

CONNOR

"On Deaf Ears"

by
Michael Jay

TEASER

FADE IN.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

Open on a dark basement, lit only by a single light bulb hanging from the center of the ceiling.

In the middle of the floor is a painted white symbol, a circular with eight arrows protruding from it in a radial pattern.

Seated around the symbol on pillows are six YOUNG PEOPLE, three men and three women. They are all holding hands, eyes closed.

A coven.

The dim light of the room barely shows their faces, their distinguishing features veiled by shadows.

They all chant simultaneously.

GROUP

The world that denies thee, thou
inhabit. The peace that ignores
thee, thou corrupt. Chaos. We
remain, as ever, thy faithful,
degenerate children.

They finish and release hands, though their eyes stay closed.

ETHAN RAYNE enters the room, carrying a briefcase. His face still carries the scars of his ordeal in Ojai.

He sits down on an empty pillow in the circle, looking at the others around him.

He's also wearing the Eye of Anubis.

ETHAN

I suppose congratulations are in
order. This past weekend was the
coven's first true test and you all
passed with flying colors. Stage
one was not without its problems,
but overall a job well done for
your first time out in the field.

(beat)

Of course, if any of you know any
good healing spells, I'd appreciate
a helping hand after our session.

None of the others open their eyes. They look to be in deep meditation.

ETHAN

I trust you all received and studied the video footage of the Ojai.

GROUP

(simultaneously)

Yes.

ETHAN

I hope it was informative and entertaining for all, save my little...

(waves his hand over his face)

...accident.

(clears his throat)

Now, all of you concentrate. Listen to my words as you search for that special place.

The camera pans through different shots and angles of Ethan and his students as he speaks.

ETHAN

The world has always had an aversion to any form of chaos. As our society has grown and evolved, those gifted with power and knowledge have spent countless hours trying to exert increasingly greater measures of control on the world.

He takes a sip of water from a bottle before continuing.

ETHAN

What these short sighted fools fail to see is that a greater exertion of control only begets higher deviations from the expected result. Chaos teaches us that life is nothing but one grand paradox.

(beat)

Every country, province, city, state, what-have-you enforce rules and regulations designed to maintain a semblance of order about things.

(MORE)

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Yet despite the world's best efforts, there are always wrinkles in the intended perfection. No matter how stringent and vigorous the efforts to control are, inevitably, underlying instabilities begin to appear.

He holds his hands out, palms up, like he's weighing items in each hand.

ETHAN

(raises his right hand)

The greater the control, the more chaos that ensues. Funny how that works.

He takes another sip of water.

ETHAN

On the other hand, you have the most wondrous organism in the known world that operates to perfection without any human intervention. The process of life itself.

He starts to pace back and forth as he lectures.

ETHAN

A single fertilized egg in a womb. Containing hundreds upon thousands of genetic code. Code more complex than any computer nerd could ever hope to program. Like clockwork, the code divides the cell, creating millions upon millions more with hardly any error. To see this process with the human eye, it looks chaotic. Yet it proceeds, every second of every day, perfectly creating and maintaining an organic being. A process that inexorably continues until death.

He pauses, taking a moment to close his own eyes and exhale deeply.

ETHAN

It's a level of complexity that people much smarter than us have spent years devoting study to and we've only scratched the surface of how that system works.

(beat)

(MORE)

ETHAN (CONT'D)

A complex system we'll never fully understand, one that looks completely unorganized and disheveled to the naked eye is in essence the very definition of order.

He holds his hands out, doing the 'scales' thing again.

ETHAN

Among all the chaos, more order presents itself. Yet the more order we assert, the more chaos we get. For all of our efforts, no one will ever fully understand how the world works. The best we can do is theorize. Guess. Make conjectures. Thus there is no absolute anything, if what is stated to be fact is in actuality an interpretation of data.

(beat)

Always remember, there is no such thing as an objective truth outside of our perception, therefore, all things are true and possible.

PAN across the room as the students open their eyes. All of them are jet black!

ETHAN

Now...

Ethan opens his eyes, also jet black.

ETHAN

Let's begin our preparations, for stage two.

He smugly grins.

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

EXT. CSULA WEST CAMPUS ENTRANCE - DAY

Establishing shot of a modest sized university.

A sign built into a stone wall at a street corner reads 'California State University in Los Angeles'.

INT. CSULA PSYCHOLOGY BUILDING - OFFICE - NEXT

CONNOR appears in an open doorway and knocks on the glass door. He has a school bag slung over his shoulder.

An attractive older redhead woman sits at the spacious desk, typing on a laptop. She looks up at the new arrival.

Connor smiles and waves.

CONNOR
Hi, ummm, Professor Marrus?

MARRUS
Yes?

CONNOR
I'm Connor Angel. We spoke on the phone about getting an overload permit for your abnormal psych course next semester.

MARRUS
Oh, yes. I remember.
(motions to a chair)
Please, sit down.

Connor takes a seat and digs through his bag.

MARRUS
Before I sign off on you, I want you to answer a question for me. It's something I ask all of my students on the first day of class.

CONNOR
(nods)
Okay.

MARRUS
In one sentence, why do you want to take my class?

Connor clears his throat.

CONNOR

Well...

(thinks)

I want to understand how weird
people work.

Marrus can't help but laugh a bit at the obscure answer.

MARRUS

(smiling)

Well, that's one I've never heard
before. Normally I get "it's an
easy A." Care to elaborate?

CONNOR

Well...

(adjusts his sitting
position)

I'm a criminal psych major. It's
sort of my job to figure out a
criminal's mind works.

MARRUS

There are other classes for that.

CONNOR

Yeah, but those are too hard for me
right now.

(beat; thinks)

I didn't mean your class was a joke
or anything.

Marrus waves the comment off.

MARRUS

So let me get this straight. You
thought all criminals are geniuses?

CONNOR

Most of the good ones. I mean
there's gotta be so much going
through their heads, right?

(beat)

I'm saying this all wrong.

MARRUS

So you think an elevated level of
intelligence can affect one's
psyche and turns them into a
psychopath?

CONNOR

Something like that. Like sensory overload. There's only so much your mind can absorb before something snaps. Not everyone can hold it together...or something.

MARRUS

What you're interested in is beyond the scope of my course, Connor.

CONNOR

I know, but...
(pauses)
It's a start.

Marrus shakes her head.

MARRUS

Good enough. What's your student number? I'll enter you in.

Connor pulls out his wallet and produces a school I.D.

EXT. CSULA WEST CAMPUS - STUDENT COMMONS - NEXT

A young man sprints across a grass field, just managing to snag a spiraling football out of the air. He stops, plants his feet, and throws it back to his friend across the grass.

Connor walks past the two, looking left and right. Searching. He comes up a large stand with a campus map on it, running his finger across it.

Behind him, one of the two guys playing catch doesn't watch where he's going and runs right over a brunette girl carrying a stack of papers.

They fall down together in a tangled mess. Connor strides over to the two as the guy gets back up.

CONNOR

Dude, watch where you're going!

GUY

(shrugs; unconcerned)
My bad.

He hurls the ball back to his friend and jogs off.

Connor kneels down beside the girl, who is face down grabbing her shoulder.

CONNOR
Hey, you alright? Damn jerks need
to be more care-

He pauses as the girl turns around and he gets a look at her face.

CONNOR
Tracy?

TRACY's smile drops. She squints at Connor.

TRACY
(wincing in pain)
Do I know you?

Connor looks back to the papers on the ground, trying to play it off. As he speaks, Tracy keeps moving her head, trying to get a really good look at him.

CONNOR
Uh no. I, uh, saw your name on one
of these papers.

Tracy pulls her blouse off her hurt left shoulder and looks it over. Connor sets the pile down and gently touches the large red bruise just above a circular tattoo.

CONNOR
Can you move it?

Tracy slowly rotates the arm, grimacing the whole time.

TRACY
Yeah, just hurts.

Connor helps her stand up and she pulls the blouse back on.

CONNOR
You should get that looked at.

TRACY
No, it's okay. I'll just ice it
down. It doesn't feel broken.

CONNOR
Well, if you're sure.

He bends down to pick up the stack of papers and hands it back to her.

TRACY
 (smiles)
 Thanks again.

Connor nods and smiles before he turns and walks away. The second he's not facing her, the smile drops and he sighs.

Another uncomfortable reunion.

Tracy watches Connor leave with a curious expression. She turns and walks away in the opposite direction.

She turns a corner just as a group of people fall into step with her. One of them is Ethan!

They continue to walk together, no words being spoken.

EXT. CSULA WEST CAMPUS PARKING LOT - DAY

GABRIELLA is leaning against her car. In the distance, she can see Connor walking towards her.

Next to her, LESI pops her head out of the rear driver side window, panting heavily. Excited.

Connor gets to the car, stopping to rub Lesi's head.

CONNOR
 Hey.

GABRIELLA
 Hey. Get that class you wanted?

She opens the driver side door and starts to get in the car.

CONNOR
 Yeah, I'm set for next semester.

He walks around the car and opens the front passenger door.

GABRIELLA
 That's great.

Connor sits down and fastens his seat belt.

GABRIELLA
 So, I spent this morning going over chaos magic. Trying to figure out how Ethan pulled off that stunt in Ojai.

Connor looks away and quickly rolls his eyes. Here we go. Gabriella starts the car.

CONNOR

Did you now?

Gabriella puts the car into reverse and turns around.

GABRIELLA

Yeah. It's fascinating. Way different from style of magic I was taught. There's this whole system called paradigm shifts. It's when...

Her voice trails off as the car pulls out of frame.

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

Gabriella's voice and the sound of rattling keys are heard from the other side of the front door.

The door swings open, Connor holding it open and letting Gabriella and Lesi enter first.

GABRIELLA

-gnostic state. It's when someone-

Connor walks right by her, dragging his hands over his extremely bored looking face.

GABRIELLA

-reaches a-

CONNOR

(frantic)

Hey, I'm gonna take a shower.

He briskly goes into his room, glancing at the piles of books and notepads on the coffee table.

Gabriella drops her keys on top of the pile.

She sits down in front of the pile and continues her research.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - MAIN STUDIO - DAY

The room is dark, only occupied by a lone disc jockey. A large glass window is behind him. He's engaged in a heated conversation with a caller.

CALLER

(through studio speakers)
Our guards are terrible inside the
paint. They're gonna throw our
shots to the stands.

DJ

You're talking about a team that's
averaging less than one blocked
shot a game! You're insane!

CALLER

And don't even get me started on
our free throw shooting.

DJ

(sighs)

You know what? You know what? I'm
done talking to you. Hang on, I'm
gonna transfer you to my friend,
Tone.

The DJ hangs up on the caller, shaking his head in
frustration.

DJ

Moron.

(clears throat)

That's your school spirit, folks.
We'll take a break and wrap things
up when we come back. You're
listening to the Dean, Simon Martin
on 97.3 KMZP radio.

The DJ hits a few buttons on his switchboard and takes off
his headphones.

One of Ethan's students, a tall, lanky dirty blonde knocks on
the window.

The DJ turns around and gives a 'what's up' nod. Ethan's
student opens the nearby door and walks into the studio.

DJ

(checking his watch)

Damn, Eric. Didn't think you were
gonna make it on time.

ERIC

Sorry, bro. Had a group meeting
that ran a little long.

Eric sets his belongings down and sits opposite the other DJ, getting ready for his show.

DJ

I already checked the readings on my last break, so you're good for about six hours.

ERIC

Thanks, dude.

DJ

I still think you're crazy. I figured we'd just run a playlist for the overnight with Bobby sick.

ERIC

(shrugs)

I'm a night owl anyway. I'll just sleep through the morning.

DJ

Thought you had an 8am?

ERIC

What's your point?

They share a smile. The DJ puts his headphones back on and pulls his mic back into position.

DJ

We're back on the Dean's List, KMZP radio. I'm about ready to get out of here for the day. Stay tuned for the Ironman, Eric Maddox, who will be doing a SIXTEEN hour block, filling in for Bobby Crennel overnight. We'll say goodbye with a little old school Metallica, or as I like to call it, Metallica before they sucked.

(laughs)

You've been listening to the Dean, Simon Martin on 97.3, KMZP. Study hard, drink harder. Peace.

The smooth opening to 'Enter the Sandman' by Metallica starts to play. Simon takes his headphones off and yawns.

SIMON

What you up to tomorrow?

ERIC
Told ya. Sleeping.

SIMON
After that I mean. There's a rave
across town I was gonna check out.

ERIC
Nah, I'm good. Got a feeling
tomorrow's a stay in night.

SIMON
Suit yourself.

Simon stands and holds out his fist. Eric gives him a pound
and they say goodbye.

Eric takes his seat, puts on the headphones, and clears his
throat. He checks his watch.

In the window behind him, Ethan and the rest of the group
enter the studio.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Eric, Tracy, Ethan, and the rest of Ethan students are
standing in a circle around the large radio tower in the
center of the rooftop.

They're all wearing black and are wearing what looks to be
ear plugs.

Ethan and Tracy are holding hands. Ethan looks to his young
apprentice.

ETHAN
Are you ready?

Tracy nods her head. They turn back to the statue and close
their eyes.

Everyone else's eyes are closed as well. They begin chanting
in unison under their breath, too low to hear. A howling WIND
begins to kick up.

A Janus statue (a figure with two heads) rests on the stone
foundation of the tower in front of Ethan and Tracy.

It begins to pulse with a dim green light.

One by one, everyone opens their eyes. Everyone's eyes are
jet black again, except for Tracy. Her eyes are glowing
green, the same color as the statue in front of her.

She begins to pant heavily.

EXT. LAX AIRPORT - DAY

Establishing shot of one of the many 'LAX' signs surrounding the large Los Angeles airport. Light slowly creeps up the sign, the sun rising to begin a new day.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - GABRIELLA'S ROOM - DAY

ANGLE ON a small digital clock that reads 6:59am. It turns to 7:00am and 'I Love LA' by Randy Newton blares through the tiny speakers.

A slender hand reaches out and not so gently smacks the snooze button.

PAN to Gabriella as she retracts her hand from the clock. She turns to her back and blearily rubs her eyes.

She groans before flinging her blanket off of her into the camera, causing a BLACK OUT.

EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - CITY STREET - DAY

Gabriella's slender form jogs away from the camera. She's out for a morning run with Lesi in tow. 'We Are' by Vertical Horizon plays over the scene.

A quick close up profile of Gabriella reveals an iPod attached to her hip, the origin of the song.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - ROOFTOP - DAY

CLOSE UP on the tower. The rooftop is deserted, save the statue still in the same place. The green light emanating from it is almost blinding.

A green streak shoots up from the base of the tower, spreading out across the sky like a water ripple when it reaches the top. It's accompanied by a loud, high pitched TONE.

EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - CITY STREET - DAY

Back with Gabriella on her jog. She dodges several pedestrians, never having to break her stride.

ZOOM PAN TO an older woman dressed in a smart business suit a block ahead of Gabriella, briskly walking down the street and checking her watch. A woman who obviously has somewhere to be.

She's talking on her cell phone as she nears an intersection, but 'We Are' drowns out her words.

The song suddenly drops out, being replaced by dead silence.

BACK TO Gabriella, who slows to a stop and checks her iPod, unsure of the malfunction. After fiddling with it for a moment, she slumps her shoulders, giving up.

It's then that she notices the older woman starting to cross the street despite the red light warning her otherwise.

Gabriella glances to the left to see a large passenger truck bearing down on the woman, who seems too preoccupied with her seemingly dropped call to notice.

Gabriella cups her hands to her mouth and tries to scream, but no sound comes out. She tries to cough and clear her throat.

It's then she realizes there's no sound coming from her mouth, or anything around her!

INT. TRUCK - NEXT

The driver of the trucks slams on his brakes and pounds his horn, trying to warn the woman.

He grabs the wheel and yanks it hard to the side.

EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - CITY STREET - DAY

Gabriella breaks into a sprint, hoping to make the save.

CUT TO the woman finally looking up at the truck and like all stupid damsels, she doesn't move and puts her hands up in a futile attempt to shield herself.

The truck turns to the side, but it's moving too fast and the bed SMACKS into her.

Gabriella stops running and covers her mouth with her hands, horrified. She quickly regains her composure and runs to the scene of the accident.

The woman is laid out on the ground. Her leg is bent at a terrible angle and she's panting heavily, going into shock.

Lesi gets to her first and gently licks her face. Gabriella is there next, trying to speak to the woman as she checks her over.

The driver gets out and rushes over, also apparently in shock.

ON the woman, whose breathing is getting more ragged by the second.

FIRST PERSON POV

Gabriella and the driver hover over the woman, trying to talk to her. She can't hear a thing as the shot slowly blurs out and fades to white.

ON SCENE

The woman's head slumps limply to the side. Her eyes frozen in terror.

Gabriella checks her pulse, lingering for a moment. The driver grabs her by the shoulder to pull her back to reality. She meets his eyes and slowly shakes her head.

PULL AWAY from an overhead view of the tragic accident, still with no sound at all. None. Dead silence.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN.

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

Writer's note: As a mental aid for this script, imagine watching television on mute. There's absolutely no audible sound.

Gabriella enters through the front door, the events of the morning plain as day on her solemn face.

She releases Lesi from her leash and the dog scampers off into the kitchen.

She rubs her eyes with both hands, trying to process the situation, before going right to her book shelf.

From behind her, a hand grabs her shoulder. She immediately spins and throws a punch at the intruder.

ON CONNOR, clutching his nose with his right hand.

Gabriella silently apologizes and tries to check his nose, but Connor pushes off and takes a couple steps back, giving her a thumbs up.

He holds out a sheet of paper with his left hand. It reads 'WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!?'

She shrugs her shoulder and turns back to her books.

After a moment of searching, she throws her hands up and plops down on the couch, frustrated. Connor takes a seat next to her and turns on the television.

At this point, Lesi comes up to Gabriella with her food bowl in her mouth. She sits and patiently waits to be acknowledged.

On the screen, a reporter reads a report. Gabriella pops Connor in the chest and gently tugs her ear when he looks at her.

Connor points to himself, makes a motion like he's opening a book and scrolling with his finger, then points to his lips.

Gabriella points to herself, then makes a throat slash motion.

He punches a few commands into the remote and the closed captioning begins to scroll on the screen.

'...the greater Los Angeles area have apparently all been rendered deaf.'

Lesi hits Gabriella in the shin with her bowl to get her attention. Connor angrily points towards Gabriella's room.

Connor mouths "cage."

Lesi drops the bowl and slinks away to Gabriella's room. Gabriella and Connor go back to watching the report.

A split second later, Connor does a double take, looking back towards Gabriella's room.

At this time, this bizarre occurrence seems to be localized to Los Angeles.'

Connor hops up off the couch. PUSH IN on his face, curious.

Connor mouths "Lesi, come."

Lesi bounds out of the room up to Connor, wagging her tail excitedly. Connor looks at the dog, baffled.

BACK TO the news report.

'The CDC has no leads on what could have caused this sudden epidemic, but until further noticed, all roads leading out of Los Angeles have been closed by authorities, quarantining all residents inside the city to prevent a potential national outbreak.'

EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - INTERSTATE 5 ON RAMP - DAY

Blocking the on ramp to the main interstate leading out of the greater LA area is a large police BARRICADE.

A dozen police cars are piled behind the barricade, ensuring no motorists can pass.

Citizens are protesting with the police, demanding to be let through.

ANGLE ON a pack of police dogs, barking at the citizens. A potentially ugly situation.

INT. AIRPLANE - COCKPIT - DAY

A flight attendant enters the cockpit. One of the pilots look to her. She gives him a questioning look.

He grimly shakes his head and points to a small screen. It reads 'Continue to hover. Runways will be full with emergency landings. Will contact again soon.'

The attendant looks from the screen to the fuel gauge. The fuel is at less than a quarter.

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

Gabriella is on her laptop now. On the screen, a web browser shows a news site. The headline reads 'Airplanes diverted or hovering until LA outbreak is resolved'.

Connor taps Gabriella on the shoulder. He points to her eyes with two fingers, then to Lesi with one.

Connor mouths 'sit' without an accompanying hand motion for the command.

Lesi sits instantly. Gabriella's eyes light up and she looks up to Connor, then back to her dog.

Gabriella mouths 'lie down.'

Lesi sprawls out on the floor, obeying the command.

Connor mouths 'leash.'

Lesi rushes over to the front door where Gabriella left her leash, picks it up in her mouth, and brings it back to Connor.

Connor tentatively accepts it while looking at Gabriella for an explanation.

She shrugs her shoulders and points to her bookshelf of ancient texts. Research time.

EXT. SKYLINE - DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - EVENING

Shot of the sun beginning to set.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - NEXT

Tight shot of Gabriella sitting in lotus position in front of the living room table.

PULL BACK to show her diverting her attention between several volumes in front of her. She runs her hand through her hair, frustrated with the apparent lack of progress.

PULL BACK further to show Connor on the couch behind her, fast asleep. She smiles at his sleeping form.

Next to Connor on the couch, Lesi is staring towards the front door and barking loudly.

Gabriella turns around and is startled by PIKE and KAIA, standing right in front of her.

PAN to the left of the couple to see the front door. The frame is splintered and broken in places. The door was kicked in.

Gabriella looks up at Pike and angrily points at the door.

Lesi is still barking at Kaia. Gabriella turns to her pet and points towards her room. Lesi hops off the couch and leaves the room.

Pike makes a knocking motion with his hands, taps his watch, holds up five fingers, points to Gabriella, tugs his ear and shakes his head.

Gabriella nods, understanding the message. She gets to her feet and disappears into her room.

Kaia kneels down and gently shakes Connor, waking him up. He blearily rubs his eyes as Gabriella returns with her laptop.

Connor offers up a meek wave to the two visitors as he sits up.

ON Pike, pushing the door shut. Not having a frame and door knob slot to hold it in place, it slowly swings open again.

He shrugs and walks out of frame, quickly returning with a chair that he uses to barricade the door, keeping it shut.

NORMAL SCENE

Gabriella is running a cord from her computer to the television. She types in a few commands on the laptop and changes the channel on the television.

Her desktop appears on the screen.

Gabriella sets the laptop on the table and sits down.

She opens up a blank MS Word document and starts to type.

I've been working on this all day and I got nothing. Aside from the fact that Lesi seems to be able to hear, I haven't made any progress.

Kaia looks at Gabriella, confused.

She mouths 'Lesi'?

Gabriella nods, cups her hands to her mouth, and yells something. Her hands cover her mouth, preventing any lip reading.

Lesi bounds out of her bedroom and freezes in her tracks when she sees Kaia and immediately starts barking again.

Kaia mouths 'Lesi, sit'.

No dice. Lesi is still up on all fours, barking.

Gabriella holds up a finger to Kaia and mouths 'Lesi, quiet'.

Lesi instantly stops barking.

Gabriella mouths 'Lesi, sit'.

Lesi sits down.

Kaia looks back and forth between Lesi and Gabriella. Then she taps Gabriella on the shoulder, points to herself, then the laptop.

Gabriella scoots over to make space for Kaia to get to the keyboard.

Maybe it's not magical.

As soon as she finishes typing, she backspaces to erase the sentence.

Well, it is magic, but it's basic physics too.

Kaia looks to Gabriella, whose expression says she's not following. Kaia continues to type.

ON Connor and Pike sitting on the couch, watching and reading along. Both of them look wholly uninterested.

Gabriella puts her hands over the keyboard.

ANGLE ON the television screen.

Almost all magic is based on physics. I still don't get it.

Beat.

Some animals have much wider ranges of frequencies they can hear than humans do. We can only hear up to about 20 kHz. Dogs, for example, are much much higher.

Beat.

How do you know all this?

Beat.

I majored in biogy.

ON SCENE

Gabriella holds up a finger and takes over typing.

ANGLE ON the television screen.

The cursor backspaces before:

Biology?

ON SCENE

Kaia rolls her eyes. Nitpicker.

Behind the girls, Pike taps Connor on the shoulder and makes a drinking motion. Connor nods and they both get up from the couch and head for the kitchen.

Gabriella continues to type.

BACK TO the screen.

What I don't understand is how Connor and I still can't hear, given our enhanced senses.

Beat.

The Word window minimizes and another folder is opened up.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - KITCHEN - NEXT

Connor opens the fridge and holds up a bottled water.

Pike smiles and takes the offering, nodding his thanks.

Connor grabs one for himself and they move into:

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The boys stand behind the couch watching the girls continue their typed conversation.

ANGLE ON the television screen.

A PDF file is open and rapidly being scrolled through.

The screen stops at one section in particular. A passage is highlighted.

'Subject is able to hear frequencies of sound as low as 14 Hz and as high as 35 kHz.'

BACK TO Connor and Pike, both rolling their eyes and walking out to the patio.

BACK ON the screen.

The PDF minimizes and the Word window is pulled back up.

That's from a group over in England who ran a bunch of tests on Connor over the summer. Assuming your hearing is about the same...

Beat.

ON Kaia nodding at Gabriella. Back on the screen.

How high can a dog hear?

Beat.

Upwards of 50 kHz I think.

Beat.

Okay, well that's something I guess. My question is how something like this could be accomplished?

Beat.

It's magic, honey. That's your deal.

Beat.

I'll have to do some more research.

Beat.

'Course you do.

Beat.

At least now I know what kind of spell to look for. A starting place is better than where I was seven hours ago.

Beat.

Well, we're here to help.

Beat.

LOL. Pike's going to do book research?

Beat.

He can make the coffee.

ON SCENE

Pike rushes up to the girls and wave his hands in front of their eyes to get their attention.

He points to the patio and motions for them to follow him outside.

The girls follow him out to:

EXT. G&C'S CONDO - PATIO - CONTINUOUS

Connor looks at the girls, then points down to the city street.

FROM OVERHEAD looking down, there's a massive car accident. Several people are visibly arguing. One man viciously punches a woman in the jaw, sending her to the ground.

Another man jumps on him and things quickly break down into an all out melee.

ON our four, watching the scene unfold. Pike waves his right hand in front of the other three and points off to the left.

FROM OVERHEAD, we see a group of teenagers running down the street away from the scene, carrying various electronics and appliances.

All four look disturbed with what they're seeing. Gabriella is the first to move back inside.

Everyone else soon follows.

PAN UP to the sky. Two airplanes are visible, flying in opposite directions.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Gabriella sits back down to the computer.

ON the screen.

This is chaos! It's only going to get worse. We need to do something.

Pike steps over and asks Gabriella to make room for him.

J

Pause as he searches for the next key.

Ju

Again he has to look. Gabriella raises her eyebrow, amused at Pike's ineptitude.

Jus

Normal shot as Pike shakes his head and picks up a notepad, scribbling a message into it. He turns it around for all to see.

Just show me what I need to shoot.

His face says he means business.

EXT. OCCULT SHOP - NIGHT

These particular streets are bare except for Gabriella's car and Pike's bike. The brake lights flash twice, indicating the car alarm's been set.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NEXT

The front door opens and Gabriella turns on the lights. She has her laptop in a bag on her shoulder.

Lesi zips past her and starts running all over the shop. New surroundings.

She bumps into a display tower of various necklaces and chokers. It tips over and is caught by Connor, out of nowhere, before hitting the ground.

Connor angrily turns to the dog and points his finger towards the ground. Lesi sits down and covers her face with her front paws.

Gabriella, Pike, and Kaia head to the storage room in the back. Connor points his finger directly at Lesi and mouths 'stay' before he follows the others.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - STORAGE ROOM - NEXT

Gabriella hands a slip of paper to Kaia and points off to the right. Kaia heads to the right.

She hands another slip to Connor and points him to the left. Connor goes off to find his list.

She starts to go down the aisle in front of her. Pike grabs and points to himself with a questioning look.

Gabriella thinks to herself before handing her purse and laptop to him. She points to the ground, telling him to stay put.

He looks back at her, almost offended at the assignment. She grins and pats his cheek before heading down the aisle.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NEXT

Lesi is laying down on the ground. She suddenly pops her head up and looks towards the front door. Then she turns and dashes to the storage room.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - STORAGE ROOM - NEXT

Pike is still standing at the front of the large room, holding Gabriella's belongings. Lesi barrels into him from behind, causing him to fall and drop the bags.

Stay with Lesi as she pauses briefly before running to the left, dashing down an aisle and pouncing on Connor. Connor shoves her off, but she continues to bark at him.

She backs away slowly, still barking, and turns and runs. Connor gets it. Follow her.

Back to Pike, standing back up with the bags. He spins out of Lesi's way to avoid a repeat, then is knocked over again by Connor a second later.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NEXT

Lesi is in the middle of the room barking. Connor comes up to her, trying to calm her down.

A pair of BRIGHT LIGHTS are flashing into the room through the front windows.

Connor looks up and his eyes go wide. It's a pair of headlights. Gabriella's headlights!

Behind him, Gabriella, Kaia, and a disgruntled looking Pike come out of the storage room.

Connor makes a beeline for the exit, Gabriella two steps behind him.

EXT. OCCULT SHOP - NIGHT

The tires smoke on Gabriella's car as it whips into a tight turn going backwards and takes off away from the store.

Connor gets out of the door and takes off running.

Gabriella is out right after him, followed by Pike and Kaia.

Gabriella watches her car being stolen and chased by Connor for a beat before turning around and taking the bags from Pike, going back into the store.

EXT. CITY STREET - NEXT

Gabriella's car turns a corner and continues onwards.

Five seconds later, Connor also turns the corner, hurdling a fire hydrant before slowing to a stop. He can't catch it.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Pike and Kaia look over Gabriella's shoulder as she types into her laptop. She pulls her PDA phone out of her purse and connects it to the computer with a USB cord.

Connor walks back in, his head down. Gabriella waves him over. He steps over and she turns the laptop to him.

On the screen is a web browser window showing a constantly refreshing map. PAN over to the PDA laying on the counter showing the same thing.

Connor looks up at Gabriella, confused.

INT. GABRIELLA'S CAR - NIGHT

A young man wearing a black hoodie is driving the car.

Pan over to and close in on the center console in the car and the GPS navigation system embedded in it.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Connor nods his head, understanding now.

Gabriella hands Connor a large box full of books and materials for spells.

Everyone starts for the door, Connor bringing up the rear. He stops when he looks at the cover of one of the books in the box.

ON the book with a title written in Latin. Under the title is a huge symbol, a circle with eight arrows protruding from it.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM (FLASHBACK)

Connor walks the coffee table on the way to his room, seeing the stack of papers and books. One book has the same symbol and is titled 'Practices in Chaos.'

EXT. CSULA WEST CAMPUS - STUDENT COMMONS (FLASHBACK)

Connor looks at Tracy's hurt shoulder, touching it just above her tattoo. It's the same symbol.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Connor looks towards his friends and tries to yell something at them. When that (obviously) doesn't work, he digs through the box.

ON Pike as a small book smacks him in the head from behind.

Pike grabs his head and turns around, looking non plussed at the attack. Gabriella and Kaia also turn around.

Normal shot as Connor shrugs his shoulders and waves everyone back over.

He opens one of the other books and pulls out a pen.

Before he can write on it, Gabriella slams her hand on top of his, looking at him like he's crazy.

She digs through the laptop bag and pulls out a small notepad, flipping to a blank page.

Connor rolls his eyes and writes a message.

'I need you to find someone for me. Tracy Dillard. She goes to CSU.'

Gabriella meets Connor's eyes and mouths 'why'?

Connor writes down 'A hunch.'

Gabriella gives him the 'you're crazy' look again. She points to everyone in the room, herself last, then holds out her hands like they're on a steering wheel. Finally, she holds up her PDA.

Connor gives her a pleading look.

Pike, with his cell phone out, taps Connor on the shoulder, points to himself and gives an 'okay' signal.

He starts to type a text message into his cell phone.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

A man is SLAMMED onto the hood of a police car by a cop. The cop slaps on a pair of handcuffs and muscles the perp into the back of the car.

He opens his door and stops to pull out his cell phone. On it is a new text message: 'Dude, it's Pike. I need an address for a Tracy Dillard. Coed at CSU.'

The cop types a response.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NEXT

Connor flutters his hand in the air at Gabriella and Kaia, telling them to leave. Kaia pops him in the arm and gives Connor his third 'you're crazy' expression.

Connor points to Gabriella and animatedly wriggles his fingers in the air.

He points to Kaia and rears his head back in a mock howl. Then he contorts his face into a sinister expression and makes clawing signs with his hands.

Gabriella turns Connor's face to her and mouths 'you sure?'

Connor nods his head emphatically. Then he shakes his head just as hard. Then he shrugs his shoulders.

ON Pike's phone. A new message. 'Dude, I'm crazy busy right now.'

Pike starts to type a return message.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

The cop checks his phone again. Pike's message reads '2 cases of beer and free rent for a month?'

FLASH CUT TO a few moments later. Now the cop is in his squad car typing into his dashboard computer.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NEXT

Gabriella and Kaia share a look before they both sigh heavily. Gabriella nods to Connor.

Kaia walks over to Pike and gives him a small kiss, followed by a long hug, wrapping her arms around him inside his jacket.

Pike kisses his girlfriend's forehead before she leaves with Gabriella.

EXT. OCCULT SHOP - NIGHT

Gabriella walks to the curb and looks up and down the street, searching for a cab.

Kaia walks up to her and dangles a set of keys in front of her face. She turns around and looks behind her. Gabriella follows her eyes to Pike's bike.

Gabriella grins and takes the keys.

INT. OCCULT SHOP - MAIN FLOOR - NEXT

Connor is sitting on the display case with Pike pacing back and forth looking at his phone. He abruptly stops.

Then he walks back over to Connor and holds his phone up to him. Connor looks at the screen and smiles, nodding his thanks.

They walk out of the shop.

EXT. OCCULT SHOP - NEXT

Pike and Connor look around for his bike. Pike searches himself for the keys, coming up empty. He smiles and shakes his head. He knows what happened.

Connor digs through his pockets and produces a handful of change. He looks down the street to a bus stop.

INT. MTA BUS - LATER

Connor and Pike climb the steps of the bus and Connor puts in fare for both of them.

ANGLE ON the rest of the bus. Completely empty.

Connor looks to the rather portly BUS DRIVER. He cups his hands together and mouths 'thank you', grateful that the bus is still running.

The driver makes a cash motion with his thumb and fingers, then points to himself and mimes eating food.

It's then that he notices Lesi standing outside the door.

He shakes his head no. Connor pulls out a twenty dollar bill and hands it to the driver. He nods and points his thumb to the back of the bus.

Connor walks off to take his seat. Pike stumbles as the bus lurches forward, pulling off. Lesi bounds off past him to catch up to Connor.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

Gabriella pulls to a stop at a red light. She sits up and pulls out her PDA. Kaia looks over her shoulder and taps her on the arm. She motions for them to keep going.

Gabriella points to the red light. Kaia sweeps her arms around the area. She's got a point. The streets are deserted.

Gabriella nods and starts to cross the intersection, instantly stopping to narrowly avoid getting T-bone'd by a car speeding past them.

She frowns and turns back to Kaia, who gives a sheepish expression in response.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - EMPLOYEE LOUNGE - NIGHT

Ethan and his students are drinking coffee and watching the news. Tracy flips between a few stations, each of them showing various images of accidents and riots in the streets.

Eric taps Ethan on his shoulder and shows him his Mac laptop screen.

ON the screen. It's showing a high angle video of a gang of kids mugging a well dressed man. At the top of the window, the title reads 'LA Staples Center.' It's a traffic camera.

The mouse moves to the next button and the image switches. This time it's a security camera in a bank. Men in masks are emptying the registers.

Another change of screens shows another camera at a site of a horrific car accident. Both cars are wrecked. EMTs are lifting one bloodied victim onto a stretcher.

Normal scene. Ethan smiles, enjoying his work. He pats Eric on the shoulder.

EXT. AUTO REPAIR SHOP - NIGHT

Establishing shot of a large building with several garage doors at the front. A gas pump is at the forefront of the frame.

Gabriella and Kaia pull to a stop in front of the pump. They dismount the bike and Gabriella looks at the PDA, making sure she's at the right place.

EXT. CSULA CAMPUS - STUDENT HOUSING COMPLEX - NIGHT

Establishing shot of the dormitory (the only one on campus).

INT. STUDENT HOUSING COMPLEX - FIRST FLOOR - NEXT

Pike and Connor slowly walk down the hall. Pike turns to Connor and shrugs his shoulder. He doesn't know what room she's in.

Connor sniffs the air and motions for Pike to follow him.

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. STUDENT HOUSING COMPLEX - THIRD FLOOR - NEXT

Connor is still in front, his head (and nose) held high. He stops in front of a door and points to it.

They both raise fists to knock and stop at the same time. That's not going to work.

Pike takes a step back and rears up to kick the door in. Connor holds out his arm to stop him and reaches into his inside jacket pocket.

He pulls out a small leather wrap and unravels it to reveal a set of LOCK PICKS.

Pike nods and steps aside to let Connor work.

It takes him about thirty seconds to get the door open. He looks up at Pike and winks as he opens the door.

Pike goes in first. Connor stops to put the wrap around his wrist and cover it with his jacket sleeve before he follows.

INT. TRACY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The apartment is a whole hell of a lot bigger than most campus dorms.

Connor sniffs the air and walks off to the left into:

INT. TRACY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Connor picks up a bottle of perfume and gives it a sniff. He looks back to Pike and nods. Same scent. They're in the right room.

They start to search through the room.

Pike opens the top drawer on Tracy's dresser, revealing some skimpy undergarments. Pike wryly grins before he moves to the second drawer.

Connor sorts through the mess on the desk in the opposite corner, stopping when he comes across a piece of a paper with a paragraph written in Latin.

He takes out his cell phone and starts a new text message.

EXT. AUTO REPAIR SHOP - NIGHT

Gabriella and Kaia walk around to the side of the building.

Gabriella checks her PDA. On it is a message from Connor. 'I need a translation'. Gabriella starts her response.

INT. TRACY'S BEDROOM - NEXT

Connor gets Gabriella's response. 'What is it?'

He holds up the piece of paper, copying the words into his phone.

Just as he finishes his message, a BOOT hits him in the back of the head.

He whirls around, holding the impact spot. Pike waves him over to the window on the opposite wall.

Connor walks over and Pike points outside.

CUT TO a shot looking out the window. The KMZP radio tower is visible in the distance. It's glowing green.

Connor pulls out his cell phone and reads Gabriella's response: 'It says Janus, carry to the winds the sounds of life and bring to the earth the still, calm quiet of the dead. Banish the cries, the screams, the...'

He tries to scroll further, but there's no more. Seconds later, a new message comes in. '...laughs to the sky. Bring upon us a plague of tranquil silence. That's a spell! Where are you?'

Connor looks back to the tower, then to Pike. They know where to go.

EXT. AUTO REPAIR SHOP - ROOFTOP - NEXT

Gabriella finishes typing into her phone and joins Kaia at the glass bay window.

Inside, Gabriella's car is just one of many.

Several teenagers are working on another car, stripping it down.

Gabriella and Kaia share a look.

EXT. CSULA WEST CAMPUS - STUDENT COMMONS - NIGHT

Pike, Connor, and Lesi are walking briskly through the area. In the distance, the radio tower is directly in front of them.

Connor is typing into his phone again.

INT. AUTO REPAIR SHOP - NIGHT

A storm of glass falls into the center of the room, causing all the teenagers to scatter.

WOLF KAIA drops onto the roof of a car positioned under the roof's bay window.

She snarls, looking at the terrified kids. They scramble around for weapons, picking up blow torches and crow bars.

Kaia sizes them all up.

Suddenly, all of their weapons fly out of their hands and land at the base of the car Kaia is on.

They all look around the room, one of them seeing Gabriella standing at one of the open garage bays, her eyes YELLOW.

All of teenagers are FLUNG by an invisible force into a wall.

Kaia hops off the car and bounds over to all of them, snapping at them to keep them in place.

She paces back and forth like she's looking at a police line up, sniffing each of them.

She stops at one kid in particular. This one is wearing a familiar black hoodie. Kaia HOWLS and turns back to Gabriella.

Gabriella steps into the kid's face, her eyes still yellow. Her scowl only adds to the kid's fear.

EXT. AUTO REPAIR SHOP - MOMENTS LATER

Gabriella is pumping gas into her car. Behind her, in the rear of the car, Kaia finishing fastening her bra. She picks up her shirt and starts to put it back on.

Gabriella opens her phone and reads a message from Connor: 'Get to the radio station at CSU pronto!'

INT. AUTO REPAIR SHOP - NEXT

All of the carjackers are hovering in the air, their wrists bound to a hook and chain hanging from the car lifts.

CLOSE UP on our hoodied friend. He's sporting a lovely BLACK EYE.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - NIGHT

Connor and Pike reach the building. Lesi, being restrained with her leash by Connor, growls at the building.

Connor ties Lesi's leash to a lamp post and looks to Pike.

Pike pulls out one of his guns, the now familiar Buffy, and leads the way into the building.

PAN UP to the edge of the rooftop. Ethan and Tracy watch Connor and Pike enter. Both frowning, they leave the rooftop.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - LOBBY - NEXT

Better described as a hallway with hangers, Pike leads the way into the station.

Pike pulls another gun and holds it out to Connor. He waves it off. He's not a gun person.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

Gabriella's car races through the streets, going right through a few red lights and stop signs.

CUT TO a side view. Kaia is driving.

Stay on one corner as Gabriella's car whips by. A moment later, Gabriella, on Pike's bike stops at the stop sign Kaia just went through.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - PRODUCTION BOOTH - NEXT

Now Connor is leading the way, twirling a STAKE in his hands.

Behind him, Pike is grabbed from behind, a rag clamping over his mouth.

Connor sniffs the air and turns around to see Pike's legs being dragged away. He runs out of the room.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - HALLWAY - NEXT

Connor turns to see Pike being dropped by one of Ethan's student, a pudgy guy with jet black hair.

He kicks the kid right in the mouth, knocking him off Pike.

Connor bends down to Pike and starts to help him up. His nose twitches and his hand shoots out behind him.

PAN UP to see his arm holding a baseball bat, having stopped the swing from Tracy. He flings the bat aside, throwing Tracy into the wall with it.

A loud sound, like HOWLING WIND is heard. Connor covers his ears. Tracy drops to her knees and also covers hers.

It quickly subsides and the silence returns.

Tracy slowly backs away. Connor stalks towards her. Tracy starts to smirk, her eyes fading to black.

She sidesteps just as Connor is flung down the hallway into the wall at the end, hitting it face first.

She looks back to see Ethan and the rest of the group standing over a now unconscious Pike.

She picks up her bat, walks over to Connor, and hits a homerun on his head, knocking him out.

She looks to her comrades and teacher, smiling.

INT. AIRPLANE - COCKPIT - NIGHT

The same plane from before. The fuel gauge is just above empty now. A red light blinks next to the 'E' on the gauge.

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - MAIN STUDIO - NIGHT

CLOSE UP on a nasty bruise on Connor's cheek. The man himself is out cold. He's also shaking.

PULL BACK to Pike, with his back to Connor, shaking them both, trying to wake his friend up. They're tied together with rope in back to back chairs.

Connor slowly comes around, blinking his eyes.

He notices Ethan on the other side of the switchboard, putting his phone back into his phone. Tracy and the pudgy kid are standing next to him.

Connor coughs and spits out a mouthful of blood. Ethan looks to him and tosses over a napkin to Pike. He points to Connor and mimes wiping his mouth.

Pike sneers at him.

Ethan turns back to his two pupils and mouths something. While he's doing this, Tracy checks her watch.

Pike looks at this scene, confused.

Ethan finishes. Tracy looks up to him and nods her understanding. Ethan smiles and picks up his coat, draping it over his shoulder.

The nail finally drops for Pike. They were talking!

Ethan turns and heads for the door. Pike's eyes narrow.

ZOOM IN on Ethan's ear and the small red plug in it.

Tracy and Pudgy Guy gives Connor and Pike a look before they leave the room.

Connor, now fully awake, throws his head back, hitting Pike and getting his attention. Pike's face turns angry and he shakes both of them. The hell was that for?

CLOSE UP on their bound wrists. Connor grabs Pike's hand and leads it up his other arm, pushing his coat sleeve away.

The sleeve moves up, revealing the strap of lock picking tools.

Pike's fingers run over the tools, finding one in particular. Connor moves his wrist away as far as he can, letting the sharpened metal file slide out of the strap.

Pike starts to cut through the rope.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - NIGHT

Gabriella's car pulls to a stop in front of the station.

Lesi, who was resting on the ground, perks up at the new arrival. She instantly starts barking when Kaia gets out of the car.

Kaia looks at the bound dog and rolls her eyes. At least she knows she's in the right place.

She walks into the studio.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - HALLWAY - NEXT

Ethan walks down the hallway, looking fairly carefree. He quickly ducks into a doorway.

Moments later, Kaia passes by him. She stops, sniffing the air and looking around, puzzled. There's a scent here.

After a few more moments looking around, she continues onward.

Ethan waits for her to turn a corner before he steps back out and continues to wherever he's going.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - MAIN STUDIO - NEXT

Pike finishes cutting through the rope. He and Connor wriggle free and get to their feet. Pike picks up his gun, which was resting on a small coffee table in a corner.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - NIGHT

Ethan, now with his coat on, walks out the front door, pausing to light a cigarette.

Lesi starts barking at him and yanking at the leash keeping her away.

He winces and grabs his ears for a moment before regaining his composure.

Despite the barking form of intimidation, Ethan walks right up to Lesi and waves his hand across her face, just out of her reach.

She immediately calms down. Ethan kneels down and gently rubs her neck, running his hand over her collar and scratching her chin.

His face is lit up by a headlight coming right at him.

Gabriella swerves to the side to stop the bike. Her eyes zero in on Ethan.

He mouths 'bugger' and takes off running.

Lesi snaps out of her trance and starts barking again, pulling at her leash.

Gabriella hops off the bike and runs after Ethan. As she passes Lesi, she waves her hand at her pet.

ON the leash. A small, barely visible flame flares up on the leash right at the post.

The leash snaps and Lesi dashes off.

ON Ethan running for his life.

ON Gabriella chasing him, her eyes sparkling yellow. Behind her, Lesi is rapidly catching up to both of them.

Ethan sidetracks to a nearby building, the campus hospital.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Connor and Pike exit the production room and are immediately sent flying to the end of the hall.

They look up to see Ethan's students, sans Tracy, at the other end, walking towards them.

Behind them, Kaia rounds the corner. Eric and Pudgy Guy turn to her. She picks up the nearby baseball bat, same one Tracy used earlier.

Connor sees her and points up to the ceiling. More specifically, the light fixture.

Kaia follows his motion and hits a nearby light switch, plunging the room into total darkness just as Eric advances on her.

A long beat. About fifteen seconds.

The lights come back up, this time Connor at the switch. All of the students are laid out with Kaia and Connor standing tall.

Connor shakes his hand and Kaia twirls the bat like a baton.

Pike, with his average human eyesight, is off to the side.

Connor sniffs the air and looks straight up. He ducks into the production room and comes back out a moment later with the rope he was bound by earlier.

Pike stands up as Kaia runs into his arms and kisses him.

As they kiss, the rope hits both of them and dangles off their heads.

Pike breaks off the kiss and looks to Connor, who points to the knocked out students and runs off.

INT. STUDENT MEDICAL CENTER - NIGHT

Ethan bolts through the double glass doors. They barely shut before Lesi SMASHES through the glass.

Gabriella jumps over the door frame, never breaking stride.

She mouths something and thrusts her hand forward.

Ethan's coat bursts into flames and he falls to the ground, rolling. He gets to his knees and gets the coat off, throwing it into Lesi.

With the dog's momentum, it gets trapped in the flaming cloth and tumbles around.

Gabriella stops to free her dog. PAN UP as the flame sets off the fire alarm.

Sprinklers up and down the halls go off. Gabriella gets Lesi out and continues her pursuit.

As Ethan runs, a door appears out of the ceiling, sliding to the floor.

Ethan leaps and slides under the door just before it gets to the ground.

Gabriella doesn't even stop, throwing herself into the pane. It doesn't break and she falls to the ground.

She looks at Ethan, who looks back to her and smirks. He blows her a kiss as he enters a stairwell, escaping.

A now soaked Gabriella pounds on the pane, screaming in rage.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Connor steps out onto the roof, looking at the glowing green tower. He sees the statue, glowing the same color as it.

He gets one step towards it before he flies off, over the roof!

He manages to grab the edge with both hands and hold on. Above him, Tracy steps into frame, smirking.

INT. STUDENT MEDICAL CENTER - NEXT

Gabriella walks back up to Lesi, who is ripping Ethan's coat to shreds. She smiles at her dog's exuberance.

A large item falls out of the jacket and Gabriella's eyes go wide.

The Eye of Anubis!

Gabriella covers her mouth and drops to her knees, picking the object up.

She smiles and wraps up Lesi in a hug while getting her face licked.

EXT. STUDENT MEDICAL CENTER - NEXT

Ethan half run, half jogs away from the building. When he's a good half mile away, he stops and pats himself down.

Not finding the Eye on his person, he leans his head back and sighs.

He looks back to the building, considering his options. After a beat, he walks away.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - ROOFTOP - NEXT

Tracy raises her foot over Connor's hands.

ON Connor's legs curling up, his feet resting on the wall.

Just as Tracy's foot come down, Connor pushes off with his feet and pulls up with his arms.

Showing impossible agility, he somersaults off the wall, sailing over Tracy and landing on his feet back on the roof.

A dumbfounded Tracy turns around as Connor reaches the Janus statue. He picks it up over his head, readying to throw it.

His body FREEZES.

On a black eyed Tracy, gritting her teeth, her hand out towards Connor.

Connor is visibly straining, trying to get control of his body.

PAN UP to the statue. It cracks right in the center and green light starts to pour out of the seam. Three more cracks appear from nowhere.

ON Pike at the roof entrance, lowering his gun. Kaia is next to him.

Tracy looks over to her left just in time to eat a punch from Kaia, knocking her to the ground.

Before she can recover, Kaia pushes her knee into her back and restrains both of her arms.

Connor stumbles forward, still holding the statue.

It continues to crack with more light pouring out of it.

Connor's eyes go wide and he HURLS the statue off the roof. It explodes in mid air in a flash of green light.

The same deafening howling wind like sound from before echoes in the night sky. Connor and Pike cover their ears.

Kaia winces and closes her eyes, not letting go of Tracy.

Tracy starts to SCREAM. As she does, it steadily becomes audible.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - HALLWAY - NEXT

All of the students, tied up with rope, scream and wriggle on the ground.

PUSH IN on one of Eric's ears and the plug embedded in it.

INT. ETHAN'S CAR - NEXT

Ethan slams on the brakes and immediately yanks the plugs out of his ear, wincing in pain.

INT. KMZP RADIO STATION - ROOFTOP - NEXT

The green light on the tower zips up to the top and fades away. A high pitched TONE, the same one as earlier, ends the wind sound.

Connor looks to Pike and Kaia.

CONNOR
You guys okay?

KAIA
Yeah, I'm-

She stops. Looks at Pike. Pike looks at Connor. They all smile. They can hear each other!

INT. AIRPLANE - COCKPIT - NIGHT

Both pilots jump as the radio comes to life.

RADIO
(male voice)
Hello? All flights still in the air
please check in. We're able to
better divert you to landing sites
now, over.

The pilots smile at one another as one of them picks up an intercom.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Kaia looks down at her hostage. Tracy is silently whimpering.

There's a small pool of blood next to her head. It's dripping down from her ear.

Kaia backs up and lets Tracy turn over. She looks at the three with shock in her eyes.

FIRST PERSON POV

A hand reaches up and to the right, then comes back into frame with blood on the fingers.

More importantly, there's no sound.

NORMAL SCENE

Tracy's lip quivers as the truth hits her. She's can't hear anything. She bursts into tears.

Pike looks to Kaia and points to Tracy. Kaia nods and knocks Tracy out with another punch.

PIKE
Thanks.

KAIA
No problem.

Connor walks over. He and Pike slap hands. Job well done.

EXT. KMZP RADIO STATION - NIGHT

Connor, Pike, and Kaia walk out of the station.

Lesi jumps onto Connor. He smiles and rubs her face. Pike and Kaia head for Pike's bike.

Gabriella jobs up to Connor with a grin on her face.

GABRIELLA
Look what I got?

Connor returns her smile.

CONNOR
Ethan?

GABRIELLA
Got away.

CONNOR
Damn.

PIKE
Uh...Gabriella?

Gabriella looks over to Pike.

PIKE
Could I have my keys back?

Gabriella takes the keys out of her pocket, not looking like she wants to give them up. She sighs and tosses them over.

GABRIELLA
Hey, Kaia. Earlier with those thieves, how'd you know which one took my car?

KAIA
He smelled like that God awful car freshener you keep in there.

Gabriella looks offended. Connor snorts in laughter.

EXT. THE CHARON - NIGHT

Car horns and the sounds of many conversations between pedestrians fill the sky. City crews are cleaning up the mess from the looting. In the distance, several sirens are heard.

PAN UP the building to:

EXT. G&C'S CONDO - PATIO - CONTINUOUS

Connor, Gabriella, and Lesi are leaning on the rail, watching everything below them.

Gabriella looks to Connor.

GABRIELLA

What tipped you to Tracy?

CONNOR

The symbol on your chaos magic books. I ran into her earlier and saw the same tattoo on her arm.

GABRIELLA

And you figured she had to be involved from that?

CONNOR

(shrugs)

I had a hunch. Wouldn't have hurt to check it out.

(beat)

I guess I'm just lucky.

(beat; low)

Go me.

He looks away, getting upset.

GABRIELLA

(knowingly)

You knew her. How-

CONNOR

We dated. Well, we did in Connor Neverland. High school sweetheart.

GABRIELLA

(beat)

Oh.

They head back inside.

INT. G&C'S CONDO - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Connor slumps down on the couch and Gabriella takes a seat in the recliner. The sounds from outside are coming in through the still open patio door.

Connor turns on the television.

GABRIELLA
How...how long did you date?

CONNOR
Figured you'd know.

GABRIELLA
Your private life wasn't assigned to me.

CONNOR
Oh.
(beat)
Two and a half years. We were gonna go to UCLA together. Dad, Neverland Dad, wasn't for all that.

She reaches over to the coffee table and picks up one of the red plugs.

CONNOR
(off plug)
You figure out what those things are?

GABRIELLA
There's a microphone in it. I guess they couldn't figure out an immunity to the spell, so they used these to enhance sounds so they could still here. At least that's my guess.

Connor nods.

GABRIELLA
So how'd you know to smash the statue?

CONNOR
'Cause it's always the statue. Or the necklace, the ring, whatever conspicuous object is just laying around glowing.

GABRIELLA

Point taken.

CONNOR

At first, I thought it was Tracy. I assumed the spell was channeled through her because when I hit her-

GABRIELLA

(surprised)

You hit her?!?

CONNOR

(correcting)

Threw her into a wall.

GABRIELLA

(rolls eyes)

Oh, that's so much better.

CONNOR

Hey, she was-

GABRIELLA

(holds up her hand)

Anyway! Continue-

Connor huffs before he resumes his explanation.

CONNOR

There was this loud ass sound, like we were in the eye of a tornado. I figured I broke her concentration and the spell weakened.

GABRIELLA

Yeah, I heard it too. She probably was the conduit if that happened. The statue was just a catalyst or a power booster.

(beat)

Wait a minute, what do you mean you thought it was channeled through her?

CONNOR

You said chaos magic is mostly individual, but spells can be ramped up with a bunch of people doing it and channeling it through one person like an electric conductor.

He stops as he looks to Gabriella, who is beaming.

CONNOR

What?

GABRIELLA

(impressed)

You were paying attention?

CONNOR

Oh, well, bits and pieces. You tend to ramble.

Gabriella shakes her head, still smiling.

Connor looks on the coffee table, still covered with books. The Eye of Anubis is on top of the pile.

CONNOR

You gonna get started working on that thing?

Gabriella shakes her head and settles more comfortably into the chair.

GABRIELLA

Later.

(closes her eyes)

It's been a long night and I want to take the rest of it off.

CONNOR

Heard that.

Connor lays down on the couch and curls up, watching television.

After a beat, he looks to Gabriella. She opens her eyes and looks to him.

They hold the stare for a moment before simultaneously nodding.

Connor picks up the remote and turns off the television. Gabriella gets up and shuts the patio door.

The room is silent now.

Gabriella sits back down in the chair and closes her eyes.

Connor closes his and shifts a bit on the couch, his head resting on a pillow.

There's a long moment of silence before Lesi BARKS.

 CONNOR
Quiet, Lesi.

 GABRIELLA
Quiet, Lesi.

Lesi whimpers and walks off into Gabriella's room.

Another long moment of silence. This holds for about a minute before Connor starts SNORING.

Gabriella opens one eye and looks to her friend. She sighs and closes it again, trying to ignore it.

BLACK OUT.

Connor snores again. Loudly.

END OF ACT FOUR

END OF EPISODE