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"THE BREEDER"

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1st Blue Revs.	13,17,17A,18,21,21A,22,24,25,33,33A,37,42,45
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#K1823

SLIDERS

"THE BREEDER"

CAST

QUINN MALLORY
WADE WELLES
REMBRANDT BROWN
MAGGIE BECKETT

PARAMEDIC
DR. NATALIE SYLVIUS
D SQUAD CAPTAIN
D SQUAD OFFICER
MARK
ELSTIN DIGGS
SECURITY GUARD
TAMI
ROGER
BUREAUCRAT
ORDERLY

(X)

#K1823

SLIDERS

"THE BREEDER"

SETS

INTERIORS:

WORMHOLE
HOSPITAL
 WARD
 CRYOGENICS LAB
 CRYO UNIT
 NURSES STATION
 CORRIDOR
 CATWALK
HOTEL ROOM
 CORRIDOR
BAR
HEALTH CLUB
 FRONT DESK
 LADIES LOCKER ROOM
 MAIN WORKOUT ROOM
 CORRIDOR
 ANOTHER CORRIDOR
 STEAM ROOM

EXTERIORS:

SWAMP WORLD
PARK
STREET
SIDE STREET
BAR PARKING LOT
CONDO COMPLEX
HEALTH CLUB

#K1823

CHRONOLOGY PAGE

SCENES	1 - 11B	DAY #1
SCENES	12 - 22	NIGHT #1
SCENES	23 - 52	DAY #2

SLIDERS

"The Breeder"

TEASER

FADE IN

1 EXT. SWAMP WORLD - DAY (D1)

1

In oppressive fog, the Sliders stand knee deep in murky fog, grabbing at GELATINOUS CRAB-LIKE CREATURES that fall on them from the heavy overgrowth that surrounds them and tossing them away. Quinn has the TIMER in one hand.

(X)
(X)
(X)

REMBRANDT

Damn! These things are everywhere!

WADE

I can't keep this up much longer!

MAGGIE

How much time!?

MAGGIE

grabs one on her knee and pulls it off.

(X)

QUINN

TEN MORE SECONDS!

She tosses it into the fog, but it quickly leaps back and attaches itself to the FRONT OF HER FACE. She lets out a MUFFLED SCREAM. She struggles with it, can't get it off. Quinn grabs it, yanks it off and hurls it away. Then he OPENS THE VORTEX (CGI). Maggie's COUGHING, GAGGING. Struggling to get something out of her throat. Rembrandt grabs Wade's hand and they leap.

(X)
(X)
(X)

QUINN

(to Maggie)
You okay?!

Maggie nods, although it doesn't look it.

QUINN

Come on!

He leads her into the vortex.

2 INT. WORMHOLE - (STOCK)

2

3 EXT. PARK - DAY

3

The Sliders VIOLENTLY tumble out of the off-screen vortex, falling prone onto the ground. Quinn, Remmy and Wade land near each other. Maggie's a slight distance away. They slowly get to their feet. Except for Maggie. The others don't notice at first.

REMBRANDT

That gets my vote as the all time worst world.

WADE

Thank God we only had five minutes on it.

QUINN

I'm wiping that world's coordinates off the timer right now.

WADE

Where's Maggie?

She turns to see Maggie lying motionless, face down on the ground a short distance away.

WADE

Quinn.

He turns. They rush to her. Turn over her lifeless body.

QUINN

Maggie!

No response. Camera goes close on her face, bringing into focus green foam oozing out of her mouth.

WADE

Oh my God.

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN

4 EXT. PARK - DAY - MINUTES LATER

4`

Wade and Rembrandt kneel near Maggie's unconscious body. The foam from her mouth still evident. Quinn hurries up followed by two PARAMEDICS. They're dressed in YELLOW SLICKERS and wear YELLOW OVERSIZED RUBBER GLOVES. One Paramedic carries something that looks like a large BLUE Co2 TANK.

PARAMEDIC

(to Wade and Remmy)

Step back, folks.

As they do he activates the tank. A burst of bluish-white vapor envelops Maggie.

QUINN

(alarmed)

What are you doing?

PARAMEDIC

(isn't it obvious?)

Shutting down her system.

He shuts off the spray. The Sliders exchange a surprised look as the paramedics lift Maggie's stiffened body and lay it on a gurney. Rembrandt touches Maggie's arm.

REMBRANDT

(to Quinn; concerned)

She's ice cold.

PARAMEDIC

(duh)

That's what happens when you're cryonically suspended. She'll thaw out just fine after they make a diagnosis.

The Sliders watch as they roll the gurney toward the navy blue ambulance.

WADE

It must be the way they stop further damage until they get to the hospital.

5 INT. HOSPITAL WARD - DAY - LATER

5

Outside the cubicle, medical personnel move about their rounds as Remmy, Quinn and Wade follow DOCTOR NATALIE SYLVIUS, early 30's, beautiful, her lab coat hanging open revealing a halter top and mini skirt. She carries a medical file that she reads as she walks.

QUINN

Is she going to be all right?

DR. SYLVIUS

I don't know. But her vital signs are strong. Has she eaten anything unusual recently?

The Sliders exchange a glance. Should they tell her the whole story?

QUINN

Well.... she may have swallowed something in a bog we were in.

(X)

(X)

DR. SYLVIUS

Bog? What bog?

(X)

WADE

Uh... out in the country.

DR. SYLVIUS

When did this happen?

REMBRANDT

A few hours ago.

(to Quinn and Wade)

Although it seems like a world away.

Sylvius eyes them a beat, unsure, then...

DR. SYLVIUS

I'd like to show you something.

6 INT. CRYO UNIT - DAY

6

A glass cubicle sits in the center of a large, high-tech room. Inside the cubicle, Maggie lies on a stainless steel table, her eyes closed. CAMERA PANS AWAY TO REVEAL...

THE SLIDERS

...watching her from behind a plate glass window in...

7 INT. CRYOGENICS LAB - DAY

7

...where several computers monitor Maggie's condition as she thaws. Wade glances at a nearby digital thermometer.

WADE

Another three degrees and her body temperature will be back to normal.

REMBRANDT

You know much about this stuff, Q-Ball?

QUINN

Not nearly enough. Our world has barely scratched the surface of cryogenics.

Dr. Sylvius appears behind them, crossing to a far wall carrying an X-ray sheet.

DR. SYLVIUS

Over here.

The Sliders leave the window, follow Sylvius thru...

DR. SYLVIUS

We did a CAT scan and took some X-rays. Everything turned up normal except for something we can't identify in her stomach.

She hangs the X-ray up against a fluorescent X-ray light on the wall. She uses a pointer to locate a dark spot, the size of a walnut, in the stomach.

DR. SYLVIUS

As you can see her stomach's empty, except for this solid object, right here.

8 INT. CRYO UNIT - DAY - SAME TIME

8

As the Sliders confer with Sylvius, Maggie's eyes flicker open. Her upper body starts to gently undulate rhythmically. Fear crosses her face. Clearly, she is not in control of the body movement. A beat, then her EYES FLASH TO MULTI-FACETED FLY-LIKE ORBS. Whatever she's fighting has taken over. She slowly starts to rise.

9 INT. CRYOGENICS LAB - DAY - SAME TIME

9

The Sliders and Sylvius still in conversation.

CONTINUED

9 CONTINUED

9

DR. SYLVIUS
If this object was ordinary food,
it would have been digested by
now.

(X)

The Sliders exchange a look, then...

(X)

DR. SYLVIUS
(considers, then)
Let me show you this other X-ray.

Sylvius takes one X-ray down and puts another up, unaware
that behind her, Maggie is stepping out of the glass
cubicle.

10 INT. CRYO UNIT - DAY - SAME TIME

10

Maggie eyes the other Sliders and Sylvius through the glass,
their backs to her. Her face CONTORTS, then returns to
normal. (CGI)

11 INT. CRYOGENICS LAB - DAY - SAME TIME

11

Sylvius points to a second X-ray, which shows a much larger
spot, the size of an apple, in Maggie's stomach.

DR. SYLVIUS
This X-ray was taken only five
minutes after the first. As you
can see, the object doubled in size
during that time.

REMBRANDT
(almost a whisper)
What the hell could grow that fast?

DR. SYLVIUS
Frankly... nothing I've ever seen.

Wade turns to glance back at Maggie.

11A HER POV - THROUGH THE GLASS

11A(X)

Maggie's gone.

11B RESUME SCENE

11B(X)

WADE

Quinn!

They turn. See the empty chamber. Rush to the window.

REVERSE POV

From inside the Cryo Unit we see the Sliders peer into the empty room. As they react, confused...

CAMERA PANS UP

to reveal a bent steel air conditioning grate hanging from the ceiling.

DISSOLVE TO

12 EXT. STREET - NIGHT - LATER (N1)

12

CAMERA DOLLIES down the dark, deserted alley. The only SOUND we HEAR is retching. Camera settles. Finds Maggie doubled over against a dumpster retching GREEN SLIME.

QUINN (O.S)

Maggie!

Maggie hears it. Slowly straightens up. Uses all she has to call out.

MAGGIE

Quinn!

QUINN (O.S.)

(closer)
Maggie!?

Quinn appears at the mouth of the alley. Spots her.

QUINN

Wade! Remmy! I found her!

He hurries into the alley.

QUINN

Maggie! What are you doing here?

MAGGIE

I don't know.

Wade and Remmy rush up. Maggie leans back against the wall. Remmy eyes the slime on the ground.

CONTINUED

12 CONTINUED

12

REMBRANDT

You gotta get back to the hospital.

MAGGIE

What hospital?

They exchange a look of concern.

QUINN

C'mon.

He starts to lead her out.

CUT TO

CLOSE ON

an arm reaching for a cup of coffee. On the back of its wrist is implanted a silver disc. Widen to reveal we're...

13 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

13

It looks like La Reina Center in Sherman Oaks. A coffee house, sidewalk restaurant, record store, etc. Hangout for the 20's crowd, many of whom sit at the sidewalk restaurant tables.

A black, unmarked MINI-VAN approaches, prowling the street. Some in the crowd notice. They get up, move away, trying to be inconspicuous. The van stops. The driver's window lowers. A hand emerges holding a high-tech scanning device aimed at the sidewalk.

Half a dozen young people notice the IMPLANT PLATE on their wrists START TO BEEP. Panic. They start to scatter. Four MEN in jeans and black T-shirts (D Squad) jump from the van and race across the street in pursuit.

ANOTHER ANGLE - CONTINUOUS

The Sliders make their way out of the alley. Up ahead they spot two D SQUAD men struggling with a young woman, her wrist plate BEEPING as she yells for help.

QUINN

Hey!

Quinn, Remmy and Wade rush to help the girl. The weakened Maggie hangs back. The two men drag the girl toward the van when Quinn and Remmy grab them.

QUINN

Let her go!

CONTINUED

13 CONTINUED

13

In the struggle, Wade goes to the girl's aide just as the two other D Squad men appear.

Three of them slam Quinn and Remmy against a parked car, spreadeagled, arms up on the roof. The fourth man grabs Wade and the girl.

D SQUAD CAPTAIN
What the hell do you think you're doing?

REMBRANDT
What the hell do you think you're doing?

The man pinning Quinn yanks a wallet out and flashes a badge.

D SQUAD CAPTAIN
D Squad.
(eyes Quinn's wrist)
Where's your donor tag?

(X)

Quinn has no idea what he's talking about. The guy holding Wade pulls her over to the D Squad Captain and shows him Wade's wrist.

(X)

(X)

(X)

D SQUAD CAPTAIN
You don't have one either?
(to D-Squad officer)
Get 'em in the van.

(X)

WADE
Where are you taking us!?

QUINN
We were trying to help her!

REMBRANDT
Hey, wait a minute.

As the three men lead Quinn and Wade to the mini-van, the D Squad Captain grabs Remmy.

D SQUAD CAPTAIN
Don't push your luck. You may be over twenty-five, but I could still take you in for obstruction.

(X)

Remmy stops. Can only watch as Quinn and Wade are put into the van with the frightened young girl.

ANGLE ON MAGGIE

CONTINUED

13 CONTINUED 2

13

Behind them, unseen by the others, her torso starts to undulate rhythmically again. Her eyes flash to the FLY-LIKE ORBS again, then return to normal and the undulating stops.

RESUME

As the van pulls away, Maggie comes up alongside Remmy, holding her arms around herself. She's cold.

MAGGIE
Where are they taking them?

REMBRANDT
I don't know.
(noticing her shivering)
We better get you back to the hospital.

MAGGIE
I'm fine.

REMBRANDT
You're shivering, girl.

MAGGIE
(a flash of anger)
I said I'm fine! I just need to get to someplace warm.

14 INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT - LATER

14

Remmy's on the phone. It's hot in here. His forehead shows beads of perspiration. He undoes another button on his shirt as he talks into the phone.

REMBRANDT
All they said was they were "D Squad." Then they took them away.
(annoyed)
Yes, I'll hold.

Maggie comes out of the bathroom in a robe, having just showered. She looks perfectly healthy now.

REMBRANDT
Man, it is hot in here.

He crosses to a thermostat on the wall.

MAGGIE
It feels great.

CONTINUED

14 CONTINUED

14

REMBRANDT

(eyes thermostat)

No wonder. The heat's set at
ninety.

He adjusts the thermostat. He turns his attention back to
the phone.

REMBRANDT

Yeah, I'm here.

(surprised)

What?

(beat)

I see. Yeah. Where would that be
in the complex?

(X)
(X)

He grabs a pencil and scribbles some information on a pad,
not seeing Maggie behind him pushing the thermostat back up.

REMBRANDT

Thank you.

He hangs up. Looks at Maggie, concerned.

REMBRANDT

They got some kind of mandatory
organ donor program on this world.
Everybody between the ages of
eighteen and twenty-five gets a
wrist implant with their medical
profile.

(X)

He grabs his jacket and starts for the door...

MAGGIE

Where are you going?

REMBRANDT

They're going to implant Wade and
Quinn.

He starts for the door. She stops him.

MAGGIE

Wait.

SYMBIONT POV

All the colors in the room and on Remmy's clothes are
extremely intense giving it a surreal look.

RESUME

CONTINUED

14 CONTINUED 2

14

Maggie approaches, a look of lust and determination on her face. She's standing very close to him.

MAGGIE
Don't go yet. (X)

REMBRANDT
(confused) (X)
Why not? (X)

She puts her hand inside his shirt on his chest.

REMBRANDT
What are you doing?

MAGGIE
I like you.

He's clearly uncomfortable with the obvious come on. She slips her arms around his waist. He removes them.

REMBRANDT
Maggie. Look, I think this is a little inappropriate, especially when our friends are in trouble. (X)

MAGGIE
(seductively)
I want you.

REMBRANDT
Hey. What's gotten into you? (X)

She advances on him. Her demeanor changes from seductive to intense.

MAGGIE
(seething)
I need babies.

REMBRANDT
(astonished)
What? What are you talkin' about?

He's against the wall. She grabs him and pulls him to her. He struggles to break her grasp, but she suddenly seems much stronger.

REMBRANDT
Cut it out!

She grabs his head and pulls it to her, forcing her mouth on his. He struggles to break away, finally managing to turn her face from his.

CONTINUED

14 CONTINUED 3

14

REMBRANDT

What the hell's wrong with you?

He shoves her, breaking her grasp. She has him cornered near a window. Her eyes FLASH TO FLY-LIKE ORBS (CGI) then quickly return to normal.

REMBRANDT

(threatening)

What the hell? Keep away from me.

She takes a step toward him. Opens her mouth revealing the head of the symbiont. A slimy, hideous alien creature. She lunges at him. Rembrandt freaks. Lets out a primal scream as he grabs her and hurls her past him, her momentum sending her CRASHING through the window. As she falls from sight, Remmy stands staring, chest heaving, trying to make sense of what just happened. After a beat, he cautiously moves to the window. Looks out.

(X)
(X)

HIS POV

Maggie's attached to the side of the building like Spiderman. She looks up at him, then jumps off the building to the sidewalk, fifteen feet below. As she runs out of sight...

RESUME REMMY

Hold on his astonishment and we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

15 EXT. SIDE STREET - NIGHT

15

Maggie, still in her robe, huddles near the corner of a building, standing over a street vent, warming herself with the white steam that billows up from the sidewalk. She leans out around the corner of the building and watches young couples and singles enter and exit a happening bar.

16 INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

16

A surreal, modern, stainless steel, high-tech room, lined with two rows of half a dozen beds. Mounted at either end are 35" TV monitors. Strapped down in ten of the beds are eighteen-year-old boys and girls. Strapped in the other two, next to each other, are Quinn and Wade. Quinn's just coming out from under his anesthetic. He looks to Wade who's already awake and staring at the ceiling.

QUINN

Hey. You okay?

She holds up her arm, revealing the silver disc implanted on the top side of her wrist.

WADE

I'd feel better if I knew what this was.

Quinn checks his own wrist. Same silver disc.

The TV monitors come on automatically and the face of a Bureaucrat fills the screen. He talks to the camera.

BUREAUCRAT

Congratulations. You have just been inducted into the organ donor program. The disc implanted in your wrist carries your complete medical profile. As you know, between the ages of eighteen and twenty five, your organs are in peak physical condition.

As he continues, we see medical assistants enter and begin unstrapping the people in their beds.

(X)

CONTINUED

16 CONTINUED

16

BUREAUCRAT

If you are called to help save the life of a valuable American, your body will be cryogenically frozen to preserve the rest of your organs until such time as they're needed.

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

ANGLE ON QUINN AND WADE

as they're unstrapped. Wade eyes her silver disc.

BUREAUCRAT (O.S)

Please know that your government and fellow citizens thank you.

(X)
(X)

WADE

(astonished)
Quinn... this is barbaric.

QUINN

And we thought the military draft was bad on our world.

The parents of the donors have now entered and approach their children, helping them out of the beds. Remy appears and rushes up to Quinn and Wade.

REMBRANDT

(anxious)
Hey, thank God I found you. We got a big problem.

QUINN

(re: disc)
I know. Let's hope we can get them off on the next world.

(X)
(X)

REMBRANDT

We got another problem. Maggie.

(X)

WADE

(realizing)
That thing in her stomach.

REMBRANDT

It's more than just a thing.

(X)

17 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

17

Maggie, still in the bathrobe, walks along a sidewalk. Some people eye her with mild curiosity, but it's L.A. and hardly the weirdest sight to be seen.

CONTINUED

17 CONTINUED

17

She stops in front of a woman's clothing store. On the sidewalk in front of the store are several mannequins. She approaches one wearing a silver lame mini-skirt.

18 INT. HOSPITAL NURSES STATION - NIGHT

18

Quinn, Remmy and Wade are leaning against a counter. Dr. Sylvius drops an open file folder onto the counter. Her mood is excited.

(X)
(X)

DR. SYLVIUS

(re: file)

Her blood tests revealed several extreme abnormalities so I had the DNA lab run some tests. The results are astonishing. That object in her stomach we couldn't identify at first seems to be some kind of egg. And it's rapidly replicating.

(X)
(X)
(X)

QUINN

How rapidly?

DR. SYLVIUS

About nine times that of normal cell multiplication. It also seems to be imitating aspects of the DNA of its host.

WADE

Are you saying it's cloning her?

REMBRANDT

That can't be right. What I saw in her mouth was some kind of ...creature.

DR. SYLVIUS

Look, right now all we know is we're dealing with some kind of symbiont. And it could be very valuable.

REMBRANDT

Valuable? Trust me, you don't want to be around this thing.

CONTINUED

18 CONTINUED

18

DR. SYLVIUS

I'm not so sure. If we can harness it and learn how it replicates the DNA of its host, it's possible we could generate replacement organs. And put an end to our mandatory organ donor program.

WADE

How do we get this thing out of her?

DR. SYLVIUS

I'm not sure. It would appear to be in a breeding cycle which could be the reason it's aggressive. She may have been trying to use you as a host to incubate her eggs.

REMBRANDT

(facetious)

Gee, and I thought she really liked me.

WADE

Why would it want men?

(X)

DR. SYLVIUS

It could be gynandromorphic.
(gee-nan-dro-morphic)

Off Wade's and Remmy's questioning looks.

QUINN

(clarifying)

It has characteristics of both sexes. So it's possible it only impregnates a host of the opposite sex.

(X)

(X)

WADE

If she starts laying eggs inside other men and we don't know who they are...

REMBRANDT

You're gonna have one hell of an epidemic on your hands.

QUINN

(to Wade)

So where does a woman go when she wants a man?

CONTINUED

18 CONTINUED 2

18

WADE
If she doesn't care what kind of
guy it is... a bar.

The Sliders exchange a look.

QUINN
We better split up.

19 INT. BAR - NIGHT

19

Busy with the yuppie crowd looking for love in all the wrong places. ELSTIN DIGGS, former Broadway choreographer, 30ish, hip, black, works behind the bar.

Fast talking, he's everybody's best five minute friend. He moves fast and has a flair for the overly dramatic both in his clothes and in his speech.

Wears a red, open-necked shirt with gold ankh around his neck. He knows everything that's going on in this town. If he doesn't know something, it probably hasn't happened yet. Maggie enters. Her expression determined, somber. She looks hot in her new outfit. A one piece silver lame micro mini-skirt. It clings to her curves like saran wrap to a hero sandwich. She moves to a spot at the end of the bar.

SYMBIONT POV

All the colors in the bar register extremely hot. Diggs moves into her line of vision. His red shirt almost too hot to look at. He leans across the bar towards her.

DIGGS

What can I get you?

RESUME

Maggie eyes him a moment. She rubs her arms for warmth.

MAGGIE

You always keep the air conditioning this cold in here?

DIGGS

Cold? It must be eighty-five in here.

She reaches her hand across the bar and puts it inside Digg's open shirt.

DIGGS

Sorry, babe. I don't get off 'til two and I'm already taken.

MAGGIE

That's all right. You're not what I need.

She moves off down the bar.

DIGGS

(to himself)
I may not be your type, but I like your style.

(X)

CONTINUED

19 CONTINUED

19

Maggie approaches a YUPPIE, mid 20's, standing alone at the bar wearing a knit gray turtleneck shirt under a black sport jacket. He eyes her admiringly as she approaches. He starts to say something but she stops him.

MAGGIE
Don't speak. I'll tell you if I
want you.

She pulls the surprised guy's turtleneck out of his pants and runs her hand under it and up to his chest. The guy loves it. But he's not about to talk and jeopardize his chances. Then she withdraws her hand.

MAGGIE
(flatly)
No.

She moves away, leaving the astonished guy just shaking his head.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Sitting alone at a table is a brooding man, MARK, in a blue Armani suit. Tie pulled down, two buttons on his shirt open. He works a small hand-held computer, his eyes riveted to the tiny screen.

Maggie approaches. Sits next to him. Without looking up he pushes his empty glass across the table toward her.

MARK (X)
Vodka rocks.

Maggie just eyes him. The guy looks up.

MARK (X)
Sorry. I thought you were...

MAGGIE
I'm not.

MARK (X)
(attracted to her)
Yeah. I can see that.

They eye each other a beat. He's intrigued.

SYMBIONT'S POV

The guy's navy blue suit registers electric blue. His skin a bright orange. His blond hair, blinding yellow.

RESUME

CONTINUED

19 CONTINUED 2

19

Maggie reaches for his shirt. He grabs her hand and stops her.

MARK (X)
(suspicious)
What do you want?

MAGGIE
I want to touch you.

MARK (X)
Why?

MAGGIE
I like you. Don't worry. I won't bite.

He eases his grasp on her hand. She slowly slips her hand to his chest, opens the next button on his shirt. Reaches her hand in and holds it against him. A beat, then she withdraws her hand. Starts to get up. He grabs her arm. Stops her.

MARK (X)
Where you going?

MAGGIE
You're not right.

MARK (X)
(getting peeved)
What is this? Some kind of game you like to play?
(then, calming down)
Come on, let's go someplace where we can be alone.

MAGGIE
No.

MARK (X)
(sarcastic)
What happened? You didn't like the feel of my chest hair?

She stares at him a beat. The guy's hand quickly darts to the strap of her dress.

MARK (X)
Let's see how you like it.

He moves to put his hand on her chest. She grabs the man's arm and in one move SNAPS IT, breaking the forearm in the middle. He YELLS in pain. Falls to his knees in shock.

CONTINUED

19 CONTINUED 3

19

MAGGIE

I said no.

She calmly gets up and leaves as nearby patrons stare after her.

DISSOLVE TO

20 OMITTED

20

21 INT. BAR - NIGHT - LATER

21

Two paramedics attend to the injured man. A number of customers congregate around the scene. Two detectives take statements. Wade and Sylvius enter. As they approach the bar...

DR. SYLVIUS

This is a big singles hangout.

They both notice the paramedics and police. Take it in. Then, concerned...

DR. SYLVIUS

What do you think?

WADE

You want to know if I think she's capable of doing damage?

(and then)

From what Rembrandt said, I think she's capable of anything.

They approach Diggs, who's behind the bar.

WADE

Excuse me. Was there a good looking redhead in here tonight? About five five, mid-twenties, alone.

DIGGS

(re: paramedics)

She's what did that. She had a style all her own. First thing she did was complain about the air conditioning. Said it was too cold. Man, if it was any hotter in here, I would have melted.

(X)

DR. SYLVIUS

And then?

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED

21

DIGGS

Then she went around feeling guys'
 chests.

(X)
(X)

WADE

(re: injured man)
What happened to him?

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED 2

21

DIGGS

He wasn't her type and wasn't too good at taking rejection. He got a little pushy and she snapped his arm in half.

(X)
(X)

(a waitress beckons)

Excuse me.

He moves off...

WADE

Her complaining about it being too cold in here... before she attacked Remmy in the hotel he said the room was like a sauna. She had the heat up to ninety.

DR. SYLVIUS

She must need an extremely warm environment to lay her eggs. Probably looking for people who run a higher than normal body temperature.

WADE

So feeling the chest could be her way of checking.

DR. SYLVIUS

That's what it seems like.

(X)

WADE

Well, she could be anywhere now. We're going to have to tell the police what we know.

(X)
(X)

DR. SYLVIUS

You can't trust the police. They shoot first and ask questions later.

(X)

(and then)

Look, if the symbiont needs warmth, it's possible I can coax it out of your friend by lowering her body temperature.

(X)

(X)

WADE

Okay. So where do you find heat on a cold night?

22 EXT. CONDO COMPLEX - NIGHT

22

Quiet, deserted. The common pool and spa area are lit from underneath, giving it the look of a serene blue oasis in the midst of the dark shadows cast by the concrete structures.

At the far end of the pool area a figure slips over the concrete perimeter wall. CAMERA PUSHES IN to reveal Maggie holding her arms around herself to ward off the evening chill. She eyes the steam floating up off the spa tub with desire. Walks toward it.

ANGLE FROM ACROSS THE COMMONS COMPLEX

A SECURITY GUARD on his rounds spots Maggie across the commons as she stands on the edge of the spa. Her back toward camera, she slips out of her dress. The cop starts toward her.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Cop comes around the corner of the poolhouse. Stops, confused.

HIS POV

No one's in the hot tub.

RESUME

The cop moves toward the hot tub. Looks down.

ANOTHER ANGLE

He sees the distorted image of Maggie floating under the surface. Surprised, he bends down to talk to her as her head slowly emerges from the water.

SECURITY GUARD

Excuse me, ma'am....

(X)

Before he can finish, Maggie's arms explode out of the water and grab his head. She pulls it down under the water. The guard struggles to break free, but Maggie's far too powerful. As his body writhes, half in and half out of the water...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

23 INT. CRYOGENICS LAB - DAY (D2)

23

CAMERA LOOKS DOWN on a stainless steel table. The dead Security Guard's body lies under harsh lights. His eyes are closed.

(X)

ANOTHER ANGLE REVEALS

the Sliders grimly eyeing the body. Dr. Sylvius steps up, scanning an open file folder.

DR. SYLVIUS

Judging from the description given by one of the condo tenants, the attacker had to be your friend.

REMBRANDT

Can you tell if she mated with him?

DR. SYLVIUS

The X-rays showed nothing unusual in his stomach. My guess is this wasn't about procreation. She probably saw the uniform, felt threatened and attacked in self-defense.

(starts for the door)

I need to sign the order to freeze this body for organ harvest.

And she exits. A beat as the Sliders stare ashen-faced at the dead guard, then...

WADE

You know, when we started sliding all I could see was the adventure. Now all I seem to see is death.

Quinn takes it as a slam against him.

QUINN

What does that mean?

WADE

Nothing. Forget it.

QUINN

No, no. Say what you're thinking. You think this man would still be alive if it wasn't for me.

CONTINUED

23 CONTINUED

23

WADE

I didn't say that.

REMBRANDT

Hey, Q-Ball. Come on.

QUINN

(to Wade)

And the Professor. He'd be alive too if I hadn't invented sliding.

REMBRANDT

It wasn't your fault.

QUINN

It's all my fault. The Professor... this man... Maggie's next victim... all because I lost control of something I didn't know enough about. Go ahead, say it. I know what you're thinking. Because I think it every minute of every day.

(X)

WADE

(softly)

What about Maggie?

QUINN

Yeah, sure, let's not forget Maggie! She'll die too. Thanks for reminding me!

(X)

WADE

What I meant is Maggie would be dead right now if we hadn't slid to her world. She owes her life to you. So do the other hundred and fifty people you found a new home for.

REMBRANDT

Maggie's not lost yet. But if you don't stop worrying about your damn ego and start focusing on finding her, she will be.

A beat as this sinks in, then...

QUINN

Fair enough. But it's a big city.

(X)

CONTINUED

23 CONTINUED 2

23

REMBRANDT

Well, we know that thing likes hot water. And it craves steam.

WADE

And we know it's looking for men.

QUINN

The beach?

WADE

Too public.

Then a thought strikes Wade. She moves to a nearby desk, grabs a PHONE BOOK. As she opens it to the YELLOW PAGES...

REMBRANDT

What are you thinking, girl?

She stops when he finds a heading, starts running her index finger down the listings. Quinn looks over her shoulder.

QUINN

Health clubs?

WADE

They've got everything it wants. Men, steam rooms and privacy. And there are only three in that area.

They move for the door as we...

CUT TO

24 EXT. HEALTH CLUB - DAY - ESTABLISHING

24

A Sports Connection-type club. Young men and women in heat.

25 INT. HEALTH CLUB FRONT DESK - DAY

25

A young fitness instructor, TAMI, works behind a counter. She looks up with a toothy smile as Maggie approaches. Reacts at Maggie's lame mini-skirt.

TAMI

Hi. Welcome to the Club. I'm Tami. Can I help you?

MAGGIE

I'm looking for a man.

CONTINUED

25 CONTINUED

25

TAMI
Who isn't.

She laughs at her little joke. Maggie doesn't. Maggie starts past the counter. Tami darts out from behind the counter, politely blocks her way.

TAMI
Sorry, but you can't go in unless
you're a member.

A quick FLASH OF SYMBIONT ANGER in Maggie's eyes. (CGI)

TAMI
If you'd like a complimentary tour,
I can...

MAGGIE
Yes. Take me inside.

Tami hesitates. Something about this woman. Still...

TAMI
(ever cheerful)
Okay. Follow me.

26 INT. LADIES LOCKER ROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

26

Rows of lockers, benches, mirrors, private showers. Tami leads Maggie into the empty facility.

TAMI
This is our slow period. Most of
our members are at work this time
of day.
(then)
What do you do?

MAGGIE
Reproduce.

Tami eyes Maggie, not sure what to make of her. Maggie moves towards the glass-enclosed shower stalls.

TAMI
Those are our private showers.

Maggie opens one, turns the faucet as far to HOT as she can.

TAMI
We're the only club in L.A. with
our own line of complimentary
shampoos and conditioners...

CONTINUED

26 CONTINUED

26

Maggie puts her hand out to test the scalding water. It's so hot one can almost hear the skin blister.

TAMI
Doesn't that hurt?

MAGGIE
(loving it)
No.

Maggie pulls her dress off over her head.

TAMI
What... what are you doing?

Maggie answers by breathing in the billowing steam. She closes her eyes in ecstasy.

TAMI
Ma'am, please. You can't use the facilities unless you're a member. Now if you want to sign up, we can take care of that out front.

Maggie steps into the stall, sighing with pleasure as the water cascades over her body.

TAMI
Ma'am, I'm sorry, but I'm going to have to call security.

Tami turns to exit when Maggie turns her head toward Tami. Opens her mouth. The symbiont darts out.

ANOTHER ANGLE

(X)

Against a wall, the shadow of the symbiont snakes out and whips around Tami's neck from behind. As the silhouette of Tami's head is jerked out of FRAME...

(X)
(X)
(X)

CUT TO

27 INT. HEALTH CLUB FRONT DESK - DAY

27

The Sliders enter, approach the empty front desk.

QUINN
This is the last one. If she's not here...

WADE
(re: empty counter)
Do we wait?

CONTINUED

29 CONTINUED

29

One of the men raises a SCANNING DEVICE, sweeps it across the fitness buffs. BEEP. It's coming from the bench presses area.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The patrons part to allow the men to close in on their quarry: a young weight lifter. The weight lifter looks around for help, for escape, but there is none. He stares in horror as the uniformed men sweep down on him.

REMMY AND QUINN

can only watch in dismay as the young man is hurried past them. A beat, then the room starts up again. Just another day.

REMBRANDT

I don't understand why they don't fight back.

QUINN

Different worlds, different customs.

(off Remmy's nonplused look)

What?

REMBRANDT

I'm just surprised at how fast you can dismiss oppression as a custom.

He walks off, leaving Quinn to ponder that one over.

CUT TO

29A INT. HEALTH CLUB - LOCKER ROOM

29A(X)

Wade walks slowly, cautiously through the deserted locker room, checking for signs of Maggie.

(X)
(X)

SYMBIONT'S POV

(X)

Passing a row of lockers. Spotting the unsuspecting Wade at the other end of a row. Stalking her now. Drawing closer to the unaware Slider.

(X)
(X)
(X)

30 INT. HEALTH CLUB CORRIDOR - DAY

30

A cautious Wade exits the locker room and enters the corridor. Starts down it when she hears the SOUND of soft footsteps.

(X)
(X)

CONTINUED

30 CONTINUED

30

Freezes. Whirls to see Maggie, dressed only in a terry cloth robe.

(X)
(X)

WADE

(wary)
Maggie... it's Wade.

(X)

A look crosses Maggie's face. She's trying to remember.

MAGGIE

Wade...?

WADE

(slowly approaching)
Listen to me. You're sick. You need to get back to the hospital.

Maggie's eyes FLASH to the FLY-LIKE ORBS (CGI) and then back to normal as an internal battle rages for control of her mind.

WADE

(worried)
Maggie?
(and then)
I'll get Quinn.

She starts for the door when Maggie stumbles against the corridor wall.

MAGGIE

Wade... help me...

Abandoning caution, Wade hurries to help her friend. As soon as she reaches out to steady Maggie, eyes FLASH again to the FLY-LIKE ORBS. A trick. Maggie grabs Wade roughly.

MAGGIE

(a hiss)
You can't stop me.

With incredible strength, Maggie hurls Wade across the corridor. Crunch. Wade's eyes roll back as she slides down against the wall, unconscious. That done, Maggie smooths her hair. Back to business.

CUT TO

31 INT. STEAM ROOM - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

31

Steamy, sweaty and empty, except for ROGER, a strikingly handsome young man in his mid 20's. He leans against a wall, a towel across his waist.

CONTINUED

31 CONTINUED

31

He looks to the door as it opens. In the heavy steam, he can just make out a frame against the back light.

ROGER

Either come in or close the door.
You're letting the steam out.

A beat, then Maggie steps in and closes the door behind her. Then, empowered with her new strength, Maggie softly CRIMPS the door handle onto itself, LOCKING THE DOOR.

ANOTHER ANGLE

She turns and starts towards Roger through the thick steam.

ROGER

(realizing she's a woman)
Hey, uh... did you know this room
isn't co-ed?

Maggie doesn't respond as she gets closer. Roger sees her beauty, smiles.

ROGER

Not that I mind having you in here.

She stops directly in front of him. So close to so much skin, Roger has a hard time focusing.

ROGER

So... what's your name?

Maggie's silent. She reaches out, places her hand on his bare chest.

ROGER

What's it matter, anyway.

MAGGIE

(pleased)
You're the one.

ROGER

Whatever you say.

Maggie drops her robe. (NOTE: For the rest of this scene, use discretion when shooting Maggie.) She seductively leans in. Roger responds, opens his mouth to meet her kiss. Then the SYMBIONT EXPLODES from Maggie's mouth and propels itself into Roger. His eyes go wide, he GAGS. But his struggles are futile. As Maggie bends him backwards, the symbiont probing deep with the ultimate French kiss...

CUT TO

32 INT. HEALTH CLUB CORRIDOR - DAY - SAME TIME

32

Remmy enters the corridor. Quinn hurries to catch up.

QUINN

Hey, Remmy.

Quinn stops him, they face each other.

QUINN

What was that back there?

REMBRANDT

Aw, it's just we've been together so long I forget how different we really are.

QUINN

I don't follow.

REMBRANDT

Q-Ball, we may slide to parallel dimensions together, but we grew up in different worlds. Bottom line is I've seen oppression close up. To you, it's just a word in a history book.

Quinn's surprised at Remmy's words. Before he can respond, Wade stumbles around a corner. They rush to assist.

QUINN

Wade!

REMBRANDT

You okay, sweetheart?

WADE

(nodding)
Maggie... she's here...

QUINN

(to Rembrandt; re: Wade)
Stay with her.

(X)

Quinn rushes off.

CUT TO

33 INT. ANOTHER CORRIDOR - DAY - SECONDS LATER

33

Quinn appears from around the corner, slows when he reaches the door marked STEAM ROOM. He peers inside the small window cut into the door.

CONTINUED

33 CONTINUED

33

HIS POV - THROUGH STEAMY WINDOW

CONTINUED

33 CONTINUED

33

Roger lies unconscious on the floor. Maggie's standing over him. Her robe is on, the HEAD OF THE ALIEN RETRACTS into her mouth.

(X)
(X)

RESUME QUINN

QUINN

Maggie!

He tries the door. Locked. Quinn takes a step back, KICKS the door in.

34 INT. STEAM ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

34

Quinn rushes in.

QUINN

Maggie!

Maggie, in her robe, whirls. Rushes at him. She grabs him. They struggle a beat then she tosses him against a wall. She kneels over the dazed Quinn and grabs him by his hair, pulling his face up to meet hers.

(X)

MAGGIE

Stay away. Or I'll kill you.

She releases her grasp and exits. Groggy, Quinn shakes his head to clear it, glances over at Roger. Unconscious. Off Quinn --

(X)

DISSOLVE TO

35 INT. CRYOGENICS LAB - DAY

35

Wade holds a phone to her ear as she watches Dr. Sylvius work over the computers that control the freezing unit. Through the glass we can see Roger lying inside the unit, his body frosty from the seeping gas.

WADE

Okay. I'll be down in a little while.

(listens, then)
I told you, I'm fine. Just worry about Quinn. Okay.

(X)
(X)

She hangs up.

DR. SYLVIVS

How is he?

(X)

CONTINUED

35 CONTINUED

35

WADE
Remmy says the ER doctor diagnosed
a mild concussion. But he should
be okay.

Wade moves a step closer to the window.

WADE
How cold is it in there?

DR. SYLVIUS
(eyeing a monitor)
Not cold enough. Look at this.

INSERT - COMPUTER MONITOR

A computerized image of Roger's body. A small symbiont is
clearly seen near his stomach, its small tentacles attached
to his rib cage.

DR. SYLVIUS (O.S.)
The symbiont's not uncomfortable
enough to leave the host.

RESUME SCENE

Sylvius moves to another computer, taps in some keys.

DR. SYLVIUS
I'm going to turn it down another
thirty degrees.

More gas flows into the Cryo Unit. A gauge lowers to -196
C. Monitors showing Roger's heartbeat and rate of breathing
markedly slow.

WADE
(concerned)
His heartbeat's down to five per
minute. No one can live at that
rate.

DR. SYLVIUS
I have to do whatever it takes to
get the symbiont out.

WADE
But you'll kill him.

Sylvius ignores her as she eyes the monitor.

DR. SYLVIUS
The symbiont's moving.

CONTINUED

35 CONTINUED 2

35

They react in equal parts awe and disgust as Roger's mouth is forced open from inside and the symbiont crawls out onto his neck.

WADE

It's out! Turn the gas off!

Sylvius does, then they rush for the Cryo Unit, Sylvius grabbing a PAIR OF TONGS on the run.

36 INT. CRYO UNIT - DAY - CONTINUOUS

36

The door hisses open, gas billows past them as Wade and Sylvius step inside. They cautiously stop a few feet from Roger, their hands and faces turning ice cold.

Using the tongs, Sylvius carefully lifts the symbiont off Roger's chest. It slips from her grasp, hits the floor with a sickening THUD.

DR. SYLVIUS

Damnit. It must have been too young to survive without the host.

(then, to Wade)

But the one inside your friend is stronger, more mature. It will have a better chance of survival.

WADE

But what about him?

Almost as an afterthought, Sylvius steps up to Roger, feels his pallid skin with the flat of her palm.

DR. SYLVIUS

There are ice crystals in his blood. It doesn't look like we can get the body cold enough to drive out the symbiont without killing the host.

WADE

(realization)

What are you saying. You're going to have to kill Maggie?

(X)

DR. SYLVIUS

It's one life in exchange for the chance to save more.

CONTINUED

36 CONTINUED

36

WADE
So that makes it right?

DR. SYLVIUS
My brother was a forced organ donor. He was only twenty-three when they harvested him. And nobody cared if it was right or not. So don't ask me to shed tears for a stranger.

Sylvius turns to walk way. Wade grabs her.

WADE
I'm not buying your explanation, Doctor. It's a little too rehearsed. Wouldn't the person who develops the ability to replicate human organs stand to make a lot of money?

DR. SYLVIUS
Where does it say that science can't be profitable?

WADE
I'm not going to let you do this to Maggie.

A beat, then Sylvius pushes her aside and rushes for the door. Wade recovers. Rushes after her.

WADE
No!

Sylvius gets outside the unit first, tries to slam the door shut. But Wade hits it running and slams it back open, knocking Sylvius off balance. Wade rushes from the room. Surprisingly, instead of chasing after her, Sylvius calmly reaches for a phone on a nearby desk.

37 INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

37

Medical personnel, policemen, patients fill the hallway just outside of the ER doors. Wade rushes in, pushes her way through the milling people toward Rembrandt who's at the other end of the corridor past a sign that says Emergency Room. He's at a vending machine, his back to her.

(X)

WADE
(bumping into people)
Excuse me.

CONTINUED

37 CONTINUED

37

Suddenly a D SQUAD MAN, holding a cellular phone, steps between her and Remmy. He aims a SCANNING DEVICE at her. Wade's TAG starts to BEEP. Startled, she stares down at her wrist. Sylvius.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The D Squad man and a SECURITY GUARD close in from either side. Wade tries to run, can't.

WADE

Rembrandt!

The men have her. They start to drag her away when Remmy turns and spots her.

REMBRANDT

Wade?!

He starts towards her when two more GUARDS cut him off.

REMBRANDT

Hey! Get out of my way!

The cops won't be bullied, push him back. As the others drag Wade around a corner...

WADE

Rembrandt!

REMBRANDT

Wade!

WADE

It's a setup! They're going to kill Maggie!

That's all Wade can get out before she disappears around the corner. HOLD ON Rembrandt's look, then --

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

38 INT. HOSPITAL CATWALK - DAY

38

The area is empty. No one down below. Doctor Sylvius exits a door. Starts across the catwalk. Suddenly, Quinn and Remmy burst out of the doors. Quinn grabs her from behind. Forces her against the rail. One hand grips her throat.

QUINN

I could kill you right now if I wanted. But I'm giving you the chance to live. Which is more than you're giving Wade and Maggie.

DR. SYLVIUS

I'm doing what I have to. That symbiont could make the organ donor program obsolete.

(X)
(X)

REMBRANDT

Yeah, by killing our friend. You want to change things, start by changing the law.

DR. SYLVIUS

This is a lot more expedient.

REMBRANDT

(knowingly)
And profitable.

QUINN

You two can debate this some other time. You've got Wade prepped for harvest. I want her back. How do we make that happen?

DR. SYLVIUS

(beat, then)
Bring me Maggie. When I have the symbiont, you get Wade.

REMBRANDT

And if we can't find her?

DR. SYLVIUS

There's a bureaucrat in the state department who needs a new lung. Wade's a perfect match.

(X)

A cool beat between them, then Quinn and Remmy share a look. What can they do?

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED

38

QUINN
We'll need one of those cold trauma
guns.

DR. SYLVIUS
They're in the ER. Meet me there.

She exits. Remmy and Quinn stare after her.

QUINN
How long till we slide?

REMBRANDT
I don't know. The timer's back at
the Chancellor.

QUINN
What?! You left it at the hotel?

REMBRANDT
Yeah, well, I'd just been attacked
by an alien so I was a little
preoccupied.

(X)

QUINN
(heads for door)
We better get it before we go
looking for Maggie.

Remmy stops him.

REMBRANDT
What if we can't find her?

QUINN
Then we come back here, break Wade
out and slide without Maggie.

Remmy eyes him. He's clearly not crazy about the options.

QUINN
It's the lesser of two evils.

REMBRANDT
Not by much.

CUT TO

39 EXT. STREET - DAY

39

A D Squad HUMVEE prowls the street. The scanning device is
held out the window.

CONTINUED

39 CONTINUED

39

ANOTHER ANGLE

Remmy and Quinn purposefully stride along the sidewalk.
Remmy carries the Cold Gun.

Suddenly we HEAR the BEEP of a donor wrist disc implant.
Quinn reacts, panicked. Instinctively grabs his wrist. But
it's another YOUNG MAN man walking past him. As the young
man bolts off down the street, the Humvee accelerates.
Quinn and Rembrandt watch the action a beat, then turn and
continue walking.

QUINN

I guess I sounded like a jerk when
I made that crack about oppressive
worlds back at the gym.

REMBRANDT

Forget it.

QUINN

No. When you said we grew up in
different worlds, you were right.
I haven't lived your life. And I
know I don't have all the answers.

REMBRANDT

Yeah, well sometimes it seems like
you do.

(X)
(X)

(then, softening)

Maybe it's because you got us into
all this, so you're always acting
like you're responsible for us.

QUINN

Yeah, well, there's still plenty
about life I can learn. When
you've got a different opinion from
mine, you tell me. I'll listen.

REMBRANDT

Fair enough.

40 INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

40

Footsteps outside, then the door slowly opens and Quinn and
Remmy enter. Remmy holds the cold trauma gun at the ready.
As they cautiously step inside...

REMBRANDT

I don't think she's here.

CONTINUED

40 CONTINUED

40

A quick glance past the bedroom door. Nothing. They
exhale.

CONTINUED

40 CONTINUED 2

40

QUINN
Yeah. It's too cold. Where's the
timer?

REMBRANDT
Over here.

Remmy slings the cold trauma gun over his shoulder as he
walks to some dresser drawers. He opens the top one, takes
out the timer.

REMBRANDT
Three hours. Not much time to
cover a city.

QUINN
We meet back at the hospital at
four o'clock.
(hard to say)
With or without Maggie.

(X)

Remmy nods. They start back out, Remmy leading the way.
Quinn's about to close the door behind him when he HEARS A
SOFT SOUND from inside the room. He hesitates, then
cautiously takes a step back inside.

BAM! The door SLAMS SHUT behind him. Quinn turns and sees
Maggie kicking it closed from her hiding place... ON THE
CEILING ABOVE THE DOOR. She wears two layers of clothing.

QUINN
You're one smart symbiont.

She's stares down at him menacingly.

41 INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR - DAY - CONTINUOUS

41

He jiggles the door handle. Automatically locked.

REMBRANDT
Q-Ball!!

42 INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

42

Not moving an inch, Quinn stares up at Maggie.

QUINN
She's in here, Rembrandt.

REMBRANDT (O.S.)
Open the door!

CONTINUED

42 CONTINUED

42

Maggie GROWLS at the suggestion.

QUINN
I can't. But that's okay, just
stay cool.
(to Maggie)
Right, Maggie? We just stay cool.

She leers at him a beat, then LEAPS. Like a panther pouncing on prey, Maggie slams into Quinn, driving him to the floor. The impact jars Quinn hard. He winces. Maggie quickly straddles him, pinning his body with her extraordinary strength.

QUINN
(in pain)
Maggie...

MAGGIE
No more Maggie.

She eyes him with desire. Quinn tries to rise, she pins him back down. Feels his chest. Remmy POUNDS on the door.

(X)

REMBRANDT (O.S.)
Q-Ball? Talk to me, man! What's
going on?

MAGGIE
What's the matter? Don't you want
me, Quinn?

QUINN'S POV - STARING UP AT MAGGIE

She opens her mouth. The symbiont slides out, hovers over Quinn's face. As it starts towards his lips...

QUINN
Remmy!

43 INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR - DAY - CONTINUOUS

43

Remmy yanks the cold trauma gun from his shoulder, aims it at the door knob and lets loose with a blast of cold vapor. The knob freezes instantly.

44 INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

44

Quinn tries to turn his head away as he struggles to buck Maggie off his body. But he's losing. The symbiont's right at his lips when...

CONTINUED

44 CONTINUED

44

THE DOOR BURSTS OPEN

...and Remmy rushes in. The symbiont curls around to strike at him, but Remmy lets loose with another blast from the gun. The symbiont recoils from the liquid nitrogen with an unworldly SCREAM and retreats back into Maggie's body.

REMBRANDT

(still firing)

Move, boy!

Quinn does, sliding out from underneath Maggie as her body's enveloped by the nitrogen. He scrambles to his feet as Remmy turns off the gun.

They stare down at Maggie's frozen form.

REMBRANDT

Like you said. Just stay cool.

Off this --

CUT TO

45 INT. CRYO UNIT - DAY

45

Maggie's strapped to a steel table, her body blasted by sprays of liquid nitrogen.

Nearby, a LARGE, HEATED AQUARIUM sends up a cloud of steam. Open and inviting, the inside of the aquarium has been designed to simulate the swamp environment of the symbiont's world.

46 INT. CRYOGENICS LAB - DAY - CONTINUOUS

46

The Sliders watch as Sylvius works the computers.

REMBRANDT

Q-ball, if this doesn't work...

QUINN

We take her with us.

WADE

Are you crazy?

QUINN

Wade, I know you've got issues with Maggie, but...

CONTINUED

46 CONTINUED

46

WADE

It's not even her anymore. That thing will attack one of you the first chance it gets.

Quinn hesitates.

WADE

She's not your responsibility. She wasn't dragged into this like we were. She insisted on coming with us.

QUINN

You would have done the same in her position.

WADE

Look, you've got two people here who rate a little higher on the scale of responsibility. And we both vote to leave her here.

QUINN

Is that right, Rembrandt?

Remmy just looks at Quinn. No doubt he's in agreement with Wade.

REMBRANDT

I know it's not an easy decision, man.

QUINN

(beat, then)
We're not leaving her.

Wade eyes him. She realizes something she's not focused on before.

WADE

You've got a thing for her, don't you?

QUINN

(a little too fast)
That's ridiculous.

WADE

Is it?

Sylvius interrupts.

CONTINUED

46 CONTINUED 2

46

DR. SYLVIUS
(frustrated)
It's moving around, but not out.

She indicates the monitor, which shows the computer image of Maggie's body. The symbiont has grown considerably since the last time Maggie was here.

DR. SYLVIUS
I'm lowering the temperature
another ten degrees.

CONTINUED

46 CONTINUED

46

QUINN

She'll die at that temperature.
Give it five more minutes.

DR. SYLVIUS

Five minutes or five hours it
wouldn't matter. I'm sorry but we
have to motivate the symbiont into
the aquarium somehow.

Sylvius hits some computer keys, the spray of liquid
nitrogen increases.

47 INT. CRYO UNIT - DAY - CONTINUOUS

47

The temperature plunges. Suddenly Maggie's eyes POP OPEN.
Look around angrily, focus on the aquarium.

SYMBIONT'S POV

The heat from the aquarium beckons.

RESUME MAGGIE

Her eyes move to the glass window separating the rooms. She
spies the people watching her. A knowing look crosses her
face, then she closes her eyes.

48 INT. CRYOGENICS LAB - DAY - CONTINUOUS

48

WADE

It's too smart to fall for this.
It knows we want to get it out of
the body.

Sylvius moves back to the computers.

DR. SYLVIUS

Then we lower the temperature some
more. It'll abandon the host.
One way or another.

(X)

She prepares to type in some more commands. Quinn grabs her
hands, stopping her.

DR. SYLVIUS

We had a deal, Mallory. You get
Wade, I get the symbiont.

Quinn doesn't let go of her hands.

CONTINUED

48 CONTINUED

48

DR. SYLVIUS
All I have to do is push this
button and the three of you
suddenly become organ donors.

(X)
(X)
(X)

CONTINUED

48 CONTINUED 2

48

QUINN
I got another idea.

DR. SYLVIUS
I'm listening.

QUINN
It wanted to mate with me. Maybe I
can convince it to live in me
instead.

WADE
Are you insane?

(X)

QUINN
Just to lure it out, Wade. Then we
grab it and put it in the aquarium.
(to Sylvius)
What do you think?

CUT TO

49 INT. CRYO UNIT - DAY - MOMENTS LATER

49

Quinn enters the unit, dressed in a large parka. The air-
lock door closes behind him with a hiss. He approaches
Maggie's body. Her eyes are still closed.

Quinn hesitates, then leans down close to her face and
softly blows warm air on her lips. Maggie's eyes POP OPEN,
startling him.

QUINN
Come be with me...

SYMBIONT'S POV

As Quinn speaks, the heat emanating from him beckons
invitingly.

QUINN
That's right. The warmth. That's
what you want.

RESUME SCENE

A beat, then Maggie's mouth opens and the symbiont appears.
He fights a visceral reaction to the hideous sight. Starts
to imperceptibly back up.

QUINN
Come on... that's it... come live
in me...

CONTINUED

49 CONTINUED

49

He exhales softly, using his breath as a trail for the creature. The symbiont snakes out after it.

50 INT. CRYOGENICS LAB - DAY - CONTINUOUS

50

Remmy, Wade and Sylvius watch through the glass.

DR. SYLVIUS

It's working.

Remmy surreptitiously glances at the timer in his pocket.

REMBRANDT

(to Wade)

Yeah. But not fast enough. Less than a minute.

51 INT. CRYO UNIT - DAY - CONTINUOUS

51

The symbiont's almost completely disengaged from Maggie. Almost two feet long now, it snakes down Maggie's body after Quinn, who continues slowly backing up.

QUINN

That's it... come on...

As the last of the symbiont clears Maggie's mouth...

QUINN

That's right...
(it's clear)
C'mon...

Quinn yanks a pair of TONGS from the pocket of the parka and grasps the alien with them. Outside, Sylvius shuts off the liquid nitrogen. The air starts to clear in the Cryo Unit. The creature, realizing the double cross, SCREECHES and violently struggles to free itself from Quinn's grasp.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The unit's door hisses open and Remmy rushes in, followed by Wade and Dr. Sylvius.

DR. SYLVIUS

Put it in the aquarium, quick!

Quinn wrestles to keep a hold of the symbiont as Remmy hurries to the table, starts to unstrap Maggie.

CONTINUED

51 CONTINUED

51

WADE
(holding timer)
Ten seconds!

QUINN
I'm losing it!

Quinn struggles to force the symbiont to the aquarium, but its gyrations are too strong. It drops from Quinn's grasp, hits the floor.

QUINN
It's loose! Watch out!

Remy finishes untying Maggie, scoops the stiff Slider up in his arms.

MAGGIE
What... what's happening...

REMBRANDT
Hang tight, girl. We're getting out of here.

WADE
Five!

The symbiont LEAPS at Quinn. He knocks it aside with the tongs. It hits a wall, slides to the floor. Quinn raises the tongs over his head, ready to deal a death blow.

DR. SYLVIVUS
Don't hurt it!

She shoves Quinn from behind. He stumbles, losing his balance and the tongs. The symbiont launches itself at the unprotected Quinn. He throws up his hands to protect himself. The creature glances off him, landing on Sylvius' face. It latches on firmly.

DR. SYLVIVUS
NO!

Sylvius struggles wildly as she tries to pry the alien off her face. Quinn moves to help when the VORTEX OPENS.

REMBRANDT
(cradling Maggie)
Q-Ball! No!

QUINN
I can't just leave her! You know
what it will do to her?

(X)
(X)

CONTINUED

51 CONTINUED 2

51

WADE
There's no time!

REMBRANDT
Go, Wade, go!

Wade leaps. Quinn picks up the tongs. Moves toward the struggling Sylvius.

REMBRANDT
C'mon, Q-Ball!

Quinn hesitates.

(X)

REMBRANDT
You wanted to know how I see things
different? I see the truth of
what the good book says! "Reap
what you sow"!

(X)

Quinn looks back at Sylvius. She collapses to the floor,
the symbiont prying open her mouth.

REMBRANDT
You asked me, Q-Ball. I told you.
Now you choose.

Remmy shoots one last look to Quinn, then leaps with Maggie
in his arms.

ON QUINN

Torn, he finally forces himself to leap.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The vortex dies and closes.

CUT TO

52 INT. CRYO LAB - DAY - SECONDS LATER

52

An ORDERLY enters. Sees a disheveled Sylvius stepping out
of the Cryo unit.

ORDERLY
Doctor! Are you all right?

A beat, then Sylvius' eyes FLASH TO THE FLY-LIKE ORBS, then
melt back to normal. She looks at the orderly and smiles.

CONTINUED

52 CONTINUED

52

DR. SYLVIUS

I'm fine.

She reaches out, puts her hand on his chest. He reacts,
confused. And off this, we --

FADE OUT

THE END