

GRACE AND DIGNITY:
THE ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS

an original screenplay by

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FADE IN:

EXT. KINGDOM OF LOVE - SUNRISE

As the sun awakens the magnificent kingdom, a ROYAL BLOOMS CARRIAGE filled with FLOWERS leaves a hillside village. It rides along the SEA OF PLENTY, turns by the ROYAL THEATER, pauses for the PEACE TRAIN, then heads to COMMITMENT CITY.

EXT. CHAPEL OF LOVE - MORNING

As the carriage pulls up, the FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (40's) runs out to greet the arriving FLORIST (30's) and FLOWER GIRL (6) with big hugs. The Inspector's eyes twinkle mischievously as the Florist pauses and takes in the morning's ambiance.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR
Curious, isn't it?

FLORIST
Very curious... Uncanny, even.

FLOWER GIRL
What's curious? What's uncanny?

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR
Everything! It's exactly like it
was for the royal wedding last year.

The two sisters exchange a grin as the girl's eyes light up.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (CONT'D)
Come help us with these flowers and
I'll tell you all about it.

The girl scoops up a basket and follows excitedly, pausing at a mysterious SIGN WITH A BIG RED BOW: *Special Event Today*.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It was the most perfect day you could
imagine in the Kingdom of Love.

INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

As a CANDLEMAKER melts wax and a SILVERSMITH shines platters, the Inspector plucks PETALS into a basket by the Flower Girl.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR
The sunflowers were smiling, the
trees stood with honor and the clouds
fluffed themselves just so. As if
every living thing knew something
special was happening. And, it was.
For the very next day, Prince Dignity
was to wed his beloved Princess Grace,
whom he'd kept quite the secret.

SUPER: *One year ago.*

EXT. FOREST - DAY

With radiant eyes and silky chestnut hair, PRINCESS GRACE (30's) gallops her horse BELLA through lush greenery. Branches lean, paths clear, leaves flutter with delight as they pass.

CANDLEMAKER (V.O.)

She was from the Celestial Mountains!

SILVERSMITH (V.O.)

And spoke NINE languages!

EXT. FOREST STREAM - SAME

Approaching a bubbling stream, Bella abruptly STOPS.

PRINCESS GRACE

Oh, cara mia, che cosa c'è? I see...
Yes, that was quite traumatic. But,
I'll bet you three sugar cubes the
rocks in *this* stream aren't slippery.
Not convinced, are you?

Bella paces nervously as Grace makes soothing gestures.

FLOWER GIRL (V.O.)

I hear she wasn't a real princess!

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

Well, truth be told, Grace was not descended from royalty. It was her work as Ambassador of Goodness that inspired Prince Dignity's late father, the King of Joy, to honor her with the title of princess.

INT. CASTLE BALLROOM - DAY

Grace and PRINCE DIGNITY (30's) lock eyes, instantly enamored. DIGNITY'S HAZEL EYES TURN DEEP BLUE.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

At the ceremony, she and the prince fell in love at first sight and were inseparable ever since!

EVERYONE (V.O.)

Hmmmmmm...

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

The prince had the most remarkable eyes. It was like the entire spectrum of colors reflected his every emotion.

EXT. FOREST, OPPOSITE SIDE OF STREAM - SAME

Dignity fires ARROWS at a nearby TARGET while his horse FIREFLY rates his skills with stomps and whinnies.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

As to his princely qualities, a truer model of honesty and integrity there never was. That is to say, he lived up to his name. Factor in his charm and generosity and it was practically impossible not to like him.

Firefly gives the last shot only one stomp.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Unimpressed, eh?

EXT. GRACE'S SIDE OF THE STREAM - CONTINUOUS

HOOVES stomp nervously as Bella backs away from rushing water.

PRINCESS GRACE

Well, we've got to get across somehow. Looks like we'll have to jump. Don't be afraid, Bella. I'll help you.

She gracefully dismounts and surveys the situation, gauging the distance across the stream. It's hard not to be completely captivated by her every move. She paces back several yards.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Here feels about right.

Bella watches in awe as Grace runs, leaps and sails across the stream like a ballerina. Safely landed, she summons Bella, who shakes her head "No way". Grace jumps back across.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

No? Okay, I guess you'll have to take the long way around, and who knows what you'll run into...

Bella looks toward the WOODS. *Face the unknown alone?* As Grace takes another running leap, Bella gathers courage and--

SLO-MO THEY JUMP THE STREAM SIDE BY SIDE

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

You brave beauty, you did it! What's that? You're feeling accomplished? I thought you might say that. Come on, let's do it again!

DIGNITY'S P.O.V. - GRACE AND BELLA PRACTICE JUMPS

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

Grace had a magical gift of telepathy.
 But, to her it wasn't magic at all.
 It was just who she was. Still, she
 didn't shine her gifts around those
 who were mystified by them, for only
 a select few had such powers. But
 the prince understood completely,
 for he, too, had a magical gift.

EXT. DIGNITY'S SIDE OF STREAM - CONTINUOUS

PRINCE DIGNITY

They're cute, aren't they? Okay,
 Firefly, maybe this will get another
 stomp or two out of you.

Pulling an ARROW from his quiver, Dignity sizes up a target
 on a faraway tree. As he focuses, his EYES TURN EMERALD GREEN.
 He CLOSES them and releases the arrow, which sails through
 the air, and--thump! Hits it spot-on.

He winks at Firefly, reaches out, and, as if it was a perfectly
 normal thing to do, SUMMONS THE ARROW TELEKINETICALLY,
 garnering stomps and a respectful bow from Firefly.

Grace approaches, kisses her prince. Bella kisses Firefly.

PRINCESS GRACE

I wish I knew how you did that!

PRINCE DIGNITY

(re: Bella/telepathy)

Well, I wish I knew how you did *that*!

PRINCESS GRACE

(laughs dismissively)

Just a knack, I guess.

INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, KITCHEN - MORNING

The Flower Girl grins, completely captivated. Startling her,
 an impressive CAKE glides in, inspiring "oohs and aahs" from
 the staff. The Florist sprinkles it with EDIBLE FLOWERS. As
 it glides away, the Inspector twirls a perfect RED ROSE.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR

Grace and Dignity had what everyone
 strives for: True Love.

FLOWER GIRL

The kind with the *capital* T and L?

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR

Highest love there is!

EXT. DIGNITY'S SIDE OF STREAM - DAY

Gazing playfully into each other's eyes, they kiss lovingly.

PRINCESS GRACE

Ti amo, mi amor.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Sorry?

PRINCESS GRACE

Je t'aime.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Didn't catch that.

PRINCESS GRACE

Ich liebe dich.

(he shrugs)

Ti amo piu che dei costi del mundo!

PRINCE DIGNITY

Gracie, you're a show off. You know good and well I only speak Pig Latin.

PRINCESS GRACE

Hmph. Too bad. I said, 'I love you more than the world costs.'

PRINCE DIGNITY

Let's see...multiply by 20 billion, carry the 1, and--whoa, Bella! That's not a snack!

He removes an arrow from Bella's mouth, offers apples instead. Grace runs her fingers over the ARROW'S ORNATE CARVINGS.

PRINCESS GRACE

Your father gave you these?

PRINCE DIGNITY

Yes, right before he died. And his father gave them to him. They've been in our family for many years. Used only for skill, never for harm.

PRINCESS GRACE

Dig... Do you think the kingdomers will accept me, being an outsider and all?

PRINCE DIGNITY

Gracie... They're going to love you as much as I do and you're going to make an amazing queen. Come on, I want to show you something.

EXT. HARMONY HILL, ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS - SUNSET

The hilltop boasts a 360 view and a stunning GOLDEN ARK. Gleaming with gems, it radiates a powerful energy. On its archway is ENGRAVED LETTERING: **ark >v de seikrId skrolz**

PRINCESS GRACE

'Ark of the Sacred Scrolls'. It's written in Ipa! Dig, this language hasn't been used in over a century.

PRINCE DIGNITY

I thought you'd appreciate that. These ancient scrolls reveal the divine laws of the Kingdom of Love.

Inside the ark, behind glass, the scrolls' wood finials peek out from creamy silk. Embroidered in gold is: **de goldn rulz**

PRINCESS GRACE

'The Golden Rules'.

PRINCE DIGNITY

'Do unto others as you would have done unto you.' Honesty, integrity, generosity, compassion - the guiding principles kingdomers must follow to live a good, decent life. As King and Queen, it will be our sworn duty to protect the scrolls and our legacy to lead by their guidance.

He touches the glowing ark with reverence, his eyes turning a brilliant ROYAL BLUE. Thoughtful, Grace turns to him.

PRINCESS GRACE

Do you ever wonder if there's more to life than being 'good and decent'? Maybe there's a reason we can do things others can't. *Magical* things.

The ark beckons her closer. As she touches it, a VISION flashes: Grace translating the scrolls, people practicing mystical mind and body skills, six empty slots in the ark.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

(breathlessly)

Where are the others? Where is the Cosmic Source?

(Dig frowns, confused)

The wisdom within it will show people who they truly are, what they're capable of! Dig, *this* is our legacy!

Another VISION: A darkness overcomes everything.

Grace suddenly pulls away from the ark, a bit shaken.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

The others must be returned to the ark. If they are not, the kingdom will fall into the greatest despair it has ever known. And, it's all because of... me.

Grace readies Bella to leave, kisses Dignity.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Gracie, wait...

PRINCESS GRACE

I'll see you tomorrow. Hey, Dig. Ove-lay ou-yay.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Now, that one I understood. I love you, too!

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

As Grace rode down into the forest, the Winds of Change began to blow! A mysterious gust knocked the prince backward. There was a blinding flash of light and the Sacred Scrolls were gone! That's when it all started.

EXT./INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, SEATING AREA - DAY

A distant CLOCK TOWER CHIMES CHEERFULLY. DQ (30's), the prince's intense longtime confidante, surveys the large crowd.

DQ

Something ain't right here...

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Do you think Grace is having trouble with her dress? Do you think the decorations aren't ready? Do you think they ran into road work?

The trusting baby-blues of OPINION-POLL PATTI (20's), DQ's reliable aide, look to him for answers.

DQ

I don't know, Patti, but I don't like it. And where's George?

(Patti points)

Typical...

Outside, CLUELESS GEORGE (20's) intently chases a BUTTERFLY.

EXT. CASTLE OF DREAMS - MOMENTS LATER

The ROYAL SAGE (50's) rides from the cliffs across the bridge over the moat. He's the castle's dedicated 'Chief of Staff'.

INT. ELEGANT CASTLE CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER

Grace's joyful reflection in an ornate mirror turns tearful as the Sage enters and shares news. She flees in distress.

EXT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, SEATING AREA - LATER

DQ's eyes narrow as PRINCE DENIAL (30's) and the SORCERER (50's) saunter up the aisle, single out two OCCUPIED CHAIRS.

PRINCE DENIAL

These seats are for Royalty.

He smirks as the two seated women reluctantly vacate.

DQ

Somethin' definitely ain't right.

ROYAL SAGE

Ladies and gentlemen. You have gathered here today to witness the wedding of Prince Dignity and Princess Grace and their crowning as king and queen, marking a new reign in the Kingdom of Love. Sadly, this momentous event will not take place. Rather, I must deliver this somber news in its stead. Today, a terrible discovery was made. Prince Dignity was found in the forest. It seems he has been...murdered.

(the crowd gasps)

Identifiable only by his uniform, his body was left...unrecognizable. Rest assured, there will be a full investigation into this grave matter as soon as possible. Thank you.

He leaves quickly and DQ reels back, shocked and suspicious. Patti looks to him for how *she* should feel. And, George?

CLUELESS GEORGE

Is the wedding starting soon, DQ? I can't wait for that Royal Rum Cake!

EXT. PRINCE DIGNITY'S FUNERAL - DAY

A GIRL (15) lay flowers at an URN, locks eyes with Grace.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

Due to the apparent gruesomeness of the crime, devastated kingdoms paid their respects to princely ashes.

EXT. A CLIFF SOMEWHERE - NIGHT

SLO-MO GRACE APPROACHES THE EDGE

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)
The dust had barely settled on this
tragedy when word came of another...

Hair blowing gently, she gazes out from the cliff. SNARLY
CREATURES snap hungrily from murky waters below.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Fraught with grief, Princess Grace
fled home and, reportedly, died of a
broken heart the very next day.

SLO-MO GRACE LEAPS INTO DARK, EMPTY SPACE

SLO-MO FLOWER PETALS DROP SADLY INTO A DARK, EMPTY BASKET

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The Kingdom of Love suffered two
tremendous losses in one week's time.

EXT. TIME SQUARE - DAY

ROYAL SAGE
Let us have a moment of silence for
a would-be queen we will never know...
This terrible turn of events has
also left us without leadership.
Thankfully, a remedy to this dilemma
presented itself in a timely manner.

DQ's eyes narrow followed by Patti's as--

SLO-MO PRINCE DENIAL STRIDES TO THE PODIUM, WAVES TO CROWD

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)
This 'remedy' took the form of Prince
Dignity's cousin, Prince Denial,
who's ego was decidedly out of
proportion with his accomplishments.

ROYAL SAGE
His Highness from the Land of Fear
will act as interim leader while our
prince's murder is being investigated.

Denial's shallow blue eyes bask in the glow a tad too long.

PRINCE DENIAL
My people... I promise we'll catch
whoever did this to my beloved cousin.
But until then, I'll be presiding
over all matters pertainin' to the
Kingdom of...'Love'.

DQ

With all due respect, Your Royal Sage, shouldn't we hold elections? Denial hardly qualifies as a leader! Besides, Royal Law requires a king *and* queen to govern.

PRINCE DENIAL

Just because you run the Royal Theater doesn't make you royalty.

DQ

I wasn't nominating myself.

ROYAL SAGE

Please remember, this is a temporary situation until the murder is solved and a new leader can be duly chosen.

EXT./INT. CASTLE OF DREAMS CORRIDORS - EVENING

Rain drips SADLY down windows. Candles can't bare to glow. Denial, however, is giddy. Sage walks him along, takes notes.

PRINCE DENIAL

Ya know, Sage, this is a great old castle, but... It's a bit cheerful in here, don't you think?

The Royal Sage scans the exquisite decor.

PRINCE DENIAL (CONT'D)

I mean, all this color everywhere... I don't know, it makes me kinda antsy.

ROYAL SAGE

...Antsy?

PRINCE DENIAL

Think we could tone it down a bit?

ROYAL SAGE

Uh... Certainly. Of course. If it will make your stay more comfortable.

PRINCE DENIAL

And this whole 'Castle of Dreams' thing... It just doesn't make for a good night's sleep, ya know? What if we call it...the Castle of DOOM?

(Sage gasps in horror)

Reminds me of my childhood. Breaking church windows, scaring girls with snakes, watching dragon fights--hey! You have dragons here, don't you?

ROYAL SAGE

...Uh, no, we certainly--

PRINCE DENIAL

Ah, that's too bad. You ain't seen nothin' till you seen a good dragon fight. Know what I mean?

ROYAL SAGE

I can't say that I do, Sire.

PRINCE DENIAL

Also, Sage, I was thinking, we're gonna need a way to keep some things secret from the people. For their own protection, of course.

ROYAL SAGE

What exactly are you suggesting?

PRINCE DENIAL

Now, I can't have *all* the answers! That's what I have you for!

Denial cheerfully SLAPS his new aide on the back.

ROYAL SAGE

Well... In some kingdoms, confidential royal business is often conducted in another language. Typically, Latin.

PRINCE DENIAL

You know, my Latin is a bit...rusty.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

Rusty was putting it mildly, for the prince was rather lexically dense.

ROYAL SAGE

Yes, well, there is an easier alternative: Pig Latin! You know, Ig-pay Atin-lay? You simply take the first sound off the front, tack it on the end, and add an 'ay'.

PRINCE DENIAL

Pigay Latinay?

ROYAL SAGE

No, Ig-pay Atin-lay.

PRINCE DENIAL

Pigpay Latinlay.

ROYAL SAGE

No, Ig-pay--Oh, don't worry. You'll catch on soon enough.

PRINCE DENIAL

Hey, is it true that it takes a king
and queen to rule here?

ROYAL SAGE

It most certainly is. The Kingdom
of Love prides itself on having both
the male and female perspectives.
And we prefer to say 'govern'.

PRINCE DENIAL

Right... Sage, I think I'm gonna
need a little 'female perspective'.

EXT. HARMONY HILL, ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS - CONTINUOUS

As the distant clock tower's CHIMES TURN SOLEMN, the ark's
magical glow DIMS TO BLACK.

SUPER: *Eleven dreary months later...*

EXT. KINGDOM OF LOVE, VARIOUS - DAY

The new-and-improved CASTLE OF DOOM casts a dark shadow. The
renamed CHAPEL OF ETERNAL SUFFERING droops in pain. SUNFLOWERS
in the fields drop their petals like tears.

The newly-renamed BIOLOGICAL CLOCK now keeps time with seedy
INFIDELITY INVESTMENTS and THE UNACCOUNTABLES CPA firm.

EXT. SILICONE VALLEY, STAGE - DAY

A stream of women parade by Denial like pageant contestants.
One scared WOMAN is ushered to the PLASTIC MAKES PERFECT bus!

EXT. SEA OF ABANDONMENT (FORMERLY SEA OF PLENTY) - DAY

A small BOAT bobbles along in the lonely sea. Inside, a WOMAN
lies unconscious. A closer look reveals--it's PRINCESS GRACE!

EXT./INT. CASTLE OF DOOM, CHAT ROOM - LATER

SUSPECTS glued to the door listen as an ISLAND MAN is grilled.

ROYAL SAGE (O.S.)

During an argument, your lady friend
asked why you were in the forest.

ISLAND MAN

Wife. She don't take too kindly to
being called 'lady friend'... Look,
I didn't kill Prince Dignity, I swear!

ROYAL SAGE

And when she pressed you for details?

ISLAND MAN

I told her to mind her own bidness.

ROYAL SAGE

Yes. But that's not what you *said*.

The man frowns and Denial awkwardly consults a SCRAP OF PAPER.

PRINCE DENIAL

Your exact words were, 'Now why you gotta get all up in my cola when you don't even know da flavor?'

(the man chuckles)

I demand to know what that means!

ISLAND MAN

Oh. You know, 'Mind your own beeswax.' 'If it ain't your tail, don't wag it.' Dat kind of ting.

Denial stares at the man blankly. Sage pulls him aside.

ROYAL SAGE

Sir, I ink-thay it eans-may 'y-whay are ou-yay utting-bay our-yay ose-nay in y-may izness-bay'.

PRINCE DENIAL

...What?

ROYAL SAGE

I said, 'I ink-thay it eans-may--

PRINCE DENIAL

I don't understand what you're saying.

ISLAND MAN

He said, 'I think it means why are you buttin' your nose in my business?'

(Sage smiles delighted)

And, dat what it mean.

Boiling, Denial throws the paper, which only wafts gently.

PRINCE DENIAL

How can Pig Latin be our 'secret language' when EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS IT BUT ME?! That's it! No more 'funny' words! I want a ban on all of it! And make an example of him.

ISLAND MAN

What? Wait a minute!

Denial storms out, bowling over the eavesdropping suspects. INSECURITY OFFICERS ambush, handcuff, and drag the man away.

EXT./INT. DAILY RUMOR MILL (FORMERLY INTEGRITY NEWS) - DAY

CLOSE-UP HEADLINES: *DENIAL SAYS "NO MORE FUNNY WORDS!" LANGUAGE BAN IN EFFECT IMMEDIATELY. VIOLATORS WILL BE LOCKED UP!*

Scurrying PAPER BOYS rush bundles of papers out of the plant.

EXT. SEA OF ABANDONMENT (FRM. SEA OF PLENTY), DOCK - EVENING

Clueless George fishes in an empty sea, but instead of a meal he reels in the SMALL BOAT with Grace face-down in the hull.

EXT./INT. SELF-PITY THEATER (FRM. THE ROYAL THEATER) - EVENING

On a SIGN: *Nightly Reenactments Of The Day's Miserable Events*

INSIDE: A frustrated DQ rehearses costumed PERFORMERS.

CAST MEMBER 1

...and she deliberately dumped milk on my blue suede shoes! Why would she do that, I ask you? Why? *Why?*

DQ

Enough! Look at us! Look what we've become! Wallowing in self-pity and literally crying over spilled milk!

CAST MEMBER 1

They were brand new shoes!

DQ

So what? Get another pair!

CAST MEMBER 1

But I liked those!

DQ

What would Princess Grace and Prince Dignity think of us wailing on like this in the name of 'entertainment'? Our shows used to be class acts!

CAST MEMBER 1

In case you haven't noticed, DQ, this ain't the Royal Theater anymore, and Grace and Dignity are *dead!*

He flings his script in dramatic fashion and storms off stage.

DQ

(sigh)

Ten minutes, everyone!

DQ plops down and picks up the Daily Rumor Mill, then throws it down in disgust. Patti joins him, removing her WIG.

DQ (CONT'D)

Prince Denial says the investigation is moving along and we need to 'stay the course'. Patti, it's been eleven months since Prince Dignity was killed and they haven't found a single thing! How can that be? It's like this whole investigation is a sham... You know what I think? I think it's a cover--to make us think Denial is looking for the killer when really he's got other plans. *Long-term* plans. He's behind all of this, I know it. I just wish we had proof.

INT. SELF-PITY THEATER, BACKSTAGE DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Knock knock knock. The always-on-edge cast scampers up to feign rehearsal. DQ casually cracks the door to see--

DQ

George! How many times do I have to tell you to use the secret knock?

CLUELESS GEORGE

Sorry, DQ. I'll do better next time.

PRINCESS GRACE (O.S.)

...Love you...

DQ opens wider to see a woman slung over George's shoulder.

DQ

What are you doing? Who is this?

CLUELESS GEORGE

I don't know. I was fishing for dinner and caught her instead.

DQ

Fishing? Where would you be fishing?

CLUELESS GEORGE

In the Sea of Plenty!

DQ

(sigh)

George, that's the Sea of Abandonment now. There haven't been fish in there for months. Now, get in here!

PRINCESS GRACE

My prince...love you...my prince...

DQ

Great, another jilted lover.

As George takes her to the couch, a NOTE falls from her RAGGEDY DRESS pocket. It's half torn, half smeared by water.

DQ (CONT'D)

It's in Pig Latin!

(translates)

'...Been searching for you for almost eleven months...knew in my heart you were alive...love you deeply and will never stop looking for you.'
Signed, 'Forever your prince, D.'

COSTUMER

Prince Dignity..?

PRINCESS GRACE

Dig...

As the hair falls away from her face, DQ jumps back!

DQ

Princess Grace!

INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, KITCHEN (PRESENT) - DAY

The Flower Girl gasps with delight!

BACK TO SELF-PITY THEATER

The entire room gasps and shuffles in for a closer look.

DQ

Oh my god, oh my god, oh my god! I gotta sit down.

He paces instead. He grabs a BLANKET and PATTI'S WIG, and--

DQ (CONT'D)

We'll be at Milo's.

EXT. BACK ALLEYWAYS - NIGHT

DQ navigates a covered WHEELBARROW in the dark.

EXT./INT. MILO'S HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

RAT-A-TAT-TAT. The door OPENS for DQ's SECRET KNOCK to show MILO (50's), underground healer, and his DOG RAMBALDI in matching lab coats and lighted goggles. DQ shows him Grace's face and the water-smeared PIG LATIN NOTE.

DQ

I think Prince Dignity might be alive.

MILO

Jumpin' Jehoshaphat!

INT. MILO'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - MORNING

As Grace's eyes open, crystals, contraptions and concoctions come into view. Nearby, some DAILY RUMOR MILLS and a CALENDAR. A DATE FOUR WEEKS FROM NOW IS CIRCLED. She sits up and--

PRINCESS GRACE

Ouch... Where am I?

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

The princess awoke on an unfamiliar couch in an unfamiliar wig and an unfamiliar house. And, on her head, an unfamiliar bump.

She rubs her head as Milo and DQ appear from the kitchen.

MILO

Your Highness, I am Milo. You are in my home.

DQ

I am beyond happy to see you!

PRINCESS GRACE

DQ... Hello. How did I get here?

As DQ fills her in, he notes her meek voice and dull eyes.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

Grace had somehow escaped death but she was clearly not the radiant being DQ once knew. And, as he and Milo asked all the important questions--

DQ

What were you doing on the sea?

MILO

Where have you been for eleven months?

DQ

And why are you dressed like that?

Grace looks down at her TATTERED DRESS.

PRINCESS GRACE

I don't know... The last thing I remember is my wedding day. Being told Dig--Prince Dignity--was dead.

Milo and DQ exchange looks.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

It became clear there was much more to the story than even Grace knew.

DQ shows her the Pig Latin note.

DQ

Your Highness, you had this in your pocket when we found you.

PRINCESS GRACE

This is in Dig's handwriting! I don't understand. Is he...alive?

DQ

We were hoping you could tell us.

Grace stares hard at the note, willing it to yield more info.

PRINCESS GRACE

Why can't I remember anything? What happened...or, how Dig could be alive?

MILO

Your Highness, perhaps a visit to the Garden of Revelations will help recover your memory.

PRINCESS GRACE

Forgive my manners. Thank you both very much. And please, call me Grace. Now...tell me about this garden.

EXT. GARDEN OF REVELATIONS - MORNING

As Grace timidly enters the mysterious garden, everything SLOWS DOWN. Exotic FLOWERS smile at her, DRAGONFLIES whisper her name in flight. Everything seems alive and aware.

MILO (V.O.)

The Garden of Revelations is a Secretum, a keeper of secrets! You can either tell a secret or ask that one be revealed. But the garden is very discerning--it will only reveal it if it serves your highest good.

SLO-MO GRACE STEPS ONTO A STONE CIRCLE IN THE CENTER

PRINCESS GRACE

Hello. I'm not sure how this works, but here goes. If Prince Dignity is alive, I need to find him. And I need to know where I've been all this time. I don't remember a thing.

(after a pause)

Thank you...for helping me.

She waits awkwardly while the garden resumes its business.

EXT. WOODS - MORNING

The Royal Sage rides upon a MUMBLING MAN lumbering along.

ROYAL SAGE
Ho there! What are you doing here?

The man quickens his pace. Sage grabs his collar.

MUMBLING MAN
(jerking away)
Hey! Nobody puts spaghetti on my
mountaintop!

At Sage's WHISTLE two Insecurity Officers ambush, handcuff and drag the man away. Sage smoothes his coat and rides on.

BACK TO THE GARDEN OF REVELATIONS - MOMENTS LATER

Disappointed, Grace exits through the gates and YELPS!

EXT. A NEARBY POND - CONTINUOUS

Sage turns to see...a very much alive Princess Grace rubbing her STUBBED TOE. He starts to call out, but stops, conflicted. Ultimately, duty prevails and he rides off toward the Castle.

INT. MILO'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATER

Rat-a-tat-tat. Milo pops a fig in his mouth, lets Grace in.

MILO
Just in time for breakfast! Mmm. I
could eat figs till the cows come
home and be happy as a clam!

DQ
So, how did it go?

PRINCESS GRACE
I'm not sure...

MILO
Sometimes it takes a while for the
answer to come--if it's meant to at
all. In the meantime, I'll work on
a memory potion to help you along.

Rat-a-bump-tat-tat-tat. A DIFFERENT SECRET KNOCK. Filthy, offensive, short on manners, WRETCH (30's) enters urgently, gestures toward the CIRCLED DATE on the calendar.

WRETCH
We gotta step this up! We need to
find a cure now, before it's--

The man nearly falls over at the sight of Grace. She recoils. Milo discreetly gestures to the man's CROTCH. Mortified, he buttons up, looks to Grace, then DQ. DQ's eyes narrow.

MILO

This is DQ--he runs Self-Pity Theater.

WRETCH

'DQ?' Is that for 'Drama Queen'?

DQ

It's for Doomsday Darrell Quincy.

WRETCH

Shouldn't that be 'DDQ'?

DQ

Little harder to say that way.

WRETCH

At least it'd be *accurate*.

DQ shoots Milo a look--*Who is this confrontational jerk?*

DQ

And you are?

WRETCH

Oh. Everyone calls me Wretch.

Suddenly amiable, the man extends his hand brightly for a confused DQ to shake. Grace then reaches out.

PRINCESS GRACE

I'm Grace. Hi.

Wretch takes her delicate hand, holds it way too long, and stares at her intensely with his MUDDY-BROWN EYES.

WRETCH

Man, are you a sight for sore eyes!

Grace smiles uncomfortably, and he quickly drops her hand. An eternal, uncomfortable silence engulfs the room until a breeze rustles the NEWSPAPER clutched in Wretch's other hand.

WRETCH (CONT'D)

Oh, here's your Daily Rumor Mill.

MILO

You'll have to excuse Wretch. He has a rare disease which affects both his mind and body. We've been working together to find a cure.

PRINCESS GRACE

Oh. I'm so sorry...

Wretch fidgets awkwardly. DQ shoots Milo another look.

MILO

DQ, if I didn't trust him, I wouldn't let him deliver me the paper everyday.

Reluctantly, DQ nods his okay, takes the newspaper from Milo.

MILO (CONT'D)

DQ brought Princess Grace here late last night.

WRETCH

Princess! I thought you were dead?

MILO

She had this in her pocket.

As Wretch reads the NOTE, his expression changes and he sits slowly. His muddy-brown eyes study Grace.

WRETCH

You must be going through a lot now.

DQ observes the scene then is distracted by the HEADLINES: *Prince Dignity Alive? New Development In Royal Case.*

DQ

Listen to this: "Fairly reliable sources say Prince Dignity is alive and locked in the Prison of the Mind."

PRINCESS GRACE

Prison!

WRETCH

It's rather creepy, if you ask me. I hate having it on my paper route.

PRINCESS GRACE

Hey, maybe it's a sign!

MILO

Grace asked the Garden of Revelations to help her find Prince Dignity. She seems to have lost her memory.

WRETCH

Oh?

PRINCESS GRACE

And here's news of his whereabouts!

WRETCH

Oh. Well, I wouldn't get too excited. Most of what you read in the Daily Rumor Mill is just speculation.

PRINCESS GRACE

I want to go.

WRETCH

What? To the prison? I really wouldn't recommend it. It's no place for a nice girl like you.

PRINCESS GRACE

If Dig's alive, I need to find him.

WRETCH

It's probably gonna be a wasted trip, but...if you really want to go, I can take you. I know a back way.

DQ

I'm coming with you.

MILO

This bird must sing from the cage, but I'll help out in any way I can.

DQ

Milo's been in hiding since Denial's Language Ban. Can't utter an ordinary sentence to save his life.

MILO

I'm perfectly capable of speaking plainly, but I was given the gift of a tingly tongue and I refuse to let it be tied by some nincompoop's rules. And, though I'd love to accompany you into that mental monstrosity, if I'm going to find a cure for Wretch, it would be best if I wasn't a permanent resident there!

(Grace laughs)

Besides, Rambaldi and I need to finish this new treatment. And, make that memory potion I promised you, Grace.

WRETCH

I've gotta deliver these morning rags then we can look for your prince.

PRINCESS GRACE

Thank you, all of you. Your kindness and help is so very appreciated.

INT. CASTLE OF DOOM, CALAMITY ROOM - DAY

ROYAL STAFF MEMBERS present the Daily Doom-and-Gloom Report.

PRINCE DENIAL

This better be good. You know how I
love it when things are in disarray.

The Royal Sage enters urgently and hands Denial a NOTE. He reads it, says nothing. Uncertainly, Sage takes his leave.

INT. MILO'S HOUSE - LATER

Wretch returns looking out of sorts. DQ notes it, but leaves it be. He offers Patti's WIG to Grace, who raises an eyebrow.

DQ

If we go out, you might be recognized.
You were reported to be dead, Grace.
If you've lost your memory, maybe
somebody wanted it that way. Maybe
Prince Denial wanted it that way...

WRETCH

Maybe the key to knowing what happened
lies in that pretty head of yours.

Grace looks to DQ, covers her pretty head with the wig.

PRINCESS GRACE

My priority is finding Prince Dignity.

EXT. DYSFUNCTION JUNCTION (FRM. CONJUNCTION JUNCTION) - LATER

CONDUCTOR

All aboard! The Train in Vain rides
mainly on the plain!

As the former PEACE TRAIN screeches to a tormented stop, a CONDUCTOR greets Grace, Wretch and DQ with burlesque flair.

START MONTAGE: TRAIN-RIDE THROUGH 'NEW-AND-IMPROVED' KINGDOM

-- CRAZYTOWN, with the MAD BATTER COOKIE SHOP and NUTHOUSE.

-- DIMWIT'S PET SHOP, with dingbats and BLUE-FOOTED BOOBIES.
Grace is mesmerized by the odd bird with the big BLUE FEET.

WRETCH

They're not as dumb as they look.

-- A laborious circle into Outta Time Square reveals the
Biological Clock and the ONCE UPON A TIME TRAVEL AGENCY.

-- Once cylindrical, the lawmaker's TOWER OF BABBLE is now
wider at the bottom, as if it had exhaled a long-held breath.

-- BILLBOARDS in SILICONE VALLEY tout many cosmetic uses for
silicone. A BLUE BUS heads off to PLASTIC MAKES PERFECT.

-- COMMITMENT CITY, with the CHAPEL OF ETERNAL SUFFERING.

PRINCESS GRACE
Wasn't that the Chapel of Love? We
were supposed to be married there...

WRETCH
Ha! Wouldn't want to do that now!
(DQ shoots him a look)
Sorry, Grace. I didn't mean... Sorry.

-- ADDICTION CANAL, where THREE HABITS directly defy the *No Smoking, Drinking or Eating* sign.

CONDUCTOR
Next stop, Ego Central Station!
Where it's all about, me, me, ME!

WRETCH
That's us.

END MONTAGE

EXT. PRISON OF THE MIND - DAY

Grace hesitates at the over-sized cast iron gates.

PRINCESS GRACE
What if Dig *is* there? What if he's
gone mad? What if he's different?

WRETCH
People have been known to change.

PRINCESS GRACE
What if he's the same but he doesn't
want me? What if he thinks I left
him? Maybe we shouldn't go in.

WRETCH
If Prince Dignity's alive, there's
no way in hell he wouldn't want you.
But, I still say it's a wasted trip.

DQ
Why don't you talk to him up here!

PRINCESS GRACE
Telepathically? No one can do that...

DQ
You can! At least, that's what
Dignity used to say.

PRINCESS GRACE
He did? Well... it's worth a shot.
(in her mind)
*Dig, are you in here? Please tell
me... Hello? Am I doing this right?*

Wretch fidgets and whistles, seemingly put off by such voodoo tactics. Grace opens her eyes, shakes her head "No".

DQ

Hmm. Maybe it was just a rumor.

INT. PRISON OF THE MIND - MOMENTS LATER

Ivy creeps up the stone walls as if planning a coup. An INSECURITY GUARD vigilantly scans the three visitors.

PRINCESS GRACE

Hello. We're looking for...a friend.

INSECURITY GUARD

A "friend?" And, who might that be?

PRINCESS GRACE

Milo the Magnificent. He's been missing for awhile and we think he might be here.

INSECURITY GUARD

I don't see that name anywhere.

DQ

That was his stage name. We don't know his real name.

INSECURITY GUARD

Hmph. What's he in for? A Suspicious Mind, Wandering Mind, Inquiring Mind or Language violation?

WRETCH

You know, we're really not sure what sort of heinous crime he committed.

The guard shifts his attention to Wretch, looks him over.

INSECURITY GUARD

You're the paper boy.

WRETCH

Yeah, that's right.

INSECURITY GUARD

I read the Daily Rumor Mill everyday-- all sixteen pages! Keeps me informed.

WRETCH

Good to know.

INSECURITY GUARD

Well... I suppose I can let you look.

INT. PRISON WARDS - MOMENTS LATER

With a mixture of hope and dread, Grace scans CELLS/INMATES for signs of Prince Dignity as the guard leads them through.

WARD 1, SUSPICIOUS MINDS: Inmates size up the intruders.

SUSPICIOUS INMATE 1
The tall one knows something.

SUSPICIOUS INMATE 2
The scruffy one's hiding something.

SUSPICIOUS INMATE 3
The woman smiled at me funny.

Grace trips. Wretch and DQ catch her simultaneously. The gang picks up the pace and heads toward the door.

SUSPICIOUS INMATE 1
Smiling faces tell lies!

SLAM!

WARD 2, INQUIRING MINDS: Inmates rush to study the visitors.

INQUIRING INMATE 1
Hey--hi! Are you looking for someone?

INQUIRING INMATE 2
What's his name? Maybe we know him.

INQUIRING INMATE 1
We know everything about everyone.

INQUIRING INMATE 3
Are you from another kingdom?

INQUIRING INMATE 1
Are you going to let us out?

INQUIRING INMATE 2
Are you here for a conjugal visit?

INSECURITY GUARD
All right, that's enough!

INQUIRING INMATE 1
Wait! Who are you? We need to know!

OUTSIDE WARD 3, WANDERING MINDS: The guard's KEYS fumble.

INSECURITY GUARD
No sign of your friend yet, eh?

PRINCESS GRACE
No... No sign.

INSIDE: The inmates hear the jingling keys and make a plan.

WANDERING INMATE 1
Here's our chance! Everyone, stay
focused. We have to stay on mission!

Their ATTENTION snaps back to the door as it finally opens.

WANDERING INMATE 1 (CONT'D)
We want to know when you're letting
us out! We've done nothing wrong
and demand to be released immediately!

DQ and Grace pause with sympathy, but are hustled along.

WANDERING INMATE 2
Wow! That was awesome!

WANDERING INMATE 1
Really? You think so?

WANDERING INMATE 2
Yes! You were so strong and forceful!
It reminded me of the time you stood
up to that bully when we were kids.
You sure put him in his place!

WANDERING INMATE 1
That was one of my better moments,
wasn't it? But I couldn't just sit
there while he made fun of you!

WANDERING INMATE 2
That was the day I knew you would be
my friend for life. My best friend.

WANDERING INMATE 1
Aw, man! Now I'm gonna cry!

WANDERING INMATE 2
Well, it's true! Nobody's ever--

SLAM! And, Grace and the gang are gone.

WANDERING INMATE 1
Dammit! I told you we had to stay
on mission!

WARD 4, LANGUAGE OFFENDERS: Inmates are so deep in discussion
they don't even notice Grace and the others passing by.

BRITISH INMATE
I'm afraid you're suffering from an
acute psychosis. Laymen's terms:
ridiculous!

FRENCH INMATE
But, it really happened!

BRITISH INMATE
Bullocks! You're off your rocker!

FRENCH INMATE
I'm serious as a heart attack.

BRITISH INMATE
Come on, a giant armadillo? Chasing
you down the street?

FRENCH INMATE
Like a lion late for lunch.

BRITISH INMATE
Well, ain't that a pocketful of
posies? You know, I may be a half-
wit, but you're a full idiot!

SPANISH INMATE
You're as crazy as a sack of ferrets!

ISLAND MAN
You got little monkeys in the attic!

IRISH INMATE
A jerky surface under the ceiling!

AUSTRALIAN INMATE
A kangaroo loose in the top paddock!

Then a slow, BOOMING VOICE rings out, quieting the cellblock.

MUMBLING MAN
I've heard of going from the sublime
to the ridiculous, but *you*, my friend,
are bordering on the line of the
ludicrous!

ALL INMATES
Oooooooh!

INT. TRAIN IN VAIN - AFTERNOON

Grace stares out the window, dismayed.

DQ
That was garbage in there! Pure
garbage! Those people have rights,
you know! Prince Dignity, the King
of Joy--they never would've let--

PRINCESS GRACE
It was a dead end. He wasn't there.

DQ

Grace, we'll find him. If we have to search the whole kingdom with a fine-toothed comb, we'll find him.

WRETCH

Grace, maybe if you search your memory, there'll be a clue. Just think hard. What's the very last thing you remember?

PRINCESS GRACE

(shifts uneasily)

The Royal Sage saying Dig was dead.

WRETCH

And that's all he said? Maybe he said more and you blocked it out?

PRINCESS GRACE

No, that's all he said.

WRETCH

You're telling me there's nothing else you remember since that day? There must be something! What about that raggedy dress? Where were you? Who were you with? Can't you--

PRINCESS GRACE

I don't remember!

WRETCH

But there has to be *something*!

DQ

Okay, enough! She said she doesn't remember. Stop grilling her!

WRETCH

I'm sorry. I didn't mean--I was just trying to help.

DQ

Well, try a softer approach!

An uncomfortable silence ensues. Grace twists the sleeve of her tattered dress. Wretch fidgets and bounces his foot.

CONDUCTOR (O.S.)

Next stop, Dysfunction Junction!

INT. DYSFUNCTION JUNCTION - CONTINUOUS

As they exit, the Conductor SINGS as he collects new tickets.

CONDUCTOR
 DYSFUNCTION JUNCTION, WHAT'S YOUR
 FUNCTION? PICKIN' UP BAGS AND TICKETS
 AND RIDERS. DYSFUNCTION JUNCTION,
 HOW'S THAT FUNC-TION? DO-DE-DO-DO...

WRETCH
 Listen, while you guys get clothes
 from the theater, I'm gonna head
 over to Milo's. He's got that new
 treatment. Let's meet there later.

DQ watches as he walks off, mumbling to himself.

DQ
 Somethin's not right with him, Grace.

PRINCESS GRACE
 He can be a little...aggressive.
 But he has an illness, DQ. We have
 to remember that.

DQ
 No, it's not just this 'illness'.
 It's something else. That man is
 hiding something, I can sense it.

MAN ON BENCH (O.S.)
 Incredible! He was such a good man.

WOMAN ON BENCH (O.S.)
 Let me see that.

The train leaves, revealing a COUPLE reading the PAPER.

MAN ON BENCH
 Imagine! Prince Dignity in the Prison
 of the Mind! Utterly mind-boggling!
 No pun intended, of course.

WOMAN ON BENCH
 It's not only that, it's impossible!

MAN ON BENCH
 It says so right here, plain as day.

WOMAN ON BENCH
 Oh, Harold, you can't believe
 everything you read, you know. Rumor
 has it he was hittin' the bottle at
 the Just OK Corral & Saloon yesterday.

Grace and DQ exchange a look. The man lowers the paper.

MAN ON BENCH
 Really? Hmph. I guess even the
 best of us can fall to the dark side.

INT. MILO'S HOUSE - EVENING

Milo wires Wretch to his latest bio-circuit invention, the HUMBLEBEE. Rambaldi watches as it buzzes and glows.

MILO

Has Grace remembered anything yet?

WRETCH

No, nothing. I think they're getting suspicious, Milo. Especially DQ. I don't like the way he looks at me. He knows something's up.

MILO

Well, DQ *is* very intuitive.

WRETCH

We're running out of time and I'm getting really agitated!

The Humblebee quakes with Wretch's dismay. Rambaldi barks.

MILO

Just take it easy. Rambaldi, hush!

WRETCH

Is this thing even working? You know what? This is a waste of time! I'm gonna tell her the truth!

Rambaldi barks louder as Wretch tries to free himself.

MILO

Hey! Listen to me! It is vitally important you do not spill the beans, capisce? You'll get us in trouble!

Rat-a-tat-tat. Milo frees Wretch with a disciplinary look as Grace and DQ tumble in with CLOTHES, WIGS and--

PRINCESS GRACE

We brought dinner!

MILO

Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle! Thank you both. That's very kind.

SLO-MO GRACE REMOVES HER WIG

Mesmerized by her silky, cascading waves Wretch nearly buckles.

PRINCESS GRACE

Oh my gosh, Wretch! Are you okay?

WRETCH

(fibbing)

Yeah, all these convoluted wires. I must've gotten tangled.

Grace laughs and unpacks FOOD, CLUMSILY dropping some.

MILO

You seem cheerful this evening.

PRINCESS GRACE

We have a new lead on Prince Dignity!

MILO

Oh? I thought maybe we could try some exercises to access your memory.

Milo wiggles the memory potion he whipped up for her.

PRINCESS GRACE

Maybe later.

WRETCH

Grace, I really think you should focus on recovering your memory.

DQ

Grace is familiar with your opinion.

PRINCESS GRACE

Listen, I want to recover my memory, but right now, finding Dignity is more important. If he's alive, maybe he'll know what happened to me.

WRETCH

(under his breath)

You're probably right about that.

EXT./INT. JUST OK CORRAL AND SALOON - MORNING

At the lackluster establishment, Grace (RED WIG), DQ and a reluctant Wretch show the OWNER a PICTURE of PRINCE DIGNITY.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

The Just OK Corral was nothing to write home about. And, though the owner hadn't seen Prince Dignity, he seemed fairly certain of one thing.

SALOON OWNER

I thought I heard somebody say he was living on Temptation Island-- with a harem of women!

(off Grace's shock)

But, I doubt it's true.

START MONTAGE: THE SEARCH FOR PRINCE DIGNITY

-- Grace, Wretch, DQ FERRY out to taunting TEMPTATION ISLAND.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)
 And so it began. For days on end,
 Grace searched the rundown kingdom,
 following every lead.

-- WANDERING EYE OPTICIAN'S: Grace shows the MANAGER Dignity's picture. He looks at her instead.

-- FORBIDDEN FRUITS MARKET: SHOPPERS cease fondling melons long enough to say they have not seen the prince.

-- SLACKS 4TH AVENUE: A LACKADAISICAL SALESGIRL listlessly lolls her head "no", she has not seen the prince either.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Meanwhile, Prince Denial shared his
 brilliant ideas with Lawmakers.

-- TOWER OF BABBLE CONFERENCE ROOM: Denial bounds to his feet.

PRINCE DENIAL
 Today we're gonna rename the Sea of
 Love. Ready? Here it is: Denial
 River. After myself, of course.
 Whaddya think? Pretty cool, eh?

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)
 He was just giddy with his own genius.

WOMAN IN HORN-RIMMED GLASSES
 But, Sire, with all due respect, the
 Sea of Love is a sea, not a river.

PRINCE DENIAL
 That's just a technicality! We can
 call it whatever we want!

WOMAN IN HORN-RIMMED GLASSES
 (to the lawmakers)
 Ut-bay, it's an ea-say!

SUPER: But, it's a sea!

ELDERLY LAWMAKER
 At-whay is e-thay oint-pay?

SUPER: What is the point?

MAN IN A BOW-TIE
 He's an o-total-tay unatic-lay!

SUPER: He's a total lunatic!

-- MILO'S KITCHEN: Wretch peers out from a GREEN LIGHT.

WRETCH
It's not working, is it? I knew it--

Wretch grimaces as he's met with a mouthful of coconut oil.

MILO
Hush. I need to know what condition
your condition is in.

-- TOWER OF BABBLE CONFERENCE ROOM: The brilliance continues.

PRINCE DENIAL
Ready? Here it is: the Kingdom of
Denial. To reflect its new look!
Whaddya think? Pretty cool, eh?

MAN IN A BOW-TIE
Is e-hay off is-hay ocker-ray?

SUPER: Is he off his rocker?

WOMAN IN HORN-RIMMED GLASSES
At-whay an incompoop-nay!

SUPER: What a nincompoop!

-- GOSSIP ISLAND: Grace spots a SIGN: *DIG Alert! Prince Dignity
races in the Running of the Bulls in Stubborntown!*

-- SILICONE VALLEY STAGE: Denial laughs at the earlier woman's
NEWLY-ENHANCED POSTERIOR. Humiliated, she steps down.

-- BITTERLAND CAFE: Wretch puckers at Sauerkraut and collard
greens as Grace polls WAITERS and PATRONS. Again, no luck.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)
The prince was nowhere to be found.
And DQ began to suspect that something--
or someone--was leading them astray.

EXT. MEMORY LANE - DAY

Wretch steers his horse-drawn newspaper cart toward the FOREST,
passing the CRAZYTOWN turn-off and a once-regal SPIRE that
slumps, as if depressed. Grace (BLONDE WIG) eyes it curiously.

PRINCESS GRACE
The Spire of Desire... Dig proposed
to me there. I remember it like it
was yesterday.

DQ
Hey, why are we going through the
forest? Crazytown's back that way.

Wretch halts the horse, turns to Grace intensely.

WRETCH

Maybe your memory is coming back!
Do you remember anything else?
Anything from the wedding day? Or
the night before?

DQ

Wretch--

But, he persists like a gnat on a hot day.

WRETCH

Anything unusual? Think hard.

PRINCESS GRACE

I told you, I don't remember anything.
It was just a fond memory from before.

WRETCH

Well, maybe it can trigger something
else. You've got to try, Grace!

DQ

Come on, man! Back off!

Defeated, Wretch U-turns at a bump, tossing DQ onto something
sharp under a blanket: A QUIVER OF ARROWS WITH AN ORNATE BOW.

END MONTAGE

SIDE OF THE ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

DQ reads the PAPER while Wretch tightens bolts on a wheel.

WRETCH

Hey Grace, did you ever see the Sacred
Scrolls before they disappeared?

PRINCESS GRACE

Yes... Dig took me to the ark.

WRETCH

Rumor has it there are other scrolls
out there. Ones that speak of
mystical powers. Did you ever--

PRINCESS GRACE

I only know about the Golden Rules.

DQ

You gotta be kidding! 'Prince Dignity
is reportedly performing as a lounge
singer at the Heartache Hotel.'

WRETCH

(bangs head on wheel)

What?! Ow! That's preposterous!

DQ

Can you believe this load of crap!
He never would've built a 'Heartache
Hotel' let alone perform in one!

PRINCESS GRACE

I think we should check it out.

WRETCH

(under his breath)

I almost wish he was dead so he never
had to hear this nonsense.

(to Grace and DQ)

Why don't we head through the forest
up to Harmony Hill instead?

DQ

And why, pray tell, would we do that?

WRETCH

I just have a hunch that seeing the
ark might jog her memory.

DQ

Well, your hunch is in the opposite
direction. Besides, why the forest?
Need to squeeze in a little hunting?

Grace spots the bow and arrows. Something's familiar, but...

WRETCH

Come on. Prince Dignity working as
a hotel lounge singer? That's the
most ridiculous thing I've ever heard!
You even said so yourself, DQ!

DQ

Grace, you know I'm in. Whatever
you want to do.

WRETCH

Look, if you guys want to waste your
time, be my guest. I'm due back at
Milo's for another treatment anyway.

DQ watches Wretch storm off ON FOOT toward the train station.

DQ

Grace, I don't like this. Why does
he always wanna cut through the
forest? To places we're not going!
And, now he's got weapons! What if
he's working for Prince Denial?

PRINCESS GRACE

What?!

Grace's bag loop catches on the cart. She wrestles with it.

DQ

Think about it. Why else would he keep pressing you to remember things?

PRINCESS GRACE

Maybe he's truly trying to help.

DQ

No. I don't buy it. He's too invested in your situation. I think he's hiding something. I think you witnessed something! Something bad before the wedding. And I think Wretch was sent to spy! To see what you remember--

PRINCESS GRACE

You know, DQ, you don't have to *believe* everything you *think*!

She finally pulls her bag free from the cart.

DQ

I'm sorry, Grace. I don't mean to make you uneasy... It's just so awful what happened! This kingdom belongs to you and Prince Dignity, not Denial! It just turns my stomach.

PRINCESS GRACE

DQ, you're a good friend. Thank you. I could never do this alone.

DQ

Ya know I'd do anything for you two.

EXT. HARMONY HILL, ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS - EVENING

Wretch circles the ark slowly, as if looking for something, then leaves. From the 360 degree view, we SEE the DARKNESS from Grace's prior vision now enveloping the kingdom.

MILO (V.O.)

Did you ask her about the scrolls?

WRETCH (V.O.)

Yes--she remembers nothing! But I *know* she knows where they are... If the prince finds them, it's over.

MILO (V.O.)

You *must* get her to remember.

INT. MILO'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - EVENING

Wretch gestures toward a CIRCLED DATE on the calendar.

WRETCH

That's not working, Milo, and we're running out of time! We need to do something else before I open my mouth and the truth spills out!

He paces back and forth, thinking.

WRETCH (CONT'D)

What if we found the scrolls ourselves?

MILO

It's worth a shot. But how..?

Wretch plops down and stares blankly at Milo's HALF-DONE WORD JUMBLES IN THE DAILY RUMOR MILL. He sighs, pushes the paper aside, but a DIVINE BREEZE sweeps it back, presenting a curious scrambled clue: DRACES SLORCLS. He looks at Milo.

Spotting something, Milo skillfully moves letters around to spell: SACRED SCROLLS. Excitedly, they check the WORD FINDS, circling DREAMS top down, FIELD on diagonal, and then MAGNETIC.

MILO (CONT'D)

The Magnetic Field of Dreams!

Rat-a-tat-tat. The secret knock says Grace and DQ are back.

MILO (CONT'D)

Okay, just relax and follow my lead.

Grace and DQ enter solemnly. She removes her BRUNETTE WIG.

MILO (CONT'D)

Hey there... How was Heartache Hotel?

DQ

It was so packed, we couldn't get in, if you can believe that.

PRINCESS GRACE

I don't know what to do. All these leads, and he's no where in sight.

MILO

Grace, I know how much you want to find him. Your love and determination are an inspiration to us all. But, maybe it would do you good to focus on something else for a bit.

WRETCH

Something for the kingdom, not just
for yourself.

DQ

That was uncalled for.

WRETCH

Sorry, I don't know why I said that.

PRINCESS GRACE

What do you mean?

MILO

We know where the Golden Rules are!

EXT. MAGNETIC FIELD OF DREAMS - TWILIGHT

Led by Rambaldi, the gang scales a hill of heather. At the top, a sparkling waterfall. Ahead, fireflies twinkle magically in a MEADOW. Wretch is drawn toward it.

SLO-MO WRETCH STEPS ONTO THE MEADOW

A MAGNETIC FORCE rushes through his body. His EYES flash GOLDEN as the force pulls him forward, guiding him. He stops suddenly. Rambaldi sniffs the ground, barks up at Grace.

MILO

Looks like this is the spot.

Rambaldi DIGS and digs till he reaches a HATCH. DQ pries it up and Grace looks down a DARK, NARROW SHAFT. She shudders, but then shakes it off and grabs a rope from DQ.

PRINCESS GRACE

I can fit... I'll go down.

Rambaldi barks up at Wretch, whose face twists in an internal struggle. Finally, Wretch stops her.

WRETCH

NO... No. Let me try something.

He steps up to the shaft's edge, stretches out his HAND. It shakes as he strains. Nothing happens. Grace readies to go down. He senses it and shakes his head "No." She stays put.

DQ's light catches a large CLUMP OF DIRT VIBRATING below. It wiggles and wavers, then starts to RISE up through the shaft, glimmering. Wretch takes a tortured breath, keeps it coming.

Grace and DQ watch incredulously as the clump reaches his waiting hand. DQ grabs it and Wretch stumbles backward, spent.

PRINCESS GRACE
(dumbfounded)
Wretch... How did you do that?

WRETCH
Just a knack, I guess.

Grace looks at him curiously. DQ and Milo brush aside the dirt and a protective covering, revealing gleaming GEMS and cherry wood FINIALS. DQ feels the SCROLL PULSE magically.

DQ
Call me crazy, but this thing feels even stronger than the field's energy.

MILO
So, that's why it was hidden here-- so its energy would be masked by the rest of the field! Ingenious.

Grace translates the ancient IPA LETTERING: **de kozmik sors**

PRINCESS GRACE
Guys... This is *not* the Golden Rules. It says 'the Cosmic Source'!

She stares at it oddly and Milo and Wretch exchange a look. They wrap it up and head back through the field, by the twinkling fireflies--

PRINCESS GRACE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
'Herein lay the Kingdom of Love's most precious treasure of all. These are the documents that reveal the divine natural laws of the Kingdom of Love and the innate powers that reside within every inhabitant, should he or she choose to utilize them.'

SUPER: IPA WRITING ON SCROLL

HirIn lei de kingd<m <v l<vz moust prÉS<s trÉZr <v ol. diz ar de dakumÉnts daet riviel de devain naetSurel loz <v de kingd<m <v l<v aend de ineit pawrz daet rizaid wIOIn Évri inhaebitent, Sud hi or Si tSuz tu utelaiz dÉm.

They continue walking past the waterfall--

PRINCESS GRACE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
'Most sacred of all is the Cosmic Source, a powerful energy that flows through all things, connecting all things. It is the energy not only *from which* all things are created but *with which* all things are created. Its magnetic quality may be used to attract or manifest anything desired.'

And, down the hill of heather.

PRINCESS GRACE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 'Any living being tuned in to the
 Cosmic Source may accomplish this in
 three steps: *see it in your mind,*
feel it in your bones, and *know it*
in your heart. And, in the absence
of doubt, it will be so.'

EXT. FOREST - CONTINUOUS

The Sorcerer glumly rides his horse toward the castle, then
 stops, bewildered.

PRINCESS GRACE (V.O.)
 'The Magnetic Field of Dreams is
 where the Cosmic Source flows the
 most powerfully. If one's chosen
 powers and confidence should fade,
 return to this place to regain them.'

SORCERER
 The Magnetic Field of Dreams..?

INT. MILO'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

ANGLE ON THE UNFURLED SCROLL

Everyone hovers as Grace translates. Milo takes furious notes.

PRINCESS GRACE
 Oh my... It says, 'The Cosmic Source
 is the first and most important of
 the seven Sacred Scrolls'!

She looks up as Milo's quill comes to a dead halt.

EVERYONE
 Seven Sacred Scrolls?!

PRINCESS GRACE
 'And understanding it is instrumental
 to understanding the other six. It
 is the key to having free will over
 one's destiny, experiences, and choice
 of divine powers to master in each
 lifetime. In order, they are:
 1) The Cosmic Source; 2) Mind;
 3) Body; 4) Spirit; 5) Lingua;
 6) The Divine Records of Time; and,
 7) The Golden Rules.'

ANGLE ON THE SCROLLS' IPA LETTERING

I) **de kozmIk sors**; II) **Maind**; III) **Badi**; IV) **SpirIt**;
 V) **Lingwe**; VI) **de devain rEkrdz >v taim**; VII) **de goldn rulz**

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

'Scroll Two, *Mind*, refers to all mental powers, including telekinesis, manifestation, telepathy, and clairvoyance.' It says these abilities are available to anyone who chooses them. 'Scroll Three, *Body*, describes all physical powers, including the capacity for strength, longevity, healing and the ability to perform near superhuman feats. Scroll Four, *Spirit*, is about intuition, the innate guidance system inherent in all people. Using the body and emotions as signals, this internal compass guides one in making choices. Scroll Five, *Lingua*, reveals that all people have the ability to speak and understand any language in existence. The nature of a language is to change and evolve over time, and there is no limitation on the creation of new languages. Scroll Six, the *Divine Records of Time*, reveals that all events in history exist in a shared mental reservoir accessible by those with the gift of Vision.'

Milo steals a glance at Wretch.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

'And Scroll Seven is the *Golden Rules*. It simply says to do unto others as you would have done unto you. The kindness and compassion it describes are the basis for most religions.' It says that each scroll details historical accounts of prophets who have mastered these principles and powers, and instructs those who choose to follow them on how to proceed. Oh my gosh! 'Those who master the powers in all seven Sacred Scrolls are known as Masters of the Source, or *Sourcerers*.' Look at the spelling. It's written with a 'u'--as in *Source*!

ANGLE ON PAPER AS SHE WRITES THE WORD: SOURCERER

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Can you imagine what would happen if people knew their true potential?

MILO

We would *all* be sourcerers!

INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, KITCHEN (PRESENT) - DAY

The Candlemaker pours WARM WAX into a long row of glass holders as the Inspector plops PRESSED PANSIES into them one by one.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR

The Golden Rules have always taught us to love and respect all things. The people survived for centuries by being good to one another. But this discovery suggested there was so much more to life--that life was meant to be lived with intent, adventure...and *magic!*

The Inspector SNAPS HER FINGER by a finished candle, lighting it MAGICALLY. The Flower Girl's eyes widen with delight!

INT. BACK TO MILO'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

PRINCESS GRACE

There's something else. 'The seven Sacred Scrolls provide their greatest power when housed together as a whole. If separated, their power will weaken, causing unimaginable disarray and disconnect to where every living creature shall feel the effects.'

Suddenly, IMAGES FLASH: Grace translating scrolls, people practicing mystical skills, a darkness rolling in.

DQ

Grace? What just happened.

PRINCESS GRACE

I saw this in a vision! That last day with Dig! The ark showed me there were more scrolls out there, ones that would awaken people to their true power. And that they must be returned to the ark or the kingdom would fall into deep despair. And that it would be all my fault...

DQ

That's a steep burden for one person.

PRINCESS GRACE

(heavily)

Maybe I *have* been selfish.

WRETCH

Grace, I didn't mean that.

PRINCESS GRACE

No, you were right. If Dig's alive, I'll find him, I know that in my heart. But maybe I need to do what's best for the kingdom right now. That's what Dig would want. He said it would be our duty as King and Queen to protect the scrolls.

Wretch turns away, looks like he might cry. Milo jumps in.

MILO

So, let's go find them.

DQ

Where do we even start?

MILO

I have an idea. Let's Brainstorm.

EXT. KINGDOM OF LOVE - NIGHT

Thunder cracks, lightning flashes, the WINDS OF CHANGE blow! A closer look reveals the storm is happening only over--

EXT. MILO'S BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

As Grace, Wretch, DQ and Milo shout out ideas in a circle. There's a huge crack-CRACK! And successive FLASHES! Then the storm dissipates as quickly as it came.

PRINCESS GRACE

I know where they are!

INT. MILO'S STUDY - NIGHT

The four hover over a MAP of the kingdom. DQ and Wretch leave. Grace and Milo study the Cosmic Source scroll.

INT. MILO'S LIVING ROOM - EARLY MORNING

Bap-bap-bap. An unofficial KNOCK. The DISGUISED group pauses packing SUPPLIES. Milo peers out a peephole to see BABY-BLUES blinking back. He shrugs. DQ looks as black hair swings by, revealing George chasing a BEETLE. He sighs, opens the door.

DQ

The secret knock, remember? Why is this so hard?

CLUELESS GEORGE

Sorry, DQ. I should've done better.

DQ

It's okay, just get in here.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Princess Grace. It's so good to see you again!

PRINCESS GRACE

It's good to see you as well, Patti.

DQ

Milo, you know Clueless George. And this is Opinion-Poll Patti. Patti, meet Milo and his dog, Rambaldi.

MILO

Charmed, I'm sure.

Patti blushes, pets the dog, blushes again.

DQ

George, what took you so long? You were due here half an hour ago!

CLUELESS GEORGE

We were taking a shortcut through the orchards when we saw them.

George points out to the front porch to see BELLA AND FIREFLY tethered near Milo's STEED and bizarre RIDING CONTRAPTION.

PRINCESS GRACE

Bella! Firefly! Where were they?

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Wandering around Greener Pastures. We thought they might've missed you.

After grateful hugs, Grace rushes outside. When Wretch appears, Firefly turns a circle and stomps three times.

PRINCESS GRACE

Funny... Firefly used to do that with Dig... He must like you.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Was that okay, DQ? I know it made us late, but we couldn't just leave them. Did we do the right thing?

DQ

(feeling like a heel)
Absolutely the right thing, Patti.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Milo, what do you think? Did we do the right thing? What would you...?

She trails off under Milo's ENAMORED GAZE.

MILO
Patti, it was the rightest thing
anyone could do.

Patti turns crimson. She hands DQ a newspaper clipping of
PRINCESS GRACE'S OBITUARY.

OPINION-POLL PATTI
Oh, I found this on your desk, DQ.
I thought maybe it could be useful.
Was that okay? I don't want to be
insensitive. I just wasn't sure.

DQ
It's okay, Patti. You did well.

Grace runs in for carrots and apples for the horses.

PRINCESS GRACE
You have no idea how much this means!

OPINION-POLL PATTI
It was all George's idea, really.

MILO
Hey, do you and George want to help
us search for the missing scrolls?

Milo looks at Patti, who smiles. Grace notices the sparks.

EXT. MILO'S HOUSE - LATER

Disguised, packed and ready, Milo and Patti mount his HORSE
WITH NO NAME, Grace and Wretch hop on Bella, and DQ diverts
George's attention from Firefly's swishing tail.

MILO
May the Cosmic Source be with you.

CLUELESS GEORGE
And also with you.

Grace smiles at his charming reply. DQ just shakes his head.

EXT. HEALING GARDEN - MORNING

Bella's hooves tap across a small bridge and into the garden.
Below, a bubbling stream. Around, magical herbs and flowers.
Mini waterfalls dip into clear pools under soft rays of light.

PRINCESS GRACE
That jasmine is intoxicating...

WRETCH
One whiff and your troubles disappear.

As they dismount, Bella whinnies toward the stream.

PRINCESS GRACE

Looks like Bella's not afraid anymore.
She had a bad fall once and refused
to cross any water after that.

WRETCH

Did she tell you that?

PRINCESS GRACE

Tell me? I don't think so? It was
just an observation.

WRETCH

Or, maybe it wasn't.

PRINCESS GRACE

(smiles at him)
Maybe!

WRETCH

Speaking of the Cosmic Source, I
understand it's a magnetic force
that can help us manifest what we
want, but...how do we actually *use*
it to find the Body scroll?

PRINCESS GRACE

Well... I imagine *it* will find *us*.
But, according to the text, we first
need to get clear on what we want.

WRETCH

I want to find the Body scroll.

PRINCESS GRACE

Can you picture it?

WRETCH

(after a moment)
Yes.

PRINCESS GRACE

Now, focus on what it said--that the
body can heal itself, perform super-
human feats, live hundreds of years.
Feel it, get in sync with it. Now,
imagine it already happened--like
another part of you already found
the scroll. See it happen. Then,
let go and let it guide you. Like
you did in the Magnetic Field, only
this time, do it on purpose.

WRETCH

I think I understand.

Wretch closes his eyes and concentrates. After a moment--

WRETCH'S VISION - A NONDESCRIPT AREA

The BODY SCROLL PULSES, beckoning him. He turns and--

WRETCH (V.O.)

It's pulling me to it. I see it!

PRINCESS GRACE (V.O.)

Now, pick it up. Sense the weight of it in your arms. *Experience it.*

Wretch PICKS UP the scroll, cradles it.

BACK TO SCENE

As Wretch cradles an INVISIBLE SCROLL, eyes closed.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Feel the joy and relief of finding it, feel how effortless it was. Next, thank the Cosmic Source in advance. That seems to be important.

WRETCH

Thank you, Cosmic Source, for honoring our request. We are so grateful.

PRINCESS GRACE

Let go and *know* it's been fulfilled.

Wretch opens his eyes, smiles at Grace.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Now, let's walk and stay alert.

EXT. SCULPTURE GARDEN, PILLAR OF STRENGTH - MOMENTS LATER

Rounding the bend, Wretch is drawn to a FORTY-FOOT STONE PILLAR. He CIRCLES it then STOPS, as if directed by an unseen force. It draws his gaze to the CROWN. He launches a GRAPPLING HOOK, dons gloves, starts to climb, but stumbles.

PRINCESS GRACE

What is it?

WRETCH

I feel weak...

PRINCESS GRACE

Wretch, are you okay?

WRETCH

I think you're supposed to do it.

He hands her the rope. She looks UP--WAY UP.

PRINCESS GRACE

Me?! But, I'm not strong enough!

WRETCH

You can do this. I'll be right here.

Wretch creates a RAPPELLING LINE from the crown to Bella's saddle. Nervously, Grace dons the gloves and closes her eyes.

GRACE'S VISION: SHE SUCCESSFULLY CLIMBS THE PILLAR, CELEBRATES
BACK TO SCENE

He gives her a boost and she begins the perilous CLIMB--feet stumbling, arms shaking. Wretch watches weakly from below.

INTERCUT - GRACE'S AWKWARD SELF AND SUCCESSFUL SELF

Switch back and forth until they MERGE and she climbs with ease. Exhilarated, she pulls herself over the top.

EXT. PILLAR OF STRENGTH, CROWN - CONTINUOUS

PRINCESS GRACE

I did it! Thank you, Cosmic Source!
Now, where are you hiding?

A NOOK beckons her. She dislodges stones, peers in to find a wrapped BUNDLE with colorful gems on cherry wood finials. She perches securely and extracts the bundle. Inside it, WHITE SILK WITH GOLD STITCHING that reads: **badi**

Grace secures the scroll and readies to go down when a stone tumbles down, KNOCKING WRETCH OUT--BANG!

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Wretch!

Bella jumps at the noise, pulling down another stone and another and another until Wretch is BURIED.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Bella, no!

But Bella's jumping wildly. Grace panics, then breathes deeply, calms down and tries talking to Bella TELEPATHICALLY.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

(in her mind)

Bella, it's okay, girl. Just relax,
it's okay. Steady. Steady... Good...

Slowly, Bella calms down. Grace situates the Body Scroll in one hand, the rope in the other, and carefully repels down. Once safe, she tries to lift the stones but they are too heavy.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

No! Wretch, hang on!
 (to herself)
 Come on, Grace!

This surge of emotion brings a surge of STRENGTH! She moves one stone and another and another until Wretch is free! He comes to and sees the pile, then the scroll.

WRETCH

Hey... You did it.

PRINCESS GRACE

Come on, let's get you back.

EXT. HARMONY HILL, ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS - MOMENTS LATER

The empty ark begins to GLOW in the SPACE NEXT TO where the Golden Rules once sat. As it does, the stone crumbles away like sand, revealing a SECOND SPACE.

EXT. FOREST - MORNING

The Sorcerer slows his horse by a PATH to the HEALING GARDEN, sensing something. Unable to make sense of it, he continues.

INT. ONCE UPON A TIME TRAVEL AGENCY - MORNING

A TRAVEL AGENT greets Milo and Patti. He exchanges a look with Milo, checks the coast is clear, leads them outside to--

EXT. SECRET SPOT - CONTINUOUS

As he leaves, Milo nods a thank you then shakes his head.

MILO

Amazing... Of all places...

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Have you been here before, Milo?

MILO

Yes... But not for a Sacred Scroll.
 I wanted to travel back in time.

He indicates the storefront SIGN and Patti's eyes widen.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

"Once Upon a *Time Travel Agency*"!

MILO

I wanted to see if Grace was still alive as DQ and I suspected, but I couldn't do it. Now I know why.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

But you said the Cosmic Source says
anyone can access the Divine Records.

MILO

Only those with the gift of Vision.
That is not one of my gifts.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

But maybe you can now because it's
really important. And you said we
have to have faith, right?

MILO

You listened to everything I said,
didn't you? And look at me being
such a Doubting Thomas. Okay, one
more time for posterity.

Patti jumps as the Biological Clock CHIMES DUTIFULLY. With
that, Milo gingerly steps onto the spot and VANISHES, leaving
Patti in a near panic.

MILO'S VISION: A *GIANT SPHERE OF LIGHT* spins counterclockwise.

MILO (CONT'D)

Thank you, Cosmic Source, for showing
me where the Time scroll is.

*The sphere SPINS, then slows to a STOP, its light condensing
to one DOT. Milo focuses on it, finds himself standing by
the Sorcerer, who waves his WAND grandly.*

Milo REAPPEARS, beaming. He presses a tiny dent directly
under his feet and the stone MOVES away. Inside lies the
SCROLL: **De devain rEkrdz >v taim**

OPINION-POLL PATTI

The Divine Records of Time! Milo!

EXT. STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS - MORNING

As Firefly carries DQ and George by the forest's edge, a
dynamic STREAM follows their every move, INFLUENCING THEIR
THOUGHTS. DQ looks up and down the seemingly endless stream.

DQ

I'm not sure where to begin, so we're
just gonna...go with the flow.

CLUELESS GEORGE

Just like the water!

As Firefly trots on, DQ watches the stream, mesmerized.

DQ (V.O.)

(in his mind)

*Yes... The water flows so easily.
No resistance. Not like my cast
members, they're always fighting and
whining over silly things. Who cries
over spilled milk anymore? Just get
a new pair of shoes! That was the
night Grace showed up. What would've
happened if I hadn't been there?
Would we even know about the scrolls?
Oh yeah, the scroll. Why am I
thinking about spilled milk?*

(out loud)

This feels like the right place to--

Before DQ can finish, Firefly STOPS ON HIS OWN.

DQ (CONT'D)

You felt it it, too, huh?

George rolls up his pants. He can't wait to get in the water.

CLUELESS GEORGE

Hey, DQ! Do I get to help?

DQ

You know how distracted you get.

CLUELESS GEORGE

I'll be good this time.

DQ

All right... Just pay attention,
okay? This is very important.

CLUELESS GEORGE

We'll use the Cosmic Source, right?

DQ

Yes, George, that's right! Do you
remember what Milo said?

CLUELESS GEORGE

He said to see *it in our minds, feel
it in our bones, and know it in our
hearts.* Can I try it, DQ?

George folds his hands in prayer. After a few moments--

DQ (V.O.)

(in his mind)

*Oh, boy. Is he even doing it right?
At least he'll feel like he's helping.*

CLUELESS GEORGE
 (finishing aloud)
 I'm so glad I get to help find the
 Mind scroll and save the kingdom!
 DQ's gonna be so proud of me! Amen.

DQ
 (softens)
 Good job. Okay, I think we need to
 just start looking in the stream.
 There are a lot of rocks and--

George bounds into the stream, making a big commotion.

CLUELESS GEORGE
 Hey, DQ! I found an oyster!

George proudly displays his find.

DQ
 What? No, you didn't, George.
 Oysters don't live in fresh water.
 And stop messing around! Just let
 me do it. What the...?

An OYSTER. DQ pries it open, removes an opalescent PEARL.

DQ (CONT'D)
 A Pearl of Wisdom. But, it doesn't
 make sense. Oysters don't live here.

CLUELESS GEORGE
 (shrugs)
 This one does!

DQ
 It must've come in from the Sea of
 Knowledge upstream.

George excitedly hops back in, splashing his way UPSTREAM.

DQ (CONT'D)
 But George, we need to--you know
 what? Good idea, keep looking!
 (to himself)
 Now I can concentrate on finding
 this thing in peace.

CLUELESS GEORGE
 I found four more!

DQ finds two insincere thumbs-ups. George banks them, splashes
 in. DQ shakes his head, paces, tossing the PEARL OF WISDOM.

DQ (V.O.)

(in his mind)

Okay, let's think here. The mind is capable of amazing things--psychic awareness, telekinesis, mind reading. Look at George. What could possibly be going through his mind? He's like a little kid! Probably thinking about dinner already. Ooh, did I pack apples for Firefly? He must be starving. How did they survive out there so long? That was really thoughtful of George. I should be nicer to him. But I swear, I can't take him anywhere. I don't know how he's made it this far in life!

While DQ feels the stream's effects, George's PILE grows.

CLUELESS GEORGE

Wow! Look at this one!

SLO-MO DQ DREAMILY TURNS

To see him drag out a GEORGE-SIZED OYSTER and pry it open.

CLUELESS GEORGE (CONT'D)

Hey, DQ! This one's...*funny*.

Jolted from his streaming thoughts, DQ storms over.

DQ

George! You are so exasperating! I knew it was a bad idea to bring you! Can't focus for--whoa! What is *that*?

Under the oyster's flesh is a giant LUMP. George sits.

DQ (CONT'D)

Don't touch it! It looks diseased.

CLUELESS GEORGE

Oh no, DQ. It's not sick. It's protecting something.

(to the oyster)

I won't hurt you... I understand.

A confused DQ watches George return the pile of oysters to the stream. The giant oyster slides over its lump to reveal a SCROLL'S WHITE SILK WITH GOLD STITCHING THAT READS: **maid**

DQ

Unbelievable! George, you did it!

CLUELESS GEORGE

Are you proud of me, DQ?

DQ

Yes, I'm very proud of you!

A glorious grin spreads over George's face. DQ nods a 'thank you' to the oyster, which slowly CLOSES. DQ gently lifts it.

DQ (CONT'D)

Let's get her back with her family.

EXT. CARPE DIEM CLIFF - MORNING

The Sorcerer rides along the cliff, robes flowing. As he crosses the castle bridge, he turns toward the forest.

SORCERER

The Once Upon a Time Travel Agency...
The Stream of Consciousness...

This means something. But, what? The castle GATES OPEN. He dismisses the needling thought and rides in.

EXT. HARMONY HILL, ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS - CONTINUOUS

The ark crumbles away more stone to reveal a THIRD and FOURTH SPACE, as if preparing for the scrolls' return.

INT. MILO'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATER

Milo, Wretch and DQ celebrate finding the first few scrolls when Grace suddenly bursts into tears.

WRETCH

Grace, what's wrong?

PRINCESS GRACE

I thought finding the scrolls would make me feel better, but there's this terrible aching in my heart. I feel like I'm giving up on him! I can't do that. I can't abandon him!

Wretch walks over, stands directly ACROSS from her.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

DQ, can we try Heartache Hotel again?

DQ

Of course, Grace.

WRETCH

I thought we agreed that was a ridiculous lead.

PRINCESS GRACE

Maybe, but I can't shake the feeling-- it's like he's right in front of me but I can't see him.

Wretch starts to SHAKE, steadies himself on the couch.

DQ

If we go now, we can beat the crowd.

DQ takes Grace's arm, gives her a tissue, and just like that, they're GONE. Milo and Wretch stare at the door.

MILO

What just happened?

Wretch begins to pace like a caged animal. He gestures emphatically at TOMORROW'S CIRCLED DATE on the calendar.

WRETCH

Milo, this isn't working! The year's almost up and I can't get through to her! I'm gonna be sick...

MILO

Will you stop pacing like that? You're making me nervous.

WRETCH

I have to tell her the truth.

MILO

We've been over this before. You know you can't do that.

WRETCH

But, this is insane! She's been searching the entire kingdom for Prince Dignity...and I've been right next to her the whole time! If she doesn't figure it out by midnight tomorrow, I'm gonna stay like this forever.

MILO

Those were the Sorcerer's terms... Telling Grace who you are--verbally, telepathically--will only cement the spells. On all *three* of us. The only way to break them is for her to remember what happened *on her own*. That came straight from her, remember?

WRETCH/DIGNITY

But how the hell is that gonna happen when she's only focused on finding him? On finding *me*... Plus, every time I open my mouth, DQ just gets more suspicious! I can't control it much longer! And when I look at her I come off like some psycho, but I'm just memorizing her face, in case--

MILO

Don't go there.

WRETCH/DIGNITY

In case the spell sets and I *become*
'Wretch' for good. And forget her...

MILO

We're not going to let that happen,
okay? Now, I need you to focus.
What're we missing?

As they both pace now, thinking hard, we--

ZOOM IN ON: PRINCESS GRACE'S OBITUARY ON COFFEE TABLE

INT. MILO'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Rat-a-tat-tat. Grace and DQ enter, defeated once again.

MILO

So... How was Heartache Hotel?

DQ

It lives up to its name.

PRINCESS GRACE

It was a dead end. *Every* lead was a
dead end. It's like we've been led
on a wild goose chase. I don't know
what to do. I feel like I'm losing
my mind.

MILO

Grace, you've tried everything else,
perhaps recovering your memory is
the key to finding him?

PRINCESS GRACE

Maybe... But how is that going to
happen? The Garden of Revelations
didn't 'reveal' anything. And nothing
has triggered any recent memories.
I don't even know who I am anymore...

Grace slumps to the couch, tosses her WIG onto the coffee
table. As it lands, it WAFTS a NEWSPAPER CLIPPING to the
floor. She picks it up slowly, sees her PICTURE staring back.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

My obituary..?

DQ

Sorry, Grace. Patti brought it by.
You don't have to see that if it--

PRINCESS GRACE

No, it's okay. DQ, do you mind..?

DQ gently squeezes her arm and READS the obituary out loud.

DQ

'Princess Grace was born in the Celestial Mountains, the daughter of ordinary folk who died when she was young. Left an orphan, young Grace went to Serenity Lake to live with her widowed grandmother, a woman with magical, intuitive powers, who taught Grace everything she knew and encouraged her to help people, expand her knowledge and do good. After her grandmother's passing, Grace traveled extensively, mastering nine languages while in Lingua Land. In time, Grace became an Ambassador of Goodness. To honor her achievements, the King of Joy crowned her princess. She met Prince Dignity at the ceremony and the two fell instantly in love. Like her grandmother, Princess Grace had an uncanny ability to communicate telepathically with both people and animals. She was also blessed with the gift of Vision. After Prince Dignity was reportedly murdered on their wedding day, the grieving fiancée fled back to the Celestial Mountains and died of a broken heart.'

PRINCESS GRACE

I barely recognize that me anymore...

IMAGES FLASH in Grace's mind: *Rambaldi barks at Grace in Magnetic Field, Bella whinnies at Grace at Healing Garden.*

Grace sits up, looks at the obituary again.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

The part about being telepathic-- you were right, DQ.

(reads)

'She was also blessed with the gift of Vision'. Milo, does that mean--?

MILO

The Divine Records of Time! The cosmic record that holds every thought, word and deed ever thought, said and done. Grace, that means you're one of the rare individuals to whom it will reveal the past!

WRETCH/DIGNITY

So, we go to Outta Time Square! We still have time tonight if we--

DQ

(sternly)

We'll go tomorrow. I'm up for anything but another run to Heartache Hotel, but Grace needs to rest.

Wretch/Dignity hides his frustration at having to wait.

MILO

So, it was a real wash, eh?

DQ

Yeah, just a lot of jilted lovers with low self-esteem.

Esteem...esteem. It ECHOES in Grace's mind, triggers a FLASH OF IMAGES: *Grungy and sweaty, she pushes a large crank-bar around. On the wall, a SELF-ESTEEM GAUGE points to LOW.*

DQ (CONT'D)

Grace? What just happened?

PRINCESS GRACE

What you said--it must've triggered a memory. A recent one! I was pushing this bar around in a circle. It seemed to power a large plant that was somehow fueled by self-esteem. I felt drained and insecure, like I couldn't go on.

DQ

Maybe it was the newspaper plant?

WRETCH/DIGNITY

No. The Daily Rumor Mill is fueled by gossip, not self-esteem.

MILO

Maybe it was that godawful Plastic Makes Perfect factory?

PRINCESS GRACE

Whatever it is, it's where I was the past eleven months, I'm sure of it.

A DOVE swoops down to the window sill, triggering another FLASH OF IMAGES: *A DOVE drops a NOTE that catches on BARS over the top of a DEEP PIT.*

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Milo, where is that note from Dignity? The one I had when George found me?

Milo retrieves the note. As Grace TAKES HOLD of it, another FLASH OF IMAGES: *She's in a SMALL BOAT. The NOTE falls from her pocket INTO THE WATER. As she grabs it, so does a BIG FISH. She wrestles for half. The fish EATS the rest. The world spins, she loses her balance and--Bam! TOTAL DARKNESS.*

EXT./INT. TRAIN IN VAIN - DAY

As a hopeful Grace (RED WIG) watches the scenery, DQ watches an anxious Wretch/Dignity watch the clock.

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Let's get off a stop early and cut through the forest as a precaution. That way, we enter Outta Time Square from the back. I mean, if Grace was held captive... I just think the less she's seen from now on, the better. Plus, it's quicker, and we don't have time to waste.

DQ

I didn't know we were in a hurry...

EXT. WOODS, A FORK IN THE ROAD - LATER

On foot they come to a double-arrowed SIGN. Pointing right is THE BEATEN PATH. Pointing left, the uncharted territory of THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED. Wretch points LEFT.

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Let's take this one. I think it'll make all the difference.

EXT. ROAD LESS TRAVELED - CONTINUOUS

The three carve a path through thick brush. DQ does not look happy. He follows behind, eyes squarely on Wretch/Dignity.

PRINCESS GRACE

I'm not exactly sure what to do once we get to Outta Time Square. I mean, how will the past be revealed to me?

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Milo said there's some sort of secret spot you have to stand on.

PRINCESS GRACE

Secret spot! Sounds very hush-hush!

DQ

And then what?!

WRETCH

And then it just happens.

DQ
Just happens?!

WRETCH
If you have the gift of Vision.

DQ
If it's secret, how will we find it?

WRETCH
I'm sure it won't be a problem.
Grace, I think those flashes opened
a porthole to your missing time.
Once you find the spot, the rest
will just flow. I'm sure of it.

PRINCESS GRACE
I hope so. I feel like I had a real
breakthrough! If I remember more, I
can figure out what happened to Dig!

Wretch/Dignity looks away quickly, raising DQ's suspicion.
Grace touches Wretch/Dignity's arm and he nearly melts.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)
I wish I'd listened to you sooner.
I know you were just trying to--Oh!

A DOVE swoops down, drops a NOTE at her feet. As she reads
it, her face drains of color. DQ reads it, same reaction.
Wretch/Dignity fidgets at the sudden change in mood.

WRETCH/DIGNITY
What? What is it?

DQ hands him the DOVE NOTE and he nervously unrolls it:
Wretched Is He Who Conceals The Dignified Truth. He stiffens,
starts backing away. DQ grabs it, shakes it in his face.

DQ
You've known all along what happened
to Prince Dignity, haven't you?!

WRETCH/DIGNITY
Grace, let's go on to the Square.
You'll see the truth, and--

DQ
I knew it! Didn't I tell you, Grace?
I knew he was hiding something! And
here's the evidence! Plain as day!

WRETCH/DIGNITY
DQ, Grace, please--

DQ

From day one I knew something wasn't right with you. I should've trusted my instincts! You always seemed a little too curious, too aggressive.

WRETCH/DIGNITY

No! Milo told you I have an illness! It's what makes me aggressive.

DQ

Illness schmillness! I bet you're healthy as an ox!

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Grace, you don't believe it, do you?

But Grace doesn't know what to believe anymore.

DQ

And you know what else? I think you've been purposely leading us astray! You've been trying to keep Grace from finding Prince Dignity and from finding out the truth!

WRETCH/DIGNITY

No, DQ! Why would I do that?!

DQ

(dramatic pause)

Because you're working for Denial!

WRETCH/DIGNITY

What?!

PRINCESS GRACE

What've you done with Prince Dignity?

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Grace, please!

PRINCESS GRACE

What have you done? Tell me!

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Grace, I would never, ever do anything to him. You have to believe me!

PRINCESS GRACE

Then why do you have his arrows?!

It stops them all cold as she connects the dots, shaking.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Wretch, answer me. Why do you have Prince Dignity's bow and arrows?

It's all he can do to keep from blurting out the truth.

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Because I... I... I can't tell you.

DQ

I see.

DQ has had it with the shady antics. He lunges at Wretch/Dignity, who squirms away, grabs Grace, shaking her.

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Please, Grace! You have to remember!

PRINCESS GRACE

Let go of me!

WRETCH/DIGNITY

Remember--ow!

DQ wrenches him off and Grace runs into the FOREST, tears streaming down her face.

WRETCH/DIGNITY (CONT'D)

No! Grace, wait! GRACE! YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER!

Wretch/Dignity runs after her, but DQ seizes him and wrestles him to the ground. With one swift punch, his world goes BLACK.

EXT. CONFUSION WOOD - MOMENTS LATER

Grace slows in unfamiliar territory, panicking. Immediately, a THICK FOG envelops her from the WAIST UP. Through it, she spots a pair of CONCERNED FEET heading her way.

PRINCESS GRACE

Hello? Is someone there?

KINDLY OLD WOMAN (O.S.)

Oh, you poor dear. Why, you must be in a terrible State of Confusion. The fog is sticking to you like glue!

A KINDLY OLD WOMAN pops her HEAD inside the fog.

KINDLY OLD WOMAN (CONT'D)

What's got you all mixed up, dear?

PRINCESS GRACE

Oh! Hello. I... Well, it's... I'm not sure how to explain.

KINDLY OLD WOMAN

No matter. Lucky for you--uh oh.

She pops out as a THUNDER OF HOOVES approaches. As the misty hole refills, Grace spots an ODD CREATURE WITH BIG INNOCENT AMBER EYES charging toward them! She starts to bolt, but--

KINDLY OLD WOMAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)
(unruffled)
Hold still, honey, don't move.

Grace braces for impact when the creature halts, snorts and ambles left, halts, snorts and ambles right. She watches the baffling behavior. Soon it meanders back from whence it came.

PRINCESS GRACE
What was that?

KINDLY OLD WOMAN
Oh, don't mind him. He's a Bewilderbeast. They do that.

PRINCESS GRACE
Oh. I'm sorry--where am I?

KINDLY OLD WOMAN
You poor dear, you really are a mess!
Why, you're in Confusion Wood, of course! The Pond of Clarity should show you what you need. Follow this path and you'll be there in no time.

Grace's FEET walk gingerly beneath the hovering fog.

EXT. THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED - CONTINUOUS

Wretch/Dignity awakens to find himself gagged and tied to an oak. He twists like a trapped animal, howling muffled screams.

EXT. POND OF CLARITY - CONTINUOUS

As Grace sobs INSIDE the clingy fog, a distant Biological Clock CHIMES URGENTLY, ECHOING in her head and--

GRANDMA (O.S.)
Hello, darling.
(Grace pauses crying)
Down here!

Grace desperately waves through the fog, looks down to see--

GRANDMA'S FACE IN THE POND

PRINCESS GRACE
Grandma?

GRANDMA
Hello, sweetheart.

PRINCESS GRACE

You're in a pond.

GRANDMA

I'm here to tell you something.

PRINCESS GRACE

Grandma, I miss you. I don't know what to do! Everything is a mess!

GRANDMA

Gracie--

PRINCESS GRACE

I need you! I need to--

GRANDMA

Darling, listen to me. Prince Dignity needs you!

At this, Grace stops crying.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

You must go to the Square and find the secret spot. And, when the clock strikes half, focus on the last day you remember. Trust yourself and you will see everything clearly.

PRINCESS GRACE

But how will I find this secret spot?

GRANDMA

You'll know it when you see it.

PRINCESS GRACE

But what if I don't? What if I can't do it? What if it doesn't work out?

GRANDMA

Everything works out in the end. If it doesn't work out, it's not the end! Gracie, what did I teach you about solving life's little mysteries?

PRINCESS GRACE

(sniffly)

If I'm too focused on the questions, I'll miss the answers?

GRANDMA

Yes! The answer is right in front of you, you have only but to see. Now, go before it's too late!

Grandma's image starts to FADE from the pond.

PRINCESS GRACE

Too late for what? Wait! Don't go!

GRANDMA

Just trust me. Dig needs you.
Goodbye, sweetheart. I love you.

PRINCESS GRACE

I love you, too, Grandma.

As Grandma disappears, the fog thins to MIST then disappears completely. Grace rises, clear and focused.

DQ

Grace! Whew! Took me a while to find you. This place is so confusing.

PRINCESS GRACE

DQ, I just saw my grandma in a vision!
We have to get to the Square before it's too late! Wait, where's Wretch?

DQ

He won't be going anywhere for awhile.

Grace and DQ rush off toward Outta Time Square.

EXT. THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED - EVENING

Wretch/Dignity mumbles feverishly through the gag.

EXT. OUTTA TIME SQUARE, BIOLOGICAL CLOCK - EVENING

Grace and DQ search the endless cobblestones. It's 8:25PM.

DQ

How do we find this 'secret spot'?

PRINCESS GRACE

Grandma said to trust my instincts.

DQ

Well, tell your instincts to hurry.
We have five minutes til the half!

Then she senses it, just behind the clock tower. She readies herself. Then, as the giant clock above OPTIMISTICALLY CHIMES THE HALF, she steps into place and DISAPPEARS FROM VIEW.

DQ (CONT'D)

Grace? Okay, I'll just, uh, be here.

INSIDE THE SECRET SPOT: Oddly shielded, Grace closes her eyes and thinks back, and suddenly it's THE DAY BEFORE THE WEDDING.

START GRACE'S VISION - THE PAST ELEVEN MONTHS:

EXT. HARMONY HILL, ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS - SUNSET

As before, GRACE and DIGNITY gaze at the Golden Rules scroll.

PRINCE DIGNITY

'Do unto others as you would have done unto you.' Honesty, integrity, generosity, compassion - the guiding principles kingdomers must follow to live a good, decent life. As King and Queen, it will be our sworn duty to protect the scrolls and our legacy to lead by their guidance.

PRINCESS GRACE PAST

Do you ever wonder if there's more to life than being 'good and decent'? Maybe there's a reason we can do things others can't. Magical things.

She touches the ark then pulls away quickly.

PRINCESS GRACE PAST (CONT'D)

Where are the others? Where is the Cosmic Source?

(Dig frowns, confused)

The wisdom within it will show people who they truly are, what they're capable of! Dig, this is our legacy! The others must be returned to the ark. If they are not, the kingdom will fall into the greatest despair it has ever known. And, it's all because of... me.

Grace readies Bella to leave, kisses Dignity. His ROYAL BLUE EYES gleam like the ark's gems.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Gracie, wait...

PRINCESS GRACE PAST

I'll see you tomorrow. Hey, Dig. Ove-lay ou-yay!

PRINCE DIGNITY

Now that one I understood.

Dignity watches her ride down the hill and into the forest.

PRINCE DIGNITY (CONT'D)

I love you, too!

The RED-HEADED PRESENT-DAY GRACE on the secret spot longingly watches the scene like an INVISIBLE THIRD-PARTY.

As before, the wind knocks the prince back. Just then, TWO THUGS swoop in and grab him. He struggles. When he sees who's with them, his EYES turn BRIGHT GREEN with anger.

Present-day Grace follows his gaze, which lands on--

DENIAL, who saunters up smugly, followed by the SORCERER.

PRINCE DIGNITY (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

PRINCE DENIAL

That's for me to know and you to find out.

The Sorcerer's robes billow by menacingly as he draws a WAND and circles Dignity. Dignity struggles to free himself, but the Sorcerer tips his wand and the prince is IMMOBILIZED.

Present-day Grace watches in shock as--

SORCERER

Handsome and decent, a perfect catch, you now become, a filthy Wretch!

HE TURNS PRINCE DIGNITY INTO WRETCH

PRINCESS GRACE

Dig!

Denial laughs as the prince crumples to the ground.

Present-day Grace slaps him! But her HAND GOES THROUGH. She realizes they can't see her. A movement in the trees catches her eye. Someone has been watching--MILO!

Now standing next to Milo, Grace sees--

Dignity discretely plead for help. Milo freezes. Dignity looks away, protecting him. But the Sorcerer spots Milo and-- BAM! A FLASH OF LIGHT! Milo drops, then scrambles away.

INT. ELEGANT CASTLE CHAMBER - MORNING

A sad Present-day Grace sees her wedding-dressed reflection.

As before, the ROYAL SAGE enters, kneels before her, delivers the bad news. The distraught Grace runs from the chamber.

EXT. FUNERAL - DAY

Bound, gagged, and hidden from view, DIGNITY-AS-WRETCH watches helplessly as people pay respects to his royal URN. His now-MUDDY BROWN EYES focus intensely on something in the crowd.

PRINCE DIGNITY (V.O.)

Gracie. I'm alive. Please hear me.

Present-day Grace HEARS his words mentally, follows his gaze.

Enveloped in sorrow, Grace locks eyes with the 15-year-old GIRL as before, then suddenly looks up, scans the crowd.

INT. ELEGANT CASTLE CHAMBER - LATER

Grace paces, trying to unravel the mystery of his whereabouts. Someone KNOCKS. She opens the door--BAM! A FLASH OF LIGHT!

Present-day Grace follows Denial and the Sorcerer as they step over her crumpled BODY and into the chamber.

PRINCE DENIAL

Why is it we can't just kill 'em?

SORCERER

*You didn't hire me to kill them.
You hired me to make them disappear.
And, murder is against Royal Law.*

PRINCE DENIAL

*Royal Law... Hmph. So, will my
dear cousin stay like that forever?*

SORCERER

*Yes... Unless the spell is broken
before the end of one year.*

PRINCE DENIAL

*One year? What kinda stupid spell
is that?*

SORCERER

*The fairness of Royal Law dictates
that any spell cast in the Kingdom
of Love must 'percolate' for precisely
one year. It gives the spellee a
chance to reverse it by sheer will.
Once the year passes, the spell takes
full effect and nothing can undo it.*

PRINCE DENIAL

That'll give me enough time.

PRINCESS GRACE PAST

(groggy)

*What did you do to him? Where is
he? I know he's alive!*

Denial panics. The Sorcerer tips his wand and she's OUT again.

Present-day Grace rushes to her own side, glares at them.

PRINCE DENIAL

And what about her?

EXT. SEA OF PLENTY - DAY

Several FISH follow a boat through aqua waters, as if compassionately drawn to the UNCONSCIOUS princess on board.

EXT. SELF-TORTURE ISLAND, DOCK - EVENING

A GRUFFY MAN greets them at the treacherous dock.

GRUFFY MAN

Welcome to Self-Torture Island!

The Sorcerer sets Grace ASHORE and CASTS A SPELL.

SORCERER

Gracious Princess, living here you are wise. You know full well your lover's disguise. But if you go home, your memories fade, to nothing beyond your wedding day.

Present-day Grace watches in frustration.

PRINCE DENIAL

Get used to torturing yourself in your new home, Princess.

SORCERER

The terms of the spell are as follows: As long as you stay on this island, the spell will be latent. You'll remember everything that happened.

PRINCE DENIAL

Like knowing your wretched prince is still alive--existing as his disgusting opposite! But, don't count on a rescue anytime soon 'cause, unfortunately, he thinks you're dead!

SORCERER

(very deliberately)

Your telepathic abilities will remain--

PRINCE DENIAL

All that creepy, psychic stuff... Gives me the willies!

SORCERER

--Unless you return to the Kingdom of Love. Then your spell will be activated. You'll forget about your powers and everything that has happened since your wedding day.

PRINCE DENIAL

*Last thing you'll remember is hearing
of your prince's death!*

Present-day Grace punches him from her spot in Outta Time Square, but her blows again land on empty air.

PRINCE DENIAL (CONT'D)

*Oh, and if the wretch should somehow
learn of your whereabouts, it's bye-
bye, Prince. So, bye-bye, Princess!
I'll look after the kingdom for ya.*

*BOTH Graces helplessly watch them sail away. The Sorcerer
looks back with a hint of reluctance, then turns away.*

EXT. SELF-TORTURE ISLAND, BEACH - MORNING

Grace attempts escape, but the Gruffy Man drags her back.

GRUFFY MAN

*You know, we could use an audacious,
confident girl like you at the DWP.*

EXT./INT. DEPARTMENT OF WILL POWER (DWP) - DAY

Present-day Grace stands outside a POWER PLANT, the DWP.

INSIDE: She and THREE WOMEN turn a CRANK BAR around solemnly.

DWP WOMAN 1

I'm just a worthless slob!

DWP WOMAN 2

He doesn't love me anymore!

DWP WOMAN 3

I'll never be good enough!

PRINCESS GRACE

*Don't do this to yourselves! You
have more power than you think!*

*TIME LAPSE: a SELF-ESTEEM GAUGE on the wall goes HIGH-TO-LOW.
MONTHS later, Grace is just as broken as they are.*

EXT. MILO'S BACKYARD - DAY

Present-day Grace watches Milo kneel down by a DYING BUNNY.

His HEALING HANDS try to revive it, but his POWERS ARE GONE.

EXT. OUTDOOR MARKET - DAY

Present-day Grace stands by a flower/herb cart.

Milo (incognito) buys herbs when Wretch/Dignity delivers the vendor a Daily Rumor Mill. As he leaves, Milo grabs him.

SLO-MO WRETCH/DIGNITY TURNS AROUND, RECOGNITION HITS

INT. MILO'S DOORWAY - DAY

Wretch/Dignity shows up to deliver the NEWSPAPER.

MILO

I might be able to reverse that spell.

PRINCESS GRACE

The treatments...

EXT. SELF-TORTURE ISLAND, BEACH - EVENING

Grace tries another escape. The Gruffy Man throws her in a DEEP PIT and lowers a bucket of food, purposely spilling half. He puts BARS over the top. Grace cries in the dark.

SCRATCHINGS on the wall indicate NINE MONTHS have now passed.

PRINCESS GRACE PAST (O.S.)

Thank you for showing me a way back to Dig. I know there's a way, there's always a way. I can feel it.

Present-day Grace turns from the scratchings, sees herself sitting cross-legged, eyes closed.

Sensing something, she opens her eyes and looks UP.

Present-day Grace follows her gaze up to see someone has been watching--the 15-year-old GIRL from Dignity's funeral.

Grace smiles. The girl gently lowers food, leaves fearfully. Each day she brings food, leaves in fear. Each time, Grace thanks her. One day she LINGERS and Grace seizes the moment.

PRINCESS GRACE PAST (CONT'D)

Will you help me send a message?

To her surprise, the girl nods "Yes".

Present-day Grace watches herself write a PIG LATIN NOTE.

PRINCESS GRACE (O.S.)

(translates aloud)

"My dearest Prince, I am alive. For your safety, I cannot tell you where I am. I knew at the funeral you were alive, too. If you are still, and I pray that you are, please send communication. Yours Always, G."

The girl hauls it up, ties it to a DOVE's leg and whispers--

GIRL
Find Prince Dignity.

As the dove soars up high, the girl smiles for the first time.

One day the dove returns, drops the PIG LATIN NOTE that catches on the bars. The girl lowers it. As Grace holds it, she sees DIGNITY-AS-WRETCH. Tears well up as she feels his pain.

PRINCE DIGNITY (V.O.)
 'My Gracious G, Thank heavens you are alive! I've been searching for you for almost eleven months and sent Dove Notes to multiple lands. Though no response came, I knew in my heart you were alive. My love, a spell has been cast and time is running out. I cannot divulge its content or it will become irreversible prematurely. I can only say it will become permanent exactly one year from our last day together. Please know that wherever you are, I love you deeply and will never stop looking for you. Forever your prince, D.'

EXT. KINGDOM OF LOVE, VARIOUS - DAY

Wretch/Dignity delivers newspapers, looking for signs of Grace.

EXT. SELF-TORTURE ISLAND, BEACH - NIGHT

The girl leads Grace to a SMALL BOAT filled with supplies. Grace hugs her gratefully, paddles to sea in the moonlight.

EXT. SEA OF ABANDONMENT - DAY

Nearing the Kingdom of Love, Present-day Grace watches as--

THE SPELL TAKES EFFECT, fading her memory. She rereads his note, as if to defy the spell. The note falls, the big fish grabs it. She gets half, the world spins and she's OUT.

END VISION

EXT. OUTTA TIME SQUARE, BIOLOGICAL CLOCK - EVENING

DQ tries to look busy but is running out of things to look busy doing. Finally, Grace REAPPEARS, pale and frightened.

EXT. ROAD LESS TRAVELED - NIGHT

Grace and DQ race back through the forest, jumping stones, dodging branches. They reach the oak--WRETCH/DIGNITY IS GONE.

INT. MILO'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

RAT-A-TAT-TAT! Rambaldi yelps as Grace and DQ burst in. Grace runs from room to room, searching for something.

MILO

Grace, what's going--?

PRINCESS GRACE

How could you let me traipse all over the kingdom looking for him? He was right here the whole time and I couldn't see it!

DQ

We just came from Outta Time Square.

MILO

So then, you've recovered your memory.

PRINCESS GRACE

All of it. And I know you saw what happened to him. Milo, you knew all this time that Wretch was Prince Dignity and you didn't say anything! Why? And why didn't *he* say something?

MILO

Grace, he couldn't. We couldn't.

PRINCESS GRACE

What do you mean? Why not?

MILO

Because...the spells on all three of us would've become permanent.

At this, Grace stops running, comes back to him gently.

MILO (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry, Grace, that I didn't help him that day. If I wasn't such a coward, maybe I could've prevented--

PRINCESS GRACE

Milo... It's not your fault. I'm sorry for yelling at you.

MILO

Your anger is understandable.

PRINCESS GRACE

But how did you know about my spell, and that I had to break all three?

Milo retrieves another NOTE. She translates the Pig Latin.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

'My darling D, I know what happened to you. I have seen you in my mind and I know how to break the spell. Please know, another spell was cast. It will only take effect if I return to the kingdom, but I must risk it to find you in time. If I return alive and do not recognize you or recall my abilities, you *must* remind me and help me remember who you are. It's the only way the spells can be broken! Again, I cannot tell you where I am, only that I'm leaving tonight. My love forever, G.'

(realizing)

That's why he was so aggressive about recovering my memory. And so urgent to get to the Square today. It's one year since our last day together!

DQ

So, Denial planted those false leads to buy time--and lead you astray.

MILO

But you discovered the truth, which means... all the spells are broken!

ENERGY swirls in Milo's HANDS as his HEALING GIFTS RESTORE.

DQ

And the prince is dignified again!

Grace receives a mysterious TELEPATHIC message.

PRINCESS GRACE

'If love cracks his code before one year ends, only then will he be dignified again. She alone can reverse the spells, but to the spellees, the words she must tell.'

(snaps out of it)

His won't be broken until I *tell him* I know the truth! Where is he, Milo?

MILO

I thought he was with you?

Grace and DQ lock eyes in a panic. Milo buckles.

DQ

DAMMIT! We'll find him, Grace. Whatever it takes, we'll find him.

PRINCESS GRACE

Milo... What will happen to him? I mean, if the spell solidifies?

MILO

Well... He will *become* Wretch. He won't remember who he was. He won't remember you. Once a sorcerer's spell sets, nothing can reverse it.

DQ

So, Denial is holding him somewhere. To make sure it sets, right? That's what I'd do if I was that nutball.

Grace's eyes well. Then, a VISION: Stone. Water. Guards.

PRINCESS GRACE

DQ, you're right! He's somewhere in the castle... I can see it.

MILO

It's 10:30PM now. We can make it if we hurry.

PRINCESS GRACE

Denial will be alerted if we take the bridge from Carpe Diem Cliff. We'll have to cross the moat somehow.

DQ

Denial renamed it the River of Fear.

PRINCESS GRACE

But it's a *moat*.

DQ

I know, I know. Don't get me started.

MILO

I know how we can get across.

The Biological Clock CHIMES a CRITICAL 11:30PM as--

EXT. CARPE DIEM CLIFF/RIVER OF FEAR - NIGHT

SLO-MO GRACE STANDS NEAR THE EDGE (AS BEFORE)

Hair blowing gently, she gazes out from the cliff toward...the Castle of Doom, where her True Love awaits. SNARLY CREATURES snap hungrily from murky waters below.

MILO

On three, we take a Leap of Faith off Carpe Diem Cliff, cross the River of Fear on a Ride of Courage and, boom! We're at the Castle of Doom!

DQ

You're kidding right?

MILO

According to the Cosmic Source, it's the secret protocol for traversing cavernous spaces.

DQ

Wait, you're serious? Okay, so, where is this 'ride'?

MILO

It's different for everyone. The whole point of the Leap of Faith is to have faith that the ride will be there. And then it will.

DQ

You are serious...

MILO

Remember, 'To manifest your desire, you must see it in your mind, feel it in your bones, and know it in your heart. And in the absence of doubt, it will be yours!' If we do just that, the ride should appear and get us across the moat.

DQ

Should? Okay, TIME OUT! Milo, this is insane! There has to be another option. Have you looked down?

Milo looks down as a HORNEED BEAST snaps at one less aggressive. Rambaldi whimpers, backs away from the edge.

MILO

We can always cross the bridge and make Denial aware that we're here to rescue his prisoner, which will certainly lead to us *not* rescuing him and probably to us being captured, which will not do anyone any good.

DQ

And, what if it doesn't work? It's not like we can then try something else! You know why? 'Cause WE'LL ALL BE DEAD, that's why! We'll be midnight snacks for those varmints!

MILO

Do you have a better idea?

DQ

No! But I was hoping to live long enough to direct a decent play again. Maybe learn how to fence... Somehow, I don't see that happening if we're IN PIECES IN SOMETHING'S STOMACH!

As Milo and DQ carry on, Grace watches the horned creature crawl onto the bank and unfurl the large, hidden WINGS of a DRAGON! She locks eyes with it, COMMUNICATING.

PRINCESS GRACE

You want to go home...

MILO

DQ, think of how powerful the Cosmic Source is. Not only did it lead us to the sacred scrolls, its energy is what gives me healing powers. It's what makes Grace telepathic and Dignity telekinetic! And it's what makes you so intuitive. Think of all the times you *knew* something simply because you could feel it. You knew something wasn't right at the wedding, you knew to bring Grace to me, you knew Denial was behind all this. You don't know how you knew, you just *did*, right? It's the same energy just *used* differently.

PRINCESS GRACE

DQ, he's right! I used it when I was down in that pit. I just felt with my entire being that I had to get back to Dig, that there had to be a way. I *knew* help would come, and it did. I guess you could say I took a Leap of Faith, which is what we're being asked to do now.

Grace surveys the situation, gauging the distance across the moat. With every move, her GRACE AND POISE RETURN.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Thank you, Cosmic Source, for finding us a way across. We know there's a way. There's *always* a way.

As DQ processes all this, she paces back several yards.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)

Here feels about right.

DQ
 When I said 'whatever it takes' this
 is really *not* what I had in mind!
 What if this doesn't work?

She gives DQ a radiant smile and takes his and Milo's hands.

PRINCESS GRACE
 What if it does? What if we *do* find
 a Ride of Courage? Something big
 and beautiful that swoops us up and
 carries us across the moat? What if
 we *knew* it was ours and we *knew* it
 would get us there safely? What if
 it's making its way to us right now?

Sensing something, all three turn around just as the dragon
 leaps up and FLIES right toward them! Rambaldi barks!

DQ AND MILO
 Ahhhhhhh!

But instead of attacking, it swoops up and hovers at the
 cliff's edge like a waiting chariot. Rambaldi woofs at it.

MILO
 Holy mackerel! Is that...a dragon?!

DQ
 What's it doing here?!

PRINCESS GRACE
 I think it's our ride. Let's go!

Ready to leap, they feel a disturbance in the Source as
 Rambaldi growls at the WOODS. They turn to see a PACK OF
 ANIMALS with big, innocent amber eyes, running toward them!

DQ AND MILO
 Ahhhhhhh!

PRINCESS GRACE
 No, it's okay! They're just
 Bewilderbeasts, they won't--

Barking, screaming chaos ensues! As fears return, the dragon
 FLIES OFF, along with their chance. Grace switches tactics.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)
 Guys, these are vicious beasts! I
 saw one in the forest, and they're
 out for blood. We have to jump now!

Rambaldi jumps into Milo's arms as BEWILDERBEASTS close in.

DQ
 But, the dragon's gone!

PRINCESS GRACE
She'll come back for us, have faith!

DQ looks frantically from option to option.

DQ
How exactly did it come to this?!

PRINCESS GRACE
Here she comes. One, two, *three!*

They charge forward and take a huge, determined--

SLO-MO LEAP OF FAITH

--Into the EMPTY SPACE where the dragon was. The creatures below salivate as gravity kicks in, then--WHOOSH! The dragon swoops them up and carries them safely ACROSS THE MOAT. Grace thanks the dragon, who bows nobly and flies off into the night.

MILO
That was exhilarating!

PRINCESS GRACE
It was amazing!

DQ
(opens his eyes)
We're...alive?

BACK AT THE CLIFF

The Bewilderbeasts halt abruptly at the edge. Dazed and confused, they snort and amble off in different directions.

DQ
Vicious beasts, huh?

PRINCESS GRACE
(winks)
Out for blood.

INT. CASTLE OF DOOM, ROYAL SAGE'S CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

Turning in, the Sage spots something large flying by. *Is that...a dragon?* He shakes it off, shuts the drapes tightly.

EXT. CASTLE OF DOOM - CONTINUOUS

The three crouch under the bridge below the CASTLE GATES.

DQ
Now what? How do we get in?

MILO
We use the Cosmic Source!

DQ

I had a feeling you'd say that.
I'll do it this time.

(shoots Milo a look)

Please, Cosmic Source, we need a way
in--preferably one that doesn't
involve jumping or flying or beasts--
so we can rescue Prince Dignity before
midnight. Thank you for bringing it
to us immediately, if not sooner.

Grace and Milo nod, impressed. Rambaldi's EARS perk up as
HORSE HOOVES cross the bridge from the cliffs--it's the
Sorcerer. After a moment, the gates open and he rides in.

PRINCESS GRACE

We need to distract the guards.

Milo signals Rambaldi, who runs inside past the TWO GUARDS.

CASTLE GUARD 1

Hey! Get back here!

MILO

And, boom! A way in.

INT. CASTLE OF DOOM - CONTINUOUS

Once inside, Grace pauses. Thick drapes cover majestic
windows. Neglect covers elegant furniture. Gloom covers
beautiful paintings. A CLOCK shows 11:45PM, snaps her back.

PRINCESS GRACE

Okay, Dig... Show me where you are.

Something pulls her to a stone STAIRWAY when they hear MUFFLED
VOICES from above. They stop, straining to make out the words.

PRINCE DENIAL (O.S.)

So, where did you...?

SORCERER (O.S.)

Not to worry...out of sight.

PRINCE DENIAL (O.S.)

I bet...didn't you?

SORCERER (O.S.)

STUCK THEM IN A CLOSET! You insult
me, Prince! Trust me, where I have
hidden them is nothing short of MAGIC!

DQ

What on earth are they up to now?

SORCERER (O.S.)

Remember this. I only work for you
because you inherited my services
upon your father's death. And you
have insulted me for the LAST TIME!

The Sorcerer storms out, heads down the STAIRS. Just as his
long robes billow past, the gang slips into--

AN ALCOVE

Grace spots CLOCKS EVERYWHERE, all perfectly synchronized.
It's 11:50PM. Denial scurries by.

PRINCE DENIAL (O.S.)

Hey, I was kidding! It was a joke!
Guards! Don't let him leave! Hey,
where is everybody?

He reaches the unmanned post to find the gates wide open and
the Sorcerer riding away. The guards run by, chasing a dog.

PRINCE DENIAL (CONT'D)

What the devil is goin--? Hey!

Denial runs after them. Rambaldi BARKS playfully.

MILO

Let's hurry before they catch him
and we have two rescues on our hands.

They race down, down, down an endless STAIRWELL. There's
another CLOCK--11:55PM. Grace hears a VOICE, halts at--

A NEWLY-BUILT DUNGEON

She races past EMPTY CELLS. In the last one, a MAN is CHAINED
TO THE WALL. He is delirious, wild-eyed, babbling nonsense.

PRINCESS GRACE

Dig!

DQ

Stand back!

DQ grabs a tortuous-looking TOOL, aims for the imposing LOCK.
He pummels it with all his might. Grace shouts between blows.

PRINCESS GRACE

Dig! I'm here! I know it's you! I
know what happened! We're gonna get
you outta here--you're gonna be okay!

With a final blow, DQ BREAKS THE LOCK and Grace rushes in.
Wretch/Dignity babbles wildly, his head rolling side to side.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)
 Dig! Dig, can you hear me? It's
 not working! What do I do? How do
 I break the spell?

The prince manages to form two weak words--

WRETCH/DIGNITY
 Kiss me.

Grace presses her lips to his, willing it to work. Then, a distant, DISTRESSED Biological Clock and A CHORUS OF CASTLE CLOCKS CHIME a deafening MIDNIGHT! As they finish, he falls limp in her arms. Milo appears with KEYS, frees him and helps lift the prince's listless body over DQ's shoulder.

EXT. CASTLE OF DOOM - MOMENTS LATER

Milo WHISTLES and Rambaldi races around the corner, leaving the breathless guards and Denial far behind. Denial watches them escape back across the bridge.

CASTLE GUARD 2
 They've got the prisoner!

PRINCE DENIAL
 Let 'em go. They're too late anyway.
 YOU'RE TOO LATE! Aren't they,
 Cupcake?

His gaze turns as a mysterious WOMAN'S ICY BLUE GOWN glides up to him. Her ICY BLUE EYES flash. His goo-goo eyes melt.

INT. MILO'S LIVING ROOM - WEE HOURS

DQ bursts in, lays the delirious prince on the treatment table. Grace rushes to his side. His eyelids flutter as Milo checks his vitals, mixes a healing TONIC.

PRINCESS GRACE
 Dig, you're gonna be okay.

WRETCH/DIGNITY
 DQ... You punched me out...

DQ
 Yeah, sorry about that.

DQ helps as Grace gently administers the warm liquid.

PRINCESS GRACE
 You said a kiss would break the spell?

The prince's MUDDY BROWN EYES focus on her long enough to say--

WRETCH/DIGNITY
 I just wanted you to kiss me.

And, he PASSES OUT.

PRINCESS GRACE
Were we too late, Milo?

Milo shrugs a sympathetic maybe. Grace bravely wipes a tear.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)
It doesn't matter. What he went through... He never gave up on me. That's True Love. And it's more than I could ever ask for. So, if he stays like this, if he doesn't remember me, I'll have to convince him to fall in love with me again.

DQ
For the record, Grace, I don't think that would be too hard.

Grace laughs--nervous, exhausted. She rests her head on her prince's chest and drifts off, their fingers clutching.

MILO
(quietly, to DQ)
Come on. I'll show you that little section in the Cosmic Source scroll.

INT. MILO'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Grace awakens to see a man nearby, his back to her.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)
When Grace awoke, her heart skipped a beat. *Did it work? Did they break the spell?* And, when he turned toward her, she couldn't believe her eyes-- she was looking at two men in one!

ANGLE ON PRINCE DIGNITY - HALFWAY TRANSFORMED BACK

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Standing took effort but he was clean and clear and calm. His eyes sparkled with greens and golds and she searched them for a sign of recognition.

PRINCESS GRACE
Dig?

PRINCE DIGNITY
...Gracie.

She throws her arms around him and they KISS.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)
 No one said her name like he did and
 it was music to her ears. As they
 shared a most loving kiss, the prince
 looked deeply into his princess'
 eyes and simply said--

PRINCE DIGNITY
 Thank you.

INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, KITCHEN - DAY

The Flower Girl grins, now in an adorable CROWN of flowers.
 The captivated staff sighs over steaming mugs of coffee.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR
 The next day, kingdomers gathered
 for a surprise announcement from
 Denial, igniting much speculation.
 Would he say he'd captured Prince
 Dignity's murderer? Or, found a new
 leader? Or, would he tell the truth?

The Biological Clock CHIMES in ANTICIPATION.

EXT. OUTTA TIME SQUARE - MORNING

A DARK CLOUD rolls in, followed by Prince Denial. He jabs
 the Royal Sage in the side as he steps up to the podium.

PRINCE DENIAL
 Boy, I really know how to draw a
 crowd, don't I?
 (to crowd)
 My people... After months of rigorous
 investigation into the murder of my
 beloved cousin, Prince Dignity, it
 seems all my efforts have paid off.
 It turns out it *wasn't* a murder after
 all! It was simply...an accident.

DQ and Patti exchange looks. DQ yells out, TAUNTING him.

DQ
 What kind of an accident?

PRINCE DENIAL
 A very unfortunate one, but an
 accident nonetheless.

DQ
 But, Your Interim Highness, what
 happened to him? Did he suffer a
 fall? Was he struck by lightning?

CROWD MEMBER 1
 Was he attacked by a beast?

PRINCE DENIAL

Look, folks, there are a million ways to die in the forest! Let's just say he was in the wrong place at the wrong time and leave it there.

DQ

What about the rumors that he's alive?

PRINCE DENIAL

Rest assured, Prince Dignity is gone!

DQ

If that's truly the case...when will we choose a *proper* king and queen?

PRINCE DENIAL

You know, I could have you locked up for defiance, or...disrespectability, or...insubordinationism. But, I'm not in the mood for that today, no. Rather, I'd like to put everyone at ease about the future right now.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

With that, the woman in the icy blue gown glided in out of nowhere. She seemed elegant and refined, but when Clueless George stepped on her dress--

QUEEN CONNIPTION

Watch what you're doing, you bumbling idiot! Can't you see I'm walking?

CLUELESS GEORGE

Sorry, ma'am.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

--Her true colors were revealed.

PRINCE DENIAL

Everyone, meet Queen Conniption--my *wife*. We were married before the anniversary of my cousin's death. And, according to Royal Law, that means we're fully eligible to rule this kingdom. *Permanently*. So, after the coronation, you will *all* address me as *King Denial*.

The crowd gasps! Patti's jaw drops. DQ's eyes narrow.

CLUELESS GEORGE

But DQ, they don't even follow the Golden Rules.

INT. MILO'S KITCHEN - LATE MORNING

PRINCESS GRACE

He's going to be king? But how? I thought we broke the spell in time?

DQ

He found a loophole in Royal Law. He says that since he is now married and Dignity's dead, it entitles him to become king permanently.

PRINCE DIGNITY

What?!

DQ

He introduced her as 'queen' and he emphasized they married *before* the one-year anniversary of your death.

PRINCE DIGNITY

What does that have to do with it?

PRINCESS GRACE

Does *everything* here take a year?

PRINCE DIGNITY

He's getting his spells mixed up with his laws. And, it doesn't matter when he got married--I'm clearly not dead! And neither is Grace!

MILO

So, Royal Law shouldn't apply, right?

PRINCE DIGNITY

I don't know... Nothing like this has ever happened before. Royal Law has no provisions for pretending to kill the incoming king and queen and usurping the throne.

DQ

Does it have provisions for stealing the kingdom's founding documents? That must be what Denial and the Sorcerer were arguing over last night.

Grace and Dignity exchange looks, completely deflated.

PRINCESS GRACE

What are we going to do?

PRINCE DIGNITY

I don't know... But I know who might.

EXT./INT. ROYAL COURTHOUSE - DAY

Among buildings in despair, the courthouse still STANDS PROUD.

INSIDE: Rap-rap-rap. An impressive wooden door OPENS. A MAN tries to place FOUR DISGUISED visitors. Dignity LIFTS his.

JUSTICE OF PEACE
 Good heavens! Come in, come in.
 I'm so pleased you're not dead.

The door closes, revealing a nameplate: JUSTICE OF PEACE

INT. JUSTICE OF PEACE'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

It's a tranquil office with bamboo, orchids, an AQUARIUM, and a small GONG. The JUSTICE sits back, stares blankly.

JUSTICE OF PEACE
 Boy, this is a doozy! Nothing like
 this has ever happened before.

PRINCE DIGNITY
 Our sentiments exactly...

Grace notices the COLORFUL FISH watching attentively. Dignity nods toward the wall of ROYAL LAW BOOKS.

PRINCE DIGNITY (CONT'D)
 Your Peacefulness, isn't there some
 provision in Royal Law we can utilize
 to remove Denial from power--legally?

JUSTICE OF PEACE
 I'm not sure. He's got loopholes.

DQ
 But there must be a way around them!
 The people need to know what he's
 done. They need to know our true
 king and queen are alive!

JUSTICE OF PEACE
 In theory, your return should negate
 his plans, as should stealing the
 Golden Rules...but I need legal
 support. I'll see what I can find.
 You say you know where the last three
 Sacred Scrolls are hidden?

PRINCESS GRACE
 Yes, and we know how to find them.
 We believe the Sorcerer hid the others
 long ago, but it's unclear when, why
 or whether Denial knows they exist.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

Let's assume he does. If they are as powerful as you say, we cannot let Denial get ahold of them.

MILO

Denial mentioned a coronation.

The justice pops up, opens a SEALED ENVELOPE from the castle.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

'Please be advised', yada yada yada, 'to perform the coronation of King Denial'...in three days!

EVERYONE

Three days?!

JUSTICE OF PEACE

Not much time, is it?

(he paces, thinking)

Is it enough time to find the scrolls?

They nod "yes". The Justice resumes pacing, the FISH following him back and forth. He regards Grace and Dignity pensively.

JUSTICE OF PEACE (CONT'D)

Considering everything...reintroducing you to the kingdom now would be risky at best. I'm afraid your union will have to wait until we sort this out.

Grace and Dignity look at each other and she takes his hands.

PRINCESS GRACE

Someone once told me it would be our sworn duty as king and queen to protect the sacred scrolls. We can wait a little longer if it means making sure they're safe.

PRINCE DIGNITY

(smiles at her)

We'll find them, Your Peacefulness.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

I know you will. That's why you'll make fine leaders. Once you have all seven, bring them here. They'll be subject to the highest order of protection. Good luck. And, I'd stay incognito if I were you.

MILO

We're gonna need George and Patti.

EXT./INT. CASTLE OF DOOM - EVENING

A dark cloud lingers over the Castle of Doom.

INSIDE: Nearly-king Denial lumbers through the halls. Paces behind, the Royal Sage cautiously lowers his NOTES.

ROYAL SAGE

Is something wrong, Sire?

PRINCE DENIAL

You know, Sage? This is getting to be a great kingdom, especially after all the changes I've made, but there's one thing that's still sorely lacking.

ROYAL SAGE

Lacking?

PRINCE DENIAL

There aren't any real sports here.

ROYAL SAGE

What about archery, chariot races--

PRINCE DENIAL

Oh, come on now, Sage. Those aren't sports! I mean *real* sports! Those rough-and-tumble, fight-to-the-death contests that get your blood pumping. You know, sword fights, hunting, jousting!

ROYAL SAGE

Jousting!

PRINCE DENIAL

Now, there's a real sport of kings! Oh, how I miss jousting... You know what else I miss, Sage?

ROYAL SAGE

(under his breath)

I shudder to think.

Denial spins toward him excitedly, sending his NOTES flying.

PRINCE DENIAL

Dragon fights!

Sage steals a full cringe as he gathers the scattered notes.

ROYAL SAGE

Yes, you've mentioned that, Sire.

PRINCE DENIAL

We had so many dragons back home, it was like an infestation! Dad said it seemed logical to make a sport of it and let them kill each other off.

ROYAL SAGE

(nauseated)

Logical...Yes... I thought I saw one the other night... You wanted to discuss something, Sire?

PRINCE DENIAL

I did? Oh yeah. Listen, Sage, we need to do something about the Prison. We're running out of room for new inmates. Who knew there were so many criminals in the Kingdom of Love? It's like an infestation!

ROYAL SAGE

Infestation, yes...like the dragons...

PRINCE DENIAL

Yeah! Like the dragons!

The almost-king's eyes light up like torches in a dungeon.

PRINCE DENIAL (CONT'D)

You just gave me the best idea ever!

ROYAL SAGE

(suddenly sinking)

I did? And what might that be, Sire?

PRINCE DENIAL

You're gonna love this, Sage! Now, here's what we're gonna do...

INT. MILO'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - MORNING

George and Patti display newly-delivered DISGUISES. Milo holds up one with a French BERET and one with a FEDORA.

MILO

Which one do you like, Patti?

Patti eyes the Fedora, but turns to DQ instead.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Um, what do you think, DQ?

DQ

Definitely the beret.

Milo chooses the beret, watches Patti deflate.

EXT. ROAD TO GUIDING LIGHTHOUSE - MORNING

A DISGUISED Milo and Patti ride No Name, chatting away. The horse walks purposefully, as if guided not by Milo, but by an unseen force. Proving this, Milo turns 180 to face Patti.

MILO

You know, Patti... You don't have to ask everyone's opinion all the time.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

(wrinkles nose adorably)

What do you mean?

MILO

I mean you have all the answers you'll ever need right inside you. You just have to trust your intuition.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

My *in-tu-i-tion*?

MILO

That little voice inside that's always whispering ideas. If you listen, it'll never steer you wrong. That's what the Spirit scroll is all about.

They reach a small hill. Intuitively, No Name ascends.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

I always assume everyone else knows better than I do--about everything.

MILO

Why would you think that?

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Because I'm not smart. Or experienced. Or knowledgeable.

MILO

Poppycock! You're a lot smarter than you give yourself credit for. I knew within five minutes that you were all smart and all heart.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Really? I guess I don't believe it unless someone tells me so.

MILO

Patti, that's for you to believe about you! You don't need anyone else to validate you... You've endured a lot of criticism in your life, haven't you?

OPINION-POLL PATTI

How did you know that?

MILO

Because you look to others to make your decisions--you're afraid to trust yourself. If you never make a decision, you can never be wrong, and if you're never wrong, you can never be criticized. It's a brilliant defense mechanism! Do you see how powerful you are? You created that!

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Nobody's ever told me that before...

MILO

Listen, Patti. Don't be afraid of criticism. People criticize to compensate for their own insecurities. Most of the time it has nothing to do with you. So, make your own decisions, even if they're wrong. There's power in that. If you're wrong, own it! Shout it from the rooftops because it was *your* decision! It's time to believe in yourself, to live up to your true potential.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Milo, you make me feel like anything is possible!

EXT. SEA OF ABANDONMENT, SHORE - MORNING

Desolate and fish-less, the sea awaits company. As Grace and Dignity round the bend laughing, she halts Bella when she sees the LITTLE BOAT, still tied to the dock since the night George found her. Dignity squeezes her arm. She takes a breath and steers Bella toward it.

EXT. GUIDING LIGHTHOUSE - MORNING

Reaching the hilltop, No Name STOPS, as if by divine guidance. Overlooking the Sea of Abandonment's shore, the lighthouse stands tall and compassionate, its light sweeping.

MILO

It's like a powerful beacon, calling all lost souls out of the dark.

(regards Patti)

You know what I think? I think you are going to find the Spirit scroll.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

(suddenly panicky)

Me? But Milo, I...I'm not ready!
You know how to use the Cosmic Source,
but I don't know what to do or how
to do it. I'll probably just mess
it up, and this is too important for
someone like me! I think you should--

MILO

Patti, you can do this. Use the
Cosmic Source to see where the scroll
is and *feel* yourself finding it.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

But, how do I know if I'm doing it
right? How do I know if I'm seeing
what's there or just imagining it?

MILO

Listen, I know it'd feel a lot better
if you could ask another question or
six, but you must quiet that
chattering mind. Just relax, and
allow the answer to come to you.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

But, what if it doesn't?

MILO

What if it *does*?

OPINION-POLL PATTI

What if I find the wrong thing?

MILO

What if you find the right thing?

OPINION-POLL PATTI

What if I'm not sure?

MILO

What if we get off this train to
nowhere and you stop doubting
yourself? You have to be open to
receiving it.

Those trusting baby blues look up at him, believing him.

MILO (CONT'D)

Now, breathe, ask the Cosmic Source
for help and say whatever comes to
mind. Don't question if it's right.
Pretend it is and go with it.

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Okay... Cosmic Source, would you please show me where the Spirit Scroll is? Help me trust my in-tu-i-tion to find it. Thank you...

Her gaze drifts up to the BEAM OF LIGHT. It loops around, mesmerizing her. With each sweep, it PAUSES on the FUEL HOUSE, illuminating details just for her: red roof, bell, door. As Patti watches the light, Milo watches *her*, smitten, when--

OPINION-POLL PATTI (CONT'D)

Stairs! Behind the door!

She runs to the fuel house. Startled, Milo follows. They watch the light's next turn reveal a WOODEN STAIRCASE inside.

OPINION-POLL PATTI (CONT'D)

(confidently)

The scroll is under the ninth step!

(and then...)

Why did I say that? I don't know why I said that. Is that right?

MILO

Let's go see!

Feet climb to the ninth step. Milo feels around the side and, CLICK! A panel lifts. Patti peeks under a plaid blanket to see WHITE SILK WITH GOLD STITCHING THAT READS: **spirIt**

OPINION-POLL PATTI

I did it!

MILO

I never had a doubt.

Patti throws her arms around him and plants a big kiss.

INT. CASTLE OF DOOM HALLWAYS - MORNING

Denial roams the halls, dutifully trailed by the Royal Sage.

PRINCE DENIAL

Boy, Sage, I tell ya, this is gonna add real excitement to this place! And getting rid of all those prisoners at the same time? It's like a bonus!

He playfully jabs the Sage, who conceals a wave of nausea.

PRINCE DENIAL (CONT'D)

Let's start importing some extra-fierce dragons from the Land of Fear. And get going on building that arena, would ya? Which reminds me, we're gonna need a name for it, aren't we?

The Sage can't write fast enough for Denial's giddy prattling.

PRINCE DENIAL (CONT'D)
I've got it! You're gonna love it!
Ready? Let's call it Denial Arena!

He frames his name in lights. Sage pretends to be impressed.

ROYAL SAGE
After *you*, of course.

PRINCE DENIAL
Hey, you're catchin' on, Sage! Ya
know, I'm starting to like you. I
tell ya, I am so excited I could
pee! Let's get this thing going!

Queen Conniption glides by out of nowhere.

QUEEN CONNIPTION
Have you even thought about where
you're going to keep these ghastly,
fire-breathing beasts, you imbecile?

PRINCE DENIAL
I thought we'd let 'em fly free.

QUEEN CONNIPTION
And when they torch the kingdom,
everyone will either die or flee!
No one to watch the games means *no*
income. Idiot!

Her attention is drawn to a staff member down the hall.

QUEEN CONNIPTION (CONT'D)
HEY, YOU! Get back to work! Lazy
good-for-nothing! You think we pay
you for eavesdropping?!

The staff member drops her TRAY, the Sage drops his quill.

PRINCE DENIAL
Good point, my darling!

QUEEN CONNIPTION
Don't call me 'darling', you moron!
You should've thought of this
yourself! What a loser!

She glides off, her shrill voice bouncing off the stone walls.
Denial sighs in her wake with clueless adoration.

PRINCE DENIAL
You know, Sage, she's right. When
the dragons get here, let's close
down the borders so no one can leave.

ROYAL SAGE

Close the--! Is that really necessary?

PRINCE DENIAL

Boy, I wish all this stuff didn't take so long to set up. If the Sorcerer was here, he could conjure up a world class arena like that!

He SNAPS with the wrong fingers, stifling the expected sound.

ROYAL SAGE

Last I recall, the Sorcerer stormed out after you insulted him.

PRINCE DENIAL

Ah, Sage, he was just mad. He'll get over it. Someday you'll understand people as well as I do. Let's get him back to help us out.

ROYAL SAGE

(reluctantly)
Yes, Sire.

EXT. LANGUAGE BARRIER REEF - AFTERNOON

A sprawling CORAL REEF teems with life. Predator and prey alike gather in peace at this lively, neutral hub. ABOVE it, a MULTICULTURAL TRADING POST ON A FLOATING DOCK.

Grace and Dignity drop anchor, plop overboard and shimmy toward the reef. Inquisitive ANGELFISH follow. A BIG FISH corners Grace. Dignity panics, then realizes they're COMMUNICATING.

EXT. REAR OF THE DOCK - CONTINUOUS

PRINCESS GRACE

That was Artemis! The fish who ate the other half of your note!

PRINCE DIGNITY

Unbelievable!

PRINCESS GRACE

He says it gave him indigestion.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Well, it serves him right...

PRINCESS GRACE

He felt awful that what he did caused so much strife and he wanted to help.

PRINCE DIGNITY

How fishly of him. So...?

PRINCESS GRACE

He said a diver found the Lingua scroll here, traded it for fishing gear and captured King Louie the Crab. Mrs. Crab is devastated.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Oh... Maybe it's up for trade..?

EXT. AMONGST THE TRADE STALLS - MOMENTS LATER

Letting the Source guide her, Grace scans the plethora of knickknacks and underachieving inventions. Soon, she spots something by a lantern--WOODEN FINIALS WRAPPED IN A BUNDLE.

PRINCESS GRACE

That diver didn't know what he had.

PRINCE DIGNITY

Or, breakfast was more important. Meet me up front. Your language skills are about to come in handy.

He slips in the water and snorkels out to the little boat.

INT. CASTLE OF DOOM, CALAMITY ROOM - AFTERNOON

The Sorcerer joins Prince Denial and the Royal Sage.

PRINCE DENIAL

Hey, I knew you'd come back! See, Sage? I told you he was just mad.

SORCERER

For the record, I'm *still* mad.

PRINCE DENIAL

Ah, come on, don't be sore. We got a lot to do and we need your help.

SORCERER

What's on your agenda, King Denial?

PRINCE DENIAL

'King Denial'. Has a nice ring to it, doesn't it, Sage?

Denial pokes him in the ribs for the hundredth time.

ROYAL SAGE

Whatever you say, Sire.

PRINCE DENIAL

So, here's what we've got going on. You're gonna conjure up a great arena!

SORCERER
Guiding Lighthouse...

PRINCE DENIAL
No, not a lighthouse! An arena!
And, a big one at that!

SORCERER
Healing Garden, Stream of
Consciousness, Guiding Lighthouse...

PRINCE DENIAL
What's he talking about, Sage?

ROYAL SAGE
I'm sure I don't know, Sire.
Sorcerer, is everything all right?

SORCERER
Hmm? Right. Where were we?
Something about an arena?

PRINCE DENIAL
Yeah, a great, big, magnificent arena!
The biggest one anyone's ever seen!
And here's what we're gonna do...

EXT. FRONT OF THE DOCK - AFTERNOON

As Dignity ties the boat, Grace watches a WOMAN offer a clock for a music box. To conduct the trade, the multilingual TRADE MASTER (40's) challenges the woman in TAGALOG. She struggles.

PRINCESS GRACE
I have a feeling you're going to
have to do this part.

PRINCE DIGNITY
Me?! But, language is your domain.

PRINCESS GRACE
Remember how you felt like I had to
climb the Pillar of Strength because
the task was harder for me?

PRINCE DIGNITY
Yes, but if he chooses anything other
than Pig Latin, it's over!

Unable to win the language duel, the woman is denied the trade. She storms away, cursing in CHINESE all the way down the dock.

The Trade Master approaches and Dignity's eyes plead with Grace. Switching gears, she whirls around, giving the man her brightest smile.

PRINCESS GRACE
 Good afternoon, Trade Master!
 Beautiful day, isn't it?

He looks her over. Through the WETSUIT, her figure entices.

TRADE MASTER
 Krasavitzah! Yeslie krasata vhremya,
 tyuh navietchno!

SUPER: Hey gorgeous! If beauty were time, you'd be eternity!

PRINCESS GRACE
 (in her mind)
Flirting in Russian. No problem.
 (to Trade Master)
 Dobriy den. Spaseebo vahm.

SUPER: Good day. And, thanks to you.

She smiles politely, holds up the bundled, CONCEALED scroll. Dignity offers up Milo's HUMBLEBEE INVENTION to trade.

PRINCESS GRACE (CONT'D)
 Mozhno s vami potorgavatza?

SUPER: May we haggle with you?

The man unwraps the bundle, REVEALING THE SCROLL. There goes discretion. Eyes widening, he points sternly at Dignity.

TRADE MASTER
 Nyet. Pust on sa mnoy targooyet!

PRINCESS GRACE
 He says he wants you to do it.

Dignity stiffens nervously. A small CROWD gathers. One TRADER eyes the scroll, which lays stitching side down.

TRADE MASTER
 (South African accent)
 Rules of the trade: break the language barrier by speaking the tongue of *my* choice or, no deal. Let us hope you have come... 'linguistically prepared'.

PRINCESS GRACE
 (whispers to Dignity)
 Remember what the scrolls said about language--that *all* people possess the inherent ability to speak and understand any language that exists.

PRINCE DIGNITY
 I'm not at all convinced that applies to me.

PRINCESS GRACE
You can do this. You *must*.

He nods to the Trade Master, who sizes him up and chooses.

TRADE MASTER
Bom dia. Bem-vindo ao recife barreira
do idioma.

PRINCE DIGNITY
(in his mind)
Uh-oh. Was that Spanish?
(to the Trade Master)
Buenos dias!

The man shakes his head.

PRINCE DIGNITY (CONT'D)
(in his mind)
No... Maybe French?
(to the Trade Master)
Bonjour!

The man just stares. Dignity tries again.

PRINCE DIGNITY (CONT'D)
Buon giorno! Ti amo!

The man raises an eyebrow, folds his arms. The other trader hovers like a vulture as Dignity struggles.

PRINCE DIGNITY (CONT'D)
(in his mind)
Apparently not Italian either...
(to the Trade Master)
Ood-Gay orning-may?

The man turns away and solicits other traders.

PRINCESS GRACE
What are you doing?!

PRINCE DIGNITY
I told you I would blow it! 'Good morning' and 'I love you' are the extent of my foreign language skills!

PRINCESS GRACE
You have to listen and concentrate. Use the Cosmic Source. See yourself speaking with him, feel as if you can already understand what he says.

PRINCE DIGNITY
He might as well be speaking Martian!
(off her look)
Sorry. You're right. I can do this.

He watches the Trade Master and the vulture chatting in the chosen language. He closes his eyes, focuses on the SOUNDS.

TRADE MASTER

Nenhum acordo. Voce precisaria de dez daqueles para trocar por isto!

TRADER

Por favor, é tudo o que tenho.

TRADE MASTER

(re: trader's watch)
De-me o seu relógio, também.

TRADER

Oh, obrigado. Muito obrigado.

Obrigado, obrigado... It ECHOES in Dignity's ears, accessing the inherent linguistic resources in his mind. Then--

PRINCE DIGNITY

Portuguese!

As if by magic, as soon as he names it, he UNDERSTANDS it. Then, he hears himself speak in a language he does not know.

PRINCE DIGNITY (CONT'D)

Espere! Posso oferecer algo melhor.
Troque comigo.

SUPER: Wait! I can offer something better. Trade with me.

The Trade Master turns, reengages him. Grace again offers the Humblebee, but the man eyes Dignity's BOW AND ARROWS.

PRINCESS GRACE

Tell him they're not for trade!

PRINCE DIGNITY

Eles não são para o comércio.

TRADE MASTER

Então, nenhum acordo.

SUPER: Then, no deal.

Dignity nods, knows what he must do. He gently picks up the ornate family heirlooms.

PRINCESS GRACE

But your father gave you those!

PRINCE DIGNITY

He gave me something much more important and I have to protect that.
I know he would do the same.

He caresses the bow one last time then extends his hand.

PRINCE DIGNITY (CONT'D)
Temos um acordo.

SUPER: We have a deal.

As they shake on it, Grace peers at the stitching: **Lingwe**

EXT. HARMONY HILL, ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS - MOMENTS LATER

The ark GLOWS, crumbling away a FIFTH and SIXTH SPACE.

INT. CASTLE OF DOOM, CALAMITY ROOM - AFTERNOON

SORCERER
Dragons?!

PRINCE DENIAL
Can't you just see it now? All that
action! It'll put some life into
this stuffy old kingdom!

SORCERER
You realize these kingdoms are not
equipped to handle the sort of
barbarism you're proposing.

PRINCE DENIAL
Oh, they'll learn quick enough. You
got no choice when you're up against
beasts like that! Right, Sage?

The Sage purposely drops his notes, escaping another nudge.

SORCERER
I'll have no part in this monstrous
undertaking! I've done enough to...

He pauses, then steps away, counting on his fingers.

SORCERER (CONT'D)
The Magnetic Field, Healing Garden,
Time Square, Stream of Consciousness,
Guiding Lighthouse, Language Barrier
Reef... Curious. Very curious...

ROYAL SAGE
Is everything okay, Sorcerer?

PRINCE DENIAL
All those spells must be going to
your head! Now, can we *please* get
back to work?

The Sorcerer stares blankly at him then bursts out laughing.

PRINCE DENIAL (CONT'D)
What's so funny?

SORCERER
It's been so long, I'd forgotten!

PRINCE DENIAL
What? For Pete's sake!

SORCERER
The Sacred Scrolls have been found!

PRINCE DENIAL
You said you hid them where they'd never be found! And, for the record, that was only a year ago.

SORCERER
No, not the Golden Rules, the *other* scrolls. Which means... Someone's found the Cosmic Source!

PRINCE DENIAL
I demand to know what you're talking about!

SORCERER
(spins around)
What I'm talking about, *Prince*, is something you can't possibly comprehend. There are seven Sacred Scrolls and they are more powerful than your tiny, unevolved brain can imagine. Your father wanted them destroyed, but I hid them instead.

PRINCE DENIAL
Why didn't you mention this before?

SORCERER
I forgot about them. Like I forgot about the Golden Rules until you mentioned it.

PRINCE DENIAL
What do you mean *forgot*? You don't just forget about a thing like that!

SORCERER
You do when you design the spells that way!

PRINCE DENIAL
Well, if my father wanted them destroyed, then destroy them!

Queen Conniption glides through out of nowhere.

QUEEN CONNIPTION

You ignoramus! If they're that powerful, why don't you get them so we can use them to our advantage?

PRINCE DENIAL

That's a great idea, cupcake!

QUEEN CONNIPTION

YOU CALL ME CUPCAKE AGAIN, AND YOU WILL LEARN THE TRUE MEANING OF PAIN!

EXT. FOREST - AFTERNOON

DQ watches George CRUNCH BRITTLE LEAVES with great fanfare.

DQ

Hey, George? I'm sorry for always getting on your case. I really do appreciate you and your help finding the Mind scroll. You were amazing!

George stops, walks over and hugs him tightly. Then, with a big smile, he jumps on a pile of leaves--CRUNCH!

It ECHOES in DQ's head, attuning him to the forest. Sensing something, DQ walks with purpose now, past the Money Tree, Family Tree, Weeping Willow. Worn out, George curls up in the generous trunk of the TREE OF BENEVOLENCE to take a rest. DQ starts to yell but catches himself as a KNOT catches his eye. He pokes it. After a moment, it gives way. He extracts an object with WHITE SILK AND GOLD STITCHING: **de goldn rulz**

DQ (CONT'D)

George, you did it again! I don't know how you did it, but you did it!

CLUELESS GEORGE

No, DQ. You did it. It's 'cause you were kind to me. 'Do unto others as you would have done unto you.'

At this, DQ's world screeches to a halt. He stares in wonder as George gathers a HUGE PILE. As he prepares to jump, DQ mischievously runs up next to him and--CRUNCH! They both disappear into the leaves! DQ laughs so hard his sides ache.

EXT. HARMONY HILL, ARK OF THE SACRED SCROLLS - MOMENTS LATER

As the SEVENTH SPACE is revealed, the ark GLOWS fully, pulsing in steady anticipation.

EXT. ROAD TO THE ROYAL COURTHOUSE - AFTERNOON

Milo drives the DISGUISED group in a covered vehicle. Traffic slows as two INSECURITY GUARDS question and search everyone.

PRINCE DIGNITY
Denial knows about the scrolls...

The guards wave the previous driver through and motion for Milo to move up. Mischievously, he turns to the others.

MILO
Let me handle this.

DQ
I don't like that twinkle in your eye. Just don't try anything crazy.

EXT. CHECKPOINT - CONTINUOUS

Milo pulls to a smooth stop and smiles pleasantly. The Guards peer inside to see FIVE other smiling faces and SEVEN PACKAGES.

INSECURITY GUARD
Where are you taking those parcels?

MILO
We're going to the Royal Courthouse.

Everyone's eyes widen. *What on earth is he doing?*

INSECURITY GUARD
Is that so? How about you open them and we'll decide where you're going.

Milo responds with a DELIBERATE GAZE into his eyes.

MILO
That won't be necessary. We don't have what you want.

Like magic, the guard is ENTRANCED. He turns to his cohort.

INSECURITY GUARD
They don't have what we want.

MILO
We are free to move along.

INSECURITY GUARD
Move along, now.

MILO
One more thing. You never saw us. Good-day, Officers!

And, he smoothly drives forward. Once they are safely away--

DQ
That was handling it? Are you nuts?! You could've ruined everything!

PRINCESS GRACE

How did you do that?

MILO

It just came to me. And, I had a very strong feeling it would work.

DQ

So, you tested it out on us in a moment of extreme urgency?!

MILO

That does seem to be my thing, huh?

INT. JUSTICE OF PEACE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

The Justice gazes in awe at the SEVEN Sacred Scrolls.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

Incredible...

PRINCE DIGNITY

Denial is looking for them. If he gets them, he will use them for his own power. He will never let the kingdomers learn who they truly are.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

With what he's planning, I'd say you're right. He has a fascination with the more...*primitive* sports.

He slides a sheaf of PAPERS over to the prince.

PRINCE DIGNITY

It says he wants inmates to fight dragons in a giant outdoor arena!

EVERYONE

WHAT?!

The ECHO creates a TSUNAMI in the tank. The fish hang on.

PRINCE DIGNITY

He's going to turn this kingdom into the Land of Fear...

PRINCESS GRACE

Have you found any counter-loopholes?

The Justice shakes his head "No" and DQ quips sarcastically--

DQ

Can't we just throw him off Carpe Diem Cliff? Or, *make* him confess?

JUSTICE OF PEACE

Royal Law strictly prohibits coercion.
However...it can prosecute on the
evidence of one's own confession.

PRINCESS GRACE

But no one in their right mind would
willfully confess to what he's done!

DQ

He's not exactly in his 'right mind'.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

Denial is a bit of a boob, isn't he?

MILO

That's it--Denial is a boob! You
know, a few sandwiches short of a
picnic? IQ right around room
temperature? A boob!

JUSTICE OF PEACE

(catching Milo's drift)

And boobs are notorious braggers!

MILO

Brigadiers of bean-spilling!
Liberators of cats from bags!

JUSTICE OF PEACE

But a boob can only keep things to
himself for so long. And then--

MILO

What goes up must come down. Spinnin'
wheel got to go 'round!

JUSTICE OF PEACE

So, when time is of the essence,
what's the best way to catch a boob?

MILO AND JUSTICE OF PEACE

A Blue-footed Booby-trap!

DQ

Okay, you know what would be nice?
Plain English.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

It's a bit unconventional, but
Blue-footed Boobies are impartial
witnesses, so their testimony is
wholly sanctioned by Royal Law! In
other words, it's totally legal.

INT. MILO'S HOUSE - EVENING

Patti and George set down a big, festive BOX addressed to 'THE MAGNIFICENT KING DENIAL'. Grace stares at it curiously.

EXT. CARPE DIEM CLIFF - EVENING

Grace, Dignity and DQ watch through BINOCULARS as COURIER MILO rides across the castle bridge, unbinds the festive box from No Name and waits. He steals a glance toward the cliff.

DIGNITY'S P.O.V. THROUGH BINOCULARS

The GATES OPEN and... Denial steps out!

EXT. CASTLE BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Milo lowers his hat, sets the box down and alters his voice.

MILO

For the Magnificent King Denial!

PRINCE DENIAL

Ooh, I like the sound of that!

He tears into the box and stares at its contents: an odd bird with giant, TURQUOISE FEET--a BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY.

QUEEN CONNIPTION

What is that horrid creature?!

PRINCE DENIAL

It must be a wedding present!

Her disapproving gaze moves from the shredded mess to the bird, who smacks its beak and blinks up at her.

QUEEN CONNIPTION

It's utterly repulsive!

The bird performs a mating dance in her general direction.

QUEEN CONNIPTION (CONT'D)

Ew! Ghastly, revolting varmint!
Disgusting beast!

BACK TO DIGNITY'S P.O.V. THROUGH BINOCULARS

As she retreats in a huff, Denial scoops the booby inside. Milo rides over the bridge, flashing a subtle sign of success.

INT. CASTLE OF DOOM, ROYAL CHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER

Conniption spies the flea-ridden varmint twittering blithely in a once-regal chair. Denial coos at it. The door SLAMS! Annoyed HEELS click down the hall. Denial opens the door.

PRINCE DENIAL
 Ah, you'll get to like him after
 awhile, my sunflower!

THUD! A flying SHOE conks him in the head.

QUEEN CONNIPTION
 And don't call me sunflower!

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY (O.S.)
 What a *fabulous* castle this is.

A squeaky, silken voice from the chair. Denial whips around.

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY (CONT'D)
 Your Majesty, you must be the most
brilliant king this land has ever
 known. The greatest leader ever.

ELONGATED VOWELS vibrate flattery in Denial's gullible ear.

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY (CONT'D)
 This kingdom has never been better
 since you came to the castle, the
 Castle of *Doom*! Such a *clever* name!

PRINCE DENIAL
 Thanks! Thought of it myself. Now
 that you mention it...there's tons
 of clever stuff I thought of myself.

The Booby stretches his beak toward the near-king.

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY
 One can only *imagine*, Your Majesty.

Denial stares into the charming creature's beady eyes and--

PRINCE DENIAL
 Well...I came up with a brilliant
 plan to make everyone think Prince
 Dignity and Princess Grace were dead.

START MINI MONTAGE: DENIAL BRAGS TO THE BOOBY

The Booby crosses his big blue feet left and right as Denial waves his name in lights, casts spells, 'fights' dragons and dons his CROWN and cape. He kicks back with a satisfied grin.

PRINCE DENIAL
 And that's how I got to be king!

END MINI MONTAGE

The bird cocks his head, blinks, gently coos then releases an EAR-SHATTERING SHRIEK! Denial jumps back! A blue FOOT goes out, Denial goes down, a BEAK clamps his ear, and--

PRINCE DENIAL

Ah!

The Booby's SIREN and Denial's SCREAM pierce the quiet of the night. In a flash, two INSECURITY OFFICERS rush in.

PRINCE DENIAL (CONT'D)

Get him! Not me! The *bird*! Hey,
you can't do this! You work for me!

The Magnificent King is ambushed, handcuffed and dragged outside, along with his irate 'sunflower'.

EXT. CASTLE BRIDGE - MOMENTS LATER

Following behind, the Sorcerer and Royal Sage stop short.

ROYAL SAGE

Your Highness!

PRINCE DENIAL

What?!

PRINCE DIGNITY

I think he means me. Or, maybe Grace.

Denial looks up to a unified front: Dignity, Grace, Milo, DQ.

PRINCE DENIAL

Don't just stand there! Get him!

Sage slowly walks up to Dignity and...STANDS BY HIM instead.

ROYAL SAGE

No, Sire. I don't think I will.

The Sorcerer walks up...then faces Denial with crossed arms.

PRINCE DENIAL

Traitors...
(feigning surprise)
Cousin. You're alive.

PRINCE DIGNITY

And, you're in my house.

PRINCE DENIAL

Well, I'm not goin' anywhere! This
is my kingdom now and I'm in control!

PRINCE DIGNITY

You don't get it, do you? You didn't
inherit this kingdom. Or, *earn* it.
You took it by nefarious means. You
violated its laws, stole its governing
documents and turned it into a dark
and fearful place.

PRINCE DENIAL

I'm not seeing the problem here.

PRINCE DIGNITY

If you thought stealing the Golden Rules would make people forget who they are, think again. In *this* Kingdom, kindness lives in our hearts. The scrolls are simply a reminder.

PRINCESS GRACE

And soon, the kingdomers will know what they're truly capable of.

PRINCE DENIAL

Well, it looks like you two lovebirds haven't missed a beat, have you?

PRINCESS GRACE

Did you really think you could keep us apart? You cannot destroy True Love. No act of man or sorcerer's spell can ever sever such bonds.

PRINCE DENIAL

So, what are you gonna do, kill me?

PRINCE DIGNITY

No. Though, we did consider throwing you off Carpe Diem Cliff, didn't we? But that's not what we do. In *this* Kingdom, Royal Law decides your fate.

PRINCE DENIAL

I'll never confess to anything!

PRINCE DIGNITY

I believe you already did.

Dignity nods to the Booby, who coos to them and FLIES AWAY.

PRINCE DENIAL

(jaw drops)
Traitor!

PRINCE DIGNITY

In the meantime, you have something of ours. Grace, wanna try out some new skills?

Grace smiles, then reaches out toward Denial and Conniption, concentrating on their heads. Denial cowers, horrified.

PRINCE DENIAL

Hey! Get away from me with that creepy, psychic stuff!

As Dignity assists, she SUMMONS THE TWO CROWNS into her waiting hands! Insecurity then drags Denial and Connption away.

The Sorcerer approaches, impressed, then looks Dignity over.

SORCERER

It seems *love cracked his code before one year's end*. So, now he will be--

PRINCESS GRACE AND SORCERER

--*Dignified again*.

SORCERER

I see you received my message.

Grace looks at him curiously. *It was you?*

ENERGY swirls around Dignity as the last of the SPELL FADES, leaving enough of Wretch's scruffiness to make it interesting.

SORCERER (CONT'D)

Your Highnesses. I want to apologize for my part in all this. I'm deeply sorry and want to make it up to you.

PRINCE DIGNITY

(they nod tentatively)

Okay... We're listening.

SORCERER

You see, long ago, I made a grave mistake. I was to pass on the secrets of the Sacred Scrolls to the worthiest leader, so when Denial's father, the King of Pain, learned of them, I took it as a sign he was the one. But I was wrong. He was so jealous that Dignity's father was given this magical land to govern while he was given a barren wasteland. His anger transformed it into the Land of Fear. I taught him everything I knew about the scrolls, hoping it would somehow transform his anger into love, but instead, he used his new abilities to control the people. When his skills grew to rival mine, he demanded I destroy the scrolls so no one else could master them.

PRINCE DIGNITY

But you hid them instead.

PRINCESS GRACE

Why?

SORCERER

I didn't trust my judgment anymore, so, I designed a spell that would hide them as much from myself as from him. I dropped the "u" from my name and decided the scrolls should choose the leader--that they would reveal themselves only to those who exhibited the qualities depicted in each scroll. When you found them, you broke the vanishing spell and I remembered why I hid them! That's when I knew it was time to fulfill my true purpose as Sorcerer.

PRINCE DIGNITY

And what might that be?

SORCERER

To show that we are *all* sorcerers! Mystical abilities are not mine alone. I am simply an example of what's possible for you, and you six are an example of what's possible for all. The Kingdom of Love is on the precipice of a great transformation and the scrolls chose *you*! If you'll have me, I am humbly at your service.

PRINCESS GRACE AND PRINCE DIGNITY

(astonished & delighted)

We accept!

INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, SEATING AREA - DAY

The Inspector, Florist, Candlemaker and Flower Girl dance down the aisle, placing ribbons with great fanfare. The Inspector runs her finger down a row of FINISHED CANDLES, LIGHTING them MAGICALLY! The Flower Girl jumps with delight!

INT. ROYAL COURTROOM - MORNING

The Booby raises his big, blue FOOT and takes the stand.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

The next day, the Booby gave his 'testimony' for all to hear. And, like a perfect recording, he conveyed every clever detail of Denial's story.

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY

"Your Majesty, you must be the most *brilliant* king this land has ever known. The greatest leader ever."

He turns to Denial and blinks his beady little eyes. Denial scowls at the flea-bitten varmint. Conniption smacks him.

EXT. KINGDOM OF LOVE, VARIOUS - DAY

Now finished, the Booby coos to Grace and Dignity then FLIES OUT the window, SOARING HIGH over the RESTORING KINGDOM as--

JUSTICE OF PEACE (V.O.)

You cannot 'upgrade' this kingdom.
It will always return to a state of
goodness, for that is its nature.

-- PLASTIC MAKES PERFECT: Windows are boarded, doors locked.

-- PRISON OF THE MIND: Unfairly held inmates are set free.

-- DAILY RUMOR MILL: Gossip Tank--OFF, HONOR SYSTEM--ON.
Headlines: *Dignity Trumps Denial As Integrity News Re-Opens*

-- TRAIN IN VAIN: The renewed PEACE TRAIN glides smoothly.

-- NEIGHBORS cease fighting and engage each other joyfully.

-- ADDICTION CANAL: The Habits leave, clear-eyed and sober.

-- SELF-PITY THEATER: *The Newly-restored Royal Theater Proudly Presents: "A Play On Words", Directed By Darrell "DQ" Quincy.*

-- ROYAL COURTHOUSE: Grace translates all scrolls from Ipa.

-- GOLDEN ARK: As ALL scrolls are placed inside, the ark's glow spreads, TRANSFORMS the land to something new and magical.

INT. ROYAL COURTROOM - CONTINUOUS

JUSTICE OF PEACE

As you know, the Royal Justice system
is swift. We do not delay and we do
not engage in superfluous fluff.
Thus, it is decided you are unworthy
to bear the titles of king and queen.

PRINCE DENIAL

But I'm the decider! I'm the decider!

The Justice looks to Grace and Dignity, then nods to the Sorcerer, who turns to Denial and Connption and CASTS A SPELL:

SORCERER

As Ego and Temper have given you
blindness, you're sentenced with 900
Random Acts of Kindness! Until they
are done, and without objection,
you'll wander in vain in the Desert
of Rejection!

GONG! The dethroned newlyweds are taken away.

EXT. CHAPEL OF ETERNAL SUFFERING - DAY

The Booby HOVERS, watching "Eternal Suffering" end as LETTERS are shed. Plink, plink, plink, they fall, revealing a faded, but resilient word underneath: LOVE. Satisfied, he FLIES ON.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT./INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, RESTORED (PRESENT) - DAY

The chapel stands tall, proud and fully decorated. Inside, the Florist fluffs the Flower Girl's DRESS and adjusts her floral CROWN, admiring her reflection in an ornate mirror.

FLORIST

Just like Princess Grace!

This garners a huge smile, which then turns to concern.

FLOWER GIRL

Auntie... Where are Princess Grace
and Prince Dignity now?

The Florist and Inspector share a mischievous grin.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR

That, my dear, is a very good
question. Help us out front?

With anticipation, the girl runs out, followed by the staff, to see the event sign with the BIG RED BOW now on an easel. She removes it gently to reveal: *The Wedding And Coronation Of Princess Grace And Prince Dignity*. She squeals with joy!

INT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, WEDDING (PRESENT) - LATER

Prince Dignity stands proudly at the altar, watching the Flower Girl sweetly scatter PETALS down the candlelit aisle. Grace glides toward him, a vision to behold. As they lock eyes, endlessly enamored, DIGNITY'S TURN the DEEP BLUE of True Love.

The girl watches in awe as EXQUISITE CROWN-SHAPED RINGS are placed on their fingers and CROWNS are placed on their heads. They KISS LOVINGLY, garnering envious sighs from the crowd.

JUSTICE OF PEACE

I now pronounce you man and wife,
king and queen of the magnificent
Kingdom of Love!

GONG! They spring down the aisle, emanating love. The Flower Girl looks up as--

SLO-MO GRACE WINKS AT HER AND SMILES RADIANTLY

The girl giggles and snuggles into her mother's arms.

EXT. CHAPEL OF LOVE, RECEPTION (PRESENT) - LATER

DQ watches Milo playfully feed Patti some ROYAL RUM CAKE.

MILO

Either this Rum Cake is hitting me,
or I've been bitten by the love bug!

OPINION-POLL PATTI

Where exactly *is* Prince Denial now?

DQ

Let's just say he's exploring the
true meaning of the Golden Rules.

EXT. DESERT OF REJECTION - DAY

Denial and Conniption trudge along the barren landscape, when a swirling SAND STORM approaches, completely engulfing them! Denial instinctively shields himself behind her, leaving her exposed. She fends off flying SAND, berating him endlessly.

EXT. ISLES OF BLISS - MORNING

The ROYAL FERRY glides Grace and Dignity through glorious blue waters as they melt into each other's arms. At the rear, a BANNER flutters in the breeze: *Just Married and Coronated*.

EXT. TIME SQUARE - DAY

As people mill about the square, the clock CHIMES HAPPILY.

FLOWER PETAL INSPECTOR (V.O.)

And, the clock CHIMED HAPPILY, finally
content.

FADE OUT: