

ORION AND THE SWORD OF LIGHT

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FADE IN

EXT. OCEAN -- NIGHT

A boat rocks gently back and forth on the calm waves as thunder and lightning crash and clap in the sky above. It's a dark night, stars in the sky are dimly lit and the moon is hidden behind the clouds. A cradle inside the boat, covered by a blanket.

WESIRT (V.O.)

In the land of Midras, on the shores of Farckona. A mighty storm approached, like a grain of sand amongst a desert a small boat drifted away from the great city. Into uncharted waters, with no direction. It is said that even in the darkest of times, a small light is all that is needed for a glimmer of hope.

The boat continues drifting far away.

EXT. OCEAN ISLAND -- HOURS LATER

Sun rising over the ocean as the boat drifts past a small deserted island with a single palm tree and a few coconuts, dangling from the tree like apples.

The boat hits a reef, a GREEN ORB forces the boat to drift away from the reef and back into the water. Where it continues sailing out into the bearing sea.

EXT. OCEAN -- MIDDAY

The boat softly rocks back and forth on the waves. The cradle blanket comes down to reveal- BABY. Asleep, a dark scar above its right eye which is curved like a crescent moon with jagged edges.

WESIRT (V.O.)

The last hope we have, the last light that shines. Lies within a child innocent to this world, he is our final hope.

EXT. GRATHAN DOCKS -- SUNSET

GRATHAN, a huge city surrounded by a dome of light. Something that protects those inside from the darkness in the world.

On the docks, a dozen pirates. Standing around, loading boxes onto a large, swan like ship called "The White Lady". It has a woman on the front; she acts as an ornament of sorts and has her arms outstretched like the wings of a swan.

Pirate is peering through his telescope. Looking out to sea-
HE SEES THE BOAT. HE SEES THE CRADLE INSIDE.

SCOPE PIRATE (35) with an eye-patch and scruffy clothing. He doesn't appear to be a typical pirate though; he bears no skull and bones cap or anything that could remotely suggest he's a typical pirate. He's different.

SCOPE PIRATE

(To Scout)

Scout, bring the captain.

SCOUT (16) with shoulder length black hair, and a five o'clock shadow. Wearing scruffy, yet normal looking clothing. (Clothes look like they're from 16th century)

Scout sees the cradle inside the boat and runs up the WOODEN DOCK through the gate, which is much like a portal. As he walks through, he vanishes from sight even though the city remains visible.

A few seconds pass, and Tebek and Scout emerge.

TEBEK (Looks 40) is of African descent; he has a bald head and wears a black tunic type robe. A very spiritual looking man with a golden necklace dangling around his neck. He has a goatee beard and his ACCENT is somewhat French, yet he speaks perfect English.

Tebek takes the telescope and looks through it.

SCOPE PIRATE (cont'd)

I noticed it a few moments ago.

Scope Pirate watches as Tebek takes the telescope away from his eye.

TEBEK

Man the lifeboats, bring it in.

Pirates man the lifeboats, two boats to be exact with three men in each. The boats drift out to sea-

TEBEK and SCOPE PIRATE look on as the boats make contact with the other. A pirate leans over, he pulls out the cradle and sits it in his boat. The other pirate on the other boat leans over and peels a note from the base of the boat.

EXT. DOCKS -- MOMENTS LATER

Tebek and Scope Pirate are standing on the dock as the boats come in. The note is handed to Tebek. It reads:

Tebek,

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

Sincerely,
Khan

Tebek pulls the blanket back from the cradle and reveals the child. He seems shocked. The pirates have a sense of "awe" about them.

SCOPE PIRATE

A child? What parent would send their
child into the ocean?

TEBEK

One who had no other choice.

Tebek walks away. The pirates look on, not knowing what to do.

INT. FOUNTAIN CHAMBER -- MINUTES LATER

Tebek's hand washes over the water, ripples appear and form strange lines as the water turns to ice, and the ice into a two-way mirror.

Tebek looks through, and another man appears. Cloaked and bearded, his beard and hair are white and the staff he carries has a flame like point with a sapphire in the centre.

TEBEK

Forgive me for disturbing you, sir.
But we have a situation here.

WESIRT

The winds of fate have turned, indeed.
Khan and Karaan have sent you the orphan
I presume?

TEBEK

Is this what the Passelo said? All
those years ago in that cabin? She spoke
of a child I did not know, but for what
purpose?

WESIRT

She was correct in her assumptions.
The prophecy is unfolding, he has returned.

TEBEK

(Disbelief)

And the child? Why here, why Grathan?

WESIRT

As I recall you and Khan were once
close friends, he clearly sees you
as one who can protect his son above
all else. Otherwise, he would not have
sent him to you.

TEBEK

What must I do? What do I tell him?

WESIRT

Tell him nothing.

TEBEK

He will ask questions.

WESIRT

Until he is ready, reveal nothing.
There is nothing more important than
this, and clearly Khan selected you
for this task. You must never tell
him. Until the time comes.

TEBEK

And the other side of the prophecy?
He has returned?

WESIRT

He has risen, but will pose no threat.
Not until Orion becomes aware.

TEBEK

I will do all I can for the boy. I
give you my word.

WESIRT

I trust you will.

The mirror returns to ice which melts into water. Tebek turns
to face us- A GLIMMER OF DESPAIR IN HIS EYES-

EXT. DOCKS -- CONTINUOUS

The baby, Orion, fast asleep in his cradle. He is innocent,
he doesn't know how important he is, not yet at least...

FADE TO:

EXT. PORT OF SHIREGROVE -- DAY

TITLE SUPER: Orion and the Sword of Light

The white lady, docked at a small island with a village. It's
a port town, mostly filled with stores and a few hostels for
sailors and pirates to sleep and/or plunder.

SUPER: 17 Years Later

OFF SCREEN: Laughing, fading in...

INT. BREWERY -- MOMENTS LATER

Two scruffy men are sitting at the bar, laughing with pints of beer in their hands. Dozens of people are in the bar, a guy on stage with a strange hat and no shoes is dancing and playing the banjo guitar. A quirky theme, uplifting.

BARTENDER (O.S.)

Ger outta `ere ya wee rascal!

DOOR BREAKS DOWN.

A young, handsome and strapping boy of 18 is thrown through the door by a huge, beefy muscular guy with a vest on.

The handsome kid is half naked, just trousers on, no shirt. He staggers to the shirt and picks it up. He attempts to put it on as he faces camera. HE DUCKS! As a punch goes over his head.

BARTENDER (63) with a mean looking old face and a hunched back walks behind the beefy guy.

BOY

Now sir, I was merely aiding the lady with her dress. I was doing no harm.

The beefy guy swings for the boy again who ducks. The beefy guy then tries to sweep the boy's legs out from under him, the boy leaps onto a bar stool and then onto the bar. He runs along the bar as the beefy guy chases him.

A WOMAN EMERGES FROM THE BACK ROOM. Holding her dress up, she's quite pretty with blue eyes and blonde hair.

Bartender grabs a bow and arrow from the wall and loads the arrow into the bow as the beefy guy tries whacking the boy with a fire poker.

Beefy guy swings, the boy jumps over it and lands on the fire poker. He kicks it at the beefy guy, who falls through a nearby wooden table. The boy turns to the bartender who fires an arrow. The boy holds up a tray and the arrow PASSES THROUGH THE TIN and comes within AN INCH of his nose.

He throws the tray down, grabs his shirt from the bar and looks over at the woman who is smiling and waving.

WOMAN

Bye, Orion!

Orion bows to her with a smile.

ORION

My lady.

The bartender shoots another arrow as- ORION DUCKS OUT OF THE DOOR.

EXT. STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Orion runs up the street. Laughing as he puts on his clothes, he turns left into-

EXT. ALLEYWAY -- CONTINUOUS

Orion continues running. He turns around and no one is following him. He then turns back to face the way he is running and SKIDS ALONG TO A HALT.

Orion seems a little intimidated, he gulps.

Tebek walks towards him, waving his index finger and shaking his head.

TEBEK

All of that noise, for what?

ORION

I met a girl, and - well - we kind of, grew close.

TEBEK

This girl, her name wouldn't happen
to be Sian, would it?

ORION

(Shrugs)

Possibly - Maybe-

(Cringes)

Yes.

TEBEK

I told you to stay away from her.

ORION

I was drawn to-

BARTENDER (O.S.)

There he is!

Orion turns back. Ten or so people are now chasing him along
with the big beefy guy that he kicked through a table.

ORION

Oh crap!

TEBEK

(Hurried)

Time to go!

Orion and Tebek start running.

EXT. THE WHITE LADY DECK -- CONTINUOUS

The pirates are readying the ship.

A pirate looks up to the stairs and sees, Orion and Tebek
being chased by angry villagers.

PIRATE #1

Men! Ready the ship, we're leaving!

The men scurry about the deck.

EXT. DOCKS -- CONTINUOUS

An arrow is shot, it barely skims over Orion's head.

ORION

Oh they're really angry!

Tebek runs down the steps. A man with a basket walks in front of Orion who LEAPS OVER HIM and rolls through onto his feet on the wooden dock.

Tebek makes it to the ship which is beginning to pull out of the harbour.

Orion is still behind. He's running down the docks as- ARROW IS SHOT. Orion ducks underneath and continues running. The ship is a few metres away from the docks. Orion runs up the stairs onto-

EXT. HIGHER LEVEL -- CONTINUOUS

Orion runs onto a box and leaps from the box onto a LAMP HOLDER which he uses to VAULT UP onto a fissure. Orion scales the fissure as the villagers chase him.

EXT. ROOF -- CONTINUOUS

Orion runs along the roof. Villagers are close behind, the bartender shoots another arrow. It misses Orion and hits a bird, forcing it to drop out of the sky with a SQUAWK.

Orion LEAPS from the roof and HURTLES through the air. The villagers skid to a halt on the roof, but the beefy guy can't stop in time and they ARE PUSHED OFF THE ROOF INTO A PILE OF SOFT HAY.

EXT. THE WHITE LADY DECK -- CONTINUOUS

Pirates look up as Orion slides down the sail, he's caught by several pirates. Orion pats them on the shoulder and smiles.

Tebek walks over, annoyed.

TEBEK

After all the times I warned you
about that girl, you still pursued her.

ORION

I apologize, but as I was saying.
I was drawn to her.

MARALDA (O.S.)

Typical.

Orion turns around and sees- MARALDA (19), quite pretty with Raven-black hair and brown eyes. She's sweet on the eyes, and wears a leather top which is sort of like a large bra and black trousers which are quite tight.

ORION

(Sarcastic)

Maralda, a pleasure as always.

MARALDA

Always getting into trouble over a
girl. Why am I not surprised?

ORION

(Cocky)

Would you be unhappy if that girl
was you?

MARALDA

In your dreams, Orion.

Pirates laugh, Orion shakes his head and smiles. Maralda smirks for a brief second at him and then turns to Tebek.

TEBEK

You found it?

MARALDA

Down below, it was quite a task.

ORION

Found what?

TEBEK

It's best you stay here, Orion.

Two pirates, Maralda and Tebek walk down to the cargo hold. Orion stands on deck, intrigued.

INT. CARGO HOLD -- MINUTES LATER

OFF SCREEN: Hissing...

Tebek and Maralda, along with a few pirates are in the cargo hold looking at a crate.

The noise is coming from inside.

MARALDA

It was quite difficult to catch.

(Beat, wonders)

What do you need this thing for anyway?

TEBEK

It's a test.

MARALDA

For whom?

TEBEK

Who do you think?

Maralda knows, she nods.

TEBEK (cont'd)

(To Pirate #2)

Let it out, but keep it restrained.

Pirate #2 pulls the latch, the box falls down around- HYDRA! A five headed snake, a beastly looking thing with blue scales and yellow eyes.

It BREATHES FIRE! Pirate #2 barely gets out of the way. Tebek holds up his hand and the Hydra stops, its tongue slithers from its mouth as it stands there.

OFF SCREEN: Broom falls...

Hydra turns around. BREATHES FIRE ON- Orion! Who barely dodges it by ducking. His shirt gets singed in the process and he quickly pats the fire out.

Tebek and Maralda sigh, they knew he'd show interest.

ORION

Whoa! Whoa!

(Beat, looks on)

What the heck is that thing?!

MARALDA

(Sarcastic)

No brains among looks, huh?

Orion walks around the column. The Hydra hisses at him but remains inside of a square drawn on the box floor. It's as if it's keeping it inside.

TEBEK

This, is a Hydra, Orion.

ORION

Right, a Hydra. A five headed snake thing, But why in the name of Alderin is it on the ship?

TEBEK

It's for you.

(Smiles)

Happy Birthday.

ORION

Last year it was a bracelet, this year it's a Hydra? What am I supposed to do with this other than to roast pork?

TEBEK

It's here - to train you.

Tebek holds out his hand, Pirate #3 puts a sword in it.

TEBEK (cont'd)

This sword once belonged to your great grandfather, Arsun. He was a warrior among men, and if I may say, a man of the women. Much like you.

ORION

(Confused)

My great grandfather was a fisherman from Cauthe, not a warrior.

TEBEK

There is much you do not know of your ancestral origins, I was told to keep you in the dark until you were ready but since you stumbled upon us abruptly I believe you're now ready to hear the truth.

Soldiers leave, Maralda stays behind as it concerns her too.

TEBEK (cont'd)

Take a seat, Orion.

Maralda takes a seat.

ORION

(Looks at Hydra)

I'd rather stand, thanks.

TEBEK

As you wish.

Tebek clasps his hands over the handle of the sword and thrusts the BLADE THREE TIMES INTO THE WOODEN FLOOR.

The room starts to go dark, candles are blown out by gusts of wind as water begins to sound. The room is rocking when-

EXT. DOCKS -- PAST -- NIGHT

Orion, Maralda and Tebek are now standing on a floating dock in the middle of the ocean.

Orion looks around, surprised.

ORION

What the?

TEBEK

I believe you know this place?

Tebek is looking past Orion, who turns to see- FARCKONA'S PALACE. On the hillside, golden spires stretching into the sky. A war going on in the background.

ORION

Farckona?

MARALDA

Getting the picture yet?

TEBEK

You're no mere orphan, Orion. You were sent to me, from here.

A HUGE, FLAMING BOULDER FLIES OVER THE WATER FROM A CATAPULT. It smashes INTO THE PALACE walls and sends RUBBLE flying.

A woman is seen, running down the wooden staircase from the palace with a baby in her arms.

Tebek crashes the sword onto the deck once more. Orion, Tebek and Maralda are now standing on the dock. Looking at the woman who is placing the baby, into a cradle inside the small boat.

ORION

I don't understand - who is she?

She lays a kiss on the baby's forehead, tears roll down her cheeks. She then covers the cradle with a blanket and holds up her hands. GREEN LIGHT shoots from her hands and SURROUNDS THE BOAT. She then pushes the boat, gently, out to sea.

She turns to Orion, and for a moment it's as if she can see him. He looks into her eyes, and recognizes them.

ORION (cont'd)
She's got my eyes.

TEBEK
(Serious)
No.

Orion looks at Tebek.

TEBEK (cont'd)
(Serious)
You have hers.

Orion begins to realise who she is. She's his mother.

Orion walks towards her, he looks at her as she watches the boat drift off into the ocean and out of sight. She's weeping.

Orion places his hand on her shoulder but it passes through as if she's a ghost.

ORION
Mother.

KARAAN
(Emotional)
Goodbye, Orion. Be safe.

Minotaur's run down the stairs and grab her by the arms. She doesn't even fight them as she's dragged up the stairs.

ORION
(Worried)
Mother!

Orion reaches, but as he does EVERYTHING RIPPLES.

INT. THRONE ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Everything ripples into view. The throne room appears, large and mighty looking. Two thrones sit side by side.

Orion looks on. Tebek stands on his left, Maralda on his right. They watch as-

The King, battles Draagon. A fierce, armoured knight with a crowned black mask.

Draagon stabs the King through the chest, the King falls back to the throne as- KARAAN is whisked in by the Minotaur's.

A Siren slithers along the ground in blue snake form, she rises into- KAILEEN, A woman, voluptuous and beautiful, morphing from the blue scaled version into human form.

DRAAGON

He is here.

BLACK SMOKE WAFTS IN THROUGH THE DOOR. It forms a man, who steps from the smoke. It's ERENIUS, GOD OF DARKNESS. Black hair, RED EYES, And black and crimson coloured armour with shoulder spikes.

King looks on, horrified.

Orion looks down at his mother, who is on her knees being held by Minotaur's as Erenius walks towards her, and looks back at the king.

TEBEK

(Sincere)

I'm sorry, Orion. I really am.

Orion looks on, unable to do anything.

Erenius slowly unsheathes his sword. He places it to Karaan's neck, and SLICES IT- OFF CAMERA! Orion cringes. Erenius laughs as he turns back to the King, who is gasping for air whilst holding his bloodied chest.

Karaan is laying on the floor, dead.

ORION

(Sad)

Mother.

Tebek places his hand on Orion's shoulder. Maralda looks on, she knows Orion's pain.

Erenius walks to the King and places his sword to the King's throat.

ERENIUS

Your duty, is fulfilled.

Erenius plunges the sword through the King's chest. The King falls back to the throne, dead.

Erenius looks at the two.

DRAAGON

What is to be done, my lord?

ERENIUS

Reveal to the peasants, their King and Queen. Reveal to them, who now commands them.

Orion's eyes widen. ROOM RIPPLES. TEBEK CRASHES THE SWORD ONTO THE FLOOR THREE TIMES AND-

INT. CARGO HOLD -- PRESENT

They're back in the cargo hold.

Orion shoves Tebek's hand from his shoulder and turns away from him. He walks to the door and turns back.

ORION

Why did you show me that?

TEBEK

Because I was asked to.

Orion leaves, angrily.

Maralda looks at Tebek.

Tebek knows how hard it is on Orion, he's sorry.

FADE TO:

EXT. THE WHITE LADY DECK -- AFTERNOON

Sun hangs high in the sky. Orion is leant on the battlements. Pirates are crewing the ship around him. Maralda walks over to him and stands a few feet next to him, leaning on the battlements with a sorrowful expression.

MARALDA

Orion?

Orion doesn't reply.

MARALDA (cont'd)

If it means anything, I'm sorry.

ORION

Why? You didn't do it.

MARALDA

I know what it's like, to see those you love killed. It happened to me.

Orion looks at her, then out at sea again.

MARALDA (cont'd)

When I was four, Draagon broke into my home. I watched as he killed them. And I couldn't stop him.

ORION

I never knew my parents. But this is not how I wanted to meet them.

(Beat, sniffs)

Why did he show me that?

MARALDA

He was trying to reveal your past the best way he knew how. Don't you see, Orion? Your past, present. It all now makes sense, you're the prince.

ORION

(Denial)

I'm not a Prince, Maralda. I'm just a member of the crew.

MARALDA

(Understanding)

Well if you want to talk, I'm here.

ORION

Thanks, but I'll be fine.

Maralda nods and walks away.

Orion continues staring out to sea.

INT. CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS -- CONTINUOUS

Tebek is sitting at his desk. Reading from the very same note he picked up from the boat Orion first came in.

TEBEK

(Reading)

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

SHIP HITS SOMETHING. Everything shakes.

Tebek walks to the door-

EXT. CAPTAIN'S DECK -- CONTINUOUS

The pirate who is navigating seems afraid. Orion is looking around, everyone else is looking down into the water.

A HUGE TENTACLE RISES FROM THE WATER and hits the sails. It begins wrapping itself around the ship. Breaking the mast, splintering the wood and cracking the deck. Orion BARELY DODGES a tentacle.

Maralda is whacked by the tentacle and falls to the deck. Tebek pushes the pirate near the wheel out of the way.

PIRATE #4

It's a Sea-Serpent!

Orion wakes Maralda up. Tebek runs down to the deck.

EXT. THE WHITE LADY DECK -- CONTINUOUS

Orion helps Maralda up to her feet and pulls out his sword. Tebek grabs him by the arm.

TEBEK

This is not the time, we must leave!

Orion shrugs Tebek off. Tebek uses the SWORD and CRASHES it into the deck five times in equal rhythm.

EXT. BEACH -- CONTINUOUS

Everyone is on the beach, those that made it at least. They watch as the ship is pulled under the ocean and a HUGE BUBBLE ERUPTS from beneath the water.

MARALDA

Why did it attack us?

TEBEK

Something is wrong. Serpents never usually attack passing ships, they're dormant. This could only have been an act of control by someone who does not want us to succeed.

Orion seems confused.

Tebek turns to face the trees. It's a large forest before them. Ten pirates remaining, along with Tebek, Orion and Maralda.

Orion picks up the note on the sand. He reads the note and then looks at Tebek, darkly.

ORION

What is this?

TEBEK

That came with you in the boat.

ORION

Khan? Was that my fathers' name?

TEBEK

Yes.

A pirate picks up a handful of sand, he lets it fall back to the beach.

PIRATE #2

This is no ordinary sand. It's softer.
We're in Werth.

MARALDA

(To Tebek)

(Whisper)

He can tell that just by feeling
the sand?

TEBEK

The forest of Werth, home of the mighty
centaurs.

Orion gulps. Everyone walks into the forest, swords out.
Maralda has a smaller sword than everyone else, it has blue
sapphires and red rubies encrusted into the silver handle.

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST OF WERTH -- APPROACHING SUNSET

The day is dying, the day is almost done. Pirates walk
through the woodland.

Orion is a little further behind than everyone else. Tebek
and Maralda are walking ahead of him.

ORION

(To Himself)

If the dark god is back, why-

Orion looks at Tebek who slows down.

ORION (cont'd)

If the dark god is back, why is the world so, sociable?

TEBEK

He has not yet amassed a full army of followers. He is waiting for the perfect time to strike, and believe me, when it happens nowhere will be safe.

ORION

Tebek, I'm sorry about before.

TEBEK

After what you just saw, I wouldn't have expected any different. Your apologies are not necessary, if anything it should be me making them.

OFF SCREEN: Whooshing sound...

Orion, Tebek and Maralda stand still.

MARALDA

Did you hear that?

TEBEK

I heard it.

SUDDENLY- PEOPLE EMERGE! From the trees around, all of them, hunters and mercenaries. Surrounding the travellers, pirates are outmatched.

DARIUS walks forward. (35) with short brown hair and a beard. He's wearing armour with leather chest pads and a sword which dangles down his right leg. Muscular.

IKRES (32) Scottish accent with long sandy coloured hair in a ponytail, with an attached shield on his left arm and a sword in his right hand. He's quite muscular, much like Darius.

DARIUS

You picked a rather distinct moment
to be wandering through the wilderness.

TEBEK

As did you for finding us.

DARIUS

(Smiles)

It's good to see you again, Tebek.

Darius claps Tebek on the shoulder and approaches Orion. He's somewhat surveying him.

DARIUS (cont'd)

I had heard the rumours of your
resemblance to your father but I never
imagined this. I must say the stories,
for once, are true.

ORION

And what business did you have with
my father, mercenary?

DARIUS

(To Tebek)

You didn't tell him?

ORION

Tell me what?

DARIUS

He was my brother.

Orion realises.

ORION

You're my uncle?

DARIUS

Yes, it's just me and you now kid.
Last of the Carvona's.

Orion is confused.

ORION

Carvona? You mean, like the sword-master,
Serin? The warrior of Agobesh?

IKRES

Aye lad, what are ye, slow?

DARIUS

Pardon Ikres' unkind attitude, he's
rather unpleasant to be around before
he's had a drink of rum.

Maralda smiles. Tebek looks around.

TEBEK

I thought this was centaur land?

DARIUS

When you see one, tell them that.
We've crossed the entire forest, they're
all gone. A few abandoned camps, and of
course, the gateway was left wide open.

TEBEK

Is it intact?

DARIUS

Yes, why?

TEBEK

We must travel to Baru, to speak with
her.

Orion wonders, Maralda sheathes her sword.

DARIUS

Why now?

TEBEK

If the centaurs have left, then it is
beginning. We have no time to waste.

DARIUS

Do you know the password?

TEBEK

I do.

DARIUS

Then what are we waiting for? Let's go, we've got a lot of ground to clear and we have to be careful around the Wusha.

Tebek and Darius walk forward.

ORION

(To Maralda)

What's a Wusha?

MARALDA

A bloody big bee.

Orion sniggers and rolls his eyes with an "Oh, fantastic!" expression on his face.

FADE TO:

EXT. CENTAUR ENCAMPMENT -- LATER

The sun is disappearing behind the clouds. A storm is approaching, the days are becoming darker.

MERCENARY #1

Bloody weather, always changing.

PIRATE #1

The days are growing darker, friend. Very soon, there won't be much change coming.

Tebek, Ikres and Darius continue walking into the centaur camp. It's completely barren, not even a sign of life.

Darius sits down on a long log, Ikres drinks from a flask.

Tebek stands. Orion and Maralda walk towards them. Darius unbuckles his belt and puts it, along with the sheathed sword next to him on the ground.

DARIUS

(To Tebek)

So what's the news from the helm?

TEBEK

Quiet, I've not heard from him in a few days. Everything's silent.

DARIUS

To be expected, I suppose.

(Beat, sighs)

And what about the Elves? Anything from them?

TEBEK

Retreated into the mountain mist. They can sense the dark lord's forces growing.

DARIUS

Yet they cower in their mist?

Darius stands up.

DARIUS (cont'd)

We cannot fight this war alone. We came here to achieve peace with the centaurs and even they have deserted us. The Elves, Dwarves, even what's left of the guild have gone. And our leader, the wanderer, is nowhere to be found?

(Beat)

Tebek, we can't do this by ourselves.

TEBEK

I understand. But I may have a solution.

DARIUS

(Sniggers)

Right, sending a boy into the lion's den.

TEBEK

Like it or not, he's the only chance we have.

DARIUS

No. My brother made me swear an oath that were anything to happen to him I would protect the boy. I'm not letting you use him this way, its madness and what you think lies in that barren wasteland is myth.

Orion steps in.

ORION

Do I get a word in this?

Darius and Tebek look at him, intrigued.

ORION (cont'd)

What exactly is it that you want from me, Tebek?

TEBEK

In Cambrio lies an ancient power. No man has seen it in centuries. But I believe it remains. There's another thing.

ORION

Another thing?

TEBEK

The prophecy speaks of a catalyst in this war, one that wields both light and darkness within him.

(Beat, reveals)

The catalyst, is you.

ORION

(Surprised)

Me!? What do I have to do with the prophecy?

DARIUS

He doesn't know.

MARALDA

None of us know.

TEBEK

All that we do know, is that you must visit the Passelo of Baru. She will reveal things we cannot, but first we must get there.

Orion is cautious.

DARIUS

You don't have to do this, Orion.

ORION

We will go to her, and see what she reveals. Then I will decide whether or not I travel to Cambrio.

TEBEK

That is all I am asking.

Orion walks away, leaving everyone wondering what's going through his head.

DARIUS

(To Tebek)

You'd better hope you're right.

Darius walks away, angry. Ikres walks in the opposite direction, and then turns back to follow Darius.

Maralda approaches Tebek, she places her hand on his shoulder.

MARALDA

He won't fail, he doesn't have it in him.

Tebek seems darkened, worried almost.

TEBEK

That is what I'm worried about.

Tebek walks off, leaving Maralda confused.

EXT. CENTAUR ENCAMPMENT BATTLEMENTS -- CONTINUOUS

The battlements are wooden, looking down over a large ravine which stretches down into a misty darkness. Large mountains in the distance, covered in snow with ice caps at the top.

Orion is standing there, wind ruffling his hair. He can see his breath due to the cold weather.

Darius walks around the corner, he sees Orion and smiles. He walks over and stands on Orion's right hand side, leaning on the battlements as his nephew does.

DARIUS

You remind me so much of your father,
when needing time to think he would
always head for the most tranquil place.

ORION

I wouldn't know, I never met him.

DARIUS

I know and I'm sorry.

Orion hands the note to Darius who takes a read. Darius nods.

DARIUS (cont'd)

He made the right call.

ORION

Why did he not send me to you?

DARIUS

I never was a father figure, Orion. I
always had my eyes set on a goal, never
in one place for too long. Always moving.
Tebek on the other hand, was suitable and
your father was good friends with him.

ORION

All this time, and you never contacted me. Why?

DARIUS

I tried, but Tebek and others believed by me contacting you, the dark lord would know. He was tracking me, for years. I managed to slip clear of his eye a few months ago.

(Beat)

By then, the White Lady had departed the shores of Grathan. And you were gone.

ORION

What were they like, my parents?

DARIUS

Your mother was beautiful in every way. Kind hearted, stunning, in a way you remind me of her. Her eyes, mostly.

ORION

And my father?

DARIUS

Much like me, but younger. Had a keen and adventurous spirit, once took down a fully grown Goblin.

ORION

(Impressed)

A Goblin? That's something.

DARIUS

Yes it is.

ORION

If you're older, why were you not crowned king? I mean, the oldest gets the crown, right?

DARIUS

No. I turned it down, as I said, I could never stay in one place. Me as King would get extremely boring. Sitting on a throne all day, not my thing.

Orion smiles.

DARIUS (cont'd)

(Takes out pendant)

Your father gave me this.

Orion looks at the golden pendant.

DARIUS (cont'd)

It's been passed down for generations, somewhat of a tradition for the Carvona name. I think it's time it made its way to you.

Darius dangles the pendant above Orion's hand and drops it in. Orion notices that it can be opened.

ORION

What's inside?

DARIUS

(Laughs)

I don't know, never could get the damn thing open.

Darius looks out over the mountains.

ORION

(Puts pendant in pocket)

Thank you, Darius.

DARIUS

(Nods)

Well, I guess it's time to go.
Ever travelled through a gateway before?

Orion shakes his head.

DARIUS (cont'd)

Trust me, it's not very nice. It feels as if your body is being squeezed through a tube. I vomited the first time and swore to myself "never again".

(Sarcastic)

So this should be fun.

Darius pats Orion on the shoulder and walks away. Orion stands there for a moment, looking out to the mountains.

As Orion turns he sees- MAN, CLOAKED AND WIELDING A SWORD, WEARING A TORN RED CAPE WITH DARK RED EYES standing on the stairs to the gateway.

He's looking at Orion, fiercely. Shining knives on his shoulders, in small sheathes, throwing knives.

A ball of light in his right hand, like electricity.

Orion pulls out his sword, he walks towards the man.

HE BURNS AWAY LIKE PAPER. Maralda walks around the corner. Orion sheathes his sword as-

MARALDA

Going somewhere?

ORION

Maralda, did you see that?

MARALDA

See what?

ORION

The burning man, he was here a minute ago. On the stairs.

MARALDA

(Confused)

Sorry, I only saw you. Why? Did he say something?

ORION

No. He just stood there and looked at me.

Maralda nods and walks away. She seems confused as she turns away from Orion, who is only more confused than she is.

EXT. THE GATEWAY -- NIGHT

Orion, Tebek, Ikres, Darius and Maralda walk into the gateway. It's a large, four stone columned archway which has a strange flowing water like gateway in the centre of the archway.

The pirates and mercenaries stand at the bottom, watching on.

Orion stands on the symbol which is of FIRE. Maralda stands on the symbol which is WATER. Darius stands on the symbol which is EARTH. Ikres stands on the symbol which is AIR. Tebek walks to the middle. He places his hands on the ground and allows the energy to pass through him.

They watch on as- TEBEK'S EYES TURN PALE WHITE. He stands up.

TEBEK

Herana du vislu!

The flowing water comes to a dead halt in the archways. They EXPLODE and cover the FIVE TRAVELLERS. A SPHERICAL BALL of water surrounds them and in the blink of an eye- WHOOSH! They're gone.

Water slowly trickles back into the archway and begins flowing again.

EXT. BARU GATEWAY -- CONTINUOUS

SPLASH! The water hits the floor. Orion, Maralda, Darius and Ikres appear first as Tebek seemingly walks down the steps. He seems normal.

Ikres wobbles for a moment and then FALLS BACKWARDS. Snow flows through the air. Darius is holding his head.

Maralda staggers backwards and sits on a snow covered log, then jumps up and rubs her bottom due to the coldness of the log.

Orion is blinking rather rapidly, grasping at his forehead.

ORION

That was not fun.

DARIUS

I told you.

IKRES

Feels like I just pulled me head out
of a Rhino's arse.

Tebek doesn't seem harmed, he turns to the others. Smacks the sword into the ground four times and they're covered in thick, jumpers in an instant to keep them warm.

Ikres is looking at the jumper.

IKRES (cont'd)

I could've used this before I landed
in the snow, lad.

Maralda is rubbing her arms with her hands. She can see her breath. She looks north and sees- BARU! The huge palace on the hillside, surrounded by a large gateway.

MARALDA

That's a long walk.

TEBEK

We had better move. You don't want
to be out in the woods of Baru at
night.

ORION

Why?

TEBEK

Because of the Yuhra.

ORION

(Sarcastic)

Fantastic.

Ikres takes out a flask and drinks from it. Or at least he tries to, the water is frozen inside.

Ikres puts the cap back on and hooks it back around his belt. He sighs as he moves past Darius and as he approaches Orion HE SLIPS ON THE ICE AND SLIDES DOWN THE HILL INTO A POCKET OF SNOW.

Darius, Maralda and Orion laugh.

Tebek walks past Ikres whose hands emerge from the snow.

TEBEK

On your feet, Ikres.

Ikres emerges from the pocket of snow, and spits some snow out.

IKRES

A little help?

Darius and Orion yank Ikres from the pocket, he rubs himself off.

DARIUS

How you feeling?

IKRES

Bloody cold.

DARIUS

Well that's what you get for not looking where you're going.

Darius sniggers as he walks down the hill. Orion and Maralda walk past Ikres with smiles, Ikres puts his finger in his ear and pulls some snow out.

Ikres shakes-

EXT. PATH TO BARU -- MOMENTS LATER

Tebek is walking in front of everyone else. Maralda and Ikres at the back of the pack and Orion and Darius walk and talk.

ORION

What's the Passelo like?

DARIUS

Try not to stare at her. She doesn't like it.

ORION

I know she's old.

DARIUS

It's not the old part, Orion. She's got cracked skin, white eyes and she's extremely intimidating. Don't let her inside your head for too long.

ORION

You've seen her then?

DARIUS

Seventeen years after the fall of Farckona, I went there hoping to find a way to kill Erenius. But she said my part in this wasn't to kill him.

ORION

Then what was it?

DARIUS

(Sniggers)

She didn't say, all she said was to head west into Calahaine, it was there we were introduced to the Guild.

ORION

The Guild?

Darius nods.

ORION (cont'd)

What happened then?

DARIUS

We found a way to unite Midras for the war, only it went wrong and everyone abandoned us. The elves retreated into their mist, and the Guild - disappeared.

ORION

And the Centaurs?

DARIUS

The Centaurs abandoned their home. Well they're not typical centaurs in Werth, the centaurs of Werth are Scira. A tribe of warriors.

ORION

It's unlike warriors to flee a battle.

DARIUS

Precisely, which is why we're heading to Baru. You will meet with the Passelo. But we are going there to speak with the Dwarf King, Balo. According to Tebek he might know where the Scira went.

ORION

Why don't I just ask the Passelo?

DARIUS

Only ask what you need to know. You're not going there to help us unite Midras. You're going there to seek answers that pertain to your quest. Nothing more.

Orion understands.

IKRES

Why's it always bloody cold?

Maralda smiles.

IKRES (cont'd)

First the Ice Mountains of Akresh, then
Idriah and now Baru.

MARALDA

It'll only get colder if you keep on
opening your mouth.

Maralda smirks as she walks away. Ikres realises she might be
right.

EXT. BARU ENTRANCE -- MOMENTS LATER

The gate stands tall at 70 feet. It's wide and greyish, with
engraved stone symbols and drawings of people.

Tebek approaches it, he stands before it and puts his hands
on it. A blue light appears, it makes a sentence appear on
the door. But it's not in Modern Midranian (English).

Careu deranus extaer heredufan

TEBEK

Ivemano heradane corkath.

The gates light up blue. Like veins of blood the liquid
inside of the gate flows upwards to a small tube, the tube
fills up and the gates with angels on top begin to open
slowly.

ORION

Careu deranus extaer heredufan?
What does that mean?

TEBEK

It's the dwarf's way of befuddling those
that don't belong here to say it. It doesn't
do or mean anything.

DARIUS

(To Orion)

The dwarves are crafty buggers, lad.

IKRES

Aye. I met one in a pub not long ago, the wee bugger stole me shield and me coin.

Maralda is giggling.

IKRES (cont'd)

(To Maralda)

Ye may think it's funny now, but wait until it happens te ye. It's they're wee hands ye see, ye never know where they're goin'.

Maralda is still giggling as she passes Ikres.

Darius claps Ikres on the shoulder.

ORION

(Holding pendant)

Better put this somewhere safe.

Orion puts the necklace around his neck, the pendant dangles under his shirt. All five enter the dwarf city of Baru.

EXT. BARU STREET -- CONTINUOUS

The streets are lined with snow and icicles dangle from the small rooftops. Orion and Maralda notice that the houses the dwarves live in are only 10 foot tall bungalows. They only have one level.

They're approaching a house, sitting on a crooked hill with crooked steps and a crooked roof. It's strange, it's the only house in the city without snow near it. The roof is normal wood and there's grass outside.

Tebek, Maralda, Darius and Ikres walk into a barn where a small horse or pony is sitting there chewing hay.

Orion walks in.

He sits down on a stool.

Tebek hands him a silver coin, an old silver coin.

TEBEK

Give this to her and only ask the questions you require the answers to.

ORION

With all do respect, I have no questions.

TEBEK

Ask her, what the power is. How you get to Cambrio. Those are the two fundamental answers you seek, gaining passage to Cambrio is difficult.

IKRES

Difficult? Ha, bloody impossible.

ORION

Why does he say that?

TEBEK

Because you need a key to open the gate and we don't know where to find it. Only you will gain the answers and it is something you must keep to yourself. Only tell us where it is, not how to get to it. Understood?

ORION

Understood.

TEBEK

Once you're done, head to the palace at the top of the hill. We must speak with Balo to gain means of transportation.

ORION

I understand.

EXT. PASSELO'S HUT -- CONTINUOUS

Orion walks up the crooked steps.

He sees a lamp dangling from the porch ceiling, loosely hanging there by a single bent rusted nail.

He grabs the rusting handle and knocks three times. As he does, the door opens an inch or two. A smell wafts out, catching his nose, it's a flowery smell.

ORION

Hello, is there anyone-

Voice cuts him off.

PASSELO (O.S.)

Orion Carvona, come in my dear.

INT. PASSELO'S HUT -- CONTINUOUS

In the blink of an eye Orion is sitting in a chair across the wooden table. A hooded figure sits in the shadows, only visible by the soft candle light dangling from above. A small silver pensive with some iced over water sits in the middle of the table.

ORION

(Shocked)

How did you-

PASSELO

Summon you here? It's simple dear, I already saw you enter, so I hurried time along a little.

ORION

You can perform magic?

PASSELO

We're not here to answer questions about me, we're here to discover the answers to yours. Of which, I am sure you have many.

(Beat, holds out hands)

Give me your hands.

Her hands are old and wrinkled, the skin is cracked.

Orion extends his hands, she removes her hood to reveal- NO HAIR, WHITE EYES AND A CRACKED FACE. Orion hands her coin.

Orion gasps and takes her hands hesitantly. He sees a flash.

FLASH:

Orion standing in courtyard near GLOWING BLUE ORB.

Flash ends. Orion takes his hands away. Coin is on table.

ORION

What the?

PASSELO

Know that nothing you see here is happening now, it is a mirage, a mere thought of your future.

ORION

Do I really want to know?

PASSELO

Probably not, but I cannot foresee your future unless you give me your hands. Extend them so we may begin.

Orion extends his hands again, the Passelo takes grip and then-

EXT. COURTYARD OF KINGS -- FUTURE

A blurred vision appears. Orion is standing there, along with three blurred out figures. The orb is in sight, Orion can see it clearly.

DARIUS (O.S.)

(Distorted)

She was right, it's here.

Orion doesn't know what he's seeing.

MARALDA (O.S.)

(Distorted)

Orion take it, you have to take it!

Orion sees- A SWORD APPEAR IN THE ORB. Glistening brightly, the blade is shooting out beams of light.

Orion walks to the sword, he places his hand on the orb and then-

INT. THRONE ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Orion is in the throne room of Farckona's Palace, standing before Erenius who is talking to Draagon.

ERENIUS

(Distorted)

I need you to head to Garna, bring me Noah, it's pivotal he reveals the answers to me. I must know what it is that keeps the light seekers hopeful.

VISION SMOKES OUT-

INT. THRONE ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Khan and Karaan are standing near the throne itself. Karaan is holding the baby Orion in her arms.

KHAN

He must be protected, the prophecy speaks of him and it's our only chance. Without him, our world is doomed.

KARAAN

Then we go with him.

KHAN

We cannot, if we leave the Dark Lord will know of him. We stay the course and fulfil our part in the prophecy. It's the only way, Karaan.

Tears are rolling down Orion's cheeks, he's never truly seen them like this. He's watching a younger version of himself, and he now has the answers.

ORION

I will not fail.

KHAN

Our son, our legacy. Be safe.

Khan kisses the baby Orion on the head as-

OFF SCREEN: Doors open...

Soldier runs in.

SOLDIER

Sir! They've broken through the gate.

Khan takes out his sword.

KHAN

Take him to the docks, Karaan. You know the spell, set the course.

KARAAN

I love you.

KHAN

As I love you.

Khan and Karaan kiss. Karaan then runs for the bookcase, pulls a book and a passage opens-

VISION SMOKES OUT-

EXT. GARNA CITY STABLES -- CONTINUOUS

Orion sees himself yet again, standing before a mighty gryphon with another man. Who is once again blurred out.

The man is NOAH (30) with slicked back black hair and a goatee beard.

NOAH

(Distorted)

This is your quickest way to the lake.

DARIUS

(Distorted)

Mighty fine beasts, what do you think Orion?

Orion doesn't reply. But Darius continues as if he just heard a reply.

DARIUS (cont'd)

(Distorted)

Indeed they are, thank you, Noah.
Your hospitality is much obliged.

EXT. SKY -- CONTINUOUS

The vision continues to show Orion and Maralda on one gryphon. Darius on his own and Ikres barrel rolling on his one.

VISION SMOKES OUT-

INT. PASSELO'S HUT -- PRESENT

Passelo releases Orion's hands and smiles. Orion is panting, as if he's been running. The coin is gone.

PASSELO

You now have the answers you sought.
Past and future, you know what it is
you seek now.

ORION

What is the sword I saw?

PASSELO

It was forged on Mount Galadros by
the God of Light, Alderin and gifted
to man in order to slay his brother.

ORION

Who was it given to and why do I
need it?

PASSELO

It was given to your ancestor, Serin.
Only a Carvona may wield the sword.
And it is needed so you may sever
the amulet, which shall allow you to
strike a deadly blow to your foe.

ORION

You have seen this?

PASSELO

I have read it. I cannot foresee the
end of the war, it is beyond me.

ORION

I thought nothing was beyond you?

PASSELO

My time in this world is coming to
an end, this was my last revelation.
You were my last visitor, when the end
comes, I do not know what fate will have
in store for me. But know I will be there.
Watching you.

Orion nods.

ORION

The man in the vision, the city of
light, Garna? Is that my first task?

PASSELO

In Garna City lies a cave, inside the
cave lies the first of two keys. I do
not know where it goes but once you
have it, the key will allow you to see
your path.

PASSELO (cont'd)

Time runs short, Orion.

ORION

Then I shall bring word to Tebek. He
will know how to get me to Garna City.

Orion stands up. He turns to the door and then looks back at the Passelo. She covers her head once more and Orion walks to the door. He opens it, walks outside-

EXT. PASSELO'S HUT -- CONTINUOUS

Orion turns back to the hut. IT'S GONE! Disappeared without a trace and the hill is now covered in snow.

He looks up the hill towards the palace and can see four separate foot tracks leading up it. He follows.

INT. BARN -- CONTINUOUS

That lone stranger is standing in the barn once more. He's staring at Orion as the prince walks up the hill. He vanishes like smoke.

CUT TO:

INT. DWARF PALACE ENTRANCE -- NIGHT

Darius is waiting by the entrance alone, the others are gone. Doors open, Orion walks in. He has to duck underneath the door to make it into the hallway.

DARIUS

Orion, glad to see you've arrived.
The others are waiting for us in
the throne room, be aware, the dwarf
king has a short temper.

ORION

I wouldn't say that in front of him.

Darius smiles.

Darius and Orion approach the large archway doors. They open, revealing-

INT. PALACE THRONE ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Golden chandeliers dangle from the ceiling which is held up by wooden beams which stretch far across the large throne room. A single throne, sitting on a staircase slope in the centre of the room where a bearded dwarf chews on sizzling chicken in which the juice flows down his beard.

BALO (40) Dwarf race, long black beard with black bushy eyebrows and rough straggly hair. Sitting there with a golden wine goblet in one hand, and a chicken leg the size of his hand in the other.

Tebek, Ikres and Maralda are waiting as Orion and Darius enter. The dwarves around the room look on as the prince, unknowing of his past, enters their gaze.

TEBEK

Balo, son of Hael. It is my distinct honour to introduce you to son of Khan. Orion Carvona.

Balo takes a bite out of the chicken leg and looks at Orion fiercely.

BALO

This is what the great Khan of Farckona spawned? He doesn't look like much.

ORION

And that coming from a Dwarf half my size? Hardly a time to call upon my appearance Dwarf King.

The dwarves gasp, Maralda cringes as Balo stands up. He pulls out his sword and walks down the steps.

BALO

We dwarves may not look like much, but to insult us in our palace?

ORION

I did not mean to insult you. But I was merely stating a fact that looks can be deceiving.

BALO

(To Tebek)

He is not what I expected, Tebek.

TEBEK

He may not appear as a leader, but the leadership of a king runs in his veins. The last descendant to the Carvona legacy and the final hope we have.

Balo sheathes his sword and sniggers at Orion before returning to the throne.

Darius gets close to Orion.

DARIUS

(Whisper)

The last thing we need is to get on the bad side of the dwarves, try not to get us killed.

ORION

(Whisper)

He started it.

DARIUS

(Smiles, Whisper)

You and your father are so much alike.

Orion smiles.

Balo sits upon his throne once more and takes a sip of red wine. The drink drizzles down his beard and onto his white, red wine stained shirt.

BALO

What is it you seek, Tebek?

TEBEK

Orion, what did the Passelo's sight reveal to you? Where must we go?

ORION

We must travel to Garna City and seek council with Noah.

TEBEK

(To Balo)

I take it you know a way of getting him to his destination?

ORION

Him? As in you're not coming?

TEBEK

I must return to Grathan.

BALO

Then I shall have my people bring you means of transportation. Phoenix ash, perhaps?

Orion and Maralda are close.

ORION

Phoenix ash?

MARALDA

It's the dwarf way of travelling great distances at speed.

IKRES

Aye, and it's worse than that gateway. Wind rushing past ye so fast it feels as if ye're standing in a tornado.

ORION

(Sarcastic)

Well that sounds - fun.

Ikres snuffle laughs, Maralda shakes her head with a smile.

A female dwarf walks to Tebek and hands him a small black cloth bag. She hands one to Ikres, Darius, Orion and Maralda who look upon the bags, which are much smaller in their hands than in hers.

BALO

Speak the words "Heris de Sath" to activate the ash, once it is done think of where you want to go and throw the ash to the ground, it will take you there. I trust all of you have an eye on your location?

TEBEK

Grathan is my destination. Garna is theirs.

Balo takes a bite out of the chicken leg.

Tebek takes out a handful of ash and speaks the words-

TEBEK (cont'd)

Good luck, Orion.

Orion nods.

TEBEK (cont'd)

Heris de Sath.

Tebek throws the ash to his feet and FIRE SURROUNDS HIM. He then vanishes and the fire turns to ash and the ash blows apart.

Orion looks at the others and they all nod as if to say "ready" and as they attempt to pull the ash out Balo stops them.

BALO

Your bags are empty.

Ikres pours out some of the ash, it's dust. Not the same as Tebek's bag. Darius has his hand on his sword as dwarves approach with swords ready.

DARIUS

What is this, Dwarf King?

BALO

I require your help, master swordsman.

DARIUS

With what?

BALO

We have a slight problem in the lower part of the palace, primarily the dungeon. As dwarves we aren't afraid of much but this certain, straggler, poses quite a threat to those of our size.

DARIUS

What do you need, Dwarf King?

BALO

I am asking you to take care of this problem for us. We are not properly equipped for such a task but you are. The matter at hand is something you are very familiar with, you encountered one in the Misty Mountains many years ago whilst on a hunting trip with your brother.

DARIUS

(Fear)

Goblin.

BALO

Yes, and this certain Goblin has not been easy to trap. We managed to lure it into the dungeon, but keeping it there much longer is - well - not going to happen. We need you to take care of it for us. In doing so, we will join your cause when the time comes to draw swords.

Orion and Maralda look at Darius, who looks at Ikres.

IKRES

Fighting a Goblin isn't an easy task yere highness. We need a sharpshooter and one who can move fast. If ye don't realise, myself and Darius are not of youth anymore.

BALO

But they are.

DARIUS

Orion is not going in that dungeon. He's too important to be risked for such a small matter.

ORION

I'll do it, I can run and Maralda can shoot. You two just draw it close and we'll kill it.

DARIUS

You don't have to do-

ORION

We don't have a choice, Darius. We have to get to Garna City and this is the only way.

(To Balo)

What's the best way to attack it?

BALO

It's in a maze of tunnels, the dungeon is split into three routes, the one closest on your left will allow you to lead the Goblin down a passage towards the pits of fire.

ORION

Then let's get this done.

Orion walks towards the dwarf standing by the dungeon door. Maralda joins him, Ikres and Darius are looking at Balo with a dark expression.

IKRES

I'm beginning to think he doesn't like us, Darius.

DARIUS

I was beginning to think the same, Ikres.

INT. DUNGEON STAIRCASE -- MOMENTS LATER

Orion and Maralda are descending the dimly lit staircase. Torches on the walls are almost out due to the wind blowing through. Darius and Ikres are behind them.

INT. DUNGEON -- CONTINUOUS

Orion and Maralda wait as Darius and Ikres approach.

ORION

Okay, Balo said we'll have to use this tunnel to lead it to the fire pit. But we have to find it first.

Maralda sees a ladder.

MARALDA

I'll head up the ladder and cover you from above.

IKRES

I'll take the tunnel on the right.

DARIUS

I'll take the middle, Orion stay here and wait for our signal. Once we have the Goblin on our tail we'll need some way of splitting its sight so it focuses on you.

MARALDA

(Dangles rope)

Will this work?

Darius checks the rope.

DARIUS

Place it in the gear when we're coming,
it should lift us out of its grasp so
it can focus on Orion.

(Beat)

Are you ready for this, nephew?

ORION

Can't be too hard.

Darius and Ikres take out their swords. The sound from the sheathes echo through the dungeon as they walk down their passages.

Maralda scales a ladder and climbs onto a high platform. From above she can see the maze of passages, they form separate branches which head west, north and east of her.

INT. NORTH PASSAGEWAY -- MOMENTS LATER

Darius turns the corner, sword at the ready just in case the Goblin strikes. There's a light shining just down the way, fiery red and orange, Darius walks towards it. As he turns the corner he reveals- LAVA STREAM! Flowing like a river through a caged door.

INT. WEST PASSAGEWAY -- CONTINUOUS

Ikres slides down a slope and lands on something that cracks. He lifts his foot up and reveals- DWARF SKULL. A very small skull, cracked beneath his feet and charred as if its been set on fire.

Ikres shakes off his boot- WAFTING. Ikres snaps back, and sees piercing yellow eyes coming at him through the darkness. He steps back and just as he does the eyes reveal- PIXIE. A small red creature with fly-like wings and goofy eyes. It's not a Goblin, not by far.

INT. DUNGEON -- CONTINUOUS

Orion is waiting for Darius and Ikres.

ORION

What's taking them so long?

MARALDA

No idea.

Maralda suddenly hears something. A CRACKLING SOUND. Like foil is being scraped together. A clicking sound begins. She loads her bow with an arrow and looks down at Orion who has his hand on the hilt of his sword.

ORION

I take it you heard that, too?

MARALDA

Yes, but I can't see anything.

Orion can feel something behind him. Breathing down his neck. He turns around and- WHACK! Gets launched across the dungeon into the ladder, which snaps in two as- GOBLIN steps from the shadows.

Eight foot tall, with razor sharp fingernails and pale red skin with small horns on the top of its head and dark yellow eyes with dots of black.

Maralda SHOOTS! The Goblin swats the arrow out of the air as Orion begins to stir.

ORION

Oh crap.

MARALDA

Darius!

INT. NORTH PASSAGEWAY -- CONTINUOUS

Darius heard the echoing sound of Maralda's shout. He runs towards the dungeon quickly.

INT. WEST PASSAGEWAY -- CONTINUOUS

Ikres hears it, climbs on the slope and falls on his face.

Ikres slides back into the bones. The Pixie giggles. Ikres sniggers and gets back to his feet, he leaps onto the slope and runs up it.

INT. DUNGEON -- CONTINUOUS

Orion rolls as- GOBLIN slashes at him. Goblin's finger slices through Orion's shirt.

Orion staggers to his feet and starts running down the east passage towards the fire pit. The Goblin gives chase.

Maralda leaps from the platform and lands on the ground just in time to see Orion lead the Goblin around the corner.

Darius and Ikres emerge from the passages at the same time, Ikres bumps into Darius and goes flying to the ground. Darius manages to stay on his feet.

DARIUS

What happened?

MARALDA

The Goblin - It came, Orion led it down the passageway. Alone!

DARIUS

Wait here, I'll find him.

Darius runs down the passageway after Orion.

INT. EAST PASSAGEWAY -- CONTINUOUS

Orion sees the Goblin chasing him, he takes his eye off the path ahead and FALLS down the slope into the stream of water below. He picks himself up and stumbles over a crate and continues running as the Goblin- LEAPS ONTO THE CEILING and starts crawling across it like a spider.

Goblin leaps down, GRABS ORION and forces Orion to the ground. The Goblin raises its clawed hand and goes to strike Orion who KICKS IT and then KICKS IT AGAIN in the HEAD. Knocking the beast backwards.

Orion gets to his feet and runs into-

INT. FIRE PIT BRIDGE -- CONTINUOUS

Orion crosses the wooden bridge. The Goblin chases him, and the two very carefully walk across the bridge. Orion is backing up, the Goblin closing on him.

Goblin sees the fiery lava below, it doesn't fear it. Orion takes out his sword and places it on the roped bridge. The Goblin stops.

ORION

Come on you ugly beast.

Goblin steps forward, a plank breaks. Goblin hisses and steps back. Orion smiles, the Goblin starts walking towards him again and Orion RUNS TOWARDS IT. Goblin runs towards Orion and SLICES as ORION SLIDES through the Goblin's legs and slashes out its Achilles tendon.

Orion gets to his feet and slashes the ropes on the bridge, the BRIDGE COLLAPSES as Darius comes around the corner. He sees Orion. But Orion vanishes as the bridge collapses.

GOBLIN FALLS INTO THE FIRE AND BURNS along with the bridge itself. Darius falls to his knees.

DARIUS

(Sad)

Orion, no.

Orion's hand pops up from under the cliff. Darius sees it, runs to it and helps Orion who is dangling on the remainder of the bridge just fifteen feet above the lava.

ORION

A little help.

Darius pulls Orion up to the ledge and he falls to his back, sighing and breathing heavily. Darius is laughing with joy.

Orion rubs his forehead.

DARIUS

Your father isn't the only one to
take down a fully grown Goblin.

ORION

Uh-huh.

DARIUS

Come on, let's get out of here.

ORION

Uh-huh.

FADE TO:

INT. PALACE THRONE ROOM -- MINUTES LATER

Orion, Darius, Ikres and Maralda are standing before Balo,
who is still eating chicken legs.

BALO

You have performed well, Prince.

ORION

You don't sound happy about it.

BALO

This is my happy face.

Balo smiles and puts the chicken leg onto the tray. He walks
down the steps.

DARIUS

The Goblin is dead, we had a bargain.

Balo nods, he waves his hand at the female dwarf as if to say
"give them the goods" and she walks over, handing the bags
with the ash to them.

Ikres opens his, he takes some out. It sparkles a little in
his hand.

Ikres looks at Balo.

IKRES

This isn't Pixie dust is it?

BALO

There are no Pixies here.

IKRES

There's one in the dungeon.

BALO

What lies in that dungeon is secret even to me. You do realise an entire civilization once lived beneath this palace? Anything could be down there.

IKRES

Then I apologize.

Balo nods. He approaches Orion.

BALO

Kneel, boy.

Orion kneels. Balo places his hands on Orion's shoulders and gazes into his eyes.

BALO (cont'd)

You have your mother's eyes, young man.
And if I might say, your father's
eye for trouble.

ORION

Will you fight beside us?

BALO

I am a man of my word, young Prince.
The Dwarves shall fight beside you
in Farckona.

Darius smiles, Maralda and Ikres are smiling too. But Darius sees this as the first-step in Orion's eventual rise to the throne and leadership of the land.

Orion stands up.

Two dwarf guards in armour bring over a navy blue pillow with a golden ring on it. Balo takes the golden ring and hands it to Orion.

BALO (cont'd)

This ring proclaims you as friend of
the Dwarves, as a friend of Baru.

Orion puts the ring on his necklace and dangles it around his neck.

DARIUS

I would like to say your hospitality
has been decent but -

BALO

Be careful of your words here, Darius.

DARIUS

Until we meet again, Dwarf King.

BALO

Safe travels, my friends.

Orion, Darius, Ikres and Maralda take handfuls of Phoenix ash from the bags. They all look at one another. And as one they say.

ALL FOUR

Heris de Sath!

They disappear under fire which turns to ash which in turn fades into nothing.

EXT. SKY -- CONTINUOUS

A calming sun sits over the glistening ocean as- FOUR FIRE PHOENIX'S COME HURTLING THROUGH THE SKY. Orion, Maralda, Darius and Ikres riding the fire phoenix's like gryphons. Fire trail leads from the city of Baru over the ocean and they pass the forest which shoots by down below.

Ikres barrel rolls on his phoenix. Darius banks left and they head towards the glistening diamond city of Garna in the short distance.

EXT. GARNA STREET -- CONTINUOUS

People look up from above as the Phoenix's come hurtling down towards them. Maralda lands in a bale of hay, Orion shoots past her and lands on a grassy hill. Darius lands in a large horse troth and Ikres lands in cow dung.

Orion runs down the hill, grasping at his aching head. Maralda pulls herself out of the bale of hay. Darius slowly falls from the horse troth where a Pegasus stands there flapping its wings and rearing.

Orion helps Darius up. Maralda looks around but can't see Ikres.

Ikres emerges from the cow dung, hair all messed up. Body covered in crap, and it's slimy too.

MARALDA

Ewe, that's gross.

Ikres wipes his face in the horse troth. The Pegasus isn't too pleased.

Orion and Darius are laughing at Ikres, Maralda sits on a stool near the barn.

A man comes around the corner, Noah, from Orion's vision. He approaches, arms outstretched and a shocked expression on his face.

NOAH

What? What - What is this madness?

ORION

Noah, right?

NOAH

Yes, I'm Noah. But this is-

Noah puts his hands on his hips and sighs.

NOAH (cont'd)

This is ridiculous, you can't just come swarming in here like a horde of Wusha! It's not polite. You scared people, they thought the hordes of darkness were coming. What in Alderin's name could possibly implore you to perform such a preposterous entrance? The front gate surely would have sufficed? No?

DARIUS

Apologies, Noah. We came from Baru-

NOAH

Ah well that explains it, those darn dwarves are bloody menaces. Always messing up-

(Looks at Ikres)

Stop cleaning yourself in the horse troth, man!

Ikres wipes the dung away from his face and looks at Noah.

Darius and Orion are standing next to one another.

ORION

He seems agitated.

DARIUS

He hasn't aged well.

Noah paces back and forth.

NOAH

You come in here like a band of noisy half-blood pirates and make a mess of the place in a matter of moments? Who are you and why are you here?

Noah is angry. Orion walks up to him.

ORION

We are not pirates, Noah. My name's Orion and this is-

NOAH

(Surprised)

In the name of Alderin. Tell me my eyes and ears are not deceiving me? The heir of Khan, in my city.

(Beat)

Forgive my rudeness upon your arrival but you never can be too careful these days, what with the Undead and Minotaur's camped outside and all.

DARIUS

You have an infestation?

NOAH

They're harmless, a few rebels from Erenius' army. They're quite polite, well, somewhat polite. Minotaur's have a temper, especially if you stare at them too long.

ORION

And the Undead?

NOAH

Quite dumb in all aspects to be honest with you, always walking into stuff- Where are my manners? The name's Noah.

Noah shakes Orion's hand with a big smile on his face. He's exactly how the vision showed him. A black goatee beard, slicked back black hair and light eyes.

NOAH (cont'd)

And may I say, it is an honour to be in the presence of the next king of Farckona.

Darius smiles, Ikres finishes wiping his face.

DARIUS

(To Ikres)

You missed a spot.

IKRES

Aye, very funny.

DARIUS

Well I thought so.

Ikres approaches Noah.

IKRES

I require a bath.

Noah holds his nose.

NOAH

Indeed you do, or a thorough scrub. Go stand under the waterfall, I'll fetch you some - clean clothes.

IKRES

Much obliged, friend.

Ikres claps Noah on the shoulder leaving a hand print of dung on the light robe. Noah sees it as Ikres walks away, he wipes it off with his hand.

NOAH

He's quite something, isn't he?

DARIUS

Yes. He certainly is.

Orion is looking on.

NOAH

As for you, prince. There's much we must discuss, follow me.

Orion follows Noah.

INT. NOAH'S HUT -- MOMENTS LATER

Orion is sitting at a desk as Noah SLAMS a large DUSTY BOOK on the table. Darius and Maralda are standing in the corner.

Noah opens the book, he coughs as he blows the dust away. He sits down and looks across the table at his guest.

NOAH

When I had heard the rumours of your escape from Farckona I could not believe my ears. You were lucky to escape that night, Prince. Very lucky.

ORION

I don't feel too lucky.

NOAH

I take it you know about Erenius?

ORION

Yes.

NOAH

Now, where is it?

Noah continues turning pages until he reaches one.

NOAH (cont'd)

Ah-ha, here we go. "The Prophecy".

ORION

I know the prophecy, that I'm the catalyst in the war between good and evil and that I must travel to Cambrio to find the sword of light.

Noah slams the book shut.

NOAH

You could have told me before I carried this huge book to the table.

ORION

You never asked.

NOAH

I shouldn't have to.

DARIUS

(To Noah)

We were hoping you could help us.

NOAH

With what?

DARIUS

Firstly, on the location of the Guild.
They abandoned their post in Minas.
We want to know where they are.

NOAH

I haven't heard anything. Everything's
quiet, no word even from the wanderer.

DARIUS

And what of the Scira?

NOAH

The Scira? They should be in Werth.
At least, they were two days ago.

DARIUS

We were there two days ago, the place
is abandoned. The Scira vanished, without
a trace. I was hoping you may be able to
shed some light on the situation as it is
unlike Scira to flee from battle.

NOAH

(Shouts)

Hable!

OFF SCREEN: Door opens, closes...

HABLE (33) with a spear and Garna soldier attire walks in.

NOAH (cont'd)

May you shed some light on the Scira?

HABLE

They're in Werth, sir.

DARIUS

Really?

Darius walks towards Hable and takes an item out of his pocket, it's a small note written in the Scira language.

DARIUS (cont'd)

Because I know different.

Darius unfolds the note.

He hands it to Noah who reads it.

NOAH

(Reading)

Corath de selemen du vis siel haru.

Noah looks at Hable.

NOAH (cont'd)

We have abandoned home, we shall not return. He killed many, we must retreat.

(Beat)

They were never in Werth were they?

HABLE

Sir, I -

NOAH

(Flails hand)

Hush now.

The soldier is transformed into a rat. His clothes fall to the ground and Darius picks him up and puts him in a cage on the table.

Hable squeaks and tries to flee, but the cage is locked.

NOAH (cont'd)

Lies will get you nowhere in this world
Hable, think on that as you serve your
punishment.

Maralda is smiling, she's enthused about Noah's sense of
punishment.

Orion looks at Hable who is scurrying around in the cage.

ORION

You're not going to leave him like that
are you?

NOAH

It's the only way he'll learn his lesson.
Now, if the Scira have abandoned their
home in Werth that means Erenius has
already begun his attack on the homes
of Farckona's allies. We knew he would
start but could not decipher where and
when. Now we know he'll work his way
east, Halna Town will be next on his
list. Then he will make his way here.
And finally, Grathan.

ORION

But Tebek's in Grathan, he has to be
warned about this.

NOAH

He likely knows this, Orion. Which is
most likely the reason he returned there.
To rally the troops and defend the city.

MARALDA

What about Carthona and Rivenoak?

NOAH

Erenius would not dare attack the
elves or those who remain in Rivenoak.
He knows their forces overrun his. It will
be a slaughter he could not return from.

Noah looks at Orion.

DARIUS

Then we must continue. Orion, you must find what it is you came here for. We cannot fight the battle in Garna. If the dark lord sees you, he'll know we're searching for the sword.

NOAH

What is it you came here for?

ORION

When I met with the Passelo she told me that there was a key here, a key that could reveal to me the next location where I could find the second one. She said it was in a cave, here in Garna City.

Noah stands up. He's worried and concerned, hand over mouth as he approaches the window and looks out through the courtyard where upcoming soldiers battle in a duelling ring.

NOAH

I know the key you speak of but getting to it is a task no man has surpassed. It does exist, inside of the cave. But there is something else in there, something old and powerful. Its name is feared among the people here for it has claimed many lives.

ORION

A Goblin?

NOAH

My dear boy, there are worse things than Goblins in this world. Doing this, is dangerous.

Orion looks at Darius, confused. Maralda sits at the table.

DARIUS

What is it that lies within the cave?

NOAH

A Wraith.

Orion, Darius and Maralda are worried. Hable the rat even retreats into a small pile of straw and his tail is shaking.

ORION

It can't be. That's not possible.

NOAH

Mythical creatures, I know. But real all the same, it hides in the shadows and strikes you down. You can't escape a Wraith, and if we are to stand any hope in this war, you must survive it.

DARIUS

I will make sure he returns.

NOAH

You cannot.

DARIUS

I am going in that cave and we're bringing the key out.

NOAH

Only Orion may enter the cave. If the prophecy is true, only he can find the key. He, and he alone.

MARALDA

There has to be another way.

NOAH

I assure you, there is not.

Noah turns to Orion.

He claps him on the shoulder.

NOAH (cont'd)

You may face your darkest fears inside that cave, young man. Nothing in this world could prepare you for such a task but I know, that just like your father, you have the will to complete your task. Everything I know about a Wraith shall be imprinted in your mind, use this, it will aid you.

Noah places his hand on Orion's forehead and- SHOOTs BLUE LIGHT into his head. Orion cringes in pain as Noah takes his hand away. Orion can feel new memories being burnt into his head which feels as if it's on fire.

Orion sits in the chair as Noah hands him a wet cloth. Orion puts it on his forehead and his head begins to cool down.

DARIUS

I am not fond of this idea.

NOAH

Neither am I, but it's our only chance. I've imprinted my memories of the Wraith in his head, they shall help guide him.

DARIUS

You know as well as I that a Wraith cannot be killed. It's an entity, it is not of matter. It can't be bargained with and it can't be stopped. You're sending him to his death.

NOAH

Have faith, if he truly is the one the prophecy speaks of. He will not fall here.

Orion stands up. He puts the cloth on the table and walks to the door.

ORION

I am ready.

EXT. DUELLING RING/CAVE ENTRANCE -- CONTINUOUS

Orion, Darius and Maralda are standing near the duelling ring. Many of the city inhabitants are standing around also, looking upon the man who could be their next king.

The soldiers have stopped duelling and Ikres has cleaned himself up, walking from the western side of the city from the waterfall which glistens like diamonds on a bright sunny day.

Noah approaches with a sheathed dagger in his hand.

He hands it to Orion, who reveals the dagger, the blade is solid gold yet sharp as a usual sword blade.

NOAH

This is the only thing I know that
can hurt a Wraith. Solid gold, it's
like poison to them.

Orion sheathes the dagger and hooks the sheath to his belt.

ORION

Thank you, Noah.

NOAH

Do not thank me until you return,
Prince.

Orion starts walking but Darius tugs his shirt.

DARIUS

Take care of yourself, watch the shadows.
Stay close to the wall, stay silent and
move fast. If you're quick it might not
see you.

ORION

I will be okay.

DARIUS

Do not engage it, Orion. It's tough.

ORION

I'll try to follow your words as best
I can. You have my word, uncle.

Darius smiles, nods and claps Orion on the shoulder as if to say "good luck" and Orion starts walking, alone towards the cave which beckons in the distance.

It's a jagged entrance, almost like a cape of sorts. The rocks make an uneven form and the darkness of the cave is creepy.

Orion enters, and vanishes from sight.

Darius turns to Noah.

DARIUS

You had better hope he returns.

NOAH

If he is who we hope, he will.

INT. CAVE TUNNEL -- CONTINUOUS

The cave is dark, only lit by streams of blue light which are made by the hanging Bludreen on the walls. Creatures, that can change the way they appear, much like moths but smaller and they glow.

Orion follows the light towards- LADDER. He slowly descends the ladder into another tunnel.

OFF SCREEN: Water flushing...

Orion can hear the water, he must be near a stream or there might be a hole above where the waterfall descends.

He continues walking and reaches a crack in the wall. He squeezes through the gap and cuts his hand on a sharp rock. He sucks the blood from his hand as he emerges from the space and backs against the wall.

The cave is opening up into a larger, dome shaped place.

Orion wipes the blood away on his shirt and continues along the wall, edging closer to the opening-

INT. CAVE HALL -- CONTINUOUS

Orion enters. As he does he sees the water which was making the sound, a strange, glowing substance. It's not water, as it's boiling. Volcanic perhaps? Orion walks towards it, he holds his hand over it and swiftly takes it away. It's boiling.

OFF SCREEN: Crackling...

Like fire, he turns, takes out the golden dagger as- CLOAK appears and disappears in a matter of seconds.

Orion didn't notice it. He puts the dagger away and walks towards the oval shaped door in the distance.

Orion steps on a brick which falls into the ground, a switch.

OFF SCREEN: Crack, thud...

Orion looks up as- ROCK FALLS FROM CEILING- Orion LEAPS out of the way and narrowly dodges the falling debris.

He then sees a SWINGING AXE coming towards him. He dodges it by ROLLING and then ROLLS again as ARROWS SHOOT from the wall. He reaches the door and opens it. He walks into-

INT. CAVE VAULT -- CONTINUOUS

A pedestal sits in the distance, a bright yellow light is shining down upon a golden crank which is covered in dust and webs. He walks towards it, picks it up and looks upon the crank. The crank has a crystal orb in it.

ORION

This is no key.

A GHOSTLY FIGURE EMERGES FROM THE DARKNESS. A man in a hood carrying a large sword in his right hand and a shield in the other WITH A LION EMBLAZED ACROSS IT.

KORAN

Heir of Farckona, my time is short.
 What you hold in your hand is not
 the key legend had you believe. It
 is in fact, part of a mechanism located
 at the Great Waterfall to the west of
 this location. You must go there. Once
 there, place the crank inside the gear
 and speak the words "Cora helada nai".
 It shall grant you passage. I wish you
 luck, Prince, goodbye.

Koran vanishes. Orion puts the crank in his pocket and turns
 back to the door.

INT. CAVE HALL -- CONTINUOUS

Orion sees that the traps are now shut off. The Axe is still
 swinging, but only lightly and in the centre. He walks past
 it and towards the crack in the wall he entered from.

OFF SCREEN: Fluttering sounds...

Orion senses danger. Close behind him floats a cape with torn
 pieces, and two skeleton like hands are closing on him.

Orion takes the dagger, unsheathes it and SLASHES AROUND- It
 vanishes from sight.

WRAITH (O.S.)

(Dark and brooding)

You dare enter my hollow?

ORION

I am not here to fight you, Wraith.

I have merely come for-

WRAITH (O.S.)

The key.

ORION

Yes, allow me to leave and I shall
 tell no one of you.

WRAITH (O.S.)

Many have wandered into my midst but never before have they simply asked to leave. You are different.

ORION

I mean you no harm.

There's complete silence, apart from the water which continues to flow.

ORION (cont'd)

Do we have an accord?

A SHARP KNIFE LIKE WOUND APPEARS ON ORION'S LEFT BICEP. It cut through his shirt. Orion feels it.

ORION (cont'd)

I guess not.

WRAITH (O.S.)

You'll journey no further than here.
Prince of Farckona, son of Khan.

The Wraith appears above Orion, who turns and slashes at it but the Wraith morphs out of the way and SLASHES Orion across the back. Orion staggers forward and hits the wall. The Wraith comes at him again, growling as Orion slices through the bottom half of its black cloak.

The cloak piece floats to the ground and BURNS AWAY as it hits.

Orion is in the middle of the room, he's standing his ground as the Wraith comes in and SLASHES ORION'S LEGS. Orion falls to his knees in pain. The Wraith comes in again and slices Orion across the face. Blood begins to pour from the Prince's wounds.

Orion crawls over towards the strange fountain but the Wraith LAUNCHES HIM across the room towards the axe. Orion hits the axe which falls from the ceiling. Orion narrowly rolls out of the way as it comes down on him.

He stands back up as the axe smashes into the ground and falls horizontal. The Wraith comes in again, THOSE PIERCING HOLLOW EYE SOCKETS stare at Orion as the Prince SLASHES THROUGH IT. The Wraith vanishes from sight again.

Orion stumbles through the cave towards the crack when- WRAITH GRABS HIM and pulls him back.

The Wraith hovers over him. Orion slashes at it but the Wraith knocks the DAGGER OUT OF ORION'S HAND. The dagger falls near the fountain.

Orion runs towards it, ducking slashes and slices from the Wraith which is relentless.

Orion grabs the dagger, FORCES IT UPWARDS, and STABS THE WRAITH through the chest. Then throws the Wraith into the fountain of boiling water.

The Wraith starts to sizzle and crack, its last pieces of skin on its face melt away as the cloak fizzles out in the acidy water.

Orion falls to his backside on the ground. Huffing and puffing as the Wraith's skull breaks apart in the water.

EXT. DUELLING RING/CAVE ENTRANCE -- MOMENTS LATER

Everyone is waiting as- Orion staggers out of the cave. Badly wounded and clutching his arm. Darius and Maralda run over, Orion falls to his knees as Ikres and Noah approach.

Darius cradles Orion.

DARIUS

(Worried)

Orion? What happened?

ORION

(In Pain)

Wraith, it got me.

Noah makes a hand gesture to his men as if to say "hurry".

NOAH

It's okay, Orion. My men will get you
to the infirmary. You're not dying here.

MARALDA

(Concerned)

The Wraith, it struck.

NOAH

We must get the poison out, Orion,
just stay still. This will hurt.

Noah places both hands over Orion. Darius and Maralda look on. Dark red crimson coloured light begins to be pulled from Orion's body, the poison of the Wraith is being pulled from him.

It stops, Noah breathes and blinks a few times as he kneels down next to Orion.

NOAH (cont'd)

You're going to be fine, Orion.

Orion begins to black out.

DARIUS

Orion!? Stay with me kid! Stay with
me!

Orion passes out. Darius looks at Noah, angry and concerned at the same time.

Two men come in with a board, Darius and Ikres load Orion onto the long board which acts as a stretcher and they carry Orion through the crowd of people who are too, concerned.

DARIUS (cont'd)

(To Noah)

He had better pull through.

Darius follows Orion. Maralda and Ikres follow afterwards and Noah is left with a look of sorrow on his face.

EXT. FARCKONA -- NIGHT

Minotaur's are pulling large wheeled catapults across the battlefield. Undead soldiers are mining the ground, making a huge crater which is roughly 400 foot deep.

A bridge leads across the canyon, and the city of Farckona is all but destroyed. The only thing that remains is the palace on the hill.

INT. THRONE ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

A hand is leaning on the arm of the throne. It's wearing a metal glove.

Draagon stands before the throne, next to him is Kaileen. The sultry voluptuous Siren who appears beautiful. Horik, a Straith with scaly green skin and yellow eyes is standing next to her and next to Horik stands the mighty golden commander dressed entirely in gold armour, Nefret.

ERENIUS (O.S.)

The time has come, my children. For us to march upon the Lightseekers and claim this world as our own.

Erenius stands. He's tall, mighty looking. Wearing his battle armour but without his mask. His hair is jet black and his eyes crimson red, bluish pale skin with a scar on the left side of his cheek with an inverted C going through a line.

ERENIUS

Nefret, I task you with claiming Grathan as our own. It is vital we hold the city that homes your brother.

NEFRET

I shall perform, master.

ERENIUS

Horik, the town of Halna rests with you. Elo is growing restless so this is the time for you to strike.

HORIK

(Cowardly)

Yes - Yes my lord - I shall my lord.

ERENIUS

As for you, Draagon. Garna City is the birthplace of Noah. The wise man who once fought with our enemy. You have a history with him, see to it that it does not repeat itself.

DRAAGON

It is already done, my lord.

KAILEEN

And what for me, my lord?

ERENIUS

You shall remain here with me, there is much we must discuss, Kaileen. The rest of you, go on with your tasks, I am expecting all of you to perform.

The three nod. They leave. Kaileen sits on Erenius' lap as he sits on the throne. She runs her hand up his chest.

KAILEEN

What will you have me do, my lord?

Erenius smiles.

CUT TO:

INT. INFIRMARY -- THE NEXT DAY

Orion wakes up. He grasps his face, it's healed. Overnight like magic, he can't feel the pain anymore.

He sits up, puts on his boots and walks outside into-

EXT. GARNA STREET -- CONTINUOUS

Orion walks the streets. It's snowing, in August.

Orion isn't wearing much other than a shirt and trousers along with the boots. But he doesn't feel the cold. He continues walking until- BLOOD. Splattered on the ground in the snow.

Orion kneels down and checks the blood. He rubs his index finger and middle finger to his thumb. He can feel that it is in fact, warm blood.

He stands up and walks up the steps.

OFF SCREEN: Swords clashing...

Orion runs up the steps quickly, grabbing a 2x4 in the process and as he reaches the top of the stairs he sees- ERENIUS! Battle mask and armour, stabbing Darius through the chest with the blade of darkness.

Darius' limp body falls next to- Maralda, Ikres, Tebek, Noah, Balo and another man Orion doesn't know. A young man, who looks in his late teens with brown hair.

All of them, dead. Erenius wipes the blood from his sword with a piece of the Farckona palace tapestry and turns to Orion.

ERENIUS

The defiant heir stands before me on
the graves of those he cares about most.
You should not have come, Prince.

ORION

(Shocked)

You killed them all. Everyone.

ERENIUS

Of course I did, I'm the villain.
Remember?

ORION

Not for much longer!

Orion lunges forward.

The 2x4 turns into the sword of light. Jewels encrusted into the golden handle. The blade, silver and flashing orange sending beams and pulses of light from it.

Orion and Erenius connect swords. Erenius' sword SLASHES through the sword of light and the sword falls to the ground. Destroyed.

Orion turns to Erenius who kicks him in the stomach. Orion falls to the ground as Erenius lifts his sword and-

ERENIUS

The line of kings ends here.

Erenius thrusts the sword down-

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. INFIRMARY -- PRESENT

Orion jolts upwards, screaming as- Maralda and Darius tend to him. They try to keep him from hurting himself even further. He's still wounded and the scars are healing.

DARIUS

Orion, Orion calm down. Calm down!

MARALDA

Orion it's okay! You're safe!

Orion is panting, he wipes the sweat away from his face and looks upon Darius. He gulps.

ORION

(Surprised)

It was a dream, just a dream.

DARIUS

It's okay, you're okay.

MARALDA

What the heck was that, Orion?

Orion looks around the room. Ikres is snoring on a chair in the corner with a half-empty bottle of rum on the table next to him. Noah enters the room.

NOAH

Is everything all right, Prince?

ORION

Erenius, I think he knows.

DARIUS

Knows what?

ORION

About me. I saw him, he knew who I was.

DARIUS

It was a dream, Orion. That's all.

ORION

It felt real. What if he knows?

DARIUS

Then we had better move.

NOAH

Right you are.

Noah picks up the crank. He hands it to Orion who looks into the crystal as- SCENE APPEARS. He sees the waterfall, near a forest where palm trees line a soft beach, the water is shimmering brightly.

Noah sees it too.

NOAH (cont'd)

The Lake of Souls.

DARIUS

Is that it, Orion? Where we must go?

Orion looks on as the scene disappears.

ORION

Koran said west of here.

NOAH

Then it is your destination.

(Walks to door)

Did you say, Koran?

ORION

Yes.

NOAH

Strange, he's been dead for over two
hundred years.

Noah leaves. Orion looks at Darius who pats him on the cheek.
Maralda sits down and sighs, relieved.

Ikres twitches.

IKRES

(Mumbling)

Nay, I don't want to ride the pony.

Orion, Maralda and Darius laugh.

ORION

(Enthused)

Must be a good dream.

Darius and Maralda continue laughing, looking at Ikres as
Orion grasps at his forehead.

FADE TO:

EXT. BARN -- MIDDAY

A man, wearing a hat and farming clothes is sweeping up hay
from the stables. Four horses sit on the left in pens and
four Pegasus' stand in their pens on the right. Wings
outstretched, looking over the banister.

A Pegasus nips the hat off the man with its mouth.

The man turns to the Pegasus and reaches for the hat. The Pegasus leans forward with it and then TUGS BACK as the man reaches for it. The man falls to the ground and the horses and Pegasus' start neighing, it sounds as if they're laughing.

Noah comes around the corner and sees the man on the ground. He looks at the Pegasus and waves his index finger, the Pegasus drops the hat and steps back in its pen.

The man picks up his hat, dusts it off and puts it back on his head.

STABLEMAN

Thank ye, Noah. The wee rascal has
been a real menace this week.

Orion, Darius, Maralda and Ikres walk around the corner. Ikres is holding a cloth over his head, its got ice in it. He's got a hangover.

DARIUS

(To Ikres)

Now have you learnt not to drink too
much rum in one go?

IKRES

Aye.

Ikres takes a seat on the stool near the horses. One of the horses sniffs his head and soon pulls back into the pen.

NOAH

Orion, I'd like you to meet our
resident stableman. You won't find
anyone better in the land at keeping
animals in check.

ORION

A pleasure to meet you, Stableman.

SEKO

Aye, call me Seko.

Seko and Orion shake hands. Noah looks at Seko.

NOAH

In nine years you have not revealed your name to me, and this boy comes along and within one you tell him.

SEKO

Ye never asked.

NOAH

I shouldn't have to.

Orion is smiling.

NOAH (cont'd)

Now, ignoring your rudeness. Do you have them ready?

SEKO

Aye, they're over there.

Orion looks past Seko onto the field where four gryphons are walking around. Magical beasts, breathtaking to look at standing there, tall and proud of what they are.

KALO, has black fur around his neck and a scar across its back from a battle with a hunter in the woods. He's the oldest of the bunch.

FIRENZE, is taller and broader than the others. With a light brown coat around his neck and long feathers on his wings.

SEI, is a female gryphon. Soft brown fur, green eyes and light brown wings which stretch far.

MIRU, is the broadest and meanest of the bunch. Blackened blue eyes with dark brown fur and a shorter beak than the others.

DARIUS

Gryphons? That's your way of getting us to the lake?

NOAH

They're perfectly safe.

Seko whistles. The gryphons walk over. All but Miru who stays put.

Kalo, Firenze and Sei walk into the horse and Pegasus mist, they all retreat in respect of the gryphons who they see as rulers of the sky.

ORION

(Looks at Kalo)

What happened to that one?

Orion reaches to Kalo who snaps at him. Orion pulls his hand back just in time.

NOAH

Kalo was a stray found in the forest with a severe wound above his right leg. A hunter by the name of Pilus Maxi struck him down. I found him just outside the water hole, wincing in pain. I did what I could but his right wing has not been the same since.

ORION

And Pilus?

NOAH

Came into town a few weeks ago. Kalo saw him and - well - exacted revenge by breaking his arm. Pilus insisted on destroying Kalo for the incident, instead I kicked him from the city and sent him on his way.

Kalo stands tall and proud.

NOAH (cont'd)

He shall be ridden by, Ikres.

Ikres looks up.

IKRES

I've got a wee headache and ye expect
me te ride a bloody gryphon?

Kalo squawks.

IKRES (cont'd)

I meant no offense, Kalo.

Kalo relaxes.

DARIUS

If you wish to go back, you're more
than welcome to.

IKRES

I'm not abandoning ye, brother. I'll
ride it, but it better not do any
dodgy tricks. Ye know how I hate heights.

NOAH

(To Orion)

He's a bucket of sunshine isn't he?

Orion smiles.

Noah shows Firenze to Darius and Orion.

NOAH (cont'd)

Firenze here shall be your transport.
He's the fastest of them, without a
shadow of a doubt.

DARIUS

Both of us, to ride him?

NOAH

He's exceedingly strong, he once carried
Elo across the ocean to seek council with
the king. And that's saying something.

Darius and Orion approach Firenze who is calm. He allows them
to stroke him, calming him even further.

Maralda sees Sei, who bows to her. Maralda smiles.

NOAH (cont'd)

And this is Sei, she will carry you
to the lake.

Maralda strokes Sei, who seemingly purrs like a cat. She is,
part lion of course.

MARALDA

She's beautiful.

Kalo squawks.

NOAH

He gets jealous sometimes.

MARALDA

(To Kalo)

And you're beautiful too.

Kalo stumps his foot on the ground and bows.

Maralda smiles.

NOAH

This is your quickest way to the
lake.

Orion realises the vision the Passelo showed him is
beginning.

DARIUS

Mighty fine beasts, what do you think,
Orion?

ORION

I agree with you. They're perfect.

DARIUS

Indeed they are, thank you, Noah.
Your hospitality has been much obliged.

NOAH

May your journey bring us hope. May
you find what it is that you seek.
Farewell, Prince.

Noah walks around the corner.

Kalo nips the hat from Seko's head. Selo grabs for it and
Kalo lifts it higher, Seko falls to the ground. The Gryphons
squawk laugh and the horses and Pegasus' neigh laugh.

Orion and Darius laugh, Maralda is smiling and Ikres is still
holding the bag over his forehead.

Noah walks back around the corner.

NOAH (cont'd)

Oh and the next time you wish to pay
the city a visit, simply knock on the
gate. Yes?

Noah sees Seko on the ground. He looks at Kalo who looks back
at him with a sweet look on his face, Noah sighs and walks
away.

Seko grabs the hat from Kalo's beak. Kalo squawks as Seko
dusts the hat off and walks away, ashamed and embarrassed.

SEKO

Darn animals.

He disappears around the corner. Kalo looks at Orion who is
still smiling, and winks at him.

EXT. STREET -- MOMENTS LATER

Darius and Orion are sitting upon Firenze at the front of the
three. Maralda is next, sitting on Sei. Ikres, who still has
a monster of a headache unconsciously grapples the reins
around Kalo's neck.

Kalo squawks as Ikres yanks too hard.

IKRES

(To Darius)

I have a feeling this one don't like me very much.

DARIUS

Then just hold the reins, don't yank on them.

Ikres loosens his grip. Kalo squawks as if to say "thanks".

ORION

I take it he's never ridden a gryphon before?

DARIUS

No, he hasn't.

ORION

(Worried)

Have you?

Darius bobs his head side to side.

DARIUS

I fell off one a few years ago.

ORION

(Sarcastic)

That makes me feel much safer.

DARIUS

Just hold onto something.

ORION

Like what? You have the reins.

Orion pats Firenze on the back by mistake.

Firenze jolts forward.

DARIUS

I really wish you hadn't done that!

Darius and Orion SCREAM LOUD as Firenze takes off high into the sky. Maralda gently snaps the reins, Sei SHOTS FORWARD like an arrow from a bow and LEAPS into the sky.

Ikres snaps the reins on Kalo who rears and squawks. Kalo JOLTS FORWARD, Ikres is barely holding on as the gryphon takes flight into the sky. Ikres is dangling by Kalo's side as the gryphon hits the air.

Ikres clammers back onto Kalo and breathes a sigh of relief.

IKRES

Did anyone ever tell ye ye're very
rude ye big fluffy beast?

Kalo squawks, angrily as he BARRELS countless times and soars past Maralda and Sei, Darius and Orion duck as- KALO SPINS OVER THEM WITH IKRES YELLING.

DARIUS

That a boy, Ikres. Show that beast!

Kalo SWOOPS DOWNWARDS at menacing pace towards the water and SWIFTLY RETURNS TO NORMAL FLIGHT as Ikres is drenched in sea water.

Darius and Orion fly by on Firenze. Smiling as Ikres spurts out water like a fountain. He looks over at them and gives a thumbs up as- KALO BANKS RIGHT TO AVOID THE TREES.

INT. GARNA CITY TOWER -- CONTINUOUS

Noah is watching the gryphons soar over the ocean. He turns around and standing behind him is a man, dressed entirely in white. A white beard, white hair, a white robe and a white staff with a blue sapphire inside a carved flame at the top of the staff.

NOAH

The boy has much more strength than
we originally thought, he might be
difficult, my lord.

The man steps out of the shadows. This is WESIRT. He appears in his 60's but is over 500 years old. He's an elder, one of the last Elementals. He must see the final days of the war before he can move on.

WESIRT

Be patient my friend, the Prince will control that which lies within him.

NOAH

I am not so sure.

(Beat, paces)

In the short time he was here I was able to see into his mind. The boy knows, deep down inside, that he can't succeed. We are merely setting up to fail, you know this to be true.

WESIRT

His days are still early. He has much to learn and we will not know more until he has gained that which lies in the heart of Cambrio. I trust the boy, Noah. So should you.

NOAH

Perhaps you are right.

Wesirt hears something. He turns around.

NOAH (cont'd)

Sir?

WESIRT

Something vast is stirring in the forest. I can feel the footsteps of a thousand strong army heading here as we speak.

NOAH

Erenius?

WESIRT

No. Draagon.

WESIRT (cont'd)

Ready your troops, any who can wield a blade within these walls must join you. The city must not fall.

NOAH

How many are coming?

WESIRT

A thousand, perhaps more.

NOAH

And when will they arrive?

WESIRT

Two hours at the most.

Wesirt looks at Noah. He slams his staff three times on the ground and VANISHES under a PLUME OF WHITE MIST.

Noah turns to the cage on the table. Hable is still inside, squeaking. Noah opens the cage door, Hable crawls into Noah's hand and Noah puts him on the floor.

Noah raises his hand and flickers it. Hable crawls over to the closet, the door closes and Noah flails his hand again as a sound EMERGES FROM THE CLOSET.

A few moments pass. Hable staggers out of the closet with only his trousers on.

NOAH

Unless you wish to return to rat form I suggest you ready the troops for an assault. Understood?

HABLE

Yes sir - Of course sir - I'll do it sir. You have my word sir.

NOAH

Then perform the task, and put a shirt on man, for Alderin's sake.

Hable grabs his shirt and throws it on. He staggers out of the door ACCIDENTALLY KICKING THE FRAME on the way out.

OFF SCREEN: Pots and pans crash, Body THUDS!

Noah shakes his head and sighs.

NOAH (cont'd)
(Referring to Hable)
Completely useless.

CUT TO:

EXT. OVER THE FOREST -- AFTERNOON

Darius and Orion fly downwards on Firenze as Maralda shoots past them on Sei. Ikres is bumping up and down on Kalo who doesn't seem to like the weight on his back.

Kalo swarms down towards a dock and shoots over the forest. Sei and Firenze do the same.

EXT. FOREST OPEN -- CONTINUOUS

Kalo lands and skids to a halt, Ikres goes flying off Kalo's back and into a pile of leaves. Kalo squawks as Firenze and Sei land behind him.

Darius and Orion climb off, Maralda climbs off and pats Sei gently on the beak. She smiles as she joins Darius and Orion.

Sei, Kalo and Firenze gather together.

Ikres emerges from the leaves, he's dirty again.

Ikres angrily paces towards Kalo, Kalo squawks, rears and knocks Ikres to the ground.

DARIUS
(To Ikres)
Probably not the best idea, Ikres.

Ikres wipes himself down and sighs.

IKRES

(To Kalo)

Ye better watch yerself ye ugly brute.

Kalo squawks. Ikres joins the others.

MARALDA

What's got you in such a foul mood?

IKRES

That bloody animal, it did that on purpose.

Darius smiles. He gives Kalo a secret thumbs up, Ikres checks his weapons. His knife, sword and pack are all intact.

ORION

So, where do we go?

DARIUS

Due west of here, the waterfall is just beyond the cave. Shouldn't take us that long to reach it. If we leave now we should be there by nightfall.

(Beat, looks around)

It's probably a good idea to make camp in the cave for the night, let's go.

Maralda looks at Sei who bows once again before Firenze takes off, Sei joins him in the sky. Kalo bolts forward and leaps into the air joining his fellow gryphons in flight. They turn south and start heading across the ocean.

MARALDA

Why are they going south?

DARIUS

They're heading for Rivenoak.

MARALDA

Why not back to Garna?

Darius starts walking.

DARIUS

They know a battle is heading to Garna.
So they're going somewhere safe.

Darius enters the forest. Maralda understands, she follows.
Orion and Ikres join them.

EXT. FOREST -- CONTINUOUS

Darius steps over a tree which has fallen. The others do the
same thing.

ORION

So, anything we should be wary of here?

DARIUS

Apart from a few Pixies, there's not
much in terms of threat here. Me and
your father once travelled through
here when we were your age.
The worst thing to look out for are
the Loris creatures. They look sweet
enough but they're quite vicious.

ORION

You and my father came here, why?

DARIUS

We were heading for Bahra, a village
up the river. Problem was, when we
got there the place was burnt to the
ground and everyone was gone.

ORION

Do you know what happened?

DARIUS

Some say the Yuhra attacked the place
but we didn't find anything that could
prove that suggestion.

Orion steps over a tree stump and follows his uncle.

OFF SCREEN: Buzzing, fluttering...

Darius stops as- BLUDREEN SHOOT PAST, dozens of them heading towards the eastern side of the forest. Glowing red.

MARALDA

What was that?

DARIUS

Bludreen, they're harmless.

Darius carefully walks down a hillside. Orion and Maralda do the same. Ikres loses his footing and quickly staggers past them and slides down the hill, smacking his head on a tree branch and falling onto his back.

IKRES

Ugh, that hurt.

Darius helps him up.

MARALDA

(To Ikres)

Has anyone ever told you how accident prone you are?

IKRES

On many occasions.

Maralda smiles.

Darius and Orion are smiling too. They come to-

EXT. FOREST BRIDGE -- CONTINUOUS

The bridge is wooden planked, stretching at least fifty foot over a long drop into a large streaming river rapids. Sharp rocks stick out of the water below. And a huge waterfall makes for a tranquil backdrop.

Darius steps on the plank, the plank snaps and splinters as it falls down.

DARIUS

This bridge won't hold more than one at a time. I'll go first, Maralda you next. Watch your footing, got it?

Darius starts crossing the bridge. Holding onto the ropes which act as hand rails. He slowly walks over, reaches the middle and another plank snaps. He regains his footing and makes his way across it to the other side.

Maralda follows on. She uses the ropes as rails as she passes over the bridge. She steps over the middle and a plank snaps again, making a larger hole. She grips the rope tightly and keeps herself balanced as she makes it to Darius who pulls her to safety.

Orion nods at Ikres who goes onward. Ikres snaps another plank in the middle of the bridge, and as he jumps over the gap he snaps another one and FALLS THROUGH IT-

Orion runs onto the bridge.

IKRES

(Looks down)

Why do I always look down?

ORION

Hold on, Ikres!

Orion makes his way to the middle of the bridge, leaps over the gap and kneels down, he leans his hand down and Ikres grabs it. Ikres' hand slips.

ORION (cont'd)

Why are your hands so sweaty?

The post on the side they walked from begins splintering.

Orion grabs Ikres' hand and pulls him onto the bridge as- POLE SHATTERS AND THE BRIDGE COLLAPSES LEFT SIDE. Leaving the bridge dangling Orion and Ikres over the long drop into the water rapids below.

DARIUS

Orion!

Orion and Ikres shimmy across the vertical bridge. the planks continue to snap off as- OTHER POST BREAKS- Bridge falls into the cliff-face and Orion falls, Ikres grabs him by the forearm.

Ikres swings Orion back onto the bridge and the two begin ascending it like a ladder.

Ikres reaches the top first, Darius helps him up as Orion follows a few feet behind.

The planks start snapping off and the nails holding them begin to pull off. Orion is moving fast, he reaches a quarter of the way to the top as- PLANK SNAPS- Orion manages to grab the higher one and looks down- It's a long drop.

Darius and Ikres reach down by laying on the ground. Orion is near their hands when- PLANK SNAPS- Orion falls but Darius manages to grab Orion barely by the fingers. Darius uses all of his strength to pull Orion up. Ikres grabs Orion's other hand and the two lift Orion to safety.

All three of them lie on the ground above as- BRIDGE FALLS INTO THE RAPIDS BELOW- Orion is panting, Darius and Ikres are breathing heavily.

IKRES

(Out of breath)

That - was a - close one.

ORION

(Panting)

Uh-huh.

Maralda shakes her head.

MARALDA

We're not going back that way.

Darius stands up and looks down.

DARIUS

No. I guess we're not.

Ikres makes an "Ugh" sound as he rolls to his front and stands up. Orion stands up and breathes a sigh of relief.

EXT. THE OLD OAKS -- MOMENTS LATER

Sun is beginning to set over the sea to the north of the forest. WHACK! Ikres chops through vines as he makes a passage for the others. They approach an old encampment.

Darius walks into the camp-

It's ancient, overgrown bushes and vines over the old wooden shacks. The camp fire soiled with leaves. The place has been abandoned a long time.

ORION

Is this Bahra?

DARIUS

No.

Darius pulls a few vines out of the way- A vine retracts, by itself, as if it's alive. Darius doesn't see it.

He reveals- SIGN POST: Old Oak Village

DARIUS (cont'd)

This was the home of the Kelandra.

Orion looks at Maralda, confused.

MARALDA

The forest people.

ORION

What happened to them?

DARIUS

No one knows, they just disappeared.

ORION

Without a trail?

DARIUS

They're forest people, Orion. They're excellent trackers and very good at hiding their tracks.

IKRES

Aye. The forest people were intelligent. They could use nature to their advantage in battle, quite a formidable foe.

ORION

What do you mean, use nature?

DARIUS

You've heard of the Elementals, right? Well, the Kelandra could use nature the same way the Elementals could use the four elements.

OFF SCREEN: Thumping sound...

Orion looks around. Darius doesn't notice the vine slithering like a snake towards his left ankle. It starts to curl upwards around his leg.

MARALDA

That didn't sound good.

DARIUS

Ikres?

Ikres is holding his hand up as if to say "don't move". Darius looks down and sees the vine wrapping around his ankle.

Maralda and Orion gasp, they pull out their weapons. Maralda loads her bow, Orion pulls out his sword and Ikres pulls out his sword and holds it in both hands.

Darius makes sure not to move too much.

ORION

(Worried)

Darius?

DARIUS

Don't move. Stay exactly where you are.

Orion looks at Maralda who looks at Ikres who is thinking of a way to get out of the trap.

ORION

(Whisper)

What is it, Ikres?

IKRES

Not what, who.

ORION

Who?

IKRES

Kelandra.

Orion realises. The Kelandra changed in order to evolve, changed into the forest around them, a more deadly foe than ever before.

The vine wraps itself around Darius' leg and yanks him through the bush.

OFF SCREEN: Slashing...

Darius swiftly emerges from the bush and joins the others in the centre.

The branches, leaves, vines, bushes and the roots underneath them begin to move and shudder. The ground is unsteady. Darius pulls out his sword. He grabs Ikres' knife and hands it to Maralda who puts her bow and arrow away.

DARIUS

Keep slashing, don't stop for a moment.

ORION

Why are they attacking?!

No one answers as- VINE LUNGES AT DARIUS who SLASHES it and the vine erodes and dies before their eyes.

More vines come in. Everyone starts slashing and dicing through the leaves as- POD APPEARS- A huge pod, rising from the ground beneath their feet.

It splits open revealing- WOMAN- Covered in vines and wood, her eyes bright green and her hair, green vines.

KELANDRA

You are not welcome here.

DARIUS

We mean no harm, Kelandra.

Kelandra pushes a few vines out and grabs Orion, she yanks him towards her. He drops the sword and her vines wrap around his body, hoisting him into the air. Darius and Ikres stand fast, Maralda loads her bow with an arrow from her quiver once more and aims it at Kelandra.

Orion is helpless as vines gently wrap around his neck. He's within an inch or two from Kelandra.

KELANDRA

There's something about you, something dark, something deadly. You are a soul conflicted, what is your name, boy?

ORION

Orion.

KELANDRA

The heir of Farckona.

Kelandra squeezes her vines around Orion's arms tighter and tighter.

Maralda aims her arrow directly at Kelandra's head.

MARALDA

Let him go!

Kelandra snaps her attention to Maralda, she shoots vines at her, Maralda rolls out of the way and fires but the arrow is grabbed MID AIR by a VINE.

Maralda is grabbed by vines and hoisted into the air. Maralda screams for help, but Darius and Ikres do nothing as they're soon set upon by vines which keep them from moving, restraining them.

KELANDRA

You people know not of the damage you cause to my beautiful children by standing on the grounds of our ancestors. We never harmed anyone, but you harm us by slicing and dicing your way through our forest as if we do not matter. No more.

Kelandra begins squeezing ever so tightly as the life begins to drain out of the four companions. She smiles darkly but her joy is soon doused as- ARROWS SHOOT FROM THE TREES- Hitting her pod and one strikes her in the heart.

She snaps her attention to- CENTAUR- Stepping out of the forest with a bow in his hand. Two more, female centaurs, come walking out from behind him. Another wields a huge sword and one other, who doesn't appear as the rest, brooding and bulky with a long stretch of black hair running down his head to his back.

LUCERO

Let them go, Kelandra.

KELANDRA

Lucero, you dare step on my land?

LUCERO

(Thunderous)

Let them go!

Paruun and Maira, the female centaurs, aim at Kelandra. Farin, Lucero's brother, aims at Kelandra and the other one, is a Scira Centaur called Caruta.

PARUUN

Give me one good reason, Kelandra.

Paruun is serious, Kelandra senses danger and releases the four. She retreats back into the ground and the vines retract.

Darius and Ikres cough, Orion is lying on the ground breathing heavily and Maralda is clutching her neck and ribs.

Lucero walks over to Orion.

LUCERO - Bold and mighty, with dark black hair and brown eyes. Adult.

FARIN - Younger than Lucero, with a sword by his sword with light brown hair and brown eyes. Adult.

PARUUN - Female, with a bodice covering her breasts made from some sort of cloth. Blue eyes, long raven-like hair which is smooth and silky. Adult.

MAIRA - Sandy coloured hair, with a similar bodice to Paruun yet there's more of it to cover both breasts and belly. Blue eyes and a light facial complexion. Teenager.

CARUTA - Dark and dangerous looking with a monstrous curved sword dangling by his left side, and the upper left bicep on his left arm is covered in metal plating. Black eyes, sharp teeth and a ring through his bottom lip, a long streak of black hair running from his head down his back. Adult.

Lucero lends a hand to Orion.

LUCERO

Up you get, Prince.

Orion grabs Lucero's hand, and stands up. The other centaurs, apart from Caruta, help the others up.

DARIUS

I appreciate the assistance, Centaur.

LUCERO

You are more than welcome, Darius.
And call me Lucero.

Maralda is helped up by Maira.

Lucero walks to the middle, Ikres, Darius, Orion and Maralda look on as Lucero stands before them in front of his family.

DARIUS

I must say, I did not expect to find
the help of a centaur here.

LUCERO

It might appear as if we have abandoned
the light seekers but we have not.

IKRES

Then were have ye been?

LUCERO

Most of our camps have been attacked by
Minotaur's. Many of our brothers and
sisters have either been caught or slain
by Erenius' followers.

(Looks at Caruta)

Even our Scira brethren have been
attacked.

DARIUS

He's one of the Scira?

LUCERO

Yes, unfortunately he was the only one
who escaped Werth.

DARIUS

(To Caruta)

How did you escape?

LUCERO

He doesn't speak Midranian, his tongue
is heard in the Scira language. One
that is difficult to translate. Even
more so to understand.

Orion steps in. Caruta sneers, lips rising to reveal the
teeth beneath. He stands his ground, hoof hits the earth
beneath with some force as Orion stands in front of him.

DARIUS

Orion, it's not-

ORION

(To Caruta)

Coruth demal helesada heri?

Caruta grunts.

Darius and the others look on.

CARUTA

Core helmak niran lo.

ORION

(Translating)

My family were taken by the horned
beasts.

CARUTA

Herasenaya jura kilaru hemu odan.

ORION

(Translating)

They came with axes and butchered our
people, those that attempted to flee
were destroyed, many were captured under
White Flag.

DARIUS

Impossible.

Lucero understands what White Flag translates to.

LUCERO

The Dirva, the first Minotaur.

CARUTA

Edenrune wolak evamo sen.

ORION

(Translating)

Everyone, those that I cared for. Lost.
I have no home now.

CARUTA

Milian herasun wolak udara.

ORION

(Translating)

But they will live in me, until my quest
is complete. Until my sword, strikes the
White Flag down.

Orion nods to Caruta who nods back.

MARALDA

(Intrigued, Impressed)

I never knew you spoke Scira.

ORION

I've learnt a lot lately.

LUCERO

Be wary of what you let into your
head, Prince.

Farin steps in.

LUCERO (cont'd)

This is my brother, Farin. Over there
on the left is Paruun, and next to her
stands the youngest of our pack, Maira.

FARIN

Forgive my impatience brother, but we
must get to Rivenoak.

LUCERO

You know our cause, first we help them.

FARIN

We are not here to guide them, I am sure they can wander these woods alone without our help.

LUCERO

The wanderer decrees that we aid the Prince any way we can. You know that.

Farin looks at Orion, darkly, he frowns and walks off in a huff.

ORION

Did I upset him?

LUCERO

Forgive my brother, he never has been much of a friend to humans.

DARIUS

What are you in the forest for?

LUCERO

We were heading for Rivenoak from the town of Cherro. Luckily for you we were here, otherwise you might very well be Kelandra roots by now.

DARIUS

Well we the appreciate it.

LUCERO

Where is it that you're heading?

ORION

To the waterfall, the second key is there.

LUCERO

Then allow us to aid you.

ORION

No. Head for Rivenoak, Farin is right. We can do this without help.

LUCERO

Are you certain?

ORION

Yes. Thank you, Lucero.

LUCERO

I will always be a friend to you, Prince. As I was with your father.

(Beat, looks around)

May your journey be that of success.

ORION

And yours.

Lucero and Orion shake hands. Caruta nods to Orion as-
CENTAURS SPEED OFF THROUGH THE FOREST.

Ikres approaches Orion, he claps him on the shoulder and leans on him for a moment.

IKRES

Ye know lad, four legs are faster than two. We could have used their help.

ORION

True, but it's just up the way and they have other things to tend to. Let's go.

Orion starts walking, Maralda joins him. Ikres and Darius walk together.

IKRES

He's quite bossy isn't he?

Darius laughs.

The Assassin, is standing in the trees.

The Assassin watches as they pass him, not noticing him. He vanishes under a cloud of fog.

FADE TO:

EXT. GARNA CITY -- LATE AFTERNOON

Twelve pairs of hooves march towards Garna City. The gates open, they step through as-

EXT. HILL -- CONTINUOUS

Noah steps onto the hill revealing- Minotaur's and undead, wielding axes, swords, maces and bows.

NOAH

Tusk, what is it you want?

TUSK is head of the Minotaur's. He's got a scar on his left cheek from the escape from Farckona, and his right horn is cut halfway down.

TUSK

We sense our brothers closing in on the city, we're here to help you.

Soldiers walk towards them. Dressed in battle armour wielding spears.

CARMAC (37) balding black hair with an isle in the middle of his head. Wearing dark blue armour and wearing three claw scars above his right eye.

CARMAC

With all do respect, we do not fight with monsters, we execute them.

TUSK

Know your place, lieutenant.

CARMAC

My place is right here, Minotaur. Now leave the city or we shall force you.

NOAH

(Angry)

Enough Carmac!

(Beat, looks at Tusk)

We need all the help we can get.

TUSK

We have a dozen well-armed warriors ready to follow your command. Undead number in the twenties and will act as archers, they're handy with a bow and arrow.

NOAH

Where do they stand?

TUSK

In the trees, they will try to stop the forces before they get here.

CARMAC

An ambush won't work. Draagon will see them from a mile away.

TUSK

He won't, Undead are silent. Like Assassins, they use the shadows to their advantage. They're masters at what they do.

NOAH

Let's hope so, because if the army passes the windmill, our hope might be lost.

WESIRT (O.S.)

Do not be so quick to believe, Noah.

Wesirt appears, standing behind the 12 Minotaur's with two dozen elves standing behind him. All of them, with lengthy pointed ears and pale skin. Glistening armour and swords dangling in sheathes by their sides.

VARLDEN (30) is the head of the elves. Dark brown hair, light blue glowing eyes and wearing silver plated armour.

VARLDEN

When Wesirt contacted us we were hesitant to lend a hand, but when he revealed it was Garna in danger we took action. Two dozen of our best shall help you defend your city.

(Looks at Tusk)

Even if we must fight beside these beasts.

CARMAC

Elves, Minotaur's, Undead. What next?

Miru stands next to Noah. The last of the four gryphons.

CARMAC (cont'd)

Of course, a bloody gryphon.

Miru squawks at Carmac. Tusk smiles.

NOAH

It's probably best not to insult him, Carmac.

TUSK

Then we shall fight this threat as one. An alliance of men, elves, Minotaur's and undead.

(Looks at Wesirt)

And one Elemental.

VARLDEN

The Minotaur is quite wise.

WESIRT

Indeed he is.

FADE TO:

EXT. THE WATERFALL -- LATE AFTERNOON

Orion and Maralda emerge from the lush forest and stand on a sandy beach next to a lake which glistens like diamonds under the burning sun above.

Darius and Ikres clamber out a few moments later. Orion is looking over the lake, he can see an opening behind the waterfall.

Orion kneels down and kicks the sand into the water, the sand melts straight away with a loud sizzling sound.

DARIUS

Be wary of the water.

ORION

It's just water.

DARIUS

Not everything is as it seems.

Darius takes a small piece of branch from the tree, he walks over to the water and throws it in. The branch sizzles and melts into nothing as a fiery burst erupts from the water.

MARALDA

What kind of water is that?

DARIUS

It's not water, Maralda. It's emulsion.
If even a drop touches your skin,
you better not keep it to yourself.

ORION

I've seen this before.

DARIUS

Where?

ORION

The cave in Garna. When the Wraith
attacked me I grabbed it and threw it
into a small fountain, it burnt away.

MARALDA

If the water's emulsion, what about the waterfall?

IKRES

It's just water, lass.

(Points)

You see the silver embedded in the rocks?
That's what changes it.

ORION

Then how do we get to the opening?

IKRES

Aye, I'll agree. Those gryphons would
have come in handy right about now.

DARIUS

There's always a way.

Orion twitches, he grasps at his head as- ASSASSIN APPEARS,
Orion grabs the tip of his sword as- ASSASSIN throws sand
over the emulsion. It creates an invisible bridge.

ASSASSIN DISAPPEARS. Orion shakes the cobwebs out of his
head.

MARALDA

(To Orion)

What was that?

ORION

I don't know.

Orion kneels down and pulls up a handful of sand. Darius and
Ikres watch on eager to see what Orion is about to do.

Orion stands near the edge of the beach and THROWS THE SAND
over the emulsion. It lands on a narrow bridge which can't be
more than two feet wide. He smiles. The others are surprised.

DARIUS

Nice job, lad.

Darius, Ikres and Maralda take handfuls of sand. Orion grabs a handful and follows them over the bridge.

Darius is ahead, he throws his sand far ahead creating the bridge which is more visible. Ikres throws his sand, he creates more of a bridge and Maralda does the same.

Darius passes under the waterfall, Ikres shortly after and Maralda next. Orion throws the last of the sand onto the invisible, but becoming visible bridge and passes under the waterfall.

EXT. ENTRANCE GATE -- CONTINUOUS

Darius, Ikres and Maralda are staring at a large oval shaped gateway with dozens of cranks, gears and mechanisms in it. Orion pulls the crank out and places it inside, it sticks.

ORION

Cora helada nai.

The crank lights up golden, sending veins of light into the other cranks and gears. The gate begins to make sounds, crunching gears together, screeching as- GATEWAY OPENS.

Orion steps through first, the others follow.

INT. TOMB OPENING -- CONTINUOUS

No traps, no monsters. Just a key sitting on a pedestal in the middle of a cave loaded with treasures and trinkets.

Ikres picks up a golden goblet and puts it into his pocket, Darius holds a few dozen golden necklaces in his hand. Maralda holds a tiara in her hand and smiles as if she wished it was hers.

Orion takes the golden key from the pedestal but as he does-

FLASH:

Village of Bahra, Stone door, Orion opening the door, PILLAR OF CAMBRIO, in the old house on the hill...

FLASH ENDS.

BACK TO PRESENT.

Orion jolts backwards. He shakes the webs from his head yet again and holds the key in his hand.

ORION

I know where we must go.

DARIUS

Where?

ORION

Bahra.

Darius is confused.

Orion walks out of the tomb. Maralda follows, Ikres and Darius walk after them-

EXT. THE WATERFALL -- CONTINUOUS

Ikres, Maralda and Darius are sitting on logs near the beach. Orion is holding the key in his hand.

DARIUS

It doesn't make any sense, why Bahra?
Me and your father travelled there.
We didn't find a stone door. It's just
a village, an abandoned village at that.

ORION

If you were Koran and you knew one
day that someone would go looking
for Cambrio, would you put the gate
in a place people can see it or somewhere
no one expects?

IKRES

He makes a good point, Darius.

Orion gives Darius the key.

ORION

Look at the symbol emblazed on the key.

Darius looks at the key, he sees a triangle with an eagle emblem engraved into the gold.

ORION (cont'd)

It's the symbol of Bahra.

MARALDA

It's not that far from here. Perhaps half a day's walk, maybe less.

DARIUS

(Sighs)

There's a reason it's in Bahra.

ORION

What do you mean?

DARIUS

(Wipes forehead)

Do you remember when I told you that your father and I went there?

ORION

Yes.

DARIUS

Well - I wasn't quite accurate in my description of what we found.

ORION

And what did you find?

DARIUS

Yuhra.

Maralda and Ikres groan, Orion has an "Unbelievable" look on his face.

DARIUS (cont'd)

We were lucky to get out of there.

ORION

Why didn't you tell me that before?

DARIUS

Because I thought we'd be heading north.
I had no idea we'd have to go to Bahra.

IKRES

(Sarcastic)

Well this will make things much easier.

MARALDA

Why are the Yuhra there?

DARIUS

We didn't know until now. The Yuhra
were compromised by Erenius, he knew
where the gate to Cambrio was all
along. He sent them there, to guard it.

ORION

We've come too far to go back now.

DARIUS

I know.

(Beat)

I wish I didn't know, but I do.
Yuhra are the foulest creatures to ever
walk the earth, fighting them is a fools
hope. We wouldn't stand a chance.

ORION

There has to be a way.

DARIUS

There is.

Darius stands up, he hands the key to Orion and puts his
hands over his face, running them down his face and sighing.

DARIUS (cont'd)

One of us has to be bait. To lure them
away from the village.

ORION

What do you mean, "Bait"?

DARIUS

(Serious)

One of us has to die.

ORION

No. No, it's not. No. There has to be another way, no one else is dying.

DARIUS

It's the only way and I'm sorry. Really, I am. But if getting you to that sword means my death then I will do whatever it takes. I swore to your father that I would protect you, and this is how.

MARALDA

Darius you can't.

DARIUS

It's the only chance he has.

Darius claps Orion gently on the shoulder. He smiles at his nephew.

DARIUS (cont'd)

Trust me.

ORION

I do trust you.

DARIUS

Then let's go.

Darius walks towards the tree line. Ikres follows on, looking sympathetically at Orion.

Maralda approaches him.

Orion pockets the key and sighs with a sad expression.

MARALDA

(Concerned)

Orion?

ORION

(Darkly)

He's right.

Orion turns, now knowing that someone else is going to have to die for him. Maralda sees his pain, she knows him too well to think he's okay with it.

EXT. FOREST -- CONTINUOUS

Ikres grabs Darius by the back and turns him around.

IKRES

(Heated)

Yere not serious about this?

DARIUS

It's the only way, Ikres.

IKRES

Ye know there's another way.

(Beat, angry)

That kid has lost everything, don't make him lose ye too.

Darius shrugs Ikres off and storms off. Ikres sighs as Orion and Maralda pass him.

EXT. RIVER STREAM -- MOMENTS LATER

The sun is descending. Night is coming. Darius leads the others up a river stream, the trees are beginning to fade away into dead ones. No leaves, completely void of any life.

Darius crosses a small footbridge and the others follow him closely.

EXT. GARNA CITY OUTSKIRTS -- NIGHT

Minotaur's and Undead march through the forest, Garna City is in the short distance.

A SHADOW SWEEPS ACROSS THE GROUND. Large wingspan, a bony shadow with what appears to be a man on it.

The Minotaur's stop as- WHOOSH! A dozen arrows shoot from the trees and strike down four undead and two Minotaur's.

The Undead in the trees look down, all of them, with glowing white eyes which illuminate the darkness. A Minotaur shields himself from another arrow which almost strikes him as-

ROAR! Something huge comes down and takes down the trees with a fiery breath which sets the trees and the Undead in them, on fire.

EXT. GARNA CITY -- CONTINUOUS

Tusk is standing on the wall next to Varlden, Noah and Wesirt. Carmac is waiting down below with hundreds of troops ready to march out of the city.

NOAH

(Sees beast)

In the name of Alderin, what is that?

TUSK

Draagon's brute, the Reiss.

VARLDEN

That thing won't be easy to take down.

(To Noah)

Have your gryphon ready to fly.

Dozens of Minotaur's and Undead emerge from the trees. Carrying axes, spears, knives, swords and bows loaded with arrows on fire.

The Reiss lands, it's a skeleton of a dragon. Menacing looking. Draagon steps off it and walks ahead of everything else, he stands alone in the middle of the road into Garna. The windmill is a few yards ahead of him.

Draagon is wearing his black armour, spiked shoulder pads and the black helmet that forms at the top like a crown.

WESIRT

Draagon.

DRAAGON

Noah of Garna City, show yourself.

A few moments pass- Noah walks out of the city, Miru walks beside him.

NOAH

I see you continue to follow his orders, Draagon. You should not have come here.

DRAAGON

Is that a tinge of hope I sense in your words, Noah?

NOAH

Call it what you wish.

DRAAGON

(Looks around)

Tell me, where is the Elemental?

NOAH

He's here.

DRAAGON

If he has any honour left, he shall remain out of this.

Noah and Draagon walk towards one another with their swords drawn.

NOAH

Honour left you when you sold your soul to the dark lord, Avaleous.

DRAAGON

I do not go by that name anymore.

NOAH

You betrayed yourself that night, all
that you stood for died with that name.
What you are now is but a shadow of the
man you once were.

DRAAGON

Brave words. But the wrong time.

Draagon strikes, Noah blocks with his sword. Draagon slashes,
Noah parries and Draagon forces his empty hand forward and
LAUNCHES NOAH THROUGH THE AIR-

Noah CRASHES through a WOODEN FENCE as-

VARLDEN

And so it begins.

DRAAGON

Attack!

Minotaur's and Undead charge forward. Tusk leads his Minotaur
clan towards the Minotaur's. Carmac leads his men directly
for the Undead and the elves stand atop of the wall shooting
arrows down upon the hordes below.

Draagon grabs Noah and pins him against the windmill. The
wood splinters as Noah hits it. Draagon stares into Noah's
eyes as- FIREBALL STRIKES HIM- Draagon releases Noah who
falls to the ground bloodied and turns to face- Wesirt.

Draagon sniggers. He thrusts his hand forward and Wesirt
thrusts his staff forward, two forces connect. Lightning
strikes from Draagon's hand, water shoots from Wesirt's staff
and the two connect creating a fluctuation of electricity.

Draagon begins to overpower Wesirt whose staff is being
forced back. Wesirt puts his empty hand on the staff for
extra leverage. The two are locked.

EXT. DOCKS -- CONTINUOUS

Soldiers are hurrying people onto the 3 ships outside Garna.

SOLDIER #1

Hurry it up, we don't have much time.

Inhabitants run onto the three ships, which barely have enough room on deck.

CAPTAIN STUB (40) peg leg, eye patch and a hat walks the deck.

CAPTAIN STUB

Get on board, hurry it up.

SOLDIER #1

Sir!

Stub looks over.

SOLDIER #1 (cont'd)

What about the others?

CAPTAIN STUB

We have our orders, soldier. Get on deck, we head for Rivenoak.

Two ships are already sailing away, chock full of passengers. The soldier waits a second, then runs onto the ship and closes the gate onto deck. He looks at Stub who nods.

WHEELMAN

What's our heading sir?

CAPTAIN STUB

Take us north.

The wheelman spins the wheel fast and follows the other two ships in the distance.

EXT. GARNA CITY -- CONTINUOUS

Draagon forces Wesirt backwards, Wesirt slides across the sand as he can't keep his grip.

Draagon THRUST HIS HAND FORWARD and Wesirt goes flying.

Wesirt crashes into a Minotaur. Tusk comes in and SLASHES the Minotaur across the chest, saving Wesirt from certain death as-

Draagon whistles! The Reiss swoops in and Draagon dematerializes and materializes on the Reiss which is in flight.

Noah struggles to his feet just in time to see- REISS SLAMS ITS BARBED TAIL INTO THE WALL- Archers are knocked off.

Varlden clings onto the wall with a fingertip, he barely holds his grip as he pulls himself up.

The Reiss banks left and starts flying towards the battle once more.

Noah staggers over to Miru who bows. Noah gets onto Miru, grabs his sword from the ground and Miru takes flight after the Reiss.

WESIRT

Noah, NO!

Noah doesn't hear him, Miru hurtles towards the Reiss.

Minotaur's are taken down by soldiers. But Carmac is struck by the axe of a Minotaur in the chest and LAUNCHED back. He lands near Wesirt.

CARMAC

I've had just about enough of this!

Carmac gets back to his feet steadily and joins Wesirt, Varlden and Tusk as they defend the gate.

EXT. SKY -- CONTINUOUS

Miru barrels over the Reiss and Noah catches Draagon on the shoulder. Lumpy blood drops from Draagon's arm, he sees Noah and the Reiss snaps around in a 180 and flies after Miru.

Noah gets close to Miru's ear.

NOAH

Let's see what he's got.

Miru squawks as if he understands Noah. He barrels down in a corkscrew roll as the Reiss chases him.

Miru heads straight for the ocean and is 15 feet from smashing into it as- MIRU SWIFTLY PULLS UP- The Reiss CRASHES into the water with Draagon upon it- Noah laughs.

Miru heads back towards the battle when- REISS EMERGES FROM THE WATER- Draagon slashes Noah across the back with his sword, breaking the armour plating.

Reiss snaps at the tail of Miru who can't shake it. Noah is clutching his sword, he breathes a deep breath and then- LEAPS from Miru onto the reiss.

Draagon THRUSTS HIS HAND FORWARD and Miru is BLASTED in the side and FALLS THROUGH THE AIR towards the battlefield below.

EXT. GARNA CITY -- CONTINUOUS

Wesirt holds up his staff and slows Miru down as Miru gently lands on the ground and gets back to his feet. Wesirt looks to the sky.

EXT. SKY -- CONTINUOUS

Noah is clinging onto the Reiss' tail. Draagon sees him, and the Reiss barrels, Noah clings on for dear life.

DRAAGON

Just die!

Draagon stands on the back of the Reiss, he walks along it as the Reiss flies straight. Noah stands up and runs along the Reiss' spine, he and Draagon CLASH SWORDS in mid air. Draagon slashes Noah across the chest, then again across the left bicep. Noah falls to one knee.

Draagon is ready to execute Noah when all of a sudden- NOAH'S EYES LIGHT UP DARK GREEN-

Noah shoots GREEN LIGHT from his hand and strikes Draagon but not before- DRAAGON STABS NOAH THROUGH THE CHEST- Noah falls from the Reiss and Draagon's left gauntlet is melting away. He takes it off revealing- CHARRED BONE HAND. He's not human, he doesn't even have skin.

EXT. GARNA CITY -- CONTINUOUS

Carmac takes down a Minotaur with the sword. Varlden shoots BLUE LIGHT at the Undead to keep them at bay.

But the soldiers are falling, dozens of soldiers and elves, a few of the good Minotaur's lie dead on the ground.

VARLDEN

It's hopeless! There's too many!

TUSK

The city is lost! We must retreat!

Wesirt stops Noah from falling to the ground. Noah lands gently on the sand but is in severe pain.

CARMAC

Fall back, fall back!

The remaining soldiers and good Minotaur's fall back, there's only a dozen or so left.

Wesirt makes sure everyone's close when he- SLAMS HIS STAFF TWICE ON THE GROUND- The earth shakes and BRIGHT LIGHT surrounds the good soldiers and Minotaur's as- THEY VANISH from sight.

Draagon lands. He steps off the Reiss and looks around coldly.

DRAAGON

Cowards.

Minotaur's roar and Undead screech. Victory is theirs.

EXT. RIVENOAK COURTYARD -- CONTINUOUS

Noah is cringing in pain lying on his back on the ground.

RIVENOAK: Large citadel sits near the mist of the mountain. The courtyard is paved with limestone. A fountain in the centre with two winged angels in the middle holding up the pensive on top.

Wesirt kneels down beside Noah who is fading away.

WESIRT

Noah, hold on.

Varlden and Carmac look on.

VARLDEN

(To Wesirt)

He's not going to make it.

WESIRT

Yes he will.

The others don't seem so sure. Noah is clinging onto what life he has left.

FADE TO:

EXT. BAHRA VILLAGE -- NIGHT

Orion and Maralda are hiding behind a small shack. Darius and Ikres are over the other side, about to bait out the Yuhra to give his nephew a chance.

MARALDA

(Whisper)

This isn't right.

Orion seems like a ghost. He doesn't know what to think.

DARIUS

(Whisper)

Promise me something, Ikres.

Ikres looks over at Orion, who is looking on darkly.

IKRES

(Whisper)

What?

DARIUS

(Whisper)

Keep him safe.

Ikres nods.

Darius starts edging out when- Ikres grabs him by the arm and WHACKS HIM IN THE FACE with the tip of his sword. Knocking Darius to the ground unconscious.

IKRES (cont'd)

Not this time, Darius.

Orion struggles, Maralda holds him back. The two look on eagerly.

Darius begins to stir, he clutches at his head.

Ikres steps out into the open. He throws his knife to the tree and SCATTERS SOME BIRDS.

IKRES (cont'd)

(Brave shout)

Come on ye ugly beasts, come out!

Darius peers over the bank, he sees Ikres standing there with his arms out like a crucifix, baiting the Yuhra.

DARIUS

Damn it, Ikres.

OFF SCREEN: Crunching...

A dozen yellow skinned, pale eyed Yuhra come out of the forest. They move like stop-motion figures, each movement is delayed and twitched. It's quite freaky.

Ikres smiles as- YUHRA SCREAMS- Primal scream, loud and roar like.

IKRES

That's more like it.

Ikres takes off running. The dozen Yuhra chase him, then a dozen more and finally three more follow him. Ikres disappears into the night with the Yuhra that chase him.

Orion, Maralda and Darius emerge from their hiding spots. Orion sees the old house on the hill and they walk towards it. They get inside.

INT. OLD HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

Orion and Maralda look on. Darius thumps the wooden wall in anger.

DARIUS

Damn him, damn that selfish arrogant-

MARALDA

He did what he knew was right.

DARIUS

He had no right, that was my job.

MARALDA

Your job was to protect Orion, how would you have done that if you were dead? He knew exactly what he was doing.

MAN (O.S.)

She's right you know.

Orion and Darius draw their swords. Maralda loads her bow as they pass into-

INT. DINING ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

A fireplace sits on the western wall of the room. And a man, sits at the table, sitting on an old chair.

MILO (24) young and handsome, with brown hair and blue eyes with scruffy clothing on.

MILO
Welcome to Cambrio.

ORION
Who are you?

MILO
I'm the one who helps you enter.

Milo holds out his hand.

ORION
What?

MILO
You cannot progress any further until
I have the key, without it the door
shall remain locked.

Orion, Darius and Maralda look around.

MARALDA
What door?

MILO
That door.

Milo waves his hand at the fireplace and it reveals- STONE
DOOR- The one from Orion's vision.

ORION
What the?

MILO
Key, please.

Orion hands him the key hesitantly. Milo snatches it from
Orion's hand and walks over to the door. He places the key
inside the lock and-

FLASH:

Orion sees the Assassin, standing right in front of him.

FLASH ENDS.

BACK TO PRESENT.

Orion has his sword drawn, he looks around.

DOOR OPENS- Light shines through, blinding light as-

FADE TO:

EXT. CAMBRIO HUT -- MOMENTS LATER

Orion, Darius, Maralda and Milo are standing outside of a hut across the bridge from Cambrio.

CAMBRIO is mesmerising. Lush forests, glistening rivers which flow in streams from the waterfall which pours from just beneath the palace above. A temple in the middle of the lake, sitting there, an ageing temple built many centuries ago.

DARIUS

If my eyes are deceiving me let me
not wake from this dream.

MILO

I assure you, this is real.

Orion can feel something. A cold shiver runs up his spine. He turns around and- ASSASSIN STABS HIM THROUGH THE CHEST- Orion falls to the ground. Everyone surrounds him.

DARIUS

What happened? Orion? Orion? Listen to
my voice! Orion stay awake!

Orion's head begins to ache. The wound in his chest is bleeding even more.

FLASH:

Sword of Light, in the orb in Cambrio's courtyard. Waiting for him, He sees himself take the sword.

FLASH ENDS.

BACK TO PRESENT.

Orion gasps for air as Darius and Milo help him to his feet.

ORION
(Muttering)

Sword.

DARIUS
What?

ORION
Sword!

DARIUS
The sword, we'll get there.

Darius and Milo carry Orion across the bridge towards Cambrio's courtyard. Maralda leads them-

EXT. CAMBRIO COURTYARD -- CONTINUOUS

DOORS OPEN- Maralda gasps, she sees the sword sitting within the orb. Orion is hurting, severely. Darius and Milo try to enter the courtyard but Orion is the only one that can pass through the invisible barrier.

Orion crawls towards the sword.

DARIUS
She was right, it's here.

MARALDA
Orion take it, you have to take it.

Orion is bleeding out.

He continues to crawl towards the sword. He reaches the orb and sticks his hand into it, grabbing the sword by the handle and RIPPING IT FROM THE ORB.

DARIUS

Orion, hurry!

Light begins to surround Orion, Maralda and Darius smile with relief. Milo looks on.

Orion can feel the energy passing through him. He starts to get back up when- STAB! He's stabbed through the back by the ASSASSIN.

Maralda and Darius look on. In complete shock. Milo takes out his sword and waits as- ASSASSIN looks at the barrier, and holds out his hand. The barrier falls and Darius, Maralda and Milo can now enter.

The ASSASSIN fades away before they can get there. Darius pulls Orion over so he can see his face. Orion's eyes are glazed open. He's dead.

MARALDA

(Emotional)

No. No, he can't be, he just can't be.

DARIUS

(Sad)

He's gone.

The Assassin starts walking over to them. Milo holds out his sword, he holds the Assassin off but the Assassin laughs.

Darius and Maralda turn to the Assassin, angered.

ASSASSIN

Such a shame. He had potential.

DARIUS

(Angry)

I'm going to kill you.

ASSASSIN

Oh Uncle, have you not learned?

Darius' eyebrows raise, did he just hear that right?

The Assassin reveals his face- It's an older, darker version of Orion. Red eyes, pale skin and veins over his face.

DARIUS

No. You can't be.

ASSASSIN

So much for the great catalyst. The heir of Farckona, I failed uncle. In the war, I killed the dark lord but the power I received from it, oh, how special it is.

MARALDA

Orion?

Assassin holds up his right hand. He grasps Maralda around the throat without touching her, lifting her into the air with his mind.

Milo steps forward, Assassin nods his head upwards and Milo is captured by vines and hoisted into the air.

ASSASSIN

Milo, Milo, Milo. You foolish little man. Always brave, always one-step ahead. Well not this time, you see Uncle. I've learnt a few new things. Firstly, to destroy a god you must also destroy his power. But turning down such a gift is not something I wanted. Instead I took that power, and made it my own. Secondly, in order to defeat the true enemy you must first learn all there is to learn about them. Such as Milo here, he has a secret you see.

(Looks at Maralda)

Unfortunately now, it won't be revealed.

DARIUS

Orion, please.

Assassin frowns.

Light begins to drizzle from the sword of light into the crevices in the bricks, streaming down towards Orion's hand.

ASSASSIN

The war was brutal, many of our friends died within the first day and many more would pass in the last days. But the one thing that made me realise my true potential was the fact that my uncle who was tasked with protecting me, left me to fend for myself against Erenius.

DARIUS

Whatever I did, I'm sorry.

ASSASSIN

(Angry)

You're not sorry!

Assassin releases Milo and Maralda but keeps them restrained. He THRUSTS HIS hand forward and LAUNCHES DARIUS across the courtyard. Darius is pinned against the brick wall. Unable to move.

DARIUS

Orion, please, this isn't you.

ASSASSIN

Oh it is me, this is what I am Uncle and there's nothing that can change that. I was always going to become this.

Darius is helpless to do anything.

The light touches the blood on the ground, it starts to flow up the blood and enter Orion through the wound in his chest.

Maralda and Milo can't escape the restraints they're in. The Assassin's mind is keeping them locked down.

MARALDA

Orion, please stop!

ASSASSIN

(Arrogant)

You have no idea what it's like, Uncle.
All of that weight on my shoulders. I
could not bear it, everyone was counting
on me. The catalyst in the war between
light and darkness, that's all I was.
That's all I ever was.

(Beat, smiles)

Oh but did they pay for their mistakes.
I used my power to set right the wrongs
in this world, the Elemental, Tebek,
Erenius, everything fell to my blade.

The Assassin sniggers.

DARIUS

Orion.

ASSASSIN

Orion is dead, and he's never coming back.

ORION (O.S.)

You think?

Assassin turns around. Orion is standing there with the sword
of light in his hand and all of his wounds healed.

Orion thrusts his hand forward, Darius is released, Maralda
and Milo are released from their restraints. Assassin is
pinned to the wall.

ASSASSIN

(Laughing)

You cannot change what you will become.

ORION

But I can end it.

Orion turns his hand, the Assassin laughs. Orion's powers
aren't working.

Assassin falls from the wall and lands on his feet.

ASSASSIN

That power is beyond you.

Assassin draws his sword.

Assassin launches Darius towards Milo and Maralda, Darius lands on the ground with a loud THUD.

MARALDA

Darius.

Maralda tends to Darius.

ASSASSIN

Did you truly believe I did not foresee this?

Assassin laughs.

Orion clashes swords with Assassin. Assassin leaps over Orion and SLASHES him across the back. Orion cringes in pain as Assassin slashes at Orion once more, Orion parries the slash with his own sword and kicks Assassin in the stomach.

Assassin THRUST HIS HAND. Orion is LAUNCHED through a STONE WALL into-

INT. VAULT -- CONTINUOUS

Assassin steps through the rubble which is still falling. Orion picks himself up off a pile of gold. He scurries over to the sword as Assassin thrust the sword down, Orion blocks it with his own.

ASSASSIN

Why fight when you cannot win?

ORION

Because it's right!

Orion pushes the Assassin's sword up and KIPS UP. He narrowly dodges FIRE BURST which strikes the wall. Orion rolls out of the way of an icicle blast and slashes Assassin on the back.

Assassin smiles and turns around, HE THRUSTS HIS HAND and Orion is LAUNCHED through the broken wall back outside into-

EXT. CAMBRIO COURTYARD -- CONTINUOUS

Assassin materializes over Orion who parries an attack and kips up, but the Assassin thrusts Orion back to the ground, breaking the brick floor and dragging Orion through it, tearing up the pavement.

Maralda and Milo help Darius up.

Orion and Assassin CLASH SWORDS once again and lock onto one another's eyes.

ASSASSIN

You cannot win. You will lose everything.

ORION

Not today!

Orion breaks the lock and thrusts his sword into Assassin's chest area, but the blade is stopped by the Assassin's power. It stops within an inch of his chest.

Orion tries pushing but it's helpless, the Assassin's eyes turn white- a HURRICANE begins. Rubble, bricks and doors are torn off the walls, and ground. Maralda and Milo take Darius into a small opening safe from the hurricane.

Orion and Assassin ARE LIFTED INTO THE SKY- Assassin forces Orion backwards but Orion grasps onto the Assassin's arm. He pulls himself inward- LIGHTNING STRIKES and THUNDER CLAPS as a mighty storm begins.

Orion continues to pull himself in and he manages to break the Assassin's focus, the storm comes to a stop but the clouds continue to turn black.

Orion and the Assassin fall to the ground and both swords slide away from them.

Orion gets to his feet first, he grabs the sword from the ground. Limping over to the Assassin and thrusts the sword down, Assassin moves his hand, the sword re-enters his hand and the Assassin blocks Orion's sword.

Assassin kips up, the two begin duelling rapidly. CLASHING, SLASHING, Each strike is blocked and parried by the other.

The two break apart from one another. Assassin runs towards Orion who ducks underneath the wide blade and STABS ASSASSIN THROUGH THE BACK- BLADE PUNCTURES HEART- Sword comes out the Assassin's chest as BEAMS OF LIGHT SHOOT FROM THE BLADE.

Assassin drops his sword to the ground, gasps for breath as Orion YANKS the sword from the Assassin's back and the Assassin falls to his knees on the ground. Grasping at his chest as blood pours out.

ASSASSIN

(Gasping for air)

Impossible.

Assassin falls backwards, Orion cradles him.

ORION

It's over.

ASSASSIN

It's not - over - not yet - you will see - in time, you will not - escape your - fate.

ORION

Nothing is set in stone. I will not become you.

ASSASSIN

(Smiles darkly)

You already are.

Assassin's eyes close. His body bursts into flames and he blows apart like leaves. Orion looks over through the dust and sees his friends, making their way towards him.

The ash clears. Orion approaches them. Darius and Orion hug as an Uncle and Nephew do. Maralda watches as the embers fade out and Milo is grasping his wrist from where the vines wrapped around it.

DARIUS

I thought you were dead.

ORION

For a moment so did I.

Darius looks at the sword. Orion is holding it tightly. The light from the blade begins to fade away.

MARALDA

Is he dead?

ORION

Only time will tell.

Orion is understanding that the Assassin may have had a good point. Maybe Orion is dark, and he doesn't yet know it.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CAMBRIO STAIRCASE -- SUNSET

The desert of Cambrio is golden in the bright orange sun. It's a long desert, it stretches further than the eye can see but in the distance sits an ancient palace. Orion, Maralda, Milo and Darius are standing on the staircase looking out.

DARIUS

Well we can't go back. So we can only go forward.

MARALDA

That's a long walk.

ORION

It's the only way.

Milo huffs.

MILO

So many secrets, so little time to uncover
them all.

DARIUS

Where do you think it leads?

MARALDA

No idea.

ORION

There's only one way to find out.

Orion smiles. He starts walking down the steps. Maralda is just behind him, Milo follows her.

Darius has a worried expression on his face. He's worried about Orion, and what he might become. Darius starts walking after them.

The sun begins to descend over the sandy mountains in the east towards the palace...

FADE TO BLACK:

RUN CREDITS