

ARROW - SPEC SCRIPT

"MR. MIRACLE"

Written by

Rob Salerno

Los Angeles, CA
213-332-9118
robert_salerno@hotmail.com

ARROW - SPEC SCRIPT

"Mr. Miracle"

By Rob Salerno

[This episode takes place in the middle of Season Six]

PREVIOUSLY ON

Billionaire Oliver Queen was believed dead for five years, but returned from hellish experiences transformed into a vigilante who seeks to protect Star City from all those who would harm it. Having recently renounced murder, he works by day as Star City's mayor, while by night he and his team -- Overwatch, Spartan, Wild Dog, Black Canary, and Mr. Terrific -- fight crime on the streets.

Oliver's estranged son, William, recently came to live with him and Felicity, after his mother was murdered by a vengeance-obsessed villain. William has come to accept his father's role as the protector of Star City, but only after Oliver promised there would be no more secrets between them.

Oliver and Felicity were recently married after a strange adventure in an alternate dimension with the hero of Central City, The Flash.

Wild Dog (Rene) is trying to be a good father to his daughter, who he recently regained custody of.

Mr. Terrific's (Curtis) divorce from his husband has just been made official. His husband couldn't deal with Curtis' constantly putting himself in danger.

COLD OPEN

EXT. WAREHOUSE ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Fog rolls in over Star City from the water. Our hooded hero, OLIVER QUEEN, stalks across a warehouse rooftop, planting a bomb device on a skylight. He looks inside. Below, several HEAVILY ARMED MEN guard large boxes in a disused silkscreening factory. A well-dressed, overweight man in his forties, GREGORI ARCANE, appears to be giving orders.

OLIVER

Skylight's rigged. At least six men, heavily armed. Sound off.

EXT. WAREHOUSE REAR ENTRANCE - NIGHT

RENE RAMIREZ (Wild Dog) is choking out a GUARD while CURTIS HOLT (Mr. Terrific) is using his T-Spheres to analyze a key-code pad by the door. The Guard passes out.

CURTIS

Back door secure. See Wild Dog? You didn't need to shoot him after all.

INT. ARROW CAVE - NIGHT

FELICITY SMOAK (Overwatch) sits at her computer terminal, watching traffic light footage of a VAN passing an intersection. She speaks into her headset:

FELICITY

Traffic light footage says they're close.

EXT. ROADWAY TOWARD THE LOADING DOCK - NIGHT

DINAH DRAKE (Canary) and JOHN DIGGLE (Spartan) are parked in the ARROW VAN, surveilling the entrance.

DIGGLE

We've got eyes on the entrance.

DINAH

It's here.

A large black van pulls up to the warehouse. The loading door opens and it drives straight in.

EXT. WAREHOUSE ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Oliver spies on the van coming to a stop in the centre of the warehouse. A striking, severe looking woman, GRACE, steps out from the passenger seat and is greeted by Arcane. An UNDERLING unloads a box of the drugs for Arcane to inspect.

INT. WAREHOUSE FLOOR - NIGHT

A huge EXPLOSION from the skylight RAINS GLASS down on the dealers. Oliver swings down into the warehouse on a ROPE, lands in a PERFECT STANCE, and quickly draws two arrows to take out two gunmen with a single shot, before ducking behind a pillar for cover.

The rear doors EXPLODE and as the SMOKE clears, Rene lays some fire taking out another gunman. Rene and Curtis take cover behind some boxes, still guarding the door.

The Arrow Van drives up to the gate and blocks the exit. Dinah slides open the side door and unleashes her SONIC CANARY CRY, knocking out two more gunmen.

In the confusion, Arcane drops to his knees and throws his hands in the air.

ARCANE

Stop! We surrender! Stop shooting!

The remaining gunmen drop their weapons on the ground and raise their hands in surrender. Team Arrow is confused. Oliver steps out from behind the pillar with an arrow drawn.

OLIVER

Surrender?

ARCANE

Is not what you want? "I have failed this city." Arrest me, call police, whatever is you do.

RENE

I don't trust this guy, boss.

DINAH

This is fishy.

ARCANE

What fishy? You want I risk my life fighting you just to protect few million dollars of drugs?

(MORE)

ARCANE (CONT'D)
 Would rather face incompetent
 American justice system than Arrow
 and his associates.

FELICITY (O.S.)
 (on radio)
 That's rough but fair, given the
 DA's incredibly awful record.

OLIVER
 Not now, Overwatch.

Dinah cuffs his arms behind his back.

DINAH
 This isn't nearly as satisfying.

OLIVER
 Where's the woman who made the
 delivery?

ARCANE
 Woman? What woman?

FELICITY (O.S.)
 Oliver, I just found this in the
 blueprints: there's a tunnel
 through the basement that connects
 to the next warehouse over.

OLIVER
 Tie them up. I'm going after the
 boss.

Oliver runs out through a staircase. Curtis leads Arcane off.

CURTIS
 We prefer to call ourselves "Team
 Arrow."

INT. WAREHOUSE BASEMENT - NIGHT

Oliver reaches the bottom of the stairs, and cautiously steps
 into a large, dark, low-ceilinged storage area with an ARROW
 drawn. There are piles of decaying screen print posters
 everywhere.

OLIVER
 Whoever you are, come out with your
 hands up.

As Oliver scans the room, he walks past an enormous stack of
 boxes of paper.

Suddenly, the stack of boxes tumbles down on Oliver, and he barely jumps out of the way in time to not be crushed. Grace crashes through the boxes and runs past the downed hero. As he gets up, she throws a flash grenade at the ground, stopping him blind. When he opens his eyes again, he barely sees a gaping energy portal next to Grace. She jumps in and disappears. Oliver struggles to his feet.

FELICITY

Oliver! Are you alright? I heard explosions.

OLIVER

I lost her.

TITLE CREDITS.

ACT ONE

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

Oliver and his chief of staff, QUENTIN LANCE are walking to City Hall. Quentin shows Oliver a police report on his tablet, including a photo of the seized pills, which have a distinctive ANTI-LIFE LOGO printed on them.

LANCE

On the street they're calling this new drug "anti-life." Users get alternately manic and euphoric. SCPD says our friend's drug bust was worth 2.7 million dollars.

OLIVER

The supplier got away.

LANCE

You're closing the noose on him.

OLIVER

Her.

As they walk past a newsstand, the VENDOR, a squat, pudgy, middle-aged man looks up from his paper.

VENDOR

Hey! It's the Mayor! Mayor Queen!

LANCE

Oh look, a fan.

VENDOR

You're a bum! I been complaining to the city about this cracked sidewalk for months! How come you ain't fixed it!?

OLIVER

Sir, I'll get right on that, I promise. Unfortunately, right now I have a--

LANCE

--meeting with the new Chief of Police.

OLIVER

Yes, we're working hard to keep these streets safe and crime down.

VENDOR

Safe!? I just want the streets clean, but the garbage men keep making a mess of the pickup and the parks in this city are filthy!

Oliver hands him a CARD.

OLIVER

I'm really sorry, I've got to run, but please, call my personal secretary and we can set up a meeting to discuss this further.

Oliver walks away with Lance following behind.

VENDOR

You've failed this city, Mayor Queen!

INT. CITY HALL ROTUNDA - DAY

A peeved Oliver and Lance enter city hall. Lance has another report on his tablet.

LANCE

He's got a point, y'know. Being the mayor is about more than keeping people alive. The latest poll numbers have you way down. In a list of people's top concerns, "traffic" and "property taxes" were the top two issues, with "crime" all the way down at six.

OLIVER

Where do attacks from metahuman ninjas land?

LANCE

I can't believe I'm saying this, but, eleven, actually.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Oliver takes a seat at his desk. Lance hovers by the door.

LANCE

In a way, Oliver, you're a victim of your own success.

(MORE)

LANCE (CONT'D)

You and your friends have brought crime down so much, people are free to take a closer look at the mayor and what they see is...

Rene enters with a print copy of the same polling report.

RENE

A spoiled, rich, smug, pretty boy know-it-all phony who thinks he's better than everyone else.

OLIVER

Thanks for not sugar-coating.

RENE

I did.

Rene hands the report to an annoyed Oliver.

LANCE

If you wanna continue doing good as the mayor, you could stand to try to care about the everyday things the citizens worry about.

OLIVER

I think the fact that citizens have everyday concerns again is my greatest accomplishment.

RENE

Great campaign slogan: "Reelect Queen: At least you're not screaming for your life!"

LANCE

Look, I had your assistant set you up with some photo ops to help rehabilitate your image. Tomorrow you read a book to school kids, Thursday you cut a ribbon on a new women's shelter, and tonight you, Felicity and William are guests of honor at the opening night of something called The Free Circus.

RENE

My daughter would love that.

LANCE

Good, 'cause you're going. Take pictures and do a Twitter.

RENE

Sure, Hoss. I'll "do a Twitter."

OLIVER

The circus. I've spent the last five years trying to redeem my father's legacy. I thought I'd finally earned the city's trust.

LANCE

It's politics Oliver. The people have short memories. But that means you can also redeem yourself.

INT. ARROW CAVE - NIGHT

Dinah and Curtis are screwing control panels into the walls of the bunker while Felicity coordinates from her computer bay. It's been a long afternoon of hard, dirty work, and they're exhausted with each other.

CURTIS

I'm just saying, the last time I was single, dating apps didn't even exist, but now that I'm using them, I'm sure I can build a better interface.

DINAH

Please tell me you're not using location-based cruising apps in our top secret bunker.

CURTIS

Of course not.

Curtis takes out his PHONE and casually deletes Grindr.

OLIVER (O.S.)

Are we interrupting?

Oliver and Diggle enter from the elevator. Oliver's collar's unbuttoned and his tie is loose. He's had it with meetings at City Hall and just wants to get in his gear and patrol the city.

FELICITY

Oliver! Perfect timing!

OLIVER

You have a lead on the drug smugglers we busted last night?

FELICITY

Actually, yes. It turns out our friend in Central City, The Flash, busted a similar op just two weeks ago. They surrendered the drugs but the boss lady--

OLIVER

Teleported away.

FELICITY

Exactly.

OLIVER

So we've got a meta in Star City.

FELICITY

Yes, and on that note, we spent all day improving security! I can safely say the new and improved Arrow Cave is completely impregnable.

DIGGLE

I'm gonna miss having the bunker invaded by ninjas on a weekly basis.

FELICITY

And check out the latest addition. Dinah, if you please?

Dinah walks over to the centre of the room, by the computer display. Felicity and Curtis take their places at the newly installed control panels.

FELICITY (CONT'D)

Imagine if you will, a metahuman somehow penetrates the Arrow Cave. We just hit these buttons and--

Curtis and Felicity each slam their control buttons and suddenly, out of the floor pop up INTERLOCKING PLEXIGLASS WALLS surrounding Dinah. The floor rises up underneath her, and the improvised cell meets a METAL LID descending from the ceiling. Dinah is trapped, like a--

DIGGLE

Like a Canary in a cage.

FELICITY

Dinah, try to escape.

Dinah tries to unleash her sonic scream at the walls, but nothing comes out of her mouth. She pounds on the walls to no avail.

CURTIS
Metahuman power dampener!

FELICITY
We improvised the design from specs
Cisco gave us of the metahuman
prison in STAR Labs.

Oliver is utterly charmed by Felicity's ingenuity. He approaches to kiss her.

OLIVER
It's brilliant. You're perfect.

CURTIS
Y'know, I helped.
(off Felicity's look)
I'll just go work on my app.

FELICITY
You always get so excited before
going on patrol.

OLIVER
Actually, I thought we could take
the evening off. I have box seats
for the Free Circus.

FELICITY
That'll be so great for William!

OLIVER
Quentin thinks I need to improve my
public image.

FELICITY
(rolling eyes)
Of course.

OLIVER
Great. Pick you up at seven. We'll
pick up Rene on the way.

FELICITY
Oh, Rene's coming?

OLIVER
Yeah, Lance wants him to "do a
Twitter."

Oliver and Felicity share a little smile and leave together.

DINAH

Hey Curtis, you gonna let me out of here?

CURTIS

Oh, right.

Curtis presses a button on his control panel, but nothing happens. He fiddles with some more buttons.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Don't worry, I'll figure this out.

EXT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE - NIGHT

A Fire-Breather blows a huge arc of flame in the courtyard of the stunning post-modern Star City Arts Centre, where rich and fashionable men and women mingle before the show with Costumed Acrobats and Contortionists. A sign over the entrance reads "TONIGHT! MR. MIRACLE in THE FREE CIRCUS! TICKETS \$50".

A limo pulls up. Oliver and Felicity step out in their finest, followed by Rene and his daughter ZOE, and Diggle.

FELICITY

Wow, when you said "circus," I kinda pictured big top and lions.

RENE

Stage animals are bad PR. This is acrobats and stage magic.

DIGGLE

This "Mr. Miracle" is supposed to be the world's greatest escape artist.

FELICITY

Well, given the number of times you've escaped death Oliver, I'm sure you could give him a run for his money.

William and Oliver give her a look. Felicity suddenly regrets bringing up death.

OLIVER

Let's take our seats.

Right by the front door, a Gorgeous Woman in a midriff-bearing leotard has attracted a small crowd as she CLIMBS A SALMON LADDER. Oliver, Diggle, Rene and William are transfixed.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

I think I get why you love the salmon ladder so much, Felicity.

Felicity grabs Oliver's arm and drags him inside.

INT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE - NIGHT

It's a full house in the vast proscenium mainstage and Oliver, Felicity, William, Diggle, Rene, and Zoe are seated in a plush box just to the side of the stage.

The lights go to black and the show begins with a dazzling display of PYROTECHNICS and LASERS as TUMBLERS and TRAPEZE ARTISTS dance and swing across the stage.

Amid all the chaos, a HUMAN-SIZED BURLAP BAG is lowered from the ceiling. The bag writhes and shakes until it slips off, revealing a man in formal wear strung upside-down in SHACKLES AND CHAINS. The man is SCOTT FREE, the show's flamboyant and weasely main attraction, dressed in a bright red and yellow suit. He twists and shakes until he looses his chains and then unlocks the manacles. He bends himself up to unlock the shackles on his feet, freeing himself completely. He grabs the rope that was holding him, and swings himself back and forth over the audience. On his final swing, he SOMERSAULTS IN THE AIR, landing in a perfect stance in the centre of the stage.

SCOTT FREE

Ladies and Gentlemen of Star City!
Welcome to the Free Circus!

The crowd ROARS with applause. As Scott revs up the crowd, on cue in the following speech, a MAGICIAN pulls a flock of doves out of his hat while an ACCORDIONIST plays a few notes; TWO ACROBATS somersault in front and behind him; TRAPEZE ARTISTS swing across the stage; and a very tall STRONGWOMAN walks out on stage holding a 200-pound barbell overhead.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

My name is Mr. Miracle, or as my friends call me, Scott Free! In addition to being the foremost Escapologist in the known universe, I'm also the world's greatest emcee!

(MORE)

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

We have magicians and musicians,
acrobats and bric-a-bracs,
tightrope walkers and stereoscope
blotters, trapeze artists and Corto
Maltese's largest strongwoman --
she's my wife, and let me tell you,
don't make her angry!

Scott gives the Strongwoman a kiss on the cheek, while she continues to hold the weight overhead. She GRUNTS at the crowd, and then exits.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

But before we get to the show, we
have a very special guest here
tonight, your very own Mayor, Mr.
Oliver Queen!

Scott gestures to the front row, where a follow SPOTLIGHT illuminates a CONFUSED MAN and his WIFE.

Oliver looks over at Rene and Felicity -- all are confused.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

Wait, you're not the Mayor! Where
is--? Oh, wait, I know what's
wrong. Mayor Queen isn't here.

Scott throws a SMOKE BOMB on the ground and DISAPPEARS--

--REAPPEARING behind Oliver in their box, now lit by a SPOTLIGHT.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

He's over here! Give it up for your
Mayor!

Oliver awkwardly waves at the adoring crowd.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

Mayor Queen, who is this lovely
woman you're here with tonight?

OLIVER

This is my wife, Felicity Smoak.

SCOTT FREE

(laciviously)

And where there's smoke there's
fire, am I right? Don't worry Mr.
Queen, I would never cheat on my
wife. She is terrifying! Mayor
Queen, are you ready to make your
stage debut?!

OLIVER
Excuse me?

SCOTT FREE
Ladies and gentlemen, do you want
to see your Mayor cheat death in
tonight's first great escape?!

The audience ROARS its approval.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)
Right this way, Mr. Mayor! You come
too, Mrs. Smoak!
(to William)
Don't worry young man, I'll have
your father back soon, though I
can't guarantee in how many pieces.

OLIVER
(whispered to Rene)
Did you know about this?

RENE
Lance said if I told, you wouldn't
do it.

Scott leads Oliver and Felicity down a flight of stairs to the stage, where STAGEHANDS have wheeled out a HUGE WATER TANK, and a CAGE has been lowered from the ceiling to the centre stage. Oliver follows Scott to the centre of the stage, smiling through gritted teeth.

SCOTT FREE
Mr. Queen, I understand being mayor
of Star City is a dangerous job,
but I want you to know that you are
in safe hands tonight!

An ASSISTANT handcuffs Oliver to Scott. Oliver is surprised to have missed the assistant sneaking up behind him.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)
For tonight's first demonstration
of escapological wonder, I will
attempt to free myself from this
solid iron cage, while bound and
chained to your Mayor, at the
bottom of this 10,000-galloon tank
of water!

The audience APPLAUDS.

The assistant binds them together with CHAINS, SHACKLES their hands and feet, and leads them into the cage.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)
What do you think about that, Mr. Mayor?

OLIVER
I think I may have to fire my chief of staff.

The audience LAUGHS. Oliver smiles, enjoying the crowd's approval.

SCOTT FREE
Mrs. Smoak, can you please confirm that these are real handcuffs and chains, and that cage is secure?

Felicity tugs on the handcuffs and chains.

FELICITY
They're real!

SCOTT FREE
Now Mr. Mayor, in order for this trick to work, I'm going to need you to trust me.

OLIVER
Sure, we're a team.

SCOTT FREE
No, we're absolutely not! I'm a trained professional who's narrowly escaped death all my life! You're just my willing hostage!

The audience LAUGHS, but this time Oliver's not so happy.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)
For this to work, you need to do absolutely nothing, except hold your breath. Don't worry, I should have us out in three-to-four, six minutes tops. Can you hold your breath that long?

OLIVER
If I can't, my security detail will have to deal with you.

Oliver gestures up at Diggle in the box, who gives a wave. The audience LAUGHS.

SCOTT FREE
Eh, my wife could take him.

The Assistant closes the cage with four pad locks. The cage is HOISTED in the air above the water tank. The Assistant leads Felicity back to her seat.

We pull in to a closer conversation between Scott and Oliver.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

Ok, the mic's off now. Mr. Mayor. Honestly, you have nothing to worry about. Just take one big deep breath, and don't do anything once we're in the water. I'll have you out in 30 seconds. Don't try to be a hero.

OLIVER

I've already removed my handcuffs.

SCOTT FREE

Impressive, Mr. Queen. Or should I call you by your other name?

Oliver is startled - *he knows I'm the Arrow? Who is this guy?*

Before he can ask, the cage suddenly drops into the tank, causing a huge SPLASH before it quickly sinks into the water. Oliver and Scott take big breaths as their heads dip below the water. The audience GASPS.

As Scott struggles with the chains, SIX AUDIENCE MEMBERS in the orchestra pull on DEMONIC FACE MASKS and draw AUTOMATIC WEAPONS from their jackets. They all fire at the ceiling and storm the stage.

The audience PANICS, running out of the building in a screaming mob.

Team Arrow peer over the balcony at the chaos below, Rene clutching his daughter close, and Felicity shielding William.

A woman swings down from the trapeze, twirling in mid-air and landing with perfect grace. It's GRACE, from the drug bust. She walks up to the water tank and laughs at the trapped heroes.

GRACE

I bet you thought you'd escaped me, didn't you?

Close out on a shot of Oliver, still chained and struggling underwater, looking out at the chaos in the theatre as air bubbles escape his lips.

End of Act One.

ACT TWO

EXT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE - NIGHT

Terrified PATRONS stream out of the theatre in a panic.

INT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

MACHINE GUN ROUNDS fire into the air, scaring out the remaining patrons in the theatre.

Grace taps on the glass, playfully, like a cat teasing a bird in a cage.

GRACE

I admit I'm curious to see you
escape this one, but even if you
don't die in there, I have you
anyway, don't I?

INT. CAGE INSIDE THE WATER TANK - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

In the cage, Oliver is struggling against the chains. Scott bucks his legs to press Oliver up against the wall of the cage to stop him from moving.

INT. BOX ON THE BALCONY - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Up in the box, Rene, Diggle, Felicity, William and Zoe are crouched on the floor, desperately coming up with a plan.

FELICITY

We have to help Oliver!

RENE

First things first, Felicity, get
Zoe and William out of here. Then
call in backup.

ZOE

No, daddy! Don't leave me!

RENE

Zoe, I love you, but daddy has to
help the mayor now.

William takes Zoe's hand to comfort her.

WILLIAM

Don't worry, I'll keep you safe.

Zoe half-smiles, not convinced. Felicity leads them both out.

FELICITY
Come on, kids.

RENE
(to Diggle)
You carrying?

Diggle opens his jacket to reveal TWO GUNS and several CLIPS.

RENE (CONT'D)
I don't say this enough, but you're
my favorite.

INT. CAGE INSIDE THE WATER TANK - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Back in the tank, Scott and Oliver are still struggling to free themselves, and Oliver is running out of air. He's convinced that Scott is trying to kill him.

As Scott slips the chains that were binding them, Oliver sees an opportunity. Still cuffed to Scott, he grabs the chains and tries to choke him with them from behind. Scott manages to block the chains with hands, but he's still wrestling with Oliver, under the water. Air bubbles slowly escape from Oliver's mouth and nose.

INT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE STAGE - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Back on stage, two gunmen are downed by bullets shot from the balcony. Grace takes cover behind an ACROBAT BLOCK.

GUNMAN
Up there!

The remaining gunmen open fire at--

INT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE BALCONY - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

--Rene and Diggle, who duck behind the balcony just in time. Diggle gets a BUZZ in his earpiece.

FELICITY (O.S.)
Is Oliver safe yet?

DIGGLE
We're working on it.

INT. LIMO PARKED OUTSIDE STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE - NIGHT

Felicity is frantically typing into her LAPTOP and talking into her HEADSET, while William and a shaken Zoe look at the Arts Centre entrance for a sign of her dad.

FELICITY

Guys, you're on a clock! He's been under water for almost two minutes!

Zoe looks over at Felicity, worried. Felicity remembers Zoe doesn't know about Team Arrow.

DIGGLE (O.S.)

We're on our way.

FELICITY

Backup's coming but they're still three miles away.

INT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE BALCONY - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Crouching on the balcony as bullets WHIZZ overhead, Diggle hands Rene his spare clip.

DIGGLE

I'm gonna need cover.

Diggle crawls back to the box and down the stairs to the wings of the stage.

INT. CAGE INSIDE THE WATER TANK - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

In the tank, Oliver is still struggling with Scott. Air has stopped escaping from Oliver's mouth and he's starting to get weak. Scott tries to shrug him off, and finally, Oliver's grip drops. He's passed out.

INT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE STAGE - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Diggle creeps through the darkness of the wings. Rene fires on the stage from the balcony, drawing the attention of all of the gunmen, who return fire. While they're all looking up, Diggle jumps the nearest gunman, directing his MACHINE GUN to take down all the remaining gunmen and spray bullets across the front of the water tank.

The glass walls of the tank quickly start to CRACK and POP, and then suddenly shatter, unleashing all 10,000 GALLONS OF WATER out on the stage in a MASSIVE WAVE.

In the confusion, Grace, who managed to not get shot, runs off into the other wing.

DIGGLE

Rene! Follow her!

Rene looks over the balcony ledge and gives chase, heading down the side stairs through the wings.

RENE

I'm on it!

Meanwhile, Scott Free swings open the cage door and drags out a lifeless Oliver, still cuffed to each other at the ankle. There is an EERIE YELLOW GLOW where Scott is holding Oliver's hand. Diggle trains his pistol at Scott.

DIGGLE

Step away from the mayor.

INT. TRAP ROOM UNDERNEATH THE STAGE - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Rene runs down the stairs, into the large trap room -- an awful location to search for an armed suspect, with its many dressing rooms and mechanical elements to hide behind.

RENE

Alright lady, there's no exit from here. Best you just surrender now!

Grace leaps from behind a piece of equipment, dropping a flash grenade on the ground. She makes a run for a BIG MECHANICAL BOX marked with ALIEN WRITING at the far end of the room. Rene fires wildly and manages to hit her in the LEG. She trips and falls to the ground.

Rene confidently approaches her, his gun still pointed in her face. She's not actually bleeding from her leg.

RENE (CONT'D)

Don't make me shoot you again.

Grace's eyes glow with a MYSTICAL PINK ENERGY.

GRACE

Oh, you don't want to do that. In fact, you want to point that gun at yourself.

Rene is confused by this, but even more confused by the fact that he begins pointing his gun under his chin.

INT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE STAGE - NIGHT

Diggle's standoff with Scott Free continues.

DIGGLE
Step away from the mayor.

SCOTT FREE
I can't.

Scott jiggles his ankle to show where he's still tied to Oliver.

DIGGLE
Let go of the mayor, and put your hands on your head.

SCOTT FREE
You don't want me to do that, bud.

Just then, Oliver shudders to life, coughing up water.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)
Hey, you made it!

OLIVER
(coughing)
Take the shot.

SCOTT FREE
C'mon, man.

BLAM! Diggle FIRES his gun, but it's too late. Scott's dropped a SMOKE BOMB and disappeared.

Diggle runs over to help Oliver up.

DIGGLE
Oliver! I got you!

OLIVER
Felicity and William?

DIGGLE
They're fine. We gotta get you outta here. There's still a woman--

Suddenly, a TRAP DOOR springs open on the stage. Diggle draws his gun on the door. Slowly, Rene rises up from the trap, with his gun still pointed under his chin. Diggle lowers his gun. He's sweating, with tears in his eyes -- it's the worst moment of his life.

OLIVER

Rene, what are you doing?

RENE

She says I have to pull the trigger if you try to go after her.

DIGGLE

Rene, just drop the gun.

Diggle takes a step toward him, and Rene recoils.

RENE

NO! Don't come any closer! If you come closer, I have to shoot!

Diggle and Oliver back off.

OLIVER

Ok, ok, Rene, we're staying back. Why do you have to do what she says?

RENE

I don't know! I just... do!

As Oliver speaks, he takes slow tentative steps toward Rene.

OLIVER

Rene, listen to me. Listen to me. You're in control. There's no one else here, ok? Rene, think about your daughter. Think about Zoe. Think about her growing up without a father. I watched my father shoot himself. It was the most horrific thing I've ever seen in my life. Do you want Zoe to have to think of that horror, every time she thinks of her father? Whatever this woman said to you, I know your love for your daughter is greater.

Oliver and Rene are an arms-length apart, and Rene is sobbing in desperation and fear. Rene methodically lowers the gun from his chin, and tosses it across the stage. Rene drops to his knees, sobbing. Oliver kneels beside him and puts his hand on his shoulder.

FELICITY (O.S.)

All clear? SCPD's about to arrive.

DIGGLE

Yeah, Felicity, we're good.

INT. LIMO OUTSIDE STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE - CONTINUOUS

William is still holding Zoe's hand, trying to console her.

FELICITY

Everyone's ok. They're coming out
now.

Zoe hugs Felicity.

End of Act Two.

ACT THREE

EXT. STAR CITY ARTS CENTRE - NIGHT

DOZENS OF POLICE CARS are blocking the roads, their lights flashing. Oliver is wrapped in a blanket in the back of an ambulance, being checked out by a pair of EMTs, while Felicity holds his hand.

Diggle is on edge looking for other threats while also giving support to Rene.

OLIVER

Honestly, this is unnecessary. I feel fine. Great, actually.

FELICITY

You were attacked and kept under water for over four minutes, you're going to the hospital.

OLIVER

I don't need a hospital. I need to speak with the police and make sure the city is safe.

LANCE (O.S.)

Good thing we're here then.

Lance has shown up with new Police Commissioner SAUNDERS.

LANCE (CONT'D)

We came soon as we heard. You ok?

OLIVER

I'm fine. Police Chief Saunders.

SAUNDERS

Mr. Mayor, we've put all our resources into this. An APB is out for "Mr. Miracle," and the FBI has been notified. We'll also send an escort to the hospital with you.

OLIVER

That won't be necessary.

FELICITY

You're going, Ollie.

ZOE (O.S.)

Daddy?

Zoe runs in from off-screen to hug her father. Rene was not ready to see her yet.

RENE

Zoe! I am so glad to see you baby girl.

ZOE

Don't ever leave me alone again like that, daddy, please! I never want to be away from you, ok?

Rene crouches down to look her in the eye and hug her close.

RENE

Ok, baby, you got it.

Rene is still shaking as he holds his daughter.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Oliver sits on a hospital bed in a medical gown, while a DOCTOR examines his pupils with a light. Felicity stands to the side, waiting nervously.

DOCTOR

Well, Mr. Queen, your preliminary conclusion was correct. You're absolutely... fine.

OLIVER

See, Felicity? Nothing unusual.

DOCTOR

I wouldn't say that. Your records indicate that you previously had extensive scarring on your back.

FELICITY

Yes, he does, from years spent on a desert island.

DOCTOR

Well, I don't know how to explain this, but...

The doctor opens the back of Oliver's gown, revealing a scar-free, muscular and clean back. Felicity reaches out to stroke his broad, smooth shoulder.

FELICITY

Wowie!

DOCTOR
Normally, with such an unusual presentation, I'd want to keep you for observation--

OLIVER
But I'd really like to get back to making sure the city is safe.

DOCTOR
--and since I've never known anyone to die from disappearing scar tissue, I'll let you get to it.

The doctor leaves the room as Curtis enters. Oliver starts getting dressed, and Curtis BLUSHES.

CURTIS
Safe to come in? Oh boy.

OLIVER
What's up, Curtis?

CURTIS
Just wanted to let you know, we have a lead. Guess who was performing in Central City when our friend busted up our disappearing drug dealer there?

FELICITY
Mr. Miracle?

OLIVER
So they are related. Any idea where they disappeared to?

CURTIS
No, but we're all meeting back at the, uh, place where we do the talking about this stuff to figure it out. Assuming we can slip your police detail.

OLIVER
I've been slipping the SCPD for five years.

Oliver leads them out of the room.

INT. ARROW VAN - NIGHT

A silent moment as Diggle drives Rene and his daughter Zoe -- asleep in the back -- home from the Circus.

DIGGLE

I know we didn't get a chance to talk since we were so worried about Oliver drowning, but are you ok?

RENE

I dunno, Dig. Those were the most terrifying two minutes of my life. I didn't have control over myself. Like it was someone else pointing the gun at me.

DIGGLE

Mind control. She's a meta.

RENE

Yeah.

(beat)

I thought I was being a good dad. I made sure Zoe got out ok with Felicity. And yeah, every bad guy we take down is one less bad guy that could hurt my girl later, right? But what Oliver said... What if I got myself killed tonight? What would happen to Zoe? Foster care? She grows up without a dad? You got a kid, Dig. How do you go out there every night, knowing that you're risking your kid's life too?

DIGGLE

Lyla and I have been doing this job all our lives. It helps that we can rely on each other for John. But I don't think either of us could really consider doing anything else. It's too important that we're out there, on that wall, keeping the bad guys, the terrorists, the killers away from John, and away from every other kid who could be the next victim. If that day comes where I have to lay down my life to keep the monsters at bay for just one more night... then I hope he understands that that's how I express my love for him.

RENE

I don't know if that's enough for Zoe.

DIGGLE

How'd your dad show he loved you?

RENE

Sometimes he'd miss when he threw his beer bottles at me.

DIGGLE

Fathers aren't all winners. You're doing it right.

INT. A DRUG DEN - NIGHT

A dingy, smoke filled basement parlor where a half-dozen GANG TOUGHS are getting high on the anti-life drug. Two are passed out on couches with HUGE SMILES, one is frantically PUNCHING A HOLE in the wall. A GANGSTER GIRL and her boyfriend, are about to take the next hit.

GANGSTER GIRL

We gotta make it last, we don't know when we'll get more.

Suddenly, the DOOR is KICKED DOWN and three ARMED MEN storm in, gunning down all the gangsters. One approaches the dead couple and pulls a BAG OF PILLS out of the girl's lifeless hand. They have the distinctive ANTI-LIFE LOGO printed on them.

ARMED MAN 1

Damnit. They only got maybe fifty doses here.

ARMED MAN 2

We'll have to keep looking.

INT. ARROW CAVE UPPER LEVEL - NIGHT

Oliver, Felicity, Curtis and Dinah arrive at the Arrow Cave just as Diggle and Rene do.

DIGGLE

What'd the doctor say?

OLIVER

Good as new, somehow. Rene, how are you holding up?

RENE

I'll be better when we get that woman of the street.

The team gets into the service elevator.

INT. ARROW CAVE ELEVATOR - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Dinah pulls up a report on her TABLET to show to Oliver.

DINAH

Well, SCPD still hasn't found any more of the anti-life drug on the street, so that lead's cold.

Just as the elevator doors open to the cave --

FELICITY

And don't forget we've still got to find our mystery escape artist.

SCOTT FREE (O.S.)

But I'm right here.

INT. ARROW CAVE - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Scott is lounging in Felicity's task chair with his feet on her desk in the centre of the room.

SCOTT FREE

Mayor Queen, so glad to see you back on your feet! You gave me quite a scare in that tank.

Oliver pulls Felicity behind him as Diggle draws guns on Scott.

OLIVER

How did you get in here?

SCOTT FREE

I'm the world's greatest escape artist. Breaking in is just doing that backwards. You can put the guns down Mr. Diggle. Or should I call you Spartan? I'm told that's your code name but I don't think anyone actually calls you that.

DIGGLE

Gun stays up until I get an explanation.

SCOTT FREE

sigh Look, Mayor Queen, Hood, Arrow, Green Arrow, Wet Arrow, whatever you're calling yourself these days -- I came to warn you of a major threat to your planet.

OLIVER

Our planet?

SCOTT FREE

I'm not from here. I grew up on a hellish planet called Apokalips, the only son of the mad tyrant Darkseid. Darkseid seeks to conquer the entire universe, by eliminating all free will and forcing all living things to experience torture for his amusement.

DINAH

We're dealing with aliens?

CURTIS

Again?

DINAH

Again?

CURTIS

Before your time.

SCOTT FREE

I prefer the term extra-terrestrial-American, although I guess I'm technically undocumented, but yes, I'm an alien. That's how I got the technology to see through your disguises. Huge fan, by the way. So theatrical with the hood and the leather and the spooky voice.

OLIVER

You tried to kill me.

SCOTT FREE

If I were trying to kill you, I wouldn't have brought you back to life.

FELICITY

Wait, Oliver was dead?

SCOTT FREE

That's usually what happens to humans who don't get oxygen for more than four minutes. I don't actually need to breathe.

FELICITY

And you brought him back to life?

SCOTT FREE

Hard of hearing, this one? Yes. It's called the alpha effect. It lets me heal wounds and revive the very recently deceased. It takes a lot out of me, so look grateful.

FELICITY

Is that why your scars disappeared?

SCOTT FREE

Oh yeah. Any scars or wounds would've gone bye-bye.

OLIVER

If you weren't trying to kill me, why were you pinning me underwater?

SCOTT FREE

All your squirming was ruining the escape. I needed you to stay still, like I said when we went in the tank.

OLIVER

Diggle, lower your weapon.

Diggle lowers his gun as Oliver gives a LOOK to Felicity and Curtis. The team goes at ease as they spread out in the cave.

SCOTT FREE

Thank you. Now listen, you probably don't have much time since Grace is already here.

RENE

The woman at the circus?

SCOTT FREE

Yeah. She has a hypnotic power and she's Darkseid's top lieutenant ever since I abandoned my post.

(MORE)

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

She softens up the population with his anti-life drugs and then she plants Boom Tube portals that provide the means to transport Darkseid's hordes here. I think you've already seen them.

RENE

The teleporting?

SCOTT FREE

Yeah.

DIGGLE

And she attacked the circus because she wanted to take down the Arrow to make the way clear for Darkseid?

Scott barely represses his laughter for a moment, then falls out of his chair laughing.

SCOTT FREE

Darkseid rips planets apart with his bare hands, but yeah, sure, he's super duper scared of the guy who throws pointy sticks at people. Oh, that's classic. No, no, she was after me. Leaving Apokalips was a huge insult to my father. No one's ever escaped his rule, except the universe's greatest escape artist, *moi*. He's been searching for me for 500 years, enslaving every planet that's given me refuge.

OLIVER

So you led him here?

SCOTT FREE

Well, I didn't know I'd like humans before I got here.

OLIVER

So you want our help to stop Darkseid?

SCOTT FREE

Haven't you been listening? There's no stopping him. I'm just warning you so maybe you could slow him down. I'm getting the heck out of dodge. My wifey's already packed. We're gonna head to some other planet, maybe Kandor, or Krypton.

OLIVER

So if I believe your story, you just let your father kill billions of people?

SCOTT FREE

Hey, how many people have your parents killed, Mr. Queen? Yeah, I read up on you. You're in no position to judge.

OLIVER

I'm fighting to avenge the crimes of my parents. You're letting your father's crimes continue.

SCOTT FREE

I abandoned my father's evil, but you still live with the privilege of being a Queen, Mr. Mayor.

That stings, but Oliver won't show it.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

Now you're warned, so I bid you good luck, and *adieu*.

Scott takes a theatrical bow and turns.

OLIVER

I don't think so.

Oliver signals to Felicity and Curtis, who press the CONTROL PANELS they installed earlier. The newly installed METAHUMAN PRISON springs to life, enfolding around a stunned Scott and HOISTING him in the air.

SCOTT FREE

What is this?!

OLIVER

Sorry, Mr. Miracle, but you can't be trusted just yet.

Dinah's tablet suddenly dings.

DINAH

Boss, you gotta see this. Just got a report of a gang massacre -- the victims were all on the anti-life drug.

Felicity runs to her computer and taps in a command.

FELICITY

Woah woah woah -- I'm now getting multiple reports, gang shootings all over Star City.

RENE

It's a gang war.

OLIVER

We choked off the supply, now the users are getting desperate. Suit up.

Oliver, Rene, Curtis, Diggle and Dinah head for the Arrow Van. Scott pounds on the walls of his prison.

SCOTT FREE

Wait! Wait! You can't leave me in here! There's no bathroom in here! How could you make a prison with no bathroom!

The team gets into the Arrow Van.

EXT. HIGHWAY - ARROW VAN - NIGHT

Diggle drives the team into the night.

End of Act Three.

ACT FOUR

INT. ARROW VAN - NIGHT

Diggle is driving furiously through the night, speeding through intersections, zooming through turns. Oliver, Rene, Curtis and Dinah are suited up in the back.

DIGGLE
Talk to me, Felicity.

INT. ARROW CAVE - NIGHT

Felicity is controlling the operation from her computer terminal, while Mr. Miracle probes the walls of his cage behind her.

FELICITY
Head straight and take a right on
3rd. We have four active shootings.
Police on the scene at three of
them, but they're still five
minutes away from the fourth.
You'll be there in thirty seconds.

INT. ARROW VAN - NIGHT

Diggle's EYES NARROW as he spots the target.

DIGGLE
I see them. Straight ahead, they're
making an exit.

EXT. CHINESE DRAGON RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Three ARMED MEN are piling into a BLACK GETAWAY VAN, carrying bags of pills.

INT. ARROW VAN - NIGHT

Oliver sees the van out the window.

OLIVER
I got this.

Oliver opens the side door of the still-speeding van, leans out, draws two arrows and fires, hitting two of the goons in their legs. The wounded goons fall to the ground.

The third man, the BOSS MAN, gets in the van, leaving his stooges behind.

INT. GETAWAY VAN - NIGHT

Boss Man jumps in and yells at his driver.

BOSS MAN
Floor it!

As the van speeds off, Boss Man downs an ANTI-LIFE PILL, grabs a MACHINE GUN, flings open the rear door and FIRES on the Arrow Van.

INT. ARROW VAN - NIGHT

Diggle swerves to avoid the fire.

DIGGLE
Everybody down!

INT. ARROW CAVE - NIGHT

Felicity watches the chase on her mapping program and realizes something -- the dots on her map are CONVERGING.

FELICITY
John! You're herding them right
into the cops!

INT. ARROW VAN - NIGHT

Diggle pulls back on the gas.

DIGGLE
Roger that.

INT. GETAWAY VAN - NIGHT

The Driver is SWEATING PROFUSELY from the brow as he speeds across the city. Up ahead, he suddenly notices police LIGHTS and SIRENS.

DRIVER
Oh crap!

The Driver slams the breaks and tries to U-Turn, but Diggle has turned the Arrow Van around, blocking his exit.

EXT. MAIN STREET - NIGHT

Two police cars come to a halt, penning the bad guys in. Three OFFICERS get out of their cars and train their guns on the van.

Oliver, Rene, Curtis, and Dinah step out of the van. Oliver shoots out two tires on the getaway van with his arrows.

OFFICER 1
Come out with your hands up!

CURTIS
T-spheres tell me there's two of
them in there.

The driver opens his door and steps out with his hands up, approaching the police. Officer 1 lowers his weapon and approaches to cuff him.

Boss Man pops out of the van side door and GUNS DOWN the other two cops, before turning on Team Arrow.

OLIVER
No!

Dinah unleashes her SONIC SCREAM, knocking Boss Man to the floor before he can fire on them. Boss Man manages to escape into a DARK ALLEY, and Oliver gives pursuit.

Curtis, Dinah, Rene, and Diggle run to check on the fallen officers. Curtis and Dinah are relieved to find OFFICER 2 is clutching his shoulder.

CURTIS
It's just a flesh wound. This
guy'll be fine! You'll be fine.

Officer 3 is not as lucky. He took two to the chest and is bleeding out. Diggle tries to stop the bleeding with his hands. Rene begins having a panic attack.

DIGGLE
Hold on, man, we're gonna get you
safe.

OFFICER 3
(dying)
Tell my son I love him.

Officer 3 dies in Diggle's hands.

DIGGLE
He already knows.

Oliver steps out from the alley, a GRIM expression on his face.

DIGGLE (CONT'D)
Did you get him?

OLIVER
He's taken care of.

Oliver walks back to the Arrow Van.

Diggle closes the Officer's eyes.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - MORNING

Open on a monitor playing news coverage of Oliver giving a press conference about the death of a police officer. The Officer's grieving wife and teenage son stand next to him.

OLIVER (ON TV)
The hearts of the entire city go out to the family of Officer Chan, whose life was tragically taken as he sought to protect this city from the ravages of a drug gangs.

As the reporters shout questions, the video cuts away to a NEWS ANCHOR at her desk.

NEWS ANCHOR
Mayor Queen once again facing tough questions about the wave of gang violence plaguing the city.

Pull out to reveal Lance clicking off the TV, and Oliver behind his desk, on edge. That press conference was just minutes ago.

LANCE
And just yesterday we were complaining about garbage. Have your friends found any leads?

OLIVER
No, but we've called in ARGUS for help. We may be in over heads this time.

LANCE
You're trusting ARGUS? Must be serious.

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS BOARDROOM - DAY

Chief Saunders is chairing a meeting of his LIEUTENANTS. The air is tense with the memory of their fallen brother. On the wall, maps indicate the locations of last night's busts, and photos of the arrested and killed suspects.

SAUNDERS

All four of the incidents last night involved this new anti-life drug. Current theory is when The Arrow busted that shipment the other night, the addicts lost their supply and they're desperate for more.

Just then, the boardroom door opens and Grace steps in, instantly owning the room.

GRACE

Then maybe you should give them what they want.

SAUNDERS

Who are you and what are you doing in my meeting?

Grace's eyes start to glow as she smiles at Saunders.

GRACE

I'm the woman who's going to give you everything you want.

Entranced, Saunders and all the other cops smile and nod.

INT. EVIDENCE ROOM - DAY

Saunders leads Grace into the evidence locker by the hand, with all the other lieutenants following close behind. Saunders opens the lid of one of a stack of boxes, revealing bunches of bags of the anti-life pills.

GRACE

Excellent.

SAUNDERS

I'm so glad you're pleased.

GRACE

Yes, and you deserve a reward! Have one.

Grace opens a bag and takes out a PILL, which she FEEDS to Saunders like a baby. He swallows it happily.

GRACE (CONT'D)

All of you, why don't you have some happiness?

She hands pills to each of the lieutenants, who gulp them down happily.

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS OFFICE FLOOR - DAY

A montage of Grace leading Saunders and the lieutenants through the office, each of them carrying a BOX of the pills. Grace has a bag of pills in her hands and as she passes desks, the cops are at first confused, then charmed as she hands each a pill and they swallow them. As the cops take the pills, they become unhinged in various ways, passing out in bliss, destroying office furniture, shredding files...

INT. POLICE HEADQUARTERS MAIN ROTUNDA - DAY

Grace, smiling like the cat who ate the canary, leads Saunders and the Lieutenants out of the building, as chaos reigns behind them.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Rene bursts into the office with a frantic energy, grabbing the TV remote.

RENE

Boss, you gotta see this.

On the TV, we see footage from OUTSIDE POLICE HEADQUARTERS, where GAS-MASK WEARING RIOT POLICE are storming the smoking building.

NEWS ANCHOR (ON TV)

This is live now at Police Headquarters, where riot police have been called in after gunshots were heard inside. The building appears to be on fire, and Police Chief Saunders is nowhere to be seen.

Oliver grabs his phone and calls Felicity on speaker.

OLIVER
Felicity, can you get eyes inside
Police Headquarters?

INT. ARROW CAVE - DAY

Felicity takes a seat at her computer terminal and types the keyboard furiously.

FELICITY
Easy as pie. Why? What's happen--oh
my god!

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE

Oliver, Rene and Lance are huddled around the phone.

LANCE
What's happening there!?

FELICITY
I've got eyes all over the
building. All the officers look
deranged. They're fighting,
smashing things, starting fires--

RENE
The drugs?

OLIVER
Felicity, look back twenty minutes.

INT. ARROW CAVE/MAYOR'S OFFICE - INTERCUT - DAY

Felicity swipes over some options on the screen until we see SECURITY CAM FOOTAGE of Saunders leading Grace into the evidence room.

FELICITY
The woman from the Circus! Saunders
took her into the evidence lock-up!

RENE
She gave him the whammy and got the
drugs back.

FELICITY
And made every on duty officer dose
up.

OLIVER
Where are they now?

FELICITY
I see her leaving headquarters with
a couple dozen drooling officers
and a lifetime supply of drugs.

RENE
So the trail's cold?

LANCE
Wait, how'd they leave?

FELICITY
They took cop cars.

FELICITY/LANCE
Bingo!

LANCE
I take it you can trace the cars'
GPS?

FELICITY
In my sleep.

LANCE
As a former cop, I'm not in love
with the way you can just hack our
systems.

OLIVER
Call in the team.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY CONTINUOUS

Oliver hangs up the phone. He's ready for action.

LANCE
Woah, Oliver. Aren't you forgetting
something? You're the mayor. Your
city is under siege.

OLIVER
I'm not turning this into a
campaign event.

LANCE
I'm not talking about campaigning.
Your people need you to reassure
them.

OLIVER
We wait too long, we'll lose them.

LANCE
You don't calm down the city, it
could all burn down.

OLIVER
Rene, you got a camera on you?

RENE
Yes boss, I carry my phone in my
pocket at all times.

OLIVER
Well, then. Let's put my
theatricality to use.

Oliver leads Rene and Lance out the door.

INT. "SAFE HOUSE" - DAY

Close up on Oliver, seated behind a utilitarian desk in a nondescript room, decorated only with an American flag in the background.

OLIVER
My fellow citizens, I'm
broadcasting from a secure
location, as specific threats have
been made on my life that could
endanger the city if I were in
public. Rest assured I am working
with law enforcement to contain the
crime wave, and will update you as
more information becomes available.

INT. ARROW CAVE - NIGHT

As Oliver's message comes to the end, we pull out to reveal that it was playing on a monitor, which cuts back to the Evening News anchor desk, where a NEWS ANCHOR analyzes it.

NEWS ANCHOR 1
A chilling message from Star City's
mayor as reports emerge that more
than three hundred police officers
have been hospitalized after the
attack on headquarters --

We pull out to reveal all of Team Arrow, suited up: Oliver, Curtis, Rene, Dinah, Diggle, and Felicity watching the broadcast. Scott, still in his cell, applauds sarcastically.

SCOTT FREE

Wonderful performance, Mr. Mayor.
Such commitment to character. Did
you do Groundlings?

DIGGLE

It looks like the people believe
you, that's all that matters.

Felicity pulls up a map on her tablet, which is projected on their smart screen.

FELICITY

What matters is that we know where
Grace and the drugs are: the old
paper mill in the Glades.

CURTIS

I wonder where villains would hide
if American manufacturing hadn't
totally collapsed.

OLIVER

Grace'll be surrounded by dozens of
innocent cops so we have to be
careful.

SCOTT FREE

Ah, you'll only be using the non-
lethal arrows, then?

OLIVER

You have something to say?

SCOTT FREE

Just that you guys are crazy and
your plan won't work and on the
slim chance it does, you'll
probably kill at least, oh, a dozen
cops.

OLIVER

What do you suggest?

SCOTT FREE

Let me out, let me help you.

OLIVER

Not a chance.

SCOTT FREE

Look, I know how Grace thinks, and I can help the cops burn off the effects of the anti-life with my alpha effect.

OLIVER

Why should I believe you suddenly want to help? Last night you wanted to cut and run.

SCOTT FREE

If I'd gone with you on your last mission, I could've saved that cop. You were right. I have been avoiding my responsibility to make up for the sins of my father. If I can stop Grace and get us both off earth, maybe Darkseid won't bother with this planet. And I don't want my dad to destroy this place. I really like your pizza.

OLIVER

ARGUS will pick you up in the morning, when the city's back to normal.

SCOTT FREE

You're making a big mistake!

Oliver turns his back on Scott, and leads the team through the bunker to the Arrow Van.

OLIVER

All right, remember, non-lethal if we can help it. The city needs its heroes back. And if we can capture Grace for questioning, maybe we can corroborate what Mr. Miracle is saying.

DIGGLE

Got it.

Oliver opens the back doors of the Arrow Van to find Scott lounging in the back.

SCOTT FREE

Oh come on, you didn't think that cage could really hold me, did you?

Diggle and Oliver draw their weapons on him.

OLIVER

You could've escaped at any time?

SCOTT FREE

Yes, but I was hoping you'd trust me enough to release me. Now, you can try to fight me back into a cage you know can't hold me, or you can let me help you. What's it going to be? Here, I'll get into something more mission appropriate.

Scott touches a button on his glove, and his bright red and yellow suit morphs into a more-Team Arrow appropriate leather outfit in duller burgundy and mustard tones.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

Mother Box tech. Never leave the planet without it.

Oliver considers this for a moment, then lowers his bow.

INT. ARROW VAN - NIGHT

Diggle is driving down a highway, Dinah in the passenger seat, both concentrating hard on the mission at hand.

In the back, Curtis, Oliver, and Rene are seated with Scott.

SCOTT FREE

(singing)

Arrow Man, Arrow Man
Does whatever an arrow can
Points at things, shows the way
Tells the crooks crime doesn't pay
(beat)
Do you guys have a theme song? You
should have a theme song.

RENE

Bullets you won't kill you, but
they'll hurt right?

SCOTT FREE

Rough crowd.

EXT. PAPER MILL REAR FENCE - NIGHT

Two hypnotized POLICE OFFICERS are guarding the rear fence to the mill. Suddenly, a dart hits each one in the neck, and they pass out cold. Rene and Curtis approach from the darkness and check their pulses.

CURTIS
We're in.

OLIVER (O.S.)
Good. Keep low. Canary?

EXT. PAPER MILL LOADING BAY - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Canary and Diggle check the pulses of two passed out officers.

DINAH
Loading bay covered.

EXT. PAPER MILL FIRE ESCAPE - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Oliver opens a window and climbs in, with Scott behind him.

OLIVER
Going in. Maintain silence.

INT. PAPER MILL - NIGHT CONTINUOUS

Oliver and Scott tiptoe through a dark, abandoned office. They see a window to the processing room. They peer out and see Grace handing packages of anti-life to a group of officers to distribute.

Scott yanks Oliver down, just before another officer passes by the window. Oliver recognizes that Scott just saved the mission and gives him a nod.

OLIVER
On three, converge on the southeast quadrant. One.

EXT. REAR GATE - NIGHT

Curtis and Rene stand at a safe distance from a BOMB they've planted on the rear door.

OLIVER (O.S.)
Two.

INT. LOADING BAY - NIGHT

Diggle and Dinah have their dart guns drawn, and crouched by the entrance to the processing room. In the background, we can see three more passed out cops.

OLIVER (O.S.)

Three.

INT. PROCESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Oliver and Scott CRASH through the second-storey window landing on the floor in front of the CASES OF DRUGS.

An EXPLOSION blows the rear door off its hinges and Rene and Curtis rush through.

Dinah's SCREAM clears a path through into the shop floor.

The SIX OFFICERS present draw their guns on Team Arrow, but Oliver grabs one man's arm and uses it to shoot the gun out of another's hand, then breaks the officer's arm.

Rene shoots two in the neck with darts, and Diggle gets a third.

Dinah knocks the last one out with her scream.

Oliver draws his bow on Grace.

OLIVER

Your hypnosis won't work on us.

CURTIS

Earplugs. It's over.

GRACE

Oh, it's over alright.

Grace smiles wryly as we here the repeated CLICKS of 42 GUNS COCKING. The team looks up, and on the catwalks above them, 42 POLICE OFFICERS have their weapons trained on Team Arrow.

End of Act Four.

ACT FIVE

INT. PROCESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Team Arrow are surrounded by dozens of hypnotized cops with their guns trained on them. As the cops OPEN FIRE, Team Arrow scatters.

OLIVER

Light wounds only! They don't know
what they're doing!

Curtis, hiding behind a column, tosses a T-Sphere up at the cops. It hovers in front of a group, then emits a BLINDING LIGHT. Five cops drop their weapons and stumble to the ground. Another cop shoots the T-Sphere out of the air.

Diggle, taking cover behind a pulping machine, fires FIVE SHOTS up to the catwalk, but he only gets one cop.

DIGGLE

I got no shot from here. Need
cover!

Dinah steps out into the open and unleashes a MASSIVE SONIC SCREAM at the rafters. Ten cops go down. Before she can celebrate, a bullet hits her in the shoulder. She retreats back behind some equipment.

RENE

Dinah!

DINAH

(into her comm-piece)
I'm ok. Flesh wound.

Oliver runs up a flight of stairs to take on the cops.

OLIVER

Rene, Curtis, stay on Grace.

Behind a pillar, Scott steels himself for action. He runs out into the centre of the room, and in slow-motion, we see AERO DISCS pop out of the soles of his boots. The discs let him literally walk on air, and he RUNS RIGHT UP THE AIR into the catwalks in the centre of A DOZEN COPS.

CURTIS

I need to get a pair of those.

Scott quickly gets into hand-to-hand combat with the cops, proving himself to be an excellent martial artist.

Every time he touches a cop, a glow comes out of his hand, and the cop passes out.

Grace sees that the tide is turning against her. She takes a stand in the centre of the room and bellows to the cops.

GRACE

New orders! Shoot any wounded officer!

Scott looks around -- he's left a HALF DOZEN OFFICERS knocked out and there are still FOUR OFFICERS FIRING. One officer executes a passed out man right next to Scott.

SCOTT FREE

No!

Rene runs out and tackles Grace, taking the two of them into another room, out of range of the gunfire.

Curtis uses the distraction to check in on Dinah.

Scott is trying to protect the passed out cops and he's hemmed in by three more approaching.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

I don't want to hurt you.

The cops are knocked out from behind -- Oliver came to the rescue and he got them all with a single swipe of his bow.

SCOTT FREE (CONT'D)

Cover me. There isn't much time.

Scott runs to the cop who took the gun shots to the chest. He's already gone. Scott takes his hand and a brilliant glow moves from his body to the fallen cop's.

Another officer approaches and Oliver manages to punch him out. He sees two more with guns drawn and he fires two arrows RIGHT INTO THE GUNS' BARRELS.

The glow stops coming out of Scott's body and he faints. The officer is breathing again.

OLIVER

Guys, we need help up here.

On the floor Curtis is applying pressure to Dinah's wounds.

FELICITY (O.S.)

I have an idea. Canary, can you sing?

DINAH
It hurts, but I can try.

FELICITY (O.S.)
If you hit the same frequency as
Grace's voice, maybe you'll
override their programming.

DINAH
How?

CURTIS
Right! The adjustment I made last
time I tinkered with your collar.
It should help you find the right
note. Overwatch, can you adjust the
program remotely?

INT. ARROW CAVE - NIGHT

Felicity is at her computer terminal, looking at readings of
sound waves.

FELICITY
Already done. Let 'er rip, Canary.

INT. PROCESSING ROOM - NIGHT

Curtis is supporting Dinah as she walks into the centre of
the room and she screams at the top of her lungs. The SOUND
WAVES cover the entire room, and every hypnotized cop
suddenly drops to his knees, and passes out.

CURTIS
It worked!

Oliver checks on Scott, tapping him on the cheeks.

OLIVER
Hey, hey, c'mon, don't be dead.

SCOTT FREE
I knew you really loved me.

OLIVER
The mission's not done yet.

Diggie meets Dinah and Curtis on the shop floor.

DIGGLE
Where's Grace?

CURTIS

Rene chased her through that
corridor.

Oliver LEAPS down from the second floor. Scott HOVERS down to
the ground using his aero discs.

OLIVER

Spartan, Mr Terrific, get Black
Canary to safety. Call in ARGUS to
get these cops medical attention.

SCOTT FREE

Hey, someone called you Spartan!

OLIVER

Do you have any fight left in you?

SCOTT FREE

For a minion of Darkseid? Always.

OLIVER

Let's go.

Oliver leads Scott down the DARK CORRIDOR.

End of Act Five.

ACT SIX

INT. STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

As Oliver and Scott enter the dark room, they can hear Rene's grunting getting louder and louder. And what's that they hear? Laughter?

Oliver draws an arrow and charges in to find Rene on top of Grace punching at her wildly. But up close, we can see that Rene's punches are having no effect -- she's not bruised or bleeding. In fact, she's LAUGHING at him, which is only making him ANGRIER.

RENE

Why are you laughing?! Men are dead
because of you!

GRACE

I tire of this.

Grace grabs Rene by his jersey and with a simple flick of her wrist, THROWS him across the room.

Oliver fires an arrow at her, but she catches it in mid air and throws it back at him. He barely dodges it.

Grace pulls a sheet off a crate revealing that it is the same kind of alien box -- a BOOM TUBE BOX -- that we saw earlier. She snaps a TOTEM off of it and throws it directly at Scott. It hits him in the chest and it sticks to him, wrapping him in GLOWING ENERGY.

SCOTT FREE

Oh no no no...

GRACE

Oh yes. It's time to come back to
papa, "Mr Miracle." You could have
had it all, Prince of Apokalips!
Yet you spurned your legacy. And
for what? To do parlor tricks for
primitives?! Pathetic!

Grace flicks a switch on the box and a BOOM TUBE portal opens up. Grace takes a step into the portal, while Scott is drawn into it by the totem on his chest. He struggles against the gravitational pull drawing him into the portal, but to no avail. Oliver tries to grab him to brace him in, but it barely helps. As they get closer, their bodies DISTORT, being pulled into the tube.

SCOTT FREE
Let go, Oliver! You'll be trapped,
too!

OLIVER
C'mon, you can escape this!

SCOTT FREE
That's just a gimmick! Let me go!

Rene gets up and sees the chaos in front of him. He makes an impulsive decision. He grabs the Boom Tube Box and runs to tackle Grace. Just as he grabs her, Scott and Oliver are pulled into the portal, colliding with Rene and Grace, and dragging them in too.

EXT. APOKALIPS - HELLISH ETERNAL NIGHT

Oliver, Scott, Rene and Grace find themselves in the barren wasteland of Apokalips -- BLUE SAND at their feet, BLOOD RED SKY, OPEN PITS OF FLAME, PILES OF BODIES IN AGONY. Before anyone can process anything, Rene SWIPES Grace across the head with the Boom Tube Box. It knocks her out.

SCOTT FREE
Uh, good thinking Rene. We need to
get out of here now.

OLIVER
What is this place?

SCOTT FREE
Apokalips. Give me the Boom Tube
Box.

Rene hands Scott the box. As Scott fiddles with it, we can see over the horizon, HORDES OF PARADEMONS, GIANT MONSTERS, CANNIBALS, OGRES, and EVERY NIGHTMARE YOU CAN IMAGINE running toward our heroes.

RENE
Mr. Miracle? We got company.

SCOTT FREE
Yeah, I'm re-calibrating. Earth's
the third planet from your sun,
right?

The Demons are closing in on the heroes from all directions. Oliver draws an arrow, almost pathetically.

OLIVER
Scott!?

SCOTT FREE
There! Everyone hold on!

The BOOM TUBE opens up and Scott, Oliver, Rene, and Grace are pulled in just as the monsters reach them.

INT. STORAGE ROOM - NIGHT

And the four of them arrive back on earth.

RENE
What was that?

SCOTT FREE
That is what's in store for Earth
if Darkseid gets here.

RENE
Why didn't you leave her there?

SCOTT FREE
She'd just come back here after me,
and this time probably bring
Darkseid.

OLIVER
So what do we do with her?

SCOTT FREE
We do nothing. I take her to face
justice with the resistance
fighters on New Genesis. Something
about fighting alongside you has
inspired me. I might even join up.

OLIVER
They'd take the son of Darkseid?

SCOTT FREE
Sure. My mom leads the resistance.
She's always bugging me to visit.

OLIVER
If you need our help, we'll be
there.

Oliver offers his hand. Scott is touched.

SCOTT FREE
Oliver, that's... hilarious. Arrows
against Darkseid! I can't wait to
tell the resistance. But seriously,
I'll be watching out for the earth.

OLIVER

Thanks.

SCOTT FREE

Well, time for me to mosey. Give my love to Felicity.

Scott winks at Oliver, picks up Grace over his shoulder and activates the BOOM TUBE, jumping into it.

Oliver and Rene look at each other.

OLIVER

Aliens.

EXT. CITY HALL - DAY

A more-or-less back to normal Oliver is standing in front a podium, addressing dozens of REPORTERS.

OLIVER

Thanks in no small part to the Green Arrow and his associates, Spartan, Black Canary, Mr. Terrific, and Wild Dog, the anti-life drug ring has been completely shut down, and the missing police officers have been found and are getting the medical care they need. On a personal note, I want to thank the escape artist, Mr. Miracle, wherever he is. I owe my life to his bravery in the Arts Centre attack. Let's hope that the violence of this past week will remind us all what's important: making this city a better place for all our families and loved ones.

The reporters start shouting questions.

INT. FELICITY'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Pull out to reveal Felicity and Oliver cuddled together on the sofa, and William sitting to the side, watching the press conference on the TV news.

FELICITY

It was nice of you to mention everyone on Team Arrow by name. Well, almost everyone.

OLIVER
You're our secret weapon.

FELICITY
I know.

William, who's been keeping his feelings bottled up all day, finally can't handle seeing his dad make light of the danger they were all just in.

WILLIAM
Are you ever going to tell me what really happened at the Circus?

OLIVER
Hey buddy, I know it was scary, but everyone made it out alive.

WILLIAM
I know that's not the whole story. Felicity was freaking out in the limo the whole time.

FELICITY
Not "freaking out"--

OLIVER
William, I was in control the whole time.

WILLIAM
Stop lying to me! You swore no more secrets!

William storms off toward his room and Olive follows.

OLIVER
Hey! William, I know I can't always prevent bad things from happening. But I am doing my best to keep you and this city safe.

WILLIAM
Be honest with me! I deserve to know when my father's in danger!

OLIVER
You deserve to be safe. But telling you everything I do could hurt you more than you know. It's my job to protect you from these things.

WILLIAM
Is that what your dad told you?

That stings Oliver.

William runs off to his bedroom, slamming the door.

Felicity comes over and puts her hand on Oliver's shoulder.

INT. DIGGLE'S SON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Diggle and Lyla watch over their son John as he sleeps.

DIGGLE

Nights like this, I just need to
come home and see him at peace.

LYLA

Lucky you got here after bath time.

DIGGLE

You ever think about why we do
this? The danger we put ourselves
in?

LYLA

We do it for him.

DIGGLE

That's why I love you. I have a
feeling we're going to be stretched
to our limits very soon.

LYLA

We've fought aliens before, John.
And won.

DIGGLE

Not like this, Lyla.

John strokes his son's head, a worried FROWN forming on
Lyla's face.

EXT. HOLY CROSS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - DAY

Rene pulls up to the school with Zoe in his car. He's still
terrified from the events of the last few days, and can't
even look her in the eye.

RENE

Have a good day at school, baby.

ZOE

Daddy, is something wrong?

RENE

No baby girl, nothing's wrong.
Daddy loves you. Remember that.

ZOE

Daddy, you've been weird. Look at
me.

Rene turns to look at her, and the emotions are threatening
to burst out of him.

RENE

It's been a difficult few days,
Baby. I just need some time. But I
promise you, I'm never going to
leave you again, ok?

ZOE

...Ok.

Zoe gets out of the car, and Rene watches her go into the
school.

He opens the glove box and we see his PISTOL. He reaches for
it, and closes his eyes, thinking about it for a moment.

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Oliver is signing memos at his desk when there's a knock at
the door, and Rene walks in, carrying a box.

RENEE

Boss, you got a moment?

OLIVER

What's up?

Rene closes the door and puts the box on Oliver's desk. It
has his Wild Dog costume and pistols in it.

RENE

I'm out, boss. I can't do it any
more.

OLIVER

Rene, it's been a stressful week.
Why don't you take a few days off?

RENE

"Stressful"? Oliver, I had two near
death experiences. I watched a
police officer die. I watched you
die! And Dinah get shot!

(MORE)

RENE (CONT'D)

And each time, all I could think about was what would happen to my daughter if I died. What she would think, knowing her father died hunting aliens in a hockey mask!

OLIVER

Diggle and I both have kids, too.

RENE

That's on you, but me... I started doing this when I thought I'd lost Zoe for good. When I got her back, I was scared to really be a father. But this, this is abusive in it's own way. I can't even look at my daughter now because of this thing we do. I'm sorry, boss. I quit.

Rene walks out of the office. Oliver, alone in the office, picks up the Wild Dog mask, contemplating the BLOOD smears on its INSIDE AND OUTSIDE.

THE END.