



THE FALSE MESSIAH S01E08

"Eternity"

Written by

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TRIAL - ???

An eye fully open, so close that the depressions in the iris are clearly visible.

???

"There is no beast without cruelty."

(Beat)

A phrase that we'll remember again and again during this trial.

Closer and closer.

Nervous blinking.

??? (CONT'D)

Is the defendant guilty of systematically putting her life above the lives of others?

??? (CONT'D)

Is the defendant the single cause for the suffering of millions and millions?

Closer still.

The eye moves from one side to the other.

??? (CONT'D)

Or is the defendant just an innocent victim, trapped in the winds of fate, as the defense will make us believe?

Inside the pupil.

??? (CONT'D)

I beg you, make no mistake. We're in the presence of evil.

Darkness.

A whisper

Boom!

An explosion, like a rapidly expanding glowing sphere, covers all space with light.

They are clouds of glowing gas and within them powerful storms are unleashed.

Intense lightning bolts pierce the cloud-like surface.

From the edges of the clouds, like droplets separating from a body of water, pieces of cloud escape into empty spaces.

They shine brightly, they are stars.

Stars fill the space between the clouds, they form spirals. Long arms across the galaxies.

Close to a star.

Small spheres are attracted and now revolve around the golden light.

They are planets.

Closer once more.

Towards the---

EXT. SURFACE OF THE PLANET - DAY

Crossing the horizon line.

Ashes and dense gray clouds.

A red glowing coming from below.

The ground is already visible in the distance.

Fire everywhere.

Rubble, buildings in ruins.

Devastation.

A lifeless surface.

Even closer to the ground.

In the middle of the flames consuming everything.

There's Annie, crying silently, in shock.

Holding the ashes of what was once Robert's body.

The ashes disintegrate in her hands.

So do the ashes of the guards at what was once the entrance to Samsara Inc. Of Mirrick and the Moderator.

Of everyone.

OVER BLACK: (SILENCE).

OPENING: DANCING WITH TEARS IN MY EYES BY AVANTASIA.

"Dancing with tears in my eyes, weeping for the memory of a life gone by. Dancing with tears in my eyes, living out a memory of a love that died".

INT. SAMSARA INC. - ???

Darkness.

 THALIA (O.S.)
 (muffled)
 Annie, Annie. Can you hear me?

Farther and farther back.

The pupil.

 THALIA (O.S.)
 (less muffled)
 Annie!

The iris.

The eye.

Annie's face. Ashes stuck to the path of his tears.

Her facial expression dulled.

Farther back.

Samsara control room.

The thousands of screens behind Annie.

Thalia at her side.

 THALIA
 Annie wake up!

Annie blinks, she moves her head like waking up from trance.

 ANNIE
 I...

 THALIA
 There's no time Annie. We're in a
 mayor crisis.

Annie looks at her hands, dirty with ashes.

Tears coming from her eyes.

THALIA

Are you listening? Ted is invading
the planets. Jonathan is the only
one standing in his way.

Annie keeps looking at her hands.

Tears fall on the metal floor of the room.

THALIA

He has Simone, Annie.

Annie looks up at the screens. On them she can see Jonathan
fighting seven individuals at the same time.

They are in the lobby village of Samsara.

The place is in ruins.

Jonathan uses his "Lightspeed" to evade the attacks of the
seven opponents, but fails to do so.

He is hit and falls to the ground.

He jumps into the sky, the individuals follow him.

An explosion.

The image on the screen is lost.

THALIA

Annie!

Annie gets up from the floor with difficulty.

She walks over to the screens.

The missing connection sign in red letters in front of her.

Annie turns to look at Thalia.

Her eyes full of hopelessness.

EXT. SAMSARA VR - ???

Like a thunderbolt, Jonathan moves fast through space.

He jumps from planet to planet followed by the seven hooded
individuals.

Lightning and thunder.

Fire and water.

Explosions.

Jonathan keeps moving forward in spite of everything.

Despite the wounds that accumulate in his body.

INTERCUT SAMSARA INC. AND SAMSARA VR

Annie receives the red pill and the glass of water from Thalia.

She puts the pill in her mouth.

One of the hooded individuals kicks Jonathan in the air.

Jonathan pushes himself backwards to evade it.

He then spins quickly to evade the punch of the next one, taking the blow with his hands.

However, from the hooded man's fist a whirlwind of water shoots against Jonathan's abdomen.

It pushes him back with force.

Annie takes a sip of water, she hands the glass back to Thalia.

She sits on the ground, lotus position.

Jonathan crashes hard onto the surface of an---

OCEAN PLANET

The force of the impact is so big that the waters open up completely and Jonathan crashes into the sands at the bottom.

Another of the hooded individuals swiftly descends and drives his fist hard into Jonathan's stomach.

Blood escapes from his mouth.

The waters begin to close.

Jonathan presses hard on the hooded man's arm, manages to spin in the sands and connects a strong kick to the guy's face.

Lightspeed!

Jonathan quickly jumps up and escapes before the closing of the waters.

Annie looks at Thalia one last time.

She closes her eyes.

EXT. SNOW PLANET VR - ???

Annie opens her eyes.

White all around.

She takes a long breath, releases through her nose.

Steam moving into the dark sky.

Her eyes fixes in the cabin, not 20 meters away.

The creak of the wooden door of the cabin opening interrupts the calm.

Annie's fist clenches as she watches Ted leaving the cabin.

He is wiping his hands with a cloth.

He looks up and stops when seeing Annie.

TED
(smiling)
Mother.

Annie doesn't answer.

TED (CONT'D)
We were expecting you.

ANNIE
(hopeless stare)
What am I supposed to do now?

TED
What you've always done mother.

ANNIE
I'm not your mother.

TED
Don't say that mother.

ANNIE
Stop.

TED
I've heard so much about you
mother, I wanted to know your
power.

(FLASHBACK)

TED'S WORLD/FLOWER GARDEN (CHAPTER 2 SEQUENCE)

A tremor.

A figure ascends swiftly from the ground, its silhouette can
be seen rising in the dust.

It has wings.

TED (V.O.)
Then I saw you. So beautiful, like
a lamb shining outside the
slaughterhouse.

Annie holds Robert's hand tightly, but she keeps looking up
at the figure in the sky.

TED (V.O.)
The OTHERS told me I wouldn't be
able to kill you.

Ted, with his body mangled, his arms stretched beyond human
proportions, legs the same.

Black wings on his back, staring lost, mad.

He swoops swiftly, aggressively against Annie, against
Robert.

TED (V.O.)
I couldn't believe it. You were
there, right there for me to take
your life.

Terrified, with Robert dying next to her, Annie is unable to
react. She can only close her eyes.

TED (V.O.)
And then it happened.

Ted is on top of them but a golden spear pierces his chest.

EXT. DOWNTOWN - DAY (CHAPTER 6 SEQUENCE)

Annie fixes her gaze on the other side of the street.
There's a person staring at her from that spot.

It's TED.

TED (V.O.)
Then, it happened again.

Mirrikh falls from the sky and slams his fist straight into the concrete floor as Simone pushes Annie away from danger.

EXT. RAILWAY PARKING - DAY (CHAPTER 6 SEQUENCE)

A flash of lightning falls from the sky. A golden spear in Simone's hands.

TED (V.O.)
And again.

Simone and Ted collide in mid-air.

EXT. SAMSARA INC. ENTRANCE - NIGHT (CHAPTER 7 SEQUENCE)

Robert's body slips into Annie's arms, leaving a trail of blood on her clothes.

TED (V.O.)
And again.

He falls to the ground with an arrow buried in his back, in his heart.

Back to---

SNOW PLANET VR (PRESENT)

Ted in front of Annie.

Explosions in the sky.

One, two, three, four five, six, seven.

A fireball descends uncontrollably from the sky.

It crashes in the snow.

It's Jonathan, calcinated.

Dead.

TED
And yet again.

ANNIE
(helpless)
Simone...

TED

Oh yes, Simone. She's in the cabin.
Don't worry.

ANNIE

I want...

TED

What? To see her? Sure, why not. Go
ahead.

Annie walks with her gaze lowered, her eyes lost in the
white of the snow.

She walks past Ted as if he were not there.

She continues towards the cabin.

TED

Oh, I have to tell you.

(beat)

We had a bit of a discussion.

Annie looks up at the half-open wooden door.

TED

Nothing too serious.

She gets there, opens the door and looks inside.

Horror.

HER EYE

Fully open, so close that the depressions in the iris are
clearly visible.

??? (V.O.)

Can you state your name for the
jury?

SIMONE (V.O.)

Simone.

Closer and closer.

Nervous blinking.

??? (V.O.)

Tell us something Simone. What did
you think of Annie when you met
her.

A shot of Annie (15) kicking the floral arrangements and offerings, the gifts that people have left on KATE'S GRAVE.

Back to---

HER EYE

Closer still.

SIMONE (V.O.)
She was angry.

??? (V.O.)
And the second time?

A shot of Annie (18) jumping over the EDGE OF THE BUILDING, pushing Simone with her into the void.

SIMONE (V.O.)
She was angry again.

The eye moves from one side to the other.

Nervous.

??? (V.O.)
And the third time?

A shot of Annie (18) disappearing and leaving a trail of light blue in front of Simone on the LOBBY TOWN.

??? (V.O.)
Simone?

SIMONE (V.O.)
The same.

Inside the pupil.

??? (V.O.)
Now I want you to think very
carefully.
(beat)
In your opinion, Is the defendant a
dangerous person?

Darkness.

The sound of calm waters.

EXT. HIGH GRASS AREA - DAY (CHAPTER 4 SEQUENCE)

An apple falls on the grass.

A girl (Annie) picks it up.

Golden sparkles on the river surface.

Another Girl (Simone) and a Boy (Robert) playing in the sands.

Dark figures moving through the tall grass.

Lurking.

Annie drops the apples in her arms.

In the middle of the game, Simone looks away from Robert and to the side.

Towards Annie.

A good 50 meters separates them.

The eyes of both joined, their gazes together.

The dark figures jump from the high grass.

They attack!

HARD CUT TO:

I/E CABIN IN SNOW PLANET - NIGHT (PRESENT)

Blood on the floor, on the furniture, on the walls.

There's a body lying near the far corner.

Clothes torn.

Annie stands still in the doorway.

Her eyes wide.

A shot of two butterflies dancing between the flowers of a garden.

Annie is trembling.

A shot of a nuclear bomb falling from the cargo compartment of an aircraft.

Annie covers her face with her hands.

ANNIE

No...

A shot of descending next to the bomb, passing it down through the air and to the city of NAGASAKI.

To the street with the police officers running away and Ikki releasing Keito.

ANNIE

No...

Escaping.

With Kate reaching for Thomas and Thomas reaching for Kate.

The hands of both come together.

ANNIE

No...

Their bodies.

Their lips.

The silhouette of both disappears in an intense light that takes everything in its path. White.

ANNIE

(angry)

Nooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!

Back to---

CABIN IN SNOW WORLD

Annie screams in desperation, out of control.

An intense white flash escapes from her eyes.

It's a nuclear explosion that pulverizes the cabin in a split second.

The shock wave disintegrates all the snow around her and keeps moving, expanding.

Ted only manages to stare at the intense light, the shockwave hits him, engulfing him in flames.

He screams in pain, writhing violently as everything around him disintegrates.

Until only ashes remain.

Light fades slowly.

Revealing the devastation and fire all around.

Annie runs to Ted's charred body, grabs him by the neck.

She pushes him to the floor.

There, Annie gets on top of him and hits him again and again.

Pam!

Pam!

Punch after punch.

Bits of charred flesh jump everywhere.

Annie's fists are smeared with black.

Blacker and blacker.

The black on her fists grows, advances across Annie's skin as she continues to punch Ted's charred skull.

Until it reaches her---

EYE

Fully open, so close that the depressions in the iris are clearly visible.

??? (V.O.)

Can you state your name for the jury, please?

ROBERT (V.O.)

Robert.

Closer and closer.

Nervous blinking.

??? (V.O.)

Tell me Robert, what is the last thing you remember?

ROBERT (V.O.)

I guess I died.

??? (V.O.)

Can you remember how you died?

ROBERT (V.O.)

I...

A shot of Robert hugging Annie at the entrance of Samsara.

Fading, bleeding.

Closer on the eye.

The eye moves from one side to the other.

ROBERT (V.O.)
I was trying to save Annie. I guess
I did a poor job /at...

??? (V.O.)
And why were you saving Annie?
Robert.

A shot of the GIRL (Annie) up the tree with the PREDATORS
attacking the PIG on the ground surrounded by high grass.

ROBERT (V.O.)
She was in trouble.

??? (V.O.)
Was she now.

A shot of NAHARA covering the OLD MAN with her body to save
him from the farmers.

ROBERT (V.O.)
She's always in trouble.

Inside the pupil.

??? (V.O.)
Can you elaborate?

Darkness.

ROBERT (V.O.)
It's like she's doing it on
purpose.

A shot of Nahara arguing with the rabbis. Angering them.

ROBERT (V.O.)
Is like she didn't care.

??? (V.O.)
What if I told you, Robert, that
she had the power to stop them, but
she didn't.

ROBERT (V.O.)
Why?

A shot of the girl (Annie) looking at the river bank, at Another girl (Simone) and the boy (Robert) playing in the sand.

The girl (Annie) gets angry and drops the apples from her arms.

ROBERT (V.O.)

Why!?

A shot of IBRAHIM having dinner and laughing next to the 12 disciples on the long table. Nahara looking angry at them from the hallway of the house.

ROBERT (V.O.)

Why!?!?!

A shot of Annie looking at Simone in the reastaurant next to Ted from afar, walking away angry.

EXT. BURNED SNOW PLANET - NIGHT

Annie's fists, dirty with black ash mixed with blood, continue to pound Ted's charred skull.

ANNIE

Why!?

Flames all around, moving gently with the breeze.

The dead roar of burning things.

ANNIE

Why!?

The blackness splashing with each blow has soiled her clothes.

Her face.

More and more covered by that blackness.

ANNIE

Why!?

Suddenly.

Annie stands up, brings her hands to her chest. In pain.

She screams in agony, pressing her chest with her arms.

A bulge rises subtly on her back.

Then another.

The shirt tears apart.

The black wings open.

A dark angel.

ANNIE
(sobbing)
This is just a nightmare...

Annie falls to her knees on the floor, covering her face with her hands.

She tries to control her heavy breathing.

ANNIE
Everything is fine... everything
is...

As she opens her eyes she comes to realize about the destruction all around her.

Shocked...

She closes her eyes, focuses.

ANNIE
No... no... no...

...

Nothing happens.

ANNIE
Thalia...

ANNIE
(desperated)
Thalia!!

ANNIE
Get me out!! I wanna get out!!

THALIA (V.O.)
Calm down, Annie.

EXT. CONTROL ROOM IN SAMSARA INC. - ???

Annie's eyes widen as she feels Thalia's warm hands touch hers.

Thalia removes Annie's hands from her face.

THALIA
You're okay now, Annie.

Annie sobs as she begins to calm herself.

ANNIE
Is it over?

THALIA
Over?

ANNIE
Yes.

THALIA
Open your eyes Annie.

ANNIE
What do you mean?

THALIA
(smiling)
It's okay. You can do it now.

Annie looks down at the floor, she wanders for a moment.

When she look up again, Thalia is no longer in the room.

Fear.

Annie takes a couple of steps back, she looks around
confused.

Thalia takes her hands again.

THALIA
You can do it, you're ready.

Annie nods.

She closes her eyes and tears fall silently down her cheeks.

Thalia, the thousands of screens, the walls, the floor.

All of it.

It disintegrates into millions of sand particles that move
with the wind and fall into the dunes of the---

INFINITE DESERT

Annie, deformed, with her arms and legs elongated, with
grotesque black wings on her back, is alone in the middle of
nowhere.

Black wings open, bones crackle with osteoarthritis.

A heavy flap to the ground and Annie takes flight.

FADE TO:

EXT. INFINITE DESERT - ???

The silhouette of Annie's shadow crosses the sands.

ANNIE

How long has it been...

(beat)

Years, decades... eons.

More and more dunes.

Suddenly.

On the horizon line, the glow of a body of water-like mass.

A mirage.

But the mirage transforms into a real body of water before her eyes.

There's a woman at the water's edge.

It's Thalia, her eyes filled with terror as she see Annie coming at her.

Closer to Thalia.

Into her---

EYE

Fully open, so close that the depressions in the iris are clearly visible.

??? (V.O.)

Can you state your name for the jury?

ANNIE (V.O.)

Annie.

Closer and closer.

Nervous blinking.

??? (V.O.)

Annie, yes.

(MORE)

??? (CONT'D)

(beat)

Do you know what a mirage is,
Annie?

ANNIE (V.O.)

I...

??? (V.O.)

It is something you really want to
be true, to be real.

(beat)

But it's not.

Closer still.

??? (V.O.)

Why did you do it?

A shot of Robert turning to ashes on Annie's hands.

ANNIE (V.O.)

I...

??? (V.O.)

Why did you bring them here?

A shot of Annie taking Simone to the river bank.

They both looking at their reflection in the waters.

ANNIE (V.O.)

I...

??? (V.O.)

Why did you abandon them?

(beat)

You could have save them, did you?

A shot of Annie running away from the river bank.

A shot of Annie with her palm on her room window.

All the walls around her transforming into green leaves
dancing in the air.

ANNIE

No... I... they were trying to hurt
me! To leave me...

A shot of Simone and Robert playing in the river bank.
Farther and farther away from Annie.

??? (V.O.)
 You escaped! And the suffering kept
 getting bigger and bigger.

A shot of Annie, emaciated, thin, walking through a deserted
 area.

The soles of her feet bleed when she steps on sharp stones.

ANNIE
 No...

On the stone floor, the image of Annie's shadow appears,
 where a wing rises violently from her back.

???
 And now look at you. Death and
 ashes.
 (beat)
 That's what you are, don't you!

A shot of fire, all around.

ANNIE
 Stop...

???
 Answer me!

ANNIE
 Stop!
 (beat)
 Just stop, please...

Annie, alone in the darkness.

ANNIE
 I was alone...
 (beat)
 So alone...

ANNIE
 When I saw them I thought I could
 protect them, show them my value...
 (beat)
 But I couldn't...

ANNIE
 I got scared, runned away.

ANNIE
 Ever since it stuck with me.
 (beat)
 The guilt.

ANNIE
I thought, maybe if I sacrifice
myself I can pay the debt.

ANNIE
But it got worst, worst everytime I
came back.
(beat)
Darkness grew bigger, stronger.

ANNIE
(crying)
I'm sorry...
(beat)
I'm so sorry...
(beat)
For everything, for everyone...

EXT. INFINITE HIGHWAY - ???

Annie is standing in the middle of the road.

The road stops beyond both horizons.

Behind and ahead.

On both sides, a desert as vast as the eye can see.

There's someone standing in front of her.

It's herself.

??? (SECOND ANNIE)
You can go back or you can move
forward. What are you going /to...

ANNIE
/Both.

???
(smiling)
As you wish, mother.

The wind picks up little by little.

First as a breeze that moves the hair of both Annies.

Soon as a storm of sand that covers everything.

CUT TO:

INT. ANNIE'S ROOM - DAY

The cloudy sky, bluish in the evening. Raindrops slide down the glass of the closed window.

The dark room, timidly illuminated by outside light, allows the outline of the bed to be seen on the side.

Sitting in the corner, next to the wall is ANNIE (17), quiet and with her face resting on her knees, dressed in lounge clothes.

The phone on the bedside table vibrates, the screen lights up momentarily.

Annie reaches over to the bedside table and picks up the phone. She sees the screen.

A message.

"Hi Annie! You have been selected to participate in Samsara! Are you ready for the experience of a lifetime?"

INT. MALL CORRIDOR - DAY

Annie, alone, standing in the line outside Samsara store, with earphones.

Ahead of her, a couple wait their turn together.

Annie watches them talking, looks down, they are holding hands.

This bothers her. She turns up the music, looks to the side.

INSIDE SAMSARA STORE

Annie settles into the seat, rests her back on the velvety support.

ATTENDANT

Close your eyes when you're ready,
Annie.

The attendant smiles and leaves.

Annie closes her eyes, nothing. Opens them. She closes them again, waits longer.

A WHITE BACKGROUND VR

Is covered with green mosaics, all together they form the---

LUSH RAINFOREST VR

Annie approaches one of the trees, touches it with her hands.

FEMALE VOICE

Annie, you have a friend request waiting.

A red door appears in front of Annie, she opens it and crosses to the other side.

EXT. BUILDING TERRACE VR - DAY

Annie faces the orange sunset sky, the sun's rays piercing the outline of the downtown buildings.

The wind lifts her hair.

At the edge of the building there's a woman with her back to Annie.

Facing the void.

ANNIE

Simone.

Simone turns around, surprised.

SIMONE

How did you...

ANNIE

We've met before.

SIMONE

When?

ANNIE

Doesn't matter.

SIMONE

You're...

ANNIE

Kate's sister, right?

SIMONE

(puzzled)

Yeah...

ANNIE

I'm not, by the way.

SIMONE
Then who are you?

ANNIE
Same as you.

SIMONE
And what's that?

ANNIE
Just a memory.

SIMONE
A memory?

ANNIE
Yeah.

SIMONE
A memory of what?

ANNIE
I can't remember anymore.

Annie puts her hand over her eyes to look Simone in the eyes through the golden rays of the evening sun.

She smiles.

ANNIE
I kinda want to remember you,
you're the best thing I got out of
this.

Simone looks confused.

SIMONE
I...

ANNIE
Don't worry.
(beat)
It will be over in a beat.

SIMONE
Annie...

Before Simone can finish speaking, Annie runs up to her.

Annie jumps to the edge, hugs Simone and pushes her into the void.

She presses hard on Simone's body in the air.

Simone hugs Annie warmly.

The chests of both are joined in the middle of the fall.

For a second, all they can hear is each other's heartbeat.

Annie stares into Simone's eyes, both smile nervously, falling at great speed to the ground.

They hit the ground hard and reality shatters like a million pieces of glass.

Thousands of shards of glass float past them and disappear, revealing an immense space of---

DARKNESS

SIMONE'S POV

She can see her body falling into the deep.

But she is still suspended in space.

An intense light causes her to roll onto her back. As she does so, she can see Annie, naked and emerging from the center of the intense light.

Millions of golden feathers escape from the light as Annie reaches out to take Simone's hand, and when both hands meet, the entire space is filled with light.

EPILOGUE

EXT. PARADISE - ???

The sky is bluish, smooth and uniform across the heavens.

The mountains open up on the horizon like velvety, purple dresses.

They contrast with the green of the meadows, of the leaves on the treetops.

Both the sky and the mountains are reflected, as well as the intense green, in the crystalline waters of the calm river.

Beside which, under the top of an apple tree and on the soft cushion of grass, a naked figure sleeps.

It's Annie.

She wakes up.

FADE TO BLACK.