

CONNOR

"Footsteps"

by
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TEASER

INT. GABRIELLA AND CONNOR'S APARTMENT - DAY

ANGLE ON CONNOR sitting on the floor with his legs crossed and eyes closed, his brow furrowed in concentration.

ANGLE ON GABRIELLA in the same position, her face completely calm.

ON SCENE

The two of them are sitting on opposite ends of a map, hands joined.

From overhead, we see several LIGHTS materialize on the map.

Beads of sweat start to pour down Connor's face. LESI comes into frame and licks the side of his face. He smiles and opens his eyes, separating his hands from Gabriella.

Gabriella's body slumps as she comes out of it. Her eyes fall to the map as the lights dissipate.

GABRIELLA

Damn it, Connor.

Connor doesn't seem too bothered, ruffling his hands on Lesi's neck.

GABRIELLA

A few more seconds and the locations would've held.

CONNOR

So we'll do it again...later.

Gabriella takes a sip from a nearby glass of water and gets to her feet.

GABRIELLA

That's not the point. You broke the link.

CONNOR

Still not seeing why you can't do this on your own.

GABRIELLA

I don't have that kind of latent energy.

CONNOR

Could've fooled me. I've seen what you can do.

GABRIELLA

All that flashy stuff comes through years of training. Plus things like telekinesis and barrier spells are a one and done sort of thing. A sustained effort is a hell of a lot harder to keep up.

CONNOR

So you have to siphon off me.

GABRIELLA

If you'd pay better attention to the instructions I've been trying to give you, you'd be able to do this spell on your own.

CONNOR

I doubt I can pull off a spell you can't do alone.

GABRIELLA

Your body's better equipped for it.

Connor gives her a wry grin.

GABRIELLA

Not like that. You were created by higher powers. There's a latent reservoir of mystical energy in you.

CONNOR

I thought I was completely human, minus that bug in my system.

GABRIELLA

You are, but...how to explain this?
(beat)

It's basic physics. All magic really is is training your mind and body to tap into parts of the brain that noone else uses and harnessing your body's natural energy. You are human, but your chemical make up is still mystical, so it naturally has more potential than my body does.

(beat)

Connor?

Connor is flat on his back, lightly snoring. Gabriella gently kicks him in the ribs and he smiles.

GABRIELLA

(smirking)

Sorry to bore you. Seriously though, You're gifted. Your body has a natural affinity for magic that you're blatantly ignoring. When I first started, my nose bled if I floated a pencil two inches off the ground.

CONNOR

I've already got you, so what's the point of me learning magic?

GABRIELLA

In the long run, it'll be beneficial for you. What if one day you're up against something you can't swing a sword at and hack to bits, no matter how hard you try. What would you do then?

CONNOR

(deadpan)

Swing harder. And we've been at this for two days.

Gabriella sits on her knees in front of him.

GABRIELLA

Well it's important. If we can-

CONNOR

What's today?

GABRIELLA

Wednesday, why?

CONNOR

Crap.

Connor gets to his feet and heads over to the broom closet by the front door.

GABRIELLA

What are you doing?

CONNOR

Something more important.

He digs through a jacket from the closet and gets his wallet out.

GABRIELLA

Uh...why?

CONNOR

When's the last time you went out when you weren't hungry, thirsty, or going to work?

(beat)

There's this concept called fun. That's F-U-N. Heard of it?

GABRIELLA

(sarcastic)

Ha ha.

(beat)

Don't you think it'd be a better idea if you were, oh I don't know, fighting evil?

CONNOR

I'm not going to spend my nights rooftop hopping staking random vampires. I'm not my father.

He pulls out her (extremely small) purse and tosses it over to her a little too hard.

Gabriella holds her hand out in front of her. The purse freezes in midair for a moment before slowly floating into her other hand.

GABRIELLA

(wry)

You're a real champion.

Gabriella crosses the room in about three long strides to reach Connor. She looks him straight in the eye and her face softens.

GABRIELLA

Should I even bother pointing out that I'm not good in crowds?

CONNOR

(opens the front door)

You'll blend. If you don't, just cast a spell or something.

Gabriella rolls her eyes.

GABRIELLA
 (walking out the door)
 Fine, whatever. Tomorrow, we're
 practicing locator spells again.

CONNOR
 (walking out after her)
 That's cool. Gives me tonight to
 come up with an excuse not to. And
 I'll drive.

GABRIELLA
 Like hell you will.

The door shuts behind them.

INT. KAROAKE BAR - NIGHT

Pan across a surprisingly packed bar, stopping on the stage
 where a group of long haired grunge kids are finishing up a
 horrible rendition of Metallica's *St. Anger*.

Connor is borderline violently bobbing his head to the song.
 Gabriella looks like she'd rather be dead.

The kids finish up and the whole bar (of college students)
 erupts in cheers. Gabriella winces at the uproar.

It dies down and the jukebox kicks in, playing Bob Dylan's
 cover of *Ring of Fire*. Connor looks over to Gabriella, who is
 about a half second from walking out.

CONNOR
 What?

GABRIELLA
 Why the hell are we here?

Connor points to a group of guys at another table.

CONNOR
 Those guys over there? Frat
 brothers of mine. Every Wednesday
 if we didn't have tests coming up,
 we'd come down, get wasted, and do
 some bad karaoke.

Gabriella looks at the group of sweater vest wearing preps
 and raises an eyebrow.

GABRIELLA
 Well that's cool, I guess...or
 something.
 (MORE)

GABRIELLA (CONT'D)

(beat)

Why don't you go over and say hi?

Connor looks at her like she asked why the sky is blue.

CONNOR

Because they have no clue who I am anymore?

GABRIELLA

(catching up)

Oh. Right.

(beat)

Sorry.

CONNOR

It's cool. Still though, always had a good time here and I needed a break.

GABRIELLA

Gotcha.

Their server drops off a fruity looking martini for Gabriella and a tall beer for Connor. Connor guzzles half of it in one gulp.

GABRIELLA

(wry)

So...since when are you twenty-one?

Connor burps...loudly, getting a grimace from Gabriella.

CONNOR

(wiping his mouth)

Since I charmed this girl in the Watcher's Council to make me a fake.

Gabriella smiles. Clever. She turns her head to the side, listening to the chorus of the song, and rolls her eyes.

GABRIELLA

So are there ever any good performers?

CONNOR

What? I mean those last guys sucked, but at least the song was good.

GABRIELLA

You call that good?

CONNOR
 (incredulous)
 Metallica is great rock music,
 what's wrong with you?

GABRIELLA
 Pft. You want great rock music,
 I'll get you some Sammy Hagar.

Connor gives her a blank look.

GABRIELLA
 What?

CONNOR
 We can't be friends anymore. Next
 you're gonna tell me you don't like-
 (points to the ceiling)
 -this song.

GABRIELLA
 Yeah, it's fine...when Johnny Cash
 does it.

CONNOR
 Only if you can't sleep.

MAN (O.S.)
 Ladies and gentlemen!

Everyone directs their attention to the stage where a man
 about Connor's age is standing there holding a shotgun. He's
 sporting full on vamp face.

MAN
 Tonight's amateur hour has
 unfortunately been cut short, on
 account of my needing to make rent
 tomorrow.

He cocks the shotgun and pans it around the room. Everyone
 sorts of shrinks away from it when it's pointed at them
 except the lone guy sitting at the frontmost table in the
 room, a scruffy looking guy in his late twenties.

MAN
 (to the man up front)
 Tough guy huh?

The guy casually pulls up his shirt, revealing a gun of his
 own.

A GUN BLAST from the exit elicits a collective gasp from everyone in the room. Several more men with shotguns are standing there. They're all in full vamp face!

ON Connor and Gabriella.

GABRIELLA
(whispering)
I'd like to thank you for this
wonderful night out.

CONNOR
You packing?

She produces two small stakes from her purse and hands one to Connor.

GABRIELLA
Always. Just say when.

CONNOR
Waiting for a good moment.

The vampire on stage hops down to the table as the lone guy, still sitting, draws his gun and aims dead at him (no pun intended). The vampire smirks.

VAMPIRE
Come on, pal.
(pounds his chest)
Hit me right here.

The man shrugs and shoots the vampire right in the heart. The vampire, shocked, looks down at his chest a split second before he DUSTS.

ON Gabriella and Connor, both of them in shock, along with everyone else in the room.

CONNOR
(shrugs)
Good enough for me.

He springs out of his chair and land a heavy punch on the nearest vampire.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN.

INT. KAROAKE BAR - NIGHT

Tables upturned and broken. Broken glass all over the place. The fight's long over.

Several POLICE OFFICERS are taking statements from the customers.

Connor, Gabriella, and the gunman from earlier are sitting at the bar. The boys are having a beer while Gabriella is sizing the gunman up.

GABRIELLA
So...wooden bullets, huh?

The gunman nods and sips his beer.

GABRIELLA
Wow, that's pretty smart. So
uh...come here often?

She's failing miserably at small talk here. Connor, who is sitting between them, gives her a look that lets her know that.

GUNMAN
(extends his hand)
Oliver Pike.

CONNOR
(shaking it)
Connor.
(nods to Gabriella)
Gabriella Heron.

PIKE
(nodding)
No last name for you?

CONNOR
It's a three part family name. I
don't like saying it.

Pike smirks at Connor. A police officer approaches them at the bar.

PIKE
Evening, officer.

OFFICER

Evening, folks. Just need to get your statement. We've been getting crazy stories about halloween masks.

PIKE

Oh no, they were definite vampires.
(off Connor)
This guy staked four and I got the other ones.

The officer opens his mouth to respond.

PIKE

And no we're not on acid or X or anything. We're not hallucinating. Oh and don't try the line about goth high schoolers. That one's just ridiculous.

A beat.

OFFICER

(beat)
I'm gonna need you to clear out of here.

PIKE

I didn't finish my beer.

OFFICER

Now.

Pike puts his half full beer on the bar.

PIKE

(to Connor)
Come on, I've got more at my place anyway.

They get up and brush past the officer. Connor stops and turns back to him.

CONNOR

I've always wondered, what do you guys tell the media when stuff like this comes up?

OFFICER

I don't understand the question. We always report the truth.

Connor crosses his arms. Get real.

OFFICER

(sighs)

Gangs, goth high schoolers,
suicidal businessmen.

CONNOR

(nodding his head)

Oh.

He leaves with Gabriella and Pike.

EXT. BAR - NIGHT

Pike, Gabriella, and Connor smoothly move through the collection of police cars gathered outside the building.

Pike, who's been digging in his pockets, suddenly stops and turns around.

PIKE

Hey, catch.

He tosses two items over to Connor and Gabriella, who both catch one.

ON Connor's hand as he opens it to reveal a small cross.

ON Pike looking a lot more relaxed.

PIKE

Good. Just checking.

CONNOR

You thought I was a vamp?

PIKE

I watched you stake four vampires
in about 90 seconds and you didn't
break a sweat. Also haven't seen
too many humans move that fast.

Connor and Gabriella look at one another and shrug their shoulders. Fair point.

CONNOR

No, completely human.

Just...gifted.

(off Gabriella)

Her too.

PIKE
Right. Cool.

GABRIELLA
Wait, how do you know we're not
demons?

PIKE
If you are, you are. Whatever. I've
just got a thing against vamps.

He continues to walk, not looking back at them.

PIKE
Just occurred to me that I've only
got a two seater, so I can't give
you both a lift.

GABRIELLA
That's fine. We drove.

Pike comes to a stop at a shiny motorcycle. He starts to
unchain it.

Gabriella is practically drooling over the bike.

GABRIELLA
Got a spare helmet?

Pike holds a helmet out to her while putting his on.
Gabriella quickly shuffles through her purse and tosses a set
of keys in the air.

Connor catches them and looks at Gabriella, confused as all
hell.

GABRIELLA
Follow behind us.

She quickly puts the helmet on and gets on the back of the
bike, wrapping herself around Pike like a blanket.

Pike starts the bike. Connor just looks down at the keys,
still trying to figure out her change in attitude.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Establishing shot of a slightly run down building as Pike,
Connor, and Gabriella approach it. There's a bunch of kids
playing tag in front of it.

Gabriella's noticeably got a bit more pep in her step, likely
from the thrill of the ride over.

One of them, no more than seven years old, runs up to Pike and leaps in his arms. Pike balances him on one arm and continues to walk.

KID
Hey, Pike!

PIKE
Sup, Alden. Where's your mom?

ALDEN
It's *House* night. All the grown ups told us to go outside for an hour.

Pike laughs and lightly punches Alden's chin before putting him down. Alden falls into step with them.

PIKE
Oh, remember that idea you gave me a few months ago? I tried it out tonight and it worked.

Alden's eyes light up and he starts bouncing around the three adults.

ALDEN
Really? You got a vampire with one?

PIKE
Three, actually.

ALDEN
Wow, that's so cool! Hey, when you gonna let me shoot one?

PIKE
As soon as you can show me a driver's license. Now get out of here! Go play.

He pats Alden on the shoulder and pushing him back towards the crowd of kids. Alden detours back into the building.

GABRIELLA
So you live here?

PIKE
Well...yeah. I own the place.

GABRIELLA
Oh okay. It's...nice.

PIKE

Thanks. Excuse me one second.

He jogs over to a couple of boys rough housing in the middle of the street. Connor looks at Gabriella incredulously.

CONNOR

You can pick your tongue up off the ground now.

GABRIELLA

Am I that obvious?

Pike breaks up the near fight.

CONNOR

They can see it from space.

GABRIELLA

Give me a break. I'm out of practice.

WOMAN (O.S.)

Hey, sexy!

PAN OVER to a slim, attractive REDHEAD about Gabriella's age. Pike smiles and moves towards her.

Gabriella closes her eyes and crosses her fingers.

GABRIELLA

(begging God)

Please be his sister. Please be his sister.

The redhead and Pike wrap up in an embrace complete with a kiss.

GABRIELLA

(sighs)

Damn it.

Connor smirks and walks up to the couple.

The redhead still, wrapped up in Pike's arms, extends her hand to Connor.

REDHEAD

Kaia Sincaid.

Gabriella looks like she's biting her lower lip to keep her composure.

PIKE
Babe, this is Connor and Gabriella.
We staked a few tonight.

GABRIELLA
So...how long have you two been
together?

Pike goes wide eyed. Kaia looks at him, waiting.

KAIA
Come on, Pike. How long have we
been together?

Pike and Connor share a look.

CONNOR
(rushed)
So Pike, how about that beer?

PIKE
(frantic)
Yeah, follow me.

Both men quickly enter the building to avoid the
conversation.

KAIA
(rolls her eyes)
Men.

GABRIELLA
(calling out)
He's not really twenty one!

PIKE (O.S.)
That's cool. Whatever.

KAIA
(to Gabriella)
Oli and I have been together a
year, for the record.
(beat)
You up for a drink too? I make him
keep girly stuff in the fridge.

They walk through the door, passing by a couple struggling
with a staggering amount of groceries.

INT. PIKE'S BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Kaia stops at the door and holds it open.

ON Gabriella still walking forward until a FLASH from behind her gets her to turn around.

She gasps and jumps as the same couple walks past her, only now they're DEMONS.

Gabriella points outside the door, then back to the couple casually starting up the stairs.

GABRIELLA

Wha...huh?

Kaia puts her hand on Gabriella's shoulder and leads her towards the stairs.

KAIA

You get used to it after awhile.

CUT TO Connor and Pike climbing stairs.

PIKE

Sorry about all the stairs. That elevator we passed is busted. It's stuck on the top floor.

CONNOR

No problem. I'm not out of shape or anything.

PIKE

I noticed.

A small pale blue demon bounds down the next flight up and meets them halfway. He speaks with a familiar voice.

DEMON KID

Hey Pike, my mommy wants you to stop by later and tell her the story about the wooden bullets.

PIKE

Alright, Alden. Tell her I'll come by tomorrow. I've got company.

ALDEN

Okay!

He zips back up the stairs. Connor blinks twice and points towards the entrance to the building.

CONNOR

Wasn't that the same kid from outside?

PIKE

Oh yeah. I tend to forget new people don't know.

He continues to climb the stairs as he talks.

PIKE

A buddy of mine hooked me up with these three sisters who do magic. They're kinda weird. You know that bit where twins will finish each other sentences. Picture that, but with three girls...floating in the air.

CONNOR

Mmm hmm.

PIKE

Anyway, I paid them to cast a spell on the building. Any demon that walks out the front door has a glamor put on them to make them look human. The spell drops when they come back in.

CONNOR

Wow. Umm...can I ask why?

BACK TO Kaia and Gabriella further down the stairwell.

KAIA

Well, the general public doesn't react well to demons. All the ones that live here are pretty normal folks though. Just trying to get by.

Gabriella nods in agreement.

BACK TO Connor and Pike.

PIKE

Plus, a building three blocks from us got torched last weekend. Everyone in the neighborhood knows it was another safehouse for demons. I've had the spell in place for about a year, but yeah, just more reason to keep it going.

They reach the top of another flight and come to a single door. Pike opens it to:

INT. PIKE'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Given the outward appearance of the building, the penthouse studio apartment is pretty damn swank.

Vaulted ceilings, nice leather furniture, a huge bed off to the corner and a fairly large kitchenette just to the right of the door.

CONNOR
(looking around)
Nice.

Pike moves to the kitchen and opens the fridge up.

PIKE
Thanks. Got a beer preference?

CONNOR
Cold. Preferably cold.

Pike smirks at that and tosses him one. Connor pops it open and takes a swig as he moves away from the door.

We stay on the door as Kaia and Gabriella walk through. Kaia moves over to Pike, gives him a kiss on the cheek, and fishes out two Smirnoff Ice from the fridge.

She tosses to Gabriella, who bobbles it in her hands trying to catch it. Connor smoothly catches it in one hand, pops the top with his thumb, and presents it to her.

PIKE
(excited)
Oh, you gotta meet the girls.

He walks over towards the wall by his couch to a large case.

GABRIELLA
You two have kids?

Kaia goes wide eyed.

KAIA
Lord, no!

She kneels down and knocks on the hardwood floor.

KAIA
He means his other babies. His grandfather passed right after he finished high school and left him those things.

Connor follows Pike over to the case.

CLOSE UP on the case and the rather large collection of GUNS behind the glass.

CONNOR

Guns?

PIKE

Foreign concept to ya? Not a LA native, are you?

CONNOR

(shakes his head)

No, it's just...I don't see many people using guns against demons. I'm more used to things with sharp, pointy edges.

Connor winces and rolls his right shoulder as he says that.

PIKE

Oh, well I've got swords and stakes and stuff in there-

(points to a closet)

-but I actually know how to use these.

CONNOR

Right.

PIKE

(pointing)

That's Lucille there, then Mary, the big one's Momma, and...

(pulls up his shirt)

You already met Buffy. The rest of them I haven't named yet.

CONNOR

Buffy?

PIKE

Tiny as hell, packs a big punch, just like a girl I knew. All the names are after girls I knew back in the day.

Kaia and Gabriella come up next to them.

KAIA

Have I told you how much I hate that, by the way?

PIKE

Hey, let's go on the roof. Get some air.

He quickly moves away towards the door, avoiding yet another bad conversation. Kaia puts her hands on her hips.

EXT. ROOFTOP - PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

A door in the center of the rooftop opens up. Pike holds it open for his guests and girlfriend to walk out.

Connor walks to the edge of the roof, showing off a nice view of the neighborhood.

GABRIELLA

So how long have you had this place?

PIKE

Several years now. My dad left it to me. Pops never really wanted a real job, so he took Grandpa's inheritance, bought this place, and planned on fixing it up and renting it out.

He takes a sip of his beer and continues.

PIKE

He died a couple years ago. Jack Daniels finally won the war over his liver. My brother's still in the service, so I got left with this place. I've been using it as a halfway house ever since.

CONNOR

Why the demons? Not that I have anything against demons-

Gabriella coughs. Bullshit.

CONNOR

(ignoring her)
Just, I dunno, it's different.

PIKE

(sighs)
Pops actually tried AA for awhile and I did a few meetings with him. Met this one chick. Single mom with a kid.

(MORE)

PIKE (CONT'D)

Father took off when she was knocked up. Well, pretty soon after dad died and I got this place, she lost her job and her apartment.

CONNOR

So you let her move in.

PIKE

(nodding)

Trish, my first tenant. Lives on the third floor with her new boyfriend. Been family to me forever. Pretty much everyone here is.

CONNOR

How'd you go from recovering alcoholics to demons?

PIKE

Killed two birds with one stone.
(off Connor's look)
She's Alden's mom.

CONNOR

Oh.
(beat; more emphatic)
Oh. Gotcha.

Kaia wraps herself up in Pike's arm and rests her head on his shoulder. Gabriella scowls.

PIKE

So enough about me. What's your story?

CONNOR

Adopted. Got kicked out. Gabriella here took me in.

PIKE

No, I mean, I've seen you move. You were faster than most vampires I've fought.

CONNOR

Oh that.
(beat)
My birth father was a fighter.
Trained me.

PIKE

Oh okay.
 (to Gabriella)
 You?

Gabriella sticks out the hand holding her drink. Then she drops her hand and the bottle stays right in place, hovering in the air.

Pike and Kaia simultaneously blink, surprised. A small gust of wind blows by them and she pulls herself tighter into Pike.

PIKE

Nice.
 (shakes Kaia)
 Isn't that...Kaia?

Kaia's looking off to the side of the building. She walks away from him towards the edge of the roof.

PIKE

Babe, you okay?

Connor looks off to where Kaia is walking, the same look on his face.

GABRIELLA

(to Connor)
 What is it?

CONNOR

You don't smell that?

ON Kaia looking across the street from the building, searching for something. As Connor walks up to her, we whip across to:

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

A bunch of flies are hovering around a dumpster. Gabriella and Pike are standing behind Kaia and Connor, holding their noses.

GABRIELLA

What is that?!?

PIKE

It's a bunch of garbage. Kaia, what the hell? Why'd you drag us over here?

Connor opens the dumpster. A huge swarm of flies almost explode out of it, revealing the BODY of a small male toddler.

Connor gently pulls the body out and Pike slowly lowers his hand. Kaia's eyes well up with tears and she looks to her boyfriend.

KAIA

Oh God.

Kaia moves away and Pike rushes over, checking for a pulse. He's long dead though. Pike closes his eyes and shakes his head.

CONNOR

(looking at Pike)

You know him?

PIKE

(sighs)

Yeah, his name's Teran, he's been missing for two months.

(beat)

He's Alden's little brother.

Connor looks back to the body, not sure what to say. Kaia steps up to Pike and gently rubs his shoulder.

CONNOR

How could we not smell it earlier?

KAIA

I guess we were downwind. That gust carried it up to us.

PUSH IN on the body.

INT. APARTMENT - PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

A small (human) family are watching television. The nearby window SHATTERS as a large form crashes through it.

The figure stands up to its full size, a six and a half foot man in a long trench coat.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Everyone's head turns at the sound of the glass breaking.

PIKE

We all heard that right?

He takes off running back towards his building. We hear a loud female SCREAM come from the broken window.

GABRIELLA
(running after Pike)
Heard that too.

INT. APARTMENT - PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

The large man is dragging a young boy kicking and screaming from his parents, who are sprawled out on the floor, unconscious.

INT. HALLWAY - PIKE'S BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

The boy yells, absolutely terrified, until the man cups his hand over his mouth as he flees down the hall with his hostage.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. GROUND FLOOR - PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

Connor, Pike, Gabriella, and Kaia all burst through the front door.

KAIA

It was the third floor.

Connor stops at the elevator doors, thinks for about a half second, and starts to pull the doors open with his hands.

PIKE

Dude, we gotta take the stairs. I told you it's broken.

Connor gets the doors open and disappears into the shaft. We can hear the sounds of him scampering up it like a rat.

Kaia starts running up the stairs. Gabriella grabs Pike, who is staring at the elevator dumbfounded, and pulls him along.

INT. THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

The large man is struggling to keep the kid in his arms. Finally he turns the kid to face him and clocks him right on the jaw, knocking him out.

He slings the boy over his shoulder and gets to the elevator doors, furiously pressing the down button while looking down the hall for any pursuers.

The doors slowly open to reveal Connor.

CONNOR

Ding!

He blasts the large man with a right hook. The boy falls off his shoulders and into Connor's arms. Connor looks down at him, slightly confused.

INT. STAIRWELL - PIKE'S BUILDING - SAME TIME

Kaia is flying up the stairs, hardly breathing heavy. ZOOM PAN to two flights down where Gabriella and Pike are heaving up lungs as they try to keep up.

GABRIELLA

(gasping)

Gotta get back in the gym.

PIKE
(also gasping)
She runs like four miles everyday.

INT. THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - PIKE'S BUILDING - SAME TIME

Connor gently puts the boy and looks to his foe just in time to get hit from the spray of the fire hose the large man has turned on.

The force of the water knocks Connor several feet away and on his back. The man drops the hose and rushes right into Connor. He picks him up by both his legs and continues running.

Connor gets his arms under the man's armpits and throws his weight to his side, tossing the man over his shoulder to the ground.

Both of them skid to a stop. Connor is up immediately and charging back in. The man drops to his back, and catches Connor with both of his feet, catapulting Connor over his body and crashing through the hallway window behind him.

EXT. PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

ANGLE ON an early 90's Honda Civic. Connor lands on top of it, the impact caving the roof in. The car alarm immediately starts blaring.

CLOSE UP on his face. He's out.

INT. THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - PIKE'S BUILDING - SAME TIME

The large man walks over to the still unconscious boy. Kaia flies into frame, tackling him to the ground.

He rolls with the momentum, getting on top of her and choking her with both hands.

PIKE (O.S.)
Kaia!

The large man whips around, pulling a GUN from his coat.

Gabriella grabs Pike's arm and yanks him into an adjoining hallway to avoid the bullets.

Pike pulls his gun out and check his rounds. Gabriella grabs Pike's wrist.

GABRIELLA
(shaking her head)
You'll hit Kaia.

PIKE
(looking up at Gabriella)
What the hell are we gonna do then?

His confusion and anger quickly turns to fear.

CLOSE UP on Gabriella, her eyes practically crackling with yellow energy, charging up.

GABRIELLA
Just tell me when he's reloading.

ON the large man just finishing his clip. He pulls out another clip and starts to reload.

ON Pike, peeking around the corner.

PIKE
Now!

Gabriella steps out, teeth clenched in effort. With a grunt, she thrusts her hand forward.

The large man goes FLYING through the air, sailing out the same window Connor went through.

EXT. PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

The large man crashes on top of a car right next to Connor. He slumps off and limps off into the night.

Connor sits his head up, hurting in every place imaginable. He watches the fleeing kidnapper.

CONNOR
(pained)
No more windows.

His head slumps back down.

INT. THIRD FLOOR HALLWAY - PIKE'S BUILDING

Pike is kneeling over Kaia, checking her over. Kaia is sitting up holding her throat. Gabriella is standing over them.

PIKE
Are you okay?

KAIA

Relatively speaking, yeah. Better than that guy anyway.

Gabriella walks over to the window and looks out.

GABRIELLA

Damn it, he got away!

(beat)

Where's Connor?

CONNOR (O.S.)

(pained)

Down here.

Gabriella looks down.

GABRIELLA

Oh.

(beat)

That can't have felt good.

Pike and Kaia are now checking on the young boy, who is just now waking up.

INT. UNKNOWN ROOM - NIGHT

A table sits in the center of the room with a white sheet pulled over it. There's obviously a small body underneath.

INT. HALLWAY - PIKE'S BUILDING - NIGHT

ANGLE ON a sign with the number 2 on it. Gabriella and Kaia walk past and we stay with them.

KAIA

Thanks for coming with me. I don't think I could do this alone.

GABRIELLA

I don't actually have to...say it, do I?

KAIA

No, I just didn't want Oli to have to do this again. He won't admit it, but this stuff is harder than any random vampire he comes across.

GABRIELLA

How many times has he...I mean if you don't mind my asking?

Kaia thinks to herself for a second.

KAIA

Enough. I mean more than once, but
once is one time too many.

They stop at one door. Kaia lightly knocks on the door.

A few clicks of the locks unlatching later, the door swings open to reveal Alden, who beams when he sees who it is.

ALDEN

Hey, Kaia!
(looks down the hall)
Where's Pike? Did he catch that guy
that broke in?

Kaia kneels down, so she's at his eye level, managing a bright smile.

KAIA

No, honey. He got away. Where's
your mom?

TRISH (O.S.)

Alden, who is it?

A taller, female blue skinned demon steps into frame. Kaia stands up again.

KAIA

Hey Trish-
(points behind her)
This is Gabriella. Umm...can we
come in for a minute?

TRISH

Yes, of course.

Trish steps aside to make room. Kaia and Gabriella walk in, their faces saying they don't really want to. Trish shuts the door behind them.

MONTAGE

Some sad sounding operatic music plays over this montage, each shot slowly dissolving into one another.

- Shot of Trish sitting on her couch, Alden on her lap. Her face rapidly falling.

- Shot of Gabriella and Kaia sitting opposite her.

- Shot of Trish starting to break down. She got just the news. Alden looks up at her, not understanding what's going on.

- Shot of Kaia now on the couch with Trish crying on her shoulder. Her face is stone cold.

- Shot of Alden now sitting next to Gabriella, looking up at her. Gabriella looks back at him, obviously with no clue what to say.

- Shot of Trish, tears in her eyes, looking Kaia in the eyes. Kaia sadly nods her head.

- Shot of Gabriella with Alden's head in her lap, crying. Her face tells us she still has no clue what to say.

END MONTAGE

INT. PIKE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Connor is alone, sitting on the kitchen counter holding an ice pack to his right shoulder.

Kaia and Gabriella enter, the former looking around.

KAIA
Where's Oli?

CONNOR
I'm fine, thanks for asking.
(nods his head up)
He's on the roof. Said he needed a
minute to think.

Kaia starts for the door when Pike comes storming through it.

KAIA
Oli?

Pike doesn't answer, going straight for the gun case. Kaia hurries over to cut him off.

Gabriella walks up to Connor.

GABRIELLA
(softly)
How you feeling?

CONNOR
How good are your healing spells?

GABRIELLA

On the fly, not great. I need materials.

CONNOR

Oh.

(beat; wry smile)

How good are your massages?

GABRIELLA

You're fine.

She pats him on the knee and gives it a squeeze.

ON Pike loading up a bunch of his 'girls' on his person.

KAIA

Lot of ammo for a recovery.

PIKE

Didn't say I planned on bringing him back here.

Kaia takes that in for a second.

KAIA

What do you plan on doing?

Good question. Good enough to get Pike to stop gearing up like Rambo. He sighs and closes his eyes.

PIKE

(voice cracking)

I don't know. I just know I was in the room when Teran was born. I was there when he took his first steps. Now I'm still here and he's not anymore. That ain't right.

KAIA

And what makes you think our guy from earlier is the killer?

PIKE

I don't know if he is or not. I just know that's the sixth kid from this building to turn up dead in the last half year and he just pops in and tries to take another one.

(points to Connor)

Connor over there says he can track him, but we need to get going or the trail will get cold.

KAIA
Sweetie, that's not what's
important right now.

Pike whirls on her. Now he's mad.

PIKE
How can you say that?

KAIA
People die everyday in this city.
Just because it's someone you knew
doesn't mean you have to go all
Punisher.

PIKE
(nodding; wide eyed)
Yes, it does.

KAIA
As cruel as this may sound, Oli,
that's not what's important right
now.

PIKE
Look, even if I didn't know Teran
from any other kid, human or demon,
every person that dies, that's
someone's brother, sister, mom,
dad, son, daughter...best friend.

He pauses to swallow a rather large lump in his throat,
trying to keep his emotions in.

PIKE
You go tell mom her son won't be
home for dinner and tell me it's
not important.

A beat.

KAIA
I already did, just now.

Pike looks at her, not getting it.

KAIA
I already told Trish while you were
up there.

PIKE
Kaia, I should've-

KAIA

(soothing)

You've done that enough times already. I didn't want you to do it again.

(beat)

Trish wants to do a service immediately. You need to be here with people, not out on a manhunt.

Pike slinks over to the couch and plops down on it, not wanting to deal with the situation at all.

Kaia sits next to him, snaking his arm through his and laying her head on his shoulder.

PIKE

Hey, Connor?

Connor hops off the counter and turns to face Pike.

PIKE

You think maybe, we can pick up that trail in the morning?

CONNOR

I don't know, I can probably get a beat on him, but-

He meets Pike's eyes, finally getting that's not what Pike needs to hear.

CONNOR

Yeah, yeah I can do it in the morning.

KAIA

You don't need to.

She reaches into her pants pocket and produces a wallet.

KAIA

I nabbed this when I got him down.

PIKE

What?

He snatches the wallet from her and hops up from the couch.

KAIA

I needed to be sure you weren't going to go running off?

(MORE)

KAIA (CONT'D)

(beat)

Are you still staying?

Pike looks back to Connor and Gabriella for advice. They both shrug their shoulders. Pike slumps and sighs, defeated.

PIKE

Yeah.

(beat)

We'll burn Teran in the morning.

GABRIELLA

Burn him?

PIKE

It's what we've done for the others.

CONNOR

No offense, but why not a formal funeral or-

PIKE

How many funeral parlors do you know that cater to demons? There's only a couple in this town and they're hellafied expensive.

Gabriella nods.

GABRIELLA

What time?

PIKE

Sunrise, so 8ish?

GABRIELLA

We'll be here.

She grabs Connor's arm and pulls him to the door and out of the apartment.

Pike starts to look through the wallet, but Kaia yanks it away.

KAIA

Stop. We take care of Teran first, then you can go hunting.

PIKE

(nodding)

Okay.

Kaia stands up and gives him a gentle, soft kiss. They press their foreheads together in an intimate gesture.

PIKE

I know your dad doesn't like you staying over, but...I really can't be alone tonight.

KAIA

I'll tell him I'm studying late.

PIKE

He still doesn't know about me, does he?

Kaia pulls her head away from him and looks off to the side.

PIKE

Hey, it's okay. I sort of like being your dirty little secret. Just wondering how long he's going to buy you staying out late to work on your thesis.

KAIA

Hey, I'm a hard working student.

Pike smiles. First time in hours. Kaia gently takes his head and pulls him along with her.

KAIA

Let's go to bed.

Pike's not resisting that command.

INT. LIVING ROOM - G&C'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

**Writer's note: For the sake of not having to type it out every single time, Gabriella's and Connor's apartment will be referred to as G&C from this point forward*

A weary looking Connor and Gabriella walk in. LESI runs right up and starts jumping all up on them. Gabriella scoops her dog up in her arms and gives her a kiss.

GABRIELLA

Hey, baby.

CONNOR

(jealous)

Hey, I want one of those.

GABRIELLA

Here you go.

She hands Lesi to him and he glares at her. Not what he meant.

GABRIELLA

I'm going to bed. I'll set my alarm
for six.

She walks off, leaving Connor with Lesi licking him all over his face.

INT. GABRIELLA'S ROOM - G&C'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Gabriella, in bed, reaches up to turn off her bedside lamp. She stops and picks up a framed picture of her dead husband and daughter.

She lingers on the picture for a second before turning it around and pulling out the cardboard stand and the picture itself.

Underneath that picture is one of her with her cousin, ALESSIA SAKARA, Still holding the picture, she reaches up and turns off her light.

INT. CONNOR'S ROOM - G&C'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Connor is sitting on the edge of his bed shirtless. Lesi has her head in his lap. He peels a heavy set of bandages off of his right shoulder and rubs the gunshot wound from episode 1. It's closed and a raw pink skin is the only sign of injury.

He reaches up and turns off his lamp before crawling under the covers.

INT. HALLWAY - UNKNOWN BUILDING - NIGHT

ANGLE ON an apartment door as a large hand comes into frame and gives it a knock.

It opens to reveal a man in a bathrobe sleepily rubbing his eyes.

ON our would be kidnapper from earlier shaking his head no.

KIDNAPPER

There were complications.

ROBED MAN

I don't give a damn what the
complications are. I want that boy.

(beat)

Get in here.

The kidnapper enters and the door shuts.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN.

EXT. PARK - MORNING.

There's a gathering of people around a large pile of wood. Pike, Kaia, Connor are walking around the pile pouring lighter fluid on it.

CUT TO a few moments later. Pike has a large makeshift torch lit. He starts walking towards the pile of wood when Trish cuts him off.

He nods and hands it off to her. She walks to the pile of wood, clearly solemn and heavy hearted, and lights the funeral fire.

On top of the pile is a small pallet of wood with the same sheet covered body from earlier.

ON Alden turning his face into Kaia's stomach, not wanting to look. Kaia gently rubs his head.

Cut through a few shots of the mourners, kids, adults, some human, some demon, though veiled as human so we don't know which is which.

ON Trish returning to the crowd. Alden tears himself away from Kaia and runs into the arms of his mother. They bury their sobbing faces into each other's shoulders.

ON Pike watching the funeral. Kaia is running her fingers up and down his arm.

ON Connor and Gabriella watching the funeral. They speak in hushed tones.

CONNOR

I didn't want to mention this yet,
but there's a lot more to this
whole thing. Something's not right.

GABRIELLA

I don't follow.

CONNOR

Do you remember seeing any blood
when I pulled him out?

GABRIELLA

(shakes her head)
No, none.
(beat)
(MORE)

GABRIELLA (CONT'D)

And I happen to think that's a good thing.

CONNOR

I went back and checked. There wasn't any in that dumpster either.

GABRIELLA

(catching on)

He wasn't killed there. He was dumped there.

CONNOR

No, you don't get it. There was NO blood whatsoever. He was drained completely before whoever killed him put him there.

GABRIELLA

Vampire?

CONNOR

No bite marks. Just that one gaping stab wound.

GABRIELLA

So what are you thinking then?

CONNOR

Nothing. No clue. I just...I dunno.

PULL AWAY from them and the funeral as a whole. We trail up the smoke leading up to the sun high in the sky.

INT. UNKNOWN APARTMENT - PIKE'S BUILDING - DAY

The boy who was almost kidnapped earlier is sitting with his parents on a couch. Kaia is kneeling in front of the boy. Connor, Gabriella, and Pike are standing behind her.

KAIA

Lou, is there anything else you can tell us about the man that grabbed you?

The young boy shakes his head.

LOU

Nope. Just that he was strong. Like stronger than my dad. We wrestle and stuff and I can squirm away from him, but I couldn't with the big guy. He was really strong.

Gabriella turns to Connor and mouths 'demon.' Connor shakes his head and shrugs his shoulders.

Pike is looking more restless by the minute.

PIKE
 (to the parents)
 And you have no idea why someone
 would want to grab him?

The mother, who is visibly shaken by the whole ordeal, shakes her head.

MOTHER
 (stammering)
 I...I...I don't know. I can't think
 of anything. I just-

LOU
 Mom! I'm okay. And Pike's gonna
 catch the bad guy and punch him in
 the nose, right?

Pike can't help a wink and a smile.

PIKE
 You got it.
 (to the others)
 Let's get moving.

The four of them leave.

INT. HALLWAY - PIKE'S BUILDING - DAY

Pike is walking with purpose while everyone else is brining up the rear.

GABRIELLA
 Tough kid. I think his folks were
 more afraid than he was.

KAIA
 Too young to really understand what
 was going on. At that age,
 mortality hasn't really set in yet.

Pike reaches a door leading to a stairwell and turns to address.

PIKE
 Alright, so we've got this guy's
 address. Connor, if you're up for
 it, we can go check it out.

CONNOR
I'm down.

KAIA
(re: Gabriella)
What about the two of us?

Pike thinks to himself for a second before:

PIKE
Get a bunch of the kids together
and take 'em to the park.

Kaia blinks.

KAIA
What?

PIKE
Everyone's on edge after Teran and
what almost happened to Lou. I
think the kids could use a few
hours of fun. Boost morale or
something like that.

KAIA
(beat)
Okay. I'll have my phone on, so
call me when you find him.

Pike nods, gives Kaia a quick kiss, and heads down the stairs, Connor following close behind him.

Kaia looks to Gabriella and they both sigh.

INT. HALLWAY - UNKNOWN BUILDING - DAY

Connor is holding a wallet open in front of him, looking at the numbers on the apartment doors.

CONNOR
(reading)
23, 25, 27C. This is it.

They steel themselves.

PIKE
Should we knock?

INT. KIDNAPPER'S APARTMENT - DAY

ANGLE ON the door as it swings open. Connor lowers his foot and fearlessly walks right in. Pike follows him, 'Buffy' drawn and ready.

CONNOR
Of course he's not home. That'd
just be too easy.

They start looking around. Pike picks up a folder on a computer desk off to the side and flips through it.

ON the file. It contains a stack of photographs of kids, Teran and Lou among the pile.

PIKE
Son of a bitch.

CONNOR
What's that?

PIKE
(icily)
This is our killer.

Connor comes over and looks at the pictures.

CONNOR
These all the kids that were
murdered?

Pike nods his head affirmative. Connor doesn't look so convinced. He walks away, mindlessly looking around the apartment.

PIKE
So what do you think? Hang around
until he gets back?

CONNOR
The unhinged door might scare him
off. Need to track him down.

PIKE
You can do that right? You were
saying something about it earlier.

Connor doesn't answer, still looking around. He finally stops at a cordless phone base.

PIKE
What are you thinking?

CONNOR
 Something...I don't know. I can't
 put my finger on it.

ON the base as Connor starts flipping through the caller i.d.

CONNOR
 There's one number on here several
 times. You recognize it?

Pike comes over and looks at it, shaking his head.

PIKE
 No, but I've got a friend who can
 find out.

He pulls out his cell phone and makes a call.

PIKE
 (into phone)
 Hey, it's Pike. I need you to trace
 a number for me.

BACK TO the open folder, the photographs scattered on the
 table.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Kaia is running around with a half dozen or so kids, deep
 into a water gun fight.

Gabriella is sitting on a bench off to the side. A young girl
 comes up to her, tossing a large ball up and down.

YOUNG GIRL
 (cheery)
 Hi!

GABRIELLA
 (not so much)
 Hi.

YOUNG GIRL
 We were gonna play some dodgeball,
 you wanna play?

GABRIELLA
 No, thank you though.

The girl frowns.

YOUNG GIRL
 (pleading)
 Come on. I promise we won't hit you
 too hard.

Gabriella chuckles, her mood lightening up a bit.

GABRIELLA
 (wry)
 I don't think you could hit me if
 you tried.

YOUNG GIRL
 I have great aim.

Gabriella stands and takes the ball from her.

GABRIELLA
 Tell you what. I'll bet you that
 you can't hit me.

YOUNG GIRL
 Deal. You're gonna lose.

GABRIELLA
 No, I won't.

YOUNG GIRL
 Why not?

GABRIELLA
 (winks)
 It's magic.

PULL BACK to a shot looking over someone's shoulder about
 fifty feet from the kids.

ON our kidnapper, watching them closely.

INT. HALLWAY - UNKNOWN BUILDING - DAY

Yet another apartment complex. Pike is in front of Connor as
 they walk, not looking as determined as before.

CONNOR
 So you know these people?

PIKE
 Yeah, they used to live in my
 building. They packed up and took
 off after their daughter was
 murdered.

(MORE)

PIKE (CONT'D)

(beat)

She was the first one.

Connor nods his head.

CONNOR

Oh.

Pike stops at one apartment and knocks on the door. It opens to reveal the man we saw earlier conversing with the kidnapper.

PIKE

Joseph. Long time.

Joseph doesn't look too pleased at his visitor. Irate would be a better word.

EXT. PARK - DAY

All of the kids are standing in a circle around Gabriella and Kaia with balls in their hands.

KAIA

How'd they talk you into kids
versus grown ups?

GABRIELLA

Trust me. We're gonna win.

One of the kids pushes Alden into the middle of the circle. Alden looks back at him, hurt.

KID

We don't have enough balls, so you
have to be on their team.

ALDEN

(whining)

That's not fair!

GABRIELLA

It's okay, Alden. Just come stand
next to me.

Alden, still looking hurt, comes to stand next to Gabriella. Kaia is looking more and more concerned as the kids get ready to throw.

KAIA

Uh...

GABRIELLA

It's cool. Watch this.

All the kids throw their balls at the same time. They harmlessly bounce off an invisible barrier.

Gabriella, eyes yellow, turns to the young girl who coaxed her into the game.

GABRIELLA

Told ya so.

All the kids rush to Gabriella, whose eyes are back to normal. Oohs and ahhs all around.

KAIA

You didn't mention you knew magic.

GABRIELLA

I'm modest.

ON the kidnapper now moving towards the group.

INT. HALLWAY - JOSEPH'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY

Noone's moved an inch.

JOSEPH

I have nothing to say you, Oliver.

He goes to slam the door, but Connor gets his foot in the way.

CONNOR

I don't like having doors slammed on me. That's just rude. Just let me ask one question and we'll be out of your hair.

Connor's speaking with a light tone, but his face tells Joseph he's deadly serious.

JOSEPH

Fine. What do you want?

CONNOR

I was just wondering why you hired someone to kidnap a little boy.

Joseph's eyes dart back and forth, wide as saucers. A clear sign he's trying to come up with a lie.

JOSEPH

I...I don't know what you're talking about.

He runs out of the apartment without a single word. Pike dashes off after him. Joseph puts his hand on his chest and tries to catch his breath.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Lou screams in terror as the man we know now as Garrett approaches everyone.

LOU
(pointing)
That's the bad man! That's the one
who grabbed me.

GABRIELLA
Everyone, get behind me!

All of the kids except Lou, who is off to the side, scamper behind Gabriella, who is slowly backing away.

KAIA
Gonna punt him again?

GABRIELLA
Something a little more permanent.

Lou yells in fury and runs at Garrett.

KAIA
Louie, no!

Garrett turns to his attacker and smirks. We close in on him as the smirk turns to wide eyed shock.

ON Gabriella, Kais, and the kids as they let out a collective gasp.

ON Lou, a cold expression on his face.

ON Garrett, doubled over. A large CLAW is protruding from his back.

Lou pulls his claw out of Garrett, who slumps to the ground, dead. Lou's claw morphs back into a human hand.

LOU
(to Gabriella)
So...you know magic huh?

Gabriella and Kaia are YANKED to the ground by the kids from behind. Before they can realize what's happening, two of the kids cover their mouths with damp cloths.

Gabriella is the first to go out. Kaia fights it for a moment longer, managing to look to her side and see that Alden is also being put under.

Finally, she closes her eyes and passes out.

The kids all look to Lou, who creepily smiles.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Pike and Connor run into the square where the kids were, both carrying motorcycle helmets.

The only thing there is the corpse of Garrett. Connor turns the body over and sees the gaping hole in the chest.

He looks up at Pike. They both know it. They're too late.

EXT. PIKE'S BUILDING - DAY

Pike's motorcycle squeals to a stop. Connor and Pike throw their helmets off and run into the building.

INT. FIRST FLOOR - PIKE'S BUILDING - DAY

Now Connor's the one moving with purpose.

PIKE

I don't get it.

CONNOR

Lou's picture was mixed in with the other kids, but those others were dead. I thought something felt off when I was close to him, but I couldn't put my finger on it.

PIKE

Still not getting it.

They're running up the stairs now.

CONNOR

He didn't smell...human. His picture was with the other kids.
(beat)
I don't think that was Lou we saved.

PIKE

What?!? I'm gonna try to call Kaia.

INT. LOU'S APARTMENT - DAY

Lou's parents are watching television. Connor breaks the door down, looking mightily pissed.

CONNOR

Where is he?

Lou's mother's eyes tell it all. Busted. Pike hangs up his phone.

PIKE

Nothing. Went to voice mail.

(hangs up; to the parents)

Claire, Marcus, what's going on?

Claire's eyes well up with tears and she starts openly sobbing. Marcus takes a deep breath.

MARCUS

We wanted to tell you, Oliver.

Believe me.

CONNOR

(to the point)

Tell us what?

MARCUS

(shaky)

A few months back, a demon dropped Louie's dead body on our doorstep. Then...there was this flash...and it was wearing Louie's face.

CLAIRE

(sniffling)

It said it had work to do and if we told anyone what the real deal was, it would kill us too.

(beat; sobbing again)

Then we watched it Louie's blood into a jar. It made us watch and said it'd do the same to us.

She buries her hands in her face. Pike and Connor share a look.

PIKE

Can you track them? Any of them?

CONNOR

That could take hours. I think I know a faster way. We need to get to my place, now.

Connor and Pike run out of the apartment.

EXT. ROOFTOP - UNKNOWN BUILDING - DAY

Gabriella, Kaia, and Alden are all on the ground tied up. "Louie" is walking backwards, pouring a large jar of BLOOD on the ground. He's wearing a brown robe.

Gabriella is still unconscious, a needle sticking out of arm.

From overhead, we see a huge glyph written in blood on the roof.

All of the rest of the kids are off to the side, also wearing robes. Louie finishes his work and walks up to his captives.

KAIA

(cold)

What the hell are you?

Louie smirks and turns to the rest of the kids.

LOU

Halloween's over! We can take the costumes off now.

He turns back to Gabriella and closes his eyes. A bright flash envelopes his body briefly. When it fades, a small yellow skinned DEMON with red eyes and sharp teeth stands before her.

KAIA

My God.

ANGLE ON the rest of the kids. They're all demons.

LOU

That answer your question? Now, I've gotta finish up here. We'll talk in a minute.

KAIA

But...the spell on the building.

LOU

Pft. Rank amateur stuff where we come from. Easy to get around.

He picks up another jar of blood and goes back to work.

INT. LIVING ROOM - G & C'S APARTMENT - DAY

Connor actually opens this door and runs into Gabriella's room. Pike slowly steps in, looking around.

PIKE

Nice place.

Connor comes back out with a map and a familiar jacket. It used to be his. He sits down on the ground and spreads the map out.

CONNOR

(thinking out loud)

Candles...candles.

He runs off again. Pike watching him dart around the room, puzzled.

Connor finally has all his ingredients and sits down in lotus position.

CONNOR

Okay, I need you to be quiet. I've only tried this a few times and it's only worked once.

Lesi runs up and starts licking Connor's face. Connor pushes her away.

CONNOR

And grab her for me.

Pike picks up the dog and scratches it on the head.

PIKE

What are you doing?

CONNOR

Magic.

(beat)

I hope.

(to himself; off jacket)

I just hope she's gotten attached to this.

He closes his eyes, concentrating.

EXT. ROOFTOP - PIKE'S BUILDING - DAY

Overhead shot shows the glyph has gotten more elaborate. There's a huge pile of empty jars to the side. The kids are chattering amongst themselves.

Lou stands up, wipes some sweat from his brow, and tossing the jar he's holding into the pile.

LOU
Alright, all set.

He walks over to Kaia, Gabriella, and Alden (who is trembling with fear). Gabriella is still out.

LOU
I can't believe my luck. We've been looking for a witch's blood forever and couldn't find any. Figured Pike would run across one eventually.

KAIA
(getting it)
So all the kids...

LOU
Dead for months. We replaced most of 'em over the last year one by one. Except Alden. Kid was always a goober anyway.

KAIA
And the ones you didn't replace?
We've only found half a dozen bodies.

LOU
(nonchalant)
We got hungry.

ALDEN
(teary eyed)
Why?

LOU
The portal we came through was only big enough for us to fit through. We gotta open a bigger one so all of our folks can come over.

ALDEN
Why didn't you just do it? Why'd it take this long.

Lou kicks Alden square in the mouth.

LOU
You ask too many questions. And I'm 5,000 years old, for the record. What's a few months? I wanted to get this right.

Alden spits out a bloody tooth and starts to silently cry.

KAIA

You drained all the blood from the kids.

LOU

Well, yeah. Ritual needed several gallons of innocent blood. You humans only have so much, so it took more than a few to get enough. Just sit tight, it'll be over soon.

(beat; grins)

And my parents will be real hungry when they get here.

Lou pulls out a jagged knife and rolls Gabriella over to her stomach. He slowly pulls her shirt up.

KAIA

Get away from her!

Lou swipes at Kaia with the knife. She manages to roll her face away, but it still slashes her cheek.

LOU

Shut up.

(off Gabriella)

Still needed a catalyst to kick the ritual into gear. The blood of a witch'll work perfectly.

He raises the knife in the air, over Gabriella.

KAIA

You little bastard.

LOU

Hey, hey watch the language!

(points at Alden)

There's children present. Besides, I only need about three pints. So she might live through it.

He pierces Gabriella's skin and sticks a plastic bag under the wound to catch the blood.

EXT. UNKNOWN BUILDING - DAY

Pike and Connor, still wearing helmets, run towards the building.

CONNOR
 (taking hie helmet off)
 On the roof!

They enter the building.

EXT. ROOFTOP - UNKNOWN BUILDING - DAY

Lou stands up and walks away from Gabriella with a bag of blood. Gabriella is still bleeding from the wound.

KAIA
 Hey wait, you're just going to let
 her bleed to death?!?

LOU
 Don't need her anymore.

He walks to the center on the glyph and pours Gabriella's blood on it. It starts to glow. Lou smiles.

ALDEN
 What...what are we going to do?

KAIA
 Turn your back to me. I'll get you
 out of your ropes and you can untie
 me.

Alden follows her instructions. Kaia turns her back to Alden so she can go to work.

A low steady RINGING starts to come from the glyph. It steadily increases in volume. Lou shoots his fellow demons a thumbs up and the others start applauding.

ON Alden stretching his now free wrists and starting to untie Kaia.

ON the door leading downstairs. Pike and Connor burst through it, Pike with two guns drawn.

ZOOM IN on Lou as he looks to the new arrivals.

LOU
 Kill them!

Connor looks around and points to Kaia (now untied) and Alden.

CONNOR
 Over there!

PIKE
Go! I'll cover you.

Pike opens fire on the demons, dropping several of them.

ON Connor skidding to a stop on his knees next to Gabriella. Kaia is using a strip of Alden's shirt to apply pressure to the wound.

KAIA
Help Oli! I've got her!

Connor leaps into the battle, smacking the little demons around.

The glyph fires a stream of light into the air, punching a hole into the sky.

Connor looks up at the rip in the clouds. A demon tackles him to the ground.

Pike reloads both his guns and continues to cut through the demon kids.

ON Gabriella as her eyes flutter and she comes around.

GABRIELLA
What's going on?

KAIA
Trouble.

ON Louie looking up at the portal that is getting bigger by the second, a look of awe on his face.

Alden bravely tackles him to the ground and mounts him. Lou effortlessly throws him off. Alden slides to a stop at the very edge of the roof.

Lou gets up, murder in his red eyes and is immediately dropped by a bullet from Pike.

All of the other demons are laid out on the ground. Pike's gun barrels are smoking.

Connor gets back over to Gabriella, who is on her feet leaning Kaia's shoulder.

CONNOR
Hey, you with us?

GABRIELLA
A little woozy, but yeah.

CONNOR

Good because we've got a problem.

He points up to the portal, still swirling in the sky.

CONNOR

Can you close it?

GABRIELLA

(shakes her head)

Not without help.

She holds her hand out to Connor, who takes it and closes his eyes.

GABRIELLA

(dazed)

Just focus. I'm out of it, so most of this is going to be on you.

Kaia releases Gabriella and stands back. A gust of wind blows through.

Connor's knees slightly buckle, but he stays upright.

Gabriella stretches her free hand out at the portal. She clenches her teeth and starts to close her hand. The portal shrinks ever so slightly.

Connor drops to his knees and the portal opens up, wider than before.

GABRIELLA

Connor, stay with me.

CONNOR

Sorry, sorry.

He stands back up and looks at the portal, not closing his eyes this time. Both Gabriella and Connor's eyes start to glow.

She stretches her arm towards the portal again and starts to close her hand. There's less resistance this time.

Lou, bleeding badly from the gunshot in his stomach, weakly shakes his head.

LOU

No.

ON Pike looking up at the portal as it slowly shrinks.

ON Lou getting to his feet. He runs right at Pike, who hasn't noticed him at all.

ALDEN (O.S.)

Pike!

Alden cuts Lou off, tackling him to the ground. Pike's attention turns to them rolling on the ground...right to the edge of the roof.

PIKE

Alden!

Pike runs and dives at the two boys just as they topple over the edge.

Pike grabs the roof edge with one hand and shoots his other hand out, catches Alden's wrist.

A snarling Lou is holding Alden's ankles, dangling several stories off the ground.

The portal finally closes. Gabriella collapses in Connor's arms, totally spent. Before Connor can process everything:

PIKE (O.S.)

Guys! Help me.

Kaia runs over to Pike.

ON Alden's wrist slipping out of Pike's hand.

ALDEN

(terrified)

Pike?

Kaia drops to her stomach at the edge and reaches out to grab Alden, but it's too late.

Alden slips out of Pike's grip. With a scream, he and Lou plummet to the ground below (though we don't see it, this being a network show).

Kaia, horrified at what she just witnessed, looks up to Pike.

CLOSE IN on Pike's face, verging on breaking down.

EXT. PIKE'S BUILDING - DAY

Connor is leaning against Gabriella's car. Pike and Kaia walk out of the building, both looking somber. There's a sad air about all three of them.

KAIA
How's Gabriella?

CONNOR
Docs got her on a blood
transfusion. Said I can pick her up
tonight.
(beat)
Have you told everyone?

PIKE
(shakes his head)
Not yet. We're having a memorial in
the morning for all of the kids.
(beat)
If you're not busy...

He trails off, the unsaid offer all too clear.

CONNOR
Yeah. Maybe. I'll give you a call.

PIKE
Okay.

They shake hands.

CONNOR
I'll be around.

He gets in the car and drives off. Kaia waves goodbye while
Pike buries his hands in his pockets.

KAIA
You ready?

PIKE
No.
(beat)
Let's go.

They walk back into the building.

INT. HALLWAY - PIKE'S BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER

Pike stops at one door and knocks. It opens to reveal Trish.

PIKE
Hey, Trish.

Trish can tell something's up by the look on his face.

TRISH
What's wrong?

PIKE
Can we come in for a bit?

Trish lets them in and shuts the door behind them.

INT. GABRIELLA'S CAR - NIGHT

Connor is driving. Gabriella looks a little pale, but otherwise okay.

CONNOR
How many stitches did you get?

GABRIELLA
Forty nine. Thankfully that brat missed all the vital stuff.
(beat)
Connor, we need to make a stop.

CONNOR
I don't think so. Docs told me to get you to bed.

GABRIELLA
No, it's something important.

Connor stops at a red light and looks at her.

GABRIELLA
Really important. Please.

Connor nods.

INT. UNKNOWN BUILDING - NIGHT

A door opens and Gabriella steps through, clutching her stab wound. She turns on a nearby light switch.

They're in Alessia's shop, still demolished from the battle that happened months ago.

Connor waits at the door while Gabriella goes to the back.

CONNOR
You need some supplies or something?

GABRIELLA (O.S.)
Not quite.

She comes back out with two brooms and dust pans.

GABRIELLA

Just need to get this place right
again.

Connor accepts the broom and without anymore words, they go
to work.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

END OF EPISODE