

Kil. Serenity: A Screenplay Treatment

**By Rath Avens
pianestarov@yahoo.com**

SANTA BARBARA, USA

Explosions rock Santa Barbara, California. The US government bombs its own cities to stop a rebellion. Kieran grabs Charna by the shoulders and tells his love that she must leave. She can't die there. With his last words he yells at her to find the traitors and those who planned the bombings.

She leaves the burning city and starts on her quest alone. In Sacramento she kills traitors to extract key information. Accidentally she shoots a young boy that she thought was an assassin.

Charna heads south through the forests with assassins on her trail. She dreams about the past and her dead brother who was killed by her abusive father.

One dreamy morning Damien appears as Charna wakes up. Startled she pulls her guns in a flash and threatens to kill him. He turns out to be a distant friend of Kieran come to warn her that some of the assassins who stalk her are from the Resistance. She toys with him and searches his gear.

She agrees to let Damien accompany her down south on her killing spree. They walk through ruined towns amid burning rubbish piles. She learns that his brother was killed in an arson fire and his Islamic father was assassinated because of his farm worker and other organizing. Near the border of the government-controlled area, Damien sees her darker side when they come upon a man raping a mixed race teenager.

At the border they party with some gangs that are familiar to Charna. The gangsters don't trust Damien until after a big speech Charna makes about her life and the mission at hand. That night she sleeps with a black dude named Wayne who later turns out to be a traitor.

The gangs provide crucial aid and contacts. Before supper, an elder Mexican gentleman, the father of one of the women gang leaders, gives a speech about the Resistance. He wishes them well on their quest and hopes that they can be the ones who make the difference.

When they cross the border into the rich people zone they become new people. They dress up and act fancy. Like a young yuppie couple in love, they walk around the town styling and scoping-out assassination sites, surveillance cameras, security forces, coffee shops and hotels close to the hits.

They see a police "Wanted" poster for Charna and run laughing to the hotel room to cut and dye their hair.

The next morning at a coffee shop, they get a download from the gangs with details about targets. They walk to a shoe store where a top security chief is about to pick up some shoes. They lock the owner and her young Mexican daughter in a back room and wait.

The Intelligence Chief's bodyguard comes in the store to pick up the shoes. Charna follows him out with a "present" for the Chief. He lowers the window on the limousine to take the package. With little help from Damien she kills everyone inside the car with a few shots from her silenced ten-millimeter pistol. They grab some of the weapons inside the car and the cell phones.

A small bomb in the Intel chief's car and another by the fire hydrant cover their escape. A taxicab takes them to an address Charna finds in the stolen cell phone: the rectory of a large Catholic church.

Damien begins to assert himself. This pleases Charna. They threaten and torture the priest and get some information, cash, a computer and costumes. Damien kills the priest with one of Charna's knitting needles to the chest. This is a transformation moment.

This is Damien's first kill with Charna. She wanted to wait until they got a bit more information, but she is so happy at Damien's change that she dips her fingers into the pooling blood and writes: "Fuck Vampires" on a mirror in the priest's room.

Their teamwork and love blossom.

They kill an assassin nun as they leave the church and run across the street looking for aerial drones and surveillance cameras. Damien steals a car as Charna places a bomb on a gasoline tanker truck to cover their escape.

Down the road they give the car and some weapons to a gang of young street kids. In return, some of the gang promise to meet Charna and Damien at the city center the next day to help with a dangerous weapons pickup. Then it's off to dance at an underground club nearby. Later they ditch their limo ride and check into a motel room. They make love by the window watching the rain and the dark blue sky.

They wake up feeling lively and romantic. Damien begins with some modernized Shakespeare and Charna responds in kind. They shower and head into town splashing in the rain puddles. At a coffee shop they download data from the priest's cell phone and computer. Charna takes off to buy some hooker attire and ropes for her next hit: a Colombian engineer.

Damien is nervous and sits in the coffee shop worried about Charna and the next target. He stretches and gets up for more coffee and to buy something special for her. He sees a rocket zeroing in on him from across the street. He dives over the counter and knocks down the barrista. He saves their lives. The drone had aimed the missile at an electronic sensor on Charna's backpack and so Damien survives the small explosion. Much of their gear is lost.

Charna is busy tying up the Colombian big shot. He hangs naked from the bathroom door of a fourth story hotel room. The Colombian's surprise friend - a rich Venezuelan - is already dead

from a cruel kick to the head delivered by Charna. After some mild torture and foreplay, she kills the greasy Colombian and then her headaches go away...Charna rappels out the window.

Damien paces up and down the street and decides to start smoking. Just then Charna slides down the rope to where he is waiting.

A taxi takes them to a new hotel. Charna sleeps and dreams in fits and starts. Damien surveys the gear that remains. Nerves are frayed, and the two really are shaken by the drone attack and the sense of feeling trapped. They have a mild argument about whether the sniper rifle pickup planned for the next morning still makes sense.

Damien wants Charna to be a leader and slow down, be careful. Charna wants to get the rifle and get the job done, by her self if necessary. Damien relents and they joke around.

Charna begins to have strange dreams and visions. Separating the dreams from reality becomes difficult for her. The Death Angel, Charna's dream mentor, comes and goes. They are happy now. Damien starts to have similar dreams. The two of them talk about her life and how the world got to this state of war and chaos disasters.

They talk of love, who they are and what resistance means in these end times.

Damien asks her to explain the dreams and what is going on. Charna promises to do that, later.

They get a text message about the rifle pickup saying:

"High risk and zero support."

Now they travel the same dreams. The past and the futures start to merge.

Charna dreams of different boys. One is the Bad Boy who lurks at the Icy Pond where the Death Angel resides. One boy is usually running from a burning house or she sets him on fire. And the other is her brother who died to stop her father from raping her.

Charna and Damien more than dream together. They point things out to each other as they travel the dreamlands. Damien sees Charna watch as his childhood house burns down with his younger brother inside. A man runs with a can of gasoline.

She calls him out of his dream and over to her dream scene at the Icy Pond.

The Death Angel speaks to Charna:

**"I am you. You are not dreaming, there is no Icy Pond...
Return to the things themselves, transcend the point where assumptions die."**

Then the feeling at the Icy Pond changes and turns mean toward them. They feel unwanted and threatened... Charna wants to look for something shiny that she saw the Bad Boy drop in the grass the last time she was there. This idea of a missing charm haunts her until the end.

The menacing shadow of the Bad Boy looms over them and crosses their path.

The boy says:

"I killed her [the Death Angel/Charna's conscience]. I command her now."

Charna tries to summon the Death Angel, but fails. New powers are awakening in Charna and new uncertainties too.

Charna's heart flies out of the sky and enters her chest. Something else is also there inside her heart and this troubles her. A shadow?

They wake up late and Damien wants to talk about the dreams, but Charna tells him to wait again. They leave the hotel and buy coffee to go. Damien is dressed as a priest, Charna as an old woman (nun). They take up their positions and look around for the gangster kids whom they left the white car and some guns with.

Just as they see the black truck arriving with the sniper rifle, a text message comes in warning them to abort the mission. It's a trap. Charna is determined and ignores the warning.

Damien kills a few police in the area.

Charna forces a driver to pull his car out in front of the truck and then she falls down between the two vehicles. A guard from the truck leans over to check on the old lady lying in the street. Charna kills him and a few more guards, but has to fall back to a safer place behind a garbage dumpster. Bullets fly around her.

Nina and Luis ride up on a moped and kill one of the guards, but Luis gets shot in the head through his helmet. The distraction enables Charna to kill the last guard. The sound of military helicopters fills the air. Soldiers seal off the area. Damien gets away on a different moped while Nina and Charna commandeer a Cadillac convertible. The car's driver, now a hostage, seems friendly enough.

They rendezvous with Damien a few miles away. Down an alley Charna spots some police harassing a young black girl, so they eliminate the police. As they are about to leave, Charna's best friend Marie shows up out of nowhere. Marie takes charge of things as Charna drifts off into a too deep sleep for almost twenty-four hours.

They camp out in the desert on the way to San Diego. Marie is about to kill the hostage when a drone-launched missile does the job for her. They fear another attack even though Marie shoots down the next drone to arrive. While Damien gets the car ready, Marie runs up a nearby hill and takes out an electric substation complex with the sniper rifle.

Twenty miles down the highway, they pull off the road to hide from the police. Charna dreams again. She is with Damien at a different lake than the Icy Pond. It's a sunny daydream colored with innocent love.

They are dreamy and happy and make promise bonds to each other:

**"Set me as the seal upon your heart
As seal upon your arm
For love is as strong as death..."**

With magical speed, Damien weaves a braided pine needle bracelet for Charna. This symbolically replaces the "broken Charm" she has "lost."

A tattoo of a heart appears on her arm.

A giant swan's shadow glides over them and a song is heard:

"Hush little baby don't you cry... Hush little baby or now you die..."

Then everything changes. They are at the icy pond and it's colder, drier and dying. Charna sees Damien come out of the flames of his brother's death.

The Obelisk by the pond stretches up and distorts next to them. At first she is inside of the obelisk. Then she looks down from the top at the ground where the dead bodies of the three boys lie smashed and burning.

Charna stands on the surface of the Icy Pond. She sees different views of the children dying. She holds her head and pulls at her hair hysterical and mad.

**"The magic, the Dark and the Light,
Where life and death meet.
I see it everywhere I look.
It's inside of everything...
Love and hate....
Are you evil?"**

The Death Angel's voice says:

"The rich die when the birds fly..."

SAN DIEGO

At the beach near San Diego everyone feels renewed. Charna wakes from her long sleep to Damien proclaiming her as beautiful as the day that greets them. Signs of global warming are noted and strange birds are running the beach. The three of them romp in the surf and take turns splashing each other.

Charna informs them that the plans have changed. She decides to work with the gangs to coordinate a new Resistance uprising and the attacks on the prisons. She calls David to confirm the plan and informs him:

"If I'm gonna work down here I'll have to clean house first."

At sunset they walk into town and visit Damien's sister and mother at a restaurant. On the way back to their convertible Charna spots Wayne, the black dude she slept with in Los Angeles,

driving by in a fancy Hummer. Damien swears that the driver was a traitorous gang leader: Chi Chi Tamayo. Charna can't stop Marie from leaving them to follow the Hummer.

David shows up to the rescue, as the police have seized the white convertible. They spend the night among giant rocks on a remote beach area with members of David's L.A. gang.

Charna relates her last lingering fears about committing to the gang unification and the imminent prison attacks. She makes her choice.

They sleep on the beach to the sound of waves and dream together. They know that something is up as the next dream unfolds. They are together and heavily armed like commandos. At times the scene is almost spoof-like. The Prince and Princess of Death.

Charna's dead lover Kieran and the Bad Boy stand solemnly at the Pond. Strange winds stir gradually. Time wavers back and forth to actions we have seen. They search the area pointing their machineguns outward as they rotate around

The boy's mothers are there for a moment.

Damien speaks in a strange voice:

**"Open the windows, air out your brains,
your fucking egos..."**

Charna responds to the night air:

**"Dreams are simply the flow of life into the night.
I'm here Loki, a black hole, a void just like you.
I'm your Sister of the Darkness.**

**The Seals are all broken, except for one and that one will kill me.
I'm ready to pay the price."**

TIJUANA

Charna asserts her new self and people treat her with deference. Through car switches and secret passageways they cross the border into Tijuana and arrive at the gang meeting held at the sprawling compound of Senor Vieques. He is the father-in-law of David and offers a warm welcome to Charna and Damien.

Visions and dreams start to converge. Charna's father and the woman he ran off with pop into Charna's thoughts and dreams. She sees someone loading and unloading a pistol.

After tickling each other and making love, Charna and Damien attend a private dinner with Senor Vieques. Phone jammers restrict everyone's communication devices. A hand-delivered message arrives from David and the other gangs declaring allegiance to Charna's position in the negotiations.

A tense showdown oozes from the large oval table where all of the gang members are seated. Charna, Marie and other women are veiled.

Before digging into the details of the prison attacks, they begin by introducing themselves and their affiliations. The confident casualness of those gathered barely hides the tension and the lurking danger. Confrontation probes the edges of their glances and the smooth pauses of their speech. Violent ambitions spark like static electricity.

An argument begins about whether to fully support the prison attacks or to wait and hit a variety of infrastructure targets and leave the prisons as a large feint, a grand diversion.

Charna lowers her veil and introduces herself. Gasps follow... She calls out Wayne and El Toro on their allegiances.

Her friend Marie provides documentation and photos of their meetings with Chi Chi Tamayo, the traitor. A fight is imminent. The old man Vieques wants to stop it, but when he looks at Charna's face he let's it continue.

She holds her own fighting against Wayne and El Toro until El Toro pulls a gun, spins the chamber and shoots her three times. Nothing happens since El Toro's girlfriend was a deep cover Resistance agent who had earlier switched the pistol's bullets with blank cartridges. The last shot was not a blank though and Charna ducks. The bullet grazes Vieques' shoulder.

The fight ends with Charna holding the heads of the two dead traitors, their bodies lie at her feet. She's the boss.

Plans move fast. Resistance attack teams and couriers head out to safe houses and their ultimate targets.

THE PRISON BREAKOUTS

Charna sends a text message with photos alerting the Resistance about her father, an Army general.

On the way to the El Centro prison, Nina and Damien bounce along in the back of a covered truck and share stories about how they were radicalized in their youth. Nina tells her story of life as a 14-year-old assassin in Colombia. Charna wakes up to share her story of childhood sabotage campaigns and the times that she and Marie would listen to the war reports on the radio as the cat stalked mice and moths.

Nina asks Charna if she had a nickname.

"Marie used to call me Serenity, and it felt sweet even though we WERE rad teens burning shit down."

Damien:

"Serenity? So, Barbie."

Charna:

**"Yeah, Serenity was what killed the world,
all of those New Age Serenity freaks!
Kill Serenity"**

Charna's team kills a prison van driver and enters the prison visitor section in full disguise, as pregnant women or as guards. Some guards inside the prison are also Resistance operatives. A child places a toy duck at the information window to start the assault. The duck explodes and the Resistance teams quickly secure the prison with the help of a few anti-tank rockets. Nina and Charna realize that something is wrong. The prison defenses were weak and not as many guards are present as on a normal day. Nina starts to get spooked.

Charna corners her father in his prison warden office. A brief scuffle ensues and her Dad wounds her before she pins his hand to a doorframe with a knitting needle.

The Magic makes itself felt. Destiny calls them all to press forward and to make the best of this catastrophe.

Charna's father, General Anares, teases her until she figures out that he's one of the people she has been hunting. Her father planned the Santa Barbara bombings. Now he's about to bomb all of the prisons. The bombers are in the air.

Damien comes to the rescue in the Dreamland... His magic allows Charna to drag her dad's spirit back into the prison warden's office from where it lay smashed at the base of the dreamland obelisk. Another likeness of her dad hangs dying from the doorframe behind her.

Damien keeps General Anares tranquil with visions of Lieutenant Faustina, the General's lover. In the end there will be three dead Fathers. To change the past requires death... Charna's.

Damien drags her away from the warden's office as the bombing attack comes on.

Her father remains handcuffed to a desk.

THE END

They break down a door to get outside into the chaos of a blasted prison yard. They help some injured people and then reach a knoll outside the prison gates. A friendly jeep pickup truck rescues them. A rocket blast takes out a government helicopter that was zeroing in on them.

They bounce along in the crowded truck full of dusty and bleeding companions. Damien is wiping sweat off his face and gets something in his eye. Charna is the only one who spots the two enemy Bradley Fighting Vehicles that approach them from the side. She yells at the driver, but no one can hear above the noise of the truck and the moaning of the injured.

She jumps out of the back of the truck, runs toward the small bridge that the Bradleys have to cross and begins firing her machinegun at the lead vehicle. Damien notices she is gone and spots her as she throws a grenade at the bridge. Charna is shot and falls to the ground. The grenade damages the bridge and causes the Bradley to get stuck.

Damien tries to jump out but the other passengers restrain him. Finally, he jumps out to help as the bombs from the main air strike arrive. A huge cloud of dust and smoke spreads outward knocking Damien down.

The Death Angel welcomes Damien to his new life.

THEMES:

How to be effective.

How to treat relationships.

To accept and know her shadow.

To accept a leadership role.

To know when you are wrong and when to change tactics or strategies.

To love.

To let go.

To accept yourself and your fate.

For another take on Kil. Serenity see the synopsis at:

<http://www.freewebs.com/rathavens/SYNOPSIS%20Screenplay%20Kil.%20Serenity%20May%2016.pdf>

See full screenplay at:

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See a treatment for Kil. Chaos: Bomb Antarctica at:

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