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Eragon
by
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Based on the novel by, Christopher Paolini

Special thanks to Stefen Fangmeier, who read and reviewed my screenplay even though he was busy working on the real Eragon film.

I do not own any of these characters or this story. This is a fan adaptation of the novel by Christopher Paolini.

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FADE IN:

EXT. DU WELDENVARDEN - FOREST - NIGHT

The trees are tall and thick. The wind is blowing lightly. A tall and thin looking figure stands with his back against a tree.

This is DURZA, an almost human-like person except for his maroon eyes and crimson hair.

Durza closes his eyes and draws his sword up in front of his face.

The WIND blows again. Durza SNIFFS and then opens his eyes.

DURZA

Spread out and hide! Stop whatever
it is coming this way...or die!

Suddenly, behind Durza, twelve URGALS, men-like creatures with bowed LEGS and ARMS. They also have two curved HORNS above their small ears.

They begin to shuffle around. After a moment, each of the Urgals hide down beneath the bushes and behind the trees.

Durza peers around the tree and looks up a small PATH that goes through the forest. A GUST OF WIND blows across the forest. Durza sniffs, smiles, and then leans back against the tree.

DURZA

(Grunting)
Get ready!

An Urgal moves and a TWIG snaps. Durza hisses with rage. After a moment, three WHITE HORSES emerge from the darkness at the end of the path.

Two MALE ELVES sit on the right and left horses, one FEMALE ELF, ARYA, a beautiful black haired woman who looks to be in her late twenties, is on the center horse.

The three Elves draw closer to Durza. The WIND BLOWS toward the horses. They jump up on their back legs and then drop back down on all fours.

The two male elves look frightened and then their horses start galloping. Arya's horse bolts forward and leaves the two male-elves behind.

All of the Urgals jump from their hiding spots and draw their BOWS.

They launch black ARROWS at the two male-elves, who fall off their horses, dead.

Durza jumps out from behind the tree and lifts his hand in the air.

DURZA

Garjzla!

A FIRE-BOLT launches from Durza's hand and hits Arya's horse, which is a couple hundred feet away.

Arya jumps off the horse and lightning speed and lands on the ground lightly. Her horse falls down into the dirt beside her.

Quickly, Arya gets up and bolts off of the path and into the woods at inhuman speeds.

DURZA

After her!

All of the Urgals run after Arya. Durza looks all around. He spots a large piece of GRANITE sticking up into the sky. He climbs it.

Once he gets to the top of the Granite piece, Durza looks out over the treetops. He raises his hand up in the air.

DURZA

Ilstari boetk!

A quarter mile section of the forest explodes into flames.

Arya is running swiftly, the trees in front of her explode into flames. She quickly turns and runs in another direction.

DURZA

Ilstari boetk!

Another quarter mile section of the forest burst into flames.

Arya turns and runs in another direction.

DURZA

Ilstari boetk!

A third quarter mile section of the forest burst into flames, creating a ring of fire.

Durza looks out over the large ring of fire. Suddenly, the sounds of screaming Urgals are heard.

He looks down again. Three of the Urgals fall down to the ground, dead.

Durza looks down at Arya, who is running toward him at a swift pace. The remaining Urgals are chasing her.

Durza peeks over the edge twenty-foot high granite piece and then jumps to the ground, right in front of Arya.

Arya turns and runs in the other direction, but the Urgals surround her. She turns and looks for another way out, but there is none.

Durza points at Arya and smiles.

DURZA

Get her!

The Urgal's charge in. Arya pulls a pouch out of her pocket and opens it up.

She reaches inside and pulls out a beautiful SAPPHIRE STONE and raises it above her head and quietly mumbles something in the ANCIENT LANGUAGE. A flash of light comes from the stone.

Durza raises his hand toward Arya.

DURZA

(Angry)

Garjzla!

A fire-bolt comes from his hand and hits Arya. She collapses to the ground.

Durza runs over to Arya and looks at her hands. The stone is gone.

Durza howls rage and throws his sword at a tree. It sticks half way though.

He then begins screaming. He raises his hand and shoots nine bolts of fire at the remaining Urgal. They all drop dead instantly.

He walks over to Arya and lifts her off the ground with ease. He throws her over his shoulder and then pulls his sword from the tree.

Durza walks back to his horse and gets on, putting Arya behind him.

He puts the fire in front of him out and bolts off into the darkness.

EXT. FIELD - THE SPINE - NIGHT

Large MOUNTAINS surround a small FIELD. ERAGON, an average looking fifteen-year-old boy with dark eyebrows and brown eyes, kneels down and places his hand on a spot of trampled GRASS.

After a moment, Eragon stands to his feet and begins to walk toward a large FOREST that rest on the side of the mountains.

Eragon stops right at the edge of the forest and sighs. He pulls his BOW off of his back and knocks an ARROW. He walks into the forest.

EXT. A FOREST - THE SPINE - NIGHT

After a few moments, Eragon comes to a quiet stop. He gets down on his knees.

A large HERD of DEER sit in a small opening in the forest. A DOE is limping around on the edge of the herd because of a broken leg.

Eragon smiles and pulls the arrow back. He aims for a moment and then...

A huge flash of light blast out of the middle of the herd! The deer jump up and run frantically.

Eragon releases the arrow but it misses the deer. Eragon stands up. He has a surprised and confused look on his face.

He walks over to where the light had come from. A ring of grass is burnt. The beautiful Sapphire Stone from before sits in the middle of the ring.

Eragon hesitates in fear. After a moment, he grabs the stone and examines it. It has little WHITE VEINS that run all over it like a Spiderweb.

He drops his PACK off his back and onto the ground. He opens it and carefully places the Stone inside.

Eragon looks around and then stands to his feet. He walks out of the small opening and back into the forest. Eragon finds a large tree and throws a blanket out at the trunk of it.

EXT. A SMALL FIELD - THE SPINE - MORNING

The SUN peeks over the tops of the tall mountains. Eragon opens his eyes.

EXT. THE ROAD - PALENCAR VALLEY - LATER

Eragon is walking down a small, dirt road. After a moment, he comes to the edge of a hill.

Down at the bottom of the hill, maybe a mile away, rest CARVAHALL, a small village.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - LATER

Eragon walks down the street of Carvahall. He stops and a building and enters.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP - MORNING

A small BUTCHER is standing behind a counter toward the back of the room. He's cutting meat. This is SLOAN, a man in his early 40s. He has a constant angry look in his eyes.

Eragon walks up to the counter. Sloan stops cutting the meat and looks up.

SLOAN

(Sarcastic)

So...the mighty hunter joins the rest of us! How many did you bag this time?

ERAGON

None.

SLOAN

I'm amazed! And that's why you've come? Well lets see your money, then!

ERAGON

I don't exactly have any, but I do-

SLOAN

(Angry)

So you want me to just give the meat to you?!

(MORE)

SLOAN(cont'd)

Do you see any of the other
Merchants giving away their wares?
Besides, its late. I'm closed.
You'll have to come back tomorrow
with money.

ERAGON

I can't wait until tomorrow, Sloan.
It'll be worth your while, though;
I found something to pay you with.

Eragon sets his pack down on the counter and pulls the
Sapphire Stone out. He holds it in front of Sloan.

SLOAN

Stole it is more like it.

Sloan goes back to chopping his meat.

ERAGON

I didn't steal it! I found it in
the Spine when I was hunting!

Sloan looks up in surprise at the mention of the Spine. He
slams his KNIFE down onto the counter.

SLOAN

You get out of my store, boy! And
take your cursed rock with you!

Eragon doesn't move, but stands there in confusion.

SLOAN

Go before I make you!

Suddenly, a tall, thick man walks into the building. This is
HORST, a rough looking man.

Behind him is KATRINA, a beautiful young woman with long,
blonde hair.

HORST

What's going on here, Sloan?

SLOAN

This...boy came in here badgering
me. I asked him to leave, but he
want budge. I even threatened him!

HORST

(To Eragon)
Is this true?

ERAGON

No! I offered him this stone for payment and he agreed. When I told him that I got it from the Spine, he wouldn't sell it to me!

HORST

I have no love for the Spine myself, Sloan, but when it comes to the worth of the rock, I'll back it with my own money.

SLOAN

No. It's my store, I'll do what I want with it!

Katrina steps out from behind Horst.

KATRINA

Daddy, Eragon is willing to pay. Just give him the meat so we can have dinner.

SLOAN

You stay out of this, Katrina! Go back to the house.

Katrina doesn't move.

SLOAN

Now!

Katrina storms out of the door.

HORST

Fine! I'll pay for it. Eragon, what were you going to get?

ERAGON

As much as I could.

HORST

Give me your finest steaks. And make sure its enough to fill Eragon's pack.

Sloan hesitates.

HORST (CONT'D)

Not selling to me would be a very bad idea.

Sloan scowls and then slips into a back room. The sounds of CUTTING and WHACKING and slight mumbling is heard.

Eragon looks up at Horst.

ERAGON

Thank you.

HORST

Oh...its really no trouble.

Eragon holds the rock up to Horst.

ERAGON

I guess this belongs to you.

HORST

(Chuckling)

No..you keep your strange rock. As for payment, Albriech is leaving in the Spring to become a Master Smith. You can work off the debt over the spring.

Sloan walks back into the room with a large sack of meat. He sets it on the counter.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - DAY

Eragon and Horst walk out of Sloan's store.

ERAGON

Oh, I forgot! Roran wanted me to get a message to Katrina, can you give it to her?

HORST

Of course.

ERAGON

He wants her to know that he'll come into town as soon as the merchants arrive and that he'll see her then.

HORST

That all?

ERAGON

(Embarrassed)

No. He also wants her to know that she is the most beautiful girl he has ever seen and that he thinks of nothing else.

Horst face breaks into a large grin. He winks at Eragon.

HORST

Getting serious, isn't he?

Eragon smiles.

ERAGON

I better be getting back. Garrow's expecting me.

Eragon begins to walk down the street. He waves farewell to Horst after a moment.

EXT. GARROW'S FARM - DUSK

Eragon's small WOODEN HOUSE sits in the middle of a large field. Eragon walks toward it slowly. A small flicker of light can be seen in the window of the house.

INT. ERAGON'S HOUSE - DUSK

Eragon walks into the house with a dragging pace. He looks very tired.

He walks into the small KITCHEN and sets his pack on the TABLE.

A small, pale man walks into the Kitchen. This is GARROW, a hungry looking old man.

ERAGON

Where's Roran?

GARROW

Sleeping.

Eragon pulls the meat out of his pack and sets it on the table.

GARROW

What's this? Did you buy meat?
Where'd you get the money?

ERAGON
Horst paid for it.

GARROW
(Angry)
I told you I won't accept charity
Next they'll be asking if we need
anything else! We may as well just
move to town!

ERAGON
I didn't accept charity. Horst told
me I could work it off at his forge
this coming spring.

GARROW
And where do you think you'll find
time for that? Are you just going
to ignore everything that needs to
be done around here?

There is a long silence.

ERAGON
I don't know how I'll do it.
Besides, I found something that
could be worth some money.

Eragon reaches into his pack and pulls the Sapphire Stone out
and sets it on the table.

Garrow bows over it. His face turns ravenous, and his hands
start to twitch.

GARROW
You found this in the Spine?

ERAGON
Yes. It just appeared while I was
hunting. Came out of no where. It
scared all the deer off, too.

Garrow looks over the Stone for a few more moments.

ERAGON
Anyway, its good to be home, uncle.

GARROW
I'm glad your back. But you should
get some rest. We're leaving early
in the morning so we can get to the
traders in time.

INT. ERAGON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Eragon walks into his room. He sets his pack down on the floor beside the wall and walks over to his bed. The Sapphire Stone is in his hand.

He looks at it for a moment and then places it under his bed and then goes to sleep.

EXT. GARROW'S FARM - DAWN

The sun is just beginning to rise over the peaks of the Mountains that surround GARROW'S FARM. Smoke rises from the CHIMNEY on top of Eragon's house.

Snow lies over the ground and in the tree's and on the top of Eragon's house.

INT. ERAGON'S HOUSE - DAWN

Eragon walks into the kitchen. He YAWNS and STRETCHES and then sits down at the table. Garrow is sitting at one end and RORAN, a nine-teen year-old man. Each of them have a piece of meat on their plate.

Eragon begins to eat his food.

RORAN

The snow that came last night might slow us down...

GARROW

Still, we should be able to make it in time.

After a moment, Garrow looks up from his plate and sighs.

GARROW

Today is a...special day.

Eragon and Roran look up from the plates and stop eating.

GARROW

It was near this very hour, sixteen years ago, that Eragon's mother, Selena, showed up at my door...pregnant. She spent a few months with me then had you, Eragon.

Eragon takes a bite of his meat and then looks back up at Garrow.

GARROW (CONT'D)

She begged me and Marian to raise you. When I asked why..."I must" was all she could say. Then she left.

There is a long silence after Garrow's story.

RORAN

So what's this I hear about a strange rock?

ERAGON

Come and see.

Eragon and Roran both get up and walk out of the Kitchen.

INT. ERAGON'S HOUSE - DAWN

Eragon comes through the door. Roran walks in behind Eragon. The Sapphire Stone is sitting under Eragon's bed, where he had left it. Eragon reaches under his bed and grabs the Stone. He holds it up for Roran to grab it.

Roran hesitates for a moment and then takes the Stone from Eragon.

RORAN

It's beautiful...

GARROW (O.S.)

We'd better leave now if we're going to catch the traders!

Eragon grabs his pack of the ground and carefully puts the Sapphire Stone into it.

EXT. CARVAHALL - FRONT FIELD - DAWN

TENTS line the front of Carvahall. Hundreds of people walk around looking at various things.

A WAGON, being pulled by horses, comes over a small hill and rides down toward the group of tents.

The wagon stops to the side of all the tents. Eragon and Roran jump off the wagon. Garrow slowly climbs down the side of the wagon.

Garrow puts his hands in his pocket and pulls out a few coins. He divides it up and then hands the coins to Eragon and Roran.

GARROW

Get yourselves some treats. Roran, do what you want, but be back at Horst house for dinner. Eragon, come with me.

Roran walks away and disappears into the crowd. Eragon and Garrow walk the opposite way.

Eragon and Garrow walk up to a MAN who is standing behind a table, showing off his KNIVES and SWORDS. This is MERLOCK, a rough looking merchant.

After a moment, Merlock notices Eragon and Garrow. He then sets the sword down that he was holding and walks over to them.

MERLOCK

And what would you fine sirs be looking for? Maybe a sword? Or maybe-

He turns quickly and grabs a perfectly crafted SILVER ROSE from the table. He holds it up in front of Eragon.

MERLOCK (CONT'D)

A silver rose for a special lady friend, eh?

GARROW

Actually, we aren't looking to buy. We're looking to sell.

MERLOCK

I see...do you have the item with you?

GARROW

Yes, but we'd much rather show somewhere more...private.

MERLOCK

Oh, I see...

INT. MERLOCK'S TENT - DAY

Merlock comes through the entrance of the tent, Eragon and Garrow come in behind him.

Merlock picks up a stack of books off of two chairs and gestures toward them.

MERLOCK
Please...have a seat.

Eragon and Garrow sit down.

GARROW
Show him the Stone, Eragon.

Eragon hesitates but then pulls the Stone out of the pack and hands it to Merlock.

Merlock looks at it with an interested eye. He pulls a box out and opens it. He takes a small hammer and starts to tap it and do other various things to it. After a few moments, he stops.

MERLOCK
Do you know how much this is worth?

GARROW
No...

MERLOCK
Unfortunately, neither do I. But I will tell you this much: it's unlike anything I've ever seen. It won't scratch. Whoever made it used tools I've never seen-or maybe magic. And it's hallow.

GARROW
What?!

MERLOCK
Have you ever heard a rock that sounds like this?

Merlock gets the small hammer and taps the rock. It echo's slightly.

ERAGON
But what is it worth!?

MERLOCK
I can't tell you that. For most people, this would be an item of curiosity-not an item to spend money on.

Everything is silent for a few moments.

GARROW

Will you buy it?

MERLOCK

No...it's not worth the risk. I may be able to find a wealthy buyer during my spring travels, but even so, you'll have to wait until next year before you'll get paid.

(Beat)

I am curious however...why did you want to speak to me in private?

ERAGON

Because, I found this in the Spine. People around here don't care to much for the place.

MERLOCK

Do you know why me and my fellow traders were late this year?

Eragon shakes his head.

MERLOCK (CONT'D)

Our wanderings have been dogged with misfortune. Chaos seems to rule Alagaseia. We can't seem to avoid illness, attacks, and the worse black luck. Because the Varden's attacks against the Empire, Galbatorix is calling more men to the border. Men who are needed to fight the Urgals.

Merlock stops and picks up and drinks a CUP of WATER.

MERLOCK

And even worst, there's talk of a Shade, though the stories are unconfirmed. Not many people survive such an encounter.

ERAGON

Why haven't we heard of this?

MERLOCK

Because, these things have just happened in the past few months.

GARROW

Nonsense! We haven't seen any Urgals.

(MORE)

GARROW(cont'd)

The only one around here has his horns hooked to the wall in Morn's tavern!

MERLOCK

Maybe so...but this is a small village that's hidden by mountains. No surprise that you haven't been noticed yet. But if you haven't noticed, strange things are happening, especially after the appearing of that rock appearing!

EXT. CARVAHALL - DAY

Garrow is walking swiftly through the thick crowd toward the entrance to Carvahall. Eragon is walking behind him, trying to keep up.

ERAGON

What do you think?

GARROW

I think I'm going to get more information.

INT. HORST'S HOUSE - DUSK

Horst, Eragon, Garrow, Roran, and various other people sit around a large, wooden table. Everyone is laughing and eating and drinking.

MORN, a rough looking man, leans forward with a dark look in his eye. Everyone gets quiet.

MORN

There's strange people around here. Grain buyers who cheat everyone out of their money.

(Breat)

They're telling ridiculous stories about how the Varden had made a pact with the Urgals and planned to attack us. And how it was only for the great King Galbatorix that we haven't already be over taken by their armies.

HORST

If they keep it up, there's gonna be trouble.

ERAGON

For who?

HORST

For them.

EXT. CARVAHALL - FRONT FIELD - NIGHT

Hundreds of people gather around a huge BONFIRE. Eragon, Garrow, and Roran walks up to the group of people.

A DARK FIGURE, BROM, an older man with a large beard and bushy eye brows, stands right beside the BONFIRE. Everyone is looking at him.

BROM

Before your grandfathers fathers were born, and even before their fathers were born, the Dragon Riders were formed. To protect and guard was their mission. And for thousands of years, they succeeded. Their prowess in battle was unmatched. Each of the Riders had the strength of ten men.

The crowd is now completely quiet. Only the sound of Brom and of the BONFIRE.

BROM (CONT'D)

They were immortal. Only for good were their powers used. And as they kept the peace, the land flourished. It was a golden time. The Elves were our allies, the Dwarves our friends. But it could not last. Though no enemy could defeat them, they could not guard against themselves.

(Beat)

And it came to pass, that in the golden age of Alagaesia, Galbatorix was born.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

GALBATORIX (10) is fighting, with a sword, a RIDER. After a moment, Galbatorix hit's the Rider's sword out of the his hands.

BROM (V.O.)

At the age of ten, he was tested,
and the Riders found great power in
him. The riders accepted him as
their own.

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE - DAY

Galbatorix, now 17, is flying through the air on the back of
a large BLACK DRAGON. On the ground below him there is a
group of Urgals. The Black Dragon dives toward the group.

BROM (V.O.)

After his training was complete, he
took a reckless trip with two
friends into the remaining
territory of the Urgals.

Galbatorix is slaughtering the Urgals with his sword. The
Black Dragon is overtaken by Urgals and is falls to the
ground, dead.

BROM (V.O.)

He killed his attackers, but
tragically, his dragon was killed
in the battle. And thus the seeds
of madness were planted.

EXT. WILDERNESS - DAY

Galbatorix is wandering through a large grass plain. After a
moment, he falls down to the ground, unconscious.

BROM (V.O.)

For months, he wandered, seeking
death, but it did not come. He was
found and summoned to the Riders to
be judged. He demanded another
dragon, but the desperation in his
voice revealed before the Council
what he truly was.

EXT. CARVAHALL - FRONT FIELD - NIGHT

Brom is standing in front of the fire, looking around at the
crowd.

BROM (V.O.)

Denied his hope, Galbatorix, through the twisted mirror of madness, came to believe that it was the Riders fault that his dragon had been killed. And so, night after night, he brooded on this, and planned his exact...revenge...

(Beat)

Through some ill fortune, he met a Rider named Morzan. Morzan was strong in body, but weak in mind.

(Beat)

They slaughtered every Rider they came in contact with. With each kill, their strength grew. Twelve of the Riders joined them because of the desire for power. After this, Galbatorix named himself King over Alagasesia. He's ruled us ever since.

EXT. THE ROAD - PALENCAR VALLEY - NIGHT

Eragon and Roran are sitting in the back of the WAGON, Garrow is in the front, controlling the horses. Eragon sits still. He looks as if he is in deep thought.

GARROW

You two are very lucky to have heard that story. He's only told it twice, and if the Empire knew he had, he wouldn't live to see another month.

INT. ERAGON'S ROOM - NIGHT

A small candle on Eragon's DRESSER lights the room. He pulls the Sapphire Stone out of his pack and sets it on his bed.

He pulls out a small, wooden HAMMER and taps it. After a few moments of tapping it in different places, he shakes his head, sets the Stone on his dresser, and climbs into his bed. Quickly, his eyes close and he falls asleep.

DARKNESS...

A loud SQUEAK is heard.

A candle is lit and Eragon's room comes into view. Eragon is holding it. He sets the candle down on his dresser and looks around.

The SQUEAK is heard again. It's coming from the Sapphire Stone. Eragon turns around and looks at it.

ERAGON

(Whispering)

I've got nothing but trouble ever
since I found you...and now you
won't even let me sleep!

Eragon gets back in his bed and closes his eyes. The Stone SQUEAKS again. And it begins to ROCK. Eragon sits up in his bed and scowls.

ERAGON

(Whispering)

I don't care how valuable you are!
I'm gonna destroy you!

CRACKS begin to appear on the Stone. Eragon stands still, and looks at it. Entranced. More CRACKS appear, and run straight to the top of the Stone.

After a moment, a small piece at the top of the Stone breaks away from the rest, and falls to the floor. A small HEAD appears pokes out of the hole in the top of Stone!

Eragon steps back from the stone. After a moment, a shadowed body is standing beside the stone.

Eragon looks shocked. It's a baby DRAGON! It's no longer than Eragon's forearm, and its SCALES are deep SAPPHIRE BLUE.

After a moment, the dragon begins look around and walk around the dresser.

Eragon reaches out with his hand and touches it on the back. A blue FLASH comes from the dragon and launches Eragon back onto the floor.

Eragon lets out a scream. After a second, Eragon gets up off the floor and listens to make sure no one is coming.

Eragon's hand turns red. He begins to scratch it, but stops and looks at his palm in fear. A large blue OVAL appears in the skin of his palm.

A few moments later a COLLAGE of VOICES can be heard. Eragon puts his hands on his head and closes his eyes.

A few seconds later he throws his hands down. The voices stop. Eragon is out of breath.

Eragon quietly walks out of his room and closes the door.

INT. ERAGON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Eragon opens a large box and pulls out a long strip of MEAT. He walks back toward his room.

INT. ERAGON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Eragon walks into the room and quietly closes the door. He takes the strip of meat and sets it beside the dragon. The dragon sniffs it at first and then starts to eat it.

Eragon smiles. After a moment, the dragon lay's down on its back and falls asleep. Eragon waits a moment, and then gently picks the dragon up and takes it over to his bed. He sets it down and then climbs onto his bed and lay's down beside it.

ERAGON

What am I going to do with you...?

EXT. THE ROAD - PALENCAR VALLEY - MORNING

The sun is peeking over the tree tops. Eragon runs down the dirt road. He's holding the dragon. After a moment, he walks off the path and into the FOREST.

EXT. THE FOREST - PALENCAR VALLEY - SAME TIME

Eragon walks deep into the forest. After a moment, he stops at a large, snow covered TREE. Eragon puts a small, leather blanket over the dragon and sets it up on one of the limbs.

ERAGON

Welcome home...for now...I don't know what I'm going to do with you.

Eragon takes a small rope and ties it to the dragons leg. He then takes the other end of the rope and ties the dragon to the tree.

ERAGON

Don't go trying to get away...I don't know what the others would do to you if they were to find you. But I don't want to find out.

EXT. BROM'S HOUSE - DAY

Eragon knocks on Brom's large, wooden, door. Brom walks up behind Eragon.

BROM
What do you want, boy?

Eragon turns around, frightened.

ERAGON
I...wanted to ask you a few questions.

BROM
Well, you'd better come inside, then; we'll be talking a while. Your questions never seem to end.

INT. BROM'S HOUSE - DAY

Brom pours two cups of tea. He walks over to the fire place and hands Eragon one of the cups.

Eragon is sitting in a small rocking chair. Brom sits down in another rocking chair across from Eragon.

Old BOOKS and SCROLLS are stacked up all over the room.

Brom pulls a SMOKING PIPE up to his lips and lights it with a candle that is beside him.

BROM
Ah...here we go.
(Beat)
Now...what do you want?

ERAGON
Well, I've heard a lot about the Dragon Riders and their great accomplishments, and most everyone wants them to return. But I've never heard any stories about how they were started and what made them so special.

BROM
A vast subject to tell about. If I were to tell you the whole story we'd still be sitting here next winter.

Brom sucks on his pipe and lets out a smoke ring.

BROM
I'll start with the last
item...Dragons.

Eragon settles back in his chair and sips his tea.

BROM (CONT'D)
Dragons have no beginning, unless
it lies with the creation of
Alagaseia itself. And if they have
an end, it will be when this land
perishes. Dragon's can communicate
with their Riders, also. The
dragons, dwarves, and a few other
creatures are true inhabitants of
this land. Their world was
unchanging until the first elves
sailed here in their silver ships.

ERAGON
Where did the elves come from?

BROM
(Scowling)
Did you want your first question
answered or not?!

ERAGON
(Embarrassed)
Sorry.

Brom chuckles under his breath.

BROM
No, your not.
(Beat)
If you must know, the elves come
from a place they call Alalea. No
one knows what, or even where it
is.

Brom sucks on his pipe again and lets out another smoke ring.

BROM (CONT'D)
In fact, you were named after an
elf. The first Dragon Rider, to be
specific.

Eragon sits up - his eyes wide open.

BROM
Ah...so you didn't know your
namesake?

ERAGON
No.

Eragon looks confused.

Brom stands up and walks out of the room with his tea cup.
After a moment, he returns with a full cup of tea. He sits
down on his chair and takes a sip of tea.

ERAGON
Do you remember any of the dragon
names?

BROM
Hmm...lets see...there was Jura,
Hirador, and Fundor-who fought the
giant sea snake. Galzra, Briam,
Ohen...umm...Beroan...

Brom stops for a moment and lets a large smoke ring float
into the air.

BROM
(Whispering)
And Saphira...

Eragon sits back for a moment. He then sets his tea cup down
on a small TABLE that is beside him and then stands up.

ERAGON
Well, it's getting late and I
should get back...

BROM
(Curious)
Eragon? Why the sudden interest in
Dragons and such?

ERAGON
Umm...I heard a couple of...traders
talking about it.

BROM
Oh.

INT. ERAGON'S HOUSE - DUSK

Eragon walks through the front door of the house and goes into the kitchen. Garrow and Roran are already sitting at the table. They each have a plate of food. Eragon sits down at an empty seat. A plate of food is already fixed for him.

For a few moments everything is silent. Roran looks up at Garrow for a moment and then back down at his plate.

GARROW

(To Roran)

What's wrong, Roran?

RORAN

Nothings wrong. Its just that...well, I was at Horst' today to pick up a few things and a stranger was there from Therinsford.

ERAGON

What's his name?

RORAN

Dempton.

ERAGON

Oh.

RORAN

Anyway, he owns a Mill. He was here to get some sockets made for a piece of machinery.

GARROW

So?

RORAN

He offered me a job at the Mill. If I accept, I'll leave with him when he returns for the sockets...I plan to take the job.

A few moments of silence pass. Garrow leans back in his chair.

GARROW

Why?

RORAN

Well...I plan to marry Katrina, and
I can't do that without any money.

GARROW

I see.

A few more moments of silence pass.

GARROW (CONT'D)

Well, when do you leave?

ERAGON

What?!

GARROW

Did you think I'd stop him? It's
life's natural course.

(Beat)

When do you leave?

RORAN

About two weeks.

EXT. THE FOREST - PALENCAR VALLEY - NIGHT

Eragon is walking through the forest until he comes to the
TREE that he had left the dragon in.

The dragon is sitting right where Eragon left it. It is still
tied to the tree.

Eragon takes the rope off of the dragon and pulls it out of
the tree. He looks at it for a second and then sets it on the
ground.

DRAGON (V.O.)

Eragon.

ERAGON

You need a name...I heard a few
today; Maybe you'll like one. Let's
see...there was Vanilor, Eridor-

DRAGON (V.O.)

No...

The dragon looks amused.

ERAGON

Umm...there was Ingothold...wait a second! Your not a he...your a she, aren't you.

The dragon sets its head down on the ground.

ERAGON (CONT'D)

Well, lets see then...I don't remember any na--wait--are you...Saphira?

SAPHIRA (V.O)

Yes...

EXT. GARROW'S FARM - MORNING

The sun is rising above the trees. Snow covers the ground. Eragon, Roran, and Garrow are standing on the front porch.

EXT. ERAGON'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - SAME TIME

Eragon and Roran have packs on. Garrow is standing by the door with a sad look on his face.

RORAN

Won't you come with us?

GARROW

No...no...I have...things to do.

Garrow holds out his hand and places money into Roran's hand. Roran smiles.

GARROW (CONT'D)

It isn't much, but that and a fathers blessing is all I have to give.

Roran embraces Garrow for a moment and then turns and walks off the porch. Eragon follows him.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - LATER

Eragon and Roran are walking down the street. They come to the SMITHY and walk inside.

INT. SMITHY - DAY

Eragon and Roran come through the door and stop. DEMPTON and Horst are standing side by side in front of the counter. Eragon and Roran walk over to them.

DEMPTON

(To Roran)

Are you ready?

Roran adjust's his pack.

RORAN

Yes. Do we leave soon?

DEMPTON

I've got a few things to take care of, but we'll be gone within the hour.

Dempton walks over to Eragon.

DEMPTON

You must be Eragon. I would offer you a job, but Roran got the only one.

(Beat)

Maybe in a year or two, eh?

Horst walks over to Dempton and hands him a bag full of SOCKETS.

HORST

They're ready.

Horst and Dempton shake hands. Horst walks out of the Smithy, motioning for Eragon to follow.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - SAME TIME

Horst walks out of the door and stands on the side of the dirt street. A moment later, Eragon comes out and stands beside Horst.

ERAGON

What do you think of him?

HORST

He's a good man. I wouldn't worry.

Horst wipes his hand over his face.

HORST

Do you remember the fight you had with Sloan?

ERAGON

If you're asking about payment for the meat, I haven't forgotten.

HORST

No, no...I trust you. What I was wondering about is if you still had that blue stone?

Eragon looks confused and worried.

ERAGON

I do, but why do you ask?

HORST

As soon as you get home, get rid of it.

Eragon looks shocked and worried.

HORST

Two men showed up yesterday, dressed in black and carrying swords. Made my skin crawl just lookin' at 'em.

Eragon looks around nervously.

HORST (CONT'D)

About mid-day they started asking if a stone like yours had been found. No one with any sense said anything, but I could name a few who would talk. And the two men are at it again today.

Eragon looks very worried, and gulps down his spit.

ERAGON

Thank you for telling me. Would you happen to know where these men are?

HORST

(Stern)

I didn't warn you 'cause I thought you needed to talk to them! Leave Carvahall. Go home!

ERAGON
Alright, if you think I should.

HORST
I do.
(Beat)
I may just be overreacting, but
these strangers give me a bad
feeling.

ERAGON
I'll leave right now.

Eragon turns and runs inside of the Smithy.

INT. SMITHY - DAY

Eragon comes through the door and embraces Roran.

RORAN
Aren't you going to stay a little
while longer?

Eragon laughs.

ERAGON
There's nothing for me to do! You
can't expect me to sit around and
do nothing all day!

RORAN
Well, alright. I guess this is the
last time we'll be seeing each
other for a few months.

ERAGON
(Hastily)
I'm sure it won't seem that long.

Eragon and Roran embrace one last time and smile at each other.

ERAGON
Good bye, cousin.

RORAN
You take care of yourself.

Eragon smiles and then turns to walk out the door.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - DAY

Eragon comes through the door and walks past Horst.

Eragon walks down the street until Horst is out of sight and then ducks behind a building.

Eragon runs through alley ways quietly until he hears the mumbling words of three people.

Eragon stops and pokes his head around the corner of the building.

Two BLACK FIGURES, the RAZ'AC, are standing in front of Sloan.

RAZ'AC #1
When did this happen?

SLOAN
A few weeks ago.

Eragon turns back around and hides behind the wall.

ERAGON
(Quietly)
He's telling them!

Eragon turns and looks at the Raz'ac and Sloan again.

RAZ'AC #2
Are you sure? If are somehow
mistaken, it will be
most...unpleasant.

SLOAN
(Shaken)
Yeah, I'm sure. He had it then.
Everyone knows about it. Go ask
them!

RAZ'AC #1
Your information has been most
helpful. We will not forget you.

Sloan nods his head and then swiftly walks away.

Eragon turns to get a better view. A small ROCK is broken off the wall. It hits the ground and a loud "CRACK!" Can be heard.

The two Raz'ac turn and stand in a crouching position. They let out a "Hiss."

Eragon's face fills with fear. The Raz'ac begin to slowly and soundlessly walk toward him.

BROM (O.S.)

Eragon!

Eragon jerks around and sees Brom calling him.

Brom hurries over to Eragon, not seeing the Raz'ac.

The Raz'ac stop and glare at Eragon for a moment, and then quietly slip away.

Eragon falls to the ground, shivering. Brom pulls Eragon up.

BROM

What's wrong?

ERAGON

Nothing. I just got a little dizzy all of a sudden. I don't know why, though.

BROM

You'll recover, but perhaps you'd better go home.

ERAGON

I think you're right. Maybe I should go home.

Eragon looks worried.

Brom holds out his hand, Eragon shakes it. Brom pulls his hand back and accidentally pulls Eragon's GLOVE off. It falls to the ground. Brom bends down and picks it up.

BROM

Clumsy me.

Brom stands back up and quickly turns Eragon's hand over. Brom looks at the Blue Oval on Eragon's palm for a quick moment and then sets the glove in Eragon's hand.

Eragon quickly pulls his arm down.

ERAGON

Goodbye.

Eragon turns and walks away. Behind him, Brom starts to whistle a merry tune.

EXT. THE ROAD - PALENCAR VALLEY - DUSK

Eragon is running as fast as he can down the road. Sweat is rolling down his face. He comes to the end of the path. About a mile away, Eragon's house is sitting in a field. Garrow is standing by the BARN that is beside the house.

ERAGON

I must tell him about her.

Eragon closes his eyes and looks up.

ERAGON (V.O.)

Saphira!

A moment passes.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

(Off screen)

I come.

A few moments pass. Suddenly, the loud wings of Saphira can be heard flapping. After a moment, Saphira lands down in the path. She is now almost fully grown. She folds her wings up beside her.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

What's wrong?

ERAGON (V.O.)

There were strangers in Carvahall today. They were dressed in black and carried swords...they were asking about the egg.s

Saphira jumps up onto her back legs and lets out a loud roar.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

Fire! Enemies! Death! Murderers!

ERAGON (V.O.)

Saphira! Garrow will hear!

Saphira continues to kick her front legs into the air. She lets out another roar.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
Oaths betrayed, souls killed, eggs
shattered! Blood everywhere.
Murderers!

Eragon closes his eyes and strains. Saphira's voice fades out of his head. Saphira continues to jump and roar. Eragon grabs a spike on her back and pulls himself onto her back.

Eragon rubs her side with his hand and he hums to her.

ERAGON
That's enough! Everything is going
to be alright.

Saphira calms down and then kicks off the ground and fly's into the air.

ERAGON'S POV:

Everything below is quickly disappearing. The sky ahead is zooming toward Eragon.

END ERAGON'S
POV:

Saphira is drifting through the air. She is miles above the ground.

ERAGON (V.O.)
We have to go back! Those strangers
are coming! Garrow has to be
warned!

Saphira doesn't answer. A few moments pass and then large mountains come into view all around.

A gust of wind batters against Eragon. Saphira moves her neck. Eragon is jerked to one side. He winces in pain and looks down at the ground.

Suddenly, Saphira begins to spiral toward the ground. After a moment, she drops into a small opening in the forest below.

EXT. A FOREST - THE SPINE - DUSK

As Saphira hits the ground, Eragon quickly slides off her and hits the ground.

Eragon's legs buckle and he falls down. HE winces and then looks down at his legs. They are bleeding badly through his pants on the inside of his thighs.

ERAGON

Great!

Eragon winces again.

ERAGON (V.O.)

Why did you do this?! Garrow needs our help!

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

Murderers!

ERAGON (V.O.)

You take me on this ridiculous journey when Garrow needs us, and your scales have scrapped the skin of my legs! Is that what you wanted!

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

No.

Eragon lets his head fall to the ground.

ERAGON (V.O.)

I'm going to freeze if you don't make a shelter for me.

Saphira walks over to Eragon and curls up around him. Her stomach rumbles.

ERAGON

Garrow...

(Beat)

What have I done?

A single tear roles down Eragon's face. He closes his eyes.

EXT. GARROW'S FARM - NIGHT

All is still. Smoke is rising from the chimney. Suddenly, the house appears to be on fire.

Two black figures bust down the door of Eragon's house and walk in.

INT. ERAGON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Garrow runs to the door and then starts to scream.

The figures are the Raz'ac. One of the Raz'ac lifts his sword in the air and swings it at Garrow.

Everything turns white and blurs out.

EXT. A FOREST - THE SPINE - DAWN

Eragon, panicking, opens his eyes. Sweat is layered across his face.

Saphira is still lying over him.

ERAGON

Get up!

Saphira starts to move a little bit, and then stands all the way up and moves. Sunshine blinds Eragon.

After a moment, he gets up and wobbles over to a tree.

Eragon breaks a branch off of the tree and uses it as a crutch. He looks at Saphira.

ERAGON (V.O.)

Will you take me home?

Saphira cocks her head up in the air.

ERAGON (V.O.)

I know you don't want to, but we both owe it to Garrow. He as taken care of me, and through me, you. Is that a debt you are willing to ignore?

Saphira turns and looks at Eragon.

ERAGON (V.O.)

What is to be said of us in the years to come? That we hid like cowards while my uncle was in trouble? Even a Shade would run from you, and yet you hide in the mountains like a frightened Rabbit!

Saphira lets out a roar and jumps back onto her back legs for a moment. Then she looks at Eragon.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

I will take you because of a debt owed. But into foolishness we fly.

Eragon looks up into the sky.

ERAGON
Foolishness or not, there is no
other choice.

Eragon takes a knife from his pocket and cuts two parts of his shirt off. He walks over to Saphira and slowly and painfully climbs onto her back.

Eragon takes the two pieces of shirt and puts them under his thighs. Saphira jumps into the air. Eragon winces.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Faster!

EXT. SKY - DAY

Saphira is flying low to the ground and is moving very fast. Eragon is clinching on to her back.

Eragon looks at the ground. There is a burning house and burning barn. Eragon looks scared. Saphira dives down toward the ground.

EXT. GARROW'S FARM - DAY

Saphira lands on the ground. Eragon's house and barn is collapsed. Some wood is still burning. Eragon jumps off Saphira, yelping at the pain. His eyes are full of tears. He looks scared, angry, and shocked.

ERAGON
Uncle!

There is no answer. Eragon's eyes are red. He runs toward the house.

ERAGON
Uncle!

Eragon starts looking through the scraps of wood. He is still crying.

ERAGON
This is your fault! If you hadn't
taken me away!

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
You would not be alive if we had
stayed.

ERAGON (V.O.)
We could have warned him!

Eragon drops to his butt and grabs his legs in pain. For a moment he just looks around in tears. Then he spots something! A pale hand is sticking up out of the wood.

Eragon rushes over to the hand and pulls the wood away.

It's Garrow. His face is burnt and deformed and so is the rest of his body.

Eragon grabs Garrow's hand and starts to cry even harder.

ERAGON
Uncle!

Eragon looks over Garrow's body for a moment. Garrow's other hand has a piece of torn, black, fabric that matches the clothes of the Raz'ac.

Eragon takes the piece of fabric and holds it up. Anger and rage fills his eyes.

EXT. THE ROAD - PALENCAR VALLEY - DAY

Garrow's body is tied up to two boards that are hooks to Saphira's stomach.

Eragon slowly climbs onto her back. He winces in pain.

ERAGON
Now!

Saphira jumps into the air at incredible speed. Blood is dripping from Eragon's legs.

EXT. SKY - DAY

Saphira is flying low to the ground.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Fallow the road. It'll give you
enough room to land.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
I might be seen.

ERAGON (V.O.)
It doesn't matter anymore!

Saphira roars and then drops down a little lower to the ground and begins to follow the road.

A few moments pass and then Carvahall comes into view only a couple of miles ahead.

Saphira buckles her wings and drops toward the ground.

EXT. THE ROAD - PALENCAR VALLEY - DAY

Saphira lands on the ground softly and bends down. Eragon painfully slides off and walks around to Garrow's body.

Eragon untied Garrow and sets him on the ground. He then takes one of the boards and rolls Garrow onto it and ties him down.

ERAGON (V.O.)

Find yourself a place to hide.
You'll have to take care of
yourself for a while.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

I will wait.

Saphira walks into the forest. Eragon grabs the board and begins to pull Garrow down the road.

Eragon grits his teeth in pain as blood pours out of his legs. He stops after a moment and looks into the sky.

ERAGON

I can't do this!

For a moment Eragon waits, and then starts to walk again, tears in his eyes.

A few moments pass.

BROM (O.S.)

Eragon!

After a moment, Brom comes into view. Eragon looks confused. Brom is waving his hands. The side of Brom's head is covered in dry blood.

Brom's voice sounds distorted.

BROM

Eragon!

ERAGON'S POV:

Everything begins to fade out. Brom is rushing towards Eragon. After a moment, everything goes black.

END ERAGON'S POV.

DREAM SEQUENCE

An image of a boat appears and then disappears. Another image of a group of people boarding the boat is seen. An image of a man sitting on a river bank can be seen. His face cannot be made out. The man lets out an aching cry. A quick image of two dragons in the sky appears, and then all goes black.

INT. GERTRUDE'S HOUSE - ROOM - NIGHT

Eragon opens his eyes. He is lying in a small bed in an empty room. The door is open.

There is a fireplace that is burning. In front of the fireplace sits an OLDER WOMAN, GERTRUDE. She is sitting in a small rocking chair. She's asleep.

After a moment, Eragon sits up. He winces in pain.

Gertrude opens her eyes.

GERTRUDE

Oh, you're awake! How are you?

ERAGON

Well enough, where's Garrow?

GERTRUDE

Over at Horst's house. There wasn't enough room to keep you both here.

ERAGON

How is he?

There is a long silence.

GERTRUDE

Not good. He has a fever that refuses to break, and his injuries aren't healing.

ERAGON

I have to see him.

Gertrude gets up and walks over to a small table. There is a small pot and a bowl with a spon in it, lying on the table.

GERTRUDE
Not until you've had somethin' to eat.

ERAGON
How long have I been here?

GERTRUDE
Two full days.

ERAGON
(Whispering)
Saphira!

GERTRUDE
Hmm?

ERAGON
Nothing.

Gertrude walks over to Eragon and hands him a bowl full of soup.

Eragon sups the soup carefully.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - LATER

Eragon can be seen through the window of Gertrude's house.

INT. GERTRUDE'S HOUSE - ROOM - NIGHT

Eragon takes a sip of his soup and then sets the bowl to the side.

ERAGON
Now can I see Garrow?

GERTRUDE
You're a determined one, aren't you?
(Beat)
Very well.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - NIGHT

Horst large, two story house, sits on a large hill.

Eragon and Gertrude are slowly walking toward it. Eragon leans against Gertrude as he limps along.

EXT. HORST'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Eragon and Gertrude are standing on Horst's porch. Gertrude knocks on the door.

A few moments pass and then Horst's wife, ELAIN, a woman in her late thirties, comes to the door.

ELAIN
(Softly)
Please, come in.

Eragon and Gertrude follow Elain into the house. They stop once they are in the LIVING ROOM.

Elain gives Eragon a sad smile, and then looks at Gertrude.

ELAIN
I was about to send for you. He isn't doing well. You should see him right away.

GERTRUDE
You'll have to help Eragon up the stairs.

Gertrude hurries up the stairs that are right behind her.

Eragon slowly walks over to the steps. As he puts his foot on the first step, Elain reaches out to help him.

ERAGON
It's OK, I can do it.

ELAIN
Are you sure?

Elain pulls her arm back. Eragon slowly takes a step up to the next step. He winces in pain. Elain holds her arms right behind him.

INT. HORST'S HOUSE - ROOM - NIGHT

Garrow's deformed body is lying on a small bed in the corner of the room. Gertrude is examining Garrow. She has her hand on his forehead.

Eragon slowly walks into the room. Elain following right behind.

Eragon walks over to the bed. He looks at Garrow's burnt face. A tear rolls down his cheek.

Katrina is standing by the fireplace in another corner, boiling rags.

Eragon lifts the blankets that cover Garrow's stomach. There are bandages covering all over him. Gertrude takes one of them off. A large burn mark is seen for a moment, and then Gertrude puts another bandage on.

Eragon looks at Gertrude with hopeless eyes.

ERAGON

Can't you do anything?

GERTRUDE

I've tried everything. But still,
things could change for the better.
He's a strong man.

Eragon turns and looks out a small window in the room.

Elain walks up behind Eragon and puts her hand on his shoulder.

ELAIN

You should leave for a little
while.

ERAGON

I want to stay.

ERAGON

Don't worry, you can come back. Why
don't you come down and get some of
my fresh apple pie?

INT. HORST'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Eragon and Elain walk into the kitchen. Horst is sitting at the table eating a slice of pie.

Eragon walks over to the table and sits down. Elain brings him a slice of pie and a glass of milk.

ERAGON

(Quietly)
Thank you.

Eragon takes a bite of the pie.

HORST
How are you?

ERAGON
Terrible.

Eragon takes a few more bites.

HORST
I know this isn't the best time,
but we need to know.

ERAGON
Know what?

HORST
...what happened.

ERAGON
I don't really remember.

Horst leans forward.

HORST
Eragon, I was one of the people who
went to your farm. Your house
didn't just burn down. Something
tore it to pieces.

Eragon takes a few more bites of his food and then, slowly,
stands up.

ERAGON
I'm tired. I'm going back to
Gertrude's house to sleep.

ELAIN
Why don't you stay with us?

ERAGON
Do you have enough room?

ELAIN
Of course! Come with me, I'll get
everything ready.

INT. HORST'S HOUSE - ROOM 2 - NIGHT

Eragon is lying in a bed that's just like Garrow's.

A few moments pass and then Gertrude comes in through the door. Eragon opens his eyes and looks at her.

ERAGON

How is he?

GERTRUDE

Well, the fever's gone and some of his burns are healing.

(Beat)

He'll be fine. You go on to sleep.

Eragon pulls his blankets up to his neck and then closes his eyes.

INT. HORST'S HOUSE - ROOM 2 - LATER

Eragon jolts upright. He is breathing hard and sweat is layered across his forehead.

The SOUNDS of people mumbling can be heard down the hallway.

Eragon slowly gets up from his bed and walks out into the hallway. Garrow's door is open and people are gathered around.

Eragon looks pale as he walks to Garrow's room. Everyone makes room for Eragon to get through. They all look sad.

Garrow is lying his bed. He has a new pair of clothes on and his hands are crossed over his stomach. Tears begin to flood out of Eragon's eyes. Elain rushes over to Eragon and puts her arms around him.

After a few moments pass, Elain guides Eragon back to his room.

INT. HORST'S HOUSE - ROOM 2 - SAME TIME

Elain stops at the door and watches Eragon lay down on his bed. After a moment, she walks over to the bed and stands beside him.

Eragon raps up with his blankets. His eyes are full of tears.

ERAGON

He didn't deserve this!

Elain's hand touches Eragon's head. Eragon continues to cry.

INT. HORST'S HOUSE - ROOM 2 - DAWN

Eragon is sitting by the window. Tears flow down his cheeks.

ERAGON
I can't live with this.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
Then don't.

ERAGON (V.O.)
What would you have me do? Garrow's gone forever!

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
Your heat is the only guide to the answer.

Eragon looks confused for a moment.

ERAGON (V.O.)
What do you want me to do...pursue the strangers?

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
Yes.

Eragon sits there, silent.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Am I strong enough for this?

ERAGON
You have me.
(Beat)
There is nothing left for you here. And there's nothing more dangerous than an enemy with nothing to lose. And that is the very thing you have become.

A few moments pass and then Eragon looks at the door.

ERAGON
I will go.

Eragon stands up. He slightly winces but walks over to his bed without problem. HE grabs his pack off the floor and sets it on the bed. He opens it and packs a pair of clothes in it.

INT. HORST'S HOUSE - DAWN

Eragon quietly walks down the stairs. He then walks over to the door and listens.

ELAIN
...place to stay. We have room.

Eragon sighs and then quietly walks over to the front door. He looks back and then, quietly, walks out.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - DAWN

Eragon stays low as he walks off the porch and down the street.

No one else is outside. Eragon stops at Sloan's Butcher Shop. He looks around and then, quietly, enters the building.

INT. BUTCHER SHOP - DAWN

Eragon looks around as he walks behind the counter. He spots a large slab of meat and walks over to it.

Eragon bends down and grabs the meat and quietly slides it into his Pack. After a moment, he looks around, and then walks out of the building.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - DAWN

Eragon walks off the porch and starts walking down the street.

BROM (O.S.)
Going somewhere?

Behind Eragon stands Brom.

Eragon swiftly turns around in surprise.

ERAGON
What?

BROM
I hope you have enough meat for our dragon.

ERAGON

(Afraid)

What are you talking about?

BROM

Don't fool with me. I know where that mark, gedwey ignasia: shining palm, on your palm comes from: you have touched a dragon hatchling. I know why you came to me with all of those questions.

ERAGON

(Confused)

How'd you find out?

BROM

There were clues and hints everywhere. All I had to do was pay attention.

ERAGON (V.O.)

Saphira, we've been found out! I need you!

Saphira does not answer. Eragon looks very confused and frustrated.

BROM

I've talked with her. She has agreed to hover over us until we settle our differences.

ERAGON

How could you tal-

BROM

Now tell me, where are you going?

ERAGON

I was going to...find a safe place for me to rest while I heal.

BROM

And after that.

ERAGON

I...I was going to hunt down the strangers and kill them.

BROM

A mighty task for one so young.
Certainly a worthy endeavor and one
you are fit to carry out. Thought
it strikes me that help would be
unwelcome.

Brom walks over to a large BUSH and pulls out a large PACK.
He puts it on.

BROM

Anyway, I'm not going to sit around
while some stripling gets to run
around with a dragon.

A few moments pass.

ERAGON

I don't need help, but you can
come.

BROM

Well then we had best be going.
(Beat)
I think you'll find that you're
dragon will listen to you now.

ERAGON (V.O.)

Saphira?

EXT. SKY - DAWN

Saphira soars through the clouds.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

Yes?

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - DAWN

ERAGON (V.O.)

Will you meet us at the farm?

EXT. SKY - DAWN

Saphira turns and dives downward a bit.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

So you've come to an agreement?

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - DAWN

Eragon looks up at Brom.

ERAGON (V.O.)
I guess so.

EXT. SKY - DAWN

Saphira flies toward the ground and then levels out.

EXT. CARVAHALL - THE STREET - DAWN

Eragon adjust he Pack.

ERAGON
They're probably looking for me.

BROM
Probably. Shall we go?

ERAGON
I want to leave a letter with Ror-

BROM
It's already been taken care of. I
sent a letter to him explaining a
few things. Satisfactory?

Eragon simply nods and they begin to walk down the street.

EXT. SKY - DAY

Saphira dives towards the ground. Brom and Eragon can be seen standing by the ruins of Eragon's house.

EXT. GARROW'S FARM - DAY

Saphira lands, smashing the grass underneath her feet.

BROM
What's it's name?

ERAGON
Saphira.

A pleasure look crosses Brom's face.

ERAGON

Of all the names you gave me, its
the only one she liked.

(Beat)

I think it fits.

A moment passes. Brom has an unreadable look on his face. Eragon waits for a moment, and then walks into what is left of his house.

He searches for the spot that his room once was, and finds it. He looks around for a moment, and then finds his BOW.

It's a little scuffed up, but it's not unusable.

He looks around for a bit more and finds his QUIVER. The leather isn't harmed at all. He smiles, satisfied.

After a moment, Eragon walks over to Saphira and Brom.

BROM

Where to now?

ERAGON

We find a place to hide.

BROM

Do you have a place in mind?

ERAGON

Yes.

Eragon straps his Quiver to his Pack with a ROPE and then puts it on his back.

ERAGON

Follow me.

Saphira jumps into the air.

EXT. THE FOREST - PALENCAR VALLEY - DAY

A large, irregular clearing is right in the center of the forest.

Eragon and Brom walk into the clearing. Saphira lands right in the center of the clearing.

BROM

Does anyone else no about this?

ERAGON

No. I found it when we first moved here.

EXT. THE FOREST - PALENCAR VALLEY - NIGHT

There is now a FIRE in the center of the clearing. Brom and Eragon are sitting by it. Saphira is curled up around them.

Brom is quietly smoking his pipe and looking into the fire.

ERAGON

Why do you want to travel with me?

A ring of smoke rises from Brom's mouth.

BROM

I have vested interest in keeping you alive.

ERAGON

What do you mean?

BROM

To put it bluntly, I'm a storyteller and I think you'll make a fine story.

(Beat)s

Eragon, you're the first dragon Rider to exist out of the king's control in over a thousand years. What will happen to you? Will you die a martyr Join the Varden? Or will you kill King Galbatorix? All fascinating questions. And I will be there to see every bit of it.

A few moments pass. Eragon gazes into the fire.

ERAGON

That may be, but tell me, how can you talk to Saphira.

Brom takes a few moments to put more TOBACCO into his pipe.

BROM

Very well. If it's answers you want, its answers you'll get, but they may not be to your liking.

Brom stands up and walks over to his Pack near the edge of the clearing. He picks it up and sets it down by the fire.

He then opens the Pack and pulls out a long OBJECT, around three feet long, that is wrapped in CLOTH.

Slowly, Brom pulls the cloth away from the object, revealing a SWORD.

The Sword has a golden handle that has a red RUBY the size of a bird egg engraved in it. It's BLADE is crimson red.

After all of the cloth is pulled away, Brom hands the Sword to Eragon.

BROM

This was once a Riders blade. It's name is Zar'roc.

Eragon swings it around a few times.

ERAGON

Where'd you get it?

Brom takes a few moments and then answers.

BROM

It doesn't matter. All I will say is that it took me many nasty and dangerous adventures to attain it.

Eragon swings it one more time.

BROM (CONT'D)

Consider it yours. You have more of a claim to it than I do. And before all is done, I think you will need it.

Eragon holds the sword up and looks at the blade.

ERAGON

It is a princely gift. I'm honored.

Brom walks over to his Pack and pulls out a BELT with a large SHEATH on it. He walks back to Eragon and hands it to him.

Eragon takes it and slowly slides the sword into it.

BROM

Now, if you must know, anyone can learn to speak to a dragon, with the right knowledge.

(MORE)

BROM(cont'd)

I know more about dragons than almost everyone else alive...I'm offering my knowledge to you as a shortcut, for by yourself, it would take you years to learn.

How I know so much, I will keep to myself.

Eragon and Brom sit down by the fire again.

ERAGON

Do you have knowledge of the strangers?

BROM

Ah, yes. They are called the Raz'ac. They weren't seen before Galbatorix was king. Little is known about them, but I can tell you one thing: they aren't human. When I glimpsed one of their heads I saw something that resembled a beak and they have small, beady eyes. How they manage to speak our tongue baffles me.

Brom lights his pipe and sucks in smoke, and lets it out as a ring.

BROM

As for their powers, they are stronger than any man and can jump incredible heights, but they cannot use magic. Be thankful for that, for if they could, you would probably already be in their grasp.

ERAGON

How many are there?

BROM

As far as I know, only the two you've seen. But there could be more.

ERAGON

Why were they searching for Saphira?

BROM

They're the king's personal dragon hunters. Whenever rumor of a dragon or dragon egg is heard by the king, he sends them to search for it.

Everything is silent for a little while.

ERAGON

Where'd you get that scar on your head?

BROM

I was sneaking around the Raz'ac's campsite one night, trying to find as my information about them as I could, when they surprised me from the shadows. I managed to get away, but not without this token of my stupidity.

Eragon lays back and looks into the sky.

ERAGON

When you saw the scar on my palm, why didn't you warn me about the Raz'ac? I could have warned Garrow.

BROM

(Apologetic)

I was unsure of what to do at the time. I thought I could keep the Raz'ac away from you until they left, and then confront you about Saphira. But they outsmarted me. Its a mistake that I deeply regret, and has cost you dearly.

Eragon sits up with a demanding look on his face.

ERAGON

Who are you!? I've trusted you this far because Saphira respects you, but no more! Why does a storyteller happen to have a Riders blade? Why do you know so much about the Raz'ax?

BROM

I thought I made it clear I wasn't going to talk about that.

ERAGON

My uncle is dead because of you! Dead! You're not the person I've known all these years. Explain yourself!

A few long moments pass as Brom lets out smoke rings from his mouth.

BROM

You probably haven't thought about it, but most of my life has been spent out of Carvahall. I've played many roles to many people. I've a complicated past.

ERAGON

Then who are you?

BROM

I'm someone who wants to help you- do not scorn those words, for they are the truest I've ever spoken. But I will not answer your questions.

ERAGON

I'm going to sleep.

Eragon looks at the stars for a moment, and then closes his eyes.

EXT. THE FOREST - PALENCAR VALLEY - DAWN

Eragon opens his eyes. A few tears run down his cheeks. After a moment, he wipes them away and stands up.

Brom is cooking breakfast over the fire. Eragon walks over and sits down by the fire, with his hands under his armpits.

BROM

Good morning.

Eragon grunts in reply. After a few moments, Eragon stands up and walks over to his pack. He pulls out a large piece of leather.

BROM

What are you going to do with that?

ERAGON

Make a saddle for Saphira.

BROM

Oh...

(Beat)

Well lets see, there are two types of saddles for dragons.

(MORE)

BROM(cont'd)

One that takes time and tools to make, two things we don't have, and one that is nothing more than a layer between the rider and the dragon.

ERAGON

Do you know what they look like?

BROM

Better, I can make one.

EXT. THE FOREST - PALENCAR VALLEY - LATER

Brom ties two final straps of leather together and then stands up, holding a completed saddle. HE walks over to Saphira. She bends down a little, allowing Brom to put the saddle on her back.

Brom walks over to Eragon and looks at Saphira.

ERAGON

Thank you...

Brom walks over to the fire. Eragon turns to follow him, but stops when Saphira says-

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

Aren't you going to try it out?

ERAGON (V.O.)

Maybe tomorrow. It's late.

EXT. THE FOREST - PALENCAR VALLEY - NIGHT

Brom and Eragon are lying down by the fire. Brom is smoking his pipe and Eragon is staring into the fire.

BROM

Eragon, I'm sorry for the way things turned out. I didn't mean for any of this to happen.

Eragon doesn't respond and avoids Brom's eyes. A few moments pass.

BROM

We'll need to get horses in Therinsford tomorrow.

ERAGON

You do, but I have Saphira.

Brom shakes his head.

BROM
I can't keep up with a dragon, and
it'll be safer if we travel
together.

EXT. THE FOREST - PALENCAR VALLEY - DAWN

The sky is gray and the wind is blowing.

Eragon and Brom are walking through the forest. Eragon's sword, Zar'roc, is tied to his waist.

Saphira soars over the forest and then darts into the clouds.

EXT. A FIELD - PELENCAR VALLEY - LATER

Eragon and Brom are walking through a large field. A few miles ahead the large village of THERINSFORD can be seen.

The buildings and HOMES sit in no particular order and look fairly run down.

Eragon and Brom stop and look at it in disgust.

EXT. THE STREET - THERINSFORD - LATER

Eragon and Brom walk down the crowded street. A young BOY runs past Brom.

Brom turns and grabs the Boy by the shoulder. The Boy turns around and looks at Brom.

BROM
Do you know where we can buy
horses?

The Boy points up the street, where a small barn can be seen.

BROM
Thank you.

INT. HABERTH'S BARN - MOMENTS LATER

The doors are open to the barn. Horse stalls line each side of the building all the way to the back.

A middle-aged man, HABERTH, is grooming a beautiful white stallion, SNOWFIRE.

Eragon and Brom walk into the barn. Haberth looks up at them as they walk over to him.

BROM
That's a beautiful animal.

HABERTH
Yes, it is. It's name is Snowfire.
Mine's Haberth.

Brom and Haberth shake hands.

HABERTH
Can I help you?

BROM
We need two fast horses with a full
set of tack for both.

Haberth walks to the back of the barn and grabs two saddles off the wall. He sets them on the ground.

Haberth walks over to a BAY horse. He also looks at the BAY in the stall beside the first.

HABERTH
Will these do?

Brom looks at the first Bay.

BROM
We'll wake him.

Brom looks at the second.

BROM
The other, I'm not so sure of.

HABERTH
He's got a good pair of legs on
'em.

BROM
Mmm...how much will you take
Snowfire?

Haberth glances at Snowfire.

HABERTH

I do not wish to sell him. He's the finest I've ever bred.

BROM

If you were willing to part with him, how much would all this cost me?

Haberth doesn't respond for a moment.

HABERTH

200 coins, no less.

Brom pulls out a bag of coins and counts through it. After a moment, he hands it to Haberth.

BROM

Will this do?

Haberth looks in the bag of coins and then at Snowfire.

EXT. THE STREET - THERINSFORD - MOMENTS LATER

Brom is leading Snowfire down the street by his reigns and Eragon is guiding the Bay.

Brom quickly leads Snowfire into a small ALLEY between two houses. Eragon follows him, confused.

BROM

Take Snowfire and go to the far side of Therinsford. Wait for me there.

Brom hands Eragon the reigns to Snowfire. Eragon looks at the reigns, still confused.

ERAGON

Why?

Brom is already gone. Eragon shakes his head.

EXT. SIDE FIELD - THERINSFORD - DAY

Eragon is standing right outside the SIDE GATE to Therinsford with Snowfire and the Bay.

After a moment, Brom walks through the gate and to Eragon. Brom grabs Snowfire's reigns and begins to walk away from Therinsford.

BROM

Come.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Eragon is walking toward the edge of the forest, holding the Bay's reigns. Brom is behind him, guiding Snowfire.

After a moment, Eragon and Brom enter the forest. Brom jumps onto Snowfire's saddle. Eragon looks at the Bay, nervous.

BROM

Hurry, we have far to go.

Eragon slowly mounts the Bay and looks at Brom. Brom nods his head and then Snowfire begins to walk through the forest.

Eragon struggles to get the Bay to move, but after a moment, they begin to walk behind Brom.

BROM

The Raz'ac have defiantly been through here. A man back in town told me. He said they fled like demons from a holy man.

ERAGON

But why would they come through therinsford?

BROM

Apparently to get horses, like us.

EXT. FOREST - DUSK

Eragon and Brom ride their horses into a small clearing, and then slide off the saddles and look around.

Eragon turns and looks at the Bay.

BROM

You should name him.

Eragon rubs the side of the Bay's face.

ERAGON

I don't have anything as majestic as Snowfire, but maybe this'll do.

Eragon pauses for a moment.

ERAGON
I name you Cadoc.

Eragon looks at Brom.

ERAGON
It was my grandfathers name.

Brom nods, approvingly.

Eragon sits down and arranges a small pile of tender.

Suddenly, Saphira crashes through the trees and lands in the clearing.

Eragon and Brom look at her.

ERAGON (V.O.)
How do the plains look?

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
Dull. Only Rabbits and small shrub
can be seen for miles.

Eragon shakes his head and turns around.

BROM
Catch!

A wooden sword cracks into Eragon's forehead. Eragon yelps in pain and grabs his head.

Eragon looks up at Brom, who is flying toward him with his own sword.

Eragon jumps out of the way and grabs the wooden sword Brom had thrown at him.

Brom, obviously better than Eragon, smacks Eragon on the back of the leg with the sword. Eragon falls to the ground and yelps.

ERAGON
What are you doing?!

Brom plunges toward Eragon again, and cracks the wooden blade of his sword across Eragon's chest. Eragon gasp's for air and falls down again.

ERAGON
Are you mad?!

BROM
Well you can't just go fight the
Raz'ac! Look at you! Can't even
stay on your feet.

Eragon stands up and grabs his wooden sword. He runs toward Brom and swings the sword at him.

Brom quickly dodges the attack and slaps Eragon on the back.

EXT. FOREST - DAWN

The sun is just rising over the tree tops. Eragon and Saphira are sleeping.

Brom quickly runs over to Eragon and shakes him.

BROM
Eragon, wake up.

And then walks over to his backpack and continues to pack things up.

Eragon slowly opens his eyes and slowly sits up, wincing at the pain in his body. He grunts.

BROM
Good morning.

Eragon scowls.

BROM
I just want you to be ready when we
find them...

Eragon slowly stands to his feet.

ERAGON
I won't be able to move if we meet
them, much less fight!

Behind him, Saphire picks her head up off the ground. She stands up.

BROM
We need to get a move on it. We've
got a mile to go before we reach
the plains.

EXT. FOREST - LATER

Eragon is riding Cadoc and Brom is on Snowfire. They are quickly traveling downhill.

EXT. THE PLAIN'S - DAY

Eragon and Brom, on their horses backs, come out of the forest and stop at the edge of the plains.

To the right of Eragon and Brom about a half a mile away, the ANORA RIVER can be seen. It stretches off in the opposite direction of Brom and Eragon. Brom points at it-

BROM

That's the Anora River, and our only source of water from until we reach Yazuac, which is where, I think, the Raz'ac have gone.

ERAGON

Where's that?

BROM

Due east, and four days away, if all goes well. It's a small village by the Ninor River.

Sapphire lands abruptly beside Brom and Eragon.

SAPPHIRE (V.O.)

There's no where to hide on the plains. I'll have to fly above you.

EXT. THE SKY - DUSK

Eragon and Brom ride across the plains on Cadoc and Snowfire with great speed. A small village, YUZUAC, can be seen a half a mile ahead of them. Behind Yuzuac is the NINOR RIVER.

Sapphire lands by the river and ducks down to hide.

EXT. THE PLAIN'S - DUSK

Eragon and Brom stop about one hundred feet away from Yuzuac's front GATE.

ERAGON

It's quiet.

BROM
Doesn't mean anything, though.

ERAGON
No dogs bark. They should must have
seen us by now.

BROM
Yes, they should have.

ERAGON
Could be a trap.

BROM
Still, we need provisions.

ERAGON
I don't think we should do it.

BROM
We have to. But not like fool...

ERAGON
What do you mean?

BROM
Well, if there is an ambush, it
would be at the front gate. So...

ERAGON
We enter from the back.

Brom draws his sword and sets it across his lap.

EXT. YUZUAC - STREET - LATER

Eragon and Brom slowly ride into the city on their horses.
Eragon is behind Brom.

A few moments of silence pass and then they come around a
corner. Right in front of them is a pile of dead bodies.

Eragon covers his noes and looks away. Brom closes his eyes
in sadness.

ERAGON
Who would do this?

BROM
The Urgal's.

Eragon looks down at the pile. Lying in the pile is a lifeless middle-aged woman. She is holding tightly to her a dead baby.

Tears form in Eragon's eyes. He looks away.

BROM

Do you want to wait outside the city until I'm done?

ERAGON

No. I'm fine.

Brom looks around for a moment. Suddenly, two Urgal' jump out of nowhere and attack Brom. They each have AXES.

Brom fights back with his sword, with obvious skill and knowledge of the blade.

After a moment, one of the Urgal's Axes hacks into Brom's arm. He screams.

Eragon begins to panic.

ERAGON

What do I do? What I do?

Suddenly, Eragon jumps off of Cadoc, holding his sword, Zar'oc, and starts running toward them, screaming in fear and rage.

The Urgal's look surprised, but turn and begin to defend themselves. After a few moments of fighting, Eragon turns and runs away, leading the Urgal's into an alley.

EXT. YUZUAC - ALLEY - SAME TIME

Eragon runs into the alley and realizes its a dead-end. He turns around, but the Urgal's already have him cornered.

Eragon drops his sword and pulls his BOW and ARROW from his back. He aims it at the Urgal. Eragon fires, but it hits the Urgal's shield.

Eragon gets another arrow and aims it at the Urgal's again. He closes his eyes and lets out a deep breath.

After a moment, he lets the string go and screams-

ERAGON

Brisingr!

The arrow lights on fire with a blue flame and hits the lead Urgal in the forehead. A shock-wave of blue explodes from the arrow and kills all the other Urgal's, but passes through Eragon.

Eragon looks surprised at what he just did. He looks at the symbol on his palm. It's glowing brightly. He bends down

EXT. YUZUAC - STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Eragon runs over to Brom and helps him off his horse. Eragon looks at Brom's arm. It's badly damaged.

Eragon closes his eyes and looks up for a moment.

After a few moments pass, Saphira lands in the street in rage.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
Where are the ones who did this?
I'll rip them apart!

ERAGON
They're dead.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
You killed them?

Eragon nods his head.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Brom will have to ride on your
back, Saphira.

Brom sits up, wincing at the pain in his arm.

BROM
No, I'm fine. Really. We must leave
quickly.

ERAGON
Where do we go?

BROM
Teirm. I have an old friend there.

EXT. THE PLAIN'S - DAY

Eragon and Brom ride their horses quickly across the plain. Brom is leaned over. He's holding his arm.

EXT. THE PLAIN'S - LATER

Eragon and Brom continue to ride across the plains.

EXT. THE PLAIN'S - LATER

About a mile ahead of Eragon and Brom, the edge of mountain's can be seen. Both of their horses quicken their speed.

EXT. FRONT FIELD - TEIRM - DAY

Eragon and Brom ride across the front field of TEIRM. Behind the city lies the ocean, sparkling in the sunlight.

EXT. FRONT FIELD - TEIRM - MOMENTS LATER

Eragon and Brom slow their horses down to a walk. Eragon looks at Brom.

ERAGON

Will we go by our own names?

BROM

No. People have a tendency to remember things they shouldn't. I will be Neal and you will be my nephew Evan.

Eragon looks up at the sky. For just a second, though the clouds, Eragon sees Saphira's body fly by. He closes his eyes.

ERAGON (V.O.)

You should land somewhere and hide.
We're going in.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

Sticking your noses where it
doesn't belong...again!

Eragon opens his eyes and shakes his head with a slight smile.

After a moment, Eragon and Brom come to the front gate of Teirm.

EXT. FRONT GATE - TEIRM - SAME TIME

Eragon and Brom slowly ride through the gate. The guards eye them suspiciously.

EXT. THE STREET - TEIRM - SAME TIME

Eragon and Brom slowly ride down the crowded streets. Among the ROOFTOPS, KNIGHTS are stationed. All along the streets Knights can be seen standing around.

Everyone seems to have an unpleasant look about them.

ERAGON

This place looks ready for war.

BROM

Teirm has a history of getting attacked by Pirates, Urgal's, and other enemies. Teirm is the center of commerce Conflict will always arise where riches are so abundant.

ERAGON

Oh...

Eragon and Brom continue to ride down the street. After a moment, Brom turns down another street. Eragon realizes it and starts to follow him.

ERAGON

Where are we going?

BROM

My old friend lives down this road, if I remember correctly.

EXT. JEOD'S HOUSE - TEIRM - LATER

JEOD'S HOUSE is two stories high and is connected to buildings on the left and right. It looks to be lived in by someone rich.

Brom knocks on the wooden door. After a moment, he knocks again. A moment later, the sounds of feet moving toward the door can be heard.

The door slightly cracks open. Through the crack, we can see the eyes of JEOD (55), a gray haired and weary looking man.

JEOD
Who is it? Do you have an
appointment?

BROM
No.

JEOD
Well, then you'll have to come back
at a later time. I'm very busy.

Jeod starts to close the door, but Brom stops it with his
foot.

BROM
Won't you let us in for only a
moment. We've come a long way to
see you and can't stay long.

Jeod opens the door a bit more. His eyes widen as he sees
Brom.

JEOD
Brom?

BROM
Shh...I don't want anyone to know
our names.

Jeod opens the door enough that he can get a good look at
Brom.

JEOD
I--I--thought you were dead.

BROM
It's been a long time...

Jeod looks around the street wearily and then motions for
Brom and Eragon to come inside.

JEOD
Please, come in.

INT. JEOD'S HOUSE - SAME TIME

Jeod, Brom, and Eragon walk down a long HALLWAY. Eragon looks
around curiously.

After a moment, they all come to a stop in front of a large
wooden double-door.

Brom looks down at Eragon.

BROM
Eragon, why don't you look around
outside for a little while at let
us talk about a few things.

Eragon nods his head and turns around.

BROM
Try not to draw attention to
yourself, though. I don't want
anyone knowing we're here.

Eragon nods his head again and then turns to walk out the
door.

EXT. THE STREET - TEIRM - DAY

Eragon walks out of Jeod's house and into the street. He
looks around. Connected to the right of Jeod's house is a
small SHOP. Inside through small windows, PLANTS can be seen.

Eragon waits a moment and then walks toward the door of the
Shop.

INT. SHOP - TEIRM - MOMENTS LATER

Eragon walks in through the door and walks through the small
Shop. All around, plants and flowers sit on small, wooden
table.

After a moment, a large WERECAT, a slightly abnormal looking
cat like creature, walks up and *purrs* at Eragon. Eragon looks
down at it. Eragon closes his eyes.

ERAGON (V.O.)
I am a friend.

After a moment, a voice is heard.

WERECAT (V.O.)
You don't have to do that.

Eragon opens his eyes.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Saphira?

Eragon looks around. After a moment, he closes his eyes again. Eragon looks around and sees what looks like a wooden rod. He reaches out for it.

WERECAT (V.O.)
That wouldn't be wise.

Eragon looks up in surprise.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Stop playing games Saphira.

Eragon turns and reaches for the wooden rod again. He grabs it. Suddenly, a shock of electricity shoots through Eragon. He falls to the ground, writhing. After a moment he stops. The Cat walks over to him.

WERECAT (V.O.)
You aren't very smart for a dragon Rider. I did warn you.

Eragon's eyes get big.

ERAGON (V.O.)
You said that!

WERECAT (V.O.)
Who else?

ERAGON (V.O.)
But you're just a cat!

The Werecoat jumps on Eragon's chest and sticks its claws into him.

WERECAT (V.O.)
Do I look like other cats to you?

ERAGON (V.O.)
No...

WERECAT (V.O.)
Then what makes you think I am one?

Eragon starts to say something, but the Werecoat digs its claws into his chest even more.

WERECAT (V.O.)
I-to correct you-am a Werecoat. There aren't many of us left, but I would have thought a farm boy would have heard of us.

ERAGON (V.O.)
I didn't know you were real.

WERECAT (V.O.)
Knowing and being are two different things. I didn't know you existed before you came in here and ruined my nap, but that doesn't mean you were real does it?

ERAGON (V.O.)
I'm sorry I disturbed you.

WERECAT (V.O.)
I was getting up anyway.

The Werecat jumps off Eragon and starts to walk away.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Wait! What's your name?

WERECAT (V.O.)
You may call me Solembum.

Suddenly, a woman walks up to Eragon. This is ANGELA (30), a blond haired and slightly crazy looking woman.

Eragon looks up at her and jumps to his feet.

ERAGON
I'm sorry...I was...

ANGELA
Talking to the Werecat?

ERAGON
You can talk to him too?

ANGELA
Of course! Anyone can. That doesn't mean he'll talk back, though.

There's a bit of silence.

ANGELA
Now tell me, I haven't seen you around here before. What brought you here and where are you going?

ERAGON
The first I can't answer and the second...my future is impossible to see....

ANGELA
Well lets fix that.

Eragon looks confused.

INT. SHOP - BACK ROOM - LATER

Eragon and Angela sit around a small table. Angela is holding three bones.

ERAGON
Ready?

Eragon nods.

ANGELA
Manin! Wyrda! Hugin!

Angela throws the bones out onto the table. She studies them for a moment and then lets out a long sigh.

ERAGON
What's wrong?

ANGELA
This is *the* hardest reading I've ever done. You were right. Your future is nigh impossible to see. I've never seen someone's fate so tangled.

Eragon and Angela sit in silence for a little while.

ANGELA
Well-

Angela points at one of the bones.

ANGELA (CONT'D)
I'll start here, because its the easiest to understand.

Angela stops for a moment and thinks.

ANGELA
Infinity or long life. It's the first time I've ever seen it come up in a persons future.

Angela puts her hand on the three bones.

ANGELA

Now the bones grow harder to read.
Here the wandering path, lightning
bolt, and sailing ship all lie
together-a pattern I have never
seen, only heard of.

(Beat)

The wandering path means you have
many choices in your future, some
you are making even now. I see
battles raging all around you. Many
futures await you-all of them
leading to blood and conflict.

Angela closes her eyes for a moment.

ANGELA

The lightning bolt is a terrible
omen. There is a doom upon you, but
of what sort I know not. Part of it
lies with in a death-one that
rapidly approaches and will cause
you much grief. But the rest awaits
in a great journey. Look closely at
this bone and you will see that it
rest on the sailing ship, which is
impossible to misunderstand. It
means that you will leave this land
forever, never to return. But to
where is a mystery...

Angela opens her eyes.

ANGELA

Next is a bit more pleasant.

Angela smiles.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

An epic romance. I'm not sure if
this love will end happily, but
your love is of noble birth and
heritage.

Eragon smiles.

ANGELA

Now, the last ones are the tree and
the hawthorn root, which cross each
other strongly. I wish this were
not so-for it can only mean more
trouble-but betrayal is clear.

(MORE)

ANGELA(cont'd)

And it will come from within your family.

ERAGON

Roran wouldn't do that!

ANGELA

I wouldn't know...but the bones have never lied.

ERAGON

Well, thank you for reading my future. But I really must be going.

ANGELA

Your welcome! But tell me, what is your name?

ERAGON

Eva-I mean, Eragon.

ANGELA

Is that who you are or your name?

ERAGON

(Smiling)

Both.

ANGELA

Well, then, now I'm all the more interested in seeing how your life turns out.

Eragon smiles.

EXT. JEOD'S HOUSE - TEIRM - DAY

Eragon walks up onto the porch and into the house.

INT. JEOD'S HOUSE - TEIRM - DAY

Eragon walks down the hallway and comes to the large double-door. He is about to open it but hears Brom and Jeod's voices inside. He stops and looks through the crack in the middle of the door.

JEOD (O.S.)

So our...friends knew that you were alive all along?

BROM (O.S.)

Yes.

Jeod and Brom continue to talk, but low enough that they cannot be understood.

Eragon steps back with a confused look on his face. After a moment, he steps forward and walks into the large OFFICE.

Books and scrolls are stacked all around the walls and in book cases. A small desk sits in front of a large window (that is closed). Brom and Jeod are sitting in two rocking chairs opposite of each other.

Brom and Jeod stop talking when Eragon comes in. They look up at him.

EXT. JEOD'S HOUSE - TEIRM - NIGHT

The streets are no longer crowded. No one can be seen except for Knights scattered all over the roof tops of the city.

INT. JEOD'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Eragon and Brom are each sitting in two chairs in front of a small fireplace. Behind them are two small beds and a window, but that's it.

Eragon looks at Brom, who is staring into the fire.

ERAGON

Brom?

BROM

Hmm?

ERAGON

Who are your...friends that Jeod was talking about earlier?

Brom doesn't answer for a minute.

BROM

He was talking about the Varden.

ERAGON

I heard talk about them back at Thorns bar. Everyone says that they seek to destroy us all.

BROM

No...they seek to destroy evil...King Galbatorix.

ERAGON
Will we go to them after the
Raz'zac are destroyed?

BROM
I don't know...

ERAGON
Where are they?

BROM
They lie somewhere in the Beor
Mountains, across the Hadarack
desert.

Eragon sits back in his chair.

BROM
You best get some rest. We leave
tomorrow.

EXT. FRONT FIELD - TEIRM - DAWN

Eragon and Brom ride quickly across the front field of Teirm.

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE - DAY

Eragon and Brom ride down a small path cut into the side of
the MOUNTAIN. Mountains surround them everywhere in the
background.

Above them, Saphira can be seen flying through the clouds.

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE - CAMP - NIGHT

Eragon and Brom are sitting beside a small fire. Eragon looks
up at Brom.

ERAGON
I had an idea.

BROM
What kind of idea?

ERAGON
Is it possible to conjure an image
of something you can't see with
magic?

BROM

What you are talking about is scrying. It can be extremely helpful, but it has its drawbacks. If you were to scry the Raz'zac, you wouldn't be able to see their surroundings because you haven't seen it before.

ERAGON

How does it work? Do you make an image in thin air?

BROM

Not usually. It's easier to do it in a reflective surface such as a pool of water or mirror.

ERAGON

May I try it?

BROM

No, not now. You're tired, and scrying takes lots of strength. I will tell you the words you have to say, but you must promise me you will not attempt it tonight.

ERAGON

I promise.

Brom leans forward a bit.

BROM

Draumr kopa.

Eragon closes his eyes and mouths the words a few times to memorize it.

ERAGON

Maybe tomorrow I can scry Roran. I'm afraid that the Raz'zac might go after him.

Brom leans back and sighs.

BROM

I don't mean to frighten you, but that is a distinct possibility. Although Roran was gone while the Raz'zac were in Caravahall, I'm sure they still asked questions about him.

(MORE)

BROM(cont'd)

If they get frustrated enough,
they'll go back and interrogate
Roran. It's only a matter of time.

In the darkness of the forest that grows on the Mountain side, a loud rustling can be heard. Brom looks into the darkness.

BROM
(Whispering)
What was that?

Eragon looks over into the forest.

ERAGON
I don't know.

BROM
Must have been a bird or something.
I thought I saw something, though.

Suddenly, Eragon screams out in pain and falls to the ground, unconscious.

EXT. MOUNTAIN SIDE - CAMP - DAWN

ERAGON'S POV:

Eragon's eyes open. His vision is blurry for a few moments but it clears up after a moment, and everything comes into view.

END ERAGON'S POV:

Tears are rushing out of Eragon's eyes. He winces at the pain in the back of his head, where a bunch of dried up blood is.

After a moment, he begins to panic as he realizes that his arms and legs are tied together. He looks around and sees Brom is tied up, but is unconscious.

A hissing laugh can be heard off screen. Out from the woods walks two Raz'zac. One is slightly taller than the other.

The tall Raz'zac walks over to Eragon, who is struggling to get free.

RAZ'AC #1
None of that now.

The second and shorter Raz'zac walks over to Brom and drags him a few feet in front of Eragon.

The Raz'zac pulls Brom's head back and holds a dagger to his throat. Just then, an ARROW flies out of nowhere and strikes the Raz'zac in the shoulder. He lets out a loud howl and then drops to the ground, avoiding another arrow.

The taller Raz'zac rushes over to the shorter one and pulls him behind a small rock a few feet away.

Brom stands up and stumbles toward Eragon.

ERAGON

Get down!

Brom drops to his knees in front of Eragon. His eyes turn red and become blood-shot. He falls forward. The Raz'zac's dagger is sticking out of his back.

ERAGON

(Screaming)

No!!!

Eragon's head slowly falls backward and then passes out again.

BLACK SCREEN...

INT. CAVE - DAWN

Eragon opens his eyes slowly and realizes where he is. He is lying on the ground in a large CAVE. Beside him lies Saphira, asleep.

Eragon looks around and sees a young man, MURTAGH (20), a black haired man with battered clothes, sitting by a small fire. In Murtagh's lap is a BOW, and behind him is a gray war-horse called TORNAC.

ERAGON

Who are you?

Murtagh tightens his grip on his Bow.

MURTAGH

Murtagh.

ERAGON

Why did you help us?

MURTAGH

You aren't the only enemies of the Raz'zac.

After a moment, Eragon stands up and tries to walk, but falls backward as pain explodes in his side. He yelps as he falls to the ground.

Murtagh tries to run over to Eragon, but Saphira blocks his way and lets out a loud "growl!"

MURTAGH

I would have helped you earlier,
but your dragon wouldn't let me.

ERAGON

(Wincing)
Her name's Saphira.

Eragon looks up at Saphira.

ERAGON (V.O.)

Now let him through! He saved our
lives!

Saphira lets out another "growl" and moves out of the way.

Murtagh quickly walks over to Eragon and helps him to his feet.

ERAGON

How is Brom?

Eragon, with Murtagh's help, walks over to Brom, who is sleeping.

MURTAGH

I was only able to heal what was on
the surface. I don't know what
damage may have been caused on the
inside.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Eragon is lying by the fire, asleep. Murtagh is lying on the other side of the fire, also asleep.

Eragon roles over. His eyes flicker behind the lids.

INT. JAIL CELL - DREAM SEQUENCE

Arya is lying on a small, brick bed that hangs from the wall by two chains.

Arya's face is bruised and has dried blood on it. Arya looks up toward us. Sadness covers her face.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
 (Filtered)
 Eragon, wake up!
 (Beat)
 Wake up!
 (Beat)
 Eragon!

Everything fades to WHITE.

EXT. CAVE - NIGHT

Eragon sits up quickly, wincing at the pain in his side. He turns and looks at Saphira, who is standing beside Brom's twitching body.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
 Something's wrong.

Eragon jumps to his feet and runs over to Brom.

Brom opens his eyes and looks up at Eragon. Brom's eyes look bloodshot and his face is extremely pale.

BROM
 Get me the wine-skin, boy.

ERAGON
 But-

BROM
 Just get me the wine-skin!

Eragon turns quickly and grabs a WINE-SKIN from his Pack. Eragon takes the CAP off and hands it to Brom.

Brom gulps down the Wine and then sets the Wine-skin down.

BROM
 Come closer.

Eragon slides a bit closer to Brom's body.

BROM
 I-I-have something to tell you,
 Eragon. Something I couldn't tell
 you before.

Brom turns his hand over, revealing the same blue OVAL on his palm that Eragon has.

Eragon looks at it with surprise.

ERAGON
Your a-a-a Rider.

BROM
Once upon a time...
(Beat)
My dragon's name was Saphira, like yours, until she was taken away from me. Eragon, guard Saphira with your life, because without her it's hardly worth living.

Eragon looks at Saphira for a moment and then back at Brom, who's face is much paler now.

BROM
Era-Era-Eragon...

Brom's body suddenly goes limp.

EXT. CAVE - DAWN

Eragon, Saphira, and Murtagh all walk out of the Cave. Brom's body is tied to Saphira's back.

EXT. MOUNTAIN TOP - DAWN

Eragon, Murtagh, and Saphira surround Brom's body, which is lying in a large, square hole.

Tears fill Eragon's eyes as he stars at Brom.

Saphira steps forward and brings her mouth down to Brom's grave. A low HUMMING NOISE is heard coming from her stomach.

A DIAMOND surface appears over Brom's grave, covering his body.

Saphira pulls her head back, satisfied.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
I gave the only gift I could. Now time will not ravage him.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Thank you.

INT. CAVE - DAY

Eragon grabs his pack off the ground and slings it over his back. After that, he bends down and grabs Zar'roc off the ground and slides it in his sheath that is strapped to his side.

Murtagh walks up from behind Eragon.

MURTAGH

Do you have a place to go that you will be safe?

ERAGON

No.

MURTAGH

Then I will stay with you until we find a place for you to stay.

ERAGON

I cannot ask you to stay with me. The entire Empire is after me.

MURTAGH

And that means I may have another shot at the Raz'zac if I stay with you. Besides, it's not like I have anything better to do.

EXT. CAVE - DAY

Eragon walks out of the Cave pulling Cadoc along. He rubs Cadoc's face and then takes his reigns off and motions for him to go.

ERAGON

You must leave me now. You are free.

Cadoc walks away after Eragon starts pushing him.

Murtagh and Saphira come out of the Cave and stop by Eragon.

EXT. THE PLAIN'S - DAY

Eragon is on Snowfire and Murtagh is on Tornac. They are riding across the endless Plain's.

Saphira is gliding in the air high above them.

EXT. JAIL CELL - DREAM SEQUENCE

ERAGONS POV:

Arya looks at Eragon with tears in her eyes. Her body is covered with bruises. After a moment, she collapses.

EXT. THE PLAIN'S - NIGHT

Eragon, Saphira, and Murtagh are lying on the ground, asleep. Tornac and Snowfire are also asleep.

About three miles ahead of them is GIL'EAD, a large city.

Eragon sits up, grasping Zar'rocs pommel. He looks around for a moment but doesn't see anything. He lays back down and closes his eyes.

A LOUD GROW comes from an Urgal a little ways away from Eragon.

Eragon opens his eyes, in surprise and fear, and sits up. He grabs Zar'roc and stands to his feet.

ERAGON
(Whispering)
Murtagh!

Murtagh slowly opens his eyes and sits up.

MURTAGH
What?

ERAGON
(Whispering)
Look.

Murtagh spots the Urgal and jumps to his feet, grabbing his sword beside him on the ground.

ERAGON
Where did he come from?

The Urgal begins to let out loud growls and hits its chest.

ERAGON
Brisingr!

A blue bolt flashes from Eragon's sword and explodes the Urgal's head.

Loud growls are heard behind Eragon. They turn around.

A group of FIFTY Urgal's is running toward them, swords drawn.

Eragon holds Zar'roc in a battle position.

ERAGON

Of all the stupid tricks to fall
for!

The Urgal's crash into Eragon and Murtagh.

Saphira wakes up, growling. The Urgal's run toward her.

ERAGON

Saphira, fly!

Saphira jumps up into the air. Eragon is hit over the back of the head by an Urgal, falling to the ground...unconscious.

INT. PRISON - JAIL CELL - DUSK

Eragon opens his eyes. After a few moments he realizes where he is.

He sits up and grabs his head, groaning at the pain.

After a moment, a GUARD walks into Eragon's cell with a plate of food and a pitcher of water. He sets it down beside Eragon and then walks away, locking the cell door.

Eragon picks up the pitcher of water and sniffs it. He look of disgust crosses his face.

After a moment, he takes a sip of the water. He shivers from the taste.

INT. PRISON - HALLWAY - LATER

The sound of voices can be heard down the HALLWAY. After a moment, a dark figure comes into view.

INT. PRISON - JAIL CELL - SAME TIME

Eragon is lying on his bed sleeping.

The cell door creaks as it opens. Eragon opens his eyes and sits up.

Durza is standing in front of him. Eragon looks confused and very scared.

ERAGON
(Slurred)
Who're you?

DURZA
No one of consequence. My name is not what is important here. What is important is who *you* are.

Eragon's eyes get large. He looks around.

ERAGON
I don't really know...my name is Eragon, but that's not all I am is it?

DURZA
No, it isn't.

Durza stands up.

DURZA
I will be back soon, my young Rider. And you will have a choice to make.

ERAGON
What choice?

DURZA
What side you are on.

ERAGON
Oh...

Durza walks toward the door but stops and turns around.

DURZA
And Eragon-

Eragon looks up.

DURZA (CONT'D)
Make the right choice or I swear to you I will kill you.

Durza smiles slightly and then walks away. His footsteps can be heard walking away.

Eragon waits for a moment and then stands up.

ERAGON

What on earth is a Shade doing
here!

(Beat)

I have to get out of here.

Eragon walks up to the door and holds his hand out. The LOCK shifts and the door opens slightly.

Eragon smiles and then walks out.

INT. PRISON - HALLWAY - SAME TIME

Eragon walks down the Hallway quietly, looking around for guards.

ERAGON

I have to find Zar'roc.

Suddenly, the sounds of panicking voices can be heard, and seven Guards walk around the corner, swords drawn.

GUARD #1

Get him!

They charge toward Eragon. Eragon holds his hand out in front of him.

ERAGON

Brisingr!

Three of the Guard's heads explode and their limp bodies fall to the ground.

The other four Guards slow down a bit, fear in their eyes, bit still continue running toward Eragon.

Eragon looks tired. He holds his hand out in front of him again.

ERAGON

I can't do this.

(Beat)

Brisin-

An ARROW strikes one of the Guards in the back of the head and he falls over, revealing a HOODED FIGURE, holding a BOW, at the end of the Hallway.

The Figure draws another ARROW and shoots it into another Guard.

Eragon holds out his hand.

ERAGON
Brisingr!

Two more Guards fall over dead.

The Figure shoots an ARROW at the last Guard and hits him in the shoulder. The Guard falls to the ground, screaming in pain.

Eragon runs up the Guard.

ERAGON
Where is my sword? And what cell is
the Elf in?

GUARD #1
What sword?!

ERAGON
It has a red blade!

The Guard does not answer.

ERAGON
Tell me-

Eragon bends down and picks up a small piece of dirt.

ERAGON (CONT'D)
Or I'll place this piece of dirt in
your chest, and slowly it will
painfully burn through your
insides. Now tell me!

The Guard still does not answer.

ERAGON
Have it your way.

Eragon closes his eyes. The piece of dirt starts glowing in red.

GUARD #1
No! I'll tell you! Just don't put
that in me!

ERAGON
Where is it?

GUARD #1

I really don't know, but it could be in the Guardroom upstairs. And the Elf is in the last cell to the left.

ERAGON

Thank you.

The Figure walks up behind Eragon. Eragon quickly turns around.

ERAGON

Who are you?

The Figure takes its hood off. It's Murtagh!

ERAGON

Murtagh!

(Beat)

Let's go.

Eragon begins to walk away, but stops when Murtagh doesn't follow him.

The sound of an ARROW being shot into armor can be heard.

Eragon quickly turns around. An ARROW is sticking out of the Guards chest.

ERAGON

Why'd you kill him?!

MURTAGH

He's our enemy!

ERAGON

He didn't do anything to you!

MURTAGH

Why should I show him mercy he would not have shown me?!

ERAGON

You're such a-

(Beat)

Never mind. We have to go!

Eragon runs to the end of the Hallway and stops at the last cell on the left.

Inside is Arya, lying unconscious on the floor. She is badly bruised.

Eragon closes his eyes and holds his hand in front of the cell door. The LOCK shifts and the door opens. Eragon walks in and Murtagh follows.

Eragon stops in front of her.

ERAGON
I can't carry her. I'm too tired.

MURTAGH
Then I'll do it.

Murtagh picks Arya up and throws her over his shoulders.

MERLOCK
Let's go! We have to hurry. You getting out by yourself kind of messed up my plans.

Eragon smiles and then they run out of the cell.

INT. PRISON - GUARDROOM - NIGHT

Eragon runs into the room, out of breath. Murtagh, carrying Arya, walks into the room a moment later.

There are weapons on shelves all over the Guardroom. In the corner of the room is Zar'roc.

Eragon runs over to Zar'roc and straps it to his side.

Eragon closes his eyes.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Saphira! You have to come!

SAPHIRA (V.O.)
I'm on my way!

Footsteps are heard coming from the Hallway. Eragon and Murtagh look at each other, scared.

Suddenly, Durza walks into the Guardroom. Eragon and Murtagh are nowhere to be seen.

Eragon is hiding in the corner of the room, behind a large SHELF. Fear covers his face.

Suddenly, Durza's head pokes around the side of the Shelf.

DURZA
Hello there.

Eragon jumps to his feet and draws Zar'roc. Durza draws his sword and backs away from Eragon.

DURZA

Fool. Do you think you can beat me?

Durza swings his sword at Eragon. Eragon swiftly pulls Zar'roc up to block it.

Druza pushes Eragon back with his foot. Eragon hits the wall.

Durza walks up to Eragon and holds his sword out, ready to push it into Eragon.

MURTAGH (O.S.)

Hey!

Durza turns around, angry. An ARROW strikes him in the chest. Durza yanks it out and throws it on the ground.

Murtagh draws another ARROW back, ready to fire. Durza begins to walk toward him. An ARROW strikes him in the forehead.

Durza lets out a loud howl and then explodes.

ERAGON

You killed him! No man has ever
been able to kill a Shade!

Murtagh smiles proudly.

GUARD (O.S.)

He failed! Let's go!

Ten GUARDS rush into the room, swords drawn.

Suddenly, the room begins to shake and pieces of WOOD begin to fall from the ROOF.

The Guards look up in fear. Saphira crashes through the Roof and lands on the floor.

EXT. SKY - NIGHT

Saphira flies high into the sky with Eragon, Murtagh, and Arya on her back.

Down below Gil'ead can be seen. Arrows begin to fly from the OUTER WALLS.

They pierce Saphira's wings. Saphira lets out a loud growl!

MURTAGH

Where do we go?

ERAGON

We have to go across the Hadarack Desert. The Empire will be searching day and night for us. But they won't dare cross the Hadarack

MURTAGH

That's because they're smart!

ERAGON

We have no choice!

Murtagh looks taken back. Fear grows in his eyes.

MURTAGH

We have to go back and get our horses.

EXT. HADARACK DESERT - DAY

Eragon and Murtagh are ridding their horses over the Hadarack Desert, which continues on to the horizon.

Saphira, carrying a tied down Arya on her back, dives down from the sky and gets closer to the ground.

SAPHIRA (V.O.)

Eragon, something is wrong with her.

EXT. HADARACK DESERT - MOMENTS LATER

Saphira is now landed, sitting on the ground providing shade for Eragon, Arya, and Murtagh.

Arya's face is red and wet with sweat.

MURTAGH

What are you going to do?

ERAGON

I don't know.

Eragon looks around, thinking. Suddenly, his face lights up.

ERAGON

I can connect with animals minds, maybe I can do it with her.

Eragon puts his hand on Arya's forehead and closes his eyes. Suddenly everything get's blurry and distorted. Nothing can be seen but Eragon and Arya.

ARYA (V.O.)
You must get me to the Varden.
There is no time to waste.

ERAGON (V.O.)
How do I get there?

IMAGE SEQUENCE

The IMAGE of a WATERFALL appears. Another IMAGE of a large VALLEY appears and then blurs out.

EXT. HADARACK DESERT - SAME TIME

Eragon and Arya.

ARYA (V.O.)
You must make for the Beor Mountains on the other side of the Hadarack Desert. I only have a few more days left if you do not get me there.

ERAGON (V.O.)
I understand.

ARYA (V.O.)
The Varden must be warned. The fate of Alagaesia is in your hands.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Warned of what?!

Arya does not respond.

Suddenly, everything comes back into view and is in focus.

Eragon gasp for air and falls back onto his back.

MURTAGH
What happened?!

ERAGON
We must hurry!

EXT. HADARACK DESERT - NIGHT

Eragon and Murtagh continue to ride their horses across the Desert.

Saphira glides over top of them with Arya on her back.

EXT. HADARACK DESERT - DAWN

As Eragon and Murtagh ride, the bottoms of huge mountains are revealed in front of them a few miles away.

ERAGON
(Joyfully)
We made it.

Eragon and Murtagh begin to ride even faster.

EXT. BEOR MOUNTAINS - VALLEY - NIGHT

Eragon and Murtagh are riding through the VALLEY.

Murtagh stops and climbs off of Tornac. Eragon stops Snowfire and turns around.

ERAGON
What are you doing?

MURTAGH
Going to sleep.

ERAGON
We must ride through the night. She
won't make it if we stop.

MURTAGH
We will not make it if we don't
stop.

Eragon sighs and climbs off of Snowfire. Saphira lands a few feet away from Eragon and Murtagh.

Eragon walks over to Saphira and climbs on her back.

ERAGON
I'm going hunting. We need food.

Saphira jumps into the air and flies away.

EXT. SKY - NIGHT

Eragon looks down at the ground from Saphira's back. A few moments pass. All is silent.

Eragon seems to be interested in something. He points into the distance.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Get closer to the ground.

Saphira slowly drifts downward. Directly below her is a group of FIVE THOUSAND marching Urgal's and KULL, beast that look the same as Urgal's only much larger.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Hurry, Saphira! We must get back to Murtagh!

Saphira begins to flap her wings, bolting them forward.

EXT. BEOR MOUNTAINS - VALLEY - NIGHT

Saphira, with Eragon and Arya on her back, abruptly lands on the ground in front of a sleeping Murtagh.

Murtagh jumps up to his feet, sword in hand. After a moment, he realizes that it's Eragon.

MURTAGH
What is it?

ERAGON
We must go!

MURTAGH
What?

ERAGON
Quickly!

EXT. BEOR MOUNTAINS - VALLEY - NIGHT

Eragon and Murtagh ride their horses through the Valley quickly. Saphira soars through the air above them, with Arya on her back.

Just ahead of them is a Waterfall, the one in the image Arya showed Eragon.

ERAGON

There!

EXT. VALLEY - WATERFALL - NIGHT

Eragon and Murtagh quickly stop their horses, just in front of the pool of water in front of the Waterfall.

MURTAGH

Why are we here?

ERAGON

This is where Arya told me to go.
The Varden is somewhere around here.

MURTAGH

(Surprised/Scared)
The Varden?

ERAGON

Yes. Now look for an entran-

Suddenly, a giant Kull jumps out of nowhere, sling his AXE at Eragon.

Eragon quickly dodges the Axe and draws Zar'roc.

Saphira jumps into the pool and disappears under the water.

ERAGON

They're here.

Hundreds of Kull and Urgal's begin to flood the Valley, attacking Eragon and Murtagh.

Eragon and Murtagh are pushed back to the edge of the water.

Three Kull run toward Eragon, but right before they get to him Saphira jumps out of the water, growling. The Kull stop in their tracks and begin to back away.

Saphira swings her long neck forward and grabs two of the Kull in her mouth and then throws them into the air.

Saphira jumps into the air, grabbing three Urgal's with her claws, crushing them. She slings their bodies into the crowd of monsters.

Eragon and Murtagh continue to fight, obviously tired.

A Kull jumps on Eragon, sending him flying back into the water. The Kull growls loudly and falls over dead, and ARROW sticking out it's back.

Suddenly, ARROWS begin to fly everywhere, killing the Urgal's and Kull.

Eragon is pulled up onto the shore. He looks around, confused.

Behind him stands ORIK, a dwarf dressed in armor. Eragon looks surprised. Beside Eragon is Murtagh.

He looks in front of him. VARDEN SOLDIERS are fighting the Urgal's and Kull, killing all of them.

Suddenly EGRAZ, a bald man dressed in purple and golden robes, walks up behind Murtagh and puts a knife to his throat.

EGRAZ

You must come with me.

ERAGON

What are you doing?!

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

Egraz leads Murtagh down the hallway, still holding the knife around his neck.

Behind them is Eragon, Saphira at his side. They are surrounded by guards.

Behind Eragon and Saphira is Orik, who is leading Tornac and Snowfire down the Tunnel.

And behind Orik is two Varden Soldiers who are carrying Arya on a large BOARD.

Orik turns and leads the horses down another tunnel.

After a moment, Egraz turns off into a large ROOM.

Egraz stops in the middle of the room, knife still around Murtagh's neck, and motions for Eragon and Saphira to stand in front of him.

ERAGON

The elf, she needs medicine. She's going to die!

EGRAZ

No one will leave this room until
you've been tested!

ERAGON

But she'll-

EGRAZ

Your words are meaningless until
you've been tested!

Suddenly, Orik walks into the room.

ORIK

Don't be a fool, Egraz! Ajihad will
have both our heads if we allow an
elf to die!

Egraz's eyes narrow.

EGRAZ

Very well. Take her to a healer.

The Varden Soldiers carry Arya out of the room.

EGRAZ

Now...prepare to be examined!

Eragon looks straight into Egraz's eyes.

ERAGON

I'm ready.

Orik stands beside Egraz.

ORIK

You better not hurt him, Edgraz.
Else the King will have words for
you.

Egraz looks at Orik, annoyed. And then smiles.

EGRAZ

Only if he resists.

Egraz and Eragon both close their eyes. Egraz holds his
right hand out in front of him and chants our inaudible
words.

Everything but Eragon and Egraz is gone. Eragon winces.

An image of Garrow's dead body flashes by and then
disappears.

An image of Durza sitting in the Jail Cell flashes by and then disappears.

Eragon begins to tremble at the pain. Everything becomes distorted and then everything comes into view.

Eragon falls forward, gasping for air.

Egraz pushes Murtagh forward, where Eragon was just standing.

EGRAZ

You're turn.

Fear grows in Murtagh's eyes. Egraz chants more inaudible words and everything but Murtagh and himself disappears.

Surprise covers Egraz's face. Everything distorts and then becomes clear as everything comes back into view.

Egraz looks around in fear and surprise.

ORIK

What is it?

EGRAZ

Guards! Guards! Take this man away!

ERAGON

For what!?

Egraz points at Murtagh.

EGRAZ

He...he is the son of Morzan, the one who betrayed the Riders to Galbatorix!

Eragon looks shocked and sad. All is silent. Murtagh looks at Eragon sadly.

EGRAZ

Take him away!

Two Varden Soldiers grab Murtagh by the arms and pull him out of the Room.

After a moment, Egraz looks at Eragon.

EGRAZ

You...will go to Ajihad.

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

Eragon and Saphira are following Orik, who is running down a Tunnel.

ERAGON
Where is my horse?

ORIK
Your horse has been taken care of.
You will ride your dragon.

Orik stops at a huge set of double doors, where two Varden Soldiers stand. Orik motions for Eragon to get on Saphira.

Eragon turns and climbs up onto Saphira's saddle. The two Varden Soldiers open the door, revealing a huge crowd of 20,000 VARDEN PEASANTS.

Saphira steps forward and the Peasants begin to cheer loudly.

INT. TRONJHEIM - NIGHT

Saphira walks through the crowd of Peasants toward another large set of double doors on the other side of TRONJHEIM, which is a large CITY inside a mountain.

All over Tronjheim are small HOUSES built out of stone.

INT. AJIHAD'S STUDY - NIGHT

Eragon, followed by Saphira, is walking through Ajihad's study. It is a large, beautiful, book-filled study.

On the far side, where Eragon and Saphira are walking to, there is a large desk and tall and thick man. AJIHAD, a dark skinned man in his late 30's.

Ajihad turns and looks at Eragon and Saphira, who stop in front of his desk.

AJIHAD
Welcome, Eragon.

Eragon nods his head.

ERAGON
Thank you.

There is a long moment of silence. Ajihad looks sad.

AJIHAD

The loss of Brom brings great sadness to my heart. But he did leave something behind. Something that will ensure our success...

Eragon looks confused.

AJIHAD

You.

ERAGON

What do you expect me to accomplish?

AJIHAD

I will explain in full later-now there are more urgent matters. The news of Galbatorix forming an alliance with the Urgal is serious. If Galbatorix is gathering an Urgal army to attack us the Varden will be hard-pressed to survive.

There is a moment of silence.

AJIHAD

For now, you need rest. In the morning, you will train with our Varden Soldiers. I fear the use of a blade will soon be a necessary thing.

Eragon nods and walks away.

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

Outside of Ajihad's Study stands Orik. Eragon and Saphira stop before him.

ORIK

If you'll follow me, I'll show you to where you'll be sleeping.

ERAGON

Thanks you...?

ORIK

Orik.

ERAGON

Orik.

INT. DRAGON HOLD - DAWN

Eragon is sleeping in a small cave-like bedroom. The opening of the cave reveals, a thousand feet down, the city of Tronjheim.

Eragon opens his eyes. Standing in front of him is Orik.

ORIK

If you'll get ready, we'll get you some breakfast and then begin your training. Your dragon can stay here.

Eragon rubs his face and then sits up.

INT. TRONJHEIM - DAY

Eragon and Orik are walking through the large city. Peasants stare at Eragon with smiles.

Mixed in with the Varden Peasants are DWARF WOMAN AND CHILDREN, who seem to be ignoring Eragon.

In front of Eragon is a Woman Peasant with a little BABY GIRL in her hands.

WOMAN

Will you bless this child, Argetlam? There is no one to care for her but me. Please, Argetlam. Bless her for luck!

Eragon looks surprised and confused. A few moments pass.

WOMAN

Bless her, Argetlam, bless her.

Eragon hesitantly puts his palm on the Baby's forehead.

ERAGON

Atra gulia un ilian tauthr ono un atra ono waise skolir fra rauthr.
(Beat)
That is all I can do for her.

WOMAN

Thank you, Argetlam.

The Woman walks away.

INT. TRONJHEIM - DAY

Hundreds of Varden Soldiers are training in a large marked off field. In the background, the small Houses can be seen, people walking all around them.

Eragon walks across the field, Orik in front of him. Eragon bends down to Orik.

ERAGON

Orik.

ORIK

Yes?

ERAGON

That woman...she called me
Argetlam. What does that mean?

ORIK

It means Silver Palm.

Eragon straightens up as they come to the center of the field. Arya is standing there waiting for them.

ERAGON

(Surprised)

You're awake!

ARYA

Thank you, Eragon, for saving me.

Eragon looks at Arya's face, entranced.

ARYA

Shall we begin?

Eragon backs up, drawing Zar'roc from his side. Arya draws a black-handled thin SWORD from her back and holds it out in front of her.

Eragon looks worried.

ERAGON

I don't want to hur-

Arya jumps forward, jabbing her sword toward Eragon's stomach.

Eragon, surprised, jumps back. Arya's sword barely misses him.

Eragon swings Zar'roc at Arya. She quickly hits it aside and swings her sword toward Eragon. Eragon blocks it.

Suddenly, Arya spins her sword around, flinging Zar'roc out of Eragon's hand.

Arya pokes Eragon in the stomach, victorious.

Eragon looks embarrassed. Orik steps up beside Eragon.

ORIK

My King, Hrothgar, wishes to see
you, Eragon.

EXT. HROTHGAR'S THRONE ROOM - DAY

A beautiful THRONE sits at the center of the back of the large, stone THRONE ROOM. In the throne is KING HROTHGAR, an old, small DWARF dressed in beautiful armor. A large beard grows from his face.

On the opposite side of the room is a huge STONE DOOR, which swings open after a moment, revealing Eragon and Saphira, who walk slowly toward Hrothgar.

Both of them stop before the throne and bow.

HROTHGAR

I could not meet with you earlier,
as Ajihad did, because I had to
deal with my enemies in a few of
the dwarf clans. They say I should
deny you and expel you from Farthen
Dur.

ERAGON

I am sorry for the trouble my
arrival has caused everyone.

HROTHGAR

We will soon have greater problems.
War is coming. We must be ready.
You must be ready.

Eragon stands in fear for a moment.

ERAGON

I will be.

INT. DRAGON HOLD - NIGHT

Eragon is lying on the ground beside Saphira. They are both asleep.

Suddenly, a LANTERN comes into view. Holding it is Orik.

Eragon slightly opens his eyes, looking around.

ERAGON

What is it?

ORIK

You and your dragon must come quickly!

ERAGON

Why?

ORIK

Ajihad summons you to Fathen Dur.

Eragon sighs.

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

Eragon and Saphira follow Orik, who is walking very quickly, through the Tunnel

INT. FARTHEN DUR - NIGHT

Six thousand Varden Soldiers and DWARVEN WARRIORS are crowded together.

At the very front of the army is Ajihad, Arya, and Hrothgar.

A few Dwarf Warriors step forward in front of Saphira and Eragon as they walk toward Ajihad and the others.

DWARF WARRIOR

We must take your dragon.

ERAGON

Why?

HROTHGAR

To dress her in the ancient armor

Eragon nods and the Dwarf Warriors walk away, Saphira follows them.

Eragon walks up to Ajihad, fear in his eyes.

ERAGON
What's going on?

AJIHAD
A group of dwarfs spotted thousands
of Urgal's and Kull marching
through the underground tunnels.
They will be here within the hour.

ERAGON
They outnumber us?

AJIHAD
Yes.
(Beat)
We have collapsed the tunnels that
lead to the city of Tronjheim. They
will have no choice but to come
from those tunnels.
(Beat)
Once they come, we must keep them
from ever getting to Tronjheim. If
they get there, they will kill the
woman and children.

Ajihad points into the distance, where large TUNNEL DOORS
are.

Ajihad turns and puts his hand on the shoulder of a MAN.

AJIHAD
Eragon, this Jormunder, my most
trusted advisor and second in
command of the Varden.

Eragon nods.

EXT. FARTHEN DUR - NIGHT

All is silent. The Varden Soldiers look scared.

Eragon, now wearing armor, is standing beside a fully armored
Saphira.

Suddenly, from the Tunnel Doors light begins to flicker. The
loud yells of the Urgal's and Kull can be heard.

Arya looks into the distance, at the Tunnel Doors.

ARYA
(Sorrowfully)
It has begun.

Ajihad looks at the Tunnel Doors.

AJIHAD
(Yelling)
Weapons!

The Varden Soldiers draw their swords and the Dwarf Warriors draw their AXES.

Ajihad, Arya, Jormunder, and Hrothgar draw their weapons.

Eragon climbs on top of Saphira and draws Zar'roc.

A long moment of silence passes and then...the Urgal's charge out of the Tunnel Doors! They run, weapons drawn toward the Varden Soldiers.

Ajihad lifts his sword in the air.

AJIHAD
(Yelling)
Charge!

Ajihad begins to run. The entire army follows him.

Saphira jumps into the air, Eragon on her back, and dives toward the Urgal army.

A moment passes...and then the two armies crash into each other!

Saphira grabs three Urgal's in her claws and throws them into the walls, killing them. She then dives down and grabs two Urgal's in her mouth and crushes them.

From Saphira's back, Eragon hacks at an Urgal with Zar'roc.

Saphira lands, swinging her tail at ten Kull, slinging them into fifteen more Urgal's.

After a moment, Saphira jumps back into the air. A Kull hits Eragon in the chest with a large CLUB, sending Eragon flying into the ground.

Saphira continues to fly upward.

Eragon fights off a few Urgal's.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Saphira, I need you!

Behind Eragon, an Urgal lifts it's sword, ready to drop it into Eragon's head.

Suddenly, a blade hits it's throat, sending it's head flying off.

Eragon turns around, revealing Angela, dressed in a black robe and holding a double-bladed staff sword. Angela smiles and then continues to fight.

Saphira drops down and crashes into a few Urgals and then lands beside Eragon.

Eragon climbs onto Saphira and they take off again, flying high into the air, a flock of ARROWS follow them.

Arya is surrounded by hundreds of Urgal's and Kull. She continues to fight, but looks tired.

Suddenly, Saphira lands beside Arya, crushing five Urgal's.

ERAGON
Get on!

Arya turns and jumps onto Saphira.

Suddenly, a Kull's axe hits Saphira's chest armor, denting it inward. Saphira grows loudly and grabs the Kull in her mouth, crushing him.

Saphira jumps into the air.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Are you alright?

SAPHIRA
I don't know. It hurts to breath.

ERAGON (V.O.)
Can you get us to the dragon hold?

Saphira soars through the air for a moment and then dives down and flies through two large DOORS, revealing Tronjheim.

INT. TRONJHEIM - NIGHT

Saphira lands on the ground.

ARYA

I will go with her. You must stay
and fight.

ERAGON

Thank you.

Eragon jumps off of Saphira and lands on the ground.

Saphira jumps into the air and flies straight up. All around her, implanted into the walls is pure SAPPHIRE, sparkling.

Eragon begins to run toward the two large Doors, holding Zar'roc.

Suddenly, behind him, Tronjheims floor begins to crack.

Eragon stops and turns around.

An AXE bust through the surface of Tronjheims floor. The sound of Urgal's can be heard.

After a moment, the Urgal's begin to climb up through the hole in the floor. Eragon charges toward them, hacking into them with Zar'roc.

INT. FARTHEN DUR - NIGHT

The battle continues to rage.

Hrothgar swings his large Hammar at a few Kull, crushing their armor and killing them.

INT. TRONJHEIM - NIGHT

Eragon is fighting Urgal's as they come through the hole in the ground.

A few minutes of fighting pass and then the Urgal's stop coming through the hole.

Eragon sighs and bends over, breathing heavily. After a moment, he turns and runs toward the two Doors.

Behind him, there is a loud CRACK! Eragon turns around. A dark FIGURE stands in the dust. The Figure steps forward, revealing that it's...Durza!

Eragon gasps in fear.

INT. FARTHEN DUR - NIGHT

Ajihad swings his sword into a Kull, it falls to the ground.
Angela is battling off dozens of Urgal's.

INT. TRONJHEIM - NIGHT

Eragon takes a step back. Durza slowly walks toward him,
drawing his sword.

DURZA
You will die today, Rider.

Durza lifts his sword up and swings it at Eragon. Eragon
pulls Zar'roc up, blocking Durza's blade, but the force
behind the blow sends Eragon back a few feet.

INT. FARTHEN DUR - NIGHT

A Varden Soldier is fighting a large Kull. After a few
moments, the Kull slices the Varden Soldiers head off.

Orik jumps off of a large rock and lands on an Urgal,
sticking his Axe into it's face.

INT. TRONJHEIM - NIGHT

Durza and Eragon continue to fight, Durza obviously winning.
Eragon looks tired and worn.

A moment passes and then Durza steps forward and pushes
Eragon backwards, causing him to trip. Eragon falls to his
knees.

Durza swings his sword and the side of the blade sticks into
Eragon's back.

Eragon lets out a horrible cry of pain.

BEGIN ERAGON'S POV:

Everything is blurry. Durza is smiling. Suddenly, Durza jumps
back as a huge piece of Sapphire hits the ground.

END ERAGON'S POV:

Hundreds of pieces of Sapphire begins to hit the ground.
Eragon looks up, tears in his eyes.

Saphira, with Arya on her back, is flying straight toward the ground.

Suddenly, Saphira opens her mouth and a huge explosion of flames come from it!

Durza ducks and drops to the ground to avoid being hit by the flame.

Eragon grabs Zar'roc of the ground.

ERAGON

Brisingr!

Zar'roc's blade lights up with BLUE FLAMES. Eragon lets out a scream as he sticks it into Durza's heart.

Durza looks down in shock and then lets out a loud cry.

Eragon collapses.

DREAM SEQUENCE

Flashes of light distort everything and then fade out.

Suddenly, a voice is heard.

VOICE (V.O.)

Come to me.

A moment passes. More light flashes and distorts everything.

VOICE (V.O.)

Eragon, come to me.

ERAGON (V.O.)

Who are you?

VOICE (V.O.)

I am the cripple who is whole.

(Beat)

You must trust Arya and go to the Elven Kingdom of Ellesmera.

(Beat)

You have wrought the land of a great evil, Eragon. Many are in your debt.

More flashes of light distort everything.

VOICE (V.O.)
Come to me, Eragon. I have answers
to all you ask.

A moment of silence passes. Eragon's head comes into view,
but nothing else.

ERAGON (V.O.)
I will come.

FADE OUT.

The End