

THE COMPANY

"Disconnect"

by
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TEASER

FADE IN:

INT. MORGUE - NIGHT

It's dark. The light from the MOON, shining through the window, reflects off the silver surfaces of the room.

FOOTSTEPS. Coming closer. A door swings open. Someone flicks a switch and FLUORESCENT LIGHTS blink into life.

A female MEDICAL EXAMINER enters. She calls over her shoulder into the hallway.

MEDICAL EXAMINER
A coffee'd be nice. Strong.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)
No worries.

The M.E. holds a clipboard. She flips through a few pages as she nears a BODY on a table, covered by a sheet.

MEDICAL EXAMINER
Let's see what we've got...

She pulls the sheet off the face and shoulders to reveal --

-- BIANCA. Pale. Naked. Dead.

MEDICAL EXAMINER (CONT'D)
(off clipboard)
Hello, Bianca. Nice to meet you.
I'm your friendly neighbourhood
medical examiner. I'm going to be
cutting you open today.

A beat. She studies Bianca's face. Sighs sadly. Then, she turns, putting the clipboard down on another table.

MEDICAL EXAMINER (CONT'D)
(off clipboard)
Suspected cerebral aneurysm, huh?
I'll be the judge of that.

She snaps on some rubber gloves.

MEDICAL EXAMINER (CONT'D)
(to Bianca; as she turns
back around)
Now, you just relax. You won't
feel a --

Eyes open, head titled - Bianca STARES blankly.

The M.E. GASPS. A beat. Bianca doesn't move and the M.E. calms. She chuckles, collecting herself. She walks forward.

MEDICAL EXAMINER (CONT'D)

You fresh ones. There's always a
bit of a kick left over, isn't --

Bianca grabs her wrist!

The M.E. SCREAMS. Yanks her arm away. She stumbles back.
Slips, falls, CRACKS her head on the opposite table.

With a THUD, she hits the ground - out cold.

We STAY ON the M.E. for a long beat. Beside her, two pale
feet gently lower to the ground. They step forward.

Two hands reach down. They tug at the M.E.'s white lab coat,
working it off her.

WIDE ON SCENE

Bianca, very much alive, wears the lab coat. She does up
the last few buttons with shaking fingers. She turns to
leave. Freezes.

REVERSE ANGLE

The familiar MORGUE ATTENDANT from way back when gapes at
her from the doorway. A cup of coffee in one hand.

Bianca walks past him. He puts out a hand to stop her but
she just slaps something down onto his palm.

INT. MORGUE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Bianca emerges from the room. She doesn't slow, just picks
a direction and walks. Her face is blank, eyes numb.

ON HER FEET

Bare. Shaking with every step.

ON SCENE

The Morgue Attendant steps backwards, into the hallway, and
watches after her. Looks down at the thing in his palm...

... It's her toe-tag.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Establishing shot.

INT. HOSPITAL - BIANCA'S ROOM - DAY

The private room is quiet but the HOSPITAL SOUNDS very easily permeate through to...

... Bianca. Fully dressed. Sitting on the edge of the unmade bed. Her mind is somewhere else.

The sounds of the hospital FADE, replaced with echoes of SCREAMS, RAGING FIRE, SIRENS and the SCRAPING and GRINDING of twisted metal. On the sound of a CHIMING ELEVATOR --

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Miss Parry? Are you alright?

Bianca SNAPS out of it. She looks up at the friendly NURSE standing just inside the doorway. Bianca doesn't even try to manage a smile.

BIANCA

I'm fine.

NURSE

Well, it looks like you're all ready to go.

Bianca stands.

NURSE (CONT'D)

Your brother's here. He just signed you out.

A confused beat. Then, Bianca makes an irritated noise.

BIANCA

He's not my brother.

She turns, folds up her hospital gown and places it on the pillow.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

He's my step-brother.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

At least she got it half right.

Bianca turns around and there's NATHAN, smiling at her.

BIANCA

Who the hell --

NATHAN
(to Nurse)
Thanks so much for everything but
I think I've got it from here.

He flashes her a charming smile. The Nurse blushes, practically melting. She exits.

A beat. Nathan rocks back on his heels and pokes his head out through the doorway, checking that she's gone.

NATHAN (CONT'D)
(looks back to Bianca)
I'm taking it you were actually
expecting a brother?

BIANCA
Well, I... I wasn't expecting
anything. When the nurse said...
I mean, I just assumed that...
(more importantly)
Who the hell are you?

Nathan steps forward. Holds out his hand.

NATHAN
I'm Nathan Percy. Your mentor.

Bianca doesn't take his hand. She keeps her narrowed eyes on Nathan, suspicious.

BIANCA
Mentor for what?

NATHAN
Lots of stuff. Assignments,
filling out reports but, if
you're anything like my other
mentee, mostly I'll just be a
chauffeur.

Stunned, she sinks down onto the hospital bed again.

BIANCA
So... It's all real... The
Company, it's...

NATHAN
(nods)
Yeah.

BIANCA
I'm not really sure how I'm
supposed to feel about this.

Nathan glances at his watch. He looks impatient.

NATHAN

Feel whatever you want but can you do it on the move, please?

BIANCA

(standing)

What's the rush?

NATHAN

We're a bit pressed for time.

He goes to stand in the doorway, motions outside.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Ready for orientation?

Off Bianca, already feeling overwhelmed.

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Bianca and Nathan walk side by side.

Reaching the ELEVATOR, they stop. Nathan presses both the 'up' and 'down' button simultaneously. Bianca notices.

NATHAN

Really doesn't matter which one you press.

BIANCA

So why do you do that?

NATHAN

(shrugs)

Habit.

Bianca nods. Turning away, she finds herself looking into an open doorway. A patient's room.

ERIN is in bed, talking to his PARENTS. They don't see her.

The elevator doors GRIND open - working hard. Nathan steps in, puts his arm out to stop the doors from closing.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

You coming?

Bianca turns back. Steps into the elevator.

INT. THE COMPANY - BREAKERS - RECEPTION - DAY

Bianca and Nathan emerge from the elevator. Bianca takes in the surroundings - dirty and rundown.

BIANCA

I was kinda hoping this part was just a nightmare.

She carefully avoids a suspicious wet patch on the carpet.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
Ever heard of Occupational Health
and Safety?

Nathan smiles as he turns a corner.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
That wasn't a joke.

She follows.

INT. BREAKERS - CORRIDOR - NEXT

Nathan walks swiftly. Bianca, tiny compared to him, struggles to keep up.

She notices that the EMPLOYEES they pass all walk at the same quick pace. Also, they don't acknowledge each other.

BIANCA
Is there some sort of race going
on? Around the office in eighty
seconds?

NATHAN
Hmmm?

BIANCA
Never mind.

They pass a series of doors - all closed. Bianca spots Marcus Pierson's name plate on one. His office. They keep on going, passing it.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
I'm not going to see Mr. Pierson?

Nathan's jaw clenches slightly at the name.

NATHAN
He's a busy guy.

A few metres on, Nathan stops at a door marked "RUNNERS".

INT. BREAKERS - RUNNERS DEPT. - NEXT

Nathan holds the door open for Bianca. She enters and takes in the room.

One of the most "normal" places in the whole building. A sea of cubicles - each RUNNER with their own desk and computer.

NATHAN

This is the department for field agents. Runners.

BIANCA

I knew there was a race.

Nathan throws her a questioning look. Bianca half closes her eyes, shakes her head. She's not even gonna try.

NATHAN

Well, anyway, I'm a Runner. So are you. We're the ones that get the assignments sent to us.

BIANCA

And, we, what? Plagiarize something we found on Google?
(off Nathan's look)
High school joke. Assignments, y'know...
(beat)
How old are you?

Nathan clears his throat.

NATHAN

Old enough, apparently.

He spots something and moves in amongst the cubicles.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Look, here's my desk.

It's pretty bare except for essentials like a desktop computer and a pencil cup. No personal items. He pulls out the chair.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Do you wanna...

He motions for her to sit. Bianca does. A beat. She spins around slowly, eventually coming back around to face him.

BIANCA

Good tour. You even scheduled in a ride.

Nathan smirks.

NATHAN

You don't have a younger sister, do you? About yay high, likes to make with the snark, spends most of her time calling me a dumbass?

Bianca manages a quiet laugh, obviously not getting the joke.

ROXY appears beside Nathan. She bounces on her heels, smiles - perpetually cheerful.

ROXY
You're back! How'd the newbie
orientation go?
(grins)
Isn't that cool? I can call other
people "newbie", now.

Nathan motions to Bianca.

NATHAN
Actually, it's still going on.

Roxy looks to Bianca. Smiles even wider.

ROXY
Oh, hi! Sorry, I didn't see you
'coz of the --

She thumps the grey partition behind the desk. She holds out her hand.

ROXY (CONT'D)
I'm Roxanne but everybody calls
me Roxy.

BIANCA
(shaking her hand)
I guess I'm the newbie.

NATHAN
Her name's Bianca.

ROXY
It sure is nice to meet you. I
was hired almost a year ago but,
boy, I still feel like it's my
first day most of the time, so...

She leans in, pats Bianca's shoulder supportively.

ROXY (CONT'D)
I know what you're going through.

Bianca stiffens a bit. She gives Roxy a tight smile.

BIANCA
I'm... handling it.

Roxy hasn't noticed the sudden coldness. She flashes Bianca another sunshiney smile.

ROXY

Well, we definitely need to hang out sometime. Be friends. I could always use a few more of those.

She waves to them both.

ROXY (CONT'D)

See you guys!

Nathan watches her go. A few beats.

BIANCA

She seems... nice.

NATHAN

(eyes still on Roxy;
agreeing)

Hmmm.

Bianca raises an eyebrow, picking up on the vibes. She does another spin in the chair --

INT. BREAKERS - SECOND CORRIDOR - LATER

Bianca and Nathan. Walking again. In the middle of a conversation.

NATHAN

It doesn't sound all that pleasant, "breaking connections", but someone's gotta do it.

BIANCA

Like running the check-out on seventy percent off day, I get it.

NATHAN

And it's not like you'll be doing this blind. I'm here to help. And there's the computer database. You can access any information you want about an assignment - address, bank account details, criminal records...

Bianca balks.

BIANCA

I'll be working with criminals?

NATHAN

(beat; stung)
You'll be working with lots of people.

(MORE)

NATHAN (CONT'D)
(casual again)
And there are the Signs.

BIANCA
The what?

They move off screen.

INT. BREAKERS - LAB - LATER

The place is a dingy off-white with a "not quite sterile" look about it. Like a back alley dentist office.

Bianca lies back in a chair, warily eyeing a bulky machine overhead. Nathan stands by her side and TECHNICIANS buzz around them.

NATHAN
The technology was invented by
this guy - Doc - about forty
years ago.

BIANCA
So what did people do before?

NATHAN
Runners were guided by this...
intuition, I guess. A gut
feeling.

Someone turns on the machine and it starts to WHIR. A Technician hands Nathan a pair of goggles which he slips on.

Bianca, looking a bit panicked, watches the machine as it's lowered over her. The noise of the machine grows louder - until it's ROARING at us. Then --

INT. BREAKERS - CORRIDOR - LATER

Bianca's fixing her hair, mussed from lying in the chair.

BIANCA
What, no lollipop?

Nathan chuckles.

NATHAN
I'll buy you lunch. What about
that?

Once again, they pass Marcus Pierson's office. The door's still closed but Bianca slows, listening.

TV NOISES come from inside. Bianca looks up at Nathan as he re-joins her.

BIANCA
 (sarcastic)
 Yeah, Mr. Pierson's a real busy
 guy.

Nathan frowns. He grabs the door handle. Pushes the door open.

INT. BREAKERS - MARCUS'S OFFICE - NEXT

A drastic difference from the corridor outside. The office is sleek, modern and expensive looking.

The high-backed office chair is turned around to face the wall and the wide screen TV playing an episode of "Maury Povich". Maury reads out the results: "You are NOT the father".

GIRL'S VOICE (O.S.)
 What?! I call bullsh--

Nathan COUGHS. A beat. The TV goes dark and the high-backed chair slowly swings around to reveal --

-- JUDY. She holds the remote and a packet of gummy worms. She does not look pleased.

JUDY
 Well, well, well. Seems you
 finally...
 (beat; disappointed)
 Oh. It's you.

Nathan raises his eyebrows, amused, and leans against the desk. Bianca, not quite sure what's going on, hangs back.

NATHAN
 You were expecting someone else?

JUDY
 The jerk who supposedly runs this
 place, yeah.

She holds up the remote control.

JUDY (CONT'D)
 You know, he put a child lock on
 this thing so I can't watch
 anything rated over M.

Nathan takes the remote from her.

NATHAN
 I think he did that so you
 wouldn't come in here at all.

JUDY

Why not? I've been here my whole life. This is my home. So I can go anywhere I bloody want.

She finally notices Bianca.

JUDY (CONT'D)

Who's that?

Nathan stands, putting the remote down. He motions Bianca forward.

NATHAN

Judy, this is Bianca. She's --

JUDY

She's your new girl, isn't she?

NATHAN

Well, she's not my girl.

JUDY

But you're replacing me. That's what this is, right?

NATHAN

I'm still your mentor, Ju, but like you said, you've been an employee your whole life - I'm pretty sure you know how things work.

A beat. An eerie smile creeps over Judy's face.

JUDY

Sure do.

And, just like that, the smile is gone. She's just a sweet thirteen year old again. Well, maybe "sweet" isn't exactly the right word...

JUDY (CONT'D)

(re: Bianca)

So, is she retarded or what?

Bianca, eyes flashing, steps forward.

BIANCA

Hey, you little --

Nathan grabs her arm.

NATHAN

Okay, now. Bianca, calm down.

Judy giggles. Nathan throws her a warning look.

NATHAN (CONT'D)
Judy... That wasn't very nice.

JUDY
(beat; challenging)
What are you gonna do about it?

Off Nathan's stern face, CUT TO:

INT. BREAKERS - CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Bianca backs out of Marcus's office, smiling.

She's followed by Nathan who carries a red-faced and furious Judy over his shoulder.

He and Bianca walk up the corridor...

JUDY
You are so dead, Percy. I
recommend you check over your
shoulder everywhere you go from
now on because I'll be waiting.

INT. BREAKERS - RECEPTION - NEXT

... And into the reception office. Where Nathan stops dead in his tracks.

Bianca steps out from behind him, wondering what the hold up is. She freezes, suddenly afraid.

KIERAN stands before them, watching Nathan with amusement.

KIERAN
Hey, Nate. Having fun?

Nathan slowly and carefully lowers Judy to the ground. She MUTTERS expletives under her breath as she adjusts her clothes.

NATHAN
(tense)
Hello, Kieran.

Kieran's eyes move to Bianca. She takes a wary step back. He grins - not cruelly, but like he's greeting an old friend.

KIERAN
I know you! From the woods,
right? You totally kicked my ass.

Bianca gulps. Tries to speak but her mouth is dry.

KIERAN (CONT'D)
Don't be scared, sugar. You're
one of us now.

Kieran reaches out, perhaps to take her hand, pat her on the shoulder - we never find out because Nathan steps in the way.

NATHAN
Look, it's her first day.

KIERAN
Hey, I'm just being friendly.

NATHAN
Be friendly tomorrow.

A tense beat as the two stare each other down. Finally, Kieran gives up - shifting backwards. Nathan turns to Bianca.

NATHAN (CONT'D)
(upbeat)
Still up for lunch?

He puts a careful hand on Bianca's back and leads her around Kieran. They reach the elevator, which opens at the touch of a button, and step inside.

Kieran and Judy turn to face the elevator as it closes. A beat. Judy SNORTS in disgust.

JUDY
They're just hiring anyone
nowadays.

EXT. PARRY RESIDENCE - DAY

A new day. The sun shines. There's not a cloud in the sky.

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - DAY

Bianca enters, wearing her school uniform. She fixes her hair back with a butterfly clip as ESME, the housekeeper, looks up from the stove.

ESME
No, no, no. Go upstairs.

Bianca looks down at her clothes.

BIANCA
What? Do I have a stain?

ESME

You need to rest. Put on those socks I got you with the individual toes and get back in bed.

As she sits down at the table:

BIANCA

Esme, I'm fine. It's been almost a week.

ESME

The school won't mind.

Bianca grabs a glass of juice and pulls the newspaper, lying on the table, towards her.

BIANCA

The school won't mind because if they do, dad'll just buy them a new computer lab.

(beat)

Um... Has he called yet?

Esme sighs and shakes her head, sadly.

ESME

I left three more messages. I'm sure he just hasn't gotten them yet. When he does, he'll --

BIANCA

Yeah. I know.

(skeptical)

He'll call.

She unfolds the newspaper. The front page shows a huge picture of the BUS WRECK. The headline reads: "TRAGEDY IN GARRETON". Bianca takes this in.

Steeling herself, she opens the paper and scans the article. After a moment, she looks up.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Hey, Esme --

Esme lays an omelette down in front of her. She takes the newspaper away and tosses it into the recycling bin.

ESME

The earlier articles in the week didn't say anything either.

BIANCA

You don't know what I was going to ask.

ESME

About your... About what happened
to you.

BIANCA

(surprised)
Nothing?

ESME

Just that you were revived.
(off by heart)
"Garretton Academy student, Bianca
Parry, seventeen, was pronounced
dead but was later revived".

Bianca nods. She looks down into her juice.

BIANCA

That's good, then. I mean, I
guess I won't get the reaction,
y'know, that Vi did when she...

She trails off. It clicks.

EXT. PARRY RESIDENCE - LATER

Bianca heads towards the BMW in the driveway, a DRIVER
holds open the back door for her. She shrugs off her
backpack, about to swing it in when --

-- A car HONKS!

Bianca looks around. A modest silver car pulls up at the
bottom of the drive.

Bianca walks a little closer, peering into the driver's
seat. Nathan, wearing sunglasses, gives her a wave.

NATHAN

Want a lift?

EXT. QUIET STREET - LATER

Nathan's car WHOOSHES past the camera.

INT. NATHAN'S CAR - DAY

Like Nathan's desk, the interior of the car is devoid of
any personal touch. It's a blank slate.

Bianca sits in the passenger seat, her backpack on her lap,
as Nathan drives. She's in the middle of an excited rant.

BIANCA

It just all makes sense now,
y'know? She died and came back to
life. She was dead!
(MORE)

BIANCA (CONT'D)

And then three days later, she shows up at school like everything's fine. And then, it's like... She's just so weird. But, I get that now, the Company made her weird. Vi could be a really nice person. I mean, okay, maybe some of the weirdness is just her but --

NATHAN

Vi?

BIANCA

(beat)

Yeah. You know her?

NATHAN

We've crossed paths once or twice.

Bianca frowns, pondering something.

BIANCA

Okay, but... If she works with you guys, why would that guy, Kieran... Why would he want to kill her? Because, I saw it... In the bush... He wanted her dead.

NATHAN

(sighs)

It's complicated.

Bianca folds her arms, angles herself to face him - not letting him get away with that explanation.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Well... Vi and... We don't exactly play for the same team.

Bianca quirks an eyebrow.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Bad usage of the phrase but, it's true. We're Breakers and Vi is a Fixer. She...

BIANCA

Fixes?

NATHAN

Yeah.

(hastily)

It's all for the greater good, though.

(MORE)

NATHAN (CONT'D)

We all work to balance out the universe, make sure everything stays on track but sometimes there are connections that are made that need to be broken and --

BIANCA

-- Sometimes there are connections that need to be fixed. I get it.

(beat)

We're on the same side... but we play for different teams.

Nathan pulls the car up to the curb. Outside Bianca's window is Garretton Academy - STUDENTS flocking for the entrance.

A brief silence. Nathan takes off his sunglasses and faces her, wanting to say more. But he doesn't.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Well... Thanks for the ride.

Bianca unbuckles her seat belt and goes to open the door.

NATHAN

Oh! Wait!

Bianca turns back.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

I can't believe I almost forgot. There was a reason I came to see you this morning.

He reaches over, pops open the glove compartment and takes out a slip of paper. A beat. He hands it to her.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Your first assignment.

Bianca takes a deep breath - nervously excited. She unfolds it and...

... Two words. "Erin Fowler".

ON BIANCA

And her reaction - suddenly not so excited.

BIANCA

Oh, this is going to be fun.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - HALLWAY - DAY

For a few moments, we're blinded by the SUNLIGHT streaming through the door.

We see a SILHOUETTE as, whoever it is, takes those first few steps in from outside. Things shift, the light weakens and we see that the silhouette is --

-- Bianca, looking nervous. She pauses for a moment inside the doorway and then, in SLOW MOTION, she starts to walk.

It quickly becomes obvious that her nervousness is warranted. The other Students stare and WHISPER as she passes.

SHANE, his ankle bandaged, steadies himself on a pair of crutches. He turns and watches her much like the rest.

As Bianca nears the end of the hallway, the mass of people in front of her part - allowing her room to see...

... THE MEMORIAL. Set up at the end of the hall. Masses of flowers, candles, cards, photographs and scrawled messages. All for the victims of the bus crash.

Already shaken by the sight, Bianca bends down. Picks up a photo. It's of Niko.

She suddenly lets out a SOB, drops the photo and bolts down another hallway - unable to handle it.

INT. GARRETON ACADEMY - BATHROOM - LATER

The room is empty save for Bianca, locked inside one stall. She's HYPERVENTILATING, trying to hold it all together.

The main door CREAKS as it's pushed open. The sounds of the BUSY HALLWAY momentarily flood the room. Then, as the door closes, it all grows silent again. Then:

CLICK. CLICK. CLICK. CLICK. The noise comes closer. A beat.

SHANE (O.S.)

Bianca? Are you okay?

Shane, with his crutches, leans just beside the closed stall.

BIANCA

(wavers)

I'm fine.

SHANE

(beat)

You know you're in the boy's
room, right?

A beat. The stall door opens. Bianca steps out. She spots the URINALS by the wall. Groans.

BIANCA

How many people saw me come in
here?

SHANE

Bianca, people understand. They --

BIANCA

You didn't answer my question,
Evans.

Shane grimaces. Bianca sighs.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Doesn't matter. I saw how they
were looking at me in the hall.
They already think I'm a freak.

SHANE

What? Bianca, they... They looked
at me the same way. It's because
of the bus crash.

(corrects himself)

Accident. Explosion. Whatever the
papers are saying.

(then)

It was because we were there.

Bianca steps past him and goes to the sink. She dabs cold water on her face with a paper towel.

BIANCA

So it's not because of what
happened in the hospital?

SHANE

Not many people saw that. I mean,
it was Vi who told me and that's
just because she was right there
when you...

(beat; curious)

What did happen?

A beat as Bianca stares at him in the mirror. Then, she shakes her head, screws up the paper towel and throws it away.

BIANCA

You wouldn't believe me.

SHANE

Try me.

Bianca bites the inside of her cheek, half smiling. She pivots to face him, puts one hand on her hip - challenging.

BIANCA

Okay. What would you say if I told you that I died in that hospital. But that's not the end, oh no, because after that, I'm suddenly in some office, talking to some guy who wants to give me a "second chance". So I sign his stupid piece of paper and all of a sudden, I'm not dead anymore and I'm in the city morgue, with no clothes, no clue and no waterproof mascara.

She strides towards him, continuing her tale.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

And then I get a mentor and elevators go to places they aren't meant to go and I meet a guy who I've had nightmares about running into again, except now we're on the "same team".

She's right up beside him, leaning in close.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

What would you say to that?

SHANE

(beat)

Wow. Vi held out way longer than you just did.

A beat. Bianca lets out a breath as she realises.

BIANCA

Of course. Of course she told you. Because you're Velma and Shaggy, aren't you?

SHANE

I like to think of myself more Fred than Shaggy.

(beat)

But, yeah, she told me last year. And I'm not just a civilian anymore, either.

(MORE)

SHANE (CONT'D)

I can see her Signs and I've been known to hang out around the office but that's a different story for a different bathroom.

BIANCA

(beat; hurt)

So, you didn't come in here to see if I was okay? You wanted to find out if I was like her.

Shane completely misses her tone.

SHANE

You're not like her, though. She's a Fixer. You're a Breaker.

BIANCA

You say that like it's a bad thing.

SHANE

It is! You...

(realising)

You have no idea what they're like, do you?

BIANCA

What are you talking about?

SHANE

The Breakers are the bad guys in this... This war... Whatever it is. They're playing around with stuff they shouldn't, they take shortcuts in breaking connections that means the "connector" ends up dead, they killed one of Vi's co-workers.

(beat)

They killed one of her friends right in front of her.

Bianca slowly backs up. She's shocked.

BIANCA

No, I don't... You're lying.

SHANE

Why would I lie? The Breakers hire people who they know are comfortable doing that stuff.

BIANCA

(beat; offended)

Are you saying that they hired me because I'm... I'm a bad person?

Shane shakes his head. It's not his answer, he just doesn't know what to say.

He settles the crutches under his arms and hobbles for the door. Just before he leaves...

SHANE

Just... Whatever your first assignment is... Don't do it.

He exits. After a moment, Bianca steps up to the sink once again. She looks at her own familiar reflection.

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - DAY

ON ASSIGNMENT SHEET

The words haven't changed. They still read "Erin Fowler".

ON SCENE

Bianca carefully folds the paper up and tucks it away in her pocket.

INT. HOSPITAL - ERIN'S ROOM - DAY

Erin lies in bed, reading a comic book. His arms are bandaged and his face is covered in tiny scratches.

Bianca steps into the doorway. She TAPS lightly on the open door and Erin turns.

BIANCA

Can I come in?

Erin smiles, genuinely happy to see her, and puts his comic away.

ERIN

Yeah, yeah. C'mon in.

He heaves himself up, reaches out and tries to make a grab for the plastic chair beside the bed. He hisses in pain.

Bianca pulls the chair forward herself and sits down. She rolls her eyes at him, jokingly.

BIANCA

God, you're so lazy. Won't even get a girl a chair.

Erin laughs. Bianca looks him over.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

How are you feeling?

ERIN

Doctor says the burns are healing okay. And they got the metal outta my gut, so I'm kinda happy about that.

He smiles again, trying to keep things light.

BIANCA

It was pretty scary for awhile.

ERIN

Yeah...

(beat; remembering)

God, I should be the one asking if you're okay. I heard about you collapsing in the waiting room. In the papers they said --

BIANCA

(grim smile)

You can't believe everything you read.

Her hand flutters to her pocket. She edges out the assignment sheet. Glances down at it. It's now or never.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

So... This is going to sound weird but...

ERIN

(intrigued)

Yes?

BIANCA

Are there any connections in your life that need to be, er, broken?
(hastily)

What I mean is... Has anything happened to you that maybe, I don't know, shouldn't have?

A beat. Erin looks down at himself - his arms, the fact that he's lying in a freaking hospital bed. He looks back to her, eyebrows raised.

Bianca, realising, smiles sheepishly...

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - LATER

She hurries away from Erin's room - head down, embarrassed.

A middle-aged, male DOCTOR emerges from a room up ahead. He spots Bianca.

DOCTOR
Miss Parry?

Bianca slows. Fakes a smile.

BIANCA
Hello, Doctor.

DOCTOR
Back so soon?

BIANCA
Just visiting a friend.

DOCTOR
Ah, good.
(quick)
Well, not good. It's just... At
least you're feeling better.

BIANCA
I feel fine.

The Doctor nods, looks her up and down.

DOCTOR
(to himself; muttered)
Strange. Very, very strange...

He's about to continue on his way when:

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Ah, did your step-brother find
you? He was asking about you.

BIANCA
Oh, yeah. We caught up yesterday.

The Doctor looks over her shoulder.

DOCTOR
(nods)
Well, here he comes now.

He gives her a smile and moves off. Bianca takes a deep
breath. As she turns around...

BIANCA
Look, Nathan, I'd really rather
be alone right now. I --

But it's not Nathan.

It's another man - good looking, wearing an expensive suit
and riding that fine line between charm and smarm. This is
WALTER PARRY (25). He removes his sunglasses and winks.

WALTER
Hey, sis. Miss me?

Bianca's shocked, unable to speak...

EXT. HOSPITAL - LATER

... A problem which seems to have cleared up, as she and Walter face off just beyond the hospital gates.

BIANCA
You've been here a week?!

WALTER
Has it only been a week? Feels like longer.
(shrugs)
Town this small will do that to you, I guess.

BIANCA
You've been here since the accident and you never even bothered to see if I was alright?

WALTER
Look, I called the hospital and they said you were fine. I dropped by when I could get around to it.

BIANCA
(incredulous)
When you could get around to it?! And what the hell have you been doing that prevented you from "getting around to it" sooner?

She shakes her head.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
Don't answer that. I don't want to know. Walter, you --

She stops herself. Takes a deep breath.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
Is dad here?

WALTER
Your father and my mother have decided that they rather like the Caribbean.

BIANCA
So they're not even... They do realise I died, don't they?

WALTER

Okay, you want exposition, I get it.

(deep breath; then)

So, Mr. and Mrs. Parry get a message from your maid --

BIANCA

-- Her name's Esme.

WALTER

(not caring; continuing)

This message says something about their dear little Goldilocks being in some sort of "accident", no details, of course. So, instead of calling back or booking the next flight home, they decide to force me to endure a twenty hour flight from Spain, just to find out what the hell is going on.

(annoyed)

And I rather bloody liked Spain.

Dumbstruck, Bianca sinks down onto the curb.

BIANCA

So what now?

A beat. Walter sits down beside her. As he talks, he takes a packet of cigarettes from his suit pocket. Pats himself down until he finds a book of matches in another.

WALTER

Well, when I found out about the whole "dying and coming back to life" thing, I gave them a call.

BIANCA

And?

WALTER

(beat)

They don't get much of a signal where they are. I mean, it's pretty touch and go at the best of times.

BIANCA

(pressing)

Walter.

WALTER

They'll call when they get a chance. Until then...

(MORE)

WALTER (CONT'D)
Well, I'm gonna be hanging around
for awhile.

He strikes a match - a tiny burst of flame. We CUT TO:

INT. BREAKERS - RUNNERS DEPT. - LATER

Bianca enters. She's frantic, like she's close to losing it completely. She scans the room and hurries over to --

-- NATHAN'S DESK. He's not there.

Distraught, Bianca crumples down into Nathan's chair. She slumps forward, burying her head in her arms. A beat.

KIERAN (O.S.)
Howdy.

Bianca looks up. Kieran looks over the top of the partition. He smirks.

KIERAN (CONT'D)
Need a little help there, Buffy?

ON BIANCA

as she actually considers it.

INT. BREAKERS - DINING HALL - DAY

Bianca's alone at a table. She's immediately joined by Kieran. He holds two bowls of icecream and there's a bottle of chocolate sauce under one arm.

KIERAN
This is the good stuff. From the
back of the freezer, underneath
the baby carrots.

He leans in close, lowering his voice conspiratorially.

KIERAN (CONT'D)
The stuff they don't want anyone
else to know about.

He winks, straightens up and tucks into his icecream. Bianca eyes hers, a little wary. Kieran takes this in.

KIERAN (CONT'D)
Think of it as a sign of good
will. Good will with chunks of
honeycomb.

Bianca hesitantly starts eating. A few beats.

KIERAN (CONT'D)
So, you need help with your
assignment?

BIANCA

Yeah, I... I guess. I was hoping Nathan would be here.

KIERAN

Bah, I'm just as good as that guy. He doesn't even like honeycomb.

Bianca can't help but smile at that. Kieran grins, triumphant.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

Okay, so, here's the secret about being a Breaker. Do you wanna know the secret about being a Breaker?

A nod from Bianca.

KIERAN (CONT'D)

You've gotta be tough. Ruthless. Don't spare anyone's feelings. You've gotta keep your eyes on the prize. Your mind on the path.

BIANCA

(daunted)

I think that's more than one secret.

KIERAN

You're freaked, I know. It sounds hard. Cutting yourself off from real, human emotions. But, in the end, it's the only way a Breaker can really function. Take Nathan for example.

BIANCA

Nathan?

KIERAN

Yeah. Guy seems normal, right?

Kieran glances around, checks for eavesdroppers. Then:

KIERAN (CONT'D)

Hitman. For the mob.

(ignoring Bianca's shock)

He did a bunch of jobs for some guys in Melbourne, came out to Garretton for one last hit and, well, now he works here.

(beat)

Point is, he kept that...

(MORE)

KIERAN (CONT'D)
coldness. Inside. That's why he's
the best. Or --
(motions to himself)
-- One of the best.

Without thinking, Bianca shifts away from him. Kieran's not offended. He looks down to his icecream, scapes the last bit from his bowl.

KIERAN (CONT'D)
But how does that help you now?
To be honest, it probably
doesn't.

BIANCA
But --

He squeezes some chocolate sauce into his empty bowl.

KIERAN
What you've gotta do...

He switches his bowl with hers.

KIERAN (CONT'D)
... Is wait for a Sign.

Bianca looks down into the bowl. Kieran's drawn a squiggly chocolate smiley face in the bottom.

She looks up. Kieran's halfway towards the door, having taken Bianca's icecream with him. She looks down again...

... And the smiley face is gone. The chocolate sauce has somehow morphed itself into a name: "IRIS".

INT. BREAKERS - RUNNERS DEPT. - LATER

Bianca sits back down at Nathan's desk. She is confident and capable. Then, she pauses. Frowns. Um, maybe not so capable.

ON SCREEN

Password locked.

ON BIANCA

She reaches for the keyboard, willing to give it a shot, when a pair of steady male hands reach around hers.

Bianca jumps, her heart pounding. Nathan crouches beside her. He smiles sheepishly as he types in his password.

NATHAN
Sorry. Figured I'd save you the
trouble. Besides, you'd never get
it.

Bianca laughs - nervous.

BIANCA
Probably right.
(re: computer)
I, um, I hope you don't mind. I
was just --

NATHAN
Go ahead. I assume it's to do
with your assignment?

Bianca nods. Nathan moves the mouse, clicks on something. A
SEARCH ENGINE pops up. He stands.

Into the search field, Bianca types: "IRIS FOWLER". As the
system begins it's search, she glances up at Nathan. He's
focused on the screen. His face is blank, unreadable.

BIANCA
She's the sister of... of my
assignment. I know him and I
guess I sort of know her by
default.
(beat)
She's away at the moment. Went to
some agricultural university in
the country or something. I don't
think she visits much.

The computer BEEPS - the search is complete.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
(off screen; disturbed)
Or... at all...

ON SCREEN

A scan of a poster has popped up. There's a smiling picture
of IRIS underneath the word "MISSING".

We PUSH IN on this...

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - FOYER - NIGHT

Bianca, finally dressed in a casual shirt and jeans after a
long day in school uniform, is headed down the stairs.

She is, once again, looking at her assignment sheet and
Erin's name. As the DOORBELL RINGS, she slips the paper
into her pocket.

BIANCA
(calls)
I'll get it, Esme!

She opens the door to reveal Shane and VI. Bianca raises her eyebrows in surprise, definitely not expecting them.

There's an awkward beat.

SHANE
Can we come in?

BIANCA
Can you tell me the capital of
Iceland? No? Okay, bye.

She goes to slam the door. Vi grabs one of Shane's crutches and shoves it just inside the door frame - stopping her.

Shane wobbles. Awkwardly regains his balance.

VI
This is really important, Bianca.

SHANE
(to Vi; quiet)
Could you maybe let me know next
time you're gonna do that?

Vi gives him an apologetic smile. Then, they both turn back to Bianca.

VI
Well?

BIANCA
You can't come inside.
(beat)
But you can tell me what's so
important.

Vi takes a deep breath.

VI
You died after the bus crash.

BIANCA
Tell me something I don't know.

VI
But you weren't meant to.
(beat)
Bianca, this wasn't supposed to
happen to you.

Off Bianca, taking in this news --

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - FOYER - AS BEFORE

Bianca's got one hand on the door, ready to slam it in an instant. Vi and Shane are still outside. They watch her anxiously, trying to gauge her reaction.

Shane starts to wobble again. Winces as his weight shifts to his injured foot. Bianca steps back.

BIANCA

Come in.

Shane, grateful, takes back his other crutch from Vi and hobbles inside. He collapses at the bottom of the staircase.

Vi enters hesitantly. Far less comfortable than her friend.

VI

Bianca, we didn't come here to upset you.

BIANCA

Upset me? You just told me that I died for no reason. I know that this wasn't meant to happen to me but if... If this wasn't meant to happen to me then...

She shakes her head and takes a few steps back, trying to distance herself from this insanity.

Shane's eyes flick to Vi.

SHANE

Vi... We gotta tell her everything.

Suddenly sharp again, Bianca looks between them.

VI

After Shane told me that you'd been hired by the Breakers, we became kinda... suspicious.

BIANCA

Why?

SHANE

Kieran, one of --

BIANCA

(snaps)

I know who Kieran is.

A beat. Of course she does.

SHANE

He caused the bus accident. He..
he put a bomb under --

BIANCA

No. Kieran wouldn't --

VI

He would. And he did.

(beat)

Bianca, we're pretty sure he was
targeting you specifically. He
wanted to kill you.

Bianca says nothing. She crosses her arms. Clenches her
jaw.

SHANE

We looked some stuff up. You,
actually. On the Company's
database. You have a file.

VI

Okay, so, what we said before
wasn't entirely true. You were
meant to die.

BIANCA

(outraged)

Then what the bloody hell --

VI

You were meant to die last year.
In a liquor store robbery. Shot
in the chest.

A long, stunned silence. Bianca turns away from them, her
face red with anger and fear.

BIANCA

(whispered)

Prove it.

VI

What?

Bianca whips back around to face her.

BIANCA

Prove it!

VI

(calm)

Your house is pretty big.
(MORE)

VI (CONT'D)

(beat)

You got an elevator?

INT. ELEVATOR - MOMENTS LATER

Vi, Shane and Bianca are squished together in a tiny service elevator. Bianca keeps her eyes forward - still angry, but nervousness showing through clearly.

The elevator slows. CHIMES. The doors open --

INT. THE COMPANY - FIXERS - RECEPTION - NEXT

-- And it's the reception office we know and love. The Fixers.

GLENDА looks up from behind the front desk as Vi, Shane and Bianca emerge from the elevator.

GLENDА

(smiles)

Hello, lovelies. You're back quickly.

Vi and Shane keep walking, heading for the corridor.

VI

Just had to collect someone.

Bianca follows, now looking around in amazement at how well kept everything is.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FIXERS - NARROW HALLWAY - LATER

Vi, Shane and Bianca navigate their way down a small flight of steps. This hallway is more what Bianca's used to. Cold, dirty and dimly lit.

VI

Almost there.

BIANCA

(mutters)

This is crazy. I didn't die in that stupid liquor store. This whole thing is ridiculous.

They near a plain brown door. Vi fishes out a key from her pocket. As she unlocks it:

SHANE

Where'd you get the key?

VI

Jenna. I managed to convince her that this was the only way.

Vi steps into frame. Our Vi. She leans in, studying her perfect double.

VI

She doesn't even look like me.

The CAMERA SPINS to see the rest of the scene.

The ROBBER aims his gun at Other Vi. The CASHIER is paused in the middle of piling money into a bag. Across from him are OTHER ERIN and OTHER BIANCA, holding each other - terrified.

Bianca is currently at the side of her double, studying the tear stained face.

BIANCA

I know what you mean.

She looks up at the rest of the room.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

But I don't want to see this.

Vi joins her.

VI

Why not? It didn't happen to you.

BIANCA

I know. But... But sometimes in my dreams...

The scene suddenly UN-FREEZES. The gun goes off, Other Vi hits the floor, Other Bianca SCREAMS.

ON BIANCA

She closes her eyes, presses her hands over her ears. The SCREAMS fade...

PENNY (O.S.)

Vi! Mum wants you to come down for breakfast.

Bianca's eyes flutter open.

EXT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - MORNING

She and Vi stand on the Morgan's front lawn. Bianca looks around, confused. Vi points up...

... To where Other Vi sits on a branch of a tree. She wears pajamas and listens to an ipod. She doesn't hear or see OTHER PENNY, leaning out of the bedroom window across from her.

OTHER PENNY

Violet!

She disappears from the window for a moment. Then, she's there again, a heavy book in her hand.

Without pausing to think, she HURLS the book at Other Vi, still sitting in the tree. It skims Other Vi's head and her eyes fly open.

She loses her balance, slips and falls back. An instinctual reaction, her legs wrap around the branch, stopping her from falling.

Upside down now, her arms swing comically above her head.

OTHER VI

Aww, crap.

BIANCA

Vi, what the hell is --

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

BIANCA

-- This?

They're in the bustling hospital. VICTIMS of the bus wreck swarming around them. A beat. She and Vi look around.

VI

Where are we? Can you see us?

Vi looks back to Bianca. Her eyes widen.

BIANCA

What? What is it?

She reaches up, touches her face. Her fingers come away bloody. Bianca's nose is bleeding.

WHAM! Bianca is suddenly THROWN against the wall by some unseen force. She SCREAMS as the wall seems to dissolve around her and suddenly she is --

INT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

-- Standing in front of the Robber's gun. No... Wait. That's Other Bianca.

Real Bianca is by the door, dumped on the floor, breathing hard. She staggers to her feet, wipes the blood from her nose.

BIANCA

What the fu --

BANG! The gun goes off, covering that last thing Bianca was going to say, and Other Bianca crumples to the floor.

OTHER ERIN
No! No! Bianca!

He's down at her side, cradling her bleeding, broken body, as the Robber looks on in shock.

ROBBER
I didn't... It just went off...
I... I'm sorry.

He grabs his bag of money and turns, sprinting out the door. He passes Bianca, as she watches herself die...

OTHER ERIN
(crying)
Bianca, no. Please... Stay awake,
come on... Bianca!

We're on our Bianca, now. We PUSH IN on her, so close until all we see is her face. A tear rolls down her cheek.

PENNY (O.S.)
Violet!

EXT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - MORNING

Bianca looks up. Other Penny disappears from the bedroom window. Moments later, she's there again holding a heavy book.

She throws the book at Other Vi, still sitting in the tree.

This time, the book hits her square in the face.

She's knocked so off balance that her legs don't make it around the tree branch. She falls off screen, Bianca's eyes following her --

-- And we hear a sickening CRACK.

Bianca jolts back, horrified.

BIANCA
Oh my God...

From behind her, there's a SOB. Bianca turns. Vi, the real Vi, sits on the porch steps, hugging her knees. CRYING.

VI
I don't want to see it again. I
don't want to see it again. I
don't want to --

PENNY (O.S.)

Violet!

Bianca whirls back around. The scene is playing out AGAIN. Penny grabs a book, throws it, Vi falls and --

BIANCA

(back to Vi)

Let's go.

Vi shakes her head.

VI

I don't know how.

Bianca glares. She marches forward and grabs Vi, yanking her to her feet.

BIANCA

You dragged me in here without knowing how to get out? Good plan, Vi.

VI

I'm sorry. I --

OTHER PENNY (O.S.)

Violet!

VI

(desperate)

I don't want to see it. I don't want to... hear it. I can't. I --

Bianca looks around. Spots Vi's front door. It's different, though. Plain and brown. Like the one from the Company hallway.

BIANCA

Come on.

They reach the door, Bianca grabs the handle and pulls --

INT. FIXERS - NARROW HALLWAY - NIGHT

Bianca and Vi, still with Bianca clutching Vi's arm, stumble from the room - hitting the opposite wall.

Shane, sitting on the steps, leaps to his feet as best he can with his injury. The girls collapse to the floor.

The door, once again, SLAMS itself closed. For a long moment, nobody speaks.

Vi sniffs, wiping away tears as she recovers. Bianca's moment of heroism fading, she's taking on that numb, shell-shocked look.

VI

Shane and I... we... we found out that when something changed in the timeline, when the book missed me, it changed everything else and I... I took your place in the liquor store.

SHANE

You would have gotten a free pass if it weren't for Kieran.

BIANCA

But why would he do that? Why would he... the Breakers... want me dead after all this time?

Vi and Shane share a look. There's more.

SHANE

When we looked up your file, there was something else...

VI

The names of potential employees are written on a list in the order that they're supposed to die. Back when yours was on that list... It was on our list.

Bianca's face is blank. She doesn't understand. Vi heaves herself up, sitting more comfortably against the wall.

VI (CONT'D)

The Breakers killed you because they wanted to steal you from us.

(then)

That's why you were able to get into the building with us so easily.

(beat)

You were meant to be a Fixer.

Vi's eyes don't leave Bianca's. She doesn't waver - completely serious. Bianca slowly shakes her head.

Without a word, she gets to her feet and runs. We STAY ON Bianca, her eyes welling with uncertain, fearful tears.

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

A small elevator sits at the end of the hall. The doors glide open and Bianca lurches out, barely able to hold herself up.

She takes a few steps and collapses. She breaks down, crying. SOBS shaking her entire body as she lies in a crumpled heap on the floor.

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

It's dimly lit, just a soft GLOW from the lamps around the room. Bianca has no more tears left. She sits on the couch, staring down at a crumpled tissue in her hands.

BIANCA
(hoarse)
I didn't know who else to call.

Nathan walks into frame. He sits on the couch beside her, at a comforting yet appropriate distance.

NATHAN
Well, I am your mentor.

Bianca takes a deep breath.

BIANCA
Then I want the truth.

NATHAN
It's...

BIANCA
Don't you dare say that it's complicated, because I've had enough complicated for one day.

NATHAN
(beat)
Yes.

BIANCA
Yes?

NATHAN
Yes. Marcus Pierson has a habit of stealing employees. It's one of his... policies. He thinks that it increases efficiency. I think he thinks that it "helps".

BIANCA
Who else?

NATHAN
Roxy. For one. I'm not sure how many others.
(then)
It's not exactly public practice. Mr. Pierson doesn't advertise it, anyway.

BIANCA
So how do you know?

Nathan turns to study her. Really looks at her.

NATHAN
It's not difficult to see that
some people don't belong.

Bianca, almost hurt, turns away. She rubs a hand over her face.

BIANCA
I always thought that I wasn't
cut out for this, breaking
connections, but now that I know
that I'm meant to be a...
(beat)
I just don't know what to do. I
can't hurt Erin.

Nathan stands.

NATHAN
Maybe you're not supposed to.

BIANCA
What do you mean?

NATHAN
You were meant to be a Fixer. It
can't be a coincidence that your
first assignment is someone that
you already have a connection to.

Bianca rolls her hand, needing more.

NATHAN (CONT'D)
Maybe it's a left over. Your
assignment isn't about breaking
Erin's connection to his sister,
it's about fixing it.

Bianca smiles slowly, relieved.

BIANCA
That doesn't sound half bad.

Nathan grins, happy to have helped.

NATHAN
And, I have a present for you.

He picks up a thick manila folder from a side table by the couch. He hands it to her and as Bianca goes through it:

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Everything I could find on Iris Fowler - that means school reports, the original missing persons report, the follow up investigation...

(beat; sincere)

I hope it helps.

She looks up at him.

BIANCA

Me too.

Bianca smiles - grateful, confident.

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - BIANCA'S ROOM - LATER

Bianca's room is huge and glamorous looking. Four poster bed, en-suite bathroom, huge bay windows and a thick, plush carpet that Bianca currently sits on.

The papers from the file on Iris are spread out around her. Bianca sifts through them, trying to make sense of it.

Her bedroom door open, there's the sound of the front door OPENING and SLAMMING CLOSED.

WALTER (O.S.)

Shhhh!

A female GIGGLES. Bianca cocks her head, listening.

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

Walter, stinking drunk, stumbles towards the living room.

A paper-thin model-like WOMAN clings to him as she teeters unsteadily on skyscraper heels.

WOMAN

(looks around; drunk)

You have a nice house.

WALTER

Shhh! You'll wake up my baby sister.

WOMAN

Aww, a baby?

WALTER

Not so much. She's kind of a bitch.

BIANCA (O.S.)

Walter?

Walter, blinking slowly, looks up. Bianca looks at them over the railing at the top of the stairs.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
What's going on?

WALTER
Ah, there she is! Bianca, this is...

He looks to the Woman. Thinks veery hard. Not offended, she slaps him playfully on the shoulder.

WOMAN
You know my name!

Walter sways to the side. The Woman laughs as they both almost fall. She regains her balance. A beat.

WOMAN (CONT'D)
Whooo... I'm gonna go and...

She starts to move for the door through to the living room.

WOMAN (CONT'D)
There's a couch in here, right?

WALTER
Probably.

WOMAN (O.S.)
(surprised; excited)
And a TV!

Walter looks back up at Bianca. Squints.

WALTER
Can you come down? You look really tiny up there. Like an ant... in a castle... judging me.

Bianca doesn't move.

BIANCA
Where's Esme? Did she tell you she'd be going out?

WALTER
Oh, the maid? I fired her.

BIANCA
What?!

WALTER
(shrugs)
Don't freak out.
(MORE)

WALTER (CONT'D)

We can hire someone else to cook and clean and all that.

BIANCA

But Esme is my... She's supposed to live here. She's my guardian while dad's away.

WALTER

Well, now you've got --

He does a wobbly, slow spin around.

WALTER (CONT'D)

-- Me.

BIANCA

What if I don't want you?

WALTER

You're stuck with me, baby.

Bianca, disgusted, turns away from the railing.

WALTER (CONT'D)

Hey, I'm not a fan of this set-up, either. You think I want to baby-sit some whiny little brat?

Bianca walks away.

BIANCA

I hate you.

WALTER

Back at you, sister!

Walter smirks triumphantly.

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - BIANCA'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Bianca storms in. SLAMS the door angrily.

She takes a moment, letting the feeling wash over her. She looks down. Her shaking hands are clenched tightly into fists. A beat.

She takes a deep, calming breath. Slowly uncurls her hands...

... And sits back down on the floor. She looks over the papers again. She's got a job to do.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Nathan leans coolly against the wall, just beside the main doors.

He straightens up, removing his sunglasses, as Bianca approaches. She has a messenger bag over one shoulder.

BIANCA
(nervous)
Thanks for meeting me.

NATHAN
No worries.

BIANCA
It's just... He's getting out of the hospital today. I kind of want to do this before I lose my nerve.

NATHAN
(smiles; reassuring)
Like I said, no worries.

Nathan puts a hand out to the door. Bianca nods. Sets off.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The duo are on their way through. Up ahead, an elevator opens. Vi and ANDREW emerge, directly into Bianca's line of sight.

Bianca stops. As does Nathan, alerted to the arrival of the Fixers. Vi and Andrew spot them, as well.

The air is suddenly thick with tension. Nobody moves.

BIANCA
I'm still new at this but, just for my general knowledge, are stand-off's usually part of the job?

She and Nathan exchange anxious glances.

CUT TO BLACK:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - AS BEFORE

After a long beat, Bianca makes the first move.

She and Nathan walk slowly towards the other two. Vi and Andrew start forward, as well.

They meet halfway. The tension still high, this isn't a pleasant meeting.

Vi takes something from her pocket. She hands it to Bianca. It's the assignment sheet with Erin's name.

VI

You dropped this yesterday.
That's how we knew you would be
here.

Her eyes flick to Nathan.

VI (CONT'D)

But I didn't expect to see him.

For the first time, Bianca notices that the tension in the room isn't because of her. It's because of Nathan.

He stares blankly, trying not to cause waves but Vi is trembling. She's afraid of him.

Bianca's eyes move from Vi to Andrew. He stares at Nathan with an intense, burning hatred. We've never seen him look so terrifying.

She looks down at Andrew's hand. It makes a fist. Bianca knows what's coming.

BIANCA

Nathan!

WHAM! Andrew's fist flies right into Nathan's jaw!

Taken by surprise, Nathan stumbles back. Andrew doesn't miss the opportunity and sets into him - pummeling him viciously!

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Stop! What are you doing?!
(to Vi)
Vi! Stop him!

Vi shakes her head. Even if she could...

The BRAWL continues. NURSES are on the phone to security.

Andrew barrels into Nathan, knocking him back into a row of plastic chairs.

Using the chairs to hold himself up, Nathan pulls back his legs and kicks Andrew in the stomach.

Andrew flies backwards. Nathan stands, shakes his head, pulling himself together. He raises his fists.

Andrew charges but Nathan is ready and socks him in the face. A quick jab to the throat and Andrew's on the floor, gasping for breath. Nathan knows what he's doing.

Bianca, satisfied that the fight is over, turns on Vi.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Why are you here, Vi? Do you want
to stop me from doing my
assignment? Is that it?

Andrew KICKS Nathan in the knee. Nathan YELLS in pain.

Climbing to his feet, Andrew sets into Nathan again. Nathan's the better fighter but Andrew's taken him by surprise.

VI

That's not what this is about!

BIANCA

No? Really? Because that's what
it looks like. Especially since
you're beating up my mentor!

The words seem to drag the girls back to realising that, yes, the fight is still going on.

They watch as Nathan blocks a swing of Andrew's, grabs his arm and spins him around, pinning his arm behind his back.

Bianca grits her teeth. She's had enough. She marches forward, props her foot up on a low plastic coffee table and pushes it, sending it skimming across the floor.

The coffee table stops just behind Nathan's legs. Andrew jerks his head back - SMACKING it into Nathan's nose.

Nathan stumbles back, tripping on the coffee table. He's still got one hand on Andrew and the two of them fall backwards - through a glass door. It SHATTERS and they land on the floor of a patient's room.

The fight is over. Nathan and Andrew lie side by side, both bleeding and sore. They catch their breath.

VI

We're not here to fight.

Bianca turns back to her, looking less than impressed at that announcement.

VI (CONT'D)

Andrew and I... We're here to offer you a job.

Bianca reacts in surprise.

VI (CONT'D)

This is your official invite to join the Fixers. We've got the approval of our Director and, as soon as the paperwork goes through, Head Office.

(beat)

This is your chance to be where you were meant to be.

There's a few stunned moments as Bianca thinks about it.

She turns back to the broken glass, and Nathan and Andrew lying in the middle of it.

Walking over, she kicks the coffee table aside. Steps right up to the two of them.

She looks from Nathan to Andrew. Their eyes on her as she debates with herself.

Then, Bianca reaches down, offering her hand --

-- To Nathan. He takes it and she pulls him up. He steps over the remains of the window, back into the waiting room.

Andrew hauls himself to his feet, wincing in pain. He joins Vi again, and the two pairs come to face each other.

Surprisingly, Vi looks disappointed.

BIANCA

For the past few days, I've had everyone coming at me, telling me who the bad guys are, who I can trust and who I can't.

She looks up at Nathan. Back to Vi.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Well, screw that. I'm going to decide for myself who I'm supposed to trust.

(beat)

But thanks for the offer.

A beat. Vi nods, accepting.

She nudges Andrew and they turn, heading back for the elevators. Nathan lets out a breath, relaxing slightly.

Then, Andrew swings back. PUNCHES Nathan in the face!

ANDREW

That's for killing my best friend.

Nathan tenses but doesn't retaliate. Andrew walks back to Vi and the two of them step into the waiting elevator.

Nathan lifts a hand to his split lip.

INT. HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR - LATER

Another part of the hospital, away from the remnants of the fight.

Nathan rests in a chair by the wall. He leans back, eyes closed. His lip has stopped bleeding. The skin around his eye is stretched tight, starting to swell.

Bianca sits down beside him. Presses an ice pack into his open hand. Nathan reacts, opening his eyes and putting the ice pack to his face.

NATHAN

Thanks.

BIANCA

I was going to ask for some painkillers but the nurses are still pretty pissed at you. Thought they might try to slip you something else. If anyone'd know how to kill you quietly, it'd be them, right?

Silence.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Okay, so it wasn't a great joke.

NATHAN

Bianca... About what that guy said, about me... killing his --

BIANCA

Kieran told me what you did before the Company.

Nathan shakes his head. He sits up a little straighter, ready to defend himself.

NATHAN

You shouldn't listen to Kieran.

BIANCA

But what I said... About deciding for myself who to trust... I meant that, and not just in a Fixers versus Breakers way, either.

Bianca gives him a small smile and shuffles back in her seat, until her back is against the wall. A beat.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

(sighs)

Fucking Violet Morgan. She's so annoying.

Despite the pain, Nathan can't help but laugh.

INT. HOSPITAL - ERIN'S ROOM - LATER

Erin, dressed in track pants and a t-shirt, sits on his bed. He tries his very best to tie his shoelaces but obviously finds the downward movement painful.

Bianca enters. She smiles sweetly.

BIANCA

Need some help?

Erin sits back up.

ERIN

Nah. Not like I'll be walking for the next few weeks, anyway. I get a wheelchair because I'm severely injured. Might pop my stitches.

BIANCA

Lucky you.

She doesn't smile. Erin frowns in concern.

ERIN

Why aren't you laughing? My pain isn't funny?

BIANCA

I... I've got to talk to you about something. Seriously.

Erin motions Bianca to the chair but she shakes her head.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

No, I'd rather stand.

(beat)

I... I've noticed that you've been kind of sad lately.

ERIN

Well... One of my best friends
just died, so...

Bianca's eyes widen - remembering Niko. She takes a step forward, desperate to be heard and understood.

BIANCA

No, I mean... For a long time.
You've been sad. Like this
sadness that's so deep, I didn't
even notice.

(beat)

And I was your girlfriend and I
was... I was supposed to notice.

Erin fidgets, uncomfortable. Bianca opens her shoulder bag and pulls out Iris's file.

She holds it in her hands for a moment. Then, hands it to Erin.

ERIN

What's this?

He opens it up. Slowly goes through the pages in stunned silence. He looks up at her, more than a little freaked out.

ERIN (CONT'D)

(demanding; angry)

Bianca, what is this?

BIANCA

Don't ask where I found it. Or
how I even knew to look. But I
just... I want you to have this
stuff and... and to do something
good with it, okay?

She starts to tear up.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

There's always a chance she's
still out there somewhere. You
just... you can't give up. The
connection between you and
Iris... You can't leave it like
this. You have to fix it.

A beat. His anger fades. Erin gulps down the lump in his throat. His voice wavers, on the verge of tears himself.

ERIN

But I don't know how.

BIANCA

You will.

(beat)

I don't... I don't want you to be sad anymore.

She gives him a shaky smile and turns, wiping a tear from her cheek. At the door, a hand lands on her shoulder.

Bianca turns, surprised to see Erin standing right behind her.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

Erin, your stitches.

He pulls her into a hug. Bianca's arms hang lifelessly, then she wraps them around Erin - hugging him back.

ERIN

(tearful)

Thank you, Bianca. Thank you.

Off Bianca, starting to cry all over again, we CUT TO:

EXT. HOSPITAL - CAR PARK - DAY

Bianca, a slight spring in her step, hurries to Nathan's car. He's inside, waiting for her.

INT. NATHAN'S CAR - DAY

Bianca smiles at him as she bounces into the passenger seat.

NATHAN

(amused smirk)

I take it that everything went well?

BIANCA

Yeah, I... I really think so.

As she buckles herself in:

BIANCA (CONT'D)

I spent hours going over all that stuff about Iris and I learned so much about her but I just, I couldn't even begin to start figuring out how to find her.

(beat)

And then I thought, maybe I'm not the one who's meant to find her. Erin's the one who knows her the best. If anyone can do it...

(proud smile)

... He can.

Nathan reaches into the backseat, brings back a couple of sheets of paper, stapled together. He hands it to Bianca.

BIANCA (CONT'D)

What's this?

NATHAN

Assignment report. After every assignment, you have to fill out the details. Basically, spelling out for the higher-ups what the connection was that you had to break, how you did it and what you estimate the results to be.

BIANCA

But I didn't break a connection.

NATHAN

(beat)

Yeah, I know.

Bianca looks over the blank assignment report.

BIANCA

So what I am supposed to write? "Sorry, didn't feel like breaking connections today so I fixed one instead"?

NATHAN

(beat)

Blow it off.

BIANCA

What?

NATHAN

You're new. You're coming to terms with your shiny new afterlife. First assignment report? Who cares.

BIANCA

Will you get in trouble?

Nathan motions to his injured face.

NATHAN

Does it look like I can't handle trouble?

A beat. Bianca grins.

EXT. HOSPITAL - CAR PARK - NEXT

The assignment report, scrunched up into a ball, sails out the open passenger window. It lands perfectly into a nearby garbage bin.

Then, Nathan's car SPEEDS off, tearing out into the street.

EXT. PARRY RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Establishing shot.

MUSIC CUE: "Stand Still, Look Pretty" by The Wreckers

INT. PARRY RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Bianca enters to find Walter, wearing just a t-shirt and boxers at the centre bench. He reads the newspaper and doesn't look up when she enters.

BIANCA
Wanna put some pants on, maybe?

WALTER
I live here, too.

Bianca pulls open the refrigerator...

BIANCA
Unfortunately.

... Not finding anything, she turns back to Walter.

BIANCA (CONT'D)
So now that you've fired the one person in this house to knows how to cook, what are we supposed to do for dinner, genius?

WALTER
(shrugs)
Order a pizza.

Bianca sighs. Sits down at the bench across from him.

BIANCA
Is that the paper with the article on the accident?

WALTER
Nope. There's just a small follow up piece.

BIANCA
Doesn't mention me coming back to life, does it?

For the first time, Walter meets her eyes.

WALTER
Don't you mean how you were
"revived".

Bianca leans back, trying hard to not seem too interested.

BIANCA
I'm just surprised they didn't
want to focus more on that angle,
you know?

WALTER
Should've seen the first draft.

BIANCA
(beat)
What are you talking about?

Walter sighs and stands casually.

WALTER
The original article, the day or
so after the bus crash, was
very... Bianca-centric. Let's
just put it that way.

BIANCA
But...

WALTER
I made 'em change it.

Bianca opens her mouth to speak but she's so confused, she can't find the words.

Walter flips the newspaper to the front page. He slides it across the bench to her.

WALTER (CONT'D)
They didn't want to piss off
their new boss now, did they?

ON NEWSPAPER

There's a half-page picture of a suited-up Walter shaking hands with a middle aged man.

The headline reads: "PARRY PAYS UP", with a smaller sub-heading: "Meet The Garretton Herald's New Owner".

ON SCENE

Bianca looks up at Walter, incredulous. Walter ruffles her hair and gives her a wink.

WALTER (CONT'D)
Don't say I never bought you
anything.

He exits. Bianca remains at the table, stunned.

We PULL OUT slowly, through the kitchen window, as Bianca looks back down to the paper. A smile creeps over her lips.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE