

Breifny

The Lost Kingdom

Written by

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&

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CREDIT SEQUENCE

MUSIC: "You should see me in a crown" - Billie Eilish

VERSE 1 (no intro)

"Bite my tongue, bite my tongue.."

Irish womans face, dirty, hair a mess, tears streaming
cleaning a path on her face. She's defiant.

"Wait till the world is mine.."

Two hands push on her chest backwards. Slow motion she
falls backwards over cliff.

"Visions I vandalise.."

Brian sitting in middle of hooded druids holding
two-faced red-clay head in left hand sword in right, face
painted blue.

"thes ocean eyes.."

*Flash** Visions of English army

*Flash** Harps being burned

*Flash** Hanging Spanish sailors inside small church

Woman's hand gripping sword

"You should see me in a crown.."

Women on white horse charging

Battle scenes.

Woman swings her sword to cut down opponent.

"..one by one by one.."

Virgin Mary statue amongst flames.

Red wax dripping.

Village woman crying on her knees her house in flames.

"You should see me in a crown.."

Elizabeth the first portrait burning.

Spaniard face blue with death

Bodies sinking to ocean floor

"..one by one by one.."

Elizabeths parliament kneeling in unison.

Elizabeth looking regal.

Close up Brian crown of thorns is placed on head.

(whispered) "one"

Blood drips down his face.

END CREDIT SEQUENCE.

IRELAND, 1588.

FADE IN:

1. INT. JOHN DEE'S LABORATORY -- NIGHT

The spacious room has large maps on the wall, a collection of books and a huge world globe. A large telescope sits near bay windows and a heavy wooden cabinet holds various test tubes, vials and specimens.

Various magical talismans populate the large desk he stands behind, including the Seal of Raziel and a feather quill.

JOHN DEE (61) Queen Elizabeth's magician, dressed in a black cloak and kippah sets out his magical table quietly by candlelight.

Dee's movements have a priestly air, his long grey beard tapers to a point.

His hands tremble moving slowly and methodically as he places a knife and crystal on table.

He lovingly runs his hand slowly over a stone sigil.

DEE

(whispering) Let the angels speak.

Breathing deeply he holds his hands up in orans gesture.

Dee's eyes are deep blue the white of his eyes glow warmly. They fix on the crystal. They begin to reflect a dark stormy ocean.

DEE

My light-dweller hath ears and
my spirit understands the word.
Give me your commandment to
understand clearly.

The wind bursts the window open blowing out some the
candles.

Dee is unmoved, fixed on the crystal, his eyes growing
wide.

Reflected is the dark stormy coast of West Ireland.
Lightening illuminates the dark clouds.

DEE

So huge a bulk glides from the
deep.

2. EXT. A MILE OFF THE COAST OF SLIGO - DAWN

In the shadows of a thick fog three Spanish galleons
battered by waves.

DEE (V.O.)

With the roar of a whistling
wind.

The ocean is dark and foaming, the wind is fierce.

DEE (V.O.)

Waves roll before, and eddies
surge and swirl;

A huge wave rolls and batters the three ships like they
are toys.

DEE (V.O.) CONT'D

Hurtling headlong, it snort and
sprays the foam.

Spanish ships JULIANA, SANTA MARIA de VISION and LA
LAVIA are suffering in the wicked weather.

DEE

By wind and storm,

Dee's face is in awe of his vision. His grey hair blown by wind.

La Juliana's tattered red and gold jack flags flutter violently. The sails are tied.

DEE (V.O.)
or whirling waterspout.

DEE (V.O.) CONT'D
The clash of wave with warring
wave;

The ship rides a huge foaming black wave. Screams pierce the air. On deck hundreds of Spanish sailors, wet and exhausted are panicking, desperately lowering lifeboats and pouring into them.

DEE (V.O.) CONT'D
Triton's trident, heaving up

Men fall over the edge of the galleon and are washed out of the lifeboats.

DEE (V.O.) CONT'D
..the roots of cavernous
vaults

Dead bodies sinking in the water.

DEE (V.O.) CONT'D
..beneath the billowy sea.

3. INT. HOLD OF LA LAVIA

FRANCISCO (40) sits on the flooded floor his knees pulled up his Captains uniform disheveled. He is holding his rosary beads in shaking hands. A GUARD sits across from him looking nervously at the roof listening to the sailors above shouting in panic.

FRANCISCO
Do what you think is right.

The guard nods as the ship creaks and the ocean swells. Francisco and the guard brace themselves but the guard loses his footing.

Water pours into the hold.

BLACKOUT:

Francisco emerges from the water. It is waist deep. He sees the guard belly down in the water. Straining to reach him he is able to grab his sleeve.

Pulling the guards lifeless body closer he sees a deep wound on his head, his eyes gazing in lifeless horror. The gaurd is dead. Francisco closes his eyes.

FRANCISCO
Santa María, Madre de Dios.

Francisco takes the key to the chains out of the pocket.

:

4. EXT. LA LAVIA DECK, ONE MILE OFF THE COAST, COUNTY SLIGO

In the darkness the sailors and crew of La Lavia scramble desperately to secure rigging and secure sails.

SAILOR 1
Sostener!

The stays are taut and straining. The sailors are struggling. A wave breaks and men are thrown overboard. The ships are being pushed inland.

The two other galleons, uncomfortably close, are at varying stages of distruction.

On the deck of La Lavia the the masts are showing strain. One of the stays breaks. The men are straining trying to hold the stays.

SAILOR 1
Esta Perdido!

SAILOR 1
Sostener!

Francisco appears from beneath deck and seeing the men struggling he runs to them, the rain and wind lashing into his eyes.

SAILOR 1
Esta Perdido!

SAILOR 1
Sostener!

FRANCISCO
Sostener!

Some men recognise Francisco with a nod and appear bolstered by his presence. Behind them the ocean is black and swelling.

Francisco senses the shadow bearing down and turns to face a gigantic wave. He makes the sign of the cross.

FRANCISCO
Santa María, Madre de Dios!!

The wave breaks the mainmast, crashing down killing and trapping men. The galleon collides with Santa Maria bursting it.

Hundreds of Sailors are washed into the ocean.

BLACKOUT:

FRANCISCO (V.O)
Salve nos.

5. EXT. NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN, COUNTY SLIGO

Francisco regains consciousness floating on a table in the midst of splintered wood and drowned bodies.

He rolls over to see another huge black wave bearing down. He crosses himself.

BLACKOUT:

6. EXT. STREEDAGH STRAND, COUNTY SLIGO

The storm has settled but the wind is relentless whipping the sand sideways. Screams, groans and voices are carried on the wind.

The long, wide, white beach is littered with splintered galleons and hundreds of dead and suffering Spanish sailors.

Ravens circle above. Irish woman, men and children pilfering precious items off dead sailors. A few bands of English soldiers brutally kill half dead Spanish sailors while those half alive are being herded off the beach.

Francisco's eyelids flicker and he coughs up water. Opening his eyes he sees the lifeless blue face of a fellow Captain.

He cries silently and hearing a shout realises he is in danger. He gathers himself.

Raising himself to survey, Francisco sees to his left an English flag above a group of soldiers stepping over a sea of dead bodies.

A helpless sailor cries for help, a soldier runs his sword through him.

To his right and much closer is a band of Gallowglass stripping some sailors in various states of injury and dress.

Francisco lies down in a panic and checks for his holy medallion which he clutches in relief. Praying silently. the thought crosses that he has come thus far. He gathers his wits.

He attempts to raise himself but collapses in pain, betrayed by the deep wound in his leg.

Using all his will to get half upright, he starts to stumble and limp toward the grass.

His eyes sting and the wind whips sand in his face. He falls to his knees exhausted and in pain.

Six Gallowglass stand around three Spanish sailors who are shivering and blue with cold.

The leader points at one of the Sailors who appears to be in shock.

LEADER

Take it aff.

The Sailor trembling unsuccessfully tries to undo the buttons on his shirt. He sees Fransicso in the distance stumbling.

An impatient gallowglass steps in and rips open his shirt to reveal a gold medallion, which he promptly rips off his neck.

Handing it to the leader he sees Francisco.

GALLOWGLASS

(moving forward) Oi!

Captain De Cuellar turns his eyes down and continues to stumble over dead bodies away from the ocean.

The leader turns to see Francisco fallen and weakly stumbling forward.

LEADER

Ach forget him he'll be deed
soon.

Stumbling along the beach De Cuellar sees Benbulben shrouded in mist.

He reaches the grass and faints.

7. EXT. STREEDAGH STRAND, COUNT SLIGO

Francisco lies face down in long grass. Voices and screams in the distance. His eyes flicker open.

He slowly raises himself and sees a small church a short distance away.

Crawling, he makes it to the door and presses his ear against it listening. The beach behind him is a vision of massacre and pilfering.

Francisco pushes open the door and pulls himself inside.

Closing the door behind, he winces with pain. Rolling up his trouser leg he sees how deep the wound is.

He makes a tourniquet with his sleeve. Tying it tight he winces and groans in pain.

He opens his upturned eyes and a look of horror comes across his face.

WOMAN (V.O.)
(Singing) Gabháil siar thar
Inse..

Twelve dead Spaniards hang from the ceiling, their grotesque twisted faces blue and purple. The chapel has been looted and the images of saints burned.

WOMAN (V.O.)
.. Gaine dhom bíodh an bhratach
insa gcrann,

8. EXT. COUNTY LEITRIM

Inland beyond the majestic Benbulbin, mystical Glencar waterfall lies Lough Gill.

GORMFLAITH (V.O. CONT'D)
(Singing) Ná cui' I Leiter
Caladh mé..

O'Rourke's table mountain in the distance glows with torches.

GORMFLAITH (V.O. CONT'D)
mar ní ann atá mo dhream;

9. EXT. O'ROURKE'S TOWER COUNTY LEITRIM

Nestled in thick woods on the bank stands O'Rourke's tower lit by torches.

Half naked freezing Spanish sailors are hurried in through the guarded castle gate.

GORMFLAITH (V.O. CONT'D)
(Singing) Ach tugaí siar go
Muínis mé,

Inside the torch lit castle walls suffering Spaniards are being nursed by clan. Sailors warm themselves in front of two large fires. Men with rifles survey, children run supplies.

GORMFLAITH (V.O. CONT'D)
 (Singing) 'n áit a gcaoinfear mé
 go hard,

10. **EXT. DROMAHAIRE CASTLE**

The beautiful O'Rourkes Hall is situated on a high bluff overlooking a gorge of the Bonet River to the South. A light flickers in a window where a singing voice is emanating from.

GORMFLAITH (V.O. CONT'D)
 Beidh solise ar na dúmhchannaí

11. **INT. O'ROURKES HALL, DROMAHAIRE. - NIGHT**

The room is large with stonewalls a high ceiling, and a large blazing fire. A fine sturdy wooden table runs along the centre of the room. It is scattered with the aftermath of dinner.

Seated are some of the illustrious royal Gaelic families in solemn contemplation of the music with their heads bowed. Adults at one end of the table and the children at the other.

Two gallowglass standing and two seated ladies in waiting watch attentively from the outskirts. MARY (5) plays at their feet with two wolfhounds.

GORMFLAITH (14) stands at the foot of the table dressed in a mustard yellow dress next to the O'CORRAIN (40) who cradles his harp stroking the strings with expertise.

There is a purity about her and sacredness in her singing.

GORMFLAITH (V.O.)
 ..ní bheidh uaigneas orn ann

O'Corrain finishes the song with a flourish. There is a moment of silence.

At the opposite end, BRIAN (48), chief of his name claps loudly and slowly. He looks the part of an Irish Prince with rugged good looks, dark hair with a strip braided down the centre of his head. His eyes are warm and he is touched by the music.

The guests join the clapping. Brian nods with approval to ELEANOR (24) who sits on right. She is beautiful in the extreme, her pale skin stark against her deep red gown. She looks fondly at Gormflaith.

BRIAN
A fine voice!

Gormflaith smiles as she receives her warm applause from the guests.

MURCHATH (37) lustfully eyes Gormflaith under his sandy brown fringe. He sports a patch over his left eye.

MURCHATH
And beauty to match.

Gormflaith awkwardly nods a bow. Murchath is positively salivating as he watches her make her way over to MARY (5) the little O'Rourke princess.

Eleanor sees this and is disturbed yet maintains her regal demeanour; Murchath's wife JOHANNA (22) puzzled at Eleanor's expression looks to see her husband enchanted.

The fierce Scottish warrior woman INION DUBH (46) breaks the tension she is witnessing. Keeping her stern eye on Murchath.

INION DUBH	BRIAN
(to Gormflaith)	(to Murchath) You've always
Exquisite talent my	had an 'eye' for the ladies.
dear.	

Murchath lets out a bitter laugh and raises his cup. JOHANNA (22) his wife takes the compliment.

MURCHATH
True, true. But you seem to have
all the luck.

Johanna is deflated. Murchath winks haughtily at Eleanor and takes a swig from his cup. She smiles politely and looks down. Inion Dubh and her daughter NUALA (14) share a knowing look.

BRIAN
(to Eleanor) Jokes aside.

Eleanor's smile is beautiful and fragile.

MARY (42) gets the joke late and laughs too loudly, her low cut dress barely containing her. Her husband TEIGE (42), a clean and educated man, snorts and raises his cup to Brian.

BRIAN

Come, that joke was cornea than usual.

Teige sprays wine out of his mouth laughing. The table is amused bar except INION DUBH (46) and Nuala (13) who grow impatient. Teige waves his finger at Brian.

Murchath's good eye starts to twitch and he takes another swig from his cup.

BRIAN

(to the children) Who wants to ask the bard?

At the other end of the table the children's hands go up. MAGNUS (15) and RORY (13) start making a competition out of it. Gormpflaith sits next to O'Corrain and Mary sits on her knee. Murchath is drunk and still watching her.

Brian scrutinises the children and chooses CATHBAR (9) who peeks out shyly from a shock of red hair. His two brothers are disappointed and start to wrestle.

INION DUBH (O.C)

You two! Cut it!

The boys immediately stop, sort of.

INION DUBH (O.C)

I'll no tell you again!

O'Corrain leans in and Cathbar whispers his choice. The children watch in awe as O'Corrain starts to play. Inion Dubh leans back in her chair.

INION DUBH

You men should think more and drink less

DONAL (69) raises his cup. He is a regal man with broad shoulders, long grey hair and beard. He is obviously intoxicated and sleepy.

DONAL
She's right.

MURCHATH
(to Brian) I surely didn't come
all this way to be insulted.

BRIAN
(To Murchath) Right, right,
you're right sorry. How many
Spaniards in the kingdom?

TEIGE
Too many.

MURCHATH
I have too many! And the number
grows by the hour. We could
muster an army at this rate if
we get them well.

JOHANNA
Many of them are half dead! I
don't expect you'll get much use
of them.

MURCHATH
She only notices that they're
half clothed!

A tut from Inion Dubh. Johanna giggles foolishly.

TEIGE
We're running out of supplies to
feed our own.

HUGH (35) is flanked by his sisters ROSE (28) and MARY
(20).

HUGH
The weather is quickly
destroying the crops.

The sisters nod in unison. Donal starts to snore, sleeping
upright in his chair.

BRIAN

Any news from the O'Neill?

ROSE

Daddy just upset Mr *Bagenal* by
marrying his sister

BRIAN

Another wife? Is he trying to
restore the population?

The two girls start to giggle. Donal stirs
in his sleep.

MARY

She's a bag 'n' all.

The girls start laughing uncontrollably. Both falling into
Hugh's lap who sits back loving it.

THOMAS (9) and ELLEN (14) are wide eye listening to the
adults while the rest of the children are distracted by
O'Corrain's harp.

TIGHERNÁN (O.C.)

The Spanish loss seems our
gain.

BRIAN (O.C.)

We've got some stores if you
are desperate.

THOMAS

(whispers to Ellen) They have
gold!

ELLEN

Yes I know. Daddy gave me some.
Do you want to see it?

Thomas nods. Ellen goes into her money pouch attached to
her under skirt and when Thomas looks down she tweaks his
nose.

THOMAS

Heeey!

Ellen laughs. Donal is broken out of his slumber.

DONAL

Ellen!

Ellen pokes her tongue out at Thomas. MARY (5) hops off Gormflaith lap and walks down to her mother. She is a sweet little girl and she sings and skips quietly while she walks.

TEIGE (O.C.)

We must move fast with that
cretin back.

TEIGE (CONT'D)

His men are down there maiming
half dead Spaniards.

Eleanor gasps and makes the sign of the cross. Brian looked deeply concerned. Eleanor is suddenly pale and tired.

Mary grabs Eleanor's sleeve but she is fixated on Teige.

TEIGE (CONT'D)

They desecrated the chapel.

Eleanor and the women makes the sign of the cross.

Brian lunges forward outraged, beating his fist on the table.

BRIAN

(Shouting) He did what?

The guests are startled. Especially Donal who was starting to snooze again.

Eleanor puts her hand on Brians and cuddles Mary into her.

MARY

Mama, I'm tired.

ELEANOR

I know darling, me too

TEIGE

We found em hangin'. 12 of
'em.

Eleanor and the women cross themselves. Eleanor puts Mary on her knee and holds her close covering her ears.

HUGH
(passionately) They are
burning the country to the
ground.

Everyone crosses themselves. Johanna sees Murchath gazing at Gormflaith and vies for his attention slipping her hand into his lap.

BRIAN
This is what comes of
worshipping a woman.

ELEANOR
(to Hugh) Ssh.. Please,
the children.

TIGHERNÁN
G..G..G..G..G..Govern
or B..B..B..B

HUGH
(to Mary) Right, Sorry
wee lass.

Hugh is kind and Mary smiles shyly back at him. Eleanor motions to Gormflaith to take Mary out.

TEIGE
(to Brian) We have a Spanish
Captain named..

All the children stop what they're doing and listen.

Having the whole tables attention Teige playfully continues. O'Corrain joins in playing suspenseful music.

TEIGE (CON'T)
(slowly) Laevia.

The children chat excitedly for a moment repeating his name.

TEIGE (CON'T)
(to Brian) Send us the
Spaniards and be assured we
won't hand them over to those
brutal bastards.

INION

This is an *opportunity*. If the middle Kingdom falls the North follows. With the support of the Spanish the O'Neills will follow.

TIGHERNÁN

This tragedy may bring a blessing.

BRIAN

(to Teige) Tell 'em about her.

Gormflaith bundles Mary up in her arms. Murchath is watching her over his wife's shoulder.

ELLEN

Da, Can I go too?

Donal waves Ellen away and goes back to sleep.

She scrambles up from her seat smiling at Gormflaith and Mary. MARGERET (11) desperately turns to Inion Dubh searching for her permission.

TEIGE

They are calming Brian Og is illegitimate and going through the Queen's court.

INION DUBH

(to Nuala) Take your sister.

NUALA (13) has been glued to the adults conversation. The spell is broken.

NUALA

But ma!

Inion says nothing but shoots her daughter a disapproving look.

Nuala reluctantly gets out of her seat shooting a scowl at her sister. INION gestures to one of her gallowglass to follow.

BRIAN

A Sassanch court holds no sway
here. Who knows if the lads even
mine?

INION DUBH

English rule will take away *all*
our rights. Eleanor what are you
thinking?

ELEANOR

Of the years I have heard
fighting words and my weariness
of it.

INION DUBH

For one so young, you speak
defeat? Do you want *your* child
raised English?

ELEANOR

(with passion) I pray that my
eyes never again see the blood
on a child's lifeless body, the
rage in men's faces, the fire on
the hills.

The guests become contemplative, a moments silence. ROSE
(34) lifts her glass, she is very drunk.

ROSE

Sláinte!

Everyone lifts their glasses. Eleanor looks down and plays
with a ribbon on her skirt.

INION DUBH

It's been a year since
we've seen our Hugh not to
mention all the other
children they keep.
They're educating the Gael
out of them when they're
not torturing them.

DONAL

They wanted to marry our
Ellen to an Undertaker's
son!

MARY

To a planter? Jaysus!

INION DUBH

(forcefully) The threat to our
ancient Gaelic laws is no joke.
My husband grows weak and they

intend to put an English man in
to replace him. Which, believe
me, means death to Briefne.

BRIAN

Briefne will not fall. We'll
call the clans together put the
past behind us if we can. (to
Caibre) Get the boys out from
the wenches grip first. Breifne
will not fall.

All agree banging their cups on the table.

BRIAN

Right! O'Corrain!

O'Corrain looks up from his musical trance.

BRIAN (CON'T)

Your music is wonderful As long
as your harp lives the Kingdom
is strong.

O'Corrain bows and takes a seat at the table. The guests
congratulate and thank him.

ELEANOR

(to Brian) I am not feeling
well.

BRIAN

(quietly) Get to your bed.
Those girls will be up to no
good.

ELEANOR

Excuse me all. I'm tired with
growing a human.

Her smile again, the guests are taken by her. As she
stands her pregnant belly is revealed. Her two ladies come
forward. In respect the guests stand to say goodnight.

INION DUBH

You both get a nights sleep.

Eleanor leaves the guests in silence behind her, her vulnerable beauty and grace is breathtaking.

INION DUBH
(to Brian) She is fragile.

BRIAN
That she is. Right! Time for
some light *farted* entertainment!
Braigetoir!

The braigatoir comes forward and with a flourish of his hands he poses.

BRAIGETOIR
For my first impersonation
King Brian, esteemed guests. I
give you - The Virgin Queen.

The braigatoir makes some squirmly movements with his torso and expels a high pitched long fart. Everyone laughs hysterically.

BRAIGETOIR
And now for my second, a
guessing game. I shall give you
his name.

He expels two farts.

MURROUGH
Pe-rooooott

All laugh

BRAIGETOIR
Well done, sir! Well done!

TIEGE
One more Braigetoir!

BRAIGETOIR
This. Will be easy.

He cocks his leg and lets out a long high pitched fart.

3. INT. STAR CHAMBER - AFTERNOON

Queen Elizabeth's intimate Star council awaits her nervously. They haven't seen their Queen since Robert Dudley's death four days previous.

In attendance; ROBERT CECIL, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, LORD BURGHLEY, SIR CHRISTOPHER HATTON, SIR FRANCIS WALSINGHAM.

Elizabeth appears at the doors with two ladies and makes her way to her seat. She is not in her usual bright regalia but dressed in a simple dark frock.

A ladies helps the Queen into her chair. She is distracted but poised. The ladies curtsey and leave.

ELIZABETH

Gentlemen, Robert Dudley's funeral will be at the Church of St Mary on the 10th. He is to be buried as per his request.

Elizabeth looks around her council sternly.

Burghley is writing down her order. The others still look anxious.

ELIZABETH

For God's sake! Somebody tell me this good news I've crawled out for.

CHRISTOPHER

It's too many days since we've seen your Majesty

ELIZABETH

You can thank the Lord Treasurer for breaking down my door.

ARCHBISHOP

He has restored our greatest treasure

ELIZABETH

Ah my moon, your prayers are felt. I am recovered somewhat.

Now to business, and the state
of the Armada.

SALISBURY

The 'invincible' Armada is
defeated. A storm fierce and
enduring wreaked havoc.

ELIZABETH

God save us! Could this be
true? In my grief and absence?

BURGHLEY

Innumerable Spanish sailors
have drowned.

Elizabeth is clearly excited.

ELIZABETH

Oh for God's sake do you have
a number?

WALSINGHAM

Thousands. Maybe up to 5000.

She is delighted and resolved.

ELIZABETH

Well, this strengthens me.

ARCHBISHOP

Their sins rise up against
them.

ELIZABETH

They do indeed.

Elizabeth pauses and reclines thoughtfully.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

I motion to bring in Sir John
to aid us. To ensure that all
the Irish Lords and Lady's do
their duty.

WALSINGHAM

Your majesty, with respect,
his politics are...

ELIZABETH

His building of relationships
with clan leaders should not
be underestimated William!

BURGHLEY

True.

ELIZABETH

He has proven his loyalty to
me. He has been very
successful in bringing the
savages to heel. Bring him in.

BURGHLEY

You are right. I see shadows
everywhere your Majesty. I will
organise their passage.

ELIZABETH

We need somebody to keep the
governor in check lest he again
starts burning everything in
sight.

WALSHINGHAM

I do not envy the Governor.

ELIZABETH

The Governor will leave me a
country of carcasses to rule
over!

ELIZABETH

(to Burghley) That's why I am
Queen my dear.

The council are subdued, even uncomfortable. Elizabeth
looks on them and a conceited smile crosses her face.

ELIZABETH (CON'T)

My dear hearts! This storm
should surely embolden us? God
sent us His holy protestant
wind.

The council is quiet.

ELIZABETH

Oh, speak! To the bad news!

WALSINGHAM

Unfortunately the Irish rebels have acquired hundreds of Spanish sailors.

ELIZABETH

Of course they have, and the King of Spain has now acquired the scraps of the Gael.

WALSINGHAM

If we do not strike soon at the heart there will be rebellion across the North.

BURGHLEY

The rebel clans will indeed take advantage of this.

ELIZABETH

Does the governor require permission from me?

WALSINGHAM

The current complexity of the situation will require some extra force.

ELIZABETH

How many brave English currently in Ireland?

BURGHLEY

About 1700 men.

WALSINGHAM

Not near enough.

ELIZABETH

Are we not overcommitted?

WALSINGHAM

If Breifne is strengthened the North will rise.

BURGHLEY

The governor he hasn't been
able to secure rent from
several clans.

WALSINGHAM

O'Rourke still avoids him and
now harbours Spaniards.

ELIZABETH

Did I not knight him?

CECIL

You did.

ARCHBISHOP

The knighthood means nothing.
He will be strengthened by
Spain and now his personal ties
to Rome.

WALSINGHAM

He says he will only speak with
Perrott or yourself. He fancies
himself as your equal.

ELIZABETH

Yes I've heard he struts like a
peacock. Bring him to court.

WALSINGHAM

We won't get to him in any
civil way. He's elusive and has
support from the King of
Munster and the O'Donnell.

ELIZABETH

Are we not educating his son?

BURGHLEY

Supporting might be a better
word your Majesty.

Elizabeth leans back in her chair and stares at the gold
stars twinkling on the roof.

12. EXT: GROUNDS OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY - NIGHT

Black army issued boots march in time. The bailiff and four guards make their way to the library. There is a light on in the window.

4. INT: CLORE OLD LIBRARY, ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, OXFORD UNIVERSITY

The bailiff and guards enter the stair well. There is a slight kerfuffle deciding who goes first and because of the narrow passage, slapstick moment.

When they enter the library BRIAN OG (20) is facing the door reading the 'GREAT BIBLE' which is chained to a large dark wooden desk.

BAILIFF

Brian Og O'Rourke?

Brian looks up his face half obscured by the bible. He has a film of perspiration on his brow

BRIAN OG

(strained) Aye.

BAILIFF

Brian Og O'Rourke, you are herby to be escorted to the castle to be detained..

BRIAN OG
Oh jaysus!

BAILIFF (CON'T)
pending adjudication of
your current debt

BAILIFF

Come quietly now Brian

He puts down the bible gathering himself.

BRIAN OG

Wait. What feckin' debt?

BAILIFF

Come out from the desk,
slowly.

The guards look to the bailiff for directions who nods both directions

The guards on defensive, draw swords and make their way slowly toward Brian.

BRIAN OG
Lads, lads, I'm not allowed
weapons here.

Brian puts his hands over his head and stands.

BRIAN OG
I'll make this easy for you
lads

Brian pushes the seat in slowly and stubbornly yields to the guards who secure his hands behind his back.

BRIAN OG (CONT'D)
(to Bailiff) I want to speak
to my lawyer.

BAILIFF
You'll have to find yourself
one who knows English laws.
Your families Brehon is
powerless here.

BRIAN OG
I want to speak with my
lawyer.

They escort a struggling Brian down the narrow stairs.

The seat behind the desk moves out and from under the desk comes a young woman pulling on her clothes.

5. EXT: WOODS - MORNING

Cuellar enters the wood, he is limping and using a stick to take the weight off his right.

He hears voices and sees a group coming and looks for somewhere to hide.

He starts to limp away from the path.

ENGLISH MAN 1 (O.C.)

Oi!

Captain Cuellar stops his head stooped.

The ENGLISHMAN moves toward him quickly.

ENGLISH MAN

Oi! Yield Spanish Poltroon!

Cuellar turns around and tries to ward off a knife blow with his walking stick but the man slashes his right leg.

Cuellar collapses stooping over his stick wincing and groaning in pain. He lashes out like a wounded animal.

OLD MAN

Stop!

IRISH WOMAN (O.C.)

Leave him be.

Francisco sways over his stick. Opening his eyes he sees a small pair of feet in leather shoes.

Slowly looking up he sees a beautiful Irish woman of around 20 dressed in autumn colours. She carries a basket and has a knitted shawl around her shoulders. A scarf on her head and her fringe over her dark eyes.

IRISH WOMAN

It's alright now.

She seems like a vision to him. Behind her an old man holds the attacker back by his sleeve.

The old man moves forward and starts to frisk Cuellar

OLD MAN

What you got in here then?

The old man brings out a gold coin.

The party all gasp and gaze at the coin in amazement. He gives it to the Irish girl

He searches again and brings out another.

They gasp again. Eyes widening further.

And another.

Gasp.

OLD MAN
Take off your shirt.

Captain Cuellar removes his shirt to expose a gold medallion.

All three gasp and move closer to gaze at it.

The Englishman moves his face close to Cuellar's.

ENGLISHMAN
Who are you Spaniard?

He suddenly punches Cuellar in the stomach.

The old man pulls him away.

Cuellar stares desperately at the ground.

OLD MAN
Enough!

WOMAN
Stop!

Cuellar falls to the ground and loses consciousness.

6. EXT: BAILE CLÁIR CASTLE GARDEN, COUNTY GALWAY - MORNING

The bank of the river glows bright white with snow.

As LADY MARY BURKE adjusts to the brightness she sees her son OWEN playing under the willow tree.
He is speaking calmly and softly to someone who is hidden behind the tree.

Mary starting to panic walks to reveal who her young son speaks with.

A black wolf comes into view.

Mary freezes.

The wolf starts to snarl.

Mary tries to scream to Owen but her voice won't come out.
She tries to run but her body is slow.

The wolf lunges at Owen.

BLACKOUT:

7. INT: BEDROOM, BAILE CLAIR CASTLE, COUNTY GALWAY - NIGHT

Mary Burke wakes suddenly sitting bolt upright in bed. Her heart is racing, she is visibly pregnant.

She reaches under her pillow for a silver dagger.

Slowly making her way across her dark room she reaches the large red panelled door.

8. INT: HALLWAY, BAILE CLAIR CASTLE, COUNTY GALWAY - NIGHT

Mary makes her way quietly down the hall back against the wall. Her breathing is anxious,

She skips quickly across to a door.

Turning the knob slowly she pushes the door and slips inside.

In the darkness she sees a sleeping figure in a bed.

Mary approaches slowly holding her breath and her dagger tight.

When she reaches the bed she sees the shadowy face of her son TEIGE and she lets out her held breath.

He stirs in bed, she strokes his head.

TEIGE

Mummy?

MARY

Ssssh go to sleep my Prince.

Mary's brother Ulick comes quietly into the dark room.

Mary turns with a start brandishing her knife.

ULICK
(whispering) Put the dagger
down.

Lowering her dagger she turns back to her son.

Ulick makes his way to her and leans over, pressing himself
into her. He sees Tiege pretending to be asleep.

ULICK
(whispering) Is the little
Briefne King sleeping?

Teige breaks into a smile and turns over in bed.

Ulick turns Mary to face him, his face changes from a smile
to a grimace.

ULICK
(whispering) You need to stop
worrying.

MARY
I need peace.

HONORA (O.C.)
Ulick?

MARY
Go to your wife.

She watches him leave, when he disappears he body relaxes.
She sits on the bed next to Tiege putting her dagger down on
a side table.

TEIGE
Mummy?

MARY
Mmm?

TEIGE
Will you tell me the story?

MARY
I don't know, its very late.

TEIGE
Please?

Teige turns over and snuggles into her.

MARY

The short version alright?

Teige sleepily agrees

MARY (CONT'D)

Alright. Let me in.

Mary gets comfortable under the covers with her son and Teige snuggles under her arm. They are contented.

MARY (CONT'D)

Once upon a time in a kingdom
called Briefne there lived a
generous and handsome King who
had only one mortal enemy..

9. EXT: GALWAY CITY, COUNTY GALWAY. DAWN

As the city of Galway is waking English soldiers start to raid houses in search of Spanish sailors.

MARY (V.O. CONT'D)

..and that enemy was the
cruellest man to walk God's
own country.

The soldier break down doors, ransack houses, and toss Spaniards into the street.

They are being marched by the army to the town square.

Voices cry out and children are weeping.

10. INT: HOUSE, GALWAY CITY, COUNTY GALWAY.

A family is huddled in the corner as two English Soldiers start a search.

It doesn't take long for them to find a Spaniard very pale and injured in a room, they pull off his covers and see his wounds cleaned and bandaged. The soldier puts his sword through the Spaniard.

The soldiers take the teenage son on their way out.

11. EXT: GALWAY CITY, COUNTY GALWAY. DAWN

In the town square 300 bound Spaniards are brought to their knees and beaten into lines. They are surrounded by a circle of soldiers, executioners and an army drummer.

Soldiers walk between the lines of cowering Spaniards bearing the shoulders of those covered.

The townspeople plead for the prisoners lives.

A guard grabs a small boy who has pushed his way through to the front and holds his blade to the boy's neck.

SOLDIER

Shut it!

The crowd hushes. A SOLDIER grabs a young Spaniard sailor and pushes him to the drummer.

SOLDIER

Let him drum.

The drummer puts the drum strap around the Spaniards neck and the stick in his hand.

He looks him in the eye encouraging him and holding his shaking hand in his he beats a bar of three on the snare drum and lets go.

The Spaniard beats three again on his own.

On three the executioners move into position behind the rows of cowering Spaniards.

A YOUNG MAN breaking through the guards.

YOUNG MAN

Na Sassanaich!

A guard knocks the young man unconscious with his hilt from behind.

The crowd swells and starts to insult Queen Elizabeth's forces.

The soldiers draw their swords and turn to the people. Women start to move the young away from the scene.

A Galway MAN stands up to a guard.

MAN
This is unlawful.

GUARD
Stand back! We've orders!

The man is calm and unmoved.

MAN
What are they charged with?

GUARD
This is the will of the
General. Stand back!

The crowd agrees. The Spaniards start praying to God, some
suffer blows from roaming guards.

MAN
This is a law abiding city!

The townspeople start to raise their voices in protest.

MAN
(Loudly) La extremaunción!

The Spaniards hear the words and start to quieten. The
crowd quietens.

MAN (CONT'D)
La extremaunción!

The guards let the man continue as the Spaniards hush.

The captain of guard motions to let the man through. As
the man chants the Spaniards rise upright kneeling and
the executioners take their positions.

MAN
Nam etsi ambulavero in medio
umbræ mortis, non timebo
mala, quoniam tu mecum es.

The executioners take out their swords.

SPANIARDS
In loco pascuæ, ibi me collocavit

MAN

Virga tua, et baculus tuus,
ipsa me consolata sunt.
Parasti in conspectu meo
mensam adversus eos qui
tribulant me;

The executioners sling their swords behind them ready to strike. The man makes the sign of the cross, blessing the Spaniards who lower their heads exposing their necks.

SPANIARDS

In loco pascuæ, ibi me collocavit

A guard motions to the Spaniard drummer.

The drummer beats one and the guards ready the stance.

The drummer beats two and they grip their swords ready to swing.

The towns people are praying and giving the Spaniards words of strength.

The drummer beats three and the swords fall.

A collective shriek goes up.

12. EXT: GALWAY CITY, COUNTY GALWAY - NOON

The bells in the city do not chime on this day.

In the square the dead are being cleaned and wrapped in linen by the women of the city,

Heads collected in baskets are being carried away by younger clan. The streets are soaked in blood.

The black boots of SIR RICHARD BINGHAM steps over bodies. He has a kerchief to his nose and is accompanied by his CAPTAIN.

SIR RICHARD BINGHAM

Do we have a number?

CAPTAIN

Two hundred and sixty

BINGHAM

How many kept for inquisition?

CAPTAIN

Thirty-three My Lord

BINGHAM

Excellent. Use whatever means
to get what information we
need. The Queen herself
commends you.

Bingham salutes lackadaisically the soldier reciprocates
formally and takes his leave.

Bingham surveying the carnage sneers under his kerchief
and leaves the scene with blood on his boots.

Among the bodies stirs the knocked out young man who sits
up scratching his head.

13. EXT: CAVES OF KEASH, COUNTY SLIGO - NIGHT

Light flickers from the caves along the hillside edge
where drumming and droning voices emanate

14. INT: CAVES OF KEASH, COUNTY SLIGO - NIGHT

Druids stand in a circle, torches in right hands in
full-length dark hooded cloaks, which cover most of their
faces.

A paint-faced shaman beats his drum as the druids
uniformly step forward and place the torches in holes dug
into the earth.

They step back as one and stand hands clasped in front.

MASTER DRUID

Clíodhna, gatherer of wisdom
and protector of Eire.
She who gave her life for her
children.

They turn to the east slowly in a in a singular motion and
chant.

MASTER DRUID

(chanting) Ogma (pr. Ohma)

15. EXT: GALLOWS, DUBLIN CASTLE, COUNTY DUBLIN.

DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Ogma..

Two Franciscan Monks stand on the scaffold below their nooses.

DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Ogma..

The crowd is yelling and screaming for the blood of the heretics.

DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Ogma..

Bingham is watching from a window, still and evil.

DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Ogma..

The Franciscans are praying fervently as one breaks the fourth wall.

FRANCISCAN
Leave.

16. INT: SIR JOHN PERROTS RESIDENCE, LONDON, ENGLAND

PERROTT (60) wakes with a start. The young naked woman next to him is woken. She drapes her arm across him. He stares at the ceiling disturbed.

17. EXT: SLIEVENAMON, COUNTY LIMERICK

MASTER DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Breige.. (pr.
Breege)

Eleanor looks over the land below scorched by fire. She holds the hand of a girl of no more than eight years.

DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Breige..

From behind her a hand touches her shoulder.
Startled she turns and before her stands a druid.

DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Breige..

His pupils widen.

DRUID
Leave.

18. EXT: SLIEVENAMON, COUNTY LIMERICK

Eleanor bundles up the girl in her arms at the edge of the mountain. The path is in front of her.

DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Breige..

She moves as fast as she can in the dark down the edge of the mountain.

DRUIDS (V.O.)
(chanting) Breige..

She sees demons and the dead coming out of the darkness.

19. INT: BEDROOM, DROMAHAIR CASTLE, COUNTY LEITRIM

Eleanor wakes terrified, unable to move or make a sound.

Above her hangs a huge spider, which sits motionless.

As if the creature sees her conscious of its presence it slowly crawls to the left.

Eleanor sits bolt upright holding her chest and panting.
All is not well.

20. INT: BLACKSMITHS WORKSHOP, LEITRIM.

MASTER DRUID (V.O.)
(chanting) Manannán..

Francisco is sleeping on the floor on straw in a pig pen
he is grunting and groaning.

EXT: DECK, LA GIRONA, OFF THE WEST COAST OF IRELAND.

DRUIDS (V.O)
(chanting) Manannán..

Francisco hangs over the edge of his struggling Spanish Galleon holding his comrade by the hand.

DRUIDS (V.O)
(chanting) Manannán..

Their hands start to slip apart under the strain.

DRUIDS (V.O)
(chanting) Manannán..

The man is swept under the water.

DRUIDS (V.O)
(chanting) Manannán..

Francisco looks up at the stormy sky which deep blue and flashing with lightning bolts.

DRUIDS (V.O)
(chanting) Manannán..

INT: PIG PEN, BLACKSMITHS WORKSHOP, LEITRIM.

As Francisco wakes opens his eyes a face of an Irish girl comes into focus.

IRISH GIRL
Leave.

Francisco wakes with a start.

MASTER DRUID (V.O)
(chanting) Eriu (pr. Ehroo)..

EXT: MONGLAVIN CASTLE FIELD, TYRCONNELL, COUNTY DONEGAL.

Inion Dubh sits on a white horse in battle regalia at the head of her army.

DRUIDS (V.O)
(chanting) Eriu (pr. Ehroo)..

She looks over the plain and hears shouting and yelling.

DRUIDS (V.O)

(chanting) Eriu (pr. Ehroo)..

On the horizon she sees shadows of an immense army.

DRUIDS (V.O)
(chanting) Eriu (pr. Ehroo)..

The army moves quickly toward her and the noise of the army increases exponentially.

DRUIDS (V.O)
(chanting) Eriu (pr. Ehroo)..

A voice rises out of the din.

MAN
Leave.

**INT: BEDROOM OF INION DUBH, MONGLAVIN CASTLE, TYRCONNELL,
COUNTY DONEGAL.**

Ionon Dubh slowly opens her eyes.

IONION DUBH
The storm.

BLACKOUT: