

Mr. Thorpe and His Family

"Mr. Thorpe And His Children's Love Lives"

Written by
Matthew John Latham

THIS SCRIPT IS A WORK OF FICTION - AND IT IS WRITTEN THE SOLE
PURPOSE TO ENTERTAIN. THERE IS NO INTENT TO CAUSE ANYBODY ANY
OFFENSE.

TEASER**INT. CHARREDMAN ANIMATIONS - EVENING**

MATTHOLOMEW THORPE sits in his studio, drawing something that can't be seen. He's really concentrating hard at his work.

The camera moves past him to his desk. There's pictures of Jennifer and his children (except for Hope), there's a huge poster of some strange three-headed dragon and another of Rory McGrath smiling.

Matt leans back on his chair, smiling at his work. He looks at his watch and sighs, picking up a wireless mouse next to him and aiming it at the TV.

The TV bursts to life...into static. Matt's changes the channels but nothing comes on.

Matt lowers the mouse, and rubs his eyes.

UNKNOWN (O.S.)
(dirty old man voice)

Hey! You! Ponytail!

Startled, Matt looks around. There's no-one else here...

UNKNOWN (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I'm on the TV!

Matt looks at the TV to see a shadowy cloaked figure staring at him.

UNKNOWN (ON TV) (CONT'D)

Yeah! You! Now, look - I want you to
touch the TV screen.

MATT

Um. Why?

UNKNOWN (ON TV)

Because I can grant you to your
heart's desire! I can let you live out
your wildest fantasies. You can be who
you want to be!

Matt blinks.

MATT

(lost)

Huh?

Unknown SIGHS.

UNKNOWN (ON TV)

Look. You touch TV and you enter a
world where you are the king!

Matt THINKS this over.

MATT

No thanks.

UNKNOWN (ON TV)

What?

(beat)

Oh please.

MATT

No!

UNKNOWN (ON TV)

C'mon! Just touch the *BEEP*-ing
screen you fat *BEEP*!

Matt just shakes his head.

MATT

I tune over to the VSG - and what
thanks do I get?

He grabs the mouse and TURNS the TV off! He sighs and
reclines in his chair.

MATT (CONT'D)

(shakes head)

Honestly.

CUT TO:

INT. CHARREDMAN ANIMATIONS CORRIDOR - LATER

Matt CARRIES on down the corridor, heading into the:

INT. ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

He pushes the ground-floor button and leans back, resting his eyes and rubbing his forehead.

ELEVATOR

Doors closing.

Cheesy crap music plays in the background.

It's Slipknot.

The Elevator suddenly chimes and opens.

ELEVATOR (CONT'D)

Doors opening.

The doors open and Matt opens his eyes to see:

INT. THE COMPANY - CONTINUOUS

ALISTAIR BENSON and ANDREW FRIAR in some heated argument. They suddenly TURN to the elevator and see Matt standing there.

Matt's eyes open.

MATT

Oh crap! Not you crackpots again!

He suddenly PUSHES THE BUTTONS as fast he can. Benson starts to RUN at the doors, gaining speed, until he reaches Matt -
- but the doors shut in his face! Leaving Benson staring at the doors.

BENSON

Next time.
(beat)

Next time.

Turns back to Andrew.

ANDREW

So. Dude. Is that guy ever going to accept he's actually part of The Company?

BENSON

Don't change the subject Andrew. I still want to know what you did with a hundred pounds worth of Jenna's Lingerie and moulding clay.

ANDREW

I said it wasn't me! Anyone would find clay boobs funny!

BENSON
(narrows eyes)

Not me!

ANDREW

Geez. You act like a virgin!

Benson's eyes NARROWS. Then -

BENSON
(coughs)

Does it show?

Andrew just BLINKS.

Suddenly a CLAY FILLED BRA flies across the screen behind them!

VI (O.S.)

Oh yeah! Shoot one for the home team!

VIOLET MORGAN JUMPS out of the room - suddenly seeing Benson and Andrew looking at her dancing!

She stops.

VI (CONT'D)
(thinks)

I know what this looks like.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**INT. INDOCTRINATE YOUTH NOT-THAT-HIGH SCHOOL - NEXT DAY**

THE SCHOOL BELL RINGS.

A sudden barrage of horny adolescents storm out of the classrooms; all wearing the school uniform of whatever they like.

CLOSE UP: One door - and out comes GANDER BARRIS (in a rare crossover) and HOPE THORPE.

HOPE

Wow. I never thought that the Middle
Ages involved so many sexual acts.

GANDER

quacks

It must be reminded for those that skipped the pilot: Gander is a giant duck.

And whatever he said has made Hope gasp.

HOPE

You did?

GANDER

quacks

HOPE

How did that work?

GANDER

quacks

Hope SHIVERS.

HOPE

I hope that Quinn has insurance that
covers his back.

Gander nods as they reach their destination: their lockers.
Hope opens hers and puts some books in.

HOPE (CONT'D)

I can't wait to finish school. I can go to college. Sleep with more guys. Blah blah blah and all other one-dimensional slut characteristics. You know?

GANDER

quacks

HOPE

Oh right. I forgot that videotape.

Gander shrugs and looks around. He stops and his gaze is frozen at a spot behind Hope's door.

Hope looks surprised as she shuts to door to -

- a suddenly BEAUTIFUL girl their age walks down the school corridor. A petite figure that's not anorexic. Short skirt and a shirt that makes her look like she's wandered in from a Porn Set. She's got long flowing black hair and is smirking at everyone. She sees Hope and stops, showing brilliantly digitally altered white teeth.

GORGEOUS GIRL

(smiling)

Hiya! You must be Gander right? I heard about you.
(laughs)

I mean when someone says to look out for the great big fat duck - I was expecting some guy named Joanie.
(sees Hope)

And who's this little thing?

She glances at Hope.

Hope suddenly breaks into a nervous sweat.

HOPE

I - I- I - Pommegranites!

She BLINKS. She just said that?

The girl smiles.

GORGEOUS GIRL

Nice to meet you. Hey, you look and
sound like Eliz-

WHOLE SCHOOL
(quickly)

NO SHE DOESN'T!

She looks surprised.

GORGEOUS GIRL

Right. Hey. My name's Dominique and
I'm kind of new. You may notice that I
look and sound like Rachel Bilson.
Which I've pointed out for no reason
at all.

GANDER

quacks

Dominique looks at him and smiles.

DOMINIQUE

You're right! I am plugging something.
Say Hope, you wanna hook up later
tonight?

HOPE
(still nervous)

W-w-well I-I-I-erect nipples.
(beat)

DAMMIT!

Dominique just looks at her.

DOMINIQUE

O.K.
(beat)

You're funny. And hot. See you around.

She waves sweetly and hope just watches her leave. Looking star struck.

HOPE

(gulps)

Oh crap. I have a crush on someone.

GANDER

quacks

HOPE

I know. This might give me depth.

(sighs)

I am so screwed.

She looks to her left.

HOPE (CONT'D)

What do you think Sam?

SAM DAVISON is leaning on the lockers next to her.

SAM

Girl? I say go with it and just do what that little ticker tells you.

HOPE

Right. Thanks Sam. You know. Girls fancying girls is okay.

Sam smiles in support. Then realises something.

SAM

Oh holiness of Brad! You're a -

He GLANCES at her chest. And suddenly holds his fingers up like a crucifix...backing away.

SAM (CONT'D)

GIRL! GIRL! REVERSE! REVERSE!

He suddenly turns and runs away. Hope just shakes her head.

HOPE

I bet my mum never had this trouble.

SAM (O.S.)

NUNS! NUNS! REVERSE! REVERSE!

She gets up and WALKS off.

CUT TO:

INT. THE SCHOOL BELOW THE LAST ONE - DAY

A LONG BLACK COAT flies behind a walking figure - obviously not having his growth spurt just yet. The sound of a Katana scrapping the floor alerts a lot of thirteen year-olds to see the lone figure in front of them:

VIRGIL/VIGILANTE THORPE. His hair long and black - and his facial hair barely fluff fixed upon a determined expression.

He's ready for something.

He STOPS -

SWINGS his FIST -

VIGILANTE

YEEEOOWW!!!

- and his locker STILL doesn't open. He sighs in defeat as he shakes his hand in pain.

He NARROWS his eyes at the locker.

VIGILANTE (CONT'D)
(as low as he can go)

One day. One day. I will finally open
you. Until I do - I must go and
continue with the school.
(sighs)

Until we meet again, evil Locker-that-
never-opens!

He turns around into -

- a GIRL. Thirteen years old and smiling brightly at Vigilante. This is CARLY, big blue eyes and long curly blonde hair.

CARLY

Hiya Virgil!

VIGILANTE

It's Vigilante.

She GIGGLES. He raises an eyebrow.

CARLY

I...um, was just wondering if you'd go
out on a date.

VIGILANTE

With you?

CARLY

Well, d'uh.

Vigilante blinks.

VIGILANTE

Sure! Tonight?

Carly smiles - and nods.

CARLY

See you there!

She turns and leaves - leaving Vigilante standing there.
Looking slightly shocked over recent developments.

VIGILANTE

I have a date.
(smiles)

My first ever date! Wow. I feel all
special now.

He begins to pace as he talks to himself.

VIGILANTE (CONT'D)

I must make this first date memorable.
I don't want to end up like some poor
guy I knew.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK DUNGEON - NIGHT

PRYOR WEBB hangs upside down from chains. Practically naked apart from some white boxer shorts. He looks around.

PRYOR
(shouts)

So...good night? Meal was fine.
(beat)

So about that coffee...I, uh - you
know what, I'll call ya. Okay?

He sighs and swings slightly.

PRYOR (CONT'D)

Mental note: Never Date Noa Again.

CUT TO:

INT./ESTAB. THORPE'S HOUSE - EVENING

INT. HOPE'S BEDROOM - SAME

JENNIFER THORPE is smiling at her daughter in the mirror. Hope is looking slightly nervous and looks beautiful - and here's the surprising part: she **doesn't look slutty**.

JENNIFER

I can't believe your brother is going
on his first date.

HOPE

You're not worried about him?

JENNIFER

Oh naturally - it's just an excuse to
get you out of the house as well.

HOPE

Oh. Right - the anniversary dinner.
Are you sure you want dad to plan it?
I was old enough to remember what
nearly happened the last time!

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - DAY

JENNIFER THORPE stands, smiling.

SHE'S IN A WEDDING DRESS.

She turns to the groom:

IT'S MANON.

MANON

I 'ope that we will make good babies.

Jennifer nods.

JENNIFER

I am certai-

The FRONT DOORS OPEN; and MATT storms in looking all beaten and bruised with FRANKIE DUCONT!

MATT

Don't marry him! We still have dessert
to eat!

FRANKIE

And you I 'ave to give a good seeing
too! *Insert generic French Word!*

Jennifer looks at Manon; and then RUNS to Matt.

Frankie RUNS and LEAPS in front of Manon. They stare each other down.

FRANKIE (CONT'D)

I am more of a French person that you
'ave ever been!

MANON

I eat baguettes!

FRANKIE

I go to the Cannes film festival!

MANON

I 'ave a crush on Patrick Viera!

FRANKIE

I want to make love to you!

MANON

As do I!

The suddenly LEAP onto each other and START KISSING.

BACK TO:

INT. HOPE'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Jennifer snaps out of flashback face.

JENNIFER

Your father has promised not to try
and cook this time.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. INVISIBLE'S ROOM - EVENING

There's a **knock** at the door. It opens. It's MATT.

MR. INVISIBLE

Oh thank god. I thought it was going
to be a fireman.

MATT

I'm not cooking.

MR. INVISIBLE

Still - I have nightmares of you
burning the house down.

Matt pauses for a moment.

MATT

You know...if you just to be on the
safe side -

MR. INVISIBLE

On it!

A phone is picked up and dialled:

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

CLOSE UP ON PHONE.

A hand grabs around the receiver - it's APRIL CLAY. We just see her face.

APRIL

April Clay, Goddess of Water. I'll be
wet for you!
(beat, laughs nervously)

Please just ignore that last comment.

MR. INVISIBLE (FILTERED)

Hey April - it's Vizzy.

April's eyes WIDEN in surprise.

APRIL

Vizzy! Vizzy Ble? Wow! It's been a
while! You had any nights you can't
remember because of drinking too much?

MR. INVISIBLE (FILTERED)

With this family?
(beat)

Not enough. Anyway - just want to let
you know that Matt might try to cook -

APRIL

- ahh, no problem! I'll float the
whole Atlantic Ocean over the house.

MR. INVISIBLE (FILTERED)

Thanks. I owe you one. What you doing
now?

April looks down.

APRIL
(thinks)

Studying.

MR. INVISIBLE (FILTERED)

See you around!

APRIL

You too! And call more often!

She hangs up and looks down.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Okay, we can continue.

VOICE (O.S.)

You sure? I don't know why you want to
keep this a secret.

APRIL

I'm ashamed to tell my friends.

ANGLE: WHOLE BED.

April's in a CLOWN COSTUME. And the Voice belongs to KRUSTY
THE KLOWN!

KRUSTY

You think you have it rough? My best
man and my fourth wife still think I'm
a milkman.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. INVISIBLE'S ROOM - EVENING

Mr. Invisible hangs up.

MR. INVISIBLE

Do worry - I think things might be
just fine.

MATT

Anyway - I was just wondering if you could go and take Heimlich somewhere while I romanticize the whole house.

MR. INVISIBLE

Fine. Just make sure nothing burns my collection of Virtual Inside.

MATT

You still get that worthless excuse for a VMagazine? You should get Xandmatt Productions; it's clear, concise and better than the rest.

Mr. Invisible sighs.

MR. INVISIBLE

XP? The editor's egotistical and keeps self-referencing himself in his work.

The twat.
(beat)

How's Vigilante going for his date?

MATT

He's about to get ready.

CUT TO:

INT. VIGILANTE'S ROOM - EVENING

Vigilante is FLOATING in midair, leg's crossed and eyes closed. He's in DEEP MEDITATION.

The door opens and he FALLS to the bed. He turns to see Matt standing there.

MATT

You okay son?

VIGILANTE

I am prepared.

He bows. Matt sits on the bed.

MATT

Okay.
(taps knee)

Let me give you some dating advice.

VIGILANTE

Uh, okay.

MATT

One; always pay. Except when it's a prostitute. Two; when eating - never use the fork as a toothpick. Three; never leave to do something more interesting and come back two weeks later. They go mad.

VIGILANTE

They go mad?

MATT

Yup. I only did it once. Some girl I dated was on the rebound. When I returned she was an evil killing machine.

VIGILANTE

Who was that?

MATT

Girl named Vivian.
(beat)

Anyway - you have to be going.

He smiles and Vigilante walks off. Matt smiles after him.

CUT TO:

INT. THORPE'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Matt and Jennifer watch as they see Mr. Invisible and Heimlich walk down one way down the street, they see Vigilante and Carly walk down another way and they see Hope jump into Dominique's car.

Jennifer SHUTS the door, wiping a forced tear out of etiquette.

JENNIFER

(sighs)

Oh our children are all growing up. I hope they enjoy themselves.

MATT

Don't worry! I gave Virgil some advice to keep him happy.

Jennifer sighs and looks out the window.

JENNIFER

Let's hope he forgets; considering what happened to the last guy you gave advice to.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK DUNGEON - LATER

- and Pryor's STILL dangling.

PRYOR

(sings)

*She'll make you take your clothes off
and go dancing in the rain! Something
something I forgot the words dala -
insane!*

BACK TO:

INT. THORPE'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Jennifer looks UPWARDS.

JENNIFER

Mattholomew, is that an ocean above
the house?

MATT

Actually it's the Buffy SFX team on
strike again.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. THE PARK - EVENING

A four year old boy is walking on his own. His hand being held in mid-air. It's Heimlich and Mr. Invisible.

MR. INVISIBLE
(to himself)

Well done Vizzy. Walk down a park with
a four-year-old that looks as if he's
walking down by himself.

He sees a bench; and decides to sit on it. Heimlich sits next to him.

ANGLE ON MR. INVISIBLE. He sighs. A small beam of light is just caught from the side of the screen. Mr. Invisible looks -
- and HEIMLICH IS GONE.

Mr. Invisible looks upwards:

THERE'S A HUGE SPACE SHIP ABOVE HIM.

MR. INVISIBLE (CONT'D)

Oh f -

CUT TO:

INT. THORPE'S DINING ROOM - DAY

Jennifer sits at the dining room table; all laid out with candles and such. All dressed up. Looking very attractive.

MATT (O.S.)

Are you ready honey?

JENNIFER

Oh yes!

MATT (O.S.)

I've written you a song.

Jennifer's optimism FALLS.

JENNIFER

Really?

MATT (O.S.)

Yup!

JENNIFER

That's...nice...

Suddenly the wall begins to ROTATE around - revealing a illogically hidden stage with Matthew standing on a podium. Behind him are several people at different ares.

MATT

With me on this very special
occasion...**ON DRUMS** - Parker McMann!
ON GUITAR - Some old dude! **ON BASS** -
Jack McClark! **On Vocals** - me! Now hit
it!

Suddenly they begin to play a **RAP BEAT**.

MATT (CONT'D)

(ad-libbing)

Oh yeah.

(raps)

*Like Sofia with Buffy it's been said
many times //*

*Like Matt Hunter's coke problem I'll
keep doing lines //*

*Unlike some twat called Quinn my Faith
in you never dies //*

*Without you how'd I know that I must
do up my flies? //*
(sings)

*Celebrate! Remember my wedding, that
moment //*

*Celibate? Hell no, I still get to use
it! //*

Elegant?

(MORE)

MATT (CONT'D)

*You are but I kinda farted //
Desperate? Yeah, it's been a month
since we -*

JENNIFER
(bursts into applause)

Wow! Mattholomew. That was -

MATT

Unique?

JENNIFER

No.

MATT

Original?

JENNIFER

Possibly.

MATT

A turn-on?

JENNIFER

Don't push it dear; your attempt at a
multi-rhyming slang dropped and your
flow wasn't completely in sync with
the beat.

MATT

That's a yes then?

There's a moments silence - and suddenly the **DRUMS EXPLODE**.
Everyone looks to Parker.

PARKER

They felt me up!

CUT TO:

EXT. VIRTUAL TOWN BEACH - EVENING

Dominique and Hope are walking down Virtual Town beach; ignoring all illogical continuity that the place is land-locked.

Hope actually looks nervous.

DOMINIQUE

So what do you do for fun in this town?

HOPE

The usual. Hanging out. Hanging in. Quelling the odd megalomaniac intent on making everyone their love-slaves.

DOMINIQUE

Sounds interesting.

HOPE

Yeah...

There's a quiet moment.

HOPE (CONT'D)
(quietly)

There is one place.

DOMINIQUE

Really?

Hope NODS.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)

What is it?

HOPE

It's an old house that's so cool...

DOMINIQUE

I can't wait.

CUT TO:

EXT. COOL HOUSE - LATER

It's BURNT DOWN. Hope and Dominique just stare at the building.

HOPE

God dammit, QUINT! Would you stop
burning down Houses?

The camera MOVES across to see QUINT BURROUGHS standing there; sweating.

QUINT

"Wasn't me!" "Yes it was!" "I saw him
did it!" "No I didn't!"
(coughs)

"The bread's in the middle of the
road!" "What the hell has a wheat-
based product which has been called
the best thing after some suicidal
dude stuck a knife in it -" "Dude.
Shut up." "No!" "Hey; I'm trying to
watch TV!" "Ooh, is Queer Eye For The
Straight Guy On?" "Um, hey - my name's
Eliza and I've just wandered..."

Camera switches back to Hope and Dominique.

DOMINIQUE

That guy reminds me of my last
boyfriend.

Hope just laughs nervously.

CUT TO:

INT. PRE-TEEN'S GET SERVED ALCOHOL - EVENING

A salsa beat kicks in; and many people begin to feel the groove as couples barely over the age of fifteen dancing with a strange synchronised choreography.

The middle; VIGILANTE and CARLY are in the midst of a dance. They are close and looking into each other's eyes.

VIGILANTE
(pulls her close)

You are indeed good.

CARLY

I know.

The band stops and the audience applauds. The lead singer gets to the mic - it's none other than JJ ESTES.

JJ ESTES
(into Microphone)

Howdy! I'm JJ and welcome to a place
that will serve you alcohol. I hope
that you manage to escape the cliches
of boring romance that you'll find
yourself in.
(coughs)

Anyway - it's time for my most
favourite song in the whole lovely
world - "Shiny Happy People" by R.E.M!
(to band)

HIT IT!

Music begins to hit again as the intro of the song begins to play.

JJ ESTES (CONT'D)
(to himself)

Ahh go on you bastards. I have a rifle
ready to gut you all...they don't call
me...well...um...
(thinks)

I'm just a murderous bastard. Okay?

CUT TO:

INT. THE OUTLOOK - ???

JAMES GRAVIS floats along a space ship corridor with the gravity turned off. He passes a window to find HIS WHOLE CREW dead.

JAMES GRAVIS

Not again! It is me?

He SMELLS HIS ARMPITS. He cringes.

JAMES GRAVIS (CONT'D)

...Ooooh....

He suddenly CROAKS.

(That's slang for dying. By the way.)

CUT TO:

INT. PRE-TEEN'S GET SERVED ALCOHOL - EVENING

Vigilante and Carly are now seated on a small table.

CARLY

It is a nice place. Long name though.

VIGILANTE

Well "Pre-Teen's Get Served Alcohol" is more likely to pull in the right crowd than it's previous name "The Silver".

CARLY

Court order?

VIGILANTE

No; the Government wants to turn the young generation onto booze so that they will kill the brain-cells that tell people that not-voting is common-sense.

CARLY

Ooh; my auntie always said they should
kill the voting.

VIGILANTE

Really? Your aunt sounds good. Hey -
because the first draft of this
episode made this conversation go
really long and full of contrived
jokes to get one piece of information
that doesn't sound like forced
exposition - can I ask you what your
auntie's name is?

(beat)

Oh crap I'm turning into my dad.

Carly just LAUGHS.

CARLY

My aunt's called Quistis.

Vigilante's face FALLS.

VIGILANTE

Q-Q-Q-quistis Trepe?

She nods.

VIGILANTE (CONT'D)

You belong to the family which
contains my most mortal enemy?

CARLY

(confused)

Uhh...I think so?

VIGILANTE

Oh crap.

Carly holds his hands.

CARLY

Don't worry; just because my aunt might be your worse enemy - doesn't mean we can't spend most of our lives together.

VIGILANTE

Oh CRAP. You know what happened to the last two people who found out their families were enemies?

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

JULIET CAPULET sits on her bed reading a self-help book. Someone walks into the bedroom - ROMEO. He takes off his suit and gets into his pyjamas before sliding into bed.

JULIET

Have a good day at work dear?

ROMEO

Was fine.

JULIET

Meet any new people?

ROMEO

I found out who your dad was. He said that I was not supposed to see you again and that -

A BULLET GOES THROUGH HIS HEAD.

Juliet SCREAMS -

- and ANOTHER bullet goes through HER head.

In the doorway, holding a smoking gun:

AURORA
(blows nozzle)

Oh I'm so freaking cool.

CUT TO:

EXT. VIRTUAL TOWN PIER - EVENING

Dominique and Hope are walking down the pier where other romantic couples are in the midst of getting arrested for lewd acts in public.

HOPE

It's cold.

DOMINIQUE

Oh no, it's just I have steel nipples.

HOPE

I mean the temperature is low.

DOMINIQUE

Ahh yes - *that*. Anyway - can I ask you a question?

HOPE

The answer's "Quote Skye Underwood".

DOMINIQUE

How I live like a care-free girl?

HOPE

Huh?

DOMINIQUE

Huh?

HOPE

You want to live like a care-free girl?

DOMINIQUE

I was adopted into a sheltered family
who have no sense of humour.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

It's a quiet house; the camera pans to see:
MADDOX KING. He's on the phone.

MADDOX

Sure Mark, I can fit you in. I'll put
you in between "grope with Danyael
Norton" and "telling London Lovingfoss
that it's too complicated to hang out
with him".
(checks watch)

Got to go; I'm late for my
uncomfortable break-up sex with all
the Ravenshill Coven. Bye!

He HANGS UP.

BACK TO:

INT. VIRTUAL TOWN PIER - EVENING

Hope SMILES.

HOPE

You know; I think I might be able to
transform you.

DOMINIQUE

Oh you're a sweetie.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Vigilante and Carly are walking down the street, hand in hand
with smiles on their faces.

CARLY

Oh this is the happiest I've ever
been. I love you.

VIGILANTE

I love you too.

They KISS.

And CARLY BUCKLES back as she collapses. DEAD. A bullet wound
in her chest!

VIGILANTE (CONT'D)

CARLY!

He falls down and tries to talk to her. But she's DEAD.

His eyes FLARE and he looks up; snarling with a primal rage
within. He looks around - and sees his target.

It's DICK HEAD. Carrying some shopping bags.

Vigilante DARTS forward; grabbing the man by the throat.

VIGILANTE (CONT'D)

(full of anger)

You killed her!

Dick gulps.

DICK

What? God no!
(splutters)

What the hell is this? This is
supposed to be my episode off!

Vigilante LETS GO.

VIGILANTE

What?

DICK

I'm not supposed to be here!

Vigilante SHAKES his head.

VIGILANTE

No...you must've killed her. It's no longer a Thorpe episode if you're not behind it!

Dick shakes his head.

DICK

As much as I've love to take the credit - I'm sure that it's more likely the woman with the smoking nozzle behind you.

Vigilante TURNS - the woman with the smoking nozzle is...
...guessed yet?

QUISTIS TREPE!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. THORPE'S DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Matt and Jennifer are seated eating their meal.

MATT

One day I hope to be able to get one of my ideas to be made into it's own show. One day. One day.

JENNIFER

Indeed.

MATT

Oh - I've got you a present.

He fetches underneath the table - and pulls out a small box.

JENNIFER

Ohh; it looks like you wrapped up a box with a small ring inside it.

Matt's smile DROPS.

MATT

Just open it.

She does. There's a RING inside it.

MATT (CONT'D)

I've checked; there's no Anti-Wizard magic and/or fallen hobbits after it.

Matt notices GOLLUM rush past the window; and give Matt a Thumbs Up.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Vigilante withdraws his sword and walks towards Quistis, a murderous intent in his eyes.

VIGILANTE

I will end you.

QUISTIS

Oh shut up and look at my face when
you say that. Not the tight cat-suit.

Vigilante CONTINUES forward.

VIGILANTE

You killed her!

Quistis rolls her eyes.

QUISTIS

Just wait a minute short-fry. Let me
get to the actual business end of the
killing.

She continues to hold the gun outwards and walks up to Carly;
holding out a pouch of magic powder and sprinkling over her.

QUISTIS (CONT'D)

Now watch.

VIGILANTE

You are bringing her back from the
dead?
(beat)

Why?

QUISTIS

Not everyone who 'died' actually died.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOSTON DOCKS - NIGHT

It's empty. Plain. Undisturbed.

A suddenly RUSH of water flies upwards as the unmistakable
form of CHRISTOPHER BERKELEY JUMPS OUT OF THE WATER! (OMG!)

He smiles.

CHRIS

I'm ALIVE! YEAH! I'M ALIVE!

He suddenly CLUTCHES his chest.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

How...the...

And has a heart attack.

BACK TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

A strange glowing aura starts to surround Carly; Vigilante watches in amazement.

VIGILANTE

She's...

QUISTIS

Coming alive. Yes.

VIGILANTE

Why?

QUISTIS

Because her mom doesn't want to be pregnant again. It's hell.

VIGILANTE

Really?

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Yup.

Vigilante turns to find SOPHIE PARKER standing there.

SOPHIE

She's right. I couldn't do my toenails for *months*.

He narrows his eyes towards Quistis as the lights begin to increase in volume - until eventually -

- Carly's EYES open.

CARLY

Wow. I saw Hell.

QUISTIS

What was it like?

Carly GULPS.

CUT TO:

INT. WATCHERS COUNCIL - CLEVELAND

It's the WaTcher's Council in Cleveland. WILLOW ROSENBERG stands at the reception desk (with a strange smile on her face) as a HOT TEENAGE GIRL walks up to the desk.

GIRL

Um, hi? Is this the place for Slayers?

WILLOW

Y-yeah. Oh yeah. This is the place.

GIRL

Oh...okay. What happens?

WILLOW

Are you gay?

GIRL

No.

Willow suddenly turns DARK and DISINTEGRATES her.

WILLOW

What does she think this is? A
brothel?

ROWENA (O.S.)

Can I finish yet?

WILLOW

No.

BACK TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Carly gets to her feet.

CARLY

I feel strong. Like new age feminist
heroine strong.

QUISTIS

Good. Are you okay?

Carly nods and sees Vigilante - and hugs him.

CARLY

Oh thank god! I thought I'd lost you!

VIGILANTE

I thought I'd lost you too!

They kiss. An electrifying kiss that seems to crackle with
sexual energy; and they -

QUISTIS

(coughing)

Ahem!

(beat)

I'm sure you are wondering why you
were revived right?

CARLY

Thought occurred to me once, maybe
twice.

QUISTIS

I'll tell you why you were brought
back.

(beat)

To kill him.

Carly and Vigilante's eyes widen.

VIGILANTE

What? There is no way that she'll -

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - SECONDS LATER

Vigilante suddenly FLIES hard into a brick wall.

VIGILANTE

No second date...then?

He collapses in a heap.

CUT TO:

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

Hope and Dominique are currently dancing in a club like they're on drugs. But they aren't. On drugs.

DOMINIQUE

So what happens now?

Hope just SMILES.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Vigilante SMACKS against another brick wall; landing in a heap. He scrambles to his feet; but looks disorientated.

VIGILANTE

Oh look mother; I can sit on the
toilet!

Carly runs and CLOCKS him another one.

VIGILANTE (CONT'D)
(dazed)

I love you Twist McFadden.

ANOTHER PUNCH.

VIGILANTE (CONT'D)
(getting worse)

Let's cast Robert Picardo as Lara Cro-
SMACK. He lands on the pavement. Out cold.

Carly looks down at him, a TEAR beginning to well in her eye.

CARLY

What am I doing?

QUISTIS

The evil in you. It's manifesting.

CARLY

What evil?

QUISTIS

It's called mainstream entertainment.

Embrace it.

She CRACKS her whip for no good reason.

Carly wipes another tear from her eye; and turns around. Her head low.

CARLY

I...can't.

QUISTIS

You will!

CARLY

I'd rather di-

She suddenly LURCHES forward; and looks down to see a familiar Katana sticking out of her chest.

It's removed, and Carly turns around to see Vigilante looking at her with a sad expression on his face.

VIGILANTE

Forgive me.

She looks at him; beginning to lose her balance.

A SMILE begins to creep on her face - and she dies. Again.

He just looks at her; face mourning for a loved one.

QUISTIS

Oh come on! It was your first date.

You didn't love her!
(sighs)

Teenagers. They make everything so
melodramatic! I mean whan I -

In one swift movement; he DECAPITATES HER. The sound of her head bouncing fills your ears...and then there's rain.

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - EXACT MOMENT

April Clay's eyes SHOOT open.

APRIL

Oh crap. Lost concentration.

CUT TO:

EXT. STEET - NIGHT

The rain FALLS heavily as Vigilante DROPS his sword onto the roadside.

VIGILANTE
(meldramatically)

NNNOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO - -

QUISTIS (O.S.)

You cut my head off!

VIGILANTE

Don't you ever just die?

CUT TO:

INT. THORPE'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Matt and Jennifer are seated on the settee; looking at each other with gazing eyes and happy smiles.

JENNIFER

I've had a wonderful night.

MATT

Aside from the fact you nearly got married to a three foot grey midget with a skin condition.
(sighs)

I'm never planning anniverarys again.

(MORE)

MATT (CONT'D)

Remember the first one that I did,
before the Manon incident? With the
time machine?

CUT TO:

EXT. ROMANY FIELDS - NIGHT

Matt and Jennifer are walking through dark fields. She has a camera and he is carrying a tree trunk.

JENNIFER

Why are you carrying that tree trunk?
We've lost our travelling partners!

MATT

The Diffy's will be fine. Ooh what's
that?

He SWINGS and hears a huge THUD. He drops the branch and sees a DEAD GYPSY GIRL near his feet.

MATT (CONT'D)

Oh crap!

JENNIFER

Come on Matt; we have to go! Now!

They quickly RUN FOR IT.

After a few moments; ANGELUS walks across.

ANGELUS

You know; I'm thinking maybe drinking
Insect blood. What's this?

He sees the dead Gypsy girl.

THE ROMANY TRIBE suddenly surround him.

ANGELUS (CONT'D)

Wow! A Buffet!

BACK TO:

INT. THORPE'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Matt and Jennifer have their arms around each other.

MATT

Can we ha-

JENNIFER

No. We're not.

MATT

Aww...

The door OPENS and Vigilante STORMS through; soaking because of the rain - and dripping water on the carpet.

JENNIFER

Young man just what do you -

MATT

Hold on, Jenn, I'll deal with -

Vigilante HOLDS HIS BLADE to his father's THROAT.

MATT (CONT'D)

The date...go well?

Vigilante's eyes NARROW. Then:

VIGILANTE

My god that was the BEST NIGHT EVER!

If all dates are like that then I want

some more! Good night; I'm off to bed!

He walks off towards the stairs, leaving Jennifer and Matt looking at each other.

MATT

He was forced to kill her?

JENNIFER

(nods)

He was forced to kill her.

The door opens again and MR. INVISIBLE walks in and FALLS on the carpet; leaving a damp man-shaped patch on the carpet. Heimlich lands gracefully and walks into the kitchen.

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

What happened?

MR. INVISIBLE

We were abducted by aliens.

HEIMLICH (O.S.)

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS ALIENS!

MATT

How did you escape?

MR. INVISIBLE

Heimlich turned into Neil Kinnock and
they got scared.

JENNIFER

MATT

Ooooh...

Ooooh...

They just stand there for a few moments.

JENNIFER

I wonder how Hope's going on?

CUT TO:

EXT. VIRTUAL TOWN PIER - NIGHT

Hope and Dominique are sheltered underneath one of the Pier covers as they watch the sea.

HOPE

This is oddly romantic.

DOMINIQUE

(distant)

It is...

Hope and Dominique LOOK into each other's eyes. They get closer.

Closer.

The demographic for teenage boys shoots up.

Closer.

CLOSER.

Alex/Marissa moment here we com -

- Dominique BACKS off.

DOMINIQUE (CONT'D)

I can't.

HOPE
(shocked)

What?

DOMINIQUE

I can't do this.

HOPE
(stuck for words)

But...I think I'm falling for you.
(breathes)

I'm happy with you and we're not
having sex. I feel like I'm being a
more complete character and not just a
one-dimensional rip-off. I...love you.

Dominique sighs.

DOMINIQUE

This is going to be so hard to say.

HOPE
(fearful)

What? You don't like me?

DOMINIQUE

It's...

She STANDS and moves out of frame.

And DOMINIQUE'S HAIR IS THROWN AT HOPE.

HOPE

Oh my god - you're -

She sees that -

She's BENJAMIN MCKENZIE.

Wearing lipstick, ear-rings and still wearing "Dominique's" dress.

BENJAMIN

I'm sorry, I had to tell you. I didn't want to get it this far.

HOPE
(speechless)

But. What? Huh?
(beat)

Erect nipples of steel!

BENJAMIN

Fake.

HOPE

No!

BENJAMIN

Yup.

HOPE
(shakes head)

Why are you dressed as a woman? This isn't the big reveal for Gods episode fourteen is it? Because I thought Lee Chrimes warped Emma Platt; but not that -

BENJAMIN

This isn't about her.

HOPE

This is about Pathways?

He NODS.

BENJAMIN

Yeah, plans for Season Six have
Dominic going through a drag queen
arc. I just wanted some practice. And
you showed me. If I hurt you I'm
sorry; I was just acting.

HOPE

You act?
(beat)

Anyway...I uh...I wish you well in the
future then.

Benjamin just nods and turns to walk away.

HOPE (CONT'D)
(quickly)

Wait!
(he turns around)

One question I have to ask else it'll
bug me my whole life.

BENJAMIN
(smiles)

Sure.

HOPE

Matt Long. Does he live up to the
name?

Benjamin glances side to side; and leans in close.

BENJAMIN

Like a Donkey.

He winks and walks away into the rain; leaving Hope on her
own.

She sits down on a bench.

HOPE

Does this mean I'm not gay? Am I bi?

She slouches - then smiles.

HOPE (CONT'D)

This means I'm a slut again!

BLACK OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

END OF EPISODE