

Lara Croft: Genesis

"Hidden Passions"

by  
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Based on the Tomb Raider games

Monster Zero Productions (c)

LARA CROFT: GENESIS

TEASER

1 INT. HOTEL ROOM

1

A very nice hotel room. A king-size bed, well-crafted furniture, very clean. And in the bed...

LARA. Yawning and rubbing her eyes, she sits up and leans against the backboard. Shooting a glance at one of the two closed doors in the room, she pushes the covers off of her.

She stretches, then digs through one of the bags on the floor. Smiling, she's found what she's looking for.

LARA

Gotcha.

She pulls out a PACK OF CIGARETTES and a LIGHTER. Sighing, she stands up and goes to the window. She opens it, and pulls a cigarette from the pack.

She lights it, and puts it to her mouth. Breathes in slowly, savours it. Then, she blows it out, watching the white smoke curl through the air.

A door OPENS, then CLOSES. Lara's eyes dart to the reflection in the window, but we don't see what she's looking at.

LARA (CONT'D)

Get dressed.

Then she turns, looking at the one who just stepped out of the bathroom. VINCENT. He smiles, and she crushes the cigarette in an ashtray.

White Text:

48 HOURS EARLIER

CUT TO:

2 INT. OXFORD HALLS

2

Lara, SHARON and HAYDEN are making their way through the halls of Oxford, talking. We cut into their conversation with:

SHARON

Lara, you work too hard. Take a break, lighten up. Spend some time with y'friends for a while.

LARA

I can't. I've got tuition due next week, and I have living expenses, rent...

HAYDEN

At least do something less... dangerous. You're going to get yourself killed one of these days. Look at me - I help run the library.

LARA

You've also got your mum helping you out.

They reach the doors to outside. They EXIT the school, and we

FOLLOW THEM TO:

3 EXT. OXFORD HALLS

3

The three make their way to the street.

LARA

Anyroad, where do you two want to eat today? There's that little Chinese place down the street-

SHARON

- Ew -

LARA

Or, there's the sandwich place across the street from it.. Kingsley's?  
(she looks at the two, who nod)  
Kingsley's it is, then!

The four make their way through the streets, and we

CUT TO:

4 EXT. KINGSLEY'S DELICATESSEN

4

The three EXIT the deli as we watch, and sit down at one of the tables. Lara pulls out a sandwich, as do Sharon and Hayden. Lara bites into her lunch.

SHARON

Well, there is one good thing about this job.

(MORE)

SHARON (CONT'D)  
 You can afford to have lunch with us every so often. But you can't keep risking your neck every week because Von Croy figures he hasn't almost killed you recently.

Lara shakes her head.

LARA  
 Only the odd one is actually *dangerous*, the rest are mostly annoying.

HAYDEN  
 Need I remind you of what happened not too long ago? Vincent having to save our lives and running off with the artifact? *Prat*.

Lara SIGHS.

LARA  
 Look, I won't make enough on a regular job to keep me going, at least not with any to spare. Plus, I'll have field work under my belt when I graduate. People will be falling over themselves to hire me.

She's obviously cheered by this thought.

SHARON  
 (muttered as she bends her head to take a bite)  
 Not if you don't make it at all...

LARA  
 Oh! Hayden!

HAYDEN  
 Er- yeah?  
 (spills something from his sandwich on his shirt)  
 Eugh, bloody mayonnaise. Anyways, what was that, Lara?

LARA  
 You wouldn't happen to have somebody's notes for Tainesworth's class, would you?

SHARON  
 Why do you want notes on Tainesworth's class?  
 (MORE)

SHARON (CONT'D)  
 Don't you spend most of your time  
 on ancient digs, not modern ones?

LARA  
 I missed her class, last time I had  
 a job. This is really ironic - I'm  
 missing the classes so I can blutty  
 pay for them.

There's an awkward SILENCE between the three friends, as none  
 aresure what to say. Finally Hayden speaks up.

HAYDEN  
 But it's what you want, right? This  
 Von Croy thing... it makes you  
 happy, doesn't it?

LARA  
 (hesitant)  
 Well, yeah, it does. It.. Gives me  
 this powerful feeling, like I can  
 do anything. It's like a drug, the  
 constant excitement of the chase,  
 the fight, the hunt. It's amazing.  
 Don't you two ever feel it?

Neither really respond for a moment. Lara looks crestfallen.

SHARON  
 I... I like it... sometimes.

LARA  
 When it's nice and easy.

SHARON  
 Oh, lay off.

HAYDEN  
 Sharon...

SHARON  
 What, Hayden?

LARA  
 Leave him alone, Sharon, 's not his  
 fault. Not yours either - I'm just  
 a sleep-deprived student with money  
 trouble's all.

Sharon gives Lara an understanding look, and Lara's phone  
 RINGS. Lara pulls it out and looks at it.

LARA (CONT'D)  
 It's Von Croy, wait a second.

Both nods, and she stands and answers it.

LARA (CONT'D)  
 (walking away from the  
 crowd)  
 Professor?

VON CROY (V.O.)  
 Lara, we have another job for you.

LARA  
 Really?

VON CROY (V.O.)  
 Yes. And there's another matter I  
 wish to discuss with you, but not  
 on the phone.

LARA  
 Mhm. I'll be there in a few.

VON CROY (V.O.)  
 With Sharon and Hayden again?

LARA  
 Mhm.

VON CROY (V.O.)  
 Well, don't worry, neither of them  
 will be needed on this mission.  
 I've got someone in place to help  
 you this time.

LARA  
 Really? But-

VON CROY (V.O.)  
 Neither of their areas of expertise  
 apply to this mission. It's a quick  
 go-in-and-get-it sort. I won't say  
 any more until you get here.

LARA  
 Alright, sir.

And a CLICK signifies Von Croy's hanging up. She heads over  
 to the table.

LARA (CONT'D)  
 Sorry guys, I gotta run. VC needs  
 me on a mission.

SHARON  
 Without us? You off your rocker?

LARA

He's got a consultant or something.

HAYDEN

Ahhh, okay. We'll see you when you  
get back, alright?

Lara nods, and runs off across the street, towards Oxford. As  
we follow here, we

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT 1

INT. VON CROY'S OFFICE

Lara is sitting across from Von Croy, waiting for him to speak.

VON CROY

Lara... You do good work.

LARA

Thank you, professor.

VON CROY

Now, this is very irregular, but I was wondering if you'd mind me fighting your case to become a member of the Illuminati, and no longer a freelancer.

LARA

Illuminati, sir?

VON CROY

Ahhh, the.... group, I work with.

LARA

MHm... Well, actually, I think that would be great! I mean, am I really good enough?

VON CROY

Well, you haven't finished school yet, but you are gifted at what you do. That goes a long way.

LARA

(smiles)

Thanks.

VON CROY

If you succeed in this mission...

Anyone could tell he's changing the subject, so Lara just nods.

VON CROY (CONT'D)

Alright, the target this time is a tomb in Germany. It belonged to a British priest

(Lara raises an eyebrow)  
during the war.

LARA  
Which one?

VON CROY  
Second World War.

LARA  
I see....

VON CROY  
Anyway, you'll need to find his  
tomb, go in and bring back... well,  
there's a knife.

LARA  
I just want to know, straight up,  
if this knife is weird like some of  
the stuff you send me out for.

VON CROY  
No, no, it's perfectly normal. It's  
just very old, and quite valuable.

LARA  
Alright, then, what will I need to  
know?

VON CROY  
Well, this man was fond of blades.  
He was an expert swordsman and  
duelist. He also experimented quite  
a bit with... explosives.

(Lara nods)  
It shouldn't be too hard of a job,  
and I have a man in place to help  
you. Jean-Jacques Rambaldi is a  
friend of mine.

LARA  
So, what's it like, this knife?

Von Croy pushes some a folder full of papers forwards. Lara  
pick it up and looks through it.

VON CROY  
Everything's right there. Lara, I  
think this one will be a bit harder  
than some of your missions. Not too  
challenging, but definitely not  
just a go-in-and-grab mission.  
Besides, our little friends, Joanna  
and Vincent, won't be able to  
follow you.

LARA

Why not?

Von Croy smiles and lifts up a hand to show Lara a necklace.

VON CROY

Because we have the key.

Lara's eyes widen as she grasps the necklace. It looks very strong, not exactly beautiful. It doesn't look like a key, but that never mattered before.

VON CROY (CONT'D)

Be careful, Lara, and I think you'll do just fine.

Lara smiles back at her mentor and nods.

LARA

Thanks, Professor.

Von Croy just nods, and Lara makes her way out of the room. We follow her, and

CUT TO:

INT. OXFORD GYM

They're back in the gym, with Lara SLAMMING her fist into a punching bag, Hayden TAPPING keys on his laptop, and Sharon watching Lara intently.

SHARON

Watch your feet, Lara. You're too tense - you wouldn't be able to dodge very easily like that.

Lara nods, and loosens visibly.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Not too much, though, or you won't be able to take a hit- there you go. So, Hayden, you think she'll need much on this trip?

HAYDEN

Well, this guy worked with blades a lot. You'll need some sort of protection - also, how's your aim with a gun?

LARA

You've seen, haven't you? I'm a dead-shot, barely ever miss. Strange, since I haven't used one much.

HAYDEN

Well, then, I suspect you should bring one along just in case. You never know, Lara.

Lara nods, takes one last PUNCH, and turns to her friends..

LARA

Alright, guys. I guess I'd better get going.

SHARON

(smiles)

Now, don't get yourself killed.

LARA

(sharing the smile)

I'll try not to.

And Lara runs off. But we don't stop there, but shift back to Sharon and Vincent.

SHARON

Are you ready?

HAYDEN

Yes, of course I am, I mean, yeah.

SHARON

Von Croy... We have to do this fast, though. I'll just scout it out, and tomorrow...

HAYDEN

Explain to me again why we're betraying Lara's trust to sneak into her boss's office without telling her?

SHARON

I don't trust him. Why such dangerous missions? Lara's not exactly a professional. Sure she's cheap 'cause she's a student, but...

Sharon pauses, looking down.

SHARON (CONT'D)

I'm worried about her, alright? The girl's the best friend I ever had. Excepting present company, of course.

She stumbles over those last words a little awkwardly, but Hayden just nods.

HAYDEN

It is a bit creepy... Are you sure you want to go through with it?

Sharon nods. Off her pensive stare, we

CUT TO:

INT. OXFORD GYM, SHOWERS

One of the shower stalls has water on, and the clothes Lara was wearing are on a hook. She's obviously in the gym shower.

CUT TO:

INT. LARA'S FLAT

Lara's exiting her bedroom with a bag. She sits on the couch with it and SIGHS.

LARA

I hope I'm not gone too long, this time... Wait, why the hell am I talking to myself? I need to spend more time with Sharon and Hayden, or I'll go bloody nuts...

She steps across the room to grab a watch from a table and her eye catches on something. A photo - of her parents. She looks almost wounded, and reaches out to grab it, then shakes her head and goes back to her bag, shoving the watch into her pocket, grabbing her suitcase and leaving, not even turning the light off.

CUT TO:

INT. AIRPORT

Von Croy and Lara are standing together, to the side, in a busy airport as people rush by. They're talking quietly together.

VON CROY

Alright. You're alright with this, Lara? I know you can do this.

Lara just nods and smiles.

VON CROY (CONT'D)

Alright. Now, I wouldn't worry about Vincent or Joanna - neither of them have the necklace. But I would make sure they aren't about - they may know you have it. Now, you have your ticket.

Lara nods.

LARA

(checking with Von Croy)

Now, I get to Berlin, and my partner already has the room. We're a married couple by the names of Johnathan and Mary Court. I contact him, then we tackle the tomb together. Afterwards, we come back, board the flight back and be home for classes on Wednesday.

VON CROY

Exactly. You have an excellent memory, Lara.

LARA

S'why I'm such a good student.

VON CROY

Aha! Now, on you go...

Lara makes her way towards the gate. We hear FOOTSTEPS from the next scene as we

CUT TO:

INT. VON CROY'S OFFICE

The office is dark, quiet... empty. We

CUT TO:

INT. OXFORD HALLS

The hallways outside his office, where Von Croy is making his way to his office. He opens the door, and goes inside. We

FOLLOW HIM TO:

INT. VON CROY'S OFFICE

His office, where he makes his way to his desk, looking through his papers. He checks under the desk, in the closet, etc, before picking up the phone. RIIIIING. RIIIIING. CLICK.

SAUNDRA

Who is it?

VON CROY

It's Von Croy. I need to speak with you about something.

SAUNDRA

Fool! Don't call the Il- Don't call here from an office phone. I can tell-

VON CROY

Nobody can tap this line, or trace my calls. I've made sure of that. I'd like Lara to become a member of the Illuminati - she's fared much better than either of Sasha's brats.

SAUNDRA

We will... consider it. There was no need to call, Von Croy.

VON CROY

There's something else. MY contact, Rambaldi. I've lost contact with him.

SAUNDRA

Rambaldi is dead.

VON CROY

What? And you didn't inform me?

SAUNDRA

It has not been confirmed. He has not checked into the hotel... and neither has your girl, Croft.

VON CROY

Well... I guess I have to find out if Lara is alive. I will await your answer.

CLICK. Sandra hung up without responding.

VON CROY (CONT'D)

Lara... what have you got yourself into now?

He turns and leaves the room, the door ending with a BANG and a CLICK as he locks it. One of Von Croy's drawers is open a crack. We look

THROUGH IT

Where a transmitter sits. A hand reaches in and grabs it. Still looking in the drawer, we hear the SCREECH of a window being opened and closed.

CUT TO:

INT. AIRPLANE

Lara is sitting in her seat, reading a book. The seat beside her is empty. She glances out the window.

CUT TO:

EXT. AIRPLANE

We see the plane making it's way towards the airport. We have a long look at the top of Berlin at night. From this look, we

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL LOBBY

Lara makes her way to the front desk.

LARA

(muttering)

Don't worry, they're fluent in English...

(to the woman as she reaches the desk)

Good Evening.

WOMAN AT DESK

Good Evening. Name?

LARA

Mary Court? I'm here with my husband, surely he's already checked in.

WOMAN AT DESK

Unfortunately, no. He hasn't yet-

VINCENT

Diana!

Lara looks behind her, shocked to see Vincent, standing there, alone. He smiles widely and approaches the two.

VINCENT (CONT'D)

Playing your little game at the desk again? You little she-devil, you.

(to woman)

She did this in Cairo as well. She's a good actress- Heck, if I weren't married to her, I'd believe some of the things she tells people.

He smiles at Lara, who looks at Vincent in surprise.

LARA

Honey! You're... early! I thought you were coming in in the morning? And I was going to cook breakfast, too.

VINCENT

We're in a hotel, love. Maybe you might cook me something up when we get home?

As he says this he moves closer to her, kissing her on the cheek, then turning to the clerk, who is looking at them irritatedly.

WOMAN AT DESK

Name?

VINCENT

Jenson and Diana Weathcroft, please.

TAPPING on the keyboard as the woman checks. She pulls out two keys and hands them to them.

WOMAN AT DESK

Room 8-15.

Vincent nods, and leads Lara to an elevator that, when it opens with a DING, happens to be empty. Entering the elevator, Lara only stops smiling once the doors close.

LARA

Vincent. It's lovely to see you.  
Did you bring flowers, or just a card?

VINCENT

And hello to you too, Lara. I just saved your little arse. I need your help with something - something you shouldn't know about.

LARA

And where's the slut? Break her ankle pole dancing?

Vincent just CHUCKLES.

VINCENT

Joanna stayed at home for this one. Unavoidable injury. We still had the room under two names.

LARA

I don't trust coincidences.

VINCENT

Who does?

LARA

I don't trust you, Vincent.

VINCENT

Well, you'll have to.

And off his smile, we

FADE OUT.

END ACT 1

ACT 2

INT. HOTEL ROOM, BATHROOM

Shot of Lara, curled up in the bathtub with a pillow. Her eyes OPEN.

Vincent is standing above her. Lara turns.

LARA

Don't you know not to interrupt  
when a lady's in the toilet?

VINCENT

Just get up, Lara. We have work to  
do.

LARA

Alright.

FADE TO:

EXT. GERMAN COUNTRYSIDE

Lara and Vincent are in a yellow jeep, with Vincent driving and Lara looking at a map. Both are wearing sunglasses, looking very cool.

LARA

So, looks like we're after  
the same thing-

VINCENT

This guy had a grim sense of  
humour-

LARA

-How so?

VINCENT

Buried the key to his tomb with  
him. It might be a little hard to  
find, after all that.

LARA

Hm.

VINCENT

Lara, I know this may never be the  
case again, but could you be a  
reactive partner for just this one  
time? We'll fight over the necklace  
when we get there. We need to be  
partners now, not fighting  
eachother.

LARA

Alright. But it's not exactly like  
I'm going to be jumping for joy.

VINCENT

I don't expect you to be. I just  
want- here's the turnoff.

He TURNS THE STEERING WHEEL VIOLENTLY, sending them off the  
road, spinning until he starts moving forwards, in a  
direction the path doesn't take them.

VINCENT (CONT'D)

We're almost there.

As we're watching them ride through the trees, we

CUT TO:

EXT. KINGSLEY'S DELICATESSEN

Sharon and Hayden are sitting outside of the deli again,  
talking in rushed voices.

HAYDEN

He really said...

Sharon nods, worried.

SHARON

Oh my god... well, she was going to  
Berlin, wasn't she?

HAYDEN

Yeah. What're you thinking?

SHARON

I'm thinking we need to get over  
there, as fast as we can, and save  
her ass-

HAYDEN

Shh, not so loud.

Sharon nods.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

But... We can't. School starts back  
up tomorrow.

LARA

Aren't you worried?

HAYDEN

Of course I'm worried, but Lara can take care of herself. What I'm more worried about... is Von Croy.

SHARON

But... you were never suspicious of him before. Why the change in mind?

HAYDEN

You said he wanted Lara to become a 'member' of the 'Illuminati'. She's a student, not an independent worker. I want to know, if she's just freelancing now, what the hell he'll have her doing then.

SHARON

Woah, Hayden, you're really serious about this, aren't you?

Hayden nods.

HAYDEN

And he's going to Germany - tonight. It's our chance! And when Lara gets back...

SHARON

If he's up to no good, we can tell her before she becomes a member of this strange group.

HAYDEN

So... what are we sitting around for? Let's go back to my flat  
(Sharon gets some sort of pleasure from that statement, and smiles - Hayden doesn't notice)  
And work it out.

Both stand, and make their way down the street. As they walk, their FOOTSTEPS blend into the background and we

CUT TO:

EXT. GERMAN MOUNTAIN

The jeep zooms its way up the path, until finally they come to a neglected spot. Lara gets out of the jeep and looks around.

LARA  
This isn't the place...

VINCENT  
Don't know what your map says, but mine says here, and I came and scouted the area yesterday. You ready, Lara? In and out, nobody knows.

Lara nods, and he points to the back of the jeep. Both make their way to it, and he shifts a tarp.

LARA  
Dynamite.

Yes, indeed, there is a load of dynamite sitting in the back of their vehicle.

LARA (CONT'D)  
But how-

VINCENT  
We have connections, me and Joanna. Connections you no longer have access to.

Off her odd look, he continues.

VINCENT (CONT'D)  
Yes, I know the only reason you're doing this is to pay off the bills.

LARA  
And you?

VINCENT  
(smiles)  
Fun.  
(serious)  
Now, we'll take some of these and lay them over there...

Both pick up a few sticks very carefully. Lara follows Vincent to a place about 10 feet from the jeep. He stops.

A SQUARE OF OLD WOOD

Is buried into the ground. It's old, but thick. Lara kicks it with her heel, and it makes a solid sound.

The two start laying the dynamite, and as the sound of AN EXPLOSION prelaps, we

FADE TO:

INT. GERMAN TOMB

The two are each hanging by a separate rope, making their way down into the depths, with lights shining into the depths. Finally, a dirt floor is visible.

VINCENT

Jackpot.

LARA

If you're this excited over some dirt...

Vincent ignores her comment, and they drop onto the ground. Looking around, he swears.

VINCENT

Oh fucking hell, there's not even a door!

LARA

Are you always this worked up?

VINCENT

Are you always this calm?

LARA

Actually, yes.

VINCENT

... I believe that.

Both stop speaking for a moment. Then Vincent speaks:

VINCENT (CONT'D)

So, Lara, why did you lock yourself in the bathroom last night?

LARA

I don't trust you. And I have every right not to.

VINCENT

Lara-

LARA

After what you did, you can't just say sorry and move on. Love and war, same concept.

And as she looks at the wall intently, testing the bricks.  
Off her intent glare, we

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. CAMBRIDGE GROUNDS

TITLE OVER: Cambridge University, June 14th, 2004

Lara and Vincent are sitting by a tree, in the shade.  
Vincent's laying back onto the tree, and Lara's leaning on  
him. He's playing with her hair, and they're talking.

VINCENT

So you get to go to all these  
different places, see all this  
beautiful architecture... I was in  
Brazil a few days ago with my dad,  
remember?

LARA

Mhm.

VINCENT

And, damn was it beautiful. I can  
go places most people can't, cause  
of my dad. And... Lara, next time  
you should come! You'd love it,  
it's so-

Vincent breaks off as Lara has turned over and kissed him on  
the lips. Both stay in the kiss for a moment, and then Lara  
breaks off.

LARA

It sounds great.

Vincent grins, and we

FADE TO:

INT. SMALL HOUSE

This is a little bedroom, but it seems to be Lara's. A double  
bed sits in the room, and the window on the back wall is  
quite large.

FOCUS: PICTURES OF LARA/VINCENT, DOING VARIOUS THINGS  
TOGETHER AND BEING HAPPY.

Lara sits on the bed, looking towards the camera and  
smiling., She's all dressed up, and hugging herself.

She leans back and just lies there for a second, breathing in all of the happy thoughts.

LARA (V.O.)

Ass.

Lara looks over to the window to see Vincent pull up. She grins and leaves the room, but the camera stays on the window. JOANNA gets out of the passenger side.

EXT. SMALL HOUSE

Lara comes out of the house, grinning and holding a gift bag.

LARA

SURPRISE!

Vincent and Joanna freeze in their tracks. Focus back to Lara, who we can see is slowly being overcome by realisation. Her whole world crumbles around her as she seems to break.

VINCENT

... Lara... You weren't supposed to be home. What about Alaska?

Lara is biting her lip, holding back tears, as she walks up to Vincent.

LARA

It's your birthday... It was supposed to be a surprise...

And she walks away, still holding the bag, not caring that she's walking away from her own home in high heels holding a possibly heavy present. All she wants to do is get the hell away from the house.

VINCENT

Lara! I can explain!

But she keeps walking.

FLASHFORWARDS

TO:

INT. GERMAN TOMB

Lara continues to check the bricks. After a second, her face lights up. Instead of yelling out to Vincent, she pushes it and runs out into the corridor they came from. Vincent follows her.

CRICK. DUN-DUN-DUN-DUN-DUN-DUN. THUMP.

They both look: There's an opening in the bricks. Chains seem to have lifted the door up. Lara smiles and sighs.

LARA  
 Figures it'd be a door. How cliché.

VINCENT  
 I'm just glad it wasn't a trap.

Lara nods, and the two make their way to the doorway. We can't see inside yet.

LARA  
 No way.

Shot of them standing in the doorway from the inside of the room, and pull back to reveal an enormous room full of statues.

VINCENT  
 Wonder who put these here.

The two share a glance, and we

CUT TO:

EXT. OXFORD HALLS

It's dark - night must have fallen while Lara and Vincent were in the tomb. However, two shapes are making their way down the unlit hallway: Sharon and Hayden.

The two creep towards Von Croy's office, and Sharon kneels in front of the door. All dialogue in this scene is done in whisper, unless otherwise stated.

SHARON  
 Yeah, this is an easy one. V. C. Must either not have anything in here, or just doesn't wanna seem suspicious.

HAYDEN  
 I wouldn't think that was an excuse. Tainsy's had a heavy-duty lock since '94.  
 (off Sharon's look)  
 Useless knowledge.

SHARON  
 Alright, then.  
 (beat, then a click)  
 Aha!

Hayden makes a 'shh'ing gesture, and she nods, while they both slip inside.

HAYDEN  
Why the lax guards?

SHARON  
I dunno, never even thought about it. Anyways, start looking around. Carefully though, or else he'll know someone's been in here.

Hayden nods. Both look around the room, wandering and looking in stacks of papers.

HAYDEN  
Sharon?

SHARON  
Yeah?

HAYDEN  
Can I confide something in you?

SHARON  
This isn't exactly the time, but sure.

HAYDEN  
I... I like Lara.

A look of confusion and irritation crosses Sharon's face, but Hayden can't see.

SHARON  
(hopefully)  
So do I...

HAYDEN  
I mean, *like* like.

That's exactly what Sharon didn't want to hear. Biting her lip for a second to keep herself from saying something awful, she whispers back in a strained tone

SHARON  
Well, there's not much I can help you with there, Hayden.

HAYDEN  
But you're her friend, and there are things girls say around girls they'd never say around guys.

SHARON

While I'm sure it's a nice myth,  
there isn't much in the way of fact  
supporting that theory, Hayd.

HAYDEN

Really? It's not true?

SHARON

... Yeah.

Sharon, however, is lying - not that Hayden can tell, but by the semi-pain in her voice of lying to a friend, we can. As they shuffle through papers, the silence deepens into awkwardness.

SHARON (CONT'D)

I think I found something!

She picks up a pamphlet entitled 'The Illuminati~!' Sharon looks at it, and looks inside.

HAYDEN

I think we've learned what the  
Illuminati is...

And on their shared look, we

CUT TO:

INT. GERMAN TOMB

Lara and Vincent step into the room, lighting the way with their flashlights.

LARA

I hope these things don't come  
alive.

VINCENT

Me too. You've had a lot of  
experience with living statues?

LARA

Not really.

Vincent nods. As the two move forwards, looking around, Vincent stops to look at the face of one.

VINCENT

(reaching out to touch)  
Remarkably carved-

LARA

Be careful! You're not exactly my favourite person in the world, but I don't want a fatality either!

Vincent snatches his hand back as Lara lead the way to the centre. A circular panel on the floor, devoid of statues.

LARA (CONT'D)

A platform, of some sort?

She steps on it, and it clicks down.

LARA (CONT'D)

(apprehensive)

Ooooh no.

Suddenly, four pendulum blades swing out, one at each wall.

VINCENT

Well, that leaves out escaping...

And then a knife slips from the roof into the head of a statue- BOOM!

LARA

Told you not to touch it.

VINCENT

Well thanks for saving my life. Now let's try surviving this!

The two go back to back, pulling out their guns.

VINCENT (CONT'D)

Try to hit them in midair, that way they might not hit the statues.

Lara nods.

FADE OUT.

END ACT 2

ACT 3

INT. GERMAN TOMB

Vincent and Lara are back-to-back, shooting the knives as they fall around them.

LARA

I have more experience with this sort of thing more than living statues.

VINCENT

Mines?

LARA

No, projectiles. How about you?

VINCENT

You name it, I've had to deal with it at some point.

LARA

You're joking.

VINCENT

Well, exaggerating a little. Wait, see the rafters?

LARA

(looks up)

Yeah?

Shot of the rafters - wooden beams across the ceiling.

VINCENT

Why rafters in a stone cavern?

Lara ponders this.

LARA

You think-?

VINCENT

Nothing to lose. Try the swingers, see if they're strong enough to climb.

She nods, and both take a run, shooting those statues that are in the way and refilling their guns. Vincent takes a running jump and catches the pedulum in midair, perfectly timing it, while Lara waits and grabs hers at an opportune moment.

Both climb up the strong wooden shafts. They're long, and the ceiling is high.

LARA

Vincent! Did we climb this far down?

VINCENT

It's the mountains, there's room for all this!

Lara makes an affirmative SOUND, like a 'mhm', and continues climbing. Then, though, a knife buries itself in her shaft. It's now weak, and could break at any time. Lara looks at Vincent, worried for her life. Vincent would need to swing from one pendulum to another, and try to time it so he was brought near enough to grab Lara before it fell - if he didn't miss his own jump.

LARA

Vincent, help, please!

Vincent looks at her, and we

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. SMALL HOUSE

Vincent is sitting on the couch, flipping through the channels on his TV when there's a knocking on his door. He gets up and walks over to it. A POLICEMAN is standing there.

VINCENT

Hello, officer. What can I help you with?

OFFICER

I have a warrant to search this demenses.

VINCENT

You mispronounced 'demenses', sir.

OFFICER

Are you giving me cheek, boy?

VINCENT

Are you American? I don't place your accent.

OFFICER  
(ignoring this)  
I have a warrent to search the  
premises.

VINCENT  
What for?

OFFICER  
Possession of illegal substances.  
Could you please step out of the  
way?

VINCENT  
I'd like to see a copy of the  
warrant.

The officer takes a copy of the warrant from his pocket and shows Vincent.

OFFICER  
I really don't want to hurt you,  
son.

VINCENT  
Alright, everything seems in order.  
Where did the evidence come from?

OFFICER  
I can't divulge the names of  
possible witnesses to a crime.

The man then makes his way to exactly where Vincent's stash of cocaine is (secret compartment in his closet), and opens it with a key.

VINCENT  
How did you get that?

The officer shrugs.

OFFICER  
It was supplied one of the owners  
of the house.

VINCENT  
But... Lara.

Off his furious look, we

CUT TO:

INT. JAIL

VINCENT

Look, Lara, you little slut, what the hell was that? I *trusted* you, and you bloody stabbed me in the back.

LARA (V.O.)

What goes around, comes around. Right, Vincent?

And a CLICK as she hangs up.

VINCENT

*Damn it all to bloody fucking hell!*

He slams the phone back onto its cradle and looks over to the officer escorting him as we

FADE TO:

INT. GERMAN TOMB

Vincent is clearly remembering this betrayal... but jumps at the other shaft. Shock opens Lara's eyes as he falls.

LARA

VINCENT!

And as he falls-

IT SWINGS BACK!

Vincent grabs it just as Lara's breaks, and as she's falling, he reaches out and grabs her, causing both to slide down the pole. Vincent holds with his feet, and finally stops when each side encounters the blunt side of the bottom blade. Vincent jumps off with Lara.

LARA (CONT'D)

(breathing deeply)

Good save, Vincent. Last time I checked, you weren't much of a planner.

VINCENT

What's that supposed to mean? It was a sport decision.

LARA

Meaning it was a coincidence.

VINCENT

It was just good timing, and luck.  
And now, we just have to climb up -  
barring any accidents, of course.

(Lara winces)

You hurt?

LARA

One of the knives hit me on the way  
down. It got me in the leg.

VINCENT

Hold on-

LARA

We'll deal with it once we're up  
there.

And both jump back onto the same swinging blade as we

FADE TO:

INT. SHARON'S FLAT

Hayden and Sharon are sitting on the bed, looking at the  
flyer.

HAYDEN

Won't Professor Von Croy notice  
it's missing?

SHARON

I've copied it, and I'll replace  
the original today - I've got a  
plan. Now, let's read this...

She pulls it open, and begins to read.

SHARON (CONT'D)

'The Illuminati Museum of  
International Artefacts, of  
Sunnydale California, is proud to  
open it's doors at last. After two  
long years of building, finally can  
the treasures of the world be shown  
to those who love them.' That's the  
gist of it, actually. Got some  
pretty pictures, though.

Hayden takes it.

HAYDEN  
(surprised)  
That's it?

SHARON  
Yeah. What, did you actually  
suspect Prof. VC worked for some  
underground slave trade or  
something?

HAYDEN  
Well, I expected more than this, at  
least.

There's a moment of silence between them. Sharon glances at  
Hayden, then looks downwards at the pamphlet to hide her  
face.

SHARON  
Hm... Well, there's nothing else,  
really. Oh, Hayden?

HAYDEN  
Yeah?

SHARON  
I... I really think you have a shot  
with Lara.

HAYDEN  
Really?

SHARON  
(rueful smile, knowing  
she'll never get what she  
wants)  
Yeah. You're a great guy, Hayden.  
You'll make her happy.

Hayden smiles, and Sharon is near tears. Off her expression,  
we

CUT TO:

INT. GERMAN TOMB.

We pan across the rafters, empty, and land the gaze on a  
wooden platform, where Lara is sitting and Vincent standing.  
A mysterious looking door leads onwards.

LARA  
We did well, getting this far. You  
can turn back, Vincent.

VINCENT

And leaving you here, alone? Phe.  
Anyways, you need something on that  
wound.

LARA

You carry disinfectant?

Vincent takes off his shirt.

LARA (CONT'D)

Oh.

VINCENT

Best thing to dress the wound,  
Sometimes these places are death  
traps for infection.

Lara nods, and Vincent turns the shirt inside out (so the dirt's on the inside) and wraps it around her cut. Then he helps her up, and both stare at the door.

VINCENT (CONT'D)

I don't have any dynamite. How are  
we supposed to get through this  
door?

Lara smiles, and slips out the necklace. Vincent stares,  
unable to speak for a moment.

VINCENT (CONT'D)

What the hell, Lara!? Why did we go  
through all that, if you already  
had the necklace?

Lara just shakes her head at him.

LARA

I'm here for something else,  
actually.

She walks up to the door and presses the necklace into the  
opening, and turns it. The door CLICKS, unlocked. She smiles  
and pulls the necklace out.

LARA (CONT'D)

If you come along, I'll give you  
this. If you're good. She walks  
through the door, and he follows  
after here.

Vincent just nods silently, confused. Both step in.



VINCENT  
One...

LARA  
Two...

LARA  
THREE!

VINCENT  
THREE!

And both lift, lifting the coffin out of the alcove and moving it somewhere else. Then they want back to look where the coffin had lain.

There was a smaller hole dug out, with a polished wooden box. Lara smiled and kneeled down, grabbing it and backflipping out of the way.

Nothing.

VINCENT  
That's pretty impressive, Lara.

She stands, and walks closer to him.

LARA  
I'm pretty acrobatic, don't you remember?

Vincent grins, and Lara opens the box. Inside is a beautiful, antique knife.

LARA (CONT'D)  
You want to hold it first?

Vincent nods, and carefully lifts it from the box. And then-

VINCENT  
Ow!

Vincent drops the knife.

LARA  
What?

VINCENT  
Nothing, cut myself. Still damn sharp, isn't it?

Lara kneels down, looking at the red stain on the old blade. The blood seems to disappear, almost, after a second. Lara blinks, and picks it up.

LARA  
 (taking the necklace out  
 and handing it to  
 Vincent)  
 As promised, one necklace.

Then she looks up.

LARA (CONT'D)  
 Trapdoor? Come on, you're kidding  
 me. That's too easy.

FADE TO:

HOTEL ROOM

Lara and Vincent enter after a hard day's work. They're both smiling and talking quietly, and stop once they enter. Lara picks up her suitcase.

LARA  
 Vincent... I should go.

VINCENT  
 What?

LARA  
 I'm sorry, but we're rivals, and,  
 with what happened between us... I  
 know something will happen.

Vincent grabs Lara's arm, swings her and pushes her to the wall, putting his face close to hers. He leans, each hand pressed against the wall at each side of her.

VINCENT  
 We both know that you want  
 something to happen. You want me.

LARA  
 I don't need you.

VINCENT  
 That doesn't matter.

And he moves in for a deep kiss, one that Lara doesn't break away from. At first it's hesitant, but then it grows stronger. Soon it's more passionate a kiss than either expected, and the both pull away. And go back for more.

Lara drops her suitcase as they move further into the room, Vincent's hands moving in her hair.

His hands fumble with her jacket zipper, and she feels his shirtless chest. As she shrugs off the jacket, we

FADE OUT.

INT. HOTEL ROOM

FADE IN:

Pan across the room, where we can see a line of fallen clothing, up until the bed. Lara and Vincent are lying under the covers, kissing passionately. Lara breaks away first.

LARA

If you ever hurt me again, I'll kill you.

VINCENT

I don't even know what I saw in that slut.

Lara smiles.

VINCENT (CONT'D)

You're the only woman I want, Lara. Rival or no rival. And now I can finally say something...

LARA

Vincent?

VINCENT

Yeah?

LARA

Don't say anything.

And they kiss.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT 3

ACT 4

INT. HOTEL ROOM

The setting is exactly that of where we left off the first scene. Lara is standing at the window, her hand still at the ashtray, holding the already-cold cigarette. Vincent is standing outside of the bathroom, pulling on a shirt.

Lara turns back to the window.

LARA

What the hell were we doing here,  
Vincent?

He creeps up behind her, kissing her lightly on the cheek. The two watch each other's reflections in the window.

VINCENT

What were we doing? Nothing that  
wasn't supposed to happen in the  
first place.

LARA

This doesn't change anything.

VINCENT

No, it doesn't. That what makes the  
thrill of the chase fun, isn't it?

Lara nods a little.

LARA

This shouldn't happen again.

VINCENT

You can't say that-

LARA

This just complicates everything.

Then she turns around, making as if to speak again, and he interrupts her for a kiss.

VINCENT

(whispering)

Would you assume I was lying if I  
said I loved you?

LARA

(whispering)

Yes.

VINCENT  
(smiling, still  
whispering)  
I love you, Lara Croft.

Now Lara breaks away from him, picks her suitcase up and waves a little to him as she leaves. He waves back, and she leaves. Off Vincent's sigh, we

CUT TO:

INT. VON CROY'S OFFICE

A young woman, PROFESSOR TAINESWORTH, is walking down the hall. Sharon is running up to her.

SHARON  
Professor! Professor!

Prof. Tainesworth turns to look at Sharon.

TAINESWORTH  
Sharon! What's the matter?

Sharon has caught up, and is catching her breath.

SHARON  
I was just wondering... Professor Von Croy told me before he left that he'd get someone to open his office for me this morning if I wanted to pick up an assignment.

TAINESWORTH  
Mhm. And you need me...?

SHARON  
Well, I shouldn't be in a teacher's office unsupervised. And I also need to lock the door once I'm finished.

Prof. Tainesworth smiles.

TAINESWORTH  
You're a good girl, Sharon.

CUT TO:

## INT. VON CROY'S OFFICE

Sharon is digging through piles of work. She slips the pamphlet for the Illuminati in as she searches, then smiles as she lifts up one of the papers.

SHARON  
(disappointed)  
He didn't mark it after all...

TAINESWORTH  
Ahhh, well, maybe he was just in a hurry. His cousin was always a clingy fellow, maybe Von Croy decided that he had to hurry.

SHARON  
Then why is the door unlocked?

TAINESWORTH  
Hm. I don't know, but there's probably nothing to it. Come along, girl.

Sharon nods, and (after dropping the paper back onto the table SHOT: We see the name on the paper isn't hers at all)

Prof. Tainesworth leads Sharon from the room, turning the lights off and locking the door behind her. Off the closing of the locked door, we

CUT TO:

## INT. AIRPORT

Von Croy and Lara are standing in the airport, to the side, discussing things quietly. Von Croy seems agitated, and is carrying his own bag - he must have stepped off the same flight as Lara.

VON CROY  
Where were you, Lara? I went to the tomb, but there was nothing there, and-

LARA  
(slips out the knife and hands it to him)  
Looking for this?  
(off his astonished look)  
Latched onto an old friend of ours who had proper instructions.  
(MORE)

LARA (CONT'D)  
 He was only after the necklace, so  
 we both got what we want.

VON CROY  
 An old friend...Vincent? Joanna?

LARA  
 The former. He was quite the  
 gentleman when he caught me  
 following him, and so neither of us  
 killed eachother.

VON CROY  
 Yes, Lara, but I have reason to  
 believe-

LARA  
 To believe what?

VON CROY  
 (changing idea of  
 sentence)  
 To believe that you'll need to have  
 a better record in the future.  
 You've been accepted as a member of  
 the Illuminati group, Lara!

LARA  
 Really?

VON CROY  
 Yes - but only if you want it. Do  
 you want it, Lara?

LARA  
 Yes, of course! I... I'd be  
 honoured.

VON CROY  
 (smiling)  
 A good answer from my star pupil.  
 Don't let me down.

LARA  
 I won't, sir.

And as the two make their way towards the exit, we

CUT TO:

INT. LARA'S FLAT

Where Sharon, Hayden and Lara are all sitting. All three have  
 news to impart. Lara is speaking in excited tones.

LARA  
I'm a member of the Illuminati  
group, now! Do you know what this  
means?

SHARON  
Better pay?

LARA  
Yes! And more equipment, more  
important missions... I'll have  
real field work for my resume!

Sharon nods.

SHARON  
That's good. Lara..?

LARA  
Yeah?

Hayden breaks into the conversation.

HAYDEN  
While we were gone, we... checked  
up on Von Croy.

LARA  
What do you mean?

SHARON  
We... Well, we broke into his  
office.

There's a moment of astonished silence as Lara tries to  
comprehend the thought that her two best friends...

LARA  
You *what!*?

SHARON  
Now Lara, calm down, we found out  
something important...

LARA  
Yeah, like what? Is he a terrorist?  
Or maybe he's an antique smuggler,  
or-

HAYDEN  
He's clean, Lara. We found out that  
the Illuminati is an International  
museum in America.

LARA

- Oh. So that means...

SHARON

I approve. Or, that is, we approve.  
Of your job. Or something.

Hayden nods vigorously, and Lara grins.

LARA

We should celebrate!

And off their excited faces, we

FADE TO:

INT. CLUB

Lara, Sharon and Hayden are sitting at a table together,  
talking.

SHARON

I guess somebody should get the  
drinks.

LARA

Since I'm buying... The usual?

Both nod, and she makes her way to the bar. But we don't  
follow her, but rather stay with Hayden and Sharon.

HAYDEN

Sharon...

SHARON

Yeah, Hayd?

HAYDEN

Do you think... I should make a  
move? For Lara?

Before we can hear Sharon's answer, we shift over to the bar,  
where Lara stands, waiting for the bartender's attention.

LARA

Excuse me!

BARTENDER

Yes, miss?

LARA

May I have... A martini, two jello  
shooters and a Black Rose?

The tender nods and makes his way towards the other side of the bar. Lara looks around the club, and-

VINCENT

Boo.

This surprised Lara a little, but not enough to unnerve her.

LARA

Well, Vincent, this is... sudden.

VINCENT

Let's go somewhere... private,  
together. I miss you.

Lara is, frankly, a little more surprised at this statement than the Boo. But she takes it in stride.

LARA

Later, I'm with friends.

VINCENT

I'm available now, and only now.  
(off her annoyed look)  
You know the address. I'll await  
you there.

He starts to walk away, but before he's out of sight, he makes one last statement.

VINCENT (CONT'D)

If they're any friends worth  
having, they'll forgive you for  
leaving a little early.

And he's gone. Irritated, she notices the drinks are waiting for her. She makes her way back to the table, where... Hayden is the only one sitting.

LARA

Where's Sharon? Toilet?

HAYDEN

She sort of just... Left. She  
seemed pretty annoyed.

Lara looks pensive, but then shakes out of it. Going as if to put the tray of drinks on the table, she 'slips', and the martini falls over and spills onto her dress.

LARA

Oh my! Eugh... Hayden, will you  
mind if I go home?

(MORE)

LARA (CONT'D)  
I'm really sorry, but I should get  
this in water... Don't worry about  
me, I can drive back.

As she says this, she makes her way into the crowd. Hayden looks positively depressed. Alone, he stares off into space and pops back a jello shooter. Off his stare, we

FADE OUT.

END SHOW