

Angels Fall
By Ryan Southwick
Synopsis

Prologue
Present Day

In San Francisco, ANNE, MARK, DELA, PIXIE CAPPa, DORIS, ALMOS, and DELA wonder how CHARLIE will take the news of everything that's happened when he returns from China in a few days. Mark worries about the 3 special forces squads who are still missing, and who may be in enemy hands. He is also concerned about who contracted the domestic terrorist attacks ORWING was going to fulfill.

Part 1 - China
6 weeks ago

After a long trip, Charlie and Cappa arrive at a remote monastery in China. Cappa is worried how the prolonged separation from her third mind, which is stranded at the factory, will affect both it and herself when she tries to resynchronize later, but her fears are supplanted by the refusal of Charlie's old master to help him. She and Charlie work hard to gain acceptance. Cappa is delighted to learn that, despite her mechanical nature, she has a soul, but her celebration is cut short when Charlie's brain stops working, and only by a miracle of his master is he brought back to life.

Back in China, and ignorant of Anne's kidnapping, Charlie is on the mend. Cappa masters her newly discovered life force faster than any student before her. Things are still rocky between the master and Charlie, despite Cappa's efforts, but things become more complicated when the true reason for her life force is revealed: She's been stealing Charlie's. Worse, training has stirred human-like feelings, fanning her love for Charlie into a lust that they must put on hold until they return to the US and talk to Anne.

Part 2 - San Francisco
Present Day

WILLIAM is upset that, even with his growing army and infiltration into the government, that he's no closer to exacting vengeance on Anne and Z-Tech. He commands his military-savvy underlings to take them down, no matter the cost.

Charlie and Cappa return from China. Both sides have news to share, but are interrupted when Zima accidentally shoots Anne, then runs away. Anne chases her through the streets until the sun's agony forces her to stop. Charlie resumes pursuit and, after a long chat, reassures Zima, and gets her to agree to return to Z-Tech. Cappa and Charlie ask Anne's permission to see each other, which she gives, but Cappa discovers that she's less ready than she thought and can't go

through with it.

After a long absence, Charlie takes Anne on a date to an art show, where he not only runs into an ex-fiancée, but a pair of mysterious vampires. They chase the vampires down and discover that they were turned by a new player, and appear to be of Anne's bloodline. Exhausted, they retreat to a peaceful property of Charlie's in the north bay before returning home. Anne seeks Almos' advice on how to deal with the new vampires, but they disagree on whether genocide or acceptance is the right solution.

William meets with ALVIN Orwing, Z-Tech's former arch-enemy who still holds a grudge, to move ahead with a plan designed to devastate Z-Tech, and may change the world forever.

Not to be outdone by Charlie, Zima treats Anne to the date of her life and introduces her to her favorite author of all time, while Charlie, Mark, and Cappa go to a business party. The party goes awry when Alvin Orwing makes an appearance with one of William's vampire lieutenants. Mark and Charlie avoid a blatant assassination attempt, and during their effort to evacuate the party-goers, Alvin lures Cappa to the roof and attempts to take her hostage. Cappa employs her *chi* training and defeats the assault just before a pair of assault helicopters arrive, but not before her new friend's husband is murdered before them.

Meanwhile, Zima and Anne visit the creator of the new vampires and are shocked to discover they have formed a new society, designed for peaceful co-existence between vampires and humans, and to wage war against William's less-peaceful vampires. What's more, they invite Zima to be their general and Anne, who is the highest order of her bloodline, to be their matriarchal figurehead. Zima is interested, but they make no promises, and quickly return to the factory when a rash of terrorist attacks explodes across the United States, pointing to a grand finale in San Francisco.

The residents of Z-Tech are under attack, but despite the enemies' use of military weapons, they underestimate the extent of the factory's defenses. With Cappa, Almos, Anne, Doris, and Dela safely underground, Charlie and Mark use gun turrets ward off a barrage of missile attacks, while Zima single-handedly picks off snipers one-by-one. The tide turns for the worse when the enemy brings both tanks and hostages to the battlefield, and the Z-Tech family is forced to flee. Charlie's cyborg brain is killed during the escape, while at the same time Anne encounters William on the street. The unfortunate events culminate with Cappa being so upset over Charlie's death that she lowers her chi shield from Almos. The Entity quickly takes over and forces Almos to kill himself. Feeling she has no choice, Anne engages William head-on with the intent to capture the new master vampire, but a miscommunication between she and her friends leads to William's death.

They discover soon after that Charlie's death allowed him to finally make the jump to his biological body and rejoice, and the crew flees San Francisco.

Charlie and Cappa finally consummate their relationship in a hotel, but the celebration is cut short when Anne reveals that after William's death, she has become the new master vampire, and is protected only by the defensive program of her implant. Charlie declares that they're done

fighting and intends to retire in a country mansion in Montana to enjoy what time they have left. The declaration is just a ruse for the Entity's sake, however, and the crew—minus Anne—regroup to discuss how they will continue to fight the vampire scourge while keeping their efforts from the Entity.

Together and alive, the ragtag family drives off to start their new life in Montana.