

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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*This episode is set over two days (and one night ).  
These days are referred to as **DAY 7**, **DAY 8** and **NIGHT 8** in the scene headers.*

**SCENE 1. INT. KITCHEN – CASTLE DRACULA. DAY 7. 8.15AM**  
*[THE COUNT, VLAD, RENFIELD, INGRID]*

INGRID SITS EATING BREAKFAST AS RENFIELD  
WORKS THE BLENDER, THE CONTENTS TURN RED.  
VLAD ENTERS.

**RENFIELD:**

What would Master like for breakfast? How does natural yogurt  
and shredded leech sound?

**VLAD:**

Disgusting. Have you got anything that doesn't contain blood?

**INGRID:**

You are SO not gonna make it as a vampire.

THE COUNT STAGGERS IN EXHAUSTED BUT HAPPY.

**THE COUNT:**

What a night I've had! Stop what you're doing and prepare to be  
amazed!

HE REACHES INTO HIS CAPE AND PULLS OUT A  
SMALL RABBIT BY THE SCRUFF OF HIS NECK – TA-DA!  
HE WAITS FOR THE REACTION. BEAT.

**VLAD:**

[CONFUSED] Dad, have you got a job as a magician?

**RENFIELD:**

If you need an attractive assistant, I look stunning in sequins.

**THE COUNT:**

No you idiots! I've been out hunting!

THE COUNT HANDS VLAD THE RABBIT.

**THE COUNT:**

It's time you got your fangs stuck into some proper grub.

**VLAD:**

[HORRIFIED] But Dad, it's just a little baby rabbit!

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**THE COUNT:**

[PLEASED] Want something bigger, eh? Tomorrow I'll bring you a goat.

THE COUNT PUTS THE RABBIT IN FRONT OF VLAD.

**VLAD:**

I'm not eating this! It's alive!

**INGRID:**

You are such a wimp.

**THE COUNT:**

Don't worry Vlad, everybody gets first bite nerves. You just need some practice before you're old enough to start on the peasants.

THE COUNT IS SUDDENLY IN VLAD'S FACE.

**THE COUNT:**

[MENACING] Now be a brave boy and bite the bunny.

**VLAD:**

I'm not biting the bunny! I'm not biting anyone!

THE COUNT LOOKS THUNDEROUS.

**THE COUNT:**

You're a vampire, start acting like one.

**INGRID:**

You should kick him out Dad, he's too soft.

**THE COUNT:**

You see? Ingrid's vile, why can't you be like her?

**VLAD:**

Because I like being me, I like being nice.

**THE COUNT:**

This is what happens when you try to raise children on your own - they turn out good!

**RENFIELD:**

Would you like me to beat him Master?

**THE COUNT:**

No this boy needs something much more painful. He needs a mother.

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RENFIELD DROPS A SAUCEPAN IN HORROR.

**VLAD:**

But I've already got a mum!

**THE COUNT:**

I mean one who doesn't run off with a werewolf at the first sign of moonlight. You need a stepmother. Preferably evil.

**INGRID:**

And who exactly are you planning on marrying?

**THE COUNT:**

I will find a bride the traditional way. I'll throw a Hunt Ball.

OFF ON VLAD'S HORRIFIED LOOK.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 2. EXT. SCHOOL – BENCH. DAY 7. 12.35PM**

*[VLAD, CHLOE, ROBIN] [SCHOOL KIDS (NS)]*

VLAD, ROBIN AND CHLOE SIT EATING THEIR PACKED LUNCHES. VLAD IS PANICKING.

**CHLOE:**

What's a Hunt Ball?

**VLAD:**

A big fancy party with ballroom dancing so Dad can waltz around window shopping for a wife.

**ROBIN:**

A vampire party! Cool!

**VLAD:**

[POINTEDLY] And at midnight, instead of going home they start hunting peasants to feast on.

**ROBIN:**

Well all that dancing is bound to make you peckish.

**VLAD:**

Robin this isn't funny, Dad's gonna blow our cover!

**CHLOE:**

Vlad you've got to stop him.

**VLAD:**

I am aware of that Chloe. But how?

**CHLOE:**

Tell him about Van Helsing. If he knows there's a slayer in town, he'll have to call it off.

**ROBIN:**

You know you two are real party poopers.

**VLAD:**

[IGNORING ROBIN] Or he might invite even more vampires and have a showdown.

**ROBIN:**

Oh man that would be awesome!

VLAD AND CHLOE LOOK AT ROBIN.

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**ROBIN:**

A boy can dream can't he?

VLAD LOOKS AT HIM DESPAIRINGLY – ROBIN JUST  
DOESN'T GET IT.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 3. INT. SCHOOL – WOODWORK ROOM. DAY 7. 12.45PM**

*[VAN HELSING, JONATHAN]*

VAN HELSING IS SHOWING JONATHAN A HOME-MADE CROSSBOW.

**VAN HELSING:**

I finally perfected my stake-firing crossbow! I need you to help me do some target practice.

**JONATHAN:**

If you ask me to put an apple on my head I'm leaving.

VAN HELSING GIVES JONATHAN A LOOK AND HANDS HIM A BUCKET.

**VAN HELSING:**

Throw one of these across the room when I say 'Pull'.

JONATHAN EXAMINES THE BUCKET, IT'S FILLED WITH PLASTIC BATS.

**JONATHAN:**

I'm missing lunch so you can shoot plastic bats? You're crazy.

VAN HELSING TAKES A BAT OUT OF THE BUCKET.

**VAN HELSING:**

This isn't a plastic bat, this is Count Dracula!

**JONATHAN:**

Oh I see, you're not crazy...you're insane!

**VAN HELSING:**

I've spotted a bat flying to and from the castle. It must be the Count shape-shifting! I'm going to blast him out of the sky.

**JONATHAN:**

*[SARCASTIC]* Oh yeah because it couldn't just be bats nesting in the castle could it? Oh no. It must be a man turning himself into a bat. S'obvious.

**VAN HELSING:**

Pull!

JONATHAN ANGRILY THROWS A BAT AND VAN HELSING FIRES AND MISSES.

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**JONATHAN:**

You do know bats are a protected species?!

**VAN HELSING:**

Pull!

JONATHAN THROWS AND VAN HELSING MISSES  
AGAIN.

**JONATHAN:**

It's illegal to shoot them!

**VAN HELSING:**

Pull!

JONATHAN THROWS AND VAN HELSING FIRES –  
THUNK! HE FINALLY NAILS ONE.

**JONATHAN:**

You could be put in jail for this!

VAN HELSING HOLDS UP THE ARROW WITH A BAT  
STUCK ON THE END.

**VAN HELSING:**

I killed the Count!

**JONATHAN:**

Or a straight-jacket.

JONATHAN LOOKS WORRIED AS HIS DAD INSPECTS  
HIS KILL.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 4. INT. GREAT HALL DINING ROOM – CASTLE DRACULA.**

**DAY 7. 5.00PM**

*[THE COUNT, INGRID, RENFIELD, VLAD, ZOLTAN]*

VLAD ENTERS AS INGRID IS EXPLAINING TO RENFIELD HER PLANS FOR THE BALL. SHE CRISS-CROSSES THE ROOM.

**INGRID:**

Right, the guests will be greeted here, [POINTS] the drinks table will go over there and you...[SNEERS] try to keep a low profile.

SHE'S NOW STANDING NEXT TO A WORRIED LOOKING VLAD.

**VLAD:**

[TO INGRID. AGHAST] Why are you helping? Do you want a stepmother?!

**INGRID:**

What have I got to lose? Mum's never around and Dad doesn't like me. At least this way I might find someone who actually cares about me.

**VLAD:**

Dad cares.

**THE COUNT:**

Ingrid I may have to sell you to pay for this party.

INGRID GIVES VLAD A 'SEE WHAT I MEAN' LOOK AND CONTINUES WALKING AROUND MAKING NOTES. THE COUNT FLIPS THROUGH "BLUD!" MAGAZINE (IN THE STYLE OF "HELLO"). ZOLTAN IS AT HIS SIDE. THE COUNT STOPS ON A PAGE.

**THE COUNT:**

[TO RENFIELD] What about Countess LeCushka?

**RENFIELD:**

You can't marry her, she killed her brother with a garlic flavoured coffin.

**INGRID:**

Sounds perfect.

**THE COUNT:**

Add her to the list.

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RENFIELD LOOKS ANGUISHED AS INGRID WRITES ON HER NOTEPAD.

**VLAD:**

[PLEADING] Dad you don't have to do this! I promise to be good! I mean bad.

THE COUNT SUDDENLY SPOTS A PICTURE.

**THE COUNT:**

Aha!...Say hello to the future Mrs Dracula. What a beauty! Such pale lifeless skin and fangs like icebergs! We are definitely inviting her!

THEY ALL GATHER AROUND AND LOOK AT THE PICTURE.

**INGRID:**

Dad, that's a picture of Mum.

**ZOLTAN:**

[PEERING AT THE CAPTION] It says she was at the Annual Werewolf Awards.

**THE COUNT:**

[BLUSTERING] I didn't mean her, I meant her!

HE FLICKS THE PAGE OVER.

**VLAD:**

That's her boyfriend.

**ZOLTAN:**

[STILL READING THE CAPTION] He was nominated for Best Hair.

THE COUNT ANGRILY SNAPS THE MAGAZINE SHUT.

**THE COUNT:**

Haven't you all got jobs to do.

THEY ALL SCATTER BACK TO THEIR JOBS EXCEPT VLAD. HE TRIES A DIFFERENT TACK.

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**VLAD:**

[GENTLY] Dad, do you really want to invite all these vampires to Stokely? You're just asking for us to be chased out by an angry peasant mob.

**CUT TO:**

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### SCENE 5. THE COUNT'S FLASHBACK

THE ANGRY PEASANT MOB (FROM EPISODE 1) WAVE  
THEIR PITCHFORKS AND TORCHES, THEIR FACES  
DISTORTED WITH HATE.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 6. INT. GREAT HALL DINING ROOM – CASTLE DRACULA.**

**DAY 7. 5.02PM TIME CONTINUOUS**

*[THE COUNT, INGRID, RENFIELD, VLAD, ZOLTAN]*

THE COUNT SHAKES OFF THE MEMORY.

**THE COUNT:**

Brrr. You're right Vlad...

THE COUNT PUTS HIS ARM AROUND VLAD. VLAD LOOKS RELIEVED.

**THE COUNT:**

...so instead of hunting the whole town, we'll just invite a few peasants to the castle. We'll let them loose at midnight and the fun can begin!

HE SMILES AND PATS VLAD ON THE BACK.

**VLAD:**

[EXASPERATED] Oh well that's alright then, if you're only draining a few locals, who cares?!

**THE COUNT:**

Exactly. Now Ingrid, they need to be healthy peasants, fit and fast enough to make the chase fun. We don't want any pathetic creatures like Renfield here.

**RENFIELD:**

[RELIEVED] Thank you Master!

**INGRID:**

Don't worry Dad, I've got the perfect specimens in mind.

SHE SMILES WICKEDLY AND VLAD LOOKS WORRIED.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 7. INT. KITCHEN – THE BRANAGH'S. DAY 8. 9.00AM**

*[ELIZABETH, GRAHAM, ROBIN, CHLOE, IAN, PAUL]*

THE BRANAGHS ARE SITTING AROUND THE TABLE EATING BREAKFAST. ELIZABETH ENTERS OPENING THE POST.

**ELIZABETH:**

[EXITED] Oooh. We've all been invited to a Hunt Ball at the castle!

CHLOE CHOKES ON HER BREAKFAST. ROBIN LOOKS EXCITED.

**ROBIN:**

Please say we can go?

CHLOE ELBOWS ROBIN.

**CHLOE:**

No!!!

THEY ALL LOOK AT HER.

**CHLOE:**

Um, it's just I really don't think we should go!

**GRAHAM:**

I couldn't agree more.

**ELIZABETH:**

Why? It sounds like fun.

**CHLOE:**

But it's gonna be full of...

ROBIN COUGHS.

**CHLOE:**

...people who aren't like us.

**GRAHAM:**

Exactly. And I can think of a hundred things I'd rather do on a Saturday night than prancing around with a bunch of weirdoes.

**ELIZABETH:**

Graham! We shouldn't make fun of the neighbours. I say we all go and have a jolly good time!

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**PAUL:**

[DREAMY] I'm going to ask Ingrid to dance with me!

**IAN:**

[DREAMY] Me too! [SNAPPING OUT OF IT] Hang on, we don't know how to ballroom dance.

**ELIZABETH:**

[FLATTERINGLY] Your father can teach you – he does a mean tango.

THEY ALL LOOK AT GRAHAM, SURPRISED.

**GRAHAM:**

What you think plumbers can't dance?

**ROBIN:**

Does that mean we can go?

ELIZABETH LOOKS HOPEFUL AT GRAHAM.

**GRAHAM:**

[WEARY. TO THE BOYS] C'mon we'll start with a waltz.

**ROBIN:**

Yes!

GRAHAM AND THE TWINS GET UP FROM THE TABLE.

**CHLOE:**

[ASIDE TO ROBIN] Are you going to stand by and let our family be used as the refreshments?!

**ROBIN:**

[ASIDE TO CHLOE] You're worrying over nothing. We're perfectly safe. The Count likes us.

**ELIZABETH:**

[READING THE CARD] Mm, that's odd. Under dress code it just says, 'Running Shoes'.

CHLOE LOOKS ACCUSINGLY AT ROBIN.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 8. EXT. / INT. VAN HELSING'S CARAVAN. DAY 8. 9.30AM**

*[JONATHAN, VAN HELSING]*

VAN HELSING IS LOOKING AT THE CASTLE THROUGH HIS TELESCOPE. JONATHAN IS EATING BREAKFAST AND READING A BOOK ON BATS.

**JONATHAN:**

It says here bats can give you quite a nasty bite.

**VAN HELSING:**

And so can vampires!

**JONATHAN:**

Dad when are you gonna realise there are no vampires?

VAN HELSING IS SHOCKED. HE TURNS TO JONATHAN.

**VAN HELSING:**

Take that back!

**JONATHAN:**

It's true!

**VAN HELSING:**

Vampires are real and they're nesting in that castle! When I shoot down the Count then you'll believe me.

VAN HELSING IMITATES TAKING AIM AND FIRING HIS CROSSBOW INTO THE SKY. JONATHAN ROLLS HIS EYES.

**JONATHAN:**

This is ridiculous. I'm going to warn them they've got bats that need protecting.

HE HEADS FOR THE DOOR. VAN HELSING BLOCKS HIS WAY.

**VAN HELSING:**

*[DEADLY SERIOUS]* If you go up there the only thing that'll need protecting is your neck.

VAN HELSING FIXES HIM WITH AN INTENSE STARE AND JONATHAN INSTINCTIVELY RUBS HIS NECK. THEN REALISES WHAT HE'S DOING AND SNAPS OUT OF IT.

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**JONATHAN:**

Oh give over.

VAN HELSING STEPS ASIDE AND JONATHAN EXITS.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 9. INT. BALLROOM – CASTLE DRACULA. DAY 8. 10.00AM**

*[INGRID, RENFIELD]*

RENFIELD IS GETTING THE ROOM READY FOR THE BALL. HE'S SWEEPING WHEN INGRID APPROACHES HIM HOLDING TWO PIECES OF PAPER.

**INGRID:**

There's a lot to do before the guests arrive so I've made us both a list of chores.

SHE HANDS ONE OF THE PIECES TO RENFIELD. HE LOOKS AT IT, CONFUSED, THEN CHECKS THE BACK.

**RENFIELD:**

But, this paper is blank?

**INGRID:**

Whoops, that's mine, this is yours.

SHE SWAPS PIECES. RENFIELD RECOILS AT HIS NEW LIST.

**RENFIELD:**

This is too much, I don't have time!

**INGRID:**

Which reminds me, make sure you wind the big clock. The hunt starts at midnight.

INGRID EXITS AS RENFIELD READS HIS LIST, DEPRESSED. THE DOOR-BELL RINGS, RENFIELD EXITS TO ANSWER IT STILL READING HIS LIST.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 10. INT. CASTLE ENTRANCE – CASTLE DRACULA. DAY 8. 10.02AM**  
**TIME CONTINUOUS**

*[RENFIELD, ROBIN, JONATHAN]*

RENFIELD OPENS THE DOOR TO REVEAL ROBIN, HE DOESN'T LOOK UP FROM HIS LIST.

**ROBIN:**

Is Vlad in?

**RENFIELD:**

Upstairs.

ROBIN TAKES THIS AS HIS CUE TO ENTER AND HEADS UPSTAIRS. RENFIELD DOESN'T CLOSE THE DOOR BUT KEEPS STANDING HOLDING IT OPEN, READING THE LIST.

**RENFIELD:**

*[READING]* 'Make three gallons of leech and strawberry punch!'.  
Where am I going to find strawberries?

JONATHAN WALKS UP TO THE OPEN DOORWAY.

**JONATHAN:**

Is Vlad in? I...

**RENFIELD:**

*[INTERRUPTING]* I said upstairs! Find him yourself! I'm too busy!

**JONATHAN:**

*[OFFENDED]* Alright, no need to shout.

JONATHAN ENTERS AND HEADS UPSTAIRS, LEAVING RENFIELD MUTTERING OVER HIS LIST.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 11. INT. VLAD'S BEDROOM – CASTLE DRACULA. DAY 8. 10.05AM**  
*[VLAD, ROBIN, ZOLTAN]*

VLAD READS THE INVITATION, EYES WIDENING,  
WATCHED BY ROBIN.

**VLAD:**

I don't believe it. You're the 'perfect specimens' Ingrid was talking about!

**ROBIN:**

Specimens? Don't you mean guests?

**VLAD:**

*[PATIENT]* No Robin. Ingrid's invited you as the prey for the vampires to hunt.

**ZOLTAN:**

Oh I used to love a good hunt. Curse these wheels.

ROBIN IS CONFUSED.

**ROBIN:**

You mean like a party game, hide and seek, that kind of thing?

VLAD ROLLS HIS EYES.

**VLAD:**

*[WEARY]* At midnight a pack of hungry vampires is going to tear you limb from limb!

**ZOLTAN:**

Ahh that was the bit I liked best.

ROBIN NERVOUSLY LAUGHS.

**ROBIN:**

Get out of here! *[BEAT]* You mean a hunt ball really is a hunt ball?

**VLAD:**

That's what I've been trying to tell you!

ROBIN REALISES THE TRUTH.

**ROBIN:**

*[ALMOST IMPRESSED]* Ingrid really is evil.

**VLAD:**

I'm sure it's just a big misunderstanding. Let's tell Dad.

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VLAD AND ROBIN HEAD FOR THE DOOR.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**SCENE 12. INT. STAIRCASE – CASTLE DRACULA. DAY 8. 10.06AM**

*[JONATHAN]*

JONATHAN IS LOOKING FOR SIGNS OF LIFE.

**JONATHAN:**

*[CALLING]* Hello...? Anybody there...?

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 13. INT. THE COUNT'S BEDROOM – CASTLE DRACULA.**  
**DAY 8. 10.07AM TIME CONTINUOUS**

*[JONATHAN, THE COUNT, VLAD, ROBIN, VAN HELSING (OOV)]*

JONATHAN PASSES THE OPEN DOORWAY AND GLANCES INSIDE BEFORE WALKING OUT OF VISION. BEAT. HE BACKTRACKS SLOWLY INTO VISION AND LOOKS WIDE-EYED INTO THE ROOM. HE CAUTIOUSLY ENTERS, TAKING IN THE DECOR. CRASH ZOOM ON THE COFFIN, JONATHAN'S FRIGHTENED FACE.

**VAN HELSING:**

*[OOV. ECHO]* Vampires are real and they're nesting in that castle!

JONATHAN HEARS VOICES IN THE CORRIDOR BEHIND HIM AND SNAPS OUT OF HIS DAZE. THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER. HE QUICKLY SCANS THE ROOM LOOKING FOR SOMEWHERE TO HIDE. JUST AS VLAD AND ROBIN ENTER HE DUCKS AND HIDES BEHIND THE COFFIN. THEY DON'T SEE HIM.

**VLAD:**

Dad! Quick! Wake up!

THERE'S A LOUD THUD FROM THE INSIDE OF THE COFFIN.

**THE COUNT:**

*[OOV]* Ow!

THE COFFIN LID FLINGS OPEN AND THE COUNT SITS UP ANGRILY RUBBING HIS HEAD. JONATHAN WATCHES IN FEAR FROM BEHIND THE COFFIN.

**THE COUNT:**

That's it! I'm getting a sound proof coffin. I'm sick of getting woken up in the middle of the day!

**VLAD:**

Sorry Dad but it's an emergency.

**THE COUNT:**

*[WORRIED]* The dry cleaners have shrunk my cape?!

**VLAD:**

No, Ingrid's invited the Branaghs to the Ball – they're the bait!

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**THE COUNT:**

Yes I know. It's going to be fun!

**ROBIN:**

But vampires are going to chase us and suck out our blood!

JONATHAN IS TERRIFIED, HE'S SWEATING.

**THE COUNT:**

I thought you wanted to be a vampire? Better than being a stinking breather.

THE COUNT HOLDS HIS NOSE.

**THE COUNT:**

Pwooar, you really do reek today Robin! You're making this room smell like it's full of breathers!

JONATHAN CLAMPS HIS HANDS OVER HIS MOUTH TO MASK THE SMELL OF HIS BREATHING.

**ROBIN:**

What about my family? They don't want to be turned into vampires!

**THE COUNT:**

Oh don't be so rhesus negative. They'll look great in fangs – especially mine!

ROBIN PANICKING, NUDGES VLAD.

**ROBIN:**

Go on! Tell him about Mr Van Helsing!

JONATHAN'S EYEBROWS SHOOT UP IN ALARM. VLAD GIVES ROBIN THE HAND ACROSS THE THROAT, 'SHUT UP' GESTURE.

**THE COUNT:**

Your woodwork teacher? What about him?

VLAD BITES HIS LIP AND DECIDES TO COME CLEAN.

**VLAD:**

[NERVOUS] Well you see Dad, the thing is...he's not just a woodwork teacher...[TAKES A DEEP BREATH] He's also...a vampire slayer.

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BEAT. JONATHAN FARTS. HE QUICKLY SWITCHES HIS HANDS FROM HIS MOUTH TO HIS BOTTOM. ROBIN AND VLAD EXCHANGE A LOOK, THEY THINK IT WAS THE COUNT REACTING TO THE NEWS. THE COUNT LOOKS AT VLAD, HE THINKS IT WAS HIM. BEAT.

**THE COUNT:**

[LAUGHING] Him! A slayer! As if! [BORED] Now get out of here, I need my beauty sleep.

THE BOYS DON'T MOVE.

**THE COUNT:**

Go!!!

THIS MAKES VLAD AND ROBIN JUMP AND THEY QUICKLY EXIT. THE COUNT SHAKES HIS HEAD AND LIES BACK DOWN IN HIS COFFIN. HE REACHES UP AND SHUTS THE LID. BEAT. JONATHAN EMERGES SHAKING AND GINGERLY TIPTOES OUT OF THE ROOM PAST THE COFFIN AND THEN MAKES A DASH FOR IT.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 14. INT. VAN HELSING'S CARAVAN. DAY 8. 11.00AM**

*[JONATHAN, VAN HELSING]*

JONATHAN SITS STARING VACANTLY INTO THE DISTANCE, TRAUMATISED. VAN HELSING IS PACING, EXCITED.

**VAN HELSING:**

You actually saw him in his coffin?! Oh if only you'd had a stake with you!

**JONATHAN:**

*[DRAINED]* There are vampires living in the castle.

**VAN HELSING:**

I've been telling you that for months, but would you listen? Oh no.

**JONATHAN:**

*[LOST IN THOUGHT]* We should get away from here. Far away, where they can't find us...

**VAN HELSING:**

Run away? Are you crazy? We've got to get up to the castle and do our duty.

**JONATHAN:**

We can't, it's going to be swarming with vampires. *[DISBELIEF]* They're having a party!

**VAN HELSING:**

Oh sweet joy! This is it! The big one! It's the moment I've always dreamed of Jonno. Me and you, outnumbered, fighting shoulder to shoulder against a bloodthirsty horde of vampires!

JONATHAN LOOKS AT HIS DAD AND REALISES HE'S SERIOUS. HE SWALLOWS HARD.

**JONATHAN:**

I think I'm going to be sick.

HE RUSHES FOR THE TOILET.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 15. INT. KITCHEN – THE BRANAGH'S. NIGHT 8. 7.40PM**

*[ELIZABETH, CHLOE, PAUL, VLAD, ROBIN]*

ROBIN AND VLAD RUSH UP TO CHLOE WHO IS IRONING A PINK DRESS.

**ROBIN:**

[PANICKING] We've got to stop them from going to the ball - it's our only chance!

**CHLOE:**

[CALM] Congratulations Robin. I'm glad the penny has finally dropped.

SMOKE RISES FROM THE DRESS.

**CHLOE:**

[OVER ACTING] Oh no! What have I done?!

ELIZABETH ENTERS.

**ELIZABETH:**

My dress!

SHE LIFTS THE IRON TO REVEAL A PERFECT IRON - SHAPED BURN MARK. ROBIN SUDDENLY REALISES WHAT CHLOE IS UP TO.

**ROBIN:**

Looks like it's ruined. Never mind Mum, I'm sure we can go next year, right Vlad?

**VLAD:**

You bet.

**ELIZABETH:**

Oh well...

THE KIDS LOOK RELIEVED.

**ELIZABETH:**

...isn't it lucky I decided to wear this instead?

SHE INDICATES THE DRESS SHE'S WEARING, PICKS UP HER PURSE AND EXITS. THE KIDS PANIC.

**ROBIN:**

What if I lock us in and hide the keys?

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**CHLOE:**

[NODS] Do it.

PAUL POPS HIS HEAD IN, EXCITED.

**PAUL:**

Hurry up. Ingrid's here.

PAUL RUSHES BACK OUT AS VLAD, CHLOE AND  
ROBIN SHARE A CONCERNED LOOK AND HURRY  
AFTER HIM.

**CUT TO:**

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**SCENE 16. INT. LIVING ROOM – THE BRANAGH'S. NIGHT 8. 7.43PM TIME**  
**CONTINUOUS**

*[VLAD, ROBIN, CHLOE, ELIZABETH, GRAHAM, INGRID, PAUL, IAN]*

VLAD, ROBIN AND CHLOE RUSH IN TO FIND INGRID SITTING NEXT TO GRAHAM ON THE SOFA MEASURING HIS BLOOD PRESSURE. INGRID FINISHES INFLATING THE ARM BALLOON.

**GRAHAM:**

Ingrid's checking my blood pressure, isn't that thoughtful?

**INGRID:**

Just want to make sure you're fit and healthy for the dance.

**CHLOE:**

*[TO INGRID]* You are sick! Sick, do you hear?!

**ELIZABETH:**

Chloe, don't be so rude.

INGRID GIVES CHLOE A SMUG SMILE AND THE MONITOR BEEPS.

**INGRID:**

*[READING]* One-twenty over sixty.

**GRAHAM:**

Is that good?

**INGRID:**

*[LOOKING AT VLAD, CHLOE AND ROBIN]* Perfect. You could run for miles.

**IAN:**

Then what are we waiting for? Let's boogaloo!

**PAUL:**

*[EMBARRASSED FOR IAN]* Boogaloo?

IAN CRINGES UNDER THE WITHERING LOOK INGRID IS GIVING HIM. SHE HEADS OUT AND THE OTHERS FOLLOW HER. THEY HEAD OUT AND INGRID TURNS AND SMILES VICTORIOUSLY AT ROBIN, VLAD AND CHLOE.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**VLAD:**

Don't panic. The hunt doesn't start until midnight, we've still got time!

**ROBIN:**

For what? How are we gonna stop a room full of thirsty vampires?

**VLAD:**

[THINKS] I know what I've got to do. Leave it with me.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**SCENE 17. INT. VAN HELSING'S CARAVAN. NIGHT 8. 7.50PM**

*[VAN HELSING, JONATHAN]*

CLOSE UP ON A SERIOUS LOOKING VAN HELSING.

**VAN HELSING:**

It's time.

PULL OUT TO REVEAL VAN HELSING TALKING TO JONATHAN.

**VAN HELSING:**

C'mon let's get to school to gather weapons and ammo. We're going to need the full works.

VAN HELSING HEADS FOR THE DOOR. JONATHAN DOESN'T FOLLOW.

**VAN HELSING:**

Are you with me?

JONATHAN HESITATES, UNSURE. VAN HELSING ISN'T PREPARED TO WAIT AND CONTINUES ON HIS WAY.

**JONATHAN:**

Dad wait! [BEAT. GENTLE] What if you don't make it back? You're all I've got.

VAN HELSING PUTS A HAND ON JONATHAN'S SHOULDER.

**VAN HELSING:**

Each man must choose his own destiny. I have chosen mine, it is time for you to choose yours.

VAN HELSING TURNS AND EXITS. HE LEAVES JONATHAN DECIDING HIS FATE.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**SCENE 18. INT. GREAT HALL DINING ROOM – CASTLE DRACULA.**

**NIGHT 8. 8.00PM**

*[THE COUNT, INGRID, ELIZABETH, GRAHAM, CHLOE, ROBIN, IAN, PAUL, RENFIELD, MAGDA] [GUESTS (NS)]*

THE COUNT GREETES HIS GUESTS AS THEY ARRIVE. RENFIELD LADLES OUT THE PUNCH FOR ARRIVING GUESTS. THERE IS A TRAY OF CANAPÉS (COCKROACHES AND CHEESE ON STICKS SHAPED LIKE A HEDGEHOG) ON THE TABLE. INGRID ENTERS WITH ELIZABETH, GRAHAM, CHLOE, ROBIN, IAN AND PAUL.

**THE COUNT:**

Elizabeth! So glad you could make it.

**ELIZABETH:**

[THRILLED] We wouldn't have missed this for the world, would we Graham?

**GRAHAM:**

[GRUNTS] Mmm.

**ELIZABETH:**

Thank you so much for inviting us.

**THE COUNT:**

Well you must stay until midnight. I've got something lined up that's to die for.

THE COUNT SMILES AND CHLOE AND ROBIN GULP. ELIZABETH AND THE TWINS EXCITEDLY HEAD OFF INTO THE BALLROOM, GRAHAM, CHLOE AND ROBIN RELUCTANTLY FOLLOW. INGRID STAYS AND SHOWS THE COUNT A SHEET OF PAPER.

**INGRID:**

Okay here's your shortlist. [POINTING] I recommend her, her or her. [BEAT] Well what are you waiting for? Get in there and talk to them.

**THE COUNT:**

No Ingrid they will come to me. Drawn by the power of my magnetic charisma.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

THE COUNT RAKISHLY FLICKS HIS HAIR BACK AND FLASHES HIS FANGS. INGRID ROLLS HER EYES. A GLAMOROUS LOOKING WOMAN ENTERS, HER FACE PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY A FAN.

**THE COUNT:**

See, what did I tell you? I'm irresistible.

THE WOMAN GETS CLOSER AND LOWERS HER FAN, THE COUNT AND INGRID FLINCH AS THEY RECOGNISE HER.

**THE COUNT:**

Magda!

**MAGDA:**

Hello darlings.

**INGRID:**

[ANNOYED] Mum! What are you doing here?!

**MAGDA:**

I want to know why your father is looking for a wife.

**THE COUNT:**

It's time Vladimir had a proper mother.

**MAGDA:**

I'm a proper mother!

**INGRID:**

You sent us jumpers at Christmas made out of your boyfriend's fur.

**MAGDA:**

He was moulting it seemed such a waste. Now be quiet and get me a drink I'm parched.

THE COUNT LOOKS AT MAGDA, ATTRACTED.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

SCENE 19. – THERE IS NO LONGER A SCENE 19.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**SCENE 20. INT. SCHOOL – WOODWORK ROOM. NIGHT 8. 8.55PM**

*[VLAD, VAN HELSING, JONATHAN]*

THE ROOM IS DARK. THE DOOR CREAKS OPEN AND VLAD CAUTIOUSLY ENTERS, LIGHTING HIS WAY WITH A TORCH. HE STEALTHILY MAKES HIS WAY ACROSS THE ROOM TO VAN HELSING'S DESK. THE BEAM OF LIGHT ILLUMINATES THE DESK DRAWER. VLAD GRABS THE HANDLE AND PULLS... IT'S LOCKED. HE PUTS HIS FOOT UP AND BRACES HIMSELF AGAINST THE DESK AND TRIES TO FORCE THE LOCK.

**VAN HELSING:**

[OOV] Looking for something?

VLAD JUMPS AS THE CLASSROOM LIGHTS FLICK ON, FLOODING THE ROOM WITH LIGHT AND REVEALING VAN HELSING STANDING BY THE DOOR. VLAD GASPS AND QUICKLY LETS GO OF THE DRAWER. VAN HELSING SLOWLY STARTS TO APPROACH.

**VAN HELSING:**

What are you doing here? Shouldn't you be at the Hunt Ball?

**VLAD:**

[WORRIED] The what?

**VAN HELSING:**

Let's not play games any more, Vlad. I know you're a vampire.

VLAD FLINCHES. VAN HELSING GETS CLOSER.

**VAN HELSING:**

And you know I'm a slayer.

VAN HELSING PRESSES THE BUTTON ON THE BLACKBOARD. IT SPINS AROUND REVEALING THE SLAYING PARAPHERNALIA. VLAD PANICS AND STARTS TO BACK AWAY.

**VLAD:**

I don't know what you're talking about! Honest! Cross my heart and hope to [THINKS] ...look I don't know, okay!

VLAD BACKS UP AGAINST THE WALL TRAPPED.

**VAN HELSING:**

So what are you going to do now, vampire?

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

JONATHAN RUSHES IN, OUT OF BREATH.

**VLAD:**

Jonathan, am I glad to see you!

JONATHAN LOOKS AT VLAD, ANGER IN HIS EYES.

**JONATHAN:**

[POINTING] Vampire!!!

**VLAD:**

[QUIETLY TO HIMSELF] Oh poo.

CLOSE ON VLAD, THE GAME IS UP.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**SCENE 21. INT. BALLROOM – CASTLE DRACULA. NIGHT 8. 10.00PM**

*[THE COUNT, INGRID, ZOLTAN, ELIZABETH, GRAHAM, ROBIN, CHLOE, IAN, PAUL, MAGDA] [GUESTS (NS)]*

THE BALL IS IN FULL SWING AS THE VAMPIRE ORCHESTRA PLAYS AND THE COUNT SITS ON A RAISED PLATFORM OVERLOOKING THE DANCE FLOOR. HE'S WATCHING MAGDA DANCING WITH A HANDSOME VAMPIRE, HE LOOKS JEALOUS. THE TWINS ARE EATING THE COCKROACHES AND CHEESE ON STICKS. CHLOE AND ROBIN ARE WATCHING THE CLOCK, IT TICKS ONTO TEN O'CLOCK. THEY TURN THEIR ATTENTIONS BACK TO THE DANCE-FLOOR AND WATCH THEIR MUM AND DAD WALTZING AROUND TOGETHER.

**ROBIN:**

Where's Vlad? We're running out of time!

ZOLTAN WHEELS UP TO CHLOE AND ROBIN.

**ZOLTAN:**

He can't help you now, no-one can. The vampires have picked up the scent.

CHLOE LOOKS UP AND SEES THE VAMPIRES ARE STARING HUNGRILY AT THE BRANAGHS. THE MUSIC ENDS AND GRAHAM AND ELIZABETH COME OFF THE DANCE FLOOR. ROBIN AND CHLOE BOTH RUSH OVER.

**ROBIN:**

Mum, Dad please can we go now?!

**CHLOE:**

It's way past our bedtime.

THE TWINS JOIN THEM.

**PAUL:**

[GRUMPY] Ingrid hasn't danced with us once.

**IAN:**

This party really sucks.

**GRAHAM:**

[TO ELIZABETH] They've got a point love, it is getting late.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

ROBIN AND CHLOE LOOK PLEASED. BUT AS THEY ALL TURN TO LEAVE THEY FIND INGRID BLOCKING THEIR PATH. THE TWINS ARE INSTANTLY BEWITCHED.

**INGRID:**

Dance?

SHE LEADS AN EAGER IAN AND PAUL ONTO THE DANCEFLOOR.

**CHLOE:**

[CALLING AFTER THEM] It's too late, we're leaving!

GRAHAM TUTTS BUT THEN SEES MAGDA STARING AT HIM, SHE CROOKS HER FINGER AT HIM, 'COME HERE'. HE'S BEWITCHED AND FOLLOWS HER ONTO THE DANCEFLOOR.

**ELIZABETH:**

[PUT OUT] Well they changed their tune pretty quickly.

A HANDSOME VAMPIRE OFFERS HIS HAND TO ELIZABETH, OFFERING TO DANCE.

**ELIZABETH:**

[THRILLED] I suppose one more dance won't kill us!

ELIZABETH TAKES THE VAMPIRE'S HAND AND HE LEADS HER ONTO THE DANCEFLOOR, LEAVING ROBIN AND CHLOE LOOKING DESPERATE.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**SCENE 22. INT. SCHOOL – WOODWORK ROOM. NIGHT 8. 10.05PM**

*[VLAD, VAN HELSING, JONATHAN]*

VLAD IS NOW TIED TO A CHAIR. VAN HELSING IS LOADING HIS VARIOUS WEAPONS INTO HIS BAG. HE HANDS A STAKE TO JONATHAN.

**VAN HELSING:**

If he moves, stake him.

**VLAD:**

Don't listen to him Jonathan, he's crazy!

**JONATHAN:**

Dad I've decided. I want to come with you and slay vampires.

**VLAD:**

Okay you're both crazy!

VAN HELSING SMILES AT HIS SON.

**VAN HELSING:**

I've waited a long time to hear you say that son, but I need you to stay here and watch him. Don't worry. I'll be careful, I promise.

VAN HELSING HEADS FOR THE DOOR, VLAD PANICS.

**VLAD:**

Please don't hurt my Dad!

VLAD STRUGGLES WITH HIS BONDS.

**VAN HELSING:**

Relax Vlad, he won't feel a thing.

VAN HELSING SHOWS HIM A SILVER POCKET FLASK.

**VAN HELSING:**

Poisoned blood. I'm going to slip it into his drink and watch him turn to dust! Him and the rest of his bloodsucking friends.

HE SMILES MENACINGLY AND HEADS FOR THE DOOR.

**VLAD:**

*[ANGRY]* You're wasting your time. You'll never get into the castle!

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**VAN HELSING:**

Oh don't worry, I'm a master of disguise...

HE PICKS UP HIS BAG AND EXITS. VLAD STRUGGLES WITH HIS BONDS, BUT STOPS WHEN JONATHAN PLAYS WITH THE STAKE MENACINGLY.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**SCENE 23. INT. GREAT HALL DINING ROOM – CASTLE DRACULA.**

**NIGHT 8. 11.00PM**

*[THE COUNT, VAN HELSING, ROBIN, CHLOE, RENFIELD, MAGDA]*

*[GUESTS (NS)]*

RENFIELD IS SERVING DRINKS. THE COUNT IS SITTING ON HIS THRONE SURROUNDED BY FAWNING WOMEN VAMPIRES. SUDDENLY MAGDA APPEARS AT THE COUNT'S SIDE.

**MAGDA:**

Oh Bun Buns. [POINTEDLY] You'll never marry another. You still love me.

THE FAWNING WOMEN LOOK ANNOYED AND MOVE OFF.

**THE COUNT:**

[LYING] Pah! I'm so over you.

MAGDA LAUGHS IN HIS FACE.

**THE COUNT:**

No really I am. Go on pick a woman, any woman - I'll ask them to marry me.

**MAGDA:**

You're bluffing.

THE COUNT TRIES TO TOUGH IT OUT.

**THE COUNT:**

Anyone.

MAGDA SCANS THE ROOM AND SPOTS VAN HELSING JUST ENTERING DRESSED AS A WOMAN. HE'S CARRYING A FAN TO TRY AND COVER HIS FACE. HE SURREPTITIOUSLY PUSHES HIS BAG UNDER A TABLE WITH HIS FOOT. WHEN HE LOWERS HIS FAN, MAGDA CAN SEE SHE'S NOT EXACTLY THE BEST LOOKING WOMAN IN THE ROOM.

**MAGDA:**

[POINTING] Her!

THE COUNT RECOILS ON SEEING WHO SHE'S POINTING AT BUT DOESN'T WANT TO BACK DOWN.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**THE COUNT:**

Urgh but she's...fine.

VAN HELSING SPOTS RENFIELD SERVING PUNCH FROM THE BOWL AND HE MAKES HIS WAY OVER. HE SIDLES UP, PULLS OUT THE SILVER FLASK AND IS JUST ABOUT TO POUR IT INTO THE BOWL WHEN HIS WRIST IS GRASPED. HE LOOKS UP AND GASPS – IT'S THE COUNT.

**THE COUNT:**

Good evening. What a beautiful...[AWKWARD]...flask.

VAN HELSING RECOVERS AND FLUTTERS HIS FAN, TRYING TO DISGUISE HIS FACE.

**VAN HELSING:**

Why thank you, kind sir.

**THE COUNT:**

Please, call me Count. What's your name...[AWKWARD]...fair maiden?

**VAN HELSING:**

Er...Hels..inki. Miss Vanessa Helsinki. From Finland.

**THE COUNT:**

Well Miss Helsinki, there's er...something I have to ask you.

**VAN HELSING:**

[CAUTIOUS] What's that?

THE COUNT LOOKS NERVOUS, HE'S SWEATING.

**THE COUNT:**

[MOPPING HIS BROW] Is it me or is it getting hot in here?

VAN HELSING SEES AN OPPORTUNITY.

**VAN HELSING:**

[OFFERING THE FLASK] Drink?

THE COUNT QUICKLY SNATCHES THE FLASK.

**THE COUNT:**

Thanks.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

THE COUNT GOES TO TAKE A SWIG. HE LOOKS OVER AT MAGDA TO CHECK THAT SHE'S WATCHING BUT INSTEAD OF LOOKING JEALOUS SHE'S LAUGHING AT HIM. THE COUNT STOPS.

**THE COUNT:**

What I want to say is... will you do me the honour of being my...dance partner?

THE COUNT POCKETS THE FLASK AND HOLDS OUT HIS HAND.

**VAN HELSING:**

Er...okay.

THE COUNT TAKES HIM BY THE HAND AND LEADS HIM INTO THE BALLROOM PAST ROBIN AND CHLOE WHO ARE ENTERING THE DINING ROOM (FROM THE BALLROOM).

**ROBIN:**

If Vlad doesn't get here soon we'll be vampires before he is!

**CHLOE:**

We've got to get out of here. Time is running out.

SHE LOOKS AT HER WATCH. IT TICKS STEADILY CLOSER TO MIDNIGHT.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**SCENE 24. INT. SCHOOL – WOODWORK ROOM. NIGHT 8. 11.37PM**

*[JONATHAN, VLAD]*

VLAD SOLEMNLY WATCHES THE CLOCK IN THE CLASSROOM AS IT APPROACHES MIDNIGHT, ALL IS LOST. JONATHAN KEEPS THE STAKE TRAINED ON VLAD, WARY.

**VLAD:**

[SAD] I never even got to say goodbye.

JONATHAN SHIFTS UNCOMFORTABLY.

**JONATHAN:**

I'm sure Dad will have finished them quick. They probably didn't feel a thing.

VLAD LOOKS SAD.

**JONATHAN:**

I mean he's practiced a lot and he's read all the books.

VLAD LOOKS UP, CONFUSED.

**VLAD:**

He has actually done this before, right?

**JONATHAN:**

Yes! Well, not technically, no.

VLAD BRIGHTENS.

**VLAD:**

You're telling me, he's gone up to a castle full of vampires having never slayed a single one before?

**JONATHAN:**

[WORRIED] Is that a bad idea?

VLAD SEES AN OPPORTUNITY AND TAKES CONTROL.

**VLAD:**

Jonathan, if you want to see your dad again, you'd better untie me now!

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

JONATHAN LOOKS AT VLAD, TORN. HE LOSES HIS NERVE, PUTS DOWN THE STAKE AND QUICKLY STARTS TO UNTIE HIM.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**SCENE 25. INT. BALLROOM – CASTLE DRACULA. NIGHT 8. 11.59PM**

*[THE COUNT, INGRID, ZOLTAN, ELIZABETH, GRAHAM, ROBIN, CHLOE, IAN, PAUL, RENFIELD, MAGDA, VAN HELSING] [GUESTS (NS)]*

ELIZABETH AND GRAHAM ARE DANCING TOGETHER. IAN AND PAUL ARE DANCING WITH VAMPIRE WOMEN. THE COUNT IS DANCING WITH VAN HELSING AND THEY'RE BOTH LOOKING DISTINCTLY UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT IT. MAGDA WATCHES WITH GREAT AMUSEMENT. RENFIELD AND INGRID ARE FOR ONCE UNITED IN THEIR DISAPPROVAL OF THEIR FATHER'S CHOICE OF BRIDE.

**INGRID:**

That hideous creature was not on my shortlist. This is a disaster.

**RENFIELD:**

She'll never make him happy.

ELIZABETH AND GRAHAM WALK TOWARDS INGRID.

**INGRID:**

Well at least we'll soon have something to take our minds of it – here comes dinner. [TO ELIZABETH AND GRAHAM. CHARMING] Having fun?

WE CUT TO CHLOE STANDING AT THE EDGE OF THE DANCE FLOOR, STILL LOOKING FOR INSPIRATION. ROBIN IS STARING AT THE CLOCK IN DESPAIR...IT'S JUST SECONDS FROM MIDNIGHT.

**ROBIN:**

[IN A FLAP] Come on Chloe. You're meant to be the genius. This is a disaster. A complete disaster.

**CHLOE:**

Shut up Robin. I've got it. I know how to buy us a bit of time!

CHLOE RUNS TOWARDS THE CLOCK. SHE SNEAKS BEHIND IT AND OPENS THE DOOR REVEALING THE SWINGING PENDULUM. CHLOE REACHES IN AND GRABS HOLD OF THE CLOCK. THE TICKING STOPS. CHLOE AND ROBIN LET OUT A HUGE SIGH OF RELIEF AND SHARE A SMILE. WE CUT BACK TO INGRID, GRAHAM AND ELIZABETH.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**ELIZABETH:**

You've been such a wonderful hostess, I can't thank you enough. There's something I've been meaning to give you.

SHE GIVES INGRID A JEWELLERY BOX AND INGRID OPENS IT TO FIND A BEAUTIFUL NECKLACE.

**INGRID:**

For me?

**ELIZABETH:**

I know how hard it must be for you not having a mother around. I thought this might cheer you up.

**INGRID:**

[TOUCHED] Mrs Branagh you're too kind.

THE CLOCK STRIKES TWELVE, BONG! AND THE ORCHESTRA SUDDENLY STOPS. CHLOE AND ROBIN LOOK AT EACH OTHER IN HORROR. THEY THEN LOOK AT THE CLOCK. IT'S STILL STOPPED BEFORE MIDNIGHT. ROBIN SUDDENLY SLAPS HIS FOREHEAD AS HE SPOTS THAT THE DANCEFLOOR IS ACTUALLY A CLOCK FACE. TWO SHADOWY HANDS POINT TO MIDNIGHT. THEIR PLAN HAS FAILED.

**CROWD:**

Twelve!

BONG! ALL THE GUESTS FORM A CIRCLE AROUND THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF THE CLOCK.

**CROWD:**

Eleven!

BONG! THE TWINS JOIN ELIZABETH, GRAHAM AND INGRID. THE BRANAGHS LOOK AROUND, CONFUSED.

**IAN:**

What's the special occasion?

BONG!

**CROWD:**

Ten!

**PAUL:**

It isn't New Year.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

THE VAMPIRES MOVE INTO THE CENTRE OF THE CIRCLE AND FORM A PACK. THEY TURN AND START TO SLOWLY ADVANCE ON THE BRANAGHS.

INGRID LOOKS AT THE NECKLACE AND WIPES A TEAR FROM HER EYE. SHE MOVES SO THAT SHE IS STANDING WITH HER BACK TO THE DOOR SO THAT THE BRANAGHS HAVE THEIR BACKS TO THE ADVANCING VAMPIRES. BONG!

**CROWD:**

Nine!

INGRID LOOKS AT THE BRANAGHS, THE NECKLACE AND THE VAMPIRES CLOSING IN BEHIND THEM. SHE MAKES UP HER MIND.

**INGRID:**

[TO ELIZABETH] Urgh. What made you think I'd wear trash like this? It's revolting!

BONG!

**CROWD:**

Eight!

INGRID GIVES ELIZABETH THE BOX.

**GRAHAM:**

[APPALLED] Well, really!

**ELIZABETH:**

How rude!

BONG!

**CROWD:**

Seven!

ROBIN AND CHLOE RUSH OVER TO THEIR PARENTS.

**INGRID:**

Get out of here, you're not welcome!

BONG!

**CROWD:**

Six!

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**ROBIN:**

You heard her, let's go!

ELIZABETH IS DEEPLY OFFENDED, GRAHAM PUTS HIS ARM AROUND HER. ROBIN AND CHLOE PUSH THEIR FAMILY TOWARDS THE DOOR. BONG!

**CROWD:**

Five!

**ELIZABETH:**

I wouldn't want to stay a moment longer.

THE CROWD IS CLOSING IN BEHIND THEM. BONG!

**CROWD:**

Four!

**INGRID:**

[TO CHLOE] Quick, go.

BONG!

**CROWD:**

Three!

**INGRID:**

Are you deaf?

CHLOE LOOKS OVER HER SHOULDER AT THE ADVANCING VAMPIRES.

**CHLOE:**

It's too late. [TO INGRID] You won't be able to hold them off.

**ROBIN:**

[TO CHLOE] She's got a point.

ROBIN RUNS OFF. BONG!

**CROWD:**

Two!

**CHLOE:**

[ANNOYED] Robin!

**INGRID:**

[TO CHLOE] Get out. Now!

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

BONG!

**CROWD:**

One!

INGRID SHOVES THE BRANAGHS OUT OF THE BALLROOM DOOR AND SLAMS IT. SHE TRIES TO BLOCK THE DOOR. THE CROWD STOP, LOOK ANGRY AND ARE ABOUT TO BURST THROUGH THE DOOR AND GIVE CHASE WHEN...

**ROBIN:**

[OOV] Yoo-hoo! Dinner's over here!

THE CROWD TURNS TO SEE ROBIN STANDING ON THE BUFFET TABLE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROOM, WAVING. INGRID LOOKS RELIEVED.

THE VAMPIRES TURN TOWARDS ROBIN ON THE CHAIR. HIS BRAVADO LEAVES HIM AS THE VAMPIRES CLOSE IN, LICKING THEIR FANGS. ROBIN TREMBLES. THE COUNT LEADS THE PACK, WITH VAN HELSING ALONGSIDE, NOT SURE WHAT TO DO.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**SCENE 26. EXT. CASTLE DRACULA. NIGHT 8. 12.01AM**

*[ELIZABETH, GRAHAM, IAN, PAUL, CHLOE, VLAD, JONATHAN]*

THE BRANAGHS ARE BRISKLY WALKING DOWN THE DRIVEWAY.

**GRAHAM:**

I've said it before and I'll say it again - that family is weird!

**ELIZABETH:**

Boys I want you to stay away from Ingrid from now on. She's nothing but trouble!

**IAN / PAUL:**

*[RELUCTANTLY]* Yes Mum.

VLAD AND JONATHAN COME RUNNING FULL PELT UP THE DRIVE AND BARGE RIGHT THROUGH THE BRANAGHS WITHOUT STOPPING. CHLOE GRABS VLAD AS HE PASSES.

**CHLOE:**

*[ABOUT JONATHAN]* What's he doing here?!

**VLAD:**

What a good time to have a discussion.

**CHLOE:**

Hurry! Robin's still inside!

THE BRANAGHS MARCH OUT OF THE GATES. VLAD GRABS JONATHAN AND THEY RUN TOWARDS THE CASTLE TOGETHER. CHLOE STOPS AND LOOKS AT THE CASTLE, AFRAID FOR ROBIN.

**CUT TO:**

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**SCENE 27. INT. BALLROOM – CASTLE DRACULA. NIGHT 8. 12.02AM TIME CONTINUOUS**

*[THE COUNT, INGRID, ZOLTAN, ROBIN, RENFIELD, MAGDA, VAN HELSING, VLAD, JONATHAN] [GUESTS (NS)]*

THE VAMPIRES, LED BY THE COUNT AND AN AWKWARD-LOOKING VAN HELSING, CLOSE IN ON ROBIN COWERING ON THE TABLE.

**VLAD:**

[OOV] Dad! Stop!

THE COUNT STOPS AND TURNS TO SEE VLAD IN THE DOORWAY.

**VLAD:**

That woman is Mr Van Helsing. He's a slayer!

JONATHAN BURSTS IN BEHIND HIM AS THE ROOM ERUPTS IN CONFUSION AND THE CROWD BACKS AWAY FROM THE COUNT AND VAN HELSING. ROBIN JUMPS DOWN AND RUNS OVER TO VLAD. HE HIDES BEHIND VLAD, WATCHING OVER HIS SHOULDER.

**THE COUNT:**

Please! I think I can tell the difference between a man and a woman.

JONATHAN RUNS UP AND EMBRACES VAN HELSING.

**JONATHAN:**

Oh Dad, I was so worried about you.

**THE COUNT:**

Dad....?

VAN HELSING REALISING HIS COVER IS BLOWN, PULLS A LONG WOODEN HAIR PIN FROM HIS WIG AND LOADS IT INTO HIS FAN WHICH HE FLIPS OVER TO REVEAL IS ACTUALLY HIS CROSSBOW DISGUISED. HE PULLS OFF HIS WIG.

**VAN HELSING:**

Yes it is I, Van Helsing. Vampire Slayer!

MUSICAL STING: DUN, DUN DERRR! THE COUNT LOOKS OVER ANGRILY AT THE ORCHESTRA AND REVEAL IT'S THEM PLAYING THE STING.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

THEY SHEEPISHLY STOP PLAYING AND TRAIL OFF IN MUSICAL DISCORD.

**VLAD:**

Robin get out of here! Go!

**ROBIN:**

No way! I'm not missing this!

THE CROWD HISSES AT VAN HELSING, CIRCLING AROUND HIM. VAN HELSING PULLS JONATHAN BEHIND HIM AND SWINGS THE CROSSBOW AROUND IN AN ARC, KEEPING THE VAMPIRES BACK.

**THE COUNT:**

Well now I'm really glad I didn't ask you to marry me.

**VAN HELSING:**

Stay back or I'll shoot!

HE POINTS THE CROSSBOW AT THE VAMPIRES.

**THE COUNT:**

That won't scare them, they're my friends!

THE VAMPIRES DISAPPEAR IN A PUFF OF SMOKE. MAGDA STAYS, SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S ENJOYING THE COUNT'S PREDICAMENT. VLAD SEES HER FOR THE FIRST TIME.

**VLAD:**

[CONFUSED] Mum?

HIS ATTENTION IS CAUGHT BY VAN HELSING TRAINING THE CROSSBOW ON THE COUNT.

**VAN HELSING:**

Prepare to die!

RENFIELD RUSHES TO A SWORD MOUNTED ON THE WALL AND TRIES TO WRESTLE IT FREE.

**VLAD:**

Please don't shoot my Dad!

VAN HELSING HESITATES, UNSURE WHAT TO DO. RENFIELD FREES THE SWORD AND CHARGES AT VAN HELSING.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

---

**RENFIELD:**

I'll save you Master!

**JONATHAN:**

Watch out Dad! He's got a sword!

JONATHAN SHAKES HIS DAD'S SLEEVE, WHICH CAUSES THE CROSSBOW TO FIRE AND THUNK! THE STAKE HITS THE COUNT IN THE CHEST. EVERYONE FREEZES, RENFIELD STOPS IN HIS TRACKS.

**JONATHAN:**

Oops.

THE COUNT STAGGERS BACK, CLUTCHING THE WOODEN PIN STICKING OUT OF HIS CHEST. HE PULLS HIS HAND AWAY AND SEES BLOOD.

**VLAD / INGRID:**

Dad!

THE COUNT COLLAPSES TO THE FLOOR. MAGDA, THE KIDS AND RENFIELD RUSH OVER.

**MAGDA:**

My darling Count!

VLAD CRADLES HIS DAD'S HEAD. THE COUNT'S BREATHING IS LABOURED.

**THE COUNT:**

Magda, I lied. I never stopped loving you!

**MAGDA:**

And I you!

**THE COUNT:**

Promise me you'll stay and look after the kids.

**RENFIELD:**

I will Master!

**THE COUNT:**

Not you! Magda!

**MAGDA:**

I'll look after them like they were my own children.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**INGRID:**

We are your own children!

**THE COUNT:**

[LAST GASP] Silence!

PULLING VLAD CLOSE.

**THE COUNT:**

Vlad, come closer. Promise me you'll carry on the family name and be a good vampire.

VLAD WIPES AWAY A TEAR.

**VLAD:**

I promise.

**THE COUNT:**

That's my boy...

HE DIES, HIS EYES CLOSE AND HE SLUMPS.

**INGRID:**

He's dead?! But he didn't say anything to me! Oh that is so typical.

VAN HELSING AND JONATHAN LOOK SHOCKED.

**VAN HELSING:**

I slayed a vampire...[THRILLED] I slayed a vampire!

BEAT. THE COUNT OPENS HIS EYES.

**THE COUNT:**

[CONFUSED] Actually I don't think you did.

HE SITS UP AND PULLS OUT THE WOODEN STAKE. HE'S STILL ALIVE. EVERYONE GASPS IN SHOCK. HE REACHES INTO HIS INSIDE POCKET AND PULLS OUT THE SILVER FLASK. THERE'S A HOLE PUNCTURED IN ONE SIDE.

**JONATHAN:**

Dad, it's your flask of poisoned blood!

THE COUNT SCRAMBLES TO HIS FEET.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**THE COUNT:**

[MENACING] Well let's fill it up with something a little fresher, shall we?

HE ADVANCES ON VAN HELSING, WHO REALISES HE IS NOW UNARMED.

**JONATHAN:**

[SCARED] What do we do now?!

VAN HELSING THROWS DOWN THE FAN.

**VAN HELSING:**

[TO JONATHAN] Run!!!

VAN HELSING AND JONATHAN RUSH FOR THE DOOR BUT THE COUNT GETS THERE FIRST WITH SUPERNATURAL SPEED. HE BLOCKS THEIR EXIT, THEY SLIDE TO A HALT IN FRONT OF HIM.

**THE COUNT:**

Don't go now, the party's only just getting started.

THE COUNT SMILES AND LIGHTLY SNAPS HIS FANGS. VAN HELSING PUTS HIS ARM OUT, PROTECTING JONATHAN.

**VAN HELSING:**

Let the boy go, it's me you want. I won't put up a fight.

**JONATHAN:**

Dad, no!

VLAD RUSHES OVER TO INTERVENE.

**VLAD:**

Don't do it Dad, it's not worth it!

**THE COUNT:**

[TO VAN HELSING] Oh it's worth it alright... but it's too easy if he's not going to fight. Where's the fun in that?

HE STEPS ASIDE TO LET THEM PASS. AS THEY DO VAN HELSING PAUSES IN FRONT OF THE COUNT.

**VAN HELSING:**

We'll meet again, I promise you that.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**THE COUNT:**

I can't wait....

VAN HELSING TURNS TO EXIT.

**THE COUNT:**

...by the way - love the dress.

VAN HELSING STIFFENS BUT KEEPS WALKING WITH ALL THE DIGNITY HE CAN MUSTER. THEY EXIT. THE COUNT PUTS HIS ARM AROUND VLAD AND THEY JOIN THE OTHERS AS ZOLTAN ROLLS IN AMONGST THEM.

**INGRID:**

I can't believe you let a slayer go!

**ZOLTAN:**

You would never have done that two hundred years ago.

**THE COUNT:**

I didn't want to spoil our family reunion. Oh Magda, with you back it's going to be like old times!

**MAGDA:**

Goodbye Vlad, look after your father, he's a danger to himself when he's trying to kill slayers.

SHE AIR KISSES HIM.

**VLAD:**

You're leaving?

SHE HEADS FOR THE DOOR.

**THE COUNT:**

But you said you loved me!

**MAGDA:**

You were dying, I was trying to be nice.

SHE EXITS. THE COUNT GASPS. RENFIELD SMILES.

**THE COUNT:**

[SMITTEN] Isn't she just the most evil woman in the world?!

VLAD AND INGRID SHARE A BEWILDERED LOOK AND SHAKE THEIR HEADS.

## SHOOTING SCRIPT

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**VLAD:**

[RESIGNED] So I suppose you want us to start packing our bags?

ROBIN LOOKS DISMAYED.

**THE COUNT:**

Whatever for? Having a slayer in town is going to make life so much more interesting...

THE COUNT SMILES WICKEDLY. ROBIN LOOKS PLEASED. VLAD GULPS.

**END OF SERIES.**