

Snippet # 1

EXT/INT: CASTLE EMIT, THRONE ROOM BALCONY/THRONE ROOM - NIGHT

Perched on the nest of gold, the Eagle awakens, takes the egg she has laid, and flies out the throne room doors. A moment later, MOTHER GOOSE clumsily flies past the throne room balcony doors. A crash is heard on the balcony. Cockeyed, Mother Goose waddles staggeringly to the balcony doorway, sees the golden nest, flies clumsily to it, and settles herself on it, falling asleep. A grappling hook secures itself on the balcony rail. Old King Cole's Henchmen climb over the rail and enter the darkened throne room. HENCHMAN # 1 stubs his toe awakening Mother Goose who is about to squawk, when a bag is flung over her head.

INT: KING RICHARD'S BED CHAMBER - NIGHT

A sickly King Richard lies in bed. Cedric enters as if already bored. He does not go to King Richard's bedside but peruses the trinkets on King Richard's dresser.

CEDRIC

"You wanted to see me father? (Bored) Going to give me another worldly lecture?" (Droll)

KING RICHARD

"Cedric, (Cough) come sit."

Cedric tosses one of the trinkets back onto the dresser he has been looking at. Cedric stands by his bedside. King Richard pats the bed, to which Cedric reluctantly sits. King Richard pulls a necklace out from under his coverings.

KING RICHARD (CONT.)

"Bend down a little."

Cedric does so, and King Richard places the necklace with a star shaped amulet around his neck. Cedric caresses the white stone in the center of the amulet.

CEDRIC

"What's the occasion?"

KING RICHARD

"This amulet was given to me by my father, and was given to him by his father, and so forth. It is a family tradition to give this to ones first born son."

CEDRIC

"Well...thank you." (Reluctantly and joylessly)

King Richard smiles slightly.

KING RICHARD

"You and I have not always seen eye to eye. (Cedric smirks slightly) You always followed your own path, never followed my lead."

CEDRIC

"Your lead?" (Scoffs mildly)

KING RICHARD

"I had hoped so much for you. (Sighing) You are my eldest son. You should take my place when I pass."

CEDRIC

"I shall make a fine King." (Pompously)

KING RICHARD

"But you shall not."

CEDRIC

"What? (Abruptly standing) But why?"

KING RICHARD

"Because you embody none of the qualities required to rule a kingdom. You are thoughtless, selfish, and at times cruel. (Cedric looks incredulous) Yes, I have been watching all these years. A King must possess patience and understanding, two very important qualities in Alfred." (Mild coughing)

CEDRIC

"Alfred? I am to be passed over by my younger brother?"

KING RICHARD

"Age has nothing to do with it."

GUARD # 1 enters King Richard's bed chamber.

GUARD # 1

"My apologies Your Majesty, but the White Tailed Eagle, it's missing. We believe King Cole has stolen it."

CEDRIC

"I knew it! (Looking smugly at his father) I will show you what kind of King I can be. King Cole shall pay for his insolence."

Alfred opens the door.

KING RICHARD

"No Cedric, I forbid you!" (Coughing feebly)

Cedric stops at the doorway and whispers to Alfred.

CEDRIC

"And after I'm done with Cole, you shall pay for turning our father against me."

Cedric rips the necklace and amulet from his neck and shoves it into Alfred's hand. Cedric's shoulder pushes Alfred aside, who looks confused. Alfred looks at the star shaped amulet. As Cedric leaves, King Richard lets out a gasping breath of air. Alfred rushes to the King's bedside.