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"THE ALTERNATEVILLE HORROR"

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Full Script

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SLIDERS

"The Alternateville Horror"

TEASER

FADE IN

1 EXT. TOWN SQUARE - DAY (D1) 1

A beautiful day. Quinn, Colin, Rembrandt and Maggie stroll along a town square. A few pedestrians move quickly past the Sliders.

COLIN

I'm still confused. Those were men?

REMBRANDT

That's right.

COLIN

But they were dressed in women's clothing.

Quinn and Maggie watch with amusement as Remy struggles to explain.

REMBRANDT

Some guys like to dress up like women. It's, uh... They sort of, um... It's a lifestyle thing.

MAGGIE

(helpfully)
It makes them feel pretty.

COLIN

(understanding)
They were pretty.

QUINN

Keep sliding with us and I guarantee you'll see stranger things than that.

COLIN

Don't you get tired of it?

The Sliders turn to Colin.

COLIN

One dangerous place after another. Don't you ever want to pick a nice Earth and just stay?

QUINN

All the time.

A passerby bumps into Remy and keeps moving.

CONTINUED

1 CONTINUED 1

REMBRANDT
What is this? New York world?

At that moment, there is a rolling peal of THUNDER. The scene grows dark as BLACK CLOUDS quickly roll in overhead.

QUINN
(casually)
Looks like we're in for a little sprinkle.

The Sliders look around and see...

2 THRU 2
3 OMITTED 3

4 PEOPLE 4

are hustling off the street. In an amazingly fast and well-practiced operation, the street empties. In seconds, the Sliders are totally alone.

REMBRANDT
Oh-kay. I'll give you even money this is a bad thing.

COLIN
Never seen folks so skittish about a little rain.

Ignoring Colin, the other Sliders quickly confer.

MAGGIE
What do you think? Killer lightning world?

REMBRANDT
Flash flood world?

A gentle RAIN begins to patter down.

COLIN
Ow! Ow! This stings! Like lye!

QUINN
Acid rain world.

REMBRANDT
And me without my asbestos umbrella.

The Sliders pull their coats up over their heads, protecting themselves as best they can, and rush up the sidewalk.

CONTINUED

4 CONTINUED

4

REMBRANDT

We don't get inside pronto, there's gonna be nothing left but bones.

COLIN

Actually, even a moderately strong acid solution will easily dissolve human bone.

The Sliders gape at Colin for a quick beat.

COLIN

I've heard.

They hurry off...

5 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY

5

Quiet. Normal-looking, but empty. Until the Sliders suddenly burst through the door, their clothes SIZZLING and SMOKING. They rip off their coats and dump them in a SMOLDERING heap on the floor.

REMBRANDT

Didn't anybody catch the weather report today?

QUINN

Sure, early sulfuric thunderstorms tapering off to a light hydrochloric sprinkle in the afternoon.

Remy stamps his feet on the floor, his shoes still SMOKING.

MAGGIE

Should of worn your rubbers.

As the Sliders catch their breath, an attractive, upbeat young woman hurries into the lobby. Her name is HOLLY.

HOLLY

Oh m gosh. Are you folks all right?

As she talks, she uses a long pair of metal tongs (like fireplace tongs) to pick up the Sliders' sizzling coats.

HOLLY

Didn't you hear the weather report?

The Sliders exchange a look.

MAGGIE

I guess we missed it.

Holly carefully carries the smoking clothing to a metal trash can. Opening the lid with a foot pedal, she drops the coats inside.

CONTINUED

5 CONTINUED

5

HOLLY
You must be from out of town.

COLIN
We're from Canada.

HOLLY
(that explains it)
Ah. Well, we never go out without
checking the weather. Not during
the rainy season.

Having disposed of the contaminated clothes, she turns
cheerily back to the Sliders.

HOLLY
Welcome to the Chandler Hotel.
We're freeway close to all the
major theme parks, we accept travel
club discounts and, lucky for you,
we just happen to have a few
vacancies. Can I get your bags?

Before the Sliders can respond, a group of...

6 SIX HOTEL GUESTS

6

stampede down the stairs into the lobby. They are dragging
hastily packed suitcases--and donning heavy-duty raincoats
and popping open industrial-strength umbrellas (covered with
a metallic foil).

7 HOLLY

7

tries to stem the tide of guests heading for the front door.

HOLLY
(to various guests)
Is something wrong? Do you need
more towels? Please, don't go.
It's raining out.

One of the fleeing guests snaps at Holly.

GUEST
I'd rather be staked out in a
typhoon in my birthday suit than
spend another second in this
madhouse.

And they're gone. The Sliders stand in awkward silence.
Holly recovers smoothly, slapping on a cheery face.

HOLLY
So, how about a suite?

On that cue, a woman runs through the lobby, SCREAMING at
the top of her lungs, and out the front door.

CONTINUED

7 CONTINUED

7

HOLLY
(a beat; still smiling)
Room rates.

Off the Sliders' amazed expressions, we...

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN

8 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - SLIDERS' SUITE - EVENING (N1) 8

Nicely appointed stock suite in the Chandler. The door opens and Holly, now playing bellhop, leads the Sliders into the room.

HOLLY
This is the Presidential Suite.

COLIN
The president stayed here?

HOLLY
(confidentially)
I can't be sure, but it looked
like him.

REMBRANDT
Why were all those people leaving?

HOLLY
People?

MAGGIE
In the lobby.

HOLLY
Oh. Well. The Chandler is a
unique vacation experience. Not
everyone can handle this much
pampering and relaxation.

(X)

QUINN
So, those people ran screaming into
an acid rains storm because the
room service was just too good?

Holly laughs a little too hard.

HOLLY
("moving on")
Anyway, we have all the latest
amenities.

She opens the closet door, revealing a row of heavy duty acid-proof raincoats.

HOLLY
Rain slickers embroidered with the
distinctive Chandler logo.

She opens the bathroom door and flips a light switch. The Sliders wince as a glaring ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT emanates from the room.

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED

8

HOLLY
Decontamination shower stall.
(flips off light)
Emergency eye wash and...

She picks up a small tube from the dresser and holds it out to Maggie.

HOLLY
...an assortment of complimentary
burn ointments.

Maggie sniffs at the balm.

MAGGIE
Mm. Mango.

Holly moves to the door.

HOLLY
If you need anything else please
feel free to ring the desk.

QUINN
I'm sure everything will be fine,
thanks.

He slips her a few bills.

HOLLY
Thank you, sir.

And she's out the door. The Sliders stare at each other, a little agog at the whirlwind that just swept the room.

REMBRANDT
That woman should seriously
consider decaf.

(X)

MAGGIE
At least we've got a roof over our
heads until we slide.

Quinn takes out the timer and looks at it.

QUINN
In about twelve hours.

REMBRANDT
Make sure we leave a wake up call.

Quinn nods and sets the timer down on the bedside table.

MAGGIE
It's too early to crash. Anyone
care to join me in the bar?

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED (2)

8

QUINN
Why not? Bro?

(X)

Colin is sniffing at the mango burn ointment. He daubs a little on his hand.

QUINN
Bro? Colin.

COLIN
(looking up)
Oh, 'bro.' Brother. Right. No, I think I'll just 'crash.'

He picks up the TV remote.

COLIN
See what programs are being transmitted tonight.

Quinn, Maggie and Remmy move to the door. As they file out...

QUINN
Okay. We'll be up in a while.

REMBRANDT
(aside)
Check out the Spice Channel.

COLIN
There's a channel about spices?
Interesting.

Remmy shakes his head and shuts the door. Colin flips on the TV. As he settles back on the bed, we HEAR a TV weatherman...

WEATHERMAN (O.S.)
And the weekend weather forecast is wet and wicked, with no end in sight. From Encino we have a report of a woman caught out in the sudden squall, completely skeletonized in under a minute. Film at eleven.

Off Colin's horrified expression, we go to...

9 INT. LAST CHANCE BAR - NIGHT

9

Quinn, Maggie and Remmy sit at the bar.

QUINN
Did I do the right thing, dragging Colin along with us?

CONTINUED

9 CONTINUED

9

REMBRANDT
He's your brother. Your folks
wanted you to be together.

QUINN
I don't even know him.

MAGGIE
You didn't know me either. Or
Remmy.

(X)

QUINN
I know.
(serious)
If you ever decide to call it
quits... find a nice world and
settle down. I'm okay with that.
It wouldn't be home, but we've seen
a few that were close enough. I
just wanted you to know.

(X)

Remmy and Maggie look at each other, then at Quinn ...

MAGGIE
(mock offended)
You don't want your parents to meet
us, do you?

Quinn smiles. Suddenly, Holly appears behind the bar.
She's wearing an apron and polishing a shot glass with a
towel.

HOLLY
Get you folks anything?

The Sliders double-take at Holly. Is she the only person
working here?

QUINN
Uh, sure. How 'bout a draft.

MAGGIE
Make it two.

REMBRANDT
I'm feeling original. The same.

HOLLY
Three drafts coming up.

As she draws the beers...

HOLLY
Some weather, huh?

REMBRANDT
Think it'll clear up?

CONTINUED

9 CONTINUED (2)

9

HOLLY

(chatty)
Maybe. Ever since they shut down
the offshore refineries the air's
gotten a lot better. Were you guys
out here when Santa Monica Bay
caught fire in '93?

The Sliders shake their heads. She passes out the beers.
They're blue.

HOLLY

It's this damn El Nino. Pushes
those petrochemicals right in off
the ocean.

She wipes down the bar as the Sliders look at their beers.

HOLLY

Oh, sorry. You want oysters in
those?

Off the Sliders' reactions...

(X)

(X)

10 OMITTED

10 (X)

11 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - SLIDERS' SUITE - NIGHT

11

Karloff's "Frankenstein" is playing on the television.
Colin is sitting on the bed, clutching a pillow to his chest
in terror, yet he can't tear his eyes from the screen.

Abruptly, the TV switches OFF by itself. Confused, Colin
takes the remote and flips it back ON. He sets the remote
back on the table. After a beat, the TV turns OFF again.

Confused, Colin reaches for the remote, but it's gone. He
looks around and sees...

12 A BOY

12

standing in the room, now holding the remote. He appears to
be about ten or eleven, and he stares directly at Colin.

13 COLIN

13

jumps, startled. He sits up and turns to the boy.

COLIN

Hello. How did you get in here?

The boy turns and walks toward the door, still carrying the
TV remote control.

COLIN

Where are you going?

(X)

14 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT 14

Colin hurries into the hall. He looks around and sees the boy standing silently at the end of the hallway.

COLIN

Who are you?

But as soon as Colin moves toward him, the boy runs around a corner.

COLIN

Wait.

Colin follows...

14A INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - ANOTHER HALLWAY - NIGHT 14A

Colin darts around the corner and now sees the boy standing in front of the door to one of the rooms.

COLIN

It's okay. I won't hurt you.

The boy's mouth moves, as if he's speaking, but no sound comes out.

COLIN

I don't understand.

The boy turns and walks through the closed door. His body passes effortlessly through the solid door, but the remote control thunks into the wood and falls to the floor. Colin stares in amazement. He moves to the door and twists the knob. Locked. He looks up at the number on the door: 315.

15 INT. LAST CHANCE BAR - NIGHT 15

The Sliders are at the bar. Holly tending.

MAGGIE

Seems a little slow tonight.

HOLLY

Stick around till Wednesday.
(a wink)
Karaoke.

Colin rushes into the bar.

QUINN

Get tired of those infomercials?

COLIN

You won't believe what I just saw.

REMBRANDT

Man, I told you that spray-on hair does not work.

CONTINUED

15 CONTINUED

15

COLIN
There was someone in our room.

MAGGIE
What?

COLIN
(breathless)
A boy. Only he wasn't really there. He just appeared. He took the TV thingie and he walked through a closed door like some kind of... of... non corporeal shade.

Colin grabs Maggie's drink and chugs it. He immediately starts choking. Maggie pats him on the back.

MAGGIE
You saw a ghost?

Unable to speak, Colin nods vigorously. Behind the bar, Holly is furiously polishing glasses, pointedly ignoring Colin's amazing tale.

QUINN
Colin, what were you watching on TV?

COLIN
(catching his breath)
Hm? Oh, a program about this medical pioneer. He created a living creature by stitching together parts from corpses. Amazing. Though in the end I gather it got a little out of hand.

REMBRANDT
Sounds like Frankenstein.

COLIN
That's him.

The other Sliders exchange a dubious look.

MAGGIE
(gently)
You were pretty wiped, Colin. Are you sure you didn't doze off?

Colin turns to face the others.

COLIN
You think I dreamed this?

QUINN
We've been traveling a lot. You're not used to it.

CONTINUED

15 CONTINUED (2)

15

COLIN

(hurt)
Is that what you all think of me?
That I'm some backwards rube who's
afraid of evil spirits?

At that moment ...

16 AN ASHTRAY

16

slides across the bar on its own. The Sliders don't notice.
Not missing a beat, Holly slaps her hand down on the ashtray.

17 BACK TO SCENE

17

COLIN

We may still burn the occasional
witch where I come from, but I'm a
man of science. Same as you,
brother. And I know what I saw.

(X)

A SUDDEN CLAP OF THUNDER causes the hotel lights to FLICKER
ominously. The lobby doors crash open and...

18 A DARK FIGURE

18

stands in the doorway, backlit by a brilliant flash of
LIGHTNING. The mysterious figure steps into the lobby and
we see he is dressed in a long (presumably) acid-proof
duster with a metallic-looking scarf, a wide-brimmed hat
shading his face.

Rain SIZZLES and SMOKES off his clothing as he lugs several
heavy cases through the lobby to the bar. The Sliders watch
as Holly hurries down the bar to meet him.

HOLLY

Welcome to the Chandler Hotel --

STRANGER

(a low growl)
I have a few trunks in the cab.

(X)

HOLLY

I'll see to them. This way, sir.

(X)

She ducks under the bar and heads for the front desk. The
Stranger turns to follow her, but pauses for a beat --
leveling a creepy glare at the Sliders before moving off.

REMBRANDT

This is the second weirdest hotel
I've ever stayed in.

CONTINUED

18 CONTINUED 18

Quinn and Maggie nod in agreement. Maggie picks up her blue beer.

MAGGIE
The oysters really make this beer,
though.

Colin grimaces. (X)

19 EXT. CHANDLER HOTEL - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING 19

Lightning FLASHES. Rain continues to pour down.

20 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - SLIDERS' BATHROOM - NIGHT 20

Rembrandt is at the sink wearing a Chandler Hotel bathrobe. He sings happily to himself as he lathers up his face for a shave. Hot water running in the sink steams up the mirror.

Rembrandt shaves, but he freezes with the razor to his face when he hears a slow SCREECHING sound.

21 ON THE STEAMED-UP MIRROR 21

Letters are slowly traced by an invisible hand: HELP US.

22 REMMY 22

stares in shock as we go to...

23 INT CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT 23

Maggie exits the Sliders' suite and walks down the hall carrying an ice bucket. As she heads toward the ice machine, she hears a noise behind her. She turns to see...

24 THE STRANGER FROM THE LOBBY 24

loitering in the hallway near the Sliders' room. Maggie watches curiously as he gets down on his hands and knees and begins vacuuming the carpet around the Sliders' room with a high-tech "dustbuster."

Maggie takes a step towards him and the Stranger notices her. He jumps to his feet and hurries off down the hall, ducking into another room. Maggie shrugs and continues to the ice machine. (X)
(X)

25 AT THE ICE MACHINE 25

Maggie flips open the lid on the ice machine and scoops out a bucketful of ice. As she scrapes away the ice, she reveals...

26 A BLUE, DEAD FACE

26

staring up at her, buried in the ice. It's Maggie's own
face. The eyes pop open. Maggie drops the ice bucket and (X)
gasps, as we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

27 OMITTED 27 (X)

27A INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT 27A (X)

Colin and Quinn sit alone in the lobby.

(X)

QUINN

I just want you to consider that there might be some other explanation for this.

(X)

COLIN

Like I'm an ignorant, superstitious bumpkin?

QUINN

I was thinking more like you're tired. You fell asleep in front of the TV watching a horror movie, and...

Quinn makes a spooky ghost noise, "Wooo... Wooo..."

COLIN

You think this is easy for me? I spent my whole life trying to understand my own world, now I have a million more to deal with. I've got a lot of catching up to do, and it doesn't help if you accuse me of acting like a fool.

(X)
(X)

QUINN

Nobody's acting like a fool.

(X)

(X)

At that moment, Remmy bursts in from the bathroom, wearing his bathrobe, his face half-covered with lather, and Maggie crashes into the room from the hallway. They both talk excitedly at once.

REMBRANDT

Some invisible thing was in the bathroom with me.

MAGGIE

(overlapping)
There's a head in the ice machine.

REMBRANDT

(overlapping)
It wrote 'help us' on the mirror.

CONTINUED

27A CONTINUED

27A

MAGGIE
(overlapping)
It had my face.

REMBRANDT
This place is haunted.

Colin gives Quinn a knowing look.

28 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

28

The Sliders are gathered around the ice machine. The bucket lies on the floor with some spilled ice.

MAGGIE
In there.

REMBRANDT
It looked like you?

MAGGIE
It was kinda blue and frosty, but yeah.

Quinn flips open the ice machine and peers inside.

MAGGIE
Well?

QUINN
Have a look.

Maggie peers into the ice machine: nothing but cubes. (X)

As the Sliders react, we...

CUT TO

29 A WATCHER'S POINT OF VIEW

29

From down the hall, we see the Sliders, but in a distorted, hazy POV. Their voices are distant and muted.

The POV turns and floats away from the Sliders and glides down the hall. It approaches the door to the Sliders' room and zooms right THROUGH the door into...

30 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - SLIDERS' SUITE - NIGHT

30

The POV continues into the suite, roving around the room as if looking for something. Finally, the POV settles on...

31 THE TIMER

31

sitting on the table. The POV moves close to the timer and the timer mysteriously levitates out of frame. (X)

32 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT 32

Quinn drops the lid to the ice machine.

MAGGIE

There was a head in there and it
looked just like me.

QUINN

Well, since yours still seems to be
firmly attached, I wouldn't sweat
it.

(X)
(X)

Quinn moves off down the hall.

MAGGIE

(irked)
Don't you blow me off. I know a
disembodied head when I see one.

COLIN

I believe you.

Steaming, Maggie heads after Quinn. Remmy and Colin follow.

After a beat, the strange man from the lobby steps around
the corner. He was obviously eavesdropping. He moves to
the ice machine and checks it out. Using a set of tongs, he
begins picking up the melting ice cubes from the floor and
dropping them into a thermos.

33 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - SLIDERS' SUITE - NIGHT 33

The Sliders enter, their discussion continuing ...

REMBRANDT

I didn't have a nightmare while I
was shaving.

QUINN

No, but somebody could have written
those words anytime. When the
mirror steamed up, they just became
visible again.

Remmy is stymied.

QUINN

There's nothing going on here that
can't be explained by a bunch of
tired people stuck in an old hotel
with a Boris Karloff marathon on
cable.

The other Sliders glance at each other. Could Quinn be
right?

QUINN

Get some sleep. We've got an early
slide in the morning.

CONTINUED

33 CONTINUED

33

COLIN
What time should we be ready?

QUINN
I think we've got about ten more
hours.

Quinn moves to the table.

QUINN
Where's the timer?

REMBRANDT
It was right there.

COLIN
That boy was in here.

As Quinn hunts around...

QUINN
A ghost didn't steal the timer.

MAGGIE
I saw that weird guy from the lobby
nosing around outside.

QUINN
Right. You guys check him out.
I'm going to talk to our host.

34 OMITTED

34

35 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

35

Remy, Maggie and Colin are gathered around the door to another room. Maggie knocks. We hear crashing and scrambling inside, and the door opens a crack. The Stranger peers out.

STRANGER
Yeah?

From the darkness behind him, we can see weird flashes of light and hear various electronic BLEEPS and CHIRPS.

REMBRANDT
Can we talk to you for a second?

STRANGER
I'm busy.

Colin is trying to peer past the Stranger into the room, but the Stranger keeps moving to block his view.

MAGGIE
You were snooping around our room.
What were you looking for?

CONTINUED

35 CONTINUED

35

SMITH

Leave me alone.

COLIN

What have you got in there?

(X)

The Stranger tries to shut the door, but Remmy pushes it open. The Sliders move into.,.

(X)

36 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - STRANGER'S ROOM - NIGHT

36 (X)

As the Sliders brush past the Stranger into the room, we see it is filled with stacks of electronic equipment: scanners and oscilloscopes, cables twist around the room to form a jerry-rigged lab. The Sliders look around in amazement.

(X)

COLIN

Amazing.

STRANGER

You can't just bust in here.

(X)

We get a clear look at the Stranger for the first time. Without his coat and hat, the ominous figure we saw before is revealed to be a disheveled, jittery, innocuous-looking young man.

(X)

MAGGIE

You seem to be interested in electronics. You didn't happen to see a small electronic device lying around, did you?

(X)

(X)

REMBRANDT

'Bout yea big. Blinking red numbers. In our room.

STRANGER

What would I be doing in your room?

(X)

Colin is curiously poking at the equipment. The Stranger slaps his hand away.

(X)

STRANGER

Don't touch that.

(X)

REMBRANDT

You tell us. What's all this gear for?

(X)

STRANGER

I'm doing meteorological experiments. Analyzing weather patterns and atmospheric contamination.

(X)

Maggie picks up the high-tech "dustbuster" she saw him using outside he Sliders' suite.

(X)

CONTINUED

MAGGIE
YOU study the weather by sucking up
dust bunnies?

He snatches the dustbuster away from her.

STRANGER
I was collecting water and
particulate samples tracked into
the hotel on people's shoes, if
it's any of your business.

Remmy has picked up the Stranger's wallet from the table
and flipped it open.

REMBRANDT
John Smith. Graduate student at
Caltech.

MAGGIE
You expect us to believe that?
What kind of an idiot checks into a
hotel with a bonehead alias like
'John Smith'?

SMITH
(stung)
I realize it's not a very common
name, but there's no reason to be
insulting.

Smith snatches the wallet back.

SMITH
My mother named me after the Greek
god of intellectual pursuits.

Colin picks up a hand-held scanning device that looks like a
portable Geiger counter.

COLIN
What's this do?

He flips it on and the machine goes crazy, CHATTERING
wildly. Smith reacts with surprise. He takes the device
from Colin.

MAGGIE
All right, guys. We should let
Mr. Smith get back to work.

But Smith has turned his attention to Colin. He's pointing
the scanner at Colin and monitoring the read-out. He seems
astounded.

REMBRANDT
Sorry to disturb you.

36 CONTINUED (2)

36

SMITH
Hm? Yes. Good night.

The Sliders exit.

37 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY -- NIGHT

37 (X)

Remmy, Maggie and Colin stand outside Smith's room.

(X)

(X)

MAGGIE
I think we should keep an eye on
Mr. Smith.

COLIN
We haven't seen anyone else come
or go since the rain started.

(X)
(X)

REMBRANDT
Then the timer's probably in the
building somewhere.

(X)

MAGGIE
We've got nine hours to turn this
place upside down.

(X)

COLIN
Have you ever lost the timer
before?

The other Sliders simply stare at him.

CUT TO

38 A FISH-EYE VIEW OF THE SLIDERS

38

as they split up and move off down the hall -- Colin and
Remmy one way, Maggie the other.

(X)

39 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - SMITH'S ROOM - NIGHT

39

Smith steps back from the peephole in his door. Hold on him
a beat as a thin smile creeps across his face.

40 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

40

Quinn approaches the front desk and hits the bell. DING!
Holly appears behind the desk almost immediately.

QUINN
(amazed)
Don't you ever sleep?

HOLLY
The hotel never sleeps. How may
I help you?

(X)
(X)

CONTINUED

QUINN
We've lost something.

HOLLY
Well, let's check the lost and found.

QUINN
It was taken from our room. Has anyone been in there? A maid?

HOLLY
I make up the rooms myself, and I haven't been in there since you checked in.

QUINN
Maybe you could help me look.

HOLLY
Sorry, I can't leave the desk.

QUINN
(a charming smile)
I thought this was a full service hotel.

Holly reacts, unaccustomed to the flirtation, but pleased by it.

HOLLY
Well, my sworn duty as concierge does obligate me to help our guests in any way possible.

QUINN
There could be a big tip in it for you.

HOLLY
Please, sir, the satisfaction of my guests is reward enough.

Holly and Quinn lock eyes. Is there something more than an innkeeper-guest relationship going on here?

Colin and Remmy walk along the corridor. As they talk, they look under plants, behind paintings, test doors.

COLIN
So, to 'chill' is a good thing?

REMBRANDT
Sure, man. When you chill, it means you're cool.

41 CONTINUED

41

COLIN
Obviously. If you're chilled,
you'd be cold.

REMBRANDT
It's not about temperature. Cool
is a state of mind.

(X)

COLIN
Okay, cool is good. So, if you're
too hot that must be bad, right.

REMBRANDT
Actually, hot and bad are both
good.

Colin stares at him.

REMBRANDT
I won't even get into phat, fresh
and dope.

Off Colin's look...

42 INT. LAST CHANCE BAR - NIGHT

42

Maggie searches, looking under the bar, behind booze
bottles, etc. Suddenly, there is a tremendous PEAL OF
THUNDER and the LIGHTS GO OUT. From the darkness ...

MAGGIE
What is this, like a bad horror
movie?

We hear her banging around behind the bar. CRASH.

MAGGIE
Ow! That's gonna leave a mark.

Maggie comes up with a flashlight from behind the bar and
flicks it ON. She freezes when she hears SCUFFLING
FOOTSTEPS... someone moving in the darkness.

MAGGIE
Who's there?

She lays the flashlight around the room, catching just a
fleeting glimpse of a SHADOWED FIGURE, then it's gone.

MAGGIE
Quinn? Is that you?

CREAK... Maggie spins and aims the flashlight.

A STORE ROOM DOOR is slowly creaking open, as if someone had
just darted through it.

CONTINUED

42 CONTINUED

42

MAGGIE

Hello?

Maggie moves through the door...

43 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

43

Quinn and Holly walk along the now darkened hallway. Holly carries a lit candle.

HOLLY

Sorry. This usually happens after
the first storm of the season.
Rain eats right through the wires.

As they walk, Holly uses her passkey to open doors. Quinn peers into each room in turn.

QUINN

How long have you worked here?

HOLLY

My husband and I bought the place
six years ago. We always wanted to
run our own hotel. He died two
months after we opened the doors.

QUINN

I'm sorry.

HOLLY

It was cancer. He worked for SoCal
Oil & Gas, digging the San Fernando
petroduct. We bought this place to
get him out of that hole.

(then)

I guess we waited too long.

QUINN

Do you ever think about leaving?
Going someplace without so many
ghosts?

Holly is startled by his choice of words.

HOLLY

Where would I go?

(X)

She stumbles in the dark and Quinn grabs her hand to steady her. She holds on for a beat.

HOLLY

Thanks. It's nice having people
stay here again.

CONTINUED

43 CONTINUED

43

QUINN
I spend a lot of time in hotels.
It isn't easy having people just
pass through your life. No point
in getting too attached to anyone
'cause check-out time's at twelve
o'clock, right? (X)
(X)

She lets go of his hand.

HOLLY
We better keep looking.

Quinn nods, a bit sadly. They move on.

44 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - WINE CELLAR - NIGHT

44

Maggie creeps down the stairs, playing the flashlight beam
around the dark, cobweb-draped wine cellar.

MAGGIE
Anyone down here?

She moves deeper into the cellar.

MAGGIE
If that's you Quinn, I swear I'm
gonna skin you alive.

Maggie doesn't notice the door at the top of the stairs
slowly swinging shut. SLAM! Maggie rushes back up the
stairs.

MAGGIE
Hey!

She pounds and pulls on the door, but it's locked.

MAGGIE
Hey! Who's out there? Lemme out
of here!

She stops pounding, catching her breath. Then her
flashlight BLINKS OUT. In the darkness, she hears a
SCRATCHING, like the scamper of tiny clawed feet scurrying. (X)
(X)

MAGGIE
Oh, man. (X)

45 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

45

Colin and Rembrandt stand outside room 315.

They are illuminated by flashes of LIGHTNING crackling
through a window.

COLIN
This is the room the boy went into.

CONTINUED

45 CONTINUED

45

He twists the knob. Still locked.

REMBRANDT

I don't care what Quinn says.
Something paranormal is going on
here.

COLIN

(trying out word)
'Paranormal.' Beyond normal. That
sums things up nicely. Yes,
there's definitely something
'paranormal' going on here.

REMBRANDT

I'll run down to the front desk and
see if I can rustle up a key to
this door.

COLIN

Good idea.

Remy moves off. Colin feels around the frame of the door
and presses on the wood. It's solid. The hallway is
illuminated by another FLASH OF LIGHTNING. Colin freezes.
As if sensing something, he turns and sees...

46 THE BOY

46

standing in the hallway, eerily backlit by the lightning.

COLIN

(calling softly)
Rembrandt.

But Remy's already gone. Colin takes a step toward the
boy.

COLIN

Don't be afraid.

But the boy doesn't seem afraid. He walks up to Colin.

COLIN

MY name's Colin Mallory. What's
yours?

The boy tries to speak, but as before, his lips move and no
sound comes out.

COLIN

I can't hear you. Where did you
come from?

The boy seems to understand Colin. He turns and points at
Room 315. Colin now sees a key hanging from the lock.

(X)

(X)

(X)

CONTINUED

46 CONTINUED 46

Colin looks up and down the hallway.

COLIN

Remmy.

NO answer. Colin turns and sees the boy has vanished. (X)
Taking a Breath, Colin unlocks the door and steps into the (X)
room. As soon as Colin disappears into the room...

47 THRU 48 OMITTED 47 THRU 48

(X)

49 JOHN SMITH 49

peers around the corner. He's been watching Colin. He holds up the Geiger counter-like device that Colin set off in his room. Smith moves toward room 315 and the device goes crazy, CHATTERING louder and faster as he approaches the room.

50 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - ROOM 315 - NIGHT 50

Colin enters cautiously. The boy stands in the room, pointing at something off camera. Colin turns to look and BRIGHT, MULTI-COLORED LIGHTS play over his face. Colin reacts with surprise at what he sees.

COLIN

(amazed)
Paranormal.

He moves toward the light, reaching out with his hand. But we still don't see what he does. As Colin clears frame, we see Smith, peering in the door behind him. Smith is agog.

Suddenly, the colored lights FLARE BRIGHTLY, causing Smith to flinch. There is a blast of SOUND and WIND and we hear Colin cry out. Terrified by whatever he sees o.s., Smith drops his gizmo and flees.

51 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT 51

Smith runs out of room 315 and hightails it down the hall. Through the open door a violent, whirling display of LIGHT and a blast of SOUND pours out of room 315. Then with a sudden climactic whoosh, the force of the disturbance in the room blows the door shut with a bang.

CONTINUED

51 CONTINUED

51

We hold for a beat on the eerie silence in the hallway, and
then we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

52 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

52

The scene is foggy, muted, almost dreamlike... as if space and time are warped (it should look similar to the roving POV shot right before the timer disappeared). Colin steps out of room 315. He seems a bit disoriented. Rembrandt comes down the hallway carrying a flashlight.

REMBRANDT

I couldn't find a key, but I got us some light.

COLIN

Rembrandt. I saw the boy again. He opened the door --

REMBRANDT

Colin? You there?

COLIN

I'm right here.

Rembrandt looks around curiously. He can't see or hear Colin. He tries the door to room 315, which is now locked again. Remmy bangs on the door.

REMBRANDT

Colin, you in there?

COLIN

What's the matter with you, I'm right...

He reaches out to grab Remmy's arm, but his hand PASSES RIGHT THROUGH REMMY. Remmy doesn't seem to notice.

COLIN

(stunned)
...here.

(X)

Rembrandt heads off. For a moment, Colin just stands there. In shock.

BOY (O.S.)

Hi.

Colin turns to see the mysterious boy standing behind him.

COLIN

He couldn't see me.

CONTINUED

52 CONTINUED

52

BOY
They can't. Sometimes they can.
For a second, like in a mirror or
out of the corner of their eye.
But they usually figure it wasn't
anything.

COLIN
I can hear you.

Colin moves to the boy and grabs his shoulders.

COLIN
I can touch you.

BOY
Sure. You're on my side now.

COLIN
Your side? Am I... are we... dead?

The boy shrugs.

BOY
I dunno. It's pretty boring
whatever it is. My name's
Matthew. (X)

COLIN
I'm Colin. (X)

(X)

MATTHEW
I know. You're the first person
who could see me, so I brought you
over. We can hang out now. (X)

COLIN
Hang out?

MATTHEW
Sure. Play and stuff. The others
are mean. I don't go near them
anymore.

COLIN
The 'others'?

Matthew nods solemnly. As Colin looks around nervously, we
go to...

53
THRU OMITTED
54

53
THRU
54

(X)

54A INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - WINE CELLAR - NIGHT 54A

Maggie creeps around in the darkness, moving carefully through the racks of wine and stacks of storage boxes. SKITTERING, CHATTERING noises can be heard around her,

MAGGIE
Okay, rats. Just keep, your distance. I'm not having a good day.

She moves slowly along, looking for some way out of here.

54B A HAND 54B

reaches in and grabs her shoulder.

Maggie screams. She spins, taking a Karate stance. Reveal...

54C REMMY 54C

standing behind her, holding a flashlight.

REMBRANDT
Maggie. It's me.

MAGGIE
It's about time. Didn't you hear me yelling?

REMBRANDT
What are you doing down here --

MAGGIE
I thought I saw somebody. I followed them, but then I got locked in. My flashlight went out. (a little freaked)
I could hear things. Like little animals, with little claws and little yellow eyes scurrying around my feet.

REMBRANDT
Easy, girl. I thought you were a Marine.

MAGGIE
(deadly)
I don't like rats.

Off Remmy's reaction...

55 OMITTED 55

56 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

56

Rembrandt and Maggie come from the bar just as Quinn and Holly enter from the other side.

QUINN
Any luck?

REMBRANDT
Maggie saw someone run into the cellar. (X)
(X)

QUINN
Smith?

MAGGIE
Maybe. I couldn't tell.

QUINN
(to Remmy)
Where's Colin?

REMBRANDT
I lost him. I came down trying to find a key to room 315...

Holly reacts nervously to the mention of room 315.

REMBRANDT
...when I went back upstairs, he was gone.
(to Holly)
315 is the only room that doesn't have a spare key behind the desk. You said Smith was the only other person staying here.

HOLLY
He is.

REMBRANDT
Then who's got that key?

HOLLY
I don't know. (X)

MAGGIE
(to Holly)
What the hell's going on?

HOLLY
What do you mean?

MAGGIE
Listen lady, somebody stole our property, put a human head in the ice machine and locked me in a rat-infested cellar. Now I don't like rats, so don't tell me it's all part of our 'unique vacation experience.'

CONTINUED

56 CONTINUED

56

Quinn holds up his hand for Maggie to settle down. He turns to Holly.

QUINN
(gentler)
What is going on around here?

She hesitates.

QUINN
You can trust us.

Holly looks Quinn in the eye, sad and defeated. She slumps on a barstool.

HOLLY
It isn't the off season. Well,
actually it's always the off season
around here.
(a weak smile)
The hotel is haunted.

A dramatic CRASH OF THUNDER.

QUINN (X)
(a beat)
No really. What's going on around
here?

A chair slides across the floor and hits Quinn in the back of the legs. He drops into the chair, astounded. (X)

HOLLY
It's haunted. You know, 'Boo!'
Bumps in the night. Blood-curdling
screams. The whole ball of wax.

A booze bottle slides down the bar on its own, Holly deftly catches it before it sails off the bar and pours herself a shot. The Sliders stare in amazement.

HOLLY
Disembodied heads in the ice
machine don't exactly earn you a
five-star rating.

Maggie slaps Quinn on the arm.

MAGGIE
I told you.

(X)

REMBRANDT
So why stay? Why not just pack up
and hit the road.

HOLLY
I can't.

CONTINUED

56 CONTINUED (2)

56

MAGGIE

Why not?

HOLLY

I had a son. Matthew. He was ten.
After my husband died, Matt was all
I had.

QUINN

What happened?

Holly looks up at the Sliders.

57 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

57

Holly and the Sliders are standing outside room 315. She
takes a pass key from her pocket.

(X)

HOLLY

This is the last place I saw
Matthew.

She unlocks the door.

58 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - ROOM 315 - NIGHT

58

Holly leads the Sliders into the room. Holly points off
camera.

HOLLY

That's why I can't leave.

The same BRIGHT LIGHT that shone on Colin's face bounces off
the Sliders. Reveal...

59 A VORTEX

59

swirling in the middle of the room. It looks like the
wormhole our Sliders use except it appears darker,
fluctuating with instabilities and crackling with electrical
discharges.

60 BACK TO SCENE

60

HOLLY

Two years ago that thing just
appeared here. Matthew must have
gotten too close to it. I talked
to the police, scientists,
psychics. The Air Force took over
the hotel for almost a year until
even they got bored and gave up.

(X)

(X)

(a bitter laugh)
I'm supposed to call them if
anything happens.

CONTINUED

60 CONTINUED

60

REMBRANDT
Our window isn't scheduled to open
for four more hours.

QUINN
That's not our window.

HOLLY
(stunned)
You know what this is?

QUINN
It's a portal. Into an alternate
world. It must be stuck open
somehow.

(X)

(X)

REMBRANDT
You think Colin could have gone in?

MAGGIE
Quinn.

Maggie picks up the gizmo that Smith dropped in the room.

61 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - SMITH'S ROOM - NIGHT

61

The door crashes open and the Sliders and Holly rush in.
All of Smith's equipment is up and running -- FLASHING,
BLEEPING and HUMMING away like crazy. Smith looks up from
one of his machines.

SMITH
So much for the 'Do Not Disturb'
sign.

Quinn stalks Smith, who backs nervously away from him.

QUINN
Where's my brother?

SMITH
What are you talking about?

Maggie flips the gizmo she found in 315 at Smith. He
bobbles it and drops it.

MAGGIE
What's the forecast, Willard?

QUINN
Since when do you check the weather
with an EM emissions scanner?

SMITH
It's for lightning and, uh,
atmospheric discharges.

CONTINUED

61 CONTINUED

61

Holly gets into Smith's face.

HOLLY
What are you doing here? What do
you know about my son?

Smith recoils.

QUINN
Hey, I can't call her off.

Smith looks at the group gathered around him.

SMITH
Okay, okay! I'll tell you the
truth. I hunt ghosts.

QUINN
Ghosts.

He rushes nervously about the room as he talks, checking and
adjusting his various machines.

SMITH
I have a theory that phenomena (X)
that are often attributed to the
supernatural are actually a result (X)
of fluctuations in space-time.
(growing more animated)
What people see as 'ghosts' are
really visitors from alternate
quantum realities. (X)

REMBRANDT
(deadpan)
That's a pretty good theory.

SMITH
I believe the disturbance in room
315 is a doorway into such an
alternate reality. I was trying to
get some readings from it when I,
uh... I saw your friend fall in.

MAGGIE
And you didn't tell us?

SMITH
I was getting around to it.

QUINN
We can help you prove your theory.
But we need your help in return.

Off Smith's look...

62 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

62

Much of Smith's equipment has been moved into the lobby.

CONTINUED

62 CONTINUED

62

Quinn hovers over a computer keyboard while Smith double-checks equipment. Maggie, Remmy and Holly stand by.

SMITH
Eventually they cut off my funding at Caltech. Wouldn't let me use the fusion reactor anymore. Jerks. I put most of these detectors together in my garage.

MAGGIE
You built a nuclear reactor in your garage?

Smith freezes.

SMITH
A little one.

QUINN
Okay. All systems look nominal.

REMBRANDT
How about the condensed version for the scientifically impaired?

As Quinn manipulates the small computer running Smith's equipment, the gear starts to power up with a growing WHINE.

QUINN
Each alternate Earth has its own quantum signature. We should be able to adjust this equipment to amplify the quantum signal from that vortex upstairs.

MAGGIE
And that will do what?

Quinn cranks the power. In the middle of the lobby, several amorphous FORMS begin to coalesce. The Sliders, Smith and Holly watch as...

63 COLIN, MICHAEL AND THREE OTHER SLIDERS

63

materialize in the lobby. The "ghost-Sliders" are doubles of Quinn, Maggie and Rembrandt. We'll call them GHOST-QUINN, GHOST-MAGGIE and GHOST-REMBRANDT.

Colin waves sheepishly at our Quinn.

COLIN
Hey, bro. Look who I met.

As Holly and Smith stare in shock, we..

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

64 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT

64

The ghost-Sliders (now fully materialized) look around the lobby.

SMITH
It worked!

HOLLY
Matthew!

MATTHEW
Mom!

She rushes forward and tries to embrace her son, but she PASSES THROUGH HIM and stumbles; to the floor.

QUINN
They're not really here. The equipment is just making them visible.

Ghost-Rembrandt steps forward. He is dressed in a very Arturo-like tweed jacket and speaks in a formal tone.

GHOST-REMBRANDT
That is quite correct.
(to Quinn)
You seem a bit more sagacious than our own Mr. Mallory.

GHOST-QUINN
Sod off, you brainy twit. (X)

Ghost-Quinn is wearing a leather jacket. He has spiked hair and a nose ring, and he speaks with a punk rocker snarl.

GHOST-REMBRANDT
Allow me to introduce my traveling companions. This is Quinn 'Howling Man' Mallory, a 'singer' of some sort I'm told. (X)

GHOST-QUINN
Get us the hell out of here.

GHOST-REMBRANDT
And this is Miss Maggie Beckett. 'Exotic dancer.'

GHOST-MAGGIE
Hi.

Maggie stares at her sultry counterpart in amazement.

CONTINUED

REMBRANDT

(to Ghost-Rembrandt)
You're responsible for opening the
vortex upstairs?

GHOST-REMBRANDT

Yes, I was trying to build an
anti-gravity machine, but things
went a bit awry. The resulting
quantum disturbance sucked us into
this ephemeral state.

SMITH

This is fantastic.

HOLLY

You've been here all this time? I
knew about the disturbances, but I
never... You're people.

GHOST-MAGGIE

We've been trying to get someone to
help us for the last two years.

MAGGIE

(still processing it)
You're a stripper?

(X)
(X)
(X)

GHOST-MAGGIE

Exotic dancer.

(X)
(X)

GHOST-REMBRANDT

Unfortunately, our attempts to
communicate were widely
misconstrued as some kind of horror
show.

GHOST-QUINN

(snorting with laughter)
Real horror show, all right.
(to Maggie)
How'd you like the cellar, love?
Make any new friends.

(X)

He forces an overbite and makes a squeaky rat-chatter
sound. Maggie bristles. Ghost-Maggie sidles up to Colin.

(X)

GHOST-MAGGIE

Colin here was the first person to
really see us.

(X)
(X)

QUINN

(to Colin)
You and Matthew must have nearly
the same quantum signature. That's
why only you could see him.

GHOST-REMBRANDT

My thoughts precisely.

CONTINUED

QUINN

(to Colin)
Sorry I didn't believe you.

COLIN

Never close your mind to the possibilities, brother.

(X)

Holly crouches in front of her son.

HOLLY

I missed you so much.

MATTHEW

I know. I could see you all the time. I wanted to tell you I was okay, so you'd stop crying. Colin told me not to worry. He said his brother can get us out of here.

GHOST-QUINN

He bloody well better.

Ghost-Quinn holds up our Sliders' timer.

GHOST-QUINN

We've got your gizmo, see? And brainiac here says if you don't get it back before these numbers run down, you'll be right up it, eh?

GHOST-REMBRANDT

(to Quinn)
Sorry. Who knew he was paying attention?

Suddenly the ghost-Sliders start to GLITCH and SHIMMER, like a fuzzy video image.

MAGGIE

What's happening?

One of Smith's machines starts to BEEP alarmingly. Smith checks the read-outs.

SMITH

The quantum frequency is oscillating.

QUINN

Colin's extra mass must be destabilizing the vortex.

HOLLY

Matthew!

CONTINUED

64 CONTINUED (3)

64

SMITH
We're losing them. I don't have
enough power.

Colin and the other ghost-Sliders begin to REZ OUT.

COLIN
(breaking up)
... power... the vortex...
Frankenstein...

Colin, Matthew and the ghost-Sliders VANISH.

REMBRANDT
Where are they?

Quinn checks the computer.

QUINN
Still here, caught in a transient
state between their world and this
one.

SMITH
Not for long. The instability is
increasing. Another hour, maybe
less, and the vortex could collapse
completely.

HOLLY
What does that mean?

QUINN
If the exotic matter holding the
vortex open collapses... they'll be
ripped apart by the tidal forces of
the wormhole.

Off their looks...

65 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

65

Quinn, Remmy, Maggie, Holly and Smith hurry down the hall.
Smith carries his Geiger counter-like gizmo.

HOLLY
My son's still alive in there. You
have to get him out.

QUINN
My brother's in there too, Holly.
Believe me, we'll do what we can.

SMITH
We need more data. I have to get
closer to the vortex to get some
neutrino flux readings.

CONTINUED

65 CONTINUED

65

Rembrandt stops, abruptly frozen by the sight of something off camera.

REMBRANDT
That shouldn't be a problem.

MAGGIE
Oh my God.

Reveal...

66 THE VORTEX

66

has grown. It's expanded from room 315 and is now engulfing part of the hallway.

67 RESUME SCENE

67

MAGGIE
I thought you said the vortex was collapsing.

QUINN
I said it was unstable.
(pointing to Smith)
He said it was collapsing.

HOLLY
What's happening?

QUINN
I don't know. Maybe it's generating more energy to compensate for Colin's extra mass.

(X)

REMBRANDT
You better do something before it eats the hotel.

The VORTEX is visibly GROWING. Moving slowly down the hall, swallowing up more of the building as it creeps toward the Sliders.

MAGGIE
If we don't do something, it might eat this planet.

(X)

Quinn looks at the small device in Smith's hand.

QUINN
If we can tune your detector to the same quantum frequency as the vortex, maybe we can stabilize it.

CONTINUED

67 CONTINUED

67

SMITH
You want to stop that?
(points to vortex)
With this?

He holds up his gizmo.

SMITH
This thing runs on four double-A
batteries.

QUINN
The theory's solid. We just need
more power.

HOLLY
Blackouts like this usually last
for days.

REMBRANDT
Wait. Colin was trying to tell us
something. About power.

MAGGIE
He said 'Frankenstein.'

SMITH
That doesn't make any sense.

QUINN
(thinking)
Frankenstein. Frankenstein.

Suddenly, there is a loud CRACK OF THUNDER and a FLASH OF
LIGHTNING from outside. The Sliders all look at each other
with a flash of realization...

QUINN
Frankenstein.

68 EXT. CHANDLER HOTEL - ROOF - NIGHT

68

A figure stands on the roof, shrouded against the driving
acid rain in a raincoat, struggling to attach a heavy
electrical cable to a tall TV antenna.

(X)
(X)

69
THRU OMITTED
70

69
THRU
70

(X)

70A INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - STAIRS - NIGHT

70A (X)

Maggie and Remmy, wearing a monogrammed Chandler raincoat,
hurry down the stairs. Remmy is pulling one end of the
electrical cable.

(X)
(X)
(X)

CONTINUED

70A CONTINUED

70A

They cross the lobby to join Quinn, Holly and Smith, waiting (X)
at Smith's equipment. (X)

REMBRANDT (X)
Man, that rain stinks. (X)

Remmy shrugs off the wet raincoat as Quinn hooks the cable (X)
up to Smith's EM detector. The expanded VORTEX now forms a (X)
solid wall across the lobby. It's consumed half the
Chandler.

MAGGIE (X)
The cable's hooked up. (X)

REMBRANDT (X)
One good lightning strike and (X)
you're cooking.

QUINN
Good work, Igor.

SMITH
(sulking)
This won't work.

QUINN
Sure it will. I've adjusted your
EM detector to remit a pulse to
match their quantum signatures.

SMITH
But how do you know it's the right
frequency?

QUINN
Maggie told me.

MAGGIE
What?

QUINN
You saw your double in the ice
machine. The cold temperature must
have slowed down her molecular
activity enough for her to
materialize.

He makes a final adjustment to Smith's gizmo.

QUINN
I've adjusted the molecular
resonance to simulate freezing
temperatures. One jolt should be
enough to reopen the vortex and
knock them all loose.

SMITH
You don't know what'll happen. You
could destroy the vortex
completely.

CONTINUED

70A CONTINUED (2)

70A

MAGGIE (X)
What choice have we got?

SMITH
(to Holly)
You can't let him do this. If those calibrations are the tiniest bit off, he'll crush your kid into neutrons.

Holly looks torn. She turns to Quinn.

QUINN
(acknowledging)
It's a risk. But if we don't do something now, we'll never get another chance.

Holly nods.

HOLLY
I trust you.

SMITH
No! I won't let you!

He stares wildly at Holly and the Sliders. He backs up against his equipment, shielding it with his body.

SMITH
They pulled my funding. They pulled my academic credentials. My whole career down the toilet. But this...

He points at the vortex.

SMITH
This proves I was right. Who do you think Caltech's gonna call to study this thing? Me! I laid the groundwork. I put in the hours. This is my baby!

(X)

Smith lunges for the heavy cable connected to his device. (X)
Just as he grabs it... (X)

71 EXT. CHANDLER HOTEL - ROOF - NIGHT 71

A tremendous LIGHTNING STRIKE hits the TV antenna on the roof.

72 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT 72

Electricity surges through the cable just as Smith pulls it loose. (X)

CONTINUED

72 CONTINUED

72

He is jolted across the room, where he collapses unconscious. Remmy moves to check him out.

REMBRANDT

He's breathing.

The inexorably advancing vortex moves over the electrical cable running down the stairs, cutting off our Sliders from the disconnected power cable. (X)
(X)

MAGGIE

What now?

Quinn picks up Smith's gizmo off the floor.

QUINN

It's still set to the right frequency.

MAGGIE

But there's no power.

QUINN

Not out here.

He points to the two power cables which disappear into the vortex.

REMBRANDT

Are you crazy? (X)

(X)

QUINN

Don't worry. It'll be right back. (X)

(X)

As the Sliders watch, Quinn cradles Smith's device like a football and runs...

73 OMITTED

73 (X)

73A INT. GHOST-LOBBY - NIGHT

73A (X)

It's still the lobby of the Chandler but it's a weird, surreal version of the lobby -- twisting and distorted. (X)
(X)

COLIN

Hey, bro!

QUINN

Hey! Watch where you step next time!

Quinn spots the electrical power cable. Moving carefully through the unstable ghost-lobby, he grabs the cable and hurries to attach it to Smith's device... (X)
(X)
(X)

74 CHANDLER HOTEL - ROOF - NIGHT 74
Another BOLT OF LIGHTNING strikes the TV tower ...

75 OMITTED 75

75A INT. GHOST-LOBBY - NIGHT 75A (X)
Quinn finishes attaching the cable to the device and lets it go just as a BOLT OF ELECTRICITY flows into the device. (X)
A BOLT OF ELECTRICITY CRACKLES out from the gizmo, opening a swirling SLIDER VORTEX at the end of the room. (X)
(X)
QUINN
(to Ghost-Rembrandt) (X)
The portal's open! That's your world! Go!

GHOST-REMBRANDT
Thank you, sir! Good luck!

He jumps through the portal. Ghost-Maggie waves to Colin. (X)
GHOST-MAGGIE
Bye, sweetie. Sorry we didn't have more time.

She goes too. Ghost-Quinn tosses the timer to Quinn. (X)
GHOST-QUINN
Here you go, mate! Cheers!

And he's gone. Now only Quinn, Colin and Matthew remain. The distortion in the ghost-lobby is stronger, STRETCHING and CONTORTING Quinn, Colin and Matthew. (X)
(X)
QUINN
Hold on!

76 INT. CHANDLER HOTEL - LOBBY - NIGHT 76
Remmy, Maggie and Holly watch the vortex anxiously.

HOLLY
What s happening?

Suddenly there is a FLASH-BANG and the VORTEX DISAPPEARS. We don't see Quinn, Colin or Matthew. (X)

MAGGIE
Quinn!

There is a moment of eerie silence.

HOLLY
Oh God. No.

Quinn, Colin and Matthew rise into view from behind a sofa. (X)

CONTINUED

QUINN
Sorry about the mess.

HOLLY
Matthew!

She rushes to him and pulls him into a tight embrace. This time he's solid and she grips him tightly.

MATTHEW
Mom. Not in front of everybody.

But she can't let him go.

Smith gets up groggily. He looks around and realizes the vortex is gone.

SMITH
Where is it? Oh no. No.

REMBRANDT
Sorry, professor. Looks like it's back to the drawing board.

Quinn picks up Smith's hand-held EM detector from the middle of the floor. It's a little charred from the electrical discharge, but its lighted display is still blinking healthily.

QUINN
Maybe not. All the vortex data should be stored in here.

He tosses the device to Smith.

QUINN
That oughta get 'em talking back at Caltech.

SMITH
Oh. Oh my.

Cradling his prize, he scurries off.

Holly steps up to the Sliders, her arm around her son. She takes Quinn's hand.

HOLLY
Thank you.

He nods.

HOLLY
Needless to say, your rooms will be comped.
(to Quinn)
For as long as you'd like to stay.

Quinn looks at the timer. It appears to be counting down normally. He looks from Holly to Colin, unsure.

76 CONTINUED (2)

76

COLIN
It's a tempting offer, ma'am. But
we have a lot of traveling to do.

Quinn looks into Holly's eyes. He nods sadly.

QUINN
You promised us a unique vacation
experience. (X)
(X)

HOLLY
(a sad smile) (X)
Tell your friends. (X)
(X)

MAGGIE
Listen.

They all stop.

QUINN
What?

MAGGIE
It stopped raining.

And as the first rays of the dawn shine through the lobby
windows, we...

FADE OUT

THE END