

EPISODE TITLE: The Bride Wears Armor

EPISODE DESCRIPTION: Lucanis, an Antivan Crow and expert assassin, finds himself on the run after a high-profile hit takes an unexpected turn. Meanwhile, Drayden returns home with Nadia only to learn of devastating news that will force them to reckon with their past and confront the fallout of the Crow's job gone wrong.

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TRANSCRIPT:

NARRATOR:

This podcast features adult language, violent imagery and mature themes. Listener discretion is advised.

(BELLS TOLLING)

(PEOPLE CHATTERING)

(SEAGULLS CAWING)

NADIA CARCOSA:

(groans) It feels good to be back on dry land!

TAASH:

Try squeezing into that tiny ship when you're twice the size.

DRAYDEN KIEL:

Is that passage always so (gulps) choppy?

BARKER:

Good blessings, weary travelers! Welcome to the shores of Rivain. Such a beautiful day to make landfall. The three of you looked like you could use a nice crisp ale! You should head over to-

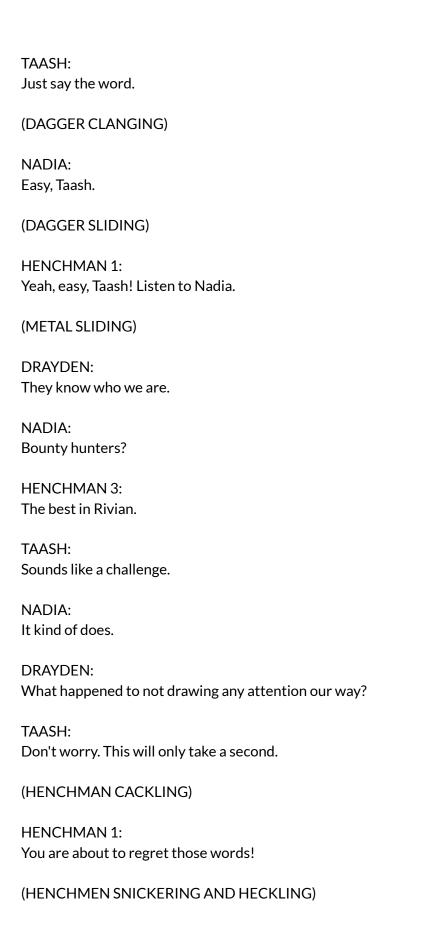
DRAYDEN:

Excuse me!

(DRAYDEN VOMITS)
BARKER: Oh, for the love of Andraste, at least aim for the water!
(ALL CHUCKLING)
NADIA: I'm so sorry. They're not accustomed to boats.
BARKER: I would've never guessed!
TAASH: Don't worry, we'll get some sea legs on you yet.
DRAYDEN: I think I'm good on the ocean for the time being.
NADIA: Well, Barker was right about one thing. It is a lovely day!
(BELL TOLLS)
NADIA: (sighs) Ugh, Maker. I love that mist of salt in the fresh sea air. Reminds me of home.
TAASH: Fresh? Smells like rotten fish and day old garbage.
NADIA: (laughs) Exactly!
TAASH: What do you say we go grab that drink?
NADIA: You're on.
DRAYDEN: I don't mean to be a wet cloth, but we're getting some suspicious eyes from those guys over there.

TAASH:
Over where?
DRAYDEN:
Over by those fishing nets.
NADIA:
Yeah, they're definitely looking.
TAASH:
(cracks knuckles) I'll go have a word with them.
NADIA:
No, best not to draw any attention. Drayden and I need to avoid any run-ins with authorities.
TAACU
TAASH: Then let's head that way and get our butts into town.
Therriet shead that way and get our butts into town.
NADIA:
Good call.
(FOOTSTEPS)
NADIA:
Drayden, you see anything? Are they following?
DRAYDEN:
Nah, the coast looks-
LIENICLINAANI 1.
HENCHMAN 1: Mmm-hmm! And where are you three off to in such a hurry, eh?
DRAYDEN:
Uh-
HENCHMAN 2:
Yeah, don't you want to stay and talk? (cackles)
NADIA:
Look, guys, it's been a long few days. We don't want any trouble. So let me skip to the part

where you ask for money and I tell you, we ain't got so much as a single rusted bronze!



TAASH: Carcosa?
NADIA: (sighs) Do it.
(PUNCHES LANDING)
(HENCHMEN GROANING)
HENCHMAN 1: (screaming) Mercy! Please, don't kill us!
TAASH: I won't. But can't promise you'll ever hold a knife again.
(BONES CRACKING)
(TAASH GRUNTING)
(HENCHMAN SCREAMS)
HENCHMAN 1: My hand!
TAASH: Now get out of here before I break the other one.
(SCREAMING FADES)
NADIA: Thanksagain.
TAASH: You want to to tell me what's really going on?
NADIA: I do, but I also do not want to drag you into this.
DRAYDEN:

It's probably best we get out of town as fast as we can. Those bounty hunters picked up on us as soon as we stepped off the boat!
NADIA: (sighs) I'm afraid I've really made a mess of things.
TAASH: Life's messy. Where are we off to now?
NADIA: We? No, you are staying here.
TAASH: The hell I am.
NADIA: Taash, I appreciate it. I do, but I'm not risking anyone else who's close to me. And honestly, I don't even know what's next! We're supposed to be looking for Elio and I just(sighs) Damn it.
DRAYDEN: Nadia, don't worry. I have an idea.
NADIA: Drayden, please.
DRAYDEN: No, listen, I know we've gotten off track, but we can regroup. We just need to go somewhere safe and take a moment.
NADIA: Look around us. Nowhere is safe! Where could we possibly go?
DRAYDEN: Antiva.
NADIA: Antiva? That place is crawling with assassins! Are you mad?
DRAYDEN: Yes, but I have people there. I swore I'd never go back, but that's what makes it perfect. I'm taking you home.

(SEAGULLS CAWING)
(FOOTSTEPS THUDDING)
TAASH: You should listen to the kid.
NADIA: (sighs) Okay, fine. Antiva it is, but I meant what I said. You are staying here.
TAASH: You're no fun.
NADIA: Taash, I
TAASH: Me too, Carcosa, me too. Travel well! Both of you.
(FOOTSTEPS)
NADIA: Hey, one day, we will get that drink.
TAASH: Yep! And you're paying!
(MUSIC)
NARRATOR: This is Dragon Age: Vows & Vengeance. Chapter 6: The Bride Wears Armor.
(PEOPLE CHATTERING)
(DISHES CLINKING)
(TABLE POUNDING)
LORD BORGIANI: If I may have your attention? Everyone, please!
(PEOPLE CHATTERING)

(SILVERWARE CLANGING)

LORD BORGIANI:

I said, shut up! Maker's left foot, you lot are an ill-mannered, slobbering ruckus when the wine is strong and flowing.

(PEOPLE LAUGHING)

LORD BORGIANI:

I'm sorry? Do you think that's funny? Did it sound like I spoke in jest? I invite you into my home to celebrate a day like today. And you behave like this? Like animals! Hell, many of you still owe the house Borgiani from the last great feast! So, I ask you, what am I to do with you? Perhaps you should all check your wine.

(GLASSES CLINKING)

(PEOPLE GASPING)

(LORD BORGIANI LAUGHING)

LORD BORGIANI:

Your faces! Dear Maker, your faces!

LILLEMAR:

Father...

(PEOPLE LAUGHING)

LORD BORGIANI:

Sorry, sorry. I couldn't resist. But we all know why we're really here, to celebrate my one and only daughter's wedding! A night that is cause for celebration across all of Antiva. Lillemar, my sweet. Come here, stand with me!

(FOOTSTEPS)

LORD BORGIANI:

My beautiful girl. If only your mother were here to see the woman you've become. I see her in you every day. In your grace, in your strength, in your heart.

LILLEMAR:

Father... (sniffles)

LORD BORGIANI: She would be proud. Now, where is this bridegroom of yours, hmm? Marco! Where's Marco?
MARCO: Here! Lord Borgiani!
LORD BORGIANI: Well, don't just stand there! Come be with your wife! She's the only one here prettier than you. Everybody, please, raise your drinks as we toast this union! Two souls made one by the bonds of marriage under the eyes of the Maker himself! May their days be peaceful and their love eternal. And for the love of Andraste, get me some blasted grandchildren!
(PEOPLE LAUGHING)
(PEOPLE CLAPPING)
(LORD BORGIANI LAUGHING)
(PEOPLE CHEERING)
LORD BORGIANI: Yes, yes! Eat, drink, fall over yourselves and toast to the new life that is- (coughs)
(MUSIC)
LILLEMAR: (chuckles) Father, please! No more jokes!
(LORD BORGIANI CHOKES)
LILLEMAR: Father?
MARCO: My Lord? Give me your arm.
LORD BORGIANI: (stammering) I'm fine. I'm fine! Just-just-
(DISHES CLATTER)

LILLEMAR: He can't breathe!
MARCO: Somebody get help!
LUCANIS DELLAMORTE: He has been poisoned, my lady!
LILLEMAR: Who are you?
LUCANIS: I'm new to his lordship's service, but my previous master kept questionable company. I've seen this before. He needs elixir of embrium now.
MARCO: We should wait for the healer!
LUCANIS: My lady, I am not wrong.
LILLEMAR: Just go, hurry!
LORD BORGIANI: Wait, I'm going with him! (coughing)
LILLEMAR: Absolutely not!
LORD BORGIANI: Whoeverwhoever did this could still be here! Have the guards locked down the halls (coughs) quietly. Get to safety!
LILLEMAR: Yes, father.
(LORD BORGIANI CONTINUES COUGHING)
LUCANIS: This way, my Lord.

LORD BORGIANI: (coughing) That's- that's not the way to the kitchen, you fool!
LUCANIS: This may be your castle, my Lord, but trust that your servants know its secrets. There is a faste way.
(LORD BORGIANI COUGHING)
(DOOR OPENING)
LUCANIS: As I said, the kitchen, wait here. (whispers) No, no, no. Mmm-ah! Elixir of Embrium. Drink.
(LORD BORGIANI CONTINUES COUGHING)
(LIQUID GULPING)
LORD BORGIANI: (sighs) By Andraste, that was torture! I owe you my life, young man.
LUCANIS: You owe me nothing.
LORD BORGIANI: Nonsense! You were the only one to- It was you, wasn't it?
LUCANIS: It was.
(SWORD CLANGING)
LORD BORGIANI: Don't suppose we can talk this out? I am rich, you know?
LUCANIS: A Crow never abandons a contract.
LORD BORGIANI: A Crow! I should have known!

(FOOTSTEPS)
(SWORD SLICING)
LUCANIS: (yawns) I'll make it quick.
LORD BORGIANI: You'll have to excuse me, if I don't say thanks.
(DAGGER SQUELCHING)
(LORD BORGIANI GROANING)
LORD BORGIANI: (groans) My people, they'll find you!
LUCANIS: I don't think so.
(BLADE TWISTS)
(LORD BORGIANI GROANS)
LORD BORGIANI: At least pay an old man the respect of knowing who's come to kill him on his daughter's wedding day!
LUCANIS: Lucanis Dellamorte.
LORD BORGIANI: Dellamorte. I must have really pissed someone off for them to take out a contract with the likes of you. Tell my daughter, goodbye.
(LORD BORGIANI SLUMPS OVER)
LUCANIS: House Amato was given no goodbyes.
(BLADES WHOOSHING)

(LUCANIS GRUNTING)
LUCANIS: But I'll make sure your death doesn't ruin the wedding.
(EARTH RUMBLING)
(GLASSES SHATTERING)
(OBJECTS CLANKING)
LUCANIS: Not another earthquake.
(THUNDERCLAP)
(ELECTRICITY CRACKLING)
(PEOPLE SCREAMING)
LUCANIS: Did I just teleport? What sorcery is this?
(WOMAN SCREAMING)
GUEST: The Lord! The Lord is dead!
LUCANIS: Huh, looks like the wedding is ruined after all.
LILLEMAR: Father? Father! What's this blood?
MARCO: It was the servant! Look, he killed him!
LUCANIS: I'll show myself out.
LILLEMAR: Seize him!

MARCO: Get him! Murderer!
(GUESTS SHOUTING)
LILLEMAR: Avenge your lord's life!
(THUNDER CRASHING)
(HORSE WHINNYING)
(HORSE GALLOPING)
(OWL HOOTING)
(NADIA GASPING AND GROANING)
DRAYDEN: Another one of your dreams?
NADIA: Ugh. If you can even call them that. (yawns)
DRAYDEN: You know, in Tevinter, they speak of the somniari. Though you may be familiar with another name for them: Dreamers.

NADIA:

Yes, I've heard the name in passing.

DRAYDEN:

A skilled dreamer is a mage that can enter the Fade at will, but sometimes it may just refer to someone whose mind wanders the Fade in their sleep.

NADIA:

Is that what you think is happening? My mind is wandering the Fade?

DRAYDEN:

I suspect that whatever happened in there between you and Elio created some sort of connection, something allowing him to find you when you sleep.

NADIA: Well that's good, isn't it? It means he's still alive, right?
DRAYDEN: I once studied some scrolls collecting ideas about dreamers, the Fade and its dangers. Bits taker from stories about Marethai Talas, the Dalish Keeper. And these works speak about powerful mages that can actually shape the Fade to attack the minds of sleeping people. So maybe Elio, being a powerful mage, has found a way to use this ability to communicate across our worlds.
NADIA: But?
DRAYDEN: But it's the severity of your pain, your sorrow, that worries me.
(BIRDS CAWING)
NADIA: Why?
DRAYDEN: Because dreamers also attract demons.
NADIA: What are you saying?
DRAYDEN: Look, I'm just speculating. However-
NADIA: (groans) Just spit it out!
DRAYDEN: I think the painful emotions you're experiencing in these dreams are a reflection of what Elio is feeling on the other side. And if they keep getting stronger
NADIA: Then whatever danger stalks him is getting closer.
DRAYDEN: Something like that.

(NADIA SIGHS)
NADIA: Shit.
(OWL HOOTING)
DRAYDEN: We've just entered the forest around my family's estate. We're close now.
(BELLS JINGLING)
DRAYDEN: So it's probably time I tell you. It's best you don't call me Drayden while we're here.
NADIA: What? Why?
DRAYDEN: Here, I am Aristide of House Amato, the name I was given, not the name I took.
NADIA: You don't sound happy to be back.
DRAYDEN: I didn't leave on the best of terms.
NADIA: Hey, it'll be okay. They're your family. They'll be happy to see you.
DRAYDEN: We'll see about that. Whoa!
(HORSE WHINNYING)
NADIA: What's wrong?
DRAYDEN: Look at these trees, so many cut to stumps! Others growing with rot! It shouldn't be like this. Hold

tight. We need to hurry.

(HORSE WHINNYING)
(HORSE GALLOPING)
DRAYDEN: Something is definitely wrong!
NADIA: How can you tell?
DRAYDEN: Above the gate, my family crest. It's split! In the garden, everything grows with chaos. But my father kept these grounds impeccable!
NADIA: Perhaps they traveled?
DRAYDEN: My mother never travels.
(HORSE WHINNYING)
(HORSE NEIGHS)
DRAYDEN: Come on, let's go inside and see. Mother? Father? Hello?
(DOOR SQUEAKING)
NADIA: It doesn't look like there's been anyone here in months.
DRAYDEN: Hello?
(ECHOING FOOTSTEPS)
NADIA: Hey, over here. Look at this table, it's busted! Like there was
DRAYDEN:

A struggle. Mother?
(DAGGER CLANGING)
NADIA: We need to watch our backs.
(GLASS CLATTERING)
DRAYDEN: Follow me. I'll crack the door, you look inside. What do you see?
(DOOR CREAKING)
NADIA: Nothing. I think it's empty.
DRAYDEN: Stand back, I'm going in.
NADIA: Drayden! Let me go first.
DRAYDEN: No, you stay here and stay quiet. I know this manor like the back of my hand. If there's someone hiding, I'll draw them out. Be ready for anything.
(DOOR CREAKING)
(FOOTSTEPS)
(OBJECTS SHUFFLING)
DRAYDEN: (faintly) Hey, you! I see you! Come out, show yourself!
(DRAYDEN SCREAMING)
NADIA: Drayden!
(DOOR THUDS)

DRAYDEN: (grunts) Get away!
(OBJECTS RUSTLING)
(BLADE CLINKING)
NADIA: Back away from them, or I'll cut you a new smile, now!
ELIZA CHAMBERLAIN: Whatever you say.
(FOOTSTEPS)
NADIA: Now, drop your weapon!
(DAGGER CLATTERING)
ELIZA: (sighs) Easy, love. Let's not do anything hasty.
NADIA: Says the woman attacking my friend!
ELIZA: Attack you? You've crossed the threshold of House Amato! You are trespassers!
DRAYDEN: I beg your pardon? This is my family's-
(ELIZA GASPS)
ELIZA: (gasps) Aristide? Is that really you?
DRAYDEN: Eliza?
ELIZA:

Oh! Oh, bless the Maker! (sobs) Oh, you're home! Oh, you're really home!
NADIA: Drayden, who is this?
DRAYDEN: This is Eliza, she took care of the estate, and well, she took care of me, really. She was my nursemaid.
ELIZA: I told your folks you'd be back! They didn't believe me.
(FOOTSTEPS)
DRAYDEN: Eliza, where is my family? Why does the place look like this?
ELIZA: Oh dear. Oh, you haven't heard, have you?
DRAYDEN: Heard what?
ELIZA: Your family, they're gone!
DRAYDEN: What do you mean, gone? Eliza, just tell me.
(ELIZA SOBS)
ELIZA: They're gone, just murdered in the night.
DRAYDEN: What? NoNo, you lie!
ELIZA: Oh child, I'm so sorry!
(DRAYDEN SCREAMS)

NADIA: Drayden!
DRAYDEN: (sobs) No!
(DRAYDEN SOBBING)
(MUSIC)
ELIZA: It was about a year ago. Darkness had come to Antiva. Fields of crops rotten overnight, terrible storms.
(THUNDER CRACKING)
ELIZA: Earthquakes swallowing villages.
(EARTH RUMBLING)
(OBJECTS CRASHING)
ELIZA: Drummed up all sorts of rumors. Demons, spirits, the Fade.
(CREATURES GROWLING AND SCREAMING)
ELIZA: Wasn't long before people turned to paranoia. Neighbors accusing neighbors of wielding dark magic. Oh, things got bad, but your father vowed to find the source. But while he searched for answers, another chose to stoke the flames. House Borgiani saw opportunity and they were happy

(KNOCKING)

ELIZA:

The Borgianis had already taken too much power and whispers of your father's search had landed on their doorstep.

to profit from everyone's misery, and they were brutal about it. Your father figured out what they

(DOOR SQUEAKING OPEN)

were up to, but it was too late.

ELIZA: He was their next target. They broke into the house. I stumbled upon one of the killers in the night and met his blade, which is how I got this scar running across me face.
(ELIZA YELLS)
ELIZA: They must've thought I was dead or else I'd surely not be here today. They got him in their sleep.
(PEOPLE SCREAMING)
(KNIVES SLASHING)
(PEOPLE GROANING)
ELIZA: I found them the next day when I finally awoke. Their bodies entwined.
(MUSIC)
DRAYDEN: And where are their bodies now?
ELIZA: Ah, your uncles took them. They were given a pyre in secret. Something safe to prevent any attempts at desecration.
DRAYDEN: And what about them? The rest of the family?
ELIZA: Scattered. Hiding. Hopefully safe, but
DRAYDEN: But probably not.
ELIZA: No, probably not. I'm sorry.
NADIA:

I don't understand this! How did they get away with everything you've just told us?

ELIZA:

Lord Borgiani framed the family as rebels against the monarchy to cover his tracks. But we all knew the truth.

(DRAYDEN GROWLING)

(FIST POUNDS)

DRAYDEN:

I've heard enough! This...this cannot stand. Nadia, you stay here with Eliza.

NADIA:

Now, hold on a minute. I know you're upset, but I'll be damned if I'm going to let you run out of here on a whim.

DRAYDEN:

On a whim? They were my family, my parents. It doesn't matter if they didn't want me, I must avenge their murder!

ELIZA:

Oh, what do you mean they didn't want you?

DRAYDEN:

Oh, don't do that, Eliza! You know exactly what I mean. You remember how they looked at me? How they talked about me.

ELIZA:

Oh, Aristide! Your family loved you! They prayed for your return every day you were gone! Your father only stopped talking about you when his final breath was stolen from him.

DRAYDEN:

Then why did he push me away? Why did you all push me away?

ELIZA:

It wasn't like that, Aristide!

DRAYDEN:

My name is Drayden.

ELIZA:

Please, listen-

DRAYDEN: No, I'm done listening! And I'm done talking. Tonight, Lord Borgiani is going to die.
ELIZA: Arist- (sighs) Drayden, please listen to me. The Lord Borgiani that killed your parents is dead. A few weeks after the murder, he was struck ill, His eldest son, Alessio has been in charge ever since.
DRAYDEN: Then he will pay for his father's debts.
LUCANIS: I am afraid that is impossible.
ELIZA: (gasps) Oh!
(BLADE CLANGS)
DRAYDEN: If you've come to finish the job, you'll find that I'm not as easy to kill as an aging mother and father blindsided in their sleep!
NADIA: And to get to them, you'll have to go through me.
LUCANIS: I am not here for you.
DRAYDEN: Then you've got about two seconds to tell me what you're doing in my home.
LUCANIS: Lord Alessio Borgiani is dead.
DRAYDEN: And why should I take your word for it?
LUCANIS: Because I just killed him.
NADIA:

I'm sorry, but can we just take a moment to process all of this?
DRAYDEN: If he doesn't start talking, he's going to process my sword through his heart!
LUCANIS: You must be Drayden.
DRAYDEN: You know my name. How?
LUCANIS: Your father liked to talk about you. It made him happy.
DRAYDEN: You knew my father?
LUCANIS: He hired me for protection when he looked into the anomalies.
DRAYDEN: You're a Crow!
LUCANIS: Mmm, tell me more.
DRAYDEN: Perfect posture. Well-tailored coat. And not a one of us heard so much as a step from your perfectly-cobbled boots.
LUCANIS: Sharp, just like he said you were.
(BLADES WHOOSHING)
NADIA: Now that we're all acquainted, can we get back to the part about you killing the new Lord?
LUCANIS: You are not the only family the Borgianis crossed. I was hired, and now he is dead.
DRAYDEN:

But you still haven't explained why you're here!
LUCANIS: There were complications.
NADIA: Define complications?
(MUSIC)
LUCANIS: I am not sure I can explain what happened.
(HORNS SOUNDING)
(LUCANIS GROWLING)
ELIZA: What was that?
LUCANIS: (growls) They must have followed me.
NADIA: Who?
LUCANIS: The Lord's protectors. I thought the house was empty, so I came here in case I had to make a stop.
DRAYDEN: Are you telling me that House Borgiani is here? Come to kill you?
LUCANIS: That is exactly what I am saying!
DRAYDEN: Oh, then we will make that stand together. They came for my house once. I am not letting it happen again.
NADIA: How many will there be?

LUCANIS: A dozen. Maybe two.
NADIA: (groans) I don't like those odds.
DRAYDEN: The odds are not as they appear, Nadia. Eliza, what about the passages?
ELIZA: It's still working.
DRAYDEN: And what of Ophelia, is she?
ELIZA: (laughing) She would be so happy to see you.
NADIA: Who's Ophelia?
DRAYDEN: Not now. And you?
LUCANIS: Then name's Lucanis. Lucanis Dellamorte.
DRAYDEN: Well, Lucanis. I don't suppose you're available for hire?
LUCANIS: For your father, I will do this one for free.
(GLASS SHATTERS)
ELIZA: Oh!
(FOOTSTEPS POUNDING)
LILLEMAR:

Stop! Inside that manor is the man who killed your Lord! The man who killed my father! If you are virtuous men and have even the slightest loyalty to your oath, you will take my command and bring me his head! Now get in there and avenge my father! Avenge House Borgiani!

(SOLDIERS SHOUTING)

(SOLDIERS SHOUTING) (FOOTSTEPS) LILLEMAR: Do you have any idea who did this? CAPTAIN: Afraid not, my lady. LILLEMAR: My father was a good man! Who would want this? CAPTAIN: Good men are often seen as weak men and are targeted by the wills of evil men, or as targets for their revenge. LILLEMAR: What is that supposed to mean? CAPTAIN: Nothing, my lady. LILLEMAR: Captain? **CAPTAIN:** Do you know why this manor is empty? LILLEMAR: Because House Amato took up arms against the throne. CAPTAIN: Hmm, a story of convenience. LILLEMAR:

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What? What are you saying?

I'm saying that sometimes things are not as they seem. And history has a way of ensnaring the present. But worry not. Soon, your father's killer will be dead and the future will be yours.
(THUNDER CLAPPING)
(WIND WHISTLING)
(RAIN POURING)
LILLEMAR: It's too quiet.
CAPTAIN: Quiet?
LILLEMAR: Why can't we hear the men?
(RAIN POURING)
(DOOR CREAKING)
(PEOPLE GASPING)
(DISTANT SOUNDS OF FIGHTING)
(THUNDER BOOMING)
LONE SOLDIER: Retreat! Retreat!
(MUSIC)
CAPTAIN: Company, company! Status, Soldier, halt!
LONE SOLDIER: Retreat, retreat! (sobs) Retreat!
CAPTAIN: Soldier! Calm down. Hey!

CAPTAIN:

(SOLDIER SOBBING) LONE SOLDIER: Ghosts! There are ghosts in there! They come from the shadows, they-**CAPTAIN:** Steel yourself! Where is the rest of first squad? Where are the men? LONE SOLDIER: They're dead! They're all dead! (sobs) CAPTAIN: (growls) Stay here, my lady. Lieutenants, with me! And you, on your feet, coward! LONE SOLDIER: Please, don't make me go back in there, it's haunted! The ghosts, they-**CAPTAIN:** There is no ghost, it's a man! Do you understand that? One man! (scoffs) If you think the parlor tricks of a Crow are going to scare us, you're in for a long night, assassin! Let's go! LILLEMAR: Captain! **CAPTAIN:** Wait here, my lady. (FIRE CRACKLING) **LUCANIS:** We have cut through their ranks, but now they will send in their lieutenants. They will be tougher.

ELIZA:

If I could get a few to follow me to the attic, I'll have a nice surprise waiting for them.

ELIZA:

Good. You and Nadia go upstairs and set the trap. Drayden, what else can you tell me about the manor?

DRAYDEN:

There's another network of passages running between the walls. They'll never see us coming.

LUCANIS: Then we will go there and pick them off one at a time. We'll use garrotes to keep it quiet.
DRAYDEN: Good plan. And if anything goes wrong, we all regroup down here in the grand library.
ELIZA: Oh, your father would be so proud of you if he could see you right now.
DRAYDEN: Thanks.
NADIA: Remember, we all survive.
DRAYDEN: Okay, let's get to it. I'll see you on the other side.
NADIA: Hey, Drayden?
DRAYDEN: Yeah?
NADIA: This library, it's palatial. You really are a book, huh?
DRAYDEN: (laughs) Nadia?
NADIA: Yeah?
DRAYDEN: I'm sorry we got sidetracked again. If you want to leave, I can show you a secret exit.
NADIA: Hey, stop it. I'm not going anywhere. We're doing this together, okay?
DRAYDEN: Okay.

LUCANIS: (coughs) We are losing time.
DRAYDEN: Right, sorry.
ELIZA: Nadia, follow me.
NADIA: So, who is Ophelia?
ELIZA: It's not important.
NADIA: Yeah, but-
ELIZA: Best not to ask too many questions, dear.
DRAYDEN: This way Lucanis, the entrance is behind that shelf.
(FOOTSTEPS)
DRAYDEN: Will you pull the gauntlet on that suit of armor?
LUCANIS: This one?
DRAYDEN: Yep.
(METAL SCREECHING)
DRAYDEN: Now I am going to wind the dial of this clock.
(GEARS WINDING)

(CLOCK TICKING)
DRAYDEN: AndPresto! In we go.
(DOOR SQUEAKING)
(MUSIC)
LONE SOLDIER: (whimpers) Ghosts! Ghosts everywhere! (pants)
(FOOTSTEPS)
(SOLDIER WHIMPERING)
CAPTAIN: (growls) Quiet, soldier. Circle around that dining table and check behind that nook.
LONE SOLDIER: But sir, the ghosts!
CAPTAIN: There are no bloody ghosts!
(SOLDIER YELPING)
(OBJECT SHATTERING)
CAPTAIN: Enough games, Crow! Step out of the shadows and fight me like a man! Go on then, coward! Look behind it.
LONE SOLDIER: But sir!
CAPTAIN: Now!
(SOLDIER SOBBING)

(SOLDIER BREATHING RAPIDLY)
LONE SOLDIER: It's so dark!
CAPTAIN: Speak again, I'll kill you myself.
(SOFT FOOTSTEPS)
(MUFFLED GRUNT)
(OBJECTS CLATTERING)
CAPTAIN: Soldier? Hello? Damn it, go check on him!
(RAPID FOOTSTEPS)
LIEUTENANT ONE: Captain, there's no one here! He's gone!
CAPTAIN:
What do you mean, he's gone?
LIEUTENANT ONE: There's nothing there, just an empty nook.
CAPTAIN: Well, he had to go somewhere!
LIEUTENANT ONE: Sorry, sir. I-
(OMINOUS BANGING)
(CREAKING)
CAPTAIN: Maker, now what?
LIEUTENANT ONE:

Sir, maybe there are gho-
CAPTAIN: Don't you dare say it. Find the stairs, now!
(FOOTSTEPS)
(PERSON CHOKING)
CAPTAIN: (muffled) One old house (muffled) and you all turn into a bunch of damn cowards. What do you mean (indistinct)?
(PERSON CHOKING)
LUCANIS: Not like that. You are torturing him for no reason. Bend your wrists like this.
DRAYDEN: Oh, like this?
LUCANIS: Yes. Swift and clean.
(BONES CRACKING)
(PERSON CHOKING)
LUCANIS: No reason to be barbaric.
DRAYDEN: Got it. Sorry.
LUCANIS: We all learn. Where to next?
DRAYDEN: Up there at the pillar, head left.
LUCANIS: You know these tunnels well.

DRAYDEN: I loved them when I was a kid. Anytime I felt like I needed to escape, I'd come here, wander their mazes, feel invisible.
LUCANIS: You would have made a good Crow, Drayden.
DRAYDEN: Now I have to ask, how do you know that name and not my given, Aristide?
LUCANIS: I know them both. Your father told me he had many regrets. He felt he failed you.
DRAYDEN: Failed me?
LUCANIS:
I know you want answers, but I do not have them. I just know he thought about you a lot.
(NADIA SCREAMING)
DRAYDEN: Nadia! Come on.
(FOOTSTEPS)
(FLOOR CREAKING)
LIEUTENANT TWO: We heard you scream! We know you are up here in the attic! Why don't you come on out and we promise to go easy on you?
(NADIA GRUNTING)
(THUD)
(NADIA GRUNTS)
LIEUTENANT THREE: Over there.

LIEUTENANT TWO: Go!
(NADIA GRUNTS)
(FOOTSTEPS)
(OBJECT THUDS)
NADIA: Wrong again, over here!
LIEUTENANT THREE: Over there!
(RAPID FOOTSTEPS)
(FLOOR CREAKING)
LIEUTENANT TWO: You are testing my patience!
ELIZA: (whispering) Just stay with me until Ophelia's had a chance to meet you.
NADIA: Now can you please just tell me who is a Oph-
(ELIZA WHISTLES)
LIEUTENANT THREE: Oh, are we whistling now? (whistles)
(DOG BARKING AND GROWLING)
LIEUTENANT ONE: What the hell is that?
LIEUTENANT THREE: Oh shit!
(DOG BARKING)

(LIEUTENANTS SCREAMING)
(FLESH TEARING)
(FLESH SQUELCHING)
ELIZA: (laughing) That a girl, Ophelia! Whoo!
NADIA: That's Ophelia?
(DOG BARKING)
ELIZA: Lord Amato got her as a pup when Drayden was little, right after a bandit tried to snatch him.
(ELIZA LAUGHING)
(DOG WHIMPERING)
ELIZA: That's a good girl! Oh yes, you're such a good girl!
(DOG HAPPILY PANTING)
ELIZA: Nadia, hold out your hand.
NADIA: Uh-
ELIZA: Oh, trust me. It's fine. If she thought you were a danger to me, your hand would already be gone.
(DOG GROWLING)
NADIA: Okay then. Hi there, puppy!
(NADIA GIGGLES)

(DOG GROWLING)
DRAYDEN: Easy, it's just us. We heard the screams.
NADIA: Yeah, I'm sure everyone heard them. This Mabari you got packs a hell of a bite!
DRAYDEN: (gasps) Ophelia, hi girl! I missed you so much! Come here, oh such a good-
LUCANIS: (yawns) Do you have any coffee? Something strong?
DRAYDEN: No time for that yet. We still have a couple soldiers left, and that captain-
(DOG GROWLS)
NADIA: (gasps) Guys!
CAPTAIN: Quiet girl, or taste my steel.
(NADIA GROANS)
CAPTAIN: That's right, Crow. You're not the only one who knows how to sneak around.
(DOG BARKING)
DRAYDEN: You let her go!
NADIA: You just had to mention the captain, didn't you Drayden?
CAPTAIN: Everyone downstairs now, or I'll spill her blood! Now!

(FLOOR CREAKING)
(FOOTSTEPS)
LUCANIS: That voice
(FOOTSTEPS THUDDING)
(HORN SOUNDING)
CAPTAIN: My lady, this one is your assassin, an Antivan Crow. And this, this is the source of your trouble! Heir to House Amato and their accomplices! They are the ones who have orchestrated tonight's plot.
DRAYDEN: You lying scum!
LILLEMAR: Silence. Stand that one up. The last scion.
NADIA: If you lay a finger on them-
LILLEMAR: Soldier.
(NADIA GRUNTS)
DRAYDEN: Leave her alone! If you've come to finish the job on my family, then kill me. But leave them out of this.
LILLEMAR: Finish the job on your family? It is you who has killed my father! Your kin who rose up against the monarch!
DRAYDEN: Lies!
LILLEMAR:

You dare to challenge my word as my father's body still cools from this world?				
ELIZA: Why don't you ask your captain there the truth, my lady? Because I certainly recognize him, my face bears the mark of his handy work.				
LILLEMAR: Captain, what's she talking about?				
CAPTAIN: (stutters) It's not important. And as I told you before, tonight is about the future.				
LILLEMAR: Captain				
ELIZA: Go on, tell your lady the truth. Let her know what kind of a line she really comes from!				
CAPTAIN: Oh, that's it! I'm going to cleave your tongue-				
LILLEMAR: Captain! You will tell me now, or join them.				
(CAPTAIN GROWLS)				
CAPTAIN: Fine!				
(BLADE CLANGING)				
CAPTAIN: While your father was indeed a good man, your grandfather, well, he was not. He ordered the deaths of Lord and Lady Amato.				
LILLEMAR: What?				
DRAYDEN: Your grandfather was pitting the families against each other, so house Borgiani could get rich. My father was going to expose him-				

LILLEMAR: No! No, no! You lie! My family would never! House Amato took up arms against the throne.
CAPTAIN: Don't be so naive, child! Everyone knows the monarchy has no real power.
LILLEMAR: But-
CAPTAIN: Your father knew too, but he didn't have the stomach for those choices. It was his guilt that organized all those grand feasts, his attempts to make amends.
LILLEMAR: While it's disconcerting to learn about my grandfather's deeds, it still gives you no right to murder my father.
DRAYDEN: I had nothing to do with that!
ELIZA: It's true, they've been gone for years.
LILLEMAR: Well, someone had my father killed and I will have their head!
CAPTAIN: My lady, might I suggest-
LUCANIS: Oh, no!
DRAYDEN: Lucanis, what is it?
(FOOTSTEPS)
LUCANIS: I normally would not cross a client, but considering the circumstances, it was him, the captain.
LILLEMAR: (gasps) What?

DRAYDEN: What?
LUCANIS: I knew I recognized his voice. I never saw his face, but that voice, he hired me to kill the Lord!
CAPTAIN: (scoffs) Please, this is absurd!
LILLEMAR: Captain?
CAPTAIN: My lady, (stammers) I would never, I-I could never! My loyalty is to-
(CAPTAIN GROWLS)
LILLEMAR: You best sheath your blade.
CAPTAIN: Surrender my blade to the likes of you? Never! And as for your father? Well, he was a weak, sniveling coward! If only he possessed a fraction of the spine your grandfather had! House Borgiani could have taken over all of Antiva, but no!
LILLEMAR: Guards!
(SWORDS UNSHEATHING)
(GUARDS ROARING)
(BLADES CLASHING)
(PEOPLE GRUNTING)
CAPTAIN: (laughs) Weakling! Your father, he tried to undo everything we did. But with him gone, (grunts) it could have paved the way for a real leader to take the reins!

(FIGHTING CONTINUES)

CAPTAIN:

For he had no real heir, just you. A child and a girl! No one would've listened to you! The House would've fallen into chaos! Borgiani's name threatened, everyone would've called for someone to step in and save it from collapse! Someone (grunts) strong, someone like-

DRAYDEN:

Like you. You did all of this to seize power?

CAPTAIN:

Oh, and it would've worked if this idiot Crow wouldn't have killed the Lord in front of an entire wedding!

LILLEMAR:

Guards, seize him!

CAPTAIN:

Stay back, I'm warning you!

LILLEMAR:

Actually, I've changed my mind. Guards, kill the captain!

(GUARDS YELLING)

(SWORDS CLANGING)

(BLADE SQUELCHING)

(PEOPLE GASPING)

(CAPTAIN GURGLING AND CHOKING)

LILLEMAR:

That was for my father, you traitor. As for you, heir to House Amato. I propose our families agree to peace. I know my words will not bring back your parents, but I am truly sorry for your loss. And as long as I rule House Borgiani, I can promise you nothing like that will ever happen again.

DRAYDEN:

I will accept peace, on one condition.

LILLEMAR:

Name it.

DRAYDEN: Eliza is provided for, for the rest of her days.
LILLEMAR: Done.
ELIZA: Drayden
DRAYDEN: Eliza, you are the only family I have left-
CAPTAIN: For the true Lord Borgiani!
(WOMAN GASPING)
(PEOPLE SCREAMING)
DRAYDEN: Lillemar, watch out!
(DRAYDEN GROANS)
(PEOPLE SCREAMING)
NADIA: Drayden!
(PEOPLE GASPING)
ELIZA: (sobbing) Oh, no, no, no!
(PEOPLE GASPING)
CAPTAIN: Yes, yes! A death for a death!
LILLEMAR: I've had enough of you, Captain!

(LILLEMAR GRUNTS)
(FLESH SQUELCHES)
LUCANIS: Decapitation is so messy.
(DRAYDEN CHOKING AND COUGHING)
ELIZA: Oh no, no, no!
(DRAYDEN GASPING)
DRAYDEN: Nadia, I don't feel so good!
(DRAYDEN COLLAPSES)
NADIA: I got you!
ELIZA: (sobs) Oh, oh my dear Drayden
NADIA: Wake up, Drayden! Wake up, Drayden! Drayden!
(MUSIC)
NARRATOR: Dragon Age: Vows & Vengeance is a production of Electronic Arts in association with Pod People Based on the award-winning video game franchise from BioWare. Learn more about the world o

e. Dragon Age and its latest game, Dragon Age: The Veilguard, by visiting dragonage.com. Rated M for mature.

Directed by Matt Sav. Written by Will Melton and Jeremy Novick.

Featuring the voices of Mae Whitman as Nadia, Brigette Lundy-Paine as Drayden, Zach Mendez as Lucanis, Jin Maley as Taash.

Also featuring Sabrina Fest as Lillemar, Roslyn Gentle as Eliza, Isaac Gonzalez Rossi as Captain.

Additional voices by Damien Gerard, Jillian Kinsey, Daniel Lench, Sean Thomas Simmons, Charles Halford, and Brandon Gill as Narrator.

Creative and narrative direction by Todd Stallkamp.

BioWare narrative development and support by Mary De Marle and John Epler.

Editorial direction by Will Melton.

Producers for Electronic Arts, Alex Bader and Chris Beckett.

Production Management by Bryan Rivers.

Assistant direction by Ashton Carter.

Story Development by Todd Stallkamp, Will Melton, Matt Sav and Jeremy Novick.

Associate producing and script supervision by Hannah Rae Leach.

Casting by Alaine Aldaffer, Lisa Donadio, Lindsey Ploussard and Alex Vikmanis.

Sound design by Michael Aquino, Morgane Fouse, and Carter Wogahn.

Dialogue editing by Michael Aquino and Carter Wogahn

Mixing and mastering by Morgane Fouse.

Featuring original music by Hans Zimmer and Lorne Balfe.

Executive producers for Pod People Matt Sav and Rachael King.

Electronic Arts brand and marketing leads Kari Hale and Olivier Tse.

Electronic Arts design, Hugo Ugaz and Jacob Meyer.

BioWare special thanks to Ashley Barlow, Cody Behiel, Hilary Hidey, Steve Lam, Crystal McCord, and Patrick Weekes.

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Dragon Age: The Veilguard: a single-player RPG, launches Fall 2024 on Xbox, PlayStation, and PC. Begin your adventure at dragonage.com. Rated M for mature.

NARRATOR:

Next time on Dragon Age: Vows & Vengeance.

(THUNDER BOOMING)

(BIRDS CAWING)

NADIA:

Is there an antidote? What do they need? Just-just tell me!

SPEAKER 1:

Nadia, I'm afraid there isn't-

NADIA:

No! Don't say that. We have to do something!

(THUNDER CRASHING)

LUCANIS:

Magic, necromancy is Drayden's only hope.

SPEAKER 2:

Ride to Nevarra! I have a friend there, he'll be able to help you find something.

(THUNDER CRASHING)

SPEAKER 3:

With the poison's advancement, I will most likely need to perform an exsanguination, mmm! Blood magic, such messy business.

SPEAKER 4:

May these words travel beyond the flesh, beyond the body! Flowing down the silver thread to the spirit lost, your home is calling, Drayden! Hear me! Your home is calling!

NADIA:

Hang on books, just hang on! I'm not losing anyone else!

(WORDS ECHOING)

(PERSON COUGHING)	
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