

THE BEEHIVE

A SCREENPLAY

BY

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FADE IN

Stock news footage of human misery (war, famine, drought).

V.O.

By the middle of the 21st century overpopulation has pushed the planet to the breaking point. Climate change has caused world wide crop failures, ocean fisheries have collapsed. The question of whether to genetically modify food becomes moot. Scientists around the globe race to find ways to grow drought resistant crops and increase female reproduction in livestock.

EXT - DAY - GENSTOC HQ

Tilt down from a blue sky to a serene green field with several cows roaming through it, a small herd of goats saunters by, a few pig pens, a chicken coop. This very farm like scene leads to... A parking lot outside a very large clinical looking office building. Cars are arriving as the lot starts to fill up. A morning like any other. The camera pans left to reveal the large corporate sign on the lawn it reads "GENSTOC".

INT - DAY - LIVESTOCK PENS

DR. EVE GORDON makes her rounds with several of her colleagues. Inspecting pens of expectant sows and new litters. They all wear high tech anti-microbe gear.

DR. GORDON

Subject 263/D. First litter, 12 piglets, 12 female.

Subject 451/C. Second litter, 10 piglets, 10 female.

Subject 314/A. Fourth litter, 12 piglets, 12 female.

She turns with open arms to the others.

DR. GORDON

The numbers don't lie gentlemen. We are ready! A simple food additive ensures insemination, higher litter number, only female offspring, and a heavier animal. An unlimited food source!

INT - DAY - BOARDROOM

The same group now sit in a Boardroom, having a heated discussion. DR. GORDON appears upset.

CORP BIGWIG

I'm sorry Dr. But until you can explain the failure of Generation B. We do not feel comfortable... releasing your work.

DR. GORDON

As I said, an anomaly. Just a FLU.

CORP BIGWIG

Your anomaly killed 300 pigs in one day. **Find it and fix it!**

DR. GORDON

We are trying. It could take years, decades... even a pig's genetic code is immense. How do I turn something *off*, that I didn't know I turned *on*.

CORP BIGWIG

Not my problem. If you can't handle it we will find someone who can. THIS IS A MAN'S WORLD, Honey. If you don't like it then go home and have a baby or bake a pie.

DR. GORDON

What the HELL does that mean? That's the most offensive...

CORP BIGWIG

It means fix it or you're fired. Isolate and identify the gene. You have three months. At which point you will be terminated and we will carry on with our research.

DR. GORDON

You mean my research!

CORP BIGWIG

No... GENSTOC'S research.

The Corporate types shuffle some papers, close a few briefcases and straighten a few ties then as one they rise to leave. As BIGWIG reaches the door he turns to an obviously shaken DR. GORDON.

CORP BIGWIG

Three months Dr.

INT - DAY - LABORATORY (ESTABLISHING)

DR. GORDON wanders into her lab in a daze past all sorts of equipment and computers, she passes several of her co-workers silently and proceeds to her office and sits down at her desk.

INT - DAY - DR. GORDON'S OFFICE

Bubbly co-worker LUCY sticks her head in office door.

LUCY

Hey, Eve. Jane and I are going to the pub after... Are you OK? You look like you're going to throw up. OMG. Are you pregnant?

DR. GORDON

WHAT? God no... You know I can't have kids.

LUCY

Right... Sorry... Well, something's wrong.

DR. GORDON

We're done. Well I'm done anyway. They've given me three months to isolate the Gen B flu gene or I'm fired.

LUCY

But that's impossible. Even three years...

The reality sets in on LUCY that her boss and good friend has just been politely fired.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Oh Shit. Eve I'm so sorry. How can I help? I'll pull all Gen B samples and start retesting.

DR. GORDON

No. Just pull the samples for me. I don't want you involved.

LUCY nods meekly and leaves DR .GORDON alone in her office. She appears to be on the verge of tears, when her cell phone begins vibrating on her desk. It's a reminder of a dinner date with her boyfriend RICHARD. She gathers herself, puts on a coat, grabs her bag and makes her way out through the lab where she meets LUCY, who has an arm load of files and Petri dishes.

LUCY

Where do you want them?

DR. GORDON

Wow... Just give me the files and put the samples at my work station.

DR. GORDON opens up her large bag and begins clumsily transferring the files. Neither women notice when a sample dish slides into DR .GORDONS purse.

DR. GORDON

Ok. I have to run. Dinner with RICHARD. I think he might be ready to pop the question.

LUCY

Are you serious Eve?

DR. GORDON

We've talked about starting a family. Dinner at a fancy restaurant.

I've just got a feeling.

LUCY

See. Everything will be just fine. Go have a nice Dinner. I'll start running samples.

They exchange a quick hug and DR. GORDON leaves.

INT - NIGHT - RESTAURANT

A busy restaurant during evening rush, every table is taken. RICHARD and EVE share a table by the window. RICHARD pours the last of a bottle of wine into EVE's glass. They're smiling and EVE looks much more comfortable than earlier in the day.

RICHARD

EVE, there's been something I've been wanting to talk about.

EVE

What is Babe?

RICHARD

I want to start a family.

EVE

Ok. We already talked about adoption. Let's do it. We can get the ball rolling tomorrow.

RICHARD

No. That's not what I mean. I want my own kids. I want to see a yard full of my own boys playing.

The color drains from EVE's face and her world spins.

EVE

You know I can't have children.

RICHARD

I'm sorry Eve... You're a Geneticist, you should understand that all a man has is his name and his lineage.

EVE

But I thought we agreed that adoption...

RICHARD

You agreed. It was never an option for me. Eve, I've met someone and we're going start a family.

EVE can hold back the tears no longer, she reaches into her purse for tissue and that's when she notices the sample dish.

EVE

So that's it! Just because I can't carry on your precious seed, I get kicked to the curb like yesterdays garbage.

RICHARD rises, stops a waiter and asks for the washrooms then turns back to EVE.

RICHARD

Marion and I are in love and we are starting a family. That is reality, Eve. I'm sorry. IT'S A MAN'S WORLD! Better get used to it.

EVE

What did you say?

Too late he's already stormed off. The waiter drops off the main courses. As if in a daze, whispering, A MAN'S WORLD, the whole time. EVE casually reaches across the table, grabs, RICHARDS fork, retrieves the sample dish from her purse, pops the lid, rubs the fork vigorously for a few seconds and then replaces both.

EVE

A MAN'S WORLD! How about a house full of girls instead of a yard full of boys.
Asshole!

Moments later RICHARD returns from the washroom.

RICHARD

Perfect! I heard the filet here is to die for.

EVE watches intently as RICHARD cuts into his steak and raises it to his mouth. Every action seems slowed down to EVE as the fork enters his mouth.

INT - NIGHT - MARIONS APARMENT

MARION (MAIN DESENDANT) getting ready for bed, young, beautiful. Brushing her hair, wearing something sexy. We hear a sneeze off camera.

MARION

You ok Richard?

RICHARD is already in bed waiting, he looks a little tired but otherwise alright.

RICHARD

Just allergies. C'mon babe I got a flight in the morn...

RICHARD is struck dumb as MARION emerges from the bathroom. She saunters towards the bed with RICHARDS complete attention.

MARION

So how did she take it?

RICHARD

Wha... ?

MARION

Eve! How did she take it?

RICHARD

Who? Oh Eve. Yeah. Um, Ok I guess. She cried a bit. She didn't freak out or anything. Although, she did just sit there and watch me eat. That was a little creepy.

MARION

I feel bad for her.

RICHARD

Well don't. It's nobody's fault. it's just the way it is. (He sneezes again)

MARION

You sure you're not coming down with something?

RICHARD

I'm fine. Now get over here.

MARION falls into his arms, they kiss passionately as they begin to make love.

CGI

Camera follows kiss down RICHARDS throat, interior of body has normal red appearance, as we get to his stomach and his recent meal it takes on an unhealthy greenish glow. The view seems to keep shrinking as it speeds up, we start to see movement all around and suddenly we see thousands of tiny little white sperm, pursued by a tidal wave of green. they race desperately towards the white egg in the distance. They fall by the hundreds, caught by the glow they freeze, turn green, then die. Several make it to the egg and struggle to enter. Just as the glow reaches them, one succeeds, it enters the egg just as it turns green, freezes and dies. But then we see the egg turn green and begin to divide. The egg continues to divide as the green glow retreats leaving only the green egg behind. A new life and new world have just begun.

INT - DAY - MARIONS APARTMENT

OVERLAY (3 MONTHS LATER) SLOW ZOOM OUT from TV reporter (female) covering story from White House, zoom reveals a haggard and worried looking MARION who is nervously rubbing the beginnings of a baby bump.

REPORTER (V.O.)

...As I said Janet the numbers are Horrifying. What they've dubbed The ADAM Virus appears to have an almost 100% fatality rate amongst males. The White House reports loss of life will be measured in billions and could very well represent an extinction level event for the human race.

As if on cue the steady beep out on the street of the body truck. Four women in HAZMAT suits slowly walk beside the truck picking up bodies. Most have been wrapped. Some are not. All appear to be male.

MARION

They only come twice a day now and the back of the truck isn't even full.

MARION, very sad, turns to OLD LADY, (late eighties, frail, black, shawl). She walks to table, sits and starts to pour tea.

MARION

It means that they're almost all gone. All the men. When it started ...

The pain still fresh on her face, RICHARD had been one of the first casualties.

...the trucks were going day and night.

OLD LADY

Don't you worry dear, I'll have Phillip look at it when he gets home. That man can fix anything.

OLD LADY continues to sip her tea blissfully unaware in her dementia. MARION smiles and pats her hand. The voice on the TV is now urging any surviving males to report to authorities for quarantine.

MARION

Even Phillip can't fix this. (QUIETLY)

INT - DAY - WHITE HOUSE, OVAL OFFICE

PRES CONORS, is about to make a live address to the nation. A dozen people are in the room all are women.

PRES CONORS

My fellow Americans. Women of the world. We face unprecedeted times and an uncertain future. As you are all aware the ADAM virus was unleashed upon mankind by DR EVE GORDON. It has been two years since this horrific act took the life of nearly every male on the planet. Today I come to you with a message of hope and closure. At 10:44 AM this morning, DR. EVE GORDON was executed by lethal injection for her crimes against humanity. May god have mercy on her soul.

PRES CONORS pauses to let that sink in.

PRES CONORS (CONT'D)

But there is reason for hope as well. I am very happy to announce the birth of three males in the last month. We hope to be ready for volunteer surrogates within the year. We *can* rebuild a sustainable male population. We will survive.

CU on PRES CONORS morphs into MARIONS TV screen and as it pulls out it reveals MARION now holding a fussy baby (GRACE).

PRES CONORS (V.O.)

So I ask you all to stay strong and don't give in to despair. Thank you.

MARION

Shh. You see GRACE everything will be fine.

As MARION gently bounces her daughter GRACE, the tears on her cheeks reveal her true feelings.

INT - DAY - SCHOOL (THE FUTURE)

We scan the open concept classrooms full of girls of various ages. They all sit at clear desks that project what the teacher is teaching in three dimensions. We see a globe materialize in front of

a student with recognizable land masses, but then, water levels rise and a new landscape is born. New borders are shown, the map divided into six different areas. Images of different women, their names and lineage fade in and out, above their respective territory.

V.O. FADE IN OF TEACHER

...Five Regents. Ruled By one QUEEN. Who is chosen every ten years through Coronation.

She looks to her class of 8- 10 year old girls and a Students hologram shimmers and turns into the face of the teacher.

TEACHER

Stacey, What is the Sin of Man?

STACEY

Violence.

TEACHER

Very Good. The Queens breed these violent Males for what purpose?

The TEACHERS image fades and reappears in front of another Student, she appears uncomfortable, reluctantly she murmurs...

KATHY

My Mother says that I am not allowed to talk about what the QUEEN does with her Males.

This brings squeals of laughter from the rest of the class.

TEACHER

Your Mother is wise. But I am talking about the Coronation. Once every 10 years these Males are used for what?

KATHY

To decide who shall be QUEEN for the next 10 years, by fighting in the ring.

The hologram fades and reappears at yet another Students desk.

TEACHER

And why do we let the violence of Men decide who rules the world of WOMEN.

JENNY

So we never forget the way of *MAN*.

We drift towards a different class, older, 16-17 yr olds, the Teacher GRACE is a beautiful young woman in her mid twenties. The images appearing at the students desks lead us to believe it is a history lesson. We see the Virgin Mary, Mother Theresa, Queen Elizabeth, Jackie-O, Marilyn Monroe As one image appears we slowly zoom in to a close up and hold...

GRACE

Dr. EVE GORDON.

They all stare reverently at the image. No one makes a sound.

GRACE

Disrespected in her profession because she was female.

This draws a gasp from the students.

GRACE

Rejected by a male mate for being infertile.

This brought more gasps and looks of disgust.

GRACE

But in that moment of clarity she freed all women. She freed all women from male bondage forever more. Branded a criminal, her gravestone became the foundation of a new future. A better world, free of violence and hate. A world where every women is cared for. A world *of* women, *for* women.

That brings smiles to all faces and even a few cheers.

GRACE

OK, that's about it girl's. Any questions?

LILLY

Is it true, that males are just animals. I heard the QUEEN and her Regents have orgies with their Ringed Fighters. Can you imagine! Sex with a male. uuuckk.

LILLY shutters at the thought and the other girls react in kind.

GRACE

Well I've never actually seen one. But I have heard they can be pretty hairy. And very smelly!

This draws several giggles as GRACE begins to gather her things.

LILLY

My Mother went to the Fighting Pits once and she said, they were just big hairy animals, and we should just put them all down.

WENDY

My Mother says things are perfect the way they are. That males deserve their fate.

LILLY

My Mother said she heard there was a male child born in Europe and it ate its way out of the womb.

WENDY

Whatever. That's so stupid. Babies don't have teeth, and it was in Africa.

LILLY mimics WENDY right back at her.

GRACE

Let's not lose sight of the facts here ladies. We are where we are, because of men, we have survived in spite of men. And the QUEEN is going to do whatever the hell she wants to do with her men.

The class all look at her stunned.

GRACE (CONT'D)

I don't have any men, do you? How about you? No... Girls I don't know where those males come from. I'm not Royalty. There hasn't been a naturally conceived male child born in Centuries. But we will have to continue this another day. I'm about to tell my whole family I'm going to have a baby..

This elicits a big squeal and they flock around GRACE asking questions as they exit the classroom.

EXT - DAY - QUEEN ELANORS FIGHTING ARENA, ESTABLISHING SHOT

It's a circular bowl seating several thousand women, the floor of the pit has several large cages around it's edges holding Ringed Fighters. We see fireworks, acrobats, and jugglers, a very circus like atmosphere.

EXT - DAY - QUEEN ELANORS BOX

We see the QUEEN and the five Regents sitting in comfortable chairs watching the festivities, they are waited on by a small army of servants.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

Your Majesty, Queen Regents, Mothers, Daughters and Sisters. It is time! It is time to Coronate our Queen. Six Men enter, only one leaves.

Guards open cage doors and the respective fighters emerge to stand in front of the Queens box. DASH is an imposing Male in his thirties, his toned and well muscled frame bear the scars many conflicts. But even this veterans confidant gaze wavers as he sees his last opponent. QUEEN ELANORS fighter makes a late but Dramatic entrance. BRUTE is enormous and looks savage.

QUEEN REGENT KRISTIN

What is that?

QUEEN ELANOR

Oh that, I call that, BRUTE.

He dwarfs the other fighters as he stands in the line beside them, and as one they drop to one knee and recite, " I LIVE AND DIE BY MY QUEENS COMMAND." As they rise BRUTE gives the unsuspecting Man beside him an elbow to the nose so hard it almost flips the man completely over. The rest of the fighters scatter. BRUTE pounces on the injured man and begins to pummel him with abandon. DASH seeing an opportunity, signals for the other fighters to attack and he launches himself into the fray.

DASH

Together one of us may live. Alone we all die.

Realizing no one would stand alone against an opponent like the one they face the other fighters also attack BRUTE. DASH lands several hard strikes at BRUTE. Rising from the still form of the downed fighter, his hands dripping blood, BRUTE snarls in rage as he is set upon by the remaining four fighters. Their training apparent, the fighters keep moving and striking, trying to keep BRUTE off balance. It works at first, until he catches the ankle of a kick aimed at his midsection and clamps on with one of his massive hands. Ignoring any other kicks and punches coming his way, he pulls the now screaming man closer. He quickly drops an elbow over the man's knee, which brings a howl of pain. BRUTE quickly overwhelms the man, wraps his hands around his neck, lifting him clear of the ground. The man struggles for a moment until the audible snap of bone ends it, and he is tossed aside like a ragdoll. BRUTE turns to find his next victim, DASH is right there and unleashes a series of quick blows to the face, he dodges a clumsy counter, and back in with another combination. This just seems to infuriate BRUTE and he lunges for DASH, who deftly rolls with it and BRUTE is airborne, crashing onto his back. The other two fighters are on him instantly. Before DASH can even assist one fighter is sent flying and the other has a vice like hand wrapped around his neck. BRUTE springs to his feet and begins to hit the man like he's driving a nail, the man tries to block, he tries to kick, but BRUTE smashes his head like a melon. DASH attacks from the blind side only to be met with a backhand that nearly takes his head off and sends him tumbling away. Before he can recover BRUTE is already on him. He stands him up and punches him so hard teeth, blood, and DASH go flying.

POV DASH

We see out of one eye the other barely a split, we can hear DASH'S ragged breathing he struggles to rise, but groans in pain and falls back, it's blurry but he's looking to his QUEEN. We hear the screams of the last fighter cut short. And then a large object appears in front us and we see a massive hand reaching towards us, we vaguely hear someone say stop and then black.

EXT - DAY - QUEENS BOX

The Queens all look on in awe of the sheer power of BRUTE.

QR KRISTIN

Stop! I yield. How may I be of service my QUEEN? (BOWING)

QUEEN ELANOR

You know the rules of Coronation.

With a nod of understanding from KRISTIN.

QR KRISTIN

I will remove his Ring personally your Majesty.

QUEEN ELANOR

Very well let the Coronation Ceremony begin!

INT - NIGHT - QR KRISTIN PRIVATE CHAMBERS

KRISTIN sits at her makeup table, she is stunningly beautiful, mid-twenties. She wears flowing see through material that seems to shimmer under the dim lights. There is a light knock at her door. Her personal Hand Maiden (PATRICIA) enters. She stops inside the door and waits. After one last look in the mirror KRISTIN rises and elegantly turns, walking seductively towards the door. Her garment billows out revealing her voluptuous body. On the bed behind her we see a sleeping MALE.

QR KRISTIN

Yes. PATRICIA.

PATRICIA

Your Majesty requested to see the new stable of Ringed Fighters.

QR KRISTIN

Oh. What they're here right now? Oh, Patricia you do know how to make a Queen happy. Let's have a look.

With a nod from PATRICIA the doors swing wide and in walk six young males flanked by two guards each. They wear nothing but a set of leather straps supporting a red ring encircling their genetalia. The QUEEN REGENT inspects them with a sly smile on her face, gently caressing and tracing her long nails along their skin. She stops at one skinny, but well endowed, boy...

QR KRISTIN

What have we here.

The young MALE'S eyes go wide and he begins to whimper like a puppy as the QR grabs him and begins to gently tug.

PATRICIA

Careful my Queen, they have just received their rings. They have undergone no pleasure training yet.

QR KRISTIN

Pity. Send this one back when he's ready.

The QR releases the boy who appears ready to climax. She calmly walks away a few feet and turns to address them all.

QR KRISTIN

You have been given a great opportunity. One of you, may prove yourself worthy. One of you, may decide my Coronation.

As one they fall to one knee and recite.

I live and die by my QUEEN'S command.

QR KRISTIN

If you please me and fight well. You will live.

With a slight nod to PATRICIA two more guards drag in the male from the QRs bed. DASH wears nothing but his ring and the signs of a recent beating. A bad one. The guards drop him at the QUEEN REGENTS feet.

QR KRISTIN

If you displease me...

DASH struggles to his knees, looks up to the QUEEN with his one good eye.

DASH

I live and die by my QUEEN'S command.

A prod in the back from the guards ensures all the newbie's are paying attention.

QR KRISTIN

I take away your Ring...

With a slight nod, a guard standing behind DASH uses a remote to detonate the small explosive charge in the unfortunate mans Ring, instantly removing his genitalia. He never makes a sound as he slowly falls forward and quivers, as the pool of blood surrounding him continues to grow.

QR KRISTIN

Now go. Train hard for the next time I see you...

They all turn to exit. She trails off a bit as she goes for another grab.

QR KRISTIN (CONT'D)

...you'll be putting that training to use.

The room empties as the guards drag out DASHS corpse, but PATRICIA stays behind.

QR KRISTIN

I don't care if you don't like it. If they see it first hand, they know it's real.

PATRICIA

What? The Ring? No your Majesty. I'm afraid I wish to talk about something much more troubling.

The QR suddenly looks concerned.

PATRICIA (CONT'D)

We need to talk about your Heir. It is time for you to become a mother.

QR KRISTAN lets out an exasperated sigh, turns and walks away.

PATRICIA (CONT'D)

Your Majesty, it's time. Your people need a Princess. **You** need a Princess.

This stops her. She turns to PATRICIA and smiles.

KRISTIN

Very well. You're right of course. I will have a daughter and give my people an heir.

PATRICIA

An excellent decision my Queen. I will make speak with Dr. Jonas.

PATRICIA bows low and exits the room.

EXT - DAY - GRACES APARTMENT BALCONY

GRACE entertains family and friends, seven other women of differing ages. Everyone is laughing and having fun. GRACE finishes filling some glasses and as she puts the bottle down she says...

GRACE

Mothers, Daughters, please raise your glasses. I have a toast.

They all raise their glasses, waiting expectantly. Then one of the older women points...

BEVERLY

Hey where's your drink. You can't make a toast without a drink.

GRACE

Oh that's right... I guess I'll just have to wait another say... nine months.

Her Mother is the first to catch on.

MOM

You're pregnant! Oh GRACE that's wonderful.

They embrace, but GRACE pushes her Mother out to arms length.

GRACE

Mother I've just begun the process. I've only seen Dr. Carter once. She said it could take months. I'm sure no one is pregnant. Yet!

MOM

Good enough for me. You're going to be a Mother. The most rewarding gift a woman can own.

She gives GRACE another bear hug squeeze and then turns and raises her glass.

MOM

To my GRACE... Here you can drink water. Mother to be, and wonderful Daughter. And don't you worry about Dr. Carter. She helped me with you. She is the best Obstetrician in the realm. She has three Daughters of her own. Just do whatever she tells you to do.

GRACE

I know Mother. I will.

They all clink glasses and congratulate GRACE. As GRACE sips her water we follow it down her throat, as in the previous CGI scene everything has a healthy red glow. Now on a microscopic level we see one speck of light amongst the red backdrop. As we speed towards it, it begins to grow and take on a greenish glow. It continues to grow until we are right beside it. It is a *green* human egg. GRACE'S egg, and cell division is already well under way.

INT - NIGHT - NON-DISCIPLINE MEETING ROOM

Several dozen women are seated waiting for another to speak. C.U. on name tag (Dr. Carter.) as a hand quickly removes it. Slow zoom out reveals DR. CARTER attractive late thirties, as she begins to speak.

DR. CARTER

Mothers, Daughters, Sisters. I stand before you incomplete. I exist as only part of a whole. And you are here because you also feel it. A world without MEN is unbalanced. We must remain ever vigilant. A MALE child will be born. Just because it hasn't happened yet, doesn't mean it won't. But, if the QUEEN finds it before we do, all is lost. Have faith that the prophecy will be fulfilled. Now go. Keep your eyes open and your ears pricked. A KING WILL RISE.

The women in attendance all murmur the same under their breath and then begin leaving. A few huddle around DR. CARTER. As the room empties one women remains, looking to DR. CARTER and her small group.

JESSICA

Wait... All we ever do is wait.

DR. CARTER

What more would you have us do JESS?

JESSICA looks on dejected, not having an answer.

JESSICA

SOMETHING... Anything...

INT - DAY - MD OFFICE

DR. CARTER is giving GRACE her first sonogram.

DR. CARTER

...It will pass. Trust me. Now let's take a look at our little girl. Good strong heart, she's beautiful, she...

DR. CARTER suddenly looks pale and scared.

GRACE

Is something wrong with my baby?

DR. CARTER pulls herself together enough to answer.

DR. CARTER

No dear. She's fine. I just felt faint for a moment. Everything looks just fine, so I will see you in two weeks.

GRACE

OK. Thanks.

DR. CARTER quietly exits the exam room and quickly makes her way to her office where she locks the door behind herself, and privately places a call. A 3-D FACE emerges on her desk.

DR. CARTER

IT'S HAPPENED!

FACE

What?

DR. CARTER

A MALE child!

FACE

There's been a MALE child born?

DR. CARTER

No. Not yet. But I've seen it with my own eyes.

CU on 3-D face as she asks.

FACE

Seen what?

With the slight push of a button we see an image of DR. CARTERS recent work appear in front of the floating head. It clearly shows a developing fetus with a bump between its legs.

DR. CARTER

A penis.

FACE

Holy Shit. Is this for real? What do we do?

DR. CARTER

We spread the word. We prepare the compound. We do what we have been waiting our whole lives to do. The work is just beginning. We meet tomorrow night, tell all.

The 3-D FACE fades away but the still frame of GRACES developing fetus remains. The reality seems to finally catch up to her and she collapses into her chair and begins to tremble, which turns to sobbing. A sudden knock at her door startles her.

OLIVIA

Dr. Carter are you ok? Dr. Carter?

DR. CARTER (OPENING DOOR)

Yes Olivia?

OLIVIA

Are you ok Doctor? You looked as though you'd seen a ghost when you came by.

OLIVIA scans the room over DR. CARTERS shoulder being very nosey.

DR. CARTER

I'm Fine Olivia. Don't you have something you should be doing?

With one last look OLIVIA nods and leaves. DR. CARTER closes the door behind her, before realizing the last image is still displayed on her desk.

INT. - DAY - DR. CARTERS OFFICE (SEVERAL WEEKS LATER)

DR. CARTER stands, looking out a window in her office. The familiar 3-D FACE looks at her from the desk behind. She watches GRACE stroll happily down the street.

FACE

We should move now! This will not remain hidden from the QUEEN much longer.
The sooner she is out of the city the better.

DR. CARTER

You're sure everything is prepared?

FACE

Yes, everything. If she is fit to travel, we can have her to the compound in six hours.

She turns from the window and looks at 3D FACE.

DR. CARTER

Do it.

EXT - DAY - OUTDOOR CAFE

GRACE waits patiently, she sips her tea and crosses her legs, again. It's a crowded space, lots of hustle and bustle. Many women walk by on the boulevard, as a variety of solar and hydrogen vehicles do likewise on the street. Seemingly from out of nowhere MOM appears with several bags. She is smiling broadly.

MOM

Sorry I'm late. I saw the cutest dress. Then what's a dress without shoes. And a few accessories...

MOM trails off with her arms outstretched and plops into her seat.

GRACE

She 's not even born yet and you're already spoiling her.

MOM reaches over and caresses GRACES hand, still smiling.

MOM

It's your job raise her and be her Mother. It's my job to spoil her! Just one of the perks of being a Grandmother I guess.

A server comes and takes their order. As she leaves MOM notices for the first time the worried look on GRACES face. Her smile is quickly replaced with a look of concern.

MOM

Grace. What is it? Honey. Is something wrong with the baby?

GRACE

No. I'm Sorry. I'm fine. The baby is fine.

MOM

Well what is it then?

GRACE

Well... It's Dr. Carter.

MOM

What about her?

GRACE

She's been acting really weird.

MOM

Define weird.

GRACE

I don't know. Different.

MOM

Well, I wouldn't give it too much thought. When I was pregnant with you, my hormones made me crazy. It will pass.(SHE WINKS) The hormones, not the crazy.

They share a laugh. A perfect Mother, Daughter moment.

INT - DAY - CAR PARKED NEAR CAFE

We see that same perfect Mother, Daughter moment frozen in a 3-D digital still, Zoom out to reveal two women in the back of the car one holding a camera with the image. The other talking to 3-D FACE.

FACE

Confirmed. And the women she is with is her Mother.

JESSICA

The Mother will ask questions.

3-D FACE seems to consider this for a moment.

FACE

Proceed with plan. Take both.

JESSICA considers the plan and nods her agreement.

JESSICA

Confirmed. Proceed with plan. Delivery of two packages pending.

As JESSICA reaches to end transmission, 3-D FACE gets in a last word.

FACE

Do not damage the PACKAGE!

EXT - DAY - CAFE

GRACE and her MOM are chatting away, having a lovely afternoon.

MOM

So have you come up with any names for my Granddaughter yet?

GRACE

No, not yet. How did you decide on my name?

MOM

My Grandmother told me about her great grandmother, who was named GRACE. Apparently she was born right around the time of the Fall of Man. But I always just thought it was a beautiful name, for a beautiful girl.

GRACE

Thanks Mom.

JESSICA approaches the table as the ladies are preparing to leave.

JESSICA

Grace. I'm from DR. CARTERS office.

GRACE is caught off guard and stunned.

GRACE

I'm sorry.

JESSICA

My name is Jessica, I work with DR. Carter. I need you to come with me.

GRACE

Is there a problem with my baby?

MOM

What's going on?

We can see GRACE starting to get nervous.

JESSICA

Grace you need to listen to me. DR. CARTER found a problem. it's not a big problem, but it is a problem. The sooner we take care of it the better. That's why I need you to come with me right now. Your Mother may come also. But we do need to go. Now.

JESSICA gestures towards the waiting car. GRACE looks to her MOM who nods and then accompanies her to the car. They get in and it speeds away.

INT - DAY - CAR

GRACE and her MOM ride nervously in the backseat, being watched quietly by JESSICA

GRACE

We aren't headed towards DR. CARTERS office, where are you taking us?

JESSICA just smiles back sweetly and puts a finger to her lips and gives a gentle "shh". GRACE turns to her Mother with her eyebrows raised.

GRACE

See, WEIRD!

EXT - DAY - CITY

The car continues its journey till it reaches the edge of the massive city. It reaches its destination and comes to a stop beside a much larger and bulkier machine. It's parked in front of very large doors with caution signs on them. They lead out of the city. GRACE, her MOM and JESSICA exit the vehicle and wait as the car leaves them. DR. CARTER emerges from the Rover. She smiles but quickly realizes that GRACE and her MOM are confused and scared.

DR. CARTER

Grace, Mom, sorry for the confusion. We should go now. I'll answer your questions on the way.

GRACE

On the way where? What is going on here?

DR. CARTER

Please Grace. You have to trust me. We need to go. NOW.

GRACE

I am not going anywhere, until you tell me what is going on.

JESSICA calmly walks up behind GRACE and roughly puts her arm behind her back and starts guiding her into the Rover.

DR. CARTER

Careful Jess, don't hurt her.

JESSICA

We don't have time for this shit. Get in the Rover now. Or I'll break your arm and just carry you aboard.

GRACE

OK. OK. Fine.

GRACE reluctantly climbs aboard the large bus like vehicle. Her MOM needs far less persuasion. Within moments they are rumbling across the barren landscape.

INT - DAY - ROVER

The Rover is a large solar/hydrogen powered, all terrain vehicle. It is filled with supplies and equipment. There are a few bunks and a small table.

DR. CARTER

Please sit. We have a long ride ahead of us.

GRACE still rubbing her arm sits, MOM follows suit.

GRACE

Now may I ask where we're going?

DR. CARTER

We're going to a place we call the compound.

GRACE

OK... Now what the Hell is going on?

DR. CARTER

It's your baby Grace.

GRACE

I knew it. There's something wrong with her, isn't there? What's wrong with my baby?

DR. CARTER

Your baby is perfectly healthy. A perfectly healthy baby... boy.

GRACE and her MOM stare back speechless. DR. CARTER lets it sink in.

MOM

I'm sorry my hearing isn't what it used to be I thought you said baby boy!

DR. CARTER remains impassive.

GRACE

There must be some kind of mistake.

DR. CARTER

You are carrying a MALE child GRACE. And we have been waiting a very long time for you and your son.

GRACE

How is this possible? There hasn't been a MALE child born in centuries.

DR. CARTER

It could be a recessive gene, it could be a fluke, it could be evolution. I don't have the answer. But here is the reality GRACE. You are pregnant with a Male child. If

the QUEEN finds out, she will kill you and your baby. That's why we have to get you out of the city.

MOM

All right! Stop this... whatever it is, and let us out. This is utter madness. A MALE baby.

DR. CARTER brings up an image from GRACES exam just that day. The image clearly shows a developing fetus with a penis.

DR. CARTER

This is the image I took this morning. This is your son GRACE. His birth will bring balance back. He will restore order.

GRACE

You said we. Who is WE?

DR. CARTER

I'm part of a worldwide group that believes Women are incomplete without Men. We have prepared for this very day, as you said, for centuries. We have kept track since the fall of Man, of descendants of women who gave birth during this awful time. Our group started as a team of scientists trying to undo what had happened. Over the Centuries, and with the emergence of a Royal Hierarchy. Our group, which remains committed to the reintroduction of the MALE species, has had to go underground.

GRACE

Still doesn't answer my question.

DR. CARTER

We are called the BEEHIVE. Grace you must believe me when I tell you that if anyone finds out about this, you, your baby, your Mother, Me, Jessica. We will all be dead. The QUEEN will hunt us down like dogs. And leave our bones to bleach in the sun.

GRACE

Why? Why would the QUEEN be so threatened by one Male child. She has lots of Males.

DR.CARTER

Her males are sterile, bred in test tubes, then forced into some poor woman's womb, but that's not the problem. The sperm deposits are degrading rapidly. The success rate in the Queens breeding program is minuscule, maybe one in one hundred embryos reach birth. The program is ripe with failures and deformities.

DR. CARTER looks tired, but determined.

DR. CARTER

We all need your son and what he represents, Grace.

GRACE

And what is that?

DR. CARTER

Hope... We need Men Grace. We're running out of sperm. Like most resources we thought the supply was endless. It's not. Even if the QUEEN and her REGENTS stops using it for their fighting programs. We'll completely run out within the Century. Meaning, Extinction of the rest of the human race within a couple of hundred years. Without MEN we're *all* doomed.

GRACE nervously rubs her belly trying to calm herself and baby growing inside her.

INT - DAY - QR KRISTINS BIRTHING ROOM

The QUEEN is in midst of labor a dozen attendants scramble around, she screams in agony as her Princess enters the world, and immediately begins to cry. The Midwife swaddles the child and presents her to the QUEEN.

MIDWIFE

A perfect little Princess, your Majesty.

PATRICIA

She's beautiful my Queen. Your people will rejoice.

QR KRISTIN

Yes. Well, I'm glad that's over with.

The QUEEN hands off the baby to PATRICIA and lies back in her bed and closes her eyes.

QR KRISTIN

Never going through that hell again.

PATRICIA stands looking at her Queen astonished. The QUEEN feels the eyes upon her and opens her eyes.

QR KRISTIN

What?...

The baby is crying to suckle. PATRICIA holds her out to the QUEEN grinning.

QR KRISTIN

I Just want to sleep... without getting kicked in the ribs from the inside.

PATRICIA

All in due time your Majesty. The first few months are the most important bonding period between Mother and Daughter. I'm afraid the real work of Motherhood has just begun.

The QUEEN accepts her Daughter and with PATRICIA'S guidance soon has the child quietly feeding.

PATRICIA

Now you'll have to come up with a suitable name. Something...

QR KRISTIN

I've already decided on her name. EVE

INT - DAY - THE COMPOUND

C.U. A young child has just scribbled his name on a piece of paper. It reads ADAM, Zoom out to reveal GRACE sitting at table with DR. CARTER while young ADAM happily draws.

GRACE

I suppose he could use a baby brother to play with.

DR. CARTER

Wonderful. we can get started immediately. Grace, even if you have girls, please remember, it is of vital importance that you have as many children as you can. You and your offspring represent the future of the human race.

GRACE

Yes, so you've informed me every day for the last couple of years. What do you think Adam? Would you like a little brother to play with?

Little ADAM looks up from his scribbles smiling.

ADAM

Bruudda.

EXT - DAY - RINGED FIGHTER TRAINING FACILITY

Dozens of Males participate in different Martial training activities. They all wear the trademark leather straps, but their rings are hidden behind loincloths. Female guards armed with short spears and electrified clubs keep careful watch. We see NEW STUD, sleek and well muscled. He wears pads around his hands, elbows, knees and feet. He is surrounded by five others, most larger than he, one very big. None of the others are wearing any type of padding. With a signal, they attack and we quickly learn that the padding isn't for the benefit of NEW STUD. In a whirling blur of kicks and punches, he quickly has all five combatants on the ground. Growling under her breath JANINE, the Stable Master, nods to her assistant, and five staffs are added. Groaning, the fighters pick up their staffs, and attack on command. Again in only a matter of seconds NEW STUD easily defeats the other Males, leaving only one still conscious, the big one. A short sword lands on the ground in front of BIG ONE. He looks up to NEW STUD with a smile on his face, he grabs the sword and lunges for NEW STUD. He calmly sidesteps the awkward thrust and leaps straight up and spins bringing the heel of his trailing leg down right at the base of BIG ONES skull. BIG ONE falls face first, dead. The Stable Master, still scowling, surveys the scene. NEW STUD stands ready having hardly broken a sweat.

JANINE

He's ready!

A commotion off the other way draws her attention.

EXT - DAY - TRAINING CONT.

Two young MALES (PUPPY) wrestle, PUPPY the smaller of the two, holds his own. Locked in combat neither notices as the QR KRISTIN approaches. PUPPY gets thrown and does well to come back to his feet, too come into direct eye contact with the QUEEN. He freezes as she smiles mischievously at him and winks. He then gets slammed to the ground by his opponent, a moment before he realizes what's going on. As the QUEEN walks by every MALE kneels and recites, I LIVE AND DIE BY MY QUEEN'S COMMAND. She makes her way to the Stable Master, JANINE, who is very surprised to see her. His padding now removed NEW STUD rises obediently as the QUEEN gives him a thorough inspection.

KRISTIN

Beautiful...

She whispers seductively in his ear, almost dancing around him.

KRISTIN

NEW STUD will you do something for your QUEEN?

NEW STUD

I live and die by QUEEN'S command.

KRISTIN

It would please your QUEEN a great deal, if you were to kill every Man you faced at the next Coronation Ceremony.

JANINE

Begging your pardon your Majesty, but only the Coronation fight is to the death.

The Stable Master shrinks from the icy glare the QUEEN fixes her with.

KRISTIN

Your concern for the MALE species is admirable. I intend to return here QUEEN and remain QUEEN. NEW STUD is going to kill every MALE he can. I intend to eliminate any and all competition. It will be generations before we could be challenged. I will secure the future of my Daughter, and her Daughters.

The QUEEN takes a last look at NEW STUD and then fixes JANINE with a steely stare. The Stable Master replies with a evil grin and bows.

JANINE

He is READY! Your Majesty.

EXT - DAY - HIGH SPEED TRAIN (ESTABLISHING)

CGI. Solar powered, high speed train, zooming across a sun scorched, barren landscape. It seems devoid of all life. The only thing moving... the train.

INT - DAY - HIGH SPEED TRAIN

The Ringed Fighter transport car is lined on one side with cages and in each cage is a fighter. A Guard nudges a Male towards an empty cage near the end of the swaying car. Once there she roughly shoves PUPPY inside and shuts his cage. After a few moments of reflection, the young fighter collapses to his bedding with a tremendous sigh of relief and an enormous smile on his face.

DAKZ

Did you please your QUEEN?

He jumps at the sudden noise. Still smiling he crawls up so that he and DAKZ are side by side. DAKZ is a veteran fighter, showing the scars of many battles.

PUPPY

She did things to me... and then she made me do all these things to her. And then she just said. "Now do it again."

DAKZ

It is an honor to please the QUEEN.

PUPPY

Will I have to fight? I've spent most of my time on pleasure training.

DAKZ

The QUEEN didn't bring you along for your fighting prowess...

He says with a nod towards the last cage.

DAKZ (CONT'D)

Besides I don't think any of us will be doing much fighting.

We see NEW STUD calmly sitting in his cage, as if meditating, we get to a C.U. of his face and his eyes open a second before the train whistle sounds.

EXT - DAY - HIGH SPEED TRAIN

The Train approaches its destination, a giant covered metropolis. Entering the environmentally controlled confines of the city, things change instantly to a lush almost tropical climate. The Train has slowed dramatically, but continues to zip through the futuristic city. We see the palace off in the distance.

INT. - DAY - QUEEN ELANORS RECEIVING ROOM

ELANOR waits patiently for a light tap on the door and her HAND MAID looks in.

HAND MAID.

They're all here Your Majesty.

QUEEN ELANOR

Thank you. Show them in.

The door opens wide and the five other QUEENS walk in. With a nod from ELANOR. HAND MAID closes the door behind her, leaving the QUEENS alone.

QUEEN ELANOR

Sisters, Please sit, take refreshment.

They all sit around a circular table, water and glasses, wines and spirits, a tray of fruit, in the middle.

QUEEN ELANOR (CONT'D)

Welcome my QUEENS to what promises to be a very exciting Coronation.

The QUEENS all seem happy and excited, except QR KRISTIN, she seems subdued.

QUEEN ELANOR

Let the sin of MAN, decide the fate of WOMEN.

In unison they all raise a glass and drink.

INT - NIGHT - QUEEN ELANORS RINGED FIGHTER CAGES

We see dark and shadowy cages, and follow an old and hobbled Ringed Fighter doling out slop. He pushes a cart with a bucket of stew and stale bread around to the cages, the fighters hold out their bowls and receive their portions. He gets to one cage and sees no bowl.

HOBBIE

OY. What's the matter with you then?

He waits for an answer. He bangs on the cage with his ladle.

HOBBIE

Don't know what you're on about. But I'm to be giving you triple portions. QUEEN wants you well fed for the fights. Now how am I doing my job if you won't eat any.

HOBBIE retrieves a couple of spare bowls from his cart. He fills both bowls and bends down to the ground to slid them under the cage door. He stands back up and looks into the cage still seeing nothing but shadows.

HOBBIE

Do you want some bread?

HOBBIE tears off a large chunk of stale bread and bends down to slide it under the door. A hand comes out of nowhere and grabs HOBBIE by the wrist, he is instantly pulled in up to the shoulder and begins to scream in pain. Guards rush to his aid, but it is already too late. HOBBIES arm is gone from the shoulder down. BRUTE sits quietly back in the shadows of his cage gnawing on stale bread and HOBBIES arm.

EXT - DAY - RINGED FIGHTING ARENA - ESTABLISHING

Thousands of spectators fill the arena, there are fireworks and acrobatics. A very circus like atmosphere. We find the QUEENS all seated together.

QR VICTORIA

I'm bored with these children's games. I have a bag of Rubies for wagering on real fights.

QR ISABELLE

How would you like me to take those darling.

QR VICTORIA

If you have a MALE that can force mine to yield.

QR ISABELLE

Please, I could force your MALE to yield.

This draws laughter from all.

QR KRISTIN

I wager ten kilos of gold that my Male, Will stand alone against all of your best.
Five against one.

This brings a few astonished gasps.

QUEEN ELANOR

I'll take that wager. It would be a shame, though, if your best fighter was injured before the Coronation.

QR KRISTIN

Plenty more where he came from. Release NEW STUD.

Each QUEENS stable of fighters is caged along the wall of the arena. Guards open the cage and call For NEW STUD. He obeys and is guided to the center of the arena and is left there. Other guards release fighters from their respective cages and they circle around NEW STUD. A trumpet sounds and the crowd goes crazy. But they quickly fall silent as NEW STUD viciously tears into the other fighters showing no mercy. In a matter of moments they all lie dead with their throats ripped out or their necks snapped.

QUEEN ELANOR

What is meaning of this. Only the Coronation fight is to the death. This is outrageous.

QR KRISTIN

NEW STUD bad boy. Oh, I'm so sorry. He should be punished. Kill him!

The other QUEENS look on stunned. Exasperated KRISTIN grabs a guards short sword and tosses it into the ring. Still no reaction, so she grabs the guards spear and throws that in also.

QR KRISTIN

He has broken the rules. Kill him.

The crowd goes crazy. The Guards below open the doors and fighters begin to flow out into the ring. With a nod from ELANOR they even give up their weapons. As BRUTE is about to leave the cage ELANOR orders him to remain inside. He rages in protest as the other fighters attack.

QR KRISTIN (CONT'D)

If you can.

In short order NEW STUD has acquired two short swords and cuts a path of destruction. Deadly in hand to hand and even more lethal with weapons, he weaves and dodges and strikes and men fall. Yet NEW STUD never seems to be in one place long enough for anyone to strike at him. Still badly outnumbered, the Stable Master, JANINE, looks up from the gate to KRISTIN imploring her to send out more fighters. She holds with a slight wave of the hand. NEW STUD continues his deadly dance, the bodies pile up. Meanwhile BRUTE is going crazy in his cage. Men come at him from every direction, with hand, sword, spear. Men fall in every direction dead or mortally wounded. The crowd no longer cheers, just ewwwhs and icccccks as limbs and heads fly.

QR VICTORIA

Stop this at once. I demand that you remove that animals RING Immediately!

QR ISABELLE

I concur, this is highly irregular.

KRISTIN just smiles watching the carnage.

QR KRISTIN

I will do nothing of the sort.

NEW STUD appears to be tiring, he's killed half of the thirty sent against him, with a nod KRISTIN cuts her losses and releases her other fighters who quickly swarm around NEW STUD giving him a much needed rest. DAKZ and PUPPY are at the front and both do well.

QUEEN ELANOR

This is madness. End this now!

QR KRISTIN

Coronate me.

QUEEN ELANOR

What?

QR KRISTIN

Coronate me now, and no more have to die... No... Then release that monstrosity and let the sin of Man decide the fate of Women.

ELANOR looks to her cage and BRUTE is going crazy with rage. With a nod he is released. The crowd cheers for their QUEENS stud. He storms into the mix killing anyone in his way. By the time he makes it to DAKZ and PUPPY the odds are even. Against BRUTE their weapons seem puny. Suddenly NEW STUD flips right over all of them and stabs BRUTE in the back of both legs as he lands and rolls away. BRUTE screams in pain and follows. In the confusion DAKZ takes to the offensive and quickly dispatches a pair of fighters.

QUEEN ELANOR

It will give me great pleasure to watch BRUTE devour your Male. He can't do his pretty dance forever and when he slows...

ELANOR lets that hang and as if on cue NEW STUD catches a sweeping cross that sends him flying. He's back to his feet instantly, but is pressed hard by BRUTE. One of BRUTES men comes to his side armed with a spear and a wicked grin. BRUTE grins back and then grabs the man and hurls him at NEW STUD. The projectile has the desired affect and ties up NEW STUDS swords long enough for BRUTE to get his hands on him. Locked in the vice like grip of BRUTES massive hands, NEW STUD is pulled by the wrists right off the ground, grimacing in pain, NEW STUDS swords fall to the ground. He snap kicks BRUTE once, twice, three times in rapid succession. BRUTE merely spits a mixture broken tooth and blood back in NEWSTUDS face and grins with broken teeth. He begins to pull and we finally hear NEW STUD scream. But then we realize it wasn't NEW STUD screaming it was BRUTE, as PUPPY jabs a spear deeply into his side. Blind with rage he gives PUPPY a backhand that launches him flying across the arena. As he turns back to NEW STUD, who is still held in one vise like hand, he sees his mistake too late. The short sword NEW STUD picked up is already on its way down. It slices through his wrist cleanly. He then tumbles away putting some distance between himself and BRUTE, who is howling in pain and rage. NEW STUD tosses his sword aside and kneels, BRUTE picks up a sword with his one good hand and charges. As they come together, faster than the eye can see, NEW STUD rolls backwards with BRUTES attack, turning his sword back on him, getting his feet under him, and with just the right kick. BRUTE does a complete flip landing on his feet directly in front of the QUEENS. He stands a little wobbly and then we see the short sword buried to the hilt under his

jaw. As he falls forward dead we see the rest of the sword protruding out the back of his head. NEW STUD shakily makes his way over to the body of BRUTE, he kneels.

NEW STUD

I live and die by QUEEN'S command.

QR VICTORIA

Do you realize what you have done? It will take years to replace those Males.

QUEEN ELANOR

She knows exactly what she's done.

She turns and gives a formal bow, admitting defeat.

QR ELANOR

My QUEEN, How may I be of service to you?

QUEEN KRISTIN

If there are no other objections... or MALES? Then we shall proceed directly to the Coronation.

The other QUEEN REGENTS reluctantly nod their agreement. QUEEN KRISTINS Men are the only survivors including DAKZ and a limping PUPPY. The crowd looks on stunned, not understanding the power play, or the carnage, they have just witnessed.

EXT - DAY - MOUNTAINS

Panoramic view (DRONE) mountain valley, panning up the valley we see trees and a river. At the head of the valley is a lake. Beside the lake sits a squat concrete building, mostly hidden by trees. The compound. In the distance we see someone running towards the building, it's ADAM, his hair flies out behind him as he nimbly runs through the trees. Crashing through the brush behind him comes the reason he runs. A very large shaggy wolf, is in hot pursuit. Within site of the door, ADAM trips and goes down. The wolf is on him immediately, and they begin to thrash about. The door that ADAM almost made it to swings open and a small girl steps out. She seems very unimpressed and unafraid.

SOPHIE

Adam, Mother says you're supposed to come in now.

At the sound, both combatants roll to a sitting position. Smiling, ADAM gets to his feet brushes some of the dust off himself and heads for the door followed by WOLF. Who stops to give SOPHIE a big lick in the face on the way by, which she returns with a hug.

EXT - DAY - RINGED FIGHTER TRAINING FACILITY

Fighters go about their training oblivious to the fact that they are being watched. A Young PRINCESS EVE flits from hiding spot to hiding spot. She seems fascinated by it all. She finds a stick and starts trying to imitate fighters going through sword routines. So caught up in her play she fails to notice the Stable Master JANINE come up behind her.

JANINE

Princess?

PRINCESS EVE screams. Loud. Screams in training are heard often. Just not that of a young girl. All action ceases and every eye turns toward the Princess. After which they all fall to one knee. The PRINCESS is embarrassed and flustered.

JANINE

Back to your training.

The Men return to their duties.

JANINE (CONT'D)

May I ask what her Highness is doing here? Not the place for a proper little Princess to be spending her time.

PRINCESS EVE

I want to fight!

JANINE

Women don't fight, violence is the Sin of Man.

PRINCESS EVE

Well I don't care. I want to learn to fight. Teach me.

JANINE

The Queen would never allow it.

PRINCESS EVE

It's not fair. I want to fight. It looks fun.

The Stable Masters amused look suddenly turns serious.

JANINE

These Men don't fight for fun, your Highness. They fight to die, for your Mother and someday... for you.

The PRINCESS replies with an equally serious look.

PRINCESS EVE

And would it not prove beneficial for you to indulge that future Queen, as opposed to deny her.

JANINE

Your Highness, Please. If Your Mother was to find out, she would have me banished.

As cold as ice the little PRINCESS replies.

PRINCESS EVE

What do you think I will do to you?

INT - DAY - COMPOUND

GRACE sits at a table with a newborn baby in her arms. There is another toddler age girl playing on the floor under MOM's watchful eye.

GRACE

ADAM what have I told you about going off alone. You must stop it.

ADAM

I wasn't alone WOLF was with me.

The very large wolf like dog meanwhile has already found a spot to curl up.

GRACE

You know that's not what I mean. Never go out alone. Always with someone else. You are too valuable to just lose.

ADAM

I'm sorry Mother. Actually, JESSICA was with us too...

On cue the door swings open and we see JESSICA, huffing and puffing. She clutches her side and bends down.

JESSICA

You little shit. Next time I'm putting a leash on both of you.

ADAM

It was your idea.

JESSICA comes in and sits at the table still a little winded and shaky.

JESSICA

I said we should head back. NOT. Race back!

Looking plaintively at GRACE.

ONE W.

Race ya! (IMITATING ADAM) Bang. Him and that damn dog were gone.

GRACE motions for ADAM to sit. Then looking at JESSICA

GRACE

Dr. Carter thinks it's time to move on to the next stage of ADAMS training. All of his training. She said she was bringing in a specialist.

GRACE exchanges a worried look with JESS.

ADAM

What training?

Reluctantly GRACE turns to face her son.

GRACE

I knew this day would come...

GRACE reaches out and takes ADAMS hand in hers, smiling now.

ADAM, today you learn the truth.

ADAM

The truth about what?

GRACE

The truth about who and what you are. And more importantly, who we need you to become.

EXT - DAY - RINGED FIGHTER FACILITY

The Princess makes her way along the mostly deserted training grounds. Hidden behind her plain cloak, she could be anyone. She makes her way to the far end down near the Smithing and weapon storage area. The pre-arranged spot that she had been receiving her training. She quietly slips into storage building.

PRINCESS EVE

Sorry I'm late...

In the middle of removing her cloak PRINCESS senses something is wrong. JANINE waits in her usual spot, but has a very distressed look on her face. She quickly hangs her cloak and rushes to JANINES side.

PRINCESS EVE

What is it? What's wrong?

QUEEN KRISTIN (O.S.)

There's nothing wrong with her... Yet!

She closes her eyes realizing how much trouble JANINE was in because of her. Turning to her Mother she bows low.

PRINCESS EVE

Forgive her your Majesty. I forced her hand.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Yes. She has told me as much.

PRINCESS EVE

Then please, forgive her Mother. I accept any punishment.

QUEEN KRISTIN

What then? Shall I banish my own Daughter? Imprison you? Lashes?

PRINCESS EVE remains silent, knowing it's no bluff. The QUEEN KRISTIN glides over to the seated Stable Master looking the frightened woman in the eye.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Fear not my Daughter. I commend your actions. Your motives on the other hand, remain a mystery to me. But your actions were very... QUEEN like. You however have displeased me.

The QUEEN suddenly whirls to face the PRINCESS.

QUEEN KRISTIN (CONT'D)

You will return to your chambers and await my return. At which point, we will discuss this silly fascination with fighting. Leave!

With one last apologetic look towards JANINE, PRINCESS EVE turns and leaves. Once she is gone the QUEEN turns back to her Stable Master and calmly asks.

QUEEN KRISTIN

How fairs the Princess in her training?

JANINE (NERVOUSLY)

She takes to it like a bird to wind, your Majesty. She shows extraordinary skill for one so young.

QUEEN KRISTIN ponders this info.

QUEEN KRISTIN

You shall continue her training. But not here... It smells awful!

The trembling sigh of relief from the Stable Master is quickly followed by...

JANINE

As you command my Queen.

QUEEN KRISTIN

You have served me well for many years. But, know this, mercy will not be shown for any future... Lapses in Judgement. You will train Princess. I want her to be as deadly as New Stud. Do not fail me in this. You have until the next Coronation.

EXT - DAY - THE COMPOUND

We see ADAM going through sword routines, he moves with effortless motion. He nears maturity, his long and lanky frame is now filling in with strong corded muscles. He seems in almost a trance like state, until he is hit on the backside with a resounding "TWACK".

ADAM

OW! What was that for?

MIKO is a small women, she carries a thin but sturdy stick.

MIKO

Keep you awake. Just because you can do this routine in your sleep, doesn't mean you should. If you lose focus in the arena you are dead. Again!

She follows up her command with another swat to the backside. ADAM falls into the practiced moves he has come to know so well. Specialist slowly walks around ADAM studying him from every angle, her stick ever present. He finishes the routine without being hit again. Smiling at MIKO he awaits her response.

MIKO

Very good... Again!

She raises her stick and strikes at the same moment SOPHIE opens the door and calls for him.

SOPHIE

ADAM you need to come see this. Now!

ADAM

OW... What?

SOPHIE

Come, quickly.

ADAM rushes inside, his Mother and most of his Sisters are gathered at the table.

ADAM

What is it? Is something wrong?

GRACE

ADAM come, say hello to your Brother.

The girls make room for him and he sees they have been looking at GRACE'S last imaging scan. It clearly shows him to be MALE. ADAM stares at the image in awe.

ADAM

Brother...

INT - DAY - DR. CARTERS OFFICE

DR. CARTER and JESSICA are having a discussion with 3-D FACE.

FACE

It's too dangerous. We need to split them up. It will be safer for everybody. It remains only rumor for now. But the QUEEN will take notice, eventually.

JESSICA

Yes, you're right. We can't have them all in the same place.

FACE

We have activated all other compounds. I will make the transport arrangements.

DR. CARTER

I will see them tomorrow and inform GRACE. She won't be happy.

OLIVIA stands outside the office door straining to hear, as someone approaches. She scurries away going about her business.

EXT - DAY - THE COMPOUND

GRACE and DR. CARTER stand near the door watching ADAM going through hand to hand combat practice. GRACE is due to give birth soon and appears very upset.

GRACE

I will not allow it. You're talking about splitting up my family. Sending my Daughters away to who knows where. I have given everything for my family and now, you want to take that away.

DR. CARTER

If our plan fails. If ADAM fails. The QUEEN will hunt us down and kill everyone of us. If we are all together we're just making her job easier.

GRACE

I don't care. I would rather us die as a family, than let you separate us. You have always said you would protect us, so do it.

Considering the matter closed GRACE goes inside. DR. CARTER continues to watch ADAM for a little longer and then also goes inside.

INT - NIGHT - QUEENS PRIVATE CHAMBERS

The QUEEN and PRINCESS EVE are enjoying an evening meal together other than servants they are alone.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I hear your training is going well. Instructor tells me that you are especially proficient with spear and shield.

PRINCESS EVE

Thank you, your Majesty.

QUEEN KRISTIN

The Coronation fast approaches. It will be my last.

PRINCESS is caught off guard by the blunt proclamation.

QUEEN KRISTIN (CONT'D)

I intend to secure the throne for you and your Daughters, and their Daughters after them. And you will play a critical role. My Deadly Daughter.

PRINCESS EVE

What would you have me do, Mother?

A knock at the door ushers in the QUEENS Hand Maid. Who immediately makes her way to the QUEEN and whispers in her ear. She listens and nods her head. Hand Maid quickly exits and returns a moment later with OLIVIA. The QUEEN rises to greet her.

PATRICIA

Your Majesty, Olivia.

OLIVIA

Sorry to disturb you your Majesty, but I thought this too important to wait. Even over night.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I hear rumors everyday about males being born, so, tell me. Why am I listening to you.

OLIVIA

It's not a rumor your Majesty. It's true. I work for a Pediatrician. I overheard a conversation. There might even be more than one.

QUEEN KRISTIN

So I am supposed to believe this based on Hearsay.

OLIVIA

I know where they are, your Majesty. They call it The compound. That's where they are raising it. I can show you on a map.

QUEEN KRISTIN

If this is just another wild goose chase, you will regret it for the rest of your life.

OLIVIA

It's not your Majesty. I swear it.

The QUEEN leads the woman to a wall mounted map of the realm and gestures at it.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Where is this... Compound?

OLIVIA approaches the map meekly and studies it for a few moments before putting her finger on a particular spot of the map.

OLIVIA

There, my Queen. In the mountains.

EXT - DAY - MOUNTAINS NEAR COMPOUND

ADAM, MIKO and Wolf run through the forest, he glides effortlessly along the trail. He is now full grown, tall and well muscled. They come to a stop in a meadow, on the far side of the lake he sees the compound, still several miles away. They both drink from the lake. ADAM and MIKO sit under the shade of a tree to catch their breath while Wolf hunts the nearby brush for mice. A strange sound he's never heard before draws his attention towards the compound just in time to see two very powerful missiles strike the concrete building. The explosion is enormous. ADAM sprints for home as fast as he can.

EXT - DAY - COMPOUND

The QUEENS Elite Guard drops into action from the silent and cloaked Hover Transport. A dozen guards spread out to search what remains of the Compound. ADAM slows as he nears the compound, he stops behind a tree and stares at the pile of smouldering rubble that had been the only home he had ever known. A groan off to the side catches his attention. It's JESSICA she is bloodied and barely conscious. ADAM rushes to her side and helps her to a sitting position.

ADAM

JESS... Jess, what happened? Where is Mother?

JESSICA

She was inside putting Robert down for a nap...

The color drains from ADAMS face.

ADAM

The girls?

JESSICA gives a sad shake of her head.

JESSICA

Wait, I think CALI and SOPHIE were picking berries.

A sudden scream has ADAM looking from his cover to see his two Sisters being roughly forced from the trees on the opposite side of the Compound. He instinctively rises to go to their aid only to be stopped by JESSICA. The girls are quickly ushered to the loading area and a beam of light gently raises them into the waiting transport.

JESSICA

The only way to help them now is by fulfilling your destiny.

Tears now flowing freely down his face, ADAM watches as the last guard is raised to the transport and it zips away with a low hum. ADAM carries JESSICA out to the clearing in front of the still smouldering ruins and gently puts her down.

ADAM

I'll be right back.

JESSICA

Don't...

ADAM turns back to JESSICA the pain clear upon his face.

JESSICA

There's nothing good to see in there.

ADAM

I have to look, someone might...

ADAM can't even finish his sentence, but he determinedly starts for the ruins of the compound. He immediately regrets his decision when he sees a small body charred black and crispy. He continues his search through the rubble in vain. Calling out to his Mother and Sisters, he receives no response. Wolf meanwhile is sniffing and digging a certain spot. Hoping Wolf has found someone alive ADAM rushes to the spot and begins digging with his bare hands. He hurls aside debris and rocks. He finds his Mother and Young Brother arm in arm, charred black and

burnt beyond recognition. A single tear rolls down JESSICAS cheek as she listens to the wails of painful sobbing coming from the ruins.

INT - NIGHT - QUEENS OFFICE

The QUEEN sits behind a very large desk, PRINCESS EVE on one side, HAND MAID on the other. The Captain of the Guard is giving a report.

CAPTAIN

Scans showed 12 individuals. We took two survivors into custody. Females, 8-10 years old. We found no Males your Majesty.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Patricia have Olivia incarcerated immediately. I will deal with her after the Coronation. Now bring in these... Survivors.

CAPTAIN

At once, your Majesty.

CAPTAIN quickly opens the door and waves the Sisters in. SOPHIE and CALI meekly enter the office and stand silently in front of the QUEEN. Their wrists are secured yet they still manage to hold hands.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Remove those...

The QUEEN gestures to the restraints. The Guards quickly obey,

QUEEN KRISTIN

That's better... Thank you CAPTAIN that will be all.

CAPTAIN

But the prisoners, your Majesty.

QUEEN KRISTIN

They are little girls Captain. Terrified little girls. I'm sure we'll be fine.

CAPTAIN bows and orders the guards out, she closes the door behind herself.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Patricia have some food and drink brought in for these poor things, they look absolutely famished. Please sit...

The girls obediently shuffle over to a couch and sit, hands still locked together.

QUEEN KRISTIN

What are your names?

The girls just stare at the floor, whimpering quietly.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I am Kristin and this is my Daughter, Eve.

Again no response.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Come now, everybody has a name. You child...

She gently puts her hand under CALIS'S chin and raises it.

QUEEN KRISTIN

What is your name?

CALI responds with sniffles and tears. Losing her patience the QUEEN lets go of CALI and turns to the older SOPHIE.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Do you know why you're here?

SOPHIE finally looks up at the QUEEN, and she has venom in her stare.

SOPHIE

We're here because you killed my Mother... and Brother.

The QUEEN is dumfounded and PRINCESS EVE sits up in her seat.

EXT - DAY - THE COMPOUND

JESSICA and MIKO sit under the shade of a tree watching ADAM put the finishing touches on the grave he dug for his family. Weary and dirty, ADAM joins the women under the tree.

JESSICA

I'm so sorry, ADAM... But you can still save CALI and SOPHIE. When you win the Coronation fight and claim the throne, the whole, considerable weight of the Beehive will rise in your support.

ADAM, tears still fresh on his face, shakes his head.

ADAM

They would be the first to die, if I win. We need to get to them before the Coronation.

JESSICA

No we... You. I'm dying. I can feel it. I'm bleeding internally.

ADAM

We'll get you help...

JESSICA

No. You need to help your Sisters. You've got less than a week until the Coronation. You must leave at once.

JESSICA starts to cough and it clearly hurts as her hands come away bloody.

JESSICA (CONT'D)

Embrace your destiny ADAM. You are a KING...

JESSICA takes one last shuddering breath and then dies. He and MIKO sit quietly in the shade.

INT - DAY - SISTERS QUARTERS

SOPHIE and CALI are confined in a small but functional apartment, no windows and only one door. They are now clean and wear fresh clothes. There is food and water and two chairs at the

small table, but the girls sit huddled together on the only bed. CALI quietly sobs, her face buried in SOPHIES embrace. SOPHIE whispers to CALI trying to calm her.

SOPHIE

Adam will find us. Don't be scared. Adam is coming, and he will make her pay.
He will be the KING. And when he is, he'll set us free.

CALI

I want Mother. I miss her.

SOPHIE

I know Cali. I miss her too. But for now we just have to be brave, and wait for Adam.

INT - DAY - ROVER

ADAM and MIKO near the Metropolis. Wolf is curled up on a cot in the back. ADAM stares silently out the window as MIKO drives. The painful emotions are plain on his now fully bearded face. MIKO glances his way...

MIKO

You need to shave. Ringed Fighters are all clean shaven.

ADAM

What? I don't want to shave. I've got bigger problems than looking scruffy.

MIKO

DR. CARTER will meet us at the gate and she will see to it. You won't get anywhere near the palace grounds looking like that. Nothing screams Male louder than a big bushy beard.

ADAM looks at his reflection in the glass and strokes his beard.

ADAM

Fine, but as soon as this is all over. I'm growing it back.

MIKO smiles back at him.

MIKO

When you are KING, you may do whatever you wish.

EXT - DAY - PALACE GARDENS

PRINCESS EVE strolls through the gardens alone, it is a very large expanse, with trees and shrubs, many brightly colored flower beds. We see a gazebo and there are benches scattered about. The PRINCESS rounds a corner and comes to a stop. WOLF stands in her path. PRINCESS EVE slowly reaches for the dagger at her side. WOLF emits a low growl, which freezes the PRINCESS. He takes a step towards her and she turns to flee. Right into the arms of ADAM

ADAM

Don't run, that's the worst thing to do.

Letting go of the PRINCESS, he heroically stands between her and WOLF. He waves his arms and shouts trying to scare the beast away. WOLF merely sits and stares. ADAM glances around and picks up a good sized rock, which he hurls WOLF's way, being careful to not actually hit him. To which WOLF merely yawns, lies down and puts his head between his paws. With his back to the PRINCESS she does not see the look of disappointment on his face.

ADAM

It would appear that I've wounded the beast.

He turns to the PRINCESS, who has her dagger out and to his throat in the blink of an eye.

PRINCESS EVE

Who are you? Speak the truth or I will cut your throat and let your... beast eat it's fill of you.

ADAM

My name is ADAM. I mean you no harm. I am a Ringed Fighter.

PRINCESS EVE

And what about that?

ADAM

That is WOLF. He will not harm you either. He's quite friendly actually. More so than you I would say.

PRINCESS lowers the dagger but does not put it away.

PRINCESS EVE

I have seen all the Ringed Fighters. But I do not know your face.

ADAM

I was just purchased by the QUEEN to fight in the upcoming Coronation.

The PRINCESS puts away her dagger and ADAM seems to relax a little bit.

PRINCESS EVE

A fighter you say. Let's just see about that.

The confused look on ADAMS face doesn't last long as the PRINCESS punches him in the stomach drawing a huge whoosh from ADAM. The PRINCESS spins and sweeps his feet out from under him and he crashes to the ground with a groan.

PRINCESS EVE

Not much of a fight for a fighter.

ADAM picks himself up off the ground only to be met with a series of kicks. He blocks one, then two, but the third gets through and connects solidly with the side of his head, sending him tumbling away. Dazed, he again stands to face the PRINCESS. She comes in slower this time gauging her opponent. He reaches for her with a growl. She deftly catches his wrist, and with a twist and spin. ADAM is launched into the air crashing into a shrubbery. WOLF sits and watches seemingly unperturbed.

PRINCESS EVE

I think the QUEEN should ask for her money back.

ADAM picks himself up out of the bush and stalks toward the PRINCESS.

ADAM

I can bring no harm to any woman. As much as I would like to fight you, I cannot.

PRINCESS EVE

Oooh. I can't hit a girl.

She springs at ADAM with a round house kick that narrowly misses connecting with his jaw, but he doesn't see the fist coming in behind it and it catches him squarely on the chin. He shakes his head to clear the fog and looks up to see the PRINCESS smiling and taunting him.

ADAM

I don't want to hurt you. Please, stop this.

PRINCESS EVE

Looks like you're the one getting hurt. Not me.

The PRINCESS launches into a series of strikes. Fed up with trying to reason, ADAM expertly blocks all of her strikes. The PRINCESS backs off and circles. Again she comes in fists flying and again ADAM prevents any of her strikes from finding a target.

PRINCESS EVE

Might be some hope for you after all.

Once again she comes in with fists and feet flying. ADAM loses himself in the moment and his training takes over. He blocks and dodges all her attacks, but she presses on, not relenting. He moves without thinking letting his body do what he had trained it to do. He suddenly realizes to his own horror that his foot is about to strike this woman in the chest. She is sent flying backwards and tumbles to the ground in a heap. She doesn't move. ADAM rushes to her side only to have feet swept out from under him as soon as he gets in range. He crashes to his back and PRINCESS springs atop him and quickly puts her dagger back to his throat.

PRINCESS EVE

Yield!

ADAM stops struggling, momentarily, as soon as he feels her dagger leave his skin, he snatches her wrist and with a quick twist he disarms her and flips her over so he is now on top of her. She struggles but ADAM keeps her pinned to the ground.

ADAM

You yield.

The PRINCESS stops moving and a sly smile comes over her face.

ADAM

What?

His face instantly flushes and turns red as he realizes that he has an erection. He rolls off the PRINCESS and awkwardly stands up.

ADAM

I have to get back to the barracks.

PRINCESS EVE

But it looks like the fun was just starting.

She watches as ADAM hurries away, WOLF follows and they disappear into the garden. She picks herself and her dagger up off the ground. She continues her stroll, unaware that ADAM has stopped behind some bushes and watches her with curiosity.

INT - NIGHT - RINGED FIGHTER BARRACKS

The barracks are filled with bunks and small tables and chairs, very sterile, lacking any real comforts. Ringed Fighters mingle about their business, several have gathered around WOLF, petting and scratching him. We see ADAM sitting at a table with PUPPY and DAKZ.

ADAM

You wouldn't believe me if I told you.

DAKZ

You're asking us to help you sneak into the Palace and you won't tell us why. Maybe I should trust my instincts, which are telling me to kill you right now. So I will ask again. Why do you need to get into the Palace.

ADAM has no choice, he takes deep breath...

ADAM

The QUEEN has my Sisters. I have no doubt that she intends to kill them. They may already be dead, but I have to try and help them.

PUPPY stares not understanding, DAKZ on the other hand looks back skeptically, even uttering a scoffing laugh.

DAKZ

Sisters?

ADAM

Yes, Sisters. I'm not a Ringed Fighter.

This draws a look of confusion even from DAKZ.

DAKZ

I do not understand and that is dangerous for you.

DAKZ stands up, staring down at ADAM threateningly.

DAKZ

Make me understand.

WOLF immediately senses the tension and emits a low growl which gets the attention of DAKZ.

ADAM

Easy WOLF... I am not like you and the rest of the fighters. I have... had a Mother, five Sisters, and a little Brother. Now the QUEEN has my Sisters and I have to free them before the Coronation.

DAKZ

Why before the Coronation?

ADAM

Because they'll be dead by the time it's over. I'm not here to hurt anyone. I just need to get into the Palace and free my Sisters.

PUPPY shakes his head slowly.

PUPPY

You can't get in unnoticed, there are guards at every door. The only way in, is to be summoned by the QUEEN.

PUPPY's face lights up.

PUPPY

Wait. The Coronation. The QUEEN usually has parties.

DAKZ'S face also lights up at that.

DAKZ

Yes... The QUEENs Coronation Parties.

ADAM

Yes. What about them.

Both men seem lost in thought.

DAKZ

Right... The QUEEN has several of us at the disposal of the Regents and other guests. You may be chosen for such a duty. If I haven't killed you by then.

ADAM holds his hands out palm down.

ADAM

I don't think I can wait for that. Isn't there a tunnel or a hidden entrance of some kind?

Suddenly the door to the barracks is flung open and four armed guards enter. The Ringed Fighters all immediately stand at attention. ADAM follows suit, silently signaling WOLF to lay down and stay. The guards stand in the center of the room and the leader calmly calls out.

GUARD

ADAM.

The guard looks around patiently.

GUARD

ADAM step forward.

ADAM steps forward expecting the worst.

GUARD

Come, you have been summoned to the Palace.

ADAM

Summoned, by whom?

A nasty look from the guard reminds him of his place and he silently falls into line behind the guards. As the door closes behind them WOLF runs to and paws at it whimpering.

INT - NIGHT - PRINCESS'S PRIVATE CHAMBERS

The guards usher ADAM into a large and lavish room. Once in the guards turn and leave without a word. ADAM starts to move about the dimly lit room. There are many candles lit and incense burning.

ADAM

Hello.

Out of the shadows off to the side emerges the PRINCESS. She wears a flowing, see through gown.

PRINCESS EVE

Greetings once again, Adam.

ADAM turns and is stunned when he recognizes who is speaking to him.

ADAM

What's going on? Who are you?

PRINCESS EVE

I am PRINCESS EVE.

ADAM lowers his gaze and drops to one knee

ADAM

Forgive me your Highness.

The PRINCESS casually glides around ADAM tracing her fingernails along his skin.

PRINCESS EVE

There is nothing to forgive, you fought well. Until...

She scratches her nails off his back, leaving red marks in their wake. ADAM blushes at the memory.

PRINCESS EVE

Rise... Do you know why I summoned you?

ADAM

To punish me for striking you?

PRINCESS EVE

No... I intend to find out if you are equally skilled in all your training.

PRINCESS EVE kisses ADAM hungrily. He returns her kiss with equal conviction and in moments they are fumbling for the bed, where they make passionate love.

EXT - NIGHT - PALACE GROUNDS

A lone guard stands at her post, a shadowy figure appears behind the guard, then a hand closes over her mouth and a knife slashes across her throat, she struggles as she is pulled into the bushes. Five figures now scramble from the shadows to enter the Palace.

INT - NIGHT - PALACE

Five Men move silently down the corridor. They are all armed with daggers and short swords. They move from cover to cover trying to remain undetected. The leader stops to peer around a corner, he signals to the others that there are two guards around the corner. He casually steps

out with his weapons behind his back and approaches the women smiling. The guards are immediately on alert. As he nears, his colleagues step out from the corner. As soon as the guards eyes shift to this new threat, he strikes with blinding speed. His short sword nearly decapitating one guard while he drives his dagger up under the chin and into the brain of the other, both women fall to the floor right where they stood. The assassins continue on silently.

INT - NIGHT - PRINCESS'S PRIVATE CHAMBERS

PRINCESS EVE and ADAM lay arm in arm, both look very satisfied.

PRINCESS

It appears you take all of your training to heart.

ADAM

I live to serve your Highness.

PRINCESS EVE

Well then, I should like to be served again.

With a mischievous grin she reaches down under the sheet. Her grin turns to confusion.

PRINCESS EVE

Why are you not wearing a ring?

ADAM is caught off guard.

ADAM

They didn't have one that would fit.

He smiles hoping humor might distract her. It does not, she looks at him sternly.

PRINCESS EVE

You know what the penalty is for removing your Ring.

The PRINCESS sits up suddenly guarded.

ADAM

I have never had a Ring. I'm not a Ringed Fighter.

PRINCESS EVE

But I have seen you fight, you might be the best fighter I have ever seen.

ADAM

I can fight. But I fight for no QUEEN. I fight for my Mother...

PRINCESS EVE

The QUEEN is your Mother! Males don't have Mothers...

Realization dawns on her face, she slowly begins to back off the bed. ADAM grabs her by the arms firmly but gently.

ADAM

Your Mother has my Sisters. They're all I have left. I have to help them. I'm not here to hurt anyone. I just want my Sisters back. Please, help me.

PRINCESS EVE smiles sweetly, ADAM releases her with a hopeful look on his face, which quickly turns to horror.

PRINCESS EVE

Guards! Guards!

They both spring from the bed. The PRINCESS continues to call for guards as she dons a robe, ADAM fumbles with clothing, stumbling about as he gets dressed. PRINCESS EVE rushes for the door and swings them wide. She stops dead in her tracks upon seeing her guards both lying in pools of their own blood.

PRINCESS EVE

Mother...

She sprints off towards the QUEENS chambers, finding more dead guards along the way. She arrives at her Mothers chambers and is greeted by screams coming from inside. She enters the room in time to see the last of her Mothers personal guard go down in a geyser of blood.

PRINCESS EVE

MOTHER!...

Without even thinking about her own life PRINCESS EVE springs at the first attacker unleashing a series of punches and kicks that quickly overwhelm the man before he can even defend himself. Ripping his short sword from his grasp she barely gets it into position to parry a thrust from the next attacker. Spinning right around that attack she drives the sword deep into the back of the man who had his sword raised to strike at the QUEEN. Leaving her sword in the man's back she continues to spin towards her Mother, retrieving the dead man's sword before he even falls, coming to a stop directly in front of the QUEEN. She blocks a sweeping strike and returns it with a kick to the midsection. She fights valiantly to protect her Mother, but quickly tires. She blocks swords and daggers, but a fist gets through her defense and knocks her senseless to the floor. She manages to rollover and shakily hold her sword up in front of her. The assassins raise their weapons to strike. Suddenly ADAM bowls into them and they all go flying.

ADAM

Go. Run.

ADAM springs to his feet and picks up a dropped dagger. Stepping in front of the PRINCESS he turns aside the blade of the first assassin who the PRINCESS had originally knocked down. He follows that up with a hard punch to the jaw, which drops the man to his knees. Before he can strike again he is set upon by the others and pressed hard.

PRINCESS EVE

Duck!

ADAM hesitates momentarily before dropping into a crouch. A dagger darts over his head and buries itself into the chest of the nearest assassin. He rises to meet the advance of the next assailant. He dodges a sword stab and pokes the man hard in the ribs with his dagger before spinning out of the way of a slash from the others sword. As the wounded man turns with ADAM he receives a round house kick to the head from the PRINCESS. He crumbles unconscious to the floor. PRINCESS EVE retrieves the fallen man's sword just in time to meet the rush of the next assassin. ADAM throws his dagger causing his opponent to duck. He turns away from the man and grabs the man attacking the PRINCESS by the sword arm. Growling the man turns slightly and rips his arm free of ADAM grasp. The slight diversion is all the PRINCESS needs to bury her sword into the man's stomach. ADAM catches the man's sword as it falls from his grasp and he turns in time to block a slash from another. PRINCESS dives past ADAM in a roll

and comes up between the two men and drives her knee into the man's crotch. As he bends over in pain PRINCESS rolls over his shoulders to engage the last attacker. ADAM brings the butt of his sword down hard on the man's head and he drops to the floor. The last assassin is a very skilled fighter and quickly has PRINCESS EVE on the defensive. He knocks her sword out of her grasp and swings his sword for the kill, only to be met by ADAMS block, followed by a hard chop to his wrist and his sword bounces away. The assassin strikes out like lightning, punching ADAM hard in the face. He staggers backward dropping his sword. As the assassin turns he is hit by a series of blows from the PRINCESS. Ignoring the strikes he gives the PRINCESS a backhand that sends her flying, he is on top of her instantly, wrapping his large hands around her neck he squeezes. PRINCESS EVE struggles and pries at his hands, but he is too strong, she begins to lose consciousness. ADAM leaps at the man from behind, grabbing his jaw and the back of his head he twists with all his strength and the man's neck snaps. His grip on PRINCESS'S neck loosens, and he slumps on top of her, but she does not move. ADAM heaves the man off her and cradles her in his arms.

ADAM

Princess, Princess.

She coughs and opens her eyes, ADAM smiles widely. She looks around concerned.

PRINCESS EVE

Mother?

Her voice is a little gravelly and it pains her to talk. ADAM helps her to her feet.

ADAM

She is safe.

Guards finally arrive on scene and chaos ensues. The guards immediately surround ADAM weapons drawn.

PRINCESS EVE

Not this one, he saved the QUEEN. Those five.

GUARD

This one is still alive.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Keep him that way. Secure him, I will deal with him shortly, and have this mess cleaned up.

QUEEN KRISTIN embraces PRINCESS EVE.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Eve are you injured.

PRINCESS EVE

I'll be fine Mother.

QUEEN KRISTIN

And what is your name?

ADAM drops to his knee.

ADAM

I live and die by my QUEEN'S command.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Yes. very good. Now rise, and tell me your name.

ADAM

My name is Adam your Majesty.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Adam what are you doing in the Palace?

ADAM glances at PRINCESS EVE nervously.

PRINCESS EVE

He was with me Mother. I summoned him to my chambers. When I discovered dead guards I rushed to your room. Luckily for us Adam followed.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Indeed. I don't recognize you Adam and I'm sure I would have remembered you.

She slowly moves around ADAM inspecting him like livestock, with a lustful smile on her face.

PRINCESS EVE

I purchased him from QUEEN REGENT VICTORIA.

QUEEN KRISTIN

My Daughter, already building her own stable. You will make a wonderful
QUEEN.

The QUEEN turns to her guard and starts to issue orders to secure the Palace and conduct a search for anymore would be assassins. ADAM stands silently beside the PRINCESS.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Return to your chambers and bar the door. By morning the Palace will be secure... And I would keep that one close, just in case.

PRINCESS EVE

As you command your Majesty.

PRINCESS EVE bows and then hurries from the QUEEN'S chambers with ADAM following closely behind. He tries to speak but is quickly silenced by the PRINCESS.

PRINCESS EVE

Say nothing. The Palace has ears everywhere.

INT - NIGHT - PALACE CELLS

The QUEEN walks around the bodies laid out on tables, looking for some clue as to who sent these assassins. Her personal physician DR. JONAS is removing her latex gloves.

QUEEN KRISTIN

None wear Rings?

DR . JONAS

None your Majesty. No tattoos, or other identifying marks. And they've all had their tongues surgically removed, I'm afraid we will get no usable information from these four.

The QUEEN turns to look at the man in the cell, he is shackled to the wall by his wrists and ankles, and has a sack over his head.

QUEEN KRISTIN

What about him?

DR. JONAS

The same, no Ring, no tongue, no identifying marks. We did manage to remove this before he regained consciousness.

DR. JONAS produces a small white object and shows it to the QUEEN.

DR. JONAS

It's a tooth filled with poison. Bite down hard enough and it breaks. These men were on a one way trip. Regardless of whether or not they succeeded. We found the same in the dead men.

QUEEN KRISTIN once again turns to the man in the cell.

QUEEN KRISTIN

You. Who sent you?

The man gives no response.

QUEEN KRISTIN

If you cooperate I will grant you a quick and merciful death. Do not... And I promise you a lifetime of pain without mercy. And make no mistake, you will tell me what I want to know. One way or the other, makes no difference to me.

Still no response, but the man is trembling.

QUEEN KRISTIN

So be it. Summon OLGA.

INT - NIGHT - PRINCESS'S PRIVATE CHAMBER

PRINCESS EVE and ADAM are alone in her chambers.

ADAM

Why didn't you tell her?

PRINCESS EVE

You could have let me die, your secret would have died with me... but you didn't.
You saved my life. Why?

ADAM looks deeply into her eyes before dropping to his knees.

ADAM

I live and die by my QUEENS command.

PRINCESS EVE

But you're not a Ringed Fighter and I am not the QUEEN.

Rising to his feet, he pulls her close.

ADAM

You are my QUEEN.

ADAM kisses her gently. PRINCESS EVE looks into his eyes before jumping into his arms and kissing him back hungrily. They fall over each other and stumble to the bed where they make love.

INT - NIGHT - PALACE CELLS

The QUEEN sits back while OLGA stands over the man, he is still shackled but his hood has been removed, he screams in agony as she removes another fingernail from the man's hand with a pair of pliers.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Who sent you? Which REGENT?

The man only grinds his teeth.

QUEEN KRISTIN

If you're looking for this? Don't bother.

The QUEEN holds up the man's poison filled tooth. He slumps, beaten. The QUEEN points to the wall which holds pictures of the different Regents.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Who sent you? My patience wears thin. Who sent you?

OLGA grabs the man by the hair and lifts his head, he stares defiantly back at the QUEEN. The QUEEN seeing his look calmly walks over and takes the pliers from OLGA and bends down in front of the man.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Who sent you?

The man remains defiant. The QUEEN uses the pliers to grab the man's testicles and squeezes hard. The man's scream is deafening, but the QUEEN screams even louder.

QUEEN KRISTIN

WHO SENT YOU?

INT - NIGHT - PRINCESS'S CHAMBERS

PRINCESS EVE and ADAM sit at the side of the bed wrapped in a sheet, the bed is a mess, as well as their hair. Most of the candles have burned out.

ADAM

Do you know where my Sisters are being kept?

PRINCESS EVE nods her head.

ADAM

Will you help me free them?

PRINCESS EVE

It's not that simple, if my Mother finds out who you are, she will kill you.

ADAM

I have to try. I can't just do nothing.

PRINCESS EVE

There may be a way... If I were QUEEN I could have them released.

ADAM

Your Mother may be QUEEN for many years, I cannot wait for you to inherit the throne.

PRINCESS EVE

But if you fight in the Coronation for *me*... and win. I would be QUEEN.

ADAM

Your Mother would never allow it.

PRINCESS EVE rolls on top of ADAM and kisses him passionately and then stares into his eyes.

PRINCESS EVE

It is your Sisters only chance. Make me the QUEEN.

INT - NIGHT - PALACE CELLS

The QUEEN casually wipes blood from her hands, PATRICIA and OLGA stand at her side. Behind them the bloodied and sobbing prisoner remains confined to his chair.

QUEEN KRISTIN

The audacity! I will build an army and wipe out everyone of them. How dare they. They all conspire to kill me before my own Coronation Ceremony.

PATRICIA

Patience your Majesty.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Do not plead patience to me. It was not you who they were sent to kill.

Her Hand Maid gives a slight bow conceding the point.

PATRICIA

I merely wished to point out to her Majesty, that all five Regents will be here in a matter of days.

This gives the QUEEN pause, and after a moment of reflection, she smiles broadly.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Ah Patricia, what would I do without you? Very well, we shall plan the most exciting Coronation Women have ever seen. A Coronation that will change history.

OLGA

What about him?

QUEEN KRISTIN

Kill him...

The QUEEN stops OLGA with a touch on the arm.

QUEEN KRISTIN (CONT'D)

Slowly.

INT - DAY - QUEENS OFFICE

QUEEN KRISTIN, PRINCESS EVE and PATRICIA are having a heated discussion.

PRINCESS EVE

Mother. Please don't ask this of me.

QUEEN KRISTIN

We are only alive because of your skills. All I ask is for you to put them to use to protect our legacy. One Queen for ever more.

PRINCESS EVE

It's murder! I am no assassin.

QUEEN KRISTIN

They are all guilty of conspiring to kill their Queen. Consider it a sentence carried out.

PRINCESS EVE

Executioner... Assassin... Is that all I am too you.

PRINCESS EVE stands and defiantly faces her Mother.

PRINCESS EVE (CONT'D)

I won't do it. In fact, I intend to enter the Coronation.

The QUEEN looks at her Daughter incredulously and then to PATRICIA before bursting into laughter.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Don't be ridiculous. You're barely of child bearing age. Your time will come my beautiful Daughter, but for now you need to trust me and do as you're told.

PRINCESS EVE holds her ground.

PRINCESS EVE

No... I intend to enter Adam in the Coronation, as is my right, and if he wins I will be Queen.

The QUEEN is clearly unimpressed, she dismisses PATRICIA.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Leave us.

The door closes behind her and the PRINCESS EVE nervously faces the QUEEN who rises to stand in front of her.

QUEEN KRISTIN

My dear Daughter, now is really not the time for us to be fighting amongst ourselves. We have been attacked, we need to stand strong and meet this threat together.

PRINCESS EVE seems to soften a little. The QUEEN reaches out a tender caressing hand, to move a strand of hair from the PRINCESS'S face.

PRINCESS EVE

Mother... Please... I can't...

QUEEN KRISTIN

You can and you will. Why do you think I allowed your training to continue. It has all led to this. You must be the instrument of change. You will insure that your Daughters and their Daughters and generations to come, will rule as QUEEN.

PRINCESS

I will not murder for you.

The QUEEN strikes out, slapping the PRINCESS hard across the face.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Enough. You will do as you are instructed by your QUEEN. And if you say one more word about entering the Coronation, I will personally remove the Ring of your little play thing.

The PRINCESS stares at her Mother trembling in shock. The QUEEN slaps her again.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Do you understand? Do not disappoint me in this.

PRINCESS EVE now has tears running down her cheeks, her resolve has crumbled. She responds with a quiet whimper and a slight bow.

PRINCESS EVE

Your Majesty.

EXT - DAY - RINGED FIGHTER TRAINING FACILITY

The fighters go about their training, we see ADAM at the archery range with DAKZ and PUPPY. DAKZ and ADAM are quite adept keeping their arrows near the bulls eye, PUPPY however has trouble just hitting the target.

DAKZ

You must be much better at finding the target with your spear...

He gestures towards PUPPY'S crotch.

DAKZ (CONT'D)

Or the QUEEN would have taken your Ring long ago.

They share a laugh at PUPPY'S expense, he determinedly nocks another arrow, takes carful aim, fires and misses the target completely. Which draws even more laughter. He drops his bow and walks away.

PUPPY

I'll stick with my spear.

ADAM

Tell me, is it you who represents the QUEEN in the Coronation fight?

DAKZ

Me... No. NEW STUD will fight for the QUEEN.

Relief shows clearly upon ADAMS face, both because DAKZ is an imposing and well trained fighter and ADAM likes him and doesn't want to hurt him.

ADAM

What can you tell me about him?

DAKZ eyes him suspiciously, then puts down his bow and gestures for ADAM to follow.

DAKZ

NEW STUD is the most dangerous man I have ever seen.

This causes ADAM to stop in his tracks.

DAKZ

Come.

They walk in silence to the weapons training area, where they see NEW STUD facing off against five other men. They all carry wooden short swords and all but NEW STUD wear helmets and leather armour, stuffed with as much padding as the fighters could hold underneath. With a signal they attack as one, in a blur of blocks and spinning kicks, NEW STUD quickly has two of them flat on their backs. He dodges a thrust from one, spinning right by the attack and bringing the butt of his sword down upon the man's exposed neck. He slumps to the ground face first. The last two men come at him from opposite sides. He lets them advance, weapons raised to strike. He leaps into the air and kicks out with both feet, knocking the helmets right off both charging men, who then slump backwards awkwardly before rolling over groaning. It's all over in less than one minute and ADAM stares stunned and for the first time in his life, scared.

DAKZ

That is NEW STUD.

INT - DAY - SISTERS QUARTERS

The Sisters are startled as their door swings open and the PRINCESS enters. The guard closes it behind her. She stands staring at the girls for a few moments before sitting with them at the table.

PRINCESS EVE

Are you well?

The girls nod meekly.

PRINCESS EVE

Of course you're aware that we are watching and listening to you.

She gestures towards the camera up in the corner of the room.

PRINCESS EVE

Is there anything you would like to tell us.

The Sisters remain silent.

PRINCESS EVE

Very well, I admire your courage.

The PRINCESS rises to turns to leave, on her way out she tapes a note under the camera. The girls exchange a curious glance, then SOPHIE moves to the spot under the camera and retrieves the note it reads.

Adam is here. He has not forgotten you. Stay strong.
Destroy this note!

SOPHIE crumples the note and walks back to her Sister with a smile, she whispers into her ear, CALI smiles also.

INT - NIGHT - RINGED FIGHTER BARRACKS

Fighters mingle about the barracks, ADAM, DAKZ, and PUPPY sit together, WOLF sits curled at their feet.

DAKZ

Sad, I was just beginning to like you. But if you plan to stand before NEW STUD in the Coronation, then you are a dead man.

ADAM

Believe me I don't want to... I have to. It's the only way to save my Sisters.

DAKZ

How is your death going to save your Sisters?

ADAM

I'm not planning on dying.

DAKZ

If you intend to fight NEW STUD, that is exactly what you're planning.

ADAM

Then help me, he must have a weakness. There must be a way to defeat him.

PUPPY

He has no such flaws. He is as deadly with his hands as he is with weapons of all kinds. He has strength, stamina, speed. He truly is a dangerous man.

ADAM

If I can't defeat him then we are all lost

DAKZ is about to question that comment when the doors of the barracks open and an escort of guards enter, PUPPY smiles and begins to rise.

PUPPY

Finally, it's been several days since the QUEEN has summoned me.

His smile quickly turns to disappointment.

GUARD

Adam you have been summoned to the Palace.

With a smirk and a shrug at PUPPY he rises and joins the guards.

INT - NIGHT - QUEENS CHAMBER

QUEEN KRISTIN stands on her balcony, her sheer night gown billows in the slight breeze. The door opens and the guards escort ADAM into the room, he appears nervous as the guards turn and leave. Once the door is closed she turns and glides into the room.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I never got the chance to properly thank you.

ADAM immediately kneels when he sees the QUEEN.

ADAM

I live and die by my QUEENS command.

The QUEEN gently raises his chin.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Rise Adam. My Daughter and I would be dead if not for you.

ADAM stands. The QUEEN presses right up against him, her hands on his chest.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Maybe there is something I can reward you with.

She pushes ADAM hard and he falls backwards onto the bed, she springs on top of ADAM and kisses him deeply. She proceeds to ravage him, riding him like a stallion, before collapsing in exhaustion. They lie together catching their breath for a moment before the QUEEN breaks the silence.

QUEEN KRISTIN

My Daughter has chosen well.

ADAM

Thank you your Majesty.

She smiles seductively and her head disappears beneath the covers, a look of horror comes over ADAMS face.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Now do it again.

In the matter of a few heartbeats. The covers come flying off and the QUEEN points and stammers.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Where is your Ring? GUARDS!!

She jumps off the bed screaming for her guards who respond quickly. They immediately surround ADAM weapons drawn.

QUEEN KRISTIN

You're one of them, aren't you?

ADAM

No your Majesty, I swear I'm not here to hurt anyone.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I don't believe you. You're just waiting for the right time to strike.

With a nod the guards seize ADAM and one brings the end of her sword down hard on his head. He slumps unconscious.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Lock him away. Have DR. Jonas check his teeth. I will deal with him after the Coronation.

INT - NIGHT - PALACE CELLS

ADAM slowly regains consciousness lying on a bunk in one of the cells, he rises gingerly to a sitting position. He surveys his predicament, he stands a little wobbly and then walks to the bars of the cell. He tests the strength of the bars, they have no give. He shakes the door, it also seems solid. He puts his face as far as he can into the bars. He can see and hear no one.

ADAM?

SOPHIE, CALI. Are you down here? It's Adam.

He receives no reply. He returns to the bunk and sits dejectedly.

INT - NIGHT - PRINCESS'S CHAMBER

The PRINCESS is having a discussion with a guard.

PRINCESS EVE

What do you mean, he wasn't there?

GUARD

He has already been summoned... By the QUEEN, your Highness. I could bring another.

The blood drains from her face.

PRINCESS

No. That will be all.

The guard gives a slight bow and turns to leave. As the guard exits the QUEENS guard enters.

GUARD

Your Highness. The QUEEN commands your presence.

INT - NIGHT - QUEENS CHAMBER

The QUEEN and her Hand Maid are having a discussion, when PRINCESS EVE enters, PATRICIA bows and turns to leave, giving PRINCESS EVE a knowing look as she passes.

PRINCESS EVE

You wished to see me your Majesty.

The QUEEN takes her time answering, studying her Daughter.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Yes... I wish to know why you choose to bed an assassin?

PRINCESS EVE

Mother? I... Adam is no assassin. What have you done with him?

QUEEN KRISTIN

So it's just coincidence that, like the five dead men he also has no Ring.

PRINCESS EVE

I was going to tell you, but then he saved my life, and yours. He is not here to hurt us.

QUEEN KRISTIN

How can you be sure of that.

PRINCESS EVE

Because I love him. And he loves me.

QUEEN KRISTIN looks at her Daughter with disappointment.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Eve... Men are incapable of love. They are primal, stupid beasts, good for one thing only.

PRINCESS EVE

ADAM is different.

QUEEN KRISTIN

He is a Man, they are all the same. throughout history they have proven that they are capable of only fighting and fucking. How is this... Adam any different?

The QUEEN is starting to get upset.

PRINCESS EVE

He's here to help his Sisters.

QUEEN KRISTIN fixes PRINCESS EVE with a steely glare.

QUEEN KRISTIN

So the rumors are true. You disappoint me my Daughter. You should have come to me with this information.

PRINCESS EVE

Where is he Mother? What have you done with him?

QUEEN KRISTIN

He is locked in a cell at the moment. I will deal with him after the Coronation.

PRINCESS EVE

Adam belongs to me, release him immediately.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Absolutely not. I will find what I need to know of him and then he will be put down like the animal he is.

PRINCESS EVE

No. You can't. Mother I love him.

QUEEN KRISTIN

You are a silly little girl and you are trying my patience. The Coronation Begins in two days you must be focused and ready.

PRINCESS EVE hangs her head crying.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I will hear no more talk of love. You don't even know what love is. When you become a Mother, then you will know what love is. Which is the only reason you are not being punished. But test that love no further. Now leave me.

The PRINCESS turns and leaves defeated.

INT - DAY - PALACE CELLS

ADAM lies on his cot. He is startled as a loud crash sounds at the door leading into the cells. He jumps from his cot and presses up to the bars. The door swings open and PRINCESS EVE walks in dragging an unconscious guard. She searches the guard for the key and then unlocks ADAMS cell. They embrace and kiss passionately.

PRINCESS EVE

Help me with the other guard.

Together they drag in another unconscious guard, bind them, gag them and then lock them in the cell. PRINCESS EVE urges ADAM to remain silent as they make their escape. They quietly

make their way back to the PRINCESS'S chamber. Once there, they fall into each other's arms and make love.

INT - NIGHT - QUEENS RECEIVING ROOM

QUEEN KRISTIN and her five Regents are gathered around a circular table. The Regents all look very nervous.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Welcome Sisters, to what promises to be a most historic Coronation. I have reason to celebrate, having recently escaped an uprising of my males unhurt. Thanks in full to my wonderful Daughter.

The Regents all smile and praise the PRINCESS, the relief apparent on their faces as they exchange knowing glances.

QUEEN KRISTIN

But enough talk of death. We are here to celebrate.

The QUEEN raises her glass, the regents somewhat reluctantly raise their own.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Tonight, we live like it's our last night.

The QUEEN drinks and then on cue the doors open and in walks PUPPY followed by several other males. The Regents are caught off balance by the cryptic toast, but are quickly distracted by the glistening muscles of the male entertainment.

INT - NIGHT - PRINCESS'S CHAMBER

Spent, the lovers lie together on the bed.

ADAM

I never thought I'd see you again.

PRINCESS EVE

My Mother plans to have you killed. I had to free you. Tomorrow is the Coronation and I need you to win for me.

ADAM

I will try.

PRINCESS EVE

No you don't understand. You have to win. If you don't...

PRINCESS EVE is very upset and on the verge of crying.

ADAM

What is it?

PRINCESS EVE

Mother has ordered me to kill the Regents.

Now she does start to cry.

PRINCESS EVE

I can't... I won't murder for her. She allowed me to train so that she had a personal assassin. If you lose I will have no choice.

ADAM embraces the crying PRINCESS.

ADAM

I will win. And you shall be Queen. My QUEEN. And I will be your KING, and together we will bring balance back to the world. You will bear my children and we will raise a family.

PRINCESS EVE looks up with tears in her eyes and a confused look on her face.

PRINCESS EVE

What do you mean bear your children? Males are unable to breed.

ADAM gives her a mischievous grin. The PRINCESS suddenly realizes what he is saying and is thrilled.

PRINCESS EVE

So I may already be carrying your child... I think I can feel it.

ADAM rolls his eyes at her as she rubs her belly.

ADAM

I don't really know a lot about it, but I guess it's possible.

PRINCESS EVE climbs on top of ADAM and looks deeply into his eyes and in a determined voice she says.

PRINCESS EVE

I will be your QUEEN and you will be my KING. Or we will both be damned.

EXT - DAY - RINGED FIGHTING ARENA - (ESTABLISHING)

A large crowd is gathered for the Coronation festivities. The QUEEN and her Regents are in their box. The PRINCESS is conspicuously absent. As we move about the scene we see DR. CARTER and MIKO in the crowd, they appear very apprehensive and nervous.

DR. CARTER

What did we miss? We're not ready. Adam is not ready. We need more time.

MIKO

We are as ready as we can be. Adam is ready. We have over 500 women in this arena ready to storm the Ring. We are ready.

DR. CARTER

I don't see Adam in the cage. What if he's already dead? Oh... I think I'm going to throw up.

MIKO gives her an impatient glance before turning her attention back to the Ringed Fighters cage.

MIKO

There. I just saw Wolf in the cage, that means Adam is in there too. Now calm down and get your act together.

DR. CARTER composes herself and nods.

DR. CARTER

Your right. Sorry. I have waited my whole life for this moment...

INT - DAY - RINGED FIGHTER CAGE - (BACKSTAGE)

PRINCESS EVE approaches the cage entrance, ADAM follows closely behind, head down, submissive. WOLF waits in the distance. There is one guard at the door to the cages.

PRINCESS EVE

Open the door, I have one more fighter.

The GUARD comes to attention.

GUARD

I'm sorry your Highness. I'm to let no other fighters enter by order of the QUEEN herself.

PRINCESS EVE

Very well. WOLF... Do remember that I did give you the choice.

WOLF trots up to sit by ADAMS side.

GUARD

I don't understand...

PRINCESS EVE

Open the door or I will let both of these beasts have their way with you.

The GUARD looks to ADAM, then WOLF, they both appear to snarling. The Guard quickly unlocks the door and moves off screen. WOLF trots in the open door, we can hear him being

greeted by the fighters happily. PRINCESS stops ADAM by the arm as he is about to enter the cage. She kisses him deeply, in front of many of the other fighters.

PRINCESS EVE

You must come back to me.

ADAM

I will.

PRINCESS EVE

You must come back to *us*.

The PRINCESS rubs her hand over her still flat belly.

PRINCESS EVE (CONT'D)

I can feel it. I bear your son. You must come back.

ADAM is stunned.

ADAM

I love you Eve. I will come back to you.

He kisses her passionately and leaves her at the door. He walks through the cage in a daze, before bumping right into NEW STUD.

NEW STUD

If you truly love the PRINCESS, do not leave the cage.

ADAM is startled to hear NEW STUD speak.

ADAM

I have no choice. The QUEEN will kill my sisters if I don't stop her.

NEW STUD shows no emotion.

NEW STUD

If you leave the cage I will be forced to kill you. If you are what you say you are, then you should live, not die in the arena for the sport of women.

ADAM summons his courage and with as much confidence as he can muster, he fixes NEW STUD with a steely stare.

ADAM

I live and die by *my* QUEENS command.

He turns and walks away, NEW STUD seems impressed.

EXT - DAY - QUEENS BOX

PRINCESS EVE enters and is greeted by all before being ushered off to the side by the QUEEN fixing her with a serious glare.

QUEEN KRISTIN

All is prepared, are You?

PRINCESS EVE moves a fold of her gown to reveal two daggers tucked away.

PRINCESS EVE

Yes, your Majesty.

With a relieved look the QUEEN smiles.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Today we secure our bloodline for centuries to come my dear Daughter.

PRINCESS EVE nods meekly.

The Coronation Fight is announced and a hush falls over the crowd. NEW STUD makes his way to the center of the Ring and faces QUEEN KRISTIN. The other fighters join him, warily, to salute the QUEEN, as she is about to give the signal to commence.

PRINCESS EVE

WAIT!...

ADAM steps out of the cage and joins the other fighters.

PRINCESS (CONT'D)

I too wish to enter the Coronation.

The QUEEN turns red with anger as the Regents gasp in astonishment.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Forgive my Daughters impertinence Sisters...

PRINCESS EVE seizes the moment before her courage evaporates.

PRINCESS EVE

It is my right. Let the sin of man decide the fate of women.

QUEEN KRISTIN seems to calm herself.

QUEEN KRISTIN

As you wish. And when your *Love* is dead maybe you will see the truth of it.

She gives the signal to commence and the fighters as one circle NEW STUD, who remains calm and perfectly still. ADAM is left completely alone. He looks up to see the QUEEN staring at him with venom in her eyes and the PRINCESS beside her looking very upset. The fighters appear on the verge of a coordinated attack on NEW STUD.

ADAM

Stop!... We don't have to do this.

They pause, but only momentarily.

ADAM

STOP!... As your KING, I command you to stop.

This does stop the Fighters in their tracks. And all, including NEW STUD, turn to regard ADAM.

ADAM

That's right, KING. Kneel before me and you are free men. Nobody has to die for me. From this day forward, you would fight only for yourselves.

One fighter breaks out into laughter. He is the first to die as NEW STUD lashes out like a snake, striking him just under the chin, completely collapsing the man's windpipe. He tumbles to the ground gasping for air that will not come. Before the others can react, he leaps over the fallen man and escapes the circle. Once free he calmly circles, taking a long look at ADAM. The other fighters move cautiously to again encircle NEW STUD.

FIGHTER 1

I never heard of you before, but I heard about him. If we don't kill him, none of us are walking out of here. Your *Highness*.

They stalk in again completely ignoring ADAM. They strike in a coordinated manner trying to keep him off balance with blows coming in from high and low. He dances and dodges and remains untouched. The fighters regroup and try a different strategy, lunging as one they overpower NEW STUD with sheer mass and they tumble to the ground in a pile. The four fighters keep their weight on him and start throwing elbows and knees. NEW STUD defends himself well, even dishing out a few strikes of his own, but he is fighting a losing battle.

ADAM

Enough.

ADAM grabs one man and flings him away, he kicks another and he tumbles away, he grabs another just as NEW STUD strikes him with the heel of his palm, right into the base of the man's nose, shattering bone and driving it into his brain killing him instantly. ADAM lets the dead man fall. NEW STUD shakes his last attacker and springs to his feet. He is bruised and bleeding, but ready to fight. He launches a series of strikes at ADAM. He expertly defends the attack.

ADAM

I have no wish to fight you.

NEW STUD

If you wish to be KING, then you must.

He launches another series of attacks that ADAM calmly defends only to realize to late he had been led to leave an opening and he takes a kick to the stomach that sends him tumbling away gasping for air. NEW STUD is again set upon by the other fighters and this time he is ready for their bull rush and calmly steps aside, trailing his leg, which the first in line trips over, causing the others to tumble into a heap. NEW STUD quickly grabs the head of the man on top and with

a distinctive snap, breaks the man's neck. He calmly walks away letting the other fighters regain their feet. ADAM is back up also and approaches NEW STUD cautiously.

ADAM

This is madness. We do not have to fight for them. We do not have to die, for them. YOU do not have to die for them.

This brings a grin to the face of NEW STUD.

NEW STUD

You would have been a good KING.

NEW STUD attacks with blinding speed, ADAM is hard pressed. A fist gets through his defense and ADAM is struck hard across the chin. He goes down momentarily knocked senseless. NEW STUD stands over him ready for the killing blow when he is swept aside by the last two fighters. WOLF is very agitated in the cage, DAKZ and PUPPY watch in horror as one of the men screams out in agony his arm completely out of its socket at the shoulder. NEW STUD is up in an instant kicking the screaming man in the side of the head with his heel. With an audible crunch, his screaming stops and he slumps to the ground. ADAM gains his feet as the last fighter attacks with abandon, NEW STUD dodges every attack with ease. With a growl he presses harder, only to be met with a series of strikes that leave him out on his feet. NEW STUD lines up for the fatal blow.

ADAM

Stop!

ADAM barrels into NEW STUD tackling him to the ground. They wrestle about on the ground. WOLF IS going crazy in the cage, and with a quick look around, DAKZ quickly opens and closes the cage door, allowing WOLF to sprint out. NEW STUD has the upper hand on ADAM and has him from behind in a choke hold, WOLF sprints up growling, and NEW STUDS grip loosens. ADAM stands a little shakily, then reaches a hand down to NEW STUD, who takes it a little warily, and stands. WOLF continues a low growl

ADAM

I am your KING and I have no reason to kill you.

WOLFS growl turns into a short lived yelp and he collapses with an arrow in his side. ADAM turns in horror and has just enough time to register the evil smile on QUEEN KRISTENS face

before NEW STUD attacks. ADAM is caught unprepared and is hit hard and often as he tries to defend himself. He is overwhelmed and quickly knocked to the ground barely conscious. NEW STUD grabs ADAM by the hair and lifts his head. As NEW STUD looks to his smiling QUEEN, ADAM sees WOLFS lifeless body in front of him, furious, ADAM grabs the arrow out of WOLFS body and plunges it into NEW STUDS thigh. Screaming in pain he releases ADAM, who springs to his feet and begins to pummel NEW STUD before he can recover. While he is dazed, ADAM drops into a spinning crouch, grabs the arrow deeply embedded into NEW STUDS thigh and yanks it free and in a rising spin buries it into NEW STUDS side, followed by a sweep of his legs and NEW STUD crashes to the ground. ADAM pounces on top of him and pulls the arrow free again and puts it to NEW STUDS exposed throat. NEW STUD smiles through a bloody mouth and stops resisting.

NEW STUD

I live and die by my QUEENS command.

ADAM pushes the arrow a little harder, drawing blood, and then tosses the arrow away.

ADAM

Today you live, by your KINGS command.

He stands and turns to the QUEENS box.

ADAM

I proclaim myself KING ADAM.

The QUEEN is outraged. PRINCESS EVE is overjoyed.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Guards kill him.

Guards begin to file into the ring. DAKZ and PUPPY run from their cage and stand in front of ADAM. They are quickly surrounded and badly outnumbered. Then another door opens and a steady line of women come out, including DR. CARTER and MIKO, they place themselves between ADAM and the Guards, soon there are hundreds.

QUEEN KRISTIN

What is the meaning of this?

She turns to the PRINCESS with a determined look on her face.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Do it. Do it now!

PRINCESS EVE

No. I won't do it. I am QUEEN now.

The QUEEN lashes out and slaps PRINCESS EVE hard across the face.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I warned you not to test me child.

The QUEEN produces a dagger and beckons to a Guard who produces CALI from OS. The QUEEN seizes her and puts the knife to the young girls back. She steps to the rail for all to see.

QUEEN KRISTIN

ADAM... Adam come forward.

Movement in the now large crowd as ADAM makes his way to the front. He freezes in terror as he sees CALI standing in front of the QUEEN.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Ah, there you are. Please inform my Daughter and all else present... Who do you fight for?

ADAM can see the pain of the knife in his Sisters back and he can feel the resignation coming from the PRINCESS. Reluctantly he kneels before the QUEEN.

ADAM

I live and die by my QUEENS command.

The PRINCESS begins to cry and the QUEEN smiles.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Now do it, and I might even let your plaything live... Guards, take him away.

ADAM goes without a fight even though the crowd is protecting him.

DR. CARTER

What happened? What are we supposed to do now?

MIKO

I do not know.

PRINCESS EVE watches him being led away. Still with tears in her eyes she turns to the confused Regents and produces her daggers. The QUEEN watches with a wide grin on her face as her deadly Daughter makes use of her skills.

INT - NIGHT - QUEENS DINING ROOM

QUEEN KRISTIN and PRINCESS EVE are having their dinner. PRINCESS'S plate seems untouched.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Eve are you feeling well, you've barely eaten anything?

PRINCESS EVE

I'm not hungry.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Are you still upset about what happened at the Coronation... You must trust me, you did a great service to your QUEEN and your family.

PRINCESS EVE

I did what you asked of me, why won't you release ADAM. He belongs to me, I want him back.

QUEEN KRISTIN

You're still upset about that Male? You confound me. He's just a Male.

PRINCESS EVE

Mother, I love him and he loves me.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Enough! Your Male is alive, but one more word of love and I will personally remove his Ring.

This brings a shocked look to the face of PRINCESS EVE.

QUEEN KRISTIN (CONT'D)

Yes, he has been fitted with his very own Ring. And I will not hesitate to use it if you continue to talk nonsense. Men are vicious, stupid animals, incapable of love. Only a Mother knows the meaning of true love. A Mother will love her Daughter no matter how foolish a notion they get in their head. Because that is the love of a Mother. Pure and undying. When you become a Mother, then you will understand love.

PRINCESS EVE

I LOVE ADAM, and he LOVES me. And you cannot keep us apart.

The PRINCESS stands and leaves before her Mother can respond. The QUEEN sits alone for a moment perplexed, then PATRICIA enters and makes her way to the QUEEN, after a brief discussion, PATRICIA leaves and the QUEEN is again alone.

INT - DAY - QUEENS CHAMBER

PRINCESS EVE enters flanked by a pair of guards. The QUEEN rises to meet her.

PRINCESS EVE

How may I be of service your Majesty.

The PRINCESS is cold and subdued when she offers a slight bow.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Today you shall learn a very valuable lesson my Daughter. And you would do well to remember that you have left me no choice in this matter.

With a nod, ADAM is dragged in, he is shackled and badly bruised all over. He is dropped to his knees beside the QUEEN. The PRINCESS'S initial joy at seeing ADAM quickly evaporates and turns to fear.

PRINCESS EVE

Mother, whatever you are planning, please don't do it.

A guard hands the QUEEN the remote for ADAMS Ring and a dagger.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I am your Mother. This is a Male. I intend to take his ring, and the only way you will stop me is by plunging this dagger into my chest.

The QUEEN holds the remote in one hand and offers the dagger to the PRINCESS with the other.

QUEEN KRISTIN (CONT'D)

I will not resist. You decide who's life is more important to you.

The QUEEN arms the remote, her thumb hovering over the button. PRINCESS EVE is horrified.

PRINCESS EVE

Mother, please, you know I can't hurt you. Please don't do this. Please.

QUEEN KRISTIN

TAKE IT!

PRINCESS EVE reluctantly takes the dagger with trembling hands.

QUEEN KRISTIN

I am going to count to five and then kill this creature... if, I am still alive to do so. Stop me, if that is what you truly desire. ONE.

PRINCESS EVE

Mother stop. Don't do this.

QUEEN KRISTIN

TWO.

PRINCESS EVE

Please...

QUEEN KRISTIN

THREE.

The PRINCESS lunges for ADAM only to be held back by the guards

QUEEN KRISTIN

FOUR.

ADAM

I love you, EVE.

QUEEN KRISTIN

FIVE.

As QUEEN is about to push the button, PRINCESS EVE springs for her, blade held high. But the killing blow is blocked by one of the guards. The QUEEN is not shocked, merely disappointed. The guards disarm the PRINCESS and hold her tight by each arm.

QUEEN KRISTIN

EVE you have disappointed me greatly. I have given you ever opportunity and yet here we are. Well, you have sealed your own fate as well as the fate of your pet.

PRINCESS EVE screams in horror and cries out for ADAM, who can only offer a smile before the small explosive charge in his Ring is detonated. With a last look at PRINCESS EVE, ADAM falls face first on to the floor. PRINCESS EVE is hysterical with grief, she shakes off her guards and rushes to her fallen lover. She cradles him in her arms, sobbing uncontrollably. ADAM manages to raise a hand to her cheek and then dies in her arms with a smile still on his face.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Now let us put this foolish talk of love behind us.

PRINCESS EVE gently kisses ADAM before laying him down. She stands and faces her Mother with hate filled eyes. The QUEEN looks worried and her guards step between the two. But PRINCESS EVE turns and calmly walks away. Her hand rubs the small baby bump just beginning to show. She walks over to the balcony and climbs the railing and before the QUEEN or guards

can even react she jumps from the balcony. She hears the terrified screams of her Mother all the way down.

INT - DAY - QUEENS OFFICE (SEVERAL MONTHS LATER)

The QUEEN sits at her desk working. She is visibly drained and tired, she looks older. Pain still fresh on her face. A knock at the door ushers in PATRICIA. Who announces the QUEENS personal Physician. DR. JONAS .

QUEEN KRISTIN

Good Morning Dr. Jonas.

DR. JONAS

Good morning your Majesty. How are you feeling today?

QUEEN KRISTIN

I feel terrible. What did the tests determine? Is it the flu? It feels like the flu.

DR. JONAS is a little confused.

DR. JONAS

No your Majesty, it's not the flu. You're perfectly healthy.

QUEEN KRISTIN

Then why do I feel sick?

DR. JONAS

Well... You're pregnant, your Majesty.

The QUEENS eyes go wide in shock and confusion.

THE END