

PERIA

The World Just Beyond The Shadows

Written by

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READING PURPOSES ONLY!

OPENING UP TO...

A fainted blue light breaks through the barrier of shadows, cracking like a rock breaking through the surface of an ocean.

The light takes form, shaping a young man (18 years old) resting peacefully.

ACCRA (V.O.)
There's something I need to ask you
Xemtim...but you must keep it between
us, okay?

He drifts downward through the darkness, descending at the speed a leaf falls from a tree.

ACCRA (V.O.) (cont'd)
...You saw it too, didn't you?

As he pulls back his eyelids. A speck of light above catches his eye.

ACCRA (V.O.) (cont'd)
The *light*. It's alive...but it's in
grave *danger*...

GIRL'S VOICE (V.O.)
(whisper)
Xemtim? Wake up.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD) eyes latch to a pair of deep violet eyes and a gentle smile on the girl standing over him.

Xemtim takes slow and steady breaths, getting lost staring into her eyes.

This girl is NARRA. She's 10 years old.

NARRA (10 YEAR OLD)
You okay...?

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
Y-Yeah...

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
Well then stop staring and get up!

He stands up from the sand, brushing himself off.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
Worried that I would never wake up?

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
Well yeah...because then...who else
would I do this to?

She shoves him to the sand with both hands.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
HEY!?

Narra sticks her tongue out to him as she dashes down the beach.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)
(playful)
That's not fair!

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
I can't hear you when you're all the
way back there!

Xemtim kicks himself to his feet. Sand kicked behind him as he chased her down.

He reaches out for her hand as he inches closer.

She steps out of the way right before his hand made contact.

He collapses into the sand, face first.

Narra's burns red as she bursts into hysterical laughter.

Xemtim squints his eyes at her.

Her laughter heights seeing his face covered in sand.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)
Come here.

She kneels down to her, using her thumbs to brush off the sand on his rose-color cheeks.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)
Are you sure you're okay?

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
Y-Yeah! I am great!

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
So why are you so silent...?

He looks towards the waves crashing into land. Holding his head down as he swallows.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
W-Would you...like to build a castle?

She smiles as she nods her head rapidly.

LATER / SAME SCENE

They both gaze upon their castle. Covered with shells and flowers placed an additional layer to the finesse.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
Do you like it?

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
Just one more thing to make it perfect.

She takes a STICK as she ascends above Xemtim.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)
Fair knight.

He gets down on a single knee then tilts his head.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)
As the queen, I, Narra choose you to protect me for your remaining days.

She taps each SHOULDER with the stick.

Xemtim smiles as he looks, staring at the speck of light in her eyes.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
I will protect you with my life, your majesty.

Narra stares into his eyes.

The sand castle vibrates at an aggressive pace.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
(nervous)
What's happening?

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
(nervous)
I-I don't know.

The castle collapses. The vibration however, continues throughout the ground as if it were an earthquake.

Xemtim and Narra's eyes are pulled to a crack in the skies.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
(disturbed)
What is happening?

-- BAM!! -- The black sky where the crack shatters.

A man with eyes like the stars pokes through.

Xemtim and Narra's irises shrink.

MAN IN THE SKY
DESTROY THE SHADOWS!

A barrage of BOULDERS brewing in golden flames hurdles in from behind the man.

Xemtim throws himself at Narra just as a boulder crashes into the sand.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
We have to get to your mother!

He takes her hand and the two runs away from the storm of boulders.

Chariots soar from behind the man in the sky, their riders' golden plated armor lights up the black sky.

CHARIOT RIDER
FIRE!!

They all hurdle boulders down into the city.

EXT. SHADOW ATHENS

Boulders crash in buildings. Thunderous explosions shake the grounds...shadows rise up, pressing forward to the armored individuals.

SOLDIER OF LIGHT
FORWARD! IN THE NAME OF THE LUMINOUS!

Xemtim and Narra snakes their way around the destruction that rains down around them.

Narra's eyes wandered off to the swords and shields clashing with monstrous black creatures. Watching soldiers cut them down as quickly as they cut them down as well.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
(weeping)
Xemtim! I'm scared!

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
JUST IGNORE IT! Focus on me!

-- BOOM! --

The next explosion sends Xemtim into a pile of rubble.

-- RIIIIIIING!!! --

The needle piercing ring wedges in his ears. The sounds of explosions, clashing swords, even screams...does not exist.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)
(muted)
Narra! Narra!

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
(faint)
XEMTIM!

He turns to the sound of the faint yet familiar voice.

Narra reaches for him with tears in her eyes as she tries to free herself from the fallen debris.

XEMTIM
Narra!

He forces himself to his feet. Limping in his run to her.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
It hurts!

He takes her hand and pulls with all his strength. She screams along with weeping.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)
(bawling)
You need to go get my mother!

He throws his shoulder against the rubble, over and over.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)
Please Xemtim!

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
I AM NOT LEAVING YOUR SIDE FOR A
SECOND!!!

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
XEMTIM!!

He swings around. A boulder approaches them fast as a falling meteor.

Narra screams and cowers behind her eyes.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Xemtim (18 years old) springs awake, swinging his head in both directions. drenched in sweat.

XEMTIM
It's just a dream...It's just a dream...

He falls back into the sand and catches his breath with his eyes closed.

A shadow ascends over him. He pulls his eyes open to the girl of his dreams, NARRA (18 years old) standing over him.

He springs up and screams. Narra starts cackling.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
That's not funny!

NARRA
I didn't think you would be scared of me.

Xemtim looks away and hides his red face behind his hood.

NARRA (cont'd)
What are you doing out here anyways?

Xemtim starts tossing rocks into the ocean.

XEMTIM
I was...I had a dream...about us...

Narra's cheeks light up red.

NARRA
(flustered)
O-Oh...? Okay? What happened...?
Between us?

IMAGES of the boulder and Narra's face from the dream appear. It makes him tense up.

XEMTIM
We were...building a sand castle
together.

NARRA
Demi would yell at us for being out
so late and how dangerous it is.

A smile forms on Xemtim's face.

XEMTIM
But we never listened to that
nonsense.

NARRA
Of course not. We had each other.
Nothing lingering out in the dark
could ever separate us.

Xemtim stares at the stars mirrored in her eyes.

XEMTIM
Hey Narra...?

She turns her eyes to meet his.

Xemtim's heartbeat pounds against his chest, deafening the
sound of the ocean crashing ashore.

Narra tilts her head to him. It makes Xemtim's cheeks
inflamed.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
Would you...like to...build a castle?

She chuckles.

EXT. BEACH - LATER

Narra and Xemtim take a step back after finishing their
masterpiece. The same castle as he saw in his dreams.

It brings a tear to Xemtim's eye.

XEMTIM
It's exactly...how I always
remembered it.

NARRA
You know what I remember? We would
watch the sun come up afterwards.

Narra sits in the sand. She looks at Xemtim, patting the spot next to her.

Xemtim smiles as he plants his rear a few inches of their shoulders making contact.

NARRA (cont'd)
Do you remember when we first built
our castle?

Xemtim shakes his head.

NARRA (cont'd)
It's probably there in the back of
our heads...as we get older, newer
memories take place and push the old
ones back, sometimes even out.

XEMTIM
As long as they don't cost me
forgetting you. They can push
everything else out.

They share a smile -- wanting this moment to last forever.

The sun had begun to rise from the edge of the ocean,
shining down on them both.

She extends him her hand after she gets to her feet.

NARRA
Let's go home.

EXT. PERIA

The hustle and bustle of Peria; a city that houses a population in the lower thousands.

People are dressed more fit to modern day like sneakers, hoodies, and t-shirts though in these times, electricity's advancement is identical to the Taisho era of Japan.

Xemtim & Narra walk alongside each other as they pass shops, guards, and children playing.

TOWNS-PERSON
MORNING XEMTIM! MORNING NARRA!

XEMTIM / NARRA
GOOD MORNING!!

Narra glances over at a cottage with plants cuddling the building; a scheming grin forms on her face.

NARRA
Actually, I got to go check on
something at Ceres' shop. And I have
to do it, alone.

He squints his eyes at her.

XEMTIM
Why?

NARRA
Just seeing how Das and Demi are
doing.

He raises a brow at her statement.

XEMTIM
So why can't I be there?

NARRA
It's a surprise. See you later?

XEMTIM
Fine.

She runs off to the shop with a smile.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
(under his breath)
I'll see you later then.

INT. CERES' SHOP

The shop contains plants and vines that hold pastries like
shelves and carries items from the back of the store.

There's a melodic voice that sings a smooth and slow tune.

The voice belongs to woman with deep crimson color hair,
appearing around in her early 30s.

-- Ring. Ding. --

NARRA
DEMI!

Demi's cheeks as she turns her spring color eyes back to
Narra.

DEMI
You're in a bright mood today, dear.

Narra scratches her head as she looks away.

NARRA

Y-Yeah...I...built a sand castle with Xemt看 this morning...

DEMI

That's cute.

NARRA

Yeah! And then we sat next to each other and watched the sun rise! Like we used to!

Narra rubs the tips of her fingers together.

NARRA (cont'd)

Then he looked at me...and I looked at him too...my heart was going insane...you should've seen his eyes in the light of the sunlight. It was like...the sun came out only because of him.

Demi crosses her arms to her. Tapping her finger on her bicep.

DEMI

Have you considered telling him that instead of me?

Narra stands in silence, scratching her arm.

NARRA

I have...numerous times...but...How's his gift coming along?

Demi exhales. She rests her bib on the stagnant vine.

DEMI

Let's check with Dasaline.

INT. BACK OF STORE

Shelves full of various ingredients and labels.

A girl with gold color hair hums a soothing tune with her eyes closed. Smoothly painting the cake before her with frosting.

This is DASALINE. She's 18 years old.

DEMI (O.C.)

Dasaline...guess who's here?

Dasaline twists around in her seat to them.

DASALINE
Happy birthday Narra!

NARRA
(chuckling)
It's not my birthday, yet.

DASALINE
It practically should be after you
see this!

Dasaline slides out of the way.

Narra's eyes bestows a miniature beach formed together by
graham cracker dust, crimson candy coated flowers and an
ocean of frosting against the sand.

All on top of a two layer cake.

Narra approaches the cake slowly...her eyes locked on it,
not once blinking.

DASALINE (cont'd)
I just finished the sand castle
before you got here. I did my best to
captivate the same one you and Xentim
used to build...

A single tear falls in the "ocean".

Dasaline speech comes to an abrupt stop. As her attention is
drawn to Narra's eyes.

Narra turns from her and wipes her eyes.

DASALINE (cont'd)
Are you okay?

Narra bobs her head slowly.

NARRA
I've known him all my life. There's
so many things we have talked
about...but this is the one topic, I
cannot muster enough strength to even
start...Where do we even begin? What
do I even say to him?

Demi rests her hand on Narra's shoulder.

DEMI

Your mother used to say, you two had a way of showing it, clueless, but the signs are there. So why don't give your mind a break...and let your heart guide you on your next steps... Okay?

Narra nods her head.

NARRA

Could you...add footprints to the sand as well?

Dasaline winks at her as she grabs utensils.

EXT. BEACH

The beach is touched with the luminous rays of the sun.

Xemtim's fingers tremble a black band ring in his grasp.

XEMTIM

I've...been waiting to tell you this. No, not waiting, WANTING! Wanting..to tell you this.

He takes a couple deep breaths.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

Did you know that this ring has been with me for a long time? I don't really remember where or how I happened to stumble upon it but...

Xemtim plunges his face into the sand and screams as loud he can muster.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

WHY ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT BACKSTORIES, XEMTIM!?

Xemtim pulls his face out of the sand and curls into his arms and legs.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

(internal thoughts)

It's just Narra, Xemtim. You talk to her everyday, but for one day out of the year, can't you just pull it together?

and gaze upon the sun color flowers growing along the backside of the beach.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
(internal thoughts)
But I can't focus when I talk to you.
Every time I glance at your eyes...

An IMAGE of Narra's eyes appears. Sparkling like violet diamonds.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
I feel like they...it's like you petrify me. My mind can't find words to describe them. Beautiful maybe but...It's a cliché, you deserve something better than that.

Xemtim's cheeks raise slightly.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
(Internal thoughts)
Your smile...dammit, even your laugh. It's a cliché, yes, but I revel in your joy. Even when I am annoyed or upset, all it takes...is one look...and you shine like a moon in the night sky.

Xemtim embraces the ring in his hand as he shifts his gaze towards the sun.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
Why...can't I just say that to you?

INT. RICKI'S ROOM

Shelves of books, some all over the floor with paperwork, each one scribbled with passages in various languages.

The center of this room is a young lady named RICKI.

She's 23 years old and her eyes as blue are as the sky outside.

She stares out at all of Peria from her window, twisting her pinkish-brown into a braid.

RICKI
May the light cast away the shadows.
Allow for us to have another day. I give thanks to the sun and to the Gods that allows it to --

-- KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK! --

Ricki groans under her breath.

RICKI (cont'd)
It's unlocked Angel.

The door is pushed open; a handsome 21 year old male with blonde hair and blue eyes emerge inside.

ANGEL
The sun is really putting its soul
into those rays, huh?

RICKI
Whatever you got to say better be
worth the interruption.

Angel scratches his neck as he looks away.

ANGEL
...Father has summoned you.

Ricki exhales.

RICKI
For the love of Gods...

Ricki finishes ties a scarlet color bow as she finishes her braid.

INT. MEETING ROOM / KINGDOM OF PERIA - LATER

The sun shines down on a glass table in the center of this room made of gold and light.

There's only three currently sitting at this table.

Angel, Ricki, and A man named KHALLO (Pronounced *Cal-Lo*).

He's in his 50s, some streaks of silver in his hair.
Standing out in a gold and white robe.

RICKI
My people are reporting lingering
shadows in the hours of the night.
Moving like spiders.

Khallo stares at her; unshaken yet cold like a boulder.

KHALLO
And?

RICKI

AND...I think they're up to something, what that is has yet to be discovered. I think we need Marius.

KHALLO

That will not be necessary. It's all superstition. People make up rumors all the time.

RICKI

What if they are planning something?

KHALLO

They cannot make a move against us, we are the Pillars of light. The Shadows pale in comparison.

RICKI

The shadows lingers around us and our everyday items just to avoid the light!

KHALLO

Unless there's significant evidence of a possible invasion. Marius' services will not be restored and you are to ignore it!

RICKI

ANGEL!? TALK SOME SENSE INTO HIM!

Angel glances between them both with strain.

ANGEL

The shadows actively moving is a concern, father. These reports of it, shouldn't be ignored...however, beyond that, none of my guards reported anything unusual about them, other than scurrying.

Ricki explodes from her seat.

RICKI

YOU BOTH ARE JUST GONNA IGNORE IT!?

KHALLO

There's nothing more to discuss on the matter. You're dismissed...and not another word about it.

Ricki marches out and explodes through the doors.

ANGEL

Are you sure there's nothing we can
do just to help ease our people,
father?

KHALLO

WE ARE PROTECTING PERIA. Provoking
the shadows will only bring harm to
our people, rather than aid them.

INT. HALLWAYS OF THE KINGDOM

Ricki marches through the hallways. Her face burning red and
veins popping in her head.

RICKI

Of course you will do nothing. That's
all you excel at...doing absolutely
nothing...what is the shadows' play?
What exactly are you up to?

INT. DINING ROOM

The dining stretched far, drenched in darkness and light by
violet burning candle lights. Markings spread across the
marble floor.

A plate is brought over to a table, where a young man is
occupied alone. The plate is seemingly floating...but
something dark, obscured to the eyes, is in fact carrying
the plate

He rubs his hands together. The steam rises, breezing
through the young man's nostrils.

This is VETURIUS, he's 18 years old, silver blue hair, and
pale skin.

VETURIUS

A meal worthy of a king.

Veturius stops before his silverware could dig in.

A man walks in from the shadows, standing over Veturius. His
entire body wrapped in a dark hooded cloak, stands tall,
taller than Veturius.

Veturius brings his eyes up to the Mimic's hood.

VETURIUS (cont'd)

And who are you supposed to be?

MIMIC

He's grown tired of waiting...and my
patience is thin.

Veturius chuckles.

VETURIUS

And my plate is full and getting
cold.

The Mimic smacks the plate off the table.

MIMIC

I am not one of your pathetic
hoodlums sweeping around here. You
will respect me...or I'll break your
neck.

VETURIUS

That was rude.

The Mimic leans into Veturius' face.

MIMIC

You've spent far than enough time
stuffing your hole. The fact Azrael
keeps you around, personally disgusts
me. If it were up to me, I would
trade you for any other Son.

Veturius smirks at the Mimic.

VETURIUS

Has he considered she's dead? I mean
come on, it's a long time and
nothing.

Veturius' goblet is smacked from his lips before they could
even taste the liquid.

MIMIC

In all of this wasted time. Where
haven't you searched for her?!

Veturius glares into the Mimic's hood, taking deep breaths.

INT. XEMTIM'S ROOM - NIGHT

Xemtim rolled his ring in his fingers, while watching the
moon from his bed.

NARRA

Not asleep yet?

XEMTIM

I was working on it. I just...
haven't...What about you?

She plants her rear on the edge of the bed.

She holds her head down and stares at her restless hands.

NARRA

Are you nervous...? About tomorrow, I
mean.

Xemtim forces his head down and hides his inflamed cheeks.

XEMTIM

It's not that. It's...

Xemtim digs his fingers into the blanket. His lips crinkle.

She shifts her iris to his hands as they tightly twist the
blanket.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

Well, you see...it's because...

Narra's hand lands on his stressed knuckles.

He brings his face up. Narra's nose is within centimeters of
his own.

NARRA

It's just our birthday.

She motions her eyes to their hands. Xemtim's hand lays calm
with hers.

NARRA (cont'd)

I'm just...relieved that I am not the
only one.

Silence fills the little space between them, as only their
breaths are exchanged between them.

She leaves his bedside and walks toward the door.

Xemtim hop out of his bed.

XEMTIM

Narra, wait.

She turns her eyes to meet his.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

I...I want to say something...

She comes back to him and takes his knuckles into her hands.
Xemtim stares into her sparkling eyes in silence.

NARRA
I'll wait. As long as you need...But
for tonight, sleep on it.

She slides her fingers off his knuckles as she turns away.

Narra pulls the door behind her as she leaves...their eyes
meet in the sliver of the open door right as it closes.

INT. NARRA'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Narra lies awake, examining the texture of the ceiling.

She turns her eyes to the door with anticipation...she
shifts to her side and watches the door.

NARRA
(internal thoughts)
Of everything you plan to tell me. I
just want to know one thing, above
everything else...that's all I will
ask of you to answer...the
hesitation. The stare...why does it
happen?

INT. XEMTIM'S ROOM

The ring sparkles in the beam of the moonlight peering
through the window. It reels Xemtim's eyes in.

XEMTIM
(internal thoughts)
I don't know where to begin...

Xemtim presses his lips against the ring, giving it a gentle
kiss before setting it on the nightstand.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
(internal thoughts)
But I will tell you everything
tomorrow, before the night is out.

INT. STUDY HALL

Alone in this study hall, the candlelight shed light in the
darkness. Ricki's attention is zeroed in on the crumpled yet
dated pages before her.

Each page contains disturbing characters, carved in an unfamiliar language followed by detailed drawings of rituals of darkness consuming people, shadows eating souls, and necromancy.

Ricki swallows as she twists her fingers. Mouthing phases to herself as she continued to flip through the pages.

She freezes on a page of an eye with a crescent moon as the pupil crescent gaze back at her...almost as if it was actually watching her.

RICKI
"The Night's Eye"?

Ricki further investigates the page's contents.

RICKI (cont'd)
"The blessings of the night can only be felt. Feel the mother of the night's love and she will show you the beauty of the night..."

Ricki takes a deep breath as she examines the images presented with the ritual. A chant...a blade engulfed in shadows...shadows spiraling around the victim.

Ricki holds her chest, hoping to calm her panicking heart.

RICKI (cont'd)
 Gods...forgive the action I will be committing on this very night...

INT. XEMTIM'S ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Xemtim's face tightens...the sound his heartbeat echoes through his ears, pounding like drums of war.

Sweat falls on to his hand that he digs his nails into.

XEMTIM
 Narra...Narra...

The tempo of his heart increase in tempo as it spikes in volume.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
 NARRA! I AM NOT LEAVING YOUR SIDE FOR A SECOND!

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD) (V.O.)
 XEMTIM!!!

EXT. SHADOW ATHENS - CONTINUOUS

Xemtim (10 years old) stands in front of Narra. Glaring into the golden flames of the incoming boulder.

Narra (10 years old) shields her eyes as she screams.

-- SNIKT!! --

The flame bound boulder splits in half, the divided pieces crash around Xemtim and Narra.

Narra brings her hands down from her eyes. Noticing the fragments of the boulder...and the sword in Xemtim's hand.

The sharp golden blade reflects in Narra's widened eyes.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
Are you okay?

She nods rapidly.

Xemtim stabs the sword into the rubble and leans his weight against the handle; inch by inch, the rubble rolls off of her body. Narra legs covered scars and small cuts.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
My legs hurt...

Without warning to her. He lifts her on his back, holding both of her legs.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
Then I'll carry you.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
Xemtim...

Xemtim's eyes follow her shaky finger to black bodies crawl out of the darkness, thick black goop dripping from their distorted, featureless faces.

Only two violet orbs stand out in place where the eyes are normally.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
Hold on to me Narra...

She wraps her arms around his neck.

Xemtim lunges forward, left and right, from above or below, Xemtim evades the living shadows as he traverses around the battlefield.

Chariots swoop around. The man riding notices Narra.

CHARIOT RIDER

I found you...

He draws back on his bow. The arrow emits a bright light as he fires the arrow.

The speeding arrow breeze passes Xemtim and hits the moving shadow behind him. The impact instantly turned it into smoke.

-- SLASH! --

The horses are cut from the chariot. Sending the unstable ride crashing into a nearby building.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)

What happened?!

A man with wings lands before Xemtim. Towering over him while he gawks his ice-cold eyes at them both.

The man before them...is EROS.

EROS

Hand her over, Luminescent.

Xemtim steps backwards.

EROS (cont'd)

Are you deaf? GIVE HER TO ME!

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)

I'm taking her to her mother.

EROS

UNDER WHOSE ORDERS?!

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)

What do you care!? She means nothing to you anyways! Now get out of my way!

Eros shadow lingers over Xemtim & Narra.

EROS

Fine...

Eros' sword clashes with Xemtim's as it materializes in his hands. The two glare into each others' eyes.

EROS (cont'd)
 And you got a sword? I'll have to
 have a talk with that woman when I'm
 through with you!

Narra spits in Eros' face, Xemtim leaps over Eros, kicking
 off his back like a launchpad.

EROS (cont'd)
 Luminescent bastard!

SAME SCENE / MILES AWAY FROM EROS

Xemtim is dashing fast, swinging his head back and forth
 around the battlefield.

-- WHAM!! --

The wind is knocked right out of him as Eros' knee
 penetrates his gut.

Xemtim collapses to the ground and coughs blood.

Xemtim brings his head up...to Narra's face held by Eros'
 fingers.

EROS
 You really are your mother's
 daughter, especially with the kind of
 company you surround yourself with.

Xemtim's body trembles as he crawls to them.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
 (painful)
 L-Leave her alone!

UNKNOWN MAN
 And I'll deal with you later...

The man walks off.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
 No...Don't take her! Please!

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)
 Xemtim!

The man spreads his wings and zips into the sky.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)
 NARRA!

INT. XEMTIM'S ROOM - LATE IN THE NIGHT

Xemtim screams, lunging himself up from the bed.

The breath he takes is heavy, growing steady as he realizes he's awake.

NARRA (O.C.)

Xemtim!?

The moment he looks at her...without hesitation, he lunges out of bed and tackles her, squeezing her in his arms.

Narra stands frozen. Her shoulder feels his warm tears.

Narra snuggles her chin into his shoulder as wraps her arms around him.

XEMTIM

(weeping)

I thought I lost you...I thought he took you away from me.

Narra grabs Xemtim's cheeks with both hands. Forcing his eyes to hers.

NARRA

I'm not going anywhere with anyone...
Not. A single. One...Okay?

Xemtim's eyes motion downward as he remains silent.

NARRA (cont'd)

Come on...

She takes his hands and pulls him to the bed.

Xemtim's heartbeat thumps like thunder in his chest.

XEMTIM

What...are you doing...?

She crawls into his bed and makes herself comfortable under the sheets.

NARRA

No one can take me if I am with you,
right?

Xemtim gazes into the moonlight shining around her as if she were an angel or spirit.

She pats the empty space next to her.

NARRA (cont'd)
Now come to bed.

Xemtim swallows as he slides under the blankets.

Narra turns towards the window as she rests her head on the pillow.

Xemtim lays there...his cheeks inflamed.

XEMTIM
(internal thoughts)
This is...still a dream?

EXT. ROOFTOP OF A TALL BUILDING

The Mimic motions its head slowly back and forth at all of Peria from the rooftop.

The Mimic stops on two children, laughing and chasing each other.

MIMIC
You are a damn fool to think she
would ever hide that she would be
here, Veturius...

The Mimic turns its head towards the black sky.

MIMIC (cont'd)
But if Azrael is restless...I shall
be as well...

The Mimic snaps its fingers...The Mimic's shadow stretches outward and expands.

Violet eyes open inside of its shadow.

MIMIC (cont'd)
Find the Vessel.

The Mimic's shadow splinters off each other and dashes into the city. Dashing passed the children and guards unnoticed.

INT. OUTSIDE OF RICKI'S ROOM

Angel approaches her door with a tray filled with various fruits. Organized neatly on the tray.

Angel taps his knuckle on the door.

-- Tap. Tap. --

Angel stands there in silence...

ANGEL
Hey Ricki...? I...missed you at
dinner...I thought we could share a
late snack and talk?

Not a word is spoken through the door.

ANGEL (cont'd)
Would that...be okay?

He hangs his head down as he gazes upon the doorknob.

The door cracks open an inch, Angel pokes one eye through...
and it pops open.

Ricki is held in the air by the darkness, as it merges into
into her chest.

Angel drops the tray as he bursts into the door.

INT. RICKI'S ROOM

ANGEL
RICKI!!

Her eyes completely black and her mouth babbling nonsense
sentences and phrases in a language related to gibberish or
reverse.

Angel draws a thick sword from his holster on his back.

ANGEL (cont'd)
RETURN TO THE SHADOWS!

Ricki's arm is forced up like it's being pulled by a string.

Slashes covered in shadows are fired at Angel, moving in
formation.

Angel deflected each slash as quickly as they were fired at
him but they kept Angel from advancing closer to Ricki.

Angel strained his eyes on Ricki, fighting his hardest to
push forward. Ricki's skin and hair color shifts to gloomy
grays and browns.

He grits teeth...tightening his grip on his sword...the edge
of the blade glows as he winds it back.

ANGEL (cont'd)
LEAVE HER ALONE!

Angel swings the blade. The light on his sword, launches through the endless slashes and cuts down the shadows holding Ricki.

Angel catches her in his arms.

ANGEL (cont'd)
HELP!!!! SOMEONE HELP ME!!!!

He takes her in arms. Unable to keep her stable.

He glances at the shadow color slugs, burrowing themselves deeper into her blood.

ANGEL (cont'd)
WHAT DO I DO!? WHAT DO I DO!?

Ricki's body froze in animation. Her mouth quivers, fighting to speak.

ANGEL (cont'd)
(weeping)
Sis...?

Sounds of a siren song grasps Angel's attention.

Strings of light emerge out of thin air.

They dance over into the palm of her hand. Where they cycle around a small circular light that steadily grows in her palm.

RICKI
Re...pel...

Her eyes snapped open. Her eyeballs spark in gold color flame.

RICKI (cont'd)
REPEL!

She crushes the orb of light she created in her hand.

-- BOOM! --

The force of the explosion sends Angel flying backwards against the wall and dispels the darkness from her body.

Ricki's hair and skin color restores slowly...She takes a deep inhale right before coughing violently.

ANGEL
Why are you bleeding...?

Ricki hides her wrist. Turning away from him as she stands.

RICKI
I'm fine...don't you have better
things to do?

ANGEL
What I witnessed was far from fine,
Sis! You could've been killed for
Gods-sake!!

RICKI
Now all of sudden you care about the
shadows?! Why?! Cause it actually
almost killed me?! Save your concerns
for the people who can't defend
themselves against it instead of
worrying about those who can!

Angel stands there in silence...his lip shaken, aching to
speak.

ANGEL
Sis...I...

Ricki turns away from him.

RICKI
Leave my room, Angel.

Angel glances at the blood dripping from her wrist.

He held his head down as he slipped out the door.

INT. OUTSIDE OF RICKI'S ROOM

Angel pulls the door close behind him. Breathing shakily.

Khallo and several guards march up to Angel. Khallo, being
the only one in pajamas out of the group.

KHALLO
Talk son! What happened in there!?

Angel brings his head up. Keeping it facing the door.

ANGEL
...Everything is fine...

Angel turns from them and walks down the opposite hallway,
away from Khallo.

ANGEL (cont'd)
(internal thoughts)
Why would you...call to the shadows
before you even talked to me...?

INT. RICKI'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The blood dripping from Ricki's wound starts to run black.

She squeezes her wound tightly, taking steady breaths and blowing her exhales.

RICKI
(Painful)
Fos.

A bright aura spills from her palm. Sound of crinkling dried flesh followed by hissing.

She crushes her teeth together. Fighting the urge to scream.

She gazes at the wound. The shadows settled on her wrist, forming the eye with a crescent moon from the book she read, settling on her skin like a tattoo.

She clenches her fist and brushes her sweat.

RICKI (cont'd)
I...I did it, teacher.

Ricki stands before the window. Staring off at the young night sky.

RICKI (cont'd)
For as long as I live. I won't let
Peria down.

INT. XEMTIM'S ROOM

Xemtim opens his eyes to Narra's soft smile as she rests.

He motions his eyes to her hand resting on top of his own. He gasps quietly...and admires her beauty.

XEMTIM (V.O.)
A world without you in it. Is a world
without stars, moons, or a sun.

He carefully moves her hand from his. He moves strands of hair from her face and smiles back at her.

He carefully rests his hand on her cheek.

XEMTIM
(Whispers)
Why is it so hard just to tell you
something as simple as that?

He looks down at her lips. He brushes his thumb along her bottom lip, slowly and caressing it.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
(whispers)
Maybe...it can be simpler...

He closes his eyes. Stretching out his lips to hers.

Narra's face twitches. Xemtim removes his hand in a flash and freezes. He stares at her in a sweat.

She makes her head comfortable on the pillow...and responds with soft snores.

Xemtim releases his held breath...he glances down at the palm of his hand and smile.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
I am fine with this too.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF HOME

Xemtim closes the door gently. He leaps off the steps with glee and a smile stretched across his face.

He embraces his ring with both hands and stares out to the approaching morning sky.

XEMTIM
Today is the day. You can do this,
Xemtim.

Xemtim swings his body, crashing into someone.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
Sorry about that...

MIMIC
Out of my way!

The Mimic shoves Xemtim to the ground and resumes walking.

Xemtim glares at the Mimic as it walks away.

The Mimic stops in place. It twists its head back to Xemtim.

Xemtim brushes himself off as he stands to his feet.

MIMIC (cont'd)
Xemtim...?

Xemtim turns his attention to the Mimic, slightly squinting his eyes.

MIMIC (cont'd)
You...

The Mimic turns the rest of its body to him.

Shadows twist into shape at the center of its hand as they create a thin blade, it's noir silver shine with symbols written at the end of the blade.

Xemtim eyes glue to the blade.

MIMIC (cont'd)
...LIVE!?

He flies at Xemtim, its speed like a hurricane wind.

Xemtim rolls out the way of the swift attack, only a few strains of his hair falling victim to the slash.

MIMIC (cont'd)
Where is the vessel, Luminescent!

Xemtim jumps away from the next swing.

XEMTIM
Vessel?!

MIMIC
The girl you spent day in and day out with!

XEMTIM
(internal thoughts)
What does he want with her?

MIMIC
TELL ME WHERE SHE IS!

He charges once more.

Xemtim leaps out the way, snatching items off of the ground and throwing them at the Mimic.

XEMTIM
I don't know who you are talking about!

The Mimic slashes through them as simple as slicing through fruit. Motioning closer to Xemt看

The Mimic grabs Xemt看's throat and slams him against the wall.

MIMIC

You know exactly who I am talking about! That girl you are so obsessed with, you stole her from us! GIVE HER TO ME THIS INSTANT!

The Mimic raises the blade, aiming its narrow sharp tip at Xemt看's eye.

MIMIC (cont'd)

Where's the girl, Luminescent...GIVE HER TO ME THIS INSTANT!

Xemt看's eyes widen at Mimic...those words make Xemt看 shiver...that voice...Xemt看 wonders where he heard them before.

XEMTIM

(internal thoughts)

Her...?

The rays of the sun peer over the buildings as the sun rises into the sky.

The Mimic screeches like a witch as the sunlight makes contact with it. Releasing Xemt看 as it vanishes into the darkened corner.

Xemt看 lays there, breathing rapidly.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

Narra...

INT. DINING ROOM

The Mimic marches towards the table. Veturius stares back at it with a mocking grin.

VETURIUS

I hear the sunshine in Peria is a sight to behold. Is that true?

MIMIC

He's there!

VETURIUS
Weren't you supposed to be looking
for a 'she'?

MIMIC
CAN IT YOU FOOL! THE LUMINESCENT BOY
IS THERE!

Veturius goes silent...and his grin droops downward as his
eyes widens.

VETURIUS
Xemtim is alive...?

The Mimic nods its hood.

Veturius carefully strokes his chin.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
Those two really were inseparable...
even Eros couldn't separate them.

The Mimic groans.

MIMIC
I'm going to report back to Azrael
with my findings...as soon as the sun
sets...I'll be going back.

The Mimic marches out of the room.

Veturius leans in his seat, resting his hands behind his
head.

VETURIUS
This changes things.

INT. KITCHEN / HOME

Xemtim rolls his fingers on the table. While his eyes are
fixated on the flames burning in the candlelight.

The hooded man's attack plays over in Xemtim's mind.

XEMTIM
(internal thoughts)
Vessel...Luminescent...? Where is...
the Vessel?

Xemtim's massages his throat...remembering that vice-like
grip his neck.

MIMIC (V.O.)
"YOU STOLE HER FROM US!"

XEMTIM
(internal thoughts)
I...stole her...is he talking about
Narra?

Something creeps around in the darkened living, drawing
closer to Xemtim, one step at a time.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
Who even was that guy...and why does
he want --

Hands grab Xemtim's sides from the darkness.

NARRA
BOO!!!

Xemtim flings his hot beverage into his face. He rolls
around the floor, screaming like a cartoon character.

Narra collapses to the floor, howling with laughter.

XEMTIM
NARRA!!!

Narra turns as red as his face right before bursting in
laughter.

NARRA
(while laughing)
I'm sorry!! But I couldn't resist!

Xemtim groans at her.

She looks at him, her cheeks fuzzy with a smile.

NARRA (cont'd)
Happy birthday grouchy.

A smile pokes through Xemtim's frustration.

XEMTIM
Did you sleep well?

Narra looks at him and slowly nods her head.

NARRA
You have a really comfy bed. It's
like being on clouds.

Xemtim's face turns red at the statement.

XEMTIM
I...I am glad you were there.

NARRA
Me too.

Narra stands to her feet and approaches Xemtim...offering him her hand.

EXT. HOME

Xemtim and Narra step out through the door.

Xemtim's hand shakes slightly as he gazes into the dark corner.

NARRA
You okay...?

He glances at the dark alley.

XEMTIM
Y-Yeah.

Narra stands in front of him with her head tilted and her eyes staring deeply into his.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
Forget about it. What would you like to do?

Narra paces around him, playfully giving him glances that makes shake all the way to his core.

NARRA
How about...you follow me?

XEMTIM
O-Okay.

She shoves him into the bushes without warning.

NARRA
You remember this game, don't you?

Narra swings around and run.

XEMTIM
Why you...!

Xemtim jumps out from the bushes and chases after her.

INT. PERIA (RUNNING)

They dash through civilians and without causing a disturbance to everyone's daily lives.

Xemtim kept up with Narra but she still had distance on him.

XEMTIM
Still the same shoving Narra!

NARRA
Still the same slow Xemtim!

Xemtim shakes his head as he smiles.

XEMTIM
You want me to chase you the entire time!?

Narra laughs as she looks at him.

NARRA
(internal thought)
Isn't that the fun part? The reward at the end...will make the chase worth it.

XEMTIM
(internal thoughts)
What are you planning?

He chases her deeper into town.

They zoom past a woman in a hooded cloak walking up the street they ran from.

The woman turns to watch Xemtim and Narra...she takes a deep breath and she keeps walking.

EXT. HOME

The woman with the cloak enters the alleyway, outside of where Xemtim and Narra live.

She raises her hand, panning her hand slowly throughout the alleyway.

Whispers utter nonsensical words as she motions her hand, the voices are soft but sharp in their tongue.

She falters to her knees. She looks down at her tensing fingers.

She grabs her wrist. Her fingers wrapped tightly on her wrist as she took heavy breaths.

MYSTERIOUS WOMAN

Fos...

The woman brings her head up. Unveiling the mysterious woman to be none other than Ricki...she gazes upon each shadow with urgency, swinging her head back and forth among them.

RICKI

It was here...but the question is...
where is it now?

EXT. CERES' SHOP

Dasaline sits atop a sign, swinging her legs back and forth as she munches down on ice cream.

Dasaline stops mid-bite to see Narra and Xentim coming this way at an alarming speed.

DASALINE

SHOOT!

Dasaline slides down the pole of the sign.

INT. CERES' SHOP

Dasaline burst through the door.

DASALINE

THEY'RE ALMOST HERE!!!

DEMI

Good! Get in here!

EXT. CERES' SHOP

Xentim raises a brow as he realizes where Narra is running towards.

XENTIM

(internal thoughts)
Ceres' shop?

Narra sticks her tongue out at him as she runs through the shop door.

Xentim speeds up to the door.

INT. CERES' SHOP

Xemtim bursts through the door. As quickly as the windows are covered, trapping him in a completely darkened shop.

XEMTIM

N-Narra...?

NARRA

I'm here Xemtim.

XEMTIM

W-Where?

A spark of a small flame Xemtim. Xemtim follows his eyes to the flame, watching Narra press the flame atop of the candle stems.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

N-Narra...

Narra holds her head down as she hides her shaky hands behind her back.

NARRA

Happy...birthday...

Xemtim examines the detail on the cake, breathing at a sluggish pace.

NARRA (cont'd)

We've shared...many years of memories...things that make us laugh, make us sad...and things that scare us...but you know what I always think about that always brings ease to my heart?

Narra swallows. Her hands shaking more uncontrollably.

NARRA (cont'd)

I think...about the little world we built everyday on the beach...and I...I constantly think about it...I don't think there's been a day, I haven't stopped thinking about it.

Narra brings her eyes up. Xemtim's eyes widen to the tears forming underneath her irises.

NARRA (cont'd)

Beyond the sand castle...I...I am grateful that you are a part of my world.

Xemtim stands in silence, pulled into a trance in her eyes.
The sound of his heartbeat grows loud and pounds rapidly.

NARRA (cont'd)
Xemtim...?

Xemtim blinks his eyes and shakes his head.

XEMTIM
S-Sorry...You are...
(internal thoughts)
Beautiful, breathtaking, amazing,
divine...no, none of those...

Xemtim takes a deep breath.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
There's something...I want to tell
you. I don't know how to start it and
it makes my words falter every
time...because I am afraid...not of
you but what happens after.

Narra's face turns red.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
So...would you like...to go to our
spot and talk about it there?

A cartoonish smile forms on her beating red face, motioning
her eyes everywhere but at Xemtim.

She holds her head down. And nods rapidly.

NARRA
Y-Yes...Yes...I would love, I mean,
"Like" to. We go after cake?

XEMTIM
Of course...might be a long talk...
and I would rather not waste your
gift.

Narra charges Xemtim with a hug. Holding him tightly.

NARRA
You're the only gift I have wanted
for my birthday.

Xemtim looks at her as his cheeks turn red.

He returns the favor. Embracing her in his arms.

The two stand in silence and in each others' embrace.

XEMTIM
That makes...two of us...

INT. KHALLO'S BEDROOM - SUNSET

Khallo enters his bedroom...he freezes in the doorway.

VETURIUS (O.C.)
What a view...

Veturius sitting in the window, watching the sun as it descends.

VETURIUS
You people lucky to have sights like those...I bet you wish it could last forever.

Khallo's flutter as he observes Veturius.

Veturius turns his eyes to Khallo's shaken irises...as the sun finishes setting.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
But the night has come...

EXT. SHOPPING CENTER / PERIA - NIGHT

Ricki walks through the shopping center with her head hanging down.

RICKI
I guess...that's that...nothing.

Ricki brings her head up to the castle lights in the distance.

RICKI (cont'd)
What a waste of time...

WOMAN (O.C.)
Your majesty?

Ricki turns her head to a woman approaching with a fruit basket.

WOMAN
You working the night shift too?

RICKI
Yeah...I was thinking about heading
back soon.

The woman smiles towards Ricki.

WOMAN
You know, you're going to be a good
Pillar one day.

Ricki turns her eyes away from the woman.

RICKI
I doubt it.

WOMAN
We are our own worst critic.
Besides...I don't ever see your
father out here. It speaks volume of
your character...I am sure I am not
the only one who feels that way
either.

The woman digs into her basket.

WOMAN (cont'd)
Take one of these...

Ricki's eyes bestows a bright red apple resting in the
woman's hand, held out to her.

RICKI
That's kind of you madam but--

WOMAN
Take it...and have a good evening,
your majesty.

Ricki hesitantly accepts the apple.

WOMAN (cont'd)
try to have a good evening...and
don't overdo it. You'll make the
guards look bad.

The woman strolls to the shop.

Ricki examines the apple as a smile comes to her face.

She turns her eyes to the shop that woman came from.

RICKI
Thank you.

Ricki goes in for a bite. Her eyes are drawn to the glowing crescent moon on her wrist.

Ricki's swings her head around the market. Her eyes focused on each darkened corner.

RICKI (cont'd)
By the Gods...

EXT. MIDDLE OF TOWN / PERIA

Xemtim and Narra walk alongside each other. The two sneaking glances at each other as they pass through town.

Xemtim's hand nervously sways towards Narra's hand...Narra falls straight downward in a black pool.

XEMTIM
Narra!?

EXT. BLACKPOOL

Narra gaze around the endless amount of darkness around her...violet eyes open all around, returning the favor to her.

XEMTIM (O.C.)
(Faint)
NARRA!

She looks up to Xemtim's hand reaching down from above her.
Narra swam as fast towards his hand.

EXT. MIDDLE OF TOWN / PERIA

Xemtim yanks her straight out of the black water and holds her in his arms.

XEMTIM
You okay?!

Narra trembles as she stares at the black pool. Xemtim directs his eyes to it...and he holds his breath.

Bodies crawl out of the darkness, black bodies made of shadows and violent color eyes to match the aura that outlines their bodies' shape.

These things are known as "HOODLUMS".

Creatures that Xemtim has seen in his nightmare.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

No way.

The creatures launch themselves at Xemtim and Narra like cannons.

Xemtim snatches Narra's hand and the two run down the nearby alleyway. The shadows grow in numbers and pursue after them.

EXT. ALLEYWAY / PERIA

More of those creatures crawl out of the shadows surrounding the area as Xemtim and Narra runs.

NARRA

What are those things?!

Xemtim and Narra dodges their darkened claws as the maneuver around them.

XEMTIM

(internal thoughts)

Those things are real?! That can't be!

INT. HALLWAYS OF THE KINGDOM

The shadows bleed from the walls like black blood, contaminating the white marble walls and flooring with shadows.

Angel stands there, shaken to his core as the alive shadows consume everything they touch.

ANGEL

Shadows!? Here?!

Out of the pools, more of those creatures crawled out. One lunges at Angel

-- SLASH! --

In a flash; Angel removed his sword and slashed through it.

ANGEL (cont'd)

KNIGHTS!? PROTECT THE CIVILIANS!

The creatures' black bodies sucks the knights into their goop-like bodies. The once knights had merged with the shadows, standing with darkness around their bodies.

They turn their violet eyes on Angel as they raise their blades.

Angel's grip on his blade tremors

ANGEL (cont'd)
 Forgive me my colleagues...shadows...
 RETURN TO THE DARKNESS!!

Angel slashes through them, pushing forward through the battle in the halls.

ANGEL (cont'd)
 Sis!? Where are you!?

EXT. MIDDLE OF TOWN / PERIA

Xemtim and Narra dash past the night watch. Just barely missing them.

NIGHT-WATCH #1
 Hey!? What's the--

They notice the horde of shadows hot on the trail. Coming towards them.

The shadows consume one instantly. Only the man's screams as the shadows piled on him like a raging tide.

NIGHT-WATCH #2
 Shadows?!

He runs for his life down the alley from the incoming tide. Quickly, drawing back on the string of his bow.

The shadows grab him by his ankles. Crawling up like a coffin of bugs in *fear factor*.

Those creatures surround Narra.

XEMTIM
 GET AWAY FROM HER!

Xemtim throws a punch at the creature. The impact doesn't even cause the creature to flinch.

-- WHAM! --

The creature smacks Xemtim backwards. He watches as the creatures grow in numbers around her.

NARRA
 XEMTIM!!

Narra's hand reaches out through their dark bodies.

Xemtim charges ahead once more. Howling a scream from deep inside his gut.

Xemtim's heartbeat pounds against his chest. The sound claps like multiple thunder-strikes.

Golden sparks twist around black mist inside of his palms.

In a blink of an eye -- SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

Xemtim opens his eyes to a sword in his grasp. The same one he saw in his dream.

XEMTIM

Am I...dreaming...?

Xemtim looks back at Narra through the falling dust. Both at a loss for words.

-- BAM! --

An impact strikes his gut like a speeding vehicle.

NARRA

Xemtim!

Her cries is silenced as a hand grabs her mouth

Xemtim brings his head up as the Mimic turns to Xemtim, holding Narra.

She threw every punch and kick she had at the Mimic, but she couldn't free herself of it.

XEMTIM

(painful)

N-Narra!

The Mimic cuts down each of the creatures before they could land a single scratch on him.

MIMIC

That child is going to answer for this.

Xemtim forces himself to his feet, running at the Mimic with his sword in his grasp.

The Mimic steps out of the way of his swing...responding with kicking Xemtim against a food stand.

WINGS sprout out of the Mimic's back as it takes flight towards the castle.

XEMTIM

NO!

Xemtim grabs the sword as he forces himself to move.

Shadows appear along Xemtim's path, crawling out of the walls and any dark place in the way.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

MOVE!!!

Xemtim swings his sword through them

One of the creatures lunges at Xemtim's blind side.

RICKI (O.C.)

FOS!

The attacking shadow combusts into smoke like blowing out a candle, Xemtim glances at Ricki standing there; her fist ignited in light.

He nods his head to her and keeps running.

RICKI

Sir! You should get somewhere safe!

INT. KHALLO'S BEDROOM

Angel burst through the doors.

ANGEL

FATHER?!

The pupils in Angel's eyes shrink.

Khallo laid on the floor. his skin lost color, his veins glowing an intense violet.

ANGEL (cont'd)

(disturbed)

Fa-Father...

Angel's attention shifts to Veturius as he emerges from around the bed.

VETURIUS

You look like you'll be a load of fun. Hopefully better than that foolish old man.

Angel dashes across the floor. Veturius zips out of the way of Angel's sword.

He goes again for more slashes but Veturius dodges each one with little effort, stopping his blade with his own conjured from shadows.

ANGEL
A soul blade?

Veturius chuckles.

VETURIUS
Do you like it? I came up with the
design myself...

Angel grips his blade tighter, accelerating the light around the blade.

They exchange sword swings back and forth. Veturius playfully laughs as he stops each attack without struggle.

ANGEL
Who are you?!

VETURIUS
Veturius...soon to be your new
Pillar.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE CASTLE

Xemtim approaches the gates, glancing at the Mimic and the entrance as he approaches the gate.

Ricki lands in front of him, locking eyes with him.

XEMTIM
(angered)
Move your majesty...

RICKI
What business do you have here?

XEMTIM
THEY TOOK MY BEST FRIEND! NOW MOVE!

She looks at the castle, seeing the shadows lingering like smoke to a fire.

She takes a deep breath.

RICKI
Can you use that sword?

XEMTIM
I know some basics.

RICKI
I can help reunite you with your
friend...if you'll help me sir...

Xemtim glances at his sword...then back to her.

XEMTIM
Xemtim...your majesty.

RICKI
Ricki.

Ricki and Xemtim dash through the silent garden beyond the
gates.

XEMTIM
What's happening, your majesty...?

RICKI
(annoyed)
Just call me Ricki please? I hate
formalities...but I don't know, this
must be some kind of invasion but...
why they do that is a mystery to me.

XEMTIM
Why is that?

RICKI
They will be repelled back to the
shadows by sunrise. Their efforts are
completely pointless unless they can
somehow stop the sun from rising!

XEMTIM
So you think they're after something
else?!

Ricki stops out of nowhere. Xemtim stops a few feet away
from her.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
Ricki?!

Ricki stares down with shaken eyes.

RICKI
(shakily)
Oh no...

She brings her head up and bolts past Xemtim, moving faster than before.

XEMTIM

Wait up!

Xemtim chases after her, moving as fast as his legs can push him.

RICKI

(to herself)

I hope we're not too late...

INT. KHALLO'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Angel and Veturius crash in a head-on collision. Veturius maintained his grin.

VETURIUS

Such skilled movement, prince!
Surprised they didn't assign you to
be Pillar next.

ANGEL

My place is protecting those who take
the Pillar seat. Not sitting on it
myself!

Veturius sends Angel flying backwards with a spinning kick.

VETURIUS

You are going to make a perfect loyal
dog then.

ANGEL

Never!

Angel kicks to his feet. He dashes across the carpet,
winding up his swing.

ANGEL (cont'd)

My loyalty is reserved for my sister!

He manages to land a slash...taking a few strains of
Veturius' hair.

VETURIUS

NOW THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!!

INT. HALLWAYS OF THE KINGDOM

Ricki and Xemtim are making their way through the shadows, vanquishing them left & right, Xemtim slashing through them while Ricki swings around her whip, striking them down.

Leaving ash and lingering smoke in their path.

RICKI
Angel, where are you?

Angel is knocked out of Khallo's bedroom.

RICKI (cont'd)
ANGEL!

ANGEL
(painful)
GET OUT OF HERE!

Veturius swaggers out of the room, rolling his head around to Ricki. Examining her from her eyes all the way down to her boots.

VETURIUS
Is that your sister, prince?
(realizing)
and what's this...you brought Xemtim
with you too. Long time no see,
Xemtim...How's Narra doing?

Xemtim's heartbeat sounds off like a vicious single strike of the drum.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
Oh...she's not with you? Here I
thought you guys were inseparable.

Xemtim grinds his teeth. His tenses, as veins stretch across his eyeballs, nearing the iris.

XEMTIM
WHERE IS NARRA!?!

VETURIUS
Where she belongs...but don't worry,
I'll take care of her.

Xemtim shoots through the hallway, raising his blade.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
I missed seeing how emotional you got
over that vessel.

XEMTIM
JUST SHUT UP AND DIE!

-- TING! --

Xemtim's sword clashes with the Mimic's sword. The Mimic grabs Xemtim by the collar of his shirt and throws him down the hall.

VETURIUS
About time, MIMIC!

The Mimic grabs Veturius arm by his arm.

MIMIC
(angered)
I didn't do this for your benefit!
Azrael will hear about your antics!

Shadows twist around behind them, spiraling in place like a wormhole cracked in space.

VETURIUS
(snatching away)
Get your hands off me!

Veturius glances at Xemtim.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
It was nice to see you again, Xemtim.

XEMTIM
WHERE DID YOU TAKE HER!?

Xemtim charges the portal with the fury of a rushing tide. Howling at the top of his lungs.

Veturius and the Mimic marches through the portal. Veturius waves at Xemtim with a smile.

The portal burns out to ash instantly...Xemtim slides to a stop before the showering ashes.

Xemtim stands there, watching the remaining ashes fade away as they touch the marble floor.

Shaken...Xemtim drops to his hands and knees.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
(weeping)
This is not actually happening...it's
just...a bad dream...Narra...
please...wake me up...please tell
me...it's not real...

INT. MEETING ROOM / KINGDOM OF PERIA - SOME TIME LATER

Xemtim kept his eyes down to his hands as his tears fell from his eyes and onto his hands.

Ricki takes a seat next to Xemtim. Easing in with her head tilted.

XEMTIM

Do you know who they are?

RICKI

I was hoping you would know since he seemed interested in you and your friend.

XEMTIM

I've never seen either one of them before today.

Ricki holds her head down.

RICKI

Then we're *at a loss* here...

Xemtim's tearful eyes gaze into her face.

XEMTIM

Wh-What?

RICKI

The shadows are vast and none of us here can survive a long term trip through it. Since you don't know who he is. We have nothing go off...as far as I can tell she could be anywhere in the shadows.

Xemtim stares down at his tearful expression in the blade.

XEMTIM

I can't lose her...I can't...

Ricki carefully places her hand on his shoulder.

Angel looks at Xemtim with guilt pricking him.

ANGEL

We...might know someone who can help.

Xemtim and Ricki swing their heads to him. Ricki raises a brow to his claim.

RICKI

We do?

XEMTIM

(eager)

You do...? Who?!

ANGEL

Marius...he holds centuries of records, maybe he can find some connection between you and the attackers.

RICKI

Marius doesn't contain personal records so that is not going to aid us here, Angel.

Ricki's eyes fixated on the characters on Xemtim's sword.

RICKI (cont'd)

(Internal thoughts)

You have the same kind of blade as them but you don't know who they are? More importantly, why your friend? Why all this damage for one girl?

Ricki ascends to her feet.

RICKI (cont'd)

We might not be able to pinpoint where she is, but if you and your friend have some kind of connection to them, it can shed some light on our situation as well as yours... hopefully, if the Gods are willing... maybe it'll direct us to where they are.

Xemtim looks at her as he wipes away his tears.

XEMTIM

T-Thank you...both of you.

RICKI

Don't thank us yet. I can't guarantee he'll want to speak with us...but I can at least try my best as Pillar.

INT. MAIN CORRIDOR / CASTLE

Veturius looks up to a beautiful stoic statue of a woman, beauty is divine and her stance is mighty like a god.

MIMIC

Such a disgrace you are to this foundation...Among the many foolish acts you have done in these few years. This was by-far the worst!

Veturius ignores the Mimic. Not so much as flinch to his comments.

The Mimic clenches their fist and groans.

MIMIC (cont'd)

I AM TALKING TO YOU, VETURIUS!! What do you have to say for yourself!?

VETURIUS

If they wanted her so badly, they could've done the job themselves. I am not a dog nor am I a mimic. If they want it to be my problem, make something worth the trouble then.

The Mimic stands in between Veturius and the statue.

MIMIC

...Don't forget your place, child.

VETURIUS

After you remember yours..."slave to the shadows"...

Veturius turns from the Mimic as he walks away.

INT. GUEST ROOM

Ricki opens a door to a clean, decorative bedroom. The walls engraved in marble and designs like a slice of the hallway were re-purposed for a bedroom.

Xemtim looks around the room. Unmoved by the flashy appearance.

Xemtim tosses his sword to the floor as he approaches the bed.

RICKI

Xemtim...

Xemtim turns his puffy red eyes to her.

RICKI (cont'd)
I wanted to say...thank you for your
aid tonight...I swear on my life
We'll get your friend back.

Xemtim sucks in his lips and nods his head to her as he
tosses himself on the bed. Facing away from Ricki.

RICKI (cont'd)
Rest well, Xemtim...and keep your
head up. For you and your friend...

She walks out of the room, pulling the door gently to close.

Xemtim massages the empty space on his mattress.

XEMTIM
I will be there soon.

INT. DUNGEON

Narra lies on the ground of a noir dungeon and dead silent
dungeon.

She drags her fingertips along the hardened floor in a
gentle motion. Her tears slid from her eyes and onto the
cold floor.

NARRA
Please be safe...

She closes her eyes. Narra curls into a ball as she weeps.

NARRA (cont'd)
...I will be waiting for you...
Xemtim.

INT. RICKI'S ROOM

She watches Peria from her window, as she takes slow strokes
of her hair and deep breaths.

-- Tap. Tap. Tap. --

She doesn't bother to shift her focus to the sound.

Angel slides into the room and remains silent. The distance
between him and her window appears further.

ANGEL

Sis, I...I don't know what to say...
I...I didn't know...I hope you can
forgive me...

Ricki takes a deep breath...gripping her hair tightly.

RICKI

You are not the one who has to stand
in front of everyone. You do not have
to tell the family's about their lost
loved ones. Or see their tears and
anger towards you for letting it
happen...Do you really think they
would forgive you?

INT. DUNGEON

Veturius swaggers into the dungeon. Giving Narra a leering
gaze as he approaches the bars.

VETURIUS

Good morning, my goddess.

NARRA

Excuse me?

Veturius leans on the bars as he licks his mouth.

VETURIUS

I can tell by a glance, it's you. I
can see why Xemt看 wanted you all to
himself.

Narra makes a scrunched face at him.

NARRA

What are you talking about?

VETURIUS

It's a shame he never made good use
of you. Pitiful is an understatement
to describe him.

NARRA

He is not pitiful! He has a good
heart and would never use me like I
am some tool!

VETURIUS

That's all you are, Nyx...A tool.

Veturius' hand is held open, his fingers curved like claws.

Narra falls to her knees as a piercing sharp pain courses through her chest.

A wave of purple and black smoke emerges from her chest and seeps into Veturius' palm.

He inhales, a sinister grin forms on his pale face.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
And you're going to aid me.

He reaches his hand out to her once more. She rolls on her back as more purple and black smoke is pried from her chest.

Narra's screams echo around the dungeon walls.

INT. GUEST ROOM - EARLY MORNING

Xemtim examines his sword closely and the unanswered mystery that haunts him.

ANGEL (O.S.)
Good morning...Xemtim, right?

XEMTIM
Yeah...

ANGEL
I...brought something for you.

Angel holds up a sword pouch. The noir leather and designs shine in Xemtim's eyes.

ANGEL (cont'd)
Marius is a while away. You might want to consider a place for your blade in the meantime.

Xemtim takes it from him. He further examines it with awe.

He inserts the blade inside and mounts it on his back. The strap pressed against his neck, strangling him.

ANGEL (cont'd)
(chuckling)
Let's try that again.

Angel takes the strap from Xemtim's neck. The pouch ascends up his back as Angel tugs it to tighten it.

Angel releases Xemtim's strap. Xemtim turns his body, the pouch moves as he does and not as loose.

ANGEL (cont'd)

Better?

Xemtim nods his head.

XEMTIM

Thank you...uh...

ANGEL

Angel.

XEMTIM

(chuckling)

Seems like formalities aren't a thing around here.

Angel chuckles as he shakes his head.

ANGEL

I am not much of a majesty anyways. I am just a guy swinging a sword, like you.

Xemtim and Angel share a laugh.

Ricki leans on the doorway, watching Angel and Xemtim share a laugh.

XEMTIM

Ricki is lucky to have you as her brother and bodyguard.

Angel's glossy eyes gaze at Xemtim's smile.

Angel rubs Xemtim's hair. Chuckling to himself.

ANGEL

Come on, don't want to keep your friend waiting.

Xemtim grabs a hold of his strap and nods to him with a determined smile.

EXT. PERIA

Xemtim hovers his eyesight around at the damaged buildings and roads after the attack.

Guards scrambled to assist with fixing the damages and pulling people from underneath rubble.

XEMTIM

How did any of this happen?

RICKI
Hopefully we can figure that out
while we figure out why they took
your friend.

Ricki glances at Angel, noticing he's gazing down at his feet.

RICKI (cont'd)
Angel...?

Angel brings his head up to her.

RICKI (cont'd)
As your new Pillar, I have a direct
order for you. Your head up and your
eyes forward...okay?

Angel nods his head.

RICKI (cont'd)
That's better.

She smiles at him as she turns her head forward.

Xemtim stares ahead. Finding a civilization of trees that awaits them ahead.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF PERIA

Xemtim stops right before the trees, turning back to Peria, one last time.

XEMTIM
(to himself)
I'll be back...and Narra will be with
me when I return.

Xemtim turns away from Peria as he stares out at the road ahead.

Xemtim immerses himself into the trees after taking a deep breath.

EXT. FOREST - AFTERNOON

Wild animals flee as the three pass through the paths of trees.

Ricki pops berries into her mouth as she focuses on passages from her book.

Xemtim motions his eyes around the numerous colors of trees and plants along the path.

ANGEL

Have you been outside of Peria before, Xemtim?

XEMTIM

Me and Narra were forbidden from going anywhere beyond Peria...not that we ever listened.

RICKI

Narra...that's a really pretty name.

XEMTIM

Yeah...not to mention...she's breathtaking. Beyond any words I can come up with...

Ricki turns to him with a raised brow as she slips a berry into her grinning mouth.

Angel strokes his chin softly as he looks at Xemtim with a playful smirk.

ANGEL

Sounds like a 'real' good friend.

Xemtim finds himself with a fool's smile.

XEMTIM

She is...

Xemtim to stare at the glimmer of sparkling light in the water. He motions his eyes across the water to a mirage of himself and Narra when they were ten.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD)

You were right! It's like diamonds! See Xemtim!? Xemtim...?

Xemtim (10 years old) stares at Narra's sparkling purple eyes in the sunlight.

NARRA (10 YEARS OLD) (cont'd)

What are you staring at...?!

He swings his head away, his cheek bones emitted red.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)

N-Nothing!

Xemtim (current day) chuckles to himself watching the mirage.

XEMTIM
She really is...

INT. ROOM / UNKNOWN LOCATION IN THE SHADOWS

A world where light is non-existent. Only the ambient candles bring light into this room.

The Mimic approaches individuals sitting in chairs.

Their identities are shrouded by the darkness that surrounds them as if they were locked characters in a video game.

The Mimic descends down on one knee.

MIMIC
As suspected, Veturius wasted your precious time with his antics...but I was successful in capturing her, my lord.

One of these individuals leans forward from the shadows; A man somewhere in his 40s and noir color hair glares at the Mimic.

This individual is AZRAEL.

AZRAEL
Where is she now...?

MIMIC
In a dungeon, at the castle.

AZRAEL
So you left her in the care of Veturius? Despite your claims of his treachery? Stop beating around the bush, Mimic and tell me why are you *really* here?

The Mimic remains silent.

MIMIC
I have done everything you requested...Is there any chance you could restore me and welcome me back into the ranks of our lord?

Azrael squints his eyes towards him.

AZRAEL

Have you done what I asked of you,
Mimic?

The Mimic's limbs twist on their own as if it were made of plastic. The Mimic shrieks loudly.

AZRAEL (cont'd)

If you have done everything I asked,
you would have brought Nyx here
instead of wasting my time with this
meaningless report. The fact you have
to be reminded is an annoyance in
itself.

The limbs twist further, the Mimic lays there, roaring pain.

Azrael glares upon the Mimic with a cold stare. No once
batting an eye to its struggle.

AZRAEL (cont'd)

If what you say about Veturius is
true, why haven't you put an end to
that pest? Instead you left our most
prized asset with him despite the
claims.

MIMIC

(painful)

Azrael...please...!

The Mimic's limbs restore to their original state as quickly
as Azrael snapped his fingers.

The Mimic lays trembling on the floor.

AZRAEL

Bring Nyx here, Mimic...and dispose
of Veturius too. One more thing...you
really think I would ever restore you
after what happened to you? I would
soon rather make that Luminescent boy
a Mimic before I restored you.

The Mimic trembles as it ascends to its feet. The Mimic nods
its head as it walks away.

The Mimic holds its head down and groans.

INT. DINING ROOM

The Mimic explodes through the doors, marching across the
floor towards the window where Veturius stood.

Its hood is drawn to the table. Seeing Narra there, struggling to break herself from the chair.

MIMIC

What is she doing here?

The aura around Veturius glows like an Amethyst crystal as he turns to him.

VETURIUS

Serving her duties, of course.

The Mimic's hand shakes slightly.

MIMIC

(shakily)

WHAT DID YOU DO, CHILD?!

VETURIUS

Don't ever address me in such a slanderous term. You will address as "your Lord".

MIMIC

How dare you!?

The Mimic charges him. He winds back his blade and as he goes in for the thrust...Veturius smirks.

The Mimic is forced to a single knee. Right before him.

MIMIC (cont'd)

(Distorted voice)

What are you doing!?!

VETURIUS

As your lord...you will only obey me, not Azrael. No one but me.

MIMIC

(distorted)

As if I would take orders from you, child--!

He wraps the Mimic in barbwire shaped shadows, forcing the barbed wire shadows against the Mimic's coat.

Veturius watches with a sicken sadistic grin.

VETURIUS

You will address me as "your lord" from now on and you are MINE.

The barbed wire wraps around the Mimic's limbs tightly like shackles. The Mimic's screams...goes silent as the barbwire settles on it.

The Mimic stands to its feet.

Shadows act in a frenzy notion. Like a black flame bonfire. However, the Mimic's body doesn't move a muscle.

Veturius taps his sword on the Mimic's anatomy a few times.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
I see Azrael sent you to kill me and
collect her...since you're already on
that mission, how about we change
your targets? Bring me Ricki...and
kill Xentim.

Narra swings her head to Veturius, her breathing shaken by the comment.

MIMIC
(distorted)
W-Why...?

The barbed wire glows and presses against its coat. The Mimic screams loudly as it falls to its knees.

VETURIUS
You and I both know why...Xentim will
come for her and he'll stop at
nothing to get her back. Is that a
problem?

MIMIC
N-No...my lord...

Veturius turns his attention to Narra with a sinister glare.

VETURIUS
Soon enough, you won't be able to
resist me either.

Narra stares back with shaken eyes

NARRA
(internal thoughts.)
Hurry Xentim...

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT

Angel rubs sticks together at a high speed over a man-made fire-pit; despite his efforts, only smoke is what he gets out of it.

ANGEL
Come on you stupid fire!

XEMTIM
(to Ricki)
Can you assist? Maybe shoot one of those fireballs?

RICKI
They're meant for starting fires,
Xemtim.

An ARROW flies out of nowhere and pierces the wood. Flames from the arrow consume the wood and illuminate the group.

DASALINE (O.S.)
You're welcome!

Xemtim & Angel shift their attention to the voice. Dasaline hangs from the branch by her legs like a monkey.

XEMTIM
Das!?

Dasaline swings from the tree and lands on a stone.

DASALINE
Does Narra know where you are,
Xemtim? I mean, I think she'd be
upset if she found out you left home
without...

XEMTIM
Narra is not in Peria.

Dasaline stops. Turning her eyes to Xemtim's hung head.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
It happened so quickly...

DASALINE
Oh...I'm sorry...I didn't know.

Ricki stares at Dasaline's bow, while she rubs her chin.

RICKI
Can you use that bow for more than
setting fires?

Dasaline winks at her with a thumbs up.

DASALINE
I am trained in Luminous arrows, I
bring wooden ones too for other
things like hunting and fires...
Plus...

Dasaline throws together a cooking station over the fire pit
in a flash.

DASALINE (cont'd)
I am a great cook!

LATER / SAME SCENE

Dasaline drops carrots and other miscellaneous materials
inside the boiling liquid. She stirs them inside the pot
while humming a tune.

DASALINE
Who wants the first boooowl!?

A low gurgle draws everyone's eyes to Ricki.

DASALINE (cont'd)
Sounds like someone volunteered.

Dasaline hands her a bowl with utensils. Ricki gazes at the
soup with caution.

DASALINE (cont'd)
Go on! It's not venomous!

Ricki brings the bowl to her lips and she sips. Licking her
upper lip and smacking her lips as the taste settles.

Ricki's eyes widened. Her green eyes spark as she looks at
the food inside the dish.

RICKI
That's...fantastic.

DASALINE
You're welcome!

Dasaline fills another bowl and hands it to Angel. Then
making one for Xemtim. And making the last bowl for herself.

She plops down. The sparkle from Xemtim's sword handle draws
Dasaline's eyes over from the soup.

DASALINE (cont'd)
Where did you get that?

XEMTIM
It just...appeared.

Xemtim looks down at his hand.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
I felt a warmth in my hand. I could
hear the sound of my heartbeat
pounding in panic...then I saw a
light...then I realized, I was
holding that.

Angel looks at Xemtim's sword with a raised brow.

ANGEL
One created from light and shadow...

RICKI
The soul is capable of both so it's
far from impossible...but the real
question is...how have you not known
you were in possession of a *soul*
blade?

XEMTIM
A soul...blade?

ANGEL
As the name suggests. The blade
itself is hand made from a fraction
of your soul and the characters
marked on the blades, represents the
soul it belongs to...however... *Soul*
Blades are forbidden in Peria.

Xemtim looks at her with lifted eyebrows.

DASALINE
Forbidden?

RICKI
They are majestic tools that act in
ordinance to their master's will...
those weapons don't repel like
Angel's sword or my spells...*They are*
born to destroy.

Xemtim gazes down at his sword with a haunting stare.

EXT. PERIA - LATER THAT NIGHT

Two guards walks together through the lonely streets, both sharing some food together.

CITY GUARD #1
Hey, what was the deal with the majesties leaving? I mean, since Khallo is dead, shouldn't be instructing us?

CITY GUARD #2
He's dead now. He's the Gods' problem now. As for the majesties, well, Ricki is a problem in her own right.

CITY GUARD #1
You think it's true? Shadows are in Peria...? This could be bad. I mean like, what do without our leaders!? What happens if the shadows come back!?

CITY GUARD #2
Shut your worry up before you wake up the peaceful sleeping people with your nonsense.

They both stop suddenly. In front of them, they find the Mimic standing there; the second city guard trembles.

CITY GUARD #1
(Whispers)
What is this?

CITY GUARD #2
He's creepy looking.

CITY GUARD #1
Is something wrong?

The Mimic extends each leg forward, slowly, moving closer.

CITY GUARD #1 (cont'd)
Hey, sir, do you need help or something?

MIMIC
Actually...

The Mimic's blade spawns in his hand as the Mimic closes in on them.

MIMIC (cont'd)
...I do...

EXT. CAMP - LATER THAT EVENING

The ashes of the campfire burn lightly as everyone lay fast asleep. Ricki pulls her eyes open and gazes around.

She pulls herself up from her sleeping bag. Gathering her things and slipping into her boots carefully, making as minimal noise as possible.

She stands up and tip-toes away from camp.

EXT. ROCKY SIDE OF FOREST

Ricki sits with her legs crossed on the ledge, a nice view of trees expanding out for miles.

She releases a speck of light from inside of her palm. The speck hovers around her as she closes her eyes.

RICKI
May the light cast away the shadows.
Allow for us to have another day.

She huffs at the sound of approaching feet.

RICKI (cont'd)
Angel...I am concentrating.

XEMTIM (O.S.)
Sorry...

Ricki opens her eyes and turns her head back to Xemtim.

RICKI
Oh...it's just you...why aren't you sleeping?

XEMTIM
I can't remember the last time I actually could sleep through the night.

RICKI
I understand that...

Xemtim sits down next to her.

The speck of light starts dancing around Xemtim as it works around back to Ricki.

XEMTIM

What is that?

RICKI

It's Luminous. *A slice of my soul imbued with light.*

XEMTIM

Does it hurt?

RICKI

For that? Not at all...more powerful spells like Repel or sanctuary takes a bigger toll...but I am unable to perform sanctuary or any two handed spell...due to this...

Ricki holds out her wrist to Xemtim, showing him the mark.

XEMTIM

What's...that?

Ricki exhales looking at the mark.

RICKI

Using shadow spells risks infecting your soul with darkness. So this contains the shadows in one place... but if I don't repel the shadows back after a usage...it will...create complications.

XEMTIM

Why would...you do that?

She looks out at the sky.

RICKI

The shadows are alive and they are around us...even though the night shares the sky with the sun, it doesn't make us allies...myself and Marius understood that....When he was dismissed...I was alone...and desperate...I couldn't ignore it.

She turns her eyes to him.

RICKI (cont'd)

I had to because...buildings and statues can be rebuilt...but people can not...so I want to protect them, regardless of the cost...Peria is nothing without the people.

XEMTIM
Don't forget about the people's
Pillar.

Ricki scoffs as she shakes her head.

RICKI
I can imagine how much you make your
swoon with your words, Xentim.

XEMTIM
What do you mean?

Ricki walks away with a smile on her face.

Xentim gets up and follows her.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
What does that mean!?

EXT. FOREST - THE NEXT DAY

The group follows Angel swinging his sword through the trees.

RICKI
Mind your swing please!

ANGEL
Don't worry...I am!

Xentim catches up to Ricki and walks alongside her.

XEMTIM
Do you visit this "Marius" often?

RICKI
No...and not for a lack of trying
either. He prefers if people didn't
come to see him.

DASALINE
Why is that? Is he embarrassed or
something?

ANGEL
Sis!? Is this it?

They look ahead. A wall of dead trees twisted and wrapped into each other. Stretched from one end to the other, as far as the eye can see.

Dasaline's face goes pale upon the sight.

DASALINE
Th-The...Bl-Black Forest...?

RICKI
Yeah...This is it.

DASALINE
(fearful)
YOU NEVER SAID WE HAD TO CROSS THAT
CURSED PLACE!

XEMTIM
What's so bad about this place?

DASALINE
It's cursed! Don't you remember the
stories?! You would go into the black
Forest! and you wouldn't come back
out!

The group snakes their way through the black bark as they go deeper into the trees.

Dasaline being the last one to follow the group through the trees.

EXT. THE BLACK FOREST

Stepping across the dead grass.

Xemtim's eyes gaze upward at the skeletal-like branches stretched out to a dark, vacant sky.

XEMTIM
What happened to the sun?

RICKI
The Gods had abandoned this place to
the darkness...so the sun never
shines here anymore.

XEMTIM
How could it have ever come to this?

RICKI
When the shadows become too much for
even the light to control. Plain and
simple.

Goosebumps crawls up Dasaline's arms and shoulders. Her teeth jitter uncontrollably.

DASALINE
 (terrified)
 Y-Your majesty...I am sure it's for a
 good reason but why do we have to
 cross this place?

RICKI
 Fos...

The light from Ricki's hand reveals the group and the corpse
 restrained against the trees by vines.

Dasaline's face goes pale...right as she falls into the
 grass.

DASALINE
 We are going to die...in bondage...

RICKI
 Follow the light.

Everyone follows behind Ricki...Dasaline snaps out of it as
 she's left in the darkness.

DASALINE
 H-HEY!? DON'T LEAVE ME HERE!!

Dasaline chases after the group.

BLACK FOREST / SOME TIME LATER

Gold circles peer through the trees and spectate the group.

-- HOOT! HOOT! --

The sounds of owls communicating with each other echoes
 through the trees, breaking the dead silence of the deceased
 trees.

Xemtim steps right on a fallen branch -- CRACK! --

The sound echoes, sounding like a snapping bone. It sends
 the already froggy Dasaline flying against Angel and holding
 him for dear life.

DASALINE
 SAVE ME!!!

Angel stands there with a red face, unable to form a proper
 sentence.

XEMTIM
 Sorry...I'll be a bit more careful
 where I step, Das.

She squeezes Angel tighter. Suffocating him.

ANGEL
 (suffocating)
 E-Excuse me...b-but you're killing
 me!

VOICE (O.S.)
 What is this we have strolling
 through the black forest?

Everyone snaps to silence. Skipping their eyes around for
 the source of the voice.

Ricki's eyes lock onto an stoic OWL glaring down at them
 from the tree.

OWL
 The master's pupil and her
 disgraceful little brother...and two
 civilians...you're pretty defenseless
 here, your majesty.

Dasaline's pupils shrink to the size of specks.

DASALINE
 (traumatized)
 Talking...Owl...?

RICKI
 Yeah...one of Marius' many owls.
 (to the owl)
 It's urgent that we speak with him!

OWL
 Peria had visitors from the shadows
 and Khallo is dead...you didn't think
 that word would reach us? Do you
 honestly believe we're incapable of
 acquiring knowledge?

Ricki looks away from the owl.

RICKI
 It's not that...

OWL
 Regardless of what it is or isn't.
 We're not letting you continue
 through the forest...

Other owls emerge from the trees all around. They open their beaks and unveil shadows forming on the tip of their tongues...the shadows intensify with every passing second.

OWL (cont'd)

This is one and final warning. Return to Peria this instant...or join the others who disobeyed before you.

ANGEL

Listen! Please!

Angel grovels his face to the dirt.

ANGEL (cont'd)

I cannot go back to undo my mistake or make things right with everyone... but at least...I can make things right for one person...please...let this boy see him...he's the only one who can help him get to his friend.

Xemtim gazes upon Angel at a loss for words.

DASALINE

P-Please mister owl, sir! Our best friend was taken into the shadows and we need a way to get to her.

OWL

Taken into the shadows? Are you all a bunch of fools? Obviously if you honestly believe you can make a trip and return with this "friend" of yours. All you'll find is death has taken your friend...soon it will take you the moment you arrive!

XEMTIM

SHUT UP!

The owls turn their attention to Xemtim.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

She's not dead...she can't be dead... and if I have to cut through every tree in this forest to get to Narra, I will!

Xemtim points his sword at the owl.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
Do what you will! But as I still draw
breath! I WILL GET TO NARRA, WITH OR
WITHOUT YOUR HELP!

The owl skims the blade with its eyes...then looks at
Xemtim.

OWL
(joyful)
Well may the Gods be damned. It's
been a long time, Xemtim.

Everyone turns to Xemtim with shock in their eyes.

OWL (cont'd)
Wait...Narra...come! Quickly! My
liege will want to hear this!
(to the owls)
Stand down! Keep watch!

The Owl swoops down from the tree and flies deeper into the
forest.

ANGEL
Come on!

They all run after the owl.

EXT. KINGDOM OF INFINITE KNOWLEDGE

The group and the Owl approaches a massive regal castle just
beyond the bridge connecting it the and the forest.

The top of the castle stands tall, almost touching the black
sky above.

RICKI
(to xemtim)
You know Marius?

Xemtim fumbles as he tries to answer.

OWL
I don't expect him to remember it.
It's been far too long since he and
his friend were here.

XEMTIM
When was I ever here?

OWL

Lets see...how old are you now,
Xemtim?

XEMTIM

Me and Narra turned 19 a few days
ago.

The Owl turns its head to Xemtim with a gaze of fascination.

OWL

Amazing...that's such a long time and
no incident?

Xemtim tilts his head to the comment.

INT. LIBRARY

Millions of shelves, occupied by books of all colors and
sizes. Multiple floors from where everyone stood all the way
to the ceiling.

Owls organize the books, dust them off, and repeat.

A young man who appears to be 25 years old with navy blue
hair and ruby color eyes sits in the middle of this
wonderland of knowledge, reading a book as he sips his tea.

The man brings his head up as the group approaches his
table. He smiles at them.

RICKI

Marius.

Marius closes his book.

MARIUS

Hello pupil. Congratulations on
becoming Pillar.

Marius' eyes motion to Xemtim.

MARIUS (cont'd)

Hello Xemtim...you've grown...please,
sit down everyone.

The group joins Marius at the table.

MARIUS (cont'd)

I wondered why what kind of fool
would attack Peria knowing they
wouldn't win?

ANGEL

We were wondering the same thing. Why would the shadows make such a drastic move?

MARIUS

I can make one guess...and it aligns with why Xemtim is here. But not his friend.

Xemtim's eyes widened. He feels his heartbeat pounding against his chest.

DASALINE

Are you talking about Narra?

MARIUS

Precisely her...did they take her?

Xemtim holds his head down as he nods.

MARIUS (cont'd)

Then they got what they after...

XEMTIM

Wait...they were after Narra? Why would anyone be after Narra?!

The Owls' feathers puff up all over their bodies.

The candles all at once blow out on their own as the entire library grows as silent as a grave.

Nothing but the night sky sprawled across the library walls.

RICKI

Ma-Marius...?

Marius brings up a lantern. Unveiling the shakiness in his eyes.

MARIUS

Excuse me, it's not Narra specifically they want...they want something she has...I don't dare utter her name in a place where the sun doesn't shine.

DASALINE

Whose name?

MARIUS

The maiden of darkness...and the mother of nightfall...

Dasaline and Xentim lock eyes with raised brows.

RICKI
That's impossible.

ANGEL
Yeah, she's dead. Died long ago
during the war in Athens! You said it
yourself!

Marius holds his head down.

MARIUS
It's perplexing but the simplest
answer is...I lied.

XENTIM
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT!? AND
WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH
NARRA!?

MARIUS
...I'll show her to you.

EXT. PERIA - EVENING

As nightfall sprawls across the skies.

The Mimic emerges from the shadows, slow walking like a T-100.

MIMIC
Let's go...

The Mimic shoots into the skies, darting across the skies like a black bird. As Hoodlums shadow the Mimic, heading into the forest.

INT. MARIUS' OFFICE

The other follows Marius into an unorganized office. Paperwork and books abandoned across the tables inside.

He snatches a dark noir color cover covered in dust.

Marius slams the book on the table, he flips through pages of passages inscribed in the pages in strange characters and detailed drawings of symbols and marking.

He stops on a page. More passages dominate the page, followed by a drawn image of the crescent moon with a watchful eye.

RICKI
Night's eye...?

MARIUS
Dabbling in practices you shouldn't
Pupil?

Ricki covers her wrist as she looks away.

MARIUS (cont'd)
A woman from the shadows crossed over
entrusted me with this journal in
case...Xemt看 somehow found
themselves here.

XEMTIM
A woman...from the shadows?

MARIUS
Yes...a kind woman. Spouting nonsense
about her daughter and you...
personally, I thought she was crazy
as well as her ideals...but if Peria
has survived this long, maybe it's
not so crazy.

Marius twinkles pixie dust like glitter into the pages, soon
after, the words float around the room from the book.

DASALINE
Where did you learn that?

MARIUS
From the woman who wrote in this
journal...she felt it be would be
safer than uttering the words
ourselves.

Xemt看's eyes haven't blinked since gazing at the rapid
flickering characters before his eyes.

The character bursts lightly into dust...and everything
turns dark as quickly as flipping off the lights.

SOMEWHERE IN THE DARKNESS

There were no stars, no sun, no light. Only an impenetrable
darkness, thicker than smoke.

A suffocating abyss where nothing could be seen.

ACCRA (V.O.)

Xemtim...my dear Xemtim...if you are reading this...I am so sorry...I wish you never had to...but you must if you hope to save Narra...and the light.

XEMTIM (V.O.)

Who...are you...?

A single light flicks on like a light switch. The light hanging over the head of a woman sitting underneath it.

The woman has long black hair tied in a braid with a ribbon. She brings her head up. Her beauty is a slice of divine, her face matches Narra...if she was 20 years older.

Xemtim stands there in silence. The woman smiles at Xemtim as she tilts her head.

Xemtim takes shallow breaths looking at her.

Her face smiling at him FLASHES before his eyes like a glitch in his mind.

DASALINE

You okay?

XEMTIM

Y-Yeah...I think so.

ANGEL

Who...is this, Xemtim?

Xemtim shakes his head slowly as he hunches his shoulders.

ACCRA

It's me...Accra...if you haven't remembered me by now...and If you haven't remembered this either...I am Narra's mother.

Xemtim's eyes widened.

DASALINE

She...looks exactly like her...

Xemtim nods his head.

ACCRA

I know you have questions...you've probably seen things you cannot explain or met people...who knows you and my daughter, but you know nothing of them...those answers are coming, but the importance for these passages you're reading...is to discuss Narra.

The walls around the characters melt into a realm covered from the ground to the skies with violet colored eyes and motion in the darkness like a horde of ants.

EXT. THE SHADOWS

Hooded individuals walk shoulder to shoulder through lines of antsy hoodlums, ready to pounce at any misstep.

The group watches as the image plays out before their eyes. Not a soul in this world seems to notice Xemt看 or his friends.

ACCRA (V.O.)

The darkness existed as a shadow to the light for as long as time can remember. and any attempt to disrupt that order, resulted in death or repel.

The individuals stop before a man and woman, sitting high above them. They all get down to their knees and bow their heads.

ACCRA (V.O.) (cont'd)

The darkness only grew more furious with the light's existence...only deepening the desire to destroy it.

A woman with lengthy black hair and a low cut dress. A lean muscular male with a hood that shrouds his identity.

These two are NYX and EREBUS.

ACCRA (V.O.) (cont'd)

So the lord of darkness and the mother of the night, Nyx and Erebus were visited by children born of darkness descent.

One by one, they pulled back on their hoods.

A man with wings that haunt Xemt看's nightmares.

Seeing the man made Xemtim's eyes tremble.

ACCRA
The winged knight, Eros.

XEMTIM
Eros...?

The next hood pulled down reveals a much younger Azrael.

ACCRA
My partner...Azrael.

Lastly...A much younger Accra pulls back her hood.

ACCRA (cont'd)
And me. We offered them an undying
loyalty along with a promise to
restore the world back to a time
before the light...

Nyx and Erebus nod to each other.

EXT. ATHENS

It's a beautiful day in Athens; the sun hangs high in the sky, children are playing, the birds are singing, and the adults are working.

Angel looks up at the statue of Athena, instantly knowing where he is.

ANGEL
Athens...?

Darkness ingests the sun and the blue skies, moving across the sky like clouds before a storm.

Shadows rise from every dark corner. They tackle pedestrians, slash through knights without a second thought.

Children are snatched from families and their parents are slain before their eyes with even a drop of mercy.

Cries echoes through the battlefield with clashing swords and shields.

Soldiers desperately fending off the overwhelming numbers of shadows.

STATUE OF ATHENA / SAME SCENE

Nyx touches the statue of Athena...shadows leak down, thick like dark blood from her fingers as it takes possession of the statue...

The statue's form alters right before the group's eyes. The statue had become a statue of herself.

ACCRA (V.O.)
Everything Nyx and Erebus touched
fell to the shadows...and the light
could not stop us...

A map of the world formed beneath their feet as the darkness from the statue spread across like raging current and consumed everything.

ACCRA (V.O.) (cont'd)
As the vision of the darkness neared.
We prepared conquest for the last
lands untouched by darkness...

The shadows surround one continent in the middle of the darkness. Ricki cups her mouth as her disturbed eyes gaze upon the familiar content.

RICKI
(shakily)
Peria...

UNKNOWN LOCATION IN THE DARKNESS.

The map denigrates into the darkness, leaving the group in a darkened room with Accra facing away from them.

ACCRA (V.O.)
A lifetime ago I would have been
excited for that day to come..but
something happened that I didn't see
coming...

She turns to them...a light resting in her arms burns away the darkness around them. Bringing them into a white room.

The woman that stares back at Xemtim and his friends...is actually Narra. Her and Xemtim's eyes meet.

Xemtim takes slow shallow breaths.

ACCRA (V.O.) (cont'd)
 My daughter...my little light...was
 born...A daughter born of natural
 darkness...yet, shines beautifully as
 an ethereal ray of light...I was
 blessed with a wonderful daughter...
 and I didn't want anyone to take her
 from me. But her fate was decided the
 moment she was born.

The room dissolves to a dark regal room, glowing in violet
 color flames.

Narra ascends on a platform above the ground, staring down.
 Her gaze belittles Xemtim and his friends, viewing them as
 inferior.

ACCRA (V.O.) (cont'd)
 Nyx was born a soul without a
 vessel...so in the light she would be
 repelled...or worse.

INT. MAIN CORRIDOR / CASTLE (PAST)

Narra is joined by a small group of daughters, around the
 ages of six and eight, stood atop the staircase.

Each of their violet color eyes glaring down at Xemtim's
 friends. Each of them, wearing the same underlying gaze.

ACCRA (V.O.)
 So we split her soul into fragments
 and divided them into different
 vessels, if one falls. Another
 ascended in her place.

Xemtim's lip quivers. The IMAGES of those girls flash before
 his eyes...each one lying in blood followed by screams.

ACCRA (V.O.) (cont'd)
 But one Nyx remains alive...

The daughters lay in a pool of blood a split frame later
 like cutting footage. One daughter ascends out of the pool.

Xemtim's lip tremors.

XEMTIM / DASALINE
 Narra...

Narra stands before them...untainted by blood...wearing a
 cold expression.

ACCRA (
Is the last living Nyx...and if they
have her Xemtim...then the light is--

-- RIIIIIIING! --

Xemtim falls to his knees and grips tightly onto his head.
Even his screams aren't loud enough to overwhelm his
heartbeat.

INT. MARIUS' OFFICE

Xemtim's body is on the floor, shuddering.

RICKI
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HIM!?!

Marius opens one of Xemtim's eyelids. Images spins in iris
like a cursor loading a page.

MARIUS
HELP ME GET HIM ON THE TABLE!!!

Angel and Marius grips Xemtim's flailing limbs and sets him
on the table.

DASALINE
Xemtim! Wake up!

MARIUS
DON'T DO THAT UNLESS YOU WANT TO KILL
HIM!!!

Marius presses his hand against Xemtim's drenched forehead.

MARIUS (cont'd)
(under his breath)
I told you that spell would be too
dangerous.

An owl burst through the doors unannounced.

OWL
MASTER!! WE HAVE TROUBLE!!!

EXT. FRONT GATE / KINGDOM OF INFINITE KNOWLEDGE

The Owls outside draws their last breaths as the Mimic steps
over them.

Shadows merge their blob-like bodies over the owl corpses.

INT. MAIN CORRIDOR / KINGDOM OF INFINITE KNOWLEDGE

The Mimic kicks open the doors. Grasping the owls' attention.

Shadow coated birds like ravens swarm into the halls.

INT. MARIUS' OFFICE

Marius presses both hands down on Xemtim's chest.

MARIUS

Fos!

OWL

What do we do!?

MARIUS

For the Gods' sake! I cannot do two things at once! FORM A LINE! KEEP THE SHADOWS BACK!

RICKI

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO!?

MARIUS

Hoodlums are one thing! Mimics are a different kind of headache! I am gonna need to cast it out but I can't focus on that while trying stabilize Xemtim!

Ricki motions her glossy eyes to him. Her wrist with the mark twitching.

RICKI

Dasaline! Angel! Let's go!

MARIUS

Where are you going!?

RICKI

SAVE XEMTIM! CAST THE SHADOWS OUT!

They all march out of the office.

Marius snatches his glasses off as he brushes his sweaty head. Returning his focus to Xemtim.

MARIUS

Don't any of you die on me.

INT. LIBRARY

The Mimic marches through the chaos of shadow birds and owls. Focused on its path ahead.

Ricki, Dasaline, and Angel jump in front of it.

MIMIC

Where is that Luminescent boy you
call Xentim?

RICKI

What business do you have with him?

MIMIC

We have some business left
unfinished. Now get out of my way!
I'll deal with you after, princess!

Angel draws his sword.

ANGEL

We're not going anywhere.

The Mimic's wings spread from its back.

MIMIC

Do you know who you stand before?

DASALINE

Enlighten us, pull back your hood and
show us who you are.

The Mimic darted between the three, a whirlwind of motion. His sword and wings moved in perfect synchronization, each attack a seamless step in a deadly dance.

The trio responded in unison, their blocks swift and precise.

Each parry was followed by a counterattack, a desperate attempt to break the Mimic's relentless rhythm.

EXT. UNKNOWN REALM

In the middle rapid images scrolling on the walls and ceilings -- **FLASH!** --

-- **BOOM!** --

IMAGES of The explosion of the boulders hitting buildings from Xentim's nightmare appears.

Narra's screams play around the background. Tempo and frequency changing optatives like a radio signal.

-- FLASH! --

The sound of clashing swords interrupts the screams.

Xemtim's eyes roll to the back of his eyes.

Xemtim flops to his back as he continues to tremble.

UNKNOWN MAN (V.O.)
(distorted)
GIVE HER TO ME!

-- FLASH! --

IMAGE of Narra taken by Eros as he seen before in his nightmare.

NARRA (V.O.)
(distorted)
XEMTIM!!!

Xemtim's eye roll forward instantaneously, focusing on the motion picture before him, watching the young Narra carried away by Eros.

XEMTIM
(struggling)
Eros...

Xemtim struggles to his feet, crawling towards the image.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
Get...Back...Here!

Xemtim's surroundings morph as he advances toward the image. Walls and floor seamlessly adapt, mirroring the scene within the picture.

EXT. SHADOW ATHENS

Xemtim's attention focused on Narra, ignoring the shift in the environment.

XEMTIM
(painful)
N-Narra...

Xemtim pulls himself to his feet -- right away, he falls to his knees, embracing his gut as he coughs violently.

Blood shoots from his lips all over the ground.

INT. MARIUS' OFFICE

Xemtim coughs up blood all over his sweat covered face.

Marius presses Xemtim's chest down on the table with all his might.

MARIUS

FOS!!!

A scream rolls out of Xemtim's throat.

MARIUS (cont'd)

Come on Xemtim. Come on.

INT. LIBRARY

Angel struggles to keep hold of his sword, the Mimic's lightning-fast attacks overwhelming his defenses.

Ricki expertly lashes out with her whip, halting the Mimic's sword mid-swing.

Seizing the opportunity, Angel lunges forward, his blade raised high -- TING!! --

The Mimic's wings deflect Angel's strike, sending him stumbling backward. With a swift maneuver, it severs its blade from Ricki's whip and turns its attention toward her.

Ricki narrowly avoids the Mimic's sword and counters with a fierce uppercut that would make Ken from Street Fighter proud.

RICKI

DASALINE!

Dasaline leaps over the Mimic as it falls. Drawing back on her bow...and closes a single eye.

She releases the string and the luminous arrow drives the Mimic straight into the ground. Angel rushes in and raises his blade once again.

ANGEL

Return to the shadows!

Hoodlums leap in from the ground between Angel and the Mimic.

ANGEL (cont'd)

DAMMIT!

Angel cuts each of them. The Mimic's jams its sword through the Hoodlum's back. It struggles to break free...as it's body is absorbed by the blade.

MIMIC

Hoodlums are such a nuisance...

Angel's pupils shrink.

ANGEL

What the...?

No head. no face. Angel only stared at the disbelief peering from Ricki and Dasaline's faces..

DASALINE

That's not possible.

MIMIC

As you see...there's no surprise to ruin.

The Mimic pulls the hood back over.

-- SLASH! --

The Mimic cuts across Angel's arm.

MIMIC (cont'd)

NOTHING AT ALL!

The Mimic delivered a swift kick, sending Angel crashing into a nearby bookcase.

Undeterred, Dasaline and Ricki charged the Mimic from behind. Dasaline's bow was taut, an arrow nocked and ready, while Ricki's fist was raised high, crackling with energy.

With a flurry of its wings, the Mimic halted their advance, effortlessly.

MIMIC (cont'd)

And I will NOT fall to another
Luminescent punk!

He breaks their weapons from his wings then smacks them both to the side with his wings.

MIMIC (cont'd)
(distorted)
For his presence! Poses a threat to
my...MY LORD, Veturius.

He marches towards the door.

Owls soar at the Mimic, firing orbs of light at it.

The Mimic cuts through each of the orbs.

-- SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! --

He cuts across each of the owls without mercy.

OWL
RETURN TO THE SHADOWS!!

The Mimic stabs the blade through the Owl's chest.

INT. MARIUS' OFFICE

Marius grunts as his body jerks. Marius turns towards the door to the door.

Xentim's tremors worsens. Marius closes his eyes.

MARIUS
...I'm sorry...

He faces the door.

MARIUS (cont'd)
We cannot die here.

Marius releases his hands from Xentim.

Marius forces his eyes closed as he entangles his fingers.

MARIUS (cont'd)
Fos...

Marius' entire body emits an outline of a deep blue light.

INT. LIBRARY

Angel leaps in front. Taking deep breaths and clothes banded up.

ANGEL
I won't let you!

Angel charges him with petty swings. The Mimic dodges each one before backhanding Angel out of his way.

Dasaline fires multiple more arrows. The Mimic deflects them with its wings then responds with firing feathers at Dasaline like darts.

Dasaline takes several scrapes across his skin in multiple areas...but managed to avoid anything lethal.

MIMIC
(Distorted)
THIS FIGHT IS FUTILE! My Lord has
Nyx! Soon he will have Xentim's head!
No matter how much you fight!

Angel rushes in again. Only for his sword to be stopped by the Mimic's wing.

The Mimic grabs Angel by his throat. The Mimic spins around, smacking Dasaline across her face with its wing.

MIMIC (cont'd)
(distorted)
The nightfall is coming...the light
lost.

The Mimic raises its blade to Angel.

EXT. SHADOW ATHENS

Xentim holds his stomach, struggling back on both feet. Keeping his strained eyes on Narra.

Xentim charges ahead like a speeding bullet after them through explosions, fire, and clashing swords. None of it disrupts his path.

XENTIM
EROS!!

He swings head around to Xentim.

XENTIM (cont'd)
I WON'T LET YOU TAKE HER AWAY FROM
AGAIN!!!

EROS
RESTRAIN HIM!

Hoodlums pile on the defenseless Xentim, no matter how hard he fought. He sank further away into the molting hoodlums.

INT. MARIUS' OFFICE

Xemtim's body falls off the table and trembles on the floor.

XEMTIM

NARRA!!!

INT. LIBRARY

The Mimic's blade is caught by Ricki's whip. It turns its hood to her glaring glowing eyes.

RICKI

In the darkest hours of the night, we
will not falter...for DAWN IS UPON
US!!

The environment in the Library, starts to rumble, building
tensity as seconds pass.

Everyone's attention is drawn to it. Leaving everyone silent
and in wonder.

The Mimic turns it's hood to Ricki. She stares back with a
mischievous grin.

EXT. SHADOW ATHENS

A swift light cut through the hoodlums. In their ashes, as
it comes naturally to a phoenix...Young Xemtim rose up.

As he opens his eyes, they blaze with a fiery gold
intensity.

XEMTIM (10 YEARS OLD)

I'm coming Narra.

INT. MARIUS' OFFICE

The office shakes, knocking books off surfaces.

Marius' fingers dig into the open spaces between his
fingers. He rips open his eyelids, his eyes match the color
of the aura of light around him.

MARIUS

SANCTUARY!!!

Marius smacks his hands together. The sound of thunder
echoes across the library. The aura around Marius explodes
outward in a silent response.

INT. LIBRARY

The wave flies into the library, turning anything shadow related to smoke.

MIMIC

Dammit!

The Mimic cuts through Ricki whip from its sword then flies across the air, manifesting a doorway made of shadows.

Dasaline jumps to her feet and runs after the mimic.

RICKI

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

DASALINE

GOING TO SAVE MY BEST FRIEND!

Dasaline leaps through the doorway of shadows. Behind her, the portal chipped and fragmented, fading into smoke

DASALINE (cont'd)

Oh no...

Angel and Ricki ran, the wave of light chasing their backs.

Ricki cried out, reaching for the portal. Shadows coiled around her arm, a living rope, tightening with a sickening pressure.

She tenses her teeth. She keeps her eyes on the portal...as soon as she blinks, her eyes are looking at the ground as her body falls forward.

A hand yanks her wrist and snatches her forward.

She brings her eyes up...her wrist locked in Angel's hand as he charges towards the portal.

He yells out as he leaps through the doorway with Ricki right as the wave destroys the portal a second after.

ANGEL

SIS!?

Angel and Dasaline rush over to her.

ANGEL (cont'd)

Ricki! What's wrong -- ?

He notices the imprint -- it has run rampant inside her flesh like insects crawling around inside.

ANGEL (cont'd)
Ricki!? Stay with me! Dasaline! Find
a torch!

RICKI
(weak)
...You need to go...save Narra...and
Peria...

VETURIUS (O.C.)
What is this?

Angel and Dasaline swing their heads around. Veturius raises
a brow to them.

VETURIUS
Mimic...you seem to have been
followed here.

MIMIC
Want me to dispose of them?

VETURIUS
Hmm...

Veturius examines them. Both of his cheeks raises as pats
the Mimic on the back.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
Well done, Mimic.

The shadows twist in Ricki's flesh; she screams loudly.

DASALINE
WHERE'S NARRA!?

Veturius grins as he holds his hand out to her.

VETURIUS
I'll take you to her, what do you
say?

She charges Veturius as she fires arrows rapidly like a
semi-shot gun.

Veturius evades each of the arrows without receiving so much
as a scratch.

ANGEL
Ricki, tell me what to do. How can I
help!? Please! Talk to me!

The shadows work their way up her arm. Her skin color grows
pale as a spirit.

She struggles to breathe as the shadows wrap around her throat.

ANGEL (cont'd)
RICKI!?!

FOLLOWING DASALINE / SAME SCENE

Veturius catches the next arrow fired at him and stops her advancement with her daggers with his sword.

VETURIUS
You really think you can kill me with that?

Dasaline flips backward as she goes to fire her next shot.

Veturius advanced on her as quickly as she could blink, he grabs her and throws her into one of the pillars.

FOLLOWING ANGEL / SAME SCENE

Ricki's eyes roll backwards. Her lungs heave for air.

ANGEL
RICKI PLEASE!

He grabs the imprint.

ANGEL (cont'd)
Fos...

Screams that echoes from the imprint like a shriek like nails to chalkboard.

The shadows crawl deeper into her skin; Ricki's body flays in an aggressive manner as if she was having a seizure.

He tightens his eyes.

ANGEL (O.S.)
REPEL!

A light hits as if it were a flash-bang.

Ricki's color returns to her skin and hair but she still lays to rest.

ANGEL
Ricki? Hey? Wake up!

She's as silent as a grave.

ANGEL (cont'd)
Please Ricki...Ricki!? Rick--

-- WHAM! --

Angel falls over. Unconscious.

Veturius stares at the three with a satisfied grin.

VETURIUS
Go grab the vessel.

MIMIC
Yes my Lord...

Veturius strokes his chin as he thinks to himself.

VETURIUS
I think this place could use
something worthy of a God.

He releases shadows from his hands; everything the darkness touches, shifts and shapes into furniture and decor straight out of a vampire's castle.

He opens himself up as the shadows overwhelm everything in the dining room -- including himself.

INT. DUNGEON

The Mimic yanks open the dungeon door and snatches Narra by her wrist.

NARRA
LET ME GO!

The Mimic drags her out of the cell without mercy.

INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The sclera in Veturius' eyes bleed black; His hair frizzles as if he touched an electrical wire.

He smiles with a disturbed grin, looking at his hands as his veins turn black and his nails stretch out and grow narrow.

The portraits change to images of Veturius.

INT. HALLWAYS / VETURIUS' CASTLE

Narra is dragged in through the doors as everything in the castle twists into a darker form of itself.

Narra watches the changes happen before her eyes in absolute horror.

INT. DINING ROOM

The Mimic throws Narra before Veturius', shaken by the darkness engulfed around his entire body.

VETURIUS

The time has come for you to take
your place beside me, Nyx. With your
power...no man or God can stop me.

Narra's attention shifts to the table.

NARRA

Das...? Majesties...?

She crawls away from him as quickly as he approaches her.

VETURIUS

Don't you want to please, your lord?

NARRA

Where's Xemt看!?

VETURIUS

Let's talk about me for a change
instead of him? You cling to the life
of nothing.

NARRA

You're nothing! Even with me, you
will continue to amount to nothing...

She ascends to her feet.

NARRA (cont'd)

You will never be anything more than
a parasite. I can't wait to see the
stupid look on your face when Xemt看
bursts through those doors!

Veturius turns his attention to his palm.

VETURIUS

*"Yes my lord. I would want nothing
more than to be at your side."*

He looks into her eyes.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
Hearing my name on your tongue with
those words...might've made my heart
skip a beat.

The Mimic snatches Narra by her wrist.

Narra kicks him in the ankle and runs past it.

Veturius zips in front of Narra and catches her by the
throat.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
You still act like you have a choice.

Veturius throws her into the chair; the possessed chair
releases shadows that straps Narra's arms and legs.

NARRA
XEMTIM!!

Narra's eyes glow brightly. She struggles to break free.

NARRA (cont'd)
XEMTIM!
(distorted voice)
XEMTIM!!!

INT. BRIGHT ROOM

A room embodied in white all over the walls and the
furniture. Xemtim has to squint his eyes to look around.

Xemtim's eyes widen at a picture of himself holding Narra in
his arms when they were around eight years old.

INT. MAIN CORRIDOR / CASTLE - FLASHBACK

A couple boys gang up on Xemtim (9 years old) who can barely
defend against their beatings from shadow-infested wooden
weapons.

Daughters of darkness and adults spectate with cold gazes.

SON OF SHADOWS #1
What are fighting against?! There's
no way the shadows will lose!!

-- WHACK! --

EROS
Excellent form.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
Why can't I have a sword!?

EROS
What for, Luminescent?

Xemtim's eyes leak tears. As he shakes to stand to his feet.

He's knocked off of his feet as soon as he could stand, another flies through the air and kicks him against the pillar.

Xemtim looks up at the boy approaching. A boy with a familiar grin.

VETURIUS (11 YEARS OLD)
Doesn't matter if you have a sword or not, Luminescent. Your kind is only good for one thing, running and dodging. You're not well equipped like us...in the end, you will die and no one will remember you.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
Shuddup!!!

Xemtim lunges at him with his fist raised.

Veturius grins as he evades the attack. Twisting his body, winding up his attack.

Xemtim watches the incoming sword, trapped with no room to dodge.

GIRL (O.C.)
STOP IT!!!

-- WHACK! --

The sound of wood striking echoes like clapping thunder around the room.

INT. BRIGHT ROOM

He takes the memory down from the wall and holds it against his chest. Sobbing as he descends to his knees.

ACCRA (O.C.)
You remember that day, don't you?

Xemtim turns behind him. Accra is sitting at the table, flipping through a crystal book the size of two dictionaries.

XEMTIM

Why did you take this away from me?

ACCRA

I wanted you and my daughter to have a life without war or darkness. To be able to be with each other without someone or something coming in-between you two.

She stops on a page of animated photos of Xemtim and Narra as kids.

ACCRA (cont'd)

I wish it could've stayed that way forever. Just us living peacefully in Peria...but the past lingered close behind us like a shadow...As long as someone bows to Erebus...Narra will *never truly be safe*.

XEMTIM

How do I...even keep her safe? She's slipped through my hands twice, Accra. Narra deserves someone far more capable than me...someone...like the boy I used to be...

Accra closes the book.

ACCRA

You honestly think that matters to her?

Xemtim brings his head up to a memory of Narra smiling at him with her head tilted to the side.

ACCRA (cont'd)

She loves you Xemtim, probably more than you would believe and you are the one she chose to be by her side...and that's why I knew you would keep her safe from anyone...

Xemtim looks down at Young Narra in the memory as if he was holding her himself.

ACCRA (cont'd)
If they did take her. I knew you
would take the sword I made for
you... and strike down anything
between you and her. Does that moment
in your hands mean nothing to you?

Xemtim rises up from the ground and places the memory back
into the walls.

XEMTIM
It means more to me than anything.
Peria can be rebuilt and replaced..

He turns to face Accra. Tears in his determined gaze at her.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
But no one...can replace her...

Accra smiles.

ACCRA
That's the Xemtim, I remember.

INT. MARIUS' OFFICE - SOMETIME LATER

Xemtim sits up. Looking around the vacant office.

XEMTIM
Ricki...? Das...? Angel...?

Xemtim slides off the table. Almost losing his balance as he
lands.

INT. LIBRARY

Xemtim emerges into pages scattered across the floors along
with books and debris.

Marius and the Owls all turn to Xemtim. Their jaws hanging
low.

XEMTIM
Where's everyone?

Marius rubs his thumb along the cup.

MARIUS
They pursued the Mimic into the
shadows. No telling where they
could've gone.

XEMTIM

I think I know where they took
Narra...and where they chased the
Mimic to.

INT. DINING ROOM

Angel peels back his eyelids and finds food placed in front of him. Angel's attention however, shifts to Ricki across the way.

ANGEL

Sis!

Angel tries to move but is yanked back to his seat by his wrists underneath cuffs made of shadow-like mist.

ANGEL (cont'd)

Ricki! Ricki! Wake up!

She brings her head up but her mouth is hogtied by shadows identical to the ones on Angel's wrist.

ANGEL (cont'd)

Ricki...

Her eyes glossed looking at him as her cheeks raised in a grateful expression.

DASALINE

NARRA!!!

Angel and Ricki turn their heads to Narra. Her skin grown paler, her hair has grown lighter, the black turning gray.

DASALINE (cont'd)

Narra, it's me!

Veturius takes both of her shoulders as he gazes at the group.

VETURIUS

Don't mind her. She's not much for
conversation in this weakened state
of hers...hard to believe someone as
weak as her is the last one...

DASALINE

What did you do to her!?

VETURIUS

She did it to herself...had she just simply been more obedient...I wouldn't have to be so forceful.

ANGEL

Forceful...? But don't you need her for your plans for Peria?

VETURIUS

What? This mouthy suit of flesh?

Veturius grabs Narra by her lower jaw. He glares into her pale eyes.

VETURIUS (cont'd)

I don't need her...quite frankly, I don't give a damn about her or Erebus' problems with the light. Neither one benefits me so why bother caring about it?

Angel, Dasaline, and Ricki gaze at Veturius with shaken eyes.

DASALINE

Then why...did you take her from Xentim!?

VETURIUS

He wasn't using her so what's the point of him having her?

DASALINE

HE LOVES HER!! Beyond words, beyond actions...he would never abuse her heart for anything so selfish!

Veturius rolls his eyes as he looks at Dasaline.

VETURIUS

Love is just a fantasy...nothing more than that. The reality is how one benefits the other...if there's no benefit, there's no point in seeing them as anything else but a thing in your way.

NARRA

(weak)

Xentim is coming...

Veturius turns his attention to Narra.

She pries her faded purple eyes into his and breathes through her teeth.

NARRA (cont'd)

(weak)

Otherwise...why would you send someone to kill him...? You...know something about him...something that even you can't ignore...

Veturius tightens his grip on her jaw.

VETURIUS

Open your hollow eyes...Xentim *is not coming*, he's not even among your friends...what makes you think he's *still alive*?

She forces her pale cheeks to grin.

NARRA

(weak)

That night...when he cut through all those monsters and got to me...I realized one thing...if you're in his way to get me, he's...not...going to stop...

INT. LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Marius rolls up his sleeves, unveiling markings, all in the same language of the shadows.

MARIUS

Are you sure about this location?

XENTIM

No...but it's worth a shot.

MARIUS

Xentim...you realize if this is not the place. You're pretty much trapped in the shadows...

XENTIM

I lived in the darkness for a small section of my life...I am not afraid of the dark.

Marius exhales...he holds his hand in front of them.

Shadows twist and rip a portal in place like a rip in space. Xemtim stares into the shadows twisting around it, thinking to himself in silence.

MARIUS

If this is it, please ensure my pupil is safe, Xemtim.

XEMTIM

Thank you Marius...

Marius embraces Xemtim's shoulder.

MARIUS

Hold the sword tightly...and focus your mind and your heart on the thing that makes you strong. that...will show you what the soul is capable of.

Xemtim nods his head then walks through the portal.

MARIUS (cont'd)

I see why she was fond of you...

EXT. SHADOW ATHENS

No daylight. The most perfect silence wavering around the abandoned destruction left around.

The skies are black, occupied by black clouds. Not a moon... or stars were in the sky. The exact opposite of Peria.

Xemtim walks through the rubble of the ruined dark city.

Through the destruction, the floating castle in the distance makes Xemtim's eyes tremble.

The visual of the castle swaps between that and the sand castle. The similarities appear uncanny in his eyes.

XEMTIM

I'm almost there.

Xemtim embraces his sword tightly and charges ahead through the city. Constantly swapping between current day and the battle from his nightmares.

Hoodlums crawl out of every dark corner, leaping onto his path.

Xemtim's spectral double, a vision of his younger self, raced past. Appearing at the same rate as the world's themselves do.

The illusion's agile dodges and fierce strikes against the Hoodlums appear in the illusion...moving faster than current Xemtim.

Xemtim angles his blade behind him and wraps both of his hands on the handle. Exactly like how his younger self is holding it.

Amazed yet distracted by the display, he just barely missed the attack from the Hoodlums.

Falling further behind his illusional younger self.

NARRA
(internal thoughts)
"You remember this game, don't you?"

He charges head on to the storm of Hoodlums pushing towards him.

XEMTIM
(internal thoughts)
I do...I remember *when we met*, when I
first knew *what my heart felt*...and I
remember why I loved this game...

Xemtim's illusion flashes to Narra. She turns back to him with a cheerful smile.

NARRA
I can't hear you when you're all the
way back there!

Xemtim's yellow eyes glow with the characters on the blade.

Xemtim's foot smashes through the damaged road.

Like a lightning bolt, Xemtim launches forward. Leaving the hoodlums' ashes behind in the dust.

He slashes through hoodlums, pounces around and evades their attempts to stop him as he pursues himself.

XEMTIM
No matter how far you go...or where
you are hiding...I will chase you if
that's what it takes...TO CATCH YOU!

As Xemtim catches up to his illusional self. Their moves mirror each other's actions, performing as one.

They leap into the air. The two Xemtims raise their blades as their bodies merge as one...as he brings his sword down on the hoodlums.

INT. DINING ROOM - SOME TIME LATER

Veturius' grip tightens around the goblet. Putting a crack in it that draws everyone's attention to him.

Veturius cracks his neck as he sets the goblet down.

VETURIUS

Mimic?!

The Mimic marches to Veturius' side. Folding his arms.

MIMIC

(distorted)

What now?

Veturius glares at him as he takes sharp breaths as he turns his head to it.

VETURIUS

(mumbling)

He's moving...fast too...

MIMIC

(distorted)

So go kill him then, My Lord.

Veturius turns his gaze towards the Mimic.

VETURIUS

Let's try that again...

One of the Mimic's wings is ripped from its back. It screeches like a witch as it collapses to the ground.

VETURIUS (cont'd)

You really are nothing more than a shadow of the man you used to be.

Veturius takes a sip from his goblet.

VETURIUS (cont'd)

Quit squirming and go finish what you started. If you happen to kill...I'll forgive you for your disrespect.

The Mimic ascends to its feet as it limps out of the dining room.

Ricki follows the Mimic with her eyes. She takes rapid breaths.

RICKI
 (inner thoughts)
 Xemtim...

Ricki glances between at her Shadow Imprint. She takes deep breaths as she closes her eyes.

She twists her pinky and ring finger into each other.

INT. MAIN CORRIDOR / VETURIUS' CASTLE

Xemtim slash through hoodlum after hoodlum as he maneuvers through the hallway.

The fight resumes in the main lobby of the castle, each of the hoodlums fell to Xemtim's blade, no matter how much they tried to stop him or the numbers they came in.

The last of the hoodlums fell to ash, Xemtim stood there, taking steady breaths...His eyes are drawn over to the damaged pillar.

He stares at it...his breathing heightens the longer he stares at it.

VETURIUS (13 YEARS OLD)
 Stupid daughter of darkness! That was
 a good swing too.

INT. MAIN CORRIDOR / CASTLE (PAST)

Xemtim catches Narra right before she hits the ground.

Gazing at the red bruise on her face with a quivering lip.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
 YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PROTECT THE
 DAUGHTERS!

VETURIUS (13 YEARS OLD)
 Says who!? Our title is for
 dismantling the light, nothing more!
 If one daughter dies, it doesn't
 matter. There's plenty more vessels
 for Erebus to take.

Xemtim's eyes grow wide. Skimming his gaze across the cold stares from the other daughters in the room.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD))
No...not for a million lifetimes. No
matter how many daughters Nyx
takes...There will never be another
one like her...

He sets her down on the ground gently.

VETURIUS (13 YEARS OLD)
You done crying over spilled milk?
Because we'd like to get back to
training.

Xemtim's knuckles tense as he stands to his feet.

As the boys charge Xemtim...dodges their attacks and moves
unlike how he had before.

He slams one of them into the Pillar and takes his wooden
sword.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
Then I'll protect her from you!

Xemtim, with flawless precision, charged his opponents,
deflecting their blows and retaliating with fierce strikes
that left their faces stinging.

As he focused on Veturius, Eros' sword intercepted his
swing, halting his momentum.

EROS
I knew you were stupid but I didn't
think to the point of ignorance.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
You people are ignorant. This place
breeds ignorance. YOU TRAIN
IGNORANCE!

Eros smacks Xemtim across his face.

EROS
A reminder of your place is in order.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
Whatever...but know this Eros...if
you or anyone here hurts this girl
again. I will kill you.

As the man raises his hand to strike once more. Accra
catches his wrist.

ACCRA
That's enough, Eros.

The man stares into her pitch black eyes.

EROS
Who are you to tell me when it's
enough?

ACCRA
Who in any God's name do you think
you are!? You are in no place to
refute a damn thing I say.

Eros glares into her eyes...and he snatches his arm out from
her grasp.

EROS
Azrael will hear about this.

ACCRA
I look forward to the discussion.

Eros and Xemtim glares at each other one last time as he
marches away.

She kneels down to his level and examines Xemtim's wounds
with her lavender color eyes.

INT. ACCRA'S ROOM

Accra brings a rag to Xemtim's bruise. Xemtim inhales
through his teeth, retaining himself from screaming.

ACCRA
You have a name, child?

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
Xem-Xemtim.

ACCRA
That was a brave thing you did for
her, Xemtim. Not many would've done
that for her.

He motions his eyes to Narra resting on the sofa.

ACCRA (cont'd)
There is...something I need to ask
you however...but Xemtim you must
keep it between us, okay?

He nods.

ACCRA (cont'd)
You saw it too, didn't you?

Xemtim tilts his head to the side.

ACCRA (cont'd)
Look at her again.

Xemtim looks over at Narra. An outline of a glow appears around her and it shines in her eyes.

Xemtim's eyes broadened.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
What...is that?

The rag drops from Accra's hands, drawing Xemtim's attention to the sparkle in her eyes.

ACCRA
The light! You see it?! It's alive
My daughter, my little light has
shown me the true meaning of how the
light and the shadows could harmonize
together...the fact that she stood in
front of you, of all people, further
proofs that...she saw it in you too.

Accra grabs Xemtim's biceps, staring into his eyes.

ACCRA (cont'd)
You...and her...if I am correct, the
void between the light and
darkness...can finally begin to
bridge. My daughter can live...and so
can the light.

She leans her head forward, sobbing further.

ACCRA (cont'd)
But it's in *grave danger* of the
shadows drowning it out. When that
happens...I will lose my little
light...

Xemtim's eyes focus on Accra's tearful eyes.

XEMTIM (9 YEARS OLD)
What is her name?

Accra brings her head up, unveiling a heartfelt smile through her tears.

ACCRA

Narra.

Xemtim turns his attention to Narra. The glow expands outward, pulsing as a heartbeat would.

INT. MAIN CORRIDOR / VETURIUS' CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Xemtim opens his tear-filled eyes.

He looks down at his ring, his tears dropping onto it.

Xemtim looks up. At the top of the staircase, where Eros waits, leaning on the railing.

EROS

It's been a while hasn't it?

Xemtim glares at him.

XEMTIM

Not long enough.

Xemtim brushes away his tears, watching as Eros slowly descends the staircase.

EROS

You should've known as well as I do that it wouldn't have lasted. One way or another, we would've found her and Nyx would've been right back where she belongs...

XEMTIM

I know...Maybe I was foolish to think we could live happily ever after... either way, I'm taking her home... regardless of what happens.

Xemtim points his sword at the Mimic.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

She's not Nyx anymore.

Xemtim notices Eros' blade spawns in hand as comes off the last step.

EROS

When you die, Luminescent. I will meet you in Crepuscule...so I can kill you all over again.

XEMTIM

Not unless I kill you first...Eros.

Eros laughs to himself...his entire body flickers...swapping back and forth between Eros...and the Mimic.

As he stops laughing...the flickering image, stops on the Mimic...it

MIMIC

You remember me...

With the speed of lightning, they charged towards each other, their blades meeting in a flurry of sparks and clashes. The air crackled with the energy of each strike, the metal singing an electric tune.

Their swords collided once more, and suddenly, the scene shifted, their present selves replaced by echoes of the past as the battle raged on.

EROS

Takes you back doesn't it!?

The next time their blades made contact -- brings them back to their present day selves.

Eros flies backwards and launches his feathers like knives -- Xemtim blocks them with the table.

EROS (cont'd)

What is about that girl that has you so fixated on her!? It's not like she belonged to you!

Eros knocks Xemtim's sword from his grasp. Plunging the tip of his blade forward, aimed for Xemtim's chest.

The killing blow is intercepted by Xemtim's hands, just short of the tip piercing his chest.

Xemtim's blood drips from his hands all over the blade, as he's barely keeping the blade in place.

EROS (cont'd)

You really are a foolish child. I shouldn't have expected one born of Luminescent blood to be bright.

Eros yanks his blade from Xemtim's hands. A piercing feeling shoots through his bloodied palms.

Xemtim' looks up to his sword across the way. He closes his eyes. He stretches his bloodied hand at the sword.

XEMTIM
 (inner thoughts)
 Come...

Eros raises his blade.

EROS
 I'll see you soon, Luminescent.

ON THE SWORD / SAME SCENE

XEMTIM
 (inner thoughts)
 Come...come...

Each of the characters emit a bright light one after another.

ON EROS / SAME SCENE

Eros brings the blade straight down.

-- CLING!!! --

Xemtim's stops Eros' attack as his blade finish materializes in his hands.

EROS
 (shocked)
 You did it...?

They break their swords free of each other. Eros swings uncontrollably in blind rage at Xemtim.

EROS (cont'd)
 I HAVE GROWN TIRED OF YOU! JUST DO US
 ALL A FAVOR...AND DIE!!

Xemtim stops each of his swings with his sword.

EROS (cont'd)
 How are you keeping a grip with those
 hands of yours!? You should be
 struggling to hold that sword!

Xemtim evades the next attack. He spins around the Mimic and brings his blade down -- SLASH! --

Eros collapses to the ground as it shrieks in pain. It watches as its severed wing fades to ash.

Xemtim brings the blade straight through the Mimic's hood.

Its body twists like plastic, its voice heightens like a wounded demon as its body combusts into ash.

Xemtim holds his sword as he catches his breath.

He drops to his hands and knees as if he was bowing to the sword. He looks up at the characters on the blade.

XEMTIM

Thank you.

A distant scream pulls Xemtim's attention towards the direction of the sound.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

Narra...

INT. DINING ROOM

Narra's soul flows into Veturius' hand.

DASALINE

LEAVE HER ALONE!!

VETURIUS

Nyx is mine...and I will not let him
take her away from me!

Dasaline struggles to break herself free from the chair.

Ricki's head fills with darkened veins as her binding inches slowly from her lips.

VETURIUS (cont'd)

That should about do it...

RICKI

REPEL!

-- BOOM! --

An explosion of light knocks Veturius away from the table. He lands on both feet...gazing around the smoke covering the table.

ARROWS fly out of the smoke -- Veturius majority of the arrows, with one managing to pierce his shoulder.

Ricki flies through the smoke, her eyes engulfed in luminous like her fist that sends Veturius flying back against the wall.

Veturius gazes into Ricki's glowing eyes with glee.

Veturius charges across the floor, as he goes to swing his sword and laughs playfully.

-- TING! --

Veturius' sword collided with Angel. Veturius' smile extends further as he gazes into Angel's tense eyes.

ANGEL
STAY AWAY FROM MY SISTER!

Veturius jumps backwards away from Angel. Dasaline leaps out of the smoke, firing three arrows at him.

Veturius twists his body in the air, evading the arrows perfectly...as he rips the arrow in his shoulder out.

VETURIUS
(excited)
COME AT ME!!

INT. HALLWAYS / VETURIUS' CASTLE

Xemtim speeds it through the hallways of Veturius' portraits, cutting down hoodlums along the way and breathing rapidly.

INT. DINING ROOM

The group dash across the floor at Veturius.

Ricki's fist ignited. Angel's sword raised, as the sharpened side lights up. And Dasaline, drawing back on her bow...as an arrow forms in-between her fingers.

RICKI / DASALINE / ANGEL
(At once)
Fos!

Veturius tilts his head to the side and laughs.

A group of Hoodlums spring out of the ground in front Veturius. Their anatomies mold to take the shape of Veturius.

They raise their blades at the group.

RICKI
Rep--

Veturius zips around and grabs Ricki by her mouth.

VETURIUS
Now that's cheating, princess.

ANGEL
RICKI!!!

DASALINE
WATCH OUT, ANGEL!

Angel swings around in time to stop the incoming attack from the horde of Hoodlum-Veturius. Their attacks rain in on Angel, leaving him no window to escape.

ANGEL
DAMMIT!!

Dasaline draws her dual daggers as she flips around the Hoodlum-Veturius sword swings.

Despite her rapid speed on blocking and deflecting their attacks, she struggles to get around them.

DASALINE
STOP FIGHTING COWARDLY!

VETURIUS
I am a God, blondie. I can fight you
however I feel it benefits me.

Xemtim burst through the door.

XEMTIM
NARRA!?

Xemtim's eyes tremble. Narra leaning back on her chair, with her mouth open and her body pale as snow.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
N-Narra...

Xemtim's sights inches over to Ricki.

VETURIUS
Nice of you to show up, Xemtim. I was hoping the Mimic disposed of you but I guess that's giving that has-been too much credit.

-- THUMP! THUMP! --

Xemtim's heartbeat pounds throughout his ears, not a single word coming out of Veturius' mouth is heard.

-- THUMP! THUMP! --

VETURIUS (cont'd)
But I suggest you stay there unless
you --

Xemtim had charged at him like a force of a hurricane,
appearing before Veturius as fast as teleportation.

XEMTIM
(whisper)
...Veturius...

Xemtim's hostile hazel eyes glares deep into Veturius'
irises as if Xemtim was searching for his soul with so much
as a blink.

Veturius eyes widens. Xemtim's expression...flashes back to
the same Xemtim when they were kids.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
(whisper)
...Die...

Veturius leaps away from Xemtim as he swings his sword,
zipping away from Xemtim as he fires orbs of shadows.

VETURIUS
S-Stay back!!!

Xemtim dashes all around the room, chasing Veturius,
slashing through everything he fires at him and still
staying in pursuit of Veturius.

Veturius sweats as he gasps...he uses his sword to block
Xemtim's speedy swings, each strike leaving Veturius
staggered by the thunderous force behind them.

Veturius notices his grip shaking uncontrollably.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
(terrified)
No...! I am a God! I led the Sons of
Shadows! I have acquired Nyx's power!
I AM BETTER THAN YOU! I AM BETTER
THAN EVERYONE!

Ricki bites down on Veturius' hand.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
AGH! You child!

Veturius throws her against the Pillar.

VETURIUS (cont'd)
You'll pay for that!

Xemtim jams his blade through Veturius' chest. The two stare into each others' eyes...Veturius in shock at the sign of his own blood.

Xemtim rips his sword right out.

Letting Veturius collapse to the floor, leaving him to choke on his blood...drawing his last breaths.

The hoodlums turned to smoke as they returned to the darkness...the darkness surrounding the dining room had begun to vanish as well.

DASALINE
We did it...WE DID IT!

Dasaline grabs Angel and squeezes him.

DASALINE (cont'd)
We're alive!

RICKI
Dasaline?!

Dasaline looks at her. Ricki turns her head to the table.

Xemtim throws his sword as he takes Narra from the table and into his arms.

XEMTIM
(breaking)
Narra...I'm here...I beat him, you
can wake up now...

Xemtim's tears rain down on her.

XEMTIM (cont'd)
I came so far! Was it...still not
enough...? What do you need?! TELL
ME! Please...

RICKI
Xemtim...

XEMTIM
You can't die...I need you...I NEED
YOU! You...are my heart and soul...
soul...

Xemtim glances over at his sword. He takes heavy breaths as he looks back at Narra.

He lays her on the floor. He rips his necklace from his neck. Closing the ring inside her hand.

He holds his hand out. The sword materializes in his grip instantaneously.

RICKI

Xemtim!?

Xemtim positions the blade to himself.

XEMTIM

(inner thoughts)

Please...give Narra's soul back...

DASALINE

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

Xemtim takes a deep inhale as he tightening his grip

RICKI

XEMTIM! DON'T --

He pierces the blade through his stomach.

XEMTIM

P-Please...I beg you...

A light emits from within the characters on the blade...A ring of darkness forms underneath Xemtim and Narra.

A cloud of darkness sinks into her chest. Xemtim smiles... watching his hands fade away with the darkness.

Xemtim looks over at Ricki, Dasaline, and Angel.

XEMTIM (cont'd)

Goodbye...

Xemtim closes his eyes as the remaining of his body blows away with the rest of the darkness.

Dasaline approaches her with a shaken eyes.

Narra's eyes twitch as pulls back on her eyelids.

NARRA

Das? What happened?

Narra sits up, swinging her head around the room, searching the room.

She opens her hands and finds Xemtim's ring there. Her lip quivers as she looks around the room once more...tears forming in her eyes.

NARRA (cont'd)
Where is he!?

Dasaline embraces Narra, bawling her eyes out on her shoulders. Narra holds her back as she joins her in crying.

EXT. BEACH - SUNSET -- DAYS LATER

Narra sits alone, leaning on her arms and watching the setting sun.

Dasaline pops a squat beside her...no words are exchanged between the two.

DASALINE
You would've been amazed by him...

NARRA
I am not surprised...

Narra stares down at the ring in her hands with her tearful eyes.

NARRA (cont'd)
He's an amazing knight.

Narra slides the ring on her finger.

She holds her hand out to the sun, examining it closely.

NARRA (cont'd)
It fits perfectly.

Narra embraces her hand.

NARRA (cont'd)
I will cherish it...

RICKI (O.C.)
Hey you two.

Narra and Dasaline swing around to Ricki approaching with a basket under her arm.

RICKI
Got room for one more?

DASALINE
Would that be okay, Narra.

Narra raises her cheeks as she nods.

Narra takes one last look at the sunset. An image of herself and Xemtim as kids appears as they watch the sunset.

NARRA
(internal thoughts)
Xemtim...

EXT. THE CREPUSCULE

Xemtim falls through the darkness as he did in the beginning with both of his eyes closed.

NARRA (V.O.)
Xemtim...

Xemtim opens his eyes and gazes to the vanishing light above.

NARRA (V.O.) (cont'd)
Wherever you are...Will you make me
another promise?

EXT. BEACH

Narra holds her hand up to the sun once more. Staring at the shine on her ring.

NARRA
(internal thoughts)
When we meet again...There's
something I want to tell you as
well...something I have longed to
say.

EXT. THE CREPUSCULE

The light shrinks and fades away. Only Xemtim is the only light source in darkness.

NARRA (V.O.)
So wherever you are...let's find a
beach, build our castle...and talk...
okay?

Xemtim closes his eyes with a smile. A single tear rolls down Xemtim's face.

It doesn't fall down, instead, it ascends up heading towards where Xemtim saw the light.

XEMTIM
(internal thoughts)
Okay.

THE END.