

Adventure Frontier

By

Chaseton Ennis

Copyright (c) 2014 This
screenplay may not be used,
reproduced, or distributed
without the express written
consent of the author.

chaseton9@gmail.com

FADE IN:

INT.HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

The sound of SHUFFLING. A female voice yells from another room.

VOICE(O.S.)
Dan you ready?

We continue to hear shuffling.

DAN
Yeah I'm coming!

The screen quickly reveals itself as DANNY SUMMERSON, late teens, separates clothes from a hanger. Looking for something.

He grabs an old grey cloth bag. Nothing special. He views its contents and takes it with him.

EXT.HOUSE/DRIVEWAY - EARLY MORNING

DAN'S MOTHER, 40s, stands in front of an average looking station wagon along with his LITTLE SISTER, 7. His little sister enters the back seat of the car which is filled to the brink with luggage.

The street is in the heart of suburbia with every home being identical to the next. The early morning silence dominates the ambiance.

They stand waiting for him.

DAN'S MOM
C'mon, I wanna beat the traffic.

EXT.ESTATE - DAY

The sky sits beautifully blue above an estate. It has a symmetrical English style look with a roundabout driveway holding a black SUV.

A black boy comes walking out the front door. His name is LUCAS BLACK, late teens. A skinnier kid whose been through plenty of piano lessons.

He holds three bags and makes his way toward the black SUV. A stoic look cemented on his face.

The DRIVER steps out of the car to meet him.

(CONTINUED)

DRIVER

Do you need any help Mr.Black?

Lucas shakes his head and enters the SUV.

INT.SUV - CONTINUOUS

Lucas sits in the back as the driver starts the car. The driver checks his cell phone.

DRIVER

So your parents are still giving you flack about the school, eh.

Lucas nods his head.

DRIVER

Well your flight doesn't leave for another couple hours. In the mean time can you show me some magic tricks?

Lucas rolls his eyes, sighs.

DRIVER

I mean this is what your going to school for right?

Lucas stares at the driver.

LUCAS

It's not magic. It's a phenomena. A scientific phenomena that has yet to be explained. Properly.

A very well spoken kid. The driver seems impatient.

DRIVER

I mean can you just conjure up some fire or something?

Lucas stares at the driver. He then reaches in one of his black bags and pulls out something we can't see.

He raises his hands and silently utters a word. Like magic, a small flame is lit. The driver isn't amazed.

Lucas then reveals the LIGHTER he was holding behind his hands.

DRIVER

You've always been a real comedian kid.

(A beat)
C'mon, just show me something,
anything.

Lucas puts the lighter back in his bag.

LUCAS
I can't.

DRIVER
Why not?

LUCAS
Why do you think I'm going to this
school? Besides it's classified
information. There's certain things
I need in order to produce the
effects.

The driver stares then raises his eyebrows in acceptance.

The television in the back turns on. Stock market news.

EXT. ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

The SUV slowly pulls out of the driveway and continues down
the road.

EXT. UNIVERSITY/COMMONS - DAY

LOUD MUSIC plays. Banners fill the screen welcoming new
students to the UNIVERSITY OF REVINE.

There are a mix of ivory covered cobblestone buildings along
with newer buildings and facilities.

A station wagon we recognize sits in a parking lot over
filled with cars. Families carry chairs, shelves, and
everything you would see on a college move in day, and make
their way into the dormitories.

INT. UNIVERSITY/DORMS - DAY

It's a mad house in the dorms as families assist their newly
admitted kin into their rooms.

STUDENT ASSISTANT(O.S)
Orientation starts in twenty
minutes! I repeat, orientation
starts in twenty minutes!

A female student assists families with move in. Chatter
fills the halls as people rush to get done.

INT.DORM/SUITE - DAY

Dan's mother and sister stand in his suite. Two bunks stand on opposite sides of the room. His mother inspects the room and stares at the beds.

One side of the room already occupied as two computers and a fridge have been set up. Dan walks in with his last bags and shuts the door. The noise from the hall muted.

DAN'S MOM

Dan. I thought you only had one roommate?

Dan sets his bags on the floor and plops back first on the bed. He breathes heavily.

DAN

I kinda forgot to do the housing stuff online.

DAN'S MOM

(sighs)

How many times did I remind you?

DAN

Yeah I know, I'm sorry. I mean look how big this room is.

DAN'S MOM

It's not about the- never mind. I just don't want you to become too distracted when you study.

A beat. The word study gets him.

DAN

The room is pretty big though.

DAN'S MOM

It better be. We're paying all this money.

Dan sits up and walks over to the window. He looks out to the front lawn. Families still scurry around.

DAN'S MOM

Well we're heading out sweetie.

Dan puzzled

(CONTINUED)

DAN

Your leaving already? What about
the lunch?

DAN'S MOM

Sorry but I have work tomorrow and
your sister's tired. We have a long
drive too.

DAN

Alright then. I guess I'll see you.
. . Christmas.

Dan walks over to give his mom a last hug. They hold each
other, sharing a moment.

They both let go. Tears flow down the face of Dan's mother.

DAN'S MOM

Be good sweetie.

She smiles at him then walks out with his little sister who
waves.

LITTLE SISTER

Bye Danny.

Dan stands there staring at the doorway as families pass by.

SPEAKER (PRE-LAP)

We hold a high standard of
excellence here . . .

INT. UNIVERSITY/AUDITORIUM - DAY

Dan sits in the middle of a crowded but lavish auditorium,
tired, with his fellow first years. At least two thousand
plus kids.

The speaker is the DEAN of the school who continues to give
his speech.

SPEAKER(O.S.)

. . . that we expect all of you to
achieve. This is not and I repeat,
this is not a party school. Nor is
it a school where you will be
misusing the information that you
will learn.

Dan notices a good looking GIRL a few rows ahead of him. She
turns around to talk to her friend who is sitting right
behind her.

(CONTINUED)

Her eyes meet with Dan's. He gives a quick, awkward smile. The girl returns a look of disgust pretty much showing no possible interest and turns back around.

Dan sighs then looks up to the ceiling. A blank stare.

DEAN(O.S)

So study hard and remember, those of you in PS, that this is not a school of hocuspocus. We're here to understand the applications of the phenomena discovered by the late Sir Delfry.

The ceiling lights are bright and perfectly symmetrical.

INT. UNIVERSITY/CAFETERIA - DAY

CHATTER echoes throughout the cafeteria where the family luncheon is held. Parents sit with their kids and mingle with other families.

Dan on line with a plate waiting to get his food. A buffet style setup. He comes up to the the first batch of entrees.

To his surprise the salmon and premium cut meats are professionally assorted.

We see him make his way to an empty table where he sits down looking around. The chatter that fills the room comes from all the families enjoying lunch with there newly admitted kid.

PA (O.S.)

Family activity fair starts at two o'clock.

Dan looks around the room then stares at his plate. He sighs, gets up, takes his plate, and heads towards the exit.

EXT. UNIVERSITY COMMONS/DORMS - DAY

The lawns empty from before. Dan walks across the lawn. He holds his plate and eats as he enters the front doors.

INT. DORMS/CORRIDORS - CONTINUOUS

A subtle BASS resonates from down the hall. Someone's blasting rap music. Dan makes his way to his room door, the source of the noise.

INT.DORM/SUITE - CONTINUOUS

Dan walks in unnoticed. The sound of RAP MUSIC blasts in the background as two dudes play the same game simultaneously on their respective computers.

These two kids are Dan's roommates. NATE and TYUS KOLOAWSKI.

Cheetos, Doritos, Mountain Dew and other junk food fill a large plastic bag that lies in the middle of the floor.

The brothers are playing League, a popular MMO that completely engrosses them.

They both scream and taunt at each other. Dan approaches the plastic bag filled with junk food in the middle of the room.

NATE

I need a refill. Defend the base
for me.

TYUS

You kidding? We're getting wrecked.

Nate laughs, takes off his headset, and turns to see Dan grabbing a bottle of Mountain Dew from the plastic bag.

NATE

Oh shit! What-sup? I'm Nate and
that's my brother Tyus.

He points to Tyus who is steadfast in his game.

DAN

I'm Dan, well Danny but everyone
calls me Dan for short.

NATE

Ooh, Dan, nice.

Nate sticks his fist out. Dan slowly bumps. A tall lean kid.

He looks at the the drink dan holds and the plastic bag.

NATE

I see your the kind to steal your
roommates stuff huh?

Dan is flustered. Nate's friendly demeanor quickly changes.

(CONTINUED)

DAN

I-I didn't mean to steal I just figured you had plenty-

NATE

Ahhh, I'm just messin' with ya. I don't give a shit what you take.

Nate's stern look is gone immediately.

TYUS

Um I'm getting overrun. What are you doing!?

Tyus turns around to see the two. He takes off his headset.

TYUS

Oh hey, I'm Tyus. I'm guessing you're our roommate.

NATE

No this is our RA.

TYUS

Our what?

NATE

RA. Resident assistant. He came because we were being too loud.

Tyus' face showing regret.

TYUS

Oh crap sorry.

Tyus turns down the music from a large control panel. Dan following Nate's joke.

DAN

Yeah don't be so loud or I'm going to report you to the dean.

NATE

Yeah so chill out dude.

Tyus just sits there and stares in shock.

NATE

You're a retard you know that. This is our roommate.

Tyus cracks a dry grin. Nate laughs while Dan just smiles.

(CONTINUED)

TYUS
(More to himself)
And I already hate you guys.

Tyus turns around, puts his headset on and continues playing.

Nate makes his way to his computer with a soda bottle. He pulls a large LIQUOR BOTTLE from under his desk. Jim Bean.

Dan eyes widen. Nate takes an enormous gulp of his soda then pours a considerable amount of alcohol into the soda bottle.

DAN
Where'd you guys get that?

NATE
Home. We brought a shit ton so
drink as much as you want. But not
really.

Dan stands there for a beat.

DAN
I'm fine. I don't really drink.

Dan, to his side of the room, sits on his bed and begins to unpack his bags.

DAN
So you guys know who our fourth is?

Nate shake his head.

NATE
I imagine a guy as cool as us that
can party like a wildebeest and
drink like roman god.

EXT. UNIVERSITY/DORMS - NIGHT

The campus is desolate. The quiet atmosphere completely opposite from before. We see a figure in the shadows carrying three huge bags and rolling a suitcase.

The dark figure makes its way across the many large lawns then across the dorm lawns to the front door. The building's windows all light up the lawn bellow. The dark figure is Lucas.

He makes his way to the front doors then...

INT.DORMS/LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

. . . plops down on one of lobby couches. He rests his head on one of his bags and lays for a beat.

VOICE (O.S.)

Um excuse me? Excuse me!?

Lucas' eyes slowly open. Clearly agitated. Slowly turns to look at the LOBBY CLERK who points to a sign-in sheet.

Lucas rolls his eyes back and sighs heavily.

INT.DORMS/CORRIDORS - NIGHT

Lucas slowly makes his way to his end of the hallway. He approaches his door and drops his bags. A muted sound of singing and other craziness resonates from behind the door. Sounds like a party.

Lucas sighs and opens the door.

INT.DORM/SUITE - CONTINUOUS

The MUSIC blasts Lucas as if he was right in front of a concert amp. Dan, and the brothers all SING along to a catchy pop song rather poorly. The brothers still playing the same MMO.

Dan lies on a rug with a bottle of WHISKEY in hand watching them.

The fridge door is wide open and filled to the brink with alcohol. They're all drunk.

Lucas slides his bags in and shuts the door behind him, still unnoticed. He eyes them then walks toward the only available bed, climbs to the top, and lays down.

The song ends and another pop song starts. The brothers roar with excitement and begin to sing even LOUDER. Lucas tightens his face. Whether it be from annoyance or the terrible singing is unknown.

VOICE (O.S.)

HEY!HEY!!

The music stops suddenly with the yell coming from the RESIDENT ASSISTANT, a chubby kid who looks like a hard ass.

Dan turns around to face the door which reveals his whisky in hand. The fridge door is also open in the back showing all the goods. The RA takes all this in and points his fingers.

(CONTINUED)

RESIDENT ASSISTANT
You guys come with me.
(A beat)
And you too up there!

Lucas lets out a long forfeiting sigh.

INT. UNIVERSITY/ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES/LOBBY - NIGHT

A dry empty lobby. The group sit in silence on a couch with sulking faces.

Dan gives an apologetic look to Lucas who shakes his head and sighs.

The dean, stands in his office talking to the RA. He nods his head, walks to the door and signals the four to come.

INT. UNIVERSITY/DEAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The group walk in slowly and stand in front of a large mahogany desk. The Dean sits behind his desk in a large cushion chair. There is one chair in front of his desk but no one dare takes it.

The dean shuffles papers and stares at them for a beat.

DEAN
This is unprecedented. First night
huh?

The four stand there in silence,

DEAN
Okay then, the consequences are as
stated in the handbook, expulsion
with no refund.

Lucas distraught.

LUCAS
Wait, what? But I didn't do
anything this is ridiculous.

DEAN
(To Lucas)
Head back to your dorms and I'll
see to it if I can do anything for
you.
(To the others)
As for you three, I'm afraid your
campaign here at this institution
has ended.

(CONTINUED)

The dean gets up. The other three completely distraught.

DEAN

I honestly can't believe this
myself. I have to see the evidence.

INT.DORM/SUITE - NIGHT

The RA stands at the door triumphant as the dean and the group stand in the middle of the room.

RESIDENT ASSISTANT

Yeah I rushed here because of the
noise, low and behold, I saw that.

The brothers give the RA a look; Why?

The RA points to the open fridge filled with booze as the dean examines the room with only his eyes. It's as if he's not even listening to the RA.

DEAN

You guys have anymore anywhere
else? If you do you should tell me
now.

NATE

No we don't.

DAN

It wouldn't matter even if we did.

The Dean gives Dan a look. Caught off guard by the remark.

DEAN

Empty your bags.

Nate and Tyus grab their bags and empties them on the floor. Clothes fall out along with other living necessities.

Dan grabs his bag and empties it. Clothes fall out along with the bag from earlier. An OLD BOOK and a IRON LOOKING SHARD are revealed as they slide out of the bag. The Dean takes notice of the book and stares at it for a beat.

DEAN

What's that?

DAN

What's what?

DEAN
The book there, what is that?

DAN
This?

Dan picks the old thing up and inspects it. Not knowing himself.

DAN
I don't know, I found it somewhere.

Everybody in the room stands in silence. The Dean examines all of them for a long beat.

DEAN
So you gentlemen have no more
alcohol or drugs here?

The brothers and Dan look at each other then shake their heads.

DEAN
(Sighs)
Alright then, I'm going to see if I
can let you off with a warning as I
hate to see potentially good
students wasted. Which means I have
to speak with the president first.

Dan and the brothers eyes light up. The RA gives a puzzled look.

DEAN
You'll be hearing from me no later
than tomorrow morning.
(To RA)
See to it they pour everything out.

RESIDENT ASSISTANT
Okay sir.

The Dean walks out the door. The four look at each other bewildered. Dan shrugs at Lucas.

INT.DORM/SUITE - MORNING

The room is silent as the early morning light from the sun glistens through the window. Nate gets out of bed slowly and sits at his computer desk.

(CONTINUED)

He turns on his computer and looks at the screen. A deep sigh is let out then he tightens his lips. The sound of TYPING and mouse CLICKS is the only thing audible in the room.

After a final click, his hands suddenly jump up and clap. He is just seconds away from bursting with joy but holds it in.

He looks around to see if anyone woke up. No one has.

He makes his way to the bedside of Dan who is fast asleep. He pokes him. Dan slowly wakes up, groggy.

DAN
W-Whats going on?

NATE
Wake Luke up.

DAN
Why?

LUCAS
It's Lucas.

Nate looks up in surprise.

NATE
Okay, I've got an important announcement guys.

LUCAS
Let me guess, we didn't get expelled.

NATE
Wait, how did you know?

Dan's grogginess vanishes completely.

DAN
Wait, really?!

LUCAS
Just got the email.

He shows his phone.

NATE
Damn, I guess I have no good news to bring. But yeah, our campaign was saved. Well thanks to that book at least.

DAN

Glad I brought it. Knew it was good
luck.

Dan lays back down in relief. An ALARM sets off immediately
after. It's from Lucas' phone. He quickly shuts it off.

LUCAS

(To Nate)

So you gonna tell your brother?

He points to Tyus who's fast asleep.

NATE

Oh yeah, haha. Hey bro! Get up, we
got classes!

Tyus mumbles something then just turns over.

NATE

(To Dan and Lucas)

Well we don't have class till ten
on Mondays anyway.

Lucas shrugs and begins to play on his phone.

DAN

Ten? lucky you I've got an eight
a.m. everyday. What major are you
guys anyway?

NATE

I'm comp-sci, Tyus is too. You?

DAN

PS.

LUCAS

Me too.

NATE

Ooh, magicians, nice.

Dan laughs. Lucas silently plays on his phone.

LUCAS

Well I've got one hour till class.

He yawns and turns to his side to sleep.

LUCAS

(To Dan)

You have calc in Winston 202?

DAN

No, I have chemistry in Delfry 423.

NATE

That's the big ass main building. I don't think I have any classes in there.

Nate makes his way to his computer and turns it on to play his MMO.

NATE

I've always wanted to know what the phenomena is. I know we all call it magic but how does it work?

LUCAS

Well it works by dictating a phrase and the special material that Delfry discovered produces phenomenal energy effects like sparks and and tiny flames. We still don't know why this is but it could have something to do with the sound waves resonating the material . . . we don't know.

DAN

So do you know the phrase? can you show us something?

LUCAS

I don't know any phrases because its classified information held by the government. Even if I did, I would need that special material to even see the effects.

Nate, by now, has lost interest.

NATE

Interesting. Well I've got to level up this build. Been slacking lately.

Nate puts his headphones on and begins to play.

(CONTINUED)

DAN

Yeah, I just can't believe I have to take all these damn math and science courses. Really didn't expect that.

Lucas yawns again.

LUCAS

Well they have to get your money someway or another.

The Book and shard still lies on top of the pile of clothes, static from the night before.

INT. UNIVERSITY/PHENOMENA STUDIES BUILDING - DAY

Dan sits way back with his head down in a large lecture room. Commotion fills the room as the last of the kids walk in and find seats.

Dan looks to the right to see the girl who gave him a look of disgust at the orientation, sitting and chatting with her friends. She's purposely not looking his way.

Lucas walks up and takes the seat next to Dan.

DAN

Hey. Didn't expect someone like you to be late.

LUCAS

Looks can be deceiving.

Dan still has his head down and gives Lucas a puzzled glance.

DAN

No Phone?

Lucas smirks.

LUCAS

Ahh, attentive.

Dan frowns from the sarcastic remark.

LUCAS

I've been waiting for this class all day.

A large projection lights up the screen. Lights dim. Chatter quiets down. The lecture hall suddenly turned into a pseudo theater.

(CONTINUED)

Screen; A large crystal rock reminiscent to the shard from before, on a lab table with two computer screens beside it.

FEMALE NARRATOR (O.S.)

This special material may look like an ordinary rock. But its capabilities far out class it from other materials of the same atomic makeup.

A distorted phrase is spoken.

FEMALE NARRATOR (O.S.)

Due to legal reasons the phrase spoken is kept inaudible.

The two screens beside it flicker then turn completely static.

FEMALE NARRATOR(O.S)

Amazingly the monitors are effected by-

LOUD VOICE (O.S.)

Okay class welcome! To my humble abode and to the school.

The room lights up and the video paused. An average sized man in his late 40's walks on stage. He's snappier than your average professor.

LOUD VOICE (O.S.)

My name is Mark Dunley, but you can call me professor Dunley. Actually you can call me whatever you want as long as its not an asshole.

The room fills with laughter. Dunley smiles.

PROF. DUNLEY

Welcome to introduction to PS, which I think this is section four? Well no matter as long as you don't call me an asshole I don't care.

The whole class laughs again this time a bit louder. Dan raises his head and shows more interest.

PROF. DUNLEY

If you don't know by now this is the introduction class to phenomenal studies. As the name implies, we will be taking a look

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PROF. DUNLEY (cont'd)
at the most recent phenomena
discovered by the late Sir Delfry
that doesn't have a proper name
yet. Hopefully by the end of these
four years you will all be master
level witches and wizards.

Laughter fills the room again.

PROF. DUNLEY
Oh you don't believe that you will
be able to conjure up beast even
more powerful than your pokemons?

The class laughs again. Dunley holds back a laugh.

DAN
(To Lucas)
I like this guy.

Lucas' face shows approval as he ever so slightly nods his
head.

PROF. DUNLEY
In all seriousness, there is a
study currently going on trying to
prove that this phenomena has the
ability to distort space, time, and
create its own unique magnetic
field. Isn't that incredible? But
enough of that jibber-jabber and
lets quickly go over our learning
objectives.

INT. UNIVERSITY/CAFETERIA - DAY

Dan and Lucas both stand in line at the buffet style
section. The options aren't quite as glamorous as they were
on move in day and Dan notices.

They both make there way to an empty table and sit. There is
a silence between the two. Lucas not much of a conversation
starter.

DAN
Well our PS class was fun. At least
our teacher was energetic.

LUCAS
Yeah.

Dan, left to hang.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

You did go to meet with the dean
this morning, right?

DAN

What? I didn't know we had too. Why
didn't anyone tell me?

LUCAS

You're an adult man, not my
responsibility.

DAN

You don't have to be a dick about
it.

LUCAS

I'm not being a dick, I just
figured you read the email
yourself.

Both Dan and Lucas have the sense to keep the conversation
from turning into useless bickering.

DAN

I'll just go after I eat.

The Nate and Tyus come out of nowhere and plop down at the
table. Their trays filled with unreasonable amounts of food.

Nate signals for someone to come join them. It just so
happens to be the girl who gave the look of disgust from
before and her friends.

They sit down at the table with their food.

NATE

These are my roommates, Lucas and
Dan. They're very friendly.

Dan and the girl awkwardly try to act like they have never
seen each other before.

GIRL #1

Hi I'm Stacey.

GIRL #2

I'm Rachel.

GIRL #3

I'm Eliza.

Both Dan and Lucas greet them with just a nod. Dan still
tries to not awkwardly stare at Eliza.

INT.UNIVERSITY/DEAN'S OFFICE - EVENING

The dean sits behind his desk staring at a stack of papers in an open portfolio. His reading glasses shine hard under the desk lamp.

Dan sits in front of his desk completely still. Its as if his presence is unknown. The Dean flips through some more papers.

DEAN
(More to himself)
Danny Summerson. First year PS
student.

Dan still sits there silently. The Dean finally looks up.

DEAN
I spoke with the president. And as
you know he's allowing you to stay.

The dean looks through some more papers.

DEAN
Your roommates with Mr. Black
right?

Dan gives a clueless look.

DEAN
Lucas Black?

DAN
Oh yes I am.

The Dean nods his head.

DEAN
Have you had any history with him?

Dan realizes the awkwardness of this question.

DAN
Uhh, no. I've never met him before.

INT.UNIVERSITY/DORM SUITE - NIGHT

Lucas sits at his desk on his computer seemingly bored. The sound of intense MOUSE CLICKING is the only thing that fills the room. Lucas turns to see Nate and Tyus both play their MMO's.

He gets up with his cup of water and opens the fridge door. It's filled with alcohol again.

(CONTINUED)

He looks to the brothers then back at the fridge, shakes his head and shuts the door. He turns around and sees the book and shard still lying on the ground from before.

Lucas stares at the book for a beat then heads towards it and picks it up.

He examines it and notices a COMPLEX CIRCLE with cuneiform like writing engraved on the back of the book. Very similar to a pentagram.

The inside of the back cover has the words DAN VAH KAAR written in pen on it.

He sits back at his desk and opens the book up to see all kinds of written words in a different, somewhat ancient language.

Lucas then types the word PHENOMENA in the search bar and searches. A picture of Sir Delfry pops up along with a long text of the history of the subject.

He then types in SIR DELFRY SPECIAL METAL and gets many different types of known metals and theories on what it might be. Nothing useful.

He sighs and shuts his laptop. Moving his hand blindly over, he knocks his cup of water which spills over the pages of the book.

He grimaces and immediately tries to dry it off. After a couple seconds of attempted drying, he realizes the impracticality.

Reeling back and sighing he shuts his laptop and stares at the book, more puzzled this time.

INT. UNIVERSITY/PHENOMENA STUDIES BUILDING - DAY

Both Dan and Lucas sit in the same seats way up in the back. Chatter fills the room as Professor Dunley is not yet there.

LUCAS

That book. What is it?

Dan is caught off guard by the question.

LUCAS

Its been on the ground for a while
so I'm assuming that it's not
important to you.

DAN

It's just something my dad found at work. He thought i'd be interested in it so he gave it to me. A long time ago.

Lucas impatient.

LUCAS

So you don't know what it is?

DAN

No I don't.

A silence between them.

DAN

When you saw the dean, did you speak with the president?

Lucas shakes his head.

LUCAS

No. Actually I've never seen him before.

Prof. Dunley walks in as energetic as ever.

DAN

(More to himself)

Yeah he wasn't even at the orientation.

PROF. DUNLEY

You know what I dislike about our society? It's that its run solely on this.

He pulls out a one dollar bill.

INT.UNIVERSITY/PHENOMENA STUDIES BUILDING - LATER

It's after class and the room is mostly empty. Lucas and Dan still sit in the same seats and look down at the few kids talking to Professor Dunley. As the last kids leave Lucas wakes a sleeping Dan and signals him to meet with Dunley. They walk down.

PROF. DUNLEY

Hello guys, what can I help you with?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

I wanted to hear more about your research in the field. Why you chose it.

PROF. DUNLEY

I see we have two detectives here.

(Laughs)

Okay, well I do theoretical research in this field. We are currently trying to relate this phenomena to quantum mechanics and I feel like we almost have all the pieces to accomplish such technologies.

Dan stands there puzzled. Lucas nods his head.

LUCAS

Where do you think the future of this field is headed? Is it worth going to school for?

PROF. DUNLEY

I do think it's very worth it. What bothers me is the big deal that people make of it. I mean so what if it's unknown. We don't know a lot of things like friction, gravity, the very essence of space and time, the list goes on and on. To tell you the truth, I think that the technology already invented here is far more powerful than this magic stuff could ever be.

Lucas nods and seems content with the answer.

DAN

We don't know what friction is?

Dunley laughs.

PROF. DUNLEY

You're Lucas Black from the Black family right?

Lucas surprised.

LUCAS

Yeah.

PROF. DUNLEY

You're family has made great contributions to the field with their investments. I want to extend my thanks to them.

Lucas stares at Dunley. Dan glances at Lucas. Surprised.

PROF. DUNLEY

Well if that's it I have another lecture in twenty minutes and I need to get a quick bite to eat so I'll see you guys in Monday's lecture. Have a great weekend.

Dunley walks out smiling. Dan and Lucas stand there in the empty lecture hall.

INT.DORM/SUITE - NIGHT

Nate and Tyus play their MMO intensely. Dan sits in the middle of the floor struggling to set up a game system.

Lucas dabbles with his computer. The pages on Lucas' desk have drawings of the circle from the back of the cover. Dan, gets up to see what Lucas is doing.

He notices all the attempts to recreate the circle with each attempt getting better. Lucas uses a pair of compasses to aid him.

DAN

You have an HDMI cable?

LUCAS

No.

Dan looks over at the brothers.

DAN

Heh, they've been at it all night. Guess we gotta get used to this.

LUCAS

We?

Dan gives Lucas an awkward look.

DAN

Yeah, what does that mean, your leaving?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS
Probably.

DAN
Well I guess I can't blame you.

Tyus walks to the fridge to get something but heads over to Dan and Lucas. Curious.

He sees the drawings.

TYUS
hey, we should recreate this.

He picks up a perfectly recreated circle on a sheet of paper. Examines it.

TYUS
You know, like those shows where the wizard summons dragons and balrogs.

DAN
Like those massive circles they draw?

TYUS
Yeah. Exactly.

LUCAS
I can't draw well without those.
(Points to Compass)
Especially to that scale.

Tyus puts the drawing back on the desk. Still staring at it.

TYUS
I probably could.

EXT.GRASSY FIELD - NIGHT

The brothers walk behind Dan and Lucas as they all traverse an open field and enter a forest. There's a hidden cave in the distance.

INT.FORREST/CAVE - NIGHT

The four stand around in a dark cave. The only light emitting from Lucas and Nate's cell phones.

We see a large UNFINISHED CIRCLE. Tyus diligently draws on it with great precision and focus on open flat area using a shard we recognize. It marks the ground, similar to street chalk.

(CONTINUED)

LATER

We see the circle has manifested itself remarkably. The shard mostly used up. Dan and the brothers stand around and marvel at its complexity.

NATE

This is what you guys were up too?
What are we magicians or somethin'?

DAN

This is pretty good. What were you
going to school for again?

Dan continues to stare at the circle. It's presence dominating and eerie.

Lucas takes a picture of it with his cell phone. Pulls out the book and opens to the back cover where the phrase is scratched in.

LUCAS

Dan Vah Kaar.

The four stand around. Expecting something to happen.

Nothing does.

Dan Nate and Tyus all give Lucas a look.

NATE

So are you suppose to summon a
demon or something?

TYUS

Most likely a balrog.

LUCAS

I honestly don't know what I'm
doing. Just thought I'd give it a
try.

DAN

Hold on a sec.

Lucas and the brothers look at Dan as he sticks his hand out for the book. He grabs it from Lucas and walks to the center of the circle. Places the book in the center and steps back.

NATE

Okay so what does that do?

(CONTINUED)

DAN
Say that phrase again Dan vo kay or something-

NATE
Dan Vah Kaar?

A quick SPARK emits from the book then, BOOM!

INT.CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Like the sound of a sonic boom, they fall back with dust flying everywhere.

A beat. The four slowly get up and look around at each other. A sharp eye will notice the cave is slightly different from before. They don't notice.

NATE
What the fuck was that!?

DAN
Holy shit.
(Gathers himself)
Was that the phenomena stuff you were talking about? Fucking explosions!?

Lucas stands up fixing his glasses. He picks up what's left of the shard and stares hard at it for a beat. Then at the book.

LUCAS
(More to himself)
I think so.

NATE
Ah, I hit my head.

Nate rubs the back of his head.

NATE
Wait you guys hear that?

DAN
Yeah I hear it.

We now hear a DEEP HUMMING sound resonating through the cave walls ever so faint. Tyus heads over to what was the entrance of the cave.

(CONTINUED)

TYUS

Hey guys! Get over here!

Dan grabs the book and heads to where Tyus is along with Nate and Lucas.

The humming sound gets LOUDER as they head down the cave. Each of them shocked as they finally see the light from the end of the cave.

They walk towards it only to see the source of the sound.

A LARGE WATERFALL running in front of the cave entrance and it's loud.

There is a pathway to the left heading out to the outside. Lucas sees this and immediately heads back to where they were. Dan notices Lucas and follows him.

DAN

Hey wait. What the hell's going on?

Lucas continues to walk with great haste.

LUCAS

I don't know but I know where not in the same cave we entered.

He reaches the circle and sees that its darker than before. like burnt coal.

LUCAS

Put the book back. Quickly.

The brothers head over.

NATE

Something's not right, why's it daytime?

LUCAS

Dan Vah Kaar.

The brothers brace for another blast of air but nothing happens.

LUCAS

Nate you say it.

NATE

Dan Vah Kaar.
(Nothing)
Dan Vah Kaar!

LUCAS
What the hell.

Lucas hastily grabs the tiny remnants of the shard and starts to trace around the darkened circle. He gets only a quarter way before it becomes too small to use.

LUCAS
Shit.

DAN
You don't have more?

Lucas stares at the circle.

LUCAS
Do you?
(To Nate)
Can you say it once more.

His voice hopeless.

NATE
Dan Vah Kaar.

Nothing.

EXT. WATERFALL - EARLY MORNING

The sound of the water is dominating. The four walk down the pathway which is a good distance up from the crystal blue waters below.

Moss fills most of the rocky walls. Like a tropical forest. They make their way to the rocky lake shore and rest with their clothes soaked from the perpetual mist spray.

The waterfall is massive and looks even more amazing as it spreads wide across the rock face, coming from even more forested areas above. A magnificent cascade.

EXT. WATERFALL/LAKE BED - EARLY MORNING

Nate and Tyus lay on the red pebbled beach back first. Dan sits on a rock, head buried in his hands. Lucas stands and stares at the waterfall. Contemplating.

DAN
Where are we? What happened?

Lucas just stands there, calmer than before.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

You tell me. I think it teleported us. I mean I know the phenomenon created magnetic fields, but this?

They both view the waterfall together. Dan looks over to the brothers who lay tired and complaining, then to the left of the lake.

An object SHINES in the unnaturally crystal blue water. Dan notices and the object. He walks toward it.

NATE

God this can't be happening right now.

Lucas turns around and notices Dan now farther away.

TYUS

Hey where you going!?

EXT. WATERFALL/LAKE BED - DOWN STREAM

Dan walks into the lake and swims underwater. He's under for a good while then rises out.

As he walks out we see he's pulling a massive object. It is a sword. A GREAT SWORD.

Tyus, Nate, and Lucas run over to see. The sword is massive, about five feet long, with VINYL MARKINGS covering it's blue tinted blade.

The four marvel at it.

LUCAS

This is good.

NATE

Why?

LUCAS

Sign of civilization.

TYUS

Now what do we do? We can't go back.

Lucas pulls out what's left of the shard.

LUCAS

I need more of this to finish the circle. I figure we head out and
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS (cont'd)
see if we can get more of this and
find out where the hell we are.

DAN
Head out? We don't even know where
we are. There's no service. We're
probably on the other side of the
planet.

LUCAS
Would you rather sit here and
starve to death or do something
about it?

Dan thinks on the question, not sure.

NATE
How do you know it'll work?

Silence slips between the four. Lucas, not sure, looks at
the waterfall.

LUCAS
I don't.

EXT. FOREST - MORNING

The group trek through a dense forest, amazon-like with
dense foliage in the way.

Lucas SCRATCHES MARKS on each tree he passes with a rock.
Dan also makes BIG GASHES on other trees with fell swings of
his sword.

They cross a small stream and continue on.

EXT. FOREST

The foliage lets up. They now trek through massive
redwood-like trees.

Light rays stream through the canopy beautifully. The quick
change in scenery bewilders them.

EXT. PLAINS - MOURNING

They now make their way out of the forest and walk through
tan plains.

The environment has changed drastically. They look back at
the forest which ends abruptly.

The four all show confusion.

(CONTINUED)

DAN

What?

NATE

(Looking back)

That's not normal.

LUCAS

Remember where we came from.

Lucas points at a FORK LIKE TREE distinct from the others.

DAN

Did we teleport?

Lucas ignores the question. Focused.

LUCAS

Let's just keep moving.

There's a DARK OBJECT in the distance. Tyus squints to see and notices it moving slowly.

TYUS

Hey there something out there. I think it's somebody.

The other three see the object too. They run towards it yelling.

EXT. PLAINS - MORNING

A large covered wagon is pulled by two horses down a dirt road.

The group approaches in the distance, their yelling increasingly more audible.

They finally reach the slow moving wagon. Dan approaches the side and notices an OLD MAN, late 60s, steer the horses with his hat tilted over face. He's fast asleep.

DAN

He's asleep.

(To Old Man)

Hey!

The Old man wakes up startled. He looks to the left to see Dan and the others walking with the moving wagon.

OLD MAN

Oh hey there fellas. What are y'all doin' way out here? You lookin' for a ride to Cylyner?

(CONTINUED)

A very deep and raspy voice. Dan looks at the group confused, unknown to the name. Lucas gestures him to go with it.

DAN

Yes.

OLD MAN

Well hop on back.

(To Dan)

Might I add that's a fine sword you got there.

DAN

(Joking)

Thanks. Forged it myself.

The four hop in. There's bags filled with foreign looking fruit and books.

Nate and Tyus slump in their seats in relief.

NATE

Ah finally.

TYUS

Do you have any water?

From inside the old man sits in the outside facing forward. No change in scenery on the flat horizon.

OLD MAN

Afraid I just finished the last jug. We'll be passing my farm shortly there's plenty there.

LUCAS

How long?

OLD MAN

Oh only three hours depending on ol' Sally and Marca here. They know where they're goin'.

He laughs and points to the horses. They look old and move at a snails pace. The four, distraught by the answer.

LUCAS

Can you tell us where we are?

OLD MAN

What'ya lost? Well I reckon it is easy to lose your way out here. I use too.

(CONTINUED)

(Views the landscape)
We're about halfway to Cylyner from
Iromek. Just follow the road and
you'll never lose your way. Or the
stars, if your learned enough.

Lucas looks down in thought. Dan just as confused.

OLD MAN
Well if you don't mind I'ma catch
me some more shut-eye. You guys
should too. Seems like you trekked
a forest.

The old man looks back and sees the four dirty and sweaty.
He tilts his hat over his eyes and falls asleep in seconds.

Lucas turns to address the three.

LUCAS
Alright guys lets just rest and
I'll ask the questions at the farm.
We'll be back soon.

Dan lays back.

DAN
Sounds good.

NATE
So are we in like Oklahoma or
something? Cylyner a small town?

TYUS
(Phone out)
Yeah I'm getting no service still.

We can hear light snoring from the Old man. Lucas rest his
head back.

LUCAS (O.S.)
Well I can tell you where we're
not.

EXT. FARM - DAY

The scenery has changed as the grass is lush with oak like
trees abundant. A modest sized house made of wood and
cobblestone stands.

The horses still attached to the wagon drink water.

(CONTINUED)

OLD MAN (O.S.)

This is the best I got. Should keep you warm at night and cool during the day.

INT. FARM

The four all stand and drink water out of metal canisters. They now wear tanish-brown clothes and robes.

Each of them carries a sack strapped over the shoulder. We can assume for their clothes.

OLD MAN

I can guess you guys are from Iromek. With the fancy clothing and all.

LUCAS

Yeah we just got lost. Can you tell us where we can find more of this?

Lucas shows the SHARD. The Old man views it closely. His face showing great interest then apathy.

OLD MAN

Well if it is what I'm thinking it is then you guys should have your own palace right now.

LUCAS

What do you think it is?

OLD MAN

A knock off of ragnok. Probably from some metal worker in Ironwake tryin' to make a few ralls.

Lucas carefully catches on.

LUCAS

Well then how many ralls is this worth?

The Old man, again with his laugh.

OLD MAN

Enough to get you some cheap mead.

Lucas looks back at the group. Clearly annoyed with the laugh.

(CONTINUED)

OLD MAN

But that sword you got there. You better make sure Cylyner's guards don't see it.

The four all look at the magnificent great sword that stands almost as tall as Dan. The vinyl patterns perfectly symmetrical.

DAN

Why?

OLD MAN

'Cause anyone can spot that blue metal like that ain't from this region. You can only get metal like that from the caves over in the western regions outside of Dreswell.

(Walks toward it)

Yeah it was probably forged in Dreswell.

DAN

Well it is heavy.

He laughs but his attempt at making the situation lighter fails. The old man still stares at the sword. The mood changes.

He reaches to touch it but-

NATE

What's this then?

The Old man looks at Nate who shows the book. Lucas shoots a look at Nate; Why would you show the book!?

The old man grabs it and flips through the pages. Lucas nervous.

The old man's eyes widen. Each page flip more harsh.

OLD MAN

My god, What is this? Who are you guys?

The four look at each other completely afraid. The Old man looks up wide eyed then suddenly a big smile appears on his face.

(CONTINUED)

OLD MAN

I'm just messin' with you guys. I
can't read.

Relief falls on the four. The old man lets out that laugh.
All except Lucas jokingly laugh with him.

He hands the book back Nate.

LUCAS

So we head out tomorrow?

The Old man looks at him puzzled.

OLD MAN

Huh? The day just started. We still
got all morning.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

The sun shines high up in the sky. Dan lays back. Head
shaking with every bump. Staring. The sword now wrapped in a
thick fabric strapped around his shoulder.

Nate and Tyus sit opposite to Lucas. They both read books
from the giant sack. Snoring from the Old man.

EXT. FIRST GATE - DAY

The black wagon is stopped at a gate. TWO GUARDS in medieval
style armor walk up lazily inspect it.

They give each other thumbs up and let the wagon continue.
The Old Man tips his hat and continues. The guards walk back
in a small cobblestone building.

The four stare in disbelief.

EXT. GRASSY PLAINS - DAY

The black wagon now travels through more populated areas.
Small wooden and cobblestone buildings are sporadically
placed among the grassy plains. Sitting in gracious sweeping
valleys.

The group now awake and attentive, gaze at the sights.

OLD MAN (O.S.)

Ah, there she is.

The four focus their attention ahead of the wagon to see a
massive city in the distance.

EXT.CYLYNER/EAST GATES/CHECKPOINT - DAY

The black wagon is among many other carriages and people that enter and leave through the gate checkpoint. We see the tan city wall tower over everything outside it. Above it, an enormous BLUE FLAG with silver stars flapping in the wind.

The buildings outside the wall, about four stories tall, have merchants selling miscellaneous goods to endless crowds of people.

A GATE GUARD signals the carriage in front to enter then approaches the black wagon.

GATE GUARD

Welcome to Cylyner, state your business.

OLD MAN

Book delivery to Odell Texts and Manuscripts.

The Gate guard looks at the back. He points to the four.

GATE GUARD

And what of them?

OLD MAN

There here to help me lift these bags. I'm an old man you see.

The Gate guard thinks for a beat, nods his head, then signals them to continue on.

EXT.CYLYNER/MAIN STREET - DAY

The overall aesthetic of the city is a blend between ancient Roman and medieval style architecture.

The wagon clatters on through the cobblestone streets. The abnormally massive tan buildings tower above a wide, congested strip.

People crowd the streets entering and exiting shops. The four are in complete astonishment staring high up at the towering structures. The black wagon comes to a stop.

OLD MAN

Well this is it. If I might ask a favor, can you guys deliver those two sacks to Odell for me?

The old man points to a shop with a sign reading TEXTS & MANUSCRIPTS.

(CONTINUED)

NATE

Ye-yeah sure.

The four hop out the wagon still in complete amazement. Nate and Tyus carry large sacks over their shoulders.

OLD MAN

Thanks son I appreciate it. These old bones just don't move the way they use too.

(Points: Dan's covers sword)

Don't forget.

Dan puts a hand on his sword. Nods his head.

DAN

Yeah I won't. Thanks.

OLD MAN

(To Lucas)

Odell should also be able to tell you about finding more of that fake ragnok.

LUCAS

Alright, thanks for the ride.

The Old man tips his hat. Without notice the two hoses slowly move and he rides off.

TYUS

Those horses have a mind of their own.

Tyus reaches for his pocket. Lucas catches this from the corner of his eye and laboriously stops him. Tyus stands shocked. So do Dan and Nate.

LUCAS

Don't. Do that.

TYUS

Why?

LUCAS

Cause were not where you think we are. Look around us.

Tyus stares. Not sure how to answer.

DAN

Then where the hell are we?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

Different planet, dimension, era
even. I don't know.

Dan, perplexed, looks to Nate who stares at the massive
grayish-tan buildings.

NATE

He's right. I've never seen this
kind of architecture. The buildings
are too big for the material their
made out of which I'm guessing is
marble.

Dan shocked at Nate's insight.

LUCAS

But isn't marble white?

NATE

It can come in many colours like
black, tan, grey but this. . . I
mean not even the Romans
constructed stuff this big.

LUCAS

We'll just deliver the books, find
more of this, and get back home.
Okay?

The three nod in response and make their way towards the
store.

INT.CYLYNER/ODELL TEXT & MANUSCRIPTS - DAY

ODELL, late 50s, sits behind the main wooden counter
reading. The lost twin of Santa Claus. The room darker in
contrast to the outside. His son OLIVER, 20s, stands
adjacent, fixing books on the shelf.

The four walk in. Oliver turns around and greets them.

OLIVER

Hello guys. How can I help you.

NATE

We're here to deliver these from...
What was his name?

The three are just as clueless.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS
The old farmer.

OLIVER
Oh Odley, yes. Just put them down
i'll take care of it.

Nate and Tyus put down the bags. Dan heads towards a book shelf. He looks to his right to see a GIRL holding a basket of books. She turns his way which has him quickly divert his attention.

LUCAS
Do you have any idea where we can
find some real ragnok?

This captures the attention of Odell who finally glances up from his book. Oliver stands not sure to take it as a joke.

OLIVER
Well I'm sure you can beg the king
for some uh-

ODELL
And what would you need it for?

LUCAS
Just wondering if there were any
left, where I could find it.

Odell gives Lucas a hard stare.

ODELL
(Impolite)
The ancient dungeons near Norfund
is where you should start. Might I
ask where you and your company are
from?

NATE
We're from Iromek.

ODELL
Then that explains a lot.

Odell gets up and walks to a back room.

OLIVER
Don't mind him, he's not a big fan
of Iromek. So what brings you all
to Cylyner?

TYUS

You know. Just on an adventure.

Oliver laughs.

Dan walks back with a book titled MAGICK. Oliver notices.

OLIVER

I see your into magic huh?

DAN

Why? Does this book have spells or something?

Oliver laughs again.

OLIVER

Sadly no. It's about the three diviners.

Lucas wanting to get back to the matter at hand.

LUCAS

So this dungeon in Norfund, can you direct us toward it?

Oliver looks a Lucas completely confused.

OLIVER

You don't expect to actually find ragnok let alone travel to Norfund, do you?

Lucas stands with no response. Not sure how to rebut. Oliver pulls out a giant SCROLL from under the counter then spreads it out. It's a Map. The word ESINE can be seen on the top right corner.

OLIVER

This is our current location.

His finger is over a city in the left region on the coast. CYLYNER.

OLIVER

This is Norfund.

He slides his finger all the way up towards what we see to be wintry mountainous regions. NORFUND.

OLIVER

That's a few week journey by even the most pristine of horses.

(CONTINUED)

This hits the group hard especially Lucas. Oliver rolls the map up and extends it to Lucas.

OLIVER
Here take it. I feel you'll need
it.

Lucas grabs the map.

OLIVER
(To Dan)
You can also keep that book.

OLIVER
There's an inn down the street
called the Blue Tavern if you
looking for a bed.

LUCAS
Thanks.

OLIVER
Come by anytime.

The four head out.

EXT. CYLYNER/ODELL TEXTS & MANUSCRIPTS - DAY

The sun's brightness is in direct contrast to the darkness
of the store.

DAN
Now what?

TYUS
We head to Norfund.

NATE
Yeah right, you heard what he said.
Two weeks!

DAN
By the looks of it, I don't even
think ragnok exists.

LUCAS
We need to find somewhere to stay.
The Blue Tavern.

DAN
How we have no money or ralls.

COMMOTION comes from down the main street. We hear music
playing louder until we see a parade like event approaching.

(CONTINUED)

STREET

Rows of horses walk elegantly past as guards in special looking armour make way for a GRAND CARRIAGE. All attention is directed to the grand carriage as it slowly passes the four.

INT.GRAND CARRIAGE - CONTINUOUS - MOVING

We see our four main heroes pass by, staring at the carriage. A close listener can hear FAINT WHISPERS.

DELEGATE SADON, late 50s, sits lost in thought. He's dressed in magnificent clothing and sits facing someone we can't yet see.

Sadon stares out to the people all crowded on the sides then takes a look at who we now see to be LORD REFTEN, late 60s, who sits facing him. He's dressed in a lavish robe.

Lord Reften lets out a COURSE COUGH.

SADON

You know you didn't have to come my lord.

Lord Reften gestures his hand implying he's fine. Sadon stares doubt.

SADON

I'll see to it the council turns to your favor. I'm sure they'll ask how things went but rest assured I have things planned out.

A beat.

LORD REFTEN

The council has long dismissed my lineage to which only the people recognize.

SADON

Like I said, i'll handle it.

They both stare out toward the cheering crowd

COUNCIL MEMBER (PRE-LAP)

The council requested an inquiry with Lord Reften.

INT. REFTEN PALACE/COUNCIL ROOM - DAY

COUNCIL MEMBER

Where is he, delegate?

SADON

The long trip to Ironwake has left him a bit under the weather, but rest assured he'll be ready for the council's barrage of questions next week.

FOUR ELDER MEN sit in symmetrical stadium like seating. The room is massive holding at least fifty other representatives.

A BLUE AURA emits from the window pain which stand tall behind the council.

Sadon stands alone, front and center, facing them.

COUNCIL MEMBER

Your humor, as loathsome as it is, hopefully hints at good news.

Sadon stares at the council.

COUNCIL MEMBER

Can you answer the ques-

SADON

No. Their answer was no.

COMMOTION fills the room. The council member keeps glaring eyes on him. Other representatives from the benches begin to YELL OUT in anger and frustration.

COUNCIL MEMBER

Quiet down! Quiet down!

(To Sadon)

This council has assisted the Reften family for centuries. Our goal is to eventually see representatives from Dreswell and Norfund join us in these wonderful meetings. That is why we have unanimously made the decision to use... force.

Light commotion comes about.

(CONTINUED)

COUNCIL MEMBER
Any further questions Delegate
Sadon?

Sadon and the council member's eyes never come off each other. He bows his head, much to the council member's chagrin.

SADON
Do what you must.

COUNCIL MEMBER #2
(Suprised)
A bow coming from an affiliate of
Lord Reften? I'm flattered.

Sadon smiles and walks away.

COUNCIL MEMBER
And one more thing.

Sadon stops in his tracks. Dramatically turns around.

COUNCIL MEMBER
What of the supposed Dreswell spies
in this city?

SADON
It turned out to be a just a rumor.
But I'll still have my guards look
into it. Will that be all for
today?

COUNCIL MEMBER
Yes.

They both trade forced smiles. Sadon continues out as the representatives begin to leave their seats.

EXT. CYLYNER/MAIN STREET - DAY

The four walk down the main street. They look around still taking in the sights. The streets are loud and crowded.

They walk by an old crazy BUM sitting on the side of a building. Dan notices him and pulls out a NICKLE. He tosses it to the bum who catches it with both hands.

Dan smiles at him and continues on. The bum looks at the nickle with wide eyes completely amazed. The head of Thomas Jefferson shines bright in the sunlight.

The old bum looks back towards the group but they are long lost in the crowd.

EXT. BLUE TAVERN - ESTABLISHING

The words BLUE TAVERN engraved above the door.

INT. CYLYNER/THE BLUE TAVERN - DAY

The four walk in and are immediately greeted to a fight. Men at the bar and the tables all cheer as the two DRUNK BRAWLERS fall to the ground wrestling. MUSIC from the FIDDLER keeps pace with the fight.

THEA AVILL (20), the bar attendant, screams for them to stop with an annoyed voice. A rather tall fair looking girl. She deals with this on a day to day basis. We recognize this girl from Odell's text & Manuscripts.

THEA

Hey that's enough! Stop! Ugh!

The crowd CHANTS and music over power her screams as the two brawlers now knock over tables and make their way toward the group.

One of the drunk brawlers separates from the others grasp and shoves him into the four, specifically Dan. They come crashing down hard and loud.

The brawler slowly rolls off Dan. The whole room silent and staring at the group.

RALIN (O.S.)

Bring them here.

The group turn and see were everyone's attention is actually directed.

RALIN, late 20s, stands in front of four guards. He's dressed in armor more distinguished than the other guards. A small BLUE CAPE attached to his left shoulder.

A Large built man, BORRIS, stands tall next to him with an unsettling smirk on his face. A large DARK SCAR over his left eye. The same blue cape as Ralin.

The two lesser guards grab the two brawlers. Ralin sticks his hand out towards Dan. Dan slowly grabs it and is pulled up.

RALIN

Are you okay?

Dan shakes his head, unnerving himself.

(CONTINUED)

DAN

Yeah.

Ralin signals for the guards to go outside. Now the people in the tavern continue as if nothing happened.

Ralin takes special notice of the sword.

RALIN

That's a big sword you got there.
Mind if I take a look?

Dan is reluctant to answer. Every second weighs heavier.

LUCAS

It's not supposed to be uncloaked.

Ralin looks at Lucas along with Borris who stares a dagger.

BORRIS

(Walking toward Lucas)
Was anyone talkin' to you?

Borris now stands face to face with a surprisingly calm Lucas. Ralin rolls his eyes and sighs.

RALIN

Borris, that's enough. If they
don't want us to see then that's
fine.

Borris and Lucas still in each others faces. Borris smiles, spits on the ground and walks back to the entrance all with a SINISTER LAUGH.

RALIN

(To Thea)
I see your father isn't here. Tell
him we stopped by.

Thea completely ignores him and continues cleaning glasses and serving drinks. Ralin, used to this, nods at the four and exits.

Dan, Nate and Tyus, stare at Lucas who stands frozen but relieved.

NATE

Holy shit man.

TYUS

Yeah that was-wow.

(CONTINUED)

THEA
You guys should come have a drink.
It's on me.

INT. BLUE TAVERN/BAR

The four sit on high stools in front of the counter. Thea serves all four drinks with surprising speed and finesse.

Dan recognizes her. He takes a big swig. They all do.

DAN
(To Lucas)
Thanks.

Lucas nods his head staring at his glass. He too takes a big gulp.

THEA
You should be thanking the gods.
Why not just show the sword?

DAN
I don't know. Wasn't thinking
straight.

THEA
Uh Huh.
(a beat)
You guys were at Odell's shop.

DAN
Yeah, I'm Dan this is Nate, Tyus
and Lucas.

Thea observes all three. They sit slumped and tired.

THEA
Thea.

TYUS
Well it's nice to meet you. You
have any idea if we can stay here?

THEA
Ten ralls can get you a night here.
Each.

This hits the group hard. Thea notices.

THEA
Where you guys from anyway?

NATE

Iromek.

Thea puzzled.

THEA

Iromek? And you guys need money?

LUCAS

We lost our way.

Thea stares at him suspect.

VOICE (O.S.)

Anyone who can stand up to
Cylyner's head guards like that can
stay at my inn.

The group turn to see the inn owner, MARK AVILL, 40s, carry a large barrel on his shoulders. A thick, boisterous man but never the less strong. He walks down a set of stairs from the back of the room.

MARK

Just help me with the rest of these
barrels and you got yourselves a
bed.

EXT. BLUE TAVERN - EVENING

A wagon filled with barrels sits outside. We see Nate walk out with a barrel over his shoulders. Tired. He, with the assistance of the courier, lift the last barrel onto the wagon bed.

They both shake hands and the courier departs. Nate hunches over, catching his breath. The sun is finally setting.

INT. BLUE TAVERN

Mark sits comfortably at one of the wooden tables with the three. Beer in hand and tired from a hard days work. The room is empty.

Thea cleans the bar area with a disgruntled look. Nate comes in and finds a seat with the group. Mark takes a sip of his beer. No rush.

MARK

Yeah I heard Ralin and Borris
causing a commotion as usual.

(CONTINUED)

THEA
And where the hell were you?

MARK
I was busy with the barrels.

Thea gives a look of disgust. Mark takes another sip.

MARK
Oh and the keys-

CRASH. A set of keys land next to Mark, thrown from a now gone Thea. He reaches over and grabs the keys. The four stand taking in their relationship.

MARK
That's my daughter. Just like her mother.

Mark sits, lost in thought.

DAN
We can't thank you enough.

TYUS
Yeah.

MARK
No problem. Name's Mark by the way.

They each say their NAMES.

MARK
Like I said, I've never seen anyone speak to Ralin like that.
(To Lucas)
And you? Challenging Borris? You have a heart of steel. A rare find these days.

Lucas nods his head.

TYUS
What can we say? We're just adventurers.

NATE
From small farms in the country.

Lucas and Dan notice Nate's lie.

MARK

Ah the country.

(Takes a gulp)

Where the strongest warriors
hail. These keys.

(Shows keys)

Two rooms. Two beds. You'll need a
good rest after today.

He hands them to Lucas.

INT. BLUE TAVERN/ROOM - NIGHT

The four sit in a candle lit room with a small window two
beds, a desk, and a rocking chair.

Dan sits on one bed reading the book 'magick', while Nate
lays on the other. Tyus sits on the ground staring at
nothing. The book lays on the bed.

Lucas stares out the window. The city is beautiful at night
with yellow lights glowing up the streets.

DAN

I see they haven't discovered
electricity yet.

NATE

They huh? Whose they? This is
ridiculous. Like where the hell are
we right now? What am I wearing?

Dan gives a weak laugh. Then silence.

NATE

So what, that's it? We just gonna
give up?

Still nothing. Nate sits up.

NATE

Hey. Is anyone listening. What the
fuck are we doing?

LUCAS

We'll be fine.

NATE

How are we getting back then!?

LUCAS

I don't know but we're getting
home. I promise I'll get us back.

(CONTINUED)

Nate looks at Lucas about to say something then-

KNOCK, KNOCK.

The four startled. Dan gets up and stands near the door. He slowly opens it. It's Thea. She stands holding two trays of food. Stares at them startled.

THEA

Um, I figured you guys were hungry.

Dan signals for her to enter.

LATER

Dan, Tyus, and Nate finish up the food.

THEA

Was it good?

They nod. She notices Lucas still staring out the window.

THEA

You sure you don't wan't any? I can make more.

LUCAS

I'm fine.

THEA

This was to thank you for handling the guards.

DAN

I wouldn't necessarily call that handling.

She laughs. The book sitting in plain sight catches her attention. She picks it up and opens.

Dan and Tyus almost spit out their food. They look at Lucas who shrugs it off.

THEA

I didn't know you guys were into this stuff.

She flips through the pages. Gets to the back cover were the words DAN VAH KAAR are written.

THEA

Dan Vah Kaar?

The two give shocked looks. Lucas now crossed with worry.

(CONTINUED)

THEA
You wrote this?

LUCAS
It's a fiction book from Iromek.
Nothing interesting.

She continues to flip through the book heavily interested.

THEA
You know there's a legend in one of
the books I'm currently reading
about an ancient spell tome owned
by the lost necromancer. It's funny
you know. If only it existed.

She still flips through the pages. Lucas more interested.

LUCAS
Why?

THEA
Because it is said to have
unimaginable power. Power that can
change this world.

Lucas stares back outside. She sighs.

DAN
Well even if you had it you
wouldn't be able to understand it.

She pauses for a beat. Closes the book and lays it back on
the bed.

THEA
Your right, ha. I wouldn't be able
to understand it.

NATE
What would you change about this
world?

A beat.

THEA
(More to herself)
Everything.

Silence fills the room. They each think on it.

THEA

Well I hoped you enjoyed the food.

She gets up and grabs the trays.

DAN

Thanks, it was really good.

TYUS

My compliments to the chef.

She makes her way to the door.

THEA

At least it's the one thing I can do.

The four smile and she exits.

Nate stands up.

NATE

(Mocking Thea's accent)

Well I'm awfully and tired. If you need anything, room next door.

TYUS

Yeah.

(Yawn)

Me too.

Dan and Lucas nod them off.

DAN

This book also talks about that lost necromancer. I wonder if it was him who came to our world.

LUCAS

Let's just focus on getting back.

INT. BLUE TAVERN/ROOM - NIGHT

The room is pitch black. Only faint light shines through the window.

Dan, in bed, opens his eyes and from his POV, a SHADOW not normal to the room. It's a figure and it seems to eerily face him. As if staring at him.

Dan stares, frozen. He rubs his eyes and as they adjust, the figure; just the rocking chair in the corner of the room with clothes on it.

Dan lays back and breathes out, calming himself.

INT. BLUE TAVERN - MORNING

The four sit at a wooden table, tired and hungover. Dan is without the sword.

Thea up and about lifts some heavy barrels behind the counter.

DAN
You need any help?

She puts a barrel under the counter.

THEA
(Breathing Heavy)
No I'm fine.

Dan shrugs. Mark walks down the stairs greeting everyone with a HUGE YAWN. He scratches his beard. Already has a glass of mead.

MARK
You know the king has a speech today. You going Thea?
(She ignores him)
C'mon darling.

Nothing.

MARK
(To the four)
Don't mind her.
(More to himself)
She's still gettin' over things.

Thea walks to another room, still preparing for another days work.

DAN
Can you tell us more about the king?

MARK
Lord Reften huh? Old fart tryin' to play god. He'll be dead soon anyways.

NATE
Why is he sick?

(CONTINUED)

MARK

Probably. Just had a long trip from Dreswell and they definitely declined his offer to fall under his control.

He takes a gulp.

MARK

Yeah, looks like were in for another war.

DAN

You don't seem too worried.

MARK

All things are resolved in time. This is no different.

LUCAS

(Carefully)

And you side with the king?

MARK

What does it matter? The council has since taken all the power. The king is a barking dog with no teeth.

He takes another sip.

MARK

But what they don't know is Dreswell will not fall as easy as Ironwake. Especially with help from Norfund. There are even tales of magic being used there.

We see the word "magic" has made the group all the more interested. All four stare at Mark intensely. He notices then LAUGHS. The four's interest dissipates.

Thea walks out past everyone to the front exit with an empty bag.

MARK

You going to that bookstore again?

She ignores him and continues out.

MARK

(Staring; Entrance)

She's headed to the market down the street. Then to see Reften's

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MARK (cont'd)
speech. I'll give you all another
week here if two of you go with
her.

The four look at Mark then at each other. Lucas shrugs.
eager to take the offer.

TYUS
Why?

MARK
Cause I don't like her strolling by
herself down there.

The four all stand up. Mark takes another sip.

LUCAS
We'll all go.

MARK
I need at least one of you to stay
here and help me out.

The four, again, look at each other.

TYUS
I'll stay. It's fine whatever.

The three look at Tyus for assurance then head out.

EXT. CYLYNER/MAIN STREET - MORNING

The strip is less crowded than usual. The three walk out of
the shop and see Thea standing, waiting as if she was
expecting them. They walk up to her surprised.

THEA
I knew my father would do something
like this.
(Sighs)
Let's go then.

EXT. PALACE GATES - DAY

Thea leads the three past a checkpoint. We look up to see a
GRAND PALACE in the distance. It spans across a hill
overlooking the city and a vast ocean behind it.

EXT. PALACE COMMONS

The four walk into a massive crowd. We see Sadon sit in chairs with the council members on a large terrace area under the palace's massive wall arch. A plethora of guards stand at the bottom of the small stairs in front of the people.

IN THE CROWD

THEA

C'mon, I want to get closer.

DAN

It's a little crowded.

Thea continues to push through with Dan, Lucas and Nate following. A BIG GUY gets in her way. She tries to squeeze past him and to his annoyance, shoves her back.

Thea, now angry, gets up to confront him but the three grab her, panicked.

THEA

Excuse me! How dare you?

The Big Guy, just as angry. Two SMALLER FRIENDS step up beside him.

SMALLER FRIEND

Is there a problem?

DAN

No, no. No problem.

LUCAS

Yes we're at fault here. We apologize.

THEA

Hey!

They pull her away chastising. The small friend WHISPERS something to big guy as they stare. He smiles.

EDGE OF CROWD

The four stand near a building, the crowd just in front of them.

THEA

What happened to that bravado from before?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

We don't need to draw attention to ourselves.

Thea, now puzzled.

THEA

Why!?

NATE

Just forget about that-

A THUNDEROUS ROAR emits from the crowd. The four's attention is now directed to what the crowd is cheering on about.

TOP OF TERRACE

We see Ralin and Borris leading a legion of guards. They walk in formation out of the palace. As they arrive on the terrace, we see Lord Reften. The crowd's roar is even louder.

Reften stands on the edge of the terrace, overlooking the vast crowd. They still cheer.

Reften raises one hand. The crowd quiets down. Sadon, who sits a couple seats away from the council member, grins. The council member notices and rolls his eyes.

Reften scans the crowd for a beat. Clears his throat. . .

REFTEN

War. Is upon us. Dreswell has denied countless attempts at peace. They threaten the kingdom my lineage has protected for centuries now. That is why I ask you now, as we enter the seventh age, to have faith in Cylyner and all her regions!

The crowd ROARS. Reften silences with his hand. His voice is louder than we expect it to be.

COUNCIL MEMBER #2

What of the ancient diviners!?
Stories tell of their blessings
being bestowed upon their army.

The crowd is now filled with commotion. His powerful voice quiets the crowd.

(CONTINUED)

REFTEN

Whether you choose to believe in those fairy tales is up to you. As for me, I believe my family has never let this empire down and I refuse to bow down to corrupt empires who choose to threaten our peace!

The crowd, back on Reften's side, ROARS.

REFTEN

So enjoy the food, music and play.
And let the festivities begin!

A final roar from the crowd and MUSIC begins to play.

INT. PALACE/DINING ROOM - EVENING

Reften sits at the end of a grand mahogany table holding a BABY. JAMES, late teens, eats silently. A YOUNG BOY and a YOUNGER GIRL also eat at this table. They're enjoying an extravagant meal.

Lord Reften rests happy in the company of his family trying to feed the Baby. Sadon walks in. Stands by the entrance.

SADON

I apologize for my tardiness.

Reften stands up. A servant comes to take the Baby out of his hands.

REFTEN

(To James)

Ah, no problem. Come James. It's about time you learn something important.

James, confused, stands slowly.

INT. DUNGEON

Reften, Sadon, and James all walk down a wide, dark, stone corridor.

They reach a door guarded by two guards. One of the guards opens the door to reveal; a kneeling PRISONER with a bag over his head.

It isn't until one of the guards brings in a torch we see the prisoner to be beaten, cut up and bleeding badly. He trembles at their presence.

(CONTINUED)

James' face covered in shock

REFTEN

This man here has been convicted with treason against the empire. Should he fall for his crimes?

(Shrugs)

I don't know.

James trying to find the words.

JAMES

I . . .I don't understand?

James even more lost.

REFTEN

It's simple. Whether he lives or perishes is your decision.

The guard gets an ax in hand. Ready.

JAMES

B-But w-what did he do wrong?

Reften losing his patience.

REFTEN

This traitor could have cost the lives of our family! Your brothers, sisters, your mother!

James now realizing his lesson. Forced to make a decision. Slightly nods his head.

Reften lightly signals to the guard.

The guard slowly takes off the bloodied bag. We see the bag has adhered to his facial wounds. The man cries out as the bag is removed.

He raises his head. His pleading eyes fixed on James. Sadon also not into this.

REFTEN

Are you certain?

Reften stares hard at his son who can't take his eyes off the prisoner.

JAMES

Y-yes.

Reften signals the guard again. This time the guard raises the ax. We see James still staring.

BANG. He flinches. Eyes betraying a feeling of distress.

REFTEN (O.S.)

If there's one thing you learn from
this my son, always look them in
the eyes. It's only that way. . .
you can be sure.

Reften puts a hand on his shoulder. James, eyes still staring. Lost.

INT. BLUE TAVERN-DAY

Mark stands behind the bar, still drinking. The place is dead. Tyus sweeps the floor. The Fiddler sits and drinks too, half asleep.

MARK

That's good enough, Tyus.

(To Fiddler)

You can come back later when the sun
sets. Were gonna need you.

The fiddler slowly makes his way out. Tyus hands the broom to Mark. Mark puts it under the counter and pops up with a BOTTLE of liquor. This glass bottle is different. Special.

TYUS

Isn't that enough for you today?

Mark opens the bottle and grabs two shot glasses. He pours its contents and slides the glass toward Tyus.

TYUS

You don't really expect me to-

MARK

Just drink.

(Drinks)

And let your sorrows fade away.

Tyus stares at Mark for a beat. Shrugs then drinks. The drink hits him hard. Mark laughs and seals the bottle up.

TYUS

What, that's it?

Mark still laughing.

(CONTINUED)

MARK

You know I haven't pulled out this bottle in ages. Helena was the only one who could stand it.

The name 'Helena' has Mark lost in thought. Tyus, now full of curiosity.

TYUS

Is that your wife?

MARK

Was. She's gone now. Hopefully in a much better place.

Tyus stares at his shot glass. Contemplating.

TYUS

How di --

MARK

It was my fault. They're dead because of me. And my daughter hates me because of it. That's my punishment.

Tyus glares down. A beat. Mark smiles.

MARK

But as long as she has that fight in her, I'll be happy.

Tyus looks back. Smiles.

EXT.MARKET-ESTABLISHING - EVENING

The sky is painted a wonderful gradient of red, blue, and orange.

Fruit and meat are set up in racks on the markets exterior. An attendant stands outside watching as hordes of people flock in and out of the entrance.

NATE(PRE-LAP)

Ugh! I'm tired. We should head back.

INT. MARKET

Thea holds a basket of meat. Dan and Nate also hold baskets of food. Lucas follows last fully observing the food with a sense of wonderment. The sense of wonderment that Dan and Nate have lost.

THEA

I just need one more thing.

Nate sighs. He notices something that looks like an apple. Picks it up and takes a bite. Grimaces, then throws it back.

DAN

What's all this food for?

Thea grabs a large piece of meat and places it in Dan's basket. Much to his chagrin.

THEA

The flood gates open tonight. Every year the king gives that mousy speech and folks all over the eastern region enter town. Mostly for the food. it just so happens my tavern has tremendously grown in popularity.

DAN

Your Tavern?

THEA

Yes. My Tavern.

Her remark had a little bite in it. Dan backs off.

LUCAS

Why is it your tavern?

Lucas, could care less how she takes the question. Thea now a bit more agitated.

THEA

It's none of your business, but if you really want to know, my mother passed it on to me when she died. So under Cylyner contracts, I am the proprietor.

Lucas about to ask another question, decides against it. They approach a cashier like area. Thea pulls out a bag..

The MERCHANT Takes the bag and pulls out a COIN. Inspects it.

(CONTINUED)

MERCHANT

Okay, Thank you.

Thea smiles then heads out with the three following.

EXT. CYLYNER/MAIN STREET - EVENING

They exit out the front and see... the Big Guy from before alongside his two smaller friends. Waiting. Somewhat surrounding them.

Thea, surprised, stops in her tracks. Dan, Lucas and Nate all held back.

SMALLER FREIND #1

Words been going around about
someone stealing from our shop.
That market back there.

Thea with a confused look, looks back at the market then back to them.

THEA

Well it's not me so I wish you the
best of luck on your search.

She continues to walk forward as if they were going to move but they don't. The big guy, like a brick wall, pushes her back just like before. Her face like a ghost.

Dan, Lucas and Nate stand afraid to speak.

NATE

C'mon man really? Look at her. She
just paid for all this-

THEA

Get out of my way.

The three stand shocked. Her eyes eerily becoming engulfed in frozen rage.

LUCAS

Alright can we just calm down here-

SMALLER FREIND #2

What did you just say whore?

Without notice, she LUNGES forward and punches the big guy in the jaw. Knocking him down, she continues to run past.

Before the two smaller friends can get a hold of her, Dan and Nate think quick and TACKLE the two respectively.

(CONTINUED)

THEA
Hey, this Way!

Thea runs to an alley urging them to follow her. Lucas shocked picks up the items they dropped from the sprawl and continues on.

The three men lay on the ground dazed. A crowd looks upon them.

INT.BLUE TAVERN - EVENING

Tyus sits in the mess area alone. Calmly drawing. It's quiet.

Thea, Dan, Lucas and Nate all come running in. They stop in the middle of the open floor to catch their breaths.

THEA
I think we got away.

Nate plops back first on the floor completely tired. Having the worst stamina.

NATE
Damn. A warning next time.

DAN
Or how about a different plan.

LUCAS
How do you know they won't come here?

Thea starts LAUGHING. They all look at her bewildered.

INT.BLUE TAVERN/KITCHEN

Mark tends to a massive brick oven. Sweating. We hear Thea's LAUGH through the wall. Mark freezes with a shocked look on his face, then smiles.

INT.BLUE TAVERN

Thea, collecting herself, makes way to the bar.

THEA
We ran halfway across town. Trust me they won't.

Tyus, sitting there watching. . .

TYUS
What the hell happened?

Nate, still on the floor, points to Thea.

Dan sits next to Tyus and laughs to himself.

THEA
Alright we got work ahead of us.

Nate stands up and sits. We here FOOTSTEPS.

RALIN (O.S.)
You guys do.

All attention now on Ralin. His presence flips the mood of the room. He slowly makes his way to the bar and nods at the four.

Thea eyes Ralin with a fierce look then walks to a back room. Ralin sits calmly at the bar. All the time in the world.

Mark appears and walks behind the bar. Smiling.

MARK
The usual?

RALIN
The usual.

Ralin looks back at the four. They try their best not to stare.

RALIN
(To Dan)
No sword?

DAN
It only causes trouble.

Ralin, caught off guard, accepts it, turns back to Mark who finishes making the drink.

RALIN
That's a smart boy over there.
(A Sip)
Brave too.

MARK
How's your brother?

Mark fixes his own drink.

(CONTINUED)

RALIN
Borris? Probably causin' trouble.

MARK
No the other.

Ralin pauses. Looks up. Takes a gulp.

RALIN
Funny you ask. That's why I'm here.
Rumors have been spreading about
his presence around these areas.

MARK
You know people. Anything to get at
the bounty.

Ralin another sip.

RALIN
Exactly. You see the council really
wants his head. I tell them I'm
close. Traitor's probably left dead
in a ditch somewhere.

Ralin takes a finishing sip the heads out.

RALIN
Appreciate the drink as usual. Good
luck with tonight.

MARK
It's the least I can do. Keeping
this city safe is no easy task.

INT. PALACE/MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Reften stands on the balcony overlooking the dark ocean.
Very high up. The moon reflects off the water, glistening.

Ralin enters and stands by the door hesitant to disturb
Reften's peace.

REFTEN
(Staring out)
A beautiful night right?

RALIN
Yes my lord.

A moment of silence.

(CONTINUED)

LORD REFTEN
How's your brother doing?

RALIN
Borris? Still causing trouble, but
I keep him in line.

LORD REFTEN
And your other one?

Ralin's mood changes with reference to his other brother.

RALIN
Dead. Probably.

Reften turns and walks in.

REFTEN
Probably? Well let's hope this
matter resolves itself in time.

He grabs a drink from a magnificent desk. Offers Ralin which
he turns down.

RALIN
Is there a problem? You called me
here.

REFTEN
What? I can't speak with my own
nephew?

RALIN
My apologies my lord.

REFTEN
(More to himself)
Huh. My lord. All I hear.

Reften takes a sip.

REFTEN
We attack the west tomorrow.

Ralin confused.

REFTEN
Dreswell and all her regions.

Reften takes another sip this time finishing it off. Ralin
struck by the news.

RALIN

W-what!? Why was I not told about this!?

LORD REFTEN

Because your not going.

RALIN

I am the general of this legion!

REFTEN

No you're my nephew!

(A beat)

You were always a son to me. You and Borris and even Devorin. I can't lose another family member. That is why as king, I order you to stay and protect what's most important.

Ralin speechless. Thinks on it.

RALIN

Yes my lord.

INT. BLUE TAVERN

A glass SLAMS on the table. Mark almost finished with his drink. Sits back comfortably in his chair.

LUCAS (O.S.)

You know where we can find real ragnok?

Mark is struck by the bluntness of the question. The four all sit at the table leaned in. Feverishly awaiting his answer. Dan has the sword.

OTHAR

Ragnok? I see you boys are into those magic books just like my daughter.

He sniggers.

LUCAS

I'm serious.

Mark now stares at Lucas. Takes a big gulp. His mood changes.

(CONTINUED)

MARK

(More to himself)

So you know real ragnok exist. Huh?

(To Lucas)

Lord Reften's crown is what your looking for.

A beat.

MARK

That means you'll never see it. Let alone get you hands on it.

Lucas sits back. He can't believe it. Dan and the brothers hopes also drop.

Mark takes a finishing gulp. His attention now directed to Dan.

MARK

That sword. Can I see it?

Dan looks up in confusion. He looks at the three for assistance. They stay silent. Shrugging it off.

DAN

I don't see why not.

Dan hands the covered sword over to Mark. Mark uncloaks it and stares wide eyed. The blue sword sits magnificent in the yellow candle lit room. We see the vinyl marking on the blade. Highly exquisite design.

MARK

Let me show you guys something.

Mark gets up and begins to head up the stairs. The four stand reluctant to follow. He signals them on.

INT. DARK STAIRWELL

The four follow Mark down a long dark stairwell. They continue for a while until they reach a wooden door.

Mark opens it to reveal...

INT. BASEMENT

...FIVE MEN all around a raised wooden table with a map on it. One of them, DUNVALL, 40s, is the leader and stands at the head of the table.

(CONTINUED)

Another man is leant against the wall to the side with a hood covering most of his face. His name is DEVORIN, mid 30s. A darker aura distinct from the others.

All attention is directed toward Mark and the four as they walk in.

MARK

(To the men)

I want you guys to meet our help.

They all stand confused with the matter.

DUNVALL

What the hell is this Mark?

MARK

Didn't you tell me you needed more guys? Trust me, these fellas have more to them than you think.

DUNVALL

I said I needed warriors. Not a bunch of flower pickin' bitches.

MARK

No, I told you what they did to Ralin and Borris. Plus they're free.

DUNVALL

I'd much prefer your daughter over these pricks.

MARK

Don't you dare bring Thea into this.

DEVORIN

Enough.

His calm but somehow stern voice silences them.

DUNVALL

(Forced)

You're right. I apologize Mark.

Mark stays quiet.

Dunvall stares hard at them for a beat.

DUNVALL
Are you lads spies?

The four stand dumbstruck by the bluntness of the question.
All afraid to speak except--

LUCAS
N-no.

DUNVALL
Cause if you are you better tell us
now so your deaths will be quick.

The four now completely taken by fear.

SWORDSMAN
Ah don't mind him. Just anxious
about tomorrow. We heard what you
did to Ralin and Borris.

SOLDIER
Amazing the king doesn't have your
head.

DUNVALL
I still don't trust them and as
leader of this fine group, and as
leader my word is final.

The word 'final' stressed toward Devorin.

MARK
Show the sword.

Dan hesitates. Then with a strike of confidence, reveals the
massive blue sword.

They're all struck with awe.

SOLDIER
Amazing.

SWORDSMAN
An ancient Dreswell sword indeed.
These vinyl patterns. . . and this
fine azure blade.

Dunvall walks over and inspects the sword.

DUNVALL
A fine sword indeed. Heavy too.

DEVORIN

And where did you get this sword?

DUNVALL

What does it matter. Carrying a sword like this in the the capital city of the west? If that isn't a heavy sign of loyalty to Dreswell then I don't know what is.

Dunvall hands the sword back to Dan. Heads back to the head of the table.

DUNVALL

I see now I was mistaken. I apologize.

(Everyone)

Tomorrow we are but Dreswell's instruments. Destined to carry out her heart, soul, and will.

(A beat)

King Reften dies tomorrow. And just the king.

The last part stressed toward Devorin.

MARK

So what do we have em do?

DEVORIN

Stay out the of the way.

DUNVALL

Though I'm sure they're capable of more, their presence can certainly lighten our load. As you know their army has headed out to conquer the west, Ironwake. There isn't anything that can be done about that.

(To the four)

Come.

Everybody now surrounds the table. A MAP OF CYLYNER. Dunvall points to various points on the map. Lines and other marks cover a section of the map.

DUNVALL

Most of the soldiers will be far out of the city by midday tomorrow, and by night, approaching Iromek. That leaves the king most vulnerable.

(CONTINUED)

SOLDIER

What about his head guards? I heard they will stay behind.

DUNVALL

We've gone through this a hundred times, Ralin won't stay behind. He's too diligent to his men and will lead them no matter.

SWORDSMAN

But what if he does stay?

DEVORIN

Then I'll deal with him.

A beat.

SWORDSMAN

You can't have me believe you'll kill your own brother.

DEVORIN

You can believe what you want, but I've been ready to take all of them down.

DUNVALL

Like I said the plan is final. Devorin here will guide us through. He knows the palace better than anyone.

SWORDSMAN

He better. He grew up in the damn place.

DUNVALL

Once we finish will meet out this side path.

He points to a marked street. An arrow.

DUNVALL

This is where you four come in. You will control two carriages and pick us up, smooth and unnoticed. Mark will be with you on the carriages. Just follow his lead. Oh, and I heard you want ragnok. The real stuff. We can get that for you.

INT. BLUE TAVERN/ROOM - NIGHT

The four sit in the room.

DAN

So we leave tonight. You know,
escape from all this shit.

LUCAS

I was thinking the same until he
brought up the ragnok.

DAN

What!? You can't be serious?

NATE

No he's right. You said it
yourself, ragnok sounds like it
doesn't exist but by the looks of
it only the king has it.

Lucas walks up to the window.

TYUS

I don't know about this though.

NATE

Let's be real guys, we're just the
getaway drivers in this situation.
There's no danger for us.

DAN

I mean. . . I just don't know. If
you guys want to do it then I'm
with you.

LUCAS

Look there's no danger, we get
ragnok, then we can get home and
forg-

Lucas stops. Realizing the whole situation.

TYUS

And what, just forget about all
this? Yeah right.

Lucas smirking from the matter. Can't believe it. The moon
is as big as ever.

INT. BLUE TAVERN - MOURNING

Tyus sits at a table in the mess area drawing. The room has a couple customers at the bar which Thea serves.

Dan walks in from the back yawning.

TYUS
You're up early.

DAN
Yeah. You seen Lucas?

He nods his head toward the entrance.

TYUS
Why do you have the sword?

DAN
I don't know. I think its good luck.

Tyus shakes his head. Dan continues out.

THEA
Hey Dan. You headed to the text shop? I'll come if that's where your going.

DAN
Oh um no. I'm meeting with Lucas. Have some things to do. Definitely later though.

THEA
I can still come I'll be just a sec-

DAN
(Rushing out)
I can't right now its important stuff. Later though.

EXT. BLUE TAVERN

Dan stands in the middle of the street looking around. He looks down the street and focuses on; Odell Texts and Manuscripts

INT.ODELL TEXT & MANUSCRIPTS

Oliver stands behind the counter talking with Lucas.

OLIVER

Yeah. Lord Reften's time has come I see. That should definitely cause disruption in their conquest. Huh, and to think some idiots think we use magic.

Dan stands at the door, shocked.

OLIVER

Oh good day Dan. Heard you got a big day today. Oh don't worry I side with Dreswell. Down with the king and all that good stuff.

DAN

I thought we were meeting outside?

LUCAS

Well I didn't want to wake you so I figured I'd come here- Why do you have the sword?

DAN

Good luck.

OLIVER

Good luck is right. You're gonna need it today if ya want things to run smooth. You read the diviners?

DAN

Um yeah. A little. You sure the diviners didn't exist? The whole magic era?

OLIVER

To tell you the truth, I believe magic once existed. At least in the old ages. After the lost necromancer's defeat, the other two are said to have disappeared. Cause they had no purpose left.

LUCAS

And magic, was it powerful?

(CONTINUED)

OLIVER

Magic was said to be too powerful.
That's why there were so many wars.

DEVORIN (O.S.)

And that's why it doesn't exist.
And never has.

Devorin enters from the back.

DEVORIN

You think something in our world
that powerful just vanishes?

OLIVER

Finally awake shadow master? As if
you ever sleep.

DEVORIN

Why do you guys want ragnok?

LUCAS

It's something ive- we've wanted
for a while. What's your connection
to the king?

A beat. Devorin caught off guard by the retort. He and
Lucas' eyes similar.

DEVORIN

I'm nothing but a heretic. The long
lost third son to the king. That
means I know best why the king
should drown in his sins.

OLIVER

Yeah, their conquest must be
stopped. Esine was at peace for
centuries. Now Reften and the
council force war. We'll show them
the price for that.

INT. BLUE TAVERN

Thea now finished with the last drinks. A look of
loneliness.

TYUS

Don't worry about it. We just have
a lot to figure out.

(CONTINUED)

THEA

Yeah. You know I haven't laughed like I did yesterday in ages.

(A beat)

Where did my father bring you guys last night?

TYUS

Oh we- he just was showing us some stuff.

THEA

Oh. Just wondering because you weren't in your rooms.

A moment of silence. She smiles then heads to a back room. Tyus smiles then views his drawing.

On it; A sketched BLUE GREAT SWORD and the words THE ADVENTURE ON A NEW FRONTIER.

Tyus looks around. No attention on him. He then pulls out his phone and turns it on. Battery almost empty. He holds the phone to get a quick pick of his drawing. As he presses the picture button, a bright FLASH emits.

Tyus, startled, fumbles the phone and drops it on the floor.

The few people inside now stare at him as he puts his phone in his pocket.

INT. PALACE/RALIN'S ROOM - MOURNING

Ralin stands in a lavish room staring out towards a beautiful ocean. We see ANOTHER MAN enter and whisper something in his ear. Whatever the news is hits him hard.

DAN (PRE-LAP)

What do you mean they took him! Why would they fucking take him!?

INT. BLUE TAVERN

THEA

I don't know, I was in the back and heard commotion. People were complaining about a flash of light. Where were you guys?

DAN

Flash of light?

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS
(To himself)
That fucking idiot with his fucking
phone.

THEA
pho- what? Answer my question.

Devorin walks in with great haste.

DEVORIN
Damn, they're taking him to the
palace. You two, come.

Thea sees Devorin and recognizes him. Giving a look of lost
trust toward Dan and Lucas.

THEA
I can't believe you guys.

Dan and Lucas quickly follow Devorin.

INT. BASEMENT

Everybody is assembled around the table. Dunvall infuriated.

DUNVALL
This is unbelievable! How could you
let this happen! I knew I shouldn't
have trusted you.

Everyone clearly upset with Dan, Nate, Lucas and Mark.

SOLDIER
What are we still doing here? We
need to head out quickly before the
kid compromises us.

DUNVALL
Your right. Lets go.

DEVORIN
I'm not going anywhere.

DUNVALL
What!?

DEVORIN
I will make sure the king dies
tonight with or without you.

(CONTINUED)

DUNVALL

Are you mad? There's no way you can do that by yourself. I don't care how skilled you are.

NATE

I'm staying too.

All eyes on Nate.

NATE

I'm getting my brother back.

The determination in his eyes is unbelievable. Like a different person.

DUNVALL

That's cute kid but you go near that castle and you might as well hang yourself.

NATE

No I'm going to get him back.

SWORDSMAN

Get him back? Do you know what they're doing to him as we speak?

His eyes locked on Nate.

DUNVALL

We don't have time for this, were heading out now.

Dunvall signals his men out. They leave with Dunvall following last. Before he exits

DUNVALL

(Mark)

If he stays, you're coming with us.

MARK

Thea too.

INT. DUNGEON - DAY

We hear heavy breathing from a tortured Tyus. A guard holds the phone.

GUARD

I won't ask you again. What the hell is this!?

(CONTINUED)

TYUS
(Struggling)
I-I don't know.

The Guard signals another guard. The other guard raises his whip and SLASHES him on the back.

RALIN enters.

RALIN
Enough.

GAURD
It don't believe it myself but it
must be magic.

RALIN
Give me that and get out.

The Guard now frightened, hands him the phone and steps out. Ralin nonchalantly inspects it.

RALIN
Are you a spy?

Tyus shakes his head.

RALIN
Do you have any affiliation to
Dreswell?

Tyus takes a moment then shakes his head. Ralin, no rush.

RALIN
What is this?

TYUS
I don't know I found it.

Ralin shakes his head. And SMACK, slaps him in the face.

RALIN
Nobody knows your here. Not Reften,
not Sadon, nor the council. So I
suggest you speak up cause it's in
my best interest to just kill you
and keep this quiet.

EXT. ALLEYWAY-DAY

We see the soldier and the swordsman with Mark and Dunvall.

DUNVALL

Me and Mark are heading out now.
Well meet up in Ironwake. You know
the spot. You two leave when the
sun sets.

SWORDSMAN

Got it.

MARK

And please bring Thea. I know she's
gonna fight hard but if you tell
her everything, she'll understand.

SOLDIER

We'll bring her.

Mark and Dunvall head down the alley.

MARK

I don't think Devorin can do it
himself.

DUNVALL

You know his death wasn't my
mission.

Mark puzzled.

DUNVALL

My mission was to find something.
Something very special that just
might exist.

MARK

And what would that be?

DUNVALL

A special tome.

(A beat)

I too think it's ridiculous and
only agreed in order to get a shot
at Reften's head. Then I learned
he's dying anyway.

MARK

You telling me this was all a lie?
Risking all our lives!

(CONTINUED)

DUNVALL

I guess this is what I get.

Dunvall smiles.

INT. PALACE

The council member we recognize sits with Sadon. They drink and relax. Coming off a joke.

COUNCIL MEMBER

Some think the attack is for region peace. Others think it's Cylyner's destiny. I tell the stubborn ones it's for the metals. Their azure blades are very precious you know.

SADON

And what about Ironwake's delegates. Are they in?

COUNCIL MEMBER

Haven't asked them yet. But you know nobody in their right mind would turn down the opportunity to live forever.

He takes a drink. Sadon thinks on it.

COUNCIL MEMBER

What of Reften?

SADON

Old fart isn't gonna make it through this year.

COUNCIL MEMBER

And his son? James? How's he?

SADON

Lost. Being a leader just isn't in him. He will just be a symbol for the family.

COUNCIL MEMBER

So who will lead when Reften drops?

SADON

Same people who always have. Us.

INT. PALACE/SUITE-EVENING

James sits playing with his little brother.

Reften enters.

REFTEN

I don't want you to misunderstand my reasons. I love you and this family very much.

JAMES

I just can't understand. Does there have to be another war?

REFTEN

If Dreswell surrenders then their will be peace.

JAMES

But we are the ones attacking why is-

REFTEN

My son, don't you realize there are people out there that want your head! People that would stop at nothing to kill you, me, your brothers and sisters?

JAMES

Is it true your dying?

A silence.

JAMES

And is it true that Dreswell has something that you and all the council members want.

Reften now shocked from his knowledge.

JAMES

Immortality. All those fairy tales of our family defeating the necromancer and riding the world of magic are just that, fairy tales.

(A beat)

I just can't believe you would sacrifice the lives of thousands for that.

Reften stands. Speechless.

(CONTINUED)

REFTEN

One day you will understand that
there are things that we forget.
Things we would like to forget. And
things that are best kept a secret.

He walks out.

EXT.BLUE TAVERN - SUNSET

THEA (O.S.)

I'm not leaving!

INT.BLUE TAVERN

Thea is stands behind the counter. The Swordsman and the
Soldier plead with her.

SWORDSMAN

Look, please. We have to leave now,
we don't have time. Your father-

THEA

Screw that bastard!

SOLDIER

My god we don't have time for this.

He walks around the counter. She pulls a BIG MEAT CLEAVER
from atop the counter.

THEA

I will stab you if you get any
closer.

Her face showing no bluff. They see it.

SOLDIER

We're trying to save your life!

SWORDSMANS

Forget it, if she wants to die then
so be it. Lets go.

SOLDIER

You can't say we didn't try.

They exit out the back. Thea stabs the cleaver on the
counter. Weeping.

EXT. CYLYNER

TIME LAPSE of the sun setting under the ocean horizon. The beautiful visage of the palace as it lights up with the night sky sweeping above it.

DEVORIN (O.S.)
Basic rule of war, know your enemy.
And we know very well.

OLIVER (O.S.)
Are you guys ready? Alright then
let's go over it once more. It'll
be dark so stick deep to the
shadows just in case.

END TIMELAPS

We look down to see Devorin leading DAN, NATE, and LUCAS on the side of a giant wall which separates the palace from the rest of the city. They carefully approach a gate checkpoint. Silent.

TWO GUARDS.

OLIVER (V.O.)
This guard should be the most
you'll encounter during this
mission.

INT. ODELL TEXT & MANUSCRIPTS - NIGHT

The five plan on a table. A detailed MAP OF THE PALACE sits on top.

DAN
Guard? Just one?

OLIVER
Yes. That means Devorin will handle
him.

LUCAS
What if there's more?

EXT. PALACE/GATE

OLIVER (V.O.)
Then you guys have to assist him.

Devorin signals the three to get the guard. They slowly approach but ANOTHER GUARD approaches.

(CONTINUED)

The four clearly distraught. The three guards joke then the first guard walks off. Must be the end of his shift.

OLIVER (V.O.)
Make sure this kill runs smooth.

DEVORIN (V.O.)
Don't worry about me.

Devorin sneaks behind the guard. Grabs his neck then slits his throat.

Nate and Dan are struggling with the other guard. They both pin him, Nate trying to choke him out. Clearly not working.

Devorin walks up and stabs him in the chest. The guard now still.

The three stare at Devorin who wipes the blood off of his blade with a rag. A realization hits them hard.

OLIVER (V.O.)
Next is the palace courtyard.

EXT. PALACE/COURTYARD

The four sneak through the lavish courtyard. No guards in sight.

OLIVER (V.O.)
You'll notice that there will be minimal to no guards from here on. You can thank Reften for that.

DEVORIN
The fool dispersed his whole armada to the west.

A TOUGH LOOKING GUARD stands in front of tall doors.

NATE (V.O.)
I thought you said you had a guy on the inside?

INT.ODELL TEXT & MANUSCRIPTS

Nate points to an X on the map which is marked at the right edge of the palace.

OLIVER
It's the best we could do.

EXT.PALACE COURTYARD/DOORS

Devorin now talking with the guard. Hands him a bag of coins. The guard bows then pats his shoulder. Steps aside to let them in.

DAN (V.O.)
This is where we split up.

INT.ODELL TEXT & MANUSCRIPTS

OLIVER
Yes. You head to the northern wings and assist Nate in getting his brother. Devorin will head to the western wings and deal with Reften. Now obtaining the ragnok is tricky.

DEVORIN
Reften's crown will hold the shard. It's usually heavily guarded in the treasure area but he might have it in his suite.

Oliver points to each location.

OLIVER
Here. You might need these.

He pulls out THREE DAGGERS. Dan, Lucas, and Nate more worried.

INT.PALACE/EAST CORRIDORS

The four walk down a long hallway until they reach a split. Devorin signals the three down the right hallway while he heads left.

DEVORIN (V.O.)
And if you see a guard try not to engage him.

The three head down multiple sets of stairs.

INT.ODELL TEXT & MANUSCRIPTS

OLIVER
Your friend Tyus will also be somewhere in the north wing corridors.
(To Lucas)
Once you find the ragnok we'll meet up at the south gate. I'll have a wagon ready.

(CONTINUED)

DEVORIN

And we won't be waiting for anybody
so you better be there.

INT. PALACE/EAST CORRIDORS

The three carefully make their way through the stone corridors. Not a guard in sight.

OLIVER (V.O.)

I'm going to tell you now that when
you find your brother, you may not
like what you see.

Nate now leading the three. Face filled with determination.
They approach a hallway split.

DAN

Alright this is where we split. You
have your map?

LUCAS

Y-yeah. I don't think we should be
doing this.

NATE

I'm not gonna let my brother die.
You heard them.

LUCAS

Exactly, he might already be dead.
That's why-

NATE

Are you fucking serious!

Nate now enraged. Trying to keep his voice at a whisper.

NATE

Before you were all ready to get
that fucking rock but now when my
brother's life is on the line you
couldn't give a shit.

Lucas stays silent.

DAN

We don't have time for this shit
let's go.

They head off.

(CONTINUED)

NATE

I hope you find what your looking
for.

Lucas stares down his corridor. Dim and silent.

INT.KITCHEN

Devorin enters, checking for anybody. Nothing but silence.

In the middle of the room stands a table with a large tray
holing a covered dish and a PITCHER.

He pulls out a TINY VILE of liquid and just before he pours
its contents, pauses. Betraying a feeling of regret.

We hear footsteps and chatter getting closer from the hall.

He quickly pours the vile's liquid into the pitcher and
hides.

Two men walk in, a SERVER and Ralin. Devorin struck with
surprise.

SERVER

So they brought you down to server.

He laughs. Ralin not uttering a word.

SERVER

The king will not be dining
tonight. Just grab the pitcher.

The two grab the stuff and head out. Devorin's eyes locked
on Ralin.

INT.PALACE/NORTH CORRIDORS

Lucas approaches a wooden door. It's locked. He looks to the
side to see a CONSPICUOUS STONE on the wall.

Pulls it out and sees it's hollow with a KEY inside it.

Opens the door and reveals a room filled with junk. He walks
in and shuts the door behind him.

INT.BLUE TAVERN-NIGHT

Thea sweeps the floor in the empty room. A sad look on her
face.

BAM, SIX guards burst in through the front doors. Before she
can react, one grabs her.

(CONTINUED)

GUARD

By order of Ralin we must bring you
in.

She hits him hard in the face and is free for a sec, but eventually brought to the ground hard by guard #2.

He kneels hard on her ankle and she screams. She struggles until he strikes her on the face. She's now still.

He wipes his bleeding lip. He stares at her angrily. Her stare is eerie.

GUARD #2

Bitch!

He strikes her again, this time even harder.

INT. PALACE/NORTH CORRIDORS

Nate leads Dan down the dim corridor. They pass empty cells on each side.

NATE

This is taking too long.

They approach another split.

DAN

Tyus was suppose to be back there.

NATE

Alright then let's split up.

DAN

What! Are you crazy?

NATE

We need to cover more ground. We'll meet right back here so go no further.

DAN

What if you run into trouble? Or I do?

NATE

Look, stop thinking about the negatives. We're gonna be fine. There're no guards down her so our mission is simple. I mean you have the sword for good luck remember.

Dan puts a hand on the sword. A boost of confidence and he's off.

INT. PALACE DINING ROOM

James sits in the company of his MOTHER, little brother and sister. They all enjoy an exquisite meal. A guard stands by the door.

The Server and Ralin enter carrying the tray and pitcher respectively. They place the food on the table.

The Server pours the contents of the pitcher into FOUR glasses.

RALIN

Will that be all my queen?

MOTHER

Yes.

RALIN

(To Guard)

Send more men down to the eastern and northern wings. I don't like them going unwatched.

GUARD

And the family sir?

RALIN

Don't worry about them.

The guard bows and heads off. Ralin follows suit.

MOTHER

James, aren't you going to eat?

JAMES

I'm not hungry.

MOTHER

But James-

JAMES

I said I'm not hungry.

He stands up and leaves the room.

LITTLE SISTER

(Adorably)

James.

INT.MASTER BEDROOM

Reften sits at his study, back facing the entrance. A nice breeze flows from the open balcony.

A SERVANT enters and places a glass of water on his desk.

SERVENT

Will that be all my lord?

Reften, still into his book, waves him off.

The servant exits.

Another figure enters behind him.

REFTEN

I said that's all-

A dagger now pointed on the back of his neck.

REFTEN

What is this nonsense, what do you want?

Silence.

REFTEN

Alright then before you kill me can you give me the piece of mind and tell me who you are.

DEVORIN

To you, I am death, here to reap your filthy soul.

REFTEN

(Realizing)

Devorin? My son what are you doing?

DEVORIN

Something that should have been done a long time ago.

INT.JUNK ROOM

Lucas quickly checks around. A large dust covered CHEST sits in a corner. He approaches and opens it.

An OLD RUSTY CROWN sits in it with other valuables. On the head of the crown fits a piece of ragnok. A look of relief covers his face. He begins to pull it out.

(CONTINUED)

We then hear the door shut and a SINISTER LAUGH Lucas recognizes. Lucas lets out a deep sigh and closes his eyes.

It's Borris. He approaches Lucas slowly with a big smile.

BORRIS

And look at the rat I found. What are you doin' here?

INT. CELL BLOCK

Nate quickly passes a large cell. He runs back to check. Nate relieved for a sec but quickly turns into despair.

It's Tyus who kneels chained to the wall. Bloodied and in very bad shape.

NATE

Tyus! Tyus!

Nothing.

Nate more worried tries to open the bar door. Locked. We hear footsteps coming his way. It's a guard.

INT. PALACE/NORTH CORRIDORS

Dan walks past empty cells with map in hand. He shakes his head. We then hear a FAINT THUMP in the distance. He looks down the hall then back at the map.

DAN

Lucas?

INT. JUNK ROOM

SLAM, Lucas is back first to the wall pinned by the massive forearm of Borris. Almost being lifted off the ground.

BORRIS

Your friends with that girl at the tavern. You know the Bitch did this to my eye.

LUCAS

I actually don't really like her myself.

BORRIS

Still actin tough eh? Know what I do to tough guys?

Lucas struggling more. Useless. Can't escape.

Borris rams his other forearm right into Lucas' face.

INT.MASTER BEDROOM

REFTEN

I offered you immortality!

Devorin looking back wanting Reften to keep quiet. He sticks the dagger tighter to his neck.

DEVORIN

Silence! Those fairy tales of the old world have blinded you. Sadon has blinded you.

REFTEN

Then if your gonna kill me get on with it. I won't make it to next week anyway.

(A beat)

Where did I go wrong with you and James?

We see Reften's hand ever so slowly reach for something under the desk. The dagger then comes off the back of his neck.

Reften puzzled.

DEVORIN

Turn around.

INT.PALACE/NORTH CORRIDORS

Dan approaches a door we recognize. Behind it, CRASHING and BANGING. He slowly opens the door and peers through the crack; Borris tossing Lucas into a wall.

IN THE JUNK ROOM

Lucas lays face first on the ground. Borris picks him up by the neck. Lucas' nose broken and bleeding profusely.

BORRIS

Still tough?

Over the shoulder we see Dan quietly entering. Lucas notices.

LUCAS

Tougher than you.

(CONTINUED)

Borris, angered, deliberately strikes Lucas in the nose. Then immediately after, Dan jumps on Borris' back trying to choke him out.

Lucas falls back stunned, holding his nose in pain.

Borris heads backward slamming Dan into a pile of junk.

INT.CELL BLOCK

The guard looks up and is greeted to a sprinting Nate. SLAM, he's tackled to the ground.

INT.PALACE CORRIDOR

Ralin walks with a guard down a lavish hall.

RALIN

Where are the palace guards?

GUARD

Reften ordered them to patrol the city streets. He assumed-

RALIN

Are you guys mad!? Send more guards back to the palace. If anybody were to attack, now would be their time!

INT.MASTER BEDROOM

Reften slowly turns around. Their eyes intense on each other.

DEVORIN

Don't worry you'll be seeing your family soon.

Reften, realizing what he means...

INT.DINING ROOM

The family drinks out of their glasses enjoying each other. A smile on the mothers face.

INT.MASTER BEDROOM

... stands angrily.

REFTEN

You dare TOUCH MY FAMILY!!

Devorin stabs the dagger in Reften's gut. Silent now. Eyes still on each other.

INT.JUNK ROOM

Dan gets struck across the face hard and is knocked to the ground. Borris stares at him for a beat. Dan's body still.

He turns and slowly approaches Lucas who is slouched against the wall. Faced covered in blood.

BORRIS

Now this is were the fun starts.

Borris pulls out a LARGE DAGGER.

INT.MASTER BEDROOM

Reften slowly falling to his knees.

REFTEN

My wife. . . the kids. And you can still look me in the eye?

DEVORIN

I just wanted to make sure.

Reften even more shocked.

INT.JUNK ROOM

Dan lays still from before. He opens one eye to view Borris right in front of Lucas with the large dagger in hand.

Dan stands, puts a hand on his sword and uncloaks it. The blade shines in the torch lit room.

Borris, about to stab Lucas, now suddenly still. We see the massive sword IMPALED right in his back.

Dan steps back. Borris falls.

INT.MASTER BEDROOM

Reften now lay dead. Devorin stands staring.

INT.JUNK ROOM

Lucas sits on the ground staring at Borris who lays face first. Sword still deep in is back.

Dan stands and stares too. A moment of silence.

LUCAS

I was hoping you'd do that the first time.

(CONTINUED)

DAN

Yeah and I was hoping I didn't have to. You alright?

A beat.

LUCAS

I'll live.

DAN

Your nose.

LUCAS

I deserved this.

He smiles and shows the shard of ragnok.

DAN

No way.

LUCAS

Let's go.

INT. CELL BLOCK

Dan and Lucas approach Nate who sits next to an unconscious Tyus.

A guard's body lay still on the other end of the room. Dan and Lucas in complete shock.

DAN

Is he alive?

NATE

He's still breathing. Just unconscious.

DAN

We have to get him out. I know were not suppose to touch him but what choice do we have.

Nate notices Lucas' blood ridden face.

NATE

Jesus, I see you guys hit trouble too.

LUCAS

It's nothing. I'll live.

(CONTINUED)

NATE

Alright then let's stop wasting
time and get out of here.

Dan and Nate pick Tyus up. Lucas leads with a map in hand.

INT.MASTER BEDROOM

Reften lies dead on the marble floor in a pool of blood.

Ralin walks in quickly.

RALIN

My lord how can you leave the
castle defe-

Ralin now frozen at the sight of Reften.

INT.CELL BLOCK

Thea is thrown into a cell by a guard. The one she hit.

GUARD

I'm gonna have fun with you later.

He slams the door, locks it, throws the keys on a table,
then leaves. She sits helpless.

INT.PALACE/NORTH CORRIDORS

Lucas leads Dan and Nate who carry Tyus. They are slowed
down by Tyus and Lucas knows it. They approach a door at a
hallway split. We hear the footsteps and chatter of guards
in the distance.

LUCAS

You guys continue through the
palace. I'll pull the guards off of
you.

DAN

What!? Are you crazy!?

NATE

The doors right here.

LUCAS

At this rate they're going to catch
up. I'll loop around just go!

Dan and Nate nod both dripping with sweat. They head through
the doors. Lucas shuts them.

THREE GUARDS round a corner in the distance. They spot Lucas who immediately sprints down the other hallway. The guards give chase.

EXT. CYLYNER STREET - NIGHT

A wagon slowly makes its way down an empty street. Approaching the palace in the distance.

INT. PALACE/EAST CORRIDORS

Dan and Nate struggle as they carry Tyus down lavish halls. The sound of guards echoes through the walls.

The door to the courtyard sits in the middle of the long hallway. At the other end, guards run. Dan, Nate, and Tyus in clear site. Luckily, the guards run past.

EXT. PALACE/SOUTH GATE - NIGHT

Devoein heads down a set of stairs to a street where we see the wagon. Not a soul around. Oliver steps out.

OLIVER

Where are the others?

DEVORIN

Ralin is in the palace. He stayed behind. There were more guards than I expected.

OLIVER

What!?

INT. CELL BLOCK

Lucas sprints past empty cells except one which has a figure inside. It's Thea and he can't believe it. Her eyes light up. One of them swollen.

LUCAS

Thea!? What are you doing here!?

He tries to open it. Locked. The sound of footsteps now audible.

THEA

The keys are on the table over there.

Lucas grabs the keys and scrambles to unlock the gate. The guards footsteps and yelling getting louder. He unlocks it and opens it.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS

Let's go.

He grabs her hand to pull her up. She screams in pain and falls right back down.

LUCAS

Whats wrong!?

She reveals her leg. A badly BRUISED ANKLE. She stares at the ground.

THEA

Your gonna have to carry me.

Lucas can't believe it. He looks to the left; Guards now visible at the end of the hall fast approaching. There's no time.

He slowly backs away from her. She looks up shocked.

LUCAS

I-I'm sorry I-I can't

THEA

no-no-no please don't-

Lucas sees the guards sprinting toward him. YELLING for him to cease.

LUCAS

We'll come back for you I-I
promise!

He runs through a door and continues down the hallway.

Thea stares. Everything SILENT. Eyes showing all hope lost.

The guards approach. Two of them grab her roughly.

EXT. PALACE/SOUTH GATE - NIGHT

Oliver and Ralin spot Dan and Nate. They approach the wagon and lay the unconscious Tyus in the back.

OLIVER

Shit.

RALIN

Wheres Lucas?

(CONTINUED)

DAN
He distracted the guards for us,
probably still down there.

RALIN
We're leaving.

NATE
No we're not.

Ralin surprised by the audacity.

RALIN
And who gave you command? The kid's
probably been captured.

NATE
I'm not leaving him behind.

DAN
He's right. Lucas saved us. The
least we can do is return the
favor.

INT. PALACE HALLWAY

Lucas, clearly tired, still sprints toward the courtyard doors. Robes and satchel flailing in his hustle. We see even more guards pursue him. At least seven.

EXT. PALACE/SOUTH GATE

Nate continues to argue with Ralin.

NATE
Take my brother and get him out of
here!

RALIN
And leave you two to get captured?

OLIVER
We need to leave before someone
spots us.

We SUDDENLY hear yelling. It's Lucas in the distance fast approaching. The four see him and give looks of relief. Nate and Ralin eye daggers toward each other.

Lucas sprints quickly. His hand flailing signaling them to GO, but too far for them to understand.

As he gets closer, we see several guards appear from the top of the stair set with their swords drawn giving chase.

(CONTINUED)

RALIN

Get in the wagon quickly!

The for run and enter the wagon. Oliver WHIPS the horses. They neigh loudly and pull the wagon off.

Lucas gets close but the wagon is picking up speed fast. We see his tired legs almost about to give.

Dan extends far out the back, and with the help of Nate, pulls him in.

Lucas slumps back dead tired. Covered in sweat.

DAN

You alright? I thought they'd gotten you.

Lucas coughs, trying to catch his breath. He looks over and sees Tyus with multiple lacerations. Covered in blood and dirt. Still unconscious.

INT.MASTER BEDROOM

Two guards and Sadon stand around Reften's dead body.

GUARD

We need to get you to safety delegate.

Sadon reaches for Reften's left hand and pulls a RING from his pinkie finger. Places it inside his robe.

EXT.CYLYNER STREET - NIGHT

The MOON GLOWS brightly in the comfort of the night sky. As we LOOK DOWN to see the wagon speed through the maze like streets like an ant in an ant farm. They now turn onto the main strip. Oliver whips the horses and picks up even more speed.

The wagon BUMPS and trades paint with smaller but faster guard wagons. Ralin fights off boarding guards while trying to maintain his balance on the shaky ride. Dan and Nate do the same.

Lucas, inside the wagon, looks around. Searching for something he can't find. His face now crossed with a realization.

SUDDENLY the wagon JOLTS up from a huge bump. Dan and Nate are catapulted out the back and land hard on the cobblestone street.

(CONTINUED)

The wagon veers left and right, breaking from the two horses. Oliver trying to maintain control. Can't. It then comes CRASHING into multiple wooden food stands.

UP THE STREET

Dan lays dazed by the hard fall. To his left; Nate who holds his left arm whaling in pain.

Behind is the wagon about fifty yards down the street. In front, guard wagons far in the distance steadily make their way toward us.

DOWN THE STREET

Oliver assists Ralin in pulling Tyus out. Lucas sees another carriage further down the street with three horses. He looks back up the street to see Dan and Nate on the ground. Too far to rescue.

UP THE STREET

The sword lays next to Dan. He sees the myriad of wagons fast approaching. Nate still lying in pain.

DAN
(To himself)
No, no, not like this please.

He grabs his the sword and stands up slowly. Impales it in the ground to help balance himself.

DOWN THE STREET

OLIVER
We have to go now!!

Ralin an Oliver now headed toward the carriage with Tyus. Lucas stares at Dan and Nate. Can't seem to make a decision.

UP THE STREET

People stare out windows watching the show. Dan, both hands on the sword which is still impaled in the ground. Everything silen. His lips UTTER A PHRASE we can't hear.

Suddenly a spark emits then the street ignites and as if following a trail of gasoline, fire quickly flowing toward the the oncoming wagons and-

IXT.PALACE ROOM - NIGHT

Sadon stands looking at four different rings.

BOOM!! A deep explosive sound startles him. He quickly walk to a window that over looks the city. A humongous FIREBALL rises and towers over the city. Can't believe his eyes.

EXT.MAIN STRIP

Lucas, Ralin, and Oliver all bask in the magnificent display of pure power completely frozen.

UP THE STREET

Nate's gaze also glued to the dissipating fireball. We see people in the windows stare in fear. Nate turns to Dan who stands there in the same stance frozen. Just as shocked as everyone else. Breathing heavy.

All wagons in the distance completely annihilated.

DEVORIN (O.S.)

Let's go!

Dan recovering himself, turns to see Devorin and the others make their way toward carriage. He helps Nate up then they run toward the carriage.

EXT.MAIN STREET - NIGHT

The three horses pull the carriage with great speed down the street. No one daring to persue them.

EXT.CYLYNER

From above, the carriage speeds out from under the city gates and into the darkness of the plains.

EXT.PLAINS - NIGHT

Complete darkness surrounds the five as they sit around a fire. Oliver tends to Tyus.

Dan with his head down, stressed out. The sword lays beside him. Devorin stares at him.

DEVORIN

I'd really like to know just what that was back there.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS
(More to himself)
A phenomena.

DEVORIN
A what? Tell me who you really are.
All of you. What the hell *that* was!

DAN
You think we know? I know? It's
just like the books say, magic.

Devorin crossed with confusion.

DAN
Yeah that's right. All those books
you guys deem fairy tales are
probably true. You all saw that?
What more do want me to do?

Oliver and Devorin take it in. Slowly accepting.

DEVORIN
Then I'd like to know how you did
it.

DAN
I didn't do anything. It just . .it
just happened.

DEVORIN
And you expect me to believe that?

OLIVER
No need to fear them Devorin. He's
right. Many of the books in my
store touch on curses and blessings
being put on many things including
weapons. I wouldn't be surprised if
that sword has one. What scares me
is not only does it exist, but the
sheer power. If that sword is
cursed, its not a normal one.
(A beat)
Oh yeah and the fact that magic
exist. Who knew?

DAN
(To himself)
This is fucking ridiculous.

OLIVER

Don't worry. It's definitely a blessing. Not only did it save our asses but it can completely change the outcome of the war.

DEVORIN

Or for worse.

OLIVER

An arcane art. Lost in time.

A moment of silence. We hear coughing from Tyus. Oliver's attention back on him.

NATE

Will my brother be okay?

Oliver shakes his head.

OLIVER

I don't think he's going to make it, even if we head straight to Ironwake.

NATE

There's got to be something we can do.

Everyone's attention now on Tyus. Devorin's arm bleeding.

LUCAS

You alright?

DEVORIN

I'll live. Just need a little rest. This all just feels like a dream.

(A beat)

The king's dead. I did it.

He sighs then lays back.

OLIVER

I'll go see if I can get some water. I know of a pond out here. We'll continue straight to Ironwake after a short rest. This changes everything.

Oliver walks away with containers. It's silent out.

LATER

Oliver and Devorin both fast asleep. Lucas looks toward Nate and nods.

EXT. PLAINS - NIGHT

The carriage is pulled by two horses, speeding down a lonely dirt path. Darkness surrounding them.

EXT. PLAINS - NIGHT

Devorin and Oliver still fast asleep. Devorin opens his eyes. Looks around. Nobody.

He jumps up and looks more anxiously. Only a horse and a few bags left behind. He can't believe it.

EXT. PLAINS - NIGHT

The carriage approaches a wall of trees. A split tree we recognize stands out silhouetted by the moon in night sky. Lucas notices.

EXT. FOREST

Lucas lights the way with a torch in hand. Following the scratches and gashes on the trees. Nate and Dan carry Tyus.

EXT. WATERFALL/LAKE BED

The sound of the waterfall is as dominating as ever. The torch the only light source. They make their way up the side rock path.

INT. CAVE

Lucas rushes deep into the darkness of the cave. The circle from before still in tact. He hands Dan the torch -- starts retracing with the new ragnok shard.

LUCAS

Okay Dan give me the book.

His hand out toward Dan. Dan looks at him puzzled, then to Nate.

DAN

Why would I have the book?

Lucas stares at the circle. Frozen.

NATE

Oh you guys got to be kidding me?

(CONTINUED)

DAN

It's still in the room. The
scramble with Tyus and all and we
completely forgot about the book.

NATE

Are you KIDDING ME!!?

Lucas closes his eyes, in deep thought.

LUCAS

Stick the sword in the middle.

Dan confused. Then realizing, jumps to it.

With a hard stab the sword sticks in the ground.

NATE

Is that really going to work?

LUCAS

It has too. Ready?

Nate shields Tyus. They nod and brace themselves.

LUCAS

Dan Vah Kaar.

Nothing.

NATE

Oh my god it's not working. This
can't be happening.

LUCAS

Dan Vah Kaar.

Nothing. Lucas shocked.

DAN

Dan Vah Kaar.

A quick spark from the sword then, BOOM.

INT.INTEROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

A black screen. A long beat.

DAN (V.O.)

I didn't say anything, don't worry
about it. Not like anyone would
believe me anyway.

(CONTINUED)

LUCAS (V.O.)
That's the least of my concerns.

Dan sits in a metal chair with an annoyed look. Bandaged up.
Back in his original clothes.

Two detectives stand opposite. Interrogating.

INT. HOSPITAL

Nate sits under the green lights outside an operation room.
His head down.

DAN (V.O.)
You ever gonna to go back?

A surgeon walks out of the room with a bloodied apron. He
turns to Nate. Their eyes meet. He lightly shakes his head
and slowly continues on with a defeated look.

LUCAS (V.O.)
Not anytime soon.

Nate realizing, gets up and looks inside the operation room.

Nate's face frozen.

In the room, a surgeon zips up a body bag

INT. PHENOMENA STUDIES BUILDING-DAY

Prof. Dunley gives his usual energetic lecture. Dan and
Lucas sit high up in the back overlooking him.

DAN
So I guess we're just supposed to
forget about everything. An
undiscovered world, lost with us.

Lucas in deep thought. Bandage covering most of his nose.

LUCAS
You still have the sword right?

DAN
Yeah. In the cave. The police don't
know.

Lucas nods. Dan coughs.

LUCAS
Their magic became our phenomena.
Somebody brought it here.

DAN

The lost necromancer.

LUCAS

What?

DAN

The book I read told of a dark sorcerer who was defeated at the end of a war. The thing is no one confirmed his death so maybe he's the one who came here.

LUCAS

If that's true then that's not good. But if you could do whatever the hell it is you did, then I'm pretty sure any normal person from that world could do the same. Then again they would still be just as dangerous.

DAN

I don't think we have anything to worry about. It's obvious Sir Delfry was that sorcerer and he's dead now.

(More to himself)

The lost necromancer.

LUCAS

That's what I thought until I remembered the dean. Remember, when he saw that book? He seemed shocked. Frightened almost.

DAN

Then what about the president? Haven't seen him.

LUCAS

Yeah then there's him too. But something tells me it's the dean

DAN

Well let's just stay quiet until we're sure.

LUCAS

Yeah, that's our best bet.

(CONTINUED)

DAN

Shit.

Dan stands up.

LUCAS

What?

DAN

The dean's calling us let's go.

Lucas looks too his left to see an open exit and just beyond it; The Dean and two police officers. The Dean makes harsh eye contact with Lucas.

Dan walks pass Eliza and her friends. He stumbles and they give him mean looks.

DUNLEY (O.S.)

So its obvious we don't know the phrases that cause such effects so for now let's make one up. Anybody want to help? No? I've got one then.

Lucas turns back to the chalkboard bellow.

He's frozen now. The indifference on his face slowly dissipates.

His eyes wide. Can't believe what he's seeing.

On the board Dunley finishes writing the word: **DAN VAH KAAR**

FADE OUT.

THE END