

Reality Bites
by
Dwight Baldwin

Dwight Baldwin
4325 Red Blossom Way Apt 105
Charlotte, NC 28277
704-817-9924

FADE IN:

INT. UNDERGROUND TUNNEL - NIGHT

An exhausted, decrepid looking man with tattered clothes and missing teeth is running down a tunnel. He looks back at something off screen chasing him. He comes to an intersection and makes a left but runs into a dead end. He turns back toward his pursuer and SCREAMS. The screen goes black, and pulls back, revealing a TV screen. Two men are sitting in front of the TV. The first man is a DALE, mid 30s, a good looking man with big, bright, capped teeth and wearing a suit. He turns to the other man and speaks. Dale over enunciates his words and speaks with the cadence of an old school radio announcer.

DALE

Yes, it's very by the numbers.

The second man, obscured my shadow, speaks.

MAN 2

Ratings have been dropping all season. We need to retool.

DALE

What are you going to do?

MAN 2

We're bringing in new creative talent. I have a director lined up. And we're going for a new type of contestant.

INT. DEREK'S APARTMENT - DAY

DEREK NOVA is sitting at a desk in his apartment. It's a small studio. The apartment looks cheap and messy. There is an unmade bed, clothes lying about, half eaten food and empty beer cans all over the place. Derek's desk is covered with unopened mail. He is a good looking, athletic man in his mid twenties wearing jeans and a T-shirt. He is nervously tapping his foot and browsing the Internet while making a phone call via his speakerphone.

SAL (V.O.)

Hey Derek, how are you?

DEREK

Hi Sal. It's been tough getting a hold of you.

SAL (V.O.)
 You're not the only actor I
 represent.

DEREK
 I know. Look, I heard you have an
 in with the producer of that new
 crime drama. Can you get me an
 audition for a guest role?

SAL (V.O.)
 And why should I do that Derek?

DEREK
 Because I'm an actor.
 (beat)
 A good actor.

The cell phone on Derek's desk starts to vibrate and he grabs
 it. There is a text message saying "Where's my money?".
 Derek frowns.

SAL (V.O.)
 You ARE a good actor...when you
 actually decide to work. The last
 3 auditions I sent you on, you
 missed two and showed up drunk for
 the third. You damaged my
 reputation and reputation means
 everything in this town. I can't
 represent you any more.

DEREK
 But I'm a star! I'm the best actor
 in your stable.

Derek looks up at a framed picture of People magazine. It
 has a picture of a younger version of himself with the title
 caption "TV's Hottest Young Star, Derek 'Super' Nova."

SAL (V.O.)
 You WERE a star. Your stint on
 "Fast Nights" was years ago. What
 have you done since then?

As Sal is talking, Derek looks to another picture on the
 wall. It's a framed promotional poster of the TV show Fast
 Nights, with a group of people and him in the center.

DEREK
 I'm just in a rut, Sal. All I need
 is a second chance.

SAL (V.O.)
Second chance my ass. You know
what you're known for now? You
should check out the headline on
tmz.com today.

Derek quickly types tmz.com into his PC browser. The headline is a picture of him passed out drunk in front of a nightclub with the caption "How low can he go?". This infuriates Derek. He CLENCHES his fists, grabbing a piece of mail. He stands up and KICKS his chair.

DEREK
Someone slipped something into my
drink.

SAL (V.O.)
Uh huh.

Derek is walking around and opens the mail in his hand. It's an overdue electric bill, threatening to cut off the power.

DEREK
Sal, I really need a job. I'm
desperate. I promise I won't let
you down again.

SAL (V.O.)
I'll probably regret this, but I'll
give you one last chance. The show
is looking for a character you'd be
a perfect match for. And I'm only
doing this because you were my
first big sign.

Derek grabs his chair and RUSHES back to his desk.

DEREK
Oh Sal, thank you so much.

SAL (V.O.)
You were such a good kid back then.

DEREK
I won't let you down.

SAL (V.O.)
I know you won't. Because if you
screw this up you'll be dead to me.

DEREK
I know.

SAL (V.O.)
No more booze.

DEREK
Got it.

SAL (V.O.)
You know what you need? A good woman, someone to settle you down. Remember that girl you were with when I first met you? Allison?

DEREK
Alicia.

SAL (V.O.)
Yeah, she was perfect for you. What happened to her?

DEREK
Send the audition info to my e-mail, OK?

There is a moment of silence as Sal is disappointed Derek avoided the subject.

SAL (V.O.)
You'll have it today. Bye.

INT. DEREK'S APARTMENT - DAY

Derek is in the bathroom sitting on the toilet with another bill in his lap. His cell vibrates again on a stand. He picks it up and it has another text saying "I want my FUCKING money now!" The doorbell rings and it startles him. He pulls up his pants and starts to leave the bathroom when he hears a knock on the door and JENNY calling out his name.

JENNY
Derek, you there?

Derek gingerly walks up to the door, knocking a flowerpot containing a dead plant off a hall table. CRASH! It smashes to the floor, making a loud noise and he quietly curses to himself.

JENNY (CONT'D)
We know you're there Derek. We aren't bill collectors. We're here make you an offer.

Derek props the door open a crack, with the security chain still attached. He sees Jenny and SEAN, both in their early 20's and dressed in professional clothes.

DEREK

Then how do you know I have unpaid bills?

JENNY

We did a background check before we decided you were right for our show. Undo the chain and we'll talk about it.

Derek undoes the chain and opens the door.

DEREK

I'm not saying I'm Derek, but I am willing to listen to what you have to offer him.

The woman grabs his chin and smiles.

JENNY

Oh Derek, who could mistake a perfect face like yours? I'm Jenny and this is Sean.

Jenny points to Sean.

DEREK

Alright, so what's your offer?

Jenny stretches out her arms and lets out a beaming smile.

JENNY

You've been selected as a contestant on a new reality show!

DEREK

I never applied to a reality show.

JENNY

You applied to Celebrity Survivor and they shared their applicant database with us.

DEREK

What? That's ill-

SEAN

Relax Derek, it's done all the time.

(MORE)

SEAN (CONT'D)

This is a good opportunity for you.
You'll get \$10,000 just for
participating.

Sean hands Derek a contract. Derek's eyes widen and his body language quickly perks up.

DEREK

What's the show?

JENNY

We can't say. It's top secret for
now. But we can tell you it's
cutting edge stuff and you've never
seen this format before.

Derek is excited and smiles.

DEREK

How serendipitous!

Jenny and Sean smile back at him.

DEREK (CONT'D)

You know that means fortunate.

Jenny and Sean try to maintain their smiles and briefly give each other an incredulous look.

DEREK (CONT'D)

I'm gonna start packing right now.

As he turns back towards his apartment, Sean GRABS him by the arm.

SEAN

Due to the secrecy of the show,
there are some stipulations.

DEREK

What kinds of stipulations?

JENNY

You have to leave right now. You
can't pack, bring your cell phone
or tell anyone where you're going.
We'll get your emergency contact
info when you're on the set.

DEREK

This sounds kinda sketchy to me.

Derek's cell vibrates through the front pocket of his pants. He picks it up and there is a text saying "I'm coming over. You better have my money!"

SEAN

Derek, we know it's unusual, but this is an unusual show. We're not going to force you. If you don't want it, we already have an alternate lined up.

Derek looks tense as he weighs his options. He briefly purses his lips and then lets go of the tension in his body.

DEREK

Alright.

EXT. THE PARKING LOT TO DEREK'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY

Derek, Jenny and Sean are walking to a black SUV with tinted windows.

DEREK

What will I wear for clothes?

JENNY

A wardrobe will be provided for you.

They arrive at the car. The back door is open and Derek is ushered into the back seat. Sean climbs in after him and Jenny gets in the front passenger seat. There is a driver at the wheel.

INT. SUV - DAY

Sean picks up a black hood and hands it to Derek.

SEAN

Put this on.

DEREK

What the fuck?

JENNY

Like we said, the show's top secret. And that includes the set location.

Derek looks at the hood and puts it in his lap.

DEREK

This, this doesn't feel right.

Sean leans across Derek and opens the car door next to him.

SEAN

Like we said Derek, no one's forcing you. You can back out, but it has to be now.

Derek takes a long look at the open door. A beat up car with tinted windows pulls up about 20 feet from Derek's open door. He recognizes the car. He grits his teeth, closes the door and puts the hood on.

DEREK

Let's go.

Sean and Jenny give each other knowing smiles. Jenny motions to the driver and the car drives off.

INT. HALLWAY TO LOUNGE - NIGHT

Derek is escorted down a hallway by ALEXIS. She is young, early 20's, attractive and wearing provocative clothing.

ALEXIS

We're very excited to have you on the show, Derek. You're the big name of the group.

DEREK

Alexis, right?

ALEXIS

That's right.

DEREK

Why did they take away my cross?

ALEXIS

Religious symbols cause too much controversy. It's the same reason there's no smoking anywhere on the set, Political Correctness.

Alexis opens a door at the end of the hall.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Derek and Alexis enter a room which looks like a lounge area, adorned with stylish furniture and decor.

There is a large LCD TV hanging on one wall. Pop music can be heard playing in the background. Inside are a number of young, attractive people talking to each other and a TV crew filming their interactions.

ALEXIS

Derek, these are your fellow contestants.

CLYDE, a good looking African American man in his mid 20s with dreadlocks, ripped jeans and a hippie-type shirt walks up and shakes Derek's hand. Derek's handshake is noticeably limp, he's not interested in the other contestants.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)

Derek, meet Clyde.

CLYDE

Derek Nova! What up dude? I used to watch your show.

DEREK

Thanks man.

CLYDE

I even had some guest spots on the last season. Course that was when you were in your...you know.

ALEXIS

I believe it was rehab, right Derek?

DEREK

That was a long time ago. I've been off drugs for years.

CLYDE

That's cool man. Drug free is the way to go. I was just in a pilot on drugs about-

Alexis grabs Derek's arm and ushers him towards the other contestants. Clyde feels slighted.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Alexis and Derek walk by the contestants with Alexis pointing them out. While walking by, snippets of the contestants conversations can be heard.

ALEXIS

That's Maria.

Alexis points to MARIA, a voluptuous, slightly overweight, Hispanic woman in her early 20s. She's wearing hoop earrings and a flowing dress.

MARIA

Julliard is EXTREMELY hard to get into but I made it on my first try.

ALEXIS

That's Rachel.

Alexis points to RACHEL, a tall, stunning, blonde woman in a short skirt and expensive looking blouse speaking in a Cockney British accent. She gives Derek a brief, snotty glance.

RACHEL

Most models find the transition into acting difficult but I found it quite simple.

Alexis points to JUSTIN, an effeminate man in a suit talking to an overtly gay member of the TV crew.

ALEXIS

Justin...

JUSTIN

So if you were put in jail and a guy tried to rape you, would you be okay with it?

Alexis and Derek both grimace upon hearing Justin's comment. Alexis points to CORMAC ("MAC"), a middle-aged, overweight man wearing disheveled, cheap clothes and a trucker hat. He is talking to a woman whose back is to Alexis and Derek.

ALEXIS

...Mac...

DEREK

(sneering)

He the token loser of the group?

Alexis ignores his comment. She puts her hand on the unseen woman's shoulder.

ALEXIS

And I believe you know our last contestant.

The woman turns around to greet Derek. It's ALICIA, Derek's ex-girlfriend. She is in her mid 20's, pretty, with a wholesome, girl next door look, wearing conservative clothes.

As she sees Derek, both she and Derek lose their smiles and the color goes out of their faces.

DEREK
Alicia.

ALICIA
Uh
...Hi. How are you?

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Mac leans over to Alexis.

MAC
(whispers)
They used to be an item?

ALEXIS
Yes. But Derek dumped her for a model when he got famous.

Alexis smiles.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
This will be good.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

DEREK
Busier than ever. I just landed a development deal.

ALICIA
Uh huh.

DEREK
And I've got a lot of other stuff going on. I only do movies now. In fact, I'm meeting with Peter Jackson in a couple of weeks.

ALICIA
My friend said she saw you at a casting call for extras on CSI: MIAMI.

DEREK
I was visiting a friend. I know David Caruso.

ALICIA
That's good.

DEREK
So how bout you? What do you have
going on?

ALICIA
I'm taking a break from the
business right now.

DEREK
I see.

ALICIA
I've been working so hard, I
realized I need to slow down and
enjoy life more. I even had time
to read an article about you
yesterday?

DEREK
Variety?

ALICIA
The Inquirer.

Derek nervously laughs.

DEREK
Nothing bad I hope.

ALICIA
It said you were passed out drunk
it front of a nightclub.

DEREK
Someone put something in my drink.

MARIA (O.S.)
Really?

Derek and Alicia spin around to see Maria with her arms
folded.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Then I guess it had nothing to do
with the 12 shots you did. I
should know, I was the bartender.

DALE (O.S.)
Attention everyone.

Everyone turns around.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Dale is standing by the doorway again wearing a suit and shining his big, fake teeth. Alexis walks over and stands to his side.

DALE

I'm Dale, and you've already met my cohost Alexis. It's time for your wardrobe fitting. After that, you'll meet us for the first contest.

INT. MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

Derek is standing in the meeting room wearing stylish looking jeans and a long-sleeved, silk shirt. The meeting room looks like an executive conference room. The walls are lined with rows of books. The centerpiece of the room is a large, rectangular table surrounded by fine leather chairs. Rachel comes in wearing a sexy, short dress and she's followed by Maria, wearing tight jeans and tube top. The jeans and tube top are too tight for her, causing, Maria's belly to slightly spill over her pants. Alicia walks in; in an angry mood and wearing dowdy looking clothes.

ALICIA

I don't dress like this.

DEREK

(snickering)

Yes you do. At least, you used to.

Alicia ignores his remark as he sits down. She sits at the opposite end of the table. She is not directly facing Derek but she periodically stares at him from the corner of her eye.

Justin walks in wearing tight pants with a shiny belt buckle and a loud pink shirt.

JUSTIN

I must be the metro-sexual character of the group.

RACHEL

(muttering under her breathe)

Faggot.

As Justin sits in a chair next to Rachel, she turns to give him a fake smile.

Clyde enters the room with a disappointed expression. He is wearing a black football jersey, and jeans so baggy he has to hold them up with one hand. He has a bunch of thick gold chains in his other hand. He turns and hands the gold chains to a camera man, who is following him into the room.

CLYDE

I'm sorry, but I'm drawing the line at the gold chains. And someone please get me a belt.

He turns back toward the group.

CLYDE (CONT'D)

Can you believe this shit? Why don't they just put me in a damn minstrel show?

Clyde and the cameraman are soon followed by Mac, wearing almost the same outfit as when he came arrived and the two hosts.

INT. MEETING ROOM - DAY

All of the contestants are seated at the table. Dale and Alexis are standing at the head of the table and the film crew is to their side.

DALE

OK everyone, the show is going to start off with a bang. The first contestant must leave when their name is called.

Alexis reaches into a box and picks up a piece of paper. She's disappointed.

ALEXIS

Derek Nova, you are out.

Derek could care less that he's been kicked off the show. The other contestants are surprised at how quickly the first person was booted off. Alicia has a slight smile and does a quiet fist pump.

JUSTIN

That's it? That's the contest?

DALE

It gets better, trust me.

Alexis walks over to Derek as he stands up and puts her arm around his.

ALEXIS

Derek, come with me and I'll escort you to the post contest interview.

The other contestants are concerned and disappointed.

CLYDE

That was so lame, dude.

Rachel dramatically stands up, holding out her arm in a "stop" motion and calls out to Alexis.

RACHEL

Wait! I shant be on a show like this. I will take Derek's place.

Derek and Alexis stop and turn around.

ALEXIS

You sure you wanna do this?

Rachel walks up to Alexis.

RACHEL

Yeah, this show is rubbish.

Alexis holds out her hand.

ALEXIS

Okay then. Come with me.

As Alexis and Rachel leave the room, Rachel turns to sneer at them.

RACHEL

Cheers.

DALE

Derek, you're back in the game. Everyone can go back to their quarters now. We'll contact you tomorrow.

Everyone shuffles out of the room except Justin, who walks up to Dale.

JUSTIN

We should form an alliance.

Dale is confused.

DALE

I'm a host.

Justin smiles excitedly.

JUSTIN

I know. No one would ever suspect.

Dale shakes his head and walks away.

INT. HALLWAY TO LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants are walking back to their quarters. As Derek is walking by a member of the film crew standing by himself, he sniffs his nose and stops. He leans over and whispers to the MAN.

DEREK

You've been smoking.

MAN

So what, you gonna tattle on me?

DEREK

No. I'm just Jonesin for a smoke myself. How'd you do it?

MAN

I found a private area through a crack in the set wall.

Derek puts his hand around the man and smiles.

DEREK

Can I bum a light?

INT. DARK CORNER - NIGHT

Derek is crouched in a dark corner with a pack of cigarettes and a lighter. He is about to light a cigarette when someone from the film crew opens a door in the distance. He immediately puts out the light. Through the door he can see Alexis and Rachel sitting on a couch, conducting the post contest interview.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

RACHEL

.... I got me an audition next week for an independent movie. Not a studio production but I really believe in the material. Rachel's more than a pretty face.

Alexis can barely contain her boredom and nausea at how full of herself Rachel is.

ALEXIS

Mmmmm hmmm.

Rachel flips her hair, narrows her eyes and gives Alexis a condescending look.

RACHEL

You wearin extensions? Me mum
always says-

Rachel is cut off mid-sentence as Alexis sprouts fangs and savagely BITES her. Rachel is in shock, not understanding what is happening. She tries to fight Alexis off but her strength quickly withers. Blood spills out over both Alexis and Rachel.

INT. DARK CORNER - NIGHT

Derek is STUNNED by what he just witnessed. His jaw drops and the cigarette falls out of his mouth. He drops his lighter and cigarette pack. He stands frozen for a moment, then runs away.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

SETH, a scruffy looking man with wild hair and three day facial growth speaks out from behind the camera. He's in his late 30's, wearing jeans and a T-shirt. He is angry and irritated.

SETH

Would it have killed you to wait a
few moments? That wasn't much of a
fucking interview.

Alexis sits up, blood all over her face. The gorging of blood has made her slightly intoxicated and she sports a fierce, aggressive demeanor.

ALEXIS

I don't care how she acts, but NO
ONE talks about my hair like that.

Rachel's body is lying on the couch, still twitching and quivering; her head resting in Alexis's lap. Alexis looks down at her with a smile, pets her hair and speaks in a faux British accent.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
And yes luv, they are extensions.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Derek is frantically walking down the hall. He sees an open doorway with a sign above it marked EXIT. Just as he's about to walk through, a burly SECURITY GUARD steps in the doorway, blocking Derek's path.

SECURITY GUARD
You looking for the lounge?

The security guard points down the hall.

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)
It's that way.

Derek is frozen like a deer in headlights.

DEREK
Thanks.

Derek walks toward the lounge.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants are hanging in the lounge area talking. Derek briskly walks into the room. He stands nervously for a moment, and then walks up to Alicia. He is breathing heavily and visibly sweating.

DEREK
(whispering)
I need to talk to you.

Alicia is annoyed.

ALICIA
So talk.

DEREK
(whispering)
In private, it's important.

Alicia is irritated by relents.

ALICIA
Ugh. It better be.

INT. DEREK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Derek and Alicia are standing in Derek's bedroom. Derek leans into Alicia's ear.

DEREK
(whispering)
Something terrible has happened.
We need to get out of here.

ALICIA
Why? What happened?

Derek grabs Alicia.

DEREK
(whispering)
Be quiet. They're watching us.

Alicia pushes Derek back. She is angry.

ALICIA
Of course they're watching us, this
is a reality show!

Derek tries to whisper in her ear but she steps back.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
If you want to say something, then
out with it.

Derek pleads with Alicia.

DEREK
Please, just let me whisper it to
you. You're in....we're in danger.

ALICIA
Okay, but make it quick. And you'd
better not be messing with me.

Derek is relieved, leans into her and starts whispering. Alicia's face scrunches in disbelief. She turns around and starts to walk away.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
Oh please. Leave me alone.

Alicia walks out of the room, leaving a frustrated Derek all to himself.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

All of the contestants are sitting on the couches and chairs, surrounding a table. Derek walks by the group and up to a cameraman.

DEREK

I need to speak to the hosts, it's urgent.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

JUSTIN

I think I might leave the show too.

ALICIA

I'll second that.

MARIA

We should all leave. It would be outrageous.

MAC

Can we do that?

JUSTIN

Free country. They can't stop us.

CLYDE

Hold up guys. There's gotta be a twist, a surprise. They'd never have a show this simple.

ALICIA

Have you watched much TV? There's a lot of horrible shows out there.

JUSTIN

I bet this show will never even make it to TV. You know that happens.

INT. HALLWAY TO LOUNGE - NIGHT

Derek is standing in the hall with Dale and a cameraman filming their interaction.

DEREK

I just remembered an urgent phone call I have to make.

DALE
What's wrong?

DEREK
It's.....private. A personal
matter.

DALE
We can relay a message for you, but
due to the restrictions of the
show, I'm afraid you can't place
any calls yourself.

Derek desperately thinks for ideas.

DEREK
What if I had to leave the
show.....temporarily? You could
put the blindfold on me and I
wouldn't know the location.

Dale stares at Derek intently and wonders if he knows.

DALE
Derek, is something bothering you?

Before Derek can respond, Dale waves at the cameraman to put
his camera down. He puts his hand on Derek's shoulder.

DALE (CONT'D)
Tell me what's wrong.

Derek tries to come up with an idea but can't.

DEREK
Well, it's just, I may have to
leave. Not that I want to. I
just, might have to.

DALE
Well, we would certainly miss your
participation. You add a lot of
cache' to the show. We can let you
out of the contest but you can't
leave until the show's over. For
now, you'd have to remain in
quarantine. With Rachel.

Derek's eyes widen.

DEREK
With Rachel?

DALE

Yes. I'm sorry, but that's the best I can do. Would you like to go into quarantine?

Derek stares hopelessly to the side. He's out of options.

DEREK

No.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

A dejected Derek walks into the lounge to see the other contestants standing and drinking. Maria runs up to him, all smiles.

MARIA

Hey papi! A group of us are thinking of quitting. Want to join us?

DEREK

No thanks.

Derek walks up to the table. As he's about to grab a liquor bottle, he notices his hand is visibly shaking. Justin walks up to him.

JUSTIN

Wanna form an alliance?

Derek looks vacant, he can barely focus on the others' conversations.

DEREK

Uh, sure.

JUSTIN

That's great! I-

Derek walks away from Justin mid-sentence, leaving him confused. As Derek reaches the hall to the bedrooms, he takes a look back at the oblivious contestants. If they only knew. He walks to his bedroom.

INT. MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

It's the next night. The contestants are seated around the table. Dale and Alexis are standing at the head of the table, preparing flash cards. Electronic buzzers are on the table in front of each contestant. Clyde is wearing a T-shirt with the words FIGHT THE POWER on it.

Justin is wearing tight leather pants and a pirate-like shirt with puffy sleeves. Everyone else has similar clothing from the previous day.

MARIA
 (wondering outloud)
 Why do all the contests take place
 at night?

Clyde, sitting next to Justin, leans in toward him.

CLYDE
 (whispering)
 I'd like to get a few minutes alone
 with Alexis.

Derek looks over toward Alexis and turns back to Clyde.

DEREK
 I don't think you'd like her.

Alicia is sitting next to Derek on his other side and she's not happy about it. She turns to the hosts.

ALICIA
 Do I have to sit next to him?

DALE
 Yes.

ALICIA
 Why?

ALEXIS
 Hello? Dramatic tension.

Justin is marveling at his shirt.

JUSTIN
 Isn't it exquisite?

MAC
 Looks kinda fruity to me.

Justin snarls.

JUSTIN
 How would you know? You obviously
 have no fashion sense.

INT. MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

Seth yells out from behind a camera.

SETH

Action!

DALE

Hello everyone! Welcome to the second challenge. Today we will be testing your knowledge of each other, our "Memory Test". As you can see behind me...

Dale points to a large LCD TV on the wall behind him. It has the name of every contestant in different graphically displayed rows.

DALE (CONT'D)

...the TV Monitor will keep track of your scores.

ALEXIS

The game is simple. The person who finishes with the lowest score will be asked to leave.

Many of the contestants groan out loud. Dale grits his teeth but maintains his smile.

JUSTIN

(muttering)

This show sucks.

DALE

Ok, lets start with our first question. Alexis?

Alexis reads a flashcard out loud. All of the contestants move their hands over their respective buzzers.

ALEXIS

Which contestant callously dumped another contestant for a fashion model.

INT. MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

As they hear this, Alicia and Derek move their hands away from their buzzers. They look down and away from each other. Derek displays guilt and Alicia has the look of a woman scorned. Mac hits his buzzer.

MAC (O.S.)

Derek!

DALE (O.S.)

Correct.

Derek and Alicia are oblivious to their surroundings. Derek tries to put his hand on Alicia's but she pulls away and turns her attention backs to the game.

INT. MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

DALE

Which contestant has never had a girlfriend?

Clyde hits his buzzer.

CLYDE

Justin.

DALE

Correct.

Justin is pissed.

JUSTIN

In the US! The US! Is it a crime that I only date girls in Canada?

ALEXIS

Which contestant is a former gang member, growing up on the means streets of New York?

Mac hits his buzzer.

MAC

Clyde.

DALE

Correct.

Clyde is not happy.

CLYDE

I was never in a gang. And I grew up in Jersey.

ALEXIS

Which contestant has done a soft core porn movie?

There is a moment of silence as no one hits their buzzer. Derek looks around, smiles and calmly hits his buzzer.

DEREK

Alicia.

Alicia is shocked and gasps.

DALE

Correct.

Alicia looks to Derek and he looks back at her.

ALICIA

How did you know?

DEREK

You may have changed your name and worn a wig, but I recognized you the second I saw you on late night cable.

Alicia shutters.

ALICIA

It was just once. I needed the money.

DALE

Which contestant has had continuous battles with drugs and alcohol?

Alicia slams her hand on her buzzer.

ALICIA

Derek "HAS BEEN" Nova.

Alicia turns to Derek and glares at him.

DALE

Correct.

ALICIA

(to the hosts)

And another thing, I want off this show.

JUSTIN

Me too.

MARIA

Me three.

Dale clears his throat.

DALE
(addressing Alicia)
We'll discuss this after the
contest.

Derek grabs Alicia's arm and tries to whisper to her, but she
pulls her arm away.

DALE (CONT'D)
Next question, who is an avid Bass
fisherman?

Justin hits his buzzer.

JUSTIN
Mickey Mouse!

All of the contestants except Derek laugh. Dale and Alexis
are miffed but play good hosts.

DALE
I am sorry Justin, that's
incorrect. Would anyone else like
to try?

Maria hits her buzzer. She's punchy and can barely restrain
laughter.

MARIA
Daffy Duck!

The contestants, sans Derek, again all laugh.

JUSTIN
WORST.....SHOW.....EVER!

Seth stands up from behind a camera.

SETH
Cut!

Seth points to the hosts, and then to the contestants.

SETH (CONT'D)
(addressing the hosts)
Straighten them out.

INT. MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

Alexis walks up to Justin and pinches his shoulder, causing
him visible pain.

JUSTIN

Ow! You're strong for a girl.

She leans in and stares at him with an intense fury.

ALEXIS

I could give a fuck if you like the show, but this is our livelihood, so show some respect.

JUSTIN

(smirking)

Then make a better show. Otherwise, you'll soon be out of a job.

ALEXIS

You'd better get in line or-

Justin is defiant.

JUSTIN

Or what? You gonna kill me?

Alexis so badly wants to vamp out and kill him, but she focuses her eyes to his.

ALICIA

You....will...obey.

Justin appears to go into a trance.

JUSTIN

Yes. I will.

Alexis stands up and stares down the rest of the contestants. They all back down. Alexis starts to walk back to the head of the table.

DALE

Let's continue, shall we?

INT. MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

The contestants are still seated in the table, with the hosts standing at the head.

DALE

Okay, with one question remaining, we have two contestants tied for last place.

(MORE)

DALE (CONT'D)

Maria and Alicia, whoever gets the next question correct stays. The loser goes home.

Alicia is uninterested in winning and doesn't even have her hand on the buzzer. Derek is concerned. He leans over and places her hand on the buzzer.

DEREK

(whispering)

Pay attention.

Alicia slaps his hand away.

ALICIA

Mind your own business.

ALEXIS

Whose favorite movie is PINK FLOYD'S THE WALL?

Maria hits her buzzer but no sound goes off. She tries hitting it a few more times.

MARIA

Hey!

The hosts ignore her. Derek presses his hand down on Alicia's, setting her buzzer off.

ALICIA

What're you doing?

Derek leans toward her.

DEREK

(whispering)

Clyde. It's Clyde.

ALEXIS

Alicia, do you have an answer for us?

Alicia thinks for a moment and sighs.

ALICIA

Clyde.

DALE

That is correct! Alicia you remain. Maria, I'm sorry, but you must now exit the show.

Maria stands up, pissed.

MARIA
I didn't like this show anyway.
Chingate Su Mierda!

She storms off with Alexis and Dale in tow. Alicia stands up, not sure if she made the right decision.

ALICIA
(to Derek)
I can't believe I'm still here with
you. I must hate myself.

INT. HALLWAY TO LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants are walking back to the lounge. Derek is in the rear but runs up to Alicia.

DEREK
You did the right thing.

ALICIA
Go away.

Alicia speeds up and walks away from Derek.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

Dale and Alexis are seated next to Maria.

MARIA
Make this quick. I want outta
here.

ALEXIS
Eager to.....move on?

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants are sitting on the couches and chairs discussing the memory challenge. Derek is standing by himself to the side, unsure of what to do.

MAC
I think Maria's buzzer was broke.

JUSTIN
I should have walked off the show.
I don't know what came over me.

ALICIA

Yeah, it was like you went into a
trance or something.

CLYDE

Maybe that's the trick of this
show. The hosts are hypnotists and
they're gonna get us to do crazy
shit.

Alicia's looking away from the group, nervously tapping her
fingers on an armchair.

ALICIA

Can't believe I'm stuck here. I
think I should leave the show
anyway.

Alicia gets up and starts to walk away. Derek rushes up to
her.

DEREK

(whispering)

What are you doing? I just saved
your life.

Alicia rolls her eyes.

ALICIA

Not this again.

Alicia turns back toward the other contestants.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Hey everyone, guess what Derek says
is the trick of the show?

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

Maria is standing up out of her chair, finishing the
interview.

MARIA

...and this show is racist. You
fixed my buzzer cause I'm a Latina.

Dale and Alexis stand up, remaining diplomatic.

ALEXIS

We're sorry you feel that way,
Maria.

Alexis points to BETTY, mid 20s, petite, conservative dress and auburn hair, standing just off camera.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)

Betty will take care of you now.

As Maria walks up to Betty, Betty starts to speak in a Southern drawl and displays her fangs.

BETTY

Well, hello there.

Maria thinks Betty is a weirdo, not taking the fangs seriously. She tries to walk past her when Betty GRABS her by the throat. Betty effortlessly LIFTS her off the ground, leaving Maria GASPING for breath.

BETTY (CONT'D)

It's not proper like to walk away from a conversation.

Betty FORCES her to the ground and leans over her. Maria looks to her side, seeing both Dale and Alexis with fangs. She starts to understand her situation and begins screaming.

MARIA

Help! Ahhh!

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants all look up at Alicia. Derek panics as he realizes what Alicia is about to do.

ALICIA

He's convinced Rachel was killed.

CLYDE

What?

Alicia's smile widens and Derek's face grow pale. He looks at the film crew and notices two assistants calmly chatting.

ALICIA

And that's not all. He says she was killed by a vampire, who also happens to be one of the hosts. He thinks this show is some sort of sinister game and we're all going to die.

Derek is still looking at the film crew. The two assistants suddenly stopped talking when the word "vampire" was uttered, now paying full attention. A number of the other crew who were slouching, have now perked up. Derek wonders if they will do something.

JUSTIN
 (addressing Derek)
 You back on the drugs?

Justin's comment brings Derek's focus back to the other contestants.

DEREK
 It'sthe truth. I saw it happen.

CLYDE
 Pffftt. Man, someone is messing with you.

JUSTIN
 This has gotta be one of those prank shows. We're being Punk'd.

MAC
 Where's Ashton Kutcher?

DEREK
 I'm telling you, this is real. I know what I saw.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

BETTY
 I am afraid I am going to have to be killing you now.

Maria is screaming and crying.

BETTY (CONT'D)
 I swear, you are just the prettiest little thing. I -

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

SETH
 Cut. Cut!

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

Betty is surprised and looks up toward Seth.

BETTY

What happened! Is my makeup
smearin'?

Seth walks up to Betty. Betty is still holding Maria down.

SETH

What the fuck? What the fuck is
this shit?

BETTY

I do not know what you are talking
about. I do know that is no way to
speak to a lady.

SETH

Are you gonna kill this bitch or
read her a bedtime story?

BETTY

I was -

Seth looks away from her and claps his hands once.

SETH

You know what? I don't care. We
need to reshoot this death scene.
I want Carlos.

Seth looks to two members of the film crew and points to
Betty.

SETH (CONT'D)

Get her off stage.

Betty lets go of Maria and angrily starts walking toward
Seth. Maria stands up and screams as a member of the film
crew grabs her.

BETTY

This was my kill. I will not stand
for this kind of treatment!

Two men from the film crew grab Betty. One of them starts to
whisper into her ear and they quietly usher her off stage.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Derek stands still for a moment and listens.

DEREK

Did you hear a scream?

Justin laughs at Derek.

JUSTIN

Yeah, I bet that was Maria fighting for her life.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

Maria is being held by a man, pleading for her life.

MARIA

Please, I won't tell anyone.

Seth is talking to a CARLOS, a Spanish man, early 30s, athletic with shoulder length hair, Armani suit; eurotrash.

SETH

Shut her up.

The man holding Maria covers her mouth. Carlos moves to the exact location where Betty was originally standing. Maria is being FORCED back to the corner where Carlos stands. The man moving Maria needs both hands to move her, so he removes his hand over her mouth.

MARIA

Help me! Please, someone!!

Seth is standing next to the two hosts and waves his hand forward.

SETH

Action!

Carlos grabs Maria and THROWS her to the ground. He POUNCES on her and bites her neck. As he does this, two cameramen creep up to the scene for a close-up, standing a foot away from the victim and crouch down on their knees.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

Seth gives a cue to the hosts and they walk up to Carlos and Maria with mics in tow.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Derek grabs a chair and starts heading to the hallway. He waves at the other contestants.

DEREK
Come with me.

The other contestants follow him.

JUSTIN
Man, I wish I was in Maria's shoes
right now. She's probably already
on her way home.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

Carlos sees the hosts approach out of the corner of his eye and sits up, blood all over his face and clothes. Alexis and Dale crouch down to Maria on one knee, sporting tender smiles. Maria looks over to them.

DALE
Maria, you've just been killed-

ALEXIS
Almost..

DALE
(correcting himself)
Almost killed. I mean, you're
about to die. What's going through
your mind right now?

Dale shoves a mic in Maria's face. Blood is flowing out of the side of her mouth as she starts to speak.

ALEXIS
Be honest, this is for posterity.

INT. STAGE AREA - NIGHT

Seth gives a hand gesture to the film crew at the death scene and speaks into a microphone.

SETH
(whispers)
Blood. More blood.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

With the cameras briefly fixated on the talking hosts, two men pour bottles labeled "Blood" on Maria's body and the floor around her.

Maria tries to speak but is only able to mumble words. She reaches out with a bloody hand and grabs the sleeve of Dale's jacket. Dale violently pulls his arm back and tries to scrub off the blood.

DALE
Not the jacket!

Dale walks away, still trying to clean his jacket. Alexis stands up and turns back toward Seth.

ALEXIS
I think her larynx is busted. This interview is going no where.

INT. HALLWAY TO LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants are standing at the far edge of the hallway, being viewed from remote control cameras. Derek is next to a wall, with the chair by his side.

DEREK
If I'm right, the post contest interview room is right behind this wall.

MAC
What's yer point, son?

Derek picks up the chair and SWINGS it toward the wall. As he does so, SOMEONE can be heard yelling off screen.

SOMEONE (O.S.)
Security!

But it's too late. Derek SMASHES a large hole in the wall. When the dust clears, the contestants can see Carlos and Alexis looking back at them, as they are standing over Maria's dead body.

MAC
Is that Maria?

Alicia looks at Maria's blood soaked body.

ALICIA
That is sick.

JUSTIN
I've seen this show before. This is where they try to scare you.

CLYDE
"Scare Tactics".

JUSTIN
Yeah.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

Mac walks through the hole in the wall and up to Carlos, fixated on his bloody fangs.

MAC
Those things look pretty real.

Mac reaches out with a finger and thumb to touch one of the fangs. SMACK! Carlos flings his arm at Mac, HURTLING him back through both the near and far walls of the hallway. CRASH!

INT. HALLWAY TO LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants are stunned.

JUSTIN
Holy Shit! They're real.

Alicia screams. Clyde starts to piss his pants.

INT. INTERVIEW ROOM - NIGHT

Seth snaps his fingers at Alexis.

SETH
Phase II, Phase II.

Alexis walks through the hole in the wall and into the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY TO LOUNGE - NIGHT

Security guards have cut the contestants off on both sides of the hallway. Another guard brings Mac out into the hall and dumps him next to the other contestants. Mac's in a daze and moaning.

ALEXIS
Well then. We have now entered what we call Phase II of the show, albeit much earlier than anticipated.

Alexis looks around at the silent contestants. When her eyes catch Justin's, she snarls.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
Nothing to say now, Justin?

Justin meekly looks away. Derek raises his hand.

DEREK
What kind of show is this?

ALEXIS
Good question Derek. This is a special reality show, made for the underground community of vampires throughout the world.

CLYDE
So you're an honest to God vampire?

ALEXIS
I don't think God had much to do with it, but yes. It's made by vampires, for vampires and starring vampires.

Alexis puts her hand to her mouth and lowers her voice.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
There are some collaborating humans, but we don't like to talk about that.

Alexis puts her hand down and raises her voice.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
In Phase I, the contestants are unaware of the true nature of the show. Contestants who lose challenges are unwittingly sent to their deaths. In Phase II, the nature of the show is public knowledge and you'll be openly competing against vampires. The next trials will be more....physical.

Through the hole in the wall, the contestants see a man with a shovel slam it down on Maria's neck, cutting her head off. This causes them all to flinch. Alicia turns her head away and covers her eyes.

JUSTIN
 (to Alexis)
 Why did you do that?

ALEXIS
 We don't want her coming back as
 one of us.

DEREK
 Why?

ALICIA
 Do you think we'd allow just anyone
 to become a vampire? It's a
 privilege. Only a select few get
 made. And we're certainly not
 going to turn any desperate,
 wannabe actors.

DEREK
 What if we win the show? Um...is
 there a winner?

ALEXIS
 There is indeed a winner. That's
 what's going to keep you motivated.
 The winner gets the biggest prize
 of all. Life.

Alexis clasps her hands together.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
 Get ready for the ride of your
 lives.

Mac musters his ability to become cognizant for a moment.

MAC
 What channel will this show be on?

Alexis frowns.

ALEXIS
 (deadpan)
 The vampire channel.

MAC
 Is that cable or satellite?

Everyone looks at MAC like he's an idiot. A SECURITY GUARD
 scowls at MAC.

SECURITY GUARD

You moron, it's not for the general public. It's a private Internet feed for vampires only.

MAC

Oh.

Mac passes out. Alexis turns to leave but then briefly turns back again, waving a finger back and forth in an admonishing manner.

ALEXIS

Oh, and for those of you who think of trying to escape, don't. Anyone caught trying will be tortured. Slowly. I can assure you that dying in a contest is a superior alternative. See you soon.

All of the contestants sit still for a moment. The security guards then start pushing and shoving at them, forcing them toward the lounge.

SETH (O.S.)

That's a wrap everyone. See you tomorrow.

INT. A BEDROOM CRIMESCENE - NIGHT

DALE (V.O.)

And now, a word from our sponsor.

Police tape can be seen cordoning off a bedroom. A number of policemen and CSI personnel are scouring over a crime scene. One of them is a dead ringer for William Petersen, the star of CSI. They are overlooking a dead body with puncture marks on the neck. The Petersen character is holding up a bloody cotton swab.

PETERSEN CHARACTER

We've got something.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

We've all been there. You do your best to clean up the crime scene.

INT. POLICE CSI LABORATORIES - DAY

CSI employees are working on impressive looking equipment and computers.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
DNA, hair samples, epithelials.
What the hell is this shit? Who
can keep up with the pace of
science?

PETERSEN CHARACTER
We've got him.

INT. CRYPT - DAY

Police and CSI employees are surrounding a coffin. They open it to find a stunned vampire (who is also an extremely bad actor).

VAMPIRE
Oh no!

The Petersen character hammers a stake into his chest. The vampire does a bad impression of dying. As he is about to die, he looks directly into the camera.

VAMPIRE (CONT'D)
How could I have prevented this?

NARRATOR (V.O.)
I'm the past, you were plain out of
luck. But today, we have a
solution, and that solution is
Scrub Away.

EXT. DARK ALLEY - NIGHT

A dead wino is lying on the ground. A vampire holds up a bottle, prominently displaying the words "Scrub Away." The vampire dabs some of the bottle's contents onto a cloth and begins wiping down the body and crime scene.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
Scrub Away removes DNA, hair
samples, blood, epithelials, and
all other known traces linking
vampires to their victims.

INT. WALL - NIGHT

A split screen is shown, with the left side displaying the words "Scrub Away" and the right side displaying the words "Leading Brand".

NARRATOR

Compare Scrub Away against the leading brand in a test using Luminol, a tool used by CSI departments.

When Luminol is used on the left side of the screen, nothing happens, on the right side, stains show up under black light.

EXT. DARK ALLEY - NIGHT

CSI personnel are overlooking a dead body. The William Peterson look alike looks confused. A police officer walks up to him.

POLICE OFFICER

So what have you got?

PETERSEN CHARACTER

I have no idea. There's no evidence.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

A vampire is standing on the street. The crime scene with the confused CSI personnel can be seen in the distance behind him.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

With Scrub Away, your only worries will be finding your next meal.

The vampire holds up a Scrub Away bottle in front of the camera.

VAMPIRE

Thanks for saving my life Scrub Away. Or rather, my "undead life".
Hah...hah....hah.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants are sitting on the couches. Beers and glasses of liquor litter the main table. Mac is wearing a knee brace, has his shoulder wrapped, and one eye swollen shut. He is searching through a cabinet.

MAC

They gotta have Jack here somewhere.

Justin takes a large swig from a glass.

JUSTIN

I'm gonna be so hung over tomorrow,
I won't even be able to feel
scared.

CLYDE

Me too.

Mac finds a bottle of Jack Daniels and limps back to the couch.

Alicia is nestles on the couch in an almost fetal position, occasionally sipping a drink. Derek is sitting next to her. He leans in and hugs her. She rests her head on his shoulder.

ALICIA

Sorry I didn't believe you.

JUSTIN

I don't see your drink Derek.
Aren't you the resident Alkie?

DEREK

I'm more of a social alcoholic.
Don't feel too social right now.

Almost on cue, a group of the film crew strolls in with smiles and carrying lots of alcohol. Among them, is SUSAN, a female human. She is in her late 20s, unattractive, fat and wearing ill-fitting clothes.

SUSAN

Hey everyone! Time to party like
there's no tomorrow. Because this
might be your last day.

The film crew turns on party music and quickly starts dancing and drinking. The contestants, still sitting on the couch by themselves, are taken a back by what they see. Clyde finishes his drink and stands up.

CLYDE

Fuck it. If I'm gonna die
tomorrow, I might as well get laid
tonight.

Alicia gets up and goes to her bedroom. Susan immediately sits next to Derek. Derek feels awkward and stares straight ahead, trying to pretend she isn't there.

SUSAN
Hi Derek, I'm Susan.

DEREK
Hi.

SUSAN
You can relax. This is a private party for the cast and crew. The cameras have been turned off til tomorrow.

Susan leers, looking him up and down and takes a large gulp of her drink.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
You are so hot.

She moves closer to him, picks up a drink and puts it to his mouth. He grabs it with his hand.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
Take a sip and relax. Or at least, pretend to. You're a good actor, I've seen all your shows.

Derek takes a sip of his drink. As he does so, Susan runs her hand up his leg and puts her mouth to his ear.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
(whispers)
I'm a producer, I can help you.

Derek's eyes light up. He turns toward her, now with a big smile.

DEREK
Really?

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Mac is leaning over a young woman with his hand against a wall. She is uninterested and starts to walk away.

MAC
(loudly)
We should just be friends okay? I wanna be faithful to my wife.

The LCD TV in the room flashes on. There is a caption saying "TORTURE TV" in the upper left hand corner. The screen shows Clyde, with his shirt off, tied to a rack.

He is being electrocuted and screaming at the top of his lungs. Justin is freaked out and turns to a MAN next to him.

JUSTIN
Is that Clyde?

MAN
Yeah, he must've just tried to escape and got caught.

JUSTIN
Are you gonna kill him?

MAN
Nah, there's always someone who's dumb enough to try and escape every season. We like to make an example of them for the rest of you. It's also good for the ratings. It get's passé if we do it more than once, so next escapee dies.

Justin empties a tall glass of hard liquor in one gulp.

JUSTIN
I need more alcohol.

INT. DEREK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Derek and Susan are lying in bed. Susan is very sweaty but Derek is bone dry. Derek is on his back and Susan is curled up next to him.

SUSAN
That was amazing.

She runs her fingers over his chest and examines his ribbed abs.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
I've never been with someone like you before. I've always been with guys like....like me.

Susan looks up at him with an eye of desperation.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
Was Igood? I did my best. I've read all the books. And I've practiced on...stuff.

Derek looks down at her, strokes her hair and forces a smile.

DEREK
You were great babe.

Susan rests her head on his chest, closes her eyes and smiles.

SUSAN
I always fantasized about being
with someone like you.

DEREK
Was Maria's buzzer really broken?

SUSAN
We disabled it.

DEREK
Why?

SUSAN
Because she put on weight since we
cast her. That made her really
unpopular with the viewers.

DEREK
That's it?

SUSAN
Derek, this is reality TV, not real
life. It's for the beautiful
people. That's why I'm behind the
camera.

DEREK
Just like that, you decided she had
to die?

Susan sits up and looks at Derek.

SUSAN
It may be a big deal to you and me,
but vampires don't give two shits
about human's lives.

Derek picks up a liquor bottle from the night stand and takes
a large swig. Susan grabs the bottle and puts it down.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
You need to be lucid for tomorrow.
There's something you need to
know.....

INT. CONFESSION BOOTH - NIGHT

A series of shots with different contestants speaking alone in the confession booth. All of the contestants are very drunk.

Mac is sitting in the booth, fighting back tears, looking into the camera.

MAC

If this message can ever get out to
ma wife and kids, I wanna say "I
love you."

Clyde is sitting in the booth, looking frazzled and now have a few streaks of white hair. He stares solemnly in his lap.

CLYDE

I'm not gonna lie, that was the
most traumatic experience of my
life.

Justin is standing up, hunched over, so close to the camera, his face almost bumps into the lens. He has a crazed smile.

JUSTIN

Sometimes, I have to take a shit
real bad, but I can't go right
away, so I hold it in tight. And
it feels kinda GOOD.

TORTURE TV ratings, 1st time

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

It's the next night. The contestants are sitting around when Dale and Alexis walk in.

DALE

Everyone rested?

Derek jumps up from a couch and pulls out a cross. It's made of broken pieces of furniture and held together with cloth.

DEREK

Get back.

Dale and Alexis giggle. Dale walks up to him, with the cross pressing against Dale's chest.

DALE

Religious symbols do not work on their own. You have to have faith, and you do not.

DEREK

I was raised a strict Christian and you will step back.

Alexis walks up to Derek and plucks the cross out of his hand.

ALEXIS

It doesn't matter how you've been raised, or even if you go to church every week. You have to believe. You're what they call a cultural Christian. You're comfortable with it, but you're not spiritual.

DEREK

Who are you to tell me what I believe!

Alexis holds up the cross.

ALEXIS

The proof is in the pudding.

DALE

According to your psychological profiles, none of you believe, except Maria.

Dale smiles.

DALE (CONT'D)

And she's dead.

Derek, dejected, walks back into the couch. Other contestants pull religious symbols out of their clothing and behind pillows, dropping them to the floor. Alicia holds a Star of David in her lap and stares at it.

ALICIA

I guess I'm just a cultural Jew.

She tosses it to the ground.

DALE

Come with us everyone. No chasing tonight. We're having a social event.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

The contestants and hosts are at the edge of a bar area. It looks like a standard, conventional bar, with a few tables next to it. The lighting level is low, setting an atmospheric mood. Trendy, "world" music can be heard playing lightly in the background. They see 4 people standing at the center of the bar with dark red drinks. Two are Carlos and Betty. The other two are:

LUC, who looks like Ben Franklin by the nature of his dress and wig (sans glasses).

HARLEY, late 20s, looks like a stripper, with swollen lips, fake boobs and big, wild hair.

They are wearing formal evening attire. Seth is sitting in the far corner of the bar, nursing a drink of alcohol and wearing casual clothes. The camera and production crew are at the periphery of the bar filming the event. Alexis addresses the contestants.

ALEXIS

This a social mixer. We'd like you to formally meet your pursuers. Don't worry, no one's going to chase you here. And no one's going to bite you, unless you tell them it's okay, hahahaha. Enjoy!

Alexis walks up to the bar and begins ordering a drink while Dale approaches Clyde and pulls him to the side.

DALE

Clyde, the director wants to speak with you.

Clyde is nervous and confused but walks off with Dale. Susan, sitting with the film crew behind the camera, smiles and coyly waves to Derek. Derek gives her an awkward, tight-lipped smile. Betty, wearing an old style ballroom dress, enthusiastically walks up to the contestants. The contestants are all unnerved by seeing a pursuer approach them, despite what they've been told. Betty stops in front of Derek, extends her hand, and does a curtsy.

BETTY

Well hello there. I do not believe we've been formally introduced. I am Betty.

Derek awkwardly grabs her hand.

DEREK
Ahh.....Hi. Derek.

BETTY
Yes. I know who you are. I-

Mac hobbles over and interrupts.

MAC
I'm Mac.

Betty, without missing a beat, turns to Mac and keeps the Southern hospitality going.

BETTY
How do you do Mac? Would you like
to get a drink for the lady?

She lifts up her hand to be taken. Mac is a little slow on the uptake, but eventually grabs her hand and walks her to the bar.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Alicia turns to Justin.

ALICIA
This is so weird. I don't know
what to do.

JUSTIN
Let's seek advice from..

A man standing behind a camera is holding up a card. It says "I think we should seek advice from Mr. Budweiser." Justin can be seen staring at the card.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)
...Mr. Budweiser.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Derek grabs Alicia's hand and starts walking to the far corner of the bar. Alicia is hesitant.

ALICIA
Where are we going?

DEREK
We're gonna hang out with Seth, the
director.

Alicia is pulling back, forcing Derek to slow down.

ALICIA
I think we should stick with the
group.

Derek stops and turns toward her.

DEREK
Trust me.

Alicia relents and they start moving again. As they walk past the pursuers, Luc steps out and extends his hand.

LUC
Good evening. It will be a
pleasure chasing you-

Derek and Alicia rebuff his handshake, walking right by him. Luc huffs at being blown off while Carlos and Harley quietly laugh.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Justin walks up to Carlos with a car salesman's smile.

JUSTIN
Hi, I'm Justin.

Carlos gives him a dead fish handshake.

CARLOS
Carlos.

Justin leans into Carlos.

JUSTIN
(whispering)
We should form an alliance.

Carlos is perplexed.

CARLOS
I am not a contestant.

JUSTIN
(whispering)
I know. No one would suspect.
I'll bet it's never been done.

Carlos shakes his head.

CARLOS
You are a silly man.

Justin looks at Carlos's dark red drink. He nervously laughs.

JUSTIN
What's that, a Bloody Mary?

Carlos holds Justin's gaze as he takes a sip.

CARLOS
Bloody Maria.

Justin stares intently at the dark red drink swirling in the crystal glass.

JUSTIN
That's not funny.

CARLOS
Was not meant to be.

Justin gets angry. He thinks for a second and regains his smile.

JUSTIN
So tell me Carlos, doesn't being a vampire mean you're open to men, sexually speaking?

Carlos, drinking while Justin was talking, is taken off guard by the statement and almost spills his drink.

CARLOS
What do you mean?

Justin smirks.

JUSTIN
Well, when you drink a guy's blood, you're sucking on a man's neck. That's kind of gay.

Justin's statement starts to arouse anger in Carlos.

CARLOS
That is about nourishment, nothing more.

JUSTIN
Soooo it's not a question of WHERE you're sucking the blood.
(MORE)

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

It could theoretically be anywhere
on the body, right?

CARLOS

Yes.

JUSTIN

Would you suck blood out of a man's
penis?

Carlos is in shock.

CARLOS

Wha-

Justin, now clearly enjoying himself, cuts Carlos off.

JUSTIN

Cause I gotta tell ya. I love
steak as much as the next guy, but
you're never gonna see me eating a
bull penis.

Carlos's anger builds as he finally realizes Justin's attempt
to embarrass him. He crushes the crystal glass in his hand,
causing Justin to flinch. He walks up to Justin and leans in
close.

CARLOS

I will enjoy it immensely when you
die. I hope I am there to partake
in your demise.

Carlos storms off and Justin happily sips his drink.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Derek and Alicia are approaching the end of the bar. In the
distance they can see Dale and Clyde standing next to Seth.
Alicia is staring at Seth.

ALICIA

He's drinking alcohol. You think
he's human?

DEREK

Yeah, he's a collaborator.

ALICIA

Why does he look so familiar?

DEREK
He's Seth Mayers. You remember the
movie WISHBONE?

ALICIA
Oh yeah! He was supposed to be the
next Tarentino or something. What
happened to him?

DEREK
I heard he got blackballed by the
industry for getting a studio
head's daughter pregnant.

ALICIA
So?

DEREK
She was 14.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Dale and Clyde are standing next to Seth, who is humped over
in his seat, casually sipping some Scotch.

SETH
Here's the thing, Clyde. We need
you to act
more....well.....ethnic.

Clyde closes his eyes and shakes his head.

CLYDE
The angry black man. They always
gotta have one, don't they?

SETH
You came off much differently in
your auditions.

Clyde has an earnest, concerned look on his face.

CLYDE
That's cause I know what producers
want. Look dude, I wanna be me,
and I wanna show some more positive
traits of black men. I'm probly
gonna die anyway. I'm doin it my
way.

Dale and Seth look at each other and then back at Clyde.
Seth stands up and puts his hand on Clyde's shoulder.

SETH

You have a shot at winning, Clyde.
But if you don't play along, we're
going to kill you right now.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Clyde is wearing the thick gold chains he earlier discarded.
He's prancing around in an animated fashion, holding a 40
ounce beer can.

CLYDE

Whhooooee! Where da white women at?

He immediately walks up to Harley and starts hitting on her
aggressively.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Derek and Alicia take seats next to Seth at the bar. Seth is
facing the bar and not looking at them.

DEREK

Hey Seth, big fan!

Seth doesn't turn to address Derek or Alicia.

SETH

Hey.

DEREK

This is my friend Alicia.

SETH

Charmed.

ALICIA

I liked WISHBONE.

Seth turns toward them as he wipes his mouth, sneering.

SETH

Course you did, honey. It was so
damn commercial after the producers
mucked it up.

Alicia is offended and steps forward, about to snap at him
but Derek pushes her back and steps in front of her.

DEREK

I thought your best movie was
DUGAN'S ALLEY.

Seth puts his drink down. He's skeptical, but also hopes Derek isn't a bullshitter.

SETH

Really?

DEREK

Really.

SETH

And what did you like about it?

DEREK

The whole gambling scene. I loved the dialogue, the use of light and shadow, the symbolism.

Seth's eyeballs widen, he thinks he's found a true believer.

SETH

You saw the symbolism?

DEREK

Yeah, the phallic stuff in the shadows. The whole theme was sex, right?

Seth excitedly stands up, picks up his glass and slams it back onto the bar.

SETH

And my agent said no one would get it!!

Seth extends his arm in friendship.

SETH (CONT'D)

Come have a drink with me.

As Seth retakes his seat, Derek and Alicia quickly sit next to him.

ALICIA

Thanks.

DEREK

I also liked the pseudo-documentary style. It reminded me of-

Seth points his finger at Derek.

SETH

Don't you say SPINAL TAP.

DEREK
-MAN BITES DOG.

Seth puts his hands to his head and smiles.

SETH
I love that movie!

ALICIA
(whispering to Derek)
What's MAN BITES DOG?

DEREK
(whispering to Alicia)
Foreign film about serial killers.
You wouldn't like it.

Alicia is irritated at suddenly being the third wheel.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Dale is leaning onto the bar, sipping a drink out of a straw.

JUSTIN
Why are you using a straw?

Dale gives a guilty smile.

DALE
Don't want to stain the pearly
whites.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Seth and Derek are laughing heartily. Alicia is doing her best impression of a laugh, trying to keep up.

DEREK
That was an egregious example of a
predictable ending.

SETH
Yeah.

Derek holds his tongue for a moment but he can't resist.

DEREK
You know egregious means extremely
bad.

Seth is amused by Derek's comment and Alicia elbows Derek in the gut.

ALICIA

Don't mind him, he's insecure. He likes to drop in those 5 dollar words to prove he's not an airhead.

Derek is terribly embarrassed.

DEREK

Alicia!

SETH

It's okay. If I was a pretty boy, I'd be worried about it too. Fortunately, I got hit with the ugly stick and had to develop other talents.

Derek, still pissed at Alicia, does his best impression at a laugh to prove he's over it.

SETH (CONT'D)

I know Derek's not just a pretty face. He's a cinephile.

Seth leans in toward Derek and Alicia with a smirk.

SETH (CONT'D)

(whispering)

That means knowledgeable about the movies.

Alicia gleefully laughs. Derek's still offended but tries to fake laugh through it.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Harley and Clyde are huddled next to each other at a table.

CLYDE

Does being a vampire make you any better in bed?

Clyde looks at the camera from the corner of his eye.

CLYDE (CONT'D)

Uh...Whitey.

Harley ignores his racial remark and plays with her straw, stirring it in her drink.

HARLEY

We have inhuman endurance. And
I've had a lot of time to refine my
skills.

She takes the straw out of her drink, brings it up to her
mouth and licks it with her tongue.

HARLEY (CONT'D)

I can show you stuff that would
blow your mind.

Clyde's getting excited, now having forgotten she's a
vampire.

CLYDE

I can tell you got skills just by
lookin in your eyes.

Harley moves her face closer to him.

HARLEY

Look deeper into my eyes. What
else do you see?

Clyde's eyes have glazed over, he's in a trance.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Derek, Alicia and Seth are drinking at the bar.

DEREK

I know you like to be
unpredictable.

SETH

Predictable is boring.

DEREK

Anything unpredictable planned for
the show?

SETH

(smiles)
I got some things in mind.

DEREK

Has anyone ever won the show?

SETH

No. But I think that'll change
this season.

DEREK
Can more than one person win the
show?

SETH
No.

DEREK
But if it happened, it would
be....unpredictable.

They all laugh.

SETH
Yes, it would, but it would be MY
decision.

DEREK
(smiling)
Of course, you're the director.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Clyde and Harley are locking eyes. Clyde's physically there,
but he's a million miles away.

HARLEY
Clyde, would you like me to bite
you?

CLYDE
Yes.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Carlos and Mac are talking. Mac's looking into Carlos's eyes
and starting to go into a trance.

MAC
Your eyes look so strange. I think
I....

CARLOS
Yes?

Mac drops his drink and slips out of his trance, he's looking
over Carlos's shoulder.

MAC
(screaming)
Ahhh!

Carlos turns around to see Harley biting into Clyde's neck. Clyde looks stoned and isn't struggling.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Alicia gasps, Derek grits his teeth and Seth smiles.

SETH

We have a winner. Or rather, a loser.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Justin is in shock and looks at Dale.

JUSTIN

I thought you said no one could attack us here.

Alexis walks up and interjects.

ALEXIS

I said no one could bite you unless you told them it was okay, and that's what happened.

Justin is disturbed and feels he's been conned. He walks away. Dale stands up and grabs his mic.

DALE

OK, show's over. You can go back to your rooms now.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Derek and Alicia are entering the lounge. Just as they pass the doorway, Alicia grabs Derek and pulls him behind the open door, so they are between the door and the wall, hidden from the cameras.

ALICIA

What just happened back there?

DEREK

I'm trying to help us.

ALICIA

You knew what was gonna happen, didn't you?

DEREK

Yes.

ALICIA

How?

DEREK

A little bird told me.

ALICIA

Why didn't you tell me? Why didn't you tell anyone else? You could've saved Clyde.

DEREK

The last time I tried to confide in you, you didn't believe me.

Alicia pauses.

ALICIA

You're right, I'm sorry.

DEREK

I can't save everyone, but I'm tryin to save us. I don't even know if I can do that, so cut me some friggen slack, will ya?

ALICIA

How did you come up with all that stuff about Seth's movie? I know you didn't know all that off the top of your head.

DEREK

Tweet tweet.

ALICIA

If we're gonna get through this together, I want FULL disclosure from now on, okay?

DEREK

Okay.

ALICIA

(pokes his chest as she talks)

I MEAN IT.

DEREK

Okay.

Alicia angrily walks away. Derek stands there, frustrated.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Mac is sitting down on the couch with an ice pack on his knee. Derek walks up and sits next to him.

DEREK
Hey Mac, how's the leg?

Mac doesn't want to talk to him, and stays focused on his leg.

MAC
(almost muttering)
Fine, fine.

Derek feels sorry for Mac and doesn't realize he's being blown off.

DEREK
So, is Mac a nickname?

Mac continues looking at his leg.

MAC
(abruptly)
Short for Cormac.

Cormac moves to the edge of the couch, away from Derek. Derek starts to get the hint and leans toward him.

DEREK
Is there a problem, Mac?

Mac looks up at a camera filming him and leans into Derek.

MAC
(whispers)
You got a low Q rating.

Derek is taken aback.

DEREK
A low Q rating?

MAC
(irritated)
A Q rating is how well-known and likable a celebrity is.
(MORE)

MAC (CONT'D)

You gotta have a low Q rating. I can't be associated with someone like you.

Derek is furious and stands up.

DEREK

Don't you fucking lecture me on a Q rating! I know what it is. And just what makes you think my rating is low?

MAC

Do I gotta tell you? You're a drug addict and a has been.

Derek can't believe what he's hearing and Mac has touched a raw nerve.

DEREK

Former drug addict. And at least I got a Q rating! You're a fucking nobody!

MAC

Not after this show.

Derek is almost laughing and think's Mac is clueless.

DEREK

And what makes you think this show's gonna get you famous? Don't you remember? It's for vampires only.

Mac shuffles his weight on the couch.

MAC

Vamps are powerful creatures. Way I figger it, they got connections. Maybe some'er even producers or studio execs or somthin.

Derek laughs.

DEREK

I got news for you, Mac. You're not exactly leading man material.

MAC

Not all parts go to leading men, you bubblehead. I can play character parts, like the kindly older gentlemen.

DEREK
Dorky older gentlemen maybe.

MAC
Fuck you.

DEREK
Don't you get it? You're the token loser of the group. That's why you're here.

Mac doesn't want to hear this and is struggling for a reason to keep his hope alive.

MAC
You- yer a pampered primadonna, yer so caught up in yerself, you don't get me.

DEREK
You ever look at "yerself" in the mirror? You're an ugly fricken redneck.

Derek thinks for a second.

DEREK (CONT'D)
You know what? I was wrong, you can play a lead- if they ever made another REVENGE OF THE NERDS movie.

MAC
You're a dick.

DEREK
Revenge of the dorkier, older nerds. Red neck nerds.

Derek walks up to Mac.

DEREK (CONT'D)
And look at you, all beaten up and broken down. To get an acting job, you'd actually have win the show, and you haven't got a chance.

Mac is struggling to keep it together, almost breaking down.

MAC
Shut up.

DEREK
You're just waiting to die. A dead man walking.

Mac gets up and starts limping to his room. Derek follows him to the edge of the hallway to the bedrooms.

DEREK (CONT'D)
You might as well kill yourself.

INT. BEDROOM HALLWAY - NIGHT

Derek, still angry, is walking down the hall as Justin comes out of his bedroom with a toothbrush and toothpaste.

JUSTIN
What're you up to?

DEREK
Hittin the sack.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

It's the next night. Dale and Alexis are standing in the lounge.

DEREK
Everyone out here! We need you onstage.

INT. BEDROOM HALLWAY - NIGHT

Justin and Alicia come shuffling out of their rooms. Derek follows a moment later. Dale is standing at the edge of the hallway.

DALE
Derek, go see if Mac is ready.

Derek doesn't want to talk to Mac.

DEREK
Can't someone else do it?

DALE
No.

Derek reluctantly opens Mac's door.

INT. MAC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Derek stands frozen in the doorway. Mac's body is hanging by a noose from the ceiling fan. There's a handwritten note on his bed.

INT. BEDROOM HALLWAY - NIGHT

Alicia doesn't understand why Derek's just standing there.

ALICIA
(calling out)
Derek!

Derek remains frozen and ignores her. She walks up to him.

INT. MAC'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Alicia grabs Derek by the arm.

ALICIA
Derek, what're you-

Alicia sees Mac's body out of the corner of her eye. She covers her mouth with her hands. Trembling, she falls to one knee and looks away.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
Oh God.

Suddenly, Dale, Alexis and a cameraman are behind Alicia and Derek. Dale and Alexis are all smiles.

ALEXIS
Well, what do we have here?

DALE
Looks like somebody took the easy way out. Derek, why don't you read the note on the bed?

Dale tries to push Derek forward but he resists.

DEREK
No. I -

Alexis prods Alicia forward.

ALEXIS
Then you read it, Alicia.

Alicia looks back at Alexis, who is very determined to get her way.

ALEXIS (CONT'D)
I advise you to do what I say.

Alicia slowly walks up to the bed, giving Mac's body a wide berth. She picks up the note and looks at it.

DALE

Read it aloud for everyone.

ALICIA

I have decided to end my life. I am not afraid of dying, but anticipation of death is worse than death itself.

Derek crouches down to his knees. He's holding his hands to the sides of his head.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

I can't win this competition with my busted leg, and I am not going to wait for the vamps to get me. I am going out on my own terms. Derek, you wanted me to kill myself, you got your wish. I hope you are happy. Someone please tell my wife and kids I love them. Mac.

Alicia puts the note down and looks at Derek. Derek looks back at her, full of guilt and remorse, with his eyes welled up.

ALEXIS

Oh, how tragic.

Dale leans down to speak with Derek, shoving a mic in his face.

DALE

Care to comment on Mac's note?

Derek knows he was setup and gives Dale a hateful look. He gets up and leaves.

ALICIA

Derek.

Alicia runs after him. Justin enters the edge of the doorway and tries to peer into the room but can't see anything.

JUSTIN

Hey, what's going on?

INT DEREK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Derek is sitting on his bed, wiping tears away. Alicia comes into the bedroom, sits next to him and puts her arm around him.

ALICIA

What happened?

DEREK

I tried to befriend him but he insulted me, and I lost my cool. We argued and I told him he should just kill himself. I didn't really mean it. I was so pissed. You know how I get when I'm angry.

Alicia rubs his back.

ALICIA

Yeah, I know.

DEREK

I try to be a good person, but...I don't know. Sometimes I can't help myself. I'm an jerk. I've been a jerk for years now. But I used to be a good person, when I was with you. Wasn't I?

ALICIA

Yeah, you were.

DEREK

I don't wanna be a dick anymore. I thought I was starting to change when this show started. When I came to get you. But maybe I can't. Maybe I'm too far gone. You were right. I should have tried to save Clyde.

Alicia hugs him.

ALICIA

You're doing the best you can.

DEREK

Ever since I got that part on FAST NIGHTS, I started to believe my own hype. I've been all about Derek "Super" Nova. I forgot what it was like to be just Derek. I could blame the fame or the drugs, but it was me who changed. I chose to be what I am. It was me that dumped you, that hurt people who couldn't help my career. But being here, facing death, I understand.

(MORE)

DEREK (CONT'D)

And it was also you, you helped to bring me back.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Justin, Alicia and Derek are seated in chairs on a stage. Alexis and Dale are standing, holding their microphones.

DALE

Hello everyone and welcome to the call in segment of the show. Here we give our fans a chance to interact with our contestants. Let's hear from our first caller. Tyrell from Louisiana.

TYRELL (V.O.)

Hi. I wanted to voice my disappointment on seeing Clyde die so early in the show.

DALE

So you were a fan of Clyde?

TYRELL

Not specifically Clyde, I'm disappointed to see the black guy die so quickly, even though I knew it was coming, with your racism and all.

Dale looks uncomfortable.

TYRELL (CONT'D)

And if any of you get made, don't think this life is any better. The white man's still in charge. I-

The call is disconnected.

ALEXIS

Thanks for your thoughts Tyrell. Let's hear from our next caller. Lana from Romania, you're on Reality Bites.

The next caller has an east European accent.

LANA (V.O.)

Hello Alexis, love your outfits. I like Derek but is obvious he is gay. His relationship is not believable.

DEREK
Gay? I'm NOT gay, see?

Derek reaches over to Alicia and cups one of her breasts.
Alicia punches him.

ALICIA
Stop it!

DEREK
(whispers)
This doesn't mean I haven't changed
and I not a better person now.

ALEXIS
Settle down you two.

DALE
Our next caller is Jun from South
Korea.

This caller has a thick Korean accent, speaking in broken
English.

JUN (V.O.)
Your show fixed.

DALE
And what makes you say that, Jun?

JUN (V.O.)
You host. You also host BLOOD
DRIVE. BLOOD DRIVE have cheating
scandal. You bear mark of
dishonor.

Dale is pissed.

DALE
Now wait just a minute. I was only
the host. I had no control over-

Jun cuts him off.

JUN (V.O.)
No matter. You-

Dale makes a 'cut' gesture with his hand to the crew and Jun
is disconnected. He covers his mic and looks at the film
crew.

DALE
 (whispers)
 Who the hell is screening these
 calls?

Dale uncovers his mic and composes himself.

DALE (CONT'D)
 That's all the time we have. Time
 for another word from our sponsor.

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - NIGHT

A rundown, burned out building. A emaciated drug addict with track marks on his arms is lying in the lap of a vampire. The vampire leans, bites his neck and takes a sip of his blood. He quickly rears his head back and makes a disgusted face.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 Sometimes you have to find a meal
 in a hurry and you can't always
 find quality food.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Vampire1 hands an extremely obese dead body to VAMPIRE2.
 Vampire2 is not happy.

VAMPIRE2
 I'll drink it, but I don't have to
 like it.

NARRATOR (V.O.)
 With new Tastos you never have to
 sacrifice on taste again. This
 high quality flavor enhancer masks
 the taste of bad blood and makes
 every meal a great experience.

Vampire2 pulls out a small bottle labeled "Tastos: Vestal Virgin Flavor" and pours some of the contents on the fat man's neck. He then begins drinking.

NARRATOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Sprinkle a little on the bite mark.
 It's quickly absorbed through the
 skin and enhances a meal's entire
 blood supply.

Vampire2 sits up with a smile.

VAMPIRE2

Delicious.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Comes in flavors Vestal Virgin,
Yoga Instructor and new Dutch Choir
Boy. 30 day money back guarantee.

INT. DARK ALLEY - NIGHT

Susan and Derek are buttoning their clothes.

SUSAN

I know you still have feelings for
Alicia. She's prettier than me.
If you wanna fuck her, I
understand.

DEREK

Can you help me escape?

SUSAN

Alexis already told you that's not
possible, and she's right. Didn't
you hear about what happened to
Clyde?

DEREK

Yeah, I did. But I have to try.

SUSAN

No you don't. You can win this.
Seth likes you, and that will help
a lot. They took a big risk with
you.

DEREK

What do you mean?

SUSAN

The first few seasons, all the
contestants were homeless guys,
people no one would miss. This is
the first time we've taken real
people. We needed to up our
ratings.

DEREK

How can you work on a show like
this?

SUSAN
They pay top dollar. The vamps are
loaded.

Susan gets in Derek's face.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
And don't judge me. I'm helping
you.

Susan hands him a pouch.

INT. HALLWAY TO BEDROOMS - NIGHT

Alicia is just walking out of her bedroom as Derek is coming
down the hallway. She smiles and extends her arms to hug
him.

ALICIA
Hey you.

DEREK
Hey. I have to take a shower.
I'll see you in a bit.

Derek tries to avoid her hug.

ALICIA
Come here, you.

Alicia won't let Derek pass and she hugs him. Alicia sniffs
and smells something. She PUNCHES Derek in the stomach.
Derek bends over, the wind knocked out of him. She looks at
the remote control camera in the hallway. She then grabs his
arm and leads him behind an open door, hiding them from the
cameras.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
You stink. You've been with a
girl. You fucking stink!

Derek is caught flat footed.

DEREK
Look, I -

Alicia sticks a finger in his face.

ALICIA
Don't you fucking lie to me.

DEREK

Yes, I was with a girl. But it wasn't about the sex. She works for the show, and she's helping me. Us.

ALICIA

She's the little bird? The one who gave you the inside info?

DEREK

Yeah. She has the hots for me. She's not gonna help us unless I...you know.

Alicia knows he's right but still doesn't like it.

ALICIA

Mmmmm Hmmm.

DEREK

This is life or death Alicia, I don't have a choice.

He tries to hug her, but she pushes him back.

ALICIA

There's always a choice.

Alicia walks away. As she's walking away, she shouts out to him.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

And take a shower!

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Justin is sitting in a chair, next to Alicia, who is sitting on the edge of the couch. Derek walks in fresh from the shower, his hair still wet. He sits next to Alicia, cautiously.

DEREK

What's up?

JUSTIN

We were just talking about what we'd do if we won the show.

DEREK

I'd go back to acting, for real. No more pussyfooting around. I'm done with that.

Derek puts his arm around Alicia.

DEREK (CONT'D)
And I'd spend more time with the
people who are important to me.

She tenses up, sheds a tear and leans over, hugging him.

ALICIA
I'm so scared.

Derek rubs her back.

DEREK
It's okay, I'm here.

Derek wipes the tears away from her face.

JUSTIN
(to Alicia)
Focus on the good things. What
will you do if you make it?

ALICIA
Spend more time with my family and
friends.

Alicia looks up and smiles at Derek.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
And Derek.

DEREK
(to Justin)
How bout you?

Justin looks down into his lap.

JUSTIN
I've been thinking about this a
lot. Done a lot of soul searching.
I have to be honest with myself.

Derek and Alicia nod their heads.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)
And I have an announcement to make.
(beat)
I've never told this to anyone
before.

Alicia and Derek sit up and lean forward. Justin tenses up, and closes his eyes for a second. He then looks directly at them, dead serious and takes a deep breathe.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)

I'm gay.

There is a moment of silence. Derek and Alicia briefly look at each other, confused. Some cameramen can be heard quietly snickering off camera.

ALICIA

We know.

Justin is confused.

JUSTIN

What do you mean you know? I've never told anyone.

DEREK

You're the gay character. That's why they hired you.

JUSTIN

No, I was the metro-sexual character.

SETH (O.S.)

Contestants to the stage area.

INT. HALLWAY TO LOUNGE - NIGHT

The contestants are following a security guard. Derek surreptitiously hands a small object to Alicia.

DEREK

(whispering)

Put this in your mouth.

Alicia puts it in her mouth and looks like she'd going to vomit.

ALICIA

Awwkkhh!

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

The contestants are standing at one side of a large table. There are large containers on the table and several pitchers of water. The hosts walk onstage with Carlos, Betty and Harley.

ALICIA

(whispering to Derek)

I can't feel my mouth.

DEREK
 (whispering to Alicia)
 You'll thank me for that.

ALEXIS
 Hello there humans. How are you?

The contestants nervously look at Carlos, Harley and Betty, who stare back at them menacingly.

DALE
 This is the first contest from Phase II, or as we call it, the first "real" challenge. This will be a competitive eating contest.

Alexis lifts the first container. It's full of cockroaches.

DALE (CONT'D)
 Humans, you'll be eating live, giant cockroaches.

Alicia and Justin get queasy.

ALICIA
 Ewwwhhh!

Alexis lifts open the other container. It contains a large plate of pasta.

DALE
 Fellow vampires, we have something different this time around. You'll be eating a garlic pasta dish, and washing it down with holy water.

Carlos, Betty and Harley are horrified.

CARLOS
 No, No, this is not how it works. I will not do this.

SETH (O.S.)
 Cut!

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Seth walks onto the stage with two big security guards behind him.

SETH
 You signed a contract.

CARLOS

We are supposed to chase them.
That is how it goes.

HARLEY

Yeah, you don't understand the
show.

SETH

Oh I understand. I understand this
show was about to be cancelled and
they brought me in to save it. So
I had to make drastic changes, and
your contract states you'll do
whatever contest we decide on.

BETTY

Garlic? Holy Water? I cannot
consume that.

SETH

The vamp docs tell me that while
painful, you'll survive. But if
you don't comply, the contract
states I can have you staked right
here.

Seth points back at a security guard, exposing his fangs and
brandishing a large wooden stake.

CARLOS

Listen here human! I-

SETH

No YOU listen! I'M the director, I
direct! You're just a talking
mannequin!

Carlos walks toward him and Seth snaps his fingers. The
security guards intercept Carlos and hold him down, holding a
stake up.

SETH (CONT'D)

You wanna end it right now?

Carlos looks up at the stake over him.

CARLOS

No. I will....comply.

SETH

If there's an element of risk for
you vamps, it heightens this thing
called "drama".

(MORE)

SETH (CONT'D)
 And good drama is what makes people
 watch. People
 and vampires.

Seth nods at the security guards and they let Carlos go.
 Seth looks around at everyone on the set.

SETH (CONT'D)
 Human or vampire, I rule the roost!
 No more bullshit!

Seth and the security guards walk offstage. As they do so,
 Seth gives Derek a quick wink.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

The human contestants are now lined up at the table, each
 with a covered bowl of cockroaches and a glass of water. The
 vampires are lined up on the other side, with a plate of
 pasta and a glass of water. Carlos is opposite Derek, Harley
 is opposite Alicia, and Betty is opposite Justin.

DALE
 Each human is paired up against a
 vampire: Derek against Carlos,
 Alicia against Harley and Justin
 against Betty. To win you must
 finish your food before your
 counterpart.

BZZZZT! A loud buzzer sounds.

DALE (CONT'D)
 Go!

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Derek, Alicia and Justin quickly take the top off their
 bowls. Derek grabs a bunch of roaches and stuffs them in his
 mouth, grinding them with his teeth. Justin and Alicia are
 apprehensive, slowly putting their hands into their jars.
 Derek looks at Alicia.

DEREK
 What are you waiting for? Eat it!

Alicia grabs some roaches, closes her eyes, and put them in
 her mouth. Derek, with half eaten cockroaches in his mouth,
 yells at Alicia.

DEREK (CONT'D)
 Chew!

Alicia closes her eyes even tighter and shakes her head. She starts chewing and shivers.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Carlos, Betty and Harley have forks full of pasta in their hands. They are looking at their forks and then each other. Dale listens for a moment in his earpiece.

DALE

(to Carlos, Betty and
Harley)

I have been told that if you do not
make a convincing show of it, you
will all get staked.

ALEXIS

Better chow down, fast!

The 3 vampires all look at each other, then eat the pasta. Carlos's eyes start to water, Betty bends over and grabs her stomach. Harley starts choking.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Derek is quickly finishing his bowl. Justin and Alicia are struggling. Derek's keeping an eye on Carlos, who is catching up to him.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Alexis points to the vampires' glasses of water.

ALEXIS

(to Carlos, Betty and
Harley)

Don't forget the holy water.

The vampires seem to have adjusted to the garlic pasta. They look at the water glasses, then drink from them. Carlos chugs half the glass in one gulp. Smoke starts to come out of his mouth and he screams out.

CARLOS

Agghh!!

Harley takes a large gulp as well. She spills some on her lip, causing fluid to ooze out. She screams.

HARLEY

Ahhhhh!

Alexis turns to Dale.

ALEXIS
I think that was collagen.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Derek has just finished eating. Carlos is quickly behind him.

DALE
That was close. Derek, you're our first winner.

Carlos angrily stares at Derek, then puts his head down on the table. Derek looks over to Alicia, who's almost finished, but she's neck and neck with Harley.

DEREK
Come on, Alicia.

Justin finishes, followed by Betty.

ALEXIS
Justin, good eating. You win.

Justin raises his hands in triumph. Betty, smoke still rising from her mouth, collapses.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Derek and Justin are cheering Alicia on. Harley is eating by herself. A medical team is attending Betty. Carlos is gone. Alicia, covered in sweat, grabs the last bunch of roaches from her bowl, puts them in her mouth, crunches down and swallows.

DALE
Alicia, you're our-

Dale stops mid-sentence as Alicia opens her mouth and a roach crawls out, resting on her cheek. Justin and Derek point to Alicia's cheek.

DEREK
Your cheek! There's a roach on your cheek!

Alicia seems delirious and turns toward Derek.

ALICIA
What?

Alicia reaches to her cheek and flinches when he feels the roach. She grabs it and as she's putting it in her mouth, Harley finishes.

DALE

Harley, congratulations. You're our final winner.

Alicia's eyes go wide with fear as she finishes eating the last roach.

ALICIA

What? I...what does that mean?

Alexis walks up to Alicia and grabs her arm. Two security guards come up behind Alicia.

ALEXIS

You're out. Time to go.

Before Alicia can react, Harley can be heard screaming off camera.

HARLEY (O.S.)

Haaaaagghhhhhh!!

Everyone turns to look.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Harley is holding her hands next to her stomach, exposed by a belly shirt. Smoking is rising from the center of her stomach. Her skin eats away like it's been hit with acid from the inside and water comes pouring out. She collapses.

INT. STAGE AREA - NIGHT

Alexis lets go of Alicia's arm and the guards step away from her.

ALEXIS

Looks like we have a change.
Retaining your food is a requirement for winning. Alicia, congratulations, you're our final winner.

Alicia's knees get wobbly. Derek rushes to her side and grabs her. He gives her a big hug.

DEREK

You did it!

He kisses her. Justin pats her on the back.

JUSTIN
You go girl!

Justin makes a fist to cover his mouth as he's about to burp. In the middle of his burp, Justin VOMITS a large portion of his food. Everyone stares at Justin for a moment. Justin looks back at them in disbelief.

JUSTIN (CONT'D)
No. I.....it was a burp. Just a burp.

Alexis walks up to Justin and the security guards get behind him.

ALEXIS
I'm sorry, Justin. We just explained the rules.

Justin tries to RUN but the guards grab him. Alexis starts walking away, with the guards behind her dragging Justin along. Justin screams at the top of his lungs.

JUSTIN
NOOOOOO!

Derek takes a step toward them but Dale stops him.

DALE
Let me save you from making a terrible mistake.

Derek looks back at Dale.

DEREK
You were human once. Don't you feel anything for him?

DALE
No. And even if I did, I couldn't help him. Go back to your rooms.

INT. DEREK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Derek and Alicia are in bed, cuddled together under the sheets.

ALICIA
I feel so bad about Justin.

DEREK

Me too, but there's nothing we can do about it. We have to focus on ourselves.

Derek puts a pillow over his and Alicia's heads, concealing them from the camera.

DEREK (CONT'D)

(whispering)

I may have to see Susan again. I hope you understand.

Alicia stiffens.

ALICIA

(whispering)

I do, but I still don't like it.

DEREK

(whispering)

With Susan's help and me playing Seth, I think we can both win.

ALICIA

(whispering)

I hope so.

Derek breathes on her and smiles.

DEREK

Do I stink?

Alicia smiles.

ALICIA

Yeah, like roaches.

Derek throws the pillow away and they kiss passionately.

INT. STAGE - DAY

It's the next day. The stage is dimly lit. Derek and Alicia are standing in front of a fluorescent-lined square, 20 feet by 20 feet. The line next to them is labeled "Start". About 20 feet away from them, is a line labeled "Finish". Carlos and Betty are on one side of the square and Harley and Luc are on the other. Carlos, Betty and Harley all look awful, the last contest took a toll on them. Dale and Alexis are standing next to Derek and Alicia.

DALE

Hello everyone and welcome to our next contest. This will be a simple chase. Derek and Alicia must get to the finish line at the other end of the box before our vampires can get you.

Everyone's waiting for the catch.

CARLOS

And?

Dale looks to Alexis.

ALEXIS

And...the vampires must do it while navigating through the sunlight.

THUMP. A lever is hit offscreen and focused beams of sunlight come pouring into the 20 by 20 box at different angles. They form a web-like pattern, not unlike the lasers seen guarding jewels in heist movies. The vampires all gasp. Alexis puts the tip of her nail into one beam and it starts to smoke. She quickly pulls it back.

LUC

No!

A vampire security guard comes up and hits a stake through Luc's left shoulder. Luc screams out. The other vampires are stunned.

LUC (CONT'D)

Ahhh!

SETH (O.S.)

That's to show you I'm not playing around. The next one who complains gets it in the heart.

The vampire security guard pulls the stake out.

INT. STAGE - DAY

Derek squeezes Alicia's hand.

DEREK

I love you.

Alicia's eyes well up.

ALICIA

I love you too. I've always loved you.

DALE

Everyone ready?

The humans and vampires are all tense. BZZZT! A buzzer sounds. Alexis jumps up in excitement.

ALEXIS

Go!

Derek and Alicia start running through the square. Carlos leaps into the air, twisting through the rays of sunlight with a preternatural agility. Derek and Alicia get about halfway to the finish when Carlos lands right in front of them. Derek and Alicia stop and look straight into Carlos's bloodthirsty eyes. Carlos reaches out to grab Derek but his arm is singed by sunlight and he pulls back. He looks around and realizes he can't touch them in his current position.

Luc, Betty and Harley run to the sides by the finish line and enter the square, twisting through the sunlight like snakes. Harley's shoulder is nicked by sunlight and she pulls back, but as she does so, she slips and falls down, being pelted with sunlight. Her body starts to smoke and char all over. One ray hits one of her giant boobs and a popping sound is heard.

INT. STAGE - DAY

Alexis's face scrunches.

ALEXIS

Ouch! There goes an implant.

Dale turns to Alexis.

DALE

Are yours real?

Alexis smiles.

ALEXIS

Real expensive.

INT. STAGE - DAY

Harley has dragged herself to the side of the square. She's moaning. Derek and Alicia have run to the right edge of the square to avoid Carlos, who is slowly twisting after them.

Luc and Betty are still coming at them from different sides, trying to surround them. As they are about to be surrounded, Alicia and Derek dive to the ground and crawl past the vampires, seeing a cluster of rays near the ground the vampires can't touch. As Alicia and Derek stand up and start running, Betty does a back flip and lands in front of them. Betty lunges forward, forcing Derek and Alicia to separate. Betty looks at Alicia. They're separated by inches but Betty can't touch her, held back by a network of rays.

ALICIA

Derek!

Derek has reached the finish line. He turns to Alicia.

DEREK

Go around! To the left!

Alicia runs around Betty. Betty tries to twist after her but gets blocked by some rays. Alicia is almost to the finish line. She reaches out and grabs Derek's hand. They both smile.

DEREK (CONT'D)

You made it.

When SUDDENLY.....Alicia stops and is jerked slightly back, out of Derek's hand. She looks down to see Harley, with a deflated breast, crawling on the bottom of the floor, holding onto one of her ankles. Alicia looks up to Derek in desperation.

ALICIA

Derek!?

Harley bites into her ankle and Alicia screams.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Agghh!

Derek reaches out to grab her hand again. Before he does so, Alicia is pulled back again, out of his reach. Carlos has grabbed her by the hair and is standing right next to her. He puts his fangs to her neck, looks at Derek, and smiles.

DEREK

Alicia!!

Carlos bites into her neck. Derek starts to run back into the square, but a vampire security guard grabs him by the waist.

INT. STAGE - DAY

DALE
I'm sorry Derek, but once you cross
the finish line, you cannot go
back.

INT. STAGE - DAY

Derek is scrambling to break the hold of the vampire security guard but can't.

DEREK
Take me! Take me!

He looks at Alicia, her life fading. She reaches out with a shaking arm and calls out to him, her voice barely a whisper.

ALICIA
(whispering)
Derek.

Alicia's head drops and she dies. The vampires let her go and she collapses to the ground.

SETH (O.S.)
Kill the sun.

THUMP! A lever is pulled offscreen and the rays of sunlight disappear. The vampires step away from Alicia. Derek is let go and he slowly walks up to Alicia. He kneels down, grabs her and pulls her into his lap. He looks at her lifeless eyes.

DEREK
(muttering)
Take me.

Dale, Alexis and a cameraman walk up to Derek.

ALEXIS
How are you feeling now, Derek?

She puts a mic close to him. He ignores them. Tears are streaming down his face. He kisses Alicia on the cheek and rocks her in his arms. He stands up, still looking at her body. He then EXPLODES toward the cameraman, GRABBING his camera and SMASHING it to the ground. He looks at Dale and Alexis.

DEREK
YOU HAPPY? IS THIS WHAT YOU
WANTED?

Derek walks off the stage. Alexis looks at Dale.

ALEXIS
That was unprofessional.

INT. DEREK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Derek is lying on his bed. He is staring off into the wall, his eyes still tearing. The door opens and Susan walks in.

SUSAN
Hi Derek.

Derek ignores her. She goes to the bed and sits next to him.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
They're worried about how you're doing. I told them I could calm you down, so they turned the cameras off. We can speak freely now.

Derek continues to ignore her. She runs her fingers through his hair. She puts a folded piece of paper on the nightstand.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
This is everything you need to know about the finale. You're going to win, Derek.

DEREK
I don't care anymore.

SUSAN
Yes you do. You just need some time to relax.

She lies behind Derek and spoons with him.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
Why don't we have sex? You can even call out Alicia's name. I won't mind.

DEREK
I wanna be alone.

Susan rubs his back. Derek arches his back to move away from her hand.

DEREK (CONT'D)
Go away!

Susan sit up.

SUSAN
Ok, let me know if you change your
mind.

Susan leaves the room.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

Derek is standing in front of a bathroom mirror, buttoning his shirt. Alexis walks into the bathroom doorway.

ALEXIS
You ready, champ?

DEREK
Yeah, just give me a minute.

Alexis walks away. Derek splashes some water on his face. He closes his eyes, takes a deep breathe and lets it out. He walks out of the room.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Derek is standing in a stage area. The show isn't ready to start yet. Film crew personnel are scurrying about, making final preparations. Derek walks up to Seth, who is sitting in a chair and looking over a notebook.

DEREK
Hey Seth, how's it hangin?

Seth continues reading and ignores him. Derek thinks Seth didn't hear him.

DEREK (CONT'D)
(louder)
Hey Seth, how's-

Seth cuts him off, still focusing on his notes.

SETH
I heard you the first time.

DEREK
The set looks different than I
expected. I thought it was going
to be another memory challenge.

Seth keeps focused on his notes.

SETH
I decided to make a change.

Derek gets nervous.

 DEREK
A change?

Seth looks up at Derek, all venom.

 SETH
You know I like to be
UNPREDICTABLE, Derek.

Something's wrong and Derek knows it. He tries to play it off and laugh.

 DEREK
Ok, see you later, Seth.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Derek looks around for Susan. He find the chair she normally sits in, only a MAN is sitting there. He walks up to the man.

 DEREK
Isn't this Susan's chair?

 MAN
She doesn't work here anymore.

 DEREK
What happened to her?

 MAN
I don't know.

Now Derek's really nervous. He doesn't understand what's happening. He starts sweating and pacing around.

 DALE (O.S.)
We need you, Derek. Time to start
the show.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Derek is standing on the stage with Dale and Alexis. There is a curtain on the far side of the stage. Derek is tense.

DALE

Well now, Derek, you've come a long way. How do you feel?

DEREK

Uh, okay.

ALEXIS

We've decided to go with something more traditional for our finale. We call it "the Castle Dracula scenario".

DEREK

Castle Dracula?

DALE

Yes. You must navigate your way through a series of tunnels and chambers. You will be chased by our vampire pursuers and you will also have to avoid the many traps laid throughout our "castle".

Derek wipes sweat off his brow.

ALEXIS

But if you make it to the finish line, you live! And you're free!

Dale turns to the curtain and points to it.

DALE

Now let's meet our pursuers, shall we?

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

The curtains draws back to reveal Carlos, Luc and...ALICIA. Alicia's wearing tight leather pants, a halter top and slicked back hair. She has on a lot of makeup, including blood red lipstick. She smiles at Derek, revealing fangs.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Derek is in utter shock. He gasps, tries to take a step back, loses his footing and crashes onto his buttocks. Dale and Alexis walk over, helping Derek to his feet.

ALICIA

Hello Derek, nice to see you again.

Derek looks at Alicia, at Seth and it all falls into place. Dale puts his arm around Derek.

DALE

As you can see, Derek, we changed our policy about granting vampire status to contestants.

Alexis leans next to Derek.

ALEXIS

The opportunity was just too good to pass up. Your initial reaction?

She holds a mic up to Derek. Derek looks at Alicia with solemn eyes.

DEREK

(to Alicia)
Oh baby.

Alicia snarls at him.

ALICIA

I'm not your baby anymore.

ALEXIS

We do so love turning good girls. It's much more decadent.

DALE

While you may not have much to say about Alicia, she had quite a bit to say about you.

DEREK

(to Alicia)
What did you tell them?

Alicia rolls her eyes and laughs.

ALICIA

Do I really have to tell you?

She lowers her eyes, deadly serious.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Tweet tweet.

Derek gets angry.

DEREK

She was trying to help us!

ALICIA
She's not helping anyone anymore.

Dale turns Derek away from Alicia.

DALE
Enough of this quibbling. You two
can talk later.

Dale and Alexis lead him to an open doorway at the edge of the stage.

DALE (CONT'D)
This is where you begin your final
journey.

ALEXIS
Hope to see you on the other side.

BZZZZT! A buzzer goes off.

DALE
Go. Go!

Derek stands for a moment, trying to make sense of everything which has just happened. He looks around, then back at Alicia, and runs through the door.

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

Derek is running down a tunnel. It looks ancient, with medieval-style architecture. There are lit torches adorning the walls. As Derek rounds a corner, he sees swords and shields hanging off the wall. He stops to grab a sword and shield. He continues down the hallway until he gets to a door. He opens the door and a jet of flame BLASTS toward him. He is just able to get his shield up in time. After the flame subsides, he proceeds through the door. He stops for a moment and tries to shake his shield loose from his arm.

DEREK
Hot! Hot! Hot!

Derek shakes the shield free and rubs his arm. He hears howling sounds from behind him and starts to run further into the tunnels.

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

Carlos, Luc and Alicia are running down a tunnel. So fast they are almost a blur.

INT. CHAMBER - NIGHT

Derek opens a door to a room and enters. As he's about to start running, he steps on a pressure sensor. Arrows come flying out of the walls. He dives to the ground, blocking one with his sword but another arrow clips his right shoulder. He gets up and continues running.

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

Carlos, Luc and Alicia are running down a tunnel and come to a fork. Carlos and Alicia go left, Luc goes right.

INT. CHAMBER - NIGHT

Derek enters a room, this time walking cautiously. He sees a dagger on one of the walls and grabs it with his free hand. He starts up a stairwell, when Carlos enters the room. Derek sees Carlos, RUNS up the stairs, through a doorway and starts to close the door. Carlos LEAPS to the top of the stairs, and grabs Derek by the shirt just as Derek is about to close door. Carlos pulls Derek through the small opening of the door, SMASHING part of the door in the process. He throws Derek onto the top of the stairs and stands over him.

CARLOS

Good evening.

Derek swings his dagger up at Carlos, who easily dodges it. Derek stands up and swings with his sword, slashing into one of Carlos's thighs. Carlos steps back and grabs his leg as Derek starts to run by him.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

The last few trials have taken their toll, else you would not have been able to cut me. It was clever to befriend the director.

Derek runs through the door and into the hallway. Carlos steadies himself.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

But I am not yet undone.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Derek is running down a hall as Carlos SPEEDS up behind him. He tackles Derek and they tumble to the ground. Derek's dagger falls loose, out of reach. Carlos instantaneously gets to his feet, like a falling cat righting himself.

Carlos stands over Derek, one foot pressing down on the wrist holding the sword.

CARLOS
As I took your lover....

Carlos leans slightly down.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
...so shall I take you.

Derek tries to free his wrist with his other hand but it won't budge. He sees Carlos bending down out of the corner of his eye. As he is struggling, he sees a floor tile that looks different than the others. He SMASHES it with his free hand. CLICK. A sound is heard from a pressure sensor. A long blade comes flying out of the wall, severing Carlos in half. As Carlos's body parts fall to the ground, blood splashes everywhere, covering Derek. Derek stands up, grabs his dagger and looks at Carlos's body parts. He looks to the end of the hallway and sees the words FINISH LINE with an arrow pointing around the corner. He starts to run, now limping. He rounds the corner to see...

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

...ALICIA, standing at the end of the next hallway, in front of a door marked FINISH. Derek stops and stares at Alicia. She's smiling and twirling her hair.

DEREK
How did you get ahead of me?

Alicia starts walking toward him.

ALICIA
Slipped by while you two were fighting.

Derek readies his dagger and sword.

DEREK
I'd have seen you.

Alicia jumps up and starts crawling on the wall.

ALICIA
Depends on where you're looking.

Derek is so focused on Alicia, he fails to notice when he steps on another pressure sensor. CLICK.

A cascading row of pendulums with large blades on their ends FLY out of the ceiling and line the hallway. One comes crashing toward Derek and he barely dives out of the way, smashing himself against the wall.

DEREK

Umpf!

As one of the pendulums swings back past Alicia, she drops to the floor. The pendulum swings forward, and as it passes Alicia, she jumps onboard, resting on its flat edge and grabs the pole as if she were riding a swing. With the momentum of the pendulums and her inhuman strength, Alicia jumps from pendulum to pendulum until she reaches Derek. Derek stands up just as the pendulum with Alicia swings by him. Alicia sticks her leg out to kick Derek, sending him flying onto his back. She jumps off and lands in front of Derek. Derek struggles to his feet and swings his sword. Alicia leans back and does a backbend. She then back flips to her feet. Derek lunges forward, slashing with his sword and dagger. Alicia easily dodges his attacks with her supernatural agility. She disarms Derek, sending his weapons flying. She grabs his neck and lifts him off the floor.

ALICIA

I do so love your egregious cheekbones.

Derek is gasping for breath.

DEREK

Not the...proper use...of the word.

INT. STAGE - NIGHT

Dale and Alexis are watching the fight via large TV monitors. Alexis frowns.

ALEXIS

What a moron.

DALE

Actually, he's right. That isn't the proper use of the word. "Egregious means-

ALEXIS

Shut up! I know what it means.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Alicia is still holding Derek by the throat, but now they're nose to nose.

ALICIA
Give us a kiss, loverboy.

Alicia kisses him, then knees him in the groin. Derek cries out.

DEREK
Ughhh!

She drops him to the floor. She kicks him in the ribs.

ALICIA
That's for dumping me.

Derek grabs his sides. Alicia picks him up by the hair. She licks some blood off his cheek and looks into his eyes. Derek looks at her earnestly.

DEREK
I love you.

ALICIA
I loved you too....once. But I now see the world through different eyes, better eyes. And all I see in you is a meal.

DEREK
There must be a part of you that's still human. That still loves me.

ALICIA
Is that all you got? That your best line?

DEREK
I love you.

ALICIA
I heard that one already.

Alicia looks at her nails on her free hand, disappointed.

ALICIA (CONT'D)
Then I guess it's time for the moment of truth.

Alicia drops Derek to his feet, grabs him in close by his shirt, puts her face to his. Derek closes his eyes and tenses up. Alicia pushes him to the ground.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

Go.

Derek opens his eyes and looks up at Alicia.

DEREK

You're letting me go?

ALICIA

For know.

Derek stands up.

DEREK

What does that mean?

Alicia smiles.

ALICIA

As Mac said earlier, anticipation of death is worse than death itself. This is the beginning, not the end. I'm going to come for you sometime in the future. But you'll never know when. Every day you wake, you'll wonder if it's the last day of your life. If it's the day I'm going to kill you.

Derek picks up his sword and dagger. He starts walking down the hall. Alicia SWOOPS up behind him, grabbing him by the neck and pushing his head to within inches of a swinging pendulum blade.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

And this is to show you I mean business! I'm coming, and the waiting will be agony!

She throws Derek to the ground.

ALICIA (CONT'D)

You're a pathetic loser. Rotten to the core.

Derek stands up, forming a cross with his dagger and sword. Alicia is shocked when it seems to cause her pain. She holds up her hands and is forced back.

DEREK
I am not corrupt. I BELIEVE!

Derek lowers his weapons.

DEREK (CONT'D)
I still love you. I'll always
remember you for the woman you once
were.

Derek runs to the end of the hall and goes through the door
marked FINISH and...

INT. FINISH AREA - NIGHT

...Derek enters a stage area, blinded by bright lights and
overwhelming sounds of cheering. He stops and raises his
arms to cover his face. The lights subside and Derek lowers
his arms. He looks around and sees an audience giving him a
standing ovation but...they've all got fangs. They're an
audience of vampires. Dale and Alexis walk up to
congratulate him. Derek is dumbfounded and drops his
weapons. Alexis shakes his hand. Dale looks at the blood
all over Derek, and decides not to.

ALEXIS
Congratulations Derek, you're the
winner! Our first winner ever!

Dale hands his mic to Derek.

DALE
Please say a few words.

Derek is still trying to take everything in.

DEREK
Is it over?

The audience erupts in laughter.

ALEXIS
Derek, let's start the final
interview.

INT. FINISH AREA - NIGHT

The stage area is mostly empty. Only Derek, Dale and Alexis
remain. Derek is still covered in dried blood. Film crew
personnel are sweeping floors and taking apart equipment.
Seth walks by and shouts out to Derek.

SETH

Nice job. No hard feelings,
alright?

DEREK

(speaking out to himself)
Guess he's not mad at me anymore.

ALEXIS

(to Derek)
Of course not. Ratings for our
finale were through the roof.

Derek looks at Dale.

DEREK

So you gonna kill me now?

Dale shakes his head.

DALE

No! It's legit. You are going
home.

DEREK

Aren't you worried I'm going to
tell anyone about what happened?

Alexis laughs.

ALEXIS

Tell them what? That you've been
on a vampire reality show? Good
luck with that.

A large SUV pulls up next to the edge of the stage. Dale
ushers Derek toward the SUV.

DALE

Time for you to go.

DEREK

What about Alicia?

DALE

What about her?

DEREK

She said she was gonna come after
me.

Dale laughs and pats him on the back, leading him toward the
SUV.

DALE

She can't do that, she's prohibited
by her contract.

Derek is not reassured. He's in front of the SUV.

DEREK

Contract? What if she comes after
me anyway?

DALE

Oh, she'll be fined.

Derek freaks out as he's stepping into the SUV.

DEREK

Fined?

EXT. THE PARKING LOT TO DEREK'S APARTMENT COMPLEX - NIGHT

The SUV is standing in the parking lot. A door opens and Derek's thrown onto the ground, wearing a black hood. Derek stands up and takes off the hood. He looks around the parking lot, and slowly starts walking to his apartment.

INT. DEREK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Derek walks through the front door, closes it and drops his keys to the floor. He goes to his bed and sits down. He looks over to his answering machine. It has one message. He hits the PLAY button and looks away, staring out to the wall.

SAL (V.O.)

It's Sal. I heard you missed that
audition I setup. I'm dropping
you, Derek. You don't have what it
takes to survive it this cutthroat
town.

FADE OUT: