

The outcasts

PREVIEW

"Afraid"

FADE IN:

INT. MIDTOWN GENERAL HOSPITAL - D.O.M'S OFFICE - NIGHT

We come in on a WIDE SHOT of rather large office, furnished nicely with dark furniture, glass, and grey-ish carpet. Sitting in front of a large, covered window sitting adjacent to the door to the office is a desk, and behind it is sitting a white haired male in a white doctor's coat. He is the DEAN OF MEDICINE.

Sitting directly across from him on the other side of the desk is XAVIER.

We PUSH IN slowly and PAN AROUND until the camera is between them and angling down on them at the edge of the desk so that we can see the two of them clearly while they look at each other.

XAVIER

So you say that she's alone?

DEAN OF MEDICINE

Besides the two people you saw in her room before? Yes.

XAVIER

What about her parents?

DEAN OF MEDICINE

They've apparently skipped town. Wouldn't you if your daughter brought attention to your family because she's a freak?

XAVIER

(calmly)

"Freak" is a broad term. We consider someone too smart for their age or too tall to be freaks.

DEAN OF MEDICINE

It doesn't matter. She destroyed an entire building at her school with her eyes, professor...Xavier, was it? Her being here is giving my hospital a reputation that I don't appreciate. I want her out of here, tonight.

XAVIER

She's only been out of a coma for a few hours, and no one has bothered to even check her vitals. I personally find it interesting that a *Dean of Medicine* would think it wise to release such a *unique patient* back into the world.

The DEAN OF MEDICINE leans forward, resting his elbows on the wooden surface. His looks offended by the professor's words.

DEAN OF MEDICINE

If she has any complications, another hospital will look at her.

XAVIER

The entire state of New York knows about this. If your hospital won't look after her, what on Earth makes you think another will?

The DEAN OF MEDICINE ignores his question, leaning back in his chair and folding his hands over his rather large stomach.

DEAN OF MEDICINE

Back to your original question, sir. I don't think you'll have any trouble arranging for her custody. No body wants her.

(beat)

Why you do is completely beyond me.

XAVIER

You're afraid of her.

The DEAN OF MEDICINE stands up, and moves away from the desk. He turns to face the large window behind him. He reaches for the small knob at the end of a long string and pulls, causing the blinds to lift and reveal the moonlight outside. Even from where the camera is now positioned behind XAVIER'S shoulder we can see--and hear--the protesters that are still lining the sidewalk.

DEAN OF MEDICINE
Take a look around, professor.
Everyone is afraid of her.

TIGHT ON XAVIER'S eyes narrowing and we--

FLASH CUT TO:

THE OUTCASTS
MAY 24th