

BIG THINGS
(Episode 7)

"Dark Entries."
By Byron Dunbar

Big Things Created by David Hill and Byron Dunbar

OPEN ON: DARKNESS.

TITLE: "...went walking through this city's neon lights, in fear of disguising my warping sheathing. Pressure lines and graceless heirs; intangible of price. Trying so hard to find, what? What was right?" - Bauhaus

TRANSITION TO:

INT. MOUNTAIN - DAWN

The mountain is empty, save for a CANDLE on a table. This candle illuminates many PHOTOS on the table, all of which depict Zack and his friends—but the most prominent one features CHLOE cuddling Zack!

Suddenly, A DRAGON-LIKE SILHOUETTE, seven feet tall, SNUFFS OUT the candle, and DARKNESS FILLS THE SHOT. The CAMERA PANS to a LARGE OPENING in the mountainside. RUSTLING FABRIC is heard, and the silhouette APPEARS OVER the cave opening, and PULLS cloth over its form. It TUGS something OFF-SCREEN. A RINGING NOISE follows.

Two DRAGON WINGS BURST from the silhouette's back.

EXT. FORBIDDEN COVE - ESTABLISHING - SAME TIME

MONSTERS go about various activities. The RINGING APPEARS. The monsters LOOK UP, then MARCH FORWARD.

EXT. MOUNTAINOUS AREA - SAME TIME

The silhouette SOARS through mountains. The MOONLIGHT reveals it is a CLOAKED FIGURE. It FLIES LOWER, and observes the monsters. They LINE UP onshore, and stare across the ocean toward NEW HAVENFIELD.

The cloaked figure LANDS, and inspects each monster. At the end of the line, is an ordinary BAT. The figure motions for the monsters

to stay, then gestures for the bat to follow him. Then it speaks in the voice of the DEMONIC CREATURE from the previous episodes:

DEMONIC CREATURE

(to monsters)

We'll scope out the area, and see if there's any way we can, mm... persuade Zack into joining us.

(points at bat)

Don't advance into the city until he returns.

The monsters NOD. Then together, the bat and the cloaked TAKE OFF and FLY across the ocean.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD - A LITTLE LATER

The bat and cloaked figure fly over New Havenfield. Eventually they LAND, then make their way into a back alley. Across the street, they see SHELDON and ANOTHER SOLDIER, GUARDING THE MILITARY BASE. The cloaked figure watches, then slinks into the shadows. Only its glowing red eyes remain visible.

EXT. MILITARY BASE ENTRANCE - LATER - EARLY MORNING

Sheldon and the soldier continue standing guard. The camera TRACKS FROM the base to the ALLEY. CHLOE APPEARS, walking toward the base. As she passes the alley, the RED EYES FLASH within its shadowed area. She looks... but the red eyes have VANISHED.

SHELDON

Mrs. Campbell! What's wrong?

Chloe turns toward Sheldon and the soldier. She SMILES AND WAVES.

CHLOE

Oh, just thought I saw something!

Chloe walks over, as Sheldon nudges the soldier.

SHELDON

What if she really saw someone? We oughta...

CHLOE

Oughta what?

SHELDON

Did, um... did some creep back there
give you the ol' greasy eyeball?

CHLOE

(laughs, cheerful)
At my age? I doubt it!

From the alley, the cloaked figure watches Chloe ENTER the base.
When she's gone, it stops and thinks for a moment.

CLOAKED FIGURE

Zack's mother... interesting.
They're rather close...

INT. MILITARY BASE - EARLY MORNING

Chloe walks down the hall, smiling. Then Chloe sees IDA ULRICH,
sticking her head through an OPEN DOOR. A SIGN reveals that this
door connects the MILITARY BASE to the MAINTENANCE FACILITY. Chloe
taps Ida on the back.

CHLOE

Hey-ya, looking for Gibson?

IDA ULRICH

Yeah, he's usually in by now.

CHLOE

C'mon Ida! Did ya forget it's 'Take-
Your-Kid-To-Work-Day?' He's showing
Zack around.

IDA ULRICH

Mm. Well, that's fine. I just wanted
to ask if Gibson's got that prototype
for the monster-sensor ready. We'll
need it by one.

CHLOE

Totally; even said so at breakfast!
Oh, speaking 'a which, I better go.
I bet the boys'll be getting hungry
about now!

IDA ULRICH

(confused)

Excuse me, 'the boys...?'
(realizes something)
Oh, right; the 'boys.' Right, right.
About that: sedate each monster
before feeding them, okay?

CHLOE

Hah! When have I ever forgotten?

Chloe walks away, and Ida looks up at a SECURITY CAMERA.

IDA ULRICH

When indeed.

INT. MILITARY PRISON - A LITTLE LATER

Chloe carries BOXES past CELLS, each containing a DEFEATED MONSTER. Chloe blows them kisses. CINDER occupies the final cell, near a KITCHEN. He wears a MUZZLE, and his HORNS are becoming INGROWN. Chloe places the boxes near his cell.

CHLOE

Morning, Cinder!

Cinder SCOWLS. Chloe opens a REFRIGERATOR, and takes out two LOAVES OF SLICED BREAD. Cinder tries to SPIT A FIREBALL, but the muzzle prevents him from opening his jaw wide enough. It BURSTS inside his mouth, and sends him HURLING AGAINST the wall. Chloe turns, and sees smoke coming from Cinder's mouth.

CHLOE

Aw, were you trying to help me make
the toast? That's so precious!

Cinder ROLLS HIS EYES, then HISSES.

CHLOE

You're sweet, but brekkie's all
taken care of. I've been working on
something!

Chloe takes a TWENTY SLICE WIDE TOASTER out of a box. She places bread into each slot. In seconds, TOAST pops out. TWO ROBOTIC HANDS burst out from opposite sides of the toaster. One hand catches the toast, while the other tosses it to the monsters.

The monsters CATCH the toast in their mouths, except for Cinder.

His slice bounces off his muzzle. Chloe notices him trying to reach his toast; he can only PECK at it. Chloe grabs a CUP with a STRAW.

CHLOE

(to Cinder)

Want me to mash you up some 'nanas?

Cinder HISSES, and LOOKS AWAY. Chloe puts the cup down, and sticks her hands through his cell bars. She picks up Cinder's toast in one hand, and slips the other behind his head.

Chloe and Cinder make eye-contact. She stares at him sympathetically, and he looks moved. Chloe starts UNDOING HIS MUZZLE, when GIBSON and ZACK appear behind Chloe. Gibson crosses his arms.

CHLOE

Let's just get this off. Then you can eat your toast.

GIBSON

Or decide if he'd prefer us well-done or medium rare.

CHLOE

(turns)

Gibson! Hi! I was, just uh, checking if... if his muzzle's on right!

ZACK

What're you really doing mom?

GIBSON

From the looks of it, treating that thing like it's a pet.

CHLOE

(a little piqued)

His name is Cinder.

GIBSON

I'll give you credit, Zackery. At least Frank's a real name.

CHLOE

Look, Cinder was behaving. You even-

GIBSON

We'll continue this later, it's time
I showed our son out.

ZACK

Wha...? Wasn't it just eight-thirty?
It's just eight-thirty!

GIBSON

Zackery, I know you're here because
of that school assignment. But
you're an official member of
H.O.T.C. now. Therefore, you spend
copious amounts of time with Frank
as it is! Wouldn't you rather take
the day off?

ZACK

I wanna see Frank...

GIBSON

He's busy preparing for the test
later; you'd be a distraction.

ZACK

Frank 'n I hardly ever hang out
anymore. We **never** do!

GIBSON

There's good reason for that, I...

EXT. MILITARY PRISON - DAY

In the distance, the cloaked figure watches Zack and Gibson ARGUING
through a WINDOW.

INT. MILITARY PRISON - SAME TIME

Chloe steps between Zack and Gibson.

CHLOE

Time out guys.

ZACK

But dad's—!

CHLOE

...under a lot of pressure. Consider his feelings.

GIBSON

Yes, it's time you-

CHLOE

Honey, Zack heard me. He can handle himself.

GIBSON

What's that have to do with anything?

Chloe LAUGHS, and pulls up some CHAIRS.

CHLOE

Look, why don't you two take a seat?

EXT. MILITARY PRISON - SAME TIME

The cloaked figure watches Gibson and Zack sit down. As Chloe talks, they grow calmer.

CLOAKED FIGURE

(to bat)

She knows just what to say to reach him...

INT. MILITARY PRISON - MINUTES LATER

GIBSON

Why are you suggesting ice cream?

CHLOE

It'll relax us, and you don't meet with Ida and Brad 'til one.

GIBSON

I have work to do...

CHLOE

You can spare an hour or so.

(smiles at Zack)

Plus, we never did get around to Family Night, did we?

Zack smiles softly at his mother, and Gibson checks his watch.

GIBSON

Alright, but we'd better leave now.

CHLOE

(turns)

Super! I'll just grab my-

From the window, Chloe sees the cloaked figure in the distance. His wings are hidden in his cloak, and the bat is on his shoulder.

CHLOE

Who's that?

GIBSON

Mm?

CHLOE

(looks to Gibson)

There's this guy outside. He's got like, a bat on-

Chloe looks back outside and GOES SILENT. The cloaked figure has DISAPPEARED. Gibson and Zack look out the window.

GIBSON

I don't see anything.

CHLOE

But I, uh, I....

ZACK

You alright, mom? You okay?

Chloe looks uncomfortable.

EXT. BUTTGEREIT'S CHOCOLATE SHOPPE - NOON

Gibson, Chloe, and Zack sit outside, eating ice cream. TYLER, DORIS, JALEEL, and MERYL ARRIVE. They each carry something heavy: Jaleel carries STACKS of paper; Meryl carries wooden BEAMS; Doris carries TOOLS; and Tyler carries PIPE BRACKETS and BOLTS.

ZACK

Whatcha doing, guys?

MERYL

Um, w-we're improving, fixing Frank's, Frank's-

DORIS

Howdy Zack! Jaleel suggested we add another level to the treehouse. Y'know, so we can see Frank better. You should grab some tools 'n join the fun!

GIBSON

Shouldn't you be at your parents' places of employment?

JALEEL

(points to Zack)

He isn't. Or did you get demoted to fast food retail?

TYLER

Dude, today's our opportunity to **not** have our heads filled with trash. I don't wanna spend it watchin' my old man fill trucks with trash.

DORIS

Where're your manners guys?

(looks to adults)

My mom's between jobs, honest.

GIBSON

What about you Meryl?

MERYL

(blinks)

Well, m-my daddy, he's a, a tele-telemarketer. H-he told me to, uh, he said I should, I should try it myself, like on his phone. So, I, uh, I did, but his boss came in and he, uh... Well, he had a taxi drop me off on a curb.

TYLER

My ol' man nearly tossed her in th' truck.

Gibson looks appalled, while Chloe grins and nudges Zack forward.

CHLOE

You should join them!

Zack LEAPS UP, and runs to his friends. Tyler SMILES and FIST-BUMPS Zack.

TYLER

Sweet!

DORIS

(to Zack)

That ice cream looks sweeter!

ZACK

You can have it, c'mon guys!

Zack tosses Doris the cone. Without dropping her buckets, Doris CATCHES it in her mouth like a dog. Then the children scurry off.

GIBSON

I don't trust them alone.

CHLOE

Let 'em be kids! 'Sides, didn't you wanna find something to occupy Zack?

Gibson SHRUGS, and continues licking his ice cream. Chloe giggles as she observes his portly waistline. He notices, and grimaces. Chloe turns, and tosses the rest of her cone to a STRAY DOG.

CHLOE

Wanna head back now?

Chloe glances up, and notices the cloaked figure. He stands near an alley; CLOSER than he was before. Then he steps into the alley.

CHLOE

Hey!

Chloe RUNS to the alley. Nothing's there. Gibson catches up.

GIBSON

If you think I need cardio, say so!

CHLOE

No, he was there again, I saw him!

GIBSON

Who?

CHLOE

The bat guy!

Gibson SIGHS. He grabs Chloe's arm, and drags her down the street. Chloe LOOKS BACK. The cloaked figure has returned, EVEN CLOSER. Chloe is about to speak up, but decides against it.

EXT. FOREST - AFTERNOON

HARVEY observes the forest, as his VISOR SPARKLES.

INT. HARVEY - SAME TIME

Inside, BRAD lounges by Harvey's controls, taking in the view of the tree tops. He wears HEADPHONES, and listens to ska music.

EXT. FOREST - SAME TIME

Something RUSTLES in the forest. GIANT MONSTER FEET scamper by.

INT. HARVEY - SAME TIME

CLOSE UP. Brad sways his head to the music.

EXT. FOREST - SAME TIME

A monster appears behind Harvey. He is OBSCURED by shadowy TREES.

INT. HARVEY - SAME TIME

GREEN LIGHTS wash over Brad's face, followed by a BEEPING NOISE. He LOOKS UP.

EXT. FOREST - SAME TIME

Silently, the monster emerges from the trees... it LEAPS! Harvey WHIPS AROUND and GRABS THE MONSTER by the throat! It's Frank!

IDA ULRICH (O.S.)

That's enough, end simulation!

INT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - AFTERNOON

The forest around Harvey and Frank DISAPPEARS, revealing it was a hologram. Gibson, Chloe, and Ida WALK ON-SCREEN. Harvey continues holding Frank by his throat.

IDA ULRICH

Are you deaf? I said enough!

BRAD (O.S.)

Enough 'a what? Be specific!

IDA ULRICH

Drop him!

Harvey SHRUGS, and DROPS Frank. Frank gets up, annoyed.

CHLOE

That's not very nice Brad...

GIBSON

At least we know the monster sensor works.

IDA ULRICH

We need more than fancy technology to defend the city. Open up, Lieutenant!

Harvey's head POPS OPEN, revealing Brad sitting in the cockpit.

IDA ULRICH (CONT'D)

Listen: We can't have two soldiers working against one another, or-

BRAD

That monster's no soldier.

Frank looks HURT.

EXT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - SAME TIME

Brad is seen in a WINDOW at the TOP OF THE TRAINING ROOM. He sits in Harvey's cockpit. On the ground, Ida lectures him. A DRAGON WING COVERS THE WINDOW.

INT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - SAME TIME

Exasperated, Ida wipes her hand over her face, and looks to Gibson.

IDA ULRICH

You wanna try talking to him?

GIBSON

It wouldn't do a particle's length of good.

BRAD

I'm following orders, aren't I?

IDA ULRICH

But you won't do any more than that.

BRAD

I'm busting my—!

CHLOE

Uh, um, fellas?

Chloe waves her hand. Everyone looks at her. Chloe steps forward.

CHLOE

Brad, I know you want respect. But what's important is...

EXT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - SAME TIME

The cloaked figure uses his wings to HOVER MID-AIR. The bat does the same. He watches Chloe as she calms Brad and Ida.

INT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - SAME TIME

CHLOE

Great! I'm glad you'll agree to—

In the window behind Harvey, Chloe notices part of a DRAGON WING.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

(points at window)

Ohmigosh—!

(lowers hand)

Er, sorry.

GIBSON

Not this again...

Brad raises an eyebrow, and turns his head. The wing tip DISAPPEARS as Brad looks.

BRAD

Huh?

EXT. MILITARY BASE - AFTERNOON - A LITTLE LATER

From the clouds, the figure POINTS BACK to Forbidden Cove. The bat NODS, and FLIES OFF. The figure stays, and stares at the building.

INT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - AFTERNOON - LATER

GIBSON

...been seeing things all day.

IDA ULRICH

That's Chloe for you.

BRAD

Hey, I-

IDA ULRICH

Don't start that up again,
Lieutenant.

(smiles at Chloe)

Thanks for the help, but why don't
you go see 'the boys' or something?

CHLOE

Well, I... maybe.

Gibson looks guilty. He walks over to Chloe, and kisses her.

GIBSON

Get some rest. For me.

CHLOE

Sure honey, that sounds good.

Chloe smiles reluctantly, then LEAVES.

INT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - AFTERNOON - LATER

Chloe arrives at Cinder's cell, and FLOPS AGAINST IT. Cinder APPROACHES. Chloe hugs his beak.

INT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - AFTERNOON - SAME TIME

The monsters see the BAT FLYING OVERHEAD. The ones in front SWIM TOWARD NEW HAVENFIELD. The ones in the back guard the island.

INT. MILITARY PRISON - LATE AFTERNOON - LATER

Chloe strokes Cinder's snout. The cloaked figure watches through a window. If she looked up, they'd be FACE-TO-FACE. It's a classic slasher movie moment, straight out of John Carpenter's *Halloween*.

INT. MILITARY TRAINING ROOM - LATER

Brad sits in Harvey's open cockpit, talking to Ida and Gibson. Frank watches.

BRAD

For real, I saw something!

IDA ULRICH

And what is this 'something?'

Brad's cockpit FLASHES GREEN, accompanied by a BEEPING NOISE.

IDA ULRICH

Ugh. Didn't you hit the 'ignore' button once you finished with Frank?

BRAD

It's not him! I'm getting readings for at least thirty monsters!

IDA ULRICH

It must be malfunctioning then.

BRAD

Either that, or Frank's pregnant.

Frank GROWLS. Worried, Gibson checks something on his computer.

GIBSON

No... the sensors are working.

EXT. MILITARY PRISON - EVENING

The cloaked figure CONTINUES WATCHING CHLOE. It turns its head.

The CAMERA TRACKS TO THE LEFT, revealing a DOOR.

EXT. OCEAN SHORE - EVENING - SAME TIME

New Havenfield is visible in the distance. Suddenly, A GIANT CLAW THUNDERS ONSHORE, followed by many others.

EXT. MILITARY PRISON - SAME TIME

A CLAWED HAND SCRATCHES across the door, creating a HORRIBLE NOISE.

INT. MILITARY PRISON - SAME TIME

Chloe hears, and BOLTS up. She RUNS to the door, and opens it.

EXT. CLIFF - SAME TIME

Zack and the kids work on the treehouse. Suddenly, they DROP THEIR TOOLS and GASP. They see MONSTERS ENTERING THE CITY!

EXT. MILITARY PRISON - SAME TIME

Chloe VENTURES OUTSIDE, leaving the door open. The cloaked figure HOVERS ABOVE HER. Silently, IT LANDS NEAR THE DOOR.

CHLOE

You can't fool me into following you outside! I'm not some dummy from a horror-

Chloe goes silent, and looks embarrassed. The figure retracts its wings into its cloak, and slips inside. Chloe turns.

CHLOE

You can't fool me into **staying** outside! I'm not some dummy from a horror...

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - CONT'D

Chloe ENTERS. She sees something, and GASPS. Cinder looks up at Chloe, confused.

CHLOE

Cinder, do those ingrown horns hurt?
I've got a sander somewhere...

Cinder looks up at Chloe as the door SLOWLY CLOSES behind her, revealing the cloaked figure. It RAISES ITS CLAWS and WALKS FORWARD. Cinder looks intrigued.

CHLOE (O.S.)

Shoot, I think maybe I left it with-

Chloe abruptly goes silent. The door is WIDE OPEN and SWINGS BACK AND FORTH. Both the cloaked figure and Chloe have DISAPPEARED.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - LATER - DUSK

The city is silent, save for the wail of a WARNING SIREN. Cars have been abandoned in the street, with their doors open. It resembles a GHOST TOWN. A THUMPING NOISE APPEARS. It's Harvey arriving, with Frank close behind.

INT. HARVEY - SAME TIME

GREEN LIGHTS FLASH. The BEEPING inside mixes with the WAILING SIREN outside. Brad perspires.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - SAME TIME

Frank looks around. There's no sign of monsters.

INT. HARVEY - SAME TIME

Brad looks at the MONSTER SENSOR. FLASHING GREEN DOTS congregate together, and they MARCH FORWARD. He presses a button.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - SAME TIME

Harvey's LASER POPS OUT. It HUMS in anticipation. Harvey assumes a DEFENSIVE POSITION, which is subsequently imitated by Frank.

INT. HARVEY - SAME TIME

On the monster sensor, Brad sees ONE DOT DART AWAY from the others, and go around the buildings. It is APPROACHING MUCH QUICKER.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - SAME TIME

ZIRA appears in QUICK FLASHES between buildings. Harvey notices and signals to Frank. They hide behind a row of buildings.

Zira APPEARS FROM BEHIND A BUILDING. The other monsters ARRIVE

FARTHER BACK, searching for signs of life. Frank STARES AT ZIRA from over Harvey's shoulder. Harvey makes a signal, indicating to Frank to stay put. ZIRA LOOKS AROUND, SNIFFS, then continues WALKING. She DISAPPEARS BEHIND A BUILDING. Harvey SIGNALS TO FRANK TO MOVE ALONG, and sneaks around the building. Frank FOLLOWS.

The WAILING OF THE SIREN STOPS. Zira HEARS Frank and Harvey's footsteps. She TURNS. Nothing's there. Zira OPENS HER MOUTH AND GROWLS. Across the city, the other MONSTERS LOOK UP AT ZIRA, then advance toward her. Zira walks forward to meet them. Harvey and Frank PREPARE TO STRIKE, when there's a HUMAN SCREAM! Frank LOOKS UP. It's the CLOAKED FIGURE, HOVERING in the air, DANGLING CHLOE!

EXT. CLIFF - SAME TIME

Zack's eyes widen, and he turns to the other children.

ZACK

That's my mom! It's got my mom!

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - NIGHT

Frank ROARS, and RUNS toward Chloe.

BRAD (O.S.)

Frank, n-!

Brad can't finish. Frank gave away their position, and the monsters DESCEND UPON HARVEY AS ONE MASS. He manages to fire A SINGLE LASER BLAST, before he is SUBMERGED under THE OCEAN OF MONSTERS.

The cloaked figure DROPS CHLOE. She SCREAMS. Frank runs even QUICKER. He reaches out to catch her, but MORE MONSTERS TACKLE HIM TO THE GROUND!

EXT. CLIFF - SAME TIME

Zack and the children GASP!

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - MOMENTS LATER

The cloaked figure appears ON-SCREEN, CATCHES CHLOE, and FLIES OFF. It looks back to see Frank THROWING OFF THE MONSTERS. Next, Frank RUNS TOWARD the cloaked figure. It flies over the ocean with Chloe in its arms. Frank ENTERS THE WATER, and SWIMS AFTER THEM.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - ESTABLISHING - LATER

The MONSTER ARMY CARRIES HARVEY through the city, FIRMLY GRASPING his arms and legs. The front of his body FACES THE GROUND.

ZIRA APPEARS. A MOUND BURROWS up to her, and STOPS. HUNCH POPS OUT, holding a BALL. It consists of pieces of buildings and property that he's MASHED TOGETHER. Hunch hands the ball to Zira. She uses it to SMASH the upper half of a building. Zira GRINS, and LIFTS THE BALL ABOVE Harvey's head.

INT. HARVEY - SAME TIME

Brad's EYES WIDEN in TERROR. He HITS A BUTTON.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - ESTABLISHING - AN INSTANT LATER

Harvey's laser FIRES AT THE GROUND. The blast sends him FLYING UP a few feet. The monsters lose their grip on Harvey, and his foot inadvertently KICKS Zira. She DROPS THE BALL, and it SMASHES out of the city, toward the cliff.

EXT. CLIFF - SAME TIME

ZACK, DORIS, MERYL, JALEEL, and TYLER see the ball ROLLING TOWARD them. They SCREAM. Meryl begins to RUN back down the cliff, but Zack GRABS HER.

ZACK

No, you'll never make it, you'll be crushed, follow me!

Zack CLIMBS down the cliff, the others FOLLOW. They CLING to its side as the ball CRUSHES the treehouse, HURLS OVERHEAD, then PLUMMETS into the WATER. A TIDAL WAVE follows. The children SCREAM, and attempt to climb back up. But they aren't quick enough, and the wave CRASHES OVER THEM.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - SAME TIME

The monsters grab at Harvey, but he KICKS one in the knee and PUNCHES another in the chest, then FIRES his laser. The monsters DODGE, as Zira SLASHES at Harvey. Harvey DUCKS and PUNCHES her in the chest, then LIFTS her with one hand.

Suddenly, A GIANT TURTLE APPEARS, and attempts to BITE Harvey! Harvey SWINGS ZIRA out in front of him, so he BITES HER instead, as Harvey GRABS him with his other hand. Harvey uses Zira and the

turtle to DEFLECT other attacking monsters, as he FIRES laser blasts.

Hunch DODGES a laser blast, and watches it fly out of the city. It BLOWS A HOLE in the military prison's outer wall. Hunch bends forward to look inside the hole. He sees part of a monster's head behind bars. Hunch DIGS UNDERGROUND, and BURROWS toward the prison.

EXT. MILITARY BASE - ESTABLISHING - SAME TIME

SOLDIERS are everywhere. They enter TANKS and FIGHTER JETS, as IDA ULRICH directs them. She notices something ahead, and points forward. A GIANT MOUND BURROWS TOWARD THEM! The soldiers RUN AWAY, as the mound SMASHES through the base.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - SAME TIME

The ground SHAKES, so Cinder FLIES UP a few feet.

EXT. MILITARY BASE - SAME TIME

The mound HALTS outside the prison. Soldiers FIRE LASER BLASTS at it. Ida signals for them to stop, and points to the PRISON ENTRANCE.

EXT. OCEAN - A LITTLE LATER - NIGHT

Zack's head BURSTS above water, GASPING. He looks around.

ZACK

Guys? Where are you? Guys!

JALEEL (O.S.)

Over here!

Zack sees Doris and Jaleel TREADING WATER. Meryl CLINGS to them. Zack SWIMS OVER.

ZACK

Where's Tyler? We need to get-

DORIS

I didn't see him! Did you guys...?

MERYL

H-he, he can't, he can't swim either!

DORIS/JALEEL

What?

Zack takes a DEEP BREATH, and the camera follows him as he DISAPPEARS underwater.

INT. OCEAN - CONT'D

Zack swims around until he finds Tyler, unconscious.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - SAME TIME

Cinder watches Hunch DIG HOLES in each cell, and the monsters CRAWL into them. Hunch digs a hole in Cinder's cell, but he still hovers in the air. Hunch GROWLS impatiently, when Ida and the soldiers enter.

IDA ULRICH

I knew it, **fire!**

Cinder SWOOPS into the hole. He narrowly avoids the laser blasts.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - NIGHT

Harvey still uses Zira and the turtle as shields, while BLASTING monsters. Zira BARES HER TEETH at him, when a monster RAMS against Harvey, and the impact sends Zira into his shoulder. She BITES into it. Harvey uses the turtle to BASH AT ZIRA. She ignores this, and continues BITING. The other monsters notice that Harvey is distracted, and advance forward.

Harvey manages to BASH ZIRA OFF and THROWS the turtle at her. She shoves him away, but FREEZES when Harvey's LASER lights up and HUMS. Then she looks behind him, and LAUGHS. Harvey turns. The other monsters are CHARGING!

Harvey prepares to fight the monsters, when a MISSILE ZIPS ON-SCREEN. It EXPLODES in front of them, and they FALL TO THE GROUND. Harvey turns to see FIGHTER JETS AND TANKS ARRIVING. The ground beneath Harvey RUMBLES, then GIVES WAY. Harvey COLLAPSES beside Zira. She HOLDS HIM DOWN, as Hunch and the freed monsters EMERGE FROM UNDERGROUND and ATTACK HARVEY.

Cinder is the last to surface. He flies upward, and watches the tanks fighting the other monsters. He also sees the fighter jets coming to Harvey's aid. Cinder looks uncertain, then FLIES OFF.

EXT. OCEAN - NIGHT

DORIS

He's been down there too long! We-

JALEEL

No, hold onto Mer-!

Zack BURSTS ABOVE WATER, holding Tyler and GASPING FOR AIR.

ZACK

...land! Gotta get to land!

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

The kids DRAG Tyler onshore. Doris falls to her knees, and puts an ear to Tyler's chest. Jaleel gently pulls her away.

JALEEL

Let me.

Jaleel takes Tyler's pulse, then performs CHEST COMPRESSIONS on him. Next, Jaleel tilts Tyler's head back and his chin up, and then BREATHES INTO Tyler's mouth. The children watch Jaleel work, as Zack paces the beach, but Tyler doesn't respond.

DORIS

Is he breathing yet?

Jaleel GRIMACES, and performs more CHEST COMPRESSIONS. Meryl starts CRYING. Jaleel BREATHES INTO Tyler's mouth again. Tyler COUGHS UP WATER.

DORIS

Ty!

Doris SNAPS HER FINGERS in front of Tyler's eyes.

DORIS (CONT'D)

C'mon kid, say something!

Meryl CRAWLS CLOSER to Tyler. Her tears FALL OVER his face. Jaleel puts a hand to Meryl's shoulder.

JALEEL

He needs space.

TYLER

(weakly)

Yeah Meryl, I...

(coughs)

I've had enough water for today...

Meryl SOBS, and HUGS Tyler. Jaleel nudges her away. Tyler SITS UP.

JALEEL

Don't try to talk, just breathe.

DORIS

(to Jaleel)

Golly, you sure knew what to do!

JALEEL

Sometimes being a 'know-it-all' has its perks.

ZACK

He's okay?

JALEEL

I dunno about that, but he'll liv-

ZACK

C'mon then! Remember that canoe?

Let's get the canoe!

JALEEL

What're you-?

Zack RUNS across the beach. Jaleel takes off after him. Tyler tries to follow, but is too weak. Meryl and Doris help him stand, and use their bodies to support him as they follow.

Meanwhile, Cinder PERCHES on a cliff, and watches them move forward.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - NIGHT

The jets DRIVE OFF the monsters, except SPIDRA and THE SQUID. Harvey FIRES at them, but Zira GRABS him, and his blasts are thrown off-target. Spidra CURLS around Harvey's neck, but he DUCKS FORWARD, and Zira CRASHES into Spidra. Both are knocked out.

BRAD (O.S.)

(gasping)
Dodge...dodge tha-

THE SQUID LEAPS ONTO HARVEY, and WRAPS ITS TENTACLES around him. Harvey SHOTS at it, but the squid has positioned himself to avoid his laser. Harvey fires blindly, and the squid begins squirting ink. Harvey and the squid wrestle throughout the city.

EXT. BEACH - SAME TIME

Jaleel chases Zack. The others lag behind. Tyler SLIPS, and drags Doris and Meryl down with him. Jaleel notices, and runs back. Zack looks to see Jaleel helping Tyler up.

ZACK

Guys, get the lead out! Hurry up!

DORIS

But Tyler's-

ZACK

It's got my mom! It's got her!

DORIS

Frank went after her, remember?

ZACK

H-he needs me... Frank only listens to me!

JALEEL

We don't even know if the boat's still down here.

Zack SCOWLS, as Cinder lands on the beach.

ZACK

You can hide if you want, but I'm-

Zack notices the children staring. Cinder's shadow FALLS OVER ZACK. Zack LOOKS UP. Cinder SNORTS at him.

JALEEL

Move away. Slowly.

The kids back off. Cinder tries to open his mouth wide enough to ROAR, but he still has the MUZZLE on. Instead, he SNARLS,

awkwardly.

JALEEL

Keep going, slowly, keep... **Zack!**

Zack walks toward Cinder.

ZACK

You know my mom.

Cinder takes a step back.

ZACK (CONT'D)

Chloe. Remember? Do you remember?

Cinder closes his eyes, then opens them. Zack SNIFFLES. Cinder's eyes moisten.

JALEEL

Zack, back off. It's a Cove monster.

ZACK

So was Frank, and... an' that plant thing.

MERYL

B-but that one wasn't from the Cove. And Frank, he never, F-Frank never, he never, he uh...

Zack looks Cinder in the eyes, and nods toward Forbidden Cove.

ZACK

They took her.

JALEEL

Yeah, you wanna be next?

ZACK

That's exactly what I want.

Zack moves his hands over Cinder's muzzle.

ZACK (CONT'D)

It hurts, huh?

A faint growl rumbles in the back of Cinder's throat.

DORIS

Zack, what're you doing?

ZACK

(starts to undo muzzle)

Just let me—

Cinder's wings SPREAD OUT. Zack FALLS. The children FREEZE.

ZACK (CONT'D)

I, I know you care about her too...

Cinder lowers his wings, but HISSES.

ZACK (CONT'D)

I can help you. Will you help me...?

Cinder's hissing grows into a faint growl.

ZACK (CONT'D)

...I mean like, help me help my mom?

Cinder exhales through his nostrils, BLOWING BACK Zack's hair.

ZACK (CONT'D)

Help Chloe? Help mom?

Cinder stops and thinks.

TYLER

Zack...?

ZACK

Shh!

Cinder lowers his head enough for Zack to remove the muzzle. Zack begins undoing it.

JALEEL

He's gonna take the muzzle off!

DORIS

Don't!

Zack looks back at the kids.

ZACK

It'll be okay; honest! He knows who I mean!

JALEEL

Zack, you're smarter than this!

DORIS

Yeah, leave it to Frank!

Zack FROWNS. Then he looks at Tyler.

ZACK

You're with me, right?

TYLER

Actually Zack, I'm with... well, I'm kinda with Jaleel on this one.

ZACK

Meryl...?

Meryl BLINKS for a moment.

MERYL

Um, yea... y-yea...
(beat)

...no.

Zack FROWNS. He turns around, and REMOVES THE MUZZLE! Cinder ROARS! The children SCREAM, and FALL TO THE GROUND.

Zack STEPS BACK. Cinder HISSSES, and his mouth begins to SMOKE. Zack looks BETRAYED. Then the smoke DISSIPATES, and Cinder looks toward Forbidden Cove.

Cinder kneels, spreads his wings, and gives Zack a sidelong glance. Cautiously, Zack crawls onto Cinder's back.

DORIS

Wait, we can't let you do this alone!

Cinder ROARS. SMOKE RISES FROM HIS NOSTRILS. The kids back away.

JALEEL

Zack, you know this is dumb, right?

ZACK

Yeah.

JALEEL

(sighs)

Then do what ya gotta do.

DORIS

Promise me you'll be careful, okay?

ZACK

Yeah. Yeah, okay Doris. I'll be careful. I promise.

MERYL

You're um, sure, uh, you've, you're s-sure you...?

Zack HOPS OFF Cinder. He walks up to Meryl and HUGS HER TIGHT. She looks surprised, then hugs him back. Zack crawls onto Cinder, and the kids watch as the two FLY OFF.

TYLER

(wistful)

Good luck, dude.

INT. MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Chloe is trapped within a STONY CAGE, at the back of the mountain's interior. The CLOAKED FIGURE stands before the CAVE OPENING, watching the SUNSET.

CHLOE

You're kinda small for a monster.

The cloaked figure turns to look at her. Then it SHRUGS OFF ITS CLOAK, revealing a DEMONIC CREATURE. Chloe isn't impressed.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I dunno, I'd still bet those wings're mechanical!

The demonic creature STOMPS UP to Chloe, and stares at her. It's clearly wearing a helmet. A moment passes. Then it speaks:

DEMONIC CREATURE

You have no idea who you're talking

to.

CHLOE

Well **duh!** We haven't even introduced ourselves! My name's—

DEMONIC CREATURE

I know who you are.

CHLOE

Okay smartie pants, who're you then?

The demonic creature doesn't respond. Instead, it looks outside.

DEMONIC CREATURE

Can you see the view from here?

Chloe looks over the creature's shoulder. Through the cave opening, she observes the mountains and treetops.

DEMONIC CREATURE (CONT'D)

Breathtaking, is it not?

CHLOE

Yeah, it's pretty!

DEMONIC CREATURE

Indeed. I know how quickly your kind would reduce it to ruins. That's why I protect this island's inhabitants.

(turns head)

You may call me Marowit.

CHLOE

But, well... don't you send 'em attacki—?

The creature, now known as MAROWIT, TURNS AROUND.

MAROWIT

I even protected the willful one your son borrowed. I believe that child's name is 'Zack.'

CHLOE

Well, actually, see, I've got two sons! Brad and—

MAROWIT

I don't care about Brad. Let's discuss Zack.

Chloe looks confused.

EXT. FORBIDDEN COVE - NIGHT

As Cinder flies into Forbidden Cove, Zack stares back at New Havenfield. He sees Harvey PULL the squid off of his body. Meanwhile, the army has the other monsters on the run. As Cinder and Zack glide into the MOUNTAINS, New Havenfield disappears from view. Cinder swoops above a CLEARING. Zack sees FRANK below, being BEATEN BY MONSTERS! Zack BANGS on Cinder's head, and POINTS DOWN.

ZACK

That's Frank! Ya gotta land! Land!

Cinder ROARS in protest, and NODS toward Marowit's mountain. Zack continues BANGING. Cinder gets angry, and lands. Then he SHAKES Zack off. Zack runs forward, and BLOWS HIS WHISTLE. Upon hearing it, Frank opens his eyes.

ZACK

Get up boy! They'll hurt you!

The other monsters CHARGE at Zack. Frank FORCES himself to get up, just in time to SHIELD Zack from their attacks. Cinder CIRCLES above them, looking conflicted. Zack grows DETERMINED, and RUNS OUT from between Frank's legs.

ZACK

No, stop it! Leave him alone! Stop!

A monster SWINGS his claw down to STRIKE Zack. Suddenly, Cinder SPITS A FIREBALL at the monster. It CRIES OUT, then backs away.

The monsters look as Cinder SPITS MORE FIREBALLS at them. They retreat, as Cinder LANDS in front of Zack. Zack NODS at Cinder, then steps forward. Frank GRUNTS, and places his leg down in front of Zack. Next, Zack walks out from around his leg.

ZACK

Frank, stay!

The monsters snarl, and open their mouths. Zack BLOWS INTO HIS

WHISTLE. The monsters stop to COVER THEIR EARS. Then Zack speaks:

ZACK

Why do ya keep hurting each other?

The monsters GROWL. Cinder prepares a fireball, but Zack BLOWS HIS WHISTLE again.

ZACK

No Cinder! All this needs to stop!

The monsters are shocked. They stop and exchange confused glances.

ZACK (CONT'D)

(to monsters)

You're either attacking us, or
you're hurting each other. What good
does it do?

One monster GRUNTS into the crowd. Then the bat FLIES out from the crowd, and glides toward Marowit's mountain.

INT. MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Marowit stands in front of Chloe's cell.

MAROWIT

Sure, I could have taken Zack
instead.

CHLOE

So, why didn't you?

MAROWIT

I require more from Zack than his
presence. First, I need to
understand him.

(Chloe laughs)

You find this amusing?

CHLOE

Kinda. None of it makes sense! Why
kidnap me just to learn about Zack?

MAROWIT

I-

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Look, I don't think you kidnapped me
'cause you wanna learn about Zack.
At least, I don't think that's
entirely why.

Marowit looks intrigued. He's about to speak, when the bat FLIES
IN through the cave opening. It PERCHES on Marowit's arm, and
gestures outside, SCREECHING. Marowit nods, and begins climbing
out of the cave opening.

MAROWIT

We'll continue this later.

CHLOE

Wait! I didn't finish!

MAROWIT

No. You didn't.

Marowit spreads his wings. Chloe presses her face against the stony
cell bars.

CHLOE

I think you want a friend.

Marowit turns toward her. He pauses. She's clearly gotten to him.

MAROWIT

Never assume you understand me.

Marowit SWOOPS out of the mountain. Chloe smiles to herself, softly
yet knowingly.

EXT. NEW HAVENFIELD SQUARE - NIGHT

Harvey PINS the squid to the ground, then BLASTS it with his laser,
knocking it out. Then he looks around, and observes the army
driving the other monsters out of the city. Zira wakes up, and
FOLLOWS. So do Spidra and the squid.

Soldiers CHEER, as Ida arrives with GIBSON and SHELDON. Harvey's
head POPS OPEN, revealing Brad.

BRAD

Stop cheering, it's not over!

IDA ULRICH

Excuse me?

Brad sees Ida and Sheldon standing near his father.

BRAD

Dad! It's got mom!

GIBSON

What?

IDA ULRICH

Wait, who's got your mother?

BRAD

Some monster! It looked like... it was like, wearing a cloak or something! Had wings! I dunno! But it's got mom!

IDA ULRICH

Calm down Lieutenant! Can you fight?

BRAD

Heck yeah! But we need to go now!

IDA ULRICH

Then we leave immediately.

(to Sheldon)

Tell everyone we're mounting a frontal assault on Forbidden Cove. It's time we ended this.

Sheldon SALUTES, and begins alerting soldiers. Gibson GRABS Ida by her shoulders.

GIBSON

What can... how can I help, can I-?

IDA ULRICH

You can go sort yourself out, we've got work to do.

Ida PUSHES PAST Gibson, and begins barking orders to soldiers:

IDA ULRICH

Alright, move it, on the double!

Let's go!

EXT. FORBIDDEN COVE - NIGHT

The monsters listen as Zack talks. Tears well up in Zack's eyes.

ZACK

...understand what I'm saying?

Zack looks to Frank.

ZACK (CONT'D)

You don't have to hurt anyone.

Zack looks to the monsters.

ZACK (CONT'D)

You don't have to hurt me.

Zack looks to Cinder.

ZACK (CONT'D)

An' ya don't have to hurt each other.

Marowit LANDS in a shadowed area. He watches Zack.

ZACK (CONT'D)

You can-

MAROWIT

Very impressive... Zack.

Zack turns. Marowit steps into the light. Then the sun disappears into the horizon, and Marowit is covered in darkness once more.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE: TO BE CONTINUED...