

Across the Dales

Screenplay & OST by Wytemi

LOGLINE

A coming of age story following two young boys on their plight to seek the heavens whilst adrift the black, hellish oceans of Dalefell.

TERMINOLOGY:

Feðras (*Feh-th-rahs*) - Species of humanoid birds.

Hrafns - cursed, black winged race of Feðras

Fenixs - firebird race of Feðra

Dalefell - Black Hell for cursed spirits, translates to Fallen Realm

Etherdale - Afterlife paradise for spirits

Gecyndale, Faegerdale - Mortal Realms

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1 EXT. REALM "DALEFELL", OVER PITCH BLACK

Sound of Ocean waves in a pitch black realm.

ENGEL; a raven, soars by, carrying a lantern in talons. The lantern lights the surrounding sea.

Engel illuminates a glacier with lanterns and circles over a weak spirit collapsed on the glacier.

EXT. GLACIER

Light gusts of wind roll over the ice. Serene and Tranquil. The calm is broken by *something* fading into existence atop the snow blanketed glacier

BECIERRAN SEDE(14); brown humanoid bird spirit appears from the ether weak, frail. He painfully attempts to flap his wings and crawl along the ice. His transparent body stretches and divides, wings and feathers pulled slowly from his body. He splits into separate beings.

Becierran turns to the second creature, a bird-like child with brown feathers and wings and face of a bird. Becierran himself fully bare skin. He cries and shivers.

A lantern lit ship emerges from the darkness and drops an anchor near the glacier. Crewmen in black shawls come to pick up Becierran and the separated winged spirit.

INT./EXT. SHIP TOP DECK

The crewmen lay Becierran and his wings side by side on a floor pad. PHOENIX(14); Bare Hrafn boy with brown hair and black shawl, kneels and extends hand to Becierran.

PHOENIX

My name's Phoenix...What's your's?

Becierran looks up and jolts in fear, trembling.

BECIERRAN

(confused, disoriented)

Buh-buh...Becierran.

Phoenix looks at the winged spirit lying unconscious next to Becierran.

PHOENIX

And, what's the wing's name?

Becierran looks to the winged spirit confused.

BECIERRAN

...Sede?

Phoenix smiles and takes Becierran's hand and shakes it.

PHOENIX

Welcome to Dalefell!

Becierran looks confused, disturbed. An old man walks past towards the helm of the ship. A Large, blank compass sits to the side of the wheel. The needle pointing still in one direction.

Engel flies past.

FOLLOW ENGEL, FADE

EXT. DALEFELL SEA

Engel flies across the black seas. Ahead is the same ship sailing into a colossal, swirling, luminescent cloud dome. Engel follows.

INT. THICK STORM CLOUDS

LIGHTNING STRIKES

Amidst the storm, the ship is trapped. Lanterns sway and flicker, while spread-out paddles stabilize the ship.

Engel flies over the ship and perches on the top-most sail, watching. All crewmen wear black rain shawls and work frantically amidst the storm.

INT/EXT. FISHING SHIP, MAIN DECK

The ship's sails shake through the hurricanes. Lanterns thrown off their hooks and shatter on the floor. Crewmen

run over the glass.

ETHER SPIRITS; cute, ghostly figures wreathed in green fire, are scattered about. Ether spirits mimic working; ignored by the crewmen.

HEALDAN(60); a man wearing a black rain shawl, fights the ship's helm. The compass needle shakes. Crewmen struggle with ropes and sails.

A lightning bolt strikes the ship, spinning it slowly. Ether spirits disperse into mist. Another bolt hits the helm, throwing Healdan.

CAYDEN(30); Black-winged Hrafn with face of a bird wearing a rain shawl, is knocked off balance by a gust of wind and slips on the wet deck, losing his shawl to the storm. He uses his wings to shield from the rain, fights the wind to reach the stern's wheel.

Cayden leaps to the wheel and holds on, anchoring himself.

CAYDEN
Healdan! I've got the helm! Go
secure the cargo below deck!

LIGHTNING CRACKS through the storm. Healdan is thrown back. Cayden steadies the ship from the stern.

Healdan
ARG! Cursed storms!

Healdan rushes to the deck's center to help the crew guide a full fishing net suspended by ropes. The ship lurches, sending Healdan and crewman below. Net spills fish across the ship.

INT. BELOW DECK

Healdan and crew hit the deck below, hard. In frustration, a crewmate kicks a crate, sheds a rain shawl, and unfurls massive black wings.

Healdan observes a crewman leap through the hatch, soaring to the sails, seizing a loose rope. He growls.

Healdan rises, cracking his back and neck. Around him, rows of men toil on the ship's paddles.

Behind some boxes runs out Phoenix carrying harnesses and rope. He collides with Healdan.

HEALDAN
OI! Watch yourself!

PHOENIX
Sorry Healdan!

Phoenix staggers up the steps. Healdan observes, sighs heavily, and follows.

EXT. MAIN DECK

Phoenix runs to the rear railings. Becirran is holding tightly to rope connected to a sail, Sede unconscious at his feet.

A gust tears Phoenix's black shawl, baring his human skin to the cold rain. He quickly retrieves and rewraps the shawl.

Phoenix struggles with the harness and is thrown overboard. Healdan swoops in, gripping Phoenix's legs.

Healdan swings Phoenix up and wraps the harnesses around Phoenix. He then harnesses Sede on becierran's back.

PHOENIX
Thank you, Healdan!

Healdan runs off to help the other crewmates secure the sails.

PHOENIX
Becierran! Grab the pole and I'll
hold the rope

A tidal wave engulfs Phoenix and Becierran, drenching them. They're pushed back, but their harnesses prevent them from being swept overboard.

BECIERRAN

We're gonna perish in this storm!

Becierran and Phoenix hold tightly to the rope, their rope harnesses keeping them grounded.

PHOENIX

Just pull through it, Becierran!
We're almost there!

BECIERRAN

The clouds will throw us into the
sea and we'll freeze!

PHOENIX

Calm down! We're going to be fine!

The boat rocks as the waves grow larger, splashes the crewmen.

Cayden calls to nearby crew holding a sail in place.
LIGHTNING CRACKS.

CAYDEN

Leave that sail and come help me
hold this down!

Men leave the sail; it's torn away. They rush to aid at the wheel. It crashes, toppling other sails and poles, and they all tumble. Cayden dives out of the way.

The ship is thrown into a violent spin.

BELOW DECK

The crew below deck lose control and are flung into the walls.

TOP DECK

LIGHTNING STRIKES the sail behind Cayden and the crewmen.

The sail crashes, pulling the fishing net's pulleys down below. Ether spirits are crushed, becoming mist. The fishing net and crates crash below, shattering cargo.

A wave halts spin, flinging all to opposite sides. Wind leans ship precariously, adrift. Crewman slide and collide with railing.

Phoenix and Becierran hang on the railing's side, sliding on the wood floor.

Cayden soars skyward. Half the crew unfurl black wings, following suit. They fly to the ship's side, preventing excessive lean.

Ship glides through dense gray storm clouds. Phoenix, Becierran, Healdan, Cayden, crew grip tight.

INT/EXT. MAIN DECK

Ship emerges hard from gray storm clouds, halts on serene waters. Inside the cloud dome, clean air. The creaking ship sails away from the colossal, spiraling cloud wall.

Phoenix's chest pounds, he leans over the ship's side, GROANS. Becierran breathes heavily, staggers, leans over railing with Phoenix, coughing.

PHOENIX

(coughing)

See? We're fine.

Phoenix giggles and Becierran gives out a nervous laugh.

CAYDEN

We made it inside!

Cayden and the winged crew balance the ship, guiding it to a large cave under a tall mountain cliff. Compass needle pointing at the island. Healdan assists crewmates.

AZURE stands atop the cliff. Plays melancholy tune from conch horn in the distance

INT. CLIFFSIDE CAVE

Ship creaks and glides through a cave of glowing crystals, green vines, and colorful flowers. Phoenix and Becierran gaze at passing plants and crystals from railing.

2 EXT. VILLAGE, AFTERNOON

Ship exits the cave to a vast reservoir, cliffs around.
Phoenix gazes skyward, spots child-like creatures –
half-human/half-raven soaring through the sky.

Engel flies off.

EXT. VILLAGE DOCKS, EVENING

Phoenix and Becierran walk from docks. Becierran carries
Sede, still unconscious, on his back.

 PHOENIX
 (heavy sigh)
 We made it. We didn't freeze.

MONA(60); a woman donning fiery crimson wings and feathers,
rides a wagon drawn by a single goat. Suspended on a pole
swings a Lantern with green fire.

 MONA
 Phoenix, Are you alright? I was
 worried!

Phoenix and Becierran are soaked and exhausted. They walk
slowly to Mona's wagon. Becierran and Mona exchange
surprised looks.

 PHOENIX
 We're...alright. This is Becierran
 and Sede, we found them on a
 glacier near the end of our trip.

 MONA
 Oh, well, hop on, let's get you
 dry and fed.

They slump and crawl onto the wagon's side. AZURE(10);
covered in brown feathers and wings and face of a bird, is
asleep on the wagon. Azure curls into a ball, wings enfold.

Becierran lies on a wagon, feet hanging over, Sede on his
stomach. Phoenix leans on railing near Azure, arms

dangling.

PHOENIX

Azure, you missed the action!

Azure yawns, rubs eyes, scoots to Phoenix, and falls asleep. A small, golden conch horn hangs from his shoulder.

Goat's feet clap on a damp path; wagon clanks through hills.

Phoenix gazes at illuminated cloudy sky, blue with stars. He lifts his head, embracing the breeze.

Mona's green fire lantern sways with the wagon's motion and goat's steps.

Large desert trees drip water into root pools with huts on their branches scattering the island. Islanders with wings fly to homes, wingless climb ladders.

Mona leads the goat-drawn wagon up a spiral hill. Wet, bright grass shines. Top of the hill holds a circular cabin on the base of a tree.

The goat halts by the cabin door. Phoenix carries Azure on his back, waking Sede. They enter the cabin. Mona leads the goat to the barn.

3 INT. MONA'S HOME, NIGHT

Phoenix, Becierran, and Mona talk and eat. Azure and Sede sleep in hammocks behind. Phoenix sits beside Mona on a bench, damp towels draped on their chairs behind them.

PHOENIX

We rode through the waves and spun
out of control! Cayden is up there
fighting the helm when lightning
strikes our ship and sends
everyone flying!

Becierran's eyes droop, leaning back with a towel on face. Phoenix and Mona chuckle. Mona adds oil to her lantern.

MONA

How did you fare on the trip,
Becierran?

BECIERRAN

(mumbling under the towel)
We nearly fell into the sea and
froze.

Phoenix laughs, choking on food. Becierran uncovers face,
makes a face at Phoenix, loses balance, and falls. Mona and
Phoenix laugh. Becierran turns the chair around, sitting
with his stomach on the seat's back.

MONA

How was your trip through
Dalefell?

BECIERRAN

Riveting.

PHOENIX

Outside the clouds, it's so dark,
you can't see a thing! We found so
many new people stranded on
glaciers and rescued them! It was
also freezing cold outside!

MONA

It seems you had quite the
adventure outside. Right when you
came back, we just finished
surviving a terrible hurricane.

PHOENIX

No wonder you guys are just as
tired!

MONA

I was surprised, the clouds are
supposed to contain storms, but
they seem to be deteriorating.

PHOENIX

What are the storms for anyways?

Why can't we just have clouds to
light up our island?

MONA

I'm not really sure what their
purpose holds. They've been here
long before I arrived. If I'm to
make a guess, they seem to keep
Dalefell's demons out.

Mona trails off and thinks back.

MONA

Though, as the storm slowed,
something incredible happened.
Along with the rain, ether spirits
fell from the sky.

Phoenix smiles and chimes a response. He rocks back and
forth in his chair

PHOENIX

(Smiling)

We had a few appear on our ship
too!

He takes a bite of his sandwich and drinks from a mug.
Phoenix leans his head into Mona's shoulder.

SHIFT MEMORY

The house changes around Phoenix into an outdoor pavilion.

He is sitting on the bench with Mona, watching the
villagers all gather under the shelter while the rain pours
down.

MONA

There were so many ether spirits,
all different shapes and sizes.
Their eyes were so expressive and
full of life. Watching new ether
spirits wander through the village
in the rain was such a sight.

(pauses, gasps)

This village is the most beautiful
island in all of Dalefell.

Villagers in memory play with new ether spirits. Some find
comfort as spirits rest on them.

SHIFT MONA'S HOUSE

EXT. MONA'S HOME, NIGHT

Engel is perched outside listening to Mona's story.

INT. MONA'S HOME, NIGHT

PHOENIX

Have you seen all of Dalefell?

MONA

I admit I haven't, but Dalefell is
a scary place beyond the clouds.
We're fortunate to be here.

AZURE

(Yawning)

Have you traveled to a lot of
places, Mona?

Azure, tired with low-draped brown wings, walks to Mona,
rubbing his eyes. Holding his golden conch horn, he sits
beside her. Leaning his head on Mona, she extends her arm.

MONA

I've traveled many places, from
the expansive realm of Gecyndale,
to Faegerdale's endless green
valleys. I've been through
Etherdale's infinite glory, and
I've been here on this very island
with my boys.

PHOENIX

What's Etherdale like?

MONA

(sighing heavily)
I will always remember Etherdale.
There's no dale that compares.

SHIFT MEMORY

World shifts, and the sky turns night. Phoenix and Azure survey scattered oak trees across endless green valleys. In the sky flies a green, auroran river.

AZURE (V.O.)
Where is Etherdale?

MONA
Follow the aurora, and ride its
rivers among the stars.

Phoenix stares in awe at the edenic sprawl. The aurora spreads and reveals endless stars.

Azure (V.O.)
I want to see it!

PHOENIX
Azure could fly around, playing
his horn and no rain would ever
stop him. I could run the endless
dale, sail its rivers, and explore
all the wondrous caves it has!

Azure giggles.

MONA
Someday, I'll take you all there.

SHIFT MONA'S HOUSE

Memory shifts, back inside Mona's house. Becierran rises, walks to the hammock beside Sede. Phoenix stands and hugs Mona.

Phoenix climbs onto a hammock by Azure, gazes at the ceiling. Mona goes upstairs, carrying her lantern.

Mona's looks at the boys over a balcony.

MONA
Goodnight, Phoenix, Azure,
Becierran, Sede. Let not
Dalefell's darkness reach you
here.

4 **INT. MONA'S HOME, DAY**

Phoenix groans, rubs head, gets out of bed. He peers through the window, spots Mona in an orchard. Becierran talks to Mona, he's visibly upset. He storms off.

EXT. MONA'S HOME, DAY

Phoenix steps outside to the garden. Azure and Sede run past Mona's house playfully. Azure plays his conch horn. He sweeps his feet through grass, fire circles around making Sede and other kids laugh and dance.

Phoenix leans on the fence, smiles at the kids.

EXT. DOWN MONA'S HILL, DAY

Healdan and Cayden pass, carrying crates. Cayden waves at Phoenix, hands crate to Healdan.

HEALDAN
Oi! What're you doin'?

Healdan's gaze meets Phoenix's briefly, then he heads to the harbor. A black leather notebook hangs from his side, secured by a strap. Two swords are on his back. He carries a crate of consumable supplies, including oil.

CAYDEN
Phoenix! I just wanted to say you
did great yesterday!

PHOENIX
It was exhilarating! Becierran
kept saying we were gonna get
flown off the edge.

They both chuckle. Cayden wraps his arm around Phoenix's and gets close to his face.

CAYDEN

We're going to be leaving for a long time.

PHOENIX

Why? You only just got here? Where is there to go?

A winged villager carrying a crate stops next to Healdan.

WINGED VILLAGER

Leaving already? You've only just arrived.

Cayden looks down at the ground

CAYDEN

Healdan and I...we have a plan we promised each other.

PHOENIX

Isn't this island enough?

Healdan stares dead at the winged villager

CAYDEN

Well, don't get me wrong. This oasis is very beautiful, but we can't stay here forever. We're planning on leaving this evening.

PHOENIX

Tell me where you're going.

CAYDEN

(hesitantly)

We're journeying the dark seas in search of Dalefell's Gate. It can take us wherever we wish.

(hesitantly)

You know, you and Azure could come with us. Becierran and Sede too.

Phoenix sees the winged villager's ear on Healdan's chest. He's surprised, reaches into a crate full of old compasses and gives one to Healdan.

WINGED VILLAGER

For if you change your mind, it'll
guide you back here.

Phoenix looks back at Mona's house and at the island around him.

PHOENIX

I've been here so long, I don't
really see myself leaving. For
now, I'm happy here, but maybe
someday we'll go on our own
journey.

Cayden walks away but looks back at Phoenix.

CAYDEN

At least think about it!

Cayden looks down at the ground with sad eyes. Cayden
catches up to Healdan and they both walk to the docks.

Phoenix turns around and Engel is perched on the fence. He
is huge and scary. Phoenix is startled and falls backwards.

The bird stares into Phoenix's eyes. Mona walks to Phoenix
carrying a walking stick, with the green fire lantern
hanging from the top. Engel flies away.

PHOENIX

Mona, what was that?

MONA

That was Engel.

PHOENIX

What is he, he's huge!

MONA

He's a Hrafn, just like everyone
else on this island. He likes to
reside here on this island.

PHOENIX

But I don't look like...him

AZURE

(calling from a distance)

Phoenix! Come over and play!

Phoenix turns his head; Azure runs up to Phoenix.

AZURE

Becierran's lazy and won't play
with us! Come on!

MONA

(laughs)

Go on Phoenix, Have fun!

5 EXT. VILLAGE, DAY

A brass conch horn resounds through the village. Feet dance on grass.

Phoenix joins children in a lively dance, while Azure's conch horn plays a cheerful melody. Mona, her lantern close, claps along. Villagers gather to watch Azure.

Azure's wings flutter with the music, as he dances sparks of fire around him. Crowd cheers.

Phoenix and Sede lock arms, and twirl. Sede lets go and twirls in a circle, creating large, fiery circles around him and jumping flips.

Phoenix sees Becierran departing with head down and hands in pockets. Phoenix follows Becierran.

6 EXT. CLIFFSIDE, DAY

Becierran is sitting on a log along a cliffside. Phoenix joins Becierran and stares at the clouds. On a tree above Becierran sits the black Hrafn, Engel.

PHOENIX

Why you all the way over here?

Becierran looks depressed at Phoenix. He opens his mouth to

Speak, but stops.

BECIERRAN

(staggers)

Phoenix...How long have you been here?

PHOENIX

Uh...I don't know. I think I've
always been here. Why?

BECIERRAN

(struggling to speak)

You don't know where you came from?

Phoenix doesn't respond. They stare at the clouds. Cloud
wall veils the sky above the island and local sea, like a
dome. Dimming cloud lights, sky's shining specs glow.

BECIERRAN

How is something so beautiful from
the inside so violent in its
interior?

(pauses)

...How would we possibly leave?

PHOENIX

Well, Mona would help us. Maybe
not now but....eventually. I'm in
no hurry to leave anyways.

BECIERRAN

You see this island as a paradise

PHOENIX

Isn't it, though?

Becierran looks Phoenix in the eyes.

BECIERRAN

It's a prison.

The two of them stare at the cloudy night sky.

BECIERRAN

I hear there's a gate somewhere in

Dalefell.

PHOENIX

Yeah, Healdan and Cayden are going to search for it.

BECIERRAN

Engel used to lead people to the gate. It's rumored the gate can take you anywhere. It seems he doesn't do that anymore.

PHOENIX

I wonder why he stopped.

BECIERRAN

Perhaps it has something to do with the storms?

PHOENIX

Mona said the clouds are deteriorating.

(pauses)

Are you going to try to find it...Dalefell's gate?

BECIERRAN

I want to, but the darkness outside the clouds was so thick; no light beyond what a lantern can emit. It almost hurt my eyes trying to see through it.

(pauses, looks to Phoenix)

Where would you go if you found Dalefell's gate?

Phoenix pauses to contemplate the question.

PHOENIX

I don't know. The village is all I and Azure know. Etherdale sounds nice though. A dale of endless beauty and infinite stars. Though, I don't really know what it means.

Phoenix looks down at the sea. Healdan and Cayden are on a sailboat. Healdan is leaning against a cabin wall, reading intently into his black journal.

Healdan and Phoenix lock eyes. Phoenix looks away towards the clouds.

Healdan turns and raises the sails.

PHOENIX

They're leaving to find Dalefell's Gate.

BECIERRAN

I wish I could take Sede and go with them.

PHOENIX

Where would you go, if you found the gate?

BECIERRAN

To look for someone. I don't know where but I would start in Gecyndale.

PHOENIX

I'm not familiar with where Gecyndale is. What's so special about it?

BECIERRAN

A rumor I heard, nothing special.

They sit and stare at the clouds. Behind them, the laughter and dancing grows. Phoenix hears Azure's music.

PHOENIX

Come on, Sede and Azure are having fun and we're moping around here.

Phoenix and Becierran head to the village. Healdan and Cayden sail toward the clouds. In the distance, villagers gather to hear Azure's music and dance.

7 **INT. CLOUD DOME INTERIOR, STORMS**

Healdan and Cayden sail a small boat through stormy clouds.
A red fire lantern swings wildly in the wind.

THUNDER CRACKS. Both wear cape wraps, rapiers on belts.

CAYDEN
Why would the boys want to stay
there?!

HEALDAN
Shut up and focus!

The storms around the ship are violent

CAYDEN
We should turn back!

HEALDAN
We don't have time for reunion
with damned spirits!

CAYDEN
We're just as damned as they are!

Healdan grabs Cayden by the shirt and shoves him against a
wall. The rain storms are heavy on them.

HEALDAN
He's dead, Cayden!

CAYDEN
SO WHAT?!

Healdan lets go of Cayden, he holds his palm over his
chest, feeling a steady heartbeat.

HEALDAN
He perished in a fire a year ago!
(pauses)
Feel our heart....it still beats!

Healdan slaps his black journal against Cayden's chest.

We're trapped in hell, and the
only way home isn't open forever.

THUNDER STRIKES. Cayden's wings expand as his face grows
red with anger.

CAYDEN
That's cold!

HEALDAN
Our wife and daughters are waiting
for us on the other side
(pauses)
I made my peace a year ago.

LIGHTNING STRIKES. A shadow of a massive vessel appears for
a brief moment. Cayden points to where the shadow was.

CAYDEN
I saw something...

Lightning STRIKES again, the massive vessel much closer to
them.

CAYDEN
How?! The clouds are supposed to
repel them!

The vessel sails right beside them. Healdan and Cayden draw
their swords and wait.

HEALDAN
The Village is no exception. We
stuck around for too long.

CAYDEN
We can't!"

Healdan interrupts Cayden.

HEALDAN
They're lost! There's nothing we
can do to help. The dark Hrafn on
that boat will consume everything

they see! Including us! We have to
keep moving!

The large vessel is covered in dark purple matter,
silhouettes of wings flap. The ship passes them without
notice and disappears. Cayden slams his fist on the wall.

Healdan sheaths his sword, they brace the storms.

8 EXT. THE VILLAGE, NIGHT

Phoenix and Azure dance amidst cheering crowds. Azure's
conch horn plays, Phoenix dances, and Sede circles fire
around. Villagers join, drums, fiddles, cellos, more.

Phoenix juggles apples overhead, under, behind. Drops,
crowd laughs, claps. Becierran is perched in a tree,
smiling, laughing to music.

Mona kneels, red wings extended, swaying. Kids dance around
her. Some, black hair and feathers. Mona's face morphs into
fenix, dancing large flames to delight children.

SLOW MOTION

The music and atmosphere slows down to a crawl. Azure's
brown wings sway. Sede climbs up to Becierran and lies down
next to him.

SEDE

We haven't been happy since coming
here. What'll make us happy all
the time?

BECIERRAN

To leave this place.

SEDE

Why? Don't we like the village?

BECIERRAN

We have dreams, but they can't be
fulfilled here.

SEDE

Maybe someday we will, but for
now, we should be happy!

SLOW MOTION

The music continues to move in slow motion. Phoenix and Azure laugh. Many fruits cover the ground.

EAR-PIERCING SHRIEK

Everyone drops, clutching ears, and shaking on the ground. Becierran and Sede tumble from the tree. Phoenix and Azure huddle on the ground. Mona, immune to shriek, stands horrified, holds lantern close.

Engel gazes at the cloud wall, feathers spiked.

A black loaded with dark, black and purple creatures, DARK HRAFNs ship cuts through the clouds. Purple darkness seeps from the deck rails. They stand restless, talons and claws poised.

Engel flees the village.

Becierran watches Engel fly away. The black ship approaches ominously. A giant Hrafn stands at center. Hrafn opens mouth to scream.

EAR-PIERCING SHRIEK

The monstrous army of dark hrafns all extend their wings and flood the sky. Cannons shoot from the ship in an arch, aiming for the island.

Phoenix and Becierran hold their ears and look back towards the cliff behind them. Becierran's face turns pale in fear.

Becierran and Sede run past Phoenix and Azure and towards the village. Phoenix and Azure stagger to get up and chase after Becierran.

Phoenix, Azure, Becierran, run to the village. The monsters reach the village and set fire to all the homes in sight.

Cannonball blasts near the boys, felling a tree. The boys scatter. Becierran grabs Sede, evading. Phoenix and Azure

trips and the tree traps them. Azure is knocked out, his conch horn flung off.

PHOENIX
(struggling, coughing)
Becierran, help!!!

Becierran looks to Phoenix for a brief moment and runs off with Sede.

Phoenix's arm falls to the ground. He cries out to him.

PHOENIX
BECIERRAN!!!

INT. RUINED HOME, NIGHT

Becierran and Sede enter a home and hide in an empty fireplace. Cannon-fire bombards the home and Hrafn invade. A monster snarls at Becierran.

Dark hrafns scratch Becierran and Sede. They scream in agony. Hrafn descend from chimneys, swarming the boys. Both boys collapse. The monsters seize the boys and carry them away.

EXT. THE VILLAGE, NIGHT

Phoenix watches villagers be picked up by the monsters one by one. In the sky, Phoenix sees Becierran and Sede unconscious and carried to the ship. Phoenix is in shock and restlessly trying to escape the tree.

PHOENIX
MONA!! HELP!!

Phoenix peers through smoke with wet and blurry eyes, arm outstretched. Red light approaches.

Fire engulfs the tree, covering Phoenix and Azure to ash. Mona kneels to the boys. Mona's lantern sways on its cane, dancing the fire wildly.

MONA
Get to your feet!

Mona picks up the conch horn and wraps it around Azure as she tries to wake him up.

PHOENIX
(fearful)
Mona, what are they?!

MONA
They're demons. They lurk in the darkness, consuming everything. If they get you, you'll become one. Where's Becierran and Sede?

PHOENIX
They were taken.

Azure wakes up and rubs his eyes.

AZURE
What's happening? I feel dizzy.

MONA
Come on!

Mona, Phoenix, and Azure all hurry to the docks to make an escape.

EXT. THE VILLAGE DOCKS, NIGHT

Mona, Phoenix, and Azure run to the docks, but stop when numerous monsters swarm the docks.

A flock of dark hrafns tear through an escaping sailboat and carry the escapees up to the skies.

Phoenix feels dizzy, holding his head. Blood is falling from his forehead. He falls.

Mona spews fire at the swarm of monsters.

Azure is grabbed by the legs and dragged across the dirt. His conch horn drops to the ground.

PHOENIX
AZURE!!

Phoenix staggers to get up.

Mona is surrounded by Hrafn, dancing in a circle and spewing fireballs. As a monster scratches Mona, she heals instantly. Her lantern is swaying dangerously.

Phoenix picks up the conch horn and it glows a faint yellow light, mesmerized by the horn.

Azure is dragged to the swarm of hrafns around Mona. Mona looks through the swarm and sees Phoenix about to blow into the conch.

MONA
(reaches out)
PHOENIX, NO.....!!!

Phoenix blows into the conch horn. A brassy sound rips through the air. The conch horn grows slightly longer. He falls to his knees from weariness.

Azure's body turns bright red and explodes in a sphere of fire. Mona braces as Azure erupts into flames. The lantern flings off her staff and shatters. Mona shrieks. The swarm falls to the ground and turns to ice.

Dark hrafns fall to the ground and instantly turn into solid, black, frozen husks.

EXT. THE VILLAGE WATERS, NIGHT

The black ship turns around. The swarm of monsters fly back towards the ship carrying victims.

EXT. THE VILLAGE, NIGHT

Phoenix shakily gets up and hurries to Mona. Azure emerges from a dust pile and shakes off the dirt. They see Mona flickering, shattered glass at her feet.

AZURE
MONA!

PHOENIX
Mona... What's happening?

A small green fire dances on the shattered glass.

Azure reaches for her hand, but goes right through her.
Tears fall down Mona's face. Her voice is faded.

MONA
(flickered and faded)
Stay....together. Find...Eth...er...dale
(flickers)
I'm....sorry.

The dancing fire dies and Mona dissipates in the air.

Azure falls to his knees and bawls. Phoenix looks around
the village with dead eyes, horror, and shock.

The village is flattened. Fire consuming the homes and
trees, blanketed with black ash.

Frozen husks of winged monsters spread around the village
wastes. Phoenix and Azure stand alone

Sitting on the ground, Phoenix and Azure have their backs
to each other. Azure bawls in his hands. Phoenix stares dry
at the ground. Blood drips down from his face.

He examines the conch horn, no longer glowing.

AZURE
(sobbing)
What do we do now?

PHOENIX
We travel to Dalefell's gate,
(pauses)
and find Etherdale.

AZURE
Mona said she would take us there.

Phoenix doesn't respond. Phoenix gives Azure his conch
horn.

The cavern in the lake is filled with rubble. The two walk
through the village wastes.

9 **EXT. THE VILLAGE, NIGHT**

Phoenix and Azure walk slowly through charred grass and sand. The air is cold. Phoenix and Azure reach a vast desert. Sand stretches for miles.

The two boys settle down and create a fire. Azure trips and falls to the ground, his wings fall tired.

PHOENIX

Azure, what's wrong?

Phoenix kneels down and turns Azure over, he opens his shawl and sees his entire right side covered in ice. He drags Azure to the side of a wall and starts a fire. He sits on Azure's frozen side close to the fire. Slowly, the ice begins to thaw.

AZURE

How will we pass the cloud
interior? or the dark sea? Or find
the gate? I heard from the others
its impossible

Phoenix draws with a stick in the dirt a crude map of Leosan Island.

PHOENIX

There are only two points where
the ground meets the water. The
basin in the east, where the
Village was,
 (pauses)
and the beach on the west. The
eastern cavern collapsed, so we
have to go the long way around.

Phoenix and Azure are dwarfed by the tall canyon wall they lie against.

AZURE

Who would do such a thing? What
did we do to those....creatures?

PHOENIX
Becierran called them...
(pauses)
...demons. I've never seen
anything like it before.

AZURE
I wish Mona were here.

Azure wraps himself in his wings, Phoenix gazes at the crackling fire.

10 **EXT. THE DESERT, DAY**

MONTAGE

The fire's gone, but a small ice wound still marks Azure's side. Donning his shawl, they set forth across the desolate isle.

Azure and Phoenix navigate a towering canyon.

Phoenix scales steep rocks while Azure soars above.

At the summit, they behold a withered prairie. Ancient ruins scatter across the lifeless plain.

Whispers of wind sweep dirt into the sands.

Confronting a canyon's towering wall, a solitary path beckons Phoenix and Azure.

Traversing the imposing canyons, pebbles cascade from above. Engel flying circles in the sky above the boys. Deep holes and cracks riddle the route.

Reaching a canyon precipice, Azure floats to the opposite side; Phoenix leaps, barely gripping the edge. Azure rescues him.

An entrance to a ruined tomb emerges before them.

INT. ANCIENT GREAT HALL

Light beams in from outside, illuminating a portion of the

tomb; darkness lies ahead. Azure blows his conch horn, which emits a radiant glow.

Tower-tall pillars vanish into the dark. Cracked tiles on the floor are caked with dirt, sand, and dust.

PHOENIX

These pillars are endless. It's so dark, I can't see the end.

Phoenix leans against a pillar. Azure surveys the hall with his conch. He fixates on a shadowed corner.

AZURE

That spot over there is darker than the rest of the hall.

They walk closer to the darker spot and find a narrow cave ahead of them.

INT. CAVE HALLWAY

The cave walls are covered in scratch marks, and the ground traced with tracks.

AZURE

This place is eerie.

PHOENIX

It must've been abandoned for eons.

INT. MEMORIAL ROOM

Within a circular room, aged marble lines the floor and walls, adorned with faded murals depicting an ancient war. 13 giant statues dominate 10 of humanoid birds, 2 wrecked, and 1 central statue portraying a human with a lance standing over a feathered body.

Azure's light sweeps, circling and revealing words etched beneath each statue.

- Ule - Spearwa - Leoth - Jay - Culfre - Vultur - Osle - Hafoc - Hragra - Fenix - Earn(first damaged statue).

Phoenix studies the featureless human statue, no etchings.

Azure gazes at the second ruined statue. Its body and head are absent, leaving menacingly large legs and wings. Azure shifts focus to the statue's feet

STATUE ETCHING HRAFN

AZURE

Huh...hru...hraay...fin. Isn't...that
what Mona said we were?

Phoenix looks around at the 13 statues. Phoenix stands in front of the Fenix statue.

PHOENIX

This statue kind of looks like a
bigger version of you, Azure.

Azure stares at the statue. He puffs his muscles out to match the statue in a comedic way, extending his wings out similarly to the statue. Phoenix smiles.

PHOENIX

I don't understand any of this?
Where in the dales are we?

Azure shines light at another corridor.

AZURE

Look, another hallway.

Phoenix and Azure walk through a short, curved corridor of cracked tile and tearing walls.

INT. ANCIENT TOMB

At the end of the winding corridor is an open field with a dim light emitting from a large, cracked hole in the ceiling. There is a spiral staircase that wraps the cylindrical room. The walls all around the room are shrouded in darkness.

DAETH(40); pale and wingless man wearing a black shawl, is shoveling a grave.

PHOENIX

Who are you?

DAETH

I'm Daeth, why are you here?

PHOENIX

The village was destroyed by
monsters.

DAETH

Those monsters are your brothers
and sisters, your fellow Hrafn.

Azure

...We're the only ones left, the
village is gone.

DAETH

Then rebuild it.

Daeth continues to shovel dirt. Next to him is a wagon of
body bags. Engel picks up a bag and a frozen hand emerges.
He drops it into the grave. It CLUNKS hard.

AZURE

We need to find Dalefell's Gate.

DAETH

The journey leads to sorrow and
despair. You'll end up a frozen
corpse.

Daeth drops another body into the shallow grave. A
completely iced, frozen hand sticks out. CLUNK.

PHOENIX

But we have to! The gate will take
us to Etherdale!

Daeth stops shoveling. He looks up at the two boys in
disappointment.

DAETH

You seem to know little of your

heritage, boy. Give up now, and
rebuild the village. It's better
this way.

PHOENIX

The monsters attacked us! They
took Becierran, and Mona! We can't
stay here!

DAETH

(pauses)

You don't know what you seek; what
lies at Dalefell's edge.

PHOENIX

What would you know! You ran away
instead of helping us!

Engel descends, attacking Phoenix and clasping his back.
Phoenix yells and squirms.

Dense fog cloaks the room, separating Phoenix from Azure.
Alone in the mist, Phoenix hears Daeth's echoing voice.

DAETH

(pauses)

You haven't the faintest idea why
you're here, boy!

A black hrafn, armed with a lance, charges Phoenix. He
dodges but collides with a towering, radiant-winged
humanoid bird. They nearly trample him; Phoenix leaps to
dodge their talons. The radiant bird strikes at the black
hrafn with a sword.

DAETH

Your soul is damned with Hrafn's
Curse!

Humanoid-birds clash, one impaling the other's chest with a
spear, the second driving a dagger at their neck. Black
blood splatters. Phoenix stumbles to evade the blood splat.

DAETH

Damned to wander Dalefell for

eternity.

PHOENIX

Azure!!

Phoenix sprints through dense fog. Sand replaces solid ground, slowing him.

In the fog's density, scalding rain morphs sand into mud. He shields his face with his arms. Mud solidifies into coarse glass, ensnaring Phoenix's feet.

DAETH

Your fate is to freeze!

Phoenix looks at himself through the course reflection and sees himself covered in cracks and ice.

DAETH

Your fruitless endeavors have been
tried and tested for eons. Your
failure is guaranteed.

Phoenix glances from his reflection, then screams, gazing at his body. He kicks and squirms at Engel on his back against the glass entrapping his feet.

Glass breaks, freeing his feet in a shattering explosion. Kneeling, he shields his face from the shards. Engel lets go of Phoenix and disappears in the darkness.

The fog disperses. Lanterns ignite, casting a crimson glow that unveils the room's walls, adorned with endless stacked coffins.

Phoenix spots Azure curled across the room.

PHOENIX

AZURE!

Phoenix runs to Azure. The coffins encircling the walls of the room rumble and shake in excitement.

DAETH

Like your half-bred kin, you'll

suffer the same fate.

Phoenix and Azure race up spiral stairs toward a crack in the ceiling. A coffin's lid creaks open, revealing dark purple claws wrapped in ice.

Coffin lids all around lift, releasing ice-covered, two-headed, purple monsters that stagger toward the boys.

A monster blocks Phoenix's path. He wields a coffin lid, slamming into them, sending them tumbling.

Some monsters crawl the staircase walls. The boys run. Some monsters fly through the wall crack, causing sand to trickle in.

Frozen-winged monsters scale pillars and walls.

Violent shaking and stairs collapse. Phoenix flails, Azure pulls him to safety.

Ceiling caves, sand pours. Phoenix spots a cracked Pillar to climb.

PHOENIX

Azure, fly up there!

Phoenix climbs the crumbling pillar as Azure flies up. Sand pours from the ceiling's crack; monsters chase after them. Azure awaits at the top, leaning anxiously from the cracked ceiling.

Phoenix leaps, catching the edge. Azure tries to pull him up but struggles. The ceiling cracks wider and Phoenix slips. Phoenix grabs Azure's conch horn but the strap snaps and he falls.

AZURE

PHOENIX!!

Azure jumps to Phoenix

SLOW MOTION

Daeth observes as Phoenix plummets, reflected in his eye.

Phoenix raises the conch horn to his lips, blowing. Azure morphs into a fiery-red Fenix, grabs Phoenix, and soars through the ceiling.

11 **EXT. BEACH, DAY**

Azure flies Phoenix through the sand. Azure reverts and they roll down a steep hill, Phoenix landing face-down, Azure atop him.

Engel flies up into the sky and circles the boys. It CAWS.

On the beach's sand, Phoenix rises shakily, but falls. Azure raises his head, spitting out sand.

Engel turns and flies off; disappearing into the clouds.

Phoenix falls to his back and breathes heavily. Phoenix lightly laughs. Azure laughs with him.

PHOENIX

We made it to the beach.

AZURE

We can finally start our journey
to Etherdale.

PHOENIX

(mumbles)

Etherdale.

(raises hand to the sky)

Can we truly make it there?

AZURE

Dalefell's gate can take us
anywhere! It has to!

PHOENIX

(laughs)

Then we'll go together. Even if we
have to go through more monsters.

Azure chuckles and sits up. Phoenix passes him the conch horn. They slowly walk towards the docks.

EXT. ABANDONED DOCKS

Phoenix examines a dock with motionless, worn boats. All too battered to sail.

PHOENIX

None of these ships look like they
can get through the cloud wall,
much less sail on the water.

Azure inspects the boats. He jumps on one boat at the end. It shakes and creaks loudly.

AZURE

This one will do!

Phoenix looks at the boat and rocks it. He shrugs

PHOENIX

Then....let's go!

Azure and Phoenix hoist the loose sails up and tie them down.

INT. SHIP CABIN

Phoenix grabs lanterns from the cabin. He sees a compass on a table, it's needle pointing to the island. He drops it into the sea.

EXT.

Phoenix hands some to Azure, and they scatter them around.

Phoenix unties the boat; sails catch the wind. The boat glides toward the cloud wall. With a wooden stick, Azure ignites a torch with his fingers, then lights the lanterns.

Azure hangs the torch on a wall holder. Azure plays a tune into his conch and they dance.

Approaching the cloud's edge, Phoenix moves to the ship's front, leaning over the railing. Azure raises his conch high, concluding the song on a triumphant note.

AZURE
To Dalefell's Gate!

PHOENIX
To Etherdale!

INT/EXT. INSIDE CLOUD WALL

They enter the clouds and fight through the violent storms.

12 EXT. SHIP STERN; PITCH DARKNESS

Healdan and Cayden drift along still water in the darkness.

CAYDEN
(mumbles)
We've no idea where we are.

Healdan sits at the ship's front, arm on knee, half his face lit by lanterns. Eyes shut, head bowed beneath his hood.

Cayden pours a can's contents into a lantern, then hurls it into a room strewn with empty cans.

CAYDEN
(mumbles)
We only have a few more cans left.
We'll be in total darkness before
long.

Cayden paces, muttering. Healdan sits silent, breathing heavily through his gray beard. Cayden gazes at the black sky.

CAYDEN
(mumbles)
Flying would only get me lost. I
wouldn't find the boat again.

Cayden grasps the railing and angrily kicks the side of the boat.

CAYDEN
Cursed dale!

Healdan's eyes open; gray glimmers under his black hood. Cayden spots something in the dark distance, squinting to focus on a faint light. He stands and faces Healdan.

CAYDEN

Healdan, look over there.

Healdan's eyes open, following Cayden's gesture. He rises, then stumbles as the ship collides with an unseen obstacle.

Cayden grabs a lantern rolling by, extending his wings for balance. He aids Healdan to his feet. The ship creaks. Both exhale frosty breath.

HEALDAN

What did we hit?!

Cayden looks over to see a glacier plunged into the side.

CAYDEN

We've hit a small glacier.

Healdan reconfigures his black shawl.

HEALDAN

What's the damage?

CAYDEN

It's not critical. The hit was above the water so we won't be flooding, but we aren't going anywhere until we patch it.

Cayden lifts the lantern up ahead of him. There is an icy field of small flat glaciers. Cayden focuses on the dim light.

CAYDEN

There's small ruins with a dim light at the center of the glacier field.

HEALDAN

Then let's go and salvage what we

can.

EXT. GLACIERS

Viewed from above, the glacier resembles a colossal frozen bird. Healdan and Cayden dwarf by comparison.

They hop between glaciers, lanterns rattling with each leap. Cayden slips on a glacier; Healdan grabs his shoulder, hauling him up. They continue slowly, the lanterns casting gleams on the ice.

Reaching the central glacier, a light dusting of snow covers the ground. Snowflakes touch Healdan's face. He raises his lantern, discovering the onset of snowfall.

Ahead lies a ruined shipping vessel on the glacier, battered and cracked as if it crash-landed. Dim light emanates from the vessel.

EXT. SHIPWRECKED BOAT, MAIN DECK; DIM-LIT

Healdan and Cayden climb a ladder along the ship's side.

CAYDEN

This ship is almost as large as
the one we had back in the
village.

HEALDAN

A shipwrecked vessel loaded with
supplies, but no remnants of a
crew...?

Healdan walks towards stairs blanketed with snow.

The main deck is blanketed with snow and claw marks. Sail poles toppled over.

Healdan sees a dim light from the front deck. A frozen, clothed figure holding a lantern and lying on the floor.

HEALDAN

Cayden, come over here.

Healdan and Cayden leap over debris to the cloaked figure

resting against a massive, tall, dusty, metal shard.

Cayden touches the metal, confused. He examines his dusted fingers.

Healdan kneels.

CLOAKED FIGURE

It's been so long since I saw a
fellow Hrafn.

HEALDAN

What happened to your crew?

CLOAKED FIGURE

(croaks)

The crew...

(trails off)

CAYDEN

Yes?

CLOAKED FIGURE

Heolstor...came for our wings....

He...took them away and turned 'em
into foul beings.. He..left us
here...to freeze.

Healdan turns and looks around the wreckage. Cayden
inspects the damage more closely, rubbing fingers along.

CAYDEN

Demons.

Cayden looks back at the cloaked figure. Healdan notices
the figure is holding a cracked ruined compass, the needle
bent and distorted.

HEALDAN

Do you have any remaining
supplies?

The figure creaks, pointing towards a hole in the ship.
Healdan and Cayden jump inside.

INT. SHIPWRECKED BOAT, STORAGE ROOM; DARK

Healdan and Cayden land in a dark, ruined ship room.
Scattered across the floor lie dusty resources.

CLOAKED FIGURE (V.O.)
As our ship slowly began to sink
into the sea, I felt my heart stop
beating.

Healdan and Cayden gather supplies, using their cloaks as
bags.

(whimpering, croaking)
My soul; no longer warm...

Cayden kneels to pick up an oil container. He emerges and
falls backward from a frozen, winged, purple demon.

Healdan steps forward to pick up a container and sees a
frozen hand in front of his foot. Healdan and Cayden raise
their lanterns to see a room full of frozen figures and
demons.

CLOAKED FIGURE (V.O.)
We spirits don't feel a thing
anymore.

Healdan and Cayden step back slowly.

CLOAKED FIGURE
Feelings... a fading memory.

Cayden backs up into another frozen demon. The frozen demon
wakes and grabs Cayden. Cayden gasps. Healdan drops his
supplies in the snow.

CUT TO

CLOAKED FIGURE
You won't make it. No one ever
makes it.

CUT TO

Healdan and Cayden struggle with the awakened demon, trying to stay quiet.

CLOAKED FIGURE

(croaks)

Those who seek the Dalefell's Gate
will perish

Healdan unsheathes his sword and stabs it into the demon's back. It tried to flap its wings and bite Cayden, but it turned back into ice. Healdan and Cayden grab their cloak-bags and hurriedly escape.

EXT. SHIPWRECKED BOAT, MAIN DECK; DIM

CLOAKED FIGURE

...accept your fate and forget.

Healdan and Cayden hurry off the boat with their supplies.

13 INT. DUNGEON HALL

A line of chained prisoners are led by Dark Hrafn down a mechanical hallway. Among them are Becierran and Sede. Sede is in tears, has frozen wings, and limping.

INT. DUNGEON, HANGING CAGES

They're led into a huge dungeon with endless cages hanging from the ceiling. Dark Hrafn fly prisoners up and lock them in various cages. One forces Becierran and Sede to their knees. HEOLSTOR'S voice booms through the dungeon

HEOLSTOR

I've been eagerly waiting...

Becierran looks around the dungeon for the voice.

HEOLSTOR

...for another Fenix-Hrafn
halfbreed.

BECIERRAN

What are you?!

Heolstor drops down from the shadowy ceiling, a gigantic monster with purple wings and feathers, oozing liquid darkness.

BECIERRAN

What did we do to deserve this?!

Heolstor grabs Sede and kicks Becierran to the floor on his face. He slams Sede onto Becierran and shoves the two boys together.

Becierran and Sede scream in agony, their bodies slowly merging. Purple sparks shoot from the boys. They squirm and scream. Heolstor's body oozes purple liquid on the boys.

Becierran and Sede's body slowly conjoin, painfully. Dark Hrafnas stand around and dance excitedly. Becierran coughs out blood and purple ether. Heolstor laughs.

Sede fully fuses with Becierran; they stop screaming. Sede's head sticks out of Becierran's shoulder and his wings merge onto his back. Heolstor lets go.

Becierran stretches his body. His two heads cry out.

14 EXT. DALEFELL SEA

Phoenix and Azure's ship floats aimless, lanterns light the way. Azure is sitting on top of the cabin playing melancholy tunes. Phoenix looks at the sky, swaying on a makeshift hammock.

PHOENIX

It's so dark, I wonder how Healdan
and Cayden are getting through
this.

Azure stops and leans over the cabin to look at Phoenix.

AZURE

Do you think they made it through
the clouds?

PHOENIX

Well, we managed to get through,
so I'd like to believe they made
it too. They're strong.

A lantern goes out, Phoenix goes to pick it up. He holds it
in front of Azure and he lights it with his fingers.
Phoenix turns to put it back on the wall, but the fire
inside the lantern turns green. Phoenix inspects the fire
inside the lantern.

AZURE

How'd you do that?

A green aurora seeps from the fire, spreading upward. It
grows into an ether river with golden birds flitting
through it. Phoenix lifts the lantern high.

PHOENIX

I don't know. It's happening on
its own.

The ether aurora lights up the sky, showing endless black
clouds and sea.

AZURE

It's beautiful.

Azure sounds a conch call. The aurora responds, emanating
an ethereal bird that transforms into green mist. The mist
encircles the torch. A hand with radiant feathers emerges.
Phoenix offers the torch to the spectral hand. The mist
evolves, shaping into a humanoid-bird spirit.

IELDRAN(40); a man with bright feathers and white wings and
horns on his head. On his shoulder sits a deformed, blind
Fenix Bird. Ieldran takes the lantern.

IELDRAN

You're not Engel...

PHOENIX

No...I'm Phoenix, and this is
Azure. Who are you?

IELDRAN
(puzzled)
I...I'm an Ieldran, refer to me as
such.

Ieldran strokes the Fenix bird on his shoulder. He inspects
the lantern

IELDRAN
Your summoning is poor. Your flame
is weak and unable to feed.

The Fenix bird sits still, looking around.

PHOENIX
I...summoned you?

IELDRAN
Why the question?

AZURE
We just lit a lantern, and then
you appeared.

IELDRAN
(laughs)
I'm brought back to Dalefell...by
accident?
(pauses, laughs)
Where is Engel, I must see him.

PHOENIX
I...don't care where he is.

IELDRAN
(puzzled)
You're wandering the endless,
black seas without him?

PHOENIX
Why would you want to see him? Him
and Daeth wouldn't even help us,
so what does it matter?!

Ieldran pauses and thinks.

IELDRAN

It seems much has changed since
last I was in Dalefell. Where is
it you plan on going?

AZURE

There's a gate somewhere that'll
take us to Etherdale

Ieldran reacts concerned and sad at Azure's response.

IELDRAN

Pity, though this is all too
common, so why am I surprised?

PHOENIX

What are you talking about?

Ieldran looks around the sea and at the green lantern. The
fire is slowly dying.

IELDRAN

Your life was cut short, and I'm
truly sorry about that. I don't
have the luxury of time to
explain what your cursed family
failed to teach. Hold the lantern.

Both Phoenix and Azure grip the lantern.

IELDRAN

You are a unique child born of
Fenix and Hrafn lineage. You can
control this flame. Lift a lantern
and beckon Etherdale's river to
your cry.

Ieldran lets go of the Lantern. He and the deformed Fenix
begin to flicker.

PHOENIX

Wait! I don't know how!

IELDRAN

(flickering)
I wish you safe travels as you
journey for Dalefell's Gate...
cursed Hrafn child.

Phoenix holds the green lantern up; it's fire fading.

PHOENIX
(echoes)
Don't leave!!

His voice echoes through the darkness. The Fenix on Ieldran's shoulder shrieks from the echo and looks around frantically. They disappear into ether mist. The fire inside the lantern dies.

AZURE
They disappeared just like Mona
did.

Phoenix lets go of the lantern. Azure lights another fire inside it, but it lights red. Azure focuses intently on it, but nothing happens. Their boat continues to drift aimlessly.

15 INT. DUNGEON, HANGING CAGES

becierran examines his body, feeling his fingers slowly across his body. He tries to get up, but chains lock him down to the cages floor. He snarls and snaps the chains. He bends the cage bars and flies towards the ceiling, crashing through.

Becierran crashes through the ceiling and perches atop a tower. The clouds turn dark, pouring rain on the floating city. Becierran looks up and lets the rain fall on his two heads, breathing heavily in anguish. Lightning STRIKES and Heolstor appear menacing on an adjacent roof.

BECIERRAN
(growls)
What are you!?

HEOLSTOR
(bellows)

I'm a Hrafn, not quite like you,
little nameless creature.

BECIERRAN
You made me into an abomination!

Heolstor crawls swiftly around Becierran in the shadows.
Becieran jumps to his feet and extends his sharp talons,
his heads shifting to a bird's beak. Purple fire and smoke
spark on his body. Becierran and Heolstor face each other.

BECIERRAN
(roars)
What do you want?!

HEOLSTOR
Your essence.

Heolstor cuts through the rain and appears behind Becierran
again. Becierran flies up to the sky and Heolstor follows.
Becierran feels Heolstor's bellowing voice through the sky

HEOLSTOR
(maniacal laughing)
Fly. FLY little nameless creature.

Heolstor chases Becierran above the city.

HEOLSTOR
Your ether will open me a new
gate.

BECIERRAN
GO AWAY!

Heolstor grabs both of Becierran's heads and pushes him
into a roof. Becierran's cries in pain.

HEOLSTOR
You're mine, my abomination.

Becierran squirms, Heolstor tightens his grip.

BECIERRAN
Make your gate...your...self!

Lightning strikes, He strokes Sede's head.

HEOLSTOR

You're a special breed of hrafn,
one mixed with fenix ancestry.
Your ether, mixed curse and
blessing, will open me a new gate.

Heolstor turns away.

BECIERRAN

Why me?! There was another just
like me! WHY?!

Heolstor stares into Becierran's eyes through the heavy
rain.

HEOLSTOR

There was no other I could sense.

Lightning strikes.

16 EXT. DALEFELL SEA

Azure is standing at the edge of the sailboat, holding the
lantern in front of him

AZURE

Etherdale!

Azure sparks a fire inside of the lantern, but stays red.
He smothers the flame and tries again.

AZURE

Ieldran!

A spark of red flame ignites again, and nothing happens. He
tries again.

AZURE

Ancestors, hear me!

The same thing happens. Phoenix emerges from the cabin.

PHOENIX
You've been trying for hours
Azure, perhaps rest a whi...

Azure ignores Phoenix and tries again.

AZURE
MONA!!

The lantern explodes and Azure falls on his back.

PHOENIX
(laughing)
I think you tried too hard there

Azure turns onto his stomach and grunts.

AZURE
You try doing it then.

PHOENIX
Already did, nothing happened.

The sky is illuminated suddenly by a small flare.

AZURE
What was that?

Another flare illuminates the sky in the distance.

AZURE
There it is again! Where's it
coming from?

PHOENIX
(excited)
I dunno, but it beats drifting
aimlessly!

Phoenix and Azure sail towards the source of the red smoke.

EXT. DALEFELL SEA, GLACIER

The boys are closer to the flare and see an old ship
stranded on a glacier. There's a figure waving its arms

frantically. It's yelling at them, but the boys can't hear.

The boys' ship hits a glacier and they both fall hard on the floor. The ship comes to a halt. Azure rubs his head.

Azure
What did we hit?

Phoenix looks over the ship rail and sees their boat is stuck on a small glacier.

PHOENIX
Looks like we rammed into a block
of ice.

Phoenix looks over the ship rail and inspects the glacier.

PHOENIX
There's no damage, thankfully.

Phoenix pushes against the creaking ship, but doesn't budge. Azure jumps out of the ship and helps Phoenix push but fails. Phoenix leans against the boat. He looks out and sees a figure walking, holding a bright lantern. The approaching figure is humming.

SEGAR(60); a tall man carrying a large lantern has a long gray beard, ragged clothes, and his skin laced with ice. His eyes are crossed and disfigured. Segar emerges into sight, he stares uncomfortably at the boys. He leans his face close to Phoenix's.

SEGAR
(thick, lazy fisherman accent)
What be a wee lad doin' in the
heart of Dalefell, I be wonderin'?

Segar examines Azure's body.

Phoenix
(nervous)
Well, we hit a glacier and got
stuck here.

Segar puts down his lantern and surprises Phoenix and Azure

with a strong bear hug.

SEGAR

(crying)

I can imagine how long ye've been
adrift 'ere, all alone in this
desolate place.

Azure

(squirming)

Too tight!

Azure squirms out of Segar's tight hug and shimmies away.
Segar holds his ear to Phoenix's chest and tries to listen
for something, but hears nothing. Segar is humming a happy
tune while tears fall from his face.

PHOENIX

Uh.....Can you let me go now?

Segar drops Phoenix and he scoots quickly towards Azure.
Segar picks up his lantern.

SEGAR

Ah, the cruel hand of fate it be,
to strand a young soul like me in
this forsaken Dalefell!

The boys don't know what to say. Segar drops and begs.

SEGAR

Please take meh with ya off this
icy prison.

Phoenix and Azure stand speechless and uncomfortable.

PHOENIX

Uh....maybe. Do you know how to
navigate the seas?

SEGAR

I know these seas like the back of
my wings

AZURE

Uh...you don't have wings...

SEGAR
They're somewhere!

AZURE
....Ok....Where is your ship?

SEGAR
It's over there!

PHOENIX
If you can lead us through these
seas, then I see no reason why...

SEGAR
(interrupting)
THANK YE SO MUCH, BOY!!!

Segar rams into the ship, pushing it out of the ice. Segar
grabs the railing and drags it atop the glacier

PHOENIX
What are you doing?!

SEGAR
This here be a glacier field!
Wings, ye be takin' to the heights
and fetchin' a stout rope for us
to haul with!

Azure looks to Phoenix. He shrugs and jumps. Phoenix and
Segar stare at each other awkwardly. Azure throws a rope
over the ship and Segar catches it. Segar drags the ship
across the ice. Phoenix and Azure follow behind.

PHOENIX
An old man just happens to be
stranded on the same block of ice
as us.

AZURE
He seems nice.

PHOENIX
He's weird

AZURE
I feel bad for him.

Segar hums as he drags the boat.

PHOENIX
All this is just strange.

AZURE
We should help him anyway. He
seems to know where to go. He
could help us.

PHOENIX
I guess.

EXT. DALEFELL SEA, INLAND GLACIER

SEGAR
Just up ahead, meh vessel!

PHOENIX
I can't see a thing through the
darkness.

A silhouette of a giant shipwreck appears. Segar stops.

SEGAR
I'm gonna go grab something!

Segar runs into the ship. Phoenix and Azure can hear him
making loud noises. They look at each other in confusion.

Segar hoists a crate over the side of the ship. Segar jumps
off the ship and lands next to the crate.

SEGAR
No time to dawdle! Hoist the
sails!

The boys aid Segar with the heavy crate onto their ship.

Segar walks to the ship's rear, cracks knuckles, and pushes

it across the ice. The boys watch from the deck.

Segar pushes the ship into the sea, climbs up. Azure raises the sails and Phoenix relights the lanterns.

17 **EXT. DALEFELL SEAS**

Healdan is lying at the front, staring at the black sky. Cayden is hunched over the railing depressed and staring at the black waters. Cayden is humming a sad tune.

Cayden notices a light ahead of them.

CAYDEN
Healdan, wake up.

Healdan wakes up and looks at the light. Healdan gets up and turns the sails.

The light illuminates a small shack covered in snow on a small island of snow. They hear an old woman faintly singing from the small shack inland.

DISTANT SINGING
♪Hrafns lost in snow, wanderer's
split in two.♪

EXT. SNOWY ISLAND

They anchor at a beach of the small island and jump off. A gust of brisk wind blows past Healdan and Cayden.

♪No Hrafn hangs over in this air
The urgent snow is everywhere.
The wing adroiter than a sail
Must lean away from such a gale,♪

They both unsheath their rapiers and trudge slowly towards the lit shack.

♪Forceless upon our backs there
fall
Infrequent flakes hexagonal,
Devised in many a curious style
To charm our safety for a while,

INT. LONE SHACK

Healdan creaks open the door. Lit lanterns spread about. Sitting at a table is HREOW(60); an old woman with ice laced across her body. A compass hangs on a strap around her neck. Sitting adjacent to Hreow is a cloaked, winged creature frozen in ice at the table.

HREOW

There is no threat to be found
here. Come and rest a while from
the brisk gale.

Healdan and Cayden take a seat slowly. Hreow hands them both a jagged, wooden cup containing a dark, hot liquid.

HREOW

I'm Hreow, what's your name?

Healdan and Cayden inspect the drink. Healdan drinks first.

CAYDEN

...Cayden...Blaze

Healdan doesn't respond.

HREOW

Another blaze. I presume you're on
your way to the gate then?

Healdan sits quietly, staring uncomfortably at the frozen cloaked figure

CAYDEN

We're lost.

HREOW

All Hrafns eventually get lost in
Dalefell.

CAYDEN

Do you know where it's at?

HREOW

I do...

Cayden stares waiting for a response.

HREOW

I've led many Blaze members to the gate. And it always fails. What awaits all Blaze descendants I could not take any more.

CAYDEN

Can you tell us where to go?

HREOW

(laughing)

What is it you think you'll find? There is no eternal peace for us damned Hrafn. Etherdale has long abandoned our kind.

Cayden puts his hand on his chest

CAYDEN

Hreow, please. Our heart still beats. We still have a chance to see our family again.

HREOW

Your predicament is rare, yes, but one I've seen..

(pauses, emotional)

...and as soon as your heart stops, you give up and freeze. I won't witness it again.

CAYDEN

You could at least guide us on where to go.

HREOW

I have a better idea, I'm a poor and lonely woman who just wants the company of a nice man. Why not stay here with me

(laughing)

Healdan growls and throws the cup at the frozen figure. Healdan unsheathes his white sword, and lunges at Hreow. Cayden jumps up and holds Healdan back. Healdan's white hovers over Hreow's throat.

CAYDEN

Stop!

HEALDAN

We're not any mere Hrafn lost in snow.

CAYDEN

Healdan, this hag has resided here alone for eons. Be reasonable!

Hreow's stares wide eyed into Healdan's. She can hear his heart beating.

HREOW

(chuckles)

I hear your heart beating. Your mortality is still clinging to life. I bet I know what'll happen when it....stops

Healdan lowers his sword slightly and Cayden lets go.

CAYDEN

Hreow, where's Dalefell's Gate?

HREOW

(chuckles, cries)

My father, a Healdan, sought after the same fruitless endeavor. I had to bury his frozen halves in the snow!

(chuckles, cries)

Lead our descendants, he said, show them the way...he said!!

Healdan pushes her into the wall; Hreow grunts. His sword taps her compass necklace. He lifts it up with his sword.

HREOW
(laughing, cries)
I don't want it, but you won't
like where it leads.

Healdan cuts the necklace and catches it. He turns towards the door but stops when a frozen hand grabs his shawl. The lantern reveals a pitiful, bird-like face.

FROZEN FIGURE
There...was...no...gate.

Healdan shoves her off and they both step outside. Cayden looks back to see Hreow frozen on the floor.

EXT. LONE SHACK

Healdan stands on a snowy hill, overlooking the darkness.

Healdan shines a lantern on the compass. Its needle shows no cardinal direction, pointing in one direction.

HEALDAN
Let's go.

Healdan walks back to the ship. Cayden stares at the shack.

18 EXT. DALEFELL SEAS

Phoenix and Azure sit in the back while Segar hums off pitch on his crate at the front. Azure walks up to Segar.

Azure
Uh, Segar?

Segar stops to look at Azure.

AZURE
What is that tune you were humming

SEGAR
Oh, wonderin' about it? It be the
very lullaby passed down to us
Hrafns since we were mere
children.

Azure looks confused.

SEGAR

Well I'm surprised! Yeh parents
didn't sing this to ya when ye
were young?

Phoenix walks up behind Segar.

PHOENIX

People keep asking us that. We
were told we're cursed, but we
don't know what it means.

SEGAR

Oh..... Well I guess that would make
sense. Si' down boys.

Phoenix and Azure lean on the floor against the ship rails
and listen to Segar.

SEGAR

From what I can tell, you died at
a very young age, pro'lly before
your parents could teach you of
your curse.

AZURE

What does it mean to die?

Segar rubs his face awkwardly, unsure of what to say.

SEGAR

Well, ere, it means that you lived
a life somewhere that's not here,
but then something happened and
you stopped living. And now you're
here.

Phoenix and Azure stare at Segar confused.

SEGAR

Do yah know why you're here in
this realm? What es it that ya

seek at Dalefell's Gate?

PHOENIX

We're seeking Etherdale.

SEGAR

(chuckles, cries)

Etherdale's a realm for souls who aren't cursed. It's a paradise from what I've heard, but we're cursed. We don't get to go to Etherdale.

Azure

Mona.....told us she would take us there.

SEGAR

I wouldn't be surprised if someone took advantage of you. Most likely this Mona...woman or whoever she was lied to ya for her amusement.

PHOENIX

Don't say things like that! Mona was a wonderful person! She would never lie to us!

SEGAR

And where is she now? Who would let children embark on a damned quest for Dalefell's hidden Gate?

PHOENIX

She's.....she's gone, her lantern broke and she disappeared.

Segar looks back at Phoenix surprised at his response.

SEGAR

I...see

Segar doesn't finish his thought. Ahead of them is a giant cloud dome. On one side is a gigantic metal tunnel.

SEGAR
There it is...home.

EXT. THEOSTRU SEAS

Phoenix and Azure hang on the side and gawk at the clouds.

AZURE
It's just like the one from our
village!

Their boat sails into the surrounding sea, lit up by the
luminescent clouds.

PHOENIX
There are storms bellowing inside
just like our village.

AZURE
This one's different though! Look
over there, there's a huge hole in
the clouds.

Segar guides the boat to the entrance to the cloud dome.

Phoenix, Azure, and Segar sail towards the entrance to the
cloud barrier.

19 EXT./EXT CLOUD WALL SEA

Cayden and Healdan's boat creak slowly toward New
Theostru's clouds. Healdan leans on the railing, black
journal and compass in hand.

HEALDAN
The compass is leading us to those
clouds over there

CAYDEN
It's too conspicuous to be the
location of Dalefell's gate.

Cayden steers the boat towards the metal tunnel.

CAYDEN

What's the point of having a cloud
dome to protect from the darkness
if there's a giant, metal tunnel
for anyone to enter.

Healdan shuts his book and pockets the compass, annoyed.

HEALDAN

This journal's useless. Nothing on
a cloud wall with a metal tunnel,
nor anything on Dalefell's Gate!

CAYDEN

The compass at least brought us to
a civilization. We can rest and
restart here.

Healdan feels his beating chest. He sees another sailboat
ahead of them. Cayden sails towards the tunnel.

20 **EXT./EXT CLOUD WALL SEA**

Segar guides the ship into the metal tunnel made up of
spare parts. Engel circles above, then vanishes.
Canals with pulleys and a dock full of people line the
entrance. Segar leaps off, gracefully tying the ship with a
rope. The dock worker attaches it to pulleys, guiding the
ship along the canal. Segar jumps back aboard.

EXT. INSIDE CLOUD BARRIER, BRIGHT DA

The sky glows bright over floating isles connected by rope
bridges and lush hills. Villagers bustle about, carrying
materials. Kids play, leaping between isles. Phoenix and
Azure's faces in awe.

PHOENIX

This is incredible.

AZURE

(pointing)

The islands are floating! How're
they doing that?!

SEGAR

It's been so long.

The boat halts, and Phoenix and Azure disembark. The bustling dock is full of winged and wingless people. Segar calls for Phoenix.

SEGAR

OI! Wait up! I've got something
for ya'!

Segar gives Phoenix a tattered compass.

PHOENIX

What's this for?

SEGAR

A special thanks for rescuin' meh
off that isle. You're seeking the
Gate of Dalefell? That compass
will lead ya' straight there.

Surprised, Phoenix hugs Segar. He wraps the compass around his neck.

PHOENIX

Thank you Segar.

Phoenix runs off after Azure. Segar picks his large crate and walks slowly through the crowd

MONTAGE

Phoenix races through bustling crowds. Above, a flock of black, winged children laugh and soar. Azure joins them in the sky. Grinning, Phoenix scales vines, crossing green bridges between islands.

Phoenix runs across green hills and bridges between the floating isles, while Azure soars above. Azure dives and the boys climb vines and trees connecting isle to isle.

They relish the village's fruits and meals.
Azure plays his horn in a plaza, people dancing along.

Wingless kids guide Phoenix up a steep climb and jump off into water.

Holding a vine, Phoenix hovers over the precipice, wind in his hair.

Azure runs, dives, and soars, dipping into the water, sprinkling villagers.

Azure flies back to Phoenix, shaking off water, sharing a laugh.

Together, they slide down a steep vine. Resting on a tree, they watch clouds in the sky.

21 EXT. FLOATING ISLE

Segar trembles, carrying a heavy crate on a distant isle by the cloud walls. An old, abandoned hut lies ahead, surrounded by overgrown grass and tree.

INT. ABANDONED HUT

Segar enters the ruined hut, walls scratched and furniture overturned. Shards and vines cover the floor. Segar's legs give way, crate crashing open to reveal a motionless, winged, ice-covered figure.

Segar crawls, sitting the frozen figure upright against a wall. Segar lies next to the frozen figure quietly and looks around the room sad and nostalgic.

22 EXT. TOP OF A FLOATING ISLE

Phoenix and Azure lie on grass, gazing at the dim, swirling clouds above. Mechanical noise and storms echo.

PHOENIX

This place is unlike anything I've ever seen!

AZURE

These islands are just floating in the air. It's like magic.

PHOENIX

It feels different here though.

AZURE

How do you mean?

PHOENIX

It's not as quiet as our Village.
Here there is a constant whirring
sound from that big, metal hole,
and the storms seem to break
through more often. There's also a
lot of people.

AZURE

Way more people than our village!

(pauses)

Segar said that we were cursed,
that we were to wander Dalefell
for eternity.

PHOENIX

I keep mulling over that in my
head. How are we cursed? He said
we weren't allowed to go to
Etherdale, but I don't know why.

AZURE

If only Mona were still with us.
She would know all the answers.

PHOENIX

(shaken, teary)

I miss her too.

A green ether spirit falls in front of Azure. He stares
intrigued. Phoenix looks too. The ether spirit nods its
little wings, encouraging the boys to follow it.

The boys follow the ether spirit down a split canyon.

AZURE

Come on! It wants us to go inside.

They follow it into the cave.

INT. CAVES

The cave is full of vines, crystals, and color. The ether spirits lead them through the cave. The crystals shine bright from the ether spirit's light.

They're brought into a large room of large, reflective crystals. Azure looks at his distorted reflection.

AZURE
(giggles)
Phoenix, come look at this.

PHOENIX
(giggles)
You look all jagged and funny!

They continue to make funny sounds and poses in their reflection. The ether spirit leads them further in.

EXT. ISLE BASIN

The ether spirit leads Phoenix and Azure outside onto a large basin of water. Above them, the clouds have darkened and storms below through the clouds. The clouds leaking rain from the storms above.

Phoenix trods through the shallow water to the side of the isle and looks over. The isle they are on is high above the other isles they were on.

PHOENIX
We're so high up.

The sky continues to get darker and the boys find it hard to see

AZURE
Phoenix, It's getting dark and I
can't see a thing!

The sky turns dark and the boys can barely see a thing.

PHOENIX
Azure, come closer, follow my

voice!

AZURE

I'm coming! How close am I?

Phoenix shimmies in the water slowly and holds his arms ahead of him. Phoenix trips and falls down into the water. He lifts his head up and notices the ether spirits's faint glow. Phoenix crawls towards the ether spirit.

The ether spirit is standing and illuminating an old, brown feathered/winged, frozen figure in the water. Phoenix gasps and shoots his hand back. The ether spirit climbs on top of an old lantern held by the frozen figure.

Phoenix grabs the lantern and sees a brief vision.

EXT. FROZEN FIGURE'S MEMORY

Phoenix sees another child wearing the same clothes as the frozen figure and holding the same lantern to the sky. The vision abruptly ends.

EXT. ON TOP OF A FLOATING ISLE

Phoenix grabs the lantern and removes it from the frozen figure's loose grasp. Azure's voice sounds really close.

AZURE

Am I close?

Phoenix turns around and faintly sees Azure behind him. Phoenix reaches out and they feel each other's arm hit one another.

PHOENIX

I found an old Lantern in the water. Could you light it?

The rain continues to pour. Phoenix awkwardly hands Azure the lantern through the darkness. Azure holds his finger over the lantern and ignites a small flame inside of it. Their surroundings are lit by the fire.

Phoenix takes the lantern and looks to the sky again. He

notices that more ether spirits are falling from the sky with the rain. The lantern begins to ooze green, ethereal gas from the lantern.

AZURE

Phoenix, Look! The lantern's
leaking! It's just like when
Ieldran showed.

Phoenix lifts the lantern higher and the ethereal gas shifts. He looks at it in wonder.

PHOENIX

ANCESTORS!

The ethereal gas swirls fast and excited in the sky, forming a beautiful ether aurora above Phoenix and Azure. White spirits fly through the Aurora. The rain continues to pour through. They hear children singing through the Aurora.

EXT. FLOATING ISLES OVERHEAD

The Aurora lights up the sky. Villagers look up in Awe.

EXT. ABANDONED HUT

Segar sees the aurora out his window.

EXT. DUNGEON

Becierran sees the aurora through the dungeon ceiling and is enraged. He breaks the cage again and lunges out of the dungeon.

EXT. ISLE BASIN

Phoenix and Azure both hold the lantern high above their heads.

PHOENIX & AZURE

MONA!!!

The Aurora shifts and flows faster in a large circle around Phoenix and Azure. A waterfall of ethereal gas pours in front of them as the aurora swivels around them.

A fiery white bird soars into the ethereal gas waterfall and a hand sticks out, reaching for the lantern.

PHOENIX

MONA!!!

Phoenix and Azure rise up to their tiptoes to hand the lantern to Mona's Hand. The lantern erupts the glass into a thousand pieces and blows up.

PHOENIX

NO!!!

The Aurora promptly dissipates. They stand speechless as the light disappears and darkness envelopes them again. They stand defeated. Azure is in tears.

23 EXT. UNDER A FLOATING ISLE

Healdan and Cayden are sleeping on hammocks underneath a tree, under a floating isle. A loud quake from the floating isle above shakes both Healdan awake. They immediately unsheath their swords and stand back to back. They hear sounds of roaring and stomping above. Dirt sprinkles down on Healdan and Cayden

Healdan runs to one vine and starts climbing up. Cayden follows by flying up behind him. They both hang on the side of the floating isle.

Healdan and Cayden see a black and purple, demonic, two headed hrafn; Becierran, slamming the ground and scratching a tree while roaring and growling in anger. Purple blood oozes out of Becierran's body from chain and talon wounds

HEALDAN

(whispering)

What is this abomination?!

SHIFT 1 PHOENIX/AZURE

Phoenix and Azure are slowly trudging through the basin while not being able to see very much through the dim light. Phoenix trips on a rock and falls into the water. Azure trips over Phoenix and lands on top of him.

SHIFT 2 BECIERRAN

BECIERRAN

(yelling)

Where are you?! How have you not
frozen by now?!

Becierran picks up a rock and throws it at a tree.

SHIFT 3 PHOENIX/AZURE

AZURE

(crying)

This isn't fair. We just wanted to
see her again. Why isn't Mona
still here with us?

SHIFT 4 BECIERRAN

BECIERRAN

Why did you leave the village
unscathed and not me?!

Becierran picks up another rock and throws it. It narrowly
misses Healdan's head.

SHIFT 5 PHOENIX/AZURE

PHOENIX

Maybe we are cursed.

SHIFT 6 BECIERRAN

BECIERRAN

You and I were the same!! Why was
I the one to be turned into this
hideous abomination?!

SHIFT 7 PHOENIX/AZURE

AZURE

What did we do to deserve this?!

SHIFT 8 BECIERRAN

Becierran stands and grunts loudly, growling under his
breath. He ignites his feathers and purple fire bounces
excited across his body.

BECIERRAN
It's because of you I'm here!!!

SHIFT 9 PHOENIX/AZURE

Phoenix sits up and hugs Azure and buries his head in his wing.

SHIFT 10 BECIERRAN

Becierran slams the ground, igniting the grass. Healdan gasps as fire singes his arm.

EXT. CITADEL TOWER

Heolstor's silhouette stands atop a citadel tower. He raises his wings and an army of demons take to the sky.

EXT. FLOATING ISLE

Becierran swiftly turns, fixing his menacing gaze on Healdan. He pounds the isle, causing Healdan to fall to the ground; his sword fallen beside him.

Cayden attacks, but Becierran dodges and knocks Cayden out with a tree branch.

Becierran screeches. He is interrupted by a swarm of demons around him.

Becierran leaps into the sky; the swarm follows. Cayden gets caught in the middle and some demons grab him.

EXT. UNDER THE FLOATING ISLE

Healdan kicks off a thick block of dirt off his body and watches as the swarm of dark hrafns carry Cayden away. He steps forward but his heart beats fast; he collapses.

EXT. SHALLOW WATER BASIN

Becierran swoops, snatching Azure with sharp talons. Azure's horn falls into the water. Phoenix grabs it. The swarm catches up to Becierran who is clenching onto Azure and is carried away. Phoenix flees into caves.

Becierran shoves out of the demon swarm and crashes into the cave. Phoenix tumbles down an incline. He gets up and

rushes into another room in the cave. Becierran sees Phoenix and roars.

BECIERRAN
PHOENIX!!!

Phoenix stops confused after hearing his name. He continues to run away through the caves

24 EXT. COVERED IN DEBRIS

Healdan opens his eyes slowly. He staggers getting up and aches all over.

HEALDAN
(gasping)
Ena!

Healdan gasps for air. He removes his shirt halfway and sees ice forming on his chest. He freaks out and bangs his chest hard and the ice shatters off his chest, bruising.

He breathes slowly and puts his shirt back on. He dusts off the dirt and grass debris off his back, clothes, and the two white rapiers.

Healdan stands up and looks to the sky. He sees Becierran fly out of a cave and circles above the village. His screeching echoing across the floating archipelago.

Healdan slowly limps away down a path

25 EXT. OUTSIDE THE CAVE

Phoenix stumbles out of the cave, hearing Becierran's distant screeches. He crawls to the canyon's edge, staying hidden. He gets up and runs, hugging the canyon wall.

Phoenix grabs a thick vine and descends swiftly to a lower isle, then hides under bushes

Phoenix hears the screeching coming closer to him. He jerks up and sees Becierran flying down towards him. Phoenix runs to the side of the floating isle and jumps off, narrowly missing Becierran's grasp.

Phoenix falls down hard into some bushes, goes unconscious.

Becierran is fully engulfed by the demon swarm. Becierran, Cayden, and Azure are all taken towards the citadel.

PHOENIX

Azu...Azure.

26 **EXT. NEW THEOSTRU CEILING, CAGES**

Azure is imprisoned in a suspended birdcage by demons. Hundreds of hanging cages surround him. A cage with Cayden inside is raised next to Azure.

AZURE

Cayden!

Cayden doesn't respond, lies motionless. Azure swings his cage towards Cayden until he grabs Cayden's cage. Azure sticks his feathered feet through the bars and holds Cayden's cage close to him with his legs.

AZURE

Cayden! Wake up!

Azure pushes Cayden. He reaches for his wings to move them off his face. He sees icicles wrapping his neck.

AZURE

Come on, come on! Wake up!

Azure is pushing hard on Cayden. Cayden slowly opens his eyes.

CAYDEN

Azure, you're here.

AZURE

Cayden! Your neck is frozen!

Cayden feels the ice on his neck.

CAYDEN

I saw the demons forcing their way

through the clouds. They were heading towards the village. What happened?

AZURE

(crying)

They're all gone. Those creatures took everyone, and they made Mona disappear!

CAYDEN

We were already too far out in the clouds to turn back. I'm so sorry.

Cayden holds out his hand to Azure. Azure holds Cayden's hand and sniffles.

CAYDEN

What do you see?

AZURE

I..I see you?

Cayden has a look of sad understanding from Azure's response.

SHIFT PHOENIX (V.O.)

Phoenix lies unconscious in a bush. Icicles growing over his arms and legs.

AZURE (V.O.)

Are we...cursed?

CAYDEN (V.O.)

Who told you that?

AZURE (V.O.)

Becierran... Engel... Ieldran..
Segar... So many told us we're
cursed!

SHIFT AZURE/CAYDEN

Cayden's eyes drop sorrowful.

CAYDEN
...We all are.

SHIFT HEALDAN (V.O.)

Healdan walks out of a tall bush and stops to stare at Phoenix lying unconscious.

We're hrafns, fated to be lost in
snow, forever split in two.

Healdan rips off the icicles growing on Phoenix's body.

SHIFT AZURE/CAYDEN

AZURE
In...two?

Azure pats his body down.

SHIFT HEALDAN/PHOENIX (V.O.)

Healdan picks Phoenix up and carries him over his shoulder.

CAYDEN (V.O.)
We're the wings of our soul.

Healdan walks through the trees carrying an unconscious Phoenix and disappears.

AZURE (V.O.)
I'm....Phoenix's wings?

SHIFT AZURE/CAYDEN

Cayden lets go of Azure and grasps the ice on his neck and forces it apart, Cayden grunts quietly in pain. His neck is red and bruised.

Cayden sits up and uses his legs to hold Azure's cage close. Azure sits up and reaches through the bars to hug Cayden. Cayden holds Azure close to him through the bars.

CAYDEN
You will always be my Phoenix.

AZURE
(crying)

...father...

27 **EXT. SAILBOAT, DENSE FOG**

Phoenix wakes up sore. They're on a small sailboat drifting in fog. He sees Healdan lying on the edge of the boat reading his black journal.

HEALDAN
You're conscious.

Phoenix rubs his head and face confused. His eyes widen and he gasps, immediately lunges, but Healdan catches him.

HEALDAN
Calm down boy.

PHOENIX
(hyperventilating)
Azure was taken...by a...t..two
headed monster!

Healdan lets Phoenix go and handles the sails.

PHOENIX
Why are these...*creatures* doing
this to us?!

Phoenix slams his fist on the side of the boat.

HEALDAN
They're merely the wings of souls
who've been corrupted.

Phoenix leans on the side of the boat and holds his head.

PHOENIX
Wh...where are we? How am I here?
Where are we going?!

HEALDAN
I found you lying unconscious.
That monster took Cayden...and
Azure.

Healdan looks around the clear and quiet foggy waters.

HEALDAN
It stopped pursuing us.

There is an awkward silence between Phoenix and Healdan.

HEALDAN
What happened to the village?

PHOENIX
Those creatures broke through the
cloud wall...

Healdan steers the boat into a thick fog and they
disappear. They sit in silence

28 EXT. NEW THEOSTRU CITADEL SEWERS

Healdan steers to a large sewage pipe. They jump in. The
boat drifts away.

INT. SEWERS

They walk through the massive sewage pipe and emerge in a
processing chamber.

Healdan brings out a lantern from under his cloak. Phoenix
follows behind.

Healdan stops and looks up to find a hole leaking with
sewage.

HEALDAN
Come here.

Healdan hoists Phoenix up the sewage hole, then climbs up
behind him. They both slowly crawl up the hole. Phoenix's
arms shake.

HEALDAN
Keep going, we are almost there.

Phoenix pushes against a metal grate above him and they
both climb out. They find themselves in a dark alley. Ahead

is a bustling street.

EXT. STREETS OF THEOSTRU, DARK SKIES

The streets are illuminated with torches. People from young to old all wear black uniforms and/or cloaks. They're covered in dirt and grime. Healdan stops Phoenix from walking into the crowd.

HEALDAN

Wait here.

Phoenix kneels down in the shadow. He watches Healdan hold his hood over his head and disappear into the shadow.

Phoenix watches people pass by. He hears something fall down behind him. A wooden cup rolls by his foot. Phoenix slowly creeps forward.

Phoenix creeps down the dark alley. He hears soft banging against wood. He stops at a pile of barrels. Over the top he sees the silhouette of someone's head. Phoenix moves the barrels out of the way to find a girl crouched. Her body spews a purple liquid. She looks up to Phoenix and growls. He steps back. The girl's feathers are frozen from her neck and down to her feet. Her wings shake and curl. The girl breathes heavily. She looks back at Phoenix with scared eyes.

SCARED HRAFN GIRL

(shivering)

I...I don't want to freeze. I
don't....want...to stop feeling...

Phoenix touches the hrafn girl. He sees a memory of her.

SHIFT MEMORY

The girl is in a cage, The tall, demonic Heolstor towers over the girl and stabs her with his talons. Purple liquid oozes from her and she slowly turns.

SHIFT BACK

Phoenix jerks his hand back. His fingers create small icicles. Phoenix rubs his hands together and inside his cloak.

The girl shrivels into black ice. She leans back against the wall.

SCARED GIRL
I....want to.....live....

The winged girl lies motionless.

ROOF RATTLING SOUND

Healdan jumps down from the roof carrying a sack

HEALDAN
I thought I told you to stay put.

Healdan sees the frozen girl. He hands Phoenix the sack.

HEALDAN
Get changed.

Phoenix gets up and rifles through the bag and finds black uniforms for both him and Healdan.

PHOENIX
Where did you get these?

Healdan ignores the question. He grabs the larger uniform and puts it on.

HEALDAN
Hurry up.

Phoenix puts on the uniform. They both step into the crowd and lift their hoods.

PHOENIX
She was shivering. I watched her freeze and turn black.

HEALDAN
That's our curse; we do our best to avoid that fate. She wasn't so lucky.

Phoenix follows behind Healdan.

EXT. NEW THEOSTRU CITY STREETS

Phoenix and Healdan merge into the bustling crowd. Phoenix stays close to Healdan.

Some demons fly down into the street and stand on the sides. Phoenix turns his head scared. Healdan pushes him forward.

HEALDAN

Pay them no mind.

They continue to walk with the crowd towards the tower at the center of the city.

EXT. NEW THEOSTRU CITADEL COURTYARD

Healdan and Phoenix reach a courtyard of a sky piercing citadel. It begins to rain heavily. They run up to an unguarded entrance.

INT. NEW THEOSTRU CITADEL

Phoenix and Healdan walk through a giant hypostyle hall. Curtains and large drapery cover the columns in dark, gothic decor. Frosty air blows from Phoenix's breathing.

In the corner of the large room is a large opening with a grand spiral staircase, leading into a dungeon.

INT. CITADEL CEILING

LIGHTNING STRIKES and Becierran appears clutching onto the columns, watching Phoenix and Cayden. Snapped chains hang from his limbs.

INT. CITADEL HYPOSTYLE HALL

Phoenix and Healdan walk slowly through the hall. LIGHTNING STRIKES and Becierran dives down to grab Phoenix and soar back up to the ceiling unnoticed.

Healdan looks behind him for Phoenix, but he's nowhere to be seen.

HEALDAN

(whispering)
Boy, where'd you go?

Healdan growls and looks up at the ceilings. He unsheathes his white rapier, and runs down the hall.

LIGHTNING STRIKES and shows Becierran holding Phoenix on the ceiling with his talons clawed into his arms and one hand holding his mouth.

29 **EXT. CITADEL GRAND HALL**

Phoenix squirms and struggles as Becierran carries him through a large, empty glass hall.

BECIERRAN
MONSTER!!!

LIGHTNING STRIKES and shows a silhouette of the giant, purple winged creature; Heolstor, hanging upside down on a pillar hanging from the ceiling.

Heolstor extends his wings and lets go of the pillar, dropping to the ground.

He walks towards Becierran and towers over him.

BECIERRAN
I found the other half-breed! He's
just like me!!!

Heolstor kicks them both into the wall. Becierran lets go and Phoenix goes flying.

Heolstor speeds towards Phoenix and grabs him by the head. Heolstor is enraged. Phoenix squirms around. He runs up to Becierran and kicks him again.

BECIERRAN
His Wings...are in the cages
below!! Use him instead of me!!

HEOLSTOR
Never have I seen such a weak,
nameless creature throughout the

eons I've been trapped here!

Heolstor picks up Becierran by the wings. Becierran screams in pain.

HEOLSTOR

You waste my time with your vain escapes!

Heolstor throws Phoenix through the glass.

EXT. CITADEL ROOFTOPS

Phoenix falls down the citadel, hitting and rolling along the rooftops. He hits a curved wall hard, stopping his fall. He cries out in pain.

30 INT. CITADEL DUNGEON

Healdan hides behind a door and waits for demons to pass. He enters a room with cages hanging from the ceiling.

Healdan climbs a column of chains. He jumps from cage to cage. Some reach out their hands through the bars for help. Healdan jumps to one cage and the winged prisoner grabs Healdan's cloak.

WINGED PRISONER

Please help us. Engel's abandoned us.

HEALDAN

I'm not here for you.

Healdan tries to let go, but the prisoner tightens his grip.

WINGED PRISONER

No!

Healdan jerks out of the prisoner's grip.

HEALDAN

I haven't the time for you.

Healdan jumps to the next cage when the building begins to shake violently. Healdan holds the bars tight.

31 INT. CITADEL GLASS HALL

Heolstor stands holding Becierran at the hall's center. Heolstor screams an ear piercing shriek and the glass windows and ceiling shatter; rain pours in.

EXT. NEW THEOSTRU CITY

The bustling crowd of workers freeze as they hear the ear-piercing shriek. They all run.

EXT. CITADEL GLASS HALL

Heolstor lifts up a modular stone table from the floor and slams Becierran onto it. Demons flood the room to hold Becierran down on the stone table.

EXT. FLOATING ARCHIPELAGO VILLAGE

The villagers immediately run to their boats to sail towards the citadel.

INT/EXT. NEW THEOSTRU CITY

Becierran is squirming on the stone table. The tower rises on a metal pillar as the citadel begins to crumble. The grounds of the city rip apart like a quake. Metal pillars erupt from the castle grounds and rocket into the sky.

The metal pillars rise to the sky and form a colossal arch bigger than Theostru.

EXT. CRUMBLING ROOF

Phoenix is holding on tight as the rooftops cave and the walls crumble down

INT. COLLAPSING DUNGEON

The cages fall from the ceiling and land hard on the ground. Healdan is thrown off and rolls across the floor. He gets up fast to avoid being crushed by a falling cage.

The ground continues to quake as Healdan looks frantically around for Cayden.

SHIFT CAYDEN/AZURE

Cayden and Azure's cage falls to the ground and their cages crack open upon crashing on the ground.

AZURE
FATHER!

Azure crawls out of his cracked cage and races towards Cayden. Azure helps remove the bars to be big enough for Cayden to get out. Cayden crawls out and rubs his sore neck and arms.

Azure looks up to the sky and sees Phoenix holding on for life as the roof he is on is crumbling.

AZURE
PHOENIX!!

Azure jumps to the air and soars towards Phoenix.

EXT. CRUMBLING ROOF

Phoenix struggles to hold on, but lets go and falls to the ground. Azure swoops in and catches him. They glide towards the city streets.

EXT. CRUMBLING DUNGEON

Cayden looks around and sees Healdan struggling to stand from the quaking ground.

Healdan hands Cayden his sword and they stand back to back. Another pillar begins to rise from below them. They move out of the way and see windows of uniformed workers operating the pillars.

The ground craters and cracks around them.

CAYDEN
Healdan, grab the pillar!!

Healdan and Cayden grab ahold of the pillar and ride it to the top. The floor caves in.

EXT. CITY STREETS

Phoenix and Azure crash and roll on the cobblestone city streets of New Theostru.

PHOENIX

Azure! Come on, we gotta leave!

Phoenix grabs Azure's hand and they both run towards the docks. They board a sailboat and frantically untie it.

Violent winds from the rainstorm catches the sail and blows it hard away from the docs, knocking them down.

EXT. RISING PILLAR

Healdan and Cayden hold the pillar tight. Healdan sees Phoenix and Azure sailing away. The waves grow violently.

The pillar shoots up towards the perch where Heolstor stands.

EXT. ATOP THE TOWER

Heolstor digs his claws into Becierran's chest. Purple fire and liquid oozes out of his body. A dark gas envelopes the tower. Becierran cries out in pain.

A gate forms from the colossal, metal arch. Heolstor stands and stares into the void.

Healdan and Cayden fall off the pillar and land on the tower. Heolstor looks down and moves to stomp on Healdan before he moves out of the way. Both Healdan and Cayden lunge at Heolstor. Heolstor summons a long, black lance and swats Healdan and Cayden away. They get up to slash again.

Becierran slashes at the demons and jumps to the skies.

EXT. THEOSTRU OUTSKIRTS

Phoenix and Azure fight against the heavy winds and violent waves of the sea. Rain begins to pour from the cloud dome above.

PHOENIX

Azure!

Phoenix throws a rope to Azure.

PHOENIX

Tie this around you!

Azure ties the rope around his waist and pulls against the sails rope to keep the boat moving.

Becierran tears through the sky and lands hard on the small sailboat, causing the boat to crack and flip under the water.

The boat flips back over. Phoenix and Azure fall to the floor.

Becierran walks up to Phoenix and attempts to stomp his face. Phoenix rolls out of the way.

PHOENIX

WHAT ARE YOU?!

Becierran rips off a plank of wood from the floor and lunges it at Phoenix. Phoenix gets up and dodges.

PHOENIX

WHY DO YOU WANT ME?!

Becierran swings the plank at Phoenix and Phoenix continues to dodge.

BECIERRAN

IT SHOULD BE YOU TO SUFFER THIS
FATE, NOT ME!

Azure crawls up the sail and stares at Becierran.

AZURE

B..Becierran...Sede...Is that
you?!

Becierran turns and screams, lunging at Azure and knocks

him to the sea.

PHOENIX

AZURE!

Phoenix lunges at Becierran to the ground as he was making another attack at Azure.

EXT. ATOP THEOSTRU TOWER

Healdan and Cayden dance around Heolstor's violent flurry of attacks.

Cayden jumps and dives down to hit Heolstor's head, but he covers his head with his thick wings and Cayden's sword bounces right off. Cayden rolls.

CAYDEN

HEALDAN!

Healdan blocks Heolstor from stabbing Cayden in the heart. Heolstor shoves Healdan to the ground and laughs loudly.

HEOLSTOR

Oh that's rich!!!. A Blaze noble
is attacking me!!! YOUR SUPPOSED
TO BE MY EVER DEVOUT SERVANT!!!

Heolstor lunges and Healdan blocks. Cayden pushes Heolstor. The gate blasts a wave that rips down through the tower and into the sea, causing violent waves. Healdan sees inside one of the pillars a uniformed man operating controls.

Heolstor extends his wings, spewing dark liquid from his body. Demons from all over Theostru fly in a circular form on the inside of the arc. Thousands of demons encircle the gate, creating a dark portal.

Heolstor stands before his gate. The darkness ripples and forces an opening. Healdan and Cayden are lying on the ground exhausted. Heolstor turns to them.

HEOLSTOR

You could still lead the army of
the living hrafns alongside my

army of the damned!

Healstor stomps at Healdan and Cayden, they roll out of the way.

HEOLSTOR

You could still have a life beyond
our curse!

Healdan rushes to stab Heolstor, but he parries. Cayden runs at Heolstor, but is grabbed by the neck and shoved into Healdan and forced down. Heolstor looks into Healdan's eyes.

HEOLSTOR

Though, I'll have to consume
everything you held dear.

Healdan looks into the dark void. He can see dark silhouettes of his wife and two daughters. They encourage him to join them.

EXT. SEA

BECIERRAN

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT PHOENIX!

Becierran throws Phoenix off of him and into a wall. Becierran stabs the blunt plank into Phoenix's knees. Phoenix cries out in pain. Azure is holding onto the railing.

AZURE

NOOO!

The dark gate sends ripples through the waters, creating small tsunamis in all directions. One of the waves sends Phoenix and Azure's boat flying up the wave and spinning out of control.

Becierran is thrown off his feet. and sent into the floor of the ship. Another, bigger wave sends their spiraling ship even higher into the sky and sends them falling back down to the sea.

Becierran is thrown off the side of the ship. Phoenix is thrown into the railing. Azure's rope snaps and he's sent flying into the sea.

PHOENIX

AZURE!

The boat crashes into the water. Phoenix looks around frantically to find Azure in the sea. He looks behind him and sees the conch horn underneath a wooden seat. He rushes to grab the conch horn.

Becierran emerges from the sea and has a furious look at his face. He soars into the sky, erupting in purple flames.

Phoenix removes the conch horn from under his shirt and blows into the conch horn. A loud, brass sound rips across the sea. The conch horn grows exponentially, curving inwards.

Out in the sea, a red glow emerges from the water. Fire springs and dances on the water. A bright fenix bird emerges from the water and soars, spewing fire.

SHIFT AZURE/BECIERRAN

Azure and Becierran engage in an intense aerial battle, exchanging fireballs and clawing each other in the skies above the synthetic gate.

They plummet into the restless sea, but Azure grabs Becierran in mid-air, and they both resurface.

Chasing each other amidst debris from Theostru's Arc, Azure deftly dodges obstacles by leaping in and out of the water.

They ascend into the sky, spiraling toward the cloud dome's ceiling, with Becierran in relentless pursuit.

In the midst of violent rainstorms and thunder clouds, they weave through the chaos, avoiding lightning strikes.

Becierran ignites himself in flames, diving into Azure and sending them crashing toward Theostru.

SHIFT PHOENIX

Phoenix battles the waves to rescue Azure. In the sky, he spots Azure and Becierran spiraling down from the clouds, hurtling toward the sea.

SHIFT AZURE/BECIERRAN

Becierran and Azure claw each other, erupting in flames. They transform into a magenta fireball hurtling toward Heolstor's gate.

SHIFT PHOENIX

Phoenix brushes and scrapes against debris in the water.

SHIFT HEALDAN/CAYDEN

Heolstor grabs Cayden by the neck with his claws. He digs his talons into Healdan's chest. Healdan screams. Heolstor lifts Cayden and forces his face into the dark void. Cayden cries out.

Healdan reaches out for his sword just past his reach.

SHIFT AZURE/BECIERRAN

Azure and Becierran crashing fast through the storm and towards the arc.

SHIFT HEALDAN/CAYDEN

Healdan grabs his sword and plunges it into Healdan's thigh, making him roar in pain and release his talons. Healdan jumps to his feet, and pulls Cayden out of the Void. Healdan's chest is covered in blood and Cayden's face is now distorted and dark purple.

SHIFT AT THE SAME TIME

Healdan, Heolstor, and Phoenix's eyes show the reflection of the magenta fiery ball crashing into the Gate.

Azure and Becierran crash into the top of the colossal gate and break it in half.

SHIFT AZURE/BECIERRAN

Azure and Becierran are forced apart by the impact and sent

plummeting into the sea.

Azure turns back into his child-like self and falls.

SHIFT PHOENIX

Fire ignites inside of the destroyed gate and sends explosions rippling throughout the metallic structure.

PHOENIX

AZURE!

SHIFT HEALDAN/CAYDEN

Healdan has Cayden wrapped over his shoulder while he lay gripping the edge for dear life.

HEALDAN

Stay with me Cayden! Don't you
dare turn!

Heolstor stands watching his void of demons dissipating and falling into the sea. Heolstor screams.

SHIFT PHOENIX/AZURE

Azure falls into the sea.

PHOENIX

NO!

Phoenix takes in a deep breath and dives into the sea after him.

INT/EXT. UNDERWATER

Phoenix swims after Azure. He catches him and starts swimming to the surface when a BOOM shakes the water and vibrates through Phoenix's body.

He turns to see an enormous generator with bottomless pits and escalating explosions.

Phoenix frantically swims away and towards the surface.

EXT. TOWER

Heolstor gazes at the sea, angered by the bubbling turmoil.

He spreads his wings and ascends into the clouds.

The generator controlling the synthetic gate explodes, sending a massive tsunami. Phoenix and Azure are swept beneath the waves, colliding with debris.

The tower splits apart from the explosion, and Healdan and Cayden plummet into the sea, caught by the tsunami, and carried away.

EXT. THEOSTRU WATERS

Phoenix, Azure, Healdan, Cayden, and countless more damned souls are carried away by the tsunami.

32 EXT. TUNDRA WASTELANDS

Phoenix lies on frozen ground. His body was covered in bruises and cuts. Blood freezes to his wounds. Wind rips through the land and shakes the dead trees. Everything is covered in dense, gray snow. In the sky are broken, dim, luminescent clouds.

Phoenix lies unconscious on debris, his black cloak billowing in the wind, Azure conch horn strapped to his shoulder.

He grimaces as he pulls a shard of rock from his shoulder, gasping in pain. Clutching his injured arm, he shakily rises to his feet, trembling from the cold, He sees ruins spewed on the beach. He calls out for Azure.

PHOENIX

Azure! Where are you?!

AZURE

(faintly)

Phoenix.....

Phoenix sees Azure stuck under stone. Blood spilling down Azure's Head.

PHOENIX

Azure! Everything is going to be fine! I'll get you out of here!

AZURE

Everything is....so cold.

Some ether spirits stand around Azure. They clutch to the rock pinning Azure down, but cannot lift it. Phoenix uses all his strength and pushes the stone pinning Azure down. Azure's body is broken and covered in blood.

PHOENIX

Azure....

AZURE

It's not your fault. You can still find Etherdale.

PHOENIX

NO! We are both going to Etherdale! Together!

Phoenix picks Azure up and lifts him over shoulder. Phoenix sees a small band of thin chains sticking out of the snow. He uses it to wrap Azure on his back.

Phoenix trudged through the snow down a path through the snow covered forest.

Phoenix looks up to see another cloud dome, but this time it is frozen in ice, unmoving. The light it is emitting is a dim gray.

AZURE

Phoenix, leave me. I can't go on much...

PHOENIX

NO! I will take you to Etherdale!

AZURE

Phoenix.....

Azure's words trail off and his eyes fall.

Phoenix trudges down a frozen path through the dead, snowy woods.

Phoenix passes frozen, winged and wingless husks, their numbers increasing as he continues through the wasteland.

EXT. TUNDRA VILLAGE RUINS

Phoenix carries Azure through the snow to an abandoned village with makeshift shelters. In the center, the black hrafn, Daeth, is surrounded by figures in black uniforms and cloaks, gathered in a circle around a dead firepit.

PHOENIX

Daeth...

Engel flies over and perches on Daeth's shoulder. He interrupts Phoenix in a low tone.

DAETH

You didn't heed my words. And now
your wings teeter on the edge,
ready to freeze.

PHOENIX

He won't freeze...I won't let him!
(pauses)
I need him!

DAETH

You both have met your end. You
two should have stayed and rebuilt
the village.

PHOENIX

We have to go to Etherdale!

DAETH

Have you learnt nothing? You're
damned! Etherdale is locked!

A wind passes by the village, revealing the cloaked villager's faces to be black and frozen. The wind brushes past Daeth and reveals half of his face to be frozen.

DAETH

(harshly)

You're damned just like the rest
of us!

(pauses)

You're lost in snow.

Phoenix kneels down at Azure. He looks back at Daeth.

PHOENIX

We were promised we would go to
Etherdale.

Daeth points behind him, refusing to look at the boys.

DAETH

Go!....Now!....

Phoenix walks towards where Daeth is pointing.

DAETH

Save yourself the agony. Abandon
your frozen wings and wander.

Phoenix ignores Daeth.

33 EXT. TUNDRA WASTES

Cayden has his arm wrapped around Healdan's shoulder.
Cayden's face is distorted and body injured. Snow settled
on his wings.

HEALDAN

Stay with me Cayden. We will reach
Dalefell's Gate together.

Cayden groans

HEALDAN

Just persevere. We trained for
this hell our whole life.

Healdan stops at a hill. Ahead of him is a thick cloud of
mist. He holds his free arm ahead of his face to brace the
cold, brisk wind. Healdan looks ahead and sees something.

HEALDAN

What....what is this?!

Cayden collapses at Healdan's feet.

HEALDAN

Cayden!

34 EXT. TUNDRA WASTES

Phoenix slowly trudges through the snow. Phoenix struggles to keep Azure over his shoulder. Phoenix passes by a sign covered in snow. He brushes the snow off. It reads:
HEALDAN'S PASS.

EXT. GRAVEYARD

Phoenix trudges to the top of the hill and they see a massive graveyard. Phoenix is aghast and Azure opens his eyes to see in front of him.

Phoenix trudges into the graveyard. The graveyard spans miles. Endless tombstones stand, all with the same etchings: *HEALDAN- *NAME* BLAZE.*

As Phoenix and Azure enter the front of the graveyard, Azure draws his final breath.

Engel flies to perch atop a frozen branch on a pine tree to watch Phoenix and Azure

AZURE

Phoenix....find.....Etherdale..

Azure's body goes limp and his arm falls.

PHOENIX

(balling)

AZURE!!!

EXT. VILLAGE RUINS

Engel and Daeth hear Phoenix's cries. Tears fall on Daeth's face.

EXT. GRAVEYARD

The surrounding ether spirits all fall to the snow and dissipate.

Black ice shrouds the chains and Azure's body together. Phoenix screams out to the sky.

He picks up Azure's conch horn and holds Azure close. He buries Azure in a shallow grave.

PHOENIX
I'll find Etherdale.

He wraps the conch horn over his shoulder and trudges away.

Phoenix trudges through the snowy graveyard, passing endless gravestones. Some with black, frozen, silhouettes lying by some of the tombstones

Phoenix passes a black, frozen, wingless figure lying in front of a grave that reads *HEALDAN-AVERILL BLAZE*.

Phoenix comes up to a pass where he finds Healdan lying motionless on a log.

Phoenix kneels down at Healdan's side.

Healdan is on his stomach and lying over a frozen log in the snow in the center of a giant graveyard. Next to him is a gravestone that reads *HEALDAN-CAYDEN BLAZE*.

HEALDAN
I'm sorry Ena....I failed.

Healdan closes his eyes. Phoenix pushes against Healdan.

PHOENIX
Healdan? Wake up.

Healdan doesn't respond. Phoenix leans his body over Healdan's back. The world around Phoenix shifts backwards. The snow melts down to a shallow blanket of snow. Around Phoenix is a battle raging between two winged races in the

center of a village.

Dark, black winged creatures battle against lighter black and white winged creatures. They are slaughtering each other, their blood soaking the land.

Phoenix fights his way through the carnage. Phoenix ducks as Cannonfire shoots past. Phoenix sees a young, adult Healdan donning black feathers and wings, fighting through a crowd of invaders with a white rapier.

Phoenix calls out to Healdan.

PHOENIX
(muffled)
Healdan!!!

Phoenix's voice is muffled by the battle. Healdan cannot hear him. Phoenix gets up and runs through the battle.

Phoenix is struck by a fallen, black hrafn. Fiery, humanoid firebird villagers all around him are crying and screaming.

PHOENIX
(muffled)
Healdan!!!

His voice muffled by the battle. Phoenix forces his way through the battle, getting struck by swords, arrows, and stones. The weapons running through his body translucent, but he feels the pain.

PHOENIX
(muffled)
Healdan!

Any sound he makes is nullified by the battle around. Healdan can't hear his words.

Phoenix runs after Healdan. Hordes of black Hrafn and other white/black winged creatures fighting each other in between Healdan and Phoenix. Phoenix staggers and runs around the fight to run after Healdan.

Phoenix sees a young, brown winged child running away from

a hrafn invader towards a small hut.

PHOENIX (PAST)
FATHER, HELP!!

The invader chases the child inside. Phoenix runs after Healdan who is running towards the boy.

Phoenix catches up and a fire explodes inside of the hut and Healdan stops in his tracks, staring in horror.

HEALDAN-CAYDEN (PAST)
PHOENIX!!!

No-one calls out from the fire. Healdan falls to his knees in shock. He cries and falls towards the ground crying.

Phoenix stands and stares confused and distraught.

PHOENIX
(muffled)
W..what?! What is this?!

Phoenix's head starts to hurt and the world around him begins to spin.

PHOENIX
(muffled)
HEALDAN?!

Phoenix's head continues to spin and chest begins to tighten. He holds his hand to his chest. Phoenix kneels down next to Healdan and falls on his back. Phoenix hears Healdan's heart beat. The world spins in an array of colors

PHOENIX
Father....

The spinning stops and fades back to the graveyard where Healdan and Phoenix lie.

Healdan feels a heartbeat, but it is not just him he feels. He feels Phoenix's heart beating loud and clearly on his back. His face widens with surprise

Healdan wraps around to hug Phoenix.

HEALDAN
(crying)
Your heart...it still beats?!

Healdan's eyes full of tears of joy hug Phoenix tightly.

PHOENIX
(crying)
Father....

Healdan and Phoenix sit for a little while in each other's arms.

Healdan and Phoenix both rise to their feet. Healdan grabs his lantern and lights it with a vial of fuel from his pocket.

Phoenix follows his father though the snowy wastelands towards the gate of Dalefell.

35 **EXT. TUNDRA WASTES**

Phoenix hands Healdan Segar's compass and they talk while they trudge through the tundra wastes.
Phoenix and Healdan discuss their lives before Dalefell while trudging through the snow

HEALDAN
In fear of repeating history, I
decided not to teach you of your
heritage.
(pauses)
We're Hrafns, cursed never to see
Etherdale's glory..

PHOENIX
What did I see when I touched you?
Who were they?

HEALDAN
You have a gift to read people's
memories, passed down from your
mother.

(pauses)
Hrafns attacked our village, but
got distracted by another invading
race of Earns.

PHOENIX
Why are we cursed?

HEALDAN
The details of our curse are lost
to snow.

(pauses)
Our curse splits us in half,
separating our wings from our
skin, and damns us to wander in
snow for eternity.

PHOENIX
Where are we from?

HEALDAN
I was born in a realm called
Gecyndale. You were born in a
secluded realm known as
Faegerdale.

PHOENIX
A lot of people say I'm a half
breed.

HEALDAN
Gecyndale is home to many races.
But you're part Fenix, and they
only reside in Faegerdale, where
your mother and sisters still
live, waiting.

The snow stops falling and the air becomes clear. The land
ahead of them is covered in thick, black ice. Icicles sprout
from the ground like roots. Segar's Compass' needle points
towards the icy terrain.

EXT. TUNDRA WASTES

Becierran lies under debris at the tundra's beach. His eyes
snap open. He struggles out, finding a deep cut on his left

wing. He growls and heads toward Dalefell's gate.

EXT. GATE OF DALEFELL

Phoenix and Healdan walk through the icy terrain. At the top of broken, stone steps, lies the shattered ruins of an ancient arc. Healdan and Phoenix walk up the steps and examine the arc.

PHOENIX

It's gone

HEALDAN

Impossible.

Healdan pulls out his black journal frantically and ruffles through the pages.

HEOLSTOR

The gate is gone.

Healdan draws his sword to Heolstor. Heolstor is perched high on a tree branch. Phoenix stands behind Healdan.

HEOLSTOR

(growls)

Don't bother. All of us are
already dead anyways

HEALDAN

Where's the gate?!

HEOLSTOR

The gate....is....gone. Daeth
warns everyone of this and
yet...no one listens.

HEALDAN

We fought through hell to get
here!!

HEOLSTOR

(growls)

I broke his gate eons ago. The
damned thing wouldn't activate.

(laughs)

Didn't stop me from escaping on a
few occasions through my own gate.
(pauses)
Until you two destroyed it.

Heolstor flaps its wings angrily.

PHOENIX
Then what are we supposed to do?!

HEOLSTOR
What everyone else is doing.
(pauses)
I give up...I've escaped time and
again, but I'm just sent back here
to wander in the snow.

PHOENIX
But...we just wanted to go to
Etherdale.

Heolstor snickers in a slow, harsh tone as black ice forms
over its body.

HEOLSTOR
Hehehehehehehe. Now that's ironic.
A Hrafn halfbreed wanting to rest
in peace. Hehehehehehehe.

Heolstor freezes and stops talking, now trapped under black
ice.

PHOENIX
It was....all in vain...

Healdan turns around to look at Phoenix, who has fallen
backward on the stairs.

HEALDAN
Please don't freeze. We can figure
this out!

PHOENIX
It was all in vain. Everything.

Black ice begins to grow on Phoenix's body

HEALDAN

Phoenix!!

Healdan's body is trembling. Healdan holds his lantern in front of Phoenix, picks up his hand, and closes Phoenix's hand around the lantern handle.

HEALDAN

No, it was not in vain. You're part Fenix, you can create fire. You can call the ancestors.

PHOENIX

Azure is gone...my wings froze. I can't do it without him

Healdan helps Phoenix hold the Lantern steady as he lifts it up to the sky.

HEALDAN

Call upon Etherdale, you can do it.

PHOENIX

Ieldran!

The lantern's fire turns green and pours ether mist. It lights the night sky in beautiful, ethereal colors. Birds of many colors and sizes are flying through the ethereal Aurora.

EXT. TUNDA WASTES

Becierran steps onto the ice when a beautiful array of colors and ether brush past him. Becierran holds his arms against his two heads and storms forward.

EXT. DALEFELL'S GATE

Ethereal birds fly through the aurora.

PHOENIX

Mona!

One of the birds flies down from the ether river. A feathered, fiery hand reaches out through the mist. Healdan and Phoenix hand over the lantern. Mona walks through the ether.

Mona kneels down next to Phoenix and Healdan. Phoenix hugs her tight.

PHOENIX

(tears)

Mona...

MONA

What happened to your wings?

Phoenix and Healdan gaze down at the snow depressed. Mona sees Phoenix's frozen body and understands. Phoenix looks up at the beautiful array of colors from the ether aurora in the sky. Birds from the afterlife fly through the sky within the ether river.

EXT. TUNDRA WASTES

Becierran storms through the ice and dodges numerous ether spirits appearing before him. Becierran ignores them and continues to press forward.

EXT. DALEFELL'S GATE

Mona picks up the conch horn and holds it in front of Phoenix. The conch horn glows a bright, yellow light.

PHOENIX

There was no gate, it was gone!
Everything was in vain!

MONA

Then let's make a new gate

PHOENIX

H...How?

MONA

Your wings can be regrown. Call
upon your soul and rebuild it.

Phoenix looks to Mona and back to Healdan. Mona holds the conch horn in front of Phoenix, it glows bright.

MONA

Will you freeze here? Or fly?

Phoenix takes the conch horn and stands up. Phoenix walks slowly to a cliffside edge that faces all of the Tundra, and the dark sea beyond.

He holds the conch horn in front of him and it begins to glow again. He puts his hand inside of the bell and blows a magnificent sound that rips through the skies. Light erupts from the conch horn and the conch horn transforms into a french horn.

EXT. TUNDRA WASTES

Becierran covers his ears at the sound of the french horn. He slips on the stone steps and bangs his heads.

EXT. GRAVEYARD

Combination of ethereal aurora and flame swirls around Phoenix as brown wings and feathers grow out from his back.

The black clouds crack and reveal stars and the greater Etherdale River in the sky.

EXT. TUNDRA WASTES

Segar is crying at Hreow's frozen body when he sees the aurora borealis sweep across Dalefell.

EXT. GRAVEYARD

Heolstor's frozen soul dissipates into black and purple ether and merges with Phoenix's soul.

The aurora sweeps Dalefell. Its rays regrow souls' lost wings and guide them out of Dalefell.

EXT. DALEFELL'S GATE - BOTTOM OF STEPS

Mona sits next to Becierran. Mona manipulates the aurora around Becierran and merges his soul back to one. He feels his wings fade from purple to brown. Mona hugs Becierran.

EXT. DALEFELL GATE - CLIFF

The spirits all fly up to the sky and join the grander
ethereal river flowing in the skies above Dalefell.

Phoenix spins and tosses the horn into the aurora. The horn
dissipates into ether and swirls around the ruined gate,
creating an ethereal portal.

Phoenix stands next to his father; they bask in its light.

Becierran appears behind them and sees the light emanating
from Dalefell's Gate.

Mona stands before the cliff side with the Aurora Borealis
behind her. She holds out her hand and gestures to Phoenix
to follow her. Phoenix looks back at Healdan, Dalefell's
Gate gazing at him. Phoenix holds up his arms and Healdan
picks him up. Mona cries.

HEALDAN

I know not how, nor why, but
wherever you are across the dales,
I'll see our return home.

Phoenix hugs his father and buries his head into his chest,
his wings wrapping around his shoulders. Healdan regrows
his black feathers and wings and steps through the gate and
disappears.

Becierran walks towards the gate's light.

Up in the sky, the remaining spirits make it through the
crack in the clouds in the sky.

36 EXT. GECYNDALE WASTES, CANYON, WINTER NIGHT

Ether particles envelop Phoenix's charred corpse lying at
the bottom of an icy precipice. His eyes open slowly; he
gasps and staggers for air. His body heals.

He turns his head to see his wing stabbed with an icicle.
He struggles to get up and rips his wing out of the ice. He
screams in pain, braces his arms to the cold and shivers;
teeth chattering.

Phoenix grabs the edge and climbs up the snowy cliff.

Phoenix makes it to the top and sees Becierran limping towards a small village. Becierran turns to look at Phoenix in fear and runs off.

Phoenix looks up and notices a black, ethereal bird following Phoenix.

Phoenix limps down the path towards a sad village in the snow.

EXT. GECYNDALE WASTES, DAY

Phoenix is untying a boat from the harbor. He grabs a rope and looks behind him. He sees Becierran watching him atop a tree.

Phoenix looks towards the sky and sees the blackbird spirit flying towards the sea. He lifts the sails and his boat takes to the sea, following the black bird.

EXT. GECYNDALE SEA

Phoenix gets caught in a storm and loses control of the boat. He spins out of control and is lost to the waves. The waves push Phoenix forward.

37 EXT. FAEGERDALE RUINS, NIGHT

Phoenix appears on a desolate beach with dead and barren trees. Phoenix shakes off the debris from his back, picks up a lantern, and crawls to his feet. The black bird flies deeper into the island.

Phoenix walks up a sandy slope. He passes by a broken Sign:

SIGNPOST
THOSE WHO DARE ATTACK
FAEGERDALE...

Corpses of black, winged invaders holstered on spikes.

Phoenix climbs to the summit and stares at the wastes of his village

EXT. FAEGERDALE WASTES

Phoenix passes razed buildings; charred and withered flowers decorating tombstones.

He approaches a tomb with a charred, busted french horn with a worn strap lying against it. The grave is dug inside out.

TOMBSTONE

*In loving memory of Phoenix-Azure
Blaze.*

Phoenix kneels, sits the lantern, hugs the horn, and sobs.

Phoenix stands and wraps the horn on his back and picks up the lantern. The black bird spirit perches on old gate ruins.

Phoenix stands before the charred gate ruins. He raises his lantern and calls out to the sky.

PHOENIX-AZURE BLAZE

Etherdale!

Nothing happens. Phoenix notices a module on the side of the gate ruins. He ignites his hand with the lantern flam and inserts his hand inside the gate.

The gate whirrs to life and generates an ethereal gateway.

The black spirit flies through the gate and disappears. Holding his arms over his face, he walks through the gate and disappears.

38 EXT. FAEGERDALE, MORNING (ROLL CREDITS)

Phoenix emerges from a green crater on a rainy morning. Climbing out to the top, he savors the feel of wet, green grass under his feet as the light rain subsides.

MONTAGE

The morning dawns slowly as Phoenix walks the endless green of Faegerdale, passing stunning scenery, rivers, forests,

waterfalls, and docile fauna.

EXT. EMBER FOREST, DAY

He stops to find Mona on a cliff's edge. Phoenix's lantern emitting green flame. She smiles and leaps into the sky.

Phoenix rushes to the edge to find a beautiful black-charred forest with suspended huts. He spots his father, Healdan-Cayden, emerging from the trees, and darts down the hill.

Phoenix runs into his father's arms and holds him tightly. His mother, ENA(40), and two young sisters also emerge from the forest.

Healdan-Cayden holds Phoenix-Azure tightly.

39 EXT. EMBER FOREST OUTSKIRTS, ADULT

An adult Phoenix is playing a repaired, burnt horn on a hill. Behind him is a female adult Fenix holding a child.

An aurora borealis flies through the stars

Continue to roll credits with an Aurora Borealis flying through space in the background. The Aurora Borealis reveals each dale as planets in a unique solar system.

40 EXT. DALEFELL, END CREDITS SCENE

An old hrafn appears in Dalefell and splits in two. They look up to see a beautiful ray of colorful light disappear. The hole in the clouds seal and Dalefell turns pitch dark.