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"DRAGONSLIDE"

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&

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REVISED PAGES

1st Pink Revs. Full script

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#K1816

SLIDERS

"DragonSlide"

SETS

INTERIORS:

GARETH'S CHAMBER / UNDERGROUND LAIR
DRAGON'S BREATH INN
 LOBBY
 LIVINGROOM
 BAR
ALESHA'S OFFICE

EXTERIORS:

WOODS
WOODED GROVE
CITY OF EMRYS
 ESTABLISHING (X)
 STREET
 STREET OUTSIDE DRAGON'S BREATH INN
 PARK
DRAGON'S BREATH INN
GARETH'S ESTATE
MERLIN'S PARCHMENTS (X)

3 CONTINUED:

3

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 in the middle ages.

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

They're an earth religion. Kind of like the Native Americans. They worship nature, and they believe in magic and mystical powers.

(X)

(X)

(X)

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.

(and then)

In fact I read somewhere that according to legend Druids are the ones who forged Excalibur.

(X)

(X)

(X)

(X)

ARTURO

(eying the road)

I think we're in luck. This looks like the authorities.

(X)

(X)

(X)

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: 3

3

MELINDA
(to Sliders)
Please! Don't let them take me
back there!

(X)

QUINN
Wait a minute!

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

O'HARA
I said we'll take care of her.
This matter doesn't concern you
any more.

(X)
(X)
(X)

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:

3A EXT. CITY OF EMRYS - DAY - ESTABLISHING (CGI MATTE)

3A(X)

4 EXT. EMRYS STREET - DAY - LATER

4

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.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

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.

WADE

What?

REMBRANDT

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

She smiles as we...

CUT TO:

4A EXT. DRAGON BREATH'S INN - DAY - MINUTES LATER

4A(X)

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, ^{oh} ~~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.

(CONTINUED)

4A CONTINUED: 2

4A

REMBRANDT

(annoyed)

What it's always all about.

(X)

Meeting people we care for who
don't even know who we are.

(X)

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

CUT TO:

5 EXT. GARETH'S ESTATE - DAY

5

The police car pulls up and parks near a stone castle-like
building. 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 her hand over her eyes.

(X)

HER POV

(X)

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.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: 2

7

CLOSE ON GARETH

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

ON KELLEY

Her face contorts as Gareth's power consumes him. Her body goes rigid, then SHATTERS into a million pieces (CGI). And off Melinda's horrified expression...

(X)

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

8 EXT. PARK - DAY

8

Quinn and Arturo make their way along a road. The Professor's deep in thought. After a beat...

QUINN

You've been awfully quiet.

ARTURO

I've been thinking about that illusion we witnessed in the woods. We've all seen magicians make birds appear from thin air. And the blinding light could have been any kind of mirror reflection...

QUINN

Who was it that said, "There are things in heaven and earth not dreamt of in your philosophy..?"

ARTURO

Shakespeare. I'm impressed.

QUINN

Yeah, well yours wasn't the only class I took in college. I know it's scientific heresy professor, but I'm starting to think Shakespeare knew what he was talking about.

They approach a grassy area. Heavy shadows fall across the grounds. Arturo and Quinn make their way to a stand of trees.

ARTURO

(dubious)

Did he say exactly which tree to meet him at?

QUINN

(calling out)

Mister Nuinn?

SEAN (O.S)

Don't say my name.

The Sliders stop before a large tree where they can barely make out a piece of SEAN NUINN'S silhouette standing behind it.

(CONTINUED)

11A CONTINUED: 2

11A

QUINN

Melinda... help me...

Quinn falls hard to the ground, landing on his back, jarring the timer loose from his pocket. His eyes are open, he's conscious, but totally immobilized. (X)
(X)

He looks up at Melinda, flinches when she's suddenly ENGULFED IN A BURST OF WHITE LIGHT. The light dissipates. She's gone. He struggles to reach his arm out for the timer when... (X)
(X)

We HEAR a SOFT WHOOSH, then a SHADOW crosses over Quinn. He's suddenly yanked away, out of frame, leaving the timer behind. (X)
(X)
(X)

CUT TO:

12 EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE PARK - DAY - SIMULTANEOUS

12

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?

A SHADOW 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. (X)

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:

13 INT. GARETH'S LAIR - DAY

13

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.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED: 2

16

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 harm's 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:

17 INT. ^{Hotel} ALESHA'S OFFICE - DAY

17

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)

17 CONTINUED: 2

17

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 wish to make love to her?

(X)

REMBRANDT

(beat, then)
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. The "spell" will be broken and 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?} ~~are we doing here?~~ going on?

WADE

You remember that love spell I tried?

REMBRANDT

Yeah.

WADE

Well, it kind of backfired.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: 3

17

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

ALESHA
Oh, we have a connection. You owe *House*
me eighty-five dollars. *Call.*
PLUS THE

CUT TO:

18 INT. GARETH'S LAIR - DAY

18

Arturo stares at the inanimate body of Philip Mallory.
Melinda touches the sword hanging on the wall.

(X)

MELINDA
Only this sword can defeat my
master. It was forged under the
guidance of Merlin. But only a
Mallory can wield it.

(X)
(X)
(X)
(X)
(X)

ARTURO
And Philip tried to stop Gareth
from harming you.
(she nods)
All because of this ludicrous
quest for immortality.

(X)
(X)
(X)
(X)

MELINDA
Ludicrous? It's what made Merlin
immortal. He was conceived by a
mortal mother from a demon father.

(X)

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.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

WADE
Where have you been?

REMBRANDT
Well, since you wouldn't tell me
what happened today, I went ~~back~~ ^{Office} to
~~see~~ Alesha?.. excuse me... Doctor
Avo. She is definitely not the
girl I knew on our world.

(X)

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)

23 CONTINUED:

23

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

(X)

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.

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
Impregnating Melinda is the only way he can become immortal now. 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:

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

24

25 CONTINUED:

25

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. As the Sliders rush behind the stone altar for protection...

REMBRANDT

Tell me I'm dreaming.

QUINN

I wish I could.

WADE

Got some scientific explanation, Professor?

The Dragon lets loose a BOLT OF FLAMES that strike the altar as the Sliders duck.

REMBRANDT

That thing's gonna barbecue us.

MELINDA

You must get the sword!

As Rembrandt darts from behind the altar to the wall where the sword hangs.

MELINDA

No. Only a Mallory can wield it.

Remy tries taking it off the wall, but he can't budge it. Another BOLT of FLAMES toward Remy, who dives back to the altar.

REMBRANDT

(to Melinda)

I wish you would have said that before I ran out there.

QUINN

Professor, we've got to distract it somehow.

ARTURO

What would you suggest Mister Mallory? Throw a rock at it?

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: 2

25

Quinn just looks at him... yeah. Arturo mutters as he darts out the other side of the altar to the wall. He picks up a rock and hurls it at the Dragon. The Dragon turns toward Arturo with a ROAR and

QUINN

uses the moment to rush for the sword. He easily lifts it off the wall.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Dragon turns back to Quinn.

(X)

WADE

Quinn, look out!

(X)

Another BOLT of FLAME. Quinn holds the sword in front of him, deftly deflecting it (CGI). The Dragon starts toward Quinn.

(X)

REMBRANDT

The only way to slay it is to pierce its heart!

(X)

(X)

(X)

QUINN

(facetious)

Sure. No problem.

The Dragon comes closer. Another BOLT OF FLAME. Quinn wields the sword again to deflect it (CGI).

MELINDA

Believe in yourself! The sword will fly true for a Mallory.

Quinn rears back and heaves the sword at the Dragon. It flies end over end toward its chest. As it draws close to its target the Dragon straightens up, beating its wings just as

THE SWORD

finds its mark, the blade burying itself up to the hilt in the Dragon's chest.

RESUME SCENE

The Sliders and Melinda watch in awe as the life ebbs from the huge beast. It slowly falls over onto its side, then starts to MORPH into Gareth. The astonished Sliders approach. As they look down at Gareth...

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: 3

25

GARETH

(to Quinn)
Don't think you've won.

The Sliders react as Gareth takes his last breath and dies.

ARTURO

Miss Welles. I believe for once...
I have no explanation.

A CRACKING SOUND draws their attention...

MELINDA

Ohmigod. Philip!

The Sliders turn to see

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)
It's time.

(X)

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

(CONTINUED)