

**THE HIDDEN PEOPLE**

Episode 1.15

"Wayward Journeys"

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161. Police Station. Quiet.

NARRATOR

Our stubborn detective shames the rising sun. She's already hard at work, like an early bird. Which worm are you hoping to get?

RON

Morning, Sam.

SAM

(grunts)

RON

Well, this is awkward. I thought I was gonna be the first one here.

SAM

(grunts)

RON

Got you some coffee. I thought you wouldn't be in for another half hour, so it's hotter than you like it.

Ron SETS the COFFEE CUP on the table.

SAM

(grunts)

RON

Are you still pissed?

SAM

Nope.

RON

Yes, you are.

SAM

What gave it away?

RON

Do you normally stab pencils through your stress ball?

SAM  
(grunts acknowledgement)

RON  
Look, what the chief said, it's not true. He shouldn't have said that--

SAM  
He's the chief. He can do and say whatever he wants.

RON  
What I mean is that...you're a good detective. You might be the smartest person I know.

SAM  
You should get out more.

RON  
I'm serious.

SAM  
Ron, you told him Thomas and I were seeing each other!

RON  
No, I said you might be too close to Thomas, and it may be affecting your judgment. There's a difference.

SAM  
I told you, the first time Thomas was attacked by those dogs, I went to the Thorne house to check Mackenna's shoes in the basement because she's a suspect. I went there on the job. Thomas happened to make food, and we ended up just two old friends catching up. It wasn't an actual date, and nothing happened.

RON  
But you've seen him a lot more than that. You're still close to him. That's all I said.

(MORE)

RON (CONT'D)

And the chief needs to know when people are personally involved. I didn't know he would threaten your job. Screw it. The chief doesn't know our case. We missed Mackenna a couple times. So what? It doesn't mean we didn't make progress. We keep searching, we keep trying. What he said was wrong. You do deserve to be here. You and I disagree about Thomas, but you're still good at your job.

SAM

Thanks.

An alert PINGS on Sam's computer.

RON

What's that?

SAM

From the phone company. Mackenna's phone. It just popped up on the grid.

RON

Oh shit. Where?

SAM

It's downtown, but it's moving. Looks like it turned onto Wayside Avenue.

RON

It disappeared. What happened?

SAM

I don't know. Maybe she turned the phone off again.

RON

Where did it disappear?

SAM

This part of Wayside Avenue. Close to 2nd Street. What's that building?

RON

I'm not sure. Can you switch to street view?

SAM

Yeah...does that say...Arcadia?

RON

Looks like it. What is it? The windows are all dark.

SAM

It's nightclub, isn't it? I've never been.

TYPING. Mouse CLICKS.

SAM (CONT'D)

No website for Arcadia. No social media. No online reviews.

RON

Why is she going into a night club during the day?

SAM

I don't know. It's very odd.

RON

What do you want to do?

SAM

Let's get some contact info for Arcadia and give them a call. I don't want to rush in guns blazing without doing some homework.

RON

Got it. That'll be a pleasant call. Hi, it's the police. Are you harboring a murderous fugitive?

SAM

I sure hope you have the good sense to never say it like that.

RON  
I know; I know.

SAM  
We don't want to tip them off if  
they're hiding her. The call is to feel  
them out first.  
(beat)  
Alright, get outta here.  
(beat, to her computer)  
We're coming for you, Mackenna.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**

162. WINDY bluff near the ocean.

NARRATOR  
Mackenna. Blind quest after blind  
quest. You feel as if you've finally  
found yourself, but someone else is  
always leading you. Have you stopped to  
ask where you'll end up?

SHAYLEE  
Keep up, Mack. The Well awaits.

MACKENNA  
(out of breath)  
Why couldn't we teleport a little  
closer. Isn't that superpower supposed  
to be convenient?

SHAYLEE  
By all means, if you can find a perfect  
circle drawn somewhere on this cliff  
let me know. It's right up here, I  
think. We need to go over some things  
before we get there.

MACKENNA  
What do you mean?

SHAYLEE  
I'm not sure what we'll find in this  
cave. Black Annis never tells the whole  
truth. If a vough does guard it like  
she said, that isn't good. They're old

things, and I don't know much about them. We need to be quiet, and we need to be quick.

MACKENNA

Got it: Get in. Drink from the well. Get out. Do you have a spoon or a ladle or a straw or something?

SHAYLEE

(sarcastic)

Yes, I have a bespoke flask for drinking well water. Do you want a napkin, too?

(beat)

I'm afraid you'll need to improvise. Here, take the rope.

MACKENNA

Why?

SHAYLEE

I'm going to tie one end to the rock. Black Annis mentioned a drop, so the cave must be in the cliffside.

MACKENNA

Wait, what? Is that what she meant?

SHAYLEE

What did you think she meant?

MACKENNA

I don't know. Like, a cave on top of cliffs?

SHAYLEE

That's ridiculous. Come on. You jumped safely off the warehouse.

MACKENNA

That wasn't nearly as high, and I was pushed. What makes you think I'm gonna go cliff diving with you?

SHAYLEE

Oh, don't be such a dry shite. It's not cliff diving. It's rappelling. Now get going.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**

163. FOOTSTEPS in a deep wilderness.

NISSA

This forest just keeps going. How is it that a tiny nature preserve could go on for miles?

ALFIE

I don't know. I've never been here before, but I think we might be lost.

NISSA

This whole thing is ridiculous. Why are we taking the advice of a stranger to look for some magical thing when we don't even know that magic exists? I really just need to be back in my own room with my laptop and a hot cup of tea or something. You can't get lost in the wilderness in your own house.

ALFIE

Speak for yourself.

NISSA

I've noticed you're not complaining as much these days. Are you feeling okay?

ALFIE

I'm great. This is too much fun to complain about. And important. I mean, searching for the lost Cloak of Fenrir!

NISSA

Nerd. You didn't even know what it was until the piano woman told us about it.

ALFIE

No, but now that we know that this kind of stuff is real, I'm on a whole new

plane of existence. Now let me check my map to see if we're close.

NISSA

Right. Your precious napkin map that doesn't actually do anything. You know we don't need that, right? Because I can remember everything she said.

ALFIE

True, but just because you remember what she said doesn't mean that you're familiar with this exciting bit of wilderness. Hence my map.

NISSA

A scribbled map that you drew on a used napkin with crayon.

ALFIE

My brother didn't have many options when we stopped by the house.

NISSA

I wish Thomas had joined us, someone else who at least thinks coherently.

ALFIE

Me, too. We should have kidnapped him. I think he could use a distraction from all the trauma of the last few weeks. First his parents, then Mack, then her evil twin, Fack. It's a lot to handle.

NISSA

Yes, because what he needs is to traipse through the woods with us. I'm sure he's managing.

#### **MUSICAL TRANSITION**

164. Footsteps PACING on wooden floor.

THOMAS

Where are you, Mackenna?

Paws PATTERN on the floor.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
Hey, Murphy. Come here, boy.

Dog SNIFFING and BREATHING.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
Do you know where she is, Murph?

Dog WHINING and VOCALIZATIONS.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
I know. I miss her, too. She was always so convinced that you didn't care, but I know the truth, buddy. I know you miss her. I see you lying by the basement door. Should we call her again?

More dog WHINING and VOCALIZATIONS.

THOMAS (CONT'D)  
Okay, but you need to stay on the line with me this time.

Phone DIALING.

PHONE  
The person you are trying to reach has a voice mailbox that is full. Please try again later.

NARRATOR  
How long can our golden boy hold on to his hope? Can he really keep it together as we unravel his life, strand by strand? He thinks finding Mackenna will return the world to the normalcy he's taken for granted. But he's not the only one in pursuit.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**

165. Busy police station.

RON  
Hey, partner. I got news on Arcadia.

SAM

Great. What is it?

RON

The news is there is no news.

SAM

What?

RON

That place is a Google ghost. I had to dig into city records for their business license just to get the address and phone number.

SAM

Interesting. What did they say when you called them?

RON

I thought you were going to call.

SAM

No, I thought I told you to call.

RON

I think we may have done one of those "we should call" things where you think I'm gonna do it, and I think you're gonna do it.

SAM

Oh. Well, give me the number.

DIALING on landline phone.

RON

There's pizza in the break room. Want some?

SAM (CONT'D)

I'm good. Also, assume you should make the call next time.

Ron WALKS away. The line is RINGING.

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
Hello? Sam?

SAM  
Thomas?

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
Um, yeah?  
(beat)  
You...called me? What's up?

SAM  
Sorry, uh, I thought I called...I was supposed to call someone else. Must've dialed you by accident. But now that I have you: I've been calling and texting since the night when...everything happened.

THOMAS  
I know. Sorry. I've been...feeling pretty lost.

SAM  
Have you heard from Mackenna?

THOMAS  
No. Haven't seen her, either. I truly have no idea where she is.

SAM  
If you hear from her--

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
I need to ask you something, Sam.

SAM  
What is it?

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
Well, not so much ask as to just say that I know Mackenna's innocent.

SAM

(beat)

What?

THOMAS

(through phone)

I'm serious. There are things going on--

SAM

Whoa whoa whoa, Thomas. I don't understand. You're the one who said it was Mackenna in the first place. You identified her.

THOMAS

(through phone)

I don't know what I saw anymore. She looks like her, but it's not Mackenna. Something is happening that I don't quite understand yet.

SAM

I wish I could believe you, Thomas. But--

THOMAS

(through phone)

Then believe me.

SAM

But you're not making sense! I need proof. Right now, we have your statement that it was Mackenna. Now you're saying it's not Mackenna. That only suggests that you're trying to protect her. We'll need something concrete if you want us to believe this one-eighty.

THOMAS

(through phone)

I...I understand. I'll get you the proof. I just need time.

Sam HANGS UP the phone.

SAM

Oookay.

RON

What was that?

SAM

Thomas is now insisting that Mackenna is innocent.

RON

Wait, isn't he the one who told you it was Mackenna in the first place?

SAM

Yeah. I'm not sure what he's thinking.

RON

He's our only witness. If he backs out of his story...

SAM

We have a bunch of circumstantial evidence. Not exactly the slam dunk I need to appease the chief.

RON

Well, I've been thinking. You know that Arcadia place? We should go. I mean, we have the address right here.

SAM

That's who I meant to call. Yeah, we can do that. See what we turn over. Let me grab my keys.

### **MUSICAL TRANSITION**

166. Sea wind BLOWS. Waves CRASH on rocks below.

SHAYLEE

It's not far. You're almost there.

NARRATOR

Be careful not to fall. Oh. Wait. That's coming.

MACKENNA

I'm woozy. Why did you make me go first?

SHAYLEE

Black Annis gave this quest to you, Mackenna. Only you can open the passage to the cave only you can drink from the Well of Wisdom. Only you can learn from it.

MACKENNA

Because of faerie magic or whatever?

SHAYLEE

Basically.

MACKENNA

How do you keep all the rules straight? It all seems like contradictory nonsense to me.

SHAYLEE

All of that is why you go first. Also, you never would have rappelled down the cliff if I hadn't made you go ahead of me.

MACKENNA

Being right all the time must suck.

SHAYLEE

I've grown accustomed.

(beat)

We're here. Can you feel it?

MACKENNA

Nope. Not getting any magic feels.

SHAYLEE

See that bit of moss to your right? Step on it with your foot.

MACKENNA

Nothing happened.

SHAYLEE

Harder.

Rock CLICKS into place.

Sound of STONE GRINDING on STONE.

SHAYLEE (CONT'D)

See? Easy.

MACKENNA

Oh yeah. No biggie. Just a big magical stone platform that appears on the side of a cliff, leading to a magical cave with a magical well. No sweat. How did you know it was there?

SHAYLEE

Reading the old patterns. I'll teach you at some point. The doorway is here in the rock. Go ahead and grab that giant ring that appeared, twist it and say, "This is the door I seek." Then push.

MACKENNA

Here goes nothing.

Metal ring TWISTS against rock.

MACKENNA (CONT'D)

This is the door I seek...nothing happened again. Did I do something wrong?

SHAYLEE

I'm only kidding. You pull it.

Mackenna exerts effort. Stone door OPENS.

MACKENNA

You're an awful person.

SHAYLEE

Sometimes you need to just try things. You can't always just believe everything you're told. A time may come

when you're on your own and have no one to trust but yourself.

MACKENNA

That just sounds like you want me to train myself so you don't have to.

SHAYLEE

I mean, do you know how many times I've almost died for you already?

Mackenna and Shaylee WALK in the cave.

NARRATOR

And so they go, delving deeper and deeper until the precious light fades and they must make their way using nothing to guide them but an eerie glow. This place is sacred, Mackenna. Not that you'd know. Or care. But your inability to appreciate it is most definitely a weakness.

SHAYLEE

(whisper, sensing danger)  
Stop walking. Remember, we're not alone. Something is here, guarding this place.

A rush of WIND.

The Vough's voice moves around spatially, as if it's circling them while it talks.

VOUGH

Why have you come?

SHAYLEE

Shite. That must be the highland vough guarding the Well. This is all you, Mackenna. Maybe we can talk through this without a fight.

MACKENNA

Um, I'm here to take a drink from the Well of Wisdom, I guess. Oh Mysterious, Disembodied Voice.

VOUGH

And where is your payment?

MACKENNA

I don't have payment.

VOUGH

No? None shall pass without payment.  
None shall hear what the waters reveal.

MACKENNA

Wait. Black Annis sent me.

VOUGH

Black Annis.

MACKENNA

Yes. I'm hoping you owe her a favor or something.

VOUGH

She stole something from me.

MACKENNA

Shit. What did she steal? Maybe I can get it back?

VOUGH

She ate my children.

MACKENNA

Oh. I'm sorry to hear that. Did I say Black Annis sent me? I meant that she and I are mortal enemies. Totally hate her. Right there with you.

VOUGH

None shall pass without payment, and you have none.

MACKENNA

Look, Mr. Disembodied voice.

VOUGH

What makes you think I have no body?

MACKENNA

Oh shit. Shaylee? I'm ready to go now.  
Shaylee?!

VOUGH

I am here and there. I am then and now.  
I am before and behind. I am shadow.  
Now let me step into the light.

NARRATOR

Oh, Mackenna. You need to turn on your  
charm when speaking to old ones.  
Flickering in and out of existence, the  
vough boldly leaps into its full glory:  
long, sharp nails, towering height,  
speed so fast it makes the vough as  
slippery as the cave.

MACKENNA

(frantic breathing)

You don't want to fight me. Trust me, I  
cannot fight you back. I am a terrible  
fighter.

VOUGH

You see, I do not dwell on the past  
when it does not disturb me. But now  
that you have openly invaded my domain  
at the behest of that creature, I have  
no choice but to steal your lifeblood  
from her.

Claws SCRAPING on rock.

VOUGH (CONT'D)

Goodbye, Messenger of Black Annis.

SHAYLEE

Get down!

Blade CLASHES with claws.

VOUGH

Stand aside, changeling. Or are you,  
too, in league with the witch?

SHAYLEE

Get to the Well, Mackenna. It's my turn now.

Shaylee and the vough FIGHT: sword vs. claws.

NARRATOR

Shaylee, you may be deft with your sword, but the ancient quickness of those claws speeding toward you far outstrips your ability.

Claws TEARING clothes and flesh.

SHAYLEE

(pained cry)

VOUGH

Your final breath shall be at my feet.

Powerful foot STOMP. The ground RUMBLES.

NARRATOR

Scooping mystic water is difficult when the entire room is shaking. Watch how far you lean, Mackenna.

MACKENNA

Shaylee! I can't reach it.

SHAYLEE

(in pain)

Hold on, Mackenna. I'll be right there.

NARRATOR

Not quite yet, Shaylee. The vough stomps on the ground, and the earth shakes, knocking both trespassers off balance.

More RUMBLES.

MACKENNA

(cries out)

Body SPLASHES into water.

SHAYLEE  
Mackenna, no!

VOUGH  
Now I have you in my grasp.

SHAYLEE  
(choking)

VOUGH  
You cannot escape. I shall feed on your  
lifeless remains. Die now.

SHAYLEE  
(gasping)  
Return to the hell that spawned you.

VOUGH  
Return? But I am here and there. I am  
then and now. I am before and behind. I  
am shadow.

SHAYLEE  
Then step into my light.

Blade STABS vough.

VOUGH  
(death cry)

NARRATOR  
You must admit, Alders, that these two  
are rather resourceful and determined.  
Perhaps that is why they've troubled  
you so.

Shaylee RUNS to the Well.

SHAYLEE  
Mackenna! Mackenna!

All sounds begin to blur underwater. Shaylee's screams come  
from outside the water, muffled. Her voice swirls with the  
whirling of the water.

Various memories play overtop of each other, making the words themselves impossible to follow. The layering becomes thicker and louder until it is a cacophony of scenes overlaid repeatedly.

Dialogue fades away as Mackenna's body gets DRAGGED out of the water.

SHAYLEE (CONT'D)

Mackenna! Speak to me! Wake up!

Shaylee lightly SLAPPING Mackenna's face

SHAYLEE (CONT'D)

Mackenna, we need to leave. The vough will not stay dead for long.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**

167. In a MOVING CAR.

SAM

So how was your pizza, Ron?

RON

Oh, you know. Uniform's getting tighter every day. Left at the light.

SAM

Then where?

RON

Right then immediate left. So why did you call Thomas? I watched you pick up the phone to call Arcadia.

SAM

Oh. I don't know. I had the phone in my hand. I thought I dialed the right numbers. Next thing I know Thomas is on the other end. I couldn't remember why I'd called. I don't even know how it happened.

RON

Sounds like muscle memory. Been calling him a lot, have you? Been looking for more evidence at his house, have you?

SAM

Shut up.

RON

You know a booty call and a butt dial are two different things, right?

SAM

Keep that up and you're riding in the trunk on the way back.

RON

Hang on.

SAM

What is it?

RON

The addresses...the numbers on these buildings are going up. Did we pass it?

SAM

Well, shit. I think we did. We are having a really off day. Maybe we're trying to live up to Madison Kepler's view of the police.

RON

Ooo, that makes me want donuts. The shop is just down the road.

SAM

Yeah, I guess we could indulge a bit. We worked really hard today.

RON

Okay, so donuts, then Arcadia.

SAM

Yes. Don't want to put that off.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**



NISSA

Watch where you're walking, Alfie.

ALFIE

But it has no shot of making any money.  
The demographics are way too different.

NISSA

Alfie, stop!

ALFIE

What? Whoa.

Walking STOPS.

NISSA

You almost fell into that ditch. You're  
welcome.

ALFIE

I was paying attention.

NISSA

Sure you were. I'm sure if you didn't  
fall into the ditch, you would have  
smacked your face on that low hanging  
tree limb up there.

(beat)

Alfie, there's that tree, the one she  
told us about.

ALFIE

The Double Knotted Tree of Desire!

NISSA

She did not call it that.

ALFIE

Awesome! That means we're, like, thirty  
feet away. Thank you, napkin map.

NISSA

Thank you, Nissa's total recall.

ALFIE

That's what I meant.

Resume WALKING through brush.

NISSA

What do you think we'll find?

ALFIE

The Cloak of Fenrir, obviously.

NISSA

No, I mean aside from that. Do you think there will be other things there?

ALFIE

Well, yeah. Liliana, lady of the Unhidden--

NISSA

Unseelie Court.

ALFIE

--and child of the weirdos said to only take the Cloak and nothing more. Sounds like there's a bunch of stuff.

NISSA

Yeah. Taking more than the Cloak will probably activate a bunch of curses and traps. Cue the Rolling Boulder of Absurdity.

ALFIE

We need to channel our inner Indiana Jones. Come on. There's a clearing up there. I think that's supposed to be it.

NISSA

It looks empty.

ALFIE

I don't understand.

NISSA

Maybe your crayons were wrong.

ALFIE

This has to be it. It feels right.  
Let's get to the clearing.

NISSA

I am not walking in there because you think it feels right. Your faith does not trump my reason.

ALFIE

Let me just check.

Tentative STEPS. Crossing MAGIC BARRIER.

ALFIE (CONT'D)

Oh wow. Nissa, it's an illusory wall!  
Step through!

Nissa STEPS forward. Crossing MAGIC BARRIER.

NISSA

(gasp of wonder)

My god.

ALFIE

I knew it was all real!

NISSA

This is amazing. An ancient magical vault?

ALFIE

I know, right?

NARRATOR

The martyr and the fool brazenly barge right into piles of ancient relics and treasures, stolen from the Old Ones who pine daily for what was once theirs. Artifacts so potent that even those who stole them cannot trust themselves to keep them safe.

NISSA

There are things everywhere. How do we find the Cloak of Fenrir?

ALFIE

I don't know. Maybe there's a wolf mannequin wearing it.

NISSA

Fenrir was a giant wolf, right? Gaping jaws, huge teeth, glowing eyes?

ALFIE

Yeah. Why?

NISSA

Turn around and look at that enormous statue of a giant wolf with gaping jaws, huge teeth, and glowing eyes.

ALFIE

Ha! That's him alright. This was easy.

NISSA

So that's Fenrir, but where's the Cloak? It's not the moss on the statue, is it?

ALFIE

I don't think so. What if it's not a literal cloak? What if it's more of a symbolic cloak and it's actually a different object? Like how a cloaking device isn't an actual cloak or buffalo wings don't come from buffalos.

NISSA

Okay, say you're right. So where is it? What is it?

ALFIE

Look inside the statue's mouth.

NISSA

A light. It's pulsing.

ALFIE

I think whatever we're looking for is inside. And I think I can reach my hand in there.

NISSA

You're going to reach into the mouth of  
a giant magic statue and assume it  
won't bite your hand off?

ALFIE

Should I put on gloves?

(beat)

I'm going for it.

NISSA

Can you reach it?

ALFIE

Almost...got it.

(beat)

Ta-dah. The Cloak of Fenrir!

NISSA

That's a tooth.

ALFIE

It's the tooth. And by tooth, I mean  
Cloak!

NISSA

I can't even count the reasons you're  
an idiot.

ALFIE

See the soft glow? The razor--ow!

NISSA

What?

ALFIE

It poked me.

NISSA

Baby. Here.

A mixture of half GUTTERAL GROWL half EARTHQUAKE starts to  
RUMBLE.

NISSA (CONT'D)

Please tell me that was your stomach.

ALFIE  
Wolfquake!

More GROWLING EARTHQUAKE RUMBLES.

NISSA  
Run!

ALFIE  
The ground is starting to give way! We  
have to make it to the edge of the  
barrier!

Nissa and Alfie RUN. Ground COLLAPSING. Alfie STUMBLES.

ALFIE (CONT'D)  
(oof)

NISSA  
Alfie, grab my hand!

ALFIE  
Oh no! The Cloak! It sliced right  
through my pocket!

NISSA  
Leave it. It's in the chasm now. Grab  
my hand.

ALFIE  
But the Cloak.

NISSA  
If we don't get out of here, we're  
going to end up in that hole!

NARRATOR  
A fool's errand. So much risk and they  
didn't even get what they came for.  
They do not know the extent of their  
failure. A final leap clears them past  
the barrier and snatches them away from  
the jaws of death. Their wits and their  
legs have kept them alive. For now.

ALFIE

Look back. Nothing. Like the ground  
didn't just open up and try to eat us.

NISSA

Okay. I could try to explain everything  
else, but this...

(beat)

Alfie, I think magic is real.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**

170.

SHAYLEE

Ah, watch it with that stuff.

DANE

Hold still and I won't spill so much.  
How does it feel?

SHAYLEE

Like ancient evil monster claws exposed  
my spleen. Mackenna, are you okay?

MACKENNA

Yeah. I mean, I scraped my elbow when I  
fell into the well, but I think I'm  
okay.

DANE

What happened?

SHAYLEE

Black Annis sent us to the Well of  
Wisdom to find Mackenna's creator.

DANE

It's real?!

SHAYLEE

It was guarded by a highland vough.

DANE

No shit? Those haven't been seen since  
the old days.

SHAYLEE

I know. While we fought, it knocked Mackenna into the well, and she got the full blast of it. She was unconscious when I pulled her out.

DANE

What happened when you fell in?

MACKENNA

It's really muddled. All the memories came at once. It was completely black, but I could hear voices.

SHAYLEE

What did you hear?

MACKENNA

People talking. So many voices at once...I couldn't really make anything out.

DANE

Did you hear anything you recognized? Something that could maybe point to your creator?

MACKENNA

I think some of the voices were me, but younger. I'm not sure. There were a lot of other people, too. The only other thing that stood out was a song. The woman who comes into the music store. What did you say her name was?

DANE

Liliana?

MACKENNA

Yeah. It's the song she plays on the piano every time she comes in.

SHAYLEE

Maybe that's why she's kept an eye on you. She must be your creator.

DANE

Fuuuck. This is so not good.

MACKENNA

Cuz she's, like, the faerie queen?

SHAYLEE

Anything to do with the Unseelie Court is bad news. If she and the Magister trained your fetch, that would explain why she's such a badass. And if Liliana created you, it would explain why your magic is strong.

MACKENNA

But she knows Nissa and Alfie. She's seen Thomas, too. I need to warn them. I know you said it was too dangerous to call, but I don't care.

SHAYLEE

I understand. We should at least warn them.

DANE

I can take you to a secure computer. You can video chat.

### **MUSICAL TRANSITION**

171. In a MOVING CAR.

RON

Those donuts were delicious.

SAM

Ugh, but now I'm in a sugar coma. I can't possibly grill the manager of a shady nightclub like this.

RON

Good point. It's late anyway. Let's just go over there tomorrow and see what they know.

SAM

That's a great idea. We'll call them  
sometime this week.

RON

Perfect.

SAM

What we really need is to find  
Mackenna. You wanna go to the corner  
bar and brainstorm? You eat, I'll  
drink, and we'll call it a meal.

NARRATOR

Arcadia. Easy to find. Not so easy to  
enter.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**

172. Nissa and Alfie WALKING through woods.

ALFIE

I can't believe we quested through a  
forbidden forest.

NISSA

I can't believe we made it out alive.

ALFIE

Man, I really wanted that Cloak.

NISSA

I'm sorry we lost it. Maybe there's a  
different magical relic we can pilfer.

ALFIE

Maybe.

NISSA

Cheer up, Alfie. It's not every day we  
survive a collapsing magical armory. I  
can see the road. Let's go.

ALFIE

Hang on. Who are those people up ahead?

NISSA

I don't know, but it looks like they're waiting for something. I don't like it.

ALFIE

Do you think they know about the armory?

NISSA

They certainly know something. They're looking right at us. Get ready to run.

(to the group)

Sorry, the nature preserve is closed. We were just making a final sweep. We open back up in the morning.

AILSA

You are Nissa Sifsdottir and Alfred O'Toole.

ALFIE

Nope. This is Laverne, and I'm Shirley.

AILSA

I am Ailsa, inquisitor of the Unseelie Court. What were you doing in the wood?

ALFIE

Geocaching.

AILSA

He speaks false. Take them.

NISSA

Run, Alfie!

Nissa RUNS on GRAVEL, then SLIDES to a stop.

NISSA (CONT'D)

Alfie, come on!

ALFIE

I can't. Something's got me! I can't move. Help me, Niss!

NISSA

Let him go.

AILSA  
Get the woman.

A STRUGGLE.

                  NISSA  
What are you doing? Get off of me!

                  AILSA  
Bind their hands and hood them. The  
Magister will want to see them.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**

173. Thomas's phone BEEPS for an incoming video call.

                  THOMAS  
Mackenna? Oh my god, it's good to see  
you.

                  MACKENNA  
                  (through phone)  
Hi, Thomas. Listen...we need to talk.

**MUSICAL TRANSITION**

174. Dark club MUSIC faintly, from another room.

                  NARRATOR  
Just when they thought they could  
relish in their survival, their  
predicament grows rather severe. The  
hunters became the hunted, blah, blah,  
blah. Soon, very soon, they will long  
for a time when they knew nothing of  
magic.

Ailsa and other Hidden WALK Nissa and Alfie in. Hoods are  
REMOVED.

                  ALFIE  
                  (whispering)  
So bright. Where are we? Nissa?

                  NISSA  
                  (whispering)  
Right beside you.

ALFIE  
(whispering)  
It's Liliana! Why is she acting like  
she doesn't know us?

NISSA  
(whispering)  
She doesn't want him to know.

ALFIE  
(whispering)  
Who is that guy?

NISSA  
(whispering)  
We're about to find out.

AILSAS  
Quiet. Kneel.

MAGISTER  
Welcome, Nissa and Alfred. I am the  
Magister.

THE END