

SAIRA

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Draft 6

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CRACKING, CRUNCHING ICE ECHOES OVER **BLACK**

EXT. FOREST - MORNING.

A weed choked forest splattered with snow.

A teenager's BARE FEET run across the FOREST-FLOOR. Ice cracks under each step. She PANT'S and GASP'S.

Her head whips around, her face still cloaked. GASPS turn to WHEEZING.

INT. ROOM - MORNING.

Asphyxiated in darkness.

Wheezing. Creeping in, a Brompton Ventilator...

HISSES & MOANS

Sounds like a dyeing dragon. Underneath, the 'wheezing' from MARGAUX(40's), bald.

Asleep in bed. In the corner...

A MAN'S strong hands, a thin layer of dirt and blood caked on them.

His upper body a DARK SILHOUETTE.

A CURTAIN RUSTLING in the uncertain sourceless WIND.

EXT. BOREAL FOREST FLOOR - MORNING.

RUSTLING ROBE slips on HER skin as if made of liquid-silk.

Bare feet still running. Though now, she's slowing.

Howl of dogs, utterance like beasts of Hell but angrier, ravenous. Think Cerberus with acid-injected rabies.

The howls of Hell thrust her into a sprint once more.

She stumbles, PINE THORNS lash at her, rip her robe, her skin. She's not slowing for the BEAD OF BLUE BLOOD trailing across her neck.

As she scurries along the sides of the FALLEN TREES, hiding where she can, jumps to a...

EXT. CLEARING - LATE MORNING.

Howling closing in.

AN ABANDONED/RUINED farm-house rises to meet our runner.

She dashes towards the structure.

Boarded up windows & doors tell us: she's alone. Odd burn marks scar the house as if hit by a ray-gun.

Other chunks, missing as if vaporized by the Terminator's time-portal.

She shoves the DOOR open with her shoulder. It flies-off as if made of paper.

INT. ROOM - MORNING.

A little less darkness than before.

Ventilator still hissing. The SILHOUETTE: a large-form MAN.

He opens a closet, pulls out a PILLOW. He squeezes tight, knuckles turning white. Sniffles.

He turns to Lady-Life-Support. Teary-eyed, he enters the light:

HUGO, 50's, but looks 60's, salt & pepper beard, deep sunken eyes tell he's consumed by the past and scarred by all of it.

He lifts her head and slides the pillow under her for extra support. The movement wakes her.

Hugo strokes her face. Kisses her forehead. She turns, falls back asleep.

E/I. ABANDONED/RUINED FARM-HOUSE - DAY.

The HARSH day's light does little to lift the cold.

Shivering. Peeking out from the cracked window our RUNNER sees the inky-shapes moving off.

She leans back. Her trick worked, for the time being.

INT. BURNT FARM HOUSE - DAY.

Once a teenagers bedroom.

Faded pink furniture & decoupage all about. She snaps up some jeans, Converse shoes and a zip up hoodie. Covers her face.

Fully clothed, she's in the...

EXT. FOREST - MIDDAY.

SHE's in a full run. Ravenous howls echo, so close we can feel them.

THUD!

She runs into a...

EXT. WALL - MIDDAY.

THE WALL, high as the sky, wide as the Great Wall.

Beasts SOUNDS are closing in. She moves down the wall's FACE, plain, flat as if designed by I.M. Pei.

A SIGN. She wipes off the caked-on dust to reveal:

**TUATHA DE**

And an image of:

**THREE LARGE, THICK, JAGGED BLACK CLAW MARKS CARVED INTO THE WALL.**

A LOW GROWL whirls HER around. She's in a world of trouble.

DARK, INKY, INHUMAN CREATURES surround her.

Voracious TEETH snap!

EXT. ISOLATED FARM HOUSE - LATE AFTERNOON.

Somewhere between Victorian & Retro-modern, a three story house seems to welcome any who comes upon it.

The dense forest encroaches on the treeless property, ready to swallow it whole.

ANNA(5), playing in the garden with a doll and a ball, HUMMING a song ("*In the Meadow.*") A swing set a few feet from her.

Hugo plow's a vegetable garden, sweating.

A bright blue light FLASHES in the sky, followed by a teeth cracking, echoing KABOOM!

Anna and Hugo look to the sky. Probably just thunder.

Stillness. TWO MORE FLASHES and KABOOMS!

Hugo throws down the plow, stares into the forest. Dead silence. He waits, just in case. Nothing.

Back to work. He notices a bucket of unpeeled potatoes on the porch.

INT. CELINE'S ROOM.

CELINE(16), brunette, glasses, athletic but 100% bookworm nerdy, scribbles away in a heavily used notebook.

Her wall is covered in hieroglyphics, not like any of ancient man. Totally alien.

HUGO (O.S.)

Celine!

She's consumed by her work, studying her notes and her wall.

HUGO (O.S.) (CONT'D)

You know I won't stop till you come down here!

She can't work like this. Grabs her book and storms out the room.

EXT. FARMHOUSE.

She bursts through the door and knocks the bucket as she exits.

HUGO

Those aren't going to peel themselves.

CELINE

I'm in the middle of something.

HUGO

You've got more important things to do.

CELINE

(frustrated, to herself)  
Bullshit.

HUGO

Hey! Everyone's gotta pull their weight around here so don't...

He stops himself before he says something bad. He acknowledges Celine's disappointment.

HUGO (CONT'D)

I can't do this on my own. I need you.

A kiss on the forehead. She hates this work but he's right.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Oh and can you look at your solar shower thing when you're done? It's on the fritz again.

CELINE

That's the third time this week!

HUGO

You're the one who built it, I dunno how to fix it. I just use it.

Hugo smiles, back to plowing. Celine peels, nicks her finger.

LOUD HORNS BOOM through the air, repeating THREE TIMES.

Anna runs to Hugo, takes his hand. Eyes Celine. She's defiant.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Celine.

She throws the peeler and shoves passed Hugo, purposely nudging his shoulder.

Celine stands a few feet from the edge of the property. Hugo and Anna stand beside her.

From the ground, a BLACK CLAW (IDENTICAL TO THE ONE ON THE WALL) SHAPED MONOLITH rises.

ALL

All hail the Vaar. Givers of Life.  
Rulers of Earth. One allegiance.  
Never another.

A BLOOD-RED, EYE SHAPED LIGHT FLASHES on. All three wince in pain. It hurts Anna the most.

THREE CLAW SHAPED MARKS appear underneath their Adam's apples and pulsate. All struggle to breathe.

The light shuts off. The monolith disappears into the ground.

All cough, catch their breathes.

Hugo's watch BEEPS.

CELINE

I'll go.

HUGO

No. Stay here. Watch your sister.

He heads inside. Celine kneels.

CELINE  
 (to Anna)  
 You ok?

No response.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
 Thinking about her?

Yes, she is.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
 Yea. Me too. Hey, lets play How  
 High Can You Jump.

Anna likes the idea. Celine grabs the ball.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
 Ready?

Throws the ball high in the air.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
 How high can you jump? How high can  
 you jump?

Anna's little legs bounce up and down till she catches the  
 ball.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
 Good job! OK, lets go again.

Repeats but the ball bumps Anna's head and rolls into the  
 forest. Anna makes a run for it.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
 Anna, no!

She grabs her in time.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
 We don't go out there. Remember  
 mommy's song?  
 (half-singing)  
 In the Meadow we don't go, the inky  
 men will steal your soul.

ANNA  
 But you went out there yesterday.

CELINE  
 I know, I know and I shouldn't have,  
 it was wrong. I made a mistake. I  
 won't do it again.

ANNA

Promise?

CELINE

Promise.

Pinkie swear.

CELINE (CONT'D)

Here. Play with Sally. I'll be right over there. Stay here, OK?

Celine heads to the house, stops.

CELINE (CONT'D)

Oh and don't tell dad.

Anna plays with her doll.

The ball rolls out of the woods and stops at Anna's feet. She throws it back in. Moments later, it rolls back out.

Anna looks back. Celine is distracted with her book and peeling potatoes at the same time.

She throws the ball one more time. Same result. She decides to investigate.

EXT. IN THE WOODS.

Anna enters the Meadow. Eerie silence.

She stops at a clearing, frozen in place. A dark blue, inky like smoke appears. Horror grips her.

EXT. FARM-HOUSE - PORCH.

Celine, deep in her book, half peeling the potatoes.

A red eyed Hugo exits.

CELINE

How is she?

He looks around.

HUGO

Where's Anna?

Celine looks out. Oh no. Hugo storms towards the forest. Celine follows.

HUGO (CONT'D)

ANNA! ANNA!



Anna, giddy, emerges.

ANNA  
Daddy, daddy!

Hugo falls to his knees, grabs his daughter tight.

HUGO  
Jesus! Baby, are you OK? Are you  
all right?

ANNA  
I made a new friend!

HUGO  
What? Who?

ANNA  
The girl in the meadow.

HUGO  
What're you... Sweetheart, you can't  
go out there! The inky men are bad  
people.

ANNA  
But she's not an inky man, daddy.

HUGO  
What? Who... what are you talking  
about?

Anna turns. No one's there. Hugo turns his ire on Celine.

HUGO (CONT'D)  
What the hell were you doing?

CELINE  
I was peeling...

HUGO  
...I told you to look after your  
sister?!

CELINE  
I was right over there!

ANNA  
Look!

Celine and Hugo argue over Anna running to...

SAIRA. Hoodie covering her face.

She kneels to meet Anna. Tickles her. Hugo and Celine finally take notice.

HUGO

Anna!

CELINE

(under her breath)

Shit.

HUGO

Anna!

He desperately wants to go to her.

HUGO (CONT'D)

(to Saira)

Please. Please don't hurt her.

Please.

(to Anna)

Anna. Anna, come here honey.

Saira motions her to go. Anna runs to Hugo, picks her up.

CELINE

(whispering to Hugo)

Vaar?

HUGO

Inside. Now.

They back peddle, then jog, always looking back. Saira doesn't follow.

INT. FARM HOUSE.

Celine and Hugo board up the windows, draw the curtains.

INT. FARM HOUSE - NIGHT.

The family eats dinner.

ANNA

Daddy.

Hugo keeps eating.

ANNA (CONT'D)

Daddy.

Purposely stuffs his mouth so he can't answer.

ANNA (CONT'D)

Daddy!

He listens.

ANNA (CONT'D)  
 (Whispering)  
 The inky men are coming.

He looks to Celine. She subtly shakes her head "no."

ANNA (CONT'D)  
 Don't leave her out there!

HUGO  
 Stop. We don't know who she... it  
 is.

ANNA  
 But daddy.

HUGO  
 Enough. I'm not putting this family  
 in any more danger. We have enough  
 to deal with. Eat your dinner.

They eat in silence.

THUMP! CRASH! MUFFLED TUMBLING!

It's coming from inside the house. Hugo quickly stands.

THUMP! MUFFLED STEPS. Hugo creeps towards the cellar door,  
 grabs his trusty hand ax before he continues.

HUGO (CONT'D)  
 (to Celine)  
 Stay here. Watch her.

Celine grabs Anna, holds her tight. Hugo advances.

INT. CELLAR - NIGHT.

CREEEEEEEEEEEEEK!

Hugo descends one step at a time. Gripping the ax tight.

Shivering. Light condensation when he breathes.

Scary silence. Looking around, all seems normal.

THUNK!

Hugo turns swiftly towards a trembling tarp.

He approaches, ax at the ready. He reaches out, yanks the  
 tarp away, raises his ax ready to go for the kill!

Saira, cowered and curled up as tightly as she can in the corner, covers herself hoping Hugo won't attack. Shivering.

Hugo kneels to be eye level with her, still very cautious.

He reaches out to lower her hoodie but she swipes him away and just as fast, Hugo thrusts the ax against her throat.

A thin stream of blue blood trickles down the steel and drips onto the floor.

Hugo, slowly, gently pulls away. Stands up

He slides back a few inches and bumps into Celine and Anna. The jolt makes Anna SQUEAK in fear.

Hugo TRIPS and drops the ax. The girls fall to the ground.

The commotion terrifies Saira. She sees the ax.

Both her and Hugo lunge for the weapon but she gets there first.

The tables have turned.

Saira stands and inches forward, holding the ax in both hands, trembling.

Hugo and the girls slide backwards as fast as they can. Celine holds on tight to a crying Anna.

End of the line. Hugo covers the girls with his body. Saira inches closer.

Hugo musters all his strength and LUNGES at Saira.

CELINE

Dad, no!

Saira drops the ax. Her palms CRASH into Hugo's chest, emanating a bright blue liquid-like light, thrusting him backwards with force.

Hugo coughs violently. Saira steps back into her corner. The girls help their dad.

CELINE (CONT'D)

Dad! Dad, are you OK?

HUGO

(struggling)

I'm OK. I'm fine.

Celine, angered, grabs the ax.

ANNA

No!

She holds her sister back.

CELINE

Let go of me!

ANNA

She's afraid!

CELINE

I don't care!

ANNA

She's not an inky man!

HUGO

Celine.

She turns.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Leave her be.

CELINE

Dad!

HUGO

I know. You're right.

He stands. He signals for his ax. Celine hesitates. She still wants blood but gives in.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Upstairs.

CELINE

I'm staying.

HUGO

Go upstairs with your sister.

She hesitates again. She picks Anna up and leaves. Hugo stays behind.

Saira, tucked in the corner. Shivering.

Hugo approaches. She sees him.

She prepares to attack...

Hugo tosses her a blanket. She calms and wraps herself up.

Hugo leaves.

INT. MARGAUX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT.

Hugo helps his frail wife into her wheel chair. He puts on surgical gloves, preps her food.

MARGAUX  
Who is she?

HUGO  
Who?

MARGAUX  
Our visitor.

HUGO  
Don't know. She's not Vaar.

MARGAUX  
A wanderer?

HUGO  
Maybe.

He sits opposite her, giant syringe in his hand.

MARGAUX  
You look so tired.

HUGO  
Long day.

He connect's the syringe to a tube in Margaux's stomach. She winces. He slows down.

HUGO (CONT'D)  
Sorry.

MARGAUX  
How are the kids?

HUGO  
Anna's gotten attached to the...  
thing. Celine's a pain in my ass.

MARGAUX  
She's a young woman in a new world.

HUGO  
Yea, well. We're all in the same  
boat.

She lays her bony hand on his.

MARGAUX  
Be good to her. She loves you.

She smiles.

HUGO  
I have to force her to get involved.

MARGAUX  
She's stubborn. Like her father.

Hugo chuckles.

MARGAUX (CONT'D)  
She's much stronger than you think.  
She wants to fight.

HUGO  
There's nothing left to fight for.

MARGAUX  
How can you say that?

HUGO  
It's the truth.

MARGAUX  
(upset)  
My Hugo never gave up so quickly.

HUGO  
Yes. He did.

She strokes his face. He cries.

MARGAUX  
There's always something left to  
fight for.

HUGO  
I can't.

She smiles.

HUGO (CONT'D)  
There's no one left.

MARGAUX  
Yes. There is.

They lock eyes. Hugo removes the syringe and gloves and helps his wife into bed. He kneels to be close to her.

HUGO  
I love you.

MARGAUX  
I love you, too.

They kiss. Hugo dims her light and leaves.

INT. BEDROOM.

Hugo removes his shirt, revealing a body scarred by the wounds of war.

He opens a dresser drawer and digs for a new shirt. A LARGE WOOD BOX reveals itself. He takes it out, opens it.

Scores of army medals adorn the inside. Underneath a secret cover a picture of him and a young man standing side by side in military uniform. It's labeled:

**General Hugo Crane, Universal Skies.**

**Private George Crane, Infantry Division, Universal Skies.**

He tears up. Angered. He quickly puts everything away and hides the box.

I/E. FARM HOUSE - MORNING.

A sunny day. Hugo and the girls watch as Saira performs acrobatics on the swing set.

HUGO

Stay here.

EXT. FARM HOUSE.

Hugo steps onto the porch. He watches Saira closely.

Approaching with caution. Saira lands a move with precision.

He stands a distance away. She turns, sees him, stands her ground.

HUGO

Who are you?

No response.

HUGO (CONT'D)

What do you want?

Same.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Name?

Same.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Vaar?



Vaar she understands. Shakes her head "no."

THE HORNS jolt Saira. She tumbles to the ground, scurries away.

The kids rush out of the house.

The monolith rises from the ground.

Same as before, the red light scans, they wince in pain, the monolith descends.

The family heads inside but Saira blocks their path.

As she approaches, they steps back.

Anna wiggles her way loose from Celine's grip, runs to Saira.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Anna!

Saira kneels, face to face with Anna. She reaches out and strokes Anna's neck where the scratch marks are. It tickles.

Saira stands.

CELINE

Anna. Come here.

ANNA

No!

HUGO

Listen to your sister.

She obeys. Celine reaches out to grab her sister.

Saira approaches Celine but she steps away.

Hugo steps up to Saira.

CELINE

Dad.

HUGO

It's OK.

He moves deliberately. Nearly face to face with Saira.

She lowers her hoodie. White skin, striking eyes, she's the girl next door, if the girl next door was from another planet.

They lock eyes for the first time. Total silence.

She tries to cup his face, he shoves it away with force.  
Tries again, same result.

Now, she's angry.

Waiting. Waiting.

WHAM! She's got him. She cups his face, her thumb on his glabella. A BLUE LIGHT EMANATES.

CELINE

Dad!

ANNA

Daddy!

BLUE LINES form on Saira's face, some on her hands as well.

Celine rushes them but Saira thrusts her back several feet.  
Anna helps her sister.

Hugo, forced to his knees. CHOKES & GASPS. Eyes roll into the back of his head. The veins in his arms, neck and head bulge, throb, ready to burst.

THREE RED CRYSTALS squirm out his neck where the claw marks are, leaving a trail of blood behind. They drop to the ground. The open wound heals instantly.

Saira releases her grip on Hugo. Her blue lines disappear.

Hugo coughs violently but slowly returns to his normal self.  
The girls run to him.

CELINE

Dad! Dad are you OK?!

He picks up the crystals. Looks into Saira's eyes, breathing heavy. He touches his neck.

The girls notice the crystals as well.

Saira, straight-faced.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER.

Saira tosses a ball with Anna.

CELINE

What's the plan?

HUGO

I don't know. Without our scanner's  
it's only a matter of time before...

CELINE  
No, not that!

HUGO  
Your mother thinks she might be a wanderer. She can't stay. The Vaar will be looking for her.

Celine sits at the table.

CELINE  
(to Saira)  
Celine.

Anna plays along.

ANNA  
(to Saira)  
Anna.

Saira looks at Hugo.

HUGO  
Hugo.

She looks back at Celine.

Celine grabs a marker and paper, writes her name, shows it to Saira.

CELINE  
Me. Celine. You?

She gives Saira a fresh piece of paper and the marker.

Saira writes in familiar symbols to Celine.

HUGO  
What the hell?

CELINE  
I know what that is.

She pulls out her book.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
Look!

Celine translates as Saira writes.

CELINE (CONT'D)  
S. A. E. N. A. Saena.

Saira shakes her head "no." She corrects Celine's translations.

CELINE (CONT'D)

I. R. Saira.

She nods in approval. Her eyelids shut side to side, in an almost affectionate way. She writes more.

CELINE (CONT'D)

Jethwa. Home. Vaar destroy. No family. Saira last Jethwa.

Saira shows them a Universal Skies patch with a tiny pink heart. Hugo recognizes it. Sits.

CELINE (CONT'D)

What is that?

Hugo tears up.

HUGO

(to Saira)

Where did you get this?

No response. Hugo pounds his fists on the table, raged, scaring the girls. Saira rushes to her feet, ready to fight. Anna hides in her sisters arms.

HUGO (CONT'D)

God damnit, where did you get this?!

CELINE

Dad! Calm down.

He calms. Celine urges Saira to sit.

ANNA

What is that, daddy?

Hugo stares deep into the eyes of pure innocences. He picks her up, sits her in his lap. It's story time.

HUGO

A long time ago. Before you were born. After the inky men came to earth and promised us many things.

ANNA

Like free candy!

HUGO

(light chuckle)

Right. Like free candy, free food.

(serious)

No more wars. No more starving people.

(MORE)

HUGO (CONT'D)

Well, the inky men; they didn't tell the truth. They were very bad. Very evil.

ANNA

That's why mommy says we don't go into the meadow.

HUGO

That's right. But you see. There was a young woman. A very, very brave young woman. Who wanted to fight the inky men. And she did. She brought all of us together. And she fought.

(tears)

She fought so we could be free.

(shows the patch)

And this belongs to that brave young woman.

ANNA

What happened to her?

HUGO

(crying)

When the man she loved betrayed her. And broke her heart. She became very sick. And she disappeared.

He puts his daughter down and leaves the kitchen. The door cellar opens and SLAMS shut.

INT. UPSTAIRS BEDROOM.

Margaux laying in bed, half asleep. Saira appears in the door frame.

She sits next to Margaux, puts her palm on her chest. She feels her pain.

She hovers her hand over Margaux's mouth. The FLESH ON HER PALM PEELS BACK. THE LIQUID BLUE LIGHT EMANATES and her lines reappear.

THE SOUND OF MINIATURE ROBOT LIKE CREATURES SCURRYING.

Margaux's eyes roll into the back of her head. Veins throbbing. BLACK OOZE is sucked out of her.

Saira's palm heals, the LIGHT FADES. Margaux passes out.

INT. KITCHEN.

Anna and Celine play How High Can You Jump.

CELINE  
You're getting better!

Anna giggles. She tosses the ball once, grabs it. The second time she drops it because she's looking at something.

Celine turns.

INT. CELLAR. - CONTINUOUS

Hugo rearranges pointlessly trying to get stuff of his mind. He hears giggling, laughing, happiness.

INT. KITCHEN.

Hugo walks gingerly, the chattering getting louder.

Turns the corner & enters the kitchen.

Celine, Saira and a healthier than ever Margaux with a full head of hair sit at the kitchen table. Margaux holds Anna tight.

They see him. Margaux puts Anna down, approaches her husband.

Both teary-eyed. His hands caress her face.

A long lost lovers kiss and tight hug. Hugo's eyes on Saira tell the tale: thank you.

INT. KITCHEN - LATE AFTERNOON.

Sitting around the kitchen table. The family has changed clothing. Margaux in particular is looking fit, sexy and packed. Saira sits with them.

Red crystals in the middle of the table.

HUGO  
We've got five minutes.  
(to Margaux)  
What's the plan?

Margaux yields to Celine.

MARGAUX  
Celine.

Caught off guard.

CELINE

Uh. Well, we should be able to get scanned if we hold them in place.

MARGAUX

How sure are you?

CELINE

Ummm. Bout, twonezero percent?

Not helpful.

CELINE (CONT'D)

OK, let's say it *does* work. Then what?

HUGO

We get out.

CELINE

How?

MARGAUX

(to Celine)

Your path.

HUGO

What?

CELINE

What?

MARGAUX

The path you take to go to the wall.

Busted!

HUGO

Goddamnit Celine!

CELINE

(to Margaux)

How'd you know about that?!

MARGAUX

You don't think I've noticed you sneaking into those woods late at night?

CELINE

Not every day.

ANNA

She went out there yesterday!

CELINE

(to Anna)  
Tattle tale!

ANNA

It's true!

MARGAUX

Enough! Behave yourselves, both of you.

(to Celine)  
You're the older one, act like it.

Anna sticks her tongue out at Celine. Celine responds in kind. Saira sticks her BLUE tongue out too but she doesn't know why.

MARGAUX (CONT'D)

(to Hugo)  
Supplies?

HUGO

Backpack, got everything we need.

MARGAUX

If we get separated or one of us doesn't make it, we...

The horns blare.

EXT. FARM HOUSE.

The family faces the monolith, holds up the crystals. Scan in progress. Silence. They wait.

MARGAUX

Let's go.

Hugo grabs the backpack.

EXT. FOREST - LATE AFTERNOON.

Saira takes point, with Celine right behind her. Hugo is the tail.

They creep through the dense forest, quietly, quickly.

Saira stops. Holds. She gradually lowers her body till she's hidden. The family copies her movements.

In the distance: inky shapes patrol the woods. Howls in the distances.

The inky shapes draw nearer. They're getting a little too close for comfort.



Saira balls her fist, ready to fight. Margaux readies her family to sprint.

The inky shapes suddenly shift course away from the family.

Safely away and out of sight, they carry on, slightly faster pace now.

Celine points the way.

EXT. SOUTH WALL.

End of the line. They made it. The wall is covered in hieroglyphics.

HUGO  
OK, Celine. You're up.

CELINE  
Huh?

HUGO  
I thought you knew a way out?

CELINE  
I never said that.

HUGO  
What do you do when you come out here?

MARGAUX  
(to Hugo)  
Hugo. Give her a chance.  
(to Celine)  
You can do this, sweetheart.  
(to Saira)  
Help her.

Saira taps on glyphs. They light up for a split second. She indicates to Celine which glyphs to tap.

AN ALARM BOOMS.

Thunder booms in the sky. A COLD BLAST of wind strikes shivers down their spines.

LOUD CRASHING SOUNDS. Something is coming.

HUGO  
Celine, work faster!

Doom's utterance of BEASTS closes in.

MARGAUX

Celine!

CELINE

I'm trying!

Saira and Celine tap as fast as they can.

Sounds of GNASHING and GNAWING, TEETH SNAPPING, RABID GROWLS. The hellhounds are upon them.

Saira steps in front of the family, clenches her fists. They shine a stunning blue. Gripped teeth. Her blue lines appear. She's ready for a fight.

CELINE (CONT'D)

I got it, I got it!

A portal opens in the wall. Margaux grabs Anna. Waits for Hugo.

HUGO

Go!

She hesitates.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Go. I'll find you.

Margaux grabs the backpack and runs through the portal. Hugo steps up, shoulder to shoulder with Saira, warriors.

HUGO (CONT'D)

Protect my family. GO!

Saira acknowledges. She dashes for the portal, grabs Celine's arm.

CELINE

DAD!

He ignores her. Celine fights Saira.

CELINE (CONT'D)

DAD!

Saira pulls Celine through the portal. BLINDING WHITE LIGHT.

EXT. BOREAL FOREST - CLEARING.

A light snowfall. Celine rests on a stump, holding Anna close. Margaux walks up to them.

MARGAUX

Hey. You guys ok?

CELINE

Yea.

MARGAUX

Good. We have to get moving soon.

CELINE

Where we going?

Saira walks up to them. She points to their heading, waves them on and starts walking.

MARGAUX

Wait!

Saira stops.

MARGAUX (CONT'D)

Celine, a little help.

Celine sits Anna on the stump. She takes out her book of glyphs. She points to the corresponding letters. Saira stops her.

Saira asks for the backpack and pulls out the picture of Hugo and George. Points to the date. 2018.

She walks. Margaux picks up Anna.

MARGAUX (CONT'D)

Come on.

ANNA

Where are we going?

MARGAUX

We're going to end this. Once and for all.

They follow Saira through the forest.

END.