

THE ELEMENTALIST

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FADE IN:

INT. GRAND SACRED TETRAS - DAY

Two huge wooden doors, one with carvings of heaven, the other of hell. Between the two a human figure stands, his cloak a cracked, faded turquoise, his arms outstretched, as if stopping the two sides from getting to one another.

INT. ASSEMBLY ROOM - DAY

A smoky assembly room with rows of men all wearing turquoise cloaks.

They lean in and chatter in hushed whispers, while taking puffs on elaborate pipes.

The room falls silent as the great doors swing open. Two more men in turquoise cloaks lead a tall man, BARIN, in his early thirties, wearing only a loincloth, his hands bound, to the centre of the room.

Sweat beads on Barin's brow as he's joined by TUKES (late 20's), bearing a hefty tome and a confident smile.

Barin gulps and stares ahead at the man before him.

The brooding figure of GRAND MASTER PARNASSUS (late 50's) sits before them on a raised dais, flanked by a gaggle of senior advisors, all tutting and shaking their heads. The Grand Master is the only man in the room wearing black. He is absorbed in the papers in front of him.

The murmuring of the assembly continues until a GONG sounds.

The Grand Master looks up as silence falls.

GRAND MASTER PARNASSUS
Barin Elicerio. You stand charged with numerous charges of criminal activity not becoming a man of your position. These include, the most heinous crime of consorting with spirits of a malignant nature.

A ripple of indignation stirs around the room.

Barin tries to blink the sweat out of his eyes.

GRAND MASTER PARNASSUS (CONT'D)
It both shocks and saddens me that we should find ourselves here at this time, in this place, in these circumstances.

The advisors mutter their agreement.

GRAND MASTER PARNASSUS (CONT'D)

The evidence appears to the council to be irrefutable, despite Master Tukes's attempts to convince us otherwise.

Tukes's confident grin drops like a stone.

GRAND MASTER PARNASSUS (CONT'D)

Normally, Mr. Elicerio, such crimes would bring with them the death sentence. But I am reminded by your enthusiastic colleague that this is the only blemish, albeit one of significant proportion, on your otherwise exemplary record.

Barin gulps. Perhaps things aren't so bad as he fears.

GRAND MASTER PARNASSUS (CONT'D)

Instead, you will be banished from this building. You will be stripped of your title, dispossessed of your equipment, and prohibited forthwith from practicing the elemental arts ever again.

Barin's mouth drops. Loud murmurs of surprise, elation and anger erupt around him. Shouts of 'Hurrah' and 'Hang Him' ring out.

The Grand Master holds up his hand.

GRAND MASTER PARNASSUS (CONT'D)

Furthermore you will be restricted in your movements, no more than two days travel from your home. Any breach of these terms and you will be executed.

The Grand Master stands and sweeps out of the room.

Barin sags with relief.

In the audience a friend of Barin, BLISSETT (late 20's), gives him a grin and a thumbs up.

Barin responds with a weak smile, Tukes pats him on the shoulder.

People around them shout their anger and jubilation at the decision.

Above them, on a high balcony an attractive lady, WENDLE (late 20's), watches the scene, tears of relief streaming down her face.

EXT. GRAND SACRED TETRAS - DAY

The elegant Grand Sacred Tetras stands tall above a city of beautiful architecture. At the top of the building, a giant crystal capstone glints in the sunlight, magical runes inscribed all over it.

Title: The Elementalist.

EXT. CLIFF TOP - DAY

Title: Six Months Later

Barin walks along the cliff top. The sun shines, but large thunder heads float on the horizon. The wind whips around him.

Barin pauses to watch the lightning flicker across the front of the clouds.

He pulls his cloak tighter around him and carries on.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Barin's village is built into the side of a steep hillside that drops down to a small harbour.

Barin hurries along the road into the village, the thunder heads almost upon him. THUNDER rumbles around.

He passes several people, but they all cross the road and walk on the other side, careful not to catch his eye.

As he walks down a narrow cobbled street, heavy drops of rain start to fall.

INT. BARIN'S HOUSE - DAY

Barin tumbles through the door, soaked to the skin. He shakes his head and peels off the sodden cloak.

Two small, white, fluffy cats, LO-DALI and DO-ANNAN, mewl at him, demanding food.

BARIN

Hey!

He makes a fuss of the cats, then makes his way through to the kitchen, the cats hot on his heels.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Barin prepares some food, cutting slabs of bread and cold meat, dropping some to the cats as he does so.

He glances out of the window as the pouring rain and shakes his head.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Barin sinks into a chair with a big sigh and starts to munch on the bread and meat.

The cats sit patiently at his feet waiting for treats.

As he chews he looks out of the window, pauses mid chew and frowns.

He gets up, rubs the window with his sleeve and stares out into the gloom.

Through the window, he can see three fishing smacks, heavy with full nets, struggling to get back into the harbour. One lurches precariously and capsizes.

Barin hurries to the door, grabbing his coat and heads out of the house.

EXT. COBBLED STREET - EVENING

Barin runs down the steep cobbled street, slipping and sliding on the wet stones.

EXT. HARBOUR - EVENING

Barin careens out of a side street onto the promenade in front of the harbour, crashing into a group of old men.

OLD MAN
What's happening?

BARIN
I don't know. I saw the boats.

The wind carries the sound of men calling out in terror. Waves crash over the sea wall.

Barin hurries over to a larger group of men.

The portly figure of STRANGEWORT (60's), dressed in a bright yellow sou'wester, addresses the group of men.

STRANGEWORT
There's three boats. They can't get back in. The winds are blowing every which way. It's useless...

Strangewort sees Barin hurry up to them.

BARIN

What are you all standing about
for? There are men in the water. We
should fetch the ropes!

STRANGEWORT

Look at it out there!

Barin looks at the men, who stare back, fear etched on their
faces.

BARIN

We can at least try! There are
still two boats trying to get back
in.

He looks about, waiting for common sense to prevail.

The men are torn, they look between Barin and Strangewort.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Oh you small minded...

His insult is lost to the wind as he hurries away towards a
boat house, grabs some rope and runs towards the harbour arm.

The men look to Strangewort who sags and waves them to follow
Barin.

EXT. HARBOUR ARM - EVENING

Barin reaches the small lighthouse at the of the arm and
peers out into the darkness. The rest of the men catch up
with him, puffing and coughing.

BARIN

One of the boats was just over
there.

The wind whips at them from all directions, the rain and sea-
spray glow eerily in the milky light from the small
lighthouse.

RESCUER 1

There!

The man points out to their left.

The rain soaked side of a boat reflects the dim light from
the lighthouse.

Barin and the men are almost driven to their knees by the
force of the wind.

The boat drifts nearer the wall. Several terrified fishermen
cling to the side railing, the tattered sail whips about
above their heads.

Ropes fly out towards the boat.

Barin's lands short. He starts to draw it back in.

EXT. BOAT - EVENING

The fishermen cling to the rails, trying to grab the ropes being flung to them.

A rope flicks towards them. One of them reaches forward to grab it. The boat lurches about and throws him into the sea. He manages to catch the rope as he plunges into the sea.

EXT. HARBOUR ARM - EVENING

A rugged, thick set man next to Barin, FREEBURN (40s), calls out. He's heaving hard on his rope, but he needs help.

Barin drops his half-coiled rope and helps him drag the fisherman up the side of the harbour arm.

A huge wave smashes into the wall, knocking Barin and his fellow rescuers over.

Barin picks himself up and looks down over the side.

The man is still there, clinging to the rocks.

Barin and Freeburn haul the fisherman up over the side and into a blanket held by Strangewort.

Barin looks back at the boat.

Another huge wave thunders over them, which drags the boat closer to the wall.

Two fishermen remain on the boat, hollering for help.

Barin grabs his rope again and hurriedly coils it.

The sound of splintering wood drifts across from the boat.

FREEBURN

She's starting to break up!

Ropes once more fly out.

EXT. BOAT - EVENING

Barin's rope land with a smack across the deck and begins to slide back into the sea.

The two men both jump on it and lash it around themselves.

FISHERMEN

Go! Now!

The mast crashes down, narrowly missing them as they launch themselves into the sea.

EXT. HARBOUR ARM - EVENING

The weight of the two men on the end of his rope drags Barin to his knees.

Freeburn and another man, YOUNGBLOOD (20's), both rush to Barin's aid, but Youngblood slips and tumbles forward.

Barin grabs him round the waist as he falls, his legs flailing out over the edge.

The rope slips through Barin's hand, causing him to cry out in pain.

Freeburn drags Youngblood back up and together they drag on the rope, more waves crashing over them.

They haul the two fishermen up onto the wall, but one is unconscious.

STRANGEWORT

Raddleston!

An older man with a doctors bag attends to the unconscious man. The fisherman's leg is broken and twisted.

He comes to and coughs up a load of sea water.

BARIN

Where's the other boat?

STRANGEWORT

I don't know.

Barin peers out into the rain, but it's too dark to see anything now.

INT. SMOKY HADDOCK INN - NIGHT

Barin and Freeburn help carry the fisherman with the broken leg into the rosy glow of the pub and set him on a table.

The red-nosed barkeep, RUMBLETOM, fusses about handing out noggins of liquor.

Barin takes one and throws it down his neck. He shivers and sidles up to the fire as Raddleston tends to the patient.

STRANGEWORT

Tell me straight. That's no ordinary storm, is it?

BARIN

I don't think so. But we'll never know will we?

STRANGEWORT

You know, I reckon those Elementalists did us a favour sending you home like that. Thank you.

Barin tries to be gracious, but he's too tired. He rubs his bruised and burned hands.

BARIN

I didn't do that much.

STRANGEWORT

Well, I think you did. And I'm sorry we've treated you so bad these past few months.

BARIN

Listen I really must get home now. You know, the curfew and what have you...

STRANGEWORT

Nonsense! Have a beer. Rumbletom!

The barkeep shuffles up and thrusts a bottle into Barin's hands.

STRANGEWORT (CONT'D)

I'll hear no more of this curfew nonsense. It's gone on long enough.

Barin smiles his thanks as he takes a beer, but has no time to drink it as at that moment a man bursts through the door.

MAN

There's a boat! Coming into the harbour!

EXT. HARBOUR - NIGHT

Barin and the rescuers pour out of the pub and head across to the sea wall.

They draw up abruptly, surprised at what they see.

STRANGEWORT

Well would you look at that.

Fighting its way in against the raging sea is a landing boat manned with fifteen men, all rowing for their lives, with more fishermen from the other fishing boats clinging to the sides.

A cheer goes up from the men and they hurry along to the landing stage.

Strangewort tugs on Barin's coat. He's not smiling.

STRANGEWORT (CONT'D)
Stay close please.

EXT. LANDING STAGE - NIGHT

The landing boat cruises across the harbour and docks on the landing stage with apparent ease.

The sailors jump out of the boat and drag the beleaguered fishermen out of the water.

Strangewort leads Raddleston and Barin down the wooden steps to the landing stage.

A man in a bottle green coat inspects the fishermen, ensuring they are OK. This is CAPTAIN GLIB (50's), a small and austere man with the worst teeth imaginable.

Strangewort and Raddleston share worried glances, but do not engage the new arrivals.

Barin notices their concern and shuffles back into the shadows.

Captain Glib sees the three villagers waiting patiently.

GLIB
Good evening!

Strangewort grunts a non-committal greeting and nods.

GLIB (CONT'D)
We... ah, as you can see, have been victims of this rather peculiar storm. We passed a fishing smack on the way in. I fear there are more crew lost, but at least we have these three.

STRANGEWORT
Your help is most appreciated.
Raddleston, if you would.

The doctor hurries forward to inspect the fishermen.

GLIB

Our ship lays anchored out in the bay, in dire need of repair. We would not normally trouble folk such as yourself, but we are in great need. We will pay handsomely for any services you could provide us.

Strangewort regards the man for a few moments, weighing up his decision.

STRANGEWORT

Normally we would not harbour such folk as you, but you have done us a great service. You have one week to be on your way. You may lodge in the boathouse if you choose. We have skilled artisans who will be willing to help you, for a fair price.

GLIB

Excellent! The name is Captain Glib and these are my men. We are at your service.

He bows low with no small amount of theatricality.

STRANGEWORT

Strangewort. And this is Barin Elicerio. Anything you need simply ask for him.

Glib shakes Strangewort's hand, then peers at Barin.

GLIB

That cloak! Do I have an Elementalist standing before me?

Barin winces at Glib's crushing hand shake.

STRANGEWORT

Alas not. He is excommunicated.

GLIB

Rot! Once an Elementalist, always an Elementalist.

BARIN

My life would be very short if I thought that.

GLIB

Oh ho! Yes, I've had some dealings with your folk. I understand.

He winks.

INT. BARIN'S HOUSE - MORNING

Barin stumbles down the stairs and opens the front door upon which someone is banging.

Outside it's a beautiful sunny morning.

MRS. PENTICE (80's), hurries in under his arm.

MRS. PENTICE
It'll come to no good!

Barin, a little taken aback, shuts the door, pausing to look out across the bay to Captain Glib's damaged ship.

MRS. PENTICE (CONT'D)
You mark my words!

BARIN
What seems to be the problem, Mrs. Pentice?

INT. BARIN'S KITCHEN - DAY

Barin places a steaming hot drink down in front of Mrs. Pentice and sits opposite her.

MRS. PENTICE
I know who they are!

BARIN
Who?

MRS. PENTICE
Them sailors! What arrived last night. Well, I say sailors... but...

BARIN
But?

MRS. PENTICE
They's not sailors, are they!

BARIN
They looked like sailors to me.

MRS. PENTICE
Oh aye! They's sailors all right. But they's something else too!

BARIN
And that would be?

MRS. PENTICE
Pirates!

BARIN

Pirates.

MRS. PENTICE

Yes! Them's what steals and
plunders and takes what's not
properly theirs!

Barin pauses for a moment. His face drops.

BARIN

Oh. Oh dear.

He stands, fretting.

BARIN (CONT'D)

If the Landsguard find out we're
harbouring an entire crew and
helping them repair their boat...

His eyes are wide with fear. And then he realises.

BARIN (CONT'D)

And I'm their main point of
contact. If the Elders find out
about this back at the Tetras...
Are you quite sure they're pirates?

MRS. PENTICE

I knows a Pirate ship when I sees
one, and I knows a Pirate when I
sees one.

Barin paces about, panic rising. He stops.

BARIN

When did you see one?

MRS. PENTICE

Just now, coming up the hill with
Old Strangewort.

BARIN

Long green coat?

Mrs. Pentice nods.

BARIN (CONT'D)

I've got to go! If they... you
know... The Tetras!

He mimicks being garrotted.

INT. BARIN'S HOUSE - DAY

Barin hurries from the kitchen and grabs his cloak.

He runs to the window and peeks out.

Strangewort and Captain Glib are strolling up the road towards his house.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Barin hurries to the back door, trying to pull his boots on.

MRS. PENTICE

What about yer drink, dear?

BARIN

It can wait. Thank you ever so much for tidying up while I was away. Much appreciated.

MRS. PENTICE

You'll want me to carry on for a little longer then?

BARIN

Yes, please.

He turns and trips over the cats.

MRS. PENTICE

Least I can do for your poor dear mother, may her soul rest in peace.

BARIN

Thank you.

Barin flings open the back door and stops dead in his tracks. Strangewort stands before him, arm raised in readiness to knock. Behind him, admiring the unkempt garden, stands Captain Glib.

STRANGEWORT

Barin! Good to see you up and about. I do hope you don't mind us popping round like this?

BARIN

I... I was just coming to find you. Good morning Captain!

Captain Glib bows low and doff his hat.

GLIB

A fine garden you have, sir!

STRANGEWORT

Mr. Glib here would like very much if you would accompany him out to his ship, to survey the damage.

BARIN
 (to Strangewort)
 Could I have little word? In
 private?

Glib nods and graciously steps away from the house.

Barin ushers Strangewort inside and shut the door.

STRANGEWORT
 Barin! What you doing shutting a
 guest outside?

BARIN
 Is he... are they, Pirates?

Strangewort glances at Mrs. Pentice, innocently sipping her
 drink.

STRANGEWORT
 I see the storm has not affected
 people's ability to gossip.

BARIN
 It's just... I saw the men talking
 last night. The look you gave
 Raddleston. They are aren't they?

STRANGEWORT
 I really couldn't say, Barin. As
 far as I'm concerned they are a
 crew in need of help, and I never
 turn away anyone in distress from
 this village, as you well know.

BARIN
 But... but... the Landsguard! What
 if they find out? They'll tell the
 council back at the Tetras!

STRANGEWORT
 Don't you worry yourself about such
 things. And as for you, young
 Matilda, I'd appreciate it if you'd
 not go round puttin' ideas in the
 young' uns head, such as like.

Mrs. Pentice gives him an innocent smile.

STRANGEWORT (CONT'D)
 Now then Barin, if you would be so
 kind as to accompany the good
 Captain and myself out to his ship,
 I would be most appreciative.

EXT. ROWING BOAT - DAY

Barin sits behind Strangewort and Glib as they are rowed out to Glib's ship, the SEA PRINCESS, by two of Glib's crew.

Behind them the village stretches up the hillside, wet slate roofs glint in the sunshine.

Barin looks up at the Sea Princess, tall and elegant, if a little beaten about by the storm.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Glib shows Barin around the Sea Princess, Barin taking notes in a leather tome with a quill of what needs to be done.

They inspect various parts of the ship, inside and out, Glib guiding them around like an excited schoolboy.

Barin makes copious notes, but seems unsettled, a frown taking permanent residence on his face. He inspects things, takes measurements, looks about carefully. Something just isn't adding up.

As they work, a huge piece of rigging collapses, almost crushing them.

Relieved looks all around.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - LATER

Barin stands alone at the prow of the ship, deep in thought.

Strangewort joins him and they stare out across the bay to the village.

STRANGEWORT

I know you have reservations about this, but it will be fine, trust me.

Barin doesn't respond.

STRANGEWORT (CONT'D)

I'll tell you one thing, I've hated these past few months having to give you the cold shoulder. Damned unfair, if you asks me. But that Council of yours... well, they half scared me to death when they brought you back home.

BARIN

What did they do?

STRANGEWORT

It's what they threatened to do.

BARIN

Ghost stories and hokum, I expect.

STRANGEWORT

If you don't minds me askin', what did you actually do then, you know, to get kicked out?

BARIN

Whatever it was I didn't do it.

STRANGEWORT

Someone just made it all up to get you kicked out?

BARIN

No, it definitely happened, but they were clever enough to let the blame fall elsewhere.

Glib approaches them.

GLIB

Gentlemen, we'll take you back ashore shortly. But, with your permission, there's one last thing I'd very much like your opinion on.

BARIN

More repairs?

GLIB

No. Ah... more of you know... a spiritual nature.

BARIN

Oh. Look, I'm afraid I really can't help. If there's even a vague suspicion that I've been, you know, trying anything, I'm for it.

GLIB

Surely though, you could offer me some simple advice?

Barin looks at Strangewort, who shrugs and looks away.

Glib grins at Barin.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - CONTINUOUS

Barin and Glib stand outside Glib's cabin.

GLIB

Now what I'm about to show you,
I've never, ever seen the likes of
before and it's something that has
got me 'n' the boys as perplexed as
you like. I mean, I've seen some
sights in my time, but I'm a sane
man and I like to think I've got a
fairly clever head on me shoulders
here. But this... well...

He pauses for a few seconds then shoves the door of the cabin open.

Barin peers into the dark room and then turns his head on one side.

Inside the cabin is a picture of neatness. In the centre of the room is a large table, with maps and compasses laid out where Glib had left them before abandoning ship. Everything looks fine, except for the fact that it's all sideways.

To the left the ornate chandelier sticks out of the ceiling, which now occupies the wall, pointing across the room to the desk and chairs that sit, defying all nature, on the opposite wall.

The long back windows that normally give a huge panoramic vista run vertically from what was once floor to ceiling.

GLIB (CONT'D)

I find it best to close my eyes for
this bit.

Following his own advice, he steps forward and promptly disappears from view.

Barin peers round to see Glib standing on the side wall, next to his desk.

GLIB (CONT'D)

Come on. It doesn't hurt.

INT. GLIB'S CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Glib, now the right way up, strolls to his desk and strokes his beloved maps.

Behind him, sideways on the wall, Barin steels himself to make the transition in to the room.

He steps forward, disappearing from view in the doorway and appearing through the wall, to stand the right way up.

Barin wobbles and grabs a chair.

GLIB

It takes a bit of getting used to.

BARIN

What happened here?

GLIB

I rightly don't know. You see, me and the crew, well, if you hadn't guessed already, we ain't your average cargo ship.

BARIN

Mrs. Pentice says you are Pirates.

GLIB

In a fashion of speaking, yes.

BARIN

So what does that have to do with this?

GLIB

Well, you see, being in the trade we're in, we get to travel about quite a bit. We've been all over the world, seen all the sights, y'know? But recently... I don't know, the past two or three months, we've been experiencing some very strange things, and not just this room.

He stabs a map.

GLIB (CONT'D)

See here, this is where we were yesterday when the storm hit. Before we know it the ship is breaking up and the only thing we can see is the light from the lighthouse at the end of your harbour.

As he speaks he drags his finger across almost the entire width of the map.

BARIN

But that's thousand of miles!

GLIB

Hundreds of thousands of miles. And it's not the first time we've experienced something like that. Two weeks ago we were about to engage in a little activity with a small frigate which promised a handsome reward here...

The Captain points to another location, far away.

GLIB (CONT'D)

Another storm pops up and we wake
up here...

He stabs the map yet again in another section of the map.

GLIB (CONT'D)

...and this rooms gone... well,
like this. Took me hours to work
out how to get out! And it's not
just us. It's happening everywhere,
'specially round the southern and
western seas. Someone is really
messing things up.

The two men stand in silence and try to comprehend the
mystery.

BARIN

This is powerful stuff. Dark.
Dangerous.

GLIB

Mister Strangewort told me about
your predicament. Strikes me we've
both been the victims of something,
or someone, dark and dangerous.

BARIN

You think they could be linked?

GLIB

I don't know much about
Elementalists, but I do know that
you don't find many bad ones, but
when you do...

Barin bites his finger, deep in thought.

GLIB (CONT'D)

So Mr. Elementalist, would you care
to advise me how to put it right?

BARIN

I'm sorry, I really can't. It's
too...

GLIB

Oh but come now! I've met enough of
you Elementalists in my time to
know you never shirk from a
challenge!

BARIN

Trust me, I'd like nothing more.

GLIB

It's what you do! Fight the demons that mess up the natural order of things.

BARIN

Well, yes. But...

GLIB

What would it take, to do something like this?

BARIN

To rip the fabric of the world and hold it in this way would take enormous power. It shouldn't be possible, not for this length of time.

GLIB

And yet here it is. Tell me, what would normally happen with something like this?

BARIN

Oh, they'd pick it up at the Tetras and dispatch a team to fix it.

Glib holds his hands up and looks about.

BARIN (CONT'D)

They don't know! But that means...

GLIB

Yes?

BARIN

That someone is still up to no good, and thinking they've got away with it!

GLIB

You could clear your name!

BARIN

What if it's a trap?

GLIB

Damned elaborate trap.

INT. BARIN'S HOUSE - EVENING

Barin sits in a chair, a half eaten crust of bread rests in his hands.

The cats prowl round him, hoping for treats.

He stares out of his window at the Sea Princess and sighs.

A KNOCKING at the door disturbs his reverie.

He opens the door to find Mrs Pentice clutching a wooden chest.

She holds it out to him.

MRS. PENTICE
Strangewort said you might need
this.

Barin takes the box and Mrs. Pentice turns to leave.

MRS. PENTICE (CONT'D)
You're a good man, Barin Elicerio.
Yer mam would have been proud of
you.

Barin stares at her, then down at the box.

INT. BARIN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Barin opens the box to reveal an assortment of brass objects and tubes. He takes a spherical object out, the size of a small teapot, tarnished with neglect, then attaches one of the pipes to it.

He smiles and wipes the tarnish away. The sound of HORSES HOOVES outside make him look up in a panic.

Through the window, a flash of turquoise.

BARIN
Oh no!

He slams the lid down and looks for a place to hide the box.

There's a sharp BANGING on the door.

He shoves the box behind his chair and hurries to the door which he opens to reveal Tukes.

TUKES
Barin! Good to see you old friend!

BARIN
What are you doing here?

TUKES
Could I come in?

BARIN
Oh. Yes.

He stands back to allow Tukes in, nervously glancing at the box sticking out.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Please, sit down. Can I get you anything? A drink perhaps?

TUKES

No, no thank you, I'm fine. I can't stay long.

BARIN

I didn't think anyone from the Order was allowed to visit me?

TUKES

Yes, well, I wanted to share some news. There might be an appeal on your behalf.

BARIN

I haven't asked for one.

TUKES

New evidence has come to light.

BARIN

They convicted me with little enough evidence, why should something new be taken into account?

TUKES

There was a bit of trouble after you left. Blissett and a few of the other chaps sort of went on strike. The Grand Master was forced to promise to look at the evidence again before all hell broke loose. Literally!

BARIN

Parnassus backed down?

TUKES

We all know you're innocent, Barin. Rumour is that he's not happy with what he's found out. Several of the team that brought the charges against you have been redeployed to remote locations.

BARIN

So I might be able to come back?

Tukes nods, but Barin's excitement quickly subsides.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Will I have to sit the tests again?

TUKES

Yes, you need to start revising,
perhaps even practicing a little.

BARIN

With the prohibitions are still in
place?

TUKES

I think that if you should break
the rules just a tiny bit, people
won't notice.

Barin thrums his fingers on the arm of his chair.

TUKES (CONT'D)

You must practice Barin, the tests
are much harder than when we first
took them. Much harder.

Barin nods, glancing once more at the box behind Tukes.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Excellent! Time is against me.
Grand Master Parnassus' daughter,
Wendle. Do you know her?

BARIN

(perhaps with a little too
much enthusiasm)
Yes, I know Wendle!

Tukes is slightly suspicious of Barin's eager response, but
he lets it pass.

TUKES

She and I will be getting married,
next Saturday. I'm heading to meet
her family.

Barin's world falls to pieces.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Blissett, he was one of your
friends wasn't he? He'll be there
too. He's going to be my best man.

EXT. BARIN'S VILLAGE - NIGHT

Dog's bark and all is quiet in the village.

Out in the bay, Glib's ship bobs in the moonlight.

INT. BARIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Barin lies awake on his bed, staring at the now assembled brass instrument that Mrs. Pentice delivered: his bubbler, glinting softly on the top of the cabinet next to his bed.

He sits up and pads over the window, staring out across the bay to the Sea Princess. He glances back at the bubbler.

He moves to the cabinet and, taking a flintlock, he lights a candle to inspect the machine.

It's a thing of beauty, all little knobs and whirly things and spouts that glow softly in the candlelight.

Barin settles himself on the bed and begins to prepare the machine, opening little compartments and shoving in small amounts of tobacco and various other substances.

Then he takes the candle and moves it towards the device. He stops, takes a deep breath and moves the flame to heat up one of the small protruding arms. With a soft pop the machine bursts into life.

Both cats, sat at the end of his bed, look round to see what he's up to.

The machine whirrs away, the spinny things spin and the whirly things whirl and small puffs of steam and smoke chuff out of various orifices.

Barin takes a deep relaxing breath in, then out, then places the long thin pipe in his mouth, and draws in a lungful of smoke.

Various images flash up, scary demonic faces, bizarre twisted buildings, dark and ruinous castles.

Barin opens his eyes and breaths out the smoke, choking slightly. He tries to calm himself.

BARIN

C'mon, you've done this hundreds of times.

He takes another lungful of smoke.

INT. CHAMBER - NIGHT

Barin floats down into a stone chamber with four wooden doors, each with a softly glowing rune etched into it.

Barin considers each of the runes, then touches a door. It vanishes in a strange puff. Barin sniffs, then floats through the open doorway.

INT. PASSAGEWAY - DAY

The passageway is illuminated by a strange ethereal light. It seems to have no beginning or end.

Barin floats along it, nervous and wary.

Another doorway appears, again with a glowing rune on it.

Barin touches the door, but this one does not disappear.

Barin frowns. He touches it again.

The door remains.

Barin gets a little agitated, he spits on his fingers and rubs them on his robes before touching the door again.

As he touches the door and loud GROWL followed by BANGING against the other side of the door causes Barin to shoot back.

He drifts forward again, and listens intently. The sound of muffled shouting, snarling beasts fighting and a man's cry of pain.

BARIN

Blissett?

He places a hand on the door and tries to push it open, but it won't budge.

He listens carefully, he can hear a man talking, countered with low, basso growls.

Barin jumps back, the door glows red hot, bursts into flames and disintegrates.

Two fiery creatures barrel past him, narrowly missing him.

A short man in his early thirties, bloodied and bedraggled, his turquoise cloak ripped and torn stands in the smoking doorway.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Blissett!

BLISSETT

Barin, go! It's a trap!

BARIN

What are you talking about?

BLISSETT

There are more demons on the way.
I've sent those two out to protect
you.

BARIN

Out?

BLISSETT

Yes, out. Sorry, it's for the best.
Now go!

BARIN

Tukes?

BLISSETT

Yes, long story, go! If you can get
to sea, all the better. They're
coming for you, right now.

Barin looks about lost, then doubles over in pain, clutching his eyes.

The scene around him starts to dissolve.

BLISSETT (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. Wendle sends her love!

INT. BARIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Barin sits on his bed, clutching his face. A bright light shines from behind his hands as the two fire demons rip their way into the world through Barin's eyeballs.

Barin screams in pain and collapses back on the bed as the two fiery demons circle the room.

Lo-Dali and Do-Annan, curled up on the end of the bed, look at the two demons with curiosity. Lo-Dali mewls softly.

The demons swirl over to the cats and circle them, then, as Barin stirs with a groan, the demons enfold themselves gently into the cats and vanish.

Barin sits up with a start.

He rubs at his sore eyes, and takes a deep breath, which stops mid-exhale, his eyes widen with surprise.

In front of him Lo-Dali and Do-Annan sit quietly, now the size of lions, the floorboards CREAKING under their weight.

BARIN

Fire demons?

The two cats bow their heads. Lo-Dali begins to PURR loudly.

Barin reaches over with a nervous hand and switches off the bubbler which is still puffing away, almost knocking it over.

Then he stands and circles the cats, sweat beading on his brow.

A BANGING on the front door makes him jump.

INT. BARIN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Barin tries to shove the cats into the kitchen as the banging carries on.

MRS. PENTICE (O.S.)
Barin? Are you alright?

BARIN
Be there in a moment, Mrs Pentice!

He shoves Do-Annan through and pulls the door shut.

BARIN (CONT'D)
(to the cats)
And keep quiet.

He pulls the front door open. Mrs. Pentice stands outside wrapped in a shawl.

MRS. PENTICE
I heard you scream, dear.
Everything OK?

BARIN
Sorry, didn't mean to disturb you.
I up got to... you know, and
stubbed my...

Barin looks up, beyond Mrs. Pentice to see several Turquoise cloaks approaching the house.

Two step forward; a short, surly man, GRIMWALD (50s) and a tall, skinny, almost skeletal man, JASLANEK (30s). Jaslanek shoves Mrs. Pentice to one side.

GRIMWALD
Barin Elicerio. You are hereby
charged with knowingly and
flagrantly breaking the terms of
your house-arrest.

Barin sags and steps back from the door to let the men in.

Mrs. Pentice holds up a feeble hand of protest.

BARIN
I'm fine, Mrs. Pentice, thank you
for your concern.

A reluctant Mrs. Pentice shuffles away into the darkness and the two Elementarists sweep into the house.

JASLANEK

You will remain here under our protection until the morning. Then you will accompany us to the Tetras for a hearing.

Barin glances nervously at the kitchen door.

Jaslanek notices, his suspicions aroused.

Grimwald points to a chair.

GRIMWALD

Sit there and remain seated until such times as I say otherwise.

Barin sits and tries to look innocent. Something CRASHES down in the kitchen.

GRIMWALD (CONT'D)

What was that?

Barin says nothing, the sound of the cats SHUFFLING ABOUT breaks the silence.

Grimwald indicates with a nod that Jaslanek should investigate.

Jaslanek walks to the door and pauses to listen again. The cats are silent.

He pushes the door open a little way and peers through. With a SNARL, Lo-Dali barrels into Jaslanek, sending him head over heels back across the room and lands with his paws pinning Jaslanek down by the chest.

Do-Annan follows Lo-Dali through the door and bundles into Grimwald, sending him crashing across Barin, who manages to wriggle out from underneath the fat, sprawling and very unconscious man and up onto his feet.

Two more Elementalists leap into the house, one of them carrying a long hollow pole that glows on the inside. Lo-Dali strikes out with his massive paw, knocking the man and the tube to the floor.

The second man calls out a command in a strange language and the sounds of delighted SCREAMS flow in from the street.

Barin stiffens with fear.

Do-Annan and Lo-Dali both turn to look at the door too. With a single bound, Do-Annan flies out of the door and into the street, on the way grabbing the second Elementalist by the throat and dragging him along.

Barin follows, turning to Lo-Dali as he reached the door.

BARIN

Come on!

Lo-Dali bats Jaslanek around the head, knocking him unconscious, then bounds after them.

EXT. BARIN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Outside Barin and the cats look about, their breath puffing out in the cool night air.

They're surrounded by thin emaciated creatures. Possibly once human, their faces are grossly distorted. They shuffle forward, leering and slavering.

Barin and the cats back away, until the creatures come to a halt a few metres away from them, the bloodied Elementalist that Do-Annan dragged out lays between them.

Silence reigns as the creatures try to work out what the cats are.

The dead body of the Elementalist GURGLES, which breaks the spell and the cats and the creatures hurl themselves at each other.

Barin backs up against his house, covering his face from the melee around him.

The cats are immensely strong, but while they pick off the vicious creatures easily and body parts fly everywhere, the creatures simply get up again and rejoin the fray.

Barin peers out, wincing as the cats fight on.

Another sound joins the fray, men SHOUTING. Through the melee flaming swords hack at the creatures too.

Barin rises up to get a better view when a creature breaks through the cats' defence and lunges at Barin, grabbing his face with a bony hand which SIZZLES and steams as it touches his flesh. Barin SCREAMS and faints. Everything fades to black.

INT. CABIN - BARIN'S POV - DAY

Fade in on a small wooden cabin.

Bright light stripes the room, catching dust motes.

The sound of SEA SLOSHING. FOOTSTEPS on the boards overhead.

The scene fades out.

INT. CABIN - BARIN'S POV - LATER

The same cabin fades in again.

The light has changed, and this time Captain Glib leans into view.

GLIB
Good to see ya back in the land o'
the living.

Barin lays on a narrow bunk. His face is heavily disfigured by the creatures handprint.

BARIN
What happened?

GLIB
We happened. Told yer we weren't
yer average Pirates. Just wish we'd
got there a bit earlier.

Barin's hand goes to his face. He smarts as he touches the red raw flesh.

BARIN
Your swords, they'd been...

GLIB
All in good time, son, all in good
time. You rest now. Those creatures
took a lot out of you.

Barin smiles weakly, his eyes drift close.

BARIN
Are we safe?

GLIB
Safe enough.

EXT. THE SEA PRINCESS - DAY

The Sea Princess cuts her way through choppy seas. Captain Glib prowls along the deck, barking orders.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Barin opens his eyes. His face looks like it's healed somewhat, but still scarred.

He sits up groggily.

INT. GLIB'S CABIN - DAY

Captain Glib hands Barin a goblet of wine.

GLIB
Get this down yer.

Barin, sat in a chair, takes the goblet and downs it quickly.

Glib gives him an appraising look.

Barin, conscious of his disfigured face, touches it once more and peers at his distorted reflection in the goblet. He reacts to the view, upset by it.

BARIN
What's happened to it?

GLIB
I'm not sure I know. It's like a burn. It's not infected, as far as the surgeon can tell. But then he is also the cook and judging by the things he serves up, his opinion is questionable at best.

BARIN
I'm hungry.

GLIB
Harmse!

A pirate, HARMSE DEON, appears at the sideways door on the wall.

HARMSE
Captain?

GLIB
Some food for our patient, if you please.

HARMSE
Aye aye.

He closes the door.

Glib rubs his neck where he's twisted it looking over at Harmse.

GLIB
You know, that was the first time we've actually met those things.

BARIN
The creatures? Were they Fursonato?

GLIB

Aye. Nasty, evil things.

BARIN

So how did a crew of Pirates end up with swords that had been quickened like that?

GLIB

Ever come across an Elementalist called Sosa Velasquez?

Barin shakes his head.

GLIB (CONT'D)

A great man! He was posted out in the Western Isles. He'd employ us from time to time when he needed to do a tour of the isles for business. He died three years ago. From an infected wound.

Glib lets those words hang in the air a moment.

GLIB (CONT'D)

He'd suspected that there was Fursonato somewhere in the western isles, but he didn't know where, so he quickened our swords just in case. We never got to use them.

BARIN

The cats! Are they OK?

GLIB

Oh aye, they're fine. They're down in the hold. We've been havin' a right merry game trying to find things for them to eat. They seem to be quite taken with Tuna. Whole tuna.

Barin smiles, but it hurts his face to do so.

GLIB (CONT'D)

There is one slight problem.

INT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Lo-Dali and Do-Annan prowl restlessly round a makeshift cage of iron bars, placed at the centre of the hold. Everything has been cleared around it, and the floor appears blackened. There are many buckets lining the walls.

Barin and Glib stand and stare at the cats. Glib pulls Barin back a little.

Lo-Dali hiccoughs, then makes to do the funky chicken, as if he has a furball, then lets rip with a massive belch of flame that dissipates just before it hits the wooden sides of the ship.

BARIN

Oh!

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

The Sea Princess sails on through choppy seas. Glib prowls the deck, watching for signs of trouble.

INT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Barin sits on one side, deep in thought.

Lo-Dali saunters over to Barin, and Barin absentmindedly strokes him through the bars.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

The weather is rough; storm clouds brew in the distance behind them.

Harmse Deon stands at the stern of the boat looking out at the clouds.

He spots something and pulls out a telescope for a closer look.

EXT. VIEW THROUGH TELESCOPE - DAY

Below the billowing storm clouds that crackle with lightning, a small single-masted schooner races along. A lone figure stands at the wheel.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Now it's Barin that lowers the telescope. Harmse and Glib are with him.

BARIN

I think it might be Blissett.

GLIB

Look at that storm! It's... one of them ones. If we maintain our course, we can outrun it.

BARIN

But... I'm sure it's him.

GLIB

I'm not going back. And what if it's your friend Tukes? Or your friends from the Tetras?

BARIN

I'm not asking to go back, just to slow a little. We'll know if they're hostile before they get too close, and they'll never keep up if we set to full sail again.

Glib glances out at the storm, but relents.

GLIB

This is madness.

EXT. THE SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Barin, Glib and Harmse stand at the stern of the Sea Princess, the small boat is a lot closer, but both boats are dwarfed by the huge thunderheads.

Glib peers into his telescope.

GLIB

It's a woman!

Barin grabs the telescope and peers.

BARIN

It's Wendle!

EXT. THE SEA PRINCESS - DAY

The storm is almost upon them.

Wendle's boat draws alongside the Sea Princess.

Some of the crew swing across and pull Wendle up to the deck of the Sea Princess.

She's absolutely shattered. She falls into Barin's arms.

WENDLE

Barin! They've got Blissett.

Glib shouts orders and the Sea Princess races away from the storm.

INT. GLIB'S CABIN - DAY

Wendle is in a sorry state. Wrapped in blankets, her hair matted with sea salt. She eats bread and soup.

WENDLE

At first I made it clear I wasn't interested, but after it came to Father's attention that I was spurning an eminently suitable man's advances, he became angry. He and mother encouraged me to date him. Several heated rows and a strict ruling that your name should never be mentioned again, and well... It was getting silly. So I gave in.

Barin stands and wanders over to the window, looking out at the storm, still behind them.

WENDLE (CONT'D)

You have to understand Barin. He fooled all of us. When he proposed marriage, I... well, I'm sorry Barin. I wasn't in my right mind. And Blissett fell for his lies just like the rest of us. Luckily, he came to his senses before it was too late.

Captain Glib settles back on his chairs and tries to nap.

GLIB

Sounds like he has a golden tongue this friend of yours.

BARIN

Certainly has. He got me to break the terms of my house arrest.

WENDLE

He came to see you?

BARIN

Yes, on his way to the... you know.

WENDLE

He told me he'd been out of the country visiting someone called Velasquez.

Glib almost falls off his chair.

GLIB

Sosa Velasquez?

WENDLE

Yes, on Coralcos, or some equally distant island.

BARIN

Did you know what Tukes was up to before the wedding?

WENDLE

Blissett had figured out that the whole trial was an elaborate ruse to make you a scapegoat.

BARIN

For what?

WENDLE

We don't know. So the wedding had to go ahead until we had enough on him. The wedding never happened anyway. Word got out about those horrid creatures... So he kidnapped Blissett and I instead. What happened to those two fire demons that were with Blissett?

INT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Wendle approaches the two cats, eyes wide open.

WENDLE

Oh my! Blissett said that the demons would have to come out into the world.

Do-Annan and Lo-Dali, both vie for Wendle's attention.

BARIN

So how did you escape?

WENDLE

He locked us in a barge, not realising that there was a concealed door at the far end. We got out, Blissett stole Tukes's bubbler, put me in the schooner and rustled up a couple of wind demons and told them to take me to you.

BARIN

Why didn't he come?

WENDLE

He still wanted to find out what Tukes was up to, so he planned to lock himself away again and pretend that he himself had transported me away with the aid of several powerful demons.

GLIB

So where do we go now?

WENDLE

We need to go back to get Blissett.

BARIN

We can't go back to the mainland,
can we? Not with those creatures
there?

GLIB

We have our quickened blades. And
now that it would appear that it
was Tukes behind the demise of Sosa
Velasquez, we have a common enemy.
My ship is yours.

INT. BARIN'S CABIN - DAY

Wendle sits on the second bunk in the cabin.

WENDLE

Not sure my father would approve,
me sharing a room with a criminal.

BARIN

I'm glad you're here.

WENDLE

Me too. So, how have you been?

BARIN

Fine, fine. It's all been a bit
strange these past few days.

WENDLE

Does it... hurt?

She reaches out and touches his face.

BARIN

No, not really. Itches.

He pulls away, self-conscious.

BARIN (CONT'D)

You should rest. You look
shattered.

Wendle leans forward and kisses him on the forehead.

WENDLE

You're a good man, Barin Elicerio.

The boat lurches.

BARIN

I'd better go and see if they need
a hand.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

The Sea Princess in full sail races ahead of the great storm clouds, which are closing in on the ship.

Glib and Harmse Deon stand on deck, Harmse squinting through a telescope.

GLIB

Do you see it?

HARMSE

Aye, sparkling. Like diamonds.

GLIB

Have you seen it before?

Harmse looks at Glib and nods.

HARMSE

Should we tell the Elementalist?

GLIB

With no tobacco or soma, there's
not much he can do. That bubbler's
nothing but a pretty ornament.

HARMSE

We can't outrun it.

GLIB

Let's hope it takes us somewhere
warmer, eh?

INT. SEA PRINCESS - NIGHT

Barin polishes Sosa's bubbler by candlelight.

He glances at the sleeping Wendle and sighs.

He puts the cloth down and leans towards her, as if to kiss her, but pulls away, unable to bring himself to do so. Instead he gently strokes her hair for a moment. She stirs and rolls over.

He stands, wipes a tear from his eye, carefully wraps the bubbler in the cleaning cloth and blows out the candle.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - NIGHT

The Sea Princess crashes through large waves, the storm still on their tail, spitting great bolts of lightning.

There's a particularly violent spattering of lightning and from the concentrated energy emerges a huge glowing orb, fizzling and glittering.

The orb races across the sea towards the Sea Princess.

One of Glib's crew is on lookout. He spies the orb and tries to look at it through a spyglass, but it's too quick and before he's had time to focus it, the orb has encircled the ship.

Sparks of static fly from the rigging and the masts.

The terrified seafarer turns to run but falls over.

He peers up, awestruck by the sparks and crackles of light.

The crackling and fizzing increases until, with an electric pop, the boat vanishes, water crashing down into the hole it's left behind.

The storm clouds melt away leaving a quiet, starlight night, the sound of thunder rumbling echoing away to silence.

INT. BARIN'S CABIN - DAY

Barin wakes to find Wendle being very ill into a bucket.

BARIN
Are you alright?

Wendle indicates that she will be, just leave her alone.

Barin looks about, and frowns.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Barin emerges on deck to find they are sailing though choppy, clear blue seas. To the north, an island rises, tall and ragged out of the water, high cliffs towering above them.

A crewman wanders past.

BARIN
Where are we?

The crewman shrugs and mutters as he shambles away.

CREWMAN
Bloody demons.

There is a break in the cliff tops ahead of them, some kind of causeway or natural fissure forming a tight, vertical valley. The Sea Princess is heading straight for it.

Barin looks back to the steersman, who is trying to control the boat but struggling, the wheel unresponsive one moment, and spinning about by itself the next.

GLIB

Ah, you're awake.

Barin spins round to see the ever well dressed captain before him.

GLIB (CONT'D)

We seem to be having navigational issues again.

BARIN

Why didn't you wake me?

GLIB

Not much you can do without Soma.

BARIN

So where are we?

INT. GLIB'S CABIN - DAY

A map slams down on the table titled The Western Isles. Glib taps the map.

GLIB

This is Coralcos.

BARIN

I thought Coralcos was all sandy beaches.

GLIB

It is. The island we're on a crash course with is here.

He drags his finger the full width of the map and taps a small blob.

BARIN

Oh.

Glib pulls out another, much less detailed, map, titled 'Sethiana'.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Where's that causeway we're heading for?

Glib shrugs.

The room falls into gloom.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

On either side of the boat the giant walls of the causeway loom above the ship, which is making the precision journey through the narrow gap at great speed.

Barin and Glib emerge on deck.

Above their heads the sails are slack, yet the boat carries on moving at a constant pace, the sharp rocks either side of them just missing the boat by inches.

A cry goes up and they all look forward. Ahead of them the causeway ends abruptly in the form a giant waterfall crashing down into the sea.

GLIB

What do you make of it?

BARIN

I have no idea.

Wendle appears deck, her face still green.

The waterfall approaches at high speed.

GLIB

Brace yourself men!

They all hurried to attach themselves to the nearest handrail or mast.

The Sea Princess races towards the waterfall.

Barin's eyes stream as the cool air whipped past his face

Wendle hangs on to Barin.

The waterfall is upon them. The men all brace themselves for a collision, but instead the bow of the ship slips through the waterfall and keeps going.

Barin just has time to raise his cloak to cover he and Wendle as the water crashes down on them, forcing them all to the deck.

In the eerie green light of the cave on the other side of the water they pick themselves up.

The green glow of the waterfall recedes away behind them.

Ahead of them, the other end of the tunnel rapidly approaches.

Bats, dislodged by the mast, flutter about them, causing Wendle to scream.

They burst out the other end of the tunnel into a beautiful, tree lined, lagoon.

The Sea Princess lurches as whatever has been powering her along suddenly stops.

She drifts in the calm air.

BARIN
And none of this was on your map?

GLIB
It's an old map.

WENDLE
What do we do now?

BARIN
Find out who brought us here.

WENDLE
Tukes?

BARIN
No... I don't think so. Mr Glib, do you know if the Soma plant grows this far west?

GLIB
I'd be very surprised if we have trouble finding some.

WENDLE
Blissett?

BARIN
Who knows? But we might as well make the most of it.

EXT. LAGOON - DAY

Barin, Wendle, Glib and a couple of crewmen row ashore.

Wendle looks down in to the crystal clear water. Gigantic fish, almost the same size as the boat float up to see what's going on.

The boat reaches the shore and Barin jumps out, turning to help Wendle out.

WENDLE
It's beautiful here.

Barin is on edge, he scans the trees around them.

BARIN
We need to be careful.

Glib joins them.

GLIB
So, Mr. Elementalist. Where would we begin looking for this plant of yours?

BARIN
Shall we go this way?

EXT. JUNGLE - CONTINUOUS

The party hack their way through the thick vegetation. Creatures scuttle and slither out of their way as they approach.

EXT. VALLEY RIDGE - CONTINUOUS

The party reach the brow of the hill. Behind them the Sea Princess looks tiny, anchored in the lagoon.

Out of breath from the climb up the hill, Barin moves forward, pushing branches aside to reveal a dramatic view.

Below them a forest of trees stretches away to the horizon.

In the midst of it, a giant tower, similar in shape to the Tetras.

Wendle joins him.

WENDLE
Is that the Tetras?

BARIN
Something very like it. Captain Glib! We have our sequoia trees!

Glib pushes his way through the bushes to join them.

GLIB
Well I'll be...

VOICE (O.S.)
You took your time!

They spin around, Glib drawing his sword.

Before them stands an old man in an old, battered Elementalist's cloak.

GLIB

Sosa? But... we buried you!

The late SOSA VELASQUEZ (70s) opens his arms and steps forward to embrace the confused Captain.

SOSA

My dear Mr. Glib, as you can see I am very much alive, though I beg your forgiveness for the pretense.

Glib stares at Sosa in utter confusion. Sosa turns his gaze to Barin.

SOSA (CONT'D)

And you must be the great Barin!
And the lovely Wendle!

Sosa shakes Barin's hand as he speaks, and bows courteously to Wendle.

SOSA (CONT'D)

You're every bit as beautiful as your father had us believe.

Wendle blushes.

SOSA (CONT'D)

Come now all of you, I have much to show you. And Mr Glib, tell your crew to release the cats.

EXT. HILLSIDE - CONTINUOUS

They walk down the hill, the old Elementalist springing ahead of them.

GLIB

(To Barin and Wendle)
We'll never get there by nightfall.

SOSA

I owe you all an apology. We've been watching you all for some time, and had to take drastic measures to get you here.

BARIN

We thought it was Blissett or maybe Tukes.

SOSA

Blissett? Yes he's done well these past few months. But not Tukes. The man is a fool. Full of hot air.

WENDLE

Do you know where Blissett is now?

SOSA

With Tukes and Grimlock blindly following you up the coast.

They reach the edge of the forest at the foot of the hill.

Sosa leads them along an narrow path into the darkness of the forest.

SOSA (CONT'D)

Soon be there.

Glib snorts and then gasps.

They walk into a clearing to find the huge building that moments ago seemed miles away.

All three stop and stare at the beautiful building.

Sosa realises he's lost them and turns around.

SOSA (CONT'D)

Come now! So much to explain!

INT. NEW TETRAS - DAY

The entrance foyer of the building is a huge, crystal atrium stretching the height of the building, bustling with lots of Elementalist.

Barin, Wendle and Glib stare goggle eyed as they watch elevators carry people off up the inside wall of the building.

BARIN

How many Elementalist are here?

SOSA

Oh about two hundred, more arrive each day, we hope you might join us here as well.

WENDLE

Does my father know about this?

SOSA

I wish that he did. But there is too much corruption at the Old Tetras, and while your father is a good man, many around him are, well...

A small Elementalist with a shock of fuzzy hair scuttles over to Sosa and whispers a message in his ear.

SOSA (CONT'D)
Ah, excellent. We're all here now.

He leads them to a lift pod and pulls the door open.

SOSA (CONT'D)
We're working on doors that shut by themselves, but they are eluding us at the moment.

INT. LIFT POD - CONTINUOUS

The pod rises gently. Glib and Wendle cling to the side, terrified, while Barin peers around.

He notices a series of clear crystals have been placed along either side of the pod. He looks carefully at them, then looks at Sosa and smiles.

EXT. BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Sosa, Wendle, Glib and Barin step from the lift pod.

SOSA
Everyone alright?

Wendle and Glib nodded stiffly.

Sosa peers over the balcony and shouts down.

SOSA (CONT'D)
Mr. Sholto! Our visitors please!
Barin, tell me about your cats.

BARIN
Er, they have fire demons in them.
They breath fire.

A movement over the balcony catches his eye.

BARIN (CONT'D)
And they fly too!

Lo-Dali and Do-Annan hover in space off the balcony. They swoop over and land softly on next to them. Lo-Dali nuzzles up to Barin, who made as big a fuss as he could of the pair of them.

SOSA
And now, I'd like to show you why
I've dragged you halfway across the
ocean. On more than one occasion, I
must confess.

He turns and pushes open two huge doors. A blinding white light comes spilling out.

Sosa moves into the corridor, followed by the cats. Glib, Wendle and Barin exchanged confused looks and follow on.

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Sosa sweeps ahead of them, and as he does so, all of them seem to grow upright in stature.

The white light makes them all look radiant, even Glib's terrible teeth seem to look bright white.

INT. METRICULUS CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

They enter a giant chamber that fills the entire centre of the building from floor to ceiling. A single balcony, upon which they stand is the only feature that runs around the flat white walls. Floating in the vast space of the chamber is a gargantuan sprit creature, writhing and coiling about, folding in and around on itself.

Barin is awestruck by it.

BARIN
A Metriculus?

SOSA
Indeed.

BARIN
No! They said it was impossible!

SOSA
They didn't think big enough. This building is only just big enough to take it and it's three times higher than the Tetras.

WENDLE
What is it?

SOSA
A multi-dimensional being, brought about by splicing the spirit world and the physical world together in such a way that the inherent qualities of creation behind each are reproduced in their raw form.

BARIN
It's the stuff the universe is made of!

WENDLE

Is it alive?

SOSA

In a manner of speaking.

WENDLE

Can it communicate?

SOSA

We think so, though we've yet to make sense of anything it might have told us.

BARIN

So this is what caused us to travel across the ocean? And make the weather all topsy-turvy?

SOSA

Travelling, yes. Weather, no. The weather was Tukes's doing. A side effect of his grisly activities with those ghastly creatures.

The Metriculus, which has, until now, been serenely floating about, becomes agitated. Sparks fly off it. The group take a step back.

SOSA (CONT'D)

As you can see. She's not quite stable. In fact, compared to what she could be, she's quite weak. Even so, although holding on to her as best we can, our grasp is slipping. I don't think I need to draw too much of a detailed picture to explain what might happen if we lose control.

BARIN

It could tear the fabric of reality apart. Creation would cease to exist.

The Metriculus settles down again, the sparks fizzle away.

SOSA

That would be a best case scenario.

WENDLE

And the worst case?

SOSA

That creation is twisted into something quite, quite terrible.

WENDLE

Seems an awful big risk to take!

SOSA

Ah, but my dear Wendle, if we can,
and I'm sure with young Barin's
help here, we do remain in control,
then the benefits will be glorious!

BARIN

So what do you need?

SOSA

A regulator. A crystal of such size
and purity that none could ever
compare to it.

BARIN

The capstone of the Tetras?

Sosa smiles.

EXT. NEW TETRAS - EVENING

Barin and Sosa walk alone on the grass between the building
and the forest, the cats fly around them playing games with
each other.

BARIN

What about our friend Tukes, I take
it he fits into this as well?

SOSA

Yes he does, although his penchant
for those horrid undead creatures
makes the task a little more
unpleasant.

BARIN

So what do we need to do about him?

SOSA

Well, it seems that his
relationship with half dead things
extend further than reanimating
some dead bodies. He's taken it
into his head that the evil spirit
Scaraburus is his friend. We'd like
to know what kind of deal Tukes is
trying to strike.

BARIN

Scaraburus was the demon of ill-
repute that was behind my charges?

SOSA

We think that whatever deal Tukes has struck with Scaraburus, it will take some personal intervention to fix.

BARIN

You mean, go back and talk to him?

SOSA

Talk to him, yes, if needs be. At least find out what he's doing. And grab the capstone while you're at it.

EXT. LAGOON - DAY

Boats head out to the Sea Princess loaded with provisions.

Barin, Glib, Wendle and Sosa stand on the shore.

SOSA

Before you go, there's just one thing. Mr. Sholto?

Sholto appears from behind a clump of trees, leading the cats which he's strapped into harnesses.

SOSA (CONT'D)

We tried saddles, but the cat's objected. We've managed to keep the stirrups though, and with all the hair, they're quite well padded.

BARIN

Seriously?

SOSA

How else to you expect to get the capstone from the top of the Tetras?

BARIN

They don't mind?

SHOLTO

Not at all, here. You've ridden a horse, yes?

Barin nods' as Sholto hands him Lo-Dali's reins

Lo-Dali nuzzles into Barin affectionately.

SHOLTO (CONT'D)

I've trained them to respond in the same way, except, pull on the left reign to go up, and the right to go down. Both back to slow or stop, as normal.

Sholto hands Do-Anna's reigns to Wendle.

BARIN

Shall we?

Wendle and Barin leap on the cats backs and kick off. With a bound and growl of delight, both cats leap into the air.

Sosa, Sholto and Glib watch them race off towards the Sea Princess.

SOSA

Are the modifications to your ship to your satisfaction, Mr. Glib?

GLIB

Aye, any more and I won't need a crew at all!

SOSA

If you'd be so kind, I'd like you to make an extra stop on your journey.

EXT. CAUSEWAY - DAY

The Sea Princess ploughs out of the waterfall and along the causeway towards the open sea.

Barin and Wendle swoop down over the waterfall on the cat's and race along at sea level.

They reach the boat, rise up over it.

The cats emerge from the causeway with great roars, the Sea Princess hot on their tails.

Glib waves as Barin and Wendle fly past on the cats. The Sea Princess heads out in the open sea.

EXT. RUSTIC VILLAGE - NIGHT

Glib, Barin and some crewmen disembark from a landing boat and glance around. It's a shabby looking place, ramshackle houses and huts surround a small fishing harbour.

Barin doesn't have his cloak on, he's dressed like the rest of the crew.

GLIB

Right men, keep alert. No trouble,
y'hear?

BARIN

Are you sure it's safe for me to
come. It's not like I'm
inconspicuous.

GLIB

No, I need you. If we didn't have
to come, trust me I wouldn't.

The group move towards a brightly lit building with a creaky wooden sign half hanging from the wall. Sounds of bawdy SHOUTING and SINGING.

INT. TOAD INN - NIGHT

The group push their way into the crowded inn. Most ignore them, Glib recognises one or two of them and nods a greeting.

As they make their way to the bar and Glib orders drinks, two men scrutinise Barin's scarred face. They confer and one of them darts away out of the inn.

Barin takes a mug of ale from Glib and they take a seat at a table.

BARIN

So who are we looking for?

GLIB

An old man, a priest. He's here, I
asked at the bar. Ah...

As he speaks, a gnarled old man staggers through the rear door, trying to straighten his clothes after his ablutions.

GLIB (CONT'D)

Jamari!

The old man blinks at Glib, who stands to greet him.

JAMARI

Mr. Glib?

His face brightens, then fills with fear. He peers at Barin.

JAMARI (CONT'D)

Oh, no no no!

GLIB

What is it?

JAMARI

Your friend. You should not have come!

GLIB

We need to find Nirfana.

JAMARI

No, go far away. There men. Blue men! They look for him!

He waves his hand in front of his face.

GLIB

Oh! Please Jamari, we must find her.

JAMARI

Yes, she will help. Must go now! Before blue men come.

Glib signals for Barin and the crew to beat a retreat.

As they stand, two Elementalists enter the inn.

Glib pushes Barin back down to his chair. The crewmen stand in front of him.

The bar goes quiet. The Elementalists look around.

Barin peers between the crewmen.

ELEMENTALIST #1

Barin Elicerio, you will come with us, now.

Barin tries to stand, Glib pushes him back.

JAMARI

You want man with hand face?

ELEMENTALIST #1

I suggest you hand him over now. He's a very dangerous man.

GLIB

You've met him then, have you?

The Elementalist pauses and glances at his colleague.

ELEMENTALIST #1

Well... Yes.

A large, burly man barges past and hoiks Barin up by the collars.

BURLY MAN

This him?

The Elementalists peers through the smoky dim light.

ELEMENTALIST #1

Yes.

The burly man punches Barin in the face.

At once the rest of Glib's crew leap into action and a huge brawl breaks out.

Barin falls to the floor, blood covering his face. Jamari kneels down and tugs him towards the back door.

JAMARI

This way, hand face man.

They crawl though the fight, trying to avoid flying furniture and bodies.

Glib falls down next to Barin, stunned.

BARIN

Are you alright?

Glib shakes his head.

GLIB

Just getting warmed up, son!

He jumps up and rejoins the fray.

EXT. TOAD INN - NIGHT

Jamari stumbles from the inn, a moment later Barin appears, only to be dragged back into the inn.

Jamari steps forward to see what's happened. He waits for a few seconds before the burly man comes flying through the door with a CRASH and tumbles to the ground, unconscious, almost taking Jamari with him.

Barin, emerges once more, followed by Glib, rubbing his knuckles.

GLIB

Looks like your friend Tukes has a lot of friends. Jamari, we need to see Nirfana, now. This man's a bloody liability looking like that.

Jamari wobbles about, half drunk, half scared.

JAMARI

Nirfana dangerous. You sure?

GLIB

We'll take our chances.

EXT. SWAMP - NIGHT

Jamari leads Glib and Barin, still soaked in blood, through a mangrove swamp. Their flaming torches casting eerie shadows as they walk.

Jamari is fearful, his eyes flick about, watchful. Barin is fed up and in pain, Glib seemed quite happy.

EXT. TREEHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

They arrive at a round wooden house built between two trees. Lights flicker at the windows.

JAMARI

Here Nirfana. I go now.

GLIB

Thank you, Jamari.

The old man bows away from them and disappears into the mists of the swamp.

Barin and Glib survey the house.

BARIN

Let's hope she's still up.

INT. TREEHOUSE - NIGHT

Silence prevails in Nirfana's house, there's no-one to be seen, despite the lights all being on.

The door creaks open, and Glib peers in.

GLIB

No one here. We'll wait.

BARIN

I imagined a priestesses house would be a bit more... priestessy.

GLIB

When what your people do to hers, are you surprised?

BARIN

Do?

GLIB

Do.

BARIN

But that's all...

GLIB
Why are we here, Barin?

BARIN
This.

He points to his face.

GLIB
And why didn't Sosa, the greatest
Elementalist of all time, fix it
for you?

BARIN
I... I don't know.

GLIB
Think about it.

Barin thinks hard. Then has an idea.

BARIN
It's these people who conjure up
the Fursonato?

GLIB
And so?

BARIN
And so they would know how to deal
with the scar.

GLIB
Precisely.

BARIN
So Tukes has been working with
these people to make his Fursonato?

GLIB
No, I don't think so. I've seen a
proper Fursonato, just once before.
It was an thing of terrible beauty.
The creature that did that to you
was a pale imitation. Ah, here she
comes!

Barin squints as the misty shapes of people start to appear around them. The sounds of CHATTING VOICES became louder and in seconds he and Glib find themselves surrounded by about twenty natives talking casually amongst themselves.

In the far corner of the room NIRFANA (45), an elegant, dark skinned lady glances over at them, her face fills with delight when sees them.

NIRFANA
Everyone, our guests are here!

She sashays across to Glib and Barin.

NIRFANA (CONT'D)

Mr. Glib! I was so happy when Sosa told me you would be visiting.

She hugs him tight, kisses him on the top of his head and ruffles his hair. Then turns to Barin.

NIRFANA (CONT'D)

And you must be our patient. My name is Nirfana. Welcome to my home.

She plants a kiss on both his cheeks then studies the scars on his face.

BARIN

Did you just physically travel from the spirit world?

NIRFANA

Hmmm. Nasty scar, nasty. It amazes me that people think they can call up an undead creature and all will be well in the world. People are so stupid.

BARIN

But that's not possible! I mean...

She places a finger on his lips.

Nirfana clicks her fingers.

Glib steps back towards the door as the rest of the guests form a circle around Barin and Nirfana and join hands. They start to hum a low, single note.

Nirfana closes her eyes takes a deep breath.

She places her hand exactly over the scar and mumbles words in a strange tongue.

She goes rigid, watching images flash across her mind.

Her eyes snap open.

NIRFANA

No!

She steps back, shaken. She peers at Barin's face.

BARIN

No?

NIRFANA

Who did this to you?

BARIN
A Fursonato.

NIRFANA
Thank you everyone, you can go back
to the party now.

The circle of people break up and return to what they were
doing, at the same time, fading from view.

BARIN
What's going on? I thought you
could fix this? Where did they go?

NIRFANA
Whoever created the creature that
did this to you, used old magic.

BARIN
Tukes?

NIRFANA
Is he a dark wizard?

BARIN
No, he's a... He's a... bit of an
idiot.

NIRFANA
He has bound himself to his
creation, to protect them.

BARIN
You can't fix my face then?

NIRFANA
I can. And I can tell you how to
physically go to the spirit world.
But first, you must kill this
Tukes.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - MORNING

Day breaks as Barin rows Glib back to the Sea Princess.

INT. SEA PRINCESS - MORNING

Wendle stands on deck, waiting for Barin and Glib as they
clamber back over the railings.

WENDLE
Where did you get to? The rest of
the crew have been back hours!

BARIN
We had to go and see someone.

WENDLE

I was worried sick about you.

GLIB

You needn't have. Total waste of time.

He mooches off, angry.

WENDLE

Is he alright?

BARIN

He'll be fine. I hope.

WENDLE

The men said you got into trouble. Where did you go?

BARIN

We visited a... priestess. To try to fix this.

He points to his face.

WENDLE

Didn't go so well then?

BARIN

I have the most recognisable face in the world and no one can do anything about it.

WENDLE

I have a bag. You could...

She mimes pulling a bag over her head.

He doesn't return her smile.

She pulls him close, stroking his scarred face.

WENDLE (CONT'D)

Or you could just wear it with pride.

She kisses him hard on his lips.

WENDLE (CONT'D)

I love you, you silly man.

They kiss again. Then she pulls away and hugs him.

He stares out to sea.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - VARIOUS

The Princess makes her way through the myriad of islands that make up the Western Isles.

Glib consults his maps, tracing their progress.

Barin, Wendle and the crew work on deck. Barin and Wendle share a moment, holding each others gaze.

The Princess ploughs her way through the open sea, leaving the islands behind. Barin and Wendle stand at the bow, arm in arm.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Barin is atop the mast in the crows nest, peering though a telescope.

He removes it from his eye and squints to the horizon.

He peers down.

BARIN

Mr. Glib! Any chance we could follow a more southerly tack for a short while?

Glib waves and shouts instructions to his men.

Barin and Wendle watch the storm. As the ship turns, the storm drifts away to their left.

The storm flickers with lightning, and drifts across so that they are heading straight for it again.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Barin straps the harness on Lo-Dali, watched by Glib and Wendle.

BARIN

You're sure no-one could work out where we are?

GLIB

I haven't seen another vessel for two days. Don't see how they could.

Barin jumps onto Lo-Dali.

BARIN

I think they've sent us a little welcome home gift.

He kicks off and they rise into the sky.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Keep an eye on it, if it looks like
it's moving towards us, I might not
outrun it.

Wendle waves as he peels away, spiralling up around the mast.

Something glints in the sky, just above the mast.

Wendle catches sight of the glint and stares.

Again, the glint directly over her.

She looks back for Barin, but he's already a good distance
away.

EXT. OPEN SEA - DAY

Barin and Lo-Dali race across the sea towards the storm.

Ahead of them, evil looking black clouds swirl, lightning
flashes.

Barin pulls up to watch the storm. It's moving towards him at
great speed.

BARIN

Uh oh.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Wendle tightens the straps on Do-Annan and jumps on.

She kicks off and circles round the boat up to the top of the
mast.

She peers ahead and gasps a little.

The storm is much closer now and heading straight for them.

She dives down to the deck. Glib stands on the prow of the
ship looking ahead for Barin and the storm.

WENDLE

Mr Glib, the storm is heading this
way. Better make ready!

Glib waves and Wendle spins Do-Annan up to the top of the
mast again.

They circle around a few times.

She spots what she's looking for, some twenty metres up above
the top of the mast.

She moves up to it, and reaches out her to grab it.

It's a small crystal, about 6 inches long.

She kicks Do-Annan into action and heads out towards Barin and the storm.

EXT. OPEN SEA - DAY

Barin races back towards the Princess.

Wendle races towards him, Do-Annan taking a wide circle and allowing her to pull alongside him.

BARIN

What are you doing!

The clouds are right on them now, great spikes of lightning are flashing down all around them.

WENDLE

I found this.

She holds up the crystal. He reaches over and takes it from her.

A huge bolt of lightning strikes close to Wendle, sending Do-Annan into a terrified spin. Wendle is thrown free of the cat and plummets down to the water.

More lightning strikes closely miss them as Barin peers about.

Then the rain hits, stinging sheet rain, the wind whips up into a frenzy.

Lo-Dali swoops down, followed by Do-Annan, who's composed himself again, though some of his rump fur is singed.

Barin spies Wendle, struggling to stay afloat in the now raging sea.

Barin manoeuvres Lo-Dali close to her and tries to grasp her hand, but she's being tossed about too much.

Do-Annan roars and dives into the water.

He comes up underneath her, she manages to get onto him, then he tries to take off, but struggles.

Lo-Dali cries out to Do-Annan, who gives a mournful cry back.

Wendle clings to the sodden cat as he tries once more to take off, but again the water refuses to let go of him.

With a great roar, he tries one more time and breaks free of the water, rising up into the rain.

BARIN

Lo-Dali! Find the boat!

Lightning fizzles all around them, great stabs of electricity trying to seek them out.

The cats fly close together, calling out. Barin and Wendle hang on for dear life in the howling gale.

Then, out of the rain, the Princess appears, buffeted by the storm. The crew run about on deck trying to control her.

WENDLE

How do we get down?

BARIN

Follow us!

He leans forward and shouts to Lo-Dali.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Take us down!

Lo-Dali roars and he and Do-Annan circle the boat.

Lo-Dali lets out more roars and Do-Annan answers back over the gale. They dive down almost to sea level, scooting along above the waves that are smashing into the ship.

They shoot out beyond the bow of the boat into the storm.

Barin glances behind them. The boat vanishes quickly from view in the thick rain.

Lo-Dali slows and turns, waiting for something. Do-Annan draw alongside.

More lightning flashes around them. With a howl, Lo-Dali and Do-Annan shoot off at high speed back towards the Princess.

The ship looms out of the mist and rain, rising up on the crest of a wave.

Barin thinks they are going to fly straight into the front of the boat, but as they arrive, the bow drops down into a trough, the deck now sloping up away from them.

The cats reach out with their feet and strike the wood hard, sliding across the deck and spinning around as they slow to a halt outside of Glib's cabin.

The cats let out a howl of triumph and dance around.

The cabin door opens and Glib, his face full of wonder ushers the four of them quickly inside as more waves crashed over the side of the boat.

INT. GLIB'S CABIN - DAY

Barin makes a big fuss of the cats.

BARIN
Well done my beauties!

He holds up the crystal.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Where did you find this?

WENDLE
Above the ship.

Barin lets go of the crystal and it floats in the air, moving about as the boat rocks everyone around it.

BARIN
An Air Demon?

WENDLE
I thought things normally grew when they had a demon in them.

BARIN
They do - look at the cats. I knew Sosa wasn't telling me something.

WENDLE
Do you think he lied to us?

BARIN
Why would he?

WENDLE
Because that thing must be what Tukes was using to track us - and if he knew about it and we didn't then what does that tell you?

GLIB
One thing I'll tell you about Sosa, he'd never have put that there for Tukes's use. By your own admission you'd underestimated Tukes. I'd say he has too.

INT. BARIN'S CABIN - DAY

Barin has his bubbler popping and whirring away. Lighting still flashes outside, the storm rages on.

BARIN
Time to break the rules.

He takes along drag on the pipe and closes his eyes.

INT. CHAMBER - NIGHT

Barin is back in the chamber, with the series of doors.

BARIN
I don't need this!

He closes his eyes and the room melts away to reveal...

INT. BARIN'S CABIN - DAY

He's stood in front of himself, but the room and his 'physical' body appear distant, like a shimmering veil has been placed around him.

BARIN
This is more like it.

He raises up his hand and lets the crystal float in front of him.

Using mental powers he makes the crystal expand until it is huge, then he steps into it.

INT. CRYSTAL - DAY

The crystal is full of bright lights and reflections.

A giant Air Demon floats in front of him, a sentient cloud, billowing and folding in and around on itself.

Barin bows low.

BARIN
My lord.

AIR DEMON
I did not expect this meeting.

BARIN
Nor I, but I must ask you. Are you working with Sosa Velazquez, or someone else?

AIR DEMON
I am here at the Human Velasquez's behest. But... there has been another.

BARIN
Who?

AIR DEMON
I do not know. They are... hidden.

BARIN

His name is Tukes. I think he's using you to track our movements. He aims to destroy us. Will you help us?

AIR DEMON

This was not part of the bargain.

BARIN

I doubt it was, but if you don't help us I believe things will not go well in either of our worlds.

The demon ponders for a few moments.

AIR DEMON

What would you have me do?

INT. BARIN'S CABIN - DAY

Barin, sat on his bed, opens his eyes. He looks down at the crystal in his hand and smiles.

BARIN

Thank you.

He stands and hurries out the room.

INT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Barin find the crew huddled round a table, playing cards, oblivious to the storm outside.

BARIN

Harmse, we need to change direction. I think someone will be waiting for us if we stay the current course.

Harmse nods and makes his way up on deck.

BARIN (CONT'D)

I think you may need to man the cannons. If the storm subsides quickly, we may have company.

The crew all get excited and bustle into action.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Barin makes his way across the storm lashed deck, past Harmse doing battle with the ships wheel, to the back of the boat.

Leaning out over the back railings, he raises his hand and lets go of the crystal.

Rather than remain motionless, the boat slips away from underneath it, and it vanishes into the rain and mist, lightning bolts flashing all around it.

As Barin looks about, waiting for the storm to abate, the rain stops.

The clouds break up, and blue sky and sunshine return quickly.

Glib, Wendle and the Cats emerge from the cabin.

Glib pulls out his trusty telescope and scans the horizon.

BARIN

Has Sosa done anything to the cannons?

GLIB

He's made a few, ah, technical adjustments. More to be able to be manned by a single gunner that making them any more destructive. I don't like the odds too heavily stacked in our favour.

HARMSE

Shall I head for Coll Yarney, Cap'n?

GLIB

Aye.

Barin jumps on Lo-Dali once more.

BARIN

Anything?

GLIB

Nothing.

Barin kicks off and launches up into the sky.

Wendle follows him up on Do-Annan.

EXT. SKY - CONTINUOUS

Barin and Wendle circle higher and higher, looking out for any ships.

Below them a dark brown swathe of sea shows the track of the storm stretching far into the distance.

Barin points to cliffs in the other direction.

BARIN

Look! That storm blew as all the way across the sea.

WENDLE

Where's Tukes?

Barin looks around.

BARIN

There!

Far off the white glare of seven or eight sets of sails line the horizon.

WENDLE

We should take a closer look. It might not be them!

BARIN

Alright, but stay low!

They dive down and scoot across the surface of the sea.

As they race along, the sails appear over the horizon.

Barin pulls up, worried, glancing back at the Sea Princess, still in sight behind them.

BARIN (CONT'D)

How fast?

The sails rise up above the horizon quickly.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Come on.

He turns Lo-Dali around and he and Wendle race back towards the Princess.

The sun is starting to set to the west. A shadow falls across them. They glance up as two ships draw alongside them.

The ships have giant crystals strapped to the side of them. Inside the distorted shapes of Air Demons swirl about.

Shot ring out and cannon balls zip past them.

Do-Annan drives into Lo-Dali as a cannon ball whistles past and a plume of water sprays up right beside them.

The cats race back to the Princess.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Slow down!

The ship races up to them and skim across the deck. The cats flick out their paws and catch hold of some rigging, using it to slow themselves down and swing back onto the deck.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - SUNSET

Barin and Wendle tumble off of the cats onto the deck.

Picking themselves up they look out to see eight tall ships floating some ten metres above the water, circling them.

Fursonato prowl the decks.

BARIN

They don't like water!

GLIB

I think I'd be right in saying it's the motion of sailing that they can't stomach. No-one said they didn't like flying.

One of the ships drifts closer, turquoise cloaks mill about on the deck.

WENDLE

It's Father!

GLIB

What do you make of it?

BARIN

Why would Parnassus allow Tukes to try to shoot his daughter out of the sky?

GLIB

You were right about the crystals.

BARIN

Oh, here we go.

Tukes steps to the side of his ship to address them. Parnassus stands behind him.

TUKES

Barin!

BARIN

What?

TUKES

You are hereby sentenced to death for the breaking of your terms of imprisonment, inasmuch as you have travelled a distance that would clearly take more than three days on foot to traverse.

BARIN

Grow up, Tukes!

The crew of the Princess laugh and cheer.

TUKES

This is no laughing matter, I can assure you.

BARIN

And why is that?

TUKES

Because I am the Grand Master of the Sacred and Ancient Order of Elementalists.

BARIN

No you're not, he's standing behind you!

TUKES

I think you'll find that is the ex-Grand Master, now... deposed and in disgrace.

BARIN

Then the rules must have been rewritten since I last read them, for I'm sure it clearly stated that a Grand Mastership may only be passed on upon the death of the previous Grand Master.

TUKES

Oh don't worry about that. Parnassus died two days ago - what you see here is his reanimated body! Ah, hello Wendle!

Wendle gasped and clutched Barin's elbow.

BARIN

What do you want, Tukes?

TUKES

Simple! Hand yourself and the girl over, and we might spare the Pirate's lives.

WENDLE

The girl?

BARIN

Where's Blissett?

TUKES

He's safe.

Barin turns to Glib.

BARIN

Mr. Glib, prepare for battle.

GLIB

Surely it would be suicide!

BARIN

I'll try to give us the advantage.

Wendle and Glib watch Barin walk over to the cats, speak with them quickly, then move to the centre of the boat, the cats taking up position either side of him.

TUKES

So, what do you say Barin?

Barin looks across at Tukes. He closes his eyes, takes a deep breath and stretches out his arms.

Great sheets of water shoot up to surround the flotilla of ships circling the Sea Princess. The sun's low rays are shaped by lenses in the water and aimed at Tukes's ship, blinding everyone on the boat.

With a flick of his hands, a mist shoots up around the Sea Princess that refracts and dazzles the setting sun in a myriad of rainbows and shafts of light.

Barin turns to Lo-Dali and Do-Annan.

BARIN

Go!

The two cats soar up through the mist, belching great thunderous eruptions of flames at Tukes's fleet.

Within seconds flames burn high from the sails and rigging of the flying boats and panic breaks out on board all of them.

Lo-Dali and Do-Annan reach the zenith of their attack and with tremendous roars, then swoop down through the light and mist to the Sea Princess.

They entangled themselves in the ships rigging and began to pull it up out of the water, black acrid smoke now belching from the eight ships that continued to circle them.

As the sea Princess rises, guttural wails call out from Tukes's fleet and cannon balls start to fly.

GLIB
Fire at will!

INT. SEA PRINCESS GUN DECK - DAY

The crew, one man to each cannon, let rip all around. Smoke and roaring flames fills the deck.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

Wendle ducks down, but then notices that the cannon balls aren't hitting the Sea Princess, they're bouncing off some invisible force shield.

She stands and looks at Barin who is deep in a trance.

The cannons from the Sea Princess are wreaking much havoc, wood and splinters flying everywhere.

One of the main masts is caught and blown away as the Sea Princess rises higher above the ships.

The ropes holding the huge crystals that allow Tukes's fleet to fly are burning through, and the crystals crashing to the sea.

Two of the Tukes's fleet turn turtle, masts smashing through their allies.

As the Sea Princess rises high above the burning ships, there's a fizzing and flashing on deck, and Tukes appears behind Wendle.

Glib looks around and sees him, but Tukes launches some kind of lightning bolt at him with a flick of his wrists, sending the Captain sprawling.

Wendle turns around, but too late.

Tukes flicks his wrist again, and this time tendrils of fire coil out from his finger tips and wrap around Wendle.

WENDLE
Barin!

Barin's eyes snap open. He sees Tukes, who glances up at Barin and lazily flicks a sheet of fire at him.

Barin ducks down to avoid the flames.

Tukes tugs the tendrils of fire and drags Wendle to him.

When he stands up, Tukes and Wendle are gone.

Barin runs to the side of the ship and peers down towards Tukes's ships now far below them, engulfed in flames.

The fleet are crashing down into the sea, Fursonato jumping into the water.

The scene of destruction drifts away below them.

INT. GLIB'S CABIN - NIGHT

Glib's surgen tends to the superficial burns on Glib's face. Barin stares out of the window into the dark night, the reflection of his face at right angles to him.

BARIN

He'll have taken her back to the Tetras, I'm sure of it.

GLIB

So what, do we take the battle to the Tetras?

Barin doesn't answer. He stands forlorn.

Glib sends the Surgeon away and walks over to Barin, putting his arm around him.

GLIB (CONT'D)

Don't beat yourself up son.

BARIN

Where did he learn to do that? No wonder Sosa underestimated him. We all have.

GLIB

Perhaps, but I'm quite sure without you there'd have just been one boat at the bottom of the sea. And don't you be worrying yourself about that young lady either. She's got a fine head on her, she'll see herself OK.

BARIN

I don't doubt that for a moment. She'll be fine. It's just...

He sags, and stares at his wonky reflection.

INT. BARIN'S CABIN - NIGHT

Barin sits on his bunk and stares at Sosa's bubbler.

He sits up and closes his eyes.

He enters the spirit world, standing once more in front of his physical body.

He focusses his mind and waves his arms. The cabin unfolds around him, and he finds himself floating in strange and dark world, akin to Hell.

He looks down to see terrible demons, huge and ugly, tormenting the souls of humans, forcing them to pull huge boulders, whipping them, laughing.

Barin stares down in disgust, then flips away again, unfolding the world and refolding it around him.

EXT. WOODED VALLEY - DAY

Barin materialises in the wooded glade, next to a gurgling stream. Above him a snow laced mountain top.

Barin wanders over to the stream and sits on a rock, waiting.

Blissett materialises behind him. Barin smiles to himself.

BLISSETT

You know, you really are very stupid. Blissett said you'd come here. I tortured it out of him.

Barin remains calm, doesn't react.

BLISSETT (CONT'D)

If I were you, I'd tell your little pirate friends to hurry, I think Grimwald's men might have been a little... over zealous with our friend Mr. Blissett. And I'd hate to think what my children will do to him, if I let them.

BARIN

They're Privateers, not Pirates.

Barin stands up and faces Tukes.

BARIN (CONT'D)

So you're the Grand Master now?

BLISSETT

I am. Quite unexpected.

BARIN

Rubbish. You've been plotting this for ages, and I was just a small part of it.

TUKES

And didn't you play your part well!
I particularly liked the snivelling
wreck protesting his innocence.

Again Barin doesn't react.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Oh, thank you for keeping my
betrothed safe as well. When she
disappeared off on that boat I was
thinking that she would simply
float to the shore on the morning
tide.

Barin reacts ever so slightly.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Imagine my surprise when that air
demon carried Wendle away like
that.

BARIN

But Blissett did that didn't he?

TUKES

Goodness no, by the time I'd
finished with him, I doubt Blissett
could tell you his name, let alone
summon a demon. I assumed that you
had summoned it. I obviously gave
you more credit than you deserve.

Barin's starting to lose his cool now.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Anyway, I must leave you now. I'd
love to stay and chat, but Wendle
and I have some... catching up to
be getting on with.

He makes a lewd gesture with his hips.

Barin finally snaps, he lunges forward.

Tukes simply stands where he is and allows Barin to pass
straight through him.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Liberating, isn't it? To break the
rules, to loosen the shackles of
our beliefs, to do something
different. You know, I thought I
may have underestimated you.

He kneels down and sends an electrical pulse through Barin's
body, playing with him.

TUKES (CONT'D)

I saw what you did with those cats
and I thought to myself, 'Goodness,
hasn't Sosa taught him well. Just
like he taught me.'

Barin struggles for breath.

BARIN

Sosa's... dead.

TUKES

Oh, come now. We both know he's
alive and well and sitting on top
of the biggest stash of Soma ever
found. Which is ironic as you and I
have both just proved that we don't
actually need it anymore.

BARIN

What have you done to them?

TUKES

Our little renegades in Sethiana?
Oh, nothing... yet. But their faith
in you is misguided. You're a loser
Barin, a big fat loser!

He spikes Barin with another bolt of energy, sending the
breath out of Barin once more, blood spaying from his mouth.

Tukes stands and smooths off his cloak.

Barin rolls over coughing. He manages to pick himself up.

BARIN

You're a liar! Sosa would never
work with the likes of you. He has
principles, something you've never
had.

TUKES

Ah, and so it descends to name
calling. I thought you were better
than that Barin.

BARIN

Grow up, Tukes.

TUKES

Oh, but I have! You clearly
haven't.

Blood trickles down Barin's chin. He wipes it with his hand.

BARIN

How are you doing this?

TUKES

Like I say, I'm playing with the big boys now. I'll leave you to ponder that while I return to your precious little Wendle and despoil her.

He laughs and Barin sees red.

He flies forward and grabs Tukes. They spin around each other and rise up into the air.

Tukes starts to laugh.

TUKES (CONT'D)

You know what your problem is Barin? You can't let go! You hang on to the past, to things that are safe.

A ball of lightning forms between them and explodes out, blowing Barin back through the air to hit the ground with a thump.

Tukes floats down gently and kneels next to him.

TUKES (CONT'D)

You could have done what I did, fight the system, break it out if it's mold, forge it anew, thousands would have followed. Thousands have followed. I have the Elemental Council eating out of my hand, all I had to promise them was something new, something fresh. Parnassus was an ignorant old fool and I swiped him aside like a fly.

Barin clenches his fist and lets rip with a bolt of lightning of his own.

Tukes swats it away.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Oooh, impressive. The boy learns quickly. But not quick enough.

He launches a salvo of lightning and electricity at Barin, pummeling him to the ground. Barin cries out in pain.

TUKES (CONT'D)

When you're ready, you know where to find me.

With a pop he vanishes.

Barin rolls over and cries out in frustration. The spirit world fades away around him until he's...

INT. BARIN'S CABIN - NIGHT

...lying on his own bed.

He curls up, tears of frustration and anger in his eyes. He slams the bed with his fist.

BARIN
I'm so sorry, Wendle.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

The sun rises over the sea as the Princess rides on a feisty current.

Barin stands on the poop deck, watching the rising sun, a puzzled expression on his face.

GLIB
Morning. Everything alright?

BARIN
The sun, it's rising in the wrong place.

GLIB
Ah, you'd be assuming that we're still north of Coll Yarney.

BARIN
We're not then?

GLIB
Master Harmse and I did a little thinking last night and decided to take the cats out for a late night flight.

BARIN
So we're south of the Tetras?

GLIB
They're some creatures, your little pussy cats.

BARIN
Amazing, thank you, Mr Glib.

GLIB
The boys heard you shouting a bit after you turned in.

BARIN
I had a another run in with Tukes. In the spirit world. He knew where to find me, only Blissett knew that place.

GLIB
Did you find out any more of his
plans?

Barin shakes his head.

BARIN
But no I know where we are, I have
an idea on how to attack.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - DAY

The Sea Princess is moored in a small cove.

Several landing craft carry Barin and Glib across to the
mainland. The cats circle around them.

EXT. COVE - DAY

Barin jumps onto the shore and whistles for the cats, who
swoop down.

BARIN
Right you two. You walk now. And no
fire!

The cats bob their heads and look a little sulky.

GLIB
Shouldn't we disguise them somehow?

BARIN
If anyone asks, they're exotic wild
cats from the far east. They won't
know.

The two boats return to the Princess.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Are you sure two men can sail the
Princess?

GLIB
With everything Sosa's done to her,
I'm sure she'd be able to sail
herself if we let her.

EXT. ROAD - EVENING

As day draws to a close, heavy rain sets in. The men draw
their cloaks around them and trudge head down.

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

The walk over the brow of a hill and look down towards the city of Coll Yarney.

The Tetras stands tall and proud, lit up all the way up to the glowing capstone.

EXT. TETRAS - NIGHT

The men make their way towards the huge building. They reach the far side of the courtyard in front of the building and lurk in the shadows.

Barin scans the building. Some of the windows near the bottom shimmer, out of sync with the rest of the building

GLIB

So far, so good.

BARIN

They want us in the building.
They've set some kind of shield up.
Look there, those shimmering
windows.

GLIB

How do we get through?

BARIN

Hold hands and let the cats guide
us. They'll see through it all.

The crew murmur in discontent, but Glib shushes them.

BARIN (CONT'D)

And keep your eyes shut tight. If
we get that far. Mr Glib, ready for
a fight?

GLIB

As ever. You know what to do lads.

They set out towards the Tetras at a run, drawing their swords.

The doors of the Tetras swing open and a horde of Landsguard officers streaming out of the doors before them.

The crew form a shield ahead of Barin, Glib and the cats and, with a great cry, the two groups smash into each other.

Blood and limbs fly everywhere, but the pirates are efficient fighters and cut a swathe through the Landsguard.

Another cry goes up behind them as more Landsguard appear in the courtyard behind them.

Lo-Dali and Do-Annan swat many Landsguard away with their huge paws. Many more Landsguard run screaming when they see the cats swiping and belching flames at them.

INT. TETRAS - NIGHT

The group fight their way through the huge front doors and find themselves in the huge hallway.

HARMSE

Barin! Which way?

BARIN

To the third floor. Wait by the doors!

As a single unit they move across the great entrance hall to the stairs, slashing and hacking their way through the multitude of Landsguard.

The cats take to the air, swooping about and taking out several Landsguard with each dive.

Glib stays close to Barin, whose sword skills are poor at best, but he puts up a good fight.

Barin looks up to the great vaulted ceiling. Something catches his eyes and he stares more.

He blinks, and the spirit world envelopes him. He looks up again and sees hundreds of Demons crawling across the ceiling towards the stairs.

He blinks and is back in the real world.

The cats land next to them, they too can see the invisible creatures all around them. They seem jittery and uptight.

BARIN (CONT'D)

I see them too. I don't think he knows what he's done. They can't hurt us here. Yet.

The crew reach the stairs and start to run up. The Landsguard don't follow.

The stairs level out before two huge wooden doors, but the design has changed. Where before the two doors showed representations of Heaven and Hell, they now show the Hell side having attacked and destroyed the heaven side.

Two figures, Tewskbury and Scaraburus are engraved looking at the destruction, smiles on their faces.

The men all sheath their swords and reluctantly grip each others hands. Glib takes hold of Barin who in turn took hold of Do-Annan's harness.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Lo-Dali.

With a snarl Lo-Dali flies at the door, his claws gouging great chunks of wood out of Tukes's and Scaraburus' faces.

A brilliant white glare floods out.

The men all gasp and screw their eyes tight.

Barin looks into the room.

Inside, elements of the council room still exist, but they've been jumbled up with other locations, including Barin's village. It's a mind-numbing view.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Take us through boys.

Lo-Dali and Do-Annan pad forwards, the chain of men behind them jerking and bumping though the mind-bending vision.

Barin glances around as they make their way through the room, the chain apparently broken and strewn about the room as they move through a space that's been sliced and diced and rearranged in no order whatsoever.

Further back down the line, one of the men screams. Barin glances up to see on the far side of the room, apparently on the harbour arm, one of the men stood with his eyes open, staring in terror at his hands.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Don't let go!

It's too late. The chain is broken and the man's hand apparently turned inside out, red flesh hanging off the back of the bones.

The man turns and runs down the harbour arm, flashing about the room as he moves from space to space. He trips, falls and vanishes from view.

Barin searches about, then spots him, crouching down, whimpering on the bow of a fishing boat.

BARIN (CONT'D)

It's not real! Stay where you are!

(turns to the cats)

Lo-Dali, if you please?

The cat bows his head low and flies off, flitting round the room in a series of mind bending jerks. He lands next to the man.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Jump on his back! And please close
your eyes!

Lo-Dali hunkered down and lets the man climb on, then sails
up into the air and seconds later landed next to Barin.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Jump down, and don't let go of Lo-
Dali.

CREWMAN
My hands!

BARIN
They're fine. Let's move on.

They move forward again, the scene flickering around them in
a sickening fashion.

They come to another set of doors. Don-Annan nudges Barin,
who opens one eye.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Ah, good. Well done boys.

He pushes open the door. Ahead of them is nothing. A black
void.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Oh. That's clever.

GLIB
What's the matter?

BARIN
Nothing.

He looks about, trying to fathom out what's going on.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Just... keep your eyes shut for the
time being.

He bends down to the Cats level.

BARIN (CONT'D)
What do you see?

The cats sniff the air and back away, frightened.

BARIN (CONT'D)
You sense it too, eh?

GLIB
Barin? What's happening? What's
there?

BARIN

I don't know.

He steps forward and disappears into the blackness.

INT. DARK CHAMBER - NIGHT

A small pool of light illuminates a small patch of black rock floor.

There's a disturbance in the air and Barin appears out of nowhere. He peers around as the cats appear next to him.

Lo-Dali wanders away down a slope and sniffs at a small, faintly glowing pool of water.

Barin wanders over to him, his footsteps echoing off into an unfathomable distance.

He gazes down into the pool and in the clear water he sees a vision of the Pirates stood holding hands next to the black doorway.

Ripples appear on the water, increasing as the sound of booming footsteps approaches them.

The gargantuan form of Scaraburus approaches through the murky light. In his right hand he carries the lifeless body of Parnassus.

Barin steps back, unsure of the Demon's intent.

Scaraburus walks up to him and gently lays Parnassus down on the floor in front of him.

SCARABURUS

He is gone.

Parnassus stirs and groans, but remains unconscious.

BARIN

Who's gone?

SCARABURUS

Tukes. He want me to kill you. I not kill you. I not kill Grand Master too.

BARIN

Why not?

SCARABURUS

Tukes give me Grand Master's body to inhabit, but he not kill Grand Master. He want me to kill Grand Master. Cannot do that, no demon kill Grand Master.

(MORE)

SCARABURUS (CONT'D)

So I take his body, go into body,
but I see his memories, I feel his
love. These things I long desire.
Too powerful for demon to have.

BARIN

What's Tukes doing? Why is he
trying to work with you?

SCARABURUS

Tukes does bad things to the world.
Upset my brothers. He change winds,
bring new... trayud winds.

BARIN

Trade winds?

SCARABURUS

Yes. Blow ships to ships to Eastern
lands, not beyond Western islands.
But changes make weather bad, make
brother demons angry.

BARIN

So that storm yesterday? Did he do
that?

The demon shakes his head.

SCARABURUS

Mine. He thinks he does it though.

BARIN

But why try to kill us?

SCARABURUS

Not not try to kill, try to make
you see what he does. You killed
the Fursonato and destroyed the
ships. You much more clever than
Tukes. You do good things.

BARIN

There must have been an easier way
than this though?

SCARABURUS

You come here, rescue your friends.
Take the capstone.

BARIN

You know about the capstone?

SCARABURUS

Yes, friend Sosa told me.

BARIN

Friend... Sosa?

SCARABURUS
 You must kill Tukes! Save Blissett
 and Lady Wendle. They good.

Barin stares at the demon. Mouth agape.

SCARABURUS (CONT'D)
 Take Grand Master back. I hope he
 live, I may hurt him bad.

He flexes his huge fingers.

BARIN
 How do I get back?

SCARABURUS
 Your... cats.

Both cats trot over to Scaraburus. He bows to them and they reciprocate, their purrs echo into the distance.

SCARABURUS (CONT'D)
 Faithful servant.

BARIN
 Did Blissett know they were your
 demons when he sent them to me?

SCARABURUS
 No.

The cats stroll back over to Barin. Barin lifts Parnassus' body and ties him onto the back of Do-Annan.

Barin jumps up onto Lo-Dali's back.

SCARABURUS (CONT'D)
 When capstone in Setianna, I show
 you what we can do. We do good. You
 see.

BARIN
 Looking forward to it!

The cats shoot off up into the darkness.

INT. TETRAS CORRIDOR - NIGHT

With a similar wobbling of the air, the cats, carrying Barin and Parnassus appears from nowhere and land with a thump on the ground, sliding and screeching to a halt.

Barin sprints up to a huge double door at the end of the corridor and pulls them open to reveal the gurning faces of the Pirates, their eyes shut tight.

He grabs Glib's hand and pulls him through.

BARIN

This way. You can open your eyes now.

GLIB

Where'd you go?

BARIN

I don't know, but it appears we have more support than we thought.

Barin and Glib unstrap Parnassus and laid him down on the floor.

Glib called over his surgeon, who spent several long seconds checking him over.

SURGEON

He'll live. But he's in a bad way.

Barin looks about, thinking as two burly Pirates pick up Parnassus.

BARIN

This way!

GLIB

Where are we going?

BARIN

Not sure yet.

Ahead of them a door slams, and the sound of running feet echoes towards them.

An Elementalist hurtles round the corner to find Barin and Pirates, swords drawn.

ELEMENTALIST

Oh my!

Barin walks up to him.

BARIN

Where's Tukes?

The man whimpers, his eye's flicked back the way he had come.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Does he have Wendle?

The man gives the briefest of nods.

BARIN (CONT'D)

And Blissett?

The man shakes his head this time, and glances upwards.

BARIN (CONT'D)
 Thank you, you've been very
 helpful.

The man passes out with a thump on the floor.

EXT. TETRAS DORM CORRIDOR - DAY

Barin, the Cats and the Pirates creep out of a stair well into a very well appointed corridor.

The approach an ornate set of double doors. Barin runs his hands around the seals checking for something. He squints and looks carefully at the door, running his finger across the carvings.

BARIN
 Rock demons! Clever.

He tried the handle, but the door is stuck fast.

He looks back at the Grand Master strung out between two Pirates. He waves them over.

He takes Parnassus' limp hand and wraps it around the door. The patterns on the door change slightly. He tries the door again. It's still stuck tight.

BARIN (CONT'D)
 Lo-Dali? Lick! (THIS NEEDS TO BE
 SET UP AT THE START SOME KIND OF
 SPECIAL COMMAND?)

Lo-Dali trots over and let rip with his long rough tongue on Parnassus' face. Parnassus comes to and blinks, trying to work out where he was. When he sees the doors in front of him he smiles and mutters a word under his breath, before falling unconscious again.

The patterns change a lot now, with some internal grinding noises for good effect.

INT. PARNASSUS' CHAMBER - NIGHT

Blissett lays on a huge luxurious bed.

Barin pokes his head round the door.

BLISSETT
 Barin!

Two Landsguard, waiting by the door, spin around and jump forward as Barin ducks out of the way.

Throwing his sword up to block their blows.

He manages to fight them back into the room and the rest of the Pirates soon have the Landsguard surrounded.

Barin and Blissett embrace.

The Pirates lay Parnassus and Jenkins on the bed.

BLISSETT (CONT'D)

Is he still alive? And what did you do to Jenkins?

BARIN

Yes, he's still alive, and Jenkins is just a lightweight.

BLISSETT

Hah! It's Tukes, he's put the fear of death into everyone. How did you get here? I heard them saying that if you tried to get in, Tukes was gong to feed you to his pet demon.

BARIN

The pet demon has a new owner now. From what our friend here tells us, they have Wendle downstairs.

BLISSETT

Do they? I've been here for days, haven't seen anyone. I could hear them last night though, they were upset about something.

BARIN

We sank most of their fleet.

BLISSETT

That would do it.

Parnassus groans and wakes again.

PARNASSUS

Wendle?

BARIN

You rest now, Master. We'll see Wendle safe.

PARNASSUS

Elicerio! Didn't I ban you?

BARIN

Yes Master, sorry about that.

Parnassus smiles at him.

PARNASSUS

Just sort that little runt, Tukes,
out.

He lays back, muttering, exhausted.

PARNASSUS (CONT'D)

Do you remember when I failed you
for splicing two demons together
into the same space?

BARIN

Not on purpose!

PARNASSUS

Bear it mind.

He closes his eyes and sleeps.

PIRATE

Master Elementalist! Someone
coming!

Glib signals for some of the Pirates not involved in tying up
the Landsguard, go out to greet them.

Seconds later, two of them come flying back through the door.

Grimwald sweeps into the room, followed by several terrified
looking Elementarlists.

The Pirates in the room level their swords at him.

Grimwald smirks and with a flick of his wrist, melted the
blades. The Pirates cry out in pain as the heat sears into
their hands.

Grimwald surveys the body of Parnussus.

GRIMWALD

Very enterprising, Mr. Elicerio,
but your habit of not doing what we
wish of you has become somewhat
irritating.

He steps forward, Barin stands his ground.

GRIMWALD (CONT'D)

Don't you be trying anything clever
now.

He takes Parnassus pulse and turns to one of the
Elementarlists.

GRIMWALD (CONT'D)

He's still alive. Tell Tukes now.

The Elementarlist pauses.

ELEMENTALIST

But he's...

GRIMWALD

I said go now!

The Elementalists bow out of the room.

BARIN

So is this how it ends, Grimlock?
The Tetras ruled by fear? Under the
leadership of a man who murdered
his way to power, and is intent on
changing the natural order to line
his own pocket?

A flicker of confusion crosses Grimlock's face.

GRIMWALD

I don't know who you've been
talking to, but you've been
misinformed. I suggest you keep
your mouth shut.

Behind Barin, Lo-Dali lets out a low growl and stepped forward.

GRIMWALD (CONT'D)

And keep your little pussy cat
under control.

Lo-Dali starts to circle Grimwald.

The Pirates all glance at each other and shuffle backwards.

Do-Annan joins his brother in circling Grimwald.

GRIMWALD (CONT'D)

I said keep you cats at bay, Barin!

BARIN

As you know full well, they are not
cats.

Grimwald looks at him, straightened up to his full, less than impressive height and vanished.

BLISSETT

Can he do that?

BARIN

He did. And so can we. We don't
need the Soma. Just relax into it.

He vanishes from view.

Blissett closes his eyes and he too vanishes.

EXT. SPIRIT WORLD - DAY

Barin in the middle of a desert, black clouds billow up him. appears and screams out in pain.

Blissett appears and collapses. He takes a deep breathe.

BLISSETT

I didn't think we could breathe here?.

Barin helps him up.

BARIN

This is Tukes's doing. He must be trying to splice the physical and spiritual worlds.

BLISSETT

But that... would be a bad thing right?

Lo-Dali and Do-Annan appear next to them.

BARIN

Very. Come on, Grimwald's not got far.

He points to Grimwald was disappearing on the horizon, flying with the aid of an air demon.

Barin jumps on Lo-Dali's back and nods at Do-Annan.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Just hold on tight.

Blissett jumps on and the cats launch in the air with a roar.

Blissett screams and laughs.

BLISSETT

I've missed you, Barin!

EXT. SPIRIT WORLD - DAY

The cats catch up with Grimlock fast. He glances behind him, realises, he's being followed and vanishes from view.

BLISSETT

Where did he go?!

BARIN

Follow him boys!

The cats splice the spirit world around them, appearing over rolling fields under the same dark skies.

Grimwald is again ahead of them. He glances round once more and splices himself again, and again, and again, each time the landscape changes underneath them, but each time, Barin, Blissett and the cats catch up with him.

A couple of times he splices to the same place, an oreintal looking valley with a strange looking temple next to a river.

On the third time through the Valley Barin reined in Lo-Dali and called out to Blissett to stop.

BARIN (CONT'D)

I think he's trying to get there.

He guided the cats down and circled the building.

BLISSETT

You do see some strange things here
in the spirit world.

They land and Barin walks up to the door. It seems real enough, and the doors were bolted by regular locks.

BARIN

Real locks - no rock demons here.

He steps back, puzzled. He turns and his eyes fall on the two cats.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Bliss? Where did you get the two
fire demons from?

BLISSETT

I don't know, it was a bit of a
rush, I don't actually remember
calling them, they were just, well,
there when I was trying to find you
to, you know, to warn you. And
there was only one, I think.

Barin smiles. He turns top the cats.

BARIN

Alright you two. Want to show me
who you really are?

The two cats look at each other then take off and start to spiral round each other, faster and faster, rising up into the air in a blur of flames and fur.

The two demons became one glowing blur which finally erupt in a great ball of light.

As the flash dies down, a huge demon of similar proportions to Scaraburus floats gently down, then gets down on one knee.

DEMON

Master.

BARIN

Who are you?

DEMON

My name is Terranofey.

BLISSETT

You defeated Scaraburus! And then you were banished... somewhere, according to the legends.

Terranofey smiles.

TERRANOFEY

I am he.

BARIN

But Scaraburous called you faithful servant!?

TERRANOFEY

He did. He has hidden me all this time. Think about it, where did you people think you were banishing me to?

BARIN

Oh. Hadn't really thought about it.

TERRANOFEY

Scaraburus is my brother. He is not a clever demon, but he did a good job of keeping me hidden from you. Until you needed me.

BARIN

We do need you!

TERRANOFEY

What do you want?

BARIN

This temple. Like you, I think it conceals more than it's letting on.

The demon nods and paces up to the temple. He touches it and reacts, slightly surprised.

TERRANOFEY

I cannot do it alone. You will both need to help me.

BARIN

It would be an honour!

The three of them move out to equal points around the temple.

TERRANOFEY
Follow my lead!

Jets of fire shoot from Terranofey's eyes and strike the temple.

BARIN
Easy for you to say.

He and Blissett follow suit, jets of flame spurt from their eyes. Blissett giggles.

BLISSETT
It tickles!

Slowly the building starts to unfold and unravel, growing and expanding to reveal copy of the Tetras, its capstone rising up into the boiling clouds.

Barin joins Terranofey and Blissett at the entrance.

BARIN
Clever.

He goes to open the door.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Shall we?

TERRANOFEY
One moment.

He stalks away from them and reverses the transformation process, turning himself back into the two cats.

BARIN
Welcome back boys!

INT. TETRAS COPY - DAY

The two men and two cats enter the building, looking about for signs of trouble.

A huge rumbling sound rattles around them and they all stagger about as an earthquake causes chunks of the building to rain down around them.

BLISSETT
I don't know what Tukes's done. But it's not stable.

BARIN
Terranofey?

The two cats growl softly in perfect synchronicity.

BARIN (CONT'D)
Can you take us to Tukes?

Again the cats nod together.

Barin and Blissett saddle up once more and the cats hop into the air.

They fly up the stairs.

INT. GREAT HALL - DAY

The cats hurtle through the building, Barin and Blissett hanging on tight.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - DAY

A huge room near the top of the Tetras with huge windows running all the way around.

It's empty apart from a makeshift throne in the centre upon which Tukes sits, patiently waiting.

The cats roar up through the stairwell and barrel across the room.

TUKES
Gentlemen, I was beginning to think you'd got lost.

BARIN
We know what you're up to Tukes, think better give it up now, before you rip the whole of creation apart.

TUKES
Oh, and I suppose you'd throw years of work away on the advice of a disgraced, ex-elementalist?

BARIN
Experimental Elementalist, if you please.

TUKES
I suppose that's you're friend Sosa talking, eh?

Barin stares at him.

TUKES (CONT'D)
I must thank you, by the way. That little trick you just pulled, expanding this place. You must have some very powerful friends.

He stares at the cats.

TUKES (CONT'D)

I'd been trying to get Scaraburus to do that for weeks, but the silly old fool seems to have grown himself a conscience and refused. The final act of splicing the physical and spiritual worlds together. Congratulations! Enjoy the glory now, I'm sure the annals of history won't be remembering your names.

Blissett and Barin look at each other, shocked and dismayed.

Tukes grins.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Ah look, here's Mr Grimwald.

Barin and Blissett spin around to see Grimlock approaching.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Ah Grimwald, Grimwald, Grimwald. Once again your stupidity has paid us dividends.

GRIMWALD

Master?

TUKES

I believe you led these two to our little secret here?

GRIMWALD

Not knowingly Master.

TUKES

I can only take so much, Grimwald.

Tukes flicks his wrist.

A look of panic spreads across Grimwald's face.

GRIMWALD

No, master!

Tukes smiled.

TUKES

Your death is not in vain.

Grimwald goes very red in the face and explodes in a fiery mass of flames and flesh.

Barin starts to advance towards Tukes.

TUKES (CONT'D)

I'd stay back there if I were you.
If you want to keep your little
Wendle alive.

A horde of ugly looking demons appear from nowhere, and prowl around Tukes in a protective guard.

Barin pauses. The cats become agitated by the demons and shift closer to their master.

TUKES (CONT'D)

I think you owe these demons an apology, you put a stop to all their fun yesterday, you and your cats.

Barin smiled and looked around him.

BARIN

Fursonato are illegal, you know that.

TUKES

Only by our outdated laws. Make you want to, or I don't know - take over an island at the far end of the western isles and build your own Tetras!

BARIN

Oh shut up, Tewskbury, you do prattle on.

Tukes's face screws up with anger.

TUKES

Take him!

The demons fly forward at Barin and Blissett. Barin draw his sword and starts to hack at them. The demons snarls, they don't expect the sword to have any effect, but it does, the flaming blade cleaving them clean in two, their bodies vanishing in puffs of putrid smoke.

Lo-Dali and Do-Annan enter the fray, their claws flaming like Barin's sword, ripping at the horde of demons. Their fiery breath belching out.

Blissett, seeing several demons coming for him, begin to recite incantations, firing off blasts of fire energy from his hands, which he finds surprisingly effective.

Demons fly everywhere, screaming and cursing, yet despite a great number of solid strikes, their numbers didn't seem to dwindle.

Barin looks up as a blood curdling cry went up from across the hall.

The Pirates materialise, their flaming demon swords drawn, screaming in pain as their bodies are ripped between the two worlds and form in the room. Some of them fall to their knees, others swagger about.

At the back of the group, Glib supporting Parnassus.

Many of the demons stop fighting, turning to look at the new arrivals, unsure of what to do.

TUKES (CONT'D)

Kill them!

The scent of battle had soon overcomes the memory of the painful transit to this new world and the Pirates rise up to meet the wave of demons.

Barin fights his way over to Glib and Parnassus.

BARIN

Good of you to join us!

GLIB

Master Parnassus here has taken a turn much for the better.

PARNASSUS

Where's that little turd, Tukes? I want a word with him.

They looked about, but Tukes has gone.

Barin spots a flash of turquoise disappearing up the staircase on the far side.

Barin sprints after him, slashing away demons as he dashed to the stairs. Around him the Pirates are starting to make an impression.

INT. STAIRCASE - DAY

Barin runs up the stairs after Tukes.

At the top he finds a door and throws it open.

INT. CAPSTONE - DAY

Barin tumbles through the door into the blinding light of the Capstone.

The crystal structure amplifies the light coming through it.

WENDLE

Barin!

Shielding his eyes from the glare he looks about.

In the centre of the area Tukes stands with a knife to Wendle's neck, her arms and legs bound.

TUKES

Stay right there!

Barin did as he was requested and looked about.

The sides of the crystal pyramid above him are etched with a myriad of intricate designs which played tricks on his eyes and made him blink hard. The air thrums.

Wendle struggles with Tukes, but he holds her in check.

BARIN

What are you trying to achieve?

TUKES

You still haven't worked it out?

BARIN

Nothing I can make sense of. You want to encourage trade to the Eastern Lands, so you mess up the trade winds and start upsetting a few Demons along the way. I don't see how that ties up with you and I standing here.

TUKES

That's irrelevant. Right now, all I want is you to see me kill the woman you love.

BARIN

What?

TUKES

You stole her from me! I love her.

BARIN

You never loved her, you just wanted the power.

TUKES

No. I didn't.

He tightens his grip on Wendle, the knife scraping her neck.

BARIN

I don't think you know what you want.

Wendle whimpers as the blade nicked her. A trickle of blood oozes out. Tukes involuntarily looks down.

Barin folds the room around him and appears directly behind Tukes.

Barin grabs Tukes's arm and yanks the knife away.

Tukes spins around, throwing Wendle to the ground. The two Elementalists face off against each other at close range.

Wendle drags herself away from the two men.

Barin and Tukes circle each other. Another tremor makes them stumble.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Give it up, Tukes. You've done enough damage already.

TUKES

This is about honour now.

BARIN

Whose honour? You have no honour.

Tukes rises to the bait, he lunges forward. Barin parries the blade away.

They fight close combat, Barin unable to do much with his sword apart from frustrate Tukes's frenzied blows.

Then another tremor strikes, knocking Barin to his knees. Tukes sees a chance and lunges. As the knife approaches Barin's heart, he folds space around him and vanishes, Tukes striking the ground. Tukes falls flat on his face.

Tukes stands and looks about for Barin, now stood across the chamber from him. He snarls and thrusts the knife forward again and folds space to appear right in front of Barin, who has seen the move and ducks to one side.

They both start folding space around them, flickering around the room. Wendle watches, trying to keep up with them.

Barin throws himself backwards and holds his sword out, hoping Tukes will fall onto it, but he materialises inches above it, blood dripping from his nose.

Barin kicks out and knocks Tukes's feet from under him. He spins over the top of Tukes, whose knife skitters away across the floor.

Tukes rolls onto his back, Barin places the tip of his sword on Tukes's chest.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Scaraburus wants me to kill you.
Thinks it's the only way to stop
you. I don't like killing things.

Tukes glances down at the blade almost sticking in his chest.

The doorway from the stairs rattles open causing both men to
look round.

Parnassus stumble into the chamber.

WENDLE

Father!

BARIN

I think it's time we started
undoing this mess, before you do
something you'll really regret.

Tukes laughs and looks down at the blade.

Outside the sky is growing brighter.

Parnassus unties Wendle's hands.

Another earthquake rattles the chamber, Barin struggles not
to stab Tukes.

WENDLE

What's that?

TUKES

The physical and spiritual world
are colliding, collapsing together
into one perfect creation. It
started when Barin unfolded my
little secret here.

WENDLE

No, that!

Parnassus not unties Wendle's feet.

She points to a bright point of light that is circling
outside the crystal pyramid.

Barin looked ups and Tukes takes his chance, kicking up into
Barin's groin.

Barin doubled over in agony, dropping the sword.

Tukes jumps up and follows through with a knee to Barin's
face.

Free of her bonds, Wendle launches herself at Tukes and
grabbed his face, sinking her long nails into his eye
sockets. Tukes screams and reels back.

Tukes, blood pouring down his face, throws Wendle to the floor. He lashes out at her, grabbing her blouse with one hand and throwing blind punches at her face.

Barin grabs Tukes's knife and lunges at Tukes, plunging it into Tukes's skull.

Tukes stopped mid punch, frozen in a comical grimace of surprise.

Wendle wriggles herself out from underneath Tukes as he slowly topples forward on the floor.

Barin helps Wendle up.

BARIN
Are you alright.

She hugs him, tears streaming down her bloodied face.

WENDLE
Thank you.

Parnassus walked over and joined them, looking up at the bright light still circling outside.

PARNASSUS
Do you know what that is out there?

BARIN
The Metriculus.

PARNASSUS
Who created a Metriculus?

BARIN
Sosa.

PARNASSUS
Sosa? Sosa Velasquez? But he's...

BARIN
Very much alive and poaching your best men.

WENDLE
But the Metriculus isn't stable. We came back to steal the capstone.

PARNASSUS
My capstone?!

WENDLE
Sorry Father. Sosa felt it was quite important.

BARIN

It must be drawn to whatever
Tukes's tried to do here.

WENDLE

We have to stop it.

Above their heads lightning crackles about the crystal of the capstone. Glib and Blissett came into the chamber. They surveyed Tukes's body lying in a pool of blood.

BLISSETT

Been busy?

BARIN

Yeah. How are the demons?

BLISSETT

All gone, thanks to Glib and his crew.

BARIN

Well... that's good. Master Parnassus, how strong are you feeling?

WENDLE

No! We can't ask him to help, he's too weak.

PARNASSUS

Oh stop fussing dear.

BARIN

I don't think there's any way we can stop all this from here, the only way out is to get the capstone back to Sethiana. I think that's why Tukes got away with so much which he shouldn't have. The Metriculus was causing instability between the two worlds, Tukes stumbled across these flaws and thought he would was onto something new.

WENDLE

But he knew about Sosa.

BARIN

He must have traced the anomalies back to Sethiana.

PARNASSUS

Not much point dwelling on it now.
We need to move quickly. What's
your plan?

BARIN

Plan?

PARNASSUS

You said you came to get the
capstone.

BARIN

Oh... yes. We were going to fly up
on the cats and steal it. None of
us realised how big it was though.

PARNASSUS

I'm sure Sosa would have known,
he's not silly. If he thinks the
Cats can do it, then I'm sure
they're up to the job.

BARIN

We'll need the cats then.

He heads over towards the door, then stops when he realises
Wendle isn't following.

WENDLE

I need to look after my father.
Blissett can go. I'll catch up with
you soon.

She walks over to him and kisses him tenderly.

WENDLE (CONT'D)

We'll travel back with Glib.

BARIN

I thought we were all going back
with Glib?

WENDLE

The world is falling apart outside,
I think you'll need to get back a
bit quicker than by boat.

BARIN

Of course, I knew that. Come on
Bliss, time to fly!

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - DAY

Barin and Blissett run into the room to find the cats being
made a fuss of by the crew.

BARIN
Terranofey, are you still with us?

The cats moved towards him, scooping their heads in a low bow.

BARIN (CONT'D)
We need to get the chunk of crystal off the roof of this building and over to Sethiana. Think you can help?

The cats roar.

EXT. TETRAS - DAY

The two cats, with Barin and Blisset on their backs blast their way through the windows of the observation room into the storm swirling around the building.

Lightning bolts flash to and fro. The cat's hair crackle with electricity as they fly up and circle the capstone.

The cats hover either side. Barin points out grooves through which the leather straps can be hooked.

Barin throws straps across to Blissett.

Blissett attaches the reigns to his saddle.

The cats drift forward.

The leather straps lock into the grooves, but don't quite catch as the wind buffets them around.

Blissett glances up and double takes.

BLISSETT
Barin!

Barin looks up.

Above them the Metriculus blindly thrashes towards them.

Barin kicks Do-Annan, who shoots away, dragging Lo-Dali and Blissett behind them.

Blissett is almost jerked out of his saddle, but manages to hold on.

They back off to a safe distance and watch the Metriculus circle the capstone, huddling it protectively.

The Cats mewl to each other then drifted back towards the Metriculus, calling out above the winds to the white cloud in their strange half demon tones.

The Metriculus didn't seem to want to give up it's capstone, but the Cats were persistent, circling it and calling out with more and more intensity, their calls almost becoming a song.

Finally the Metriculus drifts away.

BARIN
Well done boys!

They move back into position to try to harness the capstone once more.

The leather straps lock into place, a dull click rings out above the sound of the wind.

The cats take the strain, using every ounce of energy they have.

Barin laughs as the hug capstone slowly rises up into the sky.

The capstone rises higher, dwarfing Barin, Blissett and the cats.

The writing of the capstone glows. The air around them, fizzles with energy.

BARIN (CONT'D)
We need to fold space to Sethiana!

BLISSETT
Can we go that far in one go?

Barin leans forward and whispers in Do-Annan's ear. The cat rowls in response.

BARIN
I think we can pull it off. On three!

The Metriculus moves above them and began to enfold them in its warm light.

Barin and Blissett prepare themselves for the painful journey back to the physical world.

BARIN (CONT'D)
One!

Blissett hunkers down over Lo-Dali and shuts his eyes.

The cats move around, calling out to the Metriculus.

The Metriculus surrounds them, protecting them from the storm that rages around them.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Two!

The cats circle around faster and faster, the capstone below them spinning round and round. It glows brighter, shining out and illuminating the Metriculous.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Three!

Barin and Blissett's faces screw up in concentration as the world around them fades away, crying out as the searing pain of being dragged through the veil that divides the spirit world from the physical world tears at them.

The whirling, raging storm vanishes and Barin and Blissett find themselves flying above the forests of Sethianna.

Blissett punches the air and whoops.

BLISSETT

We did it.

Barin smiles, wiping blood from his lips where he's bitten himself, and is about to respond in kind, when a huge CRACKING sound fills the air. Barin looks down.

Below them, great fissures are appearing in the ground, trees vanishing into crevasses.

A particularly large fissure opens below them.

Barin glances up, realising that the fissure is heading straight for the new Tetras.

BLISSETT (CONT'D)

We'd better move!

They gee the cats up, who swing the great capstone around slowly and head for the New Tetras. They fly steadily, silent in their focus.

Barin glances down at the fissure which is trailing behind them.

BARIN

Come on, come on!

The cats rise gracefully towards the top of the Tetras. Several men appear at the top of the building.

As they draw close Barin can make out Sosa waving at them from the roof. The other Elementalists around him are cheering.

The cats rose up past them and guide the capstone into place, lowering it down over the men on the roof.

As it touches down, a great boom echoes out across the canopy of the forest.

Blissett reached down and unclips the straps from his harness, allowing Lo-Dali and Do-Annan to peel away from the great crystal with a triumphant roar.

They circle the capstone, watching it burst into life, great flares of light rising up from the glyphs and writing that floated around the inside of the crystal.

Barin and Blissett guide the Cats down to the entrance of the building, skimming over the heads of Elementarists as they run back into the building.

They swooped up the inside of the building and land on the balcony outside the entrance to the Metriculus' chamber.

Sosa runs along to greet them. As Barin jumps down Sosa launched himself at him, embracing him in a great bear hug.

SOSA

I knew you could do it! And I do declare I finally get to meet the great Blissett Palmer!

He shakes Blissett by the hand. Blissett is happy to meet Sosa, but worried.

BLISSETT

Err, Barin?

The ground shakes around them.

SOSA

Oh yes!

He turns and started walking away.

SOSA (CONT'D)

Come quickly, we're about to activate the capstone.

BARIN

That wasn't it?

SOSA

No! Wonderful isn't it!

Sosa, scurries through the door and along the corridor to the heart of the building.

INT. CHAMBER - DAY

Sosa, Barin and Blissett hurry into the great chamber to find the Metriculus writhing and agitated.

BARIN
It's back!

SOSA
It hasn't been anywhere!

Barin frowns.

BARIN
Didn't you send...?

SOSA
No time, my boy.

BARIN
But it was the Metriculus that got us back here. Wasn't it?

SOSA
Well, well. No, we didn't send it. But come now, we can discuss this later.

Sosa turns and raises his arms.

SOSA (CONT'D)
Are we ready, gentlemen?

Fifteen or so Elementalists stand around the gallery. They all step forward.

There is a gap to one side. Sosa looks at Barin and Blissett and nods to it. The tower around them is shaking now. The fissure drawing nearer.

SOSA (CONT'D)
Hurry, if you please.

Barin and Blissett grin and hurry to take their place.

The men all join hands to form a circle around the Metriculus.

Barin grins at Blissett, who returns a worried look as he stares up at the Metriculus.

The Metriculus is pulsating and growing by the moment now. It weaves itself around the Elementalists, ethereal tendrils of fire sparked from it and touching each of the Elementalists' on the chest.

Barin gasps as a wave of intense pleasure and pain storms through all of the Elementalists.

The sparks and the light grow brighter and brighter, energy flowing through them. Barin cries out, Blissett shakes his head, gritting his teeth.

And then, without warning, it stopped.

They all breath a collective gasp.

Barin opens his eyes and blinks.

The Metriculus has gone, just a few smoky wisp linger in the void before them.

The building has stopped shaking.

BARIN

What happened?

SOSA

We happened, Mr. Elicerio.

Blissett breaks away from the circle and runs off.

BARIN

Where did it go?

SOSA

You know full well where it went.

Sosa wiggles his fingers, small sparks flashed across them.

EXT. BALCONY - DAY

Blissett appears on a balcony and looks down.

OThe great fissure has stopped just metres from the building.

Barin joins him. They laugh and hug each other, jubilant.

Sosa sticks his head round the door.

SOSA

Come gentlemen! Our work has begun!

Sosa vanishes again.

Barin looks down at his own hands. Blue and pink sparks flicker between his fingers.

BARIN

Listen, I've got an idea. I'll find you later.

BLISSETT

But Sosa said we had work to do!

BARIN

That we do. And mine starts
outside. I'll be as quick as I can.

Before Blissett can protest, Barin jumps up on the railings
and dives out into open space.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Come on boys!

The two cats emerge from the main entrance below him. Lo-Dali
races up and catches Barin on his back, swooping out across
the forest with a great roar.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Barin whoops for joy and the two cats let forth great belches
of fire.

They circle the New Tetras once, rising up level with the
glowing capstone before Barin guides them down away towards
the forest. They skimmed across the tree tops.

EXT. LAGOON - DAY

The two cats set down by the crystal clear waters, sending
huge fish flashing away from near the surface.

Barin rolls off Lo-Dali, chuckling to himself. He makes a
fuss of the cats.

BARIN

Master Terranofey! I wish to speak
with you once more!

As before the two cats jump up into the air, swirling around
until they once more stand as one creature.

Terranofey bows low.

TERRANOFEY

Master!

BARIN

I'm not your master!

TERRANOFEY

You are my master.

BARIN

Oh... Well... I was about to say
you may go now, if you want.

Terranofey bows even lower.

TERRANOFEY

Master is kind. I think master does not know what he has become.

Barin's smile wavers.

BARIN

What do you mean?

TERRANOFEY

You are not... like the rest of your kind any more.

BARIN

And that makes me your master?

Terranofey nods.

Barin flexes his fingers releasing more sparks.

BARIN (CONT'D)

Well, I won't argue with you. But I don't want servants. You are free to go.

Terranofey shifts uncomfortably, but remains almost prostrate.

TERRANOFEY

If I may, master, I wish to stay, as your humble servant.

BARIN

But what about the cats? Do they get a say.

TERRANOFEY

You must believe me master, they wish this too.

BARIN

I do rather like having you all around.

TERRANOFEY

It is good for us also.

BARIN

Excellent. In that case we'd better get on. It'll be dark soon and there's something I want to try.

The large being starts to dissolve even as Barin speaks, and within seconds the two large cats stand before him once more.

He closes his eyes and takes a deep breath. Sparkles of electricity flicker over his face.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - EVENING

The Sea Princess ploughs through the open ocean in the twilight.

Wendle and her Father stand on the deck, deep in conversation with Glib.

EXT. LAGOON - EVENING

Barin smiles, his eyes still closed.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - EVENING

The Sea Princess rises up the crest of a wave and, with a glow of pink electricity, vanishes.

EXT. LAGOON - EVENING

The Sea Princess explodes in cloud of static and plunges down into the lagoon.

A cry of confusion goes up from the crew.

Wendle, Glib and Parnassus Rush to the side to see what's happening.

The boat quickly loses momentum in the clam air of the lagoon and drifts gently towards Barin and the cats.

With a bump, it hits the steep sides of the lagoon and stops, sending the giant fish flashing away.

BARIN

Captain Glib! Be kind enough to
throw down a rope!

We doe runs to the bow of the ship.

WENDLE

Barin?! Oh Barin you gave us such a
fright!

BARIN

Just thought I'd speed your journey
along a little my love!

A rope clatters down the side of the boat. Barin grabs hold of it and hauls himself up.

EXT. SEA PRINCESS - EVENING

Barin hauls himself over the rails and falls into Wendles arms. He kisses her, but she jumps back as sparks crackle between their lips.

BARIN

Sorry. Hopefully that'll stop soon.

He turns to Parnassus and Glib and shakes their hands.

GLIB

I'd like to request you don't do that too often. Not sure's me heart will take it.

BARIN

What, kissing?

The Captain chuckles and wanders off to help the crew secure the boat.

PARNASSUS

Is this Sethiana?

BARIN

It is my Lord. And it would give me great pleasure to take you to your new Tetras.

PARNASSUS

Ah, come now, surely they would not want me as their leader, not when the great Sosa Velasquez is in residence.

BARIN

I think Sosa has other things to worry about than running the place.

INT. REFECTORY - EVENING

The Elementalists are in the middle of a huge celebratory feast.

The door swings open and Barin enters, followed by Parnassus, Wendle and Glib.

Silence falls rapidly, all eyes on Parnassus.

Sosa stands, straightens his crumpled cloak and walks with as much dignity as possible towards the new arrivals.

Sosa walks up to Parnassus and drops to his knee.

SOSA
My Lord, I seek your forgiveness!

The Elementalists look, nervous.

PARNASSUS
What have you done, Sosa?

SOSA
My Lord, we have fulfilled our true potential. We have become creators.

Parnassus glances around the room.

PARNASSUS
And you felt the need to renege against your order to do this? You felt the need to ruin my beloved building? I should have you all hung for this!

SOSA
My Lord, it was the only way.

A smile flicker across Parnassus lips.

PARNASSUS
I am aware of this.

Sosa glances up.

PARNASSUS (CONT'D)
You've done well my old friend.

Parnassus opens his arms. Sosa stands and embraces his old friend, small pink sparks crackling between their clothes. A huge cheer arises from the assembled Elementalists.

Parnassus takes the small frame of Sosa in his hands.

PARNASSUS (CONT'D)
I'm sorry I didn't listen to you before.

SOSA
It's time for a new beginning all around then, I'd say.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Wendle and Barin stroll in the night time air.

BARIN
So Terranofey, who turns out to be Scaraburous brother, says we've become something else.

WENDLE

You mean, you're not normal any more!?

BARIN

I don't know what I am.

He wiggles his fingers and makes them spark.

WENDLE

I wouldn't worry, you were never normal anyway.

The stop and Wendle moves in close to Barin.

WENDLE (CONT'D)

Sosa said you were creators. What does he mean?

BARIN

If you'd asked me a few months ago to transport a ship and its crew half way across the world I'd have laughed at you. Today I barely had to think about it.

WENDLE

So what's next?

BARIN

I don't know. We'll have to work out what we can and can't do. That's why I'm glad your father's here, add a bit of common sense to the mix.

WENDLE

I actually meant with us!

BARIN

Oh!

They both jump as Lo-Dali and Do-Annan land next to them and demanded a fuss be made of them.

Barin sighs, smiling. He looks deep into Wendle's eyes.

Wendle pulls him close.

WENDLE

Promise me one thing.

BARIN

What's that?

She strokes his scarred face.

WENDLE

Promise me you won't go getting
this fixed.

BARIN

Really? You don't mind it?

WENDLE

No, it makes you unique.

BARIN

Wendle, will you marry me?

WENDLE

Of course I will! We will be happy,
won't we?

BARIN

Definitely.

Barin kisses her, and as their lips touch, they enveloped in
a halo of sparks. The cats roar their approval.