

40 CONTINUED: 2

40

how to be human anymore. He's better off where he is. And he's my watchdog.

CUT TO:

41 INT. CAVERN - NIGHT

41

Deep inside and beneath the volcano, a ruby crystal spinning like a glitter ball above a dance floor is splashing fragmented blood colored prismatic radiance on the walls and ceiling. It is attached somehow through the rock floor and protected by a moat of fire and lava. They've flung ropes around it from all sides and are attempting to slow it or even wrench it from its pedestal. The earth quakes. The fires grow in ferocity. They tie off the ropes and run for their lives. The volcano becomes active. The man on the rim is frozen, eyes popping as he watches the others scatter out across the glowing caldera in all directions trying to avoid the hot spots. He high-tails it as well.

CUT TO:

42 EXT. ISLAND - NIGHT

42

DINONICUS

Let's move!

CUT TO:

43 INT. TEMPLE - NIGHT

43

The quaking earth RUMBLES and the tremor shakes Circe's temple. She runs to look to the volcano.

CIRCE

What have you done? I can't focus when I'm distracted. You counted on that. The entire island will go. At least you'll go with it.

XENA

Circe, this was the plan of last resort. Only if you were disagreeable. I thought you were far too reasonable for that and I was right. Something's gone wrong.

CIRCE

You're telling me!

CUT TO:

44 EXT. VOLCANO - NIGHT

44

Dinonicus attempting to climb down into the volcano, huge chunks of fiery rock are beginning to fly.

CUT TO: