

## **IMMORTALITY**

Pilot Episode Outline  
by Javier Grillo-Marxuach  
Based on the novel *On a Pale Horse*  
by Piers Anthony  
10.21.06

Imagine that our world is the stage for a war between good and evil for the souls of the living.

Imagine that while we go about our lives, the agents of malice walk among us: tempting us to the dark side.

Imagine that there also walk among us the Incarnations of Immortality - five ordinary people chosen to carry incredible power: the ability to control time, divine fate, cause war, command nature, and deal death.

Imagine that the Incarnations of Immortality fight on the side of good: using their strength to stop good souls from making evil choices.

Imagine that they fight for us.

### **TEASER**

Los Angeles. The downtown skyline is a collection of neon brushstrokes against a purple sky.

In the top of the city's tallest building, industrialist CEDRIC KAFTAN (our version of Steve Jobs - leader of a successful and benign company with a beloved product line - Kaftan is so successful and preternaturally gifted that everyone calls him "The Magician") hosts an engagement party for his fashion designer daughter LUNA and her fiance ZANE.

Kaftan tells the crowd that, as creators, they have the responsibility to create the future they want to see, not just the one they think they have been given: as one of the movers and shakers of this company, Zane has worked tirelessly to create a better world.

Zane is a lucky man and he knows it: profoundly in love with his fiancée, he is also heir-apparent to Cedric Kaftan's empire. Still, Zane manages to be a nice guy, beloved by his staff and profoundly in love with his wife-to-be...a fact evidenced when

he gently rebuffs the advances of a stunning redhead before joining his father in law and fiancée for the toast...

(the redhead, it will be later revealed, is the Incarnation of Nature, who has been keeping an eye on Zane for reasons which will become clear as the pilot develops)

The party wraps. Cedric heads for his office...where a thin, tall bald man in a black suit and black shirt - with an English accent straight out of a Guy Ritchie movie - waits for him, smoking a cigarette.

The man in the black suit lets Cedric Kaftan know that he has a deal with his boss: the boss plans to collect. Cedric begs - he didn't know what he was getting into when he made the deal. There has to be another way to square their account.

The man in the black suit shakes his head: Kaftan wanted wealth and power, his boss made it happen. Now it's time to pay.

In 48 hours, Luna Kaftan will die.

Cedric is left devastated, head buried in hands as the man in the black suit leaves. Cedric looks up to the hallway - and just out of eyeshot...the man in the black suit turns into a cloud of smoke and vanishes.

## **END OF TEASER**

## **ACT ONE**

Zane wakes in Luna's arms in the loft above her downtown studio. The two get ready - both have big days ahead: she is launching a new line, and in an adorably self-effacing way, hates that the marketing involves using her as the face of her creations.

Zane counters that she is prettier than any model - Luna hopes he feels that way in twenty years. Zane smiles - nothing on earth will ever change how he feels about her.

Zane has to go: he is helping Luna's father launch a revolutionary new computer chip.

Walking to work, Zane stops at a STREET VENDOR's cart: something he does everyday as evidenced by his banter with the vendor, and

buys a pastry...but unbeknownst to him, he is being watched...by  
A PALE MAN IN A GREY SUIT - holding a golden stopwatch...

...Zane continues on his way - chomping on his pastry - and  
turns a corner to see the man with the golden stopwatch,  
standing at the mouth of an alley...

(eventually, it will be revealed that the pale man in the grey  
suit is NORTON - the Incarnation of Time)

...Zane locks eyes with the man in the grey suit...the man  
flashes him a mysterious smile and hits the stopwatch...and for  
the briefest moment...time stands still.

### **SMASH CUT TO**

A TRASHED HOTEL ROOM.

Zane wakes to the sound of KNOCKING...he lies next to a pool of  
blood (not his own). Beside him is a stack of loose bills...a  
briefcase with Kaftan industries microchips in foam forms...on  
the coffee table: mirrors, razors and rails of cocaine...further  
on, a video camera on a tripod...on the floor, among spent  
bottle of champagne, tattered women's underwear...

...the KNOCKING gets louder.

It's the POLICE. They barrel in - screaming - Zane tries to  
placate them. They TASER HIM.

Zane comes to in an interrogation room. The detective grilling  
him explains that the computer chips in Zane's briefcase were  
stolen from Kaftan Industries: Zane must have gone on a hooker/  
cocaine bender and tried to sell the chips to a competitor.

Then there's the question of the pool of blood. Who's is it?  
Zane sticks to his story: he was walking to work, he saw a pale  
man in a grey suit, and then he woke up in the hotel room.

"Can you describe the man?" the detective asks.

Zane can't. He only remembers the grey suit...all the other  
details have inexplicably slipped his mind, even as Zane tries  
desperately to describe the man. The detective looks at Zane and  
makes it clear that this is an open and shut case. Zane's going  
to jail, for a long time.

A COP ducks in and tells the detective that Zane has made bail. The detective recommends that Zane not go too far.

On the police station lobby, Zane is met by Cedric Kaftan - flanked by a DRIVER and a BODYGUARD. The three rush Zane through the torrential rain outside into a limousine.

Kaftan forces Zane to surrender his wallet. The bodyguard cuts up Zane's credit cards. Kaftan then asks Zane for his cellphone and the keys to his apartment - the cellphone and apartment that Kaftan Industries purchased for him. Cedric hands over the keys and cellphone and the bodyguard throws them out the window.

Zane protests his innocence. Kaftan will have none of it.

"The only reason you're still alive is you never married my daughter," Kaftan declares. The limousine slows down and Zane is TOSSED out onto the street by the bodyguard.

DRENCHED by the rain, Zane rushes to Luna's studio: she already knows everything, and can't believe Zane could have done what he did to her, and to her father, after all he gave him. Luna is devastated - tears streaming down her face as Zane tries to explain himself.

Luna shouts for Zane to go. Zane tells her he has nowhere to go - her father has taken away everything he has: his car, his money, his apartment...Cedric Kaftan has even gotten to all of Zane's friends, none of whom will speak to him.

But it's clear that Luna is not about to forgive him.

Zane leaves Luna's studio, walking into the night as a THUNDERSTORM whips overhead...Zane winds up in a dark alley, under a billboard for Luna's new line (Luna's face is featured On the billboard)...and as he stands there, dazed and shocked, trying to put together what has happened to him and why...

...Zane gets MUGGED at gunpoint by a gang of thugs.

Zane THROWS himself at the thug holding the gun, which SKITTERS across the alley...but one of the thugs - a hulking, thick-necked dude kicks the living crap out of Zane.

(and later, we will discover that the hulking thug is really MARK, the Incarnation of War)

Zane sits alone in the alley - cold, wet, beaten, his life shattered, his dreams stolen - he reaches aside and finds the gun, left behind by the thugs.

He looks up at the billboard - Luna's face staring down at him...and puts the gun to his head.

Lightning FLASHES above. Zane hears the CLOPPING OF HOOVES.

Zane looks to the mouth of the alley, and in a FLASH of lightning sees a large, muscular white steed (but only a flash - and it's scary as hell - think of the shock cuts in *Jacob's Ladder*)...

...then a man in a black duster...coming closer and closer...wielding a weapon.

Terrified, Zane lifts his gun and FIRES. The man in the dark suit falls.

Overcome by shock, guilt and grief, Zane runs away - only to be cut off by an even stranger sight...that of a beautiful black woman...

"You killed him," she says.

"Killed who?" Zane asks, terrified.

"The Angel of Death."

## **END OF ACT ONE**

## **ACT TWO**

The woman introduces herself as NIOBE: the Incarnation of Fate. Zane wants nothing to do with her. His life has been stripped from him, the love of his life has spurned him and he just became a murderer.

Niobe explains that Zane is more than just a murderer: the man he shot was the Incarnation of Death, come to harvest his soul. Now that Zane has literally killed Death, he has but one destiny...to take on the Office of Death.

Niobe removes death's coat, which she offers to Zane...Zane repeats that he thinks Niobe is insane and tries to run, telling her that all he wants now is to get his life back, to convince Luna of his innocence...

...to which Niobe places the coat on Zane's shoulders as he runs out into the street...and for a moment, Zane sees the souls of every person on the street - a kind of "soul vision" that convinces him that Niobe is telling the truth.

"Luna won't recognize you," Niobe tells Zane, "your old life is over."

A stunned Zane asks if he is supposed to reap the souls of everyone who dies...Niobe tells him no, only those whose souls are Neutral.

Most people - Niobe goes on to say - make the choice between good and evil, and their souls automatically go with the general approval of the Incarnation of Death...

"Go where?" Zane inquires.

"Either up there...or down there..." Niobe demurs, "but the ones who never went one way or the other - people like yourself, whose souls are Neutral - Death has to come to them personally when their time is up and deliver their souls to purgatory to be processed: that is the work of the Office of Death."

"My soul was Neutral?" Zane asks, adding that "If I never chose between good and evil, then I could never have stolen or cheated on Luna or taken those drugs - then it truly was a set-up - "

"None of that matters anymore," Niobe whispers as she hands Zane several items from the fallen Death "what's done is done. This is your destiny."

Zane looks at the items - a pocket watch, which will tell him where to go, and the other...a handle, like the hilt of a sword...which Niobe describes as death's weapon...

"What, like my scythe?"

"If that's what you want it to be," she replies. Zane has a million questions - but they are pre-empted by the FLASHING of the Deathwatch.

Niobe tells Zane that he has a "client"...Zane wonders: does he have to ride the horse? Niobe ushers him to a WHITE CAR, some ride a pale horse, others have something a little sportier...and that's when Zane looks at his reflection on the car window...the cloak has turned into a perfectly fit dark suit.

Starting the car, Zane travels to the site of his first case...a car accident.

Zane and Niobe pass unnoticed through EMT's and victims - in his new office, Zane can move among people, talk and relate to them if he chooses, but for the most part, people will quickly forget his passing - or not see him at all if he wishes it.

And those who knew him in life simply won't remember his face.

Niobe leads Zane to his client - a woman pinned under a flipped car. Zane stuns. What is he supposed to do? Kill her?

Niobe shakes her head: he has to take her soul and stop asking questions, the longer he waits the more pain this poor woman will feel. By not doing his duty diligently, Zane is prolonging her suffering, traumatizing her soul.

Zane steps up to the woman, who - in between agonized gasps - asks who he is.

"Zane," he responds plainly.

"Please," she pleads, "make it stop."

Guided by a higher purpose, Zane reaches out, his hand magically passing through her and pulling out her soul - manifested as a MONTAGE OF BLACK AND WHITE STILLS that Zane experiences as the collected moments of the woman's life as they pass to him.

It is a haunting moment.

Moments later, Zane and Niobe sit in his car, gliding through the city. Zane is transfixed: he saw that woman's life as he took her soul, everything she lived through. It was beautiful.

"Now all you have to do is let her go," Niobe explains.

"Let her go where?"

"To purgatory, where the celestial bureaucracy can decide how to process her," Niobe explains.

Zane is confused by the idea of purgatory, and Niobe tells him that Neutral souls become functionaries in the ecosystem of existence: just like Zane has become the Angel of Death, or how she became the Incarnation of Fate.

"You mean, you used to be a normal person, like me?"

Niobe nods - a long time ago, yes. And the woman whose soul he just reaped will most likely become a file clerk once Zane delivers her to purgatory.

Niobe then tells Zane that there is a terminal to purgatory in his new home, and with that, the Deathmobile pulls up to an empty lot: Zane rightly points out that there is no home here.

Niobe tells him to look closer...and that's when Zane's "soul vision" clicks in and he sees a majestic building before him - a spire pointing the way to heaven.

A building no one but Zane and Niobe can see.

Zane and Niobe enter the smartly appointed penthouse at the top of the spire and step toward an exotic computer on a pedestal...CHIMING with a pleasant voice...

**PLEASE TRANSFER THE SOUL TO BE PROCESSED**

...Zane does as he is told, placing his hand on a scanner - and the woman's soul passes into the machine. Niobe smiles at Zane.

"Welcome to your new life."

Zane shakes his head...he wants to find the people who set him up, he wants Luna to love him again. Niobe steps up to a bar in the penthouse and mixes Zane a drink.

"Everyone grieves what they left behind," Niobe coos as Zane downs his drink. She smiles beneficently and adds, "sometimes, it's just better to sleep, and forget."



And with that, Zane falls asleep on the sofa.

But he can't forget: the next morning, he goes to Luna's fashion studio and enters, wanting to speak to her...but none of Luna's employees recognizes him.

Treating him like a stranger, Luna tries to kick Zane out as he protests that he knows her, that he is her fiancée...

"My fiancée who betrayed me and vanished?" Luna retorts - making it clear that she simply does not recognize the man before her.

As Zane tries to convince Luna of who he is, his Deathwatch CHIMES...telling him that Luna is scheduled for death within the next twenty-four hours.

And off Zane, stunned at the awful news...

## **END OF ACT TWO**

## **ACT THREE**

Zane stands at the computer in his penthouse, asking questions: when is Luna scheduled to die?

**SHE WILL BE ONE OF YOUR CLIENTS TODAY**

Why?

**IT WAS ARRANGED**

Arranged by who?

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Zane rails at the terminal and its cryptic answers: he doesn't want to take Luna's soul, she is a good person, and he wants her to live to be happy and fulfill her potential, not to become a file clerk in purgatory.

The terminal tells Zane that he has no choice - it's the rules. Zane asks who made the rules, who enforces them?

**NATURE**

And off the seemingly inscrutable answer...

...Zane arrives at a lush greenhouse in the back of a garden supplies store, and finds the redhead who hit on him at his engagement party: she introduces herself as OLEANNA, the Incarnation of Nature.

And here is the strange part - in the most subtle of ways, the plants in the greenhouse react to what Oleanna says...they move, stand up straight and wither in fear: she is, after all Nature incarnate.

Zane gets down to brass tacks: if Oleanna is the Incarnation of nature and she makes the rules -

"I don't make the rules, I just do what we're all supposed to do...keep the balance."

"What balance?"

Oleanna explains that the universe is in turmoil as good and evil battle for dominance. The prize of the contest are souls - someday there will be a reckoning, and whoever has the most souls wins.

"You mean like heaven and hell? God and the devil?"

"Let's not get all Judeo-Christian, it is what it is - all we can do is keep the system running smoothly."

"We can't take sides?" Zane demands.

"Absolutely you can as long as you do your job and don't interfere with the other Incarnations - that is forbidden."

Zane pushes, telling her that he doesn't want to do his job, he doesn't want to take Luna from the world. Oleanna counters that if he refuses to take one soul, he has to pick another neutral soul and take it in order to keep the balance - does Zane want to commit murder - and by doing so to definitively take the side of evil?

"OK. What if I just refuse to do my job?"

Oleanna explains that the world would be plunged into inertia: with the dying unable to transcend and in excruciating pain,

with the ERs full of victims. The machinery of heaven and hell put to a standstill until someone took Zane's place or he was enticed to resume his work.

Zane keeps looking for the way out: all it took for him to become death was to shoot his predecessor, if someone shoots him someone with a Neutral soul, could they take over the office?

"That's how it works," Oleanna nods...and as he prepares to ask another question, the Deathwatch CHIMES...he has a client...

...Zane arrives at a suicide attempt. A woman stands on a ledge, with Police and Fire below. The woman has lost her faith in god, people and the world and has decided to end it all.

Stepping through the scene, Zane gets up to the ledge and tries to convince the woman to not commit suicide - but to kill him instead.

The woman is naturally stunned by Zane's proposal: she doesn't particularly like the idea of becoming death incarnate. As she and Zane argue, another Incarnation of Immortality appears...

...this is Chronos - time...but most people call him Norton.

And he is the man in the grey suit: the last person Zane saw before his downfall!

Norton wants Zane to get the hell on with it and do his job. All this dithering and dissembling is putting a crimp on the celestial clockwork. Zane tries to get out of Norton what his role was in his downfall - but Norton hits his pocket watch...

...and time stands still.

Zane marvels at Norton's power. Norton gets angrier: he is only supposed to stop time for very special cases - all he wants is for Zane to get on with it. The universe runs on a schedule.

Norton restarts time. The suicidal woman has realized that their presence is a sign of a much greater world. That there are indeed powers that guide the souls of ordinary people.

In a surprising moment of heart, Zane relays to the woman all that he has learned about how the world really works, about all

the magic that exists, and how she could truly choose to do good and help defeat a much greater evil in a very concrete way.

The woman realizes that Zane is a harbinger from the afterlife, which means that her faith was never misplaced, and she does not need to commit suicide.

As the woman steps off the ledge and turns herself in to the police, her will to live renewed, Zane turns to Norton - does this mean he has to reap another soul?

Norton shakes his head...no...this one got away of her own free will...but Norton is unyielding on one thing, it is forbidden for an Incarnation to interfere with another's work, so Zane had better get punctual with his job.

And with that, Norton is gone...and the Deathwatch goes off...it's Luna's turn to die.

Jumping into the Deathmobile, Zane races to the site of Luna's upcoming demise...and as he does, the circumstances behind her death reveal themselves...

...she is fated to meet her end in a freak urban accident (budget and time permitting - something involving a construction site, falling I-beams and an erupting propane tank)...

...but Zane arrives, and - in a spellbinding action sequence - pulls her out of the explosion unharmed.

Luna falls into Zane's arms, recognizing him immediately. Zane is surprised, but then realizes that since she was scheduled for death, she can truly see him as he truly is...and as he gathers her about him, holding her tightly...

...and she gratefully returns his embrace...

### **END OF ACT THREE**

### **ACT FOUR**

Zane and Luna enter Zane's penthouse as he explains the events that brought him to this place. Luna is as perplexed and freaked out as any ordinary person might be who just found out that her fiancée - whom she thought of as an embezzler and a drug addict

- just saved her life and defied the order of the universe as the newly-minted Incarnation of Death.

It's a lot to take in.

Zane tells Luna that he still doesn't know why this has all happened...but that he is innocent of the charges against him in the "real world" and he could bear neither the thought of her dying thinking him a criminal, nor being the one to take her from the world.

Luna looks at Zane, realizing his true love for her...but the moment is short-lived as the terminal to Purgatory SHRIEKS with an alarm. The cosmic balance has been upended by Zane's refusal to take Luna's soul, and now it must be redressed.

Another neutral soul must be entered into the terminal.

Zane steps up to the terminal and pushes a button to shut the thing up...but instead, the screen goes to STATIC...and an image appears...that of the man in the black suit last seen in Cedric Kaftan's office.

"We have unfinished business."

Zane demands to know who the man in the black suit is, but the man tells Zane it's none of his business: what is his business is to do his job, keep the universe going and not ask questions.

The man in the black suit explains that Luna's death was arranged: part of a deal signed in blood by the man in the black suit's employer...and he expects it to be carried out, or there will be consequences far greater than any Zane can imagine.

Zane flicks off the screen and the man in the black suit disappears, but Luna stands there, ashen - she knows that man.

"He worked for my father...or something like that, I could never get a straight answer, but he was around my entire childhood - like he was watching me."

"Your father?" Zane asks...and as his mind springs into action...

**SMASH CUT TO**

Cedric Kaftan...entering his office to find Zane and Luna waiting for him.

"Hello, Zane," Cedric says softly, "I figured you'd find your way here eventually."

Zane is surprised that Cedric recognizes him, but Cedric has a lot more to explain. He knows all about Zane being the Incarnation of Death, and has enough magic of his own to know Zane from his disguise.

Before Luna was born, Cedric explains, he was visited by a man in black suit, who offered him untold wealth and power if he traded in a single thing: the life of his daughter.

"That man - " Luna interjects, "he's the devil?"

"No," Cedric completes her thought, but he works for him."

Cedric took the deal...hence his stratospheric success - but when Luna was born, he met a beautiful black woman who...

"Niobe," says Zane...

"Yes," confirms Cedric, adding that she gave him a prophetic vision of a future in which Luna had a destiny before her more important than an early death: Luna has a truer fate than the deal her father made, a fate that would make her one of the most important mortals in the fight between good and evil.

Cedric realized that the man in the suit had tricked him - what the man in the black suit's employer was really after was Luna's life all along: to take her out of the way.

So Cedric spent much of his fortune investigating the world of magic and the occult - channeling vast sums of money to try to understand the ongoing contest of good and evil...and ultimately came up with a way to thwart his deal and redeem Luna's fate...

Putting the pieces together, Zane completes Cedric's story: he found the one man he could trust never to take Luna's soul and set him up to love her, and ultimately become the Incarnation of Death...and somehow, Zane realizes, he got the other Incarnations to help him: Oleanna tested him at the engagement party, Norton stopped time and framed him -

"and the guy who mugged you, he's the Incarnation of War," Cedric concludes.

"So you really are a magician," says Zane.

But Luna is confused - what destiny could she possibly have? She's a rich man's daughter, a fashion designer - what is she going to do that is so special?

"All I know," Cedric tells his daughter, "is it was worth it to save you."

Before the conversation can continue, the man in the black suit enters the room - pissed. His boss wants Luna dead and wants her dead now: a deal is a deal.

Zane draws a line in the sand: he won't take her.

"Then I'll make her wish she was dead," says the man in the black suit, pulling out a pistol and OPENING FIRE.

Zane throws himself on Luna. Cedric opens a back door and ushers them out into a service hallway...the man in the black suit gives chase. Cedric, Luna and Zane escape to the roof. Zane takes out his weapon - and it unfolds into a staff...

"A staff? He's got a gun and I get a freakin' staff?"

The man in the black suit shouts out to Zane - he will kill him if he has to, take his place and reap Luna's soul himself.

And that's when something clicks in Zane's mind.

Gathering all of his courage, Zane steps out of hiding to confront the man in the black suit...whom he sees in his "soul vision" as dark, thorny, and unspeakably evil.

Your boss is the Prince of Lies," Zane tells the man in the black suit, "you think I'm gonna believe you?"

The man in the black suit pulls back the hammer on his gun and steps toward Zane.

"You can't take my place," Zane says plainly, "your soul is black. I don't think you can do anything to me."

The man in the black suit holds his gun to Zane's chest as Zane comes closer and closer...telling Zane that he is wrong, he can and will kill him if he doesn't hand Luna over.

But Zane merely WHIPS his staff around and knocks the man in the black suit off his feet and onto the ground.

The man in the black suit looks up at Zane...

"You can't protect her forever," he says, adding that somewhere, somehow, his boss will find a way to kill her. His boss always gets what he wants.

Zane tells the man in the black suit to tell his boss this: if he doesn't resign his claim to Luna, Zane will go on strike.

Zane breaks it down: either the man's boss gives up Luna or he will stop doing his job. No one will go to heaven or hell. The entire system will grind to a halt.

Zane never asked to be the Incarnation of Death...he doesn't want this job and has nothing left of his life on earth but his love of Luna: and if it means keeping her alive, he is willing to stop the celestial clockwork forever.

The man in the black suit looks out to Luna...and tells her that Zane will have to kill someone to keep the balance of not taking her soul. Someone innocent.

Is she willing to take that on? If she is so good a person with so amazing a destiny, would she be willing to mortgage the life of an innocent to preserve her own?

Luna looks at Zane - the answer is no...but Zane turns to Cedric: he has a theory. A heroic act of self-sacrifice might even the score of Cedric's deal with the forces of evil and make his soul neutral.

Cedric knows what he must do. He steps to the ledge and smiles: telling Luna that this is his choice and destiny...everything he made is now hers to use to find and fulfill her own.

Zane assures Cedric that he will make it painless...and Cedric Kaftan, captain of industry, magician, cohort of the Incarnations of Immortality, LEAPS...



...the man in the black suit screams in frustration and vanishes into smoke...

...Zane JUMPS after Cedric - transforming in mid-air into a diaphanous apparition, a flowing, stylized version of the avatar of Death. Zane reaches out and takes Cedric Kaftan's soul from his body before he hits the pavement below...

...on the rooftop, Luna - eyes watering with grief - looks away from the sight of her father's death...only to see Zane now standing before her in his dark suit.

Zane embraces Luna...and as she cries into his shoulder...

#### **END OF ACT FOUR**

#### **ACT FIVE**

Zane enters the greenhouse to find Oleanna...flanked by Niobe, Norton and MARK, who steps up to Zane, belligerent and confrontational.

"We're not used to being called up for meetings," Mark blusters.

Zane tells the Incarnations that he has Cedric Kaftan's soul in him still...he knows everything that Cedric Kaftan knew...and that includes that Cedric used his vast knowledge, wealth and maybe even access to magic to cajole all of them to set him up.

"So?" Asks Mark.

"All of you interfered," Zane replies.

"We didn't interfere," Niobe shoots back, "we influenced. There's a difference."

Zane rolls the phrase around - "influenced" - and tells the collected Incarnations that he has some ideas of his own about how to use this "influence" for the sake of good.

Zane wants to take sides. The gathered Incarnations were willing to take the side of good to keep Luna's destiny alive...they're gonna work together from now on.

Niobe knows everyone's true destiny, Mark can bring conflicts to a head, Norton can stop time, Oleanna can will nature to do her

bidding...maybe it's time to use these powers to help everyone from falling into the jaws of evil.

The world needs them to take sides. Echoing the words of his martyred father-in-law, Zane tells the Incarnations that as creators, they have the responsibility to create the future they want to see, not just the future they are told they must have.

"The balance is going to tip," Zane tells his new co-workers, "and I expect you all to help me do it."

The moment is broken by the CHIMING of the Deathwatch...and as Zane takes his leave...

**SMASH CUT TO**

...an ER. Doctors SCRAMBLE to save the life of a PATIENT. Zane enters, walking up to the patient.

The patient looks up, frightened - but Zane offers a pleasant nod and tells him not to worry - death is not the end...there is a better world to be made.

His fear vanishing under the face of a comforting, reassuring Angel of Death, the patient looks up at Zane, relieved.

"You're nothing like I imagined...your eyes...they're compassionate."

"Everything's going to be OK," Zane tells the patient...and as he holds out his hand...

**FADE TO BLACK**

**END OF PILOT**