

# The Book of Enchantment

Pilot  
"Three Born This Day"

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Based On  
The Disney Villains Series of Books  
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*There will be three born this day. One from earth, one from water, one from fire. Arriving in innocence, they are in fact the shepherds of the dark.*

- The Book of Enchantment

The SEAGULL flies over the small fishing boat. The full glory of MORNINGSTAR CASTLE can be seen in the distance. The low sun reflects off of its seven gilded, onion-domed roofs.

Two fishermen, AGNON and PFEETER, begin to pull their extensive nets out of the water. Pfeeter utters a prayer.

PFEETER

(whispered like a chant)  
*All hail Triton, God of thunder and  
the sea, I beg of you my lord,  
To bring your grace to me.*

AGNON

Not this again. Remind me, what's  
Triton ever done for you?

PFEETER

Mind yourself, Agnon.

AGNON

What's all that prayin' got you? A  
mouthful of broken teeth, a broken  
pickle, and your roof fell in and  
killed your dog. Y'ask me, Triton's  
got his fist up your arse.

PFEETER

Don't talk like that out here! I  
ain't drowning for you!

As they pull up the net they see it's filled with fish.  
Pfeeter is pleased.

PFEETER (CONT'D)

See? Triton just gave us a boatful  
of fish, not to mention a jug of  
wine to drink.

AGNON

And I'm giving him something to  
drink in return.

Pfeeter looks over and sees Agnon pissing in the ocean.

PFEETER

Damn you!

Pfeeter dives on Agnon and the two slip and slide on the boat as they fight. Then, something impossible stops them in their tracks. They HEAR the unmistakable sound of a BABY CRYING... from deep in the pile of fish!

They carefully push the fish aside, green flapping things sliding across the deck and they are stunned to reveal...

A small INFANT, but no ordinary infant. This baby is COVERED IN SCALES WITH WEBBED FEET AND HANDS. Part fish/part human.

2

**EXT. MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - DAY**

2

On a veranda of the magnificent Morningstar Castle stands CYRENA, Princess of Morningstar, 20, long hair in loose curls at her shoulders, and impossibly green eyes that are as spellbinding as they are perceptive.

On the horizon she can see a fishing boat, the boat we were just on. She doesn't yet realize that the two fishermen aboard have made an extraordinary discovery.

The princess's handmaiden, VALERIA, steps out on the veranda.

VALERIA

Your grace? The king is awake.

CYRENA

Thank you, Valeria.

Cyrena nods and Valeria backs away.

3

**INT. KING EDMUND'S BEDROOM - DAY**

3

Cyrena enters to find her mother, QUEEN GWENDOLYN, 48, serving her father porridge. KING EDMUND is 55 years old, but looks much older since taking ill. Could be cancer, but they wouldn't know it. He perks up slightly when he sees his daughter.

KING EDMUND

Cyrena, darling. You look lovely.

CYRENA

You most certainly do not.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Cyrena.

The king laughs until he coughs. Cyrena amuses him.

CYRENA

You should postpone the summit.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

I agree with Cyrena.

KING EDMUND

It's been a long war. I must secure this peace before I'm gone.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Don't say such things. You're not going anywhere, young man.

KING EDMUND

*Young.* If only.

The king struggles to rise. Gwendolyn and Cyrena move to both help him and stop him.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Where do you think you're going? You need your rest, Edmund.

KING EDMUND

I will not allow this bed to consume me just yet.

The king stands tentatively, trying to gain his balance. Cyrena and Gwendolyn share a look of concern, which the king clocks.

KING EDMUND (CONT'D)

You both must stop this worrying.

CYRENA

You're in no condition to negotiate breakfast, let alone a peace treaty.

KING EDMUND

Adam will be with me.

CYRENA

Well, now I am worried.

KING EDMUND

Adam is heir to the throne and Commander of the armies of Morningstar. He's also your brother and he could use your support.

CYRENA

Mercifully, Adam doesn't desire my support.

(then)

But I'm happy to give you mine, if you'd only let me join you at the table.

KING EDMUND  
Not this again.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
Edmund.

KING EDMUND  
These talks require diplomacy.

CYRENA  
Then Adam should keep us at war for  
another ten years.

Edmund is unsteady, Cyrena takes him by the armpit.

KING EDMUND  
Let go of me. I'm fine.

CYRENA  
You are not fine.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
(still on Cyrena)  
Cyrena can be diplomatic.

The queen takes the king's other arm, but he shrugs them both  
off pointedly.

KING EDMUND  
I'm still the king, you know.

CYRENA  
You smell like the king's horse.

KING EDMUND  
(to Gwendolyn)  
Diplomatic. Quite.

CYRENA  
Father, you sent me to school, you  
told me to learn about politics and  
history and, yes, diplomacy. What  
was all that for, exactly? To make  
me a better dinner companion?

KING EDMUND  
Enough! This will be Adam's peace  
to maintain when I'm gone!

CYRENA  
Comforting.

The king tugs a rope next to the bed. A BELL can be heard outside the room. A moment later, the door opens and a servant steps in. His name is ARDSLEY.

KING EDMUND  
Ardsley, draw a bath. And summon my  
council.  
(to Cyrena and Gwendolyn)  
You two, out.

Cyrena and Queen Gwendolyn leave, reluctantly.

4

**INT. CORRIDOR, MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - CONTINUOUS**

4

The Queen and Cyrena step out into the hall. The queen speaks to her as they walk.

CYRENA  
He sees me as a royal ornament and  
nothing more.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
That's not true.

CYRENA  
It is true. I have every right to  
sit at that table, same as Adam!

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
More than Adam, truth be told.  
(then)  
Adam is my son, but you are more  
suited to wear the crown.

Cyrena looks around, making sure nobody heard. Gwendolyn does the same.

CYRENA  
Mother, we shouldn't be talking  
like this. Someone will hear us.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
What will happen? I'm the queen.

CYRENA  
One day Adam will be king. I'd  
rather we not get thrown in the  
tower.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
Succession is not enshrined by law,  
but by decree. Your father makes  
that choice.

CYRENA

And he's chosen.

QUEEN LEAH

Don't give up so easily. You are more sensible than your brother. You always have been. More importantly, you're kinder. He is capable of a cruelty that you could never be.

CYRENA

What would you have me do? Kill him in his sleep?

(off her look)

Kidding, mother. Kidding.

(then)

Half-kidding.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

You have almost everything you require to be a great leader.

CYRENA

Almost everything?

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Confidence isn't enough. Intelligence isn't enough. You must ask yourself *why*. *Why* do you want to lead.

CYRENA

I don't understand.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Just think about it. The answer can make you capable of things you never thought possible.

Gwendolyn squeezes her daughter's hand and leaves her.

5

**INT. THE MIRROR MAKER'S WORKSHOP - DAY**

5

A man in a dark steel mask covering his entire face. His eyes can barely be seen behind narrow slits. He wears dirty, thick gloves and an apron. At the top of the high ceiling there is an opening to the sky, where sunlight strobes from the thick smoke that rises to it from a fire pit that burns in the center of the room.

A pot boils over the fire. With long metal tongs, the man picks up the pot and turns to a table.



A large metal frame shaped ornately lays flush to the table. The man holds the pot slightly above the frame and pours the bubbling blue liquid onto the table, inside the frame.

As the thick liquid spreads out it creates a heavy smoke that flows over the table and down to the floor. The gelatinous liquid stops at the edges where the frame creates a border. He picks up a large bellows and uses it to softly blow air over the surface of the liquid.

We watch as the liquid stiffens and then hardens and as the smoke clears we can see his clear reflection in its surface. The man is practicing the ancient art of mirror making.

He takes his mask off and reveals his face. His name is MORO, but he is known by most as "The Mirror Maker." He hears a voice behind him. It's a woman dressed in NURSEMAID'S CLOTHING.

NURSEMAID

Sir? It's time. Her water has broken.

Moro puts down his tongs and approaches.

NURSEMAID (CONT'D)

She's very weak.

MORO

What do you mean? Isn't that normal?

NURSEMAID

Perhaps. But...

MORO

She's going to be fine.

He continues out of the shop. The nursemaid is concerned.

6

**INT. THE MIRROR MAKER'S HOME - DAY**

6

Moro's wife, ELLIA, is on the bed, screaming in labor. The nursemaid is at her feet.

NURSEMAID

All right, then. Ellia, I need you to push now.

Ellia groans as she pushes hard. Moro takes her hand.

NURSEMAID (CONT'D)

That's good. Very good. Push again,  
please.

MORO

Is there anything I can do?

NURSEMAID

No, sir. This is a woman's work.  
Right, Ellia?

ELLIA

Quite right.

Ellia looks at Moro and forces a weak smile.

MORO

Ellia, we're finally going to have  
our child.

ELLIA

It's a miracle.

MORO

Yes, it is.

He squeezes her hand. Then, she groans again and her eyes  
become glassy.

MORO (CONT'D)

Ellia? Ellia, are you all right?  
(to the nursemaid)  
Is she all right?

ELLIA

Promise me you'll care for her,  
Moro.

MORO

What are you saying?

ELLIA

Please. Just promise me.

Moro nervously tries to smile and calm her.

MORO

You said *her*. How do you know it's  
a girl?

ELLIA

I just know...

MORO  
Ellia? Ellia...

The nursemaid looks up and we CUT TO:

7 **EXT. THE MIRROR MAKER'S HOME - NIGHT** 7

Outside the home the forest is quiet, except for the muffled sounds of the baby's cry.

8 **EXT. THE FAIRY KINGDOM - DAY** 8

The TREES are GARGANTUAN, ancient columns of moss-covered bark vaulting to a thick canopy of dense green branches and leaves. The massive roots are blanketed by soft, lime green moss, on which a WHITE HORSE and RIDER move swiftly. The rider wears an IVORY ROBE with a billowing HOOD pulled up over her head. On her back is a WHITE-HANDLED SWORD with a white BUCK'S HEAD on the pommel. The long, flowing mane of the ghost-white horse ripples in the forest breeze.

CLOSE on the tender lips of the rider as she whispers something we can't quite hear. The horse stops. They look forward and UP. High above them, a startling sight. A CITY IN THE TREES.

The buildings, such as they are, cling to the massive trunks in impossible formations. The architecture is almost sensual, rounded corners and transparent tubes where inhabitants walk from building to building, like a giant exposed anthill in its efficiency of space and the way it conforms to the natural environment around it.

THE FAIRY KINGDOM.

The rider pulls her hood off, revealing herself to us. She looks to be in her late 20s, but in human years she is much older. Her long, delicate white hair frames pale, tender skin and viridescent grey eyes. Her peaked ears resemble pale leaves that sit snug against her head. She wears a golden headband with a deep-red ruby set in the center.

Her name is NAN, though she is referred to by many as "THE ONE OF LEGENDS."

9 **INT. CHAMBER OF THE FAIRY COUNCIL - DAY** 9

The room is surrounded by TWELVE LIFE-SIZED STATUES of former KINGS AND QUEENS of the FAIRIES. A stone table stands in the center of the room, ancient words carved into the stone.

The doors to the balcony are made of ornately carved wood, polished to a glimmering shine. The floor is a mosaic of blue and purple tiles with an insignia in the center of a large BUCK'S HEAD.

Standing behind the stone table is DANEUS, THE FAIRY KING. He addresses the TWELVE MEMBER FAIRY COUNCIL. Among them are Nan and two other fairy men - BENDITH and VALORIS. The fairies are all striking with white straight hair and grey eyes.

Bendith and Nan steal a look at each other - the slight smile tells us there's something between them.

DANEUS

*Three born this day.* That's what the Book predicted. One from earth, one from water, and one from fire - sent by The Morrigan and her followers to be the instruments of unfathomable darkness for the world of man.

(beat)

You've all made your opinions known to me on what course of action we should or should not take, and I've made my decision. It is most prudent to stay out of the affairs of men.

There is some murmuring among the group. Nan is shocked.

BENDITH

Daneus, are you saying we are to do nothing?

DANEUS

The last time our people warred with The Morrigan we were decimated and lost most of our power.

BENDITH

The humans are not prepared for this.

DANEUS

Neither are we. Not this time.

NAN

But at least we know they're coming. At least we know who sent them and why.

DANEUS

And what should we do with that information? Round up these babies? And do what with them?

NAN

Change the future.

DANEUS

The first two have already arrived. The third is imminent. It's already begun.

NAN

But it isn't finished! We fought The Morrigan alongside humans before. We can do it again.

DANEUS

The last time we had power that we don't have anymore.

NAN

Neither do they!

DANEUS

My responsibility is to our people.

Valoris speaks up.

VALORIS

Daneus, the Book also says that heroes will rise, does it not?

DANEUS

It doesn't say that they will succeed.

NAN

Because not everything is written.

DANEUS

But everything that is written will come to pass.

Nan and Bendith share a look. They're not happy.

10

**EXT. CIRCUS GROUNDS, IPSWICH - DAY**

10

The traveling circus has moved into the town of Ipswich, a small fishing village on a peaceful cove. In the distance, we can see the domed spires of Morningstar Castle.

Excited townspeople watch as circus workers raise their tents and begin to set up for the evening's events.

11 **INT. CIRCUS TENT - DAY**

11

Benches are being set up for audiences. On the other side of the darkened tent, the two fishermen, Agnon and Pfeeter, stand with the owner of the circus, ALISTAIR AUDRIC. A fish basket is set on a rickety table next to them, covered in a filthy rag.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

As you can see, we're very busy right now. If you're going to try and pawn off some deformed baby, believe me, I've seen it all.

AGNON

You haven't seen this.

Agnon pulls the rag back and Audric's eyes pop. There, laying on a pile of rags, is the baby halfling.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

Is this some kind of trick?

PFEETER

No tricks.

The baby settles down, staring up at Audric. He reaches out to touch her, feels the scales with his fingers. Then he spreads her hands and feet to see the webs. He tugs at them hard, causing her to cry again.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

Extraordinary. People will pay a bounty of gold to see this.

AGNON

That's what we thought. How much you gonna pay us?

Audric grins, a gold tooth sparkling. He takes a sack full of coins out of his coat pocket.

12 **INT. DRAWING ROOM, MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - DAY**

12

King Edmund sits with a council of 8 MEN around a table. Among them is DUKE OSRIK, 25, handsome, muscular, square jaw. Osrik, we will soon learn is Prince Adam's closest confidant.

A door opens and Ardsley enters and announces.

ARDSLEY

His Grace, Prince Adam of  
Morningstar.

ADAM, Prince of Morningstar, 25, enters. Handsome, wavy dark hair just reaching his shoulders, piercing blue eyes, and a charming smile that betrays an arrogance that is nearly as encompassing as his ambition.

PRINCE ADAM

Good morning, gentlemen.

KING EDMUND

You're late.

Adam takes his seat.

PRINCE ADAM

You look well, father. Still twice  
the man of any one of us.

KING EDMUND

Well, I'm half the man I was just a  
week ago, so where does that leave  
all of you.

Everyone laughs.

KING EDMUND (CONT'D)

Now, King Aldus is on his way here  
as we speak.

PRINCE ADAM

The White Lion of Baneswood. Quite  
a mouthful.

Osrik laughs.

KING EDMUND

(to Adam)

Have you met with the five clans?

PRINCE ADAM

Osrik and I made the rounds.

KING EDMUND

And what do they have to say?

DUKE OSRIK

They're prepared to be compliant  
with the treaty as outlined.  
However, they want titles.

KING EDMUND

Titles? The clans have never been titled. Their people are workers. Farmers, carpenters, blacksmiths.

PRINCE ADAM

(mimics Ardsley)

All hail, His Lordship, the Duke of Animal Husbandry!

Osrik and Adam laugh. Everyone joins them.

DUKE OSRIK

They feel they've spilled enough blood for a war they didn't want and they're demanding something for their trouble. Their words, Your Grace, not mine.

PRINCE ADAM

(suddenly serious)

We'll see what they demand when I ride in with a full dressed regiment.

KING EDMUND

We promised them Baneswood's gold and all they got was ten years of war. The last thing we need right now are the clans revolting.

PRINCE ADAM Father,

you're not seriously considering giving them titles?

KING EDMUND

I'm considering the best way to achieve peace. At home and abroad.

PRINCE ADAM

Give them a voice at this table and they'll never shut up.

KING EDMUND

Yes, I can see how that works.

Edmund's aim was clear. Adam grimaces, but holds his tongue.

DUKE OSRIK

There is one more thing we wanted to bring to your attention, Your Grace.



KING EDMUND  
What's that?

PRINCE ADAM  
The town of Innsbrook.

KING EDMUND  
What of it? I've already agreed to  
give it back to Baneswood.  
Innsbrook in exchange for  
Valdirron.

The prince looks to Osrik, who seems reluctant, but Adam  
wants him to advocate for this.

DUKE OSRIK  
(reluctantly)  
Your Grace, Innsbrook is a border  
town with extensive fortifications,  
which we may need if the peace does  
not hold.

KING EDMUND  
If we try to keep it, we can be  
certain the peace will not hold.  
(beat)  
You're conveniently forgetting that  
the Battle of Innsbrook is what  
started this war.

PRINCE ADAM  
Stealing gold from our land is what  
started the war.

Another man, DUKE ROLLINGS of NAVASHIRE, speaks up.

DUKE ROLLINGS  
It's also worth pointing out that  
the people of Innsbrook continue to  
consider themselves *of Baneswood*,  
not *of Morningstar*.

Prince Adam and Osrik shoot him a look.

PRINCE ADAM  
The only thing that matters is what  
their *king* considers them.

Rollings shuts up, knowing better than to go head-to-head  
with Adam.

KING EDMUND

Rollings' point is well taken. The will of the people has always proven to be stronger than any army.

(beat)

In any event, King Aldus is traveling across all of Morningstar to extend the hand of friendship. I will accept it and this war will finally be over.

PRINCE ADAM

You once told me that when it comes to Baneswood, never mistake peace for friendship.

KING EDMUND

(to the room)

If there's nothing else, I wish to speak alone with my son.

Everyone stands and leaves the room. Osrik looks at Adam, as if he might ask him to stay. He motions for Osrik to go, which he does.

KING EDMUND (CONT'D)

Don't ever challenge me in front of my council again. When the king speaks, the word must be final!

The king coughs. The prince pours him some water.

KING EDMUND (CONT'D)

Someday you will sit the throne and when you do you will understand the gravity of responsibility on your shoulders.

PRINCE ADAM

Respectfully, father, this treaty is a mistake.

KING EDMUND

Baneswood is wealthy, we are not. Our people are hungry, theirs are not. We have lost this war!

PRINCE ADAM

Because you've surrendered!

KING EDMUND

Is that what you think?

PRINCE ADAM

I think there was a time when you wouldn't even pay a ransom for your own son.

KING EDMUND

And you hated me for that.

PRINCE ADAM

But now I admire the strength it took and the message it sent.

(beat)

Our people are behind us. They will follow us to their last breath. We just need to lead them!

KING EDMUND

This is leading them!

(calms down)

If I teach you nothing else, it's that the biggest mistake one can make is not realizing who has the power in the room. And in this room that power still lies with me. And it will until my last breath. Is that clear?

PRINCE ADAM

Yes, father. Very clear.

Adam's look turns to a glare.

13

**INT. THE MIRROR MAKER'S WORKSHOP - DAY**

13

Moro, the Mirror Maker, is busying himself by polishing his new mirror. He pours liquid on a cloth and wipes the glass, staring at his reflection. Somewhere in the distance he hears the baby crying. He stops and mutters to himself.

MORO

This was not the arrangement.

We see now that the walls are covered in mirrors of various shapes and sizes. Hundreds of them.

MORO (CONT'D)

This was not the arrangement!

He DROPS the mirror on the table in anger and the glass SPLITS in three pieces. Suddenly, each SHARD OF GLASS has a FACE IN IT.

THREE FEMALE FACES - IDENTICAL TO EACH OTHER. He looks up at the walls and their faces are in EVERY SINGLE MIRROR. Moro is shocked and horrified as his head swivels around the room, gaping at all of the faces looking back at him.

We will later come to know these woman as THE ODD SISTERS. These indistinguishable triplets have glossy black hair, long faces painted white, cheeks blushed with the brightest pink, and the center of their lips are painted a vivid red, creating a tiny bow-like effect and resembling broken dolls.

The Odd Sisters speak together as one.

THE ODD SISTERS

This is what you asked for, Mirror Maker. You have a child now.

MORO

But my wife is gone! That was not the arrangement!

Another voice, this one at the door. It's the nursemaid.

NURSEMAID

Sir? Are you all right?

He looks around and the reflections are gone. Were they ever there? Is he going mad? The nursemaid speaks tentatively.

NURSEMAID (CONT'D)

What *arrangement*, sir? I'm just a nursemaid. I only bring the baby out.

(then)

I'm sorry.

He still doesn't respond. He continues to look to all of the mirrors for any sign of The Odd Sisters.

NURSEMAID (CONT'D)

The baby is awake. Perhaps you would like to see her.

Still no response. The nursemaid retreats, closing the door gently.

14

**INT. CHAMBER OF THE FAIRY COUNCIL - LATER**

14

The room is empty. Out on the balcony, through gauzy drapes, Daneus stands looking out above the top of the canopy of forest spreading out below him. Nan steps into the room, causing him to turn and look at her through the billowing linens. He walks in and they embrace.

DANEUS

You know they call you *The One of Legends* now.

NAN

Because of the chimera? It killed twenty-seven fairies. I didn't have much choice.

DANEUS

You slayed it when no one else could.

Beat.

NAN

Let me at least warn the humans. They have a right to know.

DANEUS

Who would you warn? It's been centuries since any man has seen our kind.

NAN

The king of Baneswood rides to Morningstar for a peace treaty. I can go and talk to both kings.

DANEUS

How do you know this? You've been among them?

NAN

Inconspicuously.

DANEUS

That's forbidden. You think I won't punish my daughter?

NAN

I hope not.

Nan walks to a pedestal against the wall. On it is an ancient wooden BOX, inscribed in FAIRY SCRIPT. She opens the box and inside are THREE AMULETS on ROPES OF GOLD.

NAN (CONT'D)

Great-grandmother used the only magic she had left to enchant these amulets so that we could one day find the *three born*.

(beat)

Why don't you want to help them?

(MORE)

NAN (CONT'D)

Are they so different now than they were when grandmother helped them? We helped each other then, we can do it again now.

DANEUS

It's not them that's different, it's us. Grandmother used all of our power to defeat The Morrigan. We are a shadow of what we once were.

She reads from the INSCRIPTION on the box.

NAN

The Magic of the Dark can only be defeated by the Magic of the Light.

DANEUS

Unfortunately, there is not much of that magic left.

NAN

But it can return.

DANEUS

How?

NAN

I don't know, but I refuse to believe it's gone forever.

DANEUS

If we engage in this fight, I fear we wouldn't survive. I can't let that happen.

NAN

But if we turn away, what is left of us that's worth surviving?

Suddenly, Daneus buckles slightly. Nan puts a hand on him to steady him.

NAN (CONT'D)

What is it?

DANEUS

The third has arrived.

He walks to the balcony and points in the distance where GRAY SMOKE emerges from the forest.

DANEUS (CONT'D)

*One from water, one from earth, one  
from fire.*

(off her look)

You are forbidden from taking any  
action. It is too dangerous to  
bring attention to our people. And  
yes, I will punish my daughter if  
she disobeys me.

Nan remains stoic. She looks out at the smoke on the horizon.

15

**EXT. RIDGELINE ROAD - DAY**

15

We're on a dirt road that emerges from the thick woods and  
rises to a ridge line high above a densely forested valley.  
SMOKE rises from that valley.

Emerging from the woods onto this ridge line is a caravan of  
horses, 50 strong, along with two royal carriages emerging  
from the wood and climbing the ridge line. Banners held by  
horsemen and one flying off the top of one of the carriages  
are emblazoned with a WHITE LION.

Riding front on a magnificent black stallion is FIRST KNIGHT  
SIR LORRIS CALISTON, 45, gruff and handsome, face like a  
leather road map. Riding beside him is PRINCE JULIAN, THE  
PRINCE OF BANESWOOD, 25. Julian shouts out to Sir Lorris.

PRINCE JULIAN

Sir Lorris!

Lorris looks and Julian points to the valley and the smoke  
rising in the distance.

Sir Lorris raises a hand in the air causing one of the RIDERS  
to shout.

RIDER #1

Halt!!

The caravan slows to a stop on the top of the ridge line.  
Lorris and Julian dismount.

PRINCE JULIAN

What do you think?

SIR LORRIS

Doesn't appear to be in our path.

PRINCE JULIAN The  
wind should pick up at  
nightfall. That will make it  
unpredictable.

Behind them, one of the KINGSMEN opens the door to the carriage and out steps KING ALDUS, 50, the White Lion of Banewood. His shoulder-length polar-white hair and thick white beard are commensurate with his name. He looks out at the thick black smoke that rises from the forest in the valley below.

KING ALDUS  
That is troubling.

The king looks and wipes his brow. Now exiting the carriage is a curious QUEEN EMILY, 42.

QUEEN EMILY  
What is it?

PRINCE JULIAN  
Fire in the forest, mother.

KING ALDUS  
Is it in our path?

Julian looks to Sir Lorris.

SIR LORRIS  
I think we can make it before the  
winds pick up.

KING ALDUS  
You don't seem certain.

SIR LORRIS  
I am, Majesty. The road goes west,  
well clear of the fire.

KING ALDUS  
Julian? Do we press on or turn  
back?

QUEEN EMILY  
Sir Lorris is First Knight. If he  
feels we should press on, then  
let's press on, post haste.

PRINCE JULIAN  
The queen has spoken.

Aldus doesn't like that Emily just cut their son down, but he has bigger things on his mind.



KING ALDUS

The peace with Morningstar is  
tenuous. Postponement could be  
misconstrued.

(then)

Very well. Let's press on.

SIR LORRIS

(nods)

Your Grace.

Julian nods and turns back to his horse. The king watches him  
for a moment. The queen can see he's conflicted.

KING ALDUS

You don't have to do that to him.

QUEEN EMILY

He's told you many times himself,  
Aldus. He doesn't want to be First  
Knight. I'm only respecting his  
wishes.

Aldus isn't so sure. They both turn to get back in the  
carriage.

16

**EXT. FAIRY KINGDOM FOREST - DAY**

16

Nan, The One Of Legends, walks on a carpet of lime-green  
moss, under arches formed by the trunks of ancient trees.

Waiting for her is Bendith. She smiles when she sees him.

NAN

Bendith.

He takes her in his arms and they kiss.

NAN (CONT'D)

A kiss. Very human of you.

BENDITH

You said you liked that custom.

NAN

I do.

BENDITH

I've missed you. Why have you  
stayed away?

NAN

There's a whole world out there.

BENDITH  
Your world is here.

NAN  
You're here.

BENDITH  
That's what I meant.

She smiles again. She loves him, though a part of her wishes she didn't. They kiss again.

A WHISTLE from the forest. They both turn. Valoris stands there looking at them.

BENDITH (CONT'D)  
I told him. He wants to help.

VALORIS  
Do you know how strange you both look doing that?

BENDITH  
Envy doesn't suit you, Valoris.

VALORIS  
Not so much envy as... curiosity.  
What do you get out of it, exactly?

BENDITH  
It's hard to explain.

VALORIS  
Don't try. I'm not sure I could stomach it.  
(smiles)  
It's good to see you, Nan.

NAN  
Thank you for joining us.

VALORIS  
I don't like to disobey your father, but I think he's wrong here.

NAN  
He's doing what he feels is right. I can't fault him for that. But I also couldn't live with myself if we didn't do something.  
(then)  
But there are risks. You both understand that.

BENDITH

Yes.

VALORIS

I understand.

NAN

We must move quickly. Very soon they will no longer be babies.

BENDITH

How will we find them?

Nan reaches into a canvas sack hanging over her shoulder and pulls out the THREE AMULETS.

NAN

I was always told that the amulets will illuminate when you're near one of the *three*.

BENDITH

How near?

NAN

I don't know.

VALORIS

Presuming we can find them, what do we do with them?

NAN

We'll bring them to the Tree Queen. She'll know what to do.

BENDITH

And you're sure she'll help us?

NAN

She owes me a debt.

BENDITH

And until then we're alone?

NAN

Not completely.

She turns and closes her eyes and begins to hum. The humming is a soft melody. It sounds like a children's song, but more haunting. Then the humming leads to words. She repeats the same melodic phrase over and over again.

NAN (CONT'D)  
*Fáil-te aben rhee-o'*  
*Flaren aben leeh-o'*  
*Draíocht-te aben seeh-o'*  
*Aislin aben preeh-o'*

After a few moments, a CROW lands on the path before them. She continues singing the melody. Over and over again. A moment later, another crow flutters to the ground and lands next to the first. More humming. Then another. And then another. Soon crows begin landing in the trees all around Nan. She stops humming and looks at them.

NAN (CONT'D)  
 Thank you for coming, my friends.  
 We need your help.

She looks at Bendith and Valoris.

BENDITH  
 How did you do that?

NAN  
 Not all of our magic is gone.

Bendith and Valoris share a look. They're very curious.

17

**EXT. CIRCUS GROUNDS, IPSWICH - NIGHT**

17

A LION roars inside a cage to the gasps of the crowd.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
 Don't get too close now! This is  
 one of nature's most fearsome  
 beasts! I've seen his jaws crush a  
 man's skull like a rotted melon!

It's opening night of the circus. Fire pits and torches light the grounds and the entire village has come out to see the ACROBATS, the FIRE SWALLOWERS, CREATURES and curiosities.

A carnival worker shouts from a table full of sweets - "Custards! Three flavors!" Another fills glasses of beer to waiting customers.

Amidst the crowd, we focus on an older couple, BERNERT and GRAVELLE, 60s.

GRAVELLE  
 What's custard?

BERNERT  
 Let's find out.

Bernert's ocean-blue eyes sit deep in skin as layered and rocky as the reefs where he makes his living. He places his arm across Gravelle's rounded shoulders. She looks at him with pink cheeks and smiles.

Nearby, we see the tent with the sign that reads "HERE BE CREATURES and MONSTERS!"

A CIRCUS EMPLOYEE steps up behind Audric.

CIRCUS EMPLOYEE  
The queen is arriving!

Audric straightens his jacket.

18

**EXT. CIRCUS GROUNDS, IPSWICH - NIGHT**

18

Audric rushes outside the tent as a crowd gathers around the arriving coaches, the HORSEMEN and the dozen KINGSGUARD.

KINGSGUARD  
(announcing)  
Queen Gwendolyn and Princess Cyrena  
of Morningstar!

The coach door is open and Queen Gwendolyn takes the hand of a KINGSMAN to help her down. The crowd is exuberant. This queen is loved by her people. The Kingsman now reaches in to help Princess Cyrena out. As the queen and Cyrena step toward the crowd, they all drop to their knee and bow their heads.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
Lift your heads! Please, please,  
rise. Tonight I am just a mother,  
attending the circus with her  
daughter.

The crowd erupts. They love their queen and princess.

Audric pushes his way through the crowd.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
Your Majesty! Allow me to introduce  
myself, I am Alistair Audric, the  
proprietor of this enterprise. You  
may know the name. My father was an  
Earl until an unfortunate  
misunderstanding with the king.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
I'm sorry, I'm unfamiliar with your  
father.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
I've actually petitioned the king  
several times...

CYRENA  
Mr. Audric, perhaps you'd like to  
show us around your circus?

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
Splendid idea. We wish to be  
thrilled and enchanted.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
Then you're in the right place.  
Thrills and enchantments are my  
speciality.

As they follow Audric, Gwendolyn whispers to Cyrena.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
His father was a charlatan. And the  
fruit doesn't fall far from the  
tree.

Cyrena smiles as they follow Audric to the Monster Tent.

19

**INT. MONSTER TENT - NIGHT**

19

As the queen and Cyrena are led into the tent by Audric,  
several KINGSMEN entering behind them, followed by a crowd.  
We see among the crowd are Bernert and Gravelle, the old  
couple.

Audric leads them to a curtain on the far side of the tent.  
We immediately hear a baby crying.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
Is that a baby I hear?

He grabs the curtain and shouts to the crowd.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
From the darkest depths of Triton's  
Sea, a creature unlike any you have  
ever witnessed before! Behold!

He yanks the curtain back and the queen and Cyrena - along  
with the rest of the crowd - gasp! The baby is propped up on  
a silk pillow inside a GOLDEN CAGE, decorated with various  
shells and seaweed. Bernert and Gravelle are entranced.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC (CONT'D)

Look at its skin, covered in fish scales, its hands and feet webbed like that of a reptile. Its eyes are the color of the ocean itself!

Cyrena is fascinated. She whispers to her mother.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Cyrena, what is it?

CYRENA

I have no idea.

The baby looks out at all of the faces and her cries get louder.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

She's frightened.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

Your Grace, that's the sound of an angry sea monster you hear.

Gravelle is horrified and can no longer contain herself.

GRAVELLE

The queen is right! The baby is scared!

BERNERT

Gravelle, please. Hush.

Audric scowls at Gravelle.

The baby makes eye contact with Cyrena and suddenly quiets. Cyrena looks into her eyes and she looks into Cyrena's. The baby's green eyes seem to get brighter in color.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

She's taken a liking to you, Princess.

The queen looks at Cyrena. She and the baby are locked in a look between them. Something is happening.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Cyrena?

CYRENA

She's hungry.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

It is hungry because it will only  
feast on human blood!

The crowd gasps again. Then another voice over the din...  
Prince Adam.

PRINCE ADAM (O.S.)

I'm sure I can find her some blood  
to drink!

Everyone turns to see Adam stepping up through the crowd.  
They all laugh. The queen and Cyrena turn as he steps up  
beside them.

PRINCE ADAM (CONT'D)

Good evening, mother. Cyrena.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Adam, I didn't know you'd be  
coming.

PRINCE ADAM

I heard there was a lion!  
(to the crowd)  
A real lion, not the so-called  
White Lion we've been defeating on  
the battlefield for so long!

The crowd erupts in cheers. Cyrena rolls her eyes.

PRINCE ADAM (CONT'D)

Now, let me see what all the fuss  
is about.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

Your Grace, it is a creature we've  
captured from Triton's sea!

The prince steps up closer and looks at the baby, still  
staring at Cyrena.

The prince pulls a DAGGER from his belt and the crowd gasps,  
along with the queen and Cyrena.

CYRENA

Adam, what do you think you're  
doing?

PRINCE ADAM

I want to see if it's real.



ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
 If you harm the creature, Your  
 Grace, I assume I would be  
 reimbursed?

The prince shoots a glare at him. Audric cowers.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC (CONT'D)  
 Or not.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
 Adam, please.

The prince sticks his dagger into the cage and carefully touches the baby's scales with it. With the flick of his wrist, he uses the knife to DISLODGE a COUPLE OF SCALES, one sticking to the knife. The baby SCREAMS.

CYRENA  
 Enough!

She pushes Adam hard. He turns sharply as she glares at him. Then his mouth broadens into a smile and a laugh.

CYRENA (CONT'D)  
 How could you be so cruel?

PRINCE ADAM  
 It's a trick!

He holds up the knife with two SCALES stuck to the blade.

PRINCE ADAM (CONT'D)  
 The fish scales have been stuck on  
 her.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
 Impossible! Respectfully, Your  
 Grace, I assure you this creature  
 is quite real.

The crowd begins to BOO. Audric quickly closes the curtains as the crowd roars its disapproval.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC (CONT'D)  
 My friends, please, allow me to  
 point you in the direction of the  
 lion! On that you will surely not  
 be disappointed!

Cyrena looks at her brother disapprovingly.

PRINCE ADAM  
 What? Did you actually fall for it?

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

You hurt that baby.

PRINCE ADAM

Nonsense. She's fine. Let's go see  
this lion!

The prince exits with the crowd. Among them, Bernert puts an arm around Gravelle and leads her out.

GRAVELLE

That poor child.

Back with Cyrena, looking at the closed curtain, hearing the sound of the baby crying.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

Princess, there is much more to see  
in the other tents.

Cyrena walks out with her mother, looking back one more time at the closed curtain. When she leaves we CUT TO:

The OTHER SIDE OF THE CURTAIN. A CLOSE LOOK at the baby's body where the prince cut off the scales and we see a drop of blood drip onto the cloth beneath it. The scales are real indeed.

20

**EXT. FOREST - NIGHT**

20

FIRE! The forest is ablaze all around us. Flames envelop trees, thick black smoke rises into an already blackened sky.

We hear what sounds like thunder. In a moment, we'll realize that the sound isn't thunder, but is the heavy beating of 50 horses galloping. King Aldus' caravan charges at top speed through the flames. The knights' armor reflects the orange, red and yellow hell all around them. The horses are spooked, some of them rearing and throwing their riders. No one stops for fear of burning alive.

The banner of the WHITE LION billowing from atop the carriage catches an ember and ignites. One of the Kingsmen riding on back grabs it and tosses it over his head. It bursts into flames as it falls to the road behind them.

21

**INT. ROYAL CARRIAGE - NIGHT**

21

The king and queen cough through the cloths they hold over their faces. She's terrified as he holds her closely.

QUEEN EMILY  
Will we survive?

KING ALDUS  
Yes! We will most certainly  
survive!

We hear voices shouting "HALT!" outside the carriage.

QUEEN EMILY  
What is it? What's happening?

KING ALDUS  
I don't know. Stay here.

The carriage stops. The king opens the door and climbs out.  
Right behind him, the queen emerges.

KING ALDUS (CONT'D)  
I said stay in the carriage.

QUEEN EMILY  
And die from the smoke filling it?

22

**EXT. FOREST - CONTINUOUS**

22

She has a good point. The king looks to the road ahead and  
sees why they stopped. The road is blocked by a large tree  
wrapped in flames.

PRINCE JULIAN  
Sir Lorris, we can make it to the  
river through that pass.

To their left is a patch of woods not yet engulfed in flames.

SIR LORRIS  
Agreed.  
(to the Kingsmen)  
Unhitch the horses from the  
carriage!  
(to King Aldus)  
Your Highness, you'll have to ride  
horseback. There's a river just to  
our east. The queen can ride with  
me.

QUEEN EMILY  
I will ride with my husband.

PRINCE JULIAN  
 No, you will not. Sir Lorris is the  
 best rider among us and his  
 stallion is the fastest.

SIR LORRIS  
 I must agree with Prince Julian.

KING ALDUS  
 Very well.

Before the queen can protest, a Kingsmen shouts out.

KINGSMAN  
 Look!

He points to the air where a murder of CROWS flies over them.

Julian leads over one of the horses from the carriage and  
 holds the reigns for his father, while the queen takes  
 Lorris' arm and is lifted easily onto his horse.

SIR LORRIS  
 Hold fast, majesty.

QUEEN EMILY  
 That is one thing you can count on,  
 Sir Lorris.

KING ALDUS  
 Speed-of-the-Gods!

They all kick their horses and charge into the trees,  
 followed by the rest of the Kingsmen.

23 **EXT. SKY ABOVE THE BURNING FOREST - NIGHT**

23

We are now with the murder of CROWS flying high above the  
 forest fire. They caw as they weave in and out of plumes of  
 rising smoke and ash.

From the crow's-eye-view we look down at the raging fire. We  
 approach a clearing. And in the center of that clearing,  
 something remarkable...

A PERFECT CIRCLE OF FLAMES, 25' in diameter, the center of  
 which is completely clear of fire. The crows dive.

24 **EXT. CLEARING, FOREST FIRE - NIGHT**

24

The crows fly directly down into the circle of flames and  
 land on the pristine grass, untouched by fire.

The air is clear in here, the flames and smoke surrounding us, making an orange and red wall.

In the center of this circle of fire is a BABY on her back, her hands and legs moving playfully. The baby is peaceful, quiet, oblivious to the crows who have landed all around her.

25      **EXT. BERNERT AND GRAVELLE'S HOME - NIGHT**      25

A lonely lighthouse on the edge of the breaking waves. Bernert and Gravelle's tiny home sits next to it.

26      **INT. KITCHEN, BERNERT AND GRAVELLE'S HOME - NIGHT**      26

Bernert makes himself a cup of tea. He calls out to Gravelle.

BERNERT

Do you think it was real?

27      **INT. LIVING ROOM, BERNERT AND GRAVELLE'S HOME - SAME**      27

Gravelle is staring at a PORTRAIT of a LITTLE BOY over the fireplace. Their son, Eldyn.

GRAVELLE

I don't know, but we have to do something. We can't leave her with that awful man.

BERNERT

(entering)

What would you have me do? Steal it in the dead of night.

GRAVELLE

She. Not it. She's a baby, Bernert.  
(looks at portrait)  
Just like ours was.

BERNERT

You've gone round the bend now.

GRAVELLE

She may look different, but she's still just a baby. And she won't survive the night without food.

BERNERT

What if that circus barker wasn't lying? She drinks blood and all that.

GRAVELLE

If she's human she drinks milk. If she's a fish she eats...

BERNERT

What?

GRAVELLE

Other fish. We have plenty of both.

(beat)

Bernert, we lost our Eldyn so young. Maybe this is our chance to love someone again.

BERNERT

We don't even know what it is Gravelle!

GRAVELLE

She! What she is!

BERNERT

Fine. We don't know what *she* will grow up to be. She could eat us!

GRAVELLE

I want you to go talk to that man. Pay him if you have to.

BERNERT

With what? We don't have any gold.

Gravelle takes a necklace from around her neck.

GRAVELLE

Yes, we do.

BERNERT

This was your mother's.

GRAVELLE

My mother would never want us to leave a child - any child - in that state. She would be proud. Of both of us.

Queen Gwendolyn enters to find the king sitting in a chair by the window, looking out at the sea, deep in thought.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

There you are. I'm told you didn't take dinner.

KING EDMUND

Do I have spies in the kitchen?

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

No, but I do. You must take care of yourself, Edmund.

KING EDMUND

How was the circus? I heard Adam made an appearance.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN Yes.

He managed to become the center of attention, as usual.

She sits down opposite him. She knows that look.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN (CONT'D)

What troubles you? Tell me.

KING EDMUND

I need more time with him.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

I won't listen to you talk about dying again.

KING EDMUND

Gwendolyn, please hear me. As much as you need the fantasy that I have time, I need to act as if I don't.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Have you thought of involving Cyrena more?

29

**INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS**

29

Cyrena walks by and hears her name mentioned. She stops and listens.

KING EDMUND (O.S.)

She can not lead.

Cyrena hears that and it infuriates her. She keeps listening.

30

**INT. KING EDMUND'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS**

30

QUEEN EMILY

Because she's a woman? Edmund,  
she's strong. In many ways she's  
her father's daughter.

KING EDMUND

She's your daughter, as well. I  
thank the Gods for that.

(beat)

The men of the council, the heads  
of the five clans, they won't fear  
her the way they fear Adam. It's  
the one quality I can count on with  
him.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Perhaps fear is overrated.

KING EDMUND

You've never held a sword. Or had  
one swung in your direction.

(beat)

Adam will be king. I just hope I  
can put some sense in him first.

She thinks about her next words carefully.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN Cyrena

was such a quiet child, remember?  
So quiet that it worried me  
greatly. I'll never forget what you  
said to me back then. A great bear  
hibernates inside the caves of her  
heart, just waiting to awaken.

Gwendolyn watches him closely as he sighs. Is he  
reconsidering?

31

**INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS**

31

Cyrena has heard enough. She walks away.

32

**INT. CYRENA'S ROOM, MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - NIGHT**

32

A large room with vaulted ceilings, a massive fireplace, an  
oversized canopy bed, and elegant furniture upholstered in  
the finest linens and silks.

Cyrena paces. Finally she stops. She walks to her wardrobe  
and pulls out a dark cloak with a hood. She has an idea.



33           **INT. CATACOMBS, MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - NIGHT**           33

With her cloak on, Cyrena moves swiftly along the damp stone walls of the catacombs beneath the castle. She finally arrives at a gate with a massive iron lock on the inside. She moves a stone near the floor and finds the hidden KEY behind it. Unlocking the gate, she slips out into the night.

34           **EXT. CIRCUS GROUNDS, IPSWICH - NIGHT**           34

Late night in the circus camp. The crowds have long gone. The tents and flags billow in the wind, trash blows across the destroyed grass.

Bernert walks along the edge of the encampment. He hears MUSIC and LAUGHTER coming from one of the tents. The circus performers are all inside having a party.

A man, a CIRCUS PERFORMER walks by him, shirtless, bottle of liquor in his hand.

BERNERT

Can you tell me where the man-in-charge might be?

The man points to the tent where all the noise is coming from.

35           **EXT. ROYAL HORSE STABLES, MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - NIGHT**           35

Two ROYAL GUARDS walk past the stables, making their rounds. Out of the shadows, Cyrena emerges. She enters the stables.

36           **INT. ROYAL HORSE STABLES, MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - NIGHT**           36

Cyrena approaches a stall and makes a clicking sound, causing the horse inside to walk over to her.

CYRENA

Hello, Violet. Shall we go for a ride?

Cyrena pets Violet's nose and smiles. She looks over her shoulder to make sure they're alone.

37           **EXT. MORNINGSTAR FOREST - NIGHT**           37

Cyrena gallops through the forest, her black cloak billowing behind her.

38

**INT. CIRCUS TENT - NIGHT**

38

Bernert enters the tent and into the middle of a PARTY in full swing, the CARNIVAL WORKERS letting off some steam. Beautiful SHOWGIRLS, burly CIRCUS MEN, mugs of mead, laughter and dancing. Bernert couldn't possibly be more out of place.

He sees Audric from earlier, playing some sort of drinking game with SIX MEN. Bernert takes a deep breath and approaches.

One by one, they all notice this old man standing next to their table. Audric looks up at him.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
We're closed for the night.

BERNERT  
Can you spare a moment?  
(then)  
For a proposition.

Audric looks up at him.

BERNERT (CONT'D)  
May we speak in private?

Audric looks Bernert up and down. Finally, unable to resist a possible pay day, he stands.

39

**EXT. WOODS NEAR CIRCUS - NIGHT**

39

Cyrena gets off Violet and ties her reigns to a tree branch. She pulls the hood of her cloak over her head and slips into the circus.

40

**INT. MONSTER TENT - NIGHT**

40

Audric and Bernert enter the tent.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
I hope you have a pot of gold, old man. The prince was wrong. It's real and it's worth a fortune.

They approach the cage and the crying baby halfling inside it. Bernert's heart nearly breaks when he sees her.

BERNERT  
What's her name?

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
Her *name*? Mer-Baby. Sea monster.  
Take your pick.

Bernert reaches into his pocket and pulls out the necklace his wife gave him.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC (CONT'D)  
What's that?

BERNERT  
It's a necklace. The pendant, as you can see, is pure gold. The stones inside are old and rare. It was made by the king's jeweler at Morningstar himself.

Audric holds it up to the candlelight. He turns it in the light. The stones sparkle, the cameo figure in the middle of the pendant seems to glow.

BERNERT (CONT'D)  
That's my wife's mother. She caught the jeweler's fancy and he made this especially for her.

Audric suddenly tosses it at Bernert.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
Junk!

The necklace lands on the ground. Bernert is shocked. The baby continues to cry.

BERNERT  
Did you hear what I said? It was made by the...

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
Everyone and their mother thinks they have a necklace made by the king's jeweler. And yet they call him the king's jeweler because he only makes jewelry for the... can you guess... the barkin' king!

In the back of the tent, the flap moves slowly aside and a cloaked Cyrena slips into the darkness among the crates and other items. She can hear the conversation between Bernert and the carnival baker.

BERNERT

Please. My wife is very worried about the child. She needs proper caring.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC This isn't a child! This is a creature. And people will pay a lot of money to see it. Now, do yourself some good and go home, you old drunk.

As Audric steps past him, Bernert grabs his arm.

BERNERT

Please...

Audric wheels and Bernert accidentally falls, hitting his head on the edge of a crate before he lands on the ground with a thud.

And suddenly, the BABY STOPS CRYING. She stares at Audric standing over Bernert, holding his head, which now trickles with blood.

Behind the crates, Cyrena appears and sees Bernert on the ground, his head bleeding. She stifles a gasp.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

It's your own fault! You give me this trinket and try to pass it off. You take me for a fool! That what you think?!

Cyrena looks for something, a weapon... finds an empty LIQUOR BOTTLE. She steps up behind Audric, holding the bottle in her hand.

CYRENA

Get away from him!

Audric turns, confused.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

Princess? What are you doing here?

CYRENA

Get away from him!

ALISTAIR AUDRIC

Calm down, I didn't hurt him!

CYRENA

Oh no? Then why is he bleeding?!

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
He did that to himself!

CYRENA  
I'm sure. Now listen, I have  
Kingsmen right outside the tent.  
You will be arrested and...

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
We both know that's a lie.

He takes a step toward her.

BERNERT  
Leave her alone!

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
Relax, old man.

The baby is watching all of this silently as Audric turns back to Cyrena and finds HER FIST PUNCHING HIS FACE. He staggers back.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC (CONT'D)  
What did you do that for?!

He steps toward her, angry, and then...

The baby makes a small sound... a breath... as if blowing something out of her mouth. AUDRIC COUGHS. He grabs his throat as it seems to constrict, and stumbles backward.

ALISTAIR AUDRIC (CONT'D)  
What's happening?

Bernert looks up at the baby, noticing her unbroken stare at the man who is now grasping for breath. Then suddenly, Audric coughs up WATER. And then MORE WATER.

CYRENA  
He's... drowning?

ALISTAIR AUDRIC  
Help me...

A moment later Audric is on the ground, coughing water. Cyrena looks at the baby.

CYRENA  
Stop! You're going to kill him!

Cyrena drops to her knees as Audric coughs up the last of the water and then FALLS UNCONSCIOUS.

BERNERT  
Is he dead?

CYRENA  
No. He's breathing.

They both look at the baby.

BERNERT  
Did she do that?

CYRENA  
(lying)  
More likely he had a belly full of  
wine. He'll probably just sleep it  
off.

BERNERT  
(not so sure)  
Right.

Audric starts snoring. Cyrena picks the necklace up off the  
floor and hands it to him.

CYRENA  
It's lovely.

BERNERT  
Thank you.  
(beat)  
Your Highness...

CYRENA  
Cyrena, please. What is your name?

BERNERT  
Bernert. May I ask what you're  
doing here?

CYRENA  
Same as you, apparently.

BERNERT  
What was your plan exactly?

CYRENA  
I was still working on that. What  
was your plan?

BERNERT  
I was going to take her home. My  
wife and I can care for her.

CYRENA  
All right, then. Carry on.

BERNERT  
(he looks at Alistair)  
But what if she's dangerous?

He thinks for a moment. She opens the cage and reaches inside, picking the baby up in her arms.

CYRENA  
The scales are real.

She touches the scales on her body.

CYRENA (CONT'D)  
Extraordinary.

She hands the baby carefully to him. He takes her, nervously.

CYRENA (CONT'D)  
Where is your home, Bernert?

BERNERT  
The old lighthouse. I'm the caretaker.

CYRENA  
No one can see this child, Bernert.  
You understand that, yes?  
(he nods)  
People don't do well with fear. And she will make them fear.

He nods, tucks the baby into his coat, takes a last look at the snoring man on the ground.

CYRENA (CONT'D)  
Speed-of-the-Gods now.

He nods nervously and disappears into the night. Cyrena goes out the back flap from where she came.

41 **EXT. RIVER - MORNING**

41

King Aldus, Queen Emily, Prince Julian, Sir Lorris and the rest of the Kingsmen who have survived the fire arrive at the river, which has cut a path deep into a narrow valley. They are safe from the flames and the air is much clearer.

Sir Lorris halts his horse at the waterline. Two Kingsmen come to help the queen get down as the horses all drink. The king dismounts and comes to his queen, hugging her tightly.

QUEEN EMILY

Not so tight. I need all the air I can get.

Julian walks up as the king turns to face him.

KING ALDUS

You wanted to turn back. Why didn't you say something?

SIR LORRIS

(approaching)

He did, sire. He said something to me.

(beat)

I gave my king bad advice. I put you and the queen at risk. I do not deserve to be First Knight. That honor should go to the prince.

KING ALDUS

The prince doesn't want it. Isn't that right?

The prince doesn't answer.

PRINCE JULIAN

We all made the mistake, not just Sir Lorris.

(then)

Excuse me, my horse is wandering.

Julian walks over to his horse and takes the reigns. His father walks up beside him.

KING ALDUS

First Knight has always been a royal post.

PRINCE JULIAN

Father, Lorris couldn't have known which way the wind would shift.

KING ALDUS

This isn't about Lorris. This is about you. I was First Knight at your age. And so was your brother.

PRINCE JULIAN

Yes, I'm aware of that.

KING ALDUS

William has been gone over a year. It's time, Julian.



PRINCE JULIAN

I have neither the experience nor the wisdom that William had. I was right today, yes. But I won't be right every day.

KING ALDUS

No one is.

PRINCE JULIAN

Even if I wanted to be First Knight, how do you think mother would feel?

KING ALDUS

She would be proud.

Julian gives him a look that suggests they both know that is a lie.

KING ALDUS (CONT'D)

Your mother loves you very much.

(beat)

We'll talk about this another time.

Julian nods, just happy to be done with it for now.

42

**EXT. MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - DAY**

42

Up on a parapet, a KING'S GUARD looks in the distance and sees 50 HORSEMEN riding up the beach toward the castle. It's King Aldus and the rest finally arriving.

KING'S GUARD

Oy!

He points and the rest of the GUARDS look. A BELL is RUNG.

43

**INT. MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - DAY**

43

Prince Adam and Duke Osrik walk with an entourage to the massive front door of the castle.

DUKE OSRIK

They apparently got caught in that fire. Terrible luck.

PRINCE ADAM

Or Aldus wanted to arrive a hero.

Two guards open the doors for them to walk through.

Adam and Osrik exit to find the Baneswood entourage dismounting their horses. Everyone turns as Adam and Osrik approach. The moment is silent, tense. Finally, it's Osrik that breaks the silence.

DUKE OSRIK  
 (to the group)  
 May I present His Grace, Prince  
 Adam of Morningstar.

PRINCE ADAM  
 Welcome.

KING ALDUS  
 Adam.  
 (shakes hands)  
 Much more preferable without swords  
 drawn.

ADAM  
 Indeed.

Clearly swords are more preferable to Adam. Osrik breaks the moment.

DUKE OSRIK  
 I understand you've had an eventful  
 journey, Your Grace.

KING ALDUS  
 A few bumps along the way, but  
 we're no worse for the wear.

QUEEN EMILY  
 Speak for yourself.

Queen Emily straightens out her dress as she approaches.

KING ALDUS  
 My wife. Queen Emily, of Baneswood.

Osrik and Adam give a cordial bow.

DUKE OSRIK  
 Your Grace.

PRINCE ADAM  
 We have rooms for you and a bevy of  
 servants to help you in any way you  
 enjoy.

QUEEN EMILY

I should quite enjoy a bathtub.

It sounds like a demand. Then she breaks the tension.

QUEEN EMILY (CONT'D)

Preferably filled with wine.

Osrik brightens at the joke.

DUKE OSRIK

I'm sure that can be arranged.

They both smile. Julian steps up.

KING ALDUS

My son, Prince Julian.

PRINCE JULIAN

Your Grace. Your hospitality is most appreciated.

Adam looks at Julian, up and down, taking stock of him. He's unimpressed.

PRINCE ADAM

Your Grace.

PRINCE JULIAN (CONT'D)

Your Grace.

\*

The moment is broken when they both turn to the castle doors as Queen Gwendolyn and Cyrena step out. Adam notices the way Julian is looking at his sister. Julian can't take his eyes off her.

PRINCE ADAM

My mother, Queen Gwendolyn and my sister, Princess Cyrena.

As they approach, the two queens meet first.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Emily. It has been far too long.

QUEEN EMILY

Yes, it has.

Both Queens are nervous. Then Gwendolyn turns to Julian.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

This can't be Julian.

Julian bows.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN (CONT'D)

You have grown into quite a handsome young man.

PRINCE JULIAN I won't soon forget that compliment, Your Majesty. The legend of your beauty has long reached the shores of Baneswood.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Edmund is indisposed. He will greet you inside.

KING ALDUS

How is his health?

PRINCE ADAM

Strong as a bear.

Queen Gwendolyn cuts the moment short.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Well, you must all be very hungry.

QUEEN EMILY

Famished.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Let's get you inside.

As they all move toward the house, Julian and Cyrena find themselves together.

PRINCE JULIAN

Princess.

CYRENA

The legend of your beauty?

PRINCE JULIAN

I was employing some royal charm. Too obvious?

CYRENA

Just a bit.

He lets his head fall theatrically. Julian is suddenly a different person around her. His smile comes easier.

CYRENA (CONT'D) I'm

told we got lost in the catacombs together when we were small children.

PRINCE JULIAN  
I'm guessing that was deliberate on  
my part.

CYRENA  
More royal charm?

PRINCE JULIAN  
Any improvement?

CYRENA  
No.

He smiles and they move toward the great doors.

45 **EXT. BURNED FOREST - DAY**

45

Smoke still rises from the charred soil. Bare trees are  
scaling from their wood having turned to charcoal.

Contrasting against the blackened smolder is a WHITE HORSE  
and its rider. It is Nan, The One of Legends, her pale skin,  
long white hair, and ivory robes matching her horse's chalky  
hair. Around her neck hangs one of the AMULETS.

She looks at a tree branch ahead of her as a CROW lands on  
it. It takes off through the trees ahead. She follows it.

46 **EXT. CLEARING, FOREST - MAGIC**

46

Nan and her white horse emerge in the blackened clearing and  
see the one circle of green in the center of it. But no baby.

The crow caws again and a torrent of black feathered crows  
fly out to join them in the clearing, making a virtual  
tornado of black as they land.

NAN  
Where is she?

At that moment, the AMULET BEGINS TO GLOW. Nan turns around  
and stepping out of the trees is a SMALL CHILD. She appears  
to be 3 years old. She has no clothes, her hair is speckled  
with leaves and ash. Her facial features seem to be made up  
entirely of sharp edges, pointy features with dark skin and  
green pallor, and pointed ears like Nan's.

NAN (CONT'D)  
I see. You've grown a great deal in  
just one day, little one.

The crows stay silent as Nan gets off her horse and approaches, causing the little girl to step back. Nan continues toward her. When she finally reaches her she looks her over. She can see that nubby horns are starting to emerge from the girl's bony little head.

NAN (CONT'D)  
Horns. Fascinating.

She reaches out and touches her face. The girl doesn't like it at first, but then stays still as Nan gently strokes her cheek. Nan turns her slightly to see her naked back. There are nubs that will one day blossom into wings.

NAN (CONT'D)  
The book says you will grow to do terrible things. And yet here you are, so little and so helpless.  
(beat)  
My name is Nan.  
(no response)  
Of course, you can't speak yet.

With all of her otherworldly appearance, she is still small and defenseless. She's still just a little girl. Nan takes a deep breath.

NAN (CONT'D)  
The book purports to know all. But the words are written on parchment. Not stone.

One of the crows CAWS. The girl looks at the crow and smiles.

NAN (CONT'D)  
You understood him. Are you communicating with your mind? Do you want to communicate with me?

The little girl looks at her and tilts her head again.

NAN (CONT'D)  
Remarkable. I haven't seen magic like this in quite some time.  
(answering her)  
Yes, little one, you have a name.  
(then)  
Your name is Maleficent.

The little girl just stares at her. Nan sighs.

47 **INT. THE MIRROR MAKER'S HOME - NIGHT** 47

The nursemaid holds Moro's baby. All around her on all the walls are more mirrors. It may be his vocation, but it's creepy as hell.

She steps out the front door with the baby in her arms.

48 **EXT. THE MIRROR MAKER'S HOME - NIGHT** 48

The nursemaid looks out into the dark woods. In the distance she can see a lantern and the shadow of Moro.

49 **EXT. GRAVESIDE - NIGHT** 49

The lantern lights the mound of dirt over the new grave of Moro's wife, Ellia. He drops to his knees and speaks to the grave.

MORO

I'm so sorry. Ellia. I'm unable to look at our daughter. I haven't even given her a name.

(beat)

I didn't know this would happen. I swear, I didn't do this to you!

Then, startling him, THREE VOICES just inches away, all speaking simultaneously as one.

THE ODD SISTERS

You bartered your soul, Mirror Maker, so that your wife could bear a child.

He looks up, shocked, because standing right at the edge of his wife's grave are three women -- THE ODD SISTERS - the three faces we saw in the mirrors earlier.

He scrambles away from them, terrified.

MORO

You lied to me! You never told me she would die!

THE ODD SISTERS

She had to die.

MORO

Why!?

THE ODD SISTERS  
 For the child, of course. This was  
 the will of your master. This was  
 the will of *The Morrigan*.

MORO  
*The Morrigan*?! You never said...

THE ODD SISTERS  
 Who did you think you served, fool?

MORO  
 No...

THE ODD SISTERS  
 And she already has a name, your  
 daughter. Her name is Grimhilde.

nd just like that, they are gone again.

MORO  
 This was not the arrangement!!!

He screams into the dark.

50

**INT. BANQUET ROOM - NIGHT**

50

The table is set and overflowing with food. Pigeon and mutton, grains and rice, candied nuts and fruits, and bottle after bottle of crimson wine. Julian and Cyrena sit next to each other. The two queens sit together. The two kings sit on the ends of the table.

Everyone eats silently. Periodically, Aldus and Edmund look at each other. A nod, a forced smile. It's awkward and tense. Queen Gwendolyn decides to break the silence.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
 Cyrena, tell our guests about the  
 mer-baby at the circus.

QUEEN EMILY  
 Mer-baby? Like a sea creature?

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
 Cyrena, tell them.

Cyrena swallows her wine. Hard.

CYRENA  
 We don't know if it was real.



PRINCE JULIAN  
Was it a fish?

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
Half fish, half human baby!

PRINCE ADAM  
My mother and sister were taken in  
by a charlatan.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN  
It was a baby covered in scales  
with webbed hands and feet. It  
looked real to me.

KING ALDUS  
Adam, do you not believe such  
creatures could exist?

PRINCE ADAM  
I believe in the Gods, my king, and  
my sword.

PRINCE JULIAN  
In that order?

PRINCE ADAM  
Of course.

Julian and Adam continue to stare at each other. Julian knows  
that for Adam, his sword will always come first.

PRINCE ADAM (CONT'D)  
What do you believe in, Your Grace?

PRINCE JULIAN  
At this moment, I believe in peace.

Aldus nods. Cyrena likes Julian's answer, too. Adam does not.

PRINCE ADAM  
I was sorry to hear about your  
brother.

Cyrena turns sharply. So does Aldus. The moment is fraught.

PRINCE ADAM (CONT'D)  
I'm told he fought bravely.

PRINCE JULIAN  
He always did.

QUEEN EMILY  
Would you excuse me?

Emily gets up and exits the room. Aldus stands to join her, but she holds up a hand to him, signaling that he should stay.

Edmund glares at Adam, then tries to put a salve on it.

KING EDMUND

This war has cost us all greatly,  
I'm afraid.

PRINCE JULIAN

It hasn't cost you a son, Your  
Grace. Or a brother.

Adam smiles to himself and glugs his wine.

KING ALDUS

Peace is not easy. It will require  
that we take our steps forward  
together.

Cyrena glares at her brother and then changes topics.

CYRENA

King Aldus, may I ask what came  
first, the white beard or *The White  
Lion*.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Cyrena.

CYRENA

What? Is it a royal secret?

KING ALDUS

The name sounds more fearsome than  
it is, to be honest. When I was a  
boy, my father took me hunting for  
deer. I was good with a bow for my  
age and I struck a nine-point buck  
on my first try. He went down, but  
he did not die. Father gave me his  
knife and instructed me to cut the  
poor animal's throat. I couldn't  
bring myself to do it, so he did.  
And I wept. He said I hunted like a  
lion, but I had the temperament of  
a dove. I was forevermore his White  
Lion.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

I like this story very much.

CYRENA

So do I.

Cyrena looks at Julian. He takes a sip of his wine and glances again at Adam.

Queen Emily re-enters the room and takes her seat. Aldus puts his hand on hers and squeezes it gently.

King Edmund pulls himself up to stand. A servant steps forward to help, but he waves him off.

KING EDMUND

I would like to make a toast to our guests!

Everyone stands and raises their glasses.

KING EDMUND (CONT'D)

In the past, our two families were friends. We had much in common. We shared a border, a common heritage, and a common way of life. However, something seemed to blow us apart.

PRINCE ADAM

They invaded our territory. That's what blew us apart.

KING EDMUND

The prince will control himself!

PRINCE JULIAN

We invaded your territory? You sacked Innsbrook!

PRINCE ADAM

You put a regiment there, on our border in violation of our treaty.

KING ALDUS

Adam, you attempted to levy a tax on our citizens.

PRINCE ADAM

They were mining gold on our land.

PRINCE JULIAN

Everything east of the river is Banewood and you well know it.

CYRENA

Enough!

Cyrena stands. She looks around the table, as surprised as anyone at her outburst.

CYRENA (CONT'D)

This war has taken a terrible toll on both our people. It has brought pain and hunger to the children of both our countries. And believe me, they don't care who claims Innsbrook or who claims Valdirron. They don't share in the gold. They don't even share in the bread!

(then)

It would behoove us all to remember that we're here to make *their* peace, not *ours*.

Everyone is silent. Edmund looks at his daughter, astonished. Gwendolyn smiles to herself, proud. Aldus stands, raising his glass of wine.

KING ALDUS

I think we ought to drink to that.

KING EDMUND

Indeed.

Everyone drinks, including Adam, albeit grudgingly. Julian can't take his eyes off of Cyrena. If he wasn't smitten before, he certainly is now.

Then, Aldus notices Duke Osrik enter, looking concerned. He leans into Edmund's ear and whispers something. Edmund looks at him with some confusion and alarm.

KING ALDUS

Is everything all right?

KING EDMUND

We have visitors at the gate. I think you should come with me, Your Grace. Bring your guard.

Prince Adam stands immediately. Prince Julian, too. The women look frightened. Cyrena is curious.

Aldus tries a reassuring look to Emily as he and the other men exit.

King Edmund, King Aldus, Prince Julian, Sir Lorris, and Duke Osrik exit the large doors.

At the end of the road to the gate they see their visitors approaching. TWELVE WHITE HORSES with WHITE-HOODED RIDERS. Flanking each side of them are Morningstar KINGSMEN accompanying them up the path to the castle.

PUSH IN on Edmund and Aldus as the riders come into view. The lead rider removes his hood and looks up at them.

KING ALDUS

My gods... am I seeing what I think  
I'm seeing?

KING EDMUND

Seems we're all about to be  
believers in strange creatures.

PUSH IN on the lead rider -- It is Daneus, the Fairy King. The other riders remove their hoods as well. FAIRY WARRIORS.

Up in a castle window are Queen Emily, Queen Gwendolyn, and Cyrena, astonished at the sight of 12 Fairy Warriors and their king.

QUEEN EMILY

More trickery, like your sea  
creature?

CYRENA

My grandmother told me stories of  
the fairies.

QUEEN EMILY

Children's tales!

QUEEN GWENDOLYN

Seems our new guests would beg to  
differ.

Cyrena leaves them and heads downstairs.

QUEEN GWENDOLYN (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

CYRENA

You wanted me to insert myself. I'm  
inserting myself.

Cyrena rushes out.

All three entourages enter. Daneus, along with two FAIRY WARRIORS; Aldus, Julian and Sir Lorris;

Edmund, Adam, Duke Osrik. There is a great deal of trepidation, even fear on the part of the humans. Daneus remains calm and without emotion.

Just as the doors close, Cyrena pushes her way in.

PRINCE ADAM  
Wait outside.

CYRENA  
I will not.

Adam grabs her arm.

CYRENA (CONT'D)  
If you value that hand, you'll let go of me now.

KING EDMUND  
Cyrena may stay.

The moment is fraught. The humans all stare curiously at their guests. The fairy king looks at each of them.

DANEUS  
My name is Daneus. I'm the king of my people, as you are both the kings of yours.

KING ALDUS  
Your people. Who are your people?

DANEUS  
We are *Aes Sídh*e.

KING EDMUND  
Woodfolk. The fairy kingdom.

DANEUS  
We haven't made ourselves known to your kind for many years.

KING EDMUND  
Why come to us now?

DANEUS  
I wasn't planning to, but I have a strong-willed daughter.  
(to Edmund)  
It seems we have that in common.  
(then)  
In fact, I believe my daughter is among your people now, along with two others like her.

(MORE)

DANEUS (CONT'D)

I would ask that they not be harmed. They're only here to help you.

PRINCE ADAM

Help us with what?

Everyone listens with rapt attention to Daneus as he chooses how to respond.

53           **EXT. BERNERT AND GRAVELLE'S HOME - NIGHT**           53

The lighthouse glows faintly on the rocky shoreline. Warm lights inside the home next to it seem somehow brighter.

54           **INT. BERNERT AND GRAVELLE'S HOME - NIGHT**           54

Bernert mashes seaweed with a mortar and pestle. He pinches the green gook with his fingers and drops it in a glass of cow's milk. He mixes it with a wooden spoon until the milk turns green.

BERNERT

Almost there.

He puts the glass on some hot coals in the wood-burning oven to warm it up.

On a chair nearby, Gravelle holds the halfling baby in her arms, using an OIL LAMP with its long spout as a bottle to feed her with.

GRAVELLE

She's almost done with this one already.

BERNERT

How much can she eat?

GRAVELLE

A great deal, it seems.

He walks over to her.

BERNERT

I fear we've made a terrible mistake.

GRAVELLE

She's alive, Bernert. That can't be a mistake.

BERNERT  
What will we call her?

GRAVELLE  
Ursula.

BERNERT  
Why Ursula?

GRAVELLE  
I don't know. It just seems like  
her name.

Gravelle looks up at the portrait of Eldyn, her long lost son, and smiles.

Bernert looks at the tiny webbed hand of the strange baby. He still wonders if this was a huge mistake.

5           **EXT. BERNERT AND GRAVELLE'S HOME - NIGHT**           55

Someone watches the house from the woods nearby. The amulet around his neck GLOWS in the darkness. It's Valoris, the fairy that Nan recruited to help her.

56           **INT. DRAWING ROOM, MORNINGSTAR CASTLE - NIGHT**           56

The group stands silently, having just heard what Daneus told them.

PRINCE JULIAN  
How do you know this?

PRINCE ADAM  
More importantly, why should we  
believe you?

KING ALDUS  
It's a good point. You ride up in  
the dark of night with tales of  
doom, with no evidence whatsoever.  
What are we to think?

DANEUS  
I can not tell you how I know, but  
it is true. Only one of the  
children is human. Born from earth.  
There is also a dark fairy, born  
from fire, a fire which some of you  
experienced today.



CYRENA  
And the third?

Julian turns to Cyrena. So does Daneus, who looks deep into her eyes. She knows what he's about to say.

DANEUS  
Born from the sea. What we call  
*Maighdeann-Mhara*.

KING EDMUND  
Sea witch.

DANEUS  
You know these words?

KING EDMUND  
My grandmother taught me. When I  
was very young.

Daneus pauses on that. Then,

DANEUS  
Make no mistake, these three  
creatures are the harbingers of the  
darkest of times.

That lands hard on everyone in the room.

DANEUS (CONT'D)  
And they will not be alone. They're  
protected by forces you haven't  
seen in many generations.

We look around the room - at Aldus, Edmund, Adam, Julian, and finally Cyrena. Every one in this room knows that nothing after this moment will ever be the same again.

57

**EXT. BERNERT AND GRAVELLE'S HOME - NIGHT**

57

Valoris watches Bernert and Gravelle's home. He hears a sound behind him and turns sharply. Standing in the path, lit by the moonlight is one of the Odd Sisters! He turns in the other direction and sees another, and then another.

Surrounded, he reaches over his shoulder for his sword and pulls it out.

FADE TO BLACK.