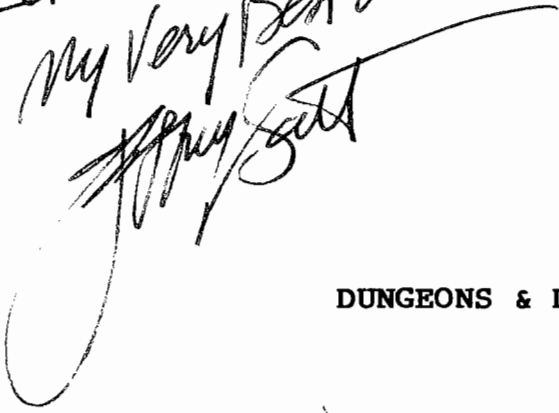


TO ZAKIYAH...  
THE "LOREKEEPER OF THE REALM"  
My Very Best Wishes



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

"THE LAST ILLUSION"

Written by

JEFFREY SCOTT

FIRST DRAFT

May 30, 1984

MARVEL PRODUCTIONS, LTD.

"THE LAST ILLUSION"

FADE IN:

EXTERIOR: PREHISTORIC SWAMP - DAY

Black pools of tarlike ooze bubble and POP, letting out wafts of steam. Strange animal skeletons protrude up from the percolating skum. A mist hangs over the entire scene. As the CAMERA PANS we hear...

ERIC (VO)

(nasal)

No! Please! Stop! I can't take  
it any more.

CAMERA FINDS our guys walking along, knee-deep in the black goo. They're all holding their noses. Presto holds his hat over his face, his eyes peeking through above it. Bobby holds Uni with one hand, his nose with his other. More bubbles pop around them, sending puffs of yellow smoke into the air.

ERIC

It's horrible! I think I'm gonna  
pass out.

PRESTO

(muffled under hat)

Eyew! I haven't smelled anything  
this awful since Eric burned  
that lizard egg omelet.

PANNING WITH HANK AND DIANA

DIANA

(nasal)

This can't possibly be where  
Dungeon Master wanted us to  
meet him.

HANK

(nasal)

I hope you're right.

CLOSER ON BOBBY AND SHEILA - PANNING

Uni twists her nose, reacting to the smell.

UNI

(bleating)

BOBBY

(nasal)

I know what you mean, Uni. This  
place smells like a...

SHEILA

(a shout)

Bobby! Look out!

CLOSE ON BOBBY

as he reacts in surprise to:

HIS POV - THE SWAMP

A hideous looking swamp squid rises up out of the ooze, dripping with muck. It opens wide, ROARING.

BOBBY

drops Uni onto a dead log and raises his club.

BOBBY

I'll splatter that slimeball  
into next week.

As a tentacle reaches up before him, Bobby hauls off and smashes it, splashing muck all over the shot.

FAVORING ERIC AND DIANA

as Eric takes a faceful of swamp muck like a pie in the kisser. He reacts, wiping it off.

ERIC

Oooh! Gaaahh! Ptew! I've  
been poisoned.

DIANA

You'll be worse than that if  
you don't look out.

DRAMATIC UP ANGLE - THE SWAMP SQUID

ROARS again, reaching into camera with its tentacles.

ERIC

leaps out of the way as a tentacle reaches into shot, just missing him.

ANGLE ON SWAMP MUCK

as Eric's face splashes right in the muck before camera. He pulls his slimy face out, quickly grabbing his nose.

ERIC

That smell! Oooooooohhhh!

DRAMATIC UP ANGLE ON SWAMP SQUID

It ROARS again, reaching a tentacle into camera.

DIANA

does a flip out of the way as another tentacle reaches for her. She lands on an overhanging branch, quickly extending her javelin and whacking the tentacle away.

ON UNI

as another tentacle reaches up out of the swamp and grabs her, lifting her off the log.

UNI  
(panicked bleating)

CLOSE ON BOBBY

BOBBY  
Uni!

HANK

draws back his bow, firing a flaming arrow up, o.s.

ANOTHER ANGLE - SWAMP SQUID

The arrow streaks into shot, erupting like a flare before the beast's face. It ROARS in reaction, dropping Uni.

UNI

lands in the muck with a splash, treading to stay afloat.

THE SWAMP SQUID

ROARS again, whipping a tentacle at:

HANK

knocking him back into the muck.

ANGLE ON SHEILA AND PRESTO

SHEILA  
Quick! Try your magic, Presto.

Presto crosses his eyes, looking at the hat covering his nose and mouth.

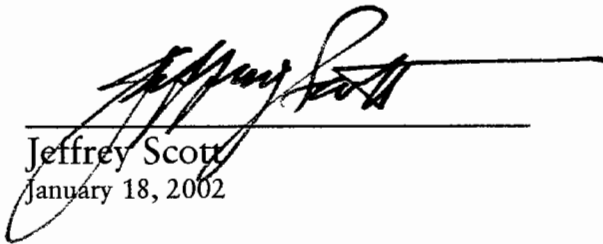
PRESTO  
(muffled under hat)  
Do I have to?

DRAMATIC UP ANGLE ON SWAMP SQUID

as it ROARS once again, baring its multiple rows of fangs into camera.

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

I certify that the attached *Dungeons & Dragons* script, "The Last Illusion", is an original production script, photocopied in 1984 at Marvel Productions and given to me at that time in the normal course of my writing services on the series\*.



Jeffrey Scott  
January 18, 2002

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ON PRESTO

PRESTO

(muffled)

I guess I have to!

Presto takes his hat off his face. He makes a comical reaction to the smell.

PRESTO

Oooohh!

PUSH IN as Presto runs his hand over his hat.

PRESTO

Abraca...yuch! Dabraca...phew!  
Get rid of that monster...and  
take the stink away, too.

Suddenly Presto's hat BELCHES out a wad of swamp muck, splattering Presto.

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON SWAMP SQUID

It ROARS, twisting back into the swamp, disappearing.

ANGLE ON OUR GUYS

as they react in surprise. None more so than Presto.

BOBBY

It worked!

FAVORING PRESTO

PRESTO

I can't believe it.  
(looks at hat)  
What did I do right?

Suddenly a tentacle slithers up out of the muck behind Presto, quickly wrapping itself around him.

PRESTO

Hey!

It pulls him under in an instant! PUSH IN on the bubbling skum as we see a bit of a struggle.

ANGLE ON THE OTHERS

DIANA

Presto!!

They move to where he went under. Diana pokes her javelin into the swamp; Hank reaches in with his bow; Bobby tries his club.

HANK  
Presto! Where are you?

CLOSE ON THE MUCK

as it lets out one last bubbling POP then goes silent.

CLOSE ON SHEILA

SHEILA  
He's...gone.

WIDER ON OUR GUYS

as they just stand around, looking at one another. They hang their heads in silent sorrow. As the CAMERA PANS OFF into swamp we cut:

CLOSER ON ANOTHER AREA OF MUCK

A beat...then Presto explodes up out of the swamp, covered with slime. He gasps for air, holding his hat.

PRESTO  
(gasping for air)  
Whew! Uuuhh! Boy! That monster  
let me go...just in time, you guys.

CAMERA WIDENS to reveal Presto in a different area of the swamp. He looks about, reacting.

PRESTO  
Guys? Where are you?

ANOTHER ANGLE

Presto takes a few sloshy steps through the swamp, stopping as he finds a dead end of gnarled roots.

PRESTO  
Or should I say, where am I?  
(looks about)  
I wonder what scared off that  
swamp slug?

As Presto looks around we see what scared off the slug. An even larger, more hideous looking swamp crab rises up out of the bubbling skum, right behind Presto. As it reaches out for him with a giant pincer...

VARLA (VO)  
(sudden shout)  
Behind you!!

Presto whips around, spotting the crab just in time to jump away. The crab lets out a GRATING ROAR, snapping at the air.

PRESTO

Yaaaagggg!!

PRESTO

lands in the muck. As he turns over onto his back he looks up and reacts in fright to:

HIS POV - DRAMATIC UP ANGLE - THE SWAMP CRAB

moves into camera, reaching out with its claw, ROARING.

WIDER ANGLE

as Presto quickly picks up a short piece of branch and jams it into the claw. The crab reacts in alarm, trying desperately to free its claw, unable to do so. As it ROARS, Presto quickly slishes away.

CLOSER ON PRESTO

as he continues to move away. He finally makes it to the shore where he stops, catching his breath.

PRESTO

(catching his breath)

Boy! That was close!

(looks up)

Hey! Who was it that warned me?

As Presto looks off in one direction a transparent apparition of a beautiful young girl (Presto's age) materializes behind him, a few feet off the ground. The image fades in and out, as if not a very strong "signal." She is Varla, and appears to be somewhat sad and weak.

VARLA

(distant echo)

Here...

Presto turns, startled by the presence of the girl.

PRESTO

Oh! Uh, you must be the one who called out. I owe you my...

Presto steps forward to shake her hand, walking right through her. He's now standing on the other side of her, looking off into the swamp.

PRESTO

Where'd you go?

He turns, reacting to Varla's image.

CLOSER ON VARLA

as her transparent image reaches out.



VARLA

I need you...

TWO SHOT - VARLA AND PRESTO

Presto looks at Varla's image as the pitiful girl reaches out for him. He's taken by the beauty.

PRESTO

(gulps hard)

You're...beautiful.

(sudden alarm)

And you're a ghost!!

He takes a step back.

CLOSE ON VARLA

VARLA

No. I'm not a ghost. Please.

You must help me.

WIDER - VARLA AND PRESTO

PRESTO

Uh...sure. Wha...what do you want me to do?

VARLA

The Tower of Brimstone...

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON VARLA

as a dark, evil looking arm (also transparent) reaches out from behind Varla, grabbing her, pulling her away. Her image begins to fade.

VARLA

(fading away)

Please, hurry. I need...you...

FULL SHOT

Presto reaches for the image of Varla as it fades away.

PRESTO

Wait! Don't go away...

Presto stands alone on the swampy shore, looking sad, as if he'd just lost someone dear to him.

PRESTO

(sad, calling out)

I need you...too.

(confused)

Wh...why did I say that?

WIDER TO INCLUDE DUNGEON MASTER

standing beside Presto.

PRESTO

(startled)

Uuuhh! Dungeon Master!!

DUNGEON MASTER

I understand how you feel, Presto.

PRESTO

You do? I mean, how could you know what I feel?

CLOSER ON DUNGEON MASTER

DUNGEON MASTER

Because I feel a special closeness for the girl, as well.

PRESTO

I don't get it. I've never met her before, yet I feel like...I want to be with her.

DUNGEON MASTER

You will understand in due time. But be warned, Presto.

CLOSE ON PRESTO

as he reacts to DM's words.

DUNGEON MASTER (VO)

There is more than meets the eye, both in life...and in love.

WIDER ON PRESTO

to reveal Dungeon Master is gone.

PRESTO

Dungeon Master, wait! What do I do?

DUNGEON MASTER (VO)

Follow your heart, Presto.

CLOSER ON PRESTO

as scratches his head, then looks down at his heart.

PRESTO

Okay, heart. Lead on.

Presto moves o.s.

WIDER ANGLE

as Presto moves along the swamp bank.

PRESTO

Hank! Diana! Where are you guys?

CLOSER ANGLE

Presto moves through some bushes. He stops at the sound of some RUSTLING BRANCHES.

PRESTO

Is that you?

He spreads the branches to find himself face-to-face with a mean looking man. The MUSIC STINGS.

PRESTO

(scared shitless)

Yaaaaahhhhh!!

The man reaches out and grabs Presto by his shirt. He is old enough to be Presto's father, dressed in poor man's clothes, with grayish complexion, lined face, like Appalachian poor, the type who refuses to ever smile. He raises a stick before Presto with a threatening gesture.

CLOSE ON JOHN

JOHN

What are you doing here?

TWO SHOT - PRESTO AND JOHN

PRESTO

(scared)

I'm, uh, following my heart.

Presto looks down at John's hand on his chest.

PRESTO

And right now I'd say it's doing a pretty bad job of leading me.

HANK (VO)

Let him go!

As John reacts we cut:

WIDER - TO REVEAL HANK AND OTHERS

surrounding Presto and John, their weapons drawn and ready. John releases Presto, who stumbles backwards.

PRESTO

Boy! Am I glad to see you guys.

CLOSER ON SHEILA AND PRESTO

SHEILA  
We thought that swamp squid  
got you.

CLOSE ON JOHN

JOHN  
(angry)  
If it didn't, the other swamp  
beasts will.

WIDER ANGLE - ALL

ERIC  
Where did you take cheerful lessons?

JOHN  
Make fun if you like. You'll  
see. No one crosses this swamp  
and survives.

Suddenly John's wife, MARINDA, enters shot, stopping  
beside her husband. She, too, is wrinkled and worn  
beyond her age, dressed in drab colors, slightly hunched.

MARINDA  
John, please! They're only  
children. You'll scare them.

FAVORING DIANA, MARINDA AND JOHN

DIANA  
Who are you?

MARINDA  
I am Marinda. And this is my  
husband, John.

CLOSE ON MARINDA

MARINDA  
We heard your cries and thought  
perhaps...  
(her grief stops her)

FULL SHOT

MARINDA  
(cheering herself)  
But nevermind that. You must  
be starving. Come. Our home  
is just beyond.

As Marinda leads the way we cut:

CLOSER ON JOHN

as he eyes the kids suspiciously.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: SMALL VILLAGE - DAY

CAMERA PANS a very poor looking village a short ways from the swamp. A few more poor looking inhabitants mill about. PUSH IN on one of the ramshackle dwellings as smoke wafts from the stone chimney...

BOBBY (VO)

Wow! Real food!

INTERIOR: DWELLING

The kids are seated around a crude table in the center of the one room dwelling. A black kettle steams over the fire in a stone fireplace. John, looking no happier, sits at the head of the table with Marinda at the opposite end. The kids eat bread and some sort of stew. Uni laps at her own bowl of the stuff on the floor.

PRESTO

This stuff is pretty good.  
What is it?

JOHN

(gruff)  
Swamp lizard stew.

FAVORING ERIC

as he shoves his spoon into his mouth, stops dead. His eyes go wide as he spits it out, gagging.

ERIC

Ptew! I'm poisoned!

Diana gives him an elbow.

DIANA

(sotto scolding)  
Eric! We're guests.

WIDER ANGLE

as Eric suddenly smiles at Marinda.

ERIC

Uh, sorry. It's really great  
poison...I mean, uh, stew.

JOHN

Nobody's forcing you to eat it.

FULL ON TABLE

The kids react uncomfortably, continuing to eat.

PRESTO

(making conversation)

Say, uh, do either of you happen to know where the Tower of Brimstone is?

MARINDA

Yes! It's in the most dangerous part of the swamp. Why do you want to know?

PRESTO

I have to go there.

HANK

You do? Why?

PRESTO

I don't know. I saw this strange image of a girl in the swamp and...

MARINDA

suddenly drops her spoon, reacting to Presto's words.

MARINDA

It was Varla's cries I heard.

(begins to cry)

She is alive.

WIDER ANGLE

The kids react.

PRESTO

Did I, uh, say something wrong?

JOHN

You certainly did. Now look what you've done...filling my wife with false hopes.

ON SHEILA AND BOBBY

BOBBY

Who's Varla?

FAVORING MARINDA

MARINDA

(wiping tears)

She's my...daughter. She disappeared into the swamp weeks ago. She was so beautiful...so gifted. I always knew she'd come back.

FULL SHOT - ALL

John stands up, looking angrier than ever.

JOHN

Face the truth, woman. No one  
ever returns from the swamp...alive.

Suddenly the room begins to shake from a tremor.

CLOSE ON UNI

reacting as her plate of stew sloshes before her.

UNI

(nervous bleat)

BACK TO SCENE

as dishes fall off the shelf, etc.

MARINDA

It's starting again.

SHEILA

What's starting?

JOHN

The destruction.

FAVORING ERIC

ERIC

I've got a sneaking suspicion  
Dungeon Master knew about this.

As the scene continues to shake, Eric's plate of stew falls off the table into his lap.

ERIC

Aaaahhhh!!

ANGLE ON PRESTO AND DIANA

Just as another, stronger tremor shakes the scene Presto reacts, as if in pain. He grabs his head.

PRESTO

Oooohh!

DIANA

Presto! What's wrong?

PRESTO

I...I don't know.

CLOSE ON PRESTO

As his "pain" continues we PUSH IN and cut to:

EXTERIOR: THE TOWER OF BRIMSTONE - DAY

It's a creepy looking place, extending up out of the swamp like a yellowish version of Devil's Tower. It's made out of solid sulphur. There is a castle carved out of the sulphur mountain. Orc guards stand before the entrance. PUSH IN...

INTERIOR: TOWER OF BRIMSTONE

CAMERA PANS the eerie yellow interior of towering columns carved out of the solid mountain. Two huge, carved sulphur hands hold chains that hang down, secured to Varla's wrists. She is held captive before Venger.

VARLA

(weakly)

Please. Don't make me do anymore. I grow so...weak.

VENGER

Save your words. You'll need all your strength for the next illusion.

CLOSE ON VENGER

VENGER

And if I catch you trying to call for help again...your parents will suffer greatly.

WIDER ANGLE

VARLA

No. Don't hurt them. I'll do what you ask.

VENGER

Good. Concentrate your thoughts on the village and do exactly as I tell you...

As the CAMERA PUSHES IN on the poor girl we cut back to:

THE VILLAGE

as it continues to RUMBLE. Some of the poor inhabitants come out of their dwellings.

VILLAGERS

(misc. shouts)

The evil has returned. Our village is doomed.



One of their dwellings collapses.

ON JOHN & MARINDA'S DWELLING

As the scene RUMBLES LOUDER we see Hank and the others standing outside the dwelling with Marinda and John. Our guys look about cautiously, weapons at the ready.

MARINDA

(points)

Look! The sky is growing dark.

THEIR POV - UP ANGLE ON SKY

Creepy looking dark clouds grow over the sky, THUNDER rumbles and lightning suddenly flashes.

ON HANK AND OTHERS

ERIC

Boy, you folks sure are worry warts. A little tremor and some bad weather and you'd think the world was gonna end.

ANGLE ON GROUND

as it spits open and a giant EARTH ELEMENTAL (humanoid shaped rock) looms up, ROARING ANGRILY.

BACK TO OUR GUYS

PRESTO

I think it is.

HANK

Scatter!

They all scatter as the giant stone leg stomps into shot, shaking the scene, barely missing them.

CLOSER ON HANK

as he draws back and fires a flaming arrow up, o.s.

THE EARTH ELEMENTAL

catches Hank's arrow and throws it back down at:

ANOTHER DWELLING

where it strikes the thatched roof and the dwelling starts on fire.

ANGLE ON HANK

as another man enters shot, confronting Hank.

MAN

That's my home. You've destroyed it.

HANK

But...it was an accident.

ON DIANA

DIANA

Stand back! I should be able to  
put it out with my javelin.

Diana spins her javelin like rotorblade, letting it fly.

ANGLE ON FLAMING DWELLING

The javelin spins up over the house, blowing on the flames. As they flame up they form a FIRE ELEMENTAL (humanoid shaped fire). It lets out a WHISPY ROAR and swings its arm down across another rooftop, setting the next dwelling afire.

BACK TO DIANA

as she catches her javelin, reacting with surprise.

DIANA

I don't get it.

ON SEVERAL MORE VILLAGERS

as they react to the o.s. destruction.

VILLAGER

They've brought the evil back.

FULL ON VILLAGE

The three elementals continue to destroy more dwellings.

ANGLE ON PRESTO AND SHEILA

Presto reacts with a mysterious pain once again. He touches his temple, swooning. Sheila catches him.

SHEILA

Presto!

PRESTO

(distant in thought)  
Something awful is about to happen  
to her.

SHEILA

Happen to who?

CLOSER ON PRESTO

PRESTO

Varla!

PUSH IN on Presto's pained expression and cut to:

A TRANSPARENT IMAGE OF THE VILLAGE

with the three elementals wreaking havoc. CAMERA WIDENS to reveal the transparent image in the air before Varla. Venger is beside her, seated on his horse Nightmare.

VENGER

Your powers of illusion are remarkable for a human.

VARLA

(very weak)

Please, Venger. Let me rest.

ANOTHER ANGLE

VENGER

Not until you create one more illusion.

VARLA

I...I can't.

VENGER

You will, or the fate that befalls your parents will be quite real.

FAVORING VARLA

As her head sinks with defeat. CAMERA PUSHES IN PAST Varla, HOLDING on Venger.

VENGER

Now...you will do just as I told you.

VARLA

closes her eyes, concentrates. PUSH IN and cut to:

THE VILLAGE

as the elementals continue their reign of destruction.

ANGLE ON UNI

as she runs right past camera, followed by the THUMPING feet of the ROARING Earth Elemental.

UNI

(panicked bleat)

## FAVORING BOBBY

He holds his club like a ballplayer about to smash a homer. Uni runs into shot, hiding behind him.

BOBBY

You big fink. Why don't ya pick  
on someone your own size...like me.

Suddenly the shadow of the towering elemental grows over Bobby, dwarfing him. As Bobby looks up we cut:

WIDER

to reveal Bobby standing at the foot of the huge beast. The others are in the b.g.

SHEILA

Bobby! Look out!

Bobby raises his club and smashes the rocky foot. The SCENE TREMBLES as the huge stone beast crumbles.

BOBBY

I got 'im!

ANGLE ON SOME OTHER DWELLINGS

as the huge boulders of the broken Earth Elemental drop down into shot, destroying another dwelling.

CLOSE ON ANOTHER VILLAGER

ANOTHER WOMAN

My home!!

WIDE SHOT - VILLAGE

The Fire Elemental sets fire to another dwelling.

FULL SHOT

as several villagers confront our kids.

VILLAGERS

You! You're the ones creating this  
destruction.

DIANA

No! That's not true.

PRESTO

Yeah! And I can prove it. I'll  
stop that pyromaniac.

PUSH IN on Presto as he takes off his hat, waves over it.

PRESTO  
 Bring a spell to quench the fire...  
 (sotto, pleading)  
 ...and prove to these folks that I'm  
 no liar.

Presto's hat begins to rumble, then, like Old Faithful,  
 shoots out a geiser of water. Presto can barely hold it.

ANGLE ON DWELLINGS

as the water gushes into shot, washing away the Fire  
 Elemental and putting out the flames.

FULL SHOT - ALL

BOBBY  
 He did it!

ERIC  
 Way to go, Presto.

Suddenly the water on the ground swells up into a WATER  
 ELEMENTAL. It lets out a LAUGHING ROAR, then  
 dramatically washes away the smoking dwellings.

FAVORING PRESTO AND VILLAGERS

PRESTO  
 You, uh, wouldn't happen to have  
 any flood insurance, would ya?

ANOTHER ANGLE

as the Fire Elemental and Earth Elemental reform and  
 continue to wreak havoc.

ON HANK AND DIANA

HANK  
 I don't get it. Everything we do  
 seems to backfire on us.

DIANA  
 As if...someone planned it that way.

DOWN ANGLE ON VILLAGERS

as they look up, o.s., pointing at something they see.

VILLAGER  
 Look there!

UP ANGLE - IN SKY

An heroic looking WARRIOR on a white stallion flies  
 overhead. He dramatically rears up on the horse,  
 throwing down a ball of energy o.s.

## DRAMATIC ANGLE ON EARTH ELEMENTAL

Just as the elemental reaches for another dwelling the ball of energy sails into shot, striking him, blowing him into rubble.

## ON PRESTO AND ERIC

Eric holds his shield over their heads, protecting them as the rocks CLATTER down.

PRESTO

Eric. Doesn't that guy remind you of somebody we know?

ERIC

Yeah! Indiana Jones!

## CLOSER ON FLYING WARRIOR

as he sends a beam of energy o.s. and cut to:

## THE FIRE ELEMENTAL

standing over a dwelling, setting it ablaze. The beam of energy streaks down into shot, spiraling around the elemental, forming a tornado. The Fire Elemental disappears.

## THE WATER ELEMENTAL

towers up over another dwelling. The heroic warrior flies into shot, hovering before him on his white steed. The Water Elemental gestures toward the warrior, throwing a stream of water at him. The warrior holds up his hand, forming a magical aura around him. The water just bounces off.

## CLOSER ON WARRIOR

as he sends a flash of energy o.s.

## THE WATER ELEMENTAL

is struck by the energy, exploding into nothingness.

## ANGLE ON FLAMING DWELLINGS

as it begins to rain, putting out the fires.

## ANGLE ON OUR GUYS

reacting as the rain pours down on them.

DIANA

I hate to admit it...but that guy's good.

## ANGLE ON VILLAGERS

reacting with thankful expressions as the warrior flies down on his horse, landing amidst them.

## VILLAGERS

(misc. shouts)

You saved our village. We owe you our lives. And our thanks.

## WARRIOR

You owe me nothing.

## ANOTHER ANGLE

as the warrior points accusingly at our guys.

## WARRIOR

But you owe them no mercy. They are the ones who brought this destruction upon your good village.

## HANK

No! That's a lie.

## THE WARRIOR

gestures toward the smoking dwellings.

## WARRIOR

Judge them by their actions, not their words. They're witches and wizards...

## ANGLE ON VILLAGERS

## WARRIOR (VO)

...and they will destroy you if you don't destroy them first.

## VILLAGERS

(wild crowd)

He's right. They are the ones who did this. Get them!

As the villagers storm o.s. in a frenzy we cut to:

## JOHN AND MARINDA

reacting to:

## HANK AND THE OTHERS

as they are rushed and surrounded. They barely have time to react before the villagers have them. They take their weapons away from them.

HANK  
(struggling)  
Let us go.

DIANA  
We're innocent.

VILLAGER  
Quiet! Take them away.

CLOSER ON ERIC AND PRESTO

struggling as the villagers lead them away.

PRESTO  
What are you going to do with us?

VILLAGER  
You shall suffer the fate of all  
wizards and witches. Tomorrow's  
sunrise will be your last.

ERIC  
You had to ask.

ANGLE ON WARRIOR

on his horse by the villagers who hold the kids weapons.  
He takes them.

WARRIOR  
I shall see that their evil  
weapons harm no one again.

He flies off on his white horse. The villagers wave.

PANNING WITH WARRIOR

WARRIOR  
You've done well, Varla...

Suddenly the warrior transforms into Venger, the white  
stallion into Nightmare (his voice changes).

VENGER  
...You're illusions could even  
fool me.

As Venger flies off into the distance we...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE



ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXTERIOR: THE VILLAGE - NIGHT

CAMERA PUSHES IN on the outside of the jail. There is a guard by the door.

INTERIOR: STONE CELL - NIGHT

CAMERA PANS the cell corridor, FINDING our kids in one of the cells. There is another guard just outside the cell. Bobby is seated on the floor, petting Uni. Hank and Diana are seated on a stone bench, watching the guard. Eric is sleeping. HOLD ON Presto, staring out a barred window into the night sky. Sheila moves to him, looking out at the stars with him.

SHEILA

What are you thinking about, Presto?

REVERSE ANGLE - ON PRESTO AND SHEILA (THROUGH BARS)

PRESTO

I don't know. Varla, I guess.  
For the first time since I left  
our real home I felt something  
warm, something...special.

BACK IN THE CELL - ON SHEILA AND PRESTO

Presto looks away from the window, moping.

PRESTO

Now I'll never find out what  
she's really like.

FAVORING GUARD

on the other side of the barred cell door. As he nods off the CAMERA PUSHES IN past him, HOLDING on Hank and Diana.

HANK

(sotto)

He's asleep. Now's our chance.

ANOTHER ANGLE - TO INCLUDE OTHERS

PRESTO

(sotto)

Chance for what?

HANK

(sotto)

To get out of here.

SHEILA

(sotto)

But we don't have our weapons.  
And without them we're just...  
regular.

CLOSE ON DIANA

DIANA

(sotto)

That's not true. Dungeon Master  
has no special weapons.

ANOTHER ANGLE

PRESTO

(sotto)

Right. Some of his training  
must've rubbed off on us.

Presto looks around, spotting something by Eric.

CLOSER ON ERIC

still sleeping. There is an old burlap sack over him for  
a blanket. Presto enters, pulls the sack off. Eric  
falls onto the floor, wakes up.

ERIC

(rather loud)

Hey! What's the big idea?

PRESTO

Shhh.

HANK AND DIANA

react and look o.s. CAMERA PANS to reveal the guard. He  
turns in his sleep, continuing to snooze.

FAVORING PRESTO

He holds up the old sack.

PRESTO

(sotto)

I sure hope this works.  
(waves hand over sack)  
Alacazim, alacazammer...magical  
sack, get us out of the slammer.

Presto opens the sack expectantly. A moth flutters out.

ERIC

(sotto)

Hey! Neat! Do you do bar mitzvahs?

ON BOBBY AND UNI

BOBBY

(sotto)

I don't know about you guys, but  
I feel just as strong as I was  
before.

Bobby moves to the rickety bench that Eric was sleeping on, pulls off the leg.

CLOSE ON SHEILA

SHEILA

(sotto)

Bobby, no!

WIDER ANGLE

as Bobby lifts up the leg, slamming it down on the bars beside the sleeping guard. We hear a LOUD, REVERBERATING TWANG-NG-NG. Bobby vibrates from the shock. The guard suddenly wakes up, reacting to Bobby. He reaches in and takes the stick.

GUARD

Don't try anything funny or you  
won't even see the sun rise.

CLOSER ON OUR GUYS

ERIC

Great. A whole cell full of  
Clark Kents and not one Superman.

As the others give Eric a look we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: TOWER OF BRIMSTONE - NIGHT

The yellow tower is eerily illuminated, as if from some inner inferno. CAMERA PUSHES IN and cut to:

CLOSE ON KIDS' WEAPONS

WIDEN to reveal they are on the wall of a stone cabinet. Venger closes it with a HEAVY THUD, magically sealing it with his finger. We are in Venger's inner sanctum. There are some strange chemical apparatus on the table, something an alchemist might use.

VENGER

Now that I possess the weapons of  
power, Dungeon Master's days are  
numbered.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as Venger exits the room and we cut to:

ANGLE ON VARLA

hanging weakly from the huge, stone fists and chains. Suddenly Venger's shadow grows over her. She looks up, her eyes slowly opening.

VARLA

(very weak)

I did what you asked. You promised to let me go.

FAVORING VENGER

as he runs his hand along the chains.

VENGER

Only a fool would let go of something as valuable as you.

VARLA

But, I'm too weak to do anymore.

CLOSE ON VENGER

VENGER

Now, perhaps. But your strength will return.

FULL ON VENGER AND VARLA

VENGER

And when it does Dungeon Master will be in for the surprise of his life.

Venger exits shot. Varla looks off after him.

HER POV - ON DOOR

as Venger exits the room. The door closes.

CLOSER ON VARLA

She struggles weakly with her bonds. PUSH IN CLOSER on her face as she strains to concentrate, and cut to:

EXTERIOR: THE VILLAGE - NIGHT

CAMERA PUSHES IN on the outside of the jail.

INTERIOR: KIDS' CELL

The kids look pretty grim. Eric is sleeping once again. Uni nuzzles Bobby, as if to comfort him. Sheila, seated on the other side of Bobby, strokes his head.

CLOSER ON PRESTO

hunched over, aimlessly poking a stick at the floor.

PRESTO

(to himself)

You sure are a loser, Presto. The prettiest girl you ever saw in your life begs you to come rescue her, and where do you wind up...

VARLA (VO)

(soft whisper)

Over here!

PRESTO

That's right. You wind up here in this stupid...

(suddenly alert)

Huh?

Presto looks o.s., reacting as we cut:

WIDER - TO INCLUDE VARLA'S IMAGE

floating beside him.

PRESTO

Varla!!

THE OTHER GUYS

react, turning to see Varla's image beside Presto. Hank checks the guard, who's sleeping once again. PUSH IN on Presto and Varla.

VARLA

(softly)

It's all my fault.

PRESTO

(firm)

No it isn't!

(suddenly confused)

I mean, what's all your fault?

CLOSER ON VARLA

VARLA

(weakly)

I created the illusions that made your weapons appear to destroy my village.

WIDER ANGLE

DIANA

But why?

VARLA  
I was afraid Venger would harm  
my parents.

CLOSER ON PRESTO AND VARLA

PRESTO  
Venger! I knew that guy on the  
horse reminded me of someone.

VARLA  
He forced me to create an illusion  
to change his appearance.

ON SHEILA, BOBBY AND UNI

SHEILA  
Then Venger's got our weapons.

BOBBY  
Oh, no!

UNI  
(worried bleat)

FAVORING PRESTO AND VARLA

as they look at one another for a beat. Presto reaches  
out to touch her face, going through her image.

VARLA  
What's your name?

PRESTO  
Me? Uh, I don't know. I mean,  
Presto. My name's Presto.

CLOSER ON PRESTO AND VARLA

PRESTO  
I feel as if I know you.

VARLA  
(smiles)  
I know. I feel the same.

Suddenly Varla's smile disappears, replaced by horror.

VARLA  
Venger! Please! Don't!

WIDER - FAVORING PRESTO

Varla's image starts to fade in and out.

PRESTO  
Varla!

EXTERIOR: ON JAIL ENTRANCE

as Marinda enters shot, stopping at the outer guard.

SECOND GUARD

What do you want?

MARINDA

(holds up basket)

I bring food for the prisoners.

The guard lifts up the napkin covering the basket, looks in. He gives the woman a nod, indicating for her to enter. She does so.

INSIDE THE JAIL

Marinda moves down the corridor. She suddenly reacts to:

VARLA (VO)

(pleading cry)

Presto! Help me!

CLOSE ON MARINDA

as her eyes widen with grief. Tears streak her face.

MARINDA

Varla!

She rushes off past camera.

BACK TO OUR GUYS IN CELL

Presto reaches out for Varla's image as it disappears.

PRESTO

Come back!

A moment later Marinda enters shot, stopping at the bars, looking about for her daughter.

MARINDA

Varla! Darling! Where are you?

ANOTHER ANGLE

as the guard wakes up, reacting to Marinda.

GUARD

What are you doing here?

Marinda comes to her senses. She looks at the guard, holds out her basket.

MARINDA

I, uh, brought you some food.

The guard suddenly smiles. He raises the napkin with one hand, reaches in with his other. Marinda quickly shoves the basket toward the man, pinning both his arms under the basket handle.

GUARD

Hey!

Marinda takes the keys from the man's belt while our guys watch with anticipation.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as Marinda opens the kids' cell.

SHEILA

Thanks, Marinda.

MARINDA

(to Presto)

I know my daughter came back to you. Please, find her. Hurry.

HANK

Let's go!

Hank leads the others away. Marinda follows.

EXTERIOR: ON JAIL

The guard is standing by the door as it opens. Eric stands in the doorway before the startled man.

ERIC

What kind of prison is this?  
There's no color TV in my cell.

The guard reacts, quickly grabbing Eric. An instant later Hank grabs the guard from behind. Presto shoves the burlap sack over his head.

SECOND GUARD

Help! The prisoner's are escaping.

PRESTO

Hey! You peeked.

Presto and the others race out of the jail.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as the guard yanks the sack off, reaching out and grabbing Marinda as she tries to escape.

MARINDA

(startled gasp)



FAVORING PRESTO

as he and the others stop, looking back.

SHEILA

Marinda!

PRESTO

We've got to go back and get her.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as a half-dozen villagers race into shot carrying torches, headed for the kids.

VILLAGERS

There they are! Stop them!

FAVORING MARINDA

MARINDA

Leave me! Find Varla!

ON OUR GUYS

HANK

Come on. We've got no choice.

As they rush off into the night we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: SWAMP - NIGHT

CAMERA PANS to reveal Presto, leading the others. They react to the WILD & EERIE ANIMAL NOISES.

SHEILA

We've got to be crazy, walking through a place like this without our weapons.

BOBBY

Yeah! And we don't even know where we're going.

FAVORING PRESTO AND DIANA - PANNING

PRESTO

I know where I'm going. Marinda said the Tower of Brimstone was in the most dangerous part of the swamp.

DIANA

And if Venger's with Varla, our weapons can't be far away.

PANNING WITH ERIC

ERIC

I'm not going any further on this wild goose chase.

HOLD ON Eric as he stops beside a weird looking plant.

ERIC

There's no way to know which part of the swamp is more dangerous than another.

As Eric leans on the plant a horrible looking face appears on it. The sticky, vinelike arms coil around him. The plant HISSES. Eric freaks.

ERIC

(panicked)

On second thought...I think we're getting real close. Yaaahh!

Eric pulls away from the plant, races o.s.

WIDER ANGLE

to reveal Dungeon Master on a limb beside the others.

DUNGEON MASTER

Very close, indeed.

PRESTO

Dungeon Master. Am I glad to see you.

SHEILA

You've got to give us new weapons. We can't survive without them.

DUNGEON MASTER

I'm afraid there are no other weapons.

FAVORING PRESTO

PRESTO

(hanging head sadly)

Then we'll never be able to get Varla away from Venger.

Dungeon Master moves to his side.

DUNGEON MASTER

(consoling)

Your inner strength is far greater than you imagine.

CLOSER ON DUNGEON MASTER

DUNGEON MASTER

Remember...when things look their worst, things will be their best.

ANGLE ON ERIC

ERIC

Oh, worst equals best, does it? I wish you would have told that to my old algebra teacher.

WIDER ANGLE

to reveal Dungeon Master is gone.

BOBBY

Hey! He's gone.

DIANA

We forgot to ask him how to get to the Tower of Brimstone.

FAVORING ON HANK

HANK

Wait a minute! Brimstone is just sulphur.

SHEILA

So?

HANK

So, who could miss the smell of sulphur?

CLOSE ON PRESTO

PRESTO

Right! All we have to do is pick up the scent.

(sniffing)

I think I smell something.

CAMERA FOLLOWS Presto as he sniffs, stopping beside Eric. He wrinkles his nose.

PRESTO

When was the last time you washed your clothes?

ERIC

Very funny.

WIDER ANGLE

as our guys (and Uni) move through the swamp, sniffing.

HANK ET AL  
(sniffing)

ERIC  
Next thing ya know we'll be  
scratching fleas and chasing  
rabbits.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: TOWER OF BRIMSTONE - NIGHT

HANK (VO)  
There it is.

CAMERA WIDENS to reveal our guys hiding in the swamp  
growth at the base of the sulphur fortress.

ERIC  
(holding his nose)  
Whew! And I thought Orc breath  
smelled bad.

UP ANGLE - PAST HANK AND PRESTO

looking at the Orc guards in the distance.

DIANA  
There's no way to get past those  
guards.

HANK  
Yes there is! What is an Orc's  
favorite food?

ON BOBBY, SHEILA AND UNI

SHEILA  
Unicorns!

BOBBY  
(hugs Uni)  
You wouldn't!

UNI  
(nervous bleat)

FULL ON KIDS

HANK  
Relax, Bobby. Here's what we do.

They go into a huddle and start to whisper. Uni reacts.

UNI  
(surprised bleat)

WIPE TO:

## ANGLE ON ORC GUARDS

standing before the entrance. Suddenly Uni trots into shot, stopping before the Orcs. She smiles at them.

UNI  
(friendly bleat)

They react, smiling with connoisseurial delight...and snorts. However, they remain at attention.

FIRST ORC  
You see what I see?

SECOND ORC  
(licks lips)  
I seeeee.

The second Orc takes a step toward Uni who backs away.

FIRST ORC  
Venger feed us to dragons if  
we leave our post.

The Second Orc continues to slowly approach Uni.

SECOND ORC  
This only take minute.

The 1st Orc looks around nervously, then smiles as he heads for Uni. Uni makes a break as the Orcs chase her.

UNI  
races right past camera.

UNI  
(panicked bleating)

A beat later the Orcs THUD past.

## ANGLE ON VINES

Uni runs into shot, disappearing into the vines. The Orcs rush in, grabbing for her.

SECOND ORC  
Come, little unicorn. We won't  
hurt you.

Suddenly Diana and Hank drop down into shot holding vines, lifting up the Orcs in a vine net.

DIANA  
You're darned right, you won't.

ORCS  
Hey! What you do? Let us down!

The other guys come out of the bushes as Hank and Diana tie off their vines.

HANK

Let's move it!

They all rush off.

ANGLE ON TOWER OF BRIMSTONE ENTRANCE

as Hank and the others enter the castle.

INSIDE THE DARK SULPHUR CORRIDOR

our guys sneak along cautiously.

SHEILA

Now that we're in, how do we find Varla?

CLOSER ON PRESTO

PRESTO

Dungeon Master told me to follow my heart.

Presto stops, looks about, then points.

PRESTO

That way.

WIDER ANGLE

as Presto now leads the way into another dark corridor.

INSIDE VENGER'S INNER SANCTUM

he has the kids' weapons spread out over his table, his ancient looking chemical apparatus bubbling and glowing. PUSH IN as he holds up a bubbling beaker.

VENGER

Any moment now and the power of these weapons will be mine.

CLOSE ON VENGER

VENGER

Then, not even a hundred Dungeon Masters could stop me!

As Venger holds up Hank's bow we cut to:

ANOTHER DARK CORRIDOR

as Presto leads the others to a fork in the corridor. He looks at both forks, then:

PRESTO

I think my heart is telling  
me it's that way.

ERIC

It's probably just indigestion.

They follow Presto into the corridor.

ANGLE ON DOORWAY

Presto leads the others into the doorway, stopping. He  
looks into the room, reacting.

PRESTO

It's...her.

CAMERA WIDENS to reveal Varla held in the chains.

CLOSER ON VARLA

as Presto moves to her.

PRESTO

Varla.

PUSH IN as Varla's eyes open. She looks into Presto's  
face, slowly smiling.

VARLA

(weak)

Presto.

HANK

Sorry, guys. No time for small  
talk. We've got to find our  
weapons and get out of here.

Hank and Diana unhook the chains, holding Varla up.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as they move toward the door. They suddenly stop,  
reacting to the sound of HEAVY FOOTSTEPS. They look down  
the corridor, reacting.

ERIC

Don't look now...

THEIR POV - DOWN CORRIDOR

as several Orc guards rush toward camera.

ERIC (VO)

...but there's a thousand pounds  
of angry pork headed this way.

BACK TO OUR GUYS

SHEILA  
There's no way out.

BOBBY  
We're trapped.

FAVORING VARLA

VARLA  
(weakly)  
Wait. I may be able to disguise  
you with an illusion.

PRESTO  
But you're too weak.

THE ORCS

are getting closer, running right into camera.

ORC GUARDS  
(angry snorting)

BACK TO OUR GUYS

DIANA  
They'll be here any second.

CLOSER ON VARLA

PUSH IN as she closes her eyes and concentrates.

ANGLE ON DOORWAY

as the Orcs rush into shot, stopping.

ORC  
YOU THERE!!

CAMERA WIDENS to reveal our kids are now all Orcs. We can tell who they are from their shapes: Eric's tall, Bobby's short, Hank and Diana hold up Varla.

ORC  
Have you seen humans?

ERIC  
Uh, of course not...  
(suddenly disguising  
voice)  
I mean, we no see them.

FAVORING BOBBY (ORC)

hiding Uni in his shirt. An Orc almost spots her.



## FULL SHOT - THE ORC GUARDS

stomp out of the room. PUSH IN on our guys (Orcs).

PRESTO

It worked.

VARLA

(weak)

Hurry. I can't keep the illusion up for long.

As they head for the door we cut to:

## ANOTHER CORRIDOR

Our (Orc) kids move down the dark corridor, helping Varla (Orc). Uni runs along with them.

## CLOSER ON HANK (ORC)

as he looks o.s., reacting to something.

HANK

I think we've got more company.

## HIS POV - MORE ORC TROOPS

stomping down the corridor toward camera...

## BACK TO OUR GUYS (ORCS)

Diana (Orc) points through another doorway.

DIANA

This way.

As they move through the doorway we cut to:

## INTERIOR: VENGER'S INNER SANCTUM

Venger is still working with the weapons at his chemical apparatus. Suddenly the kids (Orcs) enter shot, stopping, reacting to Venger. Venger turns to see them.

VENGER

(angered)

What do you want?

## CLOSER ON OUR GUYS (ORCS)

ERIC

(sotto)

He doesn't recognize us.

PRESTO

This may be our only chance to get our weapons back.

Presto (Orc) grabs Eric, hauling him o.s.

DIANA  
(sotto shout)  
Presto! No!

FAVORING VENGER

as Presto and Eric move to his work table.

PRESTO  
(disguising voice)  
We house cleaning crew.

ERIC  
Huh?

Presto gives Eric a shove, then starts to dust off Venger's table, moving closer to the weapons.

ERIC  
(disguised)  
Oh, yeah. We tidy up for you.

VENGER  
You Orc fools! Can't you see  
I'm busy.

ON VENGER AND PRESTO (ORC)

Presto picks up his magic hat, dusts it.

PRESTO  
Me clean pretty green hat.

Venger suddenly reacts, grabs the magic hat from Presto.

VENGER  
Green? Orcs are color blind!

PRESTO  
(breaks disguise)  
They are?

FULL SHOT - ALL

as the illusion disappears revealing Hank, Varla and the others. Presto and Eric are left standing beside Venger.

VENGER  
It's you!!

DRAMATIC ANGLE ON VENGER

Presto and Eric dive o.s. as Venger fires out a barrage of evil energy.

## HANK AND THE OTHERS

take cover behind pillars, etc. as the energy bolts streak into shot.

HANK

Get down!

## ANGLE ON PRESTO AND ERIC

hiding behind a table as another energy blast hits it.

PRESTO

I think we blew it!

## WIDER - FAVORING VENGER

VENGER

None of you will leave this room alive.

As he fires out another bolt toward the kids we cut to:

## HANK AND DIANA

ducking the blast.

HANK

It's time to see if Dungeon Master was right about that inner strength of ours.

Hank looks up, spotting a mirror on the wall above him. He suddenly stands up.

## WIDER TO INCLUDE VENGER

He spots Hank, holds out his hand. Hank quickly takes the mirror off the wall, turning to face Venger as he fires a beam of energy. It strikes the mirror and reflects back, knocking Venger backwards with a flash.

## ON DIANA, SHEILA AND BOBBY

BOBBY

Way to go, Hank!

DIANA

Come on! Let's give Venger all we've got.

Diana, Sheila and Bobby rush off.

## ANGLE ON VENGER

as he gets up.

VENGER

You haven't got a chance against  
me without your weapons.

He fires another blast o.s.

BOBBY

stands by a tall cabinet full of evil looking viles, old  
artifacts, bottles of chemicals. He takes a large bone  
and swings it like his club, smashing the cabinet and  
knocking it over.

WIDER ANGLE

as the cabinet splatters before Venger, sending up smoke.

DIANA

leaps up, grabbing onto a curtain and dramatically  
swinging away with it.

WIDER ANGLE

as she hauls the curtain over Venger, letting it go. It  
floats down over him.

DIANA

Quick! Get the weapons.

ERIC

grabs a regular shield off the wall and makes a run for  
the weapons. But Venger throws the curtain off, rising  
over the table before Eric reaches it.

VENGER

You'll get my fury, is what  
you'll get!

Eric holds up his shield as Venger shoots a beam at him.  
It strikes the shield, knocking Eric back o.s.

CLOSER ON ERIC

He holds up the shield, reacting to a smoking hole in it.

ON PRESTO AND VARLA

PRESTO

It's no good. We'll never get  
our weapons back.

VARLA

(weak)

I'll try to make one last illusion.

PRESTO

No! You're not strong enough. It's too dangerous.

PUSH IN on Presto and Varla as she smiles up at him.

VARLA

I must...if it will help you.

She closes her eyes, concentrates.

FULL ON ROOM

as Tiamat erupts through the wall, threatening Venger.

VENGER

Tiamat! Noooo!

BACK TO PRESTO AND VARLA

VARLA

(very weak)

Hurry. Your...weapons.

Presto hesitates, then rushes o.s.

VENGER

tosses energy bolts at Tiamat. And cut to:

ANGLE ON WEAPONS

Presto rushes into shot, stopping at the table. He puts on his hat, grabs the bow and javelin.

PRESTO

Heads up!

He tosses them o.s.

HANK AND DIANA

Hank catches his bow. Diana catches her javelin.

BOBBY AND SHEILA

catch their cloak and club.

ERIC

almost catches his shield.

ERIC

Ow!

CLOSE ON VARLA

as she grows weak, her head nodding forward.

ON VENGER

The image of Tiamat disappears, as does the hole in the wall. He turns, reacting.

VENGER

An illusion!

WIDER TO INCLUDE HANK

HANK

This is no illusion, Venger!

Hank fires a flaming arrow which strikes some of the chemical bottles before Venger, exploding beneath his feet, creating a giant, smoking crater. Venger falls into the hole, disappearing.

VENGER

(trailing scream)

CLOSER ON DIANA AND HANK

DIANA

How did you do that?

HANK

Simple! This whole place is made out of sulphur. Combined with the right chemicals it's explosive.

FAVORING ERIC

ERIC

(holds his nose)  
And oooohhh, so smelly!

ON VARLA

as Presto enters, leaning over her.

PRESTO

Varla!

PUSH IN as she looks up weakly at Presto, smiles.

VARLA

(fading)  
That last illusion...was one of my best.

She passes out, her image fading until she disappears.

PRESTO

(thru tears)  
Varla! Come back!

WIDER ANGLE

as Hank and Diana help Presto to his feet.

DIANA

Come on, Presto. We've got to  
get out of here before Venger  
returns.

As they help Presto toward the door we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXTERIOR: SMALL VILLAGE - DAY

The place is in ruins, smoking dwellings, wet rubble.

CLOSER ON VILLAGERS

They react as Hank and the others enter shot.

VILLAGERS

(misc. shouts)

The evil ones! They've returned!

HANK

No! We come in peace.

ANGLE ON JOHN AND MARINDA

as they come out of their dwelling.

MARINDA

Varla!

Marinda rushes o.s.

ANGLE ON OUR GUYS

as Marinda rushes into shot.

MARINDA

Where is my daughter.

PRESTO

She gave everything to save us.

Presto hangs his head. Marinda reacts in shock.

FULL ON KIDS AND MOB

The villagers now surround them, holding picks and  
shovels and the like.

VILLAGERS

They destroyed our village. And  
Varla, too. Let's get them.

CLOSER ON OUR GUYS

PRESTO  
 (brightens)  
 Wait a minute! The village!  
 It's destroyed! That's it.

SHEILA  
 What's it?

WIDER ANGLE

PRESTO  
 Don't you see. It was only Varla's  
 illusion. So if the illusion's still  
 here, Varla must still be alive.

DIANA  
 That's what Dungeon Master meant  
 by "When things look their worst  
 things will be their best."

PRESTO  
 There's only one problem. How do  
 we break the illusion?

ANOTHER ANGLE - TO INCLUDE DUNGEON MASTER

DUNGEON MASTER  
 With your hearts.

HANK  
 Dungeon Master.

PRESTO  
 What do you mean, with our hearts?

CLOSER ON DUNGEON MASTER

DUNGEON MASTER  
 This village is filled with hate  
 and anger. Let go of these and  
 you let go of the illusion.

FULL SHOT - ALL

The villagers react, looking almost ashamed of  
 themselves. They try to smile.

FAVORING JOHN AND MARINDA

John reacts, pointing o.s.

JOHN  
 Look!



FULL ON VILLAGE

as the dwellings magically dissolve back to normal.

VILLAGER

Our village is saved.

FAVORING PRESTO, MARINDA AND JOHN

as Varla materializes before them, a bit weak, but otherwise looking quite alright.

MARINDA

Varla!

VARLA

Mother! Father!

She hugs her mom and dad.

CLOSER ON PRESTO

as Varla turns to him, smiles.

PRESTO

You're back. But I thought...

DUNGEON MASTER

No, Presto. Varla expended so much of her life energy creating Venger's illusions that she no longer had the strength to maintain her own form.

CLOSE ON DUNGEON MASTER

DUNGEON MASTER

Breaking the illusion on the village restored her strength.

WIDER ANGLE

Presto and the others react as Varla moves to Dungeon Master, hugging him.

VARLA

Thank you, Dungeon Master.

SHEILA

You know Dugeon Master?

VARLA

Of course. I was orphaned and left in the swamp when I was a child. That's when Dungeon Master found me.

## FAVORING DUNGEON MASTER

DUNGEON MASTER

She always had a fine gift of illusion. I only helped her perfect it a bit.

MARINDA

Then he brought her to this village where John and I adopted her.

## CLOSER ON PRESTO AND VARLA

VARLA

So you see, Presto, in a sense you and I are like brother and sister...we had the same magical tutor.

## WIDER ANGLE

to reveal Dungeon Master is gone.

PRESTO

Dungeon Master? He's gone.

VARLA

He never did teach me that one.

As our kids react with LAUGHTER we...

FADE OUT

THE END