

THE IN-BETWEEN (CLOSING CUTSCENE)

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INT. THE IN-BETWEEN - TIME UNKNOWN

After striking the final blow, Fiona rushes to catch Bathory as she falls to the ground, the Tangling's shadowy tendrils dissipating from her body. Still conscious despite her wounds, Bathory looks up at Fiona, blinking slowly.

BATHORY

And here I thought humans were not worth allying with.

FIONA

*(chuckles weakly)* First time for everything. Hold still now, let me...um...

BATHORY

No need. I have been close to death enough times to recognize my last. No, now you must listen.

Bathory reaches up and encloses Fiona's hand in hers.

BATHORY

The key to my research lay in the potency of the mingling between human and demon energy. In all my years, I had never considered using one of you. You, the agents of the Organization, are the ultimate bonding between the two, the perfect evolution.

Bathory smiles bitterly.

BATHORY (CONT'D)

Another success of human innovation I had failed to recognize. Do you understand what I am saying? You can end this, should you so choose. Your soul will be more than enough to fully activate the Demiurge. You need only give it.

FIONA

You're asking me to die.

Bathory nods grimly.

BATHORY

Perhaps you know enough of  
sacrifice to recognize its  
necessity.

Fiona pulls her hand away. Bathory leans her head back, her eyelids fluttering.

BATHORY

My death, the things I've done,  
they are a small price to pay, if  
it means both worlds will keep on  
turning. It now falls on you to  
see that they do. Do not fail  
them.

Bathory's eyelids stop fluttering, and her eyes go blank as she dies.

Fiona carefully lays her down, sliding her eyes closed, before standing and turning to face the Demiurge. The machine is truly enormous, taking up most of the cavern as it pulses with a dull energy. The portal to the Underworld looms just above it, and Fiona realizes in horror that the Tangling is beginning to reform.

Fiona takes a deep breath, bracing herself, and slowly raises her hands, her body glowing faintly. She tenses in concentration for a moment before throwing her arms forward, an arc of light bouncing from her hands to the Tangling and then to the Demiurge, siphoning its energy into the machine.

The creature roars in anger as the Demiurge begins to flicker to life, its gyres slowly beginning to turn. The Tangling writhes and gnashes, attempting to resist, but Fiona holds her ground. The Demiurge gradually speeds up until it is running at full tilt. With a gasp Fiona releases her hold on the Tangling, the machine then sending a bolt of lightning towards the portal which completely decimates the monster with a blinding explosion.

Fiona shields her eyes against the impact, catching her breath as she looks up to see that the portal has vanished and the Demiurge continues running in a metallic hum. She is startled by a spark of energy to her left, turning to see a control panel in the wall. She curiously approaches it to see a small pyramid-shaped object floating above it, an open book beside it.

Fiona leafs through the book, pausing on the most prominent passage.

PASSAGE

"To whom it may concern: This key is intended to be used in tandem with the Demiurge, both to guide its currents and provide a failsafe shutdown should it not work as intended. The instructions for its use are as follows..."

Fiona closes the book and puts it and the artifact in her coat pocket, turning to leave the way she came.

EXT. PORTAL - DAY

Fiona crosses back through the entry portal to see a destroyed but empty city street, the sun beginning to rise. Suddenly, Wren's voice sounds in the communicator in her ear.

WREN (RADIO FX)

Fiona? Are you there? Looks like communications are back up.

Fiona hesitates for a moment, but taps the communicator to respond.

FIONA

I'm here.

WREN (RADIO FX)

We just picked up an influx of energy over there bigger than anything we've ever seen. What the hell happened? Are you okay?

FIONA

I will be. For now though, we've  
got a lot to talk about.

Fiona begins walking down the street towards the rising sun  
as the camera zooms out.

FADE TO BLACK

END