

ORION AND THE AMULET OF TEREIS

Screenplay and Story by
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FADE IN:

EXT. GALIER PALACE -- NIGHT

A blood moon hangs in the sky over the ancient palace, a sandstorm rages on and a man, standing at the top of the palace with a horned helmet and golden armour looks out over the waking desert.

WESIRT (V.O.)

Long ago, an empire rose from the sands of Galier. Stretching far across the kingdom of Midras, Galier was feared for it was the birthplace of a powerful warlord and the place in which a deadly army was created.

The man, is TEREIS. Tall and brooding looking. A curved blade sword in a sheath on his right side and glistening blue eyes.

He's holding sand in his hand. The sand is pouring from his hand, floating into the storm.

WESIRT (V.O.)

Tereis, a warrior and a king would create an army from the grains of desert sand in order to overthrow his enemies. Galier birthed, the deadly Sikaro.

Sikaro rising from the sands. Golden eyes, golden armour and golden swords. They're sand monsters, their skin is solid sand as is the rest of their body.

EXT. FARCKONA -- DAY

The Sikaro attack the fortress of Farckona. This was long ago, before the palace and city existed.

Tereis locks swords with- ERENIUS! A surprise enemy. The two stare at one another as- NEFRET steps from the shadows, wearing gold as head of the Sikaro. Human, still.

WESIRT (V.O.)

But Tereis was deceived.

Nefret stabs Tereis through the back. He kneels to Erenius who smiles. The Sikaro, as soldiers, follow their new leader Nefret and stop fighting the Minotaur's and Undead.

Nefret stands as Erenius THRUSTS his hand forward at Tereis, knocking him through a wormhole-

EXT. GALIER PALACE -- NIGHT

Tereis stands atop of the palace, the sands from his hands continue to flow. He clenches his fist.

WESIRT (V.O.)

The warrior Tereis, was defeated and the city of Galier, was lost.

Galier is stuck within a place where the desert continues forever, there's nothing else present, just the desert and the sands in which Tereis could not escape from.

WESIRT (V.O.)

But nothing is lost forever.

SUPER: ORION AND THE AMULET OF TEREIS

TITLE IS CREATED FROM THE SAND WHICH WIPES AS THE TITLE IS REVEALED.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST -- NIGHT

Rushing. A man is rushing through the woods, leaping over fallen trees and branches. He reaches a bridge and runs over it and continues through the forest.

He looks around, YUHRA ARE CHASING HIM, his face is caught by the light of the moon and the man is revealed to be- IKRES!

Ikres approaches a hill, he loses his footing and TUMBLES down the hill. The Yuhra are swarming around him. Ikres screams for help and- BRIGHT RED LIGHT SHOOTS AT THE YUHRA, FORCING THEM BACK.

The Yuhra retreat. Ikres gets to his feet, turns around and gasps. Before him floats a dozen Pixies, red skinned, bulging eyes. The one that saved him was the queen, larger than the others, floating there flapping her fly-like wings.

PIXIE QUEEN

Name yourself, human.

IKRES

Ikres.

OFF SCREEN: Footsteps...

Ikres looks to see- A shadowed man emerging from the trees.

MAN

I see the Prince is no longer with you.
I take it he has reached Cambrio?

IKRES

Who are you and how do you know that?

MAN

(Introducing himself)

The name's Shadow. I'm a friend of the
white wanderer.

IKRES

Then yes, Orion has reached Cambrio.

SHADOW

Good.

FADE TO:

EXT. CAMBRIO DESERT -- DAY

A mighty sandstorm is raging.

INT. CAVE -- CONTINUOUS

Darius, Maralda and Milo are asleep in the cave. Orion is standing by the entrance with the sword in his hand.

FLASH:

Orion sees himself stab the Assassin.

FLASH ENDS.

BACK TO PRESENT.

Orion takes a deep breath and looks upon the blade. He grips the handle tightly and the blade lights up orange. He loosens his grip and the blade loses the light and returns to silver.

Orion sheathes the sword and looks upon the others.

Darius is awake, he's looking over at his nephew.

DARIUS

Are you okay, Orion?

ORION

I'm fine.

Darius walks over to Orion and looks outside. The sandstorm is raging still.

DARIUS

This weather is terrible. We'll be stuck here if it doesn't let up soon.

ORION

It should calm, it's just a storm.

DARIUS

Well we'd better hope so. I don't like our odds in a sandstorm like this, we'll be cut to pieces.

EXT. CAMBRIO DESERT -- DAY

Orion and Darius walk ahead of Maralda and Milo. Orion seems okay, he looks okay, but there's something off about him that Darius can't quite see.

DARIUS

You seem troubled, nephew.

ORION

What? - Oh, no I'm fine.

DARIUS

You can tell me.

ORION

Back in the courtyard, I saw what I may become if this goes south. I don't want that, and I need you to promise me something.

DARIUS

Name it.

ORION

If I go dark, put me down.

DARIUS

No. Do you know why? Because you're not going dark, there's too much good in your veins for that to happen.

ORION

It didn't seem that way, at least from his point of view - my older self, that is. He turned, and I might.

DARIUS

Just because he turned it doesn't mean you will. Not everything is set in stone, you can change anything, you just have to believe in it.

Maralda approaches.

MARALDA

Milo has some story, he was locked in the shack most of his life. Said he was taken there by a cloaked man eighteen years ago.

ORION

Aren't you eighteen?

MARALDA

Yes, but what does that have to do with anything?

ORION

Nothing. Just stating a fact.

DARIUS

(Sees something)

What is that?

Darius, Orion, Maralda and Milo come up to a strange stream of sand, which is flowing like a river. Two odd creatures stand either side of it, large fur wings and quite human.

Milo looks over. They see him- SCREECH!!!! The two creatures wander up the hill and look upon- NOTHING. Orion and the others are hiding down the sand hill. Darius sneaks up, he stabs one through the back and it BURSTS INTO SAND. He stabs another one, whose wings SHOOT SPIKES and Orion stabs it through the heart. Bursting into sand again.

ORION

What the heck were those things?

DARIUS

Sand Wraiths. Fowl beasts at the best of times, let alone in a place like this.

MARALDA

Err... Darius?

Darius turns around, Maralda is pointing in the direction they came from. Clear blue skies overhead, but the sun is eclipsed. CAMBRIO IS GONE.

ORION

Is it just me or did anyone else notice that Cambrio just disappeared?

DARIUS

I see it too kid.

MARALDA

Now what?

DARIUS

There's no way back, so we keep moving forward, the palace is only a few days walk from here.

MILO

That's what you said a few days ago.

DARIUS

You wanted to come.

MILO

I had to come.

ORION

And why is that, Milo?

Milo scratches the back of his head.

MARALDA

Look we're not going to get anywhere by standing around talking. If we're going to the palace, then let's go.

Maralda starts walking. Darius walks after her. Milo approaches but Orion stops him.

ORION

What is it you're hiding, Milo?

Milo and Orion just stare at one another.

FADE TO:

EXT. GARNA CITY -- NIGHT

Draagon is standing near Noah's house.

Two Minotaur's drag a surviving Elf to Draagon and make sure the Elf is on his knees. The Elf is bleeding, two arrows through his chest and blood on his face.

DRAAGON

Since when did the elves align themselves with the humans?

The Elf doesn't reply.

Draagon takes out his sword and slits the Elf's throat OFF CAMERA. The Elf falls to the ground, limp and dead. Two Minotaur's look on.

MINOTAUR #1

We could have used his information.

DRAAGON

We do not need-

Draagon sniffs the air, he walks down the steps towards the infirmary, he enters-

INT. INFIRMARY -- CONTINUOUS

Draagon picks up a piece of cloth with blood stains over it. He looks at it darkly.

OFF SCREEN: Scuttling...

Draagon takes out his sword, he turns around and- GRABS A RUNNER- He pins the runner to the wall. It's the doctor.

DOCTOR

Please-Please I-

DRAAGON

Quit your stuttering.

(Beat, shows cloth)

Whose blood is this?

DOCTOR

Orion's blood- it's Orion's blood.

DRAAGON

I have smelt this blood once before.
Only last time it was on my sword in
Farckona, the boy- who is he?

DOCTOR

I don't know- I swear.

DRAAGON

Lies will only get you so far before
they get you killed, spill it or I
shall spill you.

DOCTOR

Prince!

Draagon releases the Doctor. He sniggers and then STABS THE DOCTOR through the chest. He releases the cloth which floats to the ground and walks out of the infirmary into-

EXT. STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Draagon looks to the sky. He knows Orion now, he's got his scent.

EXT. THRONE ROOM -- NIGHT

Erenius is staring into a black sphere, it's showing Draagon on the other side. Kaileen is sitting on the arm of the throne.

ERENIUS

You're sure of this?

DRAAGON (O.S.)

Yes my lord, it seems as though the
light seekers have been hiding this
from us all along.

ERENIUS

An heir, alive and out there somewhere.
Oh you can guarantee they're training
him to destroy me.

DRAAGON (O.S.)

My lord, I would ask Noah but he escaped me. The wanderer is cunning, he used some sort of teleportation spell and they escaped. Do you want me to go after them?

ERENIUS

No. Act as if you know nothing of this. The light seekers must not know I am aware of the Prince, not until I deem it necessary. I shall contact Nefret and have him bring me Tebek, there's no doubt that he shall return to his home.

Erenius wipes his hand over the sphere, Draagon vanishes. Erenius stands up and walks to the window, placing his hands on the brass windowsill and peering out into the city.

KAILEEN

My lord? I sense trouble.

ERENIUS

As do I, Kaileen.

Erenius turns to her.

KAILEEN

What is it you wish me to do?

ERENIUS

The boy would have had companions. Not all of them would have been able to sneak through Bahra, one of them would have sacrificed themselves so that he may pass. If the sacrificial companion survived the Yuhra then they will be in the close vicinity of the village itself.

(Beat, smiles)

Bring them to me.

KAILEEN

And how may I do that?

ERENIUS

Utilize the skills you were gifted with.
Man or woman, they will not be able to
resist your charms.

KAILEEN

My pleasure.

Kaileen begins to transform. Erenius smiles as-

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT -- DAY

The sun is eclipsed. But it still shines down upon the golden surface of the waking desert below. A lizard crawls up a dune, towards a field of dead cacti.

OFF SCREEN: Huffing and puffing...

Darius emerges, followed closely by Milo and Maralda, and finally Orion.

Darius pulls the flask from his belt, he tips it into his mouth but no water comes out. Orion throws his flask to Darius who takes the last few drops and sighs with relief. Maralda and Milo drink from their almost empty flasks.

Orion stands on the dune, he puts his hand over his eyebrows and looks out, shielding his eyes from the sun. The palace doesn't seem to be getting any closer but there's something in the close distance, like a cave of some sort surrounded by white bones.

ORION

What is that?

Orion starts walking down the dune. Darius clips both flasks to his belt and takes a deep breath.

DARIUS

Bloody sand, I've had enough of it to
last five lifetimes.

EXT. TITAN GRAVEYARD -- CONTINUOUS

Orion enters the graveyard where dozens of large ribcages, bones, skulls and more lie. It's the graveyard of the Titan race.

MARALDA

Titans? Where the heck are we?

ORION

No idea at all. Darius, any clues?

DARIUS

None.

Milo runs his hand along the ribcage of one of the Titans, its skull is lengthy and wide, one eye, a Cyclops Titan.

MILO

What happened to them all?

DARIUS

Time happened. The Titans were only ever created to serve as guardians or keepers. Once their duty was done they were left to rot. But why here?

Sand begins to move.

They feel the ground shake beneath their feet. All of them look around, the sand is caving in- DARIUS SLIPS into some sort of pit and the sand becomes quick and he starts falling through.

Orion grabs his hand but he's unable to pull him up. The sand is too strong, Maralda leans out and reaches Darius' hand. Milo runs off-

MARALDA

Milo come back!

Milo is gone-

ORION

Damn it!

Orion tries pulling Darius out of the quicksand. Maralda is trying her best too, the both are sighing with effort.

MARALDA

(Effort)

He's slipping - I can't hold him!

ORION

(Effort)

Hold on Darius!

The sand is up to Darius' neck and he starts to go under when- MILO RUNS IN WITH AN ARM BONE- He leans over the two, Darius sees it and grabs the bone, Orion and Maralda grab onto the bone and the three yank Darius out of the sand and to safety.

The sinkhole opens and all sorts of stuff comes flying out of it. Embers, as if there's fire down there and rocks.

The sinkhole closes. All of them look on, relieved.

DARIUS

That was unpleasant.

ORION

Uh-huh.

Orion looks at Milo who is panting.

ORION (cont'd)

Thanks, Milo.

MILO

No problem.

Darius and Orion get back to their feet. They look over the desert towards the palace.

Orion wipes the sand off his clothes, Darius does the same.

ORION

Who thinks we should find out where we are now? Before anything else tries to kill us.

DARIUS

I agree.

MARALDA

Yeah, let's get out of this graveyard.

Orion leads them through the graveyard. They pass half a dozen Titan skeletons as they continue towards the palace in the distance. The closer they get, the further away it seems.

INT. INFIRMARY -- NIGHT

Noah is resting on a bed, a woman doctor is tending to him. He's badly wounded.

Wesirt and Carmac are standing by his bedside.

CARMAC

That was too bloody close. Where the heck did Draagon find the Reiss?

WESIRT

You know as well as I that Draagon can conjure beasts from beyond the grave. He knows his way around death.

VARLDEN (O.S.)

That's putting it lightly. I've fought him before, three times to be precise.

Varlden enters and hands a goblet to Carmac. It's filled with water, Carmac takes a few gulps.

Tusk enters.

TUSK

We lost many warriors in Garna City. He had us scouted, he knew our plan.

VARLDEN

It seems as if we have a snitch in our ranks, what do you think, Wesirt?

WESIRT

(Stands up)

I would agree. But who?

CARMAC

It's not one of my men, they wouldn't dare betray me.

TUSK

Well it wasn't a Minotaur. We decided against that life years ago.

Varlden thinks of who it could be.

VARLDEN

What about the Guild?

WESIRT

No. They wouldn't.

VARLDEN

How could you know that? They've been missing for near on a decade, who knows what they've become? It's plausible at least, we have to find them, see what they know. If they know about the Prince. And how much they know of our plan.

WESIRT

It wouldn't make any sense, the Guild went into hiding, if there were a member anywhere near Garna then Noah would have known.

TUSK

I thought they were human?

WESIRT

They were, long ago.

CARMAC

(To Tusk)

They're half-blood's. They appear human but they have markings over their body. Like - symbols, insignias. Something that the Guild could recognize fellow leaders with, a common mark. Above their right eye.

TUSK

They can't be too hard to find.

VARLDEN

You'd think that, but they're capable of things none of us - even Wesirt - could dream of doing. They give off a filter, something that can cause the eye to stray away from them.

TUSK

A perception filter?

WESIRT

Yes. None of us, Elves, Dwarves, Human. Not even I can see them.

TUSK

I do not need to.

Carmac smiles. Tusk makes a good point.

TUSK (cont'd)

Minotaur's can smell them. Give us a little time and we'll find the snitch. If there is one that is.

Tusk walks out of the door. Wesirt sits back down, Noah groans in pain as the female doctor wipes a damp cloth on his forehead. Varlden looks at Carmac.

VARLDEN

Something on your mind, Carmac?

CARMAC

Perhaps having a Minotaur on our side
is useful after all.

Varlden smiles.

EXT. RIVENOAK COURTYARD -- CONTINUOUS

Tusk is talking to the remaining five Minotaur's that are
left after the battle of Garna City.

Carmac walks over, Tusk turns around.

TUSK

Do you need something, human?

CARMAC

If you're heading out, me and my men
will be more than glad to aid you.

TUSK

Now you wish to fight beside us?

CARMAC

From what I've seen you're trustworthy.
I know you won't turn on us, I just hope
you can see that we will not turn on you.

TUSK

We require no help.

CARMAC

So proud, but you know we can help.

TUSK

(To Claw)

Claw, what do you think?

CLAW is huge, at least 8 foot tall and broad. Quite mean
looking too.

Claw sniffs at the air.

CLAW

An alliance with the humans. It might work, giving that they don't do something stupid and get us captured.

CARMAC

Then we have an accord.

Carmac waves over at his eleven remaining men. They run over.

TUSK

Finely balanced. Two humans to one of us. Stay in the city, if we're here then it is likely the spy is. Trust your senses.

Two humans to a Minotaur, all of them spread out. Tusk and Carmac along with a troop walk through the courtyard gate into the city.

EXT. DESERT WELL -- DAY

Orion stumbles towards a well. He pulls a rope up, there's a leather sack attached to it. He checks it, but the sack is filled with sand.

ORION

Give me a break.

MARALDA (O.S.)

(Shouting)

Any water up there?

ORION

No!

DARIUS (O.S.)

Bloody hell!

Milo stands next to Orion. The two walk down the dune and as they do something starts coming towards them- It's covered in sand, but it's huge. At least 17 foot tall wielding a gigantic sword.

Darius and Maralda walk around the dune and join the two who are just staring ahead at the beast approaching them.

MARALDA

Whoa!

ORION

What in the name of-

DARIUS

I think we should run.

ORION

(Looks around)

To where?

MILO

There's a bridge, over there!

Milo points northeast, the bridge leads over a canyon of sand. But it's a long run. At least 2 miles.

DARIUS

It's worth a shot.

ORION

After the last bridge?

DARIUS

Not the time, Orion!

(Beat)

RUN!

They start running for the bridge. The huge colossal beast starts running too, only as the beast runs the ground quivers and shakes as if it's scared.

The beast emerges from the light sand flurry and reveals- GOLDEN SKIN, PALE WHITE EYES, it looks like a huge troll but it's not a troll, the sword it carries is attached to its arm and the handle is sand which flows around its arm, the blade is metal.

Orion and the others reach the bridge. They run across it. Below them is a stream of water, a low stream of water which is barely off the ground.

The beast stops at the bridge as they make it across. Orion looks over, SAND BLASTS APART and the beast transforms into a GLIDING MONSTER with HUGE WINGS. Like a giant eagle it swoops down and attacks. Orion pulls out the sword of light and thrusts it upwards, striking the beast.

The beast EXPLODES into sand which floats away in the wind. Orion, Darius and Maralda look on wild eyed as if to say "what the hell just happened" and Milo is staring into the distance.

ORION

Okay, this is getting weird.

DARIUS

Uh-huh.

FADE TO:

INT. CAVERN -- MOMENTS LATER

Orion, Darius, Maralda and Milo walk through a cavern of some sort. It's got a cool wind blowing through it, there's drawings on the walls, like caveman drawings showing different things. Sword fighting, arrows shooting, Erenius rising from the depths of the underworld.

MARALDA

Well we're definitely getting somewhere.

ORION

Why'd you say that?

Maralda points up. They see a skull with fire above it being worshipped by dozens of people in prayer. It's a strange object, the eyes of the skull are GLOWING GOLD.

DARIUS

A symbol?

MARALDA

Did you ever read the Travels of Bakka?
It spoke of the symbol, it's ancient
Midranian. The Fire Skull.

DARIUS

(Enthused)

The Fire Skull?

MARALDA

The one and only.

ORION

What the heck's a Fire Skull?

They pass under the archway into-

INT. CAVERN PASSAGE -- CONTINUOUS

MARALDA

It's an ancient ritual object used
to communicate with the Gods.

ORION

So the Fire Skull is what exactly?

DARIUS

It's a God's skull, lad.

ORION

Right, but what God?

DARIUS

Heru, the God of Fire.

ORION

Fire Skull, God of Fire -
(Awkward smile)
Sounds about right.

MARALDA

As I said back on the ship, no brains
among looks. Proven fact.

Maralda smiles. Orion sniggers and Darius claps him on the back. Milo passes Orion without a look as he follows the others.

INT. CELESTIAL WORSHIP CHAMBER -- MOMENTS LATER

Torches dangle from the walls on brass holders, still alight after centuries. Cobwebs, spiders dangling from them all over the place. Rats walking amongst rusted blades and arrows. Skeletons on the ground and some in worship, they died but are still praying to the fire skull altar.

The four enter. But see no skull, there's a painting of it on the wall, dusty and old. But no skull, it's gone.

ORION

I see no skull.

Darius checks the altar, it's still showing that the skull was there, as dust surrounds a small circle where the skull would have sat. It's been taken quite recently.

DARIUS

Dust suggests that the skull was taken from its resting place on the altar quite recently. I do not think we're alone.

Maralda is looking at the wall. She sees a man, standing on a ridge overlooking the vast desert. He's near a palace.

MARALDA

(Cautious)

Oh no. We can't be-

MILO

The palace, the desert, that man?

(Looks at Maralda)

It's impossible that we're here.

DARIUS

And why is that, Milo?

MILO

This place was lost centuries ago, back during the war. When the Dark Lord was in charge of the fortress in Farckona.

ORION

Fortress?

MILO

It wasn't always a city. It used to be where Elementals gathered to communicate with the Gods of Galadros. An altar so to speak.

DARIUS

And what does a worship chamber have to do with that?

MARALDA

It's not just a worship chamber. I used to read about this place, about the warrior who fought Erenius and had his army betray him.

DARIUS

(Worried)

Tereis?

MARALDA

Yes.

Darius sighs, he knows who and what Tereis was.

ORION

Would someone explain to me what that means? Who is Tereis?

DARIUS

The lord of Galier.

ORION

We're in Galier?

DARIUS

Yes. The Fire Skull, the sand giant.
It all makes sense, Tereis used to worship
the God of Fire. And according to legend
Tereis asked him for something.

ORION

And whatever that something is makes it
more dangerous for us?

DARIUS

Much more dangerous.

Darius paces back and forth.

MARALDA

How are we in Galier?

DARIUS

The question is, how did we get here
from Cambrio?

MILO

Perhaps Galier was put somewhere none
could find? A place where it would be
hidden, somewhere secure where Tereis
could not escape from.

ORION

That would explain why Cambrio vanished
when we went further into the sands. It
makes sense, maybe Galier and Cambrio
are connected, but only as long as they
need to be. We can't go back, so we go
forward.

MARALDA

You don't understand. Even if we go
forward there's no telling where we
might end up. Galier was put a second
out of time with the rest of the world.
There's no way out.

DARIUS

There's always a way out. Besides, why would Orion be sent to Cambrio, to get the sword if they knew he couldn't go back through that hut? They knew he'd come here, so there is a way out.

(Beat)

We need to move, get to that palace. I'm sure there's something there that will help us.

Darius starts walking, he walks through a passage. Orion and Maralda follow. Milo stares at the wall for a moment, looking upon the painting of Tereis, he fears it.

EXT. GALIER DESERT -- DAY

Darius emerges from the cave back into the desert. The palace is getting closer, Orion and Maralda step out. Milo a few seconds later.

A white hot pain hits Orion's leg. He sees the blade light up orange, he pulls the sword of light out and holds it in his hand. It's boiling hot, the blade is letting off fiery blasts.

Darius takes out his sword. Milo takes out his sword as Maralda loads an arrow into her bow.

Milo looks at Maralda's quiver.

MILO

Maralda, you should note that you only have four arrows left.

MARALDA

I'm well aware, Milo.

There's complete silence over the desert. The sand is floating on the air but there's no sound. That is until- A DOZEN SANDY FIGURES rise from the sand itself. Groaning, almost screeching. More sand wraiths.

Darius stabs one as it runs towards him. Wraith bursts into sand and creates two more which rise from the sand itself.

Maralda shoots an arrow and hits one in the head, it falls to the ground as- MILO STABS ONE THROUGH THE CHEST.

Orion twists around and slashes one across the stomach, the sword is pulsing light from the blade, he can feel it rush through him as if he is one with the sword itself.

Two sand wraiths attack Darius who manages to take one down, but the other grabs him as three run towards him.

Darius breaks the hold, Maralda shoots another arrow into another sand wraith as- Milo slides along the sand and slashes out a wraiths legs.

Orion's eyes turn black all of a sudden, his vision is darker, he can see the wraith's power source. In its chest.

Maralda sees Orion's eyes, she gasps as he holds the sword with two hands and- BLASTS THE DESERT WITH LIGHT!

The light dies down, Orion is laying on the sand. The sand wraiths are gone, Darius and Maralda are shielding their eyes and Milo is looking at Orion who is out of it.

Darius approaches, he kneels beside Orion. The sword is in the sand, the light vanishes from the blade.

DARIUS

Orion? Orion can you hear me?

Orion coughs and mumbles-

ORION

I'm okay.

Darius breathes a sigh of relief. Maralda hooks her bow back over her back and sees that she only has 2 arrows left.

MARALDA

What just happened, Orion?

DARIUS

What do you mean?

MARALDA

His eyes went black as if he were possessed by something.

DARIUS

(Concerned)

(To Orion)

Your eyes turned black?

ORION

I don't know.

TEREIS (O.S.)

Such power. Power I have not seen in centuries, but the one who wields it is ignorant of it. Such a shame to have such power and not be willing to understand it.

They turn around. Tereis is sitting on the sand giant. It's acting as somewhat of a dragon now. A huge lock of sorts around its neck, a black sphere which is also visible around Tereis' neck.

Maralda loads and aims her bow. Milo holds out his sword, Darius stands fast and Orion scurries over to his sword. The four stand off against Tereis and the sand giant.

ORION

What do you want, Tereis?

TEREIS

You are wise to my name, young man. Tell me, how is it you arrived in Galier?

DARIUS

Don't say anything, Orion.

Tereis smiles, arrogantly.

TEREIS

You believe I am dangerous to you?
Know that I am not a danger to you,
know that I am one who can help you
defeat the Dark Lord and cast his
armies back into the darkness they
came from.

DARIUS

I have a hard time believing that.
Even those we fight for know you to be
dangerous, they know what you did.

TEREIS

I raised an army from this sand and
attempted to stop the Dark Lord. Yet
I am deemed, wrong. I need to get out
of this wasteland, to finish my quest.

(Beat, at Orion)

So tell me, Prince. How is it you arrived
here? How is it you stand before me? How
is it you came to wield that sword?

ORION

You seem to know an awful lot about
me, yet I am blind as to who you are.

TEREIS

I am the Lord of Galier.

Orion looks on, he can see Tereis' intentions as clear as
day. He can read him, as if he knows him.

ORION

You were not only imprisoned here due
to Erenius' will, you had a plan to
destroy everything.

TEREIS

And so the coin drops.

(Beat, smiles)

I will allow you to pass if I am able
to be freed. Tell me how to escape.

DARIUS

Orion, do not tell him anything.

Tereis smiles, he clicks his fingers and- DARIUS VANISHES
UNDER A CLOUD OF SAND.

Orion, Maralda and Milo gasp.

ORION

Where is he?!

TEREIS

He is somewhere safe. But unless you
bring me the information I need you
shall never see him again. I want to
get out of here, and so do you. So if
you wish to see your beloved uncle again
then I suggest you bring me what I
require. You have three days.

Orion angrily approaches Tereis and the sand giant but they
disappear in a similar way to Darius.

ORION

Damn it!

Orion falls to his knees. Maralda rubs his shoulder with her
hand, he shrugs her off and stands up angrily.

MARALDA

Orion, I'm-

ORION

What is it he wants from me?

MARALDA

A way out, but we can't-

ORION

We have to. Darius is the only family
I have left.

Milo approaches.

He attempts to speak but Orion walks away.

MILO

Where are you going?

ORION

To the palace.

Milo and Maralda exchange looks as-

FADE TO:

EXT. RIVENOAK MARKET -- LATE AFTERNOON

Tusk and Carmac are looking through the market for the Guild member. But they can't find anything.

CARMAC

We've been searching for hours. The spy's not here, Tusk.

TUSK

He has to be.

GRUNT, another Minotaur of 8 foot tall approaches Tusk.

GRUNT

Sir, we've picked up a trail. Problem is the spy is not in the city, he's approaching the city.

TUSK

Approaching?

GRUNT

We believe the spy stowed away on one of the three ships that left Garna on the day of the attack. The ships are half a day from docking, sir. Once they arrive it should not be difficult to track the spy down.

Tusk looks at Carmac who seems impressed.

INT. INFIRMARY -- CONTINUOUS

Tusk, Carmac, Grunt, Varlden, Claw and Wesirt stand around Noah's bedside.

WESIRT

(To Grunt)

You're sure of this?

GRUNT

Our senses do not fail us, sir.

CARMAC

We will wait by the docks for the ships to approach, once docked none shall leave the ships. Minotaur's will stand guard at each gate, none will slip past them.

WESIRT

Good plan-

Noah is stirring. His eyes open, he looks over at the others.

NOAH

(Gasping)

Wa-Wat-Water.

Carmac hands Noah a flask of water. Noah takes a few gulps of it.

WESIRT

How do you feel, old friend?

NOAH

I've been better.

Varlden can sense something. He walks out of the door. Tusk and Carmac follow him. Wesirt does a few seconds later.

EXT. RIVENOAK COURTYARD -- STORMY WEATHER

They're all standing near the battlements looking out over the sea. It's rocky, stormy, the waves are heavy and large.

A storm overhead. It looks quite deadly. Black clouds, thunder and lightning.

VARLDEN

(Looks out)

Over there!

Two ships are visible as- RAIN POURS FROM THE SKY- Varlden, Tusk and Carmac walk down to the docks. Wesirt holds his staff up in the air and light blue orbs begin to hit the ships in the distance. Reeling them in, so to speak.

EXT. DOCKS -- CONTINUOUS

The two ships dock. People are whisked off the ships quickly. Minotaur's there, trying to sniff out the spy but nothing comes of it.

CAPTAIN SILAN (39) with a scruffy black beard, a blue hat and a blue uniform approaches Wesirt.

WESIRT

I thought three ships left Garna?

SILAN

Captain Stub's ship disappeared just east of the Trekolan Woods a few hours ago. We tried to turn around but the storm wouldn't allow it, we had to leave them behind.

WESIRT

You're sure of this?

SILAN

I saw it vanish.

WESIRT

Then get your people inside the city. You'll find shelter at the citadel.

Wesirt approaches Tusk.

TUSK

Nothing yet sir, no Guild members.

WESIRT

That's because they're not on either of these ships. Stub's ship disappeared east of the Trekolan Woods. I believe you know it?

TUSK

I do.

WESIRT

Take a search party. If the ship is there then you have to move fast, Tusk. Understood?

TUSK

Yes sir.

The ships empty, the docks empty, all the people are gone. Tusk approaches Carmac.

TUSK (cont'd)

We must travel to the Trekolan Woods.

CARMAC

You're sure of this?

TUSK

The Elemental was.

CARMAC

Then we will follow you.

INT. INFIRMARY -- CONTINUOUS

Noah is asleep, he twitches. A man is standing at the foot of his bed. Pale white skin, blue streams like veins running up his face, white eyes. Wearing a black robe with a hood over his head.

A chill runs up Noah's spine. He wakes up, gasps as- NOTHING. The man is gone, there's no one there.

Noah's eyes flutter and close once more...

FADE TO:

EXT. GALIER DESERT -- NIGHTFALL

The sky is turning red, the sun slowly descending beyond the palace in the distance and the moon, crescent and tranquil begins to fade in.

Orion clammers up a dune, he stands on top and sees that the palace is not far away. Winds pick up, sand begins to twirl on the breath of the gods.

Maralda and Milo join Orion, who seems a ghost without Darius.

ORION

The palace is just over the bridge.

MARALDA

Storm's picking up again, must be a frequent here. We'll have to find shelter and continue in the morning.

ORION

Find shelter if you wish, I'm going to find my Uncle.

Orion starts going down the dune. Maralda sighs.

MARALDA

We can't keep going, Orion. If the storm is anything like this morning we'll be cut to pieces. We won't be able to do much good if we're tired and wounded. We have to take shelter and rest.

ORION

I'm finding my Uncle.

MILO
She's right, Orion. We-

ORION
(Angry)
Who are you to tell me what to do?
(Beat)
Who are you?

Milo looks on, somewhat ashamed or hiding something.

ORION (cont'd)
Why should I give a damn what you say?
(Beat, snide)
You're nothing more than a straggler we
picked up, that's all you are to me.

MARALDA
Orion, he's right. See reason here.

ORION
Reason?
(Laughs)
How long have we known each other? How
long did you know the truth about me?

MARALDA
I was told not to tell you.

ORION
By Tebek? Where is he now huh? Gone,
that's where. He's gone, Maralda. He
left us, and you knew all that time about
my parents, and you never said a damn
thing to me about it.

MARALDA
Orion I-

ORION
Save it.

Orion walks off, angrily.

MILO

Leave him, Maralda.

Maralda looks at Milo, she sees something in him that she can trust.

Orion continues walking towards the palace in the distance.

Maralda sighs and walks after him, Milo follows her closely.

EXT. CRESCENT CANYON -- MOMENTS LATER

Orion walks down the steps. Not even caring if they're following him or not. Maralda and Milo approach a few seconds later.

Orion walks over the bridge. Maralda and Milo do the same. They reach the far side, below the bridge is nothing more than rocks and sand, a dried river bed.

INT. CAVE -- CONTINUOUS

OFF SCREEN: Water trickling...

Orion enters the cave, there's a small fountain of water on the western wall of the cave. He takes his flask and fills it up. Milo and Maralda do the same.

MARALDA

Orion, I'm sorry.

ORION

I have heard that so many times over the past few weeks that I can't bear the word anymore. Save your apologies until we find Darius.

MILO

And what's your plan for Tereis?

ORION

He wants a way out, I'll give him one.

MILO

(Laughs)

Not likely.

ORION

Why?

MILO

Because we don't have a way out yet. Tereis is smart, you send him in the wrong direction he'll know it before we get your uncle back. I fear the consequences if that were to happen.

ORION

So what am I supposed to do, let Darius die?

MILO

No. You tell him how to get out when we find the exit.

MARALDA

That's madness.

MILO

I didn't say we let him leave.

ORION

(Curious)

I take it you have a way?

MILO

We tell him the way out, and meet him at the exit.

ORION

By meet him, you mean kill him?

MILO

You have the sword, and the power.

Orion shakes his head.

MARALDA

He can't kill, Tereis. You know that, Milo.

ORION

Why can I not kill him?

MARALDA

He's got an amulet, a very rare amulet.

MILO

Remember when Darius spoke of Tereis asking for something from the God of Fire? Well, he asked for an amulet. And these amulets can only be worn by Gods. So with that being said, Tereis is essentially. A God.

ORION

And I have the weapon that can kill the Dark Lord. What's the problem?

MARALDA

The sand giant has one too. Tereis must have split it in two to keep himself safe. With two amulets, Tereis is more powerful than Erenius.

ORION

Then we kill the giant first.

MILO

Easier said than done.

ORION

What do you mean?

MILO

It's a shape shifter. My people called it the Dread, for it contained all of Tereis' darkest fears and made them its strength.

ORION

It must have a weakness?

MARALDA

It's a shape shifter, Orion. They are capable of changing their weak points. We'd never be able to strike it down quick enough.

ORION

Why is it you always see the glass half full? There's always a way, Maralda.

Orion walks around the corner. Maralda shakes her head, Milo follows on.

EXT. GRATHAN -- NIGHT

Under the globe of Grathan sits a quiet village of people living in tents and small huts. A large oval shaped citadel sits on the grass near the back of the city. Where dozens of troops are gathered in equal lines.

Tebek is talking to a man in armour on the stand in front of the citadel.

FIRENZE (32) with long black ponytailed hair, a black goatee with no moustache and a scar down his left eye from a battle with a goblin. He's tall, and fierce looking with dark black eyebrows to match his dark hair and golden hazel eyes.

FIRENZE

The men are worried, sir. They say that this shall be the last night of Grathan, that the dome shall fall.

TEBEK

Grathan will not fall but I cannot say the same for the troops, some will die.

FIRENZE

And we are ready for that, sir. When our hand is called, we shall not fight against it.

Tebek nods. Firenze rejoins his soldiers.

Villagers pour onto the grass to see Tebek and hear his words.

TEBEK

I am under the impression that many of you fear what is about to come. But I assure you, there is nothing to fear.

(Beat, looks around)

The Dark Lord wishes to destroy those who oppose him, he fears what might become of him if our forces remain strong. I say, let him fear us for he does not know what awaits him at the end of this age old war. His fear will be our strength in the coming days. His fear will be his biggest weakness at the end and sooner rather than later his forces shall fall and his empire shall crumble into the darkness he created.

The soldiers nod, some make sounds of approval. The villagers seem confident.

TEBEK (cont'd)

Let me remind you that we fight for one who holds the key to our salvation. His father sent him to me many years ago as an orphaned child. I have received word that the boy has reached the city of Cambrio and that he now holds that key.

(Beat)

Today will mark the first day in our defence of Midras. The first day of the final war. We must find courage even though this threat is more prominent than any before. But I will make a promise to you all, here and now. That this day, we will not fall. We will not rest. We will survive. We will defeat the army that threatens our city and we will drive them back to Farckona with their heads in their hands and shame on their faces.

The army cheer, the villagers cheer. Firenze nods at Tebek who nods back as he stands off the stage.

Tebek shakes Firenze's hand and walks into the citadel as cheers continue during the night-

INT. CITADEL CHAMBER -- CONTINUOUS

A silver sphere hangs in mid air in the centre of an oval shaped room. There's bookshelves stocked with tons of reading material and a desk in the northwest corner of the room. A fountain near the door in which Tebek enters.

Tebek rushes his hand over the fountain. The water ices over and it becomes a two-way mirror. Wesirt's on the other side.

TEBEK

My men are ready.

WESIRT

Good. Grathan must not fall, Tebek.

TEBEK

(Looks at sphere)

As long as our walls remain strong and the dome does not fall, the city will remain.

WESIRT

A heavy storm is leaving us helpless. But I shall find a way to reach you if things go bad. You have my word.

TEBEK

What news of Garna City?

WESIRT

It fell, Draagon had a spy within the walls. I trust you have checked the grounds?

TEBEK

What spy?

WESIRT

We believe it to be a Guild member.

TEBEK

The Guild would betray us?

WESIRT

I am not sure, for the first time in many moons I am not sure. But if they have then I have a suspicion that one is in Grathan. Guard the power, Tebek.

TEBEK

(Looks at sphere)

I shall have two men stay within the citadel, but if I remain inside and the spy is here. Then they shall know something is wrong.

WESIRT

I always knew there was a reason Khan sent the boy to you. Wise even in the darkest of times.

TEBEK

With all do respect, I had a good teacher.

Wesirt smiles.

WESIRT

I wish you luck, Tebek.

The ice breaks apart, the water returns. Tebek walks out of the room. The sphere still hangs in mid air, a blue spark flickers off the top...

EXT. GALIER ENTRANCE -- NIGHT

Orion, Maralda and Milo are standing near two pillars or columns with spread eagled stone falcons on top. That's the symbol of Galier.

The stone around the city, mostly on the palace has cracked and crumbled over the years. Almost nothing is intact.

ORION

This place looks a thousand years old.

MARALDA

It used to be the most beautiful city in the kingdom, until Tereis gained control.

Maralda points over the four foot broken wall to a monolith in the distance, surrounded by dead trees just in front of the great palace roughly 40 miles away.

ORION

What is it?

MARALDA

That monolith in the distance, it was the source of power before the war. According to the history books the monolith was destroyed by Tereis to avert anyone gaining more power than he.

Orion looks at the sword, he remembers:

EXT. CAMBRIO COURTYARD -- FLASHBACK

Orion and Assassin with clashed swords.

ASSASSIN

You are not capable of that power.

EXT. GALIER ENTRANCE -- PRESENT

MARALDA

Orion? Are you-

ORION

(Wonder)

You don't think?

MILO

You think the monolith can give you the power the future version of yourself had back in Cambrio, don't you?

ORION

It would make sense. Why else would I have come here? Why else would Galier be the place I travelled to?

MARALDA

Orion, the power of the monolith was feared even by the Gods themselves. No man can wield them, not without rupturing himself.

ORION

I know the risks: Take the power and split my soul, or leave it and our hope to chance.

(Looks at Maralda)

I have the sword, maybe this is what I was supposed to discover here. We have to try.

MARALDA

(Understanding)

I know.

Orion nods in approval of her words. The two exchange deep looks as Orion turns away from her. She seems conflicted, Milo pats her on the shoulder.

MILO

Are you all right?

MARALDA

(Wondering)

Who are you, Milo? Really?

MILO

You'll find out - soon.

MARALDA

Why don't you just tell me?

MILO

Not everything can be told. Some things
need to be discovered.

Milo follows Orion. Maralda doesn't know what to think, he's somewhat evasive to her.

EXT. GALIER STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Wind rushes past Orion, the bricked pavements are covered in sand. The houses, shacks and inns are all boarded up and there's an old sign outside an old pub on the left hand side dangling by one chain from the roof reading "The Dog's Leg".

Orion turns the corner and- SKELETON! Orion gasps, Milo and Maralda come around the corner and gasp too. Orion kneels down and looks upon the skeleton.

Some of its clothes are still intact, yet torn and ripped all the same. His teeth are rotting and some of the flesh remains on his face and left hand.

ORION

That's not possible. Maralda, how long ago was Galier lost?

MARALDA

Centuries, why?

ORION

Then how come he's still rotting?

OFF SCREEN: Bones cracking...

Orion turns around, Maralda and Milo slowly turn around to see- SKELETONS! Moving! Walking quite slowly, some dragging their legs across the ground. Their eyes, with strange red orbs with spiking veins. They're all walking towards the three.

Maralda takes out her bow and loads an arrow. The skeleton grabs Orion's arm. Orion quickly moves away and the three back into a corner as the skeletons, numbering around the dozen approach them.

Orion and Milo take out their swords. The blade isn't glowing on the sword of light, which is unusual.

MARALDA

How do you kill a skeleton?

ORION

Cut off their head!

Orion slashes through the neck bone and cuts off a skeleton's head. But the body keeps walking towards him.

MILO

Do you have an idea that doesn't anger them more!?

ORION

Not really!

MARALDA

Use the power, Orion.

(Beat, looks on)

Like in the desert.

ORION

I can't!

MARALDA

Why not?

ORION

Because I don't know how it works!

MILO

I have a plan!

ORION

What, Milo?

MILO

They're slow!

ORION

Yeah, and?

MILO

We can run away!

ORION

Oh that'll look good, the great warrior of Farckona, heir to the throne and only person in the world that can defeat the Dark Lord and I run away from skeletons!

MARALDA

We don't have much of a choice!

Orion is running off already.

Maralda sighs and she and Milo chase after Orion quickly-

EXT. BARN -- CONTINUOUS

Maralda and Milo run in the same direction as Orion but he's gone. They back against a wall as- TWO HANDS COVER THEIR MOUTHS. Orion pulls them into-

INT. SHACK -- CONTINUOUS

Maralda and Milo look at Orion angrily as the skeletons pass.

MILO

What was that?

ORION

Your plan.

MARALDA

What about the speech?

ORION

Well I figured I could trust you.

Maralda is laughing. Milo smirks.

ORION (cont'd)

Besides, you wouldn't want to tell on the great saviour of Midras, would you?

MARALDA

It depends on what you're offering in return, Prince.

ORION

Are you bartering with me, Maralda?

MARALDA

Maybe.

The two smile at one another. Orion seems lighter now, he doesn't seem as angry as he was.

EXT. GALIER CITY -- NIGHT

The moon hangs high in the sky. The city is quiet, creaking shacks and banging signs are the only sounds.

INT. SHACK -- CONTINUOUS

Milo is asleep near the fireplace which is lit quite dimly. Orion is sitting by the old dinner table which has gathered some dust over the years. The plates are still there, along with knives and forks from a planned dinner that never happened.

Orion is holding the pendant Darius gave him in his hand. The inscription on the back is engraved, he can feel his father's initials. He's thinking of them.

He looks over at Maralda who snorts as she rolls over. He smiles.

Orion looks out upon the city, at the sky above upon the moon.

He then gazes upon the pendant once again. Deeply.

He pulls out the letter that came with him in the cradle, it's quite weathered and crispy so he's careful when he opens it. He reads from the letter, quietly.

ORION

(To Himself)

The winds of fate have turned on us.
It has begun. Take our child, raise him,
protect him - Khan.

(Beat, emotional)

Father, if you're listening. I know
what you did, and I will never forget
it.

Maralda walks up to Orion. She wipes her eyes and sits in the chair next to him.

MARALDA

Hey.

ORION

Hi.

Maralda holds out her hand. Orion places the letter in her hand, she reads it and then looks at him again.

ORION (cont'd)

(Emotional, sad)

They never even saw me walk.

MARALDA

(Caring)

They'll always be with you.

Maralda puts her hand in Orion's and he squeezes her gently. He looks at her with a look in his eye of sadness and regret. He feels responsible for his parents' death.

Orion gazes out the window once more, upon the moon that shines ever so brightly over the city.

EXT. GALIER CITY -- CONTINUOUS

The moon hangs in the sky for a few seconds as- BIRDS FLY FROM THE MONOLITH AND OVER THE PALACE.

FADE TO:

INT. INFIRMARY -- NIGHT

Wesirt, Varlden and Grunt stand by Noah's bed.

VARLDEN

Any news from Carmac or Tusk?

WESIRT

They're approaching the Trekolan woods.
Should be there within the next day.

VARLDEN

(To Grunt)

Why do they call you "Grunt"?

GRUNT

We Minotaur's are named due to our nature. Some say I act annoyed and bored, so "Grunt" was considered a perfect name.

VARLDEN

And Claw?

GRUNT

He has sharp claws.

Varlden smirks.

NOAH

(Tired)

Water - please.

Wesirt hands Noah a goblet of water. Noah sits up, he puts the goblet on the counter and grasps at his ribs in pain.

WESIRT

Try not to move, you're still recovering.

NOAH

Did the ships - make it?

WESIRT

Two of the three.

NOAH

One's missing?

WESIRT

The Trekolan woods. A group have been sent to recover the crew.

NOAH

Why there?

VARLDEN

A spy infiltrated Garna City. One of the Guild slipped information to Draagon, that's why the city fell.

NOAH

A Guild member? You're sure?

WESIRT

Yes.

Noah cringes in pain. Grunt walks over to the bedside and checks on Noah's stitches. He grabs a few maggots from the bowl and sticks them into the wound.

NOAH

What are you doing?

GRUNT

Calm yourself down, the maggots shall help clean the wound.

NOAH

You could have warned me.

GRUNT

You saw me put my hand into the bowl.

NOAH

I thought you were going to eat them.

Grunt looks at Wesirt and Varlden, even he's disgusted.

GRUNT

(Disgust)

That's disgusting.

Grunt has a "yuck" expression on his Minotaur face.

Wesirt shows a flicker of a smile.

EXT. TREKOLAN WOODS OUTSKIRTS -- NIGHT

The weather is terrible. Rain literally pouring from the sky, thunder and lightning in the clouds above.

Carmac and Tusk make their way through the forest. A Loris, a very strange little creature with big bulgy eyes sits on a branch chewing a leaf, unaware of the storm.

Carmac is drenched, Tusk's fur is wet and he hates it, his face tells the whole story.

TUSK

I bloody hate the rain.

CARMAC

What? A big brute like you?

TUSK

Watch yourself, lieutenant. We hate those that aim sarcasm towards us.

CARMAC

(Claps Tusk on shoulder)

I was just saying. Calm down.

TUSK

It's the fur you see, makes it all sticky and stringy. It's horrible.

Carmac smiles as- GROUND GIVES OUT- Carmac slips into a hole but Tusk grabs his hand, he yanks him back up and dusts the lieutenant off.

TUSK (cont'd)

You must watch where you're going.

CARMAC

Uh-huh.

The hole has spikes in it. It was a trap.

TUSK

We're in Hunter territory now.

CARMAC

Indeed we are, thank you Tusk.

TUSK

Don't mention it, lieutenant.

Carmac leads them on a safe route through the woods, as a matter of fact it looks more of a jungle than a woodland.

INT. SHACK -- DUSK

Orion is asleep with his head in his hands on the table. Maralda is asleep on the floor near the now fireless fireplace. Milo is near the table, he's trying to get the pendant from the table.

His hand reaches for it when- SNAP! Orion grabs his wrist and shoves him against the wall. Splintering the wood. Maralda hears the bang and wakes up.

MARALDA

Orion what are you doing!!?

ORION

He tried to steal my father's pendant.

Maralda is shocked. Orion is holding Milo against the wall by the scruff of his shirt.

MILO

Orion, please-

ORION

(Angry)

Who are you?!!!

MILO

I'm not trying to-

ORION

(Angry)

Enough games! Who are you?

MARALDA

Orion stop.

ORION

Stay out of this, Maralda.

MILO

I just wanted to see it.

ORION

Then why didn't you ask? Why did you
act like a thief and try to take it?

Milo doesn't answer. Maralda gently grabs Orion's arm. He looks at her and lets Milo go.

Orion grabs the pendant from the table and puts it over his neck, it dangles under his shirt.

ORION (cont'd)

(Annoyed)

We have to get to the monolith.

Orion grabs his belt, hooks it around his waist and walks out of the door. Maralda looks at Milo, darkly.

MILO

Maralda I'm-

Maralda grabs her bow and quiver with the two arrows inside and walks out of the shack before Milo can finish her sentence.

Milo sighs, he knows he did wrong.

EXT. BARN -- CONTINUOUS

Orion leans on the wooden rail. He looks into the pens where the horses once laid at night.

Maralda approaches, cautiously.

MARALDA

Orion, he's curious is all.

ORION

I don't trust him.

MARALDA

Neither do I.

ORION

It's strange that he turns up at the hut in Bahra, knows how to open the gate to Cambrio and has an interest in a pendant that doesn't open.

MARALDA

Look, we might not trust him but clearly he's with us for a reason. Maybe we should let him tell us in his own time.

ORION

It's not that. It's what I said, my other self said, in Cambrio. About his secret.

MARALDA

You do not know if it was true or not.

ORION

Maybe, maybe not. But there's something about him I don't like.

Milo walks out of the shack.

Orion turns to face him, so does Maralda.

MILO

I'm sorry about the pendant.

ORION

(Lying)

It's fine. In future though, just ask
before you take.

Milo nods.

Orion sighs and turns around, as he does- SAND ENGULFS THE ALLEYWAY- When the sand clears Maralda is gone and Tereis is sitting upon the Dread whose floating above in the air.

TEREIS

You are not very good at following
orders are you, Prince?

ORION

What have you done? Where is she?!

TEREIS

She is with your beloved uncle. Find the
way out of here and tell me how to escape.
And I shall return them to you as I
promised.

ORION

Bring her back!

TEREIS

I'm afraid that is not the deal we
agreed upon.

ORION

I never agreed on a deal. Bring her back
or I won't help you.

Tereis laughs.

TEREIS

Two days, Prince. Aid my escape from this barren wasteland and I shall return those you care about most. If not, then you will never see them again.

Sand EXPLODES and Tereis DISAPPEARS. Orion and Milo cough as the sand clears. The two exchange looks, woeful looks.

They start running towards the monolith in the distance.

FADE TO:

EXT. GRATHAN OUTSKIRTS -- DAY

Nefret sits upon his horse attired with golden armour. Hordes of Sikaro stand behind him in flocks. Thousands of them, all wearing gold armour with orange glowing eyes.

The city is close. Nefret steps off his horse and walks towards the city, alone.

He reaches an invisible barrier just outside the city gate. He laughs and looks up at the wall where two dozen archers are aiming at him. Tebek standing in the middle looking down.

NEFRET

This was not the warm greeting I was expecting from you, brother. Are you not glad to see me after all this time?

TEBEK

You lost the right to call me brother when you sold your soul to the Dark Lord.

NEFRET

I think you are forgetting that it was my soul that gave you back the life that was so wrongfully taken from you.

TEBEK

I never wanted you to sell your soul to the Dark Lord, I never wanted this.

NEFRET

Regret of the survivor?

(Laughs)

I'm not here to fight you, brother. I'm here for the power which lies inside the city.

TEBEK

You will not pass through these walls.

NEFRET

There's always a way, brother.

Nefret turns his back on Tebek and walks back to his army. Tebek stops him by shouting-

TEBEK

(Shout)

What happened to you?

Nefret takes off his mask. His face is quite scarred but he looks like Tebek, a younger version with no facial hair.

NEFRET

I accepted who I was, brother.

TEBEK

You're his pawn, Nefret. Nothing more.

NEFRET

(Smiles)

The only pawn is one who listens to a master that talks to you from beyond a mirror. When was the last time you spoke you him in person?

Tebek doubts Wesirt for a moment, he walks out of sight. Nefret smiles and puts his mask back on. He goes back to his army.

Tebek gazes upon his soldiers with a dark expression on his face. He believes Wesirt hasn't helped him much. His expression shows it.

EXT. FOREST -- NIGHT

Halfway across Midras in the forests of Bahra, Ikres and Shadow are walking with the pixies flying behind them.

IKRES

So you were sent by the wanderer?

SHADOW

We've been tracking you for weeks. Ever since you left Baru as a matter of fact. We thought it was best to stick to the shadows to avoid any unwanted attention.

IKRES

You didn't want us to know you were following us?

SHADOW

It would have caused problems.

IKRES

There were countless times we could have used your help.

SHADOW

You were doing fine by my-

OFF SCREEN: Woman screaming...

Ikres and Shadow bolt towards the direction of the scream.

EXT. FOREST CAVE -- CONTINUOUS

A woman is being held by a band of Minotaur's. Ikres unsheathes his sword and runs over to help her. He slashes through the Minotaur's left arm and stabs it through the chest. Pixies unleash fiery blasts upon the four other Minotaur's as Shadow sends a bolt of lightning into the other.

The surviving four Minotaur's flee.

The woman (28) with long blonde hair, a white dress and blue eyes is lying on the ground. Terrified.

Ikres kneels next to her, she scurries back, he puts his sword on the ground and holds up his hands.

IKRES

I'm not going to hurt you.

The woman is scared to death.

SHADOW

What in the name of Alderin are they doing way out here?

IKRES

(To woman)

Tell me your name.

WOMAN

Selene.

IKRES

Selene, I'm Ikres. I'm here to help.

SELENE

My brother, they killed him.

IKRES

It's okay, no one else is going to get hurt. Not as long as I'm here.

SELENE

I - I couldn't save him - I was scared.

IKRES

That many Minotaur's anyone would be. It's okay, you're safe now.

SHADOW

I vote we head for Rivenoak. The woods aren't safe anymore, something could be watching.

SELENE

I can't. My leg, I think it's broken.

Ikres puts pressure on her leg, she cringes in pain.

IKRES

It's not broken, just bruised. Come on,
let's get to Rivenoak.

SELENE

I need to go home.

IKRES

It's not safe.

SELENE

I have to see if my family are okay.

SHADOW

We don't have time for this.

SELENE

Please, you saved my life. Help me.

IKRES

Where do you live?

SELENE

Just west of here, Derenia.

IKRES

(To Shadow)

Rivenoak's west too, it's worth a look.

SHADOW

All right, we head for Derenia but the
walk will take us a day at least.

SELENE

There's a passage that leads to the town
near the river. It's underground, my
people built it as a shortcut to take
half a day off.

IKRES

Then let's get to that passage.

Ikres helps Selene up. Shadow sheathes his sword and Ikres picks up his sword and sheathes it. The pixies follow as the three humans make their way through the woodland.

EXT. GALIER GATES -- DAY

Orion and Milo pass through the iron gates at the front of the market place. It's still around 20 miles to the palace itself. The Monolith is only 5 miles away.

The market stalls are old and tattered. Splintered wood, rotten canvases and skeletons lying around the ground with charred bones. Like they were burnt.

Milo kneels down and checks the skeleton nearest to him next to a market stall. He sees the charred bones.

MILO

Orion!

Orion turns around.

MILO (cont'd)

Look at this.

Orion kneels down and checks the skeleton, he sees the charred bones as well.

ORION

So they were killed by fire, what's the point and why are we wasting time?

MILO

Look around, the stalls aren't burnt.

ORION

It means nothing.

MILO

What if it does?

ORION

We're not here to solve an ancient mystery, Milo. We're here trying to save my friend and uncle. Nothing more.

MILO

The Fire Skull, the charred bones. Something's wrong.

ORION

Yes, we're worrying about skeletons that have been dead ten centuries instead of saving Maralda and Darius.

Three skeletons, identical to the ones back at the barn, rise from the ground with the same pattern as the others. Red eye sockets filled with light, they're moving towards Orion and Milo.

Orion takes out his sword, Milo does the same.

MILO

What is it they want?

ORION

How am I supposed to know?

The skeletons see the sword, they stop. One continues walking towards Orion, it approaches, but Orion does nothing.

MILO

What is it doing?

Orion looks at the skeleton, which seems as if it needs to say something. It extends its hand, and touches Orion's arm.

FLASH:

Orion sees a huge fire ball engulf people at the market. The entire city, engulfed in flames but only the people are killed.

FLASH ENDS. BACK TO PRESENT...

ORION

They were all murdered.

Skeleton nods.

MILO

By Tereis?

Skeleton extends its hand again, it touches Orion's wrist.

FLASH:

Tereis stands upon the west tower of the palace, looking down upon the city as the people burn to their deaths.

FLASH ENDS. BACK TO PRESENT.

ORION

Tereis didn't kill these people.

(Beat, darkly)

It was something else.

Skeleton grasps Orion's wrist once more-

FLASH:

INT. MONOLITH -- PAST

A spherical ball which pulsates small electric blasts is destroyed by Tereis.

EXT. GALIER -- CONTINUOUS

A mighty sandstorm engulfs the city after the sphere is destroyed. The entire kingdom of Galier is sent into a void where none can escape from. As it is known, the city is sent to the desert.

FLASH ENDS. BACK TO PRESENT...

EXT. GALIER MARKET PLACE -- PRESENT

The skeleton releases its hand and looks at Orion deeply.

MILO

What is it, Orion? What did you see?

ORION

I saw the monolith. The stories were wrong, Milo. Erenius never sent the city into the darkness, Tereis did.

MILO

No, the legend says-

ORION

He was trying to keep something in. He knew what the sacrifice was he had to make, he sealed Galier within a lock that could never be opened.

MILO

If that's true, then why does he want to get out of here now?

ORION

I don't know, but if we want to know I suggest we get to the monolith. More answers will be there.

The skeletons stand as Orion and Milo walk ahead. Orion turns back to them.

ORION (cont'd)

(To Skeleton)

I shall find the truth.

The skeleton nods.

Orion and Milo walk down the street amongst the destroyed buildings.

EXT. MONOLITH ENTRANCE -- MOMENTS LATER

Orion and Milo stand upon the bridge that leads into the monolith. The outside is covered in ancient Midranian wording as light blue streams flicker up the side like veins.

MILO

Are you sure about this?

ORION

Whatever is inside is important to us.
Even if it isn't the power, it will
tell us what we're up against.

MILO

If the vision you saw is true, then
everything we believed about Galier and
Tereis is a lie.

ORION

And we'll be one step closer to finding
out what truly happened here.

MILO

I didn't think you were interested in
ancient mysteries?

ORION

(Shrugs)

I'm intrigued.

Orion and Milo enter through the archway into the monolith.

EXT. TREKOLAN WOODS -- LATE AFTERNOON

Storm clouds above the forest continue to roll, rain falls
and thunder claps.

Carmac and Tusk carefully plot a course through the woods,
avoiding trip wires and booby traps that litter the ground
and trees above. Nets covered in leaves on the ground, the
trees have hoists that lift them.

TUSK

Over there!

Tusk points to the outer woods, where the ship is on the
beach.

EXT. BEACHED SHIP -- CONTINUOUS

Men are on the ship, checking it. Carmac and Tusk are standing on the beach. Two Minotaur's sniff the air, they see footprints on the sand and look into the woods where the prints lead.

SOLDIER #1

Nothing sir! No one on board!

CARMAC

What would possess them to enter the Trekolan woods? They know the story, the place is haunted.

CLAW

Footprints indicate that several men and a dozen women made their way east into the woods. But their course took them west back towards Rivenoak.

TUSK

Follow the trail, Claw. Take Snide and a few soldiers with you. Noah and I shall continue to pursue east. Maybe some took a diversion. Find the crew.

Claw nods, him and Snide take five soldiers and head into the forest. Tusk and Carmac await the seven soldiers to clamber off the ship.

CARMAC

(To Tusk)

Why would they head for Derenia?

TUSK

To seek shelter from the storm.

CARMAC

But the forest people hinder outsiders. Captain Stub is more wise than that.

Soldiers stand in front of Carmac and Tusk.

SOLDIER #2

Sir, we found this.

(Hands over shard of blade)

Some sort of blade, most likely a sword.

CARMAC

They fought something. Guild member perhaps? Only they failed and they escaped.

Tusk sniffs the air, he looks around. His point of view shows a golden trail in the air, it leads east down the beach into the darker side of the woods just as Claw said.

TUSK

Claw and Snide will attempt to track down the crew of the ship along with the captain. We will continue east into the darker side of the woods. We have to find the spy and by the looks of the trail the spy is badly wounded.

CARMAC

Then what are we standing around for?

Tusk and Carmac lead the soldiers down the beach as-

EXT. RIVENOAK COURTYARD -- LATE AFTERNOON

Wesirt is watching out over the sea by the battlements as-
GATES OPEN and- CENTAURS enter.

Lucero, Farin, Caruta, Paruun and Maira. The people look on, some bow to the centaurs and others nod.

WESIRT

Lucero, how goes the day?

LUCERO

Treacherous my friend, this storm hasn't let up since we left the village of Anvil.

WESIRT

It is good you're here.

FARIN

I smell Minotaur. Are there any present?

As Farin says that, a disgruntled Grunt comes walking out of the infirmary with his battle axe out.

GRUNT

(To Farin)

I thought I smelt half-breed.

FARIN

Know your place, Minotaur.

GRUNT

You have taken your time getting here.
We could have used your help in Garna
City.

Grunt and Farin look at one another darkly.

WESIRT

Old foes never become allies, I see.

FARIN

You're aligning yourself with these
beasts? For what purpose? You know as
well as I that Minotaur's serve the Dark
Lord.

WESIRT

Tusk and his brothers have joined our
cause, not all is as you would perceive
Farin.

FARIN

I have a hard time believing a Minotaur
would serve the light seekers.

WESIRT

As would I in believing that a Scira
and half-blood could work as one.

Caruta looks on.

FARIN

We're of the same race.

GRUNT

He is pure blood centaur, you are half.
The same race you might be but the same
type you are not.

Lucero clears his throat. Farin looks at his brother, and sighs.

LUCERO

(To Grunt)

Forgive my brother, Minotaur. I know
what Wesirt is speaking of, an alliance
between our races has been thought of
once before. This time perhaps, we will
be able to see things in the same light.

GRUNT

Call me, Grunt.

LUCERO

(Nods)

Your help is appreciated, Grunt.

Grunt nods. He looks at Farin and turns around, walking back into the infirmary.

FARIN

I do not think it's wise to have that
thing here. It's dangerous.

WESIRT

Whether you wish to have it here or
not, that is none of my concern. Right
now we need all the allies we can muster
so if you have a problem with it, I
suggest you leave.

LUCERO

That will not be necessary. We have
no problem working with Minotaur's.

WESIRT

I am glad to hear that.

LUCERO

I heard about Garna City. How is Noah?

WESIRT

Wounded, but he shall recover.

LUCERO

And Grathan?

WESIRT

On the eve of war.

LUCERO

Nefret?

WESIRT

Yes. I fear that Grathan might fall.

LUCERO

Grathan has never fallen, why would that change now?

WESIRT

The Guild.

LUCERO

The Guild?

FARIN

What business would the Guild have with Grathan?

WESIRT

We believe they have - changed their allegiance. A spy is believed to have infiltrated Garna City and given word to Draagon. Hence why the city fell into his hands, he knew our strategy and our warriors too well. As if someone told him how and where we would attack.

CARUTA
(Speaking Scira)
Herenales yune dula senk?

WESIRT
Yes, I believe so.

LUCERO
What did he say?

WESIRT
The Guild have turned on us.

Caruta looks around, he seems lost without trees.

Wesirt sighs, him and Lucero look out over the ocean.

LUCERO
We must reach Grathan.
(Beat, looks at Wesirt)
It might be their only chance.

Wesirt nods.

INT. MONOLITH CHAMBER 1 -- LATE AFTERNOON

Holes in the ground and on the ceiling. The walls lined with traps which spin up and down, rotating saw-like blades.

Orion runs through first, Milo next. Both make it through the chamber without a hinder.

INT. MONOLITH SANCTUARY -- CONTINUOUS

Orion and Milo reach the sanctuary.

MILO
Oh thank Alderin. I'm tired of traps.

ORION
It's nothing like the cave.

Milo raises his eyebrows.

ORION (cont'd)

It was littered with traps. Put one foot out of place and the entire room would collapse.

MILO

(Sarcastic)

That sounds - fun.

ORION

It was anything- hello.

Orion sees a statue on the north wall over a sarcophagus which is much like the Egyptian sarcophagi in the way it's built. In a way to mirror a king or leader, in this case, Tereis.

The sanctuary is littered with treasures, gold, necklaces, golden goblets, every piece of treasure you could possibly imagine.

Torches on golden holders dangle over the sarcophagus giving it light. Orion runs his hand over it and wipes the dust away. He places his hands on the side and pushes the lid away revealing- TEREIS, wrapped and preserved. His skin still fading away after nearly a thousand years.

ORION (cont'd)

(Shocked)

It's Tereis.

MILO

So if that's Tereis, then what's got Maralda and Darius?

ORION

I don't know.

Orion grabs an amulet from around Tereis' neck. He unclips the link and holds it in his hand. It's black, but has a glowing white light in the middle. Diamonds around the edges of the gold outer rim.

MILO

Is that an Amulet?

ORION

One part of the legend is true. I can feel it, the power that lies within.

Orion's sword glistens. He pulls it out and as he places the sword near the amulet the two BIND TOGETHER- The amulet wraps and engraves itself into the handle. The blade lights up ON FIRE and Orion holds it in his hand. He can feel the power pulsating through his body.

MILO

(Worried)

Orion?

Orion turns to face Milo with- BLACK EYES- identical to the desert. Orion looks at Milo, blinks and then returns his eyes to normal. He steps back and gasps as he looks upon the sword.

MILO (cont'd)

What's happening?

ORION

I can feel - everything.

Orion sheathes his sword and the fire goes out. He looks at Milo who seems quite worried.

MILO

Your eyes turned black again.

TEREIS (O.S.)

Of course they did...

Orion and Milo turn around, Orion takes out the sword, it burns as FIRE RISES from the blade and Orion's eyes turn black as Tereis emerges from the shadows.

ORION

I'm warning you, stay back.

TEREIS

I'm not going to harm you, Prince.

ORION

You kidnapped my friend and uncle.

TEREIS

That was not me.

Milo rushes his sword through Tereis but the sword does nothing but pass through his ghostly image.

ORION

You're the real, Tereis?

TEREIS

Yes.

ORION

How?

TEREIS

He who may wield the power of the amulet, commands the right to seek the truth about Galier. Therefore, summoning me from a sleep of centuries.

ORION

Why are you here?

TEREIS

Many years ago I watched my people burn in the fire which ravaged this once beautiful city. Nothing could rival the forests, and the great monolith stood tall, watching over the city and all within its walls. Until that beast emerged from the depths and laid claim to my home. It is the reason I destroyed the power and fractured the link with the kingdom of Midras. To stop it from escaping.

ORION

Stop what?

TEREIS

Skorge.

ORION

Skorge? As in the lord of the underworld?

TEREIS

That is one of its names, yes. But we know it as the demon of fire created by the god of fire himself, Heru.

(Beat)

I tried to destroy it myself, but lacked the means to do so. My power was not strong enough to tackle such a task. But the power within you - is different.

ORION

Black eyes, a fiery blade. That's it.

TEREIS

Your sword is not the true source of your power, Prince. The true source remains within you, it always has done. You just need to find it.

ORION

How am I supposed to do that?

TEREIS

How did you access it in the desert?

ORION

I saw my uncle in trouble and-

(Realises)

I can control it when those I care for are in danger.

TEREIS

That is one way of harnessing your gift. But I have another, the Fire Skull.

ORION

What?

TEREIS

You can destroy it. Break the link between Heru and Skorge. Once you have done that the power within you shall be freed. That is why you have come to this place, that is why you must escape from here.

ORION

And how do I escape Galier?

TEREIS

There's a small rupture within the palace dungeon. My amulet will allow you to pass through it, but only for a moment. The gate shall only open for a few seconds before it snaps shut again. And if that happens and you have not escaped, you will never leave this place.

ORION

Thank you.

Orion and Milo ready themselves to leave when-

TEREIS clears his throat.

They turn back to him.

TEREIS

You must destroy Skorge before you leave. The demon cannot leave Galier.

ORION

It won't.

FADE TO:

EXT. MONOLITH -- CONTINUOUS

Orion and Milo are outside of the monolith for no more than two seconds when- SKORGE in Tereis' form riding the Dread sends a shockwave of energy towards the ground which ripples the brickwork and sends Orion and Milo flying.

The ground cracks and breaks apart and the monolith begins to crumble and fall into a mighty sinkhole. Orion is rapidly sliding down the ground towards the sinkhole as the ground around him breaks apart, Milo slides down and Orion falls over the edge. Milo manages to grab Orion's arm in time.

Milo pulls Orion back to his feet. Orion nods to Milo as if to say "thank you" and the two turn to face Skorge who is flying above them on the Dread.

SKORGE

It was unwise for you to enter the monolith. I ordered you to find the exit and bring me the information. Not stray off course.

ORION

I must have missed the part where I took orders from you - Skorge.

SKORGE

(Laughs)

So you have found my secret?

ORION

You will never leave Galier.

SKORGE

And you shall never see your friend or uncle again unless you bring me what I want.

Orion takes out his sword. His eyes turn black, he holds out his empty hand, thrusts it towards Skorge and a ball of fire strikes Skorge who is knocked off the Dread.

The Dread vanishes through sand as Skorge, in Tereis' form still.

Skorge walks onto the small platform as the monolith is sucked into the sinkhole. Milo takes out his sword, Skorge clicks his fingers and Milo vanishes under a cloud of sand.

Orion knows he's alone now. Him and Skorge circle one another with swords drawn in duel fashion.

ORION

I will stop you.

SKORGE

Many have tried.

Orion and Skorge clash swords and gaze into one another's eyes.

Orion kicks Skorge in the stomach and thrusts Skorge backwards with a pulsating wind blast from his hand. Skorge lands on his back and his eyes start flickering fire.

Orion runs over, Skorge teleports out of the way and ends up behind Orion who revolves on the spot and slashes mid-air as Skorge grabs Orion by the neck and holds his sword to Orion's back.

Orion kneels down and forces Skorge to roll over him to the ground. Orion thrusts the sword down but Skorge blocks it with his own. Skorge kips up, Orion and Skorge clash swords several times before Skorge sends a ball of fire at Orion who creates a shield of water which douses the fire.

Skorge starts ripping up the ground and throwing the bricks at Orion, who manages to use wind to his advantage and knock the bricks out of the air.

Skorge lifts into the air and hovers above the ground. The ground starts shaking as it's ripped from the foundation and thrown towards the sinkhole.

Orion closes his eyes and- DISAPPEARS- Skorge looks around and sees Orion scurrying along the ground behind him near the cave entrance.

Skorge sends several balls of fire towards Orion who ducks behind a column as the fire rains down all around him.

BANG! The column is shattered and Orion is knocked forward. The sword returns to normal blade and Orion is lying on his back looking up at the sky.

Skorge lands next to him.

SKORGE (cont'd)

Bring me what I want and your friends
shall be released from their prison.
Do not stray from the path, I expect
you to know I am one that doesn't lie.
One day remains, either bring me freedom
or watch your friends die.

Skorge vanishes under a cloud of fire. Orion coughs and clears his throat, he sits up and grasps his ribs. Orion picks up the sword and sheathes it. He turns around to see the entire monolith gone and nothing but sand remaining in a two mile gap between where he is and the market.

Orion starts walking up the hill. The palace is in the distance, and it's so big that the hill doesn't mask its true size at all.

EXT. HILL -- CONTINUOUS

Orion looks upon the palace in the distance. It's only three miles away now but the place is huge even from that distance.

He walks down the hill and tumbles down it into- WATER- a stream of water wakes him back up as soon as he tiredly smacks into it. It's cold.

He turns around and sees- TWO SAND WRAITHS. They're looking at Orion, but then turn back to the water and start drinking it when- REALISATION- They pull out their swords and run towards Orion who thrusts his right hand and sends them through a portal of fire.

Orion puts his hand down and crawls out of the water.

He collapses in the sand-

EXT. GRATHAN OUTSKIRTS -- NIGHT

Fires burn, and trees are cut down to create firewood. Nefret is sitting upon his steed, seemingly waiting for something.

EXT. GRATHAN WALL -- CONTINUOUS

The archers are growing tired. Sitting down behind the wall. A commanding officer is looking over the wall at the army.

EXT. CITADEL -- CONTINUOUS

Firenze and Tebek are talking.

FIRENZE

The army hasn't moved on. It's as if they're waiting for something.

TEBEK

I know, my brother is persistent.

FIRENZE

I recommend getting the people out of the city, just in case.

TEBEK

Allowing the people to leave will create more cause for concern. If they stay then Grathan might stand a chance.

A group of villagers, men and women, walk towards Tebek and Firenze numbering over 40.

VILLAGER #1

Sir, we wish to stand and fight beside you. This is our home too, and this is our decision.

FEMALE #1

We want to fight, we know how to handle a bow and arrow.

TEBEK

This is unexpected. Why now?

MALE #1

We see that your forces aren't as strong as they were. Having us fight by your side shall even the odds in terms of battle.

FIRENZE

(To Male #1)

Have you ever fought a Sikaro, lad?

MALE #1

No sir, but I would like the chance.

FIRENZE

How old are you boy?

MALE #1

Nineteen.

FIRENZE

(Intuitive)

In three years?

Male #1 bows his head and nods.

VILLAGER #1

Our age does not matter, what matters is this city and it is all of our home. Allow us the privilege of fighting for it and we will not let you down.

FIRENZE

Sikaro are the deadliest enemy ever to be encountered. They have no weak point, and in order to kill them you must decapitate them and watch them burn away. They move fast, and will strike you down faster than you can unsheathe your sword. This is no place for the youth or newcomers.

FEMALE #1

We understand the risks.

FIRENZE

No, you truly don't.

TEBEK

Enough, Firenze. We need all the help we can get at this point.

Male #1 stands fast.

TEBEK (cont'd)

Grab your weapons, shields and armour from the armoury and meet up with those you choose to fight beside. Archers on the walls, soldiers on the ground.

MALE #1

We won't let you down, sir.

The villagers dispatch over to the armoury on the north side of the city. Tebek turns to Firenze who is shaking his head.

TEBEK

Something on your mind, Firenze?

FIRENZE

They're lambs to the slaughter. Sikaro will not be hindered by them in the slightest. They're kids that know nothing of combat.

TEBEK

You were once the same.

FIRENZE

I have trained for the past twenty two years, I know my way around a sword.

TEBEK

Yet you carry more scars than that of a dead man.

FIRENZE

It is better than being said dead man.

TEBEK

Give them a chance, Firenze.

Firenze hesitantly nods.

OFF SCREEN: Whooshing sound...

Tebek looks up at the dome, it's flickering... Tebek runs into the citadel, Firenze seems worried.

EXT. GRATHAN OUTSKIRTS -- CONTINUOUS

Nefret smiles and puts on his battle mask. He sees the dome field weakening.

INT. CITADEL CHAMBER -- CONTINUOUS

Tebek breaks through the door and sees- SPHERE, CRACKED IN TWO like an egg, oozing light from it like blood.

Tebek picks up the sphere and holds it in his hand. He looks around the room, there's no one there but he can sense a presence.

TEBEK

I know you are there.

The Guild member's cloak drops and he becomes visible. He's still wearing his hooded cloak but his face is scarred and light blue veins run up either side of his face.

TEBEK (cont'd)

Eruth, I did not expect you.

Tebek drops the sphere and stands up. Eruth looks on as Tebek takes out his sword. Eruth smiles.

ERUTH

Such a blade cannot wound me.

TEBEK

What have you done?

ERUTH

What I was tasked with performing.
The Dark Lord has his way with words,
he controls us now.

TEBEK

I once fought beside the Guild to
protect your home. Yet now you
oppose me and damn our city to
the darkness? Why?

ERUTH

Because we understand the truth now.
Why fight with you, when we can fight
with the side that shall win this war?

TEBEK

You have betrayed us.

ERUTH

Betrayal? No, you abandoned us for a
mere child you were tasked with raising.
You abandoned us, and we paid the price.

Tebek lunges at Eruth, but Eruth dodges by teleporting out of the way and towards the door. Eruth smiles, he puts his hand on the knob as Tebek runs towards him. Eruth vanishes from sight under invisible cloak once more.

TEBEK

Show yourself you coward!

ERUTH (O.S.)

No longer can the dome protect you from
this war, your city shall fall just as
ours did and you shall pay for your
mistakes.

(Beat)

Goodbye Tebek.

OFF SCREEN: Explosions...

Tebek runs out of the citadel-

EXT. GRATHAN -- CONTINUOUS

The entire place is engulfed in war, hundreds of Sikaro and soldiers on Grathan's side are battling. Tebek turns around as- NEFRET grabs him by the neck and forces him against the wall.

NEFRET

How the tides have turned, brother.

TEBEK

Nefret!

NEFRET

Finally, this city falls.

TEBEK

Not today!

Tebek breaks his brother's grip and lands on the ground with his palms on the grass. The trees begin to shake and the earth begins to rumble as- VINES SHOOT FROM THE EARTH- Tebek's eyes turn dark green and he nods his head upwards and sends a dozen vines at Nefret. Who is hoisted into the air.

Tebek stands up. He holds out his hands like a crucifix and stands there in the same way, hundreds of vines begin to attack the Sikaro. Nefret is helpless.

TEBEK (cont'd)

You should not have come here.

NEFRET

Embrace yourself - brother.

SUDDENLY HUGE BALLS OF LIGHT BEGIN TO FALL FROM THE SKY. Splashing down like rain onto the people and soldiers on Grathan's side. Everyone that's hit begins to vanish, Grathan is being emptied.

Wesirt emerges from out of nowhere, he blasts three Sikaro with deadly icicles which shoot from his staff and CRASH THROUGH THEIR BODIES. Dust and sand falls as the Sikaro are killed.

Wesirt lays his hand on Tebek's shoulder.

WESIRT

Not here, Tebek.

Nefret is laughing.

NEFRET

You listen to this fool? He is trying to stop you, finish it!

WESIRT

You have the power to decide, Tebek.

Tebek is angry, he sends two vines at the Sikaro closing in on Wesirt. Nefret laughs darkly. Tebek squints and as his eyes open again they return to normal.

Nefret is released. Wesirt places his hand on Tebek's shoulder and the two vanish from sight.

Nefret coughs and takes off his mask. He looks around at the Sikaro who are all standing around doing nothing.

NEFRET

And so the coin drops...

EXT. RIVENOAK COURTYARD -- CONTINUOUS

Tebek and the army, along with the villagers and children are all in the courtyard of Rivenoak. Lucero and Grunt walk over to Wesirt and Tebek. Varlden is already at the battlements.

TEBEK

Why did you save me?

WESIRT

Friends do not abandon one another.

TEBEK

At the cost of Grathan?

WESIRT

The city was always going to fall.

TEBEK

Minotaur!

GRUNT

Whoa!

Lucero steps in front of Grunt, keeping him safe. Tebek looks on.

TEBEK

You trust this brute?

WESIRT

He is not going to harm you. He is on our side.

TEBEK

You're sure?

GRUNT

I fight for the light seekers.

Grunt steps out from behind Lucero, Farin seems confused as to why Lucero protected a Minotaur.

Grunt holds out his furry hand.

GRUNT (cont'd)

The name's Grunt.

Tebek shakes Grunt's hand.

TEBEK

Tebek.

GRUNT

I know who you are, sir.

TEBEK

I wouldn't doubt that.

(To Wesirt)

Where's Noah?

WESIRT

He is resting.

NOAH (O.S.)

Not anymore.

Noah steps out of the infirmary, he walks towards the others.
His right arm over his wounded stomach.

Noah and Tebek shake hands.

TEBEK

My old friend, it is good to see you
moving around.

WESIRT

I do not think this is wise, Noah.
You should be resting.

NOAH

I have strength enough for this.

(Beat)

Now, Tebek. How did Grathan come to fall?

TEBEK

(Darkly)

Eruth of the Guild severed the dome's
power source. The Guild have betrayed
us.

NOAH

So it was the Guild after all.

TEBEK

You weren't sure?

WESIRT

No. But now we are.

VARLDEN

We believe the Guild have infiltrated every major city from here to Carthona. On the order of the Dark Lord, first Garna City, now Grathan.

GRUNT

They are not here.

LUCERO

Grunt is right, if there were one here we would have detected them by now. Rivenoak is safe, for the time being.

NOAH

Carmac and Tusk have taken a group with them to the Trekolan woods.

WESIRT

If the spy is there, be sure that they will be found and brought to us.

TEBEK

And Orion?

WESIRT

He has already reached Cambrio. The only thing we can do for him now is wait until he returns.

They all understand they must wait for the Prince.

EXT. GALIER -- MORNING

Orion wakes up, sand on his face and clothes. A strange four clawed crab is looking at him snapping its claws.

As Orion wakes up the crab scuttles off.

Two legs are the first thing he sees. He gets to his feet to reveal- ASSASSIN! Orion takes out the sword and slashes at the Assassin but he vanishes from sight.

ORION
(Delusional)
I know you're here!

Orion falls to one knee and drops the sword. He grasps at his head.

ASSASSIN (O.S.)
You cannot control this power.

ORION
Get out of my head!

ASSASSIN (O.S.)
You are already becoming me.

ORION
(In Pain)
I said get out of my head!

Orion shakes the cobwebs out as silence falls within his mind. He grabs the sword from the ground and looks around to see- THE PALACE- Sitting there, right in front of him.

He looks back, the hill is miles away.

ORION (cont'd)
How did I- What?

Orion sees the Assassin in the water flowing around the palace, Orion's on a drawbridge.

ASSASSIN
Embrace your destiny.

ORION
You're not real.

ASSASSIN
Then how do you suppose you got here?

ORION
What do you mean?

ASSASSIN

Time is like a river, it flows endlessly.
But what happens if time is fractured and
you do not remember walking the path?
It was me, I brought you here.

ORION

You're not real, I know you're not.

ASSASSIN

I live within your mind.

The Assassin blinks and reveals- BLACK EYES.

ORION

No.

ASSASSIN

The power does not come from the amulet
you took from the tomb of Tereis. It came
from me, you awakened me.

ORION

It can't be.

ASSASSIN

Give yourself to me and I will give
you power beyond your wildest dreams.

Orion remembers:

TEREIS

The power is within you... Destroy the
Fire Skull...

End of flash.

Orion stands up and looks upon his mirrored reflection of the
Assassin.

ORION

I can control you.

Orion picks up the sword and sheathes it.

ASSASSIN

You cannot escape your fate.

ORION

Watch me.

Orion walks into-

INT. PALACE HALLWAY -- CONTINUOUS

The palace's interior is destroyed. Carpet covered in dried blood and skeletons.

Orion makes his way into-

INT. THRONE ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

There's nothing there. He remembers what Tereis said to him back at the monolith.

ORION

The dungeon.

Orion walks to the throne, as he does something appears- TEREIS' ghostly image. Gripping a bronze handle on the west wall and pulling it down, turning it clockwise revealing a secret passage in the wall.

Orion goes over to the lever, he grips it, rips it down and turns it clockwise.

CRACKING... THUDDING... SCREECHING...

The secret passage opens-

INT. DUNGEON -- CONTINUOUS

Orion runs down the steps and sees- DARIUS, MARALDA AND MILO HELD BY CHAINS IN A CRUCIFIX LIKE WAY. He runs over to them and hits the lever, the chains fall and the three fall to the ground unharmed, yet a little tired.

Darius wakes up, he blinks a few times and smiles.

DARIUS

Orion.

ORION

It's all right, I'm getting you out of here.

MARALDA

Orion, it's Skorge. It did this.

ORION

I know.

Orion uses the sword to break the chains. Milo, being that he was last to be taken, is more awake than the others.

He helps Maralda up, hoisting her arm over his shoulder. Orion hoists Darius' arm over his shoulder and they walk down the steps. Lava streams course either side of the walkway and there's a large stone wall on the far side of the walkway which is the exit.

SKORGE appears on the walkway. Darius and Maralda see him, Milo ducks as- SKORGE LAUNCHES A FIERY BLAST AT- ORION! Knocking Orion back onto the platform where Maralda, Darius and Milo were held.

Skorge teleports to the platform and Orion is grabbed by the throat and hoisted into the air.

SKORGE

You attempted to escape without me?

ORION

You won't escape this place.

Skorge sees the amulet on the sword. He smiles.

SKORGE

I no longer need you.

Skorge releases Orion and sets a high fire in his way, Orion can't pass. Skorge walks over to the sword and picks it up. Maralda shoots an arrow at Skorge and hits him in the shoulder.

Milo scurries over to the sword and grabs it but Skorge knocks Milo back and Milo falls over the edge, hanging onto it over the fiery lava below.

Skorge picks up the sword. He places his hand over the amulet and rips it from the sword which is then flung to the ground near the flames Orion can't pass.

Skorge holds the amulet in his hand and smiles.

Darius gets up and unsheathes his sword. The two stare at one another.

DARIUS

You will not escape.

SKORGE

I already have.

Orion leaps through the flames and picks up the sword. He runs towards Skorge and as he goes to stab him Skorge sends Orion through THE FLAMES! Darius cries "NO" and Skorge teleports towards the far wall with the amulet in his grasp.

Orion lands against the wall and falls down to the ground. The sword lands a few feet from him. Orion slowly wakes up and as he does he sees the Fire Skull sitting on a pedestal.

He picks up the sword and CRASH! He crashes it through the skull, breaking it apart.

Skorge twitches, he looks at his hand. It's burning away, his eyes turn crimson red and his body begins to turn out of form.

Skorge is growing taller and broader. HE BECOMES- A TITAN! Maralda helps Milo up. Skorge drops the amulet and Darius looks on in shock.

Orion falls to his knees in pain as the power begins to flow through his veins. He holds his arm, cringing in pain as- EYES TURN WHITE! He sees the flames, thrusts his hand forward and sends water over the flames, dousing them.

Darius, Milo and Maralda stagger backwards as Skorge, being a Titan now, STOMPS on the ground creating a shockwave which shakes the very palace above.

A stone column falls from the ceiling and crashes into the walkway, breaking it apart and creating a fifteen foot gap.

Skorge is monstrous looking. Like the devil in many ways, horns on his head, eyes of fire, veins of fire. Ash and coal skinned.

Skorge laughs.

Darius and the others back up to the platform as Skorge LEAPS OVER TOWARDS THEM- Skorge lands on the platform. Orion is missing, he's gone.

Darius falls to the ground, Maralda loads an arrow, shoots but the arrow bounces off the rock hard skin of Skorge.

SKORGE

(Monstrous)

You have awakened my spirit, Prince.

(Beat, looks at hands)

This power shall allow me to complete my quest and destroy your world.

ORION (O.S.)

No. You won't.

Skorge turns around and sees- ORION standing there with white eyes and a look of hope on his face.

SKORGE

You, my master's enemy. Cannot defeat what you cannot explain.

Darius looks on, scared for his nephew.

Orion holds the sword out and sends SHARDS OF LIGHT at Skorge, bringing the colossal beast to his knees. Orion runs towards Skorge and STABS HIM THROUGH THE CHEST- Skorge lights up bright orange and FIRE BLASTS FROM HIS CHEST. LAVA STREAMS OUT ONTO THE GROUND.

Orion looks at the others. He then sees the far wall opening up as light shines through.

He aims the sword at the hole in the walkway and creates an ICE BRIDGE.

ORION

Get to the doorway!

DARIUS

What about you!?

ORION

Just go!

Maralda and Milo help Darius up and the three run for the exit.

Skorge grasps at his chest and cringes in pain.

He turns around, and grabs Orion in his hand. He hoists Orion upwards. Orion tries to free himself but is unable to AS-

THE PALACE BEGINS TO CRUMBLE ABOVE- Debris falls, stone cracks.

SKORGE

You cannot defeat me.

Orion's eyes light up white and his body glows brightly. He heats up, hotter than the sun. Darius and the others reach the doorway, it's flickering, not much time remains.

Milo picks up the amulet and puts in his pocket. They all cover their eyes as Orion lights up the dungeon.

CRACKING... THUDDING...

A huge part of the upper palace crumbles and falls down towards the platform. It hits Skorge and drops the beast to his knees once more.

Orion is freed, he sees Skorge's weak point and STABS SKORGE THROUGH THE HEAD- Skorge bleeds lava as Orion is dropped to the ground.

Skorge EXPLODES under a FIERY LIGHT! Darius and the others look on as a huge column smashes into the walkway.

Orion LEAPS THROUGH THE DUST and runs for the exit. He slides over the ice and dodges a sharp spiked piece of stone and ROLLS UNDER A PIECE OF STONE before LEAPING THROUGH THE AIR-

He lands near Darius who helps him up. Orion is helped through the doorway, Maralda and Milo pass through and Darius passes through as- DOORWAY CLOSES.

EXT. GALIER PALACE -- CONTINUOUS

The entire palace falls and crumbles away into the sinkhole UNTIL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT- The city grows quieter, dust flies from the sinkhole as it closes-

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WOODS -- DAWN

OFF SCREEN: Birds chirping...

Orion stands looking over a ridge as the sun rises over a new day. The place is beautiful, lush forests and sparkling blue water.

Milo walks to Orion and hands him the amulet in his hand. Orion takes it and looks at Milo.

ORION

Who are you, Milo?

Milo looks at Maralda.

MILO

They should recover within a few days.

(Beat, looks around)

Where are we?

ORION

In the north of Midras I think.

MILO

And Skorge, he's dead?

ORION

He's dead.

Orion holds the amulet of Tereis in his hand. He dangles it by the chain over the ridge where the sea sits below.

MILO

What are you going to do with it?

Orion releases the amulet. It falls down and hits the ocean.

ORION

That which is lost should remain that way.

MILO

Don't you need it?

ORION

No. I'm strong enough without it.

Darius and Maralda tiredly walk up to Orion, the four look out as the sun rises.

DARIUS

Are we back?

ORION

I think so.

A sparkle catches Maralda's eye near a temple in the distance.

MARALDA

What is that?

OFF SCREEN: Dragon roars...

Orion and the others look at one another.

ORION

What was that noise?

DARIUS

We're not in Midras.

A dragon soars overhead and BREATHES FIRE AS-

Orion and the others dodge the flame blast. The dragon soars downwards.

ORION

I thought dragons were extinct?

DARIUS

We're in Ashbourne.

Orion looks out over Ashbourne, the beautiful and luscious home of the dragon lords. Dragon flies over the forest and turns to CAMERA, BREATHING FIRE AT US AS WE-

CUT TO BLACK:

RUN CREDITS