



"DRAGONSLIDE"

Written by
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#K1816

SLIDERS

"DragonSlide"

CAST

QUINN MALLORY
WADE WELLES
MAXIMILLIAN ARTURO
REMBRANDT BROWN

MELINDA
SKULDAR
GARETH
O' HARA
KELLEY
ALESHA
DIGGS
SEAN
CHIEF DRUID
PHILIP

#K1816

SLIDERS

"DragonSlide"

SETS

INTERIORS:

GARETH'S CHAMBER
GARETH'S UNDERGROUND LAIR
ALESHA'S OFFICE

EXTERIORS:

WOODS
EMRYS STREET
STREET
OUTSIDE DRAGON'S BREATH INN
DRAGON'S BREATH INN
INN ROOM
BAR
GARETH'S ESTATE
EMRYS TIMES
EMRYS PARK
ANOTHER PART OF THE PARK
MERLIN'S BOOKS
LAKE
WOODED GROVE

SLIDERS
"DragonSlide"

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Rays of sunlight filter through tall pines in a pastoral setting. A beautiful young woman, MELINDA, early 20's, in a flowing dress, darts into frame. Fearful, she looks back over her shoulder, never breaking her stride. As she runs out of frame, we hear the SOUND of HORSE HOOVES pounding the forest floor.

ANOTHER ANGLE

SKULDAR, a gnome-like man of indeterminate age, dressed in jeans and a denim work shirt, guides a galloping horse through the trees. He pulls up, listens to the woods a beat, then goads his mount onward.

MELINDA

weaves through the trees. As she comes into a small clearing she nearly collides with Skuldar's horse. She GASPS. Skuldar, eerily calm, looks down from his mount.

SKULDAR

Melinda. You of all people know
there's nowhere to run.

She backs away, then darts into the woods.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Melinda races across the pine covered forest floor when Skuldar suddenly appears again in her path, sitting calmly astride his horse. Melinda backs away.

MELINDA

Skuldar, please...

Skuldar dismounts.

SKULDAR

Save your breath. I'm in a foul
mood as it is having to ride this
smelly beast.

As he steps towards her....

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

MELINDA

You could say you couldn't find me.

SKULDAR

He'd know.

SKULDAR

backs Melinda against a tree. He reaches into his pocket and pulls out a cloth.

MELINDA

breaks from the tree and runs. But after a few yards, Skuldar seems to magically step out from behind another tree, blocking her escape.

MELINDA

If you let me go I swear I will teach you everything I know.

SKULDAR

Worthless to a person without your gift.

His hand grabs her with the speed of a striking snake. She tries to break away but Skuldar clamps the cloth over her face. Melinda struggles to no avail. The drug in the cloth takes effect quickly. Skuldar lays her on the ground as

THE VORTEX

opens behind him. Puzzled,

SKULDAR

turns just as Quinn flies out and collides with him, knocking them both to the ground. They both scramble to their feet. Skuldar pulls a dagger, then reacts, terrified at the sight of Quinn, looking majestic as he's framed by the swirling vortex behind him.

QUINN

spots the unconscious Melinda.

QUINN

What are you doing?

The terrified Skuldar drops his dagger and runs for his horse. As Quinn takes off after him, the other three Sliders tumble out of the vortex, unseen by Skuldar.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

AT SKULDAR'S HORSE

Skuldar races to his mount, but Quinn grabs him from behind and pulls him to the ground.

ON MELINDA

Wade cradles the unconscious girl's head in her arms as Arturo and Rembrandt rush to

QUINN

who wrestles on the ground with the wiry little man.

ARTURO

Mister Mallory, what's going on?!

At the sound of the name Mallory, Skuldar gives up his struggle. A look of awe crosses his face.

SKULDAR

You're a Mallory?

Quinn rises.

QUINN

(wary)
Yeah... why?

A blinding FLASH OF WHITE LIGHT suddenly obliterates Skuldar from view. In an instant it vanishes, leaving a large RED TAILED HAWK in Skuldar's place. The astonished Sliders watch in amazement as the large bird takes flight and we...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. GARETH'S CHAMBER - DAY

A round room with Druidic drawings and symbols adorning the walls. A small statue of Mercury stands in one corner. In the center of the room is a round table. GARETH, mid-40's, square jawed, handsome with a weathered face, works over a Cretan Maze, a Druidic form of numerology. As if hearing something only he can hear, he cocks his head.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The red tailed hawk lands on the stone windowsill. Gareth continues to focus on his Cretan Maze.

GARETH

What took you so long, Skuldar?

A blinding FLASH of WHITE LIGHT obliterates the hawk. In an instant it's gone and in the Hawk's place is Skuldar.

SKULDAR

(fearful)

I'm sorry, Gareth. I wasn't able to bring Melinda home.

Now Gareth looks steely eyed over at Skuldar.

SKULDAR

It wasn't my fault. I was attacked.

GARETH

Attacked. By what? I've given you more power that you could possibly need to accomplish this simple task.

SKULDAR

It was a Mallory.

GARETH

(curious)

Another Mallory?

SKULDAR

He came out of the sky... from some kind of swirling vortex.

Intrigued, Gareth rises, moves to Skuldar.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

GARETH

No human could travel in that form.
Not even the most powerful Druid.
(awed at the realization)
It can only be a Myrddin.

SKULDAR

A wizard? Sir, with all due
respect, I thought wizards were...

GARETH

Not "were" Skuldar. Wizards "are".
It was only a matter of time before
one made an appearance again.
Although I never thought it would
be a Mallory.

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Wade, Arturo and Rembrandt flank Skuldar's horse as they
cross a meadow. Quinn rides atop the animal, staring
mesmerized at the unconscious Melinda nestled in his arms.

WADE

Well, you've had some time,
Professor. Come up with that
rational explanation yet about how
a man can turn into a bird?

ARTURO

Not yet. But I'm sure there are at
least a dozen.

REMBRANDT

I'd settle for one.
(to Quinn)
How's she doing, Q-ball?

Quinn doesn't respond. Doesn't ever hear. He's too
entranced by Melinda.

REMBRANDT

Hey Romeo, snap out of it.

QUINN

Huh? Oh, sorry. I was just lost
in thought.

WADE

Yeah. The R-rated kind.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

They reach a simple dirt road snaking across the green landscape. Nearby is a carved wooden marker.

REMBRANDT

"Emrys. Twenty miles." Never heard of it.

WADE

On our world it's a mythical Druid city. The city of higher powers.

QUINN

Druids? I thought they died out years ago.

ARTURO

Like most fringe philosophies, it's popularity ebbed and flowed. But it's always maintained a small cadre of believers.

REMBRANDT

None of which lived in my neighborhood. So what's their story?

Arturo opens his mouth to respond but is cut off by Wade.

WADE

Druidy is the Western form of an ancient universal philosophy. ~~It's considered an earth religion, tied to nature much like the Native Americans.~~ The Druids believe in magic and the mystical powers of the higher self.

REMBRANDT

How do you know all this stuff?

WADE

I had braces in junior high. Amazingly, I found myself with lots of time to read.

ARTURO

Here comes a car.

A POLICE CAR pulls up, stops as Arturo flags it down. The emblem reads "City of Emrys Police" against a backdrop of a Druidic protective design. Two COPS step out: O'HARA, a veteran and a hack; and KELLEY, young and idealistic. Instead of police blues, they wear forest green jumpsuits and carry SWORDS instead of guns.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

O'HARA

Problem?

Remy takes Melinda from Quinn.

ARTURO

We came across this young girl
being assaulted in the woods.

KELLEY

(to partner)
Hey. That's Gareth's apprentice.

The two cops help take Melinda and carry her to the patrol
car thru...

O'HARA

(to Sliders)
Don't worry, we'll take her home.

ARTURO

I believe she might need medical
attention.

The cops open the back door, lay Melinda against the seat.

O'HARA

Maybe you didn't hear. She's
Gareth's apprentice. She doesn't
need medical attention.

MELINDA

(stirring)
What... what are you doing?

O'HARA

Relax, Melinda. We're taking you
back to the estate.

MELINDA

(suddenly agitated)
What?! No... no, please don't do
that!

(to Sliders)

Please! Don't let them take me
back there!

The cops slam the back door closed, start to climb into the
front seats. Quinn jumps down from his horse, concerned.

QUINN

Hey. Wait a minute!

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 3

1

O'Hara puts his hand threateningly on the scabbard of his sword.

O'HARA

This matter no longer concerns you.

Quinn bristles; looks like a dust-up is about to explode when...

KELLEY

(reassuring)

Don't worry, we'll see that she's okay.

The cops climb into the car and pull away, Melinda's MUFFLED PROTESTS fading in the distance. Off Quinn's conflicted look, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. EMRYS STREET - DAY - LATER

A bucolic avenue dotted with Druid inspired shops: a mystical bookstore (MERLIN'S BOOKS), a Druid plant nursery, etc. Arturo walks with Quinn as Rembrandt and Wade linger behind, fascinated by the different shops.

ARTURO

Don't be so hard on yourself Mister Mallory. We turned her over to the authorities. I'm sure they'll take care of it.

QUINN

I wanted to help her, professor. By the look on her face, I did anything but.

ANGLE - FAVORING REMBRANDT AND WADE

As they step away from a shop window...

WADE

It makes sense that the druids would settle America. They were harassed by the authorities in England just like the Pilgrims, only about a thousand years earlier.

She notices Remmy staring at her, smiling.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

WADE

What?

REMBRANDT

Who would have thought braces would
have come in so handy?

She smiles as we...

CUT TO:

EXT. DRAGON'S BREATH INN - DAY - MINUTES LATER

As the Sliders approach the entrance a strikingly beautiful
woman exits and brushes past Rembrandt. This is...

ALESHA

Excuse me.

REMBRANDT

Alesha?!

The woman stops, looks at Remmy blankly.

ALESHA

Have we met?

REMBRANDT

Well, yeah... sort of.

ALESHA

I'm sorry. I don't remember.

REMBRANDT

Yeah, well...
(to Sliders)
...that happens to us a lot.

Puzzled, she turns to leave.

REMBRANDT

Hey wait!
(meaningfully)
"You have Cleopatra's eyes. And I
am Marc Anthony's heart".

She stares at him a beat, taking it in, then...

ALESHA

Is that supposed to be a pick-up
line?

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

REMBRANDT

No. It's from a song I wrote. For you.

ALESHA

(blowing him off)
I don't think so.

She turns and starts to walk off but Remmy grabs her arm.

REMBRANDT

Look... you and I have a connection. It's kinda hard to explain...

ALESHA

No it isn't. I've treated your type before. You see a woman, create a fantasy romance in your mind and then react aggressively when she doesn't respond to your twisted delusion.

Alesha withdraws a business card, sticks it into his hand.

ALESHA

Call me. If you have insurance.

She turns and exits, Rembrandt staring after her. He glances down at the card.

REMBRANDT

Dr. Alesha Lujan. Psychiatrist.

WADE

(taking card)
What was that all about?

REMBRANDT

(annoyed)
What's it always all about? It's about meeting people we care about who don't even know who we are.

He heads for the Inn, obviously upset. Off the other Sliders...

CUT TO:

EXT. GARETH'S ESTATE - DAY

The police car pulls up and parks near a stone castle-like building.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

As the two cops exit and reach for the back door we HEAR a SOFT WHOOSH, then...

A LARGE SHADOW (CGI)

... passes over them, its winged outline silhouetted against the stone estate walls. Both cops look up into the bright sky, but only young Kelley cups his hand over his eyes.

HIS POV

Something... a wing, a tail, (CGI) something... crests the roof of the house and disappears.

RESUME THE COPS

KELLEY

(astonished)
Did you see that?

O'HARA

No, sun was in my eyes.

KELLEY

(awed)
I think it was the dragon...

O'HARA

Come on. You don't buy that crap, do you?

As O'Hara opens the door, helps a sullen Melinda out...

KELLEY

Hey, a lot of people think it exists.

O'HARA

Well, a lot of people are stupid. It was just a big bird.

Melinda turns, shoots a look to Kelley that chills the young officer to the bones. It wasn't a bird and they both know it.

ANOTHER ANGLE - THE ENTRANCE

As the threesome near the front door, it opens revealing Gareth, shadowed by Skuldar.

GARETH

So. You've found the wayward Melinda.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

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GARETH (cont'd)
(to Skuldar)
Take her inside. See that she's
comfortable.

As Skuldar leads Melinda inside...

KELLEY
Sir, I know it's none of my
business, but she may need medical
attention.

GARETH
You're right. It's not your
business.

He fixes Kelley with a hard stare, then closes the door.
O'Hara turns to head back to the patrol car, but Kelley
lingers behind.

KELLEY
I still don't feel right about
this. I think he's gonna hurt her.

O'HARA
She's his apprentice. He can do
whatever he wants.
(then, softer)
C'mon, it's end of shift.

Kelley starts to follow, but he's clearly troubled.

CUT TO:

INT: DRAGON'S BREATH INN - DAY

We're CLOSE on a hooded Falcon, tethered to a perch. As the
CAMERA PULLS BACK we find ourselves in a rustic English
hunting lodge. A large wooden dragon adorns one end of the
bar. The male Sliders sit at nearby table picking over the
remains of lunch. Quinn and Rembrandt stare moodily into
their drinks.

ARTURO
(wry)
If you're so enamored with this
Alesha, Mister Brown, perhaps you
should try a love potion.

He turns to Wade, who's just arrived.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

ARTURO

He's certainly on the right world
for one, isn't he Miss Welles?

WADE

(sitting down)
Wouldn't you be surprised.

ARTURO

(teasing)
Actually, I'm feeling rather left
out, not having a woman to moon
over.

REMBRANDT

(annoyed)
I fail to see the humor, Professor.
We've been sliding a long time and
maybe an egghead like you can find
happiness with a book on cosmology,
but I happen to enjoy the
companionship of a woman.

ARTURO

(defensive)
I assure you I enjoy and certainly
desire the company of a woman as
much as the next man. And I don't
like your implying...

WADE

Stop it! This is a ridiculous
argument.

(beat, then)

We could all use someone special to
wrap our arms around once in a
while. But it's not going to help
any if we start attacking each
other.

They all fall silent a beat, then...

WADE

(to Quinn)

I found out who this Gareth guy is.
The desk clerk said he's the most
powerful Druid in New Briton. He
used to be Chief Druid of the city
of Emrys, but the rumor is they
threw him out of the order for
practicing black magic.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

QUINN

Oh great. You're really making me feel good.

WADE

Hey, she's his apprentice. For all we know she's as dark as he is.

QUINN

She's not.

Arturo and Wade exchange a curious look.

WADE

How do you know?

(beat, then)

Quinn, you've been obsessing about her from the moment you saw her. I think it's time you let it go.

Diggs approaches and starts clearing the dirty dishes.

QUINN

Diggs. Do you know anything about a woman named Melinda?

Wade rises from the table, exasperated.

WADE

I've had enough. I'm going up to the room. Anybody coming with me?

REMBRANDT

Yeah, I am.

As they exit...

QUINN

(to Diggs)

So...

DIGGS

She belongs to a druid named Gareth. They say she was born with a talent for the supernatural

ARTURO

Is everyone here a Druid?

No sir. hosen who run things. ey do a real fine job too. Except for the occasional bad apple.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 3

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QUINN
Where's this Gareth's estate?

DIGGS
You don't want to know. There's a lot of weird stuff supposedly goin' on up there.

QUINN
(to Arturo)
I can't just sit here knowing I handed her over to this guy. I've got to go up there.

DIGGS
Before you do anything you might want to talk to a reporter I know. Sean Nuinn. He knows more about Gareth than anybody.

CUT TO:

INT. GARETH'S UNDERGROUND LAIR - DAY

CLOSE ON A SHEATHED SWORD

mounted on a wall of a cave. A strikingly unique CREST adorns the exposed sword handle. The name MALLORY has been etched in old English lettering along the length of the sheath.

CAMERA PANS to discover the body of a handsome young man (PHILIP MALLORY) encased in clear quartz and embedded in the wall next to the sword. Mallory's neither alive nor dead; his face is determined but unmoving as he's held in a state of suspended animation.

ANOTHER ANGLE REVEALS MELINDA

... restrained hand and foot on a stone altar at one end of the cave. Suddenly a figure steps into the light. It's Kelley, the young cop.

KELLEY
(horrified)
Oh my god...

MELINDA
Please... untie me.

KELLEY
What was he going to do to you?

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

MELINDA

He wants to raise a demon from the underworld to impregnate me.

As the officer works to untie her feet from the restraints...

MELINDA

He wants me to give birth to an immortal child. Just like the wizard Merlin.

Now Kelley frees one of her hands from the restraints. As he starts working on the other...

KELLEY

For godsakes, why?

MELINDA

Once the child is grown, Gareth plans to take possession of its body. It would he mean could live forever.

GARETH (O.S.)

I admire your skill, officer.

Startled, they turn to find Gareth approaching, dressed in a black ceremonial robe. Skuldar follows.

GARETH

You're the only outsider who's ever found this place.

Kelley pulls his sword. Gareth ignores it.

GARETH

And I admire your concern for the young lady, but I no longer have any need for her to bear me a child. The Mallory clan has been kind enough to deliver to me my vessel to immortality.

MELINDA

What are you talking about?

GARETH

I no longer need to wait years for your child to grow. The Mallory Wizard who found you in the woods has an immortal body.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

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MELINDA

You don't have the power to possess
a wizard.

GARETH

This one I do. Because he is a
Mallory. And I know their
weakness.

KELLEY

Look, I'm taking the girl out of
here.

GARETH

No. She will stay. Your presence
however is no longer required.

CLOSE ON GARETH

His eyes turn hot; they glow a garish orange. (CGI)

ON KELLEY

His face contorts as Gareth's power consumes him. The sword
drops from his grasp, his body trembles uncontrollably, then
SHATTERS into a million pieces (CGI).

ANOTHER ANGLE

A beat, then Gareth approaches the altar, his sandals
CRUNCHING splinters of the officer's body like broken glass.

GARETH

Relax, Melinda. I no longer need
your body. Just your mind.

And off Melinda's horrified expression...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. EMRYS TIMES - DAY - ESTABLISHING

INT. EMRYS TIMES - DAY

The typical bustle of the newsroom of a modern day but small paper. Prominently displayed are newspaper recycling bins. All posters indicate a respect for nature and especially the oak tree. In the center of the room is a life sized statue of the god Mercury. SEAN NUINN, late 30's, a leprechaun of a man, sits behind a desk eying Quinn and Arturo.

QUINN

Mister Nuinn, are you saying this guy Gareth can treat her any way he wants and no one can do anything?

SEAN

Well, certain Druids have developed incredible powers over the course of generations. Our buddy Gareth is one of them. No one wants to challenge him.

ARTURO

Is there any way this Melinda could gain her freedom?

SEAN

Only if Gareth granted it. And that's not likely. The guy's got a soul as black as tar. In fact, I'm convinced he's connected to the destruction of the Mallory clan.

QUINN

Mallory clan?

SEAN

Highly regarded white Druids. Gareth feared their power and influence. I haven't been able to prove it yet, but I think somehow he found their Achilles heel and murdered them.

Arturo and Quinn react. Then...

ARTURO

Isn't there some Druidic lore about destroying an entire clan?

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

SEAN

Sure. If you wipe out the last of a lineage you incur the wrath of Mercury, the god of high magic. That's why there's a rumor Gareth keeps the last Mallory brother imprisoned somewhere on his estate.

A moment as they take this in, then Arturo and Quinn rise.

QUINN

Thank you for your help, Mr. Nuinn.

Sean pushes back from the desk revealing he's in a WHEELCHAIR. He comes around his desk and rolls up next to Quinn thru...

SEAN

Look, I know you want to help the girl. But you should know that after I wrote an unflattering article about Gareth, I lost feeling in my legs. Doctor's can't find anything wrong.

(a beat)

Think long and hard before your heart makes you do something you might regret later.

CUT TO:

INT. INN ROOM - DAY

Heavily influenced with English decor. Rembrandt sits on the edge of a bed, on the phone.

REMBRANDT

That's right, I'm from a parallel world.

(he waits, then)

You know, that's the exact word I used the first time it was explained to me. But it's true, Alesha! We've crossed the Einstein-Rosen-Podalsky bridge!

Wade enters, carrying an old, large leather bound book.

REMBRANDT

Uh huh... really? Delusional schizophrenic?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

REMBRANDT (cont'd)

No, I can't say anyone's ever
called me that before.

(and then)

Uh huh... so does that mean your
answer is no?

He flinches at the SOUND of the phone being hung up on the
other end. He sighs, hangs up and flops back on the bed.

WADE

So much for honesty, huh?

REMBRANDT

Love is a cruel jester.

Wade sits on the end of the bed.

WADE

What's the story with you two?
(then)

I mean, if you feel you want to
talk about it. If not, I
understand.

REMBRANDT

That's one of the things I like
about you. You never press, but
you always get me to open up.

Wade smiles, then...

REMBRANDT

The day my Cadillac was sucked up
by Q-Ball's vortex... the day I was
gonna sing the National Anthem and
kick start my career... that day, I
was gonna ask Alesha to move in
with me.

(and then)

She was struggling as a back-up
singer for the Harlettes, but I
could see she had talent. We were
gonna be a team. Kind of like Ike
and Tina but without the broken
dishes.

WADE

It's weird, but we've never really
talked about what was going on with
you when you got caught up in all
this...

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

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REMBRANDT

Yeah, I had a life. And if I could re-connect with Alesha... let's just say she's the kind of woman I'd give up sliding for.

WADE

(re: book)

Well maybe this can help. I found it at a Druid bookstore. It's a book of spells and potions.

REMBRANDT

(beat, then)

You telling me we're gonna cast a love spell so that Alesha will fall for me all over again?

WADE

You game?

REMBRANDT

On a world where a man can turn into a hawk, you bet.

CUT TO:

EXT. EMRYS STREET OUTSIDE THE INN - DAY

As Quinn and Arturo make their way back towards the Dragon's Breath Inn...

ARTURO

I won't deny your worry for this girl is justified, but it's foolish for you to get involved in what is tantamount to a domestic dispute on this world.

QUINN

I just can't let a person suffer because of a mistake I made. On this or any other world.

They reach the Inn. Arturo stops, turns Quinn to face him.

ARTURO

We slide in twelve hours. What can you possibly do today that can't be undone tomorrow?

Quinn hesitates; he has no answer.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

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MELINDA (O.S.)

Quinn?

Startled, they turn to find Melinda standing next to them!
It's as if she appeared from nowhere.

MELINDA

Gareth has released me from his
claim. I'm free now.

Forgetting all about Arturo, Quinn steps close to Melinda,
her mere presence almost overwhelming him.

QUINN

I... I'm so glad you're okay. You
don't know how badly I felt...

She places her index finger against his lips to quiet him.

MELINDA

It was because of you that Gareth
freed me. He fears your clan.

Two customers exit the Inn, brush past them.

MELINDA

May we go someplace where we can
talk?

(re: Arturo)
Alone?

QUINN

Sure.

(eyes on Melinda)
I'll be back in a little while,
professor.

ARTURO

(concerned)
Mr. Mallory....

Melinda turns her head and locks eyes with Arturo.

MELINDA

(to Arturo)
He'll be fine.

Her expression remains gentle, but SOMETHING CHANGES IN
ARTURO AND HIS APPREHENSION VANISHES.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

ARTURO
(as if reciting)
You'll be fine. I think I'll just
stay out here and enjoy the fresh
air.
(smiling)
Good day, Miss.

Melinda nods politely, then hooks her arm through Quinn's
and leads him across the street to the park.

ON ARTURO

He serenely watches them exit a beat, then A LOOK CROSSES
ARTURO'S FACE and he BLINKS HIS EYES AS IF TO CLEAR THEM.
Puzzled, he looks around as we...

CUT TO:

INT. INN ROOM - DAY

The shades are drawn tight. Candles provide the light.
Wade holds the book of spells as she circles Remmy, who
fights to remain crosslegged on the floor.

REMBRANDT
Honey, I appreciate what you're
trying to do. But I'm getting a
cramp.

WADE
Shhhh. We're almost there.

REMBRANDT
Man, if anyone saw us doing this,
they'd say we're way past there.

WADE
Rembrandt, quiet! You're supposed
to concentrate on the object of
your desire.

REMBRANDT
Right, right...

Rembrandt closes his eyes as Wade lifts an opaque bottle
containing a scented liquid.

WADE
(reading from book)
"Circle of magic, chaste ring of
white, capture the face of this
man's love at first sight."

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

She sprinkles it on Rembrandt, who reacts.

WADE
(reading from book)
"Consecrate the flowers of this
scent... and allow the wearer's
heart to claim that which you have
destined him to cherish."
(closes the book)
That's it. You can open your eyes.

A beat, then Remmy does. As he looks around, a little
lost...

WADE
If we did this right, there's no
way Alesha can resist you.

REMBRANDT
(blankly)
Alesha who?

WADE
Alesha who?

Remmy's eyes find Wade, focus. Only something's very wrong.
He's staring at her dreamily.

REMBRANDT
Have I ever told you how beautiful
you are?

Off Wade's concern...

CUT TO:

EXT. EMRYS PARK - DAY - MINUTES LATER

Melinda and Quinn drift through the isolated, peaceful
setting.

QUINN
What will you do now that you don't
have to serve Gareth anymore?

MELINDA
That's what I wanted to talk with
you about.
(and then)
I'd like to be with you. If you'll
have me.

That stops him. He turns to face her.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

MELINDA

Ever since the moment I saw you, I knew we should live as one.

QUINN

Melinda... I... I want to be with you too. But there's a problem. You see....

(struggles with this,
then)

I'm leaving this world in a few hours.

MELINDA

(totally accepting)

I expected as much. It is a wonderful power to possess.

Totally thrown, Quinn opens his mouth to react, stops. That wasn't the response he was expecting. She leans in, her lips tantalizingly close to Quinn's.

MELINDA

So take me with you. We can travel among the stars, make love in the clouds...

Oh yeah. Quinn's eyes begin to close.

MELINDA

Just promise to be gentle with me. I've never kissed a Wizard.

Quinn's eyes shoot open. Wizard? But before he can speak, Melinda kisses him. Whatever his concerns, they're erased by her touch. When she breaks the kiss, a TINGLY FEELING comes over Quinn.

QUINN

Melinda...?

Quinn touches his lips, realizes something is wrong. He pulls away, can't walk, stumbles to one knee. Melinda watches him impassively.

QUINN

Melinda... help me...

Quinn falls hard to the ground, landing on his back. His eyes are open, he's conscious, but totally immobilized.

He looks up at Melinda, flinches when she's suddenly ENGULFED IN A BURST OF WHITE LIGHT. The light dissipates. She's gone.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 3

1

ANOTHER ANGLE - CAMERA HOVERS OVER A PRONE QUINN

As we look down at him, we HEAR a SOFT WHOOSH, then the SHADOW of a DRAGON (CGI) crosses over Quinn's body.

CUT TO:

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE PARK - DAY - SIMULTANEOUS

A worried Arturo makes his way into the empty park.

ARTURO
Mr. Mallory? Quinn?
(to himself)
Damn that boy.
(then, louder)
Mr. Mallory? Where are you?

He steps into a clearing, reacts to the growing SOUND of a soft WHOOSH.

ARTURO
Quinn?

The SHADOW of a DRAGON (CGI) crosses over Arturo. Startled, he looks up, then DIVES OUT OF THE WAY as a BURST OF FLAMES hits the ground where he had been standing.

ANOTHER ANGLE

As the SHADOW disappears and the SOFT WHOOSH fades, Arturo rises from the ground, stares stunned at the scorched ground where the flames hit. It's still smoking. What the hell?

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GARETH'S UNDERGROUND LAIR - DAY

Quinn lies on the stone altar, conscious yet powerless to speak or move. A large smoking cauldron stands at the foot of the altar. A dispassionate Melinda stands over Quinn. Skuldar watches from nearby.

MELINDA
I'm sorry, Quinn. But when Gareth compels me to do his bidding, I am powerless.

She crosses to the quartz encased Philip Mallory, the pain of his memory very much alive.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

MELINDA

You remind me of Philip. He was the last Mallory to challenge Gareth. He was gentle yet strong. Was he your brother? I suppose I'll never know.

She touches the sword hanging on the wall.

MELINDA

He carried this sword, forged a thousand years ago under the guidance of Merlin. It was the only weapon that could have slain my master.

SKULDAR

Philip was a fool. He fell in love you with you just like all the others and that was his mistake.

She looks longingly at Philip.

MELINDA

But Philip was the only one I loved. I think Gareth keeps him here like this to torment me.

GARETH (O.S.)

How perceptive of you.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Gareth enters.

GARETH

And now I ~~possess~~ possess the sword...
(to Quinn)
...and soon I will possess you.

Skuldar drops from his seat on the ledge and brings a black Druidic robe trimmed in gold to Gareth. As he helps Gareth put it on...

GARETH

You may be a wizard, Quinn Mallory, living outside the boundaries of space and time. But you still have the same flaw as the rest of your clan. Unable to resist the beauty of my beguiling apprentice.

Gareth raises his arms and starts an INCANTATION as he waves an ornate dagger over Quinn.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

GARETH

Black fires of a kindle within,
join elements of eternity above and
below...

He cuts a lock of hair and drops it in a goblet then ladles
out a brew from the cauldron into the goblet during...

GARETH

Release this spirit unto him and
for all eternity dwell within.

He drinks from the goblet. A beat, then Quinn's eyes close.
Gareth's body goes limp. Skuldar catches him and lays him
down. Another beat, then Gareth's spirit (CGI) exits his
body and enters Quinn's. Quinn's body rises to a sitting
position. He gets off the stone altar. His VOICE IS NOW
THAT OF GARETH.

QUINN/GARETH

At last I have achieved that which
for so long has eluded me.
Immortality.

And off the apprehensive look of Melinda we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. EMRYS PARK - DAY

CLOSE ON THE TIMER

lying face down on the ground. A HAND reaches into FRAME and lifts it.

WIDEN TO REVEAL ARTURO

holding the timer in the area of the park where Quinn fell. He eyes the timer, then looks around. Damn.

CUT TO:

EXT. MERLIN'S BOOKS - DAY

The door opens and Wade appears. Rembrandt's right behind her, awkwardly reaching over her to open the door.

REMBRANDT

Let me get that for you,
sweetheart.

WADE

I know how to open a door,
Rembrandt.

REMBRANDT

And no one does it more gracefully.
But why take a chance on breaking
one of your beautiful little nails?
(and then)
They're so cute I could just nibble
on them.

He takes her hand, she pulls it away.

WADE

Would you stop already?

She starts down the street, Rembrandt right alongside, smothering her.

WADE

How can they be allowed to sell a
book of spells if they don't know
how to break them?

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

REMBRANDT

(oblivious)
You know, I love how your hair
shines in the sun. I love the smell
of your perfume. I love...

WADE

I know, I know. Everything about
me.

(stops, turns to him)
You know what would be a really
good idea? If we gave each other
a little space.

Remmy notices a nearby florist cart. With the vendor's back
turned, Rembrandt snatches up a bouquet of flowers, which he
shoves into Wade's face.

REMBRANDT

(ad libbing a tune)
"My love for you is like a flower;
I'm the bud, you're the bee, take
all my power."

WADE

Will you put those back?!

She grabs them, hands them back to the vendor.

WADE

Sorry. My friend's a little nuts
today.

He jumps up on a sidewalk bus bench, addresses the
pedestrians walking past.

REMBRANDT

How many of you good folk think you
know what love is?

WADE

Rembrandt, please...

REMBRANDT

I used to think I knew what love
was. And then I met a woman named
Wade.

People start to gather. Wade would like to crawl under a
rock right now. Remmy launches into a speech with the
passion reminiscent of Martin Luther King's "I Have a
Dream."

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

REMBRANDT

I have known what's it's like to be lonely. I have known what it's like to be blue. I have known what its like to have no one. But now I have found...

(points at Wade)

...you.

A few of the people applaud and smile. Wade spots a police officer approaching.

WADE

Would you like to know what it's like to be in jail?

(pulling him down)

Get down!

(and then)

Rembrandt, listen to me. You're not in love with me, you're under a spell. We're just friends. Understand?

REMBRANDT

(beat, then)

Did you know your tongue peeks out between your front teeth when you say you're S's? That's so damn cute!

WADE

(sighs, then)

I've got to get you some serious help.

CUT TO:

EXT. GARETH'S ESTATE - DAY

A wary Arturo approaches the front door. He's about to knock when the door swings open revealing Melinda.

MELINDA

If you're looking for your master, he's not here.

ARTURO

(indignant)

Madam, to begin with, he is not my master. I am his Professor.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

MELINDA

(amazed)
You're a wizard too?

ARTURO

(annoyed)
A wizard?! Oh lord.
(quickly)
Of course I'm not a wizard. I'm a
scientist. I deal in facts,
reality, not outlandish fantasy.

MELINDA

Then how could you have taught the
Wizard Mallory?

ARTURO

(incredulous)
The Wizard Mallory? Quinn Mallory
is no more a wizard than this door
knocker.

MELINDA

(stunned)
I may be young, but I'm not a fool.
The Wizard Mallory came from out of
the sky.

ARTURO

We are interdimensional travelers.
Our work is rooted in the very
concrete laws of physics. I assure
you, Mister Mallory is as human as
you or I.

She eyes Arturo, concerned, unsure whether or not to believe
him.

ARTURO

Now I suspect he's been involved in
some kind of foul play and I
believe you know something about
it.

MELINDA

(evasive)
I'm sorry, but I left him in the
woods.

She starts to close the door. Arturo stops her, then
sensing her uncertainty, he softens.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

ARTURO

Melinda, Quinn was very concerned for your safety. When he learned that Gareth was your master he agonized over having given you to the police.

(and then)

He was willing to put himself in harms way to help you.

He searches her face a beat.

ARTURO

Please, if you know anything of his whereabouts...

Melinda hesitates. She's obviously conflicted. Finally...

MELINDA

You'd better come inside.

CUT TO:

INT. ALESHA'S OFFICE - DAY

CLOSE ON REMBRANDT

sitting in a chair. His eyes are open, but vacant.

ALESHA (O.S.)

Can you hear me, Rembrandt?

REMBRANDT

Yes.

WIDEN TO REVEAL ALESHA

as she kneels down next to the chair.

ALESHA

Good. Very good. Now just relax.

Wade appears over her shoulder.

WADE

I didn't think it would be possible to hypnotize someone who's already under a spell.

ALESHA

In my profession, we don't believe in spells and incantations.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

ALESHA (cont'd)
They're just myths, believed by the
uneducated and easily seduced.

WADE
(indicating Remmy)
I screwed up a love spell and my
friend is suddenly nuts about me.
That's a fact, Doctor. Not a myth.

ALESHA
What it is... is an excuse.
(and then)
It's clear to me your friend is
simply using this "spell" as a safe
way to express deep, latent
feelings about you that he's been
afraid to consciously speak before.

WADE
(considers, then)
No way.

ALESHA
His psyche has latched onto this
opportunity to give him an avenue,
the freedom, if you will... to
state his emotions without fear of
rejection.

She grabs a chair, moves it across from Remmy thru...

WADE
So... all these things he's been
saying are true? He's really in
love with me?

Alesha turns to Remmy.

ALESHA
Rembrandt, do you love Wade?

Rembrandt hesitates. Wade's on pins and needles.

REMBRANDT
I love her in a way most people
can't understand.

ALESHA
Tell me how you love Wade.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

REMBRANDT

I love her like the earth loves the sun. She brings me light when I'm feeling lost... warmth when I'm cold and afraid... and laughter when the rain has fallen for far too long.

ALESHA

Do you want to make love to her?

REMBRANDT

(beat, then)
No, it's not like that.
(and then)
I'm in love with Wade's soul. If God so blessed me, that's what I would want to touch.

Alesha turns to Wade, whose eyes are misting.

WADE

Oh, Rembrandt...

Alesha smiles, turns back to Remmy.

ALESHA

I'm going to wake you now. / You will not remember anything that has been said here. Is that clear?

REMBRANDT

Yes.

ALESHA

Awaken now.

A beat, then Remmy's eyes come into focus. He looks to Alesha, then Wade.

REMBRANDT

Wade... what are we doing here?

WADE

You remember that love spell I tried?

REMBRANDT

Yeah.

WADE

Well, it kind of backfired.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 3

1

REMBRANDT
(to Alesha; crestfallen)
So you and I don't have a
connection?

ALESHA
Oh, we have a connection. You owe
me eighty five dollars.

CUT TO:

INT. GARETH'S UNDERGROUND LAIR - DAY

Arturo stares at the inanimate body of Philip Mallory.

MELINDA
Gareth knew if he killed the last
of the Mallory lineage, he'd incur
the wrath of Mercury and risk
losing his power. So he keeps
Philip here in suspended animation.

ARTURO
And the Mallory's were trying to
stop Gareth from this ludicrous
quest for immortality?

MELINDA
It's not ludicrous. It's what made
Merlin immortal. He was conceived
by mortal mother from a demon
father.

ARTURO
Merlin? Of the legend of King
Arthur?

MELINDA
It's not legend. It's New British
history. Once my immortal child
was of age, Gareth planned to take
possession of its body. He's
obsessed with immortality.

Arturo eyes her. What is he to make of this lunacy.

MELINDA
You seem to have doubts.

ARTURO
Doubts? I can't believe I'm even
having this conversation.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

ARTURO (cont'd)
And you're saying that Gareth now
plans to take possession of Quinn
instead, to gain his immortality?

MELINDA
Not plans to. Has. But if, as you
say, Quinn is truly mortal... we
can exorcise Gareth from Quinn's
body. It's dangerous, but there is
no other alternative.

ARTURO
Good lord. When Shakespeare
said, "There are things in heaven
and earth not foreseen in you
philosophy..." little did he know.
(and then)
All right. What do we need to do?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LAKE - NIGHT

Arturo, now wearing a white ceremonial Druidic hood and
gown, uses a pike to guide a flat wooden raft carrying him
and Melinda, also in hood and gown, toward the shore.

MELINDA
It is considered an honor to be
chosen as an apprentice by a Druid.
So when I was sixteen, I pledged an
oath to Gareth to learn the ways of
the order.

ARTURO
But now you are his indentured
servant. And live in fear of him.

MELINDA
It's more complicated than that.
He has given me many of my powers.

ARTURO
What power could possibly be worth
the sacrifice of your freedom?

MELINDA
When I was young, I was caught in a
house fire. I escaped, but my face
was badly scarred. Gareth taught
me how to create the illusion of
beauty.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

The ferry reaches shore. Arturo turns to her, curious.

ARTURO
Are you telling me the face I'm
looking at isn't real?

MELINDA
It takes much of my inner power to
maintain this aura.

Arturo helps Melinda onto the shore.

ARTURO
If I may, nothing as superficial as
a pretty face is worth throwing
your life away.

MELINDA
Do you know what it's like to look
into a mirror and cringe? To be
afraid to go out in public? To
always hide your face when a man
looks at you. It is a far worse
prison to live in.

ARTURO
Melinda, that which is beautiful is
not always good, but that which is
good is always beautiful.

As she considers his words...

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODED GROVE - NIGHT - LATER

A half dozen Druids in white hooded robes encircle a wooden round table in a clearing lit by torches. Among them are Skuldar and Quinn. On the table lies the lifeless body of Gareth.

SKULDAR
Gentlemen, before you lies the body
of the mortal Gareth. The man you
chose to banish from the order for
using his powers to destroy those
who would destroy him.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

QUINN/GARETH
But it is only my body. Gareth
Carr now stands before the council
of Emrys as an immortal, sealed by
my possession of the Wizard
Mallory.

The Druids exchange a surprised look.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Behind a stand of shrubs, an astonished Arturo crouches low
next to Melinda, who holds a crescent shaped wooden wand
with two small bells hanging from it. They watch as
Gareth's voice comes out of Quinn's body.

MELINDA
Are you certain you can do this?

ARTURO
My friend is essentially dead. If
this is the only way to resurrect
him, what choice have I?

MELINDA
Remember. Your aim must be true or
the spirit will not leave the body.

As Gareth continues to address the council we follow Arturo
as he rises and makes his way toward the meeting.

QUINN/GARETH
Now my powers are far greater than
any of you alone or together. And
so I reclaim my rightful position
to rule Emrys and all New Briton.

Arturo hurries up behind Quinn.

ARTURO
(to council)
This man is not immortal!

An angry Quinn/Gareth wheels around to see Arturo.

ARTURO
Quinn, forgive me for what I am
about to do.

Arturo reveals a DAGGER and PLUNGES IT INTO Quinn/Gareth's
stomach. As the stunned Druids watch, Quinn/Gareth's eyes
widen in shock as his blood flows, staining his robe.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

As he staggers we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. WOODED GROVE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Arturo stands over the mortally wounded Quinn, who writhes in agony on the ground. The Druidic council stands in a circle around them.

ARTURO
(to the council)
He bleeds like any ordinary man.

QUINN/GARETH
(gasping)
Skuldar...

SKULDAR
Master, you must abdicate the body
before the heart stops!

Quinn/Gareth falls prone on the ground. A beat, then Gareth's spirit (CGI) exits Quinn's body and re-enters his own that lies on the table. Suddenly, Gareth rises from the table as Arturo kneels over Quinn.

QUINN
(breathless)
Professor... help me.

ARTURO
Melinda!

As Melinda rushes from the shadows...

GARETH
(furious)
Of course! It could have only been
you!

CHIEF DRUID
Gareth. Leave this grove at once.
No vengeful act will take place
here.

Gareth eyes them... realizes that together they are more powerful than he. Melinda kneels at Quinn's side and holds the wooden crescent shaped wand out over him.

GARETH
(to Melinda)
Your destiny lies in the claws of
the dragon.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

As Gareth and Skuldar slip off into the darkness...

MELINDA

In the name of Godvyd, fill this being with the light. Lochtufura, Danalora, Nuatha Dannu, tuatha, tuatha.

A beat as Arturo and the others watch anxiously.

MELINDA

(more urgent)
I invoke the name of Godvyd and Naw. Heal this being.

Another beat, then she turns fearful to Arturo.

MELINDA

He's not healing.

ARTURO

You assured me this would work!

MELINDA

I don't understand. I did it countless times as a child. It's what made Gareth claim me.

ARTURO

(desperate, to council)
Gentlemen, surely with your combined powers you must be able to heal this man!

CHIEF DRUID

Only Melinda possesses the secret of spontaneous healing.

ARTURO

(urgently)
Melinda. You told me it takes a great deal of your inner strength to sustain your illusion of beauty. Perhaps, if you release the spell, it will strengthen your powers to heal.

Melinda looks up at Arturo. The implication of what he's suggesting is almost too much to bear.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

MELINDA

(passionate)
If I release the spell, Gareth will see to it that I can never cast it again.

ARTURO

You've allowed yourself to become a prisoner of your own vanity. To a veritable Satan. What reward is there in that?

A beat as she considers his words. She's unsure.

ARTURO

Melinda, physical beauty can never heal. But the beauty from within can.

Finally, she turns and looks down at Quinn. As she holds the wand out over him the right side of her FACE SLOWLY SHIFTS INTO A SEVERE BURN SCAR (CGI).

MELINDA

In the name of Godvyd, fill this being with the light to heal his wound. Lochtufura, Danalora, Nuatha Dannu, tuatha, tuatha.

Finally, Quinn's eyes flutter open. He looks up at them.

QUINN

Professor...

ARTURO

How are you feeling, my boy?

QUINN

(a wan smile)
For someone who just got stabbed... not bad.

(to Melinda)
Thank you.

Arturo and Melinda breathe a sigh of relief.

CUT TO:

INT. DRAGON'S BREATH BAR - NIGHT

Wade sits alone at the bar near the caged falcon, nursing a beer, deep in thought. A beat, then Remmy enters, sits next to her.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

WADE

Where have you been?

REMBRANDT

Well, since you wouldn't tell me what happened today, I went back to see Alesha... excuse me... Doctor Lujan. She is definitely not the girl I knew on our world.

WADE

And?

REMBRANDT

And she told me what you wouldn't. I feel really weird about this.

WADE

Don't. You weren't yourself.

REMBRANDT

Alesha thinks I was. And now that I know what was said... so do I.

He takes Wade's hand.

REMBRANDT

Look. Spell, hypnosis, whatever... fact is, I do feel something special for you.

(then)

Maybe it's because we're the only two normal people on this journey. Q-Ball and the Professor... well, they're eggheads, having a grand time Sliding around the universe. And I'm not saying it isn't an adventure...

WADE

But.

REMBRANDT

But mostly, I just want to be back home... enjoying life with people I love.

Wade nods. Knows exactly what he means.

REMBRANDT

Being with you, well... at least I get part of my wish.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 2

1

Wade smiles, then leans across to him and they hug as only the best of friends can do. They break as Arturo rushes in.

ARTURO
Thank God I've found you two! Come
on, we're leaving!

As they get off their bar stools...

REMBRANDT
What's the rush?

ARTURO
You wouldn't believe me if I told
you.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRAGON'S BREATH INN - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Quinn rests against a lamp pole. Melinda, her face showing the burn scar, stands next to him.

MELINDA
How are you doing?

QUINN
Better. Gareth was a tough tenant.

The Inn's doors open and the other Sliders appear.

WADE
(on seeing Melinda)
What's going on?

QUINN
Melinda's life is in danger. She's
going to slide with us.

Before anyone can respond, they react to the SOUND of a soft WHOOSH growing closer.

MELINDA
(knows what it is)
No... oh no!

SPECIAL AERIAL SHOT - THE DRAGON'S POV

Five heads turn upwards towards the sound. As the CAMERA ZEROS IN ON THEM, their horrified reactions escalate. The CAMERA ZOOMS EXTREMELY CLOSE ON MELINDA.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

ANOTHER ANGLE

The astonished Sliders duck as two DRAGON CLAWS drop into frame and snatch Melinda by her shoulders, pulling her away into the night sky. Her cries of terror fade as she disappears.

WADE

Oh my God...

REMBRANDT

What the hell was that?!

QUINN

(to Arturo)
There's only one place it can be taking her.

ARTURO

No. You'd be doing exactly what Gareth wants.

QUINN

Melinda's the only way he can become immortal now, and I can't let him do that to her.

A beat, then Arturo turns and heads back into the Inn.

QUINN

Where are you going?

ARTURO

To get the falcon. We're going to need all the help we can get.

Off Remmy and Wade's puzzled look...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GARETH'S ESTATE - NIGHT - RE-ESTABLISHING

INT. GARETH'S LAIR - NIGHT

A worried Melinda sits in a stone chair guarded by Skuldar.

SKULDAR

So now you've lost your pretty face and all for nothing.

MELINDA

Not for nothing. I saved a good man's life.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Sliders rush into the Lair, led by Quinn. Rembrandt's last in, holding the caged falcon.

QUINN

Melinda.

SKULDAR

(to Melinda)
Your 'good' man seems to have a death wish.

Suddenly a BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT. When it's gone, Skuldar has changed into a HAWK. The Hawk takes off toward the Sliders.

CLOSE ON SLIDERS

They shield their faces as the Hawk swoops down on them.

ARTURO

Mister Brown. The falcon!

Rembrandt opens the cage and the Falcon flies out.

WIDER ANGLE

The Hawk flies out of the lair. The falcon flies out behind it.

REMBRANDT

Well, how do you like that?

ARTURO

Falcons are the Hawk's natural predator.

WADE

Quinn. We slide in just a few minutes.

Quinn moves to Melinda...

QUINN

Come on. We're taking you with us.

The now familiar WHOOSH of WINGS and a LOUD ROAR from behind makes the Sliders turn.

ANOTHER ANGLE REVEALS

The DRAGON. Standing in the entrance of the lair. It raises its head and spreads its wings.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: 4

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PHILIP MALLORY

stepping out of the quartz tomb. Melinda rushes toward him. They embrace, then Melinda pulls back. She turns the burned side of her face away from him.

He gently turns her face back to him.

MELINDA

No. Please, I don't want you to see...

PHILIP

Are you going to deny me the chance to look upon your radiant beauty?

She faces him fully. His love for her is more powerful than any physical flaw. As they kiss...

ON SLIDERS

Arturo notices Quinn staring forlornly at the lovers.

ARTURO

To love and win is the best thing.
To love and lose... the next best.

Quinn looks at Arturo. Knows he's right.

WADE

(holding timer)
Okay guys. It's time.

Wade activates the VORTEX. Quinn gives one last look at Melinda, then turns and jumps. Arturo follows. Then Wade takes Rembrandt's hand.

WADE

Shall we?

They share a warm smile, then jump together. The CAMERA PANS to

GARETH'S BODY

A beat, then the corpse slowly dissolves into a SWIRL OF WHITE GAS. As if with a mind of its own, it FLOATS UP and into the vortex just before it closes and we...

FADE OUT.

THE END