

World Keeper

by

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Family Fantasy
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EXT. AZIYOG, WARCRAFT - NIGHT

Axe the warrior, a red-skinned, bold with a big beard, is in the forest. He holds his axe of the Red Conqueror, breathes heavily, and his chest is bleeding.

AXE

You were handsome like Axe. Axe
doesn't like that.

Axe is looking around, searching for someone in the forest. Suddenly, there is a young boy's voiceover.

BOY (V.O.)

Has anyone seen this guy? He is
crazy! We need to get out of here!

Axe is moving through the forest quietly. A tree branch cracks behind him, and he turns around. It is too late! A ring of trees surrounds Axe, and he is trapped.

BOY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Noo! Let me go!

Axe tries to cut through the growing tree trap but is too weak.

SASHA (V.O.)

Bye, loser.

Nature's Prophet, a green magician with a beautiful wooden Staff, levitates above the ground and looks down at Axe.

NATURE'S PROPHET

You'll make a fine humus.

Nature's Prophet hits Axe on the head with the Staff, and the red-skinned warrior falls to the ground.

AXE

Here a hero dies.

We hear Sasha giggle somewhere in the background. Nature's Prophet arrogantly watches Axe turn into ash and disappear.

BOY 2 (V.O.)

Do you guys see him?

BOY 3 (V.O.)

Yep. Ready.

Nature's Prophet looks around and sees three more enemies surrounding him: Bristleback, Earthshaker, and Lycan.

Bristleback blows thick Gobs of Snot from his nose, trying to slow down Nature's Prophet in goo. Lycan turns into a wolf and attacks, and Earthshaker makes the Earth shake.

Nature's Prophet deflects all three enemies using trees.

BRISTLEBACK
Put your lights out.

LYCAN
In my father's name.

BOY (V.O.)
Kill him, guys!

BOY 2 (V.O.)
Get him! Come on!

Suddenly, Nature's Prophet stops and stands still in the middle of the fight.

SASHA (V.O.)
Mom!

Lycan calls for the help of the wolves, and together they surround Nature's Prophet.

EMILY (V.O.)
You said you were doing homework!

Nature's Prophet does not move still, and the pack of wolves demolishes him.

NATURE'S PROPHET
Autumn comes too soon.

Nature's Prophet turns to ash and disappears, similarly to Axe.

BOY 2 (V.O.)
Yes!

BOY 3 (V.O.)
Yoo-hoo, we did it!

INT. SASHA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Sasha(12) frantically pushes buttons on his mouse while his mom Emily(38), takes away the computer keyboard and turns off the monitor.

SASHA
Why!? What did I do to you!?

EMILY

This is out of control. You are out of control! Enough!

Sasha sees his dad Cameron(40), enter Sasha's bedroom.

SASHA

Dad, tell her! She is ruining my life!

CAMERON

Sure. Emily, darling, remember to get the charging cable and the mouse. Who knows what he can do.

Sasha jumps up from his gaming chair.

SASHA

Traitor!

He falls onto his bed and pretends to cry.

EMILY

Yeah, I am not falling for this again.

Emily takes the computer mouse, keyboard, and charging cable and leaves the room, and Cameron stays watching Sasha misbehave.

Cameron sits at the edge of Sasha's bed and puts his hand on Sasha's shoulder. Sasha looks at his father with a red face and eyes full of tears.

SASHA

I promise I'll do my homework, dad. Just give it back, please.

CAMERON

(sights)

That's what you said last time.

INT. 6TH GRADE CLASSROOM, MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

History class is over. The school bell rings, and students pack their belongings and leave the classroom.

In the back of the classroom, Sasha is still sitting at his desk. His phone is hidden in his pencil case, and he is watching a video game online stream.

The history teacher, Mr. Williams, walks up to Sasha.

WILLIAMS

Sasha?

Sasha lifts his head and hides his phone.

SASHA

Huh? What was the question?

WILLIAMS

The class is over.

SASHA

Oh, great!

Sasha starts to pack, but Mr. Williams stops him.

WILLIAMS

Are your parents picking you up today?

Sasha realizes that he is in trouble.

SASHA

(pretends to think)

Um... No, I don't think so.

WILLIAMS

And how are you getting home?

SIMON

By walking?

WILLIAMS

Right. Is it safe for you to walk home alone?

SASHA

I don't live in those bad neighborhoods as you do, Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams's jaw drops. Sasha smiles arrogantly and walks out of the classroom.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL - DAY

Sasha exits the school. He passes a group of boys hanging out in a circle and looks at them with jealousy. One of the boys, named Jeff(12), notices Sasha.

JEFF

Sup, man. You are new here, right?

SASHA

(shy)

Me? Um.. yeah.

JEFF

Heard you going to cyber camp over
the spring break.

SASHA

Yeah. You game?

JEFF

Duh. But I need no cyber camp to
beat you!

Kids in the background laugh. Sasha smiles awkwardly and
walks away.

EXT. SCHOOL GATE - DAY

Sasha walks up to the school gate and sees his mom Emily. She
is talking to two older men. All three of them turn to Sasha,
and he recognizes Mr. Williams and School Principal. They
seem very disappointed, especially Emily.

EXT/INT. EMILY'S CAR - DAY

Emily, Cameron, and Sasha are driving to the airport. Emily
is the driver, and Cameron is in the front passenger seat.
Sasha sits in the back and plays a video game on his phone.

SASHA

(he doesn't take his eyes
off the game)

Sorry about Mr. Williams, mom. I
didn't know he was so sensitive.

Emily and Cameron look at each other.

CAMERON

(in a low voice to Emily)

I think it's time we tell him.

EMILY

Yeah? You go, then.

SASHA

(looks up)

Tell what?

CAMERON

Me? I mean, you know I'm not too fond of confrontation.

EMILY

Which always makes me a bad guy.

SASHA

What are you talking about?

CAMERON

Sorry babe, but I won't go through with it.

EMILY

That's how we got here in the first place!

SASHA

Go through with what?

EMILY

Quite, Sasha!

(a beat)

You are going to your grandma's.

SASHA

The one who lives on the north pole?!

CAMERON

Actually, Yakutia! There is also spring there right now. It should be nice, huh?

SASHA

You mean we are going there now?!

EMILY

No.

Yes.

CAMERON

EMILY (CONT'D)

Not we. You are going there alone.

SASHA

What about cyber camp?

A pause. Emily takes a breath.

EMILY

Cyber camp, um.. it's, it's canceled.

A beat. Sasha's eyes become wide open.

SASHA
 (screaming)
 Aaaaaa!

INT. AIRPLANE - NIGHT

Sasha sits in the airplane.

SASHA
 (screaming)
 Aaaaaa!

A man and a woman sit on both sides of Sasha and are annoyed by his screaming. The woman rolls her eyes.

EXT. YAKUTIA, WILDERNESS - DAY

We see a beautiful view of Yakutia's nature. It's the middle of spring, and most of the snow has already melted. Birds sing songs, and animals are out of their hiding places, playing and mating. A taxi car drives by, followed by Sasha screaming.

SASHA (O.C.)
 Aaaaaa!

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Sasha is standing outside an old house. It is made of gorgeous wood and looks like it was built thousands of years ago. There are no neighboring houses, and the closest village is a mile away.

Sasha stands with his backpack and a small suitcase. His eyes are closed, and his face is red and covered with tears.

SASHA
 (screaming)
 Aaaaaa!

His grandmother Aina(74), comes out of the house and runs to Sasha. Initially, she seems happy, but her facial expression changes to concerned. She grabs Sasha by his shoulders.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 Aaa-

AINA
 Ai, Sasha! Who taught you to say hi like that?!

Sasha stops yelling and looks at his grandmother. She is wearing multiple layers of fabric, her hair is in braids, and she has a bird on her shoulder. Sasha looks at her from top to bottom.

SASHA

I can't handle his right now.

Sasha drops his backpack on the ground and walks inside the house, leaving his suitcase for Aina to carry. She is shocked by her grandson's manners.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sasha enters Aina's house. The house's interior is even more eccentric than its exterior. Beautiful plants grow wildly inside the rooms, another colorful bird sits on the furniture, and sunbeams shine through tiny windows, making it seem like inside of a thick forest. Statues and relics decorate shelves and lamp tables.

A large tapestry with a triptych painting is on the most extensive wall in the living room. Sasha is mesmerized by its beauty and can't take his eyes off it. It depicts three worlds: dark, neutral, and light, populated with mystical creatures. Sasha reaches his hand to touch the tapestry.

Aina enters the room carrying the suitcase and the backpack.

AINA

I see you like the Worlds' Map.

SASHA

That's not a world map. Where is Australia?!

Aina smiles, but before she answers, Sasha takes a picture with a flash of a bird. The flash blinds the bird, and it flies away, immediately hitting the wall.

AINA

(concerned)

Oi...

SASHA

(ignores)

What's your wi-fi?

AINA

Wi-fi?

SASHA

Yeah. The Internet?!

AINA

Oh, no, no. No Internet here.

Sasha is shocked: his worst nightmare just became a reality. He takes off running.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Sasha runs away from Aina's house. A stray dog named Laika jumps out from nowhere and playfully barks at Sasha.

SASHA

Oh, no, no. No...

Sasha turns back and runs from the dog back to Aina's house.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Help! It's going to kill me!
Somebody!

Laika follows Sasha back to the house.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, GUEST ROOM - EVENING

A vintage lamp lights a small, cozy guest room. Sasha lies on his bed, and Laika licks tears off his face.

Aina enters the room.

AINA

Dinner is ready. Come, eat something.

Sasha ignores his grandmother, and she puts a glass of water on his bedside table.

AINA (CONT'D)

Here, have a drink. If you run out of tears, Laika might try to eat you.

Aina giggles and leaves the guest room. Sasha gives Aina an angry look and moves his face away from Laika in fear.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - MORNING

The kitchen is packed with jars, boxes, and flasks containing different herbs and remedies.

Sasha is sitting at a dining table and looks at his meal. Nicely cooked porridge is decorated with dried fruits, seeds, and tiny flowers.

Aina puts freshly fried pancakes on the table and watches Sasha take out flowers from his meal.

AINA

They are edible. Made a special mix to calm you down.

Sasha ignores Aina.

AINA (CONT'D)

You are too old to be crying. When I was your age-

SASHA

Were you already old?

AINA

No. I was helping my grandmother to prepare seeds and herbs. She was a famous healer. People from all the villages came to our house seeking help, and she taught me everything about this world.

SASHA

But she didn't teach you about the Internet.

AINA

(laughs)

Your mom told me how obsessed you are with those things. She thought it would be helpful for you to see how people live in the real world.

Sasha gets up from his chair. He is furious.

SASHA

My mom hates me! That's the only reason I am here. She, she wants me to go crazy from boredom.

AINA

I won't let you get bored. We have so much to do around the house.

SASHA

Oh my God, you are killing me!

Sasha leaves the kitchen.

AINA
 (to herself)
 She also said you are spoiled.

Aina eats her breakfast. Sasha returns to the kitchen, grabs a pancake, dips it in sour cream, and goes back to his room. Aina watches him with a witty smile.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, GUEST ROOM - DAY

Sasha enters his room, chewing on a pancake, and notices a small girl with short red hair hiding behind a closet.

The girl, named Chechekke (who looks like she is 12), is the size of a cat. She peeks out from behind the closet, making Sasha goggle-eyed.

SASHA
 Wha- what are you?

Chechekke hides behind the closet and appears again. She is scared of Sasha.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 (yells)
 Grandma!

Chechekke puts a finger to her lips.

CHECHEKKE
 Shh.

Sasha is intrigued, and he crouches a little lower. Chechekke slowly comes out and approaches Sasha. She is tiny, but she doesn't seem naive or childish. As she walks towards Sasha, she stares at the remaining pancake.

Sasha sees her interest in food, breaks off a piece, and gives it to her.

SASHA
 Here.

However, Chechekke refuses to take it. Sasha realizes that she is staring at the sour cream.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 You like the sour cream?

Chechekke's eyes light up. Sasha offers her another piece, but Aina enters his room at that moment.

AINA
Did you call?

Sasha gets distracted by Aina, and Chechekke disappears. He searches the room but can't find her.

SASHA
A girl... She was just here.

AINA
Ah, Chechekke. She doesn't like adults.

SASHA
She was so tiny.

AINA
But don't mistake her for a child. She is as smart as they come.

Sasha seems puzzled.

AINA (CONT'D)
Come with me. I'll show you around. There are some rules in this house that you need to know.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Aina walks into the living room, stops in the middle of the room, and lifts her hand. A bird lands on Aina's finger.

AINA
Everything in this house is alive, and we treat live things with love and respect.

Sasha gets distracted by a rock shaped like a distorted man's figure. He tries to lift it, but it is too heavy, and he almost drops it. Aina catches the rock and puts it back.

AINA (CONT'D)
Careful! This is Uer. It's an imprisoned soul of a madman who's hurt many people. It's harmless now, but not if you brake its shell.

Sasha raises his eyebrows and looks at Aina like she is out of her mind. Aina walks to the kitchen.

AINA (CONT'D)

Come this way. The best stuff is in the kitchen.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Aina demonstrates her jars and boxes to Sasha.

AINA

These are safe for you to snack on. The rest you can learn about if you ask.

SASHA

I am sure I wouldn't wanna eat it.

AINA

That's not the point. You should be careful if you ever need to use them.

SASHA

Yeah, yeah. What's next?

Sasha walks out of the kitchen, and Aina shakes her head in disapproval.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY

Aina stops Sasha at a basement door.

AINA

This leads to the basement. Try opening it.

Sasha tries it, but it is locked.

SASHA

Locked.

AINA

That's right. You have to promise me something, Sasha. Promise that you'll never try to open it.

Sasha is intrigued.

SASHA

What's in there?

AINA

A portal to the Underground World.

SASHA
Mmm. Promise!

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Sasha is in Aina's backyard talking on the phone.

SASHA
So grandma is crazy. No, no, I am serious, Dad. You have to get me out of here.

CAMERON (ON THE PHONE)
Oh, one sec. Your mom wants to talk to you.

SASHA
No, no! Don't give me mom!
(sights)
Hi.

INT. SASHA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Emily is walking back and forth. She seems nervous and apologetic.

EMILY
How is it going, sweetie?

Cameron shows Emily two different jackets, and she points at one.

EMILY (CONT'D)
She is not crazy, Sasha. That's what people are like when they are in touch with nature. You could learn something.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Laika runs up to Sasha, and he tries to get her to leave so she doesn't dirty his clothes.

SASHA
No, mom, you are not listening to me. It is not nature. She is an old woman who lost her mind!
(indistinct sounds from the phone)
Ugh! I hate you!

INT. SASHA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sasha's words hurt Emily.

EMILY
Sasha? Hello?

Emily realizes that Sasha had hung up on her. Cameron strokes her shoulder to comfort her, but she can barely hold back her tears.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Sasha hangs up the phone, picks up a pink-colored stone from the ground, and throws it. The rock hits a birdhouse on a tree and scares birds.

Sasha hears a giggle. He turns towards the sound and sees Chechekke in his bedroom window laughing. Sasha runs up to the window, but Chechekke hides.

SASHA
Hey!

Sasha runs back to the house.

EXT/INT. AINA'S HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - DAY

An old lady, Maika(60), knocks on Aina's front door.

Aina opens it for Maika to come in, but Sasha squeezes through and bumps Maika on his way.

MAIKA
Ah! What a boy!

AINA
My grandson. Sorry, Maika.
(to Sasha)
That isn't nice, Sasha!

Sasha doesn't respond and disappears into his room.

AINA (CONT'D)
Come, darling. What can I help you with?

MAIKA
My back pain. Nothing helps. You are my last resort.

AINA
 (walking Maika to the
 living room)
 Should have come to me sooner.

Aina and Maika walk into Aina's living room.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, GUEST ROOM - DAY

Sasha enters his bedroom and searches for Chechekke, but she is not there. Sasha stops and thinks.

CUT TO

Sasha slowly enters his room with a plate full of sour cream. He puts the plate on his bedside table and waits.

A beat.

Chechekke emerges from behind a pile of clothes in the corner of the room. She walks up to the plate and starts eating the sour cream.

Sasha smiles.

SASHA
 You are Chechekke, right?

Chechekke's face is covered in sour cream, and she licks her fingers. She nods in response.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 My name is Sasha.

CHECHEKKE
 I know.

SASHA
 Are you here with your parents?

Chechekke laughs.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 Or they also sent you here to
 punish?

Chechekke finishes her sour cream and looks at Sasha.

CHECHEKKE
 More?

SASHA

Um, maybe later? Grandma is doing something in the living room. We shouldn't bother her. I was already rude to her guest.

CHECHEKKE

Don't you want to leave?

SASHA

Leave? Like, go back home?

Chechekke nods.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Yes, I do.

CHECHEKKE

Then you should bother her.

Chechekke giggles. Sasha looks puzzled but then understands Chechekke's advice.

SASHA

You're right.

Chechekke jumps on the side table and pushes the plate. It falls to the floor, breaking into many pieces.

Sasha gets inspired by Chechekke. He takes a marker from his backpack and writes on a mirror, "The wild is calling. Nature's Prophet."

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY

Sasha is peaking out from his bedroom into the hallway. Chechekke is sitting on Sasha's shoulder and holding onto his hair.

Sasha notices a bird. He slowly walks up to it and catches it with his hands. The bird seems confused.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Sasha sneaks into the kitchen and walks up to an open window. He lets the bird fly away, but it does not move.

SASHA

Go! Be free!

The bird looks at Sasha, puzzled. Sasha throws her up in the air, and it flies up, making a loop, and comes back to the window. Sasha sees it and closes the window. Chechekke giggles.

CHECHEKKE

Ha-ha!

Sasha looks at the jars on the kitchen shelves. Most of them are signed(chamomile, echinacea, etc.).

Sasha takes out his marker and crosses out the herb names. He then shuffles the jars to change their order.

Chechekke points at a jar that looks like sour cream.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

More?

Sasha hangs it to her. She opens it up and smells it.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

(disgusted)

Ew!

Sasha takes it back and puts it next to the jar with something that looks like strawberry jam.

SASHA

Strawberry jam? Yum!

Chechekke visibly disagrees. She only likes sour cream.

Sasha takes the jar, swoops some jam with his fingers, and licks it off. The taste was different from what he expected.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Oh, so sour! What is that?!

He rotates the jar around to see if it has any indication, but Chechekke distracts him.

CHECHEKKE

Sasha?

Chechekke gestures for him to follow her into the hallway, so Sasha puts down the jar and leaves the kitchen.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, AINA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Sasha and Chechekke enter Aina's bedroom. It is a small room with one wall covered in moss and the opposite in ice cubes.

Sasha starts to feel uncomfortable.

SASHA

Maybe that's too far. We shouldn't
be here.

Chechekke walks up to the wall made of ice cubes and points
at the center. Sasha looks at it, fascinated.

A key is in the ice cube in the center of the wall.

SASHA (CONT'D)

This is so weird.

CHECHEKKE

Take it.

SASHA

Take what? The key?

Chechekke nods.

SASHA (CONT'D)

What is it for?

CHECHEKKE

Room. Downstairs.

SASHA

Oh, no, I can't. I promised
grandma.

CHECHEKKE

Do you want to go home?

Sasha is thinking.

SASHA

No, I-I shouldn't do that.

Sasha starts to leave.

CHECHEKKE

My home.

Sasha stops.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

It's there.

SASHA

In the basement?

Chechekke nods.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 Why do you live in the basement?
 And why is it locked?

CHECHEKKE
 It is not a basement. Way home.

SASHA
 So is it true? What grandma said
 about the Underground World?

Chechekke nods.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 Wow. So everyone is crazy here. Is
 it food? Am I going to be crazy
 too?

A beat.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 Listen, maybe we can do something
 else? Brake more plates or eat more
 sour cream?

Chechekke doesn't seem to be interested in those things
 anymore.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 Let's go do something else.

Sasha starts to leave again.

CHECHEKKE
 I want to go home.

Sasha stops again. Those words make him reconsider. A beat.
 He turns around and looks at the key inside the ice cube.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY

Sasha walks up to the door, which leads to the basement. He
 puts the key in, and Chechekke's eyes light up.

MAIKA (O.S.)
 Thank you, my love. What would we
 do without you?

Sasha hurries up and rotates the key. As soon as the door
 opens, cold wind hits Sasha's face. Chechekke jumps from
 Shasha's shoulder and runs inside.

SASHA

Wait!

Sasha follows Chechekke down the stairs.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, BASEMENT - DAY

The basement is a dusty, cold room. It's dark but not pitch-black. An airy blue light is beaming from a bunch of tree roots that grow throughout the room.

Sasha walks up closer to the center of the light and distinguishes that the tree roots form a picture. It is similar to the dark world depiction in the living room tapestry.

SASHA

What is this?

CHECHEKKE

It's-

Sasha gets scared and turns around. Chechekke walks up to Sasha.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

Home.

Sasha is confused.

SASHA

This?

Chechekke nods.

AINA (O.S.)

Sasha? Where are you?

Aina yells from the other room.

CHECHEKKE

Do you want to come?

SASHA

(still confused)

Umm, to where? This is just a bunch of roots. Tangled.

AINA (O.S.)

Ah! No! Sasha no!

CHECHEKKE

Help?

Chechekke stretches her arms, and Sasha picks her up and helps her to reach the roots. Aina's approaching footsteps get louder.

AINA (O.S.)

Don't touch anything! You are in so much trouble, young man!

Chechekke touches the roots, but nothing happens. She looks at Sasha, waiting for him to join. A bluish glow attracts Sasha, and after a short hesitation, he touches it. The light becomes stronger and sucks in Sasha and Chechekke like a vacuum. After they disappear, the frost spreads out from the roots.

Aina runs down the stairs, and witnesses Sasha disappear into the light.

AINA (CONT'D)

No-o-o-o-o!

Aina runs after Sasha.

AINA (CONT'D)

Sasha! Sasha, come back!

At that very moment, a black crow flies out from the light and scares Aina.

AINA (CONT'D)

Ah! No!

The crow attacks Aina, and the frost spreads to Anna's feet.

AINA (CONT'D)

(fighting the crow)

Sasha- My boy- Ah!

The crow goes crazy, but Aina catches it with her bare hands. Most of the room and Aina's body are covered with frost. The light from the roots fades off, and the ice stops spreading, leaving only Aina's head uncovered. The crow gets stuck in Aina's frozen hands.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, BASEMENT/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Sasha and Chechekke fall to the ground and land on a dirty, cold floor. The room is the same as the basement in Aina's house, but something about it feels different.

SASHA

What happened?

CHECHEKKE

Shh!

Chechekke puts her finger to her lips. We hear someone walking upstairs, but the steps are heavy and loud.

SASHA

Grandma? Gosh, she's heavy.

CHECHEKKE

Shh!

Someone opens the door to the basement and takes the stairs. Chechekke runs away and disappears into the dark corner of the room.

Sasha is terrified and confused about whose steps could be so heavy and loud.

SASHA

Grandma, is that you?!

A hairy giant named Chu walks to the bottom of the stairs. He can barely fit into the room. Sasha freezes, and his jaw drops. Chu sees Sasha and also stops. They look at each other in silence for a second.

CHU

Grandma?

SASHA

Y-yes, h-have you seen her?

Chu takes Sasha by his waist and brings him closer. The giant lifts the boy using one hand and inspects him with his other hand.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Uuh-ouch!

Another giant named Makka yells from the top of the stairs.

MAKKA (O.S.)

Kcto tam?
(who is it?)

CHU

Grandma!

MAKKA (O.S.)

Kcto?!
(who?!)

Chu walks up the stairs holding Sasha in his hand. Sasha is terrified, he pinches himself, but nothing happens.

EXT. ABOVE THE BASEMENT, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Chu comes out from the basement. Sasha looks around - there is no Aina's house. They are already outside.

SASHA

Where is my grandma's house?

Chu shows off Sasha to his friend Makka.

MAKKA

Strashni urodec.
(It's ugly)

Chu agrees.

SASHA

Excuse me, I need to get back to
grandma. She must be very worried.

Both giants ignore Sasha.

MAKKA

Chto to?
(what is it)

CHU

Grandma.

SASHA

Yes! Yes, grandma.

Giants watch Sasha speak, then turn to each other, shrug, and put Sasha in a string bag made of tree roots.

Sasha lands beside some smooth rocks, rotten giant radishes, and horse hair in a bundle.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Ooh!

Chu puts the string bag over his shoulder, and he and Makka start walking. Sasha looks hopeful.

SASHA (CONT'D)

T-thank you!

EXT. WILDERNESS/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Giants walk towards a village. Sasha watches the terrain of what used to be the outskirts of Aina's house. Beautiful wild fields now look like dead, frozen crops. Trees don't have leaves and look like tall monsters.

The sky is dark, and it is snowing a little. Sasha catches a snowflake and looks at it closely.

SASHA

She wasn't crazy. I am in the
Underground World.

EXT. CHICHUNA'S VILLAGE/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Chu and Makka enter the giants' village.

We see many giants walking, eating, fighting, and talking to each other.

Sasha watches them in awe. He cannot believe his eyes.

A red-haired giant walks by.

SASHA

Just like Axe from warcraft. God,
please, make this a game. Please!

EXT. CHICHUNA'S VILLAGE, MARKET/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Chu and Makka walk into the market. It's filled with giants, horses, ugly fabrics, and cutouts from trees.

Chu puts the string bag on a table, and Makka takes over.

MAKKA

Mm!

Makka opens the bag, takes out the collected objects, and places them on her shelves and in storage. Makka picks up Sasha, thinks, shrugs her shoulders, and puts him in a cage on the front of the table.

INT. CAGE/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Sasha looks around; next to him is a giant dead roach, a smooth rock, a big tree branch, a bunch of snot, and some other garbage.

Sasha is disgusted; he leans and looks through the bars.

SASHA
(crying)
On, no.

EXT. CHICHUNA'S VILLAGE, MARKET/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD -
DAY

The first client approaches Makka's stand, and Sasha hides in the corner.

CLIENT 1
Igrusku vetky.
(branch toy)

Makka reaches inside the cage.

SASHA
Oh my God, oh my God. Not me! Not
me.

Makka picks up the tree brunch and hangs it to the customer.

MAKKA
Derzhit.
(here you go)

CLIENT 1
Blago.
(thank you)

The customer leaves.

CUT TO

Another client comes up to the cage and looks at Sasha. Sasha closes his eyes, scared, but the client walks away.

CUT TO

Makka reaches inside the cage and takes the smooth rock. Sasha hides, but this time he is less scared.

CUT TO

Sasha sits in the cage while Makka talks to another customer.

MAKKA
Grandma.

Sasha hears familiar words and looks at the talking giants. The customer looks at Sasha, makes an unsatisfied face, and leaves.

SASHA

I don't like you either! And I am not grandma, by the way.

No one reacts to Sasha.

SASHA (CONT'D)

But I hope she is looking for me.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, BASEMENT - DAY

Aina is still standing in the basement. Her body is covered in ice, but it starts to melt. The crow in her frozen hands is waiting for the right moment.

Water is dripping from Aina's hands, and her fingers slowly move.

Aina watches the bird patiently.

AINA

Don't you dare, Abas.

A beat.

Suddenly, the bird takes off at the right time: thin ice breaks around Aina's hands. But Aina reacts quickly and closes her hands, not giving the bird a chance to fly away.

The crow is furious. It screams and bites Aina's hands.

AINA (CONT'D)

Ouch! A! Ah!

Aina catches the bird by its feet. The crow pulls Aina, and she tilts to the side and falls. The crow flies away.

Ice hits the floor, and Aina breaks free. She sits on the floor for a second, catching her breath but is interrupted by the sound of broken glass from upstairs.

AINA (CONT'D)

Abas!

Aina gets up and looks at the tree roots.

AINA (CONT'D)

How did you open it, little boy?

A bird screams from upstairs, and Aina rushes out from the basement.

EXT. CHICHUNA'S VILLAGE, MARKET/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Makka takes the dead roach from the cage. Sasha no longer hides but stands right in the middle of the cage. He looks at the client who picked up the bug.

SASHA

Really?

Sasha is offended.

CUT TO

A female giant walks by Makka's table. Sasha waves at her, and she stops, watching the boy in the cage. Sasha smiles nervously.

Sasha makes a funny pose, but the giant lady frowns and leaves. Sasha is in shock.

SASHA (CONT'D)

You are not funny!

CUT TO

Sasha is dancing and showing tricks. His active movements shake the cage and make a bunch of snot next to him jiggle. Few giants are watching Sasha and a bunch of snot; they are entertained.

Sasha is out of breath. He pauses and poses, demonstrating his lean muscles.

A beat.

Giants consider, and one of them makes a decision.

CLIENT 2

Kozyavki.

Sasha smiles. Makka opens up the cage and picks up the bunch of snot.

SASHA

Buggers?! You chose buggers?!

Sasha sits down on the floor, disappointed. Now, he is the only one left in the cage.

CUT TO

It's getting late, and no one is interested in Sasha.

A giant named Gus walks up to the cage and checks Sasha out. Sasha notices Gus.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Sorry, we ran out of buggers.

Gus is mesmerized by Sasha.

GUS
Hochu!
(I want it!)

Gus turns to Makka.

GUS (CONT'D)
Chto to?
(what is it?)

MAKKA
Ai, to urodec Grandma.
(ah, it's an ugly
"Grandma")

Sasha looks at Makka and Gus, intrigued.

GUS
Kolko?
(how much?)

Makka looks at Sasha.

MAKKA
Odin.
(one.)

Gus disagrees. He opens his pouch with horse hair in a bundle and picks out a few hair strands.

GUS
Dam stolko.
(I only give you this
much)

Makka is offended by such a small offer and shakes her head "no." Sasha watches the bargain. Gus shrugs his shoulders and leaves.

Makka looks around: the market is almost empty. She opens the cage, picks up Sasha, and puts him in a string bag. Sasha looks at Makka angrily with his arms crossed.

SASHA

I can teach you a thing or two
about sales.

INT. MAKKA'S TREE HOUSE, BEDROOM/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD -
DAY

Makka enters a cone-shaped shelter made out of tall pine
trees. Her daughter, Una, greets Makka with a loud burp.
Makka responds the same.

SASHA

Ew.

Makka takes Sasha out of the string bag and hands it to Una.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Hi?

The giant girl takes Sasha and runs to her room. Una moves a
leaf curtain, which separates a little corner from the rest
of the shelter.

INT. UNA'S TREE HOUSE, BEDROOM/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD -
NIGHT

The giant girl sits down on a carpet, which is made from
animal fur.

Una puts Sasha on the ground and opens a box made out of
large bones. She picks up a two-headed frog and starts to
play with it and with Sasha.

Una moves Sasha around, stretches his arms and legs, and
holds him upside down.

SASHA

Hey! Ouch! Stop it!

The two-headed frog seems unconscious, but sometimes it spies
on Sasha with one of its eyes.

Suddenly, it whispers to Sasha.

FROG

Play dead.

Sasha listens to the advice and pretends to pass out. Una
shakes him up and yells.

UNA
 Prosnis! Prosnis!
 (Wake up! Wake up!)

Sasha continues to play dead. Finally, the girl feels frustrated and drops Sasha and the two-headed frog and leaves the room crying.

UNA (CONT'D)
 Mama!

Sasha waits for Una to disappear behind the curtain and looks at the two-headed frog.

SASHA
 You can talk?!

FROG
 Are you from the Middle World?

SASHA
 I guess.

FROG
 And me talking is the only thing
 that bothers you?

Una returns to the room with Makka, and Sasha is back to playing dead. Makka lifts Sasha by his leg and looks at the boy closely. She tickles Sasha with her giant finger, and he breaks out laughing.

SASHA
 Hahaha!

Makka returns Sasha to Una. The girl smiles and continues to play. She puts Sasha in what looks like a dress and forces him to dance.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aina closes a window in the living room and looks around, holding a frying pan.

EXT/INT. AINA'S HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

Aina locks the front door and puts a key into the pocket of her skirt. It sounds like the crow is flying somewhere in the house.

AINA
 You're trapped, birdie.

Aina follows the sound. As she walks towards the kitchen, she sees some of her plants are dead, and home decorations are broken.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT

Aina enters the kitchen and sees the crow fight with her house bird.

AINA

Kiki!

Aina throws herself at the crow but misses. The little bird is left wounded.

AINA (CONT'D)

Are you okay? Where is Lulu?

Aina looks around and notices Lulu outside the window, where Sasha left it. Lulu is watching with great interest what's happening in the house.

AINA (CONT'D)

Lulu, How did you get there?

The crow flies back into the kitchen and starts to attack Aina. She swings the frying pan, but the crow is too fast, and Aina misses.

Aina picks up one of her herbs, grinds it in her hands, and throws it at the crow.

AINA (CONT'D)

Night-night.

The crow breathes in the herb and shakes its head. Suddenly, its eyes turn red, and feathers spread out, making the bird bigger and stronger.

Aina is confused, she checks the name of the herb on the jar, but it is painted over with a marker.

AINA (CONT'D)

Sasha.

The crow takes off, pushes the table lamp, and flies away. All the light in the house goes off one by one, leaving Aina in the dark.

AINA (CONT'D)

No, no, no, no.

Aina finds a match and lights up a candle. We see her face in the candlelight: she is worried.

INT. UNA'S TREEHOUSE, TOYBOX/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Una puts Sasha in the toy box.

Sasha sits in a girl's dress with his hair painted red with beet root.

SASHA
This place sucks!

Suddenly, he hears a voice in the dark.

WOLF
At least you are still alive.

Animals and strange beings come out from the dark corners of the box. We see a Wolf limping on one leg, a dwarf girl with her dress ripped apart, a live tree branch with a broken arm(smaller branch), and the two-headed frog.

FROG
Welcome to the live-toy family.

TREE BRANCH
Or what's left of it.

They all turn back to the dark corners of the box, where highlights and outlines of other broken toys are visible.

SASHA
Don't welcome me. I am not staying.

Sasha climbs the box, but he keeps slipping and falling. Others watch him struggle, and Sasha loses his patience.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Can you help me? Please.

WOLF
No point. We can't get out. And even if you can, she will catch you.

Sasha is shocked.

SASHA
Catch me?!
(laughs)
(MORE)

SASHA (CONT'D)

Maybe she'll catch you, but I am
28th-level Nature's Prophet.

(walks up closer to Wolf)

I have a 100-point attack speed and
almost 2 thousand mana.

Everyone is perplexed.

SASHA (CONT'D)

I answer the wild's call. Warriors
of the wood!

The tree branch raises its only arm.

TREE BRANCH

Yeah!

The tree branch is surprised by his reaction.

SASHA

Do you want to escape or not?

Everyone is hesitant, but they seem uplifted by Sasha's
enthusiasm.

FROG

How are we gonna do it?

Sasha thinks.

SASHA

You right. We need a strategy.

Everyone nods in agreement and steps closer to Sasha.

CUT TO

Wolf draws a diagram of the Giants' house with the stick he
used for walking. All other "toys" circle around Wolf and
Sasha.

SASHA (CONT'D)

So this is the only way out?

Sasha points at the front door on a diagram.

WOLF

Correct.

SASHA

We can make this work. We are small
and fast, and they are huge and
clumsy.

Everyone around nods. They seem to be convinced by Sasha. He stands up and looks around.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Now, who is good at what?

WOLF
I used to run fast.

DWARF GIRL
I used to be pretty.

Sasha looks suspiciously.

FROG
I jump high.

TREE BRANCH
I am a stick!

Sasha is underwhelmed but tries not to show it.

SASHA
Umm, okay. Okay, okay, okay.
Fighter? We need a fighter.

He looks around, but no volunteers.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Oh! That's probably me. Got it.

A beat.

SASHA (CONT'D)
I have a plan.

FROG
Wow.

TREE BRANCH
Cool!

Everyone listens closely.

SASHA
Mister Tree, you'll help us to get out of this box. I will climb you and anchor a string at the top, so everyone else can follow. Miss?

DWARF GIRL
Call me Princess.

SASHA

Umm, sure. Princess, let's make a long rope from your ripped dress, and you can take mine to wear.

DWARF GIRL

Loves it! Slay!

Sasha smiles back at Princess.

SASHA

Speed. We need to be fast.
(points at Wolf)
You make sure everyone is on track and give a ride to whoever is behind.

Wolf feels proud.

SASHA (CONT'D)

We keep together and look out for each other. We are stronger as a team.

DWARF GIRL

What if something goes wrong?

SASHA

Great question, dwarf-

DWARF GIRL

Whos dwarf?

SASHA

Sorry, Princess. If anything goes wrong, we fight.

Everyone cheers and Sasha feels proud of himself. However, as soon as no one looks at him, his face changes to scared.

CUT TO

The two-headed frog helps Wolf to bandage his injured leg.

The dwarf girl cuts her dress into pieces and ties them into a string.

Tree Branch presents Sasha with a self-made Staff from his broken arm decorated with some fabric and colors. Sasha looks at the Staff, feeling honored.

Everyone surrounds Sasha, and he looks like a natural warrior.

FROG
 (whispers to Dwarf Girl)
 Wow. He almost looks attractive.

DWARF GIRL
 Not my type.

CUT TO

Tree Branch leans on the box wall, and Sasha carefully climbs it reaching the top of the box. He takes out a string made by the Dwarf Girl and anchors it. The rest of the rope falls, and Wolf, two-headed frog, Dwarf Girl, and Tree Branch climb out of the box.

INT. UNA'S TREEHOUSE, BEDROOM/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Toys land on the floor next to the box. It is nighttime, and the hairy giants are sleeping.

Sasha slowly walks towards the curtain with the rest of the team behind him. Carefully, he moves the curtain to the side and holds it while everyone passes. However, Sasha forgets about the Dwarf Girl and lets the curtain go too early.

DWARF GIRL
 Excuse me!

Shh! WOLF SASHA Shh!

Dwarf Girl gets stuck in the curtain and struggles to get out.

Wolf, the two-headed frog, and the Tree Branch run back to the Dwarf Girl to help her. However, after a short hesitation, Sasha abandons his newly made friends and runs for the exit.

The team notices Sasha leaving.

WOLF (CONT'D)
 Look! He is leaving!

TREE BRANCH
 He doesn't practice what he preaches!

They pull the Dwarf Girl again, and the entire curtain falls loudly. Una wakes up, sees her toys, and jumps off her bed to follow.

UNA
 Vernis!
 (Come back!)

She runs after them.

INT. UNA'S TREE HOUSE, FRONT DOOR/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD
 - NIGHT

Sasha struggles to move the giant door, made of solid tree trunks. Wolf, Frog, Dwarf Girl, and Tree Branch run to the front door of the shelter.

Sasha notices that the rest of the team has joined him.

SASHA
 Hi guys! I wanted to get a head
 start with this.

DWARF GIRL
 Liar!

Dwarf Girl tries to punch Sasha, but Una reaches the entrance. She looks at her toys and smiles.

UNA
 Igrushki.
 (my toys)

SASHA
 Run!

Wolf, Frog, Tree Branch, Sasha, and Dwarf girl flee in different directions.

Una follows the Dwarf girl and grabs her.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 (to frog)
 You! Make it wet!

The two-headed frog smudges its slippery slime on the floor.

Meanwhile, Sasha runs up to the Wolf, climbs on top of him, and takes out his Staff.

SASHA (CONT'D)
 Go!

Wolf runs to Una's feet, and Sasha pinches them with his Staff. Una feels ticklish and lifts her feet one by one. Finally, she steps on the slime and falls.

Una lets go of Dwarf girl, and Princes flies up and starts to fall. Tree Branch catches her.

Una feels disoriented for a second and tries to sit up. Sasha throws one piece of rope to Wolf to tie Una's arms to tree roots, which come out from the floor. Sasha tries to handle another arm, but Una is too strong.

Sasha and Wolf wrestle against Una.

Suddenly, Chechekke appears in the wall cracks and chews off a rope that holds together the pine trees. She throws it to Sasha.

With the help of Tree Branch and Frog, Sasha takes the rope and ties Una's hands to the ground.

Finally, Una is defeated.

Yay! DWARF GIRL SASHA (CONT'D)
Yes!

Ya-hoo! FROG WOLF
Ouuuu!

 TREE BRANCH
Branch!

Makka wakes up in the adjacent room.

 MAKKA (O.S.)
Una?

The team of "toys" rushes to the door and pulls it together. The door cracks open.

Dwarf Girl and Tree Branch get out, and Sasha follows them. However, Wolf blocks the way out.

 WOLF
Who said you could come?! You betrayed us.

 SASHA
Did I?

 FROG
You made us believe you are our hero!

Makka's steps get louder. Wolf, Dwarf girl, Frog, and Tree Branch look at Sasha.

SASHA

I-I... I lied. I am not a hero. I took it from a video game.

Sasha looks down, hiding his guilty eyes.

SASHA (CONT'D)

I am sorry.

A beat.

DWARF GIRL

Still, he saved me.

TREE BRANCH

And made us believe we could do it.

Wolf hesitates.

Makka walks in and sees her daughter Una on the floor tied up and a bunch of toys standing at the front door.

MAKKA

Haa!

Wolf agrees with the rest of the team and stops blocking the way out. Sasha, Wolf, and the two-headed frog escape through the front door.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aina creeps through the house, holding a candle. She is searching for the crow.

She hears rustling coming from her bedroom and turns in the sound direction.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, AINA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Aina slowly walks into her bedroom.

The moonlight shines through Aina's bedroom window, and Abas casts a shadow on the floor. The shadow grows from a crow into a tall skinny man with long terrifying arms and deer antlers.

Aina observes the shadow and gasps in fear.

ABAS (O.S.)

Let me free, Aina.

Aina pushes the door open and faces the monster. Abas slowly turns around.

AINA

Laika! Now!

The dog jumps out from behind Aina and attacks Abas. Aina shuts the door and drips the candle wax on the door handle, locking Abas, herself, and Laika in her bedroom.

Abas battles the dog. He runs to the door and touches the handle.

ABAS

Aaaaa!!!

Abas's hand burns and Aina lights up other candles in the bedroom. The ice in Aina's room starts to melt, and Abas breathes heavily.

AINA

We don't fear you.

ABAS

Liar! I can feel it in my bones.

Abas gathers his strength and moves his hands around the room: all the candle lights go off. Aina is surprised to see him do it.

AINA

Only one of you bastards is strong enough to do something like that.
Hara Starun.

ABAS

Nice to finally meet you, World Keeper.

Abas slowly walks towards Aina. Frost starts to cover the walls of Aina's bedroom.

ABAS (CONT'D)

Rumor has it you still didn't find a successor.

AINA

I can put you back to where you came from on my own!

Abas lifts his arm to use his magic on Aina, but Laika attacks again and bites Abas's arm.

ABAS

Ah!

Meanwhile, Aina removes a wooden box from under her bed, opens it up, and finds a little fur ball. She blows on it, and a tiny rabbit comes alive. Aina smiles.

EXT. CHICHUNA'S VILLAGE/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Sasha, Wolf, the two-headed Frog, Tree Branch, and the Dwarf girl run from the giants' village. They pause to catch a breath, and the Tree Branch notices Chechekke catching up with them.

TREE BRANCH

Who is this?

Everyone looks at Chechekke. Sasha is happy to see her.

SASHA

Chechekke!

CHECHEKKE

You alive. Good.

SASHA

I should have listened to you. This place is real!

(to the rest of the toy team)

Guys, this is my friend, Chechekke.

DWARF GIRL

Hi, girl! Nice hair.

WOLF

Welcome to the pack.

TREE BRANCH

Branch!

(To Sasha)

What do you mean this place is real?

The two-headed frog looks at Chechekke suspiciously.

FROG

The boy is from the Middle World.

Everyone looks at Sasha, intrigued.

SASHA

Weird, right?! My grandma said something about this place, and I thought, you know, she is
 (Sasha gestures "crazy")
 Anyway, I need to get back. You guys should come with.

Everyone looks confused.

DWARF GIRL

Come to the Middle World?!

SASHA

Yeah. But we'll need to find a way to get there, cause I am not sure-

CHECHEKKE

I'll show you.

FROG

You can't travel between the worlds without the World Keeper.

SASHA

Is that like a chaperone?

TREE BRANCH

Chaperone or a guard. Something like that!

WOLF

Keeps the balance between the worlds.

SASHA

Well, let's find him.

Everyone looks confused again.

DWARF GIRL

Gosh, it's her. Aina. And why would she travel with us? It's against the rules-

SASHA

Aina... my grandma Aina?

Everyone except Chechekke seems shocked.

FROG

How did you say you got here?

Chechekke pulls Sasha by his jeans.

CHECHEKKE
We should go.

FROG
(persistent)
Did Aina bring you here, or you
came by yourself?

SASHA
I-I think I touch this light? It
was coming from the roots.

Everyone goes silent and looks at Sasha as if they realized something.

DWARF GIRL
(whispering)
This can't be...

WOLF
(to himself)
Since when can boys open
portals?!

Chechekke bites Sasha's leg.

SASHA
Ouch! What? What's wrong with
everybody?

CHECHEKKE
We go!

FROG
No, you're not.

Chechekke seems to be very angry.

FROG (CONT'D)
You don't even understand what a
great danger you are putting
everyone in by being here. If you
are who you say you are-

CHECHEKKE
I will get him home.

WOLF
Let us help you.

CHECHEKKE
No! We don't know you. No trust!

A beat.

DWARF GIRL
Do you trust this girl, Sasha?

Sasha looks at Chechekke. The frog sees that he is hesitant.

FROG

(same tone as Emily)

This is out of control. Come with us now!

SASHA

Don't tell me what to do. You are not my mom, and I don't even let my mom tell me what to do. I will handle this myself.

WOLF

(same tone as Cameron)

That's what you said last time, and then you just ran away.

(to Chechekke)

And you smell like a traitor.

CHECHEKKE

Rrr!

Chechekke and Wolf are starting a fight. Sasha gets in between.

SASHA

Stop!

(To Frog and Wolf)

You don't know her or me. I've been lonely all this time, I get one friend, and you want to take it away from me?

Sasha puts his Staff under his belt, picks up Chechekke, sits her on his shoulders, and walks away.

SASHA (CONT'D)

We don't need your help. All you do is boss around!

Wolf, Frog, Dwarf Girl, and Tree Branch watch them leave.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, AINA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Aina holds a little rabbit. Abas sees her and runs for the door one more time. He grabs the door handle and opens the door letting the wax burn his hand.

ABAS

Aaaa!

Abas escapes, and Aina follows him.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Aina walks into the living room.

AINA
It's over.

Abas is wounded and weak. He is looking for a way out.

Aina kneels and lowers her head.

AINA (CONT'D)
Hara Starun, son of Ulu Toyon,
protected by the honor of the crow,
accept my sacrifice.

Abas turns to Aina and walks towards her to accept the sacrifice. Her words hypnotize him.

Aina hands him the rabbit, and Abas presses it against his chest. The rabbit's fur changes to black and dissolves in Abas's hands. The black, terrifying monster transforms back into the crow.

Aina gently puts a string on the crow's leg and ties another end of the line around her hand.

AINA (CONT'D)
Let's get you home.

Aina walks to the hallway, but a strong smell catches her attention.

AINA (CONT'D)
What's that smell?!

Aina notices some of her plants are rotten. She turns around to where Abas was and sees a smashed rock, which contained Uer. (Aina explained Uer to Sasha on page 12)

AINA (CONT'D)
This cannot be...

Aina rolls her eyes and looks at the crow.

AINA (CONT'D)
Why did you do that?

EXT. LAKESHORE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Sasha and Chechekke walk towards the lake.

SASHA
Where are we going?

CHECHEKKE
To Cholbon. He takes you home.

SASHA
Can't believe I am missing
grandma's house. How far is this
Cholbon?

CHECHEKKE
We have to go around this lake.

SASHA
Go around?!

Sasha looks at the lake, and it is gigantic.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Is there a shorter way?

CHECHEKKE
No.

Sasha sees a little boat at the shore.

SASHA
Look! We can use this and cut
through.

Sasha runs towards the boat.

CHECHEKKE
Dangerous. This lake.

Sasha looks at the lake: the water is still and peaceful.

SASHA
Doesn't look dangerous to me.

CHECHEKKE
Fish.

SASHA
I am not scared of fish.

CHECHEKKE
Big fish. Luo is the name.

SASHA
Cute!

CHECHEKKE
Fish of death.

SASHA
Oh. Not cute. Why are there no good
things around here?!

CHECHEKKE
It is underground.

SASHA
So what? You are from the
underground, and you seem nice.

Chechekke looks at Sasha. She is keeping a secret.

SASHA (CONT'D)
And we'll be on the boat. No fish
can get to us.

CHECHEKKE
No! Fish hears us, and fish kills.

Sasha looks at the lake's size again, then at his designer
snickers: they are filthy.

SASHA
Mmm... What if it doesn't hear us? We
will be super careful and quiet.

Chechekke thinks.

CHECHEKKE
You quiet?

SASHA
I promise.

EXT. THE LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Sasha and Chechekke sit in a small boat. Sasha rows using
paddles, and Chechekke watches the water. She is tense and
concerned.

Mosquitos bite Sasha, and he slaps his neck and arms, trying
to get rid of them.

CHECHEKKE
Shh!

SASHA
Sorry!

Sasha and Chechekke get further into the lake, and the mosquitos become more extensive. Sasha keeps slapping himself in an attempt not to get bit, but there are too many of them.

On the contrary, not a single mosquito tries to bite Chechekke.

SASHA (CONT'D)

(whispers)

I don't understand.

(slap)

Why are they all over me? You are so lucky!

CHECHEKKE

Nothing to bite. I am not alive.

Sasha stops rowing.

SASHA

What?!

Sasha uses one of his paddles to kill an annoying mosquito.

SASHA (CONT'D)

What are you then?

CHECHEKKE

A ghost.

Chechekke seems to be embarrassed.

SASHA

Did you die?

CHECHEKKE

No. I was cursed.

SASHA

For what?!

CHECHEKKE

Bad behavior.

Sasha resumes rowing.

SASHA

Well, then I should be cursed too. I lie to my parents and I play a lot of video games.

(slap)

And I get in trouble.

CHECHEKKE

You should not be cursed. It's bad.

SASHA

(slaps a mosquito again)
Don't you get to do whatever you
want?

CHECHEKKE

I want to be a girl. Real girl.

Sasha feels sorry for Chechekke.

SASHA

You are a real girl to me.

Chechekke smiles. At the same time, a giant mosquito grabs her and lifts her.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Chechekke!

Chechekke fights back and falls onto the edge of the boat.

CHECHEKKE

Shhh! No sound!

She climbs back on the boat. Sasha sways the paddle around, trying to stop a swarm of giant mosquitos.

SASHA

Hide behind me! It's too many of
them!

Chechekke runs to Sasha dodging mosquitos left and right. She catches one of them and breaks it in half. Other mosquitos see it and spiral down to attack Chechekke.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Hide!

Two big mosquitos pick Chechekke up.

SASHA (CONT'D)

No!

CHECHEKKE

(as she flies away)
Quiet-

Sasha keeps fighting back the rest of the swarming mosquitos, but he is very distressed. He stumbles and falls inside the boat, and it tilts on the side.

Sasha looks outside the boat and considers diving. He looks down to see if there is anything underneath the water's surface.

Mosquitos grab his shirt and tear it apart.

SASHA

Stop!

Sasha is desperate and dives into the water, making a big splash.

As soon as Sasha's body disappears under the water's surface, a fish eye opens at the bottom of the lake. The eye is bigger than the boy.

Sasha looks up and sees that all of the mosquitos flew away scared.

Sasha smiles and swims back to the surface. Suddenly, his Staff comes off his belt. Sasha turns around, catches the Staff, and meets eye-to-eye with the massive fish at the bottom of the lake.

Sasha freezes in awe, and he and the fish look at each other.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Aina puts the crow in a cage she keeps for birds.

AINA

Stay here.

Aina looks around the room, searching for Uer, the madman's soul. She follows the black, dusty trail it left, which ends at the open guest room door.

Slowly, Laika comes out from the guest room, her face tilted down and she is drooling over the floor. She looks up at Aina, and we see her eyes are blood red.

AINA (CONT'D)

Good girl, Laika.
(slowly walks back)
Good girl.

Aina steps on and crashes a piece of the rock. The sound of it triggers Laika, and she takes off running.

Aina runs away, pushing shelves and furniture to block the way, but Laika jumps over the obstacles.

Aina approaches the kitchen, and Laika bites into Aina's dress.

AINA (CONT'D)

Let go!

Aina pulls and shuts the kitchen door right in front of Laika's face.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Aina enters the kitchen and leans on the counter, holding her hand to her chest. She is breathing heavily.

AINA

Ah, Andarhan Hotun! I am too old
for this.

She looks for something among the jars and finds one that looks like a strawberry jam, which Sasha tried before. Aina scoops some up and eats it.

Aina puts the jar down, revealing tiny writing to the camera. It says "courage booster."

Suddenly, Sasha's cell phone rings. He left it on a kitchen counter. Aina looks at the screen, and it says, "Mama."

AINA (CONT'D)

Oh, shoot.

EXT. THE LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Sasha climbs back into the boat with the paddle and his Staff.

SASHA

This is not a big fish! This is a
monster whale!

Lake water breaks into large waves. Sasha looks around, panicking, and rows towards the closest shore. The waves get bigger and bigger.

SASHA (CONT'D)

(crying)
I wish I were doing homework right
now!

The top of the giant fish shows on the water's surface, and Sasha turns around.

SASHA (CONT'D)

No, no, no.

He hurries up and works the paddles as fast as he can.

Luo, the fish, swims closer to Sasha's boat.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Uh, uh!

Luo's mouth rises above the water and attempts to devour the boat.

Sasha jumps out from the boat a second before Luo closes its mouth and breaks the ship into tiny pieces.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Aaaa!

EXT. UNDERWATER LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Sasha dives to the bottom of the lake. He turns around to get a better look at the giant fish. Its fins and scales are directed in the opposite direction, and it is the size of a whale.

Sasha swims away to hide in the tall seaweed.

Luo finishes demolishing the boat, gets back into the deep water, and sees Sasha disappear into the seaweed.

EXT. SEAWEED IN THE LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Sasha swims through the tall and thick seaweed. It's a perfect hiding place, but he quickly becomes disoriented.

He moves green stems to make his way forward. Sasha stops and looks around: it is the same view in every direction. He carefully moves another seaweed stem, and it opens the sight of a black hole.

First, Sasha is spooked by it, but seeing his reflection stops him from swimming away. He looks at himself closely and makes a smiling face.

Then a serious face, an ugly face, a shocked face. Sasha bursts out laughing, and air bubbles come out of his mouth.

Suddenly, the black hole disappears and appears again. Sasha looks at it, confused, and he reaches to touch it with his finger.

He reaches further...

And further...

Finally, he touches it, and a large lid covers it from the bottom (similar to a shark blinking). It is the eye of the giant fish, and it looks at Sasha.

Sasha swims up to the water's surface. The higher he gets, the more pronounced the shape of the fish hiding in the seaweed becomes.

Luo follows Sasha.

EXT. THE LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Sasha emerges from the water and grasps for air.

SASHA
Help! Somebody!

Sasha can feel the rising water underneath him, and he swims away.

SASHA (CONT'D)
I am skinny! Bad snack!

Luo's mouth is open, and its large lips break the water's surface.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Aaaaa!

Sasha ends up on the very edge of the upper lip, which is very slippery, so he slides right into the fish's mouth, which looks like a deadly dark tunnel.

Sasha removes the Staff from his belt and pierces the lip with it.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Yah!

Sasha holds on to his Staff while the fish closes its giant mouth.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Or nah?

Luo goes back underwater.

EXT. SOMEWHERE ABOVE THE LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Chechekke flies on top of a big mosquito. She struggles to control her ride, so she tilts to the side and almost falls. She pushes the mosquito's head down.

CHECHEKKE

Down. Down!

The mosquito folds its wings, and they fall.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

Aaaaaaa!!!

Chechekke shakes the mosquito.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

Wake up! Wake up!

They get closer to the water's surface.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

Now!

Before touching the water, the mosquito opens its wings and stops falling. They fly a few inches above the water's surface.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

You crazy.

The mosquito rolls its funny, bubbly eyes. Chechekke looks down at the water, trying to find Sasha.

Air bubbles show up on the water's surface.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

Here!

Chechekke leans lower to see: Luo swims chaotically in the water, trying to get Sasha off its lip.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

He is bad.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

AINA

He is good!

Aina talks on the phone and searches through her herbs. Some of them were misplaced by Sasha, so Aina checks them, smells, and tries them with her fingers.

AINA (CONT'D)
Don't worry, Emily, he is having
the best time here. How are you
guys?

She smells a herb and seems satisfied.

AINA (CONT'D)
Mmhm.

Aina goes to her fridge and finds a sausage in there.

She puts the sausage on the kitchen counter and carefully cuts it with a knife making a prolonged cut.

AINA (CONT'D)
Right, right. Um, well, I feed him
sausages.

Aina takes the herb and carefully sticks it inside the cut.

AINA (CONT'D)
What's a vegetarian?

Aina tries to close the cut in the sausage, but it stays open.

AINA (CONT'D)
It's Siberia. Can't survive off
only veggies here.

Aina opens the fridge, takes a thin slice of cheese, and wraps it around the sausage.

AINA (CONT'D)
I wish I could, darling, but he is
so busy playing with the dog.

Aina walks up to the kitchen door and looks through the keyhole. An angry, terrifying, drooling dog stares back at Aina.

AINA (CONT'D)
Ooh! No, no. It's the friendliest
puppy. Never hurt a thing.

Aina takes a broom.

AINA (CONT'D)

I must go. Don't worry, Emily.
Everything is under control. Love
you! Bye!

Aina hangs up the phone, slowly cracks the door open, and waits. No sound and no movement in the living room. Aina peaks out, but Laika is gone.

AINA (CONT'D)

Laika?

Aina knocks her broom on the wall to attract the dog with the sound.

AINA (CONT'D)

(to herself)
You witty little devil, Uer.

Aina slowly comes out of the kitchen.

AINA (CONT'D)

Come here, baby girl. I got a treat
for you.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

The kitchen door is wide open.

The camera goes further away, and we see Aina standing on one side of the door and Laika on the other. The dog sits with her ears down, waiting for a moment to strike.

Aina looks around the room. She puts the sausage in her skirt pocket and holds the broom with both hands. Aina is ready for a hunt but doesn't realize she is the prey.

Finally, she steps into the middle of the living room, and Laika strikes from behind. Aina turns around, holding the broom.

Laika bites the broom and wrestles with Aina.

AINA

Let go of my dog, you mighty
monster!

Laika breaks the broom with her strong jaws. Aina grabs a garden water sprayer, sprays the dog in her face, and Laika stops and sneezes.

AINA (CONT'D)

Still a dog, aren't you?

Aina sprays more, and Laika bites into the water. However, the water runs out, and Aina throws away the water sprayer.

Aina takes out the sausage and holds it up in front of Laika.

AINA (CONT'D)

Sit!

Surprisingly, Laika sits down.

AINA (CONT'D)

Good girl!

Aina hands over the sausage.

AINA (CONT'D)

Here. Treat?

But Laika doesn't care about the treat. She looks askance at Aina and is ready to attack.

Aina freezes. A beat.

Aina swirls around, lifting her layered skirt. Laika jumps to attack but bites into one of the skirt layers. The sausage falls out of the pocket.

Aina tries to run for the kitchen door, but Laika pulls the skirt, and Aina falls to the ground. She rolls on her back, and Laika jumps on top of her.

AINA (CONT'D)

Ah!

Laika tries to bite Aina's face, but Aina holds the dog away.

AINA (CONT'D)

Ugh! A! Stop!

Aina uses one arm to pick up the sausage but cannot reach it.

EXT. THE LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

The lake is still and silent.

A beat.

Luo breaks the water surface and shakes its head in the air with its mouth open.

Sasha is still holding on to his Staff, which now pierces both fish's lips like a bridge. Sasha grasps for air, and they both go back under the water.

A beat.

Luo jumps out of the water again and shakes its head even harder.

CHECHEKKE (O.S.)

Jump!

Sasha looks around to find Chechekke, but the fish goes back underwater.

A beat.

EXT. UNDERWATER LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Luo swims around, irritated by the Staff stuck in its mouth. The Staff keeps Lou's mouth a few feet open and lets Sasha see what's happening outside.

Sasha waits for the fish to jump out. Instead, Luo swims to the bottom of the lake and slows down.

Sasha knocks on Lou's lip, but the fish doesn't react.

Sasha decides to take the Staff out of the fish's lip. He puts his foot next to it, grabs the Staff with both hands, and pulls. No luck.

Sasha pulls harder and... Bonk! The Staff finally comes out from the bottom lip but is still stuck on the top.

It makes Luo swim sporadically. The fish takes off and races to the surface of the lake.

EXT. THE LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Luo jumps out of the water, and everything goes in slow motion.

Sasha climbs out of Lou's mouth and lands his feet on the fish's lips. He pulls the Staff from the upper lip, and finally, it is out.

Luo's eyes light up. The fish opens its mouth wider, and Sasha's legs no longer reach the lips.

Now, Sasha is up in the air right above Luo's mouth, and they are both falling.

SASHA (IN SLOW MOTION)

Oopsie!

Sasha is falling, but Chechekke catches his arm and keeps him up.

Luo falls back into the lake with its mouth wide open. The end of slow-motion.

Sasha looks up and sees Chechekke.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Chechekke!

Sasha and Chechekke are too heavy for one mosquito to keep them in the air.

CHECHEKKE
We're falling!

More mosquitos join, grab Sasha by his clothes, and fly away together.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Aina reaches for the sausage, and Laika still tries to bite Aina's face.

Finally, Aina takes the sausage and puts it in Laika's mouth.

AINA
Aha!

Laika chews on the sausage, and Aina uses the distraction to push the dog away.

Aina runs for the kitchen and hides.

AINA (CONT'D)
Good girl, Laika! I know you are still in there.

Laika finishes eating.

EXT. SOMEWHERE ABOVE THE LAKE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - DAY

Mosquitos are flying Sasha and Chechekke towards the shore.

SASHA
Why are they helping us?

CHECHEKKE
I promised they could eat you after.

SASHA

Excuse me?!

Chechekke laughs.

CHECHEKKE

Joking. They are not mosquitos.
Ashes of a demon Ulu.

Chechekke pronounces "Ulu" and the mosquito's beam with black light.

SASHA

Another bad guy?! How many are there?

CHECHEKKE

It's underground. Ulu dead. He is scattered in the mountains.
(points to the mountains ahead)
He is dark magic. He turns ash to mosquitos.

SASHA

Mmm... I've heard better legends.

Chechekke looks at Sasha with a "resting bitch" face.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Anyway. That doesn't explain why they don't want to eat me anymore.

CHECHEKKE

They think you wake up Ulu.

SASHA

Me?

CHECHEKKE

You strong.

SASHA

No, I am not.
(a beat)
I get scared... Scared to even talk to people.

CHECHEKKE

Why?

SASHA

I don't know. In my school, they all know each other, and I am new.
(MORE)

SASHA (CONT'D)

In the beginning, I was shy, and I didn't make friends. And then it just became... weird.

CHECHEKKE

They think you different.

SASHA

Yeah. I guess. Do you think I am different?

CHECHEKKE

I don't think.

A beat. Chechekke looks away.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

I know.

EXT. OPPOSITE LAKESHORE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Sasha and Chechekke land on the lakeshore.

Less than a mile away is a dark forest. Sasha looks at it, hoping it is not where they are going.

SASHA

Which way now?

Chechekke points at the forest.

CHECHEKKE

This.

SASHA

It looks horrifying!

CHECHEKKE

Cholbon lives there.

SASHA

And he is a good guy?

A beat.

CHECHEKKE

He helps.

Sasha sighs, and they walk towards the forest.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT

Aina leans on the kitchen door, trying to overhear sounds in the living room. She checks her watch.

AINA

It should be more than enough time.

Aina carefully cracks the door and observes the living room.

Something moves behind the couch, hits the furniture, and makes funny sounds. Aina watches closely.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Shattered flower pots are on the floor, and couch pillows are being ripped apart. We cannot see, who is causing this mess, but it is safe to assume that it is Laika.

Finally, Laika walks out into the center of the living room. Instead of a fierce adult dog, Laika is a playful, tiny puppy. And she is cute as hell!

Aina sees her, smiles, and walks into the living room.

AINA

Who is my girl? How do you like the youth mix?

Aina greets the dog. Laika runs towards Aina but stumbles and falls like a baby pup. Laika's movements are sloppy and playful.

Aina picks her up and raises over her head. Laika still tries to attack, but she is too tiny and childlike, making her unthreatening.

AINA (CONT'D)

It's time to free you from this madman's soul.

Aina walks over to a puppy crate and locks Laika in there. Then, she gathers the broken rock pieces with a broom and throws them into the trash.

AINA (CONT'D)

I should help Sasha. I hope he is doing alright. What do you think?

Aina looks at Laika, but the dog only tilts her head to the side. Aina walks out of the living room and returns with another shaped rock.

AINA (CONT'D)

He can use the portal, which can only mean one thing..

Laika watches the rock with fear in her eyes. Aina opens the crate and puts the stone inside. Uer is backed to the corner, and the dog whines to show the madman's terror.

Aina doesn't seem to care; she is busy worrying about Sasha.

AINA (CONT'D)

Who would have known this spoiled child would be destined for this job? And he is a boy! World keepers are always women!

Aina is in her thoughts. Suddenly, she remembers Uer.

AINA (CONT'D)

Oh! Sorry. "Soul hunters make amends, no place for two souls in one place."

Barely visible dark fog transfers from the puppy into a rock.

Aina opens the crate and takes out the rock. Laika runs out free and happy.

AINA (CONT'D)

(to herself)

Maybe he will learn something.

(A beat)

If he is still alive..

EXT. FOREST, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

The forest is dark and cold. Spruces and pines are tall and thin, reaching for the black sky.

Sasha is shaking from the cold: his clothing is still wet. He is in a hurry and stumbles as he walks. Chechekke looks energetic; she runs fast through the forest.

CHECHEKKE

Come. Come!

Sasha looks at her with his tired eyes. The boy is pale.

SASHA

How far is it? I am cold.

CHECHEKKE

A little more. Fast!

SASHA

I am coming.

CHECHEKKE

Come. Here.

Finally, they approach a tall tree, and Chechekke stops in front of it.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

Here.

Sasha looks around, confused.

SASHA

I don't see anything.

Chechekke points at the top of the tree, and Sasha looks up.

EXT. TOP OF THE TREE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

An older man is hanging on the branches at the tree's top. It is Cholbon. He has long white hair and a beard tangled in the tree. Cholbon is wearing a white outfit.

EXT. FOREST, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

From the ground, Cholbon looks like a star in the sky.

Sasha looks at Cholbon, amazed.

SASHA

And I thought my grandma was weird.

CHECHEKKE

(yells)

Cholbon!

EXT. TOP OF THE TREE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Cholbon slowly opens his eyes. His lashes and eyebrows are bright white as well. He tilts his head down and sees Sasha and Chechekke.

His hair and beard release the tree branches, and he steps down on a branch right below him. Cholbon is short and casually walks down the tree using brunches-like stairs.

EXT. FOREST, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Cholbon makes his way down and sees Chechekke and Sasha.

CHOLBON
(To Chechekke)
Is that what I asked for, child?

CHECHEKKE
(to Sasha)
Wait here. I ask for help.

Chechekke takes Cholbon by his hand and walks around the tree, so Sasha can't hear them talk.

Sasha is too tired and cold to be suspicious. He is looking around, scared. Strange animal noises are coming from somewhere far away.

EXT. FOREST, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TREE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

CHECHEKKE
I bring you World Keeper. You give what you promised.

Cholbon looks around at Sasha, who is scared of the noises in the forest.

CHOLBON
This?! Darling, this is no World Keeper. That's a boy.

CHECHEKKE
I test him. He opens the way. You take him, and you go the Middle World.

CHOLBON
Okay, if you are correct, I shall see his power and grant you what you wish.

Cholbon proudly touches his beard.

CHECHEKKE
No! I know this world. I know how we do. First - wish, then - boy.

Cholbon looks at Chechekke, smiling. He knows that he is superior and enjoys his power. He tilts his head, thinking, and looks at Sasha.

CHOLBON

Remember how gracious and kind I
am, Chechekke. You have proved your
loyalty, and you shall be rewarded.

Cholbon pulls a hair out of his beard and walks towards
Sasha. On his way to Sasha, he picks up a pine needle from
the ground.

EXT. FOREST, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Sasha sees Cholbon approaching.

SASHA

Hello, sir. Chechekke said you
could help me get back home.

Cholbon ignores Sasha's question, takes his hand, and pokes
it with a needle.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Ouch!

Cholbon dips his beard hair into Sasha's blood, changing it
to red.

Cholbon turns to Chechekke: she is already standing beside
him. He puts the red beard hair into his hand and closes it.
A second later, he opens his hand and reveals a tiny heart.
Cholbon gives it to Chechekke.

Chechekke takes it and swallows it.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Ew, what is wrong with you?!

Chechekke grows taller, and her pale skin becomes warmer and
healthier.

Chechekke looks at her hands, which grow into a real girl's
hands. She is beyond happy. Finally, her transformation is
complete, and she is a real girl.

Cholbon looks proudly at his work.

SASHA (CONT'D)

What happened to her?

CHOLBON

She is a girl now.

CHECHEKKE

A girl.

SASHA
Just like you wanted.

Sasha smiles.

SASHA (CONT'D)
What about my home?

Chechekke seems guilty.

CHOLBON
Oh, you don't worry about that,
young man. That is the precise
reason why we are here. Getting you
home well and safe is our number
one priority.

Sasha seems to be relieved.

SASHA
Great.

CHOLBON
Give me a second, darling. I'll get
you what you need.

Cholbon walks up to the tree and moves his hand around it. A
carved-out image appears on the tree bark, a drawing of the
Middle World (like on the tapestry in Aina's house).

CHOLBON (CONT'D)
I waited for this for so long.

SASHA
It's the drawing.

The carving beams blue light.

CHOLBON
Not just a drawing. A portal.

SASHA
I can't wait to get back. I don't
mean to disrespect you, but it
looks rough here. You guys should
consider moving to a better place.

Chechekke and Cholbon look at each other.

CHOLBON
That is so thoughtful of you. Thank
you... what's your name?

SASHA

Sasha.

CHOLBON

Thank you, Sasha.

Cholbon looks at Sasha for a second.

Cholbon gestures for Sasha to touch the tree. Sasha walks up and looks at the beaming light.

SASHA

It is beautiful.

Sasha turns to Chechekke.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Are you coming back with me?

CHECHEKKE

I shouldn't.

SASHA

You're a girl now. This place is no good for you.

Chechekke nods and carefully holds Sasha by his elbow.

Sasha smiles, but Chechekke doesn't smile back.

While Sasha lifts his hand to touch the tree, Cholbon turns into a tiny mouse and jumps inside Sasha's pocket.

Sasha touches the beaming tree bark, and it sucks him in with Chechekke.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, BASEMENT - MORNING

Sasha and Chechekke are back in Aina's basement. Aina stands at the bottom of the stairs with the crow in her hand.

The crow takes off, flies into the tree roots' shining light, and disappears.

AINA

Sasha!

SASHA

Grandma!

Aina and Sasha hug. Chechekke feels awkward and looks down.

AINA
Hi, I am Aina.

Chechekke nods and acts shy.

 SASHA
Grandma, you know her. It's
Chechekke.

Aina is surprised.

 AINA
How did she become a girl?

 SASHA
I have so much to tell you. You
would never believe where I've
been!

Aina smiles at Sasha, and she notices his Staff.

 AINA
This is interesting! Your mom would
not recognize you.
 (touches his clothes)
Ah! You are soaking wet. Let's get
you sorted.

Aina, Sasha, and Chechekke leave the basement. Cholbon, in the form of a white mouse, jumps out of Sasha's pocket and runs away.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Aina, Sasha, and Chechekke sit at the dining table and enjoy their lunch. The sun is shining bright, and everything looks perfect.

Laika enters the kitchen.

 SASHA
Puppy!

Sasha starts to play.

 SASHA (CONT'D)
She looks just like Laika!

 AINA
Actually, it is her. I had to give
her some youth herbs, but they will
wear off in a few hours.
 (MORE)

AINA (CONT'D)

Such strong magic only works for a short time.

SASHA

You should give it to her all the time. She is cute!

AINA

No, no, no. There are always consequences. "Payment," I call it. Speaking off, why is Chechekke a girl?

Chechekke sits silent.

SASHA

Oh, I didn't tell you the last part. We met someone good there: an older man. He helped us to get back.

Aina stops eating.

AINA

What older men?

SASHA

Chi-, Cha- mm, can't remember. Chechekke?

Chechekke shakes her head "no".

SASHA (CONT'D)

Anyway, he was super friendly. Made this carved thing on the tree for us, made Chechekke a girl, and... yeah. That's it. He looked like a night star, imagine?

Aina is shocked.

AINA

Was his name Cholbon?

SASHA

Yes! That's his name. So funny, all the names are super hard to remember. A kind, old man. I liked him.

AINA

No, no, no...

Aina runs to the basement.

SASHA
Is something wrong?

Sasha follows her, but Chechekke doesn't. She quietly gets up and leaves.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, BASEMENT - DAY

Aina searches the basement.

SASHA
What is it, grandma?

Aina finds a tiny hole in the corner of the basement marked with frost. Aina touches it, and her face is serious.

AINA
He is no kind old man, Sasha. He
used to be the God of Venus.

Aina walks out of the basement, and Sasha follows her.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, AINA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Aina walks up to a bookshelf in her room and picks up a book.

AINA
The first shaman, Tasya, cut off
the rope which kept Cholbon in the
sky, and he fell into the
Underworld.

Aina opens the book and finds a description of Cholbon. There are pictures of a man, who looks like a star, and a monster covered with snow-white fur.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Outside Aina's house, a tiny white mouse leaves a frost trail in her garden. The mouse runs towards the forest.

AINA (V.O.)
He did that to punish him. Cholbon
decided that he was too strong and
powerful to be just a God of Venus.
He wanted the Earth.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

We see the mouse enter the forest.

AINA (V.O.)

He planned to freeze every living being on our planet and rule among ice and snow.

In the forest, the white mouse catches a cricket and eats it, becoming bigger. Cholbon eats other insects and starts to look like a rat. The trail of frost becomes thicker.

AINA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

When shaman Tasya heard Cholbon's plan, he knew that the only way to keep the God of Venus away was to put him in the Underground world, where it's already cold and deadly.

The white rat catches a small rabbit and eats it. The rat becomes bigger, catching snakes, birds, and other rabbits.

AINA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

But Cholbon never stopped dreaming about our world. He was waiting for the perfect opportunity. And you, Sasha, happened to be the one. He devours living beings to grow to gain strength and concurs the world with ice.

Cholbon is now a monster the size of a wolf. Everything he touches becomes snow and ice.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, AINA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Aina stands in front of Sasha.

AINA

If you didn't figure it out yet, you don't need help getting back here. You are the way back here.

Sasha realizes something.

AINA (CONT'D)

We call ourselves "World Keepers" because we keep the balance between the under, middle and upper worlds. We use portals, like the sacred tree Aal Luuk Mas, and we are the only ones who can open them. We decide who to take with us and are responsible for our travelers.

A beat.

AINA (CONT'D)

Yesterday, you brought Cholbon to the middle world, *our* world. He has one goal in mind: destroy and rule. To freeze the Earth, including me and you, your mom and dad, and everyone you've ever known.

SASHA

Mom and dad? They are in danger because of me...

AINA

And no one can stop him. Except you and me.

Sasha takes a beat.

SASHA

What do I have to do?

AINA

You'll have to bring him back here, and I'll take him to the portal.

SASHA

Me? Why don't we go together?

AINA

I am old. When he comes, I might not be able to do my job. I have to ask the Upper world to back me up.

SASHA

Can't the Upper world help us now?

AINA

They are Gods. They don't like to get involved with our troubles. I'll do my best, but for now, we have to rely on ourselves.

Sasha nods and remembers about Chechekke.

SASHA

Chechekke!

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Sasha runs back to the kitchen.

SASHA

Chechekke? Chechekke!

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sasha searches in the living room and carries a full plate of sour cream.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, GUEST ROOM - DAY

Sasha looks for Chechekke in his bedroom.

SASHA
Chechekke?

Chechekke is gone.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sasha returns to the living room, where Aina is waiting for him.

SASHA
She is gone.

AINA
I am sorry.

SASHA
She brought me to Cholbon. You think she knew?

Aina is sad to reveal the truth to Sasha. She nods.

AINA
I am sure she had her reasons. But we don't have time for this right now. We have to stop Cholbon before it is too late.

Sasha agrees, but he is visibly disappointed. Aina hands him his Staff and a pouch.

AINA (CONT'D)
I packed you aster seeds to scatter on the trail. They will bring the warmth of spring into the frozen ground.

SASHA
Thank you, Grandma.

AINA
Good luck, and let Mother Nature help you.

Sasha leaves the house, and Aina watches him go.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Sasha walks to the forest, following the trail of frost.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, ATTIC - DAY

Aina opens the attic door and walks in. It's a very bright, airy room with a lot of natural light. On the wall is a picture, but this time it is of the Upper World and formed from the top tree branches and leaves.

Aina walks up to the wall, touches the tree branches, and disappears.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Sasha walks in the forest, following the frosting trail. He removes some seeds from his pouch and scatters them over the frost, and the ice melts, leaving beautiful purple flowers instead.

Sasha smiles and runs down the trail.

EXT. THE EDGE OF THE FOREST - DAY

A large animal that looks like a bear with long limbs and a thick tail walks in the forest. It is Cholbon who grew into a terrifying monster.

Leaf buds appear on trees, and the grass is already green. He touches trees, and the buds fall off. Trees cover in ice.

Cholbon catches a fox and swallows it. The monster grows a little bigger and stronger and keeps walking.

Cholbon approaches the edge of the forest and looks ahead at a small Yakutia Village.

EXT. SMALL YAKUTIA VILLAGE - DAY

It is a beautiful village full of people and animals like dogs, cows, and donkeys.

People are working outside, preparing for the summer season. Adults are working with the soil, getting it ready for planting crops. Kids play outside, and older people take care of the houses and food.

The sun is shining bright, and people are happy to greet warmer days.

However, a few miles away, above the forest, we see the sky covered with thick clouds. It is snowing in the woods, and Cholbon's power grows, creating a snowstorm.

EXT. THE EDGE OF THE FOREST - DAY

Sasha runs as fast as he can, trying to catch up with Cholbon. He scatters the seeds to save the forest.

Finally, Sasha reaches the edge of the forest and sees a white monster walking towards the Yakutia village.

SASHA

No!

Sasha runs to the monster and throws some of the seeds at it.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Hey, you!

The seeds burn Cholbons, and he turns around to see what caused him pain.

CHOLBON

Rrraa!

Cholbon sees Sasha holding a pouch, and Sasha takes out more seeds and throws them at the monster.

CHOLBON (CONT'D)

You!

The monster is irritated. Cholbon notices that beautiful purple flowers have overpowered the ice, and it makes him mad.

CHOLBON (CONT'D)

Rrrrraaaaa!

The monster loses his temper and runs after Sasha.

SASHA

Oi-oi-oi!

Sasha runs back to the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Sasha runs through the forest, being chased by Cholbon.

Sasha jumps over bushes and fallen trees, cuts corners, and uses all his agility skills to run away.

SASHA
Catch me, you dirty liar!

Suddenly, Sasha trips and falls. Cholbon sways his long, powerful arm and breaks a young tree above Sasha's head.

Sasha realizes the magnificent power of this monster and is now scared.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Aaaaaaaa!

Sasha gets up and starts running even faster than he did before.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Grandma!

Cholbon follows the boy licking his lips like he is hunting prey.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Aina ties a long rope to one of the trees in her garden, and it has a loop at the end.

Laika is playing in the garden, but Aina picks her up. She is still a puppy.

AINA
You can't help me this time. Let's
put you somewhere safe.

As soon as Aina says it, she hears a scream from the forest.

SASHA (O.S.)
Grandmaa! Help!

Aina turns around and sees Sasha running away from a monster.

AINA
Sasha!

Aina drops Laika into a large empty flower pot, which Laika has no chance of escaping, and runs to meet the monster.

Aina picks up the rope and hides behind a fence.

AINA (CONT'D)
Here, Sasha!

Sasha runs past the fence with Cholbon behind him.

Aina throws the rope, and the loop lands right around the monster's neck.

AINA (CONT'D)

Yes!

SASHA

Go, grandma!

Cholbon turns around to see what got him. He sees Aina and strikes right at her, and Aina dodges the punch. She notices an ice crystal in the monster's chest.

AINA

Sasha! His chest, watch!

Cholbon tries to get out of the rope and turns to Sasha. The boy sees the ice crystal.

SASHA

I see it!

Sasha takes out his Staff and hits the monster in his chest but misses.

Cholbon realizes that he is outnumbered, and he uses his full strength. He grabs the rope and pulls it, making the tree break and fall on Aina.

Aina escapes from under the falling tree by jumping away and falls.

AINA

Ah!

A large birdhouse, which was attached to the tree, detaches and hits Aina on her head. Aina falls unconscious.

SASHA

No, no, no...

Cholbon kneads his neck and looks at Sasha, ready to catch his prey.

Sasha is terrified and lost. He takes a step back, looking at the monster in fear. His foot lands on something, and Sasha looks down: it's the rock he threw at the birdhouse after arguing with his parents.

FLASHBACK

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Sasha is screaming on the phone.

SASHA

No, mom, you are not listening to me again. It's not nature. She is old and out of her mind!

EMILY (ON THE PHONE)

Sasha, you know we love you-

SASHA

Ugh! I hate you!

END OF FLASHBACK

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Sasha's eyes are full of tears.

SASHA

This can't end. Not like this.

Sasha takes a stand, ready to fight back.

SASHA (CONT'D)

(imitating Nature's Prophet)

You'll make a fine humus.

Cholbon strikes, and Sasha dodges. Sasha hits the monster with his Staff and the beast groans.

CHOLBON

Aaw!

Sasha moves fast, and Cholbon struggles to catch the boy.

Sasha trips and falls, but he manages to get up and escape another attack. Sasha notices a glimpse of red hair.

He searches for Chechekke with his eyes, but she seems to be gone.

Sasha and Cholbon continue to fight.

Sasha strikes, trying to hit the ice crystal on the monster's chest, but fails.

Suddenly, Cholbon touches the ground making it a slippery ice surface, and Sasha slips and falls.

The monster walks up to Sasha and stands above him, ready to declare his victory.

CHOLBON (CONT'D)

You are small.

Suddenly, Cholbon turns around.

Chechekke picks up his long tail and bites it.

Cholbon picks her up with his hand and, and without a beat, devours the girl.

SASHA

Chechekke! No!!

Sasha sways his Staff and hits Cholbon's leg. Cholbon loses his balance and falls to the ground, and Sasha jumps on top of him and lifts his Staff to strike him on his chest.

The monster's bones move, and his limbs grow longer after devouring Chechekke. Sasha lowers the Staff to hit the ice crystal, but the beast lifts him with one hand.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Let me- ah! Let me go!

Cholbon stands up.

CHOLBON

Your time has come.

Sasha tries to free up, but he is too small and powerless compared to the monster.

SASHA

Ugh!

CHOLBON

Goodbye, the World Keeper.

Cholbon opens his mouth and slowly moves Sasha closer.

Sasha is ready to die.

Suddenly, the sun beams through the thick snowy clouds and hits Cholbon right in the face. The monster squints and turns away.

Roots come out from the ground and wrap around the monster's feet.

Sasha looks up.

SASHA

The Upper World. They are helping.

Sasha uses the moment when Cholbon is distracted and hits the ice crystal with his Staff.

CHOLBON

Aaahhhh!

The monster screams and falls apart like a pile of snow, and Sasha falls to the ground.

A rabbit jumps out from the snow pile, then a fox and other animals. Chechekke shakes the snow off.

Sasha notices a little mouse with a shiny crystal in its chest and catches it.

SASHA

You are not going anywhere.

Sasha takes an empty pouch from his pocket and puts the mouse inside.

Chechekke walks up to Sasha, but she is looking at something behind him. Sasha turns around and sees Aina waking up.

SASHA (CONT'D)

Grandma! Are you okay?

Sasha runs to Aina.

AINA

What happened? Where is Cholbon?

Sasha shows Aina the pouch, and she sees a little mouse.

AINA (CONT'D)

Did you get it yourself?

SASHA

Chechekke helped me.

(thinks)

And something else.

Sasha turns back to see the roots go back underground and the sun clearing out the sky.

AINA

They listened. They knew you were worth it.

Sasha looks at Aina with his eyes tearing up. Aina strokes his cheek.

AINA (CONT'D)
Let's bring him back where he
belongs.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, BASEMENT - EVENING

Sasha helps Aina take the stairs to the basement, and they walk up to the tree roots.

Sasha hands the pouch to Aina, but she refuses to take it.

 AINA
You brought it in, and you should
bring it back. It's your traveler.

 SASHA
But what if I mess something up?

 AINA
So what? You'll fix it.

Sasha nods.

 SASHA
Okay.

Sasha touches the roots and disappears.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, BASEMENT/PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD -
NIGHT

Sasha appears in the Underground basement. It is silent outside, so Sasha decides to come out.

EXT. ABOVE THE BASEMENT, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Sasha walks outside. Now, he sees clearly, that Aina's house doesn't exist in this world. There is only the basement, which connects the Middle and the Underground worlds.

Sasha looks around, and the cold, deadly terrain no longer frightens him.

 SASHA
This place is not as scary as I
thought.

Sasha opens his pouch and lets the mouse out. Immediately, Cholbon runs away and hides behind a bush.

The mouse transforms back into an older man. He peaks out from the bush and giggles.

CHOLBON

You didn't win, young man.
Now *he* knows your weakness.

Sasha looks confused. Cholbon takes off and runs to the forest.

Sasha decides to walk back, but he notices Wolf running across the trail to the forest. Wolf stops and sees Sasha, and the two-headed frog is riding on top of him and also looks at Sasha.

Sasha waves at them, and Wolf nods back. The two-headed frog smiles and Wolf disappears into the forest.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Aina fixes her plants, which got damaged while fighting Uer and Abas.

She walks back to the kitchen.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Aina walks up to the sink, and both of her birds fly around the kitchen.

AINA

Kiki, Lulu!
(To Kiki)
How are you doing, little one?

Kiki has a bandage on her foot. The bird whistles and pretends to faint, making Aina laugh.

AINA (CONT'D)

What an actress!

Kiki jumps back to her feet and whistles again.

AINA (CONT'D)

Oh, no, no, of course, I believe
you!

Aina turns to another bird Lulu and winks. Lulu makes a short sound, which sounds like "Drama queen. "

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, GUEST ROOM - DAY

Sasha is packing his clothes. He picks up his phone and looks at notifications:

"Your screen time was down by 98% this week. "

He wipes it away. Another notification pops up:

"2 missed calls from Mama. "

Sasha dials to call her back but get distracted.

CHECHEKKE

Sasha?

Sasha turns to Chechekke.

SASHA

Oh, hi.

Sasha pretends to be busy packing. Chechekke walks into the room.

CHECHEKKE

You are leaving.

SASHA

Yep.

CHECHEKKE

Wanna play before you go?

A beat. Sasha turns to Chechekke and sees that she feels guilty.

SASHA

What's the game?

Chechekke smiles and takes Sasha by his hand.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF AINA'S HOUSE - DAY

Sasha and Chechekke are standing in Aina's garden.

CHECHEKKE

It's called Falcon Fight.

Chechekke crosses her arms on her chest.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

Do your arms like this.

Sasha crosses his arms. Chechekke bends one leg at the knee and continues to balance on another.

CHECHEKKE (CONT'D)

And your leg like this.

Sasha does the same and almost loses his balance.

SASHA

Wow!

Chechekke helps him stand still.

CHECHEKKE

We falcons. I push, and you fall -
I win. I fall - I lose.

SASHA

Okay.

Sasha and Chechekke start playing.

They jump around on one leg and push each other. Chechekke is better at the game, so Sasha falls first.

SASHA (CONT'D)

(laughs)

That's cheating.

CHECHEKKE

I am just better!

Sasha gets back up, and they switch their legs and play again. Sasha tries harder, and Chechekke falls.

SASHA

Aha!

Sasha laughs.

CHECHEKKE

Again!

The play again.

Aina opens the house window.

AINA

Sasha! Your taxi is here.

Sasha looks outside the fence and sees the taxi car. He looks back at Chechekke.

SASHA

I have to go.

Chechekke looks upset.

CHECHEKKE

I am sorry. I am sorry I didn't
tell the truth.

SASHA

We all make mistakes. But I am not
mad, because you are my friend.

CHECHEKKE

You are my friend too.

Sasha smiles.

INT. AINA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY

Sasha runs to the kitchen, where Aina prepares him a snack.

SASHA

I must go, Grandma!

AINA

One second, almost done.

Sasha notices the jar with the "strawberry jam" and lifts it.

SASHA

Why does this strawberry jam taste
so bad?!

Aina turns to see what he means by "strawberry jam."

AINA

That's no Strawberry-
(realizes)
Did you eat that?

SASHA

A little. Why? What is it for?

Sasha starts to rotate to see if it has writings, but Aina
snatches the jar out of his hands.

AINA

Nothing. It's... birds' food.

Sasha makes a disgusted face. Aina puts the jar away and
hands Sasha a little snack she made.

AINA (CONT'D)

Here.

SASHA

Thank you.

EXT/INT. TAXI - DAY

Sasha's taxi takes off. The boy looks at Aina, Chechekke, and Laika, standing outside the house and waving him "goodbye. "

CUT TO

Beautiful Yakutia's nature. Sasha is looking outside of his window, admiring the views.

Sasha's car drives by the forest, and he sees Chu and Makka walking behind the pine trees. The boy clears his eyes, and the giant creatures disappear.

The taxi passes the lake, and Luo's fin shows up at the water's surface. Sasha leans closer to the car's window, but the fish is no longer there.

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Sasha walks out from the arrivals gate at the airport. He sees Emily and Cameron Waiting for him.

CAMERON

Sasha!

SASHA

Mom, dad!

Sasha runs up to his parents and hugs them.

EMILY

We were so worried! Not a single call, Sasha.

SASHA

I am sorry.

CAMERON

Luckily, your grandma is much better than you at keeping in touch.

SASHA

She told you about me?!

They start to walk towards the airport exit.

EMILY
She said you liked her dog.

CAMERON
And made a friend?

EMILY
Started eating sausages?

SASHA
What sausages? I am vegetarian.

Emily and Cameron look at each other confused. Sasha realizes that Aina tried to cover for him.

SASHA (CONT'D)
Oh, sausage! I ate... one. Gross.

Emily and Cameron seem to believe Sasha. They stop at the exit.

EMILY
I am sorry if we did something wrong.

SASHA
No, mom. I am sorry I said I hated you. I don't.

Emily's eyes are full of tears, but she is not crying.

CAMERON
Mom and I decided you won't have to go to Yakutia again. Too wild out there.

SASHA
What do you mean wild?

EMILY
It's dangerous and doesn't have the proper facilities for a child. It's better for you to stay somewhere safe.

SASHA
I loved it there. I want to go there this summer.

Emily and Cameron look at Sasha, shocked. Sasha turns to the exit, and Emily notices Staff attached to the boy's backpack.

Emily points at it, and Cameron's jaw drops.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE AIRPORT - DAY

Sasha walks out of the airport, and Emily and Cameron catch up behind him.

Sasha's phone vibrates from a discord call.

BOY

You coming tonight? We have a big fight, and we need you on the team.

SASHA

I'll be there.

BOY

Ya-hoo! Nature's Prophet is back in the game.

SASHA

Actually, I got a new name.

BOY

What is it?

SASHA

The World Keeper.

TITLE SEQUENCE

EXT. LAKESHORE, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

Mosquitos fly above the Underground's deadly terrain.

They pass by the forest, a black river, and land in the mountains.

EXT. MOUNTAINS, PARALLEL UNDERGROUND WORLD - NIGHT

The hills are covered with ash. Mosquitos are born from it; they are black and grey, some are bigger, and some are smaller.

A dwarf runs through the mountains, and he is lost and scared. Suddenly, he steps on the ash.

DWARF

Oh no. No, no, no.

Mosquitos attack the dwarf, and he swings his arms, trying to run away.

A large, black, ashy hand appears from the ash and covers the dwarf.

THE END