Darkest Night 2x10

"One Final Gambit"

Written by
Conor Patrick Hogan

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Final Draft (2)
conorpatrickhogan@gmail.com
DARKEST NIGHT

SEASON 2

EPISODE 10: One Final Gambit

CHARACTERS

Katie Reed: 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. Vivian Lobdow just told Katie that she needs her help.

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. Has been acting mysterious lately.

Vivian Lobdow: Adopted by Clinton Lobdow, inherited The Roth-Lobdow Center for Advanced Research. In complete control after events of Season 1. Has kept Katie alive for a reason.

Savannah Roth: The owner of Sigma Corp. Clinton Lobdow’s ex-partner. Created her own rival company.

Dr. John Kinsler – The late long-time scientist at the Center. Katie’s first partner who was killed on his last day of work by Vivian Lobdow.

Kirby: Late 20s. Sassy, carefree, and maybe a little too sure of himself. He spells "girl" with a u. Found the heads in Morgan’s apartment, barely escaped with his life.

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

Assistant Amanda: Assistant at Sigma Corp.

Other characters in flashback only

LOCATIONS

1. Savannah’s Office, Sigma Corp
2. Helicopter
3. Morgan’s Mansion

TIME

Night
DR. RICKETTS
The storage of the heads in Morgan's Mansion... that must mean...

KATIE
Yup.

DR. RICKETTS
This is the head collector?

KATIE
One and the same... and now I know his name's Morgan...

DR. RICKETTS
You knew him... but you didn't know his name?

KATIE
It's a long story.

DR. RICKETTS
Intriguing.

KATIE
...and it's somehow even more complicated than I thought it was going to be when we initiated the sequence.

DR. RICKETTS
Isn't it always?

KATIE
If this is the head collector, then who brought his head? And what about Morgan saying he’d ‘control’ Kirby? Hrm? How much do you want to bet Morgan was talking about using Axiom Zero on him, Dr. Ricketts?

DR. RICKETTS
...Katie.

KATIE
(determined)
You and I both know something's amiss, Dr. Ricketts. I need answers.
DR. RICKETTS
...how do you know about Axiom Zero?

KATIE
(oh shit...)
I-- I-- I don't know how to explain this, but--

DR. RICKETTS
Yes -- the drug we've been seeing used to affect memory and mind control is called Axiom Zero, but we've never discussed that before.

KATIE
(reaching for straws)
It's been eating me up inside not telling you, Dr. Ricketts, but--

DR. RICKETTS
(grave)
Look, I can't give you answers. In fact...

He pauses. Katie senses something is up.

KATIE
...Dr. Ricketts?

DR. RICKETTS
...in fact... I'm afraid I'm about to make matters more complicated.

KATIE
What... what do you mean?

EFX: Footsteps, container opening, sound of something being placed on the table.

KATIE (cont’d) (CONT’D)
What is this?

DR. RICKETTS
You know what it is.

KATIE
...yes, but I don't understand.

DR. RICKETTS
Well, in addition to the head hunter, there’s a second head...
(MORE)
odd, since Morgan here wasn’t really available to deliver it today... and I was left with the explicit instruction that you were supposed to perform another trial of Project Cyclops today. Alone.

KATIE
...alone?

DR. RICKETTS
Yes.

KATIE
Why? Whose head is this?

Dr. Ricketts exhales softly. It’s the sound of concern.

DR. RICKETTS
I want you to know that I believe you to be a capable scientist. This thing you have been asked to do... you can... and will do... because it is necessary.

KATIE
(uncertain)
Dr. Ricketts...

EFX: Footsteps, a loud buzz, a metal lock unlatched. Door opens.

DR. RICKETTS
I have to leave now, Ms. Reed. But, before I go... allow me to say... whatever you see... proceed with caution. Good luck.

KATIE
(hesitant)
...thank you.

EFX: Footsteps. He exits. Door closes.

THE NARRATOR
As Dr. Ricketts exited the laboratory, he knew that he had just left Katie with a man named Henry -- otherwise known as Sigma Corp’s Chief Executive Officer. The fact that Henry’s head was ready to be used for Project Cyclops meant that Vivian Lobdow’s next phase was about to begin...
THE NARRATOR (CONT'D)
and Dr. Ricketts couldn’t let that happen... there was only one option that he had left...

Efx: Traveling sounds

TIME CUT TO:

INSIDE SAVANNAH’S OFFICE AT SIGMA CORP.

Efx: Door being shoved open violently.

DR. RICKETTS
Savannah!

SAVANNAH
(unsurprised)
Ah. Dr. Ricketts. What a surprise.

Efx: Footsteps running down tiles.

ASSISTANT AMANDA
Sir! Sir! You’re not allowed back here.

DR. RICKETTS
Savannah, we need to talk.

ASSISTANT AMANDA
Sir! I’m sorry, Miss--

SAVANNAH
It’s okay, Amanda. This is why I asked you to clear my calendar around this hour today. I was expecting a visitor.

ASSISTANT AMANDA
Oh. Okay...

SAVANNAH
We should have more guests joining us shortly. They will probably make an even grander entrance. Do me a favor and let them in without interference. Understood?

ASSISTANT AMANDA
But, Miss--

SAVANNAH
Understood?
ASSISTANT AMANDA
Yes. Understood.

SAVANNAH
Excellent. Now leave us be. Dr. Ricketts and I have some private matters to discuss.

Efx: Door closing.

SAVANNAH (CONT’D)
Well, Dr. Ricketts. Would you like to have a seat?

DR. RICKETTS
Do you mind?

SAVANNAH
Not in the least.

Efx: Dr. Ricketts getting situated.

THE NARRATOR
Dr. Ricketts was in an office high atop the Sigma Corp campus. Sitting across from him was Savannah -- tight bob, pursed lips, pregnant belly. Savannah was in her third trimester and it showed.

DR. RICKETTS
How’s the baby? *

SAVANNAH
Doing well. Was kicking up a storm this morning. (beat) But, we can set aside chit-chat today, don’t you agree?

DR. RICKETTS
So, you were expecting me?

SAVANNAH
I was. It was I who made sure Morgan’s head made his way to your laboratory over at The Center earlier this afternoon.

DR. RICKETTS
Were you aware of the heads that Morgan was keeping in his house?
SAVANNAH
I was aware. I was not aware of exactly whose heads Morgan was in possession of. I was hoping you would be able to... enlighten me after watching your little Project Cyclops trial.

DR. RICKETTS
You... you know about Project Cyclops?

SAVANNAH
Of course. Your girl Katie has been passing along all of your trial sessions for the past few weeks to my associate Henry.

THE NARRATOR
At the mention of Henry, Dr. Ricketts knew he had to deliver some sobering news.

DR. RICKETTS
Katie's looking through Henry's eyes as we speak.

SAVANNAH
Oh. I know. Sad, but predictable on Vivian's part. Gloat before she's clinched the trophy...

DR. RICKETTS
How did you know I'd show up today?

SAVANNAH
It was a hunch, sure, but I had a feeling there would be at least one head you definitely recognized in Morgan's house -- am I right?

DR. RICKETTS
Yes.

SAVANNAH
And it was the head of Eugene Roth, wasn't it?

DR. RICKETTS
Yes.
NARRATOR
Eugene Roth was the other co-founder of The Roth-Lobdow Center for Advanced Research along with Clinton Lobdow. Savannah had known Eugene Roth well... as had Dr. Ricketts.

SAVANNAH
Well... I can only imagine who the other heads in that apartment belong to. I’m sure the FBI would love to be tipped off about something like that.

DR. RICKETTS
Which is why I’m here. The Roth-Lobdow Center is a shell of its former self. The research we were doing before Clinton’s passing was ground-breaking, life-changing... but ever since Vivian took control, the place has become overrun with yes men and cronies.

SAVANNAH
Yeah, well... when you let Clinton Lobdow breed an apprentice without an empathetic bone in her body, that’s the result -- wouldn’t you agree?

DR. RICKETTS
That’s outside of my scope, Savannah. I’m here because if these heads are found, The Roth-Lobdow Center and everyone who works there would be out of a job. The Center would be shuttered. All of the good work still being done there would be--

Efx: Intercom beep.

THE NARRATOR
Savannah pressed a tiny intercom button on her desk.

SAVANNAH
Amanda, go ahead and bring the witness into my office. Thank you.

DR. RICKETTS
Witness...?
THE NARRATOR
As the door opened, a teenage boy walked into the room ahead of Amanda. Dr. Ricketts immediately recognized him.

DR. RICKETTS
Kirby!

Kirby tries to keep it together.

THE NARRATOR
Kirby’s eyes were red and wet, but in an odd stone-like way -- like sculptures of crying eyes. He must have been in constant fear and shock the past few hours. It showed.

FLASHBACK TO:

EP. 208

* 

EFX: Morgan screaming.

KIRBY
No!

MORGAN
Don't leave... you can't!

THE NARRATOR
With no other choice, Kirby kicked out his leg, catching Morgan squarely in the face. This impact caused the older man to fall backward.

EFX: A crash.

THE NARRATOR (cont’d) (CONT’D)
Not wanting to make the same mistake twice... Kirby leaped on top of Morgan, pinning him down. Grabbing Morgan by the hair, Kirby began to smash Morgan's head into the floor.

EFX: Thud
THE NARRATOR (cont’d) (CONT’D)
Over.

EFX: Thud

THE NARRATOR (cont’d) (CONT’D)
...and over...

EFX: Thud

THE NARRATOR (cont’d) (CONT’D)
...and over.

FLASHBACK OUT:

KIRBY
I’m... I’m sorry... who’re you...?
How do you know my name...?

SAVANNAH
This man’s identity is not
important, Kirby. What is important is that, here at Sigma Corp, we’re all about making sure individuals who help us are, in return, taken care of. Do you understand?

KIRBY
I-- I--

SAVANNAH
You’re in shock. It’s understandable. Amanda, take our friend Kirby here and set him up in one of our guest lofts across the grounds. Make sure he has one of our resident MDs take a look at any of his wounds and bruises. Give him two constant security guards. Oh! And have the commissary deliver whatever he’d like to drink and eat.

AMANDA
Of course.
THE NARRATOR
Kirby looked around the room from Dr. Ricketts -- an eccentric looking fellow in a lab coat -- to Savannah -- a jackal-like business woman about to pop with child -- to Amanda -- a mousy, somewhat concerned twenty-something... and broke down once more.

Kirby sobs again.

KIRBY
What is going on!?

SAVANNAH
There, there Kirby. Soon this will all be a long forgotten dream and you’ll never have to think about Morgan or Sigma Corp of disembodied heads ever again! Okay?

KIRBY
S—sure.

SAVANNAH
(glibly)
Amanda, get him outta here.

Efx: Door closes.

DR. RICKETTS
You really were keeping tabs on Morgan, weren’t you?

SAVANNAH
He was a close associate of Dr. Kinsler’s. We were unsure how trustworthy he could be. Dr. Kinsler argued he was a wonderful asset. We kept tabs to be sure... he slipped up and it happened to work in our favor. Granted, not in his.

DR. RICKETTS
But what will happen to Kirby? He won’t... Sigma Corp won’t...

SAVANNAH
Kill him?

DR. RICKETTS
Yea.
Savannah laughs.

SAVANNAH
Oh good lord, Dr. Ricketts. No. No, of course not. This isn’t The Roth-Lobdow Center. This is Sigma Corp. (beat) We don’t kill people who have opposing aims. (beat) We’re the good guys, Dr. Ricketts.

THE NARRATOR
Dr. Ricketts starred at Savannah while she said this... unsure of her legitimacy, but beginning to believe in what he was hearing.

SAVANNAH
(continuing)
We’ll dose him with our own strain of Axiom Zero -- Apothegm. He’ll forget about the past two days and we’ll let Kirby go on his merry little way.

DR. RICKETTS
Savannah, I want you to know, I came as soon as I recognized Eugene’s head in Morgan’s house I figured it was the perfect piece of evidence.

SAVANNAH
Yes -- Eugene’s head and the other heads in Morgan’s house are the key to the destruction of The Roth-Lobdow Center... once and for all.

DR. RICKETTS
You should reconsider. Thousands are employed at The Center. Shutting it down would have grave consequences.

Efx: In the distance, helicopter rotors begin to come into the audio stream.

SAVANNAH
Ah... and that will be our joining party.

DR. RICKETTS
What’s that?
SAVANNAH
That helicopter on it’s way. Ms. Vivian Lobdow, in the flesh.

DR. RICKETTS
Oh god, Vivian can’t find me here!

SAVANNAH
She already knows you’re with me, Dr. Ricketts. Leaving now would only put you in more danger. Trust me, Vivian would never kill you on Sigma Corp property.

DR. RICKETTS
I’m not so sure about that,

SAVANNAH
Trust me, Dr. Ricketts.

Efx: Helicopter noises growing louder.

SAVANNAH (CONT’D)
If you have any further questions you want answered before she arrives -- I would suggest you get them out of the way now.

DR. RICKETTS
Axiom Zero -- The Roth-Lobdow Center moved away from using it’s unique properties to help with memory improvement. Did Sigma Corp?

SAVANNAH
Of course not. Our own version, Apothegm, is a true scientific breakthrough in the realm of memory. We’ve never stopped pursuing our own unique strands of the drug -- one to help with memory retrieval, one to aid in memory removal, and one to facilitate mind control.

DR. RICKETTS
You’re pursuing mind control as well?

SAVANNAH
Dr. Igwe’s original concept was to use it squarely as a mind control agent.

(MORE)
SAVANNAH (CONT'D)
I must say, Katie's recordings from the past few days have been incredibly helpful in perfecting our own understanding of the unique mind control properties.

Efx: Helicopter right above the building, powering down.

DR. RICKETTS
But, if you've been listening to these recordings, then you know what can happen if a transmitter comes into contact with the blood of an infected receiver.

SAVANNAH
(cagey)
Alana. Yes. Quite... quite a troublesome situation there.

NARRATOR
Alana was an assassin who killed the last remaining member of Senator Carlisle's opposition campaign team, but accidentally came into contact with the blood of a receiver while being a transmitter. It led to some... undesirable results.

FLASHBACK IN:

EP. 207

ALANA
Thank you, Steve. 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.

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 (CONT’D)
Well, Steve... you’ve been a real treat...

FLASHBACK OUT:

SAVANNAH
Although, Alana wouldn’t be in that situation had Vivian not ordered the destruction of Senator Carlisle’s opposition’s entire campaign team... now would she?

THE NARRATOR
Dr. Ricketts paused... he knew that the next few questions of his would have to be quick... Vivian would be arriving any minute.

DR. RICKETTS
So you know about????

SAVANNAH
Yes.

SAVANNAH (CONT’D)
I know you were the transmitter responsible for G Valor Airlines crash.

FLASHBACK TO:

EP. 201

VOICE OVER RADIO
Crash. The. Plane.

Efx: A faster nosedive than before.

Efx: PA turning on.

Efx: The plane sounds like it’s about to crash any second now.

VOICE OVER RADIO (cont’d) (CONT’D)
Captain Hinton's no longer in control of this plane. I am. I wanted to let our cabin know that we’re descending from our cruising altitude at a rate which will soon destroy you all.

(Efx: Seatbelt sign off)

(MORE)
I’ve turned off the fasten seatbelt sign because... you’re all going to die anyhow. You may as well roam about the cabin in your final moments. Please enjoy the rest of your flight with G Valor Private Airlines.

Efx: A gigantic plane crashing into the ocean noise.

FLASHBACK OUT:

DR. RICKETTS
You have to understand, Savannah, I didn’t want to do it. Vivian gave me an ultimatum. She promised me that if I agreed to go over that private flight’s radio communications, if I agreed to be the transmitter, if I agreed to crash the plane, she’d facilitate my own project -- exploring the memory altering capabilities of Axiom Zero. And there was no substitute offer.

SAVANNAH
Which means she would’ve just killed you had you not acquiesced.

DR. RICKETTS
Precisely. I already knew that people were dropping like flies at The Center, so I believed her threat... I chose to sacrifice a few lives in pursuit of a cure that I felt could saved many more. It... was a shallow, humbling mistake.

(beat)
I never should have stayed with The Center when Sigma Corp split off, but I trusted Clinton Lobdow -- I trusted his vision...

SAVANNAH
Well, that was a mistake now? Wasn’t it?

DR. RICKETTS
If I could go back in time, trust me, I would have. All I wanted to achieve in this lifetime was finding cures. Saving people.

(MORE)
Instead, in the past week, I’ve seen the deaths of dozens at the hands of test subjects whose lives have gone horribly awry. I can’t stop thinking about them, no matter how hard I try.

VIVIAN
Well well well... if it isn’t Dr. Ricketts...
(beat)
And my good, old friend -- Savannah... Roth.

THE NARRATOR
Savannah Roth, the owner of Sigma Corp, was none other than the daughter of Sigma Corp’s former owner, and Clinton Lobdow’s original partner, Eugene Roth. Vivian and Savannah had not seen each other in years... not since Sigma Corp broke off from Roth-Lobdow Center when Clinton Lobdow took full control of the organization. Vivian and Savannah -- hated each other since childhood.
No others existed in that moment. It was more like Vivian was looking across space and time at the only nemesis she had ever known.

VIVIAN
Katie, won’t you join us?

THE NARRATOR
Katie entered Savannah’s office, closing the door behind her. A bulging backpack was slung over Katie’s right shoulder, something that Dr. Ricketts had never seen Katie wear before. She shared a nervous glance with Dr. Ricketts... and mouthed two simple words: “I’m sorry”.

VIVIAN
So, Dr. Ricketts, what’s the meaning of all this?
SAVANNAH
You’re here to have it out with me, Vivian -- so, let’s do this. Let’s have it out.

VIVIAN
Alright, fine.

SAVANNAH
Rumor has it my right hand Henry and the creator of Apothegm--

VIVIAN
Axiom Zero, Ms. Roth.

SAVANNAH
You wish. Henry and the creator of Apothegm, Dr. Igwe, passed away at Senator Carlisle’s fundraiser earlier today.

FLASHBACK TO:

EP 209

HENRY
(coughing)
No, no, no, no.

DR. IGWE
(screaming)
Get off of me!

NARRATOR
Henry turned to see Dr. Igwe being dragged into the mob. They descended on him with their bare hands, tearing at his clothes, skin and hair, ripping him apart. For a moment, Henry didn’t realize they were doing the same thing to him. He prayed for the unbearable pain to end.... Suddenly, Henry felt his own body being pulled in different directions. The crowd was stretching him. His body rose off the ground with the force of the tension.

Efx: Henry screaming.
NARRATOR (CONT’D)
Finally the tension snapped. Both legs and arms ripped from his torso as his body was pulled apart by the crowd.

FLASHBACK OUT:

SAVANNAH
The event of Henry and Dr. Igwe’s deaths, while certainly not beneficial, do calm a few of my nerves. It confirms you’re just as cruel and needlessly ruthless as I previously remembered.

VIVIAN
What do you want me to say, Savannah? I’m sorry I’m better at corporate warfare than you?

SAVANNAH
Hah.

VIVIAN
Hah what?

SAVANNAH
Warfare.

VIVIAN
What about it.

SAVANNAH
The fact that you refer to it as warfare.

VIVIAN
It is warfare.

SAVANNAH
Oh Vivian. Once a Lobdow always a Lobdow.

VIVIAN
Don’t you dare taint my last name--

SAVANNAH
Your last name? But you’re not even a Lobdow by blood--

Efx: Glass shattering, feet darting, heavy breathing.
THE NARRATOR
Without thinking, Vivian smashed a vase nearby, grabbed a large shard and rushed toward Savannah, positioning the sharp edge directly against her throat. A tiny bit of blood began to trickle down Savannah’s slender neck.

SAVANNAH
I take it I hit a nerve, Vivian?

VIVIAN
Don’t you ever speak disparagingly of my father or our name. EVER AGAIN!? Do you understand me.

THE NARRATOR
In that moment, numerous red dots appeared all over Vivian’s body. Sniper sights from the large bay window in Savannah’s office aimed directly at her.

Savannah sighs.

SAVANNAH
Oh, Vivian. Still so easy to rile up. Do you think for one moment you would’ve made it all the way to my office, all the way to me, unless I wanted you here? One wrong move and my men will shoot to kill.

THE NARRATOR
Savannah seamlessly slipped from Vivian’s clutches and moved to her desk. As Vivian began to take in the precariousness of her current situation, Savannah procured a tape recorder from the left side drawer.

SAVANNAH
I think you’ll want to hear this.

Efx: Pressing play. A tape recorder.

DR. KINSLER (OVER TAPE PLAYER)
Hello, Vivian. Dr. Kinsler here. Yes, speaking from the grave. How spooky, yes? To be honest -- I thought of it after watching a Project Cyclops of your brother Oscar.

(MORE)
DR. KINSLER (OVER TAPE PLAYER)
You know, after you murdered him?
* Apparently your father left little
* messages before he passed on.
* Clever man he was.
*
VIVIAN
I don’t have to stay here for this--
*
SAVANNAH
Oh, but I think you’ll want to.
*
DR. KINSLER (OVER TAPE PLAYER)
If you’re hearing this, it means
* Sigma Corp is winning. It means WE
* are winning. You may have thought
* killing me was the end of this war,
* that keeping Katie as your little
* pawn would serve you well, but I
* planned for this. I thought ahead.
* Sigma Corp thought ahead. Your
* downfall is imminent. You are not
* the legitimate heir to The Roth-
* Lobdow throne -- Savannah Roth is.
* A blood relative of one of the co-
* founders. And Savannah will retain
* that position. One way or another.
* Good luck in the future... oh, and
* that quote you like to use so
* often, the ‘only room for facts,
* not emotions' line? Your father
* didn’t even come up with that
* quote. A doctor by the name of
* Lionel Ricketts did -- an esteemed
* gentleman who would do anything in
* the name of science. I hope you
* keep that quote close to your
* heart, but remember its source.
* Your father had wisdom and vision,
* but he lacked temperament. You have
* neither wisdom, vision, nor
* temperament. The Roths are coming,
* Vivian. Sigma Corp is coming. I
* know that my death is only the
* beginning of the end for you. And
* that makes all of what will
* transpire in the near future that
* much sweeter.
*
Efx: Tape ending.
*
THE NARRATOR
Vivian stood in shocked silence. It
* was as if the entire world was
* imploding around her.
VIVIAN
You have no claim to The Roth-
lobdow throne.

SAVANNAH
Oh no? Then why would I let you
even step foot on my property,
Vivian? Why would my men have
waited this long to take an actual
shot when they’ve had their sights
trained on you from the moment of
your arrival? There’s only one
reason, Vivian, and you know it --
I can take control of The Center...
and I can do it... peacefully.

THE NARRATOR
It dawned on Vivian in that moment
that what had transpired in this
room, moments before she arrived,
was exactly what Savannah was
after. Savannah and Dr. Ricketts
had participated in a conversation
that contained the one specific key
Vivian needed. She had only one
choice. Knowing that neither
individual would willingly give up
this key piece of information,
Vivian dropped the jagged shard
from her hand and slightly
retreated. The red dots disappeared
as Vivian smiled.

VIVIAN
Katie.... I want you to kill Dr.
Ricketts.

KATIE
No, Vivian--

VIVIAN
Katie. KILL Dr. Ricketts!

Katie sobs.

KATIE
I’m so sorry, Dr. Ricketts.

Efx: An object retrieved from a bag followed by a gnarly
smash.
THE NARRATOR
Katie pulled Vivian’s spiked croquet mallet from the bookbag she was wearing and wielded it like a true gladiator.

DR. RICKETTS
No, Katie, what’re you doing!? Savannah, help me!!

EFX: Rickets trying to run to Savannah

EFX: Smash

THE NARRATOR
She swung the mallet embedding it in Dr. Ricketts’ rib cage, knocking him to the floor.

VIVIAN
FINISH HIM!

Katie sobs.

KATIE
I’m so sorry, Dr. Ricketts.

DR. RICKETTS
Katie! Stop!

THE NARRATOR
As Katie was about to land a second blow on Dr. Rickett’s mangled torso, her forward momentum halted in mid-air.

DR. RICKETTS
That’s it Katie. That’s it. Just breathe... breathe...

KATIE
(in tears)
I don’t want to be doing this, Dr. Ricketts. Vivian tricked me -- she dosed me with Axiom Zero on the helicopter.

VIVIAN
Kill him, Katie.

EFX: A croquet beating noise.
DR. RICKETTS
(weakened)
No, Katie. You can fight this.

KATIE
I can’t, Dr. Ricketts. I can’t! I’m trying, but--

DR. RICKETTS
(weakened)
Katie, I’m a man of science. I have always been skeptical to things that can’t be proven, but in moments like this I begin to see the power of belief. If there is one instance in this universe where man has been capable of miracles, that time is now and that person is you. You CAN FIGHT IT.

VIVIAN
Damnit, Katie, kill him!!!

THE NARRATOR
Katie remained suspended, her arm outstretched, fighting against the elements -- attempting to maintain control of her own bodily functions... fighting against the Axiom Zero coursing through her veins with all of her might.

DR. RICKETTS
Fight it, Katie! Fight!

SAVANNAH
(under her breath)
So much for your more advanced version of our drug, Vivian...

VIVIAN
(defiant)
Katie, Finish him!!!

DR. RICKETTS
NOOOOOOOOOOO!

Efx: One final bludgeon.

KATIE
Oh my god... oh my god...
VIVIAN
Now, cut off his head. We’re going to need his eyes...

**Efx:** A slicing and dicing sound as Katie does so.

NARRATOR
Katie, having completely given in to the Axiom Zero, pulled a knife from her backpack, doing as Vivian commanded.

SAVANNAH
Dosing your own employee with Apothegm --

VIVIAN

SAVANNAH
-- and forcing her to commit murder? I dare say, Vivian, you may be even more repulsive than your own father.... or, should I say, adoptive father.

VIVIAN
Watch it, Savannah.

SAVANNAH
I presume you’ll pay for the carpet cleaning bill?

VIVIAN
Send it to Gloria, my assistant. I presume you can take care of the body?

SAVANNAH
(sighing)
Sigma Corp always does.

VIVIAN
We will meet again, Savannah.

SAVANNAH
Oh. Much sooner than you think. I have no doubt.

VIVIAN
Katie, bring Dr. Ricketts’ head and come with me.

**Efx:** Katie finishes slicing off Dr. Ricketts’ head.
SAVANNAH
Goodbye, Vivian. So great to see you!

Efx: Door slam

Efx: Distinctive flash noise.

INT. HELICOPTER - NIGHT
VIVIAN AND KATIE IN THE BACK OF A HELICOPTER.

Efx: Rotor noise. Pretty loud.

THE NARRATOR
It was moments after Vivian and Katie had escaped Sigma Corp headquarters. Vivian had encouraged Katie to bring all the necessary equipment for producing a Project Cyclops projection so that they could look at Dr. Ricketts’ final memories, just in case that was their only option. As Vivian predicted, it was.

VIVIAN
(To the Helicopter pilot)
As I suspected -- Morgan Davies’ house is where we need to go. Post haste.

VIVIAN (CONT’D)
Katie -- when we arrive, we need to retrieve the remaining heads immediately. We can not leave without Eugene Roth’s head.

KATIE
Understood.

THE NARRATOR
Katie, still under the effects of Axiom Zero, had more questions... but she was shaken, unsure where to begin...

KATIE
Don’t... don’t you think this might be a trap, Vivian? Why would Savannah let you go if--
VIVIAN
(coldly)
We don’t have a choice, Katie. This entire gamble is most certainly a trap, but we have no other options. The one ace up our sleeves is that we’ve brought a Project Cyclops apparatus along with us. Hopefully we can watch Eugene Roths’ final moments before Sigma Corp arrives.

KATIE
Isn’t that a longshot at best?

VIVIAN
Savannah seems to think her plan is foolproof. My only remaining hope is that Savannah’s as poor at laying a trap as she is at running a company...
(beat, then)
This may be a hit-and-run, if you will.

THE NARRATOR
Katie did as Vivian instructed. She had been dosed with Axiom Zero for the first time on the helicopter ride over to Sigma Corp and the effects had yet to wear off. She felt so inferior for accepting Vivian’s polite offering of water... how could she fall for such a simple trick? None the less, it had happened, Katie had killed Dr. Ricketts... her life and future was now entirely in Vivian’s hands.

VIVIAN
Here, here it is! Morgan’s house.

Efx: Helicopter landing.

THE NARRATOR
As the helicopter landed in the courtyard of Morgan’s rural mansion, Vivian and Katie jumped out and sprinted towards the front door.

Efx: Door Locked and unable to open

VIVIAN
Kick it open, Katie.
THE NARRATOR
Katie didn’t have much experience in this realm, but she also didn’t have a chance.

EfX: Multiple door whacks until it breaks.

VIVIAN
Well done. Dare I say, perhaps you’re more invaluable than I already thought. Now, show me where Morgan kept the heads.

THE NARRATOR
Katie floated through the halls of Morgan’s apartment until she reached the door -- the last door on the right side of the hallway -- and opened it. Inside were dozens of heads lining the shelves.

VIVIAN
Aha!

THE NARRATOR
Vivian reached up and grabbed the head of Eugene Roth.

VIVIAN
Now, there’s one more head we desperately need --

THE NARRATOR
But as Vivian looked up, she saw an empty platform with a name written on a placard below it: Nora Lang.

VIVIAN
No... no...!

FLASHBACK TO:

EP 204

NARRATOR
Nora stared at Vivian, a look of horror creeping its way onto her face.

VIVIAN
Well guess WHAT, mommy?! I’m alive and well. No thanks to you.
NORA
Vivian... You’re right. You’re right. I was so young and stupid. I should have never... never...

VIVIAN
Never what?!

NORA
Had you in the first place! All this pain... I could have saved both of us from it. And now look where I am: trapped in a hospital being forced to remember all the things I was lucky enough to forget.

VIVIAN
So that’s your greatest regret then? Having me?

NORA
...Yes. I just want to forget again. Please. No more medications. No more injections. Please just let me forget.

VIVIAN
There’s a simple way to do that. A way you can erase all the memories, all the pain. It’s all natural, and it’ll only take a moment.

NORA
What is it? I’ll do anything.

VIVIAN
Yes, you will. Get on the ledge.

Efx: the wind blowing, soft city noises.

VIVIAN (CONT’D)
You really want to forget it all?

NORA
More than anything.

VIVIAN
Fine. Then this is goodbye, mother.

NORA
(whispering)
Thank you.
VIVIAN
Now jump.

NARRATOR
With that final command, Nora let herself fall from the ledge.

Efx: the sound of a body thudding, splattering, crashing, breaking whatever was below it.

FLASHBACK OUT:

VIVIAN
Where is it!? Where’s Nora’s head.

KATIE
The head of your mother...

VIVIAN
What did you say!? How do you know that?!

THE NARRATOR
But before Katie could reply, a frightening sound echoed throughout the apartment complex.

SAVANNAH
(over a megaphone)
I’m so glad to see you’ve made it to Morgan’s apartment, Vivian. I have three demands for you.

VIVIAN
Damnit -- no! Katie, follow me.

THE NARRATOR
Vivian, still grasping the head of Eugene Roth, ran back toward the main room of the apartment with Katie close in tow --

Efx: Multiple sniper shots.

VIVIAN
What the--?

SAVANNAH
(over megaphone)
Uh uh uh, Vivian. I’m in control now.

Efx: A HUGE EXPLOSION SOUND.
SAVANNAH (CONT’D)
(over megaphone)
If you’d like to take a look out of a window, you’ll see that your ride out of here -- your helicopter -- has been destroyed.

THE NARRATOR
Vivian peeked out of a nearby window to see the falling debris and smoking carnage drifting from the courtyard.

SAVANNAH
(over megaphone)
So, here’s the deal Vivian. You’re surrounded by Sigma Corp’s very own elite squadron of ex-military security guards. Any attempt to leave the apartment that is not a complete surrender will end in your death.

VIVIAN
Damnit...

THE NARRATOR
Vivian, now pacing in Morgan’s living room, was completely unsure how to react...

VIVIAN
Katie, we have no choice... we have to watch Eugene Roth’s final memories. And we have to watch them NOW!

SAVANNAH
(over megaphone)
Vivian, you have until sunrise to surrender... My demands are quite simple. One -- I want you to confess to all of the murders you’ve committed. All of them. Two -- I want you to step down as the head of The Roth-Lobdow Center for Advanced Research. And three -- I want my Father’s head.

END OF SEASON 2