

ACT I

Scene 1

*Open on a well furnished house---balcony over looks the city, from quite high up. The upper portions of sky-scrappers are visible in the background. It's 10am.*

*A NYC skyline. The kind of view that the very rich might have an opportunity to enjoy.*

*Stage left, there is an entrance to the apartment... coat rack, place for shoes. A skateboard, well worn, is against the wall. Up Center, the balcony. Up right, a hallway leads deeper into the apartment.*

*Center, there is a couch and coffee table. A few toys for a child---around 5---are scattered here and there, though neatly assigned to the corners of the room they're kept in.*

*Stage right, there is a door, heavily fortified. It's been designed to look like it belongs here, but it's a bit too large for the home.*

*We hear a deep RUMBLE from somewhere outside, followed closely after by another.*

*The door to the outside opens and RACHEL rushes in, followed by DAVID.*

*Rachel is in her mid-30s....in good shape and with sharp eyes---she's dressed smartly and has a gun at her hip. She's a police academy trainer and left there mid-day.*

*David has a mop of unkempt hair, a black AC/DC shirt---the kind bought in semi-trendy stores among the goth and skater set---and has a skateboard he leans against the wall as he comes in.*

*Rachel goes to the couch, grabs the remote off of the back of it, and turns on the TV.*

NEWS CASTER

It made landfall near FDR and Broad Street.

I've...you can see the immensity of it and what the destruction....

I've never seen anything like this before. It's destroyed most of 1 New York Plaza. Shadow, Revenant, and Bantam have been getting as many people out as they can.

Aegis has destructed the thing but there's no sign of Pulsar.

*A loud RUMBLE and CRASH is heard on the news cast and then, fainter but still loud, out beyond the window.*

*David rushes to the balcony and is looking off to the SL, where we can't see.*

DAVID

Jesus, mom, it's huge.

NEWS CASTER

CONTINUES UNDERNEATH WRITE THIS LATER

RACHEL

David, get your emergency kit.

DAVID

Like Reggie's is going to be far enough....

RACHEL

Now!

*David, giving one last look at whatever it is, heads in and down the hall.*

*Rachel pulls out her cell phone.*

RACHEL

Jules?

This is Rachel.

Yeah, we just saw it. I need to....

Jules? Where's Adam?

I don't know, but look at the news, Jules! He needs someone else there. Where is Adam?!

*David returns to the living room with a large case, metal and fancy. It looks like some kind of future tech and, though it looks big, he hefts it easily.*

*He swings it over the couch and drops it on the cushion.*

*He's transfixed, looking at the TV.*

RACHEL

I don't care. When you find out where he is, call me.

Jules...listen, Jules....it's going to be okay.

No! Stop!

It's going to be okay. This is Adam and John. It's going to be okay.

I love you, too. Call me when you hear something.

*Rachel hangs up and looks at the television, her face drawn. Her resolve is starting to break.*

NEWS CASTER

It grabbed Aegis with one of it's tentacles and...oh, Jesus.....he's gone through two buildings.

Where'd he go? Has anyone seen him?

The creature---it's....oh, god, it's turning back into the city. It's...it's just WADING through buildings!  
The dust rising from the ruins---it's hard to see...

*Rachel closes her eyes, as if praying, trying to keep herself together.*

RACHEL

John, don't you fucking do this to me.

DAVID

Mom!

NEWS CASTER

Aegis is alive! He's alive!

He's grabbed one of its tentacles and flew in fast enough to pull it back towards the bay!

*Rachel's head drops, a ragged sigh leaving her.*

*David puts his hand on her shoulder.*

DAVID

It's gonna be okay, mom. Dad's got this.

*The lights start to dim, fading and pulsing. Not a brown out, but something different---something deliberate.*

RACHEL

Joe.

*David grabs the case as the lights fade again.*

*The outside is still full day, but the room itself is getting unnaturally dark.*

*As the lights fade down all the way, even dimming the light from outside, Joe appears in the room.*

*Joe is hurt. His left arm is bleeding and his coat and shirt are torn. He has small nicks and scrapes along his exposed face---debris that become shrapnel. Not all of the blood on him is his.*

*He eyes look like he's waded through Hell.*

*Joe catches himself on the couch. David drops his case and grabs Joe, steadying him.*

RACHEL

Joe?

JOE

Rachel. Eavid.

RACHEL

Get him something to drink, David.

*Rachel takes Joe and settles him onto the couch.*

RACHEL

(as soon as David's gone)  
Joe, where's Adam?

JOE

Rachel...

RACHEL

Don't fuck with me, Joe. Where's Adam?

*Joe's head dips down. His jaw clenches.*

*Rachel stands up, backing away in shock.*

JOE

We couldn't...

RACHEL

God. Oh, god.

JOE

He just...

RACHEL

No. No no no no no. Joe, look at me. FUCKING look at me, Joe. Adam's not dead.

JOE

Rachel, he..

RACHEL

No. Adam can't die. That thing couldn't kill Adam!

JOE

It was the other one.

RACHEL

Other one...

JOE

Adam died killing it.

*David comes back in the room with some water,  
which he gives to Joe.*

*Joe holds the cup, staring into it.*

*Silence passes between them.*

RACHEL

Why are you here?

JOE

Rachel.

RACHEL

Why are you here?