EDEN | RISING

#203

"There Was No Calm Before This Storm"

by John Oddo

- Tom's group arrives at the airport and are briefed by Regis about Eden. - The adults get drunk, Gwen and Xander have drunk sex. - One of the scientists at the airport, Rory, sees them having sex over the video feed. - Darla and PJ are attacked at the bathrooms, PJ puts down a soldier named Hernandez who was bit by smashing his face into the toilet. Darla is bit and begs PJ not to tell anyone, but PJ tells a soldier named Leigh immediately and apologizes to Darla, saying he did it for her own good. - Lieutenant Griggs hears someone was bit over the radio and blows up the airplane to prevent any infected from getting to Eden. - Ash and Manila see the explosion from the window. - Tom angrily pins down Griggs and after Griggs tells him about Darla and warns Tom that there is a traitor in their midst, Tom lets his anger out by shooting Griggs right in the face. - Tom lies and says Griggs was bit, one of the soldiers - Michael doesn't buy it. - Michael finds respect in young PJ, who helps the soldiers bury the bodies, including that of Hernandez, the soldier he put down. - Rory bullies Kitty, he says he does it for fun, it's nothing personal. - Later, Kitty tells Rory that Xander is her husband - he gets confused, obviously because he saw Xander and Gwen having sex, and assumed they were together and not Kitty and Xander. As Rory skrits off, Kitty looks confused. - Tom, Leigh, and Michael encounter a woman named Maude in the forest after finding the truck full of supplies and a camp site. Maude holds Ash hostage. - Ash peeks into Maude's tent... - Leigh uses information about Maude's daughter Chrissie to get Maude to let Ash go and let them have their truck of supplies back. - Leigh tells the group she saw a kid's sleeping bag with the name Chrissie on it. - The supplies are brought back, Darla's hand is successfully amputated and she has a nice reunion with the survivors. - Kelvin, who went off on his own, encounters a hostile Gareth (fka "Red Hood") in the forest. - Ash tells Tom Leigh was lying -- he saw the sleeping bag and it had no name on it. Leigh knows a lot about Maude, but she lied about how she knew. Tom thanks Ash for this information, and watches Leigh suspiciously.

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TEASER

EXT. FOREST -- MORNING

GARETH and KELVIN are in a stand off just how we left them. Gareth's rifle pointed at Kelvin, Kelvin's pistol at Gareth.

> GARETH ...They're watchin' me, ya know. They're out here. And I'm this close, I ain't lettin' you fuck this up now.

KELVIN Who's watching you?

GARETH I dunno... They've got masks. Creepy fucks...

KELVIN What the fuck's going on...?

GARETH Keep your voice down, idiot...

KELVIN

Not until you...

Gareth seizes his opportunity now that Kelvin's talking --he suddenly CHARGES. Kelvin pulls the trigger, but he's too late. By the time the trigger's pulled, Kelvin's already down like a sack of shit, rolling down the side of the hill, not a standard roll but a violent one.

He drags Gareth with him, though Gareth tumbles in another direction. We hear Kelvin's knee collide with a small rock, one just big enough to leave a mark. When Kelvin hits the ground, sprawled out in the dirt, he gasps in pain and holds his knee when he hears something... in the distance...

A LAKE.

The flow of water is like music to his ears but for a moment Kelvin lays face flat in the ground, contemplating and putting himself together. Slowly he hobbles to his feet and takes note that Gareth is no where to be found... He bends down, noticing a tear in his jeans and a small cut from the fall. He shakes his hand as if it would discard the blood as he looks for the source of where the river could be. He limps over to some bushes, brushing them apart, there it lies -just a walk away -- a stream. He smiles feeling pretty pleased with himself, looking along the river when... a body... he's taken back slightly... then another... and another, this one half eaten.

Alarmed, Kelvin takes a step back when he hears a noise, a biter in the distance comes hurdling towards him this is the last thing he needs - he draws out a knife from his bag, knowing he may have the use it as he attempts to run off. Close-up of the pain in his face as he pushes himself to run, the biter a mere few steps away... he's got him!

The biter grabs Kelvin by the arm holding the knife as he blindly attempts to wriggle out and use the weapon to no avail. The only way out of his now is if he could somehow turn, although that would mean falling to the ground by this point and making himself more vulnerable...

...THUD!

They both fall as Kelvin attempts to restrain the blood thirsty creature, but he can't stab and hold him back - the knife falls to the floor! Kelvin closes his eyes and mutters something to himself.

> KELVIN (CONT'D) Gloria sea al padre y al hijo y al Espíritu Santo. Como lo fue en el comienzo, es ahora y nunca será, mundo sin fin. Amén.

Looking up to the sky...

BAM! We get a close up of an eye opening, it's Kelvin, he's still lying there, blood on his shirt as he sits up to find the zombie before him had fallen back, impaled with a bow straight through the heart. Kelvin inspects the creature and removes the bow to examine it, taking a look around he notices something from the hill. Someone wearing a Wooden Christian Mexican mask is on the hill and making his way over. Kelvin raises his hands in submission.

> KELVIN (CONT'D) I mean no harm. Please, put down your weapon...

The eerie Masked figure before him keeps the old-fashioned bow up and pointing towards Kelvin. We hear the wood of the mask creak as the figure looks down at the cut on Kelvin's leg, he too notices. Kelvin knows what they're going to imply, he shakes his head feverishly.

> KELVIN (CONT'D) No! No! I did this falling down the hill! Please...

It looks as if though the figure is about to release the arrow when:

MASKED MAN #2 (O.S.) You know the rules...

The Masked Figure turns to see another figure approaching from the other side of the field.

MASKED MAN #2 (CONT'D) If they're safe, they're with us.

Seizing his opportunity, Kelvin goes to knock the bow out of the Masked Figure's hand when the new Masked Man grapples him. The two throw him to the floor, Kelvin throws his hands up again.

> KELVIN That was... a bad move, I'm sorry. Please, just don't kill me.

One Masked Man looks to the other.

MASKED MAN #1 Can we kill him *now*?

The second Masked Man looks down at Kelvin. Slowly, he crouches down. Pushing his mask up, revealing...

<u>DECLAN</u>. Both men look shocked as the first Masked Man pushes his mask up and we see an elderly man wearing a straw hat.

KELVIN

Declan?

OLD MAN You know him?

DECLAN He's one of them.

OLD MAN

Glenley?

OLD MAN (CONT'D) And you think <u>he's</u> going to let them in?

DECLAN He let <u>me</u> in, didn't he?

The old man rolls his eyes, it appears he isn't all that happy with Declan either.

KELVIN What's going on?

DECLAN I could ask you the same thing. I thought we were supposed to meet at Eden?

Declan snickers, almost coldly. The old man chortles while Kelvin looks pissed --- Declan frowns, at least someone finds it funny.

> DECLAN (CONT'D) I guess we both got kinda *side-tracked*.

> > CUT TO BLACK.

END TEASER

ACT I

INT. BATHROOM -- DAY

WIDE SHOT of the WOMEN's BATHROOM.

KITTY stands at the sink, washing her hands. She starts a really bad, wooping cough. As she does, she hacks up some phlegm. Examining the phlegm in the sink, she notices it has a BLOODY RED tint in the greenish sludge. On her face --- worried, KNOWINGLY ---

INT. TERMINAL -- DAY

TIGHT on XANDER, in a group discussion, speculating...

XANDER

So you're telling me I can go out there right now, dance around, scream, shout, do whatever really to attract the attention of these things and if they bite me on the arm, I can come back in here, you can chop off that limb and I'll be fine.

RORY

It all depends on the situation, the severity of the bite and how long it takes for your body to fight off the infection. Some people take longer than others to turn.

GWEN Why don't we go test it out?

Xander and Gwen lock eyes --- sparks are flying here.

XANDER

Oh, that mouth of yours. You've got quite the impressive bite... and that tongue...

Rory glares at Xander. He's unimpressed.

RORY ...says the married man.

The men's eyes meet.

GWEN

(growing uncomfortable) So you're a surgeon then?

RORY

Depends on your definition of... surgeon. If you mean world class, certifications-coming-out-of-my-ass surgeon, then absolutely... <u>not</u>. If you mean learn-as-you-go-postapocalyptic surgeon then yes. (rather proudly) Yes I am.

XANDER

... My marriage is none of your damn business. Go back to whatever is you do around here, sit on your ass and play with your computers or whatever, while us adults talk...

With every word, Xander approaches Rory. His best attempt at intimidation. Rory just smirks, COCKY. He's not letting this guy get to him.

RORY

Look you wanna' keep pushing my buttons big boy? I don't take shit from anybody, especially half-wit losers like you so stop talking to me like a fucking child. I saw you and the blonde bimbo shacking up the other night on camera.

Gwen looks shocked, Xander stops approaching Rory, his eyes squinting at the man.

RORY (CONT'D) If you want me to tell your wife <u>everything I saw</u>, I suggest you back off.

XANDER I'll break you in half.

RORY I have no respect for a man who can't respect the promise of the ring on his finger. And you can't fear someone you don't respect. At least, that's what I found from personal experience. (glaring at Gwen now) (MORE)

RORY (CONT'D)

Nor do I have respect a woman who agrees to shack up with her best friend's hubby... Kitty talked a lot about you yesterday when we were patching up Darla yesterday. *Nice*. The look of horror and disappointment and betrayal in her eyes --- is it gonna' hurt you or is that something you two are gonna' thrive on? So if you decide to continue fucking with me dude, I suggest you realize what I have hanging over your heads.

XANDER

You don't have the fucking balls.

RORY

HEY KITTY!! XANDER HAS SOMETHING TO TELL YOU, WHEREVER YOU---00000F.

Rory gets a quick SOCK to the GUT. And he keels over, looks up --- his eyes are like an ANIMAL's.

As he charges forward ---

--- we see him get sent back by another fist, this time across the face.

GWEN Xander, what the fuck!!

Gwen tries to pull him back.

XANDER Step back, sweetheart---

She doesn't listen, so Xander resorts to shoving her away. Rory looks up, coughing.

> RORY Ah, you don't respect your whore either? Nice guy.

At this point, others have gathered around. REGIS is among them, he's cheering.

REGIS Best bit of amusement I've seen in a while... Anyone got popcorn? PHOEBE Knock it off, Regis! You're <u>not</u> helping. (to Rory and Xander) Break it up! Rory, come on, what are you doing?!

XANDER Getting his ass kicked.

Ash rushes forward, pulls Rory up on his feet and away. He stands in front of Rory as Xander lumbers forward...

XANDER (CONT'D) You sure you wanna' stand in front of him?

ASH You sure you want my foot up your ass?

XANDER Fucking little kid. I swear, you think you're some tough-ass, you're just a punk.

ASH Seriously, dude... We don't need this shit right now!

Ash looks around, sees that Tom is rushing over now...

XANDER Yeah well we don't need useless drama either. This guy thinks he can just start shit, actin' like he knows me. Dude's out of his fucking mind.

Xander goes --- for another punch. Hits Ash instead. Ash hits the floor, stands. Oh hell no.

And now Ash is in this. He leaps forward, wailing a few punches into Xander's gut. Xander keels a bit, before he whips forward and in a single blow, knocks Ash to his knees. Ash isn't done yet, despite a bloodied nose. He leaps back up angrily... And now Tom's here. He pulls Ash away by his collar, Ash is huffing and puffing, releasing all of his anger as Xander stands his ground.

> RORY I did that. I hurt him. That was all me.

TOM What the HELL is going on here!?

ASH He fucking hit me...

RORY (to Xander) You wanna' tell him, buddy? Or how 'bout her? Tell <u>her</u>.

His eyes fall to KITTY --- Who's standing in shock over all of this.

KITTY I know you said you liked picking on people, but... my husband? Not the smartest choice.

She goes to see Xander, help him up.

KITTY (CONT'D) What the hell did he do to deserve a pummeling like that?

TOM Who started this? Huh?!

LEIGH and some of the soldiers approach. Leigh is truly baffled.

LEIGH A brawl? Seriously, Rory?!

Tom's attention snaps to Leigh --- then his eyes fall back on Xander, Rory and Ash --- the situation at hand.

GWEN Xander and Rory were fighting. Ash came in to calm things down. Ended up getting a fist to the face.

ASH I don't even know what they were fighting about, I just thought I could stop them ---

TOM Well, you didn't. Thanks for trying though.

PHOEBE I'll have a look at his face... RORY His face? My face too?

Phoebe looks like she's going to say yes, but Tom looks at her seriously.

TOM

<u>No</u>.

Xander goes to storm off, Tom's right behind him. In a lightning move, Tom whips for his belt and pulls out a pair of handcuffs. The ones he used to keep Declan's prison buddy chained up in Season 1. He locks up one of Xander's wrists. Xander's incredulous. Goes to fight off Tom.

XANDER

What the hell ...?

Tom nods to Ash.

TOM

Grab Rory.

RORY

What?!

Ash shoves Rory toward Tom --- Rory sees what's coming next.

RORY (CONT'D) Oh, hell, this isn't happening is it...?

CLICK! The other side of the handcuff is linked to Rory's hand now. Rory and Xander are staring at each other, Rory gulps.

TOM I am SICK and TIRED of the petty arguing.

Everyone looks among each other. Tom's fuming...

TOM (CONT'D) Quite frankly, at this point, I couldn't give two shits about what the hell happened between you two. Because I know if you tell me, it's just going to <u>set me off even more</u> over how ridiculously stupid it is.

Tom's eyes shoot over to Phoebe ---

TOM (CONT'D) Are the soldiers occupying the construction area today?

PHOEBE Erm, I dunno. Ask Leigh. She's our timekeeper.

TOM

...<u>You</u> ask her.

Off Leigh's look --- his reluctance to look, or speak, to her is noticeable.

PHOEBE

Leigh?

LEIGH It's Sunday. Sunday's are off days, so no, they're not there, they're on patrol.

TOM

Phoebe, take me there. Gwen, you're coming with us.

Tom takes Rory and Xander, and moves past Leigh. Gwen follows curiously, while Leigh's eyes never leave Tom...

INT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE -- DAY

This is the area of the AIRPORT that is still under intense construction. The wind blows through tarp that dangles loosely from the ceiling. RORY and XANDER are sat down like children. TOM, GWEN and a feeble-looking PHOEBE stand around.

TOM ...You two can sit in here until you make up.

XANDER

RORY

Sorry.

Erm, me too --- ?

--- That was settled. Let us go, please.

Tom ignores them and wanders off. Gwen and Phoebe follow. Phoebe stands alone, watching the men argue inside, curiously. Almost amused maybe. Gwen takes Tom aside. GWEN What the hell do you think you're doing?

TOM I was waiting for you to ask that. (beat) Sidney told me. About your... 'revolution'.

Gwen swallows, a bit nervous.

TOM (CONT'D) I get that you're concerned and... you probably miss making decisions and everything. You were a politician right? You... sort of are used to do that, making decisions. So I figured --- hey, she wants it? She can have it. Being a leader... I think at this point we can both say it hasn't really been my <u>thing</u>. So consider this officially handing over the reigns ---

He swings a key ring, only carrying A SINGLE KEY, off his belt.

TOM (CONT'D) --- Think fast.

He tosses it. Gwen's hands fly up and she catches the key ring.

GWEN (curiously) A key?

TOM

To their handcuffs. You want to be leader, fine. Here's your first assignment. <u>You</u> get to decide when to unlock them. When you think they're sincere. I'll support whatever decision you make. Maybe this group could use a change of face. I sure as hell know I could use a break. I've scared people off --- my daughter, Sidney, and even Ash yesterday. I took all this anger and frustration out on the poor kid. And for what? He didn't do anything wrong. (MORE)

TOM (CONT'D)

My mistakes led me to that point. I'm tired. I thought I could find rescue, give all of you a little bit of hope. But now, now that it's been crushed for the upteenth time and we're stuck in this standstill --- I don't even have hope anymore. So if you think you have what it takes, if you think you have the hope the rest of us need by now... then be my guest, Gwen. Be my leader.

And with that, Tom turns on his feet and walks away. Leaving Gwen staring at the key in her hand, stunned and taken aback. Phoebe follows Tom.

INT. TERMINAL -- DAY

TOM and PHOEBE arrive back at the TERMINAL. He looks at Phoebe expectantly.

TOM ... Is Darla resting?

PHOEBE Um... no. She went to be with PJ a while ago.

TOM

Damn it.

He looks to MANILA, who is sprawled out on a pair of chairs, finally getting some sleep. Tom's voice is booming.

TOM (CONT'D)

Where's PJ?

Manila jumps in her sleep --- it's comical, really. She rubs her eyes, groans ---

MANILA I... I don't know.

TOM (frustrated) Fuck. Do you know where he could've gone? He and Darla went off trapezing around the airport.

MANILA I think I have an idea of where he'll be.

EXT. OBSERVATORY ROOM -- DAY

We drop in on the OBSERVATORY ROOM --- plenty of feet in the air. We get a nice shot of the airport parking lot, the back construction lot, in all of its quiet splendor.

INT. OBSERVATORY ROOM -- DAY

We find PJ staring through the barrel of a SILENCED RIFLE --clocking in a magazine, the boy is standing among a group of soldiers. One of them is MICHAEL.

In the lot below, a soldier stands next to a set-up of EMPTY CANS --- left in the shape of a HUMAN --- or a BITER.

We get a POV shot of the SCOPE, BLURRY AS SHIT --- PJ aiming at the cans.

MICHAEL (O.S., into talkie) Kid's half-blind, I suggest you move.

We see the blurry figure of the soldier march off-screen. Leaving PJ just with the cans to look at. He pulls the trigger. The cans seem to explode in a blur of COLOR ---

--- PJ pulls away, and we see his face. He's frowning.

PJ I swear, I'll <u>never</u> be able to see shit.

MICHAEL You shouldn't say that.

PJ

Sorry. I know you soldiers have a code about that right? 'Never say never'.

MICHAEL I was actually talking about 'shit'... but yeah. That too.

Wiping sweat off his brow---

PJ Oh. Right. MICHAEL Hernandez was the sack of shit you killed the other night.

PJ looks up at Michael silently.

MICHAEL (CONT'D) He was in the bathroom when you found him?

PJ

Yeah. I didn't know he was... one of them. I said something when I walked in, he didn't look at me. Went into one of the stalls and he started banging at it. I don't really want to talk about it ---

MICHAEL

--- But I do. You killed one of my men.

PJ

I didn't have a choice.

MICHAEL

You know, you people come here and all of a sudden all of our folks are dying. Maybe Leigh doesn't want to say anything, or maybe she's blinded by infatuation for your leader, but something ain't right with you people. He was always a pussy though ---Hernandez. Doesn't surprise me that he tried to hide. Fucking coward.

PJ uncomfortably puts the gun away.

PJ Technically I haven't even been <u>with</u> them... I'm sort of like an outsider. These people couldn't give two... (hesitates, sighs) ...craps about me or Manila.

BEAT.

MICHAEL Do you care about them? PJ thinks. Then, as realization hits him, the doubt leaves his face.

PJ They're good people. They didn't do any of this on purpose. We've been only around for a week and it's not like we've been making much of an effort to fit in.

MICHAEL We could use another man in uniform 'round here.

PJ I'm not a soldier anymore.

MICHAEL That's disappointing. You've got a

good eye, kid... for someone with really shitty eyes.

PJ

Um. Thanks?

MICHAEL

If you ever want to practice shooting again, I'm gonna' have to ask for a commitment. I just wasted bullets to get you to train, kid, I was hoping you were actually interested.

PJ

I don't understand what you're trying to do. Why are you trying to recruit me when we're <u>all</u> living here?

Michael says nothing. Awkwardly, PJ shuffles away. Half way across the walkway leading back to the airport, he sees TOM and MANILA emerge from the door. He picks up his pace and meets up with them.

> PJ (CONT'D) What's up? MANILA What the hell are you doing out here---?

TOM Where's Darla?

PJ She didn't come with me. She thought watching me shoot guns would be boring and she wanted to stay close so she wouldn't get into any trouble... She went to go see your girlfriend. Tom rushes off, leaving PJ and Manila alone on the walkway. MANILA I told you I didn't want you shooting with those soldiers. She snatches his arm ---MANILA (CONT'D) It's my job to protect you. You're going to do as I say. PJ It's not your job. You're trying too hard, and it's pretty painful... --- Manila yanks at his arm and drags him. PJ winces. PJ (CONT'D) Ow! Yeah. Painful. As he picks up the pace, Manila stops dragging him. He moves to his own accord now. PJ (CONT'D) You should've heard what they said. It wasn't pretty. MANILA What are you talking about? PJ (lowering his voice) ... I think those soldiers are gonna' do something awful to Tom.

WIDE SHOT --- of Manila and PJ moving across the walkway ---

ASH (V.O.) Those two stick out like a sore thumb, don't they? What do you think their story is?

INT. TERMINAL -- DAY

ASH is packing his things and watching MANILA and PJ as they make their way back to the TERMINAL. He's speaking to LEIGH...

ASH Funny question, sorry. Considering I don't even know <u>your</u> story either.

LEIGH

Oh trust me, you wouldn't want to. It'd bore you to death --- and bring right back to life again. Then you'd be trying to eat me, and I'd have to blow your brains out... and none of us would want that now would we?

Leigh's smiling but Ash looks a bit uncomfortable --- he's not quite sure if she's joking and his mind is playing tricks on him, or if that's a threat. She can tell by the way his face turns that he's a little taken aback by that comment.

> LEIGH (CONT'D) (curious) What? I was *joking*.

ASH Just zoned out, sorry.

He chuckles a bit --- obviously feigned. Leigh catches it. She'll let his behavior slide, but she's definitely suspicious...

INT. MEDICAL -- DAY

DARLA sits by SIDNEY's bedside. TOM enters...

DARLA

Hey, daddy.

TOM Hi, sweetheart. You scared me, I had no idea where you went.

SIDNEY We just needed each other's company.

TOM How you girls feelin'?

SIDNEY A lot better actually. I was walking this morning ... DARLA (interjecting, quiet) It... it's weird. Not having a hand anymore. You never really notice how much you use your hands, it's always so... Tom and Sidney stare, heartbroken, at this ravaged little girl. Tom swallows --- finishes her sentence. TOM Automatic? DARLA Mmhmm. SIDNEY I'm so sorry, sweetie. TOM I'm just very thankful you're both still alive. I don't know what I would have done if I lost either one of you. He leans in, kisses Darla on the forehead and then moves to the bed, nearly touching Sidney but not quite. Sid's voice is very low --- a whisper. SIDNEY You would've regretted... the way we left it. ТОМ What's the way you wish we left it? (even closer) If we had to leave it now. SIDNEY I'll tell you... in lighter company. (speaking up now) ...Darla, can you excuse us for a second?

Tom looks rather surprised. He and Darla exchange glances, he nods to her.

TOM

You can sit with Ash and PJ. Just stay close. If they try to wander off, you stop 'em okay?

DARLA

Okay.

TOM I won't be long, promise.

Darla nods and scoots out the door.

TOM (CONT'D) What's this about?

SIDNEY (troubled) I think Darla deserves to have you to herself for a bit.

TOM What's this about?

Sidney takes a deep breath. This aches her heart, it truly does.

SIDNEY

She told me today... she told me I was trying too hard. She said she doesn't see me as anything other than her teacher. That I'll never be the mom to her that Kate was.

TOM She said this? My Darla?

Sidney wipes the tears that are leaking from her eyes, nodding through her sniffles.

SIDNEY

The poor thing. She's... she's lost so much. I don't know how to handle her, Tom. I don't know whether to push away or to try harder to win her over. I think she's right in saying I'm trying too hard. I just want her to have a woman to look up to in her life.

TOM Give her time. She just lost Kate a week ago, Sid. I'll talk to her, I promise. SIDNEY ...No. Don't.

Tom's confused.

TOM

Then what do you want me to do?

SIDNEY

I think it'd be best if maybe... we did cool off a bit. Just for a while. Let Darla have you around, you two can just sort of... have each other to yourselves and then I'll wait for you. Whenever you're both ready, I'll be here.

TOM

I was never not ready, Sid. You know that.

SIDNEY

I just don't want to force this on her, Tom.

TOM

And I don't want to lose either of you. You and Darla are both all I live for, Sid.

SIDNEY

I don't understand what this is... us. We haven't made any commitments. And if Darla isn't ready for us to keep going forward, I don't think we should. It'll just hurt us more than it will help us.

TOM

All I want is *stability*. I want us to be happy together, the three of us.

SIDNEY

Tom, I don't know what to say. Stability is something you work for, you can't force it... Especially not now. Honestly, I feel like you're forcing this on both of us. We're obviously not ready to play happy families --least of all, Darla. TOM

You told me --- you told me you were here for me, you told me that I was the... bravest, smartest, strongest, and most devilishly handsome man on this planet...

SIDNEY

(tearing up) ...And that I'd be incredibly proud to be your woman.

TOM So you do remember. It wasn't all just bullshit to make me feel better?

SIDNEY

No. I meant every word. And I still do. We've hit a crossroads and right now, all I'm saying is that Darla needs you now more than ever. And I'll refuse to be a part of forcing her into this too fast.

Tom swallows --- it's a lot for him to take in. We're left on these two, in an awkward and heartbreaking silence ---

EXT. ABANDONED STREETS -- DAY

We see KELVIN now has a belt tied around his leg, acting as a tourniquet, as he is hobbled along by DECLAN, the elderly man BRAY walks out on front with his bow and arrow, mask back on.

KELVIN What's his deal?

Declan looks at him, unsure how to respond.

KELVIN (CONT'D) The Mexican Mask, the bow?

BRAY

(behind the mask) Our own good, that's what. Anonymity is safety.

KELVIN From who? The biters? I don't think they're fussy when it comes to looks. Kelvin...

Bray turns around and takes his mask off.

BRAY There are worse things around than biters. (beat) Do we have to take him? I can already tell this one won't even make the gates.

Kelvin looks confused.

DECLAN (nods) Even if it's just for the night. We don't turn anyone away and the people I left behind, they might still be alive.

KELVIN Wouldn't you like to know?

Declan looks confused.

KELVIN (CONT'D) I thought you had your own little agenda, your little mission for redemption to achieve. You didn't care about us and we didn't care for you too much either, sure we all said 'see you on the other side' but both sides knew there was a slim chance of that ever happenin'.

Declan looks offended for a minute, then smiles.

DECLAN Then I guess they would call that irony. (beat) Who's around? Tom? Ash? Gwen?

Kelvin is reluctant to answer.

BRAY Would you ladies like a minute? I can go and put the kettle on if you want? This pow-wow can take place at H.Q. (MORE) BRAY (CONT'D) I ain't lying down and lettin' any of Satan's soldiers feast on me because the two of you are scrappin' like alley cats. You got me?

Declan and Kelvin both nod. Kelvin is surprised, impressed by the fire in this old man's eyes, he really wants to get the fuck out of here.

> KELVIN So where are we going? You boys got a way to Eden?

Bray bursts out laughing.

BRAY

Kid, did no one ever tell you not to believe in fairy tales?

DECLAN

Eden's gone. This is about the closest thing to safety any of us are going to get.

KELVIN

What? Where?

Declan gestures with his head. As Kelvin turns to look, we see it too.

An OLD MONASTERY in the distance, surrounded by a large fence. Behind it, a small SUBURBAN COMMUNITY, wealthy with life and THRIVING, with the monastery acting as the community's landmark. Kelvin looks in awe.

INT. MONASTERY, OFFICE -- DAY

We're inside a tiny, old-fashioned office.

We get a close up of a hand on a desk and pull up to see KELVIN sat down. When the door creaks open, Kelvin turns to see a man stood at the door. He is young with dark features, his name is BENEDICT, who slyly glances at him. Kelvin's glance returns to the woman behind the desk. IVY appears to be in her 30's dark hair which flows to her shoulders. It appears she is trying to dress conservatively, her clothes don't seem to be torn, in fact neither do BENEDICT's. It would appear life here is of a greater quality.

IVY

Name?

KELVIN Where are your masks?

BENEDICT We don't wear the masks inside the gates. It's safe here.

IVY I said... name.

KELVIN What is this for, exactly?

IVY

I don't know how they ran things back in Glenley, but we're trying to help you here. This isn't exactly my favorite job to do, so the sooner we sort this, the sooner you can piss off.

She's not giving him much of anything to work off of. Frowning, Kelvin's attention returns to Benedict.

KELVIN

Any help?

BENEDICT It's just paperwork.

KELVIN

For <u>what</u>?

Ivy looks up from her paperwork, one eyebrow cocked, her eyes connecting with Benedict's.

IVY

110?

Benedict's definitely conflicted.

BENEDICT It could be a good thing.

KELVIN What is going on here!?

Raging and losing patience, he stands.

IVY (re: Kelvin standing up) ...Well, that definitely is. BENEDICT (to Kelvin) Please remain seated.

KELVIN I just want to speak to Declan.

BENEDICT

He's busy.

KELVIN What the hell with!?

JOHN SMITH (O.S.) Whoa, whoa! I sense a little frustration around here.

Kelvin turns around to see another man. Beared, shaggy looking as he comes in through the door. This is JOHN SMITH.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) I'm assuming you're Kelvin.

Smith addresses Ivy and Benedict without a single glance to either.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) You both can go, we have a few more people to profile. I suggest you get to it, okay?

Ivy sighs and stands up from her desk as Benedict leaves.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) Oh and Ivy?

She turns around.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) Service with a smile, please? After all, there's a lot of people out there far worse off than you.

Ivy puts on a weak, sarcastic smile and leaves.

KELVIN Real charmer, she is. (pause) Can I expect anyone to answer me today?

Smith laughs.

JOHN SMITH You know, you're not quite as I expected.

KELVIN What's that supposed to mean?

JOHN SMITH Well, from the little Declan mentioned, let's just say you didn't seem so feisty. Thought of you as more of the meek type. Quiet, brooding. Angry on the inside but just... really good at bottling it up. Here, you're like a shaken bottle of Mountain Dew and Ivy just uncapped you prematurely. Then again, the virus changed us all right? Dead or not. (beat)

I guess, you could call me the founder of this place... a beaut ain't she? Some old monastery from years ago, I wouldn't even wanna embarrass myself by predicting when she was built. The town though, they built it about twenty years ago, it's tiny but we've got houses. A nice little barracks for us.

KELVIN

(not caring) ... And your name?

JOHN SMITH

What good is a name in this day in age? When you can be anyone you want.

KELVIN

Well what does your profile say? Who do you <u>want</u> to be?

Smith gets close to Kelvin and smiles, he pats him on the cheek.

JOHN SMITH I think I'm going to like you.

Whipping around to BRAY, who's stood, arms-folded in the hallway outside.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) You see, Bray, he's not totally sold but he's a cynic.

KELVIN You've avoided my question.

John Smith snickers.

JOHN SMITH

John Smith.

KELVIN

Original.

JOHN SMITH

Like I said, you can be anyone you want to these days. That's why it's so important to profile... plus, it helps us decide.

KELVIN

Decide what?

JOHN SMITH If you're beneficial to us here.

KELVIN

Here? What about Eden?

JOHN SMITH

Eden? You believe in that shit? You believe that out there somewhere the government are trying to help us? After years of failing us, after years of letting us rot? And I ain't just talkin' about the people we lost in the outbreaks either...

KELVIN

So what makes this place special? What's so different between this and Eden?

JOHN SMITH

Faith.

Kelvin doesn't quite know how to react.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) When I first came across this place I had thirty of 'em after me thirty. (MORE)

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D)

I had no weapons, just my legs and I ran and ran as fast as they would take me and they lead me to this here place. It was a sign, a sign from above.

KELVIN

But I thought everyone turned on religion when it seemed that the heavens didn't open for us all.

JOHN SMITH

Oh Kelvin, we don't give a rat's ass about God or Allah or even fuckin' Buddha. In this day and age, how can we bow to the deities that let shit like this happen? That doesn't mean we don't believe in the good book itself. You see every group, every denomination, every family really, had its rules and in order to be pure, to be saved, you follow them. Right?

Kelvin nods.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) That's what we are, we're Purists... to a degree I guess.

By the look on Kelvin's face, John's explanation didn't help at all. In fact, it only worsened the confusion.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) You ever been to a club, Kelvin? A really fancy one?

KELVIN

Umm, I guess.

JOHN SMITH

Well you see, you have your bar and then you have your V.I.P. lounge you know for those celeb folk and those who can afford to be here. Think of this place as the survivors V.I.P. lounge, a place where you get the best treatment, the best lifestyle if you abide by our rules. Now race, that ain't a problem round here. It's the pure of heart we want, no thieves... no convicts... no paedophiles... no homosexuals... no disabled... (MORE) JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) no deaf, blind etcetera, etcetera. You any of the above?

Kelvin shakes his head, a complete "no".

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) What do you do?

KELVIN

I'm a cop.

John beams. This news is exciting to him.

JOHN SMITH I knew you would be a good fit, I just knew it! Any of your friends cops?

Kelvin nods.

JOHN SMITH (CONT'D) Then you shall get on very well with us here.

KELVIN Wait, what about Declan?

JOHN SMITH What about Declan?

KELVIN You let him in, what about his past? His charges.

Kelvin has this smirk on his face, he feels like he's about to get the jump on Declan. Payback for what he sees as Declan's betrayal...

...Smith looks on uneasily. Sternly. Not the shocked or horrified reaction Kelvin was looking for or expecting.

JOHN SMITH Declan is beneficial to us. Don't worry, I'm aware of his criminal record. His honesty was immediate, he let me know as soon as we brought him here about what he did. And let it be said, Declan is one of a rare few exceptions to the rules around here. He knows what will happen if he lets us down.

KELVIN

What?

Kelvin looks inquisitive as Smith laughs and pats him on the back.

JOHN SMITH Come, I'll show you around. So you can really get a feel for the place.

END ACT I

<u>ACT II</u>

INT. TERMINAL -- DAY

DARLA sits with ASH and PJ. They're all looking in different directions, at different things. Ash is sprawled out on the chairs, staring up at the ceiling. PJ ties his shoes. Darla just stares at the door to the medical room.

DARLA ...I miss Trigger.

PJ

Trigger?

DARLA

Our dog. We took him from Glenley but... we couldn't find him at the carnival place thingy...

PJ

I didn't see a dog. So I don't know what they did with it.

DARLA Do you think he might still be out there somewhere, Ash?

ASH

Maybe. Dogs are smart. He can scent us out, find his way here. How are you feeling?

DARLA (perky) I feel great, actually.

PJ (annoyed) Oh come on, you're so fake.

DARLA

What? Why?

PJ

You're pretty much a fresh amputee at this point... You can't suddenly be having a jolly good time, can you?

DARLA I never said I was having a "jolly good time". (MORE) DARLA (CONT'D) But since you challenged it, sure. Why <u>can't</u> I be happy?

PJ It's like... someone with AIDS saying they're happy they have AIDS. (then) No one likes AIDS. Just like no one likes having half their arm chewed off by a zombie.

DARLA What the heck is AIDS? (beat) And it isn't half my arm--- Do you even know what half is?

PJ Like you're one to judge, when you don't know what *AIDS* is.

ASH ...Remember the sex talk we had back in Glenley, Darla?

Darla nods.

ASH (CONT'D) Yeah, well... sometimes when you have sex, you get babies, right? (Darla nods) Other times, you get something a little less pleasant. Either one you end up with, there's a screaming pain in the woman's crotch. One takes about a few days to prop up, the other one grows for a few months.

PJ's in a fit of giggles. Real mature. While Darla stands there, still confused, shaking her head. A bit disgusted, actually.

DARLA Look, the more I hear about it, the less appealing this whole 'sex' thing sounds.

ASH It's not as bad as it sounds.

DARLA Oh, you know from experience? Ash's face stiffens. Awkward moment. His tone gets more serious.

ASH That's irrelevant.

PJ (whispers) That's a yes.

Ash takes his shoe off and whips it at PJ, who bursts into a fit of laughter.

On the other side of the terminal, KITTY joins MANILA, who throws the MANUSCRIPT she's been mulling over in the past couple episodes to the ground with a yawn.

KITTY You've been reading that thing through.

MANILA Not much entertainment around here.

Kitty looks at it curiously. Sees "by MANILA SHEA" on the front page.

KITTY Oh, you're a writer? What genre...?

MANILA

Non-fiction.

KITTY Oh yeah? Uh... I've been bored too. The boy seems to have adjusted nicely, though. I mean that's good, it's nice seeing someone around here enjoying themselves. Gives hope for the rest of us, right?

Manila looks at Kitty oddly. Her expression speaks volumes---What are you trying to do here?

> KITTY (CONT'D) Look, I just figured... I know what it's like. Joining the group, being the new kid in town. It's not very fun. PJ seems to have settled in, but you... you don't seem like you're as comfortable.

MANILA

He's not as comfortable or happy as he looks. The kid's miserable. He's just a good fibber. Guess he learned *something* from me.

KITTY If you need anything, let me know.

MANILA Your husband... do you even know where he went?

KITTY

No.

MANILA Do you know what was going on?

KITTY

...No.

Manila nods to something behind Kitty.

MANILA Something tells me we might be finding out...

Kitty whips her head around. Off her shocked expression ---

--- as we DOLLY around and see RORY stood there. Rubbing his wrist. Ash, Darla and PJ notice too. They stop their playful banter, the mood suddenly grows serious. Kitty stomps away from her welcoming party for Manila, and gets up close with Rory.

KITTY

What happened?

Manila stalks over, obviously curious.

RORY Your little blonde friend let me go. Husband of the Year contender is still over there. And yes, before you ask, I'm feeling fantastic.

He walks off --- Phoebe crowds around him, to check out his wounds. Then, Tom emerges from the medical room and sees a passing glance of Rory as he is taken into medical by Phoebe.

TOM I see Gwen's made her first decision.

KITTY First decision as what?

TOM

As leader. I know about her little scheme she was pulling yesterday. Figured if she wanted a say in things, fine. Here's the perfect opportunity for her... she decides when to let people go. So where's Xander? I'm a little surprised she let them go so quickly.

KITTY She didn't let him go yet.

Tom raises an eyebrow.

INT. MEDICAL -- DAY

CLOSE on Rory's bloodied face. Phoebe picks at it.

RORY

Ouch.

PHOEBE

Sorry. Well, you and Ash both got lucky. No broken nose. Just a lot of blood.

RORY Ah, I can handle blood. It's 'cause the guy hits like a pussy.

PHOEBE

Rory, sweetpea, you just sound silly when you try to talk big.

RORY

(sarcastically)
Glad I have your vote of
confidence.
 (beat)
But since when did you start
talking like a country bumpkin?

PHOEBE Better question here is since when did you start picking fights with guys ten times your size?

RORY He's not really <u>ten</u>... more like two.

PHOEBE ...You're crushin' on her aren't you?

RORY What the fuck are you on about, Pheobe my dear?

By the offended look on his face, we can tell that he knows but he wants to hear it straight from her lips.

> PHOEBE Kitty! You beat up her husband because you like her. It's cute of you, but not exactly the way to win a girl's heart. And a married woman, Rory? Really?

RORY It's not that. It's not that at all.

PHOEBE You know what they say--- when someone's mean to someone of the opposite gender it's because they're crushing.

RORY Absolutely not---

PHOEBE You gush all over her in private don't you?

She's teasing him at this point and he doesn't want any of it. Shaking his head ---

RORY You want the truth? When I was growing up, my mum and dad...

Phoebe interrupts incredulously.

PHOEBE

Mum? Seriously, it sounds so weird with an American accent. There's a reason we changed it. If you're doing it to try and sound hip, you're trying too hard.

RORY

I do it because I prefer <u>proper</u> English... And because I think my mother looks more of a 'mum' than a 'mom'.

(beat) Anyways, they divorced at an early age. My dad cheated and I saw how it made my mom deteriorate. So I guess when I found out that Kitty was married to that scum, it really struck a chord with me.

PHOEBE

So wait, he's cheating on Kitty?

RORY

Yeah, with the blonde.

PHOEBE

And how do you know? He told you?

RORY

I kind of saw them doing the dirty on the cameras the other night. I sort of thought it'd be a bit of fun free porn, but at that point I didn't know he was married.

PHOEBE And now you feel guilty?

RORY More like insanely dirty.

Phoebe laughs.

PHOEBE It was a brave thing to do. Stupid. But brave.

RORY Thanks, Pheebs.

PHOEBE ... I still think you like her.

RORY

Shut up.

PHOEBE

Maybe you do have a chance if you tell her her husband's cheating on her, she might use you to get back at him.

RORY Oh yeah because that's the way to win a girl over, act as her tool for payback---

Smirking---

PHOEBE

A-ha! You just admitted it!

Rory shakes his head, stands and heads out the door. Phoebe's still in a fit of giggles as we...

INT. MONASTERY, KITCHEN -- DAY

...find ourselves in an old-style kitchen. JOHN SMITH and KELVIN pass by a perky bleached blonde who is behind one of the oven's --- she whips around, beaming. A positive force, she's definitely easy on the eyes. She wears a big frilly dress, making her look like an inflated balloon from the breasts down.

> JOHN SMITH Kelvin, this is Libby. She's going to help you settle in around here.

KELVIN Settle in? Honestly, it's nice of you to bring me in, let me see things... but I want to get back to my friends.

JOHN SMITH Is that true? Looks more like you want to believe it more than you actually do.

LIBBY

Kelvin? Hi.

She's very radiant, in her attitude and appearance. She holds a hand out and Kelvin shakes it.

JOHN SMITH I'll leave you two to it.

Libby gives him a wave as he leaves. Kelvin inspects the kitchen, the stone material of it all.

LIBBY

It's great to meet you. Follow me...

KELVIN ...This is all very old-fashioned.

LIBBY These ovens simply make the <u>best</u> muffin's. I'll have to give you a taste of my apple strudel muffin some day.

KELVIN Your... muffin.

He's finding potential humor in her words when he carries on, finally clicking in his brain what she's just said.

KELVIN (CONT'D) Some day? I made it clear I'm not staying here.

LIBBY

You were very hesitant. Your voice --- it had this weird quiver to it. I could tell you weren't sincere.

KELVIN That's just my voice. I'm habitually nervous.

LIBBY

I think we here at the Last Chance Society have a lot to offer. You'll be impressed. And maybe you can make the big move for your friends.

KELVIN Smith did seem keen on meeting them. Especially when he learned that another friend of mine's a cop like me.

They make their way through a large door, moving out of the kitchen and ---

INT. MONASTERY, HALLWAYS -- DAY

--- into the hallways. People pass by, offering Kelvin friendly "hello's" and other welcomings. Libby continues their conversation:

LIBBY

Cops are admired so much around here. We definitely could use some better policing.

KELVIN

Having problems?

LIBBY

Erm. Not exactly. It's just the fact that many of our people are of the elderly and we have a lot of women here. We could seek better protection.

KELVIN The women don't contribute?

LIBBY

In a traditional form of contribution, yes. No, we do not participate in any sort of supply gathering's or in defending the camp, but we play an important role. We are all nurses, midwife's, cooks and cleaners.

KELVIN

Seems a bit sexist.

LIBBY

Sure, it's rough for some to get used to, but I think for me it's where I belong. I couldn't imagine toting around a huge gun firing at those horrible things out there... Some of us just weren't built to see combat, you know?

Suddenly, these really old-school alarm systems --- with a really eerie SCREECH --- start to go off. Libby looks fearfully at the PA system and then back to Kelvin with a cheeky grin.

LIBBY (CONT'D) (speaking loudly over the alarms) (MORE) LIBBY (CONT'D) Not the best first impression right? But I'm sure you'll like it here! You really will.

KELVIN What the hell is that?!

LIBBY You know what? I don't know. How 'bout we find out?

INT. MONASTERY -- DAY

LIBBY and KELVIN make their way down some steps --- Libby trailing behind. Kelvin looks back at her.

KELVIN Need some help?

LIBBY It's fine, go on ahead without meet I'll meet you down there.

She's definitely conspicuous, but Kelvin, his curiosity of what's down there and not what's going on with her getting the better of him, ignores it for now and keeps going. Libby goes down slowly behind him. Off her wincing look as she keeps going down the steps ---

--- Kelvin sees a huge crowd of people in front of the front doors to the monastery. They're peering out the open doors as...

EXT. MONASTERY, GATES -- DAY

... DECLAN wrestles with GARETH. Takes him down and drags him by his RED HOOD toward the doors.

INT. MONASTERY -- DAY

The crowd disperses in shock, paving a path for Declan as he drags Gareth in. Declan's eyes fall on Kelvin.

DECLAN Found our old friend 'Red Hood'.

Kelvin just nods nervously.

DECLAN (CONT'D) Come with me.

INT. MONASTERY, OFFICE -- DAY

DECLAN brings GARETH, beat down from his wrestling match, and KELVIN into IVY's office. Declan shoves Gareth into a chair.

IVY Another newcomer?

DECLAN

Get Smith in here.

Ivy looks worried as she notices Gareth's bloodied face. Slowly recognizing the connect between that and Declan's loss of breath at this point.

> IVY (shocked) You did this to him?

DECLAN

•••<u>Now</u>•

Ivy goes for the intercom and presses a button. The oldschool speaker systems screech across the entire community, we CUT to outside, in the suburban streets, loud-speakers are set up and announcing throughout the town...

> IVY (into loudspeaker) Smith, main office, <u>now</u>.

BACK in her office, Ivy lifts her finger off the button and frowns at Declan.

IVY (CONT'D) Why do you need him here? He's busy. And you know we can handle sorting the newcomers ourselves...

DECLAN Because he asked for John himself. Knows him by <u>name</u>.

TIGHT on Gareth as he glares up at Kelvin.

EXT. AIRPORT -- SUNSET

TOM and ASH are trekking out again.

TOM How far do you think Kelvin could have gotten? ASH I don't know, I think I found his trail though. Let's just hope he didn't meet up with our friend from yesterday. (beat) Speaking of which, have you said anything to Leigh yet?

TOM No. I still don't know what to do about that.

ASH Well if she's working against Eden...

TOM

I know. I'm going to have to say something eventually, it's just the fact that... I mean, Michael hates me already. I fear he's going to do something big, plan some sort of uprising or something. Kick us out or worse... He knows I killed Griggs, and he knows it wasn't because he was bit. He has loyalty, I'll give him that, but I just... I don't want to throw insults at his new commanding officer and risk making things worse.

ASH

But then again if it turns out she is a traitor and you've had suspicions all along and he finds out...

TOM Exactly. A fucking double-edged sword.

INT. MONASTERY, OFFICE -- SUNSET

JOHN SMITH stands at IVY's desk alongside Ivy and DECLAN. KELVIN stands in the corner of the room, watching ---

JOHN SMITH

Your name?

GARETH

Gareth. Some prefer to call me Red Hood. Asshole. That ugly motherfucker. Whichever has a better ring for you, doesn't fuckin' matter to me.

JOHN SMITH Watch your tone with me... Gareth.

GARETH Look, I came here to deliver a message to you and only you.

Smith looks at Kelvin, then Ivy and Declan ---

JOHN SMITH Please. Just so I can get this sorted out.

They all nod. Ivy and Declan escort a curious Kelvin outside the room ---

INT. MONASTERY -- DAY

KELVIN leans up outside the office door.

IVY

What are you doing? Being a nosy prick? That isn't any of your business.

KELVIN

That man knows something. Aren't you the least bit curious what he has to say?

Ivy quiets. In truth, she IS. LIBBY makes her way over to the door.

LIBBY Something going on?

IVY

Shush!

Declan sits quietly away from the rest, he won't take part in this.

GARETH (0.S.) ...Where's the little boy?

JOHN SMITH (0.S.) ...How do you know about that?

GARETH (0.S.) ---(indistinct)--- Our camps both have a common interest. I was sent to give you a warning, to be the delivery man. Unless you want him to come up here himself?

JOHN SMITH (O.S.) He --- he can have it.

Kelvin pulls away, he's heard enough. He whispers hoarsely to Ivy and Libby:

KELVIN The little boy? He has a son?

Libby gives a surprised look. Her perky face seems to flush out, losing all color. Ivy just looks confused.

IVY Not as far as I know.

LIBBY Absolutely not!

KELVIN

Does he keep a lot of secrets from you? Is there any way--?

IVY

Why the hell is that your business? You've just gotten here...

KELVIN

Because if he's making some sort of deal with anything that man Gareth's mixed up with... then it's definitely fishy and worth questioning.

IVY

So you two have a history then?

KELVIN Gareth singlehandedly destroyed my town. So yeah, I'd say so.

IVY

Glenley?

Kelvin nods. Now, Ivy's eyes fall on Declan.

Declan just nods.

IVY (CONT'D) You really did a number on him---

DECLAN

Sorry.

Judging by his tone, HE'S NOT.

CLOSE on his face...

INT. MEDICAL -- NIGHT

PHOEBE is taking a look at KITTY.

PHOEBE And the phlegm, was that your only symptom?

KITTY No. A really bad cough. It started last night and now it's just... escalating. And then I have this really sharp pain in my shoulders.

PHOEBE You said you had lung cancer before?

Kitty nods. Lung cancer.

PHOEBE (CONT'D) Unfortunately, it's incredibly likely that this could be it coming back.

KITTY I have a feeling it's there. You can feel it... you really can.

Phoebe's pitying this woman right now.

PHOEBE The only way to be sure is if I run some tests.

KITTY Do what you need to do. ... Next we're on GWEN.

The camera pans and reveals that she has handcuffed HERSELF to XANDER. They both sit among the tarp and discarded tools...

XANDER

So how long are we going to sit like this?

GWEN Until we work this out.

XANDER

For someone who didn't want to say a word to Kitty, you're sure making it hard for us to explain this one. You know Rory couldn't keep his mouth shut.

GWEN

Yeah, well, at least I'll be able to get it off my chest.

XANDER

The reason you're so angry... it's not because you're mad at me. It's because you're mad at yourself, isn't it?

GWEN I'm upset that I actually <u>felt</u> something.

Xander smirks --- it's cocky.

XANDER I fucking knew it.

GWEN Shut the fuck up. Please.

XANDER

I just wanted you to admit it...
That's all.
 (beat)
Kitty's a doll, she really is. But
I'd like a woman who can kiss good,
suck better, and snap a bone when
she needs to. With Kitty, I mean,
one outta' three ain't too bad but
you're just the complete package.

GWEN

You really know how to butter a woman up, don't you Xander?

Gwen stares at Xander, dizzy with lust as his hand rides up her leg, up her skirt --- she hesitates.

XANDER

I'd like to think so.

GWEN

I... I can't. I'm not drunk this time.

XANDER

You hesitated. You were going to let me, but you had second thoughts... But your first thoughts, your instinct... it wasn't for Kitty's well-being. It was for...

GWEN

...pleasure.

His hand keeps going, and NOW --- NOW she doesn't resist. She gives a satisfied moan, we see his hand moving back and forth... And then she pulls her head back, her blonde locks cascade down her back... A smile of pure pleasure overcomes her face.

Gwen pulls herself close, her body pressed against his. She throws herself at him, they kiss --- and as they break she moans ---

GWEN (CONT'D) ... And power.

And then as his hand peels itself out from her skirt, he removes the article of clothing and they drop to the ground---

INT. OBSERVATORY ROOM -- NIGHT

MICHAEL's at his post. He's talking to other soldiers, turning his back on the airport parking lot... Examining the RADIO EQUIPMENT, their BROADCASTING UNITS... Everything's destroyed.

> MICHAEL Fuck! NO! Someone did this --someone sabotaged us!

Michael seethes.

SOLDIER Griggs... before he died, Tom said there was a traitor.

MICHAEL Tom's a liar! According to his story, Griggs was infected, the infected don't <u>talk</u>. He's trying to turn us against each other. He's the one sabotaging us! It's time we made our move on them, men. Just like we agreed.

LEIGH (O.S.) Made our move? What the hell's that mean?

Michael stares at LEIGH, who's stood at the door. She's teary-eyed now as she sees her destroyed equipment.

LEIGH (CONT'D) Oh my god, who did this?! Someone destroyed all of this?! Don't they see -- without this, we can't contact Eden. No planes will come! Nothing! They'll think we're <u>dead</u>!

MICHAEL

It was them Leigh. Pull your head out of your ass and help us. Those people aren't who they say they are.

LEIGH

This isn't what Griggs would have wanted. He'd have wanted you to respect the code! <u>I'm</u> in charge here, Michael!

MICHAEL

No, he would've wanted someone to take charge when you refuse to do what needs to be done!

And then quickly, a soldier comes up behind her and BASHES her in the back of the head with his rifle. She falls to the ground, unconscious.

Michael lifts a pistol --- checks his magazine. Empty. He goes to replace it.

MICHAEL (CONT'D) This is it boys...

INT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE -- NIGHT

--- Xander takes the edge of her panties in his mouth and pulls with his teeth. Then, he lets go and it gives a snap against Gwen's skin. Gwen reacts, first a quivering gasp and then a giggle. With her free hand, she begins to unbutton her shirt. She undoes the clasp on her bra and pops it open. Coyly staring down at Xander, teasing him, she then removes the bra and tosses it on his face. Momentarily blinding him of the final reveal of her breasts. Beads of sweat run down her body and along her breasts, and as Xander shakes his head and the bra falls off, the sheen of sweat that clings to her skin just makes her body all the more enticing.

And then, still handcuffed, taking some sort of JOY in it, they pull each other close. It's hurting for a moment, the yank of their hands pulling at each other, but it seems to make their hedonistic desires all the more worth it in the end. Xander's about to undo his jeans ---

EXT. AIRPORT -- NIGHT

--- WE CUT to a pair of eyes watching, gleaming from outside the fence. Hearing their moans and cries of sexual pleasure from below. Yellowed, hellish --- the ZOMBIES move for the fence and quickly CLIMB over ---

INT. OBSERVATORY ROOM -- NIGHT

Michael finally readies the pistol. Aims it right at Leigh's head.

MICHAEL ...Time for us to finally take over what's ours. They took this airport over. <u>They killed Griggs</u>. When Tom gets back, he's going to find all of his people dead. And then --- then we're going to kill him too.

The soldiers cheer. In the background, NONE OF THEM NOTICING, the biters climb the fence and run for the construction zone. Michael goes to pull the trigger when one soldier screams ---

SOLDIER

OH SHIT!

Michael whips around and sees it --- the zombies. He leaves Leigh there, his attention now on them.

Oh, shit...

INT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE -- NIGHT

Both bare-nude now, they move for the cagey, makeshift, postapocalyptic elevator in the corner. Gwen's legs wrapped tightly around Xander's waist. He carries her with one arm clasped under her buttocks, their handcuffed hands held out. They're giggling at the absurdity of it --- and then he thrashes her against the accordion elevator door. We don't see much after this, but we hear it.

We get a WIDE SHOT --- of their love-making in the elevator... and the BITERS outside, running, CLIMBING up the shaft. Some falling from the GUNSHOTS.

Gwen's ears perk and she peers outside. Her legs, still clinging to Xander, hop down and touch the ground. She pulls away, not too far because of the handcuffs of course, but enough to end their sexual act. Xander, out of breath, stares at her dumbfounded. The gunshots ring out and Gwen looks fearful. Xander's just confused.

> XANDER What is it?

GWEN You don't <u>hear</u> tha---?

A pair of ROTTING hands burst through the wooden floor of the creaky elevator. They GRAB Gwen by her foot, she SCREAMS and pulls away. Throws open the accordion door of the elevator and throws herself to the floor.

Reacting to her nude body hitting cold cement, she gives a hasty look as she tries to stand, but Xander's place in the elevator prevents her from doing so. More hands burst through. Snarling faces. He's surrounded.

> XANDER The key! Where's the fucking key?!

GWEN My pocket. Shit!

Xander STOMPS at the hands with his bare foot, SNAPPING some hands off their limb --- but he avoids the faces at all costs. More pour around the elevator from the open hole in the unfinished wall. They throw themselves at the elevator. Xander leaps, fighting through the crowd --- it's a magnificent jump, daring. He lands flat on the ground. Scrambles up to avoid getting his PENIS bitten off by the horde of undead that are bursting out from beneath him. He moves for the door but ---

--- the zombies GRAB at his leg. He tries to kick them off. One pair of jaws snap right into his ANKLE and rip it right out of the skin on his foot ---

He's screaming, a horrific mess as the zombies fight their way into the elevator now, bursting through the floor and crawling all over him. Biting him all over his body, head to toe. One lands its teeth in his KNEECAP, another digs into his PENIS. Pulling, yanking, and eventually RIPPING THE DAMN THING RIGHT OFF, this thing that was once a woman proves that even in death, the women still can't resist good old Xander. It's a gruesome sight and Xander's screaming in pained horror, making it hard to even listen to the scene let alone watch.

Xander keeps Gwen close by continually YANKING the chain, trying to pull her back in the elevator with him.

XANDER HELP ME! YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME --- I CAN'T DIE ALONE, I CAN'T ---

The floor is starting to collapse beneath him and Gwen knows if the floor gives in and he falls, she'll be dragged with him. She's pretty FUCKING SCREWED AT THIS POINT.

Gwen scrambles for something, anything --- and picks up a fallen HACKSAW. Crying now:

XANDER (CONT'D) No, no, no! You can't be fucking serious---!

GWEN

I'm so sorry!

Gwen's reaction is instant. The hacksaw goes right for Xander's WRIST and she digs in --- going back and forth. The blood squirts up onto Gwen's body, all over her face and neck. Xander's hand is then completely cut off, and she manages to fall back, scrambling away from the collapsing elevator. The horde inside tears Xander apart, and Gwen can't bear to watch anymore.

Then the elevator floor collapses. Everything inside falls, hurtling down the dark shaft. And then nothing. Gwen sobs, and there's nothing left of Xander now.

Nothing except the mess of a hand that's still handcuffed to Gwen's.

BOOM.

END ACT II

ACT III

INT. TERMINAL -- NIGHT

TIGHT ON GWEN'S EYES ---

Fear taking place of everything.

WE GET a WIDE SHOT now as she stumbles into the terminal, completely naked. Caked in Xander's blood.

DISORIENTED, Gwen examines the faces around her. This is all very familiar to her --- the familiarity of the situation to her nude entrance after her rape, it's starting to freak her out. And the scene is filmed in a similar way, highlighting the trauma for her.

KITTY is the first to spot her. Just like with the rape, ironically enough... She runs forward, panicky.

KITTY Oh my god. Someone please get her some clothes...!

MANILA sits up at Kitty's shrill shrieking. Her eyebrows furrow. PJ's sleeping. He stirs a bit in his sleep and Manila sits up, blocking his view if he does manage to wake up.

MANILA

What the hell happened?

grab some fucking guns!

GWEN ...Xander.. Xander's dead. They're everywhere. The biters. They... they... Someone needs to

Kitty's in a state of complete shock. Shaking ...

KITTY

He... he's not one of them is he? Is he?

GWEN No. There's nothing <u>left</u>.

Her teeth chattering at this point --- her eyes widening ---

KITTY

...Why... why are you naked?

Gwen doesn't say anything now. Manila tosses her some clothes from a nearby suitcase. Gwen pulls on a shirt, the panties and the shorts.

> GWEN Thank... thank you.

Kitty's left standing there as Gwen walks off.

GWEN (CONT'D) SOMEONE ALERT THE SOLDIER---

MICHAEL bursts in from above, his band of soldiers following.

MICHAEL None of you motherfucker's move.

Trying to regain her composure, Gwen shakily asks:

GWEN

What the hell are you doing?

PJ and DARLA wake now, looking up at the guns being raised at them. Michael looks at PJ ---

MICHAEL You and your Rent-A-Mom with us? Or with them?

MANILA What are you doing?

MICHAEL

You two aren't <u>them</u>. You two are soldiers. The boy told me. So what is it then? You a soldier or are you going to die with the rest of them?

PJ's serious with his answer. Defiant.

PJ I'm with them. Guess that means you have to kill me too? Waste of a good shot, like you said.

MANILA I'm not joining you. No fucking way.

Gwen looks proud, while Darla is scared and Kitty's shaking with fear. REGIS, RORY and PHOEBE enter along with a few of the other technician's, like STILLMAN and MAL --- REGIS

What the fuck? What about us, then? You gonna' gun us down too?

MICHAEL If you get in my fucking way, then yeah.

GWEN The biters. You didn't see them?

MICHAEL We saw 'em. When they get over here don't expect us to do a damn

thing about it.

RORY You're crazy.

STILLMAN

You can't let us die too!

Rory goes for the armory and the guns --- Michael cocks his weapon.

MICHAEL

Don't you dare even fuckin' try---

The trampling of the approaching zombies is loud --- and then from the door ---

BAM! It's sent down. Michael's attention whips to it as a conga line of zombies burst in. One of his soldiers is bitten...

BELOW, Rory unlocks the armory case and tosses guns around. Kitty stands, catatonic. Rory hands her a gun.

RORY Kitty, you okay? Kitty?

She swallows --- doesn't nod, but takes the gun. And then she leaves Rory, going to prepare to aim, leaving him confused and WORRIED.

> GWEN Anyone who's not shooting, get out of here. You'll just get in the way.

Phoebe, Regis, Stillman, Mal and the other technicians flee into the back room. Phoebe urges Darla to come back, she refuses. PJ hands Darla a weapon --- Darla accepts it. Manila and PJ are in a standoff with the soldiers above --- while Gwen and the others focus on what's ahead.

Biter's. Not too many, maybe twenty or so. But they've made it inside, and Jesus Christ, it's scary dark in here. Their red eyes glisten, and they move lightning fast making it hard to make out where they are at any given moment ---

Gunfire erupts. The zombies drop everywhere, blood exploding into the air. Kitty looks tempted to turn her gun on Gwen at any moment, but she resists the urge.

PJ is pounced on by a Biter'. He SCREAMS...

PJ, huffing and puffing, ready for death, SHUTS his eyes. Manila turns her gun and blasts its head away.

In this moment, the soldiers fire. But more Biter's climb and burst through the doors above, dawning upon them. Michael and two other soldiers are all that's left.

> MICHAEL You people are done for! Give it

up and we'll let you go peacefully--

REGIS You're just as crazy as Griggs was. I've always hated you bloody military bloke.

Michael raises his gun.

MICHAEL

Now now, Regis. While I let these people go, you get to stay here and die. All because you don't know how to keep your fucking mouth shut.

INT. OBSERVATORY ROOM -- NIGHT

ASH and TOM have made their way back to the airport. They climb their way up the observatory tower and end up in the top room. And they see LEIGH, on the floor in a heap. They stop for a moment. Chilled to the bone by what they see.

TOM

No... Fuck!

Tom runs up to Leigh's body, turns her over... and to his relief, sees that she's only knocked unconscious. Michael didn't finish the deed he planned on doing. He stirs Leigh awake.

Ash is lost in thought, a million miles away. He stares, dismayed, at the broken radio equipment.

ASH Someone --- someone did this?

He looks down at Leigh.

TOM (warningly) Ash... I'll handle it.

ASH This was our only chance at calling Eden! Getting another plane!

Sickened, Ash storms off and away, controlling his anger. Tom follows him.

INT. TERMINAL -- NIGHT

From his place on the walkway, Michael sees more zombies coming. The doors burst open beside Michael and the two remaining soldiers, and we see TOM and ASH enter. Ash has his crossbow drawn at them.

MICHAEL

We've got a ton of these ugly things running in here. We can settle our differences later mothafucka', turn that gun away from me and out at <u>them</u>.

ASH I heard everything, don't act all high and mighty, you were going to kill our friends.

Michael grunts --- turns his weapon. His soldiers do too, and reluctantly, Ash and Tom. Them and their friends below are firing at the zombies. Michael hops over the railing and runs below, shoving people out of his way to get in on some hand-to-hand action with the zombies. He smashes one's face in. Kicks another down and stomps on its head.

And then Ash raises his crossbow --- aims through the crowd. Fires an arrow ---

--- THWIP!

It goes right through Michael's EYE. He gives a final scream, falls over and into the pile of zombies as they rip into him.

Ash looks over at the other two soldiers, shocked at what they'd just seen.

ASH (CONT'D)

---0ops.

They aim at him --- Tom has Ash's back and guns them both down quickly. One in the head for the first soldier and two shots in the chest for the other. Tom looks at Ash darkly.

> TOM ...You killed him, you just... killed him.

ASH (coldly) You're welcome. If I kept him alive, we'd never have peace around here.

Tom can't chastise Ash for it, because he's right... You're welcome. Admittedly, it's exactly what he wanted. Exactly what needed to be done. All he can do is say, softly---

TOM

...Thanks.

And then, with all the zombies shot dead and the soldiers dead with them, the terminal falls into silence once more.

We fade...

END ACT III

ACT IV

INT. TERMINAL -- LATER

Everyone's trying their best to sleep. KITTY approaches a wide-awake GWEN, who's washed off Xander's blood, but as we can tell by her lack of sleep, cannot wash away the image of watching him die right in front of her, and so gruesomely too.

KITTY

I want you to show me.

Gwen's eyes slowly pry open.

KITTY (CONT'D) Do not talk to me. Just show me where he is.

Gwen can't deny her friend her rights...

INT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE -- NIGHT

Gwen takes Kitty to the construction zone. Xander's blood still cakes the walls and the floor. The handcuffs with his hand still in the clasp lie on the floor in a pool of its own. Kitty looks at it, heartbroken. She doesn't cry, she remains vigilant as she picks up the handcuffs. And then she goes toward the elevator shaft --- and looks slowly down at the pulley and lever old-fashioned shaft ---

--- Xander's been ripped to shreds, an unrecognizable blob of blood, chewed muscle and bone. But Kitty's face almost has relief on it.

KITTY At least... at least he's not one of them.

And that's all there is too it. Satisfied, wiping her silent tears, Kitty walks away. And Gwen watches her go, sadly ---

INT. MEDICAL -- NIGHT

TOM sits with DARLA and SIDNEY. Darla sleeps in his arms as he sits in the chair, Sidney lies in the bed. Tom plays with Darla's hair, puts it behind her ears. He admires his daughter lovingly.

SIDNEY ...How's she been?

TOM Fine. Her and PJ are getting along nice --- he's the new kid we met at the General's camp. SIDNEY

Is he... a nice kid?

TOM Yeah, he's good.

SIDNEY

That's good. Darla could use some company her age.

TOM

...I know you said we should take some time but I just want to be here, to help you get better. And then --- we're you're up and moving again, on your own... we can take that time off, just like you said. Because them ore I thought about it, the more you're right. Darla needs me a lot right now. Her undivided attention.

GWEN (O.S.)

Hey, Sidney.

GWEN has made her way into the room. She takes a seat by Sid's bed.

SIDNEY

Hey. Gwen.

Gwen hugs her, Sidney hugs back.

GWEN Can I talk to you for a sec, Tom?

Tom nods. He carries Darla, gives Sidney a nod, and then follows Gwen out.

INT. TERMINAL -- NIGHT

Tom sets Darla down in a chair, having her sleep beside PJ and MANILA in the rows of chairs in the terminal. He then follows Gwen as she speaks. GWEN

No sign of Kelvin? People are asking questions and I don't have the answer. He's not dead is he?

TOM No. We didn't see anything out there. Trail ran cold.

Gwen frowns ---

TOM (CONT'D) We're gonna' keep lookin' though. I promised Ash.

Gwen nods, understanding.

GWEN

A lot has been going on. Especially for you. And... I thought it'd be easy to make decisions, to lead. And my... my problems, my flaws, led to my first decision getting Xander killed. I'd forgotten how hard being a leader really is. It's not a job someone should do on their own. I think it'd be best if... maybe we shared that authority. Especially now that the soldiers are gone, we're going to need to fortify this place.

TOM

Or move out altogether. The radio's been destroyed. There's no way to contact Eden now, we've been compromised.

This is hard for Gwen to take in --- she sighs heavily.

GWEN Shit. When are you going to break it to everyone else?

TOM In the morning. Everyone deserves to rest for now. But I agree. I think you're the right person to share the job with. Whatever happened between you and Xander --it's over. You made mistakes. GWEN It's just Kitty I'm worried about. She won't talk to anybody.

TOM Especially not to you. I can't blame her for that.

It's the harsh truth, but Gwen understands.

TOM (CONT'D) Tomorrow's gonna' be a rough day. More bodies to get rid of. More hearts to break.

GWEN Ash is going to take the news especially hard.

TOM He already knows ---

They look over at ASH, who can't sleep either, his face pressed against the glass. Looking out at the destroyed plane. What shoulda', coulda', woulda' been, in a heartbroken daze.

TOM (CONT'D) --- Can't ya' tell?

GWEN (sadly) Yeah. Tomorrow's gonna' be fun.

TOM Try to get some sleep, okay?

GWEN

I'll try.

Gwen retreats to the chairs, while Tom continues moving through the darkness. He can hear the cracking of a radio --- Curious, he keeps going.

INT. FOOD COURT -- CONTINUOUS

In the middle of the food court, LEIGH is sat at a table. Speaking into a radio.

LEIGH (into radio) ---Is everything fine? Is he okay, Libby?

INT. HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

We cut to who's on the other side of the radio --- LIBBY.

ONE OF THE LAST CHANCE SOCIETY MEMBERS, THE PERKY BLONDE.

Libby's standing with a man, in his 50's, a priest. FATHER JOSEPH WARDEN we'll call him. He's praying silently over a sickly looking older man who lies in a bed. Libby's in a nurse's wardrobe.

LIBBY (into radio) He's doing dandy, Leigh. Sleepin' now. I'll let you know when things start getting worse, I told you that.

LEIGH (V.O.)

Shit went down here tonight... all of the soldiers are dead. I think I should let the others know what's going on. At least I know they won't crucify me for it---

LIBBY

(into radio) Do whatever you need to do, honey. Just make sure that when --- when he does pass, you make it up here for the funeral. He couldn't have it any other way.

INT. FOOD COURT -- CONTINUOUS

Leigh's at the verge of tears. She wipes them --- sniffles.

LEIGH (into radio) I know. Just... keep me posted.

LIBBY (V.O.) You know it.

Leigh puts down the radio and begins to silently cry. TOM approaches from behind her.

TOM So you are the traitor.

Leigh spins around --- she gasps.

LEIGH

No.

Right where we left Tom and Leigh ---

Tom getting closer to her, Leigh backing up.

LEIGH (CONT'D) I'm not a traitor...

TOM

You knew about Maude's daughter. You're one of the Last Chance Society aren't you? That's how you knew, that's who you were talking to.

LEIGH I was talking to one of them, but I'm not --- I'm not <u>one of them</u>, it's --- it's complicated.

Tom has Leigh by the shoulders now, he shakes her. She shoves him away.

LEIGH (CONT'D) (whispering) You're crazy.

TOM I just need you to give me one reason. Why should I believe you, Leigh?! Why should I trust you?!

LEIGH Because no one else will!

Tom lets go. Leigh shakes her head.

LEIGH (CONT'D) If I don't have your trust then --then there's no hope. No one else will listen to me! (beat)

My dad... He's at home. They took over his neighborhood, the monastery, all of it. But they promised me they would take care of him and keep him comfortable for his last days. They let me come back here, to fulfill my job. I'm not the traitor Tom. Who knows, the traitor could be dead at this point. All of my men are dead. (MORE)

LEIGH (CONT'D)

All that's left are... me, Phoebe, Rory, Regis, and the other scientists. I knew about Maude and Chrissie, because I'd been there. I remember her daughter's name ---Chrissie. She's been taken care of by another man now. I don't know these things because I'm a traitor, it's because of my dad. We talk all the time, he tells me these things...

Tom stares her down. He wants to believe her, but we can tell that he's not sure.

TOM Why the lies then? Why couldn't you just be open with that information...?

LEIGH I had to lie because Michael, Griggs --- they wouldn't have listened. They would've called mutiny on me and had me killed.

Her words are understandable. Tom's face softens --- not completely, but he can tell there's truth here. He just walks away, leaving Leigh staring at him, confused at what to do next.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREETS -- NIGHT

KELVIN walks with DECLAN. The MONASTERY is in the background, tall and beautiful. The streets are rather dead at this point, most are sleeping.

DECLAN So what do you think?

KELVIN

I think... at this point, this place is perfect. But it's the same we thought about Glenley. Nothing stays the same forever. Nothing's safe.

DECLAN You could say the same about the airport. About Eden.

KELVIN So you've given up? DECLAN I've seen the tough reality.

KELVIN We've lost people, you know. Lori. Her son. Kate.

Declan swallows.

DECLAN Only deaths we have are the elderly. Usually.

KELVIN

Usually?

Declan has said too much.

DECLAN

I suggest we go recruiting.

KELVIN

I don't want to bring them here. If anything, that airport is what most of them need right now. Tom, Darla, Ash... They need the goddamn hope. Me? I want what's best. I don't need hope. I need to survive.

DECLAN So you won't even try?

KELVIN

No. For their sake.

Declan shakes his head.

DECLAN Fair enough. I'll show you where you'll be sleeping. Time for us to get some shut-eye.

Declan shows Kelvin to his home. Hands him the keys.

DECLAN (CONT'D) The owner of this place died a couple weeks ago. Old age. We put him down in the monastery, so you don't have to worry about anything creepy. Declan chuckles a bit. He moves toward his house, a LITTLE GIRL pops up in the window. Declan smiles ---

Kelvin notices this.

KELVIN (CONT'D) Who's that?

DECLAN Her name's <u>Chrissie</u>. Ya nosy cunt.

Declan's tone is playful. Kelvin recognizes this and laughs.

DECLAN (CONT'D) And no, she's not mine. Her mother was... Red Zone'd. Denied access into the group, she was a bit loopy. Chrissie needed someone to keep her company, I offered to take care of her.

KELVIN Noble of you.

DECLAN Good night, Kelvin.

CUE --- "GAMES PEOPLE PLAY" by THE ALAN PARSON'S PROJECT:

INT. KELVIN'S HOUSE -- NIGHT

It's a humble, cute little home. Kelvin collapses on the couch in the living room, not even mustering the energy to move for the bed. He looks CONTENT ---

EXT. AIRPORT -- MORNING

The entire group stands around XANDER's fresh grave. The dead soldiers, the zombies, they BURN in a PYRE in the background. Everyone starts to wander off.

The last ones left, PJ and MANILA stand by the fire. Manila digs into her backpack and pulls out that damned MANUSCRIPT. She gives it one last look, before tossing it into the flames. With a resilient sigh, Manila stares at it as it curls up, an expression of freedom in her face... She looks up at PJ, smiles. PJ Why'd you throw your book away?

MANILA Don't need it anymore. Realized how... wrong the message of it really was.

She gives him a noogie. He shakes his head.

PJ I'm going in side.

MANILA

Alright, me too.

They head off together.

TOM (V.O.)

--- The radio, our communications with Eden, is destroyed. Our only hope now is to wait around here and fix it or just try to fortify and survive here, or we move on. Find somewhere new.

INT. TERMINAL -- MORNING

PJ speaks up.

PJ Back at um... back with The General, I was really good with machines. I could probably take a look at the radio equipment, see if I could fix it.

MANILA He's good. He's fixed plenty of cars and stuff.

TOM Thank you, PJ. That'd be great.

EXT. AIRPORT -- MORNING

Kitty stares down at the grave --- Tom is at the head of his service. She's zoned out, not listening to a word.

TOM (V.O.) So we'll stay here? Is that the vote? GWEN (V.O.) Then from now on --- We support each other no matter what. We're one group, all of us.

...Gwen and Kitty are the last two remaining at Xander's grave. They stand in silence. Gwen looks down guiltily at the pile of dirt that is left in his wake, while Kitty stares down with an enigmatic look. Is it contempt in her eyes or forgiveness? We just can't tell.

Then we hear something --- muttering. A zombie, once female now something not entirely human, that was left over from the massacre. It's scrambling toward them desperately, dragging its destroyed legs, shot up and bullet-ridden, behind it.

> KITTY ...She looks so sad. So fucking sad. So *desperate*...

Gwen continues to stare at the crawling biter, as Kitty continues to mutter these words:

KITTY (CONT'D) She's going to die so lonely. No one to love her. I should upset at seeing her around, after what her kind have done, after what she's <u>done</u>, here... but I'm not. I just feel sorry for her.

Kitty's eyes fall on Gwen. Gwen swallows --- it's a bit creepy. She's not sure who Kitty's referring to at this point now.

And then Kitty removes her wedding ring and fumbles with it. She approaches the biter and it opens its mouth, desperately moving for her.

--- She drops the ring right in the Biter''s gaping mouth. It begins to gag. Choke.

KITTY (CONT'D) Sometimes you gotta' just put 'em down when they're this desperate. Put 'em out of their misery. This world don't need 'em no more, so they just go around causing trouble for other people.

And as the zombie chokes on the ring and starts to thrash about, Kitty pulls out a knife. She dives forward, landing the blade right into the biter's forehead, spilling its skull. GWEN I'm sorry. I really am.

With nothing left to say, Kitty wipes the blood off the blade and walks toward the gate. Off Gwen's look, troubled and confused...

INT. FOOD COURT -- MORNING

The rest of the group has gathered at the food court, they're having a memorial luncheon, of the post-apocalyptic kind...

ASH sits at LEIGH's table. DARLA and PJ follow with their plates and join Ash at the other side of Leigh's table.

DARLA

Ηi.

LEIGH

Hi there.

PJ

Regis is boasting about the spaghetti. I thought you said you made it.

LEIGH I did. He's just an ass. Excuse my language...

The kids chuckle.

ASH

I'm sorry, I was the one throwing suspicions around in Tom's head.

LEIGH Everyone knows the truth now. It's why I'm sitting alone, right?

ASH You're not alone.

Darla chimes in --- looking at PJ admiringly.

DARLA ... I really think PJ might fix that radio. He's a smart kid.

LEIGH

I hope so.

73.

PJ (determined) I will. I promise!

Ash's voice sounds so meek here, more child-like --- he's a little NERVOUS and EMBARRASSED to ask this.

ASH ...You've been there right? Eden?

Leigh nods.

LEIGH

Yeah.

ASH Well... how is it? Is it like you've said over the radio?

Off Ash's hopeful look --- then Darla's, then PJ's --- it's like children gathering around to listen to a teacher tell a story ---

EXT. AIRPORT -- MORNING

Like the good old days, Leigh's VOICE acts as our "narrator" of sorts, but this time not over radio. Just in person, telling her 'story', overlapping this scene ---

LEIGH (V.O.) It's isolated. A little lonely, cooped up in France on its own. But it's truly the most beautiful thing I've ever seen. And from my suite --- where I slept --- there was this view of the city of France. Abandoned, but still so pretty. The Eiffel Tower, it's still standing. And --- the greenhouse, it's the biggest damn greenhouse ever, so many trees and... and so much life. So yes. It is. It's worth the wait.

We get a WIDE SHOT of the pyre. The funeral. Kitty returning to the gates, heading back to the airport, and Gwen left standing there at the grave, alone. Staring down at the LONELY zombie Kitty just slaughtered, THOUGHTFULLY...

FADE TO BLACK.

END EPISODE