over the side - a sheer drop to the street below.

ANNIE
Whoa!

Annie turns back to see the cheerleaders doing cartwheels, backflips and handsprings on the same ledge!

ANNIE
Are you insane?! It's like 80 feet!

HEATHER
More like a hundred.

CLEO
It totally makes you focus.

SHELBY
Your turn.

ANNIE
(stunned)
Excuse me?

CLEO
Best way is to jump right in.

MONIQUE
Start with a cartwheel.

ANNIE
Sorry, no death wish here.

ZOE
You're not scared are you?

Annie shoots Zoe a look. Rising to the challenge, she climbs up on the ledge and looks down. It's a long way. The extremely loud city noises are making her dizzy.

Annie closes her eyes. The noise fades as she focuses and does a flawless cartwheel.

ANNIE

Wow!

SHELBY

See! You can do it!

ZOE

Okay, you've crawled. Now let's see if you can walk. Try this.

Zoe does a cartwheel with a backflip. She looks at Annie and gestures - Your turn! Annie performs and again, it's perfect.

ANNIE

Holy crap!

Suddenly a PIGEON flies by scaring Annie. She loses her balance and *SLIPS* over the ledge - *JUST grabbing* it with her fingertips.

The wind whistles around her. She sees the *HUGE* drop to the street below and can feel herself slipping. She looks up to see the girls peering down at her. Smiling!

ZOE

This isn't part of the routine Annie.

ANNIE

Pull me up!

HEATHER

Oh Annie. Stop messing around.

ANNIE

I'm gonna fall! Help me!

CLEO

What's the magic word?

ANNIE

What?!

One of Annie's hands slips. She holds on with all her might.

SHELBY

Magic word?

ANNIE

PLEEEEEASE!

Annie can't hold on any longer. Her hand *slips* but as it does, Zoe *GRABS* it and pulls her up with ease. Annie catches her breath.

ANNIE

You were gonna let me fall!

ZOE

We would never let that happen. I'm really sorry if we scared you.

Zoe moves up close to Annie.

ZOE

You could throw me off the building if you want? I won't stop you.

The two lock eyes.

ANNIE

Maybe tomorrow.

SHELBY

No! Tomorrow we practice teamwork!

Annie and Zoe smile at each other.

INT. MALL - AFTERNOON

Annie and the cheerleaders walk through the mall - stopping at a gorgeous pink pleated skirt in a shop window. The girls look at Annie who shakes her head. The cheerleaders grab her hand and lead her into the store.

MOMENTS LATER - they all walk out, Annie now wearing the skirt and looking identical to the other girls. She nods approvingly.

INT. SALON - AFTERNOON

Annie sits under a hairdryer biting her nails. A manicurist rips them out of her mouth and applies pink nail polish.

A hairdresser takes out Annie's curlers and we see that her hair is now a vibrant red. Annie admires her new self as the cheerleaders approve.

EXT. CITY STREET - EVENING

Laden with shopping bags the girls playfully drop quarters into parking meters. JUST THEN, a MAN runs towards them holding a purse with an OLD WOMAN in hot pursuit.

Without looking, Zoe sticks out her arm *clotheslining* the man, *dropping* him like a sack of potatoes.

Heather picks up the lady's bag, dusts it off, smiles at the label and gives it back to her. Passerby's clap.

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Annie watches TV. A stain on the coffee table bugs her. She rubs it out with her thumb. Then she sees Steve's empty beer cans *littering* the floor. She takes them to the trash can in the kitchen and her eye twitches - all she can see is filth, filth, filth.

CUT TO:

Annie - scrubbing, vacuuming, dusting. She fills up the fridge with sports bottles. Closing the door she arranges some happy animal and flower magnets.

INT. MATH CLASS - DAY

Test scores are handed out. Fiona gets an F. Annie, surprisingly an A.

MR. IVERS

Well done Annie.

Annie beams and Cleo gives her a thumbs up. Fiona's unhappy.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY

Dressed in hot pants, tied tees and rubber gloves, the wet cheerleaders run a car wash. Cars form a huge line alongside a sign that reads: Money donated to homeless.

ANNIE

Where's Shelby?

CUT TO:

INSIDE AN SUV

SHELBY kisses a HANDSOME GUY. It's getting passionate and Shelby is getting a little rough, nibbling the guy's neck.

HANDSOME GUY

Ouch! Watch it!

He pushes her back, checks his neck and sees a large hickey.

HANDSOME GUY

You are too hot.

He goes in for more. SUDDENLY he's sprayed with water. The door is open and Zoe stands there with a hose.

ZOE
We're not a full service car wash
Shelby. Get back to work!

Shelby sheepishly climbs out of the car giving the drenched guy a hungry look.

INT. SCHOOL HALLS - DAY

Annie stops at her locker. She smells something strong. Ten feet away she sees a girl put a box of tampons in her bag.

FIONA
Did your watch break?

ANNIE
What?

FIONA
Witchblade second signing?

ANNIE
Huh? (beat) Oh Fi. It's cheering.
It takes up all my time.

FIONA
You actually like it don't you?

ANNIE
It does whip you into shape. Try
this, it's amazing!

Annie offers Fiona her power drink.

FIONA
No thanks.

ANNIE
The girls aren't that bad Fi.

FIONA
That's what they said about Charles
Manson.

Cory and Josh walk by, making eyes at Annie.

JOSH
Hey there Red.

Annie flicks her hair over her ear and smiles back. Fiona's sickened.

FIONA

And what is that? We don't do color.

ANNIE

It's natural.

FIONA

Did you go on the pill or something?

ANNIE

No. Why?

FIONA

Because your hormones are seriously screwing with your brain.

ANNIE

At least I have hormones.

Fiona's flabbergasted as Annie walks off. Across the hall, Remy notices Fiona's snubbing.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

It's overcast but it doesn't dampen cheerleading practice. Annie is really getting into the flow of things, doing complicated throwing and catching maneuvers.

On the bleachers, a forlorn Fiona watches. She draws a zombie in a cheerleader outfit. Above the picture Fiona's written THE DEATH OF ANNIE.

Just then, the sun breaks through the clouds. The cheerleaders shriek and dash over to their bags. They hurriedly slather on sunscreen. Fiona jots down 'sunscreen'.

ON REMY filling up a bag with footballs. He watches Annie too. As the cheerleaders finish, he musters up some courage and walks toward her. But someone's beaten him to the punch. JASON.

JASON

Hi ladies.
(beat)
Um. Annie.

ANNIE
 (mimicking)
 Um. Jason.

JASON
 You look awesome. Love the hair.

ANNIE
 Thank you.

JASON
 Me and the guys are going to see
 Remy play tonight and seeing as how
 you've become all hip I was
 wondering if you'd like to come.

ANNIE
 So sweet Jason. We'll all see you
 there.

Jason turns and walks back to the football team. He looks back, she waves. Before he realizes, he's waved back.

MONIQUE
 Annie's got a boyfriend! Annie's
 got a boyfriend!

The cheerleaders giggle. Remy has seen and heard all of this. He ducks his head and walks off.

EXT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Annie fidgets in a slinky black dress. She and the squad approach the front of the club where the footballers argue to be let in. Fiona watches in another part of the line.

ANNIE
 We'll never get in.

ZOE
 Don't worry so much.

The bouncer sees the beautiful girls and unlocks the velvet rope. He doesn't even ask them for their ID's.

JASON
 Hey we're with them! Zoe?

Zoe turns round. Sees Jason, Cory and Josh. She turns to the bouncer looking deep into his eyes.

ZOE
 Let those three in.

BOUNCER

Yes ma'am.

The bouncer steps aside letting in Jason and his friends. Fiona approaches the bouncer.

FIONA

I'm with them too.

The Bouncer takes one look at Fiona.

BOUNCER

Don't think so sweetheart.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

Strobe lights flash as Toxic Puppy whips the crowd into a frenzy. Annie sets her sights on Remy as the girls take a booth.

ZOE

We're thirsty.

JASON

Sure thing.

The guys head toward the bar. The girls scan the crowd.

SHELBY

Don't they know grunge went out with Kurt Cobain?

MONIQUE

What are we doing here?

ANNIE

Supporting Remy. School spirit?

Heather sees the boys waiting in a deep line at the bar.

HEATHER

It's going to take them forever.

CLEO

We need to party!

Heather shifts her focus to a good looking but DRUNK CLUBBER, who's heading towards the restrooms.

HEATHER

I'll see if I can speed things up.

She grabs some empty, colored tumblers and walks toward the restrooms. She's about to enter The Ladies - but turns towards The Mens.

INT. MENS ROOM - NIGHT

Heather enters. She hears the drunk clubber in a stall and locks the door behind her, a predatory look on her face.

BACK TO THE GIRLS

ANNIE

Man! Working out makes me really hungry.

MONIQUE

A deep burning in the pit of your stomach you mean?

ANNIE

Yeah. Never felt anything like it.

SHELBY

It's cancerous.

Heather shows up with several full tumblers.

ANNIE

That was fast.

HEATHER

Well I have my ways.

Annie notices a spot of blood on Heather's lip.

ANNIE

Ooh. Heather. You cut yourself.

HEATHER

Ooo. Major faux pas.

Heather licks her lips. Annie downs her drink and gets a rush of euphoria.

ANNIE

Wow! What's in this?

HEATHER

Malt, barley, snips, snails--

SHELBY

--and puppy dog tails.

The squad giggle.

LATER

Remy plays a closing song. It's over the top, dark and Annie's smitten. Then it happens. He looks directly at her. It's as if he's singing only to her.

Cleo slams her hand on a can but makes a big mess.

HEATHER

Oh. Not cool!

Heather starts clearing up.

CLEO

Weird. Trajectory's off tonight.

Zoe waggles a full tumbler.

ZOE

Deadens the senses remember.

The girls notice Annie staring at Remy as Toxic Puppy finish their set and leave the stage.

SHELBY

Ooh. What's Jason gonna say?

ANNIE

What?

CLEO

Girl, you've been scoping him like a pork chop. Go take a bite.

ANNIE

Serious?

CLEO

You're steaming tonight. Besides, it's every boy's fantasy to be with a cheerleader.

SHELBY

Remember this though. Love hurts.

Annie's not sure what she means - but seizes the moment. She makes her way through the bodies to the stage, catching glimpses of people's faces - their veins and arteries *pumping* blue and red like spiderwebs on their skin. She clears her head and focuses on her quarry.

The crowd clears and there is Remy looking like a modern day Jim Morrison. But he's not alone. A girl is draped all over him and planting a big wet kiss on his lips! Upset, Annie turns, almost *SLAMMING* into Jason.

JASON

Dude! You almost made me spill it!

Annie looks at Jason and glances back to see Remy still with the girl. She smiles seductively at Jason.

ANNIE

Wanna dance?

JASON

Sure!

Annie drags Jason to the dance floor. She's giddy with it all. Sexual, sensuous. She dances crazily as bodies glow blue and red, now undulating like lava. She suddenly feels heady.

JASON

Let's get you some fresh air.

ANNIE

Good idea.

They head out through the mass of bodies toward an exit.

EXT. NIGHTCLUB ALLEY - NIGHT

Annie leans against a wall staring dreamily into Jason's eyes.

Taking the cue, Jason plants a sweet kiss on her. Annie responds with double the passion. Jason starts groping her.

ANNIE

Jason, wait.

JASON

Come on baby. Go with it.

He grabs her hand and pulls it to his pants. Annie pushes him away. Jason's pissed.

JASON

You bitch! Don't bring me back here for nothing!

Jason roughly presses himself on her. Annie in her stupor finds it hard to fight him off.

She sees a jagged piece of piping on a dumpster and grabs it, *swiping* at Jason - getting him on the face.

JASON

You wanna play that way huh!

She *swings* again and Jason grabs her wrist. The two struggle for the weapon and *SLAM UP* against the brick wall. Both their eyes go *WIDE*.

They part. A stunned Jason looks down at his body. He sees a spot of blood coming through his shirt. He looks for the rip but it isn't there. He looks at Annie, steps back and sees the pipe - sticking straight through her torso.

ANNIE

Wha-? Wha-? Jason?

JASON

You asked for that.

That turns Annie. She *SHOVES* Jason who *SLAMS* into a parked car *breaking* the windshield with a sickening *CRUNCH*. A fresh cut now on his forehead.

Annie's teeth *elongate* into sharp fangs and she *POUNCES* on Jason.

Within an instant, it's over. She stops. A smile over her face as she feels happy and fulfilled. She wipes a tiny bit of blood from her mouth and then looks down to see -

Jason - DEAD.

Shock sets in as Annie realizes what she's done. Her teeth retract into her gums.

SHELBY OS

See I told you love hurts.

Annie turns to see her squad standing in the alley.

SHELBY

I've eaten my last four boyfriends.

ZOE

Did he get handsy? He can be like that some times.

ANNIE

He tried to rape me. He stabbed me -

Annie looks down to see the pipe still sticking out.

ANNIE
Look what he did--

ZOE
Relax.

Zoe grabs the pipe.

ON ANNIE who grimaces as Zoe yanks it out. Annie's wound
heals up as though nothing had happened.

ANNIE
(shocked)
I--I--

ZOE
He had it coming. I know personally
he's done it to six other girls and
he'd have done it to six after you.

SHELBY
He was a rapist sweetie. He
deserved to die.

CLEO
Oprah always says we should take
back the night.

ANNIE
But - I killed him.

MONIQUE
Don't worry, my first time was
difficult too.

HEATHER
It gets better after a hundred.

Annie's confused as Zoe leans over Jason's remains. We hear
her hand searching for something.

ZOE
Just as I thought. Cold.

Zoe lowers her head. Annie turns away, disgusted.

ZOE OS
(eating)
Mmm. When it's fresh, it's best.

Annie looks at her new friends and down to Jason. It dawns on
her.

ANNIE

Oh. My God. I'm a freakin' vampire?

ZOE

I thought we picked you because you're smart?

CLEO

You told me you were the same way when you had that Italian prince.

ZOE

Yah! But that was before like eight million movies about us came out - which, by the way, are totally misrepresentative.

ANNIE

But you didn't bite me?

ZOE

Like I'm going to put my mouth on your neck!

Zoe holds up her pinkie

ZOE

Hello?!

ANNIE

But why me? Why not anyone else?

ZOE

Please have you seen the blandness in school? We only have spice on this team.

SHELBY

And three years gymnastics isn't bad!

HEATHER

Now we've opened you up to another world.

MONIQUE

Good grades, popularity and high school forever!

ZOE

You should have seen life before cheering. Talk about the Dark Ages!

SHELBY
Ya! Tube lipstick wasn't even
invented until 1915!

ANNIE
(trancelike)
I think I wanna go home.

CLEO
(disappointed)
Really? We were just starting to
tear it up.

HEATHER
No. I can relate. A full stomach
always makes me want to crash.

SHELBY
Oh! Another good thing - you sleep
like the dead! Cos we are!!!

ZOE
Okay sweetie. You go get some rest.

ANNIE
What about - Jason?

ZOE
We'll take care of him. (beat) I'm
proud of you. You did society a
favor tonight.

Zoe hugs her. All the girls smile at Annie who turns around
in a daze. She's about to walk off when -

HEATHER
Oh! Wait a minute!

Annie stops. Heather dabs Annie's face with her finger.

HEATHER
You left a spot. That's better.

Overwhelmed, Annie walks out of the alleyway.

INT. ANNIE'S ROOM - EARLY EVENING

Annie awakes to loud banging.

SALLY OS
Hey, are you alive in there?

Annie looks at the clock: 6pm.

ANNIE

No.

SALLY OS

You've been asleep all day!

Annie stretches. But something catches her eye - dried blood under her nails. Oh My God! Jason!

She looks under the covers and GASPS! There's blood on her clothes. She pulls the sheets up to her neck.

SALLY OS

Cooked your favorite, Tofu burgers.
Just you and me tonight. Again.

ANNIE

I'll be out in a bit.

INT. BATHROOM - EARLY EVENING

Annie turns on the shower and jumps in, scrubbing her body like Lady MacBeth.

Grabbing a towel she steps out of the tub and looks into a foggy mirror. Annie tries to wipe it clean but can't seem to cut through the water - she tries again.

SQUEAK - SQUEAK - SQUEAK - Finally she breaks through and sees the wall behind her - the towel rack behind her - the toilet behind her - everything BUT NOT HER!

EXT. SCHOOL GROUNDS - DAY

A cold wind blows as Annie's about to take a shot from her inhaler but realizes she doesn't need it. She throws it away and enters the school.

CORY OS

Christ. How are we gonna win now?

Annie sees Jason's fellow teammates.

JOSH

They found his body at the zoo -
totally shredded.

CORY

I told him that p-

BEEEEEEEEEP! The school bell rings.

CORY

--would be the end of him.

Annie walks past them and sees the cheerleaders erecting a shrine to Jason. They wink at Annie. Annie looks around for mourners - there's only one. Fiona, who stares at the memorial.

INT. HOME ROOM - DAY

Everyone is whispering their relief at Jason's death! The chimes ring as the principal comes online.

PRINCIPAL OS

It's a very sad day here at Washington Heights. Jason Sterner, was taken from us over the weekend, luckily not to suicide but still, just as bad. Again, the crisis line is there for you. Today's lunch is macaroni and cheese and in honor of Jason, his favorite, meatloaf.

INT. BIOLOGY CLASS - DAY

Annie sits with a group of kids at a lab table. The BIO TEACHER writes notes on the blackboard.

BIO TEACHER

Blood is made up of three parts. Red blood cells, which carry oxygen, white blood cells which fight disease and plasma which is the fluid that carries both and nutrients. Blood is created in your bone marrow. If that gets infected it can cause an abnormal growth of white cells. Anyone know what this is called?

Fiona doodles 'Leukaemia' alongside 'Bone Marrow'.

BIO TEACHER

Leukaemia. Too many abnormal white blood cells start killing off everything else in the blood.

(beat)

Today we're gonna learn what your blood types are. Each one of you take a plastic case and pass it on.

The class receive their plastic packets. Annie opens up hers.

BIO TEACHER

Prick your finger and squeeze some blood onto the slide. Place the solution on the blood so you can see what blood type you are.

Annie pricks her finger. Blood trickles out, stops, AND THEN - RETRACTS! A table over, Fiona sees Annie's finger fixation.

Annie quickly hides her hand. She looks around the room - drops of blood ooze from everyone's fingers.

From Annie's POV, the blood sparkles like sunlight on water and smells like steak on a BBQ. Everywhere she looks - BLOOD, BLOOD and more delicious BLOOD.

On ANNIE, as her fangs begin to grow. She *SLAPS* her hand over her mouth, checks no one saw but catches a glare from Fiona. Shocked, she runs out of the room.

BIO TEACHER

(to rest of class)

It's okay. Some people just don't have the stomach for it.

Fiona stares after Annie. She jots down 'blood'.

INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - DAY

Annie runs straight into - REMY.

REMY

Yo, ease up.

Annie feels her canines retract. She removes her hand.

ANNIE

Hi. Biology. Blood...

REMY

They had to use smelling salts on me.

They smile.

ANNIE

You rocked the other night. Was that your girlfriend with you?

REMY

No. I'm into someone else.

ANNIE
Oh yeah? Who?

REMY
You.

Annie's smile gets bigger. She seductively moves closer.

ANNIE
Really? Perhaps we should do
something about that.

Annie kisses Remy. Remy closes his eyes, lost in the moment. As he kisses her neck, Annie smells him - HER FANGS ELONGATE! She's about to bite when TRIIIING! The bell RINGS.

Annie *snaps* out of it - *SHOVES* Remy away, covering her mouth.

REMY
What?

Annie runs, leaving a confused but delirious Remy.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

The cheerleaders and a dazed Annie sit on the bleachers.

SHELBY
You have to be careful with boys
now. You know how before if you saw
a cute guy - you just wanted to eat
him up? (sighs) Well, now you will.

ANNIE
What am I gonna tell my mom?

SHELBY
My mom didn't take it too well. It
really hurt to kill her.

Annie looks up in shock.

ANNIE
I thought she was in Africa?

SHELBY
She is. Buried there.

ZOE
Mine are in Prague.

CLEO
Detroit.

HEATHER
Paris.

MONIQUE
Here.

Annie's stunned.

ZOE
Remember these three rules and
you'll be fine. One, keep your skin
protected. Two, keep your heart
protected. And three, don't piss
off another vampire.

ANNIE
Why?

ZOE
Only another vampire can 187 you
with their own bare hands.

ANNIE
So are there a lot of...us around?

ZOE
Dunno, which is why we stick
together. The city is safe.

CLEO
Well, it's safer with us around.

Cleo opens a newspaper to a page with articles that have been
circled in red and black.

CLEO
Police reports. Black means low
priority and the really hellacious
get red--

SHELBY
--sometimes with a double star!

ANNIE
No way! That's you guys?!

CLEO
Straight up!

ZOE
Yeah, nobody misses those assholes.
We're doing the cops a favor.

The girls spot Mr. Ivers chatting up two teenagers. The heavens open and rain pours down. The teens run off and Mr. Ivers jumps into his car.

INT. TENEMENT BUILDING - DAY

Mr. Ivers exits an elevator on the top floor and heads to -

INT. MR. IVERS' APARTMENT - DAY

Where Mr. Ivers takes off his coat and hangs it meticulously in the closet. As he closes the door he hears a *creak* from above. He walks into the kitchen.

JUST THEN our five cheerleaders *EXPLODE* down through the ceiling and land in the living room.

Mr. Ivers comes out to check the noise. The squad immediately surround him.

MR. IVERS

What are you doing here? How did you get in?!

ZOE

(pointing upward)

Express route.

Mr. Ivers looks up to see five massive holes in his ceiling.

SUDDENLY the front door swings open. Annie.

ZOE

What took you?

ANNIE

The elevator's crap.

ZOE

We can fly Annie.

ANNIE

(surprised)

Really? Oh, hello Mr. Ivers.

The girls in perfect syncopation turn to Mr. Ivers.

MR. IVERS

Annie, Zoe - I don't know what's going on here but this is my home and you're trespassing.

ZOE
Why don't you call the cops then?

Mr. Ivers suddenly looks worried.

ZOE
Hiding something?

BACK TO Mr. IVERS. Scared shitless and sweating. His eyes dart over to a door.

Zoe *kicks in* the door to reveal - a bedroom. Two young girls are sitting on a bed, huddled together and scared.

MR. IVERS
This isn't what you think.

SHELBY
(to girls)
Are you okay?

The girls nod. The cheerleaders all turn to Mr. Ivers. Pissed.

MR. IVERS
Maybe we can work something out.
How about A's without having to do any work for the rest of the year?

MONIQUE
You know, in prison child molesters are the lowest of the low.

CLEO
I hear they're the first ones to get raped and murdered.

ZOE
We're gonna save you from that.

MR. IVERS
(nervously grateful)
Thank you. Thank you girls.

ZOE
Our pleasure.

VAMP mode! They descend upon Mr. Ivers! Annie shields the two kids as they hear Mr. Ivers' shrieks pierce the night sky.

CUT TO:

TV footage of a MOTHER being reunited with her children.

ANCHOR

Dakota and Chenile Manning were reunited with their mother today after an anonymous phone call brought the police to the apartment of Robert McNally, a pedophile wanted in three states.

The footage reveals police and the usual crime scene hoopla.

ANCHOR

McNally posed as a teacher, Robert Ivers for the last three years at Washington Heights High School.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Students and teachers watch the news stunned. Fiona sits by herself drawing a face with fangs. "Blood" and "Sunscreen" are written all over the page.

ANCHOR

McNally's body was found at the scene brutally mauled. So far no prints, or forensic evidence of the assailants have been found. Police are investigating into how McNally got through the school district's rigorous screening process.

Remy approaches Fiona.

REMY

This seat taken?

Fiona ignores him. He looks over at Fiona's drawing.

REMY

Creepy.

FIONA

That's what they say I am.

REMY

I like creepy.

FIONA

Snake creepy or spider creepy?

REMY

Serial killer creepy.

Fiona kicks a chair out. Remy sits down.

FIONA

I thought you liked Annie.

REMY

I do. It's just she's a little scary these days.

FIONA

Tell me about it.

Remy pops a straw into a Big Gulp as their attention is drawn to the TV. The mother of the girls is now being interviewed.

MOTHER

Whoever you are out there who saved my babies, thank you.

The interviewer turns to the little girls.

INTERVIEWER OS

Anything you'd like to say?

DAKOTA

If you rub this three times it'll take your troubles away.

Little Dakota holds up a worry doll. Fiona's eyes nearly *bug* out of her head.

INT. HOMEROOM - MORNING

DING! DONG! DING!

PRINCIPAL OS

Good morning. A big welcome to Ms. Jasper who's taking over Mr. Ivers' classes today. Ms. Jasper we wish you well. Mr. Ivers leaves quite a legacy behind. Due to the influx of calls we've extended our crisis hotline til midnight. Please don't call just because the football team lost on Friday. And don't forget our long awaited Blood Drive begins today. Give to live! Lunch today is fried chicken and potato nuggets.

INT. SCHOOL HALLS - MORNING

Annie, wearing all pink, walks down the halls with a new found confidence. She greets the teachers, sees a crooked picture on the wall and straightens it.

The din of chatter and city noise echoes. Annie stops, closes her eyes and the noise fades. She opens her eyes, smiles and walks into...

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

A sign reads BLOOD DRIVE. Annie pats people on the back and shakes hands with those contributing. She sees the cheerleaders helping the nurses draw blood.

ANNIE

Sweet! So many people!

MONIQUE

Look how well we're doing!

Monique points to a large almost colored in heart showing how much blood they've collected. Annie and the girls hand slap and cheer GOooo BLOOD.

Fiona walks past.

FIONA

Gross!

NURSE

Donating today? Every pint helps.

FIONA

Er--

The nurse forcefully leads Fiona to a bed where she's close enough to eavesdrop on the cheerleaders.

ANNIE

We should majorly celebrate this!

SHELBY

(sing-song)

Sleepover!

MONIQUE

Fantassimo!

ZOE

(to Annie)

720 Maple at 8 PM. Can't miss it.

(to Heather)

Okay Heather?

They all turn to Heather. She's taking a quick sip of a bloodpacket and dabbing her mouth. They shake their heads at her.

Heather shrugs sheepishly and tucks several blood packets into her bag. Fiona catches this - just before a large needle appears in front of her.

NURSE

So. Left or right?

EXT. ABANDONED CHURCH - NIGHT

One of the city's gothic derelicts squashed between two skyscrapers.

INT. ABANDONED CHURCH - NIGHT

The place is a mish mash of times, cultures and teenage fads. The girls wear matching pyjamas, have their hair up in curlers and flick through American Cheerleader magazine and High School brochures.

CLEO

Here's a good one in New Orleans.
Football team's been undefeated for
two years.

SHELBY

I wanna go back to California where
the surfer guys are so hot!

ZOE

I can't wait to move on. The team
here blows.

Annie checks out a pin up poster of Maverick from Top Gun.

ANNIE

Tom Cruise hasn't aged a day.

CLEO

(sarcastically)
I wonder why.

ANNIE

No!

All the girls nod their heads.

ANNIE

How can we be in a church?

SHELBY

Just because we're vampires doesn't
mean we don't believe.

ANNIE
No, I meant on holy ground?

MONIQUE
Old wives tale.

Heather walks in with a tray of glasses and tosses the empty blood packets in the trash.

HEATHER
Smoothies!

The girls excitedly take one and move to some couches.

ZOE
So, I took a look at the paper and I think we should...

MONIQUE
...oh actually Zoe, Annie's already prepared something for us.

ZOE
(annoyed)
She has?

Annie takes out six colorful furry folders.

ANNIE
Yes! Here you go. Shelby that's yours. Pink.

SHELBY
I love pink!

ANNIE
Yellow, Monique. Heather, red. Cleo, blue. I'm green and Zoe, brown.

ZOE
Brown? Why am I brown?

ANNIE
They only had these colors. Anyway, these are our assignments for tomorrow night. If you'll turn to page one -

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET - NIGHT

Downtown in it's full glitz and glamor. People coming out of theaters, restaurants in full swing, traffic bustling. We zoom down to a seedier part of town.

ANNIE OS

An area downtown is experiencing some difficulty. I suggest we start there.

CUT TO:

A STREET CORNER

A PIMP slaps a HOOKER senseless. As the woman pleads for her life, her eyes fill with ABSOLUTE FEAR as she focuses on something behind the pimp. The pimp sees this - he stops, then turns around. The hooker's eyes *bulge* as we hear the pimp's screams.

INT. ABANDONED CHURCH - NIGHT

ANNIE

And now please turn to page two.

The girls all turn over the page in perfect syncopation.

EXT. CLUB - NIGHT

In another area of town, teenagers hang outside a warehouse.

ANNIE OS

On the Ask Lucy page of Women's Day magazine - -

BACK TO THE GIRLS

who look quizzically at Annie.

ANNIE

My Mom gets it.

The girls happily accept this and Annie continues.

ANNIE

Mrs. Collins, a mother, writes about how her son died after taking a bad dose of E at a rave.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

A rave is in full rage. We see A DEALER handing out pills to kids.

ANNIE OS

This has been low priority to the cops and she asks if someone can help do something so other mothers are spared her pain.

EXT. CLUB - NIGHT

The dealer passes out drugs from his SUV. He winds up his tinted window and rolls down the street. SUDDENLY a hand tears through the sunroof and yanks him out.

A bumper sticker is slapped on the SUV. It reads JUST SAY NO.

BACK TO THE GIRLS

ANNIE

Page three. This one boggles the mind.

The girls eagerly turn the page. A picture of the cutest puppy you've ever seen stares back at them.

ANNIE

This is Snoodles. Snoodles' owner was only fined for killing her and her littermates. This was the owner's fifth cruelty offence in the last year.

GASP! The girls are aghast.

SHELBY

Snoodles! Triple star!

EXT. ROW HOUSE - DAY

A dowdy WOMAN cruelly ties up a dog to her radiator. The doorbell rings. She walks through the house past hundreds of animals trapped in cages too small for them and living in squalor.

She opens the door and sees our six girls standing there like crusading girl scouts.

INT. ABANDONED CHURCH - NIGHT

Annie *snaps* her folder closed. Shelby puts her hand on her chest. Monique looks at Annie proudly. Zoe rolls her eyes.

SHELBY

This is gonna be awesome! We better get our beauty rest.

HEATHER

Annie? Wanna bunk next to me?

EXT. ABANDONED CHURCH - NIGHT

Fiona sees the number 720 etched on the sidewalk. She opens an old creaky gate and tip toes up to the church. She tries the door but it's locked. Seeing a window around the side, she peers in, but can't see anything.

A basement grate is half way open. It's covered in THICK COBWEBS. Fiona scrunches her face, gingerly peels away the silk and reluctantly slides through.

INT. CHURCH BASEMENT - NIGHT

Fiona clicks on a flashlight and sees a HUGE BLACK HAIRY SPIDER! Looking closer she sees the spider is actually a cuddly toy sitting amongst heaps of stuffed animals. Phew! Fiona scans the room. Racks of dated clothes line one wall while another is teeming with books.

Fiona pulls out a book - it's a high school yearbook from 1985 in Boston. She flicks through the senior section and *what does she see?* Zoe, Cleo, Heather and Shelby with 80's haircuts and cheerleading uniforms with legwarmers!

She takes out another book - Seattle, 1968. The girls wear go-go boots with their old style uniforms!

Then a third from 1945 in Kansas. The girls wear post- WWII uniforms and stand on hay bales!

Fiona looks at the entire wall covered with yearbooks. CREAK! - a noise upstairs. She switches off the flashlight.

INT. MAIN SANCTUARY - NIGHT

As Fiona walks up a spiral staircase, she hears a toilet flush. A half asleep Shelby *staggers* into the room - *levitates* and *swings upside down!*

Now Fiona sees the cheerleaders - caked in mud masks and tea bags taped to their eyes, *hanging from the rafters!*

Fiona's jaw drops. A noise couldn't escape even if she wanted it to.

She races back down the stairs gasping for breath. She heads to the grate but stops. She grabs a yearbook and gets the hell out of Dodge.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Remy's doing push ups. The Coach stands over him.

COACH

We've lost three games in a row
because of you! Hundred push ups
for each loss, then go shower!

The coach walks away. Remy counts from one - as his nose hits the ground, a book with the date 1954 on the cover lands in front of him. He looks up to see Fiona.

FIONA

I knew there was something going
on! There's no way those bitches
could do a double backflip and get
straight A's! At last I have proof!

REMY

I'm a little busy right now Fi. Get
to the point.

FIONA

I don't know if you can handle it.
I don't know if I can. It's harsh.

REMY

I have to shower with fifty naked
guys. Is it harsher than that?

INT. JANITOR CLOSET - DAY

Fiona and Remy stand nose to nose. Remy stares at a page in the '54 yearbook. Zoe, Heather, Cleo and Shelby in '50s clothes.

FIONA

Think about it. Stealing blood
packs, levitating, perfect skin.
Come to think of it, I've never
seen them look in a mirror. *That*
isn't normal.

FIONA(cont'd)
The Guerilla Guide to Killing
Vampires says there are numerous
ways to kill them. Stakes, garlic,
holy water -

REMY
You forgot beheading.

FIONA
Oh right! Good one!

Fiona quickly scribbles it down. Remy can't believe her.

FIONA
However the only sure way is
sunlight. (-) Which explains the
sunscreen - that's why they can go
out in daylight!

REMY
No wonder your stuff is so freaky.

FIONA
That's made up. This is real.

REMY
Wait a second--

FIONA
--Those bitches took away one best
friend. They're not getting
another. Are you in or are you out?

A moment as Remy thinks about it.

REMY
This is completely insane, abnormal
and whacked. Count me in.

FIONA
Great!

Fiona cracks open the door, looks both ways and walks out.
Remy's left in the closet alone.

INT. MENS LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Remy lounges in the whirlpool. The heat timer ticks round. He
hears some female voices coming from the wall behind. With a
wicked grin he opens a small grating in the wall to reveal -
our cheerleaders applying lotion.

Remy enjoys this pretty picture until he notices - NO REFLECTIONS IN THE MIRROR!!! He stares in disbelief when - BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! The timer goes off. The girls SNAP around.

Remy stops the timer and lays back, silently stunned.

INT. GIRLS LOCKER ROOM - DAY

The cheerleaders look in Remy's direction.

CLEO

Hm. Must have been a cell.

JUST THEN, a bunch of GIRLS enter. The squad do their GO BEARS! routine and race out.

One of the girls turns around - it's Fiona. She quickly pockets a bottle of lotion.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

The cheerleaders shake their heads in frustration as the football team fumble about. Annie pulls out a hand made chart of a new routine. All the girls gather round and are excited - except Zoe.

ZOE

This is gonna bomb. It's so flawed.

ANNIE

What flaws?

CLEO

I don't see any.

SHELBY

I think it's fresh.

HEATHER

We've done the same thing forever Zoe. It's kinda boring.

ZOE

Boring! It's not the routine that needs changing, it's the team!

HEATHER

Jeez Zoe. Get a vibrator.

ZOE

What's that supposed to mean?

As they argue, Fiona jogs by unnoticed and pockets a sports drink from the sidelines.

INT. DINER - DAY

The cheerleaders are silently fuming. Donna comes up to them.

DONNA
So the big game is next weekend
right? Are you guys ready to go?

SHELBY
Yeah with Annie on board we're
gonna kick butt!

ZOE
(flat)
Yeah. Annie's great. Total savior.

DONNA
(to Annie)
That's great honey. I used to be a
cheerleader too you know. I know
how much dedication it takes.

Donna heads off.

CLEO
What's your problem Zoe?

ZOE
We have a bad team because someone
here killed the quarterback!

SHELBY
That really isn't very fair Zoe.
Annie was just expressing herself.

ANNIE
He deserved what he got.

ZOE
Yeah? Well I don't deserve to lose!

An uncomfortable beat as the girls look miffed - then, a *squeal* from Shelby as a thought hits her.

SHELBY
Idea!
(sing-song)
Field Trip. We need the paper.

ANNIE
I'll get it. It's getting stale in
here.

Zoe burns a look into Annie as she goes outside.

EXT. DINER - NIGHT

Annie plunks quarters into a newspaper vending machine.

SUDDENLY a van pulls up. Its door opens and two people dressed in black wearing masks *jump out*. One *grabs* Annie and tries to *force* her into the van. Annie *swats* him away like a bug.

The attacker gets up making another attempt. Again, he's on the ground.

FIGURE #2
Damn it Remy! This was supposed to
be in and out.

FIGURE #1
She's too strong!

The second assailant rips off her mask. Fiona.

FIONA
Annie. Get in. We need to talk.

ANNIE
What are you two idiots doing?

FIONA
It's a matter of life and death.

ANNIE
It'll be your death if you don't
get out of here.

FIONA
Please! It'll take two minutes.

Annie sees Fiona's determined face.

ANNIE
One minute.

Annie climbs into the van. Remy jumps into the driver's seat and *hits* the gas.

INT. VAN - NIGHT

Annie instantly wrinkles her nose.

ANNIE
What reeks?!

Fiona grabs several garlic necklaces, puts two on and throws the rest to Remy.

FIONA
Here! No telling what she'll do.
(turns to Annie)
We're working on a way to help you.

ANNIE
What are you talking about?

REMY
Your Dracula problem.

ANNIE
You know?

FIONA
Of course we know! Nobody's boobs
grow three sizes over night.

Remy turns back to stare at Annie's boobs.

FIONA
(not even turning to Remy)
Road Remy!

ANNIE
I don't need help Fi.

FIONA
Right. You're just going to be a
creature of the night forever?

ANNIE
You don't get it. This is my chance
to make a difference in the world.

FIONA
By eating people?

ANNIE
If you want the rainbow, you have
to put up with the rain. You could
join me Fi. I can get you in now.

FIONA

I don't want to be part of your club! Group think is the downfall of humankind. Besides they don't care about you. Remember what they did to Simone.

ANNIE

That's slander! Remy stop the car.

REMY

No way! I'm bringing my girl back.

WITHIN AN INSTANT, Annie's fingernail grows into a stiletto and it's at Remy's neck. Remy *jams* on the brakes. The door *slides* open and Annie is back out on the street.

FIONA

Hey crusader? I forgot to tell you. You're gonna be out of a job soon.

Fiona throws a newspaper to Annie who catches it.

FIONA

Oh and by the way, I know about Jason. Go ask his family if you've made a difference in the world.

Fiona pulls the door shut and the van drives off. Annie stares after it. The last comment hit hard.

She looks down at the school paper headline. It reads: CHEERLEADING TEAM TO BE CUT AFTER BIG GAME SAYS SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMAN JOHN BARNHAM. His smiling picture is next to the article.

EXT. TREE LINED DRIVE - DAY

The cheerleaders walk together wearing black armbands. They look very unhappy. Shelby dabs her eyes.

We pull back to see that the girls are in...

EXT. THE CEMETERY - DAY

...at Jason's funeral. A crowd congregates around Jason's MOTHER, FATHER and younger BROTHER.

The girls, each holding a pink rose, stand with the rest of their classmates as a preacher eulogizes.

PREACHER

There are two paths in life that we can go down - the good which leads to salvation or the bad that leads to a lower road. Frequently one will look like the other - a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Fiona looks over to the cheerleaders.

PREACHER

Jason had to make such difficult decisions every day. He made some mistakes for which the Lord shall judge him. However he also followed the good path - be it with his many friends at school, as a loving older brother or as the star quarterback on the football field, always being cheered.

SHELBY

(crying)

Uhhhhh!

Shelby can't help herself.

PREACHER

Though tragic, let us not lose hope for in his death this gentle soul teaches us a great life lesson. We have to look within ourselves to find the correct path.

Annie stares at Fiona. Fiona catches her eye.

PREACHER

We inter Jason's body to the earth.
Ashes to ashes, dust to dust...

Annie stares at Jason's devastated family. A wave of humanity hits her.

The preacher finishes and the girls line up to pay their last respects to Jason, throwing their pink roses onto the casket.

Annie walks towards Fiona, but Fiona turns away. The squad comes to Annie's side.

MONIQUE

Grudges will be her end.

SHELBY

Funerals are such a downer.
Heather, is my mascara running?

Heather dabs Shelby's face with her tissue. Zoe looks at the mourners.

ZOE

Ugh! They're so pathetic.

Zoe spies JOHN BARNHAM, the school board chairman. She nudges the other girls.

ZOE

(menacingly sing-song)
Field trip.

The girls level their gaze on him.

GIRLS

(seething)
Fantassimo.

INT. MORGUE - NIGHT

Fiona looks at blood under a microscope. Two books sit beside her - BLOOD DISEASES AND REMEDIES and THE GUERRILLA GUIDE TO KILLING VAMPIRES. She compares notes in the books and comes to a page on blood cures. It has a picture of a tree called Cinchona, she flicks the page to Arsenic, she flicks again landing on "penicillin - 1928 miracle cure". She goes back to the microscope.

On a Microscopic Image as one grotesque looking cell devours another. Was that a yelp?

FIONA

It's definitely an infection.
What have you found?

Fiona looks up to see Remy slapping on the moisturizing cream and smelling it.

REMY

This is great! Smells like jasmine.

DAVE OS

That's vanilla dude.

Dave also lathers himself up in moisturizer - so does Colin.

COLIN

It's not greasy like the others.

Dave and Remy look at Colin.

COLIN

What?

There's another squeal - Fiona turns to the microscope.

FIONA

We need more blood.

REMY

I'll get another bottle from
school.

Everyone stares at Remy.

REMY

I'm sure they're "Busy" tonight.

The doors swing open as another orderly wheels in a corpse.

FIONA

Not another one?

Dave checks out the paperwork.

DAVE

Nope. Leukaemia poor guy. He was
waiting for a bone marrow
transplant but he went before they
could give it to him.

Fiona takes this in and looks back at the blood sample.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - NIGHT

Mr. Barnham ponders the ice cream shelf.

MR. BARNHAM

Vanilla, strawberry or chocolate?

ZOE OS

I love chocolate.

Zoe stands beside him. Mr. Barnham smiles at her, grabs the
ice cream and turns away to see - ZOE STANDING IN FRONT OF
HIM! Mr. Barnham's confused - how'd she do that?

EUGENE OS

Baby kicking again?

MR. BARNHAM
 (back to reality and over
 to the cashier)
 You know it.

He squeezes past Zoe and pays Eugene, the CASHIER. He turns to leave BUT Zoe's in front of him again!

ZOE
 I hear you have a little girl on
 the way Mr. Barnham?

MR. BARNHAM
 Do I know you?

ZOE
 We were hoping she'd join the squad
 some day at Washington Heights. I
 guess that's out now.

A spark of realization.

MR. BARNHAM
 Oh. I'm really sorry about that but
 we had to make cuts for school
 lunches, books and computers.

Mr. Barnham feels a presence behind him. He looks over his shoulder to see the four cheerleaders - glaring at him.

MR. BARNHAM
 (wary)
 Look. If you really want to talk
 about this, come by my office
 tomorrow and I can explain in more
 detail. Now isn't the time.

He tries to get to the door but Zoe blocks his way.

ZOE
 I thought teachers always had time
 for their students.

ANNIE OS
 Don't do it Zoe.

Annie stands at the end of an aisle on the other side of the store. She walks towards Zoe.

ANNIE
 It's not a crime. Besides in a year
 you'll be cheering somewhere else.

ZOE
It's the principle Annie.

MR. BARNHAM
Ladies, I've got a very pregnant
wife at home. We'll talk tomorrow.

Mr. Barnham attempts to move toward the exit but Shelby
SHOVES him hard into a pyramid of beer cans.

HEATHER
It's cheering Annie.

Heather punches through the wall and pulls out the wiring.
The lights go out.

CLEO
It's our passion.

Cleo easily pulls a heavy cooler in front of the door. Eugene
nervously shifts from foot to foot behind the counter.

ANNIE
But he's getting books for kids!

ZOE
This cold sore is threatening our
very existence and you're gonna let
him get away with it?

A dazed Mr. Barnham clammers up from the beer cans.

MR. BARNHAM
Could I say something here?

ALL CHEERLEADERS
No!

Annie turns to the girls.

ANNIE
You know this isn't right.

HEATHER
Zoe's kept us out of trouble for a
very long time.

CLEO
Simone never understood that.

ZOE
That's why she had to go. You don't
want to go down that route.

Annie turns to Shelby. Shelby can't even look at Annie and waves her off. Annie looks at Monique.

MONIQUE

We have to protect ourselves.

ZOE

There you have it.

Zoe's attention focuses back on Mr. Barnham. She takes a menacing step towards him.

MR. BARNHAM

Don't make me call your parents.

ZOE

Try the cemetery.

IN FULL VAMP MODE Zoe lunges at Mr. Barnham! Annie intervenes *tackling* her to the ground.

ZOE

Are you insane?!

Eugene *grabs* a handgun from under the counter and *swings* it to Zoe's head.

EUGENE

Stay right there!

(to Mr. Barnham)

John! Out the back!

Eugene glances at his security monitor. NONE OF THE GIRLS ARE ON IT! His gun points into thin air! His eyes go WIDE.

Mr. Barnham makes a dash for the back. He runs down the aisle knocking items to the ground to secure his retreat. A WHOOSH - and Mr. Barnham is SLAMMED into the back door. He can't move, pinned. He looks back and sees -

Zoe's fingernail is extended six feet impaling him through his back and into the door!

Lifting her finger Zoe moves Mr. Barnham to the ceiling. She then retracts her fingernail and Mr. Barnham falls to the floor in a heap.

Eugene in utter fear, opens fire. *Store items fly all over the place.* The smoke clears. Eugene clicks an empty gun.

Unbelievable to Eugene, the girls still stand before him. AAAAGH! Heather stands there with her hands in the air - screaming.

HEATHER

Oh no you didn't! This was a brand
new Donna Karen!

She fingers a hole.

CLEO

Look what you did?!

Cleo's hand is open but her middle finger isn't there! She
closes her hand into a fist - then the missing digit grows
back into place - flipping Eugene the bird!

ZOE

No witnesses, Monique.

The squad viciously *JUMP* onto Eugene. Zoe turns to Annie.

ZOE

Remember what you are - a killer.

Annie bites back the hunger and turns to leave.

ZOE

You walk out that door, you are so
off the team.

Annie angrily fiddles with her hair, pulling out a pink
scrunchie.

ANNIE

You know, I've always hated pink!

She throws the scrunchie to the floor and exits.

INT. ANNIE APARTMENT - DAY

Annie opens the fridge to see one power drink remaining.

STEVE OS

Gimme that.

Annie stands up to see a drunk Steve.

ANNIE

This is my last one.

Sally overhears from the hallway.

STEVE

This is my house and I'll take
what's in it.

ANNIE

My mother deserves better than you,
you scumbag!

Steve moves threateningly toward Annie. She puts up her hand blocking him and holds him back. Steve's surprised by the force and struggles towards her.

STEVE

Your mother is too stupid to know
what better is.

Lightening fast, Annie's eyes flare and her teeth start to grow - Steve catches it for a second but in his alcohol haze isn't sure what it is. Sally barges into the kitchen.

SALLY

Steve! Back up!

Steve gets in Sally's face.

STEVE

Ooh. I'm scared.

SALLY

You prick. All she does is get good
grades and clean up your mess.
That's it. I'm done!

STEVE

What? You think you two bitches are
gonna scare me off?

Sally pulls a knife from the cutting board.

SALLY

Get out! And don't let the door
swat your ass!

Steve glances over to Annie who stands behind Sally.

Her teeth are extended, her eyes red with hate - TERRIFIED,
he takes off.

Sally relaxes and turns to Annie who's now back to normal.

ANNIE

Damn Mom, I didn't know you had it
in you.

SALLY

My horoscope said don't take any
crap today.

The tension breaks and they laugh.

INT. SCHOOL HALLS - DAY

Banners scatter the halls with 'GO BEARS!' and 'HOMECOMING GAME'.

Annie sees the cheerleaders. Each carry clipboards and talk to groups of students. Her vampire ears prick up.

HEATHER

So open tryouts for winter season's team start next week.

CLEO

Sign up right here. We really hope you become one of us.

SHELBY

You're so pretty! All the boys will so want you.

MONIQUE

Yeah we recently lost another member of our team.

ZOE

She wasn't special enough, but I think you are! Like our newest member. Oh! Here she comes now.

ALL GIRLS

Hi Janey!

Janey, now looking leaner, prettier and dressed like a cheerleader, walks down the hall. She waves and smiles at the girls, then flips her hair.

JANEY

Hey! I just signed up a whole bunch of really cute guys for our new male cheerleaders!

GIRLS

Oooh!

MISS VERONA OS

Annie?

Annie turns to see Miss V. In a suit and looking fabulous.

MISS VERONA

With Mr. Barnham's death I've been appointed to the school board and I've been reprioritizing.

Miss Verona pulls out several pink letters from a folder.

MISS VERONA

Now I understand that you and the girls have had a falling out.

She shakes the letters at Annie.

MISS VERONA

They are rather upset with your attitude lately so I'm afraid that I'm going to have to cut you from the team. Good day.

ANNIE

I thought the team was disbanded?

MISS VERONA

Funding has been fully reinstated and I will make sure that it will never be taken away.

With that Miss Verona turns and walks away. Her stilettos clicking along the linoleum.

SUDDENLY, the students gasp in astonishment and then part.

SHELBY

He's so dreamy!

It's REMY... his muscles rippling, his hair rakishly coiffed and wearing coordinated GAP clothing.

He nods to classmates and gives a little point here and there.

HEATHER

Yummy. Twice as spun as Jason.

With him are Cory and Josh looking juiced and twice as hyper. They high five a buddy almost knocking his arm out of it's socket.

Remy takes a huge swig of his Big Gulp and walks past Annie to Zoe, giving Annie the cold shoulder.

ZOE

Hey stud.

REMY

Hey babe. How you doing?

ZOE

Fantassimo. Can I have a sip?

REMY

For you, anything.

Zoe seductively sips. Annie zeros in on the straw and sees a familiar dark red liquid creeping up it. Zoe looks directly at her as she sucks.

Realization hits Annie. She sees an almost healed scar on Remy's neck. The same on Josh and Cory. Oh. My. God.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Annie rushes in and takes a deep breath. Fiona spins around with a sports bottle in her hand.

FIONA

Oh! I see you have that stealth thing down now.

Annie ignores her and sits down. Fiona unclips a tiny silver cross earring holding it up defiantly.

FIONA

Stay away!

ANNIE

What are you, Madonna?

Fiona pushes the silver earring closer and holds up the sports bottle.

FIONA

This is evidence. I'm gonna blow you guys wide open!

ANNIE

You should.

FIONA

Your days are numbered! Prepare for a world of shit!

ANNIE

I'm a monster Fi.

FIONA

Great. Growth. Now get out of my way, I've got bloodsuckers to kill.

ANNIE

They got Remy.

Fiona lowers the cross.

ANNIE

I'm so upset and I can't even kill myself.

SUDDENLY there's noise outside in the hall. Fiona takes a peek. Josh and Cory are psyching each other up for the Game.

CORY

Are we gonna kick their asses tomorrow?!

Cory SLAMS Josh in the shoulders. Josh SLAMS him back.

JOSH

Hell yeah!

CORY

BEARS rule!

Cory POUNDS Josh hard on the face and a snap is heard as Josh's head spins around. Josh is pissed.

JOSH

Dude! Uncool!

He reciprocates and the same thing happens to Cory. They both laugh, neither feeling any pain.

Fiona closes the door.

FIONA

We've got to stop these guys!

ANNIE

(defeated)

We can't win. They're too strong. We should just let them be.

FIONA

Are you crazy?! When are they gonna stop? Basketball season starts in two weeks and the team sucks!

ANNIE

(softly)

It's all my fault. I shouldn't have killed Jason.

FIONA

Jason was a scumbag predator. He didn't care who he hurt.

ANNIE

Yeah, but he didn't deserve what I did to him.

(a thought strikes her)

Oh! He's Metallica, isn't he?

FIONA

Yeah. And I'm not gonna give up any more bands.

INT. BACK ROOM MORGUE - NIGHT

Annie is seated on a cold metal gurney. Colin is staring wide eyed at her as Dave wheels in an EKG machine.

COLIN

I don't know Fi. She doesn't look like one of them. We could get in trouble for this if it's not real.

Colin pokes Annie's teeth. Annie *bares her fangs at full extension.*

ANNIE

Don't touch.

Colin shrinks back.

COLIN

Jeez. Just asking.

DAVE

Had my heart broken by a cheerleader. Tiffany Bender. Never did get closure.

COLIN

One invited me out to a jock party. "Bring a nerd night".

FIONA

Those bitches! (-) Annie, lie down here so we can get started.

ANNIE
Started on what?

CUT TO:

Annie is lying on a gurney hooked up to an EKG machine. Dave and Colin strap her down.

FIONA
In everything I've read, vampirism is a mutation of your DNA caused by an infection. So we're giving you an anti-vamp cocktail of penicillin to kill it and bone marrow and a stimulant to jump start your immune system. That should snap you back to the living.

ANNIE
How do you know?

FIONA
I don't. But you're the perfect guinea pig. If we can stop the infection we can save you and them and we don't have to kill anyone.

Colin sneezes hocking up a huge phlegm ball into his hands. He wipes it off on his white labcoat.

ANNIE
Aren't you guys gonna sterilize - something?

COLIN
Why? You're dead already.

Dave turns on the EKG - the flat line noise shrieks.

DAVE
See.

He turns down the volume then *jabs* Annie with a MASSIVE NEEDLE that stays in her arm.

ANNIE
Hey, that didn't hurt at all.

DAVE
Dead remember?

The cocktail starts to slowly drip down into the tube.

FIONA

Now lay back. This is gonna take a little while and you might start to feel a little light headed - that is if you feel at all.

ON ANNIE as she leans back and tries to relax. She hears whispering from across the room where Fiona, Dave and Colin are now huddled together. Dave awkwardly puts his arm around Fiona.

DAVE

So can she fly?

COLIN

Or turn into a bat?

BACK TO ANNIE as street noises take over. A police scanner tells of a homicide in the area, then a siren as paramedics leave the city hospital. Piercing loud at first, the siren recedes into the distance and when gone, all the other noise has disappeared.

Annie looks over to her friends. They're talking but she can't hear them. She looks up at a bright light overhead - it slowly begins to pale. The IV packets go from a brilliant red to a dark muted red. Annie hears the EKG *ping* with a heart beat.

ANNIE

Um. Guys?!

They don't hear her. Annie looks around the room, happy as the colors all return to normal.

ANNIE

Hey!

Fiona, Dave and Colin run over to Annie. They see the EKG beeping intermittently.

ANNIE

Am I alive?

FIONA

(surprised)

Yeah! I think you're human again.

Annie begins to smile when SUDDENLY she feels a *sharp pain* in her stomach. AGONIZING! The EKG beeps faster. BEEP BEEP BEEP! She instantly covers the pain in her belly.

FIONA

What's that?

Fiona points to a dark red stain on Annie's shirt. Annie turns to look but then she starts to choke, going into a SEIZURE. Her body *bounces up and down* on the table.

DAVE
She's rejecting it!

Fiona looks at the IV and then back at Annie.

FIONA
It's killing her!

Fiona *PULLS OUT* the IV. The convulsions subside. The lifeline on the EKG goes flat. BEEEEEEEEEEEEEE! A moment and then Annie's wound begins to heal.

DAVE
What the hell?

Annie jerks upright, *scaring the hell out of everyone* as she comes back to the undead. She *rips* the wires to the EKG machine out of their sockets. The machine sparks and then *EXPLODES* in a plume of smoke. The lights cut out and emergency UV lighting comes on.

DAVE
She's overloaded the system.

Smoke starts to rise up from under Annie's clothes. Annie's horrified as it ignites into flames. Panicked, she starts patting out the fire.

Fiona looks up at the lights and realizes what's going on.

FIONA
Grab a blanket!

They all grab one and smother Annie. The flames go out.

FIONA
Shut off the lights!

DAVE
Huh?

FIONA
Shut off the ULTRA VIOLET lights!

Dave runs over to the fuse box and flips a switch. The morgue goes dark.

A lighter comes on. Fiona's. She illuminates the scene with it. Annie pulls off the blankets, her body already healed.

COLIN
Well that didn't work.

The normal lights come back on.

INT. MORGUE BODY DEPOSITORY - NIGHT

Dave, Colin, Fiona and Annie sit among the full gurneys.
They're not happy.

FIONA
I can't believe Jason almost killed
you.

DAVE
Good thing you were dead already.

Dave winces at putting his foot in his mouth.

FIONA
(to Annie)
Thank God we stopped the experiment
in time or you would've died. For
real this time.

Annie takes this in.

ANNIE
Great. I'm going to be a vampire
for the rest of my life.

COLIN
Well, are you a night person?

Everyone looks at Colin like he's an idiot.

COLIN
What? It'll help.

ANNIE
I guess it's back to Plan B.

Fiona looks at her friend quizzically.

ANNIE
Destroy all evil.

EXT. FOOTBALL STADIUM - NOON

Homecoming Game day. Dozens of people prepare the stadium.

Dave, Colin, Annie and Fiona pull up in Remy's van. The door slides open as they unload several boxes. Dave passes syringes to the girls who fill up their gym bags.

DAVE

Remember. The reason why you're alive (?-) is because you only got a smidge of this stuff and your undeadness was able to compensate. To kill a bloodsucker, you've gotta give them the whole thing.

Dave holds up a large full syringe.

COLIN

That isn't very PC Dave - I think they prefer 'mortally challenged'.

Dave rolls his eyes, then taps Fiona's shoulder.

DAVE

Be careful out there.

The two exchange smiles. Dave and Colin wheel the boxes in on a dolly and blend in with the other laborers.

EXT. SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Annie and Fiona carry gym bags into the school and head for the locker rooms.

INT. FOOTBALL STADIUM - AFTERNOON

The capacity crowd is in full throat as the game kicks off. Josh receives the ball with Cory blocking for him. They *smash* through the opposing defense single-handedly and quickly score, sending the spectators into a frenzy.

Josh and Cory celebrate with another team member who's blasted by their chest bump. The boys look over to the Lincoln cheerleaders and start to get "feelings".

Zoe and her posse encourage everybody with a snappy sideline routine. Sally, who's in the crowd, looks down at them - where's Annie?

Mr. Schaeffer, holding two hot dogs and two beers, sees Sally sitting alone. He gestures if he can join her. She slides over. He offers her a hot dog and a beer.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - AFTERNOON

With the stadium roar in the distance, Annie and Fiona enter. They open up the girls' lockers, remove their moisturizer jars and replace them with identical ones.

Annie sees a pink blouse. She holds it against her chest.

ANNIE
What do you think?

FIONA
It's PINK!

ANNIE
Damn.

She throws it back down, then spots extra cheerleader uniforms on a rack. She picks one up and holds it against Fiona's body. Fiona shakes her head desperately.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - LATE AFTERNOON

The game is approaching halftime. Remy has time for one last play. He takes the ball, shakes off several potential tacklers, and flings a bomb fifty yards to an open receiver for a score! A shocked Remy is mobbed by his teammates and the coach. They head to the locker room.

Zoe summons the cheerleaders together including newbie, Janey.

ZOE
OK, girls. 10 minutes to showtime.
Inside and reapply.

The girls head off to...

INT. THE LOCKER ROOM - DUSK

The girls spread moisturizer on their skin. Monique looks sad.

MONIQUE
Too bad Annie can't be here.

ZOE
She made a choice.

SHELBY

Yeah, but she was fricken good at the pyramids.

Just then Janey comes running in.

JANEY

Come on, everyone! They're wait-

Janey slips on some sweat, hits her head and is out cold.

CLEO

Shouldn't she get up from that?

ZOE

Too new. Weak shoulders anyway.

EXT. STADIUM BLEACHERS - DUSK

The stadium lights come on. Dave and Colin stand next to TWO HUGE SPOTLIGHTS. They reach under the stadium seats and pull out boxes which are marked 20K Arc Lights - UV. They quickly change the bulbs.

EXT. STADIUM FIELD LEVEL - CONTINUOUS

Gym bags in hand, Annie and Fiona come onto the field. Fiona tugs at her tight cheerleader outfit.

FIONA

This is the worst idea ever!

ANNIE

Are you ready for this?

FIONA

For fighting the undead? Oh, yeah. Born ready. I just hope there's no surprises.

SALLY OS

Annie! Annie! Over here!

Annie can't believe it when she sees her Mom approach with Mr. Schaeffer.

ANNIE

(mortified)

Mom? What are you doing here? Hi Mr. Schaeffer.

MR. SCHAEFFER

Hi ladies.

SALLY

You think I'd miss this? Fiona, far out! You're a cheerleader too?

FIONA

(flat)

Yeah. I'm real excited about it.

(to Annie)

Here they come.

The cheerleaders come prancing out onto the field as the halftime gun goes off. The PA system comes on.

PA ANNOUNCER

We're waiting for the Lincoln cheerleaders folks but it seems we're having problems finding them.

JOSH AND CORY walk back into the stadium wiping their mouths with the back of their sleeves. A Lincoln colored pom-pom is stuck in Cory's helmet. Josh yanks it out.

BACK ON THE FIELD

Miss Verona notices that they're a member short.

MISS VERONA

Where's Janey?

SHELBY

She had an accident.

MISS VERONA

How can--? Never mind. We need a replacement!

ZOE

We can do it ourselves.

MISS VERONA

Zoe, you can't build a six person pyramid with five people. Fix it!

Zoe, for the first time, is panicked. She looks all around, mind racing. Then she sees Annie. She grits her teeth and puts the biggest smile on her face and runs towards -

ANNIE

ZOE OS

Hi there Annie!

Annie and Fiona turn to Zoe. The devil incarnate right in front of them. Zoe does a double take at Fiona's attire and is almost revolted to see her in it.

ZOE

Ugh!

SALLY

Ooo. The captain. I'm Annie's Mom.

ZOE

Oh, it's a pleasure. Annie's an absolute angel. BUT she's late for our big routine! Hi Mr. Schaeffer, you enjoying the game?

MR. SCHAEFFER

Yes indeed! Can't wait to see what you have in store!

ANNIE

BUT Zoe, I thought I wasn't doing this one anymore.

ZOE

Oh please! Where would we be without you.

Sally beams at Mr. Schaeffer.

FIONA

Annie would love to do it Zoe.

ANNIE

What?

Fiona moves her eye down to the gym bag.

ANNIE

Oh, yeah. Sure. But I need my assistant. Fiona, are you ready for the vault?

Zoe and Fiona are both stunned.

ZOE/FIONA

Vault?

ANNIE

Duh! We've only been practicing all week.

FIONA

Oh sure. The Vault. It's going to
be - fantassimo.

Zoe stares at Fiona, then smiles.

ZOE

Way! Follow me then girls! Bye Mrs.
Hyde! Bye Mr. Schaeffer! You guys
look cute together.

Sally and Mr. Schaeffer look at each other and blush.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - NIGHT

Techno music blares through the PA system. Various spotlights
dance around. Dave and Colin man theirs.

PA ANNOUNCER

Well folks we're gonna go ahead
with the Washington Heights
Cheerleaders - take it away girls!

The girls begin their routine. Heather, Shelby and Cleo do
dramatic tumbling moves. Now Annie's turn with Fiona -

ANNIE

Ok. I'm gonna run at you and you
just fling me on top of them.

Fiona sees the girls forming a pyramid.

FIONA

Say what?

Fiona turns back to see Annie already tumbling towards her!
With no idea what to do, she puts her hands together and
closes her eyes.

Annie vaults up off Fiona and dives on to the top of the
pyramid - doing so, she swings out a syringe...

It barely misses Cleo's head who covers the awkward motion
with a flourish. Still maintaining a perfect pyramid.

CLEO

Girl! You are SO dead!

The girls flip Annie off the pyramid - venom in their eyes.
Zoe spies Annie's weapon and prepares to leap on her. Before
she can, Annie takes out the pyramid with a leg swipe!

The girls tumble and twist off, still maintaining order via cartwheels and summersaults. Zoe's leg *whacks* the syringe out of Annie's hand smashing it to the ground - it's contents soak into the earth.

EXT. FOOTBALL STADIUM STANDS - NIGHT

Dave and Colin focus the lights on the girls down below.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - CONTINUOUS

Fiona comes to Annie's aid. And she needs it because now they're surrounded by the squad. The crowd and Annie wonder what's going to happen next.

SUDDENLY a beam of UV light lands on Shelby.

SHELBY

Wow. That's bright!

Shelby enjoys the limelight, waving to the crowd. Then, she flames up, incinerating into white dust all over Heather.

HEATHER

Uugh!

Heather dusts herself off not paying attention to the light that moves over to her. She looks up into the brightness.

HEATHER

Oh. Not cool.

She bursts into a ball of light. More cheers from the crowd.

ON CLEO's face who's next in line - Is that fear?

She turns to run but is grabbed by Fiona. Panicked, Cleo *backhands* Fiona sending her *spinning* off the field. Fiona lands hard. She's scraped up bad and bleeding. A shadow comes over her - looking up she sees -

Miss Verona - mouth watering at Fiona's blood. Her mouth opens, vamp mode setting in! Fiona sees the UV beam arcing behind Miss V and with one swift kick, Miss V lands in the spotlight - she *explodes* like a July 4th finale!

BACK TO ANNIE

Who's pinning Monique down. They both see the UV light creeping across the field towards them. Annie drags Monique towards it, getting Monique's hand in the light.

It starts to flare and Monique screams. Adrenaline flowing, Monique throws Annie into the spotlight and rolls away.

Annie's skin flushes red - is she gonna fry? The light moves away in time but Monique's gone.

IN THE STANDS, Sally beams with pride and clinks paper cups with Mr. Schaeffer.

SALLY

My baby's a cheerleader. And, she's popular.

ON ZOE who smells her hand. This isn't her normal fragrance? She grabs two footballs and with two mighty heaves, she fires the pigskins into the spotlights, destroying the bulbs. A standing ovation from the crowd.

Zoe, Cleo and Monique make the best of it and bow, then retreat to the school.

INT. SCHOOL ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Annie and Fiona enter. The school's much scarier at night. Long empty dark corridors with lights that crackle. As Fiona hands Annie a few syringes, Annie notices Fiona's scrapes.

FIONA

Whatever we do, we don't split up.

Annie follows Fiona's lead down the hall but is distracted by the smell of Fiona's wound. Her teeth slowly begin to extend - she tries to fight the change but it's *too fast!* Her teeth reach full length when -

DRIP! Fiona and Annie see a spot of red on the floor. DRIP! It barely misses them. Fiona reaches down and touches it. Looking up above, she sees - Zoe, Monique and Cleo *upside down on the ceiling!* Zoe's putting on nail polish.

ZOE

Oops. Did I get you?

FIONA

No.

ZOE

Oh. How about now?

Zoe's fist comes out from nowhere *whacking* Fiona hard and *flinging* her down the hallway. The three vampires cackle.

Annie *flies up* to the ceiling. Zoe, Cleo and Monique face her upside down.

ANNIE
That wasn't nice.

ZOE
Really? Too much?

ANNIE
Definitely. Let me show you how
it's done.

ZOE
Oh goodie. You're going to play!

The four girls go at each other like jungle cats. *Fangs, fingernails and fury.* Zoe kicks Annie to a corner. As Annie gets up the girls see all their wounds heal up completely.

MONIQUE
Kinda takes the fun out of it
doesn't it?

ANNIE
If at first you don't succeed--

ZOE
--try try again!

The girls *launch* at Annie and the force sends them all down the hallway and around the corner. Far far away from Fiona.

FIONA
We're not supposed to split up!

Too late. Fiona is left alone.

EXT. SCHOOL - NIGHT

Dave and Colin, holding syringes, run past the practice football area toward the school. Suddenly Josh and Cory *jump out* at them, fangs bared! Dave and Colin take a step back, unsure whether to run or fight. Cory and Josh make the decision for them - tackling them to the ground.

CORY
Now for second down.

Josh and Cory leap up and immediately *fling* the startled Colin and Dave into the tackling sleds. Josh and Cory stalk their prey.

JOSH
Third down.

A severely bruised Colin and Dave clamber to their feet behind the sleds. With a war cry Josh and Cory *ram* into the padding forcing Colin and Dave back 25 feet. With closed eyes, they hang on for dear life barely holding the syringes.

Dave looks back and sees that one more shot will slam them into a wall. He swallows, then turns back with new vigor, ready for action.

DAVE
That's all you got?

Dave looks to Colin gesturing him to say something.

COLIN
(wary)
You - you guys hit like girls.

Colin smiles at Dave. Josh and Cory look at each other.

CORY
Fourth down.

They run *full speed* at the sleds, but just before they hit, Dave and Colin whip out syringes in front of the pads. The impact sends a full load into the vampires. There's a huge CRACK as Josh and Cory's heads go limp.

JOSH
(to Cory)
Should've punted.

They collapse in a heap. DEAD.

INT. SCHOOL HALLS - NIGHT

Annie races down the ceiling with the others in hot pursuit. She *swings* one of the hanging lights at Cleo who on impact, *bounces* down another hallway. Annie tries again with another light but the girls have caught on and get out of the way.

Seeing an incinerator trash chute Annie flies up it. Zoe and Monique stop in their tracks.

ZOE
Get in!

MONIQUE
Vile! People throw trash in there!

Zoe rolls her eyes.

INT. 2ND SCHOOL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Fiona creeps along. She comes to an open doorway and in bad TV cop form, leaps into the doorway with a syringe poised like a gun. She moves it up and down, side to side. Nothing.

INT. MATH CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Fiona quietly swings open a door to see Cleo, with her back to her, pondering a ridiculously hard math equation.

CLEO
(tutting)
I hate it when they get these
equations wrong.

Cleo erases part of the equation and begins to fix it. Fiona creeps up within arms length and extends the syringe.

SCREEEEEECH!!! Cleo scrapes her fingernails down the blackboard. Fiona stops cold.

CLEO
Don't you love that sound, Fiona?!

Cleo *whips* around and *is at Fiona's throat*. Fangs bared, ready to bite.

CLEO
I'll make this quick.

FIONA
Wait! Before I die there's this one
math problem that I've never been
able to solve.

CLEO
What?

FIONA
(pointing to the board)
May I?

Cleo thinks for a second, then releases her.

Fiona notices the presentation pointer in the chalk tray. On the blackboard she draws three faces with fangs, a minus sign, one face with fangs and then an equals sign. She picks up the pointer so Cleo can follow along.

FIONA

Ok. If you have three vampires and you subtract one vampire, how many vampires do you have left?

CLEO

Hmm. A trick question.

Cleo moves towards the board, she puts her hand on her hip and turns toward Fiona.

CLEO

But I only get two?

FIONA

Really?

Fiona *JAMS* the pointer into a stunned Cleo.

CLEO

Was I right?

She collapses to the floor - her body instantly shrivels up.

INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Annie climbs out of the trash chute, covered in soot and gunk. As she wipes some of it off she hears an eerie guitar echo.

INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Annie sees Remy on stage playing a guitar. She becomes self conscious about her appearance and tries to look presentable.

REMY

I used to love this.

ANNIE

You still can.

REMY

Nah. I've lost my mojo. Besides the vampire thing has opened my mind up to other possibilities.

ANNIE

Like what?

REMY

You and me. Perhaps we can rekindle things. Zoe wouldn't mind. Might even be into it.

ANNIE

I'm not that way.

REMY

Oh, right. Miss Prude dispatching her suitors in alleys - sorry, that was out of line.

Remy moves closer.

REMY

Can't control my mouth these days.

ANNIE

I completely understand.

They embrace and are about to kiss as Remy's teeth elongate, about to attack - *when*

Annie *STABS* the syringe into his chest and presses the plunger. Tears fill her eyes.

REMY

You broke my heart.

Remy begins to convulse. Then goes silent. Lifeless.

INT. CAFETERIA - NIGHT

Fiona sees a shadow and moves towards it. Nothing. She relaxes, turns and is *SHOCKED* to see Monique. They feel awkward.

FIONA

Hey.

MONIQUE

Hey. (-) So I'm guessing you're not too happy with my after school activities?

FIONA

You could say that.

Fiona clutches the syringe behind her back.

MONIQUE

(genuine)

I'm sorry that we don't hang
anymore - I had fun with you.

FIONA

Yeah. Me too.

MONIQUE

Well why don't I turn you? It could
be like old times.

ZOE OS

Not planning a coup are you?

Monique and Fiona turn to see Zoe - standing in the doorway.

MONIQUE

No Zoe, just offering an option.

ZOE

Really? Because from over here it
sounded like a knife in the back.
And I have real good hearing. 20/20
or whatever.

MONIQUE

We need new people Zoe. Next season
is going to be a killer one.

ZOE

I handle recruitment. And I don't
want this bit of fat and gristle on
our team. Kill her Monique.

Monique stares at Zoe. Fiona clasps her syringe tight.

ZOE

You're choosing her over me?

MONIQUE

She's my friend.

Zoe turns VAMP.

ZOE

She's FOOD!

She *dives* onto Fiona. Fiona *jabs* the syringe into Zoe's leg
but Zoe *rips* it out before Fiona can inject. Zoe, now with
the syringe, stalks Fiona. Monique suddenly steps in between,
knocking the syringe out of Zoe's hand.

MONIQUE
 (to Fiona)
 Get out of here!

Fiona's unsure.

MONIQUE
 Go!

Fiona's look turns to gratitude. She takes off. Zoe bolts into the kitchen through swinging doors. Monique races after her.

As the doors close there's a *Whoosh!* and a *Thump!* Then - Zoe walks back through the doors. She drops a long butcher knife to the floor and walks off.

Behind her, the doors swing back and forth revealing quick glimpses of Monique's body on the kitchen floor.

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

Annie cries over Remy's dead body.

ZOE OS
 Bitter. You're one tough date.

Zoe walks up to the stage. Annie sneaks another syringe behind her back.

ZOE
 I can't believe you. I gave you every girl's dream. No wrinkles, no saggy boobs and no unsightly body hair.

ANNIE
 Yeah. But you forgot one thing.

ZOE
 (frustrated)
 What?

ANNIE
 Fake ID's for the rest of my life.

The two girls go for it, beating the crap out of one another. Annie gets the upperhand and is about to kill Zoe with the syringe directly poised at Zoe's jugular.

ZOE
 Ok. Ok. Hold on.

Annie freezes.

ZOE

Crosses I get. Stakes I get. Holy water maybe but what the hell is that?

ANNIE

It's new. All the rage.

And with that, Annie *sticks* Zoe in the neck and *presses* the plunger! Nothing happens. Zoe's still alive.

ZOE

Obviously not gonna catch on.

Zoe's fingernail *shoots out* to Annie's eye.

ZOE

I want you to know that I'll never forget you.

As she's about to impale Annie's brain, her fingernail droops. Zoe looks at it surprised.

ZOE

Huh. That's odd.

THEN Zoe feels something else. She *stands up* to see her arms begin to ooze black vampire goo as four hundred years of injuries and wounds open up over her entire body.

IN SHOCK, Zoe looks down at her deformed gnarled self.

ZOE

(horrified)
I'M UGLY!!!

ANNIE

Yes you are. Inside and out bitch.

Zoe *crumples* to the floor. Dead. For real this time.

Fiona, Dave and Colin rush into the auditorium and see the aftermath. Zoe's disgusting corpse in front of them.

COLIN

Wow! Cheerleaders have gone downhill since our day.

DAVE

Thank God.

Annie turns to Fi. Two battle scarred veterans sharing a moment. JUST THEN, Remy *rises up* behind her.

Everyone turns, ready for the cliched comeback fight.

REMY
(sees everyone on edge)
Why are you all looking at me like that?

ANNIE
(in shock)
How-? You were dead -

REMY
And I'm in school? Man, that's one shitty afterlife.

FIONA
Ohmigod! He wasn't hurt as a vampire! Don't you see!

Fiona beams at blank stares.

FIONA
When he became human again he didn't have any wounds to die from!

REMY
I was a vampire?

Annie turns to Remy and kisses him.

ANNIE
You're fine.

REMY
I am now.

Remy kisses Annie back. It's a long one. Fiona and Dave look at each other, he holds her hand. Colin awkwardly coughs.

Annie pulls away. Then turns to Fiona.

ANNIE
How many have you got left?

Fiona holds up one syringe.

FIONA
Last one. Why?

ANNIE
I'll have to kill to survive.

Fiona looks at the syringe and then at Annie.

ANNIE

Plan B remember. Destroy all evil.

The two friends stare at each other.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

ON FIONA as she stares blankly. Suddenly the doors open.

INT. DARK HORSE COMICS OFFICE - DAY

Comic book art covers the walls. A young publisher, DARREN, sits in front of a nervous Fiona. He sifts through her drawings of a cheerleading vampire vigilante.

DARREN

Fiona. Fiona. This is gonna be the big one. Instant classic.

FIONA

Bitchin.

DARREN

It's do dark. Energized. Dare I say, inspired?

Fiona's eyes light up.

DARREN

We've greenlit your story for the year, so now you've gotta get cracking. I need the first of 12 issues in two weeks. And, we'll pay you an advance now. Cool?

FIONA

Definitely.

DARREN

Have you thought about making a sequel with a guy? Everyone would buy that.

FIONA

Popularity isn't everything.

DARREN

Of course, of course.

Darren goes back to the comics and is quickly engrossed, laughing and shaking his head.

DARREN

Who is your muse for this stuff?

Fiona has a half smile on her face. She looks down at her heroine cheerleader vampire.

EXT. CITY STREETS - NIGHT

From behind, we follow a graceful, perfectly styled cheerleader down a street. She trips on some trash and lands at the feet of a pair of DOC MARTINS.

A hand reaches down and the cheerleader looks up at it's owner - Annie, now dressed in a sleek black outfit.

CHEERLEADER

Oh! Thank you. Somebody should clean up this place.

ANNIE

I'm working on it.

She helps the cheerleader up and smiles as she watches the girl enter dreary Washington Heights High School.

INT. SCHOOL HALLS - DAY

Kids bustle along as the PA speaker crackles to life.

PRINCIPAL OS

The game didn't go as well as we expected and any information on the disappearance of our or the Lincoln cheerleaders would be appreciated. Due to this, tryouts will begin this afternoon for a chance of a lifetime to be a member of this city's finest.

A line of BOYS and GIRLS stand outside the Nurse's office.

PRINCIPAL OS

Remember, city officials are here today to administer free mandatory flu shots. All students are to go to the nurse's office by day's end.

The nurse's door opens, a STUDENT exits and Janey, now first in line, enters.

INT. NURSE OFFICE - DAY

Several doctors give the students flu shots. Two turn around to face Janey - it's Dave and Colin. They inject her with some familiar looking syringes. Janey oblivious, smiles, gets up and walks out.

EXT. SCHOOL HALLS - DAY

As Janey walks along she slowly morphs into her former self.

PRINCIPAL OS

In the spirit of tomorrow's
Thanksgiving holiday and in honor
of our fallen cheerleaders, the
school lunch today is turkey
burgers. GO BEARS!

EXT. CITY STREETS - DAY

Annie applies pink lipstick. She gets a bit on her teeth and has trouble wiping it off. To get better access, she widens her mouth and elongates her fangs.

Job done, she smiles and continues down the street. As she does so, the metropolis' noises and sounds start to build on top of each other, while the lights become vivid and streaked, eventually blurring together into one white flash.

FADE OUT