

## ARIADNE'S ARTISANS

EPISODE 201

V. 11/16/21

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Based on CHALDEA by

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EXT. SOMARRIA - THE TINDERBOX - ESTABLISHING

In Somarria's thick nearly impenetrable northern jungle, a volcano sends hot ash thousands of feet in the air.

Like a demented devil from hell, it spits and hurls molten wrath upon the world.

Rivers of fast moving lava pour from gaping wounds in the crater wall, burning away the luscious jungle below.

EXT. THE TINDERBOX, LAVA FIELDS - CONTINUOUS

TITLE CARD: 7 Days into the Hunt

Four black silhouettes top a ridgeline, outlined in violent red and orange smoke. Snapping embers from the ERUPTING VOLCANO rain down around them.

A BLAST shakes the world. But not a volcanic blast, no. But instead the roar from a BEAST.

A SPARK, a giant hundred ton lava elemental, a mixture of minerals and magma rises up out of the fast flowing superheated soup.

It's incendiary foot slams hard on solid ground as it exits the volcanic core.

KINDLING (Lava rats of unusual size) scurry eagerly around the beast snapping and hissing.

The four figure's backs against the mountain are trapped by swift flowing rivers of lava to the left and to the right.

The only exit--

through the volcanic hellish beasts.

CU ON THE LEADER, AGGEE (youthful Targonian male), a Chan martial artist.

Choking smoke and energetic fire embers pepper his determined grimace.

AGGEE

Ariadne's artisans!

1

The chan leaps--

1

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. GRAVERS DIG - MARN MAX KEEP - DAY

Aggee smiles. Waves. Motioning others to follow.

TITLE CARD: A WEEK EARLIER

AGGEE

2 She's a chan. My superior. 2

RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD

The Etharch demigoddess? 3 Ariadne? She's here in Gravers Dig?

3

RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD, (Halfling female), dressed in a hot riot of vivid colors nervously checks her weapons.

BEDIA

I hear she's trouble. 4

4

BEDIA (Human, Ardayan female) a magician by the looks of her thaumaturge laced garb is equally skeptical.

AGGEE

(scoffs)

5

Nah, that's just her persona. Gamesmanship. She wouldn't hurt a fly.

INT. MARN MAX KEEP, ARIADNE'S CHAMBERS - SAME TIME

ON SPIDER.

5

6

GIANT SPIDER.

GROTESQUELY GROSS SPIDER.

SPLAT!!!

Great green gobs of greasy grimy spider guts gush.

ARIADNE

What kind of varmint infested hole

6

have you booked me into?

Greatly annoyed, ARIADNE (Etharch demigoddess, immortal) dressed in Chan practice gear wipes spider goo from her fist.

7	OMBA It's Gravers Dig. Somarria. Ass end of the world. What did you expect?	7
	OMBA (Targonian female) a pirate captain stands casually a crossed leaning on the door posta quick out if the godde anger flares too hotly.	
8	ARIADNE Not in a spiders nest.	8
9	OMBA They're Tunnel Terrors. Kind of a Gravers Dig delicacy.	9
10	ARIADNE What about Sheol?	10
11	OMBA It's worse after Brigthwyna sacked it.	11
12	ARIADNE Guh! SCREW XUNE! Next time I'm gonna tell him, he can damn well fix his own problems.	12
13	OMBA Would you prefer to stay on my ship?	13
	Ariadne dismisses the thought with a flippant wave.	
14	ARIADNE This place needs a makeover.	14
	Ariadne snaps her fingers and the once ordinary fortress chamber shifts into an ILLUSIONARY BEAUTIFUL ELVEN SUITE.	
15	ARIADNE (CONT'D) That's better.	15
	Another TUNNEL TERROR sticks its head out of a crack in the wall. Ariadne PRIMAL BLASTS it to smithereens.	ne
16	AGGEE (O.S.) Excuse me, Ariadne. Are we interrupting?	16
	Ariadne spins to face the newcomer at the door.	

	ARIADNE	
17	Not at all. I'm just finishing up with the last person who interrupted me. What do you want?	17
	Aggee stands in the open door with three others.	
18	AGGEE I've brought the <i>new</i> Hunting Party you requested.	18
	Aggee points to the closest recruit.	
19	AGGEE (CONT'D) This is Rainbow. Rainbow Undercloud. She's an extremely capable magician and acrobat.	19
	They enter the room.	
	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD	
20	(waves) Hi.	20
21	ARIADNE No. (she sniffs)	21
22	Hm-hm. No. Not much magic in this one.	22
	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD	
23	(defensively) Well like some.	23
24	AGGEE She's a member of the Flying Circus.	24
	Ariadne shakes her hand in a so-so gesture.	
25	ARIADNE A touch perhaps. What else you got?	25
26	AGGEE This is Helios.	26
	HELIOS (Half-minotaur) his human physique adorned with of imperial legionnaire armor, solutes with a large axe.	ld
	ARIADNE	
27	A cow? Recruiting from the stockyards now?	27

	Omba slams it preventing his escape.	
28	AGGEE (whispers conspiratorially) He's a half-minotaur.	28
29	ARIADNE Isn't that a bit redundant?	29
	Aggee's eyes narrow, mind corkscrewing.	
30	AGGEE I mean	30
31	ARIADNE That's okay. Best you not think too hard on that.	31
32	<pre>(motions to Helios) Let's see that axe, friend.</pre>	32
	Helios' fear subsides at the mention of his axe and hands proudly to the goddess.	it
	Ariadne studies it intently, eyes distant.	
33	ARIADNE (CONT'D) It's been in your family four generations. Gifted to your great, great, grandfather by a minor deity.	33
34	HELIOS You are wise.	34
35	BEDIA How did you know that?	35
	Ariadne hands back the axe.	
36	ARIADNE Goddess, duh. (sizing up Bedia)	36
37	And who might you be?	37
	Aggee explodes with exuberant enthusiasm.	
38	AGGEE Undoubtedly, you've heard of legendary Bedia.	38

Helios gulps, eyes bulge, lunges for the door--

39	ARIADNE Legendary huh? Is that a given name or a title?	39
	Bedia squirms under the goddess' withering gaze.	
40	AGGEE Bedia has slayed great beasts. A great many great beasts. Some of which, I'm sure you've never heard of.	40
41	ARIADNE Oh?	41
42	AGGEE Don't be modest. Tell her the story.	42
	Bedia searches the room for an out. First the door guard by Omba and then the Tunnel Terror hole. Maybe the windo	
43	AGGEE (CONT'D) What are you doing?	43
44	BEDIA She doesn't need to hear any of my lame stories. (low and stern to Aggee)	44
45	REALLY. Let's not waste the gods time.	45
46	AGGEE I'm sure Ariadne can spare a little bit of time for a legend.	46
47	ARIADNE Yes please, tell me a story.	47
48	BEDIA Really?	48
49	ARIADNE Absolutely.	49
	Bedia grows distance for a beat, unsure yet contemplative	•
50	BEDIA Well, I suppose there was this one time on Cloudforger mountain.	50
	Ariadne crosses her arms ready to absorb the epic tale.	

51	ARIADNE Ohhh, Cloudforger. Tavja. Norse winterland. Please proceed.	51
	Increasingly unsure. Bedia creeps slowly into the	narrative.
52	BEDIA A beast plagued the people of Tavja. Long fur from head-to-toe covered its grotesque body. Giant fangs. Even bigger claws. We came upon the creature on the darkest night. Not an Anumian in the sky. It was a raid, you see, forty gravers in all. No one had seen anything like it. We brought fighters, archers and spell support. Blood, violence and swords. You can picture that right?	52
53	ARIADNE Oh, sure.	53
54	BEDIA I was there in a support capacity. A healing role. Soon however I was out of spells. Half our party was dead or dying in the blood soaked snow	54
	Ariadne points.	
55	ARIADNE I heard this story?	55
	Bedia's story skids to a violent abrupt stop.	
56	BEDIA Youyou have?	56
57	ARIADNE Sure. The beast. It was a raccoon. Right?	57
58	BEDIA I mean, yeah. But, it was a big raccoon. Some kind of prehistoric primeval antediluvian	58

Ariadne dismisses Bedia with a wave.

59	ARIADNE Okay, shut up. You'll do. The rest of you gather around.	59
	Bedia exhales heavily, relieved to have the story and Ariadne's attention over.	
	The four gravers gather around Ariadne.	
60	ARIADNE (CONT'D) The hunt starts in the morning.	60
61	AGGEE So soon?	61
62	ARIADNE Once a decade the Tinderbox erupts violently spewing out fire elementals. Brigthwyna is offering triple points for anything fire related.	62
63	HELIOS Fire? I hate fire.	63
64	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD The Bog of Incendiary Conflagration. You want us to go there, into the lava fields?	64
	Helios SNORTS and shakes his horns violently.	
65	HELIOS Nuh-uh. No. I hate lava.	65
	Omba who had been hanging back steps forward.	
66	OMBA I've already taken the liberty of signing you up. You'll be hunting as Ariadne's Artisans.	66
	Omba winks at Ariadne.	
67	OMBA (CONT'D) Don't embarrass her.	67
68	ARIADNE Too late.	68
69	AGGEE (beams, sotto) Ariadne's Artisans.	69

	BEDIA	
70	I suppose all that remains (everyone turns on her)	70
71	INTO THE FIRE.	71
	Helios lets out a long haunting, MOOOOOOO!!!!!	
	CUT TO:	:
	EXT. THE TINDERBOX, LAVA FIELDS - DAY	
	TITLE CARD: NOW!	
	Helios' fearful moan echoes through the heat and smoke.	
	AGGEE LANDS	
	BAM! The gung-ho chan delivers a kung fu chop socky flur of blows at the closest fire rodent striking it hard.	ry
	Aggee's fist and feet come back bloody and burnt, from th Kindling's hot razer sharp lava exoskeleton.	е
72	AGGEE Hot. Hot. Ouch that hurts.	72
73	BEDIA No shit. Maybe try that Bō stick.	73
	Bedia heals his wounds with a quick spell.	
74	AGGEE That feels much better.	74
	BEDIA	
75	(winks) Back to the fight soldier.	75
	ACROSS THE FIELDHELIOS STANDS RIGID, petrified by the approaching elemental Spark stomping menacing toward him.	
	Rainbow runs close.	
76	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Helios. HELIOS.	76
	The elemental stomps closer. LOOMING! Bigger and bigger	•
77	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD (CONT'D) Helios! You can do it.	77
	Rainbow points a finger and casts FROSTBITE at the Spark.	

78	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD (CONT'D) Fire is dumb.	78
	Helios looks down at the diminutive halfling, brave, stroand fearless.	ng
	CU HELIOS Fear shifts to rage. HOT BARBARIAN RAGE.	
79	HELIOS Do or die.	79
	He BELLOWS a Minotaur War Cry, stomps a hoof and CHARGES.	
	Minotaur and Elemental collide.	
	<b>ELSEWHERE,</b> Aggee hits a Kindling repeatedly with his $B\bar{O}$ Skilling it.	STICK
	The beast EXPLODES spraying fire and molten debris at Ago singeing hair and skin.	ree
80	AGGEE Aggh. They're vengeful little bastards when ya kill 'em.	80
	Aggee looks up through bleary eyes and sees two more Kindlings racing toward Helios and Rainbow.	
	HE LEAPS CHAN QUICK intercepting the rodents driving the first into the ground stunning it.	
81	HELIOS Ohhh You fight pretty like a ballerina.	81
82	AGGEE Kill that thing already, will ya.	82
83	HELIOS I'm working on it.	83
	HELIOS HAMMER STRIKES THE ELEMENTAL causing it to roar spitting lava at him and then it disappears	· ,
	Where?	
	Subterranean of course. Rocking the world as it went.	
84	HELIOS (CONT'D) Watch out below.	84
	BEHIND HELIOS, Rainbow THROWS HER CHAKRUM AT A RODENT, chipping away at its armored exoskeleton.	

	Suddenly, the ground quakes, rocking violently	
85	HELIOS (CONT'D) It's coming back!	85
	The SPARK BREECHES, LOBBING LAVA AT AGGEE DROPPING HIM.	
86	BEDIA Aggee is down!	86
	BEDIA CHAIN CASTS HEALS at Aggee and Rainbow.	
87	AGGEE I'm so glad you joined the team.	87
	WITH HEALTH RESTORED, Aggee performs a KIP-UP and is immediately back into the action beating the closest rat.	
88	BEDIA Try and stay up, people.	88
	Bedia backs AWAY from the action.	
89	BEDIA (CONT'D) I can be better help if I'm not stuck healing.	89
90	AGGEE Well, excuse me.	90
	AGGEE SPINS HIS BŌ STICK AND STUNS A RODENT.	
91	AGGEE (CONT'D) Someone finish this thing.	91
	Helios does as instructed, CLEAVING THE KINDERLING causing to explode in his face.	it
92	HELIOS I hate fire.	92
	Undeterred by burning cow hair and hide, he turns his attention to the one remaining rat but	
	RAINBOW FLINGS HER CHAKRUM killing it first.	
93	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Ha! Beat you.	93
	BOOM! The rat explodes spraying Helios.	

95	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD It's aversion therapy, Helios.	95
96	HELIOS I'm aversion to you.	96
	ACROSS THE WAY, THE SPARK BELCHES, SPRAYS THE FIELD WITH INTENSE METEOR FIRE.	
97	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Incoming.	97
	Aggee, Helios, and Rainbow JUMP FOR COVER and just avoid being pelted with super heated rock and energetic particl	es.
	Rainbow takes a hot stone to the buttocks.	
98	AGGEE That's the kind of pain I don't like.	98
99	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD What kind of pain do you enjoy?	99
100	AGGEE I'll never tell.	100
	ACROSS THE FIELD, BEDIA CONJURES A COLD ORB and drops it the Spark.	on
	Cold and heat fight, a contest of wills, threatening to r the Tinderbox from reality.	ip
101	BEDIA Got him! You see that? I got him.	101
102	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD I got that spell, watch.	102
	RAINBOW CONJURES A COLD ORB and drops it, but	
	Sadly the giant snowball flies harmlessly past the Spark.	
103	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD (CONT'D) Ahhh, bummer.	103
	Through the Mist and the Smoke and the Steam, Aggee is a WHIRLING DERVISH bludgeoning the elemental.	
	MEANWHILE, HELIOS SURVEYS THE FIELD:	
104	HELIOS It's so scary. There is fire over here. Giant snowballs over there. (MORE)	104

HELIOS (CONT'D)

Aggee is spinning wildly. It's so confusing.

With the elemental the only remaining baddie, Helios charges SCREAMING WAR CHALLENGE --

HELIOS (CONT'D) 105 Moohoooo!!!! 105 Aggee jumps up and down getting Bedia's attention. AGGEE Ice ball on Isle 3, please. 106 106 BEDIA (thumbs up) 107 Got it! 107 ANOTHER BEDIA GIANT SNOWBALL COMES DOWN LIKE A METEOR STRIKE. BEDIA (CONT'D) YEAH...YEAHHHHHH!!! WHOOOHOOOO. 108 108 AGGEE AND HELIOS, PARTNER UP going toe-to-big-toe against the Spark. Axe and Bo Stick synchronized. AGGEE 109 I crit. 109 HELIOS You crit. 110 110 AGGEE 111 We all crit. 111 HELIOS 112 But I crit the mostest. 112 Finally, the Minotaur takes a monumental overhand swing sinking the axe in the Spark's chest. HELIOS (CONT'D)
Mother of Fate. You've seen how 113 113 we've fought, stood up to fire and fear, surely we are the chosen ones.

The SOUL OF THE ELEMENTAL superheats the axe.

**NEARBY,** Rainbow senses the Elemental is almost beaten. She motions, frantically waving to the spellcaster.

RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD

114 Bedia, ice orb its butt. 114

	BEDIA DROPS A FINAL CHROMATIC ICE ORB ON THE ELEMENTAL crushing it's life.	
	THE ELEMENTAL FALLS LIKE A STONE AND EXPLODES, stone shishredding our heroes.	rapnel
	ON HELIOS, defiant in the face of the explosion, stands the Spark drawing it's elemental soul into his axe.	over
115	HELIOS Bless you, Mother of Fate.	115
	He yanks it violently free and for a beat FIRE IS BEAUT	IFUL.
	IN THE DISTANCE, Bedia raises her hands triumphantly.	
116	BEDIA Whooohhhh the crowd goes wild.	116
	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD	
117	(to Aggee) Is that the kind of pain you enjoy?	117
118	(to Bedia) Aggee is down.	118
	BEDIA	
119	Again? (sigh)	119
120	Okay.	120
	A FEW MINUTES LATER	
	Bedia and Rainbow are chatting excitedly, combat adrena still pulsing in their veins.	line
121	BEDIA (CONT'D) I hit him in the face.	121
122	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD That was so cool. I tried it too, but missed. I need to watch your hands, see how you deliver the spell.	122
123	BEDIA You just do this.	123

Bedia demonstrates how to frame the fingers as she casts a healing spell that once more restores Aggee to health.

Without thinking muscle memory performs a kip-up, getting Aggee ready for action. But there is no action to be had.

104	AGGEE	104
124	We won?	124
	Helios wraps a fond arm around Aggee's head.	
125	HELIOS I hate fire, let's go home.	125
	EXT. GRAVERS DIG - LATE AFTERNOON	
	TITLE CARD: A FEW DAYS LATER	
	Ariadne's Artisans trudge through the main gate into Grave Dig covered in ash and half-burnt just as GARY bellows the o'clock hour.	
126	BEDIA Uncanny how that spider knows the time. Every hour on the hour.	126
127	AGGEE He's a damn nuisance. Bellowing like that.	127
128	HELIOS I'm gonna kill Gary.	128
	The two warriors nod approvingly to each other.	
129	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Ohh, that's mean. I like Gary.	129
130	BEDIA At least we know when it's happy hour.	130
	EXT. PYRAMID BAR - EVENING	
	The ever popular Ma'at Bar is doing a brisk business, the cavernous stone chamber filled with hard partying revelers	
	Rainbow staggers road weary through the main door, dragging the Kindling trophy heads behind her, followed by Helios, Aggee and Bedia.	ng
	The PYRAMID ALEWIFE (owner, operator, and all things ale related) spots the decapitated gnarly RAT HEADS.	
131	PYRAMID ALEWIFE Nuh-uh. Not those. Not in here.	131

132	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Hey Brenda, Nice to see you too. Can we get a room?	132
	The Alewife points to the door.	
133	PYRAMID ALEWIFE Out. You know the rules Aggee. No hunting trophies in the bar.	133
134	AGGEE Cut the cackle Cathy, we're tired.	134
135	HELIOS The Bogcano was moocho madness.	135
136	AGGEE He ain't lyin'. You know how many times I died this week? (counts fingers)	136
137	Three. Four. Five. I lost count.	137
138	BEDIA It's exhausting keeping him alive.	138
139	PYRAMID ALEWIFE I don't care.	139
140	BEDIA C'mon, Farah, Sarah, Tara? Help us out with a room. What did you say your name was again?	140
141	PYRAMID ALEWIFE I didn't.	141
142	AGGEE I've been coming to this here bar since Brigthywna ran them Setites out of town. Ain't nobody know her name. Ain't that right, Clarice? Now give us some rooms. Purdy please.	142
140	PYRAMID ALEWIFE	1.40
143	Your bar tab is frozen.	143
	Aggee stops short.	
144	AGGEE What? That can't be right.	144

145	PYRAMID ALEWIFE Your Chan Clan Chums been drinking heavily on your good graces.	145
146	AGGEE What the hell Darlene, who gave them permission to do that?	146
147	PYRAMID ALEWIFE You did. The last time you were here. Five-hundred Tortes. (holds out hand)	147
148	Now pay up or get out.	148
149 150	AGGEE  Five-hundred? I ain't got that.  (switches gears, smiles)  C'mon darlin', you know I'm good  for it.	149 150
	The alewife gets up in Aggee's grill	
151	PYRAMID ALEWIFE That twinkle in your eye don't pay the bills.	151
152	AGGEE Sometimes it does.	152
153	PYRAMID ALEWIFE GET OUT!	153
154	BEDIA Perhaps we could put on a performance, as payment?	154
155	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD I think you'll find, we are very good.	155
	A wounded melody torments the bar from a small stage in corner. A couple of old country codgers beat out a discordant rhythm on a banjo and hooch bottle.	
	Rainbow plows the stage.	
156	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD (CONT'D) Excuse me. Thank you. It's our turn.	156

Helios follows with axe in hand.

157	HELIOS  (sings)  Swing low,  Swing chariot,  Comin' to carry me home	157
	The men flee.	
	Helios snags a HAT from the head of the trailing man and leaves it hanging cockeyed on a horn.	
158	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD  (Loud to the crowd)  Attention please. For a one night engagement only, we're thrilled to bring you, Ariadne's Artisans.	158
159	HELIOS Musicians, see?	159
	Helios reveals his RECORDER and gives it a toot.	
160	PYRAMID ALEWIFE Are you actually intending to play?	160
161	BEDIA Sorry, Melody.	161
	Bedia joins the others on stage.	
162	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD I hope you enjoy our performance. If you do, leave a tip in the hat.	162
	Rainbow steals Helios's hat (You know, because she's a rogue), and places it on a stool.	
	Helios shakes his recorder like a wand at the revelers.	
163	HELIOS Tips! Moocho tips, understand?	163
164	HECKLER Where is Ariadne?	164
165	BEDIA Close your mouth, sweetie. You look like a troglodyte.	165
166	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Without further ado.	166

Ariadne's Artisans jump full swing into the jam session. Rainbow on the Theremin, backed by Helios on the recorder, Aggee mouth harp and Bedia oud.

The Alewife watches from the back of the bar. Even covered in ash and their clothing scorched black, they ain't halfbad, but they ain't half-good either.

The bar isn't throwing cabbage or insults, so she heads back to serving drinks.

## LATER THAT EVENING

In the distance GARY ANNOUNCES THE 9PM HOUR.

Helios shakes his axe at a line of bar patrons dropping coins into the hat.

**HELIOS** 

That's right. Give til it hurts. 167

167

168

A couple of bald clanless dwarves look uneasy up at Helios and his axe and angrily drop a few silver into the hat.

> RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Appreciation is a wonderful thing.

## LATER THAT EVENING

168

When last of the adoring fans dwindle, and the Alewife had taken away the proceeds as payment, our heroes relax with a round of drinks.

Rainbow tosses the three RAT HEADS onto the table.

169	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD (CONT'D) We need to hand these things in.	169
170	BEDIA They're getting ripe.	170
	Omba pulls up a chair and slides in.	
171	OMBA  My advice is to make singing your second career choice.	171
172	(motions to alewife) Beer please.	172
173	AGGEE Omba. Did you come to join us for the hunt?	173

174	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD We could use a cleric.	174
	Omba unravels in gales of scornful giggles.	
175	OMBA (busting a gut) No. No. No. I'm sorry. <u>No</u> .	175
	The pirate recovers, if just barely.	
176	OMBA (CONT'D) Ariadne has a new job for you. A proposition really.	176
	Helios drops his axe on the table.	
177	HELIOS What kind of job prop?	177
178	AGGEE C'mon Omba, we just got back.	178
179	OMBA (off the rodent skulls) Having survived the test of the Tinderbox, Ariadne wants to send you on a proper quest.	179
	The Pyramid Bar goes eerily SILENT. Patrons lean close, hoping to pickup news of the next big Quest Rush.	
180	PYRAMID ALEWIFE (re: room) When Questers talk, people listen.	180
	The Alewife distrubutes drinks to the table and departs.	
181	OMBA (to the eavesdroppers) Butt out!	181
	The background noise reignites.	
182	OMBA (CONT'D) You're going on a journey.	182
183	AGGEE What kind of journey?	183
184	HELIOS Like a heroes journey?	184

185	BEDIA I'm already on one of those.	185
186	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD I like to travel. Is it paid travel? Are <u>you</u> paying us?	186
187	OMBA If it involves my ship, I'll be happy to ferry you, but otherwise, no.	187
	Upon hearing 'SHIP' Helios takes in a sharp fearful INHAL	ιE.
188	OMBA (CONT'D) Is your friend alright?	188
189	BEDIA Helios has a few phobias. Lava, fire, cold and now, apparently, also water.	189
190	OMBA So you're not interested?	190
191	AGGEE I'm interested. Tell us more.	191
192	OMBA Ariadne wants you to see a mutual friend of ours, who will reveal the details.	192
	Helios leans in close, ready to give the pirate the horns	•
193	HELIOS A Mooo-tual friend, eh? Gods are fond of mystery, I'm not.	193
194	OMBA She's not far, her name is Ninsunu.	194
195	AGGEE Ohhh, Ninsunu. I love Ninsunu.	195
196	(to his friends) She's a seer. Specializes in Anumian astrology.	196
197	OMBA She's prepared something special for you.	197
198	BEDIA And what's that?	198

199	OMBA I can't say.	199
200	BEDIA Can't say or wont say?	200
201	OMBA My instructions are clear. Take you four to Ninsunu. After that, I'm ambivalent.	201
202	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD I'm in. Yeah, yeah. (off hesitant friends) Wait. Maybe we should talk first.	202
203		203
	Aggee holds up his finger to Omba.	
204	AGGEE Me and my friends need to confer.	204
	Omba kicks up her heels on the table and settles in.	
205	OMBA Confer away.	205
	The four friends gather close.	
206	AGGEE What do you think?	206
207	BEDIA You know this Ninsunu, Aggee. What's her deal?	207
	AGGEE	000
208	Her deal. She deals cards. (off confusion)	208
209	Fate cards. (points up)	209
210	You know, Anumian astrology.	210
211	BEDIA You think, Ariadne wants us to draw Fate cards?	211
212	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Gods.	212
213	HELIOS My dad drew a Fate card once.	213

215	HELIOS He's dead.	215
216	AGGEE Shit!	216
	All four direct their gaze at Omba who shrugs.	
217	OMBA Don't look at me, I'm just the over- priced messenger.	217
218	BEDIA I have questions, but I'm willing to see what this seer is dealing.	218
	Aggee nods.	
219	AGGEE We can trust Ninsunu.	219
220	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD We did survive the Tinderbox. How much worse can this be?	220
221	HELIOS Worse.	221
	Aggee flashes a winning smile.	
222	AGGEE For better or worse.	222
	EXT. GRAVERS DIG - SHOPPING DISTRICT - LATE NIGHT	
	The shopping district is dead. Lights out. A pack of dingoes scavenge for scraps.	
	Ariadne's Artisans stroll past a series of tents batten for the night.	down
	A large mastif tied up outside a CIRCUS TENT growls, bu can't be further bothered.	t
	TWO TENTS OVER	
	Omba leads them to a colorful Ardayan Bedouin tent.	
223	OMBA Ninsunu waits.	223

224	BEDIA (to Rainbow) I think this Ninsunu buys from the same place you get your clothes.	224
225	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Every color goes with every color, I always say.	225
	Helios extends his axe, creating a crack in the tent flap peering in uneasily.	,
226	HELIOS This feels trapsy.	226
	Bedia and Rainbow look up atTHE SCHEMER CONSTELLATION.	
227	BEDIA Is that Schemer?	227
228	RAINBOW UNDERCLOUD Looking at us? I think so.	228
	The Anumian constellation hovers directly over Gravers Diand NINSUNU'S TENT.	g
229	HELIOS Anyone got a bad feeling?	229
230	AGGEE That's just your imagination.	230
231	HELIOS I don't like anumians and they surely don't like me.	231
	Suddenly, the constellation is gone behind thick shifting clouds.	
232	AGGEE Don't be afraid to reach for the stars, Helios.	232
	He pulls back the tent flap and enters.	

FADE TO BLACK: