

TRISTAM & ISEULT

Inspired by the medieval love story

Written by

Ben Gillman

Ben Gillman
213-500-8357
BenGillman@gmail.com

FADE IN:

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - OPEN PLAINS - DAY

TRISTAM (20s, handsome and strong) rides furiously over a open plain. He urges his horse, digs his heels, and squeezes the reins.

TRISTAM
Faster. Faster! FASTER!

He looks ahead and sees-

IN THE DISTANCE-

A regal carriage under siege. The beautiful carriage rattles and rocks as its horses charge forward. But-

A half-dozen ragged BANDITS ride along on either side. They scratch and claw at the carriage.

In the front, the DRIVER slumps over. Dead.

Worst of all, up ahead, a cliff grows closer and closer.

ACROSS THE PLAIN-

Tristam watches it all and presses onward.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)
Hang on... I'm on my way...

INSIDE THE CARRIAGE-

A young lady - ISEULT (20s, lovely and determined) - struggles to her feet as the carriage rattles and creaks.

ISEULT
There must be some way to slow this
blasted thing down.

Bracing herself against the careening carriage, Iseult throws the door open.

OUTSIDE THE CARRIAGE-

As Iseult leans out, though, she sees-

The Bandits riding along the carriage and reaching for her.

BANDIT
Take us with you! Please!

The nearest bandit claws at Iseult, but she lurches backward, slamming the door on the man's arm, and sending him tumbling from his saddle.

ON HIS HORSE-

Tristam eyes Iseult. Definitely impressed.

He snaps the reins and the horse adds another burst of speed.

OUTSIDE THE CARRIAGE-

Iseult scrambles onto the roof of her speeding carriage. She reaches the front and examines the slumped driver, his back filled with arrows.

CRASH!

Iseult spins to see a Bandit leap onto the roof with her.

A moment later, another Bandit joins the first.

BANDIT (CONT'D)

Make this easy on yourself, lady.

ISEULT

Love to! You wouldn't happen to want to help me slow these horses?

BANDIT

I think not, lady. We want you to come with us.

ISEULT

Did you really think this was the best invitation?!

She gestures to the murdered driver.

The two bandits draw their weapons and advance.

Iseult lunges and tries to free the driver's sword, but it's stuck. The Bandits reach out for her when-

WHAM!

Tristam collides with one of the bandits and sends the man crashing off of the carriage.

TRISTAM

Worry not! I'm here to save you!

Iseult eyes Tristam. Definitely impressed.

Tristam and the remaining Bandit duel atop the carriage.

Iseult turns her attention back to the rig of spooked horses and reaches for their fallen reins.

CRACK!

Tristam hits the Bandit with a perfect right cross and the Bandit reels off of the carriage. Tristam turns to Iseult.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

I must get you to safety, m'lady!

ISEULT

And I must free the horses first!

Suddenly, the carriage bounces over a large rock. Iseult slams down hard, only barely holding on by seizing and ornamental railing that cracks in her hand.

The remaining three Bandits get into reach.

BANDIT

Take us with you!

The closest Bandit seizes Tristam's cloak. Tristam wobbles, nearly ready to fall off the carriage when-

WHACK!

Iseult cracks the Bandit with the broken railing.

ISEULT

Worry not! I'm here to save you!

Tristam and Iseult both eye each other now. Very impressed.

TRISTAM

I'm duty-bound to see that you're safe.

ISEULT

But the-

TRISTAM

I'll take care of the horses, m'lady. Will you trust me?

They lock eyes. A deep understanding passes between them.

ISEULT

I trust you.

Without another word, Tristam seizes Iseult under the arms, twists, and throws her off the carriage.

Iseult screams, bracing for impact, when-

She lands on the back of Tristam's faithful horse.

TRISTAM

Well done! You've earned yourself a treat after this!

Iseult frowns. *He's talking to the horse, right?*

She twists herself upright in the saddle.

ISEULT

Now, it's your turn. Jump! We'll catch you!

TRISTAM

Get clear! I'll free the horses!

Tristam turns and hacks at the rig for the horses.

Iseult urges her horse level with the lead horse.

The rig breaks free.

Iseult takes hold of the lead horse's bridle and guides the group away.

But the carriage continues on toward the cliff.

BANDIT

Please! We want to go with you!

The remaining two bandits ride after the lone carriage.

Tristam scrambles over the roof. Just as the carriage flies off the cliff, Tristam dives. Fighting to overcome the carriage's momentum, Tristam reaches for the cliff's edge.

He misses.

Tristam disappears into the canyon.

ISEULT

No!

Iseult pulls the horses to a stop. She dismounts. She races to the edge of the cliff and finds-

Tristam hanging on by his fingertips. A few feet down.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

Worry not. I'm here to save you.

Stretching out her arm, Iseult reaches for Tristam. Working together, they begin to drag Tristam back to solid ground.

LATER-

Tristam collapses in the grass. Iseult warily steps up to the cliff's edge. They both look down and see-

There's quite a bit of wreckage below. Including several dead bodies. The last two Bandits' bodies splay garishly.

TRISTAM

What were they after, m'lady?

ISEULT

They knew from the markings on the carriage that I am bound for Lyonesse.

TRISTAM

But, and begging your pardon, m'lady, Lyonesse isn't real.

ISEULT

Oh, it's real, and it's apparently worth dying for.

Tristam falls silent, thinking hard for a few moments.

TRISTAM

Based on the rumors I've heard, as well as assumptions I can make based on geological locations that might fit those rumors, I'm under the impression that Lyonesse would have to be by the sea, and quite a long way to the northwest of here.

Iseult nods. Very impressed.

ISEULT

But I thought that, as of a few seconds ago, you didn't believe that Lyonesse was real.

TRISTAM

If you say it's real, m'lady, then I believe you.

Iseult can't help but grin.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

You still have a considerable journey ahead, m'lady. At least a week, I would say. I think you could use a guide and a protector.

ISEULT

Do you have anyone in mind?

Tristam bows with perfect courtly manners.

TRISTAM

I am Sir Tristam, m'lady, and for as long as you shall have me, I am at your service.

ISEULT

Iseult. Just call me Iseult.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Tristam and Iseult sit together atop the horse. He rides in front. She wraps her arms around him from behind.

EXT. FOREST - CLEARING IN THE TREES - SUNSET

Tristam stokes a small campfire. It crackles and pops and looks positively welcoming. Tristam turns to see-

Iseult emerging from the trees wearing her looser under gown. She's still fully covered, but she looks far more comfortable. She tosses the bundle of her elegant gown aside.

She rubs her hands in front of Tristam's crackling fire.

ISEULT

You got this going very quickly.

TRISTAM

I've trained for this.

ISEULT

You've trained for fire building. You've trained for battling atop careening carriages. Is there anything you're not prepared for Tristam?

TRISTAM

If there is, I'm not aware of it, Lady Iseult.

ISEULT
Just calling me, "Iseult," will do.

TRISTAM
Begging your pardon, m'lady, but I
could never do that. It wouldn't be
proper.

ISEULT
So you've trained in proper
etiquette too, have you?

TRISTAM
I have, m'lady.

ISEULT
How did I possibly end up so
fortunate to stumble upon such an
exemplary knight?

TRISTAM
My king has sent me and all of his
knight's out in search of-

ISEULT
And who is your king?

TRISTAM
King Arthur of Camelot.

Iseult laughs in shock and surprise.

ISEULT
Arthur of Camelot! I didn't just
stumble upon any knight then. I
found the greatest of the great.

TRISTAM
It's not for me to say if I'm great
or not, Lady Iseult-

ISEULT
Just Iseult.

TRISTAM
-But I am duty bound by the oath
that I gave to my king. He sent his
knights out to search for word of
Queen Guinevere and Sir Lancelot.

ISEULT
What's happened to them?

TRISTAM
 (carefully)
 They've disappeared.

ISEULT
 A beautiful queen. A dashing
 knight. I hope they disappeared
 under honorable circumstances.

Tristam falls silent.

Iseult nods. In the flickering firelight, Tristam looks so handsome, so loyal. She smiles at his good-nature.

ISEULT (CONT'D)
 I respect your oath, Sir Tristam.
 And I won't hold you any further. I
 appreciate your service to me, and-

TRISTAM
 But neither would I be permitted to
 leave you, m'lady!

ISEULT
 But you've just told me that you
 have orders from no less than King
 Arthur Pendragon of Camelot.

TRISTAM
 My orders also include helping
 those in need wherever I might
 encounter them. I believe that
 includes you, Lady Iseult.

ISEULT
 Iseult. Just Iseult.

Tristam holds her gaze. *No way, he's going to call her that.*

TRISTAM
 Lady Iseult, could you use my help?

ISEULT
 You don't think I'm capable? I was
 handling those bandits very well on
 my own, if I do say so myself.

TRISTAM
 I think you're very brave, m'lady.
 All the same, I feel duty bound to
 help you. If you'll allow it.

ISEULT
 I'll allow it.

TRISTAM

Excellent. Now, you should get some sleep.

ISEULT

You mean, we should get some sleep, Sir Tristam.

TRISTAM

I assure you, m'lady, I don't need it. I've trained myself to-

ISEULT

You've trained yourself to stay awake for months on end. You can battle for weeks at a time. Never needing sleep. Never enjoying the comforts of a soft bed.

TRISTAM

Not when I've a mission to complete, Lady Iseult.

Tristam stands firm and unwavering.

Iseult circles around him, then after a moment's thought-

She gives Tristam a kiss on the cheek.

He only wavers a little.

ISEULT

I don't know what I've done to deserve you, Tristam. But I am truly glad to have met you.

TRISTAM

And I you, Lady-

Tristam pauses. He tries to just say her name... tries to just say "Iseult." Just lovely Iseult... But he can't...

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

-Lady Iseult.

EXT. FOREST - CLEARING IN THE TREES - NIGHT

Iseult sleeps soundly beside the flickering fire.

Tristam stands guard. He glances at Iseult, and he's taken in by her beautiful features illuminated by the flickering fire light. Tristam drinks in her lovely sleeping visage.

TRISTAM

Whatever it may take, through a storm, through a war, or through hell's fire itself, I will see you to Lyonesse-
 (pause)
 -Iseult.

EXT. VILLAGE - THE NEXT MORNING

As daylight creeps over the land, Tristam and Iseult ride into a small bustling village.

EXT. VILLAGE - CENTER OF THE SQUARE - MOMENT LATER

Tristam ties up his horse and approaches a squat old MERCHANT. Iseult stays a step behind and warily examines the faces of all of the bustling people.

TRISTAM

Pardon me, sir. We're looking for provisions for a long journey ahead of us. Could you-

MERCHANT

Ah! You've come to the right place, my lad! I've got the finest-

Suddenly a stern WOMAN pushes her way in.

WOMAN

-He'll only rob you! My wares are far, far better!

MERCHANT

Pay no attention to the hag!

WOMAN

Hag!? That's not what you called me when we were-

TRISTAM

I'm happy to buy from both of you! I'll need rather a lot of supplies.

MERCHANT

Well, then speak up, lad, what is it you'll be needing?

WOMAN

...mine's better...

TRISTAM

A variety of salted meats, cheeses,
and breads. The longer they can
last the better. A sling for water.
And the lady here could use a
change of clothes.

Tristam gestures to Iseult, still dressed in her under gown.

The Woman wryly takes in Iseult's appearance.

WOMAN

Well done, boy, well done. She'll
fetch a fair price at-

TRISTAM

I'm not- She isn't my- I demand you
take back that insult!

In a flash, Tristam draws his sword.

Several of the Villagers take notice and gather round.

The Woman shoves the Merchant in front of her as a shield.

WOMAN

Take him! Spare me! Strike down
this miserable, wrinkly-

MERCHANT

You weren't calling me miserable
and wrinkly when we were-

TRISTAM

That's enough!

Iseult quickly rushes to Tristam's side.

ISEULT

It's quite all right, Tristam. She
meant no harm, I am sure.

The Woman nods vigorously.

TRISTAM

She insulted you. You're a good and
respectable woman. And my friend.
And I am duty-bound to defend your
honor.

ISEULT

That's very sweet of you, but I'm
sure it was simply a
misunderstanding.

(MORE)

ISEULT (CONT'D)

What with the state of me, she must've thought any number of things.

WOMAN

I'm sorry, m'lady, I'm sorry.

She shoves the Merchant forward.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Maybe you should just buy from him.

She mutters as she stumps away.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

...if I'm lucky maybe you'll show him the pointy end of your sword before you're done.

MERCHANT

I, of course, would be happy to help you. Now, where did you say you were headed?

TRISTAM

Lyone-

ISEULT

-To the north!

Tristam opens his mouth to argue, but Iseult silences him with a look. *Now, is not the time...*

Her eyes dart amongst the men in the crowd and-

Sure enough, a few of them look on with curious intensity.

Iseult takes Tristam by the arm. She calls to the Merchant as they leave.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

My guide and I need to discuss what supplies will exactly be needed. Women's needs, that sort of thing. But we're very interested in your services.

Iseult whisks Tristam away.

Once they're gone, the Merchant and the Woman bicker.

WOMAN

You scared them away!

MERCHANT

Me?! It was your shouting!

WOMAN

My shouting?! You didn't seem to have a problem with my shouting when we were-

EXT. VILLAGE - BEHIND A HUT - DAY

Iseult and Tristam find a quiet place nearby.

TRISTAM

What was the meaning of that?

ISEULT

Our destination seems to be of great interest to a great many people. And that is not great for us.

TRISTAM

He asked me a direct question, I didn't feel comfortable-

ISEULT

And I don't feel comfortable telling people where we're going.

TRISTAM

It's not right to lie.

ISEULT

You are sweet, aren't you?

She smiles softly at him. Tristam blushes a bit.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

But you've agreed to take care of me, is that correct?

TRISTAM

Of course.

ISEULT

So then you agree to do as I ask?

TRISTAM

Yes.

ISEULT

Then in this case, I feel that lying may be necessary. We're in danger, Tristam.

TRISTAM

But-

ISEULT

That's an order, Sir Tristam.

At this, Tristam falls silent. *He follows orders.*

ISEULT (CONT'D)

Now, I think it's best if we find some other place to buy our supplies. I noticed a few of the gathered men took a discomfoting interest in us.

VILLAGER

Oy! You there!

Tristam and Iseult turn to see a small group of men headed in their direction. But the men are walking a little too fast for it to be strictly necessary.

Instinctively, Tristam puts himself between Iseult and the men.

TRISTAM

Is there something I can help you with, gentleman?

VILLAGER

We overheard some of the things you was saying to that man back there. You're headed on some kind of a journey?

TRISTAM

That's right.

VILLAGER

Maybe we can help you with that.

TRISTAM

We'll be just fine on our own. Thank you.

VILLAGER

And who might you be?

TRISTAM

I'm her guide.

VILLAGER

You're just one man. We're six.
What if we got rid of you and we
became her guides?

TRISTAM

I promise you, that wouldn't turn
out well for you.

VILLAGER

Oh, is that right? We'll see about
that!

Suddenly, all six of them spring on Tristam. But-

It's not even close. Tristam twists and muscles through the
group as if they were nothing at all. He uses their own
numbers against them as he ducks fists and sends punches
flying into their own friends.

Although, she tries to conceal it, Iseult is very...
"impressed."

Tristam emerges from the fray and grabs Iseult's hand.

TRISTAM

Come on. Let's get out of here.

ISEULT

You've trained to fight six men at
once too?

TRISTAM

Of course. Am I knight or not?

Iseult smiles. *Boy, she likes him.*

And they take off running.

As they disappear, one of the villagers struggles to his feet
and shouts-

VILLAGER

Please! Take us with you! We want
to go to Lyonesse too!

And the man collapses back into the pile with his friends.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Tristam and Iseult quickly traverse the thick forests. He's drawn his sword and slashes through overgrowth and fallen branches.

Every so often, he stops to try and give Iseult a hand, but she quickly and almost effortlessly scrambles over brush and thoughtlessly stomps through streams.

TRISTAM

We can take a rest, if you like.

ISEULT

Absolutely no need. I have no intention of slowing you down.

TRISTAM

Your footwear isn't exactly made for this kind of travel. Your feet must be killing you. We can stop.

ISEULT

You're doing me a great service, Tristam. I want you to know that I'm up to the challenge.

TRISTAM

I have no doubt. Then I must admit, that I need a break.

ISEULT

Tristam, you don't need to stop on my account.

TRISTAM

I'm not. I'm-
(he struggles to say it)
-I'm lost.

Iseult stares at him in amazement. *Can it really be?! The man who has trained for everything, doesn't know where he is?!*

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

Look, I know every road, river, and mountain from France to Greenland. But memorizing maps can't exactly show every last inch of an untouched forest. I just need a little time to get my bearings.

ISEULT

In that case, I will allow us to take a short rest.

Tristam nods and quickly turns to look around.

As soon as he's not looking, Iseult heaves and nearly bends over double. She all but rips her shoes off and, sure enough, her feet look raw and terrible.

She dunks them into a little stream and gasps in relief.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

Ooooh... Oh yes... That's nice...

Tristam returns. He watches her wiggling her toes for a second and he glows. *He really likes her too...*

TRISTAM

We've got quite a long way to Lyonesse. And there's at least a dozen villages and towns that I can think of between here and there. Do you expect that we'll get the same reception in each of them?

ISEULT

I'm afraid I do.

TRISTAM

I worried as much. What is it that causes such a powerful reaction in these people when they hear about it.

ISEULT

To be honest, I'm not sure. I'm told that it's a breath-takingly beautiful castle. A jewel without compare. I suppose people are drawn to it.

TRISTAM

And what draws you to it?

Iseult falls silent. She'd been hiding this, but now she knows that she can't lie.

ISEULT

I'm to be married.

TRISTAM

Oh...

Now it's Tristam's turn to look uncomfortable. After a moment, he rallies.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

Well, I believe I can keep us to the trees. It'll take longer, but-

ISEULT

It's an arranged marriage. My father, the steward of Cornwall, promised me to King Mark of Lyonesse.

TRISTAM

You owe me no explanation.

ISEULT

I know! It's just that- It's just that, I felt you should know why people might seek me out.

TRISTAM

Of course. Which is why we'll stick to the trees. Fortunately, I've studied what sorts of plants and-

ISEULT

-Berries we can eat! Oooh! I know that one too! You're not the only one who knows things, Sir Tristam.

He laughs. And she laughs along with him. Their momentary discomfort quickly vanishes.

TRISTAM

And we'll have to do something about your feet.

With quick rips of fabric, Tristam wraps up Iseult's feet. Then he slips them back into her shoes.

She thrills at his delicate treatment of her sensitive skin.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

This will help pad your feet, and keep them dry.

ISEULT

Thank you.

She stands and walks for a bit. She looks better already.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

Well, if you've figured out which way to go now, Sir Tristam, I suppose we should continue on our way.

TRISTAM

Very good, Lady Iseult. I have a good idea that we need to head in that direction.

He points off in the distance, and Iseult boldly strides forward into the woods.

As they hike forward, Tristam laughs, and finally admits-

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

For the record, I didn't actually need that break. It was strictly for your benefit.

ISEULT

What?! It was not! You were lost!

TRISTAM

We're just heading northwest. Did you really think I don't know which way northwest is? I only said that because you looked like you were about to fall over.

ISEULT

You didn't! I didn't need a rest, you did!

TRISTAM

If you say so.

ISEULT

Ooooooh!!!

And the two of them laugh and playfully argue as they trudge deeper into the woods.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DAY

Tristam and Iseult emerge out of the forest, making a good pace when-

They come face-to-water with a raging river.

Tristam stands on the unexpected bank, gaping at the clearly unexpected surges of water.

ISEULT

You're not lost, huh?

TRISTAM

I knew the river was here! I just didn't think it was so wide... and fast... and deep...

ISEULT

Do you think we can swim it?

TRISTAM

NO! I mean, no, I don't think that's a good idea.

Iseult grumbles in annoyance.

ISEULT

Tristam, I can do this. I'm an excellent swimmer, you don't have to try to protect me from every-

TRISTAM

There must be an easier way across.

ISEULT

Who knows how far that could be.

TRISTAM

I think we should look.

ISEULT

I am telling you, I can swim this!

Tristam opens his mouth, presumably to continue arguing, when-

There's a rustle behind them.

Suddenly, Tristam tenses. Back at attention. In his element.

TRISTAM

Stay here.

Slowly he traverses into the woods.

AMONGST THE TREES-

He carefully and expertly takes in his surroundings when-

A DIRTY MAN, wielding a thick, knotted tree branch, bursts out of the brush.

Tristam easily defends against the attack. But he's surprised by the wildness and unpredictability of it. Still as he dodges the wild blows, he recedes into-

TRISTAM'S MIND'S EYE

Several thick books flip open. Pages ruffle and turn.

It takes a while to find the right passage.

But finally-

An illustration of a madman (much more wild and deranged looking than the actual man Tristam fights) but it reads-

BATTLING A MADMAN

Take no chances. Take him down quickly.

BACK TO REALITY-

Tristam lunges forward with a decisive strike to take the madman down, but

The Dirty Man dodges it!

It takes Tristam a moment to recompose, but now there's a real fight. Strange. Undisciplined. And no holds barred.

As they fight, they also lob insults at each other-

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

That's quite a smell you've got.

DIRTY MAN

You's got your armor. I's got mine.

TRISTAM

Stand down. I don't want to hurt you.

DIRTY MAN

S'right. You won't be.

TRISTAM

I won't let you have the lady.

DIRTY MAN

And why would I be interested in your lady? Got the most beautiful Lady Olwen of me own, don't I?

TRISTAM

Then why-

And once more, Tristam strikes forward. This time, Tristam catches him, and knocks the Dirty Man on his ass.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

-are you trying to kill me?

From the ground, the man erupts into laughter.

DIRTY MAN

Kill you?! Pig Sty don't wanna kill you? He don't even know you...

TRISTAM

Then why'd you attack?

DIRTY MAN

Thought it'd be fun, didn't I? A good brawl's always fun, I find.

TRISTAM

I don't necessarily agree.

But Tristam extends a hand, and helps the Dirty Man back to his feet.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

I am Sir Tristam. Of King Arthur's court in Camelot.

DIRTY MAN

Pig Sty's me. The Pig Sty Prince, that is. But you can be forgetting the Prince part. Only pig's really hold stock to it. And they's the only ones I'm interested in ruling.

TRISTAM

Well, it's been... interesting... to meet you, Pig Sty.

PIG STY

Aye, and the same to you. It's not too many blokes tromp through my forest and give me knock on my ass.

TRISTAM

(attempting to return the compliment)

Yes, well, I'm glad you enjoyed it. It's not too many men who can sneak up on me as well as you did.

Pig Sty laughs and squeezes Tristam in bear hug.

Tristam nearly chokes from the smell.

When they break apart, Pig Sty points to his bare feet.

PIG STY

It's not most people's feet that makes 'em noisy. It's them's shoes. Pig Sty don't have that problem.

Suddenly something occurs to Tristam.

TRISTAM

You seem to be quite adept in these forests.

PIG STY

That's right, I am. Gots to be, to try and catch up with my Lady Olwen. She dances in the trees and leaves the mud wetter than she found it. Pig Sty's up to the chase, though, and he'll find. Yes, he will.

TRISTAM

Interesting... But I wonder if you might help us first?

BACK AT THE RIVER BANK - MOMENTS LATER

Tristam leads Pig Sty to the river bank where Iseult wait anxiously.

ISEULT

Tristam! Thank goodness! I was worried you had been-

She stops and fully takes in Pig Sty at last. Words fail her.

TRISTAM

This is Pig Sty.

Iseult reels at the smell of him.

ISEULT

Seems an appropriate name.

PIG STY

I likes to bring a bit of me kingdom wherever I roam.

TRISTAM

He's looking for his lady, Olwen, but agreed to give us some advice first.

Iseult stares at him. *How could this man possibly help them?*

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

So what do you think, Pig Sty?
Where's our best chance to cross
it?

PIG STY

Cross it, he says! Why cross it
when it you can ride it?

Tristam and Iseult exchange a glance as Pig Sty laughs.

EXT. RIVER BANK - DOCKS - DAY

A roughly constructed, simple dock juts out into the fast
moving river.

Pig Sty stands in the knee deep water near the edge and talks
to an old grizzled FISHERMAN.

PIG STY

Pig Sty's friends and the Pig Sty
Prince himself would be most
grateful for your humble raft.

Pig Sty gestures over to a rickety old raft that looks like
little more than a few flat pieces of wood bound by string.

The Fisherman grumbles.

FISHERMAN

And why're you so keen for it?

PIG STY

A little cruise. A little water
air. A little relaxation.

The Fisherman spots Tristam and Iseult standing just away
from the water.

FISHERMAN

And who're they? Seems like they'd
be able to get more comfortable
travels, if I'm not mistaken.

PIG STY

Don't worry about who they be-

FISHERMAN

I do worry about it. I've got to
get along with the other men who
rely on this river for our
livelihoods, don't I?

PIG STY

And trust the Prince's word that
we'll be nothing of trouble.

FISHERMAN

I don't trust you. You and your
friends look bad for business to
me.

By now, several other fisherman who had been lounging nearby
take an interest. They abandon their fishing poles and start
to move nearer.

Tristram and Iseult notice and expect a panicked glance.

PIG STY

Now that seem insulting, doesn't
in? And I don't take to insulting,
do I?

Pig Sty gets ready to fight the fisherman who grow closer.

Tristram gets into the water, ready to join in.

But Iseult steps forward.

ISEULT

What about if we give you any fish
that we catch along our ride?

The fishermen just laugh.

FISHERMAN

What a bargain! We can expect you
to deliver a handful of driftwood
and a few globs of mud!

ISEULT

Oh, I don't know-

And she pulls almost out of nowhere one of the abandoned
fishing poles. She raises it out of the water and-

A fish already dangles from the end.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

I think we can do a little better
than that.

Every single man there looks astonished.

EXT. THE RIVER - DAY

Tristam, Iseult, and Pig Sty float peacefully down the river on the rickety raft.

Iseult dangles another line into the water.

Pig Sty roars with laughter.

PIG STY

And then she pulls a fish, she does! And she says, "I's gots your fish rights here, I do!"

Tristam and Iseult laugh along, but less heartily.

In fact, Tristam doesn't look to relaxed at all. He all but forces out the remark-

TRISTAM

It was amazing... Where'd you learn to fish like that?

ISEULT

Growing up in Cornwall, I always preferred to spend time by the sea.

Tristam nods. Still looking quite uneasy.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

As a lady, there weren't too many endeavors of that nature I was permitted to learn. So I took advantage of fishing when I could. I can also slice it open and clean it faster than you can bait a hook.

PIG STY

I's liking to see that. I sure would, wouldn't I?

They all laugh together and float along.

ISEULT

You know you didn't have to come along, Pig Sty. Not that we don't appreciate it! It's just that you said you were looking for lady.

PIG STY

Ah yes! My sweet lady Olwen. Her eyes are as green as the leaves on the trees. Lilies grow in her footsteps.

Iseult beams. It's adorable hearing Pig Sty talk about her.

ISEULT

You could've stayed and looked for her.

PIG STY

Who's to say she isn't where we're going?

ISEULT

But that's impossible. We're going to the other end of land.

PIG STY

And she very well might be there.

ISEULT

You mean, you don't know where she is?

PIG STY

Pig Sty does not. But he keeps his eyes open, doesn't he? She's always leaving clues for him. The world has a way of always leaving clues for where we're meant to be.

Pig Sty happily hums as he steers the raft.

Iseult crawls over to where Tristam sits. She speaks to him in low tones.

ISEULT

I don't know about you, but I'm not sure this Olwen really exists.

TRISTAM

Mmmm hmmm.

ISEULT

I mean, it's all rather strange, isn't it? Sweet, but strange.

TRISTAM

Mmmm.

ISEULT

Tristam, are you all right?

TRISTAM

Hmmm? Perfectly.

ISEULT
What is it?

The raft suddenly rumbles. Tristam grasps hold tightly.

ISEULT (CONT'D)
It's nothing, just a little rough
water.

TRISTAM
I know. I know that. I know.

Iseult fixes Tristam with a hard gaze. *What's wrong with him?*

Then rather unkindly, Iseult gives Tristam a hard shove.

He actually shrieks and grabs hold of the raft more tightly.

ISEULT
You're afraid of the water!

TRISTAM
What?! I am not!

ISEULT
You are too!

TRISTAM
I am not afraid of-

The raft rocks uneasily again, and Tristam holds tightly.

ISEULT
Oh my goodness! How is this
possible? The great Tristam who's
trained for everything!

TRISTAM
I have- I just- I learned to swim
in a moat. I practiced in a lake.
I'm not used to it moving so much.

Iseult giggles. *This is absolutely adorable! And there's no way she'll let him live it down anytime soon...*

ISEULT
Don't worry, brave Sir Tristam-

And suddenly she dives into the water!

Tristam gasps.

But she emerges seconds later and easily swims alongside the raft.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

-I'm a strong enough swimmer to
keep you safe!

In the softly sparkling water, Iseult is a vision. Tristam gazes at her and grins ear to ear.

They lock eyes.

It's beautiful.

Until it's interrupted by-

PIG STY

Hoooo-yyyeeeee!!

SPLASH!

Pig Sty cannonballs into the water. He playfully splashes around and plays with Iseult. She laughs and splashes back.

Tristam shakes his head.

TRISTAM

I'll just steer then, shall I?!

EXT. THE RIVER - LATER

The three of them lounge about on the raft. Tristam mans the rudder and expertly guides the raft along the river. Iseult suns herself as she dries. Pig Sty slices open a few fish, and tosses the guts into the water.

ISEULT

I'm impressed at your skill with the fish too, Pig Sty. I would never have imagined catching them with my hands.

PIG STY

Ay, it's amazing, ain't it, what the world can teach you, if you're just willing to listen.

Tristam nods.

ISEULT

Tristam has already learned everything there is to know.

TRISTAM

I have not, my lady.

ISEULT

And what is you've learned of late?

TRISTAM

To steer a boat down a winding river.

PIG STY

And a most excellent and wild skill it is for you, isn't it?

ISEULT

And here I thought you were just enjoying yourself.

TRISTAM

I am. I enjoy learning new things very much. Where did you learn to catch fish like that?

He gestures to the fish that Pig Sty is working with.

PIG STY

My sweet Olwen. She teaches me many things in our many games.

ISEULT

Good, sweet Olwen.

TRISTAM

But you know plenty about fish too? You seemed to impress those fisherman a ways back.

ISEULT

Ah, the simple life in Cornwall-

PIG STY

-ah, the simple life, indeed-

ISEULT

We didn't have much in my hometown. Just enough to get by. We were often hungry. Living a meager, simple existence. So we had to make do with what we had. Be clever. And resourceful.

TRISTAM

And make certain deals?

It's almost slipped out without Tristam meaning to say it.

Iseult nods and it almost slips from her too.

ISEULT

Yes.

(quickly rallying)

But my people are a good people.
And I have a duty to them. Brave
Sir Tristram you are quite a
believer in a person's duty, are
you not?

TRISTAM

I am.

They both have a hint of sadness in their voices as they gaze upon each other. But they finally shake away.

ISEULT

Pig Sty! Actually, I can't keep
calling you that, you must tell us
your real name.

PIG STY

(with a grimace)

Aye, Pig Sty is my real name. Why
can't a name be real just cuz it's
been given by one's self?

ISEULT

Your birth name then.

Pig Sty grimaces and then as if he's coughing it out-

PIG STY

Cuhlwch! Ugh! And let that be the
last time that sound gurgles from
me throat.

ISEULT

It's not that bad. Surely, Olwen
doesn't like to call you Pig Sty.

PIG STY

Ah, but she does. She whispers it
on the winds. She writes it in the
stars, she does.

ISEULT

When was the last time you saw your
Olwen?

PIG STY

Why last night, didn't I?

Both Tristram and Iseult look with some surprise.

PIG STY (CONT'D)

In Pig Sty's dreams. Her cousin
Oberon placed blew them in my ear,
so I could see my Olwen's vision.

Iseult and Tristam exchange a glance, and share a good
natured shrug. *What can you say to that?*

Finally, Pig Sty offers a piece of the raw fish to Iseult.

PIG STY (CONT'D)

For the lady who paddles with the
fishes with me.

Iseult looks at it warily.

ISEULT

It's uncooked.

PIG STY

Ain't that the way of the world.
Trust me, my Olwen taught me-

ISEULT

-taught you how. Why not?

She takes the fish and, without hesitation, pops it in her
mouth. By the look on her face, she's pleasantly surprised.

Pig Sty offers a piece to Tristam.

TRISTAM

Uh... no...

ISEULT

And I thought you said you enjoyed
learning new things!

PIG STY

Ha! Iseult stole the words right
out of Pig Sty's brains!

ISEULT

Come on, Tristam. Give it a try.

He shrugs and, with a bit of wince, he pops the fish into his
mouth. It's clear by the look on his face, he's expecting the
worst, but-

After a few chews, he smiles.

They all laugh together.

And grin.

And float on down the river.

EXT. THE RIVER - FISHER'S STOP - DAY

Both Iseult and Pig Sty slumber on the little raft.

But Tristram stays awake and alert. Yet he keeps stealing glances at the sleeping Iseult.

FISHERMAN (O.S.)
Hey! You there!

Jolting out of his stupor and looking ahead, Tristram sees-

DOWN THE RIVER

A new group of fisherman gathers around makeshift docks. They wade out into the soft currents and wave at Tristram.

ON THE RAFT

Tristram continues steadily. He shakes Iseult and Pig Sty awake. She spots the gathered Fisherman.

ISEULT
This'll be other outpost. They'll
be wanting us to stop.

TRISTAM
We've got a long way to go before
we reach the sea.

PIG STY
They may be wanting to keep us from
getting there, mayn't they?

Everyone on the raft nods.

But Tristram holds the crude rudder steady. Iseult and Pig Sty look on edge.

TRISTAM
Everyone be ready. We're going to
go right on through.

Up ahead, the Fishermen stand waist deep in the waters. They look on expectantly as the raft approaches.

As Tristram, Iseult, and Pig Sty reach the Fishermen they keep floating right on by, but-

FISHERMAN
Oy! Pull ashore there!

ISEULT

We'll just continue on a bit
further!

A couple of the Fisherman wade far enough out to grab at the
raft in the slow moving waters.

FISHERMAN

This is our river! You can't pass
on by without our permission!

But Pig Sty shoves them aside.

PIG STY

Don't worry, mates. We's got your
payments here, for yous!

And Pig Sty tosses a net full of fish to the Fisherman.

The men stumble backward at the load.

In moments, they've floated past the Fisherman who shout
angrily after them.

FISHERMAN

Come back here! That's our river!

But the Fisherman quickly shrink back into the distance.

TRISTAM

Well, that wasn't too bad.

FISHERMAN

(calling from behind)
You haven't any idea where you're
going?!

ISEULT

(ignoring them)
I'm sure they won't mind us
trespassing a bit further down
their peaceful river.

EXT. THE RIVER - THE RAPIDS - DAY

But the river quickly turns much more violent.

The meager raft rocks and sways roughly as it fights its way
through white water rapids.

Pig Sty steers the rudder now.

PIG STY

Hold tight, chap and chappie! Pig
Sty'll get us through the splash!

Pig Sty actually seems to be enjoying the ride.

But Tristram holds on for dear life. Terror etches over his normally calm, impassive face. Each spray and splash chills him with more than just cold water.

Iseult tries to crawl over to him.

ISEULT

Worry not, sweet Tristram. We've got
a guide who learned from Poseidon
himself. Right, Pig Sty?

PIG STY

Hoooo-yyyeee!!

Tristram boldly forces a tentative smile, when-

The raft hits its large surge yet.

And Tristram tumbles into the water.

The brave knight struggles against the water as best he can. He forces his head to the surface, and spits out mouthfuls of water. But it's far too wild for him.

Pig Sty leaps to his feet, prepared to dive in, but-

ISEULT

No! If you go in, I can't steer the
raft.

PIG STY

But, m'lady-

ISEULT

I've got him!

Without hesitation, Iseult leaps into the water.

She fights her way through the rough waters. With a powerful stroke, she cuts through the rapids until she reaches Tristram.

He's nearly slipping under the waters. And he's certainly panicking, which is the most dangerous thing of all.

Until Iseult slips her arms around him from behind.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

Worry not, my sweet Tristam. I've got you.

He visibly calms.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

Now, I'm sorry to say, but we've got to ride out these rapids. We've no chance of getting back to the raft. But put your feet forward. Let the water take you where it will. Trust the river.

TRISTAM

I don't trust the river. But I trust you.

She gives him a warm squeeze.

ISEULT

We'll get through this together.

TRISTAM

Together...

And the two of them float through the rough waters. They bounce off of rocks, yet continue on. They duck under tree limbs, yet continue on. They dip beneath whirlpools, yet they continue on.

Together.

Finally, they emerge from the rapids, and the waters calm.

As the river slows and water deepens-

ISEULT

There now, you can swim in this. It's slow and deep again.

Tristam nods and the two of them breast stroke side-by-side in the waters. He quickly steadies his breath.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

I'm quite impressed, Sir Tristam. Consider this successful training.

Tristam laughs. And Iseult laughs along with him.

They gaze at each other when-

PIG STY

Hooooo-yyyeee!

SPLASH!

Pig Sty leaps in beside them. And the raft floats along nearby.

EXT. THE RIVER - THAT NIGHT

Beneath a blanket of twinkling stars, the raft continues down the river. Once again, Tristam mans the rudder.

Iseult and Pig Sty snooze peacefully.

And in her blissful sleep, Iseult doesn't see that-

Tristam stares at her with unabashed desire. He drinks in the peaceful way her eyes dance behind her eyelids. He studies the soft parts of her cheeks, and even finds the delicate imperfections of age and weathering.

He recedes into-

TRISTAM'S MIND'S EYE

The many book lie open. The pages flutter and turn.

But they ultimately come up with-

A KNIGHT MUST RESPECT A PROMISED LADY

BACK TO REALITY

Finally, he tears his gaze away. *He's got to stop this...*

But then something catches his eye in the water.

Tristam looks over the side of the raft and sees-

The softly whirling water. It spins into pools. It dances and entices and-

He sees a vision of Iseult's face. Beautiful, serene, inviting. Tristam leans toward it. He gets closer and closer. His face moves inches away from the surface of the waters. Centimeters. Millimeters.

The vision of Iseult reaches out her hands to him.

It's about to grab his face and draw him into a kiss when-

A hand grabs Tristam's shoulder and pulls him backward.

Tristam snaps out of his trance and turns to see Pig Sty.

PIG STY

Nymphs of the river. Sneaky little sprites, don't they be?

TRISTAM

Did you see what I- I mean, they didn't show you-

PIG STY

Pig Sty sees 'em for what they is. Tricksters, aren't they? They only show you your worldly desires, don't they?

TRISTAM

They didn't show you Olwen?

Pig Sty just smiles a wry smile. Tristam thinks he understands. *Olwen's not exactly worldly...*

PIG STY

Don't be hard on yourself, Tris. The world ain't exactly easy to turn your back on, is it?

TRISTAM

I try. It's my duty. It's what I've dedicated my life to. A life of service. A life of knighthood. But I just don't know if I can ever- Can you teach me to ignore the desires of the world?

PIG STY

Not something you can just learn, is it? It's something you just do.

TRISTAM

Is it hard?

PIG STY

'Tis. But my Olwen shows me rewards too.

Tristam shakes his head. *Pig Sty can be frustrating sometimes.*

PIG STY (CONT'D)

Get some dreams, Tris. You've still got plenty of full days ahead.

Tristam looks at him with confusion.

Pig Sty gestures to the empty front of the raft.

PIG STY (CONT'D)
Sleep. I'll steer the ship.

 TRISTAM
Oh!

Tristam nods and scrambles to the front of the raft. He's careful not to get too near to Iseult as he settles down on his back. The raft rocks. And Iseult turns on her side. Her face to him.

Tristam looks. But only for a moment.

Then he turns his head away. Closes his eyes. And slips away into his dreams.

EXT. SEA DELTA - DAY

At the mouth of the river, where it finally flows into the sea, Tristam and Pig Sty pull the raft up onto the sea bank.

Several feet ahead of them, Iseult stands and absent-mindedly wrings out the hem of her dress from the sea water.

But she looks up the shore line where, several kilometers ahead-

IN THE DISTANCE

A grand gorgeous castle stands on the edge of a cliff, high above the crashing sea below.

AT THE DELTA

Tristam steps up beside Iseult.

 TRISTAM
Lyonesse.

 ISEULT
We made it.

But there's no particular joy in either of their voices.

 PIG STY
Well now, that's a peculiar sea
rock, if ever I laid eyes on a
peculiar sea rock.

Tristam and Iseult snap out of it as Pig Sty moves toward them. Tristam turns and shakes Pig Sty's hand.

TRISTAM

It is that indeed, my good friend.
Thank you for helping us reach it,
Pig Sty. You truly are a Prince.

PIG STY

It's nothing at all. I'm quite sure
it's what my Olwen would've wanted.

TRISTAM

Well, I think we owe you payment of
some kind. I have some gold that-

ISEULT

You mean, he's not coming with us?!

But Tristam and Pig Sty turn to her with some surprise. But
their shock is nothing compared to her own.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

He's certainly proven himself
trustworthy. I'd say he's earned a
hot meal or two. If that's what he
wants, of course.

She turns to Pig Sty who smiles as he looks up to the castle.

PIG STY

I've never had much use for stones
on top of stones, but I must admit
some roasted fish bones and a
twisted grape or two would suit me
just fine.

ISEULT

It's settled then. The three of us
have come this far together. We'll
go the rest of the way.

And Iseult marches up the beach, making her way toward the
grand castle of Lyonesse.

Pig Sty grins at Tristam.

PIG STY

Might as well enjoy it for every
last moment we can, right, mate?

And Pig Sty jogs after Iseult.

Tristam nods.

And follows.

EXT. LYONESSE - STONE BRIDGE - SUNSET

As the sun dips closer and closer to the sea, Tristam, Iseult, and Pig Sty trudge along a stone bridge as they close in on the front gates of Lyonesse.

Up close, the castle looks even more glorious than far away. It's constructed with a shimmering white stone that seems to glow in the quickly approaching twilight. Multiple spiralling towers stand out against the pink hues of the sky.

There doesn't seem to be a flaw in the whole thing.

As the trio gets closer, however-

VOICE

Halt! Do not take another step
closer! I say, who comes there?!

The deep booming voice makes it clear this is no one to mess with.

Tristam looks up to the battlements that stand just above the mighty front gates. A handsome but stern, dark-skinned guard (PALAMEDES) is silhouetted against the sky.

Tristam looks to Iseult, and they exchanged a wary glance. But she nods.

TRISTAM

My name is Sir Tristam. I come from
King Arthur's Court in Camelot. I
bring with me- I mean, I present
the lady- I mean, my travelling
companion is-

ISEULT

I am Lady Iseult. And I am here to
marry King Mark.

Pig Sty does a double take. *How did I miss that?!*

PIG STY

Pig Sty Prince! I'm here for the
food!

There's a stoney silence from atop the gates. Then some indistinct mumbling then-

The grand gates rumble and crack open.

In moments, they stand wide, and-

A dashing handsome man with a perfectly maintained beard, smooth wavy hair and a smile as wide as his wide open arms strides out toward them.

The regal cape on his shoulder and the golden crown on his head make it clear that this is KING MARK.

KING MARK

My dear Lady Iseult! Thank the heavens above! I wasn't sure we'd ever have the honor of your presence!

An entire PROCESSION OF PEOPLE follows on King Mark's heels.

King Mark calls to his followers.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Oh happy day, Lady Iseult has arrived!

There isn't a person who doesn't whole-heartedly cheer.

ISEULT

My lord, you're too kind.

KING MARK

Nonsense!

King Mark wraps Iseult in a tight hug. He plants a kiss on each of her cheeks.

Tristam looks away. *He's never had the guts to do what King Mark did in the first two seconds of seeing Iseult.*

King Mark spins to Tristam who bends his knee to bow.

TRISTAM

At your service, my lord-

But King Mark pulls Tristam into an equally warm hug. And plants the same kisses on Tristam's cheeks.

KING MARK

Enough with that nonsense! I am at your service, Sir Tristam. You have delivered the world to me, and I will strive with every breath I have to deliver it back to you.

TRISTAM

I-I-I-

PIG STY

I wouldn't say no to some warm
bread and strong cup of anything
strong.

King Mark beams at the strange figure of Pig Sty. And then bellows out a rich, resonant laugh.

KING MARK

A celebration!

Once again the entire procession erupts into a cheer.

Tristam and Iseult catch each other's eyes. *Have you ever seen anything like this man or this place?*

King Mark takes Iseult's hand and raises it into the air. And he slaps an arm around Tristam's shoulders.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Come, my friends. Let us celebrate
your arrival until the sun comes
back to us. And then we'll drink a
toast to that!

INT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - NIGHT

A celebration roars all through the massive and unbelievably elaborate square of Lyonesse.

Wine flows plentifully. Delicious food is passed around. Loud raucous music plays. Men and women dance exuberantly. Tall fires crackle and pop and seem to dance along.

King Mark guides Tristam, Iseult and Pig Sty through the crowd.

Tristam gazes around in amazement. *Is it just him, or is every single person here heart-stoppingly gorgeous?*

KING MARK

First things first... Iseult, we
must send word to your father. He
must know that you've arrived
safely at last.

King Mark snaps his fingers and-

The tall slender man from the gates steps up alongside him. He's bald and well-muscled. His skin is dark and exotic. One look at him, and Tristam knows that this man is someone to be taken seriously. This is PALAMEDES.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Palamedes, recall your search parties. We have my wonderful friend, Tristram, to thank for the safe return of my beautiful Iseult.

King Mark playfully winks at Tristram.

Palamedes nods dutifully. King Mark addresses him once more.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

And send a message to Cornwall. Laden with supplies. Food. Wine. Gold. Let them know that since they have shared their treasure with me-

He smiles at Iseult.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

-they shall never want for treasure again themselves.

Palamedes bows and hurries off.

ISEULT

My lord, you do me-

KING MARK

Please, call me "Mark." And I shall call you "Iseult." We're all the best of friends now.

ISEULT

I haven't succeeded in getting Tristram to call me simply "Iseult" yet. I doubt you'll be able to get him to call you "Mark."

TRISTAM

No. Absolutely not. King Mark.

KING MARK

Nonsense! A challenge is something I will never turn down! My hope is that by the end of the night there will be no secrets between us. And there will be nothing we hold back from one another.

Tristram avoids King Mark's gaze. *There's no way.*

KING MARK (CONT'D)
 But first you must get yourselves
 cleaned up. You've had a long
 journey, and-

He pats Pig Sty on the shoulder.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
 -Pig Sty seems to have discovered
 new and exciting smells to test the
 senses!

PIG STY
 My sweet Olwen likes Pig Sty's
 smells.

King Mark just laughs. He snaps his fingers and stern-looking
 maid steps forward. She is BRANGAINE.

KING MARK
 Brangaine will show you to your
 chambers, my lady Iseult. She'll
 get you anything you need.

ISEULT
 Thank you, King-

But King Mark fixes her with a playfully stern gaze.

ISEULT (CONT'D)
 Thank you, Mark.

He laughs and bows to her with a courteous flourish.

With a quick backward glance, Iseult follows after Brangaine,
 and the two women disappear into the crowd.

King Mark gazes after her.

He places an arm around Tristam once more.

KING MARK
 I cannot thank you enough, my
 friend. You've given me a treasure
 beyond compare.

TRISTAM
 She truly is. And it's my pleasure
 to bring her to you, my lord.

But he certainly doesn't seem to mean it.

INT. LYONESSE - TRISTAM'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

As the sounds of celebration rage outside, Tristam gazes around his luscious chambers. The bed looks soft and inviting. The furniture all seems to be carved from marble.

He finds a large tub filled with steaming hot bubbling water.

Tristam dips his hand in. *Heaven!*

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Iseult's hand similarly swirls her own enticingly warm waters.

She pulls the string on the back of her filthy torn under dress and it falls away.

Naked and exhausted, she slips into the soapy bath.

INT. LYONESSE - TRISTAM'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Equally exhausted and wretched, Tristam's naked body slides down into his own bath

Instantly, the dirt and grime melts away. He ducks his matted head under.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Iseult emerges from the surface of her bath. Her long blonde hair drips.

And her face clears up.

Patches of clean, glimmering skin shine through.

INT. LYONESSE - TRISTAM'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Tristam's naked flesh also emerges from its layer of filth as the long toil of the adventure melts away.

As he soaks and rejuvenates, Tristam's eyes drift toward the ceiling.

He seems to be thinking about one thing.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

And Iseult seems to be thinking about him too.

INT. LYONESSE - PIG STY'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Pig Sty just stares at the bath in disgust. Total disgust.

This is so not for him.

He steps over to his window and looks out onto the square where-

The celebrations continue wildly.

Pig Sty shakes his head as he looks around until he spots-

A large roasted turkey being shared by all.

Pig Sty licks his lips. *A free meal is a free meal!*

He splashes a little water on his face. Just the minimum amount to be called a wash and-

He heads out, nearly as filthy as he was before.

INT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - NIGHT

Immaculately clean and dressed in warm flattering robes, Tristam works his way through the celebration, but he's never seen anything like this before.

The square is lined by statues of mermaids and towering sea gods with tridents. Long trays of mouth-watering food are passed around freely. Multi-colored fires cast shades of light that make the revellers appear to have skin of green, blue, and red.

And everywhere the people laugh, smile, and dance.

Several times Tristam passes couples who dance so closely that it's difficult to tell where one ends and the other begins. Lips press firmly upon lips - and other places.

Tristam inadvertently stares at one couple whose hands roam freely and wildly over every inch of each other's bare flesh.

As he does so-

He bumps into a woman.

Tristam spins and quickly sputters an apology.

TRISTAM
I'm-I'm so so sorry-

But his words fail him.

She's the most beautiful woman he's ever seen. Long wild hair that reaches down to her waist. Alabaster skin. Round, shimmering eyes that seem to be gazing at him with just as much lust and amazement as him.

And to Tristam's surprise, the heavenly creature exclaims-

ISEULT
Tristam!?

TRISTAM
Lady Iseult?!

They both gaze upon each other in amazement. They've never seen each other like this. When they were on the road they were always wearing rags and filthy. Tangled hair. Dirt encrusted. Ragged clothes.

Now they're clean. Shaved. Dressed in silk.

Wow...

After probably a few more moments than they should, Tristam and Iseult tear their gazes from one another. They regain their composesures.

ISEULT
Can you believe this place?

TRISTAM
No. Camelot was grand. But nothing compared to this...

ISEULT
And I must say, Sir Tristam, you clean up quite well yourself.

TRISTAM
Thank you, my lady. But I'm nothing compared to- I mean, you're a vision.

Even in the flickering flames of the many fires, it's clear that Iseult blushes.

BRANGAINE (O.S.)
There you are, Lady Iseult!

Suddenly, the stern face of Brangaine emerges through the crowds. A playful hand reaches for the stern maid, and really she's just as attractive as anyone, but Brangaine slaps it away. Not amused.

BRANGAINE (CONT'D)

I thought that I had lost you. It is quite a crowd. You must stay close to me. Or I worry I will never find you again.

ISEULT

I'm sorry, Brangaine. It's just so much to take in.

TRISTAM

There are some truly astonishing sights.

BRANGAINE

Yes. Lyonesse strives to be a jewel the likes of which this world has never seen. Come this way, and I'll show you where we can eat and drink.

Brangaine guides them a little bit again, but-

Iseult suddenly turns, grabs Tristam's hand and darts into the crowd.

AMONGST THE CELEBRATION

Tristam and Iseult marvel at a FIRE EATER and a CONTORTIONIST.

IN ANOTHER CORNER

They laugh as a TRAINER commands his CHIMERA to do tricks.

IN A FEASTING HALL

They drink tall foaming cups of... something... It's unlike anything they've ever tasted before and they come away sputtering and laughing and stumbling a bit.

IN THE GRAND SQUARE

Amongst the throng of people, Tristam and Iseult dance. They leap and frolic and bounce exuberantly with the wild music.

Suddenly, the music changes.

A slow love song.

All of the people couple up. Everyone finds a partner.

And without a word-

Iseult takes Tristam's hands and puts them around her waist. At first, he pulls back. He opens his mouth to protest, but Iseult simply purses her lips together, not even making the noise of the "shh" and Tristam stays silent.

He takes her in his arms.

And they dance.

Tentatively, at first. Slowly. Awkwardly.

But then they find a simple rhythm.

They pull slightly closer.

Intertwine a little deeper.

Their movements sink up. One fluid motion. One comfortable rhythm. One intimate connection.

Tristam studies Iseult's face. Glories in it.

ISEULT
What're you doing?

TRISTAM
Learning.

ISEULT
Learning what?

TRISTAM
Everything...

He gazes into Iseult's eyes. She stares transfixed back into his. One moment stretches into two and then another two.

Iseult tilts her head up ever so slightly.

Tristam inches toward her.

But then he suddenly pulls away.

He breaks apart from her, looking terrified, shaken, aghast.

Tristam gives Iseult a quick bow of his head and then turns and disappears into the crowd.

Iseult watches him go. Anguish on her face.

INT. LYONESSE - HALLWAYS - NIGHT

Tristam rushes through the hallways, shaking his head and muttering to himself.

TRISTAM

What was I doing? I could've- I supposed to be a knight! I have a duty to-

KING MARK

Good Sir Tristam!

Tristam spins to see King Mark striding toward him, with only the slightest of a stumble.

The friendly king's nose is a little red, and his eyes are a bit shiny, but he wraps an arm around Tristam and only spills a little of drink as he does so.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

And just where do you think you're going, my friend?

TRISTAM

I was headed to my chambers, King Mark.

KING MARK

Just Mark is perfectly fine, my dear young man.

TRISTAM

I couldn't possibly-

KING MARK

Nonsense! Nonsense to here and back again. I have a feeling that you are capable of some truly astounding things, Tristam.

This leaves Tristam with nothing to say.

King Mark doesn't seem to notice as he hiccups.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Come! Have another drink with me.

TRISTAM

I'm really very tired.

KING MARK

Take a walk with me then. The sea air will do you good.

(MORE)

KING MARK (CONT'D)

You look positively shaken, my boy.
What's gone wrong? Where's Iseult?

Once again, Tristram can't find words. His guilt seems written all over his face.

And once again, King Mark continues rolling on.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Nevermind, we'll find her later.
Come, come. I want to show you
something.

Tristram waffles, but he seems to know that he can't escape.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE SEA WALL - NIGHT

Atop the highest point of the castle, Tristram and King Mark stare out at the sea. They stand on a long sea wall, and-

It's a looooong way to the rocks below.

Tristram looks down and sees-

Devastating waves barraging the lower levels of the castle.

KING MARK

Amazing, isn't it?

TRISTAM

How does the castle withstand the
waves, my lord?

KING MARK

Stop it with that! I'm not your
lord. I'm not your king. I'm just a
man who had a dream.

TRISTAM

And you've done remarkably.

KING MARK

It wasn't easy. I made deals with
mermaids for the Atlantean stone
that fortifies these walls. That's
how the castle stands.

TRISTAM

Ingenious.

KING MARK

Not only that, but they allow the force of the waves to flow into the castle. They power everything. They make this perfect city possible.

TRISTAM

It's truly incredible, King Mark.

KING MARK

I wanted to make one perfect place in all this world. True, not everyone can live here. I can't give it to everyone. But for those fortunate enough to join us... They can be happy. They can live lives of joy and glory. That's a good thing, isn't it?

King Mark ends on a quiet, solemn note. Quite unlike him.

Tristam nods. Then, even though he seems uncertain, he adds-

TRISTAM

But then, respectfully, my lord, why don't you seem happy?

A grin spreads across King Mark's slightly drunk face.

KING MARK

Ah, but I am. And it's all thanks to you, my dear knight. For you've brought me the one thing I've desired for so long, but haven't been able to find time for.

Tristam's head falls. *He so doesn't want to hear this.*

KING MARK (CONT'D)

You've brought me a wife.

TRISTAM

It was my duty. Nothing more.

KING MARK

Nonsense! And nonsense again! You needn't have brought her all this way! You needn't have done me such a great service!

TRISTAM

I did. I am a knight. I am bound to life of service.

(MORE)

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

And I am happy to have been able to give this service to you, King Mark.

King Mark lets out his deep resonant bellow of a laugh, and once more wraps his arm around Tristam.

KING MARK

And I would like to give a service to you in return, Tristam. Anything you want, and it is yours. Anything in the world. Anything your heart desires. Anything! Just ask.

Tristam falls silent for a long moment. *Can he do it?*

And then he asks, rather meekly-

TRISTAM

I could use more wine.

King Mark bellows with approval.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - THE NEXT MORNING

Iseult wakes up. Brangaine enters and bustles around.

She throws open the curtains, and sunlight pours in. Iseult groans at the intrusion.

BRANGAINE

And where did you get to, I might ask?

ISEULT

I- I simply wanted to explore.

BRANGAINE

You certainly must have. I looked all over for you. I search the dining halls. And the zoos. And the coliseums. And the-

ISEULT

You must have just missed me at several of them. I admit I was so enthralled, I lost track of time and where I was.

BRANGAINE

Yes. It seemed like you did.

Iseult studies Brangaine's inscrutable face.

The maid seems to be an inconveniently sharp woman.

ISEULT

It is an amazing castle.

BRANGAINE

Thanks to our amazing king.

ISEULT

Yes. King Mark is... I've never met another man like him.

BRANGAINE

You would've done well to spend your time with him. But I suppose you had quite the evening as it was.

ISEULT

No. No, the night was... uneventful.

INT. LYONESSE - TRISTAM'S CHAMBERS - DAY

Tristam also rises. He stirs somewhat groggily, gets out of bed and goes in search of some food.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - DAY

Tristam explores the Grand Square and sees the aftermath of all of last night's festivities.

Some people continue to sip wine, although they look the worse for the wear.

A few people slumber at odd angles and in deserted corners.

Tristam spots someone lurking in a nearby alleyway.

VOICE

Psst! Tristam, over here!

A bit warily, Tristam ducks into-

THE ALLEY-

And Tristam finds himself face-to-face with Pig Sty.

TRISTAM

Pig Sty! I was wondering what happened to you? I thought you got lost in the crowd.

But Tristram looks Pig Sty up and down. The Pig Sty Prince is just as filthy as ever. And a quick whiff confirms that he smells no better. Tristram holds back a gag.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

I see you haven't lost your odor, though.

PIG STY

Aye, they've been following Pig Sty everywhere! Take a bath, they say. Cut your hair, they say. And what is everyone's obsession with wearing shoes, I wonder!

TRISTAM

I don't know. I suppose it's just their backward ways. I've found that the city does have certain charms, though.

PIG STY

My Olwen would blow out of here faster than the golden leaves off an autumn tree.

TRISTAM

How about you and I go find some eggs, Pig Sty? That'll set you right.

PIG STY

Nah, they'd just be wantin' to fix Pig Sty with one of those funny smelling shirts of theirs.

Tristram sniffs at his shirt.

TRISTAM

It doesn't smell like anything.

PIG STY

That's the problem, innit? In all this wide world with all its smells and pungences, how'd these clothes end up without any of 'em?!

Pig Sty shakes his head as if it were the strangest thing in the world.

TRISTAM

Come on, you've got to eat.

PIG STY

I'll rustle up some hash later.
I'll nip down to the kitchens. If I
can find 'em... It's the funniest
thing, isn't it?

TRISTAM

What's that?

PIG STY

With all this mountains of food and
drink and luxury. I ain't seen one
commonfolk. It's like-

But Pig Sty can't finish his thought.

A couple of people come round the corner.

PIG STY (CONT'D)

Whoop! I better go before they
tries to make me dance with the
soap again!

Pig Sty dashes off. He calls back over his shoulder.

PIG STY (CONT'D)

Be seeing you, Sir Tris!

And he's gone. But he left Tristam wondering if he was onto
something...

TRISTAM

Where does it all come from?

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - DAY

King Mark enters with a tray of food for Iseult.

He dismisses Brangaine.

Then King Mark shows the delicious spread. Iseult digs in
happily. He hopes she likes it. Its a funny kind of "tea"
made by seaping hot water over top ground black beans. It's
exotic for sure. King Mark is always collecting treasures.

Iseult falls silent at this.

KING MARK

Ah... That doesn't include you, my
dear.

ISEULT

But surely you could've had any woman. I mean, you're handsome. Kind. Generous. What woman wouldn't be happy to marry you?

KING MARK

Except you, you mean?

ISEULT

No! It's not that! I'm honored. And I've just told you how highly I hold you in regard. It's just that, well, I don't know you.

KING MARK

Aye, but that's why I wish to marry you, Iseult. All these other women, as lovely as they are, they all look to me as a king. You look to me as a man.

ISEULT

You are a man, Mark.

KING MARK

That's true, I am. Yet people have a strange way of forgetting that. I've travelled far and wide and people always fall to one knee. They cry to the heavens. They see me as a savior, or at the very least a shining monarch.

ISEULT

And what's wrong with that?

KING MARK

To be perfectly honest, my dear, it's lonely. Everywhere I go, and with everyone I meet, I must be a king. But with my wife, I wish to just be a man.

Iseult just listens. Just trying to figure him out.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Then, one of my travels brought me to Cornwall. And I met a lady who slipped away and swam with me. Who fished with me. Who told me to throw my crown aside.

ISEULT

Well, it would've been silly to wear it while we were swimming.

KING MARK

It would have indeed. And yet it took you to bring it up.

ISEULT

I had no idea it meant so much to you.

KING MARK

I know you didn't. Which is why you became so special to me.

Iseult smiles. But softly. *She's still not sure...*

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Come, my dear. I know what will cheer you up! What say we go find Tristam?

Sure enough, a sly smile crosses Iseult's face.

INT. LYONESSE - FEASTING HALL - DAY

King Mark happily holds court over a packed hall of happy revellers. It just never seems to stop around here. People pass heavy plates of food. Drink flows freely. Minstrels play jaunty tunes, and several people even dance.

Tristam sits amongst the people, and picks off of a large plate piled with various meats, fruits, and cheeses.

But his eyes keep drifting toward-

THE HEAD TABLE-

King Mark laughs and eats and drinks and-

Iseult sits at King Mark's side. And she seems equally as happy. From time to time, King Mark leans over to whisper something to Iseult, and she laughs along.

THE BANQUET TABLE-

Tristam darkens at Iseult's happiness. He focuses his head on his own food when-

ANDREA

Is there room beside you?

Tristam looks up and sees and the gorgeous ANDREA in a flowing, barely-there gown.

TRISTAM

Oh... Of course.

He slides over a bit, but-

ANDREA

No need to move. I'm happy to squeeze in beside you.

And, sure enough, that's just what she does. Andrea plants herself right next to Tristam, a little bit closer than seems strictly necessary.

ANDREA (CONT'D)

Now tell me your story, handsome.

THE HEAD TABLE-

Iseult's eyes drift out amongst the many gathered subjects of Lyonesse. She catches a glimpse of-

Tristam at a distant seat. And he's got a stunningly beautiful woman hanging all over him.

At her seat, Iseult's smile falters.

She barely seems to notice that the tall figure of Palamedes has come to address King Mark.

PALAMEDES

You will be pleased to know, Mark. That my search parties all returned safely. Several of them had some troubles with the Outlanders, but-

ISEULT

The what? Outlanders?

Iseult snaps out of her trance and turns to Palamedes and King Mark.

KING MARK

My dear, it's the same sort of people who attacked you on your road to Lyonesse.

PALAMEDES

My men have had many problems with violence from these people. But they have been dealt with.

KING MARK

It's nothing to worry your
beautiful head over, my dear.

King Mark pats Iseult's hand but she pulls it away.

ISEULT

But what do they want?

KING MARK

The truth is... they just want in.
Lyonnesse is a wondrous place, I
think you'll agree.

Iseult nods.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

And if I could bring in every last
man, woman, and child I would. But
it's not possible. That doesn't
mean they won't try.

ISEULT

But-

KING MARK

It is the unfortunate way of the
world, my dear Iseult. Some of us
have more than others. And some of
those others are determined to take
it. But I have done the best I can
to share our abundance with others.
Which reminds me-

King Mark turns back to Palamedes.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

-Did the first shipment of goods go
out to Cornwall?

PALAMEDES

It did. Iseult, you will be pleased
to know that your home will be well
provided for.

KING MARK

I predict Cornwall will be a major
city for many, many years to come.

ISEULT

Thank you, King-

But King Mark raises a reproving finger. Iseult blushes.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

Thank you, Mark.

KING MARK

Now enough business. I've been doing it my whole life. It's already midday. We have some more celebrating to do. Palamedes, you'll join us, of course.

PALAMEDES

Respectfully, Mark, I must decline. I want to go inspect the outer perimeter.

KING MARK

Work, work, work. Your foreign customs needn't bind you here. You must enjoy yourself, my friend.

PALAMEDES

Keeping Lyonesse safe is what I enjoy.

And with a quick bow, Palamedes strides off.

KING MARK

Well, you simply can't argue with the noble man from the distant lands. But you and I, my dear, must make this a day to remember.

King Mark takes Iseult's hand.

She looks away momentarily, and sees again-

AT THE LONG TABLE

Andrea wraps her arms around Tristram. He doesn't seem to be stopping her.

AT THE HEAD TABLE

Iseult forces a smile and looks back to King Mark.

ISEULT

Absolutely, Mark. Show me the wonders of this beautiful kingdom.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - DAY

Everyone just seems so damn happy here. Even the bright blue skies seem to oblige.

Iseult, on King Mark's arm, work their way through the crowd.

And everyone loves King Mark. Everywhere he goes the people embrace him. Hugs and kisses all around.

By association, Iseult gets her share of love too. And it's infectious. In moments she's smiling and laughing too.

THE ANIMAL CAGES-

King Mark shows her displays of amazing beasts from all over the world. King Mark pets them without fear.

THE STAGES-

A MAGICIAN performs amazing tricks. The crowd Oohs and Aaahs. King Mark steps forward and performs a flashy trick of his own. The crowd cheers.

THE ARENA-

King Mark shows Iseult the battle arena. A large open air pit. There are carved stone seats all around it like an auditorium.

KING MARK

Mostly it's used for various displays of daring and physical skills.

A swordsman, ESCLABOR, brilliantly battles volunteers. He is dark-skinned and handsome just like Palamedes. But a good bit more charming. He expertly disarms someone and the crowd cheers.

Then Esclabor calls for another volunteer.

ESCLABOR

Come, my fine gentleman! I've travelled from far distance lands. I've crossed deserts. I've ridden beast who don't drink for days. All so I could be here and share my "strange ways."

The crowd laughs at it.

ESCLABOR (CONT'D)

Who is brave enough to come and challenge me?!

IN THE KING'S BOX

With his usual twinkle in the eyes, King Mark turns to Iseult.

KING MARK

What do you say, Iseult? Should I try my hand?

ISEULT

Would you really?

KING MARK

I'm fairly certain I can take him. He has an unusual style of fighting, but I think I can adapt. And it's all in good sport, isn't it?!

Iseult grins at him. *He's so damn charming.*

She nods. *Go for it.*

King Mark starts to raise his hand, but before he can call out-

ANDREA (O.S.)

He'll fight you!

Everyone turns to another part of the stands where-

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ARENA-

Andrea holds Tristam's hand up in the air. Tristam looks mortified, but slowly stands up.

The crowd cheers for him.

IN THE KING'S BOX-

Only looking somewhat disappointed, King Mark settles back into his seat.

Iseult and King Mark watch with interest as-

Tristam slowly hops down from the auditorium's seats.

He makes his way into the fighter's circle.

IN THE CENTER RING

Esclabor smiles an astonishingly white smile. He lets out a joyous, deep rich laugh.

ESCLABOR

Let's hear it for our distinguished
guest from the glorious castle of
Camelot!

The crowd cheers.

Tristram draws his sword. All business.

But Esclabor grins and whispers so that the crowd can't hear.

ESCLABOR (CONT'D)

Do not worry, Sir Tristram. We will
have fun. And we shall put on a
good show. Do not be disappointed
that you will be defeated before
all these good people.

TRISTAM

I don't expect I will be
disappointed.

Esclabor grins again. *A challenge!*

He draws his unusual, bejewelled sword and-

They battle.

And it's a spectacular fight!

Flourish and tricks from the Swordsman. And for the first
time, Tristram looks like he very well might be overcome at
any moment, but he remains slow and steady and unflappable.

As Tristram truly begins to sweat a little, he looks up into
the stands and sees-

IN THE KING'S BOX

Iseult watching him intently.

ISEULT

(barely a whisper)
Come on, Tristram...

IN THE CENTER

And Tristram finds a new spring in his step. His movements
become quicker, sharper. *There's no way he's going to lose.*

TRISTAM'S MIND'S EYE

A scroll unrolls to read-

SWORD TECHNIQUES FROM THE DISTANT DESERT

And an illustration shows an exotic Arabian wielding sword very much like Esclabor's jewelled sword.

BACK TO REALITY

Tristram smiles. And he shifts his fighting techniques and-

Suddenly, it's Esclabor who has a reason to sweat. Nonetheless, he rallies.

ESCLABOR

Come now, good sir! Give the crowd
a smile, would you?

TRISTAM

When I fight, I prefer not to do so
much bantering.

ESCLABOR

Ha ha! Not much of showman, is he?!
Tell me then, what is it you do
prefer to do?

And with the speed and ferocity of a lion, Tristram lunges forward, knocking Esclabor's weapon away, and cracking him with a perfect left hook.

Esclabor goes down hard. Out cold.

TRISTAM

I prefer to win.

The crowd goes wild.

Tristram humbly gives a small bow to gathered masses, and after a few moments the applause dies down. Or most of it does. One set of hands continues clapping even as the rest of the arena falls silent. Slowly everyone turns to see-

IN THE KING'S BOX-

King Mark beams with his broad toothy smile as he claps on and on.

KING MARK

Well done, Sir Tristram, well done!

TRISTAM

Thank you, King Mark.

King Mark throws back his head with laughter.

KING MARK

I'll make you a deal. If I can beat you in a fight, you will finally stop calling me "King." What do you say?

Everyone looks in amazement from King Mark to Tristam.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Are you up for another match?

Iseult does a double take too. *Is King Mark really challenging Tristam to a fight?*

After a moment, Tristam nods.

The crowd loses their minds! They've never seen anything like this!

King Mark makes his way down into the arena. He finds the bejewelled sword that Esclabor dropped and with a flick of his foot, it flies up into his hand. King Mark flourishes it expertly. He likes this sword.

TRISTAM

Wouldn't you prefer your own sword, King Mark?

KING MARK

In my many battles I've learned, it's not about the sword, my dear Tristam. It's the about the man behind it. Let's see what kind of man you are.

And the second fight ensues.

If the first one looked great, it was child's play next to this one.

Tristam has studied every technique and discipline. But King Mark has lived them. More importantly, though, King Mark knew how to win. He isn't playing a game (not like Esclabor), he's fighting to win.

In the end, it gets dirty. Both men lose their sword but continue to fight. They get bound up together so tight, it's impossible to tell who really has the advantage.

They get into a situation, where it's impossible to win, but one of them would have to concede.

ISEULT

STOP!

They both let go at the sound of Iseult's voice.

She runs over to them.

ISEULT (CONT'D)
Which one of you let go first?

They look at each other, and both shrug. *I'm not sure...*

King Mark turns back to the crowd.

KING MARK
What a champion, am I right?!

The crowd roars its approval.

Then all of the people swarm down into the arena. They hug and fawn over King Mark.

ISEULT
If it pleases you, Mark, I'd like
to continue exploring the castle.
With Tristam.

KING MARK
Of course, my darling. I expect
I'll be a bit indisposed for a
while.

Without a hint of suspicion, he kisses Iseult's hand.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
I'll see both later.

And he's swept off by the crowd.

Tristam and Iseult look at one another.

ISEULT
So, what would you like to do?

An almost uncomfortable silence ensues until-

ANDREA (O.S.)
Tristam!?

They turn to see seductive Andrea headed their way, and-

TRISTAM
Let's get out of here!

He grabs Iseult's hand, and they dash off.

THE BATH HOUSES

Long rows of steaming tubs of water filled with people relaxing and chatting.

Tristam and Iseult race through it, almost slipping on puddles of water as they do.

THE GYMNASIUM

Acrobats and silk dancers perform.

Tristam and Iseult hurry past.

THE GATHERING HALL

Representatives from all over the world - Asian, African, Viking, etc. - stand around and talk. They're all attractive and powerful. Most still dress in traditional outfits from their homelands. But they seem very much at ease here with each other.

Tristam and Iseult quickly pass through.

A SECLUDED ALLEYWAY - LATER THAT NIGHT

Despite celebrations, drinks, laughter and festivities raging all around-

Tristam and Iseult sit together in a quiet secluded doorway. They pass a bottle of wine between them, and clearly shun the rest of the world.

ISEULT

I thought you liked her?!

TRISTAM

No! I just couldn't get rid of her!

Iseult laughs and dribbles wine down her front.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

The people here are quite...
They're not afraid to use their
hands.

ISEULT

Yes. It is a bit overwhelming.

TRISTAM

It is amazing, though. I never
thought I'd see a place like this.

ISEULT

Mark has done something, well, re-
mark-able.

Tristam sputters at the terrible pun.

ISEULT (CONT'D)
What?! You're the one who chose
this wine, you can't expect me to
speak clearly.

TRISTAM
I could've beat him in the arena.

ISEULT
He had you! You were done for!

TRISTAM
Yes, yes... To King Mark!

Tristam raises the bottle and swigs.

Iseult doesn't say anything. Just takes the bottle back and swigs herself.

Another silence between them.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)
I suppose we should head back out
there. Join in the festivities.
Find your intended.

ISEULT
I suppose.

But she makes no movement.

ISEULT (CONT'D)
Let's just sit here a bit longer.
Just the two of us. Just a bit
longer.

They sit quietly together for a long time. Not saying anything. Just sitting.

Together.

INT. LYONESSE - SECLUDED CORNER - THE NEXT MORNING

As the sun rises, Tristam suddenly stirs awake. Iseult slumbers at his side.

She's gently nestled into the crook of his arm.

They slept together all night.

Tristam looks around quickly, worried they might've been seen. But there's no one around.

He softly shakes Iseult.

Groggily, she opens her eyes and seems just as confused as him at their unexpected surroundings.

TRISTAM

We fell asleep. I should get you back to your chambers.

ISEULT

What time is it?

TRISTAM

Still early. Lyonesse is barely stirring.

ISEULT

(rubbing her eyes and yawning)

I was so comfortable...

TRISTAM

Come. We better get out of here.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - MORNING

Tristam stands just within the doorway to Iseult's chambers.

TRISTAM

I'm sorry that I didn't see you home earlier. I hope no one spotted us.

ISEULT

I doubt it. Everyone seems to take their own revelries very seriously here. Thank you, Tristam.

Tristam bows. Then he slowly moves toward the door.

TRISTAM

I'll see you later, Iseult.

He freezes momentarily. *Did she register that?*

She sure did. Iseult's breath quickens. She stares at him.

ISEULT

What did you just call me?!

TRISTAM

It was an accident. I'm sorry, I-

But Iseult throws herself at him.

Their lips meet in a furious meshing of soft pink flesh.

He grabs the small of her back, pulling her in tightly, binding their chests together. Matching their heartbeats.

Her hands roam across his face. Her fingers bury themselves in his soft hair. She holds his neck tightly. Unwilling to let the kiss break.

But break it must.

And after a short period of heaven. They pull apart.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

Oh god... What have I-

ISEULT

I love you, Tristam.

TRISTAM

But you're promised to-

ISEULT

I don't love Mark. I'll never love him.

TRISTAM

You'll learn to love him.

ISEULT

How?! How when you are in every drop of my blood? When you pump through my heart every second? Every breath I take fills me with Tristam.

TRISTAM

Don't you see I can't?! Do you see, this is exactly what Lancelot and Guinevere did to Arthur.

Iseult stares at him. Total confusion. What's he talking about?!

ISEULT

I don't care about any of that.

TRISTAM

I do! Iseult, this is who I am.
This is who I've always strived to
be. I am a true and loyal knight. I
have a duty to uphold. Being with
you would be to turn my back on
everything I've ever sworn to.

He opens the door to leave, but she calls after him-

ISEULT

Where are you going?!

TRISTAM

I don't know. I've never felt so
lost...

And he leaves.

Tears burn down Iseult's cheeks. Hot and furious and
passionate. And she collapses to her bed.

INT. LYONESSE - HALLWAYS - DAY

Tristam emerges from Iseult's chambers into the hallway. He
wavers, almost falling to the ground. He braces himself
against the wall, barely managing to stand.

He takes deep, sharp, ragged breaths. Then staggers away.

But all too soon, after Tristam has gone-

King Mark comes around the corner, holding a tray of
breakfast for Iseult. But he looks pale and confused.

He saw the whole thing.

INT. LYONESSE - TRISTAM'S CHAMBERS - DAY

Tristam storms into his chambers. He quickly grabs his few
items and shoves them into a bag.

He stops.

TRISTAM

Pig Sty. I need to find Pig Sty. We
need to get out of here.

INT. LYONESSE - UNDERGROUND PASSAGES - DAY

Pig Sty journeys deeply into an underground passage.

As he looks around, he sees that this passage is darker, little used, and not anywhere in keeping with the overall grandeur of Lyonesse. It feels oddly cold.

He comes to a simple wooden door, opens it, and finds-

THE KITCHENS-

Steam wafts out immediately. And the sound of rattling plates and dishes fill the air.

Several dozen men and women work busily, preparing delicious courses of meat, cheese, bread, and vegetables.

But these men and women are different than the ones above.

They're thinner. They're paler. They're dressed in colorless simple robes. Each of them has a somewhat haggard appearance.

They don't seem sick or anything, just... neglected.

Pig Sty approaches a man with a big basket of rolls.

PIG STY

Aye, I've been wondering where the eats and drinks come from. Where've you lot been all along, I wonder?

But the servant avoids eye contact and hurries away.

Pig Sty tries again with a woman carrying dishes.

PIG STY (CONT'D)

Hey, missus, have you gang been down here while all the goings on keeps going ons up there?

But she ignores him too.

Pig Sty gets more and more frustrated when-

VOICE

You should not be down here.

Pig Sty turns to see-

Palamedes and two other guards have arrived.

PALAMEDES

You will come up to the surface with me. And you will bathe. Or you will leave.

Pig Sty ignores the order and gestures to the servants.

PIG STY

This how the show keeps playing in the streets?

PALAMEDES

They are well fed. They are not over worked. They are given medicine and rest when they need it. They live a good life.

PIG STY

But they don't get to join the dance, does they?

PALAMEDES

There is a system in Lyonesse. All of the people have a place. It is a delicate balance. But it is the way that it is. Now, you will come with me.

PIG STY

Only if they's coming too.

Palamedes draws his sword. The two guards do likewise.

PALAMEDES

You will come with me. Or I will take you with me.

Pig Sty stares them down for a long moment. *Could he take all three of them? Probably not. But it could be fun...*

Suddenly, he grabs a large empty cauldron and heaves it at Palamedes and the guards. And Pig Sty takes off running.

THROUGH THE PASSAGEWAYS

Pig Sty goes deeper and deeper.

Palamedes and his guards chase closely behind.

As they continue, Pig Sty sees-

THE BOILER ROOM

A cavernous chamber filled with glowing fires that send heat and steam up through a system of tunnels into the city.

And several servants covered in ash.

Pig Sty races deeper into-

THE LAUNDRY

Huge tubs of soapy water soak piles of clothes and sheets.

A dozen women scrub out every last speck of dirt.

Pig Sty continues down into-

THE STONE WORKSHOP

Piles of misshapen stones of every size and weight lay about.

Large but exhausted men crack and carve the stones into perfect squares, rectangles, and even statues.

And still Pig Sty sprints along with Palamedes close behind.

They reach-

THE WATER WAY

Massive twisting carbines spin from the force of incoming waves. Powerful blasts of water shoot into through intricately carved tunnels and move the mechanisms.

The roaring of the ocean and the waves is deafening.

It's also a dead end.

Pig Sty spins to face Palamedes and the two guards.

PALAMEDES (CONT'D)

You should not have come here.

PIG STY

That's the thing with magic, innit?
Don't want nobody to see what's
going on under the cape?

PALAMEDES

I know it is hard to understand,
but they are happy here!

PIG STY

Is that the way it be? Or is that
just the way you's told them?

PALAMEDES

You will come with me. And you will
face your punishment.

PIG STY

Me and my Olwen would have
something to say to that.

PALAMEDES

Then you can die here!

Palamedes and his guards charge.

But Pig Sty leaps out of their way, and into one of the water run off tunnels.

THE WATER TUNNELS

Like a wild water slide, Pig Sty zooms along at incredible speeds along the smooth stone tunnel carried by rushes of outgoing sea water.

One turn. Another twist. A sudden drop and-

EXT. THE SEA WALL - DAY

Pig Sty careens out of the water pipe and finds himself airborne.

He's just come out of a hole in the sea wall at least a hundred feet below the towering castle up above.

Unfortunately, it's still a pretty big drop down to the sea below. He falls, falls, falls and-

SPLASH!

INT. LYONESSE - THE WATER WAY - DAY

Palamedes and the guards peer down the out flow tunnel.

They can't see anything.

PALAMEDES

If he made it out to sea, the waves
will crush him against the rocks.
It did not have to be so. But he
made his choice.

INT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - DAY

Tristram wanders the Grand Square with his travelling bag slung over his shoulder.

He finds several people who already seem to be partying.

TRISTAM

Excuse you. I wonder if you could
help me find my friend?
(MORE)

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

The Pig Sty Prince, he calls himself. You couldn't mistake his smell.

The early morning revellers shake their heads and shrug.

Tristam continues searching, looking more and more frustrated.

KING MARK

I'm afraid I know where he is, Sir Tristam.

Tristam turns to see King Mark striding toward him.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

I've just received word from Palamedes that your friend, Pig Sty, was causing a scene. Upsetting all sorts of good, loyal citizens of Lyonesse. When confronted, instead of being reasonable, he ran away. He left the city early this morning.

TRISTAM

He ran away? Where?

KING MARK

It's nearly impossible to say. I would venture a guess that neither you or I will ever see him again.

King Mark gestures toward the bag on Tristam's shoulder.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

But it seems that you're preparing to leave us as well?

TRISTAM

Oh. Yes. I think it's time for me to be on my way again.

KING MARK

That's probably for the best.

Tristam lurches at this. *Why'd he say that? King Mark is always so friendly!*

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Well, you said it yourself, you serve another king. You have a duty to him. You must be ready to return to your service.

TRISTAM
Yes. That's right.

KING MARK
Well, then-

King Mark pulls Tristam into a hug. But it's not nearly as warm as before. Much stiffer, more perfunctory.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
-It was an honor to meet you, my friend.

TRISTAM
You as well, King Mark.

King Mark actually smirks at this.

KING MARK
I never did succeed in getting you to simply call me "Mark," did I? You certainly are a man of respect, aren't you, Sir Tristam?

TRISTAM
I strive to be.

KING MARK
I'll have to take your word for it.

And on that strange tense note, the two men exchange courteous bows and go their separate ways.

EXT. LYONESSE - STONE BRIDGE - LATER

Having exited the main gates, Tristam marches across the stone bridge and leaves Lyonesse.

Alone.

EXT. LYONESSE - BATTLEMENTS - DAY

Perched upon the wall above the main gate, Iseult looks down and watches as-

ON THE STONE BRIDGE

Tristam leaves the kingdom.

Without so much as a backward glance.

ON THE BATTLEMENTS

Isolde blinks back tears and watches as Tristram disappears into the distance.

TIME PASSES - NIGHT FALLS

And Iseult continues her mournful watch of the empty bridge.

Finally, she turns and races away.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE SEA WALL - NIGHT

Iseult climbs the final stone steps and reaches the top of the towering Sea Wall.

She moves to the edge, and looks out over the abyss.

It's a long way down.

And the sea seems particularly violent at the moment.

Waves buffet the cliff below with devastating force. They slam against the lowest levels of the castle. They roil mercilessly in the depths below.

One slight inch at a time, Iseult creeps toward the edge.

Her toes slide over.

The wind whips her hair and her gown.

She raises her arms and begins to lean forward. But-

TRISTRAM

Don't leave me.

Iseult spins.

Tristram is there. Standing at the top most stair.

ISEULT

You left me. You said you were lost?

TRISTRAM

No. I'm lost without you.

Iseult steps away from the Sea Wall's edge. She rushes to Tristram.

And they fling themselves at each other.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - DAY

They're barely through Iseult's door before they're tearing each other's clothes off.

The only impediment is their unwillingness to pull each other's hands and lips from one another long enough to fling their clothes away.

But in moments, both Tristam and Iseult stand naked. Pressing their flesh against one another.

They tumble onto the bed.

And they make love.

A GOOD WHILE LATER-

Tristam and Iseult lay in bed together, intertwined in a mess of sheets and limbs.

She lays her head across his chest, and heaves in satisfaction.

ISEULT

You do learn fast...

Tristam lies still for a moment, then says softly-

TRISTAM

I've turned my back on everything I ever thought I wanted. I swore to be a true and loyal knight. But now that's all gone.

He pulls her into a long tender kiss.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

And it was worth it.

They wrap their arms around each other and fall back once more.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - THE NEXT MORNING

As sunlight peaks into the room, Tristam and Iseult continue going at it. It seems as though they haven't slept a wink, and aren't planning to but-

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK!

They pause in the middle of... you know...

BRANGAINE
 (from outside the door)
 Lady Iseult? Are you awake?

Iseult shoots a look at Tristam. Then she holds back a laugh.
Yeah, I'm awake!

BRANGAINE (CONT'D)
 I'm coming in, my lady. It's nearly
 time for breakfast!

The door creaks open an inch, but-

ISEULT
 Wait! Wait, I'm coming! I'll be
 right there!

The door closes.

Iseult reluctantly pushes Tristam off of her. In a mad
 scramble, she grabs a robe, and Tristam grabs his clothes.

She kisses him quickly.

ISEULT (CONT'D)
 Meet me at breakfast. And we'll
 find a way to sneak off shortly.

TRISTAM
 How do I get out of here?

Iseult points to the window.

Tristam shoots her a surprised gaze. *C'mon! Out the window?!*

ISEULT
 What? You weren't prepared for
 this?

Tristam grins.

They kiss once more. It goes a little longer than expected,
 but-

BRANGAINE
 (outside the door)
 I'm coming in!

Iseult pushes Tristam away. He all but falls out the window,
 but he is a very accomplished knight, so he manages to turn
 the tumble into a semi-respectable roll.

In a flash, Iseult reaches the door. Opens it and finds
 herself face-to-face with a very stern looking Brangaine.

ISEULT

Shall we go to breakfast? I'm
famished!

EXT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - MORNING

Tristam expertly scales the walls outside of Iseult's window. In fact, he does a few flips and twists that probably aren't strictly necessary.

He lands expertly in an-

ALLEYWAY-

With a spring in his stride, he rounds the corner and emerges out into-

THE GRAND SQUARE-

And he almost immediately runs into King Mark.

KING MARK

Sir Tristam?

Tristam sputters for a moment, unable to speak.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

I thought you deprived us of your
presence last night?

TRISTAM

I suppose I just couldn't stay
away.

King Mark narrows his eyes at this curious remark.

Tristam pushes on.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

What're you doing so early, King
Mark?

KING MARK

Bad business, actually. Your friend
Pig Sty seems to have surfaced and
is causing some trouble on the
outside. Palamedes and his patrols
have come across some Outlanders.
Someone seems to be stirring them
up.

TRISTAM

What exactly was it that Pig Sty was doing here before he left?

KING MARK

Nevermind. Nothing to worry about.

Tristam stares at King Mark. It's clear he's hiding something. But, then again, Tristam is hiding something too, so he doesn't press the matter.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Well, it's certainly a pleasure to have you back, my friend. Perhaps you will do us the honor of staying around until the wedding?

TRISTAM

Wedding?

KING MARK

Iseult's and mine, of course!

This is punch to the gut. In all his happiness, Tristam actually forgot about this. His smile fades.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Are you all right, Tristam? You suddenly don't seem too well.

TRISTAM

No. No, I'm fine. Of course, I'll stay, King Mark. Just as long as I can.

EXT. OUTER LANDS - DAY

In a large clearing in the woods, around a large crackling fire, several dozen men and women meet up.

They're all dirty and ragged, but none of them are as filthy as Pig Sty.

Pig Sty speaks with an old man with a matted beard and long tangled hair who appears to be the leader of the Outlanders.

OUTLANDER LEADER

Can you help us, then? To get back inside Lyonesse.

PIG STY

Ho, ho, for the sake of Olwen, slow it down. Why's you wanting to go in there?

OUTLANDER LEADER

Several of us actually lived there for a time, but we didn't fit with their ways, and so were cast out.

PIG STY

Aye, Pig Sty can relate to that.

OUTLANDER LEADER

It's a frivolous life in there. Full of spoils, but without the hard work that goes with earning it.

PIG STY

Aye again. A glass a wine don't taste nearly as sweet without a drop of sweat before it.

OUTLANDER LEADER

Precisely. But to their credit, those of us who wished to go, were allowed to leave.

PIG STY

But were those of you who wished to join the feast, allowed to eat the rolls?

OUTLANDER LEADER

No. But that is their right. They may choose to celebrates with them.

Pig Sty stays silent. But he fidgets like he doesn't agree.

OUTLANDER LEADER (CONT'D)

But those of us who chose to leave didn't have as much trouble, as those who left something behind.

PIG STY

Lyonesse stole your gold, did they?

OUTLANDER LEADER

No. Our loved ones. Families were torn apart. Friends left behind. Some people were so desperate to be a part of Lyonesse they agreed to stay in the shadows.

PIG STY
The cooks? The cleaners?

OUTLANDER LEADER
The Underlings.

PIG STY
A poor sorry lot if ever Pig Sty
saw a poor sorry lot.

OUTLANDER LEADER
Fooled into thinking they're a part
of paradise. I don't know what it
would take to get them out again.

PIG STY
Not sure a charge and raid is what
you're wanting here.

OUTLANDER LEADER
No. We've gathered weapons and...
more. But we would prefer that it
didn't come to those... extremes.

PIG STY
Better it'd be if those Underlings
just can shuffling out on they's
own.

OUTLANDER LEADER
Yes. Can you help us?

Pig Sty sighs. He mutters to himself, having a conversation
in his head. Several of the Outlanders look at him
skeptically, but Pig Sty pays them no mind.

PIG STY
Yes, my Olwen... I know you
would... Is it Pig Sty's way,
though... Now that be true enough,
he is a Prince...

Pig Sty looks back to the Outlander Leader.

PIG STY (CONT'D)
My Olwen would want me to help you.
The Pig Sty Prince will go make the
negotiations.

OUTLANDER LEADER
Do you really think you can get
through to them?

PIG STY

Aye. Pig Sty's still got friends on
the inside, doesn't he?

INT. LYONESSE - FEASTING HALL - DAY

Another feast is underway. Food and drink pass around freely.
The hall rings with laughter and mirth.

AT THE LONG TABLE-

Tristram eats heartily. He casts a look up to

THE HEAD TABLE-

Iseult meets Tristram's gaze. She leans over to King Mark and
whispers something to him.

There's a flicker in King Mark's eyes and his smile fades
ever so slightly, but he nods genially.

Iseult wipes her mouth and rises.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - MOMENTS LATER

Tristram and Iseult burst into her chambers again. They kiss
wildly and slam back into her bed.

BEGIN MONTAGE

They sneak into alleyways and kiss.

They dodge around Brangaine.

They see more wild spectacles and exotic beasts.

Iseult repeatedly excuses herself from King Mark.

And there's sex, sex, sex.

END MONTAGE

INT. LYONESSE - ALLEYWAY - DAY

Tristram and Iseult dash down an alleyway holding hands.

Close behind, there's the sound of heavy footsteps.

Tristram grabs a door and wrenches it open. They slip inside
and disappear.

Once they're gone, a guard comes around the corner. He sees nothing. And keeps on walking.

INT. LYONESSE - UNDERGROUND PASSAGES - DAY

The lovers run down the secluded underground passages.

Deeper and deeper they go until they come across a simple wooden door. Full of curiosity, Tristram opens it. They find-

THE KITCHENS

Tristram and Iseult gape in surprise as they take in the many bustling Underlings.

TRISTAM

What is this?

ISEULT

I suppose someone has to cook the meals and clean the clothes. I just never thought...

A few servants pass and give small smiles and little bows.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

They don't seem ill treated do they?

TRISTAM

Not exactly. But I can't recall ever having seen a single one of them up above. Can you?

ISEULT

No, I can't.

There's the sound of footsteps growing nearer. Iseult looks anxious and ready to leave. Tristram holds back.

TRISTAM

We need to do something for them.

ISEULT

We will. But we can't be seen together. We've got to go now.

The footsteps grow louder and closer.

Tristram nods.

And they run away.

A moment later, after the lovers have gone-

Palamedes arrives.

He takes in the situation, and notices that several of the Underlings seem to be avoiding his eyes more than usual.

INT. LYONESSE - THE SEA WALL - DAY

King Mark and Palamedes stand atop the Sea Wall. Palamedes gives his report, while King Mark watches the devastating waves down below.

PALAMEDES

It does seem to be a rise in interest in the lower levels.

KING MARK

There have always been people who stumble down there unknowingly.

PALAMEDES

Yes. But I am noticing a slight change in the attitudes of the people down there.

King Mark sighs. A particularly large wave slams against the side of the wall below.

KING MARK

I don't want to start locking the doors down there. They're not prisoners...

PALAMEDES

It is a difficult decision, Mark.

KING MARK

Keep me apprised of the situation down below. It's not a cause for alarm yet. They are still a privileged few.

PALAMEDES

That they are, Mark.

KING MARK

What else is there?

PALAMEDES

Nothing of import, Mark. Do not you want to go be with your intended?

KING MARK

She- Iseult is resting at the moment. I'm giving her space.

PALAMEDES

(frowning)

In my homeland, we spend time with our women. Is that not so here?

KING MARK

She's just taking time to adjust to our vigorous lifestyle.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - DAY

Iseult certainly engages in a vigorous lifestyle. After a few moments of passion, she and Tristram roll apart.

They lay gasping and sweating in blissful silence for a long moment, but slowly it melts away, and finally-

ISEULT

We have to leave here, don't we?

TRISTAM

We do.

ISEULT

We can't live like this. Sneaking around. Always one step away from everything falling apart.

Tristram just nods. Almost imperceptibly.

ISEULT (CONT'D)

So where do we go?

Tristram stays silent. *He doesn't know either...*

ISEULT (CONT'D)

I've brought dishonor on my family. If there's any hope that King Mark will continue to honor the agreement with my father, and continue to provide supplies and support, I can't be there.

TRISTAM

And I can never return to Camelot. I would be a disgrace.

ISEULT

So then where?

They lay together in another long silence.

Finally, Tristram takes her hand.

TRISTRAM

It doesn't matter, my love. As long
as I'm with you, and as long as
you're with me, we'll be all right.

They kiss again. Long and deep and passionately.

It starts to turn into something more when-

There's loud NOISE and DISRUPTION from outside.

Leaping out of bed, Tristram grabs his clothes.

INT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - DAY

Several guards hold Pig Sty and drag him through the square.

PIG STY

Pig Sty only wanted to have a word,
didn't he? That's a crime here now?

KING MARK

Bring him here!

King Mark parts the crowd and advances to face Pig Sty.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

I'm surprised to see you again, my
friend.

(takes a sniff)

I can see you were no luckier in
finding soap on the outside.

PIG STY

Pig Sty found a good many other
interesting things on the outside.

KING MARK

And on the inside too, I hear.

PIG STY

That's right, innit? Speaking to
lots of people who can't speak, so
to speak.

KING MARK

No one is forced to stay or leave.

PIG STY

As long as it's on King Mark's terms, innit?

KING MARK

I built Lyonesse. I have a right to rule it as I please.

PIG STY

No one has a right to rule no one.

KING MARK

You're advocating for disaster.

PIG STY

I'd say the sames abouts you.

The guards shift at the threat. King Mark also shows no signs of backing down.

TRISTAM

King Mark!

Tristam rushes the crowd and moves beside Pig Sty.

KING MARK

Stand aside, Tristam.

TRISTAM

Wait, listen. Pig Sty is my friend. He's done me a great service time and again. Let me take him out of here.

PIG STY

Pig Sty's not leaving. Not without the people down below with him.

KING MARK

You both go to the dungeons.

PIG STY

Not without some blood drops, will I?

KING MARK

Yes. Your own.

PIG STY

And yours.

Tristam winces. *This situation isn't cooling down...*

KING MARK
Stand aside, Tristam. Or share his
fate.

TRISTAM
I- I- Very well.

Tristam moves beside Pig Sty.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)
Let the people down below leave
Lyonesse.

KING MARK
It will not happen.

TRISTAM
Then we'll make it happen. And
you'll have to fight us both.

KING MARK
So be it.

With a snap of Mark's fingers, the Guards circle around.

They all draw their swords.

Tristam and Pig Sty stand side-by-side ready to fight but-

TRISTAM
You don't happen to have a weapon,
do you?

PIG STY
Aye. Always.

Pig Sty holds up his fists. And knocks on his head.

Tristam grimaces and sighs. *Not the answer he was hoping for.*

TRISTAM
Excellent...

The guards crowd in with swords pointed.

It's going to be a big, bloody fight. But-

ISEULT
Wait!

Iseult rushes in. She stands by Tristam and Pig Sty.

KING MARK
Iseult! Get away from them!

ISEULT
No. I won't let you hurt them.

KING MARK
Iseult, this doesn't concern you.

ISEULT
I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them. They're my friends!

KING MARK
But they've shown themselves to be no friends of Lyonesse.

ISEULT
Let them go and I'll marry you tomorrow.

King Mark freezes.

KING MARK
Here are the conditions. The Pig Sty Prince leaves immediately.

PIG STY
Not with the Underlings or I-

But Iseult silences him with a look.

ISEULT
Please. As a kindness to me, if you care about me at all, trust me to help them. But you must walk away.

Pig Sty grits his teeth, but nods.

KING MARK
Good. And Sir Tristram leaves tonight, as well.

Iseult and Tristram lock eyes. It kills them but-

ISEULT
He will.

KING MARK
Then you and I will marry tomorrow when the sun stands at its highest point.

Forcing herself not to cry, Iseult nods.

Tristram looks devastated.

But King Mark turns to the gathered crowd.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
My friends, it's time for a
wedding!

The crowd erupts into wild and raucous cheers.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
Tomorrow I shall finally marry my
love, the Lady Iseult!

More cheers.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
So today let us prepare for that
grand celebration... with a
celebration!

The loudest cheers yet.

And everyone disperses to begin the latest party.

King Mark turns back to Iseult but he eyes Tristram.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
I want him out of here by
nightfall.

Iseult nods.

King Mark points to Pig Sty.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
And I want him out of here
immediately!

Several guards led Pig Sty out, but he manages to whisper to Tristram-

PIG STY
Get to the Underlings, you will.
Get the people out. Or Pig Sty's
coming back.

Tristram nods.

And the guards roughly push Pig Sty out the front gates.

INT. LYONESSE - TRISTAM'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Back in his room, Tristam packs his things. But it's clear he's torn. He doesn't know what to do next. He roars in frustration when-

Iseult shows up.

TRISTAM

Iseult! How did you-?

ISEULT

Shhh. We haven't much time!

TRISTAM

I have to get to the lower levels. I'll lead the Underlings out of here.

ISEULT

It's a terrible risk.

TRISTAM

If I don't do it, I fear Pig Sty will return and he might do much worse.

ISEULT

I'll gather some things. And I'll meet you at the front gates.

TRISTAM

How will you get away?

ISEULT

Nothing could keep me from you.

TRISTAM

We're really going to do this, aren't we? We're going to turn our backs on everything?

ISEULT

Except each other.

They kiss.

And Iseult hurries away.

INT. LYONESSE - FEASTING HALL - NIGHT

The feasting hall is a wild and raucous affair.

Palamedes sits beside King Mark, but King Mark seems to be pointedly ignoring him.

PALAMEDES

Do not do this, Mark. Postpone the wedding. The people will understand.

KING MARK

It's been put off too long already.

PALAMEDES

You are only risking disaster. The Outlanders are growing restless. The Pig Sty Prince is unpredictable. And Tristram and Iseult cannot be trusted.

KING MARK

Watch your tongue, my foreign friend! Iseult has said she wishes to marry me tomorrow. She will be my wife. And I will take her at her word.

PALAMEDES

But, you must question-

KING MARK

I must take her at her word. I have to. There's no other choice...

INT. LYONESSE - UNDERGROUND PASSAGES - NIGHT

Tristram sneaks through the underground passages into the lower levels of the castle. He can hear the party raging above him. But he rounds the corner to find-

Two guards standing at the wooden door to the kitchens.

Without being seen, Tristram pulls back.

He writhes in frustration at the situation, but-

A moment later, Tristram rushes forward. The guards leapt into action, but they're nothing compared to Tristram.

In a matter of seconds, Tristram takes them down, and the two guards lie unconscious on the floor.

Tristram opens the wooden door.

THE KITCHENS-

Tristam finds the Underlings. He tries to call their attention.

TRISTAM

Come! I'll get you all out of here.

But no one acknowledges him.

They just keep working.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

Come on! There's not much time.

Nothing.

TRISTAM (CONT'D)

This is your chance to escape these dehumanizing conditions. Follow me!

But they simply won't go.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Having changed into simpler garment suited for the journey ahead, Iseult gathers up several things into a bag.

She's about to rush out the door, when-

Brangaine enters. The maid takes in the bag and gapes.

BRANGAINE

And just where do you think you're going?

ISEULT

Get out of my way, Brangaine.

BRANGAINE

You're to be married tomorrow.
You're to be the queen of Lyonesse.

ISEULT

I'm leaving here and there's nothing you can do to stop me.

Iseult tries to push for the door.

But Brangaine grabs her and holds her. And she's surprisingly strong. Yet Iseult fights back.

The two women struggle, and finally Iseult throws Brangaine to the ground.

Iseult reaches for the door, but Brangaine screams!

BRANGAINE

You'll ruin your life! You'll ruin my life. And King Mark's. And lord knows how many others. You will devastate all of Lyonesse. Could you really live with yourself?!

Iseult freezes at the door. *Can she cause so much damage?*

INT. LYONESSE - UNDERGROUND KITCHENS - NIGHT

Tristam pleads with the Underlings to follow him.

TRISTAM

Come! A better life awaits you out!
But we must go now!

The Underlings continue to avoid him. They shake their heads and mutter and try to drown him out.

Tristam doesn't know what to do when-

Palamedes arrives.

PALAMEDES

Do you not see? They have a good life here. They are content here.

TRISTAM

They can't be.

PALAMEDES

They are. They understand their place. They understand what they are in this life for. They understand their duty. They do not seek to upset the world. Not like you.

Tristam is brought up short.

PALAMEDES (CONT'D)

I thought you were an honorable knight, Sir Tristam.

TRISTAM

I am.

PALAMEDES

Not being from this land, I am not familiar with the codes of knighthood. But I would have thought it meant you had a duty to serve others.

TRISTAM

I do. I'm trying to help them.

PALAMEDES

No. You do not understand Lyonesse. So I will make you.

Palamedes draws his sword. Tristam does too.

TRISTAM

I already defeated your countryman.

PALAMEDES

Esclabor was a showman. I am a true fighter.

The two men go at it. Palamedes is an incredible fighter and more than once he nearly defeats Tristam.

But Tristam narrowly emerges victorious.

He could kill Palamedes, but he doesn't.

Tristam tosses Palamedes's sword aside.

And he sprints out of the kitchens.

INT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - NIGHT

Tristam emerges out into the Grand Square. He pushes through the crowd. He races toward the front gates of Lyonesse.

AT THE FRONT GATES-

A couple of guards approach him, and Tristam furiously knocks them out.

But Iseult isn't here. *Where is she?*

He looks around frantically, his heart beats wildly when-

The front gates creak open.

And Iseult appears.

ISEULT

You seemed to be running late. I thought I'd hurry things along.

They take hands and hurry out, but as they emerge out onto-
THE STONE BRIDGE-

Tristram and Iseult quickly skid to a halt.

KING MARK

I must admit, I was actually was upset with myself for coming here.

King Mark stands on the bridge. He's been waiting for them.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

I told myself I was being so foolish. But I couldn't help it.

Several guards swarm Tristram and Iseult.

ISEULT

Mark, please, forgive me. But I couldn't help it either. I love Tristram. I couldn't-

KING MARK

You could've told me! I would've- I would've understood. I would've given you my blessing!

ISEULT

I'm sorry, I didn't think-

KING MARK

Instead you insisted on making me look like a fool. Right in front of my entire kingdom.

ISEULT

No! I was scared. I didn't want you to pull your support from Cornwall.

KING MARK

What kind of a monster do you take me for?

ISEULT

I didn't know you. I didn't know how kind and generous you are. I wouldn't have done this if-

KING MARK

But you did. You committed treason.
Against my crown. Do you see how
you have left me no choice now?

Tristam tries to step forward to shield Iseult, but a couple
of the guards kick his knees out.

TRISTAM

What're you going to do, King Mark?

KING MARK

What I have to. I am the king.
There are laws. And you flagrantly
broke them. So you'll be punished.
God help you. Take him away.

The guards drag Tristam away.

ISEULT

No! Take me too! If he's to die, at
least show me enough mercy to let
me die too.

King Mark stares at her. Tears well in his eyes.

KING MARK

You'll have your own punishment, my
dear. And I fear it will be just as
terrible. Take her to her chambers.

INT. LYONESSE - ISEULT'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Iseult paces nervously.

After a moment, King Mark enters.

ISEULT

Mark! Where is he? Where's Tristam?
What have you done to him?

TRISTAM

He is in the dungeon. He's an...
honorable man. And he awaits his
sentence.

ISEULT

What're you going to do to him?

KING MARK

That is up to you?

Iseult stares at him in confusion.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

But I'm not a heartless man. And so
I will leave the choice up to you.

ISEULT

What choice?

INT. LYONESSE - DUNGEONS - NIGHT

Trying to control himself, Tristam sits passively behind bars. Iseult arrives. But she looks dazed. Shaken.

TRISTAM

Iseult! Are you all right?

ISEULT

I don't know...

TRISTAM

What did he do to you?

ISEULT

He gave me the choice. Of what will
happen to you.

Tristam shakes his head. *What does that mean?*

ISEULT (CONT'D)

Tomorrow you'll be brought into the
arena...

EXT. LYONESSE - THE ARENA - FANTASY - DAY

Tristam strides forward through the center ring of the arena. All of Lyonesse has gathered for the spectacle.

The seats are packed.

Tristam stands before the king's box where King Mark and Iseult look down upon him.

Just ahead of him are two doors.

INT. LYONESSE - DUNGEONS - NIGHT

Iseult continues her explanation.

ISEULT

You'll be faced with two doors. One
to your right. One to your left.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE ARENA - FANTASY - DAY

Tristam approaches the first door. He warily opens it.

ISEULT (V.O.)

Behind one door, there will be a woman. A sweet kind wonderful woman from the outside world. And if you should find her, you'll be married on the spot. You'll declare devotion to her. And the two of you will be sent on your way to live the rest of your lives together.

As Iseult describes it-

A lovely WOMAN emerges through the door. She throws her arms around Tristam. Following her is a PRIEST and several celebrants. They throw flower petals. Musicians play.

And the Priest declares them wed.

Tristam and the Woman kiss.

INT. LYONESSE - DUNGEONS - NIGHT

From his miserable situation in the dungeons, Tristam shakes his head.

TRISTAM

What's behind the other door?

Iseult's head drops.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE ARENA - FANTASY - DAY

In much the same way as the first scenario, Tristam warily approaches the second door in the arena.

ISEULT (V.O.)

Behind the second door, will be a terrible beast.

Tristam opens the door.

Fearsome green eyes sparkle in the darkness.

ISEULT (V.O.)

The moment you open the door, it will strike. You'll be unarmed. Unprepared. And it will kill you.

The dark, shapeless form of the beast springs out of the darkness and overcomes Tristam.

INT. LYONESSE - DUNGEONS - NIGHT

A tear runs down Iseult's cheek. But Tristam nods.

TRISTAM

And King Mark is letting you choose?

ISEULT

Yes. Tomorrow, just before the ceremony, he'll tell me which door holds which fate. And I'll signal to you which one to take.

TRISTAM

Give me the beast.

ISEULT

What?! No!

TRISTAM

Don't you see how much more terrible the other would be?

ISEULT

And don't you see how much more terrible it would be for me? I can't condemn you to death, Tristam.

TRISTAM

And I can't bear to live with any other woman but you. It would be agony every day for the rest of my life.

ISEULT

But you would still have life. I can't bear to imagine a world without you.

They're at a standstill.

What're they going to do?

EXT. LYONESSE - THE ARENA - DAY

The next day, as hot, merciless sun beats down, the event itself has actually arrived.

A door at the far end of the arena opens, and Tristam is shoved out by guards.

He crosses the circular arena and looks to-

THE STANDS-

Every seat is filled with the citizens of Lyonesse. Most of them scowl and boo. A few weep.

ON THE GROUND-

Tristam strides through the center ring and approaches-

THE KING'S BOX-

Some 15 feet above the ground level, King Mark sits and looks down upon Tristam.

Iseult sits beside King Mark. Her face is puffy and red. It's obvious she hasn't had a good night.

King Mark stands.

KING MARK

Sir Tristam of the Court of Camelot, you are found guilty of treason against the kingdom of Lyonesse. In accordance with your duties as a knight, your life is forfeit to do with as will please Lyonesse.

The crowd jeers and hisses.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

We are not an unmerciful city. But punishment must be considered. Therefore, we offer you the chance of punishment or redemption.

King Mark gestures to the two doors that are situated in the wall below his King's Box.

KING MARK (CONT'D)

Make your choice.

ON THE GROUND-

Tristam locks eyes with Iseult.

IN THE KING'S BOX-

Iseult battles with the decision. She shakes with restrained sobs. Then with an almost imperceptible head nod-

She gestures to the left.

ON THE GROUND-

Tristam nods, and strides toward the door indicated.

THROUGHOUT THE ARENA-

The crowd watches with a collective held breath.

Iseult can't bear to watch.

King Mark leans forward in his throne.

ON THE GROUND-

Tristam reaches his hand out to the door.

He grasps the handle.

He turns it.

And-

BOOOOOOOOOOOOM!

The entire castle is rocked by a violent explosion.

In seconds, chaos reigns.

The gathered citizens scream in terror and search for the source. Smoke fills the skies.

In the near distance, buildings crack and crumble.

More explosions rent the air.

Tristam falls to the ground amidst the confusion.

IN THE KING'S BOX-

King Mark rises and shouts to the people.

KING MARK (CONT'D)
We're under attack! Take shelter!

All around him, even in his own box, people are reacting with fear and terror.

Iseult maintains a bit of composure. Her eyes flash and she sees-

An ornate dagger hanging from King Mark's belt.

THROUGHOUT THE ARENA-

Everyone stampedes from their seats.

It's mass hysteria.

ON THE GROUND-

Tristam struggles to compose himself. His ears are ringing. Dust hangs thick in the air. He shakes his head to clear it.

He looks ahead of him and sees-

Both of the doors have swung open and-

A lovely woman lays on the ground, pinned down by a massive, blood-thirsty saber-toothed tiger.

It's impossible to tell which came from which door, and really it doesn't matter as-

Tristam leaps into action.

Just as the tiger is about to sink its teeth into the lady, Tristam dives at the tiger. With all his strength, he wrenches the beast away from the lady.

TRISTAM
(to the lady)
Go! Get out of here!

The lady sprints away as quickly as she can.

The tiger spins to face Tristam. It pounces. Tristam barely manages to dodge. But in seconds, the tiger springs again. And again. Tristam can't keep up. And the tiger is tireless.

Finally, the beast catches its prey.

The massive animal slams Tristam to the ground, and pins him down with its powerful paws. It's about to feast when-

Iseult arrives.

She dives onto the back of the tiger.

And plunges the ornate dagger into the back of the tiger's neck. The beast collapses atop Tristam.

Tristam and Iseult combine their strength to shove the tiger's body aside.

And they embrace.

ISEULT

There's an attack from the outside.
Explosions are rocking the castle
from all sides.

TRISTAM

I think the Pig Sty Prince made
good on his word.

ISEULT

We have to get out of here.

TRISTAM

Together.

They take hands.

And they flee the arena.

IN THE KING'S BOX-

King Mark continues to do his best to herd people along in an
orderly manner. But it's a futile battle.

He sees-

DOWN IN THE CIRCLE-

Tristam and Iseult running away together. Hand-in-hand.

And King Mark gives a sad, fleeting smile.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - DAY

All hell is breaking loose throughout Lyonesse.

People run wildly in all directions as they press for the
front gates.

Periodically, there are more explosions.

Buildings crumble. Statues crack and fall.

A massive wave slams against the side of the castle, and the
water flows through the widening cracks.

Tristam and Iseult run into Brangaine.

BRANGAINE

The Sea Wall has been breached! The waves are getting in! We're all doomed!

TRISTAM

But that's impossible!

BRANGAINE

The castle was built to withstand the waves. But now that it's broken, it'll only be a matter of time. Everything will be swept away by the sea.

ISEULT

How long?

BRANGAINE

Minutes...

Brangaine sobs and rushes off with the mob.

Another wave hits and the castle continues to crumble.

ISEULT

Anyone left in this castle won't survive.

TRISTAM

We've got to get to the Underlings.

Iseult nods.

They turn and fight against the crowd, pushing their way back into the castle.

INT. LYONESSE - UNDERGROUND PASSAGES - DAY

Things are already looking bad. The underground passage drip and seep with water.

Every so often, the castle shakes again with a new explosion.

Walls crumble. New rushes of water spring forth.

Tristam and Iseult splash through puddles as they charge downward. They reach-

THE KITCHENS-

But the Underlings huddle and look terrified. And it's not just the ones from the kitchens.

The women from the Laundry have joined the huddle. As have the men from the Stone Shop and the Furnaces. They're all together. And they're not moving.

Tristam shouts at them.

TRISTAM

Come on! We've got to go now!

But they still won't move.

Dumbfounded, Tristam looks to Iseult.

She steps forward.

ISEULT

I demand you all listen to me, I am the Lady of Lyonesse. And I command you to leave this instant!

That does it.

The Underlings scramble forward as the water's quickly rise behind them.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - DAY

King Mark ushers the last of the people out of the front gates as the castle continues to collapse under the onslaught of the waves. But he looks back at his rapidly crumbling castle.

And he seems like a broken man.

Suddenly he spots one person amongst the wreckage.

Pig Sty.

King Mark's face contorts in rage as he charges toward the filthy prince.

KING MARK

How dare you come back here!

PIG STY

Had to make sure everyone made it out, didn't I? Not a madman, am I?

But King Mark just screams, draws a sword and slashes.

Pig Sty narrowly manages to dodge the blows.

KING MARK

This kingdom was my dream!

PIG STY

Dreams aren't reality, are they?

KING MARK

I provided a perfect world!

PIG STY

For some, not all.

KING MARK

So everyone must be happy? Or no
one can be?

As the castle crumbles around them, the two diametrically
opposed men argue and fight.

The climb higher and higher, up to the top of the Sea Wall.

INT. LYONESSE - UNDERGROUND PASSAGES - DAY

Tristam and Iseult urge the Underlings along.

One woman falls behind as a wall gives way to show a rapidly
flooding chasm.

Iseult dives in after the woman.

Tristam watches the churning water. Feeling helpless.

Suddenly Iseult reemerges. She pushes the woman to Tristam,
who helps pull her out of the water.

The terrified woman runs along up the underground passage.

Tristam helps Iseult out of the chasm.

But before they can continue, the ceiling collapses, and the
tunnel floods with water. As it quickly climbs to their
waists, then shoulders-

TRISTAM

I didn't train for this.

Iseult takes his hand.

ISEULT

Just stay with me. And we can
overcome anything.

TRISTAM

Together.

They take a deep breath, duck under the water, and swim.

EXT. LYONESSE - THE GRAND SQUARE - DAY

King Mark and Pig Sty continue to fight as water floods the square and the castle crumbles.

They climb to higher and higher ground and scale the steps of-

THE SEA WALL

They battle at the highest point. King Mark dedicated his life to this, and Pig Sty has destroyed everything.

PIG STY

Can't control everything, can you
now, my lord? Don't you see how
foolish it was to try?

King Mark sags under the weight of it all. He drops his sword.

KING MARK

Go. Save yourself. If you can.

PIG STY

Come with us. Life doesn't have to
begin and end like this.

KING MARK

This was my dream. If it must fall,
I will fall with it.

King Mark stands alone atop the structurally weakened wall.

But Pig Sty runs for it.

DOWN THE TALL STONE STEPS-

Pig Sty leaps and bounds from one falling stone to the next as things literally crumble right under his feet.

More than once, he nearly bites it, but-

He finally slams down onto solid ground.

And as buildings, towers, walls, and statues continue to crumble under the onslaught of the merciless waves of the sea, Pig Sty sprints for the front gates.

EXT. LYONESSE - SECLUDED CORNER - DAY

Tristam and Iseult surface in a pool that forms right in the center of the Grand Square.

Sopping wet and gasping for breath, they scramble out of the water and run for it.

Water is everywhere. Waves keep hitting and nearly wash them away several times.

But they're nearing the-

FRONT GATES-

They can make it, but-

A pain groaning sound reaches their ears. Tristam and Iseult stop and search for the source, only to find-

Palamedes trapped beneath fallen rubble.

Tristam and Iseult rush to Palamedes's aid and pull the stones off of him.

PALAMEDES

You must go. You must save yourselves!

But the lovers ignore him and continue to help.

PALAMEDES (CONT'D)

You will die if you stay here!

ISEULT

We're not leaving you.

TRISTAM

I may have turned my back on my duty. But I will never turn my back on my honor. Or on a friend!

With a great effort, Tristam and Iseult pull Palamedes free from the rubble.

They all stand together.

Palamedes gives them a brief, terse nod of thanks. Then he runs. And Tristam and Iseult follow.

THE FRONT GATE-

As they reach the front of the castle, Iseult grabs Tristam's arm and points back at-

THE SEA WALL-

King Mark stands alone. He waves them farewell when-

A massive wave slams against the Sea Wall. It finally gives way and collapses into the sea.

And King Mark goes with it.

AT THE FRONT GATE-

Hand in hand, Tristram and Iseult race out of the castle as it collapses mere inches behind them. They cross-

THE STONE BRIDGE-

They continue running together. Even as the stone bridge crumbles behind them, and everything falls away.

They are only feet ahead of utter collapse.

EXT. LAND OUTSIDE LYONESSE - DAY

Leaping to safety as the bridge falls away, Tristram and Iseult finally reach solid ground.

But there are swarms of people. All of the survivors of Lyonesse. Wet, wounded and dirty, but these are still people who were chosen for their physical perfection. They're strong and powerful-

And they're angry.

A mob quickly forms and seems ready to tear Tristram and Iseult apart.

CITIZEN OF LYONESSE

They did this! They destroyed our home! Kill them!

The mob makes a move toward Tristram and Iseult who have no chance against the massive numbers but-

PALAMEDES

You will halt!

Everyone stops. They turn and the crowd parts as-

Palamedes takes control. He's in charge now. And his authority is undeniable.

PALAMEDES (CONT'D)

We will not hurt them. We will let them go. Their path is now for them alone.

Grumbling, scowling and reluctant, the mob splits and allows Tristam and Iseult through.

And the lovers head off into the wilderness together.

EXT. WILDERNESS - DAY

As Tristam and Iseult trudge through the forest, they come across Pig Sty who, remarkably, whistles as he walks.

TRISTAM

That's quite a tune you're whistling there, Prince.

PIG STY

The Sinking of Lyonesse. By the Pig Sty Prince. Has a bit of a ring to it, don't it?

Neither Tristam or Iseult laugh. Or even smile.

TRISTAM

You seem pleased with yourself.

PIG STY

Aye, I am. Got the Underlings out, didn't I?

ISEULT

Yes, you did. But was it really worth the cost? You destroyed a castle. A way of life.

PIG STY

My Olwen's seen tiny sprigs poke up out of the ground, grow into trees taller than any tower, and come tumbling down again. It's how things be...

He just shrugs.

PIG STY (CONT'D)

Nature always wins.

With that, Pig Sty turns and walks deeper into the forest.

TRISTAM
Where will you go?!

PIG STY
Oh, that's easy! Got to find my
Lady Olwen, don't I?

And the strange, dirty man disappears amongst the trees.

EXT. WILDERNESS - SUNSET

Now alone, Tristam and Iseult make some shelter for themselves. A small fire crackles and pops and they huddle around it for warmth.

ISEULT
Tristam... I feel like I should
tell you... I hope you can forgive
me, but in the arena, when you
stood before the doors. I was going
to send you to-

TRISTAM
Shhh. You need never tell me.

She moves closer to him. He puts his arm around her.

ISEULT
Where do we go now?

TRISTAM
Does it matter?

ISEULT
Not one bit.

And she curls up into the crook of his arm as they gaze into the insistent burning fire.

BLACK OUT

THE END