

CERBERUS

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. COURTYARD - NIGHT

A gothic mansion. Devoid of life, leering beneath the radiance of a full moon. A breeze shuffles dozens of autumn leaves that lie freckled across the grass.

Birds fight for the right to a spot on a window seal -- a black woman (TANAKA) punches headfirst through the glass, a well-crafted, downward spiral...

She's on the ground. An ancient BOOK in her hands, frayed with the tides of time. Sprints towards the towering gates surrounding the estate.

BOOM! The double doors to the mansion swing open, two COPS on her tail, standard issued .40's drawn. They FIRE --

And she leaps, rocketing upward with an uncanny grace. Twenty feet of pure air WHOOSHING past her.

Until she's on the other side. Bolts to the streets.

BIG COP slows for a breather.

MACHO COP
C'mon, she's getting away!

BIG COP
Are you nuts? She'll kill us!

MACHO COP
So will he.

He didn't think about that. They dart after her.

EXT. JJ'S - NIGHT

Racks are packed with strange gizmos and hybrid appliances. A GUY in a Lakers jersey puts the finishing polish on a glass case housing dozens of cellular phones.

In shuffles a MAN in a pullover. Too rogue to be friend, too cool to be foe, he makes everything look easy. Low-cut facial trims make him worth while. This is ALEX PORTER.

LAKERS GUY
We're closed, my man.

Alex flashes a badge.

ALEX
You're under arrest.

Lakers guy pauses, bewildered.

LAKERS GUY
What for?

Alex reaches beneath his pullover -- towards his GUN.
Just as Lakers guy starts to shit his pants,
Alex's hands move past the handle, lifts the pullover,
revealing Alex's Miami Heats basketball shirt.

ALEX
Wearing the wrong jersey.

Lakers guy sighs, annoyed.

LAKERS GUY
I thought I told you not to come
down here harassing me on my job?

ALEX
JJ, chill out. I'm not here to
bust you again.

Pulls forty dollar from his pockets.

ALEX
Just want my merchandise.

JJ (Lakers guy) retrieves a small package for Alex.

Hands it over to Alex. Alex rips the package open, slips out
a cell phone. Great job.

JJ
There you go, your highness, spit-
shined to perfection, entire call
list transferred.

ALEX
Appreciate it.

Starts towards the door.

JJ
Hey! You ain't that royal.

Holds out an expecting hand.

ALEX
Should've known.

Alex pulls forty bucks out of his wallet, hands it over. JJ notices Alex's WEDDING RING.

JJ
Just can't let go, can you? Don't
press too hard on those papers.

He bursts into a satisfied laughter.

In retaliation, Alex slides a finger along the jewelry case, producing a long streak on spotless glass. JJ gasps in horror.

ALEX
Don't work too hard on that jewelry
case.

Exits.

JJ
Hey! Get back here!
(sighs)
Cops.

Sprays. Wipes.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

A HOMELESS MAN spies from beneath a blanket of newspapers.

As Tanaka stumbles along a graffiti-covered wall. Her legs buckle. She tumbles against the brick.

Pain floods her conscious - a glass SHARD protrudes from a savagely punctured wound in her leg.

She yanks it out, fights the agony. Focuses a hypnotic glare on the injury.

The wound HEALS.

Relieved, she turns - the butt-end of a gun THWACKS her dead in her nose.

The two cops spring onto the scene. She's trapped.

MACHO COP
Game over, sweetheart.

Frightened, homeless man hides.

EXT. STREET - SAME

Alex gaits down the sidewalk.

MACHO COP (O.S.)
We got her.

Alex presses his back to the brick. Peeks around the corner. Spots Macho cop as he pockets his radio.

INT. ALLEYWAY - CONTINUOUS

Tanaka wipes away blood that has begun to trickle from her nose.

BIG COP
Don't move!

... She moves.

We blink, and she back flips -- her foot catching big cop beneath the chin. And she lands --

Behind macho cop. One kick and he's on his knees holding his groin.

Big cop's back up. Tanaka frisbees the glass shard at him. It STABS in the center of his throat. He collapses.

Alex whips out his firearm.

ALEX
Freeze!

They stare each other down. The question is, who's going to make the first move?

Mustering up his last strength, macho cop wraps a hand around his gun, directs the barrel towards Tanaka.

No surprise. Tanaka has already spotted him.

ALEX
Hands up.

Macho cop FIRES. Tanaka dodges. Startled, Alex returns FIRE. Macho cop takes a slug in the arm.

Tanaka makes use of the diversion, breaks for safety.

ALEX
(to Macho Cop)
Sorry.

Alex gives chase.

EXT. STREETS - CONTINUOUS

Tanaka spills onto the scene, shovels her way through crowds of pedestrians. Alex isn't far behind.

She diverts towards a construction zone. Enters a manhole.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - SAME

Homeless man peeks from his hiding spot. Suddenly, he is drenched in WHITE LIGHT.

LIGHTS of a dark SUV driving up. Door opens. A figure in suede shoes steps out, moves towards the cops.

From the SUV, LEXINGTON watches. An enticing blonde with the appeal of an angel and the ambition of a demon.

Big cop gags. Figure lifts a foot, brings it down on the glass in his throat, then snatches the shard from his death wound.

Mortified, macho cop scrambles as fast as his arms will take him. He's moved three feet when the figure is over him.

SHICK! Homeless man jumps at the sound of glass piercing a fresh flesh. Suddenly, his hiding place is snatched away.

By Lexington. Her gun aimed dead on. She smooches at him. FIRES.

INT. SEWER - CONTINUOUS

Alex descends a ladder. CLICKS ON a flashlight. A SPLASHING noise echoes out to him. Darts after it.

Light beams into darkness, sweeping off of moss covered walls and murky water. The sound of running water grows closer.

ANOTHER SECTION

Dead end. The outlet is barred off, allowing water to dump freely into the harbor.

A SCRAPING sound startles him. Swings his barrel towards the source.

A pair of RED GLOWING EYES break the darkness, a massive beast edges into view with a leering a mouth full of razor sharp teeth. Built like a wolf, but as massive as a bear, a gargantuan pair of wings spread from its back.

ALEX

That all you got?

He glares back. Pupils fade, replaced by a brilliant, white GLOW:

His body contorts, transforming into a BEAST just as massive. Skin fires off an armory glaze. Blades spike from its arms. A triplet of canine heads burgeon from his shoulders.

The beast howls - a supersonic BLAST erupts with such force, Alex is thrust against the wall. But he's not out.

The two clash with undaunted hatred, until Alex exposes his back. Claws sink into his shoulder. Alex roars in agony, can't break free.

A sharp pole grabs his attention. He lunges for it, drives the sharp end right INTO THE BEAST'S FOREARM.

The beast scowls, retreats into darkness.

Alex transforms back to his human shape. Squints at the torn flesh in his shoulder. What the hell is that?

Yanks out a TALON.

Sweeps the water in search of his firearm. Just then, Tanaka emerges from the darkness in pure shock.

TANAKA

Cerberus.

Alex rises from the waters, firearm in hand. FIRES.

Tanaka darts towards the outlet and KICKS right through the bars. Alex hustles over to the edge, peers down.

Nothing but the rushing water of the harbor below.

ALEX (V.O.)

I don't get it.

INT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Macho cop is sprawled awkwardly, the glass shard deep in his skull. Alex stares down on the poor guy with a guilty look.

CSI workers move around him to get a good photo.

FEMALE (O.S.)

Amazing what can happen in ten
minutes, isn't it?

No time for politeness, no patience for leisure, the voice
belongs to lead detective MIA CHASE.

ALEX

But he radioed for back up.

MIA

I'm gonna tell you again, we only
got one call and that was from you.

CSI WORKER

Hey, Chase?

He approaches, hands over an evidence bag. A small, metallic
BALL inside.

MIA

What is it?

CSI WORKER

Dunno. Found it in one of the big
guy's pockets over there.

Weird. Alex kneels, rummages through macho cop's pockets.
And there it is - a metallic ball.

Alex and Mia exchange questioning looks. Tosses the object
to the worker.

ALEX

Bag it up.

The worker carries on.

MIA

Three dead bodies, Alex?

ALEX

Suspect on the run, Mia.

MIA

Your job is to protect and serve -
that's why I gave you a badge. Yet
you thought it was a bright idea to
up and leave your comrades behind.
Tell me why you shouldn't be
suspended?

ALEX
See for yourself.

Alex signals her to follow him. Leads her a safe distance away, free of eavesdroppers.

ALEX
She left a souvenir.

Pulls out the talon. Mia isn't convinced.

MIA
Doesn't look like werewolf.

ALEX
Yeah? What about this?

Rolls up his sleeve, exposing the shoulder wound.

ALEX
And I'm thinking she got back to them before I could get back to them first.

MIA
She's one of them?

ALEX
No telling -- not without a background check.

Mia shoots back a crazy looks, shakes her head, no.

MIA
You left your comrades behind, and didn't even bother to call EMSA.

Alex counts up his mistakes.

ALEX
Thought it was three strikes and you're out?

Starts to reply, but only a defeated sigh escapes her lips.

MIA
I hate you sometimes.

ALEX
Love you too.

Starts away.

MIA
Where you going now?

ALEX
While your start your research,
I'll start mine.

MIA
Oh, that reminds me...

Pulls out a folded stack of papers. Hands it over.

Alex skims through the papers. Confused at first, then realization sinks in. Looks to Mia for confirmation.

She nods. Alex frowns.

ALEX
Dammit, JJ. You jinxed me.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Anxious elementary students swarm the area after a busy day.

KINIA PORTER, a slender fourth grader, waits impatiently along the curve.

An SUV with tinted windows pulls up to her. Windows are down just enough to see the eyes of SOMEONE.

Kinia waves an accusing finger.

KINIA
You're late, daddy.

Opens the door, climbs in with Alex.

ALEX
This car's brand new. How'd you
know I wasn't a stranger?

KINIA
I saw your eyes.

ALEX
My eyes?

KINIA
Yup. I can see them through
anything.

A grin beams across Alex's face as he reveals a QUARTER.

KINIA
What's that?

ALEX
Your birthday gift.

Kinia could be happier with a lump of coal.

ALEX
Okay, tell you what, I'll keep the
quarter...

CLAPS his hands together, rubs them around in a circle.

And when he opens them, a golden BRACELET has appeared.
Engraved on it is the letter "K" in fancy, Old English font.

ALEX
And you can have this one. Happy
birthday.

Impresses, Kinia takes the gift... frowns.

ALEX
What's wrong?

KINIA
Well... it's not cold, I can't eat
it, there's no waffle cone --

ALEX
You know what? I want some ice
cream. You want some ice cream?

KINIA
And pizza, please. We can eat in
the car.

ALEX
We don't eat nothing in this baby.

KINIA
Fine you have my permission take me
out to eat instead.

ALEX
Deal.

Alex puts the SUV in gear, they drive away.

I./E. SUV - DAY

Kinia stares out the window, confused as the SUV drives up to the curb of a two-story house. One of those perfect houses.

KINIA
I thought I was going to your house?

ALEX
You were.

Kinia frowns.

KINIA
It's work again, isn't it?

His guilty expression says it all. Alex climbs out. Opens her door. The hurt in her eyes stabs him in the heart.

ALEX
Sorry.

KINIA
It's okay, dad.

Kinia climbs out. They make their way towards the house, pressing onward against a chilling, autumn wind.

She RINGS the doorbell. From inside, the faint BARKING of a dog closes in on the door.

Alex backs off.

KINIA
She doesn't bite, dad.

ALEX
Yeah, or drink from the toilet.

TUFFY, a pomeranian bursts through the doggy door and leaps into Kinia's arms.

KINIA
Hey, Tuffy! Ya miss me, girl?

Tuffy barks in response.

ALEX
Hi, Tuffy --

She growls at him.

KINIA
Tuffy, stop that. Bad girl!

Front door opens. On the other side is NINA, a cat-eyed beauty with lush black hair.

NINA
Hey, sweetie. I didn't know you were coming back home tonight.

KINIA
Me either. See ya, dad.

She trudges inside. Nina steps out onto the porch, shutting the door behind her.

NINA
Alex, what is going on?

ALEX
Remember those really important cases I used to take?

NINA
The ones that ruined our marriage? Yeah, what about them?

He scoffs with irritation.

ALEX
You know, at least I didn't throw my ring in the trash -- Nina.

NINA
Alex, I have a board meeting tomorrow that I cannot be late to. Will you please un-absorb yourself from you for just one day?

ALEX
Un-absorb myself?

Alex pulls out the folded papers Mia gave him. Airs them out as if they were drenched.

ALEX
These look a little soaked to me. Divorce, Nina? What happened to separating for a while?

NINA

What the hell do you think divorce is?

(pauses)

Lord, I don't even know why I get upset with you anymore. Just put a rush on those papers, it's the least you could do.

Storms inside, the door slams shut behind her.

Alex starts to knock, but the sight of his wedding ring changes his mind. Jams his hands in his pockets

ALEX

Ouch!

When he pulls his hands out, he's holding that talon again.

Just then the wind picks up, battering into him. But he lifts his countenance against it. Starts towards the SUV.

INT. HALLWAY - TIMELESS

Walls are puke green. Dim as a dungeon. VINCENT, a grungy prisoner with eleven years down and many to go. Escorted against his will by PRISON GUARDS.

VINCENT

You sonuvabitches! Turn me loose!
Where are you taking me?

INT. ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Door GROANS open. The guards shove Vincent inside.

Alex sits at a small table in the center. Continuously shuffles a deck of cards. A folded piece of PAPER rests nearby.

ALEX

If it isn't Satan himself. Man, you're getting old.

VINCENT

Always gotta be a smart-ass.

ALEX

Don't blame me. I wanted to be a magician. A push changed that forever, right?

VINCENT

Save it, Alex. You know I ain't kill her.

ALEX

You're right... you didn't push her through that glass door, or cause her to bleed to death, what was I thinking?

Vincent opens his mouth to speak --

ALEX

But, I'm not here to make you feel like the scum you are. I need some information. In exchange, I show you my greatest magic trick of all...

Points to the paper on the table. Vincent unfolds the paper, skims quickly.

VINCENT

Horse shit. Freedom? You've rejected every plea I've sent in the past eleven years.

ALEX

You can make it twelve.

Vincent studies the paper. Studies Alex.

Alex stares back, not an ounce of bullshit in his eyes. Offers Vincent his seat. Vincent sits.

ALEX

Recently, I got stabbed with this.

He pulls the talon from his pocket, tosses it to Vincent.

ALEX

The ridges along the breaking point show that this thing was actually connected to its host when it snapped off in my shoulder.

VINCENT

Snapped off? But it's a talon. Talons don't grow on werewolves.

Pauses. Looks up. Alex awaits an explanation. Vincent tosses the talon back.

VINCENT

Go to hell. You're not gonna leave me hanging again.

ALEX

I'm not asking for the stars, just the moon. For the world's sake, I need to know if there's more to this. Do it for mom.

VINCENT

Not everyone in the world was meant to be saved, Alex.

ALEX

That doesn't change that there are still innocent people in it, Vincent.

VINCENT

I'm the Jack of all Spades. You can't just walk in here and gimme a change of heart.

Alex puts the talon away. Draws a lighter from his pocket, sets the release form ablaze.

ALEX

Right. But I can change your future.

Tosses the crumbling remains onto floor, centimeters from Vincent's shoe. Startled, Vincent stomps out the flame.

Alex exits.

VINCENT

You can't treat me like this. I put the cards in your hands. Don't forget that.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Alex steps out, presses his back to the door. Reaches into his shirt and pulls a silver DOG TAG to the front. Like a lucky rabbits foot, he clings to it.

His cellular RINGS. The cop in him reacts.

ALEX

Homicide, this is Porter.

MIA (V.O.)
 We got a lead. The last one to see
 our boys alive.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

A zone once used for commercial activity, now a shabby field
 of disintegrating buildings.

A wrecking ball SMASHES a building to chunks of debris.

Overseeing demolition is DARIUS CORBET. Tall, a sleazy
 Adonis with a millionaire's smile. He watches from a safe
 distance in a hard hat as the wrecking ball retracts.

A WORKER taps him on the shoulder. Darius looks past him.
 Spots Alex standing in the distance.

EXT. DARIUS'S TRAILER - LATER

The trailer serves as an office.

Darius fixes two cups of hot cocoa.

ALEX
 She broke into your home and
 attacked you, but you don't know
 why?

Darius hands Alex his cup of cocoa. Alex takes a sip.

DARIUS
 Apparently, she thought I was
 someone else.

ALEX
 Ex of yours?

DARIUS
 Wouldn't surprise me.

The door opens, Lexington enters, startled by Alex's
 presence.

DARIUS
 Hey, babe. This is Detective
 Porter, from the NYPD. He's here
 for the, um... talk.

She frowns in confusion. But then --

LEXINGTON

Oh, your friends. Baby, I'm sorry.

Lexington goes to his side to console him.

ALEX

Friends?

LEXINGTON

Those cops that got killed were his friends. If they hadn't have stopped by, oh God, who knows what would've happened?

Dazed a moment, she shakes off the thought of loosing Darius.

LEXINGTON

I hope you find the bastards that did this to them.

ALEX

Girlfriend?

Lexington flashes an engagement ring at him.

Figures. Alex looks away.

ALEX

I gotta get moving. Appreciate the info. I'll update you if it leads to an arrest.

Alex stands. Almost instantly he stumbles, slightly fatigued. Darius catches him by the arm before he falls.

DARIUS

You awright, comrade?

Alex stabilizes himself - catching a glimpse of the tattoo on Darius's arm.

Not a tattoo, a half-healed, jagged flesh wound.

THE SEWERS (FLASHBACK)

Alex in wolf form. The sharp pole in his grasp. Drives the sharp end right INTO THE BEAST'S FOREARM.

BACK TO SCENE

Alex is in total shock. Pulls away, whips out his gun almost instantly.

Suddenly, nausea begins to crawl across his face. His knees buckle, his body convulses. The firearm falls from his grip.

Lexington snatches it up, aims at Alex.

LEXINGTON

What's wrong?

DARIUS

Neurotoxin. His muscles are cramping.

Alex shoots off a murderous glare. His pupils fade, eyes radiate that white GLOW.

LEXINGTON

He's morphing.

DARIUS

Not quite.

Right on point. Glow flickers... that fades too. Alex fires a contorted, bewildered look at Darius.

DARIUS

Don't worry. Your secret's safe with me.

He lunges at Darius. Lexington strikes him over the head before he can lay a finger down. He drops flat, unconscious.

LEXINGTON

Warn me before you do something like that next time.

He pins her against the wall, their lips lock in an intense, lustful, primal kiss. Lexington finally frees her lips.

LEXINGTON

Wait. What about him?

Darius looks to Alex's fallen body.

DARIUS

Take him down.

INT. CATACOMBS - TIMELESS

Alex slowly comes to. Bucks as a foul stench fills his nostrils. Examines his surroundings.

A TORCH LIT area. BONES are spattered into the walls, stuck between rock and dirt. Some human, others can't be made out.

Mystified, he spins around - his heart nearly stops

A sprawled corpse stares up at him, eyes gouged, throat ripped to a pulp, face a freakish mix of human and canine.

Startled, Alex stumbles backwards... right over a rock stump. Plummets into a pit of bones.

Groans, rolls left: a canine corpse -- abdomen torn out.
Rolls right: a human corpse -- decapitated.

He leaps up, captivated as he faces a grisly scene:

Dozens of slaughtered CORPSES rot away. Many are hybrids - canine and human, unsuccessfully merged into mangled freaks.

Alex scampers out of the pit. Bolts for a dark tunnel ahead. Three sets of ICE BLUE EYES break the darkness across the room. IT GROWLS.

CUT TO:

PITCH BLACK.

Feet SHUFFLING along. Finally, Alex bursts into light at the end of the tunnel. Pauses in amazement.

INT. TEMPLE - CONTINUOUS

Four stories of limestone wall greets him, draped with protective glass casings that house enormous papyrus scrolls.

Statues and ornaments adorn entrances and exits.

A stone access ramp leads upward to a pad with a semi-circle of WEREWOLF STATUES, each diverse in species.

ALEX

What is this place?

TANAKA (O.S.)

Some call it the underworld.

Startled, Alex locks eyes with Tanaka as she emerges from the same tunnel.

Slung around her neck are two single-shouldered pouches, and a small dagger in a scabbard at her waist.

TANAKA

Most call it a temple.

ALEX

What are you doing here?

TANAKA

That depends on your answer: why did you chase me?

ALEX

That's what cops do. Don't play innocent.

TANAKA

Likewise.

ALEX

You don't know anything about me.

Edges forward.

TANAKA

I know all about you. It's why Darius captured you. He's going to dissect you just like those carcasses. Use you to murder millions. I can't let that happen.

Just steps away, she unsheathes the dagger. Alex takes a cautious step backwards.

Alex tackles forward, PASSES right through her HOLOGRAM BODY. He stares her down, bewildered.

She grins. Lunges at him, hologram FADES into thin air.

As the REAL TANAKA grabs Alex from behind, puts the dagger to his throat.

TANAKA

Sorry, but this is the only way --

A spine-chilling GROWL makes them both pause.

Those ICE BLUE eyes emerge from the darkness of a tunnel entrance. Followed by a living, breathing HYBRID. Dwarfed if compared a normal werewolf, three-headed like a cerberus.

Fur all over its body FLICKS up like needles on a porcupine. As a matter of fact they are NEEDLES.

The hybrid ROARS, pounces hard on top of Alex. Its jaws SNAP savagely, exposing endless rows of razor sharp teeth.

Tanaka grabs a torch off the wall, batters the hybrid. Scorched and pissed, it leaps at her.

She sidesteps, dragging the dagger right down the middle as it passes overhead, a perfect gutting it from head to tail before it can hit the ground.

She examines the remains.

TANAKA

Disgusting.

Just then, two mammoth sized WEREWOLVES emerge from the nearest tunnel and snatch her from behind.

Alex slips out of view behind a statue.

A second pair emerge. All are diverse in appearance. They converge on Tanaka.

TANAKA

No! Let me go!

Struggle is pointless. They drag her away into the darkness of the passageway.

Coast clear. Alex breaks for it. Something falls from his pocket. Pauses - picks up his NYPD BADGE.

Frowns. Grabs a torch. Starts after Tanaka.

INT. CAVERN - TIMELESS

Small, naturally formed by years of erosion. But lavish in appearance, with natural gold and silver banisters, and even walls. A makeshift stairway of jagged rock flare away from the outlet to a lower level.

LOWER LEVEL

Lexington stands near the stairway, Darius ahead of her.

Before them hovers the COUNCIL ELDERS, six figures cloaked in hooded robes that hide all traces of skin. Each face is a secret shrouded in the darkness of the hood -- names like SARYA, AEOUL, and CIMITRI.

JECIMOL, the current werewolf overlord, stands at the head, a bit ticked off.

JECIMOL

Our survival depends on your
ability to follow orders.

DARIUS

This ain't a walk in the park.

JECIMOL

As long as the ancient ones walk,
the cerberus gene has not been
destroyed.

DARIUS

You can't catch a fish with an
empty hook. You bait it, and wait
for a bite.

In enter the four werewolves, Tanaka still captive. They
revert to human form.

In following order they are: KORB, TOOTHPIK, JANNENSEN, and
ERGO.

The council looks on.

DARIUS

What'd I tell ya? Hooked.

UPPER LEVEL

Alex enters, creeps forward. Spies over a banister of rock.

LOWER LEVEL

DARIUS

Blind her.

Toothpik pulls out a set of dark goggles. Tanaka squirms in
her captors arms. Even as her eyes begin to GLOW a dark,
JUNGLE GREEN, it's pointless. Goggles slide over the glow.

TANAKA

Get off of me!

DARIUS

Councilors, you're looking at the
very last of the ancients.

JECIMOL

(to others)

Bravo, Darius. Maybe we were wrong
about you. Shall we still tell
him?

The others nod in agreement.

DARIUS

What?

JECIMOL

No doubt at times we question your effectiveness and your impudence -- but your persistence is something else. It makes you elite. For this reason we've decided to choose you for induction. A ceremony will be held in your honor.

The cavern fades to a shocked silence.

DARIUS

What about the Alpha wolves?

JECIMOL

Their new commander stands behind you.

Lexington grins, after all, she is behind him.

JECIMOL

By the seventh moon, you will sit with us.

DARIUS

Appreciate the offer. Unfortunately, with good news comes more bad news. In pursuit the ancient one, I ran into something a lot more dangerous ... a pure bred cerberus.

The council exchange stares. Murmurs rise amongst them.

DARIUS

And I believe Tanaka was searching for it when she was discovered.

JECIMOL

Is this true, Tanaka?

Not a word. Lexington grabs her by the jaw, forces her to stare forward.

LEXINGTON

He asked you a question.

No response. Lexington slaps her hard. Tanaka recoils, but Jannensen hold her back.

KORB

Aww, don't act like that, ma. Hows about a kiss to make it better?

He smooches at her. She spits in his eye.

KORB
You little shit!

Toothpik and Ergo chuckle, nab him by the collar before he can strangle her.

LEXINGTON
Stop fooling around, Korb.

DARIUS
I believe the cerberus I encountered has lineage. With your permission, I'd like to bring the lineage to you personally.

ALEX
(to himself)
Another cerberus?

The councilors group for brief discussion. Finally, all nod in approval.

JECIMOL
Have it ready by time of the ceremony.
(ref: Tanaka)
And get rid of her.

Darius nods.

Jecimol dissolves into thin air, his image seeping away with the rest of the Council's hologram images into a...

TRANSMITTER - a black cube with a green button, a red button, and a LCD screen where the lock should be.

KORB
Well, you heard the boss.

Korb whips out a switchblade. Grabs Tanaka by the throat.

DARIUS
Not yet. I still need that location.

TANAKA
Over my dead body.

DARIUS
What about his?

Tanaka stares back in confusion.

DARIUS

I know you came to save him.
That's why I used him as bait. Who
do you think let you in here? Who
let you free him? He can't escape
me. I will find him, and I will
kill him. Unless, you give me
their location now.

Tanaka looks off. No choice.

TANAKA

...The Straights. They're in the
Straights.

Darius grins.

DARIUS

Great... now, kill her.

Suddenly - Alex leaps into action. Our villains can only
watch in surprise.

Tanaka moves - an elbow plants into Jannensen's stomach, back
of fist snaps up at Jannensen's nose. She clobbers Korb with
a swift kick, who stumbles into Toothpik.

Alex clobbers Ergo in two swings. He staggers into
Lexington, who knocks over Darius.

Alex and Tanaka escape to the upper level.

DARIUS

Kill 'em.

Eyes GLOW RED, and the pack transforms.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Alex and Tanaka bolt towards the SUV.

TANAKA

You're crazy for coming back.

ALEX

You're right - next time, I'll
watch.

Ghastly ROARS... above them.

Jannensen and Ergo soar out of the construction site like
bats out of a Hell.

Alex UNLOCKS the doors, hops in. Tanaka is almost at the passenger side door when --

They SWOOP down at her, claws RAKING through the seams of her shirt, and into flesh. Despite pain, Tanaka hops in.

Alex keys the ignition. The SUV ROARS to life.

As Toothpik SMASH-LANDS on the roof of the vehicle.

Alex STOMPS the gas. The vehicle SCREECHES away into the night, hurling Toothpik from the rooftop.

I./E. SUV - CONTINUOUS

Tanaka nurses her wound.

ALEX
You're bleeding!

TANAKA
I see that.

ALEX
No, on my new seats!

TANAKA
("asshole")
I'll lean out the window.

Alex hits a button. Tanaka's window rolls down.

TANAKA
Very funny.
(looking past Alex)
Speed up.

Alex looks left. To his horror, Korb gallops perfectly next to his window --

THE SPEEDOMETER: 60, 65, 70...

Korb never misses a beat of speed. Lunges at them. Alex swerves right.

Korb misses, CRASHES into a dumpster.

TANAKA
Oh, no.

Alex looks ahead with her. His face turns to stone.

Lexington shoulders a crane repeatedly, two rams away from toppling the machine.

TANAKA

Think we can make it?

Alex STOMPS the gas pedal. The two are thrust back against their seats.

Lexington rams it a final time. And the crane tips over...

The SUV hammers forward.

They zoom by. IMPACT - as the crane smashes into the street. Just missing them. Alex hits a sharp left at the corner.

ALEX

Those holograms, what were they?

TANAKA

Council of the Elite, supreme heads of every werewolf legion.

ALEX

But you were a hologram too.

TANAKA

I hijacked a transmitter. They carry nearly the same components used to hot-wire a vehicle, if you've ever done that before.

ALEX

Got rid of that hobby when I became a cop.

TANAKA

Listen to me, he said he going after another cerberus, who is it?

ALEX

You tell me.

TANAKA

This is serious. He mentioned lineage. Got any friends? Family?

ALEX

Kinia... shit.

Alex STOMPS the gas.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The SUV SCREECHES to a halt right in front of Nina's house.

ALEX
Stay here.

Alex opens the glove compartment, grabs the handgun inside.

Leaps from the vehicle. Pauses, staggered by what lies before him.

Smoke seeps from a cracked open front door. The steady rhythm of a smoke detector SOUNDS out to him. He rushes in.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Smoke chokes him at each turn.

ALEX
Nina! Kinia!

CLATTERING noises in the kitchen. Darts towards it.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Nina SPRAYS down a crispy turkey with a fire extinguisher.

ALEX
Nina!

She gasps, startled.

NINA
Alex!

Spots the gun in his hand.

NINA
Alex?

He grabs her by the arm, drags her towards the living room.

ALEX
We have to get outta here.

NINA
Oh, God, Alex? No, wait!

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

She resists, but he drags her onward.

NINA
I'm sorry! Please!

Alex pauses.

ALEX
What are you talking about?

NINA
I'm sorry about the divorce, I
promise. Just put the gun down.

ALEX
Nina --

He waves the gun freely. Nina shrieks, snatches her arm
back. Runs to the closet near the door.

Pulls out a bat.

ALEX
Whoa! Nina, stop!

NINA
Take me out to the woods and shoot
me, huh? You're not putting me on
Unsolved Mysteries!

ALEX
That don't even come on no more!

She swings with like a batting Yankees. SHATTERS a vase.
Another swing. A lamp goes sailing into a wall.

ALEX
Nina, I'm not here to murder you,
I'm here to save you!

KINIA (O.S.)
Mom? Dad?

Kinia is midway down the stairs.

KINIA
What are you doing?

NINA
Go back to sleep, baby.

Kinia notices the smoke in the air.

KINIA
Is the house on fire?

A CLAW SMASHES through a living room window. Korb peeks in.
Nina and Kinia SCREAM. Alex FIRES.
Bullets SEAR into his flesh. Korb retreats.

ALEX
Up the stairs, now. Go!

The trio book up the stairs.

INT. KINIA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS
They enter. Alex BOLTS the door.

NINA
What the hell was that?

Alex peers out the window. A huge tree close by. Across the street, the SUV.

He frowns. The only way out is down.

NINA
Alex, speak to me.

BOOM! The door downstairs bursts open.

No more time to think. He kicks through the window, sprinkling glass fibers everywhere.

ALEX
Go down the tree.

NINA
But I'm afraid of heights!

ALEX
Nina!

NINA
Alright, I'm going!

She scrambles out onto the roof, starts down the tree.

NINA
Don't look... don't look... don't
look...

Alex climbs out behind her. Reaches for Kinia. She climbs into his arms.

THUD - THUD - THUD - the wolves hustle up the staircase.

FRONT YARD

Nina misses a footing, and slips to the ground. Safely. Sighs in relief.

ON THE ROOF

Lexington RAMS the door off its hinges.

Just as Alex jumps.

FRONT YARD

Nina shrieks, rolls out the way just in time. They land safely. Nina is, baffled by the impossible - no broken legs.

NINA

How --

ALEX

I'll explain later, let's go!

They break towards the SUV. Climb in.

I/E. SUV - CONTINUOUS

TANAKA

Welcome back.

ALEX

Where were you?

TANAKA

You said stay here.

ALEX

So simple.

Alex STARTS the ENGINE. Lurches out into the street.

Tanaka pats her hands all along Alex's body.

ALEX

What are you doing?

She's already found what she was looking for. Pulls a small, metal BALL from one of his pockets. Rolls down the window, tosses it.

TANAKA
Trackers. They use it to follow
you.

Nina is loosing her marbles in the backseat.

TANAKA
Who's the quack?

ALEX
She's not a quack, she's my wife...
sort of. Kinia, you okay?

KINIA
No --

Something RAMS into the SUV. Alex loses control of the
wheel. When he regains it --

Looks left: a dark SUV drives up, Jannensen behind the wheel.

Looks right: a dark SUV drives up, Toothpik behind the wheel.

Jannensen signals to Toothpik. Toothpik grins.

Alex curses under his breath.

Together, the villains RAM into either side of Alex's SUV. A
RAIN OF SPARKS flares up between the opposing vehicles.
Steel GRINDING against steel as Alex's SUV is T-boned.

Tanaka fishes a 9MM from her pouch. Wheels it towards
Jannensen, FIRES.

Multiple slugs find their mark. Jannensen swerves away.

Toothpik whips out his GUN.

Alex RAMS into him before he can take aim. Toothpik nearly
SKIDS off track.

Alex hits a hard left.

ALLEYWAY

Jannensen rejoins the chase. Toothpik closes in, FIRES.

The back windshield SHATTERS. Nina and Kinia shriek.

Alex swerves, strays too close to a dumpster. BOOM! A rear
tire blows as it slices against metal.

The tire WITHERS to a SPARKING RIM.

Alex jerks the vehicle left, back right, losing control.

TANAKA
Open the sunroof.

ALEX
Why, so you can throw your pouch at
them?

Tanaka opens one of the pouches. DYNAMITE STICKS inside.

ALEX
Necessities, huh?

Alex hits a button. Sunroof OPENS. She rises. Throws the
pouch.

It lands on the hood of Toothpick's SUV.

Tanaka FIRES --

IMPACT. She ducks inside just in time, FIRE sweep across the
roof.

The explosion rips through Toothpick's body. A TSUNAMI OF
FLAMES, engulf the air. His SUV BLOWS onto its side.

Jannensen breaks too late, SLAMS hard into the remains.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Alex's battered SUV shoots from the mouth of the alley, SKIDS
to a halt in front of a large factory.

Alex leaps out. Starts opening doors.

TANAKA
What are you doing?

ALEX
Ever got far on three tires?
C'mon.

They climb out.

INT. FACTORY - NIGHT

Tentacle-like wires snake their way into a variety of
machines. Mechanisms pump away like ventricles.

A scattered overnight CREW fill crates with packaged
chocolate.

Our heroes enter. Crew workers pause, alert.

NINA
Someone needs tell me what those things were.

TANAKA
Werewolves.

KINIA
Werewolves!

ALEX
Don't. I don't want them worrying.

TANAKA
Like they didn't see them.

VOICE (O.S.)
Hey --

A SECURITY GUARD approaches. Spots Tanaka's gun. Startled, both reach for their firearm.

GUARD
Drop it.

TANAKA
You first.

Argument ensues, neither will give in.

For a brief moment, their voices become muted to Alex -- he zeroes in on rapid, cacophony MOVEMENT outside. It's coming straight towards them.

GUARD
Last chance, lady.

ALEX
Shh!

Beat. Now, Tanaka hears it too.

NINA
I don't hear anything.

TANAKA
Alex, get them out of here.

Alex grabs Nina and Kinia by hand, drags them away. Tanaka goes another.

GUARD
Hey, get back here --

BOOM! The wall shatters. Dust debris chokes the air. As the haze clears, a massive silhouette takes form.

Darius! He ROARS - at his command, Darius's pack storm in from behind him, and unleash a hellish onslaught. The guard are crew are butchered mercilessly.

A MAZE OF CRATES

Alex leads the way.

NINA
Why are they after you?

ALEX
(ref: Kinia)
They're after her.

NINA/KINIA
What?/ Me?

They startle a frightened CREW WORKER out of his hiding place.

CREW WORKER
Get away from me!

ALEX
(flashing badge)
Wait, we're human. Just tell us
how to get outta here.

CREW WORKER
This way.

He pauses after only one step.

Ergo is waiting at the exit they were headed for.

TANAKA (O.S.)
Alex!

She calls down to him from the second floor.

TANAKA
Go left, now!

The trio darts left. Ergo darts after them.

Crew worker turns tail -- slams right into Korb. Korb attacks, MAULS him like a fresh steak.

TANAKA

Go right!

They cut right. Ergo is just corners behind.

TANAKA

Left!

Another sharp turn. Dead end!

TANAKA

Other left!

They cut back across the maze just as Ergo HOWLS. CRATES shatter behind them.

The trio reach a metal ladder leading up to Tanaka. Nina and Kinia climb first.

Ergo spots them. Thrashes forward. Tanaka sees they'll never make it. Opens FIRES.

Bullets SIZZLE into Ergo's flesh like hot coal in water. His insides literally begin to MELT. But he staggers onward.

Until Tanaka's eyes GLOW a dark, JUNGLE GREEN.

Ergo stares, shudders at first glance.

Tanaka squints harder. EYES brighten intensely.

Ergo begins to seizure violently, his primal, agonized wails convert with him as he transforms back to human against his will.

Halfway through transformation, he stumbles backwards, slipping into a MIXER.

Shrieks one last time as his body is ripped apart by sickle-shaped mixing blades.

ON THE SECOND FLOOR

The four cross onto a CATWALK.

ALEX

How'd you do that?

Tanaka spots an escape route.

TANAKA

I'll tell you when we're safe.
Those crates lead to the skylight.
We can make it to the roof.

ALEX

Too risky.

Behind him, CLAWS latch onto the railing from below, Jannensen pulls herself up.

TANAKA

Get down!

He ducks. Tanaka FIRES, Jannensen is pumped with hot lead. She loses grip, plummets to the ground.

TANAKA

Go, I'll cover you.

NINA

She goes first.

ALEX

(to Kinia)

Hold on to me.

She secures her arms around his neck. Alex crosses over the railing, and begins to scale the crates.

Sets Kinia down, leaps across the gap to a separate mountain of crates.

ALEX

Come on.

Kinia is petrified, shakes her head, no.

ALEX

I won't let you fall.

Korb spots them. HOWLS. BOOM! Crates shatter --

Including Kinia's. She is tossed astray, tumbles towards the ground.

NINA

No!

Alex dives after her. In mid-air, he slips his arms around her.

ON THE FIRST FLOOR

They crash-land in a huge pile of packaged chocolate.

Kinia stands. Shrieks as Darius snatches her off her feet.

NINA

Kinia!

She bolts off the catwalk.

ALEX

Attacks Darius, but he's no match against the beast. Darius backhands Alex hard into a forklift.

Alex transforms.

Nina steps off the ladder, pauses. Doesn't know whether to be horrified, or amazed.

Alex charges at Darius.

The fur on Darius's body stands up - NEEDLES, just like the hybrid.

He RAMS Darius so hard, he topples. Looses grip of Kinia in the process.

She SLAMS into a vinyl gate, slumps to the floor, unconscious.

Alex tries to stand, but pain won't let him. Dozens of needles are pricked all over his upper torso. Stagger. Collapses. Reverts to human.

NINA

Oh, my God --

Jannensen leaps into her path. Nina retreats, but Jannensen is quicker. She lunges, CLAMPS a leg in her jaws.

Nina shrieks, passes out.

ALEX

No!

Alex starts after her, but can't get balance. Tumbles over. Darius towers over him.

More needles FLICK up... SIRENS of law enforcements begin to WAIL in the distance.

The rest of the transforms back to human.

KORB

The calvary! Let's get outta here!

LEXINGTON

Darius, let's go!

She leads the pack out the gap in the factory wall.

With no choice, Darius retracts his needles. In a last ditch effort, he scrambles over to Kinia's body, throws her across his shoulder. Escapes through the gap.

Alex curses, scrambles after him on legs of jelly.

But Darius is already in the air. Soaring away into the night with Kinia in his possession.

Something gleams in the streetlight nearby. Alex picks it up. Kinia's bracelet. Alex looks on, shattered.

Behind him, someone moans. Alex spins around.

The moaning is coming from a semi-conscious Nina. A glint of relief spreads Alex's face.

MIA (V.O.)
I am so sick of your messes.

INT. MIA'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Mia sorts through files on her desk and talks on her office phone.

INT. HOSPITAL, WAITING ROOM - SAME

Alex paces back and forth. Tanaka recuperates nearby.

INTERCUT - TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

MIA
Fortunately, you scared the bejeezes out of anyone who could ID you.

ALEX
Darius has my daughter.

MIA
What? How?

ALEX
Long story. Right now, I need you to try and dig up her location.

MIA
Alex, cats don't really have nine lives.

ALEX
You're the only one I know.

MIA
Do you know what limits I go to, to
get what I need?

Beat.

ALEX
You lost a child before, and know
what kind of hell it's like.
Please, help me so I don't have to.

Mia looks down.

PICTURE ON HER DESK: Mia. And her son.

Shuts her eyes in remorse. Sighs.

MIA
I'll look into it.

END INTERCUT

ALEX
Thanks. I owe you one.

MIA (V.O.)
Multiply that by a million.

He pockets the phone. He still has Kinia's bracelet in his
hand. Shakes his head at it, in regret.

TANAKA
Don't look so gloomy.

ALEX
Go home.

TANAKA
Excuse me?

ALEX
You saved me, I saved you. We're
done.

TANAKA
You're not gonna dive into a pool
without a life jacket, are you? I
can help you.

ALEX
Like you have so far?

No comeback. Alex turns to leave.

TANAKA

What if you could create moonlight?

Alex pauses.

ALEX

What?

TANAKA

I'm talking about reverse transformation, what I did to Darius's goon back at the factory. To truly know what I'm talking about, you must first understand what makes us transform --

ALEX

I don't have time for a quiz --

TANAKA

Gravitational pull, Alex. In ancient times, the moon was a lot closer to the earth. So close that its pull tugged the atoms in our body like it does tides in the ocean, sending us from human to beast in an instance. Over the last 4.5 billion years, the moon has moved further and further away, leaving all werewolves unbound. My species has the ability to create just enough moonlight to get these atoms moving. And that's not even the tip of the ice berg.

Alex can't hide it - he's hooked.

TANAKA

How about that life jacket?

INT. DARIUS'S ROOM - NIGHT

Could be mistaken for a luxury suite. Embellished with thousand dollar rugs and high-priced furniture.

Steam rises from the bathroom, the product of running water from an already warmed up shower.

Across from it, Darius and Lexington are both naked, save the towels wrapped around their bodies.

A nasty, sickle shaped SCAR licked across his left side, Darius is face down in bed while Lexington gives him massage so good, even she's on the verge of a climax.

LEXINGTON

I should've become a masseuse - I'm a lot better with my hands.

DARIUS

Lips too.

She reaches around him to an open metal case, grabs a GUN, retrofitted with a load-able syringe chamber and a sharp, silencer-like fitting over the barrel.

Grabs a syringe barrel filled with YELLOW LIQUID, loads the chamber.

DARIUS

Hate this part.

LEXINGTON

Don't move.

Stabs the fitting into Darius's shoulder, pulls the trigger. Liquid PUMPS instantly into his flesh.

Darius winces, does his best to repress a painful seizure. Eyes flash brilliant GLOWS - RED, WHITE, GREEN, BLUE.

LEXINGTON

Fight it, baby.

Suddenly, the seizure stops. Pain and all.

DARIUS

Move.

Lexington moves aside. Darius stands.

LEXINGTON

Where are you going?

DARIUS

Back to work.

Lexington drops the towel, kicks it to the side. Wraps her arms around his neck.

LEXINGTON

How 'bout you call in sick?

Darius fires off a surprised stare. Chuckles. Keeps moving.

Rejected, she grabs her towel, wraps it around her body.
Storms towards the bathroom.

LEXINGTON

You and this damn operation --

Darius catches her by the arm.

DARIUS

Think I enjoy being cursed? Or,
maybe taking medication every
night? Some nights, I can't even
find all the fucking ingredients.

LEXINGTON

Don't shift gears on me, Darius.

DARIUS

I saved their future, and they
destroyed mine. This is a war,
whether you choose to believe or
not.

The two hold a gaze, studying the other carefully.

LEXINGTON

Then, I'll go with you to the end.

Lexington snatches her arm back. Enters the bathroom.

A KNOCK at the master door. Darius answers. It's Mia.
First thing she notices is his scar.

MIA

Oh, my God. How did you get that?

Se reaches out to touch. Darius pulls away.

DARIUS

What do you want?

MIA

Got your message. Where's it gonna
be?

INT. HOSPITAL, ROOM 532 - NIGHT

Tanaka watches as Alex unravels bandages on Nina's leg,
revealing several serrated markings that have nearly healed.

NINA

Is that why you pulled off that
jump from the roof?

ALEX

Some powers extend beyond their natural form. Most werewolves can leap from a building as long as a football field, and survive.

NINA

How long until I change?

TANAKA

As soon as it's healed.

Nina gazes out the window. A full moon.

NINA

I thought werewolves changed under the first full moon?

Tanaka starts to reply, Alex puts up a hand to stop her.

ALEX

Please don't give that speech again.

NINA

So, when were you going to tell me?

ALEX

Nina, let's not.

NINA

You're right. Instead, let's figure out how you're going to get my daughter back.

ALEX

I didn't know you could get yourself pregnant.

Tanaka chuckles.

TANAKA

Cute. Just like children.

Alex shoots her an annoyed look.

ALEX

Got a family of your own you can go bother?

Tanaka pauses. Painful memories flood her mind.

TANAKA

My family was executed many years ago.

Alex locks eyes with her, but it's too late to take back what was said.

TANAKA

You and I appear to be all that's left.

Alex is totally clueless. Looks to Nina, same thing.

ALEX

You lost me.

TANAKA

You don't know your own history?
(off his look)
We're cousins.

Alex and Nina exchange looks.

TANAKA

Darwin's Theory of Evolution is a held notion that all life has descended from a common ancestor, related through natural selection. In essence, all creatures evolve... even werewolves. Consider yourself my descendant.

NINA

I'm good to sleep on that.

Rolls over, throws the blankets over head.

ALEX

Cousins? Loch Ness Monster tell you that?

From her second pouch, she pulls out an ancient BOOK, frayed with the tides of time.

TANAKA

This is the Book of Oriox, the sacred text written by Oriox himself, first of the elite. Centuries old, only two pages are missing. Darius captured me in the process of stealing it. I escaped, and ran into you.

ALEX

You stole his Bible? No wonder he wants you dead.

TANAKA

I had to confirm that I was correct. That I had discovered the Council's biggest secret... you.

The words hit Alex like a sludge hammer.

TANAKA

When the elite evolved into their many diverse forms, they tried to obliterate the ancients. Sadly to say, they were successful, but instead of pure extinction, some of the bloodline evolved into what you are today. To make it more complex, there are not one, but two carriers of the cerberus gene, Pure breeds, and off-breeds.

ALEX

Your eyes do that.

TANAKA

Darius injected me with the hybrid gene, so it appears that way. Perhaps his aim as to make me a decoy in order to get permission from the Council to hunt your daughter, without drawing suspicion to himself. I'm marked because they think I carry the cerberus gene. While my glow is off balance, but I still retain all of my original abilities as an ancient, except morph.

Alex stares back with a solemn face. Beginning to believe. Alex's cellular RINGS. Answers.

ALEX

Homicide.

(pauses)

Thanks, Mia. We'll be there.

TANAKA

Where?

Puts phone away.

ALEX
Got a dress?

EXT. DARIUS'S MANSION - NIGHT

The mansion we saw earlier, but in all its glory, smothered in party decorations.

A banner hanging from gate to gate reads: 57TH ANNUAL CITY BALL.

The city's finest - and richest - CIVILIANS arrive in the finest of vehicles.

INT. DARIUS'S MANSION, BALLROOM - NIGHT

Bodies scurry about. Despite the hushed atmosphere, everyone is having a blast.

Tanaka sits at a mini-bar, ER back to us, a glass of wine in her hand.

She wears a peculiar BRACELET. Taps an EARRING, puts the bracelet to her lips.

TANAKA
Almost there?

Ignorant to all, Alex moves towards a double door behind a beautiful fountain. He dons a black tuxedo. Speaks into a faceless WATCH on his wrist.

ALEX
Close.

TANAKA (O.S.)
Hurry. The worms are in the apple.

Alex stops short of the doorknobs, glances back at the entrance.

Darius and Lexington enter arm-in-arm, greet by others. Korb enters behind them.

TANAKA (O.S.)
They'll be in the core soon.

Cautiously, Alex slips through the doors.

INT. LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Spacious, two stories. Diagonal rows of ivory bookcases cover the floors. At the heart of the room is a dazzling pool.

ALEX

I'm in.

TANAKA (V.O.)

Grab a good seat.

ALEX

Where'd you get these fancy walkie-talkie's?

TANAKA (V.O.)

I stole them too.

ALEX

And to think, I left you alone in my car.

He hustles up the stairs.

INT. BALLROOM

Darius eyes his watch.

DARIUS

Where is she?

Jannensen drags a reluctant Mia through the crowd.

JANNENSEN

Darius! Caught her trying to run.

Shovers her into Darius's arms.

Darius grins, pulls Mia aside, forcing her to slow dance.

DARIUS

Avoiding me?

Mia cooks up an excuse.

MIA

I have paperwork to finish. Lots of it.

DARIUS
 You're helping us spawn the most
 radical turn of the century.
 Paperwork can wait.

Darius pulls Mia towards the library doors. All the while,
 Mia can't help but look about, nervously. Lexington follows.

TANAKA
 Alex, they're coming in. Someone's
 with them.

INT. LIBRARY

Alex positions himself out of sight, near the second floor
 railing.

They enter.

ALEX
 Sonvabitch. It's Mia.

TANAKA (V.O.)
 You know that woman?

ALEX
 She's my boss.

Lexington passes Mia -- they lock stares, Lexington testing
 Mia with her pride.

MIA
 Problem?

LEXINGTON
 You're still breathing.

DARIUS
 Ladies! Take some fucking Midol,
 jeez. You're like cats and dogs.
 You gotta argue every time you see
 each other?

Both take a seat at a study table.

LEXINGTON
 Sorry, baby. You know how I hate
 sharing the spotlight.

DARIUS
 Yeah, well two heads are better
 than one, so deal with it.

INT. BALLROOM

Korb and Jannensen guard the library entrance. Korb is obviously bored.

KORB

What are we doing here, Jan?

JANNENSEN

What are you talking about?

KORB

Think about it: we run around guarding a jerk who ain't even guaranteed to be alive tomorrow.

JANNENSEN

Neither are you, so watch what you say.

KORB

Yeah, I bet I'll last longer than that asshole.

(beat)

Let's play I spy.

JANNENSEN

Why do you always have to be annoying?

KORB

C'mon, it'll be fun. I'll go first. I spy, with my eye...

Korb spots Tanaka talking into her bracelet.

KORB

Oh, shit.

JANNENSEN

What now?

KORB

Someone who has yet to die.

INT. LIBRARY

DARIUS

(to Lexington)

Report.

LEXINGTON

She's attracted the sickness, but she won't morph.

ALEX

Sickness?

TANAKA (V.O.)

Illness spawned from premature transformation. Like morning sickness.

LEXINGTON

My eval says she's far from ready. How do you expect us to be done by the ceremony?

Darius nods. Knows just what to do.

DARIUS

Induce her.

Mia looks up, shocked. Even Lexington is a bit startled.

LEXINGTON

She's too young.
(off his look)
The shock alone could kill her.

DARIUS

We have a deadline to meet.

LEXINGTON

But we're not trying to risk losing her information altogether. That's ludicrous.

DARIUS

I live to risk.

MIA

Where's your heart, Darius? If she dies you'll be murdering an innocent child.

LEXINGTON

Look who's talking.

Mia whips out her .45, aims at Lexington.

MIA

Eat me, bitch.

Lexington's eyes GLOW RED.

LEXINGTON
Careful what you wish for --

Jannensen bursts into the library.

JANNENSEN
We've got company. It's the voodoo
lady.

ALEX
Who's that?
(beat)
Tanaka?

TANAKA (O.S.)
Get your hands off me!

Alex peeks over the railing. Korb drags Tanaka into the
room.

Alex curses to himself.

TANAKA
Let me go!

Korb shoves her forward.

DARIUS
Meetings adjourned. Mia, I'm
sending the serums with you.
Deliver it to the receiving team at
the Bradford warehouse, the old
security room.

MIA
What about the code?

DARIUS
They know the code. Korb, get the
cube.

Korb heads up the stairs.

Darius snatches Mia's .45 from her grasp, and jams it into
the side of Tanaka's head.

MIA
Hey, what are you doing?

She tries to grab the gun, but Lexington holds her back.

DARIUS
Finishing my orders.

MIA
Darius, no!

Korb screams. They look up.

He plummets from the second floor. SPLASH! Into the swimming pool.

Wolf Alex leaps over the railing, down to ground level.

DARIUS
Kill him!

Lexington and Jannensen transform. They viscously converge on him. But Alex is Alex. He exchanges BLOWS, each strike undeniably as powerful as the next.

Pins Lexington against a bookcase, allowing Jannensen a chance to attack from behind.

She lunges forward. As she misses, one of Alex's heads SINKS ITS TEETH deep into her neck.

She seizes. Wails in agony, the wail converting into a woman's scream as she reverts to human.

Alex and Lexington tumble out into the open.

Landing right in Darius's peripherals. He takes aim. Just as Tanaka leaps onto his back.

Darius MISFIRES.

A bullet PLANTS into Alex's leg, another in his shoulder.

With his guard down, Lexington shoulders him as hard as she can through the library doors.

INT. BALLROOM - CONTINUOUS

Alex CRASHES into the fountain, totally dismantling its structure.

Bystanders shriek in terror.

Tanaka emerges from the library, rushes to his aide.

TANAKA
Get up, we've got to escape!

Alex looks up. There is a skylight.

Scoops Tanaka into his arms. And with all his might, leaps for it.

They SHATTER through the skylight, and into the darkness, leaving the mansion behind in chaos.

EXT. DARIUS'S MANSION, COURTYARD - NIGHT

Cops secure the perimeter with "caution" tape. Surgeons treat wounded bystanders.

Mia sits alone, wrapped in the comfort of a blanket, a heavy frown on her face. Darius approaches her.

DARIUS

Okay, the cube is yours. Don't be late.

Disappointed, Mia looks away.

Darius stares at Mia, appalled.

MIA

I want out.

DARIUS

Out?

(chuckles)

Do the math. There is not out.

He starts away.

MIA

Kyrios.

Darius pauses. He's shitting his pants now.

MIA

You do the math.

Darius walks right up to her. For a moment, it seems Mia just may back down. But she holds her own. Face to face.

DARIUS

Deal. Take the cube. And you're out.

Exits. Mia finally exhales. Stares after him, perhaps skeptical, perhaps relieved.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

A dark ACURA pulls into the driveway of a small house. Mia climbs out, cube in hand. Heads for the door.

INT. MIA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Knob turns, Mia enters. CLICKS on the light.

ALEX (O.S.)
Sold anyone out lately?

Before she can reach for her gun, Alex's gun is already against her skull. Mia sakes her head, in regret.

MIA
Everybody has secrets. Some for
the better, some for the worse.

COCKS his gun. Her eyes widen, frightened.

MIA
Alex --

ALEX
Just gimme the cube.

MIA
If I don't deliver this thing in
five hours, I'm dead.

ALEX
Fair trade.

Alex reaches for it. But Mia tucks the cube away safely, backs towards a wall.

MIA
Alex, please --

ALEX
How long have you been hiding this
from me? Huh?

Alex FIRES. His bullet SHATTERS the glass on a large picture frame above her mantle.

MIA
Alex! Are you crazy?

ALEX
Since I joined the force?

FIRES another round, this time SHATTERING ceramic ornaments to pieces.

ALEX
Since I got married?

MIA
I order you to put that gun down,
right now!

FIRES. The bullet grazes a small picture, it tumbles to the floor.

Mia almost dies right in the middle of the floor.

Drops the cube, scrambles frantically towards the picture.

ALEX
Why, Mia?

She scoops the picture off the ground, hugs it tightly.

MIA
Oh, my God! How could you do that?
How could you do that?

ALEX
Answer me!

Mia cringes with rage, tears are rolling now.

MIA
You wanna know?

SMASHES the picture frame open against the mantle, pulls the photo from the broken glass.

MIA
Here! This is why!

Slaps the picture on his chest. Alex examines it.

PHOTO: Mia and that small boy.

MIA
My son is dead! And when his
murderer went free of conviction
Darius reaped justice on my behalf.
Now, that son of a bitch is reaping
justice on me. So, kill me,
because I am sick of not having the
courage to do it myself.

Mia braces for the impact of a bullet. Alex gapes at her, knows he's went too far.

ALEX

Mia --

MIA

Just do it. Take your shot, Alex.

ALEX

Mia --

MIA

Take your shot!

She grabs the gun, but Alex fights back. The gun goes off, BAM! BAM! Rounds pierce the ceiling as one struggles to overpower the other.

ALEX

Mia, no!

MIA

Kill me! Kill me!

Alex rips the gun from her grasp. She rushes him. He sidesteps, shoves her onto a couch.

Exhausted, Mia lets go of her emotions, sobs.

MIA

I miss him, Alex. I miss him so much...

Alex eyeballs his gun as if it were the epitome of evil. UNLOADS it. Tosses the clip into a nearby trash can.

MIA (V.O.)

I don't know why he chose me to deliver it.

INT. MIA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT

Alex fills a shot glass with a bottle of vodka. The two converse at a dining table.

MIA

Never even met the bastards.

Alex down the shot.

ALEX

I'm sorry for breaking in.

MIA
I blame myself. I shouldn't have kept you in the dark. I was afraid. I'm not ready for death.

ALEX
Death is a part of life. All you can do is breathe.

MIA
Or, suffocate.

Pours another shot.

ALEX
So, you knew about the murders all along?

MIA
You're not the only one I cover up for. Once he found out your secret, he forced me to hand you over on a silver platter.

She begins to grin with vengeful satisfaction.

MIA
But I got the last laugh.
(off his look)
Darius isn't really Darius.

ALEX
What do you mean?

Mia goes to a kitchen drawer. Pulls out a folded stack of papyrus, ancient, frayed. Strange inscriptions written all over. Hands it over.

MIA
See for yourself --

Alex shushes her. A beat. Alex creeps towards the living room. Mia grabs her gun, follows.

EXT. MIA'S BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

They round the side of the house.

MIA
What is it?

Lexington drops from the roof, lands right behind Mia.

She HOWLS - powerful shock waves punches our heroes through a wooden fence, into a neighboring backyard.

Mia FIRES.

Lexington leaps into the air, FLAPPING to twenty feet in no time. She soars off into the night.

Alex groans.

MIA
You okay, Alex?

Just then, Lexington SWOOPS down from behind -- FLAPPING right towards her.

ALEX
Mia!

Mia turns. As Lexington SLAMS into her, claws first.

Knocking the gun from her hands, into Alex's reach.

Mia shrieks as Lexington viscously MAULS her insides out.

Alex grabs the gun, FIRES.

Lexington is bombarded in a hail mary of silver bullets. The gunfire becomes too much. She takes flight.

But Alex keeps FIRING until - CLICK. The magazine is empty. Rushes to Mia's aid.

She's dead.

He curses to himself, buries his face in his hands.

INT. HOSPITAL, ROOM 532 - LATER

TANAKA
Dead?

Alex paces back and forth, still shaken.

ALEX
Dead. She left me this.

Hands Tanaka the crumpled papyrus. Her eyes light up.

TANAKA
These must be the missing pages
from the Book of Oriox.

ALEX

So, what does it say?

She translates as fast as it will come.

TANAKA

... It's... a story about... a sect. The Black Wolf.

(beat)

They were all cerberus bred.

NINA

Can we stick with the important things? How are we going to find Kinia?

ALEX

The cube. We have to open it.

NINA

How? His team's the only one who knows that stupid code.

TANAKA

Did Mia name of them?

ALEX

She said they've never met.

TANAKA

Then, I'll take it.

ALEX

Won't work. Name one person who doesn't know your face.

NINA

Nobody knows mines.

Alex looks up bewildered. But Nina's not joking.

ALEX

Hell no. You're still healing, you can't even walk.

Nina throws back her blankets - the wound is nearly replaced by a permanent scar. She climbs from the bed, supporting her balance on the bed railing.

With a nervous glance, she releases the rail. And step by painful step, walks forward. Right into Alex's arms.

Tanaka beams a smile at Alex.

TANAKA
Would you like to rephrase that?

ALEX
I should've signed those divorce
papers.

INT. WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

A TECHNO RAVE.

A two-story establishment infested with a twisted city.
BODIES sway under flickering STROBE LIGHTS. A tainted crowd
plays out their wildest fantasies.

AT THE BAR

Our heroes are gathered.

ALEX
Ready?

Nina rotates the cover of the faceless watch on her wrist.
Tanaka taps her earring, and that dagger at her waist.

TANAKA
We need to hurry --

ALEX
I know. I sense it too.
Something's wrong in here.

Alex guides them into the mass.

INT. INTERSECTING HALLWAY - NIGHT

A sheer dump beset by trash, overturned chairs, and broken
tables.

Midway through, Nina stops them. Continues alone.

Pauses at a burgundy door at the end, KNOCKS. Door opens. A
MAN with a TATTOO on his face locks eyes with her.

TATTOO FACE
Who are you?

Nina pulls the cube from beneath her coat. Tattoo face
checks the hall for followers.

Coast clear.

Nods, in clearance. She enters.

INT. SECURITY ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Glass fibers litter the floor. Filthy furniture reeks of piss. Busted monitors, some still bear scorches from a fire that licked its way through a few years back.

A rodent scamper over Nina's foot - almost ripping away her composure. Makes her way forward.

Other MEN around the room gawk, undressing her with their eyes. At the head, an ELDER MAN at an oval desk.

Nina sets down the cube. Elder man pulls the cube closer.

ELDER MAN

Message one, eight, three, six,
four.

The computer screen lights up a NEON ORANGE.

A compartment slides open. Condensed vapors leak into the air. Revealing a pouch with two syringe guns and six syringe barrels, each filled with two sets of liquid - RED, GREEN, and YELLOW, and a blood sample in a beaker labeled "DARIUS".

Tattoo face whips out his cellular, dials.

TATTOO FACE

Where are you?

(pauses)

Good, the delivery girl's here.

(pauses)

You're shitting me. We'll handle
it.

Hangs up the phone.

TATTOO FACE

That was Lexington. Mia's dead.

Faces around the room turn to stone - they've been duped. Elder man grabs Nina by the hair, drags her onto the desk.

The others help to pin her down as she fights for her life.

NINA

No! Wait!

BOOM! The door swings open:

Alex and Tanaka rush in, move through the ranks with ferocious precision and speed, neck SNAPPING, head RAMMING, whatever kills --

Until the gang lie dismantled in death throughout the room.

ALEX
You okay?

NINA
I'll live.

ALEX
What is that?

Picks the pouch from the cube.

TANAKA
Must be the serum. We'll examine it later.

Wolf Lexington PLOWS through the wall. Dives on top of our heroes...

INT. WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Ceiling gives way. The four tumble to the ground.

The music stops. People back off, alert, confused.

Alex and Tanaka are okay, aside minor scrapes. Nina is unconscious. He feels for her pulse. Sighs in relief.

Lexington MOANS to a slow death. Suddenly, a sharp piece of FLOORBOARD stops over her, inches from her heart.

The floorboard is in Alex's possession.

TANAKA
No.
(to Lexington)
You can either die, or come with us.

Lexington gives in transforms back to human. Tanaka pulls Lexington to her feet, whips the dagger up to her neck.

TANAKA
Shall we?

She shoves Lexington forward on tattered legs. Alex grabs Nina, and follows.

But the crowd won't part. They challenge our heroes with murderous glares.

Suddenly, the CROWD TRANSFORMS INTO WEREWOLVES. Their low GROWLS combine into a terrifying rumble. En masse, they creep forward.

TANAKA

Excuse me.

Her eyes GLOW. She turns in a circle so that all can see.

The multitude pauses. Frightened.

TANAKA

I wouldn't do that.

They move towards the exit. And a path slowly opens as they move along.

INT. ACURA - NIGHT

Tanaka drives. Alex is in the back with Nina. She's still out cold. He gazes at Kinia's bracelet, as if memorizing every detail.

TANAKA

What is that?

ALEX

It's my daughter.

TANAKA

You're going to depress yourself.

ALEX

My daughter has been kidnapped, and it's my fault. Where's the bright side in that?

TANAKA

You don't hold the key to every door, but that doesn't mean there's no way in.

ALEX

I'd like to repay you, but I know I can't.

TANAKA

Are you trying to thank me?

ALEX
 You can say that.
 (hands her bracelet)
 Hang on to it for me.

TANAKA
 Why?

ALEX
 It's a symbol of hope. Something I
 trust in your hands.

Tanaka tries on the bracelet.

TANAKA
 It fits.

INT. DARIUS'S ROOM - NIGHT

It could be mistaken for a luxury suite. Thousand dollar
 rugs and expensive furniture adorn the room.

Darius stares out of a huge window. Eyes wandering across a
 city trapped under a severe thunderstorm.

Korb and Jannensen burst in.

JANNENSEN
 Darius, they've got the serum.

DARIUS
 What?

JANNENSEN
 Lexington too.

KORB
 This is horse shit! Toothpik's
 dead, Ergo's dead, Lexington's
 caught --

DARIUS
 Korb --

KORB
 Fuck this, man! I gotta go!
 You're not gonna kill me too --

Darius yanks Korb by the throat, shoves his head through the
 window. His slashed face is blasted with rain. He flails
 helplessly.

DARIUS

You're a general, death is always
around the corner. See for
yourself.

He pushes Korb out further. A nauseating glimpse of the
ground.

KORB

No, please! I'll love you long
time, anything, just pull me back
in!

Yanks him back inside. Korb rolls to stop. Beaten, but
grateful.

DARIUS

Let's give Alex a call.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Nina snaps awake, half naked in a bed. Pain instantly grips
her, especially her side: examines a blood-soaked bandage.
Her surroundings slowly become familiar.

ALEX (O.S.)

Welcome back.

Nina quickly scrambles her body beneath the sheets. Alex
lingers in the doorway.

ALEX

You do know I'm your husband, and
not a pervert, right?

NINA

Ex-husband.

Nina climbs from bed, enters her closet in search of a new
outfit.

ALEX

Just came to say thanks for what
you did back there. I mean, with
her life at stake --

NINA

It was at stake a long time ago,
Alex.

ALEX

What are you saying?

NINA

I'm saying that she is not fourth or fifth in your life and you treating her that way got us to this point. But applaud yourself anyway, at least your mother would be proud of you.

Alex pauses as painful memories roll in.

ALEX

My mother died not even three feet away from me because I was paralyzed on the floor, and couldn't get help. I won't be paralyzed again.

Turns to leave. She grabs him by the arm, he pauses.

NINA

Wait. I'm sorry. That was low and I shouldn't have said that.

She notices Alex's wedding ring. Looks at her own, ring-less fingers.

NINA

Some wounds just don't heal alone.

Alex nods, understands. Sort of.

ALEX

I've gotta go. Mia's killer is downstairs. To save Kinia, I need answers.

Starts past her, she cuts off his retreat.

NINA

We need answers.

INT. BASEMENT - TIMELESS

Lexington is strapped to a metal chair.

Our heroes stand gathered like shadows. Alex draws his firearm, hands it to Tanaka.

NINA

What are you doing?

ALEX

It's part of the routine.

Alex pulls up a seat.

ALEX

Pretty sure you know what I expect.

Tanaka COCKS the gun. Alex tosses the pouch of beakers onto Lexington's lap.

ALEX

What's that?

LEXINGTON

Piss off.

Tanaka FIRES, the bullet blow through Lexington's leg. She jerks, moans.

Nina yelps, startled.

TANAKA

You've been asked a question.
Answer it.

LEXINGTON

Chemicals! They're chemicals! Red
copies DNA. Green induces.

NINA

But there's three colors.

She grabs a yellow beaker, holds it up to Lexington's face.

ALEX

Yeah, what about yellow?

LEXINGTON

Untie me.

Tanaka FIRES. A bullet RIPS into Lexington's shoulder, the blood splattering onto Nina's clothing. Nina screams.

ALEX

Nina, will you stop it?

NINA

I'm trying!

LEXINGTON

Medicine!

The response completely catches our heroes off guard.

LEXINGTON

Darius suffers from an ancient disease we call hybrid breakdown - where the werewolf body loses its capability of rational thought, the human side... he isn't really Darius...

Those words! Alex digs into his pockets, pulls out the papyrus Mia gave him.

TANAKA

What's that?

Hands it to her. Tanaka examines the inscriptions. Her mouth drops in awe.

TANAKA

The missing pages! Where did you get this?

ALEX

Mia.

Tanaka skims over the text.

TANAKA

I'll need time to decipher this.

ALEX

Why induce her? Why didn't he take me instead of my daughter?

LEXINGTON

Her primal DNA strands haven't interlaced with her human strands. Yours have. Trying to take your DNA is the equivalent of trying to extract your skeleton without trying to kill you.

TANAKA

And you can't let her die because if she does, those uncoiled DNA strands are no use to you. But this entire operation is treason anyway, isn't it?

Lexington looks on with fiery eyes. Gigs up.

LEXINGTON

Once we get what we want, they
won't be around to sentence him.
A revolution is at hand and they're
all fucked just like you.

Alex moves in, stops inches from her nose.

ALEX

Where's my daughter?

Lexington flashes a mischievous grin.

LEXINGTON

Right where she's always been.

Tanaka aims at Lexington's forehead. Nina turns away.

NINA

Oh, God, I can't watch.

TANAKA

That's not what he asked.

ALEX

No!

At that moment, a cellular RINGS.

But it's not coming from Alex. It's coming from Lexington.
He fishes through her back pocket, retrieves her CELL PHONE.

Hits talk, puts it to Lexington's ear.

LEXINGTON

Lexington.

Pulls away, nods to Alex. Confused, Alex puts the phone to
his ear.

ALEX

Hello?

INT. STREET - NIGHT

The Acura drives down a lonely street, pulls up along a curb.

Across the street, a sign hangs over the rusted, iron gates
of a CEMETERY.

Our heroes step from the car. Held at gunpoint, Lexington
hobbles out.

INT. CEMETERY - NIGHT

Old as time itself. Decayed tombstones of once fine masonry lie rigid, buried in an eerie fog that has just settled.

An unmarked grave. Kinia stands before it, scared. Darius and Korb behind her.

Our heroes approach in Lexington's background. They pause on the opposite side of the grave.

KINIA
Mommy!

NINA
Baby!

Kinia steps forward. Darius jerks her back.

DARIUS
This is supposed to be a fair
trade. Where's my serum?

Alex draws the pouch from his jacket. Darius grins.

DARIUS
You came through. Send it over.

Alex slaps the pouch into Lexington's chest.

ALEX
Go.

Lexington hobbles towards Darius.

Kinia starts towards her parents.

A strange scent greets Nina's nose. She scans the area in search of the scent.

NINA
(to herself)
What is that?

DARIUS
You have no idea how much your
daughter means to me, Alex. She's
treasure. A fucking gold mine all
on her own. Yet, here I am,
willing to give it all up.

ALEX
Your ghost is next.

DARIUS

I'm not the one you should be worrying about. I've noticed how close you and Tanaka have grown. She ever tell you why I was trying to kill her?

ALEX

She stole the Book of Oriox.

DARIUS

Please. No one gives a shit about that book. But the bounty for a renegade councilor, money in the bank.

Alex looks at Tanaka, confused. Tanaka glares at Darius.

DARIUS

Guess I can I gather from that look on your face she didn't tell you she used to be on the council.

TANAKA

I don't lie.

Lexington and Kinia are about to pass each other.

And then, the smell hits her --

NINA

Kerosene... kerosene!

Lexington and Kinia are parallel --

Darius whips out his gun.

ALEX/NINA

Kinia!/ No!

BAM! BAM! BAM! Bullets rip through the soil of the earth. Grass IGNITES, a savage RING OF FIRE spreads furiously around the grave. Separating Kinia and our heroes.

Darius grabs her. Together, our villains scurry away.

Tanaka bails towards the car.

Alex and Nina give chase.

The villains leap high over stone wall with Kinia yelling for her parents.

Alex jumps the wall after them.

Nina stops. Looks at the scar on her leg. Not quite healed.

VAROOM! The Acura drives up beside her, passenger side door flings open.

TANAKA

Get in!

Nina hops in. They ZOOM away.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

The villains sprint to their getaway vehicle. Jannensen waits behind the wheel. Lexington and Korb climb in.

Darius looks back - Alex is just yards away. Darius curses.

DARIUS

Lexington!

Tosses the serum to her. Reaches in his pocket, activates his TRACKER. He TRACKER stuck to the vehicle's dashboard activates.

DARIUS

Follow me!

Jannensen STOMPS the gas. Vehicle peels off the curb.

Darius sprints into the city. Alex races after him. Acura drives up.

ALEX

(to others)

Follow them!

Tanaka speeds after the getaway.

Darius cuts a corner with Alex on his heels.

EXT. ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

Darius darts through. And so does Alex, slowly gaining. Closer... closer...

Suddenly, Darius transforms. Spreads his wings.

But Alex is ready -- gun aims. FIRES. Slugs blast through Darius's wings. He battles the agony, and leaps -- wall to wall, using claw and talon to bounce to the top.

With no choice, Alex transforms. And leaps.

EXT. ROOF OF A BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Alex reaches the top. Spots Darius, now two buildings away. Bolts after him.

The two bound near-gracefully, rooftop to rooftop, building to building. Below, Darius's getaway comes into view.

EXT. STREETS

The getaway glides in and out of traffic. The Acura doesn't miss a beat.

INT./EXT. ACURA/GETAWAY

Tanaka hands Nina her gun.

TANAKA
How good you?

Nina just stares at it, horrified.

TANAKA
Never mind.

Aims. FIRES.

Bullets torpedoes through the back windshield. One goes into Korb whips out his gun. FIRES.

Bullets blitz the front windshield of the Acura. Nina shrieks. Tanaka dodges, cuts behind a van for shielding.

Jannenssen hits a sharp left -- losing Tanaka and Nina in traffic.

EXT. ROOFTOPS

Alex and Darius still at cat and mouse. Darius shoulders through a post holding up a billboard. Billboard starts to collapse.

Alex leaps right pass it. As Darius rams through another. This time, collision is inevitable.

CRASH! As the structure collapses with Alex beneath it.

A beat. Suddenly, Alex tears through the billboard.

Catches but a glimpse of Darius finally leaping to the ground a building away. Alex sprints onward.

EXT. HARBOR - CONTINUOUS

The place is a maze of rundown warehouses. Thunder BOOMS, it begins to DRIZZLE.

Darius hustles through. Alex lands a corner behind. Alex cuts the same corner. And the next, the next, and the next. Lost him. Where is he? One more corner -- Alex pauses.

Darius stands next to the getaway vehicle. Kinia squirms in his arms. Darius transforms to human.

DARIUS

De-morph.

Alex transforms back to human.

Lightning CRACKLES. A chaotic rainfall erupts from the sky.

DARIUS

Been doing this a long time, Alex. No friends. No family. I'm finally on the verge of recovery, and you want to get in the way.

ALEX

Your struggles aren't my problem.

DARIUS

You don't you get it -- I'm dying, Alex. And if I die, my entire race dies. The cerberus gene can change all that.

ALEX

There are better ways than this that don't involve the death of innocent people.

DARIUS

You shitting me? No one's going to give you life. You have to take it. Or, let it go...

Looks to turbulent waters below.

ALEX

Don't do it, Darius.

DARIUS
Hey, Alex? Go fish.

ALEX
No!

Kinia screams as he slings her into the harbor.

Alex sprints after her.

Darius scurries into the getaway vehicle. Jannensen STOMPS the gas pedal. The villains speed into the night.

And Alex dives into the harbor. Comes up for one breath of air, and back down he goes.

Moments later, he resurfaces -- with Kinia.

MOMENTS LATER

Alex lies Kinia on her back. Checks Kinia's pulse.

ALEX
No.

He desperately performs CPR, but to no avail.

ALEX
Don't quit... don't quit... c'mon.

Checks for a pulse again. Slowly, his CPR performance comes to a halt, face tangled between hope and misery. Finally, despair creeps in.

Looks away. Curses. A strange, CRACKLING noise forces him to look back down.

Slowly, Kinia mutates, shifting, shaping into a full-grown adult, suddenly, an entirely different person -- JANNENSEN.

Alex can only stare, completely captivated.

NINA (O.S.)
This just doesn't make sense to me.

INT. NINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Still puzzled, Nina nibbles at her nails. Tanaka examines the papyrus pages. Alex sits alone.

TANAKA

Theoretically, humans have two types of genes, dominant - what's seen on the outside, and recessive - what's inside. So do werewolves, but in transformation, the genes trade places.

NINA

So... she copied Kinia's genes, added them to her recessive genes, then transformed?

Tanaka nods. Basically.

NINA

But that can't be. I mean, you'd literally rewrite your own DNA sequence, maybe even create a brand new species altogether.

Tanaka doesn't respond. The thought is just too wild. Turns to Alex.

TANAKA

You've been shooting daggers at all night?

For the first time we realize Alex is glaring at Tanaka in pure betrayal.

ALEX

Why didn't you tell me?

TANAKA

I'm not one of them.

ALEX

Then, who the hell are you? Explain you being a councilor.

Tanaka pauses.

TANAKA

I am an ancient that lost their way, like many of us do. But I learned truth through the Book of Oriox. I am reborn, me again.

Alex leaps to his feet, whips out his firearm.

NINA

Alex, have you gone psycho?

ALEX
She's a traitor.

NINA
That's your problem. Finger always
on the trigger, ready to pull it
for the wrong reasons.

ALEX
She's the reason Kinia's in this
mess.

NINA
She's gotten you closer to finding
Kinia than you ever would've a
thousand life times! You're the
reason Kinia's in this mess!

ALEX
I love Kinia to death --

NINA
Nine years, Alex? You kept this
entire thing a secret. Had you
have been honest to me from the git-
go, you wouldn't have a daughter.

Alex gawks at her, words caught in his throat. Can't believe
what he just heard.

NINA
You lied to me. And more
importantly, you've endangered
Kinia's life. And why? To keep a
lousy secret.

Alex has had enough. Starts away.

NINA
Where are you going?

ALEX
To end this.

INT. HALLWAY - TIMELESS

Guards drag Vincent towards a metallic door.

VINCENT
This is wrong! You can't treat
people like this!

One guard UNLOCKS the door, tugs it open.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - TIMELESS

The guards toss Vincent inside, and BOLT the door shut. Vincent climbs to his feet.

VINCENT
Hey! I'm talking to you
knuckleheads!

ALEX (O.S.)
Vincent.

VINCENT
Aw, chicken shit, what do you want?

Alex emerges from the shadows, gun at the ready.

VINCENT
What the hell --

Pins him against the wall, aims the gun dead over Vincent's eye.

ALEX
I swear to God you are going to
cooperate with me, or you'll see
what Hell is like up close and
personal.

Pulls the talon from his pocket.

ALEX
Tell me what this is. What is it?!

Vincent shoves back, in the midst of their scuffle, Alex pulls away - RIP! The seams of his shirt shred in Vincent's grip.

Revealing hundreds of permanent flesh SCARS on his body. Appalled, Vincent takes a step back.

ALEX
Shocked? You did it to me! This
is your fault!

In a rage of frustration, Alex SNAPS the dog tag from around his neck, and chunks it.

It CLATTERS against the wall, lands next to Vincent. Confused, Vincent picks it up.

VINCENT
My dog tag. You still wear it?

ALEX
I'm still your son.

VINCENT
Edna's scent. It's still all over
it.

Vincent gazes up at Alex with a guilt look.

VINCENT
I made a mistake, and I can't fix
it. But you can't fix the past,
only the future. When things
change, and you gotta change with
them. Alex, you gotta let this go.

A beat. Alex can't move, barely breathes. Thinking.
Wondering.

VINCENT
Let it go.

Alex shakes his head. Starts towards the door.

ALEX
I'd rather hate you somewhere else.

Vincent grabs the talon, stands.

VINCENT
Genetic engineering.

Alex pauses.

VINCENT
You know. Enhancements to the
body. Talon's an enhancement.

Alex stays paused. Is this a joke? Vincent tosses the talon
to him. Slowly, Alex finds his own words.

ALEX
They're already killing machines.
Why enhance the body?

Vincent shrugs.

VINCENT
Why not?

Alex looks off. Good point.

VINCENT

Ever find out who attacked you with it?

ALEX

A man. Darius Corbet.

VINCENT

Never heard of 'em.

ALEX

What do you know about the Black Wolf?

VINCENT

Toughest sonuvabitches of the ancient world. Led the greatest revolt in history. Weren't match enough for the Council.

ALEX

What happened to them?

VINCENT

Got sick. Every single last one. Started out like regular werewolves, until their leader, Kyrios, learned how to replicate the cerberus gene. What he didn't know was the carrier he used spiked his DNA. Height of the war comes, spike kicks in, the fall like dominoes. They became weaker, slower, mindless, three-headed canines. Finally, went extinct.

Realization sinks in.

ALEX

It's a mission. He's gonna kill them.

VINCENT

Who?

ALEX

The Councilors. Kyrios didn't die, he changed faces. He's been trying to replicate a perfect version of the cerberus gene for years, and now it may actually happen.

VINCENT

He can't kill them. In fear of assassination The Council never gives up their location to anyone, or which one of them is in charge.

ALEX

Not if he becomes a councilor himself. They're gonna induct him tonight. And he has my daughter.

The statement catches Vincent off guard.

VINCENT

No. How did Kinia get wrapped up in this?

ALEX

All I can tell you right now is that I have to stop him before anything happens to her. But I still don't have a clue where the induction ceremony is gonna be.

VINCENT

That's easy, it'll be at a temple. It's where they keep all their treasures.

Alex thinks - the words sound familiar.

ALEX

Treasure? Oh, God. I know where she is.

Alex rushes towards the door.

VINCENT

Alex?

Alex pauses.

VINCENT

I can't help you outside these walls. But she can.

Tosses him the dog tag. Alex nods. Eye to eye for the first time. Exits.

ALEX (O.S.)

Kinia's in the temple.

INT. ACURA - NIGHT

Alex speeds through the streets, cellular pressed to his ear.

INT. NINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT

Nina and Tanaka stand around. Alex's voice projects on speaker phone.

INTERCUT - TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

NINA

Where?

ALEX

Darius called Kinia treasure. They keep treasure in their temples.

TANAKA

Even so, you can't go alone.

ALEX

What's it to you?

Tanaka sighs.

TANAKA

Alex, I'm sorry I didn't tell you. I did escape the Council because of what I believed was being right. Understand I'm fighting for the same thing you are.

ALEX

I'm sorry too, for spinning off. Sometimes, you just gotta to let it go.

Alex opens the glove compartment. There are two syringe barrels, one with green liquid, one with red. Draws them both.

TANAKA

He thing we need to worry about now is the ceremony. That temple will be crawling with werewolves. How are you going to get in?

ALEX

Don't worry about it.

TANAKA
You're diving without a life jacket
again.

ALEX
This time I swim alone.

Alex disconnects.

TANAKA
Alex?

Tanaka leans on the table - the bracelet still on her wrist catches her attention.

TANAKA
He needs us.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - NIGHT

Alex sneaks away from the Acura, slips into the site. Scans the area, spots what he's searching for --

The entryway that leads down into the temple. Alex whips out his gun, makes his way forward.

INT. ENTRYWAY - CONTINUOUS

Alex grabs a torch from its hold on the wall. Sneaks, onward, finding himself in a corridor of dozens of tunnels.

Just then, VOICES. Alex ducks into a random tunnel.

Two MEN stride out one of the tunnels, pass by Alex.

Once out of sight, Alex continues. One tunnel catches his eye. Enters.

INT. CAVERN - CONTINUOUS

The same cavern the Council meeting was held.

Tramples down the stairway, spots what he's looking for.

A HOLOGRAM CUBE against the wall. With the coast clear, he rips away the back end, and starts tampering with the wiring.

INT. TEMPLE

The place is littered with guards, all caterers to the very important event. Some guards wire dozens of cubes together near a large statue.

A guard hits a button on the of the combined cubes.

In unison, the cubes project the gargantuan 3-D images of the Councilors in all their splendor.

Lexington and Korb stand post near a wall of levers poking from the wall.

A dozen guards escort Darius towards them. Other guards look on.

The escorts line along the base of the access ramp. Darius strides past, to the central pad on the upper level.

JECIMOL

This is a day of honor, not just for you, but for all of us. And especially for me.

Darius bows to the Council.

JECIMOL

I now proceed to swear your allegiance to the elite, according what is written in the Book of Oriox.

ALEX (O.S.)

I object.

ACROSS THE LAYER

Alex marches towards him.

ALEX

Does it make sense to say that here?

DARIUS

Stop him.

At once, guards pour into his path.

JECIMOL

Wait.

The guards pause, back off. Alex continues towards the access ramp.

JECIMOL

Who are you?

ALEX

You were looking for the cerberus gene. Here I am.

JECIMOL

You're the cerberus Darius warned us about?

Alex's eyes glow, but he does not transform.

ALEX

Need I say more?

The Council is shaking now. They look to one another for an answer.

JECIMOL

He's pure.

Darius starts to reply -- Alex walks up closer to Darius.

ALEX

Right. And you just scratched the surface. Ever heard of Kyrios?

Darius shoots Alex a shocked glare.

The Council falls into immediate silence. Along with the rest of the cavern.

JECIMOL

How do you know that name?

ALEX

He stabbed me -- with his talon.

JECIMOL

Werewolves don't have talons.

Pulls the talon from his pocket.

ALEX

Exactly. You see, the elite didn't win the war because they were smarter, they won because they evolved. Evolution's a destiny. But Kyrios tried to use it as a tool.

JECIMOL

Why do you speak of him? Kyrios
has been dead for over a millennia,
along with his army.

ALEX

No. He's been right under your
noses.

Darius explodes into rage, charges at Alex -- only to pass
right through his holographic image. Shirt RIPS as it
catches the sharp edge of a statue.

EXPOSING THE SICKLE-SHAPED SCAR.

The Council is floored.

ALEX

Darius isn't really Darius. He's a
copycat. He steals the genes of
others and uses it to survive. And
he's been trying to replicate a
perfect version of the cerberus
gene ever since the rebellion. But
since he can't, he's gonna steal
it. Am I right? Kyrios?

The Council looks to Darius for answers.

DARIUS

I definitely give you credit, Alex.
You almost nailed the coffin shut.

Signals to Lexington.

She tugs on a lever hits a button on the wall.

The center of the pad OPENS. The CRANKING of a mechanism
resounds throughout the temple.

Rising into the center is a cage -- with KINIA inside. Cage
JOLTS to a halt, waking her, Alex's image inside.

His eyes light up with shock.

ALEX

Kinia...

KINIA

Daddy?

She attempts to rise, but a pain in her abdomen stops her.

He reaches for her. Hands pass right through her.

JECIMOL
This is impossible.

DARIUS
What, that a ghost could return
from the grave? Let's see you
murder me twice.

JECIMOL
You have betrayed the Council.

DARIUS
I created the Council! I brought
you unity when Oriox died, and you
killed me. But times change. Your
location ain't so secret anymore.
The hybrid's never went extinct,
I've been breeding them here in my
temple. See, I've got the perfect
cure for myself, and when I'm
cured, I'll share that cure with my
hybrids, and use my new army to
march into the Straights and kill
each and every one of you.

Jecimol is pissed off now.

JECIMOL
Your treason is punishable by
death.
(to ALL)
To the first werewolf that kills
Kyrios, his position will be given
you!

An offer no werewolf can refuse. An instant frenzy erupts,
guards everywhere MORPH, and storm the temple.

DARIUS
Korb, pull the lever!

But Korb doesn't budge. A sly grin spreads ear to ear.

KORB
Time to die, you son of a bitch.

Korb's eyes GLOW. Until claws RIP through his insides,
Lexington behind it all. Shoves his limp body aside. Pulls
the lever.

Steel ERUPTS through the upper level, forming into a larger
CAGE, shielding him from attacking werewolves.

Darius draws a key, UNLOCKS Kinia's cage.

On a ledge towards the top of the temple, the real Alex watches.

ALEX

No!

As a werewolf sneaks up behind him. BAM! A bullet shatters clean through its forehead. It tumbles over the edge.

ACROSS THE TEMPLE - TANAKA AND NINA

On a ledge. Nina has a syringe gun a the yellow-liquid barrel. Tanaka holds the firearm.

TANAKA

Alex, go!

She FIRES into the fray below, seeking out werewolves.

Alex MORPHS.

ON THE PAD - DARIUS

Looks up - just as Alex transforms. Leaps forward, his hologram passing right through Darius's body.

As the real Alex soars from above, lands on top of the cage.

Darius flicks out his syringe gun and loads his red liquid barrel. STABS the needle into her neck, and injects. She seizes violently right out of his hands.

Alex RAKES roof of the cage open with his claws. Darius transforms. Alex leaps down, attacks.

And then, Kinia's eyes snap open with a blinding white GLOW.

Slowly, she transforms. Her entire body darkens, glazing with black skin. Bones shift and bend into position.

Lower body thickens, forcing her to all fours. METALLIC TALONS sprout rapidly, slamming into Alex and Darius.

Finally, the cages are too small. They RIP open, werewolves are flung everywhere.

Statues on the pad SHATTER to chunks of rock - triggering an ALARM.

Compartments all over the temple floor OPEN, revealing dozens of pits:

And hundreds of HYBRIDS. They YELP ferociously.

A few attacking wolves loose footing, tumble into the pits. And hybrids swarm over them without haste. In moments, they are halfway to bones.

Other attackers retreat from the erupting carnage.

Kinia is still growing. One-story... two-stories. HORNS emerge from her nose and forehead.

ALEX

Half motionless in a pile of rubble. Reverts back to human. Stands. Just then, footsteps:

BOOM. BOOM. BOOM.

Spins around. Kinia, now a three-eyed behemoth stares back at him.

ON THE LEDGE - TANAKA

TANAKA

He'll never beat her.

(hands Nina her gun)

I'm going.

Tanaka leaps over the ledge, and into the fray. Her eyes GLOW that jungle green.

But this time, a transformation is the result: in moments, she and Kinia are the same size. FUR sprouts all over, SPIKES protrude from her tail, she SNORTS smoke and flames.

Kinia ROARS back in acceptance. And the mammoths collide. Earth SHIFTS instantly beneath them.

Sending remaining guard werewolves to the doom of the pits.

Alex flees the chaos - a group of escaped hybrids give chase.

Tanaka shoves Kinia backwards.

Kinia stumbles, CRUSHES a hybrid on Alex's tail. SPLAT! And then, two more.

Kinia sinks her teeth into Tanaka's shoulder. Tanaka SHRIEKS, swings her tail.

Misses Kinia. Alex too. But three hybrids are SMACKED into oblivion.

One last hybrid hasn't strayed. Leaps. As the tail comes back around, spikes SEVERING it into multiple chunks.

Alex scampers from beneath the giants, and up the access ramp.

Tanaka BLASTS Kinia with a FLAMES. In retaliation, Kinia grabs hold of Tanaka's neck with her metallic talons.

ALEX
Kinia, stop!

BATTERS her head repeatedly into a temple wall. Beaten, Tanaka collapses. Reverts to human form.

ALEX
Tanaka!

Kinia turns focus to Alex.

ALEX
Kinia, stop! It's me.

She ROARS with such force that he is thrust head over heels down the access ramp, and into a pit.

NINA
Alex!

But he's not down yet. He grabs hold to a ruptured chunk of earth. But it won't hold forever. Already, it's crumbling. Tries to reach up with the other hand.

Kinia edges towards him. Clearly, to finish the job.

Alex locks eyes with the beast.

ALEX
Kinia, look! Look at my eyes!
Remember?

Kinia pauses. Stares. Deeply.

ALEX
Through anything?

Kinia relaxes, trying to remember... SHICK! Something pierces her neck. Wolf Darius reveals himself, and now a green liquid barrel loaded.

Before she can react, he injects the liquid, and soars away.

Kinia GROWLS, COLLAPSES, transforms back to human.

Alex curses to himself, continues to reach.

ON THE LEDGE - NINA

Watches in horror. Horror vanishes as she remembers the gun in her hand. Hesitant, she closes her eyes. And FIRES.

The bullet SHATTERS rock dust into Alex's face.

ALEX

Whoa!

NINA

Sorry!

FIRES again. And again. Over and over, now.

ON THE FLOOR - ALEX

Most bullets meet their mark by chance. Attacking hybrids drop like flies.

ON THE LEDGE - NINA

Still firing. Suddenly, a WHOOSHING noise. Growing closer... it's Lexington, wings flapping vigorously as she rises into view.

Nina pulls the trigger - CLICK. Magazine is empty.

Lexington scowls, charges. Nina dives out of the way. The yellow-liquid syringe barrel falls from her hands.

But Lexington is circling back.

The syringe gun! She grabs it, loads the syringe barrel.

Lexington slams into Nina, pins her to the wall. Nina jams the needle into Lexington's flesh, pulls the trigger.

Lexington bellow in agony. Body begins to convulse. Lights GLOW brilliant array of colors. Stumbles - right over the ledge.

She's falling...

Falling...

THWACK! Right into an upheaval of large rocks and dust. Transforms back to human. Slowly, her body goes limp.

ON THE FLOOR - ALEX

Gets his other hand on the rock. Pulls himself up.

Too late. Darius lands next to Kinia. With a barrel filled halfway with red liquid, he stabs the needle into her, flips a switch and begins to draw her blood.

Alex reaches for something in his attire, sprints for the access ramp.

The barrel is full now. Darius flips the switch again, injects himself. Draws a green liquid needle, changes barrels.

ALEX - twenty yards away... Darius injects himself, begins to convulse... ten yards away... Alex is on access ramp, Darius drops the gun, stumbles over the edge of the pad...

ON THE PAD - ALEX

Looks over the edge. Horrified, he takes a step back.

More demonic than canine, Darius sprouts to gargantuan size.

TWO ARMS sprout from his ribs and join his other two. Multiple sets of wings and stingers jut from his back.

ALEX

Very ugly.

Just then, Darius snatches him up into the air.

Causing Alex to drop

THE GREEN LIQUID BARREL IN HIS HAND.

He SLAMS Alex right through the images of the Council and into the wall behind them.

Nina winces.

NINA

Alex, morph! Morph!

He's SLAMMED into another wall. And another.

Darius flings him to the ground like a rag doll. Alex lies, bloody, beaten.

Darius prepares to strike. Suddenly, winces as pain strikes him. In his leg.

It's Korb. Emptying the green liquid into Darius's bloodstream with the syringe gun. He SWATS him from his leg.

He soars across the temple like a shooting star, hacked violently by the sharp edges of a statue - dead before he even hits the ground.

Darius roars, anguish in his ribs. His abdomen. Then, all over. He succumbs, begins to revert to human against his will.

When it's all over, a weary Darius lies in defeat on the pad. Alex starts towards him.

Darius stands, gives off that menacing glare. But the glow never comes. Tries again. Nothing.

ALEX

Red copies DNA. Green induces. I never actually traded back all of your serum. Nor that perfect blood sample you left for me.

Darius can only stare back in disbelief.

ALEX

Recessive genes - don't you just love them?

Despite shock, Darius continues to try and morph. Change never comes.

ALEX

You don't have recessive werewolf genes anymore, Darius. You're just a human. Good thing Mia confessed the cover-ups she did for you. It'll be easier to prosecute you.

With one last burst of effort, Darius charges towards Alex.

Alex drops flat. Darius trips right over him.

And plummets into the pit of hybrids.

IN THE PIT

They swarm over him. He fights for freedom, but he'll never escape. One hybrid CLAMPS jaws around his ankle. And drags him beneath the swarm.

ALEX

Scans the area, spots an unconscious Kinia, trapped on fissured grounding. The grounding is steady giving way towards a pit of hybrids.

NINA
Alex, she's falling!

ALEX
Kinia, hang on!

BARKING hybrids challenge Alex to come for his daughter.

He measures up the distance between he and Kinia - not too far of a jump.

He takes off, storming forward with determination. Leaps. Soars right over the pit, and onto Kinia's side. Gathers her in his arms.

ALEX
Gotcha.

Under his weight, the grounding shifts, COLLAPSES further towards the pit.

Grounding CRUMBLES, reducing the space they have to stand on. Definitely not enough ground to get a running start and jump back. Alex backs into the safer part of the grounding.

ON THE LEDGE - NINA

Spots the lever that can close the pits.

Examines the scar on her leg: mostly healed.

Measures her distance from the ground. About a football field in length.

GULPS, closes her eyes. Leaps from the ledge. Down she rockets, SCREAMING all the way.

ALEX
Nina, wait!

IMPACT. She lands, tumbles. But in one piece.

Races to the lever, lifts it up.

The ground under Alex and Kinia gives way. They topple towards the pit.

As the compartments SEAL close. Alex and Kinia touchdown, safe and sound.

Nina sinks to her knees, relieved.

Tanaka comes to, sits up.

The Council is still present. Jecimol CLAPS. The rest fall in with him.

JECIMOL
Well done. Cerberus.

ALEX
Like that?

Yanks the main plug supplying all the cubes.
Still feeble, Kinia begins to come to.

KINIA
Daddy?

Alex grins.

ALEX
Happy birthday.

He hugs her as if holding on for dear life. Nina comes to their side. Firmly, he wraps his arms around them both.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - TIMELESS

Vincent sits alone, playing solitaire. Alex enters.

VINCENT
How'd it go?

ALEX
Survive one more week, and you're a free man.

VINCENT
Not that, Kyrios. Never told me if you kicked his ass.

ALEX
Every piece. I want to thank you, Vincent. For understanding.

VINCENT
I'm still your father, your still my son.

Alex nods. Vincent gathers the cards, hands the deck to Alex.

VINCENT
I know it's been years, but let's see it.

Alex smirks. Grabs the card deck. Shuffles.

ALEX
Pick a card.

Vincent takes his pick - it's the JACK OF SPADES.

ALEX
How much do you wanna bet that your
card is what you see right now?

VINCENT
All the money in the world. I'm
looking right at it.

Alex pulls a card from the deck.

ALEX
You sure?

VINCENT
Dead sure.

Quickly, Alex waves his card over Vincent's card, snaps his fingers.

ALEX
Look again.

Vincent looks - it's now the KING OF HEARTS.

VINCENT
Pretty nice. You know, Alex, after
all that's happened between me and
you, I figured I'd be the last
person on earth you'd leave your
destiny to.

ALEX
You put the cards in my hands.
Don't forget that.

Alex drops the deck, exits. Vincent eyes the card.

VINCENT
That's my boy. Definitely my boy.

Gathers the cards, reshuffles the deck.

FADE OUT.