

Roots of Magic
an original screenplay by
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FADE IN:

EXT. PREHISTORIC COMMUNITY - DAY

A group of prehistoric humans gather around a female WITCH DOCTOR performing a ceremony over a SICK EARLY HUMAN.

LYDIA (V.O.)

In the past, humans chose as our leader the most spiritual among us. Spiritual leaders, who understood the magical side of reality.

EXT. PREHISTORIC FOREST - DAY

Witch Doctor walks happily through a shimmering forest with her ELF. Elves are about one foot high, with dark eyes and very pointy-up ears. Other than that, they have a great variety of features, size, shape & colour.

NOTE: Shimmering denotes 5D reality.

Fairies and spirits of trees, water, rocks abound.

LYDIA (V.O.)

Sometimes, a spiritual child will bond with an elf, and together they are destined to be very powerful. For when a human and an elf bond, their love is universal and eternal.

EXT. PREHISTORIC MOUNTAINTOP - EVENING

A coven of women & men gather in ceremony. The Witch Doctor is in a trance. Her Elf crawls into a cavern close by. The camera focuses on the Witch Doctor's forehead.

LYDIA (V.O.)

Together, they can enter a trance, and speak with the Great Serpent of the Earth. That messenger of Gaia herself.

INT. METAPHYSICAL CAVERN - NIGHT

In a cavern encrusted with crystals, the Elf holds an airy, spiritual projection of the Witch Doctor in her palms. The Witch Doctor speaks with a giant, benevolent, multi-coloured, feathered serpent, the CRYSTAL DRAGON.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 The Great Serpent of the Earth, the
 Crystal Dragon, travels shimmering
 tunnels...

INT. CRYSTAL TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

The Crystal Dragon speeds through a crystal-encrusted tunnel.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 ...and brings messages between the
 covens, uniting all humans, all
 around the world in peace and
 harmony.

EXT. PREHISTORIC AFRICAN FIELD - DAY

A little MAIA dances happily with MAIA'S ELF.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 But Crystal Dragons don't live
 forever. When one dies, it is
 reborn, in a stone egg.

Maia & her elf find a small, blue speckled stone egg.

LYDIA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Somewhere, a young witch will find
 the stone egg.

EXT. AFRICAN CEREMONY - EVENING

A coven gathers on a stone outcrop. With much ceremony, ADULT MAIA is adorned with sacred herbs & talismans. She kisses her BABY, held by an OTHER AFRICAN WOMAN.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 She must keep the egg safe until
 she is adult, a mother. Powerful
 now, she is ready to make the
 journey.

Together, Adult Maia & Maia's Elf crawl into a crevasse.

INT. ROOTS TUNNEL UNDERGROUND - CONTINUOUS

Maia's Elf holds onto a root that travels downward, whilst holding the hand of a shimmering, frightened Adult Maia.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 The most difficult journey of all.
 A journey of spirit, body and mind,
 downward, to the deepest cave of
 all.

INT. GAIA'S CAVE - NIGHT

The cave is spherical, massive. Crystals in the walls shimmer, but it's so big their light is diaphanous, muted.

Maia & Maia's elf stand on a 'platform' jutting into the cave. Together, they hold the stone egg aloft.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 This is the where the conscious
 mind of mother earth lives. Our
 Mother Earth. Gaia.

The egg floats away into the darkness. In the background, Maia and her elf travel upward on a root.

LYDIA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 In return for this gift, Gaia makes
 the surface of the earth a healthy
 place, for humans and magical
 beings.

EXT. MEDIEVAL UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY - DAY

People work and eat. They respect LYDIA (a witch doctor/leader) as she passes.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 The three-dimensional reality
 humans need to eat and live,

EXT. 5TH DIMENSION HARDWOOD FOREST - DAY

Shimmering fairies and spirits flit about & dance.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 And a fifth-dimensional reality for
 the magical beings: the elves, the
 fairies, the spirits of air and
 rock and water. It was this way for
 ever, since the very beginning of
 humanity.

CLOSE ON LYDIA'S FACE IN THE DARK VOID

LYDIA

One thousand years ago, it all went wrong. I was a spiritual leader. You can call me a witch, if you like. With my elf, Llewellyn, we found the stone egg, that promise of a new crystal dragon.

Translucent images behind Lydia's face depict the GIRL LYDIA and LLEWELLYN finding the egg.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

We kept it safe until I was growing up, and we prepared to take the egg deep underground, to give to Gaia, to give to planet earth herself.

Lydia's face becomes tortured.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

But evil men captured us, and took the egg.

Sulfuric yellow flames engulf the prior images of girl & elf.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

They tortured Llewellyn. My best friend.

(tears)

The men gave me back the egg, and I had to make the journey underground without Llewellyn.

The flames resolve into a yellowish stone egg.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

I knew something was wrong with the egg, but they said if I gave the egg to Gaia, they would set Llewellyn free.

INT. GAIA'S CAVE - NIGHT

Lydia releases the yellow egg to float away into the darkness.

Lydia rises away from the cave, holding a root. In the background, the egg floats away, suspended in the darkness.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 (whisper)
 The egg was poisoned.

The egg cracks, and a reddish gas seeps out. The crystals in the cavern flicker, dull, all goes black.

LYDIA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 It put Gaia to sleep. For a thousand years our planet's mind, her very soul, has been asleep.

EXT. 5TH DIMENSION HARDWOOD FOREST - DAY

The light of the fairies flickers, they hide from medieval humans who chop down trees.

LYDIA (V.O.)
 The fifth dimension died out, put to sleep like Gaia's mind.

The elves carry fairies in cages, tromp sadly into a cave.

LYDIA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 All the magical beings had to hide deep below the surface of the earth.

EXT. VIEW OF EARTH FROM SPACE - CONTINUOUS

LYDIA (V.O.)
 It's been a thousand years. The evil spell is wearing off.

A circular storm cloud revolves, lightening flashes within.

LYDIA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Gaia is waking up. Together, now, maybe we can heal Gaia. Maybe we can bring back the magical beings - fairy, sprite, and elf. But only if we love each other. Only if we trust each other. Of course, children will lead the way.

RUN CREDITS - ROOTS, FLAMES, GREEN SHOOTS INTERMINGLE

INT. YELLOW FAIRY CAGE - DAY

An idyllic yellow jungle thick with yellow-tinged fairies and crystal yellow homes, all set in shining yellow trees.

Hidden at first, a set of large eyes looms behind the fairy city.

INT. ELVIN HALLWAY OF FAIRY CAGES - CONTINUOUS

As the camera pulls out, we see the elf WHYLIE, who looks into the glass cage of the yellow fairy world.

This darkened, ever-long hallway holds hundreds of tables.

On each table stands a tall glass menagerie. In each glass is a fairy world of a different colour & hue.

With a RUSTLE, a stream of black wisps approaches, then gather & materialize into Whylie's father, the elf BYLIE.

BYLIE

Whylie!

Whylie snaps out of his reverie.

BYLIE (CONT'D)

What are you thinking, son! The ceremony! You're late!

Whylie looks shocked.

BYLIE (CONT'D)

Come on!

Both elves dissolve into curling wisps of smoke, Bylie (black) and Whylie (blue).

INT. ELF PARTY CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

A riotous party of motion & music, hundreds of elves of all sorts of colour, shape and dress is in full swing.

The walls of the huge cave are lined with roots. Warm light emanates from huge crystals, candelabras, and strange hanging plants with bioluminescent flowers.

Bylie & Whylie's smoke resolves into their forms in a darkened corner of the room.

BYLIE

We don't have much time. I...I have
a present for you.

From beneath his cloak, Bylie furtively shows what's hidden:
a little yellow fairy in a glass bottle.

WHYLIE

Dad! But, how did you...

BYLIE

Never mind how.

Bylie stows the fairy, pulls out a necklace with a little
glass jar pendant full of yellow fairy dust.

BYLIE (CONT'D)

Here, to remember, Whylie. When
you've bonded with your human. You
will love him so much...

WHYLIE

I know, dad. I've trained for this
for a hundred years!

For each point Whylie makes, sparks fly from his snapped
fingertips.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

Find the stone egg,
(snap)
kill my human boy,
(snap)
bring the egg here,
(snap)
give it to our king.
(snap)

Bylie snaps. A strong flame emerges from his fingers.

BYLIE

Our king delivers the egg to Gaia,
and begs: rid the surface of all
humans...just allow the fifth
dimension, for elves & magical
beings.

WHYLIE

No humans on the surface. Forever.

Bylie puts the necklace over Whylie's head.

BYLIE

Keep it, to remind you. When you
have to hurt your human, maybe even
kill him, or his family or friends,
you are doing it for us,

Bylie opens his cloak to show the fairy again.

BYLIE (CONT'D)

To free us from these dark caves.

To echoing HORNS and FLUTES, the ELF KING materializes from a
whirlwind of rainbow smoke wisps. He is fat and wrinkled,
like a pile of moulding leaves. Suspended in the middle of
the crowd, he circles as he addresses them all.

ELF KING

My young warriors, it is time!

Roots grow down out of the walls. Whylic & Bylie look at each
other in fear and anticipation.

Various YOUNG ELVES grasp hold of roots.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

Avenge us, young warriors! Find a
human child of magical bloodline.
Make your bond. Infiltrate their
covens and tribes.

The roots twirl. Onlooking elves SHOUT as the young elves
grasping the roots are carried upward.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

And now, as Gaia awakens from her
thousand years of slumber, we will
have our revenge on the witches!

Fearful, Whylic grasps a root, and, like the others in the
background, begins to rise. Below, Bylie shows him the
glimmer of the fairy beneath his robe.

The young elf warriors disappear into black crevasses above
as the Elf King shouts at them.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

Spread discord and death amongst
the witch covens, the wiccans, the
whole human race! Find the egg,

Close up on the evil menace of the Elf King's face.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

And bring it to me.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE BEHIND SIMON'S NEIGHBOURHOOD - NIGHT

The grass below a tree buckles, the exposed soil bubbles.

Whyllie emerges, dirty, gasping, exhausted.

Whyllie shakes the dirt off, leans against the tree. He frowns (something is wrong with the tree). Whyllie looks at his arms (they shimmer a bit) and squeezes the bark. It shimmers briefly, but stops when he removes his hands.

Whyllie takes a deep breath, collects himself, and places his hands on the tree.

Where Whyllie touches, the tree begins to glow, as though from the inside. The glow spreads, up trunk, through branches, ending with a silvery-green shimmer to the leaves.

Whyllie also shimmers more.

Satisfied, Whyllie removes his hands (tree continues to glow) and turns around, and is struck with the view of this mostly treeless, scarred construction zone, and beyond it the orange street light glow over suburbia.

Shocked, Whyllie staggers backward, his back against the tree.

Whyllie is up in the branches, surveys suburbia, scared. He can't see the stars overhead due to orange streetlight glow.

WHYLLIE

(whisper)

How do they block out the stars?

On the ground again, Whyllie picks up a small forked branch, gulps, and steps toward suburbia.

EXT. SIMON'S NEIGHBOURHOOD - MOMENTS LATER

Whyllie holds the twitching branch (like witching for water).

A white light snakes forward from the tip, leading him.

Whyllie approaches a house. He climbs up to a second story window, perches on the ledge.

In the bedroom, a LITTLE GIRL sleeps. Her room is witchy (paper butterflies hang from the ceiling, her hair is long, brown, curly, wild).

Whyllie smiles, but is distracted by a blue glow reflection in the window glass. He turns. The blue glow comes from the neighboring house, a second story window.

Entranced, Whyllie walks to the other house. His stick glows pure white, but Whyllie doesn't notice: it's such a strong emotional pull he doesn't need the stick anymore.

EXT. SIMON'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

From this window sill, Whyllie sees the back of a computer screen, the light pours outward (view of person is blocked).

INT. SIMON'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

We see the back of SIMON'S head (10 yrs old, very skinny), and his giant screen shows his game: World of Warcraft (or similar game) with magical beings shooting each other.

We see Simon's face. He's beyond over-tired, mesmerized by hours of gaming.

On the screen, elves and fairies are winning a magical battle against humanoid giants and witches.

Whyllie's little ears and face slowly emerge from behind the screen, until he stands there, watches Simon, completely filled with awe and love. His shimmer is similar to the light from the screen.

Simon keeps gaming, but frowns, blinks, rubs his eyes, keeps gaming, frowns with more focus at Whyllie, stops gaming, slowly pokes Whyllie.

With a little SHOUT, Simon jumps up, stumbles backward. The elf is gone. Simon rubs his eyes, shakes his head.

As Simon shuts off his computer, he talks to himself.

SIMON

Okay guys, sorry. I think sleep deprivation is making me hallucinate again.

Whyllie hides, scared, behind the computer screen.

Simon gets into bed.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Weird.

Minutes later, Simon is asleep. Whyllie sits on his pillow, engulfed in a pink light, lovingly watches his boy sleep.

INT. SIMON'S ROOM - MORNING

Simon sleeps. Whylie, tucked in beside his pillow, sleeps.

Simon's bedside cell phone ROARS like a dragon. MUSIC pours forth.

Simon turns toward the cell phone. Terrified, Whylie jumps down and under the bed.

INT. SIMON'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

Simon sits in the TV room on the floor. He wears pajama pants, no shirt. He slurps messily at a bowl of cereal as he plays on his x-box, a military-type game.

The open concept allows a clear view to the kitchen, where Simon's dad, IOAIN (good-looking but also slight, business suit), bustles about. He peers over at Simon.

Half-way down the stairs, Whylie hides, scared, listens.

IOAIN

Simon! You're not even dressed yet!

Engrossed in his game, Simon does not register his father's voice.

From the kitchen, Ioain scowls, frustrated again.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

Simon! Son, it's time to go soon!

Again, Simon does not register, keeps playing.

Ioain 'stabs' with a crooked finger toward Simon's shoulder.

Simon slaps his shoulder like a bug bit him, scratches it.

From the stair, Whylie gasps, looks to father, amazed at this feat of magic.

Simon looks to his father.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

Time to get moving, Simon. You've got

(looks at watch)

Eight minutes to catch your bus.

Begrudgingly, Simon gets up and heads for the stairs, gives dad the cereal bowl as he passes.

SIMON
I hate school.

IOAIN
Welcome to the real world, son.

Simon heads up the stairs,

SIMON
I hate the real world.

Simon mouths the words sarcastically as Ioain speaks.

IOAIN (O.S.)
We make our own reality, Simon. So
put a smile on your face, and turn
it into a good day, okay?

Simon is beyond view at the top. Ioain pauses as he passes the stairs, turns back, frowns at the stair Whyllie had sat on (he senses something).

INT. BUS ON BUSY STREETS IN WASHINGTON DC - LATER

Simon is so small in the crush of people on the city bus.

Simon rummages through his bag.

INT. SIMON'S BAG - CONTINUOUS

Whyllie tries to avoid being touched by Simon's hand. Whyllie holds out the cell phone for the hand.

INT. BUS ON BUSY STREETS IN WASHINGTON DC - CONTINUOUS

Simon puts in his ear buds.

EXT. BUSY STREETS IN WASHINGTON DC - CONTINUOUS

Backpack on, Simon walks along with the other pedestrians, many of them school kids.

Outside the gated entrance to a park, Simon pauses.

As the crowds push past him, Simon walks to the gates, entranced.

EXT. PARK IN WASHINGTON DC - CONTINUOUS

Simon walks further and further into the park.

Simon reaches a tangled, wild area along a river's edge.

The trees shimmer and the light is golden.

Whyllie sits in the middle of this magical area, smiles lovingly.

Simon approaches. He sees his own skin shimmers slightly.

SIMON

Whoa.

Simon kneels down, close to Whyllie.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Are you a real elf?

WHYLIE

I'm your elf. I'm Whyllie. And
you're my boy. We'll be friends
forever now.

Simon tentatively reaches out his hand. Whyllie takes it.

A burst of rainbow colours is thrown out in all directions.

Simon and Whyllie SHOUT with glee as they dance about. Light and wind plays with their movements.

EXT. AERIAL VIEW OF THE PENTAGON - LATER

INTERCHANGE PHONE CALL - IOAIN AT WORK IN THE PENTAGON &
PRINCIPAL @SCHOOL

PENTAGON -

Ioain walks with a stack of papers through a technical room of serious people. His CELL PHONE rings, he sets the papers down, answers it.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE -

PRINCIPAL (woman, black) is concerned.

PRINCIPAL
Mr. Waterhouse? This is principal
Delacroix calling again.

PENTAGON -

Ioain deflates.

IOAIN
What has he done now?

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE -

PRINCIPAL
He hasn't done anything, today.
He's not here.

PENTAGON -

An OFFICE WORKER shoots a look at Ioain.

PRINCIPAL (V.O.)
He hasn't skipped school once yet
this year, but I wouldn't want this
to become a habit, not like last
year.

IOAIN
No. I...I'll find him. I'll take
care of it. Thank-you for your
call.

Concerned, Ioain dials Simon's number.

EXT. PARK IN WASHINGTON DC - CONTINUOUS

Simon's backpack lies, abandoned, by the river's edge. A
RINGTONE sounds from within it.

INT. PENTAGON - CONTINUOUS

Ioain re-pockets his phone. He looks around the office, picks
up his papers, hurries to the bathroom.

INT. PENTAGON BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Ioain sets the papers on the floor. He closes his eyes,
breaths deeply, focusing his energy inward.

Ioain CLAPS his hands in front of his heart, rubs them. A faint white glow of light stretches between his hands. He makes a series of hand movements, magic hand symbols.

EXT. PARK IN WASHINGTON DC - CONTINUOUS

Whyllie sits on Simon's shoulder, points out a shimmering bird, as Simon skips gleefully along a trail lined with shimmering trees and light.

INT. PENTAGON BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

A MAN comes out of bathroom stall to see Ioain: eyes closed, look of ecstatic joy (exactly like Simon's), frozen in a pose of half-dance (identical to Simon's).

Man COUGHS. Ioain's eyes snap open, pose dissolves. He blinks at the Man.

Ioain picks up his papers, looks at Man.

IOAIN

Studies show five minutes of yoga improves concentration and productivity by as much as eighty percent.

Ioain turns and leaves, Man shakes his head, turns to sink.

EXT. PARK IN WASHINGTON DC - LATER

Whyllie and Simon are up a big tree. Wind and trees seem to participate in the fun with fifth dimensional awareness.

Simon swings upside down on a limb, Whyllie swings from Simon's hands.

Simon throws Whyllie up, and, flying through the air, Whyllie does acrobatics, then jumps a few branches back to Simon who is now right side up. They hug.

WHYLIE

Again!

Simon swings down, throws Whyllie.

During a somersault, Whyllie's necklace flies out, catches on a branch.

Whyllie's arms flail as he is strangled by the caught necklace.

SIMON

Whylie!

Simon scampers up recklessly.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Hang on! I'm coming!

Simon crawls out on the limb too thin to support him. Whylie, though struggling, sees Simon is in danger, tries to motion 'no'.

Simon pulls up Whylie. Breathless, they hug.

The branch CRACKS a bit. They look at each other in fear.

The branch BREAKS.

In free-fall, Whylie grasps for Simon, Simon grasps for branches.

Whylie moves his hands in two magical patterns: it creates a force-field of white light around Simon.

Simon grasps a branch, SHOUTS as his hands slide down, leaves cut his palms. Whylie jumps branch to branch, trying to keep up to Simon.

Simon lands, rolls. The bubble of white light that surrounded him dissipates.

Whylie reaches Simon, concerned. They stare at each other. They start laughing hysterically, roll about.

Calmed, Whylie looks at Simon's hands.

Whylie rushes about the bushy area, talks to himself, collects herbs. Simon follows.

WHYLIE

Hmmm. Gentian, comfry, self-heal.
Ah, good old plantain.

Whylie shoves the handful of herbs in his mouth and chews, spits it out onto Simon's hands & rubs it in.

SIMON

Oh! Gross!

WHYLIE

Gross? It works.

SIMON

You're the best, Whylie.

The two hug, content.

Simon looks at Whylie's exposed fairy dust necklace pendant.

SIMON (CONT'D)

It's so beautiful, Whylie. What is it?

Wylie pauses. He feels the first pang of what he must do (betray Simon), but Simon doesn't notice a change.

WHYLIE

Fairy dust.

SIMON

(excited)

Fairies!? There's fairies too?!
Where, where are they? Can you show them to me?

Wylie pulls back.

WHYLIE

No. I can't show you the fairies.
They are deep underground. In caves, to keep them safe.

SIMON

Why? Why can't you show them to me?

WHYLIE

Simon. This is the third dimension.
Your world, it's too dense. Magical beings can't live up here.

SIMON

But you're here. Are there more elves like you? Where are they?

Wylie turns away, to hide his sadness. He fingers the pendant as he talks/lies.

WHYLIE

I was sent here...to help humans.
To help you learn to see the fifth dimension, so we can all live together again...in peace.

Wylie looks up to the sky, tears in his eyes.

SIMON

Okay...Wylie, are you all right?

Wylie wipes his eyes, turns, is almost angry.

WHYLIE

We...we have a mission.

(beat)

You should take me to your coven.

Simon falls back in laughter.

SIMON

A coven? Like, a group of witches?
You think I'm some sort of wizard
or something?

WHYLIE

But you are, Simon. And so are your
parents. You must all be very
highly attuned to the spirit world,
or you wouldn't be able to see me
at all. And an elf can only bond
with a human with magical roots...

(tears spill over)

...and our bond is so strong.

Simon wraps up Whylie in a comforting hug.

SIMON

Oh, Whylie! It's okay. It's okay.

Wylie clings to him, sobs a bit, but as he tucks away his
pendant in his tunic his resolve hardens.

WHYLIE

You must take me to your coven,
your spirit leaders.

SIMON

I...well. I don't have a coven,

Wylie stands up, frowns.

SIMON (CONT'D)

And my dad, my dad is definitely
not anything remotely spiritual. He
works for the government.

WHYLIE

What about your mother?

SIMON

(looks down)

She died...all I know is she died
in a car accident when I was a
little kid.

Whyllie walks around the flowers, sees a family of ducks in the river.

WHYLIE
Where do you learn?

SIMON
(snorts)
School's not a coven, Whyllie. I don't even have any friends, really. Just some other geeks I hang out with.

Simon's face falls.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Oh crap. School.

Simon runs away, Whyllie runs after him.

At the river's edge, Simon grabs his bag, scoops up Whyllie.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Come on! Oh man, I'm gonna have detention for like a week!

As they approach the park gate, Simon swings his bag under his arm, opens it for Whyllie to climb in. Before Whyllie ducks in, Simon pauses.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Do you really think my mum was a witch, Whyllie?

WHYLIE
For certain, Simon. Your mother was full of spirit awareness, and your father too.

Simon darkens.

SIMON
That's stupid, Whyllie. My dad works at the Pentagon.

WHYLIE
The pentacle?! The pentacle?!

SIMON
Whoa, Whyllie. The pentagon. He just pushes paper around and types on his computer all day.

Whyllie draws a white-light pentacle in the air.

WHYLIE

The pentacle is the sign of wiccan work. Bringing spirit energy down, and fixing it in the earth, the air around us. Balance, abundance.

SIMON

Calm down, Whylie. My dad is not a witch, okay?

Whylie crosses his arms, looks stubborn. He is comical, half-in the bag, refusing to go down.

WHYLIE

Take me there. The pentacle.

SIMON

The Pentagon?

WHYLIE

Pentagon, pentacle. Most definitely. We must investigate.

SIMON

Okay...

Simon swings the pack on his back as Whylie tucks inside.

SIMON (CONT'D)

What about school, Whylie?
Principal Delacroix...

WHYLIE (O.S.)

The pentacle is where your people are! To your destiny young warrior of the light! To the pentacle!

Simon looks about furtively as he dekes out the gate to the park.

SIMON

(to self)
My dad is gonna kill me.

EXT. WASHINGTON DC, THE 'NATIONAL MALL' - LATER

Simon walks through the greenery surrounding the west end of 'the Mall'.

Increasingly, he's passed by excited demonstrators, on their way to a demonstration up ahead.

WHYLIE (O.S.)

What's going on, Simon? I hear voices. I sense a large group, a group energy rising.

SIMON

This is Washington DC, Whylie. There's a demonstration or a rally, like, every day, about something.

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Simon stops at the top of a grassy hill (Climbs a tree? Steps of a Mall Building?). Below, a large protest gathers: folks with signs, speakers at the front with megaphones.

Whylie emerges from the backpack, looks over Simon's shoulder.

WHYLIE

Oh, look at them all. There must be hundreds.

SIMON

Yeah, it's a big one. I wonder what they're protesting about?

EXT. FRONT OF PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

MEGAPHONE WOMAN speaks to the crowd.

MEGAPHONE WOMAN

No more Corporate Control of our democracy! We want Fair trade! We want transparency! We want a green economy that makes sense for our kids! No to bill sixty-eight! No to bill sixty-eight!

The CROWD takes up the chant.

CROWD

No to bill sixty-eight! No to bill sixty-eight!

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

SIMON

Listen, Whylie. I don't think we can make it to the Pentagon today. It's a long way away and -

WHYLIE

No no. This is better. It's perfect for you to try your new skill!

SIMON

Huh?

WHYLIE

Your mind is the bridge between stuff

(pinches his arm)

and spirit.

(SNAPS, sparks)

Everyone's mind, is the bridge.

Just think of the madness you can spread among the humans!

Whylye freezes, he's let slip something. Simon frowns, looking down.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

These people, thousands like them throughout your country, feel powerless, Simon.

Whylye climbs down, gesticulates at the crowd.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

Is it wrong to give them power? If you, a little boy, can give them power, is that so wrong?

Simon frowns, looks at group below. Riot Police have arrived and start to line the perimeter of the gathering.

SIMON

I'm just a kid, Whylye. I can't make all those people start fighting. Can I?

WHYLIE

Ooh, let's try. I know you're a powerful witch, Simon. You could make those people dance on their heads if you tried hard enough.

SIMON

(scoff)

Come on, Whylye.

WHYLIE

Well, you'll never know, unless you try, will you.

Simon sits cross-legged on the grass.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)
 Now, first, you'll have to centre
 yourself, clear your mind, feel
 your energy connect with Mother
 Earth below you....

EXT. FRONT OF PROTEST - MOMENTS LATER

The crowd has swelled. Black Bloc protesters line one side,
 closest to the riot police phalanx.

MEGAPHONE WOMAN
 Riot police! They want to shut us
 up! They don't want the country to
 know about Bill sixty-eight! No to
 bill sixty-eight! No to bill sixty-
 eight!

The crowd bounces their placards & SHOUTS the slogan.

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Simon meditates. He shines a little bit. Whylie shines even
 brighter.

WHYLIE
 Good, now, in your belly, feel that
 anger, when you're angry and there
 is nothing you can do, it's so
 unfair.

Simon's aura tinges red & orange. Whylie jumps off Simon's
 shoulder to avoid it.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)
 Ooh, ooh, you're ready. Open your
 eyes, Simon,

Simon looks down on the crowd

WHYLIE (CONT'D)
 Send that mixed up, jumbled up,
 angry energy out, let it expand and
 billow out, like a cloud over the
 crowd, through the crowd.

The yelling of the crowd swells.

EXT. CLOSE UPS OF THE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

The riot police raise their shields. Black Bloc protesters SHOUT insults at them.

Within the crowd, people are shoved, and shove back.

MEGAPHONE WOMAN (O.S.)
Remember, this is a peaceful
protest! Gandhi freed a whole
country and never lifted a finger
in anger. We are a peaceful
protest!

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Whyllie steps back, looks in awe at Simon. Simon is in focused meditation on the crowd, a calm, but hateful expression on his face.

WHYLLIE
(to self)
Such anger. So much sadness. So
lonely, for so long.

Whyllie turns to the crowd. He is shocked at what he sees.

P.O.V. AERIAL VIEW OF THE CROWD

The crowd moves in unison (raise placards, surge forward, SHOUT) in a pattern of waves.

MEGAPHONE WOMAN (O.S.)
(far away)
This is a peaceful protest! Remain
peaceful!

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

WHYLLIE
This is magnified. We're not alone.
Simon, you're power is being
magnified.

Simon blinks, is pulled from his meditation, tries to focus at Whyllie.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

There is another, Simon. You must be connecting to another witch to be having such a powerful effect on the crowd.

Whyllie looks around the perimeter of the crowd.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

Who? Where? Who are you connecting with, Simon?

Simon points to a tree on the other side of the Mall. A girl, 10, aboriginal-looking (Potomac), ASHA, sits focused on the crowd.

Whyllie SNAPS his fingers, disappears in a cloud of blue smoke.

EXT. ASHA'S TREE ABOVE THE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Whyllie's blue smoke curls converge.

Slowly, Whyllie materializes, but it's difficult here in the 3rd dimension...he pulls in & out of smoke vs. material form.

Asha continues to stare out at the crowd, but her elf that was hiding behind her, LIGNETTE, peers wide-eyed at Whyllie.

LIGNETTE

You shouldn't do that here. It's too hard in the third dimension.

Whyllie kneels, gasps, tired out.

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Simon's CELL PHONE PINGS and he is snapped out of his meditation, but the angry red aura light remains.

CU - CELL PHONE TEXT

DAD: where are you? Why aren't you in school? Principal Delacroix is threatening to expel you AGAIN. Get back to school right now!

SIMON: I hate school - it's pointless! The whole world is falling to shit and you don't care about me or anyone! I hate you!

Tears in his eyes, Simon powers off the phone, focuses angrily on the crowd.

INT. PENTAGON - CONTINUOUS

Ioain doubles over, as though struck in the chest, his fingers to his heart.

EXT. ASHA'S TREE ABOVE THE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Whyllie and Lignette share a wide-eyed nod of understanding.

Whyllie points toward Simon, not far away. Again, the two elves nod at each other.

Wyllie SNAPS into smoke curls.

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Whyllie slowly reappears beside Simon.

Simon's aura is more off-orange and angry red than before. It projects forward from his belly in a diaphanous cloud in all directions.

Whyllie, wondrous, touches Simon's arm, but Simon, entranced in his focus on the crowd, doesn't register.

WHYLLIE

Simon?

P.O.V. AERIAL OF THE CROWD - CONTINUOUS

From above, we see the crowd surge in waves.

More people, in rivers of motion, rush through the streets toward the main crowd.

From within the crowd, people SHOUT, are shoved. A woman's SCREAM.

Along the line facing the riot police, the wave surges the crowd forward, crashing into the riot police. Several officers raise their guns, SHOOT into the air.

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

At the sound of the SHOTS, Simon blinks, frowns. Whyllie doesn't notice, is too enthralled by the scene below.

P.O.V. WITHIN THE CROWD - CONTINUOUS

Another wave surges forward, protesters whack officers with their placards, throw shoes, stones, cans at them.

Officers stumble back, beat at protesters with clubs. Some officers fall and are beaten by protesters.

Several cans of tear gassed are lobbed into the crowd.

Within the crowd, people shove each other. SCREAMS of pain.

SHOTS from the police.

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Simon frowns at the scene of mayhem below, like he doesn't understand what's going on. More vans of riot police arrive.

News helicopters ROAR overhead.

A news van pulls up on a road beside Simon's grassy hill. more people run by toward the burgeoning crowd.

WHYLIE

Simon, come on. It's time to go.

EXT. WASHINGTON DC STREETS - MOMENTS LATER

Simon still frowns, troubled, walks away. Whylie hides on his shoulder, holds his hair.

Asha comes from behind them, trots to catch up.

ASHA

Whoa, that was really powerful!

Simon looks awkward, surprised, still confused.

SIMON

I'm. Simon?

ASHA

I'm Asha. This is Lignette.

From her perch on Asha's shoulder, Lignette parts some of Asha's long hair, waves, lets the hair fall back over her.

WHYLIE

I'm Whylie. At you service, fine lady.

Asha smiles, giggles.

ASHA

I can't believe we did that. That was crazy! Those people, that power. I could just feel it like a cauldron boiling up and up and over!

Whylie smiles at her, Simon continues to frown at the ground as they walk.

ASHA (CONT'D)

I'd been trying to mess things up for an hour. But when you came, things really started cooking.

Lignette appears again.

LIGNETTE

I told you, a witch's power is multiplied when they work together.

ASHA

My parents never let me do anything with magic. I don't even get to go to the gatherings. I just stay in my room and read and sketch, or whatever.

Simon stops, regards Asha.

WHYLIE

You have a coven then? A real coven?

Lignette nods, her look from behind Asha's head is fearful.

ASHA

Yeah...but I keep Lignette secret, for now. I mean, witches and elves were at war, like a thousand years ago, right?

WHYLIE

(admonishing)

You told her about the war?!

Lignette nods, shrugs.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

(to self)

You shouldn't have done that.

SIMON

Wait, you actually live with a coven, like real witches?

ASHA

Sure! You...wanna meet them?

Simon is bumped from behind as young men run toward the crowd.

WHYLIE

You should meet them, Simon. These witches can help you learn your power.

Whylic and Lignette share a dark look.

More SHOTS and SHOUTS are heard from the erupting crowd.

EXT. STREET BEYOND CENTRE OF RIOT - MOMENTS LATER

The children run away, but Simon stops, tears in his eyes.

SIMON

Whylic...Whylic. Did I do this?

A van full of riot police pulls up close by. An OFFICER looks at the kids. Asha pulls Simon, they run away.

EXT. STREET CLOSE TO THE PROTEST - MOMENTS LATER

A taxi pulls up messily on the edge of the crowd. Ioain gets out and looks around wildly. From across the crowd he peers up at the grassy hill where Simon had been, now full of protesters.

EXT. OUTSIDE COVEN HOUSE - LATER

A bus stops on a street in a well-treed neighborhood of expensive estate homes. Asha and Simon disembark.

Simon adjusts his backpack, we see the form of Whylic within move a bit. Asha pats her leather satchel.

Simon wonders at the tall swaying trees that line the long driveway.

EXT. COVEN GROUNDS - CONTINUOUS

The Bavarian-style buildings are smooth stone and wide wood.

There is one main house and a cottage and out-buildings. A thin line of smoke issues from a tipi near the edge of the forested back yard.

Asha smiles reassuringly at Simon, takes his hand as she pushes through the front door to the main house.

INT. COVEN HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The warm, earthy decor continues inside, a mixture of old European and American Indian.

ISA (O.S.)

Asha? Asha, is that you?

ASHA

I'm home. I...I met a new friend...

ISA (O.S.)

Come in the kitchen, Asha!

The kitchen is also of the same theme.

ISA, 40's, clearly somewhat worried, dries a plate with a tea towel, turns while speaking.

ISA (CONT'D)

I was worried you were caught in that riot, Asha, I couldn't...

When Isa sees Simon she pales, drops the dish which SMASHES.

BAERN, a tall man with a menacing, strong energy, rushes in.

BAERN

What happened, Isa, are you...

The children turn on his entry. He too, when he sees Simon, is struck with an emotional shock. However, he flicks his eyes at Isa and tries to collect himself quickly.

LEDO, a slender American Indian man (Asha's father, Isa's husband) rushes in from behind Baern. When he sees Simon he stops, takes in the scene, and smiles warmly.

LEDO

Well...we haven't seen that face in a long time.

(MORE)

LEDO (CONT'D)

As surely as star lights shine
through the dark, you are Lillith's
son.

SIMON

I'm...Simon?

LEDO

Of course you are, Simon. I'm your
uncle Ledo. Welcome home.

Ledo wraps the awkward Simon in a hug. Isa's face is covered in mixed emotion tears. Asha looks questioningly to Baern, whose countenance darkens.

INT. COVEN HOUSE DINING ROOM - LATER

The entire group enters the dining room. A dining table, long enough to seat two dozen comfortably, dominates.

At the far end of the room, tall stained glass windows are set in heavy wood.

Isa opens the narrow windows. Baern follows her half way into the room.

Asha places her bag carefully by the doorway, eyes Simon to do the same.

BAERN

Someone will have to contact his
father. We should just send him
home right now. He shouldn't be
here, not like this.

CORRINNE (O.S.)

I've already telephoned Ioain.
He'll be here shortly.

The crone, CORRINNE, enters from behind the group. Baern spins angrily to face her.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

And you'll behave yourself, Baern.
We'll have only friendly feelings
amongst our members, old
(she smiles at Simon)
And new.

Corrinne holds Simon's hand in her own. Her eyes tear a bit as she peers at him, her height the same as his.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Oh you. My big, strong boy.

SIMON

Who...who are you?

CORRINNE

Oh, my boy. I'm your grandmother.

Corrinne wraps the weakened Simon in a hug. With a gentle little sob, she releases him.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Come on, then. Sit down. Sit down.

Corrinne leans on Simon as she steers him to the table.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Isa, there, is your mother's cousin, my brother's girl. Isa, be a dear, light a little smudge for us. I feel we need to clear the air.

(motions)

Her husband, Ledo.

Ledo, helping Isa with the windows, smiles at Simon, bows.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Asha, you know. However in the world did you find him, Asha? What were you doing?

Asha had been crouching over by the bags. She stands, frightened.

ASHA

I...

SIMON

I was in the park, -----'s park.

LEDO

That's close to where you live with your father, isn't it?

BAERN

You attend a school, do you not? This being a Wednesday, why weren't you in school?

CORRINNE

Oh, never mind that, Baern. Schools are just prisons for children, we all know that.

Isa approaches with a smoking smudge bowl, smiling. Simon's eyes widen, unsure.

ISA

Now that Mother Earth is waking up, everything will change. Soon there won't be any more school, at least not in those terrible brick buildings.

Simon pulls away from Corrinne, who had been practically clutching him. He backs away...

SIMON

Who are you people? Why do you know so much about me?

Simon backs into the enormous frame of Baern, who holds him as Simon tries to free himself.

IOAIN (O.S.)

Get your hands off my son!

Ioain strides into the room, CLAPS and waves fingers upwards at Baern. Baern's hands fly off Simon's shoulders. Baern rubs his hands as though burnt.

Simon starts to run for his father, but then slows, stops.

Simon is in the middle of the group. Everyone recognizes the awkward significance that he doesn't want to 'hug' his father.

SIMON

What's going on, dad. Who are these people?

IOAIN

Who brought him here?! This is without my permission. Baern, if this is your doing...

Corrinne has again appeared from behind.

CORRINNE

That's enough of all this anger, Ioain. It was Asha. Asha, she was off on one of her walks. She visits all the parks in the city.

(MORE)

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

She is a healer, like us all. It was only a matter of time before she felt the pull of her own cousin's energy.

Asha stands with her mother and father. She nods at Ioain.

Ioain softens, then frowns, looks at Baern then away again quickly, with distaste.

IOAIN

Simon, I'm sorry. I meant to tell you in time, when you were older. You're not ready for this yet.

ISA

Ready to know his own family? To know his own self?

BAERN

Don't tell me...you've hidden magic from him, his whole life?

IOAIN

And what has it ever brought us, Baern, except pain and suffering, loss, and death.

CORRINNE

Oh, Ioain, you must...

Ioain holds up a hand to silence them all.

IOAIN

That is enough!

(beat)

I will explain everything to my son, in my own way. Come, Simon. We're going home.

Ioain turns to leave. He turns back.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

Simon? Come now, we're leaving.

SIMON

I'm not going with you.

IOAIN

That's not an option, Simon. You..you will be able to visit them again... soon... but you must come home with me now.

SIMON

I won't. I won't go back with you
to that apartment. Not ever.

Tears are in Simon's eyes, he shakes a bit.

Everyone faces Simon, but Simon sees Whyllie and Lignette
sneak out of the bags and out the doorway. Sensing something,
Baern frowns and starts to turn.

Simon's eyes widen. He has to think fast or Baern will see
them.

SIMON (CONT'D)

(yells)

I won't go back there, do you hear
me! You're a liar! You've lied to
me my whole life!

Isa breaks away from her family, and rushes to Simon. He
cries in her arms.

ISA

Oh, let him stay with us, Ioain.
Just for a day or two. I promise
he'll be safe.

Ioain frowns at Baern, looks pleadingly to Corrinne.

IOAIN

I can't, I can not allow my son to
stay here, not with him.

Ioain motions to Baern.

CORRINNE

Your arguments against Baern were
proven to be unfounded long ago,
Ioain.

BAERN

Though he is just a boy, you may
not impose your will on another
free human. It is against our code.

IOAIN

Don't you dare speak to me of
imposing your will on others, you
devil...

Simon looks up, awed to hear his father speak this way.

CORRINNE

Silence, all of you.

Everyone grabs at their mouth, lips frozen, pressed hard together due to Corrinne's spell.

Only Ledo smiles, untouched by her spell.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Ioain, I love you. I love you as my own son, as I always have. But you are in the wrong in this. Simon's heart is injured. Give it time, let him meet us, his family. Let us love him.

Ioain's eyes finally tear, an old grief shows through, as Corrinne touches him.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Let old wounds be healed, my dear boy.

She embraces him. Ioain looks sadly at Simon, who is still held by Isa.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Two days. Two days, and he will be back on your door.

Ioain weakly shakes his head. Corrinne smiles, her will imposed and everyone knows it.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Simon!
(Isa releases him)
You are released. You may speak.

Simon stretches his jaw, is awed as he approaches Corrinne.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

See your father to the door. And have nice words for him. It's very hard for him to let you go, even for two days.

INT. COVEN HOUSE HALLWAYS - MOMENTS LATER

Simon and Ioain walk in silence. Ioain is deflated, frowns, angry.

At the door, Ioain tries to reach for Simon's hand, but Simon pulls it away.

SIMON

I....I don't know you.

Simon shuts the door in his father's face.

EXT. COVEN HOUSE DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Ioain breaks down. He sobs and smashes his fist on the door.

INT. COVEN HOUSE HALLWAYS - LATER

Corrinne leads Simon down a hallway. Simon's eyes are red from tears.

INT. COVEN HOUSE SIMON'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is warm, but bare except for basic furniture.

CORRINNE

This will be your room, while
you're with us.

Simon appears a bit lost in the middle of the empty room.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Your father will come by tomorrow
with some of your clothes. But he
knows you may want more time....you
may not want to see him....

Simon sits dejectedly on the bed.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

See the cord, by the bed.

A golden, tassel-ended cord hangs. Simon nods 'yes'.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

If you need me, give it a tug.

Simon smiles weakly, this is a comfort.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

You've had enough for today my dear
(kisses his forehead)
Welcome home.

At the door she says,

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

There's plenty of time for
explanations tomorrow, grandson.

SIMON

Gr...gran....grandmother?

She's touched, smiles with a twinkle.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Could you leave the door open?

She nods, backs out.

INT. COVEN HOUSE SIMON'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Simon sleeps, Whylie tucked in by his pillow. Simon frowns (nightmare beginning).

INT. COVEN HOUSE BAERN'S SECRET ROOM - CONTINUOUS

In a dark room full of evil magic symbols & tools, Baern concentrates on a black crystal ball full of grey smoke swirls.

INT. COVEN HOUSE SIMON'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Simon's dream worsens. He tosses, MOANS. Whylie wakes up, frowns sleepily, concern mounting.

INT. COVEN HOUSE HALLWAYS - MOMENTS LATER

Baern, in a dark cloak, sweeps down the corridor.

INT. COVEN HOUSE SIMON'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Wylie tugs on Simon's ear until he wakes up.

WHYLIE

You were having a bad dream...

A sharp KNOCK and Baern enters the room.

A little furrow denotes Whylie's motion to hide under the covers. Baern's eyes narrow, but move quickly onto Simon.

BAERN

Well?

SIMON

Wha...what are you doing in my room?

BAERN
I thought you wanted some answers.

Simon swallows.

EXT. COVEN HOUSE HALLWAYS - MOMENTS LATER

Just outside his door, Simon falters.

SIMON
I...I forgot something. I'll be
right back.

INT. COVEN HOUSE SIMON'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Simon grabs up a small crocheted blanket, Whyllie scrambles up into its folds as Simon wraps it around himself.

WHYLIE
I thought you were leaving without
me.

SIMON
I'm never going anywhere without
you ever again, Whyllie.

They share a deep look.

SIMON (CONT'D)
I need you to get me through this.

WHYLIE
You'll be all right, Simon. We'll
take care of each other.

EXT. COVEN HOUSE HALLWAYS - MOMENTS LATER

Baern raises an eyebrow at Simon's blanket. Simon falters...

SIMON
It's cold in here.

Baern darkens.

Simon trots to keep up with Baern down a new hallway.

A DOOR OPENS, Baern's robes SWIRL, Simon jumps.

It's Asha, a big patchwork robe wrapped around her.

ASHA

Where are you taking Simon, Baern?

BAERN

You have keen ears, little Asha, to hear us at this late hour.

ASHA

I couldn't sleep. I'm too excited to meet my new cousin.

She steps out of the doorway, blocking Baern's path. She raises an eyebrow. He smiles sweetly.

BAERN

The best way to show Simon the story behind everything, is in the cave.

Astonished, Asha sucks in a breath.

ASHA

You can't, Baern. The cave is for women only. Men are not allowed, unless they are part of a ceremony.

He smiles even sweeter.

BAERN

Ah, yes. Spoken like a future High Priestess.

He bows low to her.

BAERN (CONT'D)

Please, dear one. Lead your cousin to the cave, and I will share a story perhaps even you have not yet heard.

ASHA

No magic, no ceremony, just a story...

BAERN

Of course!

Baern leads the way again. Simon repositions his blanket so Asha can see Whyllie is in there. Asha pats her pocket so Simon can know Lignette is there.

INT. TUNNEL TO CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

The tunnel is moist, leads down steeply. Essentially, they are spelunking. Crystals shine in the tunnel walls.

Simon stumbles, rocks scrape.

SIMON

Baern...it's too dark. Don't you have a flashlight or something?

Baern and Asha speak ritualistically, in a measured cadence.

BAERN

It was dark in your mother's womb, was it not?

ASHA

And there you received your life,

BAERN

And all the capacity for wisdom that you possess now.

SIMON

Why are you two talking funny like that?

ASHA

Shsh. It's a ritual.

SIMON

I thought you said no ceremonies.

ASHA

Well, some things must be done properly. This is no ordinary cave, Simon.

SIMON

What do you...

INT. CEREMONIAL CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Suddenly, Simon is in the same room as the other two ahead of him.

The cave is dimly lit with myriad crystals. It is a sphere.

The crystals are grouped in clusters. A promontory 'bridge' of stone leads out into the sphere, to a circular 'platform' where twelve people could stand in a circle, shoulder to shoulder.

It's a smaller version of the 'Gaia's Mind Cave' from the introduction.

Simon tentatively follows Baern and Asha across the 'bridge' to the centre platform.

SIMON

What is this place?

Asha sets down her robe, so Lignette can get out unobserved.

ASHA

Caves just like this exist all over the world. This is where people like us, people who listen to the spirit talk of Mother Earth, this is where we gather.

Baern seems to have forgotten the children. He is absorbed with a blue stone egg, oversized, he's taken from the folds of his robe.

At the centre of the 'platform' stands a tall, thin, carved stick designed to hold just such an egg.

BAERN

Never mind the cave, girl. Look here!

(reveals egg)

The flecks within the stone of the egg refract the light from the cave's crystals.

BAERN (CONT'D)

Have you ever seen an egg like this, boy?

ASHA

(incredulous)

Where! Baern, where did you get it?

BAERN

Oh, never fear, little witch. This is just a facsimile, a fake.

(whistful)

I've never seen a real one.

He looks dreamily into the egg, like it's a lost lover.

BAERN (CONT'D)

I don't even know if it's the right size, if the blue is deep enough.

Baern snaps out of it. He is menacing to the children, to Simon.

BAERN (CONT'D)

This egg is the crux of it all. The key to gaining access to the mind of Gaia, the reason these caves even exist.

(close to Simon)

The reason your poor mother died.

Simon pales, Baern sweeps away, back toward the central egg, then turns quickly.

BAERN (CONT'D)

The reason the elves are amongst us once more.

Simon clutches his blanket closer.

ASHA

You're mad. You're crazy! Come on, Simon, we're leaving.

BAERN

Reveal! Reveal! Reveal hidden truths!

With a sweep of his arm, the lights in the cave's crystals brighten. Whyllie is forced into the light, against his will, and Lignette, to the side, is illuminated. They are frozen still & stiff by the power of the spell.

Any view to the egg is blocked by Baern's big frame, except from Lignette's angle. She sees the egg change, become translucent, the ghost of a woman's sad spirit encased within.

Simon clutches Whyllie to him, as Baern's eyes gleam angrily.

SIMON

How did you know? What are you going to do to him?

BAERN

Oh, don't worry, little wizard. Your secret is safe with me.

Asha has run to Lignette, and wraps her arms around her.

The light in the egg dims back to stone before Asha sees it.

BAERN (CONT'D)

We all feel Gaia awakening. Magical power unfolds like a great flower. Of course our oldest friends would be the first magical creatures to make contact.

ASHA

But witches think the elves hate us. We've been preparing for war with them for centuries!

BAERN

And would you make war with elvin folk, little witch?

ASHA

(crying)

No! Never! I love Lignette.

(to Lignette)

I don't care about what happened a thousand years ago, Lignette. I'd never do anything to hurt you.

Lignette and Asha hug.

BAERN

Quiet! Someone's coming! Hide them!

Baern sweeps the egg into the folds of his cloak, Asha puts back on her robe with Lignette in the pocket, Simon wraps the blanket around his shoulders and Whyllie scrambles within.

Corrinne hobbles in, strong & angry.

CORRINNE

Baern!

Her staff strikes the ground. Sparks fly from some of the crystals in the cave walls.

From under the blanket Whyllie is amazed, frightened.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

How dare you enter this cave! This is a woman's realm only!

Baern appears genuinely sorry, humbled, apologetic.

BAERN

The children begged for explanations, Corrinne. On the promise of no ceremony, no magic at all, I, I...there is no excuse.

(MORE)

BAERN (CONT'D)
Please forgive me, clan
grandmother.

CORRINNE
You are not forgiven! Get. Out. And
take the boy. You, Asha, you will
stay. It's time you learned your
future calling, the call may come
sooner than we'd like.

Baern shares a sharp look with the crone. Corrinne frowns at him like he's a little child and waves him away.

Turning, Baern scowls a look of pure hatred, an evil knowing of future revenge.

BAERN
Come on, boy.

INT. TUNNEL TO CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

Baern scrabbles up ahead, he uses a flashlight. Simon struggles to keep up to his pace.

SIMON
B..Baern...wait.

Baern pauses, shines the light in Simon's face.

BAERN
Oh hurry up, boy.

Simon comes up to him, pants.

SIMON
Tell me. Just please tell me.
(swallows, tears)
So much is happening. What is that
cave about? What is that egg about?
What did you mean...about my
mother?

BAERN
The answers you seek are all in
that cave, boy. And you and I, are
not welcome.
(turns)
Let's go.

SIMON
No!

Baern freezes. We see an evil smile plays on his face.

SIMON (CONT'D)

You woke me up and brought me here
to tell me the truth, so tell it!

Simon is almost hysterical. Baern turns slowly.

BAERN

I'm sorry, Simon. I've been
silenced by the coven master. The
only answers you'll get now are
from the Crone. And she's in
ceremony, in the cave.

SIMON

Then I'm going back. Give me the
flashlight.

BAERN

Oh, you can't get back with a
flashlight, Simon. You'd be lost
forever down here, following your
eyes and not your heart.

SIMON

(crying now)
Fine! I'm going back.

BAERN

Such bravery, Simon. You'll need
it.

Simon steels himself, crawls back the other way. Again, we
see Baern's sinister smile.

INT. CEREMONIAL CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Asha stands, eyes wide, at the centre of the platform.

Corrinne gently unscrews the tall spire from its base, and
Asha helps her set it on the ground.

At Corrinne's motion, Asha backs up to the edge of the
platform, entrance side.

Corrinne hobbles out to the farthest edge. From a little
sack, she scatters white sand outward into the sphere.

As the sand magically flies out, drawn to the walls, it
illuminates the outlines of the continents, but they are
inverse, as though seeing a globe map, but from the inside of
the earth. The crystal clusters are in key locations on every
continent.

CORRINNE

You see, young maiden. This is how we communicated with the other covens, before telephones, before the age of man and industry and war.

Enthralled, joyous, Asha spins, looking at it all.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

The women's caves, often found under castles,
(she motions)
Tintagel, Crete, and here, Washington DC, on the shores of the Potomac river.

One of the brightest crystal clusters glows at this location on the 'map'.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

The native peoples of America speak our language, the language of Mother Earth.

Corrinne approaches Asha and speaks more intimately.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Native Americans, Greeks, Ancient Britons, Indonesians. How did we all know of each other? Mother Earth's special beast, her messenger, the Great Serpent of the Earth, the Crystal Dragon.

Corrinne is so close her eyes shine, reflect the crystals in the cave.

INT. TUNNEL TO CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Whylic and Simon scabble through the almost complete darkness. The crystals seem even more dim than before.

SIMON

Whylic...Whylic. I think we're lost.

WHYLIE

(unsure)

It's all right, Simon. We just, we just keep following our hearts.

INT. CEREMONIAL CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Corrinne lies where the spire used to be. She composes herself into trance readiness. Asha kneels beside her.

ASHA

Old mother...will I see the Crystal Dragon?

CORRINNE

I hope so. Tonight, I will speak with the Great Serpent of the Earth.

Corrinne smiles at Asha, ceremony left aside for a moment.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Soon enough, this will be your duty, for Maiden today is Mother tomorrow.

Corrinne's gaze goes inwards.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Give me some tobacco now, I sleep.

ASHA

Is that all the Great Serpent wants? Tobacco?

CORRINNE

This is the land of your father's people, Asha. Of course tobacco is all you need to speak with spirits. I sleeeep.

INT. TUNNEL TO CAVE - CONTINUOUS

The crystals in the walls are even more dim. Whylie's form ahead of Simon is barely visible.

SIMON

Whylie...Whylie...I can't see you...

WHYLIE

Simon...Simon I'm here.

Whylie holds Simon's hand.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

Just keep following your heart, Simon.

SIMON

My dad...my dad's been lying to me
my whole life.

WHYLIE

His magic is very strong Simon, but
he doesn't use it. There must be a
reason.

Simon is really crying now.

SIMON

We're lost, Whylie.
(beat)
It's so dark.

Whylie's eyes catch some of the crystal light. He pulls
Simon's hand, they keep walking.

WHYLIE

It was dark in your mother's womb,
was it not?

They keep walking. The crystals shine a bit brighter,
lighting a clear pathway.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

And there you received your life...
and all the capacity

WHYLIE AND SIMON (CONT'D)

For wisdom that you possess now.

Whylie & Simon squeeze hands. They see into the Ceremonial
Cave, alight with shining crystals, outlines of continents,
Asha and the entranced Corrinne on the central platform.

They crouch low, watching.

INT. CEREMONIAL CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Asha kneels beside Corrinne. Lignette's head pokes out of
Asha's house-coat pocket, eyes wide with wonder.

CU - Corrinne's face.

INT. DARKNESS BELOW THE CEREMONIAL CAVE - CONTINUOUS

From the darkness below the platform, a shining form of
SPIRIT CORRINNE appears. She spins, does a 'dance', and bows
to the darkness below.

A shining figure approaches from below, speedily. It is the translucent form of a great serpent, the CRYSTAL DRAGON, shining with myriad crystal colours.

The Spirit Corrinne form hovers in the dark space below the platform, deep in the cave, as the Crystal Dragon slows and sees her.

SPIRIT CORRINNE
Greetings, old friend.

Corrinne's spirit form opens her hands, to reveal the little wad of tobacco.

She places it out there, on the 'air'.

The Crystal Dragon comes closer, swirls about it, hides it. Its mane fans out glorious, red, gold, blue, frightening, but just as quickly it shrinks in size and magnificence.

Now, the Crystal Dragon is almost puppet-like as it comes close to Corrinne's spirit form.

INT. TUNNEL TO CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Simon and Whyllie huddle close, craning their necks to peer into the cave without formally entering it.

SIMON
Whyllie, there's something down there.

WHYLIE
I know, I can see it too.

INT. CEREMONIAL CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Asha kneels beside Corrinne, concern on her face.

INT. DARKNESS BELOW THE CEREMONIAL CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Spirit Corrinne appears to be listening to the now diminutive Crystal Dragon as it whispers in her ear.

She looks at it sadly.

SPIRIT CORRINNE
Yes, Great Mother Earth awakens.
(listens)
No, we haven't found the egg lost with my poor Lillith.

Spirit Corrinne listens to the puppet-size Crystal Dragon whispering in her ear, and she becomes terribly sad.

SPIRIT CORRINNE (CONT'D)

If you die, if you must, can you
tell us, who will find the egg? Who
will make the journey to the cave
of Gaia's mind? Which one of us
must take the message,

The Crystal Dragon pulls away, its light weakens.

SPIRIT CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Who will beg Gaia to forgive us,
for all the terrible things we've
done to her?

The Crystal Dragon pulls away more, grows larger, more fierce again as looks upward at the platform, but its luminosity flickers, it becomes more translucent.

SPIRIT CORRINNE (CONT'D)

Is it her? The little maiden? But
she's so young. She's not ready for
the journey deep into Gaia's core.
Will you take her there?

The Crystal Dragon pulls away even more, enlarges, but becomes even more weakly lit. He nods 'no', and looks up again.

Corrinne frowns, not understanding.

Suddenly, the Crystal Dragon leaps upward. The crystals in the walls shine brighter as he leaps toward Asha, but she notices nothing, just keeps staring intently on Corrinne's sleeping form.

The Crystal Dragon bounds around the platform, terrifying, in full form, but then again it flickers. The crystals in the cave walls, the tunnel walls, all blaze in ultimate brilliance.

Simon and Whyllie gasps and fall back as the Crystal Dragon rounds on them, its look fierce and disapproving, but then it becomes sad. The Dragon gets more and more translucent.

From way below, the amorphous Spirit Corrinne looks upward.

SPIRIT CORRINNE'S POV - She can see the Dragon shine, then fade, then gently melt into falling bits of light.

Whyllie and Simon watch the sad Dragon as it melts into falling bits of light.

Spirit Corrinne holds out her hand, as the falling, fading bits of light pass through her hand.

SIMON
Let's go, Whyllie.

Whyllie nods. The scramble away up the tunnel, now aglow with a pale blue light from the crystals, still energized by the Dragon's presence.

On the platform, Corrinne wakes up, tears streaming.

Asha helps her sit up.

ASHA
Grandmother. Why are you crying?

Corrinne frowns through her great sadness.

CORRINNE
Did you not see it, child? Did you not just witness the death of the last Crystal Dragon?

Asha shakes her head, 'no', and Corrinne stares at her, then frowns (this is a great problem now, as she'd assumed Asha was 'the one').

Corrinne turns her head toward the cave entrance, some vestiges of the serpent's light still falling away.

CORRINNE (CONT'D)
You see nothing there? It didn't speak to you?

ASHA
Nothing, Grandmother. I see nothing.

From within Asha's pocket, little Lignette weeps, frightened.

INT. COVEN HOUSE SIMON'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Simon wakes up groggily, light streams in from the window showing back gardens.

Simon sits up and rubs his eyes, then it hits him - Whyllie isn't there.

SIMON
Whylic? Whylic?

Simon feels around in his bed. Hops down, looks under the bed, increasingly frantic.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Whylic? Where are you? Whylic?

Finally, Simon sees Whylic on the window bench. He rushes over. Whylic appears very weak.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Whylic! What's wrong with you?

WHYLIE
It's hard for us, Simon. You live in the third dimension. It's very...dense. Lignette and I, we're magical beings.

Whylic looks wistfully out the window.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)
All this hiding. I think I'd feel better if we could go out there.

Haphazard, Simon gets dressed.

SIMON
We'll go get Asha and Lignette. They live here. They'll know a safe place we can hang out.

INT. KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Ledo sits, watches a news cast on his laptop. Isa is behind him, hand on his shoulder. They are both concerned. Asha eats breakfast.

NEWS CASTER (V.O.)
The riots yesterday in DC have spread, with violent demonstrations in New Jersey, Lancaster, Minnesota.

NEWS PUNDIT (V.O.)
Bill sixty-eight seems to be the spark, but I've never seen such a tension, such energy to a protest movement.

(MORE)

NEWS PUNDIT (V.O.) (CONT'D)

It's a groundswell of popular
discontent against a government
that long ago forgot how to respond
to public demands.

Ledo looks up at Isa. They share a concerned look. Simon
appears at the entrance, wearing his backpack.

LEDO

Leaving us so soon? Your dad gave
you two days, but we understand if
you want to go now.

SIMON

No, no I want to stay. It's just
I....I'd like to eat breakfast
outside if I could.
(motion to pack)
And, and, I have some home-work I
should catch up on.

Ledo raises his eyebrows. Asha jumps at the chance, races
around the kitchen gathering breakfast items.

ASHA

Oooh, good idea, Simon. Me too.
It's okay, mum? I'll just pack
everything in this basket here.
I'll show him around, mum. That's
okay?

ISA

(laughs)
Of course, Asha. It's fine.
Corrinne isn't feeling well, so,
she'll meet with Simon later on.
Show him around just

Her eyes flicker to the image of rioting on the screen below.

ISA (CONT'D)

Stay on coven grounds.

ASHA

(still collects food)
Yeah mum. Of course!
(to Simon)
Come on.

EXT. COVEN GROUNDS - LATER

Under a giant weeping willow, Simon and Asha eat and lounge and LAUGH. In the sprays of branches above, Lignette and Whyllie sway, shining.

SIMON
(calling)
You feeling better up there?!

Whyllie smiles down at him.

ASHA
(to Simon)
You look happy.

SIMON
I've never felt this good. Ever! I
feel like, like I'm where I was
always meant to be.

ASHA
(laughs)
You should. You're sitting on the
roots of our family tree.

Simon looks at her like she's crazy.

ASHA (CONT'D)
(laughs)
I mean it. Now, don't get grossed
out, but well, when you're born,
the after-birth, the placenta,
well, witches, earth-lovers, we ah,
we bury it under a tree. And that
way you're always connected.

Simon looks in horror at the ground below him.

ASHA (CONT'D)
It's all right, Simon, it's
natural!

She rolls over. Simon takes a wrapped breakfast bar out of his back pack and hands it to her. She takes it gleefully.

ASHA (CONT'D)
Thanks! I never get packaged
stuff.
(eats)
Anyway, this tree explains why you
feel so good, even with everything
that's going on.
(MORE)

ASHA (CONT'D)

You, me, my mum, your mom, Baern
and some of his kin, even some of
my dad's people, from a long time
ago, they all chose this tree.

She rolls over again, looks at Simon significantly.

ASHA (CONT'D)

The roots of this tree reach all
the way down to the cave.

SIMON

Last night...last night I...

ISA (O.S.)

(calling)

Asha! Simon!

Both children look to their elves, overhead. Whyllie looks pained.

SIMON

Do you want to stay here?

(to Asha)

Is it safe?

ASHA

With everyone worrying so much
about everything, and Baern's
acting so weird. I think it's safer
for them out here.

As Asha and Simon walk to the house she nudges him.

ASHA (CONT'D)

Don't worry. They're at the family
tree! They'll be safe.

EXT. TREE BRANCHES - MOMENTS LATER

As Lignette sways from fronds, Whyllie sits on a limb, takes out his fairy dust pendant. It shines very bright.

WHYLIE

(to self)

They're coming!

Lignette is beside him, her eyes full of sadness.

LIGNETTE

I can't do it, Whyllie. I can't do
it!

Her tears spill over.

LIGNETTE (CONT'D)

I can't hurt Asha or her family. They take care of her! They are good! I can't hurt them. I can't! I won't!

WHYLIE

Those witches would kill us if they saw us, Lignette. You heard Asha say so last night.

LIGNETTE

But the man, Baern. He knows. He sees we are friends! Maybe the others would understand too, if they saw how much we love the children...

WHYLIE

I don't trust that Baern.

LIGNETTE

I don't either. Last night, in the cave, did you see his egg change?

Whylic frowns at her.

LIGNETTE (CONT'D)

He's got something caged in that egg. It's evil magic, Whylic.

WHYLIE

They're humans, Lignette. They may have some magic, but all they know is how to kill and destroy.

LIGNETTE

But not Asha, not Simon.

WHYLIE

They're children now. But they'll grow into adults. Will you still love her when she drives around in one of those metal beasts? Those smoke-breathing foul 'cars'?

He hops over her, gets more forceful, angry.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

Will you love her when she spends all day 'working' in a block building with no air and no light?

He swoops down, grabs the breakfast bar wrapper the kids left behind, swoops back, shakes it in Lignette's face.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

Will you love her when she only
loves money and uses it to buy
wasteful Gaia-killing trash?!!

Whylic stands on a branch, his pendant out and glowing.

LIGNETTE

I'll always love Asha. I can't help
it. The bond is too strong.

WHYLIE

They warned us about this,
Lignette.

Shows her his glowing pendant.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

The fairies are coming, and the
elves close behind. The witches
will try to kill us, so they can
put Gaia to sleep again, for
another thousand years of their
'industry' and 'progress'.

Whylic jumps away from her, onto another branch.

WHYLIE (CONT'D)

Well Gaia can't take any more of
their poison and neither can I! If
you can't break apart this coven,
then I'll have to.

Whylic SNAPS a large branch off the tree. Lignette GASPS.
The break point becomes a dull red shimmer.

Whylic swings down, broken branch in hand, exits the shelter
of the willow tree in a march.

EXT. BUSHES OUTSIDE COVEN HOUSE DINING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Hiding below a tall windows, Whylic angrily SNAPS the branch
into little pieces. Little SPARKS attend each snap.

Whylic peers over the window ledge into the room. The window
is open, and he swings up and in.

INT. COVEN HOUSE DINING ROOM - LATER

The doors to the dining room are thrown open by Baern and he strides in, mid-argument, with Corrinne close behind, then Isa, a black woman ARIANNA, an Asian woman, LIZHIN, and twin women, older, also First Nations like Ledo, MAURI and SEMAA.

BAERN

It's Ioain. His energy was always destructive, disruptive.

CORRINNE

It's far beyond time for you to give up your jealousy of him, Baern.

BAERN

(furious)

Jealous! Not a drop of magical roots in his entire family? That little wimp, I'm not jealous!

CORRINNE

My daughter chose him for her husband, Baern, not you. And you've been poisoned by jealousy ever since.

ARIANNA

Tell us what's happened, Corrinne. Why have you brought us here?

Corrinne deflates, leans on a chair back for support.

CORRINNE

I was in the cave, last night.

LI-ZHIN

Without us!? Tell us you didn't summon the Great Serpent.

CORRINNE

I went because I felt called. The Crystal Dragon summoned me, not the other way around.

LI-ZHIN

You went alone!

CORRINNE

Well, I meant to take the maiden, Asha, but she was already there
(accusatory)
With Baern, and Ioain's boy.

The women all turn on Baern. Mauri and Semaa look particularly aggressive.

SEMAA

It is forbidden. Men are not allowed in the cave alone!

Baern scowls.

BAERN

I felt drawn as well. It was too powerful to ignore. Corrinne sent me away. I know as much about what happened down there as you do.

Mauri makes a hissing 'TSK' noise at him.

Isa approaches Corrinne, who seems weaker than ever.

ISA

Tell us, what has happened?

CORRINNE

It's gone. The Great Serpent of the Earth, the last Crystal Dragon, is dead.

There is a collective GASP.

People talk over each other.

ARIANNA

It's impossible...

MAURI

But they're immortal...

SEMAA

Hush, you know it's reborn in the egg, but who has it now?

LI-ZHIN

How did it die? Who caused this?

EXT. BUSHES OUTSIDE COVEN HOUSE DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Why lie stares at his glowing pendant as he listens to the ANGRY VOICES mounting from within.

INT. COVEN HOUSE DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The women have turned on each other, accusing each other and Baern. Even gentle Isa is red-cheeked and angry.

LI-ZHIN

(to Isa)

You should have tried to reach Gaia's cave years ago!

ISA

That's not fair! Everyone knows I'm not powerful enough!

ARIANNA

(to Baern)

And you, you've never explained what really happened that night Lillith died. She was our last hope to reach Gaia's cave.

BAERN

Oh great. A trial all over again. I wasn't even there that night!

MAURI

How will we ever get the egg to Gaia now?

SEMAA

What egg? It's been lost since the night Lillith died. No coven has reported finding another.

LI-ZHIN

This wouldn't even be an issue if she'd done her duty.

ISA

What, and die in vain the way my cousin did? Alone down there, in the bowels of the earth? Buried alive while Gaia sleeps and sleeps and sleeps?

Ledo is at the doorway, hand in hand with the children. Isa sees them first, and she pales, her hand up to her mouth.

Everyone falls silent.

ISA (CONT'D)

Oh! Oh, Simon. How much did you hear?

SIMON

You're all crazy. You're all crazy and somehow, somehow you got my mother killed too.

CORRINNE

No, Simon. It wasn't that way. You have so much to learn.

SIMON

I don't want to. I want to go back to my father.

Corrinne deflates.

BAERN

Ignorance is bliss, 'eh, boy?

LEDO

That's enough, Baern. Your taunting and backstabbing are at an end.

ARIANNA

Oh lovely, now a testosterone grandstand. Please, Corrinne, put an end to it before it begins.

As the room descends into ARGUMENTS again, Simon backs out.

Asha stands still in the doorway, tears in her eyes as the adults in her life all BICKER incessantly.

EXT. COVEN GROUNDS - LATER

Back pack on, Simon texts.

CU - CELL PHONE TEXT

SIMON: I'm ready to come home now.

DAD: I'll be there in 20 minutes.

SIMON: I'll be out by the front gates.

EXT. COVEN GATES - LATER

Simon waits at the stone pillars. He shifts his backpack.

SIMON
You okay in there?

WHYLIE (O.S.)
Are you sure you want to leave,
Simon? Don't you want to know more?
What about this missing egg?

SIMON
I'm sure. It's not safe for you
there, Whylie. You took care of me
down in that tunnel, now it's time
for me to take care of you.

INT. INSIDE SIMON'S BACKPACK - CONTINUOUS

Whylie's face looks pained as he holds the pendant.

WHYLIE
(whisper)
I love you, Simon. I'm sorry.

Ioain's sedan pulls up, Simon gets in.

EXT. COVEN HOUSE - LATER

From an upper window, Corrinne looks out over the car park.
She is very sad. Corrinne watches as, below, Lizhin angrily
gets into her Prius and zooms away, too fast.

INT. COVEN HOUSE UPPER LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Corrinne continues to look through the window. She clutches
at her heart at what she sees.

Mauri and Semaa stand beside their vehicle, arguing.

Arianna enters the room.

ARIANNA
Grandmother. I'm sorry it came to
this.

Corrinne shakes her head, defeated.

CORRINNE
I couldn't keep us together. I
started this coven. Since 1967
we've been a family.
(MORE)

CORRINNE (CONT'D)

And one argument, one big....I
couldn't heal all that spite, all
that jealousy.

Arianna holds Corrinne as the old woman cries.

INT. COVEN HOUSE DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Baern stands in the dining room, Ledo near the doorway.

LEDO

Fine. We will stay in our cottage
until other arrangements can be
made.

Ledo turns on his heel and exits.

Baern continues to look angrily about the room, as though he
wishes there was still someone to argue with. He spies a
green twig on the floor against the wall. He picks it up,
frowns at it, spies another under the table, and another.

In Baern's hand the little pile of broken willow twigs
quickly turn brown, as though dried up and dead; the spell
revealed.

Baern is surprised, but then dawning realization transforms
his face.

Baern looks to the open window with a smile of evil
satisfaction.

EXT. OUTSIDE SIMON'S HOUSE - LATER

Ioain shuts his car door, follows a tired-out Simon.

IOAIN

You're sure. No-one hurt you, or
scared you.

SIMON

I'm fine, dad. It's just too much.

Simon's shoulders slump as he goes up the steps.

SIMON (CONT'D)

They didn't tell me anything, dad.
I'm just more confused.

Simon turns around on the front step, stares his dad down.

SIMON (CONT'D)
 You're going to tell me.
 Everything. But first I need to go
 to bed and get some sleep.

INT. SIMON'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ioain puts a hand on Simon's back.

IOAIN
 You know, I'm home tomorrow. It's
 Easter Friday. Want to decorate the
 house, like old times?

Simon obviously likes this idea.

SIMON
 Easter. Yeah dad, okay.

INT. ELVIN HALLWAY OF FAIRY CAGES - NIGHT

Elf adults stand dutifully beside each cage. The Elf King and his circus-like entourage make a grand procession onto a dais on a high balcony overlooking the proceedings.

ELF KING
 Our captivity of a thousand years
 is at an end, my little shiny
 friends! Gaia awakens! Take the
 surface, spread madness among the
 humans! Go now, fly!

CU - Bylie stands by the golden fairy cage.

BYLIE
 Forgive me.

Bylie takes the lid off the cage. Immediately, their light dims, they CRY in little faint faerie voices, but the strongest of them rise up, into crevasses amongst the hallway's cave roof.

ELF KING
 Together, my magical kin, we will
 prick and trick these humans to
 insanity, until they go running,
 begging for the peace of these
 half-lit caves. To war! Together!
 (quietly)
 But you, my little friends, go
 first.

INT. COVEN GROUNDS - MORNING

Corrinne sits, pulls at weeds in the garden. She looks at a flower as it blooms too quickly. Her eyes widen.

A fairy (mostly a ball of light) emerges from the bloom.

Corrinne is awe-struck, a joyous smile spreads across her face. She gets up on her knees as she realizes it's happening all around her.

The first fairy light (light blue) comes up to her, 'sniffs' around her. Suddenly, Corrinne is swarmed, the fairy lights attack her hair, until her hair is a nest of madness and she SCREAMS from within it.

Ledo and Isa emerge from their cottage and come running, as does Arianna from the main house.

Together, they swat away the fairy lights, and drag Corrinne, almost unconscious, into the house.

INT. SIMON'S HOUSE - LATER

Simon comes downstairs groggily, rubs his eyes.

Ioain watches TV, the news.

TV NEWS WEATHER ANCHOR

And spring is in like a lion, with record breaking rainfall and extreme lightening events in twelve states.

TV NEWS PUNDIT

It seems mother nature is waking up with a roar this year.

TV NEWS WEATHER ANCHOR

You can say that again.

TV NEWS PUNDIT

Let's hope this rain puts a damper on the riots raging across the country.

Ioain turns off the TV, motions to boxes nearby.

IOAIN

Good morning, sunshine. I brought the Easter boxes out. Want to get started while I make pancakes?

Simon smiles at his dad.

Simon takes stuffed bunnies out of the boxes and sets them up around the room. He takes out a craft he'd made years ago, with a picture of himself and his mother glued to the centre.

Simon takes out a big Easter basket. The crinkly 'Easter Grass' is colourful, various plastic and Ukrainian decorative eggs nestled safely within. Simon gently takes them out and sets them on the coffee table while his dad talks from the kitchen.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

(mixing batter)

You know, Easter was your mother's favourite time of the year. New life, the colours, the chocolate. I think she liked it more than Christmas.

Simon takes out a blue stone egg and lays it beside the others. He's about to go back to the box, but freezes, goes back to the blue one.

This egg is identical to the one Baern had, but smaller.

The specks within its dark blue swirls mimic the pattern of crystal clusters from the Coven's ceremonial cave walls.

Simon picks it up, a strong shiver shakes his whole body.

The crystals under the surface of the egg illuminate. Simon's mouth drops, he looks up (dad doesn't see).

Simon heads for the stairs.

SIMON

I...I just have to get something from my room, I'll be right back.

IOAIN

Pancakes in two minutes.

INT. SIMON'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Whyllie sits on Simon's pillow, gazes into his pendant that now glows bright yellow. When Simon bursts in, Whyllie quickly tucks it into his shirt, but Simon's too excited to notice.

SIMON

Whyllie! Whyllie look! It's the egg!
It's the one they were all fighting
about! And it's been here, hiding
with my mum's stuff all along!

Whyllie's look is wide-eyed, almost frightened.

WHYLLIE

She left it for you to find.

SIMON

She left it for us, Whyllie. What
should we do?

Simon paces the room.

SIMON (CONT'D)

I can't show it to my dad. Mom
would have told him about it if she
wanted him to know. And I don't
trust those coven people, except
maybe my grandmother, and Asha, but
I'm sure Asha would just do
whatever her parents tell her to
do.

Whyllie is pale with strong emotions, but Simon doesn't
notice.

WHYLLIE

Really?

(accusatory)

She doesn't seem the type to do
what she's told, just blindly
follow orders.

SIMON

What does that mean?

IOAIN (O.S.)

Pancakes!

SIMON

(yells)

Coming!

(to Whyllie)

Just, don't do anything. I'll see
what I can get out of my dad today.
Then, then, maybe tomorrow we'll
call Asha and see what she thinks.

Whyllie nods.

IOAIN (O.S.)
They're getting cold!

Simon is about to leave, his eyes shine with happiness. The egg lays on the bed, set apart from Whyllie.

SIMON
I can't believe my mother left it,
for me.

Simon exits.

WHYLIE
(sad)
Good-bye.

INT. SIMON'S HOUSE KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Simon and his dad eat breakfast. Simon eats like a horse, smiles at his dad, obviously really happy. Ioain blinks a tear back, really overcome to see his son like this.

INT. COVEN HOUSE CORRINNE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Isa, Ledo, Arianna, Baern, Arianna all sit or stand, concerned around Corrinne's bed. She is propped up, pale, breathing shallow.

Fairies throw themselves at the window. Everyone ignores this (it's been going on for a while).

A fairy light enters through a crack in the windows. Ledo captures it in a little leather bag (not the first time).

ISA
But why are they attacking us?

CORRINNE
It's unexpected. Oh, I'm glad
you're all still here, but after
yesterday... you all agreed the
coven is dissolved.

Corrinne looks ready to die, she's so heartbroken, guilty.

ARIANNA
Stop blaming yourself, Grandmother.
We're not the only ones. My sister
in New Orleans just called. Her
coven broke up last night.

ISA

Really? This morning I spoke with an old friend in France. She says her coven has broken up too.

CORRINNE

Oh! Oh, this mixed up, angry energy! Where is it coming from!? And these protests and riots, it's part of the same thing. Oh, we're all acting like angry little children!

Ledo and Isa share a guilty glance. Arianna catches it.

ARIANNA

Ledo, Isa, what's going on?

ISA

Nothing, what do you mean?

Baern also turns, as though expecting something from them.

ARIANNA

Have you talked to Asha about all this?

Just then, two fairies escape in, both bee-lining to attack Corrinne, who recoils in terror. Ledo catches the first, though not as easily as before.

Baern pulls out a wand. The fairy sticks to it, buzzing, just in front of Corrinne who SCREAMS and hides her face.

Baern puts the fairy in Ledo's bag.

BAERN

Should you tell them, or should I?

LEDO

What are you talking about!?

BAERN

Well, it's not a pretty story.

ARIANNA

What are you talking about, Baern? Out with it!

BAERN

It seems our little Asha is not as innocent as it seems.

ISA
Stop it! Stop it!

Arianna looks at Isa, mad.

LEDO
(sighs)
Asha was at the first protest, on
Wednesday, the one against Bill
sixty-eight.

BAERN
As was Simon.

CORRINNE
No. The children could never do a
spell so powerful. It's spreading
right around the country!

BAERN
I believe you underestimate
everyone's power, now that Gaia
awakens.

CORRINNE
Yes...I've felt it. We've all felt
it.

BAERN
And I found this, scattered around
the room, the dining room in which
we fought.

Baern pulls his hand from his pocket, exposes the broken bits
of branch.

ARIANNA
Branches, broken twigs?

LEDO
Willow tree. Weeping willow.

BAERN
The family tree, broken and
scattered in our room of ceremony.
A simple spell. Powerful.

ISA
Stop it! Stop it! Asha would never
do these things!

BAERN
Not alone...

LEDO

What do you mean?!

BAERN

The elves. They have resurfaced. An elf has made a bond with Asha, and another one with Simon. Our children have become tools of war wielded by our age-old enemy. They are amongst us, and they mean to destroy us.

Everyone looks to Baern's brooding face.

The fairies throw themselves at the window like kamikaze snowflakes.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE BEHIND SIMON'S NEIGHBOURHOOD - DAY

Whyllie walks through the devastated land - a new neighbourhood will be developed here soon.

As in Corrinne's garden, flowers bloom too big, too fast, and sprout fairies. They zip around, cloud up, and head toward the main street far away, with aggressive purpose.

Whyllie, still very sad, takes not much notice. He stands on the exposed root of the same tall tree as at the beginning.

WHYLIE

Take me home.

The roots roll, the earth churns, a small crevasse opens, and Whyllie descends, riding the root.

INT. ELF KING'S CHAMBER - LATER

Deep red velvet curtains partition a shadowed 'sitting room' behind the main part of the cave room.

The Elf King is attended by a smaller group of lackeys in the main area.

A hooded figure sits in the background area, camouflaged by the shadows.

A messenger bows, having just given the Elf King good news.

ELF KING

They fairies have reached the surface? Hah! Hah!

He does a triumphant dance.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

Gaia, Gaia, great Mother Earth
awaken! Raise your energies to the
fifth dimension again!

(wheedling)

Or all your precious little fairies
will die.

(to lackey)

They always were her favourites.
Little fluffs of light and hope.

A retinue of armed elves marches in and stomps to attention.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

What's this? What's this?

The retinue parts, and Whylie, exhausted and covered in dirt,
steps forward timidly.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

What's this? A traitor? Come back
so soon? Can't stand to hurt your
poor little human bestie best?

Wylie holds out the egg. The Elf King GASPS, quickly
transforms to a smoke curl, and reforms, close to Whylie.

The hooded figure in the background stands up.

The Elf King slowly, eyes gleaming with greed, cups the egg.

The hooded figure in the background motions with his hand,
and all the lackeys disperse away, out via tunnels.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

Yes, yes, be gone, all of you!

The armed elves disperse backwards, smoke-form. Only Whylie,
the Elf King and the hooded figure remain.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

(triumphant)

Hah hah! Hah hah!

Egg in hand, the Elf King scampers back to the hooded figure,
up, onto his shoulders the way Whylie used to ride Simon's
shoulders. The hood is thrown back - it is Baern.

Wylie is so shocked, he pales and his knees buckle.

The Elf King climbs around on Baern, pats him, familiar.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

Together! Together! Together we will enter the great cave of Gaia's mind. Together we will show her the power of our friendship. She will make me king of the fifth dimension! And Baern, king of the third dimension. We will rule the new world! Together!

All the while, Baern stares intensely at Whylie.

WHYLIE

But..but..my king. He...he is a human.

ELF KING

Silence! Silence!

The Elf King is off Baern in a trice, and spits at Whylie.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

You've been bonded with a boy for less than a week. What do you know of unbreakable love?!

Baern continues to stare at only Whylie, his eyes burn with some terrible purpose.

ELF KING (CONT'D)

Baern and I have the strongest friendship! Fifty years have we waited! Fifty years of spells to waken Gaia, plans to be hatched!

WHYLIE

Plans?

The Elf King prances about.

Baern stares at Whylie. A sadness creeps in, but he blinks it away.

ELF KING

I will be king of all creatures magical! The sun, the light, the air is ours! Baern will be the King of humans, or what's left of them after a week of fairy madness and elvin blades.

WHYLIE

You're together?!

ELF KING
Fifty years of the purest bond of
friendship!

A knife blade, curved, silver, covered in runes, appears through the Elf King's torso.

Whyllie falls backward. Baern's evil face is behind the Elf King, a maniac bloodlust in his eyes, that he's determined will cover over the emotion underneath.

The Elf King falls, scrabbles to try and grasp the hilt of the knife in his back.

Baern still stares like fire at Whyllie.

BAERN
(to self)
If you, a lowly half-wit, can break
the bond of love for his boy,
surely I, a mage of the old order,
can do so with ease.

Baern kneels beside the contorting Elf King. He grabs the knife hilt so the dying Elf King can't move, and must face him. Baern shakes with emotion.

BAERN (CONT'D)
Since I was a boy, I knew this day
was coming. I was trained for it.
For all that knowing, it still
hurts, it still hurts.

Baern yanks the knife out of the Elf King whose HOWL echoes in a multiple layers of sound. Golden light and swirls of black smoke eschew from the wound.

The gold light & black smoke from the Elf King's wound grows, fills the chamber,

EXT. ELF PARTY CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Elves preparing for war SCREAM as the gold light & black smoke swirls envelope them. They appear to CHOKE on its gasses, and their bodies rise, rise up. They grab roots, and everyone is being brought upwards.

INT. ELF KING'S CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

Whyllie GASPS, choking on the gas. Baern, unaffected by the gasses, picks up the egg out of the dead Elf King's hand.

The Elf King dissolves to an acrid green dust cloud that increases the power of the smoky spell.

Baern grabs a root and is carried upward.

The smoke is forcing Whyllie into his smoke-curl form, but it's blowing him to pieces. Whyllie turns and runs for a root, one of the last little roots leaving the walls of the chamber. It breaks, but he grabs one more, and is carried upward.

INT. COVEN HOUSE HALLWAYS - LATER

Ledo holds struggling Asha. Isa cries in the background.

ASHA
No! Lignette! No!

Arianna and Baern walk away with Lignette. Arianna holds a silver chain that is wrapped tightly around Lignette's neck.

Baern holds his wand to Lignette. Lignette is frozen like a statue in a very uncomfortable position, extreme pain on her frozen face.

INT. SIMON'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Simon and Ioain finish decorating the living room together.

SIMON
So, you met mum at one of those
cheesie Psychic Fairs? And you
didn't know any magic?

IOAIN
I already had my job with the
department of defense, destined to
be a pencil pusher for life, but
I'd always gravitated toward the
esoteric, the weird, unexplainable,
wild side of things.

Ioain fingers the picture Simon had found earlier.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
She plucked me out of the crowd,
out of my boring life.

He turns to Simon.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

Turns out I'm a natural. The crone, your grandmother, says I'm one of the most powerful wizards she's ever met.

SIMON

Grandma? Why does everyone call her a crone?

Ioain darkens, sits.

IOAIN

Maiden, Mother, Crone. Maiden becomes Mother becomes Crone. Only the most powerful women have these duties, Simon.

He looks at his hands, sad.

SIMON

Dad. I know. I mean, I kinda know, I think.

IOAIN

Our coven, Simon. They keep some of the most important secrets in the whole world. They didn't tell you everything, they wouldn't. I don't think anyone knows the whole story, anymore.

Simon stands, hops a little bit, deciding something.

SIMON

Wait here.

Ioain frowns.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Just...wait here.

INT. SIMON'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Simon looks around his empty room, frowns.

SIMON

Whylic? Whylic, where are you?

Simon looks around everywhere, increasingly frantic. His calls rise from a whisper to a yell.

SIMON (CONT'D)
 Whyllie? Whyllie? Whyllie! Come out!
 This isn't funny! Whyllie!

By the time Ioain comes in, Simon is crying and frantic.

SIMON (CONT'D)
 He's gone, dad, he's gone!

IOAIN
 Who are you talking about, Simon,
 what's happening?

SIMON
 It's the egg! You knew I found and
 it and you took it away and you,
 and you, and you sent him away!
 Didn't you!? Didn't you!?

Simon collapses and Ioain catches him.

SIMON (CONT'D)
 Where is he dad? Where is Whyllie?

IOAIN
 Who is Whyllie, Simon?

SIMON
 (sniff)
 My elf.

Ioain is stunned, but recovers.

IOAIN
 And the egg?

SIMON
 We just found it, this morning. Mum
 left it for us, it was in the
 Easter box, just like all the other
 decorations.

Ioain is too shocked. He sets Simon down gently and, sitting on the floor, puts his head in his hand. His eyes tear.

IOAIN
 (whisper)
 Oh, Lillith.

SIMON
 Where is he, dad. Do you think
 Whyllie brought the egg back to the
 coven?

Ioain darkens.

IOAIN
Let's hope so.

A fairy light, green, zips in from under the window sill.
It attacks Ioain, ZAPS his neck, his brow.

SIMON
Dad!

Ioain swats at it, then catches it between his thumb & forefinger. It's hard to hold. He casts around the room.

IOAIN
Simon, your silver box there, get it!

A much-etched silver box sits amongst kid toy clutter on the desk. Simon dumps it out (bits of paper, plastic army toys).

Ioain puts the angrily ZAPPING fairy in the box.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
This box was a gift, from your grandmother.
(beat)
Beings from the fifth dimension, fairies, elves, sprites, they can't fight against argentum...silver.

Ioain turns to leave.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
Get your backpack.

Simon follows Ioain down the stairs.

KITCHEN

IOAIN
Get water, grab the salt.

SIMON
The whole box?

IOAIN
We don't have time for questions, Simon.

Simon grabs snacks too.

LIVING ROOM

Ioain pushes over the fish tank with a CRASH. Exotic fish flap on the floor.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
Sorry, guys.

Simon comes in, incredulous, tying the back pack up.

SIMON
Dad!

IOAIN
Like I said, no time, Simon.

Ioain digs through the coloured stones on the bottom. A plastic bag, lumpy, was hidden. He yanks it out, opens it gingerly.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
Here, open your backpack again.

Simon holds open the backpack.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
The box, it's in here too?

Simon nods, yes.

Ioain puts a large white crystal in the back pack. A gaudily big pentacle pendent hangs on a golden chain, he puts this around his neck. A pair of fine-link silver chainmail gloves go into the bag.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
You don't ever want to touch evil objects with your bare skin, Simon.

SIMON
How do you know what's evil?

IOAIN
(pause)
You follow your heart...

IOAIN AND SIMON (CONT'D)
...not your eyes.

Ioain pulls out the last item: a long thin wand. The handle is wound up with crystals and beads wound with sinew and leather.

INT. IOAIN'S CAR - LATER

Ioain is focused. Many people run in the same direction, not heeding for cars.

IOAIN
More protests, not good.

SIMON
Dad, about that protest...

IOAIN
I know, Simon. I understand now, at least I'm starting to.

Simon swallows, guilty, wants to change the subject.

SIMON
So...what's with the awesome necklace?

IOAIN
The Crone gave it to me, when I was given the role Herne, lead male of the coven. Baern...you have to understand, Simon. The coven grounds.

Ioain drives carefully, as fast as possible. Up ahead, a storm cloud revolves in strange colours.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
It's a magical place. Long ago, for the native people, Ledo's people, it was a place of ceremony for them. But Baern's ancestors, they bought it way back in pioneer times. The coven grounds belong to Baern now. He was supposed to be Herne. He was supposed to marry your mother. Everyone assumed they would lead the coven. He was jealous when Lillith chose me. And jealousy is a poisonous thing, Simon.

The car comes up over a rise, and they are forced to stop from a traffic jam. They see a sea of people spread out.

A giant crowd is assembled far off. A cloud of angry fairies swarms overhead (unseen by everyone but Ioain). The fairy cloud projects swirls of angry red energy into the crowd.

IOAIN (CONT'D)
Oh Gaia. Not this.

INT. COVEN HOUSE BAERN'S SECRET ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lignette is tied by the silver chain about her neck to a silver ring stud set in a table. A glass 'menagerie' (like those covering the fairy worlds in the cave) covers her.

She can move though, is pressed against the glass watching Baern.

Baern's ceremonial table is covered with evil talismans, objects, spell-books. The blue stone egg is sideways on a small stand. Below it, a smudge bowl (oval sea shell), full of burning herbs. The smoke curls up and around the egg.

Baern adds a moss, the smoke turns acrid yellow. The crystal lights in the egg start to fade.

In the back ground, the 'fake' egg Baern had before stands on a tall spire. Instead of being blue stone, it holds the image of the beautiful woman, the spirit of LILLITH, entrapped for all time.

Baern steps back from the stone egg on his desk, gloats at its demise as the crystal lights dim. The evil smoke, in thin tendrils, invade the egg, like syringes.

Baern stands beside the Lillith egg.

BAERN
You could have been my queen,
Lillith. My friends are the
richest, most powerful men in the
world.

Baern sprinkles a handful of black herbs on the smudge.

BAERN (CONT'D)
When Gaia is put to sleep again,
for another thousand years. I will
be a King, with unlimited power
over all humanity.

His gaze washes over the Lillith egg sadly, then focuses on the struggling, banging Lignette.

BAERN (CONT'D)
Take care, little elf. Don't want
you harming yourself before your
girl has to take the trip
downwards.

Lignette freezes.

BAERN (CONT'D)
That's right. You still have a role
to play, little one. Only a woman,
with the strongest bond of love,
can survive the journey to Gaia's
cave.

Baern caresses Lillith's egg, the spirit shies away from his
touch.

BAERN (CONT'D)
Lillith made the journey, with her
little baby son, Simon, to guide
her back to the surface.

He smiles sick at Lignette.

BAERN (CONT'D)
But she met me on the way.

He sweeps away, angry.

BAERN (CONT'D)
How she knew, why she didn't bring
the damn egg that night...

He sweeps back to Lillith's egg.

BAERN (CONT'D)
Speak to me, spirit. Tell me how
you knew I wanted that egg. Why you
didn't bring it with you that
night?

The spirit of Lillith vanishes, leaving the egg a transparent
void.

BAERN (CONT'D)
No matter.

Baern focuses on the smudge invading the real stone egg.

BAERN (CONT'D)
I have the stone egg now. And the
girl Asha will take it to Gaia's
cave for me.

Lignette stands, horrified, in her cage.

BAERN (CONT'D)
 That's right. Asha will make the
 difficult journey to Gaia's cave.
 She will make this offering.

He gestures to the stone egg.

BAERN (CONT'D)
 (mocking)
 She will think she's begging Gaia
 to let humans and elves live side
 by side. And the egg will be
 accepted by Gaia, and a new Crystal
 Dragon will be born.

He swoops down over the egg, the green gasses have invaded
 it, the crystals are inky black with a redness behind them.

The interior swirls with the yellow smoke within.

BAERN (CONT'D)
 But it won't happen that way. Gaia
 will accept the egg, the poisoned
 egg, and sleep the drugged sleep of
 another thousand years.

He picks up a third egg out of a drawer. It is transparent
 and empty. He approaches Lignette.

BAERN (CONT'D)
 And when little Asha struggles back
 to the surface, through the black
 tunnels, the crystal lights all put
 out, only her love of you to guide
 her way home...you'll be put to
 death and she'll be lost. But never
 fear, little elf.

Baern holds up the empty egg.

BAERN (CONT'D)
 I'll be there, to capture her soul,
 forever.

A loud KNOCK at the door.

ARIANNA (O.S.)
 Baern! Baern! Come on, Baern!
 There's elves out here! They're
 attacking the coven house!

Baern narrows his eyes.

Frustrated, Baern throws on his cloak, grabs his wand, exits, SLAMS the door behind him.

The spirit of Lillith returns, eyes plead sadly at Lignette.

Panting, Lignette yanks on the chain around her neck, then dissolves into a light grey smoke, and resolves again, still in the glass managerie, but the chain no longer on her neck.

Lignette can't lift the glass. She grabs the silver collar, and though the silver burns her hands, she uses its raw edge to scrape around the bottom seam where glass meets table.

The line glows yellow. With effort, Lignette lifts the glass menagerie, it tips, SMASHES on the floor.

Lignette heads for the Lillith egg, but Lillith shakes her head 'no', points to the stone egg.

Lignette jumps up onto the table. The acrid yellow smoke curls within the egg. Lignette looks at Lillith who, sadly, nods 'yes' to her.

Lignette swallows, resolving to do this deed that will kill her. She lies down in the still smoking smudge bowl. She partially turns to smoke, but she is in control of this transformation.

Lignette focuses her energy on the egg above her. Her smoke curls invade the egg like the acrid smoke earlier, only now the sulphuric smoke is drawn back out of the egg, into Lignette's body.

Whylic's blue smoke curls under the door, entering the room.

Lignette continues. The egg returns to its blackened state, Lignette gasps shallowly as the poison smoke invades her.

Her skin shrivels, her eyes darken with the yellow smoke.

The blue smoke resolves into Whylic. He pauses, takes the scene in.

As Whylic jumps up on the table, the transformation completes.

The blue egg is back to its former self, the crystal clusters within shining a bright white.

Whylic pulls the smudge bowl out, towards him. Lignette lies, dying, her eyes turned blind by the smoke within.

WHYLIE
Lignette! Lignette!

LIGNETTE

Whyllie? Whyllie! Take the egg, go with Simon, together.

(wheezes)

The Crystal Dragon saw you and Simon. Not me, not Asha. The Crystal Dragon knew you could do it.

WHYLIE

No, Lignette. Only a woman can enter Gaia's cave. Only a woman can ask her forgiveness.

LIGNETTE

Don't be silly, Whyllie. Simon is just a boy, and he loves you. The journey must be taken together, human and elf. Gaia will see how much you love each other. She'll forgive us all. She'll let all of us live on the surface, together.

WHYLIE

No, Lignette. I betrayed Simon. He'll never forgive me. I'll never forgive myself. I won't risk his life for this. I can do it alone, Lignette.

Lignette is near death, she pants quickly.

LIGNETTE

No, Whyllie! Follow your heart! Follow your heart. Be careful of Baern. Simon's mother. Simon's mother....

She motions toward Lillith's egg, then dies. Her body glows a golden, molten red, becomes liquid magma. Whyllie steps away from its heat, but then it quickly cools, a large obsidian stone in the smudge bowl.

Whyllie picks up the stone egg. It seems heavy for him, it's as big as his torso. He looks at Lillith's egg. She looks lovingly at him.

WHYLIE

I'll save him. I'll save Simon. I'll talk to Gaia myself, and I'll beg her to save the humans.

Lillith's ghost is aghast. She shakes her head 'no', as Whyllie turns back to smoke with the egg & disappears.

EXT. WASHINGTON DC STREETS - CONTINUOUS

Ioain drags Simon by the hand through the panicked, crowded streets. Simon pulls a bit, protesting.

SIMON

Dad, we have to get to the coven!
What if Whyllie is there? What about
the egg?

IOAIN

These people are in danger, Simon.
They need our help.

Ioain and Simon head toward the 'mall', the same grassy hill as before. Humans twirl madly on the grass & streets, mesmerized, as swarms of fairies encircle them.

Under a tree, a human dances like a marionette, an ELF SOLDIER with a wand forcing the spell. As Ioain and Simon run past, the Elf Soldier sees them, frowns, lets the spell drop and the human falls unconscious.

EXT. THE 'MALL', WASHINGTON DC - MOMENTS LATER

The crowd is massive, stretches through the streets beyond the horizon.

The cloud of fairies above projects red clouds throughout the area. GUNSHOTS and SCREAMS emanate from the throng.

A CRAZY WOMAN touched by red energy swings her purse around and around, hitting anyone near by.

A group of CRAZY YOUNG MEN touched by red energy sit down in a circle, all facing outward, and bash their cell phones against their own heads.

An elderly CRAZY GRANDMA in a crappy car full of red fairy light SCREAMS with wild joy as she smash-up derby's other cars in an intersection. Pulling out, we see the other drivers are participating, like it's all crazy 'fun'.

Ioain and Simon stop, panting, taking it in.

IOAIN

Simon, you, you and your elf, you
started this, didn't you.

Simon looks like he's going to cry.

SIMON

I'm sorry, dad. I'm so sorry!

Ioain kneels, takes Simon's shoulders.

IOAIN

You're just a kid, Simon. It's natural to be angry and upset. But your elf, Simon. I'm sorry, but your elf was using you to spread this, this hatred, this madness.

Simon shakes his head, 'no', crying with the painful realization that it's true.

SIMON

But Whyllie loves me, dad.

Ioain hugs Simon fiercely.

IOAIN

I love you, Simon. I should have been honest with you about all of this long ago. But I wanted to protect you.

He pulls away, looks at the throng.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

And I don't think any of us realized it would look like this, when Gaia woke up. This is madness, son.

He looks to Simon, resolve firming.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

It may be impossible, Simon. But we have to try.

Simon and his father stand together, eyes closed, palms up and outward. The air around them is energized, wavy and distorted, a light blue energy crackles as it balloons out, over the crowd, repelling the energy of the fairies, dispersing them.

From across the park, near the tree Asha had occupied days earlier, Semaa and Mauri stand together, a similar energy emanates from them.

The humans touched by this crackling blue energy 'wake up' from the red-energy angry trance.

The circle of Crazy Young Men pull their phones away from bleeding heads and start to treat each other's wounds.

The Crazy Woman stares at her purse, then drops it like it's a lizard. Folks around her, also in Blue Light, stop and stare at their own hands, at each other.

INT. COVEN HOUSE HALLWAYS - CONTINUOUS

Ledo strides along the hallway, readying to leave. Isa comes out of another room. They meet.

LEDO
How is Asha?

ISA
She's sleeping. I gave her a tea.

LEDO
I'll just look in on her, before I go out there.

Isa swallows, afraid for her husband, and nods. Together they walk down the hallway.

ASHA'S BEDROOM

Ledo enters Asha's room, her bed is empty. Isa grabs his arm.

ISA
Where is she? Ledo, where is she?

Ledo stands apart, focuses his energy inward. He CLAPS his hands in front of his heart, rubs them, a faint white glow of light stretches between his hands, as he makes the same series of magical gestures Ioain did earlier, in the Pentagon bathroom.

Ledo opens his eyes.

LEDO
She's downstairs. The basement.

He shakes his head, confused by what he just saw in a vision.

LEDO (CONT'D)
Baern has a...secret room, a ceremony room.

The always-confident Ledo suddenly looks afraid. Isa clutches at her heart. They race out together.

INT. CEREMONIAL CAVE - CONTINUOUS

The egg is slung over Whyllie's back in a leather sling, as he climbs down the walls of the cave. We know he is low in the cavern, because the promontory is far above.

The crystal walls pulse with white light. The egg's crystals mimic the beat, seen around the edges of the sling.

Whyllie slips, and with a cascade of rocks ECHOING throughout the huge cavern, slides uncontrollably downward into the darkness.

The light of the cave's crystals are far overhead when Whyllie finally slides to a stop. He is in darkness, only the faint light from the egg on his back helps him. He stumbles downward, more rocks threaten to slide him into the abyss.

Whyllie's hand rests on a thin root. He holds it, swallows, frightened.

WHYLIE

Take me down, roots of magic. Take
me to the cave of our mother's
mind.

Whyllie grasps the root, and it suddenly whips him out into the void of the tunnel, like a snake, and carries him, plunging down into the darkness.

Above, Baern stands on the platform, frowns down at the void.

INT. COVEN HOUSE BAERN'S SECRET ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ledo and Isa enter the room and come to a skidding halt.

Asha sits crossed legged on the floor, holding the black stone that was once Lignette. She was crying hard.

Both parents go to console her, but Isa is drawn to Lillith's egg. She is mesmerized, shocked, and is about to touch it.

Ledo, crouched beside Asha, reaches out.

LEDO

Don't touch it, Isa! This is dark
magic.

Isa reaches weakly to the sad image of her cousin in the egg.

ISA

Lillith!

Isa turns to Ledo.

ISA (CONT'D)

It was Baern, it was Baern causing all of this, all along. He's in league with the evil ones. Their dark order still exists. Oh! Our worst fears are coming true, Ledo!

Ledo nods to her.

ISA (CONT'D)

It will be the inquisition all over again. They'll burn us at the stake.

Ledo stands, goes to the table, zeroes in on the stand that had held the stone egg. He shakes his head

LEDO

So much evil. We'll need gloves.

ISA

Corrinne.

Ledo nods at her and she swooshes out.

EXT. VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND THE 'MALL' - CONTINUOUS

- Semaa & Maurie work as a pair. They fling fairies like 'bullets' at militant elves. A wayward human gets hit by a fairie 'bullet', gets stunned, crazily clutches at her hair.

- Lizhin runs through the crowd, chased by militant elves that throw fairies like bullets at her. Similarly, wayward humans get hit & go crazy.

- Ioain & Simon, back to back, try to focus on meditating the clear blue energy outward. Their bubble of energy is shrinking, attacked by a cloud of fairies of multiple colours. Ioain grabs Simon's bag (on the ground) and throws a handful of salt at the cloud. The fairies falter, fall, their light goes out. Simon falls on his knees, picks one up, looks sadly at Ioain, puffing with exertion.

- Mauri and Semaa appear to be losing ground, too many elves surround them. Mauri's bag is out of fairies and she pulls out a wand, tries to re-create her cloud of pure energy.

- Lizhin is hit by an elf throwing a fairie bullet. She stumbles, keeps running.

- Arianna, carrying a tall staff full of magic talismans, scythes through the madness, her power omnipotent. In the middle of the crushing throng of humans she looks up at the red fairy cloud above. She CLAPS her hands together overhead, the staff between. A bright shaft of light pierces upward.

The fairy cloud is thrown outward, away.

- Arianna strides toward the struggling Ioain and Simon. She points her staff at the cloud of fairies, which are thrown off, whirling in the wind that attends Arianna's growing storm.

ARIANNA

We're in trouble.

IOAIN

Arianna, your power!

ARIANNA

Never mind that. It's Baern, he's got the egg, and he's using Simon's elf. They're both locked in the cave. They're on their way down to Gaia.

SIMON

Dad! We have to go! I have to help Whyllie! Baern will kill him!

ARIANNA

It's no use. Baern's sealed the entrance. Even Corrinne can't get through.

Arianna looks out over the crowd.

EXT. CLOSE UPS OF THE 'MAD' PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

People wander like zombies.

Some people in the crowd get more angry, as red energy from the cloud of fairies regroups overhead.

EXT. GRASSY HILL ABOVE MAD PROTEST - CONTINUOUS

Behind Arianna, clouds roil, lighting CRACKS.

Ioain and Simon draw down crackling blue energy from Arianna's storm cloud, and use it to create and push out a much larger 'zone' where the fairie's red energy can not penetrate.

Simon LAUGHS at the thrill of the new energy. Ioain smiles at him, but stays focused on the job.

The expanded cloud of blue energy gives them a 'breather' to speak to each other, though Ioain and Simon must still focus psychic energy outwards. Arianna seems to be doing her thing effortlessly.

ARIANNA

Baern is of the evil order, Ioain.

IOAIN

As in, from medieval times? The witch trials?

ARIANNA

They never faded out! They've been in the background, controlling society all along, waiting, planning for this day!

Arianna rounds on Ioain, glances at Simon significantly.

ARIANNA (CONT'D)

If Baern succeeds, if he reaches Gaia, he'll turn her against humanity forever. This is Gaia's anger we're seeing.

(gestures at fairies)

Imagine how angry she'll be if she's forced to sleep another thousand years.

IOAIN

Or he could reach Gaia's cave...but fail to put her to sleep again. I don't think planet earth will like humanity much, if he's our representative.

ARIANNA

Either way, he has to be stopped. You know where we have to go.

SIMON

Dad! Please! We have to get to that cave! I have to help Whyllie!

IOAIN

Simon! That elf is not the friend you think he is!

(to Arianna)

I will not send my son down the same hole I sent my wife!

SIMON

Dad! Please! What is she talking about?! Where else can we go!?

IOAIN

No!

ARIANNA

(to Simon)

The pentagon. Our cave at the coven house is just a small imitation. The pentagon is built on top of the most powerful earth cave on the planet. It's a direct link to Gaia's mind.

(to Ioain)

Simon won't be alone, not this time, Ioain. We'll all go together. If Baern can travel those tunnels, any of us can.

IOAIN

He did kill Lillith.

ARIANNA

(nods)

He's down there, in those tunnels. We can stop him, Ioain.

Ioain nods, they all run together.

Arianna motions to Semma and Mauri, they nod and re-focus their clear energy on the crowd, step apart a little bit.

They have tapped in to the storm's energy.

EXT. WASHINGTON DC STREETS - LATER

Arianna, Ioain and Simon run through crowds, dodge and sometimes catch fairies, continually stowing them in their satchels.

ARIANNA

How long will it take to get there, running like this?

IOAIN

Oh, I know a few shortcuts.

Ioain leads them through secret doors & tunnels in Washington DC.

INT. SECRET SECURITY ENTRANCE TO THE PENTAGON - LATER

They are in a cement subway access tunnel. A SECURITY GUARD stands outside a door. When he sees Ioain he snaps to attention and salutes.

SECURITY GUARD

I'm sorry, sir. No-one goes in or out. We're locked down.

Arianna immobilizes him with a spell from her staff while Ioain opens the door by punching in a code. He wears the silver gloves.

IOAIN

Oh, lock it up behind us.

The door SLAMS behind them. Security Guard blinks, stunned, turns and locks the closed door.

INT. PENTAGON HALLWAYS - MOMENTS LATER

The hallways are in chaos. Fairy lights sneak in through the locks, under windows, under doors. They dive-bomb security guards, who then go insane.

CO-WORKER sees Ioain, stops him.

CO-WORKER

General Nighswander, sir! What's going on?!

Arianna raises an eyebrow.

ARIANNA

General?

IOAIN

They like me here.
(to Co-worker)
Your best bet is to get wickedly drunk. They'll think you're mad already and leave you alone.

CO-WORKER

Ye..yes sir. Is that an order?

IOAIN

Of course it is, man. Tell everyone you can. Get to the nearest bar and drink 'till you pass out.

Co-worker salutes as the trio runs down the hall.

INT. PENTAGON ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

Ioain punches in a code on the wall set of buttons. The three catch their breath, as the elevator descends rapidly.

IOAIN

Simon, get me the large crystal from your bag.

Simon nods, afraid, and takes out the crystal, it's a couple inches thick and almost a foot tall.

Ioain looks to Arainna.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

The elevator will only descend to the cave door if all occupants are in full actualization ceremony.

Arianna nods. She kneels, closes her eyes, and places her hands on the standing crystal.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

(to Simon)

Time for your first spell for good energy, Simon.

Ioain sits cross legged, Simon does the same. Ioain glances nervously at the light on the elevator - we're approaching the last level, but refocuses on Simon, and smiles.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

You know how, I'm always telling you to turn it into a good day?

Simon rolls his eyes.

SIMON

Cuz 'we make our own reality'?

IOAIN

That's right. And we do. You know this...because of the protest, and what you made it become.

Simon swallows.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

So, now, you use this crystal's purity and power to help you believe, really believe, that this elevator will continue on past the last floor on those buttons, down many more levels, right down deep, into the magical core of Mother Earth. Can you do that Simon?

Simon nods, wide-eyed.

SIMON

I have to get Whyllie, dad. I have to save him.

Ioain gives a tight-lipped nod. They both close their eyes and put hands on the crystal.

The elevator descends more & more. Ioain looks pained. He shares a nervous, significant look with Arianna, and then looks at Simon. Then Ioain and Arianna close eyes and focus.

INT. PENTAGON ELEVATOR - IOAIN'S FLASHBACK

A younger Ioain holds a baby (Simon). Lillith smiles at him. The elevator door opens onto a dark void. Lillith kisses the baby, then steps back, falling into the void.

INT. PENTAGON ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

The elevator comes to a halt. The 'ping' of the notification reverberates (they are in the fifth dimension now).

Ioain's eyes are moist. Arianna frowns at him.

Simon's eyes are intent on the door. He bounces with anticipation.

IOAIN

Simon. Son, I can't...

Abruptly, the elevator opens.

Roots like long cords whip around in a dark cave. Ioain shakes his head, punches buttons on the elevator.

IOAIN (CONT'D)

(to Arianna)

Get him out of here.

Ioain throws his silver gloves to the floor, steps out, plummets as the doors close.

SIMON
No! Dad! Dad!

Arianna and Simon speed upwards again. Simon pushes buttons, but the elevator continues as programmed by Ioain.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Why did he do that! Why lie needs me! He needs me!

ARIANNA
Simon...your mother...the last time Ioain saw your mother, was in this elevator. She made the journey to Gaia's cave, and we never saw her again.

Arianna turns, readies herself for battle.

ARIANNA (CONT'D)
I want you to stay close behind me, Simon.

The doors open onto a scene of mayhem. Guards swat helplessly at fairies, elves smash sensitive computers (satellite, homeland security).

Arianna steps into the fray and starts to use a silver chain like a whip to swat at fairies.

Arianna turns, frowns at Simon. He wears the silver gloves and re-does the code on the elevator buttons, the doors close.

Simon descends again, alone. He kneels in front of the crystal, arights it, lays his hands on it.

SIMON
Oh, Why lie. Follow my heart. Follow my heart. Follow my heart.

The doors open on the snapping, whipping roots.

Simon swallows, closes his eyes, and swan dives into the void.

INT. TUNNELS UNDER PENTAGON - CONTINUOUS

A snapping root crashes into Simon. He grabs onto it. Ioain is above, swarmed by fairies.

IOAIN

Simon! No!

Simon holds tight to the root.

SIMON

Dad!

Simon is unable to climb upward, to help Ioain. Awkwardly, Simon gets off the silver gloves.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Dad, catch!

Simon throws, and the gloves sail upward. Ioain manages to catch one, but the other falls down into the void.

Simon swallows. He is flung about by the twining root.

Simon tries to watch as Ioain struggles above him.

Ioain holds the root with the silver glove, still combatting the cloud of fairies. The glove helps him direct the root, but not enough to reach Simon.

IOAIN

Simon, stay there! I'll come for you!

Simon stares down into the blackness.

SIMON

(to self)

Why lie.

As Ioain swings about and battles another batch of fairies, Simon readies himself for his own battle.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Roots of magic. Take me down, to the cave of mother earth. Let me speak to Gaia, please.

The root goes taut, like a humming guitar string. Suddenly, it whips about, and Simon plunges downward with it.

IOAIN

Simon!

INT. DARKNESS BELOW THE PENTAGON CAVE - LATER

Simon struggles through a dark tunnel. The crystals in the walls light his way.

SIMON
Follow my heart. Follow my heart.
Oh
(sobs)
Why lie. Why did you leave me?

The crystals dim. Simon falls, tumbling, a long way down.

It's very dark, almost pitch black.

SIMON (CONT'D)
(cries, sniffles)
It's so dark.
(long pause)
Dark like it was...in my mother's
womb, where I received my life

The crystals in the tunnel walls blaze, amethyst and emerald.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Where I received my life, and all
the capacity for wisdom that I have
now.

INT. GAIA'S CAVE - CONTINUOUS

This cave is like the others, but much more massive (same cave as in introduction).

A little bridge leads to a little platform. The crystal clusters on the walls are so far away, they provide only a dim light. The abyss has a swampy green tinge to the darkness of it.

SIMON
Oh.

Simon tentatively walks out onto the platform. He swallows.

SIMON (CONT'D)
Gaia. Mother Earth. If this is your
cave, if you can hear me...
(pause)
I...I'm really sorry. We...we
really kind of made a mess of
things up there.
(swallows)
But we can clean it up. Honest.
(MORE)

SIMON (CONT'D)

It's not so bad. We can plant trees, and, and, we can stop global warming, I think. If...if you could let the magical creatures help us. I know they need like, a different kind of energy, and we're kind of fighting each other right now up there....

(sure again)

But it doesn't need to be that way! Whylie and I...we love each other so much! We're best friends! And Asha and Lignette. I mean, we want to be friends forever, our whole lives. And help each other, and fix things, up there, together. Please, Gaia. Can you hear me?

Out of the green darkness, a figure floats closer. It is the curled-up sleeping form of Whylie.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Wylie!

Simon steps forward, and almost falls off the edge of the platform. Simon swings his arms wildly and falls back.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Whoa.

He peers out again.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Wylie! Wylie!

The shape floats away again, into the abyss.

SIMON (CONT'D)

(to self)

Follow my heart.

(wild with sorrow)

Wylie! Wylie!

Not thinking, just overwhelmed with sadness & longing, Simon steps into the abyss.

Simon SCREAMS as he tumbles & falls toward the cave's floor.

Simon somersaults in the air, stabilizes, floats. Amazed, he spreads out his arms. The crystals blaze.

Wylie's form is overhead. Simon reaches for it, in vain, as he doesn't move.

The egg appears from the other side. Simon frowns at it, but then refocuses on Whylie, tries to swim toward him.

SIMON (CONT'D)
 Whylie! It's me! It's me Simon!
 Please, wake up, Whylie!
 (cries out)
 I need you!

Simon, the egg, and Whylie are brought level to the platform.

They all three are suspended, about 5 feet from each other, as though Gaia is weighing what to do with it all. Simon continually tries to 'swim' for Whylie.

Simon stretches, and gains Whylie's hand. Whylie wakes up at the touch. Seeing the abyss around him, Whylie grabs onto Simon. Simon LAUGHS and hugs him.

SIMON (CONT'D)
 You're all right! You're okay!

Wylie sees the egg, just out of reach. He looks around again. Simon holds him out, Whylie looks down, ashamed.

WHYLIE
 You must hate me. I was trained, I was trained since I was just a little hatchling. I was trained that humans were evil and it was my job to hurt you, to break up your family and steal the egg. I'm so sorry, I was so wrong!

SIMON
 Hey. It's okay! I forgive you, Whylie.

Wylie still looks miserable.

SIMON (CONT'D)
 That's what friends do. I forgive you. You're my best friend, Whylie. Forever.

Together, tentatively, they LAUGH. Soon, they're rollicking around, LAUGHING, rolling about in the suspension of the abyss. Their laughter echoes off the walls, the crystals shine with it.

The crystal egg is carried out into the abyss. Its crystals shine, white light burst forth from it in rays.

Simon's feet alight on the platform. Suddenly, it starts to RUMBLE, shake, and break apart.

Simon and Whylie back up the short bridge to the cave entrance. The lights from the crystals shoot out, in blinding beams, the entrance of the cave RUMBLES, starts to break apart.

WHYLIE AND SIMON (CONT'D)

Run!

INT. CRYSTAL TUNNEL IN THE EARTH - LATER

The crystals encrust this circular, vertical tunnel, about a nine foot diameter. It's bright enough, but sharp on their knees and hands.

SIMON

I'm thirsty, Whylie. We've been down here forever.

Wylie stops climbing, sits down on a large crystal that juts out.

WHYLIE

I love you, Simon.

SIMON

I love you too, Whylie.

WHYLIE

There's nothing to bind us to the surface anymore, Simon. We can't follow our hearts, because we're together.

SIMON

What do you mean?

WHYLIE

There's a reason only women, only Coven Mothers with small babies are allowed to make the journey to Gaia's cave, Simon. Because they need that strong bond, to their baby up above, to help them find the way back up to the surface.

SIMON

Like my mom.

(beat)

Maybe my mother didn't love me enough.

(MORE)

SIMON (CONT'D)

That's why she never made it back to the surface. That's why she died...

WHYLIE

No! No Simon! It was Baern.

SIMON

Baern?

WHYLIE

I'm not sure what sort of evil group he belongs to, but he has bad bad magic, Simon. He killed your mother.

Why lie comforts Simon as he deals with this epiphany.

SIMON

What about my dad? I love my dad, and he's up there, I think.

WHYLIE

It might be a strong enough love to guide us, Simon. But think about it, is it as strong as the love a mother has for her little baby?

SIMON

Like how much my mother loved me.

WHYLIE

I'm sorry, Simon. We...we might be lost down here...forever.

SIMON

At least we're together.

The two squeeze hands.

WHYLIE

Let's keep climbing, while we still have the energy.

A few lifts later, and a dark figure emerges out of a side tunnel above them.

Baern smiles at them, wand and translucent empty egg held aloft.

BAERN

There...caught up to you at last.

A ring of black smoke emerges from his wand, billows out to encase Whyllie and Simon. Whyllie and Simon SCREAM out in pain and terror.

Baern shakes the empty egg, taunts them.

BAERN (CONT'D)

Just a little more pain... and your souls can enter here... together... forever.

Amidst the SCREAMS of Whyllie & Simon, the new fledgling (colourful, compact, very alive & solid) Crystal Dragon speeds up the cave.

The Crystal Dragon grabs Baern in its jaws. Baern's body SNAPS as the dragon shakes it like a dog shakes a toy.

Whyllie and Simon drop, exhausted, and have to grab at the crystal walls to keep from slipping down the tunnel shaft.

The Crystal Dragon throws Baern's body against the far wall.

Lifeless, it hits like a rag doll and tumbles down the tunnel into darkness.

The Crystal Dragon rounds on Whyllie and Simon, who are speechless with terror. The Dragon shakes its mane, full and scary bright, then the mane flattens. It turns, waits for them to climb aboard.

Whyllie & Simon look to each other with speechless wonder, then climb onto the Dragon's back. Four scales lift automatically, for hand-holds.

With a leap, the Dragon heads upward, Whyllie's face wide with excitement and Simon SHOUTS with glee.

INT. CRYSTAL TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

SIMON (V.O.)

That was how it started. The revolution, the rainbow warriors.

The Crystal Dragon speeds past, Whyllie and Simon riding professionally now, like they're on a mission.

SIMON (V.O.) (CONT'D)

We picked up my dad.

INT. TUNNELS UNDER PENTAGON - CONTINUOUS

Ioain swings from a root, still battling fairies and elves.

The dragon, Whyllie & Simon aboard, shoots upwards, Ioain grabs the tail, is terrified as they all are carried upward.

EXT. COVEN GROUNDS - DAY

Ioain, Simon, Isa, Ledo, Corrinne and Asha are dressed in ceremonial garb, in a circle under the Weeping Willow. Corrinne holds the scepter with Lillith's egg in it.

SIMON (V.O.)

We freed my mom's soul.

Ioain approaches the egg. Tears trickle down his cheeks.

He wears silver gloves. He peels back the egg's transparent shell.

Lillith's form turns to a white glistening trail of wind, that encircles Ioain, he smiles, then it encircles Simon, who smiles. Whyllie holds Simon's hand.

SIMON (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And that's when the work began.

As the trail of white Lillith soul flies out to join the wind beyond the tree, the view pulls back, to show fairy lights dancing happily throughout the tree, throughout the garden.

INT. COVEN HOUSE DINING ROOM - DAY

The coven is reunited, and everyone sits around the dining room table, merrily eating a meal together.

SIMON (V.O.)

Someone has to unite the covens,
get us talking to each other again.

INT. COVEN HOUSE BAERN'S SECRET ROOM - DAY

Ledo, Asha, Whyllie and Simon all wear silver gloves and are in 'investigative' postures over various books and talismans.

SIMON (V.O.)

Someone has to figure out who
controls the order of evil
magicians.

Simon and Whyllie peer into a map of Africa, with sinister trails of black ink rivers actually moving within it.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Whyllie stands in front of group of five militant looking elf warriors. They are slightly bigger, glossy, with matching blue uniforms. One female, YULIA, wears a diamond choker and a thin trace of a tiara (she is Elf royalty).

Whyllie gesticlates, like he's trying to convince them.

SIMON (V.O.)

And someone has tell those elves
that witches are friendly, that we
can work together,

The warriors react with anger at first, as Simon tentatively appears from around a tree, but then fairy lights come in from around the forest, and cloud around him gently.

Yulia looks partially convinced.

SIMON (V.O.) (CONT'D)

together we can heal the world.

We focus on a crevasse by a tree root, then speed down it.

INT. CRYSTAL TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

The tunnel is dark, but transitions to a crystal tunnel.

SIMON (V.O.)

And that someone is us: kids like
you and me, and our best friends,
the elves.

The Crystal Dragon bursts forth, Simon and Whyllie riding.

FADE OUT