Darkest Night 2x07

"Bad Blood"

Written by
Michael Varrati

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Final Draft (1)
mvarrati@gmail.com
Characters:

Katie: Mid 20s. Impulsive and spontaneous. Quick learner who isn’t afraid to speak her mind. Knows she’s wrapped up in a larger conspiracy now, but has to keep that from Ricketts.

Dr. Lionel Ricketts: 30s. Younger member of Project Cyclops, working independently from Dr. Kinsler. Extremely cold. Softspoken but menacing. Guarded. Blew up at Katie a few eps ago.

Alana: Assassin. Shrewd individual. Thanks to a mysterious blood ailment, she is now enraged, manic, and lethal as ever.

Dr. Alvarez: Medical professional. Calm, collected, and unflappable... until tonight.

Nurse Montrose: Dr. Alvarez's partner in the surgery theater. A consummate professional with a bubbly side.

Nurse Steve: Young caretaker who recently transferred to the hospital. Soft spoken and kind.

Hospital Security: Keeping the peace, one ward at a time.

Lobby Person: A lobby individual.

Locations:

1. Lab at Roth-Lobdow Center for Advanced Research
2. Operating room
3. The Hospital

Time of Day:

Night. Definitely night.
ROTH LOBDOW CENTER FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH

EFX: Recorder button/tone.

KATIE
(whispering)
Roth-Lodbow Center for Advanced Research. Project Cyclops, Day 16, about to begin. Entering the laboratory now.

EFX: Key card beep. A loud buzz, a metal lock unlatched. Door opens, footsteps.

DR. RICKETTS
Katie.

KATIE
Dr. Ricketts. Good morning so far?

DR. RICKETTS
It's adequate.

KATIE
Most people just say "fine."

DR. RICKETTS
Most people have the literacy rate of a 3rd grader.

KATIE
Why yes, Dr. Ricketts, I'm doing well this morning, too. Thanks for asking.

A beat.

KATIE (cont’d)
What are you working on?

EFX: Scribbling on a note pad.

DR. RICKETTS
The recurring instances of perception control in several of our recent case studies led me to investigate certain pharmaceutical trials performed by research laboratories.
KATIE
(Knows about Axiom Zero, but keeping it "cool")
Like the Saber Formula, which we know was manufactured right here at Roth-Lobdow. For all we know, that was the beta test for what we've been seeing.

DR. RICKETTS
Yes. The Saber Formula was developed here, and while I know that nothing would please you more than to draw a line back to our doorstep with your conspiracy theories... what we've been seeing looks a lot more like the early research of one Dr. Damien Igwe.

KATIE
Igwe... Igwe... that name sounds familiar...

DR. RICKETTS
He should. Dr. Igwe's a professor now. He's also--

KATIE
Effi's father! The kid who took control of the pledgemaster from Omicron, the Project Cyclops we watched a few days ago.

DR. RICKETTS
Correct.

KATIE
What department does Dr. Igwe work for?

DR. RICKETTS
See for yourself.

EFX: The sound of Ricketts handing her the papers.

KATIE
Well, this can't be. This isn't Roth-Lobdow data.

DR. RICKETTS
Precisely.
KATIE
(acting shocked --
she already knows
Axiom Zero began at
Sigma Corp)
Dr. Igwe works for Sigma Corp?

DR. RICKETTS
Dr. Igwe is inconsequential. He's one
of many who worked for Sigma Corp.
He's not even working there anymore
as far as I can tell. But what that
data shows is that the beta
development of whatever it is we're
seeing actually began at Sigma. Not
here.

KATIE
(feigning shock)
I...just need to mull this over.
(beat)
If there's one thing I've learned
about working at Roth-Lobdow, it's
that there's always something in the
shadows worth chasing... if the
shadows aren't already chasing you.

DR. RICKETTS
Well, suit yourself. I was just
trying to provide you with some
facts. What you do with them is up to
you.

KATIE
Hmmm.

EFX: Sheet being removed.

DR. RICKETTS
Shall we get to work?

KATIE
Let's.

DR. RICKETTS
Subject appears to be mid-20s. Face
and head more or less in tact...

KATIE
Are those teeth marks on the neck?

EFX: Scalpel, flesh cutting.
DR. RICKETTS
Removing optic nerve...

KATIE
Project Cyclops. Trial 7-zeta-6. Time stamp is registering correctly.
Initiating playback in 3...
2...
1...
Initiate.

THE OPERATING ROOM - NIGHT

EFX: Doors being pushed open with urgency, the sound of a gurney.

NURSE STEVE
(Urgent)
Look alive people! We have a bleeder!

DR. ALVAREZ
Details?

NURSE STEVE
Paramedics just brought her in, adult female, looks to be mid-30s. Experienced blunt force trauma and multiple lacerations. Massive blood loss.

DR. ALVAREZ
Get her on the table.

NURSE STEVE
You got it.

DR. ALVAREZ
Montrose!

EFX: Running footsteps

NURSE MONTROSE
I'm here.

DR. ALVAREZ
This woman is going to need a transfusion. She's running out of blood...

(MORE)
and even if we close her up, she's not going to live if there's nothing left in there.

NURSE MONTROSE
Yes, Dr. Alvarez.

EFX: The bustle of the operating room. Beeping machines. The movement of the body from the stretcher to the table.

THE NARRATOR
As the nurses struggled to move the body from the stretcher to the operating table, Doctor Alvarez quickly surveyed the situation: Pale and beaded with sweat, the woman's clothes were drenched in blood. The thick, coppery scent of her insides filled the surgical theater, and even the medical staff, with their steely resolves, had to momentarily center themselves to stop from gagging.

EFX: The patient's raspy breathing.

NURSE MONTROSE
She does not look good.

DR. ALVAREZ
Understatement of the year. Vitals?

EFX: Scuffling noises as Montrose circles the patient.

NURSE MONTROSE
Weak. Fading.

DR. ALVAREZ
Then you're going to need to think about getting those wounds closed sooner rather than later. Start suturing.

NURSE MONTROSE
On it.

DR. ALVAREZ
...and where's my transfusion prep?

NURSE MONTROSE
I only have two hands, sir.

EFX: Running footsteps.
NURSE STEVE
Dr. Alvarez!

DR. ALVAREZ
I'm busy, nurse.

NURSE STEVE
I understand that, sir. But a woman in the waiting room just started seizing. The admit crew is understaffed and they need someone to check her pronto.

DR. ALVAREZ
(Exasperated, under his breath)
Damn it.

A beat.

DR. ALVAREZ (cont’d)
Fine. Steve. You're with me.

NURSE STEVE
Sir.

DR. ALVAREZ
...and Montrose, get that damn transfusion prepped so I can start it when I get back.

NURSE MONTROSE
On it!

EFX: Alvarez and Steve running, and pushing his way out the door. Running feet down hallway.

THE HOSPITAL - NIGHT

EFX: Convulsing lady.

THE NARRATOR
Recently transferred to the hospital after a number of years working in private care, the young nurse...Steve...was finding his new job to be even more stressful than he had initially imagined. He'd already seen an early-onset Alzheimer's patient commit suicide in his first few weeks on the job.

(MORE)
Still, as he worked with Dr. Alvarez in the lobby to quell the convulsing of the elderly woman he was currently cradling in his arms, the young man couldn't help but feel a small sense of pride. Tonight, Steve had done good...and, in his mind, no one could take that feeling from him.

DR. ALVAREZ
She's stabilized.

THE NARRATOR
But...the night was young.

LOBBY PERSON
Thank you, Doctor! Thank you!

DR. ALVAREZ
Of course. A staff member will be by momentarily to take your grandmother to a room for further check-up. But in the meantime, both myself and Steve here need to attend to some other patients.

LOBBY PERSON
Thank you, again.

NURSE STEVE
Just keep her still and calm, and someone will be along shortly.

DR. ALVAREZ
Steve.

NURSE STEVE
Yes, Doctor.

EFX: Footsteps.

OPERATING ROOM - NIGHT

EFX: The door swinging open, the beep of the medical devices, footsteps.

DR. ALVAREZ
Now, Montrose...t he patient better be prepped for...

He pauses.
DR. ALVAREZ (cont’d)
...transfusion? What is this?

THE NARRATOR
Stopping at the foot of the operating table, Alvarez’s eyes were fixed on a tube running from the woman’s vein into a thick, plastic bag hovering above her on an IV stand. A dark scarlet liquid traveled the length of the tube into the woman: Blood. The transfusion, it seemed, had occurred without the doctor's steady hand.

NURSE MONTROSE
It's exactly that: A transfusion. Remember, like the one you ordered? Or did you also suffer a seizure in the lobby?

DR. ALVAREZ
Yes, I ordered the damn transfusion. But I didn't clear you to do the procedure. Did you even match the blood type?

NURSE MONTROSE
(incredulous)
I didn't do the procedure. The other doctor did.

DR. ALVAREZ
What other doctor?

NURSE MONTROSE
I don't know. He came in after you left. He was credentialed. I saw the hospital ID. He told me he had it handled. He’s a doctor. I’m a nurse. That's how it works. I took it as my cue to go assist another patient.

DR. ALVAREZ
I don't know of any other doctor on the floor in this ward tonight.

NURSE MONTROSE
Well, you had to have passed him on your way back in here. He left just seconds before you walked in.

DR. ALVAREZ
Steve?
NURSE STEVE
I didn't see anybody.

NURSE MONTROSE
Look, I don't know every doctor in this hospital and I know you don't either. The important thing is that she's stable. I can take her vitals and then go find the other doctor to ease your mind... and for paperwork.

Alvarez sighs.

DR. ALVAREZ
(displeased)
Yes. I suppose that's...

Before he can finish, Alvarez is cut off by the sound of...

EFX: The patient (Alana) SCREAMS. It's a sound of pain and rage. Machines start beeping uncontrollably.

DR. ALVAREZ (cont’d)
What?!

THE NARRATOR
The woman on the table's body rocketed upward. The arch of her back convulsing in time with her screams. Small flecks of crimson escaped her mouth in a bloody mist with each renewed shriek.

EFX: Running, a scuffle. Excessive beeping. All throughout, the screaming continues.

NURSE MONTROSE
She's going into cardiac arrest!

DR. ALVAREZ
Since when does cardiac arrest look like this?!

NURSE MONTROSE
Sir!

Alvarez snaps out of it.

DR. ALVAREZ
(barking orders)
Steve! Stabilize her! Montrose! Get her sedated... NOW!
THE NARRATOR

As Steve moved to grab and stabilize the thrashing woman, Nurse Montrose rushed to her side with a syringe loaded with a heavy-grade sedative. However, any designs the Nurse had on sinking the needle into the patient's skin were immediately shattered. With a lightning quick movement, the patient's open hand flashed out toward Montrose's, plucking the syringe from her unexpecting fingers. Just as quickly, the hysterical woman reversed the syringe's trajectory... stabbing it directly into Montrose's chest. The Nurse stumbled backwards before crashing to the floor.

EFX: Montrose falling, the smash of medical supplies hitting the ground

DR. ALVAREZ
(yelling)
Damn it, Steve! I told you to STABILIZE her.

NURSE STEVE
(Struggling)
I'm trying!

THE NARRATOR
With a backward snap of her head, the patient's skull collided with Steve's.

EFX: Skull crack

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
The young nurse stumbled backward. Hitting the floor.

EFX: Screaming.

NURSE STEVE
(Groaning)
Fuck.

DR. ALVAREZ
Steve!
THE NARRATOR
With his assistants dispatched, Alvarez was left staring at the hysterical woman, who, despite claims of a stopped heart... looked very much alive and very, very upset. Surging forward, the woman started pulling herself toward Alvarez. The tube of the IV ripped free... and blood began to spill on the floor. The patient opened her mouth again for what Alvarez presumed was another shriek. Instead, she spoke to him for the first time.

ALANA
(intense)
It... burns.

DR. ALVAREZ
(Taken aback)
Wha... what burns?

ALANA
My insides. My veins. They burn. It's in my blood... my blood...

DR. ALVAREZ
Your blood...

ALANA
(Screaming)
Burns!

EFX: She screams again.

EFX: She screams again.

THE NARRATOR
Lurching toward Alvarez, the woman's open jaw began to emit something more than just a scream. A thick, dark bile began to spew forth from the patient's mouth, splattering the front of the doctor's suit. After a moment, the flow stopped, and the woman... ichor dripping from her chin... locked eyes with the alarmed doctor.

ALANA
(weak)
It's inside me.

EFX: Thud.
THE NARRATOR
The woman fell forward, unconscious.
Cautiously, Alvarez stepped forward and checked her vitals.

DR. ALVAREZ
Stable.

EFX: The beeping of the machines normalizes.

DR. ALVAREZ (cont’d)
What the fuck just happened?

EFX: Steve groaning.

NURSE STEVE
(Groggy)
That's what I'd like to know.

DR. ALVAREZ
Steve!

EFX: Footsteps of the doctor rushing to Steve's side.

DR. ALVAREZ (cont’d)
Let me help you up.

EFX: Steve setting up straight.

NURSE STEVE
Thanks.

A beat.

NURSE STEVE (cont’d)
What about Montrose?

EFX: Alvarez crossing to the other nurse.

DR. ALVAREZ
Out cold. She got a tit full of sedative. I imagine she's going to be out for a while. And judging by the way she hit the floor, she's going to be very sore when she wakes up. We should get her to a bed.

NURSE STEVE
And what about... her?
THE NARRATOR
The two men turned to look at the unconscious body of the woman on the operating table, framed by the pooled blood of the leaking IV bag.

DR. ALVAREZ
That, my friend, is the million dollar question.

AUDIO FADE OUT

FADE IN:

THE HOSPITAL - NIGHT

THE NARRATOR
With the patient incapacitated and whatever brought on her hysterical episode having since passed, the woman had been moved from the operating theater to a small hospital room for observation. Unfortunately for Steve, he happened to be the nurse in the room when the woman finally decided to rejoin the waking world.

EFX: Groaning.

ALANA
Unnnn...

NURSE STEVE
You're awake!

ALANA
My head...

A beat as Alana comes to.

ALANA (cont’d)
Where am I... why... why are you all the way over there?

NURSE STEVE
Uh, well... the last time you woke up it wasn't exactly a safe space. So, I'm keeping a respectable distance until I'm sure you're not going to Hulk out again.
ALANA
What are you talking about? You... you're a nurse?

NURSE STEVE
Yes. This is a hospital. You don't remember?

ALANA
Hospital?

THE NARRATOR
The woman stared into space for a moment. The flicker of recognition crossed her face.

ALANA
Yes. I remember. The blood. Oh god. The blood...

NURSE STEVE
Can you tell me your name?

ALANA
My name...

NURSE STEVE
Yes.

ALANA
Alana. My name is Alana.

NURSE STEVE
Alana?

ALANA
Yes. That is my name. But... that... that's not who I am anymore. Because my blood... my blood...

NURSE STEVE
I... I don't understand.

ALANA
My blood...

THE NARRATOR
Whatever lucidity the woman known as Alana had briefly displayed was gone in that instant. With mounting fear, Steve watched the shift happen with paralyzed dismay.
ALANA
(chilling)
My blood is bad.

EFX: She screams.

THE NARRATOR
Bolting up in bed, Alana launched herself from the edge of the mattress onto the floor. She approached Steve with a crazed look in her eye.

ALANA
I need it out of me. I can feel it in my veins. The badness. I have to get it out. I need fresh blood. Clean. It's gotta be clean.

EFX: Steve backing up.

NURSE STEVE
(nervously shouting toward the door)
Hey... some help in here would be great!

ALANA
It's gotta be clean.

NURSE STEVE
(with more urgency)
Help!

EFX: Footsteps running.

DR. ALVAREZ
Steve? What's...?

He spots her.

THE NARRATOR
Dr. Alvarez's interruption was enough to pull Alana's attention from the young nurse to the older man in the doorway. Staring at the doctor with a look of contemptuous desire, Alana surged forward so quickly that neither Alvarez or Steve were prepared.

EFX: Alvarez's body hitting the wall.
THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
Propelling her body into Alvarez, Alana slammed the doctor into the door jam. With a nearly imperceptible strength, the woman used her bare hand to punch hard into Alvarez's throat. Finger nails digging in, Alana yanked backward... ripping a good chunk of Alvarez's neck with it. Hot blood spattered the surrounding wall.

EFX: Blood splat.

NURSE STEVE
Oh my god.

EFX: Steve running, electronic call button noise.

NURSE STEVE (cont’d)
(into call button)
I need security! Nurses! Doctors! Whoever you can send!

THE NARRATOR
Realizing a little late that his plea would draw Alana's attention back to him, the young nurse turned slowly to look in the direction of the enraged woman. Steve was dismayed to find she still had the bloody Alvarez pinned to the wall... but was staring directly at him.

ALANA
I wish you hadn't done that, Steve.

EFX: Running footsteps in the distance.

THE NARRATOR
Throwing a glance back toward the sound of the approaching footsteps, Alana looked back to Steve... caught in a moment of indecision. As the sound in the hall drew nearer, Alana wrinkled her nose in frustration.

ALANA
Damn it.

THE NARRATOR
Pulling her bloody hand free of Alvarez...
EFX: Body thumping to the floor.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
...Alana turned to give Steve one last, hard look. Slowly, she licked a string of wet, red liquid from her finger tips. Giving Steve a cold wink, she turned from the room... and ran.

EFX: Running.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
Moments later, hospital security burst into the room. But they were too late to catch the fleeing woman...

EFX: Security chatter, footsteps.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
...or to save dear, Dr. Alvarez.

HOSPITAL SECURITY
What the hell happened here?

NURSE STEVE
The patient... she went crazy... she literally ripped out his throat.

HOSPITAL SECURITY
A woman did this with her bare hands?

NURSE STEVE
Yes.

HOSPITAL SECURITY
Is she on drugs? Is this bath salts?

NURSE STEVE
No. No, I don't think so.

HOSPITAL SECURITY
That must be one pissed chick.

NURSE STEVE
(To himself)
Bad blood.

HOSPITAL SECURITY
What?

Steve snaps out of it.
NURSE STEVE
Just... just find her okay?

THE NARRATOR
Leaving the scene of Dr. Alvarez's demise, Steve walked down the hall in a daze. The cacophony of hospital security becoming background noise the farther he walked down the hall.

NURSE STEVE
(emotional)
What is happening? What is even...

EFX: A scream in the distance.

NURSE STEVE (cont’d)
(trailing off)
...happening?

EFX: Another scream. Footsteps as Steve begins running.

THE NARRATOR
Running toward the screams, Steve's stomach began to sink as he followed the sound. Already expecting the worst, his dread only increased as he realized the path he was traveling through the hospital's cold corridors would lead him straight to the children's ward.

EFX: Steve skidding to a halt.

NURSE STEVE
Oh god, no. Please no.

THE NARRATOR
Rounding the corner into the ward, Steve felt the cold grip of nausea seize him. Streaked at odd intervals across the wallpaper... once upon a time colorful to cheer the children... was spatters of blood. Red hand prints and splotches now staining it throughout.

EFX: Sobbing

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
Slumped on the floor in the middle of the hall, a nurse... the source of the screams... lay in shock.

(MORE)
Heaving with sobs, the woman was alive, but very much incapable of expressing herself with speech as Steve approached.

NURSE STEVE

What...

EFX: Steve's steps slowing.

THE NARRATOR

Turning from the hall into a nearby room, Steve finally laid eyes on what had stricken the woman in her tracks: The remains of at least three patients... children... lay savaged across the floor. Throats slashed with precision, the blood around each of their necks had light tracks... swirl marks... similar to how ice cream looks when someone drags their tongue across its surface. Steve felt his stomach drop.

EFX: Wretching noise.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)

Glancing up the hall toward the row of other open doors... Steve couldn't bear to walk further and confirm what he already suspected.

NURSE STEVE

(complete dread)

Fuck.

From behind Steve:

ALANA

Most of them were sleeping. They never knew.

THE NARRATOR

Turning, Steve saw Alana standing behind him. Drenched from head to toe in the blood of children, she was a red specter illuminated by the hospital's harsh fluorescent lighting. Clutched in her fist was a surgical scalpel.
ALANA
I didn't want to, you understand. But I had to. Their blood was fresh. Innocent. Untainted.

NURSE STEVE
(in shock)
Where... where did you get that?

THE NARRATOR
Steve motioned toward the scalpel in her hand.

ALANA
It's a hospital, Steve. You guess where I got it. You guys really should lock doors.

A beat.

ALANA (cont'd)
Not that it matters. I would have cut them open with a rusty thumbtack if I had to. You don't understand how bad it hurts, Steve. Their blood calmed it... but it's still there... inside of me.

EFX: She takes a few steps forward.

ALANA (cont'd)
I want it out. No more bad blood.

NURSE STEVE
(coughing out the words)
They were children.

You can almost hear her shrug.

ALANA
They were there.

Steve sobs.

ALANA (cont’d)
...and now, so are you.

EFX: Screaming, Alana surges forward.
THE NARRATOR
Alana's speed was almost inhuman. As she ran toward Steve, the young nurse barely had time to move. Alana's body collided with his.

EFX: Slamming into a wall.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
Slamming Steve backward into the wall, Alana raised the scalpel with intent to kill.

NURSE STEVE
No!

EFX: Metal piercing flesh.

THE NARRATOR
As the scalpel came crashing down, Steve shoved his hand, palm open, upward to block it. Rather than burying itself into his face, the scalpel made it halfway through the bone of his hand before coming to a stop.

EFX: Steve screams in pain.

NURSE STEVE
Fuck!

THE NARRATOR
Surprised by the development... Alana backed up to survey what had just happened. Steve used the hesitation to his advantage.

EFX: Steve grunting, Alana yelping in surprise.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
Catching Alana off guard, Steve's shove sent her tumbling. As she fell away, the nurse began to run.

NURSE STEVE
(screaming)
Help! She's here! HELP!

EFX: Alana scrambling to get up.

ALANA
Don't you fucking leave... Steve!
THE NARRATOR
Turning at the sound of her voice, Steve was surprised to discover Alana was almost on him. Wincing, he knew what he had to do.

EFX: The sound of metal ripping from flesh.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
Using his free hand to pull the embedded scalpel out of his palm...

NURSE STEVE
(in pain)
Fuck!

THE NARRATOR
Steve rotated the medical blade in his hand just as Alana closed the distance. With a strong thrust outward... he connected.

EFX: Stabbing noise. Alana screams.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
With the scalpel buried deep in her breast, Alana clutched at the hilt of the medical tool. Blood spurting around it.

ALANA
(wincing)
You... son of a bitch.

EFX: A few footsteps. The thud of her body hitting the floor.

THE NARRATOR
Watching her body hit the floor, Steve let out a slow exhale of relief.

NURSE STEVE
That's "Nurse Son of a Bitch" to you.

THE NARRATOR
Wearily, Steve wandered toward the end of the hall, turning into the first open room. Careful to not look at the mutilated children within, Steve walked to the room's emergency call button and stabbed it with his thumb.
EFX: Electronic call noise.

NURSE STEVE
Get security. Children's ward. She's here. She's dead.

EFX: End of the call.

Sitting on the edge of the bed, Steve begins to cry.

EFX: Steve's sobs.

A few beats.

EFX: Footsteps.

NURSE STEVE (cont’d)
(wearily)
Finally... we need to call the police...

THE NARRATOR
Turning to the sound of the entering footsteps, Steve froze. Standing in front of him was Alana... scalpel still sticking out of her chest. Despite the foreign intrusion, the woman looked relatively unfazed. She gave Steve a big, blood-stained smile.

ALANA
Thank you, Steve.

THE NARRATOR
She nodded toward the scalpel.

ALANA
Thank you for helping me get some of the bad blood out.

NURSE STEVE
What the hell...

ALANA
...and thank you for helping me let some good blood in.

THE NARRATOR
Grabbing Steve by the collar, Alana yanked the young nurse toward her forcefully.

(MORE)
THE NARRATOR (cont'd)
Fatigued by shock, the sense of defeat that washed over him was almost comforting in a way. As her teeth tore into the small of his neck and his own hot blood began to spill down both of their torsos, he couldn't help but think... he had done good... and no one could take that feeling from him.

EFX: The tearing of flesh in Steve's neck, the gurgling of his blood, the sound of Alana suckling on it, and the wet smack of her lips when she's done.

ALANA
Well, Steve... you've been a real treat...

Suddenly, the crackle of an overhead P.A. system sparks to life.

HOSPITAL P.A. SYSTEM
Attention all Roth-Lobdow Health Center security personnel, report to the Pediatric ICU immediately!

ALANA
...but, that's my cue.

EFX: Body thud as Steve drops to the ground.

THE NARRATOR
Letting go of Steve's lifeless body, Alana used the back of her hand to wipe remnants of the young man from her lips. Temporarily satiated, the blood-drenched woman began to take stock of her surroundings.

EFX: Echoes of running feet in the distance.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d)
As the footfall of approaching security grew ever nearer, Alana's eyes laid at last upon a window in the room's corner.

ALANA
Bingo.

A beat.
ALANA (cont’d)
Come on, Steve. Looks like I need you just a little bit longer after all.

THE NARRATOR
As the security staff made their entrance to the ward, they were barely able to take full stock of the vision of carnage in the hallway before a loud noise... the shattering of glass... pulled their focus.

EFX: Glass breaking.

HOSPITAL SECURITY
It came from down there!

EFX: Footsteps running.

THE NARRATOR
Entering the hospital room that Alana had occupied only moments before, the security team instead found it vacant. It only took the briefest of moments to ascertain the source of the sound they had heard in the hall: the room’s window, now a gaping maw, was broken outward.

EFX: Boots on glass.

HOSPITAL SECURITY
What the...

THE NARRATOR
Crossing the room, a member of the security detail peered through the shattered frame, careful to avoid the few jagged shards that remained. There, on the ground below, he saw the shredded, mangled body of Steve... the fleshy, but inanimate object that had been used to push the glass outward. Next to him, several bloody footprints strayed away from the corpse before fading, like the creature that made them... into the night.
OUTRO BUMPER

EFX: Distinctive Noise

KATIE
Did we just see what I think we saw?

DR. RICKETTS
What do you think we saw?

KATIE
Don't make me say it.

DR. RICKETTS
Say what?

KATIE
...vampire...

DR. RICKETTS
A ward full of children was murdered, and you want to talk about vampires?

KATIE
...don't think I'm not horrified by what she did. I'm just trying to wrap my mind around it. She killed those kids for their blood, Dr. Ricketts.

A beat.

KATIE (cont’d)
...and she bit today's subject to drink his. I know it seems scientifically unsound. But the increased strength...

DR. RICKETTS
Adrenaline.

KATIE
The ability to survive being stabbed...

DR. RICKETTS
He may not have hit anything vital.

KATIE
...and the thirst for blood all seem to suggest something beyond the norm.
DR. RICKETTS
And it could just be madness. I'm not disputing that we saw a monster today, Katie... but monsters can be very much human.

KATIE
Well, what about the fact that the woman from today's projection is the same assassin lady that we saw yesterday? I'm sure noticed.

DR. RICKETTS
I did.

KATIE
In my time on Project Cyclops, I have never seen an individual two days in a row figure centrally into the playbacks. This isn't a coincidence. Someone wanted us to see what happened to her... and how she was transformed by... the tainted blood, I guess? And what about the fact that Steve was the same nurse that used to care for Vivian's mother? There's no such thing as random happenstance at Roth-Lobdow.

DR. RICKETTS
Maybe not, but right now you're just grasping at straws.

(losing his temper)
What happened to our agreement, Ms. Reed? You can't go upstairs and proclaim that the dead have risen and they're hungry for blood. Even in a place where crazy things happen... there's a limit of what's considered acceptable insanity.

KATIE
You're right. But if this person is out there... and if there's a potential for this to happen to others... we have to find out. We have to stop it.

DR. RICKETTS
No. We have to file this lab report so that we can keep our jobs.
KATIE
Dr. Ricketts.

DR. RICKETTS
Small steps, Katie. Small steps. You can't slay vampires if you're unemployed.

Katie sighs.

KATIE
You're right. Fine.

DR. RICKETTS
Now, grab a pen... and let's get to work.

KATIE
Okay. But if I smell like garlic tomorrow, you'll know why.

DR. RICKETTS
There's no scientific basis that that would be effective.

Again, Katie sighs.

KATIE
I need to get some fresh air...


KATIE (cont’d)
(into recorder)
Roth-Lodbow Center for Advanced Research. Project Cyclops, Day 16, completed.

EFX: Record button press/tone.

END OF EPISODE