

Orb of Obbclasioscstis

by

Shannon Schenck

1998-2007
S Shroom Productions

Adv.: Maggie Stogner
Adv.: John Douglass
Fall 2007
University Honors: Visual
Media

1 EXT. THE DUSTY TURNIP PUBLIC HOUSE. NIGHT.

A crescent moon hangs above the small, rustic pub, rain pouring in torrents as lightning crackles in the sky. Suddenly, a large black horse canters quickly up the muddy path. The rider pulls his horse to a sudden stop at the door and dismounts.

2 INT. THE DUSTY TURNIP PUBLIC HOUSE. NIGHT.

The large wooden door to the pub is slammed open as a bolt of lightning flashes in the night sky, silhouetting the hulking figure in the door. GRISWOLD enters the suddenly silent pub. He skulks up to the bar and gestures for the BAR MAID. Gradually, the noise in the pub returns.

BAR MAID
What'll it be, sir?

GRISWOLD
A pint of your finest, and some
information.

BAR MAID
(turning and retrieving a
large tankard)
Oh will it now? What sortsa
information you 'spectin' to gleam
round parts suches dees?

GRISWOLD
I'm looking for the one they call
Lord Fay.

BAR MAID
(turning quickly and sloshing
some beer down her front)
Lord Fay? (beat) What could you
got to be looking for Fay for?

GRISWOLD
We've got business to tend to.

BAR MAID
(slamming the tankard down)
Business with Lord Fay? (beat)
Bloody criminals coming into my
pub...

The BAR MAID turns and walks away from GRISWOLD as he chugs the pint back. She whispers frantically to an older man in an apron, the PUB OWNER. The PUB OWNER walks up to GRISWOLD, and grabs his empty tankard.

(CONTINUED)

PUB OWNER
(quietly)
My lady tells me you're looking for
the one called Fay?

GRISWOLD
Aye.

PUB OWNER
You sure you know what you're
looking for?

GRISWOLD
Aye, I'm sure. Sent on very
particular business by my master.

PUB OWNER
You're sure? (beat) Well, the one
called Fay don't really come round
these parts. So if you really
intend to *find*, you'll need to go
looking...

The PUB OWNER points out the small window behind the
bar. GRISWOLD turns to see the scattered lights of a small
fort on the top of a nearby mountain.

PUB OWNER (cont'd)
They call it Squire's Knoll, and
Fay's their bloody king. King of
Thieves... you'll have your work
cut out for you.

GRISWOLD
When is the best time to go up
there?

PUB OWNER
'Tis no best time! Day, night,
don't matter - they'll try and kill
you soon as you approach either
way. Tell you this much, you'll
have your work cut out for you...

3 EXT. SQUIRE'S KNOLL. NIGHT.

GRISWOLD pulls up on his steed to the drawbridge in front of
Squire's Knoll. Two guards immediately cross their swords
to bar his entry.

(CONTINUED)

GUARD 1

'Scuse me, sir, but I'm afraid
there'll be no passage through the
Knoll tonight. Fay's orders.

GRISWOLD

Very well. I'm not here to pass
through, I'm here to speak to Lord
Fay. Where is he?

The two guards look at each other in silence for a moment
before bursting into laughter.

GUARD 2

Lord Fay? You hear that? This big
oaf thinks he's hear to speak to
Lord Fay?

GUARD 1

Right lot of cheek he's got, this
one here, eh? (still laughing)

GRISWOLD

I will not be laughed at. I have
been sent by a very powerful master
and I will not be denied! Now I
command you, bring me to your
precious Lord, or send your
precious Lord to me!

GUARD 2

(No longer laughing)
Send Fay out to you, in the rain
and all, you command, eh? You
command?

GUARD 1

(Drawing his sword up)
We'll be the only ones making
commands here, eh?

GRISWOLD

Well, then I must apologize in
advance gentlemen. You are only
doing your jobs - therefore, I hope
you understand that I am only doing
mine...

GRISWOLD and GUARD 2 draw their swords. Their swords flash
in the torrential storm, clanging back and forth. Suddenly,
a silhouette drops into the midst of the battle. The two
guards pull back and salute immediately.

(CONTINUED)

GUARD 2
Your Lordship!

FAY stands, tall and cloaked, between the two guards and GRISWOLD, whose sword is still held high. GRISWOLD struggles to make out FAY'S face.

GRISWOLD
You are Lord Fay then, are you?

FAY
(voice muffled under the hood)
No.

GRISWOLD
No?

FAY
No. There is no "Lord"
here. There is only I.

GRISWOLD
(hesitantly)
But you are the one called
Fay? The leader of this band of
misfits and miscreants?

FAY
These are my men.

GRISWOLD
(pleading now)
Your Lordship, I have been sent to
find you by a very powerful master,
indeed. I work for someone who can
make you very rich!

FAY
Is that so? And why think you that
I have need for your fortune, when
I have acquired so much of my own?

The GUARDS chuckle to themselves. GRISWOLD grows impatient.

GRISWOLD
My Lord, there is not time to
explain. You must come with me,
now, if there is to be any hope!

FAY
Come with you? I see...
(beat) No, no I think
not. Guards...?

(CONTINUED)

GRISWOLD

(raising his sword once more)
I have been bid bring you back at
all costs. If you will not come
voluntarily, then I'm afraid-

FAY

Afraid? You're
afraid? (beat) Good.

In a sudden movement FAY is airborne, flying above GRISWOLD, who waves his sword blindly in the air but fails to reach. A flash of light shoots from underneath FAY'S cloak, knocking GRISWOLD down, his sword flying out of his. GUARD 2 hastily retrieves the sword and hands it up to FAY. Swooping down to catch the sword, the hood of the cloak falls down and FAY'S face is revealed.

GRISWOLD

But...but...you're...you're...just
a girl.

FAY, mid-twenties, is tall, with brown skin, flowing purple hair and flashing violet eyes. She pulls her large cloak more tightly around her surprisingly broad shoulders.

FAY

Oh, no, no, no, I am afraid you are
quite mistaken there. I am so much
more than that...

FAY flies up above GRISWOLD once more, and in a flash of light green glimmering ropes wrap themselves magically around his wriggling body.

GRISWOLD

How did you do that?

FAY

Take him away.

GRISWOLD

But wait! You must listen to what
I've been sent to tell you-

GUARD 2

You heard the lady!

The two GUARDS pulls the struggling GRISWOLD to his feet and begin to drag him into the palace past FAY, who stands stone still watching them. GRISWOLD continues to struggle and shout as he is pulled past her and out of sight.

(CONTINUED)

GRISWOLD

You must listen, My Lord - My
Lady! Please! The Oracle-

As GRISWOLD'S voice fades down the dark corridor, a second hooded figure, TATUM walks in the opposite direction towards FAY. TATUM is several years younger than FAY, caramel colored, with long bushy brown hair and dark brown eyes. She approaches FAY with an amused yet curious expression on her face.

TATUM

Who was that?

FAY

(her voice suddenly more
natural, less regal)
Some intruder. Claimed he worked
for some big shot, but judging by
his lack of reflexes and his
limited battle proficiency I'd say
he was just prattling. Didn't
even recognize magic when it was
used on him.

TATUM

So what was that oracle thing he
was screaming about? Damn near
woke the whole Knoll...

FAY

No idea. Pity I didn't stop to
listen though - sounds valuable,
eh?

TATUM

Ah, no need to fret - this steed'll
serve us nicely in the mean time!

The two woman laugh as FAY pulls her hood back up and they walk back into the Knoll, TATUM leading GRISWOLD'S steed alongside her. Two more guards run out behind them, shutting the drawbridge.

4

INT. THE ORACLE'S WORK SHOP. NIGHT.

The two guards from Squire's Knoll are visible closing the drawbridge on the surface of a large glass ball. The silhouettes of two woman block out some of the surface.

(CONTINUED)

SUMIRE

Damn it!

SUMIRE is mid-forties, average height, with dark violet hair. Beside her, THE ORACLE, an old woman of indeterminate age, tightens her heavy cloak around herself and pats SUMIRE on the arm.

THE ORACLE

There, there, dear, he'll be all right. They won't kill him, they'll just use him for some labor for a few days then release him. Chances are he'll stay with them, being one of them himself.

SUMIRE

I meant, damn her! Years trying to find this girl, and this is what we find? Are you sure this her? *This* is the only person who can help us?

THE ORACLE

Oh I'm positive, my dear. You saw her as plainly as I did - she can use magic. You've heard the stories of her reputation, the rumors of her...misadventures. This is exactly the person we've been looking for...

SUMIRE

(more hopeful than certain)
She'll never do it. You saw her, she wouldn't even listen to him. She won't do it.

THE ORACLE

She wouldn't listen to him because she had no respect for him. She didn't see him as an equal. We're simply going to have to go about this another way, my lamb. We need to send a messenger she can feel equal to.

SUMIRE

Surely you don't mean...

THE ORACLE

That's exactly what I mean, dear. (beat) You'll leave in the morning.

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE turns from the dark chamber and walks through a dimly lit side door. SUMIRE watches after her, hand resting on their gazing ball, looking crestfallen. She turns back to the crystal ball. FAY can now be seen, seating herself at the head of a large chamber of colorful and boisterous characters. She appears to reenacting her defeat of GRISWOLD to much acclaim.

SUMIRE

(Quietly, sadly)

What a monumental disappoint you
have turned out to be. You had
truly better be as good as she
believes you to be...

FAY'S face floats ghostlike inside the crystal ball, as SUMIRE blows out the candles in the chamber. The screen goes dark, save for a few wisps of smoke rising into the air. MAIN CREDITS ROLL: THE ORB OF OBBCLASIOSCSTIS.

5

INT. FAY'S PARLOR. DAY

FAY and TATUM are sitting in the parlor with GENTLE. GENTLE is about FAY'S age, tall with a slender warrior's build. He keeps an unusually close eye on FAY - so close, he doesn't notice the eye TATUM keeps on him. The three are drinking wine when the MESSENGER arrives.

MESSENGER

Fay, your Lordship! May I present
to you, back from his quest,
Albany?

FAY

Albany? Returned already? This
ought to be good...

ALBANY, a short bloated man in his mid 40s, enters behind the MESSENGER. He is carrying a large woolen sack which jangles with each step he takes. He wipes his brow with a handkerchief as he sets the bag in front of FAY.

FAY (cont'd)

Albany, welcome back! I must admit
I am rather surprised at how
quickly you've returned to us!

ALBANY

Yes, your Lordship. Well, as I
said before I left I was quite keen
to earn your trust and therefore,
do your bidding!

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Erm...yes, yes you were
eager. So...let's see how you've
done.

ALBANY takes the bag he has set down and turns it over. A large pile of goblets, silver plates, a few large necklaces, and other assorted treasures land in a heap on the rug before them. ALBANY looks up, smiling enthusiastically.

ALBANY

A good haul, eh?

FAY

(exchanging looks with TATUM)
Yes, it is
quite...impressive. Tell me, where
did you get this?

ALBANY

The Dark Palace!

FAY

(suddenly showing interest)
The Palace? You got into the
Palace?

ALBANY

Yes. Well, I mean, no. Not
quite. This was on a wagon of
garbage being hauled from the
Palace, and fell onto the path
before me.

FAY

(disappointed)
Oh. Right. (beat) Well, you
clearly have a good eye, even if
only dumb luck on your side, but
I'm afraid this isn't enough.

ALBANY

But...but you said! You said that
if I could come back from the High
Kingdom with bountiful enough
treasure, you would make me a
lieutenant like Tatum, and the
pretty boy here!

GENTLE stands, scowling at ALBANY. ALBANY takes a step
backward, but stands his ground.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

I did say that, yes. However, when I sent you in the High Kingdom, I didn't expect you to return! I assumed you'd be captured attempting some stupid stunt, like sneaking into the Palace, and you'd be arrested.

ALBANY

You thought I would fail, but you sent me anyway?

FAY

Yes. (beat) I'm sorry, but you're too much of a liability here. You're unreliable, your careless and I can't trust you to run things. My honest hope was that you'd be captured by Palace guards, and cease to be my concern.

ALBANY

Villain! Treachery!

TATUM

There's no need to be so dramatic!

ALBANY

We had a deal!

FAY

And I'm politely rescinding. I'm sorry Albany, but you're too much of a risk. I'm afraid I'm going to have to ask you to leave the Knoll for good.

FAY nods to GENTLE, who motions for the two guards by the door to step forward. GUARD 3 takes a hold of ALBANY's arm. ALBANY struggles against him but GUARD 4 takes a hold of his other arm.

FAY (cont'd)

(stepping down to face ALBANY)

I really am sorry Albany. I have to think about the good of us all, and unfortunately you're-

ALBANY spits in her face. GENTLE runs to him, striking him hard in the face. FAY steps in front of GENTLE as the GUARDS right ALBANY back into a standing position.

(CONTINUED)

FAY (cont'd)
It's all right.

ALBANY
No! No it's not all right! This
is my bloody home! You can't do
this to me!

The GUARDS begin to drag ALBANY from the chamber as he
continues to scream.

ALBANY (CONT)
No honor amongst thieves, eh? Eh,
Fay?

FAY watches ALBANY until he disappears around the
corner. His screams can still be heard.

FAY
(to herself more than TATUM)
Really, he left me no choice-

GUARD 1 (O.S.)
Fay! Fay!

GUARD 1 and GUARD 2 come running into the parlor.

GUARD 2
My Lady! There's an intruder in
the courtyard!

FAY
So take care of it. My guard is
more than capable of handling a
single-

GUARD 1
She's already taken out four of the
guard, laughing all the while! She
has demanded that you come to fight
her yourself. She swears she will
fight none but her match!

FAY
Oh does she? Well, I'd hate to
disappoint our guest. (gesturing to
TATUM and GENTLE)

The three run from the parlor, quickly pursued by the
guards.

6

EXT. SQUIRE'S KNOLL - COURT YARD. DAY.

FAY runs into the courtyard, followed by TATUM, GENTLE and the two GUARDS of the drawbridge. One GUARD lays dead in the center of the courtyard, and another GUARD helps his injured fellow to his feet. In the center of the courtyard stands SUMIRE, her cloak pulled high over her head. FAY approaches her slowly.

FAY

I believe you called me? (beat) What can I do for you? I see you have already had words with my guard.

SUMIRE

You have already had words with mine. (beat) Griswold, who came here on my request several days ago. Where is he?

FAY

Oh, you're here for him? I see... Well, I'm afraid that his delayed return to you is not my fault. I released him the day after he attacked my guard, and he elected to stay in the Knoll.

SUMIRE

I'm not here to collect him. I'm here to finish the business I sent him on.

FAY

Ah, so you're his all powerful master? Well, I suppose we shall see how powerful you are.

FAY attacks SUMIRE, who responds with unnaturally quick reflexes. The two battle fiercely for a few moments, neither gaining the advantage. SUMIRE's hood is dislodged, exposing her. FAY disengages from battle.

FAY (cont'd)

Enough! (beat) You have certainly proven your worth. If what you have to say to me is important enough for you to fight so fiercely, then I will hear it. Follow me.

FAY turns and walks briskly inside, TATUM and GENTLE following a step behind, looking confused. The bewildered GUARDS watch SUMIRE, as she runs into Squire's Knoll after them.

7

INT. FAY'S PARLOR. DAY.

FAY leads SUMIRE through the colorful marketplace that is Squire's Knoll. People are eating, sleeping, dancing, trading on all sides of them. They turn a corner. FAY walks swiftly into her parlor, flanked by GENTLE and TATUM. SUMIRE follows quickly behind, pursued closely by the GUARDS, who close the large doors to the chamber behind the four. FAY takes her seat at the head of the chamber, and gestures for SUMIRE to take a seat near her. SUMIRE remains standing.

SUMIRE

I am sent to you against my will. I do not wish to ask for your help. I have no love lost for thieves.

FAY

I'll be sure to bear that in mind. Now, you say you have some business for me?

SUMIRE

It would be best not to discuss the particulars here. My master would-

GENTLE

Your master? I thought you were Griswold's master?

SUMIRE

I contracted him to come in my place. My master is old now, and I do not like to leave her alone long so I can travel.

FAY

You've left her alone right now.

SUMIRE

Only on her orders, and because you dismissed Griswold so quickly!

FAY

(suspiciously)
How do you know that?

(CONTINUED)

SUMIRE

We've been watching you for quite a while. Which is why my master is determined that you are the only one who can help us. And which is why I am so reluctant to request your help, even on the Oracle's orders.

FAY

Again, duly noted. (beat) Continue.

SUMIRE

The Oracle has a proposition for you. She has needs for a service that she cannot perform herself, and that I cannot provide.

TATUM

What sort of service?

SUMIRE

A simple loot retrieval on a long abandoned, surely dangerous island. She thought it'd be right up your alley.

FAY

Normally it would be. But this sounds like a slightly time-consuming, and - as you said - potentially dangerous job. And as you can see, we certainly manage to find plenty of loot on our own. Why should this particular job be any different then the ones we find for ourselves?

SUMIRE

The Oracle was a former adviser to the Palace before the Dark Shadow ascended and destroyed the monarchy. She knows many secrets - old rituals...long forgotten mythologies....hidden treasures...

GENTLE

What sort of treasures?

SUMIRE

Priceless. Powerful. Very magical. The sorts of objects the
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SUMIRE (cont'd)
average person would recognize as
special but couldn't touch
anyway. Potentially dangerous
themselves.

FAY
In what ways?

SUMIRE
I'm not entirely sure. The Oracle
knows more about that, and can tell
you everything you'll need to know,
if you'll come with me to her cabin
near the sea. She couldn't make
the journey herself, you see...

TATUM
Why us? There are plenty of
thieves and rogues across this
kingdom who would do your bidding
for a much smaller percentage than
we would be taking from you. Why
did you send a messenger, then come
all this way yourself for us.

SUMIRE
(pointing to Fay)
For her.

FAY
For me?

SUMIRE
Like I said...these objects are
potentially dangerous, and potentially
magical. No mortal could touch
them.

FAY
Enough! (beat) I'm sorry to say
this miss-

SUMIRE
Sumire.

FAY
Right. You. Well, I'm sorry, but
I don't think we'll be able to help
you on this particu-

(CONTINUED)

SUMIRE
You can keep it all.

GENTLE
Excuse me?

SUMIRE
The treasure. You won't have a cut
of it. You'll have all of it.

FAY
(suspicious)
Excuse me?

SUMIRE
The treasure. You can keep
it. The Oracle has no use for
money or treasure. Her interests
are vested the history and the
significance of these items.

TATUM
So wouldn't she want to keep them?

SUMIRE
(slowly, carefully)
The value of these items for her is
not how much they can fetch her,
but whether or not she can see them
one more time.

GENTLE
You'll have to forgive me, Somora-

SUMIRE
Sumire!

GENTLE
Right, well, I'm having a little
trouble understanding how a
histrionic old woman could inspire
you to travel so far and battle so
hard just so she can reminisce-

FAY
We'll come to her.

SUMIRE
(surprised)
You will?

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

We will?

FAY

(smiling)

What can I say? Your story has touched my heart. Tell me, how far is your mistress' abode from here?

SUMIRE

Well, it's north, so going around the mountain and back up again will be about two days journey.

FAY

Nonsense! You're a guest in my court now, which means you'll have back door service! We'll travel directly north through the parts of the mountain pass we have occupied. Shouldn't even be a full days travel cutting right through the mountains.

SUMIRE

Are you sure that's safe?

FAY

(smiling strangely)

I'm the only reason they weren't to you before. (beat) We'll leave after dawn breaks. Tatum, could you see to it personally that Ms. Sumira-

SUMIRE

Sumire!

FAY

-has the finest accommodations our humble knoll can provide?

TATUM

(taken aback)

Well, yes, I mean, I-

FAY

Good, good! Well, you should be off to get her set. Sumire, if you'll just follow Gentle through the corridor, Tatum will be along momentarily to set you up for the night.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE leads SUMIRE through the door, staring at FAY in confusion. SUMIRE looks slightly suspicious, but weary, and follows him.

TATUM

(rounding on FAY)

Personally see to her
accommodations? I'm no lackey, we
have servants for that-

FAY

Not servants with eyes I trust, so
keen as yours. We'll go with her,
to be sure. And we'll speak to
this Oracle. But the conditions of
this job unsettle me, and her
seeming certain knowledge about
certain things-

TATUM

You mean your...special abilities?

FAY

Indeed. Well, I'd like to have a
word with The Oracle myself and
uncover just how much they know and
why they saw fit to find out.
(beat) And I must admit I am a
little intrigued by this treasure?

TATUM

(smiling)

Are we going on an adventure?

FAY

(smiling back)

We're going on an adventure!

8 EXT. THE MOUNTAINS. DAY

FAY leads GENTLE, TATUM and SUMIRE across the plains that
lie between the mountains at Squire's Knoll. The scene
changes as they cross another plain, the sea stretching out
before them.

9 EXT. THE SEASHORE. DAY

SUMIRE leads the FAY, GENTLE and TATUM up along the shore.

(CONTINUED)

TATUM
Is it much further?

SUMIRE
Just over this cliff.

The four ascend the cliff, and stare out over the precipice. A small but cozy looking cottage sits right next to the surf, a small trail of smoke coming from the lopsided chimney.

SUMIRE (cont'd)
Ah...she's been expecting us! I
hope you're hungry!

10 INT. THE ORACLE'S LAIR. DAY.

SUMIRE leads FAY, TATUM and GENTLE into the cottage. It is small, smoky and cramped with furniture. The three look around tentatively as SUMIRE walks determinedly through a maze of cauldrons, gazing balls and old velvet poof chairs.

SUMIRE
She'll be in the basement in her
workshop.

GENTLE
(aside to FAY and TATUM)
Basement workshop? And she came to
us because we looked dodgy?

The three follow SUMIRE down a spiral staircase into the basement.

11 INT. THE ORACLE'S WORKSHOP. DAY

SUMIRE pushes a beaded curtain aside as the three follow her into a smoky basement. THE ORACLE is standing in the center of the room in front of her large gazing ball. She looks up slowly as they approach her.

THE ORACLE
Hello, dear. It took you an awful
long time to find them. Did you
get lost, dear?

SUMIRE
They had the mountains
guarded. You were certainly
correct about how safe she'd be.

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE

Lovely, dear, lovely. So where is she then? Ah! (spotting FAY and rushing up to her) Fay dear, welcome, welcome. Can I take your cloak, dear?

THE ORACLE reaches for FAY'S cloak, which she pulls quickly tighter around herself, shaking her head vehemently. THE ORACLE doesn't seem to find this odd, and turning, notices TATUM standing, looking frightened behind FAY.

THE ORACLE (CONT'D)

Ah, and this must be Tatum!

THE ORACLE hastens from the confused-looking FAY to a startled-looking TATUM and grabs her arm. She smiles serenely up at her.

THE ORACLE (CONT'D)

Yes dear, you are young, quite younger than the ball showed me, yes. But you've been a good friend and a strong ally, yes dear. And you!

THE ORACLE moves suddenly to GENTLE, sizing him up. He jumps back slightly, but she doesn't seem to notice. SUMIRE suppresses a smile in the background.

THE ORACLE (CONT'D)

Ah, Gentle dear, yes, yes. You've grown up quite nicely. Though your name is perhaps not your most honest attribute is it, dear? (She coughs a wheezy hack as she laughs. The three exchange confused looks.) Well, dears, you've grown up lovely I say, just lovely! Yes, the three of you will do quite well!

FAY

Quite well for what? I thought you just needed someone to find some treasure for you?

THE ORACLE

Yes dear, of course, a treasure hunt is what it is for you and so a treasure hunt it should be! But it's good to see how nicely you've all grown! (SUMIRE coughs

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE (cont'd)
derisively in the background. FAY
shoots her a look) It's been so
difficult since the Shadow came,
and you young people have surely
suffered the worst of it without
even knowing it - orphans,
scoundrels, and the like. Poor
dears. (beat) You must be hungry!

THE ORACLE moves upstairs with surprising speed. The three
exchange concerned looks before all turning facing SUMIRE,
who smiles and turns up the stairs. The three follow her.

12 INT. THE ORACLE'S LAIR. DAY.

THE ORACLE is putting around the kitchen, muttering under
her breath as they approach. GENTLE turns to FAY to say
something but stops suddenly, staring: a steaming pot floats
alone through the air, landing softly on the table. Several
baguettes whiz by his head and land on a nearby cutting
board. FAY looks startled.

THE ORACLE
(turning her head and smiling)
What's the matter dear? Afraid of
magic?

Within seconds, FAY flips the table and moves to THE
ORACLE. She grabs THE ORACLE from behind. SUMIRE moves to
strike, but GENTLE holds her back with his sword while TATUM
fits an arrow into her bow.

THE ORACLE (cont'd)
(To SUMIRE)
Now, now, dear, there's no need to
be alarmed. It's all right my
lamb, she won't hurt me. She has
too many questions she wants to ask
me to kill me.

SUMIRE pulls back from GENTLE'S grasp, and leans against the
wall reluctantly. FAY lets go of THE ORACLE as if though
she has received an electric shock.

FAY
(breathing hard and fast)
Who are you? Why have you lured us
here?

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE

I didn't lure you my dear, you wanted to come so badly it practically hurt inside. Now come dear, let's eat something - you've traveled so far, you must be famished. Now since we both know you can use magic, why don't you be a dear and call in some fresh potatoes from the patch outside?

FAY pulls back from her hesitantly. GENTLE shakes his head slightly; TATUM looks frightened; SUMIRE surveys her with a strangely impatient expression. FAY raises her hand slowly and holds it towards the window, which opens slowly. A few seconds later several small spuds float lazily through the curtains. She directs them into the pot of boiling water. Her eyes never leave THE ORACLE.

THE ORACLE (cont'd)

Lovely dear, lovely. Now, why don't we all wash up so we can eat? I should say we have quite a few matters to discuss...

13 INT. THE ORACLE'S LAIR. NIGHT

THE ORACLE spoons stew into several bowls. SUMIRE, FAY, TATUM and GENTLE are seated around the table. No one is making eye contact.

THE ORACLE

Now dear, the very best place to begin is, of course, the beginning.

GENTLE

With the treasure?

THE ORACLE

No, no, my dear boy! Well, yes. The history of the treasures is why I need you to find them, in a manner of speaking. But it really begins with the fall of the kingdom and the rise of the Dark Shadow more than 20 years ago. Now, you all are too young to remember Obbclasioscstis before the Shadow, but it was a beautiful kingdom. I was adviser to King and watched the young Prince grow up. And when he took over the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE (cont'd)
throne, I was delighted to stay and
advise him - that is, until the
Shadow came...

TATUM
What is this Shadow? No one seems
to know, yet, we all know to be
afraid of it.

THE ORACLE
The Shadow is a man.

FAY
A man? The kingdom fell to hell,
and all because of one man?

THE ORACLE
(sweetly)
Said with the simple ignorance of
someone too young to know what
they're talking about. Now dear,
where was I? Yes...it was the
night that was regarded as the one
that would change the history of
this world forever. And so it
was... Suddenly, and from nowhere,
a dark cloud crossed the bright
night sky. Goblins and demons all
manner of dark creature came
pouring through the mountains
surrounding the kingdom. People
fled, screaming, crying,
frightened. Many were killed, most
injured badly. The Shadow was the
worst of it. The blackness was
unlike any fog we had seen. I'd
heard of nothing like it in all my
years of studying sorcery and
divination. It had a physical
effect on the world around.

SUMIRE
I was there. I was the Queen's-
(The ORACLE shakes her head in
warning) ...handmaiden. She and I
grew to be...close. I took care of
the young Princess. That night,
the King commanded the Queen to
take Portia and run. It was the
only time I had ever heard him
raise his voice. He told me to
take the two of them out of the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SUMIRE (cont'd)

Palace through the back and into his secret cave in the mountains. He would come and find us when it was safe. (beat) But I ruined everything! The Queen begged me to take Portia and run, that she couldn't leave without Cornelius, that everything within the magical realm was telling her he would be killed if she left his side. Against my better judgment, I took her the princess and ran.

TATUM

But I don't understand...if the Princess escaped, why hasn't she been able to take back the throne?

SUMIRE

(beginning to choke up)
I...failed her. As I was running, I saw some goblins cornering the children of some of the servants. Goblins are vicious creatures - I'd never even seen one before, but I knew they ate children! I hid Portia inside a secret cabinet in the wall so I could save them...but the goblins over powered me. I woke up three days later in the house of a nearby stableman. The Palace had crumbled into nothingness. The Princess was lost, and the Shadow had begun to rebuild the Dark Palace over the rubble.

THE ORACLE

There, there, dear. You did everything you could. And all hope is not lost - the King and Queen are still alive-

FAY

They're still alive? Then why haven't they done anything about this?

SUMIRE

They're prisoners. That night, when the Shadow overcame and the Queen ran back to the Palace to be

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SUMIRE (cont'd)
with her King, an ancient magic was evoked. If she had left with me the King could have been killed, because there was another suitable ruler still living. But when their lives were both in danger, the magical protections of the monarchy were set into motion. At the moment their lives were in the greatest danger from the Shadow they were rendered into stone.

SUMIRE (cont'd)
As long as the danger of the Shadow remains, their bodies will remain in that state, protected from the dangers of the Shadow, but also imprisoned by it, unable to save their Kingdom. (beat) That's why we need you to find the Orb.

TATUM
The what?

GENTLE
The Orb? But that's just a legend - it isn't real!

THE ORACLE
It isn't? How else could the King and Queen have been protected by an ancient magic they didn't even know about? If the Orb isn't real, then how do you explain the sudden absence of magic when it disappeared?

FAY
So there really was magic before?

THE ORACLE
Yes, dear, of course! The Orb of Obbclasioscstis was created by the Elders of the World, more millennia back than you could ever fathom! The Elders used their magic to forge this world out of the five quintessential elements that made up the physical world - earth, wind, water, grass, stone and fire. They gave us everything tangible we would need to

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE (cont'd)

thrive. But they also gave us the gift of magic. The Orb was the physical manifestation of these elements - the essence of life! - fused together with their ancient powers. As long we had the Orb, our kingdom would thrive and magic would be available to all mortals in this world as well as the magical beings. It was this equal access to magic that made Obbclasioscstis different from every other world and allowed us to remain a peaceful and thriving kingdom for so long.

SUMIRE

But the Orb was smart, as well. It grew more powerful over the centuries. It became stronger. There was much speculation over what one person could do if they wielded control over it. But of course, no one was ever foolish enough to try, for as long as the Orb was in tact, it would protect and serve all equally.

THE ORACLE

But the night the Shadow Lord destroyed the kingdom, its final act was to protect our King and Queen as best as it could, and then it...vanished.

SUMIRE

Self-destructed, more like.

FAY

And you expect us to find something that's been destroyed, probably before any of us was even born?

THE ORACLE

It broke itself back into its fundamental elements, but it is not destroyed. We need you to find those five precious pieces and bring them back to us.

(CONTINUED)

FAY
(looking angrily at SUMIRE)
Treasure hunt, eh?

FAY stands abruptly and pulls her tighter around her neck. GENTLE stands quickly to follow her. TATUM stand more slowly, looking sadly between THE ORACLE, still seated at the table, and her friends moving towards the door.

THE ORACLE
What's the matter, dear?

FAY
We was called in to look for
treasure, not to go on some damn
fool's quest!

GENTLE
Forgive me saying so, ma'am, but
there's no paycheck in a hero's
quest, just a lot of
bother. (turning to
FAY) We'd have been better off
staying in the Knoll-

TATUM
It might...be fun...

FAY
No Tatum! Fun don't get you
killed! Fun don't get you on a
wild goose chase looking for things
that have been lost for twenty-odd
years!

SUMIRE
They aren't lost.

FAY
'Scuse me?

SUMIRE
The treasures. They aren't
lost. We know where they are.

GENTLE
Then why not go get them
yourselves?

THE ORACLE
We can't, dearies. They are on an
island to the north - the only
place in world left with
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE (cont'd)
magic. This island has been
untouched since the Shadow came -
excepting, of course, that the Orb
broke apart and returned to the
ancient magical grounds whence it
came.

FAY
Too far to travel for your precious
Orb, then?

SUMIRE
(getting angry now)
Only a magical being could enter
that island. I have...no magic,
and the Oracle's is all book taught
- sorcery and divination and the
like. Even if we got on to the
island, we wouldn't be able to find
the treasures, and we couldn't
stand a chance against the
guardians of the island!

THE ORACLE
But you dear...you could easily
walk onto that shore and get what
we need.

FAY
Let me get this straight...you want
us to go fight a bunch of evil
monsters to bring back this Orb for
you?

THE ORACLE
Ah, but are they evil because they
are so, or because they will be
your enemy and you fashion
yourself the good? They are noble
guardians of the elements, doing
their ancient and magically-bound
duty - no more, no less. (beat)
True it will be dangerous, and
certainly they are perhaps fighters
more skilled than yourselves. But
you're the only one of your kind
left on this barren world and-

FAY
I don't know what you mean.

FAY turns angrily, and yanks the front door open. THE
ORACLE steps up quietly behind her.

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE

I think you do, dear. Now why don't you be a good girl and show us what you've got underneath of that cloak.

TATUM and GENTLE exchanged scared looks as FAY turns slowly back into the room. She removes her cloak hesitantly, her eyes never leaving THE ORACLE. The cloak falls heavily onto the floor behind her revealing her back. A large hole has been cut into the back of her shirt, and a glimmering tangle of something gauzy and opalescent shimmers against her skin. She squirms slightly as the tangle unfolds itself into a beautiful pair of wings, worse for the wear but magnificent. SUMIRE gasps. TATUM grabs GENTLE'S hand in fear. THE ORACLE smiles, her eyes welling.

THE ORACLE (cont'd)

(in a hushed voice)

Can you fly?

FAY

No. Not really. Not much opportunity to practice, you see.

THE ORACLE

I haven't seen a faerie in over twenty years. Most managed to escape the night the Shadow Lord took over, and those who didn't died in the ensuing battle and massacres on the kingdom. How you have survived is even a miracle.

FAY

An old woman found me. She raised me, taught me how to keep them hidden, told me how dangerous it would if the other kids, if their parents, ever found out what I was. When she died, I found ways to take care of myself. I found Tatum on the streets and took her with me. Gentle had already started gathering some orphans when we met. It wasn't hard to build our little colony, to take care of ourselves...

THE ORACLE

And it made you strong. Strong enough to become a woman without parents or guardianship. Strong

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE (cont'd)
enough to become an authority
figure to those who needed a
leader. And strong enough to know
the right thing when it needs to be
done, and to do it, even when there
is no clear reward for you.

THE ORACLE and FAY hold eye contact for a long time. FAY looks as if she is using every ounce of her strength not to cry.

THE ORACLE (CONT'D)
The rewards for this service are
greater than I could ever describe
to you, greater than perhaps I
could even predict. Only you have
the power to restore the Orb, to
return the kingdom the way it was
before, to avenge the deaths of
your parents. Only you have the
power to set things right. And
only you can decide to go forth,
knowing now what you know.

FAY surveys the room, making an uncomfortable eye contact with everyone, before sweeping from the cottage through the front door.

14 EXT. THE ORACLE'S LAIR. NIGHT.

FAY storms down the beach towards the shore, cursing. TATUM runs from the cottage after her, stopping as FAY throws herself onto the sand at the shoreline. FAY stares into the water and sees her reflection, her wings unfolded crookedly behind her. She stares for a long time, touching her battered wings and wincing slightly. TATUM walks up slowly beside her, sitting down next to her in the sand. She takes FAY'S hand slowly in her own. FAY quickly tries to wipe away her tears before smiling up at TATUM.

FAY
You should go back inside, and get
some rest. If we're traveling
north, we'll be needing to leave
early.

TATUM
Are we going on an adventure?

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Aye. We're going on an
adventure...

15 EXT. THE SEASHORE. DAY

Montage of their journey's beginning: FAY, TATUM and GENTLE hiking along the cliffs above the seashore; the three at the edge of the still shore, FAY waving her hand in an intricate pattern and mouthing under her breath, the water breaking apart as she does so, three dolphins emerging.

THE ORACLE (V.O.)

The magical barrier to the island
will keep it from being visible to
any but magical eyes. This is
where you come in, my dear. You
will need to guide them onto the
island, and through it once you
have crossed. Once you have
entered the island, there's no
turning back.

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE are each mounted on the back of a dolphin, splashing through the clear blue water. TATUM is laughing, joyously, while FAY struggles to maintain her grip on her dolphin, and GENTLE looks like he is going to be sick.

DOLPHIN

Are you all right, miss?

FAY

(to GENTLE)

Did the dolphin just talk to me?

The DOLPHINS all dissolve into giggles, before diving under the water and jumping back out again.

THE ORACLE (O.S.)

The Forbidden Isle is protected by
millennia-old magic that can't be
undone. The island will know once
you are there, and why. If you
don't succeed, the island will
create a new barrier specifically
set against you, imprisoning you
there for all eternity. You must
act quickly if you are to have any
hopes of escaping the island alive.

(CONTINUED)

The three dolphins and their passengers stop short in the middle of the water, several hundred yards from a shore line. The shore is hard to make out through the strange thick mist rises in front of it like a wall.

THE ORACLE (O.S.) (cont'd)

The only way to leave is from the other side, by breaking the spell binding the isles. The only way to do that is to retrieve the treasures of the Orb. They are guarded by highly magical and deadly creatures. It is not the will of these creatures to be tricked or talked out of these treasures; they are magically bound to keep you from taking them from the island.

FAY indicates they need to move forward, and her dolphins shakes its head, refusing to go on. FAY looks reluctantly at her companions, then throws herself into the water. TATUM and GENTLE join her, splashing and swimming alongside her; only TATUM is a proficient swimmer, and helps the others struggle alongside her. FAY swims through the mist first, turning to look behind her. On the other side, TATUM and GENTLE are floating listlessly, calling for her. FAY swims back through the mist, and putting one of each of their hands on her shoulder, guides them through the mist.

THE ORACLE (V.O.)

Once you have found them all you must find the key and restore the Orb to power. Do you understand, dears?

FAY, TATUM, GENTLE (V.O.)

Yes.

FAY pulls GENTLE and TATUM onto the shore of a small island, completely surrounded in mist. FAY squints through the harsh sun. The outline of a small bridge is barely visible through the thick fog. FAY grabs TATUM and GENTLE each by one arm and tugs them toward the bridge. They both pull against her, looking around in confusion.

GENTLE

Are we almost bloody there yet?

FAY

Yes!

16

EXT. SERF BEACH. DAY

FAY pulls them through the mist and onto the bridge. TATUM and GENTLE trot along beside her clumsily. The three walk through the swirling mist, coming off the bridge on the other side. TATUM and GENTLE fall onto the sand, shielding their eyes from the intense sunlight. FAY walks ahead of them, her wings flexing behind her; she breaths in deep, smiling to herself.

FAY
(to herself)
Magic.

FAY walks ahead, taking in the palm trees, the brightly colored birds, the sparkling golden sands, the dazzling blue water. TATUM and GENTLE slowly rise behind her, shaking slightly and looking around. GENTLE scowls, looking confused. TATUM shakes her head a few times before smiling.

TATUM
It's a beach! I'm sure of it, I've
seen them in picture books!

FAY
Yes, I think you're
right. Adventure enough for you?

TATUM nods happily. GENTLE pulls out his sword, squinting into the jungle.

GENTLE
I don't care for this forest. The
trees are too dense. Someone could
ambush us before we'd even have a
chance to see them coming.

TATUM
It's a jungle, not a forest. And I
don't think bandits stay in jungles
the same way they do in
forests. We're probably the only
humans on this whole island.

FAY
And if I'm not mistaken, we're
going to have to cut through this
jungle if we're going to find
anything.

FAY steps forward into the trees, TATUM watching her tentatively and GENTLE holding his sword aloft with one hand and swatting a large brightly colored insect away with the other.

(CONTINUED)

FAY (O.S.)
Come on, you lot! This is bloody
brilliant!

TATUM smiles at GENTLE then runs happily into the jungle. GENTLE watches her depart. A large parrot flies over head and a pile of bird droppings lands on his should. GENTLE shakes his head, rushing into the jungle after them.

GENTLE
Bloody jungle...

17 EXT. CALCOTTI JUNGLE. DAY

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE walk wearily through the thick jungle, stumbling over plants and swatting large bugs away. They are all glistening with sweat, and have several scratches and bite marks on their exposed arms and faces. GENTLE is using his sword like a machete.

TATUM
I think the forest is thinning out.

GENTLE
Tell that to my sword.

TATUM
No really! Look, it's getting
lighter in here-

GENTLE
It's a bloody jungle on a bloody
beach. If there's not a monsoon,
it's sunny!

FAY
No I think she's right...

The three walk forward over a steadily sloping ground. GENTLE slips and slides down the hill, digging his sword in the ground to stop himself. FAY and TATUM laugh as they leap lightly over him, landing softly on the sand below him.

FAY (cont'd)
Guys, if I'm not mistaken I think
we've found our first mark!

(CONTINUED)

FAY points ahead of her as GENTLE regains his footing, wiping mug and bugs off of his pants. They are standing on a smooth sandy desert, gleaming even more like gold than the shore. A pyramid rises out from what appears to be a large stone barrier.

TATUM

A pyramid! It's just like in those stories about the ancient 'gyptians!

GENTLE

Those stories aren't real, Tatum! Bet there wasn't even a planet Ea-

FAY

They may be folklore, Gentle, but that is most certainly a pyramid! And if there's a pyramid, there must be a tomb inside. And if there's a tomb...

GENTLE

...there's treasure.

FAY

Exactly.

FAY and TATUM exchange one quick look before turning and running toward the pyramid, laughing. GENTLE yells after them, shaking his head once more.

GENTLE

Women...

18

EXT. TRIHSTAN DESERT. DAY

FAY and TATUM run across the sand to the large archway cut into the immense stone wall. They halt abruptly, catching their breath as GENTLE runs up behind them. FAY runs her hand over the small vines growing over the side of the stone wall. A shimmer of glittery smoke rises up underneath her fingertips.

FAY

This is definitely it. This fort is crawling with magic!

GENTLE

What's that?

(CONTINUED)

FAY follows his eyes to the archway in the stone wall. On the other side of the opening is a shimmery haze, twinkling occasionally as it catches the sun.

TATUM

It must be another one of them magical barriers. What if it don't let us through?

FAY

It will.

GENTLE

But this is ancient magic, right? What if it knows we ain't?

FAY

Well, I'm with you. And I won't let nothing happen to you, mortal or not.

GENTLE smiles strangely at FAY, as TATUM happily takes hold of her hand. FAY grabs GENTLE by the forearm.

FAY (cont'd)

Stay close by me.

Guiding TATUM and GENTLE, FAY steps through archway and into the haze.

19 INT. THE MAZE. DAY

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE walk through the haze, the archway behind them disappearing into solid wall. GENTLE and TATUM look around, frightened, but FAY tightens her grip on their arms. They walk, following the winding walls.

FAY

I'm not sure what this place is, but whatever it is, we got to cross through here to get to that pyramid, and it seems to me there ent no way out of here, but to go on. Just stay close by me. Something about this place kind of gives me the creeps...

TATUM

This is the strangest fort I've ever seen before. Nothing at all like the Knoll.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

I don't think this is a fort,
kid. I think it's a labyrinth.

FAY

A labyrinth? Meaning like a maze?

GENTLE

Reckon so. Why else would there be
all these twists and turns? And
we've definitely turned a few
corners when there were other doors
still further down the wall.

FAY

A little less subtle than magic for
confusing us, but it'll do. We'll
need to come up with some sort of a
plan, then.

FAY begins to examine the rock of the closest wall, pressing
her fingers against the crevices. A dark shadow moves
across her hand. The three turn abruptly but see nothing
behind them

TATUM

Do you get the feeling we're not
the only ones in here?

GENTLE

We couldn't be that lucky,
kid. No, I'd say we are most
definitely not alone.

FAY

Hey you lot, I think we need to go
this way. There seems to be a
stronger magical pull coming from
this direction. Come on.

TATUM and GENTLE turn to follow FAY. The silhouette of a
dark hulking figure watches them leave and disappears behind
them.

20

INT. THE MAZE. DAY

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE are walking along a long dark stone
wall, looking weary, sweaty and scared. FAY'S wings are
flapping weakly as she goes along, and occasionally she will
rise a few feet in the air before floating back down to the
ground.

(CONTINUED)

TATUM

You're getting quite good at that!

FAY

Thanks.

GENTLE

This is a bloody trap.

TATUM

No, Gentle, come on then, we just have to go a little further-

GENTLE

No! I'm telling you it's a bloody trap! We've been walking for hours, wasting what little time we have to get no where. We'll die before find food or water, let alone a way out. And I'll be buggered if there hasn't been something following us this whole bloody time!

TATUM

But-

FAY

He's right. (beat) I hate to admit it, but he is. At least, there is something most definitely following us, and I wouldn't be surprised if that something is what's getting us all mixed up in the first place.

GENTLE

What do you suggest we do?

FAY

(shrugging)

I dunno. Find it so we can least find out way out of here and go from there.

TATUM

And kill it?

FAY

If we must.

An audible GASP is heard O.S. The three turn towards the direction it came from. HOOVES SCURRY away from them quickly. FAY and GENTLE turn to chase it quickly. TATUM watches in horror for a moment, before turning and pursuing them.

21 INT. THE MAZE. DAY

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE round the corner in pursuit of a large creature in shadow. At FAY'S direction, TATUM pulls her bow and an arrow from her quiver, preparing to fire. O.S. the creature they pursue GASPS again before stumbling. A cloud of dust flies up around them, and the three cough. As the dust clears, a large MINOTAUR is revealed to be laying on the ground, GROANING loudly and holding it's leg. FAY nods to TATUM who shakily raises her bow and arrow. She hesitates. The MINOTAUR groans louder.

TATUM
(dropping her bow and arrow)
I think he's hurt!

GENTLE
Good! Makes it easier to hit the
damn thing, don't it?

TATUM walks slowly towards the MINOTAUR, who looks up to see her and covers his head, GROANING again and shaking. Frowning, she joins TATUM next to the shaking creature.

TATUM
(kneeling down beside the
MINOTAUR)
Excuse me, um...sir? Are you okay?

MINOTAUR
(looking up in horror)
Ah!

FAY
He looks fine. Just rattled I
think.

TATUM
His leg!

TATUM gestures to the MINOTAUR'S leg, which is twisted slightly and bleeding from the knee. FAY kneels down beside the creature, who tries to pull away from her but CRIES OUT in pain once more.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Look you...I'm just going to look. I just want to see how badly you're hurt.

TATUM

We, uh, come in peace...? We're not here to harm you.

GENTLE

Maybe we are! How do we know this thing isn't what's got the treasure?

MINOTAUR

(to TATUM)

Master's looking for the treasure of the Earth Element?

TATUM

Yes, um, that is to say, we are looking for this Earth...thingie.

MINOTAUR

You're not here to get me?

FAY

What the bloody hell would we want with you? (TATUM shoots her a look) I mean...why would we want to harm you?

MINOTAUR

They said I wouldn't survive out here without them. Said the bad things would come to hurt me. And here you are!

GENTLE

Who said?

MINOTAUR

The King and Queen. When they threw me out. Said I couldn't survive on my own - said I was useless, even to myself. And they was right! I couldn't even make you three get lost enough to just go!

FAY

So you have been steering us about a bit. Then you have some magic, eh?

(CONTINUED)

MINOTAUR

(sobbing)

Some, miss. But not enough. Not enough to stay in Palace.

GENTLE

You mean that big golden pyramid up yonder?

MINOTAUR

Of course sir - what other Palace do you see?

TATUM giggles, causing the MINOTAUR to smile slightly. FAY moves closer towards him, and he recoils a bit.

TATUM

Really, she won't hurt you. She's very good at healing wounds - um, magic you might say...

MINOTAUR

(surveying FAY'S wings)

You're a...a real faerie then? (FAY nods) What are you doing so far from Algata, then? And what'chu so big for?

FAY

What's Algata?

MINOTAUR

Algata...where the fairies come from. You're one...you must come from there, then!

FAY

Are there still fairies there, then?

The MINOTAUR shrugs as FAY wipes the blood from his leg with a rag from her bag. FAY throws the rag down.

FAY (cont'd)

Are there still more faeries, then? Answer me!

The MINOTAUR pulls his bleeding leg from her hand, GASPING and SOBBING again. TATUM puts her arm around him.

TATUM

Fay!

(CONTINUED)

FAY

(sighing)

Look, I'm...I'm sorry. Please, let me dress your wound. I'm sorry, okay? I just didn't know there were still other faeries left in the world...

MINOTAUR

Well of course there are, miss! Where do you think they all went when the Dark Shadow came?

GENTLE

What do you know about the Dark Shadow, then?

MINOTAUR

Very little...only what I overheard before...in the Palace...

GENTLE

Why did you leave the Palace?

MINOTAUR

They said I had to. Said I was good for nothin' and just got in their way. So they kicked me out. The King and Queen did. Said I couldn't come back until I was worth something...

TATUM

They sound vicious. (The MINOTAUR nods) And they have this Earth Element, I suppose? The treasure we're after? (The MINOTAUR nods again)

TATUM sighs and FAY ties a thin strip of stone to his knee with her rag. The MINOTAUR groans, but lets TATUM help him to his feet. He stands gingerly, putting his weight on his leg.

MINOTAUR

(turning to FAY)

Thank you miss! That was very kind of you to help me, what with me getting you mixed up and all. Miss is very kind!

(CONTINUED)

FAY

I'm sorry we startled you and made
you fall in the first place.

MINOTAUR

Oh, it's all right. They was
right, I am good for nothin'. I
wish I was good for somethin' so I
could repay you...

GENTLE

Hey...do you still know how to get
to the Palace from here?

MINOTAUR

Course I do! Who do you think
built this maze for the King and
Queen to hide in in the first
place?

The three smile at each other as the MINOTAUR gingerly leads
the way through the maze.

22

EXT. PSI PYRAMID. DAY.

The MINOTAUR leads FAY, TATUM and GENTLE out of the Maze,
into a open space before the great golden pyramid. Several
small harpies fly over head, zooming low over the trio and
squawking nastily at the MINOTAUR.

MINOTAUR

This is as far as I dare go, young
misses and master. The Queen has
sworn she'd kill me if I ever set
foot inside the Palace again.

FAY

Then taking us this far is more
than we could have ever asked for.

GENTLE

Thank you, friend.

GENTLE reaches his hand out towards the MINOTAUR who looks
at him speechless for a moment before shaking it. His
large brown eyes well with tears.

MINOTAUR

(nodding)

Yes...friend. Thank you as well.

(CONTINUED)

FAY bows to the MINOTAUR before shaking his hand as well. TATUM smiles at him for a moment before embracing him. The MINOTAUR looks startled, but pleased. The three bow one last time before turning to the great pyramid. The harpies swirl around.

GENTLE

Bugger off!

GENTLE tries to pull his sword, but several harpies latch their claws around the blade, immobilizing him. TATUM reaches for her bow, but a harpie latches onto it as well. FAY holds her arm across TATUM.

FAY

Wait!

HARPIE 1:

Intruders! Conspirators! Friends
of the foul Minotaur!

TATUM

Yeah, we are friends of the
Minotuar! What of it!

HARPIE 2:

A crime punishable by death!

FAY

Well, then you'd best take us to
your wretched King and Queen for
our punishment then, eh?

GENTLE

Fay, what the-?

TATUM

Yeah! Take us to your masters
then, if our crime is so great!

GENTLE

Oh, right! Yeah, we love that old
Minotaur! What of it?

HARPIE 1:

Traitors! Pigs! Lovers of
lowliness!

HARPIE 2:

Take them to the Queen! That will
set them straight, all right!

(CONTINUED)

FAY
(smiling)
It sure will...

23 INT. PSI PYRAMID. DAY.

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE are pushed into the great golden throne room of the Psi Pyramid by a group of SQUAWKING harpies. At the top of a great platform, two large hulking figures sit on two thrones in the shadows. On a small table between them is a short table with a glass dome atop; inside the dome glows the Earth Element, a small hourglass filled with glittering, golden dust. As the three are pushed forward into the dim golden light, the door slams shut behind them, and the sound of the harpies dies suddenly. Hesitant, FAY steps forward, TATUM and GENTLE following delicately.

FAY
Are you the King and Queen of this desert?

KING MANTICORE
I am the ruler of this great golden pyramid and its surrounding arid splendor, yes. And who are you, so bold in my presence?

FAY
(gesturing to the Element)
Oh just a harmless treasure seeker.

QUEEN SPHINX
(from the shadows)
What do you know, foolish mortal?

FAY
(unfolding her wings swiftly)
Apparently, more than you do!

QUEEN SPHINX
(laughing and stepping down)
Ah, a faerie, is it? How delightful! It's been so long since we've hosted any lesser magical creatures than ourselves. And those two - they are human?

TATUM and GENTLE step forward, trembling. GENTLE nods stiffly once and TATUM grabs his arm. The QUEEN SPHINX licks her lips hungrily, and the two step back hastily. She laughs quietly to herself.

(CONTINUED)

QUEEN SPHINX (cont'd)

Mortal fools...now you,
faerie. You may be worthy of my
time. How did you find us? And
why did you seek the Element?

FAY

The means by which I found you are
mine alone to know! And the use
which I have for it goes beyond
your limited scope of the world -
far beyond your bloody desert!

KING MANTICORE

You're not the first foolish
treasure hunters to come seeking
this gem.

FAY

What I seek, your *Lordship*, is more
than treasure...

QUEEN SPHINX

You've come for the Orb, then?

FAY

That's a matter to my own devices,
and not for you to know I'm afraid.

KING MANTICORE

Fool! Even if you could retrieve
this treasure from us what makes
you think you could win a fool's
quest and leave this island
alive? What makes you worthy to
defeat a hitherto undefeated
ancient magic?

FAY

I'm afraid that's for me to know as
well.

Suddenly, the door BURSTS open once more. A SQUAWKING band
of harpies ushers in the trembling MINOTAUR; he is shaking
and his leg is bleeding once more from under his
bandages. TATUM moves to help him, but GENTLE holds her in
place.

KING MANTICORE

The Minotaur!

(CONTINUED)

QUEEN SPHINX

The means by which you found us,
fool, seem to have revealed
themselves without your
help! Minotaur!

The harpies push the trembling MINOTAUR forward into the great golden pool of light. He and FAY exchange frightened looks.

KING MANTICORE

I'm sure you recall, slave, the
Queen's orders were you ever to
return to this palace.

MINOTAUR

Your Majesty, I-I-

QUEEN SPHINX

Fool! Imbecile! Unworthy,
wretched, vile-

TATUM

Enough!

The QUEEN SPHINX turns, wide-eyed with surprise, towards TATUM, who has broken free from GENTLE and run to the MINOTAUR.

TATUM (CONT'D)

You-you-you mangy alley cat!

GENTLE

Tatum!

TATUM

You wretched, vile creature! How
dare you! You cruel, heartless-

KING MANTICORE

Enough! Mortal, come forward!

Shaking, TATUM steps forward, one slow step at a time, towards the KING MANTICORE. Back on her throne, the QUEEN SPHINX is shaking with rage.

QUEEN SPHINX

Continue, mortal. You wished to
address me?

TATUM

How-how dare you! Sit there on
your throne, and bark out orders as

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TATUM (cont'd)
if you're so much better than us
because we're human or him because
he's a minotaur. What makes being
a sphinx so great?

QUEEN SPHINX
The Sphinx, you petulant, pitiful
child, is among the most
magnificent and clever of all
ancient magical creatures! Our
superior intelligence and wit could
drive your puny mortal minds into
the depths of madness trying to
undo our riddles! As long as we
are the most intellectually
superior creatures, we shall also
be in command of those weaker,
inferior slobs!

QUEEN SPHINX looks at the MINOTAUR, who shakes himself into
collapse. The KING MANTICORE watches her, frowning but
silent. The QUEEN SPHINX GROWLS into the air, and the
harpies surrounding the MINOTAUR surround him,
attacking. The MINOTAUR shrieks. TATUM tries to run to his
aid, but GENTLE grabs her once more. She screams, sinking
into his arms.

FAY
Enough! If you're so clever then
you have nothing to worry about
then, eh? Tell me! What do I need
to do to earn the Element! Do we
battle?

QUEEN SPHINX
Typical human attitude - how long
have you lived among these mortal
wretches? I am not one of the
baser magical creatures - I am the
Queen of all ancient magical
beings! I will not lower myself by
touching you! If you wish to earn
this ancient treasure, then you
will have to prove your worth in a
less heathen way. You will need to
solve my riddle.

GENTLE
That's it? We need to solve a
bloody mind game.

(CONTINUED)

KING MANTICORE

Mortal fool! No one has ever solved the Queen's riddle, not even myself! And if you cannot answer her correctly, you will be magically bound to serve her forever in this palace until someone worthy does!

FAY looks down at the KING MANTICORE'S great paws and notices a large golden chain tied around him, locking him to his throne. He sees her looking, and kicks the chain behind him, GROWLING loudly. FAY backs up one step, but keeps her gaze fixed on him, resolute.

FAY

Very well. We will hear your riddle, *Queen*.

KING MANTICORE

Be fair warned, fools, that if you believe yourself incapable of solving her riddle, you can leave this palace without saying a word, and never return. But anything you say once she has spoken will be your answer. Misspeak and you will remain here forever.

GENTLE

Um, a word?

FAY walks back to GENTLE and TATUM. The MINOTAUR is shaking his head frantically at them.

FAY

We have no choice!

GENTLE

Yes we bloody well do! We can choose to leave right now!

FAY

We're stuck on this damn island unless we can get these treasure anyway!

GENTLE

I'd rather be stuck in the bloody maze than a prisoner to some filthy mongrel!

(CONTINUED)

TATUM

You're just as bad as she is! And we can't give up yet - we've just gotten here, haven't we? We can't quit now, not without even trying!

FAY

She's right. We have to at least hear her riddle. (Turning to the QUEEN SPHINX) Very well! We'll hear your riddle.

QUEEN SPHINX

Very well... What three letters come next? O, T, T, F, F, S, S?

The QUEEN SPHINX grabs the hour glass from the table next to her and turns it over. The golden sand begins to flow smoothly from one side to the next.

QUEEN SPHINX (cont'd)

You have five minutes.

FAY steps back, looking flabbergasted. GENTLE is staring at the QUEEN SPHINX, looking stunned. TATUM is frowning slightly. FAY walks slowly to the GENTLE and TATUM and sadly shakes her head. GENTLE claps his hand on her shoulder, and turns to the MINOTAUR. He nods solemnly, and the MINOTAUR looks sadly down at his feet. The harpies kick him in the back of the head, knocking him to his knees. GENTLE opens his mouth to shout, but FAY clasps her hand quickly over his mouth, shaking her head desperately. Slowly he nods before gesturing to TATUM. The QUEEN SPHINX watches, smirking, as FAY and GENTLE walk back towards the entrance. TATUM remains fixed in place, watching the ground, frowning as her lips move slightly. FAY turns, looking at her frightened!

TATUM

E, N, T!

FAY

No!

FAY and GENTLE run back to TATUM, grabbing her and shaking her. TATUM laughs.

GENTLE

Damn it Tatum, why? You'll be stuck here for bloody ever!

(CONTINUED)

TATUM

Eight, nine, ten! One, two, three,
four-

FAY

Five, six, seven!

QUEEN SPHINX

No...

KING MANTICORE

Yes.

QUEEN SPHINX

No!

The QUEEN SPHINX flies from her throne, knocking TATUM down.

QUEEN SPHINX (cont'd)

How did you do it mortal,
fool? How did you
know? Cheater! Traitor! How?

The QUEEN SPHINX bears down on TATUM when suddenly she is knocked aside by the KING MANTICORE. The golden chain around his leg dissolves into nothingness. The QUEEN SPHINX looks up into the KING MANTICORE'S face, horrified.

QUEEN SPHINX (cont'd)

How? It's not possible! How?

KING MANTICORE

It seems like the mortals and the
lower, baser magical creatures
weren't quite as unworthy as you
thought!

The KING MANTICORE smacks the QUEEN SPHINX with his great paw, and she dissolves into a shattering burst of golden light. The harpies fly away into the dazzling sunlight, their SHRIEKING dying as they disappear from sight. TATUM runs to the MINOTAUR, helping the shaking beast to his feet. The KING MANTICORE sits back slowly on his great haunches, rubbing the place on his great leg where the chain had bound him. TATUM approaches him slowly.

TATUM

Your Majesty?

KING MANTICORE

You have freed me from one of the
most ancient, cunning and fearsome
creatures of our realm. I thank
you.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

How did she manage to take you
prisoner, your Majesty?

KING MANTICORE

The Sphinx came to my Palace, many
years ago, and challenged me on the
premise of seeking the treasure. I
didn't realize what she truly
sought was power. When I braced
myself to battle her, she suggested
a game of wits instead. Believing
myself to be more clever than I am,
I acquiesced but was unable to
answer her riddle. I became her
slave until someone else could
answer it but no one else ever
came. Until you. My arrogance
was my downfall...as it was hers.

FAY

Well, then, your Majesty, I must
congratulate on your new found
freedom, then beg your pardon that
I must challenge you so quickly
after to battle for the Earth
Element.

KING MANTICORE

There will be no need,
faerie. When the Sphinx took over
the Palace, she also took over
Guardianship of the Orb treasure,
and you have in fact defeated
her. You've solved her riddle. It
is yours now. (Smiling) And to be
honest, I'm rather glad to be rid
of it...

The KING MANTICORE takes the small hourglass from the table
next to his throne and carries it gently down to FAY. FAY
received the Earth Element from the KING MANTICORE, bowing
slightly as she takes it from him. The golden sand glitters
and twinkles as she turns it under her hands. Ripping a
swatch of fabric from her cloak, she wraps the treasure
delicately and places it inside of her rucksack.

24 EXT. A SMALL FARMING VILLAGE OUTSIDE OBBCLA. DAY.

A POOR FARMER is tugging scraggly dry roots from the dusty soil behind his rundown shack. Nearby, his very thin and dirty children tug haplessly on some fruitless vines. Suddenly, the ground underneath of him gives way more easily. The next root he removes is thicker and darker. He looks down to see that the soil is suddenly rich and moist, glowing a slight golden color. He shouts excitedly.

POOR FARMER
Deirdre! Deirdre!

He grabs a clump of soil and runs into his shack. From inside THE FARMER'S WIFE shouts excitedly. Shouts of joy erupt from the surrounding farms as the inhabitants of the small village realize that the land is becoming fertile once more.

25 INT. DARK PALACE - GUARD TOWER. DAY.

GOBLIN SOLIDER 1 is napping at his post at the first guard tower when the sound of SHOUTING awakens him suddenly. He looks through his binoculars down into the village on the outskirts of the kingdom. Farmers and their families are celebrating, raking their fingers through the suddenly rich soil. GOBLIN SOLDIER 1 runs from his post down the long dark hallway.

26 INT. DARK PALACE - GOBO'S LAIR. DAY.

GOBLIN SOLDIER 1 runs into GOBO'S lair. GOBO, the head goblin soldier, looks up, frowning.

GOBO
What is the meaning of this
intrusion?

GOBLIN SOLDIER 1
Beggin' your pardon, sir! There
seems to be a disturbance outside
the village!

GOBLIN SOLDIER 1 holds his binoculars out to GOBO, who snatches them from his hands, still frowning. GOBO goes to his window, and squints through the binoculars outside.

GOBO
This is what you've disturbed me
for?

(CONTINUED)

GOBLIN SOLDIER 1

But sir-

GOBO

The land has been all but dead for more than twenty years. They finally find a way to fix it, and this surprises you?

GOBLIN SOLDIER 1

But sir, I thought maybe it's a sign of-

GOBO

Nonsense! Those farmers have had more than enough time to sort this out. It's nothing we need to concern ourselves with until they have crops we can use here.

GOBLIN SOLDIER 1

But sir-

GOBO

I appreciate your concern but I assure you this is nothing to worry about. Now, go on..(to himself)
Something strange must be going on, but it's surely nothing to worry lord Nadgia over - unless...

GOBO runs to bookshelf and pulls down a large and tattered leather volume. Haphazardly brushing off some dust, he throws it down on his desk and begins to rip through the pages. He stops abruptly, reading.

GOBO (cont'd)

No!

27

EXT. PSI PYRAMID COURT. DAY.

KING MANTICORE leads FAY, TATUM, GENTLE and the MINOTAUR out of the great pyramid into the courtyard outback. Lizards and vultures, fly around the surprisingly colorful cactus garden.

KING MANTICORE

The path ahead of you is long and very dangerous. The Sphinx was the cleverest, but by no means the deadliest, of the magical creatures who guard the Elements. You'll have your work cut out for you.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

(bowing low)

Thank you for everything, your
Lordship.

KING MANTICORE

Thank you in return, young mortals,
and mistress faerie. I advise you
to follow the stream in our oasis -
it will guide you safely from thsi
desert.

TATUM

(turning to the MINOTAUR)

Will you be coming with us then?

MINOTAUR

I'm afraid not, miss. The desert
is my home. Now that the sphinx is
gone, it is safe for me once
more. The King has promised never
to exile me from my home
again! 'Sides...I need to be hear
if some hapless adventurers get
lost in my maze again and need a
way out, eh?

FAY

Or if they need some mixing up?

MINOTAUR

Perhaps that too, miss.

GENTLE

Thank you for everything friend.

MINOTAUR

And you as well, Master.

GENTLE

(holding out his hand to the
MINOTAUR)

Gentle.

MINOTAUR

(shaking GENTLE'S hand once
more)

Gentle.

KING MANTICORE

Friends! I know what it is you
seek to do with these treasures,
and it is a noble quest! Until the

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KING MANTICORE (cont'd)
Orb is restored and the Dark Shadow
is defeated, the creatures of this
island are as much prisoners as the
people of your kingdom.

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE follow the great sandy hills of the desert until they see in the distance a beautiful oasis. They run into the small tropical paradise and drink thirstily from the crystal blue water. TATUM finds the small stream trickling from the oasis and the three follow it up a sandy hill, which turns smoothly into great brown stone. The stream twinkles under the desert sun, disappearing into the crevice of a large stone wall. TATUM pushes on the crevice and the rock shakes under pressure. The large boulder rolls gently back, revealing the dark entrance to a large cave.

28 INT. VERUCA CAVES - ENTRANCE. DAY.

GENTLE pushes into the dark cave, FAY and TATUM collapsing behind her onto their knees and panting hard. TATUM fills her canteen with some water from the twinkling stream and presses her canteen to GENTLE'S mouth. He gulps heavily before passing the canteen to FAY.

TATUM
It looks like a dead end. But that
last boulder moved so...

TATUM presses against a crevice in the wall. Nothing happens. GENTLE presses the crack nearest to him; again, nothing.

FAY
Oh bugger it all! Do you think we
followed the wrong stream?

GENTLE
From the desert? No, I don't...

FAY
(angrily, as she throws
herself down against the wall)
Hey, you little-oh!

The rock wall behind FAY shakes suddenly then rolls away. FAY falls back into the dark shadow before the boulder rolls back into place.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

Fay!

GENTLE grabs TATUM'S hand and pushes into the boulder, hard. It rolls away, and they both fall into it's darkness.

29 INT. THE VERUCA CAVES. DAY.

GENTLE and TATUM climb through the hole into a dark walkway. FAY is brushing herself off a few yards ahead of them.

GENTLE

Fay! Are you-

FAY

Shh!

FAY steps forward a few feet, GENTLE and TATUM creeping up slowly behind her. The sounds of WIND WHISTLING fills the narrow crevice. A thin shaft of light glows down at the end of the tunnel.

FAY (cont'd)

Come on!

GENTLE and TATUM follow fay up the dark tunnel to the source of the light and the wind.

30 INT. THE WHISTLING WINDS. DAY.

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE step through the crevice in the wall into a huge pool of pale, purple light. The Whistling Winds is a large cave filled with layers of purple and gray stones. Mini unicorns, oreids and small gorgons wander throughout the cave. Heavy winds swirl about the cave. At the center of the cave, a large pile of flat stone slabs, with a huge stone throne on top; here the air is still. A giant, ALGERNON, sits atop the throne in a brown burlap cape and a rock crown.

ALGERNON

(in a booming voice)

Greetings strangers!

FAY approaches ALGERNON apprehensively. TATUM walks along the edge of the cave looking at the magical creatures surrounding the king. GENTLE puts his hand on the hilt of his sword, frowning at ALGERNON.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Greeting, my Lord. Are you the guardian of the Wind Element, the treasure we seek?

ALGERNON

Ah, indeed I am little miss! And are you the little faerie whose been causing such a ruckus on our quiet little island?

FAY

You've heard of me?

ALGERNON

(laughing)

After centuries of quietly living on this island, visitors hardly pass unnoticed!

TATUM

We're not the first visitors to come this island.

ALGERNON

Hardly, though you are among a rare few! And the first to cross the barrier since the Orb returned home. The harpies have been screeching your praises since you defeated the Sphinx. I've been expecting you.

GENTLE

Does this mean you'll give us the Element?

ALGERNON

Hardly, young warrior! As one of the ancient magical creatures selected to be a Guardian, it is my honor and privilege to inform you that you must first battle *my* loyal guard - and pet. (Calling aloud) Fluffy?

TATUM

Your *pet*?

GENTLE

You mean you want me to fight your do-

(CONTINUED)

The ground begins to rumble, causing TATUM to fall into FAY as GENTLE speaks to ALGERNON. From around the corner comes a creature smaller than ALGERNON though still large, gray in color and looking like a walking pile of boulders - FLUFFY.

GENTLE (cont'd)
That's Fluffy? Holy sh-

FAY
Get down!

FAY pushes GENTLE out of the way just in time as FLUFFY smashes a heavy rock fist onto the ground inches from where he was standing. TATUM scrambles behind GENTLE.

TATUM
Are you okay?

GENTLE
I'm fine! We need to find a way to take that thing out!

FAY
I get the distinct impression magic won't touch him! And he's more like to make a dent in your sword than the other way around...

TATUM
What are we going to do?

GENTLE
You guys stay here. (To FAY, gesturing TATUM) Keep her safe! (beat) I'll handle this one...

TATUM reaches for GENTLE, looking horrified as he springs to his feet and runs between FLUFFY'S legs. FLUFFY turns dumbly to follow. GENTLE runs lightly from side to side, FLUFFY no longer walking, but following his figure from side to side as he moves. Growing dizzy, FLUFFY becomes frustrated and slams his fist to the ground once more, shattering the rock at the edge the cave; huge gusts of wind burst from the ground, knocking the monster back and sending GENTLE flying up the side of the cave wall. Unsteadily, he climbs up the side of the wall. As he grabs some of the higher rocks, they roll away easily under his pull. GENTLE looks frightened as gains his footing. He looks back down at FLUFFY and smiles.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE (cont'd)
Well? What are you waiting
for? Come and get me, you big oaf!

TATUM
I thought he was afraid of heights
- what's he doing?

FAY
I have no bloody idea, Though I
hope to Hades he does...

FLUFFY begins to climb clumsily up the steep rocky wall after GENTLE. GENTLE begins to flick small pebbles at FLUFFY, enraging him. As FLUFFY struggles more quickly to climb the rock wall, GENTLE laughs, sliding forward a bit on the ledge. TATUM screams as GENTLE catches himself. FLUFFY turns, and reaching a long rock arm downward snatches TATUM into his hands, pulling her easily from FAY'S struggling grasp.

GENTLE
No!

TATUM screams as FLUFFY continues his ascent, her tight in his hand. GENTLE picks up a larger rock and throws it at FLUFFY.

FAY
Are you mad? If he drops her, I
swear I'll kill you!

GENTLE
You need to catch her when she
falls, it's the only way I can take
him down.

FAY
The drop is too far, we'll both be
crushed!

GENTLE
You've got bloody wings, use them!

FAY
I can't!

GENTLE
Yes, you can!

FAY
No, I really can't!

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

You have to! There's no choice.

FAY nods solemnly, throwing her cloak aside and stretching her crumpled wings once more as GENTLE continues his rock assault against FLUFFY, who is swatting them from his eyes with the hand holding TATUM. TATUM screams as she slips to the end of FLUFFY'S hand and he just barely catches her. GENTLE continues to hurl larger and heavier rocks at FLUFFY.

FAY

When?

GENTLE

(beat)

Now!

Using both arms, GENTLE throws a particularly large rock at FLUFFY. FLUFFY throws TATUM from his hand, moving his arm to block his face. Beating her wings furiously FAY rises into the air slowly, then picks up a burst of speed. She catches the screaming TATUM, and they both tumble to the ground as the boulder makes contact with FLUFFY'S arm and shatters, spraying them with dust. FLUFFY growls loudly, pursuing GENTLE more quickly and clumsily. As he stretches out his arm to grab him, GENTLE jumps suddenly from the ledge. FLUFFY'S fingers hit the rock wall, which begins to shake and grumble violently. An onslaught of loose boulders and dust begins to roll and shake from the wall, knocking FLUFFY off balance, and GENTLE withdraws his sword quickly, piercing the wall and catching himself with moments to spare. FLUFFY growls in fear as the avalanche of boulders knocks him from the rock wall and crush him on the floor of the cave. GENTLE loosens his sword from the wall and lands in a ball on the cave floor as the pile of rocks covering FLUFFY begins to shake and smoke. Suddenly, a great burst of light explodes from underneath the pile, and the rocks go still. TATUM runs to GENTLE and helps him up.

TATUM

You saved my life!

GENTLE

Of course I did! I love you!

TATUM

You-you do?

GENTLE

Of course I do! You're like a little sister to me!

(CONTINUED)

TATUM looks crushed as one of the boulders begins to wiggle and roll out of place. A large shaggy creature, like a dog with six legs and four bulbous eyes, comes running from the rubble, and jumps atop ALGERNON'S lap.

ALGERNON
Fluffy! You're free!

Helped by FAY and TATUM, GENTLE walks up to ALGERNON'S throne, holding his now bent sword in his hand. FLUFFY strains excitedly to lick at them, but GENTLE recoils.

ALGERNON (cont'd)
You've freed me - both of us - from
the curse of Guardianship that
binds us to this place. The
Treasure of the Wind Element is
yours.

ALGERNON holds out the Wind Element, a small purple stone with a spiral cut into the center, and FAY stores it in her sack.

ALGERNON (cont'd)
You've done me a great service
young man. Let me see your valiant
weapon. (taking the broken sword
from GENTLE) Nothing a giant can't
mend!

GENTLE
Really?

ALGERNON
Of course! Your lot wouldn't know
it these days, but we giants were
once revered for our blacksmithing
skills. Rest, children of the
earth, and I shall have this sword
ready for you, and better than ever
before you continue your journey!

31 INT. DARK PALACE - THE THRONE ROOM. DAY

GOBO enters the dark room, looking nervous. Atop the pedestal sits a throne, shrouded in shadows. An unidentifiable figure hulks on the throne.

LORD NADGIA
(in a raspy, deep growl)
Well?

(CONTINUED)

GOBO

There's a...a breeze, my Lord.

LORD NADGIA

A breeze?

GOBO

The wind, my Lord, it's - it's moving once more.

LORD NADGIA

There hasn't been wind or rain in this place as long as we've been here. This can only mean one thing. Someone has found the Orb.

GOBO

The Oracle, my Lord?

LORD NADGIA

No, no, that old bat couldn't fight me once, she certainly wouldn't try now. No, she must have found someone else to do her dirty work for her - someone younger, stronger-

GOBO

More powerful? (beat.) Than her, my Lord! I meant more powerful than *her*!

LORD NADGIA

Indeed... Gobo, I want you to keep an eye on this for me. Watch the village closely. Should the earth begin to do anything else...strange, let me know.

GOBO

Um, what sort of, uh, strange occurrences in the earth should I be looking for, my Lord?

LORD NADGIA

Oh, if I'm right - and I often am - we should be expecting some of that rain...

EXT. VERUCA CAVES - EXT. DAY

ALGERNON is hammering away at GENTLE'S sword, which is glowing orange atop a large stone slab. FLUFFY is sleeping with his head on GENTLE'S lap, drooling, as he, FAY and TATUM are sipping mead from roughly-hewn stone goblets.

TATUM

The Water Element, you say?

FAY

Sounds right up your alley.

ALGERNON

Aye, that's right. Not far from here at all actually. If you go through that cave yonder, you'll come to a water wall, the Sinead Falls. Just cross right through the water to other side. Should find the Old Wise Turtle, though he's like to be the very Old Wise Turtle by now!

Chuckling, ALGERNON hands GENTLE his now straight, though slightly battered looking sword.

ALGERNON (CONT'D)

She's not much to look at, but she's twice as strong and nearly as sharp!

GENTLE

Thank you so much.

ALGERNON

I insist you stay the night - eat, rest. I'll set you right before you head off in the morning...

FAY

I think we'll take you up on it. It's been a long journey so far and I don't see it getting any easier. We still have three elements to find, and I can't imagine that all of our enemies will be as friendly and cooperative as you have!

ALGERNON

(laughing his booming laugh)
Certainly not, my dear, though the Old Turtle should be pleasant
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ALGERNON (cont'd)
enough. Don't know much about those
beyond him - you'll need to cross
the bridge to the other isle for
those, and I haven't met them
guardians yet.

GENTLE
Well then, we'll just have to come
back and visit once this whole
thing is sorted out, won't we?

ALGERNON
That's the spirit, lad! Now you'd
best have some food and a rest
before we speak another word
on't! I'll have my guards dress
your wounds...

ALGERNON rings a small stone bell. Three GORGON GUARDS
enter and lead the tired warriors from the main chamber.

ALGERNON (cont'd)
Ah Fluffy...can I still call this a
fool's quest, when I believe, even
though they shall surely fail, that
they are still heroes?

FLUFFY wimpers at ALGERNON'S side.

33 EXT. THE SINEAD FALLS. DAY

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE slide onto the hard ground through the
rocky crevice in the wall. The large waterfall at the end
of the long path sprays water and churns loudly as they
approach it.

FAY
(nervously)
Do you think it's safe to cross?

TATUM
Of course it is! It's just water,
silly! Besides, Algernon wouldn't
have sent us this way if it were
dangerous.

FAY
Really? These guardians should all
be out for each other, shouldn't
they? What if this old "Turtle" is
like Fluffy was, eh?

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

Oy! Watch it there! Algernon
wasn't lying, all right?

FAY

Yeah, you're right. I just...hate
water.

The three approach the giant water fall, the sound of water crashing all around them. They exchange glances, before TATUM steps forward. With one last backward glance at each of them, she throws herself forward through the cascading sheet of water.

FAY (cont'd)

Tatum? (beat) Tatum!

TATUM (O.S.)

It's okay Fay! I'm all
right! It's just a little wet is
all, come along then!

GENTLE

See then? It's all right!

FAY steps forward towards the fall, her hand gripping tightly on GENTLE'S arm as he suppresses a smirk.

TATUM

Oy, you lot! Just make sure that
when the waterfall pushes you under
the surface you remember to kick
your legs and aim your head up so
you don't drown, all right?

FAY

Oh, that's it, I quit! I-

GENTLE grabs FAY and throws himself into the water. The two struggle underwater for a moment as he pulls her under the water.

34 INT. CLEAR MIST ICEBERG. DAY

FAY and GENTLE resurface, FAY gasping as GENTLE pushes her toward the shore where TATUM is standing. They are in a large cavern, with icy blue water, large floating sheets of ice, and a small dark island in the center. Mermaids, nereids and tiny water lilies who fill the cavern look at them curiously. TATUM helps pull FAY onto the shore before GENTLE climbs up beside her. FAY struggle furiously.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

All right, that's it, I really am going to kill you this time!

GENTLE

Relax! You're alive, aren't you? You're here, aren't you? Women!

TATUM

Look how beautiful this place is!

OLD WISE TURTLE (O.S)

You're certainly right about that my dear.

THE OLD WISE TURTLE crawls slowly across the small, craggy island at the center. All of the mystical creatures in the cavern call their hellos to him or smile and wave. Two mermaids pushing a small iceberg swim up to the shore near the trio. THE FIRST MERMAID winks at GENTLE, who smiles. TATUM kicks some dirt in her direction.

OLD WISE TURTLE (CONT'D)

Well come on over, young'uns, I believe we have business to attend to. I don't know about you, but I've been waiting quite awhile for this!

THE OLD WISE TURTLE laughs wheezily as TATUM steps tentatively onto the iceberg. FAY follows closely, grasping her arm tightly. The FIRST MERMAID holds up her hand to help GENTLE, who steps on without her help but smiles back at her. TATUM crosses her arms and stamps her foot, causing the iceberg to shake. GENTLE steadies himself, then, blushing, turns away from the mermaids. The two mermaids swim slowly, pushing the trio towards the small island.

FAY

(calling from the iceberg)

So I assume, good sir, that you are another of the honored and privileged guardians of the treasures of this island?

OLD WISE TURTLE

(wheezing)

Of course my dear, of course! And you'll be the faerie and friends, of course!

(CONTINUED)

FAY

(muttering to TATUM)

Oh, that's going to get old really quickly. (calling back to the island) Yes sir, we're them. That is to say, that's us.

OLD WISE TURTLE

Welcome to our humble abode! We've been waiting for a very long time for you to come!

GENTLE

Tired of guarding your treasure?

OLD WISE TURTLE

Well, in a manner of speaking. You see, we will gladly give you the treasure.

FAY

Give? You'll just...hand it over?

OLD WISE TURTLE

If you will free us from the monster that has kept us prisoner inside of this cavern for so long.

TATUM

A monster? What sort of monster?

OLD WISE TURTLE

A sea serpent. He appeared one day while we were resting in here, and hasn't left since. We haven't seen the sunlight in years! He never sleeps and he never leaves, just waiting for us to come out. My girls are ever so frightened...

The mermaids nearest THE OLD WISE TURTLE nod solemnly. Another catches GENTLE'S eye and winks at him.

GENTLE

I think we might be able to help you sir. We've been getting quite good at battling monsters, you see...

OLD WISE TURTLE

Wonderful! He's right out there!

(CONTINUED)

A thin sliver of light shines through a narrow crevice in the cave wall. The three strain to see it from the small island. GENTLE gestures to the mermaids holding the ice block.

GENTLE

Come here loveys! Could you give
us a lift?

The two mermaids shake their heads in fear.

OLD WISE TURTLE

No one goes near there, dear
boy. Too frightened. You'll have
to swim it.

FAY and GENTLE turn to look at TATUM, who is already removing her cloak and sack. She stands at attention in front of them; FAY gives her a nod, GENTLE clasps her shoulder. TATUM turns and throws herself into the icy water. She swims forward and disappears through the narrow crevice.

OLD WISE TURTLE (cont'd)

(gesturing to a ledge above
them on the cavern wall)

We've been monitoring him from up
there for years. You should be
able to see everything from there.

Without a word, FAY and GENTLE jump onto the wall and begin to climb to the ledge.

35

EXT. CLEAR POND. DAY

TATUM half climbs, half swims through the narrow crevice. The water of the Clear Pond is choppy, full of ice and rocks. A large stalagmite rises from the center, the water crashing and foaming against it. Birds circle overhead, calling loudly.

TATUM

Well, this isn't so ba-

Suddenly, TATUM flies across the air and lands hard against a rock. A huge tail disappears into the water. TATUM throws herself back into the water. She attempts to sneak up behind the creature, but it is too quick. She is struck several more times. FAY and GENTLE watch on in horror as TATUM begins to maneuver easily through the water, staying just out of reach of the serpent. The serpent follows her steadily, when suddenly it wrenches: TATUM has tricked it

(CONTINUED)

into tying itself around the stalagmite. Climbing atop the slick rocky slope, TATUM lines an arrow across her bow and fires it into the serpents heart. The beast begins to shake as she loads another, this time hitting it in the midsection. A third arrow to the neck causes the creatures writhing to cease. The creature slowly begins to darken and bubble, shrinking down to a writing frothing foam that washes away against the dark rock into the harsh sea.

36 EXT. A SMALL FARMING VILLAGE OUTSIDE OBBCLA. DAY.

The farmers outside the village are still celebrating when a RUMBLE fills the sky. They look around, confused.

FARMER'S SMALL SON
You heard that?

THUNDER ROLLS loudly in the background as lightning flashes across the sky.

POOR FARMER
It can't be rain!

FARMER'S SMALL SON
Rain! But you said - but - rain
ain't real!

Rain begins to splash down heavily over the land. Cheers erupt again as older farmers run out to greet the rain, and the confused young run for cover, frightened. Parents laugh and hug each other.

37 INT. DARK PALACE - THE THRONE ROOM. DAY

GOBO watches from the window in the throne room. LORD NADGIA, still shrouded in shadows, LAUGHS darkly. A well has appeared in the middle of the room, with the image of FAY pulling TATUM from the Clear Pond. LORD NADGIA GASPS.

GOBO
My Lord?

LORD NADGIA
Well, well, well...a faerie. And
not just any faerie... (Laughs)
Gobo, if I'm not much mistaken we
shall soon have a visitor on our
hands.

(CONTINUED)

GOBO

I'll alert the guard at once!

LORD NADGIA

Fool! She and her band of fools
have already retrieved three of the
Elements! Do you really think
we're just going to sit around and
wait for her to succeed so she can
storm the palace and kill our
lackluster guard? No! She must be
stopped - now!

A small red stone flies from the shadows surrounding the
throne and PLOPS loudly into the well, sending ripples
through the image. The stone begins to smoke, the water
bubbling. The smoke rises thick into the air and swirls
like a cyclone deep into the well.

LORD NADGIA (O.S.)

All right faerie - let's see how
you like *my* magic...

38 EXT. CLEAR POND. DAY

A cyclone of dark reddish water spirals through the sea
rapidly. The surface of the Clear Pond begins to bubble
rapidly, small bubbles bursting quickly into the air near
FAY. A particularly large bubble floats to head level and
BURST loudly, sending FAY into the pond. She is sucked
under the water, writing as the swirling cyclone surrounds
her. GENTLE and TATUM SHOUT dully in the
background. Suddenly, the cyclone stops, and the water
slowly grows calm once more. TATUM pulls FAY brusquely to
the surface.

GENTLE

Are you all right?

FAY

(gasping and choking slightly)
I'm fine! Slipped on the bloody
rock. I hate water...

39 INT. CLEAR MIST ICEBERG. DAY

The OLD WISE TURTLE smiles widely as the three squeeze
through the crevice in the wall. The mermaids and nereids
nearby applaud loudly. Several toss small favors to
GENTLE. A seashell bra lands on his head, and TATUM smacks
it off of him angrily. As the three climb up the steep

(CONTINUED)

rocky island in the center, the two mermaids swim up to GENTLE, carrying a small wooden chest in between them. the FIRST MERMAID opens the lid, revealing a small blue vial, glowing softly. GENTLE carefully removes it from the chest.

OLD WISE TURTLE

(to FAY)

A word, my dear?

FAY follows the OLD WISE TURTLE aside. The rocky wall splits open suddenly at the crevice, and the rocks fall away easily into the water to reveal the world outside. The sun streams in as the mist rolls away, revealing a beautiful large lake. The mermaids gasp as they swim quickly outside. TATUM watches them with a mixed expression.

OLD WISE TURTLE (CONT'D)

My dear, how much were you told
when you got yourself into this?

FAY

Not enough to expect mazes and
monsters, but we've getting along
quite nicely anyhow, thanks.

OLD WISE TURTLE

There isn't much time left, and so
much still to tell you. I only
wish I could tell you how important
you truly are to this whole affair
- and how much danger you are in
because of it.

FAY

What do mean, how important am I?

OLD WISE TURTLE

There isn't time for that, my
dear! Now listen carefully... Lord
Nadgia surely knows by now that you
are here and that you are trying to
restore the Orb in order to hold a
coup against him.

FAY

But I'm not-

OLD WISE TURTLE

It doesn't matter dear. He's
already planning to have you
killed, I'm sure. If you wish to
defeat - truly defeat him - you
will need to understand your enemy.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

My enemy? I'm doing this as a
favor - a job more like, really -
he's not-

OLD WISE TURTLE

There isn't *time* my dear! Now
listen - there's someone you need
to see...

40

EXT. LILY PAD LAKE. DAY.

FAY, GENTLE and TATUM are sitting on a very large lily pad,
being pulled by several water lilies holding vines. The
mermaids wave them off as the OLD WISE TURTLE smiles. The
FIRST MERMAID winks at GENTLE who half-waves before catching
TATUM'S eye and turning quickly to sit.

TATUM

So where are we going?

GENTLE

And what did the old turtle have to
say to you?

FAY

Oh, he just told me we'd want to
head towards the woods on the other
side of the Misty Moors - Wickshaw,
I think he called them. He says
there's a whole lot of magic coming
from there. And he told me about a
place where we could get some food.

TATUM

Oh thank Hades, I'm starving!

FAY starts suddenly in her seat and grabs her head. Her
eyes quickly flash red then fade again.

GENTLE

Are you all right?

FAY

I'm fine - just tired, I guess.

TATUM

And probably hungry, too!

FAY

Right, I'm sure that's all...

41 INT. DARK PALACE - THE THRONE ROOM. DAY

GOBO watches FAY, GENTLE and TATUM on the lake through the wishing well.

GOBO

What's wrong with her, my Lord?

LORD NADGIA

The spell is working. Whatever magic that was protecting that island is in shambles now. Her presence is causing a disturbance for more than just us.

GOBO

How long before the spell kills her?

LORD NADGIA

Oh no no Gobo, no! How primitive... No, this spell will work much more in our favor. Tell me Gobo - what would be better than killing a powerful warrior who happens to be the only other person in the world left with any magic?

GOBO

Oh, I don't know my Lord...allying myself with him, I suppose.

LORD NADGIA

Very good, Gobo.

GOBO

But - but, my Lord, surely she'd never calmly join us-

LORD NADGIA

No, surely not. But you'll find my brand of magic can be very persuasive...

42 EXT. THE MISTY MOORS. DAY.

The sky is beginning to glow orange as the sun moves closer to the horizon. TATUM is shivering slightly, holding FAY'S cloak tightly around her. FAY is a few paces behind them, hovering over the air, her crumpled wings beating fiercely.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Why don't you two rest, and I'll go find the inn the Old Turtle told me about.

GENTLE

I'll come with you-

FAY

No, really, it's fine. Look, I'm getting along quite good - I don't want you walkers slowing me down.

TATUM

Yeah Gentle, she'll be all right - we can rest right here!

GENTLE

All right...

FAY flies slowly away as GENTLE settles next to TATUM underneath a large oak tree.

43

EXT. THE MISTY MOORS. DAY.

FAY floats through the thick brush and trees, stumbling slightly. Her wings are dropping slightly and she is panting. She lands hard on her feet. FAY walks with her hands out stretched, feeling the air in front of her. She stops suddenly, looking ahead. Two trees boughed over in the shape of a heart. She smiles.

FAY

Here.

FAY walks determinedly between the two trees. Nothing happens. She turns and walks back through the other side. Nothing. She begins to push the air around her.

FAY (cont'd)

He said it would be somewhere right ar-

A DULL THUD as FAY suddenly runs headlong into a very solid patch of air. The sky in front of her begins to glisten slightly, revealing a light blue wall, camouflaged to look like the sky. Following the wall with her hands, she finds a seam and a small wooden doorknob sculpted like a pine cone. She turns the knob, pushing open the door to reveal a large stair case. She begins to climb it.

44 INT. A WOK IN THE CLOUDS INN. DAY.

FAY enters the inn from a trapdoor in the floor. The restaurant is small and dimly lit, but pleasant, with several wooden tables low to the ground. A bar runs across the back wall with several tall stools. FAY walks towards the bar slowly.

FAY
Hello? Hello?

MR. YOSHIMI (O.S)
I be right out!

MR. YOSHIMI, a small old man, comes scurrying from a back door. Running behind the bar. He gestures FAY to take a seat, which she does. Within seconds one of the flat grills across the bar counter is smoking and he is dicing vegetables and spraying oil across the hot surface. FAY takes off her cloak stretching, and MR. YOSHIMI stops, mid chop.

MR. YOSHIMI
Faerie....you faerie! You are
her! She is you! You have come
to me, at last!

FAY
Uh...pardon?

MR. YOSHIMI
Mr. Yoshimi know! He know if he
wait long enough you come to him,
and he help you defeat evil Shadow!

FAY
Uh, yeah, so I've heard. Listen,
what can you tell me about the
Shadow, and this Lord Nadgia
fellow!

MR. YOSHIMI
Shadow follow Lord Nadgia! He come
from very bad place on other side
of mountain. He bring the Shadow,
sent to revenge Obbclasioscstis!

FAY
Sent for revenge? Revenge for
what?

(CONTINUED)

MR. YOSHIMI
For princess broken heart!

FAY
Pardon?

MR. YOSHIMI continues to prepare food as he speaks. He fills a small glass with wine, which FAY drinks thirstily as he speaks.

MR. YOSHIMI
Prince betrothed to Princess Agdina, daughter of mountain king - very powerful nixies. Second only in magic power to faeries! Old King of Obbcla and King of Mountains hopes to unite kingdoms with big wedding. But Prince fall in love with lowly palace maid, break engagement. Mr. Yoshimi used to work in palace as chef! Young bride of prince work in kitchen beside me for year before they fall in love! Princess Agdina very heartbroken, very sad. Hard for nixie to find love - very rare magical being. Nixie King enraged, never speak to King of Obbcla again. Then Shadow comes from over the mountain, sending away the Orb. All magic go away forever, and land fall to turmoil. So, Shadow is revenge for breaking nixie heart!

FAY
I see. Mr. Yoshimi, I appreciate you telling me this, but I'm not sure I understand what this has to do with-

MR. YOSHIMI
Young people impatient, understand nothing! Shadow born of revenge - of hate. Hate strongest second only to love. Hate more dangerous than you imagine! You need more than Orb to defeat this monster! You need more hope on you side than you have alone!

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Where the bloody hell do I get hope?

MR. YOSHIMI

You create it.

FAY

How the bloody hell do I do that?

MR. YOSHIMI

When time comes, you know...

MR. YOSHIMI spoons the prepared food into three bowls and wraps them tightly. Suddenly, FAY lurches forward in her seat, clutching her head again. MR. YOSHIMI hands her a glass of water, which she downs quickly. Her eyes flash red as she slams the glass on the counter. He refills it, looking frightened. She closes her eyes, throwing back the water; when she opens them again they have returned to normal, and she is shaking.

MR. YOSHIMI (cont'd)

You okay, little faerie?

FAY

I'm fine - just feeling a bit under the weather-

MR. YOSHIMI

You take ginseng wonton!

FAY

No really, I-

MR. YOSHIMI

Special ingredients! Many herbs help make you stronger. (holding up his hand as FAY offers him gold pieces) Free of charge, little faerie. You bring back Orb, restore natural order. And don't forget Mr. Yoshimi when Palace restored.

FAY

Right. Thanks.

45

EXT. THE MISTY MOORS. DAY.

FAY leads TATUM and GENTLE along the faux sky wall through the the mist. The three of them are each carrying some of MR. YOSHIMI'S food, eating from their hands.

TATUM

So this old man thinks the nixie
bloke sent the Shadow because his
daughter got her heartbroken.

FAY

He reckons so. Makes sense I
guess. Never had a dad, but sounds
like the sort of mad thing they
would do. This way.

GENTLE

Besides I've heard all sort of
dreadful things about the nixies -
mean, nasty things. Always good
for us the faeries were more
powerful - kept them in check I
think. Good thing they're gone
now.

FAY turns swiftly to look at him. GENTLE blushes.

GENTLE (cont'd)

The nixies, I meant! It's a real
shame about the faeries. I mean...

Suddenly, a small school of tiny pixies comes fluttering through the air around their heads. Several of them snatch food from their hands, while the other giggles. FAY, TATUM and GENTLE attempt to smack them away. One bites GENTLE on the ear!

GENTLE (cont'd)

Ow! Of all the magical creatures
to survive the Shadow, why did it
have to be these nasty little
blighters?

The pixies swirl suddenly around his sword, yanking it from his waist and flying away with surprising speed. GENTLE runs after them. FAY and TATUM follow. The pixies fly quickly, lugging the sword. They shoot forward quickly, emitting little bursts of sparkly light as they fly into a large willow tree. GENTLE stops running just short of the tree. TATUM and FAY run into him, and the three fall.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE (cont'd)
Where the hell did they go?

FAY begins to crawl around the tree, rubbing her hands across it as GENTLE helps TATUM to her feet.

FAY
Ha! Found it!

FAY points to a small, barely visible crevice inside the knotted woodwork of the tree. A slight light emits from the slit in the wood. Tentatively, FAY slips her hand inside. A burst of light explodes into the air. When it clears, FAY is gone.

GENTLE
FAY!

TATUM
Where did she go?

GENTLE
I don't know, but we have to go in after her!

GENTLE grabs TATUM'S arm and sticks his hand into the crevice. Another flash of light, and they are both gone.

46 INT. THE WICKSHAW WILLOW. DAY

GENTLE and TATUM fall hard onto the wooden floor. Straightening themselves up, they see FAY, jumping and raking the air above her, trying to grab the sword from the giggling pixies. Suddenly, the pixies drop the sword hard to the ground and speed away down a long dark wooden hallway.

FAY
(picking up the sword)
What in the bloody hell was that about?

TATUM
(pointing)
Look!

A small light shines from the end of the long hallway. A door is open at the end of the path, and the soft sound of VOICES can be heard.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE
(chuckling to himself)
Little blighters....

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE follow the voices down the hallway.

47 INT. THE WICKSHAW WILLOW - THRONE ROOM. DAY

FAY, TATUM and GENTLE enter the Throne Room, a large, well lit room splendidly decorated. Dozens of faeries are talking, laughing, playing instruments, dancing. At the head of the room, the KING and QUEEN are seated on tall thrones.

TATUM
Fay, look! Fae-

FAY shakes her head vigorously, pulling her cloak more tightly around her. The three take a step forward. Suddenly, a MINSTREL FAERIE jumps in front of them. The noise in the room stops immediately; all eyes are on them.

MINSTREL FAERIE
Welcome to the Wickshaw Willow,
home of King Dandere and Queen Issa
of the Algata Faerie
Kingdom. Please follow me!

The MINSTREL FAERIE turns and hurries off, FAY, TATUM and GENTLE scurrying along behind him. He presents them to the KING and QUEEN, who rise, bow to them, and take their seats. The three bow in return.

FAY
Your Majesties, we do apologize for
this intrusion. We came into the
Willow in pursuit of some pixies
who-

QUEEN ISSA
We know, dear - we sent them.

The pixies fly back from behind the thrones, giggling and waving.

QUEEN ISSA (CONT'D)
It seemed the simplest way to help
you find us.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

You're so well hidden in here - why would you want to help us find you?

KING DANDERE

We have what you need, don't we?

KING DANDERE snaps his fingers. A faerie servant runs into the room, carrying a large glass dome on a pillow; inside there is a large white flower, floating delicately, unsuspended in the air.

TATUM

You're the guardians of the grass element!

KING DANDERE

The Nebula Blossom, please. "Grass Element"...sounds so base.

QUEEN ISSA

We're the only guardians of an element that we are already magically bound to.

KING DANDERE

The first Faerie King grew this blossom in his own garden, too long ago to count. When the Orb was born, he already had a natural protective charm to contribute to the Orb's creation.

QUEEN ISSA

We always knew there would come a day when the magic in the kingdom would be disrupted. That there would be one decisive moment, when the mortals were either granted magic eternally, or stricken magic-less forever. We have been waiting a long time for one to come and fulfill this prophecy.

KING DANDERE

I'm sure your journey has been long and tiresome. You may rest for as long as you see fit. When you are prepared, I shall alert my royal guard - I'm afraid there is no monster to slay here. You will have to fight the very magic you hope to restore.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Thank you very your Majesties, but
I think we'll be all right to
battle now.

KING DANDERE snaps his fingers again, and several faerie men in blue uniforms run into the room. They stand in a line in front of the trio and bow to them. FAY nods to TATUM and GENTLE, who step back, smirking. FAY yanks off her cloak and throws it to TATUM, her wings stretching out behind her. The room fills with GASPS.

KING DANDERE

Clara?

FAY

(looking around)

Who?

48 INT. THE WICKSHAW WILLOW - PORTRAIT ROOM. DAY

Through a window in the background, the sun is setting. KING DANDERE leads FAY, TATUM and GENTLE down a long dimly lit hallway, covered in large paintings of other faeries.

KING DANDERE

Queen Issa and I were blessed with
three beautiful daughters -
Isabella, Medusa, and Clara. Clara
was young, and high-spirited,
dissatisfied with life as a
princess. When she turned
eighteen, she convinced her older
sister Medusa to run away with
her. They went to Obbcla, where
many young faeries had run away to
- though most came back
eventually. She left no note. She
just...left. It broke our
hearts. The Queen was not herself,
sick for days. Isabella cared for
her until she recovered.

They are standing in front of a large painting, of a young KING DANDERE And QUEEN ISSA, with three young girls seated in front of them. ISABELLA had long golden hair, like the queen; MEDUSA had thick black hair like the king; CLARA looks much like FAY.

(CONTINUED)

KING DANDERE

I sent sentries after them. They reported back to me that my daughters had secured positions in the palace. Medusa had become the Queen's handmaiden; Clara was working in the kitchens. My daughters, princess both - servants to mortals! But Clara came back, two years after she had run away. She told the Minstrel she had something very important to show me. I was so angry I - I turned her away. A year later, the Shadow came to the kingdom. I sent my sentries once more, desperate for word of my daughters. They returned to inform me that the palace had been destroyed...none of the servants had survived. Isabella fell ill this time, her heartbroken at the loss of her dear sisters. Despite our better efforts, she did not survive.

KING DANDERE puts his hand against the picture of CLARA.

KING DANDERE

After I learned of her death, I wondered, all these long years, why she had come back. Did she want to come home again? If I had listened to her would she still be alive today? But now - now I know why she came back! She came back, my dear, to tell us she was with child! She came back to tell us about you!

KING DANDERE puts his arm on FAY, who stares solemnly back. GENTLE stares from the portrait of CLARA to FAY and back again, amazed. TATUM sniffs loudly, dabbing her eyes with a handkerchief.

KING DANDERE (cont'd)

It is fate, my dear grandchild, that you have returned to us. Fate that you should be the one to restore the Orb and restore balance in the kingdom. You have come home to free us all of the Shadow!

(CONTINUED)

QUEEN ISSA (O.S)
I couldn't agree more.

QUEEN ISSA enters the long hallway behind them, carrying the Nebula Blossom. She presses it gently into FAY'S hands.

QUEEN ISSA
It is an honor to help my granddaughter restore peace to the kingdom, to free the people of her mortal world from the evils of the Shadow, and to free the people of her magic world from the binding powers of guardianship. There shall be no more battles here. Now you shall all rest while we prepare a feast. After we have dined, we shall have a ball to celebrate your return. At last, our daughter's spirit has come home to us...

49 INT. THE WICKSHAW WILLOW - BOUDOIR. NIGHT

FAY and TATUM are sitting in front of a large mirror. FAY is combing TATUM'S bushy hair back, clipping small butterflies into it.

TATUM
Fay? Can I ask you something?

FAY
Of course.

TATUM
What do you think about Gentle?

FAY
I don't, really. (seeing TATUM'S impatient face) Well, I think he's a skilled warrior and I'm proud and glad to have him on my side. I think he's a loyal friend. I think-

TATUM
That's not what I mean!

FAY
I know what you mean. (beat) I think you should tell him how you feel.

(CONTINUED)

TATUM

You know?

FAY

It's not much of a secret
dear. Likely even to him. You
should tell him.

TATUM

And you wouldn't mind?

FAY

As long as you too can still fight
and loot together without making me
want to besick...I want you both to
be happy.

TATUM stands suddenly and hugs FAY, who looks taken aback
for a moment before patting her awkwardly on her back.

FAY (cont'd)

There, there. Now, if you're going
to charm the man, we'll need to get
your hair done, won't we?

50

INT. THE ALGATA BALL - WICKSHAW BALLROOM. NIGHT

The Palace ballroom has been elaborately
decorated. Twinkling lights shine everywhere, fountains of
champagne run throughout the room, and all the faeries of
Algata are there, dressed in their finest. GENTLE and TATUM
are standing near a long dessert table, GENTLE looking
uncomfortable and TATUM smiling uncontrollably.

TATUM

You look very nice.

GENTLE

Thanks. I can hardly breath in this
thing, but apparently it's what all
the faerie men wear to these
things. Where's Fay?

TATUM

Oh, some of the faeries were
helping her get ready since she
spent so long doing my hair for
me. Do you like it?

GENTLE

She did a good job. It's
very...becoming of you.

(CONTINUED)

TATUM smiles widely again, as GENTLE glances around, sipping champagne. Music swells around them. Suddenly, FAY appears at the top of the staircase and begins to descend slowly. She is wearing a long, sparkly purple dress; her hair is piled in curls on top of her head, and her wings are now straightened properly and shining. She smiles nervously, stumbling a little on her heeled shoes but keeping upright. GENTLE walks to the bottom of the stairs. He holds out his arm.

GENTLE (cont'd)
May I have this dance.

FAY takes GENTLE'S arm, looking surprised. As he leads her to the dance floor, FAY and TATUM exchange confused looks. FAY gestures that she will speak to him, and TATUM nods happily. FAY and GENTLE begin to dance as the music swells around them. They dance for a few moments.

FAY
Listen, Gentle...I wanted to talk
to you about something.

GENTLE
Yes, I know what you're going to
say. And you're right, we should
talk about it.

FAY
Really? Oh good, I-

KING DANDERE (O.S)
May I cut in?

KING DANDERE holds out his hand to FAY, smiling. GENTLE steps aside, nodding. FAY takes the KING'S hand. He dances her around for a moment, before leading her out onto the balcony.

51 EXT. THE ALGATA BALL - BALCONY. NIGHT

KING DANDERE leads FAY to the balcony railing. He puts his hand on her shoulder.

KING DANDERE
I'm sure this must be quite a bit
for you to take in all at once.

FAY
Not really. I always figured I had
to come from somewhere, right?

(CONTINUED)

KING DANDERE

You're very strong. Growing up as you did would make you strong. I'm sorry you had to do that.

FAY

It's fine, really. (beat) Look...I know you're trying to be nice. I'm not particularly sentimental. I don't have attachments to anything really. And I never felt inclined to have a family. I promise you, you did nothing to hurt me. If anything I understand your point of view - you were angry, hurt.

KING DANDERE

Yes. (beat) Do you know what you'll do next?

FAY

I was thinking we'd go through the forest and try to get to the mountain. I figured the volcano is a good place-

KING DANDERE

I mean, once you have the last element.

FAY

The Oracle said we could restore it at the end of the island, and it would allow us to go back home.

KING DANDERE

And once you're back in Obblca?

FAY

I - I hadn't thought that far ahead, I guess.

KING DANDERE

You know that you'll have to fight Lord Nadgia. The Orb will restore magic to the kingdom, but not the monarchy. The only way to truly right things is to kill the Shadow.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

I was sent to find the Orb, that's all! It's not my job to-

KING DANDERE

It's your responsibility to finish what you started. Even if you don't want to, do you think you have a choice? Do you think Lord Nadgia would willing let you live, knowing you had enough power to restore the Orb and may have enough power to come back and take over the kingdom one day if you see fit? Do you think you'll be allowed to live now that Lord Nadgia know you're the only threat to the Shadow?

FAY

I guess I hadn't thought about that either.

KING DANDERE

No. But it might do you good to start.

GENTLE (O.S)

Fay?

KING DANDERE

Think about it, my dear. And remember - you always have a home here among your people, should you find need...

KING DANDERE goes back into the palace as GENTLE walks determinedly onto the balcony.

GENTLE

Could we talk?

52 INT. DARK PALACE - THE THRONE ROOM. NIGHT

GOBO stares into the well, watching FAY and GENTLE on the balcony.

GOBO

Is it almost time, my Lord?

(CONTINUED)

LORD NADGIA (O.S.)

I think so. The spell has taken a little longer to take hold, likely because she is a magical being and her body is fighting. But that is no matter. She shall fall to our control soon enough. What do you say we test out our new weapon?

GOBO smiles wickedly, and stirs the well, causing the image to vanish as red smoke begins to rise from the contents.

53

EXT. THE ALGATA BALL - BALCONY. NIGHT

GENTLE

The past few days have been a complete whirlwind, you know? One minute everything is fine and the next we're on some mad adventure, heroes trying to save a world we don't give a damn about. Sort of make you start to think about the things you do give a damn about... the people you give a damn about.

FAY

Funny you should mention that, because Tatum was saying earlier, you know, that she wonders if she um, tells you enough, you know...

GENTLE

Oh, I love Tatum. I will admit to loving very few things in this world - hell, there are few things in this world that I love at all. But ever since you brought her to me, and we found to Knoll, she's been like the little sister I lost when my mum disappeared.

FAY

Gentle, I don't think she thinks of you as her brother-

GENTLE

Well, she had no siblings before you found her so I don't suppose she would have been looking the way I was, eh?

(CONTINUED)

FAY
Gentle, look, Tatum is-

GENTLE
I think I'm in love with you Fay.

FAY
She just - I - what?

GENTLE
I love you.

FAY
Well, no you don't, that's just
stupid. You just said you love
Tatum.

GENTLE
I do love Tatum. I'm *in* love with
you.

GENTLE steps towards FAY, who looks very flustered. He
grabs her hands.

FAY
Gentle, I'm not entirely sure I
understand wha-

GENTLE pulls FAY close and kisses her passionately.

TATUM (O.S.)
Oh, Fay, how could you!

FAY pulls roughly from GENTLE'S grasp. TATUM is standing at
the door to the balcony, looking crushed. She yanks the
butterfly from her hair and smashes it into the ground. It
SHATTERS. She turns to run. Suddenly, FAY lurches forward,
grabbing her head. She moans loudly.

FAY
Tatum!

GENTLE
Fay! Are you all right?

FAY straightens up, still clutching her head. Her eyes
flash dangerously red. She pushes past GENTLE roughly.

FAY
(her voice deep, rasping
growl)
I need...something. Air. I need
to get out of here.

(CONTINUED)

FAY stumbles back into the party, breathing hard. GENTLE runs after her.

GENTLE

Fay!

54 INT. THE ALGATA BALL - WICKSHAW BALLROOM. NIGHT

FAY runs into the crowded party, surrounded by the sounds of laughter and talking. She looks around wildly. Her eyes are glowing red and her body is heaving. She turns to the stairs and begins to run.

TATUM (O.S.)

Fay!

TATUM runs up to FAY, her face streaming with tears.

TATUM (CONT'D)

Fay, how could you? You said you'd talk to him for me-

FAY

Not now, Tatum!

FAY pushed TATUM back and runs towards the stairs. TATUM jumps up and runs after her. Grabbing Fay by the hair, she yanks her back down the stairs.

TATUM

No! I'm tired of you - you -you thinking you can just...walk all over me!

FAERIE PARTY-GOER

Excuse me, ma'am is everything all right?

FAY swings wildly at TATUM. The FAERIE PARTY-GOER grabs her and pulls her back. Angrily, FAY turns to face him.

FAERIE PARTY-GOER (cont'd)

What's wrong with your eyes?

With a wild scream, FAY blasts a jet of light into the FAERIE PARTY-GOER. He flies across the room, SMACKING into the wall and sliding into a crumpled pile on the floor; he's dead. The party goes totally silent. All eyes turn to FAY. Two of the Royal Guard run at FAY and try to subdue her. She kills them both easily. Faeries begin to scream and run from the ballroom. KING DANDERE runs into the room, looking around in shock and horror; QUEEN ISSA faints in his

(CONTINUED)

arms. GENTLE runs in from the balcony, just in time to see another faerie fly through the air. Small fires have broken out where her victims are landing, and rubble is falling from the walls. TATUM screams, and runs to FAY. She grabs her from behind. The two are surrounded in a cloud of light, which explodes. The room falls completely silent. When the dust settles, TATUM is sprawled on the floor, clearly dead. FAY gasps loudly; her eyes flash brightly, returning to their normal violet. Her breathing becomes ragged and her postures falls. She looks around in horror, making eye contact with GENTLE. She turns and runs quickly from the ballroom.

GENTLE

FAY!

KING DANDERE

Leave her, lad.

GENTLE

But she, she just...and Tatum..

KING DANDERE

She was under a very powerful dark spell my boy. Nothing else could have given her that sort of strength, could have removed her so far from herself. Lord Nadgia knows she is here. The Shadow has locked its sights on her.

GENTLE

We need to help her.

KING DANDERE

The best thing you can do for her right now is give her some time. We'll go and find her shortly.

55 INT. DARK PALACE - THE THRONE ROOM. NIGHT

GOBO cackles excitedly, watching the devastation in the Algata Ballroom through the well. LORD NADGIA hisses softly.

GOBO

We have her, my Lord!

LORD NADGIA (O.S)

That's not possible...

(CONTINUED)

GOBO

Where has she gone, my Lord? Is
she on her way here?

LORD NADGIA

That's not possible!

A flash of light shoots out from the shadows of the throne;
a hole is blasted into the wall. GOBO turns to the throne,
frightened.

GOBO

My Lord...?

LORD NADGIA

How did she do that! How did she
break free from the spell?

GOBO

My Lord...

LORD NADGIA

This will be more difficult than I
thought. There will be no way for
us to stop her from leaving the
island now. We will need to stop
her from entering the
palace. Gobo! Have the guard on
alert. If she survives the last
guardian, it won't be long before
she's here...

56 EXT. THE WICKSHAW WOODS - A SWAMP. NIGHT

GENTLE walks through the thick wood, clearing brush with his
sword as he goes. The moon is shining brightly, lighting
his path.

GENTLE

Fay? Fay!

GENTLE stops suddenly. A low SOBBING sounds is coming from
thick patch of bushes. He approaches slowly, pulling the
bushes apart and peering through. FAY is on the ground next
the swamp, her body shaking as she cried into the
dirt. GENTLE climbs delicately through the bushes.

GENTLE (cont'd)

Fay?

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Go away!

FAY scrambles up and crawls behind a tree. GENTLE approaches her slowly.

GENTLE

It's okay-

FAY

No! Go away before I hurt you too!

GENTLE

Do you want to hurt me?

FAY

Of course not! What are you, daft?

GENTLE

Then you won't hurt me.

GENTLE walks towards her. She scoots back a bit but doesn't run. He lowers himself to his knees in front of her, and puts his hand on her shoulder. They look at each other for a moment before she bursts into tears and throws herself on his shoulder. GENTLE looks bewildered, and pats her awkwardly on the back.

FAY

What have I done? What have I done?

GENTLE

It wasn't your fault. Dandere said you were under a spell - possessed even. Nadgia know we're here. He tried to get to you - but you beat it! You broke the spell or you'd still be back there-

FAY

Killing people?

GENTLE

Yes. (beat) Dandere wants me to bring you back to the Palace.

FAY

I'm not going back there. I can't. It's too terrible.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

He said you might say that.

GENTLE snaps into the air. Several small pixies fly tentatively forward. GENTLE nods to them, and they turn around and fly hastily back towards the Willow.

FAY

I - I didn't mean to. I didn't want to hurt anybody.

GENTLE

I know.

FAY

No. I mean, I've never wanted to hurt anybody. (beat) How did we get here? We live in a world where nobody has anything, and we steal from them so we can survive. I spent a lifetime beating everything that crossed my path so everyone would know to stay away, lying to the people I should have been protecting to keep them under control.

GENTLE

You were making hard decisions. That's what leaders do.

FAY

I finally find my family and - I don't care. I feel nothing. I want nothing, I need no one. I steal, fight, kill, without remorse. For the first time in my life, I've done something entirely outside of my control, with no personal gain, no cool detachment. I feel remorse. I - I don't like it.

GENTLE

No.

FAY

What have I been doing with my life? Tatum - (her voice cracks) Tatum felt everything. She wanted more than to spend her life at the Knoll, stealing. She missed her family, she wanted a family in

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

FAY (cont'd)
us. She loved...she loved
you. She died thinking I betrayed
her. I feel...

GENTLE holds FAY, who is still shaking but no longer crying.

GENTLE
I'm sorry. You were trying to tell
me, and I wouldn't listen. I was
too busy being selfish to care what
you had to tell me about her.

FAY
I'm sorry too.

GENTLE
It's not your fault.

KING DANDERE walks into the clearing behind them, the pixies flying excitedly about his head. FAY stands reluctantly, GENTLE nodding her on. KING DANDERE holds out his arms. FAY collapses into them, and begins to cry again.

KING DANDERE
There, there my child, it's all
right. I have some of the servants
bringing your things, and some
supplies for you to go on. Your
journey is almost over. You knew
it would be dangerous - I just wish
you had known how full of sacrifice
it would be. I'm sorry I couldn't
protect you from the Shadow, even
in my own Palace. I'm sorry about
your friend.

Several nervous looking faerie maidens approach GENTLE and lay several bundles and his sword at his feet. They shoot FAY nervous looks before skirting back. Four Royal Guard members approach, carrying a long plank between them, covered in a blanket: TATUM'S body. QUEEN ISSA and her handmaidens approach, carrying a small wooden chest. Several more faeries linger in the background.

KING DANDERE (cont'd)
We thought it best to give her a
proper funeral before you two set
off.

FAY nods, as GENTLE comes up behind her putting his arm around her shoulder. One of the faeries comes up, carrying TATUM'S bow and arrow. She lays them at FAY'S feet.

57

EXT. THE WICKSHAW WOODS. NIGHT

A large fire grows brightly at the center of a circle of faeries. FAY and GENTLE stand next to QUEEN ISSA, now in new faerie war garments. The four Royal Guardsmen carrying TATUM'S body and lay it carefully into the fire. The flames dance gently around her. FAY sobs quietly into GENTLE'S shoulder, as the QUEEN holds her hand. KING DANDERE chants softly in the old language of the faeries. He nods, and the four guardsmen step back. The flames shoot up suddenly, consuming the body. The flames shrink back into the ground just as suddenly; TATUM'S body is gone. A small tree grows in the place where the fire had been. THE QUEEN gently pulls FAY'S arm, and guides her aside as the faeries begin to file back towards the Willow. KING DANDERE follows behind slowly.

QUEEN ISSA

I wish you could stay
longer. You've travelled so long
already. And you still have so far
to go...

FAY

I appreciate everything you've done
for me. For us.

QUEEN ISSA

We wish infinitely it could be
more. Hopefully, this will help.

The QUEEN snaps her finger. One of her handmaidens approaches, carrying the small wooden chest. Opening the lid, KING DANDERE pulls out a small orb of glowing blue light. Tony purple lashes of lightning crackle around it. He hands it carefully to FAY. It floats inches above her hand.

KING DANDERE

I made this myself. One of my
earliest workings of magic as king,
and it hasn't gone out once. This
eternal light will help you. It
will light your path as you carry
on. And when this journey is done,
I hope you keep it...to remember us
by.

FAY

I will.

A second handmaiden approaches with a small jar. FAY gently places the flaming orb inside, securing the lid tightly.

(CONTINUED)

QUEEN ISSA

You have a good heart, my child. If you didn't, the death of your friend would have meant nothing. The spell would have overcome you. You are far more powerful - and far more compassionate - than I think even you know yet.

KING DANDERE

You're sure you won't come back for the night?

FAY

Gentle and I shall find quite comfortable lodgings in these woods, I'm sure.

KING DANDERE

I thought you'd say that. We will keep you no longer. Good luck on your journey, daughter of the faeries of Algata. You still have a great many things to do...

QUEEN ISSA

And many great things, as well.

Without another word, the KING and QUEEN turn and join the faerie procession back to the Willow. They vanish into the night sky.

58 EXT. THE WRATH FOREST. DAY

FAY and GENTLE walk wearily through the thick forest. Creatures scuttle across the forest floor, CRUNCHING leaves. There is a soft fog. GENTLE'S sword is dragging along behind him. There are mountains just barely visible through the dense forest.

GENTLE

So, how long have we been walking now?

FAY

(pulling out her hourglass)
About seven hours. (sighs) I wish we hadn't slept so long - we lost a lot of daylight, I'm sure.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE
We needed the rest.

FAY
Yeah...well, tell that to the
Oracle when we get stuck on this
bloody island forever.

The mountains are closer now, and the forest is
thinning. GENTLE and FAY walk, looking exhausted.

GENTLE
So is the magic where the island
kills us by moving the mountains
further away each time we gain on
them?

GENTLE steals a sideways glance at FAY, who is marching
resolutely staring at the ground ahead of her.

GENTLE (cont'd)
So, I think this might be the
biggest forest in the world.

FAY
There's a lot of the world we
haven't seen yet.

GENTLE
So...are we just going to not talk
about it?

FAY
Yeah...I think that's for the best
don't you?

GENTLE stops suddenly and grabs FAY'S arm. He pulls her
closer.

GENTLE
Any of it?

FAY
Yeah.

GENTLE lets go of FAY'S arm and walks quickly ahead. She
runs after him.

FAY (cont'd)
Gentle, come on-

A HOWL cuts through the forest. FAY and GENTLE freeze.

(CONTINUED)

FAY (cont'd)
Did you hear that?

More HOWLING. A breeze rustles the branches of the trees.

GENTLE
Wolves?

FAY
Worse...werewolves.

FAY grabs GENTLE'S arm and begins to run quickly. The sound of rustling leaves grows louder. A light RUMBLE of pads hitting ground starts to grow.

GENTLE
Werewolves? There haven't been
werewolves in centuries. And they
can't come out during the day - can
they?

FAY
Forget where we are, have you?

The RUSTLING and POUNDING grow louder now. Dozens of werewolves appear behind them, close in pursuit. The HOWLING picks up again as they see their prey. FAY and GENTLE run faster. Suddenly, they find themselves at the edge of a cliff. They stop short, the werewolves still in hot pursuit.

GENTLE
What do we do? Oh Hades, I hate
heights...

FAY
Do you trust me?

GENTLE
What?

FAY
Do you trust me?

GENTLE
(beat)
Of course I do.

FAY
Then grab on!

FAY wraps her arms around GENTLE and throws them over the edge of the cliff as the werewolves appear, snapping at

(CONTINUED)

their heels. The wolves stop short, and howl angrily into the open air. Struggling under their combined weight, FAY struggles to fly awkwardly to ground below. A few yards above the ground, she gives out. They tumble onto the grass and rocks below. They rise shakily, coughing and shaking.

GENTLE

I will never trust you again!

FAY bursts into laughter, and GENTLE joins her. GENTLE leans in close to FY. She jumps up grabbing her bag. He gets up slowly behind and follows her.

59

EXT. THE MOUNTAINS. DAY

FAY and GENTLE are walking along craggy rock ridges at the base of the mountains, using long branches for walking sticks. They stumble occasionally, helping each other up.

GENTLE

So it's a volcano?

FAY

Reckon so, if we're looking for fire.

GENTLE

Ever seen a volcano?

FAY

No.

GENTLE

Oh. (beat) Me neither. So how are we supposed to know which one it is.

FAY

Them!

FAY points to the ground. Several small bright orange and red lizards are scuttling forward across the rocks.

GENTLE

Snapdragons!

FAY

These little blighters love heat - remember when that colony took over our heating supply a few winters back? The volcano must be close, or these little buggers wouldn't be anywhere near these mountains...

60 EXT. MT. HI. DAY

FAY and GENTLE are climbing the side of a large mountain. Dozens more snapdragons are running excitedly up the side around them

GENTLE
(panting hard)
You better be right about this mountain, because I am not climbing another one of these! (he slips a bit on the rock) I hate heights...

FAY
This is it, Gentle, I'm sure of it!

FAY and GENTLE throw their sacks up over a flat ledge and hoist themselves up. The top of the mountain is level but craggy. Snapdragons running up from the sides scurry towards the center. A large opening is emitting tufts of curly gray smoke.

FAY (cont'd)
Ha! I told you. Now how do we get in...?

GENTLE
See a door anywhere? Talking dolphins? Friendly minotaur?

FAY
Hm...no entrance way. No passageways down either side. Difficult to scale side of the mountain. Can only mean one thing. (points to the whole in the center) We must have to go in through the top.

GENTLE
What? No! There's no way - no, don't look at me like that! Fay, no, there is no way I am jumping down that bloody hole!

61 INT. MT. HI. DAY

FAY and GENTLE are dangling precariously inside the opening to the mountains. Snapdragons are scurrying across their fingers.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

I cannot believe I am jumping down
this bloody hole.

FAY

Shh, be quiet! Hades only knows
what sorts of creatures must live
in here with the guardian! I don't
want us to be detected until we
have a safe plan for entry.

GENTLE

Oh really? Did falling to death
down a volcano seem like a safe
plan of entry to you?

FAY

Shh!

Suddenly, FAY'S fingers begin to slip. She GASPS as she
struggles for a better grip. GENTLE tentatively reaches an
arm down towards her.

GENTLE

(whispering loudly)

Fay! Hold on!

FAY grabs GENTLE'S hand. As she does, her other hand slip
suddenly off the ledge. She falls, pulling GENTLE down with
her. They SCREAM as they plummet down into the darkness

62

INT. MT. HI. DAY

FAY and GENTLE crash hard onto the rocky ground at the base
of the volcano, landing feet away from magma pit. GENTLE
stands up, wincing, pulling FAY up beside him. They look
around. Snapdragons run across the ground in every
direction. Miniature dragons and the occasional phoenix
are sitting in every crevice and corner of the volcano,
staring at the intruders. From the shadows steps a giant
CENTAUR. The magma begins to bubble as he approaches.

CENTAUR

Welcome, intruders.

FAY

Gee, thanks! Let me guess, you're
king...?

CENTAUR

Foolish human!

(CONTINUED)

FAY
Uh...faerie!

CENTAUR
You're all the same to us,
human. Assuming that majestic
magical creatures conform to your
standards of monarchy! There is no
king here!

The magma in the center bubbles ferociously.

GENTLE
But I'm going to assume that you
are in charge?

CENTAUR
I lead.

FAY
Right...well, let's get down to
it. We're here for the treasure,
you're going to make that difficult
for us. Right?

CENTAUR
Correct.

The CENTAUR stamps his foot on the ground. The magma begins to bubble more ferociously. From the shadows stand several creatures. They surround FAY and GENTLE. GENTLE draws his sword as FAY loads an arrow onto the bow.

GENTLE
Ready?

FAY
Apparently, I was born ready.

The creatures close in around them.

63 INT. DARK PALACE - THE THRONE ROOM. DAY
GOBO runs hurriedly into the throne room.

GOBO
My Lord! The guards have been
notified! Every entrance into the
Palace has been reinforced!

(CONTINUED)

LORD NADGA
And from the north?

GOBO
Twice as many guards on each of the
northern gates, my Lord!

LORD NADGIA
Good...

GOBO stares into the well. FAY and GENTLE are viciously
battling the CENTAUR'S monster.

LORD NADGIA (cont'd)
I'll be seeing you soon, my pet...

64 INT. MT. HI. DAY

FAY and GENTLE dash about, battling with the CENTAUR'S
creatures. FAY fires several more arrows into the thinning
crowd as GENTLE rears his sword. The last monster falls,
and they stand, panting amidst the carnage.

CENTAUR
Well, you've done
it. Congratulations.

GENTLE
You sound far too
unconcerned. Forgive me if I'm a
little unnerved.

CENTAUR
No, no, not at all. The element is
yours.

The CENTAUR stamps his hoof onto the ground once more. The
magma bubbles heavier still. A guard enters, carrying a
small black stone disc with a red flame suspended above
it. He places a glass cover over it and hands it to GENTLE.

FAY
That's it?

CENTAUR
You want more?

FAY
It just...it seemed a little too
easy.

(CONTINUED)

CENTAUR

It must be your lucky day.

GENTLE

So we can just go?

CENTAUR

Of course...if you can find your
way back out...

FAY and GENTLE exchange a look, before running to the wall. They run their hands along the wall, feeling for an exit, as the centaur laughs. The magma bubbles and smokes.

65 EXT. THE DARK PALACE. DAY

Montage of palace guards moving into place. Several goblin guards on winged unicorns ride across the norther bridge from the palace. Uniformed trolls march in formation to the palace gates. Armed sentries take their posts at windows and in the guard towers.

66 INT. MT. HI. DAY

FAY and GENTLE scramble around the edges of the cave, the centaur laughing cruelly as the magma beside him bubbles along. FAY collapses onto the ground angrily. GENTLE stoops beside her.

FAY

We've circled the perimeter of this room dozens of times. I have no idea how they get in and out of here!

GENTLE

Maybe they don't! I haven't seen a single one of those lurkers budge from the shadows since we got here. Maybe they just sit here all day waiting for food to fall through the ceiling!

FAY

Thanks for that. (sighing) So what do you reckon?

GENTLE

Try and fly out?

(CONTINUED)

FAY

Thought you didn't trust me?

GENTLE

What choice do we have?

FAY grabs GENTLE and begins to flap her wings, they hover a few inches off the ground before GENTLE slips from FAY'S grasp. She shoots a few feet into the air as he hits the ground.

FAY

Guess it really only works when
we're already falling down...

CENTAUR

What's the matter humans? Not the
easy escape you were counting on?

As the CENTAUR laughs, the magma beside him begins to boil up a little over the sides. GENTLE stares at it, frowning.

FAY

Oh, we're lovely, thanks! (to
GENTLE) Nasty bugger...

GENTLE

Say that louder.

FAY

Are you crazy? If that jerk hears
me call him a jerk, he'll probably
have us eaten!

GENTLE

Watch the magma. You notice every
time he laughs it bubbles? He
yells at us, it bubbles?

FAY

You feeling all right?

GENTLE

I think that the Centaur is somehow
linked to the volcano, you
know? Like he can control
it. Only it seems like he can't
control it completely - every time
he gets excited, it kind of creeps
up on him.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

So...

GENTLE

So if we can get him angry enough
to blow his top-

FAY

Maybe we can get him to also blow
the volcano!

GENTLE

Exactly!

FAY

But how do we go out with the flow
without being burned to a crisp?

GENTLE

Leave that to me...

GENTLE stabs his sword into the wall. He jimmies it back
and forth a few times. A thick slab of the rock hits the
ground hard. He tugs it towards the magma, dropping it hard
on the ground. He sits on top of it panting. The magma
bubbles again as the CENTAUR laughs.

CENTAUR

What are you going to do,
human? Cut your way through the
mountain?

GENTLE

How about you stop calling me
human, pony?

CENTAUR

What did you call me?

GENTLE

(standing atop the stone slab)
You heard me, pony-boy. Or don't
you filthy beats have hearing as
good as ours?

CENTAUR

You filthy, fleshy pink
creature! You abomination of-

GENTLE

Yeah, yeah, yeah, we know, you're
so much better than us because you
have magical powers, blah blah

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE (cont'd)
blah. Too bad you don't have
opposable thumbs...

The CENTAUR'S nostrils flair as he stomps the ground hard. The magma begins bubble harder and faster than before.

FAY
(stepping onto the slab)
Yeah! What makes you so much
better than us, eh? Humans run
this whole bloody world, and we
faeries are the most magical
creatures to ever exist. If it
weren't for us, your lot probably
would have died out centuries ago-

CENTAUR
(hoofing the ground hard)
Lies! All lies! You-

FAY
Well, considering my species can
write and yours can't, I hope
you'll understand that I only have
our history books to rely on...

CENTAUR
Filthy, wretched-

GENTLE
Hey, why don't you shut up before I
muzzle and harness you?

The CENTAUR SCREAMS madly as he stomps his mighty hooves on the ground. The mountain begins to rumble, debris falling from the sides, as the magma in the center boils to a dangerous level. The rock slab FAY and GENTLE stands on begins to rise a few inches under the bubbling mass.

FAY
Horse!

GENTLE
(bleating the word)
Neigh-sayer!

FAY
Oh that was good...

CENTAUR

Ahhh!

The flow of magma bursts suddenly into the sky as the CENTAUR screams in rage. GENTLE pushes FAY down against the rock slab, and covers her body with his. The magma pushes them speedily to the top of the mountain.

67 EXT. MT. HI. DAY

Red hot lava begins to pour out of the volcano. The large stone slab slides out and begins to speed quickly down the hot lava towards the ground. GENTLE grabs FAY tight and squeezes his eyes shut.

GENTLE

I hate heights!

68 EXT. A MEADOW. DAY

FAY and GENTLE scream as the rushing lava begins to thin. The rock they are riding careens quickly down the side of the mountain. Small springs of grass begin to appear on the rocky terrain. They continue quickly down the hill, sliding easily over the soft grass. The rock stops suddenly as the ground levels out. FAY and GENTLE fly forward, tumbling roughly into a thick grassy meadow. They stand up dizzily, holding each other for support. They look around slowly...

GENTLE

You know, we've seen a lot since we got here, but this might be the most bizarre part yet...

They are standing in the middle of a thick plush grassy meadow. Hundreds of brightly colored flowers surround them. Little furry creatures of all shapes and sizes hop and run around. Butterflies fill the sky. One lands on GENTLE'S sword, which he shakes violently. The butterfly flies away.

FAY

Where the hell are we?

GENTLE

Look!

GENTLE points far into the meadow. At the bottom of a hill in the distance is the shape of a giant key built out of stone.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

The "key"!

GENTLE

Come on!

GENTLE begins to run forward through the tall grass. FAY begins to flap her wings, and flies slowly along behind him. Suddenly, the HARPIES come flying in. The MERMAIDS splash alongside them in the river, pushing the OLD TURTLE on his rock. Various other magical creatures begin to follow behind them.

69

EXT. THE WELL OF HOPE. DAY

GENTLE runs up to key, FAY flying along behind him. The circular part of the stone key is a giant well, with a thick rim around it. As FAY and GENTLE walk around the well, examining it, the creatures who followed them settle into a large circle around the key. The well contents ripple gently, like black water.

GENTLE

What do we do?

FAY leans down closely over the rim of the well. There are small symbols etched onto the stone.

FAY

There's something here but I can't make it out, it's too dark...

FAY pulls DANDERE'S light out and holds it against the stone. The light fizzles softly then burns out.

FAY (cont'd)

Oh dear...

GENTLE

So much for eternal light. Suppose we found a magic stronger than the faeries'. (beat) No offense.

GENTLE pulls out the small flame Mt. Hi and holds it carefully over the rim, peering at the stone.

FAY

Be careful! If you snuff that out we're really done for!

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE continues to peer down at the stone. He shines the light over a small circle groove cut into the stone rim. He lines the disc up with the groove, and begins to slide it in carefully.

FAY (cont'd)

Careful!

GENTLE CLICKS the disc into place. Suddenly, the bright red flames shoot out on either side, and a ring of flames surrounds the inner ring of the rim. The black contents of the well sparkle in the light. The symbols inside the rim are lit. FAY leans down close, running her finger over the symbol.

FAY (cont'd)

(gasping)

It's the Nebula Blossom!

GENTLE

What?

FAY

Give me the bag - I know what we have to do...

Carefully, FAY removes the blossom from the bag and lays it into the stone slab. She removes the small bag of golden sand and pours it onto the slab, propping the blossom up inside the pile. The sand begins to glow golden, and spreads across the rim, filling it. The Nebula Blossom glows lightly, erect in the golden sand. GENTLE removes the cork from the small blue vial, carefully pouring it into the soil. Small green vines begin to sprout out of the soil all around the well. The black content of the well begin to spiral, twinkling under the golden light.

GENTLE

What about this?

GENTLE holds up the small purple stone. FAY takes it from him, turning it over in her hand.

FAY

I'm not sure...

FAY looks between the water and the stone in her hand. Closing her eyes and mouthing to herself, FAY tosses the stone into the water. The stone sinks down into the water slowly.

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

What are you doing?

FAY

It's a *wishing* well-

The water in the well goes still. Suddenly, a huge beam of light shines from the center of the well. Flowers sprout and blossom around the rim, growing up and spilling over the side of the well and wrapping vines around the stones. Small beams of light begin to shoot from the many blossoms. The lights connect in the sky, forming a cloud of light. The cloud writhes and rolls in the sky, forming into the shape of a dragon. Suddenly, the light explodes. FAY and GENTLE shield their eyes.

FAY (cont'd)

What's happening?

A large shimmering dragon, made entirely of light, stretches and writhes in the sky above them. The dragon turns to face FAY and GENTLE blinking large golden eyes.

CORISANTZ

I am Corisantz, guardian of the Orb
of Obbclasioscstis. Who has
disturbed my slumber?

Underneath of the dragon CORISANTZ, a glowing white ball rises slowly from the well. The ball shimmer delicately in the air, changing color rapidly as it swirls in the air above them. A whir of wind begins to swirl around the Orb. The wind begins to pick up the blossoms and sand from the rim of the well, pulling the pieces up and around the Orb. The fire streams upwards in a neat red-hot whip, surrounding the light ball. The well begins to erode away in the breeze, as the pieces of it are swept into the steadily growing Orb. GENTLE stakes his sword into the ground, and grabbing FAY, holds them both down low under the swirling winds. As the last of the well is swept into the Orb by the swirling winds, the wind stops suddenly. The Orb glows brightly for a moment before exploding. A shower of shimmering light floats lightly down onto the meadow; the Orb is gone. CORISANTZ lands lightly onto the meadow next to GENTLE as he pulls FAY to her feet.

FAY

Where did it go? It was just here,
I saw it!

CORISANTZ

It has gone little one. It has
gone back to where it belongs.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

You mean...we did it?

CORISANTZ

You have restored the Orb back to Obbclasioscstis. Lord Nadgia still holds the palace. The Shadow is fighting back. The only way to banish it forever is to-

FAY

Go back and fight.

CORISANTZ

Indeed, little one. You have the Orb on your side. Your magic will be stronger. But the only way you can truly utilize the power of the Orb is to restore the lost hopes of the people who make up the very heart of it. Do you understand?

FAY

Not really, no.

CORISANTZ

You will in time, little one. Now we need to get you back to Obbclasioscstis...

CORISANTZ lowers his head to the ground. FAY places a hand tentatively on his neck.

CORISANTZ (cont'd)

I assure you, little one, I am entirely safe. And solid.

FAY smiles, and climbs aboard CORISANTZ' back. GENTLE watches skeptically, before he climbs up carefully behind her.

CORISANTZ (cont'd)

Don't worry, warrior. I will fly as low as I can and glide so my wings are on either side of you. Now!

CORISANTZ kicks up hard from the ground. GENTLE GASPS audibly. They fly quickly into the air.

70 EXT. THE DARK PALACE - TUNNEL. DAY

CORISANTZ flies lightly into the edge of a long tunnel at the base of the mountain the Palace sits on. The Orb glows brightly over the Palace. FAY jumps off his back, then reaches up to help a shaking GENTLE down. CORISANTZ turns to face them.

CORISANTZ

This is where I leave you. You will find your way into the Palace easily enough from here, though there will be obstacles.

FAY

(smiling)

Naturally. And what will happen to you?

CORISANTZ

Now that the Orb is restored, there is no need for an Orb guardian. I will...leave this place.

FAY

You mean you'll-?

CORISANTZ

Go, little one. Our journey together is over. Your journey must continue forth from here.

CORISANTZ turns and flies quickly from the tunnel. As he rises into the air, the light around him shines brightly then dims into nothingness; he is gone. FAY watches for a moment, before turning into the long tunnel.

71 INT. THE DARK PALACE - TUNNEL. DAY

FAY and GENTLE walk swiftly down the long tunnel, splashing in the thin shallow puddle down the center.

GENTLE

So how are we going to get in?

FAY

I'm not sure yet. I guess we'll have to wait and see what the protection looks li-

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

Shh! Did you hear that?

FAY

Hear what?

A low RUMBLING sound begins to grow into the sound of quickly moving HOOVES. FAY places her hand against the shaking tunnel wall. She turns around slowly.

FAY (cont'd)

Run!

A dozen large white winged unicorns are running quickly through the tunnel, a goblin guard on the back of each one. FAY and GENTLE turn and run forward through the tunnel. FAY runs up the side of the tunnel and along the top. GENTLE withdraws his sword, stopping short and swinging it wildly into the air. One of the goblins falls from his steed and FAY jumps down onto the beast's back. She fits an arrow into the bow and fires it into a nearby guards. He falls from his unicorn, and FAY runs after the unicorn, jumping onto his back, and turning him back around. She rides back towards the other guard, firing another arrow into the fray. GENTLE is battling with a dismounted guard.

GENTLE

Run! Get out of here! I'll hold them off - go! It's your only chance!

FAY

But-

GENTLE

No buts! Go!

FAY

How will you find me?

GENTLE

I won't! (seeing her face) I think figured out what Corisantz meant.

FAY

But-

GENTLE

I'll take care of it. Now go!

FAY turns her unicorn quickly and rides forward. GENTLE continues to battle steadily falling guards.

72 INT. DARK PALACE - THE THRONE ROOM. DAY

LORD NADGIA
She's here.

GOBO looks at the throne in alarm. LORD NADGIA stands, face obscured by a large hooded cloak. GOBO watches as LORD NADGIA steps out onto the balcony as the sun begins to set.

73 EXT. THE DARK PALACE. NIGHT

FAY flies through the darkening sky on the back of the winged unicorn. She flies low over the guard tower, firing an arrow into the goblin guard. She lands her unicorn heavily on the guard's body and jumps lightly from her steed. With a last pat, she sends the unicorn off and climbs carefully over the stone ledge and shimmies down the palace wall.

74 EXT. THE DARK PALACE - BALCONY. NIGHT

FAY jumps from the stone ledge over the door to the throne room, landing lightly on the stone beneath her. A tall, hooded figure stands looking out over the edge of the balcony - LORD NADGIA. FAY fits an arrow into her bow and lines it up, her arms shaking. She fires the arrow. IT hits LORD NADGIA in the back and flies in the other direction, a small light shimmering at the point of impact. FAY GASPS.

LORD NADGA
Welcome, Lord Fay. Yes, I know all about you now.

FAY
I'm no more *Lord* of anything than you are - I guess both our titles are built on lies. I just didn't steal mine from somebody else.

LORD NADGIA
Steal...such a strong word. I took what was mine. I took what was supposed to be mine.

FAY
It was supposed to be yours? What, are you, the King's bastard little brother? Long-lost black sheep cousin? This never belonged to you!

(CONTINUED)

LORD NADGIA
This *should* have!

A blast of light shoots from underneath the robes, smacking FAY hard into the wall behind her. She stands, shakily, as LORD NADGIA removes the hooded cloak.

FAY
But...but...

LORD NADGIA stands revealed: a tall, pale-green skinned woman with long raven hair. She has a long wooden staff with a small glass ball on top.

LORD NADGIA
Surprised?

FAY
Lord?

LORD NADGIA
Perhaps our lies are similar after all!

NADGIA shoots another blast of light from her staff. FAY dodges it narrowly.

FAY
Who are you?

NADGIA
The question is who are you. And who can you be if you join me?

FAY
What?

NADGIA
Join me faerie. You're the only person in twenty years to even stand a chance against me. Imagine how powerful we could be together!

FAY
Sorry, I'm more into retrieval than royal operations, hope you unders-

NADGIA knocks FAY across the balcony. She crashes through the railing as the THUNDER ROLLS and lightning crashes. As it begins to rain she flies back up to the ledge. The two begin to battle.

75

EXT. A SMALL FARMING VILLAGE OUTSIDE OBBCLA. DAY.

GENTLE runs through the dirt path of the village outside Obbcla. The once barren village is now showing signs of rejuvenation: there are small plants sprouting in the plat beds, the soil is dark and rich again, and a small rain is spattering down gently on the land.

GENTLE
Hello? Hello?

POOR FARMER
Hello lad! Can I do something for you?

GENTLE
Yes, please! I need your help.

POOR FARMER
What can I do for you?

GENTLE
I can't believe I'm going to say this...I need you to believe.

POOR FARMER
Lad, are you one of those door-to-door-

GENTLE
No, please! I know this sounds absolutely crazy. Haven't you noticed that everything is changing? Everything is getting better?

FARMER'S SMALL SON
(coming out into the yard)
Papa? Is everything all right?

POOR FARMER
Yes, I think so. Lad, things have started to turn around for us indeed, so I can certainly understand why you'd be preaching-

GENTLE
I'm not a preacher! Please, just listen - look!

GENTLE points to the palace. The Orb glows brightly in the darkening sky. The rain begins to pour harder.

(CONTINUED)

POOR FARMER

Is that - it can't be - well, I'll
be damned...

FARMER'S SMALL SON

Papa? What's that?

POOR FARMER

It's the Orb of
Obbclasioscstis. It's back. Bless
the day! Mother! Mother!

GENTLE

Oh Hades!

FARMER'S WIFE

(running from the house)

Father? Oh my!

GENTLE

Are you all quite finished? We
need your help - the Orb needs your
help!

76 EXT. THE DARK PALACE - BALCONY. NIGHT

FAY and NADGIA battle fiercely.

FAY

Who are you?

NADGIA

Why does that matter so much to
you?

FAY

Why does this throne matter so much
to you?

NADGIA

Because it's mine!

FAY

How can this be yo-

NADGIA smashes her staff on the ground beside the fallen
FAY. There is a huge dent in the ground as Fay jumps up,
realization dawning on her.

FAY (cont'd)

It's you! You're her! You're
Agdina!

(CONTINUED)

NADGIA

There is no Agdina! She's
dead! *Dead!*

FAY

This is all some sort of lover's
quarrel? You destroyed an entire
kingdom because you got dumped?

NADGIA

This was mine! This was supposed
to be my kingdom, my happiness, my
husband...my child...

FAY

You're unbelievable! Ah!

FAY dodges another blast, and fires one back. NADGIA falls
but jumps back up quickly. Suddenly, she clutches her leg
and stoops over, SCREAMING.

FAY (cont'd)

Had enough?

NADGIA

Oh...arrogant child...uh...damned
girl...oh...

NADGIA falls onto the floor. FAY stands over her.

FAY

Are you prepared to surrender?

NADGIA

Aren't you going to kill me?

FAY

(stooping over her)

Do you want me to? (beat) I'm
giving you a chance to walk away
from this. Go away! Never come
back.

NADGIA

Then you're exactly as weak as I
thought you were!

NADGIA hurls herself suddenly at FAY, knocking her down
hard. She flies up into the air over FAY. FAY attempts to
stand but falls back hard to the ground.

(CONTINUED)

NADGIA (cont'd)
Trusting fool! Now, let's
talk. You're good but you're not
that good. Die and it will have
all been in vein. Join me and you
will truly be a Lord over all those
beneath you!

FAY
Promise...you won't kill me?

NADGIA
(moving closer to FAY)
I've been Lord of this palace for
more than twenty years, you don't
think you'd already be dead if I
wanted you to be? Join
me! Together we can be far more
powerful than either of us-

Suddenly FAY jumps, knocking NADGIA back. She flies high
above NADGIA before soaring quickly down and knocking into
her. NADGIA falls again.

FAY
Trusting fool...

NADGIA hits FAY hard throwing her over the edge of the
balcony. FAY flies downward, landing on the ground at the
base of the mountain.

77 EXT. A SMALL FARMING VILLAGE OUTSIDE OBBCLA. NIGHT

A small crowd of farmers has gathered around GENTLE. The
POOR FARMER and his family are calling out to their
neighbors.

POOR FARMER
Everyone, gather 'round! You need
to hear what this young lad has to
say!

The crowd falls quiet.

GENTLE
Um, yes, thank you everyone. Um,
as you may have noticed things
have, uh...been changing around
here.

GENTLE looks to the POOR FARMER, who nods back.

(CONTINUED)

POOR FARMER

Tell them, lad. Before it's too late.

GENTLE

Right, um, so the Orb is back. It's too hard to explain right now, but this big glittery dragon told us-

PEASANT #1

A dragon? What's he say about a dragon?

PEASANT #2

There's no dragons around here, mate. What are you on about?

POOR FARMER

Everyone, listen! I know it sounds mad, but the Orb is back. Look over the palace, it's their. and if it's going to stay he needs your help!

PEASANT #3

What's he expect us to do?

GENTLE

I just need you to...oh Hades...I need you to believe in it.

The crowd falls silent again before bursting into laughter.

POOR FARMER

(to GENTLE)

Well lad, you've certainly got their attention!

78

EXT. THE DARK PALACE - MOUNTAIN. NIGHT

FAY, battle worn and dirty, begins to pull herself slowly up the side of the mountain. NADGIA flies delicately down from the balcony, landing softly on the ground near her. The rain pours down harder. FAY pushes herself up, firing another shot at NADGIA. The shot hits NADGIA weakly in the shoulder. She smiles and fires back. FAY moves slowly, painfully up the side of the mountain. NADGIA stalks behind her. The two continue to battle, lightning crackling in the sky behind them, as FAY stumbles on the flattening ground. A large tarp draped over a huge rock flaps in the breeze. NADGIA prepares to fire again as FAY dives behind the structure. NADGIA drops her staff suddenly.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

What's wrong? Afraid to shoot at
me up here? What have you got
underneath here anyway?

FAY yanks the tarp from the structure. Underneath are two
crystal statues, the KING and QUEEN reaching towards each
other on the broken ground. FAY drops the tarp as the
lightning crashes, lighting the statue.

FAY (cont'd)

She was a faerie!

FAY moves closer to the statue, running her hand over the
crystallized wings. NADGIA grips her staff tightly, looking
frightened. She stares from FAY to the QUEEN and back
again.

FAY (cont'd)

You look...familiar.

NADGIA

You! You were supposed to be dead!

FAY

Me? What did I do?

NADGIA

You were supposed to be dead!

NADGIA runs at FAY, yanking her roughly from the
statue. FAY wrestles NADGIA'S staff from her, and hits her
with it. NADGIA screams in rage. She prepares to fire
again as FAY dives behind the statue once more. NADGIA
stops again.

FAY

Why'd you stop? Afraid to hit
them, are you? Afraid to hit your
precious trophy?

FAY blasts NADGIA with her own staff. She SCREAMS again.

FAY (cont'd)

Afraid to hit them? Answer me!

FAY fires at NADGIA again. NADGIA rolls out of the way just
in time. The Orb glows overhead.

79

EXT. A SMALL FARMING VILLAGE OUTSIDE OBBCLA. NIGHT

The crowd around GENTLE is moving away. He is shouting to get their attention.

GENTLE

Wait! Please just listen to me!

PEASANT #2

Sorry mate, but I don't have time to listen some-

POOR FARMER

Listen to him! Please! Friends, neighbors, we finally have a chance to do something to rid ourselves of this Shadow once and for all! Please!

The POOR FARMER, his WIFE and his SON stand behind GENTLE. The POOR FARMER raises his arms into the air. His WIFE and SON follow suit. The three suddenly begin to glow lightly. Several of the farmers stop and turn back.

PEASANT #4

Look! It's - it's working!

The Orb over the palace begins to glow more brightly, growing slightly.

PEASANT #1

Come on mates!

PEASANT #1 stands beside the POOR FARMER and raises his arm into the air. He too begins to glow gently, as several other peasant farmers join them.

GENTLE

Yes! Thank you!

80

EXT. THE DARK PALACE - MOUNTAIN. NIGHT

FAY battles NADGIA weakly, faltering under her steady stream of blows. The Orb fades and brightens repeatedly over the palace. FAY falls, dropping NADGIA'S staff, and crawls towards the crystallized figures of the KING and QUEEN. NADGIA picks up her staff and walks slowly towards FAY. FAY pulls herself under the KING and QUEEN'S outstretched arms and stares up into the face of the QUEEN.

(CONTINUED)

FAY
(beat)
Mum?

FAY'S eyes flutter.

81 EXT. A SMALL FARMING VILLAGE OUTSIDE OBBCLA. NIGHT

The villagers gather around GENTLE, arms raised into the air. The group glows gently, the light brightening steadily. The rain lashes down.

GENTLE
You're doing it! All of you,
you're doing it! She can
win! Just keep it up! Keep it
up!

The group surges brightly with light.

82 EXT. THE DARK PALACE - MOUNTAIN. NIGHT

NADGIA moves slowly in place over FAY. Suddenly, the Orb flashes brilliantly in the sky, then moves suddenly, surging towards the ground. The Orb races towards FAY, surrounding her. It explodes, shimmering light particles flying everywhere. NADGIA shields her eyes. When the light dissipates FAY is gone. NADGIA runs from the figures slightly downhill.

NADGIA
No! Where is she? (turning around
wildly) Where are you my pet? Come
out, come out!

FAY (O.S.)
With pleasure!

FAY jumps down on top of NADGIA suddenly. She is revitalized, glowing brilliantly now. In her hand is a magnificent opalescent staff, shimmering brightly.

NADGIA
Give me the Orb!

FAY
Ask nicely!

(CONTINUED)

NADGIA

Give it to me, faerie brat!

FAY

I said, ask nicely!

FAY blasts NADGIA'S staff from her and knocks her down with her own. She strikes again. NADGIA screams. FAY stand over her holding the staff high; the glass ball on the end begins to glow.

FAY (cont'd)

It's over now Agdina. It's over.

NADGIA stares up at FAY. The red glint in her eye fades, as her features soften and her skin pales. FAY holds the staff high over head, shooting a blast of light over her.

NADGIA

Thank...you...

NADGIA smiles as her body begins to glow silver. The light explodes; when it clears, NADGIA is gone. FAY lowers the staff slowly, shaking. She turns, and trots down the hill back towards the palace.

83 EXT. A SMALL FARMING VILLAGE OUTSIDE OBBCLA. NIGHT

The dark clouds over the kingdom explode in a dazzling flash of light. The rain stops suddenly. The peasants around GENTLE lower their hands slowly, looking around. PEASANT #2 cheers. The crowd erupts into applause. GENTLE looks up at the palace, smiling.

GENTLE

We did it! You did it!

GENTLE sprints towards the palace, amongst the throngs of celebrating Obbclasians.

84 INT. DARK PALACE - THE THRONE ROOM. NIGHT

FAY walks into the Throne Room from the balcony, dragging NADGIA'S staff behind her. The sounds of celebrating villagers sounds quietly in the background. GOBO and the goblin guards file into the Throne Room and line up in front of FAY.

FAY

Your dismissed. Leave this place. Never return to this kingdom again or I will kill you.

(CONTINUED)

GOBO

Yes, your Majesty.

GOBO steps up to FAY, bowing low before her but never making eye contact. He eyes the staff in her hand, before turning away. He leaves the Throne Room, leading the goblin guards out behind him. GENTLE runs into the room past them.

GENTLE

You did it! You did it!

FAY

You did it! How? What did you do?

GENTLE

What Corisantz said, about the hope. The heart of the kingdom - the people.

FAY

That's the mad sort of thing the Oracle would say.

GENTLE

Exactly. She's been known to be right on the rare occasion, as it turns out...

FAY smiles at GENTLE. He grabs her and the two embrace. SUMIRE and THE ORACLE run into the Throne Room.

THE ORACLE

You did it dear, you did it!

SUMIRE

You did it - I didn't think you could, that you would, but you -

FAY punches SUMIRE, knocking her to the ground. GENTLE grabs FAY around the arms and pulls her back.

FAY

Liar! You lied to me! You knew, you knew all along-

SUMIRE

No I didn't! I didn't know, I had no way of knowing!

FAY

Liar!

THE ORACLE put her arm around FAY'S shoulders. GENTLE helps SUMIRE to her feet.

(CONTINUED)

THE ORACLE

When the Shadow came, she did everything she could to protect you. She tried to hide. When the Palace fell, she thought she lost you...

FAY

She stuck me in a cabinet! She thought I died! And when she finds me alive, she doesn't even have the decency to tell me who I am! She led me to you under false pretenses-

THE ORACLE

She led you to me to confirm what I suspected! As soon as we knew you were still alive, we knew you were the only one who could restore our kingdom - your kingdom...

SUMIRE

Please Portia-

FAY

Fay!

SUMIRE

Fay...that day was the worst day of my life. I tried so hard to protect you and when I thought I failed, I...I lost everything. I lost my sister, I couldn't bear-

GENTLE

Your sister?

FAY

Medusa?

SUMIRE

(nodding)

Yes. I...when I lost my sister - when I thought I lost you - I couldn't go back. I had failed in every sense of the word.

GENTLE

But you're not a faerie.

(CONTINUED)

SUMIRE
No...not anymore.

SUMIRE pulls the back of her cloak down. Two long scars run down her back where wings used to be. THE ORACLE pulls her shirt back up over her shoulders.

THE ORACLE
She cut off her wings. Set off to find anyone who may have survived. When she found me, I took her in. I promised that we would do everything in our power to find a way to restore the kingdom. We discovered the Orb. We tried to find the best person we could to help us. We found you.

QUEEN CLARA (O.S.)
Medua?

QUEEN CLARA and KING CORNELIUS enter the Throne Room weakly, holding each other up. SUMIRE runs up to the QUEEN.

SUMIRE
Clara. I didn't think...I hoped, but I didn't think...

The two sisters embrace. KING CORNELIUS stares at FAY.

QUEEN CLARA
(turning towards FAY)
Portia?

KING CORNELIUS
You...you look just like your mother.

QUEEN CLARA looks up from SUMIRE. She walks slowly to FAY and they stare at each other. She puts her arms around FAY, who doesn't move. She steps back.

QUEEN CLARA
I can't believe how much you've grown.

KING CORNELIUS
We've missed...everything.

FAY
You haven't missed much.

(CONTINUED)

QUEEN CLARA

You've grown into such a young lady.

GENTLE

I'm sure you'll find you're the first to accuse her of that.
(beat) Kidding.

KING CORNELIUS

You've saved our entire kingdom. You've freed us from our prison.

FAY

Yeah, well...yeah.

THE ORACLE

You've done us very proud, my dear.

SUMIRE

Where's Tatum?

GENTLE puts his arm around FAY. She looks down.

FAY

She didn't make it.

GENTLE

Lord Nadgia killed her.

FAY

No...no it wasn't him. It was...
(FAY exchanges a look with GENTLE). He wasn't a lord, he was a woman. A nixie. Named Agdina.

KING CORNELIUS

That's...not possible.

FAY

Well, it's true. I saw her...before she died. She...thanked me.

THE ORACLE

Of course, it all makes sense now. That's why she disappeared after the engagement was broken. She was broken hearted.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

She was crazy and power hungry!

THE ORACLE

My dear, you'll understand one day
when you fall in love.

GENTLE

Then you'll be waiting a while.

THE ORACLE

Her heart was completely
broken. The nixies are a very old
magical race who have been dying
out for centuries because strong
emotions could cause their magic to
backfire. It's old, complicated
magic...

FAY

Whatever you want to call it.

QUEEN CLARA

Darling, her heart was completely
consumed with anger...with
hate. That sort of hatred can
completely overtake someone. When
someone lets that sort of anger-

FAY

We've met for all of five minutes
and you're already lecturing me on
how to live my life?

KING CORNELIUS

Portia!

FAY

Fay! (beat) My heart is not
consumed with hate. It's
just...not consumed with love,
either.

QUEEN CLARA

You won't be staying, then?

FAY

You have a kingdom to run.

KING CORNELIUS

It's your kingdom too.

(CONTINUED)

FAY

I really don't think I'm cut out
for the whole princess thing.

THE ORACLE

My dear, this is where you belong.

FAY

If this is where I belonged, I
would have been here.

QUEEN CLARA

So...you will be leaving.

FAY

Yes.

KING CORNELIUS

When?

FAY

Immediately.

QUEEN CLARA

(nodding)

Of course.

85 EXT. THE PALACE. DAY.

A few days later. FAY is fitting a unicorn with a bridle as
GENTLE approaches.

GENTLE

Are you sure about this?

FAY

Yes.

GENTLE

They seem nice.

FAY

Yes, they do. (beat) They are.

GENTLE

And the other thing?

FAY

Gentle-

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

I just want you to know I meant it
- I wasn't afraid we were going to
die or something noble like
that. I love you.

FAY

I know. I love you too.

GENTLE

But not the same way.

FAY

I suspect not.

GENTLE

Right.

FAY

I'm not really fit to be someone's
lover, you know?

GENTLE

(laughing)

Yeah, I suppose not.

FAY

(pulling a second unicorn
forward)

But, I am in the market for a
steadfast companion.

GENTLE

(bowing)

Of course, your Highness.

FAY

Ugh, shut up!

They both laugh. KING CORNELIUS, QUEEN CLARA, SUMIRE and
THE ORACLE walk down from the Palace. The QUEEN pulls FAY
aside.

QUEEN CLARA

It isn't too late to change your
mind.

FAY

I know.

QUEEN CLARA

It-it will never be too late to
change your mind.

(CONTINUED)

FAY stares at the QUEEN for a moment before throwing her arms around her. The QUEEN looks surprised but pleased, and wraps her arms around her. The KING runs over and embraces them both. They pull apart. FAY turns to SUMIRE and THE ORACLE.

FAY
I'm not really sure what to say
right now.

THE ORACLE
It isn't really good bye,
dear. Not really.

FAY
(smiling)
Probably not.

SUMIRE
I'm sorry I lied to you.

FAY
I'm not sorry I hit you.

SUMIRE smiles at FAY and embraces her briefly. FAY smiles back. THE ORACLE holds up NADGIA'S staff. FAY takes it and turns it over in her hand.

FAY (cont'd)
What's this for?

THE ORACLE
Just in case, dear.

THE ORACLE winks at FAY. The small glass ball on top of the staff glows briefly.

FAY
What was that?

THE ORACLE
Just in case, dear.

FAY steps back towards GENTLE and the unicorns. She ties the staff next to her own on her unicorn.

GENTLE
Are you ready for this?

FAY
No. (smiles) Are you?

(CONTINUED)

GENTLE

No. Let's get on, then?

FAY

Yeah.

FAY and GENTLE mount their steeds. They turn to face the KING and QUEEN.

KING CORNELIUS

Whenever you're ready to come back,
you're kingdom is waiting for you.

FAY

Well, who knows... (looking at the
staffs on her steed) When the
kingdom needs me, I'll be waiting
to come back.

FAY smiles one more time at her parents and aunt before
turning and trotting slowly away.

QUEEN CLARA

Goodbye, darling...

FAY

(without turning back towards
the QUEEN)

Bye Mum.

FAY and GENTLE turns their steeds down the path from the
Palace. Spurring the unicorns, they canter down the hill
and out of site of the palace.