## LEGACY ONE: LUANA

Written by

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FADE IN:

SERIES OF SHOTS

A bird's-eye view of Chailya Castle. It's so tall that it seems to touch the dawn sky. It is a worn grey with wild ivy growing all over the walls. There is a well, and a large drawbridge.

Wildflowers surround the castle, and the huge trees have grown right up to the walls. The trees have grown everywhere except a small clearing which overlooks a village below. In the background there's a BABBLING brook.

Across the drawbridge, a town square appears. There are shops on either side filled with odd items.

YOUNG MAN (V.O.)
Ah... Bedtime stories. Who doesn't like a good bedtime story? Parents pass down these tales through the generations. Tales of epic battles, evil monarchies, heroes, love, and magic.

Some of the signs for the shops read "Prunella's Discount Cauldrons", "Landry's Magical Medicine", "Fox's Robe Emporium", and "Atlantis's Lost Books".

YOUNG MAN (V.O.)
Parents use 'em as tools to teach
their children lessons about
bravery, honesty and the difference
between good and evil. Some end
happily and others don't. However
the one common denominator is that
they all begin with "once upon a
time".

A window comes into view in the castle tower. Sitting by the window is a YOUNG MAN(24) with dark hair and green eyes.

YOUNG MAN (V.O.)
Ya see as these tales continued through time, people began to consider 'em just bedtime stories. A way to exercise the imagination. What people forgot though, is that all bedtime stories have quite a bit of truth in 'em.

INT. CASTLE TOWER - DAWN

The Young Man is illustrating a picture of the clouds. He touches the book and the illustration begins to move...

YOUNG MAN (V.O.) Once upon a time...

We ENTER on the illustration of the sky moving in the book.

EXT. ALDON MOUNTAIN - SUNSET

A terrain of lava rock surrounds the active volcano. The mountain has no plants. A BIRD lands on a ROCK. The rock opens up and swallows the bird.

 ${\tt KANE}(45)$  appears, stuck in quicksand about 100 feet away. He has dark, wavy hair and golden brown eyes. He has a silver and purple kunzite amulet around his neck.

Kane tries to reach for something to pull himself out, but there is nothing. He takes off his belt, links it with his sword, and throws his sword like a spear. The sword lands with the blade face down, and digs itself into the dirt.

Kane starts to pull himself out. The sword starts to slowly slip out of the dirt. When it can no longer handle Kane's weight, it slips out of the ground. Kane screams as he, his belt, and his sword are all swallowed by the quicksand.

INT. FERONIA'S LAIR - MOMENTS LATER

SUPER: "MANY YEARS AGO"

Kane pours through a ceiling into a big wooden cage that hang from the side of the volcano. It is suspended above bubbling lava. The hole on top of the volcano is small, but large enough for a dragon to fly into.

There are cages of all sizes that hangs from the sides/ ceiling of the volcano. The bird that was swallowed by the rock is in one of the cages.

There are arched, stone pathways that lead around the lava, stone bridges that lead over it, and there are stairs on all sides of the volcano.

IGNIS AMBULARE/FIRE WALKERS(30's- 60's) stand on the pathways are. They are soulless, eyeless, and their bodies are covered in orange and red flames.

One begins to laugh at Kane.

KANE

Hey ya, stop laughin'. Let me out.

The Ignis Ambulare laughs harder.

KANE (CONT'D)
Ya can do it of yer own free will
or I can make ya. Either way ya
will release me.

IGNIS AMBULARE Really? And how do ya plan on doing that?

KANE Quia dominabitur tui!

The Ignis Ambulare changes from red/orange to blue/purple.

The now blue/purple Ignis Ambulare nods and walks towards one of the volcano walls. The other Ignis Ambulare realize what is happening and push him into the lava before he reaches the volcano wall.

KANE (CONT'D)
How many of ya are ya willin' to
sacrifice before ya let me out?

A new Ignis Ambulare comes out of the lava.

KANE (CONT'D) I wasn't expectin' that.

A powerful gust of wind blows the dust off of the bottom of a huge cage. Inside that cage is King ELGIN(65), King of the Dragons. He is a large gold, green, and blue dragon.

KING ELGIN Save your breath. That's Kedem Lava. It breeds Ignis Ambulare.

KANE
What? Did someone say somethin'?

KING ELGIN

Up here.

Kane looks up.

KING ELGIN (CONT'D) I'm Elgin, King of the Dragons.

KANE

I'm Kane of Gershwig. Why do they have us captive?

KING ELGIN
You've heard of Feronia, I assume?
The spell you just cast gave it
away.

KANE Aye. What of her?

KING ELGIN
This is her lair. You trespassed
and fell through one of her many
traps. As of now, you're one of her
pets.
 (beat)
Why did ya come 'ere?

Kane looks around and sees other animals trapped in cages. He then sees blood-stained torture devices for creatures of all types and sizes.

KANE

That's between me and the King and Queen of Gershwig. Also, I am not, nor will I ever be someone's pet!

KING ELGIN

Fine. Have it your way, but don't say I didn't warn you!

KANE

I said, let me out!

IGNIS AMBULARE #1(40's) walks over the bridge until he is beneath Kane's cage. He looks at IGNIS AMBULARE #2(30's) and nods his head. Ignis Ambulare #2 grabs the chain to Kane's cage, and slowly lowers the cage.

Ignis Ambulare #1 opens the door and throws a metal neck restraint collar attached to a metal chain.

IGNIS AMBULARE #1
Ya want out, eh? Then put that on!

KING ELGIN

Don't do it! Don't leave the safety of the cage!

Kane ignores King Elgin.

**KANE** 

What is this?

IGNIS AMBULARE #1

Ya said ya wanted out. I'm obeying yer command.

Kane puts on the metal, neck, restraint collar. It makes a loud CLICK when the collar locks into place. Ignis Ambulare #1 pulls on the chain, and Kane flies out, and onto the bridge.

Ignis Ambulare #1 laughs while he drags Kane by the chain, and over to the torture devices.

KANE

(yelling)
What are ya doin'?

KING ELGIN

I warned you.

Ignis Ambulare #1 floats Kane's body onto a torture device called the torture rack, which is covered with dried blood.

KANE

(yelling)

Help!

(beat)

Someone help me!

(beat)

Help!

King Elgin shakes his head.

KING ELGIN

He plans to torture you to death.

(beat) Once he's done with you, they'll start with me. The blood of my people is what has sustained her long life. Feronia will never stop massacring my people.

KANE

It's a little hard to feel bad for ya at the moment.

(beat)

Ya know? Since I'm about to be tortured to death, and all!

KING ELGIN

I warned you! It's not my fault you didn't stay in the cage.

(beat)

Not to worry. I'll be joining you soon.

Ignis Ambulare #1 uses the torture rack on Kane. Kane screams!

FERONIA(25) appears. She is ancient, but looks like she is in her 20's. Her hair is half blue, half orange/red fire. She has one blue eye and one orange eye. She wears a dress that is covered in half blue/purple and half orange/red fire.

A platinum and purple/orange ametrine amulet hangs from her neck. The Ignis Ambulare stand at attention as she walks past. She speaks with a South African accent.

FERONIA Prohibere!!

Ignis Ambulare #1 stops his torture of Kane. Feronia turns to Ignis Ambulare #1. (They speak in Latin, SUBTITLED.)

FERONIA (CONT'D)

What have I told you about torturing my pets without permission?

IGNIS AMBULARE #1

I'm sorry, mistress.

FERONIA

So am I.

Feronia nods her head, and two Ignis Ambulare drag Ignis Ambulare #1 down a hall.

IGNIS AMBULARE #1 I'm sorry, mistress! Please mistress?! Don't do this!

Feronia SNAPS her fingers and Ignis Ambulare #1's screams go silent. She walks next to Kane, and looks at him.

FERONIA

Who are you? Why were you trespassing? And why do you look so familiar?

KANE

Feronia, it's me. Kane of Gershwig. I'm the man that ya helped escape from the goblins when I hid the Book of Ignis in the caves.

FERONIA Why are ya here?

KANE

The King sent me on a mission, and I was accidentally ensnared in one of yer many traps.

Feronia SNAPS her fingers, and Kane is free once more.

FERONIA

You may leave, Kane of Gershwig, but do so quickly, or I might just change my mind.

Kane takes a step to leave, and stops.

FERONIA (CONT'D)

Is there a problem?

**KANE** 

(lightly)

More of an opportunity. If ya free me and Elgin, me descendants and I will make sure that ya are never without dragon's blood.

FERONIA

Tell me, Kane of Gershwig, how do you plan on doing that?

KANE

Every year I will travel to the Khalida Forest, go to Aysha and draw blood from the dragons, so that ya are never without what ya need and they are never slaughtered. When I pass, me descendants will carry on where I left off.

FERONIA

I agree to your terms -- as long as you understand that if ever you or your descendants fail to follow through with our agreement, then I will hunt every member of your family down, and wipe out your line. Do we have an agreement?

KANE

(nods)

Etiam.

Feronia looks at the Ignis Ambulare.

FERONIA

Dimittere eos.

The Ignis Ambulare's eyes begin to glow. As if they are in a trance, they march to the walls of the cavern. They lower Elgin's cage. They stop the cage right before they reach the lava and are on equal level as the pathways.

FERONIA (CONT'D)

Recludam.

The cage door flies open. Elgin stretches his large wings and flies out of his enormous cage.

KANE

Thank ya, Feronia.

Feronia nods, and without a word, turns, and walks out of the volcano. The Ignis Ambulare follow. Elgin lands on the pathway next to Kane. (They speak in English.)

KING ELGIN
Thank you, Kane of Gershwig. I'm
forever in your debt. Tell me what is your surname?

KANE

It's Rolt. Kane Rolt of Gershwig.

KING ELGIN

Climb on my back, Kane Rolt, and I'll take you back home to Gershwig.

KANE

What do ya suppose happened to that Ambulare?

Elgin extends one of his wings and angles it down. Kane climbs on the wing and then onto Elgin's back.

KING ELGIN

A fate worse than death. They're given their soul back, only they remain Ambulare. They're then stuck in a cell, and burn for all eternity.

(MORE)

KING ELGIN (CONT'D)
Their ability to make sounds is taken, so they silently suffer.
 (beat)
Are you situated?

KANE

Aye.

KING ELGIN Hold on tight.

Elgin spreads his wings and flaps. He and Kane slowly rise, and ascend through the hole at the top of the volcano.

EXT. SKY - LATER

Elgin flies quickly through the air. Kane holds on tight. Elgin flies between two mountain peaks. Chailya Castle and Gershwig are now visible in the distance.

EXT. CHAILYA CASTLE - OUTER WALLS - AFTERNOON

Elgin lands right outside of Chailya Castle's outer walls. The walls are made of stone and are covered in ivy with flowers. The castle is on a cliff. The only entrance is a drawbridge.

Kane dismounts.

KANE Thank ya, Elgin.

KING ELGIN
You're welcome, Kane Rolt.

(beat)
I would like to give you a token of my appreciation. You didn't know me, yet you saved me. For that I'll always be in your debt.

KANE What sort of token?

KING ELGIN
Dragon whispering. You will need
help if you intend on keeping your
promise. I intend on giving you
just that -- help. With this gift
you will be able to control and
converse with all dragons. Only the
royal family can converse with nondragons as we are taught the
languages in the multiverse, since
we are ambassadors for peace. All
other dragons can only speak
Dragonis. The language of our
people.

KANE What of me descendants?

They'll be born with the gift as well. Once I give you the ability to speak Dragonis, it will be passed from mum to child through the mum's milk. No one has ever been given this gift before. Until you came along, no one had a true enough heart. You will also never be without a dragon. To keep your oath you will have a lot of ground to cover every year. To do that you will need the help of a dragon. I'll send one of my most trusted generals. If he happens to pass, another will take his place. You're descendants will also never be without a dragon. Please let me help you as you've helped me.

KANE
I accept and thank ya for yer generosity.

KING ELGIN Close your eyes, Kane Rolt.

Kane does as he is told. Elgin breathes in a huge breath and puffs up his chest. As he exhales, blue flames erupt from his mouth. The flames encircle Kane.

Kane is lifted off his feet by the flames. His body is like a rag doll. The flames enter through his ears. Flames flicker in his pupils. Then Kane is slowly lowered to the floor and the flames suddenly vanish.

Kane begins to lean over, and cough.

KANE

Ya should warn a man before ya fill him with fire!

Elgin laughs.

KING ELGIN
(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Can you understand me?

KANE

Aye.

KING ELGIN
Wonderful! It worked. I was
apprehensive since this gift has
never been given before. We've been
afraid of giving someone that sort
of power over our kind, but as I
said before your heart is the
purest I've ever encountered.

(MORE)

KING ELGIN (CONT'D) I've no doubt that you and your descendants will do right by my people.

KANE

Ya have me word.

KING ELGIN

My general should arrive in a fortnight. If ever you or your kin need help, please don't hesitate to

KANE

Thank ya.

KING ELGIN

No, thank you.

Enter MAKENNA(39), a beautiful olive-skinned woman with light brown hair. She appears on the drawbridge. She wears a blue dress with a lace apron. Hanging around her neck is a silver amulet with a large blue moonstone in the middle.

Makenna marches angrily over to Kane.

MAKENNA

Kane Taru Rolt! Where have ya been? Ya were supposed to be back a week ago. I've been worried sick!

Makenna jumps back when she sees Elgin.

KANE

King Elgin, this is me wife Makenna. Makenna this is Elgin, King of the Dragons.

MAKENNA

(bows)

Yer majesty. (rises)

It's an honor to meet ya.

KING ELGIN
The honor is all mine. Please excuse me however, I must be on my way. I've a long journey ahead. Kane Rolt, thank you for all you've done for me. I'll see you soon.

KANE

Count on it.

KING ELGIN

Goodbye Kane Rolt, Dragon Whisperer.

KANE

Goodbye Elgin, King of the Dragons.

Makenna bows again.

MAKENNA

Yer majesty.

Makenna rises, as Elgin bows his head to her. He then spreads his wings, and begins to rise. The sun reflects off his golden scales which causes him to sparkle. Elgin flies off. Makenna smacks Kane upside the head.

KANE

What was that for?

MAKENNA

A week, Kane! I was ready to go to the King and ask him to send out a search party!

KANE

I'm sorry, dear.

MAKENNA

Ya will be sorry! Now go inside. I'll put the kettle on and ya can tell me all about how ya met the King of the Dragons, and why he called ya a Dragon Whisperer.

**KANE** 

Aye dear.

Kane walks towards the drawbridge.

MAKENNA

(under her breath)
This man will be the death of me!

KANE

Makenna!

MAKENNA

Comin'! I'm comin'!

Makenna walks over to the drawbridge where Kane waits. When she reaches him they both disappear over the drawbridge and into the crowd behind it.

EXT. GERSHWIG OUTSKIRTS - VILLAGE - SUNSET

SUPER: "MANY YEARS LATER"

A large two-story wooden building sits amongst smaller ones. Trees surround the small village.

ORA(56) and FINLEY(62), two older gold and green dragons, lie behind the large building. A younger dragon named STEVE/STEVENEL(20) SNIPS at them playfully.

Creatures of all kinds pour out of their homes and carry signs that read, "Bon Voyage Prince Kyros", "Safe travels Prince Kyros", and "Come home safely".

Little girls wear ribbons in their hair and their nicest dresses, and little boys wear their nicest robes. They laugh and chase each other through the crowd.

Centaurs, dwarves, witches, giants, shapeshifters, elves, and leprechauns of all ages all head towards the castle. A pair of fat twin boys shove each other back and forth. It's YOUNG LUDLOW(19) and YOUNG LYNCH(19).

INT. LUANA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

LUANA ROLT(16) sits at a wooden kitchen table with spell books in front of her. She is a tall sultry girl with olive skin, rosy cheeks, and black hair. She wears a black dress.

Her pink kunzite and white gold amulet hangs around her neck. She has a candle in front of her. She makes the flames change into different animal shapes.

Luana's mother KIRA(44) cooks over the kitchen's stone fireplace. She looks just like her daughter, only her hair is a salt-and-pepper color. Her silver and pink sapphire amulet hangs around her neck.

Kira wears a black dress with a white apron. She is pregnant. Kira walks to the kitchen counter, starts to chop up herbs. Next, she cuts up a large piece of meat. She takes the herbs back to the fireplace and puts them in the water.

Luana looks out the front window.

LUANA

Mum, I don't understand why I have to stay home from the party. Kyros will be leavin' to go to the human realm shortly after, so I won't even be able to say goodbye. (beat)

Even Ludlow's and Lynch's parents are lettin' them go. Please?

KIRA

We already went through this Luana. Ya were supposed to stay home and study yer spells last night. Instead ya chose to go out with Kyros and Atlas.

LUANA

That's because they're leavin'! Please Mum?!

KIRA

Luana, I am concerned about yer relationship with Atlas. Ya two are gettin' awfully close.

(MORE)

KIRA (CONT'D)

Ya know the dragon whisperin' gene must be carried on, and ya can only do that by marryin' a warlock.

LUANA

Mum, yer forgettin' that I am no longer yer only child.

KIRA

I know.

Kira looks out the window that is over the sink. She looks at the dragons.

KIRA (CONT'D)

(whispering)

I know.

Kira's eyes shut.

INT. CASTLE TOWER - DAWN

The room is built of deteriorating stone. The QUEEN BANSHEE(40's) is surrounded by fire. Her profile shows her age and she's lost a great deal of skin. The Queen Banshee quickly turns her head so her face is visible.

QUEEN BANSHEE

She's coming...

The Queen Banshee shows her fangs.

INT. LUANA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Kira's eyes open.

LUANA

So...? What do ya say Mum? Can I go to the party?

KIRA

Luana, I said no! If ya ask me again ya will be grounded for the next week.

(beat)

Now, what is the only way to kill a fire demon?

Luana sighs and looks out the window again.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Luana!

LUANA

What?

KIRA

I asked ya a question. What is the only way to kill a fire demon?

LUANA

Force him to live with his parents.

KIRA

That's not funny, smart mouth! Ya should know this.

Luana shrugs.

KIRA (CONT'D)
Ya need to remember this Luana. The only way to kill a fire demon is with the power of the water nymphs. Ya need to study harder.

Luana gazes out the window again.

KIRA (CONT'D)

Luana!

LUANA

Fine! For heaven's sake!

KIRA

Don't for heaven's sake me. Yer grandpa Kane would be turnin' over in his grave if he saw ya weren't practicin' those spells.

Kira goes over to the counter, grabs a slab of meat and throws it out the back window towards the dragons.

EXT. LUANA'S HOUSE - REAR - DAY

The dragons SCREECH in excitement as they begin to rip apart the meat. Children laugh and adults talk in the background.

INT. LUANA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Kira looks at Luana who pouts at the table.

KIRA

Ya know I love ya don't ya?

LUANA

Ya have a funny way of showing it! Me two best friends are leavin' and ya won't even let me say goodbye!

KIRA

Drop it, Luana! If ya don't I'll have ya finish studyin' and spend the rest of yer day in yer room! Meals included!

> LUANA AND KIRA (Luana speaks in a mocking disrespectful tone) (MORE)

LUANA AND KIRA (CONT'D) The responsibility our family was given should not be taken lightly.

KIRA

That's it! Take yer books and go to yer room until I say otherwise!

LUANA

LUANA (screaming) Fine!

Luana looks at her mother. Kira looks back at Luana.

KIRA

Bedroom, Luana! Now!

(beat)

If ya make me say it again, I'll ground ya from their homecomin' party as well!

LUANA

(screams like a spoiled

child)

I hate ya!

Luana fumes with rage. She grabs her books, and STOMPS up the stairs. She then SLAMS her bedroom door.

## INT. LUANA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Luana's bedroom is on the second floor. The ceiling is enchanted to look like the night sky, with periodic shooting stars. Luana is asleep in her wooden bed. The bed is antique with gold accents on the dragon carvings.

There is an armoire across from the bed and a chest of drawers on one side of the room under the window. Both pieces of furniture match the bed.

The moonlight pours through the window. Luana is awakened by the sounds of pebbles HITTING her window.

She blows on the wicks of the candelabra next to her bed and they are kindled. She picks up the candelabra and walks over to the window. She sees ATLAS THE CENTAUR(19) as he stands outside.

Atlas is half man and half horse. His human half is muscular with olive skin. He has dark hair and dark eyes. His horse half matches his hair color.

He has a ruby amulet that hangs from around his neck. He also wears a brown leather vest. Atlas beckons her outside. Luana opens her bedroom window and climbs out onto the roof.

## EXT. LUANA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Luana jumps over to a nearby tree and begins to climb down. Once she is down, she runs over to Atlas and they embrace.

ATLAS
Why didn't ya come to Kyros's
party? We're leavin' for the human realm soon.

LUANA

I'm so sorry. Me mum wouldn't allow it. I had to study me spells. I swear, she's so paranoid.

Atlas kisses Luana passionately.

ATLAS

She's just tryin' to keep ya safe. Now come.

LUANA

Where are we goin'? Shouldn't ya have left by now?

ATLAS

Kyros is buyin' us some time. As far as where we are goin'...?

A devilish grin spreads across the centaur's face.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

You'll see.

Atlas and Luana disappear into the woods.

EXT. JORA LAKE - LATER

Atlas and Luana are naked in the blue water. Luminescent fish can be seen from above. The lake sits below a glacier nestled between two mountains, surrounded by forest.

It is a beautiful cloudless night. Stars shine more brightly than ever before. Luana splashes Atlas and then dives underwater

Atlas looks around, but can't find her. She pops up behind him, splashes him, and vanishes again under the water. Atlas sticks his arms into the water -- quickly lifts her up.

ATLAS

Now that I have ya, what am I goin' to do with ya?

Atlas and Luana kiss passionately. Luana giggles.

ATLAS (CONT'D) I love ya, Luana. More than ya know.

LUANA

I love ya too!

ATLAS

I hope ya know that I'm serious. I love ya so much that I would sacrifice my life in a second if it was the only way to save ya.

LUANA

I know ya would, and I would do the same. Ye're my world.

Luana kisses Atlas. Atlas then lets her go. She falls into the water. When Luana emerges, she laughs. Luana looks up. Stars shoot across the sky by the hundreds. Luana points up.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Look!

**ATLAS** 

The party must be comin' to a close.

A star falls into the lake. It glows under the water.

LUANA

That's odd. Stars never fall in "The Garden".

ATLAS

There's a first time for everythin'.

LUANA

Aye, but even when they fall in the multiverse they're no longer glowin' upon impact.

(beat)

We have to check it out!

A coy smile spreads on Atlas's face as Luana swims to the location of the rock that glows. She stops when she reaches the meteor.

INT. JORA LAKE - UNDERWATER - NIGHT

The meteor CRACKS open. Bubbles are released followed by the stem of a plant.

EXT. JORA LAKE - NIGHT

Bubbles emerge at the top of the water, followed by the stem and bud of a rose. As the rose opens, a group of small figures use the darkness to hide themselves while they take their positions behind and above Atlas.

The rose is completely open, and an exquisite, antique, and large diamond ring lies inside the flower.

LUANA (staring at the ring) Is that what I think it is?

Atlas moves his hand, and the ring flies to him. Luana turns around. The dark figures behind Atlas are fairies that begin to glow.

The glowing fairies spell out: "WILL YA MARRY ME?"

ATLAS

Will ya marry me?

Luana opens her mouth to speak, but no sound comes out.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

Will ya?

Luana splashes Atlas.

LUANA

You'll have to catch me first.

ATLAS

Why ya little... get over here!

Luana dives under the water and vanishes. Atlas makes the ring float high in the air. Atlas moves quickly. Luana dives under water again.

INT. JORA LAKE - UNDERWATER - NIGHT

Luana attempts to swim between Atlas's legs. Two large hands grab her.

EXT. JORA LAKE - NIGHT

Atlas brings Luana to the surface.

ATLAS

Ya really make a guy work for it, don't ya?

Luana laughs and nods.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

Yer answer?

Luana kisses Atlas.

LUANA

Aye. Of course I will!

Atlas has the ring float onto Luana's left ring finger. Luana and Atlas kiss.

EXT. VILLAGE - VILLAGE SQUARE - NIGHT

An intense wind begins to blow. The last of the villagers straggle back through the village. Some appear to be intoxicated.

BAYARD THE CENTAUR(37) is one of the stragglers. Bayard is Atlas's much older brother. He looks like Atlas, only he is more muscular and has salt-and-pepper hair.

He wears an iron and red topaz amulet around his neck, as well as a brown leather vest.

EXT. LUANA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

He arrives at Luana's parent's doorway, and begins to BANG. The door opens.

Kira and Luana's father EDAN(50) stand in the doorway. Edan is a very handsome warlock. He wears a platinum and dark pink spinel amulet around his neck.

KIRA

Bayard! What are ya doin'? It's past midnight.

BAYARD

I'm sorry to intrude Mr. and Mrs. Rolt, but I haven't been able to find Atlas anywhere. He's supposed to be leavin' soon. I was hopin' he was here sayin' goodbye to Luana.

EDAN

Luana has been in her bedroom all night.

KIRA

She's upset with me because I wouldn't let her go to the party.

EDAN

She has to learn her spells, Kira. We won't always be around to protect her.

KIRA

I know. Yer right. Maybe Luana will know where he is.

(beat; calls out)

Luana, can ya come down here

please?

(beat)

Luanà?

(beat)

Luana! (beat)

Edan, will ya please go up and get her?

**EDAN** 

Aye dear.

KIRA

Bayard, why don't ya come on in and walt.

BAYARD

Thank ya, that is very kind of ya.

Bayard enters the home as Edan heads up the stairs.

INT. LUANA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Kira sits by the fire, and Bayard stands by her. Edan runs down the stairs.

EDAN

She's gone.

Kira jumps to her feet.

KIRA

Gone!? What do ya mean gone?

EDAN

I mean she's gone. She isn't in the house. I looked everywhere. I even did an uncloakin' spell to see if she was usin' any spells to help her hide, but she isn't.

**BAYARD** 

This has me brother's fingerprints all over it.

KIRA

A person doesn't just vanish without a trace.

EDAN

Well, I didn't say without a trace. Her window was open.

BAYARD

Please don't worry Mrs. Rolt. I'm sure she's with me brother.

BAYARD (CONT'D)
Although he might like to break the rules, he would never let any harm come to her.

KIRA

We'll help ya find them.

Edan, Kira, and Bayard exit the house.

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

The wind which was once intense is now eerie calm. Drunks and some party guests still stumble about. The ground begins to shake. A DEAFENING CRY is heard.

It comes from every direction. Children can be heard as they CRY in their homes, as their parents run outside.

The ground CRACKS and men, women, and creatures slip into the cracks. The SCREAMS get louder. Bayard, Edan, and Kira are brought to their knees.

BANSHEES(20's-60's) float out of the cracks in the ground. At first glance, they look beautiful as the moonlight dances off of their spirit-like bodies.

As the light continues to dance about, it illuminates one of their grotesque faces. Her skin is almost completely rotted away. She has long fangs. Her ghostly white hair blows even though there is no wind.

BAYARD

(whispers)

Banshees.

A CHILD(7) runs from one of the houses. BANSHEE #1(29) pursues him.

EDAN

Ignis!

A fire bolt flies towards Banshee #1 and hits her. She GROWLS, shows her fangs, and her red eyes glow.

BAYARD

How about pickin' on someone yer own size.

The banshee flies quickly towards Bayard with her long pointed nails outstretched. Bayard tries to dodge her. He isn't quick enough, and he gets cut.

INT. LUANA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Kira runs into the house and then to the back window.

KIRA

Ora! Finley! Attan! Steve, gopf Luana!

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

Ora and Finley open their large wings and soon are in the air. They inhale and blow flames towards the banshees whose numbers have increased tenfold.

Steve/Stevenel flies in the opposite direction of the fight as SCREAMS of the dying ECHOES through the air.

EXT. JORA LAKE - NIGHT

Luana is in Atlas's strong embrace. They kiss passionately. SCREAMS are heard in the distance. Luana pulls away.

LUANA

Did ya hear somethin'?

ATLAS

Nice try.

Atlas moves to kiss Luana again. She pushes him away.

LUANA

Seriously, listen.

Atlas listens. He hears a high pitched SCREAM, followed by a ROAR.

**ATLAS** 

The village!

Atlas and Luana vanish and reappear fully clothed on the sand. Steve/Stevenel flies above.

LUANA

(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Steve! Steve! I'm here! Steve!

Steve/Stevenel looks down.

LUANA (CONT'D)

(in Dragonis; subtitled)

Steve come down!

Steve/Stevenel flies down towards Luana.

**ATLAS** 

Be safe.

Atlas runs into the forest towards the village and disappears. Steve/Stevenel lands. Luana quickly gets on his back and they take off into the night.

EXT. VILLAGE - MOMENTS LATER

The banshees' numbers are great, but Ora and Finley's flames keep them at bay.

A banshees eyes glow red again. A MAN(36) who is fighting suddenly stops... confused... then he picks up a spear and throws it at Finley. Impaled in the stomach, Finley ROARS.

Other banshees start to telepathically control the men and women, they turn one against the other. The rest of the entranced fighters attack the dragons. Finley is down. Ora protects him but he's bleeding out.

Neither Kira, nor Edan can get to them. Another ROAR is heard as two spears puncture Ora's stomach. Fires blaze everywhere.

Edan and Kira throw fireballs right and left. Now that Ora and Finley are dead, they are outnumbered. The fireballs barely graze the banshees. Bayard turns on Edan. They begin to fight with swords.

EDAN

Bayard! What are ya doin'? We're yer friends.

Bayard lowers his sword, as if he is no longer under the banshee's spell. Edan walks towards Bayard but gets distracted by a child's SCREAM. He turns his back on Bayard. Bayard rams him through with his sword.

Edan falls to his knees and then onto the ground. Kira SCREAMS as she looks upon her husband as he dies, and is unable to get to him. She tries anyway.

Bayard is about to bring down his sword on Kira. Atlas rematerializes just in time to block Bayard's sword with his own. Kira jumps out of the way as the two brothers fight.

She starts to make her way to Edan. She throws fireballs as she moves. When she arrives at Edan's lifeless body, his amulet vanishes. Suddenly, she hears a ROAR from above. Steve/Stevenel makes a quick descent.

KIRA

(whispers)

Luanà.

Luana jumps off of Steve/Stevenel, and runs towards Kira. Kira stands up, wipes the tears from her eyes, and joins the fight once more.

LUANA

Steve, ataan vji banshees.

Steve/Stevenel dives down and blows fire over the banshees. Their SCREAMS are deafening. Reinforcements are heard as they RUN through the woods. The banshees flee. However, two have joined Bayard in the fight against Atlas.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Khela!

Clouds roll in quickly. Rain begins to pour. Slowly the fires in the village are extinguished.

Luana and Kira run to help Atlas with Bayard and the banshees that remain. Kira fights the banshee who has hold of Bayard, and Luana has joined Atlas's fight.

The banshee that is fighting Kira dives into a crack in the ground, and immediately emerges behind her. It quickly slits her throat with its long sharp nail.

As Luana fights, she sees what's unfolding, but isn't quick enough to save her mother. Bayard knocks Atlas down, and then is pulled underground by the banshees.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Mum!

ATLAS

Bayard!

Luana runs to her mother. When she gets to her, Kira bleeds out in her arms. Her amulet vanishes with her last breath. The banshees have vanished. Half the village has been taken.

Bodies line the ground. Their amulets are gone. The reinforcements have arrived, led by PRINCE KYROS(18) -- but they are too late.

Prince Kyros wears a long golden robe. His amulet is made of intertwined gold and platinum. The stone is a very pale blue diamond. His crown matches his amulet.

In addition to the blue diamonds, his crown is studded with white diamonds and blue sapphires.

The villagers and soldiers that remain gather around Luana. She cries over her mother's lifeless body.

PRINCE KYROS
Fan out. See if there are any
banshees that are still alive, so
we can question them. If ya find
any villagers still alive, please
bring them back immediately for
medical attention.

Atlas goes to put his hand on Luana's shoulder -- she jerks away.

LUANA

Don't touch me! If ya hadn't come, then I would have been here to fight, and me parents would be alive right now!

PRINCE KYROS
Ya don't know that for sure, Luana.
Ya could have very well been taken,
or even killed. Atlas saved yer
life.

LUANA

I don't have a life anymore.

PRINCE KYROS

Atlas, take Luana inside, and put the kettle on. I'll be in shortly.

Luana gets up mechanically. Atlas helps her towards the house. She looks to her left and sees Steve/Stevenel nuzzles Ora and Finley. He lets out a sad YELP and curls up next to their lifeless bodies.

INT. LUANA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Luana sits in front of the fire. Atlas puts the kettle on. Prince Kyros enters.

ATLAS

Did ya catch them? Did ya find me brother?

PRINCE KYROS

I'm sorry Atlas. There was no sign of them.

**ATLAS** 

How did they find us? Why did they choose us?

KING SAXTON(52) enters. He has long grey hair with and a beard that matches. His blue eyes match his blue tanzanite and gold crown and amulet. He wears a gold robe with silver and black embroidery on it.

Atlas is startled by King Saxton's entrance.

KING SAXTON

They were declarin' war. I wondered when this day would come.

Atlas and Prince Kyros bow. Luana tries to get up to bow.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)
Please Luana, sit. Ya have been
through a horrific ordeal tonight.
I'm so sorry about yer parents.
They were good people.

LUANA

Thank ya yer majesty.

Luana sits down again in front of the fire.

PRINCE KYROS

Father, why us? There are many villages and kingdoms between Helzarie and Gershwig that they could have attacked. Why declare war on us?

KING SAXTON

Gershwig has been known as the strongest city in this realm. Our alliance with the dragons has always kept the banshees at bay. By declarin' war on us, they are sendin' messages to others that they aren't afraid... and they're next.

PRINCE KYROS

But why now?

KING SAXTON

Their numbers seem to be growin', so they must be feelin' confident. They must also not have enough food near them anymore, so they are spreadin' out to find more.

LUANA

So, all those taken will...

KING SAXTON

Be drained of their blood.

ATLAS

Oh no... Bayard!

KING SAXTON

We were just lucky that Ora and Finley were here. Again, Luana I'm so sorry that they were murdered. I know it's of little comfort right now, but they gave their lives protectin' the people they love.

King Saxton walks over to the kettle and pours himself a drink. Everyone watches. He then walks back.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)
Ya must be wonderin' why yer spells could hurt but not kill the banshees.

Everyone nods their heads.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)

Regular fire can hurt them. Unfortunately, the only thing that can kill a banshee is dragon fire. That is why they avoid Aysha.

LUANA

Why did Bayard murder me... me... oh... Papa...!

Luana cries and buries her head in her hands. Prince Kyros goes over and embraces her for a moment.

KING SAXTON

Me dearest Anya, the villagers and Bayard were all bewitched by the banshees. Banshees are spirit-like bein's with only solid fingernails. They can't hold anythin' solid — but they do have the power to invade another's body and control their thoughts and actions. That is why they turned on ya, and why Bayard killed Edan. They had no control over what they were doin'.

PRINCE KYROS

So, what's the plan, Father?

King Saxton sits in a chair next to Luana. The Prince and Atlas gather around.

KING SAXTON
Yer plans haven't changed, son. Yer still goin' to the human realm.

PRINCE KYROS
But father, what about savin'
Bayard, and gettin' justice for
Luana?

KING SAXTON I'll see that it's done.

ATLAS
Yer majesty, with all due respect,
can someone else escort his
highness to the human realm? I
would like to help battle the
banshees.

KING SAXTON
I wouldn't expect anythin' less
from ya, Atlas. I will, of course,
send someone in yer place, so that
ya can help in the search for yer
brother.

Luana, I hate to ask this of ya, but I need ya to travel to Aysha and get the help of King Elgin. He will only deal with members of the Rolt family.

LUANA
But I don't know the King, yer
majesty. How can I be sure he will
help me?

KING SAXTON
Because King Elgin was very close with the males in yer family. It's in his own best interest.

ATLAS

How so?

KING SAXTON
Ya all know the story of how
Luana's grandpa saved King Elgin?

Everyone nods.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)
Luana is now the only member left
of the Rolt family. She must now
assume her pa's responsibility and
travel every year from Gershwig to
Aysha to Daray. She will be
transportin' dragon's blood to
Feronia.

(MORE)

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)

If she does not do this, Feronia
will kill Luana and begin
massacrin' dragons again. There has
been peace for many years thanks to
yer grandpa and pa, Luana, but now
it's yer turn.
(beat)
Ask King Elgin, Luana. Yer the only
shares we have against the

Ask King Elgin, Luana. Yer the only chance we have against the banshees. I promise some of me best men and I won't be far behind. Unfortunately, our numbers must be small due to the banshees mind control. If we have too many men, then not only will our casualties most likely increase, but they'll use their mind control to turn us on each other. We have enough to fight without fightin' each other.

LUANA
But I'm only sixteen!

KING SAXTON
Luana, yer like a daughter to me.
I've known ya since ya were a babe
in yer mum's womb. I would never
ask ya to do anythin' that I didn't
think ya were capable of.

LUANA
But I barely know how to fight!

King Saxton puts his hand on Luana's hand.

KING SAXTON
I'm one step ahead of ya, but I
need ya to trust me. Can ya do
that?

LUANA I don't know.

Prince Kyros, Atlas, and King Saxton all look at Luana.

KING SAXTON Luana, yer the only chance we have.

LUANA
Okay. I'll do it. Let me send Steve ahead to let them know I'm comin'.
That's what me pa always did.
(beat)
Papa...

Luana begins to CRY. Prince Kyros hugs her.

PRINCE KYROS
It's okay. Everythin' is goin' to be okay.

KING SAXTON Thank ya, Luana.

Luana stops crying, sniffles, and nods at the King.

EXT. CHAILYA CASTLE - DAWN

King Saxton, Luana, Atlas, Prince Kyros, and ELWIN THE BLIND ELF(30's) are gathered in a circle around the clearing.

Elwin is of normal height and has pointed ears. His eyes are a light blue, covered with a white film. One would never guess he was blind by the way he navigates around things.

He is dressed in maroon and brown robes that drag on the floor as he walks. He has long, straight, brown hair with a gold wreath that sits on top of his head. He stands next to a leprechaun named DEVLIN(23).

Devlin is short with fiery-red hair, and a wooden pipe in his back pocket. He wears clothes made of moss, and carries a wooden staff that has animal heads whittled onto it and a bag of gold coins.

King Saxton walks over to Prince Kyros and hugs him.

KING SAXTON Be safe, me son. Elwin?

ELWIN Devlin, the bag, please?

Devlin CURSES under his breath, and hands Elwin the bag of gold. Elwin then hands it to King Saxton.

KING SAXTON
Take this gold and go to a place called a bank. It's the only one in the city below the castle. Ask for Ennis. He's one of us. We placed him and his ancestors at that bank years ago to help those who are travelin' to the human realm. Make sure ya change into yer human clothin' before ya enter the city. Ennis will give ya paper that they call money in exchange for yer gold, so that ya can find food and shelter without too many questions bein' asked.

PRINCE KYROS Thank ya, Father.

Prince Kyros takes the gold.

KING SAXTON Elwin, thank ya for agreein' to accompany me son.

ELWIN

It's me pleasure yer majesty. If ya need anythin', Devlin will be mindin' the store while I'm away.

KING SAXTON

Thank ya, Elwin. Now, as soon as he's settled, we need ya to come back.

ELWIN

Aye yer majesty.

Prince Kyros walks over to Luana and Atlas.

PRINCE KYROS

Luana, there is no doubt in me mind that ya will get King Elgin's help to defeat the banshees. Yer parents would be proud.

Luana grabs Prince Kyros and hugs him.

LUANA

I'll miss ya.

PRINCE KYROS

I'll miss ya too.

Prince Kyros then walks over to Atlas.

PRINCE KYROS (CONT'D)

Make sure ya take care of Luana. Give those banshees hell for me.

ATLAS

Ya have me word.

Atlas extends his hand to Prince Kyros... but Prince Kyros pulls him in for a hug.

PRINCE KYROS

Yer me best friend, Atlas. Ya have always been there for me. I'd like that to continue. So be careful. Don't die.

Atlas laughs.

ATLAS

I'll see what I can do.

King Saxton looks over his shoulder and back at the castle.

KING SAXTON

Where is yer mum? She should be here.

PRINCE KYROS

We already said our goodbyes. She's tendin' to the wounded.

KING SAXTON Alright, well then let's get this over with shall we? (beat)
Me staff please.

A SOLDIER(48) wears a silver robe, with an iron and blue tourmaline amulet around his neck, holds the staff. The golden staff is encrusted with small diamonds. It has a large blue diamond on the top.

The soldier hands King Saxton the staff.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D) Everybody ready?

Everyone nods.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D) In potentia pol ego praecipio tibi ut aperias! In potentia pol ego praecipio tibi ut aperias! In potentla pol ego praecipio tibi ut aperias!!

King Saxton hits the bottom of his staff on the ground three times. The ground shakes. The diamond on top of King Saxton's staff glows. In the middle of the clearing the ground gives way. A portal opens.

Prince Kyros looks at Atlas.

**ATLAS** 

We shall see each other soon.

KING SAXTON

Come on, son.

PRINCE KYROS

I love ya, Father.

Prince Kyros jumps into the portal followed by Elwin. The portal closes, as the ground re-materializes. Finally, the ground stops shaking.

KING SAXTON (under his breath)
Good luck, me son.

(beat)
Atlas, if ya and Luana will please
follow me into the great hall. I have some gifts to help ya on yer journey.

ATLAS

Aye, yer majesty.

They all turn around and head back into Chailya Castle.

32.

INT. CHAILYA CASTLE - GREAT HALL - DAWN

The ceiling is bewitched to look like the sky outside. The sun rises, it lights up the enormous room. The walls have solid gold moldings and pillars. Painted on each wall are rivers bewitched to move.

There are also two waterfalls on both sides of the room that are connected to the bewitched rivers. The waterfalls fall into a river below. It crosses the floor and goes under the golden bridge to the other wall.

Also, painted on either side of the rivers are beautiful flowers that cover the landscape. They are bewitched to come out of the walls and open whenever anyone enters the room.

The floor is solid gold, and has a wide, golden bridge that arches over the water that flows below. Where the bridge ends, the solid gold floor begins again.

The golden floor leads up to three golden thrones encrusted with blue diamonds, sapphires, and emeralds.

King Saxton sits on one of the thrones. Luana and Atlas enter and walk up to the large thrones ahead. The large golden doors SLAM shut behind them, which startles Luana.

She is still jumpy from earlier. Atlas leans over discreetly to Luana --

ATLAS Everythin' will be okay. Ya can do

Luana ignores him. They arrive at the throne, and bow.

KING SAXTON
Luana, I can't tell ya how thankful
I am to ya for agreein' to go. Has
Steve already left?

LUANA Aye, yer majesty. He should arrive there day after tomorrow.

KING SAXTON
Wonderful. Now, about yer gifts.
Luana, ya have always been like a
daughter to me. I know yer mum was
workin' with ya on yer spells.
However, you've yet to learn how to
fight.

King Saxton nods at a GUARD(40) stands in the corner. He walks to the golden doors.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)
That is why I sent for Kalinda.
She's the best fighter in all the land.

Enter KALINDA(30's). Kalinda is a tall, skinny, striking blonde. Her amulet is made of silver, with a purple amethyst. She wears a purple robe with silver embroidery.

LUANA

With all due respect, yer majesty, I think I would prefer a man to help. She doesn't look like she can protect herself, let alone train and protect me.

Kalinda arrives at Luana and Atlas.

KING SAXTON

Kalinda, will ya please show us a little example of yer fightin' skills?

KALINDA

Aye, yer majesty.

KING SAXTON

Atlas, why don't ya spar with her.

Atlas nods and walks over to Kalinda. Atlas draws his sword but Kalinda does not.

ATLAS

Where's yer sword?

KALINDA

By me side. I don't need it to beat va.

KING SAXTON

Enough talk. Fight on the count of three. One... two... three!

Kalinda and Atlas begin to fight. Kalinda is very skilled at martial arts and gymnastics. She backflips out of the way when Atlas swings his sword.

They continue to fight. Kalinda kicks Atlas's sword out of his hands. Atlas tries to punch Kalinda. She is too quick and he misses. He charges her and pins her up against the door.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D) Kalinda. Stop playin' around.

Kalinda laughs. She breaks out of Atlas's hold, flips over his head and cartwheels over to the sword. She picks it up as Atlas tries to hit her with a paralysis spell. Kalinda flips high in the air and the spell misses her.

She lands back in front of Atlas. Before Atlas knows what has happened, Kalinda sweeps his front legs and he falls to his knees. He then lands face first on the floor, and falls on his side.

Kalinda raises the sword and brings it down quickly on Atlas but stops as soon as it touches his neck.

King Saxton claps.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)

Well done Kalinda.

KALINDA

Thank ya, yer majesty.

Kalinda helps Atlas up.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Sorry if I hurt ya.

ATLAS

Hurt me?

Atlas scoffs.

LUANA

That was impressive.

KALINDA

Thank ya.

KING SAXTON

Kalinda will escort ya and train ya while ya travel. Above all, she's there to protect ya.

King Saxton nods at the guard again. The guard exits.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)

Now for yer gift Atlas. Yer already skilled in combat and spells. The only things yer missin' are eyes in the sky.

The guard comes back with PHOENIX THE FALCON(23) on his arm.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)

Allow me to introduce Phoenix the Falcon.

Phoenix is a very large falcon who looks as though his feathers are made of silk. Phoenix flies from the guards arm and lands on the edge of King Saxton's throne.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)

Ya will also need this.

King Saxton gets up and hands Atlas a very thick, long, leather glove. Atlas puts it on. It fits perfectly. Phoenix flies over and lands on the glove.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)
Phoenix will be yer eyes. He will
fly above and make sure that yer
path is clear. He will warn ya of
threats, fight alongside ya, and
he's also a damn fine hunter. Ya
just need one more thing.

King Saxton turns his back on Atlas who now pets Phoenix.

ATLAS

What is that yer majesty?

King Saxton turns back around and throws a bright, white, energy ball at Atlas. As it hits him it explodes, and takes the shape of a translucent falcon. The falcon spirit vanishes, and Atlas remains unharmed.

KING SAXTON

There. Now ya can understand Phoenix.

ATLAS

Thank ya yer majesty.

KING SAXTON Oh, and Atlas -- I know ya have been peridotin' illegally for awhile now, even though the law

states ya must be 21.

ATLAS

I'm sorry yer majesty. I've only done it when I felt someone was in danger. I know that teleportation is illegal, but it was the quickest way to get to them.

KING SAXTON

I know. That is why ya have me permission to peridot if necessary durin' yer mission.

Atlas bows.

ATLAS

Thank ya yer majesty.

KING SAXTON

I suggest ya come up with a plan before ya leave. We'll meet ya on the outskirts of Helzarie. Now, make haste and let the heavens be with ya.

Atlas, Luana, Kalinda, and Phoenix turn around and walk out the golden doors of the great hall.

EXT. HELZARIE - DAWN

Helzarie is a large, ancient, stone castle that has lost stones in certain areas. The ground around the castle is barren. The ground is made of ice that never thaws.

Heads have been put on spikes in front of the castle. There is a drawbridge that goes over a moat of enchanted icicles. Instead of the icicles pointing down, they point up, like spikes.

On the very outskirts of Helzarie is the Renshaw Forest.

INT. HELZARIE - DUNGEON - DAWN

Banshees move their PRISONERS(8-75) into the dungeon by telepathy. The prisoners walk down the frozen wooden spiral staircase. The only light comes from the fireballs that line the walls, frozen in mid-explosion.

On the outside of the cells there is a torture chamber. There is dried blood on some of the equipment. The prisoners walk past the equipment and into their cell.

On the ground, there are scattered skeletons and dead bodies who have had their blood drained. As soon as the door closes on the dark, dusty, horrifying dungeon the prisoners once again have free will.

Horrified SCREAMS of men, women, and children can be heard.

EXT. HELZARIE - CASTLE WALLS - MOMENTS LATER

A loud deafening SHRIEK.

INT. HELZARIE - GREAT HALL - MOMENTS LATER

There are three banshees in the deteriorated stone room. The QUEEN BANSHEE(40's) flies around the ceiling.

She looks older and is missing more skin then BANSHEE #2(30's) and BANSHEE #3(50's).

What lights up the room are candles that float.

BANSHEE #2

I'm sorry your majesty. Only two of the dragon whisperers were there when we attacked.

The Queen Banshee SHRIEKS again.

BANSHEE #3 Why don't we feed. We can kill the men and turn the women. Our numbers will grow. We are so hungry.

**QUEEN BANSHEE** 

(raspy; angry)

No!

(beat)

Eventually, the dragon whisperer will come for them. We can use them to fight for us.

Another banshee, BANSHEE #4(40) enters with Bayard, whose mind is now being controlled.

BANSHEE #4

This one seemed especially close to her. He was also a better fighter then the rest.

QUEEN BANSHEE
Good. He will lead the fight for
us. Love is their weakness and
we'll exploit it to our advantage.
Without the dragon whisperer,
Feronia will kill all the dragons.
With the dragons extinct, there
will be nothing that can stop us.
Then we will feast.

As she looks out one of the windows, a sinister smile spreads across her face. Even though there is no breeze, her spirit-like body moves as if blown by the wind.

INT. LUANA'S HOUSE - DAY

Kalinda, Atlas, Luana, and Phoenix enter Luana's home. Atlas walks over to the fireplace.

ATLAS

Foco ignite.

Fire begins to burn in the fireplace. It takes the shape of a centaur in a gallop. Phoenix flies in and perches himself on the windowsill. Kalinda and Luana sit in the chairs that face the fireplace. Atlas stands by them.

LUANA

I guess the first thing we have to do is decide who's in charge.

ATLAS & KALINDA

I'll do it!

They look at each other angrily.

KALINDA

Have ya ever actually led an attack?

ATLAS

More times than ya probably have.

KALINDA

Really? Care to make a wager?

ATLAS

We don't have time for that! This is exactly why ya shouldn't be in charge. Besides King Saxton said ya were here to help protect and train Luana. He never said ya were in charge!

LUANA

Will ya two stop fightin'! There was enough of that last night. Yer wastin' precious time.

Atlas and Kalinda glare at each other.

LUANA (CONT'D)

This is how we are goin' to handle this. Atlas, since ya have Phoenix, and he's our eyes in the sky, yer in charge of gettin' us where we need to be safely.

ATLAS

Good.

LUANA

That doesn't mean yer in charge.
Kalinda, yer in charge of trainin'
and protectin' me like the King said. As for when we get to Aysha and to Daray, I'll do the talkin'.

**ATLAS** 

Luana, ya don't have to do that.

LUANA

Aye I do. It's what me parents would have wanted. Plus, Feronia and King Elgin will only deal with members of me family. Now is everyone clear on their assignments?

ATLAS & KALINDA

Aye.

LUANA

Good. I need to grab some stuff for the trip.

KALINDA

Remember to only take that which is necessary.

Luana nods and disappears up the stairs.

ATLAS

Now that we are alone, I just wanted to tell ya that I don't trust ya. I know the King vouched for ya but I only trust people who have earned it. If ya let any harm come to Luana, ya will have to deal with me, Prince Kyros, and King Saxton. She's like a daughter to the King and a sister to the the King and a sister to the prince.

KALINDA

And what is she to ya?

ATLAS

That is none of yer concern. But just know that I've got me eye on ya. If she's harmed, I'll make sure yer thrown so deep in the dungeon, that ya never see the light of day again. Have I made meself clear?

Kalinda nods her head.

KALINDA

I promise ya, if I have to, I'll die protectin' that girl.

Enter Luana. She holds a small sack.

**ATLAS** 

Are ya ready?

LUANA

I just need to grab some of me mum's rare herbs.

Luana goes over to the cupboard, opens it, and removes herbs. She puts them in her sack.

KALINDA

I'll prepare the horses.

ATLAS

I'll help.

LUANA

I'll only be a few moments.

Luana continues to put the herbs in her bag. On the shelf she finds an old picture of her in the arms of her parents. They smile, wave, and hug a baby Luana tightly. A single tear streaks down her face.

KIRA (V.O.)

I'll always be with ya.

LUANA

Mum?

Atlas enters.

**ATLAS** 

No Luana, it's me Atlas. Are ya alright?

Luana quickly throws the picture in the sack.

LUANA

I'm fine.

ATLAS

Then why did ya say "Mum"?

LUANA

Because this cupboard is so disorganized, that I couldn't find what I was lookin' for. She always made me keep all of me stuff so perfect, but not hers.

ATLAS

I see. Well, our horses are ready.

LUANA

So am I.

Luana and Atlas walk out the door.

EXT. LUANA'S HOUSE - DAY

Luana walks over to a beautiful bay horse. She attaches the bag filled with her things to the saddle. Kalinda tightens the girth on her striking black Friesian steed. Luana puts her foot in the stirrup.

**ATLAS** 

Allow me.

LUANA

No. I can manage on me own.

Atlas looks shocked at Luana's response. Kalinda smirks.

**ATLAS** 

Okay then. Be me quest.

Luana pulls herself onto the horse.

LUANA

This is so much easier and more comfortable then ridin' Steve.

Luana trots her horse around. Kalinda laughs.

KALINDA

Have ya never ridden a horse before?

LUANA

I did when I was a very little girl. But, who needs a horse when ya have a flyin' dragon?

KALINDA

Good point.

Atlas looks annoyed.

ATLAS

If ya two ladies are done chit-chattin', we should be on our way. It's a three days ride to Aysha. We are racin' a tickin' clock.

(MORE)

ATLAS (CONT'D)
We still have to make it through
the Forest of Lost Souls. That will
be a battle within itself. Like
King Saxton said, we are their only
hope. We don't know when or where
the next attack will take place. I
for one aim to prevent it all
together. So let's go, shall we?

Kalinda quickly gets on her horse.

KALINDA He's right. We really should be on our way.

LUANA Okay Atlas, lead the way.

Atlas turns and gallops into the forest. Luana and Kalinda follow. Phoenix flies up above.

EXT. FOREST OF LOST SOULS - PATH - MIDNIGHT

Kalinda, Luana, and Atlas gallop along a thickly tree-lined path in the redwood forest. Phoenix is now flying under the tall dense canopy, trying to scout for enemies through the low-lying fog.

The trees have practically grown on top of each other. A large redwood, with an archway carved into its trunk, is right in the middle of the path.

"NAM QUI NOBIS PEREUNT" is carved on top of the redwood's large archway. Ivy grows up the redwood as well.

EXT. FOREST OF LOST SOULS - ARCHWAY - MIDNIGHT

Atlas stops, and puts his hand up to signal to the others to halt. Atlas WHISTLES. Phoenix comes and lands on his arm.

LUANA

Why are we stoppin'? And why does the archway say "For those who lost?"

**ATLAS** 

Because we are goin' to walk the horses from here. We need to be careful, and alert. Many predators live in this forest. This archway was made to warn others of the dangers that await them. Now, follow me and stay close.

As they walk through the archway Luana eyes its massive walls. Names are carved into it. Right in front of Luana's eyes a name begins to be magically carved into the wood.

LUANA Atlas! Kalinda! Look!

Luana points to the name that is being carved.

KALINDA

Someone must have just died. The archway is enchanted to record the names of all those who have died in the forest.

Suddenly, names start being carved everywhere.

LUANA

What's goin' on?

ATLAS

One of the villages must be under attack.

LUANA

Why are we wastin' time? Let's go help them.

KALINDA

Luana, it's too late. The battle will be long over by the time we get there.

LUANA

But we have to at least try and help.

KALINDA

That is not our mission.

LUANA

Mission? What do ya mean mission? These are lives we are talkin' about.

KALINDA

Aye, and if we do not stick to our plan, many more will die. Now hush. We don't need to draw any unwanted attention.

LUANA

Yer not me mum. Ya can't tell me what to do.

ATLAS

Luana, be quiet. Kalinda is right. Now let's go.

Luana scoffs.

LUANA

(sarcastically) Aye, sir!

ATLAS

I swear, sometimes ya can be such a child.

LUANA

I thought that was one of the things ya liked about me.

ATLAS

Not when it could get us killed.

KALINDA

Which it will do, if we don't keep movin'.

They continue on the path through the forest.

INT. FOREST OF LOST SOULS - CLEARING - AFTERNOON

There is a small clearing in the forest, with a river running through it. The sun and sky shows above.

Kalinda, Atlas, and Luana enter the clearing. Atlas WHISPERS in Phoenix's ear, and he takes off into the sky.

KALINDA

Atlas, I think we should stop here for the night. The horses need water. This is the perfect spot to begin trainin' Luana.

**ATLAS** 

That is the second time we have been on the same page today. I already sent Phoenix to go scout the area for any possible danger.

Kalinda nods. She then dismounts. Atlas goes to help Luana.

LUANA

I don't need yer help. I'm not a child! I'm the last in the Rolt line.

ATLAS

First off, I never said ya were a child. Second, I was just tryin' to be a gentleman. What's goin' on with ya?

Luana dismounts.

LUANA

It's just --

KALINDA

Luana! Yer wastin' time. Let's start yer trainin'!

LUANA

(under her breath) Thank the heavens.

**ATLAS** 

What was that?

LUANA

I said I have to go.

ATLAS

But we were just...

Luana walks away.

ATLAS (CONT'D) In the middle of somethin'.

(beat)
I guess I'll water the horses.

Atlas brings the horses over to the river and they begin to drink. Luana reaches Kalinda.

LUANA

So, what do we do first?

KALINDA

I need to get an understandin' of yer skill level. I want ya to come at me with everythin' you've got. Don't worry. I'll go easy on ya.

LUANA

Let me just get me bag. All of me herbs are in there.

KALINDA

Do ya think yer enemy is goin' to wait for ya to get yer herbs?

(beat)
Bein' unprepared can get ya killed.
Ya will have to fight me just as ya

LUANA

Globus ignis!

A fireball materializes in Luana's hand, and she throws it at Kalinda.

KALINDA

Globus aqua!

A ball of water materializes in Kalinda's hand. She throws it and it hits the fireball instantly and extinguishes it.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Good job tryin' to catch me by surprise, but you'll still have to do better than that.

(MORE)

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Let's see what kind of fencin' and sparrin' skills ya have.

LUANA

Me pa taught me well.

KALINDA

Let's just see about that.

Luana charges Kalinda with her sword. Kalinda strikes Luana's sword hard -- then punches Luana in the face.

LUANA

Hey! That hurt!

Luana gets up off the ground.

KALINDA

Good. It was supposed to. By chargin', ya left yerself vulnerable.

(beat)

Yer enemies will not play by the rules. Don't be afraid to break them yerself. This is not the fencin' that ya learn as a noble. This is war. We do whatever we have to do in order to protect ourselves and each other. One wrong move and that could be the end. Yer enemies will most likely have weapons, daggers, dirks, and cinquedeas. Be aware at all times. Never trust them. Never show them mercy. They won't show ya any. Let's go again.

Luana grabs her sword, and they fence again. Luana holds her own, until Kalinda sweeps her feet. Luana falls on the ground, and the sword gets knocked out of her hand. Kalinda holds her sword up to Luana's neck. Luana PANTS.

Kalinda helps Luana up, and they start to fence again. Luana knocks Kalinda's sword out of her hands. Kalinda cartwheels towards it. Luana charges. As Kalinda lands she picks up her sword, and pulls out her dagger.

She spins to the right as Luana charges, and Luana misses her. Kalinda however, manages to cut Luana on the arm that holds her sword. When Luana feels herself get cut, she stumbles forward and drops the sword.

Kalinda kicks her in the back, and Luana flies onto the ground. Kalinda stands next to Luana's head, and holds her sword up to Luana's neck.

KALINDA (CONT'D)
Do I need to tell ya were ya went wrong?

Luana uses her arm to sweep Kalinda's feet, and Kalinda crashes onto the ground. Luana stands up.

LUANA

No.

KALINDA

Well played. Ya used me confidence and lack of faith in yer ability to trick me.

LUANA

Thank ya.

Luana helps Kalinda up.

KALINDA

Now let's put down the swords. It's time to spar.

LUANA

Ya mean hittin' each other?

KALINDA

The banshees will turn yer friends against ya. Knockin' them unconscious might be the only way to save them from themselves.

(beat)

Now, let's see what you've got.

Luana tries to punch Kalinda. Kalinda ducks and punches Luana in the stomach. Luana hits the floor. She gasps for air.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Okay, on yer feet.

Kalinda reaches out her hand, and helps Luana up.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Why not let me make the first move this time. Let's see what happens.

Luana still GASPS for air. She puts her fists up. Kalinda comes in for a punch with her right. Luana blocks it and twists Kalinda's arm.

Luana then punches Kalinda with her left hand. Kalinda flies through the air. Luana approaches.

LUANA

Are ya alright?

Kalinda sweeps her leg behind Luana's legs, and Luana falls back with a hard THUD. Kalinda puts her hands on the floor behind her head and flips her body onto her feet. Kalinda reaches her hand out to Luana.

KALINDA

I thought I told ya not to show mercy?

Kalinda helps Luana up.

KALINDA (CONT'D)
Obviously, I'll have to start
trainin' ya as if ya have never
been trained. Now come.

Kalinda walks over to Atlas, grabs a large rope off of her horse, and then walks up the river. Luana follows.

EXT. FOREST OF LOST SOULS - RIVER - AFTERNOON

Kalinda and Luana arrive at the deepest part of the river. Kalinda ties the rope around one tree and then uses some rocks to cross to the other side of the river. She ties the rope around another tree, which makes a tightrope.

LUANA

(yells) What are yá doin'?

Kalinda dematerializes and appears in front of Luana.

KALINDA

Has anyone ever told ya about when I was an ambassador in the human realm?

LUANA

No.

KALINDA

Me very first mission was to go to the human realm and see if the humans had anythin' they could teach us. What I learned changed me life.

LUANA

What do ya mean?

Luana listens intently.

FLASHBACK - EXT. LONDON - STREETS - SUNSET

SUPER: "LONDON, ENGLAND"

Kalinda walks down the foggy streets of London.

KALINDA (V.O.)
I had to blend in with the humans. They say when they created the realm, they protected it from magic, so I had no way to protect meself.

She notices she is being followed by THREE MEN(30's). She turns down an alley.

KALINDA (V.O.) One day a group of men cornered me in what they call an alley.

EXT. ALLEY - SUNSET

The men follow her down the alley. The alley leads to a dead end so Kalinda turns around and tries to fight. They attack. Kalinda ends up on the ground. The men kick her.

KALINDA (V.O.)
I had no escape. I didn't know what
they wanted, but I knew I was in
danger. I tried to fight but I was
outnumbered.

She begins to lose consciousness, when another MAN(40) appears.

KALINDA (V.O.)
I was on the ground about to lose consciousness when another man appeared. He took the three of them down in no more than ten seconds. I remember seein' their bodies fall as I blacked out.

The three men are quickly pulled off of Kalinda. Through her tears of pain she can see as each one lands unconscious and bloodied on the ground. Luana loses consciousness.

INT. LONDON HOME - MORNING

Kalinda opens her eyes and she is in bed. The man who rescued her comes in with some food and water on a tray. The man smiles at Kalinda.

The two converse inaudibly.

When I woke up I was in this man's home. He was takin' care of me. A stranger! He told me about how he was beaten and almost killed for his wallet one day. He swore to himself he would never be a victim of violence ever again. He knew in order to do this he had to become as deadly as possible. So, he tracked down a ghost. A mercenary who hid himself in the jungles of a place called Africa. He told me how this mercenary taught him all the different styles of martial arts. The mercenary told him to only engage when absolutely necessary and only for noble reasons,

KALINDA (V.O.)

otherwise he would end up a ghost like him.

(MORE)

KALINDA (V.O.) (CONT'D) When this man saw me bein' attacked he knew he had to intervene. Later, when I was healthy enough, I asked this man if he would train me to fight like he did.

The man nods at Kalinda.

EXT. FOREST OF LOST SOULS - RIVER - AFTERNOON (BACK TO PRESENT)

KALINDA

So, I spent a fortnight studyin' with him. I became more deadly without magic then I am with it!

LUANA

Where does this tightrope fit in?

KALINDA

That's how he taught me and that's how I'll be teachin' ya. Soon ya will be able to do this.

Kalinda gets up on the rope and begins to fence while she balances. She moves back and forth gracefully. Kalinda throws her sword behind her and high up in the air.

She does a cartwheel followed by two back flips. Then she lands perfectly on the rope, catches her sword, takes a knife that she has hidden in her shoe, turns quickly and throws it over Luana's shoulder. She never once loses her balance.

The knife hits a tree just behind Luana.

LUANA

Ya missed.

KALINDA

Look more closely.

Luana looks at the tree and sees that the knife hit a small bug, pinned against the tree.

LUANA

Whoa, how did ya do that?

KALINDA

All in due time. I promise ya will be able to do everythin' that I do. First, we have to start with the roots. Do ya know what that means?

LUANA

Sure, ya have to begin at the bottom and work yer way up.

KALINDA

Aye partly. But think of a tree. What keeps the tree from fallin' over when a storm comes?

LUANA Oh, the roots.

KALINDA

Exactly! So, that is where we are startin'. Now, come on. Up on the rope. If ya fall, ya will hit water, so don't worry about hurtin' yerself.

## SERIES OF SHOTS

Luana gets up on the rope. She has trouble balancing and falls in the water.

Back on the rope -- she falls again.

After her third try she begins to get frustrated.

After her fifth try, she finally balances on the rope.

## BACK TO SCENE

KALINDA (CONT'D)
Now, I want ya to focus on yer
breathin'. Soon, ya will be able to
make corrections for the strength,
speed, and direction of the wind.
For now, I just want ya to breathe.
Ya must become one with yerself.
Then ya can become one with Mother
Nature.

LUANA Are ya sure about this?

KALINDA Do ya trust me?

LUANA

I don't know ya. King Saxton trusts ya, so that gives ya quite a bit of credibility.

KALINDA

Good answer. Just because someone that ya trust trusts another, doesn't always mean ya should. Especially in this day and age. (beat)

Now, I want ya to take a deep breath in. Concentrate only on yer breathin'. Feel the wind blow against yer body. What direction is it comin' from? Are there constant gusts of wind? Is it just a light breeze?

Luana has her eyes closed.

LUANA

It's a light breeze comin' from the east I think, but it's still throwin' off me balance. How does knowin' any of this help me?

KALINDA

By knowin' the wind, ya will be able to keep yer balance when others cannot. Ya will also be able to judge what is wind. All objects affect the wind. Whether they are a person, creature, fauna, flora, or even a rock.

**ATLAS** 

If she gets injured up there Kalinda, then ya will have to deal with me.

Kalinda rolls her eyes.

KALINDA

She'll be fine, Atlas. Besides, ya saw what happened last time ya tried to take me on. Do ya really want a repeat of that?

Atlas glares at Kalinda and CURSES under his breath.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Back to what I was sayin'. Knowin' how all of these things effect the wind can help ya adapt and make split second decisions that others cannot make. The wind will also be able to tell ya if enemies may be hidin' nearby or sneakin' up on ya. As I said before, all objects affect the wind.

(beat) Now, close yer eyes.

(beat)

When ya feel comfortable, I want ya to slowly start walkin' across the rope.

Luana closes her eyes. The wind picks up and the rope slowly starts to shake. Luana starts to fall, but she puts her arms out and regains her balance. The wind dies down and Luana walks across the rope.

KALINDA (CONT'D)
That's it Luana. Slow and steady. Focus on yer breathin'. With each step, feel the rope under yer feet before puttin' pressure on it.

Luana does as she is told. She makes it halfway across the rope. Then the wind picks up again. This time it is stronger. Luana loses her balance and falls in the water.

Kalinda chuckles quietly. Luana emerges from the water. She looks like a drowned rat.

# KALINDA (CONT'D)

# Again!

Luana gets up on the rope and walks to the middle again. She tries to quicken her pace, but trips over her foot and falls in the water. Atlas stands guard.

Atlas looks up in the sky and sees Phoenix on guard overhead. Atlas then looks behind him and sees Luana fall into the water for the third time. He chuckles.

Luana walks all the way across the rope. She jumps up and down in celebration.

#### SERIES OF SHOTS

Atlas, Kalinda, and Luana canter through the woods. Phoenix flies above them.

Atlas, Kalinda, Luana, and Phoenix fight a CYCLOPS. Kalinda kills him.

The rope is now tied between two trees only about two feet off the ground. Luana pretends to fence with someone. She goes for an attack, loses her balance and falls.

Kalinda teaches Luana how to flip, and cartwheel on the ground.

Luana fights a GOBLIN. Atlas and Kalinda watch. The goblin gets Luana on the ground. Atlas canters over and kills the goblin.

Kalinda and Luana are asleep by the fire. Atlas stands guard. Phoenix is fast asleep on a nearby branch.

Kalinda teaches Luana how to throw a knife with deadly precision. Kalinda hits her target. Luana misses hers. Atlas must quickly jump out of the knife's way.

Atlas, Kalinda, and Luana canter through the woods. Phoenix flies above. Mountains loom in the distance.

Atlas, Kalinda, Luana, and Phoenix fight a HELL HOUND. Atlas kills it.

Luana and Kalinda fence on the rope which is now three feet off the ground. Kalinda lunges, and touches Luana.

Luana practices her skills as she fences with Atlas, Kalinda observes.

Atlas, Kalinda, and Luana canter through a green valley. There are mountains on both sides. Phoenix flies above. Phoenix SCREECHES.

A HELL HOUND #2 jumps down from a mountain ledge. Atlas, Kalinda, Luana, and Phoenix fight the hell hound. Luana kills it. Kalinda nods her approval.

EXT. LAINA MEADOW - LAINA RIVER - DAY

As they move further into the valley, it opens up into a meadow. Kalinda and Luana fence on a rope that is four feet above another river. Kalinda attacks and Luana flips over her head. Kalinda lunges and Luana blocks.

Kalinda throws her sword up in the air, cartwheels backwards into a round off on the rope, and catches her sword. Right as she catches it a knife flies past her face and embeds itself into a tree.

Kalinda loses her balance. Luana kicks her as she wobbles. Kalinda falls into the river. Atlas begins to clap, and Phoenix SCREECHES in celebration.

Kalinda emerges from the river.

KALINDA

Very good Luana! Very good! Ya have come a long way in a short time. However, yer knife missed.

LUANA

I wasn't aimin' at ya.

KALINDA

What do ya mean?

LUANA

Look for yerself.

Kalinda gets out of the water.

Kalinda walks over to a tree on the riverbank. She looks closely.

A beetle is impaled to the tree.

KALINDA

Well, color me impressed.

Kalinda shows the beetle on the tip of the knife to Atlas.

Luana walks across the rope towards Atlas and Kalinda. Phoenix flies overhead.

LUANA

I sensed the shift in the wind, just as ya described. Everythin' was in slow motion. I realized that I could kill two birds with one stone, so to speak. By throwin' the knife, I could knock ya off balance and, at the same time, kill the beetle.

Luana flips down to the ground.

Atlas looks at Kalinda.

ATLAS

So, is she ready?

KALINDA

She's ready.

ATLAS

In that case... Luana, can I speak to ya alone?

KALINDA

I'll go find us somethin' to eat.

Kalinda walks off. Luana steps up to Atlas.

LUANA

Aye?

ATLAS

On behalf of ya finishin' yer trainin', I've a gift for ya.

Atlas walks over to the horses. Luana follows.

LUANA

Really, that wasn't necessary.

ATLAS

Aye, it was. Yer parents would be so proud of ya. So on behalf of them I wanted to give ya these.

Atlas pulls a golden sword with pink spinel and kunzite stones embedded in it.

LUANA

That's me pa's sword.

ATLAS

Aye it is. He would've wanted ya to have it. Now ya have a mighty hand to go with yer heavy heart.

Atlas hands Luana the sword.

LUANA

Thank ya, Atlas.

ATLAS

There is one more thing Luana. A long time ago yer mum gave me this locket in case the family should ever parish and ya were left alone.

Atlas hands her a golden locket with flowers engraved in it.

Atlas follows Luana to a large tree. Luana sits against it. She opens the locket and a fine gossamer mist starts to poor out. The mist takes the form of Kira.

ATLAS (CONT'D)
I'll give ya some space.

Atlas walks away as the mist continues to take shape.

LUANA

Mum?

KIRA

If ya have this locket that means that yer pa, brother, and I are no longer on the earthly plane. This leaves ya as the last in the Rolt bloodline. It's imperative that ya carry on the dragon whisperin' gene by marryin' a warlock. I know how much ya love Atlas, but the fate of our line and preventin' the extinction of the dragons is now yer duty. I'm so sorry, me darlin' daughter. I wish things could be different. I wish ya could marry whomever ya want. However, ya were born into privilege. With privilege comes responsibility. I know this is hard and that ya might feel like yer world is endin'... but just because we're no longer with ya doesn't mean we have abandoned ya. Remember that we love ya, and are so proud of ya. Don't forget to study yer spells!

The mist suddenly gets sucked back into the locket. Luana closes the locket. Then she puts it around her neck and cries.

#### EXT. LAINA MEADOW - NIGHT

Luana is asleep up against a large tree beside the meadow. Kalinda is asleep next to the fire and Phoenix is asleep on a nearby branch. There are rabbit and wild turkey carcasses on the ground by the fire. The fire CRACKLES as the wood burns.

The opalescent moon above looms large, and the millions of stars that dot the sky cast a haunting glow upon the fog in the meadow. The fire is extinguished.

A large hand goes over Kalinda's mouth. Through the darkness and fog can be discerned Atlas's muscular silhouette. Kalinda quickly wakes up, realizes it's Atlas, and gets up. Atlas then goes over to Luana and puts a hand over her mouth.

She wakes up with a start. Atlas manages to keep her quiet. When she realizes it's Atlas, Luana calms down.

Atlas points into the woods and starts to walk.

INT. WOODS - NIGHT

Kalinda and Luana follow him in.

LUANA

(whispers)
What's goin' on?

Atlas puts a finger up to his mouth.

**ATLAS** 

Shhhh!

As they move deeper into the woods, they begin to hear a haunting harmony of HUMMING. They move closer to the HUMMING and see from afar the GHOSTS OF MEN AND WOMEN (20-90) in single file as they glide over the ground.

Next to them are large orbs of fire that float and move with them. Next to the orbs are dead bodies of men, women, and children that also float. Some of the bodies have cuts that were obviously made by a sword. Their amulets are gone.

Atlas motions for Kalinda and Luana to continue to follow him and they do so. They follow the ghosts to what looks like an abandoned ivy-covered cemetery. Atlas, Kalinda, and Luana find a very large boulder to hide behind.

The trees in this area are very thick. The only light comes from the orbs of fire. They peek out from behind the boulder and see two shovels digging graves all on their own.

Once they finish one grave, the shovels move on to the next. The HUMMING gets louder. The three speak in WHISPERS.

LUANA

What's goin' on?

**ATLAS** 

I remember readin' about this in a very old book in the King's library. Apparently, there is an ancient ritual where the ancestors of certain villages will come down from heaven and help usher their dead loved ones into the afterlife. No one has seen it happen for a millennium. It became just a bedtime story after a while.

KALINDA

Well, obviously it's not a bedtime story.

The ghosts float the dead men and male children into their graves. The shovels start to pour dirt over their dead bodies. The other ghosts take the women and female children and throw them onto the pyre. The fire CRACKLES.

The HUMMING gets even louder and more haunting. The three continue to WHISPER...

LUANA

Why are they puttin' the males in graves and the females on the pyre?

ATLAS

The village must have been attacked by banshees. Only females can transform into banshees. The only way of preventin' it is to burn the bodies.

LUANA

Does that mean ya burned me mum's body?

Atlas lowers his head. The answer is written all over his face.

The pyre goes up in flames. It catches Atlas off guard. He jumps back and steps on a branch. The branch CRACKS loudly.

SILENCE falls over the ghosts. All at once, they turn their heads towards Atlas, Luana, and Kalinda. Then the ghosts vanish and the shovels fall.

Atlas, Luana, and Kalinda step out from behind the boulder.

LUANA (CONT'D) That was hauntin'ly beautiful.

ATLAS

Well, in a few minutes it won't smell so beautiful. We should really be on our way. Remember eyes open! Banshees could be near!

Atlas and Kalinda start to walk. Luana stays behind. Her eyes are transfixed on the pyre that CRACKLES loudly. A tear streams down her face.

EXT. KALIEN VALLEY - DAY

Luana, Atlas, and Kalinda gallop through a green valley with a small river that runs through it. Phoenix flies above. It is overcast.

There is a large mountain range that looms ahead. The peaks of the mountains are hidden by clouds. It begins to rain.

EXT. LENNOX FOREST - MORNING

Atlas, Kalinda, and Luana gallop through the thick forest. Phoenix flies under the tops of the trees. Ahead of them is a small village.

In between the trees are large bells that float. Hidden around the village are perches where men stand guard. GUARD #1(36) spots Atlas, Kalinda, Phoenix, and Luana. His eyes glow red. He turns towards the bells.

GUARD #1

Ventus.

The wind picks up. The bells start to RING loudly.

GUARD #1 (CONT'D)

(yells)
Arm yourselves!

Some VILLAGERS(20-50) run out with swords. Others are armed with bows and arrows. Their eyes glow red.

Atlas, Luana, Kalinda, and Phoenix get closer. A fireball flies by Luana's head and hits a tree. The fireball sets the tree on fire.

LUANA

What in the bloody hell?

VILLAGER #1(56) shoots an arrow in Atlas's direction.

VILLAGER #1

Death to the dragon whisperer!

The arrow almost hits Atlas.

KALINDA

Take cover!

Kalinda and Luana jump off their horses. Then Kalinda, Luana and Atlas take cover behind some large trees.

LUANA

Why are they attackin' us?

Atlas glances from behind the tree and sees Bayard and a group of banshees as they stand on the other side of the village.

**ATLAS** 

It's Bayard!

LUANA

What?

ATLAS

Bayard's on the other side of the village.

Luana looks.

LUANA

He's surrounded by banshees.

ATLAS

I have to get to him. I have to save him.

LUANA

That's suicide.

Atlas starts to move from behind the tree. He gets hit with an energy ball and flies through the air. Kalinda runs over to Atlas. VILLAGER #2(30) throws a fireball in Luana's direction.

VILLAGER #2

Don't let the dragon whisperer escape!

An arrow is shot from up in the trees. Luana spots the archer. She grabs one of her daggers and throws it as hard as she can. The dagger hits its target. He falls out of the tree and onto the ground. His amulet vanishes.

KALINDA

Put yer hands over yer ears.

LUANA

What?

KALINDA

Just do it!

Kalinda MUMBLES under her breath, stands up, and CLAPS her hands. The sound is amplified times a hundred. Everyone drops their weapons and grabs their ears in pain.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Now charge!

Luana, Atlas, and Kalinda charge the villagers.

KALINDA (CONT'D)
Remember they're innocents. If
possible try not to kill.

Luana flips over one person. As she lands she knocks him out with the pommel of her sword. She then punches a villager that's next to him and knocks him out.

It seems that Luana, Kalinda, and Atlas knock everyone they fight unconscious. Luana stops to take a breath as she looks at the unconscious bodies surrounding her.

One of the unconscious villagers behind Luana has his eyes glow red. He quietly stands up behind her. Luana turns her head and is punched so hard she falls to the ground and lands with a THUD.

The other unconscious villagers all rise and surround each one of them.

The villagers start to close in on Luana. At that exact moment a ROAR can be heard from above. It's Steve/Stevenel. He flies down to meet Luana.

LUANA

Steve!

Steve/Stevenel ROARS again. The villagers look up, see the dragon, and vanish into thin air. The banshees' spirit-like bodies dive into the ground. Bayard is the last to vanish.

His body disappears leaving only his glowing red eyes and a grin. Then they too disappear.

ATLAS

Bayard!

Steve/Stevenel lands.

LUANA

(in Dragonis; subtitled) Thank ya for the rescue.

Steve/Stevenel snuggles Luana with his head.

LUANA (CONT'D)

(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Steve, I'm so sorry about Ora and
Finley.

STEVE/STEVENEL (in Dragonis; subtitled)

Thank ya.

ATLAS

(to Kalinda)
Ya don't think that the bodies we
just saw, that had slashes made by
a sword, were done by Bayard, do
ya?

KALINDA

I don't know. If he did do it, it wasn't really him. The banshees are controllin' his mind. Remember that.

Atlas nods.

LUANA

(in Dragonis; subtitled) What are ya doin' here?

STEVE/STEVENEL

(in Dragonis; subtitled)
King Elgin sent me to help ya get
to Aysha.

LUANA

(in Dragonis; subtitled)
How will Atlas get there?

Just as the words escape Luana's mouth, another ROAR is heard. It is another dragon named KEAHI(59). He is orange, red and gold. He has a wooden box that hangs from around his neck that is large enough for two centaurs.

LUANA (CONT'D)
Question asked and answered.

Kalinda laughs as Keahi lands.

ATLAS
Ya don't think I'm goin' to get in that thing do ya? It's all rickety.

LUANA I don't think it, I know it.

KALINDA
Unless of course ya don't mind
offendin' the most powerful King,
and our only real ally in this war
against the banshees.

ATLAS Can't I just peridot in?

Aysha is protected from magic. That's why me pa and grandpa had to endure the rigors of travel and couldn't just peridot in.

ATLAS Aargh. Fine!

Atlas climbs into the wooden box. Kalinda then gets on Keahi's back, and Luana gets on Steve/Stevenel's back. Keahi and Steve/Stevenel fly off into the sky.

INT. HELZARIE - GREAT HALL - MOMENTS LATER

It is extremely overcast outside  $\--$  so the castle's as dark as if it were night.

There are three banshees in the deteriorated stone room. Banshee #1, Banshee #2, and the Queen Banshee.

The Queen Banshee is flying around the ceiling. Candles that float light up the room. Every time the light from the candles hit the banshees they shimmer.

The Queen Banshee SHRIEKS.

BANSHEE #1
We almost had her, your majesty, but then her dragon appeared. We did manage to capture more villagers.

QUEEN BANSHEE (angry; screams)
That's not good enough!

The Queen Banshee flies through Banshee #1's body. Banshee #1 SCREAMS as her body turns to dust. The Queen Banshee turns to Banshee #2.

QUEEN BANSHEE (CONT'D) Failure will not be tolerated!

BANSHEE #2 A-aye, your majesty.

QUEEN BANSHEE

Leave me.

BANSHEE #2 Aye, your majesty.

Banshee #2 turns and quickly flies out the door. The Queen Banshee SHRIEKS again, which causes the walls of the castle to shake.

#### EXT. NARIKO MOUNTAINS - DUSK

Atlas, Luana, Kalinda, Phoenix, Steve/Stevenel, and Keahi fly over the Khalida Forest. A large mountain range looms ahead. Only the bottom of the mountains can be seen. The peaks are so tall that the clouds obscure them from sight.

Keahi and Steve/Stevenel fly through the mountain range. They start to gain altitude. Ahead of them is the tallest mountain that any of them have ever seen. It is so tall, that it seems to touch the sun.

Keahi and Steve/Stevenel now fly above the clouds, and ahead of them is a sight unlike any other. The peak of the mountain has been turned into the largest castle any of them has ever seen. The castle is carved into the mountaintop itself.

The only way to enter the castle is to fly in through the drawbridge that hangs over a dangerous cliff. Dragons fly around the top of the mountain castle and keep guard. The castle is fortified by magic. It is an impenetrable fortress.

As the dragons approach, they begin to ROAR happily and quicken their pace. Steve/Stevenel lands on the drawbridge and it CREAKS. Luana looks down and sees the great fall below her.

LUANA Bloody hell!

Luana holds onto Steve/Stevenel more tightly. Steve/Stevenel enters the castle made from the mountain. Keahi then lands on the drawbridge and follows Steve/Stevenel into the mountain. The drawbridge goes up.

63.

## INT. AYSHA - DUSK

As Steve/Stevenel and Keahi walk through the castle's cave entrance, Luana, Kalinda, Phoenix, and Atlas look at the incredible sight before them. The cave has been hollowed out. Stone bricks make up the walls.

The cave is lit by fireballs in the shape of dragons as they fly. The ground is made of gold. Steve/Stevenel and Keahi come to the edge of the cave. It is at least one to three miles to the ground below.

Luana, Kalinda, Phoenix, and Atlas take in the view in front of them.

#### INT. AYSHA - GRAND THRONE ROOM - DUSK

The entire mountain has been hollowed out. The walls are made of stone. The walls have some windows that let light from the full moon outside pour in. The ground is made of white and yellow-gold spiraled together.

Luana looks down and notices that in the middle of the golden floor is an aqua river. On one side of the river is a large white and yellow gold platform, with jewels embedded on it.

King Elgin lies on the platform. He is the largest and oldest of the dragons.

Giant golden stalagmites protrude from the ground. Giant golden stalactites descend from the ceiling. Attached to some of the stalagmites and stalactites are huge platforms that are large enough to accommodate a dragon.

Some of the platforms do, indeed, have dragons asleep on them. Other dragons fly around the top of the mountain.

Their armor-like hide catches the light and shows all their beautiful colors. In the center of the mountain floats a fireball shaped like a dragon's head.

Steve/Stevenel, and Keahi step forward off the cliff and begin to descend towards the ground. Kalinda, Atlas, and Luana hold on for dear life.

# ATLAS Hooo-leee hell!

Finally, Steve/Stevenel and Keahi pull up. They begin to fly side by side inside the mountain. They circle the dragon's head fireball, and slowly descend to where King Elgin reclines.

On either side of King Elgin are two larger dragons TARIKA(76) and ZOLA(56). They are obviously his guards. Steve/Stevenel and Keahi land in front of King Elgin but behind the guards. Steve/Stevenel and Keahi bow their heads.

KING ELGIN (in Dragonis; subtitled)

Steve/Stevenel and Keahi rise. Luana and Kalinda get off Steve/Stevenel and Keahi's backs. Kalinda lets Atlas out of his wooden box.

ATLAS

Well that was the ride from hell.

Kalinda punches Atlas in the stomach. Atlas groans.

KALINDA Yer insultin' the King.

Atlas quickly quiets down. Luana has begun to make her way up to King Elgin. Tarika and Zola ROAR at her. Steve/Stevenel run forward and ROARS back.

> KING ELGIN (in Dragonis; subtitled)
> Down! All of you! She's an ally.

Tarika and Zola nod their heads and back off. Luana walks forward and kneels down in front of the King.

> KING ELGIN (CONT'D) Luana Rolt! It's so very nice to finally meet you! I just wish it wasn't under these circumstances. I can't believe how grown up you are. Please rise my child.

Luana does as she is told.

KING ELGIN (CONT'D) Your pa and grandpa used to talk about you all the time. I've even seen pictures of you, although none of them did you justice. They were so very proud of you.

LUANA

Thank ya for yer kind words, yer majesty.

KING ELGIN

They are not kind. They are fact. Your pa said you were his greatest accomplishment.

A tear streams down Luana's face.

KING ELGIN (CONT'D)
Oh dear! I didn't mean to upset you. Why don't we change the subject. Who have you brought with vou?

LUANA

Allow me to introduce Phoenix the Falcon.

Phoenix bows his head.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Atlas the Centaur.

Atlas bows.

LUANA (CONT'D)

And me mentor Kalinda.

Kalinda bows.

KING ELGIN

It's a pleasure to meet you all. Steve told me about the banshee attack. How might we be of service?

Luana steps forward.

LUANA

Yer majesty, King Saxton has given me the responsibility of bringin' these attacks to an end. The banshees killed me parents and other villagers. They also took men, women, and children. They abducted one person who is very close to me and the centaur behind me. I need to rescue those captive, and put a stop to the banshees once and for all. That is where ya come in. As ya know, banshees can only be killed by dragon fire.

KING ELGIN

Aye and nay. It's true that banshees can only be killed by dragon fire. But the easiest way to kill all the banshees is if the Queen Banshee is killed. The others will die along with her because they are all telepathically linked.

LUANA

Really?

KING ELGIN

Aye, but it's almost impossible to kill the queen. Wherever she is, she's usually surrounded by almost a thousand banshees.

(beat)
Why don't you and your friends stay
the night in the cottage, or what
we call a cottage. I had it made
for your pa and grandpa. This will
give us time to form a plan that
might give us a fightin' chance.

LUANA Thank ya yer majesty.

King Elgin nods. A BAT suddenly awakens from above and flies out of one of the windows.

KING ELGIN
(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Stevenel, take them to the cottage.

Steve/Stevenel nods. He then turns around and begins to walk.

LUANA

Yer majesty, just one thing before we depart. We are bein' hunted. I would hate to jeopardize yer safety by stayin' here.

KING ELGIN
Not to worry Luana Rolt. Aysha is
the safest place you could possibly
be. No creature, no matter how
powerful, would ever step foot on
our land without an invitation. If
they do, they are met with a quick
death. In fact, if your friends
hadn't been with you, then they
would have had the same fate. Now,
Steve will take you all to the
cottage so you can rest. I'll send
Keahi out to get some food.

LUANA
Aye yer majesty. Thank ya once
again for yer protection,
hospitality, and understandin'.

King Elgin nods. Luana then turns around, and follows Kalinda, Atlas, Phoenix, and Steve/Stevenel through the giant gold and stone cavern. As they pass the stalagmites, dragons lift their heads to see the visitors walk by.

There are dragons of all sizes. Baby dragons wrestle each other on the ground. Steve/Stevenel ROARS at them, and they scurry away.

INT. AYSHA - CAVE - NIGHT

Steve/Stevenel leads them into a cave. Once they enter they cannot believe their eyes. In front of them is an exact replica of Luana's home back in Gershwig.

INT. AYSHA - COTTAGE - NIGHT

Everyone but Steve/Stevenel enters the cottage. Steve/ Stevenel only pokes his head through the door. Every detail in the cottage is the same. From the pictures, to the furniture, to the stone, and the fireplace. It is all identical. There are even stairs that go up to a second story where the bedrooms are.

LUANA

Holy hell in a handbasket!

Atlas laughs.

LUANA (CONT'D)

This is me parents' house to a tee!

Luana picks up a bowl and looks at it.

LUANA (CONT'D) To the very last detail.

STEVE/STEVENEL

(in Dragonis; subtitled)
King Elgin wanted to duplicate yer house so that ya and yer family feel at home here.

LUANA

(in Dragonis; subtitled)

Thank ya!

Steve/Stevenel nods, and leaves.

INT. HELZARIE - GREAT HALL - NIGHT

The Queen Banshee is alone in the great hall. She stares out of the window. A bat flies in.

He morphs into an ugly man in black robes named TALEN(40). He wears a silver and red alexandrite amulet.

The Queen continues to stare out the window. She acts as if Talen isn't even there. The Queen Banshee quickly turns and flies at Talen. She stops an inch away from his face. The Queen SNARLS at Talen.

QUEEN BANSHEE

(raspy)

You better have something for me.

TALEN

(stutters)

A-a-aye yer m-majesty. The dragon whisperer has reached Aysha and King Elgin. It appears he will be helpin' her in the fight. He also told Luana that killin' ya would kill all the banshees.

The Queen Banshee SHRIEKS into Talen's face. Her mouth is opened so wide that you can see all her teeth, especially her fangs. Talen takes a step back.

Talen shakes in fear, and when the Queen has her back to him, he transforms into a bat. He then quickly flies back out the window. The Queen Banshee looks out another window.

QUEEN BANSHEE

(whispers)
Have fun while you still can,
dragon whisperer. For soon you will
know nothing but agony.

The Queen Banshee laughs wickedly.

INT. AYSHA - COTTAGE - LATER

Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, and Phoenix are gathered around the fireplace. A ROAR is heard outside. Luana opens the door and Steve/Stevenel stands outside.

LUANA

Steve?

STEVE/STEVENEL (in Dragonis; subtitled)

Dinner is served.

LUANA

(in Dragonis; subtitled)

Luana turns back towards Atlas, Kalinda, and Phoenix.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Come on everyone. It's time to eat.

ATLAS

I could really go for a good meal right now. I'm sick of eatin' rabbits, and whatever else we find along the way.

KALINDA

Yeah, me too.

Atlas WHISTLES at Phoenix and he flies out of the cottage. Atlas, Kalinda, and then Luana follow.

INT. AYSHA - CAVE - NIGHT

Steve/Stevenel looks at Luana.

STEVE/STEVENEL

(in Dragonis; subtitled)

Follow me.

Luana nods and looks back at the others.

LUANA

Follow me and Steve.

Kalinda and Atlas nod and follow Steve/Stevenel and Luana into another large cavern. Phoenix flies alongside Atlas.

INT. AYSHA - DINING ROOM CAVERN - NIGHT

Steve/Stevenel, Luana, Kalinda, Phoenix, and Atlas enter an enormous cavern. The walls of the cavern have been bewitched to look like orange/red fire.

The ground is made of yellow gold. In the middle of the cavern there is a very long table and chairs made of fire that are cool to the touch. Luana looks around.

LUANA

This dinin' room is breathtakin'!

King Elgin enters.

KING ELGIN
Why thank you Luana. As they say in
the human realm, "There is no place
like home". Now, all of you please
be seated. Keahi, Tarika, and Zola
should be bringing in your food any
minute.

Right on cue Keahi, Tarika, and Zola enter the cavern. One has a dead mountain goat in his mouth, one has a dead sheep, and Keahi has a dead cow in his mouth. They fly above the table and place the dead animals on the table of fire.

KING ELGIN (CONT'D) (to Keahi, Tarika, & Zola) Abrigeda.

All three of the dragons nod and bow their heads. Then Steve/Stevenel, Keahi, Tarika, and Zola post themselves along the cavern walls to stand guard.

KING ELGIN (CONT'D) How do you like your meat?

LUANA, KALINDA, & ATLAS

Cooked!

They all look at each other and laugh. King Elgin puffs up his chest and breathes out a blue/orange fire.

As soon as the fire leaves his mouth, it surrounds the animal carcasses, takes their shape, and cooks them.

After a moment, King Elgin puffs up his chest again. As he exhales, a cold wind passes over the carcasses. This puts out the flames.

KING ELGIN
Atlas, will you do the honors?

ATLAS
It would be me pleasure, yer majesty.

Atlas grabs a knife from his vest, and stabs it into the cow. The meat is perfectly cooked. He serves everyone portions of the cow, then the goat, and then the sheep.

When he approaches the King in order to serve him, the King shakes his head.

KING ELGIN
Thank you Atlas, but I've already
eaten. Please eat.

Atlas walks in front of his plate. Kalinda, Atlas, Phoenix, and Luana begin to eat.

INT. AYSHA - DINING ROOM CAVERN - LATER

Kalinda, Atlas, Phoenix, and Luana are all done and have pushed their plates away from them.

LUANA
I haven't eaten like that in a while.

ATLAS Damn! I'm stuffed.

KALINDA Atlas! Language! But I too feel like I'm goin' to explode.

King Elgin laughs.

KING ELGIN
Good. I'm glad you all feel well
nourished. Now we must talk about
your plan.

LUANA
I've been thinkin' about that.
First, King Saxton and his men need to be picked up in Gershwig and brought to the outskirts of Helzarie. If ya could have yer dragons transport them, I would be eternally grateful.

KING ELGIN
Of course. Is that your plan?

LUANA
No. We use the dragons as a
distraction so that we can enter
the castle without the banshees
bein' aware. While ya all are
attackin' them, we could free their
prisoners.

KING ELGIN
That still doesn't eliminate the threat. The Queen Banshee will just turn more women. She must be killed. If you eliminate her, you will never have to worry about the banshees again.

LUANA How do ya propose we do that?

KING ELGIN
At all costs, she will keep herself
protected in the castle. She knows
Helzarie Castle is too small for
dragons to enter.

LUANA So what shall I do?

KING ELGIN
I don't have the answer for you. I
know someone who does... Feronia.

LUANA, KALINDA, & ATLAS Feronia?

KING ELGIN
She's older than I am. She has more knowledge then you know. I suggest you go to her.
 (beat)
But first you will need a gift for her.

LUANA What kind of gift?

KING ELGIN
One she has wanted for some time now.
(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Keahi bring me an ax.

KEAHI
(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Your majesty, please let me be the one to give them the gift.

KING ELGIN (in Dragonis; subtitled)
No! It must be mine.

(in Dragonis; subtitled)
But your majesty...

KING ELGIN (in Dragonis; subtitled) Now, Keahi.

Keahi nods and leaves the cavern.

LUANA

Why was Keahi protestin'? Why did he ask if he could give the gift?

KING ELGIN
As you already know Feronia lives on dragon's blood. What you don't know is that royal dragon's blood is more powerful and lasts longer then blood from your typical dragon. She has been yearning for royal dragon's blood for centuries.

LUANA

Is that the gift? Some royal blood?

Keahi enters with a large ax in his mouth.

KING ELGIN
Atlas, if you'll please do me a
favor and cut off my tail?

ATLAS

Aye, yer majesty.

Keahi drops the ax. Atlas picks it up. He walks over to King Elgin and raises his ax.

LUANA

Wait! Yer majesty I must protest. There must be another way.

KING ELGIN Relax child! It'll grow back.

King Elgin chuckles.

KING ELGIN (CONT'D)
Besides, there is no other way. If
you want to beat the banshees, then
you will need Feronia's help. She
will only help you if you bring her
this gift. Whatever you do, do not
insult or upset her!

(beat)

(beat)

You may proceed, Atlas.

Luana looks away. Atlas raises his ax again and brings it down on King Elĝin's tail. King Elgin lets out a ROAR.

ATLAS

Sana!

As a result of the spell, King Elgin's wound closes. Atlas hands the tail to Kalinda and Luana.

KING ELGIN

Thank you Atlas. That feels better. You might want to do the same to the tail, so that you don't lose any of the blood.

ATLAS

(nods)

Sana!

The wound on the tail closes as well.

KING ELGIN

I must retire. Stevenel will show you back to the cottage where you can get a good night's sleep. Tomorrow I'll have Stevenel and Keahi fly you to Daray.

LUANA

Thank ya yer majesty. Sleep well.

KING ELGIN

You as well, Luana Rolt.

King Elgin walks through one gold and stone cave, while Atlas, Luana, Kalinda, and Phoenix follow Steve/Stevenel and Keahi through another.

EXT. AYSHA - DAWN

Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, Phoenix, Keahi, Steve/Stevenel, and King Elgin are at the drawbridge that leads in and out of Aysha. Kalinda helps Atlas get into the wooden box that hangs from Keahi's neck.

KING ELGIN

As soon as you get to Daray please send Steve and Keahi back, so that I'll know that you've arrived. Once they return, we can retrieve King Saxton and those he has chosen to fight.

LUANA

Aye, yer majesty.

KING ELGIN

When you get to Aldon Mountain, there is a hidden entrance on the north side of the mountain.

LUANA

How will I find it?

KING ELGIN

Take this.

King Elgin nods at Zola, who brings over a stick in his mouth. He then drops it in Luana's outstretched hand.

LUANA

A stick? How is a stick goin' to help me find the entrance.

KING ELGIN
The stick is a key. It has been enchanted to lead only members of the Rolt clan to the entrance. Once you arrive at Aldon Mountain, the key will awaken and guide you to the entrance.

Luana mounts Steve/Stevenel's back. Kalinda gets on Keahi's after she helps Atlas get into the box around Keahi's neck.

KING ELGIN (CONT'D)
In two days time, we'll meet you on
the outskirts of Helzarie at the
edge of the Renshaw Forest. If we
are late, wait for us. Do not
attempt to engage the enemy on your
own.

LUANA Aye, yer majesty.

KING ELGIN

And Luana?

LUANA

Aye?

KING ELGIN
Please be safe. Don't get yourself
killed! All of our futures are
riding on you. If you don't succeed
both of our kingdoms are doomed!

LUANA (to herself)
No pressure there.

KING ELGIN

What was that?

LUANA

I said, look at Feathers over there.

Luana quickly points at Phoenix. He happens to be annoying Atlas. King Elgin laughs.

KING ELGIN

Well then, I think you're ready.

LUANA

Thank ya for yer kindness, yer majesty.

KING ELGIN

No, thank you, Luana Rolt. For all you've done, are doing, and will do. The dragons will always be in your family's debt.

(beat)

Now off you go.

Luana nods.

LUANA

(in Dragonis; subtitled)

Steve, fly.

Steve/Stevenel flaps his enormous wings, runs, and flies off the drawbridge.

Luana and Steve/Stevenel disappear from sight. A moment later, Steve/Stevenel and Luana hovers about thirty feet from the drawbridge.

Keahi flaps his even bigger wings. He runs, and jumps off the drawbridge -- which CREAKS as he does so. Phoenix follows.

EXT. SKY - DAWN

Kalinda and Atlas hold on for dear life, as Keahi dives straight down towards the rocky terrain below...

ATLAS

(screams) I hate this!

KALINDA

(screams)

Woooo!

Keahi finally levels himself out and flies over to Steve/Stevenel. Atlas looks green, like he's about to be sick. Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, Phoenix, Steve/Stevenel, and Keahi fly off, and disappear into the clouds.

EXT. SKY - SUNSET

Keahi, Phoenix, and Steve/Stevenel begin their descent. In front of them is Aldon Mountain. The terrain, which surrounds the active volcano where Feronia lives, is all lava rock.

The mountain is barren. However, far in the distance, there is the lush Aldon Forest.

EXT. ALDON MOUNTAIN - SUNSET

Steve/Stevenel and Keahi land gracefully on the lava rock covered ground. Luana and Kalinda get off the dragons' backs and let Atlas out of his wooden box. He looks as if he is about to be sick.

LUANA

Are ya okay?

Atlas bends over and vomits on Kalinda's shoes.

KALINDA

Thanks for that.

ATLAS

I'm sorry.

Atlas wipes off his mouth and stands up. He puts his arm out and Phoenix lands on it. Kalinda removes King Elgin's tail from Keahi's back.

KALINDA

Minor.

The tail's size shrinks. Two people could now carry it.

LUANA

(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Thank ya Steve and Keahi. We're
good. Ya can return to King Elgin.

Steve/Stevenel nods, nuzzles Luana, and then he and Keahi fly off into the sunset. They quickly disappear from sight. Luana pulls the stick out of her bag.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Now, where is this entrance.

Suddenly the regular old wooden stick becomes a golden rod with a tiny key at the end. It begins to float.

Atlas, Kalinda, Luana, and Phoenix stare, fascinated. The stick moves around the mountain to the north side.

Atlas, Luana, Kalinda, and Phoenix follow. Kalinda and Atlas carry King Elgin's tail. The golden rod stops and they arrive at several enormous boulders pressed up against the mountain.

LUANA (CONT'D)

This is the entrance?

KALINDA

Why isn't the key openin' the secret door?

ATLAS

Maybe it needs Luana's touch?

Luana takes hold of the golden rod. It doesn't move.

LUANA

What now?

ATLAS

Didn't King Elgin say it would only lead members of the Rolt clan to the entrance?

LUANA

Aye. I'm a Rolt, so why isn't it workin'?

ATLAS

Maybe it needs proof yer indeed a Rolt.

KALINDA

Proof?

ATLAS

Here Luana, give me yer hand.

Atlas puts his half of the dragon tail down.

LUANA

Why? What are ya goin' to do?

ATLAS

Ya trust me, don't ya?

Luana nods.

ATLAS (CONT'D) Then give me yer hand.

Luana reaches out her hand. Atlas abruptly cuts it with a knife he had hidden in his vest.

LUANA

(yells)
Ow! Ya wanker! What in the bloody hell was that?

**ATLAS** 

Before ya yell at me, will ya please try pressin' yer wound onto the rod?

Luana rolls her eyes.

LUANA

Fine.

Luana puts her cut hand on the rod. In a flash, it flies towards the boulders, and embeds itself into a hole almost invisible to the naked eye. With Luana's blood still all over the golden rod, it begins to turn on its own.

The boulders shake. The biggest boulder breaks in half with a CRACK. The two halves shake as they move aside -- revealing a cave.

KALINDA

Well, that was cool.

LUANA

This must be the entrance. Follow me.

**ATLAS** 

Wait!

Atlas puts a hand in front of Luana in an attempt to keep her from going in.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

It might be booby-trapped.

Atlas draws an arrow from his quiver and shoots it into the cave. The arrow is incinerated by a fire ball. IGNIS AMBULARE #2(32) steps forward from the cave.

His arm is outstretched as he throws another fireball. Kalinda ducks. It goes straight over her head and hits a rock.

INT. ALDON MOUNTAIN - SUNSET

Luana rapidly moves into the cave.

LUANA

Wait! Wait! I'm Luana Rolt. Daughter of Edan Rolt and granddaughter of Kane Rolt.

Ignis Ambulare #2 sniffs the air.

IGNIS AMBULARE #2 I can smell yer Rolt blood. Where is Edan?

LUANA

Killed by banshees. I'm the last in the Rolt line and I've brought Feronia a gift.

Luana points at Kalinda, who shows Ignis Ambulare #2 the King's tail. He sniffs -- a smile spreads over his face.

IGNIS AMBULARE #2
Ah, a royal tail. Feronia will be most pleased. Follow me and only step where I step.

KALINDA

What if we accidentally don't step where ya step?

IGNIS AMBULARE #2
Then ya will die painfully in one of Feronia's many traps.

Ignis Ambulare #2 walks into the cave followed by Luana and Phoenix. Kalinda and Atlas bring up the rear. They carry King Elgin's tail.

INT. VEROTE CAVES - NIGHT

The caves have a very narrow stone walkway. On either side of the walkway there is bubbling hot lava. The ceiling of the caves is made of red/orange flames. The sides are made of blue/purple flames.

BANG! Fireballs fly out of the walls as soon as they set foot into the cave. This startles Luana. She almost falls over the side but Kalinda pulls her back.

Ignis Ambulare #2 puts his arms forward, and then out to the sides, as if he is doing the breaststroke. The fireballs freeze in midair.

Luana catches her breath. Ignis Ambulare #2 looks back at her. Then he walks again.

LUANA

Well, he has a winnin' personality.

Kalinda and Atlas laugh. They then continue to follow Ignis Ambulare #2.

INT. FERONIA'S LAIR - NIGHT

Ignis Ambulare #2 leads Luana, Kalinda, Phoenix, and Atlas into Feronia's lair. There is a big wooden cage, suspended above bubbling lava.

There are cages of all sizes that hang from the sides of the volcano. There is a hole at the top of the volcano large enough for a dragon to get through.

There are arched pathways around the lava and stairs on all sides of the active volcano. There are Ignis Ambulare standing on the pathways.

IGNIS AMBULARE #2

Wait here.

Ignis Ambulare #2 walks over one of the arched pathways to where other Ignis Ambulare have gathered. He MUMBLES something to them. Then they all look up and stare at Luana.

IGNIS AMBULARE #3(50) runs from the group into a nearby cave. Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, and Phoenix all look at each other. Ignis Ambulare #2 walks back over to Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, and Phoenix.

IGNIS AMBULARE #2 (CONT'D)
I'll take that.

Ignis Ambulare #2 motions for Kalinda and Atlas to hand over King Elgin's tail. Luana grabs one end of the tail from Kalinda.

LUANA Actually, I'll be presentin' it to Feronia.

IGNIS AMBULARE #2 Like hell ya will!

Luana holds her half of the tail over the bubbling lava. Atlas follows her lead and does the same with his half.

LUANA

Unless ya want me to drop the tail in this lava, I would suggest ya allow me to present it to Feronia meself.

ATLAS

She does have slippery fingers.

Luana lets the tail drop a little.

IGNIS AMBULARE #2

No, don't!

LUANA

It's gettin' very heavy!

Feronia appears with Ignis Ambulare #3. As she walks past each one, the Ignis Ambulare stand at attention. Feronia looks over at Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, and Phoenix.

**FERONIA** 

(in Latin; subtitled)

Let them pass!

Ignis Ambulare #2's eyes start to glow. He steps aside as if he is in a trance. Luana and Atlas step a bit forward. They keep their halves of the large tail behind their backs. Everyone tries not to tremble at the site of Feronia.

The tail is still suspended over the lava, and still hidden by Atlas and Luana's bodies.

LUANA

(in Latin; subtitled)
Feronia, I'm Luana Rolt.
Granddaughter of Kane Rolt, and daughter of Edan Rolt.

FERONIA

I've been trying to learn proper English, so please use it. (beat)

Now, where is your father?

Feronia's eyes begin to glow, as she sniffs the air.

LUANA

Me pa, me mum, and unborn brother were killed by banshees.

FERONIA

I'm sorry young Rolt. He was a good man.

(beat)

Do I smell royal dragon's blood?

LUANA

Hopin' for the help of the dragons, we went to Aysha. We spoke with King Elgin himself.

(MORE)

LUANA (CONT'D)
He said ya could help us, and he
gave us this, in hopes that ya
would agree. It's a token of his gratitude.

Luana and Atlas reveal the large tail.

FERONIA

It's so small.

LUANA

(in Latin; subtitled)

Enlarge!

The tail grows in size. A big smile spreads across Feronia's face. She bends down and licks the dragon's tail. Luana, Kalinda, and Atlas look away. Feronia stands, and licks her lips.

FERONIA

It's authentic. I've been wanting royal dragon's blood for centuries.

(beat)
I'll help you, young Rolt, but only after you've proven yourself worthy of my gift.

LUANA

What does that mean? I brought ya the rarest gift in the realm.

FERONIA

The gift was much appreciated but I will not involve myself in your squabbles. At least not until you have proven yourself worthy of it. (beat)

Why does the King offer the dragon tail now? What's in it for him?

LUANA

He wants me to defeat the banshees. If they kill me, I'm the last in me bloodline. There are no more dragon whisperers after me. Which means, soon after I die, ya will no longer have access to the blood ya need to appropriate which it is unlocked to the state of th survive. That is, unless ya take it by force. This would cost many innocents their lives. Nobody wants that. Plus, once ya slaughter all the dragons there will be nothin' that can stop the banshees. They'll literally bleed this world dry!

Feronia waves her hand and a three-headed, fire demon appears. It begins to grow in size, right in front of them.

FERONIA

If you can kill this demon, I will help you.

(MORE)

FERONIA (CONT'D)
Then your grandfather's and
father's promise to me will become
yours. I will be expectin' you to
keep it just as they did.

The demon is now the size of a house. Luana, Atlas, and Kalinda try to move forward but Atlas's and Kalinda's feet are stuck to the floor.

FERONIA (CONT'D) Only the Rolt!

Luana looks back at Kalinda.

KALINDA (mouthing)
Go for the eyes.

Luana looks at the demon, which begins to move towards her. She begins to shake. Luana looks back at Kalinda once more.

KALINDA (CONT'D)
 (mouthing)
Ya can do this.

Luana's shakiness stops. She feels the daggers she has on the side of her body. She grabs one. The second the demon charges her, she hurls the dagger and hits him right in one of his six eyes.

The eye bleeds. Luana throws two more daggers. They hit him in two more eyes. The demon SCREAMS in pain.

Luana runs across one of the bridges. She gains speed as the demon chases her. She runs up the cavern wall and flips over one of the demons' heads.

Luana throws two more daggers while in the air. One hits the demon in one of his uninjured eyes, and the other one misses its target.

Luana is out of daggers. The demon is still alive and enraged. The demon continues to chase her.

ATLAS (screaming) Stop this!

Feronia moves her hand slightly and Atlas can no longer speak.

As the demon has Luana cornered up on the cavern wall, he grins, and charges.

KIRA (V.O.)
Remember Luana, the only way to kill a fire demon is with the power of the water nymphs.

LUANA

(in Latin; subtitled)
At this time and in this hour, I call upon the ancient power. Water nymphs come fly to me. Help us protect others from the banshees.

Beautiful blue balls of light fly into Feronia's lair through the hole in the top of the cavern. Balls of light surround the fire demon. They brighten to a blinding bright light.

A SCREAM is heard, and then there is an EXPLOSION. The fire demon is dead. Only scorch marks remain. The balls of light fly out the same way they flew in.

Luana tries to catch her breath.

FERONIA

Well done! (beat)

Now, come along. Follow me.

Feronia looks at Ignis Ambulare #2 and Ignis Ambulare #3

FERONIA (CONT'D) (in Latin; subtitled) Bring the tail.

Ignis Ambulare #2 and Ignis Ambulare #3 nod, pick up the tail, and begin to follow Feronia. They are followed by Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, and Phoenix.

Feronia and a couple of Ignis Ambulare lead them over one of the paths on the opposite side of the caldera, and to a cave entrance.

INT. FERONIA'S LAIR - CAVE - NIGHT

The ceiling is gold inlaid with orange, yellow, and blue gems. It all looks like a large flame. The ground looks like it is on fire.

Feronia leads everyone to the entrance of another large cave. This one has golden doors, encrusted with jeweled flames. Feronia waves her hand and the doors slide open.

INT. FERONIA'S LAIR - APOTHECARY - NIGHT

It is dark but not pitch black. The Ignis Ambulare walk through the bubbling lava that makes up the apothecary floor.

FERONIA

Wait here.

Feronia follows the Ignis Ambulare. Luana stops, as does Kalinda. Atlas looks around and accidentally bumps into Kalinda. Kalinda then bumps into Luana.

Luana almost falls into the bubbling lava again, but Kalinda grabs her in time to pull her back.

LUANA

Thanks.

Luana shoots Atlas a dirty look.

KALINDA

We can't lose ya now. King Saxton would have me head.

LUANA

(sarcastically)
Nice to know ya weren't only
thinkin' of yerself.

Kalinda laughs, and SLAPS Luana on the back.

LUANA (CONT'D)

(mouths)

Ow!

Atlas leans forward.

ATLAS

(whispers)
Show some respect ya two.

KALINDA

(whispers intensely)
Respect? Yer the one who pushed me.

ATLAS

(whispers)
It doesn't matter who pushed who.
What matters is that I don't trust
Feronia farther than I can throw
her. Eyes open and mouths shut.
Hopefully we get out of here alive.

KALINDA

I can't see a thing.

A SNAP can be heard from Feronia's direction. Millions of floating, twinkling stars light up the apothecary. Along the walls there are hundreds of tiny bottles that float filled with herbs and different tinctures.

There is also a long flat silver table coming out of the back wall. Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, and Phoenix look around in wonder. Feronia reaches the back wall.

Feronia grabs an empty bottle. She then fills it with different herbs and liquids. For the final touch, Feronia cuts open the dragon tail a little and a few drops of blood drip into the bottle.

POOF! Steam rises. The bottle bubbles. Feronia then sticks her finger inside the tail, takes it out and licks it. Luana, Kalinda, Atlas, and Phoenix try not to look disgusted.

Feronia turns around with the bottle and walks through the lava, back towards Luana. Feronia arrives at the entrance to the apothecary. She hands the bubbly, steamy bottle to Luana.

FERONIA

Drink.

LUANA

Excuse me?

FERONIA

Drink this. It's my gift to you, for bringing me King Elgin's tail.

Luana hesitates.

FERONIA (CONT'D)

Why aren't you drinking?!

Luana looks back at Atlas and Kalinda, who look concerned. She then looks back at Feronia.

KING ELGIN (V.O.)
If you want to beat the banshees,
then you will need Feronia's help.
She will only help you if you bring
her this gift. Whatever you do, do
not insult or upset her.

Feronia continues to stare at Luana intensely, and study her every move.

FERONIA

(becoming angry)
Do you not like my gift?

LUANA

No, I love it. I just feel bad that I'm the only one here to receive it. After all, a gift from ya is rare. It's the greatest gift of all.

Feronia smirks.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Bottoms up!

Luana drinks the potion in the bottle. She begins to float, as a half blue/purple, and half orange/red fire surrounds her. The fire enters through Luana's nose, and exits through her mouth.

Flames are visible in her pupils. Even though her eyes are open, she appears to be unconscious.

Her body is lifeless. Atlas and Kalinda exchange glances. They try to grab Luana. The second they move to touch her,  ${\tt BANG}$ , an explosion occurs.

INT. FERONIA'S LAIR - CAVE - NIGHT

Atlas, Kalinda, and Phoenix are knocked off their feet far back into the cave. They are disoriented. Quickly they get to their feet. They run back to Feronia's apothecary.

INT. FERONIA'S LAIR - APOTHECARY - NIGHT

Atlas, Kalinda, and Phoenix arrive back at the entrance to the apothecary. The Ignis Ambulare stands in front of them, and block them from Luana.

ATLAS

(yells)
Get out of me way.

The Ignis Ambulare don't move. Feronia floats up to Luana and puts a hand on either side of her head. Luana screams. The flames get even brighter and engulf the both of them.

KALINDA

(yells) Stop it! Yér hurtin' her! Let her

Atlas and Kalinda are powerless against Feronia. Luana stops and is quiet and unconscious once more. Feronia floats back down into the lava. The flames that engulf Luana slowly vanish.

Luana floats towards Kalinda, Phoenix, and Atlas. The Ignis Ambulare step aside as her body begins to lower itself to the floor at the entrance to the apothecary.

Atlas grabs her unconscious body when it floats to him, and he brings it down to the floor. Atlas holds Luana.

**ATLAS** 

What did ya do to her?

FERONIA

Exactly what I said I was going to do. I gave her a gift. She now has the heart of a dragon. Luana can no longer be controlled telepathically by the banshees.

Kalinda bends over Luana's lifeless body.

KALINDA

Why is she still unconscious? What game are ya playin'?

FERONIA

I promise you, she will awaken in a few minutes. (beat)

She'll be fine.

Atlas hands Luana to Kalinda.

ATLAS

If she isn't I swear to the heavens T'll...

Atlas gets up and lunges at Feronia. He almost falls into the bubbling lava. Feronia waves her hand -- Atlas flies into the cave wall. Rocks crackle down from the cave walls.

FERONIA

You'll what, centaur? You have no power over me. In fact, the only reason I've tolerated you both this long is because of the young Rolt. Now take her and go... before I change my mind and keep you all as pets in my cages.

Atlas gets up quickly. The Ignis Ambulare start to move towards Kalinda, Atlas, Luana, and Phoenix. Kalinda rapidly lifts Luana and throws her over Atlas's back.

ATLAS

I've yer word that if we leave now, none of yer little minions will try to stop us?

FERONIA You have my word.

Atlas, Phoenix, Kalinda, and an unconscious Luana begin to back out of the cave. They never take their eyes off of Feronia or the Ignis Ambulare.

INT. FERONIA'S LAIR - CAVE - NIGHT

Feronia waves her hand -- with enough force to shake the cave, the golden gem-encrusted doors swiftly slide shut. Rocks crackle down again.

KALINDA

Let's get out of here.

ATLAS

Ya read me mind.

Atlas and Kalinda turn their backs on the golden door, and walk through the cave. Luana floats in front of them. Phoenix flies behind them.

EXT. ALDON CAMPSITE - NIGHT

It is a full harvest moon. Millions of stars light up the rest of the sky, which casts an eerie glow on everything and everyone below. The forest is made up of beautiful aspen trees that shimmer whenever the wind blows.

Luana is still unconscious. Kalinda is asleep next to her. Phoenix is asleep on a nearby branch. There is a large fireball afloat that keeps everyone warm.

Atlas stands guard. FLASH! The moon reflects off a piece of metal in Luana's direction. The reflection comes from an area near the entrance to the forest.

EXT. ALDON FOREST - MOMENTS LATER

Atlas goes to investigate. He finds Luana's mother's locket half open on the ground. He looks around and opens it.

KIRA

If ya have this locket that means that yer pa, brother, and I are no longer on the earthly plane. This leaves ya as the last in the Rolt bloodline. It's imperative that ya carry on the dragon whisperin' gene by marryin' a warlock. I know how much ya love Atlas, but the fate of our line and preventin' the extinction of the dragons is now yer duty. I'm so sorry, me darlin' daughter. I wish things could be different. I wish ya could marry whomever ya want...

Luana walks up behind Atlas.

LUANA

Atlas?

Atlas turns around and quickly shuts the locket.

ATLAS

When were ya goin' to tell me about this?

LUANA

After all of this was over. I'm so sorry.

Atlas begins to walk away. Luana follows him.

ATLAS

I can't believe yer mum gave me this locket to give to ya, knowin' it would end our relationship.

(beat)

Well, now'I know why ya have been so cold to me.

LUANA

(weeps)

Ya don't think this is hard for me?

Atlas stops. The campsite is no longer visible. Luana reaches out to touch Atlas. He yanks his arm away.

LUANA (CONT'D)

(weeps)
Atlas, I love ya!

ATLAS

Well, that doesn't matter anymore, does it? Like yer mum said, yer the last in the Rolt bloodline and ya have a responsibility to carry that on.

LUANA

(weeps)
I know, but Atlas... that's not
what I want.

**ATLAS** 

(weeps)

But ya have to, Luana. Ya don't have a choice in the matter.

Attempting to CHOKE back his tears, Atlas turns away from Luana. A SCREECH is heard from the direction of the campsite. Atlas and Luana look at each other.

LUANA

Oh no! We left Kalinda and Phoenix unprotected.

ATLAS

Peridot back to the campsite!

Atlas and Luana dematerialize.

EXT. ALDON CAMPSITE - MOMENTS LATER

Atlas and Luana re-materialize at the campsite just as Phoenix attacks Bayard. Bayard violently hurls Phoenix against a tree.

Kalinda throws a knife at Bayard, it wings him in the shoulder — then the banshees grab her and drag her underground. Luana lunges to grab Kalinda but only manages to touch her fingers.

LUANA

(screams)

Noll

As Atlas charges him, Bayard pulls the knife out of his shoulder, and dematerializes. The last visible part of Bayard before he vanishes completely, is his devilish grin.

Atlas runs over to Phoenix who is unconscious. He lifts Phoenix into his arms. Phoenix comes to. As Phoenix awakens he thinks Bayard is the one holding him, he starts to attack Atlas's face.

**ATLAS** 

Phoenix, stop! It's Atlas!

Phoenix stops his attack and loses consciousness again. With an unconscious Phoenix in his hands, Atlas walks over to Luana. Luana cries.

LUANA What do we do now?

ATLAS

We continue with the plan. If we can free Kalinda we will. But she's not our priority.

LUANA

But Atlas, this is our fault! We left her alone.

ATLAS

I know it is.

(beat)

We should go. They know where we are. Helzarie isn't too far from here.

Atlas dematerializes with Phoenix in his hands, and Luana follows.

EXT. RENSHAW FOREST - CAMPSITE - DAY

Phoenix has regained consciousness, and licks his wounds. Atlas is walking around the campsite casting spells in order to make them invisible to the naked eye. That is, unless you're a reptile.

LUANA

What are ya doin'?

ATLAS

Makin' us invisible to anythin' that isn't a reptile.

He also casts a spell that gives them a dome of protection. Sparks fly out of Atlas's hands as he continues.

EXT. RENSHAW FOREST - NIGHT

Luana and Atlas sneak to the edge of the forest to gather intelligence on Helzarie castle. They watch as the banshees float by the entrance and line the walls. The heads of some of the dead are on spikes in front of the castle.

EXT. RENSHAW FOREST - CAMPSITE - DAY

Luana and Phoenix sleep while Atlas stands guard. Luana SCREAMS and wakes up! Atlas jumps on her, and puts his hand over her mouth to keep her quiet.

ATLAS

Luana, shhh! It's me. Yer goin' to give away our location!

Luana calms down.

EXT. RENSHAW FOREST - NIGHT

Above the forest, King Elgin arrives with King Saxton on his back. The dragons fly close to the canopy so as not to be seen. On every dragon's back, except for Steve/Stevenel, there are SOLDIERS(18-56). King Elgin leads the others.

King Elgin looks down and sees a fireball that floats in midair. It is in the shape of a dragon. He looks closer and sees Luana and Atlas.

He dives into the forest and the other dragons do the same. One by one the dragons gracefully land.

EXT. RENSHAW FOREST - CAMPSITE - NIGHT

The soldiers and dragons walk through the forest, until they reach Luana, and Atlas. Upon arrival at the campsite, the soldiers dismount the dragons.

SOLDIER #1(40) and SOLDIER #2(35) talk in the corner as they unpack their dragons.

SOLDIER #1
Can ya believe we just got to ride on the backs of dragons?

SOLDIER #2 (high-pitched voice)
Aye.

Soldier #2 adjusts himself.

SOLDIER #1 What's wrong with ya?

SOLDIER #2
(high-pitched voice)
I think I sat on one of me boys.

Soldier #1 laughs.

KING SAXTON Quiet! Both of ya!

The soldiers nod but Soldier #2 continues to adjust himself, and Soldier #1 chokes back laughter. The rest of the soldiers unload the dragons and prepare for war.

King Saxton and King Elgin address Luana and company.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D) You've done very well this far.

LUANA

Thank ya, yer majesty.

ATLAS

Aye, thank ya, yer majesty.

KING SAXTON Wait, where is Kalinda?

LUANA

The banshees have her.

ATLAS

It was me fault, yer majesty. I left me post for a moment. Bayard and the banshees took advantage of that and kidnapped Kalinda.

KING SAXTON

When?

LUANA

After Feronia's.

KING ELGIN

So, did you get the gift from Feronia?

LUANA

Aye, yer majesties. But, the problem is I don't know what it is or how to use it.

KING ELGIN
Feronia wouldn't have given you
this gift if she didn't think you'd
be able to use it. When the time is
right, you'll know what to do.

LUANA

(under her breath)
Ya better be right.

KING ELGIN

What was that?

LUANA

I said, of course, yer right.

Atlas glares at Luana.

KING SAXTON Is everythin' okay between ya two?

ATLAS

Aye. Everythin' is fine, yer mājesty.

King Saxton accepts Atlas's word, but shoots a look over to King Elgin. As they help the soldiers get ready for battle, King Saxton continues to keep an eye on Atlas and Luana.

After the dragons are all unloaded, they lie down one by one to rest.

LUANA

Where's Steve?

Luana feels something breathe on her shoulder. Atlas points behind Luana. She turns around and Steve/Stevenel nudges her with his head.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Steve!

Luana throws her arms around Steve/Stevenel's head. He nuzzles her.

KING ELGIN

They really love each other don't they?

KING SAXTON

They are the only family they each have left.

King Elgin nods.

KING SAXTON (CONT'D)

Rest everyone, but remember to be alert. We are in enemy territory. We'll attack at dawn.

The soldiers all nod.

KING ELGIN

(in Dragonis; subtitled) Rest, but be aware. We'll make our move at dawn.

One by one the dragons nod.

KING SAXTON

Atlas, Luana, can we speak to ya for a moment?

Atlas and Luana shoot each other a look. Then they approach King Saxton and King Elgin.

KING ELGIN

Luana, now that Kalinda has been kidnapped, you're our best distraction. You're what they want. So, they'll come after you with full force.

KING SAXTON

This will allow me to lead some of the men to release the prisoners.

KING ELGIN

At the same time my soldiers and I will help you and Atlas distract the banshees.

KING SAXTON What entryways are there into the castle?

ATLAS

From our intel we know that there is only the one.

KING SAXTON
Then ya better make sure we make it to the drawbridge, Elgin.

KING ELGIN

We'll do whatever we have to.

LUANA

What about the Banshee Queen?

KING SAXTON

Our primary goal is to free the prisoners. Gettin' into the castle will be difficult enough. Once that is done, and the majority of the banshees have been killed by the dragons, the Banshee Queen will show herself.

ATLAS

What's to keep the banshees from usin' the prisoners against us?

KING ELGIN

They need them alive. They only feed on the blood of the living.

LUANA

With all due respect yer majesties, the banshees now have Kalinda along with Bayard. Yer walkin' into a trap. There is nothin' I can do to the banshees that the dragons can't. With that bein' said, I'll be accompanyin' ya to free the prisoners. I'm the only one that the banshees can't telepathically control.

KING SAXTON

Luana I can't --

LUANA

That wasn't a request, yer majesty.

And I go where she goes.

King Saxton shoots a look at King Elgin.

KING SAXTON

Yer as stubborn as yer mum, ya know that?

LUANA

I'll take that as a compliment, yer majesty.

KING SAXTON Fine. I'll lead the distraction outside the castle with King Elgin. At the same time ya, Atlas, and a select few get the men, women, and children out. Once they are far enough away from the castle, and they are able to peridot back home, we'll need yer help with the Queen Barshee They can only peridot Banshee. They can only peridot outside of the castle, for it's impossible to peridot inside. The Queen Banshee made sure of that years ago.

LUANA & ATLAS Aye, yer majesty.

KING SAXTON Okay ya two, go get some rest. It won't be too long now.

**ATLAS** Thank ya, yer majesties.

LUANA Aye, thank ya.

King Elgin, and King Saxton both nod. Luana and Atlas walk away. Luana walks to Steve/Stevenel, and Atlas towards the soldiers.

> KING ELGIN Is it smart? Letting those two go into the castle together? There's obviously something going on. It seems they are in love. Love can cloud judgment.

KING SAXTON They'll be fine. I trust them. They know how important this is.

KING ELGIN But she's only sixteen.

King Saxton looks over to Luana.

KING SAXTON
Aye she is, but don't let her age fool ya. All she has been through has changed her. Now the fate of our world lies with her.

King Elgin nods.

KING ELGIN

May the heavens have mercy on her soul.

King Saxton watches Luana as she cuddles Steve/Stevenel and nods.

## EXT. RENSHAW FOREST - CAMPSITE - NIGHT

The stars twinkle above, not a cloud in the sky. The moon looms large overhead. Some soldiers sit by the fire. The rest either sleep, or stand guard.

Atlas and Phoenix are both asleep. Luana is curled up next to Steve/Stevenel. She grabs her locket in one hand and looks up at the stars. She closes her eyes and begins to MUMBLE a prayer. A tear streams down her face.

## EXT. RENSHAW FOREST - CAMPSITE - DAWN

The soldiers and dragons are all prepared for war. Some of the soldiers mount the dragons. Luana and Atlas approach King Elgin and King Saxton.

LUANA
Yer majesties, I think I might have a plan that will get us to the prisoners faster than by fightin' our way in.

KING SAXTON What's yer plan?

## EXT. HELZARIE - DRAWBRIDGE - LATER

Atlas canters along and drags Luana on the ground, over the ice and through the snow by a rope. The rope is tied around Luana's wrists and attached to Atlas.

The banshees see him and gather above the drawbridge. They SHRIEK and warn the other banshees. BANSHEE #4 (66) is older than many of the other banshees. She is the Queen Banshee's number two.

Banshee #4 flies over the top of the castle wall. She quickly and aggressively flies towards Atlas. Even though she moves at top speed, she looks to be gracefully floating. She stops inches from Atlas's face, and bares her fangs.

BANSHEE #4

You have some brass ones, showing your face here, with no backup.

ATLAS

I came to make a trade. Me brother Bayard, and the rest of the prisoners in exchange for the dragon whisperer.

BANSHEE #4
That doesn't seem like a very fair trade. How do we know this isn't a trick?

Atlas looks down at a scraped, bloodied, and bruised Luana. Tears stream down her face.

ATLAS

Does it look like I care for her? Even a lifeless wretch like ya should understand that blood comes first.

BANSHEE #4

Watch your mouth!

ATLAS

Do ya need more proof?

Atlas picks Luana up by the throat and starts to strangle her. Luana gasps for air and kicks her legs.

BANSHEE #4

Stop! The Queen wants the honor of taking her life.

Atlas releases Luana. She falls to the ground gasping.

BANSHEE #4 (CONT'D)
But why do you want the prisoners?
If you don't care about her life,
surely you don't care about theirs?
Why do you carry so much hatred for
her? Why is it that one second you
fight alongside her, and now you
offer her up willingly?

ATLAS

I overheard her plan to have me brother killed. She thinks that even though his crimes weren't of his own makin', he should still receive the maximum punishment. In this case it would be death. If it's a choice between Luana and me brother, I'll always pick me family. The prisoners are just part of the negotiation. But yer right, I don't care about them. All I want is Bayard back. And, of course, the chance to lock the dungeon door on Luana, and say goodbye to her once and for all.

Atlas kicks Luana in the stomach with his hoof, and Luana gasps again. A smile spreads over Banshee #4's face.

BANSHEE #4

That can be arranged.

(beat)

Follow me and bring that piece of trash with you.

Banshee #4 floats towards the drawbridge, then stops, and looks at Atlas.

BANSHEE #4 (CONT'D) In case you're thinking of being a hero, just remember that you're outnumbered. And that I'm the only one who can take you to your brother.

ATLAS
All I want is Bayard and me
freedom. To hell with the rest of
the world. But first ya must swear
to leave me and me brother in
peace.

BANSHEE #4 We're in accord.

ATLAS

Good.

Banshee #4 sticks her nail into a small lock on a boulder by the moat. The lock turns and the drawbridge comes down. Banshee #4 floats over the drawbridge, followed by Atlas who drags Luana behind him.

EXT. HELZARIE - COURTYARD - MOMENTS LATER

The courtyard is filled with piles of dead men and male children. Their bodies have frozen. In the middle of the courtyard there is a large fountain. The water's frozen.

Banshees line up and SHRIEK as Atlas drags Luana by them. They arrive at a door made of ice on the other side of the courtyard. Banshee #4 sticks her nail in the small lock that materializes there, and the doors melt.

Banshee #4 walks through the door. Atlas follows and drags Luana through the door.

INT. HELZARIE - ENTRANCE - DAY

Atlas turns around and the doors made of ice reappear. The once beautiful castle is now covered in ice. However, one can still make out the stone walls and silver floor.

The entrance is oval-shaped. Hallways appear in one spot, disappear, and then reappear in a different spot on the wall.

The fireballs that line the walls have frozen in midexplosion. Luana whimpers on the floor. Banshee #4 hears it, stops, and turns around.

BANSHEE #4

Shut up.

Luana continues to whimper.

BANSHEE #4 (CONT'D) Get her on her feet.

Atlas does as he is told and drags Luana to her feet. She doubles over from pain when she stands up. She moans.

BANSHEE #4 (CONT'D) Shut your mouth or I'll shut it for you.

Luana SPITS on Banshee #4. The spittle goes right through her body. Banshee #4 begins to laugh.

BANSHEE #4 (CONT'D)
She's pathetic really. I can't
believe it's taken this long to
kill her.
(beat)
This way.

As the hallways reappear, Banshee #4 freezes the second to last one. She then walks into the hallway, followed by the injured Luana, who is being pushed by Atlas.

INT. HELZARIE - HALLWAY - DAY

The hallway matches the entrance, only large icicles hang from the ceiling. Banshee #4, Atlas, and Luana walk through the hallway.

INT. HELZARIE - DUNGEON - DAY

The dungeon has a frozen wooden spiral staircase that leads down to the cells. The only light is that which comes from more fireballs that have been frozen mid-explosion.

On the outside of the cells is a torture chamber. Dried blood is on some of the equipment. Atlas and Luana follow Banshee #4 down the spiral staircase, through the torture chamber.

Atlas slowly looks around the chamber, and becomes aware that Banshee #5(45) and Banshee #6(27) seems to stand guard over the villagers. Banshee #4 sticks her nail in the lock and the cell door unlocks.

INT. HELZARIE - DUNGEON - CELL - DAY

Inside the cell are all the prisoners. They are dirty, scraped up, bruised, and sickly thin. They all stare at the cell door as it opens.

INT. HELZARIE - DUNGEON - DAY

Atlas shoves Luana forward again.

BANSHEE #4

Here we are.

LUANA

Atlas, please don't do this!

ATLAS

Shut up!

Atlas hits Luana. She falls to the floor. Banshee #4 smiles.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

Where is me brother?

BANSHEE #4

All in good time.

As she lies on the floor, fire is visible in Luana's eyes. She secretly makes her move. Without a word, Luana's rope quietly unwinds from around her wrists.

ATLAS

The deal was Bayard for Luana.

BANSHEE #4

Aye, well... things change.

ATLAS

Yer right, they do!

That's the signal! Luana sits up and throws a fireball. The fireball hits Banshee #4 and to everyone's surprise, especially Luana's, Banshee #4 goes up in flames. She begins to melt in front of their eyes.

Luana looks at her hands.

What in the bloody hell?

Banshee #5 and Banshee #6 charge Luana and Atlas.

ATLAS

Luana! On yer right!

Luana throws two more fireballs. After they hit the banshees, the banshees melt. Their SHRIEKS are deafening. Luana, Atlas, and the prisoners all cover their ears.

The banshees disappear.

LUANA

What in the hell just happened? I thought only dragon fire could kill banshees.

ATLAS
Well, that must be exactly what
Feronia gave ya. The gift of dragon
fire, and a chance to end this once
and for all.

PRISONER #1(26) is a dark haired man with a beard.

PRISONER #1

Excuse me. I don't mean to interfere with yer celebration, but shouldn't ya be gettin' us the hell out of here?

ATLAS

Right, sorry.

Atlas walks over and opens the now-unlocked cell door. The prisoners pour out.

PRISONER #1

Thank ya.

ATLAS

Don't thank me yet.

Kalinda -- banshee-enchanted -- leaps over the staircase and lands in front of Atlas and Prisoner #1. As she lands, she stabs Prisoner #1.

KALINDA

Aye, don't thank him yet!

Prisoner #1 falls to the ground.

LUANA

Duck!

Luana throws an energy ball over Atlas's head. It hurls Kalinda across the room.

LUANA (CONT'D)

(to Atlas)

Go! Take the prisoners! I'll handle

Kalinda and Luana circle each other. Atlas gets Prisoner #1 up off the floor, and quickly gets the prisoners out of the room.

KALINDA

You'll handle me will ya?

A LITTLE GIRL(8), with red curly hair in pigtail braids, freezes in place and cries. She is the last prisoner.

LUANA

Kalinda, this isn't ya.

Atlas sees the little girl and runs to her.

KALINDA

Yer right. This isn't her.

Atlas grabs the little girl. They run up the stairs and out of the room.

LUANA

Who are ya?

KALINDA

Ya can call me yer majesty. It's nice to finally meet, ya dragon whisperer. It'll be even nicer to kill ya.

LUANA

The name is Luana. I'll give ya exactly twenty seconds to let me friend go... yer majesty.

Luana bows. They continue to circle each other.

KALINDA

Or you'll what?

EXPLOSIONS, SHRIEKS, AND SCREAMS can be heard from the hallway upstairs. There are FLASHES of light.

LUANA

Kalinda, I know yer in there. Fight her!

Kalinda stops.

KALINDA

(raspy)
Luana? Luana help me.

LUANA

Kalinda?

Luana runs over to Kalinda. Kalinda laughs. She grabs Luana by the throat and lifts her off the floor.

KALINDA

That was too easy. Yer kindness will be yer downfall.

An EXPLOSION is heard.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Ya know none of ya will make it out of this castle alive?

INT. HELZARIE - ENTRANCE - DAY

Atlas has his ear pressed up against the door made of ice.

ATLAS

As soon as I melt the doors, start runnin'. Don't stop for anythin' or anyone!

PRISONER #1

Well, what are ya waitin' for?

**ATLAS** 

(under his breath)

The signal.

Bayard, Banshee #7(63), Banshee #8(49), and Banshee #9(25) come out from one of the hallways. An evil smile spreads over Bayard's face.

INT. HELZARIE - DUNGEON - DAY

Kalinda slowly CHOKES out Luana.

KALINDA

Didn't yer darlin' Kalinda ever teach ya not to start a war unless ya can finish it?

Luana discreetly takes a knife out of her pocket. She stabs Kalinda in the shoulder. Kalinda screams and drops Luana on the floor with a THUD.

Luana slowly gets up and walks over to Kalinda who holds her shoulder.

LUANA

Aye. And she also taught me not to show mercy...

Luana punches Kalinda. Kalinda loses consciousness.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Even to me friends.

Luana runs up the stairs, and exits the room. Kalinda's eyes POP open. She gets up and runs after Luana.

INT. HELZARIE - HALLWAY - DAY

Luana runs down a darkened hallway. The hallway has a silver floor. Embedded in the ice-covered stone are large diamonds. Snow has been enchanted to fall. It disappears when it reaches Luana's feet.

Floating orbs light the way through the hallway. Broken furniture indicates there was a fight.

As Kalinda enters the hallway, Luana comes to the end of it, where there is a staircase. Luana throws a fireball at Kalinda. Kalinda ducks.

A series of loud ROARS, followed by the SHRIEK of banshees is heard outside.

EXT. HELZARIE - ENTRANCE - DAY

The series of loud ROARS and SHRIEKS echo in the castle's entrance, where Atlas and the prisoners throw fireball after fireball to keep Bayard and the banshees at bay.

ATLAS (under his breath)
Thank the heavens.

The loud ROARS continue. Everyone, Bayard included, and the banshees, look around as the castle walls quake.

Atlas uses this distraction to his advantage. With his left hand he touches the doors made of ice. He MUMBLES under his breath and his left hand starts to turn red.

The doors made of ice begin to melt. Atlas continues to use his right hand to throw fireballs.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

Quickly!

Prisoner #1, who still bleeds from his wound, helps the other prisoners through the doorway.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

Go!

Atlas throws a fireball, as do several prisoners.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

Go!

The prisoners run out into the courtyard.

EXT. HELZARIE - COURTYARD - DAY

Flames rain down from above. By the hundreds, banshees SHRIEK and die by the hundreds. As the prisoners run out of the castle the source of the flames is revealed -- the dragons.

They pick up the prisoners in their large talons and fly off with them.

INT. HELZARIE - ENTRANCE - DAY

The last prisoner, besides Atlas and Prisoner #1, runs into the courtyard and gets picked up by a dragon.

PRISONER #1

(to Atlas) What about ya?

Prisoner #1 throws a fireball as a banshee approaches.

ATLAS
I'll be right behind ya.

Atlas throws a fireball at a banshee as it approaches. Prisoner #1 runs out into the courtyard. Atlas drops his left hand, which is the one that melts the doors. He jumps through the hole in the ice just before the doors freeze back over.

INT. HELZARIE - GRAND STAIRCASE - DAY

Luana climbs the icy white marble staircase. Diamonds are embedded in the stairs. The handrails are made of ice. The snow continues to fall and disappear at Luana's feet.

There are hundreds of banshees at the bottom of the staircase. Luana has no choice but to climb higher into the castle to escape.

Kalinda follows.

KALINDA

There is nowhere ya can run that we won't find ya!

Kalinda throws an energy ball and it hits Luana. Luana falls down a flight of stairs. Kalinda raises her hand in front of her, palms up. Luana's body rises quickly. She hits the ceiling and falls back down hard.

The wind has been knocked out of Luana. She struggles on the floor. Kalinda moves up the staircase.

KALINDA (CONT'D)
Ya really thought ya could defeat

Kalinda laughs. Luana whispers something inaudible.

KALINDA (CONT'D)
What did ya say?

Kalinda gets closer to Luana. Luana turns over. The ice that has been made into handrails detaches, and flies at Kalinda. It pins Kalinda against the far wall.

I said, "I don't think I can defeat ya, I know I can!"

Luana turns and runs up the icy stairs. Kalinda melts the icicles and falls to the ground. Luana reaches the top of the stairs. Kalinda gets up.

INT. HELZARIE - UPPER HALLWAY - DAY

At the top of the stairs there is a long hallway that wraps around the third floor of the castle. The grand entrance is visible below. The corners of the castle walls are rounded like a tower's.

The rail on the opposite side of the hallway is made of silver and ice. The ceiling is enchanted to look like a snowstorm. Snow is falling. The snow disappears before it reaches Luana's feet.

ROARS are coming from outside again. Luana runs up to the iced-over window in the round corner of the castle wall. She looks outside.

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EXT. HELZARIE - CASTLE WALLS - DAY

King Saxton and his men on the ground fight the banshees and Bayard. Some of his men are being telepathically controlled by the banshees. They turn on their friends and on the dragons.

The dragons above breathe down as much fire as possible. A mixture of ash and snow begins to fall. Banshees SHRIEK as they catch fire and melt. The ROARS of the dragons continue.

Hundreds more banshees quickly fly out of the castle and over the drawbridge. At Bayard's command, some of the telepathically controlled men throw metal-tipped spears at the dragons.

Most of the dragons are able to either dodge the spears, or pull up to a higher altitude.

Two dragons aren't so lucky. DRAGON #1 has three spears in her golden chest, while DRAGON #2 has two spears in his blue/green chest. They each ROAR with every puncture.

They fall to the ground and hit it with a THUD. Other vampire-fanged banshees take the wounded soldiers and feed on them.

As the blood gets drained from their bodies, their SCREAMS could chill bones. As the soldiers take their last breath, their amulets vanish.

Steve/Stevenel flies through the air on the search for Luana and sets fire to as many banshees as he can.

INT. HELZARIE - UPPER HALLWAY - DAY

Kalinda is almost at the top of the stairs.

Where are ya runnin' to? There's still so much fun to be had. Ya know ya can't peridot out of here? So, I guess it's just ya and me.

Kalinda laughs psychotically.

LUANA (yells)
Steve! Steve!

Luana BANGS on the ice. Kalinda reaches the top of the stairs.

EXT. HELZARIE - COURTYARD - DAY

Steve/Stevenel hears Luana, turns around, and flies quickly towards the window. Arrows and spears fly up at him, but he dodges the spears, and the arrows simply bounce off of his hide.

INT. HELZARIE - UPPER HALLWAY - DAY

Luana quickly backs up a ways, and then begins to run at top speed towards the window. Kalinda chases Luana. Luana is too far ahead. Luana jumps out of the ice-covered window. The ice SHATTERS like glass.

EXT. HELZARIE - COURTYARD - DAY

Luana lands on Steve's/Stevenel's back, but almost falls off. Steve/Stevenel tilts to help Luana climb back up. Luana gets back onto Steve's/Stevenel's back.

LUANA
(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Thank ya. Take me to the front lines!

Steve/Stevenel flies off when Kalinda dives out of the window and onto Steve's/Stevenel's tail.

LUANA (CONT'D) (in Dragonis; subtitled) Steve, keep flyin'!

Steve/Stevenel soars upward. Kalinda manages to climb up on Steve's/Stevenel's back to where Luana is, but Luana is ready and punches her. They engage in hand-to-hand combat, while they both try to balance on a dragon as it flies.

As Steve/Stevenel flies over the castle wall, a huge spear hits him in the stomach. Steve/Stevenel jolts and ROARS in pain. He struggles to fly. Kalinda loses her balance. Luana uses this to her advantage.

Luana jumps off of Steve's/Stevenel's back as he loses altitude. Fire begins to burn in Luana's eyes again. Kalinda struggles to get back on Steve's/Stevenel's back. Luana SCREAMS --

LUANA (CONT'D)
(in Dragonis; subtitled)
Now!

Every dragon grabs a non-banshee, which includes Bayard, in each of their talons. Then they fly off. Steve/Stevenel continues to lose altitude.

As Luana lands on one knee, she punches the ground. Dragon fire from Luana's fist rapidly spreads over the ground.

The fire is large and magnificent. It resembles ocean waves. The waves of fire grow and engulf every banshee on the ground. Hundreds of banshees SCREAM from the fire. The majority of banshees outside are burned to ash.

The fire is then sucked back into Luana's fist. Before Steve/Stevenel crashes in the woods, Kalinda jumps off his back. Luana looks up, sees the dragon as it lands, and the soldiers celebrate.

Luana stands up and gets hit in the back by an energy ball. She flies through the air. The dragons release King Saxton's men, which includes Bayard.

All the soldiers run to Luana's aid. While the soldiers are distracted, Bayard rejoins Kalinda and the banshees.

More banshees from the castle fly towards the soldiers and Luana. Kalinda leads Bayard and the banshees. SOLDIER #3(24), brown-haired, wears armor and a silver and red tiger's eye amulet around his neck.

SOLDIER #3
(to King Saxton)
What do we do, yer majesty?
Whatever we do, they just keep comin'! If we get too close they'll take control of us.

LUANA Stand down. This is me fight, and me fight alone.

KING SAXTON Luana, ya can't possibly mean that.

Luana gets up and walks towards Kalinda. The banshees see and start to charge her. Kalinda stops them.

LUANA (yells)
This is between ya and me! No one

KALINDA (intense)
For once we agree on somethin'.

Luana and Kalinda get closer and begin to circle one another.

LUANA
Let's see if ya know how to fight like Kalinda. That is, without magic. I doubt ya can do it.

KALINDA
I control her mind. Everythin' she knows, I know. I don't care how I kill ya.

LUANA
Well, here I am. Are ya gonna kill
me by talkin' me ear off or do ya
actually have a spine?

Kalinda pulls out her sword and charges Luana. Luana blocks, and pushes Kalinda back with a kick to her chest. Kalinda charges again. The two begin to fence. Neither one of them holds back.

Kalinda knocks Luana's sword out of her hand. It flies to the side and lands next to a large boulder.

Luana runs to her sword. Kalinda follows. Luana picks up her sword and does a backflip off of the boulder and over Kalinda's head.

Luana goes to kick Kalinda in the back. Kalinda senses it and spins out of the way. Luana's foot hits the boulder hard -- she screams, and falls. Kalinda laughs.

KALINDA
Yer so pathetic!
 (to King Saxton, Elgin, & soldiers)
Did ya really think a little girl could beat me? The Queen of the Banshees?
 (beat)
Yer majesties, if ya think one girl could beat me, then ya have grown stupid and feeble!

Luana tries to get herself up.

KALINDA (CONT'D)
Ya might as well drop yer swords
now. As soon as I kill her, nothin'
can save ya.

Luana stands up quietly behind Kalinda. She taps Kalinda on the shoulder. Kalinda turns around -- gets punched in the face.

LUANA That's for me mum!

Luana punches Kalinda again.

LUANA (CONT'D) That's for me pa!

Luana does a roundhouse kick.

LUANA (CONT'D) And that's for tickin' me off.

Kalinda flies through the air but manages to land on her feet. She throws two knives at Luana. They hit her in each of her shoulders. Luana screams as she pulls out the knives.

Kalinda throws down her sword and runs at Luana. Once again, they begin hand-to-hand combat. Only this time, Kalinda is winning. Blood GUSHES out of Luana's wounds. She grows weaker, but continues to fight.

Kalinda kicks Luana's knee, and dislocates it. Luana cries out in pain and falls to the ground. Luana military crawls towards her sword but Kalinda kicks it far from her. She stands by Luana's head.

KALINDA I'm over this "no magic" agreement.

Kalinda magically flips Luana onto her back. Luana hits the ground hard. The wind has been knocked out of her. She can barely move.

LUANA

(barely audible) Don't make me do this.

KALINDA

What did ya just say?

Kalinda straddles Luana.

LUANA

(whispers)

Don't make me'do this Kalinda. Fight it!

KALINDA

Do ya really think Kalinda can hear ya? Well I have news for ya, Kalinda isn't here right now, but I'll make sure to give her the message after I kill ya!

LUANA

(barely audible)

Forgive me.

As Kalinda leans down towards Luana, Luana reaches for her sword. Fire burns in Luana's eyes. Luana's sword starts to shake. Then it immediately flies into Luana's hand. The sword ignites.

Atlas has returned from the prisoners just in time to see Luana runs Kalinda through with her dragon's flame sword. Kalinda falls into Luana's arms. The telepathic connection between Kalinda and the Queen has ended.

Kalinda coughs up blood.

KALINDA

(whispers)

Luana?

LUANA

Aye. Kalinda, I'm here. I'm so sorry.

KALINDA

Why are ya sorry?

Kalinda coughs.

LUANA

Because I never wanted to hurt ya. I wanted to save ya.

KALINDA

Sweet girl, I'm not yers to save.

Luana begins to weep.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

I'm pr-... proud of ya.

Kalinda's coughs are closer together. She grows more pale.

LUANA

Why?

KALINDA

Ya di-... didn't show mercy. Yer trainin' is now com-... com-...

Kalinda struggles for air, as she bleeds out. Luana cries, as Kalinda touches her face.

KALINDA (CONT'D)

Complete.

Kalinda smiles up at Luana one last time and then goes limp in her arms. Her amulet vanishes. Luana cradles Kalinda's dead body when Bayard materializes behind her.

He is still being controlled. Luana is in too much distress to sense him behind her. Atlas has his sword in his hand and watches what unfolds. Bayard starts to lift up his sword.

ATLAS

Bayard! Noooo!

Atlas dematerializes and rematerializes right behind Bayard. Before Bayard has a chance to strike Luana, Atlas runs him through with his sword.

Luana looks up as Bayard's sword falls out of his hand with a THUMP and he collapses to the ground, dead. His amulet vanishes. Atlas gets down on his front knees and kisses his brother's forehead. A tear streams down his face.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, brother. Ya left me no other choice.

The Queen Banshee SHRIEKS, and the banshees attack again. As the dragons fly by and attack, they EXHALE and fire flies through the air.

The banshees have again taken telepathic control of some of the soldiers and turned them on their friends.

Luana looks around as soldiers are stabbed, their throats cut, and their blood drained. Each soldier's amulet vanishes upon their demise.

Atlas fights. Luana hears the ROARS of the dragons and the SHRIEKS of the banshees as they melt. She looks up and sees the Queen Banshee in the tower window.

Luana looks down at Bayard's and Kalinda's bodies. The fire in her eyes grows until all that can be seen is flame.

LUANA
That's it! No more!

With rage and fire in her eyes, Luana POPS her knee into place. She gets to her feet.

LUANA (CONT'D)

This ends now.

Luana's hands shake. Then the ground shakes. Fire shoots out of her hands, and propels her high, and forward in the air. She is lifted so high, and so far forward, that she easily SMASHES through the Queen Banshee's tower window.

INT. HELZARIE - CASTLE TOWER - DAY

The tower itself is made of iced-over stone. The tower has windows on all sides that have been iced over. Luana CRASHES through the iced-over tower window.

Candles float in the air, as if they were attached to multiple invisible chandeliers.

There is an iced-over spiral stone staircase against one of the tower walls that leads down to the ground. The handrails are made of iced-over glass. The ceiling is enchanted to mimic the sky outside, which is now filled with flames.

As soon as Luana crashes through the window, the startled Queen Banshee backs up. Luana lands on one knee and looks up at the Queen Banshee with only fire in her eyes.

LUANA

Ya have taken everythin' from me, and now I'm goin' to take everythin' from ya. Startin' with yer life.

QUEEN BANSHEE

(raspy)
You'll have to find me first.

The Queen Banshee takes a deep breath. When she exhales a thick fog comes out of her mouth that covers the entire tower. It is impossible for Luana to see.

The Queen Banshee circles Luana. Luana turns around in circles as she looks for the queen.

LUANA

I never took the Queen of the Banshees for a coward.

QUEEN BANSHEE (raspy; under her breath) I'll show you a coward.

The Queen Banshee flies at Luana with her hand and claws outstretched. She flies by Luana and slices her face.

The Queen Banshee draws blood. Luana barely has time to react before the Queen Banshee disappears into the fog once more.

LUANA

Nice trick. Now it's me turn.

Luana looks out one of the windows that is barely visible. She raises her arm in the air. Her hand has made a fist. Fire shoots out of her fist, and shatters all the windows.

LUANA (CONT'D)

Radium!

Strong sunbeams flood through all the windows and cause the fog to burn off. The Queen Banshee becomes visible.

The Queen Banshee looks at Luana and her eyes glow, but Luana's eyes do not. The Queen Banshee tries again, but Luana's eyes still don't glow. The Queen Banshee is unable to take telepathic control of Luana.

The SCREAMS of dying and injured men, the ROARS of the dragons, and the SHRIEKS of the banshees as they melt, are heard.

LUANA (CONT'D)

If yer wonderin' why ya can't control me like ya can everyone else, it's thanks to a gift from Feronia. I'm no longer just a witch. I now have dragon blood runnin' through me veins. I'm immune to yer telepathy.

The Queen Banshee SHRIEKS so loudly that it brings Luana to her knees and her ears bleed. Luana touches one of her ears and sees the blood on her fingers. The Queen Banshee circles Luana.

QUEEN BANSHEE

(raspy)
You see that blood on your hands?
It will always be there because you killed two people you loved.

Luana gets up and watches the Queen as she moves.

LUANA

I might have killed Kalinda, but ya gave me no other choice. As far as Bayard goes, that was his brother's doin', not mine.

QUEEN BANSHEE

(raspy)
His brother was protecting you...

LUANA

Ouiescis!

The Queen Banshee doesn't SPEAK. She opens her mouth but no sound comes out. The Queen Banshee extends her arm with a flat palm, and wind and ice fly out of her hand.

The wind lifts and shoves Luana high against the wall. The ice molds itself around her wrists and ankles which traps her in place.

As one of her eyes turns blue and the other orange, Luana struggles against the ice. As the Queen Banshee goes to jam an icicle through Luana's heart, Luana suddenly changes forms into a dragon made of fire.

The ice on her wrists and ankles melt away. Then she flies over the candles that float to the other side of the room. Luana assumes her original form once she gets back to the ground.

LUANA (CONT'D) Well, that was new.

QUEEN BANSHEE
I see Feronia has helped you in
more ways than one. I like a
challenge.

The Queen Banshee shoots icicles at Luana. Luana launches dragon fireballs at the icicles. The icicles melt. Some embers fly off the balls and hit the Queen Banshee. They burn her. She SHRIEKS from the pain.

The SCREAMS and SHRIEKS of the banshees and soldiers as they die ECHO through the tower.

While Luana is busy with the fireballs, the Queen Banshee dives into the floor. The Queen Banshee comes up behind Luana. Before Luana knows it, the Queen Banshee has one of her giant nails pressed against Luana's jugular vein.

QUEEN BANSHEE (CONT'D)
Tell me, Luana... what are you
going to do now? When whatever move
you make makes it so easy for me to
slice your throat?

LUANA

This.

Luana's right hand burns red. She grabs the Queen's spiritlike hand that is at her throat by her long nails. She burns the Queen's hand with her own. The Queen Banshee SHRIEKS in pain.

Then Luana flips the Queen over her back and onto the floor.

QUEEN BANSHEE
How are you able to hold onto me?
Your hand should have passed
through my body.

LUANA

It's amazing what ya are capable of when ya put your mind to it. Oh, and the dragon heart from Feronia also helps.

Luana is about to slam her hand down on the Queen's heart burning her to death -- when the Queen rebounds and stabs Luana's hand with one of her long nails. She then flies to the other side of the room.

QUEEN BANSHEE
I should've given you more credit
and gone to kill you myself. No
matter, the deed will be done soon.

The Queen sticks out her arms and launches a huge, continuous chunk of ice.

LUANA Draco ignis!

A large stream of dragon fire shoots out of Luana's hands push back against the ice that is being shot at her. They push back and forth against one another, until Luana gets thrown across the room.

The Queen Banshee shoots icicles into Luana's shoulders, hands, and one leg. The Queen walks off, and turns her back on Luana.

QUEEN BANSHEE
So much power, yet so
inexperienced. However, I must
commend you on your persistence.
Unfortunately, I've tired of you.

The Queen makes a motion with her hand and the icicles dig deeper into Luana. As Luana screams, a sinister smile spreads over the Queen's half-melted face.

QUEEN BANSHEE (CONT'D) I wish I could have been there in person to see your parents die and hear their blood-curdling screams. But I did see, through one of my banshees' eyes, when Bayard ran your father through with his sword. Tell me -- how does it feel to have one of your dearest friends murder your father?

The Queen laughs hysterically. The blood that DRIPS down from Luana's wounds begins to BOIL. It melts the icicles that hold Luana in place... but the Queen doesn't notice. The SCREAMS from outside continue to ECHO inside the tower.

QUEEN BANSHEE (CONT'D)
I wonder what you must have felt
when you were helpless to save your
mother from having her throat cut?

(MORE)

QUEEN BANSHEE (CONT'D)
What did you experience watching
her bleed out, knowing you could do
nothing to save her?
 (beat)
Where were you when the fight
began?

LUANA
I'm not goin' to tell ya a thing.

The Queen turns around and flies over to Luana. She barely sticks her nail into Luana's neck. It's just enough to make her bleed. She still is unaware that Luana is almost free.

QUEEN BANSHEE Tell me where you were?

The Queen sticks her nail deeper into Luana's neck. This time Luana's blood gets on the Queen, and burns her. The Queen SHRIEKS in pain and flies around the ceiling.

While the Queen is distracted by her wounds, the icicles completely melt, and Luana falls to the floor. She lands on one knee, punches the floor, and the walls of the tower burst into flames. As the flames rise, her wounds slowly close.

LUANA (under her breath) Thank ya, Feronia.

The Queen Banshee realizes what's happened and blows snow out of her mouth to try and put out the flames. The flames keep rising. All exits, which includes windows, are covered in fire.

LUANA (CONT'D)
Save yer breath. That's dragon
fire. Nothin' can put it out,
except for a dragon... and they
would never help ya.

QUEEN BANSHEE
Maybe the dragons won't, but you
might. After all, you do have the
heart and blood of a dragon, don't
you?

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{LUANA} \\ \text{Why would I ever help ya?} \end{array}$ 

Luana sticks her arm deep into the fire, and pulls it out. She remains unscathed. For the first time the Queen Banshee looks scared.

QUEEN BANSHEE
Because right now, your friend the
centaur is being attacked by four
banshees who have control of four
soldiers. I can stop them.

LUANA

Ya demented harpy. He would never want me to save ya, in order to save him. Atlas can take care of himself.

QUEEN BANSHEE

Can he?

The Queen Banshee enchants the ceiling, and it shows Atlas as he fights four soldiers. SOLDIER #4(39) cuts Atlas's arm, while SOLDIER #5(27) stabs Atlas in the hindquarters.

SOLDIER #6(44) manages with the help of the banshees to get a rope around Atlas's legs. SOLDIER #7(52) fights Atlas in order to keep him occupied. Soldier #6 then pulls on the rope and Atlas falls to the ground.

QUEEN BANSHEE (CONT'D)
I'm the only one who can save him.
You're going to do what I ask
because you love him. I smelled it on you, the second you entered the castle. He's the last person alive whom you deeply love.

Soldier #4 punches Atlas over and over.

QUEEN BANSHEE (CONT'D) All you have to do is put out the fire and the centaur will live.

Luana closes her eyes, and opens them.

LUANA

Then kill him.

QUEEN BANSHEE Excuse me?

LUANA

Atlas would sacrifice his life in a second if that meant stoppin' ya.

Atlas's SCREAMS of pain ECHO in the tower chamber. Luana turns her head towards the window. The Queen Banshee laughs.

QUEEN BANSHEE Love makes you weak. I knew it would be your downfall.

Atlas's SCREAMS grow louder.

ATLAS (V.O.) I love ya Luana. More than ya know.

LUANA

(yells)

No!

Luana throws a fireball at the Queen and it burns her hand off. The Queen SHRIEKS.

LUANA (CONT'D)
Yer wrong. Love gives me strength. It's ya that is weak. And now it's time for yer reign of terror and fear to come to an end.

Dragon fire surrounds the Queen.

QUEEN BANSHEE

(raspy) You may have won today, but I'll be seeing you again soon.
(raspy laugh)
She's coming! There's nothing you can do to stop her.

LUANA Who's coming?

Luana looks at Atlas and sees his life is truly in danger.

LUANA (CONT'D) Who's she?

QUEEN BANSHEE (raspy laughter)
I'll never tell...

The fire spreads.

QUEEN BANSHEE (CONT'D)

(raspy laugh) We will meet again dragon whisperer!

LUANA

Not if I have anything to say about it!

Luana turns into the spirit of a dragon. She flies through the heart of the Queen Banshee... The Queen SHRIEKS.

The Queen then EXPLODES into ash.

EXT. HELZARIE - CASTLE WALLS - MOMENTS LATER

All the banshees that remain on the battlefield explode into ash. Those that the banshees have turned against their friends have free will once more. Everyone begins to CHEER in celebration. Three quarters of the castle is now on fire.

King Saxton and King Elwin run/fly over to check on Atlas, who is still alive. He has been severely beaten and is covered in blood.

King Saxton and King Elwin tend to Atlas's wounds, when the castle becomes completely engulfed in flames. It then begins to implode.

ATLAS

(weak) Is it over?

KING SAXTON Aye Atlas. It's all over. We owe ya a great debt.

ATLAS

Where is Luana?

King Saxton looks at the castle as it continues to implode and bows his head.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

(screams)

No! It can't be true!

Atlas gets to his feet with great difficulty.

KING SAXTON

Atlas what are ya doin'? Yer hurt! There is nothin' more ya can do.

Atlas stumbles about on his four legs, like a baby deer. He manages to get to the castle but there is fire everywhere.

Large pieces of the castle begin to collapse. One of the pieces almost hits Atlas as it collapses. He SCREAMS at the top of his voice --

**ATLAS** 

Luana! Luana!!

Out of the flames comes the outline of a girl made of fire. She begins to walk towards Atlas. As the girl walks through the fire, she begins to take form. It is Luana.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

Luana?!

(beat)

Everyone, come quickly! She's alive! Luana's alive!

King Saxton, King Elgin, and all the creatures still alive come to watch Luana cross the drawbridge. The drawbridge goes up in flames as Luana crosses it. The castle then completely caves in.

FADE OUT.

INT. CHAILYA CASTLE - COURTYARD - SUNSET

Luana walks over to Atlas. He waits in front of a sign that reads "ARES DUNGEON" -- a drinking tavern and lodge.

It's a small brick building painted white, with a window in front and a golden door. It is lodged between two other stores.

One of the other stores has a large window that displays statues of people in a mid-painful-scream. The window of the store on the other side displays knives, swords, and bows and arrows.

LUANA

Hey Atlas, ya summoned me?

ATLAS

Aye, but first, how is Steve doin'?

LUANA

He's recoverin', slowly but surely. Thank ya for askin'.

ATLAS

And yer new powers? How are they comin' along?

LUANA

Me mum was right. The more ya practice somethin', the better ya become. But I don't know why I'm surprised by that. She was always right.

ATLAS

That's for sure.

They both laugh.

LUANA What about ya? You've been through a great ordeal with yer brother's death and all.

**ATLAS** 

That's what I wanted to talk to ya about. I need some time away, so I requested to take on Kalinda's ambassadorship. It's me way of honorin' her. It will give me time to grieve not just the loss of me brother and Kalinda, but the loss of the life ya and I could have had together.

LUANA

I'm so sorry, Atlas.

**ATLAS** 

Ya have a profound responsibility Luana. All those dragons' lives depend on ya and yer children. I can't be selfish this time, and neither can ya. (beat)

(MORE)

ATLAS (CONT'D)
Luana, no matter where I go, or what happens, I want ya to know one thing?

LUANA

What is that?

ATLAS

That I love ya. I always have, and I always will. Unfortunately though, it will have to be from afar.

LUANA

I'll always love ya too, Atlas.

Atlas smiles.

LUANA (CONT'D)

How are ya gonna get around not bein' able to do magic in the human realm?

ATLAS

Actually, King Saxton and King Elgin put their heads, blood, and power together. Now, me amulet contains the blood of two royal bloodlines. They said that should have the berrior that would have break the barrier that would have prevented the magic from workin'.

LUANA

So, yer really goin'?

ATLAS

I really am... but ya will see me around. I promise.

Luana holds back tears.

ATLAS (CONT'D)

Come here.

Luana and Atlas embrace. Luana closes her eyes.

FLASHBACK - INT. HELZARIE - CASTLE TOWER - DAY

Nothing but fire and the Queen Banshee are visible. She looks beautiful as the fire dances off of her spirit-like body. As the fire burns, it continues to illuminate her grotesque face. Her skin is almost completely rotted away.

She bares her fangs, and her ghostly white hair blows even though there is no wind.

QUEEN BANSHEE

(raspy laugh)
She's coming...!

The Queen Banshee SHRIEKS.

INT. CHAILYA CASTLE - COURTYARD - SUNSET

Luana opens her eyes and grips Atlas tighter.

ATLAS Everything will be alright, Luana.

Luana nods.

YOUNG MAN (V.O.) Even though they lost some loved ones and their future together, Luana and Atlas felt relieved that their battle with the darkness was over.

(beat) If only they knew, that although they won this battle, they had yet to win the war. A war that unbeknownst to them was only just beginnin'.

Luana wipes a tear from her eye. After a few moments she and Atlas pull apart.

**ATLAS** 

So Luana, what will ya do now?

Luana looks into the windows of Ares Dungeon. She focuses on a large "FOR SALE" sign in the window.

LUANA

I'll think of somethin'.

A smile spreads across Luana's face.

FADE OUT.

THE END