

Robin Hood: Second Chances
(An Alternate Series 3 Story)

By

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Based on: The BBC 2006 Series
(Episodes 5-13 have been reworked and included)

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Author's Note

This story changes the ending of Episode 13 Series 2. Marian still dies, but not by Gisborne's hand. It then follows our characters in an alternate Series 3.

Series 3: Episodes 1-4 have been dropped. Episodes 5-13 have been incorporated into this story, with a little reworking.

1. Kate - never joined the gang, so she has been removed and her lines either reassigned or dropped.

2. Gisborne - is part of the gang so he's been added to the Outlaw scenes and removed from any scene he is in where he is on the wrong side. Any lines that were assigned to Gisborne in an episode where he is on the wrong side, have to be reassigned to another character. (ie: Episode 5. In the aired version Gisborne commands the Black Elite. In my version it is a man named Harrison.)

Scenes that've been taken from an episode, have been labeled with the episode number in brackets in the scene header as follows:

1. (305) - scene is from Series 3, Episode 5, and appears as aired.

2. (305R) - scene is from Series 3, Episode 5, and has been reworked (location/character changes, dialog added/removed, etc...)

3. (305M) - scene is from Series 3, Episode 5, and has been merged (2 or more scenes due to restructure)

4. (305MR) - scene is from Series 3, Episode 5, and has been merged and reworked -- (2 or more scenes due to restructure)

Any scene not indicated with an episode number, is an ORIGINAL scene.

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1 (213R) MAIN SQUARE - FOUNTAIN

KING RICHARD's horse walks into the square. KING RICHARD's head falls limply forward. He slides off the horse, near the fountain, grasping at his shoulder. GISBORNE appears at the end of the square, beyond KING RICHARD. MARIAN comes out from between the buildings and sees KING RICHARD on the ground. Then she sees GISBORNE.

MARIAN

Guy!

GISBORNE draws his sword. MARIAN races across the square to confront GISBORNE. She runs past KING RICHARD and holds up her hands as she comes to a halt facing GISBORNE.

MARIAN (cont'd)

Stop! It's over, Guy.

GISBORNE's eyes are intensely focused on the fallen KING RICHARD.

GISBORNE

(mad)

Get out of the way.

GISBORNE advances steadily towards KING RICHARD. MARIAN keeps herself in front of him, walking backwards with her hands still up.

PAN TO:

2 (213R)(cont'd) MAIN SQUARE - BEHIND MARIAN

ROBIN, MUCH, LITTLE JOHN, WILL, DJAQ, and ALLAN come down the stairs. ROBIN sees MARIAN and is about to run to her. ALLAN grabs him.

ALLAN

Wait. Let her talk to him. She can talk him down. Trust me.

ROBIN gives ALLAN a look, and then against his better judgment, he nods "okay".

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

3 (213R)(cont'd) MAIN SQUARE - GISBORNE AND MARIAN

GISBORNE

(mad)

I said, out of the way, Marian.

MARIAN

(pleadingly)

You don't want to do this.

GISBORNE

(still mad)

Marian, I...

MARIAN

(pleadingly)

Guy. Look at me. Look at me.

(beat)

This isn't you.

(beat)

You are better than this.

GISBORNE

Marian, get out of...

MARIAN

Please. For me. Stop.

GISBORNE looks at her. He knows she would never understand why he must do this.

GISBORNE

You don't understand. I...

MARIAN

If you love me, you...

GISBORNE looks at her in disbelief.

GISBORNE (VO)

(thought)

What's that supposed to mean? Of course I love you, don't you know that? After everything I've done for you, sacrificed for you. Why question my feelings?

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

I do love you. Don't you know that?
I...

MARIAN

Guy, I...

MARIAN's line is cut short as an arrow comes flying out of nowhere and hits her in the chest. She falls.

GISBORNE

(screams)

No!!!

GISBORNE runs to her and catches her as she falls.

PAN TO:

4 (213R)(cont'd) MAIN SQUARE - ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN runs to MARIAN. The gang stay, just looking at the scene.

PAN TO:

5 (213R)(cont'd) MAIN SQUARE - GISBORNE AND MARIAN

GISBORNE

(tears start to show)

Marian?

GISBORNE strokes her face.

MARIAN

(smile)

Guy, I...

MARIAN's line is cut off as ROBIN reaches them.

ROBIN

Marian?

MARIAN looks at ROBIN and smiles.

MARIAN

Robin.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN takes one of her hands in his.

ROBIN

Sh.

DJAQ reaches them. ROBIN looks to DJAQ.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Djaq. Help her. You have to...

DJAQ isn't sure she can.

DJAQ

I don't know if I...

ROBIN

You saved her last time, you can...

GISBORNE seems to just notice ROBIN and DJAQ.

GISBORNE

(raise an eyebrow)

Last time?

ROBIN doesn't say anything. DJAQ signals GISBORNE to put MARIAN down. He does so, reluctantly. As he does, he notices the arrow. He recognizes it. He recoils away as if he's just been slapped. ROBIN notices the look. DJAQ inspects MARIAN's wound as ROBIN and GISBORNE talk.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

(disbelievingly)

No.

ROBIN

What is it?

GISBORNE

(quietly)

When I get my hands on him, I'm going to kill him.

ROBIN

Who?

GISBORNE

The Sheriff. Who do you think?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN is giving GISBORNE one of those "what?" looks. GISBORNE points to the arrow.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
That's one of his arrows.

ROBIN
Why would the Sheriff want to...

ROBIN's line is cut off by DJAQ.

DJAQ
Robin.

ROBIN and GISBORNE look at DJAQ. She has a sad look on her face.

DJAQ (cont'd)
I'm sorry.

DJAQ walks away and heads to the rest of the gang. ROBIN and GISBORNE go to MARIAN's side. ROBIN on the right. GISBORNE on the left. They look at her, tears in their eyes. MARIAN looks at them. [In the background DJAQ is telling the gang that MARIAN is dying.]

MARIAN
I guess this is it.
(beat)
Never thought I'd...

ROBIN
Marian, I...

MARIAN looks at him and smiles.

MARIAN
Robin of Locksley. I love you.

ROBIN smiles. GISBORNE looks hurt.

ROBIN
And I you.

MARIAN looks to GISBORNE. She smiles at him. He loves that smile. That smile makes everything else bearable.

MARIAN

Guy. I...

GISBORNE

Marian, don't say anything.

MARIAN

I have to. I don't want to die without saying this.

GISBORNE is curious. ROBIN is too. ROBIN wonders if he was right all along.

MARIAN (cont'd)

If things were different. If you could've only seen what I saw in you.

GISBORNE smiles. She smiles back at him. ROBIN thinks to himself, "here it comes".

GISBORNE

I'm sorry. I...

MARIAN

Guy.

(smile)

Shut up. Please.

(beat)

I really did care for you. And I did love you.

GISBORNE is surprised. ROBIN is not really that surprised. He had always suspected that she might care for GISBORNE more than she was willing to admit. ROBIN and GISBORNE exchange a look, and then look back down at MARIAN who winces. Momentary pause. MARIAN looks to ROBIN.

MARIAN (cont'd)

I'm sorry. I...

ROBIN takes her right hand in his, kisses it, then smiles at her. Before he can say anything, she continues.

MARIAN (cont'd)

Kiss me.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN kisses her. They break kiss. MARIAN then looks over at GISBORNE.

MARIAN (cont'd)

Kiss me.

GISBORNE kisses her. He knows this is the last time he will ever kiss her. It is a soft, gentle, loving kiss. They break the kiss. MARIAN looks from GISBORNE to ROBIN and then back at ROBIN. She takes their hands in hers and brings them together over her.

MARIAN (cont'd)

Now, promise me one thing.

GISBORNE/ROBIN

Anything.

MARIAN

Don't kill each other. This isn't your fault. I...

MARIAN gasps in pain.

MARIAN (cont'd)

Promise me.

GISBORNE/ROBIN

I promise.

MARIAN smiles at them one last time, then dies. GISBORNE and ROBIN look at her.

GISBORNE/ROBIN (cont'd)

Marian?

No reply. GISBORNE and ROBIN both lower their heads in grief.

PAN TO:

6 (213) MAIN SQUARE - THE GANG

The camera focuses on the gang as they realize that MARIAN is dead. WILL has his arms around DJAQ, who has her head in his chest and is crying. MUCH is crying. ALLAN, WILL, and LITTLE JOHN all have tears in their eyes. DJAQ has removed the arrow

(CONTINUED)

from KING RICHARD and bandaged his arm. KING RICHARD is standing with the gang.

CUT TO:

7 (213R) BURIAL

ROBIN, MUCH, ALLAN, LITTLE JOHN, WILL, DJAQ, KING RICHARD, and GISBORNE are standing around a freshly dug grave. Nearby is another burial mound with a Crusader's shield on it. It is Carter's.

GISBORNE is feeling like an outsider. He knows the band of outlaws don't really want him here, but Marian meant something to him too. More than just something. She was his world. He would do anything for her. And now she is gone. The love of his life. The one good thing in his world.

MUCH is leaning on a spade.

LITTLE JOHN is leaning on his staff.

ALLAN is just standing there. He knows how much Marian meant to both ROBIN and GISBORNE. And he knows that Marian really did care for both of them. He'd seen the way she acted around GISBORNE and knew that deep down she really did love him. If things had only been different, she and Guy might have had a chance. He is torn between his loyalty to ROBIN and his loyalty to GISBORNE. He has gotten to know and see a side to GISBORNE that the others haven't. The side that loved Marian and would do anything for her. He knows that both ROBIN and GISBORNE are feeling the same thing right now.

DJAQ hangs off of WILL's arm. WILL has his arm around DJAQ.

ROBIN and GISBORNE are both staring at Marian's body in the grave. Both remember all the times they spent together.

FADE INTO FLASHBACKS:

8 MONTAGE: GISBORNE AND MARIAN FLASHBACKS

Various moments they shared from Series 1 and Series 2.

FADE TO:

(CONTINUED)

9 (213) MONTAGE: ROBIN AND MARIAN FLASHBACKS

Various moments they shared from Series 1 and Series 2.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

10 BURIAL

Camera stays with the solemn looking group for a few more seconds then fades out.

FADE TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

11 KING'S CAMP - KING'S TENT

KING RICHARD is standing outside his tent. GISBORNE is kneeling in front of him, head lowered, seeking forgiveness for all he has done. They are alone.

GISBORNE

I'm sorry, sire. I...

KING RICHARD

I forgive you.

GISBORNE looks up at KING RICHARD, confused. KING RICHARD motions him to rise.

PAN TO:

12 KING'S CAMP - FOCUS ON ROBIN AND HIS GANG

They are sitting around looking over at GISBORNE and KING RICHARD.

MUCH

What do you think they are talking about?

ROBIN

(curiously)

Not sure.

Pause. WILL and DJAQ give each other the "Should we tell them" look. WILL clears his throat. All eyes turn to him.

(CONTINUED)

WILL

Djaq and I have an announcement.

EVERYONE thinks they know what it will be. WILL takes DJAQ's hand.

WILL (cont'd)

We won't be going back with you.

(look at Djaq)

We're staying.

EVERYONE is shocked, but not really surprised.

DJAQ

Don't try to stop us.

DJAQ looks at ROBIN.

DJAQ (cont'd)

Robin. I have been honoured to have fought at your side.

(beat)

But it is time for me to...

DJAQ looks at WILL and corrects her line.

DJAQ (cont'd)

Us, to leave.

WILL

I'm sorry guys, but I...

ROBIN

Don't be silly.

(smile)

It's okay.

WILL and DJAQ smile.

MUCH

When will you be leaving?

WILL and DJAQ look at each other.

WILL

Now.

(CONTINUED)

The gang say their goodbyes to WILL and DJAQ. ROBIN looks over at GISBORNE and KING RICHARD who are still deep in conversation.

PAN TO:

13 KING'S TENT

KING RICHARD is looking at GISBORNE. He is waiting for a reply. GISBORNE appears to be thinking. Neither notice ROBIN approach. KING RICHARD addresses GISBORNE.

KING RICHARD

So, what do you think?

When it looks like GISBORNE isn't going to answer, ROBIN does.

ROBIN

About what?

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN and thinks to himself.

GISBORNE (VO)

(thought)

*How long has he been there? And how is
he always able to sneak up on me?*

Then says the following aloud.

GISBORNE

Working together.

(beat)

You and me.

ROBIN

(laugh)

Together? Us? Are you serious?

KING RICHARD

Yes. Quite.

ROBIN stops laughing.

KING RICHARD (cont'd)

If you two worked together, you...

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(skeptically)
I don't know.

KING RICHARD looks at ROBIN.

KING RICHARD
Robin, I knew your father.

KING RICHARD looks at GISBORNE.

KING RICHARD (cont'd)
And yours.

KING RICHARD addresses them both.

KING RICHARD (cont'd)
What would Malcolm and Roger think if
they saw you now?

ROBIN and GISBORNE look at each other, and then at the ground.
KING RICHARD places a hand on ROBIN's shoulder, and a hand on
GISBORNE's shoulder.

KING RICHARD (cont'd)
I know a lot has happened since then.
(beat)
What's done is done. You can not undo
it. But you can start to fix it. Make
it right.

KING RICHARD gives them each a final glance, and then walks
into his tent. ROBIN and GISBORNE look at each other.

GISBORNE
What do say, Robin?
(beat)
You think we can work together?

GISBORNE offers ROBIN his hand. ROBIN looks at it.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
For Marian?

ROBIN accepts GISBORNE's hand as he says the next line.

ROBIN

For Marian.

ROBIN and GISBORNE shake hands.

PAN TO:

14 FOCUS ON ROBIN'S GANG

WILL and DJAQ are gone. LITTLE JOHN is watching ROBIN and GISBORNE. ALLAN and MUCH are talking.

ALLAN

He really did love her.

MUCH assumes ALLAN is talking about ROBIN and MARIAN.

MUCH

Of course he did. Robin and Marian...

ALLAN gives MUCH a look.

ALLAN

Not Robin. Guy.

MUCH is surprised by the use of GISBORNE's first name.

MUCH

(raise eyebrow)

Guy?

ALLAN

Yeah.

(beat)

I seen him with her. He is... was...
different around her.

MUCH

(raise eyebrow)

Different? How?

ALLAN

Protective. Attentive. Caring.

MUCH

Allan, I...

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

When he caught and unmasked *The Nightwatchman* and saw Marian...

MUCH is surprised. This is news. Marian had never mentioned that Gisborne knew.

MUCH

Gisborne caught...

ALLAN

(defendingly)

What did he do? Did he turn her in? No. He asked me to disguise myself as *The Nightwatchmen* and escape. He protected her. And that wasn't the only time.

(beat)

I'm telling you, he loved her. He really did. Probably more than...

ALLAN's line is cut off by LITTLE JOHN.

LITTLE JOHN

Sh. Robin and Gisborne are coming this way.

MUCH/ALLAN

Together?

LITTLE JOHN

Looks like it.

ROBIN and GISBORNE reach the gang. MUCH, ALLAN, and LITTLE JOHN look at them questioningly. ROBIN can tell his men are curious.

ROBIN

(smile)

Men, say hello to our new member.

ROBIN smiles. The gang all look surprised.

MUCH

(raise eyebrow)

What?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

You heard me. Guy is joining us.

MUCH raises an eyebrow.

MUCH (VO)

(thought)

Did Robin just call Gisborne Guy?

GISBORNE

The King asked that we join forces
and...

(beat)

...Robin and I agree.

GISBORNE's not used to calling ROBIN by his first name. Ever since Robin returned it's been Locksley or Hood. He wonders for a moment if he ever will get used to calling him Robin again. The gang also notice the use of first names. GISBORNE continues after only the slightest pause.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

The Sheriff must be stopped.

LITTLE JOHN

Agreed. But how do you...

GISBORNE smiles that cunning smile of his. ALLAN recognizes the smile.

ALLAN

(concern)

I know that smile. That is not good.

GISBORNE looks to ALLAN and goes to him. He places a hand on his shoulder.

GISBORNE

(smile)

Looks like we will be working together
again, Allan.

GISBORNE positions himself beside ALLAN and puts his arm playfully around ALLAN's neck. ALLAN gets a "great, terrific" look on his face.

FADE TO:

(CONTINUED)

1 MONTH LATERSHEROOD FOREST

15 OUTLAW CAMP

ROBIN is tossing and turning, sleeping restlessly. MUCH wakes up and goes to his side.

GISBORNE is tossing and turning, sleeping restlessly. He now wears one of the "dog tags" that everyone in the gang wears.

ALLAN wakes up and goes to his side. LITTLE JOHN is fast asleep. Snoring. MUCH and ALLAN talk quietly to each other.

ALLAN

We have to do something.

MUCH

Like what?

ALLAN

They've been like this for over a week.

MUCH

I know. But what...

ALLAN

They can't keep going like this. They need their sleep.

MUCH looks at ROBIN full of concern and worry. ALLAN looks at GISBORNE the same.

FADE TO:

NEXT DAYNOTTINGHAM

16 ALEHOUSE

ALLAN walks in and sits at a table in the back corner. Trying not to be seen. A man, named TUCK, dressed in a grey monk robe sees him enter and follows him to the table. TUCK can tell he is troubled.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

What has you so troubled, my son?

ALLAN answers, not looking at TUCK.

ALLAN

(lie)

Nothing.

TUCK raises an eyebrow and sits at the table across from ALLAN.
TUCK notices ALLAN's "dog tag".

TUCK

It is not nothing.

(beat)

You are one of Robin Hood's men, are
you not?

ALLAN looks at TUCK questioningly. How did he know that?

TUCK (cont'd)

I am Brother Tuck.

(beat)

Maybe I can help?

ALLAN wonders if he should tell him. He decides to only
partially tell him.

ALLAN

It's Robin.

TUCK raises an eyebrow in concern and thinks the following to
himself.

TUCK (VO)

(thought)

*Am I too late? Did I come all this way
for nothing?*

Then says the following aloud.

TUCK

Is he hurt?

ALLAN

No. At least, not physically.

(CONTINUED)

Momentary pause. TUCK waits for ALLAN to continue.

ALLAN (cont'd)

He's been having a lot of sleepless nights lately.

TUCK

I see.

ALLAN looks at TUCK, hopefully. ALLAN leans in over the table.

ALLAN

Is there something you can give him, or do for him, to help him sleep?

TUCK

(thoughtfully)

Maybe.

(beat)

Restless sleep is usually the sign of something weighting heavily on the mind. On the soul.

(beat)

If you could take me to him...

ALLAN gives TUCK a look.

ALLAN (VO)

(thought)

*Should I bring this monk to the camp?
I'd do anything to help Guy and Robin,
but can I trust this man?*

TUCK continues.

TUCK

...I will see what I can do.

ALLAN thinks a little longer. Then decides it's worth the risk.

ALLAN

Okay.

ALLAN and TUCK rise from the table and exit.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

A SHORT WHILE LATER**SHERWOOD FOREST**

17 PATH TO OUTLAW CAMP

TUCK and ALLAN are walking in silence. TUCK can tell ALLAN is hiding something. ALLAN is a few paces in front of TUCK.

TUCK

There is more isn't there?

ALLAN stops walking and turns to TUCK.

ALLAN

What?

TUCK continues walking and stops beside ALLAN.

TUCK

It's not just Robin you are worried about.

ALLAN doesn't answer. ALLAN's silence is confirmation to TUCK that he is right.

TUCK (cont'd)

There is someone else.

ALLAN gives TUCK a look.

TUCK (cont'd)

Someone who means more to you than Robin. Someone whose identity must remain a secret.

ALLAN wonders how TUCK knows all this.

ALLAN

(curious)

How...?

TUCK

I am right, aren't I?

TUCK gives ALLAN a look. ALLAN pauses for a moment.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Yes.

TUCK

Don't worry Allan. It is Allan, right?

ALLAN nods affirmingly.

TUCK (cont'd)

You can trust me.

TUCK starts walking again, saying line as he does.

TUCK (cont'd)

Besides, I know who it is.

ALLAN looks at TUCK with a "what" look and starts walking again.

JUMP TO:

ABOUT 30 MINUTES LATER

18 OUTLAW CAMP

LITTLE JOHN and MUCH are gone. ROBIN and GISBORNE are alone. GISBORNE's sharpening his sword and ROBIN's making arrows. ROBIN looks at GISBORNE.

ROBIN

How did you sleep last night?

GISBORNE answers without looking up from his sword.

GISBORNE

Not good.

ROBIN

Me neither.

GISBORNE looks up from the sword at ROBIN.

GISBORNE

We can't go on like this, Robin. We need...

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN hears something. He holds up his hand in a "quiet" gesture. GISBORNE tightens his grip on his sword.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

(quietly)

What is it?

ROBIN

(quietly)

Someone is coming.

GISBORNE gets to his feet, sword at the ready. ROBIN is about to ready his bow when he hears a bird call. ROBIN relaxes. GISBORNE looks at him.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Allan.

GISBORNE is about to say something, when he remembers the bird call, and puts down his sword.

GISBORNE

That wasn't a bird.

ROBIN

Nope.

GISBORNE

A signal.

ROBIN flashes GISBORNE that infuriating smirk that he uses to hate so much. ALLAN and TUCK enter.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Who's your friend?

ALLAN

This is Brother Tuck. He's here to help.

GISBORNE

(curious)

With what?

TUCK looks from ROBIN to GISBORNE. He figures that the man with arrows is ROBIN and the other one must be who he suspected. TUCK thinks to himself.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK (VO)
(thought)
So the rumours were true.

Then says the following aloud.

TUCK
I hear you're having trouble sleeping.

ROBIN and GISBORNE look at each other, and then at ALLAN.

ROBIN
Allan?

ALLAN
I was worried about you. Both of you.

TUCK looks at ROBIN.

TUCK
As well he should be. A leader is no good to his men if he doesn't get enough sleep, Robin.

ROBIN, GISBORNE, and ALLAN look at TUCK.

TUCK (cont'd)
(thoughtfully)
You know, years ago, when I left this country, the people of this nation were proud, strong, full of spirit. Now I come back to find their backs broken, their hope shattered. Everywhere I go I see fear and suspicion haunting their faces. And yet everywhere, I hear one name. Even from the mouths of children. One name, whispered in hope. One name that keeps the flame of England burning...Robin Hood.

TUCK looks at ROBIN, smiling.

TUCK (cont'd)
You are Robin Hood.

ROBIN nods in agreement. TUCK looks at GISBORNE.

TUCK (cont'd)

You too are well known, Sir Guy of Gisborne. Although, at the moment, for entirely different reasons.

GISBORNE gives TUCK a look.

TUCK (cont'd)

You know the Sheriff is going crazy trying to find you!

GISBORNE

Good. After what he did, he better pray he never finds me.

TUCK gives GISBORNE a look. Momentary pause. TUCK looks to ALLAN.

TUCK

Leave us alone.

ALLAN

I don't know. I...

TUCK

You want me to help them?

ALLAN

Yes.

TUCK

Then please, leave.

ALLAN looks to ROBIN and GISBORNE. ROBIN gives him an "It's okay, go" look. ALLAN leaves. TUCK watches ALLAN leave, then looks to ROBIN and GISBORNE.

JUMP TO:

ABOUT 90 MINUTES LATER

19 OUTSIDE DOORWAY

ALLAN is pacing near the door.

A few moments later, LITTLE JOHN and MUCH approach. They spot ALLAN pacing and wonder what's up.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

Why are you...

ALLAN raises a finger to his lips signaling them to be quiet.

ALLAN

Shh.

LITTLE JOHN

(curious)

Why?

LITTLE JOHN waits for ALLAN to answer. ALLAN doesn't. After a few seconds LITTLE JOHN continues.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

What's going on, Allan?

Before ALLAN can answer, TUCK exits. LITTLE JOHN and MUCH are startled. LITTLE JOHN addresses TUCK.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

Who are you?

TUCK

I am Brother Tuck. I have been tending to your friends.

MUCH

(deeply concerned)

Tending? What happened? Is Robin...

TUCK holds up his hands in a "stop-like" gesture.

TUCK

They are both fine.

MUCH breathes a sign of relief. TUCK looks to ALLAN.

TUCK (cont'd)

They should sleep better tonight. And every night after.

ALLAN

(grateful)

Thanks.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

Any time, my son.

ALLAN

If something should happen, how can we
find you?

TUCK is about to answer when ROBIN appears in the doorway. He
leans on the side and addresses TUCK.

ROBIN

Don't suppose you'd like to stick
around for a while?

GISBORNE appears in the doorway and leans on the other side.
He looks to TUCK. TUCK looks at ROBIN and smiles.

TUCK

I would be honoured.

ROBIN smiles. GISBORNE rolls his eyes and goes back inside.
ROBIN heads to TUCK.

ROBIN

Great.

ROBIN offers TUCK his hand.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(smile)

Welcome to the gang.

TUCK takes ROBIN's hand.

FADE TO:

2 WEEKS LATER

SHEWSBURY

20 SQUIRE THORNTON'S MANOR

Lady ISABELLA Thornton is pacing the room. A servant enters.

SERVANT

The monk has returned, m'lady.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(smile)
Show him in.

SERVANT

Yes m'lady.

The servant exits. ISABELLA walks over to a cabinet, unlocks it, and removes a small vial. She walks over to a table that has goblets and a pitcher of wine. She empties the contents of the vial into a goblet, and then fills the goblet with wine. She is pouring wine into a second goblet when the door re-opens. ISABELLA looks up. The servant enters, followed by the monk.

It's TUCK.

ISABELLA picks up both goblets and addresses the servant.

ISABELLA

Leave us.

The servant leaves. ISABELLA walks towards TUCK as he walks toward her. ISABELLA offers TUCK the goblet with the drug in it.

ISABELLA

Brother Tuck, I hope you bring good news.

TUCK says his line as he accepts the goblet ISABELLA is offering.

TUCK

I do.

ISABELLA

(smile)
Well, let's drink to that.

ISABELLA drinks from her goblet. TUCK takes a big drink from his.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

You've been gone for a long time. I was starting to worry.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA takes another sip from her goblet.

TUCK

As you can see, m'lady, I am fine.

TUCK takes another big drink from his goblet.

ISABELLA

Yes. That you are.

(beat)

So, what news do you bring me?

TUCK

(smile)

I found him.

TUCK finishes his drink.

ISABELLA

(surprise/joy)

Really?

TUCK

Yes.

ISABELLA

Where?

TUCK

Nottingham.

ISABELLA

(curious)

Nottingham?

TUCK

Yes.

ISABELLA

Why on Earth would he go back there?

TUCK looks at her with raised eyebrows.

TUCK (VO)

(thought)

Back? What did she mean back?

ISABELLA

(smile)

Revenge. Has to be. He always did have a short fuse. And he knows how to carry a grudge.

TUCK is about to say something, but his vision starts to go blurry, and he starts feeling dizzy. ISABELLA looks at TUCK and can see the drug is starting to take effect.

ISABELLA

Where, exactly, in Nottingham, is he?

TUCK

He's... He's...

TUCK realizes that ISABELLA must have drugged the wine.

TUCK

You, drugged, me.

ISABELLA

Yeah. Sorry about that.

(beat)

When you wake up, you will forget that we know each other.

(beat)

If we ever meet again, you will not recognize me.

TUCK

Why? Why did you...

ISABELLA

I can't have you telling my husband what I am planning.

TUCK

But I... I don't... What are you plan...

ISABELLA

Tell me where in Nottingham he is?

TUCK is fading fast. He realizes she is up to something. He decides to not tell her where the man she seeks truly is.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

Castle. ... Sheriff. ... He is...

TUCK passes out.

ISABELLA

(smile)

So, he's managed to get himself into the Sheriff's good graces. This is perfect.

(beat)

Now I just have to figure out how to get out of here.

As ISABELLA thinks, the servant comes back in the room. She sees TUCK on the ground and gasps. ISABELLA turns to face the servant.

ISABELLA

Fetch a guard. The Monk has collapsed.

The servant looks at ISABELLA not really believing her.

SERVANT

Yes, m'lady.

The servant leaves. ISABELLA returns to pacing and thinking. A few moments later a guard enters. He sees TUCK on the ground. ISABELLA has her back to them.

GUARD

What do you want me to do with him?

ISABELLA addresses the guard without looking at him.

ISABELLA

Take him to the crossroads and leave him.

GUARD

(bow head)

Yes, m'lady.

The GUARD picks up TUCK and leaves.

FADE TO:

(CONTINUED)

2 DAYS LATERSHERWOOD FOREST

21 OUTLAW CAMP

ROBIN, MUCH and LITTLE JOHN are sitting over near a fire. GISBORNE and ALLAN are sitting away from the group talking. ALLAN looks over at ROBIN, and then back at GISBORNE.

ALLAN

Don't tell Robin I said this but...

(beat)

I think Marian really did care for you.

GISBORNE looks at ALLAN.

ALLAN (cont'd)

More than she'd've cared to admit.

GISBORNE remembers MARIAN saying that before she died. He can still hear her voice in his head.

MARIAN (VO)

Guy, I really did care for you. And I did love you.

GISBORNE thought he must have been dreaming, but if ALLAN is saying the same thing...

GISBORNE

(raise eyebrow)

You think so?

ALLAN gets a "yeah, duh" look on his face.

ALLAN

Yeah.

GISBORNE

(raise eyebrow)

You're not just saying that?

ALLAN

You forget that I actually saw her with you, and I saw her with Robin.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE raises an eyebrow. He hadn't really thought of that before.

ALLAN (cont'd)
She really did care for you, couldn't you tell?

GISBORN
(skeptical)
Not sure what to believe. She used me more than once.

ALLAN
Guy. Trust me. It wasn't all an act. She really did care.

GISBORNE
(thoughtfully)
Hmm.

GISBORNE looks at the ground.

ALLAN
And one more thing.
(beat)
I honestly believe that you loved her more than Robin ever did, ever could.

GISBORNE looks back at ALLAN.

ALLAN (cont'd)
How many times did you put your neck on the line for her?

GISBORNE thinks.

ALLAN (cont'd)
When did Robin ever do that?

GISBORNE looks over at ROBIN.

ALLAN (cont'd)
She also defended you, and came to your rescue, more than once.

GISBORNE looks back at ALLAN.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Didn't she convince the Sheriff to
surrender the diamonds to save your
life?

GISBORNE remembers the incident.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Didn't she convince the Sheriff to
trade Djaq for you?

Silence.

ALLAN (cont'd)

She didn't have to do that, did she?

GISBORNE realizes ALLAN is right.

GISBORNE

No. She didn't.

GISBORNE looks at ALLAN, smiles, and places a hand on his
shoulder.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Thanks, Allan. I...

ALLAN

(smile)

Don't mention it. That's what friends
are for.

GISBORNE gives him a look.

GISBORNE

Friends?

ALLAN

Yeah.

GISBORNE

Haven't had a "friend" in a long time.

ROBIN looks over. GISBORNE rises and heads over to the fire.
ALLAN watches GISBORNE walk away, waits a few seconds, then
follows.

(CONTINUED)

CAMERA pans over to ROBIN.

MUCH

(to Robin)

How long did Tuck say he would be gone?

ROBIN

He didn't.

MUCH

He's been gone for days. You think we should go look for him?

GISBORNE sits at the fire.

GISBORNE

Tuck can take care of himself.

MUCH

I know, but...

ROBIN gives MUCH a look.

ROBIN

Much, shut up.

MUCH gives ROBIN a look. ALLAN sits at the fire. MUCH is about to say something, but he notices that ROBIN and now GISBORNE are giving him that look. He says nothing.

FADE OUT:

3 DAYS LATER

22 FOREST PATH

A woman (named DEBORAH) is walking down the path. She appears to be looking for someone or something.

CAMERA PANS to show a figure watching her from the bushes. The figure exits the bushes and sneaks up behind DEBORAH. It's ROBIN.

ROBIN

Boo!

(CONTINUED)

DEBORAH jumps and spins around. ROBIN laughs. She recognizes him.

DEBORAH

Robin. You...

DEBORAH raises a hand as if to slap him. He grabs it.

ROBIN

Easy.

ROBIN smiles. DEBORAH smiles back.

ROBIN (cont'd)

So, Deborah....

ROBIN leans on his bow and continues line without stopping.

ROBIN (cont'd)

What has you roaming the mighty
Sherwood alone?

Silence. She has a concerned look on her face. ROBIN remembers that she appeared to be looking for something, or was it someone?

ROBIN (cont'd)

Did you lose something?

DEBORAH

No I...

(beat)

I was looking for someone.

Momentary pause. ROBIN looks at her with raised eyebrows.

ROBIN

(curious)

In the forest? Who were you...

DEBORAH gives him a "who do you think" look.

DEBORAH

You, actually.

ROBIN looks at her confused. Why would she be looking for him?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
Me?

DEBORAH
Yes.

ROBIN
Why?

DEBORAH
I need your help.

ROBIN is curious.

DEBORAH (VO)
(thought)
*Maybe this was a mistake. Maybe he
won't help him. So much has changed.
Can I really ask him this now?*

ROBIN waits a few seconds for her to continue. When she
doesn't, he prompts her.

ROBIN
What can I help you with?

DEBORAH
I need you to help me find...
(beat x2)
...someone.

ROBIN
(curious)
Who?

No reply. ROBIN prompts her again.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Deborah, I can't find someone if I
don't know who...

DEBORAH
(flatly)
Sir Guy.

ROBIN raises an eyebrow. Was she serious?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(curiously)
Sir Guy? Of Gisborne?

DEBORAH
Is there another?

ROBIN
(mutter)
One is enough.

DEBORAH
(concern)
Robin, please. No one has seen him in months. It's not like him to be away for so long. I'm really starting to worry.

ROBIN
He can take care of himself.

DEBORAH
I know but, I don't want history to repeat itself. Last time...

He remembers what happened the last time. He looks at her.

ROBIN
That was different.

DEBORAH
I know. But still, I...

ROBIN
Why?

DEBORAH
(confused)
Why what?

ROBIN
Why do you want me to find him?

ROBIN says the next line not really meaning it. But since GISBORNE's involvement with the gang is still not commonly known, he needs to keep up appearances. (There is no pause between lines.)

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)
Locksley is better off without him.

ROBIN turns and starts to walk off, knowing she will stop him.

DEBORAH
How long have we known each other?

ROBIN stops and turns back to face her.

ROBIN
A long time.

DEBORAH
(pleadingly)
He's not a monster, Robin. You know that.

ROBIN
Yeah. I know.

DEBORAH
It's not like him to just vanish. He hasn't been to Locksley Manor in months. He hasn't been to Nottingham or the Castle either. I've checked. It's like he's just...

ROBIN can hear the concern in her voice and gives in.

ROBIN
Okay.

DEBORAH
You mean that?

ROBIN
Yes.

ROBIN goes to her and places a hand on her shoulder.

ROBIN (cont'd)
I'll help you.

DEBORAH
(smile)
Thank you.

ROBIN

Come on.

ROBIN and DEBORAH walk off.

CUT TO:

ABOUT 45 MINUTES LATER

23 OUTLAW CAMP

MUCH appears to be cooking. LITTLE JOHN is sitting alone. GISBORNE is off to one side, daydreaming. ALLAN enters. All eyes turn to him.

ALLAN

Robin is coming.

MUCH

I hope he brought dinner.

ALLAN

No.

(beat)

But he is bringing someone.

Everyone raises an eyebrow. Before anyone can say anything, ALLAN continues.

ALLAN (cont'd)

A woman.

LITTLE JOHN/MUCH

A woman?

LITTLE JOHN and MUCH run to the door to get a look.

GISBORNE

(mutter)

So much for a secret base.

PAN TO:

23b FOCUS ON DOORWAY

CAMERA positions itself behind MUCH.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH
Hang on. I know her.

ALLAN
(raise eyebrow)
You do?

MUCH
She's from Locksley.

PAN TO:

23c FOCUS ON GISBORNE

GISBORNE is curious and ventures over.

CONTINUE TO:

23d FOCUS ON DOORWAY

GISBORNE recognizes her.

GISBORNE
(mutter)
Deborah.

MUCH hears what GISBORNE says and looks at him.

MUCH
That's right. Deborah.

GISBORNE turns and walks away.

CONTINUE TO:

23e FOCUS ON GISBORNE

CAMERA follows GISBORNE as he heads away from the group to a shadowy part of the camp. He is almost hidden. You might not see him if you didn't know he was there.

PAN TO:

23f FOCUS ON DOORWAY

MUCH looks at GISBORNE.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH (cont'd)
You know her then, I take it.

PAN TO:

23g FOCUS ON GISBORNE

GISBORNE
Yes. You could say that.

PAN TO:

23h FOCUS ON DOORWAY

MUCH realizes that of course Gisborne knows her.

MUCH
(feeling a little stupid)
Of course you do. She works in Locksley
Manor. And you...

LITTLE JOHN
Sh.

Group goes silent.

CAMERA moves to behind MUCH and we see ROBIN and DEBORAH
approach.

PAN TO:

23i FOCUS ON FIRE

MUCH, LITTLE JOHN, and ALLAN head to the fire and sit down.
GISBORNE stays where he is.

PAN TO:

23j FOCUS ON DOORWAY

ROBIN and DEBORAH enter. ROBIN notices LITTLE JOHN, MUCH, and
ALLAN at the fire and looks around and sees GISBORNE off in a
corner. ROBIN lets GISBORNE know that he knows he is there but
will not say anything. ROBIN motions DEBORAH to join the gang
at the fire. They head over.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

23k FOCUS ON FIRE

ROBIN and DEBORAH sit. ROBIN looks at DEBORAH.

ROBIN
Let me introduce everyone.

ROBIN indicates MUCH.

ROBIN (cont'd)
You already know Much.

DEBORAH
Yes.

MUCH and DEBORAH nod to each other. ROBIN looks to LITTLE JOHN.

ROBIN
John....

LITTLE JOHN and DEBORAH nod to each other. ROBIN looks at ALLAN.

ROBIN (cont'd)
...Allan.

ALLAN and DEBORAH nod to each other.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Men, this is Deborah.

ALLAN gives ROBIN a "you forgot Guy" look. ROBIN gives ALLAN a "no I didn't" look. DEBORAH looks at ROBIN.

DEBORAH
(curious)
Where's everyone else?

ROBIN
They're around.

ROBIN looks over at GISBORNE.

LITTLE JOHN
(raise eyebrow)
So, what brings you to...

ROBIN

She has asked for my help in finding someone.

MUCH

Who?

ROBIN glances at GISBORNE again. No one notices.

ALLAN

Come on. Who is it? Who does she want...

ROBIN

(smile)

That's the best part.

Momentary pause. Everyone looks at ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I don't have to find him.

Everyone is confused. Including DEBORAH.

DEBORAH

What? You said you would...

ROBIN

And I have.

Everyone is still confused.

MUCH

What do you...

ROBIN

I don't have to find him, because he isn't missing.

DEBORAH

Of course he is.

ROBIN

No he isn't. He's right here.

(beat)

Aren't you, Guy?

(CONTINUED)

DEBORAH

What? Here? Where? I don't...

GISBORNE walks out. DEBORAH rises.

GISBORNE

Deborah.

DEBORAH

(happy)

Sir Guy.

She goes to him. The gang is stunned.

GISBORNE

What are you...

DEBORAH reaches him and kisses him. The gang all raise their eyebrows. ROBIN smiles and shakes his head from side to side.

DEBORAH (VO)

(thought)

I shouldn't be doing this. He is going to be...

DEBORAH breaks kiss. GISBORNE looks a little stunned.

DEBORAH

This is where you've been all this time?

GISBORNE

Well, I...

DEBORAH

With Robin?

GISBORNE

Yes.

DEBORAH hugs him, tightly. The gang are watching them wondering what is going on. GISBORNE gives ROBIN a look. ROBIN just shrugs his shoulders.

DEBORAH

I looked everywhere for you.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

(mutter)
Obviously not everywhere or you would
have...

ROBIN gives him a look. ALLAN shuts up. DEBORAH breaks the hug
and looks at GISBORNE.

DEBORAH

No one. And I do mean no one. Has seen
you in months.

GISBORNE

(mutter)
Kinda the plan.

GISBORNE looks at her and raises an eyebrow.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

(concerned)
Why are you looking for me?

DEBORAH

I... I...

DEBORAH's not sure how to really answer. She thinks the
following to herself.

DEBORAH (VO)

(thought)
*Should I tell him I love him? That I
always have? It's obvious he doesn't
remember me, but it was so long ago.
And he's changed so much since those
days.*

She realizes everyone is staring at her waiting for her to
continue. She finally finishes the sentence.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

(quietly)
I miss you.

She thought she was being quiet, but she forgot where she was.
These guys could hear a twig snap a mile away. LITTLE JOHN and
MUCH stifle a laugh. ROBIN and ALLAN say nothing.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

You miss me?

DEBORAH

Yes. Is that so hard to believe?

GISBORNE

I don't think anyone has ever said that to me before.

DEBORAH

Well I did. I do.

Momentary pause.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

You aren't always the nicest person, Sir Guy...

LITTLE JOHN

(mutter)

That's an understatement.

DEBORAH

...But you're all I have.

ROBIN gives LITTLE JOHN a look. LITTLE JOHN gives ROBIN a sorry look back.

Momentary pause.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

Working for you let me see a side of you that hasn't been seen in years. I know how much you...

GISBORNE gives her a look.

GISBORNE

You think you know me?

DEBORAH

Sir Guy, I...

GISBORNE

You don't know me. No one does.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

That's not true.

GISBORNE gives ALLAN an icy stare. ALLAN shuts up. GISBORNE walks away from DEBORAH. She looks over at him. His back is now to the group. She looks at ROBIN. ROBIN gives her a "go to him" look. DEBORAH walks over to GISBORNE. ROBIN watches, ready to interfere if he has to. But he doesn't think he will have to. DEBORAH places a hand on GISBORNE's arm.

DEBORAH

(pleadingly)

Please, m'lord. Come home. Come back to...

GISBORNE doesn't look at her. He looks at the ground.

GISBORNE

(sadly)

I can't. Too much has...

DEBORAH

(still pleading)

Please.

GISBORNE turns and faces her. DEBORAH removes her hand from his shoulder. He gives her a look. A look she has seen many times before. A look that says "I'm sorry. I can't". No one says anything. After a few moments she accepts it.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

(sadly)

Okay.

(beat)

At least I know you are alright.

(beat)

Just know, that if you ever...

GISBORNE

(smile)

Thanks.

DEBORAH smiles back at him. She's missed his smile. He doesn't smile often, but when he does, it makes her feel so good.

DEBORAH

Walk me back to Locksley?

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Sure.

DEBORAH and GISBORNE head for the doorway. ROBIN stands as they pass.

DEBORAH

See ya later, Robin.

ROBIN

(smile)

Later, Deborah.

DEBORAH hugs him and whispers in his ear.

DEBORAH

(whisper)

Thank you.

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE. They share a look. ROBIN and DEBORAH break the hug. DEBORAH and GISBORNE exit. ROBIN sits back down to notice that LITTLE JOHN, MUCH, and ALLAN are all staring at him.

ALLAN

Okay. Out with it.

ROBIN looks to ALLAN.

ROBIN

(raise eyebrow)

What?

LITTLE JOHN

(curious)

Why did you really bring her here?

ROBIN

(play innocent)

What do you mean?

LITTLE JOHN

You could have told her you knew where he was without bringing her here.

Momentary pause. ROBIN gives in.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

I thought Guy needed to know that he
wasn't alone. That someone cared
about...

MUCH

What?

ROBIN

He keeps a lot bottled up.

(mutter)

Always did.

(normal)

It's not good.

ALLAN

(understandingly)

And you thought she could...

ROBIN

Yeah.

ALLAN thinks that ROBIN may be right. He'd seen DEBORAH a few times when he was at Locksley Manor. He thought he'd caught Guy looking at her when no one was looking. And he was pretty sure the only reason Guy never made any moves on her was because of Marian.

ROBIN knows DEBORAH has always had a "thing" for GISBORNE. He never understood why.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Look, it's obvious that she really
cares and...

ALLAN

And you wanted to play Cupid.

LITTLE JOHN

(look at Allan)

For Gisborne? Why would...

ROBIN

Why not?

ALLAN knows that Guy is still grieving Marian.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

I don't think he's ready.

Everyone looks at ALLAN. ALLAN gets a "what" look on his face.

MUCH

Not ready?

ALLAN

I think I know him better than you do.
I mean I did work with him for a few
months.

LITTLE JOHN

Don't remind us.

ROBIN doesn't want a fight to break out.

ROBIN

John.

ALLAN rises and looks to ROBIN.

ALLAN

This could backfire, Robin.

ROBIN

I doubt it.

ALLAN gives ROBIN a look.

ROBIN (cont'd)

What could possibly go wrong?

Silence. MUCH thinks of something.

MUCH

He could decide that she is right.
And...

Everyone looks at MUCH. MUCH continues without stopping.

MUCH (cont'd)

...go back.

MUCH notices the looks and gets defensive.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH (cont'd)

I mean, it is possible. He could see Locksley, think of everything he's given up, and go back.

ROBIN

No. He wouldn't.

MUCH

You don't know that.

ROBIN

Yes. I do.

LITTLE JOHN thinks he hears something in ROBIN's voice. Why was ROBIN so sure Gisborne wouldn't leave.

LITTLE JOHN

What makes you so sure he won't?

ROBIN

I know him. He...

ROBIN stops himself. He looks at the ground and thinks to himself.

ROBIN (VO)

(thought)

Should I tell them? Can I tell them?

They are waiting for ROBIN to finish his thought. When he doesn't LITTLE JOHN prompts him.

LITTLE JOHN

He what?

ALLAN looks at ROBIN, then at LITTLE JOHN.

ALLAN

He's changed. He's not the man he was before.

ALLAN looks back at ROBIN. ROBIN looks at ALLAN.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

ABOUT 30 MINUTES LATER

24 FOREST PATH TO LOCKSLEY

GISBORNE and DEBORAH are walking, side-by-side, quietly. After a few moments she breaks the silence.

DEBORAH

Sorry for what happened back at the camp.

GISBORNE looks at her with raised eyebrows.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

I don't know what came over me. That will never happen again, m'lord.

DEBORAH can see the confused look on his face.

DEBORAH

The kiss. It was out of line, m'lord.

GISBORNE takes her hand in his and stops walking. DEBORAH stops walking. He looks at her.

GISBORNE

Did you mean what you said back there?

DEBORAH looks at him.

DEBORAH

Every word, m'lord.

GISBORNE let's go of her hand and looks at her.

GISBORNE

You really missed me?

DEBORAH

(smile)
Yes, m'lord.

GISBORNE

Why?

DEBORAH

Isn't it obvious?

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE looks at her with a raised eyebrow.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

I've seen the way you look at me when
you think no one is looking.

GISBORNE looks to the ground. She lifts his head up.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

I tried to let you know that I feel it
too. Always have. I wanted you to know
that you could have me. I wanted you
to know that it could be like it was
be...

GISBORNE

I...

DEBORAH raises a finger to his lips, shushing him.

DEBORAH

I know your heart belongs to her. It
will always belong to her. She...

GISBORNE brings his hand to the side of her face and cups it.

GISBORNE

Deborah, I...

GISBORNE has that look again.

DEBORAH

(smile)
Kiss me, m'lord.

GISBORNE

(smile)
Guy. Call me Guy.

DEBORAH

(smile)
Kiss me, Guy.

GISBORNE kisses her.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

ABOUT AN HOUR LATER

LOCKSLEY

25 ENTRANCE TO VILLAGE

The SHERIFF and some guards ride into the village.

PAN TO:

26 OUTSIDE MANOR HOUSE

The SHERIFF and his men stop outside the manor house.

SHERIFF

Well, let's go see where he is!

The SHERIFF dismounts.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

(yell)

Gisborne!!!!

The SHERIFF enters the house, still yelling for Gisborne.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

(yell)

Gis-borne!!!!

The CAMERA stays outside focused on the door as the SHERIFF searches the entire house yelling for Gisborne. After a few moments he exits. Not happy. The SHERIFF yells at the Villagers.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Where. Is. He!!!

MALE VILLAGER #1

I don't know m'lord.

The SHERIFF looks at him disbelievingly.

SHERIFF

You expect me to believe that?

MALE VILLAGER #1

It's the truth, m'lord.

(CONTINUED)

The SHERIFF looks around addressing the entire village.

SHERIFF

He is lord of this village! Surely,
you've seen him!

MALE VILLAGER #2

No, m'lord.

The SHERIFF looks at the man.

MALE VILLAGER #2(cont'd)

He's not been seen in months, m'lord.

SHERIFF

I don't believe you.

MALE VILLAGER #2

Why would I lie, m'lord?

The SHERIFF thinks. The villager was right. These peasants are no fan of Gisborne's. If they knew anything they'd tell him. Wouldn't they? The SHERIFF looks around.

PAN TO:

ABOUT 20 MINUTES LATER

27 HILLSIDE OVERLOOKING LOCKSLEY

GISBORNE and DEBORAH are approaching. They hear the ruckus going on in the village and approach to a spot where they can observe.

CAMERA positions itself behind GISBORNE and DEBORAH. The main focus is DEBORAH and GISBORNE, but we can see and hear the SHERIFF and his men down below.

DEBORAH and GISBORNE watch the SHERIFF and his men.

SHERIFF

(yell)
Search the entire village.

GISBORNE looks unhappy. They watch as the guards start to search the village.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

The Sheriff.

DEBORAH

Wonder what he wants?

DEBORAH's question is answered as the SHERIFF bellows from below.

SHERIFF

GISBORNE!!!!

GISBORNE looks at DEBORAH.

GISBORNE

Me.

The SHERIFF bellows from below again.

SHERIFF

Come out, come out, wherever you are?

GISBORNE gets a look of pure hatred on his face.

GISBORNE

I've waited long enough. This ends here. Now.

DEBORAH

No.

GISBORNE

What?

DEBORAH

If you go down there, alone, he'll...

A voice sounds from behind them.

ROBIN

Maybe we can help.

GISBORNE and DEBORAH turn and see ROBIN, MUCH, LITTLE JOHN, and ALLAN.

GISBORNE

Following me, Robin?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

No.

GISBORNE gives him an "Oh really" look.

ROBIN (cont'd)

We spotted the Sheriff and his men in
the forest and followed them here.

GISBORNE

Oh.

ROBIN

(smile)

We've been here for a while.

(beat)

You guys been up here the whole time?

GISBORNE and DEBORAH look at each other. DEBORAH speaks without thinking.

DEBORAH

No. We just got here.

MUCH

(raise eyebrow)

Just now?

(beat)

What took you so long to get here? You
left...

ROBIN gives MUCH a "shut up, Much" look. MUCH gets it.

MUCH (cont'd)

Oh.

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN.

GISBORNE

(curious)

So. You got a plan?

ROBIN smiles. GISBORNE used to hate that smile, but he is getting to like it.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

ABOUT 30 MINUTES LATER

28 CENTER OF VILLAGE

A guard approaches the SHERIFF.

GUARD

He's not here, m'lord. We've searched everywhere.

SHERIFF

(yell)

Well he didn't just vanish! He has to be...

The SHERIFF stops talking as he sees a young woman enter the village. He calls to her.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

You!

DEBORAH stops and looks at the SHERIFF.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Come here!

DEBORAH goes to the SHERIFF. As she draws closer the SHERIFF thinks he recognizes her. The SHERIFF dismounts and waits. DEBORAH reaches him.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

You work in the Manor House, don't you?

DEBORAH

Yes, m'lord.

SHERIFF

(smile)

Good.

The SHERIFF gets in her face.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Your master.

(beat)

Where is he?

(CONTINUED)

DEBORAH looks at him questioningly.

DEBORAH

Sir Guy?

SHERIFF

Do you have another Master?

DEBORAH

No, m'lord.

Momentary pause.

SHERIFF

Well?

DEBORAH

I don't know, m'lord. I... He hasn't been here in months.

SHERIFF

Damn!!!!

The SHERIFF turns his back on her. Momentary pause.

DEBORAH

But...

The SHERIFF turns back to face her.

SHERIFF

(curious)

But?

DEBORAH

I can't be certain, but...

SHERIFF

Yes, yes, spit it out woman.

DEBORAH

I think I just saw him in the forest.

SHERIFF

(raise eyebrow)

The forest? What would...

(CONTINUED)

DEBORAH

I'm not saying it was him, m'lord. He looked...

SHERIFF

But it could have been?

DEBORAH

Yes, m'lord.

The SHERIFF thinks to himself, then he looks at two guards.

SHERIFF

You two, go check it out.

The SHERIFF addresses the rest of the guards as the two men he just signaled out mount their horses and ride off.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

The rest of you, back to the castle.

The SHERIFF mounts his horse and leaves with the rest of his guards. The villagers return to what they were doing before the Sheriff arrived. DEBORAH momentarily looks up the hillside to where she knows Guy and Robin's men are hiding. Then heads to the Manor House.

CUT TO:

1 WEEK LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

29 CLEARING - NIGHT

GISBORNE and DEBORAH are standing by a stream. It is a starry night. The moon is full. GISBORNE is behind her. His arms are around her waist. She is leaning back, against his chest. GISBORNE whispers in her ear.

GISBORNE

It is getting late.

DEBORAH sighs.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

I should get you back.

(CONTINUED)

DEBORAH

Do you have to?

GISBORNE

We've been over this, D. I...

DEBORAH

But I want to stay here. With you.

GISBORNE

I know, but...

DEBORAH turns in his arms and looks at him.

DEBORAH

Then stay with me. At Locksley.

GISBORNE

You know I can't. It's too dangerous.

GISBORNE lovingly strokes the side of her face.

DEBORAH

Just for the night.

He looks at her. He knows what would happen if the Sheriff caught him.

GISBORNE

The Sheriff has spies everywhere.

DEBORAH

Not at the Manor House.

GISBORNE raises an eyebrow. DEBORAH puts her arms around his neck.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

(smile seductively)

How long has it been since you've slept
in a real bed?

GISBORNE thinks to himself.

GISBORNE (VO)

(thought)

Too long.

(CONTINUED)

DEBORAH

Come on. No one will know.

GISBORNE thinks a little longer, then reluctantly, agrees.

GISBORNE

(reluctantly)

Okay.

DEBORAH smiles and kisses him.

JUMP TO:

ABOUT 30 MINUTES LATER

LOCKSLEY

30 HEADING TO MANOR HOUSE

GISBORNE and DEBORAH are sneaking through the village on the way to the Manor House. They pass a house close to the Manor house and don't notice the man near the window. MAN watches GISBORNE and DEBORAH sneaking past.

MAN

(quietly)

He's back!

MAN waits till he can no longer see GISBORNE and DEBORAH then runs out of the village.

PAN TO:

31 MANOR HOUSE - INSIDE

Door opens. GISBORNE and DEBORAH enter. GISBORNE looks around. He's missed this place. He didn't realize how much until just now. DEBORAH takes his GISBORNE's hand and leads him to her room.

PAN TO:

32 BEDROOM

DEBORAH and GISBORNE enter. GISBORNE swoops her up in his arms and carries her over to the bed. He places her down on the

(CONTINUED)

bed. They undress each other. (Note: He does not take off his "dog tag". It stays.) They make love.

FADE OUT:

NEXT MORNING

NOTTINGHAM

33 CASTLE - GREAT HALL

SHERIFF is sitting in his chair, daydreaming. He is wondering where GISBORNE is. A guard enters.

GUARD

M'lord, there is a man from Locksley here to see you.

The SHERIFF perks to attention at the mention of Locksley.

SHERIFF

Locksley?

GUARD

Yes, m'lord. He arrived last night.

SHERIFF

What does he want?

GUARD

Wouldn't say, m'lord. Said he'd only talk to you.

The SHERIFF is curious.

SHERIFF

Show him in.

GUARD

Yes, m'lord.

The guard goes to the door and motions someone in from outside. A man enters. It is the man that spotted Gisborne and Deborah last night. The guard brings the man to the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF looks at the man.

SHERIFF

Well, what is it?

(CONTINUED)

MAN

(smile)

He is back, m'lord.

SHERIFF

(raise eyebrow)

Who's back?

MAN

Sir Guy, m'lord.

SHERIFF sits at attention.

SHERIFF

Gisborne?

MAN

Yes, m'lord. I saw him last night.

SHERIFF

Where?

MAN

Locksley, m'lord. Heading to the manor house he was, m'lord.

SHERIFF is intrigued.

SHERIFF

Hmmm.

MAN

And he wasn't alone, m'lord.

SHERIFF

(curious)

Oh?

MAN

Deborah was with him, m'lord.

SHERIFF

(raise eyebrow)

Who?

MAN

She works at the Manor House, m'lord.

(CONTINUED)

The SHERIFF thinks he knows the woman.

SHERIFF

5'6", brunette, blue eyes, big...

MAN

(smile)

Yes, m'lord. That's how I knew it was him. If she hadn't've been there, I wouldn't have recognized him, m'lord.

The SHERIFF smiles.

SHERIFF

Gisborne, Gisborne, Gisborne, when will you learn.

The man looks at the SHERIFF.

MAN

I don't suppose there is a reward for this information, m'lord?

The SHERIFF looks at him and smiles.

SHERIFF

Reward?

(beat)

Of course.

The man smiles. The SHERIFF looks at the guard and signals him to take the man away.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Guard. Take him to the dungeon.

MAN

(confused)

M'lord?

SHERIFF

Last time I checked, betraying your master was still a crime.

MAN

Betraying? I...

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

Silence.

The Guard takes the man away.

JUMP TO:

LOCKSLEY

34 MANOR HOUSE - BEDROOM

GISBORNE and DEBORAH are asleep. DEBORAH wakes first. She turns over and sees GISBORNE asleep on his back. He looks so peaceful. DEBORAH turns to the bedside table and opens the drawer. She reaches in and pulls out a box. She opens the box. It contains a necklace with a black arrow pendant. She runs her fingers along the pendant, trying not to cry.

DEBORAH

(mutter)

So long ago. Can you have finally found
your way back to me, my love? Can we...

GISBORNE stirs. She puts the box back in the table, closes the drawer and turns to him. He opens his eyes.

DEBORAH (cont'd)

Sleep well?

GISBORNE

Better than I have in a while.

DEBORAH

Good.

DEBORAH smiles and rolls onto him. GISBORNE looks at her.

GISBORNE

I really should be going. Robin...

DEBORAH

A few more minutes won't make a
difference.

She kisses him. He pulls her close to him. They make love.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

2 HOURS LATERSHERWOOD FOREST

35 OUTLAW CAMP

ROBIN, MUCH, ALLAN, and LITTLE JOHN are getting ready to head out.

ROBIN
Who saw him last?

Silence. After a few seconds ALLAN speaks up.

ALLAN
He was meeting Deborah last night.
Maybe...

ROBIN looks to ALLAN.

ROBIN
Deborah?

ALLAN
Yeah. They've been spending a lot of
time together lately.

ROBIN
Really?

ALLAN
Guess you were right.

LITTLE JOHN
Robin, we can't wait for him. We have
to...

The door opens and GISBORNE enters. All eyes turn to him.
LITTLE JOHN looks to ROBIN.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)
Now, can we go?

GISBORNE
Go? Where?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN signals the men to move out. ROBIN looks at GISBORNE as he passes him.

ROBIN
I'll explain on the way.

ROBIN and GISBORNE leave.

CUT TO:

1 HOUR LATER

LOCKSLEY

36 MANOR HOUSE

DEBORAH is daydreaming of GISBORNE. She is holding the necklace with the black arrow pendant in her hands.

DEBORAH
(thoughtfully)
Tonight I will show you this and see
if you remember when you...

The door swings open. She jumps, startled, and hides the necklace in a fist. Two guards grab her. She struggles as they drag her out.

DEBORAH
Let go of me!!!

They drag her out.

PAN TO:

37 OUTSIDE MANOR HOUSE

The SHERIFF is outside the main door on his horse. The guards exit with DEBORAH. DEBORAH is about to protest again, but she sees the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF smiles his evil smile and glares at her. DEBORAH tries to jerk her hand free.

(Note: She does this so she can drop the necklace off to the side on the ground behind her. No one notices.)

The guards tighten their grasp on her. DEBORAH looks up at the SHERIFF. He has a smug grin on his face and fire in his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

You lied to me.

DEBORAH

(confused)

What?

SHERIFF

Lying is not tolerated.

(beat)

And collaborating, is...

DEBORAH

(raise eyebrow)

Collaborating, m'lord?

SHERIFF

You have been seen in his company. You know where he is.

(beat)

You will tell me where he is, or you will die.

DEBORAH

Never.

SHERIFF

What?

DEBORAH

I will not betray...

SHERIFF

Then you will die.

DEBORAH looks worried. She starts to struggle. The SHERIFF looks at another guard and signals him over.

GUARD

Yes, m'lord?

SHERIFF

Kill her.

GUARD

Yes, m'lord.

(CONTINUED)

DEBORAH gets a look of shock. GUARD draws his sword and heads to her. The SHERIFF looks at DEBORAH.

SHERIFF

That's right. You will die here. Now.
No one will come to save you. I've made
sure of that.

DEBORAH raises an eyebrow.

DEBORAH (VO)

(thought)

*What does that mean? Made sure? What
did he do?*

SHERIFF

Care to change your answer?

DEBORAH

Do what you must. I will not betray
Guy.

SHERIFF

Oh, Guy, is it?

The SHERIFF gives the guard the signal. The Guard kills her. The two guards holding her drop her. She falls to the ground. The SHERIFF and the guards ride off.

The villagers, who for the most part have been hiding and staying out of the way, gather around. Not sure what to do.

Once the SHERIFF and his men are out of sight, two men pick up DEBORAH's body and bring her back inside the Manor House. The rest of the villagers return to what they were doing.

JUMP TO:

30 MINUTES LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

38 FOREST ROAD/PATH

ROBIN and the gang have stopped a convoy. All the guards are dead, except for one who is tied to a tree. ROBIN's men have finish searching the wagon. It is empty.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

Nothing.

ROBIN

You sure?

ALLAN

Yeah.

MUCH

I don't understand.

The guard starts snickering. GISBORNE goes over to him.

GISBORNE

What's so funny?

GUARD

You've been had, Sir!

ALLAN

What?

GUARD

Don't you get it? This was a diversion.
To keep you from...

The GUARD stops talking. LITTLE JOHN addresses him.

LITTLE JOHN

From what?

The GUARD is quiet. GISBORNE advances and brings his sword to the guard's neck.

GISBORNE

Tell me?

Silence. GISBORNE presses the sword closer to the man's skin.

GUARD

Locksley.

Everyone exchanges looks.

GISBORNE

Why?

(CONTINUED)

GUARD

Don't know. The Sheriff just said he had a matter to attend to there and didn't want Robin Hood interfering.

GUARD laughs.

GUARD (cont'd)

Wait till he finds out that you're now helping Hood. He...

GISBORNE kills him, then stares at the body.

ROBIN

What did you...

GISBORNE pulls the sword out.

MUCH

(interrupt)

What do you think the "matter" is that the Sheriff has to...

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN, and they share a look.

GISBORNE

Deborah!

GISBORNE runs off, heading to Locksley.

ROBIN

Guy! Wait!

ROBIN runs after him. The rest of the gang run after ROBIN.

JUMP TO:

30 MINUTES LATER

LOCKSLEY

39 MANOR HOUSE

The door flies open. GISBORNE enters.

GISBORNE

Deborah?

(CONTINUED)

The few villagers that were in the house all snap to attention at the sound of their master's voice.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

De...

GISBORNE notices the crowd in the "living room". The group appear to be gathered around something. GISBORNE gets a very bad feeling.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Move!

Everyone moves. He sees DEBORAH's body.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

No!

GISBORNE runs over to her. ROBIN and gang enter the house and see DEBORAH. They stop. The villagers all run out of the house.

PAN TO:

39b FOCUS ON GISBORNE

GISBORNE reaches her.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

D. I'm sorry. I...

GISBORNE cradles her head in his arms, stroking her hair and face. He starts to cry.

PAN TO:

39c FOCUS ON ROBIN AND HIS GANG

ROBIN signals his men to leave. They leave. ROBIN goes to GISBORNE.

PAN TO:

39d FOCUS ON GISBORNE

GISBORNE feels a hand on his shoulder and looks up. It's ROBIN. ROBIN gives him a sorrowful look of understanding. After all she was his friend as well.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

I'm sorry, Guy. I...

GISBORNE is about to say something when he notices a young boy is still there. GISBORNE addresses the boy.

GISBORNE

What happened?

BOY

(nervous)

The Sheriff, m'lord. He ordered one of his guards to kill her.

ROBIN removes his hand from GISBORNE's shoulder and looks at BOY.

ROBIN

Why?

BOY

She wouldn't tell him what he wanted to know.

GISBORNE

Which was?

BOY

He wanted you, m'lord. He said she'd lied to him and that he knew that she knew where you were because she had been seen with you.

Silence. The boy comes over.

BOY (cont'd)

She wouldn't tell him, m'lord. She...

ROBIN gives the boy a "thank-you" look. BOY leaves. GISBORNE looks back at DEBORAH. ROBIN places a hand on GISBORNE's shoulder.

ROBIN

I'll wait for you outside.

ROBIN removes hand and leaves.

CONTINUE TO:

(CONTINUED)

40 OUTSIDE MANOR HOUSE

ROBIN exits.

Out of the corner of his eye, he notices something shining in the sunlight. He bends down to pick it up. It's the necklace Deborah dropped earlier. He picks it up, strokes it, and puts it in his pocket. He looks back at the closed door behind him, then turns and heads to the gang.

JUMP TO:

ABOUT 30 MINUTES LATER

41 NEAR MANOR HOUSE

ROBIN, MUCH, ALLAN, and LITTLE JOHN, are all waiting for GISBORNE. ROBIN is leaning on his bow. ALLAN is spinning his sword on its tip on the ground. LITTLE JOHN is leaning on his staff. MUCH is pacing.

LITTLE JOHN

We should be leaving, Robin.

MUCH

He's right. We've been here too long.

ALLAN looks to the Manor House. He wonders why Gisborne hasn't come out yet. ROBIN addresses LITTLE JOHN and MUCH.

ROBIN

Go if you must. But I'm staying.

MUCH

Robin.

ROBIN

I'm not leaving him alone.

ALLAN is still looking at the Manor House.

ALLAN (VO)

(thought)

Something's not right. I know it.

ALLAN puts his sword in his belt and heads to the house. MUCH sees him.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH
Where's he going?

ROBIN
Leave him.

MUCH looks at ROBIN. He can't believe how much Robin has come to accept Gisborne over the last few months. ROBIN looks over at ALLAN as ALLAN is entering the house and continues his line.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Allan might be able to...

ROBIN's line is cut short as ALLAN immediately comes back out.

ALLAN
He's gone!!!

ROBIN runs to the house. MUCH and LITTLE JOHN follow.

PAN TO:

42 INSIDE MANOR HOUSE

ALLAN re-enters, followed by ROBIN, then MUCH, then LITTLE JOHN. The place is empty.

ROBIN
He must have snuck out the back.

MUCH
You think he's gone to confront the Sheriff.

ALLAN notices that DEBORAH's body is gone.

ALLAN
No.

ALLAN points to where DEBORAH was. Everyone looks.

ALLAN (cont'd)
I think he's...

ROBIN
Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN looks to MUCH and LITTLE JOHN.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Go back to camp.

MUCH
(curious)
What are you...?

ROBIN
Allan and I will look for Guy.

ALLAN raises an eyebrow and gives ROBIN a look.

ALLAN
(raise eyebrow)
Why do I have to...

ROBIN turns and looks at ALLAN.

ROBIN
You know him, don't you?

ALLAN
Yeah, sorta. But so do you.

ROBIN gives ALLAN a look.

ROBIN (VO)
(thought)
What does that mean? Does he know?
Could Gisborne have told him?

ALLAN is not sure what ROBIN is thinking. The look he is giving him could mean a few different things.

ALLAN (cont'd)
Okay.

LITTLE JOHN and MUCH leave. ROBIN looks at ALLAN.

ROBIN
Where would he have taken her?

ALLAN thinks.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

ABOUT AN HOUR LATERSHERWOOD FOREST

43 SOMEWHERE DEEP IN THE FOREST

GISBORNE is kneeling by the grave he has just made for DEBORAH. He has now buried two women killed by the Sheriff. GISBORNE has his head down.

GISBORNE

I'm sorry. I never should have let you
talk me into spending the night in
Locksley.

GISBORNE is about to say something else when he senses someone behind him. He's amazed how his senses have heightened since joining Robin. Not only can he sense someone behind him, but he knows who it is.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Not as stealthy as Robin, are you
Allan?

GISBORNE turns to look at him.

ALLAN

I wasn't trying to be.

GISBORNE

Did he send you after me?

ALLAN

(lie)

No.

GISBORNE looks at him. He knows ALLAN is lying and gives ALLAN that look that let's him know he knows he is lying.

ALLAN (cont'd)

(concern)

He's worried about you. So am I.

GISBORNE

I can take care of myself. I don't need
Robin to...

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Guy, it's me. You don't have to pretend with me. You're not alone. We...

GISBORNE

Maybe this was a mistake.

GISBORNE gets up and walks over to a tree. He leans on the tree. ALLAN looks over at him.

ALLAN

Maybe what was a mistake?

GISBORNE doesn't answer. ALLAN walks over to him.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Guy, I...

GISBORNE

Maybe I should just...

GISBORNE looks at his "dog tag".

GISBORNE (cont'd)

...give this back.

ALLAN

And do what? Go back to your old life?
Go back to the Sheriff?

Silence. After a few seconds, ALLAN continues.

ALLAN (cont'd)

You can't.

GISBORNE looks at ALLAN.

GISBORNE

It would be so easy. It...

ALLAN

No. You've come so far. Marian would
be so proud.

The mention of MARIAN's name stirs something in GISBORNE. He looks at ALLAN.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

You think so?

ALLAN

Yes. The you that is standing in front of me right now, is the you that she always knew was there. The you that she loved.

(beat)

You can't throw it all away now, Guy.

GISBORNE sits, head down. ALLAN sits beside him.

GISBORNE

Sometimes I think I'm cursed.

ALLAN

(raise eyebrow)

Cursed?

GISBORNE

My whole life. Nothing has ever gone my way. Everyone I love dies.

Silence. ALLAN doesn't know what to say. He waits for GISBORNE to continue.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

First my parents. Then Marian. Now Deborah. I...

ALLAN

You still have me.

GISBORNE looks at him.

GISBORNE

Thanks.

GISBORNE rises. ALLAN rises too.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

I think I need to be alone.

ALLAN

Not a good idea.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Allan, I'm okay.

ALLAN's not sure about that. He can tell he's up to something.
He has that look. GISBORNE knows ALLAN will not leave.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

I'm sorry.

ALLAN

(confused)

For what?

GISBORNE

This.

GISBORNE punches ALLAN, knocking him out. GISBORNE looks down
at ALLAN.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

(regret)

Really sorry. But I have to do this.

GISBORNE runs off.

CUT TO:

ABOUT AN HOUR LATER**NOTTINGHAM**

44 OUTSIDE CITY GATES

ROBIN is hiding just outside the gates, waiting. Lines of
people flowing into and out of the city.

ROBIN (VO)

(thought)

*Maybe Allan found him. Maybe he won't
be foolish enough to try to...*

ROBIN spots GISBORNE.

ROBIN (VO) (cont'd)

(thought)

Then again. Maybe he will be.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN blends into the crowd and follows GISBORNE into the city.

PAN TO:

45 CITY STREET

ROBIN is discretely following GISBORNE. Or so he thinks. GISBORNE has learned a lot since joining the gang. Like how to know when you are being followed.

PAN TO:

45b FOCUS ON GISBORNE

GISBORNE senses he is being followed and turns a corner.

PAN TO:

45c FOCUS ON ROBIN

ROBIN follows. As he turns the corner someone grabs him.

PAN TO:

45d FOCUS ON ROBIN and GISBORNE

GISBORNE slams ROBIN up against the wall, sword at his neck. GISBORNE does not know who it is, yet

GISBORNE

Why are you...

ROBIN

(surrender)

It's me.

GISBORNE removes the hood.

GISBORNE

(surprise)

Robin.

ROBIN gives him a "can you let me go" look. GISBORNE lets him go.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

46 CASTLE - GREAT HALL

The SHERIFF is pacing. His thoughts are interrupted when a GUARD enters.

GUARD

M'lord, Sir Guy is back!

SHERIFF

Really?

GUARD

Yes. He's been spotted in the city on the way to the Castle. And...

(beat)

He's not alone.

SHERIFF

Not alone?

GUARD

(smile)

He has Hood, m'lord.

SHERIFF

Hood?

GUARD

Yes, m'lord.

SHERIFF

Gisborne's come home. And he's brought me a present.

GUARD raises an eyebrow. The SHERIFF looks at the guard, dismissing him.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Leave me.

GUARD

Yes, m'lord.

GUARD leaves.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

ABOUT 20 MINUTES LATER

47 CASTLE - INTERIOR CORRIDOR

ROBIN and GISBORNE are walking through the castle heading to the Great Hall.

GISBORNE

You shouldn't have followed me.

ROBIN

I didn't follow you. I just figured you might show up here.

GISBORNE gives him a look.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Guy, you need to calm down.

GISBORNE grabs ROBIN and slams him against the wall.

GISBORNE

Don't tell me what to do! I don't take orders from you! I...

GISBORNE stops talking. He let's ROBIN go.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Sorry.

ROBIN

It's okay, Guy. This arrangement is still new to both of us. It will take a while to get used to it.

GISBORNE continues down the hall. ROBIN following.

PAN TO:

48 CASTLE - GREAT HALL

The SHERIFF is pacing again, muttering to himself.

SHERIFF

Gisborne. Back. I wonder what he's been up to. Wonder if all the rumours are true?

(CONTINUED)

Momentary pause.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

I hope he's still not pining over
Marian.

(beat)

He better...

The SHERIFF's thoughts are interrupted by a commotion outside the door. The SHERIFF looks to the door as it comes crashing in. GISBORNE and ROBIN enter. But something looks different. They seem to be together. Maybe all those rumours were true.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Ah, Gisborne. The prodigal son
returns. And with Hood, how
thoughtful.

GISBORNE and ROBIN advance. The SHERIFF starts to feel uneasy. He's not sure why. Then he notices the "dog tag" around GISBORNE's neck.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

You didn't? Tell me you didn't?

GISBORNE gives him a "what" look.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

You did. Really? After all I've done
for you?

GISBORNE

Done for me?

GISBORNE glares hard at the SHERIFF.

SHERIFF

I loved you like a son. And you loved
me like a father once. I know you did.
Don't deny it.

GISBORNE is still glaring at the SHERIFF.

GISBORNE

All you've ever done is make my life
hell! If it wasn't for you...

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE is getting madder and madder. But the SHERIFF continues to taunt him, continues to push his buttons. ROBIN watches, waiting to jump in if either of them looks like they are about to go to far.

SHERIFF

(mad)

If it wasn't for me, you'd be nothing.
Nothing!!

The SHERIFF gets an evil smirk on his face.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Sir Guy of *Gisborne*. There hasn't been a Gisborne in over 20 years. I don't think anyone even remembers where it was.

ROBIN gets a look on his face. He does.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

I brought you in. I saw something in you. I made you my right hand. And this, this is how you repay me, Gisborne? You owe me your...

GISBORNE draws his sword.

GISBORNE

I owe you nothing. You represent everything that is loathsome in a man.

SHERIFF

(smile evilly)

I thought you loved that about me. I was always fond on you, Gisborne. Not overly fond, but fond.

GISBORNE raises his sword.

GISBORNE

(rage)

I hate you.

ROBIN thinks the following to himself.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (VO)

(thought)

*Okay, enough of this. I'm going to put
a stop to it.*

Then says the following aloud.

ROBIN

(plead)

Guy, don't.

GISBORNE

Robin stay out of this.

SHERIFF

(raise eyebrow)

So, it's Robin now.

GISBORNE

Shut up. You have destroyed everything
I ever cared about.

SHERIFF

(fake cry)

Oh boo hoo. Poor little...

GISBORNE

If it wasn't for you, I...

SHERIFF

If it wasn't for me, you'd still be...

ROBIN can tell the SHERIFF isn't helping matters.

ROBIN

(plead)

You can't do this Guy. You can't.

GISBORNE

He killed Marian and...

SHERIFF

Marian. Always Marian. Grow up Gissy.
I did you a favour. She was using you.
From day one.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

You're wrong. She cared for me.

SHERIFF

Sure she did. Keep telling yourself that.

GISBORNE

I know she did. And she was right. You are poison.

(smile)

You have no idea how much pleasure this is going to give me. You are going to die slowly. And I'm going to watch the venom drain from your body as you die.

(beat)

I should have listened to her. I should have left you like she asked. If only...

SHERIFF

What? You think she would have married you? Really? How many times did she betray you. How many times did she...

GISBORNE lunges at him.

GISBORNE

Shut up!!!

The SHERIFF can see the look in GISBORNE's eye. He's never seen him so angry. The SHERIFF looks at ROBIN for help.

ROBIN

Guy. Stop.

GISBORNE stops. SHERIFF breathes a sign of relieve.

ROBIN (cont'd)

He's not worth it.

SHERIFF

He's right. I'm not.

ROBIN

You've worked so hard to turn your life around. Don't...

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

But he deserves it. He...

ROBIN

Yes, he does. But...

The SHERIFF looks at ROBIN. ROBIN starts to slowly advance on GISBORNE.

GISBORNE

No buts. I have to do this. For Marian.
For Deborah.

ROBIN reaches GISBORNE and places his hand on the sword.

ROBIN

Have you forgotten what will happen to
Nottingham if you kill him?

GISBORNE had been so caught up in his own rage that he must have.

GISBORNE

I...

ROBIN

I know how you feel. I want him dead
too. But...

(beat)

...this isn't the way to do it.

ROBIN takes the sword from GISBORNE.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Come on, let's go.

ROBIN looks at the SHERIFF.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(warningly)

Don't follow us.

The SHERIFF, grateful to be alive, nods affirmatively. GISBORNE and ROBIN exit.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

SHERWOOD FOREST

49 OUTLAW CAMP

The camp is deserted. TUCK enters, and noticing that he is alone, lies down on his bunk and goes to sleep.

JUMP TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

50 OUTLAW CAMP

The gang return to camp. ROBIN notices TUCK asleep.

ROBIN

Tuck's back.

ALLAN

Wonder where he's been all this time.

GISBORNE

Wonder all you want, Allan. He won't tell you.

ALLAN

What makes you say that?

GISBORNE

Just a feeling.

LITTLE JOHN

If he wanted us to know, he would have told us where he was going before he left.

TUCK starts to wake up.

ALLAN

Hey! Welcome back.

TUCK

(confused)

Back?

ALLAN

Yeah. You've been gone for weeks.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

Weeks?

ROBIN and GISBORNE exchange a look.

ROBIN

Yes. Weeks.

TUCK

(raise eyebrow)

Really? I...

(beat)

I can't seem to recall...

TUCK looks confused. ROBIN and GISBORNE exchange another look.

GISBORNE

(to Robin)

I don't like this.

ROBIN

(to Gisborne)

It could be nothing, but then again
it...

TUCK looks at ROBIN and GISBORNE.

TUCK

I'm right here you know.

LITTLE JOHN

(raise eyebrow)

You really don't remember where you've
been for the last...

TUCK

No.

GISBORNE

(concern)

What's the last thing you do remember?

TUCK thinks. Everyone looks at him. ROBIN and GISBORNE exchange
another worried look.

FADE TO:

(CONTINUED)

2 MONTHS LATERSHERWOOD FOREST

51 (305R) BY THE RIVER

ISABELLA races on horseback.

Two riders in black, with a crest of three yellow circles on their chests, follow her just as quickly.

ISABELLA slows her horse, dismounts, takes a jewellery box and a purse out of the saddlebags, slaps the horse away and disappears behind a tree. The riders go past suspecting nothing. ISABELLA spins around the tree as they pass, keeping out of sight.

After they're gone, she steps quickly across the path to a hollow log and sets the box and purse inside. She pulls vines out to cover them when she hears a horse snort behind her. She turns her head to look and sees one of the men standing, the other still on his horse. The standing man pulls out a short length of rope. ISABELLA gets to her feet, thinks a moment then lets out a breath and raises her eyebrows briefly. She holds her hands out together and steps forward.

ISABELLA

I suppose I should just come quietly.

The man slaps the rope on top of her wrists and ISABELLA raises her arms to throw off the rope, then kicks the man in the stomach and flips him over her back. She kicks him down again, pulls his sword out and approaches the man on horseback. The horse rears. She blocks his sword twice and then pulls him off the horse. The first man runs up and grabs her from behind and pulls her hands behind her.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

No! No!

ISABELLA grunts as the rope is pulled tightly around her wrists.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Please, no.

(CONTINUED)

The man pushes her forward, picks up his sword and holds it to her back, the length of rope in his other hand.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

You know what he'll do to me.

ROBIN, who has been watching out of sight the entire time, lets an arrow fly and it cuts the rope. The man turns on ROBIN. ROBIN blocks twice with his bow as ISABELLA runs out of the way a few steps behind them. ROBIN punches the first man and turns to the second. He turns the man's sword aside with his bow, then side slaps him with it. ROBIN turns back to the first man.

ROBIN

Robin Hood. The pleasure's all yours.

The first man shields his eyes to look at ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I think it's time you were on your way.

The man gets up staring at ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Now!

The men run off. ISABELLA tries to pull her hands free. ROBIN goes over to ISABELLA.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Here, allow me.

ROBIN unties her hands.

ROBIN (cont'd)

There you are.

ISABELLA turns around and is immediately entranced by ROBIN. ROBIN sees it and smiles.

ROBIN (cont'd)

So, tell me, why would two of Squire Thornton's men pursue you all the way from Shrewsbury?

ISABELLA

It wasn't me they were after. They were in pursuit of my mistress.

ROBIN chuckles silently, disbelievingly.

ROBIN

Your mistress?

ISABELLA

Well, I would hardly be much of a decoy in my maid's apron. I was helping her escape.

ROBIN

Escape from what?

ISABELLA

Her marriage.

ROBIN

But the squire sent men after her. You know, some might consider that an act of love, wouldn't they?

ISABELLA

Squire Thornton has never loved my mistress.

ROBIN hangs his head.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Now if you'll excuse me, my mistress awaits me in Nottingham.

ISABELLA turns to go, but ROBIN catches her right arm.

ROBIN

Whoa, wh-wh-wh-wh-wh-whoa!

ISABELLA raises her left fist to hit him, but he catches it and chuckles.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Whoa! Alright. You can't just go to Nottingham alone. It's too dangerous.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN switches to a more gentle grip on her wrists.

ROBIN (cont'd)
I'll take you there... safely, if you
tell me your name.

ISABELLA
Isabella.

ROBIN nods and smiles. They stand there a moment, then ISABELLA wiggles her fingers.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Will it be necessary for us to hold
hands throughout?

ROBIN chuckles then lets go of her left wrist.

ROBIN
I'm sorry.

ROBIN stands still, a bit entranced by her beauty.

ISABELLA
In all seriousness, I would like the
use of my other arm.

A horse whinnies in the distance.

ROBIN
Sh-sh. Come here quick! Quick!

ROBIN pulls ISABELLA behind the tree.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Come here, come here.

ROBIN pulls ISABELLA's back to him and wraps his arm around her.

PAN TO:

51b (305R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON HARRISON

A man named HARRISON, leads a line of Prince John's Black Elite troops, all on horseback, down the path. HARRISON stops and looks around. Behind him is a flag bearer, the rest of the men

(CONTINUED)

have shields. The flag is a red and black checkerboard design with a yellow griffin on it. The shields have the same design on them.

HARRISON

We're close. Keep moving.

A horse whinnies. HARRISON turns to his right and continues on.

PAN TO:

51c (305R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN

ROBIN frowns, releases ISABELLA and steps into the path, watching where the men have disappeared to.

CUT TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

52 (305R) BLACK ELITE CAMP

In front of two large tents, some soldiers are practicing a shield turtle. Others are dueling with swords or spears. In the back is an enormous red crate.

A SERGEANT is spouting orders in the background.

HARRISON's table is on the opposite side of the camp. If HARRISON looks straight ahead, he can see the crate. The soldiers practice in the middle of the camp between HARRISON and the crate.

SERGEANT (VO)

Keep together, lads! Move slowly.
Slowly forward. Tighter! Close
grouping! Right! Come on! Put some
energy into it! Shields higher...
and... now!

HARRISON is looking over the maps he has. One is of Nottingham and the area surrounding it. Another is a map of the forest and the river. He looks up at the troops and the red crate behind them.

(CONTINUED)

SERGEANT (VO)

Move in closer together!

The gate suddenly opens. The troops form a turtle facing it, then they separate neatly to reveal the SHERIFF riding in on his white horse. He and HARRISON exchange long looks, then HARRISON bends back down over his maps, unfazed. The SHERIFF dismounts and walks over to him.

SHERIFF

So... Prince John sent you to Nottingham with a mission, and yet nobody saw fit to tell me. The last time I checked, I was still the Sheriff.

HARRISON

The Prince is still waiting for his thousand crowns. His patience wears thin.

HARRISON starts for the tent to get another map.

SERGEANT (VO)

Protect yourself, come on!

SHERIFF

As indeed does mine. What's the mission?

HARRISON returns with the map.

HARRISON

He wants me to kill Robin Hood.

One of HARRISON's men approaches. HARRISON hands the man the map. The man leaves.

SERGEANT (VO)

Come on, people!

SHERIFF

(chuckle)

I'm sure he does.

The SHERIFF chuckles again.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

I will command the mission without incompetent, ill conceived interference from others.

SHERIFF

No. You will fail like...

HARRISON

Not this time. The Prince has furnished me with a weapon not even your Robin Hood can escape.

SHERIFF

What weapon?

HARRISON smiles, then turns and leaves, still smiling. The SHERIFF frowns, wondering if there's something more to the plan, something maybe involving him.

CUT TO:

53 (305R) ELSEWHERE IN SHERWOOD FOREST

MUCH, ALLAN, LITTLE JOHN, TUCK, and GISBORNE are walking. MUCH is carrying a rough bow and two dead rabbits.

MUCH

All I'm saying is I shot them. It'd be nice if someone else offered to cook them.

ALLAN sees ROBIN approaching.

ALLAN

Robin!

ROBIN and ISABELLA run out of the trees.

ROBIN

Turn back! We've got company!

MUCH

What?

ALLAN

So I see.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN looks back the way they came. ROBIN looks to ALLAN. He is about to explain that ISABELLA is not the company he was referring to. ISABELLA notices TUCK and hopes that the drug really does what it claimed. If he recognizes her, her plan will be over before it starts.

ROBIN

No. There are...

LITTLE JOHN runs back, having seen troops.

LITTLE JOHN

Robin...

ROBIN

Come on! This way!

TUCK

Go, go!

The Black Elite ride after them. They chase them through a meadow.

ISABELLA

What are we doing? We can't outrun them!

ROBIN

Don't worry. We're not going to.

TUCK

Follow me!

TUCK jumps into a short ravine. GISBORNE, LITTLE JOHN, MUCH, then ALLAN follow. ROBIN and ISABELLA approach the edge. ISABELLA balks.

ISABELLA

We can't!

ROBIN

Yes, we can! Jump!

ROBIN and ISABELLA, holding hands, jump into the ravine. The horsemen slow and stop at the edge, unable to follow. HARRISON goes to the front and watches them run along the bottom. ISABELLA slips and ROBIN pulls her back up.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)
Quickly! Come on! Come on!

PAN TO:

54 (305R) FOCUS ON SOLDIERS

HARRISON holds out his hand to a man, who gives him a map.
HARRISON studies it.

HARRISON
(unperturbed)
It's time. Get the weapon into
position.

JUMP TO:

55 (305R) FOCUS ON GANG

ROBIN
Go, go!

GISBORNE, TUCK, MUCH, ALLAN, and ISABELLA run down the hill.
ROBIN comes last checking behind him frequently. ISABELLA,
exhausted and not watching where she's going, falls into a low
spot.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Come on, come on.

ROBIN bends down, helps her up and they run through the tall
rocks. TUCK stops by a rock wall as LITTLE JOHN runs ahead.

LITTLE JOHN
I'll see if the road's clear.

The rest of the gang stop. LITTLE JOHN comes back.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)
No, they're closing in.

ROBIN
Right. We're making it too easy for
them. We have to split up.

MUCH
Split up? We should stick together!

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Listen to me. We've got Prince John's elite guards after us.

TUCK

They're taking us seriously.

ROBIN slaps TUCK's chest.

GISBORNE

So, he finally did it. There was talk about sending them before I left.

ROBIN

I'll lead them away.

ROBIN turns to go.

TUCK

Yeah.

MUCH

What?!

ROBIN turns back.

ROBIN

I'll be fine. Just go to Nottingham. I'll meet you there. Get out of the forest as quick as you can.

ALLAN

(raise eyebrow)

Nottingham? Are you mad?

In the following line, ROBIN says "mistress" in such a way as to let ISABELLA know he still does not believe that.

ROBIN

That's the last place that they'll look. And she needs to meet up with her "mistress". Guy, I need you to make sure she gets there safely.

GISBORNE nods. There is something about this girl that seems familiar. Did he know her? Had they met?

LITTLE JOHN

You're sending Gisborne to...

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA
(raise eyebrow)
Gisborne?

All look at her. ISABELLA is both happy and sad.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Guy!

GISBORNE and ISABELLA stare at each other.

ISABELLA (cont'd)	SUBTITLE
Mon frère doux.	My sweet brother.

ROBIN stares incredulously at them both.

ROBIN (VO)
(thought)
Did she just say my sweet brother?

GISBORNE
(stunned)
Isabella?

ISABELLA hugs him. MUCH, TUCK, LITTLE JOHN, and ALLAN look at them, not sure what is going on. ROBIN looks at GISBORNE.

ROBIN
Frère. That's French for brother, is
it not?

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN.

GISBORNE
Yes.

ISABELLA stops hugging him.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
She's my little sister.

ALLAN looks at GISBORNE with a confused look. ROBIN looks at ISABELLA again, thinking of the girl he knew so long ago.

ALLAN
(raise eyebrow)
Sister? You said you had no family?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

We haven't seen each other in...

GISBORNE

What are you doing here?

ROBIN hears the guards getting closer.

ROBIN

Hate to break up this family reunion,
but those men are still after us? We
have to get out of here.

Everyone nods in agreement. ROBIN is not sure why ISABELLA really wants to go to Nottingham, but now is not the right time to ask questions. He decides to stick to the plan and maybe discover what she is up to along the way.

ROBIN (cont'd)

See ya in Nottingham.

ROBIN slaps TUCK's shoulder and runs off.

MUCH

Robin, wait!

ROBIN keeps going.

TUCK

Listen, listen, listen. Guy, Isabella,
go north, take the cliff road. Allan,
Much, go west through the marshes.

LITTLE JOHN

Tuck, I'll go east.

TUCK

Good man. I'll go south. Go, go!

GISBORNE

(to Isabella)

Follow me.

The gang go their separate ways as the CAMERA pans up to show soldiers appearing on the rocks above them and all around them.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

NOTTINGHAM

56 (305) CASTLE - GREAT HALL

The merchants have been assembled. They're whispering amongst themselves when the door under the balcony squeaks open and the SHERIFF enters, taking off his gloves.

TREASURER

The merchants are here as per your instructions, sir.

The SHERIFF walks through the people.

SHERIFF

Yes, I can see that. Let's get on with it.

The SHERIFF addresses the merchants.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Thank you...

(beat)

...for coming on such short notice.

The SHERIFF stands behind the table with a ledger.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

I thought we would get the boring business of paying our taxes out of the way nice and early this month.

The SHERIFF lays his gloves down on table and looks up.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Unless of course...

(sit)

... anybody has a problem with that?

The TREASURER draws his sword. The merchants look at each other.

TREASURER

Step forward with your contribution.

One merchant comes forward and places a purse in the TREASURER's outstretched hand. The TREASURER squeezes it, and

(CONTINUED)

it's nearly empty.

SHERIFF

Business is very slow these days, very slow. Must be, hmm? Because you would not short-change me, would you? Because...

TREASURER

...if you short-change the Sheriff, you short-change Prince John.

The merchants all turn to leave, some muttering.

SHERIFF

What was that?

The SHERIFF stands and comes around the table.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Hmm? You dare to cast aspersions on my relationship with Prince John, hmm? Because your fate is in my hands, hmm? A word in the right ear, a whisper in the right direction.

The SHERIFF grabs the merchant's collar.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

(roar)

I am still the Sheriff!

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

57 (305) SOMEWHERE - ROBIN

ROBIN runs. Soldiers steadily march behind him.

JUMP TO:

58 (305R) ELSEWHERE - GISBORNE AND ISABELLA

GISBORNE and ISABELLA walk quickly. Thunder crashes. They stop when they see soldiers. GISBORNE draws his sword.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Black Elite.

They step forward a bit, standing backs together.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

There's more of them. Why aren't they attacking?

ISABELLA

Would you prefer if they did?

GISBORNE grabs her hand.

GISBORNE

Let's go!

They run off to the right of their original direction. The soldiers come out from behind a tree each and follow.

JUMP TO:

59 (305) ELSEWHERE - TUCK

TUCK checks behind him, then turns forward again to face a band of soldiers, 2 on horseback, 8 on foot with shields.

SERGEANT

Shields! Together!

The soldiers form a shield turtle.

SERGEANT

Right, lads, shields up!

The shields open, then close. TUCK stares, ready for them to attack. TUCK turns around to find another way, but they do nothing more.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

60 (305) CASTLE - GREAT HALL

The TREASURER puts a coin into a wooden bowl. The SHERIFF is watching, sitting in his chair.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

Do you even know how to count?

The TREASURER looks up anxiously, quill in hand.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Where the hell is my treasurer?

TREASURER

You killed him, sir.

The SHERIFF kicks the money chest off the table. The TREASURER stands up at attention.

SHERIFF

Anybody can see that that is nowhere near enough!

The SHERIFF advances on the TREASURER.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

(quietly)

Years of loyal service. That's worth more than coins and dead outlaws, isn't it?

The TREASURER remains silent. The SHERIFF kicks the TREASURER in the shins.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

(shout)

Isn't it?!

TREASURER

Yes, sir! It is sir!

SHERIFF

Apparently not.

(beat)

Very well. I shall pledge my allegiance in gold.

(beat)

Come with me. Bring that book.

The SHERIFF leaves. The TREASURER closes and takes the book from the table and follows.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF (cont'd)
We're going to make money.

CUT TO:

61 (305) MARKETPLACE

The SHERIFF and the TREASURER press through the crowd.

TREASURER
It's market day, sir. It's always
congested on market day.

SHERIFF
Yes, yes, you're quite right.

The SHERIFF puts his hands together eagerly with a clap.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
So, something needs to be done.
(point)
There.
(yell)
You!

The SHERIFF approaches a couple with two cows.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
Two cow family, are we?

MAN
Yes, sir.

SHERIFF
That'll be two crowns.

The SHERIFF looks to the TREASURER.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
Well, don't just stand there, man,
take the money.

TREASURER
Yes, sir.

The TREASURER looks at the man.

(CONTINUED)

TREASURER (cont'd)

Two crowns.

The SHERIFF turns.

SHERIFF

Stop! How many goats have you got there?

The SHERIFF steps aside. The cow man is still searching his pockets. The TREASURER holds out his purse.

TREASURER

Where's your two crowns?

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

62 (305) SOMEWHERE (THUNDERSTORM)

LITTLE JOHN sneaks through the trees in the rain. He hears the sounds of grunting and clanging.

Five boys in a wagon watch a woman, with a sword in each hand, fight two men who also have swords. The woman is knocked on her back.

LITTLE JOHN intercedes. He blocks and punches one man (named GIZMO) in the stomach with his staff. The other man (named TITUS) is also hit in the stomach, and then upside the head. LITTLE JOHN looks around.

LITTLE JOHN

Anyone hurt?

He sees the woman at his feet and pulls her up.

BERTHA

No.

BERTHA punches LITTLE JOHN in the jaw with her left fist and he falls over backwards, dazed.

BERTHA (cont'd)

But you are.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN slowly sits up, grunting.

LITTLE JOHN

Oh!

A small boy (named WALT) sits at his side, smiling. LITTLE JOHN sighs and looks away. WALT pokes the bruise on his cheek.

WALT

Does that hurt?

LITTLE JOHN

Yes!

LITTLE JOHN looks up and sees BERTHA wrapping GIZMO's arm. TITUS is lifting a small log up and down behind his head. The wagon with the boys is behind GIZMO.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

(sigh)

I thought you were being attacked.

LITTLE JOHN gets up.

BERTHA

No. I was training my men, although watching you and Gizmo...

BERTHA pulls the splint tight as the boys help WALT into the wagon.

BERTHA (cont'd)

...maybe I'm out of a job.

LITTLE JOHN

(rub cheek)

Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't...

BERTHA

Don't worry. You've got Titus training hard.

BERTHA steps to LITTLE JOHN and spreads her arms wide, presenting herself.

BERTHA (cont'd)

Bertha of Bath.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN nods and looks away, not knowing the name.

BERTHA (cont'd)
(impatiently)
Of Bertha's Circus Maximus... famous
from Huddersfield to Haltemprice?

LITTLE JOHN shakes his head. BERTHA puts her hands on her hips in disbelief.

BERTHA (cont'd)
Where you been?

LITTLE JOHN
Here, mainly.

BERTHA frowns. A horse whinnies in the distance. They both look in that direction and see Black Elite approaching.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)
I've got to go.

BERTHA
Why?

LITTLE JOHN
That's Prince John's men. They're
looking for me.

BERTHA thinks quickly. LITTLE JOHN turns to go. BERTHA grabs his staff.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)
(plead)
Please! I'm an outlaw, one of Robin
Hood's men. If they capture me...

BERTHA
Which is exactly what they will do if
you run.

BERTHA turns to the wagon. WALT hands her a dirty piece of white cloth. She offers it to LITTLE JOHN.

BERTHA (cont'd)
Here, trust me.

LITTLE JOHN

I don't...

BERTHA pushes him behind TITUS and GIZMO. Three horsemen stop in front of them, while the foot soldiers surround them. BERTHA ties the cloth over LITTLE JOHN's nose and mouth.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

This is not going to work.

BERTHA

No-no-no-no. Keep your head down.

A guard hands off his shield, dismounts and approaches BERTHA. BERTHA smiles grandly and slyly, a hand on one hip.

BERTHA (cont'd)

How can I help you, officer?

ELITE GUARD

Name... and purpose in this forest.

BERTHA

I see, straight to business, is it?
Suit yourself.

(put arms out)

I'm Bertha, of Bertha's Circus
Maximus.

(turn to right)

These are my gladiators...

(turn to left)

...my little band of helpers, and
we're on our way to Nottingham.

The guard looks over all the faces and shows interest in LITTLE JOHN's. LITTLE JOHN keeps his head down.

ELITE GUARD

What's wrong with him?

The guard steps forward. BERTHA puts a hand to the guard's chest.

BERTHA

He's a leper.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN coughs. The guard looks at BERTHA, then steps back, repulsed.

ELITE GUARD

Begone, woman. The forest is no place
for you to be today.

The guard walks back to his horse.

BERTHA

I was getting that impression already,
but thank you for the advice.

The guard mounts, takes back his shield and they all leave.
LITTLE JOHN pulls down the cloth. BERTHA whispers to her men.

BERTHA (cont'd)

Let's get out of here.

LITTLE JOHN nods.

CUT TO:

63 (305) ELSEWHERE - ROBIN

ROBIN runs. He stops by a tree to catch his breath. He looks behind him and sees the Black Elite still closing in. An arrow whistles and sinks into the tree trunk right by his head.

ROBIN

(determined)

Alright.

ROBIN looks back at his quiver with a single arrow in it.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Damn.

ROBIN pulls out the arrow.

CUT TO:

64 (305) ELSEWHERE - LITTLE JOHN

BERTHA pats one of the horses pulling the wagon. TITUS is looking at the horse's back foot.

(CONTINUED)

TITUS

This is going to slow him down a bit.

BERTHA

This is all we need.

BERTHA gives a frustrated sign, and turns to LITTLE JOHN, with WALT.

BERTHA (cont'd)

This could take a while. Keep an eye out for company.

WALT stares at LITTLE JOHN. LITTLE JOHN wonders what the kid is looking at.

LITTLE JOHN

(annoyed)

What?

WALT

Are you a giant?

LITTLE JOHN

No. Are you a gladiator?

LITTLE JOHN immediately growls at WALT, who laughs and runs off.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

(to Bertha)

Are they all yours?

BERTHA

Er... not by birth.

They both chuckle.

WALT

She saved us.

BERTHA

Eh, Walt, don't be silly.

WALT

She did! None of us had anyone. We'd have starved to death.

(CONTINUED)

BERTHA

Hey! That's enough!

BERTHA turns to LITTLE JOHN.

BERTHA (cont'd)

I find them on my travels. Begging or
thieving. I take in as many as I can.
I feed them, I clothe them. I'm only
doing what anyone else would.

LITTLE JOHN

I wish that was true.

BERTHA

Hey, you could help us.

LITTLE JOHN

How?

BERTHA

When we get to Nottingham, fight for
us.

BERTHA turns to the boys for their approval.

BERTHA (cont'd)

Yeah? In the show.

The boys cheer.

LITTLE JOHN

No, that wouldn't be helping you. That
would just put all of you in more
danger.

BERTHA

We'd disguise you again. It was you
that put Gizmo out of action.

LITTLE JOHN

(sigh)

No, I can't.

BERTHA

I can't cancel the show.

BERTHA puts on a pitiful face.

BERTHA (cont'd)
Or if I do it will be a long cold
winter for us all.

LITTLE JOHN looks at the boys.

LITTLE JOHN
(sigh)
Alright. I'll stay with you.

BERTHA laughs. The boys cheer.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)
Until my friends make it to
Nottingham.

BERTHA turns to the boys. LITTLE JOHN turns around.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)
(mutter)
If, my friends make it to Nottingham.

CUT TO:

65 (305R) ELSEWHERE IN FOREST

ALLAN and MUCH, panting, run into GISBORNE and ISABELLA, who are also panting. ALLAN gasps as he almost crashes into GISBORNE.

GISBORNE
(raise eyebrow)
I thought you were heading west!

MUCH
We were. You're meant to be heading
north.

GISBORNE
We're trying, but there's Black Elite
at every turn.

ALLAN sees movement coming at him. He's about to draw his sword when he recognizes TUCK running at him.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

There must be hundreds of men.

TUCK

Yeah, there are, and they seem to know exactly where we're going.

ROBIN runs in.

ROBIN

Or where they want us to go.

The gang are silent, trying to catch their breath.

ROBIN (cont'd)

We've been herded!

MUCH

Like sheep.

ROBIN

Like lambs... to the slaughter.
They've been tracking us, they've
exhausted our arsenals. I've one arrow
left!

GISBORNE

So how do we get out of here?

ROBIN

(look behind)
Well, there's only one way left to go.
(jerk head to left)
Come on. Quickly.

ISABELLA, TUCK, ALLAN, and GISBORNE take off after ROBIN. MUCH looks behind himself, then follows. They run a short way and ROBIN stops.

ROBIN (cont'd)

They're coming. This way.

ROBIN turns around but can only go a few steps before he sees the soldiers closing in. GISBORNE turns around.

GISBORNE

What now?

(CONTINUED)

The elite guards are quickly closing in.

ROBIN

Come on.

He stops when he catches up to ISABELLA. GISBORNE looks at ROBIN.

GISBORNE

Where now?

MUCH

Back that way!

GISBORNE pushes ISABELLA forward.

GISBORNE

Go, go, go, go!

The Black Elite close in, walking shield to shield. The gang run towards them. MUCH at the rear walking backwards with his sword out. The guards form a turtle and slowly advance. The gang exit the trees to a large clearing where HARRISON and more troops await them. HARRISON sits quietly on his horse, a flag bearer, and the red crate behind him.

ROBIN

I take it you're in charge.

HARRISON

(smile)

Yes. And be assured, Robin Hood, that your death will be real this time. Not rumoured.

ROBIN

Prince John must have great confidence in you for him to give you all these men.

HARRISON smiles and turns his horse around, as does the flag bearer. The red crate, with a square door, stands alone, with a guard on top holding a rope handle.

MUCH

(uneasily)

What's he got in there?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

(flustered)

How should I know? Just ready yourself.

MUCH

How can I ready myself if I don't know what I have to be ready for?

GISBORNE

Then just be ready for anything!

The gang wait, shifting their feet while the troops clear to the side. ROBIN checks behind him, and the turtle are still there. The guard pulls up the rope to open the square door. A lion quickly crawls out and roars. The gang jump back all shouting in alarm. ROBIN pulls his last arrow out again and readies it, holding his bow down.

ALLAN

What the hell...?

MUCH

Are you ready for that?

HARRISON

Seemed a rather apt way to dispatch such virulent supporters of the *Couer de Lion*. He hasn't been fed for days! I wanted him ready for you!

The lion has stopped and is staring at the gang. The guards start to bang their swords and spears against their shields in a rhythm. The lion steps forward. The gang retreats a step or two. The turtle open and close their shields with a clatter to let the gang know they're still there. The other troops begin to close in behind the lion, still beating their weapons against their shields. The lion paces.

ROBIN

Just stay together.

ISABELLA

Robin, are you as good a shot as they say you are?

GISBORNE looks at ISABELLA.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

(not bragging, but annoyed)
Of course I am.

ISABELLA pulls out two small cloth bags. The lion roars. MUCH yells.

ALLAN

Calm down! They can smell fear, you know.

MUCH

Oh, really?

TUCK

(to Isabella)
What are you thinking?

The gang take small steps backwards. ISABELLA hands a bag to TUCK.

ISABELLA

Throw this as far away from us as you can. Robin, you hit it in the air.

ROBIN nods, eyes on the lion.

ROBIN

Tuck, can you take the other?

TUCK

Yeah.

ISABELLA

Now everyone cover your eyes. Don't breathe this in.

TUCK

On three. Ready?

ISABELLA

Yeah.

TUCK

One... two... three!

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA throws her bag up. ROBIN shoots it and the bag explodes into a fine powder which drifts down onto the troops and the lion. HARRISON pulls a black handkerchief out and puts it to his face. TUCK throws his bag at the turtle, then quickly draws his knife from his sleeve and throws it at the bag and it explodes over the turtle. The lion turns around. The guards cough and fall to the ground.

HARRISON

(muffled)

Get it back in the damn box!

The lion falls to ground, roaring.

TUCK

Go, go!

MUCH

Run!

Some horses rear and the soldiers try to rein them in.

HARRISON

(to two soldiers)

You men, with me.

HARRISON and the two soldiers start their horses forward as the gang run coughing past the incapacitated turtle.

TUCK

Mustard powder!

ROBIN

(to Isabella)

Nice work!

MUCH leads them back through the forest. After they are a safe distance away, ROBIN stops them.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Wait, wait, wait!

ROBIN stops and turns to ISABELLA.

ROBIN (cont'd)

And where exactly did you find mustard bombs?

(CONTINUED)

The gang stop running.

ISABELLA
Does it really matter?

TUCK passes ROBIN and ISABELLA.

TUCK
I think it does.

ISABELLA
I believe the words you are looking
for are "thank you."

ROBIN walks over to MUCH.

ROBIN
Right, it won't take long for them to
regroup.

ROBIN hands his bow to MUCH.

ROBIN (cont'd)
You need to go back to camp and rearm,
alright?

ROBIN motions to GISBORNE.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Guy, with me.

GISBORNE, knowing what ROBIN is planning to do, agrees.

GISBORNE
Yeah.

MUCH
(raise eyebrow)
Where are you going?

ROBIN
Back to the camp, to see what else
they've got, to see if and where they
are vulnerable.

ALLAN notices that LITTLE JOHN is missing.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Hang on. Where's John? Why didn't he get rounded up with the rest of us?

ROBIN bends over, frustrated, and exhausted.

TUCK

Well, there's two possible answers to that. One, he might have made it to Nottingham, and the other...

MUCH

(interrupt)

I don't want to know the other one.

ROBIN

Much, just go back to the camp and rearm, alright?

ISABELLA looks at ROBIN.

ISABELLA

I should go with you.

ROBIN is curious as to why she would want to come with them. So is GISBORNE. ROBIN wonders why she's really here. So does GISBORNE. She could be a trap. If so, he doesn't want her to know where their camp is. ROBIN is about to say something but GISBORNE, who has been thinking the same thing, beats him to it.

GISBORNE

I think that would be a good idea.

GISBORNE and ROBIN share a look.

ROBIN

I agree. Our camp should be on a need-to-know basis and...

(point at Isabella)

...you don't need to know.

ISABELLA nods. ROBIN turns and leaves. GISBORNE holds out his arm for ISABELLA to go first. She nods and follows after ROBIN. GISBORNE follows her.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

NOTTINGHAM

66 (305) MARKETPLACE

The boys are twirling colourful ribbons, and some let them sail into the crowd. BERTHA drives the wagon in behind them, with LITTLE JOHN walking shirtless and with the cloth over his face next to it. WALT is on TITUS' shoulders, announcing to all.

WALT

Bertha's Circus Maximus! Ladies and gentlemen, it's your lucky day! Bertha's Circus Maximus is in town! Place your bets here to add some extra excitement!

BERTHA stops the wagon.

BERTHA

Whoa.

TITUS puts WALT down. GIZMO places the point of his short sword onto a table and stands with his chest out. BERTHA leans over to LITTLE JOHN, looking at GIZMO.

BERTHA

The ladies love him.

WALT

Get going and show me your money! Place your bets. Be a winner!

PAN TO:

67 (305) THE SHERIFF

The SHERIFF, already in the marketplace collecting new taxes, sees BERTHA.

SHERIFF

(to Treasurer)

Bring her to see me.

The TREASURER steps forward.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

A SHORT WHILE LATER

68 (305) CASTLE - GREAT HALL

BERTHA enters under the balcony, escorted by two guards. The SHERIFF is standing in front of the table, waiting. BERTHA bows.

SHERIFF

No need for that, Bertha.

BERTHA looks up, frowning.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

I don't expect it from old acquaintances.

BERTHA

Vasey?

SHERIFF

Sheriff... Vasey. Let's not dispense with all formalities. Now, the last time we spoke, I told you that if I ever saw you in Nottingham again, that I would kill you, but... here you are.

BERTHA

(shrug slightly)

In my defense, I heard you were no longer Sheriff.

SHERIFF

(raise eyebrow)

Why shouldn't I be? Who told you that?

BERTHA

(try to recover gracefully)

I was told you'd moved on to better things.

SHERIFF

Well, unfortunately for you, it was a lie.

The SHERIFF chuckles. BERTHA bows and starts to turn to leave.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF (cont'd)
(snap fingers)
Not so fast. I assume you're here to
alleviate the locals of their purses.

BERTHA
I go where the audiences are.

SHERIFF
No, you go where men are prepared to
gamble... on your fixed fights.

BERTHA
(offended)
Fixed? My fights are for real.

SHERIFF
(chuckle)
Let's not insult each other, Bertha.

BERTHA
(quick sigh)
How much do you want?

SHERIFF
(hold up fingers)
Two hundred crowns.

BERTHA's jaw drops in amazement. The SHERIFF turns to walk
around the table.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
Anything else you make you can keep.

BERTHA
(scoff)
I can't make that in a day! There won't
be anything over.

SHERIFF
That's your problem.

The SHERIFF sits at the table.

BERTHA
I can give you half.

SHERIFF

(calmly)

Then I shall only half hang you.

The guards step forward. BERTHA puts her hand up.

BERTHA

Wait.

BERTHA goes to the Sheriff.

BERTHA (cont'd)

I could settle the debt with...

BERTHA flirts with the SHERIFF, placing her hand on him.

BERTHA (cont'd)

(flirty)

... something better than money.

SHERIFF

(throw off her hand)

There's no such thing.

The SHERIFF nods to the guards, signaling them over. They approach again.

BERTHA

(think quickly)

What about one of Hood's outlaws?

The SHERIFF holds up his fingers in a "wait" gesture, and the guards stop.

BERTHA (cont'd)

What if I told you I could have him killed in your market square for all to see this afternoon?

SHERIFF

(think greedily)

You can really do this?

BERTHA

Would it be worth a hundred crowns to you?

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

(nod)

Yes.

JUMP TO:

69 (305) MARKETPLACE

The children are playing in the background.

LITTLE JOHN watches WALT from around a corner, out of sight of any guards, as TITUS and GIZMO set up a large pole for the ring. WALT is throwing rocks at an unseen target.

TITUS

Who's got the rope? It has to go over there.

GIZMO

Right, then.

TITUS

You ready?

GIZMO

Ready.

TITUS

Right. Heave!

The men pull the rope to raise up the pole, then one of the boys, playing, falls into GIZMO's sore arm. GIZMO immediately drops the rope and howls in pain.

LITTLE JOHN, seeing that the pole is falling right onto WALT, runs in and snatches WALT away. They fall to the ground and the pole slams down next to them.

TITUS (VO)

That was close. Someone give me a hand over here!

LITTLE JOHN sits up with a groan.

LITTLE JOHN

Walt, are you hurt?

(CONTINUED)

WALT

(awed)

You saved my life!

LITTLE JOHN tries to stand, but his foot slips out from under him, and he sits down hard.

LITTLE JOHN

(raise eyebrow)

What? Oh. I saved you from a sore head.

WALT

No, I was nearly dead.

LITTLE JOHN

(scoff)

Very well.

BERTHA arrives from the castle.

BERTHA

(solemnly)

Children?

All but WALT come to her, and she sends them to the side of the marketplace.

WALT

Now I have to save your life in return.

LITTLE JOHN

No, no. There's no need.

WALT

No, I have to!

LITTLE JOHN looks at the boy's bright face and sighs.

LITTLE JOHN

(sigh)

Alright.

WALT smiles and they shake hands, one exaggerated shake, then WALT goes over to BERTHA.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

70 (305) BERTHA

WALT

What did I miss?

BERTHA sighs and shakes her hands in frustration.

BERTHA

Oh!

(quietly to the boys)

We're rigging tonight's fight.

In the background, LITTLE JOHN goes over to TITUS. [Note: the conversations in bold are in the background]

LITTLE JOHN (VO)

What are you playing at?

BERTHA

So I want you to take as many bets as you can on our new gladiator.

(In the background LITTLE JOHN tugs on the rope.)

LITTLE JOHN (VO)

That should be tighter.

WALT

Awww, does that mean he's going to be the loser?

BERTHA grabs WALT's shoulder.

BERTHA

Why don't you say that a bit louder?

WALT

Does he have to?

BERTHA

Oh, for heaven's sake, Walt!

(smile, calm)

He can win next time. Right, off you go.

(call after them)

And make sure you give good odds! Go, go, go!

(CONTINUED)

TITUS (VO)
It has to go over there.

BERTHA
(to Titus)
Hey!

BERTHA motions for him to come over. (In the background LITTLE JOHN pulls the cloth back over his face.)

BOYS (VO)
Place your bets here! Place your bets!
Be a winner! Place your bets here!

BERTHA speaks quietly to TITUS.

BERTHA
We've had a special request...

WALT has come back to BERTHA, but she doesn't see him. She continues without stopping.

BERTHA (cont'd)
...for tonight's fight. Our new attraction appears for one... night... only. At the end of the fight I want you to kill him.

She motions with her fingers across her throat. TITUS and BERTHA nod in agreement.

WALT
(shock)
No!

BERTHA grabs WALT by the ear.

BERTHA
You know what they do to little pigs with big ears?

WALT
You're hurting me!

BERTHA
They take them to market!

(CONTINUED)

BERTHA leads WALT off by the ear.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

71 (305R) BLACK ELITE CAMP

GISBORNE, ISABELLA, and ROBIN, sneak around the outside of the camouflaged partitions. ROBIN and GISBORNE peek between the partitions.

ROBIN

Looks like they've been here a while.

GISBORNE

Yeah, and they could be here a lot longer. They've picked a good position. Only one way out, easy to defend.

ROBIN

Well, there's no-one defending it now!
Where are they?

Unbeknownst to ROBIN, HARRISON and two guards are standing right behind him.

HARRISON

Where we've been all along...

ROBIN jumps around to face him, drawing his knife. GISBORNE turns around too. He looks at HARRISON with a "this guy looks familiar" look.

HARRISON (cont'd)

...one step ahead.

ROBIN and HARRISON circle each other, giving themselves room away from the partitions, then fight. GISBORNE and ISABELLA each take on a guard. ISABELLA kicks hers and takes his sword. GISBORNE draws his sword and blocks a sword. ROBIN charges HARRISON. HARRISON grabs ROBIN's arm and takes his feet out from under him. ROBIN falls backwards to the ground. GISBORNE and ISABELLA see ROBIN down. Both of them rush over to defend ROBIN. HARRISON holds his sword over his head with both hands and brings it down, but GISBORNE trusts his sword in its path

(CONTINUED)

and blocks HARRISON's with a ringing clang. ROBIN takes advantage of HARRISON's distraction and kicks him in the ribs, knocking him to the ground. ISABELLA and GISBORNE help ROBIN up. Then they run out of the camp, into the forest. HARRISON watches them run as he gets up. He yells at his guards.

HARRISON (cont'd)

After them!

HARRISON realizes why the man with ROBIN seems so familiar.

HARRISON (cont'd)

(quietly)

Gisborne? So that's where you've been.

CUT TO:

LATER

72 (305R) OUTLAW CAMP

ROBIN, MUCH, ALLAN, and GISBORNE are in the camp. [TUCK is not. TUCK is making sure ISABELLA is out of the way for a while.] ROBIN leans his arms on the rope ladder, peering through it. They have been discussing a plan. MUCH is not happy.

MUCH

Well, I'm not happy about it.

ALLAN

When are you ever?

ROBIN starts to put on his belt.

MUCH

Robin cannot just walk into that camp... alone, with no means of defense against Black Elite and a massive cat!

GISBORNE

If we storm in there, we'll be shot down in a moment. Robin has to look like he's surrendering.

ALLAN looks at ROBIN.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

It's not one of your better plans, is it?

ROBIN, finished with his belt, leans on the ladder again and looks at ALLAN with wide and impatient eyes.

ALLAN (cont'd)

You know, maybe if we waited...

GISBORNE

(interrupt)

Waited for what?

ALLAN turns and walks a few steps.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

It's a good plan.

ALLAN turns around to face him again.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Robin won't be undefended for long.

(turn to Allan)

Allan, let's go.

GISBORNE and ALLAN go.

ROBIN

(to Much)

Go tell Tuck what's going on and meet us there.

ROBIN leaves.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

73 (305) MERCHANT HOUSE

BERTHA has WALT with her.

BERTHA

He may look small, but he's strong and he's very smart.

(CONTINUED)

MERCHANT

Sounds like trouble to me.

BERTHA

Not too smart, no need to worry about
an impertinent tongue, though you
could always have it cut out.

BERTHA smiles. The merchant puts his hand on WALT's chin to
look at him closely.

MERCHANT

Give you ten crowns.

BERTHA

No, I'm thinking twenty crowns.

The merchant looks at BERTHA with raised eyebrows.

MERCHANT

Not likely.

BERTHA

Fifteen.

The merchant grunts.

BERTHA (cont'd)

Thirteen, final offer.

MERCHANT

(reluctantly)

Alright. Deal.

The merchant takes WALT's arm.

WALT

(beg/plead)

Please don't sell me! I won't say
anything to him!

The merchant places the coins on BERTHA's outstretched hand.

WALT (cont'd)

(beg/plead)

I'll keep quiet!

(CONTINUED)

BERTHA

(quietly)

I wish I could believe that.

BERTHA leaves.

PAN TO:

74 (305) MARKETPLACE

TITUS and GIZMO practice their swordplay. LITTLE JOHN is watching the boys among the bettors.

BOYS

Come on! Place your bets here!

MAN 1

Tuppence to win!

MAN 2

Come here and I'll go up to thruppence!

BOY

Is that all you've got?

The boy is slapped upside the head.

BERTHA

Nearly show time, lads!

BERTHA sits next to LITTLE JOHN.

BERTHA (cont'd)

And... we got the Sheriff watching.

LITTLE JOHN's eyes widen.

BERTHA (cont'd)

Let's make sure we give him what he wants.

LITTLE JOHN

What's that?

BERTHA

A fight... the near death. Blood, guts...

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

Hey, I don't want to hurt him.

TITUS laughs.

BERTHA

Don't worry, you won't. You'll be losing this bout.

LITTLE JOHN

What? Why?

BERTHA

Why do you think?

BERTHA looks around for eavesdroppers.

BERTHA (cont'd)

The Sheriff. He wants it rigged so he can clean up on the bets we take. And if we don't make enough, he will hang us all. All you got to do is you watch out for my signal.

BERTHA wiggles her finger.

BERTHA (cont'd)

You see that, you go down and you stay down.

LITTLE JOHN

Stay down.

BERTHA

If you do that, then the Sheriff gets what he wants. If you don't, we won't get out of here alive.

LITTLE JOHN

Well, you're not giving me much choice, are you?

BERTHA pats his arm, and he walks away.

MAN 1

Oh, I'll just have a penny on the little guy.

(CONTINUED)

TITUS steps over and pulls tight the cloth he's wrapping around his hand.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

75 (305R) BLACK ELITE CAMP

ROBIN struts in through the gate. HARRISON turns around. ROBIN walks in with his hands up. The guards line up on either side. HARRISON holds up his hands to the guards, then motions them to move aside. ROBIN puts his hands up behind his head, looking around.

HARRISON

Welcome.

(beat)

I wasn't expecting your visit.

ROBIN

(chuckle)

Well I find that very hard to believe.

(beat)

So... would you like to hear my demands?

HARRISON

(amused)

Demands?

(chuckle and fold arms)

Please, demand away.

ROBIN

It's quite simple, really. Get out of my forest.

HARRISON

Yeah, that's a reasonable request. Let me think.

HARRISON points at ROBIN.

HARRISON (cont'd)

Kill him.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON turns away and the guards close in on ROBIN. ROBIN turns and runs to the red crate.

ROBIN

Now!

A net drops over a group of guards. ROBIN climbs up on the crate. HARRISON snaps back around. More guards come in the gate. ROBIN opens the crate's door, and the lion immediately jumps out.

HARRISON

Guards!

The lion growls and the guards run. ROBIN jumps off the crate and runs for the gate. HARRISON chases him, but the gate closes in front of them as ROBIN stands facing them with his arms outstretched of the other side of the gate.

PAN TO:

76 (305R)(cont'd) ROBIN (OUTSIDE CAMP)

ROBIN is outside the camp looking in through the gate.

ROBIN

Let's see how many of your men he can
stomach?!

PAN TO:

77 (305R)(cont'd) INSIDE CAMP

The lion paces and the guards scramble out of its way.

PAN TO:

78 (305R)(cont'd) ROBIN

ROBIN runs to GISBORNE and ALLAN who are waiting on the outside.

ROBIN

Come on!

GISBORNE picks up ROBIN's bow and ALLAN his quiver before running after him.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)
Let's find John!

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

79 (305) MARKETPLACE

GIZMO, in an artistic bull's head, calls to the crowd, as the boys shout for some last-minute bets.

GIZMO
Gather round! It's almost show time!

GIZMO gives the crowd a moment to assemble.

GIZMO (cont'd)
Put your hands together for Bertha of
Bath!

GIZMO points at BERTHA with his sword. BERTHA comes out with a scowl, looking for the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF is sitting in his chair overlooking. She catches his eye and the SHERIFF nods. LITTLE JOHN comes out, sees the SHERIFF, and quickly puts on his lion mask. BERTHA climbs into the ring.

BERTHA
Ladies, Gentlemen...
(bow to the Sheriff)
...honoured guests...

The SHERIFF raises a finger to BERTHA.

BERTHA (cont'd)
Tonight, you are truly in for a treat!
You may have thought the ancient art
of the gladiator was gone, but no!

BERTHA cracks the whip and the crowd cheers.

BERTHA (cont'd)
Tonight... you're in for a dazzling
display of their swordplay! Welcome
our gladiators warmly!

(CONTINUED)

TITUS, in a bald, scowling man mask, and LITTLE JOHN climb into the ring to cheers and boos.

BERTHA (cont'd)

Tonight, they fight for nothing but
pride and your applause only!

The SHERIFF rolls his eyes impatiently. The crowd cheers. The SHERIFF rolls his fingers to hurry up.

SHERIFF

(mouth words)
Let's get on with it.

BERTHA sees him and nods.

BERTHA

So...
(climb out of ring)
...without further ado... Gladiators,
ready?

TITUS and LITTLE JOHN each tap their sword against their shield once.

BERTHA (cont'd)

(crack whip)
Fight!

The crowd cheers and claps. TITUS attacks first. LITTLE JOHN blocks with his shield, his sword, and attacks then both together and TITUS kicks him in the stomach. TITUS attacks again. LITTLE JOHN blocks with the shield and then swings his sword at TITUS. TITUS blocks the blow with his sword and swings his shield around, hitting LITTLE JOHN in the shoulder and pushing him into the rope. LITTLE JOHN turns to face him. TITUS attacks and LITTLE JOHN blocks with his shield, then swings his sword, but TITUS defends with his shield. TITUS rams his shoulder into LITTLE JOHN, pushing him back into the rope again. BERTHA watches them, glancing at the SHERIFF, smiling at the fact that TITUS is winning. TITUS kicks LITTLE JOHN in the back, and the big man is thrown forward. LITTLE JOHN regains his balance and turns to face his adversary again. He blocks with his shield and attacks TITUS, who also blocks with his shield, then parries and punches LITTLE JOHN in the face with his shield. LITTLE JOHN spins round, then punches TITUS'S

(CONTINUED)

back with his shield, sending him into the rope. The boys cheer.

PAN TO:

80 (305) NEARBY STREET

The merchant pulls WALT along by the arm.

WALT

Let me go!

MERCHANT

Behave yourself!

WALT

I don't want to come! Please!

PAN TO:

81 (305) FIGHT RING

LITTLE JOHN attacks with his sword, but TITUS blocks with his shield, spins round and elbows LITTLE JOHN, who then knocks TITUS' sword away with his.

PAN TO:

82 (305) FOCUS ON WALT

MERCHANT

You belong to me now, so shut up!

WALT bites the hand holding him and runs to the marketplace.

PAN TO:

83 (305M) FIGHT RING

BERTHA

(mutter)

That's it, don't go down just yet.

LITTLE JOHN, not used to fighting with a sword and shield, is learning quickly as he goes. He pushes TITUS off him, blocks with his sword low, then twists it up and over. He steps back as TITUS swings his sword across at him. TITUS attacks and

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN blocks with his shield. TITUS and LITTLE JOHN continue to fight, striking and blocking alternately until LITTLE JOHN spins round and hits TITUS' back with the sword butt, forcing TITUS into the ropes. The boys cheer. TITUS comes back to fight. They alternate blows and LITTLE JOHN kicks him in the chest. BERTHA sees the SHERIFF watching and frowning. LITTLE JOHN hits TITUS with his shield and kicks him again as BERTHA circles the ring to LITTLE JOHN.

BERTHA (cont'd)

No, you fool! You're supposed to be
the loser!

LITTLE JOHN deflects TITUS' sword and punches him with his shield, sending him into the ropes.

PAN TO:

84 (305) FOCUS ON WALT

WALT grabs at people, trying to push through the crowd.

WALT

Let me through!

PAN TO:

85 (305) FIGHT RING AND SURROUNDING AREA

LITTLE JOHN roars in triumph, then sees BERTHA wiggling her finger. LITTLE JOHN tilts his head. BERTHA nods and he slumps his shoulders and hangs his head.

WALT

Let me past!

BERTHA

(nod. Hiss)

Yes!

LITTLE JOHN stands and turns to TITUS just in time for TITUS' fist to hit his jaw. LITTLE JOHN falls to his hands and knees.

BOYS

Ooh!

(CONTINUED)

WALT

Let me through! Out of the way!

LITTLE JOHN looks up at BERTHA, who clenches her fist and nods. TITUS stands with his sword as WALT climbs into the ring.

WALT (cont'd)

No! He's going to kill you! No!

WALT stands between TITUS and a kneeling LITTLE JOHN, his hands outstretched. LITTLE JOHN pushes WALT aside and takes TITUS' feet out from under him, then kicks him in the head, knocking him out cold. The crowd cheers. BERTHA is holding on to WALT through the ropes.

WALT (cont'd)

She told him to do it! I heard! That's why she sold me!

LITTLE JOHN takes off his mask and glares at BERTHA.

LITTLE JOHN

What?!

BERTHA

He's exaggerating. That's what he does. You know how he goes on!

The SHERIFF stands up, visibly angry at the turn of events.

WALT

No, I'm telling the truth to save your life just like I said I would!

SHERIFF

(point at Bertha)

I warned you what would happen the next time you crossed me!

(point at Little John)

Kill him! Arrest the others!

The guards run in to obey. LITTLE JOHN jumps out of the ring.

LITTLE JOHN

Follow me, boys!

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

Stop them!

BERTHA pulls WALT down the steps of the ring. LITTLE JOHN sits and rolls under the ropes but is stopped by GIZMO.

GIZMO

Stop!

GIZMO attacks with his sword. LITTLE JOHN ducks it twice, punches him.

SHERIFF

Kill them!

LITTLE JOHN grabs WALT off the steps and addresses BERTHA.

LITTLE JOHN

You sold him?

BERTHA and LITTLE JOHN with the other boys trailing along.

CONTINUE TO:

85b (305)(cont'd) THROUGH TOWN TO MAIN GATE

They run between the buildings towards the main gates.

BERTHA

I had no choice! The Sheriff said...

WALT

No! She sold me 'cause I heard her talking about killing you!

LITTLE JOHN

What?!

WALT

She was going to get Titus to do it!

BERTHA stops.

BERTHA

No, you don't understand. If I didn't do what the Sheriff told me, he was going to kill us all.

(CONTINUED)

From seemingly nowhere, but from the building next to BERTHA, the SHERIFF speaks as guards line up behind her.

SHERIFF

What an excellent idea.

The SHERIFF steps outside between BERTHA and LITTLE JOHN, waving at WALT. BERTHA turns to run. A guard steps up and grabs her arm.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

So... exactly how far did you think you'd get, Bertha? We had a deal.

LITTLE JOHN

(firmly)

The deal is off. You do not touch those children.

SHERIFF

No, no. I just want the money from the wagers. She's welcome to the slaving money.

LITTLE JOHN glares at BERTHA.

LITTLE JOHN

What?

SHERIFF

Oh, I suppose she told you that she took the children off the streets out of the goodness of her heart?

The SHERIFF pats his heart.

BERTHA

(pleading)

Look at them. They're healthy and well fed.

SHERIFF

Healthier children fetch a bigger price! She's been doing it for years, taking waifs, strays, off the streets, fattening them up and then selling them on at the end of the season.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

Have you?

BERTHA, her face pitiful, shrugs slightly.

SHERIFF

(chuckle)

Yes, not this year, though. Take her
to the dungeons.

Two guards each grab an arm and escort BERTHA away, leaving
four.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Oh, and, er, arrest those.

The SHERIFF points at the boys and turns around. LITTLE JOHN
steps in front and turns his staff to horizontal.

LITTLE JOHN

(intensely)

Leave... them... be.

The SHERIFF walks away.

SHERIFF

Somebody kill that man.

LITTLE JOHN fights off the initial attack, turning the swords
away with his staff, then stands ready as they regroup. He
swings his staff around, parries two swords at once, then two
more from the other side, but he is surrounded, trapped against
the wall. LITTLE JOHN looks at the boys.

LITTLE JOHN

Run!

WALT

Come on, boys! Run!

CONTINUE TO:

85c (305)(cont'd) MAIN GATE

WALT and the boys run past the gate, which has only one door
open, and right into ROBIN and the gang. ROBIN rushes in, bow
with arrow ready and drawn, MUCH gathers the boys together.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

I leave you alone for one minute, John!

ROBIN points his bow at the guards in turn.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Get back! Get back!

GISBORNE and ALLAN run in, swords ready, and fight off the guards. LITTLE JOHN takes his place next to ROBIN near the gate and fights off a guard.

ROBIN (cont'd)

It used to be safe for children in Nottingham!

LITTLE JOHN fights off one more guard, then guides the boys outside. The SHERIFF pulls a guard in front of him as a shield.

SHERIFF

So says the outlaw!

The boys run out the gate. LITTLE JOHN backs out. TUCK, MUCH, LITTLE JOHN, GISBORNE, and ROBIN stand in the gate. ROBIN with bow still drawn.

GISBORNE gives the SHERIFF a mock salute, and pulls the gate closed in front of them.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

After them!

PAN TO:

85d (305)(cont'd) FOCUS ON OUTSIDE THE GATES

The boys run down the bridge. LITTLE JOHN puts his staff in the hooks, effectively barring the gate closed.

PAN TO:

85e (305)(cont'd) FOCUS ON INSIDE THE GATES

The guards try to push it open.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

85f (305)(cont'd) FOCUS ON OUTSIDE THE GATES

ROBIN and gang run down the bridge.

PAN TO:

85g (305)(cont'd) FOCUS ON INSIDE THE CITY

The SHERIFF kicks a guard.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Open it!

The SHERIFF hits another guard in the helmet.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Idiots! Open it!

The SHERIFF kicks the guard again, who kicks a third guard.
The SHERIFF kicks the first guard again.

CUT TO:

LATER

SOMEWHERE NEAR LOCKSLEY

86 (305R) ORPHANAGE

ROBIN, MUCH, ALLAN, and TUCK say goodbye to the boys.

BOY

Who will watch out for me now?

TUCK

You're safe now. No-one's going to
hurt you. Everything's going to be
Fine. Betty's going to look after you.

LITTLE JOHN is with WALT and BETTY at the front door. LITTLE
JOHN shakes hands with BETTY.

LITTLE JOHN

Thank you.

LITTLE JOHN rubs WALT's head and leaves. WALT runs after him.

(CONTINUED)

WALT

John!

LITTLE JOHN stops. WALT gives him a big hug.

WALT (cont'd)

I want to stay with you.

LITTLE JOHN sighs and kneels in front of WALT.

LITTLE JOHN

I know, but it wouldn't be safe. I have a job to do, Walt. Helping other people who are in trouble. I can't do that if I'm looking after you.

ROBIN goes up to BETTY. The gang give their last hugs to the other boys.

WALT

But I could look after you.

(to Robin)

I saved his life.

ROBIN smiles at WALT.

LITTLE JOHN

Walt...

LITTLE JOHN shakes his head.

WALT

Will I ever see you again?

LITTLE JOHN

(stand with a sigh)

I hope so.

WALT and LITTLE JOHN shake hands.

TUCK

(to another boy)

Good luck. Take care of your brother.

MUCH

Take care of each other.

(CONTINUED)

BOY

Thank you.

The gang head off. ALLAN walks up to ROBIN.

ALLAN

Where's Guy?

ROBIN

With Isabella.

ALLAN gets an "oh" look on his face.

CUT TO:

MEANWHILE**SHERWOOD FOREST**

87 (305MR) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

GISBORNE turns to ISABELLA.

GISBORNE

So, why are you really here, sis?

ISABELLA

I could not endure another day.

GISBORNE

So what? You just walked away?

(point at her)

You were joined in holy matrimony!

ISABELLA

I was only a thirteen-year-old girl.

(beat)

Why did you give me to Squire Thornton?

GISBORNE ignores her. He really doesn't want to get into it.
It was so long ago, and things were so different then.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Why won't you answer me? Don't you owe
me that at least?

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

I owe you nothing. I did what was best.

ISABELLA

For who, you? You did nothing but condemn me to hell and I demand to know why.

GISBORNE

You're a foolish girl and you do not understand the world.

ISABELLA

No, I understand perfectly. I just want to hear it from you.

He looks away.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Why did you give me away?

Silence.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

I said, why did you give me...

GISBORNE

(quietly)

Because he offered a fair price for you, that's why.

ISABELLA is shocked.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

I'm sorry. I...

ISABELLA

Do you have any idea what he has done to me?

He faces her.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Guy, I'm your sister... I... came to ask for protection.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Really? And what if I were to send you back to your husband?

ISABELLA

Then you'd be condemning me to a life of misery for a second time. Only this time you'd be doing it knowingly. Guy, I don't believe you knew the damage you were doing when you sent me to Squire Thornton...

He turns away.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

...but now you do. Surely you must feel some obligation towards me, a sense of loyalty, duty? Please... do not send me back to my husband.

GISBORNE thinks for a moment. Then looks at her.

GISBORNE

Very well. But you can't stay here.

(beat)

I can not offer you the protection you seek in the life I now lead.

(beat)

I can talk to Robin. He might be...

ISABELLA

Hood? Why would he help me? He doesn't know me. He...

GISBORNE realizes that ISABELLA doesn't know who ROBIN really is.

GISBORNE

You don't know.

ISABELLA

(curious)

Know what?

GISBORNE

Robin Hood is Robin of Locksley.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA
(surprise)
Robin of Locksley? Really?

GISBORNE
Yes.
(beat x2)
You will be safe where you are, for
now.

ISABELLA
Thanks. I will wait to hear from you.

ISABELLA hugs GISBORNE. Then walks off. GISBORNE walks off in
the other direction.

CUT TO:

LATER

NOTTINGHAM

88 (305R) CITY GATES

The camera is inside the city, focused on the gates. The gates
open. HARRISON stands there with his horse as the staff that
LITTLE JOHN had used to hold the gates closed earlier, clatters
to the ground. HARRISON looks at the staff as it hits the
ground, then looks up to see the SHERIFF approaching. The
SHERIFF recognizes the man from their earlier encounter. And
can tell from the look on his face that he has not been
successful.

SHERIFF
(chuckle)
Can I help you?

HARRISON
I have come to offer my services, lord
Sheriff.

SHERIFF
Did you now?

HARRISON
Since Gisborne has joined the outlaws,
you need a new right hand.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

And you think you are right for the job?

HARRISON

I'm sure Prince John will vouch for me, m'lord.

The SHERIFF thinks. HARRISON might make a nice replacement. After all he couldn't be any worse.

SHERIFF

Very well. Maybe now Prince John will remember why he put me in command!

The SHERIFF looks at HARRISON and waves him in. The SHERIFF walks away as HARRISON pulls the horse inside.

FADE TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

89 (305R) BY THE RIVER

ISABELLA peers into the hollow log where she hid her valuables, but coils and stands, finding the log empty. She stares at it, perplexed.

ROBIN comes out from behind the tree where he was watching, and waiting for her, holding out her purse.

ROBIN

Is this what you're looking for?

ISABELLA steps forward to grab it from him.

ISABELLA

That's mine!

ROBIN throws her arm off and shakes his head.

ROBIN

Not your mistress'?

(softly)

Why didn't you tell me you were Guy's sister, and wife to Squire Thornton?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

I couldn't tell you I was Lady Thornton.

ISABELLA puts her hand on ROBIN's.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

You're Robin Hood. I know what you do to nobles.

ROBIN

(sincerely)

You are not just any noble, Isabella. And I never turn my back on someone in true need.

ISABELLA

Good. 'Cause that's exactly what I am.

ROBIN rubs a thumb along his cheek and hangs his head.

ROBIN

We can't turn back time. If I could, I would have tried to stop you and Guy from leaving that day.

ISABELLA reaches out to touch ROBIN's cheek.

ISABELLA

And if I'd known that Robin Hood was Robin of Locksley, I would have told you who I was from the start.

(beat)

The last time we saw each other, we were just kids. And look at us now.

(laugh)

One little incident changed our lives forever. Mine. Yours. Guy's. If only...

ROBIN looks into her eyes, trying to determine if she is still up to something. He's not quite sure. She looks sincere but looks can be deceiving. ROBIN holds up her purse.

ISABELLA knows he will not be giving it back so tells him he can keep it.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Keep it.

ROBIN

I will make sure this donation goes to
good use.

ROBIN walks away. ISABELLA takes a step forward to watch him
go and thinks to herself.

ISABELLA (VO)

(thought)

Can I do this? Should I do this?

JUMP TO:

1 MONTH LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

90 (306R) THROUGH THE FOREST

Soldiers gallop through the forest on horseback, bringing
HARRISON to PRINCE JOHN's camp.

JUMP TO:

91 (306R) PRINCE JOHN'S CAMP - PRINCE JOHN'S TENT

Soldiers bring HARRISON into PRINCE JOHN's tent and throw him
to the ground before his throne.

PRINCE JOHN

Do you love me, Harrison?

HARRISON

(softly, gruffly)

Yes, sire.

PRINCE JOHN lets out his breath.

PRINCE JOHN

I'm so pleased to hear it because I
don't think the Sheriff loves his
prince. ... No. ... I don't think he
does at all. ... My time is almost
here, Harrison.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON, on his knees, raises his head a bit, staring at PRINCE JOHN's feet.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

You know my father Henry, God rest his soul, wanted me to be King, not my brother Richard.

(beat)

Me.

(beat)

King.

(beat)

That was his wish.

(deep breath)

And I will be... soon.

(beat)

My father taught me to surround myself with only those most loyal, with only those who love me.

HARRISON raises his head a bit more to stare at PRINCE JOHN's knees.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

(lean forward)

You'd make a fine Sheriff,
Harrison.

HARRISON looks in PRINCE JOHN's eyes.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

I'm confident in that.

HARRISON straightens his back, still on his knees.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Does it please you that I have such confidence in you?

HARRISON

(softly, gruffly)

Yes, sire.

PRINCE JOHN

Hmm...

(lean back)

Robin Hood isn't dead.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON slumps his shoulders in shame.

PRINCE JOHN

I told you. I told the Sheriff.

(beat)

I wanted Robin Hood dead. His blood is
a gift I covet and yet no-one gives it
me.

(beat)

If the Sheriff loved Prince John...

(beat)

...he would give it to me. And yet I
do not have it, ergo he doesn't love
me.

(beat)

Well, I will have blood.

HARRISON looks at the ground, closes his eyes tightly, thinking
his end is near.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

The Sheriff's blood.

HARRISON opens his eyes, raises his eyebrows, and looks up.
PRINCE JOHN leans forward again. HARRISON slowly straightens.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

You will kill the Sheriff for me,
Harrison, discreetly.

(beat)

Only the two of us will know.

(beat)

A private secret we can share.

PRINCE JOHN puts a hand on either side of HARRISON's head.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

And you will do this for me,
Harrison...

(beat)

Because you love me.

PRINCE JOHN smiles.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

NEXT DAY

92 (306R) NEAR PRINCE JOHN'S CAMP

ROBIN, ALLAN, LITTLE JOHN, GISBORNE, and TUCK are walking down a road when MUCH comes running to meet them.

MUCH

Wait!

ROBIN

(chuckling)

Alright.

MUCH

(look behind)

Prince John and his soldiers have made camp

(point behind)

down there.

ROBIN

What?

ROBIN looks to where MUCH is pointing.

GISBORNE

How many men?

MUCH

Thousands.

LITTLE JOHN

No!

MUCH

Hundreds.

GISBORNE

(admonishingly)

Much!

ROBIN glances at ALLAN.

MUCH

I didn't stop and actually count them!
I can't actually count.

(CONTINUED)

They hear a horse neigh and see two soldiers, one with PRINCE JOHN's banner, come galloping down the path.

ROBIN

Run! Run!

The gang scatter.

JUMP TO:

LATER

93 (306R) OUTLAW CAMP

ROBIN has drawn a map in the dirt marking the roads with a trace of his finger and placing twigs and rocks as landmarks.

ALLAN

What are they doing in the forest?

GISBORNE

Well, it's obvious, isn't it?

ALLAN

(still confused)

Yeah, alright.

ROBIN

When they break camp, they use the North Road to get to Nottingham.

LITTLE JOHN steps over the map.

LITTLE JOHN

Why is he coming?

TUCK

He's visiting all the nobles throughout England to grease their palms.

ROBIN steps over the map.

ROBIN

He's trying to buy their loyalty before King Richard returns, isn't he?

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

(raise eyebrow)

What, he thinks it can be bought?

TUCK

(nod)

He knows it can. He's buying the nobles and their men to seize the throne so that King Richard returns to King John's England.

ROBIN

Every noble he buys will bring us closer to civil war. And a war between Prince John and King Richard...

(beat)

It will tear this country apart.

LITTLE JOHN

(thinking)

If he's going to buy them, he'll be carrying gold.

The gang realize he's right.

GISBORNE

And lots of it.

ROBIN thinks, chewing on his thumb. He lets out his breath with a hiss.

ROBIN

Well...

(beat)

We stop him stealing the crown...

(beat)

by stealing his gold.

TUCK, GISBORNE, and LITTLE JOHN chuckle. ALLAN says his line then smiles.

ALLAN

This is mad.

LITTLE JOHN

Yes, it is. Utterly mad.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE
(seriously)
He'll have a small army with him.

ROBIN steps forward and kneels over the map.

ROBIN
Right, our only advantage is surprise.
The best place to mount an attack is
here...

ROBIN stabs the map repeatedly with a sharpened stick.

ROBIN (cont'd)
.. outside Locksley. So we're going to
have to find more men.

GISBORNE
(nod affirmatively)
Let's do it.

JUMP TO:

MEANWHILE

NOTTINGHAM

94 (306R) CASTLE - INTERIOR CORRIDOR

The SHERIFF walks through a wide corridor, alert. Out of habit, he starts to yell for Gisborne.

SHERIFF
Gis....

The SHERIFF remembers Gisborne is gone.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
(mutter)
Never thought I'd actually miss
Gisborne. Good help is so hard to find.

HARRISON steps out from behind a pillar, his hand on a knife stuck in the back of his belt. He boldly and quickly strides forward, his boots loud on the stone floor. The SHERIFF turns around. HARRISON stops to face him, his head held high.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Ah, Harrison, isn't it?

HARRISON

(quietly)

Yes, m'lord.

SHERIFF

I've been looking for you.

HARRISON fingers the knife still in his belt.

SHERIFF

I've, er, been thinking about our relationship.

HARRISON raises an eyebrow on the word relationship. The SHERIFF continues his line without stopping.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

We should work on it.

The SHERIFF circles HARRISON, who is careful to keep himself facing the SHERIFF.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Don't you think?

(beat)

I know you come highly recommended.
From the Prince himself no less.

(beat)

You've been here for, what, a week now?

HARRISON nods in agreement.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

...and I don't think we have gotten off on the right foot.

HARRISON crosses his arms in front.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

You see, your predecessor and I, had an understanding, and, in the light of Prince John's visit, well, I think we should make our relationship stronger.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON gives a gracious nod.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
The best way forward...

The SHERIFF and HARRISON walk together down the corridor.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
...is unity. Between you and me, hm?
Standing strong, together, don't you
think?

The SHERIFF stops. HARRISON says nothing. The SHERIFF steps in front, his back to HARRISON. HARRISON reaches for his knife and is about to pull it out when the SHERIFF turns around.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
The man is a tyrant. We both know that.
And he's dangerous. The only way we're
going to survive is... unity.

The SHERIFF holds his arms out, inviting HARRISON to embrace him. HARRISON returns the gesture and steps forward, then grabs his knife and steps behind the SHERIFF. Suddenly a door opens, and a guard exits. HARRISON whips the knife behind his back. The guard sees them in this strange position but doesn't see the knife.

GUARD
Sorry, m'lord. I....I hope I'm not
interrupting.

SHERIFF
No... no, not at all. We were just
having a nice little... philosophical
chat. Weren't we, Harrison?

The SHERIFF looks back at HARRISON.

HARRISON
Yes, m'lord.

GUARD
(to the Sheriff)
There is someone here to see you,
m'lord.

SHERIFF

Ah. Visitors. I wonder who it could be.

The SHERIFF leaves. The door squeaks open, then closes. HARRISON turns around and puts the knife back into his belt.

JUMP TO:

95 CASTLE - GREAT HALL

ISABELLA is waiting for the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF enters with the GUARD. The guard introduces them.

GUARD

Isabella of Gisborne, m'lord.

The SHERIFF raises an eyebrow at the name Gisborne.

SHERIFF

Gisborne?

GUARD

Yes, m'lord.

ISABELLA looks at the SHERIFF.

ISABELLA

I have come to see Guy.

SHERIFF

Guy?

ISABELLA

My brother.

SHERIFF

Your brother?

ISABELLA

Yes.

Momentary pause. The SHERIFF tries to size her up. His next line is referring to the fact that Gisborne is not here.

SHERIFF

Not here.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(play dumb)

Where is he?

SHERIFF

Don't know. Don't care.

ISABELLA

Look I came to see my brother, and I'm not leaving until...

SHERIFF

Then try Sherwood.

ISABELLA

The forest?

SHERIFF

Yes, the forest. Is there another Sherwood?

ISABELLA

Why would he be...

SHERIFF

Haven't you heard?

(beat)

He's teamed up with Hood.

ISABELLA is silent. So he knows. Better think quick.

ISABELLA

Then I have come in vain. Sorry to have bothered you. I shall go.

ISABELLA turns to go. The SHERIFF stops her.

SHERIFF

Wait.

ISABELLA turns back to the SHERIFF.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Are you really his sister?

ISABELLA

Yes.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

Prove it.

ISABELLA

(raise eyebrow)

M'lord?

SHERIFF

Gisborne always claimed to have no family. If you expect me to believe that all of a sudden, out of the blue, he has a sister? You'll have to prove it.

ISABELLA

How?

SHERIFF

Tell me something about him, that is not known by all.

ISABELLA

Like what?

SHERIFF

That is for you to decide. If you really are his sister, then it should be easy.

ISABELLA thinks. The SHERIFF stares at her, waiting.

ISABELLA

He has a tattoo on...

SHERIFF

Old news. Try again.

ISABELLA thinks.

ISABELLA

Our mother, Ghislaine, was French.

SHERIFF

Again, old news.

ISABELLA thinks.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF (cont'd)

One more chance. Better make it good.

ISABELLA thinks.

ISABELLA

The Gisborne estate was part of
Locksley.

SHERIFF

(raise eyebrow)

What?

ISABELLA

Malcolm of Locksley gave the land to
our father, Roger.

SHERIFF

(thinking)

Really. Locksley?

ISABELLA

Yes. And when our father died, the land
reverted back to the Locksley estate.

SHERIFF

(confused)

Why?

ISABELLA

(confused)

Why what?

SHERIFF

(curious)

Why did it revert back? Why didn't it
pass on to...

ISABELLA

Our parents were killed in a fire at
the estate house. And Guy and I left
after that, never looking back.

SHERIFF

(confused)

Why leave?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(head down)

Our parents weren't the only victims.
Lord Malcolm was also killed in the
fire.

SHERIFF

(curious)

Really.

ISABELLA

Yes. Guy blamed himself for the fire.
And he figured that if he stuck around
others would too. He figured the best
thing for us would be to leave. That
was 20 years ago.

(beat)

I've never told anyone that before.

The SHERIFF thinks.

SHERIFF

Locksley? That would explain
Gisborne's desire to manage the lands
while...

The SHERIFF thinks of something.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Wait. If the Gisborne Estate was part
of Locksley, that means that Guy and
Robin would have grown up together.

ISABELLA pretends not to see the issue.

ISABELLA

Yes.

SHERIFF says next line more to himself than ISABELLA.

SHERIFF

Why did he not say anything? Why?

ISABELLA

Why should he? What difference does it
make?

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

Big difference. He never mentioned,
not even once, that he knew Hood.

ISABELLA

(play dumb)

Hood? You mean Robin Hood? What
does...

The SHERIFF looks at ISABELLA. He realizes she doesn't know
that Robin Hood and Robin of Locksley are the same person.

SHERIFF

Robin Hood is Robin of Locksley.

ISABELLA pretends this is news.

ISABELLA

Really?

SHERIFF says next line more to himself than ISABELLA.

SHERIFF

Wonder why Gisborne never mentioned
it?

ISABELLA

Well it was 20 years ago. Maybe he
forgot.

SHERIFF

No. Gisborne never forgets anything.
Ever. He can carry a grudge for...

SHERIFF stops talking and looks at ISABELLA.

JUMP TO:

96 CASTLE - INTERIOR CORRIDOR

HARRISON is walking down the hall. A guard passes.

GUARD

Ah, sir?

HARRISON

Yes?

(CONTINUED)

GUARD

The Sheriff would like to see you in
the Great Hall.

HARRISON wonders what the SHERIFF wants this time.

HARRISON

(mutter)

What now?!

(to guard)

Dismissed.

Guard leaves. HARRISON heads to the Great Hall.

JUMP TO:

97 CASTLE - GREAT HALL

SHERIFF

So, tell me more.

ISABELLA

About?

SHERIFF

Hood and your brother. Their
relationship.

ISABELLA

Relationship?

SHERIFF

Were they friends?

ISABELLA laughs. The SHERIFF raises an eyebrow.

ISABELLA

Friends? Not really. Guy always
wondered why mother kept pushing him
to be nicer to Robin when, in his
words, he was such an insolent little
brat.

SHERIFF

He still is.

Momentary pause.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Robin always had a knack for finding trouble. Or was it trouble always found him.

(beat)

Guy was usually dragged into it as well.

(beat)

I remember Guy saying that if anyone else did what Robin did, they would have been severely punished or worse.

(beat)

But Robin always seemed to come out unscathed.

SHERIFF

Still does.

The door at the top of the stairs opens. ISABELLA and the SHERIFF look up to see who it is. It's HARRISON. The SHERIFF calls to him.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Ah Harrison. Join us.

HARRISON enters.

PAN TO:

98 TOP OF STAIRS

HARRISON notices the woman with the SHERIFF. He recognizes her from the showdown with Robin Hood.

HARRISON

(mutter)

I wonder who she is, and what she wants.

HARRISON goes to the SHERIFF and ISABELLA. As he gets closer, ISABELLA recognizes him as the guy with the lion from the forest. She realizes everything she just went through could be for nothing if he recognizes her. HARRISON reaches them.

SHERIFF

This is Isabella of Gisborne.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON raises an eyebrow at the name.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
Sir Guy's sister.

HARRISON nods a "hello" to her. She returns the nod.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
She will be staying with us for a while.

HARRISON is curious.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
Show her to one of the guest rooms.

HARRISON
Yes m'lord.

HARRISON indicates that ISABELLA should come with him. ISABELLA nods a "thanks" to the SHERIFF and follows HARRISON out of the hall. SHERIFF watches them walk out.

SHERIFF
(mutter)
Sister, eh? So, the plot thickens.

JUMP TO:

99 CASTLE - INTERIOR CORRIDOR

HARRISON and ISABELLA are walking down a hall. HARRISON checks to make sure no-one is around.

HARRISON
Are you really Gisborne's sister?

ISABELLA
Yes.

Momentary pause.

HARRISON
What were you doing in the forest with Hood?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA gets a look on her face pretending not to know what he is talking about.

HARRISON (cont'd)

I saw you. More than once. So don't pretend you don't know what I'm talking about.

ISABELLA

I was trying to get here. To see my brother. Robin Hood saved me from some men who were chasing me and offered to escort me to Nottingham. All would have been fine if you and your men hadn't...

HARRISON

Yeah.

Momentary pause.

ISABELLA

So where is that lion now?

HARRISON

On his way to some circus, I reckon.

They reach a door and stop.

CONTINUE TO:

100 CORRIDOR - DOOR TO ISABELLA'S ROOM

They stop outside the door.

HARRISON

You can stay here.

ISABELLA

Thanks.

HARRISON

(quietly)

If I were you, I'd turn around and leave as soon as you can.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Why?

HARRISON

There are things at play here that
could...

HARRISON pauses. ISABELLA waits a few moments then prompts him
to continue.

ISABELLA

(curious)

Like what?

HARRISON

(seriously)

I owe your brother my life. And since
he has apparently joined Hood's gang,
I may never get the chance to repay
him personally.

(beat)

But I can protect you.

(beat)

You are his sister. Therefore you are
my sister.

ISABELLA looks at him confused.

ISABELLA

(concern)

Protect me?

HARRISON

Be careful, m'lady. Trust no-one.

ISABELLA

(raise eyebrow)

Does that include you?

HARRISON

I will protect you as long as I can.

HARRISON nods to her, turns, and leaves. ISABELLA watches him
go, then opens the door and enters her room. Door closes.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

SHERWOOD FOREST

101 WAY TO LOCKSLEY

ROBIN, MUCH, GISBORNE, ALLAN, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN are walking through the forest on the way to Locksley.

A whistle sounds.

ROBIN holds up his hand in a "halt" gesture. Everyone stops. ROBIN turns around and places a finger on his lips in a "sh" gesture.

Silence. ROBIN listens.

After a few seconds, the whistle sounds again. ROBIN looks to GISBORNE, then addresses the men.

ROBIN
You head to Locksley.

ROBIN looks to GISBORNE again.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Guy, with me.

GISBORNE nods in agreement. MUCH looks to ROBIN.

MUCH
Where are you...

ROBIN looks to MUCH.

ROBIN
We'll catch you up. Go.

The gang heads off. ROBIN goes to GISBORNE.

GISBORNE
Isabella?

ROBIN
Isabella.

Whistle sounds again. ROBIN and GISBORNE run off.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

102 MEADOW

ISABELLA is waiting. Her horse is off to the side. ROBIN and GISBORNE arrive.

ISABELLA
It worked. I'm in.

ROBIN and GISBORNE smile. ISABELLA looks at GISBORNE.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Do you know a man named Harrison?

GISBORNE
(raise eyebrow)
Harrison?

ISABELLA
Yes.

GISBORNE thinks. After a few seconds ISABELLA continues.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
He said he owed you his life.

GISBORNE
Yes. I think I...

GISBORNE remembers something.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Wait. He was the man with the lion. I
thought he looked familiar.

ROBIN
(surprise)
You know him?

GISBORNE
Knew him. Haven't seen him in about 7-
8 years.

GISBORNE looks to ISABELLA.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Why do you ask?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

He's your, how should I say,
replacement.

GISBORNE

I see.

ISABELLA

He said since he owed you his life and
might never be able to repay you, he
would "protect" me while I was at the
castle.

GISBORNE

(raise eyebrow)

Protect you? From what?

ISABELLA

He wouldn't say. But I get the feeling
he is up to something.

ROBIN

(concern)

Like what?

ISABELLA

You don't think he is planning to kill
the Sheriff and...

ROBIN

He can't.

ISABELLA

(raise eyebrow)

Why not?

GISBORNE

The Sheriff is protected by Prince
John.

ISABELLA

(raise eyebrow)

What?

ROBIN

It's true.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Prince John made him a promise. If he should die an unnatural death, then the county of Nottingham and everything in it shall be obliterated.

ROBIN

Every town and village will be burned to the ground.

GISBORNE

Every man, woman, and child, hanged.

ISABELLA

(raise eyebrow)

Are you two serious? That's mad.

ROBIN

But it's true.

GISBORNE

(thoughtful)

Almost happened once.

FADE OUT AND INTO FLASHBACK:

103 FLASHBACK -- EPISODE 210: WALKABOUT

GISBORNE recalls the events the episode. As the Sheriff voice is heard bellowing "GISBORNE!!!!" we....

FADE OUT AND RETURN TO THE PRESENT:

104 MEADOW

ISABELLA has been listening to the story. ROBIN never really knew what happened inside the castle that day. Marian and Will never spoke of it. Now he did.

ISABELLA

But the Sheriff wasn't dead he was just missing.

GISBORNE

That didn't matter to Jasper. The point is Prince John means it.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

As much as we want the Sheriff dead,
we can not kill him.

GISBORNE

Keep an eye on Harrison. He might not
know about the deal the Sheriff has
with Prince John.

ISABELLA

I'll try.

Momentary pause.

ROBIN

We have to be off, so be careful.

ISABELLA

(smile)
Of course.

GISBORNE brings her horse over. ISABELLA gets on the horse and
rides off. ROBIN and GISBORNE head to Locksley.

JUMP TO:

LATER

LOCKSLEY

105 (306R) VILLAGE

ROBIN, TUCK and GISBORNE walk through the village, gathering
the men together. LITTLE JOHN keeps watch.

ROBIN

But we need your help, and you know
us. We fight for England, and we fight
for King Richard.

GISBORNE

We must stop Prince John. We must!

ROBIN

So let's steal his gold, thwart his
ambition.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

He's a pretender and not our king. This
is not treason. Help us.

JUMP TO:

LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

106 (306R) NEAR LOCKSLEY

The gang and their recruits hide behind the trees. PRINCE JOHN's train comes through. It's a coach, two outriders and several soldiers. ROBIN shoots the coach driver with an arrow and then he, the gang, and the villagers charge the train. LITTLE JOHN puts his staff through a rear wheel, then punches a soldier. ROBIN pulls out his sword and climbs into the driver's seat. Next to ROBIN, TUCK blows a pipe dart at one of the outriders. He falls to the ground and the other starts forward.

ROBIN

(to Tuck)

Good shot. Look out!

The second outrider has turned his horse around and is getting ready to fight. ROBIN points at him with his sword. Two villagers run downhill with a rope tied between two long tools and knock down several soldiers with it. LITTLE JOHN fights one. TUCK pulls off the other outrider. ROBIN uses his sword and blocks a soldier, then jumps off the coach. GISBORNE pulls a soldier off his horse, then runs behind ALLAN to fight more. ALLAN attacks with his dual swords. GISBORNE wounds a soldier, then runs to defend ALLAN's back. A guard off screen throws a knife and it hits GISBORNE in his left side. GISBORNE looks at the knife. MUCH fights on. GISBORNE looks at the knife again, and falls backward, to the ground. LITTLE JOHN knocks out a soldier with his staff. ALLAN punches out a soldier. More soldiers run off. ROBIN pushes a soldier into the side of the coach, slices his back, then peers inside the coach. ALLAN runs over to the coach not seeing GISBORNE, on the ground, behind him. MUCH runs to the coach. TUCK is on the other side. A well-dressed man is inside, looking warily at them all.

PALMER

Hello.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

Good God, we've captured Prince John.

ROBIN and TUCK each open a door. ROBIN pulls PALMER out.

ROBIN

Come here.

TUCK climbs through the coach. ROBIN lets PALMER go.

PALMER

(timidly)

I'd be very grateful if you might spare
my life.

ALLAN and MUCH lift a chest off the back of the coach and set
it on the ground.

LITTLE JOHN

The gold.

LITTLE JOHN stabs at the lock with the butt of his staff. ROBIN
and TUCK each grab one of PALMER's arms and drag him to the
chest.

ROBIN

Let's go.

LITTLE JOHN

This has to be the gold.

LITTLE JOHN bends over the chest, pulls off the broken lock
and flips open the clasp. LITTLE JOHN opens the chest and it's
empty.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

(surprise)

Nothing.

LITTLE JOHN slams the lid open. ROBIN stands up and faces
PALMER. LITTLE JOHN stands.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

(surprise)

Absolutely nothing!

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Well, Prince John is a coward. If this were Prince John, his soldiers wouldn't desert him. He'd try and buy our allegiance. This is his double!

ALLAN realizes that GISBORNE is missing.

ALLAN

Where's Guy?

ALLAN looks around and sees GISBORNE lying on the ground. He rushes to him, dropping his sword on the way.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Guy!

ROBIN is quick on his heels. ALLAN lifts his head into his arms.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Guy.

GISBORNE

I'll be alright.

ALLAN

Sh-sh.

GISBORNE's breathing quiets and he passes out.

ALLAN

Guy!

(beat)

Guy!

ROBIN and ALLAN stare at each other fearing the worst. TUCK, MUCH and LITTLE JOHN come over. PALMER follows. ROBIN hangs and shakes his head.

ROBIN

Lay him down. Come on, give him some space.

ALLAN lays GISBORNE's head down and steps back. TUCK kneels beside GISBORNE, his fist to his mouth, thinking. ROBIN is confused as to why TUCK is doing nothing. PALMER watches.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)

What is it?

TUCK

If I remove it, the bleeding could kill him, could cause more damage.

ALLAN looks away. TUCK looks at MUCH.

TUCK (cont'd)

I need the bark of an elm tree and some nettles to grind. Go, please.

MUCH nods, and he and ALLAN run off.

PALMER

A poultice.

ROBIN, TUCK, and LITTLE JOHN look at PALMER.

PALMER (cont'd)

Quite effective. It draws out the evils while keeping the wound clean.

PALMER dashes forward and pulls the knife out of GISBORNE. GISBORNE gasps.

TUCK

What are you doing?

PALMER

To leave it in would kill him.

PALMER presses his hands to the wound.

PALMER

I shall will the blood back into his body while you prepare the poultice, then we'll need to re-balance his humours.

ROBIN

Who are you?

PALMER

Benjamin Palmer, physician to Prince John.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK tilts his head, amazed.

PALMER

(look up)

But neither his supporter nor his
apologist.

JUMP TO:

107 (306R) A WHILE LATER

TUCK bandages GISBORNE's wound, PALMER looking on. ROBIN sits under a tree nearby, spinning GISBORNE's sword on its point on the ground in front of him. MUCH sits next to him. ALLAN and LITTLE JOHN stand nearby.

PALMER

Two soldiers reported seeing assassins
in the forest.

ROBIN looks at MUCH.

PALMER (cont'd)

The Prince needed a double. He
couldn't cancel his dinner with the
Council of Nobles tomorrow and there
was no-one else. I could have refused,
but I'd have been beheaded.

ROBIN chuckles.

PALMER (cont'd)

Mind you, my predecessor was beheaded
because he couldn't find a case of
scrofula.

ROBIN

And what's scrofula?

TUCK looks up from his bandaging.

TUCK

It's a very rare disease.

PALMER

So rare I can't find a case of it
either.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

Legend has it, it can only be cured by the touch of a king.

ROBIN

So why would he want to find a case of it then?

PALMER

Prince John's obsessed with it.

TUCK

He once saw his father, Henry, successfully cure a child with scrofula.

ROBIN sneers, guessing it was a ruse.

ALLAN

My father told me that when I was a kid.

LITTLE JOHN

I heard it as well.

PALMER

Prince John brought me with him hoping I might find a case of scrofula for him to cure.

(beat)

Like his father did.

(beat)

To prove that he's the rightful king of England, not his brother Richard.

ROBIN nods, understanding now.

PALMER

Of course there's absolutely no evidence that a king's touch cures anything. But as I'd like to keep my head, I... I... I'll not be the one to tell him.

GISBORNE wakes up. He is pale and sweaty. He lifts his head.
ROBIN sets aside the sword.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Can I have some water, please?

Surprisingly MUCH jumps up.

MUCH

I'll get it!

ALLAN

I'll go.

ROBIN watches them both race off, then calmly stands with the water flask and leans over GISBORNE.

ROBIN

Here you go.

ROBIN holds GISBORNE's head up.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Here.

GISBORNE drinks.

GISBORNE

Thank you.

ROBIN

(smile)

You might be out of commission for a few days, but you'll live.

GISBORNE

Thanks.

ROBIN

(jokingly)

Hey, we did fine without you before, I'm sure we can survive a few days without you, now.

GISBORNE tries to laugh. But it hurts. He places a hand on his side. ROBIN smiles.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

108 (306R) A WHILE LATER

ROBIN, PALMER, ALLAN, and MUCH walk off to the side.

ROBIN

Thank you for helping to save his life.
You're free to go.

ALLAN

Yes, thank you.

PALMER

(look at them)
Thank you all...
(to Robin)
...Thank you for not killing me.

ROBIN

So... will you go back to Prince John?

PALMER

Well... I suppose I should.

ROBIN

Right.

ROBIN looks to ALLAN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Tie him up.

ALLAN looks questioningly at ROBIN. PALMER is confused.

CUT TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

NOTTINGHAM

109 (306) STREETS OF TOWN

The royal train arrives in town. PRINCE JOHN rides in an open carriage. The townsfolk cheer and throw rose petals on the street in front of him.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

110 (306R) CASTLE - COURTYARD

There is a bell faintly ringing in the background.

The SHERIFF steps out of the main doors. HARRISON behind him.

The carriage enters through the portcullis. ISABELLA comes out behind HARRISON. The carriage stops.

PRINCE JOHN gets out, scowling at the SHERIFF The SHERIFF comes down the steps, arms outstretched.

SHERIFF

Welcome to Nottingham, Your Highness.

The SHERIFF bows.

PRINCE JOHN

You're still alive.

SHERIFF

(stand)

Yes, of course.

PRINCE JOHN

How surprising.

HARRISON shows a strained face.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

I don't particularly like surprises.

PRINCE JOHN goes up the steps, glaring at HARRISON, then stops at ISABELLA. The SHERIFF glares at HARRISON.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

What's your name?

ISABELLA

(smile slyly)

Isabella.

PRINCE JOHN

Lovely!

PRINCE JOHN lifts her chin up.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
Italian or Spanish?

ISABELLA
Which do you prefer?

PRINCE JOHN smiles and chuckles. ISABELLA chuckles too. They hear horseshoes on the cobblestones and PRINCE JOHN turns and steps towards it. A soldier leads in a horse with PALMER face down over its back, his hands tied, and a cloth tied over his face. The soldier unties him, and PALMER stands facing PRINCE JOHN. He takes off his blindfold and chuckles nervously.

PRINCE JOHN
Speak.

PALMER
Congratulations. We were ambushed, not you. Y... y... your plan worked, Your Highness. Y... your brilliance is unsurpassed.

PRINCE JOHN
Who attacked you?

PALMER
Robin Hood.

PRINCE JOHN closes his eyes in fury, then turns around and heads for the castle door.

PRINCE JOHN
(summoningly)
Harrison.

HARRISON follows PRINCE JOHN. The SHERIFF watches them go. PRINCE JOHN addresses HARRISON as they head up the stairs.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
Prove your loyalty to me. Rid me of him.

ISABELLA, the SHERIFF, a bouncing PALMER, and guards, follow PRINCE JOHN and HARRISON up the steps.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

A SHORT WHILE LATER

111 (306) OUTSIDE SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

The SHERIFF is approaching his room. He spins around, watching suspiciously, then backs up to the door, opens it and enters the room.

PAN TO:

112 (306R) SHERIFF'S BEDROOM

He quickly closes the door, listening for sounds behind it. He continues to walk backwards, then hears a tap and pulls his knife out of his coat.

PRINCE JOHN is sitting on his bed.

PRINCE JOHN

Do you love me, Sheriff?

The SHERIFF turns around.

SHERIFF

With all my heart, sire.

PRINCE JOHN stands, with a pained face.

PRINCE JOHN

Would you give your life for me?

SHERIFF

(curious)

My life?

(no hesitation)

Is that all? Of course.

PRINCE JOHN

Would you take a life for me?

SHERIFF

Even easier to answer.

PRINCE JOHN stops in front of the SHERIFF.

PRINCE JOHN

Harrison has so disappointed me.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

(confused)
Disappointed?

PRINCE JOHN

Obedience, loyalty, and love, is it
too much to ask?

(beat)
A king requires all three.

(beat)
Who's more loyal to me, Sheriff?

(beat)
You or Harrison?

SHERIFF

Of course, I am, sire. My loyalty is
infinite.

PRINCE JOHN

Good.
(beat)
Then prove it to me.
(beat)
Rid me of Harrison, Sheriff.

(beat)
Quickly, discreetly. We don't want to
disturb our noble guests with this
messy business.

(beat)
Kill him for me, Sheriff.

SHERIFF

A privilege, sire.

A pause, then PRINCE JOHN glances at the door and slightly
jerks his head that way.

PAN TO:

113 (306R) CASTLE - INTERIOR CORRIDOR

HARRISON waits behind a pillar. He sees PRINCE JOHN leave the
room. PRINCE JOHN catches his eye and continues on. Then the
SHERIFF comes out. HARRISON's anxious face glares at him. The
SHERIFF glares back.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

LATER

114 (306R) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

PRINCE JOHN, ISABELLA, HARRISON, and the SHERIFF are having dinner in the Great Hall as a piper and drummer entertain. PRINCE JOHN's throne is at the head of the table. On the left side of the table are ISABELLA, PALMER, and three other men. On the right side of the table are the SHERIFF, HARRISON, a man, and a woman. A serving boy puts two bowls of dried plums between the SHERIFF and HARRISON, who are sitting with their backs to the fireplace. PRINCE JOHN is fingering his mustache.

PRINCE JOHN

And where were you attacked?

PALMER

Near a village.

SHERIFF

Locksley village.

HARRISON takes a dried plum and is about to eat it, then he stops and looks at the serving boy.

PALMER

We fought courageously, but we were dreadfully outnumbered.

SHERIFF

No doubt the villagers helped the outlaws.

The SHERIFF watches HARRISON give a plum to the serving boy to try.

PALMER

And eventually I was captured...

The boy chews the plum.

PALMER (cont'd)

...by Robin Hood himself.

SHERIFF

Or so he said.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON waves off the boy.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

I mean, we've all been proved wrong in
the past...

HARRISON is quickly popping plums into his mouth.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

...haven't we, Harrison?

HARRISON looks up from his plums.

PRINCE JOHN

But this time Robin Hood was fooled.

The SHERIFF looks at HARRISON's bowl, scratching his chin.

PALMER

Yes, Your Highness.

PRINCE JOHN

(chuckle)

Excellent. And was he angry...

(beat)

...that I'd made such a fool of him?

PALMER

(smile)

Very angry.

PRINCE JOHN

Did he curse us?

PALMER

Fulsomely.

PRINCE JOHN

(stand)

Wonderful!

HARRISON leans over to the man next to him. The SHERIFF quickly switches bowls and takes a plum from his new dish as HARRISON raises his goblet to his lips.

PRINCE JOHN stands behind PALMER's chair and leans on the back of it.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

What did he say?

PALMER

(face falls)

Oh, I... I... I couldn't, Your Highness.

PRINCE JOHN

Oh, please, tell me exactly what he said.

PALMER

But Your Highness...

PRINCE JOHN

Do you not love me?

PALMER

(smile)

Of course.

PRINCE JOHN

Well, then say!

PRINCE JOHN smiles sweetly. PALMER thinks.

PALMER

He called you a coward.

The music stops. PRINCE JOHN freezes, the smile still on his face.

PALMER

He said only a coward would have a double.

Everyone else at the table freezes. Not daring to make a move. PRINCE JOHN's smile falls a bit, and he raises his head.

PRINCE JOHN

Arrest him.

Two guards step forward.

The music starts back up. PRINCE JOHN takes his seat. Everyone starts to breathe again.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

With pleasure... and what shall I
charge him with?

PRINCE JOHN

(impatiently)
Impersonating the Prince Regent.

PALMER

(being dragged away)
If it makes any difference, sire, I...
I didn't agree with him.

PRINCE JOHN sits slouched, hand to his head. ISABELLA eats a
grape.

PRINCE JOHN

Where is this village of Locksley? I
want to see it.

JUMP TO:

LATER

LOCKSLEY

115 (306R) VILLAGE

The villagers are applauding and cheering. The village is
decorated with garlands and flowers. Two men bring a pig on a
spit, ready to be roasted, past rows of long tables. The
villagers stand and applaud as they pass by and set it over a
fire between the manor and the church.

PAN TO:

115b(306R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON MANOR HOUSE

PRINCE JOHN's carriage arrives from behind Locksley Manor.
HARRISON, the SHERIFF, and ISABELLA, ride in on horseback.
ISABELLA to the right of PRINCE JOHN and HARRISON and the
SHERIFF on his left side.

PRINCE JOHN

These villagers helped attack me. Why?
They look so lovely.

(CONTINUED)

The carriage stops.

PAN TO:

115c(306R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON VILLAGERS

ISABELLA (VO)
Looks like a wedding.

PAN TO:

115d(306R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON PRINCE JOHN

PRINCE JOHN
I love weddings.
(smile and stand)
I shall speak with them.
(to Isabella)
You'll join me?

PRINCE JOHN gets out of the carriage. ISABELLA dismounts. HARRISON and the SHERIFF watch from their horses. PRINCE JOHN walks with ISABELLA towards the people.

PRINCE JOHN
They are sad little creatures really,
aren't they?

ISABELLA remains quiet.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
I sense disagreement.

ISABELLA
One cannot disagree with one's king.

PRINCE JOHN
King?
(stop)
You see me as your King? How delightful
of you. I wish others accepted me as
readily as you do.

ISABELLA
Perhaps I've had the good fortune to
know you better than most.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

Perhaps.

(continue walking)

And perhaps you'd like to get to know
me better still.

ISABELLA chuckles.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Ah, you'll make me work for my
conquest.

ISABELLA

Was not France more valuable because
it was fought for?

PRINCE JOHN

Hah! You make this such good sport.

ISABELLA chuckles. A boy comes up with a flower for PRINCE
JOHN. A few men follow him.

PRINCE JOHN

Hello, young man.

(take the flower)

Oh, thank you.

ISABELLA walks forward.

VILLAGE MAN (VO)

Would His Highness give us his
blessing?

The MAN stretches his arm out to welcome him forward.

ISABELLA

They would be honoured if you would
bless the bride and groom.

PRINCE JOHN

Of course.

PRINCE JOHN smiles and exaggeratedly swaggers forward.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Hah! Are you the bride and groom?

(CONTINUED)

BRIDE/GROOM

Yes, sir, Your Highness.

PRINCE JOHN holds his hand over the couple.

PRINCE JOHN

I wish you prosperity and happiness.

BRIDE/GROOM

(bow)

Thank you, sir.

PRINCE JOHN

And I'm so glad that I could bring you
sun today.

The villagers laugh. PRINCE JOHN chuckles, turns, and walks back to his carriage.

The church bell rings, and the villagers make their way to the church.

PRINCE JOHN steps into the carriage and ISABELLA mounts her horse. PRINCE JOHN waves and smiles at the villagers, who wave back.

PRINCE JOHN

Wait until they're all inside the
church and then burn it to the ground.

PRINCE JOHN smells his flower. ISABELLA is shocked. The last villager waves at PRINCE JOHN, and he waves back. ISABELLA is panicked for them.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Burn it.

Two soldiers on horseback with cold torches gallop forward. The church doors close. They hold the torches to the flames under the pig to light them. One gallops by and throws the torch onto the roof. It lights the shingles, then drops to the ground and the wall is quickly engulfed in flames. PRINCE JOHN smiles. A third soldier runs forward and puts a stick through the handles, barring it closed. The second torchbearer lights the walls on the other side.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA can't help but watch and remember another fire in Locksley so many years ago that changed her life forever.

The flames rise and the people inside scream. The doors shake but don't open.

JUMP TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

116 (306R) OUTLAW CAMP

TUCK peels a carrot with his knife. LITTLE JOHN tastes the soup, makes a face, looks at TUCK, then sets the spoon back in the pot. GISBORNE lies in a bunk and ALLAN feeds him a spoonful of soup. ROBIN sits on a log opposite them, watching. He swings his feet off, comes over and sighs.

GISBORNE

I'll be fine, Robin. It's just a scratch.

LITTLE JOHN

(to Tuck)

We're already too late. The gold is in the castle.

ROBIN turns to LITTLE JOHN.

ROBIN

Then we'll steal it back.

LITTLE JOHN

It's dangerous.

ROBIN

It's too dangerous not to.

MUCH comes running in.

MUCH

Prince John's burning Locksley.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE makes a move to get up. But ROBIN holds him down and gives him a look. GISBORNE gives ROBIN a look that says, "okay. But... "

JUMP TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

LOCKSLEY

117 (306R) BY CHURCH

A soldier lights a wooden cross outside the church as PRINCE JOHN laughs.

Inside, people are crying and screaming. The doors rattle and finally break open. The villagers come out, coughing.

PRINCE JOHN calls out to them.

PRINCE JOHN

You're being punished! For intolerable
disloyalty to me!

The bride and groom run out holding hands and stop and listen to PRINCE JOHN.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

For harbouring and assisting Robin
Hood and his outlaws! And may God
forgive you!

The bride, groom and villagers run. Women scream as the soldiers upset the lavish tables. The flames rise on the church.

VILLAGE MAN 1

To the river, quick!

VILLAGE MAN 2

More buckets!

VILLAGE WOMAN

We need more water here!

VILLAGE MAN 1

Bring more water!

(CONTINUED)

The men race with buckets from the pond.

PRINCE JOHN

(whine)

No, no, no, no, no! They're trying to
put the fire out.

PRINCE JOHN turns to the SHERIFF and HARRISON.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

That's not what I want!

The villagers dump water on the flames, but the church is
completely engulfed.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Stop them, the both of you! Go on!

VILLAGE MAN 1

Come on, hurry up!

The SHERIFF and HARRISON gallop their horses forward.

PRINCE JOHN

This should be entertaining.

VILLAGE MAN 1

You lot, hurry up! Get the buckets!

The villagers splash water on the flames.

VILLAGE MAN 2

Faster!

VILLAGE MAN 1

Bring more water, quickly!

VILLAGE MAN 2

I've got two here!

A soldier sets fire to the back wall. PRINCE JOHN sits,
watching.

ISABELLA

(raise eyebrow)

Do you want them to love you?

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

Of course. And I think they do love me. But I will have respect as well as love.

ISABELLA

Any landowner can subjugate his serf. Only a king can liberate them. A benevolent king is loved.

PRINCE JOHN

But I am benevolent.

He looks at ISABELLA, amazed, and double takes.

VILLAGE MAN 1

Everyone over here, quick! It's spreading!

A man goes to the pond to refill his bucket.

VILLAGE MAN 1

We need more help!

VILLAGE MAN 2

Come on!

A man pours water on the freshly lit wall. The SHERIFF pulls the man aside.

SHERIFF

Get out of the way! Get out of the way!

A soldier holds HARRISON's horse for him and HARRISON dismounts. The SHERIFF throws the village man to the ground.

SHERIFF

Go, peasant!

HARRISON draws his sword and sees the SHERIFF standing near an overhang of the church. HARRISON growls, and with all his might knocks out a supporting pole and the overhang crashes to the ground. The SHERIFF screams, then is silent. HARRISON watches, smiles with satisfaction, and turns away. The SHERIFF peeks out at HARRISON from under the wagon where he had rolled and sees a bow and arrow on the ground in front of him. He crawls

(CONTINUED)

out, picks them up and aims at HARRISON's back as HARRISON approaches two other village men.

HARRISON

Back off and your lives will be spared!

The SHERIFF lets his arrow loose just as another village man approaches HARRISON from behind with his axe raised.

VILLAGE MAN 2

I'll kill you. Ah!

The SHERIFF's arrow hits the would-be assassin in the arm, and he falls to the ground. HARRISON turns around, sees the man fall, then looks up at the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF lowers the bow, a grimace on his face. HARRISON smirks and waves at the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF smirks and waves back.

SHERIFF

Oh, bother.

HARRISON turns to the two men.

HARRISON

Back off!

The church is all flames.

PRINCE JOHN walks towards it and looks back at ISABELLA, smiling proudly. ISABELLA stares in disdain. PRINCE JOHN laughs, watching, then gets back in the carriage. HARRISON and the SHERIFF come back on their horses.

PRINCE JOHN

Bored now.

(to guard)

Make sure it's burned to the ground.

ISABELLA starts her horse, unable to watch any more. PRINCE JOHN chuckles at ISABELLA.

PRINCE JOHN

Ah, I love the refusal before the
surrender.

PRINCE JOHN smiles and briefly raises his eyebrows. The SHERIFF smiles. HARRISON smirks briefly. The church continues to burn.

(CONTINUED)

The soldiers and the carriage quickly leave. They take the road back towards the Manor house and exit the same way they came in. The SHERIFF and HARRISON follow behind him. PRINCE JOHN tosses his flower out.

ROBIN and the gang, (minus Gisborne), arrive from the other end of the village and engage the few soldiers left behind, incapacitating them all.

ROBIN remembers another fire years ago that changed his life. Part of him is glad GISBORNE is not here to see this.

LITTLE JOHN

Come on!

ROBIN

Come on! Come on! Let's go!

ROBIN has organized the gang and the villagers into a bucket brigade. ISABELLA joins it next to ROBIN by the pond and hands him a bucket.

ISABELLA

Take this.

ROBIN

You should be burning it down, not trying to save it, shouldn't you?

ISABELLA

This was once my home too, remember?

ISABELLA turns for another bucket, but ROBIN hears the building collapsing and pulls her out of the way. The bucket brigade stops as the people realize there's no saving the church. The front upper wall falls in. The belfry falls into the roof causing the entire front of the church to collapse under the weight. The side walls fall in. The rest of the roof caves in.

JUMP TO:

LATER

118 (306R) NEAR REMAINS OF CHURCH

Only smoldering timbers remain. ROBIN brings a cup of water from the well over to ISABELLA.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Isabella.

ISABELLA turns.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Here.

ROBIN holds out the cup. ISABELLA takes it and drinks. She looks over at the remains of the church and then looks at ROBIN.

ISABELLA

This fire reminds me of...

ROBIN

I know. Me too.

ISABELLA

We couldn't do anything then, and we couldn't...

ROBIN

I know.

JUMP TO:

LATER

119 (306R) MEADOW NEAR LOCKSLEY

ISABELLA readies her horse, which she had tethered out of sight of Locksley before coming back to help. ROBIN comes up to her with his bow and quiver in hand.

ALLAN

(questioningly)

Robin?!

ROBIN looks back at him, and ALLAN points in the other direction.

ROBIN

I'll catch you up!

ALLAN

Right!

(CONTINUED)

MUCH
Come on, let's go.

ALLAN and MUCH jog off.

ROBIN
So!... Will you go back to Nottingham?

ISABELLA
(sigh)
That was the plan.

ROBIN
Right. Well, you know where I am if
you need my help, eh?

ROBIN turns to go.

ISABELLA
You're Robin Hood. Shouldn't you be
robbing me, not helping me?

ROBIN scratches the back of his head, tosses his things to the
ground and rolls up his sleeve.

ROBIN
Yeah, you're right, I am.

ROBIN turns to face ISABELLA and motions to her.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Give me your necklace.

ISABELLA
(disbelief)
You're robbing me?

ROBIN stares bluntly at her a moment, then puts his hand to
her neck, pausing just before he touches her, then gently
reaches around her with both hands to take it off.

ISABELLA
(chuckle)
See, I like this necklace.

ROBIN pulls it away.

ROBIN

Are you going to help me?

ISABELLA

Help you? This is not the way to go about it.

ROBIN

Give me your rings.

ISABELLA

Er...

She takes a ring off each index finger.

ROBIN

Because you don't want Prince John to think we cooperated, do you?

ISABELLA

Anything else you might want?

ROBIN

Mm-hm. I want to undermine Prince John's claim to be the legitimate King of England and humiliate his ambition.

She frowns.

ROBIN

And I'm prepared to die to stop him.

ISABELLA

You might be more effective alive.

ROBIN

Will you help me?

ISABELLA

Yes.

She pulls up her skirt and unties a purse wrapped around her left thigh. ROBIN chuckles.

ISABELLA

Give this to the people of Locksley.

(CONTINUED)

Coins clink as she hands him the purse.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Help them rebuild their church.

ROBIN nods, staring at her.

ROBIN
So you defy Prince John.

ISABELLA
(shake head)
He begs my defiance.

ROBIN tosses ISABELLA's purse to the ground. They stare at each other. ROBIN strokes her cheek.

ROBIN
So... is there anything else...
(smile slightly)
...that I might steal?

ISABELLA
Perhaps.

They stare another moment, then ROBIN leans in a bit, pauses to see her reaction, then gives her a quick kiss on the lips. He sees her eyes are still closed and wraps his arms around her and gives her a longer kiss. Afterwards, ISABELLA keeps her eyes closed and puts a finger to his lips.

ISABELLA
(weakly)
Stop thief.

ISABELLA opens her eyes. ROBIN chuckles and kisses her again.

JUMP TO:

LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

120 (306R) OUTLAW CAMP

ROBIN takes off the cloth that is covering ISABELLA's eyes, then steps into the "kitchen". ISABELLA looks at the uncertain

(CONTINUED)

faces of the gang. GISBORNE is sitting up on his bed. ALLAN sits with him. ISABELLA chuckles nervously and steps forward. She says her line to ROBIN in a "politely but not meaning it" way.

ISABELLA

It's nice.

ISABELLA sees GISBORNE.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Guy?

She goes to him. She notices he is hurt.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

You're hurt.

GISBORNE

Just a scratch. I'm fine.

GISBORNE gives ROBIN a "why is she here" look. ROBIN addresses the gang.

ROBIN

She said she can help us.

ROBIN looks at ISABELLA.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Didn't you?

ISABELLA

Yes. I.... I can get you into the castle.

TUCK

You want us to trust her with our lives? We're still not sure she is on our side.

GISBORNE

She is my sister. She will do what I say.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA gives him a hard look. GISBORNE realizes that didn't come out the way he meant. He is about to say something else, but MUCH jumps in.

MUCH

But she lives in the Castle. She could be...

ROBIN

I trust her. Guy trusts her. That's enough.

ISABELLA gives ROBIN a look. GISBORNE notices and wonders what it means.

ALLAN

Alright, so she gets us in the castle. Then what?

MUCH

Well, then we get captured and I presume killed.

ROBIN turns away, flustered with the gang. ISABELLA is uncomfortable. TUCK is thinking. He gets an idea.

TUCK

The "king's evil!"

MUCH thinks TUCK is referring to King Richard and corrects him.

MUCH

The Prince, Tuck. The Prince is evil.

TUCK goes to the storage place for his red book.

TUCK

Oh, no, no, no, no, no, no, no.

TUCK comes back and sits.

TUCK (cont'd)

Prince John is searching for a victim, of scrofula.

ROBIN frowns, shifts his feet, thinking along with TUCK.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

So he can repeat that same feat, prove his divine right to the throne, yeah?

TUCK

We give him a victim. I can make a potion which brings out red blisters on the neck which looks exactly like scrofula.

ROBIN

So the nobles all assemble in the Great Hall, in comes Prince John with his victim, he touches him...

TUCK

(interrupt)

...fails...

ROBIN

...then we humiliate him.

LITTLE JOHN

Which distracts the nobles while we steal the gold.

MUCH

That might work.

MUCH jumps down from his perch and looks at TUCK's book.

ROBIN

Right. Isabella can get us in, and apart from Guy here, Allan...

(chuckle in anticipation)

...knows the castle better than the rest of us.

(look at Allan)

So you can get us out.

ALLAN

There's a trap door in the cloisters... now if we lower a rope down, we can get into a tunnel that leads directly out of the castle. We won't even be seen.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

So come on, what do we think? We can convince Prince John, can't we?

Silence. TUCK stands.

TUCK

Benjamin Palmer, the physician! We helped him, he owes us. He'll convince Prince John.

ROBIN

(look at Isabella)

You should know him. If he's part of the Prince's entourage, you can get to him.

ISABELLA

No. He's due to be executed tomorrow.

GISBORNE

Well, there's no reason why he shouldn't help us then. Is there?

ROBIN

Right.

ISABELLA smiles at ROBIN, then chuckles.

ISABELLA

(seriously)

I won't fail you...

ISABELLA looks at everyone and lingers on GISBORNE.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

...any of you.

The gang remains silent.

TUCK

We, er, still need a victim.

ROBIN

I think I know someone who can help.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

LATERNOTTINGHAM

121 (306R) CASTLE - COURTYARD

PALMER is sitting in the birdcage on the ground in the middle of the courtyard. ISABELLA rides in on her horse.

GUARD

Send for the groom!

The guard holds the horse while ISABELLA dismounts.

She sees PALMER in the cage and is about to go to him when she sees HARRISON and rushes to him instead, playing the victim of Robin Hood.

ISABELLA

They are beasts! Hood and his outlaws,
they've robbed me.

ISABELLA runs her fingers through her hair. HARRISON puts his hands on his hips, listening.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Stole my jewellery. Look at me.

The CAMERA pans up to the cloister as ISABELLA continues talking.

PAN TO:

122 (306R) SHERIFF AND PRINCE JOHN

The SHERIFF and PRINCE JOHN are watching from the cloister.
(The conversation between ISABELLA and HARRISON can be heard off camera.)

PRINCE JOHN

(referring to Isabella)
She's lovely, isn't she?

ISABELLA (VO)

I was so scared.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN
(indicating Harrison)
He will be dead before supper, yes?

HARRISON (VO)
Well, you should have come back with
us and not tried to...

SHERIFF
Well, I wouldn't set a place for him
myself, sire.

PRINCE JOHN
Mm. Have her brought to me.

PRINCE JOHN walks off. The SHERIFF looks down into the
courtyard.

JUMP TO:

SOME TIME LATER

123 (306R) GREAT HALL

ISABELLA is in the center of the room, recounting her story of
Robin Hood to the nobles and PRINCE JOHN.

PRINCE JOHN is sitting on his throne opposite the balcony. The
SHERIFF sits on his right, and HARRISON sits on his left.

ISABELLA looks around her, then approaches a nearby guard.

ISABELLA
Then I took the sword in my hand...
(beat)
...and tugged it from its sheath...

The onlookers gasp as ISABELLA pulls out the guard's sword.
PRINCE JOHN looks alarmed, totally engrossed in the tale.
ISABELLA slowly sweeps the sword around, then approaches PRINCE
JOHN.

Four guards step forward with their spears, then retreat when
they see there is no danger.

PRINCE JOHN
Ooh!

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

And I put the sword to the soft part
of his throat.

She puts the sword at PRINCE JOHN's throat.

PRINCE JOHN

And?

ISABELLA steps back to the middle of the room.

ISABELLA

Dozens of outlaws appeared from
nowhere. And I shouted, "Long live
King John!"

ISABELLA drops the sword and throws back her head and arms.

PRINCE JOHN

Oh, you adorable girl! Everyone leave
us!

ISABELLA lifts her head upright while the nobles mumble and
leave the hall. ISABELLA turns around, watching PRINCE JOHN.

The SHERIFF and HARRISON pass her, followed by the guards.
PRINCE JOHN stands.

PRINCE JOHN

You spoke to them.

(beat)

The villagers.

(beat)

As you tried to put out the fire?

ISABELLA

Yes.

PRINCE JOHN sighs.

PRINCE JOHN

Why do the people not love me as you
love me, Isabella?

ISABELLA

You burnt their church to the ground
with them in it.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN pauses a moment, thinking.

PRINCE JOHN

Yes... and?

ISABELLA

The people want to love you as their King.

(beat)

If you can prove your divine right to the nobles, then the people will follow.

PRINCE JOHN

Do you think?

ISABELLA

Yes... King John.

PRINCE JOHN

Oh, you adorable girl.

His head drifts, thinking of the sound.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Say it again.

ISABELLA

(whisper seductively)

King... John.

PRINCE JOHN revels in the words again.

PRINCE JOHN

It does sound good.

(turn)

It is my divine right.

PRICE JOHN sighs.

ISABELLA

You must prove it to everyone.

PRINCE JOHN looks gratefully at ISABELLA.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

SOME TIME LATER

124 (306) COURTYARD

PALMER sits cross-legged in the birdcage. ISABELLA runs down the steps to him. PALMER stands as he sees her approaching.

ISABELLA

You are going to help me.

PALMER

(confused)

Am I?

ISABELLA

The Sheriff is going to execute you.
This is your last chance to save
yourself.

PALMER

Mm. You've convinced me.

PRINCE JOHN

Where is he?

PRINCE JOHN comes quickly down the stairs. ISABELLA runs to him, pointing back at PALMER.

ISABELLA

Our prayers have been answered, sire.

PRINCE JOHN

Has he really found a victim of the
disease? Really?

ISABELLA

He saw a woman in Locksley. I couldn't
believe my ears.

PRINCE JOHN looks to PALMER.

PRINCE JOHN

Is it true?

PALMER

Yes.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

(excited)

Oh, this is so exciting!

PALMER

I saw the poor pitiful woman when Robin Hood held me captive. I was sure it was scrofula.

PRINCE JOHN

Why didn't you tell me?

PALMER

Because you put me... because the Sheriff put me in this cage.

PRINCE JOHN

(to Isabella)

What does the Sheriff think he's doing? The man's my physician!

(to Palmer)

Are you sure it's scrofula?

PALMER

Yes.

ISABELLA catches his eye with her finger and puts it to her chin.

PALMER (cont'd)

Completely and utterly certain.

PRINCE JOHN

The nobles will have their proof of my divine right to be King. Physician, you will bring this woman to me tonight. In front of all the nobles... I will cure her and prove myself their rightful King.

PRINCE JOHN turns and leaves. PALMER looks wide-eyed at ISABELLA. ISABELLA smiles at him and follows PRINCE JOHN.

Guards come forward to release PALMER from his cage.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

LATER THAT NIGHT

125 (306R) OUTSIDE THE CASTLE WALLS

A hooded ISABELLA leads the gang along the outside wall. ROBIN carries his bow and quiver and wears a cloak. The gang follow.

ISABELLA

He's given each of the nobles a casket full of gold, too much for them to carry on their person. It will be in their rooms.

They arrive at an iron gate.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

There'll be five trumpet fanfares.

MUCH

Five.

ISABELLA

(open gate)

On the fifth, you have to be ready to escape.

ROBIN

Right, and I'll make a distraction.

MUCH, ALLAN, and LITTLE JOHN go through the gate. TUCK takes the village girl, ANNA, aside. ANNA wears a cloak, cloth cap and headscarf. ROBIN waits at the gate.

TUCK

Five, good.

TUCK holds up a vial and looks at ANNA.

TUCK (cont'd)

Drink this. The marks will be gone by tomorrow.

ANNA looks at ROBIN as TUCK uncorks the vial. She hesitates a moment, then takes it and drinks.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

126 (306R) GREAT HALL

The first fanfare sounds.

PRINCE JOHN enters through the upper doors onto the balcony as the nobles applaud. PRINCE JOHN leans on the banister a moment, reveling in the adulation, then goes down the stairs.

Meanwhile, ISABELLA enters through the lower doors underneath and ushers ROBIN and ANNA to the side opposite the stairs where PALMER is waiting.

A dozen guards follow PRINCE JOHN down the stairs.

ROBIN

(whisper to Palmer)

Thank you for helping us.

PALMER

You're welcome.

ANNA waits nervously. ROBIN looks at her.

ROBIN

(whisper to Anna)

After the fifth blast, be ready for my signal.

ANNA nods.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(to Palmer)

Don't worry, we won't leave you behind.

PALMER

(chuckle nervously)

Very optimistic.

PRINCE JOHN sits on his throne at the far end.

CUT TO:

127 (306) INTERIOR CORRIDOR

LITTLE JOHN, MUCH, and ALLAN defeat two guards. TUCK follows.

(CONTINUED)

They split up: TUCK and LITTLE JOHN search the guest rooms and MUCH and ALLAN ready their escape.

We stay with MUCH and ALLAN.

MUCH
Where is this trap door?

ALLAN
I think it's down here.

MUCH
You think?

ALLAN
Yeah.

ALLAN walks down a corridor and MUCH follows.

JUMP TO:

128 (306) GUEST ROOM

LITTLE JOHN empties a small box of gold into a sack.

The second fanfare plays.

JUMP TO:

129 (306R) THE GREAT HALL

PALMER
Was that the second fanfare?

ISABELLA draws PALMER forward to PRINCE JOHN.

ISABELLA
Good luck.

A page sets out a cushion in the middle of the floor. The nobles are standing along both sides of the room. As PALMER reaches the cushion, he announces.

PALMER
Bring the poor afflicted woman forward.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA escorts ANNA to the center of the room. ANNA kneels on the cushion. ISABELLA takes her place at PRINCE JOHN's side. PALMER stands behind ANNA and pulls off her headscarf, revealing large blisters on her neck and lower jaw.

PALMER (cont'd)
This woman has scrofula...

PRINCE JOHN grimaces as sounds of disgust sound from the crowd.

PALMER (cont'd)
...the "king's evil," and can only be
cured by the touch of a king.

PRINCE JOHN closes his eyes, steeling himself, rises with his hands up, and approaches ANNA.

PRINCE JOHN
I shall now lay my hands upon this...
(beat)
young woman...
(beat)
cure her of her affliction...
(beat)
and save her life.

PALMER
When she's cured, Prince John will be
revealed, like his father before him,
to be the rightful King of England.

PRINCE JOHN
(close eyes)
I command you now, in the name of all
things holy, to leave this body now
and never to return.

PRINCE JOHN puts his hands on either side of the ANNA's face,
over the blisters.

The third fanfare plays.

CUT TO:

130 (306R) CHAPEL

The SHERIFF peeks in the door. HARRISON is kneeling at the

(CONTINUED)

altar. The SHERIFF walks along the wall and stands behind the altar. HARRISON looks up at him.

SHERIFF

Harrison.

(scoff)

What are you doing here?

HARRISON suddenly draws his sword and takes a hack at the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF steps aside to avoid it. HARRISON stabs, and the SHERIFF steps the other way. HARRISON swings and the SHERIFF ducks. The SHERIFF picks up a thick wooden candlestick and blocks twice, then kicks HARRISON back. They fight on, and the SHERIFF, with the candlestick, knocks HARRISON on his back to the floor. The SHERIFF brings down the candlestick, but HARRISON rolls over and kicks back the SHERIFF. HARRISON swings his sword. They fight and crash through a window into the corridor.

CONTINUE TO:

131 (306R) CORRIDOR

HARRISON has the SHERIFF at the point of his sword and is slowly advancing on him. HARRISON swings his sword at the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF retreats. HARRISON swings his sword. The SHERIFF ducks behind a pillar and the sword hits it.

The SHERIFF pulls a torch off the wall and holds it out at HARRISON. HARRISON retreats a step, then attacks. The SHERIFF grabs his arm and swings the torch at him. HARRISON ducks, then punches the SHERIFF in the kidney. The SHERIFF swings the torch back over HARRISON's head.

CUT TO:

132 (306R) THE GREAT HALL

PRINCE JOHN pulls his hands off ANNA. The nobles applaud. The page brings a bowl of water to PRINCE JOHN for him to rinse his hands.

ISABELLA shifts in her chair as the fourth fanfare plays.

ROBIN nods. ISABELLA starts to clap as PRINCE JOHN takes his seat and leans back with his eyes closed.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN
Has the disease been cured?

ANNA shifts uneasily as PALMER peers closely at her.

PALMER
(disappointingly)
No, sire.

The nobles gasp and murmur.

PALMER (cont'd)
The woman is not cured.

PRINCE JOHN stares blankly at the ANNA as ROBIN smiles triumphantly.

PRINCE JOHN
How can this be?

There is silence in the hall. PRINCE JOHN stands.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
(shout)
How can this be?!

The nobles gather around ANNA.

CUT TO:

133 (306R) DUNGEONS

The SHERIFF and HARRISON tumble down the stairs to the dungeons. The SHERIFF gets up first.

SHERIFF
(panting)
Did Prince John put you up to this? He
asked me to kill you, do you hear me,
Harrison?

HARRISON sits up slowly as the SHERIFF advances.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
This is nothing but sport for him.
Putting us up against each other?

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON kicks the SHERIFF, and the SHERIFF drops his sword.

HARRISON

This isn't for Prince John.

HARRISON grabs the SHERIFF's coat and throws him into the wall, then punches him in his back. He grabs him again and throws him up against the opposite wall. The SHERIFF doubles over and HARRISON pulls him to standing.

HARRISON (cont'd)

This is for me! And a promise I made.

HARRISON punches the SHERIFF to the ground and picks up his sword.

HARRISON (cont'd)

A promise to get rid of you.

The SHERIFF turns over on to his back, hiding a knife lying on the steps under him.

SHERIFF

Quickly, quickly, please, I beg you.

HARRISON holds his sword to the SHERIFF's throat as the SHERIFF feigns fear.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Have mercy on me. Don't disgrace me.

Kill me quickly.

HARRISON hesitates, then raises his sword over his head. The SHERIFF quickly sits up and stabs HARRISON in the thigh with the knife and lets it go, still stuck in the leg. HARRISON roars with pain, doubles over and drops the sword.

The SHERIFF kicks HARRISON in the head. HARRISON falls back to the floor, gets himself up and cries out in rage. The SHERIFF picks up the fallen sword. HARRISON grabs the SHERIFF's arm and punches him in the stomach, then the SHERIFF elbows him and kicks him. HARRISON struggles backwards up the short stairs towards a cell, groaning in pain as the SHERIFF advances. HARRISON scrambles backwards.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

134 (306) GUEST ROOM

The fifth fanfare sounds.

TUCK and LITTLE JOHN hold another box of gold.

TUCK

That's five. We'd better go.

CUT TO:

135 (306R) THE GREAT HALL

PRINCE JOHN stands in front of ANNA. PRINCE JOHN shouts at ANNA.

PRINCE JOHN

I order you to be cured!

ROBIN steps out with an arrow laid on his bow.

PRINCE JOHN

(shout)

I order you to be cured!

ROBIN aims. ANNA ducks as she hears the bow twang. The arrow whistles past PRINCE JOHN's head and lands in the wall just above the throne. ISABELLA immediately stands and draws attention to the arrow.

ISABELLA

(melodramatically)

Oh, good lord! It can't be!

The nobles and PRINCE JOHN gather round her.

PRINCE JOHN

What is it?

PALMER pulls ANNA to her feet, and they run towards the door. ISABELLA looks at ROBIN.

ISABELLA

Robin Hood.

ROBIN, PALMER, and ANNA run out the door.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
Palmer, the door!

PRINCE JOHN
Get him!

ROBIN and PALMER close the doors and ROBIN puts the bar down.

PRINCE JOHN
Get him!

ISABELLA smiles.

GUARD (VO)
After them!

CUT TO:

136 (306R) CLOISTER

A square hole is in the floor and a rope hangs down into it. ALLAN, TUCK, and MUCH surround it. LITTLE JOHN is keeping watch.

LITTLE JOHN
They're coming.

MUCH
Quick!

ROBIN, ANNA, and PALMER run in. LITTLE JOHN gets out of their way. TUCK looks at ANNA.

TUCK
Come on!

MUCH
Take that.

MUCH holds out the rope to ANNA.

MUCH (cont'd)
Down you go. As quick as you can.
(to Palmer)
You're next.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

137 (306R) DUNGEONS

HARRISON punches the SHERIFF, then grabs him from behind. HARRISON pushes the SHERIFF forward into the wall, then kicks his behind, turns him around, pushes his back into the wall several times, then punches him in the stomach and pins his shoulders to the wall. The SHERIFF grabs the knife still stuck in HARRISON's leg. HARRISON roars in pain and grabs the knife. The SHERIFF punches him. HARRISON staggers away. The SHERIFF picks up the sword.

CUT TO:

138 (306R) BATTLEMENTS

HARRISON staggers along the battlements, the knife still in his leg. The SHERIFF follows with the sword. The SHERIFF stabs at HARRISON. HARRISON ducks aside. The SHERIFF swings and HARRISON ducks. The SHERIFF holds it overhead. HARRISON grabs his arm, then elbows him in the head, grabs his neck and pushes his head over the parapet. HARRISON slams the SHERIFF's hand into the merlon until the sword drops over the side, then holds both his hands on the SHERIFF's throat. HARRISON pulls his dagger out and holds it above his head. The SHERIFF knees HARRISON in the groin. HARRISON swipes with the dagger, then stabs at the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF catches his arm and punches it, causing HARRISON to drop the dagger. The SHERIFF backslaps HARRISON.

HARRISON falls into the gap between two merlons, one hand on each keeping him from falling. The SHERIFF shifts the knife in HARRISON's thigh. HARRISON howls. HARRISON looks up at the SHERIFF. HARRISON adjusts his grip on the stones. The SHERIFF grabs HARRISON's feet and pulls them over HARRISON's head. HARRISON now hangs from the merlon with one hand. The SHERIFF retrieves the dagger and holds it over HARRISON. HARRISON pulls the knife out of his leg and stabs the SHERIFF in the chest just as the SHERIFF is about to stab him. HARRISON grabs the stones with both hands. The SHERIFF drops the dagger, staggers backwards, then leans on a merlon. HARRISON pulls himself up over the parapet onto safe ground. The SHERIFF lowers himself to sit on the floor.

SHERIFF

Harrison... don't trust him.

The SHERIFF puts a hand on HARRISON's foot.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Do you hear me?

The SHERIFF breathes hard.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Nothing... is what it seems. Nothing.

The SHERIFF dies. HARRISON stares at him.

CUT TO:

139 (306R) THE GREAT HALL

Two tables run the length of the hall. The nobles sit around the one closest to the fireplace.

PRINCE JOHN sits at the center of the other, his back to the wall. ISABELLA sits at his right. An empty chair is to his left.

PRINCE JOHN stands, visibly disappointed and depressed.

PRINCE JOHN

(slurring)

I pray you will remember my generosity
and my gifts to you all. All I ask for
in return is your loyalty and your
love.

PRINCE JOHN sits, and the feast commences. PRINCE JOHN looks to ISABELLA.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

(justifying)

It wasn't scrofula. It couldn't have
been.

ISABELLA

Of course not, sire.

PRINCE JOHN

Say it.

(beat)

Like you did before.

(beat)

Say it.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(whisper)

King John.

PRINCE JOHN

It does sound good.

ISABELLA smiles. Footsteps slowly approach. HARRISON steps around a blue-and-black banner. PRINCE JOHN motions him over. HARRISON sits in the empty chair, sighs, places the SHERIFF's jeweled tooth on the table and looks up at PRINCE JOHN. PRINCE JOHN chuckles, smiles slightly, then stands. ISABELLA looks at HARRISON.

PRINCE JOHN

It is with great sadness that I must announce the death of the Sheriff of Nottingham. He has been murdered by the villainous Robin Hood.

The nobles murmur. PRINCE JOHN picks up ROBIN's arrow from the table.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

These outlaws must be stopped.

PRINCE JOHN snaps the arrow in two on the word "stopped." ISABELLA and HARRISON exchange looks. ISABELLA has a feeling that it has HARRISON who killed the Sheriff, and not ROBIN or one of his men. ISABELLA quietly stands and raises her goblet.

ISABELLA

Long live Prince John!

The nobles and HARRISON stand.

ALL

Long live Prince John!

PRINCE JOHN

(sit and lean back)

Long live me.

PRINCE JOHN smiles. ISABELLA and HARRISON glare at each other as they drink, then sit. HARRISON wonders just how much ISABELLA knows. PRINCE JOHN puts his hand on HARRISON's arm.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN
Tell me all about it.

JUMP TO:

LATER**SHERWOOD FOREST**

140 (306R) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ROBIN, GISBORNE, MUCH, ALLAN, LITTLE JOHN, and TUCK laugh as LITTLE JOHN empties a bag of gold coins onto kneeling TUCK and ROBIN's outstretched hands. PALMER kneels by TUCK and ROBIN. ALLAN and MUCH stand behind them.

ROBIN
Well, come on!

TUCK
Come on! Friends, my gold is yours.

The laughter continues.

MUCH
I don't believe it.

JUMP TO:

LATER**NOTTINGHAM**

141 CASTLE - GREAT HALL

Everyone is gone except ISABELLA and PRINCE JOHN.

ISABELLA
(curious)
Is it true?

PRINCE JOHN
(raise eyebrow)
Is what true?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

That you had a deal with the Sheriff
that if he were to die an unnatural
death, that you would burn Nottingham
to the ground?

PRINCE JOHN

Oh that.

PRINCE JOHN doesn't continue.

ISABELLA

So it is true.

PRINCE JOHN

What if it is?

ISABELLA

If it is, now that he is dead, and he
didn't die a natural death...

ISABELLA pauses. PRINCE JOHN sees where she is going.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

If I asked you to spare Nottingham,
would you?

PRINCE JOHN

I...

ISABELLA gives him a look.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

I might be persuaded to change my mind.

ISABELLA smiles. PRINCE JOHN smiles.

JUMP TO:

142 (306) CASTLE - EXTERIOR CORRIDOR

The SHERIFF's body is on a cart. A guard pulls a narrow cloth
over it, leaving the right arm exposed. The SHERIFF raises his
index finger a bit, and as the cart starts, clenches his fist.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

NEXT DAY**SHERWOOD FOREST**

143 OUTLAW CAMP

ALLAN, GISBORNE, ROBIN, LITTLE JOHN, and TUCK are sitting around. MUCH stops in the doorway with an "I can't believe it" dazed look on his face. ALLAN looks up and notices the look.

ALLAN

You okay? You look like your best friend just died.

MUCH doesn't say anything. Everyone else looks at MUCH. ROBIN and GISBORNE get an eerie feeling.

ROBIN

Much?

MUCH

(monotone)

He's dead.

LITTLE JOHN

Who's dead?

MUCH

The Sheriff.

ROBIN and GISBORNE exchange a look. MUCH continues.

MUCH (cont'd)

Last night. While we were...

ALLAN

No way. Really?

MUCH

Prince John is saying that he was killed by Robin Hood!

LITTLE JOHN looks at GISBORNE.

GISBORNE

Don't look at me. I was in no condition to take him on last night.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN thinks, and heads for the exit. GISBORNE thinks he knows where ROBIN is going.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Wait for me.

ALLAN looks at them.

ALLAN

Where are you going?

ROBIN

To find out what happened.

TUCK

Want company?

ROBIN

No. Guy and I can handle it.

ROBIN and GISBORNE leave. MUCH and ALLAN watch them leave.

JUMP TO:

144 MEADOW

ROBIN and GISBORNE arrive to find ISABELLA already there.

ISABELLA

You heard.

GISBORNE

(raised eyebrow)

Is it true? Is he dead?

ISABELLA

Yes.

ROBIN

It wasn't us.

ISABELLA

I know that.

GISBORNE

You can't go back there. It's not safe.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

I'll be fine.

ROBIN

But Nottingham will be...

ISABELLA

No it won't. Prince John promised me.

GISBORNE

(raise eyebrow)

And you believe him?

ISABELLA

Yes. He has withdrawn the deal.

GISBORNE

Really? Just like that?

ISABELLA

Yes. He said it was a verbal deal and no proof of it existed. He said if anyone asks, he could say the Sheriff was lying.

Momentary pause.

ROBIN

So what happened?

ISABELLA

I think Harrison did it on Prince John's orders. I can't prove it. But I'm pretty sure it was him. He and the Sheriff were acting pretty weird around each other.

ROBIN and GISBORNE exchange a look.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Well, I better be getting back.

ISABELLA turns to leave. ROBIN grabs her arm.

ROBIN

Be careful. We can't protect you behind the...

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(smile)

Don't worry. Harrison has promised to protect me, remember.

ROBIN

Right.

ISABELLA looks at ROBIN's hand on her arm. He removes it. GISBORNE looks at ROBIN.

GISBORNE

Come on, Robin. We should go.

ROBIN

Yeah.

ROBIN and GISBORNE leave. ISABELLA goes to her horse, mounts, and rides off.

JUMP TO:

3 WEEKS LATER

LOCKSLEY

145 (307) VILLAGE

The sun shines brightly over the parched earth. Flies buzz over a dry riverbed of sticks and stones. The villagers have set up awnings to shade them from the sun, but they are all suffering from the heat.

TUCK and MUCH are in the village. MUCH gives an older woman, whose lips are cracked and dry, a drink from a water flask. MUCH looks up as TUCK walks by.

MUCH

That's the last drop.

TUCK

God help us.

TUCK looks behind him at the villagers, shakes his head, and walks out.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

SHERWOOD FOREST

146 MEADOW

GISBORNE and ISABELLA are in the middle of a discussion. Things appear to be getting a little heated.

GISBORNE

Don't.

ISABELLA

Don't what?

GISBORNE

Don't get pulled in.

ISABELLA

What do you mean?

GISBORNE

I can see it in your eyes, sis. You're enjoying it. You're enjoying hanging out with Prince...

ISABELLA

(try to deny it)
Don't be ridiculous.

She turns away from him. He grabs her arm.

GISBORNE

Isabella, I know the look. I was where you are. It almost destroyed me. It cost me so much. If only I got out sooner.

ISABELLA stares at GISBORNE.

ISABELLA

Well I'm not you!

GISBORNE looks at her.

GISBORNE

Promise me. Promise me you won't...

ISABELLA pulls her arm free.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Trust me. I can handle Prince John.

They look at each in silence for a few moments.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

I have to go.

ISABELLA walks over to her horse, mounts it, and rides off.
GISBORNE watches her go, wondering if he's already too late.

CUT TO:

147 WAY TO LOCKSLEY

ROBIN is walking by himself, heading to Locksley. He sees
GISBORNE walking towards him. He can tell something is wrong.
ROBIN stops and waits for GISBORNE.

PAN TO:

147b(cont'd) FOCUS ON GISBORNE

GISBORNE looks up and sees ROBIN up ahead. He walks to him.

CONTINUE TO:

147c(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GISBORNE

GISBORNE reaches ROBIN. He stops and looks at ROBIN.

GISBORNE

We have to do something, Robin.

ROBIN wonders what GISBORNE is talking about.

ROBIN

About?

GISBORNE

Isabella.

ROBIN gets an "of course, who else" look on his face.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

We have to get her out of there. We
have to make her see that...

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

What would you have me do? Tie her up?

GISBORNE

If I thought that would work, I'd...

ROBIN

Guy, I know she's your sister, but...
She says she's fine, so we have to
trust her.

GISBORNE

That's just it. I don't think I do
anymore.

ROBIN gives him a look.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

She gets this look sometimes. A look I
know all too well.

ROBIN thinks he knows the look GISBORNE means. He too has seen
it. More than once.

ROBIN

There's nothing we can do.

GISBORNE

Maybe not us, but you might be able
to.

ROBIN

Me?

GISBORNE gives ROBIN the "I'm not an idiot" look.

GISBORNE

I'm not blind, Robin. I've seen the
way she looks at you.

ROBIN

Guy, I'd never...

GISBORNE

I know.

(beat)

Maybe you should.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN gives him a look.

ROBIN
It would never work.

GISBORNE
Why not?

Momentary pause as ROBIN tries to figure out how to answer.

ROBIN
You know what our lives are like. Do you really want her out here living it?

GISBORNE
It would be better than the path she is heading down now.

ROBIN
You don't know that.

GISBORNE
Yes, I do.

ROBIN
You have no proof that she...

GISBORNE
No. But I've been there. And my gut feeling is that...

ROBIN
Look, I promise that if, when, the time comes that you really want her out of there, I'll help you.

GISBORNE
You mean that?

ROBIN
Yes.

GISBORNE
You're not just saying that to shut me up?

ROBIN

I've never lied to you, Guy.

ROBIN places a hand on GISBORNE's shoulder.

ROBIN (cont'd)

You have my word.

GISBORNE

Thanks.

Momentary silence.

ROBIN

Much and Tuck are in Locksley. I'm heading there now. Want to come?

GISBORNE

No. You go. I'll meet you back at camp.

ROBIN

Okay.

ROBIN walks off. GISBORNE watches him walk off, then after a few seconds continues the way he was going, back to camp.

JUMP TO:

LATER

LOCKSLEY

148 (307R) MANOR HOUSE - MAIN ROOM

ISABELLA, giggling, pours water from a silver pitcher into a goblet. Her hair is disheveled and damp where it sticks to her sweaty neck.

PRINCE JOHN

(to Isabella)

Do you know, I don't know who's hotter, you or me.

ISABELLA hands the goblet to PRINCE JOHN.

ISABELLA

Oh, it's you, sire.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA walks around behind him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
(sultrily)
You... are hot...

She dabs a cloth all around his head.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
...hot...

She looks at HARRISON and leans in closer to PRINCE JOHN and whispers in his ear.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
...hot.

PRINCE JOHN giggles. HARRISON is unamused.

HARRISON
If we could get back to the business
on hand, sire.

PRINCE JOHN
Do we have to?

ISABELLA smiles at HARRISON.

ISABELLA
I think I'll leave you to it.

PAN TO:

149 (307R) MANOR HOUSE COURTYARD

ISABELLA pulls the front door closed behind her and sighs. She lifts up her hair with both hands to cool her neck. She looks out at Locksley, then turns around right into ROBIN.

ROBIN
Good evening.

ISABELLA
(startled)
Oh, God! Don't do that.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA looks around to see if anyone is watching, then takes ROBIN's arm as he leads her around the back of the stables.

ROBIN

Sorry. Just thought I'd pop in on you.

She smiles. They turn the corner.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I, em... thought you might like some of these.

He unwraps a few strawberries in a cloth.

CUT TO:

150 (307R) MANOR HOUSE - MAIN ROOM

HARRISON

I need to make arrangements.

PRINCE JOHN

Now, do stop whinging, Harrison.

PRINCE JOHN stands and goes to sideboard.

PRINCE JOHN

I've told you, you're as good as Sheriff already.

PRINCE JOHN turns around holding a grape.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

The only thing you don't have is the title or the power... or the castle.

HARRISON stares in disbelief.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

But the truth is, right now, there are more pressing matters.

PRINCE JOHN eats the grape.

HARRISON

Robin Hood.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON drinks from his goblet.

PRINCE JOHN

Now obviously, he has to hang. The only problem is the people do rather insist on adoring him still.

HARRISON

Well, the people are fools, sire.

PRINCE JOHN

(lower goblet)

Well, of course, they are.

PRINCE JOHN walks towards the rear window.

PRINCE JOHN

But we need their co-operation if my plans for England are to come to fruition.

HARRISON shadows PRINCE JOHN down the middle of the room.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

So...

(beat)

I need to woo them.

(beat)

Make them love me.

HARRISON

Yes, sire, but how?

PRINCE JOHN turns from the shuttered window.

PRINCE JOHN

By giving them what they want, of course.

HARRISON is puzzled.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

What they want more than anything else with this drought.

(beat)

Water.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN drinks, then looks out a crack in the shutters and sees ISABELLA seductively eating a strawberry in front of ROBIN. He frowns.

CUT TO:

151 (307R) MANOR HOUSE - COURTYARD

ISABELLA

Mmm.

(lick fingertip)

Juicy.

PRINCE JOHN's voice can be heard off camera as he yells to the groom from the front door.

PRINCE JOHN (VO)

Prepare the horses!

ISABELLA is startled.

PRINCE JOHN (VO)

I wish to leave!

ROBIN leans in and whispers in ISABELLA's ear.

ROBIN

Good night, Isabella.

ROBIN takes the cloth and leaves around the back of the manor.

ISABELLA, disoriented for a moment and still holding the hull of the berry, turns and watches him go. She smiles a bit slyly.

ISABELLA

Good night, Robin Hood.

CUT TO:

152 (307R) MANOR HOUSE - MAIN ROOM

PRINCE JOHN stands by the door, drinking. ISABELLA opens the door and comes in smiling and wipes her lip with a finger.

Her face falls when she sees PRINCE JOHN and HARRISON watching her. PRINCE JOHN looks at ISABELLA and sternly speaks.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

You'll accompany me on my trip back to the castle.

PRINCE JOHN walks away. ISABELLA wipes her lips again.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

We'll visit the dungeons.

JUMP TO:

LATER

NOTTINGHAM

153 (307R) CASTLE - DUNGEONS - NIGHT

A prisoner screams.

PRINCE JOHN and ISABELLA walk towards a square hole in the floor. PRINCE JOHN has a goblet in his hand.

A grate leans against the wall.

PRINCE JOHN sighs, looks at ISABELLA and puts his finger under her chin.

PRINCE JOHN

Don't be scared, my dear. I just want to show you something. Kindred spirits, you and I.

They reach the hole. PRINCE JOHN circles it.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Now usually the water in here comes halfway to the top, but my men are blocking the spring that feeds it.

In the hole, guards are stacking stones against the wall.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

The same spring supplies all the underground water sources in Nottingham.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Within the hour, every well within a ten-mile radius will be without water in this drought, which is when I shall start giving them water from my own personal supplies. And then, Isabella, then they shall realize it is me they should adore, me they should worship and obey, me who is their kind and merciful father.

ISABELLA

What if they don't?

PRINCE JOHN

Well, then the filthy little wretches can die of thirst.

PRINCE JOHN turns away, leaving ISABELLA to stare at his back in disbelief.

JUMP TO:

NEXT DAY

LOCKSLEY

154 (307R) BY WELL

A baby cries. LITTLE JOHN winds up a bucket from the well and pulls it towards him. It's empty. LITTLE JOHN looks at the woman (ELEANOR) with her baby.

LITTLE JOHN

Nothing. I'm sorry.

ROBIN hands ELEANOR his flask.

ROBIN

Here, have some of mine.

ELEANOR

But you need it, too.

ROBIN

Come on.

(CONTINUED)

ELEANOR

We'll get through this drought, Robin.
I know we will.

TUCK

Change is coming, Robin.

ROBIN

(disheartened)
Is it now?

TUCK sighs.

ROBIN

I'm beginning to wonder if we can ever
really change anything.

TUCK

(sigh)
The Sheriff is dead. Is that not change
enough?

LITTLE JOHN joins them.

ROBIN

Well, in his place is the Prince who
does nothing while his people's wells
run dry, and they die of thirst.

MUCH joins them.

ALLAN

Thank goodness for me, then.

ROBIN puts his hands behind his head.

ROBIN

Your recce went well?

ALLAN comes over.

ALLAN

Two guards, one door, and twenty
barrels of Prince John's cool fresh
water hidden in a barn...

The gang sigh and/or giggle in relief.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN
...just begging to be sampled.

JUMP TO:

LATER

NOTTINGHAM

155 (307R) CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

PRINCE JOHN sits on his throne.

HARRISON
I don't believe it.

PRINCE JOHN
(shout)
There's no point resisting it!

PRINCE JOHN stands and advances on HARRISON.

PRINCE JOHN
I saw them. They were all over each other.

HARRISON
Sire, is it possible that you could have misread the situation?

PRINCE JOHN
Well, we'll see, won't we? Because I've set her a little trap.

HARRISON
A trap?

PRINCE JOHN
Mm. Told her all about my plan with the water. If she is in league with Hood, I suspect she'll want to find him and tell him all about it and when she does, you'll be there because you'll be following them.

HARRISON
And then?

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

(a bit flustered)

What do you expect? They're traitors.
Execute them.

PRINCE JOHN circles behind HARRISON.

HARRISON

(unsure)

Both of them?

PRINCE JOHN

Harrison, I have great plans for you.
I do hope you're not suffering from
any pathetic pangs of...

HARRISON

My loyalty to you is absolute.
Whatever the outcome, it shall be my
hand that resolves it for you...

HARRISON turns to Prince John.

HARRISON (cont'd)

... and I promise you...

PRINCE JOHN

(interrupt)

Yes, bored now.

(turn away)

Leave, please.

PRINCE JOHN sits. HARRISON leaves.

JUMP TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

156 (307R) BARN

Two guards are talking quietly. The back door is ajar. TUCK
pokes his head in. MUCH follows, making the door creak. TUCK
holds a finger to lips.

TUCK

Shhhh.

(CONTINUED)

The guards are playing a board game inside the front door.
ALLAN slowly makes his way to the door, in a cloak and hood.

ALLAN
(huskily)
Help me please?

The guards turn their heads to look at him.

ALLAN (cont'd)
Help me?

GUARD
Naff off!

Behind the barrels, MUCH, with a rope, and ROBIN sneaks in.

ALLAN
This drought's made me so thirsty,
that I... I need water, please.

GUARD
There's no water here for you.

ALLAN
I'm parched, sir... Please.

GUARD
Get lost!

ALLAN
Just a little to wet my mouth then,
eh? It's as dry as a camel's bum in a
sandstorm.

GUARD
You're givin' me the hump.

The first guard stands. The second guard laughs, then stands.

GUARD
Now push off!

The guards step towards ALLAN, the second behind the first.

GUARD (cont'd)
There's no water here for you.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN, behind them, leans his arm on a barrel.

ROBIN
(cheekily)
Really?

ROBIN points at the barrel with his other hand.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Well, what's all this, then?

MUCH releases a barrel on a rope swing. The second guard ducks it and it knocks out the first. TUCK and MUCH catch it as it swings back.

ROBIN (cont'd)
And again!

The barrel swings forward again, knocking out the second guard. TUCK and MUCH nod at each other. ROBIN smiles. ALLAN comes in, stepping over the guards.

ALLAN
I mean, really. It's not like I asked
for ice and a slice, was it?

MUCH laughs.

ROBIN
Come on.
(to Allan)
Well done.
(to all)
Let's get this water to the villagers.

JUMP TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

LOCKSLEY

157 (307R) VILLAGE

The villagers are calmly lined up at the barrel. ALLAN pours water into a pitcher for an old woman. Another villager doles out some to a man.

(CONTINUED)

MAN

Thank you.

WOMAN

Thank you.

ELEANOR bounces her baby, waiting in line.

ELEANOR

Sh, sh, sh. It'll be fine.

ROBIN comes over.

ROBIN

(curious)

So what's his name then?

ELEANOR

Actually, his name's Robin.

ROBIN

(raise eyebrow)

Is it? Oh, thank you very much. That's very flattering.

ELEANOR

No, after the bird.

ALLAN chuckles.

ELEANOR

One landed on his crib the day he was born.

ROBIN

(a bit embarrassed. Nod)

Of course it did. Right, good, good.

ALLAN slightly smiles.

Momentary pause, then ELEANOR lets him off the hook.

ELEANOR

Joke. It was after you.

ROBIN laughs. JACK has a pitcher of water in his hands.

(CONTINUED)

JACK

He's always been a poorly lad, so, er,
we thought we'd give him a name of
strength.

ROBIN gently tugs the baby's chin.

ROBIN

Hey, hello.

JACK steers his family away from the line. ROBIN wistfully
watches them go.

ELEANOR

Let's have some water.

ROBIN turns away. MUCH heads over. ROBIN walks away, slapping
his wet cloth into his hand in despair. MUCH glances at what
he saw ROBIN watching, sees the happy couple, then follows.
ROBIN leans on a fence and puts the wet cloth on the back of
his neck.

MUCH

Hey, what's wrong?

ROBIN

Oh...

ROBIN shakes his head and looks around.

ROBIN

...I envy them, Much. ... You know,
they have ... nothing, and yet I envy
them ... their lives, because...

PAN TO:

157b(cont'd) FOCUS ON ELEANOR AND BABY ROBIN

ELEANOR

That's better.

PAN TO:

157c(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND MUCH

ROBIN

...they have each other... you know?

(CONTINUED)

MUCH tries unsuccessfully to sound cheerful.

MUCH
Well... we've got each other.

ROBIN
It's not the same though, is it?

MUCH
No, it's not.

ALLAN comes walking over.

ALLAN
Robin.

ROBIN
What is it?

ROBIN stands and goes to him.

ALLAN
Isabella just spoke to me as I was passing the manor. She said she had important information for you. She wants to meet you in the meadow.

ROBIN scratches his cheek, thinking.

ROBIN
Right, okay.

The gang are gathering to see what's up. ROBIN looks to TUCK.

ROBIN (cont'd)
I'm going to have to leave you a while.

MUCH comes up to ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Just had a message from Isabella. I think she may have information about the problem with the well.

TUCK
You think that's wise?

ROBIN

(flustered)

Oh, come on, Tuck. We've been through this.

TUCK

My gut still tells me there's something not right about her.

LITTLE JOHN

She helped us before, Tuck.

MUCH

She defied Prince John when she helped us put out the fire, huh?

TUCK

You really think she doesn't have ulterior motives? Or maybe you think she just likes you for being you?

ROBIN shows frustration with TUCK.

TUCK

The truth is Robin Hood is needed here. The water in these barrels will last each village a day or so at the most. Soon, the very old and the very young will start dying.

ROBIN

(quietly. Keep temper)

That's exactly why I should go and meet her. If she has information about the wells, then I...

TUCK

(interrupting)

I hear there's water still in the Trent.

ROBIN

(angrily, frustrated)

And I heard that there isn't. And even if I'm wrong, it's still only a temporary solution. We need something

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)
permanent, and Isabella may offer us
that. I'll be back. Wait for me here.

ROBIN leaves.

TUCK
Robin!

CAMERA follow ROBIN as he grabs his bow and his jacket, then
looks back at the gang.

ROBIN
Wait here.

ROBIN runs off towards the meadow.

JUMP TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

158 (307R) MEADOW

ISABELLA walks into the meadow from the forest. She looks
around for ROBIN.

PAN TO:

158b(cont'd) FOCUS ON HARRISON

HARRISON, in the trees, watches her.

PAN TO:

158c(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ROBIN
Well, I am punctual...

ISABELLA, startled, turns around. ROBIN stands behind
ISABELLA, his arm resting on his upright bow.

ROBIN (cont'd)
...if nothing else.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA quickly lets out her breath, smiling.

ISABELLA

You have to stop doing that.

ROBIN

(smile)

So... what's so important that you'd risk being seen with me in public?

ISABELLA seductively puts her hands on ROBIN's arm.

PAN TO:

158d(cont'd) FOCUS ON HARRISON

HARRISON's eyes widen.

PAN TO:

158e(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA and ROBIN

ISABELLA

Prince John's blocked the spring that provides the water supply to the villages.

ROBIN

We have to find a way of unblocking the spring then, don't we?

ISABELLA nods. ROBIN shifts his feet, listening.

ISABELLA

There's another entrance to the chamber via an overflow outside the town. One of the guards told me about it.

They start walking.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

It eventually leads to the chamber underneath the castle dungeons. If we...

ROBIN chuckles at "we."

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA (cont'd)
...go in that way, we can bypass the
castle completely.

ROBIN
What do you mean...
(beat)
we?

ROBIN stops and leans on the bow again.

ISABELLA
I mean, I can take you there myself.

ROBIN
(nod)
Would you?
(beat)
And lead me straight into the dragon's
lair.

ISABELLA
What do I have to do to make you trust
me?
(pause)
Look, I have no interest in being on
the losing side.

ROBIN
(chuckle)
So this is a politically motivated
act.

ISABELLA
(flirting)
Call it what you want. Political
maneuvering...

ISABELLA laces her fingers in Robin's on the bow.

PAN TO:

158f (cont'd) FOCUS ON HARRISON

He can't believe what he is seeing.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

158g(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA AND ROBIN

ISABELLA

...a naked attempt... to get you to
like me more...

She leans up to him. ROBIN pauses a moment, then kisses her.

PAN TO:

158h(cont'd) FOCUS ON HARRISON

HARRISON slowly rolls back behind a tree.

PAN TO:

158i(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA AND ROBIN

ISABELLA pulls back.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

You can trust me, I swear.

ROBIN

(smile)

Right. Well...

ROBIN looks down, chuckles and steps back.

ROBIN

...we have to go back and get the
others.

ISABELLA pouts. ROBIN puts a hand on her arm.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Because we're going to need all the
help we can get. Alright? And then
we'll go straight to the entrance.

ISABELLA silently begs him for a kiss, and he gives her a quick
one.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Now, come on.

ISABELLA tries to kiss ROBIN again, but he pulls back.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)

Come on.

ISABELLA playfully gives in, putting her hands up. They walk into the trees and ISABELLA takes ROBIN's hand.

JUMP TO:

LOCKSLEY

159 (307R) VILLAGE

LITTLE JOHN runs through the village past TUCK.

LITTLE JOHN

Horses! Run!

TUCK

Go!

TUCK falls in behind LITTLE JOHN and the gang drop everything to run under an awning in the background. PRINCE JOHN enters on a white horse with guards following. The people gather round him. A wagon rumbles in carrying two barrels with the royal crest painted on them.

PRINCE JOHN

(smiling)

Good morning!

PRINCE JOHN dismounts and goes to the center of the village.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Good morning to you all, my, er... my children. You know, I know you've been suffering, and when you hurt...

(beat)

I hurt. ... Which is why I am here now.

(beat)

To dispense succour.

(beat)

Quench your thirst.

(beat)

And to give you the gift of life itself...

(beat)

...through water.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN indicates the wagon.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
Water for every...

PRINCE JOHN sees another barrel lid with the royal crest in front of him. His face falls and he points at the stolen barrel.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
Where did you get that?

The villagers are silent. Some glance at the rogue barrel.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
Huh?

PRINCE JOHN approaches a man, and the man shies away. PRINCE JOHN holds his hand up.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
Ah-ah-ah.

PRINCE JOHN smiles, chuckles, and puts a hand on the man's shoulder.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
There's no need to be scared, as long
as you tell the truth. You see...
(beat)
This water...
(beat)
Is mine.
(beat)
So...
(beat)
Where did you get it?

VILLAGE MAN
Hood, sire.

PRINCE JOHN freezes a moment.

PRINCE JOHN
Of course.

PRINCE JOHN closes his eyes and restrains his temper.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Hood.

PRINCE JOHN turns to guards.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Men, give this man a drink.

GUARD

Come here.

Two guards grab the man, one kicking him in the stomach, then they put his head in the barrel and hold it under water. JACK steps forward. PRINCE JOHN draws his sword.

PRINCE JOHN

Ah-ah-ah-ah. I really wouldn't.

JACK steps back.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

You've seen already how your treachery pays!

PRINCE JOHN points around as he walks.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

You like my water so much, from now on you pay for it! ... A penny a gallon.

ELEANOR

But sire, we don't have that sort of money.

PRINCE JOHN

Well, sell something. Some grain, a cow, a grandparent, I don't care.

PRINCE JOHN walks off.

ELEANOR

My baby needs water to live, sire.

PRINCE JOHN

(go to Eleanor)

Yes. On that we both agree.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN leaves. JACK steps behind his wife and puts his hand on her shoulder. PRINCE JOHN mounts his horse. The gang watch from their hiding place.

PRINCE JOHN

If you won't love me, then by God
you'll fear me!

PRINCE JOHN nods at the guards at the barrel. They dump it and the man falls out, dead. PRINCE JOHN and the guards leave. MUCH runs out. ALLAN follows. LITTLE JOHN looks at TUCK.

LITTLE JOHN

What have we done?

LITTLE JOHN runs after ALLAN. TUCK slowly follows LITTLE JOHN.

JUMP TO:

MEANWHILE

SHERWOOD FOREST

160 (307R) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ROBIN and ISABELLA walk, hand in hand. ROBIN is on ISABELLA's right side. ROBIN already knows the answer to the question he is about to ask.

ROBIN

What do you think your brother would
say if he knew we were together?

ISABELLA

(laugh)
Guy still wet the bed when he was
twelve. He doesn't scare me.

ROBIN

Yeah? I'll be sure to mention that to
him the next time I see him.

ISABELLA laughs as HARRISON comes up behind them. He quickly puts a shackle on ISABELLA's wrist, then catches ROBIN's and does the same. ROBIN wonders how he managed to sneak up on them.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA
(yelp at the cuff)
What the...?

HARRISON pulls ROBIN's sword from its scabbard.

ROBIN
It's Harrison, right?

HARRISON steps in front of them, pointing the sword at them with his left hand. HARRISON addresses ISABELLA.

HARRISON
How could you do this?

ROBIN looks at ISABELLA. Was Guy right, had she turned on them?
[ROBIN and ISABELLA talk back and forth to each other as if HARRISON isn't saying anything.]

ROBIN
(to Isabella)
What is this?

ISABELLA
(pleadingly)
Robin...

ROBIN
You tricked me!

ISABELLA
I didn't trick you.

HARRISON
Are you really with him?

ISABELLA
I didn't know, I swear.

ROBIN
How else would he know where we were?!

ISABELLA
Well, he must have followed me!

ROBIN
You're a liar!

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

He's an outlaw! A murderer!

ISABELLA

He shackled me! Why would he shackle me if I'd known?

ROBIN

You kissed me. You made me believe that we may have a future together!

ISABELLA turns to HARRISON.

ISABELLA

Let me go!

Silence.

ISABELLA

Please.

ROBIN's eyes bounce back and forth between HARRISON and ISABELLA. HARRISON looks at ROBIN, then ISABELLA.

HARRISON

Alright. I will. I'll give you another chance. For your brother.

(beat)

I mean, we all make mistakes, don't we?

Momentary silence. HARRISON looks at ISABELLA.

HARRISON (cont'd)

(gently)

I will unshackle you.

ISABELLA

Thank you.

HARRISON

On one condition.

ISABELLA

(through her teeth)

Why is there always one condition?

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

Prove to me that you understand the
terrible error you have made.

HARRISON glances at ROBIN.

HARRISON

Kill him...

ISABELLA stares at HARRISON. ROBIN glares intensely at
HARRISON, then looks at ISABELLA.

HARRISON (cont'd)

...in front of me...

HARRISON pulls out his sword from its scabbard and holds it
up.

HARRISON (cont'd)

...with this.

HARRISON points the second sword at ISABELLA.

HARRISON (cont'd)

If you do that, I will lie to Prince
John.

ISABELLA

(warily)

What does he know?

HARRISON

I will tell him that he misread what
he saw last night...

HARRISON holds out the hilt to ISABELLA.

HARRISON

...and your life will be spared. The
debt I owe your brother repaid.

ROBIN looks at ISABELLA. ISABELLA stares, deciding.

ROBIN

(disgustedly)

Oh, just do it.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN looks away. ISABELLA is still. ROBIN looks at her again.

ROBIN (cont'd)

You're a rubbish kisser anyway. Just save us all the pretense and do it quickly.

ISABELLA glares at ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

It'll make his day.

ISABELLA

(scoff)

Fine! I will, then.

(to Harrison)

You were right. It was obviously a mistake having anything to do with this weasel.

ROBIN warily glances at ISABELLA and HARRISON. ISABELLA looks at HARRISON.

ISABELLA

Unshackle me... and I'll put things right.

HARRISON ponders. ROBIN watches them carefully. HARRISON glances at ROBIN, then lowers the point of the sword in his left hand and lets it fall. He looks down as he reaches for the key entwined in the scabbard's belt. ROBIN punches HARRISON in the stomach with his bow. HARRISON doubles over and drops the key. ISABELLA sees him raising the other sword over his head and pulls up ROBIN's bow to block it as ROBIN reaches down for his fallen sword. ROBIN stabs at HARRISON, but HARRISON steps aside. ROBIN spins ISABELLA around and pulls her down to duck HARRISON's swing. They stand. ISABELLA spins round as ROBIN blocks, then she kicks their crossed swords away. HARRISON swings. ROBIN blocks it with the gauntlet on his left forearm and swings at HARRISON. HARRISON ducks. ROBIN twists around, throwing the chain over ISABELLA's head, then grabs her from behind and throws her into HARRISON. HARRISON grabs her left arm with his left hand and slams the hilt of his sword into her forearm, forcing her to drop the bow. He pulls her past him, pulling ROBIN along with her, and raises his sword. ROBIN is ready to block, then he back punches HARRISON with his shackled left hand, spins under the chain

(CONTINUED)

and stabs with the sword in his right but HARRISON deftly blocks. ISABELLA pulls ROBIN back out of the way. HARRISON advances, swinging. ROBIN blocks with his arm, then brings his sword under and up to parry. ISABELLA sees a thick stick on the ground behind her and pulls on the chain, reaching for it and finally picks it up as HARRISON disarms ROBIN and holds him by the throat. ISABELLA swings the stick over both men's heads. HARRISON lets go of ROBIN to block the stick with his arm. ROBIN ducks, grabbing the stick, as ISABELLA kicks HARRISON's other arm off ROBIN, who follows with a kick to HARRISON's groin. HARRISON falls back. ROBIN spins, pulling ISABELLA around him, and swings the stick into HARRISON's jaw.

HARRISON falls to the ground unconscious, rolling onto his back. ROBIN also falls from the momentum and ISABELLA with him. ISABELLA sits up, holding her arm where HARRISON hit it.

ROBIN

You were going to do it.

ISABELLA

What are you talking about? I was tricking him. I helped you fight him.

ROBIN

(sit up)

That was helping me?

ISABELLA

I gave you the piece of wood, you fool.

ROBIN

What do you mean "gave it to me"? I took it from you!

ISABELLA

(sarcastically)

Oh, yeah, of course you did, 'cause you are so perfect.

ROBIN

Oh, shut up.

ROBIN stands, and incidentally ISABELLA must, too. ROBIN walks to HARRISON. ISABELLA picks up ROBIN's sword and inspects it. ROBIN watches her, sensing her intent.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

What are you doing?

No answer. ROBIN holds up his hands to her.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Isabella, once you do it, there's no going back. There's nothing more to be said or done.

ISABELLA

This will do all the talking I need.

She starts to step over HARRISON.

ROBIN

Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa.

ROBIN reaches slowly for the cross-guard of the sword.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(whisper)

Don't do it.

ROBIN gently grasps the guard.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Come on. Give it to me.

ISABELLA lets go of the hilt and ROBIN gently takes it away. ROBIN puts the sword down behind him.

ISABELLA

Get the key.

ISABELLA stands. ROBIN nods and reaches into HARRISON's clenched fist for the key. It's not there. ROBIN rubs his eyes with thumb and forefinger.

ROBIN

(sarcastically)

Great.

ISABELLA

(sigh)

Oh, no.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Look, it's alright. It'll be fine.

(think)

We'll go to Clun. It's nearer than the camp and there'll be a blacksmith there.

ISABELLA

(look down at him)

Take it back.

ROBIN

(stand)

Take what back?

ROBIN walks past ISABELLA.

ISABELLA

The bit about being a rubbish kisser.
Take it back.

ROBIN

(face her. Impatiently)

Fine, you're not a rubbish kisser.

ISABELLA

So why did you say it?

ROBIN

To make you angry.

ISABELLA frowns at him.

ROBIN

We need to tie him up.

ROBIN bends over HARRISON as ISABELLA ponders his motive.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

161 (307R) CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

PRINCE JOHN sits on his throne, thinking out loud.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

It's a fine line, isn't it, between
love and hate?

He looks at the gold coin in his hand.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Two sides of the same coin, really.
Maybe they need to truly hate me before
they can understand how to truly love
me.

PRINCE JOHN thinks, sighs, and then turns to a guard.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

A penny a gallon. Put guards on all
the roads to the River Trent. Any
water in there is now requisitioned
by me... for the good of the nation.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

162 (307) FOREST PATH

ISABELLA and ROBIN, who has retrieved his sword, walk and
approach a fork in the path. ROBIN takes the right path, and
ISABELLA the left, until the chain pulls taut and stops them.

ISABELLA

Clun's this way.

ROBIN

It's this way.

ISABELLA

(scoff)

I know which way it is.

ROBIN

Isabella, I live in the forest. I know
which way Clun is. It's this way.

ISABELLA

Alright. You think I'm going to lead
you into another trap, right?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN hangs his head in frustration.

ISABELLA

Fine.

ROBIN raises his head.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

We'll go your way.

ROBIN

(think)

Well, if you think your way...

ISABELLA

(interrupt)

No, no, no, no, no, no.

ROBIN

Then we can go your...

ISABELLA

(interrupt)

No, really.

ROBIN

(firmly)

Isabella... I am letting you have your own way. Now surely you can't get angry with me for letting you have your own way, can you?

ISABELLA

You've not been out with many women, have you?

ROBIN is trying to be patient.

ROBIN

There are people who need our help, and they need it fast. We can go whichever way you want, alright? But just decide.

ISABELLA

(put off)

Fine.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA starts walking down the right path. ROBIN, flustered, has to follow.

JUMP TO:

LOCKSLEY

163 (307R) VILLAGE

The sun shines brightly. LITTLE JOHN finishes talking to a woman, pats her leg, stands, and walks to the well. TUCK is with JACK, ELEANOR, and baby ROBIN.

TUCK

How long's he been this ill?

JACK

Since the water ran out.

ELEANOR

(agreeing)

Mm.

(kiss baby)

It's just a fever. He's going to be fine.

TUCK

(nod)

Absolutely.

TUCK smiles. JACK and ELEANOR exchange reassuring smiles. TUCK stands and goes over to the well. MUCH is sitting against it. ALLAN is leaning on a ladder nearby and LITTLE JOHN is standing between MUCH and ALLAN. TUCK looks at LITTLE JOHN.

TUCK

We need to do something.

ALLAN

Robin told us to wait here.

TUCK

That baby has a few hours at the most. His temperature's raging. All the wells and springs around Nottingham have dried up. We need to go to the river.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

And maybe we take the weaker ones with us.

MUCH

Yes.

ALLAN

But what if there is no water there?

TUCK hangs his head.

ALLAN

What if Robin's solving the problem with the wells? If we stay here and the water returns, then everything's sorted.

TUCK

That's three ifs. We need to make a decision based on what we know. And we know people will die unless we take action now.

JUMP TO:

CLUN

164 (307R) BLACKSMITH'S

The blacksmith breaks the chain near ISABELLA's wrist, puts down his tools and opens the shackle. ISABELLA pulls her wrist out and rubs it.

ROBIN

Isabella, tell me where the entrance is.

ISABELLA looks at ROBIN as he puts his wrist down for the blacksmith.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I'll try to get to the spring source and clear it on my own. You can still try and escape.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Escape? To where? Harrison was my protector. Without him, I have nothing.

ROBIN

You have me.

ISABELLA stares at him, then strokes ROBIN's cheek.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

165 (307R) FOREST

HARRISON slowly awakens, his back to an enormous tree trunk. He tries to sit up and realizes his outstretched arms are tied round the back of the tree. He breathes heavily, pushes himself up twice to try to sit higher, looks at his left arm and pulls on the rope. He starts to pull his arms back and forth to saw the rope on the tree.

CUT TO:

166 (307R) FOREST PATH BETWEEN CLUN AND NOTTINGHAM

ISABELLA and ROBIN walk to Nottingham (not holding hands).

ISABELLA

(curious)

What was she like?

ROBIN

(raise eyebrow)

What was who like?

ISABELLA

Marian.

ROBIN walks silently for a while.

ROBIN

(exhale deeply)

She was Marian.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(chuckle)

Well, she must have been a pretty special woman to have such a hold over you... and my brother.

ROBIN stops and solemnly looks at ISABELLA. He says his next line knowing that it's not entirely be true.

ROBIN

She never gave your brother a reason to feel anything for her.

ISABELLA

And you?

ROBIN

I just want to forget.

ROBIN walks on, looks at the sky and sighs. ISABELLA watches him a moment, then catches him up.

ISABELLA

Hey...

(reach him)

Hey, come on. We're nearly there.

JUMP TO:

167 (307R) ELSEWHERE IN THE FOREST

HARRISON, his arms tired, slowly saws the rope. He pulls on it and it finally breaks.

HARRISON

Ah!

He quickly stands up, gets his bearings, picks a direction, and runs.

JUMP TO:

168 (307R) FOREST ROAD TO THE TRENT

TUCK leads the gang and some of the villagers down the road. ALLAN walks behind him with ELEANOR and baby Robin.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

When I was in Anatolia, when we were really desperate, we'd find a lizard and squeeze it until the contents of its bladder emptied into our mouths.

ELEANOR

What did you squeeze if you were hungry?

LITTLE JOHN

(see guards ahead)

Perhaps we should turn back, Tuck.

Around the bend is a cart and three guards blocking the road.

ALLAN

There is no way we are turning back.

One guard approaches them. TUCK raises his hood.

TUCK

Keep your heads down and your weapons hidden.

(adjust hood)

John?

LITTLE JOHN nods and heads into the trees. TUCK leads the rest forward.

TUCK (cont'd)

(to guard)

Good day to you, my son.

GUARD

(hold up hand)

No way through today. Trent's water is requisitioned by the crown.

ELEANOR

We need water now.

GUARD

Plenty available at the castle, penny a gallon.

The Guard peers into TUCK's hood.

(CONTINUED)

GUARD

Unless you're not welcome there.

The guard pulls off TUCK's hood and recognizes him.

GUARD (cont'd)

Hello, Tuck.

TUCK punches the guard. The two others draw their swords and advance towards him.

LITTLE JOHN comes out from behind the cart. MUCH rushes forward, ready to fight. LITTLE JOHN hits one on the back of the head, turns his staff down to block the second's sword, then knocks him out with a blow to his jaw. LITTLE JOHN nods at TUCK.

MUCH puts his sword on his shoulder, shaking his head at how easily they went down. Then they hear hoof beats and another four mounted guards approach.

LITTLE JOHN

Run! Get in the trees! Move!

The gang help everyone into the trees first, then follow them in. The horses stop. LITTLE JOHN addresses the villagers.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

Keep moving.

The gang turn to face the road but remain hidden behind the trees. The guards look around, then head back the way they came. The gang relax.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

That was close.

JUMP TO:

NEAR NOTTINGHAM

169 (307) OVERFLOW FROM THE CISTERN

A rock wall has a rectangular hole in it. Its grate lies to one side.

CONTINUE TO:

(CONTINUED)

170 (307) INSIDE

ROBIN kicks out another grate with his foot. He climbs out of the narrow tunnel into the cistern.

ROBIN

Come on.

ROBIN lifts ISABELLA down, not unlike carrying a bride into a new home. ISABELLA and ROBIN smile at each other, then ROBIN sets her down on her feet. ISABELLA looks up.

ISABELLA

There's the trap door to the dungeons.

ISABELLA looks down to a rectangular hole in the wall just above the floor.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

And that's where the water flows to the wells.

ISABELLA looks at the rock pile.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

The spring is somewhere under there.

ROBIN

Right.

He puts down his bow and quiver and takes off his jacket.

ROBIN

Best get started then, eh?

ROBIN winks at ISABELLA and smiles. ISABELLA smiles back.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

171 (307R) CASTLE - COURTYARD

The guards quickly pull open the gates.

HARRISON storms in on his horse.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

I need four men to go to the overflow
entrance and block the chamber.

(dismount)

Now!

GUARD

You heard him! Move! Move!

Four guards run out the gate.

JUMP TO:

172 (307R) CASTLE - CISTERN

ISABELLA and ROBIN move rocks. ROBIN pulls at a large one, and
ISABELLA helps.

ROBIN

Come on!

They finally pull it loose and water starts to cascade down
the rocks.

ISABELLA

We're nearly there.

Unbeknownst to them, the guards start to slide a large
rectangular block into the overflow tunnel. ROBIN cups his
hands under the water, nods, and offers it to ISABELLA. She
drinks from his hands. The stone slides in, even with the wall.
ROBIN hears it and dashes over.

ROBIN

Wait!

He puts his shoulder to the stone, but it doesn't budge.
ISABELLA sees the stone and rushes over.

ISABELLA

Hey!

ROBIN

No!

They both push on the stone, but it still doesn't move. They
both start looking for another way out. ROBIN gives up.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(head down)
Harrison must have escaped.

PAN UP:

173 (307R) [CAMERA JUMPS POV FROM HARRISON TO ROBIN & ISABELLA
THROUGHOUT THIS SECTION]

HARRISON stands above them.

HARRISON
And you'd be right.

ROBIN and ISABELLA look up at HARRISON. ISABELLA goes to stand
under the trap door.

ISABELLA
What are you doing?

HARRISON
My duty to Prince John. Executing a
traitor...

ROBIN stands next to ISABELLA.

HARRISON
...and his accomplice.

ISABELLA
(with disbelief)
Executing us?

HARRISON glances up at a guard, who turns a wheel on the wall.
A partition slides down and closes the lower tunnel.

HARRISON
Now that all the exits are blocked,
you're both going to drown.

HARRISON looks at the waterfall.

HARRISON (cont'd)
The chamber will fill pretty quickly,
and you'll try to tread water.
(beat)
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON (cont'd)

You might manage a few hours, maybe even a day, who knows?

(beat)

But in the end, you'll just run out of energy.

ROBIN

I swear, if I get out of here alive...

ROBIN points up at HARRISON.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(earnestly)

I will kill you!

HARRISON

Swear all you like, Hood. It won't make any difference.

(beat)

The legend dies here.

(beat)

Slowly and painfully I would imagine.

ROBIN tries to move the stone again.

HARRISON (cont'd)

Meanwhile, I get to be Sheriff.

(chuckle)

Life is sweet, isn't it?

HARRISON leaves. ROBIN stands by ISABELLA again.

ROBIN

Harrison!

(roar)

Harrison!

ISABELLA

Save your breath. I know him. He won't be coming back.

ROBIN sighs, puts his hand on the back of his head, thinking, watching the waterfall.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

174 CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

The guards throw GISBORNE at PRINCE JOHN's feet, his hands tied.

PRINCE JOHN

Well, well, well. If it isn't Sir Guy of Gisborne! What brings you to the castle?

PRINCE JOHN leans in towards GISBORNE. GISBORNE is just glaring at him.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

At a loss for words, Guy?

(beat)

I hear Hood has taken an interest in your sweet little sister, Isabella.

GISBORNE

(feign ignorance)

Isabella?

PRINCE JOHN

Oh, come on, spill the beans.

PRINCE JOHN steps towards GISBORNE.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Has she turned up yet with an urgent message?

GISBORNE

Robin can't stand Isabella. Why on earth would he have anything to do with her?

PRINCE JOHN stands directly in front of GISBORNE.

PRINCE JOHN

Why don't you go down and relax in the dungeons? I'll pop down later for a little chat.

PRINCE JOHN signals the guards to take GISBORNE away.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

SHERWOOD FOREST

175 (307R) ALTERNATE WAY TO TRENT

The gang and the villagers try another way. LITTLE JOHN leads a boy by the hand. TUCK runs up to ELEANOR.

TUCK

Here, here!

TUCK squeezes some liquid from a stick into ELEANOR's hand.

TUCK (cont'd)

There.

ELEANOR

Thank you.

TUCK

It's bitter, but it's perfectly safe.

ELEANOR

Alright.

LITTLE JOHN

Tuck.

ELEANOR

(to baby)

Here we go.

She tips the liquid in her hand into baby Robin's mouth.

LITTLE JOHN

This is good, but it won't keep them going for long. What do we do now?

TUCK says nothing, walking behind the villagers.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

176 (307R) CASTLE - GREAT HALL

The nobles are gathered in the hall for dinner. Pipes play in the background.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON comes over to a sullen PRINCE JOHN in his throne.

PRINCE JOHN

Well?

HARRISON

She was as you suspected.

PRINCE JOHN

She followed Hood?

HARRISON

She did.

PRINCE JOHN

And?

HARRISON

(look around)

And I solved the problem, sire.

PRINCE JOHN

Oh, please don't go all enigmatic on me, Harrison. Are they dead?

HARRISON

Yes.

PRINCE JOHN

(chuckle)

Well, have a drink, man. It's not every day you can celebrate killing a national treasure and his feisty little accomplice.

HARRISON

(brusquely)

No, I don't want a drink, sire.

(with composure)

I merely ask that you fulfill your side of the bargain.

PRINCE JOHN

You're right.

PRINCE JOHN grabs a ring of large keys from the table.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

You're owed that much at least.

PRINCE JOHN holds the keys up at HARRISON.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

There you are. Keys to Nottingham.

HARRISON puts both his hands under the ring and PRINCE JOHN lets them go. HARRISON genuinely smiles very briefly, then his face falls, feeling no different now as Sheriff.

PRINCE JOHN stands.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

My lords, ladies... never let it be said that I'm a man who does not deliver on his promises. Robin Hood is dead...

The nobles applaud.

HARRISON is silent, wondering why he is not happy to have achieved his ambition.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

...executed by my loyal friend here. My lords and ladies, I give you the new Sheriff of Nottingham.

The nobles all rise with their goblets.

NOBLES

Sheriff of Nottingham.

HARRISON politely nods at them as they drink to him. The nobles set down their goblets and applaud. HARRISON nods and sighs.

PRINCE JOHN looks at HARRISON.

PRINCE JOHN

(quietly)

So, go on, do tell. Did they squeal?

HARRISON smiles and chuckles.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

177 (307R) CASTLE - CISTERN

ISABELLA treads water. ROBIN comes up from the bottom, sputtering and gasping for air.

ROBIN

I tried to shift the stone blocking the overflow. It's too heavy.

ISABELLA

Would you mind holding me? I'm freezing.

ROBIN swims over and holds her from behind.

ROBIN

Here.

ISABELLA

We must be the only two people in the whole of England who are cold and wet right now.

ROBIN turns around to embrace her.

ISABELLA

You know... I had a dream about you and me.

ROBIN

Did you?
(beat)
What was it?

ISABELLA

I dreamt that we... we lived together...

ROBIN stares out, picturing a similar dream he once had about him and Marian.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

...lived in a... a farmhouse... had a few animals, grew all our own food... and we had children.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(smile slightly)
How many?

ISABELLA
Four. Two girls, two boys... freckles
on their little knees.

ROBIN listens, wistful.

ISABELLA
The boys had your... strength and your
courage...

ROBIN
And the girls your brains?

ISABELLA
We were so happy. Hm.

ROBIN is silent as he ponders his own dream.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
You probably think it sounds
ridiculous.

ROBIN
No. It sounds... sort of perfect.

ISABELLA hugs him tighter. ROBIN is quiet a moment. He looks
up at the grate above, thinking of Marian, then spies
something.

ROBIN
What's that?

He lets go of ISABELLA, who turns and looks up.

ISABELLA
What?

ROBIN
(point up)
There. That's a ring.
(still looking up)
Take your dress off.

ISABELLA

What?

ROBIN

(look at her)

Take your dress off. I can make a rope.
I can get an arrow through that ring.
We can get out of here, Isabella.

ISABELLA

Yeah, it sounds so simple. Getting a
tiny little arrow through that tiny
ring.

ROBIN

You're forgetting one thing.

ISABELLA

What?

ROBIN

(nod and smile)

I'm Robin Hood.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

178 (307R) NEAR THE TRENT

TUCK walks forward with a divining rod. LITTLE JOHN carries a
boy on his shoulders.

LITTLE JOHN

How much farther to the river, Tuck?

TUCK

We're nearly there. Very nearly. I
can feel it.

ELEANOR, half dazed, trips. She catches her balance and baby
Robin cries.

ALLAN

Hey!

ALLAN turns back to her.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN (cont'd)
Look, let me carry him, eh?

ELEANOR possessively holds baby Robin closer.

ELEANOR
No.

ELEANOR bounces baby Robin and walks on, but ALLAN stays close.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

179 (307R) NOTTINGHAM - CASTLE - CISTERN

ROBIN
Hold on.

ISABELLA
Where's the bow?

ISABELLA pulls it up out of the water. ROBIN has tied the dress to the arrow and readies it in his bow.

ROBIN
Alright?

ISABELLA says nothing.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Alright. Hold on.

ROBIN aims and shoots. The arrow hits the edge of the grate and falls. ROBIN retrieves the arrow, resolves himself, readies it, aims, shoots. The arrow bounces off the wall just below the grate. ROBIN splashes the water in frustration.

ISABELLA
(with encouragement)
Come on.

ROBIN readies the arrow again.

He aims a bit longer, shoots, and the arrow goes through the ring, threading the dress through it.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Yes!

ISABELLA kisses ROBIN's cheek and chuckles with happiness.
ROBIN tugs on the dress to see if it will hold.

ROBIN

Yeah. I told you I'd do it.

ISABELLA kisses ROBIN on the mouth.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Right. I'll climb up first and then
I'll pull you up, alright?

ISABELLA

Yeah.

ROBIN starts to climb the rope.

CUT TO:

180 (307R) CASTLE - INTERIOR CORRIDOR

PRINCE JOHN and HARRISON walk down the corridor. PRINCE JOHN
chuckles as he leads HARRISON towards the dungeons.

CUT TO:

181 (307) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

ROBIN's fingers grab the grate, push it up and aside. He pulls
himself out.

PAN TO:

182 (307) BELOW

ISABELLA ties a loop in the rope, fits her foot in it, and
ROBIN pulls her up.

PAN TO:

183 (307) DUNGEON

When she is close to the top, ROBIN bends down to take her
hand, but he can't quite reach her.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Reach!

The dress starts to tear. ROBIN and ISABELLA stretch their arms, but they still can't reach each other. ROBIN bends down farther as the dress tears through, and ROBIN grabs her hand just in time.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I've got you.

ROBIN uses all his strength to pull up a struggling ISABELLA.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Come on. Come on!

ISABELLA's hand reaches over the edge.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Come on! Come on!

ROBIN helps her up and over to the floor.

ISABELLA

Thank you. Thank you so much. Thank you.

ROBIN

Well, we're not safe yet.

PAN TO:

184 (307R) CELL

From his cell, GISBORNE sees them.

PAN TO:

185 (307R) ROBIN AND ISABELLA

ROBIN leads ISABELLA in the opposite direction, ducking under a lit torch on the wall.

ROBIN

Careful. Watch out.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE
 (call out)
Robin!

ROBIN stops, turns around, and is surprised to see GISBORNE.

 ROBIN
Guy?

ROBIN runs to him.

WIDEN TO:

186 (307R) DUNGEON

 ROBIN
What are you doing here?

ISABELLA follows ROBIN to GISBORNE.

 GISBORNE
Long story.

ISABELLA says her line with out the slightest concern for her brother.

 ISABELLA
Robin, we've got to get out of here.

ISABELLA looks behind her.

 ISABELLA (cont'd)
It's only a matter of time before
someone comes down.

ROBIN can't believe she would be willing to leave her own brother.

 ROBIN
We can't just leave him, Isabella.

ROBIN walks past ISABELLA, looking for the keys.

 ISABELLA
But we've got a chance to escape...

ISABELLA turns around to face ROBIN.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA (cont'd)
...to escape our old lives.

ROBIN walks back to GISBORNE. GISBORNE is watching ISABELLA trying to convince ROBIN to go and leave him behind.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Come on, we've got to take this chance.
Hey, listen.

ISABELLA pulls on ROBIN's arm. ROBIN faces her and she puts her hand on his arm. He still can't believe she is willing to leave her brother behind.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
What we talked about down there... the
dream... it can be our dream, our
reality... but we'd have to go now.

ROBIN
Isabella... I like you.
(beat)
I really do.
(beat)
But I'm afraid, for me,
(beat)
it'll always be just a dream...

ISABELLA
(with disbelief)
What?

ROBIN
...whether I like it or not, and
believe me, sometimes I hate it...
(beat)
But I am Robin Hood.
(beat)
I am an outlaw.

GISBORNE stares at them, wondering if they're really going to waste time discussing this now. ROBIN puts his left hand on the side of ISABELLA's head.

ROBIN
And I can't change that.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

But surely, Robin, surely in time...
we can... we could just start afresh,

ROBIN shakes his head.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

...become someone new. Come on,
please.

ROBIN

(interrupt)

No, no. I am who I am.

(beat)

I tried to have it all once before.

(beat)

But it just caused so much pain for
everyone.

GISBORNE knows ROBIN is thinking of Marian. He thinks of her
too.

ISABELLA

(fiercely)

No, I'm not her!

ROBIN

I'm truly sorry.

ROBIN goes to GISBORNE.

ISABELLA

No!

HARRISON's voice sounds from behind ISABELLA.

HARRISON

You!

ISABELLA turns around. PRINCE JOHN, the JAILER, and HARRISON,
with his sword out, stand behind ISABELLA. GISBORNE watches
from his cell. PRINCE JOHN draws the JAILER's sword.

PRINCE JOHN

(to Jailer)

Quick! Go get the guards.

(CONTINUED)

The JAILER leaves.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
(to Harrison)
Dead, you said. Taken care of, you
said.

ISABELLA steps forward.

ISABELLA
He's always lied, sire.

HARRISON
Isabella!

ISABELLA takes another step.

ISABELLA
In fact, he was going to let me go and
not tell you about it.

PRINCE JOHN looks at HARRISON.

HARRISON
No.

ISABELLA
(point at Harrison)
Until I knocked him unconscious.

HARRISON
No, sire.

PRINCE JOHN
You've let the team down. You let
yourself down. In fact, you're a
liability.

HARRISON
No.

PRINCE JOHN
Harrison...
(point at him)
...you're fired.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

No, you will not fire me. I've waited
all my life for this, and I will not...
(turn sword to Prince John)
be fired by you!

ISABELLA picks up an unlit torch.

PRINCE JOHN

How dare you? How dare you threaten
the monarch?!

HARRISON

You're not a monarch. You're a
pretender, a fake, a fraud!

ISABELLA

No, no, not as big a fraud as him.

ISABELLA turns to ROBIN with hatred in her eyes.

ISABELLA

I've been a fool, sire, a weak, vain
woman blinded by his flattery. But now
I see the truth. And I beg you, sire,
let me show you how sorry I am.

ROBIN

Isabella, put it...

ISABELLA

(interrupt)
Save your honeyed words for someone
who cares... Hood.

PRINCE JOHN

Be my guest!

PRINCE JOHN throws the jailer's sword at ISABELLA's feet and
draws his own to face HARRISON. PRINCE JOHN and HARRISON raise
their swords at each other. ROBIN silently draws his sword.
ISABELLA picks up the sword with her left hand and faces ROBIN,
who points his sword at her. ISABELLA and PRINCE JOHN each
strike first. ISABELLA swings both the torch and sword together
outward at ROBIN, forcing him to take several steps back.
PRINCE JOHN and HARRISON block and circle each other. ISABELLA
advances and spins, first swinging the torch. ROBIN ducks the

(CONTINUED)

torch, then holds his sword upright to block hers as it comes around. ISABELLA swings the torch overhead. ROBIN steps to the side, grabs her arm and pushes her away. ISABELLA stumbles, regains her footing, points her sword at ROBIN and swings the torch again. ROBIN blocks it. She swings the torch at his feet, and he blocks it again, then twists it up and over with his sword. ROBIN attacks this time and ISABELLA blocks, holding both her weapons crossed over her head, then kicks ROBIN in the stomach. Meanwhile, PRINCE JOHN blocks HARRISON's attack with his sword held over his head with both hands while kicking his foe in the stomach. ISABELLA swings, then jabs at ROBIN with the torch. PRINCE JOHN knocks the sword from HARRISON's hand. ROBIN grabs ISABELLA's arm and punches the inside of her elbow, forcing her to drop the torch. PRINCE JOHN swings his point across at HARRISON's chest, forcing him back, then charges him and pushes him to the wall. ROBIN holds his arm around ISABELLA's shoulders, then throws her into HARRISON just as PRINCE JOHN is getting ready to run him through. HARRISON catches ISABELLA around the waist. PRINCE JOHN turns to ROBIN, who invites him to take him on. PRINCE JOHN swipes at ROBIN. ISABELLA elbows HARRISON in the ribs with her right arm, then swings her left elbow into his face and breaks free from him. She swings her sword around at him as he bends down to retrieve his own. ISABELLA swings her sword over her head and brings it down, but HARRISON can only duck and spin away. ROBIN blocks PRINCE JOHN. Their swords are crossed in front of them and ROBIN pushes PRINCE JOHN's hands to his chest, standing with their faces together a moment before ROBIN shoves him backwards and they continue their duel. ISABELLA swings her sword crosswise at HARRISON, who retreats. She swings again and her sword catches the keys in his belt.

The keys sail across the room, landing near GISBORNE's cell. GISBORNE stretches his arm out between the bars, but they are just out of reach. He bangs his hand on the bar in frustration.

HARRISON now has ISABELLA by the hair, and he shoves her face first into a pillar. She turns and reaches out with her sword, hoping to defend herself, but HARRISON grabs her arm and knocks her sword out of her grip with his. It clatters to the floor in front of GISBORNE, who picks it up. PRINCE JOHN swings at ROBIN, who blocks and then twists his sword up and over. ROBIN grabs PRINCE JOHN's sword arm and bends it back into a defenseless position, exposing his chest. ROBIN kicks PRINCE JOHN's sword away and it falls through the square hole into the water. ROBIN pushes PRINCE JOHN back towards GISBORNE and

swings at him mercilessly. GISBORNE uses the sword to pull the keys towards him, then unlocks the cell door. In front of him, HARRISON pushes ISABELLA into another pillar and holds the point of his sword at her throat as she turns around. ISABELLA backs up towards the hole.

ISABELLA
(pleadingly)
Please, I...

HARRISON pushes ISABELLA into the cistern with his foot, then circles around to stand behind PRINCE JOHN, who is defenseless against ROBIN. ROBIN swings at PRINCE JOHN, who ducks, turns, and backs towards the hole. ROBIN faces him, holding the point of his sword at him. Behind him, HARRISON also has his sword point at PRINCE JOHN's back. ROBIN has PRINCE JOHN at his sword point at the edge of the trap door.

PRINCE JOHN
(petulantly)
It's... it's not meant to be like this!
(point at Harrison)
Your days as a free man are over,
Harrison. They're over!

Both ROBIN and HARRISON lunge forward and PRINCE JOHN jumps into the water below to escape them. HARRISON looks down into the water as ROBIN eyes him greedily. PRINCE JOHN and ISABELLA yell from below.

PRINCE JOHN (VO)
Guards!

ISABELLA (VO)
Guards!

ROBIN and HARRISON hold their swords ready.

ISABELLA (VO)
I'm down here with the Prince! Come
and help us!

ROBIN walks around the trap door with an evil grin on his face.

ROBIN
You're a dead man walking, Harrison.

(CONTINUED)

HARRISON

Never seemed to do you much harm.

HARRISON attacks first. ROBIN blocks him twice, then twists his sword up and around, then attacks.

ISABELLA (VO)

Come and help us!

HARRISON sidesteps him and punches his back with the hilt of his sword. ROBIN attacks again. HARRISON blocks. They both take a step back, then ROBIN stabs at HARRISON, who sidesteps it. ROBIN attacks from overhead. HARRISON steps aside to block, then punches him in the jaw, then with a strong turn of his arm, twists ROBIN's sword up. ROBIN loses his grip and the sword sails towards the hole. ROBIN takes several steps backwards as GISBORNE catches the sword before it falls into the cistern.

GISBORNE

Robin!

He tosses the sword to ROBIN, who catches it and faces HARRISON. GISBORNE, with ISABELLA's sword, also faces HARRISON. They both advance on him, ROBIN wearing an evil grin again. HARRISON realizes he can't fight them both.

HARRISON

No.

HARRISON glances behind him to see if the guards have arrived yet. HARRISON turns and runs out of the dungeons. ROBIN runs after him. GISBORNE pulls him back.

GISBORNE

Leave him! We have to open the hatch.

ROBIN stops and looks behind them.

ROBIN

This way, come on!

ROBIN goes to the wheel on the wall. He hands GISBORNE his sword and turns the wheel. As ROBIN opens the hatch, GISBORNE looks back to where they just left ISABELLA and PRINCE JOHN.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE
 (quietly to himself)
I'm sorry.

ROBIN opens the hatch and then looks at GISBORNE.

 ROBIN
Come on, come on!

ROBIN and GISBORNE run past the wheel and exit.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

187 (307R) RIVER TRENT

TUCK runs towards the river.

 TUCK
We're here!

Everyone hurries to the river, but it is bone dry, filled with rocks and sticks. TUCK sinks to his knees.

 TUCK (cont'd)
I'm sorry.

MUCH throws down a flask.

 TUCK (cont'd)
 (hang head)
I'm so sorry.

 ELEANOR
No. Please, God, no.

MUCH stands in the dry riverbed, then turns to face upstream.

 MUCH
Wait.

MUCH holds his hand up to them, listening.

He walks a few steps, hears the trickling of water, then sees a bit of water starting to flow down the dry riverbed.

(CONTINUED)

VILLAGE MAN

Look, there's water. Water, look!

TUCK

Thank the Lord!

LITTLE JOHN steps into the riverbed. MUCH smiles a curious smile.

MUCH

Thank the Lord?

MUCH looks at TUCK.

MUCH (cont'd)

Thank Robin.

MUCH pulls another flask on a cord off from round his neck.

JUMP TO:

LOCKSLEY

188 (307R) NEAR SUNSET

JACK

It's full again!

JACK holds up an overflowing bucket.

JACK (cont'd)

The water's come back!

JACK shakes the bucket, splashing water out.

ROBIN and GISBORNE enter the village. Both have solemn looks on their faces.

The villagers all come out to the well. A woman gives another old woman a cup.

VILLAGE WOMAN

Here. Drink this.

ROBIN watches them and mutters to himself.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

This is what you do.

TUCK comes up behind ROBIN and puts his hand on his shoulder. He heard what ROBIN said.

TUCK

And you do it well.

ROBIN hugs TUCK. ELEANOR runs to JACK, laughing. JACK sweeps her up in his arms, baby and all. ROBIN releases TUCK.

ROBIN

No, we do it well.

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE who looks back at him. The villagers celebrate the return of the water as MUCH hugs ROBIN. ALLAN shakes hands with ROBIN, and pats GISBORNE on the back.

ALLAN

So, come on then. What happened with Isabella, eh?

ROBIN and GISBORNE exchange a look.

ROBIN

Let's just say she won't be joining us just yet.

ALLAN notices the looks on ROBIN and GISBORNE's faces and realizes something must have happened, so he doesn't push. ROBIN looks back at ELEANOR with JACK and baby ROBIN.

ELEANOR

He's a beautiful boy. Yes, oh! Such a good boy.

ROBIN watches ELEANOR wistfully.

ELEANOR (cont'd)

Yes, you are.

ROBIN smiles back. The gang walk out of Locksley. LITTLE JOHN glares at TUCK.

TUCK

I've got a smile on my face!

(CONTINUED)

TUCK outstretches his arms.

TUCK (cont'd)
What a beautiful day!

JUMP TO:

LATER

189 PATH FROM LOCKSLEY TO SHERWOOD

ROBIN and GISBORNE are at the front. ALLAN and MUCH are a few paces behind, in the middle. TUCK and LITTLE JOHN are pulling up the rear.

ROBIN
She made her choice, Guy. She sided
with Prince...

GISBORNE
I know. But...

ROBIN
It's not your fault.
(beat)
I should have seen it coming.

JUMP TO:

2 WEEKS LATER

LONDON

190 (308) WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Amid several candles, a sculptor (named DESCHAMPS) sits at a table concentrating on his work. He uses a stylus while looking through a magnifying glass mounted on a stand. An old man, (named LORD SHERIDAN), with a candle in hand, comes downstairs.

SHERIDAN
What progress, Deschamps?

SHERIDAN approaches the worktable.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)
The Prince is not a patient man.

(CONTINUED)

DESCHAMPS studies his work, silent. SHERIDAN looks over DESCHAMPS shoulder.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

Uncanny.

SHERIDAN holds his candle closer, but DESCHAMPS puts his hand to it, signaling it away, without looking at it or SHERIDAN.

DESCHAMPS

Not so close with the candle.

DESCHAMPS pulls his hand back.

SHERIDAN

You are indeed an artist.

SHERIDAN turns and sets the candle down out of harms way.

DESCHAMPS

It is finished.

SHERIDAN

As skillful with a scalpel and
brush... as I am with a dagger. ...
You shall feel no pain, my friend.

DESCHAMPS suddenly realizes what SHERIDAN has said, but its too late. SHERIDAN holds DESCHAMPS' chin with his left hand and stabs his side with the other.

SHERIDAN

You give your life for a place in
history.

DESCHAMPS slumps to the floor, guided silently by SHERIDAN. SHERIDAN rises and looks through the magnifying glass at DESCHAMPS work.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

191 (308R) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ALLAN has a round shiny tin lid in his hands and he's reflecting the sun's light onto a rock. MUCH and ROBIN are practicing

(CONTINUED)

their fighting moves with branches. MUCH swings his branch down and ROBIN blocks. MUCH stabs at ROBIN. ROBIN jumps back, raising his arm.

GISBORNE is sitting under a tree sharpening his sword. He occasionally glances up at MUCH and ROBIN. ALLAN glances at MUCH at ROBIN.

ALLAN

(impressed)

Ohh!

ROBIN attacks. MUCH blocks, then swings back across, but stops before he hits ROBIN. GISBORNE stifles a laugh.

ROBIN

Much! Come on! You don't go easy just because you're training!

MUCH

I'm trying not to hurt you.

ROBIN grimaces and turns away, flustered. He glances at GISBORNE. GISBORNE shrugs his shoulders at him in a "don't look at me" look.

ALLAN

You're not going to hurt him if you never hit him, are you?

MUCH glares at ALLAN. MUCH places both hands on the hilt of his branch-sword and shakes the branch up and down. MUCH looks at ROBIN. He comes at him with everything and a roar, swinging largely in front of him. Just as he's approaching ROBIN, ALLAN reflects the sun in his eyes and ROBIN ducks the blow. MUCH's momentum carries him face first into a tree. He falls backwards, dazed. ALLAN laughs totally amused.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Blinding!

MUCH

(dazed)

Oh!

LITTLE JOHN and TUCK run over the hill.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

Robin?!

ROBIN jogs over to LITTLE JOHN. Everyone looks to LITTLE JOHN.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

We've just seen a royal carriage on
the North Road.

TUCK

Carrying the King's insignia, not the
Prince's.

ROBIN looks over at GISBORNE and motions him over. GISBORNE
rises and goes over. ROBIN address him on his way over.

ROBIN

Let's go.

ROBIN looks back at LITTLE JOHN.

LITTLE JOHN

It's heading for Nottingham.

MUCH is still trying to get up. ROBIN looks at ALLAN.

ROBIN

Get him up!

ALLAN pulls MUCH to his feet.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

192 (308R) MARKETPLACE

SHERIDAN solemnly leads a procession of Crusaders who are
carrying a coffin draped in white with a red cross through the
streets.

PAN TO:

192b(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN and the gang watch from the shadows behind the crowd
gathering.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH
It's Sheridan.

ALLAN
(raise eyebrow)
Who?

GISBORNE
Keeper of the Crown.

ROBIN
He used to be the King's favourite
trainer of knights.

ROBIN leans his head back on the wall, perplexed.

ROBIN
He trained me.

PAN TO:

192c(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON PRINCE JOHN

PRINCE JOHN runs out of the castle gate with an anguished look
of grief as the coffin is lowered to the ground.

SHERIDAN goes to stand near the gate.

PRINCE JOHN
Oh! No!

He kneels at the coffin's head, feigning devastation and
sobbing.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
No, no, no, no.

He puts his face to the coffin. The Crusaders stand back.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
No.

ISABELLA stands behind SHERIDAN, watching.

SHERIDAN
People of Nottingham!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

(beat)

It is to your great sadness...

(beat)

...but also to your great honour...

(beat)

...that you are the first to know...

(beat)

...of the death of King Richard.

SHERIDAN hangs his head.

PAN TO:

192d(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN's lips are pressed together tightly, not wanting to believe. LITTLE JOHN is upset at the news.

ALLAN, MUCH, and GISBORNE all have looks of disbelief on their faces.

MUCH

(mouth)

What?

TUCK hangs his head.

PAN TO:

192e(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON SHERIDAN

SHERIDAN

The Lionheart met his glorious end...

(beat)

...in battle...

(beat)

...with the infidel.

PAN TO:

192f(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN

ROBIN shifts his feet, his eyes darting everywhere.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

192g(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON SHERIDAN AND PRINCE JOHN

SHERIDAN steps forward and grasps PRINCE JOHN's hand, which is stretched out behind him. SHERIDAN helps him up.

PRINCE JOHN addresses the people.

PRINCE JOHN

I thank you for your sympathy...

(beat)

and for your love.

PAN TO:

192h(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN

ROBIN lowers his chin, glaring at PRINCE JOHN.

PAN TO:

192i(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON PRINCE JOHN

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

The Archbishop of Canterbury is on his way to

(beat)

bless my

(beat)

brother's body and though these are not the circumstances I would have wished for

(beat)

in the interests of stability and national security

(beat)

he will also oversee my coronation.

PRINCE JOHN walks slowly back to the gate.

PAN TO:

192j(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN continues glaring. The gang stare in disbelief.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

192k(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON SHERIDAN

SHERIDAN

The King is dead.

(beat)

Long live the King!

SHERIDAN turns towards PRINCE JOHN and kneels, head down. The Crusaders and the townsfolk do also, chanting.

CRUSADERS/TOWNSFOLK

Long live the King! Long live the King!

Long live the King!

PAN TO:

192l(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

LITTLE JOHN

Kneel.

LITTLE JOHN, GISBORNE, ALLAN and MUCH kneel. ROBIN remains standing. LITTLE JOHN pulls on ROBIN's cloak and flashes him a look.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

Get down! Get down.

ROBIN reluctantly kneels. His face showing clearly that he's not happy about it, but he relents, not wanting to draw attention. LITTLE JOHN looks around to see if anyone noticed.

PAN TO:

192m(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON PRINCE JOHN

PRINCE JOHN

(to himself)

Long live me.

CUT TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

193 (308R) AN ALLEY

The gang gather in the alley.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN paces. TUCK fiddles with his cross. GISBORNE is leaning against the wall. ALLAN, MUCH, and LITTLE JOHN are just standing there.

TUCK

If this is God's will, then I have to question his judgment.

MUCH

Well, he was a great King and a good man.

ROBIN stops in front of MUCH.

ROBIN

Don't, Much.

MUCH

I'm sorry, Robin.

ROBIN

(angrily)

He's not dead! He can't be!

LITTLE JOHN is gently, quietly, glancing back and forth between ROBIN and the GUARD, making sure they're not spotted. LITTLE JOHN looks to ROBIN with a "keep your voice down" look.

LITTLE JOHN

Robin, the guards...

ROBIN

(voice lower)

John, I'd know if he was dead. I'd feel it!

LITTLE JOHN

(whisper)

I know.

TUCK addresses ROBIN.

TUCK

This Sheridan, is he a man you trust?

Both ROBIN and GISBORNE answer simultaneously. ROBIN with a confused look on his face.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE
Yes.

 ROBIN
He used to be one of the
King's best. But now,
obviously, he's gone with
Prince John.

 TUCK
We all share your grief, Robin.

 ROBIN
I need to see his face.
 (think)
I need to know for sure.

ROBIN turns and leaves.

GISBORNE follows, then MUCH, then ALLAN. TUCK looks at LITTLE JOHN. LITTLE JOHN shakes his head, then they follow ROBIN.

JUMP TO:

KIRKLEES ABBEY

194 (308) SANCTUARY - NIGHT

Four Crusaders stand at each corner of the coffin with their backs to it. PRINCE JOHN lifts the shroud as the ARCHBISHOP comes over to look.

 ARCHBISHOP
His body is in remarkable condition
for a month at sea.

 PRINCE JOHN
The Moors, they're masters of
embalming.

The ARCHBISHOP eyes PRINCE JOHN suspiciously. He walks around the head of the coffin and SHERIDAN steps up to it. PRINCE JOHN clenches his jaw, looking at the ARCHBISHOP.

The ARCHBISHOP crosses himself and says "Rest in peace" in Latin.

 ARCHBISHOP
Requiescat in pace.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN looks at the ARCHBISHOP.

PRINCE JOHN

Thank you. He's close to God now.

PRINCE JOHN stares at the ARCHBISHOP until the ARCHBISHOP looks down at the body again, then PRINCE JOHN steals a glance at SHERIDAN. After a few moments the ARCHBISHOP looks at SHERIDAN.

ARCHBISHOP

(curious)

Why did I not hear of this sooner?

SHERIDAN

The advanced messenger came to me in London only a day before the body was due to arrive. I swore the man to secrecy before meeting it at Hull in the dead of night...

The ARCHBISHOP turns away and passes SHERIDAN. SHERIDAN continues his line without stopping.

SHERIDAN

...and coming to the Prince forthwith.

PRINCE JOHN

And rightly so, I believe. There are those who would take advantage of any interregnum to further their own ends.

ARCHBISHOP

I shall consult with the Royal Council.

PRINCE JOHN

I am the rightful heir, am I not?

The ARCHBISHOP looks PRINCE JOHN up and down, then looks to his left at SHERIDAN, then back at PRINCE JOHN.

ARCHBISHOP

Indeed.

There is a long pause during which PRINCE JOHN and SHERIDAN exchange glances.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHBISHOP (cont'd)

But first...

The ARCHBISHOP walks the length of the coffin.

ARCHBISHOP (cont'd)

... there will need to be a state funeral in London.

PRINCE JOHN walks along the other side of the coffin.

PRINCE JOHN

And there shall be one. I shall see to it myself.

(beat)

London was my brother's seat of power, after all.

(beat)

But... power, as you know, is finely balanced between the north and south, and now that the tragic news is out, any delay could cause that balance to shift, which is why I propose making my seat, Nottingham, the new capital of England.

PRINCE JOHN looks at SHERIDAN and makes a slight jerk of the head towards the ARCHBISHOP. SHERIDAN steps up to ARCHBISHOP.

SHERIDAN

As the claim is uncontested, I saw no barrier in bringing the crown with me. Everything is in place.

The ARCHBISHOP looks at PRINCE JOHN, who raises his eyebrows expectantly.

ARCHBISHOP

So be it.

SHERIDAN

We'll move his body to the crypt.

The ARCHBISHOP nods in agreement.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

LATER THAT NIGHTKIRKLEES ABBEY

195 (308R) CRYPT

Two guards are on patrol outside the crypt.

TUCK comes around a corner and blows a dart at the guard's neck. The guard grabs his neck with a grunt and collapses. LITTLE JOHN catches him and pulls him back behind the corner. The second guard turns around at the other corner and starts marching back. ROBIN comes out from behind the corner with an arrow ready. He aims and shoots the guard in the back. LITTLE JOHN catches him and drags him out of sight as well. ROBIN, GISBORNE, MUCH, ALLAN, and TUCK go to the door.

PAN TO:

195b(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON DOOR TO CRYPT

ROBIN keeps an eye out for trouble.

ROBIN

Allan.

ALLAN reaches for the lock and picks it in no time.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Good lad.

ROBIN goes through the door. GISBORNE, then MUCH, follow. ALLAN pulls the door closed behind MUCH. ALLAN, TUCK, and LITTLE JOHN stand watch.

JUMP TO:

196 (308R) CRYPT - INTERIOR - STAIRS

ROBIN, GISBORNE, and MUCH make their way downstairs to the crypt. MUCH stops and shudders at the sight of the skeletons.

MUCH

Ah!

(whisper)

There's bodies down here!

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE scoffs.

ROBIN

That's the idea, Much. Come on.

They continue down the stairs.

PAN TO:

196b(308R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON BOTTOM OF STAIRS

They go to, and stop at, King Richard's coffin.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(to Gisborne)

Come on. Help me get it off.

GISBORNE walks around to the other end and sets his lantern down on its edge. ROBIN nods to ask if he's ready, then pushes his end sideways as GISBORNE pushes on his end. ROBIN stands looking down at the shrouded body. MUCH watches them.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Alright.

ROBIN looks up, sighs, resolves himself. His fingers touch the shroud and his left hand recoils.

GISBORNE

I'll do it if you like.

ROBIN

No. I can do this.

ROBIN tries again. He lifts up and folds back the cloth. He sighs, disappointed.

ROBIN

It's him.

MUCH saddened by the news, goes over.

MUCH

It's true.

MUCH almost drops his candle. GISBORNE takes it from him.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Be careful.

GISBORNE notices something as he sees the face in the candlelight, he holds the candle to the King's face. ROBIN is about to say something when GISBORNE speaks.

GISBORNE

(impatiently)

Wait!

GISBORNE holds the candle closer. ROBIN watches as GISBORNE holds the candle to the King's ear. MUCH is disgusted, thinking flesh should burn soon.

MUCH

Oh, God... Urgh!

ROBIN tilts his head, trying to get a good look in the dim light, as the ear starts to melt.

GISBORNE

It's wax!

ROBIN

What?!

ROBIN reaches out with a finger to touch the corpse's face.

GISBORNE

It's a waxwork made to look like King Richard.

ROBIN, amazed, laughs in relief, and looks at MUCH.

ROBIN

I knew it!

(confidently)

I knew he was still alive!

GISBORNE looks down at the corpse and thinks to himself.

GISBORNE (VO)

(thought)

If this is fake, that means that Prince John is up to something. And I think I know how to find out what.

(CONTINUED)

He looks over at ROBIN and MUCH who are overjoyed that their friend and King is still alive.

GISBORNE (VO) (cont'd)

(thought)

This is something I will need to do on my own. Once we get topside, I'll have to find a reason to get away.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

197 (308) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

PRINCE JOHN spins a blindfolded nobleman in front of a large banner-map of England hanging from the ceiling. Several large pins are stuck in it. PRINCE JOHN stops the man, facing the map.

PRINCE JOHN

Wherever you stick the pin, the city's yours.

PRINCE JOHN steps back and the nobleman steps forward. PRINCE JOHN begins a rhythmic clap. The nobleman feels for the map, then plunges the pin in. PRINCE JOHN looks at the pin as the nobleman turns around.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Ah... Swindon. Rather you than me.

PRINCE JOHN pushes the new owner of Swindon into the crowd.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Come on! Who's next? London's still up for grabs, but Nottingham's out of bounds. Don't want our prospective new capital in the hands of drunkards, do we?

Everyone laughs. PRINCE JOHN takes a grape from the table.

ISABELLA

(to Prince John)

So tell me, where would a King desire to put his pin?

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN
(spitefully)
In a flatterer's eye.

PRINCE JOHN walks around the table eating the grape and
ISABELLA follows.

ISABELLA
I actually wanted to give you my
personal congratulations, Your
Highness.

PRINCE JOHN
(sneer)
I'm sure you do.

PRINCE JOHN takes another grape.

ISABELLA
And of course, my condolences for your
late brother.

ISABELLA comes around to face him.

ISABELLA
And in the light of your increasing
national responsibilities
(beat)
I imagine you'll need the loyal
(beat)
and varied services
(beat)
that only I could offer you as a
potential Sheriff.

PRINCE JOHN
Same sort of services as you offered
Robin Hood?

ISABELLA
Hm?
(recover)
No.

PRINCE JOHN puts a grape in his mouth.

PRINCE JOHN

Or that your brother once offered me?

PRINCE JOHN walks past ISABELLA to the table and picks up more grapes.

ISABELLA

Robin and Guy mean nothing to me. Given the opportunity, I would love to prove that to you.

PRINCE JOHN tosses and catches a grape.

PRINCE JOHN

Well, why don't you prove it anyway.

ISABELLA

Hm?

PRINCE JOHN

And maybe I'll... consider you along with the other candidates for Sheriff.

ISABELLA

(frown)

What other candidates?

PRINCE JOHN turns around to see SHERIDAN behind him.

PRINCE JOHN

(brightly)

Ah! Sheridan...

SHERIDAN bows slightly.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

...my rock in these troubled times.

PRINCE JOHN puts his arm around SHERIDAN's shoulders, then wraps the other around for an embrace.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

You do love me, don't you?

SHERIDAN

With all my heart, sire.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN chuckles.

SHERIDAN

Perhaps you should use this distraction to finish our night's business at the abbey, while the Archbishop sleeps here.

PRINCE JOHN

Hm.

PRINCE JOHN puts a grape in his mouth.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Have you met the Lady Isabella, Guy of Gisborne's sister?

ISABELLA smiles slightly. SHERIDAN takes her hand.

SHERIDAN

Enchanted.

SHERIDAN kisses ISABELLA's hand.

ISABELLA

(flatly)

I'm sure.

PRINCE JOHN

Beware, Sheridan, she share's blood with an outlaw.

ISABELLA slightly glares at PRINCE JOHN, but PRINCE JOHN leaves. SHERIDAN kisses ISABELLA's cheek, then the other, pulling at her skin each time. ISABELLA deliberately pulls her hand from his grip.

CUT TO:

KIRKLEES ABBEY

198 (308) CRYPT - EXTERIOR

TUCK whistles a low bird call. LITTLE JOHN and ALLAN go to the door. ALLAN opens it a bit and echoes a higher-pitched whistle through it.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

199 (308R) CRYPT - INTERIOR

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE and MUCH.

MUCH
Where do we hide?

ROBIN
(to Gisborne)
Get the lid on! Get the lid on!

GISBORNE quickly goes to the foot of the coffin and he and ROBIN slide the lid into place.

ROBIN
Shhh.

JUMP TO:

200 (308) CRYPT - EXTERIOR

ALLAN whistles again. LITTLE JOHN impatiently reaches around him and pushes the door closed.

LITTLE JOHN
This way, come on!

LITTLE JOHN pulls ALLAN back around the corner. TUCK goes around the opposite corner.

PAN TO:

200 (308)(cont'd) FOCUS ON PRINCE JOHN AND SHERIDAN

PRINCE JOHN and SHERIDAN arrive, on horseback. Five foot soldiers approach with them. PRINCE JOHN turns his horse around.

PRINCE JOHN
Set the bonfire in the clearing over there!

PRINCE JOHN points and dismounts.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

201 (308R) INSIDE CRYPT - BOTTOM OF STAIRS

ROBIN
It's time to play dead.

ROBIN motions to MUCH.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Come here.

ROBIN leads MUCH to a sarcophagus.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Get this lid off.

MUCH
(disbelief and fright)
Oh, come on, please!

ROBIN bows his head, flustered.

MUCH
Do we have to?

ROBIN
(urgently)
Unless you want to be put in one
yourself, I'd say yes. Now get it open!

MUCH blows out his lantern. GISBORNE waits by a larger
sarcophagus as they hear PRINCE JOHN descending the stairs.

PRINCE JOHN (VO)
(singsong)
Richard!

GISBORNE
(whisper)
Robin!

ROBIN goes to him.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
There's no time. You're going to have
to get in with me.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN gives him a look. This time last year they wouldn't be caught dead sharing a sarcophagus. But a lot has changed.

GISBORNE

You got a better option?

ROBIN shakes his head no. GISBORNE blows out his lantern as he and ROBIN get in.

PAN TO:

202 (308R) PRINCE JOHN

PRINCE JOHN nears the bottom of the stairs, holding out a lantern.

PRINCE JOHN

(singsong)

Oh, Richard? Dicky, Dicky, Dicky?

PAN TO:

203 (308) MUCH'S SARCOPHAGUS

MUCH sees the skull next to his face, closes his eyes and grimaces, shaking his head slightly.

PRINCE JOHN (VO)

We've come back for you.

PAN TO:

204 (308R) PRINCE JOHN

PRINCE JOHN and SHERIDAN are standing over the open casket.

PRINCE JOHN

Brother! There you are.

(chuckle slightly)

You know, I think I prefer this one to the real thing. ... At least this one doesn't lie and double deal ... and steal his brother's place on his father's throne ... or in his mother's heart.

PRINCE JOHN bends to corpse's face.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

(whisper)

I've been in your shadow too long,
brother.

(beat)

It's my turn to step into the light

(beat)

while you burn in the pits of hell!

PRINCE JOHN repeatedly punches the wax cheek with his ringed fist.

PAN TO:

205 (308R) IN ROBIN'S SARCOPHAGUS

ROBIN starts to raise his sword, but GISBORNE grabs his arm.

ROBIN

That's the only evidence!

GISBORNE puts his hand over ROBIN's mouth.

GISBORNE

Shh.

PAN TO:

206 (308) PRINCE JOHN

PRINCE JOHN stops, revealing a hole in the waxwork's cheek.
PRINCE JOHN breathes heavily.

SHERIDAN glances sideways at him, stunned.

PRINCE JOHN

It's alright.

(beat)

We have no further use for the body.

(beat)

The Archbishop has seen enough of my
brother's beauty to proclaim it to the
world, no doubt.

SHERIDAN stares at the wax face.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN

(flatly)

Then we should proceed with the plan
forthwith.

PRINCE JOHN

You're not having second thoughts, are
you, Sheridan?

SHERIDAN

(look at Prince John)

Certainly not.

PRINCE JOHN

You seem nervous.

PRINCE JOHN puts his hand on SHERIDAN's back and stares in his
eyes.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Guards!

The guards thump noisily to the coffin.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Take the coffin.

PRINCE JOHN steps around SHERIDAN.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

If anybody asks ... where the body is
(beat)
it's gone to London for a state funeral
at the Archbishop's request.

PAN TO:

207 (308R) INSIDE ROBIN'S SARCOPHAGUS

GISBORNE takes his hand off ROBIN's mouth. ROBIN lies back,
flustered.

PRINCE JOHN (VO)

By the time anybody finds out that
there is no body...

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

208 (308) PRINCE JOHN

PRINCE JOHN
...it'll be too late.

PRINCE JOHN picks up his lantern and leaves, his footfalls echoing loudly.

PAN TO:

209 (308MR) CRYPT - INTERIOR

Once PRINCE JOHN and his entourage have left, MUCH, ROBIN and GISBORNE get out of their sarcophagus'.

ROBIN
(hand to forehead)
We have to stop them destroying that thing.

MUCH dusts himself off.

MUCH
How? There could be loads of them.

ROBIN raises his eyebrows as a sneaky idea comes to him.

ROBIN
We need a cloak.

MUCH frowns, puzzled. GISBORNE gives ROBIN a "what's he thinking" look.

JUMP TO:

NEAR THE ABBEY

210 (308R) CLEARING

Horses neigh as PRINCE JOHN and SHERIDAN approach the bonfire. The coffin is on top of the blaze.

PRINCE JOHN
Good, good.

PRINCE JOHN and SHERIDAN circle the fire on their horses.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN

Make sure you destroy everything.

GUARD 1

Yes, sir.

The horses neigh. The two guards mutter to themselves and sit to watch the fire as PRINCE JOHN and SHERIDAN ride off on their way back to Nottingham.

GUARD 1

Oh, well. At least we'll be warm.

GUARD 2

Yeah.

GUARD 1

I've had worse jobs.

The guards hold their hands over the fire to warm them. After a few moments, eerie groaning is heard behind them. The guards look at each other.

GUARD 1

Did you hear that?

GUARD 2

Yeah.

They look behind them. A tall black cloak with a skull in the hood and skeletal hands poking out the sides is coming towards them. There is a wailing shriek. MUCH and ALLAN yell wickedly as the guards scream and run off.

GUARD 1

Quick! Run! Run!

ALLAN pulls the skull off his face as MUCH throws open the cloak.

MUCH

Tuck!

ROBIN

John.

TUCK
(going to Much)
Yeah, yeah.

TUCK helps ALLAN down as ROBIN and LITTLE JOHN go to either end of the coffin.

LITTLE JOHN
Ready?

ROBIN wraps a cloth around the metal handle.

ROBIN
One... two... three.

ROBIN and LITTLE JOHN lift the coffin off the fire and set it down on the ground. They shift the lid off to reveal a skeleton with wax dripping off the bones.

[No one seems to notice that GISBORNE is not with them]

ALLAN
We're too late!

MUCH
No, we can still tell the Archbishop.
Tell him the truth.

ROBIN
(frustrated)
He already thinks he's seen the body.
It'll be our word against theirs!

TUCK
We can't let the Prince take power like this.
(beat)
We have to stop him.
(beat)
Assassinate him if we have to.

ROBIN
If we assassinate him, Tuck, we risk invasion!
(beat)
Civil war, even!

TUCK

But this is treason!

ROBIN

I know! And I hate him as much as you do, but while Richard's away, Prince John is our only leader!

TUCK

That's all very well while he's prince, but when he's King, he can make new laws, say what he wants, do what he wants, spend what he wants.

ROBIN

Well, then, we stop him becoming King, don't we?

LITTLE JOHN

How?

ROBIN thinks aloud.

ROBIN

Well, for a coronation to take place, you need a crown. Am I right?

The gang are silent and look at TUCK.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(decisively)

Well then, we steal his crown.

CUT TO:

LOCKSLEY

211 (308MR) MANOR HOUSE - MAIN ROOM

ISABELLA enters holding a candelabra of two lit candles. A maid follows her in and closes the door behind her.

ISABELLA

I mean, what does Sheridan know about Nottingham anyway?

ISABELLA sets the candelabra down on the table.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Stupid old fool.

ISABELLA disgustedly brushes her cheek where SHERIDAN had kissed it earlier, then she takes a deep breath. GISBORNE steps out from the shadows behind her.

GISBORNE

Hello, sis. Making yourself at home, I see.

ISABELLA doesn't turn around but grabs a knife from the table and plunges it over her shoulder. GISBORNE tries to grab it, but the knife cuts the back of his hand instead. He yells and pushes ISABELLA into the table. She slides along it and stumbles to the wall as GISBORNE draws his sword and slams it onto the table.

ISABELLA

(arms out, pleading)

Guy, please, please, just wait.

GISBORNE

For what? For you to betray me again?

He advances on ISABELLA.

ISABELLA

You got what you deserved.

ISABELLA steps to the other side of the table, but GISBORNE pulls her back by her hair. A maid enters and is frightened by the scene. GISBORNE pushes ISABELLA into a post, his hand on her throat and his sword pointed at her.

GISBORNE

And you... will get what you deserve?

(beat)

How could you turn on us like that? I trusted you. Robin trusted you. How could....

ISABELLA

(stand calmly)

So kill me. You did as much to me when I was a child anyway.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

(shake head)

Is that to be your dying thought?

ISABELLA

Yes.

GISBORNE stands a bit straighter, lowering his sword point slightly.

ISABELLA

Go on.

(beat)

End it now.

(beat)

Put us both out of our misery.

GISBORNE charges at her but lays the sword blade against her throat instead of stabbing her.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Come on!

GISBORNE does nothing. ISABELLA looks up at him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

What's wrong with you? Hanging out with Hood has made you weak. The Guy I know wouldn't hesitate. He'd kill me without a second thought.

GISBORNE blinks. He can't do it. He looks a bit lost and hangs his head. ISABELLA sees the conflict going through his mind and decides to use it. She looks at him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Maybe we change things.

GISBORNE looks up.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

King Richard is dead. Prince John is due to be crowned.

GISBORNE

Is that what you think?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

I can help you.

GISBORNE

How can you help me?

ISABELLA

I can speak for you. Prince John will listen to me. But for that, you need me alive. Kill me, and you kill your last chance back with the new King. Let me live, and we both get what we want.

GISBORNE stares at her, thinking, then slowly backs off. He's not sure what she's up to, but he wants to find out.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

212 (308) CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

PRINCE JOHN holds the crown in his hands, inspecting it as SHERIDAN watches.

PRINCE JOHN

How did you control yourself looking over it every single day, hm?

SHERIDAN

I am but a soldier, not a king.

PRINCE JOHN

But with your help, I will be one soon.

The corners of his mouth quiver and he holds the crown out to SHERIDAN.

PRINCE JOHN

Quick! Quick! Lock it away. I don't trust myself.

SHERIDAN takes it and bows his head.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

I shall wait until the time is right...

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN goes to a large wooden box on the table.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
...when all the world will see me shine
in the role to which I am destined.

SHERIDAN places the crown in the center section of the box and closes the lid.

JUMP TO:

NEXT MORNING

LOCKSLEY

213 (308R) MANOR HOUSE - MAIN ROOM

GISBORNE sits at the table and pours water into a goblet while chewing. ISABELLA comes downstairs.

ISABELLA
How did you sleep?

GISBORNE
(pick up goblet)
With one eye open.

ISABELLA chuckles and pulls out a chair.

ISABELLA
If we're going to work together, we
must learn to lower our guard.

A maid sets a box on the table. ISABELLA sees the cut on the back of GISBORNE's left hand. She inhales sharply.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Looks painful.

GISBORNE
(flex hand)
It's a scratch. I'll be fine.

ISABELLA
(gently)
Here.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA holds her hand out, palm up. GISBORNE looks at it as the maid goes upstairs. He relaxes and puts his hand in hers.

GISBORNE

So...

ISABELLA examines his cut.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

How am I to get back into the new
King's favour?

GISBORNE drinks as ISABELLA reaches for a bowl and picks up a cloth. She sighs.

ISABELLA

I've decided to speak to him for you.

GISBORNE looks up.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

On one condition.

ISABELLA looks at GISBORNE.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

I need you to apologize.

GISBORNE

(puzzled)
Apologize?

GISBORNE looks away briefly and frowns.

GISBORNE

What for? It's you who...

ISABELLA

You know what for.

GISBORNE thinks he knows what she is referring to.

GISBORNE

Isabella, had I not arranged your
marriage, we would still be living in
some godforsaken corner of France
without a penny or acre to our name.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Better that than to have been with him.

GISBORNE

No! It is not my fault that you failed
to make the best of your chance.

ISABELLA frowns and picks up a bottle from the box, thinking.
She pours a bit of the bottle's contents onto GISBORNE's wound.

GISBORNE

Instead of wasting time, I say we work
out exactly what it is you're going to
say to the Prince.

ISABELLA replaces the bottle in the box and works the liquid
into GISBORNE's cut with the cloth.

ISABELLA

I was thinking... maybe I should just
drug you and hand you in to him myself.

GISBORNE

What?

ISABELLA drops GISBORNE's hand and crosses her arms.

ISABELLA

I was willing to forgive you,
brother... but you don't deserve my
absolution.

GISBORNE looks disoriented, groans, and tips the empty cup
towards him to look inside. He can hear Robin chastising him
for even trusting her again.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Oh, no, no. It's not your drink.

GISBORNE looks up and ISABELLA shoves his hand away.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

It's your wound.

GISBORNE's head nods forward and he slumps to the table with
a groan.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Straight into your bloodstream.

ISABELLA pulls GISBORNE's hair aside, then picks up the bottle as the maid comes downstairs.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Concentrated Valerian Root.

GISBORNE's head lies on the table, his face pale.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Enough to knock out a horse. I doubt
Lord Sheridan would have thought of
that one.

ISABELLA smiles.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

214 (308) "THE TRIP TO JERUSALEM" INN

SHERIDAN laughs drunkenly. ALLAN, dressed as a barman with apron and tray, pulls aside a curtain and nods quickly at ROBIN waiting inside, then speaks to SHERIDAN.

ALLAN
Private room, sir?

ALLAN gestures inside.

SHERIDAN
(drunkenly)
Another round for my drinking friends.

SHERIDAN pats ALLAN's shoulder, then stumbles in, putting his hand to the wall to catch himself, not noticing ROBIN, who is seated in the far corner, a hood over his head.

ROBIN
Hello, master.

ROBIN lifts off his hood and sits back smugly. SHERIDAN leans heavily on the table.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN

Robin of Locksley.

ROBIN

Shh.

ROBIN slides to the near end of the bench.

ROBIN

I do apologize for our surroundings...

(smile slightly)

...but I'm not really a favourite with the guards.

SHERIDAN

(sit)

So it's true.

(laugh)

I heard tell of your feral existence.

ROBIN

I thought it only right to raise a toast...

(nod at cup)

...to our late King.

ROBIN pushes another cup towards SHERIDAN.

ROBIN

I know you would have been as...

ROBIN looks at Sheridan for his reaction.

ROBIN (cont'd)

...distraught

(beat)

...as I was with the news?

SHERIDAN

(instantly acting)

Oh, indeed.

SHERIDAN picks up his cup.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

But we must look to the future.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN and SHERIDAN knock cups and drink.

SHERIDAN

You're not going to cause me any problems, are you?

ROBIN

What do you mean?

SHERIDAN

Well, I also hear that you've been making trouble for the Prince.

ROBIN laughs.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

And as the new Sheriff of Nottingham
...

ROBIN reacts slightly to that bit of news.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

I can't allow that to happen.

ROBIN holds his hand palm up.

ROBIN

So...

ROBIN puts his hand to his cheek.

ROBIN (cont'd)

...you're to be the new Sheriff, are you?

SHERIDAN

(proudly)

Mm, and a very strict one at that!

On the word strict, SHERIDAN suddenly slams a knife point into the table between ROBIN's thumb and forefinger.

ROBIN doesn't flinch but stares open-mouthed at his hand as SHERIDAN laughs loudly. ROBIN opens his eyes and mouth wide and sarcastically laughs, too.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

All work and no play? That doesn't sound like Lord Sheridan, the great Keeper of the Crown, to me.

SHERIDAN

The crown is surrounded by outlaws...
(glance at Robin)
...where outlaws fear to tread.

ALLAN steps in the door. ROBIN raises his eyebrows at him, then ALLAN leaves.

ROBIN

Well, if you're happy with the Prince, then... what problems can I possibly have?

A serving maid comes to the door as ALLAN leaves.

SHERIDAN

(raise cup)
To King John!

They knock cups again and drink. The serving maid steps in to SHERIDAN's right, feigning drunkenness.

MAID

So, is this a private party, or can anyone join in?

ROBIN

(sternly)
I told you to wait outside.

SHERIDAN sees her.

SHERIDAN

Mmm.

MAID goes around SHERIDAN to his other side.

ROBIN

We're talking in here.

MAID giggles and drunkenly holds out her cup.

(CONTINUED)

MAID
(to Sheridan)
I'm sorry about this. I apologize.

SHERIDAN takes her arm.

SHERIDAN
No, no, no, please...
(look in her eyes)
...please. Service!

ALLAN steps in the door.

ALLAN
Sir!

SHERIDAN
Er, mead!

MAID points at SHERIDAN.

MAID
You will make me tipsy.

SHERIDAN stares at the breasts in his face.

SHERIDAN
Oh!

ROBIN
(to maid)
This is private.

Behind SHERIDAN, ALLAN cuts at SHERIDAN's belt. ROBIN points outside.

ROBIN (cont'd)
(sternly)
I told you to wait outside.

MAID ignores him.

ROBIN (cont'd)
(more firmly)
I told you to...

MAID falls into ROBIN and spills her drink in his lap.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN

Oh!

MAID

(giggling)

Oh!

SHERIDAN

You're wet, Locksley.

ALLAN cuts through the belt and takes the keys.

ROBIN

I'll go and clear this up.

(nod at Sheridan)

I'll be back.

ALLAN waits as ROBIN stands.

SHERIDAN

(to maid)

Well, delicious.

ALLAN hands the keys to ROBIN as he passes.

MAID

Why, thank you.

SHERIDAN

Mm. Could eat you.

ALLAN puts the knife back on the table, then leaves. MAID giggles.

CUT TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

215 (308) CASTLE - GATE

LITTLE JOHN leads a horse pulling a cart to the gate and stops at the guard. MUCH waits behind him. LITTLE JOHN points to a rose stuck in the halter behind the horse's ear.

LITTLE JOHN

Roses, mate... for the coronation.

(CONTINUED)

The guard nods and takes the cart in. LITTLE JOHN says his line as the guard takes the cart to the courtyard.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

(waves)

Thanks very much.

MUCH looks around, a wheat stalk in his mouth. LITTLE JOHN goes to him.

CONTINUE TO:

216 (308) COURTYARD

The guard leaves the cart. TUCK and ROBIN lift up the cloth covering them and look around.

JUMP TO:

217 (308) EXTERIOR CORRIDORS

ROBIN and TUCK walk down the east corridor, then hear PRINCE JOHN coming. [Note: PRINCE JOHN's lines are all said with out stopping.]

PRINCE JOHN (VO)

Now, I want the theme of my coronation
to be...

TUCK and ROBIN jump up onto the plinth of a column in the cloister.

PRINCE JOHN and the ARCHBISHOP walk down the north corridor.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

..."out of the darkness, into the
light." And I want all the guards with
mirrored shields...

TUCK and ROBIN shimmy around to the back of the column.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

...to reflect the glory of my
leadership far and wide.

PRINCE JOHN and the ARCHBISHOP turn the corner into the east corridor.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHBISHOP

I wonder if this opulence is
appropriate while people starve.

PRINCE JOHN

Well, I'm giving them something to
aspire to, Archbishop.

The ARCHBISHOP gives him a fatherly disapproving look.

PRINCE JOHN

Oh, very well. I'll compromise. I'll
use rubies instead of diamonds.

The ARCHBISHOP shakes his head in disbelief as they walk past
the cloister.

TUCK peeks out. ROBIN peeks out behind him.

TUCK

(sigh)
Good to see he's got his finger on the
big political issues of the day.

ROBIN

If you were Sheridan, where would you
hide the crown?

TUCK

Well, you know him better than I do.

ROBIN

Well, apparently not.

TUCK

Come on, Robin. Trust yourself.

ROBIN

(think)
Oh, what did he say?
(beat)
Surrounded by outlaws
(beat)
where outlaws fear to tread.

ROBIN and TUCK look at each other.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

It's the...

ROBIN/TUCK

...dungeons!

ROBIN

Come on.

ROBIN jumps off the plinth and heads for the dungeon door.

CUT TO:

218 (308) DUNGEONS

The Jailer holds a roast goose leg in his hand and taunts the prisoners, who are reaching though the bars, with it.

JAILER

Here.

The Jailer chuckles. A bowstring twangs and an arrow whistles. The Jailer falls forward, into a table loaded with food, with an arrow in his spine. The prisoners gasp. ROBIN and TUCK enter.

ROBIN

(to Tuck)

Pick up his keys.

ROBIN takes off his quiver as TUCK finds the keys and unlocks the door to a cell behind them, where a large wooden box sits at the back. ROBIN and TUCK look at a series of strings which criss-cross the cell, then look at each other. ROBIN looks back at the jailer, thinking.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Hang on.

ROBIN goes to the Jailer and slaps his shoulder.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Sorry, mate.

ROBIN takes the goose leg and holds it up to the first string at shoulder height, then nods at TUCK.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)

Ready?

TUCK

Yeah.

ROBIN strikes the leg against the string, and a dart flies straight into the thick flesh.

ROBIN

This is going to take us a bit longer
than we thought, isn't it?

CUT TO:

219 (308R) "THE TRIP TO JERUSALEM" INN

SHERIDAN and the MAID slam their cups on the table. SHERIDAN wipes his mouth with his hand.

MAID

(laughing)

Another.

A very drunk SHERIDAN replies.

SHERIDAN

No, I must go and help with the
preparation for the coronation.

SHERIDAN stands uneasily. MAID jumps up.

MAID

No!

SHERIDAN

Where's Robin?

MAID

(feign drunkenness)

I'll only let you go if you

(beat)

beat me

(beat)

at arm wrestling.

(CONTINUED)

MAID lets her elbow slip off the table and they both laugh outrageously.

MAID

Oh, come on, look at those muscles.

The MAID pulls on SHERIDAN's arm.

MAID (cont'd)

Now, don't you think you can beat
someone my size?

She sits down with her arm up and ready.

SHERIDAN

(still standing)

Well...

SHERIDAN grips her hand, then slowly sits.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

...if you insist.

She giggles and pulls on his hand with both of hers.

MAID

Oh... oh...

MAID suddenly tugs harder, and SHERIDAN is pulled into her lap. ALLAN comes to the door then and sees them giggling together on the bench, SHERIDAN on top of her, and gets the wrong idea.

ALLAN

Hey!

ALLAN pulls SHERIDAN off her.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Hey, get off her!

SHERIDAN

Unhand me!

SHERIDAN faces ALLAN.

MAID

Allan!

ALLAN

A plan's a plan. It's gone too far!

SHERIDAN

Plan? What plan?

SHERIDAN grabs at his belt.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

My keys! Locksley!

The MAID crashes her earthenware mug against the back of SHERIDAN's head. He grabs the back of his head with both hands.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

Oh... oh!

SHERIDAN falls into the table. ALLAN kicks SHERIDAN in the ribs before following MAID out.

CUT TO:

220 (308) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

ROBIN stands behind the first shoulder-high trip line. He takes off his sword belt and hands it under the line to TUCK, who adds it to the pile of jacket, quiver, etc., in his arms. ROBIN faces the box, rubs his hands together, spits on them, rubs them again.

He carefully crawls up the steps, lies under the lines low to the ground, rolls over, checks for lines, and rolls to sit up. He steps over one, then gets down on his stomach, springs push-up like sideways under another, then steps to the wall. TUCK sighs in relief. ROBIN, on hands and tiptoes, steps over a line, then another. He shuffles forward, ducks under a line, then shoulder rolls over the last one.

He slowly stands up at the box, peeking over the edge. TUCK checks the door. ROBIN pulls out SHERIDAN's keys, picks one and fits it into a slot on the front of the box.

A front panel of the box slides open.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

Robin! Come on, hurry!

ROBIN glances back at TUCK indignantly, then reaches into the opening and pulls out his hand. There's a small black scorpion on it. He quickly flicks his hand to get rid of it, tripping a line behind him in the process. A dart sails across behind him.

TUCK (cont'd)

Careful.

ROBIN looks back and glares at him.

ROBIN

(sarcastically)

Thanks!

ROBIN gets another key and fits it into a slot on the left side of the box. A small panel in the side slides back. ROBIN starts to reach in, then pulls his hand back. He chuckles nervously, thinks, then scoffs. He reaches in and the center top section rises up a couple of inches. ROBIN stands facing the front again, wiggles his fingers, and lifts the lid. Inside are a dozen more small scorpions amid the crown.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(whisper)

Hallelujah.

TUCK smiles slightly. ROBIN gingerly reaches in, knocks a scorpion off a point, lifts it out by the points and blows and bangs on it to get the scorpions to fall off.

He turns around, holding out the crown to TUCK, makes a flourish with his hands and steps back to bow slightly at TUCK, who smiles.

PRINCE JOHN's voice is heard from a hidden tunnel nearby.

PRINCE JOHN (VO)

The crown! Stop him!

The alarm bell tolls.

TUCK looks around for the source of the voice. ROBIN pushes his shoulder into the strings and bursts through them. Darts

(CONTINUED)

fly behind him. He rolls under more strings, gets up then crashes through some diagonal ones.
He and TUCK run away.

PRINCE JOHN appears in a doorway near the box, horrified to see the lid open. The ARCHBISHOP and SHERIDAN are behind him.

PRINCE JOHN

What?! Hood!

The ARCHBISHOP stands next to PRINCE JOHN with a satisfied smile.

ARCHBISHOP

There can be no coronation without the crown.

The ARCHBISHOP turns and walks through the dungeons. PRINCE JOHN follows him, whining.

PRINCE JOHN

What? I'm sure another crown can be made if needs be.

(hand to heart)

I know the design by heart.

SHERIDAN follows. The ARCHBISHOP continues walking, down the steps.

ARCHBISHOP

That crown was made for the coronation of Edward the Confessor. It cannot be replaced.

PRINCE JOHN stops and watches the ARCHBISHOP leave.

PRINCE JOHN

(whining)

Sheridan.

SHERIDAN

Locksley was a former student of mine.
I can get it back.

ISABELLA comes in smiling, delighted that PRINCE JOHN is unhappy with SHERIDAN.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN
(in Sheridan's face)
What are you waiting for, you stupid
old fool? Get me back my crown before
the coronation or I'll have your head!

SHERIDAN leaves.

ISABELLA
Sire, I have some very good news for
you.

PRINCE JOHN
(snap at her)
Someone better had!

PRINCE JOHN walks out and ISABELLA follows.

After they've gone, ROBIN and TUCK peek out from behind several
prisoners crowded into the cell where they hid. ROBIN smiles.

TUCK
You know, I never did get what you saw
in her.

ROBIN's face falls a bit.

ROBIN
No.
(beat)
I wonder what her good news is.

ROBIN looks to prisoners.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Right, chaps.

ROBIN pushes open the door and holds up the keys to a prisoner.

ROBIN (cont'd)
You can let yourselves out.

PRISONER
Thank you.

ROBIN
Good luck.

ROBIN and TUCK leave.

JUMP TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

221 (308R) OUTLAW CAMP

LITTLE JOHN
(from up top)
They're here!

LITTLE JOHN climbs down from the top of the camp as ROBIN and TUCK run in.

MUCH
Well?

TUCK
We got the crown.

ROBIN holds a cloth sack aloft.

LITTLE JOHN
Yay!

TUCK
But they followed us with dogs.

Pause.

ROBIN
I have to get a horse from Nettlestone
...

ROBIN shakes the bag.

ROBIN (cont'd)
... and get this crown to London.

ROBIN goes into the storage area and gets a water flask.

LITTLE JOHN
London?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

(step back)

The King may still have supporters
there. I'll be back.

ROBIN notices GISBORNE isn't around. He looks around the camp
just to make sure.

ROBIN

Where's Guy?

Silence. ROBIN looks to ALLAN.

ALLAN

Haven't seen him since the Crypt. He
muttered something about having to
settle something and took off.

ROBIN

That was last night! You haven't seen
him since?

ALLAN nods negatively. ROBIN looks at everyone else.

ROBIN (cont'd)

None of you?

No one answers. ROBIN wonders where he could have gone. He has
a feeling that something is not right. He remembers what
Isabella told Prince John.

ISABELLA (VO)

*Sire, I have some very good news for
you.*

He wonders if it could be connected. TUCK looks at ROBIN.

TUCK

Robin. You better get going. Gisborne
can handle himself.

ROBIN nods.

TUCK (cont'd)

We'll take care of the guards!

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN leaves the camp hoping that Tuck is right, and that Gisborne is okay.

JUMP TO:

222 (308R) ELSEWHERE IN THE FOREST

In the forest, a guard with two dogs on a leash, some foot soldiers, SHERIDAN, and two horsemen, one with a banner, walk quickly through the trees.

SHERIDAN

I coated the crown with a special
scent.

MUCH, hiding behind a tree in his cloak, steps out in front of SHERIDAN.

MUCH

Sheridan!

SHERIDAN draws his sword as MUCH runs off. ALLAN, also in his cloak, jumps out from behind another tree.

ALLAN

More mead, sir?!

SHERIDAN

Follow the bag!

TUCK comes out from behind yet another tree in his monk's habit.

TUCK

Which one?!

SHERIDAN

Both!

LITTLE JOHN in his cloak jumps out from a tree up on a hill.

LITTLE JOHN

Oi! Old man!

LITTLE JOHN laughs and runs off.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN
(flustered)
Arrest them all!

The guards scatter in different directions following the gang.

CUT TO:

LOCKSLEY

223 (308) MANOR HOUSE - GROUND FLOOR BEDCHAMBER

A maid comes into the room. GISBORNE lies unconscious on the bed. He is gagged and his hands are tied over his head to a point on the wall. The maid walks around the bed to the window, looks out, then turns to gaze at GISBORNE. She smiles, steps to the bedside, and leans over. GISBORNE's eyes fly open, and he grabs her throat.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

224 (308R) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ALLAN runs. Two foot soldiers chase him. TUCK jumps out behind the two and in front of two more who had been following ALLAN.

TUCK
The crown! The crown!

TUCK runs in the other direction. MUCH, behind a tree, waits for TUCK to pass. He is about to run off, but SHERIDAN and another guard sneak up behind him. SHERIDAN grabs MUCH around the waist with his right hand, snatches the sack with his left and holds it out to the guard. MUCH struggles to get free. The guard reaches into the sack, and something snaps loudly. The guard yells and pulls out his hand with a rattrap clapped on it.

GUARD
Vermin!

SHERIDAN pushes MUCH into the tree.

SHERIDAN
Where's the crown?

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

What crown?

SHERIDAN turns him round, puts his left arm around his neck, and puts a knife to his ribs. ALLAN runs up with a sack.

SHERIDAN

Give me the crown or he will die!

ALLAN hears the dogs snarl, and he looks around. The guard with the dogs comes down the hill.

ALLAN

(mutter)

Dogs! Er...

The dogs bark and howl. The guard grabs the sack as SHERIDAN eyes the dogs. The guard opens it.

SHERIDAN

Wait. The dogs!

The guard pulls out a vine of stinging nettles. He cries out in pain and drops the plant. MUCH elbows SHERIDAN hard and gets away.

MUCH

Run!

SHERIDAN staggers and leans on the tree.

SHERIDAN

Leave them! We need Hood!

The dogs jump and growl. SHERIDAN addresses the dog handler.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

Let the dogs go! They're picking up the scent!

CUT TO:

LOCKSLEY

225 (308R) MANOR HOUSE - GROUND FLOOR BEDCHAMBER

ISABELLA leads PRINCE JOHN into the bedchamber.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(brightly)

I wanted to give you a personal
coronation gift from me.

ISABELLA goes to the opposite side of the bed.

PRINCE JOHN

So you bring me to your bedchamber?

ISABELLA

I give you my brother...

ISABELLA reaches for the sheet covering the body.

ISABELLA

(proudly)

...Guy of Gisborne.

ISABELLA pulls off the sheet, revealing the maid, bound and
gagged in GISBORNE's place. ISABELLA is shocked.

Meanwhile GISBORNE steps forward from his hiding place and
grabs PRINCE JOHN from behind, with a knife in his hand across
the Prince's chest.

ISABELLA

Guy!

GISBORNE

Get back!

ISABELLA

Guards!

Two guards run in immediately.

GISBORNE

(to guards)

Get in the corner!

The guards obey.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Look what you've done to me, Isabella.
You betrayed me. Again.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE pushes PRINCE JOHN into the bedpost, which he takes nose first.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Both of you!

PRINCE JOHN

Ow! Ooh!

PRINCE JOHN grabs his nose. GISBORNE jumps out the door and pulls over a shelf onto the door frame, blocking the guards as items clatter to the floor. The guards scramble to push it back.

ISABELLA

(to Prince John)

Are you alright?

PRINCE JOHN

Guards! Arrest her!

(to Isabella)

If I'm disfigured for my coronation...

The guards each grab an arm. PRINCE JOHN runs out.

ISABELLA

Sire!

CUT TO:

NETTLESTONE

226 (308) STABLES

ROBIN runs in from the trees and into the doorway of the first building. Two horsemen, who were hot on his trail, gallop past him. ROBIN watches them go, then draws his sword. SHERIDAN peeks out from around the back of the same building, his sword out, and creeps forward. ROBIN looks at the passing soldiers.

ROBIN (VO)

(mutter)

Idiots.

The dog handler, with quiet dogs, follows SHERIDAN. ROBIN steps out from his hiding place, sees the horsemen are not stopping, and steps out into the village, failing to check behind him.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN silently comes up from behind and starts to reach for the sack, but ROBIN senses he's there, turns around and holds his sword at SHERIDAN's throat, and SHERIDAN simultaneously does the same. They pause a moment, then ROBIN steps back. SHERIDAN comes down with his sword and ROBIN pushes it down with his. SHERIDAN spins around, ROBIN catches SHERIDAN's free arm coming in for a punch and brings his sword under and up to push away SHERIDAN's arm. The sack goes flying. The dogs growl, go to and sniff the bag. SHERIDAN and ROBIN hold their swords at each others throats again.

ROBIN

You taught them well.

SHERIDAN

Better than you.

SHERIDAN swings his sword over ROBIN's head. ROBIN ducks, then stands up. They both point their swords at the other, ready. They circle each other. ROBIN spins his sword over his head. SHERIDAN copies. SHERIDAN spins and ROBIN does the same.

ROBIN

You taught me to love the King, not
lie about him.

SHERIDAN

I gave the King the best years of my
life, and do you know what he gave me
in return?

SHERIDAN stabs at ROBIN. ROBIN blocks and swings back. SHERIDAN blocks. ROBIN kicks and SHERIDAN blocks with his hand. ROBIN swings and SHERIDAN catches his arm and swings his sword around. ROBIN somehow blocks and twists SHERIDAN's arm down, but SHERIDAN holds him firmly and puts his sword to ROBIN's throat.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

(spitefully)

Retirement. Too old to train his
knights, and good for nothing but

(beat)

looking after his jewellery!

ROBIN pulls himself free. They circle each other. ROBIN points at SHERIDAN with his sword.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

He entrusted you with the crown
because he loved you!

SHERIDAN

Then why didn't he keep me by his
side?!

SHERIDAN steps forward and swings his sword overhead. ROBIN parries twice, blocks twice, then swings the sword over and across with SHERIDAN's. ROBIN blocks, then SHERIDAN spins the sword behind his back to his left hand and swings across in front of him. ROBIN ducks. SHERIDAN swings with both hands from overhead. ROBIN kneels in front, holding his sword at both ends to block.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)

Is that the blow of an old man?

ROBIN continues to hold his sword up a moment longer, then pulls it away and punches SHERIDAN's chest, then swings his hilt into SHERIDAN's chest again. SHERIDAN steps back, catching his balance and his breath.

ROBIN

So that's what this is about, is it?
(angrily)
You gave up on your country for your
vanity, for your ego?!

SHERIDAN

If the King cared about the country,
he'd be here! But he isn't!

SHERIDAN charges ROBIN, who blocks and swings SHERIDAN's sword aside. ROBIN shoves SHERIDAN's shoulder. SHERIDAN falls on his back. ROBIN steps over him and puts his sword at his throat.

ROBIN

Your time is past, old master.

SHERIDAN

It still is my time.

Four crossbowmen and four swordsmen come out of the trees or from behind the building. ROBIN looks up at them and realizes

(CONTINUED)

he is surrounded on all sides. Two swordsmen pull ROBIN off SHERIDAN.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)
Leave him! He's mine.

SHERIDAN rolls over and sits up.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)
Just like the crown.

SHERIDAN stands, out of breath, his sword out.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)
(breathlessly)
Out of respect for a good student, I
will not kill you.
(stronger)
But you shall never see England again!
(to guards)
Take him to Hull, put him on a boat,
one way.
(to Robin)
Farewell, Locksley!

ROBIN glares at SHERIDAN, who swings his sword quickly back and forth in his face. ROBIN is dragged away, still glaring at his old master.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

227 (308R) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

A guard with a torch leads PRINCE JOHN and a shackled ISABELLA down the stairs.

PRINCE JOHN
Send extra search parties to the
forest around Locksley. I want
Gisborne dead!

ISABELLA
Sire, I want the same as you. Please
just give me another chance.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN grabs ISABELLA's arm and throws her through the gate.

PRINCE JOHN
Too late. You've had your chances.
Welcome to your new home.

ISABELLA
Sire, please, anyone can make a
mistake.

PRINCE JOHN has his eyes on SHERIDAN, who is standing quietly ahead of them with the crown in his upraised hands. ISABELLA does not notice SHERIDAN.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Look at Lord Sheridan for example.

PRINCE JOHN
(sigh)
Oh, Sheridan.

PRINCE JOHN steps forward. ISABELLA turns and sees SHERIDAN.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
Sheridan, how could I ever have
doubted your powers of recovery?

PRINCE JOHN takes the crown. SHERIDAN bows his head.

SHERIDAN
Your Highness.
(look at Isabella)
Lady Isabella.

PRINCE JOHN
Pay her no heed.
(beat)
She's a prisoner of state for aiding
and abetting her terrorist brother in
the attempted assassination of the new
King of England.

PRINCE JOHN looks adoringly at the crown.

SHERIDAN
A serious crime.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIDAN steps towards ISABELLA.

PRINCE JOHN
For which she will be punished as
seriously as you shall be rewarded.

SHERIDAN
Perhaps she merely requires the firm
hand of a man to encourage her to mend
her ways.

PRINCE JOHN
(melodramatically)
But where, where would I find such a
man willing to martyr himself?

SHERIDAN
Always at your service, Your Highness.

PRINCE JOHN dangles the keys to ISABELLA's shackles in front
of SHERIDAN.

PRINCE JOHN
She's all yours.

ISABELLA
Please, sire.

PRINCE JOHN
Or she'll rot alone down here.

SHERIDAN unlocks ISABELLA's cuffs.

SHERIDAN
Oh, and I took the liberty of dealing
with Robin Hood.

ISABELLA looks up furiously at SHERIDAN.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)
I hope you don't mind.

PRINCE JOHN
You'll make a fine Sheriff of
Nottingham, Sheridan.

PRINCE JOHN looks sideways at ISABELLA and steps away. ISABELLA glares at him.

CUT TO:

NETTLESTONE

228 (308R) VILLAGE

LITTLE JOHN runs back to the gang waiting where ROBIN was ambushed previously.

LITTLE JOHN

The stable boy says the horses are all accounted for.

MUCH sucks in his breath.

TUCK

(quietly)

If Robin didn't make it, then Sheridan has the crown. If Sheridan has the crown, then Prince John can carry on with his coronation. We can't let that happen.

MUCH

(worried)

What about Robin?

MUCH stares at TUCK.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

229 (308) ROAD TO HULL

Two guards drive a wagon with a tall cloth cover over the back. It rumbles quickly through the trees. One of the guards, yells back into the wagon.

GUARD 2

Shut up!

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

230 (308) INSIDE THE WAGON

ROBIN, lying in the back with his hands and feet bound with rope and his mouth gagged, is pounding his feet repeatedly into the rear door of the wagon. Eventually he breaks a plank free and then reaches to his feet to untie them.

PAN TO:

231 (308) OUTSIDE THE WAGON

The guard notices the silence.

GUARD

Stop!

The driver stops the horses. The guards get down and draw their swords. They stab into the wagon just above the wood sides several times while making their way to the back. They look at each other and agree to open the door. The wagon is empty.

Behind them, ROBIN steps out from his hiding place and knocks out each one with the severed plank. His deed done, he throws the piece of wood on the ground and starts running back down the road.

CUT TO:

NEXT MORNING**NOTTINGHAM**

232 (308) CASTLE - BEDCHAMBER

The ARCHBISHOP is asleep. Footsteps approach the bed and PRINCE JOHN swiftly opens the bed-hangings.

PRINCE JOHN

Wakey, wakey, Archbishop. No rest for the wicked.

The ARCHBISHOP stirs sleepily.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

You've got a coronation to attend...
(look up smugly)
... Mine.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN walks to the window. He smiles as he quietly says following line.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
All mine and no-one to stop me.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

233 (308R) OUTLAW CAMP

TUCK has made a map of the abbey in the dirt. He points at it with a sharpened stick. LITTLE JOHN and MUCH pace beside it. ALLAN is trying to concentrate on what TUCK is saying, but he's really starting to worry about Gisborne.

TUCK
These are the abbey doors. We need to go in here, here, and here... and storm the altar.

LITTLE JOHN kneels to look.

TUCK (cont'd)
First one with the crown makes it out... the rest of us deal with the consequences.

MUCH nods, understanding.

TUCK (cont'd)
He might have the crown, but he's not King until that crown makes it onto his head.

MUCH
Good. But doesn't storm imply that there's more than four of us?

ROBIN waltzes in.

ROBIN
How about five?

LITTLE JOHN/ALLAN
Hey!

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

Robin!

ROBIN looks around and notices that Gisborne isn't there.

ROBIN

Guy still not back?

Group nods negatively.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Hmm.

ROBIN goes to the storage area and MUCH stares at him as he passes, shaking his head in disbelief that ROBIN has managed to escape yet again. TUCK rises and steps back out of ROBIN's way. LITTLE JOHN gives ROBIN a look.

LITTLE JOHN

(slightly whimpering)

Please tell us you've got a better plan than this one.

ROBIN

(get bow and sword)

I have actually.

(come back)

We're going to need shields... just like those ones Prince John wanted for his guards.

(look at Allan)

It's going to be blinding, Allan.

ALLAN frowns, puzzled.

CUT TO:

KIRKLEES ABBY

234 (308) SANCTUARY - EXTERIOR

The guards have shiny shields just like PRINCE JOHN wanted. They line the path to the abbey door, holding back the crowd. The people cheer and throw rose petals. PRINCE JOHN revels in the attention. He turns around, his back to the abbey, arms outstretched.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN

Do you love me?!

The people cheer louder. PRINCE JOHN closes his eyes, enraptured. SHERIDAN escorts ISABELLA on his left arm. ISABELLA is looking up at the abbey with no expression.

SHERIDAN

Smile.

PRINCE JOHN

I said, Do you love me?!

More cheers. PRINCE JOHN shakes hands with the nobles lined up by the door. Clergymen wait inside the doorway. PRINCE JOHN passes GISBORNE, dressed as a guard, who watches him with an intense look, standing just outside the door.

CONTINUE TO:

235 (308) SANCTUARY - INTERIOR

PRINCE JOHN enters the sanctuary, followed by clergymen and nobles in their finest. Light pours through the tall windows and the floor is strewn with red rose petals. GISBORNE slips in and slowly makes his way near the front, taking a place beside the monks near the altar. The ARCHBISHOP waits at the altar in his finest robes. PRINCE JOHN stands before him, trying to look meek and humble. The procession moves to their places at the sides. Two pages remove PRINCE JOHN's fur robe. PRINCE JOHN turns around to face the assemblage. The ARCHBISHOP makes crosses with his thumb on PRINCE JOHN's palms, chest, and forehead while he speaks.

ARCHBISHOP

As kings,
 (beat)
priests and prophets were anointed,
 (beat)
and as Solomon was anointed king
 (beat)
by Zadok the priest,
 (beat)
so be thou anointed...

PRINCE JOHN sits on his throne. The ARCHBISHOP speaks as another man hands a scepter to PRINCE JOHN.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHBISHOP (cont'd)

The sovereign scepter
 (beat)
to do justice
 (beat)
and stop the growth of iniquity...

PRINCE JOHN stands facing the ARCHBISHOP. SHERIDAN places the royal fur robe around PRINCE JOHN's shoulders and fastens it at his throat.

ARCHBISHOP (cont'd)

The robe of righteousness
 (beat)
and the garment of salvation...

PRINCE JOHN sits on the throne. The ARCHBISHOP stands behind him holding the crown far over his head.

ARCHBISHOP (cont'd)

The crown of the faithful.
 (beat)
Bless,
 (beat)
we beseech thee, this crown,
 (beat)
and so sanctify thy servant, John.

The ARCHBISHOP slowly lowers the crown. Just before it can touch PRINCE JOHN's head, the doors burst open with a blinding light. A deep voice sounds from the doorway.

TUCK

Halt!

Four shiny shields enter. The sanctuary is engulfed in their reflected light.

TUCK (cont'd)

I am King Richard...

The two front shield-holders kneel. The other two remain standing behind the kneeling ones.

TUCK (cont'd)

...King of the English, Duke of the
Normans...

(CONTINUED)

The ARCHBISHOP makes his way forward.

TUCK (cont'd)
...and Aquitainians.

SHERIDAN
(point at shields)
You should be in the Holy Land!

TUCK
The waxwork lives.

SHERIDAN gasps and quickly looks at PRINCE JOHN.

ARCHBISHOP
(to Prince John)
What is the meaning of this?

SHERIDAN rushes to kneel at the ARCHBISHOP's feet, grabbing his robes.

SHERIDAN
It was the Prince's doing, your
worship!
(quietly)
He ordered that I have a model made of
the King so he could lie about his
death.

The ARCHBISHOP looks at PRINCE JOHN.

SHERIDAN (cont'd)
(to Prince John)
I'm sorry, sire.

PRINCE JOHN pulls SHERIDAN to the floor.

PRINCE JOHN
Shut up, you stupid old fool!
(look at crowd)
We will finish this coronation!

ARCHBISHOP
Impossible!

PRINCE JOHN looks at him.

PRINCE JOHN

This is treason.

PRINCE JOHN wrestles the crown from the ARCHBISHOP and pushes him back.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

I will be King!

PRINCE JOHN raises the crown over his head. The two upper shields part and ROBIN shoots an arrow, knocking the crown from PRINCE JOHN's hands. The crown clatters to the floor. PRINCE JOHN can see the silhouette of ROBIN and his bow between the shields.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

Hood!

Everyone turns to look. Suddenly, the sanctuary darkens as clouds cover the sun. ROBIN looks up and pushes back his hood. The others lower their shields and push back their hoods, too. The two kneeling were ALLAN and MUCH, the two standing were TUCK and LITTLE JOHN. ROBIN steps forward, an arrow ready in his bow.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

You impersonate the King?!

ROBIN

Just like you, Prince John.

PRINCE JOHN

Arrest him!

ROBIN

You can do what you want!

(beat)(quieter)

These people,

(beat)

they know the truth.

ARCHBISHOP

(boldly)

And so do I.

PRINCE JOHN looks at the ARCHBISHOP.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHBISHOP (cont'd)
I will never make you King.

PRINCE JOHN
(panicked)
Where's my crown?

Behind two rows of monks, a black-gloved hand raises the crown and waves it a bit.

GISBORNE
Is this what you're looking for?

GISBORNE stands up. The people gasp. ROBIN shifts his eyes to GISBORNE, wondering how he got here, and what he's up to. GISBORNE steps between the monks.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
How about... a state funeral?

GISBORNE lowers the crown and simultaneously raises a crossbow in his right hand and aims it at PRINCE JOHN, who gasps.

ROBIN
Guy.

GISBORNE turns to ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Don't do it.

The ARCHBISHOP looks at ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)
I know he deserves it,
(beat)
but with no leader at home,
(beat)
England could be ripped apart,
(beat)
torn up by war.

GISBORNE
What has England ever done for me?

ISABELLA
Brother...

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Don't think I won't shoot you, as well,
after everything you've done.

ROBIN wonders what he meant by that. Something must have happened. Is that where he was?

ISABELLA

I know.

SHERIDAN pushes ISABELLA forward and PRINCE JOHN throws himself to the floor behind her. GISBORNE steps down to the floor.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

But you'll have to decide which one of
us you want dead the most.

(beat)

Prince John or me.

(beat)

Because as much as I hate Robin Hood,
he loves his country,

(beat)

and he won't give you a second shot.

GISBORNE glances at ROBIN. After everything they'd been through, would he really do it.

ROBIN pulls his bowstring back a bit more. He gives GISBORNE a look. GISBORNE understands the signal. GISBORNE turns and aims at PRINCE JOHN.

ISABELLA glances where the crossbow is aiming and sees PRINCE JOHN crouched at the ARCHBISHOP's feet. She starts to throw herself in front of PRINCE JOHN as GISBORNE shoots. ISABELLA takes the bolt in the arm. She screams and sails into PRINCE JOHN.

ROBIN and GISBORNE share a look. ROBIN fires and GISBORNE ducks. ROBIN and GISBORNE share another look. GISBORNE nods and heads into the crowd, still holding the crown.

ISABELLA grabs at the black-fletched bolt in her arm. She sees GISBORNE blending back into the crowd.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Arrest him!

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN glances back at his gang and they take up positions against the guards. ROBIN hopes they can distract the guards long enough for GISBORNE to get away with the crown.

ARCHBISHOP

Stop! Anyone who draws blood in the house of God will be damned for all eternity.

They all pause, then ROBIN sets down his bow and slides it to the side. TUCK tilts his head and smiles, pleased at the thought of hand-to-hand. ROBIN straightens his jacket and stands ready to fight. He smiles wickedly and motions with his hands. The gang fight with fists and shields. A guard tackles GISBORNE, knocking him to the ground. ROBIN throws a guard to the floor. TUCK takes out a guard.

GISBORNE

Robin!

ROBIN turns to GISBORNE.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Catch!

GISBORNE slides the crown near ROBIN's feet then tries to shake the guard off of him. PRINCE JOHN sees the crown sliding across the floor, and slowly crawls out to get it. MUCH punches a guard. ALLAN punches another. TUCK stands by the crown.

TUCK

If God had wanted you...

PRINCE JOHN looks up at TUCK.

TUCK (cont'd)

...to have the crown, he'd have given it to you.

PRINCE JOHN hurriedly grabs at the crown, but TUCK kicks it away. ALLAN picks it up.

ALLAN

I've got it!

ROBIN runs to ALLAN.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Well, come on!

ROBIN and ALLAN follow TUCK, LITTLE JOHN, and MUCH out the doors as the crowd cheer.

ALLAN

We've got it!

PRINCE JOHN

Quick! Stop them!

The ARCHBISHOP shoves him down.

ARCHBISHOP

Let them go!

ROBIN looks back at PRINCE JOHN. PRINCE JOHN grimaces. ROBIN smiles, nods, and the doors close behind him.

JUMP TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

NOTTINGHAM

236 (308R) CASTLE - COURTYARD

Guards carry chests of PRINCE JOHN's belongings to his coach. One of them stumbles on the steps, and a couple boxes stacked on top of the last chest clatter to the ground.

PRINCE JOHN

Fragile!

PRINCE JOHN slaps the guard on the shoulder.

GISBORNE watches the procession from the birdcage. PRINCE JOHN walks to the coach, hand to his head.

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)

This is what happens when you employ incompetents.

ISABELLA follows PRINCE JOHN, her arm in a sling. In the coach sits SHERIDAN, bound, and gagged.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCE JOHN (cont'd)
(to Isabella)
I trust you will not make the same
mistake... Sheriff.

SHERIDAN growls through his gag.

ISABELLA
Oh, fear not, sire. By the time you
return I intend to have Robin Hood in
shackles alongside my brother.

GISBORNE growls. ISABELLA glances at him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Or coffins.

ISABELLA smiles.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

237 (308R) THE NORTH ROAD

The ARCHBISHOP is returning to Canterbury in an open carriage when he encounters ROBIN and the gang standing in the road, blocking the way. ROBIN stops the carriage as if ambushing it.

ROBIN
That's far enough!

The gang slowly approach the carriage after it stops. The ARCHBISHOP stands in the carriage.

ARCHBISHOP
What is the meaning of this?

The ARCHBISHOP gets out and approaches. The gang line up in front of him. ROBIN smiles pleasantly and nods, then he and the gang kneel to the ARCHBISHOP. ALLAN holds out the crown. The ARCHBISHOP smiles at them and holds out his arms.

ARCHBISHOP (cont'd)
Stand.

They all rise to their feet.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(a bit cheekily)
You know...

ROBIN leans on his upright bow.

ROBIN (cont'd)
...I think this is the first time we've
ever stopped a carriage to give gold
back.

LITTLE JOHN and TUCK chuckle. The ARCHBISHOP laughs. ALLAN
steps forward, holding out the crown. The ARCHBISHOP takes it.

ARCHBISHOP
Thank you, Robin Hood. England owes
you a debt of gratitude.

ROBIN
(sternly)
Just make sure Prince John pays it.

The ARCHBISHOP smiles at them all in turn, then goes back to
his carriage. Just before he steps in, he looks back at ROBIN,
but the road is deserted.

JUMP TO:

LATER

238 OUTLAW CAMP

ROBIN, MUCH, ALLAN, LITTLE JOHN, and TUCK enter. ROBIN is
surprised to see that GISBORNE is not there. ROBIN drops his
bow.

ROBIN
Damn!

Everyone looks at him.

MUCH
What?

ROBIN
I thought he'd be here. The plan was...

(CONTINUED)

MUCH
(raise an eyebrow)
Plan? When did you have time to make a
plan? He was...

ROBIN heads to a bed.

ROBIN
When I saw him at the...

MUCH
I don't remember you having time to
discuss a...

ROBIN sits on bed and looks at MUCH.

ROBIN
I didn't need to talk to him. He knew
what I meant with just a look.

MUCH is confused. Is Robin saying that he has a secret
nonverbal language with Gisborne?

ROBIN looks at everyone.

ROBIN (cont'd)
I'm going back.

ALLAN looks at ROBIN.

ALLAN
No. I'll go.

ROBIN gives ALLAN a look.

ALLAN (cont'd)
I know a few places he might hide in
if he has too.

ROBIN
Thanks.

ALLAN leaves.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

A SHORT WHILE LATER**NOTTINGHAM**

239 OUTSIDE CITY GATES

ALLAN approaches the gates. He blends in with a group of people entering the city.

CONTINUE TO:

240 CASTLE - COURTYARD

ALLAN approaches the castle and sees the birdcage with GISBORNE in it.

ALLAN
(quietly)
Oh no.

ALLAN makes his way over to birdcage, making sure not to be seen.

CONTINUE TO:

241 BIRDCAGE

GISBORNE is looking like he has given up on everything. He doesn't notice ALLAN arrive.

ALLAN
Never thought I'd see you in there.

GISBORNE
(don't look at Allan)
Go away, Allan.

ALLAN
We will find a way to get you out of here. Just...

GISBORNE
Don't bother.

ALLAN
You don't mean that.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE looks at ALLAN.

GISBORNE
I have nothing Allan.
(beat)
My own sister hates me so much she put
me in here. She...

ALLAN
No one's perfect.

GISBORNE
Please. Just go. Tell Robin...

ALLAN looks at him waiting for him to continue.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Tell Robin to leave me.

ALLAN
He would never do that.

GISBORNE
This time last year he would have.

ALLAN
A lot has changed.

GISBORNE is about to say something but sees ISABELLA heading over. He gives ALLAN a look.

GISBORNE
(sadly)
You better go. She's coming.

ALLAN doesn't have to ask who the *she* is. He knows. He gives GISBORNE a look.

ALLAN
I'll be back.
(beat)
I won't leave you here.

GISBORNE gives ALLAN a "go" look. ALLAN leaves.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

A SHORT WHILE LATERSHERWOOD FOREST

242 OUTLAW CAMP

TUCK is reading. LITTLE JOHN is resting. MUCH is cooking. ROBIN is pacing. ALLAN enters.

ROBIN

Well?

ALLAN

(sad)

They caught him.

ROBIN kicks a branch on the ground. TUCK looks up from his book.

TUCK

It's not your fault.

ROBIN

I shouldn't have left him. I...

LITTLE JOHN

Robin, he left us. He...

ROBIN

He didn't leave us.

LITTLE JOHN

He took off on his own. Without telling anyone where he was going. If he'd've let...

ROBIN gives LITTLE JOHN a look. ALLAN steps in between them.

ALLAN

Stop!

Momentary silence. Everyone, but ROBIN, looks at ALLAN.

ROBIN

I'll think of a way to get him out.
I...

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

No. Guy doesn't want us to rescue him.

ROBIN

What?

ALLAN

He told me to tell you to leave him.

ROBIN

I'm not going to leave him. He's one of us. I will not...

ALLAN

He's had it, Robin. He's given up. He...

ROBIN

Allan, would I leave you?

(look at Little John)

Or you?

(to Much and Tuck)

Or you?

Silence.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I will find a way to get him out.

TUCK

You will have to go through Isabella.

ROBIN

I can handle Isabella.

MUCH

Really? Like you did last time?

ROBIN glares at MUCH. So does the rest of the gang. They can't believe MUCH, of all people, just said that.

LITTLE JOHN

She used you. Right from the start. She lied to you. She betrayed you. She never really cared about you or our cause.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

You don't really believe that do you?

ROBIN looks at his men. None of them can look at him. ROBIN looks to the ground.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Maybe you're right. Maybe I was seeing what I wanted to see.

ROBIN walks over to the bed and sits. He lowers his head, resting it in his hands. TUCK goes to him.

TUCK

Robin.

(beat)

She betrayed you. She betrayed, Guy, her own brother.

Momentary silence. ROBIN looks up at TUCK after a few moments.

ROBIN

It wasn't all a lie. I'm sure part of her really meant everything she said.

TUCK

Maybe. Maybe not. Maybe she was only getting close to you so that she could get what she wanted.

LITTLE JOHN

And you fell for it.

ROBIN lowers his head again, closes his eyes, and thinks.

No one says anything. TUCK rises and goes back to where he was.

After a few moments ROBIN looks up.

ROBIN

Allan.

ALLAN goes to him and sits beside him.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Where is he?

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Right now he's in the birdcage in the courtyard.

ROBIN

He won't be there for long.

(beat)

What's the guard detail like?

ALLAN

They appeared to have all the angles covered. It might be too risky to attempt a rescue while he's there.

ROBIN

Agreed. It's a lot easier to break someone out of a cell.

ALLAN

So what's the plan?

ROBIN

Still working on it.

CUT TO:

NEXT DAY

NOTTINGHAM

243 CASTLE - COURTYARD - BIRDCAGE

GISBORNE is sitting in the cage, head down. He looks up and sees ISABELLA coming over.

ISABELLA

How's the view, brother?

GISBORNE

It was better before you got here, sis.

ISABELLA

Still the sharp tongue, I see. Maybe I should have it cut out.

GISBORNE

What's happened to you?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Don't you approve? After all this is what you made me. I've had to fend for myself since you...

GISBORNE

(roll eyes)

Not that again. I thought we were past that.

ISABELLA

I will never get over that. Never!

Momentary pause.

GISBORNE

So, was it all a lie?

ISABELLA

(confused)

What?

GISBORNE

Robin.

ISABELLA gets an almost sorrowful look on her face.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Did you ever care for him? Or were you just using him to...

ISABELLA

If I was, I'd say he had it coming, wouldn't you?

GISBORNE gives her a "what" look?

ISABELLA (cont'd)

I mean, didn't he have Marian treat you the same way?

GISBORNE

No.

ISABELLA

Still carrying a torch, are we brother dear?

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Marian loved me. She...

ISABELLA

Sure she did. She just loved him more.

GISBORNE

You don't know anything about her. You can't compare...

ISABELLA

Oh really. Ask yourself, who do you think put her in the position in the first place?

GISBORNE

Marian was here because she wanted to be. She...

ISABELLA

Are you sure? Are you sure Robin didn't ask her to spy on...

GISBORNE

Robin would never...

ISABELLA

If Robin loved her so much, he would have kept her far away from you!

Momentary pause. GISBORNE looks at her, trying to see the sister he once loved.

GISBORNE

You really have let all of this...
(look around)
...go to your head, haven't you?

ISABELLA

I have what I've always wanted.

Momentary pause.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

I am Sheriff. I have Locksley. I...

GISBORNE gives her a look.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Enjoy it while you can, sis.

ISABELLA

Is that a threat?

GISBORNE

A warning.

ISABELLA

You think Hood will try to rescue you?

Momentary pause. GISBORNE hopes that ROBIN will just stay away. ROBIN has to know that ISABELLA is trying to lure him here.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

I wouldn't count on it. I'll have him and his gang so busy they won't have time to think of you.

Momentary pause. GISBORNE still doesn't say anything.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Enjoy the view while you can. You're going to the dungeons tonight.

ISABELLA glares at her brother. He glares back.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

If by some fluke you do manage to see Hood, tell him he will regret ever spurring me.

ISABELLA turns and walks off. GISBORNE looks at her walking away wondering if his sister is completely nuts, or if there is hope for her.

JUMP TO:

2 DAYS LATER

244 (309) CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

ISABELLA is asleep in her bed. Her eyes open, aware someone's in the room. She sits up, whimpers in surprise, and reaches under her pillow for her knife, but it is raised up in front of her.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(impatiently)
Isabella...

ISABELLA gasps and turns to face ROBIN, who is sitting on the foot of the bed with her knife. Behind him is an open window with a rope hanging outside it.

ROBIN (cont'd)
If I wanted to kill you, you'd be
already dead.

ISABELLA
What do you want?

ROBIN lowers the knife.

ROBIN
I want to know why you've done a deal
with the devil.

ISABELLA
Why do you care?

ROBIN
The Prince...
(beat)
is evil.

ISABELLA
It's not everyday a prince asks you to
be Sheriff...

ISABELLA props up on her elbow.

ISABELLA
...especially if you're a woman.

ROBIN
Well, you'll be working with a
traitor.

ISABELLA
No, I'm working for myself.
(beat)
I intend to be the best Sheriff
Nottingham has ever seen.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN laughs softly.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
And you'll see for yourself tomorrow.

ROBIN
No. It'll never work, because the
Prince will fall...
(beat)
and you'll fall...
(beat)
unless...

ISABELLA
What?

ROBIN
Unless you work with me.
(beat)
Keep me in the picture, tell me the
Prince's plans,
(beat)
...and I'll protect you when the King
returns.

ISABELLA inches down to the bottom of the bed to sit next to
ROBIN.

ISABELLA
What if I don't want to be your friend?

ROBIN
(sternly)
Then you'll find out what it is to be
my enemy.

ISABELLA
Hmm.

ISABELLA leans in towards ROBIN's lips.

ISABELLA
Are you threatening me, Robin Hood?
(beat)
I could destroy you whenever I choose.

ROBIN

Mm. So what's stopping you?

ISABELLA yells in ROBIN's face.

ISABELLA

Guards!

ROBIN cringes at the loud voice in his ear but doesn't back away. He slides off the bed and goes out the window, leaving ISABELLA's knife behind.

ROBIN

You think it over, Isabella.

(beat)

The offer's open...

(beat)

But not for ever.

ROBIN goes out the window. ISABELLA slides off the bed with her knife and goes to the window.

PAN TO:

245 (309) OUTSIDE WINDOW

ROBIN climbs down the rope suspended outside the window.

PAN TO:

246 (309) SHERIFF'S QUARTERS - BY WINDOW

ISABELLA sees ROBIN lowering himself to the ground. The guards rush in. ISABELLA points out the window.

ISABELLA

It's Robin Hood!

The guards do nothing.

ISABELLA

Well, sound the alarm!

The guards run out the door.

GUARD

Quick! Stop him! Guard the exit!

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA looks out the window, where ROBIN is still going down the rope. She puts her knife to the rope and starts sawing at it.

PAN TO:

247 (309) OUTSIDE WINDOW

ROBIN looks up, sees what she's doing, and quickens his pace.

PAN TO:

248 (309) SHERIFF'S QUARTERS - BY WINDOW

She cuts through the fourth and final strand and the rope snaps.

PAN TO:

249 (309) COURTYARD - ROBIN

ROBIN falls with a grunt to the stone floor of the courtyard below. The alarm bell tolls. ROBIN sits a moment, recovering from the pain, then stands and looks up at ISABELLA, perfectly fine. He chuckles defiantly at her exasperated face and saunters away.

PAN TO:

250 (309) SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

ISABELLA
(whisper to self)
I swear...

PAN TO:

251 (309) COURTYARD - OUTSIDE

Guards run out of the portcullis.

GUARD
Find Hood! I want every corner of
Nottingham searched!

(CONTINUED)

The guards scatter throughout the town. After they pass, a man (named THORNTON) steps out between buildings, looking up at ISABELLA hanging out the keep's upper window.

THORNTON

Trouble, Isabella?

ISABELLA (VO)

Guards!

THORNTON

You haven't seen anything yet.

JUMP TO:

252 CASTLE - DUNGEON - GISBORNE'S CELL

GISBORNE, is lying calmly on the floor, giving in to his depression. He is staring at his "dog tag" and thinking of everything that has happened in the last 7 months. How had everything gone so wrong.

GISBORNE

(to himself)

Marian. Why didn't I listen to you?
Things could have been so different if
I'd just done as you wanted.

CUT TO:

NEXT MORNING

253 (309R) NOTTINGHAM - TOWN

The gang, in cloaks, walks through the town towards the castle.

ROBIN

Well, this should be interesting.

ALLAN

(curious)

What exactly are we doing here, again?

TUCK

Robin thinks he can charm our new
Sheriff into working with outlaws.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Look, let's just see what she's made of, shall we?

They walk through the castle gate.

MUCH

Well, it's not sugar and spice and all things nice.

CONTINUE TO:

254 (309R) CASTLE - COURTYARD

At the top of the steps, ISABELLA's high-backed chair sits flanked by guards. A young lady prisoner (named MEG) stands at the bottom, a guard holding her tied hands.

Around the platform, with four gallows set up ready, the townsfolk gather to watch.

ISABELLA

Meg Bennett,

(beat)

the Sheriff's Court has heard of your disobedience to your father...

(beat)

and your refusal to accept any suitors he chose for you.

MEG looks down, avoiding Isabella's eyes.

MEG

Lady Sheriff, one was a drunken sot, the second looked like a donkey, and the... the third was a halfwit with the brains of a tree.

The crowd chuckles. A man near the guards on the steps limps forward.

THIRD SUITOR

You little wretch!

ISABELLA holds her hand up at the man and a guard pulls him back.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Please!

(beat)

And the fourth, you apparently bribed
to go back to York with money you stole
from your father.

MEG

He was a mummy's boy!

The crowd laughs again.

MEG (cont'd)

What use is that?

ISABELLA

Meg, tell the court why you acted in
such a deplorable fashion.

MEG

(fiercely)

Because I won't accept anyone telling
me how to live my own life! I don't
want to marry. Men are so... stupid!

PAN TO:

254b(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN looks around with a slight smile.

PAN TO:

254c(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ISABELLA

(address the people)

Quiet!

MEG

I think England would be a much better
place if women were in charge.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

254d(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ALLAN
(chuckle)
Dream on, girl.

ROBIN looks down with a silent chuckle himself.

MUCH
Shh.

PAN TO:

254e(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

MAN IN CROWD (VO)
Won't stand for that, would you?

ISABELLA
Untie her.

THIRD SUITOR
What?!

MEG
Thank you.

ISABELLA rises as MEG is untied. ISABELLA takes a step down.

PAN TO:

254f(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN stares at her, dumbfounded.

PAN TO:

254g(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ISABELLA
People of Nottingham.
(beat)
Now maybe you can see the kind of
Sheriff I am.
(beat)
And as I've set Meg here free...

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA, with a motion, invites MEG to her side, then takes her hand.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
...I intend to set the whole of
Nottingham free!

The crowd cheer with fists in the air.

PAN TO:

254h(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

The gang are silent.

PAN TO:

254i(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ISABELLA (cont'd)
To be fairer
(beat)
more peaceful and prosperous place
for us all.

The crowd cheer again.

PAN TO:

254j(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

The gang are still silent, but ROBIN looks at ISABELLA with narrowed, incredulous eyes.

PAN TO:

254k(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ISABELLA turns to MEG and leads her up the steps.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
(quietly)
You are far too bright to be locked
up.
(beat)
I think I need people like you around
me.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA stops, looks back at the crowd, then turns around to address them again.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

The last regime was brutal and corrupt.

(beat)

And in recognition of crimes committed against the people,

(beat)

my brother,

(beat)

Guy of Gisborne,

(beat)

shall be executed here on Thursday at midday.

PAN TO:

254l(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN and MUCH exchange glances as the crowd cheer. ROBIN leans into ALLAN.

ROBIN

Thursday? Doesn't give us much time.

PAN TO:

254m(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

The crowd are still cheering, then naturally quiet down. THORNTON steps out from the back of the crowd, clapping slowly.

THORNTON

Bravo.

(beat)

Isn't she marvelous?

ISABELLA stands with her hands on her hips as THORNTON comes up the steps to her, with a tall bald man, GODFREY, following in his wake.

THORNTON (cont'd)

How I've missed you.

(turn to crowd)

My lovely wife.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA stiffens as THORNTON grabs her and gives her a long kiss. THORNTON pulls back as GODFREY grabs ISABELLA's shoulders and takes her away.

ISABELLA
(quietly)
Get off me.

THORNTON
(address crowd)
I'm your new Sheriff.

PAN TO:

254n(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

LITTLE JOHN leans in to whisper something to ROBIN.

PAN TO:

254o(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON THORNTON

THORNTON (cont'd)
Thornton, at your service.

The crowd whispers amongst itself.

PAN TO:

254p(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN watches THORNTON, sizing him up.

PAN TO:

254q(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON THORNTON

THORNTON (cont'd)
I'm sure you'll understand that my
wife now has me to care for, leaving
me...

THORNTON holds out his arms.

THORNTON (cont'd)
to care for you.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THORNTON (cont'd)

(beat)

Rest assured you are in firm and
capable hands.

(beat, bow head)

Now, if you'll excuse me,

(beat)

the little wife and I have some
catching up to do.

THORNTON smiles, then turns to follow ISABELLA.

PAN TO:

254r(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN

(to Much)

There'll be no deal with Thornton.

PAN TO:

254s(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON THORNTON

MEG looks around before following THORNTON inside.

PAN TO:

254t(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

LITTLE JOHN

We should get going, Robin. The
villagers will be expecting a food
drop.

ROBIN

I know. You go.

(thinking quickly)

I need to stay here and find out his
next move.

MUCH

Fine. I'm staying, too.

ALLAN

No. It's alright, Much. You go. I'll
stay.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(to Much)
Go on.

MUCH nods once and leaves. MUCH is a little jealous of how much ALLAN seems to have taken his place with Robin. ROBIN and ALLAN look at each other, wondering what will happen next.

JUMP TO:

255 (309) SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

GODFREY throws ISABELLA into the room.

ISABELLA
Ow!

THORNTON
You ran away! You deserted me!

ISABELLA runs from him, turning over a table, whose items clatter to the floor.

ISABELLA
No!

She stands behind the overturned table as MEG comes in the door.

THORNTON
But I loved you, cared for you.

ISABELLA runs to another table on the other side of the room. THORNTON calmly walks towards her.

THORNTON (cont'd)
We were so happy together.

ISABELLA
How can you say that?

ISABELLA picks up a knife from the table and swings it at THORNTON, who stops. She slowly advances and he retreats a step, then suddenly grabs her hand, and pulls her into him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Ow!

(CONTINUED)

MEG

Guards!

ISABELLA

No!

MEG

Guards! Take him! He's attacking your
Sheriff!

MEG runs at THORNTON. Two guards from another entrance come in
and pull THORNTON off ISABELLA.

GUARD

That's enough! Let her go!

ISABELLA turns and holds the knife out at THORNTON again. More
guards come in the main door and flank GODFREY.

ISABELLA

Take him to the dungeons!

THORNTON

(loudly)

Do you want Prince John to know he has
a criminal for a Sheriff?!

ISABELLA

He appointed me. He trusts me.

THORNTON

You abandoned your husband,

(beat)

broke man's law and God's!

(beat)

Now my men will ride to him at
nightfall if they receive no word of
my safety.

ISABELLA's face falls and her knife lowers a bit.

THORNTON

Release me, or it's over.

ISABELLA stands still. MEG is in disbelief. All is quiet for
a few moments then ISABELLA quietly relents.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Let him go.

The guards release THORNTON. THORNTON stares a moment, sighs deeply, then takes the knife. ISABELLA has tears in her eyes. He grabs her face, making her mouth pucker.

THORNTON

(quietly)

And now it's time I taught you some respect.

THORNTON turns her around and pushes her forward. MEG steps between them.

MEG

Stop it! Please! If you promise not to hurt her... I can make you rich.

THORNTON

Away with her!

MEG

It's true. I know where gold coins are buried, handfuls and handfuls.

THORNTON

(stop)

Where?

MEG

There's a mound.

MEG looks back at ISABELLA and guards.

MEG

Near Dead Man's Crossing in the forest.

ISABELLA

I think I know it.

THORNTON holds the knife at MEG.

THORNTON

If you've told a lie, it'll be your last.

(CONTINUED)

THORNTON looks at a guard.

THORNTON (cont'd)
(to guard)
Lock her up.

ISABELLA
(to Meg)
Listen, I won't rest until you're
free.

THORNTON
Ahh, look at them, boys. The ladies
are getting a little emotional.

The guards and THORNTON laugh. THORNTON grabs ISABELLA's arm
and pulls her away.

ISABELLA
(to Meg)
You stay strong.

The guards pull MEG in the opposite direction. MEG struggles.

MEG
Get off me!

CUT TO:

256 (309R) "THE TRIP TO JERUSALEM" INN - EXTERIOR

ROBIN and ALLAN walk around to the front of the inn, each with
a tall, earthenware cup in hand.

ROBIN
Thornton's dangerous.

ALLAN
For Isabella, maybe.

ROBIN sits on a bench alongside an empty table.

ROBIN
No, for Nottingham and for everyone.

ROBIN sets down his cup as ALLAN does the same and sits next
to him.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Oh, and Isabella's an angel?

ROBIN

I just think we can work together with her, unlike him.

ALLAN

Really?

ROBIN

I'm not wrong!

ALLAN

Can't you see?

ROBIN

See what?

ALLAN

See her for what she really is?

ROBIN briefly puts the heel of his hand to his forehead.

ROBIN

Why are you so angry with me?

ALLAN

Sorry. It's just after everything she's done to you, and Guy, I...

ROBIN hears a horse neighing. He motions ALLAN to be quiet. He sees a coach coming down the street with THORNTON and ISABELLA inside. ROBIN's jaw drops as he watches it pass. He exhales sharply.

ROBIN

We should probably go.

ALLAN

(sarcastically)
Of course.

ROBIN looks at him.

ROBIN

What's that supposed to mean?

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

I just think we should be getting Guy
out and not...

ROBIN stands up and leaves. ALLAN follows.

CUT TO:

257 (309R) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

The guards put MEG in a cell next to GISBORNE. GISBORNE is lying calmly on the floor, giving in to his depression. He is staring at his "dog tag".

MEG

Get off me! Let go! Ah! Don't!

MEG screams as the guard puts shackles on her wrists. GISBORNE coolly looks over. The guards leave.

MEG (cont'd)

I'll make you pay for this, you rancid
brutes!

The cell door closes.

MEG (cont'd)

Oh!

(disgustedly)

Men. If I had my way, they'd all
disappear in a puff of smoke and the
world would be a happier place.

MEG sighs, then sees GISBORNE.

MEG (cont'd)

What are you staring at?

GISBORNE merely turns his head to the wall away from her.

MEG (cont'd)

I know you.

GISBORNE looks at her again. MEG goes to the bars separating them.

(CONTINUED)

MEG (cont'd)
You're him, aren't you?
(beat)
Isabella's brother?
(beat)(smugly)
She's a friend of mine.

GISBORNE
Not that close, obviously.

MEG
Her nasty husband did this to me,
clever.

GISBORNE
Thornton?
(chuckle)
Is he here?

GISBORNE chuckles again.

MEG
She's terrified of him.

GISBORNE
Well, she shouldn't have run off and
left him then, should she?

MEG
You always were a bit pleased with
yourself.

GISBORNE eyes her. MEG looks at him a bit dreamily.

MEG
I saw you once. ... The man in black
on his black horse, ... the big "I am."
(beat)
Look at you now.
(beat)
Dirty ...
(beat)
and miserable...
(beat)
and small.
(beat)
And now you're going to be executed.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

(look sharply at Meg)
By the look of it, you might not be
far behind.

Momentary pause. MEG looks at him.

MEG

I hope you go to hell!

MEG turns away and sits against the wall. GISBORNE mutters
line quietly to himself.

GISBORNE

I'm already there.

GISBORNE turns his head back to the wall.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

258 (309R) NEAR DEAD MAN'S CROSSING

ISABELLA leads THORNTON and GODFREY through the forest. She
breaks through a large and tough cobweb and falls through it.
THORNTON laughs. ISABELLA gets up and walks through the thick
undergrowth. Then she stops.

ISABELLA

This is it.

THORNTON grabs her arm, takes a spade from GODFREY and hands
it to her.

THORNTON

Get going then.

ISABELLA looks at the spade in disbelief.

ISABELLA

You expect me to...

THORNTON

(interrupt quietly, intensely)
Don't you understand?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA puts on a blank face, staring past him.

THORNTON (cont'd)

Every time you cross me,

(beat)

...every little word or action, you
make it worse for yourself when I get
you on my own in a small, dark room.

(beat, feign a sweet smile)

Now go on.

(beat)

Prove you love me.

(beat)

Get digging!

ISABELLA turns, walks to a spot and steps on the spade.
THORNTON takes a drink of water from a flask, sashes it in
his mouth, then spits it out.

THORNTON (cont'd)

If this is a wild goose chase, I'll
kill that girl.

ISABELLA hears coins rattle. She sticks the spade in the ground
beside her, staring at the tall mound. She digs by hand in its
side, then reaches in as far as she can. THORNTON goes to her.
ISABELLA holds up a coin.

ISABELLA

Look.

THORNTON

Let me see.

THORNTON pulls her out of the way. GODFREY holds ISABELLA and
THORNTON reaches in where she was digging with her fingers and
pulls out a handful of earth. He brushes the dirt off his palm,
picks out a coin and bites it. He addresses two guards.

THORNTON

You, get some more men. You, what are
you waiting for?

THORNTON smiles as the second guard steps forward.

THORNTON (cont'd)

Get digging!

(CONTINUED)

The guard politely waits for ISABELLA to step aside.

258b(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON GUARD

Guard leaves. THORNTON continues shouting orders as guard leaves.

THORNTON (VO)

Well, come on! Get on with it!

The guard passes ALLAN and ROBIN hiding in the brush.

THORNTON (VO) (cont'd)

Not... no, no, no! Not there, you idiot!

PAN TO:

258c(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND ALLAN

ALLAN

He really is a pig, isn't he?

ROBIN

Yep. At last there's something you and Isabella agree on.

ALLAN is silent, thinking. THORNTON can be heard still barking orders.

THORNTON (VO)

Right, you lot! I want the treasure out of here by nightfall.

ROBIN, hearing THORNTON's words, realizes he needs to get a plan in action.

ROBIN

I'd best get the others.

ROBIN stands up and takes a step behind ALLAN, then stops and looks to THORNTON again.

THORNTON (VO)

...get with it! And the rest of you, start moving the gold to here.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN leaves as THORNTON continues ordering around the guards.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

259 (309) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

MEG pulls repeatedly on her chain, shrieking with frustration, trying to break it. GISBORNE is annoyed with the noise and her persistence.

GISBORNE

Just... leave it, will you?

MEG

Well, it hurts!

GISBORNE sits against the wall, his hands on his head. He takes them down.

GISBORNE

That's why they do it. Deal with it.

MEG sits against the wall, flustered.

MEG

I'm thirsty.

GISBORNE

Well then save your breath and stop whining.

MEG gives GISBORNE a look.

MEG

Nasty piece of work you are, aren't you? No wonder Isabella wants you dead.

GISBORNE remains silent.

MEG (cont'd)

What did you do to her anyway?

GISBORNE looks up at the ceiling.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Oh, give me strength.

(beat)

It's almost worth dying to be spared
your endless chatter.

MEG

Oh, come on. You're here, I'm here.

(beat)

What else are we going to do?

GISBORNE

(silent a moment)

I found her a husband.

(beat)

That's what I did.

(look away)

Good price, too.

MEG

You sold her? Your own sister?

GISBORNE

It was her best chance in life. It's
not my fault she went and made a mess
of it.

MEG

Well, of course, it is! All of it! You
sold her to a monster!

GISBORNE

(quietly)

You stupid girl.

(beat)

You know nothing about it.

MEG

I'm not a stupid girl!

(beat)

I'm Meg!

MEG leans her head back on the wall.

MEG (cont'd)

(softer)

And I'm still thirsty.

(CONTINUED)

Momentary pause. GISBORNE stares at MEG.

GISBORNE
That stone around your neck.

MEG picks it up.

GISBORNE
Suck it.
(beat)
It'll make your mouth water.

MEG looks at it, puts it in her mouth, sucks on it, then looks at GISBORNE, who looks sideways back at her.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

260 (309) NEAR DEAD MAN'S CROSSING

GODFREY finds a boarded up entrance. He pulls away the rotten planks.

PAN TO:

261 (309R) ROBIN AND GANG

The gang watch from afar, hidden in the trees.

TUCK
Burial mound. Danish by the look of it. They placed curses on horse's heads to ward off intruders.

MUCH turns, wide-eyed, to the mound.

PAN TO:

262 (309) MOUND - INSIDE

GODFREY goes inside and recoils at the sight of a gold-covered horse skull, mounted on a pike. He backs out, visibly frightened.

PAN TO:

(CONTINUED)

263 (309) MOUND - OUTSIDE

THORNTON comes over to see what the commotion is. ISABELLA is in the background walking near the carriage.

THORNTON

What are you doing?

GODFREY stands still, scared.

CONTINUE TO:

264 (309) INSIDE

THORNTON steps inside and sees a room full of shining gold treasure piled on a replica of a Viking longship. He picks up the horse's head.

CONTINUE TO:

265 (309) OUTSIDE

THORNTON brings it out, wailing like a ghost and brandishing it at the guards. The men are all frightened.

THORNTON

Get a grip! It's just a horse's head.

PAN TO:

266 (309R) ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN watches intently, an idea forming if needed. MUCH leans to ROBIN.

MUCH

Golden bridle, nice.

TUCK

Now I'd say that's a chief's.

(beat)

It's the treasure.

(beat)

They bury it with them for the long journey to Valhalla.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Where is that? It's near Norwich,
isn't it?

ROBIN rubs his forehead with his fingers trying not to laugh
at ALLAN's ignorance.

TUCK

(patiently)
No, Allan. Valhalla is Norse for
heaven.

PAN TO:

267 (309) THORNTON

THORNTON stands behind ISABELLA and puts an ornate tarnished
silver chain around her shoulders.

THORNTON

My beautiful wife.

ISABELLA stares in silence. Momentary pause.

THORNTON (cont'd)

What's going on in that pretty little
head of yours?

ISABELLA

Nothing at all.

ISABELLA turns her head to look back at THORNTON.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Just the way you like it.

She pulls the chain off her shoulders. GODFREY picks out
several gold chains from a bag sitting on a tarnished silver
platter to admire them. THORNTON sees him and is outraged.

THORNTON

What have you taken?

GODFREY turns to THORNTON as THORNTON draws his sword.

THORNTON (cont'd)

Steal from me, would you?

(CONTINUED)

THORNTON puts his hand on GODFREY's shoulder and runs him through with the sword. GODFREY falls onto the edge of the table.

ISABELLA

He was just looking!

THORNTON looks around at the guards.

THORNTON

Let that be a lesson to you all!

THORNTON pulls the body off the table.

THORNTON (cont'd)

Now get the cart.

GUARD (VO)

Fetch the cart!

THORNTON puts his sword away.

THORNTON

The sooner the gold's back in Nottingham, the better!

GUARD (VO)

You four, start loading the gold onto the cart!

ISABELLA throws the silver necklace into the platter and walks away in disgust.

PAN TO:

268 (309R) ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN

(intensely)

Right. We get rid of him.

TUCK

Let's take his gold first.

MUCH

And make Isabella Sheriff again?

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

(scoff)
Sheriff. We'll have a donkey for an
archbishop next.

ROBIN

Shh.
(beat)
Much, I want you to stay and watch the
hoard. The rest of you, come with me.
(stand)
Come on.

ROBIN, TUCK, LITTLE JOHN, and ALLAN leave.

JUMP TO:

269 (309) THE CART

The cart comes down the road. ALLAN, with a black cloak over his shoulder, stands in the road. He speaks with a slightly Scottish accent.

ALLAN

Hey, you! Stop there! Stop!
(beat)
Stop, I say!

The carts stops in front of him.

ALLAN (cont'd)

You're on my land. Well, you pay me a
toll, I guess we might forget about
it.

The guards laugh. They look at each other and laugh more.

ALLAN (cont'd)

That's not very nice now, is it?

TUCK climbs into the cart, stands behind the two guards, slams their heads together and pushes them off the cart. The guards fall to the ground on their backs. They sit up, dazed, and see ROBIN and LITTLE JOHN waiting to punch them into oblivion.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

NOTTINGHAM

270 (309) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

GISBORNE stands with his back to the bars of MEG's cell. MEG is still sitting with her back against the wall.

MEG

Are you scared?

GISBORNE

What of?

MEG

(scoff)

What of?

(beat)

Your date with the executioner.

GISBORNE

(brazenly)

Do I look scared?

Momentary pause.

MEG

Actually, no.

GISBORNE looks at MEG, who smiles and chuckles.

MEG (cont'd)

Terrible, yeah.

(beat)

One out of ten for personal
appearance.

(beat)

But not frightened.

(beat)

I'm almost impressed.

(beat)

It's as if you've got a clear
conscience.

GISBORNE sits down.

GISBORNE

Well, why shouldn't I have?

(CONTINUED)

MEG

Because of all the awful things you've
done in your life.

(beat)

I mean, no-one

(beat)

actually seems sorry that you're on
the way out, do they?

(beat)

Does that not make you sad?

GISBORNE

I can't help what people think of me.

What's done is done.

(beat)

And if I am to die, then so be it.

MEG

Is your life...

(beat)

really that empty that you don't care
whether you live or die?

GISBORNE's eyes widen, pondering the thought. MEG picks up a
stale heel of bread. She sees the maggots crawling on it.

MEG (cont'd)

Eughh

She tosses it, unintentionally, at GISBORNE. She wipes her
hands on her skirt and crosses her arms.

MEG (cont'd)

(quietly)

I'm starving.

GISBORNE reaches for the bread and calmly flicks off the
multitude of pests with his fingernail. MEG watches curious
and slightly amazed. GISBORNE hands her back the bread.

GISBORNE

(gently)

Here...

(beat)

Keep your strength up.

MEG smiles, goes up to the bars, and takes the bread.

(CONTINUED)

MEG

There must be some good in you yet.

GISBORNE

(shake head negatively)

You don't know me.

MEG breaks off a bite and eats it.

GISBORNE

Besides... I thought you hated men.

MEG

(pause. Caught)

I do.

She looks down at bread and eats another bite.

MEG

(a bit softer)

I do.

GISBORNE scoffs softly and leans his head against the bars, staring at MEG. MEG glances up at him.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

271 (309R) NEAR DEAD MAN'S CROSSING

GUARD (VO)

Start loading the gold now onto the cart.

MUCH deliberately keeps his eyes on the guards working. MUCH is half listening to the guards' conversation and half daydreaming.

GUARD (VO) (cont'd)

Come on, lot! Quickly!

(beat)

Haven't got all day. You! Come on!

ROBIN comes up behind MUCH.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Right. We're almost ready.

(beat)

Much, when the cart's ready, I want you to get it out of there.

(beat)

Alright?

MUCH

(very silently whisper)

Yeah, yeah.

ROBIN

Good luck.

ROBIN leaves. MUCH gathers his arrows and weapons together before following.

PAN TO:

272 (309R) THORNTON

THORNTON takes a ring off a skeletal hand and puts it on his own finger, where several others have already found a new home. ISABELLA watches him, a bit horrified at taking things from a dead man. THORNTON pokes his fingers through the eye sockets of the skull and holds it up.

THORNTON

(to skull)

Thanks, my friend. I shall enjoy spending your ill-gotten gains.

ISABELLA

(eyes wide)

You ought to be careful. He might come back to haunt you.

THORNTON grabs her head with both hands, tossing the skull back at its corpse.

THORNTON

You're the one who's living a nightmare, precious.

A horse whinnies as LITTLE JOHN and ALLAN, dressed as guards, drive the cart in.

(CONTINUED)

THORNTON (cont'd)

That's it! We're done.

THORNTON releases ISABELLA. She steps back, her eyes full of terrified hatred.

LITTLE JOHN (VO)

Whoa!

The cart stops. ISABELLA steadily walks away from THORNTON.

THORNTON

(watching Isabella)

Start loading!

LITTLE JOHN gets off the cart.

LITTLE JOHN

Right! Let's get it loaded! Come on,
men.

The guards, LITTLE JOHN and ALLAN start to load the cart. THORNTON follows ISABELLA, who suddenly stops by the coach. She sees ROBIN standing behind the brush through its curtains. He puts a finger to his lips. Her eyes show she understands.

THORNTON

Isn't this my lucky day.

THORNTON holds out his hand to admire the rings.

THORNTON (cont'd)

My first day as Sheriff and untold
riches fall into my lap.

ISABELLA

(turn around)

Luck can easily change.

ISABELLA stares at THORNTON. ROBIN watches him through the curtain. THORNTON suspects something and looks at the coach but can't see ROBIN. He calls to the guards.

THORNTON

Right. Let's go!

(CONTINUED)

THORNTON walks away and MUCH shoots the guard next to the coach with an arrow. THORNTON hears the guard groan and draws his sword as ROBIN steps out from behind the coach.

ROBIN

This hoard isn't yours to take,
Thornton.

ROBIN draws his sword. The gang start to fight.

THORNTON

And who's going to stop me?

ROBIN

Robin Hood.

ROBIN charges and THORNTON parries. They both make sweeping moves and deflect each other's moves. THORNTON raises his sword overhead and down. ROBIN blocks, holding his sword at both ends, then quickly shoves THORNTON's blade aside. ROBIN swings and THORNTON ducks. ISABELLA makes the most of the distraction and runs into the trees. ROBIN jabs at THORNTON but has to block his swing instead. ROBIN holds his sword overhead and swings down. THORNTON side steps it, falls to one knee, then takes off after ISABELLA as three guards surround ROBIN.

THORNTON

Isabella, I haven't finished with you
yet!

ALLAN runs to help ROBIN. They put their backs to each other.

ROBIN

Get back! Get back!

THORNTON points his sword at some guards.

THORNTON

You lot! With me! The rest, get the
cart out of here!

ROBIN and ALLAN fight the three guards.

LITTLE JOHN

Much, the cart!

MUCH runs to the cart. Once he's seated, he sees ALLAN and ROBIN fighting together. MUCH watches ROBIN fight with ALLAN they way he used to fight with him.

ROBIN

Stay back!

A guard climbs up beside the distracted MUCH, who turns just in time to be punched off the cart. He lands face down on the ground. The guard drives it off. MUCH shakes his dazed head and looks up at ROBIN. ALLAN ducks under a guard's upraised sword, just in time to avoid ROBIN running him through.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Get after them!

LITTLE JOHN sees MUCH sitting on the ground.

LITTLE JOHN

(admonishingly)

Much!

MUCH, embarrassed at his failure and jealously, picks himself up.

JUMP TO:

273 (309) NEARBY

ISABELLA runs as fast as she can though the forest.

THORNTON

Isabella! Isabella!

THORNTON and two guards with torches chase her in the late afternoon sunlight.

CUT TO:

274 (309R) ROBIN AND GANG

MUCH runs after ROBIN.

MUCH

Robin, wait! Wait!

ROBIN stops impatiently.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Much!

MUCH

(hold hands up)

I'm sorry.

ROBIN

We haven't got time for this. We have
to find Thornton.

ROBIN runs off. MUCH watches him.

CUT TO:

275 (309R) ISABELLA

ISABELLA runs, then ducks behind a thick tree, breathing heavily. She hears a twig snap close behind her. She quiets her breathing, pulls up her skirt and takes a knife from a small belt tied around her thigh. She slowly slides around the tree, then suddenly stabs out with the knife. ROBIN catches her arm and faces her with a stern look.

ISABELLA

(relieved)

Robin...

ROBIN presses the inside of her wrist to make her drop the knife. He watches it as it falls from her hand to the ground.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Oh, thank God.

ISABELLA throws her arms around ROBIN's neck. He loosely puts his arms around her waist and lets her hold him. ALLAN and MUCH wait awkwardly behind her. As do TUCK and LITTLE JOHN.

ROBIN

Are you alright?

ISABELLA nods and lets go.

ISABELLA

I was a fool to turn my back on you.
Please help me.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

If you promise to fight with us for King Richard, then I'll protect you.

ISABELLA

Yes, of course. You and me, Robin.

ROBIN shifts his feet, his look still stern, deciding if he can trust her.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

I think we can work together.

(beat)

I've always known it and I think you do, too.

ROBIN

And Guy? You will release him?

ISABELLA doesn't answer right away.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I know you hate him. For a while, I did too. But he has changed. He deserves...

ISABELLA

(reluctantly)

Okay.

ROBIN purses his lips, then nods slightly.

ROBIN

It's a deal.

ISABELLA

You won't regret this. How can I repay you?

ROBIN

Well, you can start by handing over the gold. ... Tomorrow, at Knight's Glade.

ISABELLA

Of course. You must give it back to the people. It's theirs, after all.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Good.

THORNTON's voice is heard getting closer.

THORNTON (VO)

Isabella, you'll suffer for this!

LITTLE JOHN and TUCK turn towards the voice, pulling their weapons ready.

THORNTON (VO) (cont'd)

Isabella!

ROBIN

John, escort the Sheriff back to her castle.

LITTLE JOHN makes a silent look of disbelief as MUCH and TUCK disappear into the trees.

ISABELLA

(quietly)

Thank you.

LITTLE JOHN stomps past her, clearly unhappy with his assignment.

LITTLE JOHN

(gruffly)

This way.

ROBIN leans on the tree and ISABELLA follows LITTLE JOHN. ALLAN comes over up to him.

ALLAN

She always manages to get what she wants, doesn't she?

ROBIN

Just leave it... please.

ROBIN angrily walks away after the gang. ALLAN glances at the retreating LITTLE JOHN and ISABELLA, then follows.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

LATER

276 (309) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST - NIGHT

THORNTON and six guards with torches walk down the road.

THORNTON

Isabella!

They encounter a cross made with flat white stones in the middle of their path.

GUARD

I don't like the look of this. You shouldn't have touched that burial mound.

THORNTON

Superstitious peasant!

THORNTON kicks a rock near the center out of place. Suddenly, a swarm of bats fly at them. The guards try to swat them away, scared.

THORNTON (cont'd)

They're just bats!

Four guards run away.

THORNTON (cont'd)

Get back here, you cowards!

THORNTON hears a horse whinny behind him. A figure in a black cloak, face hidden in the hood, on a white horse, gallops up and stops.

TUCK

You have disturbed the dead!

The horse neighs and rears. The last two guards run off.

GUARD

Somebody help me! Help!

THORNTON

Come back!

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

You invoked the Viking curse!

(beat)

You'll be visited by suffering,

(beat)

...madness...

(beat)

...and death!

ROBIN quietly stands behind THORNTON.

ROBIN

Playing with the devil.

THORNTON looks behind him. ROBIN draws his bow.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Big mistake, Thornton.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

277 (309R) TOWN - NIGHT

LITTLE JOHN and ISABELLA walk through the streets to the castle as a bell tolls. LITTLE JOHN clears his throat.

ISABELLA

You don't say much, do you?

LITTLE JOHN

(sigh)

Robin sees you as an ally, strictly business.

ISABELLA

(chuckle)

Typical man. There's nothing ever strictly business between a man and a woman.

LITTLE JOHN

(sigh)

If he has done a deal with you, it's for the good of the cause, nothing else.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA
(curious)
How can you be so sure?

LITTLE JOHN slows down.

LITTLE JOHN
Because I know Robin.

ISABELLA stops. Could Robin really not feel anything for her?
Could he really be only taking advantage of her heart?

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)
After what you've done. I'm surprised
he...

LITTLE JOHN shuts up. But ISABELLA can tell from the look on his face that any chance she had of getting back with ROBIN was gone. And that Robin, like every other man in her life, was using her for their own gains.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

278 (309) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

TUCK, at the head, and ALLAN, carry a bound and gagged THORNTON into a small caged cart. THORNTON yells behind his gag.

TUCK
(to cart driver)
We found him in the forest, babbling
something about Viking ghosts.

TUCK stands over THORNTON.

TUCK (cont'd)
He needs to be locked up.

ALLAN is standing at the back.

ALLAN
(agreeingly)
Yep, madhouse is the best place for
him.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

He's a danger to himself and the people
around him.

TUCK gives a smug look to ALLAN and gets out. THORNTON
struggles and yells.

TUCK (cont'd)

And if he mentions something about
being Sheriff of Nottingham, just pay
no attention.

THORNTON looks back at the driver and yells. ALLAN closes the
door and latches it.

ALLAN

He was the Queen of Sheba last week.

ALLAN steps away and ROBIN comes up.

ROBIN

Well, Nottingham's well rid of you,
Thornton.

(beat)

And don't even think of coming back.

The cart driver turns around to watch.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Because if you do, your next
destination won't be an asylum...

THORNTON yells.

ROBIN (cont'd)

...but where you really belong...Hell.

ROBIN taps the cart and nods. The cart drives off with THORNTON
still screaming in back.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

279 (309) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

ISABELLA comes down with two guards.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Release her.

MEG

(stand)

Isabella, you're back.

ISABELLA

Meg!

MEG

Thank goodness.

The guard unlocks MEG's cuffs. GISBORNE sits at the bars separating them, his hands gripping the iron.

ISABELLA

I'm not so sure my brother will feel the same. Come on, let's go.

ISABELLA walks away. GISBORNE watches MEG with a look of sadness in his eyes.

MEG

(plead)

Won't you release Guy, too?

ISABELLA turns to MEG. Did she just call him "Guy"?

ISABELLA

(raise eyebrow)

What? Are you mad? He's our enemy.

MEG looks plaintively at GISBORNE.

MEG

(plead)

But...

ISABELLA

You see? Do you see how they manipulate us?

GISBORNE glances down, but the fact MEG wants him released clearly moves him.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA (cont'd)

A few hours in a cell with a cold-hearted killer and even you lose your wits. That's the poison of men, Meg. None of them can be trusted.

GISBORNE takes a last look at MEG.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

My brother will get exactly what he deserves. Now come on.

ISABELLA glances at GISBORNE, then pulls MEG behind her. MEG looks back at GISBORNE, who lowers his eyes, sinking back into his depression.

CUT TO:

NEXT DAY

SHERWOOD FOREST

280 (309R) OUTLAW CAMP - JUST AFTER DAWN

MUCH lies in his bunk. He opens his eyes, takes a deep breath and backs out. He gets his bag out from under his bed and slips it over his shoulder. He looks at ALLAN in the bed opposite his, sleeping. In the bunk next to ALLAN's, TUCK rolls over. MUCH turns and looks at the bunk next to his, where LITTLE JOHN is asleep.

In the storage area, MUCH unhooks his shield and sword as quietly as he can. A bow and some arrows are in his other hand. He drapes his shield over his shoulder. MUCH's eyes drift to the next bed, where his friend and master sleeps with a childlike face.

MUCH walks past them and out into the forest.

CONTINUE TO:

281 (309R) NEAR CAMP

When he is out of earshot he stops, sighs, and walks onward, his shield clanking against his sword.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

NOTTINGHAM

282 (309) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

MEG comes down the stairs with a plate of food and a cup. She stops at the bottom, then moves forward to GISBORNE's cell. She sets down the plate and cup outside the bars where GISBORNE is sitting. He looks forlornly up at her.

GISBORNE

(quietly)

Thank you.

(shake head)

But no.

MEG

You must eat...

(beat)

f... for me.

(beat)

It's the least that I can do.

GISBORNE

(honestly)

You've done more than enough.

MEG

(start to cry)

I haven't done anything.

Throughout the rest of this scene she is trying, unsuccessfully, to hold back the tears.

GISBORNE

(nod slightly)

You have.

(beat)

You made me think.

MEG

About what?

GISBORNE

About...

(beat)

someone I used to know.

(CONTINUED)

MEG sniffles, holding back tears.

 GISBORNE (cont'd)
She saw good where there was none.

MEG sniffles, holding back tears.

 GISBORNE (cont'd)
She made me a better man.

MEG sniffles, holding back tears.

 MEG
What happened?

GISBORNE is silent a moment before answering.

 GISBORNE
 (quietly)
I destroyed her.
 (voice breaks a bit)
I destroyed everything.

MEG sniffles, holding back tears.

 GISBORNE (cont'd)
G... Go on.

MEG stands, gazes at him a moment, then leaves. GISBORNE hangs his head.

CUT TO:

283 SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

ISABELLA gives instructions to two guards. Behind her, more guards unpack the treasure and MEG stands watching her.

 ISABELLA
I want some guards behind me, and I
want the rest of them hidden.
Understood?

The guards nod.

 ISABELLA (cont'd)
Good.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA picks up a sheet of parchment and gives it to the guard. The guard leaves.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
(sigh deeply)
Right.

ISABELLA sits at the table and dips a quill in ink as MEG comes over, pretending to look at the jewellery in a chest on the edge of the table. ISABELLA quotes as she writes. MEG keeps looking at the dungeon keys, lying next to the chest, when ISABELLA is not looking.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Sire, I write to you with a grave
confession...

She looks up at MEG, who looks back at her. ISABELLA chuckles slightly.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
...that I hope you will find in your
heart to forgive

MEG silently takes the keys off the table when ISABELLA turns her head away to think.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
By way of an apology, I would like to
offer you... a gift...

ISABELLA smiles up at MEG, but she has disappeared. She quickly glances at the table and sees the keys are gone, too. She frowns slightly, realizing MEG's intent. She puts down the quill, stands and hurries out.

CUT TO:

284 (309) DUNGEONS

MEG comes downstairs, checking for guards. She rushes to GISBORNE and unlocks his cell.

GISBORNE
Meg?

(CONTINUED)

MEG opens the door and kneels down to unlock GISBORNE's shackles.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
What are you doing?

MEG
I can't let her kill you. I just can't.

GISBORNE
(touched)
You'd do this for me?

MEG smiles. GISBORNE grabs a bar and pulls himself up, then takes MEG's hand and strokes her cheek lovingly. They stare into each other's eyes. ISABELLA stands at the foot of the stairs, watching.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Thank you.

He smiles.

ISABELLA
Well, this is touching.

GISBORNE
(to Meg)
Go!

GISBORNE pushes MEG forward and they start to run to the stairs, but ISABELLA catches MEG and two guards with swords jump out to confront GISBORNE.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
She didn't know what she was doing!

ISABELLA
Oh, yes, she did!
(to Meg)
How could you? I set you free and this is how you repay me?

MEG
We're not the same! I try to do things out of love. You're doing this out of hate!

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(eyes deliriously wide)

How dare you?! ... I suppose I should be grateful.

(beat)

Now I know the only person I can trust is myself. ... I'm on my own!

ISABELLA shoves MEG at the guards. One stays with GISBORNE, the other takes MEG.

MEG

You put yourself there, Isabella.

ISABELLA

I could say the same for you.

MEG and GISBORNE stare at ISABELLA, who steps forward.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

And if you two lovebirds want to be together... that's fine. You shall.

(beat)

You'll both die.

MEG can only choke on the air, and she puts her hand to her throat as the guards steer them away.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

285 (309R) OUTLAW CAMP - MID-MORNING

The gang gather their weapons together.

ROBIN

Come on, we don't want to be late for Knight's Glade. And where's Much?

ALLAN walks past ROBIN.

TUCK

Probably attempting to catch breakfast.

ROBIN sighs, wondering where he could be. ALLAN looks worried.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(to Allan)
Are you alright?

ALLAN
Fine.

ROBIN tilts his head, looking at him, knowing it's not the truth.

ALLAN
Let's just go. Don't want to be late
for Isabella.

ROBIN
Hey... this is for the good of
everyone.
(beat)
If we can get a Sheriff working...

ALLAN
(interrupt)
Yeah, I know, I know.

ALLAN pushes past ROBIN. ROBIN grabs his arm.

ROBIN
She's promised to release Guy, hasn't
she?

ALLAN
Then where is he? She's been back at
the castle for hours.

No answer.

ALLAN (cont'd)
He should be your priority right now.
Not her.

ALLAN pulls away. LITTLE JOHN comes up behind ROBIN.

LITTLE JOHN
Never thought I'd say this, but he's
right.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

MEANWHILE

286 (309R) FOREST - BETWEEN NOTTINGHAM AND KNIGHT'S GLADE

MUCH is walking through the forest, daydreaming. It used to be him that Robin counted on. Him that had Robin's back. But things have changed. Ever since they returned from the Holy Land it's been Gisborne. When they paired off in fights it was Robin and Gisborne, Little John and Tuck, him and Allan. And, since Gisborne's capture, Robin has been turning to Allan. Why? Why had Robin stopped turning to him. Would things ever be as they were? Would Robin ever put him first again? He and Robin used to be so close now things were...

The sound of a horse neighing breaks him out of his daydream.

He soon hears horses galloping down the path. He quickly slips behind a tree. ISABELLA, two horsemen, a cart, and another lone horseman pass him. He steps out to watch after they pass, then hears more men behind him in the trees. He steps in front of the tree and watches fourteen foot soldiers trying to hurry quietly through the brush. MUCH suspects an ambush on the gang, bitterly pulls his sword out and follows.

CUT TO:

LATER

287 (309R) FOREST - KNIGHT'S GLADE

LITTLE JOHN, ROBIN, ALLAN, and TUCK walk out to the middle of the clearing. ISABELLA meets them.

ROBIN

(pleasantly)

You came, then?

Two guards set down a chest as ISABELLA strides towards ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I am glad.

ISABELLA

(sweetly)

Of course.

(beat)

We had a deal, you and me, remember?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

I do remember.

ROBIN and ISABELLA stand facing each other.

ISABELLA

Working together.

ROBIN

For the good of Nottingham.

ISABELLA

Absolutely. That's all that matters now, isn't it?

ROBIN

(nod once)

Mm-hm.

ISABELLA

(indicate the chest)

Please, take it. You earned it.

ROBIN looks at LITTLE JOHN behind him and motions his head at the chest. ROBIN and LITTLE JOHN go to it. ISABELLA walks with ROBIN.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

You were my knight in shining armour.

ROBIN

(quietly, putting her off)

Yeah, that's me.

ISABELLA walks to the guards, smiling as ROBIN stops at the chest and opens it. It's full of stones and horseshoes. The guards draw their swords.

LITTLE JOHN

(admonishingly)

Robin!

LITTLE JOHN turns away and is surprised to see more guards coming at them. ROBIN, utterly disappointed in himself, leans with both hands on the chest as the gang gather in a circle round him.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

(bitterly)

Life's full of disappointment, isn't it?

PAN TO:

287b(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON MUCH

MUCH runs, following the guards, and stops behind a tree to watch near the glade. He sees a single guard with the cart and three horses - two brown and one black. MUCH gets a tighter grip on his sword, preparing to take the man out.

PAN TO:

287c(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA AND THE GANG

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Now, I've decided to stand on my own two feet.

(beat)

Thought about what you said.

(beat)

Obey your every command, do whatever you say.

ROBIN

I offered you friendship.

ISABELLA

No, you threatened me.

(beat)

I won't be some frightened little woman.

ISABELLA addresses the guards.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Go on, take them!

ROBIN rips his sword from its scabbard. The gang, in the inner circle, face seventeen guards surrounding them. ALLAN spins his dual swords once. The guards slowly advance, closing the circle. ROBIN looks to ALLAN.

ROBIN

Well, it looks like you were right.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Next time, you might just listen.

TUCK swipes out with his cross.

ROBIN

If there is a next time.

ROBIN thrusts and hits a guard's sword, but the guards do not react. After a few moments, MUCH, riding the black horse and leading the other two (one on each side), gallops through the middle.

MUCH

Yah! Robin!

Some guards and ISABELLA have to step back to avoid getting trampled, giving the gang a momentary advantage. They attack as ISABELLA watches in disbelief. MUCH stops at the far end of the clearing, and looks back at the gang.

MUCH (cont'd)

Come on!

The gang each fight off the guard in front of them and then run to the horses. LITTLE JOHN jumps onto the horse on MUCH's right. TUCK runs and jumps onto the saddle behind MUCH. ROBIN runs to the side of the horse on MUCH's left. ALLAN is still fighting in fury.

ROBIN

Allan! Come on!

ALLAN stabs his foe.

ISABELLA

Get them!

ROBIN

Allan!

ALLAN runs to ROBIN as ROBIN starts the horse. The guards chase after them. ROBIN pulls ALLAN up by the arm onto the back of his galloping horse. The guards run after them.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

A SHORT WHILE LATER

288 (309R) OUTLAW CAMP

A disgruntled MUCH walks through to his kitchen. ALLAN follows him. MUCH talks to ALLAN without turning around.

ALLAN

So, where did you go then?

MUCH

Er, nowhere.

(beat)

Just, er, wanted to be alone,

(beat)

that's all.

ALLAN

You weren't leaving, were you?

MUCH looks down, then turns around. He looks at ALLAN as ROBIN comes over.

ROBIN

Where did you spring up from? Eh?

TUCK stands behind ROBIN.

MUCH

Er...

MUCH lets out his breath between rounded lips, not wanting to explain and not come up with a quick lie, either.

ROBIN

(concern)

You alright?

MUCH

(nod)

Yeah.

LITTLE JOHN stands with his staff behind ROBIN and TUCK.

MUCH (cont'd)

I'm fine.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

Robin, what's the plan?

ROBIN

We're going to take that hoard back.

TUCK

What about Gisborne's execution?

ROBIN

We can use it as the perfect distraction. Isabella will be expecting us to save Guy, not steal the gold.

ALLAN

So we do both.

ROBIN

(smile)

Exactly.

JUMP TO:

NEXT DAY

NOTTINGHAM

289 (309R) CASTLE - COURTYARD - MORNING

The portcullis is raised as guards hold back the crowd with crossed halberds. Once it's fully up, the guards let the people in. The gang, in cloaks and hoods, pass among them.

289b(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND GANG

ROBIN eyes the executioner's axe as he enters. The crowd swarms around the platform in the center. The gang meet up on the far side.

ROBIN

Now, we'll make our move as soon as everybody's looking to the platform. When he comes out, we slip inside. Tuck, go through the armoury. John, through the kitchens with Much. Allan,
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)
you come with me to the west gate.
We'll go from there.

ROBIN tilts his head to the side.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Go on.

The gang slowly scatter.

289c(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

A fanfare sounds and ISABELLA walks out from the cloister towards her chair set at the top of the steps. The crowd cheer loudly. ISABELLA quiets them with a motion of her hand.

ISABELLA
(sigh)
Bring out the prisoners.

Two boys start a drum roll. A door opens in back. GISBORNE is pushed out into the light. The crowd jeer. MEG is pushed out behind him.

289c(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND ALLAN

ROBIN, standing behind the tree with ALLAN, sees MEG.

ROBIN
That's the girl from the other day.
Wonder what...

289d(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON GISBORNE AND MEG

MEG and GISBORNE are pushed towards the platform. MEG looks at GISBORNE.

MEG
I'm scared.

GISBORNE looks at MEG.

GISBORNE
When it comes, it'll be very quick.

GISBORNE and MEG are led to the platform.

(CONTINUED)

289e(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND ALLAN

ROBIN
(to Allan)
Come on, this way.

289f(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON GISBORNE AND MEG

MEG and GISBORNE go up the steps and are positioned behind large stumps with wide notches cut out for their heads. MEG is taken to the stumps to GISBORNE's left.

289g(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

The drum roll stops.

ISABELLA
As you all know from bitter
experience,
(beat)
Guy of Gisborne is an enemy of the
people.

289h(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN AND ALLAN

ROBIN peeks at ISABELLA from around the corner under the cloister.

289i(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ISABELLA (cont'd)
He must pay the ultimate penalty.
(beat)(point at Meg)
This woman tried to help him escape
justice.
(beat)
Therefore, she must share his fate. In
future, if anyone challenges my
authority,
(beat)
they shall suffer the same punishment.

GISBORNE looks at MEG, who is shaking with terror. ISABELLA sits and crosses her legs triumphantly.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Have the condemned any final words?

289j(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON GISBORNE

He keeps his eyes straight ahead.

GISBORNE

Very well, Isabella. You win. Kill me
if you must, but not her.

GISBORNE looks up at ISABELLA.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

I'll do whatever you want. ... But
don't take her life.

ISABELLA is silent.

289k(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN

ROBIN watches for a reaction, hoping she'll change her mind.

289l(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ISABELLA

Proceed with the execution!

289m(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON PLATFORM

GISBORNE

She's just an innocent girl!

The guards push GISBORNE and MEG onto the stumps. MEG whimpers
and sobs. The guards part their hair away from their necks.
GISBORNE sees ROBIN and ALLAN.

289n(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN and ALLAN

ROBIN notices that GISBORNE has spotted them. ROBIN gives
GISBORNE a "be ready" signal. ALLAN turns to ROBIN.

ALLAN

What do we do?

289o(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ISABELLA

(impatiently)

I said proceed!

(CONTINUED)

289p(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON PLATFORM

The two executioners get a grip on their axes.

289q(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN

ROBIN
(temper rising)
This.

ROBIN draws his bow and shoots.

289r(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ALL

The arrow hits MEG's executioner in the chest as he raises his axe. The axe flies straight up in the air as the man falls back into the crowd.

ROBIN quickly readies another arrow. ISABELLA notices the movement and its owner. ROBIN shoots for the axe. The arrow hits the axe and sends it spinning into the stump next to GISBORNE's head, right where ROBIN wanted it so that GISBORNE can cut his ropes. GISBORNE gasps and looks at the close call.

289s(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ISABELLA

ISABELLA
(quiet rage)
Hood.
(stand)
Get him!

ROBIN
(to Allan)
Come on! Come on!

THORNTON calls from the back of the crowd.

THORNTON (VO)
(singsong)
Is-a-bel-la!

ISABELLA freezes.

289t(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON ROBIN

ROBIN stops.

289u(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON THORNTON

THORNTON makes his way to the front of the platform and draws his sword.

THORNTON

Didn't think you'd get rid of me that easily, did you?

(beat)

And... sicking Hood on me? Really? Wonder what Prince John would say if he learned his Sheriff was working with Outlaws?

THORNTON charges ISABELLA.

ISABELLA

No!

ISABELLA turns and runs into the castle as the guards scatter to find ROBIN. THORNTON goes up the steps.

THORNTON

I've come to take what's mine! Your life!

ROBIN draws his bow at THORNTON. ALLAN pulls on his arm.

ALLAN

Hey, hey! She doesn't deserve your help. Come on!

ROBIN lets ALLAN pull him away.

289v(309R)(cont'd) FOCUS ON GISBORNE AND MEG

GISBORNE unties MEG's hands. He jumps down from the platform as MEG skips to its edge. He turns to help her down. A guard charges at GISBORNE with a halberd. MEG sees him.

MEG

Look out!

MEG jumps in front of the guard.

MEG (cont'd)

Guy, no!

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE grabs the halberd just as it stabs MEG. He yanks it away and punches the guard, then quickly turns to MEG.

GISBORNE
(raise eyebrow)
Are you alright?

GISBORNE takes MEG's arm and helps her to her feet.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Come on.

MEG holds her stomach. GISBORNE sweeps her up in his arms and takes her away.

JUMP TO:

290 (309R) SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

The gang burst into the room with sacks and bags.

ROBIN
We have to do this quickly. Come
on! Hurry up!

They all start sweeping the treasure into the sacks.

CUT TO:

291 (309) CASTLE - INTERIOR STAIRCASE

ISABELLA runs up the stairs.

THORNTON calmly but boldly stalks her, saying his line as he climbs the stairs.

THORNTON
Did you really think I'd let you get
away with it?

CUT TO:

292 (309R) NORTH EXTERIOR CORRIDOR

The gang run down the corridor with bulging sacks.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

293 (309) INTERIOR STAIRCASE

THORNTON

You've betrayed your husband for
the last time!

CUT TO:

294 (309R) EXTERIOR CORRIDOR

The gang run.

CUT TO:

295 (309) INTERIOR STAIRCASE

THORNTON

Is-a-bel-la!

CUT TO:

296 (309R) EXTERIOR CORRIDOR

ROBIN stops, his temper getting the better of him. ALLAN
stops behind him.

ALLAN

Hey, hey! Where you going? We've got
what we came for.

ROBIN

I have to help her.

ALLAN

She's your enemy!

ROBIN

I told him not to come back. I warned
him.

(beat)

I have to sort this out.

ROBIN switches his bow to his left hand.

ROBIN

Here, take this.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN hands ALLAN his bag.

ROBIN (cont'd)
I'll catch you up. Go on, go!

ALLAN sighs, flustered and confused.

CUT TO:

297 (309R) SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

ISABELLA throws open the door. THORNTON is quick on her heels.

THORNTON
No, you don't!

ISABELLA runs to the bed.

ISABELLA
Don't you dare!

THORNTON
It's over!

ISABELLA
Just leave me alone!

THORNTON
You're finished!

ISABELLA flips onto her hands and knees on the bed, facing the foot.

ISABELLA
I warn you.

THORNTON points his sword at her.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
(with quiet intensity)
Don't come any closer.

THORNTON slowly puts the sword's point under her chin. ISABELLA looks down at it warily.

THORNTON
You're going to die, Isabella.

(CONTINUED)

He holds the sword there a moment longer, then drops it and advances with his hands out in claws.

THORNTON (cont'd)

With these.

THORNTON slowly reaches out for ISABELLA's neck, but she quickly bows her head into a pose she knows will appease him.

ISABELLA

No. I beg you, please.

(beat)

I'll give you everything you want.

(beat)

Just let me live.

(sniffle)

I see now.

(beat)

I'll be a good wife.

(beat)

I will show you the love of a good woman.

THORNTON

(annoyed)

Get up.

ISABELLA slowly raises her head.

THORNTON (cont'd)

Stop sniveling, will you?

THORNTON leans in to kiss ISABELLA, but she brutally stabs him with her knife instead. THORNTON steps back, utterly surprised.

THORNTON (cont'd)

What have you done?

ISABELLA

What I should have done years ago.

THORNTON falls back as ROBIN throws open the door.

ROBIN

Isabella!

(CONTINUED)

THORNTON hits the floor. ISABELLA spins off the bed and stands at his feet as ROBIN drops his bow, kneels over THORNTON, and checks to see if he's still alive. ROBIN looks up at ISABELLA.

ROBIN

Your first murder, Sheriff.

ISABELLA points the knife at ROBIN.

ISABELLA

You were supposed to finish him off,
but you weren't man enough for the job.

ROBIN

I only kill when there's no other way!

ALLAN runs in.

ISABELLA

You'll get the blame for this as far
as Prince John is concerned.

ROBIN stands.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

The murderous Hood still at large...

ISABELLA changes her grip on the knife to a fist and charges ROBIN.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

... but not for long!

ROBIN anticipates her move, catches her arm with one hand and her chin with the other.

ROBIN

Listen to me!

He pushes her past ALLAN to the foot of the bed so her back arches over it.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Now, we've taken your precious hoard.
And in case you're wondering, the
deal's off!

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN pushes ISABELLA onto the bed.

ROBIN (cont'd)
(to Allan)
Let's go.

ROBIN picks up his bow as ALLAN takes one last look at ISABELLA.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Come on.

ROBIN puts his hand on ALLAN's back, gently pushes him out the door and follows. ISABELLA watches them leave.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

298 (309) BY THE RIVER - LATE AFTERNOON

GISBORNE carries MEG down the path by the river.

GISBORNE
Let's just rest here for a while.

GISBORNE stops by a tree.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
There we go.

He sets MEG down gently against the tree trunk and holds her, cradling her shoulders, then starts to look at her wound.

MEG
(weakly)
Kiss me.

He looks up into her eyes, helpless, sadly wanting to, but knowing he shouldn't.

GISBORNE
Shhh.

He strokes her hair lovingly, shaking his head no.

MEG
Please?

(CONTINUED)

MEG whimpers softly in pain. GISBORNE stares into her eyes, then leans in and gives her a quick kiss. She smiles.

MEG (cont'd)

I always quite liked you, you know.

She tries to smile again but must gasp for air instead. She takes her last breath and dies. Her arm falls off his. GISBORNE closes her eyes with his hand and starts to cry. He pulls her into him, unable to control his tears, and rocks her in his arms, mourning the lost of yet another.

CUT TO:

299 (309R) OUTLAW CAMP - NIGHT

ROBIN and ALLAN sit by the fire outside the camp. ROBIN is fiddling with a small twig.

ROBIN

You can say it, you know.

ALLAN

Say what?

ROBIN

(flustered)

Say what?

(beat)

You're dying to.

ALLAN

(smile)

Alright.

(beat)

I told you so.

ROBIN chuckles.

ALLAN (cont'd)

You finally saw what sort of a woman she really is.

ROBIN

Yeah, I did.

ALLAN shakes his head and looks into the fire.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

(concern)

You think he'll ever come back?

ROBIN

I don't know. I hope so. It's not the same without him. I've gotten kinda used to having him around.

ALLAN and ROBIN stare into the fire wondering where Gisborne is right now.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

300 (309) CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

ISABELLA stands in front of a mirror with her knife. A guard stands behind her.

ISABELLA

Make sure all of Thornton's men are dead. I don't want Prince John hearing any more lies about me.

She looks back at him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

See to it!

The guard nods and leaves. ISABELLA looks in the mirror and sighs.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Oh, and next time...

Momentary pause as she points the knife in the mirror.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

...it will be you... Robin Hood.

She holds the knife up and stares at it intensely, thinking of how she can finally finish him off.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

A SHORT WHILE LATER**SHERWOOD FOREST**

301 OUTLAW CAMP

GISBORNE stumbles into camp. His head is down, and he looks really sad. He sits by the fire. ROBIN goes to him.

ROBIN

You okay?

GISBORNE

Fine.

ROBIN

You don't look fine.

GISBORNE gives ROBIN a look. ROBIN realizes that Meg didn't make it.

ROBIN (cont'd)

No.

(beat)

I'm sorry.

GISBORNE

She seemed like a nice girl. She shouldn't have died. It...

MUCH

Why was Isabella having her executed?
Didn't she just free her?

GISBORNE

It was my fault.

ALLAN

(raise eyebrow)

Your fault? How...

GISBORNE

When Thornton had her thrown back in the dungeon, she wound up in the cell beside me. We talked. She...

GISBORNE goes quiet. No-one says anything.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Later Isabella let her out and...

GISBORNE goes quiet again. No-one says anything.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

She came back to see me. She brought me food and... and then tried to release me.

(beat)

She stole the keys from Isabella and when she came to let me out, she got caught.

ROBIN

It wasn't your fault, Guy.

GISBORNE

Yes, it was.

(beat)

She was just a kid. She died because she wanted to save me. Me!

GISBORNE gets up and walks away from the fire. ROBIN is about to go after him, but ALLAN rises first and goes to his ex-master.

ALLAN

(consolingly)

Guy, she...

GISBORNE

Allan, please. Don't.

ALLAN

(surprise)

Wow. You really have changed.

GISBORNE gives him a look.

ALLAN (cont'd)

7 months ago you would've said...

(imitate Gisborne)

She got what she deserved, helping a prisoner escape. She should have known better.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

I probably would have. And you're right. I have changed. Just being here with all of you. And Robin. I understand why you all cling to him. I think I'm the man Marian always knew I could be.

ALLAN

Yeah. I know how much you loved her.

GISBORNE

I still miss her, Allan. Not a day goes by that...

ALLAN

Guy, Marian would be so proud to see you now.

GISBORNE looks at ALLAN.

GISBORNE

Thanks Allan.

GISBORNE goes back to the fire. ALLAN follows.

JUMP TO:

A FEW DAYS LATER

302 FOREST PATH

GISBORNE and ROBIN are walking through the forest.

GISBORNE

(raise eyebrow)

Where are we going?

ROBIN

I told you.

GISBORNE

Wait and see, isn't an answer, Robin.

ROBIN

It's all your going to get.

(CONTINUED)

They walk on.

CUT TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

303 LADY GLASSON'S PLACE - OUTSIDE

LADY GLASSON meets ROBIN and GISBORNE as they approach the house. A woman (ANNIE) watches from a window. No one notices her watching them. LADY GLASSON smiles and hugs ROBIN.

LADY GLASSON

Robin.

ROBIN breaks the hug, looks at her, and smiles.

ROBIN

It's been a while, everything still...

LADY GLASSON

All is well.

LADY GLASSON glances at GISBORNE, then back at ROBIN.

LADY GLASSON (cont'd)

They are waiting inside. Come.

ROBIN and GISBORNE follow LADY GLASSON.

GISBORNE

(curiously)

Robin, why are we here?

ROBIN

Patience, Guy. You will see soon enough.

LADY GLASSON enters the house. ROBIN and GISBORNE follow.

CONTINUE TO:

304 LADY GLASSON'S PLACE - INSIDE - LIVING ROOM

ANNIE (the woman from the window) is playing with her son (SETH). LADY GLASSON, ROBIN, and GISBORNE enter the room.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE sees ANNIE, then SETH. GISBORNE looks to ROBIN. ROBIN looks back.

ROBIN

Don't just stand there, go say hello
to your son.

GISBORNE goes over to ANNIE and SETH. ANNIE notices the "dog tag" around GISBORNE's neck. LADY GLASSON leads ROBIN to the table, and they sit. ANNIE comes over to join them, leaving GISBORNE alone with SETH. ANNIE sits beside ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Thanks for agreeing to this.

ANNIE

(curious)

What's happened to him? He...

ROBIN

Long story.

ANNIE

He looks so... lost.

ROBIN

A lot has happened in the last 2 years.
He's not the man you knew.

ANNIE

Obviously.

ROBIN looks at her.

ANNIE (cont'd)

Last time I saw him, he wanted you
dead. Now he wears your tag and calls
you Robin.

ROBIN

He's lost so much. I thought seeing
Seth might give him hope.

ROBIN and ANNIE watch GISBORNE play with SETH.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

A FEW HOURS LATER

305 LADY GLASSON'S PLACE - OUTSIDE

LADY GLASSON is standing outside by the front door. ROBIN and GISBORNE are standing in front of her. ANNIE is standing in the doorway, holding SETH. ANNIE looks to GISBORNE.

ANNIE

Come back anytime you wish.

GISBORNE

Thank you.

Everyone says their goodbyes, then ROBIN and GISBORNE head off.

JUMP TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER**SHERWOOD FOREST**

306 (310R) DEEP IN THE FOREST

ROBIN hears a twig snap and turns his head towards the sound. He looks and listens, frowning.

GISBORNE also looks around for the source of the noise but is hit in the neck with a slim dart. GISBORNE immediately swoons and falls.

ROBIN

(concern)

Guy?

ROBIN looks around anxiously and is hit in the neck himself.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Ah!

ROBIN swoons and tries to control his fall to the ground.

He fights to keep his eyes open long enough to see a strange man in a dark cloak coming towards him, then blacks out.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

A FEW HOURS LATER

307 (310R) STRANGER'S CAMP - NIGHT

A fire burns brightly between ROBIN and GISBORNE, who are lying on either side of it. ROBIN is facing it and GISBORNE has his back to it. Both have their hands and feet bound together.

ROBIN wakes, grunting softly. GISBORNE wakes, too, silently. In the distance, an owl hoots and a wolf howls. ROBIN tries to get up and discovers his bonds. GISBORNE looks around and finds he is bound, too.

ROBIN
(raise eyebrow)
What is this?

GISBORNE
Who's done this?

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN behind him. GISBORNE tries to pull himself free.

ROBIN
Where are you?! You're a coward to take
us like this!

GISBORNE
Show yourself!

GISBORNE looks around. They both hear footsteps crackling on the carpet of dead leaves. GISBORNE flips himself over to face ROBIN.

ROBIN
(softly)
Guy?

The STRANGER steps between their heads and around the fire. ROBIN and GISBORNE's eyes follow him. The STRANGER sits on a fallen tree where both can see him, but with his face far back in his deep ragged hood, keeping his identity hidden from both.

GISBORNE
(demandingly)
Who sent you? Prince John?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

No, this is more like one of your
sister's tricks.

ROBIN looks to the STRANGER.

ROBIN (cont'd)

What would Isabella want with us?

The STRANGER speaks to them in a hoarse, raspy voice.

STRANGER

I want you to listen and understand.
Someone's life depends on it.

GISBORNE

(through teeth)

I find it hard to understand when I'm
tied.

GISBORNE kicks his feet out to make his point.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Now free me!

STRANGER

I'll free you, free you from that which
has shackled you to each other for
longer than...

GISBORNE glares at ROBIN, who returns the look.

GISBORNE

What do you know about our lives?

STRANGER

More than you do.

GISBORNE blinks in confusion. There is a short pause before
the STRANGER continues.

STRANGER

I know the truth.

ROBIN

(impatiently)

The truth about what?

(CONTINUED)

STRANGER

About how your parents really died.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST: 20 YEARS AGO

308 (310) VILLAGE

An 11-year-old ROBIN stands in front of a burning house.

YOUNG ROBIN

(panicly)

My father's inside!...

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

309 (310) STRANGER'S CAMP

YOUNG ROBIN's dialogue continues from above only now it's a voice in ROBIN's head.

YOUNG ROBIN (VO)

... Yours too and your mother! Do something!

ROBIN and GISBORNE are silent a moment, each remembering that day. Both had thought they had come to terms with the events of the past. But now it all comes flooding back.

GISBORNE

(unimpressed)

You know about the fire.

(look at Stranger)

So?

ROBIN

It was never a secret.

ROBIN's face is sad. GISBORNE blinks.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Everybody knew that we both became orphans that day.

(CONTINUED)

STRANGER

There are still things you don't know
about your past.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

310 (310) BARN

A man (MALCOLM LOCKSLEY) waits in the barn. A dark-haired woman
(GHISLAINE GISBORNE) comes in smiling.

MALCOLM

Oh, Ghislaine.

GHISLAINE runs to him.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

I've been thinking about you all day.

GHISLAINE hugs him. MALCOLM kisses her cheek. (Note: Ghislaine
speaks with a French accent)

GHISLAINE

(sweetly)

We do not have much time, but if you
wish to talk, then...

GHISLAINE kisses MALCOLM.

MALCOLM

Oh... Oh, I look forward to the day
when we no longer have to hide in
stables and outhouses to do this.

GHISLAINE

Mm. Not long now, my love.

She kisses him again.

Through a crack in the wall, a 15-year-old boy (YOUNG GUY)
watches them, then runs off in anger.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

(CONTINUED)

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

311 (310) STRANGER'S CAMP - NIGHT

ROBIN

(fiercely)

My father loved one woman only, and
that was my mother.

GISBORNE

(look up at Robin)

That's just what you were told.

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE and scoffs.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

(scornfully)

The truth was kept from you by your
precious father.

ROBIN

What are you talking about?!

GISBORNE

He shielded you from reality like he
always did!

ROBIN silently glares at GISBORNE, who shakes his head.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

You were never made to face the
consequences of your actions.

ROBIN ponders the thought.

STRANGER

You were once on a very different path,
Robin.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

312 (310) VILLAGE - NIGHT

The village is decorated for a celebration. A roasted pig is
brought into the village. There are jugglers and fire-eaters

(CONTINUED)

and music. Lanterns have been strung round in a ring just outside the manor.

MALCOLM

Robin, come and give Swain a hand.

YOUNG ROBIN

Yes, Father.

YOUNG ROBIN hurries forward with a recurve bow over his shoulder and joins SWAIN, who is rolling a barrel towards the festivities.

OFF CAMERA: GHISLAINE comes out of the manor with her children, YOUNG GUY and YOUNG ISABELLA. (Isabella is 10).

GHISLAINE (VO)

Guy, Isabella, come with me.

GHISLAINE walks to the crowd and addresses them. YOUNG GUY stands beside her, sullen because of his discovery earlier in the day.

GHISLAINE

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so pleased you decided to join me in celebrating the safe return of our men from the Holy Land.

The crowd quiets and gather round her. MALCOLM and YOUNG ROBIN stand opposite her.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

Sadly, not everyone was able to make the journey back, and I would ask that we think also of our loved ones who died on this day.

(beat)

As you know, I feel your pain, as it is my own, my own husband being among the dead.

YOUNG GUY hangs his head, as does YOUNG ISABELLA.

GHISLAINE smiles at MALCOLM as LONGTHORN pushes through the crowd.

(CONTINUED)

LONGTHORN

My Lady Gisborne, as bailiff of these parts, it's my duty to ask who will now be the lord of the manor?

MALCOLM

Longthorn! Now is not the time.

GHISLAINE

No. He is right to ask. There will be no lord.

(brightly)

Instead, there will be a lady of the manor.

LONGTHORN

So... we're expected to serve a woman?

LONGTHORN looks around at the villagers.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

A French woman?

The villagers laugh.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

The land should be returned to Lord Locksley.

MALCOLM

(in warning)

Longthorn...!

LONGTHORN

This village was awarded to your husband for his services in the Holy Land. Now he's dead...

LONGTHORN looks at MALCOLM.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

...it's your right to reclaim them.

MALCOLM

A right I will not be exercising. Sir Roger fought and died for an English king. His family should be respected.

(CONTINUED)

MALCOLM raises his goblet.

MALCOLM
To Sir Roger of Gisborne.

The villagers all raise their cups and chant.

VILLAGERS
Sir Roger of Gisborne.

LONGTHORN turns away, disappointed.

GHISLAINE
Now...

GHISLAINE walks slowly towards the church.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)
... to celebrate those who have
returned and to honour those who have
not, I want you to join me in enjoying
something the men have brought back
from their travels. The fire wheel...

All turn to look behind MALCOLM and YOUNG ROBIN at the tall
tower of golden new wood. Leaning against its base is a large,
solid wooden wheel flanked by several crates.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)
...will light our skies to show us that
our darkest days are now behind us.
Now, I need two strong men to lift the
wheel and the two best archers in the
county.

She smiles brightly at YOUNG ROBIN and rubs the back of his
head.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)
Robin, will you help me?

YOUNG ROBIN smiles, pleased. SWAIN, standing behind him, pats
YOUNG ROBIN's shoulder.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)
And Guy.

The corners of YOUNG GUY's mouth twitch. As the people make their way towards the tower, YOUNG ROBIN picks up his father's recurve bow and starts to ask him a question.

YOUNG ROBIN

Father, may I...

MALCOLM interrupts in a warning tone.

MALCOLM

Robin...

MALCOLM takes the bow from his son.

YOUNG ROBIN

I want to make the shot.

MALCOLM

And you will, but not because of the bow.

YOUNG ROBIN hangs his head, disappointed, and MALCOLM pulls YOUNG ROBIN's head into his shoulder with a hug, rubbing his head.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

You're not ready.

MALCOLM looks at GHISLAINE, who turns to him, smiling. MALCOLM walks to the tower. YOUNG GUY scowls at him. YOUNG ROBIN and YOUNG GUY stand at the edge of the pond. YOUNG ROBIN with the forbidden recurve bow and YOUNG GUY with his longbow. Each has a flaming arrow at the ready.

YOUNG ROBIN

I don't know why you're bothering, Guy.

(beat)

You're a terrible shot.

(beat)

I'm younger than you, and everyone knows I'm the best shot in the village.

YOUNG GUY

(looking away from Robin)

Only because you keep telling everyone you are.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG ROBIN sneers and YOUNG GUY notices Robin's bow.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

(surprise)

I thought your father said you
couldn't use his bow. You're not
ready.

YOUNG ROBIN

I'm going to show him he was wrong.

The wheel starts to rise. YOUNG ROBIN raises his bow to indicate a lantern hanging in the middle of the tower near the top.

YOUNG ROBIN (cont'd)

I can hit that lantern with this.
Watch.

YOUNG ROBIN aims and draws but YOUNG GUY snatches the white-fletched arrow off the bow.

YOUNG GUY

Don't be so stupid!

YOUNG ROBIN immediately grabs YOUNG GUY's black-fletched arrow, readies it and shoots before YOUNG GUY can react again. The arrow hits just below the lantern on the wheel being raised in front of it. YOUNG ROBIN and YOUNG GUY watch as the arrow burns and sets off the fireworks. The two men pulling on the rope underneath it, one of whom is SWAIN, look up at the noise and sparks.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

Look what you've done!

YOUNG ROBIN watches, partly in awe of the fireworks, partly in horror. The men below are showered in sparks. MALCOLM waits at the top of the tower to guide the wheel into place. He looks down at the commotion.

MALCOLM

No!

The second man on the rope can't bear the sparks and runs away, leaving SWAIN on his own. YOUNG ROBIN drops his bow and backs away. LONGTHORN and the villagers gather behind him and YOUNG

(CONTINUED)

GUY, who is still holding his longbow. SWAIN tries desperately to hold the wheel up, but the rope slips from his hands and the wheel falls on top of him.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Swain!

SWAIN lies under the wheel on his chest. MALCOLM watches, horrified, then quickly descends the tower. LONGTHORN points at YOUNG GUY.

LONGTHORN

Seize the boy!

YOUNG ROBIN does nothing but watch as two men each take one of YOUNG GUY's arms. MALCOLM gets the rope, steps back out of the way of the cascading sparks and pulls on the rope to lift the wheel off SWAIN.

MALCOLM

Help me!

Two other men step forward and take the rope. SWAIN cries out in pain as MALCOLM pulls him out to a safer spot. LONGTHORN leads the villagers to them, holding YOUNG GUY's longbow over his head.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Don't just stand there! Somebody get a physician!

YOUNG ROBIN follows GHISLAINE as she kneels at SWAIN's side.

GHISLAINE

Let me see him. I can help.

YOUNG GUY stands right behind her, watching, still held by the men.

LONGTHORN

(to Guy)

You see? You see what your stupid prank has done?

YOUNG GUY

I didn't do it.

(CONTINUED)

LONGTHORN

Well, who did then?

YOUNG ROBIN

(quickly)

It wasn't me!

YOUNG GUY flinches in frustration at YOUNG ROBIN's denial of responsibility.

LONGTHORN

Of course it wasn't, Master Robin.

SWAIN cries out.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

You wouldn't fire at your own father.

YOUNG ROBIN

No, I swear.

LONGTHORN

(point at Guy)

He fired the arrow that caused the priest's injuries. He's a murderer!

YOUNG GUY

I didn't...

LONGTHORN pulls out YOUNG GUY's black-fletched arrow from the wheel, and YOUNG GUY immediately sees he has no defense.

LONGTHORN

(brandishing the arrow)

One of yours, Master Guy?

GHISLAINE

How dare you?!

LONGTHORN

It's not a question of daring, but duty. As bailiff, it's my job to uphold the law.

YOUNG GUY hangs his head, knowing he will not be believed even if he tells the truth.

(CONTINUED)

MALCOLM

I warn you only to hold the boy. Any further action and you will have me to answer to.

GHISLAINE

What?! No!

MALCOLM

(to Ghislaine)

He will only be charged if he dies.

GHISLAINE thinks quickly, knowing things are in her hands now.

GHISLAINE

Get him to the manor. Get him to the manor. Quickly!

MALCOLM

You heard her!

JUMP TO:

313 (310) MANOR - MAIN ROOM

GHISLAINE sweeps the main table clear as MALCOLM and two other men bring SWAIN in.

GHISLAINE

Carefully! Carefully!

SWAIN is laid on the table.

MALCOLM

Everybody out! Leave us! Let her work.

GHISLAINE feels SWAIN's chest.

GHISLAINE

His rib is broken... and it has punctured a lung and his chest is filling with air.

MALCOLM

There must be something you can do.

GHISLAINE looks behind her.

(CONTINUED)

GHISLAINE

Ah... yes.

GHISLAINE grabs a slim knife from the table behind her. She pulls the clothes away from SWAIN's neck.

MALCOLM

(raise eyebrow)

What are you doing?

GHISLAINE holds the knife tip at SWAIN's chest as YOUNG ROBIN runs in.

GHISLAINE

It will release the air.

YOUNG ROBIN

Father!

MALCOLM looks back at YOUNG ROBIN as GHISLAINE punctures SWAIN's upper chest with the knife. SWAIN cries out, gasps, then starts to breathe easier. YOUNG ROBIN watches in awe.

GHISLAINE

(to Swain)

Just breathe. Careful. Better?

SWAIN lies calmly, concentrating on his breathing.

YOUNG ROBIN

Father, they're going to hang Guy.

MALCOLM and GHISLAINE look at YOUNG ROBIN in horror. GHISLAINE is clearly torn between rushing to her son and tending to her patient and starts to panic.

GHISLAINE

I can't leave him. I cannot leave him!

MALCOLM

(fiercely, quietly)

I'll put an end to this.

MALCOLM runs out, YOUNG ROBIN on his heels. GHISLAINE turns back to SWAIN.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

314 (310) OUTSIDE

LONGTHORN is addressing the villagers.

LONGTHORN

Did you see the way she declared
herself "lady of the manor?"

The villagers mutter in agreement as MALCOLM walks through the
circle gathered around LONGTHORN.

YOUNG ROBIN follows in his wake.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

She has no right to this estate.

GUY hangs his head, standing behind LONGTHORN with two men on
the crates under the tower.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

Like an eye for an eye, the boy must
hang.

The villagers gasp.

MALCOLM

Have you all taken leave of your
senses? If you do this, you will have
to answer for it.

LONGTHORN

We all must pay for our actions, my
lord.

YOUNG ROBIN stops at the sight of YOUNG GUY.

MALCOLM

You were told not to harm the boy.

LONGTHORN

True. But now I feel compelled by the
will of the people.

A horse whinnies and hoof-beats approach.

LONGTHORN

And they want justice...

(CONTINUED)

A Crusader on a white horse stops behind the crowd and quickly dismounts.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)
...and to that end...

A man puts a hood over YOUNG GUY's head.

MALCOLM
Then you force my hand!

MALCOLM starts to draw his sword. The Crusader (ROGER) yells out.

ROGER
Stop! I command you to stop!

LONGTHORN
On whose authority?

ROGER strides quickly forward through the villagers.

ROGER
The King's... as he made me lord of
this manor. I am Sir Roger of Gisborne,
this boy's father.

ROGER points at YOUNG GUY.

VILLAGE MAN
(boldly)
No!

ROGER turns round to glance at the villagers.

ROGER
What? You doubt my word?

MALCOLM
We thought you were dead.

ROGER
I was captured, not killed.

ROGER looks at LONGTHORN and jerks his head to the side.

(CONTINUED)

ROGER (cont'd)

Out of my way.

LONGTHORN draws his dagger.

LONGTHORN

I cannot do that.

ROGER stops abruptly in front of LONGTHORN, then backs off.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

As bailiff, I must uphold the law.

YOUNG ROBIN takes a step forward to get a better view.

ROGER

You are no longer bailiff.

(step forward)

Out of my way!

LONGTHORN stabs out with the dagger. ROGER puts his left hand up to block and the dagger goes right through it. ROGER doesn't make a sound as MALCOLM throws off LONGTHORN and pushes him back. MALCOLM faces ROGER, staring at the dagger in his hand as the people groan in horror. LONGTHORN and YOUNG ROBIN stare, too. ROGER pulls out the dagger, again with no sound or flinch of pain. ROGER addresses LONGTHORN.

ROGER (cont'd)

You will never hold office again as long as I am lord of this manor.

ROGER throws down the dagger and goes to his son as GHISLAINE comes running out of the manor.

GHISLAINE

He will live! Swain will live!

ROGER takes the hood off YOUNG GUY's head, then pulls him off the crate.

GHISLAINE runs through the crowd and stops in shock when she sees ROGER.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

Roger.

(CONTINUED)

She stares at him like a ghost.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

They told...

ROGER

I was captured. There was no way to
get word to you.

GHISLAINE

Captured? Did they hurt you?

ROGER shifts his feet, thinking.

ROGER

I must talk with you at once,
Ghislaine.

ROGER walks past his wife, who is still frozen in place.
MALCOLM and YOUNG ROBIN watch him go, then YOUNG ROBIN hangs
his head, ashamed.

**ROBIN's voice from the present can be heard as we fade out of
the flashback.**

ROBIN (VO)

***I was truly sorry for what happened
that night.***

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

315 (310) STRANGER'S CAMP - NIGHT

ROBIN

It was a mistake...

(beat)

which I learnt from...

ROBIN pauses. GISBORNE is silent.

ROBIN (cont'd)

...and it was one that made me a better
man.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

(CONTINUED)

PAST

316 (310) HILLSIDE OVERLOOKING VILLAGE - NEXT MORNING

YOUNG ROBIN kneels at the side of his mother's grave on the grassy hillside overlooking the village.

MALCOLM stands by the cross with his bow.

YOUNG ROBIN

Do you think Mother watches me... from heaven?

MALCOLM

I'm sure she does. I'm sure she sees everything you do.

YOUNG ROBIN

(think a long moment)

Father... it was me that shot the arrow.

(look up at Malcolm)

I was showing off... with your bow.

MALCOLM kneels by YOUNG ROBIN and puts his hand on his shoulder.

MALCOLM

Robin... one day you will be Lord of Locksley, lord of my lands. You must grow up and learn to take responsibility when you do something wrong. You could be the best shot in England. You shouldn't stand by and let something terrible happen because you were too scared to do the right thing. Do you understand?

YOUNG ROBIN

(nod)

Yes.

MALCOLM chuckles slightly, then holds out his arms. YOUNG ROBIN embraces his father.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

(CONTINUED)

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

317 (310R) STRANGER'S CAMP

GISBORNE

(sarcastically)

Ah. How touching. I almost get killed because you were going to let me take the blame, and all you got was a speech.

ROBIN

I'm sorry. I should have...

GISBORNE

What would you have done if Swain had've died?

ROBIN

But he didn't.

Momentary pause. ROBIN looks at GISBORNE. They had come so far in the last 7 months. And now this stranger arrives and drags up the past. Could the truce be over?

ROBIN (cont'd)

I wouldn't have let them hang you.

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN, then at the STRANGER.

GISBORNE

(annoyed)

Look, I really don't see the point of any of this. Why are you dredging up...

STRANGER

You need to know the truth to save a life.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

318 (310) SHERWOOD FOREST - NIGHT

GHISLAINE waits in the woods. MALCOLM gallops towards her on his horse. GHISLAINE smiles sadly as he approaches on foot and

(CONTINUED)

hugs her.

MALCOLM

Oh, we should not do this.

GHISLAINE

Malcolm...

MALCOLM

I have done what I thought was right.
I have stayed away from you, but you
have no idea how hard that's been.

GHISLAINE

Of course, I do. But you understand I
had to care for Roger.

MALCOLM

I understand more than you think.

GHISLAINE stares at him apprehensively.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

I know about his affliction.

Momentary pause.

GHISLAINE

(curious)

How?

MALCOLM

The night of his return... Longthorn's
dagger went straight through his hand,
and he didn't even cry out.

GHISLAINE

(frown, mouth)

Oh.

(nod, understanding)

Hm. He told me he was infected in the
Holy Land. All he wanted was to get
back home and spend his last days with
his family. He made his own way home,
away from his soldiers, so they
wouldn't know.

(CONTINUED)

MALCOLM

People will know. There is talk about the bandages, the fact that he barely leaves your house.

GHISLAINE

He is a sick man!

MALCOLM

He is a leper! If he is discovered, you will all be cast out.

GHISLAINE starts to cry. MALCOLM holds her.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

You should not have been put in this position, Ghislaine.

GHISLAINE audibly sucks in a breath.

GHISLAINE

There is something else.

MALCOLM releases GHISLAINE, who takes a step back. MALCOLM waits for her to say something, but she puts her hand on top of her belly, pulling the fabric in and revealing a pregnant bump. She rubs it with her other hand. MALCOLM, shocked, reaches out, hesitates, then puts his hand on her belly. GHISLAINE puts her hand over his.

In the trees, LONGTHORN is spying on them. He smiles gleefully at this revelation, then strides off.

MALCOLM pulls GHISLAINE into an embrace.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

319 (310R) STRANGER'S CAMP

ROBIN

More lies!

GISBORNE

There was never any child.

(CONTINUED)

The STRANGER stands and brings out his knife. GISBORNE flinches. ROBIN stares calmly.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
(apprehensively)
Wh... what are you doing?

STRANGER
If you think me a liar, there's no point in you being here.

GISBORNE
Y... You're going to kill me with no means to defend myself?

GISBORNE thinks he has figured out who the stranger is.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
(with conviction)
Well, I expected nothing less from you.

The STRANGER steps towards GISBORNE. ROBIN gives GISBORNE a look. Did he know who the man was?

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Bailiff Longthorn!

The STRANGER cuts the rope at GISBORNE's feet. GISBORNE quickly untangles the rope. Then the STRANGER cuts ROBIN free and ROBIN also quickly pulls the ropes off himself.

STRANGER
Hear my story or walk away.

GISBORNE gets up and staggers a few steps. ROBIN also stands and means to leave.

STRANGER (cont'd)
But if you do...
(beat)
Your brother will die.

ROBIN and GISBORNE both stop.

STRANGER (cont'd)
Do you want that on your consciences?

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN steps back towards the fire. GISBORNE pauses, watching ROBIN.

ROBIN

Keep talking.

GHISLAINE's voice is heard from the past as we fade out the present and enter a flashback.

GHISLAINE (VO)

You understand now?

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST: SHERWOOD FOREST

320 (310) FOREST - SAME NIGHT

GHISLAINE

(sadly)

I must go away. Roger will know for sure this is not his child.

MALCOLM

Then I will declare my feelings for you, and we can be a family.

GHISLAINE

But I am married to another man.

MALCOLM

If he is discovered, he'll be banished from the village. He'll be stripped of his title, his lands, you will have nothing. Ghislaine, listen. If he is declared a leper, you'll be given a choice. You can declare yourself a widow.

GHISLAINE

But that will be a lie... in the eyes of God.

MALCOLM

In the eyes of the law, you will be free of him.

(CONTINUED)

GHISLAINE

But... the baby will show. People will still know. Roger has been back a very short time.

MALCOLM

Then you will have our baby in secret, and I will arrange for it to be taken away.

GHISLAINE thinks the child will be gone forever.

GHISLAINE

No!

MALCOLM

(reassuringly)

No-no-no. Only for a short while. Once you are recovered from the birth, you can go on a pilgrimage, bring him back, claim he is a foundling, an orphan. With that, we can be a family.

GHISLAINE agrees, and nods slightly.

JUMP TO:

321 (310) MANOR - MAIN ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

ROGER nervously sits in a chair by the fireplace.

GHISLAINE opens the front door and comes in, not noticing her husband at first. She closes the door, turns, and is startled to see him. She regains her composure and smiles at him.

GHISLAINE

Roger, I did not expect to see you. I was restless, I went for a ride.

ROGER says line barely looking at her.

ROGER

Of course.

(long pause)

And on this ride, did you happen to see anyone? Malcolm Locksley perhaps?

(CONTINUED)

Momentary pause.

GHISLAINE

(stunned)

How did you know?

Momentary pause. ROGER looks at her.

ROGER

Because I am your husband.

ROGER stares into the fire. GHISLAINE comes over to him and kneels at his feet.

GHISLAINE

And I have failed you as a wife.

She picks up his bandaged hand and puts her forehead to it.

ROGER

No.

ROGER puts his other hand on hers. GHISLAINE looks up at him.

ROGER (cont'd)

It is I who failed you... leaving you alone and returning like this.

GHISLAINE

No, Roger.

ROGER

You will never know how grateful I am that you've kept my secret...

GHISLAINE fights to hold back her tears.

ROGER (cont'd)

...and allowed me to see out my days with you and the children. And I'm glad you've found someone who will care for you when I've gone.

He pulls up on her hands. She stands and he guides her back into the facing chair, still holding her hands.

(CONTINUED)

ROGER (cont'd)
All I ask is that he has the patience
to wait until that day.

GHISLAINE makes a pained face. Momentary pause.

GHISLAINE
Roger... you must go.

ROGER frowns.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)
No, not for me. For yourself. Now.

ROGER
I don't understand.

GHISLAINE
(quietly)
I'm sorry.

She sits back in the chair.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)
I thought that I was doing the right
thing.
(stand)
You must leave right away.

Somebody pounds on the door. GHISLAINE chokes down a sob.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)
Not already.

SWAIN opens the door. ROGER stands. LONGTHORN follows SWAIN
in. YOUNG GUY and YOUNG ISABELLA come halfway down the stairs
in their nightclothes. MALCOLM steps inside.

SWAIN
Sir Roger, I think you know why we're
here.

GHISLAINE can barely control her tears.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

322 (310) THE NEXT MORNING

Sir ROGER of Gisborne walks stoically through the village in the mist, the small cowbell round his neck jingling.

SWAIN, LONGTHORN, GHISLAINE with YOUNG GUY and YOUNG ISABELLA, and MALCOLM with YOUNG ROBIN follow him behind the church to a freshly dug grave.

ROGER stands at its foot. The others and the villagers gather behind him, several paces off. GHISLAINE sees the open grave.

GHISLAINE

Oh...

(to Swain)

Oh, will you not show him mercy? I saved your life!

SWAIN

I'm sorry. This is God's will.

ROGER looks round, then jumps in the grave and turns to face the people. GHISLAINE starts to cry.

SWAIN (cont'd)

Roger of Gisborne, you are a leper...

YOUNG GUY

Mother, please.

SWAIN

...and, as such, are to be cast out from the society of others.

YOUNG GUY

No, don't let them do this!

ROGER

Guy! You must act like a man and not a child. Do not shame me.

YOUNG GUY hangs his head.

SWAIN

From this day forward you are deemed unclean. Do you understand?

(CONTINUED)

ROGER

(nod once)

I do.

SWAIN

As his wife, you may go with him... or
you may declare yourself a widow and
be free of your impediment.

GHISLAINE shakes her head.

GHISLAINE

(incredulously)

Impediment? He is my husband!

ROGER

Ghislaine, you must set an example for
the children.

GHISLAINE sighs and bites her lip. Momentary pause. ROGER waits
expectantly.

SWAIN

Do you declare?

Momentary pause. ROGER nods at her in encouragement. GHISLAINE
says line while fighting back tears.

GHISLAINE

Yes. From today I am a widow.

ROGER is saddened upon hearing her words aloud.

SWAIN

Very well.

YOUNG ROBIN, standing behind YOUNG ISABELLA, looks back at his
father, who stands with his arms folded and a grim look on his
face.

SWAIN (cont'd)

Roger of Gisborne, I forbid you ever
to enter any church, market, tavern,
or any assembly of people. I forbid
you to drink or eat from any vessel
but your own.

(CONTINUED)

GHISLAINE breaks down.

SWAIN (cont'd)
I forbid you to touch any child...

ROGER looks up, exasperated. Momentary pause.

SWAIN (cont'd)
Now you must leave this place.

ROGER turns around, walks to the far end of the grave, and tries to climb out, but can't. YOUNG GUY hangs his head. MALCOLM strides over and offers an arm to ROGER. ROGER accepts and MALCOLM pulls him out.

ROGER
Thank you. Care for her.

MALCOLM looks past him, unable to look him in the eye.

ROGER (cont'd)
Care for them all.

ROGER leaves up the hill.

YOUNG GUY
Father...!

YOUNG GUY runs after him, but MALCOLM catches him.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
Get away from me!

YOUNG GUY pulls himself free, but MALCOLM still blocks his path. YOUNG GUY watches his father go up the hill, his bell ringing faintly.

GHISLAINE watches him, and a tear falls down her cheek. YOUNG GUY glares at MALCOLM.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
(to Malcolm)
You did this. I'll never forgive you.

YOUNG GUY turns his gaze back to his father.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

323 (310) MANOR - EXTERIOR

GHISLAINE walks with YOUNG ISABELLA through the tunnel. YOUNG GUY follows them. MALCOLM and YOUNG ROBIN follow behind YOUNG GUY. YOUNG ROBIN stops before he enters the tunnel. YOUNG ISABELLA continues into the house.

YOUNG ROBIN

(with disdain)

I'm not going in here. It's a leper's house.

YOUNG GUY

(turn to Robin)

Shut your mouth.

YOUNG ROBIN

Why? It's true! Your father's a leper!

Before YOUNG ROBIN can say anything else, YOUNG GUY charges him and tries to push him to the ground.

YOUNG GUY

Shut up!

GHISLAINE gently pushes YOUNG ISABELLA towards the door before she and MALCOLM go to separate the boys.

GHISLAINE

Guy, no!

GHISLAINE pulls YOUNG GUY off and pushes him into the wall.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

It is a good thing your father is not here to see this.

YOUNG ROBIN stands by his father, his head hanging in shame.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

He would be ashamed of your behaviour.

YOUNG GUY pushes his mother away and walks out the tunnel, pushing YOUNG ROBIN aside as well. YOUNG ROBIN protests.

YOUNG ROBIN

Hey!

(CONTINUED)

MALCOLM

(stern)
Robin, no more!

YOUNG ROBIN

But he just...

MALCOLM

(interrupt)
Imagine you had lost what he has lost!

YOUNG ROBIN hangs his head again. MALCOLM glances at GHISLAINE.
MALCOLM addresses YOUNG ROBIN.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Go and find him, make your apologies.
Go!

YOUNG ROBIN scampers off passing LONGTHORN who is arriving.

LONGTHORN

Lady Gisborne... Lord Malcolm...

MALCOLM sighs, not wanting this interruption.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

How fortuitous to find you both
together. Have you told the children
the good news?

GHISLAINE's face falls.

MALCOLM

(raised eyebrow)
What?

LONGTHORN

Do you think they'll want a little
brother or a sister?

GHISLAINE stares at LONGTHORN. MALCOLM pushes him into the
wall.

MALCOLM

(stern)
You've been spying on us?

(CONTINUED)

LONGTHORN

I've been looking for an opportunity
to get what I deserve. Lands of my own.

MALCOLM loosens his grip and LONGTHORN pushes him off.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

You will give me yours, lady, unless
you want everyone to know your little
secret.

LONGTHORN glances at GHISLAINE's stomach. GHISLAINE looks
fearfully at MALCOLM.

MALCOLM

(calmly)

Very well. Go to Nottingham, have the
deeds drawn up.

LONGTHORN bows his head in acceptance.

LONGTHORN

Thank you, my lord.

LONGTHORN leaves. GHISLAINE looks at MALCOLM.

GHISLAINE

(disbelief)

Malcolm, the lands have to pass to Guy.

MALCOLM

And they will. On Saturday, we shall
be married. Your lands will become
mine and Longthorn's deeds will be
worthless.

GHISLAINE

Saturday? The children have just lost
their father.

MALCOLM

But we must marry soon.

GHISLAINE nods slightly. MALCOLM hugs her.

**ROBIN's voice from the present is heard as we fade out of the
flashback and return to the present.**

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (VO)
They never married.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

324 (310) STRANGER'S CAMP

STRANGER
No. They only ever planned to.

GISBORNE is pacing. ROBIN is sitting by a tree.

STRANGER (cont'd)
Didn't they, Guy?

GISBORNE stops pacing. ROBIN looks up at him. GISBORNE's eyes cast down.

ROBIN
You knew?

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN.

GISBORNE
I found out.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST: SHERWOOD FOREST

325 (310) FOREST

YOUNG GUY makes his way through the trees. (We hear the voice of GISBORNE as YOUNG GUY catches GHISLAINE visiting ROGER.)

GISBORNE (VO)
*I saw my mother making her way into
the forest... and so I followed.*

YOUNG GUY sees his mother in the leper camp in the woods with a shallow basket of supplies, tending to ROGER.

GISBORNE (VO) (cont'd)
*She still loved him. I was so angry.
She told me that I had to forget him...*

(CONTINUED)

GHISLAINE hands an apple to ROGER and unwraps his bandaged hand as ROGER takes a bite.

GISBORNE (VO) (cont'd)
*... pretend that he didn't exist...
yet here she was, denying me my father.*

YOUNG GUY has seen enough and runs away.

JUMP TO:

326 (310) SAME DAY, LATE AFTERNOON

GHISLAINE carries the empty basket through the forest, very tired and not paying attention to anything around her.

YOUNG GUY stands in her path.

YOUNG GUY
How could you?

GHISLAINE
(startled)
Guy! You frightened me.

YOUNG GUY
I saw you with Father. You said...

GHISLAINE
(interrupt)
I could not just abandon him. He needs care.

YOUNG GUY
You said he was gone.

GHISLAINE
I know.

YOUNG GUY
Did Malcolm make you do it?

GHISLAINE, disappointed, confused, ashamed, shakes her head.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
I've seen how he looks at you. He wants you for himself.

(CONTINUED)

GHISLAINE

Malcolm is a good man, Guy. He can take care of us now that your father cannot. We are to be married.

YOUNG GUY

(raise eyebrow)
Married?

GHISLAINE

Yes. ... On Saturday. It is for the best. All will be well. But you must promise not to speak of it until it is done.

YOUNG GUY

Why? Why must it be a secret?

GHISLAINE

Just promise me, huh? You must tell no-one, especially Robin. He must hear it from his father.

YOUNG GUY

You don't have to do this, Mother. Let's leave Nottingham, go back to France, take Father with us. We could be together.

GHISLAINE

(frown)
No.

GHISLAINE suddenly gasps in pain.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

Mon dieu!

GHISLAINE sinks to her knees and grabs her belly.

YOUNG GUY

(concern)
What is it?

GHISLAINE

(in pain)
Ah! Get help. Get help!

(CONTINUED)

GUY runs off.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)
Hurry! Guy! Please! Oh...

The voice of present GISBORNE is heard as we fade out of the flashback and return to the present.

GISBORNE (VO)
I'd never run so fast.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

327 (310) STRANGER'S CAMP - DAWN

GISBORNE
I thought that...

STRANGER
(interrupt)
She was in labour.

GISBORNE glances at ROBIN, who has been watching and listening intently.

GISBORNE
I see that now.

ROBIN
What happened to the baby?

STRANGER
He was early... but strong.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

328 (310) MANOR - MASTER'S CHAMBER

GHISLAINE sits up in the bed, cradling her newborn. MALCOLM comes over and solemnly sits by her.

GHISLAINE
Look. He's so quiet, like he knows he's
a secret. And look at this.

(CONTINUED)

GHISLAINE pulls the blanket back from the baby, revealing a red arched birthmark on his right breast.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

My son, by this mark, you will never
be lost to me.

GHISLAINE starts to cry.

MALCOLM

Ghislaine...

GHISLAINE looks up at him excitedly.

GHISLAINE

I have thought of a name. Archer. Do
you think it suits?

MALCOLM

I do.

GHISLAINE bends over the baby, crying.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

But it's... it's...

GHISLAINE

I know. It's time.

She tries to fight back her tears. MALCOLM stands and takes the baby as GHISLAINE cries.

We hear the voice of THE STRANGER from the present as MALCOLM takes the baby.

STRANGER (VO)

*The baby was to be taken to a safe
place until the parents could marry
and reclaim him.*

CUT TO:

329 (310) STABLE

MALCOLM hands the baby to a man.

(CONTINUED)

MALCOLM

You ride carefully. You carry precious cargo.

The man nods as thunder rumbles.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Go.

The man leaves with baby Archer.

THE STRANGER'S voice from the present is heard as the child is taken away.

STRANGER (VO)

But that was the last he or Ghislaine ever saw of their son.

CUT TO:

330 (310) SHERWOOD FOREST - DAY BEFORE WEDDING

YOUNG GUY walks through the woods to the leper camp, searching for ROGER. Crows caw in the trees.

YOUNG GUY

Father?

ROGER turns around, startled, and walks towards his son.

ROGER

My son...

ROGER stops, realizing others are listening.

ROGER (cont'd)

Come, come with me.

YOUNG GUY follows ROGER to the edge of the camp.

ROGER (cont'd)

You should not have come here.

YOUNG GUY

I needed to tell you something. Malcolm Locksley is forcing Mother to marry him.

(CONTINUED)

ROGER frowns in sadness.

YOUNG GUY

The wedding is tomorrow. You must stop them.

ROGER

No. That's no longer my right. You must try and understand. Your mother needs a husband, and you need a father.

YOUNG GUY

I thought I already had one.

ROGER

(sympathetically)

Guy...

YOUNG GUY

I thought you loved us, even when you went to the war. But you can't love us. If you did, you would never let this happen. If you did, you would fight for us.

ROGER steps forward and reaches for him, but YOUNG GUY steps back.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

Leave me be... leper!

YOUNG GUY storms off, leaving ROGER angry and sad.

CUT TO:

331 (310) GRASSY HILLSIDE - EARLY SATURDAY MORNING

YOUNG ROBIN is up on the grassy hillside. Two small red bags hang from a branch. YOUNG ROBIN, with his longbow, shoots both bags in rapid succession and each explodes in a cloud of white dust. He smiles at his feat, then frowns, seeing ROGER of Gisborne sneaking around at the foot of the hill. YOUNG ROBIN ducks behind the tall grass as ROGER goes around to the back of the manor. YOUNG ROBIN runs to the village.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

332 (310) VILLAGE

In the village, MALCOLM meets SWAIN and asks a question with a look.

SWAIN

Yes, I've readied an altar in the woods.

YOUNG ROBIN comes running in.

YOUNG ROBIN

He's back! The leper! Guy's father!

MALCOLM and SWAIN stop and turn to YOUNG ROBIN running in from behind them. YOUNG ROBIN points at the manor.

YOUNG ROBIN (cont'd)

He's in their house!

MALCOLM looks towards the manor. SWAIN reaches out an arm to him, but MALCOLM runs to the house.

YOUNG ROBIN tries to run after him, but LONGTHORN catches him by his jacket.

LONGTHORN

Hold! What's going on?

YOUNG ROBIN

The leper's back!

YOUNG ROBIN pulls free and runs after his father. LONGTHORN addresses the gathering villagers.

LONGTHORN

Do you hear that? The leper's back.
Risking all our lives again. Come on.

LONGTHORN steps forward, waving his arms for them to follow.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

Come on!

LONGTHORN leads the procession to the manor.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

333 (310) MANOR - MAIN ROOM

MALCOLM bursts in the front door.

MALCOLM
(demandingly)
Where is he?

YOUNG ISABELLA and YOUNG GUY are sitting in the chairs by the fireplace. YOUNG GUY stands. MALCOLM steps towards YOUNG GUY, looking around. YOUNG GUY grabs a burning stick from the fireplace and confronts MALCOLM.

MALCOLM (cont'd)
Out of my way, boy.

YOUNG GUY
(defyingly)
No, not after what you did to my
father.

YOUNG GUY thrusts the stick at MALCOLM, forcing him to step back. YOUNG GUY swings the stick again and MALCOLM ducks, then pushes YOUNG GUY into the table under the stairs, knocking over two goblets of wine.

The alcohol ignites, as does a curtain hanging over the table from the banister. YOUNG GUY stares at the rising flames. MALCOLM steps back.

MALCOLM
Get out!

YOUNG GUY glances at him.

MALCOLM (cont'd)
Get out!

YOUNG GUY grabs YOUNG ISABELLA's hand.

MALCOLM (cont'd)
Get your sister out of here!

YOUNG GUY pulls YOUNG ISABELLA out the door. MALCOLM goes upstairs.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

334 (310) MASTER'S CHAMBER

MALCOLM opens the door. He sees ROGER and GHISLAINE standing together, holding each other's two hands. GHISLAINE is wearing a fine gown and has a few blossoms in her hair. MALCOLM steps inside.

MALCOLM

Ghislaine, there's a fire. You must leave now.

MALCOLM closes the door. ROGER steps forward, alarmed. MALCOLM draws his sword.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

You were told not to return.

MALCOLM briefly points the sword at ROGER as smoke starts to rise between the floorboards.

ROGER

You expected me to stay away whilst you stole my wife?

MALCOLM

Your wife? The woman that you abandoned for years.

ROGER draws.

GHISLAINE

(plead)

Oh, please don't do this.

MALCOLM looks to GHISLAINE.

MALCOLM

(raise eyebrow)

Why are you not leaving? Go, go.

GHISLAINE

Not without you, both of you.

GHISLAINE steps forward but ROGER pushes her to the wall, out of the way.

ROGER and MALCOLM circle each other.

(CONTINUED)

ROGER

I was wrong... to give up without a fight, and I see it clearly now... how you had things planned from the moment I returned.

MALCOLM

You brought disease to your family. If you loved them, you would have stayed away.

ROGER

You know nothing of our love. It was she who came to me... in the leper colony.

GHISLAINE's face falls. MALCOLM glares at her.

ROGER (cont'd)

But perhaps your hold over her wasn't as strong as you thought.

MALCOLM charges. ROGER blocks. They fight.

GHISLAINE

Malcolm! Malcolm! He is my husband!
The father of my children!

GHISLAINE stretches her hand out towards MALCOLM, and he stops. MALCOLM says his line as he points to himself.

MALCOLM

And so am I!

ROGER is stunned.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Our son!

GHISLAINE looks pleadingly at ROGER.

ROGER

There is a child?!

ROGER attacks MALCOLM. MALCOLM blocks and kicks at ROGER. They fight.

(CONTINUED)

GHISLAINE

Stop!

ROGER and MALCOLM fight until MALCOLM throws ROGER to the floor.

CUT TO:

335 (310R) EXTERIOR MANOR HOUSE

YOUNG GUY stands with YOUNG ISABELLA, watching and waiting for their parents to come out. LONGTHORN stands nearby with several torches in his hand.

LONGTHORN

Look! Lord Malcolm is burning the place.

YOUNG GUY

No, it was an accident!

LONGTHORN holds the torches out and some village men take them. YOUNG ROBIN watches, entranced.

LONGTHORN

The only way to get rid of the disease!
Come on!

The villagers charge the manor.

YOUNG GUY

No, you're wrong! Don't do this!

SWAIN stands next to YOUNG ROBIN, trying to stop the men.

SWAIN

Stop! Stop!

SWAIN tries to grab a man as he passes. The men start lighting the walls of the house.

YOUNG ROBIN

Wait! My father's inside!

YOUNG ROBIN runs towards the house, but SWAIN pulls him back by the shoulders.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG ROBIN (cont'd)

No! No!

The men continue to light the building on fire.

The voice of present GISBORNE is heard as we fade out of the flashback and return to the present.

GISBORNE (VO)

I should have saved her.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

336 (310) STRANGER'S CAMP - A MISTY SUNRISE

GISBORNE sits, somber.

GISBORNE

I should have braved the flames.

ROBIN sits, somber as well.

STRANGER

It would have been too late.

GISBORNE

You don't know that.

STRANGER

She was already dead.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

337 (310) MANOR - MASTER'S CHAMBER

MALCOLM and ROGER continue to fight as smoke filters in.

GHISLAINE

No!

MALCOLM has the upper hand. ROGER tries to defend himself, his back to the wall. ROGER elbows MALCOLM. MALCOLM kicks him, then punches him several times before throwing him to the

(CONTINUED)

stairs at the foot of the bed. ROGER crawls up the steps. MALCOLM walks towards him, GHISLAINE follows. ROGER turns over on the steps to face MALCOLM, scrambling backwards. MALCOLM is delirious with the thought of finishing him, shaking his sword. ROGER crawls to the side of the bed.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

Please!

(beat)

This solves nothing.

ROGER raises his hand in defense. MALCOLM holds his sword at his throat. GHISLAINE grabs MALCOLM's right arm.

GHISLAINE (cont'd)

Enough!

Without thinking, MALCOLM throws his elbow back into her face in intense anger to free his arm. GHISLAINE screams and falls back, her head slamming onto the hard floor.

MALCOLM immediately comes to his senses, looks back at her and drops his sword. ROGER sits up. MALCOLM goes to GHISLAINE, coughing from the smoke. He kneels by her side and checks her.

ROGER staggers over, staring in horror. MALCOLM looks up at ROGER and fights back a sob, as does ROGER.

MALCOLM

She's dead.

ROGER holds the point of his sword at MALCOLM's throat. MALCOLM closes his eyes, waiting for the death he knows he deserves. ROGER stares at him, wondering why he no longer fights, and realizes MALCOLM loved her just as much as he did.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

338 (310R) STRANGER'S CAMP - MORNING

GISBORNE, hearing that it was MALCOLM that killed his mother and not the fire, gets up and attacks ROBIN, putting his hands around his throat.

ROBIN tries to pull them off.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Guy!

The STRANGER stands. ROBIN is sputtering and choking.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Guy, stop.

STRANGER

What will that achieve? He didn't kill Ghislaine.

GISBORNE looks intensely at the STRANGER.

GISBORNE

No, but his father did. And as his father's dead...

GISBORNE lets go of ROBIN's throat and reaches back to punch him.

ROBIN

But...

STRANGER

No, he isn't.

GISBORNE stops, confused. ROBIN, also confused, raises his head to look at the STRANGER.

GISBORNE

Explain yourself.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

339 (310) MANOR - MASTER'S CHAMBER

ROGER lowers his sword, then drops it and hangs his head.

ROGER

Go.

(coughs)

My children will be better off without me.

(CONTINUED)

ROGER kneels over GHISLAINE as MALCOLM stands.

ROGER (cont'd)
And I wish only to spend my last
moments with my wife... alone.

ROGER looks up at MALCOLM.

ROGER (cont'd)
Please!

ROGER picks up GHISLAINE's shoulders and cradles her in his arms, crying. He rocks her and kisses her. MALCOLM turns, opens the door, and is greeted by a roaring wall of flames which throw him backwards into the room.

CUT TO:

340 (310) EXTERIOR

The entire manor is engulfed in flames. SWAIN holds back a struggling YOUNG ROBIN.

SWAIN
Robin!

YOUNG ROBIN
(panic)
Let me go! My father's inside!

YOUNG ROBIN turns to YOUNG GUY, standing with YOUNG ISABELLA, behind him.

YOUNG ROBIN
Yours too, and your mother! Do
something!

YOUNG GUY watches in horror, thinking it's his fault.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

341 (310R) STRANGER'S CAMP

ROBIN kicks GISBORNE off of him. GISBORNE falls back.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN strides to the STRANGER, grabs his shoulders and pushes him back into a tree.

ROBIN

My father would never have left me
alone!

GISBORNE stands as ROBIN stops, frowns and peers into the STRANGER's hood.

The STRANGER puts a hand to ROBIN's chest. ROBIN glances at it and takes a step back. The STRANGER pulls his hood open wider, looks at ROBIN, then pushes it off all the way, revealing long, unkempt hair and a scruffy face half scarred from the fire. It's MALCOLM.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(whisper)

No... no!

ROBIN fights back his tears, shaking his head, staring.

MALCOLM

I'm sorry, Robin.

ROBIN

(shaking head)

No!

ROBIN turns, walks away, then faces him again.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I mourned for you!

MALCOLM stands, silent. ROBIN turns away again.

MALCOLM

How could I be your father... after
what I had done? After all I'd taught
you about honour. Robin...

ROBIN turns to look at him.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

I couldn't bear to see the shame in
your eyes.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN shifts his feet, shaking his head. GISBORNE addresses MALCOLM.

GISBORNE

You killed her. All these years I thought it was my fault, that my parents died because of the fire that I started, but it was you.

GISBORNE slowly steps towards MALCOLM, his anger rising.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

That guilt was with me every day.

GISBORNE pushes past ROBIN and grabs MALCOLM's shoulders.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

(roars)

Every day!

ROBIN pulls GISBORNE off.

ROBIN

Stop.

GISBORNE

(angry)

Can't you see he deserves this?! He's betrayed us both!

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE.

MALCOLM

(solemn)

You're right. Death would be a release.

ROBIN turns back to look at MALCOLM.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

There's been many times that I've been tempted to do the job myself.

ROBIN

And you expect us to feel sorry for you?!

(CONTINUED)

MALCOLM

Of course not.

GISBORNE

So why now?

ROBIN walks a few steps away.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Why tell us after all this time?

MALCOLM

Because of your brother.

ROBIN stops and looks back at MALCOLM.

MALCOLM

I need you two to save him.

GISBORNE

(exasperated)

Oh, this again!

GISBORNE turns away.

MALCOLM

Everything I've told you is the truth,
Guy.

MALCOLM looks at ROBIN.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

Son...

ROBIN shakes his head slowly, barely holding his temper, not looking at MALCOLM.

ROBIN

No. No, you lost the right to call me
son when you left me alone in the
world.

ROBIN looks at MALCOLM with hatred. MALCOLM sighs. ROBIN walks a few steps.

Momentary pause.

(CONTINUED)

MALCOLM

Maybe... but didn't it make you the
man you are today?

ROBIN looks up, pondering his words.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

342 (310) MANOR - EXTERIOR - LATE AFTERNOON

The manor is nothing but smoking ruins.

YOUNG ROBIN, YOUNG GUY and YOUNG ISABELLA stand in the same
place, watching. LONGTHORN comes out of the ruins.

LONGTHORN

Children! We've searched what is left
of Gisborne Manor. Your parents...
there's nothing left.

YOUNG GUY

You killed them!

YOUNG ROBIN watches YOUNG GUY.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

All of you. You murdered them.

LONGTHORN

You started the fire, boy.

YOUNG GUY hangs his head in shame, then takes YOUNG ISABELLA's
hand and leaves.

LONGTHORN

That's right. You go back to where you
came from. News of your father's shame
won't have reached France yet.

LONGTHORN smiles, watching them go.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

You're no longer welcome anywhere near
my lands!

(CONTINUED)

SWAIN

Your lands?

(chuckle)

Longthorn, you are not a noble. You have no right to this land. The village will become part of the Locksley estate again.

YOUNG ROBIN looks incredulously at SWAIN.

SWAIN (cont'd)

They are Robin's lands now.

YOUNG ROBIN

Me?

LONGTHORN

Him? You run along. There's no room for you here now either.

SWAIN

(quietly to Robin)

Robin, he's stealing from you, from your poor father.

LONGTHORN

I'm doing the boy a kindness.

(step forward)

Do you really think you can run this estate, boy?

YOUNG ROBIN looks overwhelmed.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)

Feed the people when they're hungry, clothe them when they freeze, hm? You're just a child.

YOUNG ROBIN turns and runs.

SWAIN

Robin!

LONGTHORN

I thought not. The duty falls to me. Right, let's start as we mean to go on, shall we?

(CONTINUED)

LONGTHORN steps towards the village.

LONGTHORN (cont'd)
Tax collection.

CUT TO:

343 (310) ROBIN'S MOTHER'S GRAVE

YOUNG ROBIN runs up to his mother's grave and throws himself down at the side, breathing heavily.

YOUNG ROBIN
I don't know what to do.

YOUNG ROBIN bows his head, puts his hands together and prays. He hears the words of his father echoing in his head.

MALCOLM (VO)
*You shouldn't stand by and let
something terrible happen because you
were too scared to do the right thing.*

The setting sun suddenly shines its golden light upon ROBIN and the cross. ROBIN opens his eyes, looks up at the cross, and sees his father's recurve bow leaning against it where there was nothing before. He stands up and stares at it, then takes it, realizing it's his now, and looks out at the sunset.

YOUNG ROBIN
Thank you... thank you.

YOUNG ROBIN runs back to village.

CUT TO:

344 (310) VILLAGE

LONGTHORN and his followers are terrorizing the inhabitants.

LONGTHORN
Get them out!

LONGTHORN waves his arm. The villagers are crying and panicked.

VILLAGE WOMAN
Leave us alone! Leave us alone!

(CONTINUED)

LONGTHORN

Stay out!

YOUNG ROBIN runs to the center of the village with his new bow and a quiver of white-fletched arrows on his back. One of LONGTHORN's men pulls his sword out at a villager. SWAIN looks around, helpless to intervene.

YOUNG ROBIN

Leave them be!

LONGTHORN turns around.

LONGTHORN

Ignore him!

YOUNG ROBIN draws, aims, and shoots.

One of LONGTHORN's men ducks the arrow. YOUNG ROBIN turns around and shoots again in another direction. The swordsman ducks, then runs away. LONGTHORN glances around in disbelief.

YOUNG ROBIN

(confidently)

Next time, I won't miss.

LONGTHORN

You stupid little boy!

LONGTHORN starts to advance on YOUNG ROBIN.

YOUNG ROBIN quickly pulls another arrow from his quiver, readies it, and draws.

LONGTHORN stops in his tracks, his mouth open in shock.

YOUNG ROBIN

My father never struck me. Neither
will you.

YOUNG ROBIN glances behind him.

YOUNG ROBIN (cont'd)

These are my people, and I will care
for them as my father intended.

LONGTHORN is dumbstruck.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG ROBIN (cont'd)

(boldly)

I am lord of the manor now.

SWAIN looks proudly at young ROBIN.

LONGTHORN

We'll see how long that lasts. Wait till you have to deal with your first poor harvest or bad winter. You'll be begging for help.

SWAIN steps forward and points at YOUNG ROBIN.

SWAIN

And he will have it.

VILLAGERS

Yeah!

LONGTHORN

(scornfully)

What, from a simpering priest and a few...

(look around)

... villagers?

YOUNG ROBIN still has his bow drawn at LONGTHORN. SWAIN and the villagers take a steadfast pose.

LONGTHORN realizes he cannot win, wipes his mouth with his hand, and quickly walks away. The villagers jeer.

VILLAGE MAN

Go on! Get out of here!

YOUNG ROBIN shoots the arrow past LONGTHORN's face into a tall post.

LONGTHORN stops. SWAIN laughs. LONGTHORN ducks under the arrow and continues walking as the villagers cheer. YOUNG ROBIN smiles. SWAIN claps, smiling proudly at him.

The villagers gather around YOUNG ROBIN. YOUNG ROBIN punches the air.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

(CONTINUED)

PRESENT: SHERWOOD FOREST

345 (310R) STRANGER'S CAMP - MORNING

MALCOLM

Both of your lives could have been so different... were it not for the... mistakes your parents made.

ROBIN

Well, we can't change that.

MALCOLM

I have watched you two. You nearly destroyed each other. But something has changed. Over the last few months you have put aside your differences and learned to work together. Just like it was meant to be. Now, you must save your brother.

ROBIN

You know where he is?

MALCOLM

Finally. After many years of searching. I thought if I could find him, tell him the truth about who he was... it seemed the right thing to do...

MALCOLM looks at GISBORNE.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

... for Ghislaine.

MALCOLM address both of them.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

It wasn't easy. He doesn't stay in the same place for long, but now he has no choice.

GISBORNE takes a step.

GISBORNE

Where is he?

(CONTINUED)

MALCOLM

York jail. He is to hang.

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN. ROBIN glances at GISBORNE.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

I'm too sick to help. I'm dying, Robin.

ROBIN blinks and looks down, not ready to lose him again.

ROBIN

Father...

MALCOLM

You are my last chance.

(look at Gisborne)

Together, I know you can both do this.
Remember the birthmark, shaped like an
arrowhead. It is why your mother named
him... Archer. You'll do this for me?

ROBIN bites his lip, looking down. He makes his decision, goes to MALCOLM, and puts his hands on his shoulders.

ROBIN

I won't let him die, Father.

GISBORNE

WE, won't let him die.

ROBIN gingerly gives his father a long, tight hug, fighting his tears, then steps back with glazed eyes.

MALCOLM

I wish I could see you three together
at last.

ROBIN sighs, starting to get dizzy.

ROBIN

Well, surely, we have... more time.

MALCOLM

I'm sorry.

ROBIN sighs again and groans as he realizes he's been drugged once more.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

No...

ROBIN falls on his back. GISBORNE looks up at MALCOLM. MALCOLM raises his pipe. GISBORNE spreads his arms out. MALCOLM blows a dart into GISBORNE's neck. GISBORNE grunts and grabs at it, then falls backwards.

MALCOLM

(sigh)
Save him...

MALCOLM looks at ROBIN, whose leg relaxes and settles to the ground.

MALCOLM (cont'd)

... and make peace with your past.

CUT TO:

346 (310R) LATE MORNING

ROBIN and GISBORNE wake up. The campfire has died to a small flame. ROBIN groans and sits up, holding his head. GISBORNE sits up as well. ROBIN brushes the dead leaves from his hair as GISBORNE stands up.

ROBIN

So, I'm guessing it wasn't a dream.

GISBORNE

No more talk.

GISBORNE walks a step past ROBIN.

ROBIN

You think we should head...

GISBORNE holds his hand out to ROBIN and finishes the sentence.

GISBORNE

...to York.

ROBIN reaches out and lets GISBORNE pull him to his feet. ROBIN nods once. GISBORNE starts walking. ROBIN picks up his bow and arrows and jogs in front of GISBORNE, but the effects from the darts haven't totally worn off yet.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Oh, oh, oh!

ROBIN and GISBORNE walk off.

JUMP TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

347 SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ROBIN and GISBORNE are walking in silence. Both are thinking about everything that just happened.

ROBIN

You know, I searched for you.

GISBORNE looks at him.

GISBORNE

You did?

ROBIN

I sent men to find you and Isabella and bring you back.

GISBORNE

I'd heard that men from Locksley were looking for us, but I...

ROBIN

You thought Longthorn sent them. That they were looking for you to punish you.

GISBORNE

Yeah.

Momentary pause.

ROBIN

What do you think our lives would have been like if you'd've come back?

(beat x3)

I wanted you back because, even though at times you could be a real pain in the backside, you were still a friend.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE looks at him.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I was barely 11 and I had just inherited everything my father had. What did I know about running an estate? I really needed a friend. Someone I could rely on. To help me.

GISBORNE

And you thought that I...

ROBIN

Think about it. We could have run it together. Side by side. Like brothers.

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN, remembering another incident from their past.

GISBORNE

(smile)

Maybe more like brothers-in-law.

ROBIN gives GISBORNE a look.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

You may have just been a kid, but even then you had a thing for my sister.

ROBIN and GISBORNE share a look.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

348 MANOR HOUSE

YOUNG GUY is sitting at a table. YOUNG ISABELLA comes down the stairs. YOUNG GUY looks at her. She is all "dolled" up.

YOUNG GUY

Where are you going?

YOUNG ISABELLA

Nowhere.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG ISABELLA heads for the door. YOUNG GUY looks at her with a raised eyebrow not believing her. YOUNG ISABELLA exits. YOUNG GUY follows.

CONTINUE TO:

349 VILLAGE

YOUNG GUY follows YOUNG ISABELLA out of the village. YOUNG GUY realizes she is heading to the forest.

CONTINUE TO:

350 SHERWOOD - MEADOW

YOUNG GUY follows YOUNG ISABELLA to the meadow. He sees a boy waiting for her. The boy's back is to him. YOUNG ISABELLA approaches the boy. The boy turns. It's YOUNG ROBIN.

YOUNG GUY

(mutter)

Robin.

YOUNG GUY watches them. He can't hear what they are saying. YOUNG ROBIN leads YOUNG ISABELLA to a log. They sit and talk. YOUNG ROBIN says something that makes YOUNG ISABELLA laugh. YOUNG ISABELLA looks up at YOUNG ROBIN. YOUNG ROBIN and YOUNG ISABELLA stare at each for a few moments, then YOUNG ROBIN kisses her.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

(mutter)

This stops now.

YOUNG GUY comes out of hiding and heads over to YOUNG ROBIN and YOUNG ISABELLA.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

(yell sternly)

Isabella!

YOUNG ROBIN and YOUNG ISABELLA break the kiss. YOUNG ISABELLA jumps to her feet.

YOUNG ISABELLA

Guy?

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG GUY

Come with me. Now!

YOUNG ISABELLA

But...

YOUNG GUY grabs her arm.

YOUNG GUY

Now!

YOUNG ISABELLA gives YOUNG ROBIN a look as YOUNG GUY drags her off.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT

351 FOREST PATH

ROBIN

I'd forgotten about that. Why were you so mad anyway?

GISBORNE

At the time, I thought it ill advised that my sister should be kissing her soon to be step-brother.

ROBIN chuckles. GISBORNE gives him a look.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

What?

ROBIN

If my father and your mother had have gotten married as they planned, then we would have been step-brothers.

GISBORNE

Your point?

ROBIN

Don't really have one.

They walk on in silence for a few moments.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)
I wasn't the only one who missed you
when you left.

GISBORNE gives ROBIN a look.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Deborah was really upset.

GISBORNE
Deborah?

ROBIN
Yeah. She had a thing for you even back
then.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

352 SHERWOOD FOREST - MEADOW

YOUNG ROBIN and YOUNG GUY are target practicing. Neither notice that two girls (YOUNG DEBORAH and YOUNG ANNA) are spying on them. YOUNG ROBIN hears a noise and looks at YOUNG GUY.

YOUNG ROBIN
(quietly)
Be right back.

YOUNG GUY gives him a "where are you going" look. YOUNG ROBIN gives him a "shhh" look. YOUNG ROBIN walks off. YOUNG GUY returns to practice.

PAN TO:

353 BEHIND THE GIRLS

YOUNG ROBIN sneaks up, unseen behind them. He says nothing.

YOUNG ANNA
(dreamy)
He's so cute?

YOUNG DEBORAH
I know. One day I'll marry him.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG ANNA

In your dreams Deborah. Master Robin is...

YOUNG DEBORAH

Robin? I'm not referring to Robin.

YOUNG ANNA

You mean Guy? You think Master Guy is cute?

YOUNG DEBORAH

Yes. Just look at the way he holds that bow.

Focus on YOUNG GUY as he aims and fires the bow at the target.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

And have seen him ride?

YOUNG ANNA gives her a look.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

He can *ride* me anytime.

YOUNG ANNA gives her an "I can't believe you said that" look.

YOUNG ANNA

Deborah! I...

YOUNG DEBORAH

Seriously. One day I will be his wife.

YOUNG ANNA

Keep dreaming, Deb. We don't stand a chance with them.

YOUNG ROBIN turns and leaves.

PAN TO:

354 GUY

YOUNG GUY has an arrow ready. He shoots as YOUNG ROBIN returns to the area. YOUNG GUY is readying another arrow when YOUNG ROBIN whispers something in his ear and points over to where

(CONTINUED)

the girls are hiding. YOUNG GUY turns and looks to where YOUNG ROBIN is pointing.

The girls, realizing they have been spotted, run away.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT

355 FOREST PATH

ROBIN

She cried as you walked away from the village with Isabella.

GISBORNE doesn't say anything he just thinks of another incident.

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

356 HILLSIDE OVERLOOKING VILLAGE - DAY AFTER FIRE WHEEL

YOUNG GUY is sitting on the hill looking down at the village. YOUNG DEBORAH approaches him. She goes to him and sits beside him.

YOUNG DEBORAH

(raise eyebrow)

Why didn't you say anything?

YOUNG GUY looks at her, not knowing what she is referring to.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

I saw you and Master Robin last night.

It was Robin that shot your arrow.

Momentary pause.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

Why didn't you...

YOUNG GUY

(sadly)

No one would've believed me.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG DEBORAH

But you didn't even try? You could have
been killed?

YOUNG DEBORAH places a hand on his arm. YOUNG GUY looks at
her.

YOUNG GUY

It's Deborah, isn't it?

YOUNG DEBORAH is surprised that he knows her name.

YOUNG DEBORAH

(smile)

Yes.

YOUNG GUY

(smile)

Thanks.

YOUNG DEBORAH

For what it's worth, I don't think
Master Robin would have let...

YOUNG GUY

(sneer)

Don't count on it.

YOUNG DEBORAH

You don't mean that.

YOUNG GUY

Robin can be a real spoiled brat when
he wants to be.

YOUNG GUY looks at her. YOUNG DEBORAH looks at him. Their eyes
lock. YOUNG GUY kisses her. YOUNG DEBORAH kisses him back.
YOUNG GUY lays her down on the grass. They start to make out.

[OFF-CAMERA: YOUNG ISABELLA is coming up the hill and calls
out.]

YOUNG ISABELLA (OS)

(yell)

Guy? Where are you?

YOUNG GUY and YOUNG DEBORAH break the kiss.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG GUY
(mutter)
Isabella.

YOUNG ISABELLA (OS)
Guy? Are you up there?

YOUNG GUY
See ya later, Deborah.

YOUNG GUY rises. YOUNG DEBORAH is still trying to catch her breath.

YOUNG DEBORAH
Bye. Guy.

YOUNG GUY leaves. YOUNG DEBORAH watches him leave with an "oh my god he kissed me" look. YOUNG GUY looks back. YOUNG DEBORAH waves.

CUT TO:

357 MEADOW - A FEW DAYS LATER

YOUNG GUY is target practicing. He hears a twig snap as someone approaches behind him. Without turning around, he addresses who he thinks it is.

YOUNG GUY
(annoyingly)
Go away, Robin.

YOUNG DEBORAH
(softly)
It's not Robin.

YOUNG GUY turns and looks at her. She continues walking to him. She is walking in a very seductive, enticing, way.

YOUNG GUY
Deborah. What are you...

YOUNG DEBORAH places her hand on his bow.

YOUNG DEBORAH
I was hoping you could teach me how to shoot?

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG GUY
(raise eyebrow)
Seriously?

YOUNG DEBORAH
Mm-hm.

YOUNG GUY
(smile)
Okay.

YOUNG GUY stands behind her.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
First...

YOUNG GUY moves her hair off her right shoulder, bringing it over across the back of her neck, to her left shoulder. He looks at her bare neck where he just moved the hair from. He then puts his arms around her and holds up the bow. He leans in over her shoulder, whispering in her ear.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
Put your left hand here.

YOUNG GUY indicates the spot where his left hand is. YOUNG DEBORAH places her left hand beside his.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
And your right hand here.

YOUNG GUY indicates the spot where his right hand is. YOUNG DEBORAH places her right hand beside his. He guides her arms into the proper positions. He says line as he gets an arrow.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
Then you take an arrow.

He brings the arrow up.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
And place it in the bow.

He loads the arrow.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
Now, you aim the arrow.

(CONTINUED)

He aims for the target.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
Once you have the shot lined up, You
release the arrow.

They fire the arrow.

YOUNG DEBORAH sighs as the arrow releases. YOUNG GUY looks at her neck, and gently kisses it. She leans back. He drops the bow and turns her to face him. He raises a hand to the side of her face and kisses her. She kisses him back. She wraps her arms around him and pulls him close. Without breaking the kiss, YOUNG GUY walks over to a tree and leans her up against it. YOUNG DEBORAH's back is against the tree. He breaks the kiss and looks at her.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)
(seductively)
A little bird told me you wanted to go
for a ride with me.

YOUNG DEBORAH
(smile)
This bird, it wouldn't happen to have
been a *robin*, would it?

YOUNG GUY
Might have been.

YOUNG DEBORAH
He heard us.

YOUNG GUY
(smile)
You still want to go for a ride?

She wraps her arms around him tighter.

YOUNG DEBORAH
Oh yes. More than anything.

YOUNG GUY smiles at her. She smiles back.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)
I've never been riding before, so...

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG GUY

(playful smile)

Don't worry. I can teach you that too.

She smiles. He smiles back. He picks up one of her legs and places it on his hip. He kisses her as his hand travels up the inside of her leg. She sighs. She locks her leg around his waist. He brings up her other leg. She locks that one around his waist as well. He kisses her deeper as she tightens her hold on him. He prepares to take her. When he is ready, he breaks the kiss and looks at her.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

You ready for this?

YOUNG DEBORAH

(smile)

Yes, Master Guy.

YOUNG GUY

Say it.

YOUNG DEBORAH

Take me.

YOUNG GUY brings his hands to her legs and runs them up the inside. He opens her up. She sighs at his touch. He kisses her as he slides himself inside of her. She moans. He brings his hands and arms up and braces himself against the tree. She wraps her legs tighter around him, pulling him closer, and allowing him to go deeper. He rides her, starting out slow and gradually building up speed. After a few minutes, he erupts inside of her. He looks at her and lovingly strokes the side of her face. He is about to withdraw from her when she smiles.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

Don't. Please stay. I love the way you
feel inside of me.

He smiles and kisses her. She tightens her leg grip on him. He stays inside her. She kisses him hard. After a few moments she breaks the kiss and looks at him.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

(seductively)

Again, Master.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG GUY
(surprise)
Now?

YOUNG DEBORAH
You make me feel so... good... I want
you to...

She pulls him closer.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)
I am yours, Master Guy. Take me for
another ride.

He strokes the side of her face.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)
Please.

YOUNG GUY
Well, if you insist.

YOUNG DEBORAH
Oh, I insist.

GUY smiles and pushes deeper into her. She moans.

YOUNG GUY
You like that?

YOUNG DEBORAH
Yes, Master.

He pushes deeper. She moans again. He whispers in her ear.

YOUNG GUY
Say it. Tell me you want it.

YOUNG DEBORAH
I want it. I want you. Please. I want
you so much.

He pushes into her.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)
Take me, Master. Take me.

(CONTINUED)

He pushes into her hard, and deep. She moans. He starts to pump her up.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

Faster.

He pumps her faster. He pushes deep inside her. It doesn't take long before he erupts inside of her. This time he exits her. He looks at her.

YOUNG GUY

Deborah, I...

He stops talking as he senses someone coming.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

Someone is coming.

YOUNG GUY removes YOUNG DEBORAH's legs from around his waist. He pulls his pants back up and she straightens out her dress. He goes over and picks up his bow.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

C'mere.

YOUNG DEBORAH goes to YOUNG GUY. She stands in front of him and they aim an arrow.

PAN TO THE LEFT:

358 FOCUS ON ROBIN

YOUNG ROBIN is walking toward the target practice area. He has his father's bow. He gets there and sees YOUNG GUY.

CONTINUE TO:

359 MEADOW

YOUNG ROBIN

Guy, what are you...

YOUNG GUY turns and YOUNG ROBIN sees YOUNG DEBORAH.

YOUNG GUY starts talking, and on the word "to" he looks at YOUNG DEBORAH and smiles.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG GUY

Teaching Deborah how to... shoot.

YOUNG DEBORAH

(smile)

And you are a great teacher. Can't wait
for my next lesson.

YOUNG ROBIN raises his eyebrows and gives them an "are you
guys feeling okay" look.

YOUNG DEBORAH releases her hold on the bow. YOUNG GUY looks at
her. YOUNG GUY lowers the bow.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

I should be getting back.

YOUNG GUY

I'll see you later.

YOUNG DEBORAH

Anytime.

DEBORAH smiles. YOUNG GUY smiles. YOUNG DEBORAH leaves. YOUNG
ROBIN watches YOUNG DEBORAH leave, then looks at YOUNG GUY.

YOUNG ROBIN

You okay?

YOUNG GUY

Never better. Why?

YOUNG ROBIN

You look, I don't know, different.

YOUNG GUY

I do?

YOUNG GUY raises the bow and fires the arrow. Bullseye.

YOUNG ROBIN gives him another look. He knows something is
different, he's just not sure what. He decides to change the
subject.

YOUNG ROBIN

So, is she any good?

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG GUY gives him a look.

YOUNG ROBIN (cont'd)
You said you were teaching her how
to...

YOUNG GUY
Oh. Right.

YOUNG ROBIN
Well. Is she?

YOUNG GUY
We've only just started but... Yeah.
She has... potential.

YOUNG ROBIN
Potential? Is she good or not, Guy?

YOUNG GUY smiles to himself.

YOUNG GUY
She's great.

YOUNG ROBIN gives him a look.

YOUNG ROBIN
Great? How...

YOUNG ROBIN notices the look in YOUNG GUY's eyes.

YOUNG ROBIN (cont'd)
You're not referring to her archery
skills, are you?

YOUNG GUY
What?

YOUNG ROBIN raises his bow and speaks as he fires an arrow at
the target.

YOUNG ROBIN
You like her.

YOUNG GUY
Robin I...

YOUNG ROBIN readies another arrow as he speaks.

YOUNG ROBIN

Hey. I approve. She is pretty.

YOUNG GUY

Yeah. She is.

YOUNG ROBIN shoots the arrow at the target. YOUNG GUY readies an arrow and shoots it at target.

CAMERA follows the arrow to the target where it splits YOUNG ROBIN's arrow.

YOUNG ROBIN's eyes go wide and he turns to YOUNG GUY.

YOUNG ROBIN

Woah. How'd you do that?

YOUNG GUY

Lucky shot.

YOUNG ROBIN

Bet you can't do it again.

The boys share a look and then ready an arrow.

CUT TO:

360 MANOR - GUY'S ROOM - A FEW HOURS AFTER ROGER BANISHED

YOUNG GUY enters his room. He sees YOUNG DEBORAH sitting on the edge of the bed. She looks at him. She pats the bed. He goes to her. He sits.

YOUNG DEBORAH

I'm sorry.

He hugs her, tightly, burying his head in her shoulder. He starts to cry. She comforts him.

After a few moments, he looks at her. He strokes the side of her face lovingly. She smiles at him. He kisses her. He lays her back on the bed. He pins her arms to the bed and hungrily kisses her.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

361 A FEW HOURS LATER

YOUNG GUY and YOUNG DEBORAH are laying in bed. She has her head resting on his chest. He is stroking her hair.

YOUNG GUY

I have something for you.

She looks up at him.

He gets up from the bed and walks over to a table. He picks up a box, then returns to bed.

She sits up in the bed. He sits beside her. He hands her the box. She opens it. It's a necklace, with a black arrow pendant.

YOUNG DEBORAH

Guy, I can't...

YOUNG GUY looks at her and cups her face.

YOUNG GUY

Please. Take it.

(beat)

You are the best thing to happen to me
in a long time. I don't know how I'd
get through this without you.

He smiles at her. She smiles back.

YOUNG DEBORAH

Put it on me?

YOUNG DEBORAH hands him the necklace and turns her head so he can put it on her. He does. She turns back to face him.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

I shall wear this always.

She kisses him. He lays her back down on the bed and they make love.

[Note: She will always have this necklace on unless it is stated that she doesn't]

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

362 VILLAGE - YOUNG GUY IS RETURNING FROM VISIT TO ROGER

YOUNG GUY walks through village, looking upset. He looks up and sees YOUNG DEBORAH. She jerks her head to the barn. He understands and heads to it. YOUNG DEBORAH also heads to barn. We see YOUNG DEBORAH enter the barn. YOUNG GUY picks up his pace.

CONTINUE TO:

363 BARN

YOUNG DEBORAH is standing near the back wall. YOUNG GUY enters. He sees her and goes to her. He grabs her, kisses her, and pushes her up against the wall.

YOUNG DEBORAH

Guy, I...

YOUNG GUY puts a finger to her lips, shushing her.

YOUNG GUY

No talking.

He kisses her hard. She kisses back. She wraps her arms around his neck and pulls him close. He brings her legs up around his waist. She is straddling him. He prepares to take her. He thrusts into her hard and fast. She moans and sighs upon his entry. He stays kissing her as he rides her till he explodes. He breaks the kiss and looks at her.

YOUNG GUY (cont'd)

Tomorrow my whole life will change.

YOUNG DEBORAH

(confused)

What do you mean?

He strokes her face.

YOUNG GUY

Promise me you'll still...

YOUNG DEBORAH

Guy, nothing could ever keep me away.
As long as you want me, I'll be here.

(CONTINUED)

He smiles and kisses her.

We hear present day ROBIN's voice trying to get GISBORNE's attention as we fade out of flashback and return to the present.

ROBIN (VO)

Guy? ... Guy?

RETURN TO PRESENT:

PRESENT

364 FOREST PATH

ROBIN is looking at GISBORNE.

ROBIN

Guy?

GISBORNE looks a million miles away. He never connected the Deborah he knew then to the one that he met when he returned to Locksley.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Guy?

ROBIN snaps his fingers. GISBORNE looks at him.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(concern)

You okay?

GISBORNE

Yeah.

ROBIN

(curious)

Where were you?

GISBORNE

(raise eyebrow)

What?

ROBIN

What were you thinking of?

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

When you brought Deborah to the camp that day, you knew she was the Deborah that we knew...

ROBIN

Yeah. Of course.

GISBORNE

Why didn't you say anything?

ROBIN

Like what?

Silence.

ROBIN (cont'd)

You two weren't that close back then. I figured you probably forgot...

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Wait...

ROBIN places his hand on GISBORNE's arm, and they stop.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Were you and she...

GISBORNE

It was a long time ago. I...

ROBIN

You were.

ROBIN remembers the archery lesson.

ROBIN (cont'd)

That day I found you two together at the target practice site, you weren't giving her "archery" lessons, were you?

GISBORNE

Drop it, Robin.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE shakes ROBIN's hand off his arm. ROBIN remembers another incident.

ROBIN
Now it all makes sense.

GISBORNE
(raise eyebrow)
What does?

FLASHBACK TO PAST:

PAST

365 MANOR HOUSE

YOUNG ROBIN is sitting at the table. YOUNG DEBORAH enters.

YOUNG DEBORAH
Aren't you going to do anything?

YOUNG ROBIN looks at YOUNG DEBORAH not knowing what she is talking about.

YOUNG ROBIN
(raise eyebrow)
About?

YOUNG DEBORAH
Guy. And Isabella. They've been gone for weeks.

YOUNG ROBIN
So?

YOUNG DEBORAH
Can't you send someone after them?
Bring them back?

YOUNG ROBIN
Why?

YOUNG DEBORAH leans on the table. Her necklace dangles.

YOUNG DEBORAH
Don't you care?

(CONTINUED)

Momentary pause.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)
Robin, he's your friend. He's lost everything too. You two should be...

YOUNG ROBIN
He left on his own. I didn't...

YOUNG DEBORAH
He left because he blamed himself for the fire and...

YOUNG ROBIN
Deborah, Guy is...

YOUNG DEBORAH
He is alone, Robin. You can't just abandon him. He needs his friends. He needs us, the people who love him. If he doesn't come back, his guilt will consume him, eat away at him, forever. The Guy we know, will cease to exist, and I hate to think what he will turn into.

(plead)
Robin, please, you...

YOUNG ROBIN
(relent)
Okay.
(beat)
No promises, but I'll try.

YOUNG DEBORAH
(smile)
Thank you.

YOUNG DEBORAH turns to leave.

YOUNG ROBIN
Oh, Deborah.

YOUNG DEBORAH looks back at YOUNG ROBIN.

YOUNG DEBORAH
Yes.

(CONTINUED)

YOUNG ROBIN

Thanks.

YOUNG DEBORAH

For what?

YOUNG ROBIN

For not talking to me like everyone else. I need people who are not afraid to speak their mind. I'm sick of "Yes, m'lord", "Right away, m'lord", "Whatever you say, m'lord".

YOUNG DEBORAH smiles.

YOUNG ROBIN (cont'd)

Would you like to work for me? Here at the Manor House?

YOUNG DEBORAH

Really?

YOUNG ROBIN

Yes.

(beat)

Your first job will be to round up some men to search for Guy and Isabella.

YOUNG DEBORAH runs to him and hugs him.

YOUNG DEBORAH

(smile)

Thank you.

They break the hug and YOUNG DEBORAH looks at him.

YOUNG DEBORAH (cont'd)

And you know what?

(beat)

When Guy gets back, he would be a perfect right hand. You two would make a great team.

YOUNG DEBORAH turns and exits. YOUNG ROBIN reflects on what she said.

RETURN TO PRESENT:

(CONTINUED)

PRESENT

366 FOREST PATH

ROBIN

After about a year, she gave up. I never knew that you two actually hooked up. I always thought it was just her. I see now that she never got over you. You sure did cast quite the spell on her.

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE. (When Robin mentions the pendant Gisborne looks at him.)

ROBIN (cont'd)

I thought that black arrow pendant she always wore she made herself. But it was a gift. From you. Wasn't it?

GISBORNE

(surprise)

She still wore it? Even after...

ROBIN

She never took it off.

GISBORNE looks at ground.

ROBIN (cont'd)

She was wearing it the day I left Locksley for...

ROBIN notices the look on GISBORNE's face.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I can't believe you didn't know it was her? Didn't she say anything to you when you arrived at Locksley?

GISBORNE

No. She never said a word.

Momentary pause.

ROBIN remembers that he has the pendant back at camp.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

When we get back to camp, I have something for you.

GISBORNE gives him a look.

ROBIN

I think Deborah would want you to have it.

GISBORNE is curious. He gives Robin a look but can tell he will not reveal anything.

They walk in silence for a few minutes.

ROBIN

If it will make you feel better, you can hit me.

GISBORNE stops and looks at ROBIN. ROBIN stops and looks at GISBORNE.

GISBORNE

(raise eyebrow)
Why would I hit you, Robin?

ROBIN drops his bow.

ROBIN

Come on, I know you want to.

ROBIN drops his quiver.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I did some terrible things to you back then.

GISBORNE

(agreeingly)
Yeah. You did.

ROBIN

And last night dredged them all up again.

Momentary pause. GISBORNE looks at ROBIN.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)

If we're going to rescue Archer, then
we need to bury the past once and for
all.

GISBORNE

You're right.

ROBIN

Thanks. I think. So...

GISBORNE swings. They fight. We stay with the fight for a few
minutes then cut to next scene.

CUT TO:

367 ELSEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ALLAN and MUCH are out searching for Robin and Gisborne. ALLAN
has his bow with him.

MUCH

They have to be somewhere.

ALLAN

Wherever they've been all night it
must have been important. And...

ALLAN hears something and stops. He raises his hand in the
"stop" gesture.

ALLAN

You hear that?

MUCH doesn't hear it.

MUCH

What?

ALLAN

(point)
Over there.

ALLAN runs off in the direction of the sound. MUCH follows.

CONTINUE TO:

(CONTINUED)

368 FIGHT LOCATION

ALLAN and MUCH see GISBORNE and ROBIN fighting.

ALLAN

What are they....

MUCH

Maybe they're just practicing.

ALLAN

I don't think so.

ALLAN raises his bow, readies an arrow, and aims. He aims the arrow at the tree near ROBIN and GISBORNE but over their heads. He just wants to fire a warning shot. Just as ALLAN is about to release the arrow, MUCH turns to ALLAN and, getting the wrong idea tries to knock the bow out of ALLAN's hands. MUCH says line as he grabs for bow.

MUCH

What are you....

The arrow releases. Only now it is heading straight for ROBIN and GISBORNE.

ALLAN

Much.

PAN TO:

369 ROBIN AND GISBORNE

ROBIN hears the arrow coming. He pushes GISBORNE backwards, then falls back to avoid the arrow's path. The arrow just misses them and hits the tree. GISBORNE manages not to fall over from ROBIN's push. Both turn to see the arrow in the tree.

ROBIN

Where...

ROBIN sees MUCH and ALLAN running to them. ALLAN holding his bow at his side. ROBIN goes over and pulls the arrow out of the tree. He offers it to ALLAN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Yours, I take it.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Ah yeah. But I can explain.

ROBIN gives ALLAN a "go ahead, explain" look. GISBORNE walks over. ALLAN opens his mouth to say something.

MUCH

It was my fault. I knocked the bow and...

ROBIN

Okay. But what were you aiming at?

ALLAN

Nothing. I just wanted to fire a shot to get you two to stop fighting. Why were you fighting anyway?

ROBIN looks to GISBORNE. GISBORNE looks at ROBIN. GISBORNE starts to laugh. ROBIN starts to laugh. MUCH and ALLAN look at them confused.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Want to fill us in on the...

ROBIN

Back at camp.

ROBIN picks up his bow and quiver and heads off. GISBORNE follows him. MUCH and ALLAN look at each other and then follow them.

JUMP TO:

370 OUTLAW CAMP

LITTLE JOHN and TUCK are alone.

LITTLE JOHN

I don't like this. Robin never stays out all night. Something must have happened.

TUCK

He's with Guy. I'm...

LITTLE JOHN scoffs. TUCK continues his line without stopping.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK (cont'd)
...sure they are okay.

LITTLE JOHN
(softly, sadly)
Things aren't the same anymore.

TUCK
What do you mean?

LITTLE JOHN
You weren't here at the beginning. You
don't know.

TUCK
Then tell me.

LITTLE JOHN
It was so different in the beginning.
Our goal was clear.

TUCK can tell that LITTLE JOHN is not happy.

TUCK
And now it isn't?

LITTLE JOHN
That's not what I meant.

TUCK
Well then, please explain.

LITTLE JOHN goes quiet. TUCK waits for him to continue.

JUMP TO:

371 ELSEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ROBIN, GISBORNE, ALLAN, and MUCH are heading back to the camp.
ROBIN and GISBORNE are a few paces ahead of ALLAN and MUCH.
Focus on ROBIN and GISBORNE.

ROBIN
How much you think we should tell them?

GISBORNE
How much do you want to tell them?

(CONTINUED)

Momentary pause.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

You think they could handle the whole truth?

ROBIN

I'm pretty sure Much and Allan could. Maybe Tuck.

GISBORNE

And John?

ROBIN

Not sure. He still isn't comfortable with you being around.

GISBORNE

I've noticed.

They walk on.

JUMP TO:

372 OUTLAW CAMP

LITTLE JOHN

Ask Much. Ask Allan.

TUCK

Ask them what?

LITTLE JOHN

It used to always be Robin and Much. Much used to always have his back. Much was the one that always backed him. But ever since we got back, it's been Gisborne.

LITTLE JOHN says GISBORNE's name like he still hates the man.

TUCK

I see.

LITTLE JOHN

Gisborne has become the one that Robin turns to.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

And that's a bad thing?

LITTLE JOHN

What about us? We've been here since...

TUCK

(understanding)

And you think Guy is taking over.

LITTLE JOHN

Gisborne is a snake. He always was, and he always will be. I don't see how Robin can so easily welcome him into our group.

TUCK

Is that all you are concerned about?

LITTLE JOHN

No. Robin treats Gisborne like... Like...

TUCK thinks he understands.

TUCK

Like a right hand, a second in command?

LITTLE JOHN

Yeah.

TUCK

And you don't think he's qualified for the position.

LITTLE JOHN

(raise eyebrow)

Qualified? Gisborne is the enemy he...

TUCK

Was, John. He was the enemy.

(beat)

He has proven his worth over and over. Whatever he was, he is not that man now.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

He'll never truly be one of us. He's a noble, a knight. He...

TUCK

So's Robin.

Momentary pause.

TUCK (cont'd)

John, you have to...

LITTLE JOHN looks out the door and sees ROBIN, GISBORNE, ALLAN, and MUCH coming.

LITTLE JOHN

They're coming.

TUCK goes to the door to see for himself. He pats LITTLE JOHN on the back as he says his line.

TUCK

See. They are fine. Come let's sit.
Don't want them thinking we were worried.

LITTLE JOHN

But we were.

TUCK gives him a look, then returns to where he was sitting. LITTLE JOHN leans back on the door.

PAN TO:

373 OUTSIDE CAMP

ROBIN, GISBORNE, ALLAN, and MUCH walk up to, and enter, the camp.

CONTINUE TO:

374 (311R) OUTLAW CAMP

LITTLE JOHN stands impatiently in the entrance, leaning a hand on a post on either side, tapping his fingers. TUCK is standing in front of the bunks. ROBIN heads to a stump. GISBORNE heads to a bed and sits.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

So where have you two been?

GISBORNE

Little trip down memory lane.

ROBIN sits somewhat patiently on the stump, draping his arm over the rope ladder, dazed from lack of sleep, and overwhelmed by his recent experience.

ROBIN (VO)

(thought)

*Would they understand if I told them?
Could I tell them? We've kept this
hidden for so long. Not even Much knows
the history I share with Guy.*

ALLAN

Is that what...?

GISBORNE lays down. ROBIN looks to the ground.

ROBIN

I've been with my father.

MUCH

I thought your father was dead.

ROBIN

(quietly)

So did I.

GISBORNE

So did I. Until Malcolm met us last night and told us we were almost family. And that...

LITTLE JOHN looks GISBORNE.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

...we share a brother.

MUCH

(scoffs)

What?

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN looks back and forth between GISBORNE and ROBIN, trying to determine if they're joking.

MUCH (cont'd)

A brother?

MUCH looks at ROBIN to confirm it. ROBIN raises his eyebrows, slightly nodding.

MUCH (cont'd)

Both of you?

ROBIN

(nod)

My father... his mother.

MUCH takes a step towards ROBIN, then glances at GISBORNE.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Our brother is in jail in York...
awaiting execution.

LITTLE JOHN's head snaps to look at ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)

And I promised my dying father that I
would save him.

(face turns intense)

... and I intend to honour it.

ROBIN sits up straighter. Looks at each in turn while speaking.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Me and Guy will go to York and bring
him back. If it were any of you, you
know I'd do the same.

GISBORNE

You still believe good conquers evil?

(beat)

To defeat Isabella we need our brother
in York.

TUCK

(calmly)

Who is this brother, Robin? What do
you know...

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

His name is Archer. We've never met.

(deep breath)

All I know is he's traveled far and wide and has a knowledge of exotic weapons he's brought back from the East.

GISBORNE

Isabella's forces are far greater than ours. Archer's weapons will make us stronger.

GISBORNE glances at MUCH, who walks over to ROBIN.

MUCH

We all go.

ROBIN

No. Guy and I will go alone. I need you here to protect the people from Isabella.

MUCH

Who's going to protect you?

ROBIN

Much, we'll be fine!

LITTLE JOHN scoffs.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(impatiently)

No-one is going to recognize us in York.

TUCK, deliberately not looking at ROBIN, is not agreeing with him at all. He feels this could be a trap. Before he can say anything, ROBIN tries to reassure them.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(decisively)

It'll be a simple in and out. We'll be back soon.

ROBIN stands and pats MUCH on the shoulder. MUCH nods, accepting ROBIN's decision. ROBIN leaves, deliberately leaving

(CONTINUED)

his recurve bow behind, knowing it will identify him immediately. GISBORNE follows ROBIN out of camp.

CUT TO:

YORK

375 (311) TOWN

Establishing town shot.

JUMP TO:

376 (311) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

Two guards come down the stairs. In a cell with about ten prisoners, ARCHER and an OLD MAN sit against the wall, near the cell's front.

GUARD

Archer! It's time.

The OLD MAN gives ARCHER a sympathetic look.

GUARD (cont'd)

God have mercy on ya.

The keys jingle as the guard unlocks the door. The OLD MAN and ARCHER exchange looks. ARCHER gets up, seemingly resigned to his fate. The OLD MAN looks up at him.

OLD MAN

Rest in peace.

ARCHER nods, resolved. He walks out the door and the guard grabs him and pushes him up the stairs while the second one locks the door again.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

377 (311) CASTLE - WEST EXTERIOR CORRIDOR

ISABELLA walks down the west corridor as her Guard comes up the small steps from the courtyard.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Is there any news of my brother?

ISABELLA'S GUARD

No, Sheriff.

ISABELLA

And nothing on Hood, either?

ISABELLA'S GUARD

No.

The Guard waits for her to join him at the top of the steps. Behind him waits LIPSCOMB, a mute with a scar running from the corner of his mouth back to his right ear.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

This is Lipscomb, Sheriff. Collects the toll for you, from the Great North Road.

ISABELLA

Thank you.

ISABELLA goes down a few steps to Lipscomb.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Your loyalties will be rewarded, I assure you. And if you hear or see anything, you report to me immediately.

LIPSCOMB nods earnestly. Coins jingle as ISABELLA reaches into her purse.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Hood and his men are spreading terror throughout Nottingham. Your help in finding them...

ISABELLA holds up a gold coin.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

...keeps us all safe. Here.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA puts the coin into LIPSCOMB's hand, and he closes his fist over it. Isabella's Guard taps his shoulder to dismiss him. ISABELLA watches him go with evil eyes.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Let's hope this little Judas does better than the last one I paid good money for.

(temper rising)

I want them found!

ISABELLA looks back at Guard.

CUT TO:

MEANWHILE

YORK

378 (311) CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

Candles are set up in candelabras all over the room. White roses surround them. Two lovers are kissing audibly on the bed.

A woman (GWENETH) sighs, lying next to the man (ARCHER) kissing her neck. She turns over and sits up. ARCHER also sits up so he can keep on kissing her neck. GWENETH sighs in pleasure.

ARCHER

You are glorious, Gweneth.

He puts his face next to hers.

GWENETH

Am I? I'm not sure my husband would agree.

GWENETH puts her left hand up to ARCHER's head. He pulls her hand down again, looking at her wedding ring.

ARCHER

The Sheriff of York is a fool to neglect such a passionate, beautiful woman.

(CONTINUED)

GWENETH

Yes, well, I don't like to complain,
but sometimes I just feel so under-
appreciated.

ARCHER turns her face to his.

ARCHER

Well, shall we do something about that?

GWENETH smiles.

JUMP TO:

LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

379 (311) YORK ROAD - TOLL HOUSE

GISBORNE, riding a white horse, and ROBIN, riding a brown horse, gallop up and stop at the sight of a toll house, where LIPSCOMB is opening the gate for a patron.

GISBORNE

Toll house.

ROBIN

(shake head)

It's not worth the risk.

LIPSCOMB closes the gate.

GISBORNE

(amiably)

Well, they collect money for Isabella.

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Robbing them is robbing her.

ROBIN says nothing. GISBORNE clicks his horse forward. ROBIN follows against his better judgment.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

380 (311) INSIDE

LIPSCOMB is on his knees in front of ROBIN, who is holding the collection purse. LIPSCOMB reaches back but GISBORNE puts his sword on his arm.

GISBORNE

Don't... move.

ROBIN pulls out a handful of coins and lets them fall back in, sighing unhappily.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Is that everything?

ROBIN

(sullenly)

Let's go.

ROBIN goes out the door, which is behind GISBORNE. GISBORNE puts the point of his sword in LIPSCOMB's back.

GISBORNE

Stay on your knees!

GISBORNE follows ROBIN out the door. LIPSCOMB bravely turns to look at the robbers with narrowed eyes, his scar purple from unexpressed indignation.

JUMP TO:

YORK

381 (311) CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

GWENETH and ARCHER stand in the middle of the room, kissing. ARCHER pulls back.

ARCHER

I really must get back to the dungeon before your husband comes back.

GWENETH

Yes, the Sheriff would be very upset.

GWENETH tries to kiss ARCHER.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

Yes, he would.

He kisses her.

GWENETH

He is the most powerful man in York.

She kisses him.

ARCHER

Yes, he is.

ARCHER puts both his hands on GWENETH's face.

ARCHER (cont'd)

And if you're as fond of me as I am of you...

GWENETH

You know how fond I am of you.

She tries to kiss him, but he stops her.

ARCHER

Then perhaps you might speak to him about not hanging me next week.

ARCHER wraps his arms around her, and she nestles into his shoulder.

ARCHER (cont'd)

You can tell him that I fully intend to deliver the weapons his cousin paid for.

GWENETH turns away.

ARCHER (cont'd)

It's all a big mistake.

ARCHER pulls on his shirt.

ARCHER (cont'd)

I'm completely innocent.

(CONTINUED)

GWENETH stands in front of her mirror, putting her jewellery back on.

ARCHER (cont'd)

You heard the part about the hanging?

GWENETH steps briefly back from the mirror.

GWENETH

Yes, of course.

ARCHER picks up a goblet.

ARCHER

And if you find a good moment, you might want to suggest some sort of, em...

(tilt head)

...pardon.

ARCHER takes a drink.

ARCHER (cont'd)

And I will show him one of the mysteries of the Orient.

GWENETH

Mm, like the one you showed me?

ARCHER

(chuckle)

Not quite the same one.

GWENETH giggles. ARCHER draws her forward by the hand.

ARCHER

You see, this is the mystery of how something glittering and precious, like you...

(kiss her hand)

...can be made out of base metal.

GWENETH's eyes widen. ARCHER pulls her into an embrace.

ARCHER (cont'd)

The alchemist's art... of making gold.

ARCHER gives her a long kiss.

GWENETH
(breathing heavily)
Ever since I've known you, you make me
feel so... alive.

ARCHER guides her to sit together on the foot of the bed.

ARCHER
And it would be a shame if anything
were to happen to me that might
interfere with that... alive feeling.

He kisses her.

ARCHER (cont'd)
Mm.

ARCHER keeps his forehead on hers.

ARCHER (cont'd)
By the way, you didn't happen to bring
any food with you, did you? It was a
big success with the other lads last
time.

GWENETH laughs. ARCHER kisses her and pulls her back onto the
bed.

CUT TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

382 (311) DUNGEONS

ARCHER drops several coins into the guard's outstretched hand.
He holds a cloth tied into a bag in his other hand.

ARCHER
Thank you, my good man.

ARCHER steps into the cell, looking behind him. The OLD MAN is
amazed.

OLD MAN
You said they were going to kill you.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

Probably next time.

OLD MAN

You said that last time.

ARCHER bends down to the OLD MAN and sets the cloth bag on the floor in front of him.

ARCHER

Hungry?

The other prisoners lean forward as ARCHER unwraps sausages, bread, and fruit. One leans in very closely to ARCHER's right. ARCHER stops him and holds up a finger.

ARCHER (cont'd)

I'll take offers.

OLD MAN

I'll give you ten gold coins for that sausage.

ARCHER

(hold up a sausage)

I accept.

ARCHER holds out his hand. The OLD MAN twice mimes taking coins out of his pocket and dropping them into ARCHER's hand. ARCHER wiggles his fingers for more. The OLD MAN frowns in mock frustration and slaps another into his hand. ARCHER holds an invisible coin to his lips and glances at the OLD MAN before he bites on it. The OLD MAN watches apprehensively.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Good as gold.

They both laugh at their joke as ARCHER hands over the sausage. The OLD MAN takes a bite. ARCHER gently slaps his shoulder, then starts tossing food to the others in turn.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Eat up, lads. Enjoy the fruits of my labour.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

MEANWHILE**NOTTINGHAM**

383 (311R) CASTLE - SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

ISABELLA

(raise eyebrow)

And you are absolutely certain he saw them together?

ISABELLA'S GUARD

Yes, Sheriff.

ISABELLA turns away, wrinkling her nose. She walks away while thinking to herself.

ISABELLA (VO)

(thought)

I'd've thought after Guy's last stunt that Robin would have severed ties with him. But it seems Robin has let him back in.

Then says the following aloud.

ISABELLA

You said they were on their way to York?

ISABELLA'S GUARD

Yes, Sheriff.

ISABELLA

York?

ISABELLA turns to the fire.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

(confused)

Why York? Do you think they're plotting against me?

ISABELLA'S GUARD

I know nothing more, Sheriff.

ISABELLA, totally confounded, goes to sit at her desk.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Then you must go to York immediately,
as my emissary. I'll assemble soldiers
and I will follow you.

Isabella's Guard bows his head and starts to leave. ISABELLA
points to him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Go to the Sheriff of York. Warn him
that two murderous scoundrels are
fouling his domain, Guy of Gisborne
and Robin Hood. Tell him... I will
offer 100 crowns for their heads,
each... alive.

Isabella's Guard bows his head again and leaves.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

(chuckle)
Oh, yes. I want them alive.

CUT TO:

YORK

384 (311) OUTSIDE GATES

ROBIN and GISBORNE gallop up to the gates of York, whose castle
is at least twice the size of Nottingham's.

CONTINUE TO:

384b(311) TOWN

In the town, they walk their horses through the narrow streets.
They stop and look up at the walls.

OFF CAMERA they hear a sergeant giving orders.

SERGEANT (OS)

Attention! Left turn! Stand at ease!

GISBORNE

(bit disheartened)
He's inside that.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(cheerfully)
Well, it can't be that difficult...
can it?

ROBIN leads his horse on. GISBORNE follows.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

385 SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

TUCK and LITTLE JOHN walk down the road with sacks, making a food drop in Robin's absence. MUCH and ALLAN walk a few paces behind them.

LITTLE JOHN
I can't believe Robin never told us
that he and Gisborne go way back.

ALLAN
I can't believe they share a brother.

LITTLE JOHN
Robin never once mentioned that he and
Gisborne grew up together. That they
had issues that went back to their
childhood.

TUCK
It was in the past.
(beat)
A past they both wanted to forget.

ALLAN
If Guy and Robin share a brother, then
that sorta makes them step-brothers.
Which makes Isabella Robin's sorta
step-sister.

TUCK
We are striving not just to protect
Nottingham, but England. Not to settle
old scores, John. Robin and Gisborne
put aside their issues a long time ago.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

Did they?

(beat)

They might have put their present issues behind them, but I'm not to sure of the past ones.

ALLAN

John, Robin, and Guy trust each other now. They will not turn their backs on one another. They are family.

LITTLE JOHN

So are we.

ALLAN

You know, you've never accepted Guy.

(look to Much)

Neither have you.

LITTLE JOHN

I admit. I did not like the idea of Gisborne joining us.

ALLAN

You can't even call him by his name. He has been fighting with us, by our side, for almost a year. And you still don't trust him.

TUCK

Allan.

ALLAN

Do you know how hard it was for him to work for the Sheriff?

(beat)

I saw what it did to him. I saw how he was constantly talked down to, how he battled with the choices he was forced to make. Now his own sister wants him dead.

(beat)

We don't know the whole story of what their past was, but the fact that they can work together and trust each other, it has to be worth something.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

You're right. Robin and Guy have been on this journey for years. Their paths keep crossing.

(beat)

And now they've learned they share a brother. We have to let them do this.

MUCH, who has been quiet throughout this entire scene, speaks up. Everyone looks at him.

MUCH

I've known Robin almost my entire life.

(beat)

I never knew the whole story about how his father died.

MUCH corrects himself.

MUCH (cont'd)

I mean how he was supposed to have died. When we arrived in Locksley, Robin had already been lord of the manor for a season.

(beat)

We'd heard the story about the fire that killed Lord Malcolm, Sir Roger, and Sir Roger's wife. But...

(beat)

...no one ever mentioned Sir Roger's full name.

MUCH goes quiet. Everyone lowers their eyes and looks at the ground.

JUMP TO:

YORK

386 (311) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

ARCHER is brought in by two guards. The SHERIFF of York, who is a short man with white hair, brings in GWENETH behind them, holding her hand high. ARCHER smugly nods at the SHERIFF as he stands before him.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF OF YORK

Is this petty thief the one you mean?

GWENETH

Yes, Harold.

ARCHER

With all due respect, Sheriff, I have
to object to the use of the word petty.

The SHERIFF glances at a guard and jerks his head towards
ARCHER. The guard punches ARCHER in the stomach. ARCHER doubles
over.

ARCHER (cont'd)

(breathlessly)

Go ahead and use it if you like.

The SHERIFF steps forward and grabs ARCHER's chin.

SHERIFF OF YORK

I know you. You're the one who took
money from my cousin, but never
delivered the weapons he purchased.

The SHERIFF roughly removes his hand. ARCHER smiles up at the
SHERIFF.

ARCHER

A misunderstanding.

GWENETH

(look at Archer)

He brings back mysteries from the
Orient, Harold. More than one.

ARCHER stands up straight, looking at her.

SHERIFF OF YORK

What kind of mysteries?

ARCHER

(quietly)

Alchemy.

SHERIFF OF YORK

Ah. You have the power of alchemy?

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

It's not a power, my lord. It's a science.

The SHERIFF scoffs.

ARCHER

(look out dreamily)

A science of the East... but what it can do... brings power.

ARCHER looks down at the SHERIFF, who smiles slyly.

CUT TO:

MEANWHILE

SHERWOOD FOREST

387 (311R) OUTLAW CAMP

MUCH is making supper. ALLAN comes in with a bundle of sticks and notices LITTLE JOHN is not in camp.

ALLAN

Where's John?

Nobody answers.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Is he not back yet?

MUCH shakes his head. TUCK crosses to MUCH with a carrot to peel.

TUCK

No.

ALLAN places his hands on his hips.

ALLAN

(sigh)

Right. I'll find him.

ALLAN turns and leaves.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

YORK

388 (311) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

ARCHER stands behind a small table with a large pewter plate and a lit candle. Across from him GWENETH and the SHERIFF sit in tall-backed chairs, watching.

ARCHER

Do we have the nail?

The guard behind him steps forward and hands him a nail. ARCHER takes a step round the table and holds it up. He goes to GWENETH, puts one foot on the dais, leaning his elbow on his knee, and hands it to her. She takes it and hands it to the SHERIFF.

GWENETH

Harold.

The SHERIFF takes it and examines it, sighs disinterestedly, then hands it back to her. GWENETH passes it back to ARCHER, who takes it from her.

ARCHER

My lady.

ARCHER strides back behind the table and sets the nail on the plate. He takes a handful of black powder from a small bag, sifts it over the nail, then dusts off his hands.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Now, this can be only the smallest of demonstrations due to the limited amount of magic powder I have with me at the moment.

The SHERIFF sits up, skeptical but smiling indulgently.

SHERIFF OF YORK

Of course.

ARCHER picks up a taper and holds it in the candle flame to light it. He holds it up, then sets the tip on the nail. After a brief moment, the powder explodes with a cloud of smoke. He quickly picks up the nail with his left hand and drops a pyrite nugget in its place before the smoke clears. GWENETH claps.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER holds up the nugget. The SHERIFF stands and steps forward, amazed. GWENETH follows him. The SHERIFF takes the nugget as GWENETH peeks over his shoulder.

GWENETH

I told you.

SHERIFF OF YORK

You can make more gold?

ARCHER

Not if I'm a prisoner.

CUT TO:

389 (311) MARKETPLACE

ROBIN and GISBORNE wind their way through the busy and narrow marketplace on foot, looking around.

MERCHANT (OS)

Sir, have a look at this!

ROBIN points at something to his left as they pass through. They come to a side gate of the castle.

GUARD (OS)

As far as I know, yep. I'm doing the rounds again in five minutes, so I'll check them. I need to get in the gap, sorry.

GISBORNE peeks out at the guards, then quickly ducks back as ROBIN takes a more cautious look. There are three guards covering two exits.

A church bell tolls in the background.

GISBORNE

The place is heavily fortified.

There are guards on every entrance. ROBIN looks at the gates again.

ROBIN

I know. I think the only way in is to get invited.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Even if we are, how do we get into the
dungeon?

ROBIN frowns and shakes his head, not knowing at the moment.

ROBIN

(thinking)

Hmm.

CUT TO:

390 (311) CASTLE - CORRIDOR - NEAR SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

ARCHER is led down the corridor by a lone guard.

ARCHER

It's a bit insulting he doesn't trust
me to come back with the powder... on
my own.

YORK PRISON GUARD stops and turns around and looks at ARCHER.

YORK PRISON GUARD

Why don't you just shut up?

ARCHER punches him hard. The guard is turned round from the
blow and falls back into ARCHER's arms. ARCHER drags him into
an alcove and sets him down, then shakes the pain from his
hand.

ARCHER

He was right not to trust me.

ARCHER starts to walk down the way he came and runs into
GWENETH. He stops when she says his name.

GWENETH

Archer.

(beat)

I was rather hoping you'd take me with
you.

ARCHER

Oh, Gweneth.

ARCHER turns her round.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER (cont'd)

I am so grateful for everything you've
done for me...

He looks back, hearing the SHERIFF's voice behind them off
screen.

SHERIFF OF YORK (OS)

Are you sure the gold was counterfeit?

ARCHER

...but I think we should probably try
to resist each other. Don't you?

ARCHER tries to leave but GWENETH pulls him the other way.

SHERIFF OF YORK (OS)

Lock the gates! Lock the gates!

GWENETH

Quick, quick! Archer, quick! Here!

GWENETH pulls him along the corridor.

CUT TO:

391 (311) SHERIFF'S QUARTERS

GWENETH pulls ARCHER in to stand at the foot of the bed. She
puts her hands on ARCHER's face.

GWENETH

We'll be safe in here.

GWENETH kisses ARCHER as he glances at the door.

GWENETH (cont'd)

Archer.

ARCHER gives in and pulls her down onto the bed, kissing her.
The SHERIFF comes down the corridor, his voice sounding from
outside.

SHERIFF OF YORK (VO)

Gweneth! It's not real gold!

(CONTINUED)

GWENETH flails her arms as she gets up in a hurry and pulls down her skirt. The SHERIFF enters, flanked by two guards.

SHERIFF OF YORK

The man's a fraud...

The SHERIFF sees the two of them on the bed.

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)

(quietly)

No.

GWENETH puts a hand to her stomach.

SHERIFF OF YORK

Oh, no, Gweneth. How could you?

The SHERIFF looks at ARCHER, who remains still but is thinking quickly how to get out of this.

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)

I understand why you were so desperate to have him pardoned. I loved you so much.

GWENETH looks ashamed. Momentary pause.

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)

Take them both to the dungeon...

One guard takes a step forward.

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)

...and prepare them to be put to death.

GWENETH glares at her husband. ARCHER slowly raises his head, at a loss as to how to get out of this. Momentary pause.

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)

How could you do this to me?

ARCHER thinks of an idea.

ARCHER

She didn't.

He pushes himself down to sit with GWENETH at the foot of the bed.

ARCHER (cont'd)

It was my fault. I forced her into the bedchamber, and she resisted. My lord, she fought me off, and then you entered and like the coward I am, I tried to hide.

ARCHER jumps off the bed to kneel at the SHERIFF's feet and takes his hand.

ARCHER (cont'd)

And I beg your for...

The SHERIFF pulls his hand away.

ARCHER (cont'd)

...forgiveness.

The SHERIFF looks at GWENETH. ARCHER looks back at her, twitching his eyebrows at her, encouraging her to go along.

GWENETH

Er... it's true.

ARCHER bows his head at the SHERIFF as he passes him to get to GWENETH. The SHERIFF chokes back a sob and sniffles.

SHERIFF OF YORK

Of course, it is. I never doubted you for one moment.

The SHERIFF takes GWENETH into his arms. ARCHER sighs and looks back at GWENETH. GWENETH mouths the following to ARCHER.

GWENETH

Thank you.

ARCHER smiles sheepishly. The SHERIFF releases GWENETH and turns to ARCHER.

SHERIFF OF YORK

I sentence this fraud to be put to death tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER's eyes widen.

SHERIFF OF YORK

He will be boiled in oil before his head is removed from his body and his entrails as well as another part of his body are fed to the pigs.

ARCHER

(bit meekly)

I don't suppose there's any...

SHERIFF OF YORK

Take him away.

The two guards pull ARCHER to his feet and lead him away.

JUMP TO:

MEANWHILE

SHERWOOD FOREST

392 (311R) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

LITTLE JOHN walks through the trees. He stops, sighs, and looks around. ALLAN sees him and calls to him.

ALLAN

John!

LITTLE JOHN turns around.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Come on.

LITTLE JOHN starts walking away.

ALLAN (cont'd)

Hey?! John?!

ALLAN runs to catch him up.

ALLAN (cont'd)

What are you doing? I've been looking everywhere for you.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN walks on silently.

ALLAN (cont'd)
John?

LITTLE JOHN
I don't want company.

ALLAN puts the back of his hand to LITTLE JOHN's chest.

ALLAN
Hey, come back...

LITTLE JOHN
(roar)
I've had enough!

ALLAN stares at him.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)
Robin betrayed us!

ALLAN
What?

LITTLE JOHN
He's had a personal stake in this the whole time. He should have told us. If he's been hiding this, what else has he been hiding!

LITTLE JOHN walks on, and ALLAN catches him up again.

ALLAN
We all have a past John. Robin's is just a little more... complicated.

LITTLE JOHN
Leave me be.

ALLAN
Okay.

ALLAN stays at his side.

LITTLE JOHN
Why are you walking beside me?

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

Maybe we're going to the same place,
eh?

LITTLE JOHN

Maybe we are. You still don't need to
walk beside me. There are many roads
to the same place, Allan.

ALLAN

Yes, there are. We all believe the same
things, John.

LITTLE JOHN

Well, I don't know that I do.

ALLAN

Well, I know we do, eh?

ALLAN stops LITTLE JOHN.

ALLAN

I know we need you around, alright? To
remind us who it is we're fighting for
here. Alright? We're lost without you.

LITTLE JOHN sighs, thinking it over.

LITTLE JOHN

No. Go away!

LITTLE JOHN walks on.

LITTLE JOHN

(mutter)

Leave me alone.

ALLAN lets him go, then turns round, wondering what to do next,
and goes back the way he came.

After a moment, they both hear a horse neigh. LITTLE JOHN looks
behind him and his face falls as he sees ISABELLA on a horse
with several guards behind her.

LITTLE JOHN

(mutter)

Of all the people...

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN starts to run. ISABELLA sees him.

ISABELLA

After him!

ISABELLA and the guards gallop after him.

ALLAN hides behind a tree, watching.

LITTLE JOHN runs but is soon overtaken.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

So tell me, where were you going, John?
To your camp?

LITTLE JOHN is on his knees with five swords pointed at his neck. He doesn't answer.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Or to York?

(chuckle evilly)

I'll deal with him when I get back.
Take him to the castle and lock him
up.

GUARD

On your feet!

The guards pull LITTLE JOHN to his feet.

CUT TO:

MEANWHILE

YORK

393 (311R) TAVERN

ROBIN and GISBORNE sit at a table in the corner with their backs to the wall, eating.

GISBORNE

So we've got two fairly difficult
problems.

ROBIN takes a drink from his cup.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE (cont'd)

One, we don't know what he looks like.

GISBORNE puts a bit of chicken in his mouth. ROBIN swallows his ale.

ROBIN

We'll recognize him by his birthmark.

GISBORNE gives him a dark look.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Don't worry, we'll find him when we get there.

GISBORNE

Which brings us to problem two.

MAN (IN BACKGROUND)

Enough! That's it!

ROBIN and GISBORNE both suddenly sit back to avoid a chair thrown between them. They both yell in irritation back at the patrons.

ROBIN/GISBORNE

Oi!

They grab their cups from the table and stand up as two wrestling men fall into the table in front of theirs, knocking it over. GISBORNE steps around their table, picks up one of the men and punches him with his cup, as a roast chicken soars past his head. ROBIN punches the other man with his cup as he is getting up. They both duck behind the overturned table as the fight continues among the other patrons. Food, cups, and plates are thrown indiscriminately.

ROBIN

I think I have a...

ROBIN ducks a flying cup

ROBIN (cont'd)

...I have a plan.

GISBORNE

I'm listening.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN shields his face with his hands as a man is pushed past him into post.

ROBIN

You, er... you get arrested...

ROBIN ducks another cup as GISBORNE makes a face indicating he already dislikes this plan.

ROBIN (cont'd)

.. get taken to the dungeons, find Archer and then... I'll bribe the guards. I'll come and see you.

GISBORNE

And then what?

GISBORNE puts his arm up to block.

ROBIN

And then we escape!

GISBORNE

How?

ROBIN

Well, I don't know. I haven't worked that out yet, have I?

The SHERIFF's guards enter to break up the fight and arrest the troublemakers. GISBORNE stands, the danger past.

GISBORNE

Forget it. It'll never work.

ROBIN

Why not?

ROBIN stands. GISBORNE sits back down in his chair.

GISBORNE

Because I'm not going to get myself arrested.

ROBIN

Why not?

GISBORNE

'Cause you'll leave me in the dungeon.

GISBORNE sets his cup firmly on the table. ROBIN picks up his cup from the floor and sits down.

ROBIN

I will not leave you in the dungeons.
You have my word.

The guards force their new prisoners out the door.

GISBORNE

You did last time.

The tavern is quiet now. Three guards stand near the door.

ROBIN

We rescued you.

GISBORNE

Eventually.

ROBIN

Isabella didn't make it easy. We got to you as soon we could.

GISBORNE

You cut it pretty close.

ROBIN

(flustered)
Alright. I'll get myself arrested then.

GISBORNE

Now that sounds like a better plan.

ROBIN

And you come and get me out.

ROBIN picks up a loaf of bread from their table as GISBORNE stands up. To GISBORNE's surprise, ROBIN throws it at a guard, hitting him in the helmet.

GISBORNE recovers quickly from the shock, smiles and pats ROBIN's shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE
 (flatly)
 Good luck.

ROBIN gives GISBORNE an apprehensive sidelong glance as the guard thumps over. GISBORNE walks round the table with the intent of going to their room.

 GUARD
 (to Gisborne)
 Do you think that's funny?

GISBORNE walks past him with the smile still on his face. The two other guards grab him.

 GUARD (cont'd)
 Right.

 GISBORNE
 Get off me! Get off me!

GISBORNE looks to ROBIN for help. ROBIN smiles at the unintentional arrest of GISBORNE. GISBORNE glares at ROBIN as he is being dragged away.

 GISBORNE (cont'd)
 Get off me!

CUT TO:

MEANWHILE

SHERWOOD FOREST

394 (311) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

Two mounted guards lead LITTLE JOHN down the road. His hands are tied together and tethered to a horse's saddle. They make their way slowly down the road. ALLAN shadows them in the trees. When LITTLE JOHN looks his way, ALLAN comes out from behind a tree and mimes falling to LITTLE JOHN. LITTLE JOHN, full of resentment and anger, mouths back.

 LITTLE JOHN
 What? No!

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN runs to keep up, and motions again, larger. LITTLE JOHN realizes he's not going to give up and rolls his eyes. He starts moaning in pain and stops. The rope pulls him to the ground.

GUARD 1

You!

The guard dismounts.

LITTLE JOHN

Oh, my leg.

GUARD 1

Get up now!

ALLAN runs ahead with a large stick for a weapon, intending to come up behind the second guard.

LITTLE JOHN

My leg's gone. You'll have to carry me.

LITTLE JOHN pats his knee.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

My leg.

GUARD 1

On your feet, I said!

LITTLE JOHN

My leg's gone.

The guard pokes him with the sharp, pointed end of his banner.

GUARD 1

Get up!

LITTLE JOHN

Alright, alright, alright!

LITTLE JOHN gets up. Guard 1 hits him on the back with the pole. ALLAN hits Guard 2 with the stick and pulls him off his horse. LITTLE JOHN takes the pole from Guard 1 and punches him with his tied fists. Guard 2 takes ALLAN's feet out from under him, giving himself time to stand. They both get up. Guard 2

(CONTINUED)

draws his sword and faces ALLAN as LITTLE JOHN stabs the butt of the pole into Guard 1. Guard 2 brings down his sword. ALLAN blocks with both hands on the stick, but then Guard 2 knocks it away with another blow. ALLAN steps back from Guard 2's first swing, ducks the second and comes up wrapping his arm around Guard 2's neck, choking him as LITTLE JOHN surges forward and stabs him with the banner point. ALLAN throws Guard 2 aside, then holds his hands out at LITTLE JOHN.

ALLAN
What are you doing?

LITTLE JOHN drops the banner.

ALLAN (cont'd)
I was just going to finish him off!

LITTLE JOHN
(unconvinced)
Yeah, I saw.

ALLAN unties LITTLE JOHN's hands.

LITTLE JOHN
What are you doing? Risking your life,
no weapons?

ALLAN
I was just saving you.

LITTLE JOHN
Then you're a fool.

ALLAN
Ha! Maybe, but I had no choice.

ALLAN starts to bend down to drag off the guard, then stands back up.

ALLAN (cont'd)
Hey, I'm your family, right?

LITTLE JOHN is silent a moment, then chuckles.

LITTLE JOHN
Yeah, you are.

ALLAN
(excited)
Right. Horses.

LITTLE JOHN
No. Isabella. She's on her way to York.
We need to get the others. Come on!

LITTLE JOHN takes off for the camp. ALLAN takes a deep breath,
then jogs off after him.

CUT TO:

MEANWHILE

YORK

395 (311) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

GISBORNE is thrown into the same cell as ARCHER and the OLD
MAN.

YORK PRISON GUARD
In you go!

The other anonymous prisoners immediately start picking at him
as the cell door closes and is locked.

GISBORNE
(annoyed)
Get off me! Get... Get off me!

GISBORNE gets to his hands and knees and kicks the men off.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Get off! I'll kill the next one that
touches me!

The OLD MAN crawls over and puts a hand on GISBORNE's leg.

OLD MAN
(plead)
Kill me... please.

GISBORNE looks at him, frowning, having no intention of
carrying out his threat on an old man.

(CONTINUED)

OLD MAN (cont'd)
Put me out of me misery.

GISBORNE
No!

OLD MAN
(brightly)
You didn't bring any food, did ya?

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

396 (311R) OUTLAW CAMP

LITTLE JOHN and ALLAN run into camp.

MUCH
(happy)
Ah!

MUCH claps. ALLAN checks behind them to see if they were followed.

LITTLE JOHN
Robin's in trouble. Isabella's on her
way to York with her guards.

MUCH scrambles to get weapons. TUCK walks calmly to LITTLE JOHN.

TUCK
She must know Robin and Guy are there.
(think a moment)
Why else would she go?

LITTLE JOHN
(breathlessly)
Yeah.

LITTLE JOHN nods. MUCH comes back with a makeshift longbow and a quiver of white-fletched arrows.

MUCH
Well, we'll stop her before she gets
to York.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN

We'll have to cut across the forest
then, try and get on the York road
ahead of her.

MUCH

Well, let's go.

MUCH heads out. ALLAN goes to get his bow and arrows. TUCK
tilts his head at LITTLE JOHN, asking the silent question.
LITTLE JOHN shakes his head at TUCK, a bit in shame, a bit in
apology.

LITTLE JOHN

He's family.

ALLAN returns and hands LITTLE JOHN his staff. TUCK pats LITTLE
JOHN's arm.

TUCK

I'm glad you came back, John.

TUCK follows ALLAN out. LITTLE JOHN looks around sentimentally,
realizing it's home, then follows.

CUT TO:

YORK

397 (311) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

GISBORNE squats by the OLD MAN. ARCHER, chained by each wrist
to the walls of an alcove, holds his head back in the shadows.

GISBORNE

I'm looking for a man called Archer.
Have you heard of him?

OLD MAN

Might have. Why?

GISBORNE

He's my brother.

OLD MAN

Brother?

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Yeah. I've come to help him escape from
this godforsaken place.

OLD MAN

(a bit loudly)

Escape?

GISBORNE

Shh.

OLD MAN

(whispering)

How will you escape?

GISBORNE

Well, I haven't come alone. You ever
heard of Robin Hood?

OLD MAN

(make a pitiful face)

Brother...

GISBORNE

You're my brother?

OLD MAN

Prison ages a man.

GISBORNE

No, you can't be Archer.

OLD MAN

Who says?

ALL PRISONERS

I'm Archer!

GISBORNE

(grumble sarcastically)

Great.

ALL PRISONERS

I'm Archer!

A guard steps out.

(CONTINUED)

YORK PRISON GUARD

Quiet!

The prisoners are immediately silent. The guard steps back to his post.

ARCHER

I'm Archer.

GISBORNE looks back at him. ARCHER leans forward, putting his face in the dim light.

GISBORNE

Who's your father?

ARCHER

I don't know...
(slight sneer)
...and I don't care.

GISBORNE

(stand)
Your mother?

ARCHER

She died when I was a baby.

GISBORNE steps to him.

ARCHER (cont'd)

I was given away.

GISBORNE

I was told you have a birthmark.

ARCHER raises his eyes, then looks down at his chest. GISBORNE glances down, then pulls up ARCHER's shirt, revealing a red welt shaped like an arrowhead just below his right breast.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

You're my brother.

ARCHER

Who are you?

GISBORNE

Guy of Gisborne.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

Well, that's a very expensive sounding name.

GISBORNE

(chuckle grimly)
I've come to get you out of here.

ARCHER

How?

CUT TO:

398 (311) MARKETPLACE

ROBIN strides around a corner, putting a seed into his mouth, and happens to come across two men in expensive clothes exchanging a fat purse in the street. ROBIN steps back behind the corner and watches them, putting another seed into his mouth.

MERCHANT

Pleasure doing business with you.

The men shake hands.

MERCHANT (cont'd)

Thank you.

The Merchant, wearing a striped coat with a fur collar, shakes the purse in his hand. ROBIN turns his head to spit out a hull as the Merchant's customer leaves. The Merchant checks the purse's contents before going inside his home.

ROBIN looks round him, then makes his way towards the door. The door closes. ROBIN stands on the doorstep and checks round him again, then opens the door.

MERCHANT (OS)

Who are you?

OFF-CAMERA we hear the sound of a punch to the jaw from inside.

MERCHANT (VO) (cont'd)

Oh!

OFF-CAMERA we hear a thud on the floor.

(CONTINUED)

The door opens and ROBIN steps out in the fine coat holding the purse. He ties the purse to his belt, then pulls the fur collar out properly and smiles mischievously, heading in the direction of the castle.

CUT TO:

399 (311) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

ROBIN stands before the SHERIFF, who is seated at a small table in front of the fireplace.

ROBIN's stolen purse sits on the edge of the table in front of him.

ROBIN

(posh accent)

Well, the truth is, Gisborne just had
a bit too much to drink. And for that
I am sure he is profoundly sorry.

The SHERIFF says his line sternly, not willing to give in.

SHERIFF OF YORK

An assault on one of the Sheriff's men
is an assault on the Sheriff.

ROBIN

Oh, believe me, I know.

ROBIN inhales sharply, then frowns at the silver coins in his hand.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Would this be enough to... salve the
indignity of this terrible assault?

ROBIN slaps a stack of at least twenty coins onto the table.

The SHERIFF looks at the coins, then raises his eyebrows, staring down at the money in sincere awe.

SHERIFF OF YORK

It is but a faint memory now, sir.

ROBIN winks and smiles at him.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF OF YORK

I thank you for your... sympathy.

The SHERIFF looks at the guard standing near his table.

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)

Escort this gentleman to the dungeons
so that he may collect his malfeasant
friend.

The SHERIFF motions him away.

ROBIN

Thank you very much.

ROBIN smiles and nods, picking up the purse, and follows the guard as another announces the next visitor.

GUARD (VO)

*An emissary from the Sheriff of
Nottingham.*

Upon hearing the words, ROBIN turns up the collar of his coat and holds his face away from Isabella's Guard, who is looking down and adjusting his uniform, and passes by unrecognized.

Near the door ROBIN slows his pace, watching and listening as long as he can.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

400 (311R) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

TUCK, LITTLE JOHN, ALLAN, and MUCH run through the trees towards the road.

TUCK

Come on! We must hurry. Come on!

They run over a rise and stop when they hear a horse neigh. They see ISABELLA below on the road in front of them. TUCK nods at LITTLE JOHN, who leads them along the rise, shadowing the road.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

YORK

401 (311) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

GISBORNE paces, waiting impatiently for ROBIN. A guard comes down the stairs.

YORK PRISON GUARD
Gisborne! Visitor.

The guard lets ROBIN into the cell.

GISBORNE
He's over here.

GISBORNE leads ROBIN to ARCHER.

ROBIN
We have to hurry. One of Isabella's
men's here.

ROBIN stands in front of ARCHER, looks him up and down, then nods. ARCHER barely looks at ROBIN. ROBIN puts his left hand on the side of ARCHER's head.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Brother.

ARCHER
All of a sudden, I have so many
brothers.

ROBIN glances at GISBORNE.

ARCHER (cont'd)
(raise eyebrow)
Who are you?

ROBIN
I'm Robin Hood.

ARCHER
(raise eyebrows)
Really?

ROBIN nods. ARCHER looks him up and down.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER (cont'd)
Robin Hood really exists.

ROBIN's eyes glance at GISBORNE.

ROBIN
Just... stay here.

ROBIN turns and walks to the guard waiting in the open door.

ROBIN (cont'd)
How much to take him with us?

ROBIN pulls up the purse tied to his belt and reaches in.

YORK PRISON GUARD
How much you have?

OLD MAN
I'd be cheaper.

The OLD MAN looks at ARCHER and chuckles. ARCHER waits in amused anticipation to see what will happen. GISBORNE slowly steps towards the guard. ROBIN drops a few silver coins into the guard's outstretched hand.

ROBIN
How about that?

ROBIN leans on the doorjamb.

YORK PRISON GUARD
Er...
(shake head)
Nah. He's meant to die tomorrow, and I think the Sheriff was, you know, looking forward to it.

ROBIN
Right. Of course he is.

ROBIN drops three large gold coins into his hand.

YORK PRISON GUARD
I'll have to leave York.
(inhale sharply)
The missus won't be happy.

ROBIN
(chuckle)
Yeah, the missus. Alright.

ROBIN drops several more silver coins into his hand.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Right.

GISBORNE is now standing unnoticed behind the guard. The GUARD looks up at ROBIN.

YORK PRISON GUARD
Nah, I'm sorry. Can't help you.

ROBIN suddenly punches the guard. GISBORNE catches him and drags him back into the cell.

CUT TO:

402 (311) THE GREAT HALL

The SHERIFF sits at his table, talking with Isabella's Guard.

ISABELLA'S GUARD
Robin Hood and Guy of Gisborne,
they're both dangerous criminals.

The SHERIFF thinks the name sounds sorta familiar. He says the name thinking.

SHERIFF OF YORK
(thinkingly)
Gisborne...
(look aside)
...Gisborne... Gisborne...

CUT TO:

403 (311) DUNGEONS

ROBIN
We need to go.

GISBORNE and ROBIN go out the door. ARCHER follows, frowning at the OLD MAN as he passes, then stops.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

No!

ROBIN and GISBORNE stop.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Either we all go...

ARCHER stands resolutely in front of the OLD MAN with his hands on his hips.

ARCHER (cont'd)

...or none of us go.

ROBIN eyes dance a moment, looking round at the prisoners, then shrugs.

ROBIN

Fine.

ROBIN tosses the keys to the OLD MAN, who cackles in glee.

JUMP TO:

404 (311R) STAIRS

GISBORNE runs up the stairs from the dungeons. ROBIN, having left his stolen coat in the dungeons, comes up behind him.

ROBIN

Do you know where you're going?

GISBORNE

Not really, no. Do you?

GISBORNE peeks around the corner. **OFF CAMERA a guard can be heard in the distance.**

GUARD (OS)

Come on!

ROBIN addresses the prisoners behind him.

ROBIN

Get back!

He motions them to the side. **OFF CAMERA a guard can be heard.**

(CONTINUED)

GUARD (OS)

This way!

ROBIN and GISBORNE duck behind the doorjambs. A line of guards pass them. ROBIN checks to see if it's clear.

ROBIN

Right, come on.

GISBORNE leads ROBIN and the prisoners out to the right. ARCHER is last, helping the OLD MAN up the stairs.

ARCHER

Come on.

OLD MAN

Go on without me.

ARCHER

Come on, you old codger. I'm not leaving you behind.

OFF CAMERA a guard can be heard in the distance.

GUARD (VO)

Down here!

ARCHER stops in the doorway, listening, and hears the guards heading away.

ARCHER

Come on.

He and the OLD MAN follow the others.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

405 (311R) GREAT NORTH ROAD

ISABELLA leads two guards on horseback down the road. The gang wait to ambush her.

ALLAN draws his bow, which has an arrow ready to go with a rope tied to it. LITTLE JOHN squats behind him holding the

(CONTINUED)

other end of the rope, which is anchored to a tree trunk. TUCK watches the road.

ALLAN

Now?

TUCK holds his hand up to ALLAN.

TUCK

No. Hold it.

ISABELLA gallops closer.

ALLAN

Now?

TUCK

Hold it...

ISABELLA gallops closer.

ALLAN

Now?

TUCK

(through teeth)

Hold it.

ISABELLA passes them.

TUCK (cont'd)

Now!

ALLAN shoots the arrow into a tree across the road. LITTLE JOHN pulls it taut, and it knocks the two guards off their horses. TUCK sprints to them.

ISABELLA stops her horse and looks back. TUCK kicks a guard down again as he runs towards four more mounted guards galloping down the road. ALLAN runs in and engages a fallen guard with his dual swords as TUCK grabs the banner of a horseman to pull him off his mount and MUCH pulls off another. LITTLE JOHN yells at a guard on the ground.

LITTLE JOHN

Get off! Get off! Get off!

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN blocks an overhead blow with both swords held together, then blocks with his left sword and punches the guard with his right fist. LITTLE JOHN knocks out the other fallen guard. ISABELLA turns her horse around as the remaining horsemen run away. MUCH shoots an arrow at their retreating forms. ALLAN sees ISABELLA about to charge. He puts his swords away and picks up his bow. He runs towards her with an arrow at the ready in his bow.

ISABELLA draws her sword and starts her horse forward. ALLAN stops and draws as TUCK pats MUCH's back, watching the guards leave. ISABELLA gallops closer and closer. ALLAN lets his arrow fly. ISABELLA knocks the arrow away with her sword, but the momentum causes her to fall from the horse. ALLAN throws his bow aside and starts towards ISABELLA, but TUCK holds him back.

TUCK

Wait!

ISABELLA gets up.

TUCK (cont'd)

Come on, wait.

ISABELLA runs off down the road, away from the gang and towards the two horses who stopped after their riders were knocked from their saddles.

TUCK (cont'd)

We have to get Guy and Robin away from York before she returns.

TUCK points at ISABELLA.

TUCK (cont'd)

Let's go.

ALLAN picks up his bow.

JUMP TO:

YORK

406 (311) CASTLE - INTERIOR CORRIDOR

ARCHER follows GISBORNE down the corridor.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

So you're a noble who's now an outlaw
with no money.

GISBORNE reaches a corner and peers around it.

GISBORNE

Yep.

ARCHER

Can you explain the point of that?

GUARD

Come on!

Two guards charge before GISBORNE can answer. GISBORNE blocks with his sword. ARCHER spins and kicks one of them, then grabs GISBORNE's foe's hand and forces his fingers back from the hilt with a crunching sound, then drives the sword behind the guard's back and into the toe of his boot before kicking him to the floor. GISBORNE and ROBIN are amazed.

ROBIN

Where did you learn that? The Orient?

ARCHER

Nah.

ARCHER spins the guard's sword from hand to hand and catches it deftly.

ARCHER (cont'd)

That's pure English.

ARCHER steps forward to GISBORNE, glancing back at ROBIN, who is checking on the prisoners behind them.

ARCHER (cont'd)

(to Gisborne)

He doesn't, by any chance, have any
money, does he?

ROBIN

(irritatedly)

No, I don't.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE raises his eyebrows and nods towards ROBIN with a what he said look.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I gave up all my family's wealth to help the poor.

ARCHER

Of course you did.

ARCHER points to the side of the corridor.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Pull their bodies in there.

The OLD MAN motions the prisoners forward.

ROBIN

Come on.

The prisoners walk forward, and some drag the guards to the side.

ARCHER

Come on. Let's keep moving.

The OLD MAN jumps over a body to catch up ARCHER, who leads them down the corridor.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Both of you are mad. I know what poor is. I grew up that way. If either of you had... There is no honour in being poor, and there's no shame in it. If you'd grown up with nothing, you'd know that. And you wouldn't apologize for wanting to have a little money...

ARCHER stops and faces GISBORNE.

ARCHER (cont'd)

...for dreaming of something better than you've got.

GISBORNE angrily pushes ARCHER into the wall, pointing his sword at him.

ROBIN
(admonishingly)
Guy!

GISBORNE
(snap at Archer)
You know nothing about my life...
about what I've endured! I envy you.
Better no family, rich or poor, than a
leper father and a mother...

GISBORNE stops himself. ARCHER glances at ROBIN, who looks back and forth between them.

ARCHER
My mother what?

GISBORNE looks at ROBIN, who is glaring a warning at him, then lowers his sword and pulls his hand off ARCHER's shoulder. GISBORNE finishes the sentence with an alternate thought then the one he was about to use.

GISBORNE
...killed in a fire.

Tears start to well up in ARCHER's eyes.

ARCHER
What was her name?

The prisoners' footsteps sound behind them.

GISBORNE
Ghislaine.

ARCHER nods sadly, fighting his emotions. The other prisoners, finished with their chore, catch them up. ROBIN steps between ARCHER and GISBORNE.

ROBIN
Come on. We have to keep moving.

GISBORNE follows him. The OLD MAN goes up to ARCHER, takes his arm and nods. They follow ROBIN.

ROBIN stops at an intersection, intending to go right and GISBORNE passes him.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

This way.

ROBIN points to the right.

ROBIN

It's this way.

ARCHER leans between two columns, waiting for them to play it out.

GISBORNE

Don't argue with me.

ROBIN

Guy, it's this way.

ARCHER

Have either of you been in this castle before?

ROBIN/GISBORNE

No.

ARCHER sighs and looks up, then mumbles sarcastically.

ARCHER

Great!

OFF CAMERA a guard can be heard in the distance.

GUARD (OS)

Come on! Quick!

ARCHER

This way!

GUARD (OS)

Find them!

ARCHER points to the right and motions the prisoners to go first.

ROBIN

Come on!

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

Come on!

ARCHER, ROBIN, and GISBORNE go last.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Stop! Stop.

They all stop, and ARCHER turns to ROBIN, a bit panicked.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Where's the old man? Where is he?

ROBIN

I don't know.

The OLD MAN shuffles down the previous corridor.

GUARD

You! You! Prisoner!

GISBORNE holds his sword ready. The OLD MAN holds his hands in the air as several guards come up behind him. GISBORNE and ROBIN dash forward to hide behind a column.

OLD MAN

Please. Please don't shoot.

ROBIN motions for the OLD MAN to come to him, but the guards shoot three arrows into his back. ARCHER surges forward.

ARCHER

No!

ROBIN and GISBORNE hold him back. The OLD MAN falls onto his face, dead. ARCHER breaks free of his brothers.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Get off!

He goes to stand over the OLD MAN, looking down at him. He looks up at the guards, his temper rising, takes a deep breath and roars at them in rage. The guards are frightened and take off back down the corridor. ARCHER chases them. ROBIN and GISBORNE follow. ARCHER slams himself into a guard. He blocks a sword twice, forcing the guard into the wall with the second block, then ROBIN and GISBORNE pull him away from the first

(CONTINUED)

guard, whom ROBIN engages. GISBORNE fights a third. The left-handed ARCHER steps in to take over for ROBIN, who spins away gracefully, his sword arm no longer hindered by the wall. GISBORNE elbows a guard charging by him in the back, then pops up and punches another as ROBIN faces the elbowed guard. He and ARCHER, both kick him backwards. ARCHER holds up his sword and faces another guard. ROBIN motions him back.

ROBIN

Get back! Get back!

Two more guards attack ROBIN and GISBORNE. ARCHER kicks his back, then kicks him in the face. ROBIN punches one into the wall. ARCHER spins round ready to help him. Amid the chaos, Isabella's Guard turns the corner into the corridor.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

It's Robin Hood!

The trio have taken out all their adversaries. They turn and run back down the corridor.

ROBIN

This way!

GISBORNE

Go! Robin! Through here!

ARCHER

Robin, over here!

Isabella's Guard chases them. More York guards are behind him.

CONTINUE TO:

407 (311) THE GREAT HALL

ARCHER bursts through the doors to the Great Hall. The SHERIFF and more guards enter from the opposite end.

SHERIFF OF YORK

Guards!

GISBORNE, ARCHER and ROBIN slide to a stop on the wood floor. GISBORNE glances back and forth, holding his sword out, and sees they're trapped. Isabella's Guard and more York guards block the exit behind them. They are surrounded.

(CONTINUED)

On the balcony above them four archers appear and draw their bows.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

(to archers)
Stop! Take them alive!

The guards from the corridor take away the other escaped prisoners as Isabella's Guard turns back to the trio and holds his sword out at them.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

The Sheriff of Nottingham is offering
100 crowns each...

Isabella's guard points at ROBIN and GISBORNE as he says their name.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

for Robin Hood and Guy of Gisborne.

The SHERIFF stands with GWENETH at the opposite end of the hall.

SHERIFF OF YORK

It might be worth more than that to
watch them die.

ARCHER whispers quietly, eagerly to GISBORNE.

ARCHER

I think we've got a good chance.

GISBORNE

Well, then we should give ourselves
up.

ARCHER

Give ourselves up?

GISBORNE

Yeah, live to fight another day.

ARCHER

No.

ARCHER slides himself behind ROBIN.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

That's not how I do business.

ARCHER pulls ROBIN's knife from its sheath and holds it to ROBIN's throat.

GISBORNE

(to Archer)
Stop!

GISBORNE, distracted by ARCHER's unanticipated move, has his sword knocked away by Isabella's Guard.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

Stop!

Two guards seize GISBORNE.

GISBORNE

Get off me!

ROBIN tries to pull himself free. ARCHER whispers in his ear.

ARCHER

The best chance we have is to work together. Understood? Don't struggle.

ROBIN stops squirming.

ARCHER (cont'd)

(to Isabella's Guard)

Gentlemen! I offer you Robin Hood for my freedom. He is valuable, am not. And it'd be a shame for me to kill him since he's worth so much more to you alive.

SHERIFF OF YORK

Guards!

The longbowmen on the balcony draw. Isabella's Guard turns round and points to them with his sword.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

Don't shoot!

ARCHER drags ROBIN towards the opposite door.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

(to Robin)

See? We're making progress.

GISBORNE watches helplessly. The SHERIFF steps forward and knocks the sword from ROBIN's hand. Isabella's Guard goes to the Sheriff's side.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

Allow me, Sheriff, to give the gift of Robin Hood and Guy of Gisborne to the Sheriff of Nottingham on your behalf.

ARCHER

(to Robin)

I see why the Sheriff wants you, but Gisborne?

ROBIN

The Sheriff is his sister.

ARCHER

(confused)

His sister?

ISABELLA'S GUARD

The Sheriff covets them both, my lord.

ROBIN

(hiss)

We're supposed to be working together.

ARCHER

(to Robin)

Well, I changed my mind.

ARCHER addresses the SHERIFF.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Do we have a deal, Sheriff? I won't kill Robin Hood and you won't kill me.

SHERIFF OF YORK

(think a moment)

Yes.

GWENETH smiles slightly.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF OF YORK

It's a deal.

ROBIN

You're going to betray me like this?

ARCHER

I have a sister who's the Sheriff of Nottingham. She's rich, she's powerful, and she hates you. This really isn't taking me a lot of thought.

ARCHER addresses the guards behind him brandishing his sword.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Out of the way!

The guards step aside, and ARCHER drags ROBIN into the doorway.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Nice meeting you.

ARCHER pushes ROBIN at Isabella's Guard and turns around.

SHERIFF OF YORK

Seize him!

ARCHER opens the door behind him and runs into three halberds pointing straight at him.

GUARDS

Stop!

SHERIFF OF YORK

Prepare them all to die.

The SHERIFF nods at Isabella's Guard, who is holding the point of his sword at ROBIN's chest. GWENETH stares sadly at ARCHER.

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)

The Sheriff of Nottingham can keep her money. I'll send her their severed heads...

GWENETH gives the SHERIFF a sidelong look of horror.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)
...as a gift.

ARCHER stares at GWENETH plaintively as he is taken away.

JUMP TO:

408 (311R) TOWN SQUARE

A long beam stretches across one side of the square. Three nooses hang from it. Under it are ARCHER (on a brown horse), ROBIN (on a white horse) and GISBORNE (on a brown horse). They are each sitting backwards on a horse with their hands tied behind them.

GISBORNE
Well, I'm certainly glad I came to
rescue my brother, aren't you?

ROBIN glares at him.

ARCHER
This is not my fault.

GISBORNE
No? Whose fault is it then?

ARCHER
I didn't ask you to come.

GISBORNE glares angrily at ARCHER.

A fanfare sounds.

The SHERIFF and GWENETH arrive to the cheers and applause of the townsfolk.

The gang filter their way through the crowd.

The SHERIFF leads GWENETH up onto a platform. GWENETH has her eyes on ARCHER in between polite nods to her admirers. ARCHER acknowledges her with a look. The SHERIFF kisses GWENETH's hand and she sits in her chair.

TUCK
Much, John, take the right-hand side.
Allan, left.

(CONTINUED)

The SHERIFF points and a drum roll starts.

ARCHER

The drums aren't generally thought to
be a good thing.

ROBIN glances at him.

GWENETH hands a green purse to a page and gives him quiet instructions, pointing across the square. He nods and leaves.

A guard puts a noose around GISBORNE's neck. GISBORNE starts to shake and breathe quickly, frightened at the prospect of death. ROBIN looks up at him, surprised at his reaction and also feeling sorry for him.

GWENETH, after catching ARCHER's eye again, nods at the page. ARCHER sees the page by a fire-bowl and nods understandingly at GWENETH.

SHERIFF OF YORK

Proceed with the first execution!

GWENETH looks at the page, who nods, then pulls ARCHER's small bag of "magic powder" out of the purse, tosses it into the fire and runs. The black powder explodes loudly, generating a large cloud of smoke.

ARCHER jumps off his horse. ROBIN immediately notices he's gone. TUCK fights his way through the crowd to ROBIN. ROBIN slides off his horse. TUCK catches him and turns ROBIN's back to him.

ROBIN

Get them off! Get them off!

TUCK carefully puts his sword under ROBIN's ropes and cuts through them.

ROBIN (cont'd)

This way! Go!

ALLAN watches ROBIN's escape, holding a makeshift bow. ARCHER sees it and runs to him, then stands next to him, appraising the situation. On the other side of the square, MUCH holds up an arrow for ROBIN, who takes it and MUCH's thin longbow. GISBORNE remains still amid the chaos, visibly scared that the

(CONTINUED)

horse will bolt and literally leave him hanging. ARCHER takes the bow and arrow from ALLAN. ROBIN and ARCHER both aim and shoot at the same time. Both arrows land in the same place on the beam, severing GISBORNE's rope. GISBORNE looks up with a gasp. ROBIN's jaw drops in amazement at the sight of two arrows and looks across the way to see ARCHER with ALLAN's bow. ARCHER looks at ROBIN. TUCK grabs ROBIN's shoulders.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Let's go! Let's go!

ARCHER smirks at ROBIN, then nods to ALLAN and leaves. ALLAN stares after him. GISBORNE frees his hands and jumps off the horse. LITTLE JOHN, near GISBORNE, blocks the sword of one guard and knocks him upside with the butt of his staff, then a second guard jumps over the first one, forcing LITTLE JOHN to block him. LITTLE JOHN punches him, but then gets punched by the first. GISBORNE sees LITTLE JOHN being overpowered.

GISBORNE

John!

GISBORNE runs over, ducks a sword, grabs the guard's arm, kicks and punches him in one fluid motion, then helps LITTLE JOHN to his feet.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Alright?

LITTLE JOHN

Yeah.

GISBORNE runs off. LITTLE JOHN follows him out.

ARCHER, meanwhile, has retrieved his Japanese katana and runs through the town, pushing people out of his way. He cuts through a building and sees a horse tethered to a railing beyond it. He smiles, runs to the horse, and unties it. GWENETH comes up behind ARCHER.

GWENETH

Take me with you, please!

ARCHER's face falls. He turns to GWENETH.

ARCHER

Gweneth...

(CONTINUED)

GWENETH

I'm begging you!

ARCHER

You have to stop doing this.

GWENETH

I want to come.

ARCHER

You can't.

Isabella's Guard comes up behind ARCHER, grabs his arm, turns him round and punches him to the ground.

GWENETH

No! Leave him alone!

GWENETH grabs Isabella's Guard, but he pushes her down as ARCHER tries to sit up.

ARCHER

How dare you...

Isabella's Guard kicks him back down, then puts his foot on his chest, draws his sword and puts the point at his chest, too. GWENETH sits up.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

Where is Robin Hood and Guy of Gisborne? Tell me or die.

ARCHER

(smirk)

I don't know.

ISABELLA'S GUARD

Then you die.

The guard raises his sword up, hands over his head.

GWENETH

He's behind you.

Isabella's Guard looks at her.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA'S GUARD

Well, you think I'm a fool?

ROBIN

Yes.

Isabella's Guard turns around to see ROBIN standing behind him with MUCH's bow drawn at him. Before he can make another move ROBIN shoots him in the heart with enough force to push him into the wall.

ARCHER hops over the railing to face ROBIN as GISBORNE and the gang assemble behind him. ROBIN turns to the gang.

ROBIN (cont'd)

This is my brother, and this is my family.

ARCHER stares at the ragtag group.

GISBORNE

Look, we need your help. We know you have weapons, and we need them.

ARCHER

(smile knowingly)

My weapons are for sale. Do you have money?

GISBORNE

We just risked our lives for you, and you betrayed us.

(point at Archer)

You owe us.

ROBIN

Archer... I want you to join us. I want you to join us in our fight against Prince John.

ARCHER

I'm flattered. But I have my own plans.

ROBIN looks grimly at GISBORNE.

ARCHER (cont'd)

And they don't include anyone else.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE and LITTLE JOHN turn to go.

GWENETH

Archer, please, take me with you.

ARCHER holds her face and gives her a long kiss.

ARCHER

Gweneth, thank you for everything
you've done for me. I don't deserve a
woman like you.

ARCHER mounts his stolen horse (the white one that Gisborne rode to York) and rides off. Leaving GWENETH shocked and hurt. GISBORNE turns to watch him go, frowning.

GISBORNE

He stole my horse.

ROBIN looks at GISBORNE, holding back a laugh.

JUMP TO:

LATER

NOTTINGHAM

409 (311) CASTLE - COURTYARD

ISABELLA stands by the SHERIFF of York. She looks down as he pulls a cloth off Isabella's Guard's dead face. ISABELLA sighs in exasperation. The SHERIFF of York hands her an arrow.

SHERIFF OF YORK

He was killed by Robin Hood's arrow.

ISABELLA takes the arrow.

SHERIFF OF YORK (cont'd)

Both Hood and Gisborne escaped.

(sneer)

I would thank you to keep a tighter
rein on your affairs...

(with contempt)

...Sheriff.

The SHERIFF of York leaves.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA frowns and breaks the arrow in two, then throws the pieces down. She sighs and covers the dead man's face again.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

410 (311) GREAT NORTH ROAD - TOLL HOUSE

ARCHER approaches on Gisborne's white horse and stops at the gate. LIPSCOMB hears the horse approaching and comes out as ARCHER stops at the gate.

ARCHER

Is this the road to Nottingham?

LIPSCOMB nods and holds out his hand, rubbing his fingers together. ARCHER turns the horse round, gallops for several yards, then turns the horse round again, rears and jumps over the gate.

JUMP TO:

NEXT DAY

411 OUTLAW CAMP

The gang all arrive back at camp. They drop their weapons and sit down. TUCK, LITTLE JOHN, and MUCH sit together. GISBORNE, ROBIN, and ALLAN sit together.

GISBORNE

Well that was a wasted trip.

ALLAN

(curious)

Think we'll ever see Archer again?

ROBIN

I'd bet on it.

All look at him.

ROBIN

When he found out his sister was the Sheriff of Nottingham, he couldn't wait to get out York.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE knows ROBIN thinks that Archer will go to ISABELLA.

GISBORNE

You think he'll go to Isabella.

ROBIN

Yes. He thinks there's money in it. He doesn't know that Isabella doesn't know he exists.

GISBORNE

(smile)

I'd love to see the look on her face when he shows up and calls her sister.

ROBIN

(trying not to laugh)

We might just have to break him out again.

ALLAN

At least this time it will be out of a castle you both know your way around.

ROBIN and GISBORNE both pick up something and throw it at ALLAN. ALLAN ducks. ROBIN and GISBORNE decide not to throw their item at ALLAN. ROBIN looks at GISBORNE and gives him a look. ALLAN wonders what the look means. ROBIN walks over to his bunk, GISBORNE follows.

ROBIN reaches his bunk and removes something from a bag. We don't see what it is yet. GISBORNE reaches ROBIN. ROBIN turns to GISBORNE.

ROBIN

Remember when I said something for you?

GISBORNE nods affirmingly. ROBIN opens his hand. It's Deborah's black arrow pendant. GISBORNE takes it.

ROBIN

I found this outside the manor house the day...

Momentary silence.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)

I guess she was planning on showing it
to you but...

Tears start to form in GISBORNE's eyes.

GISBORNE

(softly)

Thank you.

GISBORNE hugs ROBIN.

CAMERA pans over to ALLAN who is looking at them with raised eyebrows. He saw Robin give Gisborne something but didn't see what it was.

CAMERA pans to TUCK, LITTLE JOHN, and MUCH. They notice the hug and wonder what they missed.

JUMP TO:

A FEW DAYS LATER

412 (312R) GREAT NORTH ROAD

ROBIN puts his ear to the ground and listens. He hears a single horse galloping down the road. He chuckles and gets up. He readies an arrow, pulls out a second one from his quiver and readies it beside the first. He draws and aims. The horse neighs. ROBIN draws and shoots. The arrows sail and land in front of the horse, spooking it. It rears and bucks off its rider. GISBORNE immediately stands over him with his sword, turns him over and pulls the message from his belt.

GISBORNE

I'll take that.

GISBORNE hands the parchment to TUCK. ROBIN walks over to them.

ROBIN

Tie him up, then.

ALLAN flips the messenger back onto his face, whips out a piece of rope and hands it to GISBORNE.

MUCH leads the horse over to ROBIN as TUCK reads the message.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

It's from Isabella to Prince John.

TUCK reads the message.

TUCK (NOTE)

My Prince, I understand the urgency of your request. Richard returns from the Crusades within the month.

ROBIN turns his head, distressed at what he's hearing.

TUCK (NOTE) (cont'd)

Troops loyal to him await his return in Loughborough. We must be ready.

ALLAN

Richard... King Richard?

MUCH

The King's coming home.

ROBIN steps away from the gang, thinking.

ROBIN

Read the rest.

ALLAN leads the tied-up messenger to his horse.

TUCK (NOTE)

You asked for three hundred men, food, and supplies. I will dispatch them at sunset to join with your northern forces in Doncaster."

ROBIN

(grimace)

So where's Isabella got three hundred men from?

TUCK (NOTE)

England will soon be yours.

ROBIN leans on his bow and addresses the messenger.

ROBIN

You give the Sheriff this message.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN pats the horse's rump.

ALLAN

Go on.

The horse walks down the road with the messenger riding backwards, his hands tied to the saddle.

ROBIN

England will never be a slave to Prince John, not while Robin Hood fights for King Richard.

LITTLE JOHN calls from over the hill.

LITTLE JOHN

Robin!

TUCK and ROBIN run up the hill. GISBORNE, ALLAN, and MUCH follow.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

They've taken them!

ROBIN and TUCK come over the rise.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

They took them!

ROBIN

(curious)

Who?

LITTLE JOHN

I was in Clun. The Sheriff's soldiers. They've taken all the men!

GISBORNE

(raise eyebrow)

How many?

LITTLE JOHN

I don't know. Must have been at least a hundred.

MUCH yells from a nearby ridge.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

Robin! Same in Nettlestone! The Sheriff's guard came and just carted them off. Crops and livestock, too.

TUCK

A hundred from Clun, a hundred from Nettlestone.

GISBORNE

They'll go to Locksley next.

ROBIN

(to Much)
Get to Locksley!

JUMP TO:

LATER

LOCKSLEY

413 (312R) VILLAGE

Soldiers are in Locksley, rounding up men, food, and livestock. ROBIN stands over the ridge of a thatched roof, pulls an arrow from his quiver, and shoots a guard on a horse chasing a small group of men and boys. Those men already caught have been chained to the back of a wagon. BLAMIRE turns his horse around and immediately knows who's to blame for the commotion.

BLAMIRE

Hood!

ROBIN shoots another guard coming out of a house with more men, then he swings his back foot over the ridge and slides down the roof to the ground while the gang charge in. LITTLE JOHN and TUCK race in between buildings.

LITTLE JOHN

Come on, then! Aaaargh!

GISBORNE, ALLAN, and MUCH run in from another direction, swords blazing, killing the guards. ROBIN defends himself using his bow like a staff. GISBORNE says his next line while racing through the village.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Get all the men! Move! Get the men!

BLAMIRE

Pull back! Get the supplies to the castle!

The gang herd the village men together, away from the guards. ROBIN shoots a soldier standing near the foot of the wagon.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

(mutter to self)

Idiots!

(yell to guards)

Get the prisoners out of there!

ROBIN

John! Break the chain!

LITTLE JOHN runs towards the wagon, chased by a guard. LITTLE JOHN turns to fight him off, but ROBIN shoots him instead, pulls another arrow from his quiver and points it at BLAMIRE. LITTLE JOHN pulls the chain off the wagon with a loud grunt.

LITTLE JOHN

On the move! On the move!

The soldiers withdraw, riding or running out of the village. The gang gather the men together. ROBIN advances on BLAMIRE, still pointing his bow at him. BLAMIRE looks back menacingly at him before finally leaving.

ROBIN

They're gone.

(lower bow)

Let's get these men to Sherwood!

ROBIN continues to stare after BLAMIRE a moment longer.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

414 (312) MARKETPLACE

ARCHER, armed with his sword in its scabbard and his katana in the baldric over his shoulder, walks through the marketplace.

(CONTINUED)

He is passed by the messenger, who is still tied and riding backwards on his horse. ARCHER stops to watch him go into the castle courtyard, then continues on to the Trip Inn.

CUT TO:

415 (312R) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

ISABELLA turns around and sighs at her messenger, who is flanked by two guards.

ISABELLA

You are an imbecile.

She approaches the messenger and sighs. She shouts her line right in the messenger's face.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Failure!

ISABELLA slaps the messenger with all her might. She hears footsteps and looks up at the balcony.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

(with relief)

Oh, Blamire. Tell me, are the men of Locksley secured?

BLAMIRE

We had a situation, some... unforeseen difficulties.

ISABELLA turns away muttering to herself.

ISABELLA

Robin Hood.

BLAMIRE

(coming down the stairs)

There's a man here to see you.

ISABELLA

A man?

BLAMIRE

Apparently, he has a proposition for you.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA
(chuckle)
Really?

ARCHER, having left his weapons at the inn, enters, and leans over the balcony with a nod and a smile. ISABELLA gives him a sidelong glance.

ARCHER
The name's Archer.

ISABELLA
Hmm.

BLAMIRE
Archer?

ARCHER goes downstairs.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)
Archer what?

ARCHER stops on the landing.

ARCHER
Just Archer.

ARCHER continues down the stairs.

BLAMIRE
(frown)
Archer?

ARCHER stands a few paces off from ISABELLA and BLAMIRE.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)
Weren't you due to hang in York?

ARCHER feigns ignorance.

ARCHER
Me? Hang? York?
(shake head)
Don't know anything about that.

BLAMIRE walks towards and past ISABELLA.

BLAMIRE

That's right. He's the one that Hood and Gisborne broke out of prison. Many of my men were injured.

ARCHER outstretches his arms, protesting.

ARCHER

I never asked them to do that. They just turned up.

ISABELLA

Arrest him.

Two guards immediately step forward. ISABELLA turns to go sit in her chair.

ARCHER

That Robin Hood's a nut. He feels compelled to go about saving people.

ISABELLA

Even so, do you really think I would fraternize with such a lowlife as you?

The guards drag ARCHER back. ISABELLA smiles wickedly.

ARCHER

You would if you knew the truth.

ISABELLA

(intrigued)

Wait.

The guards stop.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

The truth?

ARCHER pulls free and strides to ISABELLA.

ARCHER

(nod)

You and I...

ARCHER puts a foot on the dais.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER (cont'd)
... we're brother and sister.

ISABELLA
(laugh)
I'm sorry?

ARCHER leans into ISABELLA's face.

ARCHER
Ghislaine is my mother, too.

ISABELLA
Impossible.

ARCHER
She had me out of wedlock and sent me
away.

ISABELLA
How dare you stand there and tell me
such evil lies.

ARCHER
Is it a lie that she died in a house
fire?

ARCHER leans in and whispers in ISABELLA's ear.

ARCHER (cont'd)
Or that she was married to a leper...
your father?

ISABELLA's eyes turn angry.

ARCHER (cont'd)
Is that a lie? See, I've traveled far
and wide...

ARCHER glances at BLAMIRE.

ARCHER (cont'd)
... I know the most exotic ways to kill
a man. That's why Robin and Gisborne
saved me. They wanted to use me. They
figured that since I was their
brother, I'd...

ISABELLA
(raise eyebrow)
Their brother?

ARCHER
Yes. Your mother was my mother, and
Robin's father was my father.

ISABELLA
Are you telling me that my mother and
Malcolm...

ARCHER
Yes.

BLAMIRE has had enough of ARCHER.

BLAMIRE
Enough. Guards, take him away.

ISABELLA silences him with a wave of her hand.

ARCHER
If we join forces, think about it. Your
power, my skill, we can be
unstoppable.

ISABELLA leans forward to ARCHER's face.

ISABELLA
(intrigued)
What I need are men that can offer me
loyalty and protection.

Then adds the following loudly while still in his face.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Arrest him!

ARCHER
Sister...

ARCHER grabs her face with both hands.

ARCHER (cont'd)
...don't forsake me.

ISABELLA smiles. The guards grab him and drag him away.

BLAMIRE

Lock him up.

ISABELLA

He must never be allowed to leave the castle.

ISABELLA looks at BLAMIRE.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

And not a word about what he said. To anyone.

ARCHER smirks and nods at her. She stands.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Ever!

JUMP TO:

416 (312) EXTERIOR CORRIDOR

ARCHER, his hands shackled behind him, is led out the door and down the exterior corridor towards the dungeon door. He covertly holds a pick retrieved from his sleeve and unlocks his cuffs. As they walk into the dimmer light of the corridor, he wraps his chains around the forward guard's neck and turns him round to face the rear guard. ARCHER pulls the first guard's sword with his unfettered hand and uses it to fight the rear guard, holding the first soldier around the neck. He kicks back the rear guard, throws down the first one, and stabs him. The rear guard attacks and ARCHER pushes him to the wall and elbows his head several times, then pulls the sword from the first body and runs.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

417 (312R) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ROBIN leads the village men through the forest. He addresses his men.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

We have to get the rest of our supplies to Locksley. That'll keep the women and children alive until we return their crops and livestock.

TUCK

Robin.

ROBIN stops.

TUCK (cont'd)

What about the men?

ROBIN

What about them?

The villagers file past them.

TUCK

Well, when are they going to fight?

ROBIN

(scoff)

Tuck, these men are farmers, they're not warriors.

TUCK

"The Lord helps those who help themselves", Robin.

ROBIN turns with a scowl to look at the men walking past.

TUCK (cont'd)

Your protection weakens them. We are failing in our mission. We're supposed to be inspiring these men to stand up and fight for themselves, giving them real hope.

ROBIN

These men are terrified for their lives. They've forgotten how to hope.

TUCK

Then, my friend...

(CONTINUED)

TUCK puts his hand on ROBIN's arm.

TUCK (cont'd)
...it's time we lit the flame in them
again.

TUCK walks past, leaving ROBIN to ponder his words.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

418 (312R) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

ISABELLA, appraising her situation out loud, gets up off her chair as BLAMIRE goes to stand by it.

ISABELLA
If I disappoint the Prince, I hang
like every other noble who's ever
failed him.
(take a deep breath)
Blamire, I need those men.

BLAMIRE
Tricky. Hood's protecting them in the
forest.

ISABELLA
Then it's Hood I need to destroy.

ISABELLA turns aside and thinks aloud.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
I need to get to his weakness...
(sigh)
... exploit his vulnerabilities.

BLAMIRE
Which are?

ISABELLA thinks for a long moment, then gets an idea.

ISABELLA
His friends. That odious little gang.
The idiot cares about them. That's his
weakness.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA sighs and turns to BLAMIRE.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Blamire, bring me Rebecca from
Locksley.

BLAMIRE walks to the door as ISABELLA turns to her chair.

CUT TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

419 (312) COURTYARD

The courtyard is filled with wagons, livestock, sacks and village men. A woman (REBECCA) is brought through it all, staring at the goods around her.

GUARD
Hurry up!

The guard pushes her in the back.

GUARD (cont'd)
Move!

REBECCA goes up the steps.

JUMP TO:

420 (312R) THE GREAT HALL

ISABELLA holds the chain to a locket in both hands, letting the pendant slide back and forth on the taut chain. BLAMIRE enters with REBECCA, and they stand before her. REBECCA has her hands clasped in front of her.

ISABELLA
Good. Go, please, Blamire. This is
delicate.

BLAMIRE nods, glares at REBECCA and leaves. ISABELLA walks to REBECCA and holds up her locket.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
It's pretty, isn't it?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA sighs and looks at the locket.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
You know, sometimes the prettiest
things can be the most fragile.

REBECCA is silent a moment. ISABELLA starts to circle her.

REBECCA
What do you want with me?

ISABELLA
I want to help you.

REBECCA
Help me?

ISABELLA
Yes. A safe passage to Doncaster for
you and your family.

REBECCA looks at her with a raised eyebrow. ISABELLA drops the locket, breaking it in two. The back half of the locket is attached to the chain, the front half is not. ISABELLA picks up the two locket pieces from the floor and brushes the dust from them. ISABELLA drops the locket front into REBECCA's hands.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Plant this on Robin.

REBECCA looks at the locket then at ISABELLA.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Then persuade Much that Robin still
loves me. That he is devoted, to me.

REBECCA is about say something when ISABELLA holds up the chain with the back.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Then give him this.

ISABELLA drops the chain into REBECCA's hands.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

When he finds the other half on Robin,
his faith will be shaken. And he'll
realize that a candle still burns
deeply in his heart for me.

Satisfied, ISABELLA turns to her chair. REBECCA stares.

REBECCA

I can't.

ISABELLA stops and faces REBECCA.

ISABELLA

Can't? I don't think you understand,
you ignorant crone.

ISABELLA strides to face her.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Every last morsel of food, every
animal, every grain of barley within a
fifty-mile radius is locked up in my
courtyard ready for transportation to
the north. Hell is coming, Rebecca.

(giggle)

I think you should save your family
whilst you still can.

REBECCA looks down at the locket. ISABELLA sends her a glaring
look, then turns for her chair again.

JUMP TO:

A FEW HOURS LATER

LOCKSLEY

421 (312R) REBECCA'S HOUSE

A thunderstorm is approaching.

REBECCA opens the door and MUCH enters with a sack for her.

MUCH

This is everything we have.

(CONTINUED)

REBECCA sets it down on the floor. She's not sure she is going to be able to pull this off, but she has to try. If she fails Isabella will kill her.

REBECCA
I've got something to show you.

REBECCA holds out the chain and locket back.

MUCH
Where did you get that?

REBECCA
Isabella.

MUCH looks quizzically up at her.

MUCH
Why would she give you...

REBECCA
She says that Robin holds the other half... close to him. That there's a... a deep bond between them.

MUCH
(shake head)
I don't believe that.

MUCH turns to leave, but REBECCA stops him.

REBECCA
He loves her. I...

MUCH
No. Isabella's the enemy. She...

MUCH tries to leave again, but REBECCA stops him once more.

REBECCA
Is she? Check his things.

REBECCA presses the locket into MUCH's hands.

REBECCA (cont'd)
If he holds the other half, like Isabella claims, then you'll know.

MUCH

I don't need to check his things. I know...

ROBIN's voice is heard from outside.

ROBIN (OS)

Much, what's taking you so long?

ROBIN comes halfway to the door, sees MUCH in the doorway ready to leave, then goes back to the gang as MUCH slides the locket into a pouch on his belt. MUCH looks at REBECCA.

MUCH

We have to go.

MUCH leaves. REBECCA pulls the locket front from her shirt.

REBECCA

(pleasantly)

Robin?

ROBIN walks over to her. REBECCA gives him a hug. ROBIN chuckles at the affection. REBECCA slips the locket into the bag he holds over his shoulder, then releases him.

REBECCA (cont'd)

Thank you.

ROBIN

You're welcome.

REBECCA stares at him. ROBIN leaves and joins the gang.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(to gang)

Come on, then.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

422 (312R) OUTLAW CAMP - RAIN

ROBIN tosses his bag onto his bunk. The locket front falls out and lands on the ground at his feet. He doesn't see it as he turns to retrieve their empty baskets, but TUCK does.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

What's that?

TUCK picks up the locket. GISBORNE recognizes it and comes over to see as ROBIN puts away the baskets under a bunk.

GISBORNE

It's Isabella's.

GISBORNE smiles remembering where the locket came from.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Our mother gave it to her when she was a child.

ROBIN overhears and comes over, curious.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

She worshiped her.

GISBORNE gets a puzzled look on his face as he wonders how the locket got here.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

And she cherished this.

ROBIN takes the locket and hisses between his teeth.

ROBIN

Well, she wouldn't give this to just anyone now, would she?

(beat)

So what's it doing here?

GISBORNE looks back and forth between ROBIN and TUCK.

GISBORNE

You think this is mine?

ROBIN

Well, she's your sister, Guy.

GISBORNE

Yeah, a sister that's betrayed me many times and tried to kill me.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

We're not...

GISBORNE

Would I have told you it was Isabella's
if it was mine?

ROBIN

Well, if it's not yours, then whose is
it? And how did it get here?

GISBORNE and TUCK say nothing. ROBIN tosses the locket onto
his bunk where it partly slips under a fur.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

423 (312) THE "TRIP TO JERUSALEM" INN

ARCHER comes downstairs. At the bottom, he peeks around the
corner, then scans the room and sees the man he wants sitting
at a table, leaning into the corner. He goes over to him.

ARCHER

You haven't moved from that spot in
ten years.

DIGGLER

(surprise)
They let you out?

ARCHER

Not exactly.

DIGGLER

(raise eyebrow)
Need a drink?

ARCHER

(lean on table)
I need money... fast.
(sit at the table)
I'm a wanted man. I need safe passage
out of England. I need information I
can sell.

(CONTINUED)

DIGGLER
(lean forward)
What sort of information?

ARCHER
I need to prove my loyalty to the
Sheriff, show that I can protect her.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

424 (312R) OUTLAW CAMP - THUNDERSTORM

ROBIN leans on the rope ladder, his knife in his hand. He relates his plan for dealing with Isabella and Prince John to the gang.

ROBIN
We take the castle.

ROBIN stands and walks round the ladder.

ROBIN (cont'd)
We claim it under King Richard. We put
Isabella under house arrest. We
release the supplies. We release the
men.

ROBIN looks round at gang for reaction.

ROBIN (cont'd)
And we hold that castle till King
Richard returns.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

425 (312) TRIP INN

ARCHER
If I can penetrate the castle, I open
her eyes to what I'm capable of
achieving.

(CONTINUED)

DIGGLER

But the castle, it's bursting with
men, crops, livestock. It's defended
by an army of guards.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

426 (312R) OUTLAW CAMP

MUCH stands and goes to Robin.

MUCH

We can't take a castle.

GISBORNE stares out at them thoughtfully.

GISBORNE

We can if we go down the tunnel.

The gang all look at GISBORNE.

ROBIN

(raise eyebrow)

What tunnel?

Everyone looks at GISBORNE.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

427 (312) TRIP INN

ARCHER

I'm tired of looking over my shoulder.
I need enough so I can leave England...
for ever.

DIGGLER

(slowly)

Well... there is one way in.

DIGGLER holds out his hand to ARCHER.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

SHERWOOD FOREST

428 (312R) OUTLAW CAMP

GISBORNE walks slowly towards ROBIN.

GISBORNE

Vasey was paranoid so he built himself
an escape route...

GISBORNE draws his sword but holds it down.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

...a tunnel.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

429 (312) TRIP INN

ARCHER

(raise eyebrow)
Who dug this tunnel?

DIGGLER

Their rotting bodies were found
underground. Gisborne locked them in,
the whole force.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

430 (312R) OUTLAW CAMP

GISBORNE draws in the dirt with his sword.

GISBORNE

The diggers were silenced.

GISBORNE drops his voice and quietly says the following.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

(quietly)
I'd made sure of that.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE draws more.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

(normal)

So no-one else knows about the tunnel,
especially not Isabella.

ROBIN steps forward, listening intently.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

It starts here in a derelict
churchyard outside the west gate...

GISBORNE draws a long line.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

...and it leads directly into the
heart of the castle.

GISBORNE stabs the sword into the dirt.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

I say we go down the tunnel, we seize
Isabella, and we force her to dismiss
her guards. If we take Isabella, we
take the castle.

CUT TO:

NOTTINGHAM

431 (312) TRIP INN

DIGGLER holds out his hand to ARCHER. ARCHER puts a small purse
into it and jerks back the old man's hand at the same time,
pulling it in towards himself.

ARCHER

(sternly)

Now that's everything I have.

DIGGLER

The opening is in a derelict
churchyard under the grave with the
fallen cross.

(CONTINUED)

DIGGLER pulls the purse away. ARCHER stands, daring DIGGLER to move, then leaves.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

432 (312R) OUTLAW CAMP

ROBIN

If we time the break-in to coincide with the supply train leaving, most of the guards'll be busy with the convoy anyway.

LITTLE JOHN

How do we know that this isn't a trap?

GISBORNE pulls his sword from the dirt and puts the point in his scabbard.

GISBORNE

You think I'm lying? We want the same thing, John.

GISBORNE slides the sword home.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

I'm on your side. Haven't I proved that? ... I want Isabella just as much as you do. She betrayed me and I intend to make her pay.

ROBIN

That's enough! We go through the tunnel, and that's my final word!

ROBIN points at GISBORNE and addresses the men.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Guy is one of us.

(beat)

Tuck, John, get some forging tools to make weapons.

TUCK and LITTLE JOHN nod and leave.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)

The rest of you, get whatever money we have and melt it down to make arrowheads.

GISBORNE and ALLAN set off to fetch the coins. MUCH watches ROBIN leave, then wanders over near ROBIN's bunk. He sees the locket peeking out from under the fur. He pulls it out and looks at it, then takes the other half out of his belt and puts them together. The halves unite with an audible click.

MUCH

No. I don't... There has to be...

MUCH looks over at ROBIN, puts the locket in the pouch on his belt, then goes to join ALLAN and GISBORNE.

JUMP TO:

OUYSIDE OF NOTTINGHAM

433 (312) GRAVEYARD

ARCHER pulls one side of the wooden cover, still laden with stones, off the tunnel entrance.

He looks around, picks up an unlit torch and his sword, looks around again and steps down, checking round him constantly.

CUT TO:

434 (312) TUNNEL

He breaks through cobwebs as he enters the lower level of the castle, as indicated by the carved columns.

He stops for a few moments, looks around, and then continues on.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

435 (312R) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

ISABELLA holds a scroll, talking to BLAMIRE.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Now, I want you to issue this proclamation and I want you to make sure it's spoken about in every corner of Nottingham.

Behind her, ARCHER opens a panel in the wainscoting. He steps out and silently closes it behind him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

...that due to his duties and loyalties to the Sheriff, the outlaw Allan A Dale is pardoned for all his wrongdoings.

BLAMIRE

Allan A Dale has...

ISABELLA

(interrupt)

Shh. Just do it.

BLAMIRE nods, takes the scroll and leaves. ISABELLA smiles.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

(to herself)

Trust me.

BLAMIRE goes up the stairs. ISABELLA turns to her chair, behind which stands ARCHER, his back to the chair. ISABELLA sighs, satisfied with her plans and sits down. BLAMIRE gives her one last glance before disappearing out the door. She giggles.

ARCHER

Something funny, sis?

ISABELLA freezes. ARCHER makes a half spin round the chair and walks out.

ISABELLA

How on earth did you get in here?

ARCHER

(impudently)

Call the guards and you'll never find out.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Speak.

ARCHER

A tunnel. It was an escape route for the old Sheriff, but what's far more interesting is this. It was supervised by one Sir Guy of Gisborne. He and Hood are together, and with all that stuff locked up in your courtyard just waiting to be stolen, how long do you think it'll take before they come in the same way I did?

ISABELLA

I'll get the guards and wait.

ISABELLA steps down from her chair.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

I could ambush them as soon as they emerge.

ARCHER

Guards are useless. I've seen what they do to guards.

ISABELLA steps in front of him.

ARCHER (cont'd)

You need something a little more sophisticated than guards. Something they're not expecting.

ISABELLA

Keep talking.

ARCHER

Well... for a few pennies, I can trap the tunnel. It does happen to be one of my specialities.

ISABELLA

If you can make sure they both die a slow and very painful death, I'll give you more than pennies... brother.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER turns to the tunnel as ISABELLA ponders the possibilities.

ARCHER

Oh, you might want to send some people to cover the entrance back up.

ISABELLA gives him a look.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Robin and Gisborne aren't stupid. If they show up and see that the entrance has been disturbed, they...

ISABELLA

Of course.

JUMP TO:

436 (312R) TOWN - EMPTY SHOP

LITTLE JOHN and TUCK look for tools in an empty shop. A fanfare sounds.

LITTLE JOHN

They've taken everything.

TUCK

Even the forging tools.

LITTLE JOHN jumps at the sound of BLAMIRE's voice and they both go to the window to peek out at him.

BLAMIRE (VO)

This is a proclamation from the Sheriff of Nottingham. Let it be known that for services to the Sheriff...

CONTINUE TO:

437 (312) OUTSIDE SHOP ON STREET

BLAMIRE is on his horse reading the proclamation.

BLAMIRE

...the outlaw Allan A Dale...

CONTINUE TO:

(CONTINUED)

438 (312) INSIDE SHOP

LITTLE JOHN and TUCK exchange incredulous glances.

BLAMIRE (VO)
...has been given immunity from
prosecution.

CONTINUE TO:

439 (312) OUTSIDE SHOP ON STREET

BLAMIRE continues reading the proclamation.

BLAMIRE
He is a free man.

BLAMIRE rolls up the proclamation and rides off.

CONTINUE TO:

440 (312) INSIDE SHOP

LITTLE JOHN seethes with anger as TUCK stares in disbelief.
BLAMIRE moves on. LITTLE JOHN turns on his heel and leaves.
TUCK turns and glances at the spot where LITTLE JOHN was and
notices he is gone.

TUCK
John! John!

TUCK follows LITTLE JOHN.

JUMP TO:

A SHORT WHILE LATER

SHERWOOD FOREST

441 (312R) OUTLAW CAMP - THUNDERSTORM

Thunder rumbles.

MUCH brings in a small chest and sets it down by his bunk. He
is still wondering what to make of locket. Was it true?

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN and GISBORNE are making arrows. ROBIN enters bringing two large purses.

ROBIN
All of this needs to be made into
arrowheads.

MUCH
Robin?

ROBIN
We're running out of time.

ROBIN sets the purses by the chest, deliberately ignoring MUCH.

MUCH
Robin!

ROBIN
Where's Tuck and John with those
tools?

ROBIN picks up the two purses and heads to a bunk.

ROBIN (cont'd)
(to Allan)
Did you say something to them?

ALLAN holds his arms out.

ALLAN
Why is it always my fault?

MUCH walks out. ROBIN turns angrily to MUCH.

ROBIN
Where are you going?

MUCH
I...

ROBIN
We've got a castle to take.

MUCH
I know.

ROBIN is about to say something else, but LITTLE JOHN runs in. LITTLE JOHN pushes MUCH aside in his hurry to get his hands round ALLAN's neck.

ALLAN

What?

LITTLE JOHN

Traitor! What did you tell them?

(through teeth)

Judas!

ROBIN looks at TUCK as he comes in explaining.

TUCK

It's all over Nottingham. Allan's been pardoned by the Sheriff... for services rendered.

ALLAN

What?

ROBIN

(holding in his temper)

John, let him go!

ALLAN

Let me speak!

LITTLE JOHN

Why? You're good at that, aren't you? Speaking, lying...

TUCK tries to pull LITTLE JOHN back.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

Twisting us around your little finger.

TUCK

John! John, come on!

ROBIN

Let him go.

TUCK

Come on!

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN lets go, throwing ALLAN's head down.

LITTLE JOHN

Liar!

ROBIN turns to ALLAN and puts a hand on his shoulder.

ROBIN

Alright?

ALLAN

I haven't done anything!

ROBIN, TUCK, LITTLE JOHN, and MUCH line up to face him. GISBORNE, off to ALLAN's right, stays in the background, not wanting to believe it.

ALLAN (cont'd)

I swear, I haven't betrayed you.

(to Much)

Much...

MUCH stares at him a moment, then looks to ROBIN, who returns his gaze with doubt in his eyes. ALLAN looks to GISBORNE.

ALLAN (cont'd)

You believe me, Guy.

LITTLE JOHN charges ALLAN, but TUCK puts his hand to his chest and stops him.

TUCK

No.

GISBORNE, in answer to ALLAN, raises his eyebrows and shrugs, then looks ALLAN in the eye as if to say, "Well, you've done it before..."

ALLAN

(pleadingly)

Tuck?

TUCK looks at ROBIN. ROBIN looks up in exasperation at the sky. ALLAN looks at ROBIN, his voice almost breaking, beseechingly as he says line.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN (cont'd)

Robin?

ROBIN shoots ALLAN a furious look. The gang just stare at ALLAN. None can believe he would betray them again.

ALLAN (cont'd)

So you think I'm a coward? Is that it, yeah? What, that I've... sold you out to save myself somehow, yeah?

MUCH

You've done that before!

LITTLE JOHN nods in agreement.

ALLAN

I know! And every day I wish I could take that back, you know that!

Nobody says anything. ROBIN frowns, trying to decide what to do. ALLAN shakes his head.

ALLAN (cont'd)

None of you? None of you believe me? I'll be off, then.

ALLAN turns to gather his things.

MUCH

Did you tell her about the tunnel?

ALLAN

I told you, I haven't said...

ROBIN

(furiously)
Tie him up!

LITTLE JOHN steps forward to obey.

ALLAN

What?

LITTLE JOHN grabs his shoulders and pushes him into a wooden ladder.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN (cont'd)

No, no, no, no.

ROBIN

I can't take the risk. I'm sorry. I...

ALLAN

(begging)

Robin...

ROBIN

Once we've secured the castle, we will come back.

(point at Allan)

And we will sort this out.

ALLAN

John, don't do this.

ROBIN

Get it done!

ROBIN walks past ALLAN.

LITTLE JOHN

Don't even look at me!

ALLAN's eyes plaintively follow MUCH as MUCH accompanies ROBIN to the storage area.

Thunder rumbles again.

MUCH wonders if Allan really did betray them again. Everything seems to falling apart. First there was Isabella's locket that he found on Robin, then there was the pardon that Allan received. If he was a betting man, Much would have to say that those things might not be as they seemed. Should he confront Robin about the locket? Should he tell Robin that he thinks this is all a game and that Isabella is playing them off each other?

MUCH

Robin, I...

ROBIN

Not now, Much.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

But this is...

ROBIN

I said. Not. Now!

MUCH gives ROBIN a look. Then he looks over at Gisborne. Gisborne knows Allan as well as they do, and he knows Isabella. He might be the perfect one to ask about his theory.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

442 (312R) CASTLE - TUNNEL

ARCHER works with a hammer and anvil, pounding out thin strips of iron. ISABELLA comes down with a guard.

ISABELLA

(to guard)

Stay here.

ISABELLA makes her way to ARCHER, smiling. ARCHER stops and wipes the sweat from his brow with the back of his hand.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Specialist, you say?

(cross arms)

For your sake, you better be.

ARCHER flips the hammer up and catches it.

ARCHER

You'll get your money's worth, sis. As long as I get mine.

ISABELLA

You'll get paid on one condition, that this trap kills Hood.

ARCHER

You're the boss.

ARCHER resumes his hammering. ISABELLA keeps a tight smile and leaves.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

SHERWOOD FOREST

443 (312R) ON WAY TO NOTTINGHAM

On their way to Nottingham, the gang stop to say goodbye before going their separate ways.

ROBIN

We get into the castle, we capture Isabella, release the villagers. But if the convoy leaves, then we've failed. Tuck, John, it's up to you to stop it, no matter what.

TUCK and LITTLE JOHN nod solemnly.

ROBIN (cont'd)

This could be the last time we see each other.

ROBIN hugs LITTLE JOHN. MUCH extends a hand to TUCK and they shake warmly.

GISBORNE stands back, watching. These guys had been through so much. They were all so close. He starts to wish that Allan were here. Next to Robin, Allan was the one he was the closest to. The others never really accepted him. He still couldn't believe that Allan would actually betray them again.

TUCK goes over to GISBORNE and offers his hand. GISBORNE takes it. MUCH hugs LITTLE JOHN.

ROBIN

(to Tuck)

Best of luck.

ROBIN and TUCK shake hands. LITTLE JOHN looks at GISBORNE. He goes to him and offers his hand.

LITTLE JOHN

Good luck.

GISBORNE takes his hand.

GISBORNE

Thanks. Same to you.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

I know I haven't...

GISBORNE

It's okay, John.

ROBIN

(to Gisborne)

It's time.

GISBORNE acknowledges and follows ROBIN. MUCH follows GISBORNE.

LITTLE JOHN gets his staff from where it was leaning against a tree. The gang splits up.

ROBIN, GISBORNE and MUCH going one way, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN going the other.

JUMP TO:

MEANWHILE

444 (312R) OUTLAW CAMP

ALLAN slips a knife out from his sleeve and starts cutting at the ropes. He mutters to himself as he saws.

ALLAN

I put my neck on the block time and time again and for what? Nothing. They should know I wouldn't betray them. I don't know what Isabella is up to, but when I get out of here, I'm gonna find out.

JUMP TO:

445 (312) ELSEWHERE IN THE FOREST

TUCK addresses the Locksley men while walking among them.

TUCK

Those of you who can fight must help us intercept the supply train.

The men start muttering many reasons why not.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK (cont'd)

Those are your crops inside that castle. Your livestock, your brothers. Damn it, men, it's time to stand up and fight!

TUCK puts his hand on a Locksley man's shoulder. LITTLE JOHN strides towards him.

TUCK (cont'd)

Take back what's rightfully yours.

LITTLE JOHN

Brother Tuck...

LITTLE JOHN pulls TUCK away from the man.

TUCK

They've been trodden on, John, and they're taking it! If they would only stand together, they could defeat the Sheriff.

LITTLE JOHN

Defeating the Sheriff is our job, Tuck. Even if it is the last thing we ever do.

LITTLE JOHN leaves. TUCK hangs his head in dismay.

JUMP TO:

OUTSIDE NOTTINGHAM

446 (312) GRAVEYARD

GISBORNE leads ROBIN to the tunnel entrance.

GISBORNE

Robin... this is it.

GISBORNE kneels at the side of the rock-covered grave and starts moving the stones off. ROBIN kneels on the other side to help. MUCH, scared of disturbing the grave, stands off, distressed, until ROBIN glances at him. Then he kneels by GISBORNE to help.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

You shouldn't mess with graves.

They clear off all the rocks and GISBORNE lifts off the cover. ROBIN looks down the steps. GISBORNE watches him, waiting for his approval. ROBIN starts down the steps.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

447 (312R) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

ARCHER sits on a windowsill on the south side. BLAMIRE approaches ISABELLA.

ISABELLA

Hm?

BLAMIRE

(quietly)

Hood and your brother have entered the tunnel.

ISABELLA

Good.

BLAMIRE holds up a fat purse. ISABELLA takes it.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Thank you.

ISABELLA goes to ARCHER and tosses him the purse. He deftly catches it.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

This should buy your disappearance.

ARCHER

This everything I asked for?

ISABELLA

Count it.

ARCHER

(smile)

I believe you.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Good. Then you can believe this. If I ever smell your fetid odour anywhere near Nottingham again, I will have you dipped in blood and torn apart by starving dogs. My mother was a saint. The fact that she could have had a child out of wedlock is bad enough, but some nasty little hustler like you...

ISABELLA puts her face in ARCHER's. ARCHER doesn't look at her.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Be assured, I will kill a thousand times to keep my mother's sacred memory pure.

ARCHER

(half-smile)

Don't worry. I've got plans far away from here.

ARCHER bends down to pick up his sword.

ARCHER (cont'd)

You'll never see me again.

ARCHER jumps off the sill and leaves.

JUMP TO:

448 (312R) TUNNEL

ROBIN, with a lit torch, walks through the tunnel. GISBORNE and MUCH follow. The tunnel turns into stone column supports. MUCH stops.

MUCH

Oh! We're under the castle.

ROBIN

Much, keep moving! Come on!

(CONTINUED)

MUCH steps on a trip stone and grunts in surprise. GISBORNE and ROBIN look round, hearing gears turning. They see a barrier come down a few paces in front of them.

MUCH

Oh no!

They rush to the barrier, but it's already down. ROBIN and MUCH pound on it as GISBORNE tries to lift it. Then they see another barrier coming down back the way they came. They rush to it and again they're too late. ROBIN looks at the floor and then the ceiling, which has a round grate in it. MUCH raises his sword at ROBIN.

MUCH (cont'd)

I knew it would be a trap!

ROBIN holds his hand up to silence him.

ROBIN

Much... let me think.

JUMP TO:

LOCKSLEY

449 REBECCA'S HOUSE

REBECCA's conscience is weighing on her. She is overpowered with guilt over what she did to Robin. She knows she has to make things right. She goes to the back room and pulls a sword out of a drawer.

REBECCA

Never thought I'd ever use this. But I can't let Isabella do this. I must get to Robin. I must warn him what Isabella is up to.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

450 CASTLE - TUNNEL

ROBIN is thinking.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

Robin.

ROBIN

Much, I....

MUCH pulls the locket out of his pocket.

MUCH

Can you explain this?

ROBIN looks at MUCH. GISBORNE notices the locket is whole again.

ROBIN

(suspicious)

Where did you get that?

MUCH

I found it in your...

ROBIN

I only had half of it. That is whole.
Where...

MUCH

So it's true. She...

GISBORNE realizes this has all been a set up.

GISBORNE

I think we've been had, Robin.

ROBIN turns to him.

ROBIN

(raise eyebrow)

What?

GISBORNE

I think Isabella planted half on you
for someone to find and...

ROBIN

(curious)

How? I haven't...

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

When we returned from Locksley the other day, we found half on the ground in the camp.

ROBIN

Yeah.

GISBORNE

Now it is whole.

GISBORNE looks to MUCH.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

Where did you get the other half?

MUCH

What?

ROBIN

Much?

MUCH

Rebecca.

ROBIN

The Potter?

MUCH

Yes. She said that Isabella wanted us to know that you were still in love with her, and the proof was that you would have the other half. I didn't want to believe her, but when...

ROBIN

Rebecca. She must have slipped the other half in my bag when she hugged me. I knew that hug seemed odd.

GISBORNE thinks of something else.

GISBORNE

You know what this means, don't you.

ROBIN and MUCH look at GISBORNE. ROBIN understands what GISBORNE is thinking.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE (cont'd)

She probably lied about Allan as well.
She is turning the men against you,
and you against them.

ROBIN

And we bought it. Everyone was so quick
to turn on him.

GISBORNE

She knew his history. She knew he'd
done it before. She knew...

ROBIN

We all owe Allan an apology.

MUCH looks at the locket, and then at ROBIN.

MUCH

I'm sorry. I...

ROBIN

She played us, Much. She's good. And
if I get out of...

MUCH

When. You did mean "when", right?

ROBIN smiles. GISBORNE smiles. MUCH smiles. ROBIN and GISBORNE
exchange a look that MUCH doesn't notice.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

451 (312) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ALLAN walks quickly and angrily through the trees.

ALLAN

You give'em the best years of your
life... and for what?!

He hears a horse neigh. He stops and peers down at the road
through the trees. The sound of several wagons, horses and
soldiers reaches his ears.

(CONTINUED)

ALLAN (cont'd)
(disbelief)
No.

He creeps through the trees to get a better look.

ALLAN (cont'd)
(shake head)
It can't be.

He takes another step forward, staring, when two guards run at him from behind. ALLAN fights them with his dual swords, kicking and punching them. He lets the last one roll over his back, then stabs him. He puts his foot on the guard's chest and pulls out his sword, then stares down at the road again.

ALLAN (cont'd)
I've got to get to Robin.

ALLAN runs off.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

452 (312) OUTSIDE THE WEST GATE

The gate is closed. TUCK and LITTLE JOHN walk down the bridge and stop in the middle. The only sound is the breeze blowing.

TUCK
Nearly time.

LITTLE JOHN
It's quiet, isn't it? Calm. It's like when you're hunting. The moment you spot your prey, your stag, there's a...
(beat)
stillness. Just for a moment, you wonder whether you can go through with it. Whether you can slaughter this beast with...
(beat)
so much...

LITTLE JOHN shakes his head, unable to find the word he wants.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

Dignity?

LITTLE JOHN

(look at Tuck)

Yeah. Dignity.

TUCK puts a hand on LITTLE JOHN's shoulder in agreement, then notices movement behind him.

TUCK

John...

LITTLE JOHN turns round to see the Locksley men coming out of the forest with torches, axes, scythes, flails, any tools, or farm implements they could muster.

LITTLE JOHN

They're brave, but they can't fight,
Tuck.

(beat)

Look at them. It'll be a massacre.

TUCK

They're not going to fight, John.

TUCK puts his hand to LITTLE JOHN's chest and turns to the men.

LITTLE JOHN

(raise eyebrow)

What?

TUCK

Gentlemen, these gates will open soon. Now, it is our task to stop the supply train in its tracks. And that is exactly what we're going to do. As an army, as a militia, we would be crushed. The Sheriff's men would hack us down like weeds. But it's harder to cut the spirit with a blade. When these gates open, and the supply train pulls out, we are going to sit down.

LITTLE JOHN shoots TUCK an incredulous look.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK (cont'd)
Just sit, in silence.

LITTLE JOHN
(mouth)
What?!

LITTLE JOHN steps towards TUCK.

TUCK
My friends, we are going to turn the
other cheek.

LITTLE JOHN
They will be... we will be crushed.

TUCK
Dignity, John. Dignity! Even when
everything has been taken from us, we
still have that.

LITTLE JOHN
(flustered)
Tuck!

TUCK
And the Sheriff's men will be faced
with a choice. Stand aside or carry
out a massacre.

LITTLE JOHN
(in Tuck's ear)
These are the Sheriff's men. I think
we know what choice they're gonna
make.

TUCK
They may be soldiers, John, but they
are still men... just men. And faced
with the power of truth, a man can
change. If we all stand together, we
can have that power.

The villagers nod.

TUCK (cont'd)
We can be unstoppable.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN eyes TUCK, still unsure of the success of his plan.

JUMP TO:

453 (312R) TUNNEL

MUCH

This was a trap.

MUCH looks at GISBORNE. GISBORNE can see the look in MUCH's eye. GISBORNE grabs MUCH by the shoulders and pushes him against the wall.

GISBORNE

You still think I... If I knew this was a trap, do you think I'd be stuck in here as well?

GISBORNE roughly pushes MUCH away.

ROBIN

That's enough! The both of you!

They hear a loud rumbling noise and small white pebbles start pouring down on them. ROBIN looks up.

ROBIN (cont'd)

What is that?

GISBORNE and MUCH look up in a mix of disbelief and fright as the deluge continues. MUCH whispers in hopelessness.

MUCH

(whisper)

There's no way out.

ROBIN gives him an intense look.

ROBIN

There's always a way out, Much.

ROBIN drops his bow and takes off his quiver. MUCH is unconvinced.

MUCH

So this is how it ends. This is how we die. Buried in limestone.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE looks at MUCH. MUCH gives a sidelong look at ROBIN.

MUCH (cont'd)
Hardly fair, is it?

ROBIN
If one of us can reach the top, we can
hold out longer. Much, come here. Guy,
get on our shoulders.

MUCH starts to go to ROBIN, then stops.

MUCH
No! It's got to be you, Robin. You're
the one who has to live. It has to be
you.

GISBORNE realizes that MUCH is right. ROBIN, realizing there
is no time to argue, relents.

ROBIN
Alright. Come on. Let's do this.

MUCH and GISBORNE grab each other's shoulders and accidentally
knock heads.

MUCH
Ow!

ROBIN
Ready?

GISBORNE
Go!

Under the relentless cascade of limestone, ROBIN pulls on their
clothes and climbs up on their shoulders, then pulls up MUCH's
hand as MUCH and GISBORNE grunt under the strain.

JUMP TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

454 (312) SOMEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ALLAN runs as arrows whistle by him. One hits him in the back
of his knee. He limps to a stop and pulls it out.

(CONTINUED)

He hears Robin's voice echoing in his head.

ROBIN (VO)

Allan!

He starts running again. Two arrows hit him in the back, then a third. Again, Robin's voice echoes in his head.

ROBIN (VO)

Allan!

He falls forward and determinedly tries to crawl on until a long, black cloak swishes in front of him. He looks up at the person.

ALLAN

You?

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

455 (312) CASTLE - COURTYARD

BLAMIRE enters from the stables.

BLAMIRE

Raise the portcullis! Move out!

The portcullis starts to move. BLAMIRE leads soldiers through first. The village conscripts unwillingly line up behind.

PAN TO:

455b (312) FOCUS ON ARCHER

ARCHER crosses the courtyard, watching and waiting to leave.

BLAMIRE (VO)

Open the gates!

JUMP TO:

456 (312) THE WEST GATE

(FOCUS shifts constantly throughout scene. There are various angles to be covered and various viewpoints to be taken. Some

(CONTINUED)

are from outside the gate, some are from inside the gate.)

FOCUS ON: LITTLE JOHN and TUCK turn round as they hear footsteps at the gate. TUCK crosses his legs and sits defiantly as the gates open. LITTLE JOHN and the men sit, too.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER walks amongst the conscripts, watching.

FOCUS ON: BLAMIRE steps forward, and the guards follow. They stand several paces in front of TUCK and LITTLE JOHN, who is the last to settle into place.

BLAMIRE

You there! Move out of the road!

Nobody moves. BLAMIRE and one guard take a step forward.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

(forcefully, quietly)

Move out of the road, I said.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER makes his way to the rear of the waiting guards.

BLAMIRE (VO)

Or prepare to die where you sit.

FOCUS ON: BLAMIRE stares a moment, then moves to the side.

BLAMIRE

Men, draw your swords!

FOCUS ON: ARCHER leans against a post, curious as to the outcome.

FOCUS ON: The guards put a hand to their hilts, but do not draw.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

(a restrained yell)

I said, draw your swords. Now!

The guards half-heartedly draw pull their swords free.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

457 (312R) TUNNEL

ROBIN stands on MUCH and GISBORNE's shoulders, one hand each holding one of theirs. The limestone continues to pour down on top of them.

ROBIN

Don't worry! I won't let you die!

GISBORNE

Aah! I'm sinking!

GISBORNE lets go of ROBIN's hand.

ROBIN

Guy? ... Guy, don't...

ROBIN reaches up and grabs the grate. MUCH's hand slips from ROBIN's grasp and MUCH flails his arm.

MUCH

I'm going under! Aah!

ROBIN

Give me your...

ROBIN brushes MUCH's fingertips.

MUCH

Aah! Robin!

ROBIN hangs from the grate by one arm and finds MUCH's hand again.

ROBIN

Much! Guy! Stay together! If you stay together, you can breathe for a little while longer! And keep your hands moving, so I know! Much! Guy!

MUCH's hand slips from ROBIN's. ROBIN reaches for MUCH's hand, but it disappears under the growing pile of gravel. ROBIN reaches up and grabs the grate with both hands, and grimaces with grief at losing two friends.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

458 (312R) THE WEST GATE

(FOCUS shifts constantly throughout scene. There are various angles to be covered and various viewpoints to be taken. Some are from outside the gate, some are from inside the gate.)

FOCUS ON: BLAMIRE. BLAMIRE draws, his eyes wide with anger, and steps towards TUCK.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER. ARCHER watches intensely, silently supporting the outlaws.

FOCUS ON: BLAMIRE. BLAMIRE raises his sword with both hands, preparing to stab down. TUCK leans back, sticking out his chest, ready for the blow. BLAMIRE hesitates, looking at all the faces staring at him. To TUCK's relief, he slowly lowers his sword.

FOCUS ON: ISABELLA. ISABELLA appears on the battlements over the gate with a crossbow. She aims it at the men.

ISABELLA

Get out of the way!

BLAMIRE turns aside and looks up at ISABELLA. ISABELLA shoots and hits TUCK in the shoulder. All the men groan.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER. ARCHER winces sympathetically.

FOCUS ON: LITTLE JOHN. LITTLE JOHN looks up at ISABELLA and starts to stand, but TUCK grabs his arm.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER. ARCHER moves to stand in the middle of the street.

FOCUS ON: ISABELLA

ISABELLA

Cut them down!

FOCUS ON: BLAMIRE. Nobody moves. BLAMIRE frowns, then his attention is caught by REBECCA running up behind the villagers with a sword.

REBECCA

Start with me, then!

(CONTINUED)

REBECCA strides through the men.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER. ARCHER sighs, thinking she just ruined the stalemate.

FOCUS ON: BLAMIRE. REBECCA stands before the guard next to BLAMIRE, presenting him her sword lying across both palms.

REBECCA (cont'd)

Go on, be a man! Start with me!

ISABELLA

Do it or die.

REBECCA

And kill an innocent woman.

REBECCA glances at BLAMIRE, who is glaring at the guard. The guard yells as he raises his sword.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER. ARCHER makes a decision to side with Robin and throws a shuriken, which hits the guard facing REBECCA in the spine.

FOCUS ON: REBECCA. The guard sinks to his knees and falls back. REBECCA is relieved.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER. ARCHER draws his sword from his hip and his katana from the baldric over his shoulder and charges the guards.

FOCUS ON: TUCK. TUCK and LITTLE JOHN get up. TUCK fights BLAMIRE. REBECCA gets out of the way. LITTLE JOHN charges a guard. BLAMIRE grabs the arrow in TUCK's arm, and TUCK staggers back in pain. TUCK pulls out the arrow. BLAMIRE retreats.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER. BLAMIRE retreats into the town past ARCHER, who is delighted to be taking part in a good fight.

FOCUS ON: VARIOUS ANGLES. The village men fight with their various weapons. LITTLE JOHN makes it through the guards in front to the conscripts in the town and herds them back. REBECCA makes her way to the gate. ARCHER defeats two guards. TUCK finishes off another.

TUCK

Let's go!

(CONTINUED)

The villagers charge the gate as ARCHER finishes another guard. ISABELLA stares down in disbelief, then realizes she needs to retreat.

FOCUS ON: ARCHER. ARCHER defeats his last foe, then runs to REBECCA.

ARCHER
Nice work at the gate.

REBECCA
Thanks.

ARCHER
Name's Archer.

REBECCA
Rebecca.

ARCHER
I need your assistance.

REBECCA
Anything.

ARCHER
We need to save Robin.

REBECCA
(raise eyebrow)
What?

ARCHER grabs her hand.

ARCHER
Come on!

ARCHER pulls her out the gate and down the bridge.

JUMP TO:

459 (312R) TUNNEL

ARCHER and REBECCA run down the tunnel to the first barrier. ARCHER reaches up the left side. REBECCA stops and almost runs into him with a desperate cry.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

We've got to get that rope.

ARCHER laces his hands together for REBECCA to step on.

REBECCA

What's in there?

REBECCA steps up on ARCHER's hands and reaches up for the rope.

REBECCA (cont'd)

I've got it, I've got it, I've got it!

ARCHER

Then pull!

REBECCA

I'm pulling!

ARCHER lets REBECCA dangle from the rope a moment as he grabs her by the waist and pulls her down before taking the rope himself and pulling on it hand over hand. The barrier raises and limestone pebbles spill out from beneath. ROBIN falls out. REBECCA screams at the sight of his body. MUCH and GISBORNE fall out after him. None of them are moving.

REBECCA (cont'd)

Robin! No.

REBECCA brushes the gravel from ROBIN's face, pinches his nose, and breathes into his mouth as ARCHER helps GISBORNE sit up, patting his back. GISBORNE coughs.

REBECCA (cont'd)

Come on, come on! We need you! Breathe!

ARCHER turns his attention to MUCH. REBECCA breathes into ROBIN's mouth again as ARCHER pulls MUCH out of the stones. ROBIN opens his eyes with a gasp. He is surprised to see REBECCA.

ARCHER pulls a small bottle out of one of his pockets, uncorks it with his teeth, then spits out the cork. GISBORNE looks around, recovering. ARCHER holds the bottle under MUCH's nose. ROBIN turns over to his hands and knees. MUCH starts coughing at the smell of the bottle's contents. ARCHER returns the bottle to his pocket as ROBIN coughs.

(CONTINUED)

REBECCA (cont'd)

Robin. I'm sorry. Isabella made me...

ROBIN

I know. She's been playing with us all along. We need to find her now!

ARCHER pulls MUCH up to his feet.

ARCHER

The entrance to the castle's blocked.
Follow me!

ARCHER puts MUCH's arm around his neck and helps him along the tunnel. ROBIN digs out his bow and quiver and follows.

JUMP TO:

460 (312) EAST EXTERIOR CORRIDOR

BLAMIRE and ISABELLA meet at opposite ends of the corridor, BLAMIRE by the main doors.

In the background, the peasants can be heard shouting in rage.

ISABELLA

The peasants are trying to get into the castle. You have to protect me.

BLAMIRE steps forward.

BLAMIRE

Can't help...

ISABELLA strides quickly towards him.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

... sorry.

ISABELLA

They're going to tear me to pieces.

BLAMIRE

Not my problem.

ISABELLA stares at him in utter disbelief.

(CONTINUED)

BLAMIRE (cont'd)
I've got to be somewhere else.

ISABELLA
I just gave you an order.

BLAMIRE
(scoff)
You have no idea what's happening
here, do you?

ISABELLA
What? You can't just leave me here to
be massacred by this rabble.

BLAMIRE glares at her, then turns to leave.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Please.

ISABELLA pulls on BLAMIRE's arm.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
For pity's sake, help me.

BLAMIRE
If you want to save yourself, hear
this. Deliver Gisborne to the tunnel.

ISABELLA
What? Gisborne is dead.

ISABELLA turns towards the portcullis.

BLAMIRE
Goodbye, Sheriff. And good luck.

BLAMIRE leaves.

ISABELLA
(yell)
Blamire!

Realizing he's not coming back, ISABELLA turns round and
suddenly sees REBECCA, striding slowly towards her.

REBECCA

You forced me to lie for you. To try
and turn...

ISABELLA

What of it?

ISABELLA tries to pass her, but REBECCA steps in her way and pushes her into the wall, then pulls and pushes her into the opposite wall. ISABELLA pushes REBECCA away, then punches her, grabs her and throws her into the wall. ISABELLA grabs REBECCA and twists her down the corridor, slowly making their way to the side steps. REBECCA grabs ISABELLA and throws her against the pillar at the top of the steps. ISABELLA pulls a tiny knife.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Don't come any closer.

REBECCA deliberately takes a step and ISABELLA stabs out at her. REBECCA grabs ISABELLA's arm and her neck and twists her into the opposite side of the steps as ROBIN, who has been standing behind the pillar spins round to stand next to her. He holds his arm over his head, dangling the locket from its chain in front of ISABELLA's face as REBECCA holds her against the wall by her chin. ARCHER, MUCH, LITTLE JOHN, and GISBORNE crowd behind ROBIN.

ROBIN

I believe this is yours.

ROBIN leans into ISABELLA's face.

ROBIN (cont'd)

It's over, Isabella.

REBECCA roughly pushes ISABELLA's chin as she releases it.

JUMP TO:

LATER

461 (312R) MARKETPLACE

ROBIN stands on boxes/barrels outside the portcullis to address the peasants. GISBORNE guards a disheveled ISABELLA. The gang

(CONTINUED)

stand around in support, TUCK with a bandage around his shoulder.

ROBIN

In the name of King Richard, I charge
Isabella of Gisborne with high treason
and crimes against the people of
Nottingham.

ROBIN points to the castle.

ROBIN (cont'd)

The castle and everything in it
belongs to the people!

ROBIN raises his arms and all the townsfolk and villagers cheer and celebrate. GISBORNE stands solemnly behind ISABELLA. After several moments, MUCH runs in from the main gate.

MUCH

Robin!

ROBIN recognizes the alarm in his voice and immediately jumps off his perch. MUCH motions for them all to follow. GISBORNE grabs ISABELLA's arm.

GISBORNE

Move! Move!

CONTINUE TO:

462 (312R) OUTSIDE THE MAIN GATE

The gang hurry to the gate. MUCH stops just outside it where a heavy burlap roll lies, bulging in the middle. LITTLE JOHN throws his staff aside as he runs for the gate. ROBIN stops beside MUCH, then they and LITTLE JOHN step forward, grab the edge of the cloth and pull it, unwinding it. ALLAN's body rolls out.

TUCK jumps over the edge of the cloth as the three men drop it and kneels by ALLAN's head. He turns ALLAN's head and the unseeing blue eyes stare up at the sky. TUCK looks back at the gang, shaking his head.

ROBIN is visibly distressed. MUCH starts to sob. LITTLE JOHN drops down to sit on the ledge of the bridge.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE hangs his head in a moment of silence for his friend.

TUCK closes ALLAN's eyes. ROBIN shifts his feet, keeping his emotions in check. TUCK stands up. ARCHER has a grim look on his face, and ISABELLA a smug one.

GISBORNE looks up, and stares out at the trees beyond, alarmed. He immediately starts issuing orders.

GISBORNE

Close the gates.

ARCHER looks out as GISBORNE draws his sword. ROBIN looks to see what GISBORNE sees, and frowns.

PAN TO:

463 (312) FIELD OUTSIDE THE GATES

By the trees, several hundred soldiers are making their way towards the town. BLAMIRE is galloping out to join them. A man in a long, black cloak rides his horse to the front to meet him.

PAN TO:

464 (312R) THE MAIN GATE

GISBORNE

Man the battlements!

ARCHER turns to the peasants inside and addresses them.

ARCHER

Move!

GISBORNE pulls back ISABELLA. ROBIN stands staring, seething in anger and fitting the pieces together, as MUCH pulls the cloth out from under ALLAN and tosses it over the side. LITTLE JOHN picks up ALLAN's body, slings it over his shoulders and gives the new troops one last look before heading inside. ROBIN doesn't move.

GISBORNE (VO)

Come on!

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

465 (312) FIELD

BLAMIRE circles behind Vasey, the Sheriff of Nottingham, at the front of the troops, and stops his horse beside him.

BLAMIRE

My lord.

SHERIFF

Blamire, you old tomcat. How the devil are you?

BLAMIRE

The plan is in place.

SHERIFF

Good.

The SHERIFF smirks and chuckles, revealing a gold, jeweled tooth, then pulls up the hilt of his sword by his face.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Oh, this will be so much fun.

He kisses the cross-guard, then lets it slide back into its scabbard.

JUMP TO:

466 (312R) CITY GATES

ROBIN still hasn't moved.

GISBORNE (VO)

Come on!... Robin!

MUCH

Robin!

MUCH and TUCK each have a door ready to push closed. ROBIN finally turns and strides in as the gates close behind him.

JUMP TO:

467 (313) SHERIFF'S CAMP

The SHERIFF's army surround the town. BLAMIRE shouts orders.

(CONTINUED)

BLAMIRE

Bring forward the trebuchets.

The soldiers push one of two large contraptions of golden, new wood forward and a soldier brings over a small barrel.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

Load and make ready.

The soldiers pull on the chains to lower the arms and fasten the barrel in place.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

Unfurl the flag of truce.

The SHERIFF comes up beside BLAMIRE.

SHERIFF

This is my destiny, Blamire. The time is almost upon us. Welcome to hell, Robin Hood.

CUT TO:

468 (313R) TOWN

(FOCUS shifts constantly throughout scene. There are various angles to be covered and various viewpoints to be taken.)

LITTLE JOHN lays ALLAN's body on the ground inside the gates. MUCH looks down at it with shame.

MUCH

What have we done? We doubted him, John.

ROBIN and GISBORNE come round the corner from the castle on horseback. GISBORNE on a white horse, ROBIN on a brown one.

MUCH steps back and points at the gate, (indicating the Sheriff) his temper rising.

MUCH (cont'd)

He did this.

MUCH draws his sword and walks round ALLAN towards the gate.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

He killed him!

ROBIN and GISBORNE stop beside him.

ROBIN

Much!

MUCH obediently stops, but his ire still shows.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Much, you'll have time for that.

FOCUS ON: THE BATTLEMENTS ABOVE. TUCK calls down.

TUCK

There's soldiers at every wall.
Hundreds of them. The whole town's
surrounded.

FOCUS ON: INSIDE MAIN GATES. ROBIN's face falls. GISBORNE
stares, perplexed at the turn of events.

GISBORNE

Harrison killed him. He was proclaimed
dead by Pr...

ROBIN

(stoic calm)
Well, that ghost has raised an army.

ROBIN and GISBORNE kick their horses forward.

CONTINUE TO:

469 (313) OUTSIDE THE GATES

The gates open. ROBIN and GISBORNE canter across the bridge.
ARCHER and TUCK close the gates behind them.

CONTINUE TO:

470 (313R) HALF WAY POINT

BLAMIRE and the SHERIFF walk their horses to meet ROBIN and
GISBORNE. They are followed by a man with a white banner.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

Surprise. You thought I was dead.
Very nasty wound.

SHERIFF points to below his left shoulder.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

But, as you can see, not dead.

SHERIFF looks at GISBORNE.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Gisborne, we will have our reckoning.
Right now...

(hold arm out)

...I want my town back!

ROBIN

(quiet intensity)

Never. You're finished, Vasey. Your
weapons are no match for the hatred
these men have for you.

The SHERIFF draws his sword over his horse's back.

SHERIFF

You tell your peasant army anybody who
resists me will die. Poor Allan...

ROBIN walks his horse forward as the SHERIFF inspects his
blade.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

...he squealed like a stuck pig when
he died.

GISBORNE

(in warning)

Robin...

ROBIN stops his horse sideways in front of the SHERIFF's.

ROBIN

And you'll pay for that, you murdering
swine.

The SHERIFF, unperturbed, points his sword at ROBIN.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF

Sticks and stones, Hood.

ROBIN, glaring at the SHERIFF, sharply reins in the horse and it rears slightly before ROBIN walks it back to GISBORNE's side.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Give them a demonstration, Blamire.

BLAMIRE raises his hand. A soldier lights the barrel chained to the trebuchet's arm. BLAMIRE drops his hand.

BLAMIRE

Loose.

ROBIN and GISBORNE watch the flaming barrel fly deep over the town wall.

CUT TO:

471 (313R) MARKETPLACE

It lands in the marketplace and explodes.

CUT TO:

472 (313R) ROBIN/GISBORNE AND SHERIFF/BLAMIRE

ROBIN turns back to the SHERIFF with stoic calm, masking the fury within.

SHERIFF

(to Robin)

You have until dawn. Give me Gisborne, release Isabella, and then return Nottingham to myself and Prince John. Otherwise, you and your noisy friends, well, they'll be wiped off the face of the earth.

ROBIN and the SHERIFF exchange glares one last time before turning their horses around.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

473 (313R) MARKETPLACE

ARCHER and TUCK run in from the gates as the townsfolk scream and run away in panic.

REBECCA

What the hell was that?

ARCHER surveys the damage.

ARCHER

The Arabs call it Byzantine fire.

ARCHER kneels over the barrel remains.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Doesn't work like you'd expect.

ARCHER hands the charred wood to TUCK.

ARCHER (cont'd)

See?

(rub fingers)

Sticky, like oil.

TUCK inspects the wood.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Repels water.

TUCK looks the wood over, frowning.

TUCK

Phlegon thanatos. Literally the
burning death.

ARCHER picks up another piece of debris.

TUCK (cont'd)

An alchemical mixture of flammable
elements.

(sniff fingers)

I've heard of it, but I've never seen
it used till now.

ARCHERS stands.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

This will spread chaos across the town... destroying everything and everyone in its way.

ROBIN and GISBORNE return.

ROBIN (VO)

Put lookouts on every wall! Scour the town!

ROBIN stops at TUCK and circles his horse in front of him.
GISBORNE dismounts.

ROBIN

Tuck, I want every able-bodied man armed and ready. We hold Nottingham... for the King! We know the King's coming! He has loyal troops waiting for him at Loughborough. If we can get word to them...

GISBORNE

Robin, you could end this now by giving me to the Sheriff. You could have done it back there. Why didn't you?

ROBIN leans down to him from his horse.

ROBIN

(intensely)

This is bigger than you, Guy. It always has been. We stand together. We fight together. I will not give you to him. We are family.

GISBORNE gives ROBIN a look.

ROBIN (cont'd)

We are fighting for the future of England. You have Isabella behind bars. That's what you wanted. Are you with me?

GISBORNE

I'm with you.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

(to Tuck)

Get it done!

MUCH and LITTLE JOHN wheel in a cart from the main gates with ALLAN's body on it.

MUCH

There's something we have to do first.

MUCH and LITTLE JOHN set the cart down on its handles.

LITTLE JOHN

Honour the dead.

ROBIN stops his horse and looks at ALLAN, dreading the deed. ARCHER steps forward and stares at ALLAN's body.

CONTINUE TO:

474 (313R) FUNERAL

ALLAN's body has been wrapped tightly in burlap and set upon a pyre. One short sword has been laid on his abdomen, pointing to his toes. ROBIN places ALLAN's tag on his chest. Waiting behind ROBIN on either side of the pyre are GISBORNE and MUCH, each with a lit torch. TUCK, LITTLE JOHN, and ARCHER stand several paces off at ALLAN's feet. ROBIN walks to the side and nods at GISBORNE. GISBORNE nods back, then he and MUCH step to the pyre. MUCH raises his torch and looks round at them all, trying not to cry.

MUCH

To Allan, our loyal friend.

EVERYONE

To Allan.

There's a brief moment of silence before GISBORNE and MUCH reach down with the torches and light the pyre. ROBIN stands, stoic and silent, watching the flames rise.

CONTINUE TO:

475 MONTAGE OF ALLAN FLASHBACKS

Camera pans to each member of the gang as they recall some

(CONTINUED)

fond Allan moments.

First: Robin and Allan

Second: Much and Allan

Third: Little John and Allan

Fourth: Tuck and Allan

Fifth: Gisborne and Allan

Camera zooms in on the flames.

CUT TO:

476 (313R) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

Keys jingle as a guard and GISBORNE approach ISABELLA's cell. The guard unlocks the door and GISBORNE storms in.

GISBORNE

Did you know he was still alive?

GISBORNE slaps ISABELLA's face with rage, then grabs it and turns it to look in her eyes. She stares at him with hatred.

ISABELLA

I knew nothing of this.

GISBORNE searches her eyes for a hint of a lie and sees none. He lets go and turns to the guard.

GISBORNE

Leave us.

The guard obediently disappears. ISABELLA walks boldly towards GISBORNE.

ISABELLA

You so want to kill me, don't you?
What's stopping you, Guy? Not the fact
that I'm a woman, surely.

GISBORNE

There is too much blood on my hands
already. Isabella, you'll find no
mercy amongst Robin now.

GISBORNE looks down to his belt.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE (cont'd)
So when the time is right...

GISBORNE unhooks a small corked bottle from his belt.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
...you might want to use this.

GISBORNE places the nearly empty, pink glass bottle onto ISABELLA's palm. She immediately suspects what it is.

ISABELLA
Poison.

GISBORNE
A single drop will act slowly and painfully. For it to be quick, you must take it all.

ISABELLA
This is your idea of mercy?

She looks at the bottle and scoffs.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
Your last brotherly gesture. For whose sake, Guy? Mine or yours?

ISABELLA bolts for the open door but GISBORNE catches her.

GISBORNE
I do this for our mother's sake.

GISBORNE strokes her hair as he holds her against his chest. He gently lets her go, holding her back as he reverses out the door, closes it, locks it and leaves.

ISABELLA
Guy...

He does not turn back, his deed done.

JUMP TO:

477 (313R) BATTLEMENTS - NIGHT

REBECCA ties a rope around the post of the gibbet. She heads

(CONTINUED)

for the edge of wall as LITTLE JOHN approaches her.

LITTLE JOHN
What are you doing?

REBECCA
You have to get word to the King's
troops at Loughborough, right?

LITTLE JOHN
Yeah, but Robin...

REBECCA
Someone has to get help.

LITTLE JOHN
You're not...

REBECCA
Please. Let me do this. I made a
mistake. Let me fix it. Let me...

LITTLE JOHN
(nod)
Hmm.

REBECCA
Pull the rope up after me and tell
Robin... I'll be back with an army.

LITTLE JOHN
Right.

REBECCA abseils down the side as LITTLE JOHN watches. When she gets to bottom, she looks up and nods. LITTLE JOHN waves. REBECCA checks for soldiers, then runs off into the night. LITTLE JOHN looks out at the army in wait under an orange haze and a nearly full moon.

JUMP TO:

478 (313R) THE GREAT HALL

GISBORNE comes downstairs from the balcony entrance and sees the gang's distressed faces. ROBIN leans over the far end of the long table. ARCHER sits staring into the fireplace. TUCK takes off his bandage.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

What's happened?

ROBIN

(agitatedly)

I just learned that Rebecca has taken it upon herself to go to Loughborough for the troops.

GISBORNE

Rebecca? She's just a...

LITTLE JOHN

I tried to talk her out of it, but...

ROBIN gives LITTLE JOHN a "What were you thinking look".
Momentary silence.

ROBIN

The Sheriff is playing with us!

(exasperated)

He knows he's got the advantage. We have to hold this castle until the troops arrive.

MUCH

Can we? I mean, how long under bombardment from Byzantine fire?

ARCHER

He's got plenty of it.

ROBIN

How do you know?

ARCHER

I sold it to him.

ROBIN turns round and puts his hands on his head in utter disbelief.

MUCH

For a profit?

TUCK looks up at ARCHER. GISBORNE silently chuckles at MUCH.
MUCH strides forward and grabs ARCHER's shirt.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH (cont'd)
You sold it to the man who killed my
friend?!

ROBIN turns round to ARCHER.

ROBIN
(roar)
Well, now your trade has caught up with
you! And you're going to be bombarded
by your own weapons!

MUCH circles the table to stand behind GISBORNE.

ARCHER
I've done you a favour by sticking
around here.

ROBIN glares at him.

ARCHER (cont'd)
I saved your ungrateful lives!

GISBORNE
Our lives wouldn't have needed saving
if you hadn't trapped the tunnel in
the first place.

MUCH
(point at Archer)
We lock him up! We can't trust him.

ARCHER, hurt and flustered, walks towards the stairs.

ROBIN
(to Archer)
Well, what's the matter? A guilty
conscience?

ARCHER stops. ROBIN leans on the table again.

ROBIN (cont'd)
And what about all those people that
are going to die because of your greed?

ARCHER turns round and leans on the opposite end of the table.

ARCHER

Well, what about all those who have died because they listened to Robin Hood?

ROBIN stares silently at him. ARCHER walks the length of the table to him.

ARCHER (cont'd)

A few untrained, under-equipped peasants...

ARCHER gestures outside towards the SHERIFF.

ARCHER (cont'd)

...against that war machine.

ROBIN hangs his head. ARCHER leans on the table next to him.

ARCHER (cont'd)

So you think about what you got them into... before you ever try and judge me.

ARCHER leaves through the door under the balcony. There is an icy silence before ROBIN speaks.

ROBIN

We have to take the trebuchets.

MUCH looks up at him.

ROBIN (cont'd)

A small unit, tonight. You with me?

LITTLE JOHN and MUCH immediately head for the stairs.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I'll see you all at the battlements.

LITTLE JOHN and MUCH continue up the stairs.

GISBORNE looks to ROBIN and heads over to him.

GISBORNE

Don't let our brother get to you. He...

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

He's right.

GISBORNE

No. He isn't.

GISBORNE places a hand on ROBIN's shoulder.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

I know. I've seen what you can do from both sides. And I'm proud to fight with you.

ROBIN

Thanks.

GISBORNE

So, shall we?

GISBORNE points to the door by the fireplace. ROBIN nods and heads for the door. GISBORNE follows him out.

JUMP TO:

479 (313) BATTLEMENTS - NIGHT

LITTLE JOHN lays out four coiled ropes in a line along the parapet. MUCH runs up to ROBIN to report as the others ready their ropes for the descent.

MUCH

There's pockets of men around the walls.

LITTLE JOHN

Regular patrols.

ROBIN lays down his bow.

ROBIN

You all know what we're doing. We go up along the dry moat...

(point below)

...then we head for that cart and then the tent. That'll give us cover until we make our way to the trebuchets.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE tosses his rope over the side.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Much, you're in charge. If we don't come back, you fight to the end.

LITTLE JOHN stops and looks at ROBIN.

MUCH

Well, I'm coming too, aren't I?

ROBIN

No-no-no-no. No, you're not. I need a cool head here...

(point below)

...not a hot one out there.

MUCH

(disbelief and hurt)

What?!

ROBIN

Listen to me...

ROBIN puts his hand on the side of MUCH's head...

ROBIN (cont'd)

You'll get your revenge for Allan, I promise.

MUCH sullenly relents. ROBIN gently slaps his cheek. TUCK stands at the edge, rope in hand. MUCH hands TUCK his bag and TUCK slips it over his shoulder. GISBORNE, ROBIN, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN stand ready with their backs to the parapet. ROBIN looks at them all.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Right, let's do this.

LITTLE JOHN nods.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Ready?

All four abseil down the side.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

480 (313) OUTSIDE TOWN

GISBORNE, ROBIN, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN poke their heads up over the edge of the moat and quickly duck down again as two horsemen go by. After they pass, the outlaws scramble out of the moat and run for the cart.

CONTINUE TO:

481 (313) SHERIFF'S CAMP

GISBORNE, ROBIN, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN duck down beside the cart. Beyond it the soldiers sit by the fire and talk, oblivious to the intruders. ROBIN peers around the wheel, then looks back and nods.

ROBIN

(whisper)

Alright?

ROBIN crawls on his hands and feet to the tent. TUCK, GISBORNE, and LITTLE JOHN follow, all unnoticed. LITTLE JOHN and TUCK go to one trebuchet, ROBIN and GISBORNE go to the other. They unhook the chains and set them up again shorter than before, lessening their range dramatically.

LITTLE JOHN

(to Tuck)

Yeah?

TUCK

Let's go.

GISBORNE, ROBIN, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN crawl back to the cart unobserved just as BLAMIRE starts striding among the soldiers, yelling orders.

BLAMIRE

Come on, you lazy rebels! Move yourselves!

BLAMIRE appears out of the haze as ROBIN crawls back to the wagon.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

Get to your posts! ... Weapons ready!

(CONTINUED)

The soldiers scramble to obey.

ROBIN

(to gang)

The Sheriff had no intention of
waiting till dawn.

BLAMIRE

We attack immediately!

The SHERIFF looks at Nottingham as BLAMIRE strides to his side.

SHERIFF

Time to wake them up, I think.

The soldiers load the trebuchets. BLAMIRE lowers his hand.

BLAMIRE

Loose!

The soldiers trip the trebuchets. The flaming barrels are sent straight up as the SHERIFF looks out at the town expectantly. When he doesn't see flying, flaming barrels, he turns to BLAMIRE.

SHERIFF

What's going on, Blamire?

BLAMIRE looks up as the barrels start to whistle in the air. The SHERIFF looks up, too, and sees the barrels falling down right on top of them. BLAMIRE grabs the SHERIFF, pulling him away.

BLAMIRE

Run for cover!

The barrels come down on top of the trebuchets and explode, destroying them. ROBIN takes advantage of the chaos.

ROBIN

(to gang)

Come on! Run!

SHERIFF

The trebuchets!

The SHERIFF looks round in confusion, then sees the outlaws running.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Robin Hood! Get him!

The gang run into a band of soldiers who draw their swords, forcing them to stop in their tracks.

SOLDIER

Stay there!

TUCK

Robin?!

ROBIN looks round, but realizes they are surrounded. Then he hears hoof beats approaching. ARCHER is galloping towards them. He shoots a flaming arrow at a small barrel, which explodes with a blinding light, cutting off the gang from the SHERIFF and the other soldiers. GISBORNE, ROBIN, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN fight off the guards in the bedlam. The SHERIFF is bewildered at what's happening as ARCHER rides by, holding his bow over his head, cheering at his feat. He then shoots a flaming arrow at another barrel, and it explodes.

ARCHER

Run for it, Robin!

ROBIN

Come on! Go!

GISBORNE, ROBIN, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN run for town as the SHERIFF watches. BLAMIRE remains calm, shouting orders.

BLAMIRE

Archers to the left flank. Prepare to fire!

The archers assemble as ordered.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

Main gate.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

482 (313R) MAIN GATES

MUCH, having watched the situation from above, descends the battlements using the ladder by the main gate.

MUCH

Open the gates!

Two men pull open a door each as MUCH jumps off the ladder. ROBIN, TUCK, GISBORNE, and LITTLE JOHN run down the bridge. ARCHER gallops behind them, the soldiers close at his heels. ROBIN, TUCK, GISBORNE, and LITTLE JOHN and ARCHER enter, and the men close the gates behind them before the soldiers can get through. MUCH, TUCK and ROBIN hold the doors closed while LITTLE JOHN and GISBORNE put in the beam to reinforce it. ROBIN heads for ARCHER before turning to find MUCH first instead.

ROBIN

You see? That's why I had you here!
Now you know!

MUCH

(giddy with success)
That's for Allan!

ROBIN goes to ARCHER. MUCH climbs up to the battlements.

ROBIN

I thought you'd run out on us!

ARCHER

(dismount)
Thought you needed a hand. By the way,
I got you a little present, courtesy
of the Sheriff.

ARCHER slaps a leather flask into TUCK's hand. ROBIN is a bit suspicious.

ROBIN

What's that?

TUCK smells the liquid and recognizes it.

TUCK

(delighted)
It's Byzantine fire!

(CONTINUED)

TUCK pours some into his hand and smells it again.

TUCK (cont'd)
If I can work out its base components,
I can make some more of this.

ROBIN looks intensely into TUCK's eyes.

ROBIN
So we can fight the Sheriff.

TUCK looks proudly into ROBIN's eyes. ROBIN shoves TUCK's good shoulder.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Do it!

ROBIN goes to the ladder. TUCK smells his hand again, thinking.

JUMP TO:

483 (313) SHERIFF'S CAMP

The SHERIFF is livid.

SHERIFF
Destroy everything!

BLAMIRE
Storm those gates!

SHERIFF
I want Robin Hood's head!

BLAMIRE
Attack!

JUMP TO:

484 (313) CASTLE - DUNGEONS

ISABELLA goes to the door of her cell, by which sits a peasant man as guard. She talks to him dreamily, sultrily.

ISABELLA
Well, well, well. You are a big boy,
aren't you?

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA chuckles at his silence.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Oh, come on, now. Don't be shy. It's just you and me, waiting for the end. I mean, Robin Hood can't win. You saw the Sheriff's army. So I guess we're in the same position... condemned.

(sigh)

Such a waste.

JUMP TO:

485 (313R) CASTLE - DAWN

(FOCUS shifts constantly throughout scene. There are various angles to be covered and various viewpoints to be taken.)

FOCUS ON: BATTLEMENTS. ROBIN climbs the ladder to MUCH on the battlements.

MUCH

Robin! We're going to need the King's troops fast.

ROBIN

Let's hope Rebecca can get there.

They both look down at the bridge where soldiers are wheeling a battering ram made of three thick logs towards the portal. The ram hits the gates, which have been braced with thin tree trunks.

FOCUS ON: BELOW. GISBORNE turns sharply at the noise, and yells up to ROBIN.

GISBORNE

The gates won't hold against a battering ram, and we don't have the men to take them on!

FOCUS ON: OUTSIDE. The battering ram pounds the gates again and archers, behind it, shoot flaming arrows over ROBIN and MUCH's heads.

FOCUS ON: BATTLEMENTS

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

Run!

ROBIN yells down to the men below.

ROBIN

Take cover!

FOCUS ON: BELOW. ARCHER, LITTLE JOHN and GISBORNE scramble to the sides. TUCK, with nowhere to go, turns his back and protects his head and the flask as the flaming arrows land amongst them. The battering ram pounds the gates.

FOCUS ON: BATTLEMENTS. ROBIN fires an arrow, and a soldier falls. MUCH shoots another right in the heart.

ROBIN (cont'd)

(yell down)

Pull everyone back into the castle courtyard!

FOCUS ON: BELOW. TUCK slides the flask of Byzantine fire over his shoulder.

FOCUS ON: BATTLEMENTS.

ROBIN (cont'd)

We defend from there until the King's troops arrive!

ROBIN tosses his bow down.

FOCUS ON: BELOW.

LITTLE JOHN addresses the peasants.

LITTLE JOHN

Move! Let's go.

LITTLE JOHN and the men move a cart into the gateway. ROBIN tosses his quiver down.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

Take cover! Take cover! Take cover!

FOCUS ON: BATTLEMENTS.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

(to Much)

Abandon this tower. Take a company of archers, hold them as long as possible.

MUCH nods as ROBIN goes down the ladder.

FOCUS ON: BELOW. LITTLE JOHN, two men, and GISBORNE position themselves to turn the cart on its side.

LITTLE JOHN

One, two, three.

They turn the cart over.

FOCUS ON: BATTLEMENTS.

MUCH

(to men on the battlements)

Abandon the tower!

FOCUS ON: BELOW. TUCK runs to the castle as the men put up more barriers. MUCH and seven archers take up position behind the overturned cart.

MUCH (cont'd)

Steady!

The battering ram pounds the gates.

MUCH (cont'd)

Draw!

The battering ram pounds again, and the gates burst open.

MUCH (cont'd)

Loose!

Eight arrows fly and fell the first soldiers coming through. The battering ram is pushed in after them.

MUCH (cont'd)

Run!

The eight men run for the castle.

(CONTINUED)

FOCUS ON: IN FRONT OF THE CASTLE GATE. TUCK stands directing another line of archers.

TUCK
Hold! ... Hold!

MUCH and the archers come round the corner and run past the line.

TUCK (cont'd)
Nock! ... Draw! ... Loose!

The archers let fly their arrows and immediately retreat to the rear, exposing a line led by LITTLE JOHN.

LITTLE JOHN
Nock! ... Draw! ... Loose! Fall back!

LITTLE JOHN's archers retreat to the rear and MUCH's line steps up.

MUCH
Nock! ... Draw! ... Loose! Fall back!

TUCK
Fall back to the castle!

MUCH/LITTLE JOHN
Fall back! Fall back!

FOCUS ON: COURTYARD

TUCK and LITTLE JOHN usher the men into the courtyard. MUCH is overtaken by the heat of the moment, seeing that most of their opponents are down, and starts to celebrate, cheering and jumping up and down in front of the gate.

LITTLE JOHN and TUCK each grab an arm and pull him back through the doors just before they close.

CUT TO:

486 (313) DUNGEONS

ISABELLA is still crooning to her guard. He looks back at her.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA

Isn't it traditional to offer the condemned one last request? You open the door and I'll give you exactly what you want.

The man smiles, giddy with anticipation. He gets the keys and unlocks the door. ISABELLA steps out, puts her left hand on his shoulder, seemingly to give him a big kiss, but her right hand pulls out his dagger and stabs him.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Men are so easy.

CUT TO:

487 (313) COURTYARD

ROBIN runs into the courtyard, pulling an arrow from his quiver.

TUCK

John!

LITTLE JOHN joins TUCK and MUCH and helps them and a few men turn over a flatbed wagon in front of the gate.

CUT TO:

488 (313) TOWN

BLAMIRE and the SHERIFF march through the town as archers scout the streets. Spent arrows and felled bodies are everywhere.

SHERIFF

Bring the battering ram, smash those gates! And bring me the prisoner you captured!

BLAMIRE

My lord!

BLAMIRE goes back through the town.

BLAMIRE (cont'd)

Battering rams, now!

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

489 (313R) CASTLE - COURTYARD

(FOCUS shifts constantly throughout scene. There are various angles to be covered and various viewpoints to be taken.)

LITTLE JOHN looks through the crack in the gates, then calls out to the men above.

LITTLE JOHN

Portcullis!

He and two men run out from the gates as the portcullis is lowered.

FOCUS ON: ISABELLA. ISABELLA, cloaked, makes her way from the dungeons into the courtyard, unnoticed, but watching.

FOCUS ON: GANG. MUCH, holding his sword, directs a line of archers behind the overturned wagon. Behind him is LITTLE JOHN's line, and ARCHER leads a third, freeing TUCK to work on the Byzantine fire. ROBIN stands in the middle of MUCH's line of archers.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

(to archers)

Get in rank with me!

ROBIN

Get ready!

MUCH points his sword at the archers.

MUCH

Hold!

FOCUS ON: ISABELLA. ISABELLA stops by the small steps, watching, holding her dagger.

FOCUS ON: GANG. The battering ram smashes open the gates, and they swing back to almost closed.

MUCH (cont'd)

Draw!

BLAMIRE brings REBECCA forward into ROBIN's line of sight between the doors.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(interrupt)
Wait!

MUCH
But...

ROBIN
Wait!

REBECCA
I'm sorry, Robin.

ROBIN grabs the tip of his nocked arrow and flips it forward to hold it against the bow. The SHERIFF pushes open the left door all the way, revealing himself.

SHERIFF
Not as sorry as she's going to be.

ROBIN glances back to see where MUCH is.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
She was on her way from
Loughborough... with this.

The SHERIFF holds up a folded note and looks at it.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
Expecting reinforcements? Not coming.

The SHERIFF tosses the parchment casually aside.

FOCUS ON: ISABELLA. ISABELLA wipes her dagger on her cloak, licks her lips and heads up the small steps.

FOCUS ON: SHERIFF AND ROBIN

SHERIFF (cont'd)
(to Robin)
Don't believe me?
(to Rebecca)
Tell him.

BLAMIRE shakes REBECCA, who struggles against his grip. ROBIN whispers to MUCH.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN

Much...

ROBIN looks up at the battlements over the portcullis. MUCH looks up, too. ROBIN turns away from the SHERIFF to circle behind MUCH, feigning exasperation to the SHERIFF.

SHERIFF

King Richard isn't coming either. He was on his way...

ROBIN

(whispering)

Can you do it?

MUCH

(take a deep breath)

Watch me.

SHERIFF

...but he was captured by Leopold of Austria.

ROBIN completes his circle and faces the SHERIFF again.

ROBIN

You're lying.

REBECCA

It's true. He's being held to ransom.

SHERIFF

Two hundred and fifty thousand crowns, enough money to bankrupt a nation.

In the background, MUCH runs along the battlements with a rope in hand.

REBECCA

The troops at Loughborough won't fight unless Richard leads them.

SHERIFF

So what's it to be, Hood? Surrender or slaughter?

(CONTINUED)

In the background, MUCH tosses the rope down into the courtyard.

ROBIN

Neither.

TUCK, GISBORNE, and LITTLE JOHN catch the rope. ROBIN strides forward, stalling for time so the gang can get in place.

ROBIN (cont'd)

You see... I don't trust you... Vasey.

MUCH takes up the slack in the rope.

ROBIN (cont'd)

You said you'd take no prisoners.

The SHERIFF says the next line flippantly, and feigning remembering.

SHERIFF

Oh, yes. Yes, I did say that. Well, that was rather hasty of me. I mean, who's going to pay tax if the villagers are all dead?

ROBIN

(scoff)

So... What, you're going to release all these people now only to make slaves of them later?

SHERIFF

Why?

ROBIN

(scoff, shake head)

You don't give me much of a choice, do you?

SHERIFF

(chuckle)

What, have you got some little trick tucked up your sleeve, have you, hm?

MUCH nods to the men below.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF (cont'd)
Humiliate me and rescue the woman?

MUCH looks down at REBECCA on the other side.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
You're so predictable, Hood. Bored
with that game.

ROBIN's eyes flicker to REBECCA.

SHERIFF (cont'd)
(to Blamire)
Kill her.

ROBIN
Rebecca! Above you!

ROBIN runs back behind the wagon.

ROBIN (cont'd)
(to Tuck)
Lower the rope!

MUCH is quickly lowered down in front of BLAMIRE and REBECCA puts one foot in a loop in the rope. BLAMIRE draws his sword and REBECCA elbows him in the chest, breaking free. She throws her bound hands over MUCH's head.

MUCH
Up!

GISBORNE
Pull!

GISBORNE, TUCK and LITTLE JOHN pull back on the rope. BLAMIRE tries to grab them, but MUCH and REBECCA are quickly raised up out of his reach.

ROBIN
Fire!

FOCUS ON: UP ON THE BATTLEMENTS. ARCHER and some villagers shoot down at the soldiers.

FOCUS ON: BELOW. ROBIN and the archers behind the wagon shoot. Soldiers fall.

(CONTINUED)

FOCUS ON: BATTLEMENTS. A peasant man pulls MUCH and REBECCA back over the parapet. ARCHER leans over the battlements and shoots at the Sheriff, who ducks and runs to the side of the gate.

FOCUS ON: TOWN. BLAMIRE stands on the other side.

SHERIFF

That is the last time Robin Hood makes
a fool out of me!

FOCUS ON: BATTLEMENTS. REBECCA waits for MUCH as he tumbles ungracefully over the edge of the wall.

FOCUS ON: BELOW. The villagers and ROBIN shoot as fast as they can.

FOCUS ON: TOWN.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

To the tunnel!

The SHERIFF and BLAMIRE run from the gate.

BLAMIRE

Fall back!

The soldiers retreat and the battering ram is pulled back to the center of the marketplace.

FOCUS ON: ROBIN AND GANG.

MUCH

It's working! They're falling back!

One last arrow hits the shield of a retreating soldier.

ROBIN

They're regrouping.

ROBIN calls back up the stairs.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Barricade the portcullis!

REBECCA runs down the steps from the battlements.

(CONTINUED)

MAN

Bring him inside.

ROBIN looks behind him at the wounded being taken inside. LITTLE JOHN pats the shoulder of an exhausted old man, who gratefully sits down as LITTLE JOHN looks at the wound of his neighbour.

MAN (cont'd)

I think he's still breathing.

GISBORNE looks around in despair at the few men they have left.

CUT TO:

490 (313R) COURTYARD - A SHORT WHILE LATER

As the gang and peasants do what they can to prepare for the next assault, ROBIN rests his head on his folded arms on the side of the overturned wagon. His face is solemn, knowing their situation is hopeless. TUCK comes up behind him and leans an arm beside him.

TUCK

The people need you, Robin. Talk to them.

ROBIN doesn't move or answer.

TUCK (cont'd)

Robin?

ROBIN remains silent a moment before slowly turning his head to look at TUCK, realizing he must act the leader. He stands and walks slowly up to the top of the steps. He turns and looks around at all the remaining men. ROBIN's speech starts out bleakly but gains strength and conviction until he is shouting at the end.

ROBIN

Loyal comrades... you know the situation. And you know that we are on our own. Now we have already lost friends and loved ones.

ROBIN starts to pace along the top of the steps.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)

But England will lose far more if we do not make a stand this day. And yes, some of us may fall, but our fight will live on. In the minds of those that despise injustice, in the hearts of those that cherish freedom, you are the soul of England standing firm against tyranny for a real future. Now ask yourself, is that not something worth fighting for?!

(draw sword)

Together...

(raise sword high)

...for England!

All those in the courtyard raise their fists in the air and cheer. ARCHER, near the gate, sees movement behind him and looks out the portcullis.

ARCHER

They're coming!

ARCHER pulls an arrow from his quiver, nocks, and draws.

LITTLE JOHN

Archers! Archers!

The soldiers march down the street and start pushing the battering ram forward from where it was left. ROBIN and the villagers let arrows fly. More arrows whiz past them. Soldiers fall. ROBIN lets loose arrows as fast as he can. An arrow fells a villager. ROBIN quickly shoots the soldier who fired it. MUCH runs to LITTLE JOHN on the battlements. Together they push a ladder down with soldiers climbing up it.

LITTLE JOHN (cont'd)

Much, get down to the portcullis. Help hold it.

MUCH

Right!

LITTLE JOHN

Go!

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

491 (313) TUNNEL

The SHERIFF, BLAMIRE and a small company of soldiers walk down the tunnel. Drifts of limestone pellets litter the floor.

SHERIFF

Robin Hood won't know what's hit him.

They come upon ARCHER's wall.

BLAMIRE

Blocked. There's a balance trap. We'll never get through there, my lord.

The SHERIFF's eyes dance over the face of the wall, first frowning, then chuckling as an idea forms.

SHERIFF

Well, we'll see about that.
(chuckle)

Back.

The SHERIFF smiles and turns round, noticing the guards still blocking his return path.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Back!

The soldiers split neatly to each side and the SHERIFF walks between them.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Bring down the Byzantine fire!

CUT TO:

492 (313R) COURTYARD

The battle continues.

The archers behind the wagon have all fallen or retreated behind other barriers. MUCH surges forward, shooting an arrow, and motions with his arm for the men to advance.

MUCH

Archers! Forwards!

(CONTINUED)

MUCH ducks to avoid an incoming arrow, then pops up again and shoots as the peasant archers move in with him. Soldiers fall.

JUMP TO:

493 (313R) THE GREAT HALL

ROBIN runs in from the main doors to the balcony.

ROBIN

Tuck!

TUCK, not looking up from his work, answers.

TUCK

Yeah?

ROBIN

(lean on railing)

I need that fire! We can't hold out much longer!

TUCK looks up excitedly at Robin.

TUCK

Robin, Robin!

TUCK steps back to get a long-handled, small pitcher.

TUCK (cont'd)

Nut oil. The Sheriff had gallons of it in the cellar.

TUCK pours the contents of the small pitcher in.

ROBIN

Boiling oil, we can use it.

ROBIN glances back through the doors.

TUCK

No, no-no-no-no. I can do better than that.

TUCK sets down the pitcher and picks up a short burning candle.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK (cont'd)

Watch.

TUCK lights a fuse with the candle.

TUCK (cont'd)

The nut oil is a base compound.

ROBIN glances back through the doors again. TUCK steps back.

TUCK (cont'd)

(impatiently)

Come on.

The mixture explodes in a ball of fire that almost reaches the top of the double-high ceiling.

A woman screams at the noise.

ROBIN watches in awe.

TUCK (cont'd)

That, my friend, is Byzantine fire.

ROBIN ponders the possibilities.

ROBIN

How much have we got?

TUCK turns round, his arms wide at the several large barrels behind him.

TUCK

Gallons and gallons.

ROBIN looks at TUCK intensely.

ROBIN

Get it done.

REBECCA rushes in behind him.

REBECCA

Robin! The portcullis is breached. We can't hold them.

ROBIN looks over the balcony in dismay.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN
(mouths)
Damn!

REBECCA
They're going to take the courtyard!

ROBIN runs out the doors.

CONTINUE TO:

494 (313R) COURTYARD

Once outside, ROBIN sees MUCH trying to fight off two soldiers at once from behind the wagon. He quickly pulls an arrow from his quiver and shoots. The arrow hits one of the soldiers in the neck and he drops like a sack of potatoes as MUCH stands up and slams his sword into the helmet of the second.

ROBIN
Much!
(windmill arm)
Pull back! John! Abandon the
battlements!

MUCH has stepped out beyond the wagon and is furiously fighting two soldiers. His sword dances as he blocks and brings up a slicing blow at one, then fights the other off.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Much!

MUCH turns around and stabs a third soldier.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Much!

Behind LITTLE JOHN, a wooden roof is on fire. LITTLE JOHN viciously stabs a soldier on the floor with the point of a banner pole.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Get everyone in the hall!

The villagers stream past ROBIN into the castle. MUCH rallies them to go.

(CONTINUED)

MUCH

Come on!

LITTLE JOHN

(wave banner)

Abandon the battlements!

MUCH is the last one in. He glances back to be sure before going inside.

JUMP TO:

495 (313R) THE GREAT HALL

ROBIN runs to the railing of the balcony.

ROBIN

Pass out the weapons and ammunition!

Guy, get these men into position!

ARCHER walks forward from the back of the room, carrying a small barrel on his shoulder and another full of arrows in his hand. GISBORNE, behind him, starts shouting orders.

GISBORNE

Barricade the doors! Move!

ISABELLA, wide-eyed but unnoticed, slides to the back of the hall.

ISABELLA

(quietly)

Guy.

GISBORNE turns to face her. She meekly steps towards the tunnel entrance, knowing he will follow.

GISBORNE

Isabella.

ARCHER rushes past GISBORNE as ISABELLA closes the door behind her.

ARCHER

It's the entrance to the escape tunnel.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE slowly steps towards the door.

ARCHER (cont'd)

Why's she gone in there? She knows it's blocked. I'm going to get Robin.

ARCHER starts to leave, but GISBORNE grabs him.

GISBORNE

No.

GISBORNE draws his sword and faces the entrance.

GISBORNE (cont'd)

She's mine.

GISBORNE takes another step.

ROBIN

Barricade the door!

Men race to block the main doors as GISBORNE enters the tunnel.

ARCHER looks up at ROBIN, then decides to follow GISBORNE.

CONTINUE TO:

496 (313) TUNNEL

GISBORNE walks slowly, his sword out in front.

ARCHER walks down the other side and sees a grate at the bottom of a wall. He taps it with his sword, making a loud rattle.

GISBORNE

Shh.

ARCHER

(raised eyebrow)

Where does that lead?

GISBORNE

It leads into the cellar and back to the castle.

JUMP TO:

(CONTINUED)

OUTSIDE NOTTINGHAM

497 (313) GRAVEYARD

The SHERIFF walks towards the tunnel entrance as BLAMIRE climbs out.

SHERIFF

So, you've laid out the barrels like I told you to.

BLAMIRE

Exactly as you said.

A soldier holds out a torch to the SHERIFF, who lights a short, thick, stick-like fuse in it.

SHERIFF

Good. Very good.

The SHERIFF drops the fuse down the open hole and walks away. BLAMIRE watches him go, confused for a moment, then realizes gravely that there's about to be an explosion. Balls of fire erupt from the grave.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

498 (313) CASTLE - TUNNEL

ARCHER and GISBORNE fight to keep their balance as the explosion rocks the ground beneath their feet.

Dust rains down on them.

ARCHER

Byzantine fire.

GISBORNE

So that's why Isabella came down here. She's trying to blast her way out of the tunnel.

ARCHER

Might be a way out for all of us.

(CONTINUED)

GISBORNE

Go and tell Robin. I'll deal with
Isabella.

ARCHER turns back. GISBORNE continues cautiously forward.

CUT TO:

499 (313R) THE GREAT HALL

TUCK is standing on a large barrel. He gives REBECCA a small
one.

TUCK

Fill it. Fill it, please.

TUCK hops to another barrel.

TUCK (cont'd)

Robin!

ROBIN comes over. TUCK kneels down to him.

TUCK (cont'd)

Robin, if we use this much Byzantine
fire, we'll destroy everything. The
castle, the Sheriff's arm...

REBECCA

(interrupting)

And with it, his power, everything he
has, gone for ever. That's what you
want, isn't it?

TUCK

But, we'll kill every man, woman and
child in here.

ARCHER comes out of the tunnel.

ARCHER

(breathlessly)

Robin! The tunnel! Isabella's just
cleared it.

LITTLE JOHN calls out from the balcony where he, MUCH and
several archers stand ready.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN
Robin! They're coming!

ROBIN
(to Tuck)
Hold them out!

ROBIN runs to ARCHER.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Tuck, you're in charge.

TUCK
John, hold the doors!

TUCK pounds a barrel top with his cross.

JUMP TO:

500 (313R) TUNNEL

ISABELLA waits for GISBORNE, seeing the glint of his sword in the dim light. GISBORNE walks through drifts of dust and limestone pebbles on the floor.

GISBORNE
Isabella!

ISABELLA
Guy?

ISABELLA slinks behind a pillar. GISBORNE walks on, water dripping around him.

GISBORNE
Isabella, where are you?

GISBORNE walks past ISABELLA's pillar.

ISABELLA
Come and get me.

ISABELLA chuckles. GISBORNE stops and puts his sword at ISABELLA's throat. ISABELLA looks back at him.

GISBORNE
That explosion.

(CONTINUED)

ISABELLA looks down at the blade.

 GISBORNE (cont'd)
The tunnel should be clear by now.
 (step forward)
I'd say there's a way out if you want
it.

He lowers his sword.

 ISABELLA
Look at you, Guy.

She faces him, holding out the bottle of poison on her palm.

 ISABELLA (cont'd)
Perhaps it's time you take the poison
for yourself.

She reaches for his arm.

 ISABELLA (cont'd)
After all, you've destroyed anyone
you've ever held dear to you. You know,
brother, you loved me once.

GISBORNE hangs his head as the SHERIFF comes up behind him.

 SHERIFF
And me, too.

GISBORNE whips his head around to look and raises his sword at the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF walks closer. GISBORNE turns to ISABELLA.

 GISBORNE
You planned this?

ISABELLA chuckles.

 SHERIFF
Isabella, you will, of course,
relinquish your claims to my title,
if... you wish to join me.

ISABELLA unbuckles her cloak and lets it drop behind her before stepping towards the SHERIFF. The SHERIFF address GISBORNE.

(CONTINUED)

SHERIFF (cont'd)

I didn't want anyone else to have the pleasure of killing you, so I set up this little trap.

BLAMIRE steps forward and draws. ISABELLA brings out her dagger.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

Stay back.

GISBORNE takes small retreating steps.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

He's mine.
(draw)
I made you!

The SHERIFF immediately attacks. GISBORNE blocks and punches him as ISABELLA darts behind a pillar.

GISBORNE

I will kill you. And you will stay dead this time.

The SHERIFF and GISBORNE fight.

GISBORNE has the SHERIFF on his knees. The SHERIFF holds up the sword with both hands, blocking GISBORNE's repeated blows. ISABELLA steps behind GISBORNE and grabs his arm just as ROBIN intervenes, catching her other arm and her neck and twisting her out of the way, but GISBORNE's arm is pulled round, distracting him. The SHERIFF sees the advantage and slices GISBORNE's arm. BLAMIRE points to the side, directing two soldiers. The SHERIFF attacks again as ROBIN pushes ISABELLA into a pillar.

ROBIN

(hissing)
Still as treacherous as ever.

ISABELLA brings up a knee to ROBIN's gut and he is forced back into the soldiers. ROBIN draws as the soldiers charge him. ROBIN pushes one aside. ISABELLA calmly walks over to the SHERIFF's "side" of the tunnel. The SHERIFF kicks the back of GISBORNE's knee. GISBORNE fights to keep his balance. The SHERIFF is about to stab him when ARCHER charges the SHERIFF.

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER

Gisborne!

The SHERIFF turns to ARCHER, who fights with a sword in each hand. BLAMIRE renews the attack on GISBORNE. ROBIN fights the two soldiers. ARCHER kicks the SHERIFF. GISBORNE bests BLAMIRE and kicks him back. ARCHER spins and kicks back the SHERIFF. ROBIN fights off the soldiers. ROBIN, ARCHER, and GISBORNE retreat to the right side of the tunnel, each under an arch. ISABELLA advances, pointing her dagger at ROBIN. The soldiers and BLAMIRE regroup. ROBIN draws his knife and holds it out with his sword. The SHERIFF steps between the pillars in front of ARCHER as BLAMIRE faces GISBORNE. All have their weapons outstretched in front of them.

SHERIFF

How appropriate. A battle so huge
should come down to the important few.

GISBORNE, ARCHER, and ROBIN stand ready. The SHERIFF points his sword at ARCHER.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

A new one. Don't know you, do I?

ARCHER smirks at him.

ISABELLA

He's my mother's foolish mistake.

ISABELLA glances at GISBORNE.

ISABELLA (cont'd)

Look at us, the whole sorry family.

ROBIN looks sideways at ARCHER and GISBORNE and nods.

ROBIN

Together.

ARCHER

Brothers in arms.

The SHERIFF attacks ROBIN, BLAMIRE attacks GISBORNE, and the soldiers attack ARCHER. ROBIN blocks the SHERIFF's blow and twists under his arm, away from the wall as ARCHER dropkicks one of the soldiers. GISBORNE also makes a twisting move

(CONTINUED)

against BLAMIRE, moving away from the wall. ARCHER quickly dispatches the remaining soldier and faces BLAMIRE. The SHERIFF swings at ROBIN, who blocks. ROBIN swings and the SHERIFF ducks as GISBORNE knocks down a soldier. Meanwhile BLAMIRE punches ARCHER's face, causing ARCHER to drop his katana, then BLAMIRE kicks ARCHER in the chest, kicking away ARCHER's remaining sword at the same time. ARCHER falls on his back, then kicks himself to his feet again. GISBORNE sees he's defenseless.

GISBORNE

Archer!

GISBORNE tosses his sword to ARCHER. ROBIN wrestles the SHERIFF to the floor. He grits his teeth and stands over him, holding the point of his sword down.

ROBIN

This is for all the lives you've ruined...

ISABELLA stands behind the pillar, watching.

ROBIN (cont'd)

...for all the people you've killed.

SHERIFF

Now, Hood...

ROBIN changes his grip on his sword and holds it over the SHERIFF. ISABELLA charges him, but GISBORNE sees her.

GISBORNE

Robin!

GISBORNE pushes ROBIN out of the way, but ISABELLA reaches with her dagger and grazes ROBIN's neck. GISBORNE stands over the SHERIFF now, defenseless. The SHERIFF sits up and stabs GISBORNE with all his might. ISABELLA steps forward and drives her dagger into her brother's back. The SHERIFF pulls out his sword and ISABELLA her dagger, whipping her hair out of her face. GISBORNE grimaces.

ROBIN

Guy!

GISBORNE falls on his side towards ROBIN. ARCHER, having knocked out BLAMIRE, steps over and kneels at GISBORNE's side.

(CONTINUED)

The SHERIFF gets up and sees BLAMIRE on the floor. GISBORNE tries to stand but falls again. ROBIN brandishes his sword at the SHERIFF.

ROBIN (cont'd)
This ends... here!

ISABELLA points her dagger at ROBIN.

ISABELLA
How right you are, Robin Hood.

ISABELLA touches her neck in the same spot as she cut ROBIN and hisses loudly. ROBIN fingers his wound.

ROBIN
It's a scratch. It's nothing!

ISABELLA
No-no-no. You should be careful. I mean, this blade, it could be rusty or... or even worse.

ARCHER guards GISBORNE from the SHERIFF.

GISBORNE
(raise eyebrow)
What have you done?

ISABELLA
I used your poison on the blade. A few drops flowing through your bloodstream...

ROBIN lowers his sword.

ISABELLA (cont'd)
...I say you'll be dead by sundown.

ROBIN looks to GISBORNE.

ROBIN
Is this true?

GISBORNE nods, grimaces in pain and lets his head sink to the floor. ROBIN contemplates his fate.

SHERIFF

(ecstatic)

Oh, this is too good to be true. You've killed Robin Hood! Ah! Oh, we'll be back...

ROBIN steps forward with his sword up.

SHERIFF (cont'd)

...to finish the rest of you off with an army. Please... wait for me.

(step behind Isabella)

I don't want to miss the big moment.

The SHERIFF pulls ISABELLA down the tunnel. GISBORNE groans. ARCHER turns him onto his back and ROBIN drops his sword and kneels at his side.

GISBORNE

(huskily to Robin)

Get the people out... through the cellar... backs onto this tunnel. The Sheriff will take his men the easy route through the Great Hall.

ARCHER nods to ROBIN, indicating he understands even if ROBIN does not.

ARCHER

So we hide our people in that tunnel until he moves his men through, and then we lead ours out.

ROBIN

(nod to Archer)

Get word to Tuck.

ROBIN jerks his head towards the castle entrance.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Go on.

ARCHER starts to get up, but GISBORNE pulls him down.

GISBORNE

(earnestly)

Brother...

(CONTINUED)

ARCHER smiles at him sadly, then leaves. GISBORNE's head falls back with a groan. ROBIN cradles his head. GISBORNE's eyes swim.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Is this the end?

ROBIN
For you and me both, my friend.

GISBORNE
I'm sorry.

ROBIN shakes his head.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
At least you have someone waiting for
you... Marian... the love of my life.
She was always yours.

ROBIN bites his lip, trying not to cry. GISBORNE grasps ROBIN's elbow from below.

GISBORNE (cont'd)
Robin, I've done many things I regret.
But, spending this time with you, at
your side, wasn't one of them. Because
of you... I die proud... I am free.

GISBORNE's hand slips from ROBIN's arm. ROBIN lifts his hand to close GISBORNE's eyes and GISBORNE's arm falls to his chest. ROBIN lets his head down softly and grieves a moment for his friend.

JUMP TO:

501 (313R) THE GREAT HALL

LITTLE JOHN and MUCH man the closed doors of the Great Hall on the balcony. LITTLE JOHN opens the door, throws something out, then spits and closes the door again.

Meanwhile, MUCH yells down to TUCK.

MUCH
Tuck, get up here! We can't hold them!

(CONTINUED)

TUCK pours from a large pitcher.

TUCK
Just a little bit longer!

ARCHER comes out of the tunnel.

ARCHER
Leave the door! Everyone is to follow
me! Robin's orders!

ARCHER picks up a boy to carry him.

ARCHER (cont'd)
With me! To the cellars!

ARCHER leads the peasants out. Those who can walk help those who can't. ROBIN enters and leans wearily on a barrel next to TUCK.

ROBIN
Are we ready?

TUCK
Yeah, we're done, we're done.

TUCK looks at ROBIN with concern.

TUCK (cont'd)
Guy?

ROBIN shakes his head solemnly, and mouths following.

ROBIN
No.

ROBIN grimaces with the first twinge of the poison's effects. TUCK nods, understanding GISBORNE is dead, but he also suspects something more with ROBIN.

ROBIN (cont'd)
(shout impatiently)
Get these people out!

TUCK
Come on!

MUCH and LITTLE JOHN herd those still guarding the doors out.

JUMP TO:

502 (313) TUNNEL

The SHERIFF leads his men down the tunnel. ISABELLA stops at GISBORNE's lifeless form and looks down at it. The SHERIFF sees her and stops.

SHERIFF

This is no time for sentiment.

The SHERIFF turns and continues. ISABELLA looks down at GISBORNE, then spitefully turns away. BLAMIRE gets up and sheathes his knife, staring at GISBORNE's body.

PAN TO:

503 (313R) BEHIND A GRATE

ARCHER and MUCH crouch by the grate in the tunnel wall. ROBIN shushes the people behind him as the SHERIFF's men pass through in front of them. After they've gone, ARCHER pulls on the grate, but it doesn't budge.

ROBIN

Try it again. Come on.

LITTLE JOHN impatiently crawls forward through the peasants.

LITTLE JOHN

Out of the way!

ROBIN

Shh.

LITTLE JOHN

Move.

LITTLE JOHN hands his staff to TUCK. He spits on a hand, then rubs them together and grips the grate with both hands.

MUCH

(quietly)

Come on, John.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN pulls harder, grunting with the effort.

MUCH (cont'd)
(quietly)
Come on.

LITTLE JOHN groans loudly and breaks the grate free with a yell. MUCH hugs LITTLE JOHN.

MUCH (cont'd)
Thank you, John.

PAN TO:

504 (313R) TUNNEL

ROBIN crawls out after LITTLE JOHN and stands up. He sees the last man coming down the tunnel and throws his bow and quiver to the floor, then holds his hand up behind him to stop the others.

ROBIN
Stay back!

LITTLE JOHN holds the people back as ROBIN draws and fights the soldier. MUCH runs to stand by LITTLE JOHN, to hold the peasants back and to watch ROBIN. ROBIN holds the soldier's shoulder and runs him through. He falls against the pillar and grimaces as MUCH and LITTLE JOHN let the villagers through.

ROBIN (cont'd)
Come on! Get them out!

LITTLE JOHN
(encouraging the people)
Go on!

ROBIN
(impatiently)
Come on!

REBECCA passes ROBIN and notices him leaning on the pillar.

REBECCA
You're hurt.

ROBIN doesn't answer.

(CONTINUED)

REBECCA (cont'd)

Robin.

ROBIN

I'm fine. Go on.

ROBIN gives her a gentle push. ARCHER stops by ROBIN. They share a look, then ARCHER nods and runs down the tunnel.

TUCK stops at ROBIN.

TUCK

What happened? You look...

ROBIN catches his breath and puts a hand on TUCK's shoulder.

ROBIN

There's something you need to know.

CUT TO:

OUTSIDE NOTTINGHAM

505 (313R) GRAVEYARD

LITTLE JOHN helps some young people out of the grave. ROBIN follows, breathing heavily and stands with his hands on his knees.

ROBIN

John... get them all to the forest.

LITTLE JOHN nods and heads off to obey.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Tuck, you set everything up?

TUCK climbs up the steps and out.

TUCK

Yes.

ROBIN nods.

ROBIN

Archer...

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN slaps TUCK's side.

ROBIN (cont'd)
...you come with me. Come on.

ROBIN leaves, nodding back to TUCK. TUCK looks at ARCHER, who hurries after ROBIN. TUCK watches them go, then follows the rest towards the forest.

JUMP TO:

NOTTINGHAM

506 (313) CASTLE - THE GREAT HALL

The SHERIFF walks into the Great Hall. ISABELLA follows him in.

ISABELLA
They've all escaped. How could that happen?

The SHERIFF walks through the barrels, suspicious of a trap, but not seeing it yet.

CUT TO:

507 (313) MARKETPLACE

ROBIN and ARCHER, both with arrows nocked and ready, walk down the street, watching for snipers. ROBIN walks with heavy steps. ROBIN lights his arrow in a blaze left from the Byzantine fire earlier, breathing heavily. He aims and draws, then suddenly winces in pain.

ARCHER
Can you do this?

ROBIN
Of course I can.

ROBIN steels himself against the pain and stands up.

ROBIN (cont'd)
I am Robin Hood.

Robin aims, draws, and lets loose with a grimace before

(CONTINUED)

doubling over. The arrow flies through the portcullis, the main doors and under the railing of the balcony.

CONTINUE TO:

508 (313) THE GREAT HALL

An arrow lands solidly in a barrel right in front of the SHERIFF and ISABELLA. The SHERIFF immediately recognizes the striped fletching and looks up at the balcony, expecting to see ROBIN, but the landing is empty. The SHERIFF is puzzled. ISABELLA chuckles.

CUT TO:

509 (313) MARKETPLACE

ROBIN turns to ARCHER.

ROBIN

Come on!

(turn to leave)

Let's go.

ROBIN and ARCHER run out of Nottingham.

CUT TO:

510 (313) GREAT HALL

The SHERIFF pulls out a large cork floating in the barrel and sniffs it.

SHERIFF

(casually)

Byzantine fire.

The SHERIFF sees that there's a flaming arrow embedded in this barrel of Byzantine fire and realizes what will happen next.

The barrel explodes.

Soldiers are blown aside outside the main doors.

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

OUTSIDE OF NOTTINGHAM

511 (313R) HILLSIDE NEAR GRAVEYARD

A series of explosions rock the castle. The villagers and townsfolk turn to watch. Dust billows out from the town as ARCHER and ROBIN run down the bridge, leaping over fallen bodies.

ROBIN

Come on. Come on.

The castle towers collapse in billowing clouds of dust and smoke. LITTLE JOHN laughs. MUCH punches the air.

MUCH

Yeah!

ARCHER and ROBIN run to join the gang.

MUCH (cont'd)

You did it! You did it!

MUCH runs to embrace ROBIN. He puts an arm on ARCHER's shoulder.

MUCH (cont'd)

You did it!

MUCH hugs ARCHER.

MUCH (cont'd)

You did it!

All the people cheer loudly. ROBIN somberly walks through them as the people slap him on the back and congratulate him.

LITTLE JOHN

Yes!

MUCH notices ROBIN is gone.

MUCH

Where is he? Where's Robin? He should be here to celebrate.

TUCK stops MUCH.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

(solemnly)

Listen to me. There was a fight, in the tunnel. Isabella stabbed Guy with a dagger. The blade was poisoned. She also managed to cut Robin with it.

MUCH

(with disbelief)

What?

TUCK

Guy died in the tunnel. And Robin will be joining him soon. It's time to say goodbye.

LITTLE JOHN is stunned. ARCHER hangs his head. MUCH refuses to believe his ears and runs after ROBIN, who is steadily climbing the hill towards the forest's edge.

MUCH

No!

TUCK follows ROBIN, as does LITTLE JOHN. ARCHER glances back at the castle ruins before following. ROBIN lets his hand slide over the tall stalks of brown grass as he walks up the rise.

CUT TO:

SHERWOOD FOREST

512 (313R) FOREST

ROBIN looks up at the sun streaming through the trees as the gang slowly catch him up.

ROBIN

I'd forgotten how beautiful sunsets here can be.

ROBIN sighs and turns his head to look around at the trees.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Sherwood. This is home.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN looks back at the gang and realizes he must say his goodbyes, however much he doesn't want to. He turns to face them. MUCH tries to be brave and chokes back his tears.

MUCH

Is it true?

ROBIN

(nod)

The final battle.

LITTLE JOHN

(quietly)

No.

MUCH

(shake head)

No, this can't happen. There's...
there's a cure.

ROBIN shakes his head.

ROBIN

Much...

ROBIN steps towards MUCH

ROBIN (cont'd)

We have cheated death... so many
times.

MUCH takes trembling breaths and takes a step forward.

MUCH

What am I going to be without you?

ROBIN claps his hands on either side of MUCH's head.

ROBIN

You... are already more of a man...
than I will ever be.

ROBIN pulls MUCH's head covering off and looks him sternly in the face.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN (cont'd)

You are Much... and you are my best friend.

ROBIN gives MUCH a long embrace, and MUCH can't hold back the tears any longer. ROBIN pulls himself away and turns to LITTLE JOHN, a tear streaking down his cheek. MUCH turns his back, unable to watch any more.

LITTLE JOHN

This isn't fair.

ROBIN

Oh, come on, John!

(try to smile. Fiercely)

Today is a good day to die!

LITTLE JOHN hugs ROBIN. They are both crying now. ROBIN turns to ARCHER, then groans and doubles over. ARCHER catches him. ROBIN grabs his arm.

ROBIN (cont'd)

And you... you make sure this doesn't finish here. Because this... this is where you belong.

ARCHER

(grimly)

Without you?

ROBIN

These men are your brothers now.

ROBIN turns to TUCK.

ROBIN (cont'd)

Our work isn't finished yet, Tuck. And you'll find another leader. I know you will.

ROBIN looks back at the gang, and MUCH finally looks at ROBIN in trepidation.

ROBIN (cont'd)

I'm sorry I have to leave you. All of you. But I have to do this alone.

(CONTINUED)

ROBIN leaves and starts up the hill. After a few steps, he leans on a tree and groans. He puts a hand to his stomach and continues up the rise towards the sun. ARCHER and LITTLE JOHN watch solemnly. LITTLE JOHN steps forward to MUCH and puts an arm round him. ROBIN stops, doubles over, then turns between the rocks and continues into the forest out of sight.

JUMP TO:

513 (313) ELSEWHERE IN THE FOREST

ROBIN weakly climbs into the exposed roots of an old tree and settles himself into the hollow. He lays back his head, breathing heavily. His eyes catch movement, and he watches as a woman in a light blue cloak, the hood partly over her head, approaches him, winding through the trees, stealing glances at him. She smiles and chuckles slightly.

ROBIN
(whisper)
Marian.

MARIAN smiles and stops in front of him.

MARIAN
I have waited for you.

ROBIN
I knew I would find you again.

ROBIN chuckles. MARIAN smiles.

MARIAN
It's time.

MARIAN reaches out a hand to him. ROBIN sits up, reaching for her, grasps her fingers and rubs them, convincing himself he's really touching her.

MARIAN (cont'd)
The greatest adventure is yet to come.

ROBIN gets to his feet. MARIAN smiles. ROBIN strokes her face.

ROBIN
My wife.

(CONTINUED)

MARIAN

Now and for ever, my love.

ROBIN gives her a long kiss and MARIAN wraps her hands round the back of his neck. ROBIN pulls back and they look into each other's eyes and laugh, then embrace. ROBIN picks her up and swings her round in circles...

ROBIN's hand reaches out from where he sits, then falls as he lets out his last breath. His head slumps to his chest. The birds continue singing to the setting sun, oblivious that the legendary Robin Hood has died in their midst.

JUMP TO:

514 ELSEWHERE IN SHERWOOD

ARCHER, LITTLE JOHN, TUCK, and MUCH are still standing around. ARCHER looks at the gang.

ARCHER

Look, I don't know you guys that well,
but...

(beat)

Robin and Guy were my brothers. I've
always been alone. I find out I have
two brothers and then lose them both
on the same day. I...

ARCHER remembers that GISBORNE's body is still in the tunnel.

ARCHER (cont'd)

He's still down there. I need...

LITTLE JOHN, TUCK, and MUCH, look at ARCHER.

ARCHER (cont'd)

We can't leave his body in that tunnel.
He deserves...

LITTLE JOHN

You're right.

TUCK places an arm on ARCHER's shoulder. ARCHER smiles a thank you.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

You know, Gis... Guy. Wasn't my favourite person. I spent years hating him and everything he stood for. When Robin brought him into our ... family... I still had my doubts. I never fully trusted him. But he gave his life today fighting with us. He died protecting us. I...

TUCK

John, it's...

LITTLE JOHN

Let's go get him.

MUCH

Robin would want that. We can... We can lay them to rest together.

LITTLE JOHN puts an arm around MUCH. The gang heads for the tunnel to get GISBORNE.

JUMP TO:

515 (313R) FOREST - LATER THAT DAY

MUCH and LITTLE JOHN carry ROBIN's body on a stretcher. TUCK and ARCHER carry GISBORNE's body on a stretcher. White lilies are clasped in ROBIN's and GISBORNE's hands, which are placed over their chests. The men take a break and put the stretchers down. A devastated MUCH looks down at the bodies. TUCK walks away a step.

MUCH

I never thought... it would end like this.

TUCK

It does not end, Much. Robin Hood goes on. Our work here is far from finished.

MUCH

Our leader and our friend is dead.

LITTLE JOHN stares down at the bodies. ARCHER leans his back on a tree. TUCK puts his hand on MUCH's shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

TUCK

Would you let his legacy die along with him?

MUCH looks at TUCK.

ARCHER

He wouldn't want us to give up. ...
They wouldn't want us to give up.

MUCH walks a few steps around ROBIN, gazing down at him. TUCK glances at ARCHER and offers him ROBIN's bow.

TUCK

He asked me to give you this.

ARCHER

I can't take that.

TUCK

It belonged to his father. And yours.
It now passes to you.

ARCHER reluctantly takes it.

ARCHER

I shall cherish it.

TUCK addresses everyone.

TUCK

As long as Prince John and his allies
bring misery and suffering to the
people of England, we will fight it.

LITTLE JOHN

(nod in agreement)

We are Robin Hood.

TUCK puts out his hand. LITTLE JOHN puts his hand on top of TUCK's. ARCHER stoutly walks to TUCK's other side, looks down at the bodies of his brothers, then up at TUCK.

ARCHER

I'm with you.

ARCHER slaps his hand on top. LITTLE JOHN looks at MUCH.

(CONTINUED)

LITTLE JOHN

(quietly)

Much? For Robin.

ARCHER

And Guy. My brothers.

MUCH gazes down sadly at ROBIN's body, then looks up at LITTLE JOHN. He slowly steps back to TUCK and rests his hand on top. TUCK puts his other hand on MUCH's.

TUCK

We are Robin Hood.

LITTLE JOHN

We are Robin Hood.

MUCH/ARCHER

We are Robin Hood.

They break their hands apart and resume their positions as pallbearers.

TUCK

Come on. Let's go.

They pick up the stretchers and continue carrying them through the trees.

THE END

(CONTINUED)