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Prod. Draft.  
1st Pink Revs.

PROD. #K1828  
3/17/97 (F.R.)  
3/20/97 (F.R.)



"THIS SLIDE OF PARADISE"

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REVISED PAGES:

1st Pink Revs. Full Script

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#K1828

SLIDERS

“This Slide of Paradise”

CAST

QUINN MALLORY  
WADE WELLES  
REMBRANDT BROWN  
MAGGIE BECKETT

DR. PAULIS PAIVON  
ALISANDRA  
CERES  
COLONEL ANGUS RICKMAN  
DANIEL  
HARRY

(X)

MAX  
ANIMAL

(X)

(X)

#K1828

SLIDERS

“This Slide of Paradise”

SETS

INTERIORS:

HANGMAN'S WELL  
COMPOUND  
LAB  
MAIN HOUSE  
LIVING ROOM  
DINING ROOM  
ANIMAL LAIR

EXTERIORS:

MEXICAN STREET  
HANGMAN'S PLATFORM  
ISLAND PARADISE  
BEACH  
CLIFF SIDE  
OVERLOOK  
ANIMAL LAIR  
BACK ENTRANCE  
JUNGLE  
FOOTPATH  
ANOTHER AREA  
HIDDEN PATH  
CLEARING  
COMPOUND  
MAIN GATE  
MAIN HOUSE  
VERANDA  
PATHWAY  
TRAP AREA

#K1828

CHRONOLOGY PAGE

SCENES	1 - 9	DAY #1	(X)
SCENES	10 - 33	NIGHT #1	(X)
SCENES	34 - 55	DAY #2	

SLIDERS

"This Slide of Paradise"

TEASER

FADE IN

1 EXT. MEXICAN STREET - DAY (D1)

1

A tumbleweed blows across the asphalt, passing a raised hang-man's platform. We find QUINN and MAGGIE, hands tied behind, led up the steps by a grizzled, smelly man, KYLE.

MAGGIE

I couldn't fold. I figured him for a bad loser, but this?

QUINN

(a look; then)  
They call him Hanging Harry. Did you maybe think there was a reason for that?

MAGGIE

Of course. I just didn't think it was because he actually hung people. Who does that these days?

Kyle places nooses around their necks.

The town clock RINGS OUT FIVE BELLS. Maggie and Quinn exchange a look. She's afraid. His eyes search the street. Where are they? (X)

MAGGIE

You know I never got a chance to say some things to Steve. I don't want that to happen again, with us.

QUINN

It's not over yet. Remmy and Wade will (X)

MAGGIE

We have no idea where Remmy and Wade are. (X)

HANGING HARRY comes up the steps.

HARRY

They say anticipation is the worst part. That true? (X)  
(X)

CONTINUED

1 CONTINUED

1

QUINN

The worst part is having your ugly  
face be the last thing we'll ever  
see.

(X)

Kyle laughs. Harry burns a look that way.

(X)

HARRY

Just pull the lever, Kyle.

(X)

Kyle crosses to the lever. Maggie takes a deep breath.

(X)

MAGGIE

I really care about you. I just  
thought you should know that.

(X)

(X)

A look between them. A moment locked in time.

(X)

QUINN

I feel the same.

(X)

Kyle jerks the lever. The floor drops out from beneath  
Maggie and Quinn. Their bodies drop like stones, the ropes  
swing tautly. The crowd GASPS. Harry LAUGHS.

A WHIRLING NOISE is heard. He looks into the hole.

2 INT. HANGMAN'S WELL - SAME TIME

2

The VORTEX of course. Quinn and Maggie are gone. The ropes  
have been cut by WADE and REMBRANDT, who each hold a knife.  
Wade leaps into the vortex. Remy turns, winks at Harry.

REMBRANDT

Adios amigos!

Remy laughs as he jumps into the hole.

3 EXT. HANGMAN'S PLATFORM

3

Kyle comes up next to Harry, starts to laugh again. Harry  
pulls him up by the lapel.

(X)

(X)

HARRY

Far as I'm concerned, one hanging's  
as good as another.

Kyle panics and pushes Harry away with the butt of his  
rifle, knocking Harry into the vortex...

4 EXT. ISLAND PARADISE - BEACH - DAY

4

Paradise. The VORTEX is OPEN over the water. Quinn and Maggie are struggling to pull themselves out of the water, on to the sand, hands still tied, cut nooses still on... Quinn smiles at Maggie.

QUINN

Told you they'd make it.

Wade flies out of the VORTEX, landing in the shallow water beyond. She moves out of the water, cuts them both loose with her knife. The vortex is far enough away that it doesn't sound too loud.

MAGGIE

A little close, wasn't it?

WADE

Sorry. Only way to get to you without getting us all shot, was to wait underneath.

We hear Remmy land in the water.

REMBRANDT

I hate water landings!  
(he exits the water)  
Everybody okay?

QUINN

We are now, thanks to you guys.

REMBRANDT

Our pleasure. It's why we're here.

He and Quinn do a high-five. Wade gets a look around. They start up the beach.

WADE

This slide looks too good to be true.

HARRY (O.S)

Ayyyyy!

Harry comes flying out of the VORTEX.

WADE

I knew it.

REMBRANDT

So what're we going to do with him?

CONTINUED

4 CONTINUED

4

QUINN

He's not our responsibility. We didn't ask him to come along.

HARRY

What just happened? Where am I?

MAGGIE

Welcome to our nightmare, Harry.

The rifle floats up with Harry. Remy grabs it.

WADE

Forget him. We've got other things to worry about.

(off the timer)

We've got twenty-two hours here to find Rickman.

Quinn crosses, taking the timer from her. He smiles.

QUINN

I'm getting him, his timer. We're going home. He's not getting away again.

Wade eyes the edge of beach. Thick brush just beyond. Quinn leads them up the beach. Remy moves up next to Quinn.

REMBRANDT

I'm curious. When you thought you were gonna swing, what were your last thoughts? Guys must've said something to each other, right?

Maggie and Quinn exchange a glance.

MAGGIE

Yeah. We totally confessed our love for each other.

REMBRANDT

(disappointed)

C'mon...

WADE

Guys...

She moves forward... Remy comes up next to her.

REMBRANDT

You're getting a weird feeling, aren't you? I hate it when that happens.

CONTINUED

4 CONTINUED 2

4

MAGGIE

Why?

QUINN

Because, she's got good instincts.

A NOISE. They all heard it.

QUINN

C'mon, better find cover.  
(looks down the beach)  
Those rocks.

They start down the beach, headed for an overlook area. The noise follows them. They all start to run.

QUINN

Move faster!

Harry stumbles.

HARRY

Help me!

He turns as two huge man/panther BEASTS roar out of the bush. Quinn fires at them. One is hit and goes down dead. The other ROARS viciously and attacks Harry, dragging him off into the bushes. Off this horror, we --

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN

5 EXT. BEACH - MOMENTS LATER

5

Wade stares out into the jungle.

WADE

We should go after him, shouldn't we? He could still be alive.

REMBRANDT

I don't see how. Even if he was, we don't know what that was, or if they're more of them in there.

(X)

(X)

Remmy leads Wade over to where Quinn and Maggie are over the dead panther's body.

MAGGIE

I'll bite, what is it?

QUINN

Hard to say.

REMBRANDT

Smells bad though, whatever it is.

WADE

That looks like a human hand.

REMBRANDT

Check out the face. Definite human qualities.

MAGGIE

Could that thing be one of us?

QUINN

I don't know, but it's definitely got some of us in its genetic code.

There is a HOWLING in the distance. It unnerves them.

WADE

Whatever they are, they know we got one of them.

MAGGIE

Might be wise if we weren't here when they came back.

Quinn checks the rifle.

(X)

CONTINUED

5 CONTINUED

5

QUINN  
Anybody happen to have a few extra shells on them? (X)  
(X)

Looks exchanged. (X)

QUINN  
It's empty. (X)  
(then) (X)  
Better get to higher ground. (X)

Quinn slips the rifle over his shoulder and they walk. (X)

6 EXT. ANIMAL LAIR SAME TIME

6

At a small pond, a furry man/beast splashes water on his face. He looks up as the man/panther, CERES (SEER-IES) enters the area with Harry in tow.

RICKMAN  
Is that Doctor Paul? (X)

CERES  
No, Colonel. He's a stranger. (X)  
It's what you need, right? (X)

He drops Harry by the man beast who is -- RICKMAN. His face, teeth and hands ever more animalistic. Ceres is a huge beast, the James Earl Jones of the hybrids. His voice is frightening in it's depth and tone. Harry is in bad shape, but not dead.

RICKMAN  
(nods) (X)  
Fresh brain food. Where did you find him?

CERES  
On the beach. There were others.

RICKMAN  
Describe them.

CERES  
Four. Men and women. They fell out of the sky. (X)

RICKMAN  
Sliders. And I thought they'd given up on me.

Rickman HOWLS. The other pack animals joining in.

CERES  
They killed Jared.

CONTINUED

6 CONTINUED

6

RICKMAN

Maybe it's better, Ceres. He was dying, wasn't he?

Ceres GROWLS.

RICKMAN

At least this way, he didn't suffer.

HARRY

Please, help me.

Rickman looks down on the suffering Harry. Smiles as he pulls his needle out.

RICKMAN

Let me put you out of your misery. (X)

He needles Harry and then injects himself. He MORPHS temporarily into Harry. The animals recoil at the sight.

CERES

What are you?

RICKMAN

A little this, a little that.

Rickman shakes off a morph chill.

RICKMAN

Now. Show me where the people are.

7 EXT. BEACH - CLIFF SIDE - LATER

7

Sun is starting to set. A tough climb, but they make it. Quinn is first. (X)

8 EXT. BEACH OVERLOOK - CONTINUOUS

8

Quinn helps the others to get up. At the top, they have a view of the ocean waters beyond. (X)

QUINN

We're on an island.

Beyond them, in the waters, are dozens of other islands (STOCK) closely chained. They stretch on for miles. (X)

MAGGIE

Does the Pacific look like this on your world? Doesn't on mine.

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED

8

QUINN

No. We've got a few islands off the coast, but nothing like this.

REMBRANDT

This has got to be California, right? So, what happened to it?

WADE

Earthquake.

(of their looks)

We've been hearing for years that the big one would come and California would break off. Maybe here, it actually happened.

QUINN

An island should make finding Rickman all the easier.

(X)  
(X)

They move off into the jungle.

9 EXT. BEACH - SAME TIME

9

The animals and Rickman come to the spot where Jared still lies. Rickman looks up and down the beach, then sees figures on the cliff beyond.

RICKMAN

There they are.

He moves down the beach, accompanied by the animals.

10 EXT. JUNGLE - FOOTPATH - NIGHT (N1)

10(X)

Quinn leads them through the brush. There's a tension. Each twig breaking, each jungle noise gives them a start. A MACAW SQUAWKS out. It scares all of them. Maggie looks up, irritated --

(X)  
(X)

MAGGIE

Wish we had one shell left... I'd use it on that thing, to shut it up.

(X)  
(X)  
(X)

(X)

11 AN UNKNOWN POV

11

Some one or something is stalking them.

12 BACK ON THE SLIDERS

12

As they move cautiously through...

WADE

(to Maggie)  
If you were him, where would you  
go on an island?

MAGGIE

I'd find shelter first. Then  
food. Then I'd wait for us to  
come after me.

QUINN

Let's not keep him waiting, then.  
He'll probably have a fire going.  
Shouldn't be too hard to spot at  
night.

(looks, then)

It'll be faster if we split up to  
search.

He HEARS something, looks alert.

REMBRANDT

Yeah. I heard it too.

WADE

We all did.

They look around. It's dark. You can't see much. But you  
can sense.

MAGGIE

Something's circling us.

The noise dims.

REMBRANDT

Now it sounds like it's moving  
away.

WADE

Why? So it can come around us?

They HEAR a SNARLING sound. In fact, they HEAR snarling in  
all directions.

MAGGIE

I think his friend may have come  
back for us.

REMBRANDT

From the sound of it, friends.

QUINN

C'mon, run!

CONTINUED

- 12 CONTINUED 12
- He takes off down the path. The others right behind him.  
The bushes rustle as the hybrids begin to chase them.
- One hybrid leaps out, jumping on Rembrandt, taking him down.
- WADE  
Rembrandt!
- She crosses to help. The animal swipes at her. Quinn (X)  
beats it back with the rifle. They take off, keep running (X)  
for their lives.
- 13 ON RICKMAN 13
- Running after them. Enjoying the hunt. HOWLING with  
delight.
- 14 EXT. JUNGLE - ANOTHER AREA 14
- The HOWLING is so damn weird. As they run through a (X)  
clearing and hit a dead end.
- MAGGIE  
Dead end! (X)
- Quinn looks back to find another hybrid approaching them.
- QUINN  
Better find a way out, quick. (X)
- He raises the rifle, ready to strike the approaching (X)  
hybrid. He's startled when from behind
- WADE  
Quinn, watch out!
- Quinn wheels around to find a small female hybrid,  
ALISANDRA. She's clean (not a smelly beast), dressed in a  
beautiful dress and holds a dart gun, seemingly aimed at (X)  
Quinn. His rifle could strike her. But he hesitates.
- Alisandra FIRES. Quinn ducks and the dart strikes a beast  
that was running up from behind.
- ALISANDRA  
This way, hurry.
- The Sliders exchange a look. She helped us? (X)
- ALISANDRA  
I won't hurt you, but they might.
- Nuf said. They follow after her.

15 EXT. HIDDEN PATH - NIGHT

15 (X)

A narrow path between rocky cliffs. You can hear the BEASTS howling in the distance. They're near, but not too close. Maggie comes up to Quinn.

MAGGIE

How do we know we can trust her?  
She could be taking us right into a trap.

Quinn nods, but keeps moving. Maggie pulls him to a stop.

MAGGIE

Hey. We don't even know what these things are and we're just blindly following her. Maybe we should be a little smarter about this.

QUINN

We are! Okay? For the moment, we're ahead of the others. We weren't dragged off like Harry. That seems pretty smart to me.

He gives her a look. They move to catch up with the others. Alisandra stops at the edge of the path.

ALISANDRA

The compound where I live is just beyond the clearing. We'll be safe once we're inside the fence.

Alisandra looks out -- judging the time to cross.

WADE

Safe from what exactly? We've never seen anything like those creatures. Or like you.

ALISANDRA

We're hybrids, genetic mixtures of humans and animals.

(X)

A beast appears down the path behind them.

MAGGIE

Hey, save the 'get to know you' chat for later. We've got company.

(X)

She darts the beast. It goes down, cold.

(X)

QUINN

(eyes her gun)  
What's in that stuff?

CONTINUED

15 CONTINUED

15

ALISANDRA  
Tranquilizer. It puts them out,  
but doesn't hurt them. Doctor Paul  
doesn't approve of violence. (X)

Alisandra leads them out of the pathway...

16 EXT. JUNGLE - CLEARING - CONTINUOUS

16

Alisandra makes a break across the clearing. The Sliders  
are right on her heels. You can HEAR beasts around them,  
HOWLING, but you can't quite get a bead on them.

Out of nowhere, a woman/leopard leaps at Quinn. Remy  
crosses to fight her off. The beast is on him. Alisandra  
darts her. The others hurry to Quinn and Remy, pulling  
them to safety. Quinn realizes he's dropped the timer in  
the struggle. (X)  
(X)  
(X)  
(X)

QUINN

The timer!

It's on the ground, too far to reach it. He moves to go  
after it. Alisandra grabs him. There are still two other  
beasts chasing them.

ALISANDRA

I'm out of darts.

Having no choice, the Sliders must leave their timer behind.  
Quinn turns back to see it's red lights in the grass. But  
there's no way to get it as the beasts close in. (X)

17 EXT. COMPOUND - MAIN GATE - NIGHT

17(X)

Alisandra emerges from the jungle...

ALISANDRA

Open the gate! Open the gate!

Another well-groomed, well-dressed hybrid emerges from the  
main house. This is DANIEL.

He runs to the gate, turns the electricity off and opens it.  
Alisandra and the Sliders enter just a step ahead of the two  
animal beasts.

The gate is closed. One of the beasts lunges at the gate  
and when the electricity is turned back on, it fries in a  
sea of blue-white light. The Sliders react to this  
horrible sight. Off which -- (X)  
(X)

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

18 EXT. COMPOUND - MAIN GATE - NIGHT

18(X)

Several HYBRIDS rant outside, angry over the new death. The Sliders, Daniel and Alisandra watch. Ceres emerges from the jungle and lopes to the gate.

CERES

Whatever work you've come to do here, I will destroy it. Doctor Paul will be stopped.

QUINN

We're not here to do any work.

CERES

Then leave, while you're still alive.

REMBRANDT

If we open this gate, you gonna let us walk out there without a problem?

Ceres ROARS.

WADE

I'm guessing that's a no.

MAGGIE

Safe bet.

Ceres turns to head back into the jungle.

ALISANDRA

What has gotten into all of you?

CERES

(a ROAR)  
Anger!

The animals HOWL. Alisandra winces in pain.

REMBRANDT

Hey, you alright?

ALISANDRA

I'll be fine.

CERES

No, she won't. She's dying.

(then)  
When the next hybrid comes, he'll throw you out too, like all of us.

(X)  
(X)  
(X)

CONTINUED

18 CONTINUED

18

DANIEL

Shut up, Ceres.

CERES

Your time will come too, Daniel.

(X)

Alisandra winces again. Ceres comes toward her.

(X)

CERES

If you think it hurts now, imagine how much without the medicine.

(X)

ALISANDRA

He can't make enough for everyone.

(X)

CERES

Then he shouldn't have made all of us -- at all!

He ROARS the word: All.

19 EXT. JUNGLE - CLEARING - NIGHT

19 (X)

Rickman looks up as CERES' ROAR ECHOES. Then, he SEES a light in the ground. The timer. He picks it up, smiles at his find.

20 EXT. COMPOUND - MAIN GATE - NIGHT

20 (X)

CERES

Tell him, his experiments will not continue. This gate will not keep us out forever.

(X)

(X)

He walks away. Alisandra fights the pain. Remmy's to the house.

(X)

REMBRANDT

Where's this doctor you keep talking about?

ALISANDRA

If you could just help me into the house.

(to Daniel)

They are out guests, Daniel. Make them at home.

Remmy helps her into the house.

DANIEL

I'll let Doctor Paul know you'll be staying with us.

(X)

CONTINUED

20 CONTINUED

20

QUINN

We won't. We don't have time.

Daniel gives him a look, then heads for the main house. Quinn steps toward the gate, sizing up the situation. One or two of the animals are still there.

QUINN

We've got to get back out there.

WADE

Without some kind of weapon, I don't think our odds of getting past them are very good.

QUINN

(irritated)  
Without the timer, our odds are zero. Get it? It's not like we have a choice here.

WADE

Yeah. I get it. You don't have to go all mental on me.

QUINN

Right. Sorry.

But he doesn't really mean it.

MAGGIE

Look. This Doctor Paul lives in the middle of some kind of a feeding zone, he'd be an idiot not to have guns around.

DR. PAUL (O.S.)

Well, then, meet the local idiot.

They turn to find DOCTOR PAULIS PAIVON (Pave-on, like Savon) on the veranda. He's 50's, bizarre looking. (X)

DR. PAUL

I don't have any guns. There's a non-violence policy on my island. (X)

WADE

Really? Because I don't think those things out there know that. (X)

DR. PAUL

They do, but something's gotten into them. They're very hostile lately. I'm not sure why. (X)

CONTINUED

20 CONTINUED 2

20

QUINN

Look, we don't really care why.  
We just need to get something we  
dropped out there. Can you help  
us?

He eyes them suspiciously.

DR. PAUL

Who are you anyway? Where did you  
come from?

WADE

Our boat capsized. We swam ashore.

DR. PAUL

Then swim to the next island. I  
can't help. I'm too busy now.

He turns to go back to his lab. Maggie crosses to him.

MAGGIE

Please. It's important.

Dr. Paul gives her a look.

DR. PAUL

It's too dangerous to leave the  
compound now. Give them some  
time, maybe they'll calm down.

QUINN

We don't have time to give them!  
(then)  
What about the tranquilizer guns.  
Loan us a few of those.

21 INT. LAB - A MOMENT LATER

21

Paivon is loading some darts into a trunk gun.

MAGGIE

Is there anyone else on this  
island besides you?

DR. PAUL

No. Visitors are actively  
discouraged.

(turns to Quinn)

You use one only. Any more than  
that might send a hybrid into de  
fib. Got it?

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED

21

QUINN

Yeah. Got it.

Dr. Paul hands Quinn a gun and starts to load another.

MAGGIE

What's the firing capacity?

DR. PAUL

You're kidding, right? These look like AK-47's to you?

QUINN

(checks his gun)

Three darts, Maggie. That's it.

DR. PAUL

Better not pin yourself into a corner, expecting to fire your way out. You won't make it.

WADE

Don't underestimate her.

DR. PAUL

I wouldn't dream of it.

(X)

He hands Maggie her gun and starts to load one for Wade, who's over by some pictures of Dr. Paul with his hybrids.

WADE

You look awfully chummy with the animals.

DR. PAUL

Hybrids. And I should be. I created them.

(off their looks)

It's not hard, really, two parts my DNA, one part theirs, stir in a little nuclear transfer technology and voila. Almost anybody with an easy bake oven could do it.

MAGGIE

That's your idea of a good time? Making genetic mutations for fun?

(X)

(X)

(X)

DR. PAUL

It's not fun. It's necessary. The hybrids are experiments in controlling genetic markers. Genes that cause cancers, Parkinson's -- that kind of thing.

(X)

(X)

(X)

(X)

(X)

(X)

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED 2

21

QUINN

You having any luck identifying the markers?

DR. PAUL

Some. There are some side effects though. Aging and genetic dominance factors. Once I get them mastered, I'll get the other stuff.

WADE

Kind of odd you're working all alone on an island. Not exactly your standard set up for major research...

DR. PAUL

Couldn't be helped. The boys on the mainland wouldn't let me play in their sandbox. So I packed up my experiments and moved out of their court jurisdiction.

QUINN

How many of them are out there?

DR. PAUL

Hard to say. Some of them have died. I don't keep track.

The Sliders exchange a look.

DR. PAUL

Before you get all judgmental on me, let me show you something.

He hands Wade her gun, then crosses to a cabinet...

DR. PAUL

Science is an adventure into the unknown. There's no room for caution, only for those who want to venture into the brave, new world.

He opens it, REVEALING a large aquarium and inside that is a well-developed baby (about 7 human months), gestating in a warm, yellow liquid.

MAGGIE

Is that thing alive?

DR. PAUL

That 'thing' is nine-tenths human and one tenth feline, bred for gentleness and humor.

(MORE)

CONTINUED

21 CONTINUED 3

21

DR. PAUL (CONT'D)  
And yes, she's very much alive.  
(knocks gently)  
Hello, Beatrice.

The eyes open. The fetus smiles. It's truly grotesque and yet, fascinating.

22 INT. COMPOUND - MAIN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

22

Rembrandt watches as Alisandra swallows some pills.

REMBRANDT  
You okay now?

ALISANDRA  
I think so. Thanks.

REMBRANDT  
I should find my friends.

ALISANDRA  
They're probably in the lab.

Remmy nods and heads out, with one last glance her way.  
Alisandra MOANS in a pain.

REMBRANDT  
Alisandra?

Alisandra looks to him, a finality in her eyes.

ALISANDRA  
It's starting...

REMBRANDT  
What is?

She begins to tremble, then starts to shake violently. She falls, seizing. Remmy rushes back in.

REMBRANDT  
What's happening to you?

She writhes in pain, shaking as an epileptic would.

23 EXT. MAIN HOUSE - VERANDA - SAME TIME

23

Quinn, Wade and Maggie heading for the house when they hear:

REMBRANDT  
Hey! I need help here!

24 INT. MAIN HOUSE - DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

24

They race in, horrified by what's going on. Wade rushes to Alisandra's side, holding her down while she seizes.

REMBRANDT  
She's having a seizure.

WADE  
Find something she can bite down  
on.

Maggie searches, finding a wood ruler

MAGGIE  
Will this do? QUINN  
Paivon!!

Wade takes it, tries to put it in Alisandra's mouth.

ALISANDRA  
(struggles to say)  
The med, medi...

Daniel enters, cowering in a corner.

REMBRANDT  
Daniel, what's she trying to say?

Alisandra's seizures become rhythmically horrific.

DANIEL  
She needs the medicine.

QUINN  
Then get it!

DANIEL  
It's in the cabinet. I don't have  
the key.

Quinn eyes the cabinet. He tries to pull it open. Can't. He pulls the cabinet over. It CRASHES -- Quinn pulls the thin backing off the cabinet, digs through the debris and finds a needle and a vial of medicine.

QUINN  
Is this it?

DR. PAUL  
(entering)  
Yes. Let me.

He grabs the needle and crosses to Alisandra. Remy gets out of the way. Dr. Paul holds her as her seizure decreases.

CONTINUED

24 CONTINUED

24

MAGGIE

What're you waiting for, inject her.

DR. PAUL

It's too late.

Remmy grabs the needle from him.

REMBRANDT

Get out of the way. I'll do it.

WADE

Remmy...

She shakes her head. He knows what it means. Alisandra is completely still. Daniel sobs.

REMBRANDT

What's going on here?

DR. PAUL

It was her time. It happens.  
(touches her tenderly)  
Daniel, take her to her room.

Daniel gently picks her up and carries her out. Paivon wipes his brow. His hand trembles. He goes to fix himself a drink. He's completely distraught --

(X)  
(X)

QUINN

This is your brave, new world?  
Hey, nice going.

Quinn exits...

DR. PAUL

(a look; then)  
I'll let you out of the compound.

WADE

Don't bother, we'll let ourselves out.

DR. PAUL

I'll have Daniel turn the gate on after you've gone.

(X)

25 EXT. COMPOUND - MAIN GATE - NIGHT

25 (X)

The Sliders, each with gun, move out. Daniel comes up after them, closing the gate. The electricity HUMS.

CONTINUED

25 CONTINUED

25

REMBRANDT

"It happens." What kind of man is  
okay with that? (X)

WADE

It's no wonder the animals hate  
him. (X)

QUINN

Look, I feel bad about her too,  
but we need to focus on finding the  
timer without becoming somebody's  
lunch. Heads up, okay?  
(to Maggie)  
You see any of them? (X)

MAGGIE

No. But they could just be waiting  
until we hit a good spot to jump  
us.

QUINN

Wade, Remmy... hang back some.  
We'll be harder to attack if we're  
spread out a bit.

Wade and Remmy nod and allow Maggie and Quinn to move ahead.  
REVEAL we see this from an animal's POV as he (MAX) watches,  
then turns and lopes away.

26 INT. ANIMAL LAIR - NIGHT

26 (X)

Ceres holds the Sliders' timer. Several pack animals lay  
around, just happy to be in Rickman's presence.

CERES

What do you need it for? It's the  
same as the one you already carry.

RICKMAN

If mine breaks again, I'll have  
spare parts... Very valuable when  
you travel the way I do.

CERES

How does this help you travel?

RICKMAN

It opens gateways to other places.  
Like a ship, it sails you to other  
islands.

CERES

Then give it back and let them  
leave. We don't need them here. (X)

CONTINUED

26 CONTINUED

26

RICKMAN

I don't want them to leave, Ceres.  
I want them stopped. Their  
leader, Mallory, he's a scientist,  
just like Doctor Paul. Look at me,  
look at yourselves, look what the  
scientists have done to us.  
(to Ceres)  
Shouldn't they all be stopped?

CERES

Yes. It must end.

RICKMAN

It must end.

MAX

(entering)  
They're out! In the jungle!

RICKMAN

Are the traps set?  
(off his nod)  
Let's go!

27 EXT. JUNGLE - PATHWAY

27

Maggie and Quinn proceed carefully. Quinn looks a little  
lost in thought. (Remmy and Wade are not in this scene).

MAGGIE

Between you and me, you think what  
Paivon's doing is all that wrong?

Quinn eyes her...

MAGGIE

I know the death thing is awful.  
But what about the lives he could  
save if he cracks the whole marker  
thing. What about the lives he's  
created. Doesn't that count for  
something?

QUINN

It counts. But it has to be  
balanced. What happened to  
Alisandra didn't look very  
balanced.

MAGGIE

I guess that surprises me. I  
thought you, as the scientist,  
would be more into the brave new  
world thing.

CONTINUED

27 CONTINUED

27

QUINN  
Don't get me wrong. Science is a  
really great thing, but it has it's  
problems.

They arrive at

28 EXT. JUNGLE - CLEARING - CONTINUOUS

28

QUINN  
It should be right here.

They look for it. Maggie eyes Quinn.

MAGGIE  
Just out of curiosity, the problems  
with science, you talking about  
Paivon or sliding?

He gives her a look, a sly smile.

QUINN  
Maybe I'm talking about you.

MAGGIE  
Me? How do I fit in there?

Quinn turns a bit serious, comes toward her.

QUINN  
It's going to end, Maggie. We're  
getting Rickman this time. Which  
means, we get the coordinates and  
go home.

She knows what this means for her --

QUINN  
I'm going to make it work for you  
too. There's got to be a way

MAGGIE  
There isn't, Quinn. We both know I  
can't live on your world.  
Eventually, I have to find another  
place to go.  
(beat; covering)  
I'm okay with that.

QUINN  
I don't know if I am...

A beat, a look. Quinn is so serious that it makes Maggie  
uncomfortable.

CONTINUED

28 CONTINUED

28

MAGGIE

Let's just find the timer. We can deal with this later.

She turns to go. His hand reaches out to her.

QUINN

I meant what I said on that hangman's platform. Did you?

She nods ever so slightly. He leans for a kiss, which starts tenderly and heats up... When they part, they're both surprised by the intensity of the moment.

REMBRANDT (O.S.)

You got it, right?

Rembrandt and Wade enter the clearing. Maggie and Quinn take a step back from each other -- a little too quickly. Wade picks up on the moment, finds the look Quinn and Maggie exchange interesting.

QUINN

Must be over here someplace.

Quinn crosses to an area where it clearly can't be...

REMBRANDT

Q-ball, you and I both know it's not over there.

He and Quinn exchange a worried look.

WADE

They have it, don't they?

QUINN

Maybe. I don't know.

WADE

Oh great, you were right. This is going to be our last slide. Only we're not getting home, we're not getting Rickman. We're probably never getting off this island.

QUINN

Not with that attitude we're not.

REMBRANDT

Wade's not the one who needs the attitude adjustment right now, Q-ball. You don't seem to be taking this very seriously.

CONTINUED

28 CONTINUED 2

28

WADE

I am. I'm just not panicking.

REMBRANDT

I'm not panicking either.

MAGGIE

You do seem a little tense, though,  
don't you think?

REMBRANDT

You stay out of this. Stakes here  
aren't the same. It's not like  
you've got a home to go back to.

Quinn looks like he might slug Rembrandt, only -- there's a  
NOISE from behind.

MAGGIE

Great. Everybody down.

They drop. Maggie eyes the ground around them...

WADE

They're everywhere.

MAGGIE

Not to our left. Not yet anyway.  
There's an opening. See it?

QUINN

Alright, here we go. Maggie, you  
lead.

She runs for the opening. An animal snarls, leaping at  
them. Remmy angrily throws a hard punch.

The animal flies past them. Remmy shakes off his hand.

REMBRANDT

That felt good.  
(fires his gun)  
Sweet dreams, fella.

The beast goes out. The other animals become enraged. The  
Sliders exit the clearing, as the pack begins to chase them.

29 EXT. JUNGLE - VARIOUS

29

The Sliders run, each fire (except Quinn, who's too far in  
front to have a clear shot), hitting various beasts.

REMBRANDT

I'm empty.

CONTINUED

29 CONTINUED

29

Ceres comes up behind. Wade FIRES. Ceres ducks the shot and stays right behind them.

WADE  
I'm out too. Maggie?

MAGGIE  
One left.

They look back, 4 beasts are still there. They run faster.

30 EXT. TRAP AREA

30

Quinn is ahead of them and triggers a trap and suddenly --

QUINN  
Whoa...!

He's HOISTED up by a vine. He drops his dart gun and swings about ten feet above the ground.

QUINN  
Get me down.

REMBRANDT  
I got it. Watch my back.

Remmy digs a pocketknife out. He tries to get it open.

MAGGIE  
Hurry.

REMBRANDT  
I can't reach.

WADE  
Toss it up.

Remmy does. Quinn (off screen) catches the knife... some hybrids lope up to the area.

MAGGIE  
Next one who takes a step is headed for dreamland.

Maggie holds the beasts away with her one dart.

RICKMAN  
Maggie. That you, darling?

Maggie whirls, INSTINCTIVELY FIRING at Rickman, who leaps out of the way. The moment Maggie's focus is shifted, the animals move in, reaching a trigger. A net drops over Remmy, Wade and Maggie, capturing them.

RICKMAN  
What a well-trained soldier you are. Pavlov would be proud.

CONTINUED

30 CONTINUED

30

WE HEAR Rickman's laughter...

WADE

He played you.

Maggie stares daggers. The Sliders struggle against the netting. Ceres picks up Quinn's gun and SNARLS, then FIRES a dart into each. They go out. Ceres then looks up. But Quinn is gone! Rickman comes out of the bush.

RICKMAN

Dammit, Ceres. He's the one I want!

CERES

We'll find him.

Rickman walks off, as the other animals drag the netting, with the Sliders inside, down the path...

31 ON QUINN

31

High in a far tree, camouflaged by branches. He watches as his friends are dragged off, unable to follow (because of the animals left behind). Off which --

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

32 EXT. COMPOUND - MAIN GATE - NIGHT 32 (X)

A hybrid sleeps like a big cat. Quinn needs to pass him to get inside. He moves quietly, emerging into an open area - very vulnerable. Uh oh -- his foot SNAPS a TWIG. The hybrid looks up, ROARS. Quinn makes a run for the gate...

QUINN

Open the gate! Open the --

The beast lunges at Quinn, taking him down. Quinn defends himself best he can. A paw swipes across his torso, ripping down to his skin - drawing blood.

Quinn gets a punch in, but it only angers the beast, who opens his mouth, exposing canines that are just about to rip into Quinn -- the beast YELPS and goes down. Quinn turns to see Daniel, dart gun in hand. (X)

DANIEL

Hurry. Before others come.

He moves into the compound, gate closing. Quinn turns, a look at the beast. That was close.

DANIEL

We're not like this. I don't know what's happened to the old ones. (X)  
(X)

QUINN

It's Rickman.  
(off Daniel's look)  
A man we're following. He's used to having soldiers. To wielding power. He's getting that cheap thrill by inciting the animals against you. (X)  
(X)  
(X)  
(X)

(then)

Where's Doctor Paul? (X)

DANIEL

The lab.

Quinn turns to go. Daniel looks out to the jungle.

DANIEL

Quinn... where are your friends?

QUINN

The hybrids took them. And I'm going to get them back. (X)

33 INT. LAB - A MOMENT LATER - NIGHT

33

Quinn enters. Paivon doesn't turn to see who it is.

QUINN  
Where do the hybrids live?

DR. PAUL  
Not now, I'm busy.

QUINN  
This is important. They have my friends!

DR. PAUL  
If you don't mind, I've had a lousy day. I don't have time to deal with your problems too.

QUINN  
You're going to have to.

He crosses and turns Dr. Paul, REVEALING that the doctor holds Beatrice's little body in his hands. She's not moving. Dr. Paul lays Beatrice down in a box, covers her.

DR. PAUL  
My genes are old. Sometimes they don't replicate right and when that happens -- they don't all make it.

QUINN  
I'm sorry.

DR. PAUL  
Most people are glad when my experiments fail... (X)  
(re: Beatrice) (X)  
But that's a life there. (X)  
(beat; to Quinn) (X)  
I hurt as much as they do. That's why I send them away. I can't bear to see them suffer. (X)

QUINN  
Maybe you ought to rethink your priorities here. (X)

DR. PAUL  
My priority is finding a cure for cancer. No one said that would be easy. (X)

A look between them. Quinn goes over to the tranquilizer cabinet area -- (X)

CONTINUED

33 CONTINUED

33

QUINN

If you could just tell me where (X)  
they go at night. I could use (X)  
another gun too. That should get (X)  
me in.

DR. PAUL

You'll never make it there at (X)  
night. (X)

QUINN

I made it here. (X)

DR. PAUL

Barely. Daniel saved your butt (X)  
out there. (X)

QUINN

I can't just sit here and do (X)  
nothing! (X)

DR. PAUL

I think they'll still listen to me.  
I'll help you get your friends  
back, but first, you help me.

QUINN

How?

DR. PAUL

I need your DNA.  
(off Quinn's look)  
My genes are programmed for me at  
this stage. I think that's why my  
hybrids age rapidly and why they  
live pain. You're young. Your DNA  
is healthy.

QUINN

No, I'm not interested in being  
party to your experiment.

DR. PAUL

Fine. Then I'm not interested in --  
helping you get your friends.

A beat. Quinn is unsure.

DR. PAUL

You'll never find the hybrids  
without my help.

QUINN

(beat; a decision)  
Take what you need and then we go. (X)

CONTINUED

33 CONTINUED 2

33

DR. PAUL  
We'll go at first light.

QUINN  
No, now!

(X)

DR. PAUL  
You may be willing to risk your  
life for your friends, but I'm not.  
We go in the morning. That's  
final!

34 EXT. ISLAND - MORNING (D2) - ESTABLISHING (STOCK?)

34

The sun just making its daily appearance.

35 INT. ANIMAL LAIR - DAY

35

CLOSE ON RICKMAN'S ANIMAL FACE

sideways, smiling strangely.

RICKMAN  
Can you hear me, Maggie?

Maggie, Remmy and Wade are caged. Rickman peers in on the sleeping Sliders. Several hybrids surround him. The Sliders' timer is near him (his is in his pocket). He puts his hand through the cage and pets Maggie. She stirs.

MAGGIE  
Get your stinking paw off of me.

RICKMAN  
You always were beautiful when you  
were sleeping.  
(then)  
Your downfall's always been when  
you're awake.

She's disgusted. Rickman looks to Wade, strokes her hair.

RICKMAN  
Why couldn't you be like this one?  
She has a certain charm you lack.

MAGGIE  
Go to hell.

RICKMAN  
Sorry, luv, already there.

CONTINUED

35 CONTINUED

35

He laughs... the hybrids laugh with him like hyenas.

RICKMAN

(getting angry) (X)  
Look at me, the only fix I can get (X)  
is a pitiful mix of human and (X)  
beast.

MAGGIE

Am I supposed to feel sorry for  
you? Would you have rather died on  
our world?

RICKMAN

Yes! At least then I would have  
died a man.

His anger riles the hybrids. They begin to HOWL in  
cacophony of weirdness. Rickman HOWLS with them, walking a (X)  
few steps away. Remmy and Wade wake, giving each other a (X)  
look.

REMBRANDT

That boy's completely lost it.

WADE

(low)  
There's our timer. Try to reach  
it, Maggie.

Maggie crouches, reaching. It's a stretch but, she lays her  
hand on it. Rickman turns and puts his foot on her hand,  
crunching it. They lock eyes. He leans down and takes her  
hand off the timer, licking it with a grotesque eroticism.  
She pulls back, completely horrified.

RICKMAN

Oh, Maggie. You used to like it  
when I'd do that.

Wade and Remmy give a look.

RICKMAN

You mean after all this time with  
your new friends, you never  
mentioned that you and I were  
lovers?

MAGGIE

Biggest mistake I ever made.

RICKMAN

Not true. Biggest mistake you ever  
made was marrying Steven because  
you felt sorry for the poor  
cripple.

CONTINUED

35 CONTINUED 2

35

Maggie slaps Rickman, hard. The animals break out in anger at her. Rickman reaches in and grabs Maggie by the hair.

RICKMAN  
For that, darling, you will be  
first to feed my need.

WADE  
Maggie...

Wade tries to pull Maggie back into the cell. Rembrandt reaches out too. Ceres swipes his paw through the bars.

REMBRANDT  
Damn!

Rickman pulls his needle, but stops when Max begins to seize. Rickman crosses and cradles Max gently.

RICKMAN  
Max.

MAX  
It hurts... hurts bad. (X)

Max seizes. His pain seems ten times worse than what Alisandra went through.

36 EXT. ANIMAL LAIR - BACK ENTRANCE - DAY

36

Dr. Paul, Quinn and Daniel quietly creep up. They're on an overlook that hangs above the pond area.

DR. PAUL  
That's the front way in. Daniel  
and I'll go down. I've got pain  
pills. They'll come out for that.

QUINN  
Where's the back entrance?

DR. PAUL  
Over there.

He indicates. There's a hole leading down.

DR. PAUL  
Give us five minutes. Then go. (X)

QUINN  
Meet you back at the compound.

37 INT. ANIMAL LAIR - SAME TIME

37

Rickman has laid Max's dead body on an area across from the cage. He turns to the Sliders, pained.

RICKMAN

They live in pain and die in agony.  
Thanks to that freak, Doctor Paul.  
(to the hybrids)  
He must pay for this, for Max!

WADE

Leave them alone, Rickman. You're not helping them by any of this.

RICKMAN

You're wrong. They know the truth now. He never cared for them. He used them.

(to the animals)

Doctor Paul's not your friend.  
He's your enemy.

(X)

Now, we HEAR a MURMUR of "Doctor Paul, he's here".

38 EXT. ANIMAL LAIR - A MINUTE LATER

38

A badly timed visit. Dr. Paul and Daniel approach. Paivon tosses out pills, kind of like chicken feed. The animals rush to get the catch.

Daniel hangs back, holding his dart gun in fear. Ceres GROWLS and swipes at Paivon.

DR. PAUL

Is that any way to welcome me, Ceres?

CERES

You are not welcome here.

DR. PAUL

Do you all feel that way? Because if you do, I'll leave.

(X)

The animals give him a look. One comes over and allows Paivon to pet him.

(X)

(X)

DR. PAUL

Hey, Davey. How are you?

(X)

RICKMAN

He's rather sad right now, Max just died...

(X)

(X)

Rickman steps out of the lair. Daniel raises his gun. Paivon waves the gun off.

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED

38

DR. PAUL  
You must be Colonel Rickman.

RICKMAN  
You must be the pathetic Doctor Paul.

DR. PAUL  
From what I hear, that's a little like calling the kettle black.

RICKMAN  
Poor fellow. Have I insulted you? Because I hope I have.

39 EXT. ANIMAL LAIR - BACK ENTRANCE

39

Quinn watches what's going on below, checks his watch and then slips into the lair.

40 EXT. ANIMAL LAIR - SAME TIME

40

RICKMAN  
It's good to finally meet you... Gives me the chance to ask you some questions.

DR. PAUL  
Not interested in talking. I just came for a quick visit.

The animals stir restlessly... Ceres circles Dr. Paivon.

RICKMAN  
See what I mean? If he really cared about you, wouldn't he want to stay, see how you're all doing?

DR. PAUL  
Shut your mouth, Colonel. They know I care for them.

RICKMAN  
Then why do you discard them like yesterday's garbage?

The hybrids make noise about this... Dr. Paul is starting to feel the heat a bit.

DANIEL  
Perhaps we should go, Doctor Paul.

CONTINUED

40 CONTINUED

40

DR. PAUL

They know they served a purpose. (X)  
After that, isn't it better they  
can live freely on the island, do  
whatever they like until --

RICKMAN

Until what? Until the pain eats (X)  
them up inside? Least you could do  
is help them die without the  
suffering. (X)

DR. PAUL

(sincerely pained) (X)  
I'm working on it, but it's beyond (X)  
my control right now. (X)

RICKMAN

You made them. You created them.  
Nothing about it is beyond your  
control!

DR. PAUL

That's not true. (X)  
(to the animals) (X)  
Please, Jaspar, you know I've done (X)  
everything for you guys. (X)

RICKMAN

Maybe you shouldn't have done (X)  
anything at all. (X)

The animals get more agitated. Rickman advances on him,  
stops by a hybrid that looks more like a Thalidomide  
victim. Paivon looks

DR. PAUL

He's a mutation. Not my fault. (X)

RICKMAN

When you play, God, it's all your  
fault.

Afraid, Dr. Paivon turns to go, but Ceres is there. He  
lunges. Daniel tries to dart him, but he's attacked.

41 INT. ANIMAL LAIR - SAME TIME

41

Maggie, Wade and Remmy try to open the cage, but can't.  
Tensions are rising.

CONTINUED

41 CONTINUED

41

WADE

We could've gotten Quinn and made it out of there, but oh no, you just had to shoot at Rickman, didn't you?

MAGGIE

I'm not in the mood to hear it.

WADE

I'm not in the mood to spend the rest of my life as brain food for him either, but thanks to you

REMBRANDT

Can you help me here, instead of using all your energy ripping at her?

QUINN (O.S.)

I'll help.

(X)

Quinn appears from the back entrance...

REMBRANDT

How'd you get in here?

QUINN

Back way. Paivon's out front, keeping Rickman and the animals busy.

(undoes the latch)

Where're the timers?

WADE

Rickman has them on him.

QUINN

We'll never get to him now. We'll have to figure something out later.

They head out the way he entered.

42 EXT. ANIMAL LAIR - BACK ENTRANCE

42

Quinn, Remmy and Wade are topside as Maggie crawls out an opening in the rocks. There is a HELLACIOUS ROAR from below. Wade moves to the edge. Remmy steps up next to her.

43 THEIR POV - LOOKING DOWN ON THE ANIMAL LAIR ENTRANCE

43

The hybrids have killed Daniel.

MAGGIE

Is that Daniel?

44 BACK TO SCENE

44

All four Sliders react to the horrible scene.

QUINN

They were just supposed to decoy them. This wasn't supposed to happen.

WADE

When you mess with things you're not supposed to, things that shouldn't happen do.

(X)

A beat. A look.

REMBRANDT

I don't see Paivon down there.

QUINN

He might have made it out. If he did, he'll head to the compound. We should, too.

45 EXT. JUNGLE - CLEARING - LATER

45

The Sliders walk back, tense, expecting to be jumped at any minute. Quinn has the only weapon. He's ever ready.

He and Remy are a few feet behind the girls.

REMBRANDT

Q-ball, about me barking at you back at the clearing. I'm sorry.

(X)

(X)

QUINN

I didn't take it personally. I know it's just the pressure. We need to keep a lid on it. We're doing a lot of fighting these days.

(X)

(X)

REMBRANDT

I guess in a way, that's a good thing. Sure sign we've become family.

46 ON THE GIRLS

46

Wade is ahead of Maggie, who moves faster to fall in step.

MAGGIE

Don't tell Quinn about me and Rickman, okay. I'd like to explain it to him myself.

CONTINUED

46 CONTINUED

46

WADE

That's an explanation I'd like to hear.

MAGGIE

You want to hear it, fine. The Colonel wasn't always like he is now. He was an amazing man before. I almost married him.

(X)

(beat; reflective)

(X)

All of this might've been different if I had.

WADE

Oh, that's so perfect, Maggie. It's all about you, isn't it?

Maggie pulls Wade to a stop. Lets a little anger loose

MAGGIE

When I left him and married Steven, he S.U'ed for the Gulf mission.

(X)

That's where he got the brain fungus. So, yeah, when I look at him, I feel a little guilty for the way things turned out.

(X)

(X)

(then)

(X)

And maybe I'm a little angry because I know he killed Steven just to get back at me.

(then)

(X)

It may not be all about me, but I'm a big part of it.

(X)

(X)

WADE

I'm sorry. I didn't know.

MAGGIE

Yeah, well now you do.

Maggie walks off. A beat later, Remmy and Quinn catch up.

QUINN

What was that?

WADE

She'll tell you.

REMBRANDT

Shh... Hear that?

Something is running through the forest.

QUINN

Run!

47 EXT. COMPOUND - MAIN GATE

47

The Sliders run for the gate, which is open. Remmy trips, just as whatever is chasing them emerges. Quinn turns, gun ready. It's Paivon, dazed and bloodied.

DR. PAUL

Don't. Just me.  
(looks back)  
But they're on my tail...

He helps Rembrandt up and the Sliders rush into the compound, closing the gate and switching on the electricity. The Sliders move hurriedly towards the house.

Rickman, Ceres and two others rush out of the jungle, right up to the front gate. Ceres GROWLS viciously, swipes at the gate and gets electrocuted. His paw is jolted back. Quinn stops, turns, watching Rickman and Ceres...

CERES

We can destroy the fence.

RICKMAN

No need, Ceres. In twelve minutes and nine seconds, they'll be opening the gate for us...

CERES

Why wait!

RICKMAN

Because I want to see their vortex close without them and see the look on their faces when they realize they're stuck here for the next twenty-nine years!

He looks at the Sliders and laughs... He then turns and heads back into the jungle. Remmy comes up next to Quinn.

REMBRANDT

What'd he just say?

QUINN

Twelve minutes and we miss our vortex.

Off which --

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

48 INT. COMPOUND - LAB

48

Wade sits Dr. Paivon down, tends to his wounds. Quinn and Maggie cross to the cabinet and pull out containers. Remy stands by the door, watching the gate.

QUINN

Where would he go?

DR. PAUL

I don't know. Maybe the lair.

MAGGIE

No way. He knows that's the first place we'd go to find him.

There's a tension to the scene, a sense of urgency as --

DR. PAUL

What was that thing he had? And what was that talk about leaving you here for twenty-nine years?

WADE

It's a timer. It opens a porthole to parallel earths. We use it to slide between dimensions.

QUINN

If we don't get it back from Rickman, we're not sliding anywhere.

DR. PAUL

You've got to be kidding.

MAGGIE

Do we look like we're kidding?

QUINN

What's happening out there?

REMBRANDT

Two of the hybrids are sticking by the gate. Getting by them might be a problem.

MAGGIE

We fire a few darts and they're out. Problem solved.

QUINN

Not so fast, Beckett.

CONTINUED

48 CONTINUED

48

Quinn uses the last of the tranquilizer solution.

QUINN  
We're out of this.  
(to Paivon)  
Anymore in the house?

DR. PAUL  
That's the last of it.

WADE  
You don't keep extra bottles of  
something that important?

DR. PAUL  
I usually only use a few darts a  
month. I had no idea I'd ever need  
it to defend my life.

REMBRANDT  
How many darts do we have?

QUINN  
One.

Beat. Looks between them.

WADE  
Okay, so unless we can hit like  
five of them with that one dart,  
we're pretty much in trouble here.

QUINN  
How much time?

REMBRANDT  
(off his watch)  
Ten minutes, fifty-four seconds.

MAGGIE  
And counting.

Wade crosses to the cabinet and begins to pull things out...

WADE  
There must be something else in  
here that'll work. This place is  
full of chemicals. Something must  
act like that tranquilizer stuff.

DR. PAUL  
Those're all bio-solutions for the  
experiments. No sedatives...

CONTINUED

48 CONTINUED 2

48

QUINN

What about the medicine? What's in that, some kind of morphine, right?

DR. PAUL

Yeah. Epinephrine, they're closely related.

48A INT. MAIN HOUSE - DINING ROOM - A MOMENT LATER

48A

Quinn is filling a dart with the medicine.

DR. PAUL

It works differently on everybody. Too little and it's ineffective. Too much and they'll have a heart attack and die within seconds.

QUINN

What will half a dart do?

DR. PAUL

That should work on a man the Colonel's size.

QUINN

Good. We can get three shots then.

MAGGIE

Wouldn't it be better to have one full dart, just to be sure?

DR. PAUL

That much will kill him.

MAGGIE

I can live with that.

A beat. A look between her and Quinn.

QUINN

We don't need to kill him. We just need to get the timers.

(pointed)

Let's not lose sight of that objective.

He hands them each a dart gun.

QUINN

One shot each.

The Sliders head out. Quinn looks back at Paivon.

CONTINUED

48A CONTINUED

48A

QUINN  
You're not gonna help, are you?

DR. PAUL  
Hey, not my problem.

49 EXT. COMPOUND - A MOMENT LATER

49

The Sliders come down the veranda. Two hybrids pace at the gate, eagerly awaiting them.

REMBRANDT  
Four to two. Good odds for once.  
I think we can take them without  
wasting the darts.

MAGGIE  
Yeah. Better to save them for  
Rickman.

Quinn eyes the lab.

WADE  
No time, Quinn.

QUINN  
I gotta make time for this.

He heads into the lab.

REMBRANDT  
Let's find something to deal with  
those mutants.

The three move into the compound to find a clever way to get rid of the immediate threat.

Behind them, Paivon exits the house. He realizes Quinn is missing and looks to the lab, alarmed.

50 INT. LAB - SAME TIME

50

Quinn has put his gun on the counter and is searching.  
Paivon enters.

DR. PAUL  
I can't let you take it.

QUINN  
You don't have a choice. I  
should've never given it to you in  
the first place.

CONTINUED

50 CONTINUED

50

DR. PAUL

I see. You're suddenly feeling a pang of conscience. You disapprove of what I'm doing.

QUINN

I disapprove of what you're putting those animals through.

Dr. Paul makes a grab for the gun. Points it at Quinn.

DR. PAUL

Advancement always comes with a price.

Quinn eyes the gun, but moves to the refrigerator, reaches, opening it. Paivon slams the door shut. Dr. Paul nudges the dart gun at Quinn.

DR. PAUL

We made a deal. Now go, get your timer back and slide out of here. You'll never have to worry about what you've left behind.

QUINN

It doesn't work that way.

DR. PAUL

I shoot and you miss your slide. You really want to spend the next twenty-years on this island with me?

QUINN

You're right. What do I care?

DR. PAUL

Exactly.

Quinn turns to go, then turns back, knocking the gun from Dr. Paul. They struggle, fighting, breaking up the lab. Glass CRASHES all around.

51 OMITTED

51

52 EXT. COMPOUND - SAME TIME

52

Remmy carries a wooden bat (NOTE: 'By bat, I don't mean "baseball bat," I mean, a stout, solid stick of some kind). Wade holds a gob of netting. They turn as they hear the CRASHING NOISE and run for the lab.

53 INT. LAB - SAME TIME

53

Dr. Paul reaches for the gun. Quinn punches him, sending him flying. Dr. Paul's hand FINDS a knife. He picks it up, coming towards Quinn, who rolls, finding his dart gun and THWACCK. He shoots Dr. Paul, who goes down, woozy.

QUINN  
You want advancement, you pay for  
it. Not the animals.

Dr. Paul heads for dreamworld.

Rembrandt, Wade and Maggie enter as Quinn crosses to the refrigerator and takes out the DNA samples, destroying them by pouring them down a sink...

REMBRANDT  
You okay, Q-ball?

QUINN  
Yeah. Had to use a dart though.  
Sorry.

WADE  
Don't be. It was a dart well used.

The Sliders step over Dr. Paul's pathetic body.

54 EXT. COMPOUND - MAIN GATE - A MOMENT LATER

54

The Sliders move to the gate. Remy hands Quinn his gun.

REMBRANDT  
Take mine. I'll be okay with this.

He indicates the wooden bat. The Sliders take a minute to size up the two hybrids on the other side of the gate. The hybrids look savagely hungry.

QUINN  
Easy boys.

One of them ROARS. Wade has moved to the on/off lever.

QUINN  
Open it!

Wade turns off the electricity. Maggie opens the gate. Quinn and Remy are immediately attacked by a hybrid. Remy puts the bat into the hybrid's jaw, then rolls it over, knocking it out with a punch or two.

Quinn does a hand-to-hand with his animal. Wade and Maggie spread the netting and pull Quinn's hybrid away, captured. They blanket the second hybrid with the netting and tie them up. So much for them.

CONTINUED

54 CONTINUED

54

Maggie kneels down next to the one awake animal.

MAGGIE  
Where did Rickman go?

The animal GROWLS, but doesn't answer. Maggie aims the dart gun, but the animal doesn't fear:

WADE  
He's not going to tell us.

Quinn pulls a few of Paivon's pain pills and kneels next to the beast.

QUINN  
I'll trade you these for where he went.

The animal looks at the pills, reaches for them through the netting. Quinn pulls his hand.

QUINN  
Tell us first.

ANIMAL  
The beach. He likes the cliffs.

Quinn hands the beast the pills.

QUINN  
Time?

Remmy looks at his watch, shakes his head.

REMBRANDT  
Seven minutes and loose change.

Looks between them.

QUINN  
We'll make it.

They take off running.

54A INT. JUNGLE - DAY - MINUTES LATER

54A

The Sliders run through the jungle, trying to make it to the beach in time.

They turn a corner and a man/panther beast is there (perhaps the one from the opening who died?), ROARING viciously. The Sliders come to a stop.

QUINN  
Whoa. Reverse.

They turn and run... The beast is on their heels.

54B INT. JUNGLE - VARIOUS

54B

Being chased... The beast leaps onto Wade. They tumble onto the ground. Maggie returns to fight the beast off. As he turns to leap onto Maggie, Wade uses her dart gun. THWAACK... this beast goes down too. The girls share a look.

Thanks. MAGGIE

Likewise. WADE

C'mon! QUINN

They move on...

54C EXT. BEACH - DAY

54C

They arrive at the place where they landed yesterday. They look up at the cliff, hurrying down the beach.

I can't see him. REMBRANDT

Maybe he's not there. MAGGIE

Maybe it doesn't matter. WADE  
(off their looks)  
He's got a timer too. If we miss ours, we can grab his.

Quinn checks his watch, looks worried.

We don't know that he hasn't missed his slide. We can't miss ours on a gamble. QUINN

54D EXT. BEACH - CLIFF SIDE - CONTINUOUS

54D

They arrive and make their way up the cliff.

54E EXT. BEACH OVERLOOK - A MOMENT LATER

54E

As Quinn makes it over the top. He sees Rickman by the edge. Ceres is with him. Rickman turns, smiles. Quinn helps up the others through --

CONTINUED

54E CONTINUED

54E

RICKMAN  
Too late, Sliders. Time's up.  
Slide, if you can make it past us!

Rickman opens their vortex over the cliff. WINDS WHIRL.  
PIZZA PANS SPIN.

QUINN  
Not without the timer!

RICKMAN  
Which one?

He laughs and holds up the second timer. The Sliders flank out, ready for attack. Quinn moves close to Rickman, who tucks the timers into his pockets.

RICKMAN  
You lose, Mallory, you'll be my  
next fix.

Rickman kicks the gun from Quinn. They dust it up. Maggie moves to Quinn. Rickman punches her back, sending her flying. Ceres launches himself at Rembrandt, who uses his bat to protect himself. Wade rushes to help Remmy. Maggie gets up, midway between the two fights. In Quinn's fight, a timer falls to the ground. Wade turns to Maggie!

WADE  
Dart him.

QUINN  
Grab the timer!

Maggie hesitates. She crosses to help instead of darting. The guys roll away from the timer and Wade grabs it.

WADE  
It's ours!  
(off the vortex)  
We're running out of time.

Remmy manages to WHACK Ceres with the bat. He goes down. Maggie and Remmy stand, sigh. That was rough. Quinn punches Rickman and rolls, grabbing his gun, turning to Rickman, who's got a small rock. He advances on Quinn. Quinn FIRES. Rickman staggers back. Quinn reaches up to Rickman, his hand just about to grab the other timer when

From where Maggie is, it looks like Rickman's about to bash Quinn's head in with the rock. She turns quickly and FIRES.

QUINN  
Maggie, no!

Too late. Rickman is struck. The double dose of Epinephrine works immediately. Rickman looks to Maggie, begins to shake violently and steps back and over the cliff.

CONTINUED

54E CONTINUED 2

54E

REMBRANDT

Aaayyy!

The Sliders rush to the cliff's edge and look down.

THEIR POV

A hundred feet down to a rocky cliff. Rickman's gone.

BACK TO SCENE

Quinn takes their timer from Wade. They'll have to leap into the void to catch the waning vortex.‡

QUINN

His timer. Our home coordinates.  
They're gone.

Quinn looks to Maggie. She's hurt by his anger. He moves to where he'll need to leap from. Wade comes up.

WADE

She was trying to help you, Quinn.

QUINN

Was she? Or was she doing what she wanted to do -- like always.

MAGGIE

He got what he deserved.

REMBRANDT

This isn't about him. What about us? What're we gonna do now?

QUINN

We keep sliding.  
(strong, rallying)  
We'll get home, just going to be a longer ride than we thought.

A look. Heads nod. Quinn leads them all into the VORTEX.

55 INT. VORTEX - STOCK

55

And so, Mr. Toad's Wild Ride continues...

FADE OUT

THE END