

THE JESTER'S CONVICTION

Written by

Michael Tyre & Fredel Williamson

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - NIGHT

"Fairy Tale England, 1870." A band of HOOLIGANS on horseback set fire to a big banner reading, "The City of Tyre." MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN run for their lives, screaming.

The LEAD HOOLIGAN shouts to his men.

LEAD HOOLIGAN  
Find the king and queen!

Across the courtyard. KING LEON of Tyre, late 50s and white places a sword in his 20 year old son's hands, PRINCE JORDYN. Each side of the handle is embroidered with 24-karat gold T's. QUEEN LESLIE, a 40 year old concerned white mother holds an infant child.

KING LEON  
Prince Jordyn, take your brother  
and flee. You're heirs to my  
throne.

PRINCE JORDYN  
An honorable throne.

The baby cries.

PRINCE JORDYN (CONT'D)  
(fearful eyes)  
I can't do this father.

King Leon places his hands on Jordyn's near the sword handle, squeezing.

KING LEON  
You must! The fate of our kingdom  
rests in your hands. Promise me.  
With this sword. You'll guard your  
brother's life, rule with a humble  
hand.

Jordyn takes a long moment.

PRINCE JORDYN  
I will father.

Leon Pulls back Jordyn's shirt, revealing the ROYAL CREST on his left shoulder. The king runs his finger tips across the branded skin then weeps.

KING LEON

I love you my son--  
 (pulls himself together)  
 But now you must go.

Leslie sobs. Jordyn kisses and hugs his parents. Takes his baby brother, then hurries to a SECRET PASSAGEWAY DOOR in the side of the castle. He stares at the writing on the door for what seems like an eternity. It reads: "Do Not Fear The Journey J-C." Jordyn pushes open the door, entering. Accepting the call to adventure.

LEAD HOOLIGAN (O.S.)

Over there!

Back on Leon and Leslie. They watch Lead Hooligan and his followers leap off their horses, rushing up to them.

LEAD HOOLIGAN (CONT'D)

(grits teeth)  
 Where's your sons, king?

Leon spits in Lead Hooligan's face.

KING LEON

Brood of vermin.

A HOOLIGAN runs over to the passageway door, kicking it open.

A HOOLIGAN

They escaped through here!

Lead Hooligan turns to two of his men.

LEAD HOOLIGAN

Pursue them!

Lead Hooligan turns back to Leon. Leon thrusts a dagger into Lead Hooligan's stomach.

KING LEON

May the Lord have mercy on your  
 soul.

Leon twists the knife, an insult. As Lead Hooligan dies his men draw their swords and raises them. It's apparent Leon and Leslie are getting ready to die.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - NIGHT

Jordyn walks quickly down a road with his baby brother wrapped in his arms.

PRINCE JORDYN  
I promise brother, I'll protect  
you.

Horses gallop in the distance, they're coming for the prince and his brother. Jordyn glances over his shoulder. He spots dancing torches coming his way as the baby cries.

PRINCE JORDYN (CONT'D)  
Shoo...be quiet little one.

Jordyn tries to run in the forest, it's too late. The BAND of HOOLIGANS surround him about twenty yards from the forest entrance. The #2 HOOLIGAN, EARL, dismounts his horse and draws his sword. A two inch SCAR runs vertically on Earl's chin.

Jordyn sits his brother down, draws his sword. Thrusts it at Earl, cutting his leg. The men fence for a long moment. Earl knocks Jordyn's sword out of his hand.

HOOLIGAN EARL  
You're going nowhere.

Jordyn scoops up his brother as the rest of the hooligans climb off their horses. Hooligan Earl grabs the baby, hands it to a hooligan, then turns to Jordyn.

PRINCE JORDYN  
Why carry yourself with such  
strife?

HOOLIGAN EARL  
So your wealth and happiness can be  
ours.

PRINCE JORDYN  
Wealth can be stolen, but happiness  
my friend money will never buy.

Hooligan Earl cringes in disgust, speaking to himself, looking at all the hooligans.

HOOLIGAN EARL  
Money buys everything.  
(looks at Jordyn)  
I almost forgot slave Jordyn.  
Everything except your freedom.

All the hooligans laugh tauntingly. Hooligan Earl joins in the laughter as he backhands Jordyn, knocking the prince unconscious and the baby cries.

EXT. CITY OF AURORA - DAY

"England, 1890." A beautiful castle sits nestled behind bright green hills and golden wheat fields. Sun-rays fall from soft blue skies peppered with white clouds.

INT. CASTLE - DAY

KING NATHAN of Aurora, 50 years old and black lays on his death bed. QUEEN JAZALINE, mid 30s and black with an appealing demeanor stands by her husband's side.

Behind the queen. Two twin PRINCES, 15 years old, thin and black watch their mother sob. WESTBY (Kane) stares at his brother CARLTON (Able).

PRINCE CARLTON  
Can't believe father's time has  
come.

PRINCE WESTBY  
Shut up you twit. His death brings  
forth grand wealth.

PRINCE CARLTON  
Wealth can never ease the pain of a  
broken heart, brother.

The queen turns to the princes.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Westby, Carlton. Come at once.  
You're father summons you.

Westby looks at his brother through resented eyes.

PRINCE WESTBY  
Now you can bow down to your future  
king, brother.

Carlton is peaceful.

PRINCE CARLTON  
I only have love for you Westby,  
not anger.

By the king's side. Westby and Carlton join their mother. Nathan's eyes are heavy, on the verge of death.

KING NATHAN  
My sons--

Nathan's eyes flicker, voice crackles.

KING NATHAN (CONT'D)  
 (clears throat)  
 There can only be one king.

Jazaline takes two steps to the left. Westby inches closer to the left side of the bed. Carlton goes to the right.

PRINCE WESTBY  
 Thank you father. I'll run this kingdom--

KING NATHAN  
 Enough!

PRINCE WESTBY  
 Sorry father. Didn't mean to anger you.

Nathan remains silent, momentarily. His eyes are powerful, focused on Westby.

KING NATHAN  
 The devil's control to mere mortals is self importance. Something you were born with an abundance of Westby. And I can not risk a kingdom's future on evil alone.

Westby's stifled with anger.

PRINCE WESTBY  
 What are you saying old man, that I am not fit to lead the city of Aurora!

KING NATHAN  
 (dying breath)  
 Precisely. But your brother...is.

Nathan's eyes close, he's dead.

Westby walks up to Carlton snarling.

PRINCE WESTBY  
 Over my dead body would you ever rule this kingdom.

Westby storms off as Jazaline and Carlton hold one another, falling by Nathan's side sobbing.

In COLE of Aurora's living quarters. Cole's a white skinny man in his 40s. His long black hair and VANDYKE BEARD make his sinister eyes all the more scary. A sword is on his right hip, the handle wrapped in fancy leather.

Westby storms in the room. Cole's beady eyes light up deceitfully.

COLE  
Has my cousin passed?

PRINCE WESTBY  
Of course.

Cole uses his right hand to groom his beard.

COLE  
Excellent. Our desires will be met.

PRINCE WESTBY  
Not so fast, idiot. My brother--  
(rolls disgusted eyes)  
Has rights to the throne.

Cole's vulgar. Coldly optimistic.

COLE  
Our options our thin?

PRINCE WESTBY  
Yes. According to the heinous laws of our land, a cousin who marries a widowed queen must--

Cole frowns. His eyes scan the ceiling before finding Westby.

COLE  
First be granted permission by--

Cole and Westby speak in unison.

PRINCE WESTBY  
The prince crowned king.

COLE  
The prince crowned king.  
(points at Westby)  
Her hand is mine.

Westby squints his eyebrows. His words are swiftly conniving.

PRINCE WESTBY  
Has your memory lost touch with your confused brain? My brother believes you are the son of malice.

Cole paces back and forth in deep thought like he's not all right in the head.

COLE

His pretentious claims are correct.  
Nonetheless, if we constantly clash  
with one another we'll never lend  
mutiny a hand.

PRINCE WESTBY

Man with the mind of a genius. Do  
you know of a solution?

Cole laughs in the demented way as he walks up to Westby, whispering in his ear. Westby's face glows with dark intent as their happy laughs last forever.

INT. CASTLE - JAZALINE'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

She occupies a chair. ANN TUMBLER, the queen's 20 something servant/best friend pulls at the queen's hair with a wooden brush. Ann's quirky, clumsy, very outgoing and slightly lacking in confidence.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Doesn't seem like two days passed  
since Nathan died.

ANN TUMBLER

Take it the affairs are in order?

Jazaline snuffles.

QUEEN JAZALINE

To my knowledge--now my heart will  
go aimlessly.

Ann makes an effort to console the queen.

ANN TUMBLER

Touche. I'm the expert when  
dealing with a broken heart,  
milady.

Ann starts to cry in the funny way. Jazaline turns her head, eyes on Ann.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Have you found an antidote for  
sadness, Ann Tumbler?



ANN TUMBLER  
 Guilty as charged. Would you like  
 to sample my discovery?

Jazaline nods "Yes." Ann drops the brush in Jazaline's lap.  
 Walking across the room in a stagger.

ANN TUMBLER (CONT'D)  
 Indulging this guilty pleasure will  
 bring out your true feelings  
 milady.

Ann opens a wooden chest. Removing two wine glasses and a  
 bottle of wine. Her flickering eyes find Jazaline.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 We mustn't abstain from letting our  
 voices roam free.

ANN TUMBLER  
 Speaking of which--

Ann tosses the two glasses over her shoulder where they  
 shatter. Pops the wine cork and takes a swig, stumbling  
 towards Jazaline.

ANN TUMBLER (CONT'D)  
 Captain Fina's more than a wretched  
 liar. Said his interest in our  
 engagements were mildly sociable.  
 What he meant to say was, not even  
 a fool could love Ann Tumbler.

Ann trips on a rug, Jazaline catches her. Jazaline whiffs  
 Ann's breath, her eyes grow comically concerned.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 How much have you consumed, Ann  
 Tumbler?

ANN TUMBLER  
 Close to a pint, milady.

Jazaline places Ann in the chair.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 Might as well let loose a little.  
 Huh, Ann Tumbler?

Ann's vision goes back and forth from blurry to double. She  
 stares at Jazaline.

ANN TUMBLER  
The more you drink the less you  
worry, milady.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
I'll be the judge of your theory.

Jazaline starts drinking from the bottle.

LATER SAME

Jazaline's on her bed. Her drunk eyes try to focus on Ann in the chair, a wine bottle in her lap. Both women laugh from the bottom of their bellies.

A KNOCK at the door.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Come in.

22 year old CAPTAIN FINA, a white medieval special forces type enters. He glances at Ann, then Jazaline. He addresses her properly.

CAPTAIN FINA  
Queen Jazaline, the funeral's set  
for tomorrow at noon.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Well enough.

A wine bottle ZIPS within inches past Fina's head, shattering on a wall. Fina cringes, eyes on Ann.

CAPTAIN FINA  
Have you gone berserk!

Ann wobbles to her feet as Jazaline speaks under her breath in an attempt to warn Fina.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
It's not a good time.

ANN TUMBLER  
I'm under direct orders from the  
queen too--

CAPTAIN FINA  
What, be a loon?

Ann slips off a shoe. Holding it in her right hand.

ANN TUMBLER  
Let my voice roam free.

CAPTAIN FINA  
Perhaps you should sit.

The shoe in Ann's hand lands against Fina's head. Jazaline shoos Fina with her hands as Ann falls to the floor weeping. Jazaline joins Ann. Holding her, rubbing her hair.

ANN TUMBLER  
Sorry for being so selfish during  
your time of mourning, milady.

Jazaline's eyes find the ceiling, then Ann's eyes.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
We can't loath over our trials and  
tribulations. We can face them  
together.

Ann smiles, assured.

EXT. HILLSIDE CEMETERY - RAINY DAY

Thunder bellows above. A canopy covers a good size mausoleum and the people standing under it.

Queen Jazaline stands at the front of the mausoleum. Westby, Carlton, Cole and Ann Tumbler are by her side.

In the background. An abundance of people stand in the rain, their hands overflowing with different color flowers.

Back under the canopy. A PRIEST watches two PALLBEARERS push King Nathan's casket inside the vault.

PRIEST  
In the name of our beloved Father  
in heaven.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
(sniffling)  
Rest in peace my loving husband.

The king's stern guard, GENERAL PETTICOAT, late 40s and white turns to Jazaline.

GENERAL PETTICOAT  
Queen. Your stagecoach is ready.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 (sniffling)  
 Thank you, General Petticoat.

Captain Fina walks up to the stagecoach and opens the door while General Petticoat holds an umbrella above Queen Jazaline and Ann Tumbler's heads, walking them to the stagecoach.

Westby, dry eyes and cold hearted stares at Carlton's tear stained face and whispers as Cole listens nonchalantly.

PRINCE WESTBY  
 A king showing weakness to his  
 people--never!

Westby storms off towards the stagecoach. Carlton follows, saddened by his brother's hatred.

EXT. CITY OF TYRE - DAY

The skies above the spectacular palace are clear. Cows graze on green grassy hills while MEN cut grand wheat fields.

INT. CASTLE - BIRTH ROOM - DAY

Jordyn is now KING and in his late 40s. He stands next to his 40 year old wife, QUEEN CATHERINE. She's just given birth to a baby boy, PRINCE ZACHARIAH.

NURSE #1 brings the baby over to the king so he can see his son while NURSE #2 tends to Catherine.

KING JORDYN  
 Why hasn't he cried?

NURSE #1  
 I don't know.

Nurse #1 and Jordyn stare into Zachariah's eyes. The baby's eyes are wide open, but he's not making a sound.

By the queen's bedside. Nurse #2 covers Catherine's body with a sheet, walking over to the king.

NURSE #2  
 Sorry king, she's passed on.

Nurse #1 exits with the prince in hand followed by Nurse #2.

Now alone Jordyn sobs heavily.

EXT. HILLSIDE CEMETERY - DAY

It's cold somewhat windy. King Jordyn's accompanied at his wife's dirt covered grave by Nurse #1. She holds Prince Zachariah.

KING JORDYN  
 (to Nurse #1)  
 Remove the baby from the cold.

She takes the baby to an awaiting stagecoach, climbing in.

GENERAL WATSON, late 40s and black with a medium build walks up to King Jordyn and places his left hand on Jordyn's shoulder. His armor, like all the ROYAL ARMOR of Tyre is embroidered with the same branded crest that graces the skin of Jordyn's left shoulder.

GENERAL WATSON  
 My condolences, King Jordyn.

Jordyn nods "Yes."

CAPTAIN CARMEAN is 22, black and very dedicated to protecting the City of Tyre. He walks up to the king and bows down on one knee, his eyes on Jordyn's feet.

CAPTAIN CARMEAN  
 Sorry king.

Jordyn looks at his general, then touches Captain Carmean's head. Carmean rises to his feet. The General and Captain's sympathetic eyes locate Jordyn's.

KING JORDYN  
 (mourning eyes)  
 This day's most painful.

EXT. CITY OF AURORA - CLOUDY DAY

"Ten Years Later." The bright green manicured hills of the past are brownish and near dead looking. The golden wheat fields are now dead rolling hills of one inch stubble.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

BARLEY, a white mid 40 year old fat man (the bully type) with a scruffy beard stands in front of a produce stand. He examines the rather worn out looking fruits and vegetables with a boy we'll call LUKE.

ITCH and STITCH are two men of 20 with scary teeth. Both suck ups (Itch white/Stitch black) stand next to Barley, their leader.

BARLEY

Luke, you expect me to spend my hard earned money on this rubbish?

LUKE

(carefree)

Nope.

Barely smiles as he grabs apples and potatoes.

BARLEY

That's what I'm talking about.

LUKE

Not so fast git.

Barley frowns.

STITCH

Thought you said he didn't have to pay.

LUKE

He doesn't, Stitch. He's on government assistance from the queen. And according to my ledger--  
(Luke peeks at his little notebook)  
He's scored his take for the week.

ITCH

Ha, ha, ha! Government assistance.

BARLEY

Hush your mouth, Luke.

Barely drops the produce, shifting his eyes on the people commuting through the courtyard. A JESTER in his late 20s catches the bully's eyes.

BARLEY (CONT'D)

(shout)

Hey Jester, come here! I need a good laugh.

The Jester cringes, whistling his way toward the produce stand.

CLOSE UP ON the Jester's face. A tomato smashes into a million pieces.

NORMAL FRAME

The Jester stands next to Barley. Wiping tomato off his face.

JESTER  
What you do that for?

BARLEY  
Told you. Needed a good laugh.

Barley, Itch, Stitch, Luke and everyone else in the courtyard busts out laughing for a second, stopping.

The Jester bites his frowning lip, looking toward the sky in deep thought.

ITCH  
What's wrong, Jester? Cat got your tongue?

STITCH  
Ha, ha, ha.

Luke points to Itch.

LUKE  
Good one. Ha, ha, ha.

A gaping smile covers the Jester's face. He quickly cuts his innocent eyes at Barley.

JESTER  
I'm...so sad.

BARLEY  
Why?

JESTER  
Well. I was just taking these chocolate chip cookies--

The Jester pulls a brown sack cloth from his jacket pocket, waving it at Barley.

JESTER (CONT'D)  
Over to your house Barley. Assumed we were friends.

Barley flicks his eyes at Itch and Stitch to "Play Along" then briefly hugs the Jester.

BARLEY  
 (crooked smile)  
 We are, Jester. Sorry our jokes  
 have hurt your tender feelings.  
 Ain't it so boys?

Itch and Stitch agree in unison.

ITCH  
 Yeah boss.

STITCH  
 Yeah boss.

Barley removes the cookies from the Jester's hands gently.

BARLEY  
 (nasty teeth smile)  
 Lemme take these freely delicious  
 cookies off your hands.

Barley, Itch and Stitch tear into the bag devouring the  
 cookies in record time.

The Jester laughs violently. Barley, Itch and Stitch stare  
 at the Jester. Their eyes are curious, faces smeared with  
 chocolate.

ITCH  
 What's so funny fool?

The Jester stops laughing for a moment. His face is dead  
 serious for a second--then.

JESTER  
 (pained laugh)  
 Ha, ha, ha!

The Jester slaps his right knee with his right hand. Stitch  
 hollers.

STITCH  
 Jester!

The Jester stops laughing.

JESTER  
 (animated cringe)  
 What is it, Itch, Stitch? There a  
 dog growling in your stomach?

Barley grabs the Jester. Drawing back to punch him angrily.



BARLEY

Ahhh!

Barley stops mid swing. Placing his right hand on his stomach.

Itch farts. Barley, the Jester and Stitch look at Itch. Stitch laughs.

STITCH

Better hit the latrine.

Stitch farts long and loud, surprising himself. The Jester looks at Barley.

JESTER

To the commode 'for you have a poops-a-daisy, sir.

Barley releases the Jester. Holding his gurgling stomach with both hands, gritting his teeth.

BARLEY

Me tummy don't feel yummy.

The Jester pats Barley on the butt. Barley flinches.

JESTER

You fellows have devoured Maw Paw cookies.

There's a sigh of "Oh No" from everyone in the courtyard as Barley finds the Jester's eyes.

BARLEY

Cookies of the old men and women?

JESTER

They'll keep you regular.

The Jester smiles big. Barley, Itch and Stitch hold their butt cheeks as their stomachs GROWL like a pack of dogs.

A second later. As all three men use the bathroom on themselves awful gas sounds echo causing everybody in the courtyard to taunt and tease the three bullies.

JESTER (CONT'D)

I better be going.

The Jester takes off running. Barley, Itch and Stitch watch the Jester flee. They scream in unison.

BARLEY  
Jester!

ITCH  
Jester!

STITCH  
Jester!

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

Prince Westby now 25 stands in front of two middle age goons. HECKY is skinny and black, JAKE the fat white leader.

PRINCE WESTBY  
I want him terminated immediately.

JAKE  
You have the gold?

At the alleyway entrance. The Jester walks slowly, easing to a stop. His eyes scan the prince and two goons.

Back on Westby, Jake and Hecky. Westby retrieves the gold from his pocket, giving it to Jake. Westby, Jake and Hecky spot the Jester at the same time.

JAKE (CONT'D)  
Scram Jester! This ain't your business.

The Jester kicks rocks, walking away.

PRINCE WESTBY  
Don't mess this up vagrant.

JAKE  
Mind your mouth prince...or is it king?

HECKY  
(laughs)  
Easy Jake.

PRINCE WESTBY  
Good enough rodents. Off I go.

Westby walks away.

INT. CASTLE - JAZALINE'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

She occupies a chair. Cole rubs her shoulders like a dog in heat, seductively.

COLE  
Your hair smells like--  
(he breathes in the scent  
of her hair)  
The berries of a lion's tree.

Jazaline grows very uncomfortable. She cuts her eyes at Cole.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Is their such a tree? It's late.  
You should be going.

Cole flicks his eyebrows at Jazaline. Removing a paper from his pocket, showing it to her.

COLE  
Carlton will be crowned King of  
Aurora in two days. You'll have no  
choice, but be mine.

Jazaline's laugh disagrees.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
He'd never curse me with such  
terror.

A knock at the door. Jazaline calls out quickly.

QUEEN JAZALINE (CONT'D)  
Do enter. Right away.

Ann Tumbler enters, a tray with two wine glasses in hand. She walks clumsily toward the queen, tripping when she's within two feet of her. The filled wine glasses saturate Cole's face and jacket.

COLE  
Idiot! Leave this chamber!

Ann attempts to exit.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
No. She's welcome, you're not.

Cole's eyes flip for the worst.

COLE  
Come Hades or high water, your hand  
will be mine in matrimony.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
(nostrils flare)  
As of now, I'm the queen of this  
castle. See your way out or be  
imprisoned for the night.

Cole dumps his head in haste. His lips twisting like he's  
bit into sour apples.

COLE  
I will have the last laugh, milady.

He bows ignorantly, dipping out of the room as Ann walks up  
to the queen scared.

ANN TUMBLER  
Evil's here, in the City of Aurora.  
What are we to do?

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Let things play their course.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

The Jester walks and whistles in a carefree manner. He spots  
a black MALE BODY of 25 sprawled out in the center of the  
alley floor, twenty feet ahead.

JESTER  
(recognizing)  
Prince Carlton.

There's no response. The Jester walks up to him. Bends  
down, grabs Carlton's left hand. Lifts it in the air, then  
drops it.

JESTER (CONT'D)  
(laugh)  
Bit too much to drink, 'eh prince?

A WOMAN enters the alleyway LANTERN in hand. She speaks in a  
drunk mumble.

WOMAN  
That you Jester?

The Jester's nervously apprehensive.

JESTER

Uh, uh, yeah. Move on, I'm helping  
my drunk friend.

She inches closer. Her lantern ILLUMINATES the left side of  
Prince Carlton's face. She's scared for her life.

WOMAN

You killed...the prince.

JESTER

Absolutely not. Found 'em here as  
is. There's no need to--

WOMAN

(piercing scream)  
The Jester killed the prince!

JESTER

Crap!

The Jester flees as a group of MEN and WOMEN rush to the dead  
prince's side.

In the background. Cole stays hidden under a CLOAK. His  
smile is of joyous misery.

EXT. CITY OF TYRE - DAY

Drizzling rain falls. Anorexic cows walk around the  
unhealthy pastures. A handful of MEN stare at the dead wheat  
fields.

A WANTED POSTER with the Jester's face has been nailed to a  
tree. The reward amount reads: "50.000 Pounds."

INT. CASTLE - GRAND CASTLE ROOM - DAY

A ROUND TABLE is positioned in the middle of the room with  
twelve chairs. King Jordyn occupies the sixth chair. In the  
chair closest to Jordyn's right is 40 year old NELSON KAYLIB,  
a white head advisor. In the chair to Jordyn's left is 50  
year old RICHARD KENNETH, a black doctor. The other eight  
chairs are filled with MEN baring little significance to the  
story.

KING JORDYN

It's like his sadness is sucking  
life out of the City of Tyre.

NELSON

Our cows won't graze or milk--

RICHARD  
Nor flocks lay eggs.

The kings sighs.

INT. CASTLE - PRINCE ZACHARIAH'S ROOM - DAY

The 10 year old PRINCE is on his bed staring at a painting of his mother, Queen Catherine, hanging on the wall.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

General Watson stands next to Captain Carmean. The military men are on each side of the Jester.

GENERAL WATSON  
New around these parts, 'eh?

JESTER  
(play it of smile)  
Rightfully so. Seems like a  
terrific city to live in.

Carmean nods to Watson. Watson's smile is sly, his right hand behind his back clutching a copy of the Jester's WANTED POSTER.

GENERAL WATSON  
We'll make sure your stay is a  
memorable one--what you say your  
name was?

INT. CASTLE - GRAND CASTLE ROOM - DAY

At the round table. King Jordyn stares at Richard. Nelson and the other men at the table pay close attention.

KING JORDYN  
Tell me doctor. Why didn't he cry  
at birth?

RICHARD  
(scared eyes)  
His ten years of silence is as  
mysterious as the whereabouts of--  
your brother.

Richard's words frustrate the king.

KING JORDYN

I pay you well doctor. Find out why my son has not spoken. And have your men lengthen the search for my--

(his face shifts to  
grieving)

Long, lost brother.

RICHARD (V.O.)

Almost impossible. A man with no name or face.

The counsel room door busts wide open. Watson and Carmean drag the Jester along in handcuffs and shackles.

GENERAL WATSON

King, we've caught the murdering Jester.

JESTER

(funny frown)

It's a lie!

NELSON

(outburst)

Behead him!

The Jester pleads comically.

JESTER

Please, don't do it.

KING JORDYN

Silence!

NELSON

Sorry, Your Highness.

Jordyn nods his head, his face is serious.

KING JORDYN

Fine job General Watson, Captain Carmean. Toss him in the dungeon. I'll summon Queen Jazaline of Aurora.

GENERAL WATSON

Yes, Your Highness.

Watson helps Carmean drag the Jester out of the room.

INT. CASTLE - JAZALINE'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

She's on her bed reading a letter.

CLOSE UP ON LETTER:

KING JORDYN (O.S.)

"Dear Queen Jazaline. My  
condolences are with you and your  
city. I'm pleased to inform you  
that my royal guards have caught  
the Jester of Aurora. I've set  
aside my urge to move forth with  
this sinister man's execution with  
all do respect to your personal  
wishes. Sorry for your loss. King  
Jordyn of Tyre."

NORMAL FRAME

Jazaline gets off the bed, placing the letter on a night  
stand.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Captain Fina.

Fina enters.

CAPTAIN FINA

You called queen?

QUEEN JAZALINE

Have the messenger return a letter  
to King Jordyn of Tyre.

CAPTAIN FINA

At once queen.

INT. CASTLE - JORDYN'S QUARTERS - DAY

He's on his bed. He views a letter for a second. Drops it  
on the bed. Gets up and runs out the door.

INT. ZACHARIAH'S ROOM - DAY

He's in a chair, a blank look covering his face. Richard  
examines the prince starting with his eyes then ears.  
Richard uses a tool to tap Zachariah's knee, there's no  
reflex. Richard's puzzled.



RICHARD  
 (to self)  
 Physically numb. His soul carries  
 the burden.

INT. CASTLE - GRAND CASTLE ROOM - DAY

Nelson growls at six MILITARY MEN, handing them a handful of  
 REWARD POSTERS.

NELSON  
 Distribute these. Let it be known  
 the reward's been raised. One  
 hundred thousand pounds to the  
 person who locates King Jordyn's  
 long, lost brother.

The military men exit in a hurry.

INT. CASTLE - ROYAL DINING ROOM - DAY

Watson and Carmean stand next to a big map Europe, their eyes  
 on England.

KING JORDYN (O.S.)  
 General Watson!

Watson looks around frantically. The sound of the king's  
 panicked voice freaks him out.

GENERAL WATSON  
 In the dining room, Your Highness.

The king enters. Watson and Carmean bow down on their knees.

KING JORDYN  
 My boys, off your knees.

CAPTAIN CARMEAN  
 But king--

KING JORDYN  
 (excited)  
 Enough already. King, king, king.  
 Your Highness, Your Highness, Your  
 Highness! For the rest of the day  
 you're both to call me Jordyn.

GENERAL WATSON  
 But king--

The king slaps Watson. Carmean's eyes light up when the king busts out laughing, pointing his finger.

KING JORDYN

I warned you, General Watson. Come on, Captain Carmean. Put a good smack on my cheek.

CAPTAIN CARMEAN

(nervous laugh)

I couldn't never do such a thing.

The king smacks Carmean. Carmean's reflexes take over, his right palm lands with a CRACK on Jordyn's right cheek.

CAPTAIN CARMEAN (CONT'D)

(wide eyes)

Oh! My! God!

KING JORDYN

Ha, ha, ha!

Jordyn dances in circles, returning to Carmean and Watson's side. All three men laugh whole heartily for a second or so.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)

My boys, Queen Jazaline's on her way to the City of Tyre. We must clean the castle up. You know, a showing of respect for a--  
(his smile is desirous)  
Beautiful woman.

Watson and Carmean stare at one another. It's painful for Watson to call Jordyn by his name. His words come out like he has marbles in his mouth.

GENERAL WATSON

Jordyn, the castle will be spotless upon the queen's arrival.

Jordyn looks at Carmean.

KING JORDYN

While he's at that, have the cooks prepare a gargantuan meal.

CAPTAIN CARMEAN

Yes k--

Jordyn flinches like he's going to smack Carmean. Carmean yells in startled, comical fear.

CAPTAIN CARMEAN (CONT'D)

No! Jordyn!

Brief silence--Jordyn, Watson and Carmean erupt in laughter. Jordyn grabs Watson and Carmean by the cheeks, staring into their eyes.

KING JORDYN

It's time our kingdom has a queen.  
Maybe having a mother will rescue  
my son from his silent world.

All three men share an optimistic look as Nelson and Richard rush in the room and up to the king.

RICHARD

Deeper examination of the prince  
reveals his soul is where the  
burden lies.

NELSON

The search has been extended for  
you brother, the reward increased  
to one hundred thousand pounds.

KING JORDYN

Wonderful. One of our greatest  
obstacles might soon be out of the  
way.

Richard responds quickly.

RICHARD

And that is?

The king's eyes scan Richard, Nelson, Watson and Carmean's eyes.

KING JORDYN

Prince Zachariah's silence.

Richard and Nelson are silently awed by Jordyn's words.

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - DAY

Royal trumpets BLOW. Jazaline's stagecoach is parked next to a RED CARPET.

Jordyn stands by the castle door, Watson and Carmean by his side. Jordyn watches the queen exit, Cole, Ann Tumbler and Westby behind her.

KING JORDYN  
Such an honor, Queen Jazaline.

Watson draws his sword, leaping off the castle steps toward Cole. Cole's sword is produced quickly, much inviting of the challenge.

COLE  
We meet again, General Watson!

GENERAL WATSON  
Feeding your ribs to my sword will be fulfilling.

KING JORDYN  
General Watson! Disengage at once.

Watson's mouth snarls.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Cole, end this violent debauchery now.

Cole plays the victim. He's careless.

COLE  
Only defending myself, my lady.

Jordyn steps between the two men, eyes on Jazaline. They sheath their swords.

KING JORDYN  
Forgive my general's ignorance.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
I do.

Jordyn glances at Watson.

KING JORDYN  
In my quarters at once.

Cole's laugh is sudden. Jordyn stares at Cole through tense eyes.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
An enemy of Watson's is no friend of mine.

INT. CASTLE - JORDYN'S QUARTERS - DAY

Watson stands at attention. Jordyn paces, irritated.

KING JORDYN  
Have a go at me. Or does your  
anger carry purpose?

GENERAL WATSON  
(stands firm)  
It does Your Highness.

KING JORDYN  
In what form?

Watson bites his lip as his eyes lock on Jordyn.

GENERAL WATSON  
You wouldn't understand.

KING JORDYN  
Humor me, since you judged his book  
without a cover.

GENERAL WATSON  
Pardon my damn French Your  
Highness, but that man a once  
govern knight mind you is  
responsible for my cousin's death.

KING JORDYN  
Is that so?!

GENERAL WATSON  
Yes. If my memory serves me  
correctly, you and I fought side by  
side to win this city back from--  
(he raises his voice)  
The atrocious govern knights, sir!

Jordyn glances at the ceiling like a man who was once an  
equal rank of the general before finding Watson's eyes.

KING JORDYN  
And you're sure this man, Cole, was  
indeed a govern knight?

GENERAL WATSON  
Don't recall that being his name--  
but yes, as if my life depended on  
it, Your Highness.

A second passes.

GENERAL WATSON (CONT'D)  
From a young age I vowed death to  
protect the royal family, this  
city, and the people in it.  
(MORE)

GENERAL WATSON (CONT'D)

Please king, don't force me to love  
this enemy.

Jordyn walks up to Watson, placing his right hand on the  
general's shoulder.

KING JORDYN

Never would I force you to do  
something against your will. You  
have taken the lives of men, yes?

GENERAL WATSON

I have.

KING JORDYN

To me you have expressed your  
prayers for their loved ones to  
forgive you, correct?

GENERAL WATSON

I have.

Jordyn's smile glows with wisdom.

KING JORDYN

The path to forgiveness leads two  
ways. If you seek forgiveness you  
must first forgive.

Watson stares into Jordyn's eyes forever. Jordyn exits the  
room humbly.

INT. CASTLE - ROYAL DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Jazaline, Jordyn, Zachariah, Ann Tumbler, Westby, Cole,  
Watson, Carmean, Petticoat, Fina, Nelson and Richard sit a  
huge table. Food is plentiful. Everyone eats, drinks and  
laughs with the exception of Prince Zachariah.

EXT. COURTYARD - NIGHT

The moon above the castle is full, casting off a slight blue  
glow. Jazaline's eyes tear up as she walks next to Jordyn in  
the silence of the night.

QUEEN JAZALINE

I don't understand it. The Jester  
didn't seem to have a terrible bone  
in his body, yet he murdered my--

She breaks down. Jordyn pulls her close, holds her tight.

QUEEN JAZALINE (CONT'D)

Carlton.

Jordyn's face shows concern.

KING JORDYN

If it will make you feel better,  
I'll put him through the guillotine  
twice.

QUEEN JAZALINE

(laughs)

That's so romantic in a silly way.  
I shouldn't burden you with all my  
troubles.

KING JORDYN

I wouldn't call the misfortunes of  
losing a husband and son troubles,  
my lady. I'd say it was...deeply  
painful.

QUEEN JAZALINE

For a king, you're very caring.

KING JORDYN

I speak from experience, my lady.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Please, tell me of your misfortunes-  
-I mean, experiences.

He removes his jacket. Lays it on the bench, nodding to the queen. She accepts his offer. When she sits their eyes connect. The coolness of the air rides off Jordyn's breath.

KING JORDYN

My wife, Queen Catherine, was a  
vibrant woman--one of a kind I tell  
you. She passed ten years ago  
giving birth to our son, Zachariah.

QUEEN JAZALINE

(sympathetic eyes)

So sad.

KING JORDYN

Yes. And despite the pain of  
losing my soul mate and best  
friend, the rain's ceased to  
subside going on ten years now.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Elaborate.

He looks toward the moon.

KING JORDYN

(glassy eyes)

My son never cried at birth, or  
spoke a sounding word. Ten years  
of silence has almost eroded this  
kingdom.

They lock eyes, the moment's somber. She stands, he follows quickly--they're face to face. She reaches slowly to peck him on the cheek. His eyelids flicker, then close.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)

(mumble)

Honey from heaven.

Her lips stop short of Jordyn's cheek, his belling blocking her effort. She whispers.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Thank you.

An (O.S.) cough ruins the moment. Cole walks up to Jordyn and Jazaline. His actions are antagonistically rude.

COLE

Par-done me. Did I disrupt  
something?

Jordyn squints his eyes at Cole sending a silent "I got your number" message as Jazaline nods her head to Jordy.

QUEEN JAZALINE

We'll speak at sunrise.

KING JORDYN

In private, my lady.

Cole cringes as if Jordyn's words nauseate him.

EXT. CASTLE BALCONY - DAY

Jordyn sits next to Jazaline, Westby beside Zachariah. Cole stands at the rear of the balcony entrance behind the king, queen and princes.

In the middle of the courtyard is a guillotine platform. A crowd pf PEOPLE wait for the execution to begin. Jake, Hecky, Barley, Itch and Stitch from Aurora mingle through the crowd picking pockets and talking trash. Luke of Aurora keeps an eye on the thugs when all of a sudden, Royal Trumpets BLOW!



BARLEY

Itch, Stitch. Let's push our way  
to the front.

People heckle the misfits.

On the balcony. Jordyn stands, his eyes locate General  
Watson next to a door leading to a dungeon.

KING JORDYN

Proceed with the execution!

Jordyn sits down.

By the dungeon door. Watson opens the door. Carmean,  
Petticoat, Watson, Fina and a few other GUARDS escort the  
Jester through the door, walking slowly toward the guillotine  
platform. The handcuffed and shackled Jester is in good  
spirits, singing.

JESTER

(big smile)

This little light of mine, I'm  
going to let it shine.

CAPTAIN CARMEAN

Hush, fool!

The Jester looks at Carmean, humming "This Little Light of  
Mine."

ANN TUMBLER (O.S.)

Oh, excuse me. Ow! Coming  
through.

Ann Tumbler comes out of nowhere, SLAMMING into the Jester.  
Her hair is tangled up in his cuffs. Ann and the Jester's  
eyes lock, it's love at first sight.

ANN TUMBLER (CONT'D)

Are you a lying murderer?

The Jester frowns, funnily offended.

JESTER

Never murdered, or lied.

Ann becomes a touch serious.

ANN TUMBLER

Argue your innocence.

JESTER

In their eyes, I'm guilty. So be  
it, probably be in a better place  
after today.

Watson breaks Ann's locks loose. He helps Fina, Petticoat  
and Carmean drag the Jester up on the platform--the crowd  
CHEERS.

The Jester stares at the guillotine, then falls to the ground  
on his back. He looks at Carmean and Watson through puppy  
dog eyes.

JESTER (CONT'D)

Dingbat guards, my demise will be  
met...I'm a brittle Jester of  
little threat.

The crowd and Ann Tumbler have a good laugh. Barley points  
to the Jester. Everybody in the courtyard and balcony pay  
close attention.

BARLEY

Jester, you're more than a threat.  
You're a pest.

Nobody in the courtyard or balcony laughs. They all frown,  
then shout in unison.

EVERYBODY

Shut up, fat man!

The Jester laughs boombly. After he kicks his feet and  
moves his hands the best he can for a moment, everybody  
(except Barley and Zachariah) laugh their butts off.

A few seconds later. Jordyn catches his breath, then becomes  
serious.

KING JORDYN

Move forward with justice.

Ann Tumbler finds her way to the balcony. She whispers to  
the queen, pleading.

ANN TUMBLER

The Jester's innocent, said he  
didn't murder the prince.

QUEEN JAZALINE

You been drinking?

Ann begs.

ANN TUMBLER

No, this fool mustn't be beheaded.  
Investigate first, my lady.

Jordyn stands, he's dead serious.

KING JORDYN

Jester. On the behalf of Queen  
Jazaline of Aurora the high court  
of Tyre renders a unanimous  
decision and rules execution by  
beheading to be just and proper.

Jordyn nods to an EXECUTION GUARD standing next to the guillotine. A black mask covers the executioner's head and an axe is in his hand.

Petticoat looks at the Jester.

GENERAL PETTICOAT

May the Lord have mercy on your  
soul.

Execution Guard slams the axe into the rope--WHOOSH goes the razor sharp gate toward the Jester's neck. The people in the courtyard, on the platform and in the balcony close their eyes--THWACK.

Everyone opens their eyes surprised to see the headless Jester standing upright on the platform swinging his arms.

JESTER

Who turned out the lights?

Fina and Petticoat step away from the Jester. Execution Guard swings the axe at the Jester's body. The Jester jumps backwards popping his head out of the top of his jacket, frowning.

JESTER (CONT'D)

Easy, pal!

KING JORDYN

(screams)  
Kill that Jester!

JESTER

(hilarious frown)  
Who...me!

The Jester slips out of the shackles and cuffs doing a funny dance in front of the guards surrounding him.

He lifts his left knee in the air and bends his right shoulder forward, then lefts his right knee in the air and brings his left shoulder forward as an old folk version of a karate song plays. The Jester sings as he ducks and dodges the guards coming at him.

JESTER (CONT'D)  
I was kung fu fighting, yah!

The Jester discretely removes a lamb skin whoopi cushion from under his shirt and places it on a make shift log chair. Watson grabs for the Jester, but it's a miss. The Jester kicks Watson in the bread-basket. Watson holds his stomach as his face contorts and his derriere hits the log chair.

Immediate silence followed by a loud echoing FART through the courtyard.

PRINCE ZACHARIAH (O.S.)  
Ha, ha, ha!

Every head in the courtyard turns to face the balcony. King Jordyn is in shock, gazing at his son.

KING JORDYN  
(stammer)  
My boy, you've spoken.

On the platform. Petticoat grabs the Jester, drags him to the guillotine, locks him in position and turns to the Execution Guard.

GENERAL PETTICOAT  
Cut the rope.

The guard cuts the rope, the gate, the gate ROARS.

KING JORDYN  
No!

Execution Guard uses his axe to stop the gate. The Jester makes a GULP sound. His eyes are on the razor sharp gate an inch away from his frail neck.

JESTER  
Think I wet my pants.

Platform occupants laugh at the Jester as Jordyn rises to his feet.

KING JORDYN  
General Watson, place the Jester in the dungeon and protect him with your life!

GENERAL WATSON  
Yes, Your Highness.

Jazaline's eyes are understanding as they locate Jordyn's.

INT. CASTLE - JORDYN'S QUARTERS - DAY

He's standing while Jazaline's in a chair. Jordyn's hopeful and sad.

KING JORDYN  
It's the first time I've ever heard  
my son's voice, my lady.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
(crackling voice)  
Understandable. I'd give anything  
to hear Carlton's...sweet voice.

KING JORDYN  
Please, give me two weeks to figure  
out the mystery of how this Jester  
woke my sleeping son.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Granted.

She rises to her feet, walks up to Jordyn and places her hand on his shoulder with a serious look on her face.

QUEEN JAZALINE (CONT'D)  
A man of your word?

He puffs out his chest.

KING JORDYN  
I am.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
I'll return in two weeks to  
confirm.

There's no words that come out. The king and queen just look at each other somberly. Both are dealing with the loss of loved ones in a similar way. Jazaline turns and finds her way out the door.

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - NIGHT

Westby whispers to Hecky and Jake.

FLASHBACK - ALLEYWAY - DAY

The Jester watches Westby hand Jake the bag of gold. Jake, Hecky and Westby look at the Jester.

END FLASHBACK - ALLEYWAY - DAY

NORMAL FRAME

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - NIGHT

Westby stares at Hecky and Jake.

WESTBY  
Kill him, you'll receive your gold  
when the deed is done.

Luke of Aurora hides behind a barrel eavesdropping = on Westby, Jake and Hecky. The three men remain silent as they peer into one another's panicked eyes.

EXT. JAZALINE'S STAGECOACH - MOVING - NIGHT

She looks out the window and sings through sad eyes.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
There's no loss--

CUT TO:

INT. CASTLE - NIGHT

Jordyn stands outside of Zachariah's room. He stares through a crack in the bedroom door watching sadly as the prince gazes at a painting of his mother in a bit of a daze.

KING JORDYN  
(sings)  
Like that of a son--

CUT TO:

INT. PRISON DUNGEON - NIGHT

A piece of bread and steel cup of water rest on a rock table next to the Jester. He stares at a handfull of his fellow decrepit looking JAIL-BIRDS at the back of the cell, then sings.

JESTER  
Or be locked up...for a deed not  
done.

The Jester's fellow jail-birds shake their heads in agreement.

INT. CASTLE COMMON AREA - DAY

Three royal chairs are placed in a circle facing each other. Jordyn's in one, the prince one of the other's.

Watson enters, the cuffed and shackled Jester in tow.

KING JORDYN

(smile)

Off with the irons, not around the boy.

Watson does so, finding the Jester's eyes.

GENERAL WATSON

Don't try noth--

KING JORDYN

You can leave now, General Watson.

Watson exits.

The Jester plops down, keeping his eyes on the emotionless Zachariah.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)

Good day, Jester.

Jordyn reaches out to shake the Jester's hand. The Jester uses both hands to feel his frail neck in an, "I'm glad it's still there" type way before shaking the king's hand.

JESTER

Top of the morning, sir.

Jordyn uses his right index finger to count all the finger on his left hand.

KING JORDYN

One, two, three--ah yes, we must work quickly.

(lifts both brows)

I promised the queen your head in two weeks.

JESTER

(fake laugh)

You don't say.

KING JORDYN  
Make my son laugh again.

The Jester springs into action--walking back and forth, eyes focused on the prince.

A second later. The Jester runs up to the prince, sticks out his tongue, crosses his eyes and yells.

JESTER  
Ahhh!

Nothing. The prince doesn't flinch.

KING JORDYN  
Wha', wha', what'd you do on the platform? That will make him laugh.

JESTER  
Stand up, king!

The king rises as the Jester produces a lambskin whoopi cushion, putting it in the king's chair.

JESTER (CONT'D)  
Quick your hineyness, in front of the chair.

Jordyn follows instructions.

The Jester kicks Jordyn in the gut. Jordyn frowns and gasps for air as his butt finds its mark, a loud FART echoes through the room.

PRINCE ZACHARIAH  
Ha, ha, ha!

Zachariah holds his sides. His laughs are music to Jordyn's ears.

The Jester smiles BIG.

JESTER  
Ha, ha, ha...you don't have to kill me now, do you?

Jordyn clutches his belly. His speaks through a winded laugh as his eyes scream "Pay Back."

KING JORDYN  
To the contrary.



Jordyn turns to his son. The prince's face has again turned emotionless.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
I've missed your voice, prince.  
Preparations are being made for ten  
years of gifts and birthday  
parties. Will that make you laugh  
again?

The prince stares at his father through silent eyes.

JESTER  
Be nice, prince. Your father loves  
you.

KING JORDYN  
(starts to cry)  
He'll never speak to me.

The Jester gets close to the prince, makes a funny face and uses his hands to make swirls on invisible glass like a mime. Zachariah smiles, mimicking the Jester.

JESTER  
Look, king. He's smiling.

KING JORDYN  
For you, not me.

Jordyn slumps down in the chair. The Jester eyes Jordyn, sympathetically.

JESTER  
You have my word. I'll mend he,  
whose bond is all so--  
(drags words)  
Painful.

KING JORDYN  
(calls out)  
General Watson.

Watson enters.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
Escort the Jester to the dungeon.

GENERAL WATSON  
Yes, Your Highness.

KING JORDYN  
See to it his meal and blanket are  
worthy.

LATER SAME

EXT. CITY OF TYRE - NIGHT

A reward poster of the crest branded on Jordyn's left shoulder has been nailed to a tree.

INSERT - CREST REWARD POSTER

"100,000 POUND REWARD FINDING THE MAN BARING THIS CREST!"

NORMAL FRAME

EXT. CITY OF TYRE - NIGHT

Jake steers a horse driven wagon past the tree with the reward poster. Hecky secures a big burlap sack at the back of the wagon. The Jester moves around inside the sack.

JESTER (O.S.)  
I have rights, too.

HECKY  
Shut up, fool.

JESTER  
(whispers)  
I can't hear you.

Hecky bends down close, his right eye an inch away from the sack.

Inside the sack, through a small hole. The Jester stares at Hecky's right eye momentarily frowning.

Outside the sack. Jake looks at Hecky. Hecky smiles as he points to the sack, his right eye still close.

HECKY  
What's that, Jester?

The Jester's fist smashes through the bag. The hard connection causes the idiot to cringe painfully.

HECKY (CONT'D)  
Owww!

JAKE  
Ha, ha, ha!

JESTER (O.S.)  
Ha, ha, ha--I can hear you now.

INT. PRISON DUNGEON - NIGHT

Jordyn evaluates the empty cell. Nelson, Watson and Carmean stand by the king's side.

KING JORDYN  
The queen stole the Jester. Her  
eyes will read my furry.

INT. CASTLE - JAZALINE'S QUARTERS - DAY

She's on her bed reading a letter. Petticoat and Cole enter, making way to the queen's bedside.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Huh! Jordyn's accused me of  
stealing the Jester.

GENERAL PETTICOAT  
(under breath)  
Nonsense.

She eyes Petticoat, one eyebrow raised.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Ready the carriage and royal  
guards. I'll address his remarks  
face to face.

Petticoat shoots the queen a crap eating grin.

GENERAL PETTICOAT  
Accusations, accusations.

Petticoat exits.

Cole's eyes are sneaky. He sits on the queen's bed, casting a slithering smile.

COLE  
A man who desires a woman would  
never be so judgmental.

She finds Cole's eyes, gullibly.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
You are correct, Cole--as much as I  
hate to admit it.

He lays his right hand on the queen's hand. His eyes are desirously filthy.

COLE  
Westby's approved our union.

Jazaline's dreadful. Her voice lacks enthusiasm as she removes Cole's hands off hers.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
He's not king yet.

Cole stands. His brows slant in a V and words come out in an evil laugh.

COLE  
Soon enough, I'll be your king--  
Jordyn a figment of your  
imagination.

She stares at him contritely.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Who said I want either of you--but  
regardless, our laws would only  
crown you king with the death, or  
banishment of my last living child.  
You might force a marriage, but  
you'll never be king.

He stares at her through angry eyes then storms out.

LATER SAME

EXT. CASTLE BALCONY - DAY

Jazaline places a crown on Westby's head as Cole's eyes light up deceitfully. She looks down at the people of Aurora flooding the courtyard.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
(dreadful eyes)  
Your new king.

The people of Aurora BOO Westby as Jazaline exits the balcony.

INT. WATCHTOWER - NIGHT

A LOOKOUT GUARD catches sight of Jazaline's carriage and rooyal guards coming toward the castle.

LOOKOUT GUARD  
General Watson.

INT. CASTLE - JORDYN'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

He wears night clothes, a stocking cap covers his head. His open eyes are sleepy. Watson is wide awake, pacing next to the king's bed.

GENERAL WATSON  
The queen's waiting calmly, unlike  
her rash maiden.

EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

Ann Tumbler walks away quickly from the queen's carriage toward the castle.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
This is my problem.

ANN TUMBLER  
As much as mine, milady.

Fina grabs Ann's arm. She places her right index finger against his chin.

ANN TUMBLER (CONT'D)  
Release me, pig.

Fina's words come out regretfully.

CAPTAIN FINA  
Leading you wrong wasn't my  
intentions, Ann Tumbler--still, I  
can't permit your entrance to the  
castle.

ANN TUMBLER  
Oink, oink. A man never realizes  
what he's lost 'til she's gone.

Ann pulls away from Fina, headed to the castle.

INT. CASTLE - JORDYN'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

He's dressed and ready to exit when Ann Tumbler barges in.

ANN TUMBLER  
(manic laugh)  
You're in trouble, king!

KING JORDYN  
(cringes)  
Fact or fiction?

ANN TUMBLER  
A bit of both, like a fraction.

KING JORDYN  
The letter's sparked this, yes?

Ann stumbles toward the king, falling to the floor drunkenly.  
Jordyn helps her up in a hurry--whiffing her breath.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
(swelling eyes)  
You're a drunkard.

Ann laughs, unconcerned.

ANN TUMBLER  
The pot calling the kettle black,  
interesting.

KING JORDYN  
Decipher your metaphor.

ANN TUMBLER  
Accusing ass-umption. Need I say  
more?

Jordyn's face shifts to comical worry.

KING JORDYN  
She waiting?

Ann chuckles, rolls her eyes and speaks in a high pitch tone.

ANN TUMBLER  
In the dining room, Your Highness.

He bites his lip.

INT. CASTLE - ROYAL DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Jordyn and Jazaline stand at opposite ends of the table.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
A thief steals, I'm terrible  
insulted by the words in your  
letter.

He's stressed, his speech is hesitant.

KING JORDYN  
If you didn't take the Jester, who  
did?

Jazaline walks toward Jordyn. Their eyes joust as they meet in the middle of the table.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
No clue. But trust me, the truth  
will reveal itself.

GENERAL WATSON (O.S.)  
King!

KING JORDYN  
Enter.

Watson walks up to Jordyn and Jazaline.

GENERAL WATSON  
There's information that will lead  
us to the men who kidnapped the  
Jester.

Jazaline stares at Jordyn, awaiting an apology.

Jordyn turns to Watson.

KING JORDYN  
Pursue them immediately and fetch  
the Jester.

GENERAL WATSON  
Small problem, Your Highness. By  
the time we ready the horses and  
royal guards the morning sun will  
burn bright.

Jordyn nods "Yes" as Watson exits and a brief silence fills the air.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Jordyn, relationships between  
kings, queens, men and women  
require trust.

KING JORDYN  
(raises brow)  
Mistakes of the male ego, milady.  
Forgive my ignorance.

She smiles. It's apparent, they're falling in love.

Cole enters.

COLE

My ears encourage my stomach to vomit--you haven't told him, have you queen?

Jazaline's facial expression suggests she's sickened by Cole's presence.

KING JORDYN

Don't recall summoning you.

Cole takes Jazaline's hand as he locks eyes with Jordyn.

COLE

The laws of Aurora grant the queen's hand to the cousin of a deceased king.

KING JORDYN

Only with the approval of the newly crowned king.

Westby enters, sporting his crown. He smiles at his mother, the Jordyn.

WESTBY

Permission granted.

QUEEN JAZALINE

(points at Westby)

How can you do this...to your own mother?

WESTBY

(laughs)

Stop whimpering, mother. It's nothing personal, just business.

Jazaline snatches her hand away from Cole.

Westby follows Cole out of the room as Jordyn's lips purse, eyes locate Jazaline's.

KING JORDYN

Can't stand that pond scum of a man.

Jazaline's look of anger shifts for the better. She's amused by Jordyn's slight jealousy.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Hah, you're mad. Aren't you?

He takes a breath and cuts his eyes at the ceiling.



KING JORDYN

A touch, milady. One of these days, Cole will meet his match.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Hopefully, before I'm forced to wed the dreary hound from hell.

INT. HIDEOUT - MORNING

Jake and Hecky surround the Jester. Furniture resembling driftwood is scattered throughout the one room shack. The Jester's fists are drawn. Hecky's right eye is black, quite the shiner. Jake winks at Hecky.

JAKE

Ha, ha, ha...you let the Jester whoop you.

HECKY

(mean face)

Be careful. He's very...clever.

Hecky lunges at the Jester. The Jester bobs, weaves, then smashes his fist into Hecky's black eye. Jake laughs uncontrollably while Hecky holds his eye, jumping up and down in intense pain.

JESTER

(sings)

I'm fast like lightening...be careful my friends...one good slip--

Jake lunges at the Jester, it's miss. The Jester leans to the right, both his and Jake's eyes meet. Jake's in the perfect position to get struck in the left eye. The Jester smiles, punching Jake in the eye as he finishes his song.

JESTER (CONT'D)

And I'll do it again!

Hecky and Jake move in close on the Jester, throwing two punches. Hecky's fist hits the Jester's stomach, Jake's fist the Jester's back, DING! Both men hold their fists, again jumping up and down in pain.

The Jester removes two pieces of metal held together by a thin piece of rope from under his shirt, smiles at the CAMERA and drops the metal vest to the ground.

JESTER (CONT'D)

(holds stomach)

Ha, ha, ha!

Hecky and Jake recover, grab the Jester and drag him over to the center of the room. A rope hangs from a rafter. Hecky positions a chair directly underneath the rope. Jake forces the Jester on the chair, both securing the rope around his neck.

JESTER (CONT'D)  
 (panicked voice)  
 It's only black eyes, guys. I'm  
 sorry, really. Let's discuss this  
 like--

A leg on the chair CRACKLES just before the whole thing crumbles. The Jester hangs in the air, tongue out of his mouth in a comical rendition of a man who is dying.

A second later. The Jester's smile fades and eyes close as the hideout door flies off the hinges.

GENERAL WATSON (O.S.)  
 You're sure this is it!

Watson, Carmean, Luke and other guards enter.

LUKE  
 I'm sure!

Two guards hold the Jester up, Watson quickly uses his sword to cut him down. The guards gently lower the Jester to the floor. The Jester coughs, then stands. He shakes his discombobulated head trying to gain back his wits, it doesn't work. His personality has changed 180 degrees, he's not his same old funny self.

JESTER  
 My head hurts.

Watson grits his teeth at Jake and Hecky.

GENERAL WATSON  
 What have you done to the Jester?

HECKY  
 Nothing, sir.

Watson turns to Carmean.

GENERAL WATSON  
 Behead them!

Carmean draws his sword.

JAKE  
 Don't, we're working in straight  
 command from West--

Jake uses both hands to cover his mouth. Carmean places his sword close to Jake's neck. The captain's eyes and mouth are intimidating.

JAKE (CONT'D)  
 Westby of Aurora.

GENERAL WATSON  
 Guards, shackly and toss them on  
 the wagon.

INT. CASTLE COURTROOM - DAY

Jordyn and Jazaline sit center room in two royal chairs surrounded by the people of Tyre and Aurora.

The Jester and Luke from Aurora are on one side of the courtroom. Westby, Hecky and Jake are on the other side. Westby points at Jordyn and Jazline.

WESTBY  
 I don't have to tolerate lies of  
 two peasants and a produce farmer.  
 I'm king by way of my father's  
 blood.

Westby stands, attempting to leave the room. Jazaline clears her throat, nodding to General Petticoat.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 Return him to his seat.

After Petticoat returns Westby to his seat, Jordyn takes over.

KING JORDYN  
 Jake, Hecky. For the murder of  
 prince Carlton and kidnapping and  
 attempted murder of the Jester, I  
 sentence you to...death.

CHEERS from the court goes as Jake and Hecky cringe, their eyes find the floor.

Jazaline stares at Westby. She's disgusted, but calm.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 Deceitful offspring, guilty of  
 murder for hire.  
 (MORE)

QUEEN JAZALINE (CONT'D)  
 Quick death would be too lenient.  
 On the behalf of the people of  
 Aurora, I sentence you to exile--  
 (her eyes freeze over)  
 On the island of leprosy.

A fearful GASP from the court goes as Westby jumps up,  
 pointing at his mother as spit flies from his mouth.

WESTBY  
 Crazy woman.

Petticoat, Fina, Watson and Carmean gather up the convicts  
 and lead them out of the courtroom when--Jazaline calls out.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 Westby.

The military men bring the convicts to a stop. Everybody  
 turns to the queen.

WESTBY  
 (coldly)  
 What is it, mother?

Jazaline's eyes and mouth are calmly vindictive.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 Stop whimpering, son. It's nothing  
 personal, just business.

Westby holds his fist up to his mother, shaking it.

WESTBY  
 How dare you.

Jazaline signals Watson with a flick of her wrist. The  
 military men escort the prisoners out of the courtroom as  
 Jordyn makes eye contact with the Jester.

KING JORDYN  
 Jester, you're cleared of all  
 charges.

Heavy CHEERS from the court goes as Ann Tumbler rushes up,  
 hugging the Jester happily.

ANN TUMBLER  
 Knew you were innocent, handsome  
 funny man.

The Jester shakes his head, his wits not back yet.

JESTER  
Thank you, king.

All eyes are on the Jester as he walks to exit the courtroom.

KING JORDYN  
Jester!

The Jester stops, eyes slowly reaching Jordyn.

JESTER  
Yes, Your Highness?

KING JORDYN  
There's the matter with my son.

JESTER  
How can I help him when I don't  
know myself?

Ann Tumbler and the crowd's facial expressions are sympathetic for the Jester.

KING JORDYN  
Name your wage, I'll pay ten times  
more.

Zachariah looks at the Jester. The Jester stares at Zachariah's slight smile.

JESTER  
Love has no price, king.

KING JORDYN  
Give me two more days of your  
precious time...you're the only one  
who makes my son shine.

JESTER  
Two days it is, then I'm on my way  
to find out who I am. The Jester  
exits the room.

LATER SAME

INT. CASTLE - ROYAL DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Jordyn's at one end of the table, Jazaline the other finishing dinner. The Jester's seated across from Zachariah. Zachariah's smiling at the Jester's bland facial expression. Jordyn and Jazaline cast smiles as they put down their silverwear.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Quite the family dinner, we're all  
bubbling with joy.

The Jester shakes his head and blinks his eyes trying to gain back his wits.

INT. CASTLE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Cole's mug is obsessive. He speaks to himself, mocking the queen.

COLE  
Bubbling with joy.

KING JORDYN (O.S.)  
Jester, do you not feel well?

Cole punches his hand, angered by the king and Jazaline's voices.

COLE  
I'll forcefully inject my misery  
upon the lives of these creatures.

INT. CASTLE - ROYAL DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Zachariah smiles as he leans side to side like a ticking pendulum. The boy's intentions of making the Jester laugh doesn't work.

KING JORDYN  
(off queen's smile)  
Look at my boy.

Jazaline holds her attention on the Jester for a second before turning back to Jordyn.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
It's late. Maybe we should leave  
them alone.

KING JORDYN  
The royal maids have prepared the  
grand room for your final night's  
stay.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
I'm so thankful. After tomorrow's  
execution, I'll return to Aurora.

Jordyn's eyes are saddened.

In the background. Watson stands outside the shadows, flashing a bottle of wine at the king.

On Jazakine and Jordyn. He smiles, she listens.

KING JORDYN  
A night cap, milady?

She approves with a smile.

INT. CASTLE - PRINCE ZACHARIAH'S ROOM - NIGHT

The Jester sits on the bed Indian style. Zachariah's also sitting Indian style, facing the Jester. Zachariah waves his hand back and forth in front of the Jester's face, smiling big.

PRINCE ZACHARIAH  
You know, you make me laugh.

JESTER  
(somber)  
So you say.

The Jester shakes his head and frowns, trying to gain back his wits.

JESTER (CONT'D)  
(to self)  
What's wrong with you, fool?

The prince and Jester lock eyes.

EXT. COURTYARD - NIGHT

Jordyn paces slowly back and forth underneath a stone tower, wine glass in hand. The temperature is cool. The moon shines on him casting off a slight blue glow.

Jazaline sits in the window of the tower with a wine glass in hand, peering down at the king.

KING JORDYN  
(tipsy)  
Jazaline, you make me feel alive.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Is that so?

KING JORDYN  
Yes. And the smell of your hair...makes me dance.

Ge does a silly dance causing her to chuckle.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Flattering, king. The night's  
rather heavy, my eyes desire sleep.

Cole stands behind a wagon, out of sight. He's visibly  
nauseated by Jazsaline and Jordyn's love for one another.

Back on Jordyn. He cuts his eyes toward Jazaline.

KING JORDYN  
Before I go, allow me to read a  
poem I've written for you.

She laughs after a sip of wine. Her cheeks turn rosy.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
So be it charming, read on.

The kning clams up, but gets it together when he sees Watson  
and Carmean giving him two thumbs up from the cover of a  
castle corner. Watson, Carmean and Vole do not catch sight  
of one another.

KING JORDYN  
(clears throat)  
Milady.  
(bows head)  
Before you showed your face in the  
land of this king...my son would  
not smile, my heart not ring--  
(he steps forward and  
pokes out his chest)  
Loneliness lack love, your heart I  
desire...to have your hand would--

A chill runs through the ing's body. His mumble comes out  
loud.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
Restart my fire.

Jordyn downs the rest of his wine, tosses the glass and wipes  
sweat from his forehead as Jazaline applauds, bothered in the  
good way.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Jordyn, wait for me. I'm coming to  
you.



INT. CASTLE - NIGHT

Jazaline runs down a huge set of concrete spiraled steps. She uses her right hand to fan her face.

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - NIGHT

Jazaline rushes up to Jordyn. He holds her in his arms, their eyes dancing.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Such an elegant and loving poem.

Jordyn's breathing is heavy. He does his best to keep control of the tears dancing on his eyelids.

KING JORDYN  
Thank you, milady. Have you found  
your night in shining armor?

Her eyelids flicker, confirming his answer. He moves in for the kiss when--Cole appears out of nowhere, snatching the queen away from Jordyn.

COLE  
Kissing this cud eating fat man! I  
don't think so.

Jazaline tries to pull away from Cole. He twists her arm a little too hard as Luke pokes his head out from behind a beer barrel, listening.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Ouch!

Watson BOLTS from the darkness, sword drawn.

GENERAL WATSON  
Retribution for my cousin's death  
will now be served!

Cole sucks his teeth, pulling his sword fearlessly and carefree.

COLE  
Join your cousin for all I care.

The CLANK of Watson and Cole's swords colliding send sparks flying.

Jordyn and Jazaline hold each other. They shiver in fear as Carmean holds his sword, preparing to join the battle.

GENERAL WATSON  
Easier said than done.

Cole kicks one of Watson's legs from under him. Watson falls to the ground as Cole moves gracefully toward Carmean--slamming his sword unsuspectedly into the captain's, sending it flying in the air where he catches it and cuts Carmean's belt loose, watching his pants fall to the ground.

COLE  
Ha, ha, ha! Amateurs.

Carmean pulls up his pants, joining Jazaline and Jordyn.

Watson leaps to his feet, lunging at Cole. Cole uses his sword in each hand to fend off Watson's savvy techniques. It seems like Watson is about to win the duo when--Cole knocks Watson's sword to the ground, head butts the general and kicks his feet from under him.

CAPTAIN CARMEAN  
Noooo!

Cole places both swords close to Watson's neck. He stares at Jazaline, Jordyn and Carmean.

COLE  
Military men? I beg to differ. No wonder this city was overthrown so easily years ago.

Jordyn's lips twist in anger.

KING JORDYN  
What'd you say?

COLE  
It's of no relevance.

KING JORDYN  
Neither is forcing a woman to love.

In the background. Luke's in deep thought.

Back on Cole and Jordyn.

COLE  
Potato, mush potato. All the same. Besides, the queen's hand is mine.

KING JORDYN  
No! No! No! Westby is no longer king. Jazaline can marry for love, not a muddy law.

Jazaline places her right hand on Jordyn's shoulder. She's disappointed.

QUEEN JAZALINE

He's right. With the death of a king, or banishment of his heirs, marriage of a queen goes to the eldest first cousin of the king. That is according to our law...a law I hope to change one day.

Cole's outburst is childishly taunting.

COLE

That be me. That be me, milady. Let's go. We've got so much to speak about, love.

Jazaline joins Cole. Cole drops Carmean's sword on Watson's chest and laughs as he walks away, Jazaline by his side. He shoots a comment to Watson and Carmean.

COLE (CONT'D)

Practice makes perfect, lads. As of the present, neither of you would bust ripe fruit.

Carmean helps Watson up. The two men join Jordyn.

INT. CASTLE - GRAND CASTLE ROOM - NIGHT

Jazaline's on her bed. Cole stands by the door, scolding her.

COLE

Your actions will not go unpunished.

QUEEN JAZALINE

I, I--

COLE

What! Acted perfidious?

QUEEN JAZALINE

It's not my--

COLE

Save it! I'll deal with you once we reach Aurora and I've changed the laws so I can be crowned king.

He storms out. She takes a seat in the stone tower window of the grand castle room. Her eyes watch Jordyn exiting the courtyard, sadly defeated.

EXT. CITY OF TYRE - NIGHT

Luke rides a galloping horse away from the castle.

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - DAY

All the royal guards, people of Aurora and Tyre surround the gallows platform. Two ropes have been secured around Hecky and Jake's necks. Both criminals glance back and forth at each other. Westby's also been brought up on the platform, forced to watch the execution.

WESTBY

Nonsense, making me watch this.

JAKE

(to Hecky)

Look where you landed us, dummy.

HECKY

This is your mess, not mine.

JAKE

(laughs)

I refuse to argue, we'll soon be dead.

Both men cry in the funny way.

On the castle balcony. Jordyn sits next to the Jester, Ann Tumbler and Zahcariah. Cole's in a chair next to Jazaline. All eyes are on the gallows platform.

WESTBY

Help me, mother!

QUEEN JAZALINE

You'll do fine watching your brother's murderers hang to death.

WESTBY

Murdering Carlton was Cole's idea.

Jazaline, Jordyn and everybody else stares at Cole's lying reply.

COLE  
Murderers will go to great lengths  
to conceal their web of lies.

Jazaline signals the royal TRUMPET MEN to blow their horns.  
After the horns sound for a moment the king stands.

KING JORDYN  
General Watson, let justice  
prevail.

Ann Tumbler pulls at the Jester's shirt, annoying him.

JESTER  
Leave me alone!

Her feelings are hurt.

ANN TUMBLER  
Suit yourself.

Watson gives the Execution Guard the go ahead nod, the trap  
doors open. Hecky and Jake fall straight to the ground where  
they roll around.

JAKE  
Help!

HECKY  
Help! Please!

The guards grab the murderers, leading them back up to the  
gallows platform.

Up in the balcony. Jazaline stands, her face radiates anger.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Jake, Hecky.

JAKE  
Thank you, merciful queen!

HECKY  
Thanks, queen!

QUEEN JAZALINE  
(clears throat)  
After your stint in the royal  
prison, you'll join Westby on the  
island of leprosy.

Westby, Jake and Hecky cringe. Comically regretful as the  
queen sits, guards take the convicts away.

INT. JAZALINE'S STAGECOACH - PARKED - DAY

Cole taps his foot impatiently. His foot taps irritate Ann Tumbler.

ANN TUMBLER  
 Could you stop tapping your foot,  
 please?

He ignores her request.

COLE  
 Where's the queen? Thought you  
 said she was coming.

Cole sticks his head out the stagecoach window, finding Fina.

COLE (CONT'D)  
 Where she at?

CAPTAIN FINA  
 (rude)  
 In pursuit of hippiness.

INT. CASTLE - JORDYN'S QUARTERS - DAY

He stands in front of Jazaline, a foot divide them.

KING JORDYN  
 Avoiding the truth will burden the  
 rest of my life.  
 (he waits a moment)  
 I'm in love with you, Jazaline.

Her eyes well up.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 As I am with you, but tragedy bites  
 at our fate.

KING JORDYN  
 A challenge we'll confront,  
 together.

Jazaline yearns to be with Jordyn, her eyes are pleading.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 Cole will stop at nothing to make  
 my life miserable.

Jordyn takes Jazaline's hands into his, their eyes become one.

KING JORDYN  
Life without you milday, would be--

The door busts wide open. Cole enters, a sword presed against Zachariah's neck.

COLE  
Is it possible for a man to be so sappy?

KING JORDYN  
(offended)  
Don't mistake humbleness for weakness, sir dunce-a-lot.

COLE  
Brave wrods from a coward I once encount--

Cole's eyes glance at the cieling carelessly, then find Jordyn's.

KING JORDYN  
Suggestive words. Have we previously met?

COLE  
Time's of the essence.  
(he looks at Jazaline)  
Come at once, or the boy dies.

Jazaline's eyes apologize to Jordyn. She gives her hand to Cole.

EXT. CASTLE - DAY

Cole has mounted a horse. Jazaline sits in front of him, a dagger pressed to her ribs.

Fina, Petticoat, Carmean, Watson and Jordyn surround Cole's horse.

CAPTAIN FINA  
Let her go!

COLE  
Or what?

Ann Tumbler stumbles up to Cole's horse, grabbing his ankle. Cole laughs. Places his boot on her forehead, pushing her to the ground.

ANN TUMBLER

Ahhh! You'll meet your match one day.

Cole's had enough. He screams at everybody.

COLE

Meet myself! Never!

Jordyn grabs Watson's sword, pointing it at Cole.

KING JORDYN

Release milady, at once.

Jazaline lets her emotions take over.

QUEEN JAZALINE

I love you, Jordyn!

She squirms in an effort to escape. Cole presses the dagger in further, earning a SIGH of concern from everyone present.

COLE

Willing to die for him, queen?

She gazes into Cole's eyes briefly before finding Jordyn's. She stares into the king's eyes forever like lovers do before she answers.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Yes...because without him, I am already dead.

Fina charges Cole. Cole throws the dagger into Fina's shoulder. The penetrating blow knocks Fina to the ground.

KING JORDYN

There's no way out, Cole. Surrender, or else.

A horse ridden by Luke of Aurora trots up to the king. Luke's face is extremely tired, his hand gripping a rolled up document.

LUKE

King, Cole's a trickster. Found this scroll in the library of Aurora stowed deep in a crevice.

Luke's words spark enthusiasm in the king's eyes. He hands Jordyn the scroll. Jordyn reads briefly, locating Cole's eyes.



KING JORDYN  
 Hoaxing royalty is punishable by  
 death. You're of no blood relation  
 to King Nathan.

Jazaline attempts to escape. Cole uses his index finger to  
 press a spot on her neck. The queen passes out, slumping.  
 Cole smiles at Jordyn.

COLE  
 Don't remember me, do you king?

Anger builds in Jordyn.

DREAM

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN - NIGHT - STOCK FOOTAGE

Jordyn walks down a road quickly with his baby brother  
 wrapped in his arms.

JORDYN  
 I promise brother I'll protect you.

Jordyn tries to run in the forest, it's too late. The BAND  
 of HOOLIGANS surround him about twenty yards from the forest  
 entrance. The #2 HOOLIGAN, EARL dismounts his horse and  
 draws his sword. A two inch SCAR runs vertically on Earl's  
 chin.

Jordyn sits his brother down, draws his sword. Thrusts it at  
 Earl, cutting his leg. The men fence for a long moment.  
 Earl knocks Jordyn's sword out of his hand.

HOOLIGAN EARL  
 You're going nowhere.

Jordyn scoops up his baby brother as the rest of the  
 hooligans climb off their horses. Hooligan Earl grabs the  
 baby, hands it to a hooligan, then turns to Jordyn and back  
 hands him.

END DREAM

EXT. CASTLE - DAY

Jordyn's knuckles squeeze his sword handle tightly. His eyes  
 murder Cole.

KING JORDYN  
 Murder of my parents! Thief of my  
 brother!

Hooligan Earl/Cole raises his pant leg revealing the scar Jordyn gave him years earlier. Hooligan Earl/Cole's left hand pulls at the Van Dyke Beard, his right hand produces a sword. He removes the fancy leather wrapping, angling the handle so Jordyn can see the 24-Karat Gold T's embroidered on the handle.

HOOLIGAN EARL/COLE  
Parents never seen again. A dead  
brother you'll never find.

Jordyn ERUPTS.

KING JORDYN  
Liar!

Jordyn lurches forward, stopping when Hooligan Earl/Cole places his sword to the sleeping queen's neck.

HOOLIGAN EARL/COLE  
I am Hooligan Earl, a-k-a Cole, a  
proud Govern Knight.

He takes off.

Luke dismounts his horse, Jordyn climbs on. Watson tries to stop the king.

GENERAL WATSON  
Let us disarm and capture this  
villain.

KING JORDYN  
No.

Jordyn waits. His chest swells, neck veins protrude and eyes squint with wisdom.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
It's time I exposed the white in  
our enemy's feather.

Watson nods his head as Jordyn raises his sword high, taking off.

A hundred yards from the castle, on a grassy hill. Jordyn catches up to Hooligan Earl/Cole, positioning his horse in front of the trickster. Both men leap off their horses and square off, prepared for battle.

HOOLIGAN EARL/COLE  
Frugal men die quickly.

Jordyn's sword SLAMS into Hooligan Earl Cole's with unexpected force. He's amused by the king's powerful swing, but tauntingly aware.

HOOLIGAN EARL/COLE (CONT'D)  
Strength of a love stricken man.

Jordyn slides the sleeping queen off the horse, laying her on the ground--directing his attention back to Hooligan Earl/Cole.

KING JORDYN  
Should've killed you the first time  
we had a duo.

Hooligan Earl/Cole laughs, attempting to speak when--Jordyn rushes him, thrusting a foot to the mad man's mid section.

HOOLIGAN EARL/COLE  
Ugh!

Hooligan Earl/Cole swings his sword toward Jordyn's head. Jordyn ducks, swiping his sword against Hooligan Earl/Cole's leg, a past reminder.

KING JORDYN  
Ha, ha, ha! Doesn't feel good  
being bullied, 'eh?

Hooligan Earl/Cole reaches in his pocket and removes some powder as Jazaline awakes--Fina, Carmean, Zachariah, Watson, Petticoat, Ann Tumbler and Luke show up to the battle site.

HOOLIGAN EARL/COLE  
(mocks Jordyn)  
Doesn't feel good being bullied,  
'eh!

Hooligan Earl/Cole tosses the powder into Jordyn's eyes.

KING JORDYN  
Ahhh!

Jordyn uses his left hand to wipe his eyes as Hooliga Earl/Cole tip toes behind the king's back.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Behind you.

Jordyn's vision is blurry. His anxious body movements calm quickly, his head motions as if he's listening.

GENERAL WATSON  
Behind you.

KING JORDYN

Silence!

Hooligan Earl/Cole eases to the front of the king, positioning his sword for the kill. Jordyn's eyes go from squinting to closed as his head suggests he's listening for feet in the grass--every face watching is terrified.

Hooligan Earl/Cole's mouth twists ragingly as his body lurches forward and his sword aims for the king's heart. When Hooligan Earl/Cole's sword gets within an inch of Jordyn's heart the king drops to his back, thrusting it through the villain's heart with peaceful force--everybody CHEERS!

GENERAL WATSON

You did it, Your Highness.

Jazaline grabs a lambskin water bottle off a horse like saddle, runs up to Jordyn and pours water in his eyes as everybody celebrates.

QUEEN JAZALINE

One for the good guys.

Jordyn picks up his father's sword, clutching it painful and happily.

KING JORDYN

I'd hope so, milady.

Watson, Carmean, Fina and Petticoat shake hands, congratulating one another.

Jazaline stares into Jordyn's eyes.

QUEEN JAZALINE

So sweet of you. Putting that despicable man away.

KING JORDYN

On a better note, rebuilding our cities together would be magnificent.

She pecks him on the cheek. Play HAPPY MUSIC.

SERIES OF SHOTS - JORDYN AND JAZALINE REBUILD THEIR CITIES

A) City of Aurora. Jordyn and Jazaline's dressed in normal clothes. They help farm hands plant colorful flowers as sunshine illuminates bright blue skies peppered with white clouds.

B) Courtyard of Aurora. Jordyn and Jazaline's clothes are speckled with paint, shirt sleeves pulled up to their elbows. They paint worn walls while others from Aurora and Tyre paint wagons and doors leading to their doors.

C) Luke's fruit stand. He situates healthy fruits and vegetables for his abundant customers.

D) City of Tyre. People of Tyre and Aurora work hand and hand, manicuring the pasture. Farm hands smile as they work the rejuvenated golden wheat fields.

E) Courtyard of Tyre. Jordyn, Jazaline and everyone from Tyre and Aurora paint, rebuild and fix the worn out courtyard. The prince kicks a soccer ball into the Jester's backside causing the Jester to frown.

END HAPPY MUSIC AND SERIES OF SHOT

EXT. COURTYARD OF TYRE - NIGHT

"One Month Later." The area's elegantly decorated, resembling Disney's NEW MILLENNIA celebration. An elaborate meal covers multiple tables. People of the unified cities eat, drink wine and dance as the A.D. 1900 version of the band who played on Titanic makes beautiful music.

The generals and captains stand off to the side and nod their heads to the music.

EXT. MEADOW OF TYRE - DAY

Fifty yards separate two soccer nets. The team captains, Jordyn and Jazaline stand center field. The king and queen's eyes are on a group of sixteen people. The general, captains, Luke, Itch, Stitch, Barley, Jester and Zachariah make up most of the teams. Jordyn's headband makes him look like a man of JANE FONDA.

SPECTATORS from Tyre and Aurora fill both sidelines. Ann Tumbler's eyes locate the Jester as Jordyn nods to Jazaline.

KING JORDYN

Ladies first.

She scans the group of possible picks with her eyes.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Give me the Jester.

KING JORDYN  
 (nervous)  
 And I'll take...Zachariah.

Zachariah taunts the Jester with his hands, then stands by his father. Jordyn selects the majority of his picks Petticoat, Fina, Itch and Barley.

Jazaline picks Watson, Carmean, Stitch and Luke as her majority.

A REFEREE places a ball center field and waves a flag, signaling the start of the game. Jazaline foots the ball to the Jester. Petticoat funs toward the Jester. The Jester kicks the ball--it's intercepted by Zachariah.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
 Take it to the net, prince.

Carmean is goalie for Jazaline, Fina for Jordyn.

Zachariah's swift with the ball. He sees his father standing in the corner of the opposing team's goal.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
 Foot me the ball, my boy. I'll  
 give it back.

Zachariah stares at his father apprehensively, debating the pass.

After a second, Jordyn grows sad when he watches Luke charge Zachariah.

LUKE  
 Ahhh!

Zachariah kicks the ball to Jordyn, a silent first communication between father and son. Jordyn's overwhelmed.

KING JORDYN  
 Son, to the net!

The Jester wanders in front of the net.

SLOW MOTION

Luke runs toward Jordyn, Jordyn passes to Zachariah. The ball leaves Zachariah's foot with a DRAGGING CRACK, smashing into the Jester's head. Knocking the fool unconscious before landing in the net, SCORE!

NORMAL SPEED

The prince celebrates silently, jumping up and down. The Jester lays on the ground not moving a muscle.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)

Jester!

Jazaline looks to the sideline.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Richard, come quickly!

Ann Tumbler rushes to the queen's side, panicked. Jazaline calms her friend with ease as Richard rushes to the Jester's side, silence consumes the air. All present are scared for the Jester.

A tense second passes. The Jester does a hand spring, landing on his feet. His facial expression is like days of old, eyes on the prince.

JESTER

You crown me with that ballll!?!

PRINCE ZACHARIAH

Mmhhmm.

The Jester summons Ann Tumbler with a flick of his eyebrows. She walks up to him, cautiously giddy.

ANN TUMBLER

If you're still ornery--

The Jester reaches for Ann's ear, swiftly hanging an Emerald and gold ring on Ann's hoop earring.

JESTER

(comical slur)

What's on your ear?

She removes the ring with her right hand, covering her mouth with her left.

ANN TUMBLER

An engagement ring?

Everyone waits in suspense. The Jester's smile is innocent.

JESTER

No.

Ann's disappointed. The Jester takes her hands, finding her eyes.

JESTER (CONT'D)  
 A friendship ytrove that will grow  
 into a blooming marriage.

EVERYBODY shouts in unison as Ann pecks the Jester on the  
 cheek and Zachariah jumps for joy.

EVERYBODY  
 Hip, hip, hoo-ray!

Jordyn's sad and happy. Jazaline recognizes the pain in his  
 eyes. She whispers to the king.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 Your son's coming around.

KING JORDYN  
 Yes, milady--let's go celebrate,  
 everyone. Our Jester's back.

Watson waves his victorious hands in the air.

GENERAL WATSON  
 Hip, hip, hoo-ray!

People occupying the field and sidelines CHANT along with  
 Watson.

INT. CASTLE - JORDYN'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

He's on the bed, close to tears. Jazaline is by his side.

KING JORDYN  
 He'll never speak to me.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 Surely, in do time.

KING JORDYN  
 In a million years, never thought  
 I'd find another love that of  
 Catherine. That loneliness washed  
 away when you and I fell in love.

His eyes soften.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
 As my pain was also washed away,  
 love.



KING JORDYN

Our engagement ball's a month away  
and I've yet to fill two  
painstaking voids in my life. I  
fear those voids will dampen my  
otherwise joyous spirits.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Besides the issue with Zachariah,  
which I believe will heal itself  
over time--what else could make you  
so sad?

Jordyn's eyes grow glassy as he gives Jazaline a rundown  
about his life from twenty years old.

DREAM - CITY OF TYRE BEING ATTACKED

--Jordyn's parent's hand him his infant brother as chaos  
ensues. He escapes through the secret passageway door.

KING JORDYN (O.S.)

It was many years ago when the City  
of Tyre was overthrown by a band of  
hooligans known as the govern  
knights. They were evil, and  
wanted life without law. When they  
invaded the city, my mother and  
father gave me my infant brother  
and told me to flee. It was on the  
outskirts of town where the pack of  
wolves caught me with my brother as  
I attempted to hide in the forest.  
They took him and knocked me  
unconscious. When I came too in  
the prison dungeon of the city my  
parents once ruled, I learned  
they'd been murdered. After ten  
years, the people of Tyre were fed  
up with living in slavery. They  
asked me, heir to the throne to  
stand with them and fight. By the  
time we took control of our city,  
many lives had been lost--

END DREAM

Tears stream down Jordyn's cheeks as he stares at Jazaline.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)

And my baby brother was nowhere to  
be found.

(MORE)

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)

Before I killed Cole, or whatever his name was, he said my brother was no longer alive. His blood is on my hands.

Jordyn's eyes hits the floor. Jazaline takes his hands into hers.

QUEEN JAZALINE

I know the grief of losing a spouse and two sons. We have no other choice, but to trust in our Lord. He'll put no more on us than we can bare.

KING JORDYN

(nods yes)  
True, milady.

QUEEN JAZALINE

Sometimes in life, we suffer painful times. But Jordyn, you've just told me in your own words...no matter how bad things get, we have to let go of the past, move on with our lives and cherish everyday the Lord allows us to wake and live another day.

KING JORDYN

(smiles)  
You're right, it's time to move on.

INT. CASTLE - COMMON AREA - DAY

ROYAL WORKERS situate drapes and the like for the royal engagement ball. Jordyn and Jazaline help.

QUEEN JAZALINE

These arrangements are dazzling.

He smiles.

RICHARD (O.S.)

King Jordyn, King Jordyn!

Richard enters the room, stopping next to Jordyn and Jazaline.

KING JORDYN

What ails you, have you gone loony?

Richard remains silent, his eyes are serious.

RICHARD  
A man's entered the courtyard.

KING JORDYN  
Does he pose a threat to the city?

RICHARD  
No.

KING JORDYN  
Let him be.

RICHARD  
Claims to be your brother.

KING JORDYN  
(puzzled look)  
Can't be, Cole claimed my broter  
dead.

RICHARD  
A perpetual lie.

KING JORDYN  
Words of confidence?

RICHARD  
He bares the crest.

The king FREEZES--then starts to quiver, lips tremble.

EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

The unified people of Tyre and Aurora are scattered about.  
Their eyes are on Jordyn, his APPARENT BROTHER and Richard.

RICHARD  
King, shall we enter seclusion?

Jordyn surveys the people with his eyes, then adverts his  
attention back to Richard.

KING JORDYN  
No. If he's my brother, he's their  
future heir and king to the throne.

Apparent Brother's smile is "Fishy."

APPARENT BROTHER  
Brother, it's been a long time.

Apparent Brother pulls back his shirt. His left shoulder sports an almost identical CREST to the one on Jordyn's shoulder. Jordyn sobs and nods his head "Yes" as he breaks down. One might assume he's found his brother.

The totally fooled CROWD cheers in unison.

CROWD  
Hip, hip, hoo-ray! Hip, hip, hoo-ray!

They calm when Jordyn raises his hand in the air, staring Apparent Brother in the eyes.

Dead silence. Jordyn's eyes show FIRE.

KING JORDYN  
This man's a fraud! He seeks a fortune not of his own.

APPARENT BROTHER  
No, no, brother. You see the crest of Tyre.

Apparent Brother pulls back his shirt further, pointing to the crest. Jordyn stands next to Apparent Brother, shoulder to shoulder. He pulls open his shirt so the people can compare the crests for themselves.

KING JORDYN  
Do you see the difference, unified people of Tyre and Aurora?

LUKE  
Yes!

KING JORDYN  
Tell me what you see.

Luke smiles with pleasure.

LUKE  
Your crest is right side up, king. His is upside down.

KING JORDYN  
Precisely, a sign of the ex-rulers. Better known as the govern knights.

There's a group SIGH from the crowd.

Jordyn's face grows sad. He lays his right hand on Apparent Brother's left shoulder.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
 If you wish harm to our peaceful  
 city, you'll be put to death. If  
 not, welcome to the City of Tyre.

Jordyn drops his head, walking slowly in the direction of the castle.

INT. CASTLE - HALL CORRIDOR - DAY

The Jester paces back and forth, talking to himself. Jordyn enters, recognizing the Jester's agitation.

KING JORDYN  
 What's wrong, Jester?

JESTER  
 A picking at my brain.

KING JORDYN  
 Explain.

JESTER  
 The mystery of your brother's  
 whereabouts.

Jordyn walks up to the Jester, draping his right arm around the Jester's neck in a friendly fashion.

KING JORDYN  
 There were three blemishes pressing  
 against my heart. Two of which you  
 have polished.

The Jester's face turns wonderous.

JESTER  
 Come again.

KING JORDYN  
 Lack of communication between my  
 son and I.  
 (flicks eyebrows at  
 Jester)  
 My love connection stemming from  
 your near execution. Without you,  
 I'd be a dwindling mess.

JESTER  
 (laughs hard)  
 Guess our lives will never be  
 problem free.

Jordyn uses his right hand to squeeze the Jester's shoulder in an appreciative manner.

KING JORDYN

That's why we must move on with our lives.

Both men SMILE BIG as they laugh and walk away in good spirits.

INT. CASTLE BALLROOM - DAY

"One Month Later." Jazaline and Jordyn's layout is a reflection of Cinderella's Ball. Flowers, silk, amazing food and the year 1900 A.D. version of the Titanic band's music fills the room. Everybody's buzzing with enthusiasm.

The Jester and Zachariah stand off to themselves in a corner. Their body motions insuate a disagreement. After a beat, Zachariah throws his hands in the air in defeat--Ann Tumbler walks up to the Jester.

ANN TUMBLER

Leave the prince alone.

JESTER

(humorous)

Not right now. It's a private matter, milady.

She pecks the Jester on the cheek. He turns FIRE ENGINE RED, letting out a sigh.

JESTER (CONT'D)

Yes, after a bit of water.

Jordyn walks alone to the center of the dance floor, signaling for the band to stop playing. His eyes find Jazaline's, then the peoples'.

KING JORDYN

This evening is of great importance. I'm glad to be in the presence of such loyal serv--I mean, people I serve as king too.

His comment earns smiles from the crowd. They glow, loving their king and queen's humble demeanors. Jordyn holds out his right hand palm up, finger toward Jazaline.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)

Milady.

She walks up to Jordyn in her sparkling dress. He takes her right hand into his left. Removes a gigantic diamond ring from his right pocket as he tilts his head back and stares into her eyes.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
Will you marry me?

Tears fill her eyes as she takes a moment to absorb his words. The crowd's seconds away from panicking when.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
I will.

The place EXPLODES in applause as the CROWD hows in unison.

CROWD  
Hip, hip, hoo-ray! Hip, hip, hoo-ray!

The band strikes a slow beat. Jazaline and Jordyn dance happily, gazing into one another's eyes as other COUPLES take to the floor, dancing side by side with their king and queen.

KING JORDYN  
(to Jazaline)  
I love you.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
I love you too.

The Jester walks up to the king and queen.

JESTER  
King, someone would like to dance with you.

Jazaline frowns in a funny way.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Huh.

JESTER  
(sly smile)  
Your son.

The king's eyes light up, he's overjoyed. The band plays a year 1900 A.D. of LUTHER VANDROSS' DANCE WITH YOUR FATHER. Jazaline kisses Jordyn on the lips and smiles as she looks at the Jester.

QUEEN JAZALINE  
Jester, you're good...very good.

JESTER  
 (sincere)  
 Thank you, queen.

She steps away from the king. Zachariah inches up to his father, their eyes meet.

PRINCE ZACHARIAH  
 Father, could I have this dance?

Jordyn's briefly overtaken with emotion. He nods "Yes" as he takes his son's hand gracefully.

KING JORDYN  
 I thought you'd never ask.

Tears fill Jordyn and the prince's eyes and they start dancing with one another--the song comes to an end. The band plays an upbeat song. Everybody (generals, captains, doctors, advisors, etc) starts to boogie.

The Jester's ecstatic. He dances with Ann Tumbler. His worthy Jester dance causes his body to overheat. He loses his breath slowly, eyes turn frantic.

JESTER  
 Help. Hel...hel--

Ann Tumbler laughs zestfully, using her hands to cheer the Jester on. Everybody laughs at the Jester assuming he's joking until he collapses--Jordyn hollers.

KING JORDYN  
 Richard, come quickly! The Jester fainted.

The band stops playing, all laughs dissipate. The people are aware the Jester is not joking.

Richard rushes to the Jester's side, placing an ear to the Jester's mouth.

RICHARD  
 (to Jordyn)  
 He's breathing.

KING JORDYN  
 Quick! Check his heart.

Richard tears open the Jester's shirt. Every person in the room FREEZES when they locate the CREST on the Jester's left shoulder. Richard feels the Jester's heart, turning to Jordyn.



RICHARD  
His heart's fine.

The king falls to his knees. Placing his hands on the Jester's CREST, WEEPING deeply.

Ann Tumbler falls to her knees on the opposite side of Jordyn. She plants a long passionate kiss on the Jester's lips, waking him.

A moment later. Every eye in the house turns wet. The unified peoples' facial expressions sympathyze with Jordyn. He directs his comment to all present.

KING JORDYN  
Now this...is my brother!

The Jester smiles. Jordyn sticks out his left hand, grabs the Jester's right hand and helps him up.

KING JORDYN (CONT'D)  
Welcome home.

Zachariah squeezes in-between Jordyn, the Jester, Ann Tumbler and Jazaline. They all participate in a group hug. The room IGNITES in APPLAUDS.

EXT. ROYAL GARDEN - DAY

"One Year Later." Jordyn, Jazaline, newborn BABY BOY in hand, Zachariah, Ann Tumbler and the Jester sit in royal chairs made of gold, diamonds, rubies and emeralds. The Jester's CROWN is made of gold, studded with precious stones. The group smiles for a Royal Artist, JOSEPH CAMPBELL. As he puts finishing touches on the royal painting he SMILES into the CAMERA.

JOSEPH CAMPBELL  
(glowing smile)  
That should do it--and always  
remember...do not fear the journey.

EXT. ISLAND OF LEPROSY - SUNSET

Westby, Jake and Hecky stand back to back. They scream as a band of LEPROSY SCORN MEN and WOMEN surround them. As the men reap what they sow.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END

