

Something Blue

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Teaser

INT. OZ' ROOM -NIGHT

A single light illuminates Oz' room, which is so still we expect to find it vacant. The bed remains unmade, posters hang on the walls. An amp in the corner. Pictures of Oz and Willow on the dresser top. All of Oz' things exactly as the day he left.

However we FIND Willow just inside the closed door. She tosses her school bag on the bed. Takes one shirt off the dresser and moves away, letting her hand skim the dresser, other belongings. Until she reaches the bed.

She sits. Lifts Oz' shirt to her face breathing him in. Her eyes close, quiet for the moment.

INT. COMMONS -DAY

BUFFY, in school mode, moves through the commons, stops when she sees-

RILEY

Who is across the way, helping some pretty girls who struggle to tack a BANNER under one of the archways (note: Buffy - and we - shouldn't be able to read it at this point.) He climbs on the step ladder they have set up and they hand him one side, he tacks it up (as one girl holds the other.)

Riley comes off the ladder, looks to make sure it's straight.

RILEY

There you go. Looks good.

Buffy moves closer and sees that the banner is announcing the monthly meeting of the UC SUNNYDALE LESBIAN ALLIANCE. Buffy takes this in - smiling at Riley's easy, well-meaning rapport with the girls. He finishes helping them, then turns and sees Buffy standing nearby. He's pleasantly surprised.

RILEY (cont'd)

Hey Buffy.

BUFFY

(teasingly/re: banner)

You have something to tell me?

RILEY

What?



(gets it)
Oh. Yes, I am a lesbian.
They start to move together through the bustling commons, more
interested in talking to each other than in where in where they are going.

BUFFY
It's good that you're open about it.
How are your parents dealing?
RILEY
They just want me to be happy.
Oh hey! You know we were talking
about having a picnic; I was thinking,
do you ever hang out at Ruggs Field?
It's beautiful there. Usually not that
crowded either. I thought maybe we
could have a little spread, sandwiches,
maybe some ants.
(they stop)
Could be fun.

Beat.

BUFFY
We were talking about having
a picnic?
RILEY
Oh. Um, okay...
(thinking)
... so was that a conversation we
actually had or just one I was
practicing?
BUFFY
(grasping the concept)
Practicing.
RILEY
Okay, yes, I have been known to do
a little prep work before our
conversations. It's not easy, you know.
Talking to you, sometimes, it's like
an oral exam.
BUFFY
And that's just what every girl
longs to hear.
RILEY
Well you're tricky!
BUFFY
(smiling wryly)
Like an exam.
RILEY
I never know how you're going to
react to something. That's why I
like you so much. You're a mystery.
(laughs a bit)
Probably every beautiful girl in the
world has some jerk telling her
she's a mystery, but I swear you really

are. There's a lot about you that
needs puzzling out.

A beat of mutual staring.

RILEY (cont'd)
I lose you somewhere?
BUFFY
Right around "beautiful".

Another smile beat. Riley gamely offers:

RILEY
Say. Don'tchya just love a picnic?

EXT. GRAVEYARD -NIGHT-

Buffy and Willow walk the graveyard, in patrol mode. Buffy's still wearing that goofy smile.

BUFFY
It's just different, you know? A picnic -
first of all, daylight, kind of a new
venue Buffywise... and the best part,
he said he'd bring all the food. All I
have to do is show up and eat - two
things I'm really good at!

WILLOW
So he's nice.
BUFFY
Very very.
WILLOW
And there's sparkage?
BUFFY
Oh yeah. He's just got - have you
looked at his arms? Those are good
arms to have. Riley is... I really like
him. I do...

She's becoming pensive.

WILLOW
But?
BUFFY
I don't know. I love being around him,
I think he cares about me, but...
I still feel like something's missing...

They think for a minute. Then Willow offers-

WILLOW
He's not making you miserable?
BUFFY
Exactly!

(then)
Riley seems so solid. Like he's not the
type to give a girl grief.

WILLOW

Get out. Get out while there's
still time.

BUFFY

I know. I gotta get over the whole bad
boy thing. There's no good there.
Seeing Angel in L.A. - even for five
minutes - hello to the pain.

WILLOW

(thinking of herself)
The pain is not a friend.

BUFFY

But then I can't help thinking, isn't
that where the fire comes from?
Can a nice safe relationship be that
intense? It's nuts, but part of me
believes that real love and passion
have to go hand in hand with
lots of pain and fighting-

Now A VAMP leaps out in front of them. With barely time to GROWL, Buffy
STAKES him, POOF. They continue on, unphased, same tone of voice...

BUFFY (cont'd)

I wonder where I get that from?

END OF TEASER

Act One

INT. GILES' BATHROOM - NIGHT-

Spike, pale and disheveled, is chained up un the tub. Buffy leans wearily
against the wall next to him. A small TV, off, sits on the counter.

BUFFY

(the millionth time)

You saw their faces, but you can't
describe them.

SPIKE

Well... They were human... two eyes
each, kind of in the middle.

BUFFY

Uh-huh. And the lab....?

SPIKE

Underground. I came out through an
air vent, I don't know exactly where.
I'm done. Put the telly on.

Giles enters and hands a mug to Buffy. It reads "Kiss a Librarian."

SPIKE (cont'd)

'Bout time. Hope you got it warm
enough.



Buffy winces as she holds the mug. Spike drinks greedily.

SPIKE (cont'd)
(around the straw)
Don't know why you're so dainty
all of a sudden. You've done this
for Angel. You must've.

Buffy pulls the mug away, sets it aside.

SPIKE (cont'd)
Hey! Give it!
BUFFY
That's it. The invalid amnesiac routine
is over. Kitchen closed 'til you tell me
something useful about the commandos.
SPIKE
I'm trying to remember. It was very
traumatic.
BUFFY
How long are you going to pull this crap?
SPIKE
How long am I gonna live once I tell you?
GILES
Spike, we've no intention of killing a
harmless creature. But we need to know
what's been done to you. We can't let you
go until we're sure you're impotent.
SPIKE
Hey!
GILES
Sorry. Poor choice of words.
'Til we know you're...
BUFFY
Flaccid?
SPIKE
You're one step away, missy -
BUFFY
Giles, help! He's gonna scold me!

Spike tries to lunge but the chains hold him back.

BUFFY (cont'd)
You know what? I think you don't
want us to let you go. Maybe we
made it too comfy here.
SPIKE
Comfy? Do I look comfy? I'm chained
in a bathtub drinking pig's blood from
a novelty mug. Doesn't rate high in the
Zagat's guide.
BUFFY
You want something nicer?

She leans over Spike, baring her neck to him.

BUFFY (cont'd)
Ooh... look at my poor neck, all bare
and tender and delicious...

Spike strains at his chains, wanting it...

BUFFY (cont'd)
All that blood just pumping away...
SPIKE
Giles, make her stop!

Buffy sits back

BUFFY
You wanna start again?
SPIKE
You're inhuman.

Sighing powerless at the impasse, Giles exits

INT. GILES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT-

... and finds Willow cross-legged on the floor, a number of books spread out on the coffee table before her.

GILES
If those two don't kill each other,
I might lend a hand.
WILLOW
What about a truth spell? I'm not positive
it'd work on a vampire, but we could try.
Make him fess up.
GILES
Of course. A truth spell. Why didn't
I think of that?
WILLOW
'Cause you've got your hands full
with the unread English patient.

Willow hands Giles a book, he looks at it. She stands, starts to gather her stuff.

GILES
Yes, worth a go...
WILLOW
Looks pretty simple. I'll stop by the
majik shop tomorrow.
GILES
Excellent.
WILLOW
I'll be back in the morning with
donuts and motherwort.

(calls out)
Buff, I'll see you at home!
BUFFY (O.S.)
Bye!
GILES
Great. Thank you, Willow.

Willow exits, leaving behind a grateful Giles.

INT. GILES' BATHROOM - NIGHT-

Giles pokes his head in. Buffy and Spike are glaring at each other as she feeds him his blood.

GILES
Willow may have had a helpful idea.
(closes the book)
She seems to be coping better with
Oz' departure, don't you think?
BUFFY
She's still got a way to go, but yeah -
I think she's dealing.
SPIKE
What are you people, blind? She's
hanging on by a thread.
(goes back to his blood)
Any ninny can see that.

INT. OZ' ROOM - NIGHT-

Willow enters, stands a moment by the door before entering the still-dark room.

FLICKS the LIGHTS ON, revealing the room has been stripped of all Oz' belongings. Everything. Gone. Bare mattress, tape on the wall where posters had been.

CLOSE ON WILLOW

Stunned. She can't breathe.

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT-

Willow crying in her bed. Mind spinning. Buffy in her own bed, listening sharing in Willow's devastation.

WILLOW
Devon said he sent for his things.
I guess this means he's planning on
settling down somewhere. Else.
Not here.
BUFFY
Guess so.

WILLOW
I feel like I've been split down the
center. And half of me is lost.

Buffy knows this feeling all too well.

BUFFY
I know. It feels like that now...
WILLOW
(can't believe it)
Oz is gone.

Buffy regards her, feeling helpless.

INT. GILES' LIVING ROOM - DAY -

Giles, anxious on the phone. We can HEAR it RINGING.

GILES
(prompting)
Oh, do pick up.

INT. GILES' BATHROOM - DAY -

Spike can't reach the TV.

SPIKE
Come on now - it's telly time!

INT. GILES' LIVING ROOM - DAY -

Giles looks to the bathroom, irked. Then, an answering machine picks up.

BUFFY'S VOICE (O.S.)
Hey, this is Buffy and Willow.
Leave a message.

BEEP

GILES
Willow, I thought you were bringing
ingredients for the truth spell.
I have to-

INT. GILES' BATHROOM - DAY -

SPIKE
(cutting him off)
"Passions" is on! Timmy's down a
bloody well and if you make me
miss it I'll -

INT. GILES' LIVING ROOM - DAY -



Giles, nearly at the end of his rope now, shouts-

GILES
(to Spike)
You'll what? Lick me to death?
(Back into phone)
I really think we ought to try that truth
spell, Willow. Among other things,
I'd like to shower sometime today. Alone.

He hangs up a tad too emphatically.

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY -

And now for something completely different. It's a beautiful day out and a few students lounge and play on the lush campus lawns. Among them are Buffy and Riley, who are kicking back, sharing their lunches... Enjoying each other.

BUFFY
Driving.
RILEY
Yeah.
BUFFY
You seriously drive for fun?
RILEY
Not four-wheeling or anything.
But yeah. Don't you?
BUFFY
Actually, no-wheeling is more my
speciality. I'm an avid pedestrian,
though.

This gives Riley genuine pause.

RILEY
You're kidding, right? I mean you
know how to drive.
BUFFY
I took the class. But cars and Buffy
are like - unmixy things.
RILEY
That's just cause you haven't had a
good experience yet. You can have
the best time in a car. It's not about
getting somewhere - you have to
take your time, forget about everything.
You just relax... let it wash over you,
the air, the motion... you just let it roll.

It's a little hypnotic, the moment between them.

BUFFY
We are talking about driving, right?

RILEY
I thought I was...
(gathering himself)
I'm taking you. Some night when
it's warm, up past the vineyards...
change everything for you.

There's zero come-on in what he says, which makes it all the more attractive. Buffy smiles.

BUFFY
I'm in.

But then they notice Willow standing just off their blanket. Shoulders slumped. Face grey.

BUFFY (cont'd)
Will. Hey.
RILEY
Hi Willow.

A pause as Willow waits for more. Notices their uneaten sliced apples laid out on a napkin. Then-

WILLOW
I interrupted. You've got apples. My mis.

She turns to leave, obviously distraught.

RILEY
Wait.
(Willow turns back)
Sit. Plenty to go around.

Buffy regards her, concerned.

BUFFY
What - did something happen? What's wrong?

Willow sits on the blanket, takes an apple wedge.

WILLOW
Nothing Everything's fine. Same.
BUFFY
Oh.

Willow takes an apple slice.

WILLOW
Your apples are... they're turning
brown. The way they do.
RILEY
Yeah, guess they do that.

BUFFY
Yeah.

Pause.

WILLOW
Yeah.

Willow SIGHS. Buffy, Riley look from each other to Willow, to the blanket. Buffy tugs some grass from the ground. Riley twists a thread in the blanket. Conversation has come to a big old halt.

INT. THE BRONZE - NIGHT-

BUFFY, XANDER and ANYA are hanging at a table.

XANDER
(to Buffy)
Jeez. You mean Oz just sent for his
stuff and didn't even call her?
That's pretty harsh.
ANYA
(kindly)
I only wish I had my powers back.
I'd liquify his entrails for her.
XANDER
(to Anya/genuine)
That's sweet.
(then)
God. Poor Willow. No wonder she's...
having a wonderful time.

Anya and Buffy follow his look to the dance floor where WILLOW is with a group of people, cutting the rug happily. Needless to say - our gang is a little surprised.

BUFFY
(perplexed)
Wow. Way to rebound.
XANDER
I believe that is the dance of a brave
little toaster.

Willow notices them watching her - bops over.

WILLOW
Hey! Come on you guys - this music
is great!
XANDER
Nice to see you brought your boogie
shoes tonight, Will.
WILLOW
Yeah - I know I've been a party poop
lately. So I said to myself - "Self" -
I said "time to shake and shimmy it off!"

BUFFY
(bemused)
Sounds like a good policy.
WILLOW
Yep. And it works too...

Willow now reaches for her coat, which sits on one of the stools around the table.

WILLOW (cont'd)
I just figure in the grand scheme of things, we're all -

CLINK-CLANK! A BEER BOTTLE falls from under the coat and clatters to the ground

BUFFY
- drunk?

Willow snatches the bottle off the floor and hides it again in her coat.

WILLOW
Drunk is a pretty strong word. Kind of an Anglo-Saxon word. Guttural.
"Drunk."
XANDER
Will, not loving the drowning of the sorrows.
WILLOW
Not drowning. Wading.
(flashes the beer)
See? Light. No big.
BUFFY
No - big! Anybody remember when Buffy had a fun beer fest and went One Million Years BC?
XANDER
Sadly - without the fuzzy bikini.
ANYA
Off topic, Xander.
XANDER
Right. Helping now.
(moves to Willow)
How's about you give me the beer.

Now Willow's getting defensive - just shy of actual belligerence.

WILLOW
No! Why should I? I've got pain here.
Big time, legitimate pain-
XANDER
We've all got pain, Will-
WILLOW
(cutting him off)

Like what? Poor me, I live in a basement?
Oh, yeah - that's dire!

Xander's genuinely stung by this. Now Buffy moves to Willow, takes her by the arm and leads her slightly away from the others.

BUFFY
I'm taking you home now.
WILLOW
I don't want to -
BUFFY
You'll thank me when you still have a
friend left in the morning.

Willow looks at her, softens. The hard exterior melting a bit. A beat, then-

WILLOW
I just can't stand feeling this way.
I want it to be over.
BUFFY
And it will be. I promise. But it's going
to take some time.
WILLOW
That's not good enough.
BUFFY
I know. But that's how it is. You have
to go through the pain.
WILLOW
Isn't there some way I can make it
go away? Just 'cause I say so?
Can't I make it go poof?

Buffy regards her, helpless.

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT-

ANGLE ON: AMY the rat in her cage. Camera arms up to see the girls in bed behind.

Buffy sleeps quietly. Willow, however, is hyper awake. She looks over at her alarm clock, reading 3:34 a.m. Willow looks to the sleeping Buffy, and silently crawls out from under her covers. Goes to her chest and opens it.

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS -

Willow makes her way down the hall. And into the women's washroom.
HOLD outside the door.

WILLOW (V.O.)
Harken well ye elements. I summon
thee now.

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM WASHROOM -- NIGHT-

Willow sits cross-legged in the middle of the tile floor. A circle of white candles around her. She speaks softly, not wanting to waken anyone.

WILLOW

Control the outside. Control within.
Land and sea, fire and wind.

A small wooden pentagram rests on the floor in front of her. Beside it three small bowls of seeds, leaves and powder. Willow begins to sprinkle the bits on top of the pentagram...

WILLOW (cont'd)

Out of my passions, a web be spun.
From this eve forth, my will be done.

Willow's hair now blows in a slight breeze. She opens her eyes and looks around. The candles glow brighter. A little frightened, but mostly invigorated, she takes a deep breath, and pours from the chalice.

WILLOW (cont'd)

So mote it be!

CRACK! BRIGHT WHITE LIGHTNING forks outward along the floor in all directions, from under Willow, to the circumference of the circle. The candle FLAMES shoot skyward. Willow is jolted backward. Then she's ILLUMINATED, as if she GLOWS from within. Her breath is sucked from her lungs. Hair whipping in a wind that strikes in every direction. She suppresses a scream. Off her fear.

BLACK OUT

END OF ACT ONE

Act Two

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM ROOM - DAY -

Willow sits on her bed, looking in a mirror. Commands a little weakly-

WILLOW

It is my will that my heart be healed.
Now.

A beat nothing seems to happen. Willow sighs big. Turns her attention to a book that lies open in front of her.

WILLOW (cont'd)

I will that this book speak its words
to me.

Fat chance. Now Willow takes a bent Q-tip from her bedside table. Discouraged she says even more meekly-

WILLOW (cont'd)
I will that this Q-tip gets unbendy?

She might go on, but a KNOCK ON THE DOOR interrupts her.

WILLOW (cont'd)
Come in.

To her surprise, Giles enters.

WILLOW (cont'd)
Giles. What are you doing here?
GILES
I was concerned about you, actually.
WILLOW
(irked)
Did Buffy tell you about the beer?
Cause-
GILES
Buffy didn't tell me anything.
WILLOW
Oh. Forget the beer part then.
GILES
Happily.
(then)
I came because we had an
appointment the other day.
WILLOW
(oops)
Oh. Right... The truth spell.
GILES
(kindly)
Willow. I know you're going through
a very difficult time. But shirking
your responsibilities...
WILLOW
But I didn't. Shirk. I did the research....

She holds out a small bag at him.

WILLOW (cont'd)
I picked up the motherwort...
(off his look)
I just... forgot the doing the spell part.
GILES
Which isn't like you. At all.

Willow bristles a little at this. Tries not to go to the defensive place.

WILLOW
I know. I've been off. I even tried doing
a spell last night, to have my will done?
I was hoping it would make me better. But it
went kablooeey.

GILES

A spell? I don't think it's wise for you
to be doing that alone right now.
Your energy is too unfocused.

Okay. Now she's going to the defensive place.

WILLOW

That's not true. I said I was off.
Not incompetent.

GILES

I only meant that you're grieving, and it
might be best if you took a break
from doing spells without supervision.

WILLOW

So I get punished 'cause I'm in pain.

GILES

It's not punishment. I'm saying this
because-

WILLOW

(cutting him off)

You care. Right. Everybody cares. But
nobody wants to be inconvenienced.
You all want me to "take the time to go
through the pain" as long as you don't
have to hear about it anymore!

GILES

That's not fair.

WILLOW

Isn't it? 'Cause I'm doing the best I can -
and that doesn't seem to be enough
for you guys!

GILES

And I see how you could feel that
way. I do-

WILLOW

No! You don't. You say you do - but
you don't see anything!

CLOSE on Willow's angry face. Quick as lightning WHITE SPARKS flash
deep inside her eyes. Unaware of anything strange, Giles removes his
glasses. Rubs his eyes lightly for just a moment.

GILES

Hm. I'm sorry.

(little confused)

I'm sorry. Perhaps... I should be going.
Let's - let's talk later.

He exits. Willow watches him leave, mad at the world, and starts shoving
books into her bag, readying to leave herself.

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM HALL - CONTINUOUS - DAY -

Giles walks through the busy hall. Puts his glasses back on. Squints as he walks. Bumps shoulders with a student.

GILES
Oh sorry, so sorry.

Squinting, he continues out.

INT. GILES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT-

Spike is now sitting on the floor of the living room. Arms and feet chained. GILES stands before him. Book in one hand. Burning incense stick in the other. He wafts it at Spike who SPUTTERS, annoyed. He also appears a bit anxious.

GILES
Enemy, enemy , be now quiet -
SPIKE
You know - not too keen on this spell
stuff. Tends to be a bit unpredictable.
GILES
Might have thought of that a bit sooner.
(returns to spell)
Let your deceitful tongue be..
(having trouble reading the book)
...broken. Let no untruths...
(more squinting)
... be spoken.

Giles must put the incense stick and book down. Again, removes his glasses.

SPIKE
Hey what's that all about?
GILES
I - nothing. Just an ash in my eye.

As Giles rubs his eyes. He pulls a hankie from his pocket. From it as well falls

A TINY BRASS KEY

that hits the carpet nearby. Spike looks back to Giles, who is clearly distracted.

SPIKE
Well, I won't have you doing mojo
on me if you can't read properly.
You could turn me into a stink beetle
or what all.

Spike begins to shuffle over as far as he can, towards the key. Spike's foot slides the key slowly into his hands. Giles misses all of this.

GILES

And that would be a generous end
for the likes of you, Spike. Now I'll ask
you to kindly bugger off while I finish.

Giles retrieves his book, tries to get back to work. But now - Spike is smiling.

SPIKE

Thanks, but - I think I'd rather go
with my plan.

Spike stands, his chains CLATTERING to the floor. Then he dashes out the door, accidentally knocking Giles over as he goes. Giles recovers slowly, clutching his shoulder in pain.

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT-

Buffy is hanging up her coat - she just got back. Willow is cleaning Amy's cage on the floor. Amy runs loose on the bed behind her.

Willow's already in mid-story:

WILLOW

I mean, I'm going through something,
and I just don't see why he was
getting down on me.

BUFFY

Giles just worries. Spells can be really
dangerous. It doesn't mean he thinks
you're a bad witch.

WILLOW

I am a bad witch.

BUFFY

No, you're a good witch!

WILLOW

I'm not kidding anyone. If I had any
real power I could've made Oz stay
with me.

BUFFY

Yeah, but you don't want him to stay
because you -

WILLOW

I didn't have the guts to do a spell on
Veruca, my "I will it so" spell went
nowhere, the only real witch in here is
fuzzy little Amy!

BUFFY

You're being too -

WILLOW

She's got access to forces I can't even
invoke! I mean she's a perfectly normal
girl...

Willow's eyes flash and POOF! - behind them on the bed - AMY BECOMES HUMAN! She's naked, sitting with her legs pulled up to her chest.

CLOSE ON AMY

As a wave of relief washes over her - can it really be?

WILLOW (O.S.)
... then POOF! -- She's a rat.

POOF! Amy's a rat again. Neither Buffy or Willow saw her.

WILLOW
I could never do something like that.
BUFFY
So she did a good spell - but the plan
kind of sucked. I mean, she's the one
stuck eating pellets out of a plastic cup-

The PHONE RINGS. Buffy picks up.

BUFFY (cont'd)
Hello...
(pause)
Uh-oh. Right. I'm there.

She hangs up, rushes to the closet. Flings open the door and yanks out a cross-bow. Says to Willow:

BUFFY
Spike escaped.
WILLOW
(meekly)
So you're going? Right now?
BUFFY
Sorry. Duty thing.
WILLOW
But - what's the rush? I mean. Spike
can't hurt anybody, right? I figured,
seeing as how I'm kinda grievy, we
could have a girl night. You know -
eat sundaes and then watch Steel
Magnolias and you could tell me how
at least I don't have diabetes-

Buffy collects a number of stakes, throws them into a bag.

BUFFY
Willow. I can't hang with you until I get
Spike back to Giles'. You know that.

Willow shrugs. Buffy, feeling badly, backs out.



BUFFY (cont'd)
I'll be back soon. Promise.

She leaves. Willow grumbles after her.

WILLOW
I don't see the big. He's probably just
standing out there, you'll find him in
two seconds.

EXT. WIDE OPEN SPACE ON CAMPUS - NIGHT-

With Buffy hurrying, for two seconds 'til she sees... SPIKE, indeed
standing out there.

BUFFY
I thought that was going to take longer.
SPIKE
(realizing)
Me too - I musta got turned around.
(noticing something)
Hang on... this....

He rabbits off to a nearby patch of grass. Buffy follows.

SPIKE (cont'd)
This is it! Wait. No. Yes!

He spins around. Buffy grabs him by the arm.

BUFFY
What are you talking about?
SPIKE
The lab. Commando lab. Door was
right here. Where I escaped.
BUFFY
I don't think so.

He jerks out of her grip, gets down on his knees and starts scraping at the
grass, yanking up clumps of it.

SPIKE
(yelling at ground)
Open up! I'm going to kill you!
BUFFY
Spike, there's nothing here.
SPIKE
(yelling, more hopelessly)
Let me in! Fix me!
BUFFY
(pulls him up)
Drop the act.
SPIKE
Get off me!

He pulls his arm free -

BUFFY
That's it. I'm gagging you.

She grabs him and he catches her with a punch in the nose. Then he recoils with chip-induced searing head pain.

SPIKE
Aaaarr!!

Followed -WHAP- by a blow from Buffy's fist to his nose.

SPIKE (cont'd)
Oowwww!

INT. GILES' FRONT HALL/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT-

The door FLIES open. Buffy pushes Spike into the room - arms already tied.

SPIKE
Watchit!
BUFFY
One more word out of you and I
swear -
SPIKE
Swear what? You're not going to do
anything to me. You don't have
the stones.
BUFFY
Oh, I've got the stones. I've got a whole...
bunch of stones.
SPIKE
Yeah, you're all talk.
BUFFY
(calls out)
Giles! I accidentally killed Spike!
That's okay, right?

INT. GILES' BATHROOM - NIGHT-

Giles stands with his face close to the mirror, adding drops to his eyes. He shudders and blinks - it stings.

GILES
(sighs)
Just a minute...

He looks at the small bottle labelled, "Clear View". Squints, trouble reading the print.

INT. XANDER'S BASEMENT - NIGHT-

Willow paces, on a new rant. Xander trying to help, to no avail.

WILLOW

...I mean, I'm going through something -
and you'd think, every once in a while
Buffy could make best friends a priority.

XANDER

You know, Will, it's not like she could
just let Spike go...

INT. GILES' FRONT HALL/LIVING ROOM CONTINUOUS - NIGHT-

Buffy and Spike are nose to nose now. Teeth gritted, tension high.

SPIKE

I get this spell reversed, they'll be
finding your body for weeks.

BUFFY

Make a move. Please. I'm dying for
good slay.

INT. XANDER'S BASEMENT - CONTINUING - NIGHT-

WILLOW

Spike's more important than Willow.
I get it.

XANDER

Buffy's gotta find out what's up with
those commandoes. Right now she
needs Spike!

WILLOW

Well fine! Why doesn't she just go
marry him?

Another slight FLICKER of LIGHT in Willow's eyes goes unnoticed by
Xander, who is in the process of tuning her out.

INT. GILES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT-

Giles enters from the hall.

GILES

Now if you two can remain civil
long enough to -

Stops, blinks a couple times when he sees...

SPIKE, untied, down on one knee. Buffy before him, trying to hold back
tears. Spike is holding her left hand.

BUFFY
It's just so.. So sudden! I don't know
what to say!

SPIKE
Just say yes, and make me the happiest
man on earth.

BUFFY
Oh, Spike! Of course it's yes!

Spike stands and pulls her to him, into a long passionate kiss.

Buffy turns to Giles.

BUFFY (cont'd)
Giles - you'll never believed what's
happened!

OFF GILES, REALLY not trusting his eyes..

BLACK OUT

END OF ACT TWO

Act Three

INT. XANDER'S BASEMENT - NIGHT-

WILLOW
It's just not fair.

XANDER
(softer)
Will. I know it's hard to see I right
now. But everything you're feeling
is 'cause of you and Oz. Not 'cause
of Buffy or me or anybody. But,
eventually you'll meet someone else
and it'll be better.

WILLOW
Because most relationships are great
and trouble-free, right? I don't think so.
I think we're all doomed to badness.

XANDER
We're not doomed.

WILLOW
Oh yeah, let's look at your bio:
Mummy girl. Insect lady. Anya.
You're a demon magnet.

A FLICKER in Willow's eyes again.

XANDER
Hey, I was just trying to help.

WILLOW
(sulks)
Great. Now you're mad at me too.

INT. GILES' LIVING ROOM - NIGHT-

Giles is at the kitchen counter, speaking sotto voce into the phone.
Worried a bunch. We HEAR an answering machine BEEP.

GILES

Willow, it's me. Something's happened
and... I need your help. I...I can't see
very well. Everything's a blur. I'm
certain it must be some sort of spell,
because, uh well there seems to be
something else going .. wrong.

He looks over to

BUFFY AND SPIKE

Buffy is just handing Spike a hot mug of blood. She sits on the arm of the
chair, curls up next to him.

BUFFY

Here you go, Sweetie. Ninety-eight point six.

Spike gives her a quick casual kiss.

GILES

(still into phone)
Horribly wrong.

Giles hangs up. Buffy consults a hand written list.

BUFFY

Ceremony, guests, reception... there's
so much to decide.

SPIKE

Well, first thing, I'd say we're NOT
having a church wedding.

Spike crosses an item off the list as Buffy runs her fingers through his
hair.

BUFFY

How about a daytime ceremony
in the park?

SPIKE

Fabulous. Enjoy your honeymoon
with the big pile of dust.

BUFFY

(getting impatient)

Under the trees. Indirect sunlight only.

SPIKE

A warm spring breeze tosses the leaves
aside and, again, you're registering as
Mr. And Mrs. Big pile of dust.



BUFFY
Okay, stop it! This is our wedding and
you're treating it like a huge joke!

Giles pours himself a large glass of Scotch. He brings it with him to the
sofa. Buffy pouts, frustrated with her fiancé.

SPIKE
Ooh. Pouty, look at the lip. Gonna
get it. Gonna get it.

He lurches forward and bites her lower pouty lip. Tugs gently and lets go.
She giggles.

BUFFY
Stop!
GILES
Sits on the couch, resting his eyes.
GILES
Yes, please stop.

Buffy moves to sit on the couch next to Giles.

BUFFY
Giles? Did you see my ring?
GILES
Thankfully, not very well.

Giles still rests his head on the back of the couch, eyes still closed.

BUFFY
Giles, I... I'm not crazy; I know you
probably don't approve... and my
Dad's not that far away, I could
probably... but this day is about
family, my real family. And I want
it to be you that gives me away.

Giles looks at her, mouth open, honoured-

GILES
Buffy, I... That's so...

- for only a second

GILES (cont'd)
Oh for God's sake! This is nonsense!
Something is making you act this way!
Don't you realise what you're doing!?

BUFFY
(looks to Spike)
Living the dream.

SPIKE
He's going to have to take a bit
of time to get to used to it, pet.

Buffy moves back over to Spike.

BUFFY

I guess they all will. They weren't
crazy about Angel at first.

SPIKE

You weren't going to say that name.

BUFFY

Sorry. Let's talk about where we
should register.

SPIKE

Where would Angel want to register?
And can we the photographer Angel
would have wanted and the flowers
Angel would have liked?

BUFFY

Hey, you think the shadow of Drusilla
isn't hanging over me? That I won't
be wondering if you're thinking about
her on our honeymoon when you're
making sweet love to me?

Giles makes a pained noise and reaches for his drink, but misses it badly,
knocking the glass to the floor with a CRASH.

BUFFY (cont'd)

Giles? Are you okay?

GILES

I rather think not. I seem to be rather..

(beat, scared)

rather blind. Completely, in fact.

Buffy rushes to him.

BUFFY

What? How could that happen?

GILES

A spell, I believe.

BUFFY

We'll fix it, don't worry.

Spike is already at the bookcase, going through Giles' books.

SPIKE

What you need is a general reversal
spell. Gonna need supplies.

GILES

(suspiciously)

You're going to help me?

SPIKE

Well.. It's like you're almost my
father-in-law, innit?

BUFFY

See, this is how it'll be from now on.

Spike'll even take care of you while
I'm at the majik shop. From now on,
he's family.

Giles thinks about that... and rises as he says, mostly to himself...

GILES
It's all right.... I have more scotch...

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT-

Buffy exits the Majik Shop, black plastic bag in her hand. On a mission to get back to Giles'. However. She sees something - something that makes her stop dead in her tracks and her eyes go big and round. It's...

A BRIDAL SHOP

With long, flowing, beaded and sequined dresses on mannequins in the display window. Buffy rushes up to it, places her hands on the glass like a child a candy store.

BUFFY
Oh! Look...

She's so entranced that she doesn't notice RILEY, who approaches, obviously pleased to be running into her.

RILEY
Hey, Buffy . What's up?
BUFFY
Riley - look!
(re: dresses)
Aren't they beautiful?

Riley looks at the dresses. As uncomfortable as any new beau would be at this question.

RILEY
Um, yeah, they're nice. A little dressy,
maybe, for school, but...
BUFFY
(sweet regret)
Riley..
RILEY
(confusion)
Buffy...

She moves to him.

BUFFY
I really like you. I hope know that
you mean a lot to me. And if things
were different...
RILEY
Different then what?

BUFFY
You have to promise me that we'll
always be friends. And I want
you to be there on the day.

RILEY
The day when...

BUFFY
The wedding!

RILEY
The wedding! What wedding?

BUFFY
My wedding! I'm getting married!
Can you believe it?

RILEY
I don't think "no" is a strong enough
word.

BUFFY
It's crazy, I know, I mean we've been
fighting for years and then - sometimes
you just look at each and you know,
you know?

RILEY
No.

BUFFY
I think maybe we fought so much
because we didn't know how to
admit what we felt.

RILEY
Can we start again?

BUFFY
I really think you'd like him. Well,
nobody really likes him...

RILEY
I'd just like to clear up a few things -
BUFFY

I don't really like him...

RILEY
Buffy.

BUFFY
... but I love him. I do.

RILEY
Who?

BUFFY
What?

RILEY
What's his name?

BUFFY
Who?

RILEY
The groom.

BUFFY
Spike.

RILEY
That's a name?

BUFFY
Don't be mad.

RILEY
I'm not mad.
BUFFY
No, you are.
RILEY
No, I am. I really - wow. Who is this
guy? Does he go here?
BUFFY
Spike? Oh no, he's totally old.
RILEY
Old?
BUFFY
(chuckling)
Well, he's not as old as my last
boyfriend, but -
RILEY
Okay. It's late. And I'm very tired now,
so... I'm going to go far away, and
be... away.
BUFFY
But -
RILEY
(firmly)
No.
(leaving)
Stay.

He goes. She watches him with regret - then turns excitedly to the
dresses.

INT. XANDER'S BASEMENT - NIGHT-

The washing machine is on and a laundry line is strung across the room, a
few items dangling from it. Anya waits while Xander calls upstairs...

XANDER
(called up)
That's okay, Mom... we don't need any
more snacks!
ANYA
(to Xander)
I liked those fruit roll-ups.
XANDER
Shush. I thought she'd never clear out.
Besides, just think of my lips as the
fruit roll-ups of love.
(off her look)
Okay that was gross. I'm a little distracted.
Willow was really upset. I shouldn't've
let her go away mad.

Anya kisses him.

XANDER (cont'd)
Regaining focus...

ANYA
We just got rid of your mom, let's not
bring Willow into this. It's time
for just the two of us.

They kiss again...

SMASH! Breaking of glass and an INHUMAN GROWL interrupts. They jump from bed to find a DEMON with milky eyes and puce blistered skin touching down. He's on Xander in a flash.

It lashes out as Xander, who goes flying. Anya SMACKS the demon on the back of its head, causing it to turn around to face her. It GROWLS in annoyance then takes a step towards her.

Then, Xander takes the clothes line (with laundry still pegged on) and loops it over the demon's head. Pulls, trying to choke it to death.

ANYA (cont'd)
No no! Serparvo Demon! Drowning
is the only way to kill it!

Xander pulls the string, guiding the struggling demon. He muscles it over toward the sink full of soaking clothes.

Together, Xander and Anya push the demon's head into the water. The water smokes and bubbles, and the demon goes limp. A beat of relief, and

SMASH! The other window has been punched in. A demon-y hand reaches through. As Xander moves to rush Anya out the side way...

XANDER
What the hell is going on?

INT. GILES' FRONT HALL/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT-

CLOSE ON: A TINY PLASTIC CAKE-TOPPER COUPLE

Tiny blonde bride and groom, being hopped along a table top.

BUFFY (O.S.)
Dum-DUM-de-dum! Dum-DUM-
de-dum!

WIDER SHOT:

Giles reclines on the living room couch with a folded towel over his eyes. Wedding etiquette books and wedding-dress fabric swatches are spread out on the coffee table. Spike watches as she plays with the little couple.

GILES
So the plan is to cure my total incapacitating
blindness tomorrow, is it?

BUFFY
They were out of Taggis Root. They'll
have more tomorrow. I'm completely
on top of this.
(re cake couple)
Aren't they a perfect little us?

Spike takes the little couple, looks at them.

SPIKE
I don't like him. He's insipid. Clearly
human.
BUFFY
How about red paint... we can smear his
little mouth - the blood of the innocent.
SPIKE
That's my girl.

Spike grabs the back of her head and yanks her in for a hard, deep kiss.

GILES
Stop that! Right now! I can hear the
smacking.

Buffy sighs and rolls her eyes at Spike. Back to the planning.

BUFFY
Honey, we have to talk about invitations.
Do you want to be "William the Bloody"
or, like just "Spike"? 'Cause either way
it's gonna look majorly weird.
SPIKE
Whereas the name "Buffy" gives it that
touch of classic elegance.
BUFFY
What's wrong with Buffy?
GILES
Such a good question.
SPIKE
Well, it's a terrible name.
BUFFY
My mother picked that name!
SPIKE
Your mother. Yeah, she's a genius.
BUFFY
Oh, don't you start on my mother!

BAM! The front door flies open and Xander and Anya run in.

XANDER
Board up the windows! Barricade the
doors!

Giles sits up.



GILES
What's going on?
ANYA
Demons. They keep coming and
coming!

Xander and Anya struggle with the mirrored stand by Giles' door, trying to
move it in front of the door.

XANDER
I think we lost them. I didn't see -

Xander sees Spike and stops.

XANDER (cont'd)
Spike! He's all untied!
(then)
You probably noticed.
BUFFY
Xander, calm down. If you lost them,
we have a little time to figure this out.
Maybe it's related to Giles being blind.

ANYA
Giles is blind?

Xander goes to Giles, waves his hands wildly in front of Giles' face.

GILES
Stop whatever you're doing. You smell
like fruit roll-ups.
SPIKE
This is the crack team that foils my
every plan? I am deeply shamed.
BUFFY
Spike's right. We have to get organized.
ANYA
Why are you holding hands?

Xander turns, eyes them.

SPIKE
They have to hear it sooner or later...
BUFFY
Spike and I are getting married.
XANDER
(to Giles)
How? What? How?
GILES
Three excellent questions.

Buffy and Spike have gotten caught in the loving snare of each other's
eyes.



SPIKE
(soft mock threat)
What are you looking at?
BUFFY
(equally intimate)
The man I love.

They kiss, big time.

XANDER
(off the kiss, to Giles)
Can I be blind too?
(then)
Wait. Married. I know something.
What is it? This is all so familiar.
Work, brain, work. Oh! Oh-oh!
Willow!
BUFFY
(through the kiss)
What about Willow? Get off me,
Honey.

Buffy breaks the kiss.

XANDER
(still thinking)
Something about Willow and her grief-y
poor-me mood swings. So, so tired of it.
ANYA
You mean I don't have to be nice to
her anymore?
BUFFY
We're all tired of it, but what's it have
to do with what's going on?
XANDER
She told me I was a demon magnet. And..
And she said you two should get married.
GILES
And that I didn't see anything.
BUFFY
She did a spell.
GILES
Yes, to have her will done. Whatever
she says is coming true.
BUFFY
And both you guys were affected.
I probably only escaped it because
I'm the Slayer. Some kind of natural
immunity.
XANDER
Yeah. Right. You're marrying Spike
because you're so right for each other.
BUFFY
Xander...
SPIKE
That's it. You're off the usher list.

GILES
People... Willow's still out there, and
she probably has no idea what she's
doing.
XANDER
We've gotta find her -
BUFFY
Before someone really gets hurt.

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM HALLWAY - NIGHT-

Willow walks sullenly toward her room.

INT. BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM ROOM -- NIGHT-

Willow enters the dark room, reaches for the light switch. Before she hits it, THE DEMON D'HOFFRYN emerges from the darkness, raises his hands to her head and ZAPS her with an electric bolt of demon-y energy.

BLACK OUT

END OF ACT THREE

Act Four

BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM HALLWAY - NIGHT-

Buffy, Xander, Anya and Spike rush down the hall.

XANDER
(re: Spike)
Why does he have to come?
BUFFY
Xander, Spike is going to be my husband.
I want him included.
SPIKE
I think I agree with Xander here. Seems
like a lot of work for people who aren't us.
BUFFY
Spike, these are my friends. And, by
the way, this is kind of my job.
SPIKE
For now.
BUFFY
What are you saying, you want me
to stop working?
SPIKE
Let's see, would I like you to give up
killing my friends? Yeah, I've given
it a thought!

They have reached the door. Buffy enters first. The others follow.

BUFFY AND WILLOW'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT-



Buffy flicks on the LIGHT.

CLOSE - THE FLOOR

A BLACK CIRCLE mars the floor. Buffy looks at it.

BUFFY
This was burned.

Anya joins her, a look of recognition on her face.

ANYA
D'Hoffryn - the bastard - he opened
a portal here.
BUFFY
Who?

Spike is rummaging through things in Buffy's closet. He holds up a ruffled dress.

SPIKE
Oooh. Fluffy. Wear this to the rehearsal
dinner and the whole thing's off.
BUFFY
Shut up, Honey.
ANYA
D'Hoffryn is one of the lower beings.
He made me a demon eleven hundred
and twenty years ago.
BUFFY
Why would he attack Willow?
ANYA
I don't believe he did.

INT. BLACK SPACE - NIGHT-

A space between dimensions, void of matter. Willow stands before D'Hoffryn, flanked by a couple of cloaked DEMONS. Though it is dark, Willow seems to glow.

D'HOFFRYN
You have much anger and pain. Your
magic is strong, but your pain... it's like
a scream that pierces dimensional walls.
We heard your call.
WILLOW
I'm sorry. I'll try for a quiet rage. Bye.

She turns to go, but there's nowhere to go - only blackness.

D'HOFFRYN
Our intention is not to quash your
potential.
(beat)
Quite the contrary.



Willow turns around. Uncomprehending...

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT-

Buffy, Spike, and Xander follow Anya, moving fast through the graveyard.

ANYA

I'd been dumped, I was miserable.
Doing a few vengeance spells -
boils on the penis, nothing fancy.

XANDER

Please skip ahead.

ANYA

The lower beings got wind of me,
they offered to elevate me.

BUFFY

Meaning?

ANYA

They made me a demon.

BUFFY

Oh god, Willow... so you can summon
the demon from this crypt place? Get
him to stop-

(without slowing)

hey, wouldn't this make a pretty back
drop for photographs?

SPIKE

I'm not posing for chuff-all.

XANDER

Hey! Demon!

They turn to follow Xander's gaze. A DEMON in the near distance.
Advancing steadily. Buffy steps up to meet it.

BUFFY

Listen, we're gonna do this without
destroying the foliage.

No time wasted, she kicks him in the head. He makes with the
pummelling, but she's a blocker. Fighting, fighting. He's stunned. He
bolts.

But then Buffy spies TWO MORE DEMONS advancing from the trees ahead
of them.

BUFFY (cont'd)

Let's go!

All follow Anya to the crypt. Xander yanks open the heavy door. They
make it inside, slamming the door with a millisecond to spare.

INT. CRYPT -CONTINUOUS - NIGHT-

The gang closes the heavy doors. Spike grabs a tomb lid, places it against the doors to help.

Anya is already kneeling on the periphery of a hastily drawn circle in the dirt floor.

ANYA

Blessed be the name of D'Hoffryn.
Let this space be now a gateway to the
world of Arashmaharr where demons
are spawned.

INT. BLACK SPACE - NIGHT-

Imposing and stern - D'Hoffryn speaks. Willow stands before him as before, quaking.

D'HOFFRYN

The pain and suffering you brought
upon those you love has been inspired.
You are ready to join us, here in
Arashmaharr.

WILLOW

(truly surprised)
Pain? What pain?

INT. CRYPT - NIGHT-

Buffy is by the window as a demon hand is shooting out and grabbing her neck through the bars. She screams in pain.

Xander and Spike are holding the doors, but demons are pounding at it and it's a losing battle.

SPIKE

Buffy!

She wrenches free-

XANDER

We're not doing well here...

Anya is still chanting...

ANYA

We come in supplication, we bend as
the reed in the flow of... no wait, we
come in the flow of the... gnyah!
(starts again)
Blessed be the name of D'Hoffryn...

Buffy has joined them at the door:



SPIKE
They're strong, and I can't fight.
If they get in, I don't know if I can
protect you.
BUFFY
(bristling)
You think you have to protect me?
SPIKE
Oh, not with the girl power bit -

BOOM! The door smashes open, all three thrown as the two demons get in. Buffy fights one, the other goes for Anya and she and Xander try to fend it off while Spike holds the door.

INT. BLACK SPACE CONTINUING - NIGHT-

We see the action in a warped and distant fashion. A WIDER ANGLE shows that D'Hoffryn has opened a window for Willow to look through.

WILLOW
Oh. God. But I didn't mean to-
D'HOFFRYN
But you did. This is the result of your
power. You will make a fine vengeance
demon.

WILLOW
No. please. You - you have to help
them.

In a wave of D'Hoffryn's hand, he closes the window.

D'HOFFRYN
It is not my concern. You are my interest
in the matter.

WILLOW
Really. No offense intended, I mean,
you've been super nice and everything...
But, I don't want to be a demon. I want
to go back and help my friends.

D'Hoffryn's expression darkens.

D'HOFFRYN
That is your answer?

Willow gathers her courage. Knowing her answer could be her demise.

WILLOW
It is.

Beat. Then, reluctantly, D'Hoffryn digs in a pocket and hands Willow a talisman.

D'HOFFRYN
I'm sorry to hear that. Oh, well. Here's
my talisman. You change your mind,
give us a chant.

With a quick wave of his hand, Willow disappears in a swirl of DARKNESS.

INT. CRYPT - NIGHT-

Xander is trying to fend off his demon with a candelabra. Not doing great.
Anya is on the ground, groggy.

The demon still outside hits hard enough for the tomb lid to fall over on
top of Spike...

BUFFY
Honey!

She kicks her demon brutally, puts out of commission as she rushes to
Spike's side. Takes the lid and flips it back up, hitting the entering demon
square in the face.

Buffy's foe is rising again, Xander's closing on him -

XANDER
Little help here!
BUFFY
Spike, are you okay?

She takes him in her arms on the ground.

SPIKE
Slayer...

And they kiss, passionately, the kiss of people who know they will die this
day (and are sexually attracted to each other).

Willow MATERIALIZES in a crack of lightning. Takes in the destruction and
pain a beat. Shaken, she beings:

WILLOW
Let the healing power begin. Let my
Will be safe again. As these words
Of peace are spoken, let this harmful
Spell... be broken.

The entire crypt is ENGULFED with LIGHT.

A moment later, natural light resumes. The demons are gone (in a cut,
not CGI, I really can't stress this enough). Buffy and Spike freeze, lips still
touching. They register the change, pull back and look at each other.
Instant nausea. They push away, disgusted and hating each other fully.



SPIKE:
Euwww! Oh bloody hell!

Buffy spits repeatedly.

BUFFY
Spike lips, lips of Spike...

Xander and Anya are shaken, but all right. Willow stands, sheepish. Sorry.

WILLOW
Hi guys.

Buffy spits again.

INT. GILES' KITCHEN DAY

Anya watches Willow transfer hot fresh homemade cookies from a baking sheet onto a plate.

ANYA
How long are you going to keep
making these?

WILLOW
Until I don't feel so horribly guilty.
I figure, about a million from now.
Also I have to detail Giles' car.

She carries the plate into...

INT. GILES' LIVING ROOM CONTINUOUS - DAY -

Where Xander and Giles are saying:

XANDER
(to Giles)
Time?

Giles looks at a clock on the wall. Darn happy he can see it's...

GILES
Five past two! Clear as day!

Willow holds out the plate of cookies to Xander and Giles. Anya follows behind her wraps her arms around Xander.

WILLOW
Look, cookies! A very non-evil thing I
did. Oatmeal.

GILES
Tricky girl! They're chocolate chip.
I can see them.
(Beat)
Still need glasses, though. Guess you

couldn't be more specific and given
me twenty-twenty.

Xander, Giles and Anya each take a cookie. Willow walks her cookies over
to Buffy who sits at the dining room table. Spike sits sulking, tied to a
chair next to her. At least his arms are free.

WILLOW
Eat a cookie, ease my pain?

Buffy takes a bite of one.

BUFFY
Better?
WILLOW
Well, baking lifts at least thirty percent
of my guilt. But only seven percent of
my inner turmoil.
(beat)
That'll take a while, I guess.
BUFFY
It'll happen.

Buffy smiles at her friend, forgiving all.

SPIKE
Don't I get a cookie?
BUFFY
No.
SPIKE
I gotta have something. I still got Buffy
taste in my mouth.
BUFFY
You're a pig.
SPIKE
Yeah, well I'm not the one who wanted
"Wind Beneath My Wings"
for the first dance.

Buffy rises, completely embarrassed.

BUFFY
That was the spell.

She crosses to the kitchen. Willow follows - pausing to slip Spike a cookie
- and joins her.

WILLOW
Did I mention about the sorry part?
BUFFY
We may be into a forgetting spell
later. I loved him. We were betrothed.
WILLOW
At least you were getting along...

BUFFY
We weren't! It wasn't even nice. The
bad boy thing? Over it. I get it now.
I'd be really happy to be in a nice
relationship with a decent reliable
oh my GOD Riley thinks I'm engaged.

WILLOW

What?

BUFFY

(hyperventilating)

Riley. He saw me... and.. What the hell
am I gonna say to him?

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY -

Riley and Buffy are mid-explanation as they stroll. He has that same
baffled, mildly shocky on his face.

BUFFY

You thought I was serious?

RILEY

Well... no. I mean - you weren't serious?

BUFFY

Oh , God. Right. I'm marrying a guy named Spike.

RILEY

Maybe. We haven't known each other that long.

BUFFY

No, no... It's just - I saw that fear in
your eyes when you caught me looking
at wedding dresses, and I had to give you
a hard time.

RILEY

What? I didn't have fear in my eyes.

BUFFY

Yes you did. You were looking at me
like I was a cartoon ball and chain.

Riley laughs. There's some truth to that.

RILEY

So you decided to tell me you were
getting married.

BUFFY

(is this working?)

Uh huh...

RILEY

So.... you're insane.

BUFFY

Uh huh...

Beat.

RILEY

But you're still single.



She smiles. As does he.

BUFFY

Yes.

RILEY

Okay then. Just another piece of the
Buffy puzzle.

BUFFY

You've got a lot to learn about women.

He reaches out and runs his hand through the back of her hair, cradling her head and bringing her close to him, firmly but entirely gently. She looks at him, startled but engaged. Their eyes close. He says simply.

RILEY

You're gonna teach me.

He moves away suddenly, walking away without another word. Buffy watches him, suffused with feeling.

BLACK OUT.

END OF SHOW