

Merlin - Winds of Change
Part One: The Spark of Life

Episode Three
A Rescue

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EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

A car is making its way down a dark road, no other headlights on the road. A fence to the left separates them from The Dead Lands - a dangerous expanse of land where not many people lived due to fallout from the war, and where the returned creatures of magic roamed.

INT. WALLACE'S CAR

WALLACE drives, MERLIN next to him in the passenger seat. ARTHUR is in the back leaning against the window watching as the dead zone zooms by - he thinks he sees a large beast run through the trees, he blinks and looks toward the front seat.

ARTHUR
Are we there yet?

MERLIN
Arthur! How many times do we have to go over this?

WALLACE
We had to take this convoluted route to avoid patrols and checkpoints.

ARTHUR groans and leans his head back against the window. Suddenly MERLIN is alert.

MERLIN
There's a car coming this way. It looks like a patrol.

ARTHUR slides into the middle seat to look out the front windshield, but doesn't see anything.

WALLACE
How far?

MERLIN
Four kilometers, maybe less.

WALLACE turns off all the lights inside and out of the car. ARTHUR looks for a place to turn off and hide until the patrol passes; he spots a dirt road ahead leading to a prison like structure.

ARTHUR
In there.

MERLIN
No!

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MERLIN lunges towards WALLACE to stop him from going down the road. WALLACE roughly pushes MERLIN away.

WALLACE
We gotta. There's no place else.

ARTHUR
What the hell's gotten into you?

WALLACE slams on the brakes in front of a steel wall with a padlocked gate. ARTHUR slams forward into the seat in front of him.

ARTHUR
Wallace!

WALLACE
Gate's locked.
(to MERLIN)
You gotta open it.

MERLIN opens his eyes to say something but WALLACE cuts him off. A pair of headlights have appeared on the horizon.

WALLACE
Look, Merlin, I get it! But we don't have a choice! Open the damn gates!

ARTHUR
Merlin, open the gates!

MERLIN's palm flies up and his eyes glow gold, the chain falls to the ground and the gates fling open. WALLACE drives the car through and around the corner, behind the wall.

INT. PRISON CAMP WALLS

WALLACE and ARTHUR jump out of the car, close and padlock the gate and stumble out of view just as the patrol car approaches. The car slows down as it passes the prison, WALLACE and ARTHUR hold their breath until they hear the car pass by.

ARTHUR
They're gone.

ARTHUR leans against the wall to catch his breath. MERLIN's door suddenly opens and he almost falls out of the car as he stares blankly ahead. ARTHUR follows his line of sight and takes in what is inside the walls for the first time.

The courtyard is simple, square, and small - mostly dirt and a tangled lawn overgrown with weeds.

The rectangular building ahead of them is one story and barred by a heavy metal door. There are more walls, smaller than the outer wall but still quite imposing, branching out from the building that connected to other buildings around the camp. There are no windows, except for a few slits covered by bars. A watchtower rises up in the center of it all.

MERLIN wanders around the courtyard, making strange twitchy movements.

ARTHUR
(to WALLACE)
What is this place?

WALLACE
What, he never told you?

ARTHUR
Told me what?

WALLACE looks down and lets out a deep breath, he kicks a rock trying to decide how to tell ARTHUR. When he looks up MERLIN is gone.

WALLACE
Where is he?

ARTHUR looks around panicked. WALLACE points to the door in the building in front of them, now open.

WALLACE
Look, the door.

ARTHUR opens the car door and ruffles through a backpack, pulling out two flashlights. WALLACE and ARTHUR turn them on and walk toward the building. Inside is pitch black, the flashlights barely doing any good.

ARTHUR
Merlin? Merlin?
(to WALLACE)
He can't have gotten far. Come on.

They continue down the hall, passing several abandoned offices and processing rooms. At the end they reach another door that leads back outside, behind the building. In front of them the watchtower, buildings on either side and the steel wall behind.

ARTHUR
Where is he? *Merlin!*

WALLACE
Shh!

ARTHUR looks at WALLACE confused, as far as he could tell the prison was deserted. MERLIN shouts from inside one of the buildings.

MERLIN

In here.

ARTHUR

Thank god.

ARTHUR and WALLACE enter the building, inside was what looked like a barrack - dozens of iron bunks were cramped against the walls, the plastic mattresses were either missing or destroyed, some of the bed frames had been overturned. The room was windowless, and made entirely of cement.

MERLIN stands in the middle of the room, his hands over his ears trying to block out a sound neither ARTHUR or WALLACE could hear. ARTHUR slowly rounds on him, MERLIN's eyes were far away, his nose red and cheeks stained with tear streaks.

ARTHUR

Merlin..?

MERLIN

(pained)

I can hear them screaming.

ARTHUR

Who?

ARTHUR spins around trying to find who MERLIN is talking about. The flashlight reflects off something red in the corner and ARTHUR walks towards it. WALLACE walks up to MERLIN and places a gentle hand on his shoulder.

WALLACE

Alright, let's just get outta here, okay, Merlin? The patrol's long gone. We can leave, man. Go rescue your friends, remember?

ARTHUR leans down and picks up the object - a child's shoe. His face drops.

ARTHUR

(whispered)

What is this place?

WALLACE

(gently)

A prison camp. A death camp.

(MORE)

WALLACE (CONT'D)

Places like this were built during the War all around Europe, the Soviet Union, the Americas. They were for people who practiced magic.

ARTHUR turns on WALLACE, gripping the shoe tight.

ARTHUR

Your government approved this? The killing of innocent people?

WALLACE shuffles his feet looking down.

WALLACE

Not at first. They were just places to get magic users out of the way for a while. A lot of people blamed magic for the War. With everything going on, they just wanted to feel safe. Places like this were built to hold magic users, to keep an eye on them. They were put to work making weapons and supplies and things for the army.

WALLACE gives a wary glance towards MERLIN.

WALLACE

But then the bombs went off, and rations were low. And... Well...

ARTHUR scoffs, places the shoe gently on a bed.

ARTHUR

I would have hoped humanity would learn from their mistakes.

(whispered)

My mistakes.

WALLACE

People were scared.

ARTHUR

Are you making excuses for what happened to these people?

WALLACE

No! Are you?

MERLIN

They aren't here anymore.

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ARTHUR
We shouldn't be either.

MERLIN turns to ARTHUR.

MERLIN
You should have been.

MERLIN doesn't say it in accusatory way but it still stings.
MERLIN snuffles and turns to leave the building.

WALLACE
Hey, where are you going now?

ARTHUR quickly follows behind them. MERLIN continues on, without the aid of any light, as if in a trance. ARTHUR unsheathes the sword at his side.

WALLACE
What's that for?

ARTHUR
What became of this place? And the others like it?

WALLACE
I'm not sure about this one in particular. It was probably just closed down. These places aren't technically *illegal* in any of the provinces, but they're - uh - frowned upon.

ARTHUR
Because of the morality of the public or because of the Neos' influence?

WALLACE
Both?

ARTHUR
People survived the Nazi camps and the Japanese internment camps in the States, what about here?

WALLACE
Right... before they were closed down, the Neos liberated a lot of them. It's how they got most of their followers. It's how they got all the guns, too.

(MORE)

WALLACE (CONT'D)

Turns out, it wasn't such a great idea to have the prisoners making weapons, especially when those prisoners had outside support from terrorists. Now, they have the good weapons and most of us are stuck with these - .

WALLACE gestures towards ARTHUR's sword.

ARTHUR

I've heard everyone in the Midlands State has a gun?

WALLACE

(disapproving)

Yeah, well, pretty much all of them are in the military. Everyone has to serve for at least five years after they turn sixteen. President Darby's rules.

ARTHUR

The people of the Midlands elected President Darby.

WALLACE

Whatever.

MERLIN

Here.

ARTHUR hadn't noticed MERLIN had stopped walking while talking to WALLACE and almost rams into his back. ARTHUR looks around and realizes they had walked a considerable distance, in front of them a small brick building isolated from the rest of the camp, with no windows and a long metal chimney rising from the roof. ARTHUR's breath catches, he puts his sword away.

MERLIN

They're in here.

MERLIN's eyes glow and the door swings open with a creak and MERLIN disappears inside. WALLACE begins to follow but ARTHUR grabs his arm.

ARTHUR

(quickly)

Was Merlin ever in one of these places?

WALLACE

Honestly? No idea.

(MORE)

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WALLACE (CONT'D)

But my gut says no.
(he gives a small shrug)
He's always been too good at
hiding.

ARTHUR's hand falls back to his side, they follow MERLIN. Inside three furnaces the size of morgue drawers sat in a row on the opposite wall, the one on the far end hung open with a pile of soot and ash still inside. Merlin stood in the middle of the room, watching the open door. ARTHUR takes in the scene, looks to MERLIN then walks to the open furnace and looks inside.

ARTHUR

(shocked)
It's fresh. How is that possible?

MERLIN

(lifeless)
The ban on magic is enforced here.

WALLACE

Witch burning isn't technically illegal, either, but no one does it. But there are rumors about what goes on in the Republic. Brown is really anti-magic. Some people say, if anyone's suspected of using it, they're executed. Them and their families. And their bodies are brought here to get rid of the evidence.

ARTHUR

Their families? How can your uncle turn a blind eye to these rumors?

WALLACE presses his lips together, cocks his head to the side slightly lifting one arm.

WALLACE

The Republic's affairs are no one else's business, it isn't worth the fight that could break out.

ARTHUR rubs his eyes, this has all been too much, he tries to change the subject.

ARTHUR

We have to move if we want to get to Tintagel before sunrise.

WALLACE nods and turns to walk out, ARTHUR follows. MERLIN does not move, ARTHUR turns around and places a hand on his shoulder.

ARTHUR
Come on, Merlin.

MERLIN
(whispered)
I was supposed to help them. It was my destiny.

ARTHUR
You will. We will.

MERLIN
Promise?

FADE TO BLACK

EXT. STREETS OF TINTAGEL - NIGHT

WALLACE pulls the car up in front of a pastry shop. The village is vastly different than what ARTHUR and MERLIN are used to in London - all of them seemed to be in use, no condemned building signs, caved in ceilings, boarded up windows or signs of vandalism. There were boutiques selling clothes, books, and treats, the steeple of a church rose above the rooftops. MERLIN and ARTHUR get out of the car and take in the picturesque scene around them. ARTHUR turns to WALLACE still in the driver's seat.

ARTHUR
Stay out of sight. We don't know what eyes Mordred has watching the village. And keep your walkie on. Be ready to collect us once we have my men.

WALLACE
Got it. Be the getaway car driver. I can do that.

WALLACE drives away. ARTHUR turns to MERLIN.

ARTHUR
Okay, do it.

MERLIN
What?

ARTHUR
Sense the -
(MORE)

ARTHUR (CONT'D)
 (drops his voice)
 - the magic of whatever relic
 Mordred is using. Go on.

MERLIN
 (deflecting)
 It's not a parlor trick. It
 doesn't work like that.

ARTHUR
 Well, then how does it work?

MERLIN
 It's not something I can just turn
 on and off!

ARTHUR
 Fifteen hundred years and you're
 still completely useless. Fine.
 Come on, then. We'd better find my
 men before Mordred finds us.

As they walk through the village ARTHUR notices most of the
 businesses seemed to be allusion to him - *King Arthur's Great
 Halls, Round Table Restaurant, Avalon Sweets, Camelot Grocer,
 King Arthur's Arms Inn.*

ARTHUR
 Merlin, I don't mean to sound
 narcissistic - .

MERLIN
 I have a feeling you're about to.

ARTHUR
 But why is everyone in this
 village obsessed with me?

MERLIN stifles a laugh.

MERLIN
 According to legend, Tintagel
 Castle is where you were born.

ARTHUR
 (angry)
 I was born in *Camelot!*

MERLIN
 Don't tell the locals that. They
 really capitalized on you.

ARTHUR
 Clearly.

MERLIN can't hold back his laughter.

ARTHUR

I'm glad you're having fun,
Merlin.

MERLIN

Don't look at me. I didn't build
the village. This place became a
bit of tourist trap off your name.
People from all over came to stare
at a pile of rocks that used to be
a castle.

ARTHUR

Well, I suppose I should expect no
less after all the lies you let
people spread about me.

MERLIN

(eye roll)

I'll be sure to set them straight
next time.

ARTHUR

You better. But there won't be any
stories of my great deeds to tell
if Mordred kills all my men first.

INT. PUB

ARTHUR grabs MERLIN by the shirt and steers him towards a pub, despite the late hour there were still a number of people inside. They walk up to the bar, ARTHUR gives a small smile to a lone woman sitting who scowls and turns away. ARTHUR takes a seat, leaving an empty stool between them. MERLIN stands behind him, makes eye contact with the bartender and holds up two fingers in her direction. She pours two drinks and brings them over.

BARTENDER

Haven't seen you two in here
before.

ARTHUR

We're just visiting.

BARTENDER

Yeah? Come to gawk at that tart
king's birthplace?

MERLIN tries not to laugh but a choked scoff escapes.

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ARTHUR

You seem to have no trouble making money off his name.

BARTENDER

A few of the locals still believe the sham. Good for business.

ARTHUR

Good for - !

MERLIN

We're actually looking for someone.

MERLIN unfolds the enhanced CCTV screenshot of MORDRED and slides it towards the bartender. The woman next to them nosily peeks over her shoulder.

BARTENDER

Haven't seen him.

ARTHUR

Are you certain? He's never come in here - ?

BARTENDER

If he ever came in here, I'd know about it. And he hasn't. I don't know what he's done, but don't you boys cause any trouble in my pub. Got it? I don't need the militia knocking down my door.

The bartender storms off to the other end of the bar.

MERLIN

She doesn't seem to like us very much.

MERLIN takes a sip of his beer, makes a face at the bitter taste and puts it back down.

ARTHUR

Did you expect her to trust us? When was the last time this place saw an outsider?

MERLIN

Which is why Mordred would stick out like a sore thumb. Someone must have seen him.

The woman next to them clears her throat and leans towards them.

WOMAN
What's he done to you?

MERLIN and ARTHUR glance at each other.

MERLIN
(wary)
He owes us money.

WOMAN
Really? Doesn't seem the type.

ARTHUR
You know him?!

WOMAN
My mum's the butcher. Every other week, he pays us to deliver him some chops and some of the old bread we feed to the pigs.

ARTHUR
Deliver them where?

WOMAN
Depends. How much money does he owe you?

MERLIN rolls his eyes and pulls a 20 pound note from his pocket and slides it in her direction.

WOMAN
No wonder he hasn't paid you back.
Not worth the trouble.

ARTHUR
(scoffs)
Just give it to her.

MERLIN puts down another 20 pound note on top of the other.

WOMAN
That big old hotel up by the ruins.

She snatches the money and puts it in her pocket.

MERLIN
Have you seen anyone else with him?

WOMAN
Why, do they owe you money, too?

ARTHUR
For god's - !

MERLIN
She doesn't know anything else.
(nods to the exit)
Come on.

EXT. STREETS OF TINTAGEL - NIGHT

ARTHUR
You don't think she was lying, do you?

MERLIN shakes his head no.

ARTHUR
How can you tell? Is it the relic?
Have you got something? Is it close?

MERLIN bites the inside of his cheek, trying to come up with an excuse. Finally he gives up.

MERLIN
I dunno.

ARTHUR
Well, what do you *know*?

MERLIN
I don't know, Arthur! I don't even know what the relic is!
(takes a deep breath)
We know he's in the hotel. If we want to make it out of here before sunrise, we should start there.

ARTHUR gestures for MERLIN to lead the way and they start down the road.

EXT. THE CAMELOT CASTLE HOTEL

The hotel, designed like a children's fairytale castle and not the real thing, was situated on an oceanside cliff. Large lawns on either side, a long drive leading up to the front door, and the ocean behind. MERLIN and ARTHUR stand at the end of the drive, off to the side in the shadows.

MERLIN
Our best bet is to walk through the front door.
(MORE)

MERLIN (CONT'D)

We have to stay in the shadows
though, anyone could see us from
inside.

ARTHUR takes out his sword with one hand, with the other signals with two fingers held together, pointing towards the offices; a nod to Merlin, and a flat palm leveled to Merlin's chest pushing the air down. MERLIN blinks and nods. ARTHUR begins to move forward and MERLIN follows.

ARTHUR

Merlin! You stay *here* until I'm
across.

MERLIN

Right.

ARTHUR

(eye roll)
Stay low.

ARTHUR crouches down and moves as quickly as he can across the lawn. Once he reaches the hotel, he peeks over the wall at the front entrance, then motions for MERLIN to follow. MERLIN reaches ARTHUR and looks over the wall to the entrance, his eyes glow and the door swings open.

INT. THE CAMELOT CASTLE HOTEL

The inside of the hotel looks like something out of a ghost story - chandeliers cocooned in cobwebs, filthy white sheets covered the furniture, and chunks of plaster were missing from the walls. It looked nothing like Camelot - except for the round table at the center of the room, it was large and engraved with the names of the men that were currently being held as prisoners. A jagged crack split the table in half down the middle, the two sides had collapsed in on each other. Behind the table a decrepit looking staircase. ARTHUR takes a tentative step on the first step testing its strength.

ARTHUR

They're safe.

They make their way up the stairs slowly, ARTHUR hisses when one of the steps lets out a loud creak under MERLIN's feet.

ARTHUR

Merlin!

MERLIN

Sorry!

They reach the top and look down the long hallway, dozens of doors on each side.

ARTHUR
Not getting any funny feelings are you?

MERLIN shakes his head.

ARTHUR
We'll just have to find them the hard way then.

MERLIN
(teasing)
By looking with your eyes? I've spoiled you.

They make their way down the hallway, opening doors and checking inside carefully. They reach the end and suddenly they hear footsteps moments before a door slams open. MERLIN grabs ARTHUR by the shirt and slams him around the corner, they shrink against the wall as best they can and hold their breath.

MORGAUSE (O.S.)
He will be finished by daybreak. I will retrieve him then. I do not believe he will fail again. The time has finally come.

CENRED (O.S.)
How can you be so certain?

The voices fade as they make their way down the hall in the opposite direction. ARTHUR peers around the corner.

MORGAUSE
There are only two others now posed to return and I do not believe the king has a role to play in the events yet to unfold.

CENRED
And if he returns, anyway?

MORGAUSE
Then, I shall create a role for him myself.

The sound of a door opening and closing as the voices fade. ARTHUR turns to MERLIN.

ARTHUR
Morgause and King Cenred.

MERLIN
Cenred, too?

ARTHUR
Mordred didn't even know them,
Merlin. Why would he resurrect
them?

MERLIN
I don't know.

ARTHUR
We'll worry about this later.
Let's go.

They continue down the hall and reach a door, the back staircase. They go through and look up and down, unsure of what to do next.

ARTHUR
To the basement.

MERLIN
How do you know?

ARTHUR
Dungeons are always below, Mer-
lin.

MERLIN rolls his eyes and they continue down the stairs. They reach a door with an *EMPLOYEES ONLY* sign and pass through. It's dark and they can't see much outside of their flashlights beams, MERLIN groans at the sight of a cockroach.

ARTHUR
(eye roll)
Never seen a bug before, Merlin?

MERLIN
Easy for you to say. Those things
survived a nuclear holocaust -
just like everyone knew they
would!

Suddenly, a groan sounds from another room to their side. Their necks snap in the direction of the sound and ARTHUR raises his sword, they move forward slowly. They enter a boiler room and see four bodies chained to various pieces of equipment.

ARTHUR
My god.

ARTHUR rushes over to the closest body.

ARTHUR

Leon -

LEON slowly opens his eyes, breathes out ARTHUR's name with delirious relief, with much struggle. ARTHUR kneels down and picks up his head, cradling it in his lap.

ARTHUR

It's me. Let's sit you up.

MERLIN is in a daze, taking it in.

ARTHUR

Merlin, do something about these chains!

MERLIN leans down and puts his palm over the shackles on LEON wrist.

MERLIN

They're enchanted.

ARTHUR

So, you can't get them off?

MERLIN

I don't know.

MERLIN's eyes glow and the shackles fall away, he lets out a surprised sound at how simple it had been.

ARTHUR

Free the others. I'll wake them.

MERLIN repeats the action for ELYAN and PERCIVAL, then turns to GWAINÉ. MERLIN takes a moment to take in the man, clearly the one held the longest, his chest not moving with breath, tears begin to form in his eyes.

MERLIN

Gwaine...

ARTHUR

Merlin, we have to move.

MERLIN's eyes glow and the shackles fall away from GWAINÉ. Without the restraints holding him up, GWAINÉ slumps forward onto the ground. MERLIN checks his pulse and lets out a relieved breath when he finds it - although extremely shallow. Suddenly, GWAINÉ begins to thrash at MERLIN, who shields himself from the attack.

MERLIN

Gwaine, it's me! It's me! Gwaine!

ARTHUR is by MERLIN's side in an instant, scolding MERLIN for the commotion and restrains GWAINE. GWAINE loses the burst of adrenaline and his eyes flutter closed before opening again, he looks around unfocused before landing on MERLIN.

GWAINE
What is this?

MERLIN
It's Merlin.

GWAINE
This is a trick.

MERLIN glances at ARTHUR both of them concerned at what the knights had gone through.

ARTHUR
Gwaine, it's Arthur. Can you hear me? This isn't a trick. We've come to get you out of here. Can you stand?

GWAINE takes a moment, breathing heavy, his eyes flash to MERLIN.

GWAINE
You look terrible.

MERLIN lets out a soft laugh of relief.

MERLIN
Looked in a mirror lately?

ARTHUR
Get him up.

MERLIN helps GWAINE to his feet, he turns around and sees ARTHUR with LEON's arm over his shoulder, not fulling aware yet, and PERCIVAL supporting ELYAN, who struggled to stay awake.

ARTHUR
Let's go.

GWAINE
Wait, wait, wait. We can't.
There's still - we need to get...
Lancelot.

MERLIN's eyes fly around the room searching for LANCELOT. He was nowhere to be seen.

ARTHUR
Lancelot... Where? Gwaine, where
is he?

GWAINÉ shakes his head, leans heavier into MERLIN.

PERCIVAL
We don't know. He's down here
somewhere, but they've kept him
apart from us.

ARTHUR racks his brain for a plan. MERLIN drags GWAINÉ forward,
shifting him to PERCIVAL.

MERLIN
There's a sea cave at the bottom
of the cliffs. Take them there and
wait for me. I'll find Lancelot.

ARTHUR
Merlin, no.

MERLIN
You have to. I will meet you
there. I promise.

ARTHUR curses under his breath as he nods.

ARTHUR
Don't go causing trouble.

MERLIN turns to leave but ARTHUR grabs him by the shirt and
turns him back around, places his hand at the back of MERLIN's
neck and looks into his eyes.

ARTHUR
Be careful.

MERLIN places his hand over ARTHUR'S.

MERLIN
I will.

MERLIN removes ARTHUR'S hand and turns around to leave the
room. ARTHUR motions for PERCIVAL to follow and the exit back
into the hall.

MERLIN
Hurry up and get out of here.

ARTHUR and the knights hurry back the way they came, MERLIN in
the opposite direction. MERLIN creates a ball of light to guide
the way and continues down the hall, checking rooms as he
passes them.

At the end of the hall there is one last room, he enters seeing several industrial washers and carts full of old linens. Movement in the corner catches his eye, he turns and sees LANCELOT hanging by the shackles at his hands from a pipe, feet barely touching the floor, unconscious.

MERLIN

Lancelot!

MERLIN rushes to LANCELOT's side, he cups his cheeks and lifts his face. LANCELOT's eyes flutter open heavily, they are glazed over when they reach MERLIN's.

LANCELOT

Merlin?

A small smile of relief flashes across LANCELOT's face.

MERLIN

Is it really you?

The joy building in him crashes down, last time MERLIN saw LANCELOT he was nothing more than a shadow of himself - a Shade.

LANCELOT

I don't understand.

MERLIN narrows his eyes at LANCELOT weighing his options, ultimately deciding to take the risk.

MERLIN

I'm going to free you.

MERLIN's eyes glow and the shackles release, freeing LANCELOT's wrists above his head. MERLIN catches him as he falls forward.

MERLIN

Can you walk?

LANCELOT

I think so.

MERLIN

Good. Follow me.

LANCELOT grabs MERLINS shoulder, for a second MERLIN thinks it's in hostility.

LANCELOT

We must get the others.

MERLIN

We have. Arthur's got them. We're going to meet them now.

LANCELOT
Morgause and Cenred have been
keeping us here.

MERLIN
Yeah.

MERLIN heads back towards the stairwell he came in through. LANCELOT following behind, a sheen of sweat forming on his forehead.

LANCELOT
I thought they were dead?

MERLIN
(snorts)
No shit. I'll explain later.

They make their way to the main hall, MERLIN checks a map posted by the door and finds an emergency exit nearby. They make their way to it, and exit to the back of the building with no obstacle.

EXT. THE CAMELOT CASTLE HOTEL - SUNRISE

MERLIN and LANCELOT make their way across the field behind the hotel, towards the cliffside. MERLIN glances over his shoulder periodically to make sure they hadn't been discovered. Once they reach the cliffside, and find the stairs leading to the shore had been washed away, leaving a dangerous slope they slowly make their way down.

The path to the cave entrance was unaccessible due to the rising tide. LANCELOT points to the rocks near the entrance.

LANCELOT
That way.

The climb over the rocks, to the other side and wade through the thigh high water to the cave. MERLIN whistles into it. After a moment a light flashes in MERLIN's eyes.

MERLIN
Do you mind?

MERLIN raises his hands to block the blinding light. ARTHUR appears and lowers the flashlight.

ARTHUR
(relieved)
Merlin.

PERCIVAL and ELYAN are standing against the wall, GWAINÉ and LEON had passed out at their feet, they are all soaking wet and shivering.

LANCELOT
Arthur! It is good to see you!

ARTHUR
(less than enthused)
Lancelot, I'm glad you could join us.

LANCELOT doesn't notice ARTHUR's tone, they clasp each other's arms in greeting. LANCELOT moves to join the other knights and MERLIN moves to ARTHUR's side.

MERLIN
We can't stay here for long.

ARTHUR
What is this place, Merlin?

MERLIN
(chuckles)
You're gonna laugh.

ARTHUR raises an eyebrow.

MERLIN
It's called Merlin's Cave.
Apparently, I was supposed to have lived here or something.

ARTHUR
So, now you're a cave-dweller, too?

MERLIN
I've been called worse.

ARTHUR
I don't doubt it.

MERLIN
By you.

ARTHUR
I *don't* doubt it.

MERLIN pulls the walkie talkie out of his backpack.

MERLIN
(into the walkie)
Wallace, can you hear me?

WALLACE
I read you. Over.

MERLIN
We're in the sea cave beneath the
ruins.

WALLACE
The cave, huh? You havin' fun,
Merlin? Over.

MERLIN rolls his eyes. ARTHUR grabs MERLIN's hand holding the walkie and bring it to his mouth.

ARTHUR
(into the walkie)
That's what I asked him.

MERLIN
(deadpan)
Yes, yes, I'm having the time of
my life. Bring the car as close to
the beach as you can, but stay
away from the hotel. We'll meet
you on the other side of the
ruins.

MERLIN begins to bounce up and down to keep warm.

WALLACE
Got it. I'll be there in fifteen.
Over.

MERLIN
Hurry. The tide's coming in.

ARTHUR and PERCIVAL ready GWAINÉ and LEON. LANCELOT appears at MERLIN's side.

LANCELOT
What was that thing?
(whispers, glancing at
ARTHUR)
Was it magic?

MERLIN
Later. We have a lot to talk
about. Let's help the others.

The group slowly makes their way out of the cave and through the rising waters, meeting WALLACE at a small parking lot just beyond the beach. They pile into the car and peel out, the tire marks left behind no coincidence.

FADE TO BLACK

INT. LIVING ROOM

Two bodies lay side by side on the floor, both dead. One looks to be nothing more than unconscious, the other in a pool of blood. MORDRED steps over the bodies, wiping his sword on a towel. He kneels in front of the couch, on it a body draped in a fantastical blood-red dress. MORDRED takes her hand and looks to her face.

MORDRED

Welcome back, Morgana. It's time
to finish what we started.

MORGANA stirs slightly, before opening her eyes, blinking several times. She gasps, the onslaught of memories hitting her, and sits upright. She looks down at her stomach, feeling for the wound that wasn't there. Her heavy breathes of panic turn into maniacal laughter, a vicious smile spread across her face.

MORGANA

I survived! Not even a blade
forged in magic could kill me!
Finally Emrys has failed!

MORGANA swings her feet over the edge of the couch, prepared to rejoin her army in taking Camelot. She was not prepared who she saw at her feet.

MORDRED

(breathlessly)
Morgana!

MORGANA

Mordred?!

MORGANA falls to her knees, tears in her eyes, and embraces MORDRED.

MORGANA

This is a dream. I remember
burying you!

MORGANA pulls away and searches his face.

MORDRED

It isn't a dream. This is real.

MORGANA

I thought I'd never see you again.

Made in Highland

MORDRED

I would never abandon you. For years, I have looked for a way to bring you back.

MORGANA's hands fall away from MORDRED.

MORGANA

Back? Back where?

MORGAUSE (O.S.)

Back into the living world.

MORGANA's eyes snapped to the voice in the doorway, unbelieving.

MORGAUSE

Hello, sister.

MORGANA

(through a sob)
Morgause?

MORGANA jumps up and ran into MORGAUSE's arms.

MORGANA

(voice quivering)
I don't understand.

MORGANA backs from MORGAUSE's embrace, MORGAUSE clasps their hands together.

MORGAUSE

No tears, sister. All will become clear in time. Mordred has worked hard to ensure you have all you need to gain what is rightfully yours. There is a world outside ripe for the taking. It belongs to you.

MORGANA swallows hard.

MORGANA

(hopeful)
Camelot?

MORGAUSE

Not just Camelot. All of the Five Kingdoms. Come. You have much to see.

MORGAUSE leads MORGANA by the hand, MORDRED following close behind.

Made in Highland

FADE TO BLACK

INT. MERLIN AND ARTHUR'S FLAT

LANCELOT stands on one side of the door frame between the kitchen and living room while MERLIN is on his knees, drawing a sigil in the doorway. GAIUS is standing over him inspecting his work. ARTHUR is pacing the room, and GWEN watches from the couch. LANCELOT periodically glances towards GWEN out of the corner of his eye. MERLIN finishes drawing the sigil, places his hand over it and it glows gold. LANCELOT's eyes widen in panic and he turns to see if ARTHUR and GWEN noticed, but neither react. MERLIN jumps to his feet.

MERLIN

Okay, I just need you to walk though that, Lancelot.

LANCELOT

That's all?

MERLIN

That's all.

LANCELOT takes two strides to pass through the sigil, nothing happens. He turns back to the group in time to see the nod ARTHUR gives MERLIN, and the wide smile appear on MERLIN's face. MERLIN lets out a breath of relief.

MERLIN

It's him.

LANCELOT

Yes, now do you mind telling me what that was all about?

GAIUS

We had to ensure you were not a Shade... a phantom returned to this world by a necromancer.

LANCELOT lets out a laugh, unsure of how to react, all eyes intensely on him. ARTHUR had stopped pacing but still glares at LANCELOT.

MERLIN

What's the last thing you remember?

LANCELOT

Dying. You, Merlin. I looked back at you before - .

(MORE)

Made in Highland

LANCELOT (CONT'D)

(remembering)

No. There was lake. I was lying in a boat, I think. And you, Merlin... Was I one of these creatures? A Shade?

ARTHUR

So, you're saying, everything that happened -

(pointing at LANCELOT)

- was because of magic? It hadn't been Lancelot at all?

LANCELOT's eyes fall on GWEN, who's breath audibly catches when their eyes meet.

MERLIN

Yes. And, I never had proof of it, but I think Gwen was placed under some enchantment, too. Morgana had orchestrated the whole thing.

ARTHUR and GWEN share a heavy look.

ARTHUR

And you never thought to tell me any of this?

MERLIN

Would you have believed it?

ARTHUR

I was desperate enough to have believed anything!

GWEN

Arthur, he did not have proof.

ARTHUR

But you would know -

ARTHUR is bordering on manic.

ARTHUR

- wouldn't you? You'd know if you'd been enchanted, Guinevere?

GWEN opens her mouth to speak but doesn't know what to say. She glances at MERLIN, then GAIUS before landing on LANCELOT.

LANCELOT

Arthur, Gwen would never knowingly do anything to hurt you.

(MORE)

Made in Highland

LANCELOT (CONT'D)

She loves you too greatly. Please, do not blame her. The fault lies with me.

GWEN

Do not think that. You were not yourself.

ARTHUR takes a deep breath to settle himself.

ARTHUR

It would seem Morgana is the only one to blame.

GAIUS

You must consider the outcome to the enchantment, as well, sire. It strengthened your relationship with Gwen. Morgana's plan had not worked. If it had, you would have never married.

LANCELOT looks to MERLIN for confirmation, he is completely still, looking at the ground however. LANCELOT swallows, knowing he was not the only one watching their relationship from afar.

ARTHUR

(slight hesitation)

Yes.

ARTHUR looks to GWEN who is smiling widely back at him.

ARTHUR

Alright. Merlin, send everyone else in.

MERLIN crosses the room to the bedroom door, giving LANCELOT a brief apologetic look on the way. He opens it and motions for everyone else to join them. LEON, GWAIN, PERCIVAL and ELYAN file out into the living room. ARTHUR gestures to the couch and chairs.

ARTHUR

Have a seat. I imagine you're all still recovering your strength.

Everyone takes a seat but LANCELOT. LANCELOT glances at MERLIN, who is staring at the group before him, a mixture of happiness, grief, worry and many more emotions on his face.

ARTHUR

You must have questions.

Made in Highland

GWAINE

I'd say that's an understatement.
Let's start with, what the hell's
going on?

LEON

(glaring at GWAINE)

Yes, Arthur, none of us can
understand how we came to be in
this place. The last I remember, I
was ill and aged seventy-four
years.

PERCIVAL

Last I remember, I was battling
the Saxons in Camelot's lower
town.

ELYAN

So, is that it? Are we all dead?
Is this some sort of afterlife?

GWAINE

Not like any afterlife I've heard
of.

ELYAN

How would anyone *know* what sorts
of afterlives there are?

GWAINE opens his mouth to retort back.

ARTHUR

Enough. None of us are dead.

MERLIN

Not anymore. You *were* dead, all of
you. Condolences.

ARTHUR

(eye roll)

Yes, thank you, Merlin.

ELYAN

How is that possible?

GAIUS

We were rather hoping you all
might shed some light on that. How
long had you been imprisoned?

LEON

It's hard to say, Gaius. It may
have been weeks.

GAIUS
Who was the first of you?

The four knights looked to LANCELOT.

ARTHUR
Lancelot?

LANCELOT
I do not know how long I'd been there. It must have been more than a month. The only people I saw were King Cenred and Morgause, and there was another man, too. He was young.

GWAINÉ
Mordred.

LANCELOT
(thrown)
You know him?

All at once:

ARTHUR
He was a knight.

GAIUS
He was a Druid.

LEON
He was a traitor.

GWAINÉ
He was our friend.

After a beat.

MERLIN
He killed Arthur.

LANCELOT
He *killed* Arthur?

ARTHUR
Not before I killed him, too. What else, Lancelot? Did he say anything to you?

LANCELOT
No. I knew nothing. I thought I was alone, until one day he took me to see them.

ARTHUR

Anyone else? Did Mordred mention any plan? Anything?

They all shake their heads.

GWAINÉ

No, he'd just come in every day and say the same thing. He'd ask us to fight for him. He never said what for; only that we're his friends and we should be on the same side.

GWEN

Am I right in thinking none of you took this offer?

LEON

After all he did? Of course, not!

LANCELOT

He never asked me to fight.

ARTHUR

He didn't? Maybe because he doesn't know you.

MERLIN

Or he was leverage for when Mordred got fed up with hearing no from everyone else. His plan might have been to kill Lancelot if they didn't comply. That's why he let the others know he had Lancelot captive.

LANCELOT

I would not let them be forced to fight against their will at my expense. I would have rather died.

MERLIN

Yeah, and they'd die before seeing you killed. You're all too damn noble. That's your problem.

GWEN

But why Lancelot? It makes little sense. Mordred could have used anyone. I do not believe he brought any of you back just to kill you.

GAIUS

And he must have known none of you
would betray Arthur.

GWAINÉ

So you're saying Mordred is the
reason we're all here?

ELYAN

Where is *here* exactly?

ARTHUR

There's much you need to know.
Most of it won't be easy.
Lancelot, you'd better sit down.

LANCELOT crosses his arms over his chest.

TIME JUMP: AFTER FILLING THE KNIGHTS IN

ARTHUR

As we said, we don't know why
Mordred is bringing people back,
or how he's doing it. Our first
order of business should be to
find those things out.

Everyone was dazed, but nods in solidarity.

PERCIVAL

Who was the first to return?

MERLIN

Arthur. He's been back for almost
three years now, but not by
Mordred's hand. He came back, just
like the prophecies said he would.

MERLIN glances across the room at ARTHUR, a faint smile crosses
his face. He snaps back to attention.

MERLIN

I got him from Avalon and brought
him here.

LANCELOT

So, Arthur was not the first to
return? You were.

MERLIN

No.
(a beat)
I never left.

PERCIVAL

You've been alive all this time?

ELYAN

How can that be?

GWAINÉ

What's he talking about?

MERLIN's gaze falls to the floor.

LEON

I don't understand. If Mordred did not bring you back, how is it you appear young? You aged just as Gwen and I had in Camelot.

MERLIN

Oh! No!

(slight chuckle)

That was just a glamour spell so I didn't freak anyone out.

ELYAN

Did he say *spell*?

MERLIN rambles on.

MERLIN

Gwen and I decided we couldn't have people asking why the court physician never aged. It seemed easier to appear old than to stir up suspicion. Because, you know, plastic surgery wasn't even around back then and -

ARTHUR

Mer-lin!

MERLIN

Sorry.

ARTHUR

Leon, Percival, as you probably already know Merlin has magic.

ELYAN

Magic?

GWAINÉ

I knew it!

LANCELOT takes a step towards MERLIN.

LANCELOT
It's kept you here all this time?

MERLIN's mask of nonchalance drops.

MERLIN
I didn't age. The day Arthur died,
I just... stopped.
(whispered)
In more ways than one.

ARTHUR
Lancelot, I can't help but notice
how unsurprised you are about
Merlin's magic.

LANCELOT
I knew.

ARTHUR
You *knew*?
(to MERLIN)
You told *him*?

LANCELOT
He didn't tell me! I worked it
out.

Everyone looks away, intensely inspecting whatever is closest.

ARTHUR
He worked it out? Well, it's a
good thing one of us *worked it*
out. Merlin – a word. Privately.

ARTHUR storms off towards the bedroom. MERLIN glances to LANCELOT with a smirk and follows. Everyone shares glances, all too familiar with what's about to unfold. LANCELOT's eyes meet GWEN's.

INT. MERLIN AND ARTHUR'S BEDROOM

ARTHUR turns around to MERLIN, furious.

ARTHUR
How long did he know?

MERLIN has his back to the wall, he crosses his arms. The door remains open.

MERLIN
Arthur...

ARTHUR
How long, Merlin!

MERLIN drops his shoulders, thinking about the best way to phrase his answer.

MERLIN
Almost since the day I met him.

ARTHUR's eyes go wide, he turns away and shakes his head.

ARTHUR
The whole time?! Did he really work it out, or did you tell him?

MERLIN
Oh, Arthur - ! *Worked it out*, is giving him a lot of credit. He saw me use magic.

ARTHUR
And you couldn't have made him forget? You're supposed to be all - powerful. My god, Merlin, if you really wanted to guard your secret, why did you allow him to remember?

MERLIN
I was still growing into my magic then. Maybe I could have made him forget if I tried hard enough, but...

ARTHUR
You didn't want to.
(sadly)
You trusted him. More than you trusted me.

MERLIN
Because he kept my secret. I wouldn't have told him if he hadn't found out on his own.

ARTHUR
You could have told *me*.

MERLIN
(eye roll)
Not this again. You know why I couldn't.

ARTHUR

Right, because you didn't want me to have decide between my morals and you. It's just, the thought of him knowing a side of you that I didn't...

A teasing smirk creeps on MERLIN's face.

MERLIN

Are you jealous?

ARTHUR

Of course not!

MERLIN

You *are*! You're jealous over *me*!

ARTHUR

(eye roll)

I'm not jealous, Merlin.

MERLIN

Sure. Whatever you say.

ARTHUR

Look, just — don't let Lancelot in on anymore secrets until I know them first. Are we clear?

MERLIN

Oh, cross my heart!

MERLIN draws an X over his chest with his finger.

MERLIN

Whenever I next have a life-or-death secret, you will be the first to know.

ARTHUR

Good. I'd better be.

MERLIN

Are we *done*?

ARTHUR

No. Kiss me.

MERLIN licks his lips in mock consideration, before giving in and kissing ARTHUR.

LANCELOT (O.S.)

Arthur, I'm—

Made in Highland

ARTHUR pushes MERLIN away, but LANCELOT had already seen the two kissing from where he stands in the doorway. MERLIN leans forward and pulls LANCELOT into the room and ARTHUR slams the door shut.

ARTHUR AND MERLIN

We can explain.

LANCELOT can't look either of them in the eye, his face is flushed red up to his ears.

LANCELOT

No, no. There's no need. I should not have -

(clears his throat)

I just came in to tell you Merlin is not to blame. I did not mean to come between the two of you... I see now that I haven't.

LANCELOT turns to leave.

MERLIN

Lancelot, wait.

ARTHUR

What you just saw. Merlin and I...

MERLIN

We're married!

LANCELOT

Married? I don't understand. Gaius just said you and Gwen are married.

ARTHUR

Yes, well, she was dead. It - it's complicated. But Merlin and I - No one else knows.

MERLIN

(cringing)

Gaius knows.

ARTHUR

Gaius knows?

MERLIN

I had to tell Gaius.

ARTHUR

Fine. No one but Gaius knows.

LANCELOT
Your secret is safe with me.

ARTHUR
It's not a secret!

LANCELOT
I don't understand.

ARTHUR
We just don't want news of us
getting out until I can find a way
to tell Guinevere.

Surprise cross LANCELOT's face.

LANCELOT
(sharply)
Gwen doesn't know?

ARTHUR
Not yet. But I feel as though she
should hear it from me.

LANCELOT
Well, when are you going to tell
her?

ARTHUR
I don't know yet!

LANCELOT
How can you not know?

ARTHUR
Because - !

MERLIN
Because he still loves her.

LANCELOT
(comforting)
Merlin.

ARTHUR's jealousy begins to reappear and MERLIN's walls are
back up.

MERLIN
We've kept the others waiting long
enough.

MERLIN squeezes between ARTHUR and LANCELOT and crosses the
room to the door.

MERLIN
 (over his shoulder)
 Come on.

LANCELOT stays and looks at ARTHUR, who can't bring himself to meet his eyes, guilt written all over his face. Something about the way LANCELOT scrutinizes ARTHUR makes him break in a moment of vulnerability unusual for him.

ARTHUR
 (quickly)
 We were keeping our distance, partly because we don't want her to get suspicious. But I never expected her to come back, I'm so confused. And now I don't know how to act around either them, so I'm keeping my distance from Merlin, too. And it's killing him. I've never seen him so insecure. I don't know how to deal with it.

ARTHUR sighs and finally looks up at LANCELOT.

ARTHUR
 I don't know what to do.

LANCELOT
 Well, you better figure it out, Arthur. He never let you go. Don't you dare break his heart. Again.
 (a beat)
 And it's not fair to Gwen.

LANCELOT turns and leaves the room. ARTHUR closes his eyes and lets out a frustrated sigh. He composes himself and follows.

EXT. HOUSE

MORGANA, MORGAUSE AND MORDRED exit the house that MORGANA had been resurrected in.

MORGAUSE
 Come. You have much to see.

MORGAUSE motions forward and MORGANA steps off the porch onto the sidewalk. There are people rushing about, families chatting in their yards and a car rushes past. MORGANA's head snaps in multiple directions trying to take it all in, she turns to MORGAUSE for an explanation but gets none.

MORGAUSE
 Come.

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MORGAUSE takes MORGANA's hand and leads her down the street towards another house, cars parked along the sidewalk. They walk into the house and into a parlor which holds nearly three dozen people. All chatter dies as they enter the room, all eyes on MORGANA. CENRED turns from the man he was talking to, and drops to one knee.

CENRED

My queen.

The man CENRED was speaking to follows suit, and in turn the rest of the people in the room.

MORGAUSE

These are just a few of those who have pledged to follow you. Their current leader is weak. He hasn't nearly as much power as you. Soon, you will have an army of magic users at your disposal. Together, we will take what is ours. We will build a world free from those who seek to destroy us. You will show us the way.

MORGANA steps forward, taking in the crowd before her.

MORDRED

Are you pleased, my queen?

MORGANA turns around, a razor sharp grin on her face.

MORGANA

I am pleased.

INT. MERLIN AND ARTHUR'S FLAT

As ARTHUR re-enters the room everyone pretends to be busy.

ARTHUR

Let's return to business, shall we?

ARTHUR clears his throat and opens his mouth to speak, but GWEN cuts him off.

GWEN

It's important that we know how Mordred has brought us back to life. We believe he and the Neo-Druids have uncovered a relic of the Old Religion in order to do so.

(MORE)

Made in Highland

GWEN (CONT'D)

If we find out which one, we may discover what he's planning.

ARTHUR

Right.

(nods)

We think he's been trying to bring back my sister, but we don't know why. There's a chance he's succeeded already, but if he hasn't, we must get the relic and stop him before it's too late.

GAIUS

We may be able to keep hope alive, sire. Mordred needs a sacrifice on the ley lines for each resurrection. These last three days, we haven't received word of such a murder. Your friend with the authorities has doubled his search for Mordred. Perhaps he's unable to get into the city.

GWEN

We cannot rely on that. He has the force of Neo-Druids behind him. Even if he hasn't made a sacrifice, that can change at any moment. That is why we must know what we're up against.

ELYAN

I agree, but none of us ever saw a relic. We were all unconscious when he brought us back, and then all we ever saw was the room he held us in.

LEON

We could go back to the inn and search it.

ARTHUR

That won't do any good. Wallace, our contact with the authorities, sent a group to search the hotel. Mordred is long gone. Whatever the relic, there's no doubt he took it with him.

PERCIVAL

Gaius, what sort of object could bring a person back from the dead?

GAIUS

There are accounts of many relics of the Old Religion that possess such power. Necromancers were able to bring back the body or the soul of one long dead, but never both. That kind of magic is supposed to be impossible.

MERLIN

Except it isn't. Not for Mordred, apparently, since he managed to do it nine times. And it wasn't impossible for whoever brought Mordred back, for that matter—because, unless there's a body we don't know about that fits the pattern, he wasn't resurrected the same way you were.

ARTHUR

We won't know anything until we know what the relic is. To find it, we must first find Mordred.

MERLIN

Maybe we don't.

MERLIN goes to the bookshelf and flips through one of his journals, then another and another until he finds what he is looking for.

MERLIN

There's a ritual in shamanism that allows a person's consciousness to leave their body and journey to the spirit realm. I learned about it first in America from the Crow tribe. Vision quests were sort of like a right of passage for their tribe's people. Here it is!

MERLIN returns to the group.

MERLIN

The person on the vision quest would seek answers about their destiny from their spirit guide.

(MORE)

MERLIN (CONT'D)

The quest itself took three days to complete, but the preparation for it can last for as long as a week.

(snorts)

Trust me, it's a long and *painful* process. Lots of people poking you with pointy objects - .

ARTHUR interrupts before MERLIN can go off on a tangent.

ARTHUR

We don't have a week.

MERLIN

No, I know, but there's a version that takes less time. Usually, it was a ritual reserved only for the medicine men. For Native Americans, medicine and magic were closely linked. They used these rituals for a lot of things. If a tribes-person came down with an illness that couldn't be cured, or if a skin walker was harassing the camp, the medicine man would go into a trance state and ask his spirit guide for answers.

GWEN

It can tell us what relic Mordred's uncovered?

MERLIN

Maybe. He's been pulling souls from the spirit realm. You have to figure the spirit world knows *something* about it.

ARTHUR

You're sure this will work?

MERLIN

(shrugs)

Sure. I've done it before. A while ago, but -

(exhales loudly to hide his nerves)

I just need a few things.

MERLIN looks down at his journal, tracing the lines as he reads.

MERLIN

I should be able to find the ingredients here in the city.

LANCELOT

I will go with you.

GAIUS

Merlin, perhaps you should allow me time to research this method before acting so hastily.

ARTHUR

(relieved)

Yes. This sounds dangerous.

MERLIN closes the journal and grabs his backpack from a chair.

MERLIN

No need. I've got a handle on it. Besides, we really don't have the time, right, Arthur?

ARTHUR is unsure of the plan, he looks to GWEN for her opinion but she has complete trust in MERLIN.

GWEN

He is right. If Merlin thinks this will give us answers, I trust his judgment.

MERLIN beams at GWEN and she returns the smile. ARTHUR lets out a deep breath.

ARTHUR

Very well. Go quickly. Take the motorbike. And Merlin whatever ingredients you need, get enough for two people. I will be accompanying you on this - ,
(waves his hand in the air trying to remember what MERLIN called it)
- vision quest.

MERLIN hesitates.

ARTHUR

So, it is dangerous, then?

MERLIN ignores ARTHUR's comment.

MERLIN

That won't work.
(MORE)

Made in Highland

MERLIN (CONT'D)

No two people have the same spirit guide. We have different souls — different consciousnesses. We won't be able to take the quest together.

ARTHUR

There must be a way.

GAIUS

I may know one. There is a potion which can bind two people's minds for a short period of time. If I have the ingredients, I may be able to make it. But, I must warn you, there's no guarantee it will work for this. Joining two individuals' minds is one thing. Joining their souls is another thing entirely.

ARTHUR

But it's worth a try?

GAIUS

(shrugs)

There's certainly no harm in it.

ARTHUR

(smug)

It's settled, then. Gaius, do what you must. Merlin, Lancelot, hurry back.

MERLIN

(sharp)

Fine.

(to GAIUS)

You know where the books are. Magical herbs are in the pantry. I'm low on verbena.

MERLIN walks into the kitchen and takes a store wrapped sandwich out of the refrigerator.

LANCELOT

What is that?

MERLIN

Food.

LANCELOT

Are we going far?

Made in Highland

MERLIN opens the flat door and motions for LANCELOT to go through first.

MERLIN

No.

MERLIN walks through and the door swings shut behind him.

FADE OUT