

CHANGELINGS: THE WEBSERIES

Season 1

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"CIRCLE"

TEASER

EXT. SUBURBAN TOWN - DAY

On a dusty sidewalk is a journal. As we approach it, the journal is flipped open by the wind. Closer and closer the page gets, until it fills up the entire view...

EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL

We are now in the world of Miranda's journal. Sketchy images appear and come to life, as the journal's author, MIRANDA, narrates the words.

The first scene depicted is of a 'Mad Maxian' apocalypse: mohawked bikers tearing through a trashed-up wasteland.

MIRANDA

(V.O)

I've never kept a journal before - I always figured that in the future, the planet would be an overcooked wasteland ruled by leather-clad anarchists, and we'd all be fighting for the remaining food and water. In which case, nobody's gonna care about my teenage dramas - except maybe to remember the good ole' days.

New image, researchers rebooting an old computer system.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

And even then, future historians sifting through Twitter could find more of that stuff than they'd ever want to know.

The researchers are excited at first, but their curiosity quickly turns to boredom.

Next a portal opens up, through which hazy figures walk through, wielding various weapons.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O))

But suddenly, the future is here.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

And it's not quite what I imagined:
dangerous anarchists are moving to
conquer, but they're not just
simple thugs - they're not even
from this world.

A typical space-alien appears.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

They're not alien invaders either -
at least, not in the way you're
probably thinking.

The space alien is erased, replaced with--

--Silhouettes of strange creatures, with butterfly wings,
mermaid tails, fin ears, feathers, and horns.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

They're brilliant, charming, and
wield powers so great that no human
being stands a chance against them.
So if you find this book while
scavenging for supplies, maybe this
will help explain a few things.

OVER BLACK:

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

My name is Miranda McConnell, and
this is my record of the Fae
invasion.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**EXT. WOODS - DAY**

Light plays on the face of GORDI, an unconscious shaggy-haired boy who is clearly unacquainted with brushes, scissors, or soap. Gordi's eyes snap open.

He gasps and sits up abruptly. Flower blooms cover his rough tunic and pants - he brushes them off disdainfully.

He's armed with a worn metal SHIELD. Emblazoned on the iron face of the shield is the emblem of a RED CROSS.

He's sitting in the midst of a TOADSTOOL RING.

GORDI

Great... a damn fungus circle.

(rises, quotes mockingly:)

He what tills the Faery's green,
nay luck again shall have.

Gordi kicks at the grass, upsetting the turf.

GORDI (CONT'D)

And he what spills a Faery's ring,
betide him want and woe.

He stomps hard on the mushrooms, working them into the mud.

GORDI (CONT'D)

For weirdless days and weary nights
are his til his dyin' day.

(steps out of the circle)

And he what goes by the faery ring,
nay dule nor pine shall see.

Gordi sees sunlight filtering through the intertwined tree branches and autumn leaves. Smirking, he picks up a branch.

GORDI (CONT'D)

And he what cleans a faery ring...

With the branch, he plows underneath the broken mushrooms, uprooting them and erasing the circle.

GORDI (CONT'D)

...An easy death shall die.

Gordi tosses the branch aside, and spreads his arms wide.

GORDI (CONT'D)

Well?! What are you waiting for?!!

When there is no answer but his own echo, Gordi laughs - the triumphant, almost manic laugh of a prisoner set free.

He takes a deep, satisfied breath, and sets off to explore, his tattered boots barely making a sound in the underbrush.

EXT. SUBURBAN TOWN - DAY

Gordi walks down the eerily silent, abandoned suburb street. He gazes at the houses, until he stops at one he recognizes.

In the front yard, a phantom boy and father appears, playing a game of catch.

Gordi crouches behind the boy, so that the phantom father throws the ball directly at him. The boy catches it in his oversized BASEBALL GLOVE.

A hazy woman figure standing in the front door beckons to the boy, and the boy runs to her. As he does, all three memory-phantoms disappear. Gordi approaches the house.

Gordi crouches underneath the window sill, and peers--

INSIDE

Where a bedraggled apocalypse-survivor girl, MIRANDA, is dragging a CHEST into the living room. She opens the chest, finds only the baseball glove from Gordi's memory. Miranda curses, frustrated, and tosses the glove aside.

Gordi gasps at her treatment of his childhood relic. She hears the sound and looks up - Gordi ducks just in time.

She investigates, looking past the sill - she sees nothing, but decides to close the drapes anyway. She turns around, and sees -- Gordi, crouched over the baseball glove.

GORDI

It is surprising the back door key
was still under the mat.

(looks up at her)

Greetings.

Miranda backs away, her eyes wide and face pale.

GORDI (CONT'D)

Wait! I must speak with you!

MIRANDA

Oh now you wanna talk! Take a look
around, it's the bloody apocalypse!

She bolts for the door. He grabs her, but she slips out of his grasp and kicks him.

Gordi groans, trying to get up.

Miranda regards him, confused.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
You're... you're a *human*.

GORDI
Yes. And you must be a warrior.

Miranda smiles, letting out a relieved breath.

MIRANDA
Not really. But I am a green belt.

She grabs his hand and helps pull him up. As she does, she notices his shield. A queasy expression passes over her face.

GORDI
You thought I was a Fae - I forgive you. By what name are you called?

She lets go the second he regains his footing, shuffling slowly backwards to place distance between the two of them.

MIRANDA
Miranda. Miranda McConnell.

GORDI
What are you doing here?

The question catches her off-guard.

MIRANDA
W-what? I live here!
(shrugs)
Well, unofficially. I was looking for something to fight the invaders, but it isn't here-

GORDI
Invaders? There was an invasion?

Miranda blinks at him.

MIRANDA
...I get the feeling you're not the jokey type.

Gordi comes forward to put a hand on her shoulder.

GORDI

The Fae crossed the barrier! Is that why all the humans are gone?!

Miranda squirms away.

MIRANDA

You knew about the Fae, but you didn't know they invaded?

Gordi turns, holding his head.

GORDI

That's how I escaped the Otherworld...it makes sense now.
(looks at her)
This used to be *my* home, before I was taken-

MIRANDA

I know.

GORDI

What? How would you know?

Miranda bites her lip. She goes to a nearby shelf, and recovers a PICTURE FRAME. She carefully offers it to Gordi.

Pictured are his father and mother...but with them is a teenage son, dressed in black leather and red...WHOSE FACE LOOKS JUST LIKE GORDI.

Gordi drops the picture in shock, like it's red-hot.

GORDI (CONT'D)

That's not me!

MIRANDA

He's a changeling. Left in your place, when the Fae took you.

Gordi stomps on the picture, crushing the glass.

Miranda flinches. Gordi takes a deep breath.

GORDI

You knew him? This...*Fae*?

MIRANDA

Yes. But nobody knew that's what he was - he was just Axel.

Gordi stares at the now-broken picture on the floor.

GORDI
 My name was Axel.
 (to Miranda)
 But that name is no longer mine.
 All I have left is my slave name:
 you may call me Gordi.

MIRANDA
 (attempts a smile)
 Well, it would be less confusing.

GORDI
 Where are my parents?

MIRANDA
 I dunno. The Fae took human
 captives, but I don't know where
 they're being held.

GORDI
 Then we must begin a search.

He walks out the back door. Miranda follows, grabbing the door before it closes.

MIRANDA
 Begin? What do you think I've been
 doing the last several days?

Suddenly, the SOUND of a KEY entering a door-lock. The front door handle turns, and the door opens to reveal:

AXEL, the boy from the picture. He locks eyes with Miranda. He's got a leather jacket, spiked hair, red shirt...but at his side is a silver DRAGON SWORD.

Miranda runs out, letting the door slam behind her.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

Miranda runs past Gordi at break-neck speed.

FLAME bursts out in front of her, blocking her way. From out of the flames, Axel steps out, casual and cool like he's just walking through a door. The flames disappear.

AXEL
 Miranda. I've been looking
 everywhere for you...

He reaches out to her, but she swats his hand aside.

MIRANDA
Don't touch me!

AXEL
Listen babe, I know you're upset...

Miranda throws a punch - Axel catches her fist tightly in his hand, forcing it down painfully.

AXEL (CONT'D)
But you really need to calm down.

Gordi SLAMS his shoulder into Axel's side, knocking him over.

AXEL (CONT'D)
What the *hell*?

Axel looks up to see Gordi, his doppelganger. His eyes widen.

AXEL (CONT'D)
YOU. What're you doing here, Fetch?

Gordi positions himself between Axel and Miranda.

GORDI
Miranda, run.

MIRANDA
Don't be a hero! He *will* kill you!

Axel gets up, dusting himself off indignantly.

AXEL
I don't *kill*. But stick your nose where it doesn't belong, and it will backfire.

Axel tosses flame at Gordi, but he blocks it with his shield.

AXEL (CONT'D)
What is it you want, human?
Revenge?

GORDI
Something like that.

AXEL
Hm. Well, I'm afraid you're under-equipped.

Axel draws his sword from its dragon sheath.

AXEL (CONT'D)
 I prefer evenly matched duels - if
 you need time to locate a suitable
 weapon, I'll be free this Saturday.

Gordi rushes forward with a yell.

Axel smirks, raising his sword for what he assumes will be a
 fight-ending stroke.

But at the last moment, Gordi raises his shield to drive into
 Axel. Axel sucks in air as the shield touches him - he falls
 to the ground, shaking and holding his stomach.

AXEL (CONT'D)
 Iron...an iron shield. Heh. More
 evenly matched than I thought...

Gordi raises his shield over him--

Miranda grabs his arm, stopping him.

MIRANDA
 Gordi, stop! There's already been
 too much death!

Gordi stares at her, a bestial look in his eye.

Axel takes his moment to turn into flame, and disappear.

GORDI
 NO! GET BACK HERE, DAMN YOU!!

Gordi yells this into empty air, and receives only an echo.
 Miranda urges him onward, and he follows her, crestfallen.

Axel watches from behind the house corner.

AXEL
 Well Miranda, it seems that you
 have a very *specific* taste in men.
 But soon enough you'll see... he's
 no replacement for me!

Axel steps back into the shadows, his eyes glowing orange.

OVER BLACK:

The SOUND of FLAPPING WINGS.

END OF EPISODE

"FETCH"

TEASER

EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL

We see a representation of Gordi rescuing Miranda from Axel.

MIRANDA

(V.O.)

My name is Miranda McConnell. I was rescued from the Fae by Gordi, a human prisoner from their world.

A sketch of Gordi and Miranda in the abandoned town.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Now we search the ghost of our hometown, looking for our families.
(page turns)
Fae & humans are sibling races:
same father, different mother.

A man with a fig leaf appears. 2 women appear on either side - 1 normal and fig-leafed, 1 with pointed ears and wild hair.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Humans descend from Adam and Eve.
Fae descend from Adam and Lilith.

Tree roots descend from the man and woman to modern humans, and from man and the nymph-elf to modern Fae.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Lilith was an angel, a gardener of Eden, until she became Adam's forbidden companion.

Feather-winged LILITH tends to the garden. Dust forms into ADAM. They embrace. Lightning flashes - her wings are gone.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

...And she was banned from heaven.

Another page, a drawing of Adam and Lilith in happier times.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Adam and Lilith had many children:
the Fae.

Adam and Lilith are mobbed by little mischievous kids.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

The Fae did whatever they wanted -
because their souls were bound to
the Earth, they would never
experience heaven or hell.

Another page: Adam and Lilith in a yelling match.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

This bothered Adam, who confronted
Lilith.

Lilith walks out the gates of Eden with little ones in tow.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

What followed was the 1st divorce.
Lilith took off with the kids,
leaving Adam alone in the Garden.

(another page)

Over time, the Fae evolved into 4
distinct magical bloodlines:

Silhouettes form: a bird flapping its wings, a wolf howling,
a flitting butterfly... a SYLPH (feathered Fae) flies past.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Lovers of wilderness took on bird,
animal, and insect traits; they
became Sylphs.

A mountain cave appears, sparkling with jewels. A GNOME digs
down into the cave, his skin turning to rock.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Lovers of mountain caves and hidden
treasures were solid like their
dwellings. They became Gnomes.

Ocean waves appear - dolphins frolic, jumping in formation.
Following the dolphins is a UNDINE, a Fae with fins and tail.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Lovers of water mimicked the
creatures they swam with; they
became Undines.

A dragon bursts out of a volcano, taking flight over desert -
as it passes, we see it's a horned SALAMANDER with a sword.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Lovers of heat morphed into
reptiles, the Salamanders.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**INT. SALAMANDER BALLROOM**

Scaly, dark-eyed Salamanders, wearing black clothing, gather to party in a red-curtained ballroom. Some mingle, others lounge on pillows sipping wine.

AILLEN, a horned Fae with a SCEPTER, watches from his golden throne. He was once a powerful dragon, but now his breathing is laborious - his condition is deteriorating.

A Salamander rings a diner bell - on the opposite side of the ballroom, lights come up on Axel. The Salamanders cheer.

AXEL

We left behind our homes, and we
defeated the human infestation -
it's time we celebrate. But first,
a toast: to my father, King Aillen.

Axel raises a GOBLET. The Fae raise theirs, crying 'Hail!'

Axel watches as his father is offered a glass. The woman brings it to his mouth, but he coughs, and waves it off.

Axel drains his cup, hands it over - a fierce-looking Salamander girl, TANIS, slinks up to take it, smiling seductively. He just nods politely.

She admires the cup. Jealous, sour ETHELINE and girlish BINDI crowd around. One claws at it, but the girl with the cup hisses them away.

AXEL (CONT'D)

And now, it's time for some music.

Axel beckons toward the Salamander girls, who stop fighting over the cup to instead fight to be the one to give Axel his guitar, and set up his mic. He slips on the shoulder strap.

He sings an eerie rock ballad into the mic.

Salamanders twist and to the music with snake-like movements.

Axel takes the mic off in order to work the crowd, and the music kicks into a higher gear, becoming more raw and intense. Salamanders go wild, dancing with fiery passion.

EXT. ABANDONED TOWN - MORNING

The music filters over Miranda, fitfully sleeping.

GORDI
(O.S.)
Miranda.

Miranda's eyes open, sitting up on a bus-stop bench.

MIRANDA
GET AWAY!!

Gordi blinks, puzzled, backing up a few steps. She rubs her ears, groaning. Gordi places a plastic bag full of food and drinks on the bench.

GORDI
I thought it would be best to
locate supplies, before the fire-
orb in the sky returned.

MIRANDA
Wha...oh, you mean the *sun*?

GORDI
Sun. Yes, that's what I meant - the
Otherworld doesn't have one.
Everything glows over there.

He sets down his shield - she groans, holding her stomach.

GORDI (CONT'D)
Something wrong?

MIRANDA
Just a stomach-ache. I hope you
remembered to bring me the t&t...

She takes tea and a tums container to the sidewalk. He joins her, biting at a beef jerky package til she opens it for him.

GORDI
This food was very easy to get.

MIRANDA
A perk of the end times: nobody
around to ask for money.

She dumps tums down her throat, washing it down with tea.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
It's weird, the 1st day was chaos.
But bullets didn't work, cuz they
were made of lead and not iron, so
it was over in no time.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

Now it's like nothing happened...
except, there's no people anywhere.

He offers a her a piece of jerky. She wrinkles her nose.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

Mm-mm, I don't like meat.

She moves on to eating a chocolate snack cake. Gordi takes a sip of the tea, but makes a sour face.

GORDI

I don't know how you drink that.

MIRANDA

Mm, Roxie says that. *I'm* the one
always asking to play tea-party.

GORDI

Roxie?

MIRANDA

My little sister. She's not a pest,
like most are - you'll like her.

GORDI

You're certain that I'll meet her?

MIRANDA

Yes. We'll find them, Gordi.

INT. SALAMANDER BALLROOM

At the end of the song, the Salamanders clap, and the girls lavish affection on Axel. However, Axel notices--

--Aillen rising from his throne. Axel runs to him, grinning.

AXEL

Checkin' out early, old man?

His father turns to him with a hard eye.

AILLEN

If only it were permanent...so that
I would be spared your foolishness.

Axel's smile falls. He leans in close.

AXEL

What's wrong? What did I do?

AILLEN

That *Eldritch* you were singing
about. Realize that should you fail
to subdue her, I shall be the last
Salamander to sit upon this throne.

Aillen pulls away, and disappears into his chambers.

Axel looks at the throne, and at the scepter on its seat: a
jeweled scepter, twined with ivy. He touches it, wistful.

The doors open, silencing the party - Axel turns, to see the
leaders of Sylph, Gnome, and Undine enter the ballroom.

Sylph's leader is CLAIR HATHOWAY, an imperious feathered
young girl wearing silver, and wielding a slingshot.

Undine's leader, JARON LAMAR, is an affable young 'surfer
dude' with blue tattoos and fin-ears. He wields a bident.

House Gnome is led by triplets, the REDCAPS:

SAMMY SEVER - snarling, wolf-like, has a hatchet & knit cap.

SONNY STAB - smirking, fox-like, has daggers & a ball cap.

SULLY SLICE - brutish, badger-like, has a claw & miner's cap.

CLAIR

Hello, Axel.

The Salamander girls jump up, menacing.

BINDI

That's 'highness' to you, birdie!

ETHELINE

How dare you barge in here?!

TANIS

(bares teeth & nails)

Drop your weapons, or we use *ours*!

An older woman, MOTHER REDCAP, pushes past her 3 sons,
wearing a red bonnet and apron and knitting a white cloth.
With a knitting needle, she STABS Tanis in the shoulder. The
Salamander girl ROARS.

Mother Redcap takes the needle, wiping it off on the cloth.

MOTHER REDCAP

Ooh, thank you dearie...it looks so
much prettier in red...

TANIS

You *psycho*!!

SULLY SLICE

Hey! Don't you insult our mother!

The Salamanders get into battle stance - the Fae leaders ready their weapons.

AXEL

That's enough.

Axel walks in the midst of them with hands upraised. The Salamanders back off, though still hissing.

AXEL (CONT'D)

We must show courtesy to fellow royals...even when they show us discourtesy, by disrupting a celebration honoring our king.

Jaron lowers his bident.

JARON

Aw dude, didn't mean to crash your party.

SONNY STAB

Your father invited us to come and talk business.

Axel rubs his forehead, sighing.

AXEL

Be sure to *schedule* a meeting next time. My father has retired to bed - tell me your concerns.

The Fae leaders exchange dangerous looks.

Mother Redcap shoos off the Salamander girls with her needles, and takes a seat on the pillows in order to knit.

MOTHER REDCAP

We have so many humans, we don't know what to do. Such fine, red-blooded humans too...

AXEL

Interesting. What're your thoughts?

Clair's eyes flash.

CLAIR

Kill them! They cut down the forests, and pollute the air, and slaughter animals!

JARON

Whoa, chillax!

(to Axel)

Dude, humans have done some kinda brutal stuff - just take a look at the oceans. But we can't just wipe'em out.

CLAIR

The oceans are *poisoned*, and the sea creatures are sick and hunted-

SAMMY SEVER

-Like animals. Heh heh.

(snarls, fingers axe)

Meat tastes bad, too much iron! But it's fun to watch them die.

SONNY STAB

House Gnome volunteers to take responsibility for the humans.

AXEL

For what purpose?

SONNY STAB

To aide in collecting iron waste, so that we can turn it into the non-toxic orichalcum.

Sammy shakes a pill bottle.

SONNY STAB (CONT'D)

Oh yeah, thanks for reminding me bro: it's the main ingredient of our anti-iron supplement-

JARON

What a load of *bogus*! Go ahead, give 'em humans! They'll need to dig more caves, to store all the *dead bodies*.

SONNY STAB

Let the grown-ups talk, will you?

JARON

(to Axel)

On Day 1, they hunted down and murdered human civilians *for fun*. These guys are thugs!

AXEL

This is a war Jaron. Things happen in a war that are...unpleasant. Focus on our common goals, not on making enemies out of our friends.

(looks at Sonny)

I actually like your proposal. Pardon the phrase, but it sounds very...*humane*. I will inspect the camp myself, to make sure of it. Everyone satisfied?

Clair rolls her eyes, and Jaron grits his teeth.

EXT. ABANDONED TOWN - DAY

Miranda and Gordi walk down the street. Miranda points things out, playing tour-guide.

A SCREAM pierces the air. They run to investigate.

Down the street, DARCY, a human girl in Lara Croft-style survival gear, is running away from the 3 Redcap brothers. They surround her, weapons drawn.

Gordi and Miranda nod at each other, and rush in.

Meanwhile, Axel watches Gordi from his favorite place: the shadows. He smiles.

AXEL

Good boy, go fetch...

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE

"SECRETS"

TEASER

EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL

An island utopia, with impressively tall, strange buildings surrounded by flying Fae.

MIRANDA

(V.O.)

After leaving Eden, the Fae built an island society. It was ruled by Lilith, whose law boiled down to 2 rules: don't harm one another, and don't go near humans.

Dancing Fae notice 2 amorous humans entering the woods. The Fae swarm them, pulling the two apart.

Next we see the couple lying in a toadstool ring, with daggers through their hearts.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

The Fae followed rule 1, making it the most peaceful society in history. But humans were easy prey - too easy for the Fae to resist.

Lilith appears on a mountaintop with scepter upraised, above a mob of wild Fae below.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

The island was called Atlantis. So you can guess what happened next.

Her scepter flashes - a tidal wave appears behind her, crashing down on them.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Lilith built a prison for the Fae. She bound them to it, threw away the key, and cursed the iron of the Earth to prevent their return.

Lilith's limp, glowing body falls through the ocean depths.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

The spell took every last drop of
her life-force to cast.

Her light flickers, then goes out.

BLACKOUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**EXT. ABANDONED TOWN - DAY**

Miranda and Gordi run down the street, toward:

Darcy, chased and confronted by the 3 armed Redcap brothers.

SAMMY SEVER

Run run run, as fast as you can!

SULLY SLICE

Or the Ginger will catch you...

Cookie!

Sonny elbows him.

SONNY STAB

Hey, stay focused on the job.

(to Darcy)

You ready to come home, my dear?

SULLY SLICE

I think she wants to get dead, like
her mom and dad.

They circle her like predatory animals, weapons drawn.

Darcy has no weapons, but her gaze is steely.

SONNY STAB

(unwraps weapon)

Ah well, suit yourself.

The Redcaps attack. Darcy evades, punishing them with moves of her own - but a strike from Sully knocks her off balance.

She stumbles back to see Sammy's axe swinging downward - she jumps aside, to the disappointment of her snarling attacker.

Sonny Stab attacks with his daggers. He uses the move that earned him his name: a flurry of lightning-quick stabs.

She evades them, but is soon backed against a wall.

He comes in for the kill, laughing...but Gordi grabs him.

GORDI

I don't know what you find
humourous about pain and violence.

Gordi pushes the shield against his back - Sonny cries out.

MIRANDA

Give'm to me! I'll have him in
stitches!

Gordi shoves him into Miranda.

SONNY STAB

You-!

She punches his face, following it up with an attack barrage.

Gordi shield-blocks a swipe from Sully's claw, and bashes him in the face with the shield. He turns on Sammy, who is still occupied with swinging his axe at Darcy. Darcy ducks--

--Gordi shield-bashes him in the back, knocking him into--

--Darcy's attack to the stomach. Sammy howls, shoving Darcy away, and swings his axe at Gordi.

The attack lands on his shield. Meanwhile, Darcy comes up behind Sammy, putting an arm tight around his throat.

Miranda evades Sonny's slashes, only to be clawed in the face by Sully. Gordi runs and pushes in between Miranda and her attackers, raising his shield.

They back off, sickened by the iron.

SONNY STAB (CONT'D)

Well, this is a bloody mess. Guess
it's time to rethink the plan.

SULLY SLICE

Might wanna think fast...Sammy
don't look too good.

Sammy struggles against Darcy's neck-grip.

SONNY STAB

Okay, you win. Let Sammy go, and
we'll leave you guys alone.

(to Miranda)

I give you my word.

Miranda's eyes widen. She turns to Darcy.

MIRANDA

Let him go.

Darcy stares at her, icy.

DARCY

Wow, what a great idea!

GORDI

Miranda, I fail to see your logic.

MIRANDA

A Fae can't break their sworn word.
At least, that's what I heard.

GORDI

You heard correctly - they cannot.

Darcy looks at Sammy, then at his brothers.

DARCY

Okay, fine. But here's how this is
gonna go down: you guys head to the
park, and I'll release Sammy.

Sonny and Sully lowers their weapons. Sonny nods.

SONNY STAB

We'll be waiting.

Sonny smirks and makes a bow to Miranda. The Redcaps leave.

MIRANDA

That was close.

SAMMY SEVER

Lemme go, I can't breathe!

Darcy JERKS his head, breaking his neck. He crumples, dead.

DARCY

That's better.

Darcy wipes off her hands, and picks up Sammy's axe. She
walks toward the stunned Gordi and Miranda.

DARCY (CONT'D)

I'm Darcy, thanks for the backup. I
thought you were nutjobs at first,
but that was sharp! How'd you know
they couldn't break their word?

MIRANDA

What the hell's wrong with you?!

DARCY

What?

(briefly glances at body)

DARCY (CONT'D)

Oh c'mon, you're not gonna get all weepy about a Redcap goblin, are you? It's not like they're human.

Miranda advances with fist upraised, but Gordi stops her.

GORDI

You have put us in grave danger: you broke the agreement, and thus freed the Redcaps from their word.

DARCY

Then we better get going. You're looking for family, right? If so, I'm your girl: I'm fresh out of the slave camp for human survivors.

Gordi and Miranda exchange looks of hope. She passes them.

DARCY (CONT'D)

But I'm starved. So let's get some chow, and then gear up.

Gordi smiles, watching her go, but Miranda looks sour.

EXT. MAKESHIFT CAMP - ABANDONED TOWN - DAY

Darcy finishes strapping on various army-surplus gear.

Gordi and Miranda watch her. Miranda knocks back some tums.

DARCY

You guys want some of this?

GORDI

I am unfamiliar with the equipment.

MIRANDA

I don't use that stuff.

DARCY

You like a pacifist or something?

MIRANDA

No. I just don't like weapons.

DARCY

Yeah, okay...but there's kind of an *invasion* going on. I'm just saying.

Miranda rolls her eyes. Darcy sits down next to them.

DARCY (CONT'D)

So. I wanna hear some stories.

GORDI
I am curious to hear yours.

MIRANDA
Yeah, so am I. I don't remember seeing you at the school.

DARCY
I didn't go all that much.

MIRANDA
Too cool for it, huh?

DARCY
Definitely. For a while I was in boarding school, which is kinda like being in prison. To get through the day, I'd remind myself it 'wasn't the end of the world!'
(chuckles)
But then my folks finally let me travel with them. They were top-notch explorers.

GORDI
Were?

DARCY
(serious, looks away)
Yeah. Until they discovered some Fae relic: a scepter.

Miranda's eyes light up, but she says nothing.

DARCY (CONT'D)
The Fae killed them for it.

GORDI
It must have been Lilith's scepter, the key to the barrier. I am sorry.

Darcy nods. A long pause. Then she looks at Miranda.

DARCY
So, what's your story?

MIRANDA
Me? I don't have one.

DARCY
Sure you do.

MIRANDA

Not really. My life was pretty average, just going to school...

DARCY

...beating the snot out of bullies, dating the school hottie...

MIRANDA

I didn't know I'd been the topic of conversations.

DARCY

You were *the* topic. It provided continuity between my visits.

GORDI

I assume they didn't know about her romantic involvement with a Fae.

Miranda and Gordi exchange looks. Darcy looks between them.

DARCY

Seriously? Is that why she gets all squeamish about killing them?

Miranda gets up and walks away from the camp.

DARCY (CONT'D)

Wow. Must've hit a nerve.

(to Gordi)

Well, that leaves you. Where do you come from?

GORDI

I don't wish to talk about it.

EXT. MAKESHIFT CAMP - NIGHT

Gordi and Darcy are rolled up in blankets, asleep - Gordi fidgets and growls, but Darcy is serene. A sound of great FLAPPING WINGS in the distance - her eyes snap open.

She goes to Gordi and taps his shoulder. He wakes with a violent start, but then he sees her and clears his head.

DARCY

Hey. She's been gone a long time. I think we better check up on her.

GORDI

(picks up shield)

Yeah. Good idea.

Darcy leads him out into the woods. They duck down behind some foliage. Gordi's eyes are wide with shock, seeing:

Axel & Miranda together, talking.

DARCY
(whispering)
Yikes. I guess she wasn't over him.

Axel takes Miranda's hand in his.

AXEL
Bear with the human a little longer. I want him watched.

MIRANDA
This isn't what I expected when I opened the portal.

AXEL
I know. But don't worry - once the humans have been dealt with, you will take your rightful place at my side...as the Faerie Queene.

Miranda throws her arms around him, and they embrace.

Gordi turns around, and hurries quietly back to camp.

Axel releases Miranda, who stands there like a mindless doll. He snaps his fingers, and the Miranda illusion disappears.

He looks toward Darcy - she nods, and heads after Gordi.

MEANWHILE

Nearby, Miranda is eating a chocolate cupcake. Feeling a bit better, she grabs up the firewood branches and heads back.

She finds Gordi, staring into the lantern, Darcy beside him.

MIRANDA
I thought you guys would be asleep.

DARCY
Yeah, I bet.

Miranda looks puzzled. Then she sighs.

MIRANDA
I'm sorry about storming off.

Gordi stands up, glaring.

GORDI

Come here.

Miranda walks forward, unsure. At the last moment, Gordi raises his shield. She gasps, and backs away from it.

GORDI (CONT'D)

You played me for a damn fool!

Gordi advances on her, along with Darcy.

MIRANDA

I'm sorry. I needed protection, and I knew you wouldn't help a Fae.

GORDI

Protection from what?

MIRANDA

From Axel! With that shield, he couldn't get near me!

GORDI

Enough! No more of your lies!

Gordi comes forward again, but Darcy stops him.

DARCY

Hey, let's just go.

GORDI

You're right. She's not worth it.

Gordi turns around and walks away. Darcy and Gordi retrieve their gear and supplies, and disappear into the night.

Miranda watches them go, forlorn.

Meanwhile, Axel watches her from the shadows, smiling - his image flickers, his glamour magic disguising him...as Gordi. He looks over his disguise, makes a face and shudders.

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE

"REDCAPS"

TEASER

EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL

Gordi leaves Miranda, with Darcy by his side - Miranda sinks down in despair, holding her knees to her chest.

MIRANDA

(V.O.)

My human friend, Gordi, took off after learning what I am: though I answer to Miranda McConnell, that name belongs to a human child, stolen long ago. I am a Changeling.

A winged Fae girl steps out of a portal into a human nursery, holding a pointed-eared Fae baby in her arms.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

A Changeling is a Fae, smuggled into the human realm.

The Fae girl takes a human baby out of its crib, places the Fae baby inside, and exits via the portal.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

The Fae kidnap a human, and leave a Fae in its place - 'changed' via magic to resemble the human one.

The 4 Fae clans advance on each other, weapons raised.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Trapped in their Otherworld prison, the Fae abandoned all Atlantean ideals. They turned the Otherworld into a desolate battlefield, filled with fear and death.

Lilith with her scepter upraised.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Spells are like legal documents, and Lilith missed a loophole in hers: she proclaimed iron the bane of Fae *men* and *women*, but no mention of *children*.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

A human *man* or *woman* can't enter
the Otherworld, but a *child* can.

A Fae royal child is nearly killed by a Fae assassin. Their
guardian takes them away, steps into the portal with them.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

The Fae protected royal heirs by
swapping them with human children.

A Changeling boy leaves a High School graduation party.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Before they reached maturity and
died of iron poisoning, they'd be
taken back to the Otherworld.

He is pulled into a black car, bound for a portal.

Miranda, at a party with Axel. Axel gives her the scepter.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Now they've broken free, to invade
the human realm.

She happily raises it aloft, above her head just like Lilith.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

And I helped them do it.

BLACKOUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**EXT. ROAD - MORNING**

Miranda embraces 'Gordi', unaware that it's Axel in disguise.

MIRANDA
You came back!

AXEL-GORDI
Of course, darling.

Miranda pulls back to look at him.

MIRANDA
Huh?

AXEL-GORDI
(clears throat)
Sorry. Trying to sound more human.

MIRANDA
Please don't - you sound like Axel.

AXEL-GORDI
(frowns)
Mm, wouldn't want that.

Axel-Gordi peeks behind her, seeing a trail of cake wrappers.

AXEL-GORDI (CONT'D)
You have been following us?

MIRANDA
(nods)
Darcy is the only one who can lead
me to my sister. I wasn't lying-

AXEL-GORDI
Shh, I know. I shouldn't punish you
for being a Fae: it's a gift, not a
curse.

MIRANDA
That was a fast change of heart.

AXEL-GORDI
Yes, well...being alone with Darcy
was more than I could bear.

MIRANDA
(laughs)
Speaking of which, where is Darcy?

AXEL-GORDI

She...told me where the camp was
and took off, saying she didn't
want to go back there.

MIRANDA

Ah. I can't say I blame her.

AXEL-GORDI

So, shall we?

He offers an arm to her. She looks at him funny.

AXEL-GORDI (CONT'D)

...Trying too hard again?

She nods. He bites his lip, tries to imitate moody, slouching
Gordi. It's good enough for her - they take off together.

EXT. MAKESHIFT CAMP - MORNING

Gordi, the real one, is bringing Darcy supplies just like he
did with Miranda. Darcy rummages through the bags.

DARCY

What's this stuff?

GORDI

I thought it was a standard diet.

DARCY

It is, if you're a Fae.

(examines the tums)

She was trying to block her iron
absorption.

(re: tea, chocolate, nuts)

Look, this stuff's full of tannin.

Gordi ignores her observations, and sits down next to her.
Darcy makes a face.

DARCY (CONT'D)

You smell kinda...ripe. When's the
last time you washed your shirt?

Gordi smells under his armpits.

GORDI

The Fae never cared about smell.

DARCY

Well *I'm* not a Fae.

She hands him a bottled water. He takes it, and smiles.

GORDI

I know.

He goes to a drain on the side of the road, as she eyes the shield he leaves behind.

DARCY

So the Fae like their servants
dirty? I thought they were snobs.

GORDI

I wasn't a servant.

DARCY

Oh? Then what were you?

No answer. Darcy turns to watch Gordi strips off his burlap tunic...revealing scars criss-crossing his back.

She looks away quickly, unnerved. She takes something out of her utility belt: pills of some kind.

Gordi wrings water out of his burlap tunic.

GORDI

I was their pawn.

She regards the pills a moment, unsure. Then she drops them into another water bottle - just before Gordi sits back down.

GORDI (CONT'D)

The Fae stopped fighting wars a
long time ago - these days, the Fae
send out their human grunts
instead. We bleed, so they don't
have to.

He picks up and drinks from the water bottle. Darcy watches.

GORDI (CONT'D)

(wipes mouth)

Humans care about their fellow men
& women. That is why we humans must
stick together.

Gordi's vision clouds. He shakes and rubs his head, frowning.

GORDI (CONT'D)

Darcy...I feel...tired...

Darcy looks guilty, and hugs him.

DARCY

Me too, Gordi. It's tiresome being
a pawn.

Gordi's head falls against her shoulder, and she lays him
back gently.

Darcy picks up the shield and takes off, leaving Gordi on the
ground, snoring.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

As Miranda and Axel walk down the road, they don't notice
Sully Slice hiding in an alley.

Sully Slice raises a claw.

SULLY SLICE

You'll pay for killing my little
bro, human.

Sully comes out behind them, silently advancing.

Axel and Miranda notice a huge shadow over them - they turn,
to see Sully with claw upraised.

He slashes Axel across the chest, and he falls.

MIRANDA

Gordi!

But Miranda stops short, eyes wide:

His form flashes, distorting...and he turns into Axel.

MIRANDA & SULLY

(in unison)

Axel?!

Sully grabs her in a bear-hug - she struggles, to no avail.

AXEL

Release her! I don't want her
harmmed.

SULLY SLICE

I don't care what you want.

AXEL

I *command* you!

SULLY SLICE

Ha! You have no authority - it's *this* pipsqueak who's the heir.

AXEL

Fine! Then I beg you, as a fellow Fae and royal, do not harm her! You and I have the same enemy, and I will help you defeat him!

SULLY SLICE

You know what happened yesterday? A human brat escaped the mines, and killed my little bro.

AXEL

I'm sorry to hear that, Sully. My condolences for your loss. But what does that have to do with-

Sully squeezes Miranda, forcing her to cry out.

SULLY SLICE

Don't gimme that! Somebody let the little witch out, and I think that somebody was *you*.

Sully takes out rope, and binds Miranda's hands.

SULLY SLICE (CONT'D)

I'm gonna do what you've failed to: I'm gonna find your Fetch, and I'm gonna *kill him*. In the meantime, I'll have *her* to keep me company.

Sully laughs. Axel raises his hand to blast a fireball at him, but Sully drives his claw straight into him.

SULLY SLICE (CONT'D)

Hotheaded Salamanders...I think it's time a *Gnome* ruled instead.

EXT. EMERSON'S HIDEOUT - DAY

Darcy runs, sees a car with its door open. She rushes toward it, and slides in to the front seat.

She places the shield in the passenger seat, and searches under the mat and behind the sun-flap for the key. She sighs, looks at the ignition and searches in her utility belt. A WHISTLED TUNE catches her attention - she sees:

EMERSON PEARCE, a young sturdy man in a red plaid flannel shirt, walking out of a nearby store. He downs tums with tea.

Darcy grits her teeth, knowing what that means - a Fae.

Emerson nears his car, and slides in to the empty front seat. He makes a queasy face and groans, holding his stomach - he turns to see the iron shield in the passenger side.

EMERSON

What the-?

He looks in the back, and sees Darcy unsheathe her knife.

One arm snakes around and pins his neck to the seat, while the other holds a knife in front of his throat.

EMERSON (CONT'D)

Whoa! Sheez...!

DARCY

Don't. Move.

EMERSON

(eyeing knife)

Wasn't planning to, sweetheart.

DARCY

Are you a Redcap?

EMERSON

Do you see me wearing a red cap?

(Darcy chokes him)

N-No! Yes! I'm Emerson. I'm the one they sent you to kill.

He sighs, closing his eyes.

EMERSON (CONT'D)

It's okay. I'm ready. Do it quick.

DARCY

You weren't looking for me?

EMERSON

(opens eyes)

Huh? Why would I look for an assassin? Hell, I expected my brothers to do it themselves, but this is better.

DARCY

I'm not an assassin!

EMERSON
Seriously? Oh man...
(breathes sigh of relief)
Wait. Then why did you attack me?

DARCY
...Oops. My bad.

EMERSON
Well? You gonna let go now?

DARCY
No.

EMERSON
What? Why?

DARCY
Because now you'll kill *me*.

EMERSON
I will not. It's why I don't have a
red cap.

DARCY
What are you talking about?

EMERSON
My brothers like killing. I don't.
It's why the family disinherited
me, and its why they want me dead.

DARCY
Only Fae could be that twisted.

Emerson turns to look at her behind the seat.

EMERSON
And uh, if you kill an innocent,
unarmed guy right now, what do you
think that makes *you*?

Darcy considers that a moment.

DARCY
...Do you give me your word?

EMERSON
(sighs)
Great. Yes, I give you my word not
to harm you. Even in self-defense.

Darcy lets him go, withdrawing and sheathing the knife.

DARCY

I'm Darcy.

EMERSON

Nice to meet you.

(gestures at the shield)

Now, can you get that away from me?

Otherwise I'm gonna hurl.

EXT. MAKESHIFT CAMP - DAY

Gordi wakes from his stupor, groaning. He staggers to his feet with bleary eyes: everything's gone.

GORDI

D..D-Darcy...?

Sonny creeps up behind him, with his daggers. Gordi hears Sonny's foot crunch a leaf. Without turning:

GORDI (CONT'D)

She isn't here, Redcap.

SONNY STAB

I see. But neither is your shield.

GORDI

I didn't kill your brother.

SONNY STAB

Maybe not - but you helped her.

GORDI

Nobody regrets that more than I.

Sonny scrapes his daggers against each other.

SONNY STAB

Well...you won't have to live with your guilt for long.

Sonny lunges toward Gordi, with a loud cry.

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE

"HEIR"

TEASER

EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL

Miranda sits on the bed, reading to Roxie - who has one arm wrapped around her faerie doll.

MIRANDA

(V.O.)

My sister Roxie loved Faeries. To her, they were tiny winged people with wands. But the old Fae stories she had me read...those were more true than I ever would've believed.

From behind sketch-Miranda's shoulder, we see the illustrated page of the book she's reading from. We DIVE IN--

--to see medieval-style depictions George, Una, and the Dwarf facing off against a Dragon guarding a castle entrance.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

One of them was 'The Faerie Queene'. It's about a human knight, a faerie princess, and a dwarf, who go on a quest to rescue the King and Queen from a dragon. Standard stuff...if it were a fairytale.

The 'real-life' figures appear as Miranda speaks:

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

The dwarf was a famous Gnome explorer. The dragon was a Salamander lord, ancestor of my ex. The knight was St. George, whose shield my companion Gordi now bears. And even though Roxie was the one who wanted to be a faerie princess, it's me who's descended from Lady Una. Which makes me...

Rough full-body sketch of Una, with a crown and wings like Roxie's Faerie doll.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

...a faerie princess. Ew.

The image is hastily erased.

Another page: Roxie in chains, surrounded by Fae guards.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

If only I'd known that stuff was history...maybe I'd be reading to Roxie right now. I think that's the first thing I'll do when I find her: read her a book. But it sure as hell won't be about Faeries.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**EXT. WOODS - DAY**

Miranda trips on the uneven ground - Sully pulls her up roughly by her rope hand binding, forcing her to come along with him. She struggles, but in vain.

SULLY SLICE
Hey, you better behave! I'm taking you home to meet Mother, and I hope for *your* sake she likes you.

Miranda's eyes widen.

MIRANDA
That crazy witch?! She'll kill me!

Sully kicks her, causing her to cry out.

SULLY SLICE
Shut yer mouth!

MIRANDA
What do I care? I'm dead anyway!
(yells into the forest)
HELP!!! SOMEBODY HELP ME!!!

MEANWHILE

In another part of the forest, Jaron is speaking to several attractive Undine girls.

JARON
And that's how I saved the town.

UNDINE GIRL 1
Wow...Jaron, you're a hero!

Jaron sighs.

JARON
Yes, I suppose so.
(fingers necklace)
But I didn't save the totally bodacious - I mean, *beautiful*, chick who gave me this.

UNDINE GIRL 2
Did she die in the tsunami?

JARON

Yeah. It was one epic wave, and I surfed it all the way to her house...but I was too late. As she lay dying in my arms, she told me to wear this, to remember her.

UNDINES

(in unison)

Awww...

One of the Undine girls rests her head on his shoulder.

UNDINE GIRL 1

Will you ever fall in love again?

JARON

I dunno...but I promised myself no babe would ever die on my watch again. So if you ladies ever need rescuing, I will totally save you.

Jaron kisses her hand, causing her to giggle. Suddenly, Miranda's SCREAM reaches them.

JARON (CONT'D)

Whoa. That's creepy...

(to the girls)

Please excuse me, ladies.

Jaron picks up his bident, and heads toward the sound.

He finds Miranda, getting knocked around by Sully.

She gets punched again, and stumbles back, right into Jaron.

JARON (CONT'D)

Hi.

Jaron uses the bident to cut the ropes binding her hands.

JARON (CONT'D)

Go! I'll take care of this.

Miranda smiles, nodding, and makes a run for it.

SULLY SLICE

You stay *outta* this, Sardine, if you know what's good for ya!

JARON

Ran out of human girls to pick on,
eh Sully? Wonder how Axel will
excuse you this time.

SULLY SLICE

I don't think he will - he's too
busy being dead.

Sully chuckles - Jaron stiffens, shocked. He grits his teeth,
and raises his bident.

JARON

...Then there's no one to stop me
from killing you.

EXT. MAKESHIFT CAMP - TOWN - DAY

Gordi is trying to evade Sonny Stab's attacks.

He manages to block, twist and kick martial-arts style, but
Sonny is determined and Gordi is getting nowhere.

Gordi goes on the retreat, searching for something to use to
his advantage.

Sonny follows, grinning - pursuit of prey appeals to his
predatory animal nature, so he's only getting more revved up.

Sonny turns a corner, and doesn't see Gordi.

Gordi comes up from behind a trash can, throws it at him to
knock Sonny off balance. But it doesn't work - Sonny is ready
and jumps over it, coming at Gordi with a series of strikes.

Gordi flips away, and when he comes back up, Sonny is gone.

Gordi scans around, and Sonny comes up behind him, taking the
chain between his weapons and choking Gordi with it.

SONNY STAB

Silly human...tricks are for Fae.

INT. CAR - TOWN - DAY

Emerson is driving, Darcy is in the passenger seat.

DARCY

Turn left at the next exit.

EMERSON

Where are we going?

DARCY
I've completed my mission, and must
report to Axel.

EMERSON
Axel? But he's...a Fae.

DARCY
Yes.

Darcy doesn't elaborate, shifting uncomfortably. He shrugs.

EMERSON
So where'd you dig up the shield?

DARCY
I inherited it.

EMERSON
Ah. Somebody in your family was a
collector?

DARCY
All of my family were collectors.
But the shield is from a friend.

EMERSON
A friend died and left it to you?

DARCY
I took it from a friend who is
going to die.

EMERSON
...Nice. I'm guessing the shield is
for protection?

Darcy looks away.

DARCY
No. It's proof that I've completed
my part of the deal.

Silence. Until--

DARCY (CONT'D)
Hey, STOP!!

Emerson slams on the brakes. They see--

AXEL

Off the side of the road, on the ground, inspecting his bleeding wounds.

He places a trembling hand over it, and releases a bit of fire in an attempt to cauterize the wound. He cries out, and flattens against the ground, his body seized with pain.

INSIDE THE CAR

Darcy smiles, and pulls her knife from its sheathe.

DARCY (CONT'D)

Stay here.

Darcy unlocks the door, but Emerson grabs her wrist.

EMERSON

What're you doing?

DARCY

I'm gonna go kill him.

(struggles)

Let go-

EMERSON

He's wounded.

DARCY

Yeah, I see that - it's why I think I can take him.

EMERSON

We should help him out, not put him down.

DARCY

Help him? Are you nuts?

EMERSON

Well, you screwed over a human to get that shield. Seems like a waste to switch gears now.

Darcy pales.

DARCY

...If I kill that jerk, I'm free. No human will ever have to be his pawn again.

EMERSON

He's dying anyway, from what I can tell. Question is, are you sure your friend has to die?

Darcy thinks about that.

DARCY

Alright. Turn around.

Emerson does just that.

OUTSIDE

Axel doesn't notice the car speeding away - he's realizing that there is still blood seeping out from behind him. He twists to see his back - the claw went right through him.

Axel falls back to the ground, exhausted.

Miranda, running from Sully, comes upon Axel.

He closes his eyes and turns away, resigned to his fate.

She bites her lip... then sighs, and runs to his side.

MIRANDA

Okay, just so you know - this doesn't mean I forgive you.

Miranda places her hands over him. Her eyes and hands glow yellow, the light overtaking our vision...

EXT. NEAR MAKESHIFT CAMP - DAY

Gordi is turning blue, clawing at the chain pulled tightly around his throat.

Gordi stumbles backward, purposely forcing Sonny backward. He keeps going til Sonny's back hits a wall - that's when Gordi has his chance. He pulls down, and throws Sonny over himself.

Sonny lands on his feet, not all fazed - he prepares to drive the daggers into Gordi.

Gordi ducks and rolls, letting Sonny's daggers hit the wall. Sonny recovers though, and just as Gordi regains his footing Sonny kicks him and knocks him down. Sonny raises his dagger, bringing it down to deliver the killing blow--

--but the Redcrosse shield appears in his face, causing Sonny to gasp and stumble back.

Gordi is amazed to see Darcy in front of him, wielding the shield. Darcy turns over her shoulder to look at him.

DARCY
Sorry I'm late.

Sonny chucks a piece of trash at Darcy, forcing her to raise the shield again. Meanwhile, Sonny sidesteps her, trying to get at Gordi.

Gordi picks up a broken iron pipe on the ground, and swings it hard at Sonny's leg. He takes out Sonny's kneecap - Sonny screams, holding his leg.

Darcy slams the edge of the shield into Sonny's throat.

Gordi swings the pipe, ready to bash Sonny's skull in - but instead, it is caught by Emerson.

Emerson cries out, and Gordi steps back in surprise. Emerson cradles his hand, wincing as if he was burned.

DARCY (CONT'D)
Emerson, I swear! He's *psychotic*!
He wants to *kill us all*!

EMERSON
He is still my brother.

They all realize that Sonny is gone.

DARCY
Great. I hope you're happy, cuz
from now on we're all gonna have to
sleep with one eye open...

Gordi stares at Emerson, then at Darcy.

GORDI
...I'm not sure which of my
questions to ask first.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Jaron and Sully's fight is paused when they see the bright yellow flash of light. Sully runs toward it, and Jaron follows him.

Sully keeps going until he sees--

Miranda, crouched over an unconscious Axel. Her body is covered in leaves - she stands up, slowly, and turns around.

SULLY SLICE

What the...?!

Her eyes are glowing yellow, and so is her body. Her face and the rest of her has strange, tree-like brown markings.

SULLY SLICE (CONT'D)

Oh you wanna play now, do you
Eldritch...

Sully charges forward, claw upraised.

Axel tries to get in front of Miranda to blast them with fire, but Miranda pushes him aside easily, with one hand.

Jaron runs forward with his bident, trying to stop Sully.

Miranda calmly walks forward, her expression alien and unreadable.

The claw comes toward her...she raises a hand...

LIGHT BLASTS ACROSS THE SCREEN, WITH A LOUD EXPLOSION SOUND.

Sully screams, but the sound is cut short.

Jaron shields his eyes - when he opens them again, he sees nothing but a wisp of smoke where Sully once was.

Miranda's glow fades, like a dying ember. She weaves, dizzy.

Jaron rushes forward, and catches her.

The Undine girls catch up to Jaron, panting.

UNDINE GIRL 1

Who is she?

Jaron turns toward them.

JARON

I think its...her.

He looks at Miranda's unconscious face.

JARON (CONT'D)

The Faerie Queene...

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE

"WOUNDS"

TEASER**EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL**

The Otherworld CASTLE ELDRITCH, lit with sunshine, surrounded by greenery. But then the sky grows dark, and Castle Eldritch goes up in flames.

MIRANDA (V.O.)
As Europe fell into the Dark Ages,
so did the Otherworld.

Another page: an army of Salamanders, weapons drawn, march on Castle Eldritch, as Una flies away from its destruction.

MIRANDA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Blaming House Eldritch, Salamanders
besieged the castle and captured
the royal family - except for Una,
who escaped. Una needed a champion.

Another page: a human delivers a fatal strike to a dragon.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
Before the fall of Atlantis, the
human Sigurd killed the powerful
Salamander, Fafnir.

Sigurd burns his finger, sticks it in his mouth, and passes unharmed through the fire surrounding Fafnir.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
The blood burned his finger, which
he stuck in his mouth: afterward,
he spoke Fae and was slightly flame-
retardant. His kids were the same.

Another page: 3 figures appear: a woman rising out of a lake; a woman with a boiling cauldron; and a hooded, bearded man with a staff and a bird perched on his shoulder.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
Vivien the Undine, Morgan the
turncoat Salamander, & Merlin the
Sylph, tracked down Sigurd's heir-

Another page: a Sean Connery-type king.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

-the old, childless Uther
Pendragon. So they got him laid,
with his best friend's wife.

Uther talks with his friend, who exits. Merlin casts a spell to make Uther look like him. Friend's wife enters, thinks Uther is her husband, and embraces him.

Another page: Arthur drawing the sword from the stone, with Merlin, Vivien and Morgan watching.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

This created Arthur, who proved he was the Chosen One by pulling Sigurd's sword out of a rock. But Arthur refused the mission - he wanted Merlin to help him build a 'human Atlantis', Camelot, instead.

Merlin walks away with Arthur. Angry, Vivien and Morgan pour drops from a flower into a bubbly potion.

Another page: Merlin steps out of a portal with Vivien, finds himself in a tree hollow - Una magically seals the opening.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Vivien lured Merlin back to the Otherworld, and away from Arthur.

Another page: Arthur on his throne, a grown man. Morgan shows up with sullen young goth-emo, MORDRED, to present to Arthur.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Morgan seduced Arthur to conceive Mordred...the scourge of Camelot.

Another page: young George trains with Vivien and Morgan.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Meanwhile, Igerna had another son with Uther, named George. George became their 'plan B'...

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**EXT. BEACH TENT - DAY**

Miranda stirs on a turquoise pillow, wind blowing across her eldritch-marked face and pointed ears, the SOUND of waves in the distance. With a groan she sits up, rubbing her bleary eyes - Jaron is sitting nearby. He grins.

MIRANDA

...Jaron! What...what happened?

JARON

Well, first you went all leaf-covered Terminator...

She looks down at her leaf-kini, drawing the blanket closer.

JARON (CONT'D)

...and then you let out this sweet energy blast-

MIRANDA

I *what*?

JARON

Yeah! Sully was like 'you wanna play?' And you were like 'talk to the hand!' Then, KA-BOOM!

MIRANDA

Oh my god. Where is he?

JARON

Uh, nowhere. You nuked him right out of *existence*.

Miranda stares at the ground.

MIRANDA

I should've never used my powers...

JARON

Hey, what're you talking about? You did awesome. There's no way *any* of us could've defeated him so quick.

MIRANDA

...Thank you for saving me.

She gets up and walks out of the tent. Jaron follows her.

JARON

Yo, wait up!

She wades into the surf, hugging herself, staring out to sea.
 Jaron is joined by a couple of the Undines.

UNDINE GIRL
 What's wrong with her?

JARON
 Ah, I think she's just kinda
 psyched out - she's never gone into
 a full-on power rush before.

UNDINE GIRL
 Jaron....what're we gonna do if
 Axel comes lookin' for her?

JARON
 ...I dunno.

EXT. MAKESHIFT CAMP - TOWN - DAY

Darcy offers a beat-up Gordi a bottle of water. He glares at her. She withdraws it, and anxiously sits down next to him.

GORDI
 Why did you do it?

DARCY
 Axel swore to give me immunity from
 the Fae.

GORDI
 Sorry to ruin your plan.

DARCY
 No, it's over. Axel's dead.

Gordi looks at her.

DARCY (CONT'D)
 I didn't do it. Somebody else got
 there first.

GORDI
 And Miranda?

DARCY
 Gone.

GORDI
 Hmph, figures. I guess duplicity is
 a universal trait amongst females.

Darcy throws the water bottle at him.

DARCY
Don't you dare say that!

GORDI
(stands up)
Why not?

DARCY
(stands up too)
CUZ I SAVED YOUR LIFE!!

EMERSON
(O.S.)
Hey, could you guys keep it down?
Thanks.

They turn to see Emerson, huddled nearby. There's a metallic clinking sound. Gordi and Darcy walk over to investigate.

GORDI
(quieter)
Yes, you did. But my life was only
in danger because of you. Therefore
I owe you nothing.

DARCY
Maybe I should've let you die.
Since, you know, all guys are
jerks.

EMERSON
I beg your pardon...

Gordi and Darcy stop, and look down: Emerson is pouring bottled water over a pile of shiny objects and scrubbing at a necklace with a handkerchief.

DARCY
What's that?

Emerson drops the necklace, and pushes his loot into his bag.

EMERSON
N-Nothing!

Darcy crouches down.

DARCY
I didn't know you were into bling.

Darcy reaches out for a bracelet.

GORDI
Darcy, don't-

Emerson snatches it out of her hand.

EMERSON
MINE! MINE MINE MINE!!!

Darcy stares dumbly, as he cradles the bracelet against his chest. After a moment, Emerson relaxes and hands it back.

EMERSON (CONT'D)
Sorry. Here, you can have it. It's not like I wear it or anything.

DARCY
Then why collect it?

GORDI
He's a Gnome. Naturally greedy.

DARCY
But some of this stuff is *plastic*.

EMERSON
It's *shiny*. We like shiny things. I dunno why.

DARCY
...I'll keep that in mind.

Emerson is still eyeing the bracelet. She hands it back.

GORDI
Emerson, I do not understand why you intervened, but thank you.

EMERSON
No problem. It was the right thing to do.
(Off Gordi's puzzlement)
Not all of us are jerks. Hell, our princess threw away her cushy life, cuz she was disgusted by the way humans were being treated-

GORDI
Princess?

EMERSON
Miranda, Axel's runaway betrothed.

GORDI

You are mistaken - I caught her
with him the other night.

EMERSON

Doesn't sound right. The breakup
was a PR disaster - that's why he's
been chasing her. If they were back
together, I would've heard.

Gordi shoots a questioning look at Darcy.

DARCY

Um, yeah. That was an illusion.

GORDI

Tell me everything. Now.

DARCY

...Axel wanted to get you away from
Miranda. With that iron shield, he
couldn't touch her. But Gordi-

Gordi turns around, walking off.

DARCY (CONT'D)

Hey, wait! Where are you going?!

GORDI

To find Miranda.

Darcy pulls him back.

DARCY

YOU DON'T GET IT! *She* let them
invade! *She* destroyed our
protection against Fae magic! IT'S
HER FAULT OUR FAMILIES ARE DEAD...!

Darcy spins around, covering her face. Gordi is bewildered.

Emerson reaches out to her, but Darcy pushes his hand aside.

GORDI

(walks closer)

I am sorry about your parents.

Darcy turns around slowly, composing herself. She shrugs.

DARCY

People die. No use dwelling on it.
(guys exchange looks)
But, I shouldn't assume yours are-

GORDI

I do not know what to believe. That is why I must speak with her.

DARCY

I get it - I've got a few questions to ask myself. Let's get going-

EMERSON

I...don't think that's a good idea.
(she glares)
Sorry.

GORDI

Agreed. Darcy, we will meet again.

He turns, her arms come around him. He instinctively tenses.

DARCY

Don't. You're all I've got.

Off Gordi, conflicted.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Miranda plays a beach-ball game with the Undines. The ball goes into the water, and the Undines go after it. Breathless, Miranda sits down on the sand. Jaron joins her.

JARON

You look beat.

MIRANDA

Yeah, I think the blast knocked a good year off my life.

JARON

Oh man...sorry. I forgot that your magic used up life-force. Is that why you won't fight Axel?

MIRANDA

Why would I fight Axel?

JARON

No reason, 'cept he's a usurper and you're the Faerie Queen...

MIRANDA

Axel can have the throne. I just want my sister back.

JARON

Like it or not it's *your* turf. And
Axel's not the guy to leave it to.

MIRANDA

I kicked off a genocidal invasion.

JARON

As if! Axel's idea. His foul.

MIRANDA

I killed a man.

JARON

Nobody's cryin' about that.

MIRANDA

...On *auto-pilot*.

JARON

On *instinct*.

MIRANDA

Point is I can't even control
myself, much less anybody else.

JARON

(nods at Undines)

You think I *control* these guys?
Nah. They follow me, cuz I've got
passion and guts. And so do you.

EXT. CLAIR'S FOREST SHELTER - DAY

Clair picks up a teapot and a cup, in her shelter.

CLAIR

I found blood all over your shirt,
but there was no wound.

She crosses to Axel, lying in a hammock. She places the pot
on his hand. It boils and whistles within seconds.

CLAIR (CONT'D)

You'll be able to walk out of here
within the hour.

AXEL

So eager to be rid of me?

Clair pours a cup of tea and hands it to Axel, and then
another for herself.

CLAIR

I apologize if it seems that way. Salamanders have burned our homes so many times that I think the wariness is encoded in our DNA.

AXEL

Ah. But you brought me here, that's encouraging.

CLAIR

You're the prince. It's my duty.

AXEL

Duty. I wonder if that's why she did it.

CLAIR

Who?

AXEL

Miranda. She healed me, at great cost to her own life.

CLAIR

No, she abandoned her duty. If I had to guess, I'd say it was love.

AXEL

(sighs)

And I still love her. If only I hadn't made such a mess of this re-integration process...

CLAIR

Why don't you talk to her?

AXEL

It's too late. She's attached to my Fetch now, simply because he looks like me, but *isn't* me. And Clair, he's horrible. Like a rabid animal.

CLAIR

Hm. I might have a way to help.

She finds a box, and opens it to reveal a strange FLOWER.

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE

"SNARE"

TEASER

EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL

A school stage production: a kid playing Demetrius pretends to be angry, so young Miranda (as Helena) pretends to cry.

MIRANDA

(V.O.)

I don't remember who I was forced to be in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream': Will Shakespeare gave both girls names that start with 'H'. But here's the gist of the story:

Frowning 'Oberon' appears, points: 'Puck', flower in hand, runs at Demetrius.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Fae king Oberon sees a guy being a jerk to a girl. So he sends his minion, Puck, with a love-drug.

As Puck reaches him, Demetrius is replaced by 'Lysander', who falls asleep. Puck drops the flower on his face.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Puck doses the wrong guy, and the soap opera unfolds. But this is what *actually* happened:

Another page: sketches of pointy-eared, vine-covered TITANIA, and feather-headed, winged OBERON wearing a crown.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Titania was an Eldritch princess. Oberon was King of Sylph, the ruling house at the time.

Another page: a scepter washing up on a beach.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Lilith's scepter washed up on a Mediterranean shore, during an ancient Greek beach party.

4 teens in togas play - 1 girl picks up the scepter.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

One of them picked it up, and they
got swept away to the Otherworld.

Another page: up in a tree, Oberon sees the 4 teens sleeping,
the scepter beside them. He swipes the scepter and hides.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Oberon stole it from them while
they slept. They woke up, and the
guy berated the girl for losing the
scepter. Oberon felt guilty.

Another page: Fae surround the scepter on a stone table.
Titania picks up the scepter, it flashes - a flower appears
on the table. Meanwhile Oberon muses, jealous and scheming.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Only Titania proved capable of
wielding the scepter, creating
'Love-in-Idleness', a flower with
love-inducing juices. But Oberon
wanted to control her power.

Another page: Oberon drop flower juice on sleeping Titania.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

So he stole the flower juice and
tried to drug Titania. But...

A donkey-headed guy appears - she wakes up and sees him.
Hearts dance around her head. Oberon hands her the scepter.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

She got the hots for a jester in a
donkey-head. Feeling like an ass,
Oberon surrendered the scepter.

Another page: Titania on the throne as Faerie queen.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

As Oberon feared, the Sylphs were
deposed in favor of the newly-
powerful House Eldritch.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**EXT. FOREST - DAY**

Emerson walks, sniffing the air, until he comes upon...a blood stain. Darcy crouches down, with Gordi behind her.

DARCY

They must've collected Axel's body.
I was hoping he'd be left to rot.

Emerson keeps sniffing. He spots Sully's claw and helmet on the ground. He picks them up.

GORDI

That was careless of your brother
to drop his equipment.

EMERSON

He didn't... its weird, his trail
stops cold, right here.

DARCY

We're *trying* to track *Miranda*.

EMERSON

Hm? Oh, yeah, I smell her...along
with another scent. Undine.

Emerson stands still, his eyes closed. Gordi and Darcy watch.

DARCY

What is he doing, meditating?

GORDI

He is sensing earth vibrations.

EMERSON

(opens eyes)
They're headed for the Sylph camp.
If we keep going this way, we'll
run right into them.

DARCY

Great. Why can't we just rescue the
humans from the mines like we
originally planned...

GORDI

We will. Miranda might help.

DARCY

Maybe this Undine's transporting
her to the Sylphs as a prisoner.

EMERSON
That's what I'm thinking.

GORDI
But we are humans, and you will not
fight.

Darcy looks Emerson up and down, musing.

DARCY
Maybe we don't have to.

LATER

Miranda, in gold armor, her face still tattooed, follows
Jaron. They halt, seeing:

Gordi and Darcy, tied together with rope. Emerson paces
around them, wearing the miner's helmet, the claw, and
wielding the hatchet.

EMERSON
You human filth! Not another
squeak, or I'll...well, I'll give
you something to squeak about!

JARON
Emerson?!

Emerson looks up, looking surprised.

JARON (CONT'D)
Yo, what gives? I thought you were
all non-violent and stuff, man.

EMERSON
Times have changed! I'm turning in
these prisoners for the bounty.
I'll split you right down the
middle - 50/50!

Jaron looks alarmed, then threatens with his bident.

JARON
I'd like to see you try, Redcap!
Bring it!

Miranda steps out in front of him, gesturing for him to stop.

MIRANDA
We will not help you. We are on a
peace mission to see Lady Clair.

Off Gordi, Darcy and Emerson's shocked reactions.

GORDI, DARCY & EMERSON
Miranda?!

Emerson raises his hands in surrender.

EMERSON
Oh. Uh...listen, we thought-

Emerson is cut off by Jaron, who charges with his bident, yelling. Emerson is forced to defend himself.

Miranda runs and tears the rope off of Gordi and Darcy.

MIRANDA
Hope this makes up for not telling
you the truth earlier...

GORDI
No, Miranda - we thought you needed
to be rescued!

DARCY
Emerson's alright! He's with us!

Jaron looks up - he has Emerson pinned to the ground, flailing, the bident prongs on either side of his neck.

JARON
Huh...?

Miranda looks at Gordi. He smiles. Relieved, she smiles back.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The 4 of them sit around the campfire. Jaron is laughing.

EMERSON
...it was Darcy's idea.

MIRANDA
I think it's great you aren't like
your brothers - I never thought a
Gnome prince ^(MORE) would be on our side.

JARON
(pats Emerson on the back)
Yeah, its cool man.

DARCY
We'll make sure you're more
prepared next time.

DARCY (CONT'D)

(to Miranda)

So you said you were going to see somebody named Clair? Who's that?

MIRANDA

Princess of the Sylphs. According to Jaron, there might be some who will support me as Faerie Queen.

GORDI

You want to seize power?

MIRANDA

Well...no, that's not really it...

GORDI

I should have known.

DARCY

Yeah, she really cares about the imprisoned humans - she needs them for *cannon-fodder*.

JARON

Yo time out, you're way outta line!

DARCY

Oh my, we failed to show proper respect to the 'Faerie Queen'...

Darcy makes a fake bow, laughing. Miranda stands up.

MIRANDA

You know what? I've been beating myself up, thinking there was no way I could fix what I did. But if there are dissidents to Axel's rule-

DARCY

Axel? Why are we still talking about him, he's dead!

(off Miranda, nervous)

He IS dead, isn't he?

MIRANDA

No, I um... healed him.

Gordi's eyes widen. Darcy stands up.

DARCY

YOU WHAT??!!

Darcy tackles her. They exchange blows, the fight carrying them away from the campfire. The 3 guys are shocked for a moment, then go to stop them.

DARCY (CONT'D)

I'm so sick of your crap! It was over, and then YOU heal him!

MIRANDA

I couldn't just let him die!

DARCY

Why not? Cuz you *love* him? Of course, that's why you helped them invade!

Miranda pins her down.

DARCY (CONT'D)

I wish I had your power, that night I found my parents, covered in blood...they didn't stand a chance after you broke the barrier...

Darcy laughs until it becomes a sob.

MIRANDA

Oh god. Darcy, I can't imagine-

Darcy covertly draws her knife.

DARCY

Don't worry...I'll show you.

Darcy pushes her away and slashes Miranda's cheek. Miranda's eyes glow.

JARON

No! Miranda, get a grip!!

Miranda raises her hand at Darcy, who charges forward madly.

Gordi pushes Darcy out of the way, and stands in the middle of Miranda's aim....

The split second seems to last forever, as Miranda fights it. Finally, she lowers her hand, collapsing to the ground.

Gordi grabs Miranda, as Jaron and Emerson grab Darcy, flailing and snarling like a wild animal.

CUT TO:

Darcy sits in between Jaron and Emerson. She glowers at Miranda and Gordi, reclining on the other side of the dying campfire. She gets up.

DARCY

Need to get some air. I'll be back.

EMERSON

You sure that's safe?
 (she shoots him a look)
 ...Okay. Be careful.

Gordi turns to Miranda.

GORDI

Why did you destroy the barrier?

MIRANDA

The Fae were trapped in their prison, we were trapped in ours. It seemed like the right thing to do.

GORDI

I see. And then it went wrong.

MIRANDA

Yeah. Axel was the first person I met who was like me...but not as much as I thought. He still remembered the Otherworld, his Fae parents...and grew up living a lie.

GORDI

And he was lying to you.

MIRANDA

I dunno. I don't think Axel can discern fantasy from reality.

GORDI

I cannot say it is what I would have done, or that I approve, but I understand why you healed him.

MIRANDA

...Thank you.

Miranda lays back and closes her eyes. Gordi does too, The SOUND of FLUTTERING WINGS. Gordi hears it, opens his eyes to find Miranda gone. He looks and sees:

Miranda, restrained by several Sylphs as Clair waves her to sleep. The Sylphs carry her off. Clair loads her slingshot with a 'Love-in-Idleness' blossom, and fires it at Gordi.

Gordi rolls and evades it...but the blossom showers droplets on sleeping Jaron and Emerson. Gordi runs at Clair.

Clair smirks, and disappears silently into the night.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Darcy returns to camp, with a bag of food. Emerson has his loot pile out, staring at his reflection in a jewel. Jaron's fast asleep. Darcy kicks Jaron - he groans, sitting up.

DARCY

Hey, slackers! Get your grub!

Darcy's image is blurry to him at first, then becomes clearer. The sunlight is illuminating her in a soft glow.

JARON

Wow...

Darcy scowls as Jaron rises, smiling at her dreamily.

JARON (CONT'D)

You are outrageously awesome!

Jaron tries to hug her, but Darcy avoids him.

DARCY

Tch! Don't be a smartass.

Jaron chuckles. Darcy empties the bag. Emerson is still looking at his reflection in the jewel.

EMERSON

You know, I just realized: I am a *stunningly* handsome man!

DARCY

Yeah yeah...

EMERSON

I'm serious! Look at this strapping physique! I'm smart, charming... where have I been all my life?!

He kisses the jewel, then wipes it off to see his reflection.

JARON

Phff! Whatevs, the hottest, most
kick-ass chick ever is right here.

He takes her hand - she yanks it away before he can kiss it.

JARON (CONT'D)

Aw doink, what was I thinking...

DARCY

I dunno, but-

JARON

...I'm not worthy yet! I'll prove
it to you, I am so totally yours!

She looks at Jaron and Emerson.

DARCY

What is *wrong* with you guys?!

EXT. CLAIR'S CAMP - DAY

Miranda is brought before Clair, surrounded by Sylphs. Clair holds a love-in-idleness blossom.

MIRANDA

Lady Clair! What's this about? I
came here in peace, to talk-

CLAIR

No. You came here to cause strife.
To turn me against our ruler.

MIRANDA

I *am* the rightful ruler.

CLAIR

Oh really? Back in the Dark Ages
the Salamanders took the throne
from your house, who, if I remember
correctly, took it from the *Sylphs*-

MIRANDA

Lilith's scepter belongs to me.

CLAIR

Yes. And you belong to Axel.

Clair splashes the flower droplets on Miranda's face - she flinches, squeezing her eyes, then opens them to see Axel.

AXEL

I hate to resort to this, but
you've left me no choice.

MIRANDA

(smiles)

Axel...

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE

"ORICHALCUM"

TEASER**EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL**

George, Una, Dwarf, & Dragon in front of Castle Eldritch.

MIRANDA

(V.O.)

History is different depending on
who's telling the story.

Page burns away. New page: The dragon's attack sends George into a well: he returns good as new. Dragon attacks again, knocking him under a magic tree: George is again refreshed.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

According to the poem, George faced
the dragon and, with the help of a
magic well and tree, was able to
survive and kill the dragon.

George strikes and kills the dragon. The King and Queen come out to see their daughter and the champion, who draw close.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

George rescued the parents, and
married Una. But Spenser's 'happy
ending' isn't accurate.

The page burns again, to transition to another page: George & Una see in horror that the Salamander Lord is standing above the King and Queen, who are dead.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Arriving at the usurped castle,
they found Una's parents murdered.

George duels and defeats the Salamander Lord.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

George killed the Salamander Lord.
But the Salamanders retaliated.

Una & George ride together. The Salamanders mob them.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

They killed Una, taking the scepter
and the throne.

George cradles dying Una, who disappears from his arms.
Grieving George is joined by a human woman and kids.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Though clinically depressed for the
remainder of his life, George
settled down in the human realm.

In the background are the Salamanders, around the Otherworld
throne, with the scepter in the Salamander ruler's hand.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Salamanders ruled the Otherworld.
But they feared George's bloodline.

Young Gordi, playing outside, is snatched by a Salamander.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

They captured George's descendant
and magical heir, making him a pawn
soldier and gladiator.

Older slave Gordi fights an opponent, as Salamanders watch.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

Til one night, the portal opened.

Another page: the Fae file into a portal, including the 2
guards of a door. Gordi slips inside. He comes back out with
the Redcrosse shield, and jumps into the portal.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

During the chaos, the boy grabbed
his ancestor's shield, and jumped
into the glowing light. That boy
was Gordi.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**EXT. FOREST - DAY**

Gordi stalks through the underbrush, sees Miranda sitting alone, until Clair comes by with a teacup and offers it to Miranda. Gordi follows Clair, shield and pipe ready.

Clair smiles, and turns to face Gordi.

CLAIR

Hello, human.

A Sylph appears behind him raising a stick, ready to strike.

He senses it, turns around to block...but the Sylph is gone. FLUTTER, one of them kicks him in the gut. FLUTTER, a slap, Gordi swings the pipe wildly, unable to hit anything.

Clair's laugh is joined by others, echoing through the trees.

GORDI

(to Clair)

You think this is funny?! Enough games, faerie woman!

CLAIR

(raises loaded slingshot)

Oh, we haven't even *begun* to play games yet.

She fires the slingshot at him - he dodges at the last moment, closes the distance...but his pipe hits nothing.

Meanwhile, Clair appears behind him, and fires a shot - Gordi yells as his rear end gets hit. Clair giggles, readies another shot. Gordi runs for camp.

GORDI

Miranda!! Can you hear me?!

Gordi finds where Miranda is sitting. Miranda stands up. Suddenly, they are surrounded by Sylphs.

GORDI (CONT'D)

Damn it! Hurry - use your power!

MIRANDA

No.

Gordi stares at her, astounded.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

I'm not going anywhere. And neither are you.

Clair steps out past the circle of Sylphs, with Axel.

AXEL

It's over, Fetch.

GORDI

You! What did you do to her?!

Axel puts his arm around Miranda, who gazes at him adoringly.

AXEL

I found a way to turn the clock back to a happier time.

GORDI

Whatever you did, it is unnatural!

AXEL

For now. It's only a temporary solution, til I can get things sorted out.

Axel hands Miranda the scepter.

AXEL (CONT'D)

Babe, can you do something for me?

MIRANDA

For you? Anything.

AXEL

Let's say goodbye to the human.

They all step back, revealing a toadstool ring around Gordi. Miranda raises the scepter, and the toadstool ring glows. Gordi tries to run out of the circle, but an invisible forcefield stops him. The Fae smile and disappear.

MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST

Jaron looks pale.

JARON

Darcy, you rocked my world. There's no way I can keep cruisin' without ya. Please let the fish go already.

Darcy impales a fish on her knife. Jaron flinches.

DARCY

You see?! Now I'm going to eat it.
Some dream girl, huh?

JARON

You're way too hot to be so cold...

Jaron runs forward to embrace her - Darcy screams in frustration and runs off. He chases her, until she sees Gordi in the circle and stops short - Jaron bumps into her.

DARCY

Gordi's in trouble! Pull him out!

JARON

No problemo! Your man is on it!

Jaron runs forward and reaches the blunt end of the bident toward Gordi, and Gordi grabs it, as light FLASHES.

When the light is clear, Gordi is gone. Satisfied, the Fae leave to return to camp. But Jaron, Darcy and Gordi watch from behind a tree.

JARON (CONT'D)

Whoa dude, that was close! In like another second, you would've gone "beam-me-up-Scotty", right back to the Otherworld!

GORDI

Thank you.

JARON

Don't mention it. I don't get a chance to use this sweet Orichalcum weapon very often.

(to Darcy)

Besides, I'll never pass up a chance to impress my girl.

Darcy rolls her eyes.

DARCY

He's been like that all morning.
Both of them are acting weird.

GORDI

Its Love-in-Idleness. A drug.
Miranda was as well - she thinks she is in love with Axel.

Darcy pushes at Jaron, who is getting too close.

DARCY

Great. Is there an antidote?

GORDI

I do not know. But if you help me,
we may use it to our advantage.

A Sylph passes by their hideout tree, on patrol. Suddenly, her arm is grabbed and she is pulled behind the tree.

Gordi holds his shield over the now trussed-up Sylph. He looks at Darcy, who is now dressed in the Sylph's clothes.

EXT. CLAIR'S SHELTER - FOREST - DAY

Darcy makes her way toward the camp, but finds her way blocked by the Sylphs dancing. Clair watches, her COURTIERs standing resolute beside her. Axel and Miranda slow-dance, ballroom-style, in the center of the ring.

Darcy bites her lip and slips into the dance, trying to mimic the moves. She keeps a careful eye on Clair and her hawk-eyed courtiers.

A Sylph approaches Clair to say something, but they indignantly shoo her away. She has to start at the end of the line of courtiers, who pass her message on to the princess.

Darcy is nervous, but the ring brings her closer to the shelter, and she slips away again.

Clair whips her head sharply to attention again, looking at the Sylph dancers. She narrows her eyes, suspicious.

EXT. CLAIR'S SHELTER - FOREST - DAY

Darcy searches quietly, and finds the little box. She opens it, and sees the flower. Darcy smirks and mimics the item discovery sound from 'Zelda'. She pockets the box.

She hears footsteps coming close. Not knowing where to hide, she picks up a feather duster and acts like she's cleaning.

Its Axel and Miranda, whispering and giggling like they're back in the good-ole-times.

They disappear behind a partition, not noticing Darcy. Suddenly, Axel's clothes are thrown over the partition. Darcy opens her mouth, aghast, then muses over the clothes.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Clair and her council are sitting cross-legged in a circle on the ground. A clothed Axel sits down in the circle.

CLAIR

Good, you are here - we were growing anxious to begin discussion. Where is Miranda?

AXEL

Sleeping. Clair, I must speak with you alone.

The courtiers exchange glances, but Clair raises an eyebrow at them in warning.

CLAIR

Of course, Highness.

Clair rises, and goes with Axel.

AXEL

Something strange has happened.

CLAIR

When does it not? Tell me.

AXEL

I thought I would be happy if I could get Miranda to love me again. But instead, it has made me realize my feelings for someone else.

CLAIR

Who?

Axel just stares at her.

Clair's eyes well up with tears.

CLAIR (CONT'D)

Axel...I...

Axel wipes away the tears, from both of her eyes. The look in Clair's eyes change - they get distant, dreamy.

AXEL

There is an imposter with Miranda right now. The human.

Clair's eyes flash. She turns and SCREECHES a call to her comrades. Meanwhile, Axel - or, rather, Gordi in disguise - slips the flower back into his pocket and wipes his fingers.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The real Axel emerges with Miranda from the shelter. He's dressed in a towel.

MIRANDA
Hey, has anyone seen Axel's
clothes...?

The Sylphs surround them, including a narrow-eyed Clair.

CLAIR
You stupid hussy! Can't you
recognize your own lover?!

Gordi (as Axel) steps forward.

GORDI
Miranda, he is an imposter.

Miranda blinks, confused.

MIRANDA
No, you're not...you're not him...

Miranda shrinks against Axel. Axel smirks.

AXEL
Miranda does know the difference.
(holds up dragon necklace)
See this? I never take it off.

The Sylphs look at Gordi, and realize he is not wearing the necklace. The Sylphs grab Gordi, making Clair gasp.

One of the Sylphs pulls away those who have a hold of Gordi - it's Darcy. She gives him the shield.

The Sylphs attack Darcy, but Jaron comes through with a yell and a swing of his bident to protect Darcy.

Emerson comes charging through with his claw and axe, fighting off the Sylphs. He smiles.

EMERSON
Hey, that was cool!
(another attack)
That was too!

Gordi runs and grabs Miranda away from Axel. Axel roars and blasts at him with fire, but his blast is knocked off-course by a gust of wind. He turns, and sees:

Clair, hand outstretched toward him.

AXEL

Clair, don't! He's tricked you!

Miranda's eyes glow, and she raises the scepter aloft.

Clair fires the slingshot at her hand, forcing Miranda to drop it. Gordi wraps his shield arm around Miranda, draining her, and pulls her away.

Axel grabs up the scepter, and disappears into flame.

Meanwhile, the Sylphs have got the heroes cornered together.

Clair walks forward, toward Gordi. She places her hand on the shield, yelling with pain. Then, she steps back.

GORDI

What are you doing?!

MIRANDA

Now we're done for...

CLAIR

There, I am cured of the flower's enchantment. Now I can pass my judgement with clear eyes.

Darcy grabs Jaron's hand, pulling it against the shield. He yelps and glares at her - Darcy smiles, sighing with relief.

CLAIR (CONT'D)

I want all of you to stand down.

Shock registers on all faces.

MIRANDA

Why, Clair?

CLAIR

I thought ending this nonsense between you and Axel would bring peace, and establish favor for the Sylph court. But it nearly cost lives, including my own.

(to Gordi)

And you. You tricked me.

GORDI

I am not proud of it.

CLAIR

No silly, I'm impressed! Most humans I've met thus far have been dull and fearful. If humans can be brave and clever like you, perhaps there's hope for your kind.

EXT. MINES - DAY

The Sylphs help Miranda fight the Gnomes, outside the entrance to their MINES.

Darcy leads the dirty, tired, bewildered human prisoners out of the mines, and into the daylight.

Miranda knocks one of the Gnomes unconscious.

ROXIE

(O.S.)

Miranda...?!

Miranda turns, her eyes wide, and sees Roxie. She smiles, runs and throws her arms around her little sister.

The last one to come out of the mines is Gordi, looking lost and forlorn. Darcy approaches him.

DARCY

I'm sorry.

GORDI

At least I know. It is over now.

DARCY

No.

She places an open book into his hands.

DARCY (CONT'D)

This is a book I got from Clair's stash. It's the way to end the war.

The illustration on the book's page depicts the scepter.

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE

"SCEPTER"

TEASER**EXT. MIRANDA'S JOURNAL**

Miranda raising the scepter, hazy figures exiting the portal.

MIRANDA

(V.O.)

My name is Miranda McConnell. I kicked off the apocalypse by letting a horde of magical beings invade. And I'm one of them.

Another page: Miranda surrounded by her friends.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

But I'm cleaning up my mess. I've made allies, human and Fae, who support me in overthrowing the Salamanders and becoming Faerie Queen.

Axel appears behind her, silhouetted against flame.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

But there's major hitch: I'll have to take the throne from my ex-boyfriend. And, truth be told...I still kind of love him.

Another page: she leans on a bathroom sink looking at her gaunt face and sunken eyes in a mirror - the sink falls from the wall, water gushing everywhere.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

I know, sounds like idiotic girl crap. But you weren't there when my un-super powers manifested.

Another page: she punches a bully as a nerdy kid escapes.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(V.O.)

I was stronger, but felt sick.

Another page: students laugh, as she walks away from her desk with a wild, overgrown plant in her arms. The plant withers.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
Plants grew wild around me.

Another page: Dinner - she pushes away a steak on a plate.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
I couldn't eat meat...

Another page: Miranda unconscious beside a wrought-iron gate.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
...or touch iron.

Another page: Miranda and Axel play guitar on the bleachers.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
Then I met one of my kind. Axel.
Our clans were enemies, so he
couldn't take me to the Otherworld.
Yet if I stayed in the human realm,
the iron would kill me.

Another page: Axel searches the lore books of the Otherworld.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
The solution: I would free the Fae.
The Gnomes would cleanse the iron,
by transmuting it into Orichalcum.
We'd rule a Fae utopia on Earth.

Another page: Axel and Miranda as King and Queen.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)
(V.O.)
I didn't know that I was accepting
a 50% share of my own stolen
birthright...and signing the
human's death-warrant.

Another page: At a Fae party, Miranda has the scepter in her hands, as Axel holds her close and whispers in her ear.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**EXT. MINES - NIGHT**

Tied-up Gnomes scowl as the freed human prisoners and rebel Fae eat and frolic. Emerson and Jaron offer them food, but they all turn up their noses or spit in their direction.

The freed humans huddle together, eyeing the Sylphs around them. Among them is a tactical POLICEMAN in SWAT gear.

POLICEMAN

We're surrounded.

Nearby is a family consisting of a COACH FATHER with a baseball bat, 2 TEENAGE GIRLS clutching rackets, and a SOCCER-MOM busy redoing their ponytails.

COACH FATHER

You got a play we can follow?

POLICEMAN

Always.

Soccer-Mom licks her thumb to go after a smudge of dirt on her daughter's face, which produces squeaks of complaint.

SOCCER-MOM

Then how is it you got captured?

POLICEMAN

I didn't know my enemy. Now I've had time to observe their behavior-

Gordi and Darcy sit down next to them to eat. They all REACT.

DARCY

It wouldn't kill you guys to relax.

POLICEMAN

You'd like that, wouldn't you *Fae*?

Darcy jumps up and draws her knife.

DARCY

I. AM NOT. A FAE.

COACH-FATHER

Hold on, time out! We get it!

Gordi puts a hand on her arm, and Darcy sheathes the knife.

GORDI

We are humans, like you.

Gordi looks at the mother and father, hugging their 2 girls. He then turns to see Miranda nearby, playing with Roxie.

Gordi feels hands slide onto his shoulders - he turns to see Clair behind him. She leans her face close.

CLAIR
Gordi, I require your undivided attention for a moment.

GORDI
Certainly. Excuse me.

Gordi gets up. The humans, particularly Darcy, look wary.

Gordi walks with Clair, to her campfire. She sits down.

GORDI (CONT'D)
Yes? What is it?

Clair pulls him down to sit beside her.

CLAIR
I'm cold.

GORDI
I will get you a blanket.

Gordi rises, but Clair pulls him down again.

CLAIR
No need - if you would lie your head in my lap, I'd be quite warm.

GORDI
(jerks away)
Explain yourself.

CLAIR
I could say the same thing! Here I am generously helping your cause, and you treat me like a leper!

GORDI
Your words suggested no such price.

CLAIR
Price? Oh no, if I expected *payment* I'd take your wits, your memories, or your remaining lifespan.

GORDI
I thought the iron cured you of
your love for me.

CLAIR
(leans in)
Oh, it did. But it didn't cure my
pre-existing fondness for the one
you resemble...

Gordi growls and leaves. Clair folds her arms.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Gordi slumps behind a large rock. Miranda peeks around it.

MIRANDA
Are you alright?

GORDI
(startles)
Yes. I am fine.

Miranda sits down beside him.

MIRANDA
I'm sorry we didn't find them.
Maybe they're still-

GORDI
Stop! No more. I cannot...

MIRANDA
I know. You can't keep hoping. It's
the same with me, I have to assume
now that Roxie's all I've got left.

A short silence.

GORDI
Darcy found information regarding
the scepter of Lilith.

MIRANDA
I want nothing to do with it.

GORDI
This war will continue as long as
Axel has it.

MIRANDA

Yes. But I'd rather just destroy it. Cast it into the fires of Mount Doom or something like that.

GORDI

Lilith's soul is inside. That would be akin to murder.

MIRANDA

Yeah...I don't know. I'm happy that I saved Roxie, but this whole Faerie Queene business...I don't know if I'm strong enough.

GORDI

That is what the scepter is for.

MIRANDA

And what about *getting* the scepter?

GORDI

For that you have enough. And you are not alone.

Miranda smiles.

INT. AILLEN'S ROOM - SALAMANDER LAIR - DAY

Aillen clutches the scepter. His other hand is held by Axel.

Aillen lies on his bed, Axel kneeling by his side. Except for the weeping of the Salamander girl trio, it is quiet.

Sonny, his throat and leg bandaged, his breathing raspy, limps behind Axel with a drink in his hand. Axel swats it out of Sonny's hand. Sonny lets out a whimper of surprise.

Groaning, Sonny sops up the red wine with a white cloth. He stares at the stain, then cradles it against his face sadly.

AILLEN

I did not think my body and my dynasty would die on the same day.

AXEL

It won't. I promise you.

Aillen lets out a harsh laugh that turns into a cough.

AILLEN

I would say 'we shall see', but
then, I do not know if an aimless
wisp of soul has the gift of sight.

AXEL

Father-

Aillen turns on his side, and hands him the scepter. He
stares intently into Axel's eyes, and then he sinks against
the bed, his eyes seeing no more.

A blue-green fireball rises from his chest, then disappears.

AXEL (CONT'D)

FATHER!!

Axel stands up. Sonny lays a comforting hand on Axel's
shoulder. Axel turns around and shoves him.

AXEL (CONT'D)

Do not touch me! GET OUT! GET OUT
ALL OF YOU!!

The Salamanders leave. Sonny follows. Axel grabs him. Sonny
flinches, but Axel simply hands him the scepter.

AXEL (CONT'D)

Take this into the chamber.

Sonny nods, and limps off with it.

EXT. DESERT - DAY

The Salamanders lie down outside the lair, stretching out in
the sun. Within moments, they're snoring. Meanwhile, the trio
guards the entrance.

Tanis stands with arms crossed, wearing long gold nail-blades
on her fingers.

Etheline sits on the steps, reading a book while letting
poison drip from her fangs into a thin glass vial. She's got
a bandolier of similar vials strapped across her chest.

Bindi is idly practicing with her whip. She hears the buzzing
of a fly, whips at it, and the buzzing ceases. She raises her
hand toward the sun, and smiles.

BINDI

It's so warm. I could just curl up
and go right to sleep-

TANIS
Don't even think about it.

BINDI
Why not? Can't we take turns?

Etheline tries to talk, but the vial muffles it.

BINDI (CONT'D)
What was that, dear?

ETHELINE
(lifts mouth off vial)
Any true devotee should not sleep
while Axel is in pain.

TANIS
You're one to talk, Etheline.
Distracting yourself with books
when you should be on watch.

ETHELINE
I am doing important research.

TANIS
Oh yeah? On what?

ETHELINE
Human biology. All the ways their
life systems can be terminated.

TANIS
Why? Our ancestors could make
slaves of them with a single bite.

ETHELINE
Don't want human flesh in my mouth.

BINDI
Yeah! Eww!

TANIS
The only one *I* want to terminate is
that Eldritch skank.

BINDI
Tanis! She's a Fae, and Axel's true
love!

ETHELINE
And our rightful Queen.
Unfortunately.

TANIS
Rightful *slave*, more like.

They all hear a sharp, rushing wind sound shriek through the air. Then another, and another. Alert, they creep forward.

Etheline notices something feathery sticking out of a sleeping Salamander's neck. She bends down and picks out a feather-tipped dart.

ETHELINE
Impressive.

Tanis growls, and gets into battle stance.

TANIS
We're under attack!!

The Salamanders awake. Sylphs with blowguns and Undines with staves emerge from hiding.

Etheline takes 3 vials from her strap, gives one to Bindi.

BINDI
Is that your fang poison?!

ETHELINE
No. A different potion. For inoculation.

TANIS
I hope you labeled them correctly.

She grabs a vial, and they all drink the potion.

Gordi with pipe, Darcy with knife, Jaron with bident, Emercen with claw and axe, and Clair with her slingshot all rush forward into the fray. They make quick work out of the other Salamanders, knocking them out.

But the Salamander girls are deadly. They viciously take on the Sylphs, taking them out with nail swipes, cracks of the whip, and a barrage of thrown vials of acid.

Miranda, in armor, armed with a leaf-shaped sword, takes advantage of the chaos and runs to the doors of lair. As she grabs the handle, Bindi's whip strikes her hand.

BINDI
Not so fast, Eldritch!

Miranda runs the other direction, and is caught in a smokescreen vial thrown by Etheline. As Miranda coughs Etheline grabs her from behind, preparing to bite.

Miranda elbows her, pulls her in front in order to punch her, just as Tanis slashes with her nails - she gets Etheline instead, who screeches like a bat.

TANIS

Oops.

Tanis swipes at Miranda, who parrying the long nails with her sword. Bindi whips Miranda's exposed back, causing her to cry out. In her pain, she misses a parry and Tanis swipes her across the face, covering it in thin red marks.

Miranda tackles Tanis. Bindi prepares another strike, but they roll and Tanis ends up on top, nails above Miranda's throat. The whip strikes Tanis, who roars and falls off.

Miranda charges Bindi, evading the crack of the whip. Bindi casts it horizontally instead of downward - the whip wraps around Miranda, and Bindi pulls it forward.

Miranda goes with it, and launches a knee to her stomach. As Bindi is winded, Miranda easily uses her body to pull the whip out of her hand.

She points her sword at Bindi, as the whip uncoils and falls.

Bindi puts up her hands smiling sheepishly.

The others, battle-weary, join Miranda, pointing their weapons at the defeated Salamander girls.

GORDI

Go.

Miranda nods, and rushes inside the Salamander's building.

INT. SALAMANDER LAIR - DAY

Miranda makes her way through the lair. She passes Sonny, curled up in the shadows with his wine-soaked cloth. He sees her, silently grabs a platter from the banquet table, and moves toward her.

Miranda hears his dragging foot, and turns around, pointing her sword. Sonny lets out a frustrated snarl.

MIRANDA

Where is the scepter?

Sonny lets out a whimper. Miranda threatens him with her sword. He lets the platter fall to the ground and points at his throat. She lowers her sword, noticing the bandages around his throat and his leg.

Miranda reaches toward Sonny, who flinches, hissing.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

Don't worry. I won't hurt you.

Miranda places a hand on his throat, and a glowing yellow light surrounds her, enveloping Sonny and the entire room.

After the flash, Sonny is kneeling on the ground. He rips the bandage from his throat, feels it - the bruising is gone.

SONNY

Really?

Miranda, in her Eldritch form - vine/leaf bikini, face tattoos, pointed ears - stands above him.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Down the hall, to the right.

Miranda nods, and continues on her way.

Sonny tears the bandage off his leg, and runs out - right into Emerson, in his battle gear, coming through the door. Sonny looks him up and down.

SONNY (CONT'D)

Wow. Looks like you finally grew a pair, runt. Congrats. You gonna kill me now?

EMERSON

Uh, no. Maybe maybe we could make amends and be normal brothers-

Sonny makes a disgusted sound and pushes past him.

EMERSON (CONT'D)

Wait! Sonny, where are you going?

SONNY

A tropical island. You know, I think I like the sun after all. Tell mother I'm dead, will you?

Sonny elbows past Gordi, Darcy, Jaron and Clair on his way out. They look questioningly at Emerson, who shrugs.

INT. CHAMBER - SALAMANDER LAIR

Miranda lifts the scepter from its pedestal. Axel appears in the chamber's doorway, and leans against the frame. His face is drawn tight, ghoulish.

AXEL

Well, this is interesting.

Miranda gasps and turns around.

AXEL (CONT'D)

After all the refusals and protests, I wake up to find you in my chamber, barely clothed and fiddling with my scepter.

Miranda's face flushes.

MIRANDA

It isn't yours, Axel.

AXEL

That's a matter of opinion, and I'm not in the mood for argument. My father is dead.

Shock registers on Miranda's face.

MIRANDA

I'm sorry.

AXEL

No you're not. He hated you. He would've killed you himself if I hadn't pledged my troth to you that night.

Miranda aims the scepter at him.

AXEL (CONT'D)

What, you're really going to take me out?

MIRANDA

No.

An iron pipe bonks Axel on the head. Axel crumples, revealing Gordi behind him.

GORDI

I will. At least for a while.

The gang runs into the chamber.

MIRANDA

What do I do? Did the book mention
an on-switch?

Darcy exchanges looks with Gordi. She brings out the book.

GORDI

...Yes. We have the spell that will
unlock the scepter's power, and
focus your own.

DARCY

It's in Latin. You'll need to
concentrate on the scepter, so
repeat after me.

Miranda smiles, and takes a deep breath. Darcy starts on the
spell, and Miranda repeats it. A glowing circle appears on
the ground in front of her.

Axel's eyes flutter open. He struggles, but finds his arms
are being held fast by Jaron and Emerson.

AXEL

Let me go! She'll ruin everything!

JARON

Yo, that's kinda the point. Get
with it, dude.

AXEL

No, you don't understand! She's
sending us all back! Locking us in
the Otherworld, forever!

Miranda stops.

MIRANDA

What?

DARCY

He's lying. Don't listen to him.

AXEL

Miranda, look at what you're
creating! Its a *portal*!

MIRANDA

(to Gordi)

You sure its the right spell?

Gordi hesitates. Darcy gives him a warning stare.

GORDI

...Of course.

Miranda swallows, and continues. The glowing circle turns into a window-like image, of a desolate, glowing grey wasteland, under a purple lightning-filled sky.

MIRANDA

Is that...the Otherworld?

Wind whips inside the room. Miranda looks at Gordi, shock and hurt registering on her face. Gordi stares back, horrified. Her eyes glow. She grabs Gordi, throwing him into the portal.

It pulls Miranda in like a black hole - Darcy grabs the scepter, but Miranda has such a tight grip, it only prevents her from going in.

Axel, Emerson, Jaron and Clair are sucked into the portal. Sylphs, Salamanders and Undines from outside enter the chamber, struggling, drawn toward the portal.

Darcy loses her grip on the scepter. Miranda, with the scepter, falls into the portal, which closes up after her.

DARCY

NO!!!!

The Fae left in the room look at Darcy, their faces venomous. Darcy' eyes widen - she backs against the wall, drawing her knife, as the Fae advance on her.

EXT. OTHERWORLD - ETERNAL TWILIGHT

OVER BLACK:

THE SOUND OF ROLLING THUNDER.

Gordi opens his eyes, and sits up. He's glowing, as is the sand around him, in the purple haze of the Otherworld.

Each strike of lightning illuminates the others with him: Jaron, Clair, Emerson, Axel, and Miranda. They stare at him, coldly. PULL BACK TO SHOW --

--They are all surrounded by a glowing ring of toadstools.

BLACK OUT.

END OF EPISODE AND SEASON 1