

1 SECOND SHIFT
2 Episode #2.12 Revelation (TRACKING DRAFT)
3 © 2008 Blue Sky Red Design
4 CONFIDENTIAL
5
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14 Cast
15 MIKE
16 KATHERINE
17 ARKAHN
18 FESMER
19 DITA
20 ZANA/YOUNG ZANA
21 NOMUSA
22 TARGO/TARGONONE
23 JARETH
24 RÜNGROT
25 TRISTELOPO
26 DORRO
27
28

28 Scene List
29
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33 • Fesmer, Dita, Zana, Nomusa
34 Scene 2 — The start of Zana's journey
35 • Zana, Targo
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37 • Fesmer, Dita, Zana, Arkahn, Mike, Katherine
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40 Scene 5 — D reacts, Jareth and Targo arrive
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42 Scene 6 — Tristelopo
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59 • Targonone, Fesmer, Dita, Arkahn, Mike, Katherine, Jareth, Porec
60 Scene 15 — Zana's question
61 • Y. Zana, Targo

1 **Teaser**

2 • Mike, Katherine, Arkahn

3

4 KATHERINE

5 Well. Uh...

6

7 MIKE

8 Yeah...?

9

10 KATHERINE

11 (after a pause)

12 You were right. This was an awful idea.

13

14 MIKE

15 Well, yeah, but... Hey now, you—!

16

17 SFX: Door banging open

18

19 ARKAHN

20 Meek! Kath—!

21

22 SFX: Sheets rustling in panic. Bed springs shifting.

23

24 MIKE KATHERINE

25 Bwayah! This isn't—!

26

27 ARKAHN

28 (a stunned beat; recovering:)

29 Meek, Kath you must—

30

31

32 MIKE

33 Arkhan, I swear, this was just—

34

35 ARKAHN

36 (talking over him)

37 —come with me. Now. Zana is hurt. Badly.

38

39 KATHERINE

40 Zana? Is she...?

41

42 ARKHAN

43 We must make haste. I will tell you what I know on the way.

44 (beat)

45 I will wait outside.

46

47 SFX: Door closing. Rustle of sheets, clothes (continuous).

48

49 MIKE

50 Katherine. Look, I—

51

52 KATHERINE

53 Not now, Mike. Please.

54

55 MIKE

56 Are you...?

57

58 KATHERINE

59 This.... We have to get to Zana. Are you ready?

60

61 MIKE

62 ...Yeah. Let's go.

1 ACT ONE

2

3 **Scene 1**

4 • Fesmer, Dita, Zana, Nomusa

5

6 DITA

7 Cease pacing, Fesmer. You are only increasing my worry.

8

9 FESMER

10 Apologies, Dita. I simply....are you certain we made the right
11 decision?

12

13 DITA

14 Absolutely. Though this place may not look it, Nomusa is the
15 most skilled healer outside of University. She has healed
16 Hunters for years.

17

18 FESMER

19 University... Veliaodi is known for its healers. We...we
20 *could*—

21

22 DITA

23 No, Fesmer. There is too much at stake. *Cha dormina*. Coden
24 will not receive inferior care.

25

26 FESMER

27 I know. Yet...

28 (sighs)

29

30 DITA

31 Come, Fes, sit beside me, *senjen*.

32 SFX: Sitting down

33

34 FESMER

35 How are you so calm Dee? Your father—

36

37 DITA

38 Shhh...It is Coden who requires our concern now. There is
39 time for grief later.

40 (beat)

41 Whatever happened in there, we must be grateful that so few
42 of our brothers and sisters were injured.

43

44 FESMER

45 As always, you keep my vision clear.

46

47 DITA

48 (joking through her pain)

49 Someone must, *plaomaluna*.

50

51 SFX: Door opening

52

53 SFX: Fesmer and Dita stand up.

54

55 FESMER

56 What news of Zana, Nomusa?

57

58 NOMUSA

59 (exhausted)

60 Her burns are extensive and terrible. The next hours will be
61 critical.

62

63 DITA
64 Is she...
65
66 NOMUSA
67 But I am concerned about you.
68
69 FESMER
70 I am *ra-na*. The poultice one of your assistants provided me
71 has salved my wounds quite adequately.
72
73 NOMUSA
74 As you say. All the same, I would like to look at them later.
75 Even minor burns can become septic. For now, you may see
76 your friend. She is awake and requests your presence. *Senjen*,
77 you must not excite her nor touch her.
78
79 FESMER
80 Yes, Healer.
81
82 NOMUSA
83 I have left a medicinal infusion. See that she drinks it if she
84 suffers pain.
85
86 SFX: Walking for a few seconds. Old door creaking open
87 slightly.
88
89 FESMER
90 (softly)
91 *Shi-schwa*?
92
93

94 ZANA
95 (weakly)
96 Fesmer. I had not expected to see you again. What happened to
97 your arms!
98
99 FESMER
100 Minor burns, *shi-schwa*.
101
102 DITA
103 Fesmer braved the flames to rescue you.
104
105 ZANA
106 (disapproving)
107 And were any others hurt?
108
109 FESMER
110 None seriously. Save for...
111
112 ZANA
113 *Boxen wo fai*, Dita.
114
115 DITA
116 I... What happened, Coden? Everything occurred so quickly.
117
118 ZANA
119 Where are the others?
120
121 FESMER
122 They are coming. Arkahn is fetching Mike and Kath and I
123 summoned Jareth. They should arrive shortly.
124

125 ZANA
126 The tale I have to tell is long, and I care to tell it only once.
127 For now, know that Rüngrot thought he had found an
128 instrument to aid his efforts. Instead, it consumed him.
129
130 FESMER
131 I did not see the Hand of Dorro when I—
132
133 ZANA
134 Some things are meant to remain lost.
135 (beat)
136 (mildly irritated)
137 On reconsideration, my time is uncertain. I should not waste
138 even a moment.
139
140 FESMER
141 *Shi-schwa?* All will be well...
142
143 ZANA
144 (back in her element)
145 Perhaps. But there is much I must tell. Much you must recount
146 to the others.
147
148 FESMER
149 Zana, I...
150
151 ZANA
152 That was not a request, Fesmer. You will do this.
153
154 FESMER
155 Yes, *shi-schwa*.

156 ~~ZANA~~
157 ~~Like so many tales, this one begins in an unremarkable place-~~
158 ~~to an unremarkable girl in an unremarkable way...~~

1 **Scene 2**

2 • Zana, Targo

3
4 ~~ZANA (V.O.)~~

5 ~~In a tiny farming village—scarcely more than a few houses—~~
6 ~~lived a precocious girl. Her parents were distant, but she never~~
7 ~~doubted their love for her or her many siblings. Yet, though~~
8 ~~she was never lonely and seldom had time for boredom, she~~
9 ~~became increasingly dissatisfied with her simple life.~~

10 ~~At night, she would sit, weary from the day's labors, and gaze~~
11 ~~out upon her family's farm, at the entirety of her world, and a~~
12 ~~deep sadness would overcome her. Her family took notice of~~
13 ~~her discontent, and thought that it might be best for her to~~
14 ~~depart their life and seek out her own.~~

15 ~~And so it was that the girl left to join the order of Draenpeño,~~
16 ~~the Seekers of Truth.~~

17 ~~Contrary to her expectations, her new life was no less~~
18 ~~exhausting than before. Her days were filled, not only with~~
19 ~~study, but also with difficult labor: cooking, cleaning, even~~
20 ~~farming. Yet at night, when she lay in bed listening to her~~
21 ~~fellow *tylenae* [Acolytes, pron: tie-LEN-ay] sleeping, it was~~
22 ~~not a crushing weariness that she felt, but a satisfied~~
23 ~~exhaustion, and she awoke each morning eager to learn and~~
24 ~~experience more.~~

25 ~~As the years passed and her responsibilities moved~~
26 ~~increasingly from the physical to the intellectual, she felt once~~
27 ~~more a degree of restlessness. Nothing like that she had felt as~~
28 ~~a child, but still she wondered what else life had to offer her.~~
29 ~~Places of which she had only heard. Knowledge about which~~
30 ~~she had only read. Sights she could never see.~~

31

32 ~~ZANA (V.O.—cont.)~~

33 ~~Yet such concerns were easy to dismiss. She was content with~~
34 ~~her life at Draenmer, or so she told herself.~~

35 ~~Until one day...~~

36

37 YOUNG ZANA

38 (stiffly)

39 *Cha buillana fai*, I am *shio tylen* Zana. [Senior, pron: SHY-oh]

40 My superiors have instructed me to guide and assist you in
41 your research.

42

43 TARGO

44 A pleasure to be acquainted, *shio tylen* Zana. I am *shio*
45 *wenama* [senior student] Targo. I look forward to working
46 with you.

47

48 YOUNG ZANA

49 *Shio wenama* Targo, if you will accompany me, I will show
50 you to our library, and we may begin.

51

52 TARGO

53 *Senjen*, there is no need for such formality between students
54 such as ourselves. Simply call me Targo.

55

56 (Instant chemistry!)

57

58 YOUNG ZANA

59 Oh? Well. Then, you may call me Zana.

60

61

62

63 TARGO
64 *Grendi*, Zana. Before we begin work, however, might we
65 acquire some food? Tarentenodi to Draenmer is no small trek;
66 I fear I could eat an entire goat!

67
68 YOUNG ZANA
69 (amused)
70 Horns and all? You must be quite famished. Follow me.

71
72 ~~ZANA (V.O.)
73 *To speak so informally with a stranger was an entirely new*
74 *experience for this girl, this young woman. Not only a*
75 *stranger, but also one who was her equal in age and status.*
76 *And quite handsome besides...*
77 *As she assisted him with his research, they became close*
78 *friends, and every moment not consumed by their*
79 *responsibilities was spent in conversation. He brimmed with*
80 *convictions and ideas that were entirely new to her, ideas*
81 *about the power of knowledge. About changing the world—*
82 *not simply studying it. As weeks turned to months, the young*
83 *woman realized she had found not only a friend, but someone*
84 *whose ideas complimented hers. Whose thirst for more from*
85 *life equaled, perhaps exceeded, her own.*~~

86
87 TARGO
88 The problem with this place is the same as University's!

89
90 YOUNG ZANA
91 Indeed. Both are so weighted by centuries of tradition they
92 cannot advance as they should. We are surrounded by tomes
93 and scrolls filled with Truth. But what use is any of it to us?
94 To the people?

95 TARGO
96 The libraries of Tarentenodi contain at least twice this number,
97 also of no benefit. Such a collection may contain great
98 wisdom, yes, I would not dispute that. But to what end? So
99 that we may spend our lives debating and reinterpreting what
100 has already been said? What, then, do our lives add? Another
101 volume of interpretation to the stacks!

102
103 YOUNG ZANA
104 A never-ending cycle based on the presumptions of those that
105 came before.

106
107 TARGO
108 Precisely. Take...this one. (clears throat) “Unfortunately,
109 debate over The Hand of Dorro must continue without
110 conclusion. Though arguments to support the theory that it
111 may, in fact, be a cache of ancient knowledge are many, there
112 is simply not enough textual evidence to prove the Hand
113 exists, let alone—”

114
115 SFX: Slams book

116
117 TARGO (cont.)
118 Useless debate! Does the author seek out new evidence? No! If
119 he wants to learn what the Hand of Dorro is, why does he not
120 try to find it himself! It is as *Aindel* Simethehai says: True
121 knowledge is not found in books. It is found out there! In the
122 world.

123
124
125

126 ZANA (V.O.)
127 ~~Ultimately, the young man's work at Draenmer came to an~~
128 ~~end. Yet it was not the last the woman saw of her friend. He~~
129 ~~would visit her whenever he had opportunity, as she would~~
130 ~~him. Thus they continued their endless debates and discourse~~
131 ~~of weighty matters—which cooler heads may have suggested~~
132 ~~were outside their scope—for a year.~~
133 ~~Then the day came that the handsome young man was no~~
134 ~~longer a student of University. And so he came to his friend to~~
135 ~~say...~~
136
137 TARGO
138 I am leaving, Zana.
139
140 YOUNG ZANA
141 What?
142
143 TARGO
144 I have no interest in becoming a Task Mage. I do not desire the
145 life my parents expect of me. Nor the wife...
146
147 YOUNG ZANA
148 Wife!
149
150 TARGO
151 Yes...there is a woman they desire me to marry.
152
153 YOUNG ZANA
154 You...you have said nothing of this!
155
156

157 TARGO
158 Because it is *male-own-paxen!* [not of consequence]! It is
159 simply as I have said—more times than I could say. They are
160 like University, weighted by pointless tradition. I wish none of
161 that.
162
163 YOUNG ZANA
164 And so...what? You will flee from her?
165
166 TARGO
167 I flee from nothing! Do you not see, Zana? This is the very
168 thing we have discussed so long. A chance for us to follow our
169 own path.
170
171 (beat)
172
173 YOUNG ZANA
174 Us? I...I do not know. I have so many responsibilities here.
175 And I have not yet formulated my One Question....
176
177 TARGO
178 *Senjen*, consider it, Zana. There is much for me to do in the
179 next months, yet I will be leaving Laundi. I need to see more,
180 learn more than I can here. And...you are my dearest friend. I
181 would not like to embark on this journey without you.
182
183 (beat)
184
185 YOUNG ZANA
186 I will consider it.
187

188 ~~ZANA (V.O.)~~
189 ~~—And consider it she did, in each moment of every day. It was a~~
190 ~~decision such as she had never faced before. Nothing brought~~
191 ~~her peace. Not her daily labors, not her studies, not her~~
192 ~~meditations, nothing. Until, at last, a question formed in her~~
193 ~~mind. A single concise question that brought with it a moment~~
194 ~~of perfect clarity.~~
195 ~~—When the day came, she went before *Ainorem* and she asked~~
196 ~~this question. Their answer only confirmed what she had~~
197 ~~already surmised: that the time had come for her to seek her~~
198 ~~truth elsewhere. At least, she interpreted the answer so...~~
199 ~~—When she left the cave of Draenmer, she found her friend~~
200 ~~awaiting her. And, contrary to centuries of tradition, upon~~
201 ~~hearing the answer, she left without recording her question or~~
202 ~~its answer for those who came after. She simply left—never~~
203 ~~again to return.~~
204 ~~—As the two friends departed their old lives, they exchanged~~
205 ~~gifts to bind their friendship. He gave to her a bow, a treasure~~
206 ~~of his family, which always loosed arrows straight and true,~~
207 ~~finding their target as surely as they felt they would find the~~
208 ~~truth they hunted...~~
209 ~~—And, in what seemed then to be a great cleverness, they chose~~
210 ~~new names to embody their new lives. The young man called~~
211 ~~himself Graenen, one who searches. And the woman called~~
212 ~~herself Coden. One who acts with truth...~~

1 **Scene 3**
2 • Fesmer, Dita, Zana, Arkahn, Mike, Katherine
3
4 DITA
5 Coden...?
6
7 ZANA
8 (pained)
9 Would you pass Nomusa's medicine? Grendi...
10 (she drinks)
11 Eugh. My world for a drop of honey...
12
13 (pause)
14
15 FESMER
16 Zana? What gift did "the girl" give in exchange for the bow?
17
18 ZANA
19 The only thing of value she possessed: the hallowed words of
20 *Ainorem*. To no one else was that gift ever given.
21
22 DITA
23 What of your One Question?
24
25 ZANA
26 (labored)
27 *Cosa male-own-paxen*.
28 [That is not of consequence].
29
30
31

32 DITA
33 *Male-own-paxen?! It set into motion the events of your life. It*
34 *drove you to leave the Seekers. To never again return to*
35 *Draenmer.*
36
37 ZANA
38 Dita, *senjen*—
39
40 SFX: Bustle of MAK entering
41
42 ARKAHN
43 ...through here.
44
45 KATHERINE MIKE
46 Zana? Oh man...
47
48 ZANA
49 Kath. Meek. It is good that you both are here. Arkahn?
50
51 ARKAHN
52 I am here, Zana.
53
54 KATHERINE
55 Are you...
56 (Seeing how badly she's injured) Oh, Zana. Fesmer, is there
57 any prognosis yet?
58
59 MIKE
60 Is it true? The Hand of Dorro did this?
61
62

63 FESMER
64 Perhaps we should step out—
65
66 ZANA
67 Kath, all of you, I will be *ra-na*. I look worse than I feel.
68
69 KATHERINE
70 But...should we be counting on this back-alley healer? I mean,
71 there has to be something better.
72
73 DITA
74 (defensive)
75 She is the best outside University's rule.
76
77 FESMER
78 Dita—
79
80 KATHERINE
81 You mean “the best” that won't ask uncomfortable questions.
82 What's wrong with you? This is her life!
83
84 MIKE
85 Katherine...
86
87 FESMER
88 Arkahn was already escorting Nomusa to us when...the
89 incident occurred. She was the first there and it would do more
90 harm now to bring her elsewhere.
91
92
93

94 DITA
95 She is not merely discreet; she is also an excellent Healer who
96 has administered to Hunters for a decade. She is worthy of our
97 trust.
98
99 KATHERINE
100 *Boxen wo fai*. This is hard.
101
102 FESMER
103 This is not easy for any of us, Kath.
104
105 ZANA
106 My children, while I am flattered by your concern for my care,
107 it is unnecessary. If I may, I would like to continue my tale.
108 More light is needed to illuminate this day's events.

1 **Scene 4**
2 • Fesmer, Dita, Zana, Arkahn, Mike, Katherine
3
4 ZANA
5 Mike, Kath, Arkahn, before you arrived, I was telling the tale
6 of my youth.
7
8 FESMER
9 (aside)
10 I shall apprise you later.
11
12 ZANA (cont.)
13 Particularly of the discontent I so often felt, the sensation of
14 helplessness, of futility with which Targo and I so often
15 struggled.
16
17 KATHERINE
18 But Zana, shouldn't you be resting?
19
20 ZANA
21 I will have plenty of time to rest later. Yet for now....
22
23 ARKAHN
24 Kath is correct *shi-schwa*. You do not have to do this now. It is
25 not as if you are going to—
26
27 ZANA
28 Cease. You all have an important journey to continue, and I
29 will not delay you to indulge my own convalescence.
30
31

32 MIKE
33 But you'll be coming with us, Zana. You have to. I know
34 where we're going now.
35
36 ZANA
37 (Genuine. Mike's passed some sort of test here.)
38 You discovered the way? Good. I knew you would. But no,
39 my part ends here.
40
41 MIKE
42 But—
43
44 FESMER
45 She is correct, Mike. Would you take an injured old woman
46 into the mountains? Into the heart of the enemy?
47
48 MIKE
49 No. You're right...
50 (beat)
51 Wait. You knew about Sonsa?
52
53 FESMER
54 I suspected. But I kept my suspicions from you, I... did not like
55 what they implied. Mike. *Ino minem boxen wo fai*.
56
57 MIKE
58 Yeah, sorry I figured it out, I bet. You have a lot of questions
59 to answer later, buddy. And you! You must have known!
60
61
62

63 ARKAHN
64 (genuine confusion)
65 Me? Know what? I seem to have missed something....
66
67 MIKE
68 Yeah. You sure—
69
70 KATHERINE
71 Not now, Mike.
72
73 ZANA
74 I suspect there will be much for the seven of you to discuss on
75 your way to Sonsa. Yet now, you will hear of my journey. As I
76 will not be at your side, I will have to hope that my past shall
77 guide you in my stead.
78
79 MIKE
80 Yes, *shi-schwa*.
81
82 ZANA
83 Now where was I...?
84
85 FESMER
86 Your own journey was about to begin.
87
88 ZANA
89 Ah, and what a beginning it was! The sense of freedom we felt
90 as Laundi, Tarentenodi, and Draenmer fell farther and farther
91 away was indescribable. Glorious and terrifying in equal
92 measure. Even familiar sights seemed wondrous now that they
93 were perceived in new context.

94 ZANA (cont.)
95 In those first months, Targo—or I should say Graenen—and I
96 visited mostly new places. We were mere sightseers, yet it was
97 a marvelous experience all the same.
98 Change came in a small town called... (heh) I truly cannot
99 recall. The town was like the one of my birth: a scattering of
100 houses with a small inn—barely more than a dusty flophouse
101 over a tavern. It was there that we met two other travelers, also
102 passing through—Ostren’s Crossing! That was the name. The
103 two, a brother and sister, were our age and we exchanged a
104 great deal of talk. The two were Rüngrot and Dita, your
105 father... and your namesake.
106
107 DITA
108 My aunt...
109
110 ZANA
111 All were pleased to discover we were of like minds, traveling
112 for purposes of enlightenment and discovery of both self and
113 world. In the morning, when we realized that we planned to
114 travel in the same direction, we banded together.
115 By the time we reached our next destination, we were already
116 close friends. Our days were spent in travel and discovery, our
117 nights in discussion and debate.
118
119 DITA
120 My father always enjoyed a rousing debate.
121
122
123
124

125 ZANA
126 (fond memory)
127 And Targo was all too happy to give him one! Particularly
128 when they were in their cups. More than a few tavern masters
129 tried to cast them both to the street, fearing they would come
130 to blows. Yet they truly were the best of friends. When we
131 finally stopped laughing, Dita and I usually were able to
132 negotiate their reentry. Though at times we would allow them
133 to languish in the cold for a while to cool their dispositions....
134
135 DITA
136 And my Aunt...what did you discuss with her while my father
137 and Graenen butted horns?
138
139 ZANA
140 All manner of subjects. While the boys debated their ethics,
141 our discussions veered more to the intellectual. She was a
142 staggering intellect; I learned so much from her. Even things I
143 thought so trivial at the time.
144 (beat)
145 She even taught me how to cook.
146
147 ARKAHN
148 (amused)
149 Truly?
150
151 ZANA
152 Indeed. At that time, I had no interest in such domestic
153 activities. I saw them as the trappings of the life I was leaving
154 behind. Yet Dita showed me the meditative power of such
155 labors. Of the tranquility of a perfect slice of pig pie....

156 ZANA (cont.)
157 (beat)
158 The most wonderful aspect of making new friends was
159 finding new people in whom to confide. Growing to trust them
160 with your innermost secrets as they grew to trust you with
161 theirs. Of course, compared to Rüngrot's and Dita's secrets,
162 ours likely seemed as nothing.
163
164 DITA
165 On occasion, my father told me much the same of you.
166
167 ZANA
168 I suppose the other will always seem strange.
169
170 MIKE
171 What...what were their secrets?
172
173 KATH
174 Mike! A little discretion?
175
176 MIKE
177 I just meant....
178
179 ZANA
180 No, it is a fair question. As Targo and I had left University and
181 Draenmer, Rungrot and Dita had fled the Legion and
182 Brotherhood of Oren.
183
184 MIKE & ARKHAN
185 What?
186

187 DITA
188 My father was once a Legion soldier. And my aunt was of the
189 Brotherhood of Oren. A...librarian of sorts.
190
191 ARKAHN
192 A Keeper of The Word.
193
194 ZANA
195 Just so. In most ways their experience had mirrored ours, and
196 they were overcome by the same dissatisfaction that ultimately
197 induced them to abandon their roles.
198
199 ARKAHN
200 But a deserter and a rogue Keeper, such would not be
201 tolerated!
202
203 ZANA
204 Recall this was two decades past. The forces of Oren were not
205 nearly so active as they are now. Nor as... zealous.
206 Still. Much time elapsed before Rüngrot and Dita dared
207 confess their past to us, and they were greatly relieved when
208 we did not cast them away. Neither Targo nor I had ever given
209 much credence to the rhetoric of Laundi, and now here was
210 proof of what we believed: the Followers of Oren were people
211 just like us.
212
213
214
215
216
217

218 ZANA (cont.)
219 Once this knowledge came to light, once the secrets between
220 the four of us began to fall away, that is when things truly
221 began to escalate. Our ideas and opinions changed to beliefs.
222 Those beliefs began to inform our actions. We were finally
223 doing what we had intended from the beginning: attempting to
224 change the world. And though it had no concrete form as of
225 yet, so began the Hunters of Truth.

1 **Scene 5**
2 • Fesmer, Dita, Zana, Arkahn, Mike, Katherine, Jareth
3
4 ZANA
5 We were so young then....(sighs wistfully)
6
7 DITA
8 It sounds wonderful. I wish I could have seen this myself. I
9 wish I could have.... Just once....
10
11 ZANA
12 I know that your aunt would have loved you dearly, Dita.
13
14 DITA
15 *Cha grendi....*
16
17 (beat)
18
19 MIKE
20 (whispering)
21 Dude.... Backstory?
22
23 FESMER
24 (whispering)
25 Dee is named for her Aunt, who died before she was born.
26
27 MIKE
28 Oh....
29
30
31

32 DITA
33 My father often spoke of her in glowing tones, but to hear of
34 her from another is bracing.
35
36 ZANA
37 He thought the world of her, as I know he did of you.
38 I...*Minem boxen wo fai.*
39
40 DITA
41 That... is not of importance this moment.
42
43 ZANA
44 Dita, if I may advise: Do not restrain your sadness for too
45 long, lest it claim your heart.
46
47 DITA
48 I...I know. I just....
49
50 ZANA
51 I understand.
52
53 (beat)
54
55 MIKE
56 (whispering)
57 Am I missing something else?
58
59 FESMER
60 (whispering. Not amused)
61 Her father died. Today. In the fire that nearly took Zana.
62

63 MIKE
64 (shocked)
65 What! Oh...Dita...I'm so sorry. I didn't know....
66
67 KATHERINE
68 What?
69
70 DITA
71 Not now. *Senjen*. Now is not the—
72
73 SFX: Door flies open
74
75 JARETH
76 I came as soon as I could! Zana?
77
78 ZANA
79 Ah, it is good that you are here Jareth. Come closer. All of
80 you! Sit down. I grow weary of you all hovering over me!
81
82 SFX: Sound of scraping chairs etc under dialog
83
84 JARETH
85 Oh Zana. Why has this happened? What can I do to help? My
86 rituals—
87
88 ZANA
89 *Cha grendi* for your concern, Jareth, yet there is little to be
90 done at this point.
91
92 JARETH
93 But....

94 KATHERINE
95 Jareth, you worked miracles for my hands. I can almost hold
96 them steady now. But this is probably something that should
97 be left to a professional.
98
99 JARETH
100 A professional, in a place like this?
101
102 DITA
103 (exasperated)
104 Nomusa is an exceptional healer. Simply because she does not
105 follow all of your laws—
106
107 ZANA
108 Did you find what you sought, Jareth?
109
110 JARETH
111 (distracted)
112 In part. Targonone will be here shortly as well.
113
114 ZANA
115 Targo? He is here in Velia?
116
117 JARETH
118 Indeed.
119
120 ZANA
121 (relieved)
122 That is the best news I have heard all day. I feared I would not
123 see him.... Well. I was in the midst of a tale.
124

125 JARETH
126 A tale? *Shi-schwa*, you should be resting.
127
128 MIKE
129 Dude, we've all been over this one.
130
131 ARKAHN
132 Zana feels she must tell us certain things before we continue
133 on our journey.
134
135 JARETH
136 Yet surely.... No, I understand.
137
138 ~~ZANA~~
139 ~~Excellent. Now perhaps we can continue without~~
140 ~~interruption...~~

1 **Scene 6**

2 • Zana, Tristelopo

3
4 ~~ZANA (V.O.)~~

5 ~~Many joined our discussions. Some remained. Some did not.~~
6 ~~Yet there is one man who is impressed forever upon my~~
7 ~~memory: Tristelopo. He had such pathos about him. At the~~
8 ~~time I believed it to be caused by the recent loss of his wife.~~
9 ~~Now I wonder if it was not a deeper sense of unrest within his~~
10 ~~heart.~~

11
12 TRISTELOPO

13 (passionate, conflicted)

14 Yet, without a destination, how can one know he will not stray
15 from a righteous path?

16
17 ZANA

18 Who is to decide what is a righteous path? University? The
19 Legion? Both claim to keep order in Armarand. Without
20 straying, how can one ever know what is right within the
21 heart?

22
23 TRISTELOPO

24 The heart is a strange and obscure aspect of ourselves; it is
25 most likely to betray your *taagli* and your mind. There is the
26 flaw in your argument. How do we know if it is our hearts or
27 our minds that leads us? Truth is logical, factual, and infallible.
28 Only within our hearts do we think the Truth contains
29 shadows.

30
31

32 ~~ZANA (V.O.)~~

33 ~~Dita and I took an immediate interest in his vulnerability, and~~
34 ~~he to us. Rüngrot expressed his distrust of Tristelopo; he did~~
35 ~~not feel comfortable with the singular attention Tristelopo~~
36 ~~fixed on both Dita and myself. I laughed at him, thinking his~~
37 ~~dislike influenced by jealousy. Dita and I were two foolish~~
38 ~~young women trying to save a man from himself by giving~~
39 ~~him a Cause. What we did not know... is that he already had~~
40 ~~one.~~

41 ~~The incident happened a day after I alone shared with~~
42 ~~Tristelopo the life stories of Dita and myself, and how they~~
43 ~~had led to us forming our group.~~

44
45 YOUNG ZANA

46 Dita? Dita?

47
48 SFX: Foliage rustling.

49
50 Y. ZANA (cont)

51 Ah, Tristelopo! Have you seen—*Cy nay sada own-Ainorem!*
52 [By the good grace of *Ainorem*]!

53
54 SFX: Running on dirt

55
56 Y. ZANA (cont)

57 What has happened? Quickly, we must—

58
59 TRISTELOPO

60 Coden. I have killed her.

61
62

63 Y. ZANA
64 What?
65 (his words sink in)
66 *Cha bensa sherexo!* [You mother-fing traitor]
67 (sobbing)
68 What have you done?
69
70 TRISTELOPO
71 I had to. I had to kill her.
72
73 Y. ZANA
74 (still sobbing)
75 You “had to”? But why? She was barely a woman. What could
76 have possibly been her crime?
77
78 TRISTELOPO
79 (tearless sobbing)
80 I thought...they said...by *Ainorem*, what have I done?!
81
82 (beat)
83
84 Y. ZANA
85 I demand answers of you. You will give them to me, or I will
86 call to Rüngrot, and watch him dispose of you befittingly.
87
88 TRISTELOPO
89 I am not who I purport to be. I am not your friend. I am in your
90 group only to discern The Keeper’s true identity. I am of the
91 Cult of the Mother.
92 (beat)
93 It was they who ordered this be her fate.

94 ZANA
95 The Cult of the Mother? What crimes could Dita have
96 trespassed upon you?
97
98 TRISTELOPO
99 I do not know anymore. It is no secret that she was once a
100 Keeper of Oren’s Word. Her errancy was one of many that
101 caused the Cult to look upon the world—we see that it is
102 dishonest and that many corrupt Oren’s teachings. I was told
103 that Dita epitomized those hazardous defectors who would
104 bring the fall of Oren’s true teachings. I was told that she had
105 lost her way. Yet, it seems that it is I who have lost my way.
106
107 ZANA
108 Your regrets will not bring back my beloved *taypa*
109 *cheribi*. [adopted sister]. You do not stir my heart to leniency.
110
111 TRISTELOPO
112 It is my child to whom I think.
113
114 ZANA
115 She was a father’s child!
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124

125 TRISTELOPO
126 (quietly)
127 I know.
128 (normally)
129 He is but seven. She was closer to his age than to mine. You
130 are correct. How could one so young deserve the Cult's
131 harshest punishment, one reserved for only the most
132 blasphemous, for only the morally reprehensible? I...
133 (beat)
134 *Minem boxen wo fai...* [I am so sorry...]
135
136 ~~ZANA (V.O.)~~
137 ~~I took no action against this murderer. I let him run back to~~
138 ~~The Cult of the Mother to live his difficult life of moral~~
139 ~~uncertainty. I—~~
140 ~~(beat)~~
141 ~~I chose to honor the life Dita gave for following her heart, and~~
142 ~~founded the Hunters of Truth that day. Yet it was the difficult~~
143 ~~truth that Tristelopo taught me—that Truth itself is a valuable~~
144 ~~and hard-won commodity that most will fight to keep~~
145 ~~obscured, even while the rest of us seek to reveal it—which~~
146 ~~proved to me that there was a dire need for a group such as the~~
147 ~~Hunters. This is why I allowed him to escape freely. To live.~~

148 **Scene 7**
149 • Fesmer, Dita, Zana, Arkahn, Jareth, Nomusa, Mike,
150 Katherine
151
152 FESMER
153 Tristelopo?
154
155 ARKAHN
156 But for the “-el-” that is your father’s name....
157
158 FESMER
159 It is my father’s name. From when he was wed to my brother’s
160 mother.
161
162 ARKAHN
163 Oh.
164
165 MIKE
166 Wait. Porec is your half-brother? You never mentioned that.
167
168 FESMER
169 “Half”? Our mothers differ, but he is wholly my brother. I
170 never thought otherwise.
171
172 MIKE
173 Yeah, but—
174
175 KATHERINE
176 (softly)
177 It isn’t important, Mike.
178

179 FESMER
180 Zana, are you certain? Did...did my father do the things you
181 say?
182
183 ZANA
184 I am afraid so, Fesmer.
185
186 FESMER
187 (putting the pieces together)
188 Of course...this explains so much.
189
190 ARKAHN
191 Fesmer?
192
193 JARETH
194 Are you saying that your father was in some sort of...death
195 cult? Why have you not mentioned this!
196
197 MIKE
198 Hold up. Mother cult of the death who now?
199
200 FESMER
201 The Cult of the Mother. Fanatics who take it upon themselves
202 to cull the impure from Oren's flock. I myself discovered this
203 truth only recently, Jareth. After I had recovered from my
204 injuries following that Silver Night at the Legion outpost, I
205 approached my mother and demanded the truth. Poor woman.
206 She has never been the same since my father’s death. She was
207 so terrified to tell me the truth about what my father and
208 brother did. Afraid she would lose me, too.
209

210 FESMER (cont.)
211 (regretful)
212 Though, I suppose, she has....
213
214 JARETH
215 Porec was part of this?!
216 (beat)
217 He... was my friend. To discover that he was not only alive,
218 but a servant of Oren was difficult to comprehend. But this?
219
220 FESMER
221 Believe me, Jareth, I understand.
222
223 DITA
224 (finding her voice)
225 Your... your father killed my aunt?
226
227 FESMER
228 Dee...
229
230 DITA
231 And you knew, Coden? And you kept this a secret from me?
232
233 ZANA
234 Would this knowledge have aided you, Dita? Would you have
235 greeted Fesmer as warmly if you had known this fact?
236
237 DITA
238 I...
239
240

241 ZANA
242 There are times when the past is best left there. Indeed, if
243 circumstances had transpired differently—
244
245 SFX: Door opening
246
247 NOMUSA
248 I apologize for the interruption, but I must attend to the patient.
249 Please vacate the room. There is a waiting area down the hall
250 and day-old bread if you desire it. And I still need to look at
251 your burns.
252
253 FESMER
254 Yes, healer.
255
256 ARKAHN
257 *Shi-schwa?*
258
259 ZANA
260 Go. I will be here when you return.
261
262 **END OF ACT ONE**

1 PROMO

2

3 DIRECTOR

4 Thank you for listening to Act One of Episode 25. Act Two
5 begins in just one minute.

6

7

8 **30-second drop-in ad from FarPoint Media partner,**
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11

12 DIRECTOR

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21

22 And now, Act Two.

1 ACT TWO

2

3 **Scene 8**

4 • Zana, Targo, Rüngrot

5

6 RÜNGROT

7 (mid argument)

8 We must take direct action! Force is the only thing these
9 people understand. I know, Targo. I was one of them!

10

11 TARGO

12 (heated)

13 Bah! Violence is your solution to all things, Rüngrot! Indeed it
14 does seem to be the only language you understand.

15

16 RÜNGROT

17 I understand the need for wisdom and patience as well as any.
18 But there is a time for action, and now is that time! It was not
19 we who struck the first blow.

20

21 TARGO

22 Oh, and here it is again! Do you believe you are the only one
23 saddened by your sister's death? That we do not grieve as
24 well? Were she here, she would counsel the same course I do.
25 Her murder was not a blow at the Hunters.

26

27

28

29

30

31

32 RÜNGROT

33 It may not have been intended as an attack on us, yet it was
34 precisely that! And now that they know of us, Dita's death will
35 be but the first. The Brothers, the Legion, even fringe groups
36 such as the Cult of the Mother grow ever more jealous of their
37 powers and secrets. They will not abide us! This has become a
38 battle for survival.

39

40 TARGO

41 And so we should throw aside caution and strike wildly,
42 blindly? For what? Would you have us all become martyrs? Or
43 perhaps you are so blinded by the need for revenge that—

44

45 Y. ZANA

46 Enough! I sicken of this argument. To and fro, and back again
47 with no end for months! Our numbers swell daily, yet your
48 feud could tear all this apart.

49

50 TARGO

51 Without an agreed-upon path, what good are any of our
52 efforts?

53

54 RÜNGROT

55 For once I agree. Soldiers require orders.

56

57 TARGO

58 *Bensa wai*, Rüngrot! We are scholars, not soldiers!

59

60 Y. ZANA

61 Cease this, both of you!

62

63 TARGO
64 But—
65
66 Y. ZANA
67 (sweetly)
68 Targo, would you grant us a moment, *senjen*?
69
70 TARGO
71 (sighs)
72 Very well.
73
74 SFX: door closes
75
76 RÜNGROT
77 He. Is. Infuriating!
78
79 Y. ZANA
80 *Plaomaluna...*
81 (kissy kissy)
82 He is your friend, Rüngrot. Must you two argue so violently?
83
84 RÜNGROT
85 I simply wish him to see reason. As we gather strength, our
86 enemies begin to notice us. We must use our small size, our
87 anonymity, to our advantage while we can! I know both of you
88 abhor bloodshed, but we must not shy from all the tools at our
89 disposal.
90
91
92
93

94 Y. ZANA
95 I know this. Yet he is correct. The vast majority of us are not
96 warriors. And as Targo often says, “throughout history,
97 violence leads to nothing but more violence.”
98
99 RÜNGROT
100 “Targo says.” What would you have us do, Zana? Sit with
101 Oren and ask him to stop dominating people? Send polite
102 letters to the Universities requesting that they stop filling the
103 peoples’ minds with propaganda and misinformation?
104
105 Y. ZANA
106 Do not condescend to me, Rüngrot! I know that words alone
107 cannot solve all problems. That is the very reason I left the
108 Seekers. But there is a time for such acts as you suggest and
109 Targo does not...(reluctant admission) I do not believe that
110 time is now. And I think your sister would agree.
111
112 (beat)
113
114 RÜNGROT
115 I see....
116
117 Y. ZANA
118 *Plaomaluna....*
119
120 RÜNGROT
121 (cold)
122 Would you leave me for a moment? I must prepare for
123 tonight’s meeting.
124

125 Y. ZANA
126 (very sad)
127 Of course....
128
129 ~~ZANA (V.O.)~~
130 ~~Since the passing of Dita, nothing was the same. Rüngrot,~~
131 ~~who had always been a fiery, passionate man was nearly~~
132 ~~consumed by his anger. And Targo...I do not know what was~~
133 ~~in his mind. He would not share and, often, would leave on his~~
134 ~~own for days at a time—at times returning with an enticing~~
135 ~~serap of information or a useful artifact—but never telling~~
136 ~~others where he had been.~~
137 ~~As for myself, between the constant fighting of my oldest~~
138 ~~friend and my...*dokiluna*, and handling the daily management~~
139 ~~of the ever-growing Hunters, I was becoming exhausted. I no~~
140 ~~longer even had time for the discourse and new learning that~~
141 ~~were my drive for creating the Hunters in the first place!~~
142 ~~I told myself that, if I persevered, we would be able to~~
143 ~~overcome the loss of Dita and our change in roles. And~~
144 ~~perhaps if my will had been firmer that would have been the~~
145 ~~case, yet.... No. I suspect what happened was inevitable.~~
146
147 *FLASH(back)! A-ah!*
148
149 TARGO
150 (excited)
151 Zana! I have found it! This is remarkable!
152
153 Y. ZANA
154 (weary)
155 Welcome back, Targo.

156 TARGO
157 After so long I did not think I should actually find such a
158 thing. Yet I did!
159
160 Y. ZANA
161 I am well. *Grendi* for asking.
162
163 TARGO
164 And in such an obvious place! I am amazed no others have
165 been able to find it. In the end it was so simple!
166 (beat)
167 Zana..?
168 (long pause)
169 Zana, you seem unwell.
170
171 Y. ZANA
172 Overwhelmed, Targo. We shall either have to begin turning
173 aside new members or somehow acquire a cache of buried
174 wealth. I am at wit's end.
175
176 TARGO
177 Well then. Perhaps my discovery will revitalize you!
178
179 Y. ZANA
180 (sighs)
181 Very well. What is it?
182
183 TARGO
184 The final piece of the puzzle, Zana. *Aerendi!*
185
186

187 Y. ZANA
188 Aerendi?
189
190 TARGO
191 The Ruined City itself! I have found mention of a secret
192 library. One concerning certain...ancient mysteries. Perhaps
193 the very reason Oren sacked the city seven hundred years ago!
194
195 Y. ZANA
196 A seven hundred-year-old secret library? You taunt me. Surely
197 such a thing would be long lost to time or treasure seekers.
198
199 TARGO
200 I do not believe so; the precautions the Sovereign of Aerendi
201 took were astonishing. For months now I have been searching
202 for information on this. But only now, after putting together all
203 the pieces, have I found real proof of its existence. And not
204 only its existence, but its exact location!
205
206 Y. ZANA
207 That is wonderful! Yet...what do you expect to find there?
208
209 TARGO
210 Ha! This is what you shall truly love. Supposedly, this library
211 contains the location of the Hand of Dorro!
212
213
214
215
216
217

218 ~~ZANA (V.O.)~~
219 ~~-And there it was; the very reason Targo and I left on this~~
220 ~~journey. Not the Hand specifically, of course, but a chance to~~
221 ~~uncover an old myth and reveal the truth to all. And, of course,~~
222 ~~we firmly believed that whatever we found would change the~~
223 ~~world for the better. How were we to know that some truths~~
224 ~~are best forgotten....~~
225 ~~-Targo spoke of little else than journeying to the ruins of~~
226 ~~Aerendi and discovering this knowledge. Yet Rüngrot would~~
227 ~~have none of this. He was not convinced by Targo's evidence,~~
228 ~~and he did not want to commit people who could otherwise~~
229 ~~pursue more certain goals.~~
230 ~~-It was Targo who first suggested, in anger, that if Rüngrot was~~
231 ~~uninterested, that perhaps he and I would go alone. This only~~
232 ~~worsened our bickering and, ironically, made this option all~~
233 ~~the more appealing.~~
234 ~~-As you know, ultimately Targo and I parted ways with~~
235 ~~Rüngrot to seek out our prize. I promised him that I would~~
236 ~~return. Targo, however, made no such promise. From there our~~
237 ~~journey continued, for the most part, as I told you at the~~
238 ~~cabin...~~
239 ~~-What I did not tell you was that, after we had embarked on~~
240 ~~this journey, I discovered I was with child.~~

1 **Scene 9**

2 • Fesmer, Dita, Zana, Arkahn, Mike, Katherine, Jareth

3
4 **ZANA**

5 ~~When we passed back over the Mountains That Scrape the~~
6 ~~Stars, we returned to Laundi. There Targo and I parted. He had~~
7 ~~no interest in rejoining the Hunters, and though I did not know~~
8 ~~what I wanted, I was determined my child be born in Velia.~~
9 ~~Of course, as often happens, the child had its own opinion,~~
10 ~~and you were born on the journey. I named you for my dear~~
11 ~~friend, and your aunt: Dee.~~

12
13 DITA FESMER
14 *Parado fai?* ... What?

15
16 ZANA
17 Yes, Dita. You are the child of my womb.

18
19 JARETH DITA
20 *Shi-schwa...* *Parado. Fai?*

21
22 FESMER
23 Dee—

24
25 DITA
26 (shrieks)
27 Do not touch me!
28 (after a stunned pause from the others; cold:)
29 Finish your story.

30
31

32 **ZANA**

33 ~~Rüngrot's welcome to me was not warm, but his reaction to~~
34 ~~you truly was love at first glance. This was a great relief: not~~
35 ~~only to see you find a loving father, but to see that a man filled~~
36 ~~with anger still had room for love.~~

37 ~~I realized my place was no longer with the Hunters, nor with~~
38 ~~Rüngrot. Yours was. I left you amongst the love of a father~~
39 ~~and all the Hunters, yet my guilt remained. I would not be~~
40 ~~there to lend my strength to your own as all good parents~~
41 ~~should. And so, though you were but an infant, I felt you~~
42 ~~would need a whole name, one with strong roots to keep you~~
43 ~~grounded in the life to which I left you. Rüngrot agreed with~~
44 ~~the sentiment, if not my decision to leave, and so you became~~
45 ~~Dita.~~

46 ~~Having found the truths I sought in unexpected places, I felt it~~
47 ~~was time for me to make a life for myself, and after many~~
48 ~~more travels, my path led me back to Laundi. I sought out my~~
49 ~~old friend, only to discover Targo had become Targono,~~
50 ~~happily wed to the very woman he sought to escape those~~
51 ~~years before. No doubt he was as surprised that he found~~
52 ~~comfort and happiness in the life he abandoned as I was.~~
53 ~~In truth, circumstances carried him into the founding of The~~
54 ~~Hunters of Truth. His intent had always been adventure, and I~~
55 ~~believe he realized that. He felt he had to stray from his old~~
56 ~~life in order to see it was his rightful path. He admitted to me~~
57 ~~that he thought founding this group had been a mistake. Too~~
58 ~~late I share his sentiment.~~

59
60
61
62

63 ~~ZANA (cont.)~~
64 ~~By exchanging some treasures I found in Old Aerendi for~~
65 ~~spices and perfumes, and by exchanging those for coin in~~
66 ~~Laundi, I started a small bakery, which blossomed into what~~
67 ~~you all know as “Zana’s Pig Pies.” I was surprised to find that~~
68 ~~it was a comfort, even a joy, to surrender myself to simple~~
69 ~~labor after so long. It was profitable as well but, until Mike~~
70 ~~showed me the art of “spending money to make money,” I~~
71 ~~kept only enough to live and sustain my business. Every spare~~
72 ~~til [cent] I sent to Rüngrot anonymously, fooling myself into~~
73 ~~believing the money would assuage my guilt for abandoning~~
74 ~~you and the Hunters.~~
75 ~~(pause)~~
76 ~~Dita, I know this must be exceedingly difficult for you to~~
77 ~~hear, yet you must know that my sole intent was to grant you a~~
78 ~~better life. *Senjen*, do not think you were ever unwanted—~~
79
80 DITA
81 I think I am finished listening to you! That is what I think!
82
83 SFX: Rustle of clothes; Door opening and slamming.
84
85 FESMER
86 Zana...
87
88 ZANA
89 Yes, Fesmer.
90
91 FESMER
92 You are a very different woman than I imagined you to be.
93

94 SFX: Walking to the door; Door opening. Door closing.
95
96 (pause)
97
98 ZANA
99 Mike. Jareth. Will you allow me a word alone with Kath and
100 Arkahn, *senjen*?
101
102 MIKE
103 ... Yeah, of course.
104
105 ZANA
106 *Cha grendillo fai*, my children.
107
108 SFX: People shifting, chairs scuffling.
109
110 MIKE
111 Just don’t stress yourself out too much, okay? Shauna’s going
112 to want to see you when we get her back.
113
114 ZANA
115 Your passion and drive have served you well, Mike. There is a
116 reason I named you “Meek” two Silver Nights past. No matter
117 what occurs, try not to let the world diminish your best quality.
118
119 MIKE
120 ... Thanks, Zana.
121
122 (pause)
123
124

125 JARETH
126 (brusquely)
127 Come, Mike. It is time for us to depart.
128
129 ZANA
130 Jareth: take care of the others, *senjen*. Though you may doubt
131 yourself, you are a leader born, and others will defer to your
132 guidance. Be strong.
133
134 JARETH
135 As you say.
136
137 ZANA
138 When the time comes, and he questions my thoughts of him,
139 tell Fesmer I paid his words no heed.
140
141 JARETH
142 I am certain he knows. We will be just outside, Kath. Arkahn.
143
144 KATHERINE ARKAHN
145 *Cha grendi*, Jareth. *Grendi*.

1 **Scene 10**

2 • Fesmer, Dita, Mike, Jareth

3

4 FESMER

5 Dita! Wait!

6

7 DITA

8 Is this all some game to you?

9

10 FESMER

11 What?

12

13 DITA

14 My life! Do you delight in keeping these secrets from me,
15 when I have kept nothing of myself from you? Do you enjoy
16 tearing apart what little I have left?

17

18 FESMER

19 All of this is just as much a surprise to me as it is to you.

20 *Senjen*, let me talk to you.

21

22 DITA

23 (desperate)

24 What do I have left, Fes? What truth is there left for me to hold
25 on to? What (sobs) *Ainorem*...I cannot do this.

26

27 FESMER

28 Come here, Dee. Do not be afraid to cry.

29

30 DITA

31 But I—

32 FESMER

33 You are strong, Dee. That is one reason I admire you so. Yet
34 there is no shame in grief.

35

36 DITA

37 Oh Fesmer... (Starts crying)

38

39 (Fade out)

40

41 MIKE

42 So...um...should we...

43

44 JARETH

45 Leave them be. It is not our place to interfere.

46 (pause)

47 Ill dreams have long troubled her, yet I never imagined they
48 were caused by such things as these.

49

50 MIKE

51 Yeah. And apparently that's not even all of it....

1 **Scene 11**

2 • Zana, Kath, Arkahn

3

4 ZANA

5 Oh, my children. Where am I to begin again?

6

7 ARKAHN

8 *Shi-schwa*...? Is there anything...?

9

10 ZANA

11 Cha grendi, yet do not fret over me, Arkahn. Your presence is
12 all I require.

13 (pause)

14 Kath, I am glad you chose to remain. It shows in you a growth
15 of spirit.

16

17 KATHERINE

18 Yeah, well, guess there's a lot I need to know. And so much I
19 need you to know.

20

21 ZANA

22 Kath, have you not listened—

23

24 KATHERINE

25 Oh, I've listened all right.

26 (pause)

27 Zana, you are.... To me....

28 (beat)

29

30

31

32 KATHERINE (cont.)

33 You made us think you were infallible. Someone we—I—
34 could look to for advice. You claim that your whole life has
35 been spent in the pursuit of truth, and now we find it's been
36 filled with deception and pretense! What are we supposed to
37 believe?

38

39 ARKAHN

40 Kath, even *sundjae* are not above reproach.

41

42 KATHERINE

43 She hid these terrible truths from us! She... misrepresented
44 herself, made us think she was someone she wasn't.

45

46 ARKAHN

47 (hard)

48 I betrayed you all. Yet, you can forgive me and not Zana?

49

50 KATHERINE

51 (cowed)

52 I don't even know that I have forgiven you...

53

54 ZANA

55 Kath... You must understand. I was a mere child when I
56 joined the Seekers of Truth. I led a cloistered adolescence, and
57 when I was on the cusp of maturity I left to travel the world for
58 ideals with Targonone. I did not have the benefit of a mentor;
59 just books filled with the vagaries of the old and of *Ainorem*. I
60 wish for you to hear—

61

62

63 KATHERINE
64 Once you reached wise old maturity, you could have chosen to
65 stop lying. To advise on the basis of your mistakes.
66 (pause)
67 You could have confided in me.
68
69 SFX: Zana's labored breathing
70
71 ZANA
72 I entreat you to hear one story in addition, Kath. One that I
73 wish to confide in the two of you. Only then will I accept your
74 judgment of me. *Senjen*.
75
76 ARKAHN
77 Then...?
78
79 KATHERINE
80 There's more?
81
82 ~~ZANA~~
83 ~~Yes, *voluna*, there is more.~~

1 **Scene 12**

2 • Zana, Dorro

3
4 ~~ZANA (V.O.)~~

5 ~~After we found the information we sought in old Aerendi,~~
6 ~~Targo and I returned to Laundi to make use of the libraries of~~
7 ~~Tarentenodi and Draenmer.~~

8 ~~Traveling together, exploring Aerendi, deciphering that~~
9 ~~ancient book... It was all wonderful, a return to more innocent~~
10 ~~times when we looked at all things with wide-eyed amazement~~
11 ~~and passion. Including each other. We finally became more~~
12 ~~than friends on that journey... Yet Laundi changed that,~~
13 ~~reminded us that we were not the naive youths who had left.~~
14 ~~I suspect Targo learned of the pain his abrupt departure had~~
15 ~~caused his family, his friends, and particularly his betrothed,~~
16 ~~but he kept these revelations to himself. I learned, or rather,~~
17 ~~my suspicions were confirmed, that I was pregnant. I, too, kept~~
18 ~~my revelation secret.~~

19 ~~Once we resumed travel, our sense of wonder was gone, yet~~
20 ~~our passion for knowledge drove us still onward. Where before~~
21 ~~we passed our time in friendly debate or in deciphering ancient~~
22 ~~writings, now our time was spent in silence and reflection.~~
23 ~~Finding myself alone with my thoughts was an unbalancing~~
24 ~~experience. It brought many worrying truths about myself to~~
25 ~~light. Truths, for once, I did not care to know....~~

26 ~~Ultimately, as you know, we discovered the tower containing~~
27 ~~the Hand of Dorro. We both wanted to delve its secrets~~
28 ~~immediately, yet the difficult journey had taxed us. We made~~
29 ~~camp and attempted to rest. Yet, for me, sleep did not come.~~
30 ~~Our prize was too close. I could no longer wait.~~

31 -

32 ~~ZANA (V.O.—cont.)~~

33 ~~I steeled myself and, swaddled in protective clothing, entered~~
34 ~~dizzying heat of the tower. I could not say what I expected to~~
35 ~~see, but it was not that empty room and the lone dais in the~~
36 ~~center. A crude stone thing supporting a living flame. A~~
37 ~~human hand, burning fiercely yet perfectly intact, held in place~~
38 ~~by a glowing metal spike.~~

39 ~~It was a staggering sight. The story was not a partial truth,~~
40 ~~some long distorted metaphor as we had been convinced. My~~
41 ~~mind was truly blank, and suddenly I was overcome with a~~
42 ~~sensation of dread and suffering greater than even the heat. It~~
43 ~~was Dorro's pain that I felt, trapped in the world of the living,~~
44 ~~knowing only eternal agony. I do not know how I knew this to~~
45 ~~be true, only that it was.~~

46 ~~A combination of horror, curiosity, and pity overwhelmed me.~~
47 ~~I stumbled forward, the heat inconsequential to me now, and~~
48 ~~the hand... began to twitch. To writhe terribly, futilely against~~
49 ~~its savage restraint.~~

50 ~~Without a thought, I reached out and took hold of the metal~~
51 ~~spike. It was fortunate I had donned heavy leather gloves~~
52 ~~before entering the tower, for had I not, my hands would have~~
53 ~~been horribly scarred. I pulled it free with surprising ease and~~
54 ~~dropped it to the floor.~~

55 ~~The hand flexed, experimentally. Its fingers felt calmly at the~~
56 ~~hole and I realized in amazement that there was an intelligence~~
57 ~~at work.~~

58 ~~Slowly, I reached into the flames again and touched it.~~

59 ~~(beat)~~

60

61

62

63 ~~ZANA (V.O.—cont)~~
64 ~~Immediately the hand seized my own with a fierce, strong-~~
65 ~~grip. As I stumbled backwards, mute in terror, my glove began~~
66 ~~to smolder and to burn. I tore at the thing with my free hand~~
67 ~~but I could not dislodge it. The heavy, cloying smoke of~~
68 ~~burning leather stung my eyes and filled my nose and throat. I~~
69 ~~fell to the ground gasping and weeping.~~
70 ~~As the last of my glove burned away, I tried to brace myself~~
71 ~~for the pain, but it did not come. Instead, I felt a cool breeze~~
72 ~~wash over me and the sensation of a smooth hand touching my~~
73 ~~own. Hesitating, I looked down. The disembodied hand~~
74 ~~clutching my own was no longer aflame; its dusky skin was~~
75 ~~actually quite cool, though most certainly alive. It relaxed its~~
76 ~~grip, though it did not let go.~~
77 ~~I stared, amazement banishing terror. What was I witnessing?~~
78 ~~Somehow, I held the Hand of Dorro and was uninjured by~~
79 ~~what had occurred. It may not have been what I expected to~~
80 ~~find, but I—we—had found it.~~
81 ~~And then the hand tightened its grip and a shiver of heat~~
82 ~~crawled through my body. Greasy, ashen fingers clutched at~~
83 ~~my mind and a desiccated voice echoed silently in my ears...~~

84
85 *Flashback!*

86
87 DORRO
88 (relief, long, slow, and quiet)
89 Ahh... Yesss... A thing...not pain. A mind.
90 (beat)
91 I...thank you.

92
93

94 Y. ZANA
95 Who...? How can this...
96
97 DORRO
98 How long.... I am...apart. Need...your mind.
99
100 Y. ZANA
101 What are you...ugh...ack... (continued noises of discomfort)
102
103 DORRO
104 There...may...be...discomfort.
105
106 Y. ZANA
107 (cries out in pain then falls to panting)
108
109 DORRO
110 I feel much history in your mind. This is good. So much time.
111 So much change. Yet so much stasis.
112
113 Y. ZANA
114 (gasping for breath)
115 You...you are truly Dorro?
116
117 DORRO
118 Dorro... Yes. That is the name you know me by.
119 (beat)
120 I...apologize for the roughness of my touch...Zana
121 (pronouncing it slowly Zah-Nah). I have been so long without
122 contact with another mind. So long...
123
124

125 ZANA
126 How is this possible. You— aagh!
127
128 DORRO
129 I see in your mind the stunted thing The Art has become. A
130 plaything of scholars. Bah!
131 (beat)
132 Are you a scholar, Zana? Or a warrior?
133
134 ZANA
135 I...I do not know.
136
137 DORRO
138 Ah. You have attempted both. Now, you fear you are neither.
139
140 ZANA
141 How do you know this?
142
143 DORRO
144 (dry chuckle)
145
146 ZANA
147 That was a foolish question...
148
149 DORRO
150 Set my hand upon the dais, Zana.
151 (beat)
152 There is potential in you or you would not have freed me. You
153 have hunger. That is good...
154 (beat)
155 To what end have you sought me?

156 ZANA
157 Can you not simply take this from my mind?
158
159 DORRO
160 Tell me.
161
162 ZANA
163 I wished to know Truth.
164
165 DORRO
166 And that is all? You gambled your life to prove a theory? Hah.
167 You fool yourself, Zana. And what would you have done if
168 you had found what you sought? This...archive of secrets?
169
170 ZANA
171 I...I would have used them—
172
173 DORRO
174 You would have used them. How?
175
176 ZANA
177 I do not know...
178
179 DORRO
180 You seek forgotten truths? Lost Arts?
181
182 ZANA
183 Yes.
184
185 DORRO
186 You seek to re-examine the old ways?

187 ZANA
188 (getting enthusiastic)
189 Yes.
190
191 DORRO
192 You seek understand the present through the past?
193
194 ZANA
195 Yes.
196
197 DORRO
198 You seek to change things.
199
200 ZANA
201 Yes!
202
203 DORRO
204 You seek the power to make your world a better place!
205
206 ZANA
207 Yes! Power...
208
209 DORRO
210 The masses need guidance.
211
212 ZANA
213 They do. They cannot help it. All their lives, the powerful have
214 taken their liberties, restricted their free will.
215
216 DORRO
217 But you would not do this.

218 ZANA
219 No! They must be shown that they matter.
220
221 DORRO
222 Can you do this Zana? Can you provide the gentle hand to
223 shepherd? The closed fist to lead?
224
225 ZANA
226 I... I do not...
227
228 DORRO
229 Or do you too need guidance? Do you too need to learn of
230 strength? Of power?
231
232 ZANA
233 I do!
234
235 DORRO
236 And thus you have sought me! Sought my power. Sought my
237 guidance.
238
239 ZANA
240 Yes!
241
242 DORRO
243 Than I shall provide it!
244
245 ZANA
246 You...you will?
247
248

249 DORRO
250 I am but a shard. A fragment of my greater whole. I long to
251 teach you, Zana. Of my Art. Of the Old Ways.
252
253 ZANA
254 (tearfully grateful)
255 *Cha grendillo fai.*
256
257 DORRO
258 You are the one who freed me. The one who removed that
259 accursed spike...
260 (beat)
261 Where is it?
262
263 ZANA
264 It is here.
265
266 DORRO
267 Take it up.
268
269 ZANA
270 Yes.
271
272 SFX: Clink of metal on stone
273
274 ZANA (cont.)
275 It has grown cool.
276
277 DORRO
278 You would have me teach you, Zana?
279

280 ZANA
281 Yes!
282
283 DORRO
284 Then you must promise me something.
285
286 ZANA
287 Yes?
288
289 DORRO
290 You must promise to obey me. As any pupil would their
291 teacher.
292
293 ZANA
294 I...
295
296 DORRO
297 I cannot teach you unless you accept my lessons.
298
299 ZANA
300 (hesitating)
301 I will.
302
303 DORRO
304 (satisfied)
305 Good... Then let us have your first lesson now. You came here
306 with another. I can sense him, sleeping not far from here.
307
308 ZANA
309 Yes.
310

311 DORRO
312 Rouse him. And as he wakes, you must take the spike you hold
313 and drive it into his heart.
314
315 ZANA
316 ...What?!

317
318 DORRO
319 This is the most important lesson of the Old Ways.
320 Change—real change—has a steep price and it is always one
321 paid in blood.
322
323 ZANA
324 But he is my dearest friend. I cannot simply... murder him.
325
326 DORRO
327 Ah, so it is the act that troubles you? Then, a choice will be
328 sufficient.
329
330 ZANA
331 Choice?
332
333 DORRO
334 A life must be lost, Zana. Our covenant demands it.
335
336 ZANA
337 But, why—
338
339 DORRO
340 (yelling)
341 You dare question me?!

342 DORRO (cont.)
343 (beat)
344 Choose, Zana! Choose the life that shall be taken. Your
345 “friend” or your unborn child?
346
347 (long pause)
348
349 ZANA
350 No.
351
352 DORRO
353 What?! You gave to me your word!
354
355 ZANA
356 If this is what your lessons require, than I do not accept your
357 choices. I will not choose!
358
359 DORRO
360 Then you are a fool! A weak, soft fool! You need me!
361
362 ZANA
363 No! I reject your teaching.
364
365 DORRO
366 You seek the Old Ways? The way of strength? Of absolute
367 power? These are my teachings. This is what I am! I am the
368 Old Ways!
369
370 ZANA
371 Then I reject you! (grunts as—)
372

373 SFX: Zana drives the spike through the hand into the stone.
374
375 DORRO
376 (Cries out in pain as—)
377
378 SFX: The Hand bursts into flames
379
380 ZANA
381 I do not need you!
382
383 SFX: Running
384
385 DORRO
386 (voice distorted, fading into the distance)
387 You gave your word and I will have it. I will have death from
388 you, Zana! Your weakness shall prove your downfall and,
389 before your last hours, I will find you and force you to make a
390 sacrifice. You cannot avert this. You cannot hide! We are
391 bound and you shall never escape me...
392
393 ~~ZANA (V.O.)
394 -And so I ran. I did not tell Targo what had happened. I told
395 him no more than I told you around the campfire.
396 -Once I made my choice and refused Dorro, I surrendered any
397 chance at power and significance. My life, as I had imagined
398 it, was over and a new one about to begin. I gave up my
399 daughter so that I would never love her. I pushed Targo away
400 and did not stop him when he left for Laundi alone. I would
401 never be able to choose their deaths after I had chosen to let
402 them live.~~
403

404 ~~ZANA (cont.)
405 -For years, I avoided love. I avoided making friends and
406 maintained a distance from my employees, choosing instead to
407 bury myself in my newfound arts: fishing, cooking, writing.
408 -As you know by now, in time my resolve wavered and those
409 under my employ and became a family of sorts. I finally
410 stopped running and allowed myself to love and, it has brought
411 me, well, here.~~

1 **Scene 13**

2 • Zana, Kath, Arkahn, Targonone, Mike

3

4 ARKAHN

5 *Shi-schwa*... I am not certain I understand.

6

7 ZANA

8 All my life, I have kept this secret. Even if I had desired to
9 share it with another, I feared I could not, lest they share my
10 fate.

11

12 KATHERINE

13 But that time by the lake...?

14

15 ZANA

16 Had I not imbibed so much *sorena* at Targo—Targonone’s
17 cabin, I might not have shared even that abridged tale. Yet, I
18 supposed, “What harm could there be?” Three of you were to
19 leave soon, allowing the rest to return to the way things were
20 before. Of course, that is not what happened.

21 (under breath)

22 Foolish, Zana...right into his trap.

23

24 KATHERINE

25 Zana?

26

27 ZANA

28 Nothing, Kath, merely a passing notion.

29

30 ARKAHN

31 Why have you chosen to share this story with us now?

32 KATHERINE

33 And why only us?

34

35 ZANA

36 Many reasons, not the least of which, I suppose, was the look
37 in your eyes. Your disappointment in me.

38 (sighs)

39 I always thought I would carry this last tale to my grave,
40 however I arrived there. Yet, here—now—my restraint seems
41 to dissolve when I look at you—my children—Arkahn and her
42 willing face; Kath and her newfound eagerness for Truth...
43 Perhaps my story may yet do some good.

44

45 KATHERINE

46 But what do we tell the others?

47

48 ZANA

49 You will tell them what they need to hear, Kath. The whole
50 story may be more than they need to know. Particularly Dita. I
51 have caused her so much ill, the last thing she needs now are
52 more painful revelations.

53

54 ARKAHN

55 If she is your daughter, then she will find understanding.

56

57 ZANA

58 Whatever ire she has towards me is deserved. And there is
59 much in that story that would only bring pain.

60

61 KATHERINE

62 Is Targonone her...?

63 ZANA
64 (sighs)
65 Seeing her grown, I would suppose so. At the time, I felt that
66 her place was with Rüngrot, and it seems that I was correct.
67 Her father loved her and I can see that she loved him.
68
69 KATHERINE
70 Then what are you afraid that she'll find out?
71
72 ZANA
73 That, when Dorro presented his choice, I very nearly agreed.
74
75 KATHERINE
76 Oh....
77
78 ZANA
79 (wracking cough)
80
81 ARKAHN
82 Zana?
83
84 KATHERINE
85 I'm going to get some help!
86
87 ZANA
88 (struggling)
89 No, it is...there is still much to say. And it cannot wait. Simply
90 give me more of that vile concoction Nomusa called medicine.
91
92 ARKAHN
93 Zana, you need to rest!

94 KATHERINE
95 We can come back when—
96
97 ZANA
98 No, Kath. Arkahn. Our time together swiftly dwindles.
99
100 KATHERINE
101 I know it looks bad, but there's the healer, and...you can't
102 speak as if you won't get better.
103
104 ZANA
105 I know I will not.
106
107 KATHERINE ARKAHN
108 Zana— ...*Parado fai?*
109
110 ZANA
111 When the Hand drew close last night, it spoke to me as it did
112 in that tower. It presented me the opportunity to take the pact I
113 previously shunned.
114
115 KATHERINE
116 But that was to....
117
118 ARKAHN
119 Zana, no . . .
120
121
122
123
124
125

126 ZANA
127 Yes. I chose Dorro's way. Rüngrot's life was forfeit the
128 moment he wielded the Hand for violent purposes, and the fire
129 that consumed him was of his own making. A choice he had
130 made many Silver Nights past. And so was mine. When the
131 Hand passed from Rüngrot into my possession I did what I had
132 promised: I took a life—my own. No one else's. The fire that
133 is consuming my life destroyed that *ali-bensa* [damned] Hand
134 at long last. Soon the fire will consume all within and then
135 extinguish; my life shall extinguish with it, and I will pass on
136 to *Ainorem*.
137
138 KATHERINE
139 What? Zana...! No....
140 (quiet tears)
141
142 ARKAHN
143 (quiet)
144 *Bensa-wei*.
145
146 ZANA
147 Dorro cursed me to a life of inaction, to watching the young I
148 care for struggle. To help only by doling out advice when I had
149 counsel to give. In time, I learned to accept and even embrace
150 my curse; I made mine a good life and was blessed with the
151 company of first Jareth, then Fesmer, and then you, Arkahn—
152 next with Shaena, Mike, and of course, you, Kath, *voluna*.
153 Lastly, it brought me my own child, to see her with my own
154 eyes before I passed.
155 (beat)
156

157 ZANA (cont.)
158 Arkahn, *voluna*, your endurance has always put mine to
159 shame. I have never doubted your ability to survive. Stay true
160 to your friends. They will need you as much as you feel you
161 need them
162 Kath, listen to me: you tread an arduous path and will face a
163 great many difficulties. Do not shy away from them, as I did;
164 walk toward them, all of them, with the confidence that,
165 whatever choices you make, whatever paths you choose to
166 tread, you do so with my blessing.
167
168 KATHERINE
169 (quietly, almost crying)
170 This isn't fair. I feel like I just found you. I wish we had more
171 time—I thought we did. Yesterday I was brimming with all
172 these questions I wanted to ask you, and now I can't remember
173 a single one. But Zana, I love you. You have given me the
174 guidance and affection I always wished would come from my
175 own mother. Now that you're in it, I can't imagine my life
176 without you.
177
178 ARKAHN
179 I am losing more than a trusted mentor this day, *Shi-schwa*. I
180 am losing—...
181
182 ZANA
183 Shh. Hush, my dear child. I know what is within your heart.
184 There is no need for words. Kath?
185
186
187

188 KATHERINE
189 Zana—you said that you gave Dita both syllables at birth,
190 because you knew she would need them.
191 (pause)
192 You’re right, the times ahead will be tough. What I want, more
193 than anything else, is my second syllable. I don’t think anyone
194 other than you could give that to me. You gave Shauna hers,
195 and I was always jealous of that connection. It was one thing I
196 couldn’t have with you.
197
198 ZANA
199 Oh, Kath, *voluna*. Shaena needed that syllable in her mind
200 only. In a small way, I had hoped to give her strength, to help
201 her have greater confidence in herself.
202 I believe you know you have captured my heart in a way I
203 thought I would feel about my own child. Though the child of
204 my womb stands outside this door, it is to you—the child of
205 my heart—that my thoughts turn.
206 I hope, Kath, that you can carry that—your first Truth—with
207 you always; hope you can walk tall in Amarand, and Bozton—
208 or whatever world in which you find yourself—because you
209 know who you are without such trivial aids as Shaena needed.
210
211 KATHERINE
212 (after a deep breath)
213 I hope I can, too. For myself, and for you, Zana—*fani-schwa*.
214 [term of affection for mother].
215
216 ARKAHN
217 *Fani-schwa*.
218

219 SFX: Hug
220
221 ZANA
222 *Saba, saba* [There, there,] children of my heart.
223
224 KATHERINE
225 Zana—one more thing I remembered.
226
227 ZANA
228 Yes?
229
230 KATHERINE
231 After Mike fell off the roof, you called Targonone and cashed
232 in a favor. You said something about “that time in Dandar.”
233 What happened there?
234
235 TARGONONE
236 (from the door)
237 As a wise woman once said, “There are times when the past is
238 best left there.”
239
240 ARKAHN
241 (gasps)
242
243 ZANA
244 (weakly; happily)
245 Targo. You always come into my life at unexpected times.
246
247
248
249

250 TARGONONE
251 (getting closer)
252 I come when you have need of me.
253 (to Arkahn)
254 I did not see you here.

255
256 ARKAHN
257 *Grendi. Zana...* Fortuitous trials.

258
259 ZANA
260 Fortuitous trials, *voluna*.

261
262 SFX: Door opening and closing.

263
264 KATHERINE
265 (to Targo)
266 Take care of her.

267
268 ZANA
269 Kath, remember always that you can stand on your own.

270
271 KATHERINE
272 I'll remember you, Zana.

273
274 SFX: Door opening and closing.

275
276 MIKE
277 Katherine. Are you ok?

278
279
280

281 KATHERINE
282 Mike...
283 (deep breath)
284 I am.
285 (beat)
286 I am now.
287 (fade into next scene)

288 **Scene 14**
289 • Targonone, Fesmer, Dita, Arkahn, Mike, Katherine, Jareth,
290 Porec
291
292 (fade in from last scene)
293
294 TARGONONE
295 *...lo hap ban plix purr ken Ainorem, ban creb alix-wolia la*
296 *dokin lo menda fainae.*
297 ...[and though she now walks with *Ainorem*, she shall remain
298 in our hearts and our minds].
299 (pause)
300 If anyone present would like to speak, I invite you—now—
301 before I return Zana’s remains to Laundi, where they will be
302 forever interred in the halls of Draenmer.
303
304 FESMER
305 Dita?
306
307 DITA
308 No.
309
310 FESMER
311 This is your last chance. She was your mother.
312
313 DITA
314 Then why was I not her daughter in more than words? No.
315
316 KATHERINE
317 Arkahn? Do you . . . ?
318
319

320 ARKAHN
321 (deep, shaking breath)
322 I... cannot, Kath. I cannot.
323
324 MIKE
325 It’s okay. Shh.
326
327 KATHERINE
328 (to Targo)
329 I would like to say a few words.
330
331 SFX: Light crowd chatter; footsteps
332
333 KATHERINE (cont.)
334 I didn’t write anything. I, uh...
335 (beat)
336 It’s been difficult these past weeks. I mean, it’s fair to say
337 that nothing about this journey has been easy, but... especially
338 these past weeks... discovering that things are not as we
339 thought... People are not who we thought.
340 (beat)
341 Revelations can be painful. No one knew better than Zana
342 how much Truth can hurt. Can change you. And still she
343 looked for it... all her life, in one way or another. The answers
344 were sometimes terrible, sometimes hurt those around her, but
345 she never stopped seeking them. I guess it’s hard to say
346 whether she was noble or foolish. Why didn’t she just learn
347 her lesson and stop?
348 (beat)
349
350
351

352 KATHERINE (cont.)
353 There's, uh, a story, I guess, from my world. It's about living
354 in a place of complete innocence, of bliss. And there's
355 something there—an apple—that will give you knowledge of
356 the world around you. But once you bite that apple, you can't
357 ever return to that blissful place. You will gain your Truth, but
358 lose all the happiness that came from not knowing it.
359 Everyone here—all of us—we have bitten that apple. We're
360 all living our “difficult lives of moral uncertainty.” I mean,
361 God, once you know that apple's there, how can you not bite
362 it? Innocence is already lost the moment we understand that
363 there are things we don't now. I guess we're all noble to seek
364 that knowledge. And we're all foolish. And none of us will
365 ever learn our lesson, because I don't think there is one to
366 learn. What else is there to do but keep eating that apple? Once
367 you start, how do you ever stop seeking Truth?
368 (pause)
369 Look... all I know is that she was there for us when we
370 needed her, and when we didn't, she at least made sure we
371 didn't leave hungry. She guided with a gentle hand, and she
372 never passed judgment on our actions, no matter how... ill-
373 advised they were. She was gifted with the desire to change
374 the world, and cursed to instead watch others as they struggled
375 to do what she could not. She... uh... Oh. *Ainorem*.
376
377 SFX: Echoey footsteps.
378
379 SFX: Clothes rustling, chair scraping as Mike stands.
380
381 MIKE
382 You!
383

384 ARKAHN
385 Meek. Sit down, *senjen*.
386
387 POREC
388 Friends of Shauna, I sincerely regret your loss. Would you
389 allow me to join you?
390
391 FESMER
392 Porec! What are you—?
393
394 DITA
395 That is your Brother, Fes?
396
397 MIKE
398 Yeah. He's the *braynix* [asshole] we've been chasing for
399 months, and now he just shows up out of nowhere.
400 Something's up, and I want to know why he's here and WHY
401 THE HELL SHAUNA ISN'T WITH HIM.
402
403 ARKAHN
404 Meek, this is a place of peace. Respect Zana and. Sit. Down.
405
406 POREC
407 I have answers, Mike Archer, but it was not my intent to
408 disrupt this moment. If you believe anything, believe that I
409 have respect for the rights of the dead. *Senjen*, continue.
410
411 SFX: Clothes rustling, chair scraping as Mike sits.
412
413 TARGONONE
414 Kath, *senjen*, continue.

415 KATHERINE
416 (deep breath)
417 I guess... I just want to say that we met Zana at the end of her
418 years; she had a life before us. A life full of love and horrors
419 and happiness and heartache. We came to her with our
420 problems, never assuming she had any of her own. If she
421 seemed to be without flaw, it's because we raised her up,
422 making her seem above us, too far out of our reach. I know I
423 did. And when she fell from that dizzying height, we blamed
424 her. We nearly condemned her for being human. For being
425 fallible.
426 She lived her life for us, her children. Our joys brought her
427 happiness and our failure earned her empathy. She loved us
428 with all her heart, and we loved her in return. That's no small
429 thing. For me, it's everything.
430 (beat)
431 Most of you here are here today to grieve for Coden, a
432 founding member of the Hunters of Truth. I'm here to grieve
433 for Zana, my friend and mentor. Coden is a piece of Zana's
434 legacy, as is, I guess, the discovery and destruction of the
435 Hand of Dorro. That young girl in the tiny farming village
436 might have been thrilled to learn that she'd someday be known
437 the world over for such great things; but for Zana, her greatest
438 achievement was us. Her children. We must remember that we
439 are a part of her legacy.
440 We are not perfect. We will struggle, and make mistakes, and
441 we will hurt one another. But if we can embrace her flaws and
442 mistakes as we did her counsel, perhaps we can also find a
443 measure of peace in our own Truth, as Zana did. Perhaps...
444 finally... we can learn to forgive.
445 (beat)

446 KATHERINE (cont.)
447 Dita, this was once Zana's bow, which she gifted to me. I no
448 longer have need of it, and I believe now that it was always
449 meant to find its way to you.
450
451 DITA
452 Kath—I do not think...I cannot accept—
453
454 KATHERINE
455 It should remain in the family.
456
457 DITA
458 *Cha grendi. Cha grendillo fai* for giving me one real thing that
459 was my mother's.
460
461 TARGONONE
462 *Cha grendi*, Kath. You truly speak as one who knows Truth.
463 (beat)
464 Any others? No? Then I shall enter Zana's One Question, and
465 the answer of *Ainorem*, in the Seeker's Book of Truth....

466 **Scene 15**

467 • Y. Zana, Targo

468

469 SFX: Draenmer ambiance

470

471 Y. ZANA

472 Wise Ainorem: Too long I have been idle, standing apart from
473 the world as it proceeds without me. I will not live the lives
474 my parents have. I cannot find contentment with simple things.
475 I seek knowledge; knowledge known and forgotten.

476 Knowledge to solve the ills of this world, to lead us all into the
477 light. I seek Truth. How will I find what I seek? Speak to me
478 in the words of one who knew Truth.

479

480 AINOREM

481 Zana, only by being of the world, not apart from it, will you
482 ever find the truth you seek.

483

484 (beat)

485

486 ZANA

487 Then... it is as I thought. *Cha grendillo fai.*

488

489 SFX: Crunching gravel

490

491 TARGO

492 Zana. Are you well?

493

494 Y. ZANA

495 Yes, Targo.

496

497 TARGO

498 Good then.

499 (beat)

500 Well, it seems the hour is late. Are you truly ready to leave this
501 place?

502

503 Y. ZANA

504 (deep breath)

505 I am.

506 (beat; serene:)

507 I am now.

508 **CREDITS**

509
510 Thank you for listening to Second Shift, a production of Blue
511 Sky Red Entertainment.

512
513 Episode 25, "Revelation", was written by Myssi Cerebi
514 [“*Sirbee*”] and John Tanzer, and edited by Brandon Crose.

515
516 It was directed by Ari Herbstman, with production assistance
517 from [production assistant(s)], and was produced by Sami
518 Rigel Genstein. [*GEN-stine*]

519
520 The voice actors, in order of audience, were:

521
522 Mike Hunter as Mike
523 Alexandria Gist as Katherine
524 Julia Lunetta as Arkahn
525 Ari Herbstman as Fesmer
526 Christina Molodowich as Dita and Zana
527 Renni Boy as Nomusa
528 Paul Harrington-Davis as Targonone
529 Brad Smith as Jareth
530 Matt Ringel as Rüngrot
531 Neil Marsh as Tristelopo and Porec
532 and
533 Michael McAfee as Dorro

534
535 The audio production team for Second Shift includes John
536 Carr, Gary Dryfoos and members of the Second Shift cast,
537 with sound effects wrangling by Brad Smith, [wrangler 2],
538 [wrangler 3] and audio mastering by [mastering engineer].

539

540 Original music composed by Tiven Weinstock.

541

542 The technical producer for Second Shift is Brad Smith, and the
543 Administrative Producer is Becki Harrington-Davis.

544

545 The creator and executive producer of Second Shift is Andréa
546 Jennifer Shubert.

547

548 To join our listener community or to contribute to the show,
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