

ANGEL WORLD PILOT PART 2

Written by

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INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1211 - NIGHT

Tempest picks the paralyzed Jud up off the floor and sits him in a chair.

TEMPEST

My name's Tempest. You probably
knew that, as well as what
Hellstorm is, already.

Tempest steps back and takes out her phone.

TEMPEST (CONT'D)

You'll be able to talk again soon.
Scream or try anything, and I'll
repeat what I did on that train to
all your nice neighbors.

INT. HOSPITAL - ROOM 2 - MOMENTS LATER

Nate sits up in his hospital bed, trying and failing to call Jud. River approaches him while Castle talks to Ash.

RIVER

Is Jud alright?

NATE

I'm not sure.

RIVER

Has he been taking his meds?

NATE

I'm not his dad, and you're not his
wife.

RIVER

He nearly died for you tonight.

NATE

I know, I know.

Ash's phone buzzes, and she freezes when she looks at the screen.

CASTLE

Is it someone impor...

Castle's voice trails off when he sees the screen.

CLOSE ON: The phone shows a text from an unknown number that reads "this is Tempest. Answer the next call"

Ash's phone rings, a call from an unknown number.

CASTLE (CONT'D)
(To Nate and River)
It's Tempest!

RIVER
What?

CASTLE
She's calling!
(To Ash)
Answer it!

ASH
(annoyed)
Who's the Angel here?
(Beat)
Nate, call Kalash Academy and ask
for Marshall Sparks, Badge Number
ten-ten-twenty-ten, tell her what's
going on.

NATE
What is going on? Is she in the
building?

Beat. The phone keeps ringing.

NATE (CONT'D)
Answer it!

ASH
Uh, no. We need a real negotiator--

NATE
--I wanna kill people when they
ghost me. What do you think a
terrorist will do?

ASH
I'll protect--

River cuts off Ash by snatching the phone and putting it on
speaker.

RIVER
What do you want?

Beat.

TELEMARKETER (PHONE)
Just to help you find the highest
quality knives--

Ash grab the phone back.

CASTLE
(Into phone)
--I could make a very obvious joke
about telemarketers being worse
than terrorists now but I choose
not to!

Ash hangs up the phone while Nate's call connects.

NATE
(Into phone)
I'm Nate- Nathan Fires with Ash
Dash, badge number ten-ten...

ASH
Twenty-ten. And me talking to
Tempest... it'll only make things
worse.

Ash phone rings from an unknown number again, and she quickly ignores it.

ASH (CONT'D)
Trust me.

NATE
(Into phone)
Twenty ten. Get me Marshal Sparks.
Tempest Waves may be here in the
hospital with us.

Ash receives a text from an unknown number, which shows a selfie of Tempest standing over Jud in his apartment.

Another text comes, reading "pick up or he's dead." Ash freezes.

RIVER
(sees text)
Oh, mother.

NATE
(sees text)
Oh, mother. Jud!

The phone rings, and Ash answers.

TEMPEST (PHONE)
--I felt compelled to give an
encore tonight, and who better a
partner than Calsin's new favorite
Angel Wing?

Ash's phone turns to live video feed of her in Jud's apartment. She stands next to Jud to display them both. The four people in the room crowd the phone.

TEMPEST (CONT'D)

I want you and the second hero from the subway here in one hour, or I turn him and this whole dunghole inside-out.

ASH

Tempest, please, no more killing tonight. I...

Tempest looks confused briefly, then smiles.

NATE

Jud's it's gonna be alright, I promise.

TEMPEST

With Ash Dash on the case, how can it not be? Standard hostage terms and conditions apply.

Tempest hangs up.

RIVER

Standard hostage? What does that mean?

ASH

It means we show up alone.

NATE

So no negotiator? She'll kill us.

ASH

No! I can't let that happen.

CASTLE

She won't get the chance. You're not--

NATE

--She's got Jud.

CASTLE

So Ms. Dash, you can call Brick West to take her down easily, right?

Beat.

Ash steels her face and extends her hand to Nate, who gives her the phone.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1211 - SAME

ON VIDEO: Jud looks straight into the camera of the phone pointed at him. He kneels on the floor, gripping his shoulder.

JUD
*We are Hellstorm. We are the
justice, honor and...* got massacred
by two factory grunts!

Jud looks up at Tempest with a smile.

TEMPEST
You really hate your neighbors that
much?

END VIDEO

Tempest is holding a sheet of paper and the phone.

JUD
You're going to kill us all
anyways.

TEMPEST
And deny you the chance to charge
tickets to see the dunghole where
Calsin's hero prostrated himself?

JUD
That's not what prostrate m--

Tempest grabs Jud's hand and breaks several fingers.

TEMPEST
So you can read. Do it!

Jud cries out and looks at the door, clutching his hand.

TEMPEST (CONT'D)
Sure, cry out. If you're
uncooperative, I'll still have a
message to send and if they run I
don't have to go door-to-door on my
way out.

Tempest holds up the phone and the paper.

ON VIDEO:

JUD

We are Hellstorm. We are the justice, honor and strength in all beings that human matriarchy has suppressed, but failed to snuff out. We battle for the franchisement of Crysts and men.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - LATER

Ash, Nate, Castle and River run through the parking lot to a large tractor-trailer emblazoned with both the CNSF logo and Johnny's logo.

JUD (V.O.)

Today's attack will be the first of many until the weak and greedy bureaucrats surrender their stolen power and riches and the world stands united under the Rockaras monarchy. Join us.

As they approach, Johnny steps outside.

JOHNNY

Angel Johnny Ryder. Sparks gave me field command on this op.

ASH

Ash Dash.

NATE

Nathan Fires. Terrorist gave me get shot command.

JOHNNY

Get in.

Ash, Nate, River and Castle moves to enter, but Johnny stops the former two.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Sorry. Nate Fires is critical, but--

CASTLE

--Both boys involved in this are like my sons.

Ash and Nate look back. River looks Nate in the eye, then pulls Castle back.

RIVER

Dad, come on.

NATE

I love you. I'll bring Jud home.

Nate and Ash go inside.

CASTLE

His home is where the terrorist is!

INT. OPERATIONS TRAILER - LATER

The inside of the trailer is fitted with computers, weapons, Angel Armor; everything necessary to be a mobile base. Johnny's ANGEL WINGS mill about while Ash, Nate, and Johnny crowd around a table projecting a hologram of Jud's apartment and a live feed of MARSHALL SPARKS (Female, 50s, redhead.)

MARSHALL SPARKS

Then we've got forty five minutes.

ASH

(To Sparks)

To do what? Where's Brick West.

MARSHALL SPARKS

Unavailable.

NATE

Did he take every other Angel except...

(To Johnny)

I'm sorry.

JOHNNY

Johnny Ryder.

NATE

With him? This is--

MARSHALL SPARKS

--Darling, I appreciate what you and your friend did tonight, but you're only along for this op because Tempest asked for you.

Beat.

NATE

Right. You're the professionals. What's the plan?

ASH

(To Sparks)

We- me and Nate can't go in there.

(MORE)

ASH (CONT'D)
You don't get lucky with Tempest
twice in one night.

Beat.

NATE
Johnny's got fire powers, but
you're on fire with the bad
phrasing tonight.

JOHNNY
Tempest's an Angel. And I figure
trained enough to avoid windows so
sniping her won't work.

While the others talk, Nate looks at a rack of armor
gauntlets similar to the one for the construction suit.

MARSHALL SPARKS
I have another call coming, but I'm
telling you to do whatever is
necessary to save that boy.

Spark's feed shuts off.

ASH
Can you take her?

JOHNNY
I don't know.

Johnny holds up his hand and ignites a ball of fire.

ASH
Fire powers? Why'd they send you to
fight an Angel?

JOHNNY
(annoyed)
On the assumption we could double-
team her.

NATE
Can she paralyze me if I'm wearing
armor?

Johnny and Ash look at Nate with surprise.

ASH
Won't make it any easier for her,
but--

NATE

I'll go in. I know how to fight and use armor.

Ash pulls Nate closer by the shoulder, almost like she is a mother scolding a child.

ASH

Not likely. I thought you didn't wanna die tonight.

JOHNNY

That might be our best bet.

ASH

(stammers)

Send a civilian in alone? N-no. Neither of you know Tempest. She'll kill all three of us if we give her what she wants.

NATE

Ash, I get you're scared.

ASH

Excuse me? I-I'm just being realistic. No one here's got a snowball's chance. She'll paralyze me so I can watch as she beats you to death, armor or no.

JOHNNY

If you know her so well, keep her talking. You just need to distract her long enough for us to burst in. Then it's you, me and my armored Wings against--

ASH

--Talking to her is... a worse idea. Easily.

NATE

Ash, a homicidal nutcase is holding my friend hostage because he saved your life. If you were Sally Shmo, you'd owe it to him talk to your old playground bully for five seconds, but you're an Angel. So let's do this!

Beat.

EXT. APARTMENT PARKING LOT - LATER

The command center is parked outside a large, low-income apartment complex. Johnny's seven Angel Wings, three armored and four unarmored, load weapons.

INT. OPERATIONS TRAILER - SAME

Ash uses her phone while Johnny and Nate stand nearby.

Ash's breath quickens as the phone rings.

JUD (ANSWERING MACHINE)
Hey, it's Jud Masters, you know
what to do. *beep*

Ash looks at the others, who all non-verbally prompt her to leave a message.

ASH
Tempest, this is Ash. I'm... we're
coming- the other guy from the
subway and I are coming up. He'll
be wearing Angel armor.

Ash looks at the others again, who repeat their gestures.

Ash annoyedly mimics their gestures.

ASH (CONT'D)
What? Hostage negotiation never
taught signing off a voicemail to
them.

Nate takes the phone.

NATE
Jud, if you can hear this, it's
gonna be alright.

Nate looks at the Angel Armor gauntlet in his hand.

NATE (CONT'D)
You'll see what me smashing things
on purpose looks like.

Nate's face becomes afraid.

NATE (CONT'D)
Kidding, kidding. Tempest, we're
not going to try anything. That's
just an in-joke between me and my
friend.

Ash hangs up.

ASH

Smooth. I already told her you'd be wearing Angel Armor.

NATE

Yeah that was dumb. But in my defense, when you learned you could fly, where you content to let someone else tell people once?

Ash gives a shrug while Johnny takes Nate's hand with the armor gauntlet.

JOHNNY

Alright, so you've used construction variants, but do you know how combat armor works?

Nate pulls his hand back.

NATE

Yeah, you just press--

Nate hits the main button on his gauntlet, and the Angel Armor unfolds and encases him. He clenches his fists.

NATE (CONT'D)

Tempest Waves, you're--

ASH

--We said how it works!

Ash flicks her finger against Nate's helmet, making the suit's forcefield flash at the point of contact.

ASH (CONT'D)

And why if you fight an Angel like Tempest she'll crack and eat you like a innards-nut!

JOHNNY

(checks watch)

Let's move.

EXT. APARTMENT PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

The group exits behind the trailer.

JOHNNY

While you're wearing it, you've got
a fraction of an Angel's strength
and force-field.

ASH

Slow or sharp's especially bad for
your shield and you don't heal
fast. As soon as Johnny and the
others burst in, I'm taking you and
Jud out of there.

Nate flips up the visor on his helmet, and looks between Ash
and Johnny, then the apartment. His face betrays fear.

FLASHBACK:

INT. APARTMENT - HALLWAYS - AFTERNOON

A hallway in a low-income apartment building.

SUPER: 13 years ago

YOUNG NATE (11) runs around a corner holding a toy dart gun,
with YOUNG JUD (12) in hot pursuit.

Jud lands several shots.

JUD

Gotcha! Gotcha! Gotcha!

Nate stops running and pants.

NATE

Kayit! Alright, now I'll start at
the top-

Jud starts picking up fired darts.

JUD

-No, we gotta pick everything up
first.

NATE

We got plenty.

JUD

Moms say people complain.

YOUNG MS BELUSHI (Female, Cryst, 70s) exits one of the
apartment doors.

MS BELUSHI
Quit making that ruckus and leaving
your trash everywhere.

Jud gives Nate a knowing look.

Nate smiles and shoots Ms Belushi at the exact same time a
real gunshot sounds from outside the building.

Nate looks at his toy gun while Jud jumps up. More gunshots
come from outside.

MS BELUSHI (CONT'D)
Inside, now!

Ms Belushi gestures Nate and Jud into her apartment.

INT. APARTMENT - APT 1213 - CONTINUOUS

Nate and Jud enter into an apartment identical to Jud's save
the addition of touches only a grandma could give a space. Ms
Belushi quickly locks the door.

MS BELUSHI
Kayit Beasts and Simpsons!

JUD
They're actually called Hortons.

MS BELUSHI
Don't matter what you call
yourselves. Just rascals can't
think of anything better to do than
shoot up the neighborhood after the
human lays you off. Crysts have
been--

Nate runs to the window and Jud follows while Ms Belushi
retrieves a shotgun from her closet.

NATE
--No, it's gotta be Nuala! She's a
kay-infected girl at school, and
they said she was sick-

Ms Belushi pulls the boys away from the window by their
collars.

MS BELUSHI
Get your flank away from there!
(to Jud)
(MORE)

MS BELUSHI (CONT'D)
Stray shot hits you, you're
becoming a monster in my living
room!
(gestures to phone)
Now call your mommies! I ain't
sheltering no monster more than an
hour.

Nate and Jud go to the phone, and Jud dials while Ms. Belushi
watches the window.

NATE
You think Nuala turned into a
really bad monster?
(smiles)
You think Brick West will come to
fight her?

Jud stops dialing and frowns.

NATE (CONT'D)
What's wrong? Call!

JUD
I really don't like it when you
talk about monsters that way. It-
it scares me.

NATE
I'm sorry. Man, when I'm rich, I'll
buy all your monster meds.

Jud smiles.

JUD
They're called Kay suppressors.

END FLASHBACK

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - HALLWAY - LATER

Nate, clad in armor, rounds the corner at the end of the
hallway, whose rug is torn up and paint faded, just like his
younger self did.

Ash emerges behind him as Nate stops.

ASH
This it?

Ash looks at Nate, who's hands are shaking.

ASH (CONT'D)
Not so itching to face her now, are you?

NATE
No, no, I just...

ASH
Look...
(checks watch)
To you, she's just a gal. She's probably not even gonna care about you once I'm in the room talking to her.

NATE
Oh, yeah? What's your deal with her?

ASH
Classified, that's what.

NATE
I'm risking my life, here. I'll probably read it in the tabloids. Which I never read. Who said anything about--

ASH
--We trained together, she got court martialed in a decision I didn't totally agree with. Happy now?

Beat.

NATE
None of that's gonna stop you from saving Jud, right?

Beat.

ASH
What Tempest's done is horrible. I'm not gonna let her take one more, especially not of an ideal man like you.

They move forwards.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1211 - MOMENTS LATER

A knock on the door that is propped shut with a table.

ASH (O.S.)
Tempest, it's me and my Angel Wing.

Gunfire sounds from out the apartment window.

ASH (O.S.) (CONT'D)
(To Nate)
This neighborhood, what are the
odds that's related to us?

NATE (O.S.)
Sixty-forty.

More gunfire and commotion from out the window.

ANGEL WING 1 (RADIO)
She's making a break for it!

Nate bursts through the door, splintering the top half, then
breaking the table apart with a single kick.

REVEAL: Jud lies face-down on the floor.

NATE
Jud!

Nate rushes to Jud's side, lifting his suit's visor and
turning Jud over to look at his face.

Ash runs in and checks Jud's pulse.

ASH
He's breathing.

Ash then takes out her radio and runs to the window.

ASH'S POV: Ash looks out over the block's large, concrete
courtyard. Some people run, but there's no more gunshots or
sign of their source.

JOHNNY (RADIO)
Dash, scrub the hostage rescue, I
need you on air-recon, now!

Ash looks back at Nate, who shakes Jud to dazed
consciousness.

NATE
Jud? Jud, it's alright, man. What
happened?

JOHNNY (RADIO)
Dash, come in!

ASH
(Into Radio)
I'm on it.
(to Nate)
I don't see any wounds.

NATE
What?

ASH
Look, Tempest wouldn't make a break
for it without a diversion, so--

JUD
(Pained)
--Meds.

Nate's face goes cold. He drops Jud, causing him to bang his head on the floor, and steps back.

JUD (CONT'D)
Ow! She didn't mean give me a wound.

NATE
Sorry.

ASH
You're a potential monster?

JUD
(weak)
I prefer 'Kay-infectee.'

Jud turns his head to show them an injection mark on his neck.

JUD (CONT'D)
She injected me with Kay.

ASH
No, no... I'm sorry we took so--

Nate runs towards the bathroom, but his armor carries him faster than he's ready, so he trips over and crashes through the bedroom door.

ASH (CONT'D)
Be careful.

JUD
Still smashing thing- *coughs*

Nonplussed, Nate gets up and bursts into the apartment's tiny bathroom, where he finds several empty pill bottles strewn on the floor near the toilet, whose water is green.

JOHNNY (RADIO)

Ash, report!

Ash kneels next to Jud and takes out her radio.

ASH

(To Jud)

I'm sorry. I didn't know.

(Into Radio)

She's infected the hostage with
excess Kay. We need meds here, now!

Beat.

JOHNNY (RADIO)

Ramirez, take the kay-suppressors up
to the hostage. Ash, we need recon
now.

Ash stands up, touching her forehead.

ASH

(muttering)

The train terrorists... making a
monster?

Nate emerges from the bathroom and lifts his visor, revealing tears.

NATE

She's flushed everything.

Jud grabs Ash's arm.

JUD

Kill her. You owe us that much.

Ash shuts her eyes, clenches her fist, then opens them.

ASH

(To Nate)

Run, and sound the alarm in the
building. The Angel Wing will take
care of him.

Ash flies out the window.

EXT. APARTMENT COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

Ash flies out over the apartment courtyard, scanning the area as civilians, mostly Crysts, run about in panic below.

ASH
(Into Radio)
Who spotted her?

ANGEL WING 2 (RADIO)
Foley. He was on northeast
perimeter.

Ash flies in one direction.

EXT. TENEMENT DISTRICT - MOMENTS LATER

Ash flies above the buildings around the apartment.

She looks at the dead body of an armored Angel Wing on the ground with visible sadness, then flies further in that direction.

Ash spies the only empty parking spot on the block.

ASH
(Into Radio)
She's in a car.

JOHNNY
You sure?

Ash drops down from the sky to the street below, next to a cowering CRYST CHILD (TOBIN).

ASH
Hey, hey, kid.

Tobin shields his face, nearly crying.

ASH (CONT'D)
Hey, it's alright. I'm an Angel. A
good one. I'm a friend of Brick
West, alright?

Tobin lowers his hands.

ASH (CONT'D)
Right now, we need your help. Did
the bad person you saw get into a
car parked there?

Tobin cautiously nods.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1211 - SAME

Nate picks Jud up and places him in a chair.

ASH (RADIO)
Tempest's in a black coupe. I'm
scanning for- I think I see it.
Headed south on Oum street.

JOHNNY (RADIO)
Confirm it's her. I'm on my way.

NATE
(Into Radio)
Where are those meds?

RAMIREZ (RADIO)
I'm coming, I'm coming!

JUD
(Weak)
Nate...

Jud puts his hand on Nate's shoulder, and Nate looks his old friend in the eye.

JUD (CONT'D)
You- I'm sorry about what I said.
You are a real Angel Wing.

NATE
No, no! Don't talk like that, man.

Jud spasms and lets out an inhuman growling noise.

NATE (CONT'D)
(Into radio)
Ramirez, hurry up!

Jud grabs Nate's wrist.

JUD
If I turn... *spasms* you have to
stop me.

Jud starts spasming and growling uncontrollably, and his body starts to malform. Nate backs away in terror.

NATE
No, no! Jud, please! You can't die!
I can't fight a mon--

RAMIREZ (Female, 28, Angel Armor) comes through the door.

EXT. OUM STREET - SAME

Ash flies over the slum streets after a speeding black coupe.

TEMPEST (RADIO)
You're still quick as a whip,
aren't you, Ash?

At the sound of a revving motorcycle, Ash looks back to see Johnny drift around the corner on a dirt bike, chasing Tempest.

JOHNNY
(Into Radio)
She's on our comms. Beta frequency!

Ash swoops down to land on the hood of Tempest's car.

ASH
(To Tempest)
Tempest, I have to--

Tempest leans forwards and punches through the windshield to reach for Ash.

CLOSE ON/SLOW MOTION: Tempest is able to touch Ash with a single finger, zapping her with her powers.

Ash tumbles to the ground, rolling over and skidding.

Johnny shoots a fireball at Tempest's back wheel, causing it to melt and Tempest's car to skid.

As soon as Tempest's car is perpendicular to his bike, Johnny uses his powers to set his entire bike ablaze, then backflips off of it.

The flaming bike smashes into the passenger side of Tempest's car with a fiery explosion while Johnny rolls to a halt next to Ash.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1211 - MOMENTS LATER

Ramirez takes out a syringe with yellow liquid inside while Jud falls to the ground as his entire body starts to morph, his muscles enlarging and mouth and teeth contorting.

Ramirez injects Jud.

Jud's transformation continues until he is a SHUNTER: a muscular humanoid creature with a bony-mask over it's face and ritualistic markings on his skin.

Shunter-Jud lies still.

RAMIREZ

Think I got it in time.

Nate stands up.

NATE

In time?! In time would have been
thirty seconds ago. He's... he's...

RAMIREZ

I'm sorry, but I got it in time he
won't attack--

Shunter-Jud extends bone-blades from his hands and slices at Ramirez's ankles, knocking her down.

Nate backs up while Shunter-Jud gets over Ramirez and slashes at her, quickly breaking Ramirez's shield before slicing into the armor around her neck.

Shunter-Jud looks at Nate with a growl, then its bone-mask splits to spit a bone-projectile at Nate's head.

Nate puts his visor down just before the projectile hits him in the face and knocks him back into the hallway.

EXT. OUM STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Tempest kicks the door off her burning car and jumps out, bruised and singed, but otherwise alright.

Johnny ignites two balls of flame in his hands.

JOHNNY

You're under arr--

Tempest charges at Johnny, who blasts her with flames that she seems to barely notice.

Ash jumps away from Johnny just as Tempest closes the distance and grabs him with her paralytic touch.

TEMPEST

Flames? Do you know anything about
your own powers?

Tempest throws Johnny to the ground, cracking the asphalt, and stomps on him once, damaging his shield.

ASH

Tempest, stop!

TEMPEST
(Continues stomping)
One minute, darling.

With one more stomp, Johnny's shield visibly breaks, and with another, he coughs up blood.

Ash draws a pistol and shoots Tempest in the head, stunning her.

ASH
This is between you and me.

Tempest kicks Johnny in the head, knocking him out, then charges Ash.

Ash shoots Tempest once while fly-diving out of the way.

TEMPEST
Just like training, huh?

ASH
(To herself)
Training...

Ash tries to fly up, but Tempest pulls an automatic pistol and sprays Ash down, knocking her back down to Earth.

Tempest runs at Ash, and the two engage in CQC; Ash has a knife in one hand and pistol in the other, Tempest her pistol and sparking limbs.

They slash, grab and shoot at each other with years of martial-arts experience, but only get in glancing hits, and Tempest is overly-aggressive in her attempts to paralyze Ash.

Eventually, Tempest over-extends herself, and Ash is able to slash at her side then kick her away.

TEMPEST
Kayit, I didn't mean literally like training!

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

While Shunter-Jud continues to slash at Ramirez in the room, Nate stands up in the hallway.

Nate feels his helmet where the projectile hit, then looks at Shunter-Jud.

NATE
I'm sorry.

Nate gets up and runs for the stairwell.

MS. BELUSHI (O.S.)
What are you hooligans up to now?!

The door Nate just ran past opens, and Nate skids to a halt while MS. BELUSHI (Female, Cryst, 80s) comes out wielding a shotgun.

Nate and Ms. Belushi turn to face each other, and Nate catches the shotgun before Ms. Belushi can point it at him, much in the same way he caught the shotgun on the subway.

Ms. Belushi screams, but Nate takes the gun and lifts his visor.

NATE
It's me! It's me!

MS. BELUSHI
Nate Fires? You're an Angel Wing?

NATE
Uh, no.

Nate and Ms. Belushi look towards the commotion in apt. 1211 when Ramirez throws Shunter-Jud off of her and into the wall.

Nate looks at the shotgun in his hands.

JUD (V.O.)
But we beat all those guys. It's just like combat sports. Now the people outside are alive because of us.

Nate drops his visor and moves back into apt. 1211.

NATE
Sound the alarm.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1211 - CONTINUOUS

Ramirez, bleeding from several places where Shunter-Jud cut through her armor, tries to get up. Shunter-Jud kicks up, ready for more.

Nate enters and aims at Shunter-Jud.

NATE
For you, Jud.

Nate still blasts Shunter-Jud with the shotgun, knocking him back.

Nate steps forwards and shoots Shunter-Jud again, making green-blood fly out.

Shunter-Jud slashes at Nate with his wrist-blades, but Nate blocks, elbows him, kicks him back, then blasts him a third time so Shunter-Jud goes out the open window.

NATE (CONT'D)
You alright?

RAMIREZ
(Pained)
Just get him, you idiot, before he
tears up the block.

NATE
You're welcome.

Nate runs to the window, but as soon as he sticks his head out, another bone-projectile hits him in the face from below.

NATE (CONT'D)
Ow! You've stepped up your loogie
game.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1011 - DECK - SAME

Shunter-Jud, on the balcony of the lower-apartment where he landed, screeches triumphantly, then breaks the sliding-glass door to go limp inside.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1011 - CONTINUOUS

Seriously injured, Shunter-Jud limps into the slightly-better furnished, but dark apt. 1011.

Nate lands on the balcony behind him, banging his head on the railing and bending the shotgun.

NATE
Kayit.

NATE'S POV: Looking past the Angel Armor's HUD, which shows a depleted shield-meter, Nate looks inside the apartment, where Shunter-Jud is nowhere to be seen.

Nate enters the apartment and taps the side of his helmet, turning on night-vision, just in time to see Shunter-Jud lunge at him from behind the counter.

EXT. OUM STREET - SAME

Ash and Tempest continue to trade blows, but Tempest has become more measured.

Tempest stuns Ash by shooting her, but Ash flying-leaps away before Tempest can grab her.

Panting with fatigue, Tempest looks to her right where Johnny's semi-tractor swerves around a corner and barrels towards them.

ASH

They're going to kill you, Tempest.
Because you really are a killer
this time.

Tempest's expression softens to tired amusement.

TEMPEST

I rotted in prison cause you
wouldn't say two words to cover for
the woman who loved you. You gonna
help me this time?

ASH

I'd rather help him.

Ash runs to Johnny's side. Tempest pauses for a second, then turns and runs, ducking into an alley.

Ash watches Tempest disappear, then checks Johnny's pulse as the truck skids to a stop nearby, and three of Johnny's Angels hop out.

ASH (CONT'D)

(To Angels)

He's alive!

ANGEL 3

We can't let her escape.

ASH

I can't take her alone.

(Using phone)

We have to call the entire
department and lock down the
neighborhood.

(Beat)

What happened to the boys?

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - APT 1011 - SAME

Shunter-Jud battles Nate with a bladed-staff made out of a spine. Both combatants are wounded, but Shunter-Jud significantly more so.

Nate catches the staff and kicks Shunter-Jud into the wall.

Before Shunter-Jud can recover, Nate yells and impales him with the staff.

Shunter-Jud lets off a howl, then goes limp.

For a beat, Nate stands, holding the staff and panting.

NATE
Piece of dung!

Take pulls the staff out and slashes at Shunter-Jud's body, even as the green-energy drifts away and the body, including the staff, dissolve to dust.

NATE (CONT'D)
You killed Jud! You killed him!
You...

Nate keeps swinging even as there is nothing on the wall or in his hands, then stops.

Nate taps his helmet

NATE (CONT'D)
Ash... you get her?

Beat.

ASH (RADIO)
She got away. I'm sorry.

Nate punches a hole in the wall.

INT. MAUSOLEUM - DAY

A large room that combines a mausoleum and a church, whose artwork betrays Calsin's dominant matriarchical religion.

Ash, Castle and River stand amongst dozens of morose FUNERALGOERS, mostly Crysts, in the pews while sad music plays.

Jud's two mothers, TRINITH and DELIA, carry an urn towards Nate, who stands next to an open cabinet on a large marble wall with dozens of named cabinets.

Tearful, Trinith and Delia place the urn inside, and the PRIESTESS closes it.

Nate looks across the dozens of cabinets, then stands in front.

NATE

(Sad, but angry)

Speeches... or lectures at least, were always Jud's thing. Everything was Jud's thing, really. He was smarter and braver. He was my brother! Now he's gone, and I feel lost, because one woman turned him into a monster.

(beat)

And I killed him. Because Jud was strong and honorable, he turned into a Shunter. And I wanted to run, but... But I learned on the train Jud wasn't just my hero, he was everyone's. Heroes don't run from monsters, they know even the strongest can be beaten... and what happens to the innocent when they aren't.

INT. CNSF RECRUITMENT OFFICE - LATER

In the recruitment office's small waiting room, Nate fills out an application form with Ash sitting nearby on her phone.

ASH

(To Nate)

You sure you want to be a Combat Angel Wing?

NATE

I still want movie deals, but they didn't catch Tempest, so yeah.

CLOSE ON:

Ash's phone shows a headline reading "Search for Tempest Waves called off. Terrorist still at large."

ASH

No they didn't. I'm sorry I couldn't--

Nate stands up and walks towards the submission bin.

NATE

Not your fault. Don't like the idea of her being out there, but if you'd chased, you'd be dead, too, right? That's why she called the meeting; kill Calsin's new heroes.

Nate stops by the submission bin, looking at his application.

ASH

Tempest's smart, but she couldn't do all this on her own. Not even sure that meeting was her idea; she just turned Jud, then ran. Seemed like she was just doing the bare minimum.

NATE

Excuse me?

ASH

Sorry, didn't mean it like that. Just feel there are higher orders in Hellstorm. And you know how these things hit society; we'll be dealing with more monsters and gangs...

NATE

So we'll have plenty of work to do, even if we're not the ones to catch Tempest.

Nate deposits his paper, and Ash touches him.

ASH

I'll get you the best armor and watch your back every minute.

NATE

Thanks. Now let's talk salary...