ZELLADONIA

Written by

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INT. A DARK CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - NIGHT

A long red carpet with gold lining runs up through a cavernous throne room. Pillars line both sides of the room and disappear into the depths of the high ceiling above.

The lighting is very dim; only a few torches scattered along the pillars illuminate the massive room. The red carpet leads up two small steps to an ornate gold throne with red cushions.

A figure is sitting upon the throne and leaning to one side. Their left arm is up on the arm of the throne, and though shadows are cast over the figure, it is easy to see they are leaning on their arm.

In front of the throne at the base of the steps is another figure. He is kneeling down and bowing his head to the mighty power above.

SEMAJ

My lord.

KARALIUS

Have you found the girl?

SEMAJ

Yes, my lord. I was able to locate her in the realm of Earth just hours ago.

KARALIUS

Has she anyone else with her?

SEMAJ

Only a friend. She is merely a human and poses no threat.

KARALIUS

I see.

Silence falls over the room. A moment passes.

Semaj tilts his head up.

SEMAJ

Would you like me to go after her?

KARALIUS

No, not yet.

The king pauses. He shifts to sit upright, both arms on the

arms of the throne. Shadows still mask his face.

KARALIUS

The time is not right. She has yet to discover where she truly belongs, and her power is still untapped. Until she accepts who she is, she is of no use to us.

SEMAJ

Yes, my lord. Understood.

Semaj bows his head again.

KARALIUS

Once I recognize she is ready, you will test her. When you deem her worthy enough, you will bring her to me and we will make her see our ways. From there on we will be unstoppable.

SEMAJ

All the power in the world...

Semaj slightly lifts his head back up and stretches his hands out in front of him, palms up. A devious smile is on his face.

SEMAJ

...and it's right within our grasp.

The king now shifts over to his right to lean on his right arm, his cheek against his fist. His face is out of the shadows by just a bit, and upon a closer look, an eerily greedy expression defines it. His smirk looks sinister.

KARALIUS

Yes, my dear royal advisor. Yes it is.

CUT TO:

EXT. LOUVRE MUSEUM - DAY

The day is bright. Tourists are bustling around the outside of the famous Louvre, most marveling at the sheer size and beauty of the building as it sparkles in the sun.

Calypso and Hailee are standing a bit a way from the edifice. Calypso is avidly taking pictures with her camera while Hailee finishes with a live video for her followers. CALYPSO

Were you able to get a good video?

HAILEE

Looks like it. It was hard to see with the sun in my face.

She laughs.

Calypso smiles, then moves her camera down from taking a picture and looks at the screen. She has to shade the screen with her hand to see.

HAILEE

How'd the pictures turn out?

She looks over Calypso's shoulder.

CALYPSO

It's hard to tell because it's so bright, but I think I got some good ones. I'll go through them when we get back to campus later.

HAILEE

There better be some decent ones in there! Our adventure book is calling.

CALYPSO

Don't remind me.

Both Calypso and Hailee giggle. Calypso shuts her camera off and lets it hang back down against her torso.

CALYPSO

It would be great if we could take pictures inside. I would love to have photos of the paintings.

HAILEE

That would be really nice.

Hailee nods a bit.

HAILEE

Maybe we'll be able to? Some museums let people take pictures as long as they don't use flash.

CALYPSO

Yeah, that's true. I guess we'll find

out.

The two begin to walk toward the entrance of the museum.

HAILEE

What are you most excited to see?

CALYPSO

Um... probably the room with all of the nineteenth century paintings. I like a lot of the works that were done in that time period.

HAILEE

Art nerd.

CALYPSO

Says the girl who takes immense interest in sculpture.

HATLEE

Ugh, guilty as charged. I wouldn't be here if I wasn't.

CALYPSO

Exactly!

The two continue to tease each other as they get into the line at the entrance of the building. There are quite a few people ahead of them, and a view through the glass pyramid reveals the throng of tourists below.

CUT TO:

INT. LOUVRE MUSEUM - DAY

Calypso and Hailee pass under the massive pyramid now, mingling in with the tourists. Different statues decorate this particular room, and most of them are displayed on pedestals. The room is bright due to the light of the sun shining right through the glass overhead.

Both Calypso and Hailee are looking around in wonder. Calypso points her camera here and there to snap shots of the room.

HAILEE

It was such a good idea to come here! This place is absolutely incredible, and everything is so well preserved.

She runs her fingers along the arm of a statue and looks up

at it as they pass it, marveling at its detail. Calypso takes a quick picture of it.

CALYPSO

I know! It's almost like walking into another world just being in here. Knowing that all of it's real... it makes it even better!

HAILEE

Doesn't it make you wish that you could just go back in time and see what these artists were thinking when they made all this stuff? What inspired them?

CALYPSO

It really does!

Calypso's eyes suddenly land on a particular painting, and as if some force is pulling at her, she begins to walk over to it. Hailee follows with a start.

HAILEE

What is it?

She sounds slightly concerned.

CALYPSO

That painting...

Calypso seems to be talking more to herself than to Hailee. She jogs up the set of stairs before her and over to the painting that is just inside the long hallway in front of her.

Not many people are in this particular corridor adorned with multiple paintings; the ones that are mill around at the other end, studying other paintings.

Two security guards stand at the end of the long corridor, watching.

Calypso stops in front of the painting that caught her eye and studies it, finding she recognizes it from an art class.

CALYPSO

Hailee, come look at this!

Hailee finally catches up to her and comes to stand beside her. Hailee glances between Calypso and the painting. HAILEE

It's nice... which one is it?

CALYPSO

It's The Embarkation for Cythera.

Her eyes dart over the painting.

CALYPSO

Jean-Antoine Watteau painted this piece in 1717 for the Royal Academy of Painting and Sculpture. We learned about it in my art history class last semester.

HAILEE

That's neat, but... why did you run over to it like that?

Calypso doesn't answer. Instead, she creeps slowly forward, her left hand coming up to reach out for the painting.

HAILEE

Callie, what are you doing?

Hailee starts slightly upon seeing Calypso moving forward.

Calypso doesn't seem to hear her as her hand passes over the only thing between her and the painting: the red rope guardrail. Her leg starts to follow as she moves to step over.

HAILEE

Callie, stop it!

Hailee grabs Calypso's right arm, but Calypso's one foot is already over the rope and the other is following.

She doesn't snap out of the trance she seems to be in.

Time seems to slow as she tunes out the world, her eyes fixed solely on the painting.

Hailee shakes her, saying things Calypso can hear but can't make out.

Her fingers extend to touch the oil painting. They do not, however, just touch it; they go through the painting. It ripples like water.

This doesn't seem to surprise to Calypso. Hailee, on the

other hand, looks terrified.

She freezes for a moment and her grip on Calypso's arm falters.

Her eyes widen.

HAILEE

What the hell? Callie, how are you... what are you...?

Calypso is still stuck in her own world, reaching further into the painting. She's completely captivated.

Alarmed and realizing Calypso isn't going to respond, Hailee shakes off her initial fear and clutches at Calypso's arm again, trying to pull her back.

Calypso's arm is in up to her elbow now, and despite Hailee's pulling, she only seems to be getting pulled in farther as if by some greater force.

Desperate, Hailee pulls harder, when, suddenly, something snatches Calypso's forearm from the other side. Despite Hailee's strong grip on her arm, Calypso is pulled straight from her grasp.

Hailee is able to react quickly enough and manages to grab onto Calypso's right ankle, not letting her get pulled in completely.

She continues to pull back, but Calypso is still stuck.

HAILEE

This is crazy...

She says to herself, struggling to keep a firm grip on Calypso's ankle.

She looks around quickly; everyone that is in the corridor is still at the other end. No one is seeing what's happening, and even the security guards are oblivious.

Hailee's gaze lands on the security guards. In a moment of panic she tries to shout to them.

HATLEE

Help! I need help! My friend, she's--

A sudden jerking motion cuts Hailee off; in the blink of an eye Calypso has been yanked right out of her grasp.

The security guards both look over just as Hailee stumbles forward from the force and catches herself on the painting, leaning just over the rope.

The painting's surface is solid as ever.

It's a moment before Hailee actually reacts.

Her gaze slowly inches up to stare directly at the painting.

HAILEE

Callie!

She suddenly screams, snapping.

HAILEE

Callie!

She begins to slam her hands repeatedly on the painting as tears start to run down her face.

HATLEE

Callie! Callie, come back! Come back!

The two security guards start into action once they see her actually beating the painting, jumping away from the back of the corridor and running towards her.

SECURITY GUARD #2

(in French - subtitled)

Hey! Hey, stop it!

SECURITY GUARD #1

(in French - subtitled)

Miss! Miss, stop it! That is a very valuable painting!

The guards' shouts hardly reach Hailee above her wails of distress.

HAILEE

Come back!

The guards are able reach Hailee and grab her arms forcefully before she can pummel the painting anymore.

They all but drag her back and away from the painting.

Hailee struggles to try to get out of their grasp.

SECURITY GUARD #1

(in French - subtitled)

Miss, please calm down!

HAILEE

Let. Me. Go!

Hailee yells, trying to wrench herself out of their grasp.

Realizing she's speaking English, the guards exchange glances briefly before looking back at Hailee.

SECURITY GUARD #2

I'm afraid we can't do that, miss. You were placing a historical piece in harm's way.

HAILEE

It took her!

Hailee shouts, refusing to stop trying to slip out of their grasp.

HAILEE

You didn't see it! It took her!

SECURITY GUARD #1

Miss, it's just a painting. I'm sure you were just imagining what you saw.

HAILEE

No, no, you don't understand.

Hailee's energy is clearly beginning to run out as she is taken toward the entrance of the museum. She has stopped fighting the guards and her words come out between breaths.

HAILEE

Callie... Callie was there one minute, and then... then gone the next. The painting... it got her.

The security guards glance at each other again. By the looks on their faces, it is easy to tell that they think she is crazy.

SECURITY GUARD #2

(in French - subtitled)

She's out of her mind. On drugs, probably.

The one whispers.

The other nods, rolling his eyes.

SECURITY GUARD #1 (in French - subtitled)
Americans.

He whispers back.

They both shake their heads.

HAILEE

Where are you taking me?

Hailee asks, all her fighting spirit gone.

SECURITY GUARD #1
We're taking you to the station, miss.
Just want to ask you a few questions

and get you checked out.

Hailee doesn't say anything in reply. She just stares ahead, a hard expression on her face. Tear trails sparkle on her cheeks.

The guards push her outside.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Hailee slouches slightly in the chair she sits in, staring straight ahead. Her hands are in her lap.

She's wringing them out of nervous habit.

The expression on her face says that she is somewhere else. It is almost as if she is staring through the white wall ahead of her instead of at it.

A flash of Calypso getting yanked right out of her grasp and into the painting passes through her mind.

The door opens and an officer walks into the room. He glances at Hailee briefly before shutting the door behind him.

He is not one of the officers that grabbed her before.

OFFICER

Good afternoon, miss.

The officer says as he moves to sit across from Hailee.

She hardly acknowledges that he's there, still lost in her thoughts.

It is almost as if she can't hear anything.

OFFICER

Miss.

He says again, trying to get her attention.

His voice sounds distant, like an echo. She still stares past him.

OFFICER

Miss Sheffield.

Upon hearing her actual name being used, Hailee suddenly snaps out of it, coming back to her senses. She finally looks at the officer.

He smiles at her.

OFFICER

Hello.

HAILEE

Hi... um, sorry.

OFFICER

It's alright. Just glad to see you're back with us.

His English is fluent and clear, though his accent is thicker.

HAILEE

Yeah.

Hailee manages to muster a slight smile back.

She and the officer gaze at each other for a moment.

His bright blue eyes are stunning; Hailee finds it hard to look away from them.

He's younger for an officer, couldn't be more than twenty-five.

There is a sense of attraction between them.

Hailee forces herself to look away, though. It's not right.

HAILEE

So...

She pauses for a moment, steals a glance back at the officer.

HAILEE

You here to tell me I'm crazy or what?

OFFICER

No, not at all.

He folds his hands up on the table. He doesn't appear to be phased by what just occurred.

OFFICER

I just want to understand what happened. The artwork in the Louvre is very old and should not be disturbed in any way.

HAILEE

Ha, you think I don't know that?

Hailee stifles a scorning laugh.

HAILEE

And you want to know what happened, now, do you? Oh, do I have news for you. You're not going to believe a word I say.

The officer sighs and sits back, but doesn't look perturbed.

OFFICER

I just want to know why you felt the need to beat a painting like that.

Hailee laughs a bit again and crosses her arms, looking to the side briefly before looking straight at the officer.

HAILEE

Have you ever lost someone very close to you?

OFFICER

Yes, actually, I have. What does that have to do with--

HAILEE

Well, that's what just happened to me, okay? She was there one minute, and then just gone the next.

OFFICER

Who?

HAILEE

My best friend. She was taken straight from my grasp.

Hailee averts her gaze, feeling her eyes start to water again.

OFFICER

While you were at the Louvre?

HAILEE

Yeah.

OFFICER

The guards who were with you claimed only you were there.

HAILEE

Yeah, I was. She was already gone.

The officer's brows furrow. He doesn't say anything in reply, however; he lets Hailee continue.

HAILEE

You'd think that painting was her favorite with the way she ran over to it, you know.

Hailee smiles, but it's a little bitter.

HAILEE

I followed her over, not really understanding why she was so excited. She told me what it was, and then I just lost her. It was like she was completely mesmerized or something.

Hailee's brows furrow slightly and she lightly shakes her head as if still not believing what she saw.

HAILEE

She reached out to touch the painting, but it was like liquid. Her hand went

right though.

OFFICER

It went through?

HAILEE

Yeah... and then she just kept reaching farther in. I grabbed her to try and stop her, but it was like she was lost in her own world. Her arm just kept going deeper, and I couldn't pull her back out. It was like she was stuck.

A tear runs down Hailee's cheek as she stares down at the table.

HAILEE

I tried so hard to pull her back, but something grabbed her arm from the other side. And then she was just gone.

Another tear runs down Hailee's cheek, then another.

The officer seems to have been rendered speechless.

He doesn't accuse her of being insane, doesn't ask if she's on anything. He just sits and gazes down at the table with furrowed brows.

HAILEE

It's crazy, isn't it? I'm crazy,
aren't I?

Hailee stammers out.

OFFICER

No... I don't...

The officer's jaw clenches as he tries to figure out what to say.

After a moment, he looks at Hailee, mixed emotions clouding his face.

OFFICER

Where do you think she went?

It is by no means a mocking question. He's serious.

Hailee blinks a few times, causing a few more tears to fall from her eyes.

She looks up at the officer.

HATLEE

I don't know...

Her voice is a little faint.

The officer doesn't say anything in reply.

They gaze at each other.

Silence fills the room.

CUT TO:

EXT. A LARGE GROVE - HILLTOP - DAY

Calypso lands on the grass with a thud. She's on her stomach, her hands just beneath her, and her face is mere inches from the ground. Her dark, wavy brunette hair falls around her.

She sits there for a moment, staring at the grass with wide eyes. She's breathing heavy despite not exerting herself and is trembling slightly.

Calypso takes a deep breath and closes her eyes as if to steady herself. After a moment, she slowly pushes herself up with her hands and makes her way to her knees. She opens her eyes and looks around her.

Her camera still rests around her neck. Somehow, it remains untouched.

A luscious grove lies in front of her and to her left, and to her right is the downward slope of a hill that leads to a sparkling lake below. A line of people are going down the hill toward boats that lay at the shore of the lake.

Calypso faces this direction, twisting her body slightly and laying her right hand down on the grass to watch. She notices figures flying in the air that strangely resemble cupids.

Squinting, Calypso slowly gets to her feet. She takes a few steps forward to get a better view of below and finds that the flying figures are in fact cupids. She stares.

CALYPSO

This can't be real...

She breathes the words out, still in awe.

Suddenly, as if realizing something, a shocked expression crosses Calypso's face and she backs up a step. She begins to turn slowly around to take in all the scenery until her gaze lands on three couples who are resting in the shade of a large tree.

They are staring at her as if she is from another planet.

Their clothing looks to be from the 17th or 18th century, and the women are wearing their hair up in pretty buns. The men all don hats.

Calypso meets their stares for a moment, then glances back down the hill to watch the other couples descend to the boats. The cupids watch from above.

Calypso knows she is nowhere near home. It is clear, from the scenery, people, and mythical beings, that she is in the painting.

Calypso's breathing begins to quicken again and she takes her gaze from the lake over to the couples, who are whispering amongst themselves and still giving her frightened stares.

Calypso turns towards them and takes a step closer, holding her hands up slightly to show them she's not a threat.

CALYPSO

I'm not here to hurt you.

She tells them, her voice trembling slightly.

CALYPSO

I have no idea how I got here, and I just want to know where I am.

She approaches them slowly, and much to her surprise, the couples do not move back or even shy away. They look between each other and say a few words, and now that Calypso is closer, she can hear that they're not speaking English.

One of the women, who appears to be the youngest of the group, finally speaks up. She is wearing a white dress and has a pink shawl draped around her shoulders.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

Who are you?

Calypso pauses, now just feet away from the three couples. She's standing across from the young woman, who is eyeing her skeptically, but she no longer seems afraid.

Calypso lowers her hands and doesn't say anything for a moment. The look on her face reveals she is thinking.

CALYPSO

My name is Calypso Kalia.

She finally says. She starts not a second later, however, realizing that she has just somehow understood the young woman.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

You are not from here?

A flicker of sudden recognition now flares across the young woman's face.

CALYPSO

No, I...

A pause.

CALYPSO

It sounds crazy, but...

Another pause. Calypso looks around.

CALYPSO

I think I'm from another world.

The young woman looks between her friends. They all exchange glances that say they know something. Calypso notices, but doesn't say anything.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

This is not crazy. We have had many travelers before just like you.

CALYPSO

You have?

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

Oh, yes. Though none have been quite like you. You can understand us.

CALYPSO

But, I don't even know Greek... how is that possible?

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

You are special. I admit that we did not quite recognize you right away, but you are exactly where you are supposed to be. In fact, we've been waiting for you.

CALYPSO

Waiting for me...? Exactly where I'm supposed to be...? I don't understand.

Calypso looks between the couples, her brows furrowed in confusion.

CALYPSO

How do you know me? And how did I even get here? What's going on?

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

I, unfortunately, cannot explain everything to you now for it is not my responsibility. However, you will see in time. That I promise.

Calypso doesn't say anything in return. Her jaw tightens. She is clearly trying to prevent herself from screaming at them for answers.

The young woman takes notice of her expression and her features soften.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

I'm sorry I cannot help you more, I really am. But I am merely a messenger.

Calypso still doesn't say anything in reply. She just looks away.

Suddenly, the sharp whinny of a horse cuts through the air, catching everyone's attention.

The young woman's significant other rushes to the edge of hill to look down.

YOUNG MAN

(in Greek - subtitled)

They're here!

He exclaims, looking frantically back at the group.

The young woman quickly stands and rushes to her partner's side. The two other couples follow, and the group clusters at the edge.

Calypso, not knowing what's going on, runs to stand with them. Upon looking over the hill, she sees the rest of the people gathering together at the boats and trying to press out of the way of a large cavalry that is coming up the path from along the lake.

Leading the cavalry is a gorgeous black Friesian sporting silver armor; its rider is sitting very poised in the saddle as it trots by the throng of people. Dozens of horses and their riders follow behind.

CALYPSO

Who are they?

Calypso asks, looking to the young woman for answers.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

Men that you don't want to mess with.

She answers gravely.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

I didn't think they would come so soon.

CALYPSO

What do they want?

Calypso asks this hesitantly. A worried look is beginning to show on her face as if she already knows the answer.

The young woman looks at her. It is easy to see she is concerned.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

They're here for you.

Calypso swallows nervously.

Her gaze turns back to the cavalry and lands on the Friesian's rider. She can see that it's a man now that they're closer.

He wears no helmet on his head like the other men, but dons full-body armor. The plates are all jet black.

Much to Calypso's horror, she sees his gaze lock on her even from where she is standing and begins to step back. All she could see in his eyes was malice, even from that distance.

CALYPSO

What do I do?

She asks warily, her voice trembling again.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

You must get away, for there is little time. Run directly into the grove and do not look back under any circumstances. If you must, hide. They cannot find you.

The young woman tells her.

All Calypso can do is nod.

The young woman grabs her arm and squeezes it reassuringly.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

It will be okay, I promise. We will stall them as long as we can so that you can get as far away as possible.

CALYPSO

Okay...

She nods again, looking directly into the woman's eyes. Calypso is still trembling and her eyes are getting watery.

CALYPSO

I don't... I don't know what's happening or how I ended up here, why I ended up here, but thank you.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

You're very welcome.

She smiles.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)
Listen, if we meet again, my name is
Vasia. Don't hesitate to ask for my

help if you need it.

The young woman looks down the hill quickly then back to Calypso.

VASIA

(in Greek - subtitled)

They're almost here. Go, and remember what I said.

She releases Calypso's arm and gives her a little push. Calypso nods to her, mouths "thank you" one last time, then turns and runs towards the dense forest.

The young woman looks after her for a moment, then turns back to look down the hill once more. The cavalry is pressing up the hill now.

The young woman's expression is unwavering and determined as she watches them approach. She has strong resolve and will stall the King's army to her very last breath just for Calypso to get away and get to the kingdom.

CUT TO:

EXT. A LARGE GROVE - FOREST - DAY

Calypso is dashing through the forest, going as fast as her feet will carry her. Her focus is set straight ahead and her mouth is slightly open; her breath is coming out quickly, showing that she has not run like this ever before.

Calypso's arms pump by her sides, carrying her forward and through the trees. Her camera is hammering against her torso, but she barely notices since her focus is set on getting away.

The sound of hoofbeats cannot be heard yet; the cavalry still has yet to move any farther from being stopped by Vasia and her friends. The only sounds are those of Calypso's feet pounding on the grass and her heavy breathing. Not even a bird chips.

The scenery all starts to blend together; it all looks the same. The trees are the same, the undergrowth is the

same...it almost seems as if Calypso could be going in a circle.

Calypso looks side to side briefly, then faces forward again, closes her mouth and her eyes and swallows. There is an inner conflict going on; she wants to look back, but she knows she cannot.

She opens her eyes up again a moment later and runs on.

The longer Calypso runs, the more the scenery finally begins to change; the trunks of the trees become thicker, more prominent roots spring out of the ground, and the bushes become fewer and far between to give way the oaks that are suddenly dotting the forest.

Beginning to become fatigued and comforted by the fact she seems to be getting somewhere, Calypso slows down and stops beside one of the oaks to catch her breath. She puts her right hand on the trunk and bends over a little, breathing hard. She shuts her eyes again as she tries to calm her racing heart.

It is silent for a few moments, but then the sudden sound of other running footsteps can be heard. Calypso's eyes snap open, but before she can do anything, someone runs up beside her and grabs her left arm, causing her to yelp in surprise.

CALYPSO

What the hell?!

She exclaims, suddenly being dragged along right back into a sprint.

CALYPSO

Who are you and where are you taking me?

She demands to know.

The person pulling her along is another young woman, but it is not Vasia; the woman is short of stature and has dark skin. Her dark hair is pulled back into a long braid that moves around as she runs ahead of Calypso, refusing to let go of her arm.

SINARA

Just shut up and follow me!

The woman shouts back, not even looking over her shoulder.

She pulls Calypso along even harder and Calypso stumbles to keep up.

The sound of hoofbeats is suddenly creeping up on them, distant at first, but slowly getting louder. The cavalry is back to giving chase.

The woman finally looks over her left shoulder upon hearing the sound and Calypso catches a fleeting glance of her face: she's younger, at least Calypso's age if not a year younger, and the look on her face is frantic.

SINARA

Come on!

She encourages, giving Calypso's arm another tug. Calypso keeps on running without question; it is clear that the woman is on her side.

The cavalry inches closer by the second, the hooves of the horses thundering on the ground.

Calypso and the woman keep running.

The black Friesian continues to lead the charge, sure-footed and strong. His nostrils flare as he feels the anticipation from his rider.

Calypso and the woman keep running, barreling through the trees and dodging around roots.

A massive oak comes into view ahead of Calypso and the woman; the woman launches right toward it, alarming Calypso.

CALYPSO

Are you crazy?

She pants out, struggling to yell.

The woman does not seem to hear her.

CALYPSO

Hey! If you haven't noticed, we're about to run right into a tree, and I don't think that that is--

SINARA

Didn't I tell you to shut up?

The woman cuts her off, snapping.

Calypso clamps her mouth shut.

SINARA

I just need you to trust me!

The woman adds, her voice losing the edge.

Calypso does not reply, but instead takes her gaze off of the woman and looks ahead, locking her gaze on the massive tree that the two of them are running straight towards.

The tree looks to be relatively normal: a big oak with vast branches and full, green leaves. A mass of roots springs out of the ground and tangles around the base of the trunk.

The woman suddenly holds her free hand, her right hand, up and out, palm forward, and shouts what sounds like a command at the tree.

SINARA

Fosgalo!

The entire tree suddenly shivers as if it has been hit with a massive force and the two long roots that are at the very front heave and begin to move in towards the tree. A large crack suddenly splits the trunk in two about seven feet up before each side of the tree begins to give way, sliding open like a pair of automatic doors.

The woman drags Calypso towards the opening gate.

Many yards behind them, but gaining fast, the cavalry pushes harder to catch up and stop them. The Friesian still leads the charge; his rider is him pushing onward urgently. By now, it is easy to see that the rider has a familiar face.

Calypso and the woman are almost at the tree at this point. They just have a few yards to go.

Arrows wiz by their heads.

Calypso yelps in alarm and ducks, nearly stumbling in the process. The woman does the same thing.

SINARA

Bastards!

She hisses out, looking over her shoulder briefly before facing ahead again.

She shouts to Calypso.

SINARA

We're almost there! Come on!

Calypso uses her lsat bit of strength to get back on the woman's heels.

Once they're within feet of the tree, the woman holds her hand out again.

SINARA

Dungalo!

The tree shivers violently again, and the gateway that has opened begins to close.

Finally, Calypso and the woman both dash through.

The bark slides shut behind them, the seam disappearing and the roots retreating back into their previous position.

The cavalry has just missed them.

The large brigade pulls to a stop before the massive oak tree, the Friesian in the center as the rest of the men fan out behind and to the sides.

The Friesian now stands patiently, chewing on his bit. His rider, now fully recognizable as Semaj, simply glares at the tree. He does not say a word.

CUT TO:

EXT. ISEGARD FOREST - DAY

Calypso and the woman stumble out of the hollow of another massive tree and into the grass.

Calypso falls onto her knees after the woman lets go of her wrist. She's breathing pretty hard.

The woman stands a couple feet from her. She's bent over with her hands on her knees and is trying to catch her breath as well.

The two don't say anything for a few moments until Calypso finally opens her mouth.

CALYPSO

Thanks.

She breathes out, looking up at the woman.

SINARA

You're welcome.

The woman looks at her and nods. Then she smiles.

SINARA

Thanks for actually letting me save your ass.

CALYPSO

Sure thing.

Calypso nods back, giving her a thumbs up.

They both end up laughing.

CALYPSO

I'm Calypso by the way.

Calypso says after they calm down.

SINARA

I'm Sinara.

Sinara smiles again.

SINARA

Sorry if I seemed all irritable back there. I just really hate dealing with the King's cavalry. They don't usually give up very easily.

CALYPSO

It's okay. There's no way I can be mad at you for that when you just saved me from them.

Calypso smiles back.

SINARA

Yeah, I guess you're right.

Sinara laughs.

Calypso looks around briefly.

CALYPSO

Where are we?

SINARA

Isegard Forest.

Sinara looks around for a moment too.

SINARA

We shouldn't be too far from town.

CALYPSO

That's good to know, but I mean where are we exactly?

SINARA

Oh, sorry.

Sinara looks back at Calypso.

SINARA

We're in Zelladonia.

CALYPSO

Zelladonia...

Calypso repeats the name. Despite not knowing where she is at all, she doesn't feel afraid. She stares at the grass for a moment then looks back up at Sinara.

CALYPSO

You're speaking English.

She says as if suddenly realizing she can understand her perfectly.

Confusion passes over Sinara's face.

SINARA

No I'm not. I'm speaking Zelladonian. So are you.

CALYPSO

Wait, what? I am?

SINARA

Yeah.

Sinara studies her for a moment, her brows furrowed.

SINARA

Have you really never been here before?

CALYPSO

No, never.

Sinara doesn't reply. She just looks at Calypso perplexedly.

The two sit in silence for a moment.

The sudden sound of heavy footsteps on the grass startles both women.

Calypso backs into the trunk of the tree and Sinara suddenly whips out a dagger, getting into a fighting stance lightning fast.

They come to face a small group of bandits, each relatively tall and burly.

LEAD BANDIT

Guess we can consider ourselves lucky today, boys!

The leader sweeps his gaze over both of them. He has a hungry look to his eye.

Sinara's hand tightens on her dagger.

SINARA

Get lost! We have nothing to offer you.

LEAD BANDIT

I don't know about that, young lady.

The leader takes a step closer and points straight at Calypso. He's staring at her torso.

LEAD BANDIT

Your friend here has something very valuable.

Alarmed, Calypso looks down.

Her camera.

Sinara glances over at her and panicked look flashes over her features. She creeps closer to Calypso to try and shield her.

SINARA

How did that even make it this far?

Sinara hisses through clenched teeth.

Calypso looks up at her, worry clear on her face.

CALYPSO

How am I supposed to know?

She hisses back. She's hugging her camera to her chest.

LEAD BANDIT

If we could just kindly take that for you, we'll be on our merry way.

The leader somehow misses their exchange. He holds his hand out.

Calypso looks back to him while Sinara slowly moves to slightly block her from his vision. She holds her other hand up that doesn't wield the dagger.

SINARA

Look, buddy. Anyone would kill to have a camera like that nowadays, I understand. But that is her camera, and she's not going to give it up. I don't want to fight, so just leave it be.

Sinara's voice sounds scarily calm.

The leader just scoffs.

LEAD BANDIT

Do you know how much that would sell for on the black market? We'd be rich! We don't want to cause trouble either, so just hand it over.

He sticks his hand out again, this time more insistently.

Sinara eyes his hand. Her gaze then flickers over the other men.

There are five of them, all a good deal bigger than she is.

Conflict flickers in her eyes. The chances of her beating them all is slim.

SINARA

You heard what I said, didn't you?

She asks the leader, her gaze sliding back to him. Her voice is harder now.

The leader narrows his eyes at her, then sneers.

LEAD BANDIT

You think you're so tough now, do you?

He's subtly challengeing her.

LEAD BANDIT

What can a little thing like you expect to do?

Sinara's jaw tightens. Her lip twitches slightly. She makes no move, though. She knows better.

LEAD BANDIT

Huh, alright.

The leader looks back at his group for a moment.

LEAD BANDIT

This one actually has some guts!

He exclaims, causing the rest of the group to laugh.

The leader slowly turns back to Sinara, an evil look now in his eye.

LEAD BANDIT

Let's see what happens if I do this.

Suddenly, a fully loaded pistol is in his hand and pointing straight at Sinara.

She stiffens completely. Guns aren't common.

SINARA

Rogue.

She whispers, her eyes wide.

SINARA

Dammit.

She's trying not to let herself shake.

LEAD BANDIT

Not so tough now, are you?

The leader sneers. He holds his hand out once more.

LEAD BANDIT

Give it to me.

Sinara stays put despite her initial fear.

Calypso fidgets nervously behind her.

CALYPSO

Sinara...

Her voice trembles slightly.

Sinara moves her hand down by her side to tell her to keep quiet. She gives the leader a hard stare.

SINARA

No.

She says, her voice shaking slightly.

The safety comes off.

She flinches.

LEAD BANDIT

I'll ask you one more time.

The leader begins stepping closer to Sinara. She backs a step.

LEAD BANDIT

Give. It. To. Me.

He inches closer with every word. Sinara takes another step back.

SINARA

Calypso--

She begins to say.

LEAD BANDIT

Get the girl, you fools!

The leader suddenly commands, cutting her off. He knows Sinara won't be able to make a move.

The other four bandits move forward to grab Calypso.

She curls into the trunk of the tree, still hugging her camera tightly.

They come near her. Sinara is backed right into the tree.

A stick snaps.

ERU VOICE

Hey, fellas, let's not fight!

The sudden call makes all of the bandits whip around, including the leader. He aims his gun at the newcomer.

The man puts his hands up as he walks closer.

ERU

Ladies deserve all our respect, don't you think? Harassing, well threatening, them isn't good at all.

He sounds and appears entirely carefree as he moves closer, not at all daunted by the gun that's pointed at him.

The leader's lip slightly turns up.

LEAD BANDIT

Don't come any closer!

ERU

Okay.

The man shrugs and stops where he is, simply looking at the group of bandits.

Sinara manages to catch a solid glimpse of him now; when she sees him, her face brightens up. She moves to the side to shake Calypso's shoulder.

Calypso uncurls herself and looks at Sinara, who motions to the man. Calypso glances over at him.

The lead bandit, meanwhile, looks frazzled.

LEAD BANDIT

Who are you?

He demands to know.

ERU

Me? Oh, that doesn't matter. But, if you really want to know... I'm simply a concerned citizen.

The man smiles innocently.

Sinara snickers behind the bandits.

The leader irks.

LEAD BANDIT

What do you want?

ERU

World peace would be wonderful. I suppose that's a bit of a stretch though.

The man says thoughtfully, casually putting his hands down and placing one arm behind his back.

ERU

What I want right now, though, is for you to leave these ladies alone.

LEAD BANDIT

Why would we do that?

The leader's stance, oddly enough, begins to relax by the slightest bit.

ERU

Well, you see, that camera that you want has no value. You wouldn't get anything from it if you tried to sell it.

The man explains it as though it is obvious. He moves closer, waving his hand slightly in the air as if to make a point.

ERU

It would honestly be better to just leave it with the lady so she may do with it what she wants. Don't you agree?

All the bandits look at each other. They start nodding, agreeing with the man. Even the leader nods.

The man pauses. He is about six feet away from the group now.

ERU

Alright, good. Very good. Now, put your gun away, please, good sir.

The man tells the leader, who complies without question.

ERU

Thank you. I feel much better now.

The man lets out a relieved sigh, but seems as if he does not quite mean it; he wasn't threatened before.

ERU

I need all of you to be on your way, now. There is nothing here for you. In fact, there may be nothing for you for the next few miles. I suggest you just keep on walking.

Both of the man's hands are behind his back now, expectant.

The leader looks at this men, then motions his head for them to move out.

The group finally leaves, leaving the women and walking past the man.

ERU

Yep, just keep on going.

He tells them, waiting until all of them have passed to turn around and watch them leave.

He lifts his right hand and waves. A goofy smile is now on his face.

ERU

Bon voyage!

He calls.

Sinara gets up and runs over to him then, stopping just behind him. He turns around again.

STNARA

You are ridiculous!

She laughs, punching his shoulder playfully.

SINARA

You have way too much fun doing that.

ERU

It's entertaining, that's why. You're welcome, by the way.

He chuckles.

Sinara smiles.

SINARA

Yeah, thanks. You came just in the nick of time like always.

She looks back at Calypso, who stands by the tree trunk with her camera in her hands. Sinara motions for Calypso to come over and she does, coming to stand beside Sinara.

SINARA

This is Eru. He's pretty much my partner in crime. Well, more like my brother, really. Eru, this is Calypso.

Sinara introduces the two.

Calypso offers her hand and a smile.

CALYPSO

It's a pleasure to meet you.

ERU

The pleasure is all mine.

Eru takes her hand, and instead of shaking it, kisses the back of it like a true gentleman.

A blush dusts Calypso's cheeks, and it only gets a little darker when their eyes meet.

Eru holds her hand for what seems like a moment too long.

Sinara just rolls her eyes and starts walking away, shaking her head.

SINARA

I'm going into town! You can come if you want to. Which is what I advise. You never know what happens in these woods!

Eru and Calypso share another glance and then laugh. Eru motions his head for them to follow Sinara.

ERU

Come on. We'll take you into Farrden.

Calypso nods and follows after Eru as he turns to walk after Sinara. They both end up having to jog to catch up.

EXT. THE TOWN OF FARRDEN - MAIN STREET - DAY

Calypso, Eru, and Sinara walk through Farrden's busiest street, Main Street.

Vendors line both sides of the road selling their wares and foods and every shop along the road has its doors open.

People are everywhere.

Calypso straggles behind Eru and Sinara by a bit, taking in all the new sights.

A smile is on her face; she's amazed.

She fiddles with her camera for a moment to see if it still works, and when it still turns on, she puts it up to her eye and snaps a few shots without the flash.

Upon hearing the click of the camera, Sinara looks over her shoulder.

SINARA

You do realize that almost got us killed, right?

Calypso looks at her after taking another photo, looks at her camera and then glances back up at Sinara.

CALYPSO

Right... sorry.

She lets it hang back around her neck.

Sinara quirks a smile.

SINARA

It's okay. Just try not to make it so obvious that you have it.

Calypso nods, smiling slightly back. She continues to look around, catching glimpses of all the different wares the vendors are selling.

Weapons, kitchen supplies, pottery, flowers, paintings... everything imaginable seems to be on display.

Calypso soaks it all in.

In front of her, Sinara and Eru are lost in their own conversation.

SINARA

She came out of nowhere, you know.

Sinara tells Eru, looking up at him.

Eru looks down at her.

ERU

Where'd you find her?

SINARA

The Cythera gateway. She was running from Karalius's cavalry.

Sinara faces forward again, a contemplating look on her face.

Eru's brows furrow.

ERU

They were after her?

SINARA

Yeah. I managed to snag her while she was taking a quick rest and brought her here. I don't know why they were after her, but we both know that if Karalius wants something...

ERU

It's something serious.

Eru finishes for her.

SINARA

Yeah.

Sinara glances at him quickly, a look of slight worry on her face. She glances away again a moment later.

Eru is facing straight ahead, thinking.

SINARA

The strangest thing is that she speaks Zelladonian. She's obviously from Earth, so how would she know our language? And when she heard me speaking to her she thought I was speaking English, but we were both speaking Zelladonian... she could understand me perfectly. She was surprised by it too... she's never

been here before.

Eru doesn't reply, clearly still thinking.

Sinara looks up at him again.

SINARA

You don't think she's the one, do you?

ERU

Sinara, that's just a prophecy.

Eru finally says, still not looking at her. He's still thinking about it, though.

Sinara's expression turns serious.

SINARA

Eru.

She says, her voice hard.

Eru finally looks at her. His expression seems somewhat conflicted.

ERU

There's only one way we can find out.

The two look at each for a long moment as they continue to walk down the street, Calypso happily tailing along behind them.

CUT TO:

EXT. BLACKHORSE TAVERN - DAY

The trio arrives just outside of a tavern. The outside has been incredibly well-kept.

The three look up at the large sign that hangs over the screen door. It reads: Blackhorse Tavern. Two black stallions rear underneath the neat lettering, facing each other.

Calypso squints slightly at the sign.

CALYPSO

What is this place?

Eru looks at Calypso upon hearing her question.

ERU

Sinara and I usually stay here when we come through town. The owner and I are old friends.

Calypso doesn't reply. She keeps squinting at the sign. Now Sinara looks over at her.

STNARA

What is it?

CALYPSO

The stallions. I've seen them before.

Sinara exchanges a somewhat baffled look with Eru before glancing back at Calypso again.

SINARA

You have?

CALYPSO

I think so... though maybe they just look like some brand logo I've seen back home before.

Calypso finally pulls her gaze away and shakes her head as if to snap herself out of it.

Eru and Sinara both give her inquisitive, yet worried, looks before Eru motions his head towards the door.

ERU

Come on. Let's go inside. You probably just need to rest. You too, Sinara.

The two quickly agree.

Eru pushes open the door and holds it open for them. Sinara and Calypso follow him inside.

The door falls shut behind them.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACKHORSE TAVERN - DAY

The tavern is fairly quiet for it being the middle of the day. Only a few tables are occupied and there are only a few men at the bar. The owner is behind the bar mixing a drink.

A white towel sits over his shoulder and he is in the casual

attire of a bartender.

Eru leads Calypso and Sinara over to the bar. Calypso is looking around curiously again.

The owner looks up upon noticing the approach of the trio. A smile adorns his older features.

ARIK

Eru, my boy!

He greets Eru warmly, moving to finish the drink he was mixing and pouring it into a glass before quickly serving it to the gentleman in front of him. He then moves to walk around from behind the bar to greet the trio.

ARIK

What a pleasant surprise this is! I didn't know you and little Miss Sinara were back in town!

He says as he walks over, opening his arms. Eru smiles and gives him a heartfelt hug once he reaches them.

ERU

It's nice to see you again, Arik.

Eru says as they let go.

ARIK

Same to you, my boy.

Arik claps him on the shoulder with another grin before turning to Sinara and ruffling the top of her hair, messing her braid up slightly.

ARIK

It's nice to see you too, kiddo.

Sinara pushes his hand away playfully.

SINARA

You know I hate it when you call me that, but it's nice to see you too, old man.

She laughs. Arik chuckles. His gaze then drifts over to Calypso, who is standing a bit away and fiddling with her camera.

ARIK

Now who is this fine young lady?

Arik wonders, catching Calypso's attention. She looks up at him before smiling politely and moving forward to offer her hand.

CALYPSO

I'm Calypso Kalia. It's a pleasure to meet you.

Arik takes her hand and gives it a firm shake.

ARIK

Arik Miremead. It's a pleasure to meet you too.

They pull away. Arik gives her a curious look.

ARIK

You're not from around here, are you?

CALYPSO

No, Mr. Miremead, I'm not. Sinara found me earlier... I'm honestly not even sure of what I'm doing here.

ARIK

Oh, no need to be so formal. Call me Arik.

Arik waves his hand at her before glancing over at Sinara.

ARIK

Where did you run into her?

SINARA

The Cythera gateway. I noticed something was off so I went in.

Sinara explains.

Arik looks back at Calypso.

ARIK

So you're from Earth?

CALYPSO

Yeah, I guess I am...

Arik nods, a thoughtful look on his face. He almost seems as

if he knows something.

He turns back to Eru.

ARIK

I take it you three need a place to stay for a while?

ERU

Yes, if you don't mind.

Eru nods.

Arik chuckles lightly.

ARIK

I never mind, son, you know that. Just give me a moment so I can get room keys for you.

Eru nods to him again and Arik smiles before heading back behind the bar and walking to the far end.

Arik pulls a small key out of his pocket and unlocks the large drawer in front of him. He pulls it open to reveal that it holds each and every one of the tavern's gold room keys in a neat order. Only a few are currently out.

ARIK

Second floor, town side?

He calls to Eru.

ERU

You got it.

Eru replies.

Arik takes three consecutive keys out of their slots. He then shuts the drawer and locks it again.

Arik walks back over to the trio, keys in hand. He holds them out once he reaches them.

ARIK

These are for the last three rooms at the end of hallway on the second floor. Everything should already be in there for you, as usual.

Arik smiles at them.

ERU

Thanks, Arik. We really appreciate it.

Eru smiles back at him and takes the keys.

ARIK

Of course, my boy. Any time.

Arik pats him on the shoulder again.

ARIK

You three need anything else?

Eru looks between Sinara and Calypso, who both glance right back at him. Their expressions say enough.

Eru looks back to Arik.

ERU

I think we're all in need of a meal. And water.

ARIK

Alright, three chef's specials coming right up.

Arik winks.

ARIK

Make yourselves right at home.

With another smile, he goes back behind the bar and then disappears through the entrance to the kitchen.

ERU

Well, you heard the man. I'm going to sit! Join me if you feel like it.

Eru puffs out a funny sigh and slumps his shoulders a bit before dragging himself over to a booth. Sinara rolls her eyes as she watches him. Calypso somewhat snorts out a laugh at her reaction.

CALYPSO

Is he always like that?

SINARA

Yeah, pretty much. You get used to it after a while.

Rolling her eyes again, Sinara follows Eru's footsteps and

joins him at the booth. Calypso slides in across from them not long after.

Calypso takes her camera from around her neck and sets it down on the seat next to her. She then places her hands down in her lap and wrings her hands.

Eru's hands are folded up on the table. He simply gazes at them. Sinara starts taking the braid out of her hair, not knowing what else to do.

The table is silent for a few moments.

Somehow, the three are at a loss for words.

Calypso is the first to open her mouth.

She pauses initially, and closes her mouth, but then thinks better of it and finally decides to speak up.

CALYPSO

Hey, guys?

She wonders, not looking off to the side as she chews her lip and furrows her brows.

Eru looks up at her from gazing absently at his hands and Sinara stops pulling out her braid to give Calypso her attention.

CALYPSO

Why was I brought here?

Now Calypso looks directly at both Eru and Sinara.

CALYPSO

When I was at the gateway, I met two Greek couples. They recognized me. The one woman, Vasia, said I was exactly where I was supposed to be. I could understand her perfectly even though I've never learned a word of Greek myself. I asked her what she meant. She said it wasn't her responsibility to tell me. None of it made sense.

Calypso glances away again, a flurry of emotions on her features.

CALYPSO

When the cavalry started coming up the

hill, I asked what they wanted. Vasia said me. And somehow I knew. That's why I ran without question.

Calypso looks to Sinara.

CALYPSO

I'm not sure if I would've made it to anywhere safe if you hadn't dragged me out of there.

Sinara smiles slightly.

Calypso glances away again, lost in her thoughts.

CALYPSO

You brought me here, and we finally had a conversation. I thought you were speaking English, but you weren't. We were both speaking Zelladonian. I don't even understand how that's possible. It's familiar to me and it shouldn't be. I've never been here before.

Calypso sends a pleading look to both Eru and Sinara, her eyes shimmering.

CALYPSO

Please tell me what the hell is going on. Please.

Eru and Sinara both share sympathetic glances with her before looking at each other.

They silently agree to reveal what they know.

Both of them look back to Calypso.

CUT TO:

EXT. A LARGE GROVE - HILLTOP - DAY

A patch of green grass is the only thing in view.

A loud smack is heard. Vasia suddenly falls into the patch, barely catching herself with her arms.

A large red mark is on her left cheek.

SEMAJ VOICE

You stupid woman!

Vasia slowly looks up, her gaze hard. Her jaw is clenched.

SEMAJ VOICE

Do you realize what you have done?

Vasia doesn't respond. She only keeps glaring. Her jaw works a bit.

Semaj is glaring right back down at her. When he sees that she refuses to answer, he takes his gaze away and stifles out a dissatisfied laugh.

Not a moment later he looks right back down at her. The look on his face says that his patience has completely worn thin.

SEMAJ

You are not worth the trouble you've caused.

He says to Vasia, moving forward in a quick motion and kicking her flat onto her back. He then kicks at her side, causing her to let out a small yelp.

Vasia hugs her torso to try to protect herself, rolling over and curling into a ball.

Semaj doesn't make to kick at her again. He simply glares down at her before looking up and around at the crowd that has gathered on the hilltop.

Everyone had rushed back up upon noticing the commotion, grouping together just at the top of the hill.

The cavalry is opposite of them; some knights are standing alert just behind Semaj while others are still on horseback and fanned out in a half circle also behind Semaj.

Vasia lays in the middle of the disjointed circle; her three other friends that had aided in stalling the cavalry stand what seems to be a mere yard away from her, huddling together.

Semaj's gaze falls to the small group before flickering back to Vasia. His gaze then flickers over to the knights behind him.

He makes a small motion towards Vasia and her friends with his head, subtly telling his knights to grab them.

They begin to move forward.

Semaj's gaze falls back between Vasia and her friends.

SEMAJ

The woman that came through here was in flight of the throne. She is a danger to you and to this realm. The King ordered for her to be found and brought back. In this regard, the four of you are under arrest for obstruction of the King's will.

When Semaj has finished speaking, the four knights that had come forth move to seize Vasia and her friends.

Vasia has to be heaved up from the ground. Her friends protest and try to escape being snatched, but the attempt is futile.

The four are being held by the knights, hands behind their backs.

Semaj nods to his knights. He extends a hand and points toward the four, his gaze sweeping over the massive crowd that is still watching.

SEMAJ

Citizens of Cythera.

He begins, his voice booming.

SEMAJ

These troublemakers decided today that they wanted to forfeit their rights by stalling the King's army. They will now be jailed, tried, and the King's justice will be done.

He lowers his arm now, his attention still focused on the crowd.

SEMAJ

This is the consequence of interfering with affairs that you know nothing of. I hope that the example of what is going to happen to these lawbreakers will be enough to deter any other would-be criminals.

He takes care in eyeing each person individually.

He then continues on boldly.

SEMAJ

I am the King's enforcer, and I am here to protect and serve the realm. That does not mean I take joy in dealing out punishment to anyone. However, make no mistake that I will fulfill my duties and and arrest anyone that interferes with King Karalius' will. Now, go and be about your business, and good day.

People in the crowd look at each other, whispering amongst themselves.

Semaj turns towards his knights and nods to them.

SEMAJ

Take them.

The knights begin to push the four away and towards the horses.

The crowd continues to watch, but upon another menacing glare from Semaj they begin to back away.

SEMAJ

I said good day.

He repeats, emphasizing his words. The crowd immediately scatters, afraid of what else may happen.

Semaj stands and watches for a moment before turning around and stepping past the remaining knights who were still standing behind him.

He moves towards his Friesian, who is waiting patiently in the middle of the still fanned out cavalry. Once he reaches him, he hops back on.

SEMAJ

Alright, men, let's move out! These prisoners must be taken to the dungeons!

He announces, urging his Friesian forward.

The knights who had been on the ground promptly return to their horses and mount as Semaj again passes by. The cavalry soon starts forward, trailing Semaj back down the hill. People move quickly out of the way as to not get trampled as the cavalry traverses down the hill.

Vasia and her friends are a few horses behind Semaj, looking around at their fellow Greeks solemnly. They each sit in front of a knight, their hands now bound tightly in front of them.

The people who dare to look back share the same solemn gazes.

The cavalry makes quick work of the hill and is soon passing by the lake once more.

Once on completely even ground, Semaj encourages his Friesian into a quick canter. The cavalry follows.

They ride by in a flurry. The horses' hooves pound on the ground, kicking up dust. It sounds vaguely like thunder.

CUT TO:

EXT.A FORESTED ROAD - DAY

A dirt road cuts through a dense forest, running between the trees like a river.

The cavalry parades down it, the horses now trotting along at an easy pace. Their hooves still make a barrage of sound. Clinking noises can be heard from their tack and their riders' armor.

Semaj and his Friesian remain in the lead. Semaj's lieutenant is flanking him.

Semaj is staring ahead, appearing to be lost in his thoughts. His lieutenant suddenly rides up beside him. A distinct black mark is on his shoulder plate, clearly designating his rank.

LIEUTENANT

Sir.

He acknowledges Semaj respectfully.

Semaj doesn't look at him.

SEMAJ

Mm.

He continues to stare ahead.

His lieutenant glances over at him.

LIEUTENANT

Sir, I don't mean to be a bother, but I've been meaning to ask about the girl.

Semaj starts a little at his words, finally snapping out of his thoughts. He looks at his lieutenant.

SEMAJ

What?

He doesn't appear to be angry, just caught off guard.

His lieutenant glances away for a moment.

LIEUTENANT

I am by no means questioning our actions, but that girl that we were going after... why is she so important?

He looks back at Semaj, who holds his gaze for a moment before facing forward again. It's a moment before he speaks.

SEMAJ

Lieutenant, are you aware of the prophecy?

LIEUTENANT

No, sir, I do not believe so.

SEMAJ

After the war, a well-known sorceress was found guilty of practicing a form of magic known as timdroihecha or time magic. It was a forbidden practice even before the war since it was so dangerous, but her hatred of the new order drove her to dabble in it anyway.

Semaj pauses for a moment. A concentrated look appears on his face as he recalls what he has been told. His lieutenant listens intently.

SEMAJ

The king had her arrested and thrown into the dungeons. He deemed her punishment to be death by hanging. When the guards went to get her on the day of her execution, she told them

the fates of the future had spoken to her and that she had a final message for the king before she was hanged. They agreed to let her speak as long as she did not try anything. She said she would not.

Semaj pauses again.

LIEUTENANT

What happened?

His lieutenant is genuinely curious.

Semaj glances at him again before continuing to face forward.

SEMAJ

The sorceress kept her word. She only spoke, and spoke directly to Karalius himself. She was crazed with magical knowledge at that point, as if she had indeed been enlightened by the fates themselves. She told him that they had given her a prophecy; a prophecy that would lead to his ultimate demise.

LIEUTENANT

What did it say?

The lieutenant's brows furrow in concern.

SEMAJ

I could not tell you the exact words, but it declared that a savior had been born, one who would lead Zelladonia out of the dark. The savior's power, once discovered, would be a force to contest evil. Peace and prosperity would be brought to the land, the people would reign. And the savior would be there to guide them and protect them from any dark forces. It struck a nerve with Karalius; in all honesty, he got scared.

Semaj pauses again. His lieutenant takes a moment to soak it all in, also turning to face forward. The two of them remain silent for a moment.

LIEUTENANT

So, the girl...

The lieutenant begins, starting to piece it together.

SEMAJ

We believe she is the one.

Semaj confirms, his voice turning grave.

SEMAJ

Karalius asked me to search for her a few months ago. It took me a while to find her, but I did. He wanted me to wait to go after her, but I believe he's getting to be somewhat foolish with his increasing years. When I found out she was here, I thought it best to go after her right away.

LIEUTENANT

Yes, I think I would have done the same. She's a threat to the King's reign.

SEMAJ

Exactly. I am well aware that his power has grown with his age; he is the most powerful being in the land. However, I do not agree with his plan. He thinks it best to wait for her to discover who she is, let her harness her power. He thinks he'll be able to control her power, but I am not so sure. I had no other choice but to agree with what he was saying, especially because there is a slim possibility of it working, but I just don't know.

Semaj's tone remains serious, but there is a slight hint of conflict on his face.

His lieutenant looks at him again.

LIEUTENANT

We should find her as soon as possible, sir.

SEMAJ

I know, but she could be anywhere by now. If it weren't for that stupid woman and her friends...

Frustration now crosses Semaj's features.

LIEUTENANT

Don't worry, sir, justice will be dealt soon.

His lieutenant reassures.

Semaj's jaw clenches briefly before he nods to the road ahead.

SEMAJ

We should pick up the pace. I'd like to be back at the castle by nightfall.

LIEUTENANT

Yes, sir.

His lieutenant nods, then looks over his shoulder to shout orders at the cavalry behind he and Semaj.

LIEUTENANT

The General wants to be back by nightfall! Let's move!

He orders, quickly facing forward and urging his horse into a fast-paced canter. Semaj and his Friesian are quick to follow, and soon the whole cavalry is pounding down the road.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACKHORSE TAVERN - DAY

Calypso, Eru, and Sinara still sit at the booth. They each have a plate of food and a glass of water in front of them.

Their meals are all the same: a gourmet chicken dish with a side salad. Arik's special.

Eru is cutting his chicken. Sinara works on her salad. Calypso pokes at a piece of her chicken with her fork, pauses, then grabs her glass and takes a drink.

All three of them are silent.

Calypso puts her glass back down. She holds it for a moment, staring off to the side. She's thinking.

Eru looks up at her.

ERU

You okay?

Calypso glances over at him and smiles briefly.

CALYPSO

Yeah.

She takes her hand away from her glass and looks down at her plate. She pokes at the piece of chicken again.

CALYPSO

Have you guys been to Earth before?

ERU

A few times.

SINARA

Yep.

Eru and Sinara say this at the same time, but don't seem to notice. Sinara is still picking at her salad. Eru eats his chicken.

A funny look crosses Calypso's face as she glances up at them.

CALYPSO

How many references am I able to make?

SINARA

Go crazy.

Sinara says this while chewing on some salad.

ERU

We'll get most of them.

Eru reassures.

Calypso looks down at her plate again and stabs the piece of chicken she had been poking at with her fork. She then lifts her hand up and points the fork and the piece of chicken at both of them.

CALYPSO

So, you're telling me that this evil guy named Karalius took power after your Great War and captured a sorceress that used magic like Doctor Strange to tell of a prophecy that claims that there's supposed to be a chosen one that rids the land of evil, and that the Richard Armitage look-alike who was chasing me works for Karalius and that they're both under the impression that I'm this savior so they want to capture me? Does that sound right?

Calypso sounds a little out of breath at this point.

Sinara and Eru both nod.

SINARA

Yep.

ERU

Basically.

CALYPSO

Huh.

Calypso moves her fork back and bites the piece of chicken off of it.

After she finishes chewing and swallows, she slowly shakes her head.

CALYPSO

I don't know what to think.

Eru looks at her empathetically.

ERU

We know it's a lot to take in, but it's the truth. We have no reason to lie to you.

CALYPSO

How do they know?

Calypso asks, hardly seeming to hear him.

ERU

What?

Calypso's gaze lands on Eru. She looks slightly irritated.

CALYPSO

Karalius and his advisor. How do they know it's me?

Eru exchanges glances with Sinara before looking back at Calypso.

ERU

We're honestly not sure. Have you ever--

CALYPSO

What? Used magic? Fought a dragon? No! I've been a completely normal girl my entire life!

Calypso suddenly snaps, taking both Eru and Sinara aback.

Calypso closes her eyes and lets out a breath not a moment later, trying to get herself to relax.

CALYPSO

Sorry.

She apologizes.

CALYPSO

I'm just having trouble getting all this through my head.

ERU

It's okay.

Eru tells her. He looks down for a moment.

Sinara suddenly nudges him. He looks over at her. She simply looks back at him and raises her eyebrows.

Eru gets the message. He looks back at Calypso.

ERU

Magic is real, you know.

He says, catching her attention. Calypso's eyes pop open again.

ERU

It's what helped me get the bandits away from you two.

Calypso eyes him skeptically.

Eru quirks a smile at her.

ERU

It's the power of suggestion. I can make people see things from my perspective.

Calypso wrinkles her nose a bit at him.

CALYPSO

Why does that literally sound like something from Dungeons and Dragons?

Eru laughs.

ERU

I think it actually is a spell or something that you can use in it, but this is real.

CALYPSO

I hope you realize that I'm only going to believe you because I saw what you did with my own eyes.

ERU

Well, that's a start.

Eru teases. Calypso sticks her tongue out at him.

ERU

How about I give you something more believable now?

He suggests. Calypso raises an eyebrow.

CALYPSO

Enlighten me.

Eru sets his fork down and turns his hand over. Almost immediately, a flame appears in his palm. Calypso's eyes widen.

CALYPSO

Oh my god... that's... that's real?

ERU

Yep. It's one of the simpler spells. Makes wandering around in the dark easier. Sinara can do it too.

Eru nudges Sinara now.

Sinara stops eating her meal and sets her fork down as well. She glances at Eru's flame.

SINARA

Please, that's lame. I can do you one better.

She scoffs, flipping her hand over as well. A flame doesn't appear in her palm; instead, she forms a ball of light and holds it up.

STNARA

See? This is much more useful, especially if you're wandering into a dark cave. Also, you can kind of just let it be.

She lowers her hand, but the ball of light doesn't follow. It stays suspended in the air.

Calypso's eyes stay wide with wonder as she stares at the orb.

Eru shakes his head.

ERU

Well, I have clearly been upstaged. At least I tried.

He sighs, closing his fingers and extinguishing the flame. Sinara just rolls her eyes at him.

SINARA

Drama queen.

She reaches for the ball of light and takes it down, then sets it in her opposite palm and closes her hands over it. It vanishes softly.

Calypso's eyes are still wide with wonder as she looks between the two of them.

CALYPSO

I haven't believed in magic since I was a little girl...

She murmurs.

Eru and Sinara both smile at her.

ERU

You're welcome.

Eru says, getting Calypso to smile.

CALYPSO

Thank you... all of this is becoming a little more believable now. Still hard to take in, but nonetheless a little more believable.

She nods her thanks at them, but her wonder slowly dies off as she thinks back on what they had first told her.

CALYPSO

I'd still like to know why Karalius and his advisor think I'm the savior.

Eru and Sinara both frown slightly.

Sinara reaches her hand out and places it down on the table just behind Calypso's plate, a friendly gesture.

SINARA

We really don't know, but nothing's going to happen, okay? We'll protect you.

Sinara tells her sincerely. Calypso looks at her and nods.

CALYPSO

Okay.

Sinara gives her a reassuring smile and takes her hand back.

Silence falls over the table again as Eru and Sinara both continue to work on eating their meals. Calypso doesn't touch her plate. She stares downward, lost in thought. Conflict rests on her face. She's holding her elbows.

After a few minutes she looks up at Eru.

CALYPSO

Eru, can I have my room key?

Eru stops eating to look up at her, notices the expression on her face, and nods.

ERU

Yes, of course.

He fishes around in a pocket for the three keys and takes them out, handing one over to Calypso.

She takes it.

ERU

It goes to the room at the very end of the hallway on the second floor. It's a straight shot back.

Calypso smiles slightly at him.

CALYPSO

Thanks.

She grabs her camera from the seat beside her and moves out of the booth, stands, and walks towards the stairs in the back corner of the room.

Eru and Sinara both look after her.

ERU

I hope she's alright...

Eru says quietly. Sinara turns to look at him.

SINARA

I'll go up and check on her later, okay?

She tells him. Eru nods.

They continue to eat in silence. Calypso's plate of food sits mostly untouched on the other side.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACKHORSE TAVERN - CALYPSO'S ROOM - EVENING

Calypso sits on the edge of her bed.

She's mindlessly wringing her hands again, an obvious habit. Her gaze falls on nothing in particular; she's staring off into space.

The bed is neatly made behind her, the sheets and blanket pulled tightly up over the pillows that lay at the head of the bed. The blanket has a beautiful quilted pattern on it.

The room itself is quaint; it seems to have the pondering essence of the room of a log cabin with its smooth, dark

wooden plank floor and light oak walls.

Even the dresser and nightstand that sit on both sides of the bed are made of polished wood.

Somehow, the wandering air of the room seems to match Calypso perfectly as she thinks about everything that she has just been told.

Calypso is so caught up in her thoughts that a sudden knock on the door startles her, causing her to jump slightly. She looks over to her right to where the door is.

CALYPSO

Come in.

She calls.

The door creaks open and Sinara pokes her head in.

SINARA

Mind if I join you?

Calypso smiles at her.

CALYPSO

Not at all.

Sinara smiles back and pushes the door open just enough so she can slip in, then closes it behind her.

Calypso follows her with her gaze as Sinara comes to sit beside her.

Sinara looks over at Calypso once she's comfortable.

SINARA

You've been up here for a while.

She says, concern showing on her face.

SINARA

Are you okay?

Calypso glances at her before looking down at her hands.

CALYPSO

Yeah... I've just been thinking. Everything that you guys told me has been a lot to take in, you know? She smiles despite herself.

CALYPSO

I'm just this ordinary girl who was suddenly thrown into a world she knows absolutely nothing about. But then at the same time, I feel like I'm supposed to be here. It's like I said earlier: it's familiar to me even though I've never been here before. And then you guys go and tell me that I'm some prophecy child and do actual magic... it's just a little overwhelming.

Sinara glances away for a moment, frowning. She then looks back at Calypso.

SINARA

I know this is a lot to go through in one day, but I like to think that everything happens for a reason. You didn't end up here by mistake.

Calypso glances at Sinara, narrowing her eyes slightly in doubt and question.

CALYPSO

How do you know?

Sinara shifts a bit.

SINARA

Do you remember how you got to the Cythera gateway?

CALYPSO

Not really... all I remember is that I was with my best friend one minute, and then flat on the grass the next.

SINARA

Okay, this is going to sound crazy, but bear with me...

CALYPSO

It can't be more crazy than what I've already heard.

Calypso interjects.

The girls suddenly share a quick laugh.

SINARA

Fair enough.

Sinara giggles.

SINARA

But, seriously, listen. The only way to actually get into Zelladonia is through those gateways. The only way to actually get to said gateways is by going through a painting.

Sinara pauses there, giving Calypso a moment. Calypso just blinks at her.

CALYPSO

So, you're telling me that I fell through a painting?

SINARA

Yes.

Calypso makes a funny face and turns her head to glance at the wall for a moment.

CALYPSO

Okay.

She says, nodding her head a few times.

Sinara puffs out a sigh.

SINARA

Look, it's true. Not everyone has the ability to do that though. Zelladonians are the only ones who are able to travel through paintings.

She suddenly pushes up her left sleeve up and flips her hand over so her palm and wrist are exposed.

An intricate black mark is drawn on the skin of her wrist. It looks like a tattoo.

Sinara moves her hand in Calypso's direction, catching Calypso's attention. Calypso looks down at her wrist. Her brows furrow when she sees the marking.

SINARA

All Zelladonians have this marking. Most of us won't have it in the same spot though. Mine is on my wrist, Eru's is on the back of his right shoulder. I think Arik's is on his right tricep.

CALYPSO

What does it mean?

Calypso looks at Sinara, her eyebrows still furrowed.

SINARA

It's the symbol for strength and unity in our ancestral scripture, but most of us just consider it to be an ancient Z nowadays.

Sinara laughs a bit, getting Calypso to smile.

Calypso's smile, however, doesn't last long. The longer she looks at Sinara's mark, the more she realizes she's seen it before.

CALYPSO

Wait, my parents...

Her breathing starts to quicken.

A flash of her parents.

Her father's is on the back of his right calf. Her mother's is just under her collarbone on the left side.

The realization stuns Calypso.

CALYPSO

My parents aren't from Earth... and I...

She reaches for her left shoulder grasps it.

Calypso suddenly stands and walks over to the full-body mirror that resides in the far corner of the room near the window.

She stops in front of it and stares at herself, shocked.

Sinara's reflection sits to the left side of the mirror. She's watching Calypso intently.

Calypso pulls the left shoulder of her shirt down and turns around, continuing to hold her own gaze even as she moves to look over her shoulder.

The skin on the back of her left shoulder is no longer blank. The symbol appears slowly, drawing itself onto her skin.

Calypso is astonished.

CALYPSO

I'm Zelladonian.

She breathes.

She looks back over at Sinara with wide eyes.

CALYPSO

I'm Zelladonian.

She repeats.

A smile works it way onto Sinara's face.

SINARA

You're Zelladonian.

She says, sounding like she could be a proud mother.

A disbelieving smile briefly comes to Calypso's lips before she looks back into the mirror. Her gaze locks back on her mark. It's now fully there.

She can't look away.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACKHORSE TAVERN - CALYPSO'S ROOM - BED - NIGHT

Calypso lies in her bed, her eyes fixated upward at nothing in particular.

The sheets are only pulled up just above her hips.

She's wearing a nightgown that Sinara had managed to supply for her. It's slightly too big and the straps are thin, but it offers enough coverage to be comfortable.

Calypso's right arm is crossed over her chest. She's holding her shoulder.

She blinks a few times then looks over to her left. Rays of

moonlight highlight her face from the window. She didn't draw the curtains.

Calypso turns her head to gaze upward again. The pondering aura that she had around her earlier has come back again.

She draws in a breath and lets it out.

She rolls onto her right side, still holding onto her left shoulder. The moonlight now shines on her Zelladonian mark.

Calypso sighs again before letting her eyes close. She doesn't move anymore.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACKHORSE TAVERN - CALYPSO'S ROOM - LATE MORNING

The room is bright. Sunlight streams through the window.

Calypso is in the same position that she fell asleep in, except her right arm is now resting down on the bed.

Everything is peaceful...

Loud knocks suddenly sound on the door.

Calypso starts awake.

She blinks the sleepiness out of her eyes.

The knocks come again.

Letting out a groan of protest, Calypso pushes herself up into a sitting position. Her hair is all swept to the right.

The knocks come one more time.

CALYPSO

Who is it?

Calypso manages to call out, glaring at the door.

SINARA VOICE

It's Sinara, sleepyhead!

Sinara says from the other side of the door.

SINARA VOICE

Get your butt out of bed and come unlock your door! I have something for

you!

Furrowing her brows, Calypso manages to drag herself out of bed. She walks over to her door and unlocks it, opening it so Sinara can come in.

Sinara stands eagerly on the other side, holding a bundle of clothes in her arms. She has a huge smile on her face.

Calypso looks a little taken aback.

CALYPSO

Where did you get all of that?

SINARA

I told Eru that I thought you should have proper Zelladonian clothing. He thought so too. We went out this morning to look around and he let me spree at one of my favorite places!

Sinara could almost be a kid on Christmas with her excited attitude. It makes Calypso laugh.

CALYPSO

Something tells me you like shopping.

SINARA

You wouldn't think so at first glance, but yeah, I love it! I always stop by Windie's Threads when we visit since they have the cutest stuff. I had to guess your size for most of these outfits, so I really hope they fit.

CALYPSO

Well, bring them in and we'll see.

Calypso smiles and moves over so Sinara can step in. She then closes the door behind her.

CALYPSO

How early did you and Eru go out?

Calypso wonders as they walk over to her bed. Sinara sets the pile on the sheets. She then starts taking the outfits and laying them out.

SINARA

Eight, I think? We're both early
risers.

CALYPSO

Geez... what time is it now?

SINARA

It's just after ten thirty.

CALYPSO

Oh wow... I actually don't usually sleep that late. I guess I was tired from yesterday.

SINARA

You did have a long day.

CALYPSO

You can say that again.

Both women laugh.

SINARA

Are you feeling better?

Sinara asks as she smoothes out each outfit.

CALYPSO

Yeah, I am.

Calypso smiles.

CALYPSO

I think I more or less adjusted to everything in my sleep. I feel pretty refreshed now.

She giggles. Sinara smiles at her.

SINARA

That's good! If I'm being honest, I was kind of hoping I wouldn't have to give another pep talk. I'm not the greatest at that stuff. That's more of Eru's department.

CALYPSO

Well, you certainly helped me last night, and even kind of showed me who I am, so I don't think you're giving yourself enough credit.

Calypso tells her pointedly.

Sinara stops smoothing the outfits out and looks at her. She seems a little grateful.

SINARA

Thanks.

CALYPSO

Of course! You know, encouraging people is one of my superpowers.

SINARA

Oh, is it, now?

Both women share a laugh again. At this point, it seems as if they could become really close friends.

Calypso glances at the outfits Sinara has lain out when they calm down. Having not gotten a good look at them before, she nearly gasps in wonder.

CALYPSO

Sinara, these are beautiful!

She moves to touch the fabric of one of the dresses in front of her. It's soft and light like a sundress.

There are a few dresses laid out on the bed, all as pretty as the next. The other outfits are in two pieces: a shirt and pants or a flowing skirt.

SINARA

I tried to find stuff I thought you would like just based off of what you were wearing yesterday.

Sinara tells her, brushing her hand over one of the dresses as well.

CALYPSO

Well, you pretty much nailed my taste.

Calypso laughs.

Sinara smiles excitedly again and claps her hands together.

SINARA

Try them on!

CALYPSO

Okay, okay, I'm going!

Calypso laughs again, taking the dress that she first touched up in her arms and walking over to her en suite washroom. She shuts the door behind her.

The process becomes something of a fashion show; Calypso would try one of the outfits on and then come out and show it off, causing Sinara to clap her hands and cheer.

The entire thing seems surprisingly natural for the two of them as Calypso goes through each outfit. They almost seem like old friends.

After Calypso has gone through every outfit, she picks the dress that had first caught her eye: the baby blue traditional dress with the light fabric.

She changes into it in the washroom and tries her best to fix her hair as she doesn't have a hair brush at her disposal. She pins her bangs back with the bobby pins that she had had in her hair the day before.

Calypso looks at herself in the mirror for a moment, turning this way and that to study herself in the dress. It's an off-the-shoulder dress with flowing sleeves, an outfit perfect for a place such as Zelladonia.

It fits her like a glove.

Nodding her head in approval, she opens the door and heads back into her room where Sinara still waits. Sinara smiles when she sees her.

SINARA

That looks amazing on you.

Sinara tells her as Calypso walks over.

Calypso smiles.

CALYPSO

Thanks! I really like it. You did a great job of picking it out.

SINARA

I tried.

Sinara laughs.

SINARA

You want to head down and eat? I bet you're hungry since you didn't have a

whole lot yesterday.

CALYPSO

That I am. How's Arik's breakfast?

STNARA

Legendary. Listen, that man is the best chef this country has got.

Sinara says, scooting closer to Calypso.

SINARA

Even Gordon Ramsay has nothing on him.

She whispers. Calypso has to stifle a laugh at this.

CALYPSO

I really hope you realize that you'd make it just fine on Earth.

Calypso comments as she begins to take the outfits off of her bed and move them over to the wardrobe.

SINARA

I don't know about that.

Sinara laughs, helping Calypso out by placing the bottoms of some of the outfits in the dresser.

SINARA

Eru and I are just very curious about your world.

CALYPSO

Maybe you guys could come back with me.

Calypso suggests.

Sinara pauses for a moment, thinking.

SINARA

I wouldn't mind it.

She shrugs.

SINARA

It'd be a good change of scenery.

The two finish putting Calypso clothes away.

They then walk to the door together.

Calypso's brow furrow slightly as she makes to ask a question.

CALYPSO

How long do you think I'll be here?

She pauses just outside the door. Sinara, who is a step ahead of her, turns slightly to look at her.

SINARA

I'm not really sure.

Sinara answers her honestly.

SINARA

If you are the one, it could be a while.

Calypso nods despite the conflicted look on her face. Somehow, she knows she has to accept it.

She turns around and closes the door behind them, locking it.

The two then walk down the hallway in silence.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACKHORSE TAVERN - LATE MORNING

The tavern is nearly empty at this time of day. Only a few guests sit at tables eating a late breakfast.

Arik is wiping down the bar and prepping it for the day. Eru sits on one of the stools sipping on some water. He has an empty plate in front of him.

Calypso and Sinara come down the stairs from the back of the room. Arik and Eru both look over as they approach.

ARIK

Ah, good morning, Calypso.

Arik greets as Calypso comes to stand at the bar. She stands a little away from Eru. Sinara goes around to his other side.

Calypso smiles politely at Arik.

CALYPSO

Good morning.

ARIK

Have you come down to try my world-famous breakfast?

Arik jokes. Calypso giggles.

CALYPSO

I have, actually. Give me your best plate!

ARIK

I'll get right on it. You just make yourself comfortable.

Arik taps the counter in front of him to invite her to sit.

Calypso pulls the stool out in front of her and gets up on it as Arik disappears into the back. Eru glances over at her.

ERU

I see you've taken to the outfits Sinara bought for you.

Calypso looks at him and a shy smile dances over her lips.

CALYPSO

Oh, yes. It was very nice of her to do this. Each outfit is very beautiful. This dress just happened to catch my attention most.

She looks down at her dress for a moment, smoothing out the fabric.

Eru smiles as he watches her.

ERU

That color suits you. You look stunning.

Calypso looks back at him again, a light blush coloring her cheeks.

CALYPSO

Thank you.

ERU

You're welcome.

Eru gives her another smile before taking a sip of his water.

Calypso looks away for a moment.

CALYPSO

Sorry about yesterday. I didn't mean to disappear for such a long time... I think I just needed some time alone.

ERU

It's alright.

Eru reassures her, glancing back at her again.

ERU

I'll admit that I got a little worried, but I understand. If that was me in your position, I probably would've reacted the same.

Calypso turns her head to meet his gaze once more.

CALYPSO

Sinara was able to show me my true nationality last night. I guess you could say it's my true ethnicity too. I'm definitely not from Earth.

She laughs lightly.

Eru chuckles.

ERU

You're Zelladonian?

He teases.

CALYPSO

I'm Zelladonian.

Calypso giggles.

They gaze at each other for a moment and Calypso shakes her head with a smile.

ERU

What?

Eru asks with a smile.

CALYPSO

Nothing.

Calypso giggles again before facing forward.

Eru looks away too, an amused expression on his face. He takes another sip of his water.

Arik comes out not a minute later, holding a plate full of breakfast food. He sets it right in front of Calypso.

ARIK

Here you are, Miss Calypso. Eat up.

He tells her, setting utensils in front of her as well as a glass of fresh milk.

Calypso stares at the plate. It's obvious she's hungry.

Two slices of French toast, two slices of bacon, scrambled eggs, some fresh fruit... it's like breakfast galore.

Calypso doesn't need to be told twice to dig in.

CALYPSO

Thanks, Arik!

She chirps.

He chuckles at her excitement.

ARIK

You're welcome.

The four are now all at the bar: Calypso, Eru, Sinara, and Arik. Arik cleans and arranges glasses, Calypso devours her breakfast, Eru sips at his water, and Sinara picks at a bowl of fresh fruit Arik had brought out for her as well.

Everything seems to be quiet and peaceful, but a sudden shout from outside the tavern makes all four start and glance towards the screen door and cracked open windows.

People are suddenly running by, making quite the commotion. It causes Arik to set down his towel and the glass he was cleaning. He walks over to the screen door to look out.

ERU

What's wrong?

Eru calls to him.

ARIK

There's a massive crowd gathering in

the street.

He reports.

ARIK

I can't see what's happening.

ERU

Is something supposed to be going on today?

ARIK

I don't think... oh mercy. Farrden's taxes are due today.

Arik walks briskly back behind the bar. Dread shows on his face.

Eru, Calypso, and Sinara all exchanges glances before shooting Arik concerned looks.

CALYPSO

Why is that such a bad thing?

Calypso dares to wonder.

Arik looks at her, then to Eru and Sinara.

ARIK

If the people are up in a riot like this, something's wrong. Farrden hasn't been as prosperous as usual. It could very well mean the burgomaster is hiding to avoid paying taxes.

The trio exchanges glances again.

A sharp whinny suddenly sounds from outside and there is he faint clop of hooves. The cavalry.

Eru suddenly gets off of his stool and starts walking toward the door.

ARIK

Eru!

Arik shouts sharply at him, causing Eru to stop and whip around.

ERU

You know what happens when the Eyes

get involved!

Eru snaps, pointing at the door.

ERU

I'm going out there to make sure no gets hurt, so don't try to stop me.

With that he turns right back around and storms out the door.

All that registers on Arik's face is worry as he stares at the door.

Calypso and Sinara look at each other. They're both clearly concerned, and thinking the exact same thing.

SINARA

Sorry, Arik.

Sinara suddenly says, speaking for both of them.

Arik looks at her.

ARIK

What?

Before he can say anything else, both Sinara and Calypso hop off of their stools and run for the door.

ARIK

Girls!

He shouts after them. It doesn't stop them from darting out the door.

Arik is left standing in disbelief. He could try to go after them, but it wouldn't do any good. That he knows.

CUT TO:

EXT. MAIN STREET - LATE MORNING

Calypso and Sinara run through the crowds gathering on the street. Somehow, they are able to find Eru and catch up to him. They tail him cautiously.

Eventually, the crowd comes to an end. Eru doesn't push up towards the front. He stays just behind another line of people and puts his arm out so Sinara and Calypso stop with him.

In front of the crowd is a huge gap. On the other side of the gap, the cavalry is blocking the road. No one other than Semaj is standing in the middle of the gap.

A few guards stand behind him as he faces the throng of people.

SEMAJ

Citizens of Farrden!

He begins to say.

SEMAJ

I mean no harm in being here. I have only come to perform my duty as the King's advisor. Your taxes are due today and I simply seek to collect them. I could not, however, locate your burgomaster. If anyone would care to tell me where I can find him, I would be grateful.

The crowd mutters amongst themselves, but no one says anything.

Semaj sweeps his gaze over the crowd, waiting.

A few moments pass and still no one says anything.

SEMAJ

Well?

Still no one says anything.

Calypso and Sinara share worried glances with each other in the crowd. Eru simply watches.

Another few moments pass by.

Semaj's patience seems to have already worn thin.

SEMAJ

I really don't like to do this, but if no one is going to speak up, I do not have much of a choice.

He sweeps his gaze over the crowd again. It lands on one of the men in front. He points at him.

SEMAJ

You.

He says.

The man looks around and points at himself unsurely.

SEMAJ

Yes, you. Get over here.

Semaj orders.

The man doesn't move for a moment, but his peers nudge him forward, knowing it is not wise to defy Semaj.

The man steps up to Semaj.

In the crowd, Calypso strains to see what is going on. She pushes forward to get in front of Eru a bit. It allows her to catch a glimpse of both Semaj and the man. When she sees Semaj talking to him, a hard expression appears on her face.

Something in her seems crack a little bit. Seeing Semaj now doesn't make her afraid. Only angry.

Their exchange lasts for a little while, but it isn't long before an incredibly irritated look passes over Semaj's face.

The hair suddenly stands up on the back of Calypso's neck.

SEMAJ

Fool!

Semaj shouts. In a heartbeat he has struck the man right down, his temper gone.

Calypso snaps upon seeing this.

CALYPSO

Leave him alone!

She suddenly screams. Everything seems to slow as she moves to lunge forward. Eru manages to grab her and hold her back before she can go anywhere.

Semaj looks up into the crowd, but luckily, he can't see her. She can only see him. Eru had grabbed her right in time.

Calypso's eyes blaze a crazy bright sapphire as she struggles against Eru, her rage practically overcoming her.

It is now clear she has some kind of power locked within. It's just waiting to come out.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACKHORSE TAVERN - DAY

It has now been a little while since the ordeal outside.

Calypso, Eru, and Sinara all sit back in the tavern at their booth.

None of them speak.

Calypso is holding her water glass and staring into it menacingly. She's still fired up about what had happened.

Eru is sitting back, his head tipped back against the back of the booth. He's staring up at the ceiling, arms crossed.

Sinara has her arms folded up on the table. Her fingers drum against her arm.

STNARA

That was such a dumb thing to do.

Sinara finally says to Calypso, breaking the silence.

Calypso's gaze slides over to her.

CALYPSO

What?

SINARA

Rushing forward like that. You're lucky Eru was there to hold you back. Do you even know who that was?

Sinara slightly snaps.

CALYPSO

Oh, let me think. It definitely wasn't the man who was storming after me with his goddamn cavalry yesterday. The King's grand advisor. Good old Semaj. Yeah, I definitely don't know who that was.

Calypso snaps back.

SINARA

Exactly!

Sinara fires back.

SINARA

Do you know how much trouble you would've caused if he had seen you?

CALYPSO

What did you expect me to do? Sit back and watch? He beat a man down, Sinara! The man didn't even do anything!

SINARA

Welcome to our twisted world!

Sinara and Calypso glare at each other.

Eru rubs his temples beside Sinara, closing his eyes.

ERU

Please stop. The two of you are going to give me a headache.

Calypso looks away from Sinara upon hearing him say this and glares at her water again. Sinara's gaze falls down on her arms.

Eru sits forward after a moment.

ERU

Look, both of you have every right to argue about this, but Sinara makes a stronger case, Calypso.

He says, glancing at Calypso. She doesn't look at him.

ERU

If Semaj had seen you, we would've had a lot bigger problem on our hands. I know seeing what he did to that man was hard, and believe me, if I were you, I probably would've gotten pretty angry too. The fact of the matter is that that's not uncommon around here. Karalius rules with an iron fist. Semaj enforces the law with an iron fist. There's no tolerance around here.

Calypso's knuckles turn white from how tight she's gripping her glass. Her jaw works a bit.

CALYPSO

I want to help.

She suddenly says.

Sinara looks back up at this. Eru's brow furrows.

Calypso continues to glare at her water.

CALYPSO

You both said that you think I'm the savior. Karalius and Semaj want to capture me because they think the same thing. Vasia told me I was here for a reason when I was at the gate. Sinara, you said I wasn't here by mistake. I'm Zelladonian. I'm from this world, and it's falling apart. I want to know who I am, who I'm supposed to be, and the only way to do that is by helping you save this world.

Sinara and Eru exchange glances before looking back to Calypso.

Much to their surprise, Calypso's eyes are blazing again as she continues to glare at her water. The water itself isn't even still anymore; it's boiling furiously.

Calypso's gaze finally and slowly slides up to them. Her eyes are a sapphire fire. The water rages in front of her.

CALYPSO

Teach me.

Her determination is undeniable.

FADE OUT.