

Dragon Warriors: The Beginning

By

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INT. DALGA- PALACE - DREAM - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

FADE IN.

Two warriors, one male and one female are in a grand palace.

JAMES (22) White male, strong build, yellow hair, wearing red and black armor.

JENNIFER (22) White female, beady eyes, short thick and curly brown hair, an hourglass build, mainly yellow color scheme.

The palace has beautiful architecture, armor soldiers for decoration. Candle lighting makes the halls darker.

JAMES

We're here, Jennifer we have to keep moving.

JENNIFER

(pointing)

James It's this way, down that passageway.

Two Guards are at the end of the hallway patrolling.

JENNIFER

What do you want to do?

JAMES

(signaling)

Take them out silently; you take the left I'll take the right.

(beat)

JAMES CONT'D

(grabbing Jennifer's arm)

Quietly Jen they can't know were here yet or we won't stand a chance.

They creep down the corridor. Coming upon the two guards. James snaps one's neck. Jennifer stabs the other from behind in the neck. They lay the guards softly on to the ground. They continue down the passage a door marked INTERROGATION is seen.

JAMES

(looking at INTERROGATION)

Should we go in?

JENNIFER
 (shaking head)
 We don't have time; if there is
 anyone in there they are not of
 concern to us. We are here for
 him... no one else.

Continuing down the passage stealthily. Five more guards...
 REAPERS positioned at the end of the hallway. Reapers have
 specific difference in uniform from previous soldiers to
 designate them as elite.

JENNIFER (cont'd)
 (worried)
 Reapers.

JAMES
 Reap what?

JENNIFER
 (staring at the Reapers)
 Royal Empire Assassination Platoons
 -- Basically the Emperor's Special
 Forces.

JAMES
 So what are we going to do?

Jennifer smirks at James and starts for the Reapers. A
 battle begins and ends quickly before they are able to
 speak.

The pair continue down the corridor until they arrive at a
 dead end, a final door.

JAMES
 (out of breath)
 Are you ready?

JENNIFER
 Let's end this once and for
 all.

James pushes the door open. They enter with caution.

INT. DALGA - PALACE - AUDITORIUM - CONTINUOUS

Exiting onto the upper deck of a grand auditorium. James and
 Jennifer admire the scenery; with drapes running down the
 stage on both sides having a distinct color scheme starting
 with red, yellow, brown, blue, white, black and grey.

JENNIFER

(pointing)

That is the door to the chambers.

JAMES

(pointing)

OK you take that side, I will take this side and meet at the door.

James goes right to the far side of auditorium even with the stage and slides down drapes onto the main deck. James turns to Jennifer's supposed position. CALEB is standing behind Jennifer, DAGGER raised. Caleb is in all black; cloaked unable to clearly see his features. James sprints to Jennifer, screaming as he goes hoping his warning will be answered.

JAMES (cont'd)

Jennifer!

Caleb slides the dagger into Jennifer's back. Jennifer gasps and grabs her chest; dropping her weapons. Caleb pulls the dagger out dropping Jennifer's lifeless body on the floor in a pool of blood.

James readies his sword while running. Caleb and James begin to battle. James seems to get the upper hand in battle and strikes Caleb's neck. Caleb turns into a giant black dragon.

JAMES POV: CALEB BEGINS STRIKING JAMES REPETITIVELY. JAMES BEGINS TO SLIP IN AND OUT OF CONSCIOUSNESS... DARKNESS FILLS JAMES'S EYES. THEN A WHITE LIGHT APPEARS WITH ONLY A SMALL BLACK SILHOUETTE IN THE DISTANCE.

The sound of a fist banging against a wooden door KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK.

PAUL (V.O.)

James wake up your going to be late for work!

INT. LOFTBALT - JAMES ROOM - MORNING

James wakes in a hot sweat grabbing his chest. Realizing it was a dream James gets out of bed and starts to get dressed.

James room is basic and plain, old wooden bed frame with a tatty quilt, a handmade wooden dresser with a broken drawer. His sword and backpack lay in the corner wooden chair. James leaves the room and starts down his stairs.

INT. LOFTBALT- JAMES HOUSE - MORNING

JAMES
 (happily greeting coming down
 stairs)
 Hey mom, dad.

PAUL (White male, mid-late 40's), WENDY (White female, mid-late 40's). House is cheaply made, a wood burning stove, wood crafted furniture. Similar to a log cabin.

PAUL
 James, how many times do I have to tell you! I don't want you staying out so late anymore, it isn't safe for you to be just doing whatever you want!

JAMES
 Dad I'm twenty-two... I know what's safe and what isn't.

WENDY
 Honey we are just worried that you could get hurt running around with your friends that late, you understand right.

JAMES
 (nodding)
 Yeah sure.

After a quick breakfast. James leaves for work.

EXT. LOFTBALT - TOWN - ESTABLISHING - MORNING

LOFTBALT is a small run down town, all dirt roads. There are only a few decent houses with the rest being practically condemned. A town that must have experienced a loss from disease or war leaving it in shambles.

MADAM NORRIS (Skinny and nerdy white female late 40's) is flagging James down. James sighs then goes to her.

Madam Norris is holding her craft shops sign. The sign says the shop name as SHEVERY. James takes the sign and begins to help hang it without a request.

MADAM NORRIS
 (smiling)
 Thank you James, I swear these kids are always mess with me.

JAMES

Maybe you should hammer it to the frame so they can't steal it anymore.

MADAM NORRIS

That is a marvelous idea. Will you come by and do it for me sometime?

JAMES

Yeah I will as soon as I can; right now I have to be off to work.

INT. BLACKSMITH - CONTINUOUS

James arrives at work, the Blacksmith shop. James greets MR. CHAGLEY (Big and drunken late 50's) with a nod. James picks up an order left on the anvil, takes a look at the order. It has several class of weapons in large quantities. The order is addressed from RHONERVILLE. James begins forging weapons. James takes the hot molten metal from the fire and pounds it with a hammer.

INT. BLACKSMITH - AFTERNOON

James is sitting in an old wood chair, relaxing. Mr. Chagley enters and smiles big.

MR. CHAGLEY

Hey James guess what time it is?

James stares blankly waiting for him to answer his own question.

MR. CHAGLEY (cont'd)

Firewood.

JAMES

(Groaning)

I didn't think we were low yet sir.

MR. CHAGLEY

Were not but I got an order from Rhonerville for triple what we normally make and they are paying five times the normal price for express!

James sulks for a moment then gives a nod and leaves the Smithy.

EXT. THE BLACK FOREST - AFTERNOON

James is chopping at trees when a CYPLAGON (a one eyed bat, three feet in length and has razor sharp teeth) flies over head. The Cyplagon flies lower and spotting James. The Cyplagon screeches and darts to another nearby part of the woods. The Cyplagon goes in for his final approach and disappears into the horizon. James follows with caution.

EXT. THE BLACK FOREST - CONTINUOUS

James comes upon a small clearing, bushes almost block his complete view. Voices ascend from the other side of the bushes.

FLEMGER (O.S.)

(excited)

Do you really think he is the one
the Emperor is looking for?

James maneuvers and finds a hole in the bush.

JAMES POV: AROUND THE CYPLAGON ARE FIVE REAPERS (RANGING AGES 30-40'S) AROUND THEIR CAMPSITE. ALL FIVE HAVE BATTLE TATTERED ARMOR AND BLOOD STAINED WEAPONS.

CYPLAGON

I seen him with my own eyees hee
is thee greeat onee. This onee is
strongeer than I havee seen
beeforee.

FLEMGER

We will take him to the Emperor and
find out for sure that he is the
one.

REAPERS

(excited)

We will get a good reward for this
one won't we boss.

James turns around and beings to leave. He's spotted running to his home. The Reapers begin to chase him.

INT. LOFTBALT - JAMES HOME - AFTERNOON

James enters his house out of breath.

JAMES

Mom! Mom!

WENDY

What is the matter?

JAMES

(out of breath)

I was in the Black Forest getting firewood... there were Reapers they found me... they said I am the great one, the one they have been looking for... they said they were taking me to the Emperor.

WENDY

Paul! Paul!

Paul instantly arrives at Wendy's side.

WENDY (CONT'D)

(crying)

They are coming for him.

PAUL

(sternly)

Get him out of here now!

WENDY

(crying)

James go get your pack and sword... fill it with only a few clothes and food, go now!

INT. LOFTBALT - JAMES ROOM - CONTINUOUS

James runs upstairs and begins packing his bag with clothes, money, and food. James grabs his sword on the way out of the bedroom.

INT. LOFTBALT- JAMES HOUSE - DAY

WENDY

Are you ready?

James nods, beginning to feel the emotional wave crash over him.

PAUL

(commanding)

(MORE)

PAUL (cont'd)
 James go north as fast as you can,
 you do not stop running, run until
 Dawn! Do you understand?

Wendy drops to her knees CRYING into James's clothes.

JAMES
 Let's all go we can all get out of
 here together.

PAUL
 (prying Wendy off of James)
 We can't you must go it is your
 destiny son.

(beat)

PAUL (CONT'D)
 James go now! North till Dawn!

James turns and starts for the back door. He turns and takes one last look at his family.

JAMES
 I'll be back for you soon I
 promise.

James has a tear begin to well. CRASHES and EXPLOSIONS begin, as the Reapers begin their assault on the town. James runs out of the back door.

EXT. WOODS - AFTERNOON

Loftbalt can be seen small in the background, smoke billowing. James stops by a tree and drops to his knees crying.

MOMENTS LATER

Rustles come from the bushes nearby. James jumps to his feet and draws his sword. FLEMGER, CYPLAGON, and four other REAPERS slowly emerge.

FLEMGER
 (speaking as the other REAPERS
 surround James.)
 So you are the Great one... not
 much to look at is he gentleman.

(beat)

FLEMGER (CONT'D)

(crooked smile)

I cannot believe that we have been so close to you all of these years and never noticed your spirit.

(beat)

FLEMGER (CONT'D)

Oh forgive my manners I am Flemger. I will be taking you to the Emperor for judgment.

JAMES

I don't know why you need me; I am nothing but a striker.

FLEMGER

(putting one finger to his lips)

Quiet young one I do not like whiners. It makes it that much more pathetic... The Emperor will give you a slow and painful death. I can almost not help myself but to kill you now and tell him how you tried to fend us off and we had no choice but to kill you... It would be better if we kill you than him, trust me. James lifts his sword and rests it on his shoulder.

(beat)

FLEMGER (CONT'D)

Are you ready to die boy?

Flemger begins walking toward James, pointing his sword at him.

James take a deep breath then uppercuts Flemger, knocking him to the ground.

The remaining Reapers begin to attack. James kills two Reapers with quick slashes to their abdomen's.

DAWN drops in from the trees, killing Flemger with a blow through the chest on her way down.

James kills another Reaper distracted by Dawn's arrival. The last Reaper charges James. While backpedaling, James trips over Flemger's dead corpse.

Dawn throws a dagger into the last Reaper's throat just before he strikes James, making a blood gurgling sound as he hits the ground.

The Cyplagon takes flight. Dawn whips her bow out and shoots it down with a single arrow to the neck. James looks at his unknown protector. DAWN, (21) with deep brown eyes, wavy long black hair, an hourglass figure with a brown wardrobe.

JAMES

Who are you, what is going on?

DAWN

I am Dawn Jenkins, your Guardian I am here to protect you. You have to come with me now.

James stares for a moment waiting for a better explanation.

DAWN (CONT'D)

I can't tell you where we are going or why we are going there, all I can do is protect you and guide you.

JAMES

Where are we going to go?

DAWN

You must come with me; you are no longer safe here and must be moved.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)

You must not know where we are going for the safety of yourself and the others. They will come for you again and we can't afford for you to be captured with ANY knowledge.

JAMES

No! I'm going back to Loftbalt, I have to help my family. We killed the Reapers. There is no reason why I can't return there!

DAWN

Your father would want you to follow me. He understood the reason is worth dying for as well as your mother. They sacrificed themselves for you... Your protection.

JAMES

(serious)

No! I'm going back... After I help them I will follow you wherever you want to go... Agreed.

DAWN

As you wish.

EXT. LOFTBALT - ESTABLISHING - AFTERNOON

Dawn and James enter Loftbalt, smoke is rising, screams of pain can be heard. People lay dead and wounded from the brutal massacre that occurred.

JAMES

I should have warned them, they didn't have time to prepare. It's my fault they are dead.

DAWN

There isn't anything that could have been done to save them, even if they would have killed the Reapers...

James looks for Dawn to finish.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Worse things could have happened to them.

Madam Norris's shop is burnt to the ground and she lies dead with her shop sign on her chest.

JAMES

(picking the sign off of her)

I was supposed to hang this up for her.

James sees Old Man Foster against the wall of his shop, still alive. James runs to his aid. Old Man Foster has a shallow gash to his abdomen. James helps him into his shop tending to his wounds.

INT. OLD MAN FOSTER'S SHOP - CONTINUOUS

OLD MAN FOSTER

Thank you James.

(beat)

OLD MAN FOSTER (CONT'D)
(gasping between breaths)
I used to be a doctor in
Rhonerville...bring me the
wounded... I have medical supplies
in the back.

JAMES
(ordering Dawn)
Spread out and check for any
survivors, bring them here for
medical attention.

James leaves to look for other survivors.

EXT. LOFTBALT - CONTINUOUS

Mr. Chagley is on the ground barley alive. James goes to his aid. James takes him in his arms and attempts to tend to his wounds, trying to stop the blood from spitting across the dirt.

MOMENTS LATER

Mr. Chagley dies in his arms. James lays him to the ground and is slow to get up.

JAMES
Mom! Dad!

James arrives to his house. It is badly burnt but still standing, James enters.

INT. JAMES HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

James enters and drops to his knees. Wendy is tied up beaten and burned in the middle of the living room. Dawn cautiously enters behind James.

PAUL (O.S.)
Uh-oh

Paul is stuck a few feet off the ground with a pitchfork through his chest. Paul looks at James and raises an arm with his last dying breath.

James yells, letting out the built up remorse and guilt.

EXT. LOFTBALT - JAMES BURIES- EVENING

James is shoveling the last bit of dirt on the graves of his parents. Dawn is standing close by watching. James drops to his knees throwing a handful of dirt on the graves.

JAMES

I'm sorry... I'm so sorry. I love you guys so much.

James throws the shovel down and walks away, Dawn follows.

INT. LOFTBALT - OLD MAN FOSTER'S HOUSE - EVENING

Old Man Foster tends to a few injured towns people. James and Dawn stand in the corner.

JAMES

We have to leave, they are after me, if I stay here no one will be safe... The first chance we get the news about this will get out, and we will send help this way.

OLD MAN FOSTER

Very well I have enough supplies in my shop to last a few weeks.

Dawn and James turn and leave.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Dawn is walking through the forest, followed closely by James.

JAMES

(annoyed)

Dawn it's been two days. We need to stop somewhere... somewhere civilized preferably, I'm getting tired of sleeping in the dirt.

DAWN

We will stop soon I promise, just a little further.

LATER

They continue on and come upon a village called VIRE.

JAMES

Finally!

EXT. VIRE - STREETS - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

Vire is about the quality of Loftbalt; a small pathetic town. Vire has one fancy Inn from the exterior and a small pub across the street from it with multiple old homes.

DAWN

We will stop here for tonight only;
we leave at first light.

Dawn enters the Inn followed by James.

INT. VIRE - INN - CONTINUOUS

The Inn is fancy with nice walls and flooring. It is decorative and candle lit. Dawn walks to the front desk.

DAWN

One room please.

INN ATTENDANT

(handing key)

Your room is at the top of the
stairs on the right... I can show
you to your room if you like.

Dawn takes the keys and without a word turns and starts up the stairs. James follows.

INT. VIRE - INN - ROOM HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dawn unlocks the door and signals for James to hold. Dawn enters the room while James remains in the hall.

MOMENTS LATER

Dawn waves James in.

INT. VIRE - INN - ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The inside of the room is dirty, with only a bed and rocking chair. It has plaster falling off the walls, the window is partially cracked. The only light source is a small fireplace.

JAMES

Well this isn't as nice as I expected.

DAWN

We're not on vacation, go to sleep you will need the rest.

JAMES

Where are you going to sleep?

DAWN

I'm here to protect you I will stand watch.

James climbs into bed, and lays there restless for several seconds tossing and turning. Dawn goes and sits in a chair by the window.

MOMENTS LATER

James sits up on the bed.

JAMES

I can't sleep, can't we go across the street to the pub for awhile and eat?

DAWN

I could go for some decent food.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)

Fine we will go to the pub for dinner and then back here nowhere else... clear.

James nods in agreement and gets out of bed. They exit the room together.

INT. VIRE - WHITES PUB - NIGHT

James and Dawn are waiting inside. The Pub is middle class, stools and a wood stove. One section is set up with nicer tables and flowers.

A single WAITRESS greets them.

WAITRESS

(smiling, overly attentive to James)

(MORE)

WAITRESS (cont'd)
Good evening right this way.

The Waitress guides them to their table. James and Dawn take their seats.

WAITRESS
(smiling, rubbing James arm)
What can I get you to drink sir.

JAMES
(flirting back with a wink)
A pint please.

WAITRESS
And for you?

DAWN
Water.

JAMES
We will both have the specials
also.

WAITRESS
OK anything you want, be right
back. If you need anything just
give me a shout.

The Waitress turns and leaves.

DAWN
You done yet?

JAMES
Why does it bother you?

DAWN
(rolling eyes)
No it's annoying... do you really
think those lines work?

JAMES
(looking at Dawn)
I don't know do they?

Dawn ignores the question.

MOMENTS LATER

The Waitress returns with the food and drinks. She smiles at James but then turns and leaves because of Dawn's obvious glare.

JAMES

So what does it mean that you are
my Guardian?

DAWN

I am your protector; Guardians have
been protecting your kind for
centuries.

JAMES

What do you mean my kind? What am
I?

DAWN

Just eat, no more questions.

Dawn begins eating her food ignoring James last question.
James slams his drink on the table and starts eating.

INT. VIRE - INN ROOM - NIGHT

James and Dawn enter the room. James jumps into bed rolling
away from Dawn and goes to sleep. The fireplace is burning
bright.

LATER

Dawn is sitting by the fireplace. The wood has all but
burned out only a small dim glow ascends. Dawn walks over to
James and covers him with a quilt.

DAWN

Soon it will all make sense.

INT. VIRE - INN ROOM - NIGHT

SERIES OF SHOTS

- A) Flash of darkness
- B) Jennifer is laying on the ground in blood
- C) Quick cuts of battle with Caleb
- D) James is being attacked by the dragon and then white.

James wakes up soaked in sweat clenching his chest and
breathing heavily. James looks around the room. Dawn is
sound asleep on the floor in front of the fireplace. Dawn
wakes and looks at James.

DAWN

Are you OK?

JAMES

I'm fine just a nightmare nothing
to worry about promise.

DAWN

(rubbing her eyes)

What was it?

JAMES

It was nothing just a dream good
night.

Dawn goes and sits next to James on the bed.

DAWN

I need to know what you saw.

JAMES

OK... well I was in a room dark,
candle lit. There is a man in the
middle of the room in all black.
There is a girl... He stabs her, I
run to try and help her but I
can't. I attack him and he turns
into something. It attacks over and
over... I am on the ground in pain,
agonizing pain. I start to pass out
then suddenly a bright light
emerges and I wake up.... I had
this dream the night before the
Reapers.

(beat)

JAMES (CONT'D)

What does it mean?

DAWN

It is just a dream go back to sleep
we only have a few hours left.

JAMES

(while drifting to sleep)

The dream means something doesn't
it.

INT. VIRE - INN ROOM - MORNING

James is awoken by Dawn SHAKING him.

DAWN
It's time to go.

James nods and sits up in the bed.

DAWN (CONT'D)
I will be back in a few minutes,
get ready to leave.

JAMES
Are you going to tell someone about
Loftbalt?

DAWN
(as exiting)
I will tell the front desk, they
will pass the word along.

Once Dawn is gone James gets up and starts snooping around. James opens her backpack, inside he finds a blank piece of parchment, four blue ruby's, a bag of white powder, three knives, a canteen, and a photo of a family, Dawn's family. James looks up to see Dawn standing in the entrance furious.

JAMES
(cut off by Dawn)
I was just ...

DAWN
(angrily, snatching her
belongings)
We leave now!

EXT. FOREST - AFTERNOON

James and Dawn are walking down a trail in the woods. Dawn is a few yard ahead of James avoiding him.

JAMES
Dawn please I'm sorry, I wanted to
get some answers.

DAWN
So you believe that rummaging
through my stuff is going to help
you get answers.

(beat)

JAMES

No I just... I don't know what I was thinking, I'm sorry it won't happen again.

DAWN

(snarling)

Your right it won't because if it does you will not have to worry about why the Emperor is after you because I will serve you on a silver platter. Understand!

Dawn turns back and continues on the path.

EXT. FOREST - CAMPSITE - SUNSET

James and Dawn have a campsite set-up. It is close to sunset but not dark enough outside for a fire to keep the area lit. James stands and pulls out his sword and begins practicing. Dawn stares at him.

DAWN

What are you doing?

JAMES

Just practicing, nothing better to do, this is the first time you have spoke to me in two days.

DAWN

Prepare yourself.

Dawn draws her sword and readies her stance.

JAMES

Are you serious?

Dawn SWINGS her sword fast at James. James rolls to evade. They battle momentarily then James get the upper hand and Dawn sweeps him off his feet. Dawn puts her sword to his throat, pushing the point in making the point almost break the skin.

Dawn pulls the sword away and helps James to his feet. A Cyplagon is flying in the distance, Dawn notices and begins picking up the campsite.

DAWN

(pointing to a cave)

Hide! There!

Dawn and James make haste to the cave entrance.

INT. CAVE - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

Dawn and James are inside the cave, it is dark and wet, bats can be heard SCREECHING. Dawn signals for James to wait. Dawn walks into the distance disappearing into the black abyss. James looks around the cave on edge.

DAWN (O.S.)
Illumination!

A BRIGHT RED light emerges in the distance of the cave, coming toward James. Dawn comes into view, her face lit by the red light. She is holding a RED BALL of fire between her hands.

JAMES
(clenching sword hilt)
Dawn is that you?

DAWN
Yes be still.

Dawn reaches into her pack, she pulls out one of the blue rubies and places it onto the ground.

DAWN (CONT'D)
Stand back.

Dawn moves the RED BALL toward the RUBY. When they touch it BURSTS into a DEEP BLUE fire lighting the whole CAVE. Once the Cave is lit, a cascading waterfall along with flowers blooming everywhere is visible. A cavern paradise. Cave sickles rest along the top of the cave.

(beat)

DAWN
I'm going to go check the rest of
the cave... can I trust you alone
this time?

Dawn walks into the distance disappearing. James starts planning a quick dinner setting, James opens his pack and pulls out a packaged meal.

LATER

Dawn returns to find James waiting with a formal dinner setting. The dinner is a basic meal but James has set place settings and flowers in the middle near the waterfall.

James approaches Dawn and puts a single flower in her hair above her ear.

JAMES
I have dinner prepared shall we?

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Dawn takes her seat, James then returns to his. They begin EATING.

LATER

JAMES
So are you ready to tell me what is going on or where we are going?

DAWN
You are a very special person James; you are the son of an Emperor.

JAMES
The Emperor, you mean the Emperor that is trying to kill me is my father!

(beat)

DAWN
Your mother and father were murdered by the man that is now Emperor, fifteen years ago. When you were seven.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)
(laying down)
That is why the Emperor wants you dead, you are a living heir to the Empire and other things.... You really don't need to worry about this now, later it will all make sense when we get to Rhonerville I promise.... Now you have some answers get some sleep.

JAMES
(laying down)
Well at least I know where we are going now.

INT. CAVE - MORNING

James wakes up groggy and stretches. Dawn is nowhere in sight. James gets up and begins looking for her.

JAMES POV: DAWN BATHING IN LAGOON UNDER THE WATERFALL

James watches, he moves closer for a better view and accidentally knocks a rock into the water SPLASH. Dawn DIVES toward the rocks edge and grabs her clothes.

James turns and returns to the campsite.

Dawn walks up out of the water covered. Dawn walks next to James, passing and almost touching.

DAWN
(annoyed)
Did you like what you saw?

JAMES
(choking on words)
I didn't see anything... I swear, I was just looking for you and knocked the rock in right before I saw you.

Dawn goes behind a nearby boulder with her clothes in hand. James puts his hands on his head and walks back to the campsite and begins picking up.

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Dawn walks toward the camp, James has everything packed and ready to move.

The air suddenly turns violently cold, WHISPERS begin from the back of the cave, followed by HOWLING. Dawn looks to the far end of the cave.

DAWN
James we have to move now!

At back of the cave. Four WRAITHS appear, they are black shadowy silhouettes.

DAWN
(raising hands)
Provecto!

A ball of WHITE LIGHT shoots from Dawn's hands and hits a wraith, it disappears, Dawn continues her attacks on the wraiths as they FLY around the Cave. Loud HOWLS begin at the front of the cave. Two giant TIGER'S block the only exit. James turns facing them with his sword drawn.

The TIGERS LUNGE. James begins battling the Tigers. James stabs a Tiger several times. Nothing happens.

DAWN (cont'd)
Cut off its head!

James makes a swift cut, decapitating a tiger it falls limp unresponsive. James begins fighting the other Tiger as Dawn continues attacking the Wraith's with her spell.

DAWN
Provecto!

Dawn shoots the last remaining Wraith. James counters the Tiger's attack and decapitates it. Dawn leans against a rock for support, EXHAUSTED. James goes to Dawn and takes her in his arms, stroking her hair.

A third unseen tiger leaps toward Dawn's back. James spins her around and takes the bite to his forearm. The tiger rips a hole through James's arm. Blood pumps out of his open veins from his arm. James manages to cut off the tiger's head with his free hand.

James FALLS over backwards with Dawn still held in his chest. They hit the ground hard with a THUD. James passes out. Dawn sits up straddling James; she puts her hands on the wound applying pressure.

DAWN
Healfina!

The wound heals only leaving a vicious scar and blood behind. Dawn passes out on top of James.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

James wakes, it is nightfall. Dawn is still unconscious on top of him. James rolls Dawn on to the ground, gently propping her head up with some clothes. James begins checking Dawn's vitals... stable. James notices his arm is healed and only the scar remains.

James goes to Dawn's pack and takes out a ruby. James places it on the ground.

JAMES
Illuminatorum!

The flame starts to grow, bright RED. It is hot and getting hotter with every second it is in his hands. James struggles to contain the heat and pushes it away from his body. The flame shoots into the cavern wall. The Cave rumbles, cave icicles begin to fall.

James grabs Dawn, throwing her over his shoulder. He runs to the exit, grabbing their gear on the way, DODGING falling icicles.

James with only a few more yard to reach the exit. The cave icicles from the mouth of the cave fall. James sprints to try and make it under them. James leaps over a pile of icicles about two feet high blocking the exit.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

James lands in the dark forest holding Dawn in his arms. It is very cold outside. James is chattering, he lays Dawn down and covers with a blanket.

EXT. FOREST - MORNING

SERIES OF SHOTS

1. James is carrying Dawn
2. James stops by a river, filling canteen
3. James is carrying Dawn
4. James stops by a river.

EXT. RIVER - AFTERNOON

James lays Dawn down propping her head up. James begins filling the canteens again as DAWN starts to wake.

James goes to Dawn and HOLDS her. Dawn looks at James then TAKES his hand in hers.

JAMES
How do you feel?

DAWN
(smiling, softly)
I've been better.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)
 (looking around)
 Where are we?

JAMES
 We should be about half a day from
 Rhonerville.

DAWN
 (cut off by James)
 How long was I...

JAMES
 (out of breath)
 Almost two days... I woke up and I
 tried to wake you but you were
 passed out... It started getting
 dark so I used a ruby and tried the
 spell for the fire. I couldn't
 control it... It shot the cave,
 Cave icicles started falling
 everywhere. I ran out of the cave.
 And now were here.

DAWN
 (sitting up)
 Well that sounded thrilling, kind
 of glad I missed it.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)
 You were able to do the spell? ...
 Was it easy?

JAMES
 I did but I couldn't control it, it
 got way to hot and was burning me,
 when I pushed it away it shot into
 the cave wall

DAWN
 To be able to perform a spell like
 that is really... impressive. It
 takes a high degree of
 concentration and energy.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)

You will learn more, and how to control it later. But for now let's get a move on. We should only a few more hours.

Dawn stands and grabs her pack and sword.

EXT. RHONERVILLE - ESTABLISHING - EVENING

Dawn and James reach the top of a hill, RHONERVILLE comes into view.

EXT. RHONERVILLE - CITY STREETS - CONTINUOUS

The city is big with nice buildings, dozens of shops on each street. Actual stone roads and streets make it a noticed difference between the other towns. The city is well lit and decorated.

James and Dawn are walking through the city streets. James is spinning around admiring everything.

JAMES

I used to dream of coming here and opening a smithy.

DAWN

(pointing to several shops)
Well you are here now, so are a hundred other blacksmith's.

JAMES

Do we have time to shop for a bit?

(beat)

DAWN

(smiling)
I believe we can spare some time if you want to do some quick shopping.

James begins looking for what shop he wants to enter. There is an armor shop in the distance. James motions to it. Dawn nods and they start walking to the shop.

INT. RHONERVILLE- SMITHY - EVENING

It is small shop with different styles or armor and shields. James is admiring a nice black and red armor.

RHONERVILLE MR. CHAGLEY
You like that armor?

James turns still holding the armor to see a big man mid 50's who has a significant resemblance MR. CHAGLEY.

JAMES
Yes I do, the red and black mix well together, the way it is punched makes it even more attractive.

RHONERVILLE MR. CHAGLEY
Awe you know blacksmithing don't ya. My brother is a blacksmith down in Loftbalt, a fine blacksmith, always sending up high class forges. But I bet you have something to do with that now don't ya.

James is offset by the comment and looks to Dawn for approval to inform RHONERVILLE MR. CHAGLEY about Loftbalt Dawn nods.

JAMES
Sir, Mr. Chagley is dead... He was murdered by Reapers almost two weeks ago. I'm sorry... I was his striker.

RHONERVILLE MR. CHAGLEY
Well not the best news I have heard... but me brother was strong and he died for a great cause. Done a great job with you he has. You are a fine blacksmith, put everyone in this town to shame.... Now I seen you to a liking to that red and black armor... Take it it's yours free your highness.

JAMES
(taking armor)
Thank you.

Dawn and James leave the shop.

EXT. RHONERVILLE - STREETS - CONTINUOUS

DAWN

I told you, you are the son of an Emperor. Expect people to treat you a little different now.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Where would you like to go next?

James sees a jewelry store in the distance. Dawn is unaware.

JAMES

(pointing, misleading Dawn)
That craft shop looks nice.

Dawn walks ahead toward the craft shop. James turns the other way and heads to the jewelry store.

INT. RHONERVILLE - JEWELRY STORE - EVENING

James picks up a beautiful diamond necklace.

JEWELRY STORE CLERK

Put that down that's not for sale!

The JEWELRY STORE CLERK looks at James, she smiles.

JEWELRY STORE CLERK (CONT'D)

I have waited for a long time for you to return, that necklace is yours... a heirloom from your mother. Take it your highness.

JAMES

(taking necklace)
Thanks.

James leaves the shop.

EXT. RHONERVILLE - STREETS - CONTINUOUS

James is walking toward the craft shop, placing the necklace in his pocket. Half-way to the craft shop Dawn is in the middle of the road, furious.

DAWN

(starting to yell then calming herself talking quietly)
You do not leave me! You do not leave me.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)

I am your guardian, it is my job to protect you. You never leave my side again unless I say you can.

JAMES

(nodding then smiling)

Turn around.

DAWN

We don't have time for games lets go.

JAMES

I know just turn around for a second.

Dawn turns around, James pulls out the necklace and moves Dawn's hair out of the way, running his hands on her neck. James puts the necklace on Dawn.

JAMES (cont'd)

(whispering in Dawn's ear)

I seen this and I knew it was almost as beautiful as you are.

Dawn turns around, blushing and smiling.

DAWN

... Thank you James.

James takes a step closer and starts to fiddle with the diamond on the end of the necklace. Dawn is eager for more attention.

DAWN

(pulling away)

We should go... it won't take us long from here.

Dawn starts down the road, James follows.

EXT. RHONERVILLE - JADE ACADEMY - EVENING

They arrive at the JADE ACADEMY. It is a big building surrounded by high walls and bushes. The only access is through a front gate without any type of handle or knob to open.

DAWN
 (pointing)
 We're here.

James is in awe of the size of the building. There are six stones next to the gate, Dawn arranges them in a specific order and the gate rises. Once it is all the way to the top, Dawn re-arranges the stones and the gate slowly closes as they walk under it. The Palace has a exquisite garden with sculptured bushes, a fountain in the center with a dragon spiting water. They make their way to the front steps.

Two men are waiting for their arrival, GRAND MASTER SHUI (late 50's with an Asian appearance.), and MINISTER PALPA (late 50's with an Asian appearance.) Dawn walks to Grand Master Shui and whispers in his ear then turns to face James with the others.

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 (smiling)
 James you have come a long way,
 welcome to the Jade Academy... I am
 Grand Master Shui. I run the
 Academy. A room for you, and
 clothes await. We will have dinner
 soon... a chance to get to know
 each other better. Dawn will
 accompany you around.

Grand Master Shui and Minister Palpa turn and go inside the Jade Academy. Dawn goes to James's side.

DAWN
 Come on let me show you around the
 place.

Dawn and James enter the Jade Academy.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - ESTABLISHING - EVENING

They enter the Jade Academy, James admires the architecture and artwork. There is a banner like his dream running down the walls. They continue to take a tour of the Jade Academy.

James notices several classrooms filled with students. A variety of subjects from hand to hand combat, archery, magic and others.

DAWN
 They are classroom's, each a
 different subject. They are all
 training to be Guardian's one day.

JAMES
(watching students train)
How long have you been a Guardian?

DAWN
(smiling)
Three years... but I started my
training when I was five like most
of them.

(beat)

JAMES
So then how old are you?

DAWN
(laughing)
Twenty-one... now come on we need
to get to your room so you can get
ready for dinner.

INT. JAMES ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They enter James's room, it is filled with luxurious
furniture with a red and black color scheme.

JAMES
Where is your room?

DAWN
They are connected through the
lavatory. Even though we are very
safe here I am still your Guardian.

JAMES
(smiling)
Sounds good to me.

DAWN
We have about thirty minutes before
dinner. There are dress clothes in
your armoire. I will come back in
about twenty minutes, if you need
anything I will be changing next
door.

Dawn leaves closing the doors between the lavatory. James
looks around the room admiring all the furniture and
clothes.

LATER

James is finishing getting dressed. James is now in a fancy dress outfit, that of a suit. There is a KNOCK at the door separating his room and Dawn's.

JAMES

Come in.

Dawn walks in wearing a elegant red and black dress, tightly cropped to her figure with the diamond necklace glistening on her cleavage. Dawn's attire is a match for James's dress clothes.

JAMES

You look amazing.

DAWN

(blushing)

Thanks... you don't look half bad yourself.

James walks over to Dawn and takes her hand in his. Placing his other hand on her neck, running his fingers down the necklace band.

JAMES

You are so beautiful.

DAWN

(stepping back, composing herself)

We need to get to dinner... they are expecting us.

Dawn is walking ahead of James, he stops her at the door and holds out his forearm to ESCORT Dawn. Dawn can't help but take his arm as they leave the room.

INT. GRAND MASTER'S CHAMBERS - DINNER - EVENING

Dawn and James enter Grand Master Shui's Chambers, it is set up for a formal dinner.

There is four people seated at the table. (JENNIFER, VANCE, JOHN, and MINISTER PALPA)

James stops and takes a deep breath after recognizing JENNIFER from his dreams. Dawn squeezes James's arm and they continue to sit leaving only one chair at the head of the table open.

MOMENTS LATER

A little man comes inside.

DINNER SERVANT
 (holding door open)
 Announcing Grand Master Shui.

Grand Master Shui enters, everyone STANDS, James is slower than the rest trying to keep up with their courtesies. Everyone then turns to him with a slight bow. James stands frozen not knowing what to do. Grand Master Shui takes his seat and all the guests then take theirs. James again slower than the rest trying to keep up.

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 (gesturing)
 Good evening everyone, I would like to welcome James Gamble. He has come all the way from Loftbalt to join us.

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D)
 (moving his hand around the table)
 James... you already know Dawn and Minister Palpa, across from him we have John Ballast. Followed by Vince Cochran and my daughter Jennifer Shui.

Dinner is served.

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 Shall we.

They begin eating.

INT. GRAND MASTER'S CHAMBERS - DINNER - CONTINUOUS

SERVANTS are cleaning up the plates and serving dessert.

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 (looking at James)
 Now you want to know what you are doing here I presume... The Jade Academy is for training Guardians so they can protect Dragon Warriors.

James looks interested.

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D)
 Fifteen years ago, Emperor Shui and his wife Meredith. Your birth parents and my brother. Were
 (MORE)

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D) (cont'd)
 celebrating the newest addition to
 the family, Julian. Immediately
 after he had received a magical gem
 called the Dragon Amulet...

FLASHBACK

Everyone is celebrating. The royal family is holding baby
 Julian while the rest of the guardians look on.

GRAND MASTER SHUI (V.O.)
 Explosions rocked the Palace.
 General Alexander Alvarez who was
 in charge of the imperial army, had
 betrayed the empire, in an attempt
 to capture all of the children and
 take the Dragon Amulets.

SERIES OF SHOTS

- A) Explosions blow the palace entrance in
- B) REAPERS pour into the Palace grounds
- C) General Alvarez is standing in the entrance directing
troops
- D) Guardians and Grand Master Shui battle Reapers
- E) EMPEROR SHUI leads children across the palace
- F) MERIDITH and CALEB are separated
- G) Grand Master Shui takes children and leaves via boat.

GRAND MASTER SHUI (V.O. CONT'D)
 I was the lead protector at the
 time, I tried to defend against the
 attacks, but their forces were too
 strong... Your father lead all of
 you to the edge of the palace. But
 your mother and Caleb were
 separated during the attack.

GRAND MASTER SHUI (V.O. CONT'D)
 I was able to escape with all you
 children but your father stayed
 behind to fight Alvarez.

END FLASHBACK

James is overwhelmed by his past. Dawn takes his hand under
 the table to tries to calm him.

JAMES

Where is the rest of my family now?

GRAND MASTER SHUI

Two of your brothers were found and have been killed, another is alive but his whereabouts are unknown... Your only sister is sitting across from you.

JAMES

(nervous, looking at Jennifer)
What is a Dragon Amulet?

GRAND MASTER SHUI

The dragon amulet is an ancient gem passed down from generation to generation. It gives the holder the power to become a certain dragon.

JAMES

Become a dragon... I'm not following. What are you talking about?

GRAND MASTER SHUI

There are seven dragons. Fire, Air, Earth, Water, Light, Dark, and Space. They are all very powerful in many different ways. The Dragon Amulets contain the spirit of each specific dragon.

JAMES

I don't have any amulet, I never have. He is after me for something that must have been lost years ago when I was adopted.

Grand Master Shui stands and walks toward James, Dawn pulls his hand upwards making James stand and gives a reassuring nod.

GRAND MASTER SHUI

Relax James, hold out your arms.

James is hesitant and looks to Dawn one last time Dawn nods again. James then holds his arms out. Grand Master Shui raises his hands and concentrates.

GRAND MASTER SHUI

(pushing his palm into James's chest)

(MORE)

GRAND MASTER SHUI (cont'd)
 Dragofina!

Grand Master Shui's hands slowly starts to move into James's chest. James screams in pain, a blinding bright red glow illuminates from his chest. Grand Master Shui then slowly pulls his hand out as a bright RED LIGHT shines revealing the RED DRAGON AMULET. Grand Master Shui holds the amulet up to James's face. James is weak and becoming more frail as seconds go by.

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 This is your Dragon Amulet James,
 without it you cannot survive. It
 is your heart and spirit. It keeps
 your body alive.

Grand Master Shui then puts the amulet back into James's chest. Once his hand is out James becomes frantic and scared. James tries to get away from the group but collapses passing out on the floor.

INT. JAMES ROOM - MORNING

James awakes groggy, Dawn is sitting on the edge of the bed next to him.

JAMES
 (whispering)
 Dawn... is that you?

DAWN
 (rubbing James's hair back)
 Hey you, how do you feel?

JAMES
 (opening his eyes fully)
 Not bad I guess just drained.

Dawn smiles and starts to have a tear roll down her cheek.

JAMES (cont'd)
 Are you OK?

DAWN
 I'm fine... I was just a little
 upset, seeing you in that pain, I
 couldn't bare it. I'm sorry you had
 to go through that.

James wipes the tear from Dawn's face.

JAMES
It's OK, I'm fine.

Dawn hugs James tight as to never let him go.

MOMENTS LATER: DAWN RELEASES JAMES.

JAMES
Was this like the spell you did
that knocked you out for days?

DAWN
No this is different only Dragon
Warrior's posses the power to
remove an Amulet.

JAMES
(cut off by Dawn)
So the Grand Master...

DAWN
Grand Master is your real father's
brother. He has the Dragon Amulet
of the seventh dragon, space. Like
the Grand Master explained, with
each child a dragon amulet is
passed down into their body. Like
yours. But the seventh child was
never born and the last Amulet
never passed.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)
You have time to figure it all out,
we need to begin your training. You
have a lot of catching up to do.

Dawn goes into her room, gesturing to his armor on the way
out. James goes to the mirror and rubs his chest where it
was just ripped open. Then starts getting dressed.

INT. JAMES ROOM - CONTINUOUS

James is dressed and goes and knocks at the separating
doors... no answer. James enters.

INT. DAWN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

James enters and looks around. Her room is elegant with the same color scheme as his.

JAMES
Hey are you ready?

Dawn is in front of her armoire with only a slip and the necklace on. James walks up behind her.

JAMES (CONT'D)
Hey are you ready?

Dawn turns to James and they stare at each other for a moment. Dawn takes James's hand and pulls him in, they begin kissing. Dawn unlatches James's armor, it falls to the ground with a THUD. They continue kissing as they make their way to the bed.

They lay on the bed and continue kissing, Dawn removes James's shin and shoulder armor.

INT. DAWN'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

James is in the bed holding a sleeping Dawn in his arms. James kisses Dawn's forehead then gets up and goes to the lavatory.

Dawn is in bed alone, she wakes up, covers her face having regrets. James exits the lavatory.

JAMES
(smiling)
Hey.

DAWN
Hey.

James leans in and kisses Dawn.

JAMES
Are you ready to go?

(beat)

DAWN
Yeah we need to.

JAMES
(kissing Dawn, smiling)
Are you going to wear my clothes?

DAWN
 (smiling, giving James his
 shirt)

No.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - HALLS - AFTERNOON

James and Dawn are walking down the Jade Academy halls in full battle armor.

JAMES
 So what are we going to do first?

DAWN
 I have been instructed to start you
 out in swordsmanship.

Dawn and James arrive at a great open sparring room, weapons along one whole wall. Jennifer is already in there waiting.

INT. TRAINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

James and Dawn walk toward Jennifer.

JENNIFER
 (rudely)
 You don't mind me taking him for a
 bit, do you Dawn?

DAWN
 As you wish.

James takes a defensive stance and removes his sword from its scabbard. Jennifer spins her sais in her palms.

They begin to spar, Jennifer is quicker; but James is stronger and has better battle strategy. After a moment of the sparring, James begins to get the upper hand. Jennifer gets frustrated and uses magic.

JENNIFER
 Illuminatorum!

James is hit in the chest with the spell and flies back twenty feet into the stone wall, smoke is rolling off his armor.

DAWN
 (running to James's aide)
 James!

JENNIFER
 (raising her sais at Dawn)
 Get away from him!

Dawn complies and steps back. Jennifer notices the necklace on Dawn. Jennifer gets furious. Jennifer confronts Dawn and rips the necklace off of her neck.

JENNIFER
 Where did you get this? How dare
 you wear jewelry from him like your
 in love you little tramp. You will
 never be good enough for a Dragon.

James rises to his feet snarling.

JAMES
 Give it back now!

Jennifer smiles and turns to leave. James rushes her, they begin fighting. James is fierce and snarling with every attack , his skin starts to glow red and sweat.

Jennifer uses the magic spell again to try and end James's endless attacks.

JENNIFER
 Illuminatorum!

James catches the ball in his hands, he twirls it for a second and sends it back into Jennifer's chest. Jennifer is taken off her feet, smoke rolling off of her. James rushes her and before she hits the ground he is on her with his sword at her throat, pushing about to break the skin.

JAMES
 (snarling, burning hot,
 shouting in Jennifer's face)
 Give it back now!

GRAND MASTER SHUI (O.S.)
 (bellowing)
 Stop!

Grand Master Shui is standing at the entrance of the sparring room. Jennifer releases the necklace quivering. James grabs the necklace and steps off of Jennifer. James goes to Dawn and places the necklace back around her neck.

Dawn is keeping very still, trying not to move or acknowledge that James is putting the necklace on. James notices her awkwardness.

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D)

James meet me in my chambers in
fifteen minutes. Use that time to
cool off!

Vance comes in and helps Jennifer to her feet, they leave together. James returns to Dawn, looking at her. Dawn is almost trembling.

JAMES

(taking her face in his hand)
Are you OK?

DAWN

(stuttering)
Yesss.

JAMES

(hugging Dawn)
Then what's wrong?

DAWN

You almost killed her James. You
had no control because of me.

JAMES

I was in complete control, I
stopped... What's wrong with me?

DAWN

Just go see the Grand Master now, I
will be in the room waiting when
you get back.

Dawn turns and leaves.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - GRAND MASTER'S CHAMBERS - EVENING

James enters Grand Master Shui's chambers.

GRAND MASTER SHUI

(pointing)
Sit there James.

James sits without hesitation, staring into the flashes of the fireplace.

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D)

James what happened earlier is
fine. The Dragon spirit is hard to
contain at times. You felt a rush
of heat, energy, strength after

(MORE)

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D) (cont'd)
 Jennifer triggered your emotions
 correct?

JAMES
 Yeah my skin burned and I felt... I
 felt....

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 (smiling)
 Invincible.

(beat)

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D)
 You must learn to control the
 Dragon or it will consume you. When
 the Amulets are transferred the
 eldest male obtains the strongest
 Amulet and so forth. Jennifer is
 your older twin, by about one
 minute... She however received the
 Air dragon instead of the Fire
 dragon because she is a female. She
 has always held a grudge against
 you for that.

(beat)

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D)
 What I am trying to say is you are
 far more powerful than any of the
 others, your spirit is so hard to
 contain, it will fight to get out.
 You must learn discipline to control
 it.

JAMES
 How do I control it?

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 (patting James's back)
 Practice nephew, a lot of
 practice... When you see your
 sister again apologize, she will
 understand.

James starts to leave. As he reaches the door he turns back
 to Grand Master Shui.

JAMES
 Does my guardian know all of this
 about me as well? I mean I don't
 (MORE)

JAMES (cont'd)
 want to see her again and her be
 freaked out or something.

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 Dawn has studied the ancient
 history yes, but she has never seen
 anyone lose control first hand.

(beat)

GRAND MASTER SHUI (CONT'D)
 (waving James off)
 You may have regained control that
 time, but you might not be able to
 again. Now go I am very busy.

JAMES
 Grand Master one more thing, I
 didn't feel as if I was losing
 control, but the opposite. I felt
 in complete control.

JAMES leaves.

INT. JAMES ROOM - EVENING

James enters his room Dawn is nowhere in sight. The lavatory
 doors are shut. James goes to the separating doors and
 knocks.

JAMES
 Dawn will you please open the door?

JAMES (CONT'D)
 (tapping again)
 Dawn please open the door.

The door unlocks. James opens it. Dawn is crawling back into
 her bed covering. James enters her room.

INT. DAWN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

James enters, closing the door behind him.

JAMES
 Please Dawn, what's wrong.

(beat)

DAWN

James you almost killed her, over a necklace, over me.

JAMES

I was in control at the end... I talked to the Grand Master, he explained how the spirit works and I will have to learn to contain it.... He said you would understand.

James climbs into the bed on top of the covers.

DAWN

(hugging James)

I'm sorry I was just so scared, for you, Jennifer, everyone.

Dawn and James begin kissing.

JAMES

I won't hurt anyone... It was the opposite, Grand Master said I couldn't contain it, I felt in complete control. I was being protective of you but I never lost control... well maybe a little bit in the beginning.

DAWN

(pulling James in for a kiss)

I believe you, but just to be safe let's start with simple stuff and save the fighting for later.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - HALLS - MORNING

James and Dawn are walking to his first class. James is holding a class schedule that Dawn made for him. They arrive in front of his class.

James looks into the class, twenty other teenage students are seated. Dawn begins to leave.

JAMES

Where are you going?

DAWN

I have taken this class before, you will be fine. I have a junior swordsmanship class to teach. Good luck.

James enters.

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

James walks to the back corner and takes the open seat. The class is small and cramped, stacks of boards are in the corner. A plain class room with little decorations.

MASTER PRIESLY

Good morning class, We have a new student today. Please stand and introduce yourself. James stands nervous.

JAMES

James Gamble, from Loftbalt

James immediately takes his seat again. A few of the students stare at him.

MASTER PRIESLY

Thank you James it's a pleasure to have you. I am Master Prisley.

(beat)

MASTER PRIESLY (CONT'D)

Today with be group stability.

All the students rise and walk to the piles of wood in the class and start pairing up taking four planks. DAN a white male (19), in decent physical shape but no outstanding qualities, was partner less by the pile.

JAMES

(To Dan)

Hey you want to pair up?

DAN

(excited)

Yeah that sounds great!

James and Dan stack four planks of wood and move aside to let another group get their wood.

MASTER PRIESLY

(flipping over an full hourglass)

The task is simple, hold the wood chest high... Begin.

LATER

JAMES
What is the point in this?

DAN
To build discipline.

JAMES
Never caught your name.

DAN
(smiling)
Dan, Dan Redburn.

JAMES
Nice to meet you, I would shake
your hand but were kind of
preoccupied.

LATER: HOUR GLASS 1/2 FULL

JAMES (cont'd)
(exhausted)
So how long do we have to keep this
up?

DAN
(panting)
Until we learn to handle the pain,
and control our emotions. Usually a
few hours

LATER: HOUR GLASS ALMOST EMPTY

People were struggling to keep their boards chest high.
Exhaustion and pain is across every student's face.

JAMES
(looking at hour glass)
Shouldn't be long now... people are
dropping their boards.

DAN
Yeah don't get to excited, now is
where the real test begins.

MASTER PRIESLY
Class only ten minutes left if
everyone can hold the boards above
their head and not lower them then
we will be done.

Everyone raises their boards above their heads.

MOMENTS LATER

A group of girls next to James and Dan drop their boards.

MASTER PRIESLY

Another five minutes for the lack
of discipline by your classmates!

The room groans, bickering starts among students about
keeping their boards high. Another group drops theirs.

JAMES

This is crazy how does she expect
everyone to keep the wood up...
were exhausted.

DAN

(gritting teeth)
It will be over soon.

A group of students next to James and Dan start to drop
their boards. James moves over bracing their boards with the
corner of his.

JAMES

Everyone circle and brace the
person next to you!

Everyone moves and supports the nearest person. The weight
was easily distributed. Master Priesly smiles as she watches
the student's work together.

MASTER PRIESLY

Enough! You may lower your boards.

(beat)

MASTER PRIESLY (CONT'D)

Excellent class, out of all our
sessions this is the first time you
have decided to work together. And
as you seen the pain and soreness
was bearable. Students begin
placing the boards back into the
pile.

(beat)

MASTER PRIESLY (CONT'D)

Class dismissed, James can I have a
word with you.

James helps put the boards away then returns to Master
Priesly's desk as the last student leaves.

MASTER PRIESLY

Don't get discouraged if this was hard. They have been doing this exercise for years and as you seen some of them still cannot tolerate it. Your leadership shown through today, they need that it will help them become better guardians... I was very close friends with your mother. You look just like her.... Go on now.

JAMES

Thank you.

James turns and leaves.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - JAMES ROOM - EVENING

James enters his room and collapses on his bed.

MOMENTS LATER DAWN ENTERS THE ROOM

DAWN

(smiling)

Hey how'd it go.

JAMES

(groaning)

Not bad except I have never been so sore in my life.

DAWN

(smiling, playful)

Well I will just have to fix that won't I.

Dawn climbs on James's back and begins rubbing it, then kissing it.

INT. JAMES ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dawn and James are laying in bed cuddling.

DAWN

I hope you are hungry... We are going to have dinner with Vance and Jennifer.

(beat)

JAMES
Did you plan for us to eat with
them tonight?

DAWN
Well sort of... is it OK?

James nods and then starts getting dressed.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - DINING HALL - EVENING

James and Dawn enter the dining hall. Jennifer and Vance are seated at the only round table in the corner. They get their food and then walk in that direction. James sees Dan on the way. Dan waves.

JAMES
(at Dan)
Hey, do you want to come sit over
there with me?

DAN
(looking to Dawn)
Yeah... Is it alright?

James and Dawn nod, Dan gets up and follows. They arrive at the table, Jennifer looks at Dan with disgust.

JENNIFER
Can I help you?

JAMES
(sternly at Jennifer)
He's with me.

Jennifer rolls her eyes, the table is silent for a moment.

JAMES (cont'd)
(looking at Jennifer)
I'm sorry about the other day, If I
hurt you or anything.

JENNIFER
It's fine I understand, I was there
once also. Except think of being a
girl having all the extra hormones
on top of the attitude.

JAMES
So how come I didn't know about any
of this, why was it such a secret?

JENNIFER

It was better that way, if the Emperor figured out where you were then he would have come after you much earlier. Same as if I knew where you were I would be a threat of exposing both of us if caught.

JAMES

Where is the rest of the family?

JENNIFER

Once we were taken Grand Master placed us in different parts of the country to keep us hidden and safe. You the Fire Dragon in Loftbalt, me the Air Dragon here. The Dragon of Light Lawrence Lott, in Flurgry. The Dragon of Earth, Conner Tait in Rothville. He was killed three years ago by the Emperor. The Water Dragon Julian Shang adopted in Slander Hoff... he died just last year. Lawrence went to save him but couldn't before... that's when he left.

JAMES

So what happens to their Amulets?

JENNIFER

Taken by the Emperor.

JAMES

But how does he take them if he isn't a dragon?

JENNIFER

Caleb was separated during the attack, the Emperor raised him and controls him like his little puppet. If you have a dragon spirit you can place or remove the amulets. Caleb has the spirit of Darkness. And the Emperor keeps the amulets he collects for himself.

(beat)

JENNIFER (CONT'D)

Caleb fights against us... I don't know if he knows we are his family, or if he is just brainwashed by the Emperor.

They continue eating.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - CLASS - MORNING

JAMES

So what are we going to learn today?

DAN

Well I don't know this is my first time in spells.

MASTER GREASY

Take your seats, I am Master Greasy.

MASTER GREASY (CONT'D)

Who can tell me what inner projections are?

RUPERT a geeky kid in the front eagerly raised his hand.

MASTER GREASY

(with a snarl)

Very well Rupert.

RUPERT

Inner projections is your inner soul producing energy that can in turn be used to project energy into the natural world.

MASTER GREASY

Yes very good, we can use this energy to create spells.

MASTER GREASY (CONT'D)

First we will learn the Illumination charm. What can this charm be used for. Rupert's hand flies high in the air once again.

(beat)

MASTER GREASY

James, tell me what this can be used for.

JAMES

(standing)

It can provide light in dark places.

MASTER GREADY

Correct and it can be contained to provide heat, and most importantly be used as a weapon.

MASTER GREADY (CONT'D)

(searching the room)

We will begin practicing this charm, who thinks they can demonstrate?

James raises his hand, Master Gready acknowledges with a nod. James goes to the front of the class, facing a wall with a target painted.

JAMES

(sternly)

Illuminatorum!

The RED ball begins to form in between his hands. Master Gready watches closely.

MASTER GREADY

Control it, concentrate on the size and keep it contained.

JAMES

I can't control it, it's gonna shoot.

MASTER GREADY

Frostorum!

Master Gready shoots a frozen stream into the ball and it instantly freezes crashing on to the ground.

JAMES

I'm sorry Master I told you I couldn't control it.

MASTER GREADY

(smiling)

It is OK James I knew that would happen. Now class do you see, this charm is very useful but also very deadly. Great concentration is needed to control spells. You may sit James. James walks back to his desk, Master Gready continues class as he walks.

MASTER GREASY (CONT'D)

Class as you seen the Illuminatorum charm can be used as an attack spell, but the energy produces enormous amounts of heat and when channeled properly it can be formed into a solid fireball thus shot. Now let us begin with the Provecto charm, any volunteers?

Rupert's hand is of course waving high, Master Greasy looks past him and motions for Dan to come forward.

MASTER GREASY

Mr. Redburn, try and produce the Provecto charm.

Dan stands at the front of the class, nervous.

DAN

(confidently)

Provecto!

The ball of white light formed at his hands, Dan controls it and then closes his hands on it making the light disappear.

MASTER GREASY

Very good Mr. Redburn very good. What is this charm used for?

MASTER GREASY (CONT'D)

(looking to the back corner of the class)

Yes Miss Freag.

CYNTIA

(quietly)

It is used against darkness such as wraith's and shadows.

MASTER GREASY

Correct, it is used to attack darkness. Unlike the last charm it is harmless to humans. It can only hurt dark beings that aim to attack you.

(beat)

MASTER GREASY (CONT'D)

Now that's all for today, great work class. If you intend to practice please use the last

(MORE)

MASTER GREASY (CONT'D) (cont'd)
 training room in the spells
 corridor, Dismissed.

The class begins to leave, Dan and James meet to leave together.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - HALLS - AFTERNOON

DAN
 Do you want to come to my room and
 hang out till dinner?

JAMES
 I have to go do something real
 fast, how bout tonight?

DAN
 (happily)
 OK sounds good, see you then.

James and Dan go in separate directions. James continues till he gets to the classroom where Dawn is teaching.

INT. SWORDSMANSHIP CLASS - AFTERNOON

Dawn is teaching 9-10 year old's swordsmanship. Dawn is protecting a golden trophy and is fending off the students with wooden swords.

Dawn stops and looks at James smiling. One of the students puts his sword to her throat.

DAWN
 (smiling, handing to trophy
 over)
 Great job Tyler, everyone great
 job. That was a perfect way to win
 the battle, you must keep going,
 using everything to your advantage.
 A distracted enemy is a perfect
 target. Dismissed.

All the students begin clearing out of the room.

JAMES
 Hey I just got done with my first
 spells class.

DAWN

Yeah that's good. How did it go.

JAMES

It was great I did the Illumination charm for the class... lost control of it of course but Master Greedy froze it. Dan did the Provecto charm... It was great but I need to learn a bit more control.

DAWN

(walking over kissing James)

That's great.

Dawn pulls away, and starts clearing her desk not looking at James.

JAMES

Are you OK?

DAWN

It's fine I just... I'm letting things slip for you, like back there I should never have done that, in the classroom no.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)

I have some things to do tonight. So We can't spend our free evening together.

James stares trying to figure out if she is blowing him off.

JAMES

So what do you have going on?

(beat)

DAWN

I'm sorry, I just have to meet with Grand Master he has some news for me.

JAMES

It's fine I am gonna go over to Dan's later

INT. JADE ACADEMY - DAN'S ROOM - NIGHT

James and Dan are playing chess. James moves his queen knocking over Dan's King.

JAMES
Checkmate.

(beat)

JAMES (CONT'D)
(patting Dan's back)
That was great but I got to head out. Maybe next time you will win one.

DAN
(laughing)
I will be practicing.

James gets up and goes for the door.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - JAMES ROOM - NIGHT

James enters his room, Dawn is sitting by the window, her eyes are filled with tears.

JAMES
(taking Dawn's hand)
You OK, what's wrong?

DAWN
I went to see Grand Master earlier... My last living brother Shawn, was sent to find Lawrence... He was captured and tortured for information... they killed him!

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)
(crying harder)
I have no one left... no one!

James holds Dawn, kissing her forehead.

JAMES
You have me.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - HALLS - DAY

MONTAGE

- 1) Seasons changing
- 2) James and Dan in classes
- 3) Winter

END MONTAGE

James and Dawn are walking to class together.

JAMES

So what do you have planned for
this evening?

DAWN

Nothing special, why?

JAMES

(grinning)

Nothing I just have a surprise for
you later.

JAMES (CONT'D)

You'll need to wear something nice.

James and Dawn go separate directions

INT. JADE ACADEMY - JAMES ROOM - NIGHT

James is getting ready in his dress robes, He goes to get
Dawn.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - DAWN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dawn is dressed in a elegant blue dress. They leave
together.

EXT. RHONERVILLE - LUFINDA'S - NIGHT

James and Dawn are walking in the cold winter night. They
arrive at LUFINDA'S a restaurant requiring dress attire to
attend. Dawn is excited, they enter holding hands.

INT. RHONERVILLE - LUFINDA'S - CONTINUOUS

The interior of Lufinda's is upscale with elegant tables and
cutlery.

DAWN
 (blushing)
 This is amazing James, thanks.

JAMES
 Well I figured it was time we got
 away from everything for a bit.

DAWN
 Well this is perfect, I have never
 been here believe it or not, always
 wanted to but never had anyone to
 go with.

JAMES
 (leaning in and kissing)
 Well, now you do. More will come.

Once James sets back in his seat. He looks to his left and sees Jennifer and Grand Master Shui waiting to be seated, they are looking directly at James and Dawn. James continues his night as if nothing happened, Dawn is unaware of their presence.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - JAMES ROOM - MORNING

James wakes up alone in bed. He is confused and looks around for Dawn.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - CLASS - afternoon

Master Gready is teaching in spells class, the students are tentative as always.

MASTER GREASY
 Today we will learn a new spell
 Levifina.

MASTER GREASY (CONT'D)
 The purpose of this spell is to
 levitate objects, or yourself for
 that matter. I will demonstrate.

(beat)

MASTER GREASY (CONT'D)
 Levifina!

The rocks begin to float in the air moving with Master Gready's hands. Master Gready stacks the rocks in mid-air then returns them to the ground.

MASTER GREADY
Who wants to try.

Rupert's hand goes into the air but Master Gready chooses KEVIN HANFLER.

KEVIN
Levifina.

The rocks move a foot off the ground then crash back down. Kevin returns to his seat.

MASTER GREADY
This spell is powerful, it can disarm enemies, help raise comrades to designated high positions. This spell can be used to levitate yourself if you wish, but be wary of that because it is extremely hard to control. You might end up floating off forever. Or become a permanent stain on the ground below... Class dismissed

Students file out of the class. James and Dan are walking together, Dawn is waiting outside the class near the courtyard.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - HALLS - CONTINUOUS

James leaves Dan and goes across to Dawn.

DAWN
We need to talk. Dawn turns and leave, James follows behind.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - LIBRARY -CONTINUOUS

James and Dawn enter the LIBRARY, it is empty. Dawn walks to the center mantle. Dawn turns to James, tears begin forming in her eyes.

DAWN
James we can't see each other anymore.

James is hurt by the words, upset, and speechless.

DAWN (CONT'D)
I can't protect you like this, I am too close to you. Everyone sees it.

JAMES

You can protect me, it makes us stronger... it gives us something worth fighting for.

DAWN

James don't make this any harder than it is.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)

It's over! Nothing can ever come of us, I'm just a Guardian and you're a Dragon Warrior. It isn't supposed to happen... I'm sorry.

JAMES

(attempting to hug)

It will be fine, I don't care what people think, I want to be with you.

DAWN

(jerking away)

It's over.

Dawn leaves crying. James starts to turn RED, losing control of his emotions. James punches a bookshelf knocking it over. James sides down to the ground against a wall, his head in his hands.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - GM SHUI CHAMBERS - EVENING

Dawn stands next to the door, Grand Master Shui looks into the fireplace.

DAWN

It is done Grand Master.

GRAND MASTER SHUI

Very well... it is for the best Dawn. You can't do your duty and protect someone you love, I know... I'm sorry it had to be this way.

DAWN

I disagree, I believe we were perfect for each other, as partners and as his protector, our love made us stronger.

(beat)

GRAND MASTER SHUI

(sighing)

Very well if that is how you feel. I have to make this even harder on the both of you... From now on you are no longer his Guardian. You are reassigned to only teaching at the Academy... You will wait until after James has left for class in the morning and pack your belongings. Contact between you two is strictly forbidden... Do I make myself clear?

DAWN

(whispering)

Yes.

Dawn leaves crying. Grand Master stares into the fire.

INT. JADE ACADEMY - JAMES ROOM - MORNING

James is in bed, he awakes to see Dawn has still not returned..

SERIES OF SHOTS

- A) James walking to classes
- B) James in class, just waiting for the day to be over
- C) James arriving at his room.

James enters his room going straight to Dawn's room pushing the doors open. John Ballast is in the room unpacking.

JAMES

What are you doing here?

JOHN

I am your new Guardian.

JAMES

I don't want you here! Get out!

JOHN

(handing James his orders)

I'm sorry James but I have orders from the Grand Master to be your Guardian, there isn't anything you can do.

James reads the parchment, then rips it up throwing it in John's face. James turns to leave, slamming the door.

MONTAGE

A) James sitting in class

B) Seasons are shown changing from winter to fall

C) James keeping a distance from John

END MONTAGE

INT. JADE ACADEMY - HALLS - AFTERNOON

James is walking to class, John is keeping his distance behind.

An explosion blows through the front door, screams start. Imperial soldiers pour in through the opening.

James and John start downstairs swords drawn. Battle begins, everyone is fighting.

Guardians are using spells against the soldiers. Masters are shown fighting, Master Gready freezes an enemy and slashes with his sword making the frozen body explode.

Master Golfroy kills ten soldiers with three motions of his sword.

Dan is protecting Jennifer as she shoots arrows into the entrance with soldier pouring in. Dawn is protecting the young children in a corner, fending off soldiers. Three soldiers come up behind Dawn while she is occupied by four in front.

JAMES
(running to her)
Dawn!

James leaves John running to Dawn. James kills the three soldiers with three fluid motions. James looks over to see John get stabbed and fall to the ground dead.

They continue to fight and the soldiers eventually retreat.

MOMENTS LATER

MASTER PRIESLY
They are gone... Check for
survivors, get them to the hospital
wing!

JENNIFER

Master, where is Grand Master?

MASTER PRIESLY

They have taken him, now do what
your told get the wounded to the
hospital.

James start getting those dead soldiers out to the main
courtyard. Jennifer falls to her knees and starts to cry.
Guardians tend to the wounded comrades as others collect
dead bodies moving to the appropriate locations.

LATER

JAMES

Master Prisle... Master Prisle!

MASTER PRIESLY

Yes James what is it?

JAMES

I am going to go get the Grand
Master. They have to take him to
the Emperor's palace to get the
amulet. We can catch up before they
get there and rescue him.

MASTER PRIESLY

No James you will not go Grand
Master is gone you must accept
that... If you go, you will just be
another Dragon Spirit for the
Emperor to obtain... You are not
ready.

EXT. JADE ACADEMY- COURTYARD - NIGHT

James is leaving the Academy.

JENNIFER (O.S.)

Where are you going?

James turns to see Jen and Vance.

JAMES

(sternly)

Going to rescue the Grand Master,
and you are not going to stop me.

JENNIFER

Stop you... We're coming with you.

JAMES

No... I'm going alone.

JENNIFER

Listen... He means a lot more to me than to you, you got that! I am going!

(beat)

JAMES

Fine but we are moving through the night. We need to make up the lost time.

(beat)

JAMES (CONT'D)

My only question is how to get to Dalga?

Jennifer pulls out a map and shows location of Dalga.

VANCE

(pointing on the map)

They will have to stop more, and with a whole army they can't travel as quickly. We need to take Ketnup pass to gain some ground on them.

Jennifer nods in agreement with Vance.

JAMES

What's Ketnup pass?

JENNIFER

It is a town in the mountains of elves... They resent the Emperor and wish for our rise to power again... According to legend they are friendly to the Dragon Warriors but I have never met them personally.

JAMES

We take the pass, if the tales aren't true then we deal with them.

The three are leave into the dark.

INT. JADE ACADEMY- DAWN'S ROOM - MORNING

Dawn is sleeping in her bed

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY (V.O.)
 Master's and senior Guardians
 report to the Grand Master's
 chambers!

Dawn wakes up and gets dressed and leaves to Grand Master's chambers.

INT. GRAND MASTER PRIESLY CHAMBERS - CONTINUOUS

Master's have arrived, Master Greedy, Master Kollinger,
 Master Tatumn, and Master Golfroy

Guardians Present Dan Redburn, Kevin Hanfler, Cyntia Freag,
 Rupert Hinkle, John Ballast and Thomas Jackyl

Dawn is the last to show and falls into place beside Dan.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
 Welcome fellow Master's and senior
 Guardians. We need to be extra
 cautious during these troubled
 times. I believe someone in the
 Academy is a traitor. There is no
 other explanation for them suddenly
 finding our location that has been
 kept secret for years... Or them
 knowing how to get through the
 front gate. I am assuming the Grand
 Master role, I will be addressed as
 so... Where is Vance and our
 dragons?

Dawn looks around the room. Dawn rushes out with a worrisome expression.

INT. JADE ACADEMY- JAMES ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dawn arrives at James's room, out of breath from the constant sprint. Dawn searches the room looking for any sign of James. He is not there, a note lays on the bed. Dawn picks it up and begins to read.

JAMES (V.O.)
 Dear Dawn, I have gone to rescue
 the Grand Master. I am ending this
 now, please wait for my return. I
 (MORE)

JAMES (V.O.) (cont'd)
 cannot have you follow me. I can't
 fight the Emperor and protect you
 at the same time. I love you, James

Dawn, clenches the note between her fist. She turns and starts out the door in a dead sprint tears being to roll down her cheeks.

INT. JADE ACADEMY- GRAND MASTER CHAMBERS - CONTINUOUS

Dawn arrives out of breath. She is yelling as she enters the chamber doors.

DAWN
 (reaching the Chambers)
 They're gone! they went to rescue
 Grand Master Shui! And fight the
 Emperor!

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
 How do you know Dawn?

DAWN
 James left a note to me. But the
 only reason I can think of why
 Jennifer and Vance aren't here is
 because they went also.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
 Guardians, we need at least a
 hundred of the most trained, I need
 three Masters, we leave in thirty
 minutes. All the Masters and
 Guardians begin scurrying out the
 chambers entrance.

DAWN
 Grand Master I request to stay
 behind... James wanted me to stay
 behind.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
 Very well... You will remain here
 and train the remaining Guardians
 with the other Master's. We will
 need them ready for battle as soon
 as possible.

EXT. KETNUP PASS - AFTERNOON

James, Jennifer, and Vance had traveled through the night and reached Ketnup Pass. Fresh tracks are found... they are not far behind.

JAMES

So what do we do about the elves?

JENNIFER

I don't know most of their history has been lost over the years.

JAMES

So we don't even know what they look like do we?

JENNIFER

Well no not really.

VANCE

Elves have been known to keep well hidden, we might not see any at all.

JAMES

I don't like that we know nothing about them. What if they really want to kill us and this is just a set-up.

JENNIFER

What choice do we have.. We have to take this pass to cut off the soldiers. We might even be able to catch them before they reach the palace.

VANCE

Jen is right, this is the quickest way. The elf will give us no trouble.

They continue along the path, it narrows to only allow one person to pass at a time. Once they emerge from the rocks. Five soldiers stationed about hundred feet from them. Jen races to kill all the soldiers.

JAMES

Keep one alive! We need one!

Before James has time to finish, Jen kills all of the guards.

JAMES
 (at Jen)
 What was that!

JENNIFER
 (sarcastically)
 What we win, their dead.

JAMES
 (furious)
 We could have used one of them to
 gain entry into the Palace, or to
 just get information! You need to
 think!

JENNIFER
 (pointing her sais at James)
 Don't tell me what to do, little
 brother.

VANCE
 Guys just calm down.

Jennifer lunges at James, James counter attacks. After a short battle Jennifer uses the Illuminatorum spell. James catches it and throws it into the ground.

JAMES
 We save any other soldiers we find!
 Clear!

Jennifer nods and they continue into a cave ahead. A rock falls, in the cave and a shadow appears. They ready their weapons.

EXT. OPEN LAND - AFTERNOON

Grand Master Priesly, Master Gready, and Master Golfroy along with Dan, Rupert, Kevin and approximately ninety Guardian trainees are in pursuit of the imperial army.

DAN
 Grand Master there is a light up
 ahead.

A platoon of about twenty soldiers laid ahead of them, resting.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
 Save a few to question.

A quick battle commences ending with two soldiers being disarmed for questioning.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY (cont'd)
 (pointing sword to soldier's
 chest)
 Where is Grand Master Shui!

IMPERIAL SOLDIER
 It is too late, you have lost. Soon
 all of the dragons will be dead.

The soldier lunges forward taking the sword to the chest.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
 (pointing her sword at the
 remaining soldier)
 Well I guess he didn't want to say
 anything else. Do you?

The other soldier does not respond

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY (CONT'D)
 Have you seen the Dragon Warriors
 pass?

The soldier still has no response. Grand Master Priesly
 kills the remaining soldier. The group looks to her for
 guidance.

INT. JADE ACADEMY- MESS HALL - EVENING

Dawn is scared, pacing trying to calm herself in the Dining
 hall.

DAWN
 Calm down Dawn, he's going to be
 fine.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)
 Someone is a traitor...how did they
 know how to get in the gate... or
 our location?

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)
 Vance... Vance is the only person
 to go with them.. Vance was missing
 during the whole fight. Dawn runs
 to Vance's room.

INT. JADE ACADEMY- VANCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dawn arrives at Vance's room. It appears clean and nothing suspicious. Dawn starts tearing the room apart searching for clues. After not finding anything Dawn starts for the door... There is a wall patched. Dawn cuts through the patch. Several letters were stowed away. Dawn takes them out to read.

EMPEROR ALVEREZ (V.O.)

Vance you have done well to infiltrate their walls this far. I was very pleased to see that you are now a Senior Guardian. This will be very useful in the near future. You have been assigned to protect Jennifer the air dragon. What news do you have of the light dragon. I will wait anxiously for your reply. You will be rewarded for your bravery. Emperor Alvarez

DAWN

Vance was the spy.

She grabs another letter.

EMPEROR ALVEREZ (V.O.)

The news of the Fire Dragon's arrival is most intriguing. You are to deceive them. Within the months to come a plan will be organized and another letter sent to you with the instructions. Your loyalty is appreciated and you will be repaid greatly. Emperor Alvarez

Dawn begins reading the final letter.

EMPEROR ALVEREZ (V.O.) (cont'd)

My dear Vance, the time has come to end this. In three weeks an attack will commence on the Academy. You will secure the Grand Master for us to take prisoner. Once we have successfully left. Feed the fire that will brew in young Jennifer. She will not be able to resist coming to the Palace. The Fire Dragon will come without a push, I guarantee that much. You are to lead them through the Ketnup Pass, and there an Elf will meet you. His

(MORE)

EMPEROR ALVEREZ (V.O.) (cont'd)
 name is Fratler he will lead you to
 the tunnel into the Palace. We will
 be waiting for them in the
 auditorium, their Dragon Amulets
 will be mine.

Once you have proven yourself to me
 you will have the honor of picking
 from the Amulets and take the
 Dragon Spirit for yourself to serve
 as a General in my army. Emperor
 Alvarez

Dawn runs out the door to get the Master's.

INT. JADE ACADEMY- HALLS - CONTINUOUS

DAWN
 Master's!

MASTER KOLLINGER
 What is it?

DAWN
 (gasping)
 Vance... it was Vance, these are
 letters from the Emperor with
 orders on how to get the Dragons
 into the Palace for an ambush.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)
 I'm going to Grand Master now I
 might be able catch them in time.

MASTER KOLLINGER
 Go! May speed be on your side!

Dawn runs down the hall into the distance.

EXT. KETNUP PASS - EVENING

The shadow moves closer to James, Jennifer and Vance

FRALTER
 Don't be afraid young lads, I'm
 Fratler.

JAMES

We wish to pass, we are going to Dalga.

(beat)

JAMES (CONT'D)

We request that you show us in and let us rest for a moment before we continue.

FRALTER

Of course your majesty, Dragon Warriors are always welcome to Ketnup.

The three hesitantly follow Fratler into the cave.

INT. KETNUP PASS- CAVE - CONTINUOUS

They follow Fratler at a rapid pace to the end of the cave, where a green light shines. The dwelling is damp and cold; no luxuries are seen. They all sit at a makeshift table, Fratler serves food and drinks.

JAMES

Where are the rest of the elves?

FRALTER

They are gone your highness. We have been battling the army for years.

JENNIFER

I'm sorry to hear that. Are you the last remaining elf?

FRALTER

Yes your majesty.

JAMES

How long have you been here alone?

FRALTER

About five years your majesty. Would you like me to set up a room for you to stay the night, I love company.

JAMES

No thank you though, we have stayed to long already. We must be on our way.

FRALTER

(smiling)

Your highness I can show you the way into Dalga if you wish. I have been there several times. I know a secret tunnel that leads into the center of the palace... You will be undetected I assure you.

James looks to Jennifer for guidance. Jennifer looks to Vance, Vance gives a nod in approval.

JAMES

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

FRALTER

(skipping happily)

I hoped you would say that your majesty, finally a quest with the dragons, I will be just one minute I must gather my things.

JAMES

(at Vance)

How do we know we can trust him?

VANCE

James I have studied these creatures, their sole purpose in life is to aid the dragons. They live and die trying to uphold that standard. In all of history there has never been a bad elf.

MOMENTS LATER

Fralter returns and has a pack and walking stick in hand. The group assembles and leaves the cave.

INT. DALGA- TUNNELS - NIGHT

They are in the tunnel leading into the palace. The tunnel is dark and very cramped. Light is showing through at the end.

EXT. OPEN LAND - NIGHT

Dawn races on horseback trying to make up the lost ground. Dawn comes over a hill with the Guardian army in view. Dawn rides down and catches up with Grand Master Priesly.

DAWN
Grand Master! Grand Master!

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
Dawn what is going on. Why are you not at the Academy?

DAWN
(without a breath)
Vance... the traitor is Vance. I found letters in his room from the Emperor with instructions to get Jennifer and James to the Palace... It's a trap.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
(holding out her hand)
Let me see the letters.

Dawn hands Grand Master Priesly the letters.

Grand Master Priesly reads in horror of the deception that took place.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
No, this can't be. Why would he do this?

(beat)

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY (CONT'D)
Dawn, Master Gready proceed through the Ketnup Pass. If you catch them kill Vance. We will continue to Dalga.

MASTER GREASY
(offering to take the reigns)
May I?

Dawn slides back allowing Master Gready on. They bolt away toward Ketnup Pass.

EXT. KETNUP PASS - NIGHT

Dawn and Master Gready arrive at Ketnup Pass. The scout team is dead. Master Gready checks their bodies, still warm.

MASTER GREASY

They haven't been gone for long.

DAWN

(nervous)

How long do you think? Can we reach them?

MASTER GREASY

Calm yourself Dawn, I don't know if we can reach them or not. But we will try.

Master Gready climbs back onto the horse and they continue through the Pass.

EXT. DALGA - STREETS - NIGHT

Fratler, James, Jennifer and Vance arrive in Dalga.

JAMES

(at Fralter)

You said this lead into the Palace!

FRALTER

(scared)

It gets... us to another tunnel... and from there you enter the Palace.

JENNIFER

We need to get off the street before we're seen!

JAMES

Where to from here?

FRALTER

(pointing)

There your majesty, the tunnel.

(beat)

FRALTER (CONT'D)

Your highness, I would love to join you into the Palace... but I have a race to protect. With your

(MORE)

FRALTER (CONT'D) (cont'd)
 permission I request to leave you
 from here.

JAMES
 Thank you Fralter, you may go. But
 where do we go once in the tunnel.

Fratler takes out a map and draws a tunnel under the palace
 and then races into the darkness. James, Jennifer, and Vance
 go into the tunnel.

INT. DALGA - PALACE - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

They emerge to a dimly lit palace hall. James stops, the
 scene is the same as his original DREAM.

JENNIFER
 (prodding)
 Hey, what are you doing?

JAMES
 I have been here before... I have
 dreamt about this place, the
 tunnel, the walls... it's happening
 right now.

JENNIFER
 It was a dream now move or were as
 good as dead.

They see the same guards at the end of the hall.

SERIES OF SHOTS

- A. Battle guards
- B. Battle with Reapers
- C. Entering tunnel

They are in the tunnels, it is a maze not as Fratler had
 described.

JAMES
 Which way is it... this was not
 part of the plan! Why did he lead
 us this way?

JENNIFER
 I'm sure he didn't know. We will
 find the way. It can't be far from
 here.

VANCE
 (pointing to a appeared dead
 end)
 It is this way.

JENNIFER
 How do you know Vance that's not
 what the map says.

VANCE
 Shut up. It is this way we move
 now.

Jennifer is upset about Vance's attitude. Vance takes the lead as they continue down the passage; a light shines at the end. A fork in the passage splits it around the auditorium upper level entrances.

VANCE (cont'd)
 (pointing at James)
 James you go right, Jennifer and I
 will go left. We will meet in the
 middle.

The group splits.

JAMES
 Jennifer... be careful.

Jennifer nods and then hurries to catch up with Vance. James starts down the right passage.

INT. DALGA- PALACE AUDITORIUM - CONTINUOUS

As James moves down the left passage, a door marked INTERROGATION is clear. James is hesitate then enters sword drawn.

INT. DALGA - PALACE INTERROGATION - CONTINUOUS

James enters and searches the room with caution. Grand Master Shui is there; bound and tortured, barely alive.

JAMES
 Grand Master!

GRAND MASTER SHUI
 (whispers)
 James... is Jennifer with you.

JAMES

Yes... Vance and her are waiting on the other side of the auditorium.

GRAND MASTER SHUI

(gasping)

No... Vance is a traitor... he has been working for the Emperor for months.

JAMES

Uncle, did they take the amulet?

GRAND MASTER SHUI

Yes... now go save Jen she needs you now more than ever... Caleb...Cal...

Grand Master Shui dies. James runs to the exit, throwing the door open not worried with the noise level.

INT. DALGA- PALACE AUDITORIUM- CONTINUOUS

James runs out and looks across the auditorium, Jen and Vance are lowering down to the auditorium deck. James then makes his entrance by swinging down the tapestry.

INT. PALACE AUDITORIUM - MAIN DECK- CONTINUOUS

James lands and turns to Jennifer, a black silhouette is behind her, dagger raised.

JAMES

Jennifer!

Caleb stabs Jennifer in the back, picking her up off the ground. James charges sword drawn. Vance readies himself to attack. James evades Vance's initial attack.

JAMES

Illuminatorum!

James counter attacks by shooting Vance in the face with the Illuminatorum spell, melting Vance's face instantly killing him.

Caleb pulls out his dagger letting Jennifer fall to the floor. Blood surrounds her body. Jennifer's empty eyes gaze to James. James is enraged.

Battle begins with James and Caleb. James battles using spells and attacks. James gets the upper hand over Caleb and goes for the kill.

CALEB
(laughing)
You will die brother!

James's sword connects with Caleb's neck. Caleb turns into a massive black dragon, James arms and sword shake from the metal to steel scale plate connection.

James attempts to battle the dragon. Caleb overpowers James, and attacks. James begins fading in and out of consciousness.

MOMENTS LATER

The white light emerges with a single black silhouette in the middle and James goes black.

INT. JADE ACADEMY- INFIRMARY - AFTERNOON

James wakes up in an infirmary bed. Dawn is at his side holding his hand. Crying into his blanket.

JAMES
(groan)
Dawn sits up and looks at James.

JAMES (CONT'D)
Groan

DAWN
(excited)
He's awake!

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
How are you feeling?

JAMES
Not too bad I guess. Is Jennifer alright?

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY
She will live... I need to know what happened.

JAMES
I found Grand Master Shui, they took the amulet. He told me Vance was a traitor before he died. I got
(MORE)

JAMES (cont'd)
to the auditorium deck, Vance and
Caleb were waiting.

(beat)

JAMES (CONT'D)
Caleb stabbed Jennifer then I
killed Vance and went after
Caleb... he turned into a monster.
That's all I remember after that is
white light. Then here.

LAWRENCE
It was foolish of you to attempt to
fight the Emperor. You weren't even
a match for Caleb, how did you
expect to fight the Emperor?

JAMES
(stopped by Dawn)
I don't know.

DAWN
James this is Lawrence, your
brother.

JAMES
Did you...?

LAWRENCE
(interrupting)
Yes I saved both of you. I have
fought Caleb many times. You are
lucky I had been following you
since Ketnup Pass. I seen you go
with the elf. He was turned to the
Emperor's side years ago.

JAMES
(smiling)
Thank you.

LAWRENCE
(emotionless, then leaving)
Don't thank me. I didn't do it to
save you I did it to protect
myself. With you two dead all his
attention would be on me.

James takes a moment to collect his thoughts. Dawn is crying
and James tries to comfort her.

JAMES

It's fine, I'm fine, Jen's fine.

DAWN

I know I was just so worried. I found letters from the Emperor to Vance in his room. I raced across the country to try and stop you.

(beat)

DAWN (CONT'D)

James I don't think I could stand losing you.

JAMES

(pulling Dawn in and kissing)
I love you.

DAWN

(kissing)
I love you.

GRAND MASTER PRIESLY

This is only the beginning, we are safe nowhere now. The Emperor will fall by your hand it is destined.

FADE OUT.