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# 72 Ways to Die:

## Episode Eight: Bite Me!

The Team are walking along a dark alley. They see a man lying on the floor. As they get closer, they notice he looks very pale and there are traces of blood around him. He is barely alive.

Zero72: (bending over) Who was it? Who did this?

Man: It...it was a v..vampire, I think. I thought it was going to b..ite me but it didn't. It just extracted my blood with some kind of syringe. Put it in an iron box and left. I...it...

Zero72: What did it look like? Did it say anything?

Man: I d..don't know. I don't know. He...he said "Slayer, your blood is ours" or something. "Your blood is ours" and "You don't need to bite to get blood"...he...h...

Zero72: (to others) We've got to get this one to a hospital, fast. (Pause) Why didn't we pick this one up on our scanners?

Root: The scanner detects vampires but it can't detect blood-extraction.

Zero72: What do you mean?

Root: I don't think it was a vampire. Just one of its servants.

Zero72: But then...

Count Ferrell-Envelope: (calling from around the corner) Come and look at this!

They join him around the corner. There is another man in the same condition with a big sign above him. It reads – "In just 24 Hours, I'll Drayn this Town Dry"

Zero72: He spelt "drain" wrong.

Cuts to various shots of various places where blood is kept or spilt – hospitals, fights and butchers and dark figures collecting the blood in containers and putting it into vans. There are also clips of people having blood extracted from them by the figure via syringes. Then there are shots of people being brought into hospital by The Team. Cuts to a dark room. The light turns on, revealing Spare-Ribs sitting in a comfortable chair, stroking a bat.

Spare-Ribs: I just love it when a plan comes together...

Cuts to titles.

### Title Music Lyrics

*I'll teach you a story about a town called Scorched,  
A legend about a team,  
Their leader was the Slayer called Zero,  
Their history learnt through a dream.*

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*There are but 72 ways to die,  
The Slayer knows them all,  
There are but 72 ways to die,  
If you run – you may trip and fall.*

*Evil aplenty came out of the dark,  
To challenge the saviours back then,  
If you listen to what people say,  
Then the legend may live again.*

*There are but 72 ways to die,  
The Slayer knows them all,  
There are but 72 ways to die,  
Be it vampire – werewolf – or ghoul.*

*The strange thing about this tale,  
Is that it exists in tomorrow,  
The ending is not written yet,  
Be it full of joy or of sorrow.*

*There are but 72 ways to die,  
The Slayer knows them all,  
There are but 72 ways to die,  
So don't dive in an empty pool.*

## Cast

### The Team

Zero72 is the Slayer,  
Nutter is the Mentor,  
Root is the mysterious one,  
Count Ferrell-Envelope is the normal one,  
Pillow is the hyperactive annoying one,  
Casket is the grumpy half-demon one.

### Other Important Characters

Spare-Ribs is the psychotic vampire,  
Bracket is the team-member wannabe,  
Susan Smiles is the model student (and Spare-Ribs' vampire girlfriend)

Cut to inside Spare-Ribs mansion. Spare-Ribs is sitting in his comfortable chair looking smug.

Susan Smiles: So what exactly is the plan and how do I fit into it?

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Spare-Ribs: Hmmm, Oh yes, I forgot to explain. (Pause) I've hired some goons to gather up as much blood from around town as they can. And I do mean "as much blood as they can"

Susan Smiles: Why? Why not just go out and hunt them yourself if you're thirsty?

Spare-Ribs: (sighing and shaking his head) Suzy, Suzy, Suzy. You are so naïve. (Pause) I don't want this blood for myself. (Pause) I have a steady stock coming to me from various sources.

Susan Smiles: Then why...

Spare-Ribs: (interrupting) Business. (Pause) I'm going to sell it on... at a profit... to goody-goody vampires who don't want to bite anyone. (grinning) I'll tell them it's animal blood, naturally.

Susan Smiles: That sounds a bit of a simple plan.

Spare-Ribs: Oh, but there's far more to it than simple business. (Pause) You see, I've asked my slaves to leave a trail while they carry out their work.

Susan Smiles: A trail? For whom?

Spare-Ribs: (laughing) Who do you think? (Pause) The Slayer of course...and his friends. (Pause) When I'm done with Zero, he won't have an ounce of blood left in his body. You can dine on the others.

Susan Smiles: I don't see your obsession with Zero.

Spare-Ribs: He's the only thing preventing me from obeying my natural calling.

Susan Smiles: He will not be the last.

Spare-Ribs: (angry, spitting) Don't lecture me! (Pause) When Zero and his friends arrive on the premises, I will have a guard pretend to have captured you. They will pursue you (Pause) and walk straight into my trap.

Susan nods meekly. Cuts to Team HQ (Nutter's house)

Casket: I smell a trap.

Root: You always smell a trap.

Casket: Bah! (Pause) Why would someone leave such obvious notes around his victims? He obviously wants you, Zero.

Nutter: To be fair, the notes have been pretty cryptic. (indicating a piece of paper) I've been stumped on this one for hours.

Zero72: That's your shopping list.

Nutter: (looking down at it) Oh, yes, so it is. (Pause) I had wondered what an evil entity would want with "2 tins of sardines".

Casket: (ignoring him) I mean look at this one. (holding up a sign, reading it aloud) "21, Death Terrace, Scorched City – Pay me a visit, Slayer, or everybody dies", it's hardly discreet is it?

Pillow: I wonder if "everybody" includes himself...

Count Ferrell-Envelope: What? Of course it doesn't include himself. Why would he want to kill himself?

Casket: And he's probably dead anyway, to be fair.

Nutter: Undead.

Casket: Undead, dead. It's all the same.

Nutter: Actually it isn't. You see, if you're dead then you're not coming back but if you're undead then it means you've died and then come back to life.

Casket: (frustrated) Does it matter?

Nutter: Of course it matters! You don't want to end up staking somebody's recently deceased. (Pause) People can be quite uptight about that.

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Zero72: Uh, can I speak for a moment. (they all look at him) Seems to me, if they're expecting a Slayer then they should get one. (they all look confused) A fake Slayer. (they look more confused) A decoy who would go along with you and pretend to me so that I could then arrive afterwards and wouldn't walk into the trap.

All: Ah!

Count Ferrell-Envelope: But who would be stupid enough to agree to that job?

Cut to Zero standing outside with Bracket.

Bracket: A special assignment? Cool! I knew you'd see my potential eventually.

Zero72: Oh yes, we see your potential. We see it all too clearly. (he laughs manically, Bracket laughs along with him. Stopping laughing) Stop! Only I may laugh!

Cuts to mansion. Spare-Ribs is sitting in his evil chair again, stroking his pet bat.

Spare-Ribs: Soon, Slayer. Just a few more hours and your soul will be mine!  
Bwahahahahaha! (the chair squeaks. He looks down at it.) Can somebody fix this chair? I can't concentrate on laughing evilly with that squeaking noise going on! (he looks around and sees nobody is about, sighs) I guess I'll have to fix it myself. (bending down behind the chair) Aghhh, my back! (he stands upright) Ohh, that hurt. I'd better have a rest. (he sits back in the chair which squeaks even more loudly then falls apart, throwing him to the floor) Crap! (the bat hovers to his shoulder and sits there, looking at it) Can you fix it, Mr. Flap-Flap? (the bat shakes his head. Sadly) I didn't think so.

Cut to outside mansion. It is night. The gang are standing around. Bracket is dressed as Zero.

Zero72: So you all understand the plan, right? (they all nod) You go in there, with Bracket pretending to be me then in about quarter of an hour or so, I'll come in – kill the villain and rescue you all.

Bracket: Am I the only one who finds this plan a little...crazy?

Zero72: Look, Bracket, if you're too chicken to help us out then fine but...

Bracket: (interrupting) No, no. It's okay. I'll be good.

Zero72: Get going then!

Bracket climbs over the gate. The others follow him.

Root: (through the gates) No longer than quarter of an hour though, right?

Zero72: Don't worry. I'll keep a check on it.

Root nods and they leave inside the mansion.

Zero72: (noticing a flat metallic object on the floor) Looks like Envelope left his GBA SP here. (picking it up, looking more closely) And a copy of Advance Wars 2! (looks at his watch then the GBA SP) Oh, I have time for one little game!

Inside the mansion. Bracket and the others walk inside the first corridor. Susan is standing at the end of the corridor.

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Susan Smiles: (happily – yet in a bad acting voice) Hey guys! Did – you – get an – invitation to a party – supposedly to be held here – as well?

Pillow: No. We came here looking for some kind of evil villain.

Susan Smiles: Real-ly? Who would have guessed that – I'd be starring in – my very own horror movie? – ha – ha –ha.

Count Ferrell-Envelope: It's no laughing matter, Susan! This thing is very dangerous, we have to kill it.

Susan Smiles: Oh, I'm sure – I'll be fine. (a goon walks in and picks her up) Hel-p. Hel-p. The beast has got - me.

Pillow: Oh no! It's got her!

The goon runs off around the corner.

Bracket: After him, gang! (they all look at him)

Casket: Just because you're pretending to be Zero doesn't give you the authority to boss us around.

Bracket: Sorry.

Casket: After him, gang! (they all charge around the corner with Bracket trailing behind moodily)

They follow the goon into a large room. The doors slam. Spare-Ribs steps out of the darkness.

Spare-Ribs: (to Susan) You can drop the act now. I've got them right where I want them. (to Bracket) Time to die, Slayer!

Root: (under her breath) Come on, Zero. Where are you?

Cuts to outside. Zero is playing frantically on the GBA SP.

Zero72: Come on! Come on! No – No – NO! Over there! Not there! – NO! – Yes! – YES! YEESSS! (does a victory dance) I win! I win! I win! (pauses) Hmm, I have a strange feeling I'm forgetting something. (thinks for a moment then...) Ah, well. (continues victory dance) I win! I win! I win!

Cuts to inside a small room in the mansion. The gang are chained to the wall and Spare-Ribs paces the floor. Susan stands in the corner.

Spare-Ribs: (to Bracket) So, Zero, we meet again. Your Slayer-Skills are overrated, that much is for sure. I should suck you and your friends' blood now but instead I'm going to hang around chatting to you for ages so that some character I've neglected to capture can make a dynamic rescue and foil my plans.

Bracket: I'm not the Slayer.

Spare-Ribs: Nonsense, I already know you're the Slayer, Zero. I mean you don't even wear a disguise on patrol which makes it patently obvious to everyone within a five-mile radius that you're the Slayer.

Bracket: No, I mean, I'm not Zero.

Spare-Ribs: Pfft. I know Zero when I see him. The trousers, the shirt, the so called 'manly ponytail'

Bracket: It's a wig!

Spare-Ribs: Ha ha ha! Sure it is! Ha ha ha! You're priceless, Zero, you really are!

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Suddenly a window breaks and a figure flies in. It looks like Zero but we cannot see its face.

Figure: He's not Zero! I'm Zero!

Spare-Ribs: Holy crap! Two Slayers? This is more than I can handle, I'm out of here!

He grabs Susan by the collar and drags her out of the room with him. Spare-Ribs runs through a room with giant vats of blood in it, followed by Susan and is stopped by another Zero.

Spare-Ribs: Whaaaaaaat?

Zero72: Going somewhere, Ribs?

Spare-Ribs: (pulling a gun) Stay back, stay back or I shoot.

Zero72: How pathetic. Resorting to human methods are we? Where are your vampire-powers now?

Spare-Ribs: I'll show you power!

He shoots at one of the vats of blood and it punctures causing blood to spill onto the floor.

Zero72 turns to look at it.

Zero72: That was bloody stupid. (turning around) Bloody, geddit? (the two vampires have disappeared) Damn! They missed my joke!

Cuts to the other room.

Root: Man, Zero, you took your time!

Figure: Not Zero. (she steps out of the shadows, revealing her true identity) Kyira!

Pillow: Who?

Casket: Ky-what now?

Kyira: Kyira, Zero's girlfriend. He did tell you about me? (Pause) Right?

Count Ferrell-Envelope: Zero?

Root: Girlfriend?

Kyira: (calling) ZEROOOO!

Zero72 pops his head in the door.

Zero72: Yeah, babe?

Kyira: Why didn't you tell your friends about me?

Zero72: But I did. Look! (he drags out a TV, puts a video in and they huddle around it)

On Screen - Zero is gathered round with the team sitting about.

Zero72: My girlfriend's coming round this week.

Root: You've got a girlfriend?

Zero72: Yeah, Kyira, she's great! You've got to meet her.

Pillow: I'm looking forward to it!

Casket: I'm not.

Zooms away from the screen. Zero turns the TV off.

Zero72: See!

Root: I have absolutely no recollection of that.

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Zero72: Oh come on. It was in the very first episode! (they all shake their heads) It wasn't? (angry) Oh, great, they cut it!

Kyira: Don't worry, it's not your fault.

Zero72: Yeah, we all know whose fault it is! (looking at camera) Don't we, Worm Mad?

Pillow: (to Casket) Who's he talking to?

Casket: (to Pillow) Worm Mad.

Pillow: But Worm Mad isn't here.

Casket: I know. (Pause) I think he's insane. Just nod and pretend you agree with him if he asks you anything. We don't want him eating our brains, do we?

Zero72: (turning on them) What did you say?

P & C: (Pillow is nodding, Casket is grinning) Nothing!

Kyira: Come on, Zero. Let's go home!

They walk to the door together. Zero opens it. Blood rushes through it, covering them all.

Zero72: I suppose this is somebody's idea of a joke.

Count Ferrell-Envelope: Ewww! It's in my mouth! IT'S IN MY MOUTH!

Casket: That could be because you open it so much.

Bracket: I'll wash but I'll never be clean.

Kyira: (to Zero) Next time, you come round my house, Okay?

Fade to black.

### Zero72's Creature Feature

Creature Name: Goon.

Appearance: Usually human. They wear black hats, coats, trousers, boots, shades.

Comes Out during: Night usually.

Diet: Mainly Lamb chops and Hamburgers.

Comes from: Earth.

Allegiance: Evil (or whoever pays the most)

Population: Large.

Can be killed by: Any normal method. They're just pathetic humans really.

Zero72's Comments: "I hate goons. They're stupid. Nuff said."