EXT - EDORAS- DAY

Éowyn runs out of the hall. Weeping, she looks away into the distance. A flag comes off its pole and is carried by the breeze.

Éowyn sees riders coming towards Edoras.

Edoras is silent and somber. Everyone is dressed in black and staring at the newcomers in wary silence.

GIMLI

You'll find more cheer in a graveyard.

As Aragorn passes the entrance to Edoras, the flag floats down to land across his feet. He gets his feet entangled in it and trips rather heavily.

The people start to giggle at the sight of Aragon fumbling with the encompassing flag and spitting out dirt.

GIMLI

I see they haven't lost their sense of humor yet.

Aragorn gives him a look. Aragorn looks up at the hall and sees a lady in white standing on the steps.

She's trying to control her giggles.

Aragorn looks up to the hall again but the lady has disappeared. The company climbs up the stairs to the hall and is met by guards.

GANDALF

(sees Háma)

Ah.

HÁMA

I cannot allow you before Théoden-King so armed, Gandalf Greyhame. By order of Gríma Wormtongue.

Gandalf nods in understanding and signals for the others to surrender their weapons. Aragon hands over his sword and knives. Legolas gives a little twirl to his knives and stabs his own palm.

LEGOLAS YEOOOOOOOOOWWWW!!!

There's another outbreak of giggles. Hama glares at the guards silencing them. Then trying to be unseen, he lets out a little guffaw himself.

The guard motions towards Gimli's Axe.

Gimli hands over his axes reluctantly.

HÁMA

(gestures to Gandalf)

Your staff.

GANDALF

Hmm?

(Glances at his staff.)

But this is my prop..

HAMA

Prop?

GANDALF

Yeah. You know.. to entertain the king. Let me show you..

He does a Michael Jacksonish little dance complete with a moonwalk.

Háma hesitates for a second and then gestures that they follow him into the hall. Gandalf gives Aragorn a tiny wink and enters the hall, leaning on Legolas' arm.

GRÍMA

(Leaning down and whispering to Théoden.)

My lord, Gandalf the Grey is coming. He's a herald of woe.

GANDALF

The courtesy of your hall is somewhat lessened of late, Théoden King.

THÉODEN

(Weak voice)

Inflation. Old boy. Inflation. Have you seen the price of tomatoes? 'orible. Can't afford a decent sandwich. I'm starving.. What's it you want?

As Gandalf approaches Théoden, Aragorn, Legolas and

Gimli pull back and survey the hall and its hostile occupants.

A group of men starts to follow their steps with hostility.

GRÍMA

(Whispering to

Théoden)

He's not welcome.

THÉODEN

(Doubtfully)

He might be bringing a Pizza..

GRÍMA

Idiot. I'll get you a double burger
if you'd just send him away.

THÉODEN

Okay okay..

(To Gandalf)

Why should I… welcome you, Gandalf… $\,$

Stormcrow?

(To Gríma)

Remember.. A double.

He sits back. A look of doubt comes to his face.

THÉODEN

(To Grima)

Is that his real name? Stormcrow?

GRÍMA

A just question, my liege.

(He walks towards

Gandalf.)

Late is the hour in which this conjurer chooses to appear.
Lathspell spell I name him. Ill

news is an ill quest.

GANDALF

Be silent! Keep your forked tongue behind you teeth. I have not passed through fire and death to bandy crooked words with a witless worm!

Raises his staff against Gríma.

GRÍMA

Kill them!!!

The hostile guards attack.

Aragorn, Legolas and Gimli Take three positions. The Guards line up in three queues before them, coming up one after the other to get decked under the jaw and fall left and right.

Gimli has a tough time at it. He keeps jumping and jumping, trying to reach the Guard's jaw. The Guard finally gets tired of it and changes to Legolas' Line. The next guard in Gimli's queue smiles obligingly at him and stoops down so that Gimli can punch him without effort.

Gandalf continues to approach Théoden. Gamling tries to go forward but Háma holds him back.

GANDALF

Théoden, son of Thengel, too long have you sat in the shadows.

THÉODEN

You mean I need a sun Tan? I agree. I was thinking of taking a week off to Hawaii..

(Gets a dreamy look)
Babes in Bikinis and me surfing..

GANDALF

Hearken to me! I release you from the spell.

Gestures with his hand.

THÉODEN

(Menacingly n Saruman's voice)

Hahahhhahahah!

(Gandalf opens his eyes in surprise)

You have no power here, Gandalf the Grey!

Gandalf throws back his grey cloak, exuding blinding white light which fades to reveal a multi-color, spangled shiny 80's disco style dress underneath..

Théoden is thrown back against his seat.

GANDALF

I'm no longer Gandalf the gray. I'm Gandalf in TECHNICOLOR!!!

THÉODEN

Argh!