

DARK SIDE RISING

FADE IN:

EXT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

It's raining as a car pulls up to approaches a suburban apartment

complex.

The car, a 1999 Ford Escort, pulls into one of the few parking spots directly in front of the building. As the headlights turn off, the driver's side door opens.

A 23 year old girl named KAYLA NEWMAN gets out of the car.

Kayla wears glasses, a short sleeve shirt, and jeans. She's considered by many to be a real sweetie in terms of

personality. She looks around, and then closes the door, locking

it. She walks to the back of the car and opens the trunk. She grabs a few plastic bags of groceries.

Kayla walks with her groceries to the front of the apartment complex, and tries to open the door.

The door opens and 31 year old JACKSON FRANKS, a man with

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Comment [M1]: I'd like more description regarding the complex. What's the season? Is this just any town, or is it more clearly in the South? New England? West Coast?

sShort, flaky hair, jeans, and a T-shirt, walks out. Jackson considers himself a ~~lady's~~ ladies man, though he only favors one in particular. He slowly takes one of the bags from her.

JACKSON

Here. Let me help you with those.

Kayla smiles and gives him a second bag.

KAYLA

Thanks. I was worried that I would have to take them all the way upstairs.

Jackson smiles, taking the second bag from her.

JACKSON

I wouldn't let that happen. Come on, you lead I follow. I'll even hold the door open.

Jackson stands aside, holding the door open for Kayla to walk inside the apartment. Kayla walks inside and Jackson takes a quick look around outside before closing the door.

On the other side of the street a silvery white wolf sits next to a bicycle that's in a bike rack.

INT. APARTMENT HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jackson and Kayla walk towards Kayla's apartment. Kayla stops at the door and puts her bags down. She fumbles for her keys in her purse and finally takes them out. She unlocks the door.

KAYLA

Sorry if my place is a mess.

JACKSON

Don't even worry about it. I have
~~room mates~~roommates. They're total slobs.

Kayla smiles, opening the door. She then grabs her bags and walks in, followed by Jackson.

INT. KAYLA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Kayla walks in, and turns to Jackson, who's standing behind her. She grabs the bags from him.

KAYLA

Well... thanks. Hey, if you want to stay a while, make yourself at home. I can make us some hot chocolate.

JACKSON

That'd be great, thanks.

Jackson sits on a nearby couch while Kayla moves into the kitchen.

While Jackson sits, he looks around at some pictures on a nearby coffee table. He picks one up that is of Kayla and apparently someone she knows. Perhaps a lover. He sets down the picture. He looks at his watch.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

Would you like some help?

No answer. He hears a small bit of movement inside the

kitchen. He stands up and walks over to the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Jackson walks into the kitchen, discovering Kayla there with another man.

The man, WILLIAM BROCK, 29, stands holding Kayla up off the ground by her neck. William is strong, sarcastic, and gets his opinion heard, whether others like it or not.

Jackson looks from Kayla to the man, taking in the situation. He slowly lifts a cell phone to his ear, having dialed a number.

JACKSON

We have problems.

He slowly lowers the phone back to his pocket. He holds his hands out.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

Before you do something crazy,

understand that she is innocent
here.

William laughs. He turns to Jackson.

WILLIAM

And I suppose you're going to let
me leave if I let her go. Am I
right, Vampire?

Jackson sighs, shaking his head.

Kayla slowly turns to look at Jackson.

JACKSON

~~OK~~Okay. First off, I'm not a Vampire, I
am a Dhampir. Second, yes. That was
the plan. But if you don't come
quietly...

WILLIAM

What? You'll feed me to the wolves?

Jackson laughs.

JACKSON

That's actually funny, coming from
you.

There's a scratching coming from one of the doors.

Jackson takes note of this sound by turning his neck slightly
to his right, when hearing it.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

But if you don't cooperate, I'm
afraid we'll have to take you in
the only way we know how.

William smirks.

WILLIAM

Good luck.

The front door is kicked open.

William ~~notices this and~~ throws Kayla into Jackson. Then he
transforms into a dark brown wolf, running off as a young
woman, SAMANTHA ADDAMS, 28, runs into the kitchen. The sports
~~b~~Bra and running pants that she's wearing tease at a beauty

that rivals her intelligence. She's not only athletic but

~~knowledgeable~~ knowledgeable in ~~three~~ different martial arts techniques.

EXT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

An elderly woman walks towards the door when it suddenly opens, the dark brown wolf running out. The elderly woman moves quickly to the side in surprise

OLD LADY

Oh!

Suddenly the door opens again and the silvery wolf runs out, chasing the other wolf.

OLD LADY (CONT'D)

Well, I do say!

Comment [M2]: This sounds hokey; if that wasn't your intent, I might consider omitting this line altogether.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

William runs through the streets, trying to weave his way

through the humans all around them.

Comment [M3]: How are they reacting?

The silver wolf, SIREN MCFRENCH, 21, follows after him, running as fast as she can, as she also weaves her way around the humans. Siren prides herself on her know-how, and considers herself ~~the~~ a gentle soul. She will not fight unless she has to.

EXT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The Old Lady tries to open the door when it suddenly opens on her. Samantha runs out, noticing the Old Lady about to fall. She steadies her.

SAMANTHA

Sorry! Did you see two wolves run by?

Comment [J4]: Seeing as Samantha is talking to an outsider, who presumably knows nothing of the wolves, it might make more sense for Samantha to call them "dogs" in this context.

The Old Lady merely nods her head and points in the direction of the wolves.

Sam nods and then runs off.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)

Thanks!

The Old Lady stares on in disbelief.

OLD LADY

Young people these days.

She enters the apartment. Seconds later, we see Jackson running out the door and towards his car.

EXT. STREETS - CONTINUOUS

William has now turned onto another street, with Siren chasing after him.

William spots an out-door diner ahead, and begins to change back into human form. He's now completely naked.

Siren keeps up her pace, but stays in her wolf form.

Samantha runs as fast as she can, until a car comes up from behind.

JACKSON

Get in!

Samantha gets into the car and they speed off.

EXT. DINER - CONTINUOUS

William comes to the diner and stops.

People ~~that~~who are eating turn to face the naked man as he enters the outdoor dining area. There are murmurs from many.

William turns to face Siren as she comes up. She growls.

William laughs.

WILLIAM

What's the matter? Don't like showing everyone your birthday suit?

Siren pounces at William and bites his arm, but William is able to throw her off towards a table.

Comment [J5]: If Siren prides herself in not fighting, why is she so quick to attack William here? Some further build-up might be necessary to justify her actions.

The customers get out of the way as Siren hits the table, yelping as it goes crashing to its side.

When Siren stands up, she's no longer in wolf form, but ~~in~~ ~~human form~~ human. She's holding up the ~~table cloth~~ tablecloth to hide her naked body. Noticeable on her left shoulder are what appear to be scars. Remnants of a severe injury.

William looks her over.

WILLIAM (CONT'D)

I see you've healed... though perhaps not the scars. They look good on you.

SIREN

You should know.

Jackson's car stops and both Jackson and Samantha get out.

Samantha is going to help, but Jackson stops her.

JACKSON

~~Let's let~~ Let her handle it.

Siren walks over to William.

WILLIAM

Why do you hunt me, Siren? You know
what I'm capable of.

SIREN

I seek closure, Will. For the
things you've done to me. What
you've done to the others.

Comment [J6]: This comes across as sounding a bit melodramatic. Perhaps edit the content to a more colloquial tone that better fits the character's personality.

The sounds of police sirens can be heard in the background.
They both turn to face the direction the sounds are coming
from.

WILLIAM

You know that they still don't
understand our kind. They will
shoot both of us.

SIREN

I know. But I do what I do to help
make this a better place for
everyone.

~~But~~ William doesn't reply. He's already back in wolf form. He runs off.

Siren stands there, looking at where William used to be. She transforms into her wolf form. ~~She~~ then walks over to where Samantha and Jackson are.

Jackson opens the back door and Siren hops in, ~~lay~~ing down on the back seat. Jackson turns to Samantha.

JACKSON

Come on. We better go.

Jackson and Samantha get into the car and Jackson drives off.

The police arrive at the diner as we watch Jackson's car drive off into the distance.

SAMANTHA (V.O.)

Unfinished business. That's all it ever was.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Samantha looks to the back seat to see Siren ~~lay~~ing down,
still in dog form, licking her paws.

SAMANTHA (V.O.)

But will she ever close the wounds
that haunt her ~~to~~to this day?

Siren looks up at Sam and for a moment they look at each
other.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

The car drives down the street.

FADE OUT: