

DRAGONMAN

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FADE IN:

EXT. BLACKNESS

A deep dismal voice pierces the silence.

VOICE (O.S.)

Long ago, in a world born of magic,
peace and prosperity flourished
throughout the land. But on one
fateful day, death came to
SPELLVILLE.

We see a bright blue cloud filled sky. Then we are zooming down, revealing what appears to be a swirling dust funnel in a clearing, surrounded by forest. Zooming farther down we see a young boy playing near it. Finally we see him get swallowed up into a cosmic portal. We now zoom out, farther and farther until we see a large man dressed in regal garb, he is a wizard, searching desperately through a forest. As he penetrates the trees he sees an ominous portal in the open field. A shoe lies on the ground near the swirling mass. He charges forward. The gray mass morphs into a monstrous face and swallows him up. We see several peasants as they watch from the edge of the forest. In the twinkling of an eye, we see the wizard exit the gray cloud mass. His skin is no longer normal, it is PALE GREEN. His appearance, ominous looking.

VOICE (CONT'D)

An alliance was forged with an evil
as old as time itself and in the
end, two regions, were born, SUNDRA
and BROGONTIS. Those who survived
and lived under the darkened skies
of Brogontis were entranced and
their memories devoured forever.

He raises his hands to the sky, as he does a whirlwind of MONSTROUS BLACK CLOUDS swirl, collide and rush upward into the sky, dividing the sky into two regions. The sun is blocked out over one region, the other side the sun shines bright. We zoom down to see two advancing armies charging toward each other. One from the darkness, the other from the light. With swords, flails and knives in hand; clenched in grim determination, they wage war. Dust blurs our vision. We now see a battle field. Bloodied bodies of the fallen are strewn everywhere. The battle rages on...

SPELLVILLE - A DISTANT REALM OF EARTH

BRIGHT SKY - OPEN FIELD

FADE TO:

Present day.

EXT. OPEN FIELD - DUSK

The BACK of MOCLAR, a FRAIL elderly looking SOOTHSAYER with gray hair, and beard, clothed in a simple long brown robe, looks out at a cluster of unhappy peasants and village elders, huddled together in an open field, just behind his old clay dwelling, waiting for Moclar to speak. They stand ill at ease amidst the thick shrubbery and trees surrounding them. They watch the wooded area guardedly for fear of an ambush from the WIZARD KING, ALABA and his savage army. The troubled townsfolk exchange nervous glances as he begins to speak.

MOCLAR

Your presence here is not safe; I ask that you not rebel on the morrow. Go NOW to the safety of your homes.

GARBA, a BEARDED MAN in his fifties flanked by several peasants shakes his head heavily and screams out his disapproval in frustration. Others mutter their disapproval amongst each other.

GARBA

Safety of our homes? ... Our sons and daughters are being killed in night raids. We have to stand up and fight, NOW! Or leave our homes and cross-over to the safety of SUNDRA.

MOCLAR

Calm down Garba, BROGONTIS is your home. This is neither the time nor the place for action.

At that moment, UNTER a HOODED figure cloaked in a BLACK CAPE, leaves the group unnoticed and walks back into the forest. The TALL STRONG FIGURE moves forward into the cold silvery moonlight revealing his sinister DARK FACE with PALE WHITE EYES. To the left and the right of him are thirty or forty wild-haired muscular men, draped in weather-worn brown hides and armor covering their upper bodies. They wait for Unter's order to attack. He reaches under his cloak for a wooden staff, then whirls it before him, where it magically borrows deep into the ground.

All at once, wild, THICK STRANGLING VINES puncture through the forest bed on all sides of the townsfolk and begin creeping across the ground toward them, fast. There is a low rumble coming from the darkness surrounding the townsfolk. A peasant turns and looks toward the trees. There is a quite stillness, then the sound of leaves rustling and twigs breaking. At first the peasant wordlessly looks on. But then feels a vine firmly wrapping around his ankle, he screams.

PEASANT

Help.

The grass surrounding the townsfolk is now roaring loudly with the crunching sounds of the creeping vines moving rapidly across the ground. The peasant's cry of alarm sends the people running in all directions, but their attempt to escape is futile. The vines around their legs are holding them in place. Garba is pulled to the ground, a thick vine quickly wraps around his neck, choking the life out of him. Unter gazing at the townsfolk, bleakly he says to BRACO, his second-in-command, a large burly man.

UNTER

Bring me Moclar.

BRACO

Alive?

UNTER

His head will do.

BRACO

And the rest?

Unter with a sinister grin, runs his finger along a long sharp blade.

UNTER

Now go.

With deafening screams Braco's legion attack with SWORDS drawn killing everyone in their path. Except for Moclar, standing alone as the vines wrap around his legs. Braco stands before him, his sword drawn and ready.

MOCLAR

You can no more kill me than you
can your destiny; a doomed empire.

Braco swings his sword with full force across Moclar's neck. The sharp blade passes through him like a vision, Moclar stands there unharmed.

MOCLAR (CONT'D)

The day of the Chosen-One is near,
he can be friend or foe heaven help
those who see his dark side.

Braco, stunned for an instant by the old man's magic, swings his sword once more at Moclar's neck, and again Moclar stands unharmed. A moment passes, suddenly, Moclar begins to glow from within, becoming brighter and brighter. Then in a silent burst of sparkles, he is gone. Braco turns around to see the slaughter is complete; his soldiers stand ready for his orders. Braco looks toward the trees but Unter is gone. All at once he feels the strangler vines coiling tightly around his legs, they continue all the way up to his neck then stop. A shadow descends over him, Braco looks up, his eyes widen with dread. Soaring twenty feet above him is Unter.

UNTER

(his voice is grim and
commanding)

Failure cannot and will not be
tolerated.

BRACO

I cannot kill a vision. There is
magic afoot.

Unter peers down menacingly at Braco's soldiers, then throws his arms out wide, his fingers pointing downward and shouts...

UNTER

BALATARA!

Suddenly, the ground rips open and Braco's entire legion fall into a gaping pit, screaming in anguish as they are eaten alive by millions of flesh eating worms, Braco watches horrified.

UNTER (CONT'D)

Bring me the Chosen-One!

BRACO nods subserviently.

FADE TO:

EXT. DEEP SPACE - NIGHT

A Star explodes in deep space, billions of fragments of the star light up and fill the heavens as they blast toward us and then everything turns dark, all that is left is a myriad of glowing stars of light and the stillness of space. Suddenly, a blast of speed by an unseen dark force propels toward us against the ever-present planets and stars as they drift off into space and diminish.

A gigantic shadow moves toward us, slowly eclipsing the lunar surface of the moon. SOUND - EERIE SOUND AFFECTS

EXT. MILWAUKEE - LAKEFRONT - MOONLIT NIGHT

Silhouette of downtown buildings black against a lemony sky. People laughing and partying boisterously on a yacht about 300 feet from shore. A strange ECLIPSE of the MOON in progress. No longer a moonlit night. Moon in full eclipse. Only a faint glow can be seen around it. Two points of light begin to emerge, one on each side of the moon. They quickly become brighter, more intense and larger. People in the yacht stop partying and become silent. Several men and women in swimwear look up in fright, pointing to the sky. People slam to a stop in their cars and look up to the sky in awe, others stand on their front porches looking up, hands clasped in prayer, terrified. It is so bright now it looks like early afternoon. TWO WHITE BLAZING BEAMS of light burst downward from the heavens. One strikes Lake Michigan, while the other hits a tree in downtown Milwaukee. Within seconds it's over; the sky darkens and moonlight returns.

EXT. - DOWNTOWN MILWAUKEE - EARLY MORNING

FEMALE REPORTER, in her late twenties, conducts on site interviews with the locals. ELDERLY SOUTHERN looking GENTLEMAN with gray hair, beard, powder blue suit and hat, speaks with a heavy southern accent.

FEMALE REPORTER

Hi, JILL WANES here from channel 11 news. I've been talking to some of the locals about what happened last night. Can I get your thoughts on that Sir? Your name is?

BILLY BOB DURHAM

My name madam, is BILLY BOB DURHAM. My friends call me MR. ESP.

FEMALE REPORTER

Well, Mr. ESP, any prediction you'd care to share with us today?

BILLY BOB DURHAM

I would indeed. Last night's occurrence changed our planet in ways yet unknown to us and with grave consequences yet to come.

FEMALE REPORTER

Whoa! Doesn't sound too good for us. Hopefully you're wrong. What do you think JOHN?

INT. NEWS ROOM

NEWS ANCHOR, fortyish black hair.

NEWS ANCHOR

(smile)

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY. I'm at a loss.

FEMALE REPORTER

(wide-smile)

THAT'S A FIRST!

NEWS ANCHOR

(grin)

Thanks Jill. The official rendering of what happened last night was just simple ice particles being illuminated from atmospheric and environmental factors and nothing more.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF GROCERY STORE - MID-MORNING

LUKE, 16 years old, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim build, 6' tall. TERA, 15 years old, black hair, blue eyes, 5' 7" tall. They stand outside a grocery store with some last minute items for their barbecue at the circus parade; hot dog buns, and chips. Luke fumbles around in his pocket trying to find the ring he wants to give to Tera.

TERA

Now don't forget to meet me at the parade at 2:00 o'clock at the popcorn wagon with the clowns and the candy canes painted on it.

LUKE

I won't.

TERA

You look nervous.

Luke takes ring out of his pocket. He shows her the ring.

LUKE

I'm not nervous, I'm ... Would you go out with me?... I mean, be my ...

Tera smiles, hugs and kisses him,

LUKE (CONT'D)
Does that mean...?

TERA
What do you think?

Luke puts the ring on her finger, and is about to kiss her, when from behind GILBERT BELLING, a tall heavy built bully and his two friends RAY GONNA and TIM GEEGERS from school, interrupt. Gilbert, pours a soda on Luke's head. Then pushes him to the ground, quickly Luke gets to his feet and tries to defend himself when Ray puts his leg out behind Luke and Gilbert pushes him to the ground again, then reaches out and puts his arms around Tera's waist. He is about to kiss her.

GILBERT
What are you doin' with a loser
like that?

Tera reaches out and puts her arms around Gilbert's neck then comes in closer with her lips pursed as though in a kiss, Gilbert closes his eyes, then, without warning feels her knee smack him hard in the groin. Groaning in pain he falls to the ground hard. Ray and Tim burst out laughing. Tera turns and looks over at Luke, his back is to her and he's walking away, she runs to him.

TERA
Are you okay?

LUKE
(angry)
Whatever.

With a saddened demeanor, Tera turns and begins to walk away.

LUKE (CONT'D)
(calls out to her)
Sorry!

Tera turns around with a smile.

TERA
Two o'clock.

Luke forces a smile and nods affirmatively.

EXT. FRONT WALK OF SUBURBAN HOUSE - EARLY AFTERNOON

Tera, stands impatiently with hands on hips, staring at TROY and JIMMY, who are on the front porch. Troy, 17, tall and handsome, is Tera's older brother. Jimmy, Troy's best friend, the same age and somewhat pudgy. They are laughing, guilty looking.

TERA
Come on, you guys. Where's BRANDY?
I have to get going. I'm meeting
Luke.

JIMMY
Oh, we've got her.

TROY
Here she is!

He opens the door and a dyed red Pomeranian bounds out to Tera. Brandy barks. Tera picks her up.

TERA
What did you do to my dog?

TROY
Now Brandy's a happy clown-dog,
perfect for the Parade!

TERA
I think I'm adopted.

Tera puts Brandy on the ground and turns to go. Troy and Jimmy follow.

TERA (CONT'D)
(to Troy and Jimmy)
Keep your distance. I mean it.

EXT. CIRCUS PARADE - POPCORN WAGON - DAY

2:00 o'clock Luke waits patiently for Tera at the popcorn wagon.

EXT. CIRCUS PARADE - OLD TREE - DAY

Brandy runs off toward the circus parade and Tera follows. Troy and Jimmy follow. SOUND: Squirrel chattering. A portly squirrel crosses Brandy's path and darts off toward a tree. It's very old, and the branches are many and close to the ground. Brandy chases after the squirrel.

TERA
Brandy! Come here girl!

Tera runs after her dog. As the dog reaches the tree it halts and emits a high-pitched squeal and vanishes. We see a REDDISH BROWN FURRY CREATURE standing on all four legs at the base of the tree. As Tera approaches, the creature slowly stands upright. The back of the creature is facing us. Tera screams, then vanishes into thin air. She is sucked into a cosmic portal in the tree;

opened up by the events of the other day. The red creature makes a strange chattering sound then disappears into the tree as well. Troy and Jimmy see nothing as they rush toward the portal, smacking each other around like a couple of goof-balls. Their loud rough-housing is cut short as they also vanish. SOUND: Gusts of wind and bird-song.

EXT. CIRCUS PARADE - POPCORN WAGON

A crowd of people look on in awe as the exotic animals and exhibits pass by them. With a expression of puzzlement Luke looks at his WATCH, it is now 4:00 o'clock.

EXT./INT. SPELLVILLE - FOREST - NIGHT

PULLED violently through a brightly lit TUNNEL amid screams and hysteria the three kids land in an open field with a thump, they lie there, out cold. Upon awakening they find themselves captive in a HORSE DRAWN BOX made of thick branches being dragged violently across a rugged forest bed, flanked by several large BOORISH SOLDIERS. Tera, Troy and Jimmy's screams go unanswered, Tera's dog barks uncontrollably at his captors. Moonlight reveals a HUGE stone castle just in front of them at the edge of the forest. An IMPREGNABLE DRAWBRIDGE, adorned with gargoyle like carvings and covered with wild dense creeping vines, crashes down. Just below it, CROCODILE like CREATURES swim about ferociously in a moat. Its eerie stone entrance, a tribute to its mighty WIZARD KING, sends out a fear-provoking welcome.

CONJURING ROOM

Two towering doors open with a loud creaking sound. Unter and Braco, enter with the three kids still confined in the wooden box, surrounded by several savage looking warriors. Books, scrolls, bottled tonics and potions line the walls everywhere in the huge OCTAGON shaped room. The dim glow of candles burning in the vast room gives the impression that the room is unoccupied. Suddenly, from out of the shadows a large grave looking figure draped in a long drab dark green cape comes into view, his long gray hair partially covered by an old green pointy hat, his face is a pale olive green. The visitors wordlessly look on as ALABA reaches into a burning fire pit. He brings his hand out holding an intense FLAMING ORB of FIRE. The onlookers back away from the intense heat. Slowly Alaba nears the wooden confine and looks in.

ALABA

And what have we here?

BRACO

I believe one of these strangers TO
OUR WORLD could be the Chosen-One.

ALABA

The Chosen-One ... You speak of a treasonous vision from the Moclar prophecies.

Braco's eyes turn down. Alaba releases the fire ball, whereupon it stays suspended in thin air. He then stirs water from an OLD BROWN RUSTED CAULDRON with a wooden shift. As the surface ripples disappear he bends forward and stares into the water. Suddenly, a chilling FACE appears, its sinister GLOWING EYES stare back at him. Alaba's eyes narrow as the apparition's silent message reaches his ears. Electrical current and dark vapor shimmering from within the large brown vessel, flicker across his face revealing his angry stare. All at once, an eruption of flames flash from the pot and the vision in the water is gone.

ALABA (CONT'D)

Is that what the architect of this rebellion told you?

BRACO

He said only, that the day of the Chosen-One was upon us.

ALABA

And is it?

BRACO

No my lord.

ALABA

Where is the author of this insurrection?

BRACO

Dead, by my own hand your lord.

Alaba grabs the fire ball and storms forward, jarring to a halt just in front of Braco.

ALABA

You look ill at ease.

Braco trembles as he shakes his head no, and is about to speak when Alaba hurls the fire ball forward, hitting a LARGE STONE FIGURE with a LION'S BODY, EAGLE'S HEAD, WINGS, and sharp TALONS. The flames envelope the stone figure fast, turning it bright blue and producing an unearthly shriek. Suddenly, it begins to move its head wildly from side to side, it peers down at Braco, he runs toward the door but is easily overtaken by the beast. Its powerful talons dig deep into his shoulders and in one swift movement the beast savagely devours half of him.

It takes flight straight up breaking through a large glass skylight above, broken glass rains down everywhere, the rest of Braco still hanging from the monster's razor sharp beak. The three kids scream out in horror. Brandy, barks, wildly, runs out of the wooden cage toward Alaba. Suddenly, from the shadows, three dark hooded figures advance forward silently into the light, the white eyed demons, like Unter, are suspended in mid-air ready to protect Alaba. Then with one swift swing of his sword Unter kills the dog. Alaba gestures for the removal of the prisoners from his chamber. Several of the savage warriors comply. Tera's hysterical screams trail off as they are dragged away.

ALABA (CONT'D)
Bring me the RUBY of SPELLVILLE.
The Chosen-one will be powerless
without it.

UNTER
The ruby no longer exists.

ALABA
(murderous stare)
On your life you swear this?

UNTER looks down.

UNTER
(subserviently)
If it still exists you will have
it.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOWNTOWN MILWAUKEE - NIGHT

EXTREME CLOSE UP - NEWSPAPER SPINNING IN A CIRCLE. NEWS
UPDATE, HEADLINE READS: THREE WEEKS AND STILL NO CLUES ON
WHEREABOUTS OF THE THREE MISSING TEENS.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXTREME CLOSE UP - ONE YEAR LATER

EXT. LUKE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Luke walks out of his house. A two story white home. He walks toward the bus stop on his way to work at the circus parade. His father, muscular build, in his mid-forties, rushes out of the door.

FATHER
Are you going to practice?

LUKE
I'm goin' to work.

Father looks him hard in the eyes.

FATHER
What am I missing here?

Luke's face reddens, then speaks like he's been mulling something over for a long time.

LUKE
I'm not you dad. I'm never gonna'
be the star quarterback.

Luke turns and walks away. Father looks down. SCENE FADES.

EXT./INT. CIRCUS PARADE - AFTERNOON

Cheering throngs of people line both sides of the downtown streets, watching Barnum & Bailey's Great Circus Parade. Painted wagons, elephants, and zebras parade the avenues. Luke stands behind two little kids who are gobbling cotton candy. A sturdy backpack hangs from his right shoulder. His brow and forelocks are sweaty from work, and he looks on the Parade with fond amusement, yet his eyes are heavy with an obvious sadness. A beefy man, in his fifty's, comes over to Luke and puts a hand on his shoulder. Exhaustion draws Luke's face down.

LUKE
Hey, Mr. SCHONDHAUSER. I was just
going to lunch.

MR. SCHONDHAUSER
You don't look so good kid.

LUKE
(eyes-half-closed)
I feel fine.

Mr. Schondhauser strokes his jaw.

MR. SCHONDHAUSER
I don't think so sport. I think you
better call it a day.

LUKE
You're the boss.

He turns away from Mr. Schondhauser and heads for a quiet place to eat his lunch and rest. He finds a tree, unbeknownst to him it is the same tree that Tera, Troy, and Jimmy stumbled upon a year earlier. Sitting down against the trunk, his eyes flutter shut and open again.

The top branches of tree sway, but there is no breeze. A whistling intake of air. Luke's eyes flash open. He looks at the crowd as they pass by. He hears a loud cracking sound. The ground is shaking, and rumbling violently as the trunk of the tree opens up and Luke is pulled into the opening. His hand disappears last. He grabs the straps of his backpack at the last instant.

Luke is pulled VIOLENTLY through a portal.
Ahhhhhhhhhh

EXT. SPELLVILLE - LARGE TREE

Luke is thrown from a portal into a large tree hitting every branch on the way down. The fall knocks him out. Luke lying on the ledge of a cliff, he looks down in awe to see Spellville, he lets out a long breath realizing he just barely escaped death. Sound of the ledge Cracking as it breaks away. Luke desperately grabs hold of a thin brittle tree root and is able to get one foot up on what's left of the ledge and begins to pull himself up. Suddenly, the thin root breaks.

LUKE
Ahhhhhhhhhh

Under the ledge the ground rips open, and a thick root breaks through and begins coiling firmly around Luke's ankle. The thick root pulls Luke up over the ledge then through a bed of dead leaves; intermingled with the SKELETAL REMAINS of both people and animals alike. Luke struggles unsuccessfully to free himself. He looks down, then back up, his eyes get big in terror. DEEP ROARS and GROWLS. Just in front of him a LARGE hideous looking TREE opens up to reveal a MOUTH full of huge brown, sharp TEETH, dripping with the blood of its last victim. Luke is pulled slowly toward the tree monster, about ten feet away from him, his face is crumpled in a terrified grimace. He struggles to get his jet torch butane lighter out of his backpack. He ignites it. Flames go forth like a flamethrower. With a roar, the tree monster releases its grip on Luke's ankle. Luke drops backward as he gasps for air near the mouth of the tree.

Luke looks around in fear, and wonder, through a strange and dangerous forest. He walks down a path with trees bearing both apples and oranges. Fearsome serpents and reptiles peer down at him from the trees on both sides of the path he's on.

LUKE (CONT'D)
At least I won't starve.

Luke emerges from the forest into a field of dry corn; just one of many, they are everywhere. Suddenly, he hears someone following him, he turns and nobody is there. He continues to move ahead cautiously until he sees a menacing shadow on a nearby massive rock. Afraid of what's moving his way, he walks backwards away from the ghostly shadow, as he does he trips and falls down.

The shadow gets closer and closer, he trembles in fear as the huge dark silhouette at last over shadows him. Then from out of nowhere, to his amazement a reddish brown furry little creature comes into view. It is making odd noises. Both Luke and the creature are startled. Suddenly, the creature's babbling becomes intelligible.

CREATURE
(distrustful)
What a strange and ugly creature.

LUKE
I heard that!

CREATURE
Your tone suggests I offended you.

LUKE
How are you getting into my head like that?

CREATURE
You're not from here, are you?

LUKE
NO. I'm from Milwaukee.

CREATURE
Never heard of it. Were you next to a large tree when it happened?

Luke stares confusingly.

LUKE
When it happened?

CREATURE
The way you got here!

LUKE
Yeah!

The creature stares at Luke while stroking his jaw suspiciously.

LUKE (CONT'D)
Why ya' lookin' at me that way?

CREATURE
The name is DOOLABAYOROUIS.

LUKE
Dooly... what?

CREATURE
DOOLABAYOROUIS.

LUKE
Like it or not, I'm callin' ya'
Dolly.

DOOLY
I see. To answer your question.
It's your golden hair.

LUKE
My hair?

DOOLY
The MANE of the CHOSEN-ONE!

LUKE
You're crazy.

Dooly leans his head back and looks down the ridge of his nose at him.

DOOLY
(shouts)
Like it or not that's what I'm
calling you!

LUKE
Why?

DOOLY
Because you are the only one in
Spellville with golden hair.

LUKE
So that makes me your Chosen-One?

DOOLY
Never mind, it's just the ramblings
of an old fool.

LUKE
(to himself)
A dog that talks... what next?

Suddenly, the creature stands upright about, FOUR FEET tall. He is HUMANOID in appearance with a rough MAN-LIKE FACE and hands.

DOOLY
(hard stare)
You think I'm an animal? I live in
a clay dwelling, like everyone
else.

LUKE
You're doing it again. Get out of
my head.

Dooly
Be careful with first impressions,
around here, they can get you
killed.

Luke and Dooly leave the corn field to sit in the shade of a Watermelon-Pumpkin tree. Luke takes some popcorn out of his backpack and gives a little of it to Dooly. Dooly chews slowly.

DOOLY (CONT'D)
It sounds like you came through a
WRONG-WAY TREE.

LUKE
A wrong tree!?

DOOLY
A WRONG-WAY TREE!

LUKE
Can I go back the same way?

DOOLY
It's to dangerous.

Luke appears depressed. Absently, he takes his stereo viewer out of his backpack. He looks at pictures he took of last year's trip to the zoo with his stereo camera. Dooly looks at Luke with a puzzled expression. Then gestures for the viewer. Luke hands it to him.

DOOLY (CONT'D)
You must be a very powerful
sorcerer to have captured all these
beings and strange creatures in
this small box.

LUKE
Yeah, real powerful.

DOOLY
But three of these beings have
escaped your little box prison. The
female I've seen twice.

Luke grabs the camera and looks in the viewer. It is a picture of Tera, Troy, and Jimmy. His head is cocked looking anxiously at Dooly.

LUKE
You saw Tera twice. Where?

DOOLY
Once while lost in a strange land.
And once here.

LUKE
Where are they now?

DOOLY
They were captured by Alaba's
soldiers.

Luke stands in front of Dooly. There is a look of grim determination on his face.

LUKE
Take me to them!

DOOLY
You would never survive the
journey.

LUKE
Don't worry about me.

Luke glares at Dooly with rage in his eye's.

DOOLY
As you wish.

EXT. MOUTH OF RIVER

They come to the mouth of a river that they must cross. They stare down at its raging waters. Dooly crosses over alone. He gestures for Luke to follow. Luke stands petrified before an invisible bridge.

DOOLY
Hesitation makes cowards of us all.

Luke gives Dooly a hard stare, then crosses. They decide to rest for awhile. Luke is about to sit down on what he thinks is a large rock. It is a huge brown rock-like frog with its mouth agape.

DOOLY (CONT'D)
RUN!

Luke dives toward Dooly just as the creature's jaws slam shut.

LUKE
That was close.

Dooly shakes his head and is about to speak when he senses imminent danger.

He slips into the bushes just as a LIGHTNING BOLT crashes to the ground and IN AN INSTANT, a portal opens up in mid-air. Six rough WARRIORS clothed in long brown hooded capes emerge through the opening, followed by Unter and Alaba. Alaba points a crooked finger at Luke.

ALABA

(sinister stare)

He has the golden mane of a lion.
Don't kill this one...

Unter nods obediently.

Alaba and Unter step back through a large flaming portal, followed by a powerful gust of superheated air that knocks everyone back a few feet, then it closes up. Alaba's henchmen then grab Luke and start to drag him toward the opening of another portal. Suddenly the ground starts shaking, trees crashing, trees part open as though a giant is coming through. Alaba's henchmen began to scatter into the forest with expressions of horror on their faces. In their panic, Luke manages to escape, and runs into the forest where he looks on in terror. Luke squats behind a rock, peering toward the falling trees in fear. The shaking stops. A THREE-FOOT TALL REPTILE-LIKE CREATURE walks out from beneath a tree. It has a pot-belly, a long tail, and bat-like wings. The creature wobbles toward Luke's popcorn and begins to eat it. Luke leaves the shelter of the rock and approaches the creature. There is a moment of silence. Luke rolls his eyes.

LUKE

What's everybody afraid of?

Without warning, the little reptilian creature EXPLODES into a mutating giant dragon. It TOWERS over the TREE TOPS. The fierce dark green monster's under belly is red and orange, the color of flames. Its massive head sways, twisting about menacingly. There is an angry hiss. Dragon's roar reverberates through the forest.

DRAGON

(telepathically to Luke)

Prepare to die, puny being!

The dragon cocks his head, his eyes narrow. His long tongue licks his bloody teeth. The creature lowers his massive head and stares at Luke's hair. He then opens his mouth wider as if ready to devour Luke.

LUKE

Wait!

DRAGON

You can hear me?

LUKE

Yes.

DRAGON

I grow tired of this. Be quick!

LUKE

I can make tons of the white stuff
you were eating.

The Dragon studies the human suspiciously.

DRAGON

(Dragon to himself)

I can always kill him later.

(to Luke)

Speak fast.

Luke points to a field of dried corn.

LUKE

Breathe your fire over there and
you will see magic happen.

The dragon roars. A blaze of fire shoots from his mouth into the field. Popcorn popping. The field is covered with popcorn, like freshly-fallen snow. The dragon pretends to be overwhelmed. He mutates back into the small, potbellied creature and leaps in the popcorn, disappearing. Loud munching. Dooly creeps out from behind some bushes. He stares at Luke in awe.

DOOLY

Oloff is an old and clever shape-
shifter. He can not be trusted.

LUKE

Oloff!?

DOOLY

The dragon. Many witnessed you
single-handedly control that beast.

LUKE

Did I miss something? Nobody's here
but you and me.

DOOLY

You miss everything. That's why you
wouldn't survive a day in this
forest without me. The forest is
full of TELL-TREES, the ears of
Alaba.

LUKE

He can listen to us from the trees?

DOOLY
The blue and green leaves betray
us.

LUKE
I'm not leaving here without my
friends.

DOOLY
It is dangerous.

Oloff comes out of the mound of popcorn and approaches Luke.
Dooly takes cover in the high brush.

OLOFF
(mouth full)
I like the white stuff. Give me
more.

LUKE
Promise me something first.

OLOFF
Make your request.

LUKE
We are now friends, and friends
don't eat friends.

OLOFF
(voice trails off)
For as long as we remain friends.

Oloff flies off, as he does, he swoops down into some high
brush and brutally grabs hold of one of Alaba's sentinels
with his talons. Blood rains down, as does his torn and
bloodied cape as he soars upward. Dooly walks out from the
safety of the bushes.

DOOLY
You made a great ally today. Chosen-
One.

LUKE
Stop calling me that.

Luke shakes his head in frustration.

LUKE (CONT'D)
Why does Oloff have two forms?

DOOLY
He uses his smaller form to lure
his victims.

LUKE

Then why did it sound like a giant was coming if he was trying to lure something?

DOOLY

I never said he was the smartest creature in Spellville... Well, if we're going to the castle let's do it now before I change my mind.

LUKE

Sweet!

Dooly stares in confusion.

DOOLY

We'll never make it there with that golden mane exposed.

Dooly points to the bloody cape lying on the ground.

LUKE

That thing reeks.

DOOLY

Nonsense! It's torn and bloody but it will serve you well.

Luke picks it up, his face grimaces from the smell.

LUKE

Nasty.

DOOLY

First we must seek out ZOE. She is a MYSTIC PATHFINDER.

LUKE

A mystic what?

Dooly shakes his head in annoyance.

DOOLY

Questions, questions and more questions... She and those who travel with her can move freely through Brogontis. She is unaffected by the spell.

LUKE

The spell!?

DOOLY

Nothing for you to be concerned about.

LUKE
If you say so.

DOOLY
There is one little problem though.
She dwells beyond the DEVIL'S
PLAYGROUND.

LUKE
The Devils Playground!?

DOOLY
The forest.

Luke peers off into the forest. Then Dooly mutters something inaudible.

LUKE
What?

DOOLY
It's to treacherous a journey for
us. I will go to VADO to get help.
Stay here until I return.

LUKE
There's no way I'm staying here. We
go together. SCENE FADES.

INT. BADEO'S PUBLIC HOUSE - MORNING

Smoky interior of pub resembles a large dirty garbage-can. Bar is loud with patrons of every size, shape, and color. Dooly and Luke enter and walk up to the bar. They sit on bar stools and order a couple of SNAKE EYES from BELLA, the bartender. A large heavy set man with a black handle-bar mustache.

DOOLY
(to Bella)
Two snake eyes.

Dooly is looking around for a familiar face. Bar patrons GEBA, skinny and rough looking and JOGA, bald, medium build wearing a torn brown shirt are startled by Luke's blonde hair and blue eyes.

GEBA
LOOK AT THAT!

JOGA
He is strange.

BELLA
(to Dooly)
Is he the one everyone is talking
about?

DOOLY
Yes, he talks to the oldest and
fiercest of all dragons.
(whispers to Luke)
Drink up.

LUKE
Why?

DOOLY
Not to would show weakness in their
eyes.

LUKE
What is this?

DOOLY
Just drink it! ALL OF IT!

BELLA
What brings you into town today?

DOOLY
I need to travel through the
forest.

BELLA
Why would you attempt such a
dangerous journey?

DOOLY
I need to find Zoe. She lives on
the other side of the forest.

BELLA
Save yourself the trouble. You can
find a Mystic Pathfinder in town.
There's plenty.

DOOLY
Zoe's the best, she protects with
an eight foot circle of safety.

BELLA
That's just a myth.

Luke takes a sip of his drink. He coughs, then spits it out.
A BIG BURLY MAN stares fiercely at Luke.

MEHAN, a tall man with a really BIG HEAD gets up from a table carrying an enormous mug of beer. He walks over to the bar and stands next to Dooly and Luke.

MEHAN
I gather you haven't heard the stories going around?

DOOLY
Stories?

Mehan takes a long draught of beer.

MEHAN
The townsfolk are being savagely killed by a creature that comes out of that forest at night.

DOOLY
Really!

BELLA
(cuts in)
That's crazy talk.

MEHAN
(to Bella)
You've been warned.
(to Dooly)
I haven't seen you or your friend in here before, I'm Mehan.

DOOLY
I've been in here plenty of times.

Big burly man approaches Luke.

DOOLY (CONT'D)
Don't make eye contact with him, he's crazy.

LUKE
What does he want?

DOOLY
I don't know.

Luke turns and stares right at the man.

DOOLY (CONT'D)
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT HIM? I told you he's crazy?

BIG BURLY MAN
So, you're the mighty dragon tamer. You don't look so mighty to me.

Luke makes no eye contact and says nothing.

BIG BURLY MAN (CONT'D)
I smell fear.

LUKE
You're smellin' yourself.

BIG BURLY MAN
I'm gonna' rip your face off.

Brawl ensues. Broad-shouldered brute lifts Luke out of his seat. Luke claps his open hands hard on the big man's ears. The man is stunned for a moment. Luke then smashes the man in the face with a bottle, shattering glass flies everywhere. The big man falls to the floor. Suddenly the pub door crashes open. MILO, a mountain of a man, Dooly's friend, stands in the doorway. He is accompanied by four rough-hewn men, his companions. He walks up to the bar and pats Dooly on the back then looks down and sees the big man sprawled out on the floor.

MILO
What happened here?

LUKE
He didn't want to make friends.

Milo laughs. Bartender pours him a drink.

DOOLY
(to Luke)
You're crazy.

MILO
(to Dooly)
What brings you here?

DOOLY
I need to find a guide to get me
and my friend safely through the
forest.

Milo touches his granite chin.

MILO
Good luck with that.

DOOLY
One fellow comes to mind. He knows
the forest like the back of his
hand and he owes me one for freeing
him from Alaba's dungeon.

Milo slams his drink on the bar.

MILO
This makes us even!

DOOLY
Agreed!

MEHAN
I'll come too. Nobody's as fearless
as me.

DOOLY
Is that so!

MILO
(to Luke)
You're kind of young, for something
this dangerous.

LUKE
(challengingly)
I don't need you for this.

Milo stares long and hard at Luke. Luke returns the stare.

MILO
(laughs)
Alright. It's your funeral. Let's
go now.

DOOLY
Impossible. We need to get
supplies.

LUKE
Now is fine.

Bella takes off his bar apron and tosses it.

BELLA
I'm comin' too! I like a good
adventure now and then.

DOOLY
Good, we can use all the help we
can get.

MILO
(to Dooly)
What's in it for you?

DOOLY
I'm just helping the kid out.

MILO
 (laughs)
 Don't tell me, you're still chasing
 that legend about the Chosen-One.

DOOLY
 Just drink up.

Luke, Dooly, Milo, Mehan and Bella drink a toast to their
 adventure.

EXT. POPCORN FIELD - NOON

The group enters the field. Milo looks at the popcorn in
 wonder. Dooly nudges Milo.

DOOLY
 Luke conjured up that white stuff
 to control the dragon.

MILO
 TALK, TALK, TALK, are we going to
 do this, or have a tea party?

Dooly puffs his chest out, and stands up straight.

DOOLY
 I'm ready when you are.

Luke dons his trusty backpack and they descend a hill near
 the forest below. An eagle screams. The sunny cluster of
 trees and shrubs are suddenly swallowed up by a frightening
 gray fog. The group halts for a moment, at the sound of a
 blood-curdling roar. Unwavering, they press on. Sensing
 trouble, Mehan stands frozen in fear. He touches Bella's arm.

MEHAN
 This is a bad omen.

Bella hears the urgency in his voice. Mehan runs off, Bella
 follows. Dooly shakes a fist at them.

DOOLY
 Liquid courage.

EXT. DEEP IN THE FOREST - NIGHT

The group is seated around a fire, eating. Two of Milo's men
 BREAKEN and BARCA, both heavily bearded and dirty begin to
 talk.

BREAKEN
 I see nothing strange about this
 forest.

BARCA

LIKEN the BUTCHER, said he saw a huge beast tear someone apart three nights ago.

DOOLY

That sounds like what Mehan was saying at the pub.

MILO

Mehan's a liar and the butcher is a stupid drunk.

Fire crackling slightly, campfire dying out. Absence of forest sounds. Milo's men look around apprehensively.

MILO (CONT'D)

It's nothing! If I didn't know you better I'd think you were all cowards.

(moment of silence)

Well don't just sit there, gather some more wood, before fire dies out.

Milo's men, go in search of firewood. About an hour passes and the men are still gone.

EXT. DEEP FOREST

The forest around Milo is dark and foreboding. As he moves further into the thick foliage, he stops and HEARS what appears to be faint laughter. He draws his sword and moves forward slowly. A sudden flurry of flapping WINGS BURST UPWARD. Milo looks down, his eyes staring, transfixed, on the bloody heads of all four of his men impaled on their own swords, the handle ends of the swords jammed deep into the ground.

EXT. CAMPSITE

Milo returns alone. His face is pale, his eyes are distant.

LUKE

What happened?

BIGLOW

Where are the others?

MILO

They're dead.

LUKE

DEAD!

MILO
We're being hunted, you, me, all of
us.

LUKE
By what?

MILO
Who or what doesn't matter.

LUKE
What are we gonna' do?

MILO
We're going to kill it kid... or be
killed.

Luke stares at him wide-eyed.

MILO (CONT'D)
Not so brave anymore, ha kid.
We'll take turns on watch duty. Me
and Biglow will take first watch.

Milo and Biglow cock their STRANGE BOW-LIKE weapons. Hours
pass. Chilling laughter.

EXT. FOREST - MORNING

Luke and Dooly wake beside a dead fire. They look on in
horror at the site of Milo and Biglow's swords thrust into
the ground, their heads impaled on them. Luke's eyes get
wide.

LUKE
Why didn't it kill us too?

DOOLY
It thrives on fear.

They continue on without further confrontation. In the
daylight, the forest is beautiful, even magical. Exotic birds
sing in the background.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

They descend a mountain then sprint through a foggy gray
region of large leafless trees that mark the barren
landscape. They grow weary and decide to take a breather in
the clearing, as they rest an ominous quiet falls over the
forest.

DOOLY
It's coming.

Wicked laughter can be heard, then a moving shadow falls across Luke's face. He looks up quickly and snaps a picture. The flash illuminates it for an instant, a GIANT unearthly horror with a sphere-shaped head, pale green skin, large oral cavity for a mouth, and two piercing red eyes towering over him. They run for their lives. The creature pursues. Luke is snapping his flash camera at the creature to temporarily blind it, which it does. They escape. Exhausted they rest.

Their rest is short lived. Suddenly, from out of nowhere the beast reaches out for Luke. Luke is frozen in fear. At that instant a cosmic portal opens up beside Dooly. Inside is the glowing figure of a beautiful elderly woman.

QUEEN KARLA

Come quickly.

Dooly grabs Luke and yanks him into the portal. The portal closes leaving the creature's bear-like claws closing on thin air.

EXT. OUTER EDGE OF FOREST - NIGHT

The portal flashes open at the edge of the dark forest. They exit on top of a hill. Zoe's home is at the bottom. It looks like an old haunted house. Karla stares in wonder at Luke's golden hair. Before a word can be spoken Karla vanishes within the portal.

LUKE

Who was that?

DOOLY

Someone who cares about you.

All at once, they are jolted by the sound of laughter. They stare into the darkness. The creature bursts from forest. But they are suddenly buffeted by a powerful wind. A dragon roars as he swoops down. Oloff captures the creature in his powerful talons, then flies away into the night sky. The bloody head of the monster hits the ground and rolls.

Luke and Dooly run down to Zoe's house. As they get within ten feet of the house they get blown back several feet, knocking them out cold by a shock wave generated by the electromagnetic aura of the magical dome protecting Zoe's home against both physical and magical attacks.

INT. BRIGHTLY DECORATED GUEST BEDROOM - MORNING

A knock at the door. Luke and Dooly wake up on a bed of straw in a vacant room. Luke grimaces as he glances around the room. He holds his head with both hands.

LUKE

Where are we?

DOOLY
We are in Zoe's home.

VOICE AT THE DOOR
Wake up if you want to eat.

As they exit the room they see a matronly woman as she puts a tray of food on a small wooden table by a window.

ZOE
Good morning. Sorry about what happened, but the magical dome offers protection against the evils of the forest.

DOOLY
One can never be too careful.

Luke and Dooly eat bread and eggs.

ZOE
Who is your unusual friend?

DOOLY
Where are my manners? This is Luke, from the faraway land of Milwaukee.

Zoe's mouth hangs open for a moment after she hears Luke is from Milwaukee. She pulls a pad of paper from her housedress. She shows it to Luke.

LUKE
(reading aloud)
Mill Walk Key. It's on every page.

ZOE
I wrote that, but was unaware of what it meant at the time.

Luke drops the paper on the table.

ZOE (CONT'D)
You're coming here is no accident.

LUKE
I need to get Alaba's castle, can you help?

ZOE
It's too dangerous!

LUKE
Just draw me a map and I'll go alone.

High pitched shrieking from outside the house. We see three of Alaba's demons converging on the house.

DOOLY

Alaba's demons! He must have heard our plans through the Tell-trees.

Zoe looks at Luke.

ZOE

I see we have no choice, follow me.

Zoe escorts them out of the room and into the hall. She moves a chair and reveals a trapdoor, ornamented by a magic amulet, as she does the demons crash through the door.

LUKE

What's that?

ZOE

It's a charm to ward off evil.
Hurry.

Zoe opens the trapdoor and they jump down into the darkness, closing it above their heads. They descend a long flight of earthen stairs.

LUKE

What evil?

DOOLY

A WITCH occupies the lower regions.

LUKE

Did you say witch?

DOOLY

Yes. She is like a venomous serpent and just as deadly!

LUKE

Then why are we going this way?

Zoe grabs Luke's hand, and pulls him through a spider-web.

ZOE

It's the only way.

The three continue down the stairs and end up in a tunnel, poorly lit by luminous stones in the cave walls. In the darkness Luke falls behind.

INT. LOWER LEVEL - CAVE

Midway through the maze, the floor collapses and Luke falls through to a lower level, unbeknownst to his companions. He lies disorientated for a few moments then stands up, unhurt, and begins to call out to the others.

LUKE
(shouts)
Help.

Rock formations on the cave walls begin changing colors. Luke staggers backward trying to get away from it. The formations begin to separate into numerous little creatures, resembling turtles, their underside the color of RAINBOWS.

Luke gazes around the chamber, which is littered with bones. There are chains on the cave walls, slightly illuminated by some of the rock formations - many of them - fading into the darkness: all are attached to curved hooks. Torn sections of many victim's bloody skin and tendons still hang at the ends of razor-sharp hooks. Luke's eyes get big, as he watches in awe as one of the creatures approach him.

LUKE (CONT'D)
(stammers)
Wha', what are you?

LITTLE CREATURE
We are the CRON. I am SEBOO.

LUKE
You're talking!

SEBOO
You asked for help.

Luke points to the many victims.

LUKE
What happened to them?

LITTLE CREATURE
Victims of a witch.

LUKE
Why hasn't she killed you?

LITTLE CREATURE
She sees us merely as rock formations.

SEBOO
We don't help Uplanders.

LUKE
I'm not an Uplander. I'm not even
from here. I mean you no harm.

SEBOO
Come, follow me.

Luke follows the Cron, while they crawl on the walls of the catacombs. In the darkness a shadowy figure appears in one of the passages, close to the group. We see it flatten itself against the wall. We see captivating glimpses of the witch, as she methodically crawls on the cave wall coming closer to Luke. We catch sight of her wicked hideous face, in the glow of the cave light, but only for an instant. Then darkness hides her. We pan up to the wall. She begins to move toward US, we see her eyes staring back at us from the shadows.

SEBOO (O.C.) (CONT'D)
(whispering)
The Witch is close, she has been
stalking you.

Luke's eyes get wide, he stops in mid-step.

LUKE
Where?

SEBOO
Shhhh.

Luke squints his eyes to see. The Witch scuttles forward. She cloaks herself with magic, appearing as a sweet, old lady.

WITCH
Is that you Sonny? It's me,
Grandma.
(pause)
I think I broke my foot. Come
closer I need help.

Luke is slack, as if he's in a trance. The witch edges closer.

The old lady wheels a large knife in a wild fit of anger slashing the air in a gruesome attempt to kill Luke. She cuts Luke's arm, he bleeds profusely. Seboo says to the other Cron...

SEBOO
Help this one, he is different.

The Cron surround Luke as Seboo blows a handful of magical dust into Luke's face, some of the dust covers his wound; they interlock their bodies to create a complete wall of invisibility.

Suddenly, the Witch's true identity is revealed. She's ancient and disgusting with long matted gray hair, a cloudy colorless membrane covers her eyes sunk deep into her skull. Her lips are drawn back to expose stained, foul, crooked teeth and gray gums, and a pale lifeless complexion. Frantically she searches the tunnel for him, screaming and shrieking, but to no avail, he's invisible to her. Moments later she fades off into the darkness. By now the magic dust has stopped the bleeding, the pain and the deep gash is gone. Luke gives Seboo a stunned look.

LUKE

How did you do that?

SEBOO

How is not important. Say nothing of this to anyone.

LUKE

Why?

SEBOO

If the Uplanders hear of this they will destroy us to get the magic dust.

LUKE

I understand.

SEBOO

We can move about safely now.

They guide Luke safely to the upper region. Above Zoe and Dooly are resting.

LUKE

That invisible trick of yours was cool.

SEBOO

You have been given a gift.

LUKE

I have? What?

SEBOO

It will serve you well someday. Now go.

EXT. MEADOW - DAY

Luke pulls himself out of the lower region, with the help of the Cron. The Cron retreat back into the catacombs.

DOOLY

What happened?

LUKE
I fell through to the lower level.

DOOLY
It must have been a nightmare down there. Was it?

LUKE
Yeah, it was. But I got lucky. Some little cave dwelling creatures helped me out.

Dooly listens with his entire body.

ZOE
We have no time for stories now.

Luke nods and keeps walking. Dooly shoots Zoe a hard stare.

ZOE (CONT'D)
If Alaba has your friends, and they're still alive, he's erased their memories. Only the Ruby of Spellville has the power to reverse it.

LUKE
Where can I find the ruby?

ZOE
Some say it is hidden in a cave, sealed off to all but the Chosen-one.

Luke looks away as though ignoring her assertion.

DOOLY
(to Zoe and Luke)
I know a merchant in Kobeld who might have a map, but we'll have to barter for it.

LUKE
Barter? With what?

EXT. BROGONTIS- VILLAGE OF KOBELD - DAY

Large mountains surround a quaint little village that is covered with dark clouds, looks like night. ENERA, a MERCHANT in his late thirties. His hair is long and messy like his beard, his raggedy clothes are brown and stained. He stands in the street holding a map. His thin dirty hand is extended out greedily.

MERCHANT

Now, as we agreed, the white fluffy stuff that tames dragons.

Luke hands him popcorn and takes the map. Zoe studies the map and some magic words written on the back of the map as they leave town.

INT. MERCHANT'S STORE - DAY

Merchant stands in doorway of his goods store. He hands a map to Alaba's soldiers.

MERCHANT

You will track them easily with this. Now, where's my reward?

Soldiers knock him down, trampling over him as they leave the store.

EXT. JAYLAND RIVER - DAY

Luke and friends cautiously approach the Jayland River. They make a raft from thick tree branches and cross the dangerous river rapids. Then, cross a field and come to an impassable mountain. Despite no climbing skills they scale the huge mountain in a treacherous storm to get to the portal they must pass through. Scene fades as they pass through it.

EXT. CLOSED CAVE - DAY

Luke and friends stand before the cave. Dooly reading magic words from map.

DOOLY

(to Zoe)

Are you sure this is a cave?
It looks like solid rock to me.

ZOE

It will open if you say the magic words.

DOOLY

(squints)

QOUDERATDEMONSTRANDUM!
QOUDERATDEMONSTRANDUM!

(silent pause)

It doesn't work. He cheated us.

ZOE

Give Luke the map.

Dooly looks at Zoe with a confused stare. Luke grabs the map.

LUKE
I'll give it a try...
QOUDERATDEMONSTRANDUM!

DOOLY
You said it wrong.

LUKE
QOUDERATDEMONSTRANDUM!

DOOLY
(shouts)
Wrong! Wrong! Wrong!

LUKE
QOUDERATDEMONSTRANDUM!

Several moments pass, and nothing happens.

DOOLY
(shouts)
We've been cheated.

Suddenly the cave opens up along an invisible seam in the center.

DOOLY (CONT'D)
Sometimes these things take a
little time.

Zoe and Luke exchange stunned glances. Then all three follow the map's directions in search of the Ruby. They enter the cave. The ruby is missing from its perch on the wall.

Frustrated, Luke walks around the cave, pushing and pulling at stones in frustration.

EXT. OPEN CAVE - DAY

Alaba's flying demons and soldiers arrive. The demons land on a cliff. Without warning, JADA, one of the guards throws a poisonous gas bomb into the cave.

FLYING DEMON
Alaba wanted him alive!

Jada, late-twenties, square jaw and a pair of troubled eyes dart about quickly in fear.

EXT. SPELLVILLE SKY - DAY

Alaba's face forms in the threatening dark clouds above. Then we see large black birds, materializing out of nowhere and swooping down toward Jada.

He screams as hundreds of birds completely cover him, moments later the birds fly away leaving only bones.

INT. CAVE

Poison cloud fills the cave. Zoe and Dooly huddle at the far end, realizing even one inhaled breath would be fatal. Luke disappears in the shadows and discovers a secret path into the caves interior. It's dry and dark, his footsteps echoing down a winding passage. He moves a small boulder and another opening appears. When he reappears a moment later he is in a small room which is dimly lit by a glowing phosphorous rock formation. Moments later the others follow his echoed footsteps and find him in the hidden room. Luke pushes a stone and it gives way. Instantly, another wall opens. They enter the chamber and the wall shuts behind them, blocking the gas. The chamber is decorated with strange mosaic drawings. Luke goes to an ornate hole in the stone and sees the Ruby. Excitedly he grabs it.

DOOLY

(shouts)

It's a trap!

A moment passes, then suddenly the stone walls rumble and begin to close in on them. Dooly's eyes widen in terror, Zoe trembles as she stares at the cryptic drawings.

ZOE

(to Luke and Dooly)

The way out is hidden in the drawings.

They glare at the drawings. Beads of sweat drip from their foreheads as they study the drawings, several moments pass. The walls are about to crush them. Suddenly, the cryptic drawings become perceptible to Luke and form words.

LUKE

(reading)

BO OOH THEY THOU KEEN.
Restore all things forgotten.

The closing walls stop, and a door opens up on the opposite side of the cave leading to daylight. Just three steps to safety. They all run out of the cave gasping sighs of relief. Dooly and Zoe share a look of awe as they stare at Luke.

ZOE

Could he be . . . ?

DOOLY

(cuts-in)

Is it possible?

Luke overhears them talking.

LUKE
Not that again.

ZOE
(whispered to Dooly)
He can't possibly be the Chosen-
One.

DOOLY
Why not?

ZOE
I'll explain later, now lets go.

Zoe is going through a metamorphosis. Her appearance is lifeless and pale.

LUKE
(to Zoe)
Are you alright?

ZOE
(listless)
The darkness is consuming my life
force.

DOOLY
Only a SPELLTAIL can help her now.

LUKE
A what?

DOOLY
A GOLDEN PITTAL. Its light energy
is stronger than the dark force. It
will restore her power... I know
where to find one.

INT. ALABA'S CASTLE - DAY

A dimly lit room with strange potions and books piled high on top of one another. Alaba sits fuming on his throne. A guard stands before him.

ALABA
Bring the two strangers to me.
Leave the female for last.

Guard nods and leaves. Troy and Jimmy are brought in, looking dazed. Alaba waves a hand.

ALABA (CONT'D)
(yells)
Memory restored! Where are you
from?

Jimmy and Troy clear-eyed but confused.

JIMMY
 (to Troy)
 This is the Circus Parade, not
 Halloween. Check out the weird
 dude?

ALABA
 Answer me or die.

Troy and Jimmy laughing.

Alaba waves a hand, and they look dazed again. Alaba calls
 the Guard.

ALABA (CONT'D)
 Take them back to the dungeon. Then
 bring the female.

Guard nods. Tera is brought in. Like the boys, her eyes
 appear vacant. Alaba waves his hand, and her eyes brighten.

ALABA (CONT'D)
 You are my prisoner. If you do not
 tell me from whence you came, you
 will die a gruesome death!

TERA
 (softly)
 Please don't hurt me. I'll tell you
 what you want to know.

ALABA
 Come closer.

Tera walks over to him but with escape in mind. She grabs a
 candle holder and swings it at his head. He blocks it. She
 becomes hysterical. Alaba summons guard.

ALABA (CONT'D)
 Get her out of here. Find out what
 I need to know, then execute them.

Alaba gazes blankly into a gloomy cauldron, mumbling a spell,
 as he stirs a magic potion. Roaring flames shoot up its
 sides. His trance is interrupted by a deep voice, it is
 Unter. Unter steps out of the shadows.

UNTER
 They are all at the border of
 Sundra. They possess the Ruby.

Alaba goes to an open black book. He finds a spell and grins
 wickedly.

ALABA

It is time to wage war on Sundra!
 (chanting)
 Rise up angel of the bottomless
 pit! Come forth from the abyss and
 serve your master! Consume
 everything in your path, even the
 brightness and spirit of the
 noonday... GABADA! OBALA! SEETRA!

EXT. OUTSIDE ALABA'S CASTLE - DAY

BLOODY RAINDROPS fall from ominous clouds above and soak the ground, giving rise to a crop of EVIL that has awakened in the land. Hundreds of thousands of HUMANOID REPTILIAN FLESH-EATING BEASTS, of all sizes and shapes, some huge and muscular towering above the treetops, some small and cunning. They ravage the land and everything on it. They are the GRUELBORES.

EXT. BETWEEN BROGONTIS AND SUNDRA - DAY

Bloodthirsty Gruelbore snaps up a man and crunches him in it's teeth. It is total chaos as the townsfolk scream and run wildly from their homes. The Gruelbores move toward Sundra through a ten mile stretch of land between the borders of Brogontis and Sundra.

EXT. WARON DEEP WOODS - DAY

In a pasture alive with swarms of moths of all colors and sizes, Dooly stands waist deep in a multi-colored flower bed, a favorite spot of golden Pittals. He calls out to his friend POULPYLION several times with no response. Frustration finally sets in and he reaches down and pulls out a hand full of green furry pods. He shakes them forcefully into the wind; the fine fur dust takes to the wind revealing Poulpylion hidden partially within a hollow log, sound asleep, under the shadow of a tall WILLOW TREE, oblivious to all sounds around him. Concealed behind a thick tree trunk Dooly throws the shell of a hard peapod, hitting Poulpylion on the head. Poulpylion, is startled for a fleetingly moment, he opens his eyes to find that he is visible and vulnerable. Dooly is now mimicking the sound of a giant deadly tree spider about to attack. Poulpylion hears and visualizes the giant spider about to attack, then, wakes-up and scrambles to his feet frantically... we hear Dooly's hysterical laughter... SCENE FADES to the sound of Poulpylion screaming.

POULPYLION

Doolabayorouis, I'll get you for
 this I swearrrrrr.

EXT. WARON PLAINS - DAY

On the flat green plains of WARON, Luke, Dooly, and Zoe stand near the golden creature somewhat akin to Dooly. The magical creature touches Zoe's shoulder, suddenly she begins to glow, moments later she is back to her matronly self.

ZOE
Thank you.

DOOLY
His name is Poulpylion. But we'll
call him Pluppee, WHETHER HE LIKES
IT OR NOT!

Dooly looks over at Luke and nods.

ZOE
How can I ever repay you?

Suddenly, the Ruby begins to gravitate like a magnet toward the opening in Luke's medallion, worn around his neck. Luke takes the Ruby in his hand. FLASHBACK: Luke thinks back to his fourteenth birthday when his grandpa gave him the strange medallion and said...

GRANDPA VOICE (O.S.)
Always keep this medallion close to
your heart.

Both the Ruby and the medallion pull toward each other. It flies out of his hand. It inserts itself into a hole in the medallion. It glows.

ZOE
The Ruby fits perfectly! Where did
you get that medallion?

LUKE
From my Grandpa.

Dooly hears something coming their way fast: It is the sound of bones cracking, cries of terror, and the rumbling sound of an approaching army.

DOOLY
We're in danger. Run!

They run. Moments later the four friends turn to see an enormous cloud of dust rising from the horizon, coalescing into Alaba's terrible army of mutants. The army resonates with unearthly howls and shrieks. A GEYSER OF BLOOD erupts upward as hundreds of people and animals alike are slaughtered in their path by the insane and hungry beasts. Thousands of people run towards NOZBY, a nearby town, but it's obvious that there's no escape.

The army swallows the horizon. Zoe cannot keep up with Luke and the others and falls in exhaustion. Luke stops to help her, as he does she stares at the onslaught of the dark green army of death towering over the trees as it is about to overtake them like a fast moving giant.

LUKE
(to ZOE)
What's happening?

ZOE
We are at war.

LUKE
At war!

ZOE
Run!

They run together towards the others, SCENE FADES.

EXT. SUNDRA - DAY

A wall of Darkness separates Sundra and Brogontis. Fifty thousand of Karla's WARRIORS stand in the light ready for battle on the border of Sundra. Swords drawn and longbows pointed outward; they watch in HORROR.

EXT. WARON PLAINS - DAY

In desperation, Zoe chants an ancient spell meant to destroy the invading army.

ZOE
GRADDDDA BRUU, ZARDRA, cast off the
wicked who would destroy us this
day. Cast off the wicked that have
no souls. Oh, blessed one protect
us.

Nothing happens. Luke looks up desperately to the sky and screams out for Oloff. Suddenly, huge wings fold down against a pale sun, throwing the land below into shadow. Up comes the silhouette of a huge dragon, it's Oloff, reigning down flames upon the GRUELBORE, destroying hundreds of them in fiery red flames, but even his power is not enough to stop the merciless army. They continue coming. Luke turns toward the relentless force, his face is stony with anger and resolve. His eyes shine. A magical pulse of energy rips out of the Ruby from around his neck. The light hits the ground and stretches from horizon to horizon, building into a wave of light so bright, it is hard to look upon. The light consumes the evil army, incinerating every Gruelbore, leaving behind only a barren landscape filled with the charred skeletons of dead trees, and scorched ground.

Luke stands apart from his friends. Oloff sits upon a high cliff and surveys the puzzled faces of those who survived the attack. An attack which he himself was unable to stop, then stares at Luke suspiciously.

DOOLY
(to Zoe)
You did it! You saved us all.

Zoe stares at Dooly with an expression of doubt.

ZOE
I don't think it was me.

INT. ALABA'S SEEING ROOM

Alaba glares furiously into a full length mirror that reveals a vision of Luke, Zoe, Dooly and Pluppee as they retreat into the village of Waron. A dark ominous shadow looms in the corner of the room.

ALABA
I thought he was dead.

DARK OMINOUS SHADOW (O.C.)
The Mystic Pathfinder must have saved him.

The shadow whispers something unintelligible.

ALABA
(grinning)
Yes, we'll lure him to the challenge.

EXT. VILLAGE OF WARON - DAY

Luke, Dooly, Zoe, and Pluppee sit on the grass in a field in Waron. A group of people stand around a skinny man nearby. He pontificates.

SKINNY MAN
Someone of noble blood walk's among us this day. He will strike down the evil that plagues Spellville's people.

Luke notices a poster nailed to the tree.

ZOE
(reading poster)
OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION: A ROYAL CHALLENGE of strength.
(MORE)

ZOE (CONT'D)

The combatant declared the winner will be awarded much gold and the pardon of five prisoners from PUBLIC EXECUTION. Entry fee is ten gold pieces. Winner takes all. Contest to be held in KOSHOM in three days.

LUKE

I need to get into this contest. But I don't have the fee.

ZOE

We'll find a way.

EXT. WARON - TOWN SQUARE - DAY

Luke stands in a clear space in the town square, taking a few decks of cards out of his backpack. A small crowd of interested villagers surround him as he puts on a magic show.

LUKE

I plan to enter the royal challenge to save my friends. All the gold I win will go to you. All I need is the entry fee.

VOICE FROM THE CROWD (O.C.)

He's just a boy!

Luke ignores the voice, and begins performing card tricks. The crowd looks bored. An old lady falls asleep. He does some sleight-of-hand tricks, but no one offers any money. He blushes.

LUKE

(mumbling under breath)
I wish I could levitate my way out of this embarrassment.

Luke stumbles, then begins to rise slowly up into the air. The villagers point in appreciative wonder. Someone nudges the old lady, she screams. Luke rises higher and higher.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Whoa!

OLOFF (O.S.)

Is it not what you asked for?

LUKE

Yeah, I mean No!... You're invisible.

Luke descends to the ground, as he does, Oloff reappears, roars and bellows out a huge blast of fire over the heads of the villagers, knocking them dumbstruck to the ground. For an instant they think Luke is breathing fire. Moments later, Oloff is visible about twenty feet above the villagers. A powerful reverberating gust of wind bends branches on nearby trees from the power of his huge wings as he takes flight. Moments later the ground is littered with more than enough money to enter the contest. Luke gathers up the coins and prepares for the rest of the journey.

DOOLY

(to Zoe)

Pluppee and I will find out what we can and meet up with you later.

ZOE

The challenge is two days journey from here, meet us in Koshom.

DOOLY

Agreed.

Dooly and Pluppee part ways with the group and go off on their own.

EXT. ROAD TO KOSHOM - DAY

A dirt road curving away from a natural grove of cacao trees. A dark forest broods to the right. Luke and Zoe have set up camp at the side of the road.

ZOE

Your mind and mine must work as one if you're going to survive this challenge.

LUKE

How do we do that?

ZOE

I'm not sure yet.

Zoe walks off. Luke nods and pulls a tape recorder out of his backpack. He turns the music on high and nods his head to the beat with his eyes closed. Oloff suddenly appears and stares at him as though he's crazy. After a while Luke senses his presence and opens his eyes.

OLOFF

(head cocked slightly to one side)

You look like you're in great pain.

LUKE

Ahhhh, what ah-you-know?

Several minutes later Zoe returns.

ZOE

I'll see you in a couple of hours.
I should have something figured out
by then.

Luke and Oloff walk off, Oloff is in his smaller less threatening form. Unbeknownst to Luke, Oloff continues to study him suspiciously and is ready to kill him at any given moment if he feels Luke is deceiving him in any way. They fail to see a sign that is partially covered in weeds. The sign reads: DANGER DO NOT ENTER. They enter the forest.

EXT. DEEP WOODS - AFTERNOON

SOUND - Snap of a trap. Oloff is caught in something that looks like a bear trap. Luke rushes over to help him. His leg appears hopelessly caught in the powerful jagged jaws of the trap. Luke tries to free him by prying it open with a stick, but to no avail. Oloff pretends to be hurt and unable to get out of the trap.

OLOFF

(moans)
Hurry.

SOUND - Voices in the distance, retreating.

LUKE

Hang on. I'll get help.

Luke runs off toward the sound of the voices. Luke runs into a clearing, stumbling upon four SAVAGE looking MEN. Unbeknownst to him these are the men who set the trap. The men circle around him, smiling viciously. A LARGE MUSCULAR MAN approaches Luke.

LARGE MUSCULAR MAN

Don't let him get away. I want the
pleasure of killing this one
myself!

The men step closer, laughing. Frantically, Luke roots around in his backpack. He pulls out a banana. He holds it up, then makes the banana appear to vanish into thin air. Large muscular man looks nervous, and steps back.

LARGE MUSCULAR MAN (CONT'D)

Kill him!

SECOND MAN

(frightened)
You said you wanted to do it?

LARGE MUSCULAR MAN
Face him or face me!

LUKE
Stop, or die!

The men continue to advance. Luke reaches down and picks up a large club-like stick from the ground, then steps aggressively closer to the men, his face calm and confident. One of the men blows a POISON DART, which hits Luke in the leg. Luke stands strong. The men run forward, then suddenly STOP. Their faces fill with terror. Luke is unaware of Oloff's presence. Now in his larger form, that of a giant dragon. His terrifying image causes the cutthroats to flee in horror. Luke watches the men retreating then returns to find Oloff out of the trap and back in his smaller form.

LUKE (CONT'D)
How did you get out of the trap?

OLOFF
(grimacing)
I used the stick you found earlier.
I think my leg is broken.

LUKE
Hang in there, I'll make you a
splint.

Luke takes a dozen steps, then collapses to the forest floor. Oloff gets up and kneels over him. Luke's eyes are rolled back in his head and he is not breathing. Oloff notices the poison dart in Luke's leg. Oloff looks hard into Luke's eyes, by the manner in which he stares, it is obvious something important is preying on his mind. He turns and walks away. Several moments later we see Oloff's face reveal a stern look of concentration, as though he were locked in total combat. He turns and walks back over to Luke and removes the dart. He then pierces the fleshy part of his own talon and lets his blood seep into Luke's wound, as his blood travels into Luke's bloodstream Luke begins to convulse. Oloff covers Luke with his wings. He is performing the RITUAL OF ONE, an ancient magical ritual. A bright glowing light comes forth through Oloff's scaled appendages of flight. Luke stops shaking, and Oloff releases him. Luke slowly opens his eyes and looks at Oloff.

OLOFF
You were shot with a poisoned dart.

LUKE
(eyes wide)
I'm dying?

OLOFF
I performed the Ritual of One... I
spared your life.

Luke stares at him in confusion.

OLOFF (CONT'D)
I gave you new life from my blood.

LUKE
I feel different.

OLOFF
From this day forward, you will
fight with the courage and power of
a dragon.

LUKE
Why did you do it?

OLOFF
Sometimes I reward bravery.

LUKE
We better get back, Zoe's probably
freakin' out.

Oloff's expression turns to one of puzzlement at Luke's statement. Luke gets on his back. They fly off, soaring upward into the menacing sky.

EXT. CAMP LATE AFTERNOON

We see Oloff flying away.

LUKE
Did you figure out how we're gonna'
do this mind thing?

Zoe is staring at Luke. His blue eyes are glowing bright green.

ZOE
Yes. Your eyes... what happened to
you? SCENE FADES...

EXT. CAMP - MID MORNING

Dooly and Pluppee are back in camp. Luke rises from his bedroll and stretches.

DOOLY
(to Luke)
We've got the list of events for
the Royal Challenge.

LUKE
Thanks.

ZOE

We need to move fast. Koshom is
about two hours away.

LUKE

I'm ready when you are.

EXT. VILLAGE OF KOSHOM - DAY

The common grounds of the Royal Challenge, resembling a Medieval Fair. People surround juggling clowns, face painters and tumbling jesters, laughing and eating from huge roasts spitted over fires. A myriad of merchants stand by decorated wagons hawking their wares. Luke and friends walk by a crowd of people singing and dancing to a group of troubadours. They enter a grand arena for the Royal Challenge. Luke conceals his identity with the hooded cape. Alaba sits on a dais at the center of the audience. Luke leaves his friends and joins the men competing in the Challenge. He stands behind Alaba's COMBATANT, A cruel behemoth of a man. As Luke walks, he suddenly stumbles, as if an invisible force fell against him.

LUKE

Oloff, is that you?

ALABA'S COMBATANT

Who are you talking to, flea?

Luke shrugs. The Challenge begins. A montage of contestants throw the shot-put, then, Alaba's combatant throws the shot-put a great distance, and the crowd cheers. Luke approaches the shot-put, a rounded stone.

LUKE

(whispering)

I know you're here, I can sense it.

OLOFF (O.S.)

You asked for help.

LUKE

Let's not over do it.

With Oloff's help Luke throws the shot-put, which falls just short of the large combatant's try. The crowd goes wild. Many events pass, marked by a magic scoreboard floating in the sky and many challengers falling by the wayside. Luke is tied with Alaba's combatant. The crossbow event is next. Alaba's combatant hits dead center. This is Luke's weakest event, Suddenly, a telepathic voice whispers softly in Luke's head, it's Zoe.

EXT. OPEN AREA - CROSSBOW EVENT - AFTERNOON

ZOE

Concentrate on the target; mind
will guide your shot.

There is a long silence, then the crowd explodes in
thunderous applause as Luke's arrow buries itself in the
bull's eye up to the feathers. Alaba's announcement hushes
the uproarious crowd. Next event, Tug of war.

ALABA

This final event will be to the
death.

FIVE ARCHERS stand ready with their bows pulled back ready to
kill the loser. Large combatant looks at Alaba and nods, then
goes first. He grasps the rope in his powerful hands, and a
horde of men grab the other end. With a mighty effort, he
pulls twenty eight men over the line within the time period
allowed. Alaba peers down grinning. Luke is next.

OLOFF (O.S.)

You've got nothing to fear.

Luke begins to pull the rope. Oloff, invisible to everyone,
begins to help. Luke adds one more man for the win. Twenty
nine men are being dragged and are close to being pulled over
the line. Luke's backpack seems to open of its own accord,
and various items fall out. Meanwhile, Alaba secretly motions
to one of his soldiers, to tie the other end of the rope to a
pillar that holds up the dais upon which he sits. Dooly sees
this and tries to cut the rope, but the soldiers see him and
take him prisoner. A tape recorder seems to float out of
Luke's backpack. It's Oloff being curious. The Play button is
depressed, and Luke's music blares, the crowd looks around in
horror.

LUKE

Turn it off!

OLOFF (O.S.)

What manner of magic is this?

Oloff hits the stop button then accidentally presses down the
RECORD button. Luke and Oloff yank the rope, and all twenty
nine men are pulled over the line. The pillar breaks from the
powerful pull. Alaba and his bodyguards crash to the ground
amid laughter and cheering. Oloff belches, rising into the
air, dragging Luke with him. He belches again, and a breath
of fire bursts out around Luke. The crowd is silent. A LITTLE
BOY points at Luke.

LITTLE BOY

Look, it's magic.

Luke descends to the ground. Oloff departs. Trumpets blare. Alaba is standing, wiping dirt off his robe. Alaba's combatant begins walking away from the courtyard challenge area. Unter gestures to his archers. A moment later a hail of arrows hit their mark and the behemoth of a man falls dead on the ground. Alaba gestures to his guards to seize Luke. They pull down his hood to reveal his golden hair, Alaba bellows...

ALABA

Seize him. He is a sorcerer who has bewitched us all!

Soldiers drag Luke away manacled in a wooden cart by several of Alaba's minions.

INT. ALABA'S DUNGEON - DAY

Alaba escorts two of his minions as they drag Luke through the dismal corridors of the castle, then down a flight of stairs leading to a dark cell. Silhouetted in shadows, a black-robed GUARD peers intensely into an over crowded cell.

ALABA (O.C.)

Open the door!

Amid screams, the guard unlocks the steel jail door and VIOLENTLY throws Luke in. The door slams hard. There is a moment of silence at first, and then moans of anguish begin again. We hear a faint chant from Alaba.

ALABA (CONT'D)

RADDA CLARA, open the gate of illusion.

A portal opens and he vanishes through it. Luke scans the darkened room. Forty nine other figures share the cell with him. Their clothes are torn and dirty. Suddenly, Luke sees Tera, he approaches her. Troy and Jimmy are sitting on the dirty floor. A WIDE-SMILE lights up his face.

LUKE

Tera! It's me!

His three friends raise their heads despondently; no recognition of him appears, only blank stares.

LUKE (CONT'D)

(closes eyes and chants)
Bo ooh they thou keen, restore all that was forgotten.

Tera's eyes glimmer, and she jumps up and wraps her arms around Luke. She kisses him. He kisses her back.

TERA
It's so good to see you!

TROY
How did we get here?

JIMMY
How do we get out of here?

LUKE
I don't know.

All the prisoners in the cell crowd around. They are talking amongst themselves. Luke grabs hold of Tera's hand and leads her to the back of the cell, they lean against the cell wall then sit down.

TERA
We'll never get out of here?

LUKE
I'll figure something out. Don't worry.

Luke hears a static sound coming from his backpack. He looks inside.

TERA
What's wrong?

LUKE
We just got lucky. This thing is recording. Follow me.

Luke gets close to the barred door. He presses PLAY on the recorder.

ALABA'S VOICE
OPEN THE DOOR!

GUARD
(startled)
Yes, my lord!

The guard opens the cell door, and Luke tackles him to the ground. A big prisoner knocks the guard out with the heel of his hand. Luke holds up the recorder in the dungeon hallway and plays back Alaba's magic words. A portal opens and the entire group pass through, they end up in the castle courtyard.

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - DAY

The courtyard is barren and dirty from the Royal Challenge. The prisoners run off to safety.

Luke, Tera, Troy, and Jimmy walk around the corner of a tent and meet up with Karla, Zoe, and Pluppee.

ZOE
 (to Luke)
 I see you've found your friends!

Luke nods.

LUKE
 Has anyone seen Dooly?

PLUPPEE
 We fear he has been captured.

KARLA
 (to Luke)
 You and your friends must return to
 the your own world, now, the portal
 is closing.

LUKE
 I can't go yet. Take them. I got
 Dooly into this, I'll get him out.

TERA
 Don't go.

LUKE
 I'll catch up with you, I promise.

KARLA
 Come, we must go.

EXT. OPEN FIELD - DAY

With one last look, Tera and the others follow Karla. They reach an area in an open field whereupon Karla waves her hand and opens a portal. Tera, Troy and Jimmy pass through and vanish but before they do Karla says...

KARLA
 You will remember nothing of this,
 and time in your world will have
 scarcely passed.

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - DAY

Luke, Pluppee and Zoe set out to rescue Dooly.

LUKE
 I gotta' get back to the dungeon
 and get him out.

PLUPPEE
You mean us, don't you?

LUKE
There's no reason to risk all of
our lives. I can go it alone. SCENE
FADES

INT. ALABA'S DUNGEON - DAY

Luke, searches cautiously inside the dungeon until he comes across a sleeping guard. He is snoring beside the door of a cell down the hall. Luke holds up his tape recorder and plays back Alaba's command.

ALABA'S VOICE
OPEN THE DOOR!

The guard jerks awake and unlocks the cell door. The door is partially open when Dooly slams the cell door against the guard, knocking him out cold. He makes his escape along with a gang of other prisoners.

Luke starts to play the tape recorder to open a portal, but it falls from his hand. He shudders, and sweat beads up on his forehead.

LUKE
Something's not right. I feel a
force flowing through me.

A bright red light emanates from The Ruby of Spellville, around his neck.

DOOLY
It's the power of the Chosen-One.

LUKE
What's beyond this dungeon?

DOOLY
The temple of Spellville.

LUKE
Go meet up with the others.

DOOLY
It's to dangers to go into the MAZE
alone. You'll die in there without
my natural instincts to guide you.

LUKE
You've risked enough already.
(laughs nervously)
(MORE)

LUKE (CONT'D)

Besides, this world wouldn't be the same without your kind of magic.

DOOLY

We go together or not at all.

With the wave of Luke's hand a portal opens. Dooly charges toward Luke. Luke pushes him HARD to the ground.

LUKE

It's my destiny. It's my fight.

The portal begins closing, they both exchange a long look. Tears start to well up in Dooly's eyes. Portal closes.

DOOLY

(voice trails off)

So brave but so foolish.

EXT. LABYRINTH - DAY

Luke stands before a massive and darkened maze. Corridors race off in every direction. Disoriented AT FIRST. Luke takes the Ruby in his hand. Suddenly, he is being pulled by an unseen force through the maze at a rapid pace... Labyrinth walls flow past, revealing mysterious designs and scrawlings. Further in, he passes the decomposing corpses of both people and animals alike. Large birds rip at their rotting flesh. Suddenly, Unter appears in the path directly in front of him. He lowers his staff to the ground and SHOUTS...

UNTER

BALATARA!

Two thick monstrous tree trunks sprout from the ground with huge mouths filled with large sharp wooden teeth. The ferocious vines creep toward him fast, one in front of him and another from behind him, as the sides of the labyrinth walls close in on him. Just then, two large scaled wings fold down upon the labyrinth and we see the silhouette of a reptilian head looking down. There's an angry hiss followed by a furnace of flames that envelops the creeping vines. Luke looks up to see it is Oloff. Luke grimaces as he makes his escape, squeezing through a small corridor which widens out into a vast valley. On the other side he stares in awe at a golden stairway.

INT. TEMPLE OF SPELLVILLE - DAY

Glorious temple with stained-glass windows relating the story of Spellville. Unter sits stealthily in the CHAIR OF STATE; Alaba's THRONE, at the top of a high staircase looking down at Luke as he approaches the foot of an altar, which supports the closed BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE. Luke's blue eyes flash green as he places the Ruby in the embossed design on the cover of the Book. A pulsating beam of light comes forth from the Ruby. The Book opens.

INTELLIGENT VOICE (O.S.)
 ZARR, is the rightful ruler of
 Spellville. He is your Grandfather.

The Book closes hard with a rush of wind. Suddenly, Alaba appears through a secret doorway with three demons. Oloff also enters by way of the labyrinth, as he does he leaps into the air and bellows out a sheet of flames. The deafening roar shatters the stained glass in the Temple. Karla now enters the temple, looking on in horror. The flying demons look up at Unter. He gestures with his hand and they attack. Luke rises into the air, his skin turns slightly green and reptilian. He morphs into DRAGONMAN. Then with a single blast of fire he vaporizes two of the demons. The third demon attacks Dragonman but is no match for his fury. They fight; moments later the demon lies on the floor dead. Dragonman reads from the book.

DRAGONMAN
 The wicked shall be cut down like
 the mighty oak. The day of
 departure is on the noonday demon.
 So it is written in the Book of
 Knowledge, so shall it be done.

The earth opens up at the stairs of the temple, and a black cloud rises up. It forms into a monstrous face.

MONSTROUS FACE
 I am the master of the strong and
 weak. I shall crush my enemies as
 certain as darkness follows the
 noonday.

DRAGONMAN
 BO OOH THEY THOU KEEN, restore all
 that has been forgotten!

Alaba and Karla shine, bathed within a white light. Alaba's evilness is washed away, leaving the face of a kind, older man. Alaba's memory returns, he looks at Karla and goes to her. They hold hands and simultaneously touch the Book of Knowledge, which causes the light to shine brighter. After the light dims, Dragonman morphs, floats to the ground and returns to human form.

ALABA
 It's time to get our son back.

Luke, Alaba, and Karla hold hands, encircling the Book of Knowledge. They close their eyes. Luke puts his hand on the Book of Knowledge and concentrates on his grandfather.

INTERCUT between Luke and his Grandfather talking telepathically.

LUKE
Grandpa, it's, me, Luke.

GRANDPA
Now I'm hearing voices!

LUKE
You're not imagining this.

GRANDPA
How are you getting into my head?

LUKE.
Please listen to me. I'll explain later.
(Luke Chants... BO OOH
THEY THOU KEEN, restore
all that has been
forgotten!)
Your real name is Zarr. You are the
rightful King of Spellville and
only you can save this world.

GRANDPA
It's all coming back to me now, but
how can I save this world. I'm old,
I'm sick?

LUKE
Don't worry about that now. Just go
to the big twisted oak tree down at
the Great Circus Parade.
Just stand near it; the tree will
do the rest.

GRANDPA
I know the place. I'll see you soon
kiddo!

Luke looks worried.

LUKE
He's old and he's sick.

KARLA
You needn't worry about that. This
is a world born of magic.

Luke, Alaba, and Karla release hands. The monstrous face
bellows out a deep laugh. Luke looks nervous, as the black
cloud from the pit begins to spread.

MONSTROUS FACE
There is no safe haven for you or
your bloodline. For my wrath will
not be denied.

The monstrous face vanishes as does Unter. Suddenly, a portal opens in the temple. An old man steps through it. But before it closes, Unter escapes through it. Then, with each step the old man takes towards the Book of Knowledge he gets younger, until he looks to be about thirtyish; he is now ZARR.

ALABA

Son! Join us in the circle.

They hold hands around the Book of Knowledge. Luke stares hard at the book.

LUKE

(reads from book)

SOOKA RIPPCA, what was, what is,
what must now come to pass.
Vanquish all evil from this world.

A small beam of light encircles the four, then flashes outward, passing through everyone. The black cloud is sucked back into the ground, and the gapping fissure closes.

EXT. SKY OVER SPELLVILLE - DAY

Beam of light washes over all of Spellville, refreshing and restoring Spellville to its former glory. Sky turns from dark and cloudy to a bright blue. People are smiling. The darkness is gone.

EXT. ALABA'S PALACE - DAY

The palace is bright and cheery. People of Spellville cheer. Zarr stands between two pillars, wearing a crown.

LUKE

The worst part of leaving here is
knowing, I won't remember this.

KARLA

You will remember, every sight,
every sound and most importantly
everyone here that has come to know
and love you.

Luke smiles, embraces Zarr as he is about to leave Spellville. Luke then turns to his friends, Oloff, Zoe, Dooly, and Pluppee, he embraces each one of them. He then waves goodbye to everyone and vanishes. Unbeknownst to him, Oloff follows him through.

INT. TROG VISION ROOM - DAY

Darkly lit room. Walls are covered with strange maps and stuffed trophies of sentient beings.

Four tall, green, gnarled creatures stand around what appears to be a circular cosmic window on a raised platform, they OBSERVE HUMANS. Inside the window, Luke is sleeping under a tree on a sunny day. One of the aliens points a fibrous claw at Luke then turns and speaks to Unter.

CREATURE
(intelligent low echoed
voice)
They will be our food, and our
slaves.

UNTER
Kill him and their world is yours.

The other creatures make liquid sounds of agreement.

EXT. GREAT CIRCUS PARADE - DAY

Luke sleeps under the shade of the OLD TREE at the Circus Parade, about a hundred feet away from a tent. Mr. Schondhauser kneels over him, he shakes him.

MR. SCHONDHAUSER
Wake up, Luke wake up.

Luke wakes up and looks around dazed and disorientated.

LUKE
Where's Tera?

MR. SCHONDHAUSER
You're dreaming.

LUKE
(shouts)
Where is she?

Mr. Schondhauser looks at him, there is a silent pause.

MR. SCHONDHAUSER
Nothings changed, she's still
missing.

LUKE
That can't be. They all went into
the portal together.

Mr. Schondhauser looks at Luke in puzzlement. Luke turns around and stares at the tree. The moment is tense. He starts to claw and punch at the tree until his hands are bleeding.

LUKE (CONT'D)
I gotta' get back ... I gotta' go
back.

Mr. Schondhauser grabs hold of Luke's arms and pulls him away from the tree. They fall to the ground. We see Mr. Schondhauser frantically dialing his cell phone.

MR. SCHONDHAUSER
 (labored breathing)
 Get down here. Hurry. Your son's
 having a seizure. SCENE FADES.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Luke stands near his father, he is looking down while his father tries to make eye contact with him. His mother, slim and in her middle forties, looks at them with concern.

MOTHER
 (to Luke and Father)
 What's going on between you two?

They both look at her. A quite moment passes, then, Luke and his father make eye contact with each other. We see sadness in his father's eyes. Luke's expression of dejection mellows. Father and son hug, SCENE FADES.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM-TWO HOUR LATER

A glowing BEING OF LIGHT appears in Luke's room, floating up and down in a slow rhythm.

BEING OF LIGHT
 You are the Chosen-One, Luke Starr.

Luke rubs his eyes, then pulls the covers over his head in disbelief. A moment later he peeks out from behind the covers.

LUKE
 What do you want from me?

BEING OF LIGHT
 I'm here to see that you fulfill
 your destiny.

LUKE
 THIS IS CRAZY.

BEING OF LIGHT
 You are the Chosen-One.

LUKE
 Chosen for what? To do what?

BEING OF LIGHT
 To serve mankind.

LUKE
I can't do this.

BEING OF LIGHT
Have no fear, Luke Starr. You now
have powers scarcely dreamed of by
mortal men.

The Being of light disappears. Luke lies in bed, staring at the ceiling, his eyes moist with wonder.

EXT./INT. DRAGONMAN MONTAGE

A.) Luke opening a portal in his bedroom, steps through into the Amazon jungle. He jumps in the river, morphs into Dragonman and wrestles an Anaconda.

B.) Luke exits out of a portal. He is on a deserted side street, he looks around nervously. He is now walking down the darkened side. He hears the muffled sound of a woman screaming. He hesitates for a moment, then continues walking in the opposite direction. Another scream for help follows. He stops. He looks back, wide-eyed. Then slowly walks toward the sound of the scream. We see the back of Luke morph into Dragonman. A flash of lightning sends a ghostly illuminating sheet of light over the entrance to a darkened alley, where the screams are emanating from. A street lamp flutters off and on revealing graffiti on two rundown buildings; one on each side of the narrow alley leading back into the darkness. A clap of thunder follows, loud and rumbling.

We hear a woman being brutally attacked. We see the darkened silhouettes of three thugs. We see a hulking shape at the entrance of the alley. Dragonman is barely discernible, his eyes glow eerily, he's watching in the darkness. We hear laughter, then silence. Dragonman lunges forward into the darkened alley. We see the flash, then hear the sound of multiple gun shots ring out. Screams of horror follow. We see a car smash into the side of a building as it exits the alley fast, tires screeching loudly. We hear a deafening blast. We see an intense blast of flames come toward us.

We see Dragonman exit the alley. SCENE FADES.

C.) It's 4:00 o'clock in the morning, Dragonman re-enters his house after testing out his powers. To his surprise he finds his father is up. He's about to say something to him when he realizes his father can't see him. His father walks off. Dragonman looks at himself in amazement to find he is indistinguishable from his surroundings, he sighs and says...

LUKE
(to himself)
Thank you Seboo.

A faint sound turns his father in his direction. It is the sound of blood dripping off of Dragonman's hands onto the floor. His father stares at the blood, then grabs his nose. He tips his head back as though trying to stop a nose bleed. He walks off.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM-MOMENTS LATER

Dragonman morphs into Luke. His bloody hands drip on the bed and carpet. He is drained emotionally. He runs to the bathroom. We hear him throwing-up.

Luke falls on his bed, exhausted, he falls asleep.

EXT. FLASHBACK DREAM - DARKENED STREET -THREE HOURS LATER

Images from the fight earlier in the alley, but more detailed this time. We see a flash of lightning illuminate the entrance to a darkened alley. A street lamp flutters off and on revealing graffiti on two rundown buildings. A clap of thunder follows, loud and rumbling. We see in the darkened alley three men brutalizing a woman. The thugs stop, the lady falls to the ground. They look toward the street.

THUG ONE

Hey, we got company.

Thug two points a gun at Dragonman.

THUG TWO

Come back and join the party bitch.
You ain't gonin' nowhere.

Third thug holds knife to woman's throat.

THUG THREE

I'm gonna cut you bitch.

THUG ONE

Let's get this party started.

A low harsh growl follows. There is a moment of silence. We see thug two firing an automatic weapon at Dragonman.

Dragonman raises up his hands like a shield, against a heavy spray of bullets pounding against him as it moves down his torso. It doesn't stop Dragonman, he charges forward. We see the thug staring in horror as a green clawed hand tears through his chest. The other two thugs fire their weapons. One thug's arm is ripped off. Blood sprays everywhere. Another thug gets in a car screaming, blood oozing from his head. He drives wildly down the alley toward Dragonman. We see the car tossed into the side of a building.

We then see the car maneuver past Dragonman at high speed as it exits the alley. Followed by a furnace of intense flames shooting out of Dragonman, engulfing the car. It explodes, rolling flames consume the car. One of the thugs exits the vehicle, he is devoured in flames.

We see a women. Her face and body are drenched in blood. She is in shock, sitting listlessly on the pavement of the darkened alley. A blood bath surrounds her.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM-DAY

Sunlight comes through the window. We hear heavy breathing. We see Dragonman's eyes opening. He jerks upward as he awakens out of the nightmare. His eyes focus. The door unexpectedly opens. His sisters, Crystal, 23, tall, slim, long wavy dark brown hair and Jessica, 21, short, slim, medium brown hair, walk in. THEY SCREAM. Dragonman quickly morphs back into Luke, then falls back on the bed.

LUKE
Cool it. It's me...

Crystal and Jessica enter and shut the door, fast, SCENE
FADES.

INT. LIVING ROOM-AFTERNOON

Crystal and Jessica are walking through the living room and are about to exit the family home. Luke is sitting on a sofa watching TV.

LUKE
. . . what I told you earlier is
just between us. Don't tell anyone
else.

JESSICA
Just what kinda' powers have you
got anyway? Just curious.

LUKE
I'm not really sure. I guess time
will tell.

CRYSTAL
Have you given any thought to what
you might want to do with this God
given gift?

LUKE
It's no gift and there's nothin'
God like about it, trust me.

CRYSTAL

I just thought maybe you could do something meaningful with it.

JESSICA

Here's a thought. Why not start up a detective agency? You could help others, and hey, make a few bucks in the process?

LUKE

(broodingly)

I can't be no superman.

CRYSTAL

Can you give this thing back?

LUKE

I'm in.

They look at each other through a wall of silence for a moment.

JESSICA

Watch out bad guys, here comes STARR INVESTIGATIONS.

INT. STARR INVESTIGATIONS OFFICE - DAY

THREE WEEKS LATER, Luke sits in front of his computer doing a search. His bedroom/office is littered with newspapers, files, and various other debris. He looks tired and bored. Crystal and Jessica burst into the room, excited.

CRYSTAL

We've got our first job!

Luke stands up.

LUKE

Sweet!

JESSICA

The job's in Los Angeles.

LUKE

No Problem. I can open a portal directly there.

JESSICA

The lady's name is BONNIE FREEMAN. She's been the target of some vandalism.

LUKE
Not exactly the crime of the
century, but it's a start.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM - PREDAWN

Luke stepping out of a portal into Los Angeles to set-up surveillance. He waves to the camera and makes faces like an idiot.

LUKE
How's it look?

JESSICA
I think we've found the missing
link.

They all stare at a computer screen, which is sectioned into four locations, showing the front, back, and both sides of the Freeman house. A woman walks by the front of the house, her arms pumping wildly.

LUKE
Now that's suspicious!

JESSICA
She's just power-walking, Sherlock.

Luke walks off.

CRYSTAL
Where you goin'?

LUKE
I'm gonna' get some breakfast.
SCENE FADES.

INT. STARR LIVING-ROOM - NIGHT

Luke sits on the couch in the dark, he turns on the news...

ANCHORMAN
...police are calling the KILLER
the NIGHT SLASHER. Authorities
believe he is responsible for the
deaths of over thirty men and women
in L.A. One investigator believes
the killings are the work of more
than one person.

Crystal runs into the living room.

CRYSTAL

We've got the guy on video! He
threw a rock through one of her
windows.

LUKE

Awesome! E-mail her a copy of the
guy's face, maybe she knows the
guy?

Jessica pops her head into the room.

JESSICA

I'm one step ahead of you. Miss
Freeman said, it's a guy from work
who she refused to date.

LUKE

Case solved!

CRYSTAL

This calls for a celebration.

LUKE

You guys go on without me, I'm
beat.

Their parents, Jennifer and Tom enter the living room, Tom is
holding some luggage as he walks out the front door.

JENNIFER

Are you sure you don't want to go
with us?

CRYSTAL

No Ma, enjoy your vacation.

JESSICA

Take him, please!

Luke stands there grinning.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM - PREDAWN

A faint red light emanates from Luke's alarm clock, it's 4:30
am. Luke's head is thrashing on the pillow, as if he's having
a bad dream. His eyes open to movement on the computer
screen. The power-walking woman, dark hair, slim, early
twenties, moves across the screen. SHE is followed by a thin
man. He holds in his hand, a large KNIFE. He moves toward her
stealthily. Luke leaps out of bed and runs into the hallway.
He pounds on his Crystal's door.

LUKE

Wake up!

Both sisters come out of their rooms.

CRYSTAL
What's wrong!?

LUKE
A guy with a knife is following
that power-walking chic.

JESSICA
The Night Slasher!

CRYSTAL
Call the cops!

LUKE
I'll do better than that.

Luke opens a portal in the hallway and steps through it,
SCENE FADES.

EXT. DARKENED LOS ANGELES ALLEY - NIGHT

Luke steps through the portal quietly. He is right behind the Slasher in an alley lined with garbage cans. The Slasher grabs hold of the woman by her hair. He is laughing menacingly. The woman's face is red, and her mouth is opened in a silent scream. Luke's body begins a metamorphosis. His skin turns green and scaly. He looks at his hands in amazement. Then panic begins to set in, instinctively he yells...

DRAGONMAN
Let her go!

The killer stares for a moment in disbelief. Then with the knife against her throat he draws a trickle of blood. Dragonman lunges forward, attacking the killer. Blood splatters everywhere. The woman falls to one knee. She has only a minor cut. The killer gets up to run away but collapses in a puddle of blood. He is still alive, but just barely. The sound of police sirens can be heard. The patrol car pulls up fast. A cop gets out of the car quickly, his gun drawn. Dragonman has no time to exit the alley, but soon realizes the officer can't see him. He is blending into the surroundings like a chameleon. He steps back and calls his sisters.

LUKE
Starr Investigations did it again.

CRYSTAL
What happened?

LUKE

I'll be back in good ol' Milwaukee
before you can hang-up, we'll talk
then.

Luke opens a portal and walks through it. The police arrest
the killer. An officer looks at the woman, who stands behind
the cruiser, bewildered and babbling.

OFFICER

The guy who saved you was green and
scaly?

WOMAN

Yeah.

Ambulance arrives on the scene.

OFFICER

(to EMT)
She's delusional, probably in
shock.

INT. JESSICA'S BEDROOM

Luke enters Jessica's room. Crystal is sitting on the bed.

CRYSTAL

You don't so look good.

LUKE

(downcast)
I'm okay.

JESSICA

You look like...
(pause)
Like you're gonna be sick.

LUKE

I'm fine, just a little nervous...

Luke abruptly runs off to the bathroom. We hear him throwing-
up.

INT. STARR LIVING-ROOM - EVENING

Luke, sits on the sofa, watching the news. Crystal is on her
cell phone.

CRYSTAL

Everything's fine Ma. We're going
to a concert tonight.

MOTHER (O.S.)
You got the tickets!?

CRYSTAL
Yeah, I'm surprising Jess...
Oh, by the way, we got more flowers
from that SECRET ADMIRER.

Luke gets up and walks toward the door.

LUKE
I'll be at Jake's.

Crystal nods.

INT. CONCERT - EVENING

Flashing, pulsating, rainbow lights, flood the stage as five young singers perform to a blaring, wild, sold out crowd. We see Crystal and Jessica sing along in the front row.

INT. STARR FRONT FOYER - AFTER MIDNIGHT

Crystal and Jessica walk in the front door, laughing. Jessica shuts the door, and drops the keys in a cup on a table by the door.

CRYSTAL
JAY kissed me before he got on
their tour bus.

JESSICA
(rolls eyes)
Awesome!

Crystal sees the phone blinking and picks it up, it's a message from Luke.

CRYSTAL
I better give Luke a call, he's
been trying to get a hold of us.

A shadow moves across the floor.

INT. JAKE'S BEDROOM

A bedroom decorated with sports paraphernalia. Luke and Jake are playing a game on Jake's Xbox. Luke's cell phone rings.

INTERCUT - Luke and Crystal on phone.

LUKE
Hello?

CRYSTAL
 We just got in and I saw you
 called. What's up?

LUKE
 Nothin'. Just wanted to see how you
 liked the concert.

Luke listens.

INT. STARR LIVING - ROOM

We see a FIGURE spring up out of the darkness. We glimpse at the SILHOUETTE standing there behind Crystal, the shape walks out of sight. They don't see it. Suddenly, all the lights go out. An eerie glow from the street lamp illuminates the room slightly. They hear foot steps and finally realize there is an INTRUDER in the room. They can't see him. OUR EYES suddenly begin to adjust to the darkness and we see the outline of a man standing behind Crystal. The darkened FIGURE is holding a jagged edged knife, we see the gleaming edge of the blade high in the air just above Crystal. Jessica screams and pulls Crystal out of the way just as the knife is thrust downward. Panic and chaos ensue... Screams can be heard through the phone receiver, then silence.

Intercut - Luke and killer on phone.

LUKE
 WHAT HAPPENED!?

MAN
 We just missed each other back in
 LA, so I thought I'd pay you a
 little visit here in good ol'
 Milwaukee. I guess I'll just have
 to settle for saying hi to the
 family.

Clicking sound of the phone hanging up. We see Luke try to morph into Dragonman but can't. He tries to open a portal but cannot. We see Luke dialing 911.

INT. STARR PARENTS BEDROOM

Crystal and Jessica run screaming up the stairs into their parents' bedroom. They push a dresser against the door, and Jessica tries to dial the police, but her CELL PHONE has no signal; the BATTERY is dead.

EXT. MILWAUKEE STREET - NIGHT

Luke speeding down the road in Jake's car. He pounds the wheel in frustration.

INT. STARR PARENTS' BEDROOM

A breeze ruffles their hair. The bedroom window is open. Suddenly the closet door opens, and a tall man in black emerges. The girls wail in terror and push the dresser away from the door, trying to exit the room but the man is too fast. He shoves them both to the floor.

KILLER

Is that any way to treat a guest?

He thrusts his knife toward Jessica's heart, she grabs hold of his arm. In a flash, we see the outside window blotted out by a giant reptilian eye. Then, before the Killer can strike again the bedroom window EXPLODES inward. Enormous talons savagely yank him out of the window. The girls rush to the window. A dragon flies away with the killer in its clutches, silhouetted against the moon. Moments later Luke crashes through the door. His sisters are in shock.

LUKE

(to his sisters)
Are you alright?

Crystal points at the open window.

CRYSTAL

(eyes are distant)
Something big yanked him through.

Luke hugs them. When they calm down a bit he escorts them downstairs. SOUND - Doorbell rings.

INT. STARR FRONT DOOR

Luke stands between Crystal and Jessica. He opens the door. The light overhead has barely enough wattage to see who it is. A Strange looking guy stands at the door it's Oloff, but in HUMAN FORM. He is about six feet tall, young looking, about twenty years old. His dyed blue SPIKED HAIR shines from the light's illumination and a large gold ring is pierced through his nose like a bull, his eyes are green and odd looking like a snake's. Luke lunges at the stranger; knocking him down, he holds him there on the ground.

LUKE

I got him. Call the cops. Hurry.

CRYSTAL

That's not him.

Luke looks mistrustfully at the strange man's crazed expression.

LUKE
 (to sisters)
 Don't worry about this. I'll get
 rid of him..

OLOFF
 (laughing)
 Is that any way to treat a friend?

OLOFF (CONT'D)
 I'm Oloff! I'm changing just like
 you little brother. Just call me
 BLUE.

Luke's expression is one of anger...

LUKE
 You're Oloff!?

BLUE
 What's wrong? You hate the new look
 that much?

LUKE
 I hate what you turned me into!

BLUE
 (outraged)
 I gave you power. I gave you
 strength. I gave you the heart of a
 dragon.

Luke stares broodingly at Blue for a moment then morphs into Dragonman, and in a fury attacks Blue. Shaking him violently like a rag doll before slamming him hard onto the ground. Suddenly, Blue morph's into Oloff, the huge menacing Spellvillian dragon. Dragonman raises his hands high, in an attempt to ward off the impending attack. We see his armor like scales rise up exposing his unprotected stomach. We see one of Oloff's powerful talons, grab Dragonman by his EXPOSED BELLY. Dragonman is instantly rendered helpless, and in excruciating pain. Oloff throws Dragonman to the ground then, bellows out a blast of flames that passes just over Dragonman's head... a silent moment follows. They both morph back into human form, then stare hard into each others eyes. Blue smiles, then turns and begins to walk away and says...

BLUE (CONT'D)
 You're not invincible little
 brother. Guard your weakness or
 perish.

Luke's expression softens.

LUKE
 Wait!

Blue stops.

LUKE (CONT'D)
You saved my sisters, and for that
I'll always thankful.

BLUE
Soooo... are we still angry?

LUKE
Maybe just a little.

BLUE
(beaming smile)
GOOD! GOOD! Happy to hear that.

LUKE
You gotta' get out of here, NOW!
The cops will be here any minute.

Blue cocks his head in confusion, his voice trailing off.

BLUE
(to himself)
The cops!?

Sirens blaring, SCENE FADES.

INT. STARR HOME - NIGHT - TWO HOURS LATER

Luke and Blue stand in the foyer under a brightly lit crystal chandler. An open arched doorway can be seen leading into the living room. Crystal and Jessica are sitting in the living room.

LUKE
What did you do with the... you
know... the?

BLUE
The body?

LUKE
Yeah.

BLUE
I tore his head off then...

LUKE
(cuts-in)
Forget I asked.

BLUE
 You sure? You look like you're
 dying to know.

INTERCUT Sisters talking.

JESSICA
 He's kinda ...
 (Crystal cuts-in)
 Cute.
 (Jessica)
 Yeah.

Blue looks over at Crystal and Jessica with an engaging smile.

BLUE
 (to Luke)
 I like your sisters, little
 brother.

Luke shoots Blue a murderous stare.

LUKE
 Forget about it.

BLUE
 (grin)
 WHAT, you don't approve?

LUKE
 When are you gonna' stop messin'
 with me and tell me how to control
 this?

BLUE
 Who said it can be controled?

Silent pause.

Blue, wide-smile; turns and walks away.

BLUE (CONT'D)
 (voice trails off)
 With the taste of blood.

Luke shouts.

LUKE
 (wide-eyed)
 Like a vampire!?

INT. KITCHEN STARR HOME - MORNING

Jessica enters the kitchen she sees Luke sitting at the kitchen table. A rare steak is on a plate in front of him. Blood oozes from the meat.

JESSICA
Nasty!

Luke's face grimaces as he chews on a piece of the steak.

LUKE
What's wrong? You never heard of
steak and eggs in the morning?

JESSICA
Since when do you eat rare meat?

LUKE
What ya' talkin' about! I love it.

JESSICA
Yeah, so where's your eggs?

LUKE
You know I don't like eggs.

JESSICA
(rolls eyes)
Seek help! SCENE FADES

INT. MILWAUKEE POLICE STATION - DAY

Typical cluttered office. Detective JOHN LOGAN, fortyish, slim and tall, his face is rough and wind blown with a scare across the bridge of his nose. He sits behind his desk. Seated across from him is Billy Bob Durham, a strange man dressed like a southern gentleman, other officers are outside the glass-walled office, laughing. Logan picks up the phone and cups the receiver.

LOGAN
Knock it off you guys. I'm on the
phone.
(into the phone)
Yes, I understand... tomorrow
evening should be fine... talk
soon.

Bill Bob waits patiently.

LOGAN (CONT'D)
How can I help you today Mr...

BILLY BOB
 (interrupts)
 Billy Bob Durham. Most folks just
 call me Mr. ESP.

LOGAN
 Of course! I understand you have
 information you wanna' share with
 me?

BILLY BOB
 Sho' do. During the Summerfest
 celebration this year we will be
 invaded by a huge, alien craft. It
 will appear over da' Lake.

LOGAN
 (cuts-in)
 Did you say an alien craft over the
 lake?

BILLY BOB
 Nearabouts.

LOGAN
 Let me guess. You have magical
 powers?

BILLY BOB
 I see things that haven't happened
 yet, but will.

Logan gestures to an officer standing outside his office. The
 officer enters.

OFFICER
 Yeah John.

LOGAN
 (to Billy)
 I guess I don't have to
 tell you what happens
 next?

Logan nods to the officer. The officer escorts Billy out of
 John's office. Billy Bob walks away with dignity. He turns
 around before leaving the station and says...

BILLY BOB
 Oh, I almost forgot. TUFFY says
 hello.

Logan looks back at him in awe.

OFFICER
 You look like you saw a ghost.

LOGAN
How did he know about Tuffy?

OFFICER
Oh, the cute little one you
nicknamed. The one that's...

LOGAN
(cuts-in)
Yeah, the one that's dead.

OFFICER
He probably read about it in the
paper.

LOGAN
It was never in the paper; the
nickname I mean. SCENE FADES.

INT. STARR KITCHEN - DAY

Luke, and his sisters sit at the kitchen table, eating
breakfast. Crystal and Jessica push their pancakes around.

JESSICA
I haven't slept good since it
happened.

CRYSTAL
Me either.

LUKE
Give it some time. It'll pass.

SOUND - Phone ringing. INTERCUT Crystal answers phone.

CRYSTAL
Hello.
(Logan)
Is this the Starr residence?
(Crystal)
Yes, Crystal speaking, how can I
help you?
(Logan)
I need you and Jessica to come down
to the station it's in regard to
the house break-in you had the
other day. Can you be down here in
about an hour or so? It's very
important.
(Crystal)
I guess.
(Logan)
Okay, good, talk soon.

LUKE
Who was that?

CRYSTAL
It was a Detective. Me and Jess
have to meet him at the station in
an hour.

LUKE
I gotta' go too. I have to drive to
West Bend to pick-up some computer
software programs for dad. I'll see
ya guys later.

INT. TOM STARR'S CAR

Luke is driving down the road in his father's car, while listening to music on the radio. He taps his fingers to the rhythm of the music against the steering wheel. Luke passes a man on the side of the road. The man is waving for help. It's an elderly man, dressed like a southern gentleman. Luke turns off the radio. Luke backs the car up and pulls over to where the man is standing. The jovial man peers into the window and smiles.

BILLY BOB
Hello, there, young man.

LUKE
You need help with somethin'?

BILLY BOB
I sure do young fella'. As you can
see my car's out of commission and
I'm fixin' to meet a fella down
the road a bit.

LUKE
Get in.

Billy Bob gets in the car, and they drive off.

EXT. OPEN HIGHWAY - ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES LATER

Music playing on the radio. Luke breaks the silence.

LUKE
You look a lot like a guy I just
saw on TV. A psychic named Billy.

BILLY BOB
Sho'nuff. That would be me.

LUKE
 Was that crazy prediction for real?
 Sorry, I didn't mean that you're
 crazy... no offence.

BILLY BOB
 (grins)
 None taken. Well, I get off right
 about here. Thanks again.

LUKE
 You sure...? I can take you
 further.

Billy nods, no. Luke stops the car at the corner. Billy gets out. Billy shoots Luke a strange stare.

BILLY BOB
 I gotta' feelin' I'll be seein' ya'
 again soon, real soon.

Luke gives Billy a confused stare, Billy smiles as Luke drives away.

INT. MILWAUKEE POLICE STATION

Logan's office. He sits behind his desk, while Crystal and Jessica sit in vinyl chairs across from him.

LOGAN
 (staring suspiciously)
 Quite frankly I'm puzzled. How did
 you two escape unscathed?

CRYSTAL
 We've already answered those
 questions.

LOGAN
 (to Jessica)
 That you did, that you did, but not
 to my satisfaction.

JESSICA
 The truth is a dragon saved us.

LOGAN
 I see. You wanna' play games.

Jessica rolls her eyes.

LOGAN (CONT'D)
 Do you know a man by the name of
 Billy Bob Durham?

JESSICA

No.

Crystal nods, no.

LOGAN

He was in this office recently and while he was here a piece of paper fell from his pocket. Your name and address was written on it. Any idea why?

CRYSTAL

I have no idea.

LOGAN

(silent pause)

Do you know a BRENDA STARR, or a DORIS STARR?

JESSICA

No, why?

LOGAN

(to Crystal)

So there's no chance they could be related to you?

CRYSTAL

None.

Logan studies their expressions.

LOGAN

Both of these women were murdered within a fifty mile radius of your home. Just happened today.

(silent pause)

If you think of anything that might help give me a call.

INT. STARR KITCHEN - LATE AFTERNOON

Luke, Crystal, and Jessica sit around the table about to eat dinner.

LUKE

Why so quiet?

CRYSTAL

(tense stare)

Two more people were just murdered.

LUKE

So.

JESSICA
Both of the victims had the same
last name...Starr.

Luke's eyes get wide.

CRYSTAL
I'm thinkin' about gettin' a gun.

LUKE
I can protect you.

JESSICA
Like before!
(pause)
Sorry. I didn't mean that.

LUKE
Guess who I met today?

Crystal nods.

LUKE (CONT'D)
Billy Bob Durham!

CRYSTAL
Logan mentioned him. He said the
guy had our name and address on a
piece of paper.

LUKE
That's weird.

Luke walks over to the hat rack by the door.

LUKE (CONT'D)
Hey! Where's my Brewer's hat?

JESSICA
I have no clue. Hopefully in an
incinerator somewhere.

CRYSTAL
By the way, that Detective stopped
by today.

LUKE
What did he want?

CRYSTAL
He wanted to talk to me.

LUKE
About what?

CRYSTAL

Don't know. I was at the store at the time.

INT. DETECTIVE LOGAN'S HOME - EARLY EVENING

Logan sits relaxing in his recliner, legs propped on the surface of an end table holding a beer. The phone rings. He pops up out of his chair like a JACK-IN-A-BOX, guzzling his beer down like a barfly, he checks his caller ID. Then answers the phone.

LOGAN

DR. SINCLAIR!

DR. SINCLAIR (O.S.)

Yes. Is this DR. LOGAN speaking?

Pretending to be a doctor.

LOGAN

Yeah, yeah, this is Dr. Logan. That hat must've been full of hair and skin specimens. Did you get anything from it.

DR. SINCLAIR (O. S.)

The TMA results came back as X Factor: Unknown.

LOGAN

TM... what? What the hell does that mean?

DR. SINCLAIR

Tissue Mineral Analysis. An element has fused itself to the enzymes in this individual's system.

LOGAN

And?

DR. SINCLAIR (O.S.)

I've never seen anything like this before.

LOGAN

So what are you sayin'?

DR. SINCLAIR

(silent pause)

He's not like anyone else on earth.

LOGAN

Fax me those reports ASAP.

Logan hangs up the phone.

LOGAN (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Who the hell is Luke Starr?

INT. STARR RESIDENCE KITCHEN - EARLY EVENING

Luke enters the kitchen with two tickets to a baseball game in his hand. Crystal is sitting at the kitchen table.

LUKE
Where's Jess?

CRYSTAL
She's visiting Tracy.

LUKE
You're kidding me! Tonight?.

CRYSTAL
Yeah.

LUKE
What are you doing tonight?

CRYSTAL
You know I don't get into baseball.

Blue rings the doorbell. Luke checks on the door.

LUKE
(surprised)
Hey! I didn't know you were stopping by tonight.

CRYSTAL
(shouts)
Lucky for you, hey, it solves your extra ticket problem.

Luke tries to dodge an awkward moment.

LUKE
(to Blue)
Without knowing something about the game, it wouldn't be much fun. Trust me.

BLUE
(grin)
I'm a fast learner.

Luke rolls his eyes.

LUKE
 (to Crystal)
 I owe you one.

CRYSTAL
 (big smile)
 You two have a great time now.

EXT. MILLER PARK - MILWAUKEE BREWERS BASEBALL GAME - NIGHT

The crowd around them stares at Blue's odd appearance.

LUKE
 I'll try to teach you the game, as
 best I can.

BLUE
 No need to. I catch on fast.

LUKE
 Cool.

Luke and Blue watch as one of the Brewers comes up to bat. It's a swing and a miss. A guy in the crowd stands up and screams.

GUY IN THE CROWD
 You suck man, yooou suck.

Blue stands up and mimics the guy in the crowd.

BLUE
 You suck man, yooou suck.

Luke shakes his head. On the next pitch you hear the bat connect. It's a base hit.

LUKE
 I'm gonna get some hot dogs.

BLUE
 Hot dogs?

LUKE
 Food! I'll be right back. SCENE
 FADES...

INT. INSIDE CONCESSION STAND

The lights are subdued down a quite corridor as Luke approaches a food concession stand. Two men, in their early twenties are being served by a young blonde girl. Luke hears laughter, along with taunting from the men.

As the men pay for their food the girl reaches for the money. One man pulls the money away, just out of her reach and says...

MANS VOICE

Come on baby, come an get it. You know you want it.

The other man laughs.

MAN TWO

She wants it bad bro. You goin' give it to her or what?

WOMAN

I'm callin' the cops.

Both men jump over the counter then rush toward the door that leads behind the counter. They force their way in while dragging her into a storage area, she screams,

The following happens fast.

A sudden burst of unrelenting, violence follows. The men are brutally mauled to death, by a hulking figure. Body parts flying everywhere. The girl's hair and face are dripping and drenched in blood. We see Dragonman standing in the carnage.

INT. CONCESSION STAND - SEVERAL MOMENTS LATER

Luke squints his eyes desperately as he looks around trying to get his bearings. He sees no rape in progress, no blood bath, only two men heeding the cashiers warning and running off. Luke realizes he had a waking dream. SCENE FADES.

EXT./INT. GAS STATION OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - NIGHT

Jessica is on a lonely deserted street getting gas. We see SOMEONE eerily watching her as she walks toward the gas station to pay for gas. Attendant smiles, she hands him a credit card.

ATTENDANT

First time I've seen you in here.

JESSICA

I've been here before.

ATTENDANT

Really! I would have remembered YOU. I'm closing for the night, in a minute. Wanna' get a drink HONEY?

JESSICA

I just came in for gas ROMEO.

He stares hard at her as she turns and walks out of the station. She can feel his eyes on her as he dims the lights. Then, from Jessica's POV, we see what appears to be a coat tail hanging out of the back door of her car on the drivers side. At first glance she doesn't see it. She is still preoccupied by the attendant's roaming eyes. Then, all at once she realizes someone is hiding in her car. Panic-stricken she begins running down the darkly lit street. As she runs, she looks over her shoulder. From her POV we see THE DARK SHAPE OF A MAN crawling out of the back seat of her car. We see in the darkness a stalking form as it comes toward her. Jessica stops and bends over slightly as she tries to catch her breath. When she looks up the dark figure has vanished. She CRIES hysterically, she knows he's still out there. Jessica stares out into the darkness in all directions. Scared out of her wits she begins running again. Suddenly, we see a dark hooded figure coming toward her. With her cell phone in hand she frantically calls Luke.

EXT. MILLER PARK - NIGHT - JUST OUTSIDE CONCESSION AREA

Luke answers his cell phone. He sees it's Jessica on his caller ID.

INTERCUT - Jessica to Luke.

JESSICA

HELP! HURRY! Someone's trying to kill me!

LUKE

Where are you!?

JESSICA

(labored breathing)

That little gas station off of Mequon Road.

Her phone goes dead. She runs frantically down the street for what seems like minutes. Suddenly, out of the darkness a DARK SHADOW descends upon her, she screams.

DRAGONMAN

Jess, it's me, you're safe, now.

Jessica looks wide-eyed and shaken, then falls to the ground like a limp doll. Dragonman morphs into Luke and kneels down to comfort her. In the distance we see Unter's demonic face watching from the shadows.

INT. STARR HOME - DAY

Luke comes down the stairs with a concerned look on his face. He is pale. Crystal and Jessica stand at the foot of the stairs. Luke hands a sheet of paper to Crystal.

CRYSTAL
 (reading out loud)
 When destiny calls, be strong. The
 fate of your world will depend upon
 you.
 (pause)
 This is automatic writing. I wonder
 what it means?

Luke nods his head.

JESSICA
 (rolls eyes)
 Not that again.

EXT./INT. LAKE MICHIGAN - NIGHT

We see a gigantic reddish ball-shaped craft emerge from the lake. It rises about one thousand feet into the sky then travels over Milwaukee.

EXT. STARR HOME - NIGHT

Crystal goes out the back door of the house in a hurry. Moments later a very dense fog descends over Milwaukee. Streets are still and barren. Insect sounds cease. Clocks all over the city stop at 9:00 p.m. People raise their heads to the sky, they are pointing at an enormous, strange looking craft with lightning bolts radiating around it.

INT. JET FLYING OVER MILWAUKEE SKIES - NIGHT

Radioman is tracking an object on his radar scope. He LOOKS out of the Jet and points excitedly toward the craft. The pilot stares in bafflement.

INT. GROUND CONTROL - NIGHT

INTERCUT - Radio Dispatch Officer to Pilot.

RADIO DISPATCH OFFICER
 We don't know what it is we're
 tracking on radar, do you have a
 visual?

PILOT
 Affirmative. It's large and round
 like a BUBBLE, with what appears to
 be electrical current flowing
 through it.

RADIO DISPATCH OFFICER
 Stay with it as long as you can.

PILOT
Affirmative.

EXT. STORE FRONT - NIGHT

Crystal is coming out of a store a short distance from her house. A dark hooded figure is in the shadows watching her every movement. She is walking home, hooded figure follows her. She is about to unlock the back door. She hears a noise and turns around. She sees a police car cruising by slowly. She puts her key in the door, unlocks it and goes in. We see Unter's face appear in the shadows.

INT. STARR LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

JESSICA
(to Luke)
Did you try to call Ma?

LUKE
I couldn't get through.

CRYSTAL
What's up?

Jessica points to the TV.

JESSICA
Something weird just flew over the city... they're talking about it now.

NEWS ANCHOR MAN thirtyish brown hair.

NEWS ANCHOR
About two hours ago, early eye witness accounts say the UFO emerged, not from the sky as one would expect, but from Lake Michigan. The identity of the craft is still unknown.

CO-ANCHOR WOMEN mid-twenties blonde hair.

CO-ANCHOR
Wouldn't that make it a USO? An unidentified submerged object.

NEWS ANCHOR
I stand corrected. Something tells me you watch a lot of Star Trek.

Luke, Crystal and Jessica watch TV. The time on the clock is ten o'clock. SOUND - Doorbell rings. Luke answers the door. Billy Bob Durham stands on the stoop.

LUKE

Billy!

BILLY BOB

I told you we would meet again soon young man.

LUKE

Come in.

BILLY BOB

We need to talk. Is there somewhere we can go?

LUKE

Right here is fine. We can talk in front of my sisters.

Billy pauses for a moment as though contemplating.

BILLY BOB DURHAM

I know your secret.

Luke's eyes got watchful.

LUKE

What secret?

BILLY BOB

(cold stare)

I'm a psychic. I know who you are.

CRYSTAL

(cuts-in)

Why did you have our address in your pocket? What do you want from us?

BILLY BOB

(wink)

I see you was talkin' to Logan.

LUKE

I think you better leave.

BILLY BOB

You youngun's are all alike... I didn't mean to ruffle nobodies feathers, but trust me, my leavin' would be a huge mistake.

LUKE

Why?

BILLY BOB

We need to talk boy, a storm's
a'brewin'... and one heap of danger
is comin' our way.

There is a silent pause. Luke and his sisters stare apprehensively at Billy.

LUKE

Now's not a good time. Come back
tomorrow.

BILLY BOB

As you wish.

Billy Bob exits the house. Our point of view follows this small frail figure of a man. Slowly at first, then closing quickly. Now only a few feet from him, a final RUSH. A Shadowy figure overtakes him. An attack follows. Billy drops to the ground. A large ominous shadowy figure falls over him. Moments later a small frail shadow raises up and walks off.

EXT. LAKE MICHIGAN - AFTERNOON - ONE DAY LATER

WIDE VIEW of the lake. The surface is strewn with boats, small and large, floating around the area where the craft submerged. Two women in a speedboat hold up a sign that reads: WELCOME TO EARTH! WE LOVE ALIEN VISITORS! A pontoon boat holds a group of men getting prepped with SCUBA gear. Suddenly, terrifying creatures rise from the water. They are eight feet tall their bodies are the color of ripened squash, except for thin red and green lines that rise up from their necks to band together at the top of their bald heads, their eyes are solid black. One of the creatures leap onto the speedboat and savagely grabs both women. Then dives back into the water with them. Other creatures brutally attack people on other nearby boats until the whole scene is in chaos. Navy submarines sit on the bottom of the lake about one thousand yards from the large craft, observing it. Smaller ships appear to enter and leave through a cosmic portal.

EXT. BOAT DOCK - AFTERNOON

Two hours later, amidst the panic and confusion a REPORTER interviews JUDY and PAUL BAILEY, eye witnesses to the slaughter. Judy sobs.

REPORTER

What happened out there?

PAUL
 (frantic)
 Those Things tore everyone to shreds.

REPORTER
 Those Things?

PAUL
 The Aliens.

EXT. WAUWATOSA - STREET - NIGHT

Police barricade the area. A strange Being stands surrounded by police. It is holding the decapitated head of a cop. Detective Logan and other officers shoot the creature repeatedly with no affect. A guy with spiked blue hair breaks through the barricade. It's Blue. We see him confront the monster. The CREATURE roars and jumps to attack him. Blue laughs and taunts the creature. Just then, Dragonman lands between Blue and the creature.

BLUE
 He knows what I am. He can sense it.

DRAGONMAN
 Get out of here before you get yourself killed.

The creature lunges at Blue. Dragonman pushes Blue out of the way. The creature attacks Dragonman. Dragonman grapples the creature to the ground ripping part of its hand off. Dragonman unleashes a furnace of fire. The creature flees, engulfed in flames. Dragonman picks up the dismembered body part and takes flight into the night sky. Blue runs off. Police secure the area.

INT. STARR HOME - NIGHT

Luke returns home with blood on his hands. His sisters are in the living room.

JESSICA
 What happened?

Luke holds a bloodied box.

LUKE
 We need to get this to GRANDPA'S friend, Dr. Bond for analysis, now. I'll explain on the way.

INT. DR. JULIUS BOND'S HOME LAB

Dr. Bond a former NASA scientist in his late sixties, alert, jovial, charming, heavily built with a deep voice, yet soft spoken. He bends over a microscope, surrounded by Luke and his sisters. He is a genius of science. A man driven by unlocking the secrets of nature with a child-like enthusiasm. He looks up and stares at a model of the human brain, then to the ALIEN HAND, and says, musing...

BOND

This three pound wrinkled mass of gray matter directs our actions, feelings and memories, even our feelings of affection but it can't even begin to understand this incredible being and the profound implications it may have on mankind. I've never seen such a complex plant.

LUKE

Plant!?

Bond nods affirmatively.

BOND

Why would you want to kill this? It's probably the most important thing to happen to us in the history of the world!

LUKE

If we do nothing they will colonize. And that will mark the beginning of the end for mankind.

BOND

That is utter nonsense. I can only urge you in the interest of human knowledge to keep an open mind.

CRYSTAL

(to Jessica)

I think he's a flake.

BOND

(troubled expression)

I'll help destroy them, but only if absolutely necessary.

EXT. OUTSIDE DR. BONDS HOUSE - NIGHT

LUKE
 (to his sisters)
 I'm gonna' do a little studying of
 my own if you don't mind?

The girls give him thumbs-up, then they drive off.

INT. MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Luke sits at a desk cluttered high with books of all sizes, thick and thin. He pages through them with a pace and swiftness that would make a speed reader envious. Two elderly women stare at Luke and the mess he's made with a look of contempt. Suddenly, Luke stops, reading, he stands up and shouts.

LUKE
 The Hornworm!

Elderly women stand up glaring at Luke. Luke begins to walk away, then turns back and says.

LUKE (CONT'D)
 (playfully)
 It's the best way to kill a plant.
 It really is.

INT. BOND'S HOME LAB - NEXT DAY MID-AFTERNOON

Luke, Crystal, Jessica and Dr. Bond reconvene in his lab.

CRYSTAL
 (to Luke)
 What did you come up with?

LUKE
 (to Crystal)
 Tell ya' later.
 (to Dr. Bond)
 Any luck?

BOND
 These creatures are sensitive to
 daylight, and can probably be
 destroyed with the HORNWORM VIRUS.
 Anything too add?

LUKE
 Not really.

BOND

One more thing. I also modified the Hornworm virus in a way that infects them faster.

LUKE

Awesome. I'm gonna' see if I can infect the portal too. This way it will kill off any of them trying to return to their own world. I'll have go to Spellville. I'm sure Alaba will help.

BOND

Portal?

LUKE

There is a cosmic gate-way in the lake. It allows them to enter and leave our world. It's how they got here.

Dr. Bond looks confused.

CRYSTAL

Luke, show him who you really are. It's the only way he'll understand.

Luke nods, then morphs into Dragonman. Bond drops in his chair, a stunned look covers his face. SCENE FADES

EXT./INT. SPELLVILLE ALABA'S SECRET UNDERGROUND LAIR - DAY

Moments later a portal appears. Luke steps out of it, entering Spellville. He is near a moss-filled cave, he can see the entrance to a temple. It is almost completely covered with green clinging vines. A LARGE SERPENTS HEAD sways from side to side in his path. Its jaws hinge open ready to strike. Luke sees it and makes a run for it, bending under it as he makes his way across some scattered bones, both human and animal. Luke stands just outside the entrance, and is not yet visible, yet Alaba knows he is there.

ALABA

Enter!

Luke enters and looks around the dimly lit room that has a large ornate table right in the center. To one side there is a wall covered with books, and then about ten feet in front of the books is a large black pot. To the other side there are two steps leading up to a bed chamber. There is a massive desk with papers strewn all over the top of it. Along the wall there are cupboards and shelves lined with bottles of various sizes and shapes.

Alaba turns from the table and greets Luke, he can sense Luke's fear. Luke stands a fair distance away from Alaba. Luke is first to speak,

LUKE
I need your help.

ALABA
(a slowness overcomes his
voice)
The Alaba whom you feared is no
longer. I can only hope to prove
that to you someday, if you let me.

LUKE
We're family, there's nothing to
prove.

ALABA
(smiles)
How may I help you?

LUKE
Somehow, a creature from this world
followed me back to Earth. And
they're going to destroy us if we
do nothing.

ALABA
They didn't follow you Luke. They
were shown the way there by Unter.

LUKE
Why?

ALABA
Unter is evil. He needs no reason.

LUKE
How did the creatures find their
way here?

ALABA
There are many realms. Like an
onion, they simply peeled their way
through until they found us. Your
world is in great danger. What
entered your world is a scout
vessel.

(silent pause)
They are not creatures... as you
call them. They are a very
intelligent and cunning race of
beings. If they determine you are
weak a full invasion will follow
and your people will be harvested.

LUKE
Harvested!?

ALABA
Yes. They will have found a new
food source... YOU.

LUKE
Why hasn't that happened here?

ALABA
We destroyed their scout vessel.

LUKE
How?

ALABA
All in good time, all in good time,
but first you must learn the magic
and power of the old ones.

LUKE
The old ones!?

ALABA
We are known as sorcerers by some,
wizards by others. I am the last in
this dying breed.

Alaba takes Luke through the temple.

ALABA (CONT'D)
Very well... First we will explore
the great transformations that have
altered life, on Spellville and on
Earth as well and how wizards have
played a big part... voice trails
off ... SCENE FADES.

INT. UNDERGROUND LAIR - BECOMING A WIZARD - MONTAGE

A.) Luke fans the pages of many large books with lightning
speed. From the smile on his face it appears that he
understands every word.

B.) He opens a cage and releases a great horned owl then
points a wand at it and turns it into a bubble that bursts
back into it's original form.

C.) He regenerates the dead limb of a large tree frog. Luke
walks out of a room with a confident smile. Alaba looks up
from a scroll he is holding in his hands.

ALABA

To become a wizard you must read
and understand each and every book.

Luke twirls the Ruby of Spellville around his neck.

LUKE

Done!

ALABA

Impossible!

LUKE

Ask me anything!

ALABA

How is it that one person can chant
the exact same spell as another,
yet it will only work for one?

LUKE

It only works for the one who
completely understands the wisdom
of the Gods from the Testament of
Prayers.

A expression of awe and wonder come over Alaba. He then opens a secret compartment in the wall. He takes out the Book Of Knowledge. He removes a spell and hands it to Luke.

ALABA

(intense stare)

The spell is more than mere words.
The tone must be perfect as well as
the length of time reciting it. If
you are not ready, you will perish.

LUKE

I understand.

Luke opens a portal to Milwaukee. He looks back at Alaba and waves goodbye as he steps through the portal.

INT. UNDERWATER - LAKE MICHIGAN - MID-AFTERNOON

The reddish-pink craft sits at the bottom of the Lake like a bad egg. Several aircraft flying over the area are vaporized by a powerful death ray. The submerged craft is surrounded by several military submarines. The submarines fire torpedoes at the craft, but it remains intact. Suddenly, it radiates with a piercing light, and all the submarines fall to the lake bed.

INT./EXT. MILWAUKEE SKY - MID-AFTERNOON

A smaller vessel exits the mother ship, it emerges from the water and takes flight. While flying over downtown Milwaukee it fires death rays at the Wisconsin building. The building crumbles into dust. All the people inside are killed, dissolved into a red pulp, then sucked up into the craft. It continues flying over the city destroying everything in its path. Cars are vaporized and the occupants are turned into the red pulp and sucked up in the craft. Two fighter jets fire missiles at the Object with no affect on it. The jets are quickly destroyed by beams of intense light. The National Guard arrive. They set up a blockade. There is a military presence on the lake and along the shoreline. SCENE FADES.

INT. STARR LIVING-ROOM - MORNING

Luke, Blue, Crystal, Jessica, and Billy Bob are gathered in the living room. Jessica hands Luke the hornworm formula.

JESSICA

Do you have the spell?

LUKE

I do. We're good to go.

Luke is chanting Alaba's spell. His expression is one of apprehension as beads of sweat roll down his face.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Lift up thyself, spirit of the
light, and render unto us the power
to destroy all abominations...
TOTRA TOTRA LAGGORA. SCENE FADES.

EXT. MILWAUKEE SKY - MORNING

Dragonman flies over to the Lake. We zoom down to see traffic jams in the streets, as thousands of frightened people try to evacuate the city.

EXT./INT. LAKE MICHIGAN - INTERIOR OF ALIEN SHIP

As he reaches the area of the lake where the craft went down Dragonman takes in a deep breath and dives into the lake. He swims to the location of the craft, then he waits in the dark and murky water observing smaller crafts entering and leaving the main vessel. They are using a form of ESP to communicate. Suddenly, an opening appears and a scout ship exits the mother craft at which point Dragonman enters the vessel. Cries for help echo through the green scaly walls of the ship. Several people are wrapped up tightly in a CLEAR MEMBRANE and lined up against the walls of the ship.

In the center there are CREATURES LYING in what appears to be some kind of PLANT PODS. Each pod is connected by a feeding cord or root, to a DIGESTION CHAMBER. A foul smelling substance is bubbling up in the chamber. You see body parts, arms and legs. It is the smell of human flesh. Dragonman cautiously walks forward in the ship, tearing at the membranes with his powerful RETRACTABLE RAZOR SHARP CLAWS, freeing a MAN a WOMAN and THREE small Children, two girls and a boy. He gestures for the people to follow him quietly.

DRAGONMAN

Don't be afraid, I'm here to help.

The woman and her three children cry uncontrollably, but the sound does not rouse the creatures out of their sleep. Just then, Dragonman hears a faint but familiar laugh, one that makes him think back to when he was in Spellville. He can sense something is watching them with an icy stare. Suddenly, what appears to be an IMMENSE STATUE with the likeness of one of the aliens reaches out and tears the head off of the man. It happens with such speed there is no time to react. Dragonman wrestles with the creature, they smash into several of the pods waking some of the alien creatures, Dragonman breaks free of the statue-like creature and EXHALES a PLUME of INTENSE FLAMES killing the creatures. He then wraps the mother and children in some of the alien membrane, forming an air pocket with enough air in it.

We see Dragonman, the mother and children safely surface; military personnel are waiting.

Dragonman then returns to the alien ship below. Suddenly a scouting ship exits the mother ship firing a glowing beam of blue green light striking a submarine, moments later it is vaporized. An opening in the ship becomes visible near the portal. A swarm of Trog attempt to escape, but Dragonman spews a huge blast of white hot flames into the opening of the ship sending them back. Dragonman propels himself like a torpedo toward the ship, then tosses ONE VIRUS VIAL into the glowing cosmic portal and the other virus vial into the opening of the craft where it explodes just before the opening to the vessel closes. As the virus spreads throughout the ship it lights up like a furnace. A green light scans back and forth, alerting those on board the ship. A smaller craft exits the main ship firing powerful death rays at Dragonman with no affect on Dragonman as it makes its way to the surface.

EXT. AIRBORNE OVER LAKE

Now airborne, the ship vaporizes a military ship. Dragonman is in pursuit and quickly destroys the craft with a huge blast of intense flames.

INT. LAKE BOTTOM

At the bottom of the lake WE SEE the mother ship is still glowing a reddish-pink color. It starts to turn clockwise methodically. It moves faster and faster. The craft drives up a swirl of sludge, yet its glow is still evident. The craft digs its way into the lake bed then implodes. The glow of the portal disappears.

EXT. LAKE SURFACE

At the surface a crowd of curious onlookers and military personnel gather at the shoreline of the lake. We see Dragonman descend from the sky and land on a Coast Guard ship. We see him remove the American flag. A moment later he dives back into the lake.

INT. LAKE BED

Dragonman dives down to the spot where the alien ship vanished. We now see him jam an American flag into the lake bed like a tombstone over the their grave.

EXT. MILWAUKEE - VACANT STREET - MORNING

Dragonman lands on a quiet, almost emptied street. Detective Logan, watches in an unmarked police car just in time to see Dragonman morph into Luke. Crystal, walks along talking to a teenage GIRL with blonde hair. Jessica strolls behind talking excitedly with Blue as they hurry to meet up with Luke. We see Billy Bob slip off by himself into an alley.

JESSICA

Get over here!

Luke grins as she gives him a hug.

LUKE

Where's Billy?

JESSICA

I don't know. He's around somewhere, I just saw him a minute ago.

EXT. AROUND CORNER OF BUILDING - MORNING

As Crystal and the girl walk around the corner of a tall building a menacing alien creature lunges out grabbing hold of both girls in the huge claws of its left hand, his RIGHT HAND is missing. The girls scream.

We see a dark hooded figure standing nearby. Suddenly, the Trog begins ripping at the girls with the razor-sharp claws of his LEFT hand. Luke sees Crystal; in a panic he morph's into Dragonman. Dragonman attacks the alien. The cunning creature exploits Dragonman's weakness by quickly neutralizing him with a gut-wrenching blow to the stomach, just under his armored scales. Dragonman falls hard to the ground. Then involuntarily morphs back into Luke. Logan exits his vehicle, his gun drawn. He runs over to the girls, emptying his gun into the creature but it's too late, blood is everywhere, his bullets have no effect on the alien.

SOUND - Aerosol can spraying.

We see a mist engulf the alien. The creature's body becomes rigid and brittle, then crumples into a pile of dust. A moment later we see the unlikely hero, Dr. Bond, emerge from a doorway of the building with the aerosol can still in his hand.

BOND

Hideous creatures, aren't they?

Luke looks up in horror at the bloodied bodies, then crawls over to where they are lying. They are stock-still on the ground. Luke holds Crystal in his arms, tears flowing freely from him. We see the hooded figure's identity. It is Unter grinning wickedly. Just then, Crystal gasps loudly and begins crying, she is in shock but unharmed, the other girl is dead. Unter vanishes into thin air. SCENE FADES

INT. BILLY BOB'S HOUSE - SEVERAL DAY LATER - DAY

A huge recreation room, furnished with an enormous television against one wall. A long bar is laden with an unimaginable array of food. Billy Bob brings in steaks that he cooked to perfection. ONE STEAK is RARE, BLOOD OOZING from it. Crystal carries more snacks into the room. Luke shows Jessica card tricks. Crystal puts the rare steak on a separate plate.

CRYSTAL

Luke, come and get your steak.

LUKE

I'll right there.

Logan walks over to Luke.

LOGAN

Thanks to you it's all over now.

LUKE

We all did our part.

LOGAN

Someday the world we live in and
the world we should live in will
meet. Until then your secret is
safe with me kid.

BILLY BOB

(to Crystal)

Where is your hero, Dr. Bond?

Luke stands next to Crystal.

CRYSTAL

He'll be here, he's just running a
little late.

BILLY BOB

Good thing for you he was there
lickety split the other day.
Pity, we can't say the same about
Dragonman. Might of saved that
pretty little thing.

There is a silent pause as Luke drops the cards and walks toward the door. He passes the bloodied rare steak untouched. Billy looks on with a sly grin. By the manner in which Crystal stares at Luke, it is obvious she feels his pain.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE BILLY BOB'S HOUSE - DAY

Crystal runs down the street toward Luke. In the distance we see Crystal overtake him near his car. She embraces him.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM NIGHT

We see Luke sit up in bed his eyes are half closed. He unknowingly reaches over and gets paper and pen from his night stand, he writes something down, it falls to the floor.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Luke wakes up and rubs his eyes. He notices the piece of paper lying on the floor next to him. He picks it up and reads it.

LUKE

You are in grave danger, you feel
it, but like your heart, you can
never see it. It's time to see the
truth through other eyes. Meet me
at the Grand Avenue Mall before
sunset.

INT. GRAND AVENUE MALL

Busy mall. Luke walks through the crowd and sits down at a table at a small café. An hour passes as Luke finishes his second soda. He is about to leave when a MAN approaches him and reaches for a chair at his table.

MAN
May I?

LUKE
Sure.

LUKE (CONT'D)
What's with all the cloak and dagger, Billy?

MAN
The name is Moclar.

LUKE
Sorry... you look like someone I know.

MOCLAR
I'm told we all have our doubles.

LUKE
I guess.

Silent pause.

LUKE (CONT'D)
Are you the one I'm supposed to meet?

MOCLAR
I am. My name is Moclar.

LUKE
Moclar... I remember that name. Your the prophet of Spellville that predicted --

MOCLAR
(cuts-in)
That the Chosen-One would come, and you have arrived.
(pause)
You have befriended one who once carried light for the Almighty.

LUKE
I did!... WHO?

MOCLAR
The one you think is Billy.

LUKE
You're saying... Billy's not Billy?

MOCLAR
He is the trickster, deceiver, the
great imposter.

LUKE
Dude... I find that hard to
believe.

MOCLAR
Lucifer goes by many names.

LUKE
He's been good to me and my
sisters.

MOCLAR
Kind or not, he is a liar.

LUKE
Why did you want to see me?

MOCLAR
To warn you. You are still in great
danger.

Just then, coming toward Luke fast is Gilbert Belling, and
his two friends Ray Gonna and Tim Geegers.

GILBERT
Hey, is that your dad, or your
date?

LUKE
Why don't you and your girl friends
go shoe shopping or something.

There is a silent pause. Gilbert's cocky expression hardens
to one of rage as he swings at Luke. Luke's blue EYES FLASH
GREEN as he catches Gilbert's fist in the palm of his hand.
Then, as he stands up, Luke overpowers Gilbert, who is now
grimacing in pain. As his knees meet the floor, Gilbert's
friends cower away.

GILBERT
I give up dude, let go.

There is a spilled milk shake on the mall floor, next to
Luke's table.

LUKE

You wouldn't mind cleaning up that mess on the floor, would you? I'd hate for anyone to get that on their shoes.

Gilbert, reaches for some napkins on the table.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Why don't you just sit in it. I'd hate to see good napkins go to waste.

Gilbert's face turns a crimson red as his butt squirms over the chocolate mess in humiliation. Then, Luke releases his grip and the bully and his two friends take off running through the mall. Moclar laughs.

MOCLAR

I see your a man of many talents. Do you leap tall buildings in a single bound as well?

Luke shoots Moclar a hard stare.

LUKE

I get the feeling you've been here before.

MOCLAR

Maybe.

LUKE

Now that Billy's gone you might wanna' brush-up on your southern accent. We could use a good physic around here... Well, I gotta' get goin'.

MOCLAR

(grins)
Sounds like an invitation.

LUKE

It was.

Suddenly the air turns biting cold. Luke's breath becomes visible. A figure steps out of the crowd. It is Billy Bob. His eyes stare wildly as he chants something inaudibly. As he does, he transforms himself from the mask of sanity to the psychopath, which is Unter. Just then a portal opens and two Alien Trog leap from it. One of the Trog is holding Tera's limp body upright by her hair The other one points a small weapon at Luke. Unter smiles ominously. Luke begins to shake with both terror and fury as he morph's into Dragonman. Simultaneously the alien fires its weapon.

A loud sonic-like BOOM echo's throughout the mall. Glass shatters from the overhead skylights. Chairs and tables burst into debris. People in the path are knocked to the floor and lie amongst the rubble. Dragonman is tossed through the air like a rag doll into a concession stand. In a rage Dragonman SPRINGS FORWARD toward the creatures. Then like a violent explosion, a jet-stream of pure black, shoots from Dragonman's mouth, turning into a fiery blast that incinerates one of the creatures. Then violently he engages the other creature. Tera's limp body falls to the floor. The creature fights, but is no match for Dragonman strength. Within seconds the creature's bloodied and beaten body falls to the floor. People scream and run out of the marketplace. Dragonman then charges toward Unter but finds only air as the demon vanishes along with the remains of the creatures. Dragonman morph's back into Luke. He walks slowly toward Tera. He bends down, picks up her limp body. He cradles her gently in his arms. Luke's expression is distant, Suddenly, Tera opens her eyes and stares at him. Luke's eyes widen, they meet hers.

TERA

(softly)

I love you.

Tears of joy flow from Luke, they kiss. The mall floor is covered in spilled soft drinks and half eaten sandwiches. Alarms are blaring and store security, police and emergency personal can be seen rushing through the mall toward them.

MOCLAR

I've never seen such a devastating display of power. What are you goin' to do next? To turn back the earth to save a dead person? Or...

Luke grins slightly.

LUKE

(cuts-in)

I think I've just done that.

THE END