

## Episode 4.25 Burnt Out And Falling

### **Voyager, The Mess Hall:**

A lot of people had gathered around tables, most were talking in small groups. Naomi and Neelix were carrying trays of food around, not many were stupid enough to take any.

"Yes yes, she really did do that, it was so... so, help me out," Yasmin said, with tears in her eyes. She looked around the group.

"Noble maybe?" Jodie suggested.

Yasmin grinned, "yes, perfect."

"Cool, who did she take the phaser shot for?" Zare asked.

Yasmin stared at her like she had a "I hate coffee" t-shirt on. "Isn't it obvious, the aliens were trying to kidnap the coffee but they got mad."

The rest of the group took turns glancing at the person next to them, nodding their heads. "Yep, sounds like her," Nikki commented.

Yasmin sniffed, "yeah, she was so great." Zare and Nikki put their arms around her as they were the closest.

"I know it's so sad, we're sorry," Zare said, trying to be comforting.

Jodie settled for patting her on the shoulder, "if it makes you feel any better, I know how you feel. I lost my mum too."

"Thanks, it does," Yasmin said, wiping a tear from her left eye. "Oh, do you remember the time she got up on stage on karaoke night, and rewrote the Cheeky Song?"

The rest of the group looked rather uncomfortable. "No, um unfortunately I missed that," Zare muttered.

"Shame, it was funny," Yasmin said. She walked away, passing Lena's group which was just her, Daniel, Tom, Faye and Tani.

"I can't believe he's not here yet," Lena said.

Daniel placed a comforting hand on her arm, "he'll be here, why wouldn't he be?"

"I dunno, maybe cos it's too difficult to go to his new wife's funeral," Tom said. The rest of the group stared at him blankly. "Well it is, what's wrong with... Oh right, everyone's mad cos Tom said it."

"Wow it's took him ten years, but he's finally got it," Faye commented.

"Nah, if I said it someone would glare at me too," Daniel said.

Tani shrugged her shoulders, "oh I don't know, I think saying something worse might get glares as we weren't glaring."

"Weren't we?" Lena muttered, still staring at Tom. He took a step backwards.

Daniel sighed, "forget what he said, he'll be here."

"Right, what did James do at Jessie's anyway?" Tani asked.

Faye stared blankly at her, "you didn't go?"

"No, I was still mad about the engagement," Tani replied meekly.

"Pathetic," Tom grunted. Tani elbowed him in the ribs. "I mean, perfectly reasonable."

"Well?" Tani questioned.

"He was there all right, of course he was. So why isn't my dad here?" Lena snapped.

Daniel put an arm around her shoulders, "he will be, maybe we should sit down." He guided her to the nearest empty table.

"That's chilling," Tani muttered.

"What is?" Faye asked, sipping her drink.

"James was evil at the funeral, did everyone who screwed up their speeches get murdered?" Tani questioned.

Tom sipped at his drink too, "you know what else is chilling?"

"What, that James could come to this one? Remind me not say anything," Tani said.

Tom shook his head, "no, but now that you mention it. Never mind, the chilling thing is that you are even scaring me, talking like that."

"You're not telepathic," Faye muttered, walking away.

Tani pouted, "what, I get nervous and mutter a lot at funerals. That's why I didn't go to Jessie's, I rant too. I wouldn't be alive now if I went."

Tom patted her on the shoulder, "that's not so pathetic."

Meanwhile B'Elanna was talking to Harry, Doctor Jones, Craig and Triah. "I never thought I'd say this but, I'd rather watch Neelix do his drunken act than be at this funeral," she said.

Triah's eyes widened in horror, "you may get your wish after all."

Everyone else looked in the direction she was facing. They all saw Neelix picking up a glass from the middle table, crying his eyes out.

"Aaaw," most of the group sighed. Then it hit them, "oh."

"I'm on it," Doctor Jones said, pulling a hypospray out of his pocket. "I always bring these to social gatherings like these." He rushed over to Neelix, passing Annika and Lilly.

"It's not so much a piece of clothing, but more of a second skin," Annika was saying.

Lilly frowned, "you mean like you're wearing nothing right now."

Annika giggled, "yes exactly, it's freedom and spirit. You should try it."

Lilly looked around for some help, "um, I don't really have the figure for it."

"Yeah that's true. This kind of thing is for the big girls, you know it's restraining for us to where other stuff," Annika said. "Oh oh, I'll tell Lena, Yasmin and maybe Jessie about it."

"Uh huh, you do realise this is a funeral and you shouldn't tell that to any one of them, or anyone for that matter, ever," Lilly muttered.

Annika gasped, "ohno, who died?"

Lilly rolled her eyes while she walked away.

James and Jessie came into the room with all their kids. Duncan's eyes lit up as he caught sight of the food tables. "Oh, sausage rolls." He rushed over to the table.

"Ok um, go get something to eat," Jessie muttered.

Sasha tugged on her leg, "can I too?"

"Sure, go on," Jessie replied.

Sasha giggled, "yey." She rushed over to a different table.

"Yasmin and Lena are over there, why don't you go over," Jessie said in James' direction.

He sighed, "I think I need some alcohol first." Neelix walked passed with two glasses of wine, still crying. James snatched them both off of him.

Doctor Jones stopped following him, "well that's that sorted."

"Is one for me?" Jessie asked.

"Yeah sure," James muttered in response, he handed her one glass. He downed his own while she just watched. "Ok see you later." He walked away, grabbing someone's bottle of vodka as he passed.

"Yeah do you remember the time she jumped onto her chair and sang Coffee Blues," Yasmin questioned to a group with Danny and Ian in it. "She was like trying to dance with everyone."

"Yeah that was..." Danny nodded her head. "Really annoying."

Yasmin pouted, "it was funny."

"I agree," Ian muttered.

Danny stared at him, "you weren't there."

"No, but imagining it is probably better," Ian said.

Meanwhile James walked up to Lena and Daniel. He had a hold of two bottles, but dropped one on the floor.

"Drunk at a funeral, why didn't I think of that?" Daniel commented.

"It takes a lot to get me drunk, most of the time," James said.

"Hmm, you must have got that from your dad's side," Daniel commented.

"No, not really," James muttered.

Lena looked confused, "what's that supposed to mean anyway?"

"It means nothing really," Daniel meekly replied. "I'm going to get another drink want one?"

"Sure," Lena replied.

"Make sure it isn't booze," James said. Lena glared at him. "What, I need as much as I can get."

Daniel headed away carrying two empty glasses.

"So here's a stupid question, how are you?" James asked.

Lena shrugged, "crappy, you?"

"I'm holding a beer bottle, and I haven't touched beer for seven years," James replied.

"Oh yeah, well," Lena muttered, she walked away.

James frowned, "um ok, I can rule out something I said."

Gretchen and Phoebe walked in to the room, with arms around one another, talking. "What time does it start?" Phoebe asked.

"In five minutes," Gretchen replied, glancing around. "Where's Chakotay?"

"I don't know. That's weird, I don't see him anywhere," Phoebe replied.

James meanwhile got approached by Jessie. "Is that beer?" she asked nervously.

"No, it's just a beer bottle," James replied. She stared at him blankly. "All right, but it's just one."

"You said you wouldn't ever touch that stuff," Jessie said.

"It's just one," James said quietly.

"Times that by one hundred and you've got yourself a marital problem," Jessie muttered, folding her arms.

"I'm not going to have that much, and if I did it wouldn't mean that I'd do the exact same thing. Also..." James muttered. He stopped as he caught sight of the icy look on her face. "I'll give it to someone else."

She snatched it off him, "better."

Lena passed them on the way over to Gretchen and Phoebe. "Have either of you seen my dad?"

"No honey we haven't," Phoebe replied.

Gretchen caught sight of James as he headed for the alcohol table, alone this time. "What's he doing?"

"Oh he's taking up beer again, which isn't very wise," Lena replied.

Gretchen sighed, "no, what's he doing here?"

Phoebe stared at her in shock, "because he's Kathy's son, that's why."

"But he's a psycho, and he was responsible for it," Gretchen grumbled.

Lena raised her eyebrow, "no he wasn't, and it is mum's funeral."

"Exactly," Gretchen snapped.

"No I mean, she'd want him to be here," Lena said.

"Drunk?" Phoebe smirked.

"No, apparently he doesn't get drunk that easily," Lena muttered.

Gretchen groaned. She clapped her hands, "ok everyone, it's time to leave for the service."

"But dad's still not here," Lena muttered.

"He's probably late, he'll come by the church," Phoebe said.

"No, he should be here by now," Lena grumbled.

Phoebe put an arm around her shoulders, "come on sweetheart, let's go." She guided her towards the main door. Gretchen followed them as everyone prepared to leave as well.

### **Indiana:**

All of the main cast, most of the regulars and some members of the crew were sitting, walking or standing around in a large cathedral. An odd few crewmembers were still walking in.

Jessie stopped halfway down the aisle, she stood on the side of Sarah-Amy's pram that James was on. "Where do we sit, I've never been to an um, cathedral before."

James stared at her looking confused, "uh Jess, the wedding two months ago."

"Damn, I know," Jessie muttered. She ignored the cough from a nearby priest. "I thought it sounded better than I've never been to a family funeral before."

James slipped an arm around her waist, he kissed her on the forehead, "lucky you."

"What about your sister's?" Lena questioned, raising an eyebrow.

Jessie pouted, "ok, I'm uncomfortable ok, leave me alone. Now where do we sit?"

"At the front," James replied, he picked up Sasha who was carrying something in her little hand.

They all headed down to the front, Jessie pushing the pram again, and Duncan following behind them all fiddling with his jacket.

"Dad, what do we have to do?" he asked.

James stopped to take a hold of his hand, "just sit, and um try to keep calm, you know." He put Sasha down onto the chairs, Duncan sat down beside her. Jessie sat down after placing the pram beside the chairs.

Tani leaned over to Triah beside her, who had a pram beside her in the middle of the aisle. "Somebody should have told him that at Jess' funeral," she whispered.

Triah raised an eyebrow, "um, right?"

"Dad's not coming, why is he not here?" Lena said quietly to James.

He turned to her, "he's probably just late. He's not going to miss this."

"Well, I can't believe him," Lena grumbled.

"Don't be too hard on him, it'll be really difficult for him, believe me," James said.

"So what? You went to Jessie's while bloody evil," Lena snapped. The same priest coughed again. "What, I can't even say bloody in here?"

James took a step backwards as Yasmin made her way over. "He may just have a bad cough," she said.

The priest walked over to them, "excuse me, can you take your seats."

Lena glared at him, "what!?"

James put a hand on her shoulder, "Lena, don't..."

"Yeah, the coffee god will frown on that," Yasmin said. Lena and James stared at her blankly.

"Ok, do you two even give a crap?" Lena snapped.

"About the coffee god or this?" Yasmin questioned.

James took a hold of Lena's arm as her face stiffened up. "Easy, calm down."

Phoebe stood up, "guys, you should all sit down."

"Fine, sorry," Lena sighed, she sat down. James sat down in between her and Jessie. Yasmin sat down next to Lena. The priest went to his place. "We can't start, dad's not here," Lena whispered.

Yasmin looked down at her hands, "neither is my dad."

James groaned, while Lena glanced at her blankly. "Not my fault," he said, Jessie glanced at him trying not to snigger.

"You didn't know him," Lena muttered.

James shrugged, "and that's bad?"

"Shh, have some respect," Gretchen whispered from the other side of the aisle.

"Yeah it's not like Janeway's really gone, look at Yasmin," Tom commented. Everyone turned their heads to stare at him, even people who didn't know him. "Ok I got it," he pouted.

### **Later:**

Everyone were now leaving the cathedral, following the six Starfleet crewmembers carrying the coffin.

Tom cleared his throat nervously, "you know, I'm wondering why there are puny ensigns carrying the coffin, when there are two flesh and blood Slayers at this funeral."

Lena and James turned their heads to glare at him. "And I'm wondering who's funeral we're going to next," James muttered.

Tom's eyes widened, he stopped in his tracks forcing B'Elanna, Bryan and Johnathan to as well.

"You really should learn to talk only at appropriate times," B'Elanna said.

"I'm sorry, it's like a disease or something," Tom muttered, he continued walking.

Yasmin and Lena walked beside each other, and linked arms. "Tom did have a point, you know," Yasmin said.

"Right, I can't even go near vampires I don't know," Lena muttered.

"Yes, she's not like you Yassy," Jessie commented, taking a hold of James' hand.

"No no, I know that, I just meant James," Yasmin questioned.

"Yeah, you could really um, show up the puny ensigns," Danny commented from behind them.

"Are any of you even aware of the reason we're here?" James questioned.

Quite a few people looked a little ashamed. "Sorry," several people muttered at different times.

A little while later everyone had gathered around an empty grave. The Ensigns lowered the coffin into it, while the priest guy continued talking. The family stood at the front, everyone else gathered behind them.

"... And we commit her body to the ground. Ashes to ashes. Dust to dust."

Lena turned to James and buried her head in his shoulder. Yasmin put her arms around her, Lena put one of hers around her. James moved around so he could put his arms around the both of them.

Several people started putting bunches of flowers on top of the coffin. Sasha stepped closer to it holding a small jar of coffee, "here you go, grandma Janeway." She placed it next to the gravestone.

A few people watched her, "aaw."

Duncan folded his arms, "you know that she won't be able to drink it, and she won't be happy about it."

Jessie sighed, "she'll love it."

Mostly everyone headed away leaving just the family.

James moved away from Yasmin and Lena, they continued to hug each other. He glanced over at Jessie, "did she give her the coffee?"

She smiled, "yeah." She knelt down to pick up Sasha.

Lena and Yasmin pulled away. "I'm never going to see her sing the coffee version of the YMCA again," Yasmin cried.

Lena pulled a face, "huh?"

"You didn't see that?" Yasmin questioned.

Lena looked over Yasmin's shoulder, her face turned pale, "no um. I'll see you later." She walked passed her.

"Did you see it?" Yasmin asked James.

He stared at her, "noo, but I bet it was great." He watched Lena walk towards a small hill, where Chakotay was standing.

"So you bothered to come after all," she grumbled.

"It was... it was hard," Chakotay muttered.

"And it wasn't hard for me, grandma, Phoebe, James, or Yasmin?" Lena grumbled.

"That's not what I said," Chakotay said.

"But that's what you meant. You're saying that it's hard for you, and don't give a toss about anyone else," Lena said.

"I realise it's hard for you too. You have no idea what it feels like to lose someone you're in love with, so soon after making everything right with them," Chakotay muttered.

"Oh, that's why you didn't come? I'm sure mum will be ok now that you have a s\*\*\*y reason for not coming to her funeral," Lena muttered.

"She'd understand," Chakotay said.

"No she wouldn't. Aren't you forgetting that James lost Jess not long after getting engaged, she was expecting Sasha then. He was evil but still cared enough to say goodbye to her," Lena snapped.

Chakotay narrowed his eyes, he slapped her across the face, "of course I care!"

Lena's eyes widened in shock. She swung her fist at him, knocking him backwards onto the ground. "Well you better start acting like you do!"

James rushed over to her side, "what, what happened?" He put a hand on her shoulder. She just turned her head to stare coldly at him.

Chakotay sat up, one hand over his nose.

Lena turned her head back towards him, "you touch me like that again, and you'll have something else broken." She stormed off.

James watched her, then turned back to Chakotay. "What is your problem anyway?"

He narrowed his eyes again as he stood up, "right, now I'm getting grief from you." He walked off in another direction.

### **Voyager, the Mess Hall:**

Two people climbed onto the stage at the end of the room. One of them grabbed a microphone. "Hey everyone. We thought that we'd sing a little song to cheer everyone up."

The two cleared their throats, "do be do. Ding dong the witch is dead, the witch is dead, the witch is dead." Two loud bangs surprised the whole room, the guys collapsed moments later.

Lena, who was about two feet from the stage, frowned, "hey, who beat me to it?"

Duncan ran over to the table nearby where the sausage rolls were. James and Jessie were nearby. "I didn't realise you kept those guns you stole from the museum," Jessie said, holding a half eaten sausage roll.

James shrugged as he put away a hand held gun, "well it's a good thing I did. They'll live though." On cue some crewmembers started carrying the two crewmembers away.

"Hey, who ate all the sausage rolls?" Duncan pouted.

"Not me, I only had one," Jessie replied, looking around. "I think Annika has the plate."

"Oh it's that bitch again!" Duncan grumbled. He ran towards Annika.

"Should we do something?" James asked.

Jessie shook her head, she put the rest of the roll into her mouth.

Annika spotted Duncan coming her way, "aaaw, hello cutie."

"What? Ugh, just give me the plate!" Duncan snapped.



"But I love these," Annika said.

"I only had one, you can't hog the plate you greedy cow," Duncan said.

"Sorry, it's first come first serve sweetie," Annika said. She messed up his hair with her hand, then walked away.

Duncan started fuming, "mum!"

Jessie walked over, "no, I'm not cleaning anything up."

"She, she touched me," Duncan muttered, pouting.

Jessie sighed, "oh ok, fine." She walked off in Annika's direction.

Nearby Lena sat down next to Daniel at a table. "Stupid question, how are you doing?" he asked.

"Usual, crappy," Lena replied.

"Is there anything I can do?" Daniel asked carefully.

Lena turned to look at him, "you could build a time machine for me."

"I'll give it a go, but chances are I forgot how to do it," Daniel said. Lena smiled weakly. "Ah good, I can do something."

"I wish I'd stayed overnight like I planned," Lena sighed. "My phobia of them would have woke me up. Or maybe they would have went for me instead."

"Lena, you never say stuff like that. It just makes you feel worse," Daniel said.

"I know but..." Lena muttered.

"But nothing. Your mum wouldn't want you to torment yourself like this," Daniel said.

"No, she probably wouldn't," Lena sighed. "This year just sucks. First Kiara leaves, a niece dies, and now this."

Daniel sighed too, "and you broke up with Craig, and went out with me."

"Ohno, that wasn't what I meant," Lena stuttered.

Daniel shrugged, "I know. I was just adding something to your list for you."

"Daniel don't be stupid. I named all the crappy parts of the year," Lena said.

"Well remember, if there's something I can do for you, just let me know. I am serious about that," Daniel said.

"Thanks. For now you can just keep me company," Lena said.

"That I can do," Daniel said, smiling slightly. He leaned over to kiss her on the cheek, then put his arm around her shoulders.

Craig was meanwhile watching the scene from the kitchen. James came over with Duncan. Sandi was working inside the kitchen, she walked over, "what can I get you boys?"

"More sausage rolls please," Duncan replied.

"Ok cutie. James, Craig?" Sandi questioned.

Craig was too busy watching Daniel and Lena to answer. "I'll have two vodka with coke's," James said.

"Jessie's drinking again?" Sandi said as she prepared the drinks. Neelix meanwhile put a tray of sausage rolls onto the bench. Duncan took them and walked off.

"No, why?" James replied.

Sandi looked worried as she left the drinks, "oh right. Well take it easy." She walked over to another group.

Craig finally turned away, he spotted James beside him. He drank from one of the glasses, while holding the other one. "I can't believe this."

"What?" James muttered, not caring.

"Nothing, wrong time and place," Craig muttered.

James rolled his eyes as he turned to face him, "I could do with a distraction. What's up?"

Craig beckoned his head towards Lena and Daniel. "I don't get it. He's a different guy to the one she knew while growing up. They barely know each other."

"Well you dumped her, don't complain," James muttered.

"I know but it was a mistake," Craig said. He turned his head back, "you've got to help me."

James coughed as he was finishing his last drink. He glanced back at Craig looking bewildered. "You want me to help you get my sister back?"

"Just forget it's Lena for a second. It's just you're married, you broke up with Jess once before and got her back. Tell me how," Craig said.

"Ok fine, but you'll be disappointed," James muttered. "Ok, she told me she loved me, and I told her how I felt. You've broken up with the same girlfriend twice for the same reasons. I can't help you."

Craig groaned, "but you..."

"I'm not finished. I can't help you because it's different with you and her. There's been other people and she's told you she doesn't love you. So, sorry," James said.

"You've got to help me. Tom wouldn't so who will?" Craig stuttered.

"I'll help you all right. Get over it," James said, raising his second glass.

Craig stared at him, now looking annoyed. "If someone had took Jess away before you got her back, would you like it if someone said the same to you?"

James put his drink back down, "it's different."

"No it's not, stop saying that. You love Jess, just as much as I love Lena," Craig grumbled.

James shrugged, "then maybe you shouldn't have dumped her because you thought she liked her brother, and went out with Zare to get her jealous." He walked away with his drink.

"I didn't!" Craig snapped. He groaned, "fine, he knows nothing anyway."

Meanwhile Annika was talking to Jessie at the other side of the room. She had her eyebrow raised, while backing away a step every now and then. "So you think I'd suit a catsuit?"

"Yes I do. Your husband will love it," Annika said.

"No, I'm sure he'd divorce me instead," Jessie muttered.

"What? Ohno I'm sorry, when did you find out that he's gay?" Annika gasped.

"Oh he's not," Jessie grumbled. "But I have time for another funeral this week, just barely."

"Ohno, who else died?" Annika gasped.

Jessie groaned, she finally walked away.

Zare, Emma, Sandi, Kevin, Daniel and Wesley were nearby talking quietly.

"The device is supposed to fit in a temple's statue," Sandi was saying.

"And?" Zare and Emma muttered, not sounding interested.

"Research shows that the temple is for Slayers only, and if they find it they can... 'purge all vampire life' on the planet it's on," Wesley said.

"There's obviously temples on a lot of planets including this one. As it's for Slayers only we're having trouble figuring out how to find Earth's," Sandi said.

Zare raised an eyebrow, "purge them how?"

"Dunno. It's only a legend," Kevin shrugged.

"I'm afraid we don't know much about it. We're not even sure if it's been done before," Wesley said.

"We're continuing research later. It's worth all the time if it works," Sandi said.

"Oh I don't know, I have a bad feeling about this," Zare mumbled.

Craig nearby was listening in, he frowned as he headed back over to the kitchen. Lena was standing by it, sipping on a glass of coke. "Hey Lena," he said.

She glanced at him, "oh hi."

"I know this isn't a good time but there's something I want to talk to you about," Craig said.

"Oh, what?" Lena questioned.

"Well I was thinking that I owe you an apology, you know for thinking I could just propose to you," Craig said quietly.

"Forget it, it's fine," Lena said.

"Yeah well, I was just a bit off after Zare dumped me. Actually there's really no good enough excuse," Craig said.

Lena raised an eyebrow, "I said forget it, we all do crazy things."

"Tell me about it," Craig commented. "That reminds me, how is Daniel?"

"Are you trying to say that me seeing him is crazy?" Lena questioned.

"I'm so glad you admitted it," Craig said.

Lena groaned, "Craig, it's not crazy. I do like him you know."

"Sorry, I just think he's a self absorbed ass," Craig said.

"Yeah he was, but you'd be surprised how much he's changed," Lena said.

Craig shrugged, "he's still a self absorbed ass."

"I didn't insult Zare, did I?" Lena muttered.

"No, but in all honesty, this is killing me," Craig muttered.

"Um, what is?" Lena asked.

"You and him. At first I thought you were doing it to spite me, and was only pretending for a short while but," Craig muttered. "It seems to me now that it's the real thing."

"Well it is kinda. Daniel is still more of a friend to me though, that's what I really need now," Lena said.

"Lena, we were friends too. What's different?" Craig asked.

Lena looked confused, "um, we're still friends. What do you mean?"

"I mean we were friends while we were going out. What's different with him?" Craig asked.

Lena looked uncomfortable, "well, he's a different guy. Sorry, don't get what you mean."

Craig stepped closer to her, "Lena we were great together, we were friends and everything. You and Daniel are friends, but is that it?"

"Well, I dunno. We go out, we talk, but that's it. There's been no um, kissing if that's what you mean," Lena muttered.

"He just did though," Craig said.

Lena groaned, "you saw that."

"I did, that's why I figured," Craig said.

Lena sighed, "no I haven't kissed him or anything. I told you, we go out and we still remain friends. We did the same."

"Why haven't you?" Craig asked meekly.

"I don't know, maybe cos I don't want to," Lena replied.

Craig's eyes lit up a little, "ah ha, so you don't want to be his girlfriend then."

Lena raised an eyebrow, "Craig, stop it. You're giving me a headache."

"It's not me. You're the one who's confusing us both. You're going out with this guy, yet you don't want to do girlfriend and boyfriend stuff with him, 'sadly'," Craig said.

"Maybe because that's not what I want. I've never been a fan of those kind of relationships. If I kissed somebody, I'd feel weird about it or disgusted afterwards," Lena said quietly.

Craig pouted, looking a little insulted, "um, gee thanks."

Lena tried not to laugh, "it wasn't you Craig. I'm just weird like that."

"How would you know, you've just kissed me, and ugh, your brother," Craig said.

"Now you can probably understand why I feel like that then. Even when I didn't know it still felt really wrong and gross," Lena commented.

"Yeah but we kissed before that incident on Thairo," Craig said.

"Ok, maybe I can't blame it on James then," Lena said. She shrugged, "maybe cos at heart I'm still a teen, I'll probably feel better when I'm older."

"Right, kids get disgusted after a kiss not teens," Craig said.

"Some do," Lena shrugged.

"So does this mean you're not actually dating Daniel properly?" Craig asked.

"Yes I am. He understands that I don't like kissing, I told him that. He's fine with it," Lena replied.

Craig frowned, "I would be too you know."

"Craig, what are you doing?" Lena asked.

"All right it would bug me a lot. See if Daniel is fine with it, that means he doesn't like you as much as you think," Craig mumbled.

"That's nice," Lena muttered.

Craig sighed, "Lena, I know relationships aren't just about the kissing, but if he's fine with not doing that, then you're not going to have a good relationship. Fine, he kissed you on the cheek, but friends do that too."

"I told you he was more of a friend than anything. We're just friends who go out," Lena said.

"We could be, I'll wait for you, you know that," Craig said.

Lena looked uncomfortable again, "um, wait for what?"

"You said you may feel better when older. Maybe Daniel won't be able to, but I would gladly wait. We can be friends who go out," Craig replied.

"But, you dumped me cos you didn't trust me. We've been through this before, and I can't do it again," Lena muttered.

"Then you tell me this. Did you prefer being with me or Daniel?" Craig asked.

"Well um, I don't know. Daniel's been really nice to me ever since Kiara left, and with mum, we also talk for hours about stuff," Lena replied, looking around the room. "You and I, well you were always really sweet, and it was fun."

"So you don't know," Craig muttered.

"I don't know, I don't like being put on the spot like this," Lena mumbled.

Daniel walked over, "hey you two."

"Oh hey, didn't see you come over," Lena said quietly.

"Oh that reminds me," Craig said. She glanced at him looking worried. "What's this legend thing you lot were talking about before?"

Daniel stared at him, "you were listening in?"

Lena kept glancing between them, "what legend?"

"Something about purging vampire life on Earth," Craig replied.

"It's something we're researching. Now if you'll excuse me," Daniel muttered, he walked away.

Lena stared after him, "what, wait a minute." She rushed after him.

Craig shrugged, "you never keep things like that from her, bad move." He walked away looking smug.

Lena walked in front of Daniel to stop him, "why didn't you tell me about this?"

"Ok, we didn't want to get your hopes up. You wanted revenge, and we thought you'd jump right into it if you knew," Daniel replied.

Lena stared at him, mouth wide open in shock. "I don't believe this. Who is we?"

"Um, the Slayers, Wesley," Daniel muttered.

"What about my brother?" Lena asked.

Daniel shook his head, "he wanted revenge too, and he was evil recently."

"Well that's nice Daniel, but I would like to know about these kind of things. I wouldn't have jumped right into a legend thing until we knew more about it," Lena said.

"I'm sorry, but I was told not to tell you," Daniel muttered.

"Oh right, fine, nobody trusts me, that's nice," Lena grumbled, she walked away.

### **Later that night**

#### **The Enterprise, James/Jessie's Quarters:**

"Duncan," Sasha whispered from her crib.

Duncan groaned, he put the cover over his head. "No, there's shields around the ship, a vampire can't be hanging outside the window again."

"No, that's not it," Sasha said, sitting up.

"Then what?" Duncan groaned.

"You know when you said grandma wouldn't be happy about the coffee I gave her?" Sasha asked.

"Yeah," Duncan replied, yawning.

"Do you know where she is?" Sasha asked.

"No, I just meant that if she could see it, she wouldn't be able to get it," Duncan replied, turning his back to her. "Now good night."

Sasha pouted, "Duncan."

He groaned and turned back over, "what?"

"Will we ever see her again?" Sasha asked.

"Ugh, can't you ask in the morning, I'm tired," Duncan groaned.

Sasha stood up, "fine, I'll ask mummy and daddy."

"I'm sure they are too," Duncan muttered, putting the cover back over his head.

Sasha squeezed through the gaps between the wooden bars, she walked out of the room, holding one of her teddies. She walked straight into the other bedroom, "mummy, daddy." She went over to tug on the bed cover.

She heard Jessie groan, moments later she sat up. "Ohno, what is it?"

"Where do we go when we die?" Sasha asked.

"Look just because I've done it several times sweetie, doesn't mean I know," Jessie muttered.

"How come?" Sasha asked.

"I don't remember it," Jessie replied, she pulled herself out of the bed.

"So you don't know where grandma Janeway is now?" Sasha questioned.

Jessie knelt down to gather her up into her arms, she stood back up. "We can't talk here," she said, heading into the living room. She sat her down on the sofa, she sat down beside her. "Look honey, you're a little young to be asking questions like that, you've got a good number of decades left yet."

"Somebody said that when you die, you disappear. That isn't true is it?" Sasha asked.

"No I doubt that, or I wouldn't be here really," Jessie replied, yawning slightly.

"So, where do you go?" Sasha asked.

"It's complicated. Nobody knows for sure but we've had ghosts, reincarnations," Jessie replied.

"So you turn into a ghost?" Sasha questioned.

"Supposedly your daddy's dad, he was a ghost then reincarnated," Jessie replied. "But like me, he might remember differently or not remember some of it."

"What does reincarnated mean?" Sasha asked.

"It means the soul is born in someone else, they are someone else, I can't explain it," Jessie replied. "Now, I don't know exactly what happens but I'm sure your grandmother will be ok."

Sasha started pouting again, "you mean she could turn into someone else, I won't see her again then."

Jessie glanced around the room like she wanted some help, "um, no you will. Not everyone reincarnates, maybe..." Sasha started to cry. "Oh god, sorry sweetie, I'm not very good at this." She picked her up, and put her on her lap. "Don't cry, I don't know what I'm saying."

James stepped out of the bedroom, "what's going on?"

Jessie looked up at him, "please, you've gotta help me here." He walked over to them. "She's asking about where people go when they die, and of course I answered stupidly."

"Right, like I'd do any better," James muttered. He gently took Sasha from her, "shh, it's ok, nothing to worry about."

"She wants to know if she's going to see her grandma again," Jessie said.

"Oh, there's no doubt about that," James said.

Sasha looked up at him, "but mummy said that she might um, reincarna... carna, or something. She'd be different."

"No, only bad people do that," James said. Jessie pulled a face, she mouthed 'what'. "That's what I believe, honey, and it's probably true."

"I don't get it," Sasha muttered.

"Well before Duncan was born I remember getting badly injured, and seeing my step mother and half sister, who are dead. We talked for a bit before I woke up, it's a bit hard to remember it all. They were both good people, so they obviously go straight to an afterlife," James said.

"Is it nice there?" Sasha asked.

"If it was the place I was in during our conversation, then yeah. I'd imagine your grandma would get unlimited coffee there, so she'll always be happy," James replied.

Jessie smiled, shaking her head, "that's not good."

Sasha giggled, "you mean she'd always be hyper."

"Yeah most likely," James said. "You see all the people we know reincarnated were bad people, like murderers. There was Inan, Makia, Unu, and of course my dad."

"Your dad?" Sasha muttered.

"He was a mean old man," James said. "You will see your grandma again, cos I know you're going to be good, aren't you?"

Sasha nodded, "I'm always good. Will Duncan go too?"

Jessie's eyes widened, "not for a long time."

"But he's always naughty," Sasha said.

"But he passes the afterlife criteria by far. The ones who don't are usually heartless killers, for example. Duncan's not like that," James said.

Sasha shook her head, "no."

"Ok, you don't worry about grandma. She'll be having the time of her um, life. Let's get you back to bed ey," James said. Sasha nodded, he carried her into the other bedroom.

Jessie sighed, "well that's me out." She got up, then walked back towards the other bedroom.

### **The next day:**

James rushed over to the replicator, "it's ok, I'll do it."

"You're already late, so I think I should take him," Jessie said.

"Yeah exactly, I'm already late," James said, fiddling with the replicator.

Jessie walked over to him, "are you getting deja vu?"

"A little yeah," James replied. He picked up two plates from the replicator.



She snatched them right off him, "good, then you'll remember that I won last time. Now get your ass to work mister."

"Why do I get the feeling you're trying to get rid of me," James muttered.

Jessie put the plates onto the table in front of Duncan, who was fiddling with a bag. Sasha climbed onto the sofa beside him. "I'm not, why would I?" she asked.

"I could give you a list if you want," James said, once again fiddling with the replicator. "Are you sure you can do this on your own?"

Jessie groaned, "yes that's something to put on your list."

James turned his head away from the replicator, "what?"

"Sorry, I just want to look after the kids on my own for once, cos I can. There is no need to be like this," Jessie muttered.

"Ok, but this doesn't have anything to do with last night, right?" James carefully asked.

"No, no, it's fine, easy. Take Duncan to school, come back, pick him up at lunch, get food again. How hard can it be?" Jessie said.

"Harder, cos you forgot to take Duncan back to school, and Sasha isn't in the nursery," James replied.

Jessie narrowed her eyes, "don't you have to go to work?"

"I guess so," James said.

"Don't worry about me, I can handle it," Jessie said.

"Yeah I know," James said, he headed over to Duncan and Sasha. "Ok Duncan, you know the drill."

"I know, be good," Duncan said. "I'm always good."

Sasha giggled, "good at being bad, right daddy?"

Duncan pouted as James knelt down in front of them. "At least behave for your mum," he said.

"Hey, I'm always good for mum," Duncan said.

"You too Sash," James said. He kissed them both on the cheek, then stood back up. He headed back over to Jessie. "There, they're all yours." He kissed her on the cheek too, then walked out.

"Ok kids, we're going to have to hurry," Jessie said but was interrupted by Sarah-Amy crying in the next room. "Be right back."

### **Later, outside Shield Row Primary School:**

Jessie stopped outside the metal gates, just managing to carry Sasha with one arm, and hold the pram handle with her other hand. Duncan was standing beside her.

"Ok you behave today Duncan," Jessie said.

Duncan looked up at her, "it's my first day again, I always do."

The bell rang through the yard. A youngish woman walked out of the building while most of the kids headed inside. Duncan groaned, he followed the others inside. The woman passed him, she walked directly towards Jessie.

"All right, we've got ten minutes until beam back time," she said to Sasha, while fiddling with the bag on her shoulder.

The woman stopped in front of her, "excuse me."

Jessie looked up from her bag, "um, what?"

"You're Duncan's mother right?" the woman questioned.

"That's right. He couldn't have done something wrong already," Jessie replied.

"No no, of course not," the woman said. "I'm Mrs Jill Hannigan, the Deputy Head. I'd like to speak to you about your son."

"Um ok, but I'm scheduled for a beam out in ten or so minutes," Jessie said.

"I can contact the transporter officer from my office, this may take longer," Hannigan said.

"I'm going to be late dropping my daughter off at nursery," Jessie muttered.

"I'm sure they won't mind, please," Hannigan said. Jessie sighed.

### **The Deputy Head's Office:**

Hannigan sat down behind her desk, while Jessie sat Sasha down on one of the chairs in front of it.

"I'm just wondering, how old is your oldest daughter?" Hannigan asked.

"Only one, why?" Jessie replied, she sat down on the other chair.

"Ok so we'll just have Duncan until he leaves, then she'll join the year afterwards, right," Hannigan said. She folded her arms on the desk. "I'm going to get straight to the point. I just want to let you know of my concerns about Duncan. A three year old should be in a nursery, not in Year Four in Primary School."

"He is keeping up right, is that what this is about?" Jessie questioned.

"More or less," Hannigan replied. "You see, you took him from a nursery on a starship, to a school in Indiana. Quickly you got him here, after several weeks you kept him off for some weeks. Then brought him back, just to keep him off again. He's already too young for the class, it does not help if you let him have numerous holidays too."

"He had to stay off, besides we took him to the school on the Enterprise so I wouldn't call it a holiday," Jessie said.

"Why did he have to stay off?" Hannigan asked.

"Family crisis," Jessie replied.

"Two of them?" Hannigan questioned.

"Yes," Jessie replied.

"Hmm, what kind of family crisis' are we talking about here?" Hannigan asked.

"First one is a bit complicated. Second his grandmother was murdered. Happy now?" Jessie replied bitterly.

"Murder, on Earth? I doubt it," Hannigan muttered, shaking her head.

Jessie narrowed her eyes, "ok, what is your problem? Duncan was tutored during his time off, other people wouldn't do that."

"No, other parents wouldn't send a three year old to school. Should we expect Sasha here to join next year's Year Three's?" Hannigan said.

Jessie stared blankly at her, "did you always have such a bitchy attitude?"

"Hmm, I see where Duncan gets his smart alacky attitude from," Hannigan grumbled. "All I can see Mrs Stuart, is that the only family crisis your son has is having two irresponsible parents, who are obviously in a hurry to get rid of the children during the day."

"That's not what we're doing," Jessie muttered.

"It seems that way to me. I deal with your type all the time. All three children are similar ages, so I'm guessing all were accidents, at least one has a different father to the others, and you had to marry one of them to keep a father figure around?" Hannigan questioned.

"You couldn't be more wrong," Jessie grumbled as she stood up.

Sasha looked up at her, "is Duncan the one with another daddy?"

"No, all of you have the same dad," Jessie muttered, going slightly red in the cheeks. "It's time to go."

"Well, they're at least accidents. Marry after they were born, did you?" Hannigan muttered.

Jessie picked up Sasha. "You'd better watch your mouth, I don't like people talking to me like that."

"No one's allowed to be honest around you then?" Hannigan questioned.

"Mummy, what does she mean by accidents?" Sasha asked.

"You don't need to know, cos you're not," Jessie grumbled in response. She pushed the pram towards the door.

"I wonder if you're husband is easier to deal with," Hannigan said.

Jessie stopped at the door, "tell me something, does your husband know how you got promoted to Deputy?"

"Hmph, what a pathetic woman you are, Mrs Stuart. I look forward to meeting your husband, who I've instantly started respecting," Hannigan grumbled. She looked back down at her computer.

Jessie turned back to the door, then went through it.

### **Voyager, Chakotay's Office:**

"I'm not sure about this. I heard about the last time she turned evil, it doesn't sound pretty at all," Taiya muttered.

"It'll be worth it," Chakotay said. "I'll let you know when it happens."

"It better be," Taiya muttered.

### **Astrometrics:**

Lena, Craig, Emma, Kevin, Sandi, Zare, Wesley and Daniel had gathered around the main station.

"We've checked out old maps, scanned all of Earth several times, compared them to old maps and previous scans," Sandi said.

"And no sign of this temple," Daniel finished off.

"It did say only the Slayers would be able to find it. I doubt scans and maps would help us," Lena said.

"Well I analysed the artefact itself, you know to try and translate it, but it's in a language I don't know," Zare said, raising the artefact.

"I say we should check the history books. There's got to be something about it," Craig said.

Lena eyed the artefact, she took it out of Zare's hands. "This looks a little like Majian."

"I doubt it will be though," Zare said.

"Maybe it's an Earth language," Craig said. He looked over Lena's shoulder to see it. "It kinda looks like Egyptian, ancient kind."

"Great, does anyone know any?" Kevin asked.

"The computer will. I'll work on this while you guys research history," Lena said.

"I don't think so," Sandi said.

"Why not?" Lena questioned.

"If our other research is right and it's only Slayers who can find it, the directions won't be written on the side of it," Sandi replied.

"True, but why would we find a certain place while others wouldn't," Kevin said.

"Cos in theory no one else would know about it," Lena muttered. "I think with more time we'll figure this out. Lives depend on it."

"Don't you mean your revenge depends on it," Kevin commented.

Lena glared at him. She was about to respond but Daniel beat her to it. "Get out of your own cowardly ass Clarke, there's no harm in trying."

"I'm not cowardly, you're just sucking up to Lena, like Craig once did, and probably will do next," Kevin snapped back.

"Actually I agree with you and Sandi," Craig nervously said.

Lena turned to him, "and why?"

"Maybe because he's not the current boyfriend," Kevin commented.

"No, it just seems like a waste of time to me," Craig replied.

"Boys and Lena," Zare butted in, in a warning voice.

"You forgot Daniel," Kevin said.

Daniel rolled his eyes, "oh brilliant mate. For a moment there I almost forgot you were a dateless jack ass, but you managed to remind me."

"Think they'll fight?" Emma whispered to Zare.

"Ok, this is enough. I think that we should all gather together and vote on it," Sandi said.

"We are all here," Wesley said.

"Um, my brother isn't here," Lena muttered.

Wesley blushed, "oops, there's always one Slayer I forget about, there are a lot."

"Hmm, somehow I know which side he'll vote for anyway," Kevin said.

"So what if he is on my side, or would be, it's the right one," Lena grumbled.

"Vote guys. Who's for leaving this?" Sandi said. She put her hand up, Kevin, Craig and Wesley did the same, while Lena, Zare, Daniel and Emma left their arms by their sides. "It's a tie," Sandi said.

"Why don't we sleep on it," Craig suggested.

"Or get someone else who is 'part of the gang' to vote, like say, top of my head, Jessie," Lena said.

"Cheater. She's a bigger suck up than both of your boyfriends put together," Zare said.

"I was never a suck up," Craig muttered. Everyone excluding Lena laughed.

"Right," Emma sniggered.

"Ignoring that, I think we should talk about this with James. He has every right to hear about this as much as we do, excluding Wesley," Lena said.

"Hey, I think I'm more involved in this than Craig," Wesley grumbled.

"You've had to have dated a Slayer, obviously that's the rules," Emma commented.

"Craig gets two points there," Kevin sniggered.

Lena glared at him, so did Zare. "I doubt all of Kevin's dumb, deaf and blind hussy's count," Zare muttered.

"Ookay, so according to the um new rules, Jessie is supposed to join us to discuss this, as well as James?" Sandi questioned. Almost everyone nodded. "Brilliant, cos that leaves out Wesley."

Wesley shook his head, "just no respect, none at all."

### **The Enterprise, James/Jessie's Quarters:**

Jessie was busy leaning over a bassinet in the middle of the living room. "Will you let mummy sleep for half an hour today?" All she got for a response was the usual little squeak from inside it. "Take that as a yes."

She headed over to the sofa. The door chimed just then. "Ugh, come in."

Chakotay stepped into the room. "I'm not disturbing you, am I?"

"Actually I was just going to get some sleep," Jessie replied.

"Right sorry, I'll come back later if you want," Chakotay said.

"No," Jessie sighed, collapsing onto the sofa. "What's up?"

"I was just wondering if you're ok," Chakotay replied.

"Why wouldn't I be?" Jessie asked, raising an eyebrow.

Chakotay sat down on the chair nearby, "well for a while you've been a little, how can I say it? Unlike yourself."

"No, I'm still me," Jessie said.

"Well obviously. It's just when I met you, you were fiery and at the same time, full of life. Also you never let anyone push you around. Now you're... no forget it," Chakotay said.

She sat up a little, "I'm still all of those things. What were you going to say?"

"Well you'd always set James straight all the time, now it looks to me like he's the boss of the couple," Chakotay replied.

"One hundred percent wrong, Chak. You make us sound like one of those power hungry, controlling couples. We're not," Jessie snapped.

"I'm sorry but it seems as he's gotten stronger over the years, you're getting, oh I don't know, softer," Chakotay said.

Jessie shook her head, "that's not true."

"Considering what's happened lately, I beg to differ," Chakotay muttered.

"Oh, you think that just because I was weak from having an infection, and recently losing a lung, makes me soft all of a sudden. That isn't fair," Jessie said.

"I'm just observing Jessie, I'm worried about you," Chakotay softly said.

"You don't have to be. I haven't changed one bit in ten years," Jessie said.

"Well Kathryn disagreed with that. She said that you were nastier back then," Chakotay said.

"Ok, I was never really nasty anyway," Jessie grumbled.

"Jess, don't be like that. I just wanted to know if you were ok," Chakotay said.

Jessie looked away from him, "I will be if people would stop talking to me like this all the time."

"What way?" Chakotay questioned.

"Like I'm back at school. I'm sick of being bullied, insulted and shown up in front of people," Jessie muttered in response. "Now leave me alone."

"How long's this been going on?" Chakotay asked.

Jessie groaned, "what?"

"This bullying you speak of," Chakotay replied.

"Please, just leave me alone," Jessie groaned, lying down.

"All right," Chakotay said, heading towards the door. She stared after him.

### **Astrometrics:**

James stepped into the room to join the others. "You called. What's up?"

Sandi was about to speak but Wesley walked in front of her and butted in. "We've found something that'll help in our battle against the vampires."

"Really? What is it?" James asked, glancing at Sandi.

Sandi smirked as she pushed Wesley back out of the way, "we're not sure exactly yet. That's what we were researching."

"Were. What's the problem?" James questioned.

Lena rolled her eyes, with her arms folded, "they don't want to research as they think it's a waste of time."

"No, we're not researching because it is a waste of time. There's no instructions, no temple thing, and nothing else to go with it," Kevin said.

"Ok, I've just started reading in the middle of the book, haven't I?" James muttered.

"Kevin stole an artefact some vampires, including your step dad, tried to steal," Sandi replied.

"Only because they said it would hurt them," Kevin pouted.

"Turns out the artefact is supposed to be put into a temple, that somehow purges the planet of vampire life," Sandi said.

"There are temples like these all over the galaxy," Wesley butted in.

"So why is it a waste of time?" James asked.

"It's not. All we need is time to check the history books to find anything related and translate the writing on the artefact," Lena replied. "It's not like we're in a hurry for something."

"Well I'm sorry but they're not going to tell us on the artefact how to get there, that's already been said," Sandi said.

"Also, the last human Slayer was dated back to Sandi and Kevin's time, and they're them. It wouldn't be in the history books as there were no Slayers before them. If it happened afterwards we would have known about it," Wesley pointed out.

Daniel glanced at him, frowning, "um, correct me if I'm wrong but didn't vampires only appear after games started landing in the twentieth century or something?"

"Yeah so?" Craig questioned.

"Well then this thing can't be that old then," Daniel pointed out. Everyone looked around at the nearest person, some looking embarrassed.

"My god, he's right," Sandi muttered.

"Doesn't change anything," Kevin said.

Lena turned to smile at Daniel, "but it helps us narrow down the history search. Also we know it's not in ancient Egyptian."

"Didn't you hear what I said?" Wesley groaned.

"Nobody ever does," Zare commented.

Lena put the artefact underneath the attached scanner, "let's find out anyway." She pressed a few buttons, a light shone on the artefact. "Ok, we'll know soon enough."

"I don't see the harm in doing this research, problem is I can't help," James said.

Lena eyed him, "yeah, how did you get out of work?"

James stared back, "it's lunch time."

"Really? How long have we been arguing?" Emma asked.

Zare giggled, "he's about five hours ahead of us."

"Really, well I'm going back to bed then," Emma said.

"How long have you guys been here?" James asked.

"God knows," Kevin muttered.

The scanner started beeping, Lena made her way over to it. "Ok this is weird."

"What is it?" Craig asked.

Lena turned to everyone, "it's in Egyptian, ancient."

"But, vampires weren't even around then," Wesley said.

James shrugged, "maybe they were. We don't know how long Game Cubes have been around, or how long ago stories about vampires were written."

"Yes but the first vampire on record was the first master," Wesley said.

Kevin sniggered, "he mustn't have been one as he was wiped out by Jessie of all people."

James stared at him, "what does that mean?"

Kevin looked nervous, "um, it's just lots of Slayers died trying to fight him and the others. Then in the twenty fourth century one Chosen kills two out of three, and an untrained witch kills the last one."

Lena shook her head, "you're forgetting that Jessie's tougher than she looks, and is stronger than most Slayers, like you Kev. Witches are naturally strong."

"True she is, but I heard she only killed him by spiking her blood. Something's up with that, as he was supposed to be smart," Kevin said.

Lena glanced back at the scanner, "ok, does anyone want to know what it says?"

Sandi looked over, "watchers are never right, so don't listen in future?"

Wesley frowned, "very funny."

"Basically it's directions to the temple," Lena said, looking smug.

"How stupid can you get?" Kevin questioned.

"Not really. If only Slayers can get to it and we can't scan it, then there must be something you have to do when you get to it," Craig replied.

Sandi nodded her head, "most likely. It's still rather strange to me."

"Ok guys, I have to go as I'm already late," James said, he headed back for the door.

"For what?" Zare asked.



James glanced back, "to pick up Duncan and Sasha, obviously. Lena, can you keep me up to date?"

Lena nodded, "I'll send you any info via the computer, or ring you like I did before."

"Thanks," James said as he stepped out of the door.

"What is there left to do?" Craig asked.

"Nothing in your case Craig, you can't go. For all we know the place is guarded by strong things," Zare replied.

Lena turned pale as she glanced at the two of them, "probably mummies or big scorpion things."

Emma's eyes lit up, "oh, does this mean..."

Lena nodded, "yeah, I checked the directions, they lead directly to Egypt, in the middle of nowhere."

"Oh yeah, finally," Emma giggled.

"I doubt we'll find mummies in the desert," Kevin sniggered.

Sandi sighed, "most mummies are in museums anyway. All that's left to do I guess is prepare for the trip. Obviously Wesley and Craig can't come along, it's just us."

"Hey, I have survived in the desert before and I've faced things like mummies," Craig grumbled.

Sandi groaned, "Craig, I think six Slayers will be enough for this little trip."

"Don't you mean five?" Kevin commented. "James can't go, he's got that community service thing."

"Which should have ended by the end of the week," Lena said. She sighed, "now I'm not looking forward to this."

"Well, you had your chance to back out," Zare commented.

### **Voyager:**

Taiya placed a book onto the desk she was sitting at. "I think getting this Jessie to do the ritual won't work you know, it would be like getting your cousin's cousin to do it."

Chakotay paced the room, "there's no other choice. Unless you've got a better idea."

Taiya bit her lip nervously, "I do, don't bother at all."

Chakotay marched over to her, "I don't think so somehow."

Taiya sighed, "Chak, you've already got your only daughter pissed at you because of this. It's time to calm down ok."

Chakotay leaned on the desk, "Lena will appreciate me for this, if I give up she'll continue to hate me."

"She only hates you because you were too busy plotting this pointless ritual, and missed the funeral," Taiya muttered.

"Don't give me that. There was no point in going if I was just going to bring her back anyway," Chakotay said.

"If you say so," Taiya grumbled.

"It'll work ok," Chakotay snapped. "It's just Jessie's taking longer to turn than I thought, that's all."

"What exactly are you doing to her?" Taiya asked.

"Well Jessie was always the easier one to turn evil. She twisted her husband's words and turned for god's sake," Chakotay replied.

"Wasn't she beaten or something?" Taiya questioned, raising an eyebrow.

"Yes but she didn't turn until later," Chakotay groaned.

"Fine, but I think if you want to turn her you'll have to be more drastic than talking to her," Taiya said quietly.

"She's a fragile woman, more so lately. It'll work," Chakotay said.

"Right, what are you going to do? Call her a bitch or something," Taiya said, smirking slightly.

"No, I'm going to continue telling her what she doesn't want to hear," Chakotay said bitterly. He stepped out of the room.

### **Later, the Enterprise:**

Jessie sat down on the sofa, holding a PADD. She read it for a minute before getting back up, heading over to the replicator. The door chimed, she stopped dead and stared at it. "Who is it?"

"It's me, I want to apologise," Chakotay's voice came from outside.

"Fine, apologise behind the door then go," Jessie muttered as she got to the replicator.

For a few minutes it was silent. She sighed in relief and turned to the replicator. The main door opened up on its own, Chakotay walked in. "Can't do that."

Jessie turned around, "what are you doing? You can't just barge in uninvited."

"Why not, it's the theme these days isn't it?" Chakotay said in a cold way.

Jessie stared at him, a shiver went down her back as she watched him walk slowly into the centre of the room. "What does that mean?"

"You should know, you do let a lot of people do that," Chakotay replied.

"I thought you were here to apologise," Jessie said.

"Screw the nice, nice plan," Chakotay muttered, walking slowly towards her. "It's not working with you."

"Ok, you're managing to creep me out," Jessie said, taking a step backwards.

"That's what I was talking about," Chakotay said, closing the gap between them. She backed into the replicator, but he continued to get closer. "Look at you, you've become a soft and weak little girl, haven't you?"

Jessie shook her head nervously, "no, I haven't."

"Right but the old Jessie would have pushed me away by now, swearing abuse or something," Chakotay said.

"Well maybe you're just lucky that I'm not in that mood," Jessie muttered.

"You were always in that mood. Somebody just had to poke you in the back and they'd be in Sickbay," Chakotay said. "To be honest, I don't know which Jessie is worse, both of you are pretty unbearable."

"Ok, just stop it. I haven't done anything to you," Jessie muttered.

"I'm just trying to help you Jess," Chakotay said. He leaned on the replicator. "And I'm trying to figure out where it all went wrong." She tried to move to the other side, but he put his other hand on the replicator to block her escape. "Oh yes that's right, first it was James, lots and lots of babies, then..."

"What are you talking about?" Jessie asked quietly.

"Well you know," Chakotay started to reply. He shook his head, "you don't do you? Do you remember when you got pregnant the first time around?" He tried his best not to laugh, "a few weeks earlier you were swearing bloody vengeance on a group of men on that planet. When you found out you were all like, 'oh I want his baby, he's soo great'. Ugh, I felt nauseous myself then."

"Shut up, just stop it," Jessie muttered.

"You were like all loved up for ages, it was so revolting and pathetic. Of course he attacked you, which should have knocked some sense into you but it didn't," Chakotay said. "Then finally he got to you, and for a while you were yourself again. It wasn't long until you and him were at it again though."

"I think what finally killed you was that attack. You were the powerful witch that everyone was afraid of, then suddenly you were this little piece of sniveling s\*\*\*. Next thing you know you're getting blood drained by a vamp, getting knocked up again, knocked out by a different vamp, bullied by Angela and her fiance, stabbed and killed again. And now you're scared of me, how sad."

"You're wrong, I'm not..." Jessie stuttered.

Chakotay leaned in so he was only a centimetre away from her, "you know what, the only time you were ever likeable was when you were ripping people apart. I think that's the real you, stop kidding yourself."

Sarah-Amy started crying not far away. Jessie looked over at her, she tried to ignore the look Chakotay was giving her. "I've got to..."

"Forget it, you were never mother material," Chakotay muttered. "Let me help you become who you really are again."

James and Lena were going down a corridor on the Enterprise.

"I don't understand it, why would he act like that?" Lena was saying.

"I don't know, maybe he's evil," James said.

Lena glanced at him, "that's stupid, he's a normal human."

"Ok, I was joking," James muttered. He walked faster so he could stand in front of her. "Besides humans can be evil you know."

"I know that," Lena grumbled. "I just don't get what's wrong with him."

"You've got to give him a break Lena. Being told about a death is bad enough, but seeing it for yourself is worse. You should have seen him at the house," James said.

Lena frowned, "what, what did he do?"

"He reacted just as bad as I did. Plus he blamed and hit me. He just wasn't himself, that's the point," James replied.

"Oh, why would he blame you?" Lena asked.

"I was only one in the house when he arrived, I had her blood on my hands and I tried to kill her before," James muttered. "Who wouldn't blame me?"

"True, but it's still weird that it isn't just him," Lena said.

"That shield should have gone up ages ago, so it kinda was," James said.

"Are you a witch?" Lena asked, with a raised eyebrow.

"No you know I'm not," James muttered.

"And are you seeing into the future all the time? Or were the kids staying overnight at her place?" Lena asked.

"No and no," James replied.

"Then why are you obsessing? You had no reason to put up a shield as vampires were just after your kids, and there was no sign that they were going to do this," Lena said. She walked around him and continued down the corridor.

"I did say kinda, mainly because Frenit only did it to get back at me," James said, following her.

"Yes but all you ever did to him was defend yourself and rescue your kids from him," Lena said.

"All right, all right, I know when I'm outnumbered and everything," James said, shaking his head.

Lena smirked, "I take it Jess has given you the same lecture. Plus I doubt her and I are the only ones who think this. Obviously the ones who do blame you haven't got anyone else to take it out on."

"Ok I'm sorry for keep saying it. It's just I found her, and I haven't felt right since," James muttered. They stopped by one of the doors.

"Yeah sorry. I hope that's the last one we both get for at the very least, a long time," Lena said.

"So do I," James sighed. "You know, I forgot to thank you."

"For what?" Lena asked, looking confused.

"For bringing Jessie back. You don't know how much that means to me and the kids," James said.

Lena smiled, "forget about it. You would have done the same for me." She headed away.

"You know I wouldn't if it was Craig or Daniel," James said.

Lena turned around, she walked backwards slowly, "yeah you would." She turned around and continued down the corridor. "Don't forget to thank the doc too," she called once she turned the corner.

"Will do," James said. He stepped through the door.

Inside Jessie was again sitting on the sofa. Sasha was beside her playing with a doll.

"Hi girls. Sorry for being too late to help you pick up the kids," James said. Jessie just shrugged.

"Hi daddy," Sasha said sweetly.

"Where's Duncan?" James asked.

"In his room," Jessie replied quietly.

"Are you ok?" James asked as he reached the sofa.

"Yeah why wouldn't I be?" Jessie replied, just as quietly.

"You just seem a bit, distracted by something," James said. He reached out to stroke some of her hair.

"No I'm fine," Jessie said. "Can you do me a favour though?"

"Sure what is it?" James asked.

"It's Sasha's bath time, can you do it?" Jessie asked.

"Holly needs a bath too mummy," Sasha said, looking down at her doll.

"Ok, why do you want me to do it? I thought you liked doing that," James questioned.

Jessie shrugged, "I do it's just I don't feel up to it today."

James sighed, "ok, Jess can we talk over here?" He walked over to one of the bedroom doors.

"Ok," Jessie muttered, getting up. She followed him over. "It's not a crime ok."

"Jess, just because you made a little mistake last night, doesn't mean that you should avoid her," James said as quietly as he could.

"No no, I'm not doing that," Jessie whispered back.

"Then what are you doing? You love doing that," James said.

"Well I'm just trying to help you with your fear of water ok, but whatever," Jessie muttered, glancing away briefly.

"Jess, what's wrong?" James asked.

"Nothing," Jessie groaned.

"The last time you said it was nothing, it really was something," James said.

"That wasn't the last time," Jessie said.

"Stop avoiding the question," James muttered.

"I'm just not feeling myself today," Jessie said.

"Is there anything I can do?" James asked.

"Nah, I'll be ok," Jessie replied, smiling weakly.

"I guess now's not a good time to tell you then," James said, walking back over to the sofa.

"Tell me what?" Jessie asked, following him.

"I'm going to Egypt with the other Slayers," James replied.

Jessie's eyes widened, "what!?"

"What, after the community service ends," James said nervously.

"You're going to Egypt after all the crap we've gone through at Egypt like places," Jessie muttered.

James sighed, "I know, sorry but I have to. This should get rid of the vampire threat and we can finally live on Earth again."

"There's plenty of Slayers, why do you have to go?" Jessie asked.

"We don't know exactly what to expect," James replied.

Jessie rolled her eyes, "that makes me feel better, thanks."

"Jess it's ok, I'll be ok," James said.

"Yeah you will, I'm coming too," Jessie said.

"No you're not," James muttered.

"How exactly are you going to stop me?" Jessie asked, folding her arms.

"But you shouldn't go, from what you said I think you hate Egypt," James said.

"No I don't, I'm just sick of curses," Jessie said.

"All right but you're still not," James muttered.

"Oh yes I am, and you should know me well enough by now, to know that you can't stop me," Jessie said.

James groaned, "fine, but who's going to look after the kids?"

"Well there's Phoebe and Yasmin, they're on board one of the ships," Jessie replied.

"I'm going to regret this, aren't I?" James muttered.

"No, you'd only regret it if I didn't come," Jessie said. "You need some sort of good luck charm on you, right?"

### **A few days later**

#### **The Enterprise:**

Lena walked down the corridor, carrying a large bag over her shoulder. Craig ran to catch up with her, she turned around. "Craig, what's up?"

"I just wanted to wish you good luck, and um," Craig said while trying to get his breath back. He pulled a small box out of his pocket, he handed it to her. "Give you this, another good luck thing."

"Thanks, it doesn't have diamonds right?" Lena questioned, smirking a little.

"No it doesn't, don't worry," Craig replied.

Lena smiled as she shook her head, she opened the box. Inside it was a silver necklace, with a large silver cross attached to it.

"I know it'll only keep vampires away but it's a start," Craig said meekly.

"It's great, thanks," Lena said as she took it out of the box. "I'll just have to make sure Daniel doesn't see it."

"Is he the jealous type or is he a vampire secretly?" Craig asked.

"Don't know and really not," Lena replied. She put the necklace around her neck. "Really, thank you."

"No problem. It's one of few presents I got you before we split so..." Craig said.

"I'm going to need all the luck I can get. I doubt there will be mummies walking around everywhere, but we don't know what to expect there," Lena said.

"Well, I'll say it again, good luck. Call me if you need any help," Craig said with a smile. He turned around to go back the way he came.

Lena stared after him, "wait, Craig."

He turned around looking confused, "what?"

She walked over to him. "Don't let this get to Daniel but, I did have more fun with you. I can only be honest with you, right."

"Really, so..." Craig said.

"But he's what I need right now. Maybe someday," Lena said, looking uncomfortable. "I'm crap at this, sorry."

"It's ok, I understand," Craig said meekly.

"I don't think you do," Lena muttered. She stepped closer and kissed him on the cheek. "See you when I get back, if I do," she said nervously. She walked away.

Craig looked bewildered, he started to follow her. "Wait, there's something else."

Lena stopped and turned back around, "ok, I expected that. What is it?"

Before he lost his nerve, Craig quickly put an arm around her to pull her closer, and kissed her. She put one arm around him and kissed him back.

## **Later**

### **Cairo, inside Shuttle Park:**

The automatic doors opened, James and Sandi walked through them holding a large bag each.

"God it's hot here, I hope we've remembered everything," Sandi said. "I've still got a bad feeling about this you know."

"I'm sure we have," James said. "And I'm sure we'll be fine, I mean we have six Slayers and a witch. If something goes wrong we should be ok."

"Yeah true," Sandi said.

Emma rushed out of the doors, "oh oh, I can't believe we're here!" She brought out a camera, "so where are we going first? The pyramids, any tombs?"

Kevin followed her, "forget that, I can't wait to see the hot Egyptian women."

Zare followed holding a large bottle of water, "ok, what living thing can live in this heat? There better be a river somewhere or something, I'm dying already." She drank the rest of the water in the bottle, and snatched one from Kevin's bag.

Lena walked out looking nervous, "no mummies yet? Good, one step down, five million to go."

Jessie was the last one out. "Ok, this better go right. I'm always the one who gets picked on if some curse happens. I don't want some mummy guy kissing me, or one of you getting possessed cos I don't want to be stabbed, yet again!"

Sandi and James glanced at each other looking worried. "I'll have to learn to trust your bad feelings," James muttered.

She nodded, "damn right."

**Later:**

The group were walking away from a salesman guiding four camels.

"I can't believe they only had four camels left in this day and age," Sandi muttered. "Even in my time there should have been more people willing to take other transport."

"Why are we even taking these things anyway," Zare muttered. "You guys have shuttles and everything, they have air conditioning."

"Right. The last time we took a shuttle into the desert, it crashed and we got trapped," Lena said.

"Plus we'd use a lot of power with the air conditioning on full, the hull would attract a lot of heat," James said. "That isn't good when the power runs out in the middle of the desert."

"Ok, so who's going with who?" Kevin asked, looking at a few of the girls in his usual way. "Lena, Zare, Emma, Jess, any of them would be fine. I don't want Sandi or James though."

"You're weird," Zare muttered.

"Well I'm with James," Jessie said.

Lena and Emma quickly stood next to each other. Kevin frowned, then looked at Zare. She looked nervously over at Sandi. "I'll share with you."

"But, that means I'm on my own," Kevin said, pouting. "How come James is the only guy who gets a girl with him?"

"Because you're a pervert and a loser," Lena replied.

"I'm not a pervert," Kevin said.

"Oh yeah, why do you want to share a camel with a girl so badly then?" Sandi asked.

"So we can have a nice chat along the way and everything," Kevin innocently replied. He stood next to James, "you know what I really mean, don't you?" He walked away looking disgusted.

"Let's get going. Who can ride a camel?" Sandi asked.

"It's a good thing I can," Kevin replied, pouting. "Dad forced us to do horse riding, didn't he?"

Sandi nodded, "good thing he did. He must have known you'd be a loser." Nobody else put their hands up. "This is fun."

"It can't be that hard," Emma said. She tried to push herself onto the camel, it however didn't appreciate the sudden weight and tried to shake her off.

"You've got to use these," Sandi said, holding up stirrup looking things. "Once they're on the camel, you can climb on a little easier."

Emma climbed off, "oh right."

**Later, somewhere in the desert:**

Kevin's camel and Sandi & Zare's camels were going steady, ahead of the others.



Emma & Lena's were walking around in circles every now and then. James & Jessie's kept deciding to have breaks every five minutes by kneeling down in the sand.

Kevin and Sandi stopped there's, turned them around to see what was going on.

"Emma, stop playing around!" Lena snapped.

Emma giggled, "I'm not."

Their camel continued walking until it got to James & Jessie's. They both decided to rest next to each other.

"I give up," Jessie groaned.

Lena climbed off theirs, "ok I'm driving."

Emma pouted, "no it's fun."

"Guys, you've got to be gentle with them, or they get disobedient," Sandi said, guiding her camel over to theirs.

"I am," Jessie innocently said.

"Do you want me to try for a while?" James asked.

Jessie glanced back at him, "would that mean I'd have to move?"

Kevin sniggered nearby, "see, that's why I wanted a girl with me."

Lena pulled a face, "eww, how come you don't ever get eggs and stuff thrown at you. Pervert."

"What, what did he think?" Jessie asked.

Lena shook her head, "something that I'm not going to forget in a hurry."

"Hey, it wasn't that bad," Kevin pouted.

James stared blankly at him, he turned back to Jessie. "I'm sure I can drive while sitting here."

"Ok, but if I'm being too rough with him or her, then I doubt you'll do better," Jessie said.

Sandi sighed, "just ride alongside me, watch what I do and copy. It isn't that hard when you know how."

A little while later, the camels were off again. Kevin and Sandi's were once again ahead. James & Jessie's were a couple of metres behind them. Emma & Lena's were right behind.

"For goodness sake Lena, even if there were mummies, they're not going to attack in broad daylight in the desert," James was saying. He glanced back at her, "haven't you seen any of the movies."

"No, why would I?" Lena snapped back. "Just stop picking on me ok, I can't help it."

Sandi glanced back at Zare, who looked like she was fast asleep, leaning on her back. "How are you doing?"

"Crap. I think my head's burning," Zare replied, lifting her head slightly.

"Where's your hat, we all got hats?" Sandi asked.

"Oh, Emma's camel trampled on it after it fell off," Zare replied.

Sandi took hers off and handed it to her, "here, you need it more than me."

"Thanks. I didn't think it would be this bad," Zare said.

"You're not obviously the desert type, ey Zare," Kevin commented.

"My planet is mostly water and it's cool," Zare grumbled.

"Oh, that's not good," Kevin said. He looked over at Sandi, "can't be as bad as England, right?" She smirked slightly.

"All right, you two pack it in," Jessie groaned.

Lena ignored her, "it could still happen."

"Stop being a wuss," James muttered back.

"Me? I'm the wuss, ok," Lena grumbled. She whispered in Emma's ear, "hey, say there's a big bug climbing up their camel."

"I'm not deaf or stupid Lena," James said.

"Damn it," Lena grumbled. Jessie shook her head. Lena's camel stopped dead, the others continued on. "Ah, I can't do this," she groaned.

Kevin glanced at Sandi. She nodded her head, "you know what to do."

Kevin stopped his camel. "Does any of you guys want to do a little swap around?"

"No we're good," Jessie replied, James nodded in agreement.

Both Lena and Emma looked disgusted. "No, we're good too," Lena muttered.

Kevin shrugged and rolled his eyes, "ok lesbian." He continued on.

Lena's eyes narrowed, "what?"

"Uh oh," James, Jessie and Emma muttered. Emma decided to hold onto Lena tighter than before.

"That's it, get here you lanky ass," Lena grumbled. She made the camel run after him.

"Woah, that worked better than I thought," Kevin stuttered. He made his camel run too.

### **Night-time:**

The sun had just set on the wide horizon. Lena had stopped chasing Kevin so everything was calm for once.

Sandi stopped her camel, Kevin did the same. "What is it?" he asked. The others stopped too. She pointed a finger ahead of them, in the far distance was a little bit of stone or rock sticking out of the sand.

"The directions lead here, and we've found something," Sandi replied.

"That can't be it," Emma said.

"We'll get closer," Sandi said.

"Oh yey, here it comes," Jessie sarcastically said.

It took the group a few minutes to reach the stone, which was a square shape, one metre wide and covered with ancient writing. They stopped their camels, everyone got off them.

Sandi walked over to it, she knelt down to take a closer look. "It looks like one of those old stone doors," she said.

"But there's nothing around it but sand," Lena said.

"What do we do now then?" James asked.

Sandi shrugged, "beats me." She brushed some sand away from it. The ground started shaking, everyone quickly backed off. A sand hill slowly started forming from where the stone slate was. The hill collapsed again to reveal a stone temple, a large door opened on its own.

"Right, what just happened?" Jessie asked nervously.

"It must have been like a hand print thing, it knew who I was so it opened, so to speak," Sandi mumbled.

Lena sighed, "well let's get this over with."

They all headed inside. Once inside, they split up into two groups.

"This is so cool. Do you think there will be a crypt inside?" Emma questioned, giggling again.

"No, this place is to kill the undead not bring them back or whatever," Lena replied.

"Well you know where to go if you get scared girls," Kevin said in a flirty manner.

Emma turned around, "god, don't you ever stop?"

"Nope," Kevin shook his head.

They eventually got to a room. At the other end of it stood a statue.

"This must be where the artefact thing goes," Lena said. She opened her bag up, and pulled the artefact out.

Kevin took a hold of her arm, "wait, let's not rush into this too quickly."

"Why not? This is what we came for," Lena asked.

"He just wanted to touch your arm Lena, don't fall for it," Emma said.

Lena pulled her arm out of his grip, she headed over to the statue.

Meanwhile, the other group got to a similar room. "This must be it," Sandi said, glancing at a similar statue.

"Yeah, we'd better get the artefact off Lena and..." Zare said. She frowned, "wait, why does Lena have it?"

"Good question, I can't remember," Sandi replied.

"Let's go and find her," James said. They all turned to go back the way they came.

Meanwhile, Lena slipped the artefact into a hole in the statue.

Kevin backed away nervously, "I dunno, I have a bad feeling about this."

"Aaaw, is Kevin getting a little scared?" Emma asked mockingly.

Kevin pouted, "no, just worried."

Lena frowned, "nothing's happening."

"Maybe it's too old to work," Kevin said.

The statue started shaking, making the three back off a step or two. Dust started coming out of a small opening in the statue. It stopped shaking, but the dust continued coming out of it.

"Maybe you're right," Emma said, coughing slightly. She tried to get the dust away with her hand.

Kevin did the same, "ok I've seen enough, let's go Lena."

Lena turned around, looking confused. She glanced around the room, "what is this?"

"Lots of dust. I told you not to do anything drastic," Kevin muttered.

Lena turned back to face the statue, she eyed the artefact. "I can't believe it, they pulled it off."

"Who, what?" Emma questioned.

Lena turned back around. "Don't tell me this is the best they have to offer?" She glared at Kevin and then Emma, "one puny looking little man and some slutty looking girl."

"Hey that's harsh, Lena. What's the matter with you?" Emma grumbled.

Kevin's eyes widened, stepping backwards, "uh Emma, we'd better go."

Emma glanced at him, "why?"

Lena walked closer to them, this time Emma stared at her with wide eyes. "She's... she's, this isn't possible," Kevin stuttered.

"Ok Lena, I know you lost your mother but, ok it's a little late now," Emma also stuttered.

"Lena huh? Sweet name," Lena said. She glanced at Kevin, "don't tell me you're the brother. They're obviously giving any old idiot Slayer strength these days."

"Ok, that's enough Lena," Kevin said, stepped forward. "You can't turn evil, you're too well trained for that."

Lena stared at him, now with fully black eyes, "take a nap." She kneed him in a certain area, he collapsed to the ground. "I never thought male Slayers were a good idea anyway," she said, turning to Emma. "Now why isn't it working with you two? That's very strange."

"Ok, I don't get this," Emma muttered.

"Aaaw, poor baby looks scared. Don't worry, it'll be over soon enough," Lena said, in a fake sweet voice.

#### **A little while later:**

James, Sandi, Zare and Jessie walked into the room Lena and the others were in. Kevin was back onto his feet, looking ok for somebody who had just been kicked in the groin by a Chosen Slayer. Emma was standing nearby the statue looking perfectly calm.

"Ok, we didn't just go in circles did we?" Sandi asked, looking around the room.

Lena turned to them, "oh look, there's more."

"Holy crap," Jessie stuttered.

James stared at Lena, "what, this isn't possible."

"Oh get over it darling," Lena muttered. She walked closer to the new arrivals. "This isn't right. Four Chosens, that isn't right at all."

Kevin shrugged, "maybe you should get over it."

Lena glanced back at him, "shut your hole."

"Which one sweetheart?" Kevin asked mockingly.

Emma sniggered, "oh for god's sake, get a room." She picked up the artefact.

"Please don't," James muttered. The other members of his group agreed.

Sandi whispered to the others, "guys, all three are evil. What kind of screwy purge vampire ritual is this?"

"A very good one. I think I must have killed about thirty when I was evil," James whispered back.

Lena walked over to him, "hmm, there's evil in you already." She looked over at the others, Zare for the longest. "So's she. Neat, I like them." She turned to Emma.

She nodded, she put the artefact back into the statue. The same thing happened again, dust went everywhere.

"Ok, we don't want to be around when that finishes," Sandi stuttered.

"Especially me," Jessie said.

"It looks to me like it already has," James muttered.

Lena smiled sweetly, "not too smart are you."

"Oh my god!" Sandi suddenly yelled out, startling the others. "This is f\*\*\*\*\* great!" she screeched, she turned around and hit Zare, who was right beside her, over the head.

She stumbled into Jessie, who wasn't very happy about it. She pushed her back into Sandi. "Get off me you whore," she grumbled.

Zare backed away from both of them, "James, please tell me you're still..."

"Uh huh," James said nervously.

Sandi eyed Jessie in a weird way, then looked at Emma and Lena. "Oh wow, there are some cute ones in here."

"Ugh, there's always one," Lena groaned.

Kevin laughed, "ha, you're in a woman's body, sucks to be you."

"You kidding, it's great," Sandi giggled.

"We'd better get out of here," Zare whispered. James didn't look too sure about it.

"They're not just evil, they're..." he said. Zare turned to him with a confused look on their face, "obviously they're possessed."

The others glanced at the two of them, all with black eyes.

"That would make more sense," Zare muttered.

Lena smirked, "maybe you two should join us, it'll keep you alive."

Jessie looked disgusted, "ok there's been a slight mix up here. How come I got stuck with the reject!"

The others, excluding Jessie, gathered closer to James and Zare. Lena pushed to the front, "which one's going first?"

"Me," Sandi blurted out. Again she smacked Zare in the head, this time she stumbled into James.

"Ok, that's annoying me," she grumbled, getting her balance back.

Suddenly Sandi, Kevin and Emma froze on the spot. Lena stared at them all, "what the?"

Jessie's eyes lit up, "oh cool, this one may not be so bad after all."

"Let's go," James whispered to Zare. She nodded her head, they quickly ran off down the corridor.

Lena turned back around, "they're getting away."

"Oh so what, I think five's good enough," Jessie said.

"We've only got two, you silly bint," Lena grumbled.

Jessie's face turned serious, "who are you calling a bint?"

"You, bitch face," Lena said.

Jessie marched forward, "I shouldn't care as it's not my body, but you never call me..." Lena smacked her hard, she fell to the ground unconscious.

"Sorry honey, you annoy me," Lena muttered. She started to head off in the direction James and Zare went.

Kevin, Sandi and Emma unfroze again. They looked confused.

"Woah, we have witches. They just disappeared," Sandi said in an amazed tone of voice.

Kevin stared at her in disgust, "I'm sure there's been a cock up here."

Emma shrugged, "you're telling me. But where did the other lot go." She spotted Jessie on the ground. "Found one."

### **Outside:**

"Ok, something doesn't add up here," Zare said.

"You think? I somehow doubt that the purging vampire ritual involves possessing Slayers with evil ones," James said.

"How come it didn't get us, that's what I don't get," Zare questioned.

"Maybe cos you're already evil," Lena's voice said from close by.

James and Zare turned around to see Lena standing nearby them. "We're not, not anymore," Zare said.

"Technically you still are sweetheart," Lena said.

"Ok, that's annoying," Zare grumbled.

"All right, enough's enough," James muttered, stepping closer to Lena. She just watched him with an amused expression on her face. "Whoever you are, get the hell out of my sister before something nasty happens to you."

She laughed, "oh that's sweet." She swung a fist at him, knocking him back a little. "You're no match for me, so that's enough of the cute attempts at threats."

"James, she's evil, I wouldn't pick a fight," Zare said quietly. She backed away guiding one of the camels with her. "Let's go."

James continued to stare at Lena, she just stared back with a cold look on her face. "Fine," he said finally. He hit her back, she stumbled back a little. He quickly went over to Zare and the camel she had. They both got on the same one and rode it away.

Emma, Sandi and Kevin came out, Kevin had a hold of Jessie, who was still unconscious.

"What are you doing? They're getting away," Kevin snapped.

"God, those are ugly aliens," Sandi muttered, eyeing the remaining camels.

Lena stared back at her 'team mates.' "It doesn't matter, they'll come back, when it's too late," she said.

Jessie started to wake up, "ugh, why the witch, why?"

Emma looked over at her, "I'm so glad we have somebody to make all the drinks and everything."

Lena rolled her eyes, "oh my god, you guys are pathetic. You know why we're here right?"

"Because some bozo shot me in the head?" Kevin questioned.

"No," Lena groaned. "But that would have been good to see."

"You fool, we're here because some priests were afraid of us," Emma said. "We're free now and we can do whatever we want."

Jessie looked confused, "what are you talking about?" She glared at Kevin, "ok, put me down you pervert." Kevin did as he was told after a groan. "Last thing I remember my brother was trying to beat me up. Next thing I know I'm here."

"Yeah, I was in the middle of killing," Sandi said.

Emma rolled her eyes and glanced over at Lena. "Are we the only ones who know?"

"It appears so," Lena said. She stepped closer to the others, "we're going to make this dump our own, and do our job at the same time."

"Sounds good, but I really don't like deserts," Kevin muttered.

"The planet isn't just a desert," Lena groaned.

"Really, how would you know?" Jessie asked, staring coldly at her.

"Because, this is my planet and my country. That means you all do as I say," Lena replied. The others looked at her, not looking very happy about it, especially Jessie. "Let's get to it then."

### **Voyager, Astrometrics Lab:**

Daniel and Wesley were waiting by the main stations. Craig walked in looking a little frantic, "did you guys hear?"

"Yes," Wesley groaned.

"Where are they then?" Craig asked.

Daniel turned to stare at him oddly, "Lena's not coming back you know."

"I know, but I want to know what happened to her," Craig muttered. "I can see how much you're concerned."

"Guys, pack it in," Wesley said in a warning voice.

James and Zare joined them, looking a bit wind swept. "Damn deserts, their winds aren't even cold," Zare groaned, brushing her arms.

"Have you found anything?" James asked, ignoring Zare.

"Yes I'm afraid so," Wesley replied, turning back to his station. "We've got the whole country on alert, and everyone's been banned from going into the area they were in."

"That's not what I asked," James said.

"You did on the commlink," Daniel pointed out.

"I'm not in the mood, so shut up unless you have something useful," James grumbled.

Wesley sighed, "do you want to know or not?"

"Yes, I asked didn't I?" James said.

"I did more research on this ritual. It took some digging out, and by the time I found it you had contacted me," Wesley said. "The temple has two statues, one represents the side of the good while the other one represents the sign of evil. The good one is the one you should have put the artefact in, that would have done the purging."

"What does it do exactly?" Zare asked.

Wesley sighed, "I don't know yet, that's what Daniel's researching now." Daniel nodded his head.

"The evil one brings back Evil Slayers?" James questioned.

"Yes, exactly. If a Slayer turned evil, the only cure was to kill them. In the early days they were common, so the watchers at the time came up with a solution. Any Evil Slayers until the late twenty second century were murdered, and their souls were summoned into the statue," Wesley replied. "This was a punishment, and over the centuries the Slayers became more obedient."

"So, no one has had to be punished like this since, oh 2123," Daniel added on.

"Lena mentioned one Natural had to be killed on her sphere, you weren't around then I take it," James questioned.



Wesley shook his head, "he probably was, but you do remember that for this generation the council were secretly trying to find a new cure."

Zare frowned, "personally I prefer what they did to us than what they did to them."

"I'm sorry, I didn't know anything about this until today," Wesley pointed out. "It's obviously something they wanted to keep from some watchers."

"So why did they possess the others?" James asked.

"That statue is to punish any Slayers who are 'fools' and impulsive enough to even go to the temple," Wesley replied.

"I thought the temple was a place we should go though," Zare said.

"Obviously not," Wesley said. "The evil statue was built to store the Evil Slayer souls, and the artefact would release them. They will no doubtingly perform the ritual themselves."

"Well that's not so bad," Zare commented.

"I don't think so. If the watchers went to this much trouble to punish anybody who came, then there must be a huge catch," James said.

"Actually the watchers just wanted to store the souls, a group of priests were the ones who did this. They wanted to get the side of evil on the good side," Wesley said.

"So how do we cure them?" James asked.

Wesley looked uncomfortable, "you can't. The only thing we can do now is stop this ritual, we have no idea what it'll do."

Craig stared blankly, "you mean we can't get Lena back, ever?"

James glanced briefly at him, "yeah, there's got to be something."

"Only the original hosts can get their body back. If they are strong and willing they'll fight for their bodies back, and kill off the evil Slayers permanently. Unfortunately..." Wesley said.

"I don't like that word," Daniel commented.

"Unfortunately," Wesley said again, staring oddly at him. "If the Evil Slayers stay in their hosts for too long, it will kill the host themselves, and they'll have full control."

"How long is too long?" James asked.

"A few hours, maybe less," Wesley replied.

"We need a plan, and fast," Zare said.

### **Meanwhile, back in Egypt:**

"So, we're on a planet called Earth in Egypt. That's good, no help there," Kevin said.

"Yes and since this is my home turf, you're going to do as I say," Lena said.

Jessie rolled her eyes, "so you've already said."

"Watch your mouth," Lena snapped.

"Those other Slayers will come back though. What do we do about them?" Emma asked.

"Well if they don't help us we'll just kill them," Lena replied.

Emma smiled, "ok check."

"Oh finally," Sandi said quietly. The others glanced at her. "What?" she said nervously.

"I'll do the ritual, and you guys just guard the area," Lena said.

"But what more is there to the ritual than putting in a stone? Pretty lazy if you ask me," Kevin said.

Emma jumped slightly, she looked around, "yeah I agree."

Sandi frowned, "pewh that was close."

"What?" Lena groaned.

"My 'other self' got back there for a second," Sandi replied. "Nothing to worry about."

Lena stared at her, "I think it is." She turned to Kevin. "Keep an eye on her, I mean him."

"Sure, whatever," Kevin grumbled.

"Ok Ylara, just because this is your home turf, doesn't make you the leader. You're just as or weaker than everyone else here," Jessie said.

"Except you of course," Lena said. "And besides I don't see any of you doing a better job."

"Maybe cos we don't care about this stupid purging. You shouldn't be bothered about vampires killing people on your home world, so why should we?" Jessie muttered.

Emma groaned, "oh god, that girl came back for a minute there." Everyone stared at her.

"All right you, think you could watch her?" Lena said in Jessie's direction.

"Yes I could watch her, but don't count on me to do anything if something happens," Jessie replied.

"Ok, are we all set? Let's get it over with, afterwards you can do whatever you want," Lena said, heading away from everyone. Everyone excluding Jessie followed her.

"We'll see," she said, then followed the rest.

### **Meanwhile:**

A shuttle flew down from the sky, and landed next to the temple.

The doors opened. James, Zare, Daniel, Craig and Wesley stepped out of it.

"Where will they be?" Craig asked.

"Most probably in the temple, smart ass," Daniel replied.

"Ooh tension," Wesley said, sounding too interested.

"Ok guys, you're the bait," James said.

"We are?" all the other guys questioned. Wesley looked rather worried.

"But I'm important, they aren't," he moaned.

"Well what are you going to do? Give them lectures, actually that'll work good," James said.

Zare smiled sweetly, "go on wormies, we haven't got all day."

Wesley muttered something under his breath as he followed Craig and Daniel into the temple.

James turned to Zare, "ready?"

"Sure, but only Jessie and Emma would be in my league you know," Zare replied.

"Oh I don't know, have you seen Jessie evil?" James asked.

Zare shook her head, looking worried, "no, why?"

"Actually Emma would probably be vicious, but she's not really her so that's ok," James said, ignoring the question.

"Ok, I think we have time to cut something off so shut the hell up," Zare grumbled. She headed into the temple, muttering something rude under her breath.

"Right behind you, always," James muttered. He followed her inside.

### **Inside the temple:**

Sandi walked over to Emma who was looking a little confused. "He's gone," she whispered.

Emma looked at her, "yeah mine too. I don't know how, I kept getting distracted about Harry, you know in that cute tank top."

Sandi looked disgusted, "hmm yeah, I wonder how."

Nearby Kevin was arguing with Lena. Jessie was not with them though, but no one seemed to have noticed.

"What are we going to do? I doubt there's black in our eyes now," Sandi whispered.

"I've got an idea," Emma whispered back, she turned to the door. "I've just heard something outside, I'll check it out." She walked out, Sandi followed her.

"Whatever," Lena groaned. Kevin then decided to smack her in the face. She just looked at him like he was a fly in her coke, she hit him right back. He stumbled to the ground, a little dazed. "There's more to the ritual than that."

Kevin pouted, standing back up. "Damn, wasn't expecting that."

Sandi and Emma stood outside the room, out of sight in the dark corridor. "Now what?" Sandi asked.

Emma shrugged, "I dunno, it's your turn now."

"Maybe they won't see our eye colour out here," Sandi commented.

Lena appeared at the doorway, "when you guys are finished, go find that witch. She's been gone a while and I don't trust her."

"That'll do," Emma said. She headed away.

Sandi stared after her, "will do, should we kill her?"

"May as well, she's useless," Lena replied, stepping back into the room.

Emma sighed, "she didn't notice."

Sandi rushed after her, "nope, let's hope it was Jessie that nicked off, not the Slayer inside her."

Meanwhile inside the room Lena stood next to Kevin. "Keep an eye on those two, the originals keep getting the bodies back," she whispered.

"Why must you boss me around?" Kevin asked.

"Because you're a man," Lena replied. He started squealing, he quickly bit his lip to stop. "Don't make me pull next time."

"Yes ma'am," Kevin squeaked. He limped out of the room.

Meanwhile Wesley had dragged Daniel with him down one corridor, while Craig went off on his own. Sandi and Emma turned the corner and bumped into him nearly.

"Ooh ok um," Craig stuttered. "Come and get me, I'm an easy to kill pedestrian, kinda."

Emma tried not to laugh, "oh that's funny."

Sandi however looked confused, "Craig, what are you doing here?"

Craig stared blankly at them. "You're not possessed anymore. You could have told me before I embarrassed myself."

"Wouldn't have been as fun that way," Emma commented.

"Besides how would we have known that you were going to do that?" Sandi said.

"All right, who else is ok?" Craig asked.

"We don't know. Jessie nicked off somewhere, Lena and Kevin are still possessed though," Sandi replied.

Meanwhile, Wesley and Daniel were now arguing in the empty statue room.

"I thought you knew where you were going," Daniel grumbled.

"I did, it's just you threw me off," Wesley said.

Jessie appeared at the doorway, "hi boys."

They both glanced at her briefly. "Hey," they said, their eyes widened.

"Ok, go and do the bait thing," Wesley whispered.

"No, I have my dignity where as you don't," Daniel muttered.

Jessie walked over to them, "I wouldn't bother." She stood in between them. "You two are watchers aren't you?"

"Uh, no," Wesley stuttered.

Daniel rolled his eyes, "he is."

"No, both of you are," Jessie said. She glanced at Daniel, "hmm, they're making them younger and cuter these days."

"Oh god, you kidding?" Wesley said, trying to keep a straight face. Daniel pulled a face at him.

"No, now you two are going to help me with a little problem," Jessie said. She gently patted them both on the side of the face at the same time. "You will help me right?"

"What is it?" Daniel asked, looking worried.

"This body's a witch, you two are going to tell me what I'm capable of," Jessie replied.

"Uh, we don't want to do that," Wesley muttered.

"Really?" Jessie said, pouting a little. She pushed their heads together, they fell to the ground. "I didn't want to have to do that."

"Ow, you've got a bony head," Daniel groaned. He looked up, he noticed Wesley was unconscious.

Jessie stood next to Daniel, "now, tell me how I can get rid of Ylara once and for all."

"One of the Slayers? Well she'll die if the host fights back too hard," Daniel muttered, sitting up.

"Not likely, she's the only one who hasn't phased out," Jessie said, kneeling down next to him. "I want to know what spells I can do that'll destroy her."

"The one who would know is unconscious. I don't know much," Daniel said.

"Look," Jessie sweetly said, she roughly grabbed a hold of his hair. "Tell me, can I do a spell to destroy the whole body. If I understand right, that'll destroy her soul too."

"Even if I knew, I wouldn't tell you," Daniel muttered.

"All right let's see," Jessie said. She put another hand on his forehead.

"What are you doing?" he asked.

"Shh," Jessie whispered. She closed her eyes. "Oh, now that's interesting." She pulled away and stood up.

"What did you do?" Daniel asked.

Jessie smiled sweetly, "I still have my telepathy, even in a different body, it's all a part of the evil you see. Thanks for the tip cutey."

Daniel pulled himself to his feet, "I don't know anything."

"Oh you know one thing," Jessie said. "It's so cute, you're in love with the real thing and you've just told me how to kill her. Well kill's not the word, eliminate is." She hit him hard in the face, knocking him out. "Thanks again." She walked back out of the room.

### **Meanwhile:**

James and Zare were going down a steep and damp stairway. "Now this is more like it," Zare commented.

"Yeah, I hope we're close. I'd imagine Wesley is running away from the Evil Slayers, screaming like a baby right about now," James said.

In: "Anderson to Stuart."

James tapped his commbadge, "what is it?"

In: "Sandi and Emma are back, there's just Lena and Kevin, and possibly Jessie."

In: "Lena will probably head down to where you're going now mind. She insisted on doing the rest of the ritual alone."

"Have you heard from the watchers?" Zare asked.

In: "Not yet no."

In: "There's something else. The Slayer in Jessie kept having spats with the one called Ylara."

"Ylara?" James said.

In: "Lena's. She fancies herself as the leader. Jessie's nicked off at some point, as she's evil she could be up to anything."

"Great, that's all we need, somebody being unpredictable," Zare grumbled. "That's typical of Jessie to be awkward."

"If you say so," James said. "We'll keep a look out for her and Ylara."

In: "Kevin might be guarding now, that's what we were supposed to do. Obviously Ylara wasn't expecting you guys to come back so soon."

"Right, you guys take care of Kevin then," James said.

In: "I was hoping you wouldn't say that."

In: "It's not Kevin though, thankfully. Anderson out."

"Well they're going to have fun," Zare said.

"So are you," James said. She turned to him looking confused. "You should look for Jessie."

"Why me? Isn't that your department?" Zare asked angrily. "You know, you and Ylara have too much in common, it's scary."

"Then shouldn't I handle her then?" James asked, smirking slightly.

Zare rolled her eyes, "ugh, this is serious."

"I know that. Just trust me ok," James said. "Look she's in Lena's body and she's powerful, she might be too powerful while evil."

"Right, you're awfully big headed. Jessie's the weakest, so thanks..." Zare muttered.

"No she's not. If that Slayer knew how to control the witchcraft, she'd probably be the toughest to deal with," James said. He walked around her and continued down the steps. "Take it from someone who fought with her like that, twice."

Zare stayed put, watching him, "Jessie's not that tough."

"Fine believe what you want, but watch your back," James said, continuing down the steps.

Zare sighed, she started to make her way up.

### **Meanwhile:**

Sandi and Emma turned the corner to find Kevin, standing facing them like he was expecting them.

"Hello girls," he said. He raised his arm, and moved it to the side. Both of the girls got thrown into the wall at the same time.

Sandi was the first to recover, "oh god, how did he do that?"

"Maybe cos he's evil and Chosen," Emma groaned, rolling her eyes. She stood back at Sandi's side.

"Are we just going to talk about this or..." Kevin questioned, he stepped forward. He hit Emma hard in the face, she collapsed to the ground.

Sandi stood in front of him, "what are you chicken? She's only a Natural."

"What's a chicken?" Kevin asked, before swinging another fist at her. Sandi blocked it, she hit him back but it didn't hurt him at all. He smirked and hit her right back, she stumbled back.

**Meanwhile:**

James reached the bottom of the stairs, and found himself in a large cavern. In the centre of it all stood a large statue, surrounded by a pool of black water.

A familiar voice echoed from the other side of the statue, "for two years now, I have been searching for this place." Lena walked around the edge of the pool so she was now in sight, "now thanks to you and your friends, I have found it."

"Well then you owe us a thank you card and a present. That present can be just you getting out of that body, I'll gladly forget about the card," James said.

Lena smiled as she made her way over to him, "that doesn't really work. The ritual has already begun for one thing, and the only one who can finish it off is the person who put the artefact into the statue."

"You do know what it does, don't you?" James questioned.

"I sure do," Lena replied. She picked up speed until she was on his side of the pool. "It wouldn't be that much of a loss. I always thought this planet was messed up, I can't imagine it changing if you guys are here."

"What happened to you?" James asked.

Lena frowned and stopped in her tracks, "what?"

"Why did you turn evil, there must be a reason?" James asked.

"Why would you even care?" Lena asked.

"You know, I've been there," James replied.

"I take it a 'dont worry, everything will be ok, there's no need for this' speech is coming on," Lena muttered. She rolled her eyes, "don't bother, you wouldn't believe how many people have done that. They're dead now."

James smiled and raised his eyebrow, "why would I do that? I hate those, and quite frankly I can't stand you enough to care."

"Then why ask stupid questions?" Lena asked.

"Well you do have a time limit or something, right?" James replied.

"I've got plenty of time, so I'll humour you," Lena said, she took a step closer. "I killed my brother, that's why I turned evil."

"No, that's not what I meant. What thing happened to even make you want to do that?" James asked.

Lena laughed, shaking her head, "that was what did it. I took my little brother out on his first vampire hunt nearby the Nile. He was quite a gutsy little ten year old, who had just been Chosen. Unfortunately I didn't know those telepathic ones would turn up."

"They murdered him," James muttered.

Lena smiled, "yeah, they grabbed him, tied one of the vampires to him and pushed both of them in the river. That vampire made sure he wouldn't be able to swim to the surface. Then they dragged him onto the shore, and made me watch them drain his blood. Ever since that day, I've killed all the vampires I could find."

"That's why you're doing this," James said.

"Stating the obvious," Lena said. She sighed, "you know, you remind me of my brother. Obviously you're a lot older than he was."

"That's convenient, cos I drowned once too," James commented.

Lena smirked slightly, "really, it's a shame it didn't kill you. But it just means I get to."

"What are you waiting for, try," James said.

"Ooh, you're awfully sure of yourself," Lena said in a teasing voice. She looked down at herself, "this your little sister?"

"You must know by now," James muttered.

Lena smiled, "yeah I do. She saddens me you know. Do you even know what pain she's going through?"

"I have a good idea," James replied.

"I don't think you do. She's so miserable, and so sick of everything. It's no wonder she hasn't tried to fight back," Lena said, trying to keep a straight face. "Why should she, she has got nothing to live for."

"Ok, you're lying, she would fight back," James muttered.

"Why? Her mum's dead, her dad's gone all weird and doesn't care, her daughter won't ever come back, and she's got two dorky guys after her. Also her brother is making her feel even more worse cos he keeps rubbing his life in her face," Lena said.

"What are you talking about?" James asked.

"And he doesn't get it or give a toss," Lena said.

"I care all right, I wouldn't do anything to hurt her," James said.

Lena smiled sweetly, "let's test that, shall we." She punched him hard in the face, knocking back slightly. She just stared coldly at him as he recovered from the blow, he quickly hit her right back.

### **Meanwhile:**

Zare wandered down a corridor looking a little lost. A whispery voice echoed around her, she followed the source to one of the statue rooms. There she found Jessie sitting on the ground, doing some sort of spell.

"Ok what are you doing?" she asked.

"Shush, I'm busy," Jessie snapped back. She groaned, "great, I have to start again."

"Shame, you can tell me what you're doing," Zare said.



"Nah, don't wanna," Jessie said in a sweet voice. She quickly got onto her feet. "Let me try something first." She raised both hands, Zare quickly ducked a purple lightning strike, which hit the wall behind her. The wall started crumbling, and collapsed on Zare.

"Hmm, now where was I?" Jessie said to herself, kneeling back down.

### **The underground:**

Lena laughed as she dodged a hit, "I'll give you something, it's hard to find somebody worth actually fighting these days."

"Don't you ever shut up?" James grumbled, he hit her with his arm. She stumbled into the pool.

She quickly stood back up, the water was only up to her knees. "That really hurt."

### **Meanwhile again:**

Sandi fell backwards onto the ground, blood was coming down her face. Emma was lying unconscious nearby her with a nasty scar on the side of her head.

Kevin was about to walk closer to them both, but he stopped looking a bit annoyed. "Ok that's enough, leave her..." He looked around, "oh wait."

Sandi looked up at him, "Kevin?"

"I think he's gone," Kevin said. He headed over and held out a hand, "are you all right, I'm sorry I..."

Sandi took it and he helped her to her feet. "It wasn't you, don't apologise."

In: "Anderson to Clarke."

Sandi looked around for her commbadge, it was lying next to where she was lying before. She quickly picked it up, "Craig, did you find the watchers?"

In: "I did, supposedly Jessie made them headbutt each other."

"About time," Kevin commented.

In: "Oh, welcome back Kevin."

"Thanks," Kevin said.

In: "Anyway you'd better find Jessie fast."

"Why, what's up?" Sandi asked.

Emma groaned as she started waking up, "no, they deserved it, no fair."

In: "Jessie's host wants to kill Ylara by doing this spell, it'll destroy the body she's in too."

"Oh god," Sandi muttered.

In: "I mean completely destroy the body, along with that temporal implant. That's what she wants to do, change the timeline."

"Kevin, you get Emma out of here, she needs to be treated. I'll go find Jessie," Sandi said.

"But she's obviously got the hang of the witchcraft, which spells trouble if she defends herself," Kevin said.

Emma giggled from the ground, "spells trouble, witch."

"Kevin, Emma needs help ok. No offense but I think I'd be able to defend myself better. Jessie is infamous for hurting the men permanently," Sandi said.

Kevin turned slightly pale, "I get your point, but please be careful." Sandi nodded and rushed off.

### **The statue room:**

Jessie slowly headed over to where Zare was lying, she knelt down beside her and started pushing some of the rocks away. "Zare, you still, oh crap."

Sandi ran into the room, she jumped in shock when she saw Jessie. "Ok that was fast work," she said.

"It's ok, it's me again," Jessie said. She looked back down at Zare, "but she got hit when the wall collapsed."

Sandi sighed, "right, you should get her out of the temple. There's only Lena left as far as I know, so I'd better help James out."

"Can't I do that?" Jessie asked.

Sandi was about to reply but was interrupted by what felt like an earthquake.

"What's that?" Jessie stuttered.

Sandi looked nervous, "it might be that ritual."

### **The underground:**

"Ah ha, play time's over," Lena said. She tried to kick James in a certain place, he grabbed her leg at the last second and pushed her into the water.

"I wish people would stop trying that," he muttered.

Lena shrugged before getting back up, "well I got the other guy easily enough. I'll get you too."

"Don't you have a ritual to do?" James said.

Lena glanced over at the statue, then back at him, "yeah I do." She turned and headed away. James followed her, he knocked her back into the water.

### **Outside:**

"What the?" Kevin muttered as he reached the exit. Craig, Wesley and Daniel were already stood against the wall, trying to shield away from the sand storm which circled the temple. "Why are you hanging out here?"

"We can't go back in, we tried but a shield thing blocked us," Craig replied.

Wesley frowned as he looked down at a watch, "we haven't got long."

"For what?" Kevin asked.

"The ritual," Wesley replied.

"But everyone's back, there shouldn't be anybody to do it," Craig said.

"Actually, James and maybe Sandi is with Lena underground, she's probably the only one left," Kevin said.

Craig stared at him, "but I would have thought she'd have beaten it by now, long before you."

"Yeah well, maybe I'm wrong and they're performing it together," Kevin shrugged.

Wesley shook his head, "not possible. While you and the others were possessed we found out what the ritual actually does, even James knows better than that."

"Ok, what does it do?" Kevin questioned.

"Turns the planet into a desert waste land," Wesley replied.

### **The underground:**

Lena pushed James away from her, he fell into the water nearby her. She slowly got up, then headed for the statue. The statue started glowing just as she got to it, she stopped dead in her tracks.

"It's too late now," James said from far behind her. He got back up.

"No," Lena muttered. She took a hold of the hand on the statue, an electric shock went through her and blasted her backwards into the water.

### **Outside:**

The sand storm started to clear, moments later the desert was perfectly calm.

"What happened?" Kevin asked.

Wesley sighed in relief, "it's over, Lena or rather Ylara was too late to continue it."

### **The underground:**

James dragged Lena's unconscious form out of the water, and lay her on the ground nearby. He knelt down beside her to check her pulse. "Lena?" he said quietly as she started to open her eyes. The fully black eyes greeted him, followed by a weak punch in the face. It was enough to knock him away from her.

"Yeah right, you're too late too," she grumbled, sitting up.

"What are you talking about?" James muttered.

Lena smiled, "what do you think, she won't be bothering us anymore." She climbed to her feet, "that little shock helped with that I'd imagine."

James looked up at her, "what?"

Lena smiled sweetly, "time's up, she lost and now she's left us." She looked around the room, her smile getting a little bigger. "It feels so good to have just have one voice in my head again."

"No, you're lying," James mumbled.

Lena walked over to him, "you're thirty plus, listen in, you'll only hear me in my head."

James stared at her, then glanced at the ground, "no, she wouldn't just..."

Lena knelt down in front of him, "survival of the fittest my friend. So long." She leaned in and kissed his forehead, before jumping to her feet and ran for the stairs.

James placed his hands over his face, shaking his head, "no, this can't be happening."

Several minutes later Jessie, Sandi, Craig, Daniel and Wesley came down the stairs. Jessie spotted James, she pushed Wesley out of the way and rushed down the remaining stairs. She rushed over to him and knelt down beside him, "James, are you ok?"

James moved his hands away, he glanced at her with tears in his eyes. "She's gone Jess, Ylara won," he said quietly. Jessie stared in shock, while he hugged her tightly.

Craig stood nearby, he stared into space for a while before collapsing onto his knees. He put his hands over his face and cried into them.

"Oh my god," Sandi muttered, glancing over at Daniel. He was just staring into space as well. He turned around and headed back up the stairs.

### **Meanwhile, onboard Voyager:**

Chakotay walked into the Ready Room, he dumped a few PADDs onto the table. He turned the computer around on the desk, "computer accept the transmission and encode with code Chakotay Beta One Four Seven."

He keyed in a few more commands, the screen changed. "Well, have you found one?"

A familiar voice started speaking from the computer, "I have. When should we do this?"

"Be patient, I can't just leave un noticed, you'll have to wait until the timing is right," Chakotay snapped.

"Fine, contact me when you have something to tell me," the voice said. The screen changed back to blank. Chakotay stared coldly at it.

### **One week later**

#### **Earth, Indiana:**

Inside the same graveyard Kathryn's grave was, a few people started walking away leaving only one or two people behind.

Craig stared at one of the graves, he walked away passing Daniel. He watched him walk away, he stayed behind.

Nearby James and Jessie were standing in front of the same one, Duncan stood in front of them, while Sasha stood nearby Sarah-Amy's pram. Duncan started to cry, he turned around to hug Jessie's leg. She put one of her arms around him.

"That's another person added to the list," James muttered.

Jessie glanced at him, "what list?"

"The list of people I have loved that have died because of me," James replied.

Jessie put her other arm around his shoulders, "don't say that. It wasn't your fault."

"It was. If I had just talked to her, and tried to convince her to fight back, this wouldn't have happened," James said. He glanced at her, "she would have heard me, right?"

"I can't lie to you, yeah she would have. It doesn't make it your fault though," Jessie replied.

Sasha started tugging on James' leg, he looked down at her. "Daddy, you said grandma would be ok where she is now, Aunt Lena will be too."

"I hope so," James quietly said, glancing back at Jessie.

"Come on," she said softly. She knelt down to pick up Duncan. She started walking away. James stared at the gravestone for a few seconds longer, he picked up Sasha then went over to the pram.

Ylara watched from a distance, her eyes now back to a natural colour. She turned around then walked away.

**\*\*\*\* THE END \*\*\*\***