SPLICE

V. NATALI THUMBNAIL STORYBOARDS

"PERSONA"

JUNE 7, 2000

ELSA

Dren, no!

THE HYBRID CLAWS AT DEXTER's face and body with her feet, shredding his clothes, her wings flapping furiously.

Clive and Elsa grab hold, desperately try to pry her off. It's pandemonium. Finally, Dexter wiggles free. He stumbles to his feet, bloodied. Gets one last glimpse of Dren hissing and spitting in Clive and Elsa's grip.

DEXTER

Jesus Christ.

Then he's out the door.

CLIVE

Dexter, wait!

Elsa grabs Clive as he heads for the door.

ELSA

Talk to him. Don't let him go to Barlow.

Clive takes off, slamming and locking the door behind him.

Elsa whirls around to Dren. The hybrid shrinks away, but she follows her, stalking her, yelling at her.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Why did you do that? You've ruined everything! Everything.

EXT. CANDY FACTORY -- DAY

Clive reaches the outside of the building in time to see Dexter's car wildly reverse out of the parking lot then tear off down the street.

He heads for the Mach One.

INT. DREN'S ROOM, CANDY FACTORY -- CONTINUOUS

Dren is hidden in the rafters. Elsa chastises her from below.

ELSA

Fuck! Do you understand what's going to happen if Dexter tells anyone? They'll take you away...

(MORE)

ELSA (CONT'D)

(thinking wildly)

... and you'll never see me or Clive again. You wouldn't like that, would you?

Elsa takes a deep breath, trying to pull herself together.

ELSA (CONT'D)

(more to herself now)
Okay, okay. Oh, God, you were
probably just being territorial. Or
protecting us...

She pulls a box of nerds out of her pocket. Munches them despondently, turns back to Dren. She shakes the box.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Nerd?

Dren stays where she is.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Sorry I yelled. Come down. Please.

Elsa takes the box of Nerds and sets it on the table.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Help yourself.

Cautiously, the hybrid climbs down from her perch, goes to the table. Then greedily wolfs down the candy. Elsa watches her, amused.

ELSA (CONT'D)

Is that all we've got left? Liking the same candy?

(laughs)

And thinking Clive's got a cute butt?

She comes up to the table. Dren does not move away.

ELSA (CONT'D)

So what do you say? How about I cut you some slack...

Elsa gently strokes Dren's face. We see what Elsa misses: Dren silently LIFTING THE BIOPSY NEEDLE from the table with her foot. The needle hovers out of sight behind Dren's back. ELSA (CONT'D) ... and you cut me some slack.

Their eyes meet. They share a smile: perhaps a reminder of times past, better times? They hold each other's gaze.

Then without warning, Dren plunges the BIOPSY NEEDLE into Elsa's arm. Elsa screams, collapses in agony.

Dren growls viciously, grabs the key chain from Elsa's belt.

Elsa painfully, pulls the needle out of her flesh, looks up just in time to see the hybrid race out of the room.

ELSA (CONT'D)

No!

INT. HALLWAY, CANDY FACTORY -- CONTINUOUS

Dren races down the hall, fluttering her wings as she goes. Elsa follows close behind.

INT. ANOTHER PASSAGE, CANDY FACTORY -- CONTINUOUS

Dren rounds a corner and gets to the EXIT. She tries to open it, but it's locked. She bangs the door, uselessly fumbles with the keys.

ELSA

Scary smart, but not smart enough. You're probably looking for this.

Elsa waves a swipe card between two fingers.

Dren turns and hisses. She looks in all directions for some way out, but she is trapped. Elsa inches towards her.

ELSA (CONT'D)
Come on. You had your fun. Now

Come on. You had your fun. Now it's time to go back.

Dren launches herself and Elsa catches her, tackling her to the floor. Dren writhes and kicks wildly, her foot connecting with Elsa's throat. Elsa releases her grip, choking.

Dren grabs the swipe card from her and bounds for the exit. She runs the card through -- wrong way. She turns it around --

WHAP! Elsa bashes her knees with a METAL PIPE, retrieved from the dirty floor. Dren falls, whimpering.

Elsa picks Dren up, shakes her violently, pushing her up against the cement wall.

(CONTINUED)

ELSA (CONT'D)
(deranged and sad at once)
Not really smart at all.

INT. DREN'S ROOM, CANDY FACTORY -- NIGHT -- LATER

Elsa has dragged the groggy Dren to a corner of the room, beside the toffee vat. While Elsa speaks she sorts through material pulled from the hybrid's secret alcove.

ELSA

(self-mocking voice)
You even stole my favorite cd. You've grown into the rotten little sister I never had.

(like a Valley Girl)
Get some friends of your own, Dren.

Dren mews in protest. But Elsa won't be stopped. She gathers all Dren's drawings of Clive and waves them.

ELSA (CONT'D)
(now mocking Dren's
voice, savagely)
Awwwk! Awwwwk!

She drops the loose papers in front of Dren, then strikes a match and sets them alight. Dren recoils from the flames, weeping. The colorful drawings crumple and burn away -- images of Clive's face distorting and disintegrating.

Elsa sees Dren's terrified and pitiful visage. Her anger is quickly transformed into regret. She drops to the floor, hollow, defeated, watching the embers fizzle.

INT. MACH ONE - TRAVELING -- DAY

Clive drives up to the lab, abruptly hits the breaks, reacts to what he sees.

CLIVE

Jesus.

EXT. LAB -- DAY - CONTINUOUS

ANGRY PROTESTERS picket the lab. They march across the entrance and harass any unfortunate TECHIE who happens to be going in or out of the facility. Several SECURITY GUARDS keep an eye on the proceedings from the safety of the foyer.

INT. MACH ONE -- CONTINUOUS

Clive watches this display, stunned. Several protesters spot him, wave to their cohorts.

(CONTINUED)

























