

PILOT EPISODE/Episode 1: The Gifted and Tainted

Deep inside the Gated Community, Vanessa prepares to sneak out while her parents prepare for a very special dinner guest. Meanwhile we're introduced to Bat Boy as he prepares for a guest of his own, his babysitter and older (and super nerdy) cousin, Robby. When the two boys stumble upon this strange girl with fire powers, what will they do?

SCENE: Inside of Vanessa's room, she sits on the bed reading a book and when she hears a knock, she quickly puts it away as if she shouldn't have been reading it.

Mother: VANESSA, we're having a very special guest today and you know we've been planning it a long time. Why are you not ready for dinner yet?

Vanessa: Sorry Mother, I've been... Diligently doing my homework on the Crucifying Principle and I'll be out and ready in approximately 30 minutes.

Mother: No delays. Your Gifted Evaluation is only days away and you haven't even met with the head of our Gates.

Vanessa: My gifts aren't delayed though...

Mother: What was that?!

Vanessa: Nothing! Just saying I can't be delayed for the Evaluation.

Mother: Honestly, I know you have such pride in your work... You'll be the proudest Reckoning candidate these Gates have ever seen.

Vanessa: Yes Mother.

Vanessa's Mother exits the scene as Vanessa shifts in her seat, she looks out of the window and sneakily climbs out of it, leaving a shot of the empty room to linger for a bit with some chilling music. Vanessa is seen slipping through the gates and into the woods.

SCENE: Bat Boy is muttering to himself and sitting on a couple of books to reach the table, his mom is going off about rules that he needs to follow when someone is there, he flaps his hands mimicking talking and rolls his eyes.

Mom: Cody, are you listening to me?

Bat Boy: Mom, I told you not to call me that, It's Bat Boy... BAT BOY!

Mom: Alright "Bat Boy", are you listening to me now?

Bat Boy: Yeah yeah, I KNOW. Robby's coming so no fun ever, I GOT IT.

Mom: Excuse me young man??

Bat Boy: (sarcastically) Oh sorry I mean, Robby's coming over so I'll be on my bestest behavior in the whole world.

Bat Boy shrugs, pushing around his peas and carrots on his plate which he refuses to eat. His mom exits the scene when there's a brief knock and the door opens to reveal Robby.

Robby marches up to Bat Boy and surprises him with a load of books dropping in front of him.

Robby: OH COUSIN! I took the liberty of contacting all your teachers for the next 3 years of your schooling and boy do we have a LOT of homework to catch up on tonight! I bet if we're lucky we can get all the way to Algebra 2 by bedtime. Aren't you EXCITED? It's gonna be so fun.

Bat Boy: Robby... I'm not doing any of that crap.

Robby: LANGUAGE! But Bat Boy...

Robby's face becomes darkened, he pushes up his glasses and smiles wickedly.

Robby: You have to... Because Aunt Carol put ME in charge and that means you have to do what I say and I say... HOMEWORK.

Bat Boy slowly sinks into his chair as the books continue to stack-- as Robby laughs evilly.

SCENE: Vanessa is in the woods, looking back and forth to check if anyone is there before she is revealed to be jumping from rock to rock across a stream. She creates a small fire in her hand and kneels down to press it into the water, creating steam.

Vanessa: (giggling)

Vanessa holds a rock in her hand and engulfs it in flame, tossing it to a flat rock and begins playing hopscotch by herself.

SCENE: It zooms out from Vanessa playing hopscotch to show Bat Boy's trailer and peer inside his window where he has a book on his head and is reading another one. He bounces his knee (he's sitting cross-legged) and looks out of the window where he sees smoke. He checks to see Robby in the living room watching the nature channel's Tropical Birds documentary and decides to sneak out the front door quietly. As soon as he's out of the house, he makes a careful James Bond-esque trip around the car and pops up around the playground then goes running and screaming into the woods.

SCENE: Vanessa is balancing on one leg, hopping from rock to rock and back while Bat Boy watches from behind a tree and stump.

Bat Boy Inner Monologue: Who is this girl? I've never seen her before...

Bat Boy: (coughing into his hand, getting Vanessa to look back at him) Hi! I'm Bat Boy!

Vanessa screams and throws a fireball at him which he manages to dodge.

Vanessa: Go away!

Bat Boy: YOU HAVE SUPERPOWERS?!

Vanessa: I SAID go AWAY!

Vanessa's hand is engulfed by flames as her eyes glow red, she hunches, raising her hand as if to throw a baseball.

Bat Boy: Alright, you asked for it! I'm just trying to be friendly but if you wanna fight...

Bat Boy sticks up his fists and adjusts his stance as if to get ready, but Vanessa's fire sizzles out as she giggles. She starts laughing before holding her hand like it's hurt.

Bat Boy: Are you... Hurt by it?

Vanessa nods, rubbing her hand. Bat Boy lowers his stance and tries to come over towards her but she steps back, tripping and falling into the river, she sniffles and looks up at him like she's scared.

Vanessa: D-Don't tell my mother, I don't wanna go home. You CAN'T bring me back there, I won't let you!

Bat Boy: What are you talking about?

Bat Boy crouches down and offers her a hand, when he pulls her up he backs away from her. Vanessa rings out her dress and looks down at her hand to reveal a severe burn. She jumps when she hears Bat Boy speak again.

Bat Boy: C'mon, I'll get you some help, just trust me okay?

Vanessa looks apprehensive but takes his hand, holding the hurt one to her chest.

SCENE: We see Vanessa and Bat Boy walking together and there's a voice-less sequence where Bat Boy knocks on his trailer door and wildly explains and mimes Vanessa using her fire powers (while Vanessa giggles) and Robby is confused, looking between the two of them but when Vanessa shows her hand, he freaks out and points in a direction. We later see them in the tree house, Vanessa snapping her fingers to make a light on and off which freaks out Robby.

Bat Boy: So yeah, that's when I found a girl.

Robby points at her, shaking his head in disbelief and Vanessa looks at Bat Boy, they both shrug.

Robby: WHAT?! What do you MEAN you “found a girl”?! You don’t just find a girl with FIRE POWERS!

Bat Boy: I found a girl with fire powers. She was playing in the woods by herself.

Robby: YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE DOING YOUR HOMEWORK!!

Bat Boy: Got bored.

Bat Boy picks up a map and places it on the table by the lantern, Vanessa sits down on the bed and puts her hand in her lap.

Bat Boy: Where are you from?

Vanessa: The Quarry.

Bat Boy: Oh my god, that’s like... The ONE place I haven’t tracked yet! Duh! I mean I always suspected there was something up at the Undenny’s but... Well, no one ever goes to the Quarry.

Vanessa: This is actually my first time outside the Gates.

Vanessa lays down, curling up her feet on the couch.

Robby: Um excuse me?! Are you even listening to me?

Bat Boy: Why do people keep asking me that? YES, I’m listening.

Robby: She REALLY has fire powers... Like, I’m looking and I’m seeing it and-- BAT BOY!

Bat Boy looks up from his notes to groan at Robby. He pulls up the map and Vanessa peeks her one eye open.

Bat Boy: Did you forget she’s hurt too? You were supposed to be helping her.

Robby stops, his open mouth closes and he kneels down to fish for his first aid kit. He turns to her, offering ointment and gauze. Vanessa sits up, the two of them looking at each other, she offers her hand meekly. Robby shakes his head as if spacing out for a moment and patches her up.

** Everything about Vanessa reads a little evil. She has red eyes, a shot of her red eyes is shown, her dark clothing and her free hand fiddling with her occult charm.

Robby: Sorry... It’s not everyday you come across something that completely defies all semblance of known reality and challenges what you have to accept as possible for... Sorry, I mean, it’s not everyday I see superpowers.

Vanessa giggles and rubs her newly gauzed hand.

Vanessa: My mother says verbosity is never to be apologized for.

Robby freezes up, he coughs into his hand and gets back up, stiffly walking back to Bat Boy.

Bat Boy: It seems like, if this is fairly normal for her.. Maybe there's more kids like her with other superpowers... I always knew something was weird about this town, like with the monster I DEFINITELY SAW in Blackwater woods.

Robby: I feel like we're in trouble...

SCENE: The scene ends as Bat Boy looks at Robby and they both look at Vanessa who waves with a blank face, her head cocking to the side curiously. The ending will fade to black with some evil laughter by an older sounding woman.