



SEASON EIGHT
RILEY

Buffy™

the vampire slayer

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RILEY

Commitment through Distance,
Virtue through Sin



BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER
RILEY

COMMITMENT THROUGH DISTANCE, VIRTUE THROUGH SIN

Based on the television series created by Joss Whedon

Looking forward to a life on the family farm, do-gooder soldier boy Riley Finn and his lovely wife Sam expect a life of peace, quiet, and relatively little bloodshed. But when Buffy calls, Agent Finn will consider putting it all on the line at the request of his very first love.

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COMMITMENT THROUGH DISTANCE
VIRTUE THROUGH SIN





SO YOU
TOLD HER YES,
RIGHT? YOU SAID
YOU'D GO BACK
TO HIM AND
AGREE?

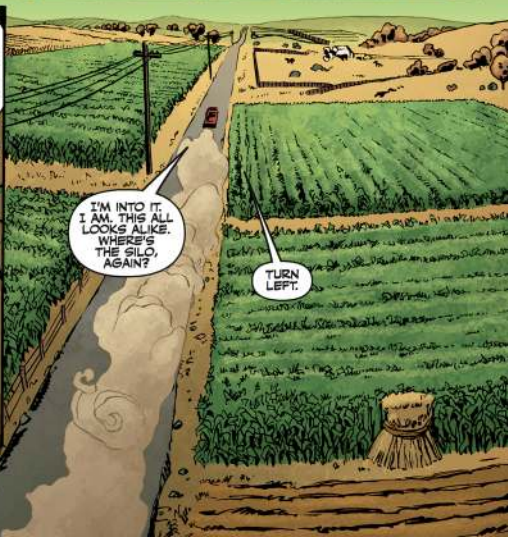
SAID I'D
THINK ABOUT
IT. I SAID THAT
TO BOTH OF
THEM. THAT I'D
THINK ABOUT
IT.

YOU
KNOW YOU'RE
GOING TO
DO IT.

WOULDJA
LISTEN TO THOSE
CRICKETS?

YOU'RE
AVOIDING.

THEY'RE
SO LOUD.
THEY SEEM
LOUD?





IT'S AMAZING HERE, AND I WANT US TO TRY IT, TO BE SAFE AND... KIDS... GOD, BUT, RILEY... IF BUFFY NEEDS YOU, THEN DON'T YOU KIND OF NEED TO SAVE THE PLANET SO THAT WE CAN PUT PIECES OF CORN INTO IT SO WE CAN TAKE PIECES OF CORN OUT OF IT?

THIS IS IT.



SOMEONE ELSE CAN HELP HER, I'M READY TO STOP ALL THIS AND START A FAMILY.



AGAIN, EASIER WITH A PLANET UNDER US.

AND, LIKE, PERSONALLY, SAM? MOST WIVES... I MEAN, MOST WIVES--



WHAT-- DON'T PUSH THEIR HUSBANDS AT THEIR EXES? THAT'S GOOD, BABY. IT MEANS I'M SECURE. I KNOW YOU'RE MINE.

YEAH, OKAY. WE CAN TALK ABOUT THIS LATER. LET'S GET INTO THE SILO.



FINE. LEAD THE WAY. HOW DO WE GET IN? PUNCH THROUGH THE HARD SHELL, RAPPEL DOWN?



OR MAYBE THE GENERAL WILL LET US IN.



A MASK LIKE THAT IS GONNA FLATTEN THE HAIR, ANGEL, CAN'T BE AVOIDED.



I HATE IT ALL, WHISTLER.



I HATE THE PLAN.

TOO BAD IT'S THE ONLY THING WITH A CHANCE OF WORKING THEN, HUH?



WE DIDN'T REALLY HAVE A PLAN FOR THIS, SO WE JUST CLEARED EVERYONE OUT WHEN IT STARTED ACTING UP.

GOOD POLICY FOR MISSILES, SIR.



AT FIRST WE JUST NOTICED THAT THE MISSILE WAS SHOWING MORE ACTIVE TIME THAN THE MAIN CONTROLLER WAS.

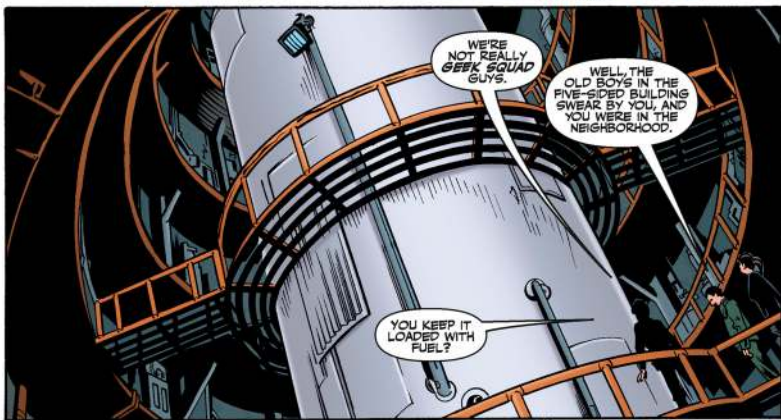
SO YOU FIGURED SOME OTHER COMPUTER WAS IN CONTACT WITH THE MISSILE.



THAT'S WHAT WE FIGURED. THAT OR A GLITCH. THE TECHNOLOGY IN THESE MISSILES GOES BACK A WAYS--HELL, THE WHOLE MISSILE PROGRAM IS OLDER'N GRIT. PEOPLE THINK THESE OLD ONES HAVE BEEN ABANDONED, AND WE JUST LET 'EM THINK THAT.

MAKES TROUBLE-SHOOTING HARD.

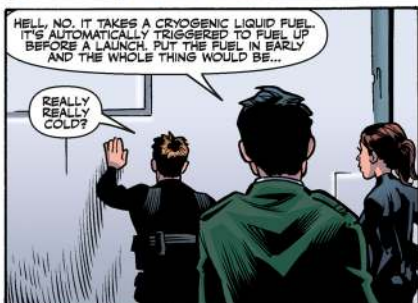
'S WHY WE SENT FOR HELP.



WE'RE NOT REALLY GEEK SQUAD GUYS.

WELL, THE OLD BOYS IN THE FIVE-SIDED BUILDING SWEAR BY YOU, AND YOU WERE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

YOU KEEP IT LOADED WITH FUEL?



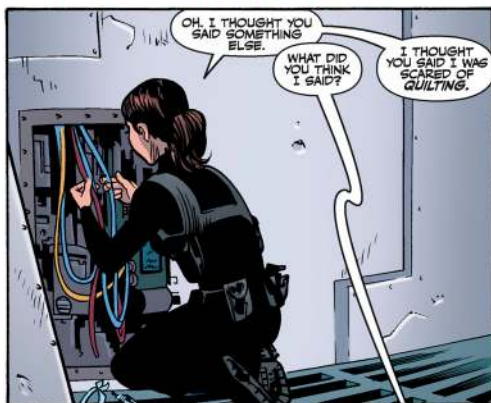
HELL, NO. IT TAKES A CRYOGENIC LIQUID FUEL. IT'S AUTOMATICALLY TRIGGERED TO FUEL UP BEFORE A LAUNCH. PUT THE FUEL IN EARLY AND THE WHOLE THING WOULD BE...

REALLY REALLY COLD?



IT'S FUELED ITSELF UP. WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?

I SUGGEST YOU LEAVE, SIR. MY WIFE AND I WILL TAKE IT FROM HERE.







IF YOU DID IT, WHAT WOULD BE THE FIRST STEP?



IF I DID WHAT? OH, SAM...

IT'S A THOUGHT EXPERIMENT. HELP ME VISUALIZE IT. LET'S SAY YOU'RE HELPING BUFFY, SO YOU...



I'D HAVE TO GO BACK TO THIS TWILIGHT GUY, AND I'D HAVE TO SAY I DECIDED TO TAKE HIS OFFER, AND HOPE THAT NOTHING I HAVE TO DO TO PRESERVE THE COVER WILL COST MY ETERNAL SOUL.



LOVING THE POSITIVE ENERGY, SO FIZZY.



YOUR COLLAR IS CAUGHT UNDER THE THING.









TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED.

I NEED TO FIND ANOTHER PATH.

YOU'RE PRETTY FAR DOWN THIS ONE, YEAH? BOUGHT THE COSTUME? THE ARMY? WORKING HER EX? HER OTHER EX?



SHE SHOULD BE THE MOST POWERFUL PLAYER IN THE GAME, NOT A PIECE ON THE BOARD. THIS IS WRONG.



YOU KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT, ANGEL. IF YOU TELL HER, IT DOESN'T HAPPEN. SHE NEEDS TO FEEL POWERLESS IN ORDER TO FIND THE ULTIMATE POWER. YOU CAN DO WHAT SHE'D WANT, OR YOU CAN DO THE RIGHT THING.



TORTURE THE FORMER CHEERLEADER, SAVE THE WORLD.



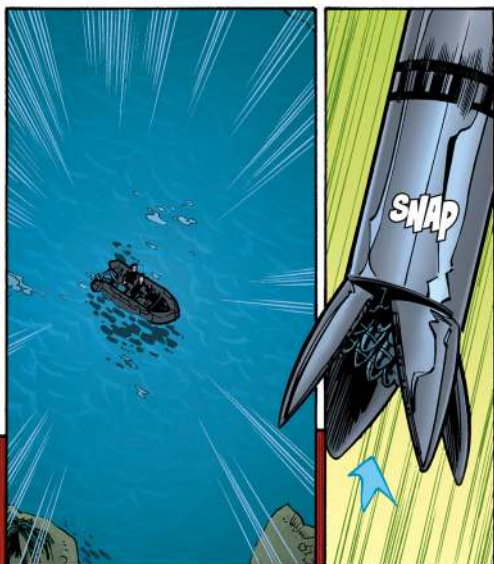
IS HE GONNA SIGN UP?

RILEY FINN? MAYBE. HE'S NO FAN OF MAGIC. VERY "HUMANS FIRST."



I DON'T GET WHAT SHE SAW IN HIM.







THEY ALL MISSED LAND.

THINK MAYBE WE SHOULD LOOK AT THE ISLAND THEY JUST CIRCLED FOR US.



FINE. LEAD THE WAY. SHOULD WE WALK THE PERIMETER FIRST AND THEN FOLLOW ANY WATER SOURCES INLAND?



OR MAYBE THIS OTHER GENERAL WILL SHOW US AROUND.



THERE ARE LOTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURES, ANGEL. IT'S JUST THAT SOME OF THEM AREN'T VERY LIKELY.

YOU AND BUFFY FALLING IN LOVE, THAT WAS ONE OF THOSE—A LONGSHOT THAT PAID OFF.

AND NOW THERE'S THIS PROPHECY, THE BIGGEST ONE THE POWERS HAVE EVER SEEN, SO THAT'S MESSING WITH THE MATH, KILLING OFF TIMELINES.



YOU HAVE TO DECIDE WHERE YOUR LOYALTY LIES...



ANYWAY, I'VE SEEN SOME OF THE FUTURES. IN SOME OF THEM, RIGHT EXACTLY AT THIS POINT, YOU TELL HER WHAT'S GOING ON. YOU WORK AS A TEAM, FIGHT SIDE BY SIDE.

REALLY? YOU'VE SEEN THIS?



YOU LOSE THE WAR, SIDE BY SIDE. VERY ROMANTIC.



YOU CAN SAVE THE WORLD TOGETHER, BUT ONLY IF YOU'RE NOT TOGETHER.



...WITH THE GIRL OR WITH THE WORLD.



OKAY, FINE. LOOK, I WANT THIS FOR BOTH OF US, OKAY? YES, IF YOU DO SOME MISSION FOR BUFFY IT'LL MAKE ME FEEL A LITTLE FREER, SURE. BECAUSE IT HELPS ME BELIEVE THAT YOU FEEL FREE.

WHY WOULDN'T I FEEL--

BECAUSE I KNOW YOU ACTUALLY WANT TO DO IT. IT'S BUFFY.

THAT'S NOT IT.

IT REALLY IS, BUT THAT'S OKAY.

I DON'T LIKE THIS. IT MAKES ME FEEL... LIKE... TOO FREE. LIKE YOU AND ME, LIKE WE'RE NOT TIED TOGETHER.

WE'RE NOT. WE'RE TOGETHER BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE. THERE ARE NO TIES.

NO TIES. THAT'S KIND OF... SCARY AS HELL.

BUT GOOD, RILEY. IT'S GOOD. IT'S BETTER. SO YOU CAN SKIP THE NINE STAGES OF SELF-FLAGELLATION AND GO RIGHT TO THE BIG FINISH AND HELP THAT GIRL. JUST LIKE YOU ALWAYS WILL.

...

DO YOU REALLY THINK SOMEONE DID ALL THIS JUST TO BRING US HERE?

MAYBE NOT US, SPECIFICALLY. TO BRING SOMEONE HERE.

NO. IT WAS PRETTY MUCH ABOUT YOU SPECIFICALLY.







"YOU HAVE TO
DECIDE WHERE
YOUR LOYALTY
LIES..."

"WITH THE GIRL OR
WITH THE WORLD."

BUFFY.



THE
END