

VARSAITY

Episode #101
"GOD U."

Written by

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REVISED QUADRUPLE YELLOW (2 TOTAL)

4-5A, 4-5AA

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VARSIY

Episode #101

"GOD U."

9/6/22

(TRIPLE GREEN)

CAST LIST

MARIE MOREAU. JAZ SINCLAIR
ANDRE ANDERSON. CHANCE PERDOMO
EMMA MEYER. LIZZE BROADWAY
DEAN SHETTY.SHELLEY CONN
CATE DUNLAP. MADDIE PHILLIPS
JORDAN LI (F)LONDON THOR
JORDAN LI (M)DEREK LUH
SAM RIORDAN. ASA GERMANN
LUKE RIORDAN (GOLDEN BOY) PATRICK SCHWARZENEGGER
PROFESSOR RICH "BRINK" BRINKERHOFF. CLANCY BROWN
SOCIAL MEDIA JEFF. DANIEL BEIRNE
MADELYN STILLWELL ELIZABETH SHUE
A-TRAIN JESSIE USHER
MALCOLM MOREAU. TY BARNETT
JACKIE MOREAU. MIATTA ADE LEBILE
YOUNG MARIE. JAEDA LEBLANC
ANNABETH MOREAU. MARIA NASH
HAUNTED TEEN.DECLAN COOPER
LINDA. ELANA DUNKELMAN
VANESSA. ALEX CASTILLO
WOODS SECURITY GUARD #1.BRIAN GIBSON
SECURITY STAN. DAVID C. THOMPSON
MAITRE'D. MICHAEL HUGHES
YOUNG WOMAN. KEELIN O'HARA
BOY (10)CAMERON NICOLL
PERV KID. ALEXANDER NICHOLAS STEVENSON
MAINTENANCE RON.JASON REILLY
MAVERICK (INVISIBLE)
ANCHOR
JEREMY.GEORGE ALEVIZOS
JUSTINE. MAIA JAE BASTIDAS
LIAM. ROBERT BAZZOCCHI
RUFUS. ALEXANDER CALVERT
INTERVIEWER
V-ENTERTAINMENT HOST
WOMAN AT THE BAR!
THE INCREDIBLE STEVE. WARREN SCHERER

VARSITY

Episode #101

"GOD U."

8/28/22

(TRIPLE YELLOW)

SET LIST

INTERIORS

VOUGHT SPORTS NET STUDIO

SUBURBAN HOME -
LIVING ROOM
BATHROOM

RED RIVER -
GIRLS QUARTERS
COMMON ROOM

LIBRARY*

GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY -
DORM HALLWAY
"BOXING GYM"
MARIE'S DORM ROOM
BATHROOM STALL
GOLDEN BOY'S DORM ROOM

SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING
OUTSIDE BRINK'S OFFICE
BRINK'S OFFICE
FURTHER DOWN THE HALL
HALLWAY

UNKNOWN HALLWAY

SKYSCRAPER CLUB

EXTERIORS

GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS
ANOTHER PART OF CAMPUS
STATUE GARDEN*

GODOLKIN STADIUM
DRONE SHOT
ON THE FIELD

SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING
ALLEY

CRIMSON COUNTESS CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS

NEW YORK CITY

SEVEN TOWER
ROOFTOP

RED RIVER
RECREATION YARD*

VARSIITY
"GOD U"

1 **BZZZT! A SNAP OF STATIC AS A TELEVISION FLIPS ON...**

1

VSN -- Vought Sports Network. Swirling graphics and soaring dude-bro music herald the arrival of "**SUPECENTER.**"

Which takes us to the Supecenter ANCHOR at his desk, a Dan Patrick/Scott Van Pelt/Kenny Mayne type.

ANCHOR

Ladies and gents, Supes and civvies,
rip up the history books, cause in
New York this morning, Godolkin
University all-star A-Train was just
drafted into *La Siete!*

CUT TO: B-ROLL. Seven Tower. A-TRAIN in a suit and tie, crying in joy as he puts on a SEVEN BALLCAP. A tight crowd of various MANAGERS and EXECUTIVES applaud behind him, flashbulbs STROBE. Should be clear by now we're in 2017.

ANCHOR (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Which of course makes the speedster
the first African-American on the
world's premiere super team.

CUT TO: MADELYN STILLWELL (still alive!) in a talking head interview. (Which we can TOTALLY shoot in LA!)

MADELYN STILLWELL

We're thrilled to welcome A-Train
into the Seven, which proves what we
here at Vought have been saying for
a long time: we live in a post-
racism world.

CUT TO: B-ROLL. A-Train, in a tête-à-tête with his teacher, friend and mentor RICH 'BRINK' BRINKERHOFF. Bear Bryant on the outside. Oppenheimer on the inside.

ANCHOR (O.S.)

A-Train was rumored for the top slot
after a thrilling year as the number
one ranked student at Godolkin
University.

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CUT TO: Brink in a talking head interview.

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(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

BRINK

A-Train's the most driven kid I've
taught since Queen Maeve.

CUT TO: A-TRAIN. Back at Seven Tower. Mike in his face and
tears down his cheeks.

A-TRAIN

All praises be to God first -- I
just want to stay humble, support
the team, be the best hero I can be!

PULL BACK TO REVEAL:

2 **INT. SUBURBAN HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY - SEVEN YEARS AGO**

2

MALCOLM MOREAU, 40, watches from the couch, enthralled.
Beside his wife JACKIE, less enthralled, scrolling her phone.

MALCOLM

First black man in the Seven.
Goddamn. This is a moment.

JACKIE

(is it though?)
He goes clubbing with Jake Paul and
Scott Dissick.

MALCOLM

Hey, I'll take what I can get.
(over his shoulder)
Girls. Come see this, it's history!

IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM

MARIE AND ANNABETH

(in unison)
No thanks Daddy!

MARIE MOREAU, 12, and her younger sister ANNABETH, 10.
They're working on something way more important -- posting on
seven-years-ago Instagram.

[Note: let's do some takes where Young Marie is watching the
news coverage of A-Train with some guarded interest. Part of
her doesn't want to care -- she doesn't have powers and isn't
expecting to get them. And part of her cares very much --
she wishes this was her future. But right now it seems like
it'll never happen.]

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Young Marie is the photographer, holding a cellphone (it's a
decent one for the time, and one that would fit their
budget). Annabeth lies flat on the ground, eyes closed, her
hair in a carefully arranged halo around her head. A desk
lamp is being used for proper Insta lighting, makeup is
strewn on the floor nearby.

Young Marie scrutinizes her younger sister.

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(CONTINUED)

YOUNG MARIE
Don't smile.

ANNABETH
I'm not.

YOUNG MARIE
And don't squeeze your eyes shut.

ANNABETH
I'm not!

YOUNG MARIE
You have to do it like Kendall. Go
like this.

*

Young Marie shuts her eyes and does a blank expression.
Annabeth sits up and laughs.

*

ANNABETH
Oh my god. Marie, that's not it.

YOUNG MARIE
You're wrecking your hair. You're
so bad at this. Back down, back
down.

Annabeth lies back and Young Marie adjusts her hair again.
These two are close, and Annabeth looks up to her older
sister, loving this time they spend together.

YOUNG MARIE (CONT'D)
Okay. Don't move.

Annabeth shuts her eyes and makes a blank expression.

ANNABETH
Use the 1977 filter.

YOUNG MARIE
No, I'm using Lord Kelvin, that's
the good one. After you're done I
want to do Beyoncé.

ANNABETH
Pfff. You can't do Beyoncé.

Young Marie makes a face, then reaches down and sticks her
finger in Annabeth's nose while snapping a pic. Annabeth
yelps.

YOUNG MARIE
That's perfect!

ANNABETH
Delete it!

(CONTINUED)

They're giggling as Annabeth tries to snatch the phone away from her sister. But Young Marie suddenly stops. And winces. She feels a weird cramp. Stomach ache?

ANNABETH (CONT'D)
What's the matter?

Young Marie has a feeling she knows exactly what this is. She hustles off.

YOUNG MARIE
Be right back.

Marie's Mom JACKIE notices.

JACKIE
Marie? You okay?

YOUNG MARIE
Yeah, just a stomach ache.

JACKIE
You eat something?

MALCOLM
Probably your tilapia.

JACKIE
You, cram it.
(to Marie)
And you, lemme get you some Pepto.

YOUNG MARIE
Really, I'm fine.

Marie hurries off down the hall but Jackie senses something's up.

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3 INT. SUBURBAN HOME - BATHROOM - DAY - SEVEN YEARS AGO

3 *

Marie sits on the toilet. (She wears a skirt). Nope, not a stomach issue. Tentative, almost afraid of what she'll find, she reaches down -- her fingers come back bloody.

She knows what's happening. But a first period is still a little scary. And embarrassing. When Mom KNOCKS --

JACKIE (O.S.)
Baby girl? You need help?

*

YOUNG MARIE
Don't come in! I'm fine, I --

Then... to Young Marie's bewilderment and OUTRIGHT HORROR... a THIN TWISTING TWIRL of BLOOD rises up from between her legs! Just hovering in mid-air, turning over and over! She's never seen anything like this. What the holy fuck??

She instinctively jolts away from it, scared, tripping over her underwear around her ankles, CRASHING into some shelves, which fall on top of her.

Mom hears this, scared now, SHOULDERS open the locked door, CR-RACK!! Storms in.

JACKIE
Marie!

Marie FLINCHES, surprised at the LOUD NOISE --

And almost in a subconscious defense mechanism -- the floating blood HARDENS into a SHARP SHARD, ROCKETS across the room. THWACKS into the wall behind like a dart. But now we see -- it went CLEAN THROUGH MOM'S NECK. Blood ARCS from Mom, she looks at her daughter, dumbfounded. Gurgling through the blood in her throat, her mouth:

JACKIE (CONT'D)
Baby girl...?

YOUNG MARIE
MOM!!!

Mom thumps onto the linoleum, back against the wall, crimson plasma POURING out of her.

Young Marie races over to help. But she doesn't know what to do, and there's SO MUCH BLOOD. The light in Mom's eyes is fading so quickly.

When Dad scrambles in. Sees. Rushes to his wife, kneels over her, tries to put a towel to the wound. No good. Marie backs away into the corner.

MALCOLM
JACKIE! Jesus, what happened??
MARIE, WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

Mom's head flops to the side. Goes still, eyes glassy, dead.

Marie lets out an anguished, heartbreaking WAIL. Something about that energy -- that pain -- makes ALL THE BLOOD PUDDLING AROUND MOM -- EXPLODE OUTWARD -- a GRENADE of HARD RED SHARDS blow out the wall sconces, destroy the faucet in the sink, water spraying all over the counter. Marie shields her eyes --

When she looks -- her hands, arms, and face are riddled with small cuts -- but --

DAD was crouched RIGHT OVER his wife, inches away. And now has SHARDS of DRIED BLOOD, hard as glass, jammed all over his chest and face. He grunts. Drops.

Completely still. OH GOD NO, he's dead now too!

Marie. Going into shock.

MARIE

...daddy...?

ANGLE. Looking inside the bathroom. Marie huddled in the corner. We PULL BACK... to reveal her Mom, dead in a puddle of blood. Further... to reveal her Dad, also dead, plasma shrapnel juts from his face. Further... to reveal ANNABETH.

CLOSE UPS. Annabeth looks at her big sister. Not so much with surprise... more with innocent PAIN.

Marie stares at Annabeth. There's not a word to describe the horror Marie is experiencing. SMASH TO --

4 INT. RED RIVER - GIRLS QUARTERS - DAWN - PRESENT

4

PRESENT DAY MARIE, 18, GASPS AWAKE. She's grown into a focused, determined young woman. But she's put up tall, thick walls around the little girl she used to be.

WIDER. Sun isn't up, room's dark. A LARGE ROOM. TEN COTS, including Marie's. GIRLS of all ages sleeping. One of them has a TAIL, flopping lazily as she snores. Another HOVERS three feet above the bed -- they're all SUPES.

In the foreground, Marie climbs out of bed, carefully makes it, till you could bounce a quarter. We clock posters on the walls around her tidy space -- A-TRAIN, QUEEN MAEVE, a Godolkin senior named GOLDEN BOY.

Marie turns to a GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY WALL CALENDAR with a photo of PROFESSOR BRINK teaching. June 22nd is CIRCLED. Today. Scrawled and underlined -- **4:00PM.** It makes her nervous.

4aA INT. RED RIVER - HALLWAY - DAWN

4aA *

Marie creeps up the hallway, now wearing workout clothes. She's the only person awake at this hour.

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(CONTINUED)

4aA CONTINUED:

4aA

As evidenced by the SLEEPING GUARD that she tiptoes past, on
her way to...

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4bA **INT. RED RIVER - STAIRWELL - DAWN**

4bA

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Marie hustles down a dark stairwell into a basement. She
pauses at the base of the stairs and reaches for: an old
JANITOR'S MOP AND PAIL on wheels. You get the sense that
she's left it here, that she does this every morning.

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She pulls it along with her into --

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4A INT. RED RIVER - GYMNASIUM - DAWN

4A

An old space that has been mostly neglected and used for storage -- broken furniture, stacks of chairs, crummy sports equipment, it's bleak and gray in the morning light.

Marie wheels the mop and bucket into a corner, and then starts gathering up various objects: a chair, an old fan, a bed frame, a beat-up tackling dummy, a basket of old tennis balls, a fire extinguisher. Some of these items are dented up and seem to be sprayed with brownish-red stains like old drying paint.

She sets everything up until it's in a perfect circle. And she is in the center of it.

And then she pulls out a SMALL KNIFE. Remember, this is the first time we're seeing it, so make a bit of a deal out of it.

We'll also spy the palms of her hands -- scarred from years of cuts.

Marie flicks open the knife, and draws the blade across her palm -- she cuts deep, and a thick rivulet of blood begins to pour out...

But then the blood shifts IN MID-AIR. Forming a sort of double-helix, almost elegant as it floats above her hand.

And then Marie gets to work.

She starts SHOOTING blood at the objects, BLASTING them across the space. BAM BAM BAM, one after another.

We should feel Marie's growing, furious intensity here, each hit coming faster and faster. She's pushing herself hard, moving with both grace and anger as she obliterates the targets around her.

Let's see her face close, sweat pouring down, jaw clenched, concentrating so hard... and then --

A QUICK FLASH. Blood shooting from her mother's neck.

Back to Marie. Firing a blast that SPLITS A TARGET IN HALF.

ANOTHER QUICK FLASH. Her father getting SMASHED into the wall.

And then faster and faster. Flashes of the bloody bathroom coming right on top of Marie blasting away at the targets. Tight shots of her face, pained, intense, a couple tears escaping and streaming down her face.

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Finally Marie LASSOS THE OLD BASKETBALL HOOP, ripping it off the wall and hurling it across the room. It shatters into pieces.

(CONTINUED)

4A CONTINUED:

4A

HIGH OVER MARIE

As we see her in the center of what looks like a HUGE, RED SUNBURST of streaks of blood. Any human would die from that much blood loss. The sun has risen a bit, and the room has taken on a warm, yellow glow.

Marie stands there, breathing hard. For the moment, the fury inside her seems to have been quelled. She shuts her eyes for a second, and we can see the pain that she's been holding onto all these years.

But it's just for a moment. She locks it all back down and glances over at an old CLOCK on the wall. 7 am. She's got a long day ahead of her.

With that, she goes to the corner, wheels over the mop and pail, and starts cleaning up the blood.

4B INT. RED RIVER - CLASSROOM - DAY

4B

Marie sits alone at a desk, reading a book, deeply focused. Push past a couple YOUNGER KIDS goofing off. Just as the camera clears them, a BOLT OF LIGHTNING blasts across frame from their direction and fucks up something O.S. We hear the kids laugh.

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Marie doesn't even notice. As we push closer still to her, another STUDENT suddenly materializes at a desk behind (or next to), picks up a pencil and starts doing some school work. Marie doesn't notice that either. This might look like constant magic all the time, but it's a totally normal day for her.

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Instead, Marie is poring over her book, and we'll see that it's been read a dozen times -- pages well-worn, and she's highlighted key passages and made lots of notes in the margins.

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The book is written by RICHARD BRINKERHOFF (let's use one of the cleared titles we've already established).

A muffled COMMOTION calls Marie's attention to the window. Something happening in the drive outside the facility -- someone yelling orders. Marie looks.

MARIE'S POV THROUGH THE WINDOW

Where ARMED GUARDS wrestle an 18-year-old SUPE -- arms bound behind their back, guards keeping them in check with GUNS and CATTLE-PROD style weapons. The Supe struggles, but it's useless.

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As the guards begin to push the Supe into the van, the Supe looks up. Right at Marie. It's a sad moment for them both. They know where this van is going.

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But it's just a moment. The guards duck the Supe's head down, perp-style, shove them into the van and slam the doors shut.

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On the van, big letters: "Elmira Adult Rehabilitation Center" and beneath that, "By Global Wellness Services, a Vought Company." The van pulls away.

RESUME MARIE

It's an upsetting thing to witness, but it's not the first time she's seen this. She swallows her reaction and glances up at the clock again. It's 11. This day is taking forever.

5 INT. RED RIVER - COMMON ROOM - DAY

5

[Note -- this scene is already shot, the revisions here are for editorial only]

A CHEERY POSTER by the door, with a CARTOON HOMELANDER: **RED RIVER GROUP HOME, WHERE EVERY CHILD IS SPECIAL.**

6 **INT. RED RIVER - COMMON ROOM - AFTERNOON**

6

OPEN ON: a clip from "Homebanger: Red, White, and Anal" on SupePorn.com.

A 14 YEAR OLD watches on a second hand computer, when --

MARIE

Move perv.

The boy, intimidated by Marie, quickly retreats. Marie sits, but not before wiping the keyboard with a Clorox wipe. Her eyes, DARTING ANXIOUS NOW, on the wall clock.

3:59. The second hand moves closer and closer to 12. Until, finally, it's... **4 PM.**

The second it is, Marie clicks to --

THE SCREEN. **GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY.** Marie logs onto the STUDENT PORTAL, reaches her home screen.

ECU. The cursor FLOATS over **ADMISSIONS.**

CLOSE ON MARIE. Part of her doesn't even want to click. She has everything riding on this. She steels herself, clicks -- reads a bit --

Then EXPLODES IN JOY. LUNGES TO HER FEET.

MARIE (CONT'D)

OH MY GOD! OMIGOD!!

A RED RIVER GUARD steps forwards with his TRANQ RIFLE, any excited kid makes him nervous. Marie sees, calms quickly --

MARIE (CONT'D)

Sorry, Stan. All good.

VANESSA (PRE-LAP)

Wow. I guess I'm just surprised.

7 **INT. RED RIVER - COMMON ROOM - DAY**

7 *

Marie, positively buzzing, sits across from VANESSA, the director of Red River from THE BOYS EP. 302, who reads the admissions letter on her laptop...

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MARIE

That I could actually get in?

VANESSA

(a look, no, then)

I didn't know you applied.

MARIE

But I can go, right? I mean, it's a full ride, and I'm 18, so...

(CONTINUED)

VANESSA

You kidding? We can't get rid of you fast enough.

(off Marie's small smile)

Congratulations. The only Red River child ever accepted into Godolkin. I wouldn't be surprised if you ended up protecting a city one day.

MARIE

I think you meant to say "first black woman in the Seven."

VANESSA

I stand corrected.

(then, gingerly)

Marie. Most kids around here with a... history like yours? They don't get adopted, and no one wants them on the street. So they get sent to the Vought Adult Facility in Elmira.

MARIE

Yeah. I know.

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VANESSA

I don't think you do.

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Vanessa glances around the room. As if someone is listening. Because, someone is probably always listening.

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VANESSA (CONT'D)

(quietly)

That place... it's not like here. You'd be locked up. Worse.

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MARIE

Shit. And this place sucks ass.

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Marie is joking, but it's a poor cover for the dread underneath it. She does not want to end up in Elmira. Vanessa forces herself to brighten.

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VANESSA

But a God U. Graduate? You can wipe all that clean, start fresh...

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MARIE

So don't fuck it up?

VANESSA

Don't fuck it up.

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MARIE

Don't worry. I'm never coming back.

Off this, we suddenly STATIC FRITZ TO:

8 **THE GODOLKIN ORIENTATION VIDEO**

8

Which resembles every bland college orientation video ever. It opens on drone shots over the stately campus. Then a MONTAGE of STUDENTS. Some are characters we'll soon meet.

 RUFUS
 (eyes glow)
I'm super focused.

 JORDAN
 (transforms from male to
 female)
I'm super inclusive.

 MAVERICK
 (floating pair of glasses)
I'm super curious.

*
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 JENNY
 (her wheelchair hovers)
I'm super abled.

CUT TO: DEAN INDIRA SHETTY, casually strolling across the quad. A former shrink, she speaks in a soothing clinical tone. But beneath that calm churns a secret furious fire.

(CONTINUED)

DEAN SHETTY

What kind of super are you? I'm Dean Indira Shetty. Congratulations and welcome to Godolkin University. We've trained the best and brightest young heroes since 1965. But more than that, we're a family.

B-ROLL of clearly staged, sanitized STUDENTS. A WIDE SHOT of two KIDS chatting on campus -- out of thin air, a THIRD STUDENT FLASHES into existence next to them (teleportation!), joining the conversation.

DEAN SHETTY (CONT'D)

A community of supportive faculty and peers who will accept you as the unique, culturally rich 'change agent' that you are.

B-ROLL of classes in session. Also clean, orderly, staged. PROFESSOR BRINK makes a compelling point to his class. One of the kids is encircled in GREEN LIGHTNING.

CUT TO: another class practices actorly mirroring exercises in a black box theater.

DEAN SHETTY (CONT'D)

You'll begin with challenging but meaningful core curriculum such as "Hero Ethics" and "Understanding Branding."

(then)

After that, you'll declare your major. Perhaps you'll join the Crimson Countess School for the Performing Arts. Alumni include stars from such shows as "Riverdale," "Pretty Little Liars," and "So You Think You've Got Super Talent?"

Performing Arts is classic Ivy League, a Crimson Countess statue out front.

DEAN SHETTY (CONT'D)

Or maybe you'll be accepted into the Lamplighter School of Crimefighting. Which has produced every Top Ten Ranked Student for the past thirty years, who have all gone on to protect America's greatest cities. Maybe you'll make the Top Ten too.

Over which, we see the LAMPLIGHTER SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING. Then images of MAEVE and A-TRAIN with CHYRONS that say "RANKED #1." Then DEEP with a "RANKED #6" CHYRON.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED: (2)

8

DEAN SHETTY (CONT'D)

So whether you want to walk the mean streets or the red carpet, Godolkin is a safe space for you to thrive.

Then finally, for the big finish, the video cuts to GOLDEN BOY, we saw his poster on Marie's wall. A chyron says "Golden Boy. RANKED #1." His eyes twinkle.

GOLDEN BOY

We're super excited to meet you.

He FLARES with GOLDEN SUN LIGHT, BLOWING OUT THE FRAME --

8A EXT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - STATUE GARDEN - DAY

8A

LOOKING UP at one of the many statues of heroes on campus (do we have a Homelander statue? Can we?). Then tilt down to Marie, staring up in awe. Her worn duffle is slung over her shoulder.

She turns around and takes in the campus behind her, where we get glimpses of her fellow students: TYLER phasing through a low wall. A HUGE GUY (THE INCREDIBLE STEVE, who we'll meet later), another STUDENT FLIES BY (the same student who flies into helicopter blades in 108). Maybe a student with porcupine SPIKES coming out of their back, if this is a possibility with VFX or prosthetics?

Marie takes it all in. She's smiling so hard her face might crack open. She cannot believe she's here.

As she walks away, we cut to:

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8B EXT. STATUE GARDEN - SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE - CONTINUOUS

8B

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A high, black and white image of Marie leaving the statue garden. Time code, date and location burned into the video. The implication is clear: MARIE IS BEING WATCHED.

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9 INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - DORM HALLWAY - DAY

9

The video plays on loop on a corner mounted MONITOR. When MARIE, ratty duffel on her shoulder, passes beneath to see --

MOVE IN DAY. Which is the 180 degree COMPLETE OPPOSITE of the orderly, sanitized orientation video. There's a chaotic scrum of STUDENTS, suitcases, moving boxes, crumpled Vought-A-Burger wrappers. Someone is BLASTING MUSIC.

Marie weaves through, searching for her room. She pauses -- a weird, undulating BLUE TENDRIL is stretched across the hallway, about the height of finish line ribbon. The tendril begins to pull back -- wrapped around a smoking BONG -- which is yoinked into the room across the hall.

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She continues on -- past a MAKING OUT COUPLE -- the WOMAN comes up for air and we see a brief FLICK of her SNAKE TONGUE.

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MAVERICK (we saw him in the video) is nothing but a floating Godolkin University ballcap and eye glasses. Makes an announcement --

MAVERICK

Yo, I'm Maverick, your R.A. We have a mandatory consent seminar in the common room at 3.

He passes JUSTINE, 18, born to act, you probably recognize her from the Vought+ teen thriller "Pretty/Deadly."

JUSTINE

Are you pitching a consent seminar with your dick out?

Marie passes all the scruffy teen reality. She breaks into a small, private smile. This all feels like freedom.

10 INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - "BOXING GYM" - DAY

10

WIDE SHOT OF EMMA (18, sweet, funny, needs everyone to like her). She wears athletic gear, stands in a BOXING RING, talks to the CAMERA, making a YouTube Video.

EMMA

Hey, guys. I made it, day one at God U. So figure it's time to test my shit against the toughest motherfucker here.

Just then -- a MASSIVE GERBIL, EMMA'S SIZE! Wanders into frame. It's gentle and sweet, but HUGE.

EMMA (CONT'D)

This is my gerbil David Caruso. And it's about to go down.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

EMMA (CONT'D)

Welcome to fight night, here on "FUN
SIZED with LITTLE CRICKET," brought
to you by Mini Noir bars, with and
without almonds.

Just then in the BACKGROUND, A MASSIVE door opens and a
HUNDRED FOOT TALL MARIE ENTERS.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Oh shit, hang on.

11 INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - MARIE & EMMA'S DORM ROOM - CONT. 11

Marie, entering the room with her duffel, hears a squeaky --

EMMA (O.S.)
Hey! You must be Marie!

Marie scans the seemingly empty room.

EMMA (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Down here!

Marie looks down, sees FIVE-INCH-TALL-EMMA, standing in a TOY BOXING RING, phone recording, her pet gerbil wandering aimlessly around the ring. Marie, amazed, crouches down.

EMMA (CONT'D)
Hi! I'm Emma!

12 INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - MARIE & EMMA'S DORM ROOM - LATER 12

Marie unpacks her five outfits. She glances over at Emma's fancy decorated side. It's like Urban Outfitters threw up all over it. Matching sheets, closet full of clothes. And the pillows, my God, the pillows!

Then Marie unpacks her most valuable possessions: three books, all by PROFESSOR BRINK. She sets them on the bookshelf neatly.

Then something even more precious: a weathered FRAMED PHOTO of her FAMILY. She focuses in on her SISTER ANNABETH. Feels a stab of longing and pain. Let's give this a real moment, which is broken when --

Emma, now NORMAL SIZED, re-enters from the hall. She wraps Marie into a big warm hug. Marie is taken aback, not used to this contact. But Emma is charming, disarming.

EMMA
Sorry. Here I am. Hi! I have been dying to meet you! You're so pretty!

From her well stocked mini-fridge, Emma pulls out a WHITE CLAW, offers one to Marie. Marie, for her part, is a bit rusty at regular human interaction. Bit reserved.

MARIE
(re: White Claw)
It's 9 in the morning.

EMMA
It's 10:01 somewhere.

Emma moves to her GERBIL CAGE, feeds David Caruso.

*

(CONTINUED)

EMMA (CONT'D)
You cool with David Caruso? He
won't shit in your shit.

MARIE
(nods, sounds nice)
Never had a pet. Who's David
Caruso?

EMMA
You didn't see *Jade*? Are you
fucking joking?! Wow.

MARIE
What were you doing anyway?

EMMA
My YouTube show.
(off Marie)
"Fun Sized with Little Cricket?"
You haven't seen it? I'm like
PewDiePie without the Nazi stuff.
(off Marie)
You -- don't know him either.

MARIE
We only had one computer, and it was
donut glazed from the 14-year-old
boys.

Emma furrows her brow, curious. 14-year-old boys? Marie
takes a half beat and realizes -- she can be a new person.

MARIE (CONT'D)
Boy, I mean, my brother Chris. Porn
addict. My Mom and Dad put on
Hazmat suits just to go in his room.

EMMA
Well, he can't be worse than my
brother. Or sister. Or parents.

Meanwhile, Marie has been trying to open the window to get
some air. But even with her strength, she can't.

EMMA (CONT'D)
Oh, they don't open -- or break. I
guess kids were jumping out and
flying off.

A quick unsettled beat for Marie. She doesn't love being
locked in. When Emma grabs Marie's hand --

EMMA (CONT'D)
(ADR)
C'mon, we're gonna be late!

*
*

Marie is not used to Emma's energy. But she goes with it.

13 **OMITTED** 13 *

13A **EXT. GODOLKIN STADIUM - DRONE SHOT - DAY** 13A *

CAMERA SOARS over GODOLKIN STADIUM. About the size of a small college stadium, or fancy high school. Still, SCOPE BABY! As we're up here, a (digi-double) STUDENT suddenly WHIPS past camera, gliding down to the stadium field. *

13B **EXT. GODOLKIN STADIUM - ON THE FIELD - DAY** 13B *

In the b.g., the FLYING STUDENT lands on the grass. As in the f.g., a SPEEDSTER STUDENT cracks his neck, then TAKES OFF, SPRINTING around the track at supersonic speeds. In the weight area, a FEMALE STUDENT bench presses 2000 pounds. These kids are using the facility for their work-outs. *

IN THE STANDS *

About SEVENTY FIVE STUDENTS hang out, check their phones, chat, etc. Waiting for something. Marie and Emma move past some -- excuse me, excuse me -- *

MARIE
So what are we doing here, exactly? *

EMMA
Dude. His workouts are practically the social event of the season. *

MARIE
Whose? *

EMMA
(points onto the field)
His. *

Marie looks. Reacts in awed wonder. *

MARIE
Holy fucking shit. *

POV. On the field -- GOLDEN BOY! SOCIAL MEDIA JEFF holds a VIDEO CAM, interviewing him. Golden Boy smiles like a pro. *

EMMA
You know when Golden Boy flames on, his clothes burn off? And he's uncut. Because I guess he's impossible to cut. *

Marie gives Emma a dry look. *

ON THE FIELD *

Golden Boy finishes the interview. *

GOLDEN BOY

...and be sure to check out the God
U. page on Tik Tok, Instagram and
Godolkin-dot-E.D.U.
(it's over)
We good, Jeff?

SOCIAL MEDIA JEFF

Word, Golden Boy. My brother from
another mother --

Jeff goes for a high-five. Golden Boy doesn't see. Jeff
awkwardly heads off. Golden Boy, for just a moment, looks
tired, weary. His girlfriend CATE steps up. She takes his
hands with her gloved hands. She's warm and loving.

CATE

Any sleep last night?

GOLDEN BOY

(shakes his head)
Same nightmare.

CATE

The one with all the trees? *

GOLDEN BOY

(haunted)
The fuck does it mean -- and when's
it gonna stop?

CATE

I dunno. But I am just gonna have
to fuck you rotten till it does.

GOLDEN BOY

Did I say I want it to stop, I meant
I never want it to stop.

They both smile. Kiss. Let's feel the TENDER CONNECTION.

IN THE STANDS

Emma's on her phone. But Marie watches. She can't decide if
she's hot for him, idolizes him, or both.

ON THE FIELD

CLOSE ON A BENCH. A METAL WATER BOTTLE. Which WOBLES and
RATTLES. Then suddenly FLINGS TWENTY FEET INTO --

The hands of ANDRE. Magnetic powers. He walks over to
Golden Boy and Cate, still kissing.

ANDRE

Hey! Tongue in your head and your
head in the game.

(CONTINUED)

Across from them: a MASSIVE, MUSCULAR, MEAN-LOOKING DUDE named THE INCREDIBLE STEVE. His eyes are completely WHITE, no pupils. Andre gives Golden Boy the water bottle.

GOLDEN BOY

Dude, I'm not sweating The Incredible Steve. Or anyone who has "the" in their name.

ANDRE

You better not be, I got 10 grand on you, motherfucker.

GOLDEN BOY

Okay. Then we split it fifty/fifty or I throw the match.

Andre gives him a look.

ANDRE

You're joking. You're not joking. Fuck. Fine. Asshole.

GOLDEN BOY

Please. Lovable asshole.

Andre flips him off, but it's clear these guys are tight.

IN THE STANDS/ON THE FIELD

Marie leans forward in anticipation, as Golden Boy and The Incredible Steve shake hands, step back, begin circling each other. Like a wrestling match. Then --

Golden Boy FLAMES ON. And his clothes BURN OFF. The STANDS SHOUT in gleeful unison: "LUUUUUUUUUKE!" Which they do every time he flames on and goes naked -- a school tradition -- Marie looks around as it happens, surprised, grinning --

Golden Boy LUNGES at Steve. Steve has MASSIVE SUPER STRENGTH. But he's slower. Golden Boy can move quickly around him, Ali vs. Foreman, landing blows. Until Steve catches him with a PILE-DRIVING CROSS, sends Golden Boy TUMBLING back twenty yards.

Cate and Andre wince. But Golden Boy stands back up. Heads back in. As they fight --

EMMA

See, what did I tell you? It's like a big, fiery sea cucumber. Or a pig in a blanket?

MARIE

Emma.
(with resolve)
I'm gonna be down there one day.

(CONTINUED)

EMMA
Jerking off his flaming Shar-Pei?

MARIE
Ranked in the Top Ten. Number one
in the Top Ten.

EMMA
Jesus Christ, who wants that kind of
pressure?

MARIE
(beat)
I do.

Just then -- Golden Boy gets an opening on The Incredible Steve. Grabs both of his arms -- and RIPS THEM CLEAN OFF!! He SCREAMS. BLOOD GEYSERS from both sockets! HOLY FUCK.

*
*
*

EMMA

Or you can end up like that guy.

*
*

Golden Boy flames off. Nude, but Cate brings him a robe. Andre picks up one DETACHED ARM, lightly touches his crotch with it. Nothing too perverted, just dumb guy shit.

*
*
*

ANDRE

Hey The Incredible Steve, can I borrow one, a little stranger danger hand action?

*
*
*
*

THE INCREDIBLE STEVE

Fuck you, Andre. Gimme my arms back.

*
*
*

Golden Boy, a good sport above all else, picks up the other ARM, holds it to Steve's socket, Andre holds the other, NERVES and SINEW from his arms and sockets interlace, wrapping around each other like a snake's nest, reattaching.

*
*
*
*

GOLDEN BOY

Good game. You'll get me next time.

*
*

IN THE STANDS

*

Emma's phone BEEPS. She checks.

*

EMMA

Oh shit. Class schedules are out.

*
*

MARIE

They are? Lemme borrow your phone?
(off Emma)
I don't have one. Yet.

*
*
*
*

EMMA

(hands it over)
A phone? Are you Amish? Is black Amish a thing?

*
*
*
*

Marie gives her a "very funny" look as she logs on. But then her excited smile suddenly fades, replaced with horror --

MARIE

What the fuck?

*

14 **EXT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - DAY**

14

Marie strides past the heroic statue of Lamplighter (may his memory be a blessing), into the sleek glass building.

15 **INT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - OUTSIDE BRINK'S OFFICE - DAY**

15

Marie, churning with anxiety, approaches Jordan -- whom we've already met in the God U Promo Video. Jordan is in their female form now, is Brink's T.A. and one of the toughest motherfuckers at the school. Right now Jordan sits at an assistant's desk outside Brink's office, earbuds in, clacking away at the computer.

Even in her current state, Marie recognizes Jordan. Great. Now she's super anxious AND starstruck.

MARIE

Hello. Hi. Sorry.

Jordan tugs out the earbuds, annoyed at the interruption. Marie can get tightly wound when something's wrong.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Jordan, right? Jordan Li?

JORDAN

What do you want?

MARIE

Just, you know, first of all, you're awesome --

JORDAN

(turning away)

If you want Professor Brink's autograph you gotta buy his book.

*
*

MARIE

Uh, yeah, no, that's not why --
(getting down to business)
There's clearly been a mistake, I signed up for his "Freshmen Intro to Crimefighting," but it's not on my schedule.

*

JORDAN

What's your name?

MARIE

Moreau, Marie. Marie Moreau.

Jordan clacks away at her keyboard, until --

JORDAN

Oh. I see the problem. You were rejected.

(CONTINUED)

MARIE

What? What do you mean? I, like,
quadruple checked the forms.

JORDAN

We don't have space for everyone.

MARIE

No, but I have to take Intro.
Everyone who majors in Crimefighting
takes Intro.

Jordan gives Marie a look. Decides to level with her.

JORDAN

Look, most freshmen show up, think
they'll major in Crimefighting,
crush their combat and forensics
classes, score a city contract. But
they won't. It's a shit fight just
to get in this school.

(reads screen)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JORDAN (CONT'D)

You're competing against kids who've cleared homicide cases, who have over a million followers -- you don't even have an Insta. Now I kinda gotta go back to this, sorry --

MARIE

Can I talk to Professor Brink about this --

JORDAN

No. I make the call. I'm his T.A.

MARIE

Hold on. This was your decision? Who are you to reject me?

JORDAN

His T.A.

VOICE (O.S.)

Jordan

Marie turns to see... PROFESSOR BRINK in the flesh! Which would be so amazing except... he's HOLDING A GUN??

MARIE

What the fuck?

Brink clicks off the safety and BLAAMMM!!!! Fires RIGHT AT JORDAN! Who INSTANTLY changes into their MALE FORM. The bullet SLAMS INTO Jordan center mass...

And bounces right off. Plink! It falls to the floor.

Marie just stands there, jaw dropped, horrified. But Brink laughs.

BRINK

Goddamm fastest draw I've ever seen.

Jordan (now male for the rest of the scene) is smiling, looking down at the burnt bullet hole in his shirt.

JORDAN

Gonna need to buy me a new shirt, Professor.

BRINK

Sorry, champ. I'll buy ya ten. What've we got?

Jordan goes down the call sheet at Marie remembers to breathe, still shocked at what she's just witnessed. For Brink and Jordan, this is business as usual.

Marie bends down to pick up the slug -- it's flattened out like it's hit a solid steel wall.

(CONTINUED)

JORDAN

Ashley Barrett asked you to speak at
the Vought Retreat in Sun Valley.

BRINK

Ugh, hard pass. Next?

JORDAN

Good Morning America wants to
interview you about --
(checks notes)
"How Brink's technique with super
kids can help with your kid."

BRINK

(chuckles at that)
Tell 'em to read my book.

MARIE

I've read your book!

Brink pivots, as if noticing Marie for the first time.

*

MARIE (CONT'D)

I've read all your books, if I could
just get a minute --

JORDAN

I've already handled this, sir --

(CONTINUED)

MARIE

Sir, she -- I mean, he -- THEY
rejected me from your Intro class,
but they're dead wrong. They don't
know me.

*
*

Jordan simmers. Already, he doesn't like Marie.

*

PROFESSOR BRINK

That so?

MARIE

It's like you always say... "It's
not about talent, it's about drive."
Right? That's me, I could go all
the way, but I just need -- I need
the chance.

He looks her over. Long beat. Is this the moment where he
admires her grit and lets her in? No. No, it is not.

BRINK

Performing Arts is a fine program.
You can be on "Dancing with the
Stars."

With that Brink heads back into his office. Off Marie,
trying hard not to cry...

16 **EXT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - CAMPUS - THAT NIGHT**

16

Marie walks through campus, stunned and despondent all at
once. What the fuck just happened? Her life is over before
it started. She stops at one of those banners hung from lamp
posts over and over:

Golden Boy. Smiling. "What Kind of Super Are You?"

17 **EXT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - ANOTHER PART OF CAMPUS - NIGHT**

17

ANDRE. Inhales his vape. He stands before a STATUE of one
of the biggest supes of the 90's (and Andre's dad): POLARITY.

Andre stares at it. PAINED for some reason. There's deep
water beneath his devil-may-care. Stay tuned!

When SUDDENLY -- several SECURITY OFFICERS in all black gear
tear past him, hauling ass.

WOODS SECURITY GUARD

(into radio)

He's on the north lawn. We need
back up!

He looks after them, curious. What the hell is going on?

18 **EXT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - CAMPUS - NIGHT**

18

Marie. When suddenly --

(CONTINUED)

SAM, 19, RACES PAST HER! He's skinny, wan, looks like he'd lose a fight to a stiff breeze. She watches him go, surprised. Even more surprised when --

The boy runs into a phalanx of GODOLKIN SECURITY. They've got cattle prods and tranq rifles.

An UNMARKED SECURITY CAR slides to a stop in front of Sam, blocking his path. Sam doesn't stop, barreling into the car, which slides and flips over! Sam keeps running, bursting through a gate. Marie turns to a nearby guard --

*
*
*
*

MARIE
What'd he do?

WOODS SECURITY GUARD
He's tweaking on meth --

*

Sam HURLS a GUARD a hundred feet into a wall! Sam isn't just super strong, he seems MANIC.

SAM
I'm not going back to the woods,
FUCK THE WOODS!

Yup. Seems outta his skull, alright.

Sam GRABS another SCREAMING GUARD, about to TEAR HIM APART.

When Marie's instincts trigger -- without thinking, she grabs her SMALL KNIFE, draws the blade across her palm --

And just as Sam is delivering the death blow to the guard, a LASSO of BLOOD wraps around his leg! The other end emerging from Marie's HAND! It holds Sam for a second, just barely, but enough for the Guard to run.

*

Now Sam pivots to her. Furious. Savage.

MARIE
Let's just take it easy...

When a STEEL LAMP POST FLIES IN, PINS SAM to a METAL DUMPSTER -- Marie releases her blood lasso -- the blood splashes onto the ground.

*
*
*

ANDRE APPROACHES. Hand outstretched. Magnetic powers!

Sam is SO POWERFUL, he might just BREAK OUT, so a Guard races up, quickly places a PORTABLE GAS MASK over Sam's face and nose. But right before he passes out --

Let's go 48 fps. He locks FRIGHTENED, HELPLESS eyes with Marie. He looks very much like someone who needs help. Then in seconds, Sam is unconscious. Marie watches, troubled.

ANDRE
Who is he?

GODOLKIN SECURITY
Some freshman get a taste of freedom
and go nuts. Thank you.

Off Marie and Andre. Trade looks. Something is very off here. They can both sense it. Then --

19 **INT. UNKNOWN HALLWAY - NIGHT**

19

The Security drag unconscious Sam down a hallway.
Underground. MULTIPLE THICK STEEL DOORS. Yellowed musty
walls, distant screams.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

A couple decades ago, someone tried to make this place less hellish by painting a mural of TREES and cuddly woodland animals, but they're chipped and faded now, which only makes the place more unsettling.

The guards open a STEEL DOOR. Inside, stainless steel walls, a stainless steel toilet. A thin, bare mattress in the corner. As they drop Sam on the floor and exit, he rouses --

SAM
 ...please... don't leave me in here,
 please! PLEA --

They slam the steel door on him, cutting off the sound of his voice abruptly. As the guards walk away, we LAND ON --

The mural. Surreal. And... well... you look at the rows of trees... it looks like the WOODS.

19A INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - VIDEO MONITOR

19A *

Still playing Shetty's address on a loop.

*

SHETTY (ON VIDEO)
 ...Godolkin is a safe space for you
 to thrive...

*

*

*

A STUDENT wipes past frame, and we're --

*

*

20 INT. BRINK'S OFFICE - SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - NEXT DAY

20

OPEN ON a wall of PHOTOS: Brink with former students like A-Train, Deep, Maeve. The LARGEST PHOTO is Brink and Golden Boy -- arms slung around each other's shoulders, laughing.

WIDER. An office that befits the most powerful person on campus. And a brilliant mind. Crimson Tide merch. A taxidermied Big Mouth Bass he caught near Muscle Shoals. But also whiteboards dense with physics equations. Books.

Brink and Golden Boy are both here. Brink busies himself with disposing his used up tobacco wad. Packs the tin of Skoal, prepares himself another.

BRINK
 ...you remember when we first met?

GOLDEN BOY
 It's Chapter 9 of your book.

BRINK
 I sat on a folding chair in your folks' living room -- because you kept burning holes in the furniture. Shy little nuthin', could barely make eye contact. What did I say?

(CONTINUED)

GOLDEN BOY
You promised you'd always watch over
me.

BRINK
And aren't I true to my word? What
else did I say?

GOLDEN BOY
You said I'd be bigger than
Homelander.

With that, Brink takes out a BEAUTIFUL CONCEPT RENDERING of a SLEEK SUPERSUIT.

*

BRINK

Hafnium carbide alloy. Won't melt,
no matter how hot you burn. No more
showing your balls to America.

GOLDEN BOY

That thing's low-eight figures easy,
no one's gonna pay for that.

BRINK

New York already did. They're
building it as we speak.

Golden Boy's eyes widen. He knows what that means.

BRINK (CONT'D)

It'll take a couple months for the
lawyers to paper the deal... but
you're going to the Seven. No
draft, no nothing. It's done.

Golden Boy. Overwhelmed.

BRINK (CONT'D)

We did it, son. We did it.

Brink pulls Golden Boy in for a hug, emotional. Clearly
thinks of Golden Boy as his own kid. Golden Boy hugs back...
then reacts, stunned as --

GOLDEN BOY'S POV. A MASSIVE TREE TRUNK, wet with moss,
incongruously in the middle of the office. Like something
out of a Gregory Crewdson photo.

Golden Boy blinks. And it's gone. Steps back from Brink.

BRINK (CONT'D)

You okay?

GOLDEN BOY

(shaken)
What? Yeah. Yeah, I'm great.

21 **EXT. CRIMSON COUNTESS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS - DAY**

21

Like any campus, there's young activists and passionate
arguments. RUFUS and JENNY (both from the campus video)
ARGUE. Rufus is dressed in red, white, and blue -- he's a
HOMETEAMER. Jenny is in gold and white -- a STARLIGHTER.
Each have their own friends recording for Tik Tok, which is
really the point of the exercise.

JENNY

Homelander murdered the guy in broad
daylight --

(CONTINUED)

RUFUS
Defending his son! That Antifa thug
got what he deserved!

*
*

Marie and Emma cross, sipping iced coffees.

EMMA
...then security just dragged the
kid off?
(Marie nods)
It's so fucking crazy -- that you
didn't film it --

MARIE
Kinda had other stuff on my mind.

Now they pass the CRIMSON COUNTESS statue (may her memory be
a blessing). Performing Arts Center in the b.g.

EMMA
You coulda gotten a million likes.
I wish I got attacked.
(spots some people)
Oh, c'mon. They live on our floor.

Emma moves to some PERFORMING ARTS KIDS in the grass. They
may be Supes, but they look like classic theater nerds. A
fairly high ratio of Wicked and Les Miz t-shirts. Justine
(from the dorms) holds court. Marie hesitates.

EMMA (CONT'D)
Performing Arts won't be so bad.
Try to make friends like a normal
human.

Marie acquiesces, they sit on the grass beside them, as --

JUSTINE
...my guys at Innovative are sending
me out for this limited series on
Vought Plus. An elevated superhero
thing, really a meditation on grief,
told through 70 years of sit-coms.
Zach Braff is directing, we're
friends, so fingers crossed.

Marie rolls her eyes. She can smell bullshit a mile away.
But Emma is thirsty as fuck.

EMMA
Damn, my manager only sends me out
for broadcast. Justine, right? I
loved you in "Pretty/Deadly" and
"Babysitter School." I'm Emma,
that's Marie.

JUSTINE
That's so sweet, thanks. And I've
seen you in something...?

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

Nothing like you. Just a small
recurring on "Chicago Fire." Burn
victim.

*
*

JUSTINE

No, wait! You're Little Cricket!
Omigod, you're. So. Funny!

*

But Emma feels like a pratfall comedian among artistes. She
crumples a bit on the inside -- Marie watches her with
sympathy. When a cute boy, LIAM, speaks up.

LIAM

Shit. "Fun Sized with Little
Cricket." Huge fan. Your channel
is the fucking bomb.

EMMA

Thanks.

JUSTINE

(to Marie)
And where have I seen you?

MARIE

Uh. Right here. Now.
(to Emma)
I gotta go.

Marie excuses herself to go. Emma gives everyone an
embarrassed "brb" smile, follows. Out of earshot --

EMMA

What's wrong?

MARIE

I'm really sorry, no offense, but
this shit is very, very not me.

EMMA

This shit's like 90% of being a
hero. 5 kids a year score a city
contract. Rest of us? Sing and
dance and sell merch for Vought.

MARIE

But -- we're superheroes. That's
really what you want?

EMMA

I can't fight bad guys when I'm the size of a pickle, so yeah. I'm also hoping for a three-way.

Off Marie. She doesn't feel any better.

22 **EXT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - CRIME FIGHTING BLDG - AFTERNOON** 22 *

Marie looks at a campus map, frustrated.

ANDRE (O.S.)

Lost?

Marie turns, surprised to see Andre. She quickly hides her emotion, puts on a casual look.

MARIE

I got it. Thanks.

She moves off with Andre following.

ANDRE

Nice moves last night. I even came up with your superhero name. Ready? "Bloody Marie."

MARIE

That's terrible.

ANDRE

You ever see that skinny kid before? The way they dragged him off was fucked, right? *

MARIE

(shrugs)

He was out of control. *

ANDRE

(maybe, then)

What about "Coagula"?

MARIE

Even worse.

ANDRE

I'll keep workshopping. Show you what I come up with tonight. A few of us are going on a little field trip. Off campus. Golden Boy, me, a couple others. You should come. *

Marie can NOT believe she's being invited to a night out with Andre -- and Golden Boy!!

MARIE

Me? Out with -- you guys? *

(CONTINUED)

ANDRE

That's how socializing usually
works, yeah.

MARIE

We'd be breaking curfew.

(CONTINUED)

ANDRE

If we're caught. Which we won't be.

*

MARIE

Thanks for the invite, but no. I can't afford the trouble.

ANDRE

Crimefighting Building at 10, if you change your mind.

Marie, once he turns away, drops her façade, we see she's absolutely FLOORED by this attention --

EMMA (PRE-LAP)

THIS IS ME, CHANGING YOUR FUCKING MIND RIGHT FUCKING NOW!

23 INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - MARIE & EMMA'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT 23

Emma, who might pee from excitement, hugs a long body pillow against her, wrapping her arms and legs around it.

EMMA

You have a chance to go party with Golden Boy and you aren't sure? Are you insane?

MARIE

I think he has a girlfriend, right?

Emma grinds against the pillow as she talks.

EMMA

Yes and she's hot OH MY GOD you're gonna have a three way YOU'RE LIVING MY DREAM!

MARIE

Then you go.

EMMA

I wasn't invited. This is a huge opportunity for you and much more importantly for me. You get in good with those guys, that means I will!

MARIE

You don't get the world-ending trouble I'll be in if I'm busted.
(off Emma, huh?)
My Dad is really strict. Point is, I can't fuck up.

(CONTINUED)

EMMA

You won't, I swear on my Hebrew God.
Look I'm gonna be jerking off about
this all night, so if you don't go
just be prepared for that
experience.

Marie sees she is not getting out of this.

MARIE

I -- I don't have anything to wear.

EMMA

Please borrow WHATEVER you want from
my closet.

Emma opens her closet -- it's PACKED with high end clothes,
with sections for ADULT SIZED, CHILD SIZED, DOLL SIZED.
Marie reacts -- it's more clothes than she's ever seen.

EMMA (CONT'D)

I'm thinking something sparkly
paired with leather. Says cute, a
little edgy, and hot as fuck. And
fun. But mostly hot as fuck.

*
*
*
*

She pulls out a sparkly top and pair of black leather pants.

*

EMMA (CONT'D)

So you need to just load up your
legs with vaseline to put these on,
cool? I'll help you get out of them
tonight.

*
*
*
*
*

MARIE

How am I supposed to pee?

*

EMMA

You never do! Like literally never!

*

Marie takes the outfit from Emma. A little overwhelmed, but
grateful for her roomie.

*
*

24 **EXT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - NIGHT**

24

Marie, rocking her cute/edgy outfit, nervously approaches
Andre, Golden Boy, CATE (junior, edgy, cool AF, and wears old
fashioned women's gloves for some reason), and Jordan, who
currently appears as a MALE.

*

ANDRE

Ladies and Gentleman, God U's
freshman phenom, "Blood Drive!"

MARIE

You're bad at names.

(CONTINUED)

ANDRE
(to his friends)
This is Marie, the one I was telling
you about.

GOLDEN BOY
I'm Luke. That's Cate.

Marie feels a swarm of butterflies at Golden Boy's attention.

MARIE
I know who you are, I know every --
(nervous laugh)
Uhh, nice to meet you.

Marie exchanges a nervous smile with Cate.

MARIE (CONT'D)
Those gloves are awesome. Did you
just come from Downton Abbey?

CATE
No, I don't have any thumbs.
(off Marie's reaction)
Fucking with you.

GOLDEN BOY
And that's Jordan.

Jordan and Marie eyefuck each other. Still a lot of mutual animosity from their earlier interaction in Brink's office.

JORDAN
Yeah. We've met.

MARIE
You want to reject me from this
outing too?

JORDAN
Definitely.

ANDRE
(to Jordan)
Okay let's go. Ovary up your
situation bitch, our ratio is
fucked, we will never get past the
doorman.

JORDAN
That's bigendered exploitation,
motherfucker.

CATE
I'll handle the doorman.

GOLDEN BOY
C'mon, we're taking my car.

25 **OMITTED**

25

26 **INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - MARIE & EMMA'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT** 26

In contrast, Emma is alone. Sits at her computer, doom scrolls through the comments on her "Fun Sized" channel. The comments FLOAT PAST HER in the air.

*No one cares this was funny when I was 7
so booooooring kill yourself*

She looks to David Caruso for support. Sighs.

And then... a new comment appears. The screen name is FlyGuy69. *Hey! We met today, your biggest fan, remember? Hit me up if you ever wanna hang. FlyGuy69@vcloud.com*

*
*
*

Emma's whole day just got better. She pulls out her phone and messages him back.

27 **EXT. NEW YORK CITY - NIGHT** 27

HELICOPTER SHOT. Soaring past the skyscrapers towards... SEVEN TOWER. Shining like the beacon it is.

28 **EXT. SEVEN TOWER - ROOFTOP - NIGHT** 28

CLOSE ON: a SECURITY CAMERA, in an isolated, hidden part of the rooftop, behind giant AC UNITS. The camera PIVOTS AWAY.

REVEAL: Andre magnetically moves the camera away from the kids. Cate does a bump of coke, then offers some to Jordan, who happily partakes. Golden Boy is with them, holding a bottle of Jäger. He looks, noticing --

MARIE. Stands alone near the edge of the roof. Looking out over the city. An endless constellation of glinting jewels. She's never seen anything quite so beautiful.

Golden Boy strolls up behind her, holding out the bottle.

GOLDEN BOY
Want some? Nectar of the Gods.

MARIE
Oh, um, no thank you.
(Marie looks over the edge)
And please don't ever fly me up the side of a building again.

GOLDEN BOY
No promises.

Beat. She's nervous. She idolizes him. Crushes on him too.

MARIE

Can't believe I'm at Seven Tower.

GOLDEN BOY

Lemme guess. You were 6 years old in a Maeve costume, dreaming about making the Seven.

MARIE

I mean, now I do. But no, I didn't even know I had powers till I was 12.

GOLDEN BOY

Really?

MARIE

My parents gave me V as a baby, but it didn't hit till puberty.

GOLDEN BOY

They must've been excited.

MARIE

(half beat)

Thrilled. It's still the only thing my Dad talks about, brags to the guys in his pick up game and...

She looks at Golden Boy. He's so open and genuine. Beat.

MARIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I'm lying. My parents died. I don't know why I do that.

GOLDEN BOY

My brother passed away too.

MARIE

I'm sorry.

(off his nod of thanks)

That's why I'm here. At this school. For my sister. I wanna prove to her that I'm not...

*
*
*

She trails off. She's not what? A murderer? A monster? A FLARE of pain that she pushes back down.

GOLDEN BOY

Can I give you some advice that you're not at all asking for?

MARIE

Please.

(CONTINUED)

GOLDEN BOY

Being a hero... it's not what you think. If you're gonna do it, make sure you do it for you.

Marie takes him in. He looks... SAD. And, not gonna lie, there's some SPARKS HERE. Are they gonna kiss?? When --

Marie breaks the moment, takes the Jäger -- swigs --

MARIE

Ugh! That's disgusting!

GOLDEN BOY

It's like licorice.

MARIE

Licorice jammed up Satan's asshole!

Golden Boy laughs. Off this --

29 **INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - MARIE & EMMA'S DORM - NIGHT** 29

Emma and Liam (the cute drama boy) fall back into bed. All over each other.

He pulls her shirt over head, then takes off his own. Emma checks out his six-pack and climbs on top of him.

LIAM

Can't believe it. Little Cricket!
I used to jerk off to you when I was fourteen.

EMMA

That's so sweet.

He kisses her, rolls on top of her, but stops. Like he's had the most amazing idea in the history of amazing ideas.

LIAM

Can we try something? I don't want you to think I'm weird.

EMMA

You're not weird.

LIAM

Would you... get little?

Emma wasn't expecting this. She tries not to kill the mood.

EMMA

Oh... yeah, you know that wouldn't actually work? Because of like... anatomy?

(CONTINUED)

LIAM
(laughs)
Yeah, obviously, not that!

EMMA
It's just... it's not so easy for me
to get little. But what we're doing
now is great, right?

He traces a finger down her sternum.

LIAM
You... sexy and small... hanging off
my cock... you'd be so fucking hot.
Please?

You can see the moment where Emma flips the switch, turns on
her Little Cricket persona. Everything is great.

EMMA
Awesome. Wait here. It'll take me
a minute.

She gets out of bed, grabs an already-packed duffel, and
heads for the door.

30 INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - BATHROOM STALL - NIGHT 30 *

Emma enters, checks the stalls for feet -- no one there. She
looks the bathroom door. *

IN THE STALL, Emma locks that door as well, and opens the
duffle bag. This is a ritual. It is done the same way every
single time. We see it in JUMP CUTS. *

First out: a folded towel. Which goes in front of the toilet
bowl for her knees. A second towel is set on the toilet roll
holder -- that's to wipe her mouth.

A hair clip snapped in place -- to hold back her hair.

And then she undresses. Shoves the clothes in the duffel,
and stashes the duffel behind the toilet -- she'll come back
for that later.

On her knees. Takes a breath. Two fingers down her throat.

As she begins to vomit, we PAN AWAY from her toward the wall.
After a moment of vomiting, a hand reaches into frame to
flush -- smaller than before.

Emma is now about HALF HER SIZE. She wipes her mouth on the
hand towel. And begins again.

31 INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - MARIE & EMMA'S DORM ROOM - NIGHT 31 *

Liam, laying on his back on the bed, moans in ecstasy.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

LIAM

Fuck. That's so great. Squeeze a
little harder.

(CONTINUED)

CLOSE ON TINY EMMA

As she holds onto Liam's GIGANTIC DICK. Like hugging a heavy punching bag. The hairs are getting in her eyes and mouth. She squeezes -- hard.

*

EMMA
How's that?

Liam gasps. That fucking hurts.

LIAM
Ooo, little less, little less.
Great. Now kick my balls.

EMMA
Uh... okay.

Emma winds up and gives him a solid KICK right in the nuts. Liam cries out in pain.

EMMA (CONT'D)
Like that?

LIAM
Is this the biggest dick you've ever seen?

EMMA
I mean... yeah, relatively.

LIAM
Say it.

EMMA
(so little enthusiasm)
Your dick is really huge.

Off Emma. Mad at herself. She always does this. She tries so hard to be liked, that she doesn't like herself.

32 INT. SKYSCRAPER CLUB - NIGHT

32 *

Our group enters a fancy and exclusive lounge on the 40th floor. It's packed with young people drinking, there's a dance floor.

*

CLOSE ON MARIE. Her first night partying. Ever.

GOLDEN BOY
Okay. Low-pro. And no powers. Or it'll be our asses, seriously.

JORDAN
Like they'd do anything to your golden ass but lick it.

(CONTINUED)

As they approach the MAITRE'D at his station, Cate elegantly tugs off a GLOVE.

MAITRE'D
Good evening. Reservation under?

CATE
We don't have one --

CLOSE ON: Cate steps forward and gently touches his hand.

CATE (CONT'D)
-- but you don't give a fuck, right?

MAITRE'D
I do not give a fuck. Follow me.

Marie looks at Cate as she puts the glove back on -- Cate is a PUSHER -- she can make anyone do anything by touching them.

MARIE
No powers, huh?

CATE
That was just my natural charm.

We don't make a big deal out of it, but we may notice that every time Cate 'pushes,' she pops a blood vessel in her eye.

They follow the Maitre'D into the club. Golden Boy keeps his face down so as not to be seen. Marie takes in the young people partying all around her. They sit in a booth; Manhattan twinkles outside the window behind them. *

Andre holds up a small bag of white powder. *

ANDRE
You guys in?

MARIE
Is that cocaine?

JORDAN
We finished the coke. That's molly. *

GOLDEN BOY
(to Marie)
I don't fuck with powders. *

(CONTINUED)

Golden Boy holds up a tiny little shroom stem.

GOLDEN BOY (CONT'D)
I just micro-dose shrooms.

Golden Boy pops it in his mouth.

JORDAN
So... whattaya say, freshman?

MARIE
Yeah. No, thanks. *

CATE
I could take off my glove and make
you. I won't, cause I'm all about
consent, but I could, so you should.

Cate is interesting. Mischievous. A little wild. The
reverse psychology works wonders on Marie --

Marie hesitantly takes a tiny dip of molly. She holds it up
to Andre who nods, affirming it's an appropriate amount, then
she puts it in her mouth. Cate takes Marie's arm.

CATE (CONT'D)
Yes! Now let's dance!

As Cate drags Marie onto the dance floor, and they get lost
in the crowd -- *

33 **GOLDEN BOY AND ANDRE**

33

At the table. JORDAN -- now female -- joins them with three
shots.

ANDRE
Wait. You fucking changed? Why?

JORDAN
I fucking felt like it.
(re: shots)
Also free drinks.

They down the shots, slam the glasses onto the table. Andre
looks at Golden Boy.

ANDRE
The Seven. The fucking Seven!

GOLDEN BOY
Keep it down, dude.

(CONTINUED)

ANDRE

You'll invite me over, right? I
crush hard on A-Train. A speedster
in bed? Fuuuuck.

GOLDEN BOY

Making a mental note right now to
never invite you over.

JORDAN

This is the least surprising
surprise ever, but congrats. When
do you start?

GOLDEN BOY

You mean, when am I outta school and
you can be ranked number one?

JORDAN

Please. I mean, that'd be great.
Trustees think I'm "too confusing."
No way I'm number one. *

ANDRE

Trustees put your ass in the
orientation video.

JORDAN

So they could suck their own dicks
about how progressive they are.

GOLDEN BOY

Brink carries a lotta weight with
them, and he loves you, you're like
his son-slash-daughter. I think you
got a shot. *

JORDAN

It's gonna be Andre, much as it
pisses me off. Does fuck-all and
gets ten times as many followers. *

ANDRE

Uh, to be clear, all that
responsibility? And working with my
dad? All yours. Fuck that. I will
cheer you on as I continue to suck
and fuck my little heart out. *

Andre hugs Golden Boy, squeezing him tight.

ANDRE (CONT'D)

But you worked your ass off for this
man. I'm proud of you. Fuckin'
love you, man. *

Golden Boy hugs him back. These kids care about each other.

34 CONTINUED:

34

35 **MARIE AND CATE**

35

CLOSE ON MARIE DANCING, as the molly hits. Suddenly, the music takes on a new dimension, as her eyes roll back in pleasure.

*

CATE

Oh shit. Someone's rolling.

MARIE

I think maybe definitely.

REVEAL GOLDEN BOY

Zoned out watching as Cate and Marie dance. He wanders through the crowd, head down so he isn't recognized. Enjoying his trip. Observes humanity with an almost childlike awe. Friends chatting. A couple arguing. Others hugging. But all of them -- FREE. Free in a way he'll never be. He's having a real moment. CAMERA WRAPS AROUND HIM --

REVEALING TREES between the tables. Then more. Thicker. The club sounds fade away, replaced by wind. Pretty soon, he's standing in a DARK FOREST. He's just as bewildered by this as we are -- as a voice calls to him --

MYSTERIOUS VOICE (O.S.)

Luke? Luke? Where are you?

Suddenly he SNAPS OUT OF IT -- he's back at the club. Off Golden Boy, bewildered -- what the FUCK was that?

36 **OMITTED**

36

37 **ANDRE**

37

Pretty high and drunk at this point, roams around searching for someone to hit on. He sizes up a few different men and women, settling on a gorgeous YOUNG WOMAN at a table.

ANDRE

How can you possibly be left alone
right now? Am I the first guy to
think of hitting on you?
Statistically this seems impossible.

*
*
*
*

YOUNG WOMAN

I'm waiting for my boyfriend.

*

He pulls out a quarter.

ANDRE

Okay, okay, fair enough. How 'bout
heads I leave, tails I stay?

*
*

She is beyond disinterested at this point. He flips the coin and... it STOPS in MID-AIR and HOVERS. Her jaw drops in amazement. Then the coin flattens, spreads out, and folds into a thin metallic origami crane. Now she's interested.

YOUNG WOMAN

You're a Supe.

ANDRE

Or the world's greatest magician.
Supe's a lot sexier though so let's
go with that.

*
*
*

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG WOMAN
So is that all the bird can do?

He looks around and spots an older guy drinking cognac out of a large snifter.

ANDRE
See old balls over there? If I can land this little birdie in his cup, will you agree to maybe go home with me but at worst hit the dance floor with me?

*
*
*
*
*

She can't help but smile. Andre blows on the metal bird; it's wings start to flap. The girl smiles, amazed.

The bird slowly moves forward, but since Andre is properly fucked up, its flight path is pretty wobbly.

When suddenly a drunk guy accidentally bumps into him and Andre loses focus, causing the metal crane to DART into the NECK of a WOMAN AT THE BAR! SLASHING her CAROTID!

*
*

WOMAN AT THE BAR!
AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!

Blood SPURTS out, spraying in Andre's face.

ANDRE
AHHHHH!!!!

38 **CATE, MARIE, GOLDEN BOY**

38

They all dance, oblivious, as behind them Andre is rushing to help the screaming woman, blood spurting out of her neck. People around them get sprayed with blood and panic spreads. Finally, our heroes HEAR the SCREAMS. Pivot to see --

ANDRE, unsure what he should do. Golden Boy, Marie, and Cate rush over. Shocked. Andre is covered in blood --

ANDRE
She won't stop bleeding! I think I hit an artery --

Now male Jordan joins them, one beat behind.

JORDAN
Oh my god what the hell happened?

ANDRE
I... someone bumped me and I --

Regarding Golden Boy, it is not -- repeat NOT -- awesome to be tripping on shrooms during a full on medical emergency.

GOLDEN BOY
This is bad, this is really bad --

(CONTINUED)

ANDRE
She's gonna die isn't she?

The bleeding girl's eyes go wide at this. She tries to scream, but she can't vocalize any sounds. Instead, more blood squirts out of her wound!

Jordan grabs a napkin, tries to stem the blood. No good.

JORDAN
We have to call 911.

CATE
They won't get here in time!

ANDRE
FUCK!

The club is in chaos. The music stops. The house lights come up. Marie looks at the woman's wound; it undulates as things do on drugs. *

She's hit with a crashing wave of anxiety. This is how her Mom died. The same body position. They even look alike. *

CATE
We should go. We should just get the fuck out of here.

GOLDEN BOY
This is so fucking bad.

CATE
GUYS LET'S GO!!

MARIE is utterly overwhelmed. It seems like she's going to freak out... but she pushes past the drugs and FOCUSES. NO. She's not a little girl anymore. She's not gonna let this woman die like her Mom died! She holds out her hand.

Suddenly -- the WOMAN'S BLOOD SEEMINGLY COMES TO LIFE. Swirling and twisting in the air... some SUCKS BACK into her neck... some HARDENS and COAGULATES over the wound...

The bleeding stops. The woman is unconscious. But alive. Marie crouches down, feels for a pulse --

MARIE
She needs a hospital, but I think she'll be... she'll live.

Marie takes a few deep breathes, then it hits her -- she just saved this woman! She smiles. She saved someone! In some way, it even helps assuage her guilt over her Mom.

CROWD
She's a supe!/ What's your name?/
You're a hero!

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED: (2)

38

Camera phones everywhere. Give Marie a moment of pride, of GENUINE HAPPINESS. But she doesn't really notice how Andre, Jordan, Cate and Golden Boy all back away, hide their faces.

39 **EXT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - NEXT MORNING - TO ESTABLISH** 39

40 **INT. GODOLKIN U. - GOLDEN BOY'S DORM ROOM - NEXT MORNING** 40

Cate sleeps, huddled against Golden Boy on his single cot. Hung over and awake, he gingerly untangles from her. Moves to the mini-fridge. He opens the door and reaches inside when he hears the sounds of BIRDS and other woodland noises. He looks up to --

The walls are trees. The room is trees. He's alone in the woods again. Except -- he's not alone.

MYSTERIOUS VOICE (O.S.)

Luke?

A FIGURE EMERGES from the TREES -- a frightened BOY, 10.

BOY

It's not a dream. It's real.
Please help me.

Golden Boy SNAPS back to the room. Panting heavily. Eyes wild. Almost like something finally broke loose. What does it all mean? Watch Season 1 on Prime, all will be revealed!

41 **INT. GODOLKIN UNIVERSITY - MARIE & EMMA'S DORM ROOM - DAY** 41

OPEN ON: INSTAGRAM PHOTOS of MARIE SAVING that woman. From different POV's. Along with scrawled text like "YAAS HERO" and "#BLACKGIRLMAGIC."

Marie scrolls through Emma's computer, thrilled. Emma sits on the bed beside her --

EMMA

Sure you're a hero, but I'm the one who made you go, so in a very real way, I'm the hero.

Marie allows herself a moment of openness and connection.

MARIE

You're my hero. Sorry for all the blood on your clothes.

*

EMMA

Worth it. So what did Golden Boy smell like? Like cookies, right? Cookies and hope?

A KNOCK on their door. Marie opens it. It's a FLOATING PAIR of GLASSES. MAVERICK the R.A.

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

MAVERICK

Marie, right? Professor Brink's
office called, he wants to see you.

(CONTINUED)

MARIE
You mean, now? And -- just me?

MAVERICK
I don't know. Also, I'm not your
assistant, get a fucking phone.

He exits. Marie and Emma buzz -- Brink? A personal meeting?

EMMA
Dude! He's seen Instagram, you're
in his class for sure!

42 INT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - BRINK'S OFFICE - DAY 42

Marie sits before Brink, at his desk.

BRINK
Marie. You saved that girl's life.
Good for you.

MARIE
Thank you, sir.

Then, as he packs his Skoal --

BRINK
Kid, I've dedicated my life to
studying Superheroes. Three
Masters, countless hours, I'd say I
know more about Supes than just
about any soul alive. But you know
who's got 'em all beat? Fred
McCallister of Scarborough, UK.

MARIE
(that's a curveball)
Sir? Who's that?

BRINK
Just some powerless schmuck. His
dog Arnold jumps into the ocean,
starts to go under. So Fred dives
into the drink, saves his mutt, but
drowns in the process.
(then)
That's what most superheroes, even
the big ones, don't get. Bein' a
real hero isn't about glory. It's
about sacrifice. Do you understand?

MARIE
I think so...

BRINK
Good. Cause -- and I can't tell you
how sorry I am about this -- but
you're expelled.

(CONTINUED)

The world suddenly tilts off its axis --

MARIE

...what...?

Brink delivers all of this gently. Genuinely feels for her.

BRINK

Golden Boy, Andre and Jordan,
they're going all the way, could
save thousands of people. But not
if TMZ finds out they almost let a
woman bleed to death, cause they
were high. Someone's gotta take the
hit, you get that, right?

(then)

You saved that woman, but you
accidentally slit her throat first.
That's grounds for removal.

MARIE

What?! Wait, just -- wait. I
didn't -- you can't kick me out --

BRINK

I really am sorry. I like you, for
what it's worth.

MARIE

No, you don't understand, I can't go
back, they're gonna send me to this,
this adult facility that --

BRINK

You're a resourceful girl, I'm sure
you'll figure it out. But Marie,
you're wasting your time here.
Those blood powers are a non-starter
in Middle America. No four quadrant
appeal.

MARIE

(ouch, weakly)

...you're wrong...

BRINK

But you're gonna save your friends.
Like that English fella. That's
more hero than most Supes ever
manage, that's something.

MARIE

...what if I say no?

BRINK

(with sympathy)

You're an orphan who murdered her
parents, kiddo. I'm afraid you
don't got much choice.

(CONTINUED)

42 CONTINUED: (2)

42

Holy SHIT was that a gut punch. A tear down Marie's cheek.

43 **EXT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - DAY**

43

Emma waits outside, excited, as Marie storms out. Wiping the tears, so she doesn't look weak.

EMMA

What'd he say?

MARIE

Why'd you make me go out?? I knew I shouldn't have gone!

EMMA

Whoa, what happened --

MARIE

I didn't ask for this! For you!
Just leave me alone!

Marie storms off, leaving hurt Emma in her wake.

44 **EXT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - ALLEY - DAY**

44

Marie rushes into the back alley for some privacy. Tears stream down her cheeks.

She leans against the wall, drops into a crouching position. Takes out her pocket knife. She rubs her thumb over the carved hummingbird on the hilt.

*
*

INTERCUT WITH: MEMORY FLASHES. Young Marie in the bathroom. Her parents dead. Blood everywhere. Annabeth watches her from the doorway. Young Marie stands. Reaches out for her sister. But Annabeth backs away. Marie tries again, crying.

YOUNG MARIE

Annabeth... please...

ANNABETH

...you killed them...

YOUNG MARIE

...it's me...

ANNABETH

(crying now)

Stay away from me! You're... you're a monster...

PRESENT. Marie considers the knife in her hand. Puts the tip to her palm. And slowly, deliberately slices a deep cut. The blood twirls up into the air in impressionistic fractals. Its her way to self-soothe. She's a cutter.

*
*
*
*

Climactically... CRASH! MARIE'S BLOOD TENDRILS LASH OUT, WHIP GARBAGE CANS across the alley into a wall --

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

Marie. Crying. So quiet we can barely hear --

(CONTINUED)

MARIE

I'm... I'm not a monster...

Then... we see the determination return to her face. She steels herself, climbs to her feet, HEADS BACK TO BRINK.

45 INT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - OUTSIDE BRINK'S OFFICE - DAY 45

Female Jordan EXITS Brink's office, holding some files. Passing Golden Boy, who heads in.

JORDAN

Hey, man. How you feel? Cause I'm sweating cocaine.

Golden Boy barely acknowledges Jordan, something on his mind. And in his head, we begin to hear a cacophony of voices -- overlapping, almost indistinguishable (which we will later understand are his memories returning to him). He opens Brink's door, enters -- Brink smiles at him --

*
*
*

46 INT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - FURTHER DOWN THE HALL - CONT. 46

Jordan keeps moving. Now Marie rounds the corner, marches the opposite way to BRINK'S OFFICE. Marie glares at Jordan.

MARIE

Do you know? What Brink's doing to protect you?

JORDAN

What're you talking about?

Marie keeps moving. Jordan pivots to watch Marie go -- what's gotten into her? But continues on their way.

Marie reaches the door, locks in on the brass NAMEPLATE outside: PROFESSOR BRINKERHOFF. Marie takes a beat, steels her nerves, throws open the door -- when she's BLINDED by a BURST of WHITE LIGHT, forcing her to shield her eyes...

Hit by a rolling wave of intense heat. *And stench.*

The bright light fades to reveal GOLDEN BOY -- hugging Brink, a fixed look of agony on his face. The professor is charred to a fucking CRISP in his arms.

Holy shit -- Golden Boy killed Brink!

Golden Boy releases his tight grip, allows Brink's burnt body to crumple apart. A tinge of remorse, over his dead mentor. Golden Boy is naked, his clothes have completely burned away.

WIDER. A horrified Marie in the open doorway, repulsed by the sight of barbecued Brinkerhoff.

Then Golden Boy turns and locks eyes with Marie. Startled. *Oh no.* He wasn't expecting to get caught.

(CONTINUED)

GOLDEN BOY
Marie. Shit. I had to do this.

MARIE

I didn't see anything.

GOLDEN BOY

You don't understand what Brink did!
You don't know about the woods!

Now she really reacts -- THE WOODS? That's what the other kid said! But she's got a bigger problem at the moment.

GOLDEN BOY (CONT'D)

Please. He fell asleep with a lit Camel -- burned himself.

MARIE

Yes. For sure. Our secret.

Beat. He looks hard at Marie. Suspicious. *

GOLDEN BOY

You knew. *

MARIE

What? *

GOLDEN BOY

You're in on it too... *

Golden Boy sounds very much like someone who has lost all grasp on reality. And Marie knows she doesn't stand a chance against him. She turns on a dime and takes off. *

47 **INT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS**

47

Jordan heads into a wider part of the hall. When Marie rounds the corner, RACING for dear life. Passing Jordan --

MARIE

RUN!

Marie keeps going. But Jordan looks behind. What the fuck?

AS GOLDEN BOY ROUNDS the CORNER, NUDE, STRIDING AFTER MARIE. Jordan blocks his way.

JORDAN

Uh, Luke, what's going on? And maybe put your dick away?

GOLDEN BOY

Move!

JORDAN

Not until you chill out.

GOLDEN BOY

You're in on it too! You all knew! *

(CONTINUED)

JORDAN
Luke -- wait --

*
*

Golden Boy's arm FLAMES ON, he EXTENDS IT -- FIRES A BLAST at Jordan! Then Jordan TRANSFORMS INTO A MAN. Right before they catch the blast full in the chest. But they remain steady. As a male, Jordan is indestructible. Tank-like. Heavy. Their feet crunch down into the floor tiles as they slide back, knocking into Marie.

JORDAN (CONT'D)
(to Marie)
Go! Now!

Marie takes off as Jordan TRANSFORMS BACK INTO A WOMAN, nimble and light, and releases a ENERGY BLAST.

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED: (2)

47

The fight continues like this for a few beats -- Jordan switching back and forth gracefully -- absorbing blows as a man, firing back as a woman. Holy shit, Jordan is STELLAR.

At one point, Female Jordan, agile, ducks a swing, LANDS A MASSIVE BLOW to GOLDEN BOY'S FLAMING, UNCIRCUMCISED DICK. *

CLOSE ON THE DICK. Don't worry, it's all CGI, nothing real! As it trembles and quakes in agonizing, fiery 60 f.p.s. *

Golden Boy doubles over, that fucking HURTS. Recovers. *

Then LIFTS JORDAN -- HURLING THEM up some WIDE STEPS, CRASHING THROUGH the GLASS. (NOTE: this bit was shot. Rest of fight continues as shot). *

48 **EXT. SCHOOL OF CRIMEFIGHTING - CONTINUOUS**

48

STUDENTS pass, couple MAINTENANCE GUYS fix something -- including RON, 70, grandfatherly, beloved by the kids.

And Andre, holding a TURBO RUSH, irritated as he's filmed by SOCIAL MEDIA JEFF and the CAMERAPERSON.

ANDRE

Can we do this later? I'm still drunk from last night.

SOCIAL MEDIA JEFF

That's good! Take a sip, say Turbo Rush cures hang overs.

ANDRE

Jeff, I wouldn't pour this on my dick if it cured cancer.

RON

(laughing)
What if it cured genital warts?

ANDRE

(suppresses a laugh too)
Fuck you, Ron. This isn't funny!

When Marie HAULS ASS out the door, running for dear life!

ANDRE (CONT'D)

Marie?

The BLAZING HUMAN TORCH that is Golden Boy BLASTS through the window. Chasing her. Andre JUMPS between Golden Boy and Marie.

ANDRE (CONT'D)

Whoa! STOP!

Just as it seems Golden Boy might burst through Andre, he halts on a dime and turns his flames OFF.

(CONTINUED)

ANDRE (CONT'D)
What the fuck??

 MARIE
He *pant* killed Brink.

 ANDRE
Bullshit.

MARIE
He fucking killed him.

ANDRE
Luke?

Golden Boy has no response. Andre can't believe it. No choice but to get into a defensive stance. Marie draws a GNARLY BLOOD SICKLE from her cut hand. They're both pretty scared. But ready.

Golden Boy. This whole thing has gone so wrong. Seeing Andre ready to strike. Sees Social Media Jeff and the Cameraperson, stunned, but still filming all of it. Sees MULTIPLE STUDENTS, Ron and the other MAINTENANCE GUY, EVERYONE -- filming on a DOZEN PHONES. It's all out in the open now.

*
*

GOLDEN BOY
This wasn't how it was supposed to happen. Not like this.

ANDRE
Hey, hey, easy. Let's just talk, man. Fuck everyone else, right? Just me and you. I love you man, you know that.

Golden Boy nods. Then, lunges forward and throws his arms around ANDRE -- *oh no!* The burning *hug of death...*

MARIE
No!

But Golden Boy just gives his friend a real hug.

GOLDEN BOY
I love you too.

Then Golden Boy leans forward, WHISPERS something in Andre's ear. We don't hear, but Andre's BEWILDERED. What'd he say?

Then Golden Boy stumbles back, takes in all the onlookers. All the cameras.

GOLDEN BOY (CONT'D)
I'm so fucking sorry.

Golden Boy FLAMES ON and SHOOTS UP into the SKY like a comet.

CLOSE ON GOLDEN BOY. BURNING HOTTER and HOTTER. Hotter than he's ever been. His skin sizzles and chars.

Marie and Andre watch, horrified, as --

Finally Golden Boy ignites into a MASSIVE EXPLOSION -- bursting into a sphere of FLAMES -- KILLING HIMSELF!

Andre. Shaken to his core...

(CONTINUED)

CLOSE UP on Marie: blood, viscera, and ash rains down on her shocked face. Unmoored. Overwhelmed. Overcome with worry and one terrible thought pounding away in her brain...

What the FUCK is this place?

SMASH TO BLACK.

TO BE CONTINUED...

EXTENDED EP. 101, SC. 8 "GODOLKIN ORIENTATION VIDEO"

NEW CONTENT IS IN **BOLD FONT**

8 THE GODOLKIN ORIENTATION VIDEO

8

Over an inspirational (but budget-friendly!) song --

B-Roll footage of Godolkin University campus and classrooms
intercut with TALKING HEADS:

GOLDEN BOY

Godolkin was always kinda a dream
school.

*
*
*

RUFUS

No one applies to Godolkin thinking
they're gonna get accepted.

JEREMY

I applied, just, fingers crossed.

JORDAN

And as soon as it came in, I was a
little too scared to click the
button.

MAVERICK

Saw the word congratulations and
then literally dropped my computer.

RUFUS

Called my mom like halfway crying.
"Mom, I got accepted into God U."

JEREMY

There were already people from the
first week that I was really
comfortable with.

JORDAN

I just instantly fell in love with
it. I knew this was where I
belonged for these four years.

PROFESSOR BRINK

I know there must be many thoughts
going through your mind. About
whether this is the right place for
you. Whether you belong here.

(MORE)

PROFESSOR BRINK (CONT'D)

Let me assure you, we see something
in you, you might not even see in
yourself. Even if you have X-ray
vision.

Then a MONTAGE of STUDENTS. Some are characters we'll soon
meet.

RUFUS

(eyes glow)

I'm super focused.

JORDAN

(transforms from male to
female)

I'm super inclusive.

MAVERICK

(floating pair of
glasses)

I'm super curious.

JEREMY

(her wheelchair hovers)

I'm super abled.

CUT TO: DEAN INDIRA SHETTY, casually strolling across the
quad.

DEAN SHETTY

What kind of super are you? I'm
Dean Indira Shetty. Congratulations,
and welcome to Godolkin University.
We've trained the best and brightest
young heroes since 1965. But more
than that, we're a family.

B-ROLL of clearly staged, sanitized STUDENTS. A WIDE SHOT of
two KIDS chatting on campus -- out of thin air, a THIRD
STUDENT FLASHES into existence next to them (teleportation!),
joining the conversation.

DEAN SHETTY (CONT'D)

A community of supportive faculty
and peers who will accept you as
the unique, culturally rich 'change
agent' that you are.

B-ROLL of classes in session. Also clean, orderly, staged.
PROFESSOR BRINK makes a compelling point to his class. One
of the kids is encircled in GREEN LIGHTNING.

DEAN SHETTY (V.O.)

You'll begin with challenging but meaningful core curriculum such as "Hero Ethics" and "Understanding Branding."

CUT TO: another class practices actorly mirroring exercises in a black box theater.

DEAN SHETTY (V.O.)

After that, you'll declare your major, joining either the Lamplighter School of Crimefighting, or the Crimson Countess Center for the Performing Arts.

We see shots of both schools. Crimefighting is a STATE OF THE ART BUILDING. Performing Arts is classic Ivy League.

CUT TO: JORDAN walking the halls of Crimefighting.

JORDAN

Then you can become the best crimefighter you can be, with classes like "Victimology" and "Self Offense."

CUT TO: MAVERICK (floating glasses) walking the halls of Performing Arts.

MAVERICK

Or if you're on the Entertainment Track, you can become the celebrity Superhero you've always dreamed of with classes like "Movement: Your Life is Your Stage" and "The History of Acting: From Stanislavski to Bourke."

CUT TO: JORDAN walking through the Statue Garden.

JORDAN

And it's all right here, on a world class campus, with everything a Superhero needs.

CUT TO: RUFUS and B-Roll of the DORMS.

RUFUS

Like our comfortable dorms,
featuring community rooms with big
screen TVs and access to all of
Vought's networks, like Vought
News, so you can get fair and
balanced news any time of day.

CUT TO: DEAN SHETTY and B-Roll of the STUDENT UNION food
court.

*

DEAN SHETTY

And the Food Court at the Student
Union, where you'll find a Vought-a-
Burger, a Jitter Bean, and even a
Vought Fresh Farms Cafe, featuring
a 24/7 salad bar stocked with the
finest organic fruits and veggies
Vought Fresh Farms has to offer.

*

CUT TO: JORDAN, MAVERICK, RUFUS, and JEREMY. ZOOM OUT to
reveal they're surrounded by other kids in the CAFETERIA.
But they all look oddly serious...

MAVERICK

And you'll do it all alongside
other young Superheroes, just like
you.

JORDAN

So you'll make lots of friends
along the way.

REVERSE to reveal they're all staring up at the RANKINGS
BOARD, fingers crossed, eyeing each other suspiciously.

Then we CUT BACK TO Shetty in the Godolkin Student Union.

DEAN SHETTY

So whether you want to walk the
mean streets or the red carpet,
Godolkin is a safe space for you to
thrive.

Then finally, for the big finish, the video cuts to GOLDEN
BOY. A chyron says "Golden Boy. Senior. Ranked #1." His
eyes twinkle.

GOLDEN BOY

We're super excited to meet you.

He FLARES with GOLDEN SUN LIGHT, BLOWING OUT THE FRAME --

FADE TO WHITE.

Then the text on screen...

What kind of Super are you?
Find out at Godolkin University.

CUT TO BLACK.

EXTENDED EP. 101, SC. 8 "GODOLKIN ORIENTATION VIDEO"

BRINK DIALOGUE TO BE USED BENEATH SHETTY'S MONOLOGUE

NEW CONTENT IS IN **BOLD FONT**

BRINK

With great power comes real possibility. Peace, hope, freedom, all possible, but only if you get your hands dirty. You can stop a criminal quicker and better than anyone else. You're the line between society and chaos. And in that case, using your powers is de-escalation. You're putting an end to their violence. Because, yes, violence is your enemy. But violence is also your tool. It's the world you live in and you must master it. And who will stop him? Not some badge walking the beat. It's up to you. And you'll be ready. Because you've put in the hours. You'll think like the best investigator, see through the most calculating criminal, move like a professional athlete. In that moment it'll be automatic and easy, a conditioned response. But until then, you dig deep and you put in the work.