

Not Included

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FADE IN:

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

A manhole sits still on a peaceful street. It begins to raise revealing the WIZARDRESS, an eccentric looking old mage. She looks with suspicious eye at the world around her.

A deep GARGLING from unknown creatures sounds below her, she swiftly retreats back underground.

Sounds of SPARKLING SPELLS fill the caverns below.

INT. NOAH'S APARTMENT - DAY

*

Noah's wall, standing valiantly, boasts an assortment of items. Seen are framed pictures of gameshows with Noah clearly losing, plaques for Noah's role as an extra in b-rate movies with his one line in bronze etching, and a multitude of mildly impressive trophies

NOAH, 32, a semi-attractive man of okay stature yanks as many of the trophies as he can, tossing them thoughtlessly into a box filled with 2nd place ribbons and participation awards.

NOAH
Hello, new day!

EXT. APARTMENT PARKING LOT - DAY

Without much care, Noah throws the box into the trunk of his car, slamming it.

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - DAY

The intricate door comes open with a WHAM. The house is nice, it's clear that the owners are well off. JON and JAN, a couple both in their 60s jump up as Noah breezes through their living room, box in hand.

JAN
Noah, honey, you didn't tell us
you'd be coming over today?

Jan walks in the line of Noah attempting a hug, but he swerves past.

NOAH

Don't worry mom, I'm only here for a minute. Just gotta drop off a few things!

JON

Slow down, son, there's no need to rush!

NOAH

Oh, well, y'know how things are... work and all. I can't exactly be late.

JAN

Please just...give us a minute. Take a seat.

NOAH

Ooh I really would but I have to get going soon!

Jon and Jan attempt following Noah. They struggle to match his speed as he walks with intense purposeful struts.

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - ATTIC - CONTINUOUS

Lights floods the dark room as the door gets pulled down and open, followed by Noah climbing the ladder with the box. He searches the dark space for a place to fit it.

JAN

What's got you all buzzing bee all of the sudden?

NOAH

Today's the day I get the appreciation I deserve.

JON

Is that right?

NOAH

Today I'm finally getting a big promotion!

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Jan shoots Jon a look of concern. He shrugs silently.

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S ATTIC - CONTINUOUS

JAN

Noah, sweetheart, have you talked
to Arden recently?

NOAH

Yeah yeah, Arden, of course I have.
Why?

JAN

It's just that you two used to be
so close. I just never hear you
talk about them anymore.

Noah finds a place for his box, stuffing it between two boxes
equally filled with mediocre ribbons and trophies.

JAN

Just maybe try to talk to them
soon. We think it would be good for
you.

NOAH

(dismissively)

Yeah, I'm sure, I'm sure.

Among the boxes Noah picks up an old photo frame, showing two
young boys, labeled with permanent marker reading "Noah and
Arden, best friends together."

INT. NOAH'S CAR - DAY

DANGERZONE begins playing on Noah's speakers. Noah is fully
immersed in the song. He turns up the speaker once the chorus
begins.

NOAH

Highway to the Noah zone! Highway
to the Noah zone!

Noah once again lowers the speakers, waiting excitedly for
the next chorus.

NOAH

Highway to the Noah zone! Highway
to the Noah zone!

Noah waits out the music, switches it to LITHIUM by Nirvana

NOAH

I'm so happy, 'cause today I found
Noah!

INT. OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

Noah walks in, now in his business casual, his shirt is simple but his tie has a slightly more interesting pattern.

Noah tries fist bumping the security guard, who does not see it as he passes towards the coffee machine. He makes two before going to the elevator.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Noah exits the elevator and he is on fire. Every step of his foot might as well be to a rhythm, but it's not. He shoots finger guns at unsuspecting coworkers while he makes his way to his cubical.

COWORKER 1

Hey Noah!

NOAH

Hey, how's it hangin'?

COWORKER 2

How ya doin' Noah?

NOAH

Y'know, same 'ol same 'ol. Love this job.

Noah grabs his swivel chair and spins into it, his feet landing squarely on his desk.

SEBASTION

Morning, Noah!

SEBASTION, 24, Noah's young coworker with noticeably dreamy hair pokes his head out from behind the cubical wall. Noah does not make eye contact with him.

NOAH

Ohhh hey...Sergio?

SEBASTION

Nope!

NOAH

Samuel?

SEBASTION

No!

NOAH

Santiago?

SEBASTION
It's Sebastion.

NOAH
Oh, yeah yeah I knew that. You're new so, still taking some time for the ol' noggin to remember.

SEBASTION
I've been working next to you for three weeks, but I understand! Wanna hear about something funny that happened to me on my way to work this morning?

NOAH
Yeah, yeah, sure.

SEBASTION
So on my way here, I was at a spotlight when I swear I had-

Noah zones out, losing all focus of what Sebastion is saying to him.

SEBASTION
Mememememememe mememe meme
memememememe! Memememe mememe!

Noah admires the flyer which he has pinned inside his cubical. It reads "Think you can be a star? Apply to be our employee spokesperson and be in our commercials!" He smiles.

NOAH (V.O.)
My God...I'm actually gonna do it.
I'm actually gonna be that guy.
From this point onward I am a new man. I am a real man.

SEBASTION
Freaky stuff ammiright?

Noah refocuses.

NOAH
Yeah that's crazy, Spencer.

MS. FRUMP, an older woman, likely in her sixties, with arms that could lift any inconvenient filing cabinet.

MS. FRUMP
Noah Nelly, could you please come to my office.

Noah pompously stands up from the seat in one full exaggerated movement. He gives a wink to Sebastian as he dances, coffee in hand, and singing the same tune he did to himself in the car to Ms. Frump's office.

INT. MS FRUMP'S OFFICE - DAY

Ms. Frump tries her best to hold herself together. She pours a part of a flask into her coffee before a RHYTHMIC KNOCKING rings from her door.

MS. FRUMP
Please come in Noah.

Noah opens the door, dances in.

NOAH
I brought you your favorite coffee

MS. FRUMP
Thank you Noah but-

Noah begins to show off the coffee as if he's in a commercial.

NOAH
Black with two packets of sugar!
The perfect taste for your start to
the morning.

MS. FRUMP
I appreciate it Noah howev-

NOAH
Wait wait wait, there's more! I
love this company so much for
giving us such easy access to this
delect-

MS. FRUMP
Please! Just sit down.

Noah goes quiet as he sits down. There is a hush between the two of them. It's a silence only ever interrupted by the sharp CLOCK TICKING emitting from Ms. Frump's wall.

MS. FRUMP
So a decision has been made on your
application.

Ms. Frump collects from under her desk a small white envelope.

NOAH
Well before I open this envelope!
Let me tell you about our other
deals!

Ms. Frump stares at Noah dead on. Noah drops the act, and opens the letter. His demeanor drops entirely.

NOAH
Oh shit.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Noah sheepishly exits the office looking around at everyone as if they would have noticed. His heart is pounding and he can't focus on the world around him

He sulks back to his cubical. He does not spin into his chair. He then rests his face on his desk.

Sebastion once again pops up over the cubical wall and looks him down.

SEBASTION
Bad news huh?

NOAH
Please don't pity me Sal.

SEBASTION
Well if you need anything, let me
know alright?

Sebastion retreats beneath the wall that divides the two of them.

NOAH
So I guess this is it. This is what
it feels like when your life is
officially over.

LIGHTING strikes as the whole mood of the office shifts. Wind picks up heavily, papers fly about, the lighting has turned a deep red. An ALL MEN'S CHOIR underlines the ordeal.

N

NOAH
Is that a men's choir

The Wizardress, draped in a long silver flowing robe makes a grand entrance into the space. The choir silences before her voice begins to ring out.

WIZARDRESS

Heed my warning, you, the
population of this present day. A
great and unspeakable evil will
return to the world.

Noah sits up in attention.

WIZARDRESS

Once this great and unspeakable
evil has returned. He will bring
with him darkness, famine, and
death.

NOAH (V.O.)

What on Earth is she talking about?

WIZARDRESS

However, one person here has been
prophesized in ages long past to be
Earth's chosen hero. Of which they
shall fight this great and
unspeakable evil, and save the
world as we know it.

Noah starts to erect a smile.

WIZARDRESS

This person is known for their
kindness.

NOAH (V.O.)

Ok I knew it, it's gonna be me!

WIZARDRESS

This person is humble.

NOAH (V.O.)

Oh yeah I got this in the bag.

WIZARDRESS

This person puts time into learning
everyone's name.

NOAH (V.O.)

You might as well just give it to
me at this point. Everyone already
knows I'm who you're looking for.

The Wizardress raises her arms as she walks through the
office towards Noah's cubical.

The Wizardress walks up to Noah, he stands up, he extends his
arms forward.

*
*

NOAH

I cannot thank you enoug-

The Wizardress turns at his cubical and begins to walk around.

Noah's expression drops as she walks past, his arms still extended.

*
*

The Wizardress approaches Sebastion, and cups both his hands into hers.

*

WIZARDRESS

Sebastion Clemett.

Noah still holds his position with his arms extended, his face filled with horror.

*
*

NOAH

Oh my god.

WIZARDRESS

You are our prophesized hero. You are the chosen one, and I pledge my allegiance to you.

The Wizardress kneels on one knee, and all wind in the room ceases.

*

The office stands in awe of the moment.

*

Noah feigns a smile.

*

NOAH

Wow, Sebastion! I'm so happy for you!

*

EXT. OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY

Noah runs at his car.

*

NOAH

DAMMIT!

He kicks his cars tires repeatedly.

*

Noah grabs over at his foot instantly, seething in the pain of literally kicking a tire.

*
*

NOAH

Surely, it's a mistake, surely she's just joking.

*

Noah opens his car door and gets in.

INT. NOAH'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Noah grabs an old water bottle and downs it, breathing heavily through the chugging. *

Face in his hands, Noah freezes as if all his fear has just been released. *

Noah's head slowly rises. *

NOAH

Arden!

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

The library sits quietly. The lighting is dim. A few people are scattered about, reading and working. ARDEN, 33, a person with as much style and swagger as they have confidence (which doesn't say much) sits alone behind the librarian's desk. *

Arden attempts to read, but they are unable to focus. *

Arden spins around and sees all the people at the library together. Couples enjoying each other, families with their kids, friends laughing together. They look longingly. *

Arden pulls up their phone, opening Instagram, and going into their profile. *

In their profile are pictures of them riding a swan boat alone, them at laser tag wearing the vests of opposite teams and holding two guns, them enjoying a milkshake with two straws alone. *

The sound of the FRONT DOORS FLYING OPEN rings throughout the library. Arden turns to shush the person has just barged into the space. Their face drops when they see Noah standing grinning at them. *

NOAH

Hey Arden! I need your help with something.

Arden turns and runs for it. Noah pursues them. *

Noah vaults over Arden's desk in the pursuit. *

NOAH

No need to run Arden! I just want to talk to you, like old friends.

ARDEN

Please leave me alone!

Arden runs around an older couple, slowly walking with their arms linked.

ARDEN

Excuse me, sorry.

Noah pushes through the two. Both of the older people fall to the ground.

Scrambling, Arden runs up the main set of stairs, almost falling at each step.

ARDEN

Shit, shit, shit, shit, shit, shit,
shit, SHIT.

INT. LIBRARY - UPSTAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Arden stands at the top of the steps, next to the elevator, looking for a place to hide.

The elevator opens next to them revealing Noah standing with a smile.

NOAH

C'mon Arden, what ever happened to helping each other out?

ARDEN

AHH!

Arden makes a split decision and runs forward.

NOAH

Wait, just listen to me!

Noah continues to pursue.

Arden grabs onto a wheeled cart and uses it as a scooter. Noah does the same.

Both Noah and Arden approach a dead end.

Arden jumps off and turns to run through a mass of bookshelves.

Noah climbs on top of the bookshelves and tries following while balanced.

Noah jumps down to meet Arden, who is now standing among a section of tables, filled with seniors.

*
*

Arden signals for Noah to be silent.

*

Noah pursues Arden, but they maintain a slower pace as to not disturb the seniors around them.

*
*

Arden runs into the bathroom, Noah chases them inside.

INT. LIBRARY - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

*

Arden and Noah run in a circle around the bathroom.

*

ARDEN

Please just let me go!

Noah tackles Arden, then landing into the doorway pushing the door open.

*

INT. LIBRARY - UPSTAIRS - CONTINUOUS

*

Everyone around them looks at them as they struggle.
Eventually Arden gives up.

*
*

NOAH

(whispered)

I only need a minute.

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

Sebastian and the Wizardress sit together in a meditative stance next to a small koi pond.

A group of birds begin to fly around Sebastian, jumping around his hands, and singing in tune with his voice.

SEBASTION

I've never had birds like me this much before.

*

WIZARDRESS

It's in line with the job, you'll get used to it.

*

SEBASTION

So... what exactly am I going up against?

*

WIZARDRESS

The Great and Unspeakable Evil is a being that's been around since before the age of man. A being with malice at the core of his heart. A being hellbent on causing misfortune to those who lead innocent lives. He has been here before, but not quite so strong.

SEBASTION

Wow... that's kind of intense,
isn't it? He can't be *all* bad.

*

WIZARDRESS

Oh, but he is. And you cannot let him fool you into thinking he is not. The Great and Unspeakable Evil has been known to try to sway those which seek to defy him.

*

SEBASTION

I understand. I'm pretty gullible.

WIZARDRESS

Is that true?

SEBASTION

Oh yeah, big time. I always used to be tricked when I was a kid. When I was 7 years old my older brother opened a manhole cover. He had told me our family dog had fallen in and that I was the only one small enough to fit in and grab him out. After going in, he put the cover back on and I was stuck in the sewer for 12 hours.

A grave face of concern washes over the Wizardress.

*

SEBASTION

Don't worry, it's funny to me now!
Though, it did make me realize that I'm too trusting.

*

*

*

*

WIZARDRESS

Well do not be fooled, a lot of people will try to earn your trust now that you're the hero. You're too important to be in that kind of danger.

*

*

*

SEBASTION

Understood

WIZARDRESS

Furthermore, you will be expected to train rigorously. You have a month until The Great and Unspeakable Evil is to return. Not a moment should be wasted on anything else.

SEBASTION

Could I at least go to work for one more day? I'll need to talk to my boss about taking the month off, or year, or however long I need I suppose. Do I get paid?

WIZARDRESS

All in due time.

INT. LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

*

Noah paces the room anxiously thinking to himself in front of a whiteboard while Arden sits *anxiously*.

*

ARDEN

So ultimately, your coworker has become a part of some real-life chosen one prophesy?

*

*

NOAH

Yes! Exactly.

ARDEN

And... why do you care so much?

*

NOAH

Because I feel like this is my calling. There's Sebastian, and then there's me. I'm obviously the right choice.

*

*

*

*

ARDEN

Right...

NOAH

I feel like you're not hearing me out on this.

ARDEN

No, I'm hearing you out. I just don't see why this matters *at all*.

*

*

NOAH

Look at me! What does he have that I don't?

*

ARDEN

I feel like you're answering your own questions here.

NOAH

Look, if there is this large prophesy, and there is some chosen one. What does that mean for the rest of us who aren't in it? What does that say about me?

ARDEN

I think you're placing a lot of self-worth into this story cliché.

*

NOAH

I'm being serious.

ARDEN

Don't I know it. You wouldn't have chased me through my place of work if you weren't.

NOAH

I chased you down because you're the only person I know who reads enough to know how these things work.

ARDEN

Wow, the hero's journey. The protagonist seeks out his mentor. OOH LOOK you already did it! Good job you're the main character now.

*

NOAH

This isn't about being the main character.

ARDEN

Then what is this about?

NOAH

It's about serving my purpose to the world.

ARDEN

By being the main character...

NOAH

No...I mean...if there was a
different option I would gladly
take it.

*
*
*

Arden spins around in their chair nonchalantly.

ARDEN

(mockingly)

Well shit, that evil thing is
prophesized too. Clearly other
people are involved, maybe you
could be his side kick best friend
or something.

*
*
*
*
*

Suddenly, without any time passing Noah has his hands on
Arden's shoulders.

NOAH

Arden, you are a genius.

Noah kisses Arden on the forehead who pushes him away.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

*

Arden locks the glass door at the front of the library.

They walk towards the back closet behind the front desk, Noah
follows close behind.

NOAH

Please?

ARDEN

I'm not doing this with you, Noah.

Arden unlocks the closet, enters, and begins rummaging.

NOAH

Someone doesn't have any sense of
adventure.

ARDEN

I don't need adventure!

Arden exits the closet, duster in hand. They pass the front
desk and walk deeper into the library. Noah continues to
pursue.

ARDEN

I've had plenty today already. I'm
adventured out. I helped you, now
leave me alone.

Arden dusts off an emptied bookshelf. Noah looks at them through the vacant space.

NOAH

Oh, come on, don't you want in on this? Be something bigger?

*

ARDEN

Come to think of it...no, I really don't

Avoidantly, Arden moves to dust a shelf very much crammed with books, away from Noah.

As Arden swipes, Noah removes a fantasy novel revealing just his eye.

NOAH

What can I do to change your mind?

*

ARDEN

Noah, the library is closed, please leave or I will call the police.

Noah, hands raised, backs out slowly.

NOAH

Hey, I'm your friend. Not trying to cause any trouble. I'm just going to leave now.

ARDEN

Good.

NOAH

I'm walking out now...

ARDEN

Please do.

NOAH

You can always change your decision.

*

*

ARDEN

Bye Noah.

Noah walks out through the side exit backwards, making eye contact with Arden.

Arden takes a breath of relief.

EXT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

Exiting through the side exit of the library, Arden checks their surroundings. It's dangerously silent.

ARDEN

Noah?

They begin walking towards their car, then speed walking, then running.

Once Arden arrives at their car, they drop the tension throughout their body.

ARDEN

I'm really psyching myself out over this.

Arden goes to open their car door. Noah appears from behind their car.

NOAH

So why don't we compromise?

Arden reactively gives Noah a punch straight to the gut. Noah buckles over, falling to his knees, holding his stomach.

ARDEN

Oh my god, I am so sorry.

NOAH

You're fine.

ARDEN

Do you need-

NOAH

Nope, just give me a minute.

Noah holds himself before recovering to his feet.

ARDEN

You can't do that to me!

NOAH

I realized that.

ARDEN

Are you crazy?

NOAH

I'm sane as far as I can tell.

ARDEN

Then why can't you leave me out of this?

NOAH

Because you're smarter than me, you always have been.

ARDEN

Oh Noah...

NOAH

I mean it. I can't do this without you.

ARDEN

You're gonna have to.

Arden opens the car door, about to enter.

NOAH

I could help you make friends.

Arden freezes, thinking about what Noah had just said.

NOAH

I've seen your posts; I know you're lonely. Maybe I can introduce you to some of my friends.

*

Arden backs away from the car. They pace while they contemplate. After thinking it over for a minute, they walk back to Noah.

ARDEN

You promise to introduce me to your friends?

NOAH

I promise.

ARDEN

I expect you not to break that promise.

NOAH

Do I seem like the type?

Noah waits for a response but Arden just glares.

NOAH

I can't blame you for that. What are you doing tomorrow?

ARDEN

I've got the afternoon shift, why?

NOAH

Good, because I need you in the morning. I already have a plan.

INT. OFFICE - MORNING

Noah exits the elevator wearing even brighter colors than the day previous. He holds a forced grin from ear to ear, and two coffees in each hand.

The office is very busy. Many people are hustling and bustling about. The office has already begun celebrating Sebastion and his destiny.

Noah walks through the hall, now laden with pictures of Sebastion reading "we are so proud of you Sebastion, you are our hero!"

*

He passes multiple coworkers as he walks towards his cubicle.

COWORKER 1

Hey, Noah!

*

Noah briefly continues his walk.

COWORKER 2

How ya' doin', Noah?

*

Noah remains nonverbal.

Noah sees Sebastion talking to a crowd of smiling coworkers around him.

Noah books it, cutting the other coworkers off, and handing a coffee to Sebastion.

*

NOAH

Here you go Sebastion, just how you like it.

SEBASTION

Oh wow! Black: my favorite! How did you know?

*

NOAH

Well, I know a lot of things about my best bud.

*

SEBASTION

We're best buds?

NOAH

Of course we are!

*

On the other side of the room enter Arden, dressed as an executive and holding two boxes of donuts.

SEBASTION

I need to go to the copier, would you like to join?

*

NOAH

I'd love to!

Sebastion gets up, and Noah follows him.

Noah nods to Arden as they get up. Arden goes into the break room.

INT. OFFICE - BREAK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Arden sets down the boxes and wipes their hands on their pants.

INT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

As Noah follows Sebastion as multiple excited coworkers attempt to approach him. Each time they do this, Noah blocks their view of Sebastion.

*

*

COWORKER 3

Sebastion, I've gotta say. I'm very excited for-

NOAH

Hey Sebastion, y'know I've always admired your work ethic.

SEBASTION

Aw, thank you Noah. You're awful friendly today.

COWORKER 4

Sebastion, my main man, way to get that-

NOAH

Sebastion, remind me to show you this cool party trick I learned when we get back to our cubicles.

Poking their head out of the breakroom, Arden raises their voice.

ARDEN

Attention everybody, corporate has sent some celebratory donuts. To commemorate Sebastion. Get them while you can!

A sizeable amount of people in the office go towards the break room. Sebastion stops in his tracks.

SEBASTION

Ooh donuts!

NOAH

Wait! We should get these files copied first.

SEBASTION

Good idea Noah!

INT. OFFICE - BREAK ROOM - DAY

The break room has become packed with the office employees. Arden closes the glass break room door shut and locks it. They accidentally break off the lock dial. The door can now not be unlocked.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Noah leans on the copier while Sebastion copies files. The office looks mostly empty, with only a few stragglers walking about.

SEBASTION

Wow everyone in the office really wanted those donuts.

Sebastion checks the copier.

SEBASTION

We have some time! Let's go celebrate with them.

NOAH

You don't want to stay and check for any defects?

SEBASTION

Eh, it should be fine.

Sebastion leaves the copier to go check the break room.

INT. OFFICE - BREAK ROOM - DAY

The crowd inside the room has realized they can't escape.
They begin to bustle more and panic.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Sebastion excitedly walks up to see a large crowd of people
stuck inside the break room.

COWORKER 1
Help us please!

COWORKER 3
Sebastion, please let us out.

Sebastion rushes to the door, grabbing a paperclip from his
pocket and undoing the lock on the door.

The door comes unlocked and the crowd rushes out, trampling
Arden.

A crowd forms around Sebastion cheering for him. Noah is
unable to get to him anymore.

NOAH
Dammit!

INT. LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

Arden sits on the table; they hold an ice pack to their face. *
Noah paces in front of the whiteboard.

ARDEN
I feel as though you're being too
aimless.

NOAH
You're right. If I'm going to be
his best friend, I need a specific *
goal.

ARDEN
Maybe you could get good at
monologuing.

NOAH
What do you mean?

ARDEN
Well, most "right hand man" types
tend to give a rousing speech.
(MORE)

ARDEN (CONT'D)

It's normally to show their loyalty
towards the hero.

NOAH

So, hypothetically-

ARDEN

Here we go...

NOAH

I could create the circumstances to
ensure I give Sebastion a speech,
thus cementing me as his best
friend.

ARDEN

I mean...yeah, technically.

NOAH

Perfect, I should throw a party.

INT. SEBASTION'S HOUSE - HALL - DAY

Sebastion's wall stands in all its glory. Framed pictures of
Sebastion's many deeds are spread: Sebastion cleaning out a
polluted stream, Sebastion building a basketball hoop for an
elementary school, Sebastion shaking hands with the
president. *

LIGHTNING sounds off from the living room.

WIZARDRESS

You're learning fast. Electricity
seems to be your strong suit. *

SEBASTION

I'll have to keep practicing!

An ADORABLE DOORBELL TUNE rings through the house. The
silhouette of a person is outlined by the glass paneled front
door.

SEBASTION

Excuse me for a second!

Sebastion appears at the door. Even in his comfortable
clothes he is perfect, and uniquely attractive. *

Sebastion opens the door, revealing Arden, dressed in a post
office uniform. *

ARDEN

Sebastion Clemmett?

SEBASTION
That's me!

ARDEN
Delivery.

EXT. SEBASTION'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Noah sits in his car, holding a pair of binoculars. He watches Sebastion and Arden talk.

Sebastion looks past Arden momentarily, sees Noah, and gives a friendly wave.

INT. SEBASTION'S HOUSE - HALL - CONTINUOUS

Arden passes Sebastion a poorly put-together flyer. It reads "rager of the ager house party: tomorrow night (friday) 9:00PM"

SEBASTION
Oh thanks! Am I allowed to bring a plus one?

ARDEN
Uhhhhh

EXT. SEBASTION'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Arden turns around and mouths the words "can he bring a plus one?" to Noah. Noah replies with a single thumbs up.

ARDEN
Uhhhh yes?

SEBASTION
Perfect!

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Arden enters through the kitchen door, they are dressed nicely for themselves, wearing a slightly shinier jacket. They are holding a large cake, which they place on the kitchen island, which is already filled with drinks, snacks, and desserts.

Arden pulls out a folded wad of paper from their pocket, unfold it, and check it off.

They check off items as they inspect the kitchen, moving into the living room.

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Arden enters the living room, a crowd of at least 30 people stand in attention of Noah, who **marches** from side to side in front of them. He makes heavy use of hand gestures. *

NOAH
Remember what I need from you all tonight. I need you to stick to the script, make sure that I have my moment with him, and most importantly: stay in character. Alright break!

The crowd disperses and starts finding their places among the house. Arden approaches Noah.

ARDEN
Where did you find all these people to agree to this? *

Noah picks up a 200 page script and begins to review it. *

NOAH
A community theatre. *

ARDEN
And they're this prepped so last minute?

NOAH
These people will do anything if you tell them they'll get equity credits for it.

ARDEN
Well, they definitely seem into it. *

NOAH
Yeah, maybe a little too much...

A KNOCK ON THE DOOR. The actors all spring into character.

NOAH
Could you get the music for me?

Arden gives an exhausted salute.

ARDEN
Sure thing, boss. *

Noah runs to the door, then turns around, and runs back.

NOAH

Also-

ARDEN

Yes?

NOAH

Keep them in line.

Noah runs back for the door. Arden turns to power up the speakers.

EXT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Noah opens the door, and sees Sebastion standing excitedly, with the Wizardress nonchalantly waiting behind.

Noah gives his best attempt at acting surprised.

*

NOAH

Sebastion! You made it!

SEBASTION

I wouldn't miss this!

NOAH

And you brought...the wizard lady!

WIZARDRESS

Wizardress is the term I prefer.

NOAH

You brought the Wizard...ress, how nice. Well can I give you a tour of the party? Give you an up on what's going down?

*

*

Noah does a hand gesture, then crosses his arms. He clearly thinks it's cool. The Wizardress does not seem impressed.

SEBASTION

Why not!

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Noah, with his arm fully around Sebastion, shows off his parent's house. The Wizardress follows close by.

NOAH

Over in the kitchen we've got plenty of food, so please, feel free to eat as much as you want! I want you happy.

SEBASTION

Noah, no offense but I didn't know you had so many friends!

NOAH

Oh, these people? Pfft, just a part of who I am y'know? Let me let you in on a little secret.

*

Noah pulls Sebastion aside and gets very close to his ear.

*

NOAH

(whispered)

I am such a valuable friend, that they all want me to be their best friend.

SEBASTION

(whispered)

Oh wow. That's a big thing to want.

NOAH

Yeah, but honestly, I'm saving myself.

*

SEBASTION

Saving yourself?

NOAH

To find the right best friend!

SEBASTION

Oh wow, that's very brave of you!

*

NOAH

I'm so glad you think so! Want to see the upstairs?

SEBASTION

Are you kidding me? Of course I would!

Noah leads Sebastion up the stairs. The Wizardress wanders around the party. She picks up modern items around, inspecting them as though she has never seen them.

As she investigates, the Wizardress accidentally runs into Arden, bumping them and knocking them over.

WIZARDRESS

Apologies, I fully knocked you over
like the city of Ur.

The Wizardress leans over and helps Sebastion to their feet.

ARDEN

Did you just quote Sumerian
literature to apologize to me?

WIZARDRESS

Hey, hey, hey yeah, I did! People
don't tend to get that one, even
from my time.

*

The Wizardress and Arden have not let go of each other. They
stare at each other.

EXT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - BALCONY

Noah brings Sebastion onto the balcony, Sebastion excitedly
looks over the edge. The party is audibly downstairs, up here
is silence.

NOAH

Y'know Sebastion, I think I want to
tell you something.

SEBASTION

What's going on?

NOAH

I think-

Noah freezes, avoiding eye contact with Sebastion.

NOAH

One moment please.

Noah frenzied runs back through the balcony doors.

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Running in, Noah gets out of the line of sight of the balcony
doors.

Noah retrieves a small notebook from his pocket, and
frantically begins flipping through the pages. He checks a
page where he wrote down the spark notes of a speech.

Noah takes a deep breath and reenters the balcony door.

EXT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Noah has fully regained his confident stature as he walks back onto the balcony.

NOAH
 Sorry about that. Now this is a
 something I'm just coming up with,
 and call me sentimental, but-

SOUND: GLASS BREAKING from downstairs.

ACTOR 1
 Don't you talk to me that way!

ACTOR 2
 Just relax!

ACTOR 1
 Relax?!

Sebastion looks at Noah, then rushes to go check out what's happening.

Noah kicks the railing of the balcony, then reluctantly follows.

INT. NOAH'S PARENT'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Sebastion and Noah reenter the living room to see the two actors fighting. The rest of the actors are all looking tensely at each other.

Noah rushes to Arden and the Wizardress.

NOAH
 What the hell is happening?

ARDEN
 You told them the most important
 thing is to stay in character.
 Well, they got way too into
 character.

*
 *
 *

One actor then pushes another, who runs into a different actor. That actor then retaliates by punching a new actor. All actors end up in a full on-brawl.

*

NOAH
 This is just counterproductive.

*

Noah looks around and notices Sebastion has left their group. He then looks back towards the actors fighting.

NOAH

Aw dammit.

SEBASTION

STOP!

The room goes silent. Sebastion has placed himself between the original two actors. He has in fact caught both of their punches.

SEBASTION

Don't you all see the futility in this? Why fight each other over wasteful arguments? Let's come to a solution, shall we?

*

The actors look around, they stop their fighting. The original two actors are now embracing each other.

The whole party claps and cheers, except for Noah and Arden who stare blankly at the resolve.

ARDEN

How the hell-

*

*

NOAH

I don't even know.

*

*

INT. LIBRARY - CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

Arden and Noah both stand at the white board.

NOAH

It doesn't make sense. That was supposed to be my moment. I was going to give him the big speech and everything.

ARDEN

I'm just throwing things out there at this point, but Enkidu assisted Gilgamesh in battle.

*

*

NOAH

And that means?

*

*

ARDEN

Historically, the best friend helps the hero on the battlefield.

*

*

*

NOAH

I like the way you think!

EXT. FOOTBALL STADIUM - DAY

Sebastion follows the Wizardress onto the field. Noah drags behind, out of breath. Slung around Noah's shoulders is a golf club bag filled with swords.

SEBASTION

I can't thank you enough for
carrying all my swords, Noah!

Noah slings the sword bag onto the ground, and attempts catching his breath.

NOAH

It's what friends are for.

The Wizardress stretches out.

WIZARDRESS

Alright, get ready.

She composes herself.

WIZARDRESS

Let's fight!

Sebastion charges in. Noah watches from the sidelines. Lights and colors flash against his face. SOUND: MAGIC fills the arena.

Sebastion runs back up to Noah.

SEBASTION

Claymore!

Noah exhaustedly pulls out the claymore and hands it to Sebastion.

Sebastion charges back in while Noah sits down on the grass. Lackadaisically he pulls a water bottle from the side of the bag and drinks from it.

A rogue flame flares in front of Noah, but he does not flinch.

Sebastion returns once again.

SEBASTION

I need the poignard.

NOAH

Uhhhhh.

Noah looks at the bag. He frantically pulls out multiple swords.

SEBASTION
The poignard?

NOAH
UHHHHHHH.

INT. BURGER DIVE BAR - DAY

Noah meekly opens his burger, arms and head on the table. *

ARDEN
So, are you giving up on the best
friend thing? *

NOAH
I just can't do it anymore.

ARDEN
That's the first time I've ever
heard you say that.

NOAH
There's gotta be something else
then. I'm wise! Maybe... *

ARDEN
Here we go.

NOAH
-Maybe, I can be like, his teacher!
I know lots of stuff! *

ARDEN
Mentor.

NOAH
Pardon?

ARDEN
You're talking about being his
mentor. Someone who tells the
hard-hitting truths while guiding
the hero in the right direction. *

NOAH
Like a father! *

ARDEN
I mean, I guess so. *

EXT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Noah storms out of the courthouse. He mutters to himself as he makes his way down the steps.

He opens his car door and slams it shut.

INT. NOAH'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Arden stares forward in the passenger seat and Noah aggressively puts his seatbelt on and starts the car.

ARDEN

I'm guessing they said no.

*

NOAH

It's ridiculous! I'm allowed to adopt a grown man if I want!

ARDEN

Behind his back?

NOAH

It's for his own good!

ARDEN

Mmmmmhmmmm. Doesn't he already have a father? He was being interviewed on the news yesterday.

*

*

*

NOAH

Does it matter? How am I supposed to give him fatherly advice if I'm not his father?

*

ARDEN

I'm just trying to figure out if you're a lost cause or not.

NOAH

Do you think he likes beer?

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Noah and Sebastian both sit at the bar. The lighting is dingey, but the bar is clean.

NOAH

One pint of whatever IPA you've got. He'll have a miller light.

The drinks are served, Noah takes a large gulp from his glass mug, he clearly does not enjoy it.

Sebastion takes a single sip from his can.

NOAH

Whoa there, tiger, pace yourself.
Maybe that's too much for someone
your age.

*

SEBASTION

I'm 24.

Noah puts his arm around Sebastion. He attempts to finish his mug in one chug.

NOAH

So, what's next for you, champ?

*

SEBASTION

The Wizardress and I are going to
continue training. Though now we're
going to start branching out.

*

NOAH

Branching out, eh? Maybe I could-

*

SEBASTION

So, we're leaving for South Korea
in two days.

*

Noah spits out his drink.

NOAH

SOUTH KOREA?!

SEBASTION

The Hallasan Valley on Jeju Island
to be exact! I'm very excited! I've
only been to other countries on
humanitarian work.

*

*

*

*

NOAH

Oh wow! Excuse me for a moment.

INT. ARDEN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

*

Noah calls Arden. Arden responds but has clearly just been
woken up.

*

NOAH

Just wanted to call and let you
know that I bought up plane tickets
for South Korea at 6AM tomorrow.

ARDEN

(exhausted)

Okay...

Noah hangs up. Arden turns over and loudly cries into their
pillow.

INT. AIRPORT - MORNING

Arden and Noah walk into the airport. Noah energetically
strides forward, with Arden exhaustedly lagging.

*

NOAH

Who knew plane tickets to South
Korea would be so easy to get last
minute?

Arden does not respond, but only grimaces at Noah.

NOAH

We're going to miss our flight,
hurry up!

Arden continues at their same pace.

INT. PLANE - NIGHT

Noah is fully fixed on the window. Arden sits dozing off in
the chair next to Noah's

NOAH

Wow! Would you look at that!

ARDEN

Why did I let you do this to me?

NOAH

It's beautiful out there!

ARDEN

Maybe it was the sunk cost fallacy.

NOAH

Is that a volcano?

ARDEN

I mean I've already wasted this
much time on this.

EXT. JEJU AIRPORT - NIGHT

Arden and Noah exit the airport. Arden stretches out. Noah
immediately hails for a taxi.

ARDEN

Well, at least it's warm here.
Honestly, I think I might enjoy
this!

*
*

NOAH

That's great, Arden. We've got a
long way to travel still.

*
*
*

ARDEN

Where to first?

*
*

NOAH

Some old guy's cabin in a place
called Hallasan valley.

ARDEN

Is that in the middle of nowhere?

NOAH

You know it!

ARDEN

Yeah, I should have figured as
much.

A taxi arrives, both Arden and Noah enter it.

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT

The taxi pulls into a beaten and dirty path. They are
entirely surrounded by flower, who's colors have become muted
with the darkness of the night.

An old, beat-up cabin stands erect, but barely, among the
field.

*

Sitting in front of cabin is the MASTER, an older man whose
veins are as bulging as his muscles.

*

Noah and Arden exit the taxi, the master looks at them
grimly.

NOAH

(in pain)

Yup, wasn't gonna try.

*

The master turns and starts towards his cabin.

*

NOAH

What if I made you food?

The master turns back around.

MASTER

I might could be enticed.

NOAH

I will need some supplies.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

Noah presents the meal to the master. It's a soup-like concoction.

NOAH

Here you go.

The master eats from the bowl. He visibly enjoys it, and begins eating it more.

Suddenly the master is grabbing at his stomach.

MASTER

Ohhhhh...

The master grabs hold of his stomach. He falls face first into the table in front of him, unconscious.

ARDEN

Oh my god, you killed him.

*

*

Arden gets up, takes a cloth, and starts wiping their fingerprints off of all the surfaces they've touched.

*

*

Arden then starts packing their bags.

*

Noah turns the master around and feels his pulse.

*

Arden grabs Noah's arm and tries pulling them away.

*

ARDEN

We gotta get out of here. I am not about to be tried for murder in Korea, Noah.

*

*

*

*

NOAH

Hold on, I can feel his heart still
beating. I must have poisoned him.

Arden calms down.

NOAH

This is good.

ARDEN

How is this good?

Noah does not answer, he grins deep and maniacally.

NOAH

Let's hide him.

ARDEN

Hide him?!

NOAH

What if Sebastion and the
Wizardress see this!

Noah and Arden lift the master from his arms and his legs.
They place him inside a small closet inside the cabin,
placing a blanket over him.

ARDEN

Will he be okay?

NOAH

Pffft he'll be fine. Get ready, we
need to make this place perfect to
train Sebastion.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Noah sits in the exact position they first found the master
the night before. He is wearing the master's clothes, but on
him look like oversized pajamas.

Arden comes from inside the cabin.

ARDEN

Well, he's still breathing. He's
refusing to drink water though.

NOAH

We can worry about that later. How
cool and wise do I look?

ARDEN

Well...

Sebastion comes running up to both of them.

SEBASTION

Hey guys! Are you here to train too?

The Wizardress comes walking behind Sebastion.

NOAH

Actually Sebastion, I am the master you'll be training under.

SEBASTION

You are?!

WIZARDRESS

(suspicious)

You are?

NOAH

Couldn't believe it myself honestly. But I guess it was just my destiny.

The Wizardress smiles at Arden, she does a little finger wave.

WIZARDRESS

And how are you?

ARDEN

I'm just happy to be here.

The Wizardress and Arden smile at each other for a pretty awkward amount of time.

*
*

NOAH

Welp let's get training!

*

EXT. FIELD - AFTERNOON

Sebastion stands before Noah. Noah holds a non-existent Taekwondo pose.

NOAH

The trick behind kung-fu-

SEBASTION

I thought we were training in taekwondo.

NOAH

That too! The trick is to always aim for the back of the neck.

SEBASTION

Oh, okay, got it got it.

The Wizardress and Arden watch them train at a distance, sitting next to the pond in the field.

WIZARDRESS

How long have you two known each other.

ARDEN

Our whole lives really.

WIZARDRESS

It's just that it's never seemed like you liked him all that much.

ARDEN

I mean, Noah is a lot. All throughout our lives he's had this issue where he drags me along to things that he gets overly excited about. It feels like I'm just here to help him reach some sort of an end, before he drops me off again. Like, this one time, our friend had won the lottery. It was the small local one, but still. He told me that he was so happy for our friend, that he needed to win as well, just to "understand what he went through". Noah convinced me to help him, and I ended up having to be tried as an accomplice in fraud.

*
*
*
*
*

*

From a distance, Noah is clearly just flailing around. Arden is blindly recreating these movements. Noah's confidence is brimming.

WIZARDRESS

Why do you do it then?

ARDEN

Honestly, because I love the guy. He's the only friend I've ever really had, and part of me wants to trust him.

WIZARDRESS

That's not healthy in any way.
There's a lot of friendships to be
had where they don't string you
along for your own gain.

ARDEN

I guess so...

WIZARDRESS

If I were you, I would drop him.
But what do I know? I'm just a
millennia old wise sorcerer.

ARDEN

I suppose that's true.

Noah is sweating, Sebastion is still jumping.

NOAH

You don't burn energy quickly do
you?

SEBASTION

Not at all! Why?

NOAH

It's a good thing, because we're
going to train you non-stop.

MONTAGE - FIELD TRAINING.

Noah "trains" Sebastion. It's an assortment of flails. Though
Sebastion is dedicated to that flailing.

The sun sets and rises behind them.

They continue their flailing, now doing a full-on handshake. *

The sun sets and rises behind them once again.

The sickened master enters hobbling, and Noah grabs him and
drags him back while Sebastion isn't looking.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Both exhausted, Noah and Sebastion fall to the ground.

NOAH

You have done good my pupil. You
are ready.

Sebastion shoots up.

SEBASTION

Ready for what?

NOAH

The test. Get some rest and meet me
in front of the cabin tonight.

*

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

Arden and the Wizardress sit, leaning against each other on
the ground.

Noah stands with his arms crossed, and a stern facial
expression.

Sebastion stretches.

NOAH

Alright, for your final test of
strength, I want you to spar.

SEBASTION

Against who?

NOAH

Hmmmmmmmm...

Noah looks at Arden and points at them.

Arden sheepishly gets up and steps in front of them.

The Wizardress shoots Arden a knowing glance.

NOAH

Ready, begin!

ARDEN

Wait Noah I don't thin-

Sebastion attacks Arden without hesitation. He uses all the
flailing moves taught to him by Noah.

*

Arden somehow manages to dodge Sebastion.

*

ARDEN

Noah, I don't like this.

*

*

SEBASTION

Should I stop?

*

*

NOAH

You will stop when I tell you to
stop!

*

*

*

It looks ridiculous, but Arden gets seriously injured.

*

Arden falls to the ground.

*

Noah keeps his stance, Sebastian stops, the Wizardress stands up.

WIZARDRESS

Shit!

SEBASTION

Uh oh, uh oh!

NOAH

He'll be fine.

WIZARDRESS

Does that look "fine" to you?

NOAH

Fine enough, get up Arden.

*

*

Arden stays on the ground.

*

NOAH

Arden?

*

*

Sebastian runs to look for a first aid kit.

Arden slowly recovers to their feet, bleeding profusely.

*

Arden shoots a look at Noah, who keeps a fully stern look.

*

Arden limps off.

*

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT

Arden sits, still applying bandages to their wounds. Noah, a loud voice in what otherwise would be the perfect silence stalks up to Arden.

NOAH

Hey, I wanted to talk to you.

ARDEN

Yes?

NOAH

What happened out there-

*

Arden looks up with the smallest semblance of hope

*

NOAH

-was awesome! I cannot thank you
enough for helping.

*
*
*

ARDEN

Jesus Christ.

NOAH

Sebastion really learned a thing or
two from me!

ARDEN

That's for sure.

NOAH

It wasn't just me. You really
helped out there!

*
*
*

ARDEN

Oh, I'm sure I did.

*
*

NOAH

So, what's next huh?

*

Arden glares at Noah. Noah gets down to their level and puts
his arm around them.

*

NOAH

C'mon book-smarts, what's a
successful mentor supposed to do
next?

ARDEN

Stop.

NOAH

Stop now? C'mon we're just getting
started!

*
*

ARDEN

No, Noah, stop.

NOAH

Oh please, I'm sure I can do more
than just that.

*
*

ARDEN

Noah, I am going to the hospital.
I'm not helping you anymore.

NOAH

Oh... but I thought we were in this
for the long haul.

*

ARDEN

I can't handle all the manipulation. I'm sick of it. I mean look at me! Your dumbass antics got me seriously injured.

NOAH

I just don't understand. I thought we were friends.

ARDEN

I wasn't your friend; I was just a tool for your delusion.

*

Arden gets up. They limp towards the entrance of the cabin.

ARDEN

I'm going to get treated. Don't follow me, I'm serious this time.

NOAH

W-well you were only holding me back anyway!

Noah waits for a response that he does not get.

NOAH

Yeah, I get it now! If I'm really a part of this prophesy, it'll come naturally to me! I don't need you!

Arden enters the cabin.

NOAH

Good luck making friends without me!

Noah attempts to angrily flip a large rock that he obviously cannot flip.

NOAH

DAMMIT!

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

The doctor exits, Arden looks at their newly applied cast on their arm and leg. Sebastian and the Wizardress stand around the bed they sit on.

SEBASTION

I should go see how much this'll cost.

ARDEN

I've got it.

SEBASTION

No, no, I will take the charge.

Sebastion heroically runs out the door.

ARDEN

I still can't believe we have a
literal wizard with us, and I have
to go to the hospital.

*

WIZARDRESS

Agh, I've only ever been good at
offensive support and giving
valuable lessons. Healing is
another story.

Arden finds the one stress ball sitting on the desk in the
room and starts bouncing it off the wall.

ARDEN

Valuable lessons is true.

WIZARDRESS

Oh yeah?

The Wizardress bounces the ball off the wall without even
touching it. Arden is mildly impressed. They continue bounce
passing it.

ARDEN

Yeah actually. I finally broke it
off with Noah.

WIZARDRESS

Heh, I had a feeling you would,
considering...

The Wizardress gestures towards Arden's whole everything.

ARDEN

He was not happy.

WIZARDRESS

To be completely honest, it was
either you or him.

*

ARDEN

True, true...

WIZARDRESS

And I care a little bit more about
you being happy.

Arden smiles with the Wizardress. They look forward dropping
the joy, they are clearly still in thought.

WIZARDRESS

Hey, the doctor said you should be
good to go right?

ARDEN

Yeah, why?

WIZARDRESS

Well, there's a whole city out
there.

ARDEN

Yes?

WIZARDRESS

And I haven't really gotten the
chance to relax in quite a while.

ARDEN

What did you have in mind?

WIZARDRESS

I was thinking you and I could go
do some sight-seeing.

ARDEN

Just us?

WIZARDRESS

Yeah! I'll tell Sebastian there's a
blood drive until midnight, keep
him distracted. Besides, I haven't
gone on a date in over a thousand
years!

ARDEN

Wow, ok!

The Wizardress flings the ball a little too hard at the wall,
and it hits Arden in their casted arm.

Arden immediately feels the pain.

WIZARDRESS

WHOOPS!

MONTAGE - THE DATE - NIGHT

Arden and the Wizardress travel through the streets of Seogwipo-Si. The streets are lit up by golden lights.

Arden and the Wizardress visit the Maeil Olle Market. Arden looks through an assortment of melon options.

In the background the Wizardress lights children's sparklers by pinching them.

A group of locals play a game in the street of the market. The Wizardress pushes Arden into the circle to play with them.

Arden and the Wizardress visit the Jeju Herb Garden.

Arden and the Wizardress talk to a large group of people as they point and stand in awe of a light statue.

The shoes of Arden and the Wizardress become makeshift tap shoes as they dance hand in hand through the streets of the city.

They continue dancing past a wall of murals of couples dancing. They inadvertently match each pose depicted as they dance by.

In a childlike fit, the two of them jump onto a party boat right as it is undocking and floats out into the local sea.

*

Arden takes in the chaos around them of the party bus. The Wizardress shoots off fireworks, the crowd cheers.

Arden and the Wizardress take a moment to look off the railing of the boat, taking in the views of the city at night. They lean on each other.

EXT. PARTY BOAT - NIGHT

Arden sits in the center of a couch, surrounded by a group of people all sitting and laughing together.

Arden has the Wizardress under one arm, and a martini in the hand of the other.

A man states something to Arden fully in Korean. Arden watches somehow fully understanding.

ARDEN

Good luck trying that!

The whole crowd around them laughs, including the Wizardress.

WIZARDRESS

You really broke out of your shell!

ARDEN

I did! Ever since I dropped...Noah.

They're thinking about Noah again. Fuck! They're joy turns into gentle worry.

WIZARDRESS

I'm really proud of you, Arden.

ARDEN

Yeah.

WIZARDRESS

Alright, what's wrong?

ARDEN

Do you think maybe I should check on him. I'm worried he's going to drive himself crazy.

WIZARDRESS

I get it, but you can't get wrapped up in him. He did this to himself.

ARDEN

No, you're right.

WIZARDRESS

It's out of our hands now.

The Wizardress grabs Arden's empty martini glass and raises it.

WIZARDRESS

Now who's up for another round?!

INT. KOREAN LIBRARY - DAY

Noah enters the library with a strong pose. He's clearly confident, but his face reflects his manic reality.

NOAH

Hello, new day!

Proudly Noah searches through the library for really any semblance of a story. He pulls a random book off of the shelf.

NOAH
I mean how difficult could this
really be?

Noah opens the book, his smile fades as he realizes that in a Korean library, all the books are in Korean.

NOAH
Oh.

A library employee passes him, whom he grabs without even looking at.

NOAH
Excuse me. I'm being just a bit
dumb, could you direct me to the
section with English?

The employee responds to the best of their ability in Korean. Noah gains no information from this interaction.

NOAH
The. English. Section.

The employee is giving clear directions, even in Korean, pointing towards a section and all. Noah still gains zero information from this.

NOAH
You can't understand me.

The employee is frustratedly pointing still.

NOAH
Dammit, never mind.

Noah rushes out the library, passing the English literature section, and not noticing it.

INT. CABIN - DAY

A now angrier Noah reenters the cabin, with a slam of the door.

NOAH
Alright guys, I'm back from a very
successful day studying.

Only then does Noah take notice of Sebastian, Arden, and the Wizardress packing their bags.

NOAH
Y-you're leaving?

WIZARDRESS

We have to move on to our next tier of training.

NOAH

What, you're just gonna teleport away?

*

ARDEN

Pretty much.

NOAH

But, but, but Sebastion, there's so much more I need to teach you.

SEBASTION

Noah, I love that you've been wanting to help me out so much, but it's time to move on.

NOAH

At least let me teleport with you!

WIZARDRESS

Sorry, I can only take two other people, you'll have to stay behind.

Sebastion, Arden, and the Wizardress exit the cabin. As they walk out the door, Sebastion shoots a sympathetic and sorry wave towards Noah.

The sound of the TELEPORTATION rocks the cabin.

Noah slams his hand against the shut door of the cabin.

Noah approaches the closet, opens it, and slaps the slightly unconscious Master awake.

NOAH

C'mon, get up.

The Master's eyes shoot open towards Noah.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Noah flies out the cabin door, landing on his butt. He is followed by his luggage.

Noah collects himself, finding his way back to his feet.

NOAH

Up yours, you old geezer!

Noah picks up his luggage and starts down the trodden dirt path.

MONTAGE - DESPERATE ATTEMPTS

On a world map, Sebastion, Arden, and the Wizardress appear to teleport from point to point instantly. Noah, using planes, trails behind.

In China, Noah attempts to show off his archery skills to Sebastion. He's outdone by the entire Chinese Olympic archery team, shooting in perfect synchronization.

On the world map, Sebastion, Arden, and the Wizardress teleport instantly to Mexico. Noah still trails behind.

Noah drags an excited Sebastion, and an annoyed Wizardress and Arden to a talent show to prove his ability as a bard.

Noah is semi-decent at the fiddle. However, he is greatly outdone by a group of Mariachis.

*

On the world map, Sebastion, Arden, and the Wizardress teleport to Saudi Arabia. Noah once again trails behind.

Noah attempts to show off his falconry ability, but his falcon is preyed on in mid-air by the larger falcon of a champion falconer.

In New York, Noah kneels before Sebastion holding up a very shoddy sword that he has just forged. Sebastion, however, chooses the better made sword forged by the Mariachis.

NOAH

Oh, come on!

*

Finally, in Las Vegas, Noah wears a wizard hat and beard, performing table magic to a less than eager Sebastion. The Wizardress is visibly offended.

EXT. LAS VEGAS STREETS - NIGHT

Arden, Sebastion, and the Wizardress walk down the lit up and bustling streets. Sebastion does hold a stick of cotton candy.

SEBASTION

I really can't get mad at him for trying to help.

WIZARDRESS

Sebastion, I don't think he's trying to help you.

SEBASTION

Why would someone be so dedicated
to following us if he wasn't
determined to help.

WIZARDRESS

He wants your job. He's clearly
jealous of you.

SEBASTION

That's a very bold assumption, and
I'm almost offended by it myself!

WIZARDRESS

Come on Arden, you know Noah best.
You tell him.

Arden raises their hands and attempts to avoid joining the
conversation.

WIZARDRESS

All I'm trying to say is that you
need to start telling him n-

NOAH

Hey guys!

Noah jumps in front of them. He wears a unitard and trunks.
In one hands is a container of gasoline, in the other is a
lighter. His eyes have gone crazed.

NOAH

I've finally figured out what I'm
supposed to do! Check this out!

Noah takes a sip of the gasoline, and using the lighter,
blows a large fire ball towards the crowd.

The crowd scatters, fleeing from the recklessness of the
fire. Screams fill the street.

NOAH

This could be useful right?

Arden, Sebastion, and the Wizardress are at a complete loss
for words. They simply stare at him in disbelief.

NOAH

Right guys?

A large team of police cars quickly surround Noah.

Sebastion, Arden, and the Wizardress back away slowly.

POLICE OFFICER
Get down on the ground!

NOAH
Guys? C'mon this could be useful
right?

Noah is tackled from behind, but his gaze is still fixed on the swiftly fleeing Sebastian, Arden, and Wizardress.

NOAH
Please! Please!

POLICE OFFICER
Keep your hands behind your back!

Noah retaliates and attempts getting up and reaching out at Sebastian, Arden, and the Wizardress.

NOAH
PLEASE, JUST LET ME BE ONE OF YOU!

POLICE OFFICER
KEEP YOUR HANDS BEHIND YOUR BACK!

Noah is pushed back into the ground.

INT. LVPD JAIL - NIGHT

Noah is thrown into a holding cell. He holds himself meekly and cowardly.

NOAH
But I-

POLICE OFFICER
Don't try it.

Noah nervously taps his feet as he assesses his new surroundings. His hands cling to the small bench he sits on.

Sitting across from him is a rounder man, ANDRIO, middle aged and somewhat balding.

Andrio gives Noah a gentle smile and a little wave.

ANDRIO
Hey.

Noah nods in response.

NOAH
Hey.

ANDRIO
My name's Andrio.

NOAH
Cool.

From outside the cell, a news report plays on a TV mounted to the corner between walls.

REPORTER
Get excited Las Vegas! There have been sightings of Sebastion, the chosen hero, right here in our very own home-town!

*

Andrio excited watches the TV through the cell bars.

ANDRIO
That's exciting, isn't it?

*

NOAH
What?

ANDRIO
The Sebastion. Right here? That's so cool!

NOAH
Yeah, it's whatever. Y'know I know the guy.

ANDRIO
You do?!

NOAH
I'll let you in on a little secret: I'm also a part of the prophesy.

ANDRIO
No. Way.

NOAH
Yes!

ANDRIO
What are you doing here? You have to be out there!

*

NOAH
The police hate heroes.

ANDRIO
Hey, don't I know that.

NOAH

Oh yeah?

ANDRIO

Yeah, I should be immortalized for driving with 4 boots on my car.

NOAH

I can't say that's not impressive.

ANDRIO

So, what's like...your prophesized job?

NOAH

Well, I-

*

ANDRIO

Wait, wait! Let me guess! Are you...his swordsman.

*

NOAH

No, but I-

Andrio begins to get to his feet in excitement.

ANDRIO

Or are you his best friend, like almost a sidekick!

NOAH

Not exactly, I-

ANDRIO

OR OR OR, are you his love interest?

NOAH

ENOUGH!

Noah sinks into his own hands.

ANDRIO

Sorry...

Andrio and Noah sits in silence. The TV still blares in the background.

ANDRIO

You wanna play cards?

INT. LVPD JAIL - NIGHT

Both Noah and Andrio have fallen asleep on their respective benches. The lights inside the cell have been turned off.

POLICE OFFICER
Noah Nelly?

Noah wakes up from his sleep, his eyes are a bright red. The bench has a wet spot where his head laid.

NOAH
That's me.

POLICE OFFICER
You've been bailed out.

NOAH
By who?

INT. LVPD JAIL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Noah is escorted out by two officers. In the hall is Arden waiting on their phone.

Noah's face drops to even more disappointment. He does not need to talk to express his dissatisfaction.

ARDEN
The others were too busy to join.

Noah grabs his items from the police.

ARDEN
I don't want for us to hate each other.

Noah starts storing his items onto himself.

ARDEN
We were best friends growing up,
and I still don't want to lose that.

Noah continues to ignore them. He walks towards the main entrance of the jail.

ARDEN
It's not too late to quit. I mean
if you literally going to jail
isn't a sign I don't know what is.

NOAH
Leave me alone.

ARDEN
Fine.

Noah exits the jail. Arden watches as he does.

INT. PIRATE BAR - NIGHT

Noah sits at the bar of a "Beers and Buccaneers" a pirate themed restaurant. He is surrounded by an assortment of pirate themed memorabilia, all built to look like the main deck of a pirate ship: flags, masts, animatronic parrots.

Noah sits next to an animatronic parrot, wearing a novelty captain's hat, his head in his arms, and holding a rustic beer mug.

The news plays on one of the televisions above the bar. It reads "Sebastian shows off the feats of his training in front of Las Vegas crowds". Noah notices.

NOAH
(drunkenly)
BAH, who even caaaaares. This
"prophesy" is a load of bullshit if
you were to ask me.

ANIMATRONIC PARROT
SQUAWK, don't wreck the ship matey! *

NOAH
That's what I'm saying! Everyone's
basically worshipping this dude,
it's a total shipwreck.

ANIMATRONIC PARROT
SQUAWK, keep ahold of the center
mast! *

NOAH
Exactly! I've been saying this!
We're getting too caught up in
this, society is being blown the
wrong direction.

ANIMATRONIC PARROT
SQUAK, the Cap'n' wants to sabotage
us.

NOAH

Don't remind me. It's like everything I did ended up sabotaging Sebastion instead of helping him.

ANIMATRONIC PARROT

SQUAWK, throw him overboard!

*

NOAH

Well...I am pretty good at sabotaging him.

ANIMATRONIC PARROT

Squawk!

*

NOAH

And who's better at sabotaging the hero than-

ANIMATRONIC PARROT

Squawk!

*

NOAH

The villain...

ANIMATRONIC PARROT

Squawk, X marks the spot!

*

NOAH

Maybe I'm the Great and Unspeakable Evil...

Noah steps up on the barstool, holding his arms out and screeching his new discover.

NOAH

AND TO BE THE GREAT AND UNSPEAKABLE
EVIL SHALL BE MY DESTINY.

Noah jumps off the barstool. They bartender is holding out their hands to calm him down.

NOAH

Thank you, you animatronic parrot!

Noah rushes out the fake wooden door.

ANIMATRONIC PARROT

Squak! Customers get a free drink if they can verify it's their birthday.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

*

A family sits glued to the television in front of them.

REPORTER

In less than an hour, the chosen hero, Sebastion Clemmet is going to make the trek deep into the forest, into Matterhorn Mountain, which was recently discovered as the base for the Great and Unspeakable Evil.

INT. OFFICE - BREAK ROOM - DAY

Noah's coworkers gather around the television. They all wear merchandise with Sebastion's face on it.

REPORTER

People from around the world are tuning in to see whether Sebastion can fulfill his duty or leave the rest of us in the hands of this evil.

*

INT. MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSROOM

A teacher has the news pulled up on the classroom projector.

REPORTER

Swiss military officials have ordered a complete surrounding of the area to ensure public safety.

INT. LVPD JAIL - DAY

The police and Andrio both stare at the television on the wall.

REPORTER

Elected Commander-In-Chief Conrad Brunner had stated "We have full faith in Sebastion, but we can't risk letting anything out-

*

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

*

Noah stands in front of the television in his hotel room. His face is hidden, but it appears that he is applying makeup. He also appears taller than usual.

*

*

*

REPORTER
-and more importantly, letting
anyone else in.

*
*
*

EXT. ZERTMATT FOREST TRAIL - HEAD - DAY

Sebastion, the Wizardress, and Arden prep at the trail head.
Behind them is a fence lined with reporters and
photographers.

Everyone is fixed on Matterhorn Mountain, which now has a
large swirling storm centered above it.

*

WIZARDRESS
Check yourself, this is your last
chance to grab anything you've
forgotten, once we're in there,
we're in there.

SEBASTION
Wait I forgot-

The Wizardress shoots a distressed look towards Sebastion.

SEBASTION
Nah, I'm just messing! Let's go!

Sebastion and the Wizardress begin down the trail. Arden
stays behind.

EXT. ZERMATT FOREST TRAIL - DAY

Sebastion and the Wizardress walk uninterrupted through an
increasingly darker forest.

SEBASTION
I might not know what I'm talking
about, but aren't there supposed to
be goons? This is pretty peaceful
actually.

WIZARDRESS
I'd hold your tongue; the Great and
Unspeakable Evil does not fight
fair. We're likely about to be
ambushed.

*

SEBASTION
Huh, I wonder where they are.

Sebastion steps onto a rope trap, flinging him into the canopy of the forest. He hangs upside down, but his smile has not faded.

SEBASTION

Oh, there they are!

*

A group of goons appear, they're faces are wildly disfigured and demonic. Their armor is jet-black and built so that not a single edge could be touched without cutting.

*

WIZARDRESS

You need to get yourself down.

SEBASTION

One second!

Sebastion removes his bow and shoots an arrow at a rope nearby that is holding a second trap: a large net filled with rocks.

The net falls and the rocks hit most of the goons. They fall over and dissipate into dust.

Sebastion stores his bow, pulls out his sword, and cuts the rope holding up his foot.

Sebastion falls triumphantly into the arms of the wizardress.

Sebastion and the Wizardress nod as they take out the last two goons together.

SEBASTION

Good work!

WIZARDRESS

What can I say, I've had millennia to train.

Sebastion and the Wizardress continue to walk.

As they walk, Sebastion begins to notice high heel prints on the muddier ground.

*

SEBASTION

That's interesting.

WIZARDRESS

What's interesting?

SEBASTION

Nothing, nothing.

*

WIZARDRESS

Good, remember not to get into your own head. They will take advantage of your psyche.

SEBASTION

Right.

EXT. BRIDGE - AFTERNOON

Sebastion and the Wizardress begin to cross an old wooden bridge over a small creek.

SEBASTION

Aren't there supposed to be like big battles with these types of things?

WIZARDRESS

That's what you're walking towards.

SEBASTION

No, but I mean like a big war moment. Two armies clashing? Lots of screaming, and magic, and walls not being barricaded?

*

WIZARDRESS

You humans have become too reliant on motion pictures.

SEBASTION

That's fair, I guess.

*

Sebastion notices the sneaker prints again.

SEBASTION

There it is again!

WIZARDRESS

What?

SEBASTION

I could have sworn earlier I saw high heel prints in the mud.

*

WIZARDRESS

This is a hiking trail, Sebastion.

SEBASTION

Sure, but high heels? Also, these look as though they've been laid today.

*

*

*

A large beast erupts from below the bridge. Its skin is sharp like the goons from earlier. *

Sebastion draws his sword and charges.

The Wizardress stays back and assesses the prints. *

Sebastion comes back to look with the Wizardress.

SEBASTION

Weird right?

WIZARDRESS

It is quite peculiar.

Sebastion charges back at the creature.

SEBASTION

AHHHHH!!!

Sebastion comes back to look once again.

SEBASTION

What do you make of it?

WIZARDRESS

Honestly, I'm unsure, but we must remain vigilant.

Sebastion once again charges the creature.

SEBASTION

AHHHHH!!!

A loud SWORD SLASH rings through the forest, along with the SPLATTER of blood.

Sebastion returns to the Wizardress, the head of the creature on his back.

SEBASTION

Ready to move on?

MONTAGE - ZERMATT FOREST

The Wizardress and Sebastion continue on their journey.

They fight multiple goons.

The Wizardress and Sebastion interrogate one of the goons, with it tied up and sat on a log.

The Wizardress and Sebastion use magic to decipher a road sign that has been magically and intentionally obscured.

The sun lowers as they adventure. Afternoon becomes dusk.

EXT. LAIR ENTRANCE - DUSK

Sebastion and the Wizardress approach the ornate entrance to the lair, they hide behind a bush as they take it in.

The entrance to a cave has been filled in by a large gothic wall, in the center of which is two large old wooden doors.

Two grunts stand guard in front of the doors, they hold large spears in their hands.

SEBASTION

Maybe we can run past them if we could get the doors closed fast enough.

WIZARDRESS

Oh, no I can't go with you.

SEBASTION

You can't?

WIZARDRESS

This is a job prophesized for you, past this point you are on your own.

SEBASTION

Oh...

WIZARDRESS

But I can do this.

SEBASTION

You can do what?

Sebastion turns around and sees that the Wizardress has teleported away. She has teleported in front of the guards.

The Wizardress flails her arms and runs, leaving behind a trail of smoke.

The guards pursue the Wizardress, though they find it difficult to follow her.

Sebastion takes the chance and books it through the gates, closing them behind himself.

INT. UNSPEAKABLY EVIL LAIR - NIGHT

The room is dark, only lit by canals of magma surrounding the walkways. Spikes line the walls, many with impaled skeletons dangling from them.

*

There is no wind, yet the banners on the walls still somehow blow. Shackles line the ceiling; skeletal hands still hold in them.

*

*

*

The sounds of PIPE ORGANS and ELECTRIC GUITARS mysteriously echo throughout the lair.

Sebastion takes a moment to orient himself because this environment is so rad.

As Sebastion walks down the walkways, the lava begins to rise, slowly flooding the section of walkway Sebastion stands on.

With weirdly impressive agility, Sebastion leaps up, grabbing the shackles and swinging across them to get past the trap.

Sebastion lands on the next section of walkway, with walls significantly closer together. The ground begins to crumble beneath him.

SEBASTION

Whoa!

Sebastion lodges his bow between both walls, and using the leverage, he vaults himself forward, keeping his bow in hand.

SEBASTION

Ha ha!

Flames erupt beneath Sebastion's feet, just barely missing him

Sebastion dances around a floor of erupting mouths of fire.

Once Sebastion has made his way across, he is circled by large circle of goons.

INT. UNSPEAKABLY EVIL LAIR - GRAND HALL - DAY

Sounds of SWORD SLASHES and GRUNTS can be heard from the ornate entrance to a grand hall, which is pitch black.

Sebastion jaunts through the entrance, re-sheathing his sword and brushing off his bruises.

Sebastion notices the dark and emptied hall, how as he walks forward the torches around him flare up as if being activated.

Sebastion walks down the hall, flames lighting the way as he approaches one large, spikey, iron door, surrounded by more lava, flames, statues of dragons and all things badass and evil.

Staring at the door, Sebastion is unclear as to how to open it. He cannot push it or pull it.

SEBASTION

I wonder if I-

Sebastion tries around the entrance decorations and pulls one of the horns of the dragon statues, showing its a lever, and opening the gate. *

INT. UNSPEAKABLY EVIL LAIR - CHAMBER - NIGHT

Sebastion walks through the gate, drawing his sword and getting fully ready for a fight.

The door closes behind Sebastion with a THUD.

Sebastion's eyes follow the extremely tall, leather bound, evil throne up to the top, yet no one sits in it. As it appears, Sebastion is the only one here. *

Noah's MANIACAL LAUGHING haunts the space, keeping Sebastion on edge. *

SEBASTION

Come on out!

Noah's MANIACAL LAUGHING comes from a different direction.

SEBASTION

Hey man I'm kinda required to fight you. So, enough of these games!

Noah's voice emerges from the walls, though he remains unrevealed.

NOAH

Games? I'm just taking in how truly stupid you look right now.

SEBASTION

Show yourself!

NOAH

I'm not sure you're ready.

SEBASTION

Oh, I've trained a whole month for this.

NOAH

(sing song)

If you insist!

From behind the large throne tower in the center of the room, Noah reveals himself.

*

Noah is fully decked out in a mismatching evil villain suit, fully fleshed with a cape of sewn-together black t-shirts, platform high heels, and poorly done black eye shadow.

*

*

*

SEBASTION

Noah?! Why are you here? How did you get in here

NOAH

Oh, but how *didn't* I get in here?

*

SEBASTION

What?

NOAH

What indeed. I bet you're shocked to see me in my true form.

SEBASTION

Some kind of...80s rock star? I'm a bit lost.

NOAH

I AM THE GREAT AND UNSPEAKABLE EVIL!

Sebastion laughs, holding onto Noah. Noah glares in disbelief.

SEBASTION

Noah, I've got to say you never cease to make me smile! But seriously we should get you out.

NOAH

I'm not joking Sebastion, I'm really him.

SEBASTION

How?

NOAH

It only makes sense!

Noah begins to circle Sebastion.

NOAH

I didn't see it at first, but it
all makes sense! Ever since the
Wizardress walked into our office,
ever since I heard about the
prophecy, I knew I was destined for
something.

*

SEBASTION

Okay...

NOAH

So, I tried being your best friend,
giving you some rousing speech.

*

SEBASTION

And you threw that party.

NOAH

YES! But it ended in violence! Then
I tried being your mentor.

SEBASTION

And you trained me in martial arts.

NOAH

Exactly, leading to Arden going to
the hospital.

SEBASTION

You followed us across the world
how many times?

NOAH

I don't even know! It doesn't
matter. When I do something,
someone is always bound to get
hurt.

SEBASTION

All the times I thought you were
trying to help you were just
jealous and wanting a piece of it.

*

NOAH

No, you don't get it, I've always
been a part, I just thought I was
supposed to be on the hero side.

SEBASTION

Oh my god, dude I trusted you.

Noah begins stretching, he is not very flexible.

NOAH

Who's fault is that? C'mon let's fight!

*

SEBASTION

I'm not fighting you Noah, even if I wanted to.

NOAH

You better watch out, because here I come.

Noah lunges forward to catch Sebastion off-guard.

*

Noah fully misses, Sebastion steps on his cape, sending him to the ground.

NOAH

Wait, just give me a minute.

SEBASTION

I just want to make one thing clear.

Sebastion reluctantly rolls Noah over to his back.

SEBASTION

You are not my best friend, you are not my mentor, you're not the Great and Unspeakable Evil, and you sure as hell are not the chosen one. You have nothing to do with this prophesy. You never have, and you never will. Give up and get out of here. I'd rather not have to carry your pathetic corpse.

*

Suddenly the ground beneath them rumbles.

The sounds of ELECTRIC GUITARS and PIPE ORGANS grow unbearably loud in volume.

From the ground rises a large shadowy force.

Sebastion and Noah look up in complete awe at THE GREAT AND UNSPEAKABLE EVIL, a dark shadowy king, fully complete with a pair of devilish wings and a cape of pure fire behind him.

SEBASTION

Holy-

NOAH

-shit.

THE GREAT AND UNSPEAKABLE EVIL

I have awaited quite long for this
day "great hero" and... this other
person.

NOAH

This is my chance!

Sebastion reaches for his sword, but notices it's already
been unsheathed.

Sebastion looks up to see Noah charging the Great and
Unspeakable Evil, sword in hand.

NOAH

AHHHHHHHH!

Noah gets to the Great and Unspeakable Evil, looks up, and is
flashed with terror at his size and uncanniness.

Noah begins to cower before being thrown across the room by
the Great and Unspeakable Evil. Only receiving minor injury.

Sebastion grabs the sword which Noah has since dropped, and
engages the Great and Unspeakable Evil in combat. *

Noah is caught up in the battle ground. He attempts lifting
himself up but SWING, a large sword slash keeps him down.

NOAH

Eep!

Noah staying on all fours starts to move to one side of the
room.

The fight gets in the way, so he turns around.

NOAH

Sorry.

Once making it to the other side of the room, a wall of fire
erupts from the Great and Unspeakable Evil.

Noah turns around once again.

NOAH

My bad.

Sebastion slips on Noah's cape, sending him to the ground.

NOAH
Ooh that's my fault.

SEBASTION
Noah, GET OUT!

NOAH
Right, right.

Sebastion rolls out of the way before the Great and Unspeakable Evil slams a heavy object.

Noah crawls towards the entrance of the room as the fight rages on behind him.

Noah pulls a lever on the door, opening it, and pulling himself through.

INT. UNSPEAKABLY EVIL LAIR - GRAND HALL - NIGHT

Noah stands up and begins to stumble forward.

INT. UNSPEAKABLY EVIL LAIR - NIGHT

Noah walks into the trap with the circle of goons but just keeps trekking.

NOAH
Not now guys, I'm really not
feelin' it.

Noah stumbles across the scattering ground, pushing past the closing walls with little-to-no issue.

Noah climbs across the shackles at the front of the lair as the lava raises beneath him.

NOAH
I guess he's right, I really never
had what it takes to be a hero.

EXT. ZERMATT FOREST TRAIL - NIGHT

Noah slams open the large wooden doors to the lair, knocking the two guards at the front unconscious.

Noah sulks up the path of the trail.

Noah passes the Wizardress, and they share a glance, but not a single word is spoken. Her eyes are harsh and judgemental.

EXT. ZERTMATT FOREST TRAIL - HEAD - NIGHT

Hundreds of people are lined up at the fences.

Vans from news organizations stretch out the length of parking lot and even carry down the street.

Helicopters fly over.

As Noah approaches the head, he is hounded by reporters.

REPORTER 1

Did you see the fight firsthand?

NOAH

Well, you could say I helped.

Noah shows off a small cut he got from being thrown across the room.

NOAH

The results of my efforts.

REPORTER 2

Wow so you were also the her-

REPORTER 1

I'm so sorry Janice, but we just got word that Sebastian has exited the lair.

The reporters all swiftly move away from Noah, leaving him once again, all alone.

Noah sulks away.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

At his final point, Noah is left walking an old highway, not a single car passes him.

Every step Noah takes is impossibly heavy. He is barely able to hold himself.

Noah looks up and sees the night sky, barely obscured by the dimmed lights of the highway.

Noah looks incredibly small compared to the cosmos above him.

*
*
*
*
*

Shaking, Noah falls to the ground and holds himself while he lets out a pathetic cry.

The distant light of a car illuminates his face as it approaches.

Noah lifts himself up and dusts himself off.

Noah successfully hails the car using a hitchhiker thumb.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Noah stares out the window. The car is filled with 3 rowdy college students.

NOAH
Could you please drop me off at the airport?

COLLEGE STUDENT 1
Sure thing, man!

COLLEGE STUDENT 2
You look like you got into a fight.

NOAH
Something like that, yeah.

COLLEGE STUDENT 3
C'mon, tell us what happened!

NOAH
I'd rather not.

COLLEGE STUDENT 2
Ooh, mysterious. We dig that.

INT. PLANE - NIGHT

Slumped in his chair, Noah flips through channels on the small screen in front of him.

All news channels show footage of the event, however they cut to right as they are walking away from Noah.

The flight attendant approaches him, he does not make eye contact.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT
Can I get you anything to drink?

NOAH

Scotch.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

I'm going to need your card.

Noah retrieves his card and gives it to the flight attendant.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT

I'm sorry but your card has been declined.

*

NOAH

Sounds right.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Walking down the street, Noah no longer holds the same sense of cockiness in his shoulders.

Looking down, he crosses off the name of a business on a checklist titled "job interviews".

Noah places his notepad back into his pocket as he approaches the library.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

The newly refurbished doors open and close gently to Noah's touch.

Noah approaches the desk, where Arden is seen reading. They now have a more colorful sense of style.

NOAH

Hey.

ARDEN

Hey.

NOAH

So... I'm sorry... about pretty much everything. I pushed you past your limit, and took full advantage of you.

*

ARDEN

You did, yes.

NOAH

That was screwed up of me.

ARDEN

I appreciate the apology. I don't hate you, Noah.

NOAH

But I fully manipulated you.

ARDEN

Sure, and a bit more than that, but without you I wouldn't have gotten together with the Wizardress.

NOAH

Huh, I guess so. So, you're not mad?

*

ARDEN

No, I'm pretty upset still. I don't hate you though.

NOAH

I think I can take that.

ARDEN

But you're not allowed in here anymore.

NOAH

That's fair.

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

Noah fully takes in his surroundings as he takes his walk down the street.

Murals of Sebastian cover buildings, stores have toys of him now, and a statue is currently being placed in his honor.

Noah, however, does not mind these things.

The two actors who fought at the party approach Noah.

ACTOR 1

Is that Noah Nelly?

NOAH

The one and only.

ACTOR 1

Hey man, we cannot thank you enough.

ACTOR 2

Yeah, dude, thank you.

NOAH

Thank me for what?

ACTOR 1

We were only acting small scale.

ACTOR 2

There was no passion!

ACTOR 1

But you put us in an environment
where we can really *feel* our
characters.

*
*

ACTOR 2

We both decided that we're going to
pursue acting as a career.

NOAH

Wow! That's...great! I'm sure
you'll make a lot of money.

ACTOR 1

That's the plan!

The two actors walk away reciting lines from *The Death of a Salesman* to each other.

Noah continues walking and notices a large billboard
advertising the mariachi band from earlier.

NOAH

Hey! I kinda helped them get there
by being so terrible! I guess.

The clouds in the sky disperse, revealing as much sun as
possible.

NOAH

I never needed any prophesy to do
something good!

INT. BODEGA - DAY

Noah stands in line for the cash register, he holds a
sandwich.

Just as Noah pulls out his wallet to pull out a bill, he
notices an advertisement plastered onto the counter of the
register.

The ad reads "You could be famous! Think you're a good matchmaker? Prove it! Call the number below!"

Noah thinks back to Arden and the Wizardress.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Arden is mid-sentence.

ARDEN

Without you, I wouldn't have gotten
together with the Wizardress.

INT. BODEGA - DAY (END FLASHBACK)

A devious grin grows across Noah's face.

Although given every opportunity, Noah has truly learned
nothing.

FADE OUT.

THE END