

THE CURSE OF MOON VALLEY
(PILOT: THE LAST AMAZON)

OPENING CREDITS - THE LAST AMAZON, EPISODE I: CURSE OF MOON VALLEY

EXT. BRIGHT VALLEY, STREETS - MIDDAY

Black rubber roars across the sand as a biker gang rumbles into Bright Valley, a post-apocalyptic scrap of civilization. A barren wasteland stretches outside of town, and beyond that rises the dark, jagged mountains of MOON VALLEY.

CYCLOPS (45), a big, bald, one-eyed brute, leads the convoy.

CYCLOPS

Hey, Bright Valley, your favorite bikers are back! Hahahahah!

The bikers whoop, laugh, and clang their weapons together.

EXT. BRIGHT VALLEY, ABANDONED HOUSE ON THE EDGE OF TOWN SQUARE - AN HOUR LATER

Anjie pops a bubble of bubblegum. She's crouched at a open window in the second-story of a crumbling structure, spying on the bikers in the town square. Her best friend, TYSA (15), crouches beside her.

ANJALI

I don't get it. How can they be so scary and so dumb at the same time?

EXT. TOWN SQUARE

In the center of the horde, a guffawing Cyclops juggles a pair of running chainsaws.

EXT. ABANDONED HOUSE

Tysa grimaces at the display.

TYSA

Bike fumes?

Hands and feet clatter up the ladder behind them. CARLITOS (13), swimming in his hand-me-down clothes, emerges.

ANJALI

Carlitos! Did you find them?

CARLITOS

Yup, all forty, right here.

Carlitos draws a roll of firecrackers from a floppy sleeve.

ANJALI

Don't set them off until you hear
my whistle, got it?

CARLITOS

Yup.

(Gulps)

There sure are a lot of them, huh?

TYSA

No kidding. You're sure there isn't
another way?

ANJALI

That supply truck is the only place
for fifty miles with any medicine
from before [The Break].

EXT. TOWN SQUARE, SUPPLY TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

The gang's supply truck, a modified pickup full of stolen goods, is parked away from the group. CLEM (40s), fat and bald, sits watch in a straining beach chair. FINCH (40s), tall and scraggly, leans against the back bumper. There's a short line of locals, come to trade and barter.

INT. ABANDONED HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Anjie lowers her voice.

ANJALI

And if Samuel doesn't get some of
it, soon ... things could get bad.

TYSA

I know he's your neighbor, Anjie,
but Samuel is pretty old.

Anjali bursts with emotions at the thought of losing Samuel.

ANJALI

It's my job to keep people in this
town healthy, and I'm not gonna
lose Samuel. Not another one.

(Beat)

Now are you in or are you out?

TYSA

I'll always have your back.

CARLITOS
If you're in, Anjie, I'm in.

ANJALI
Every time Cyclops and his gang
come to town, they steal everything
they can get their hands on. It's
high time we returned the favor.

They bump their fists together.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE, SUPPLY TRUCK - MOMENTS LATER

Clem and Finch shade themselves under a ratty shade umbrella.

ANGLE TO - Anjali coasts down the lane behind them on her
trusty old MOTORBIKE. She pulls a out her locket and kisses a
creased picture of SAUMYA (35), her deceased mother.

ANJALI
Send us some good luck, mom.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE, FAR SIDE - CONTINUOUS

Across the square, Carlitos hops off his rickety bicycle and
slides up against a building on the edge of the square. He
slips the firecrackers out of his sleeve.

EXT. SUPPLY TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Clem fans himself with a lady's paper fan.

CLEM
It's too dang hot. I swear, I was a
sea cow in a past life.

FINCH
I swear you's a sea cow in this
life, too.

CLEM
Watch it, scarecrow.

Clem and Finch snarl at each other.

TYSA
Ahem.

Tysa stands in front of them with a small paper box.

TYSA (CONT'D)

Greetings, honored guests! I am a representative from Bright Valley's Hospitality Committee. We would like to offer you our traditional welcoming gifts.

Tysa opens the box dramatically to reveal two large cookies.

TYSA (CONT'D)

Cookies!

Clem and Finch drool over the cookies.

ANGLE TO - Anjie takes cover behind an empty barrel at the end of the alley. She is about to make her move when HENDO (17), a local wannabe cool-guy, pulls up on his motorcycle.

HENDO

Hey, Anjali! Wassup?

ANJALI

Oh, Hendo. Nothing, just--

HENDO

Yeah, I'm rollin' with Cyclops's crew now. No big deal. Did you know they caught a witch in Pipe City last week? Totally kicked her butt. Any witches around here better watch out now that Hendo's on the scene.

Hendo flexes, impressing only himself. Anjali peers around him. Clem and Finch are still gobbling up their cookies, but her window is closing.

ANJALI

That's nice but I'm kinda busy--

ANGLE TO - Clem and Finch lick their fingers.

FINCH

Can't remember the last time I had one of these!

CLEM

Not bad. Now run along.

Tysa's fake grin cracks and she laughs nervously. She sees Anjie behind the truck mouthing "Stall them! Stall them!"

TYSA

And now ... Our traditional
welcoming song and dance!

She bursts into a vaudevillian song-and-dance routine.

TYSA (CONT'D)

Welllllcome to Bright Valley, we
hope you like our town! And if you
ate our cookies, please don't burn
it down!

ANGLE TO - Hendo revs his engine.

HENDO

Catch ya later, Anjie!

He drives off. Anjie wraps her scarf around her face, dashes to the back of the truck, and climbs up into the bed.

ANGLE TO - Finch claps along to Tysa's routine, which is getting progressively worse.

TYSA

... Ain't much food or water, it's
really quite a shame! This song is
such a bother, I hope it's not too
lame!

ANGLE TO - Anjie leans over the supply chest of goods in the back of the truck, searching for the pharmaceuticals. She reaches out for an orange plastic bottle ...

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

A pair of bikers pop wheelies through the square, while the gang cheers them on.

CYCLOPS

Stylin', brotha!

Cyclops whistles approvingly.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE, FAR SIDE - CONTINUOUS

Carlitos's eye widen. He lights the firecracker's fuse, grabs his bike, and pedals away. The firecrackers pop like gunfire.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

The biker party halts abruptly at the cracking sound.

CYCLOPS
We're under attack!

The bikers roar and saddle up, revving their engines.

CYCLOPS (CONT'D)
Secure the cargo!

EXT. SUPPLY TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Anjali catches her breath and freezes mid-reach. A few feet in front of her, Clem and Finch register the commotion.

CLEM & FINCH
Huh?

They glance back at the truck. The supply chest doors sway slightly, but Anjie is nowhere to be seen.

ANGLE TO - Anjie presses up against the far side of the truck, breathing heavy. She crawls off with a final glance.

ANGLE TO - Clem and Finch secure the supply chest with a padlock.

CLEM
Where'd she go?

ANGLE TO - Tysa sprints across the road, the empty cookie box drifting over her head.

FINCH
Thank the committee for us!

EXT. SIDE STREET - SECONDS LATER

Anjali pauses on her motorbike to gaze over the chaos.

EXT. TOWN SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

Cyclops and his gang race in furious circles around the town square, blasting guns at the sky.

CYCLOPS
We'll find 'em! And when we do,
they'll be sorry!

Cyclops fires his shotgun skyward. One "biker" seems out of place. He sits calmly on the edge of a dry fountain in the square center, legs crossed, hair neatly trimmed.

A strange mask obscures half his face and a black trench coat hides his body. He will be revealed later as the dark magician SOLOMON (45). Solomon turns a creepy smile at Anjie.

EXT. SIDE STREET

Anjie shudders under his gaze and takes off.

EXT. BRIGHT VALLEY, ANJALI'S BLOCK - MINUTES LATER

Anjie rolls up to the scrap of porch outside her row house, where Carlitos and Tysa catch their breath.

INT. SAMUEL HOUSE, SAMUEL'S ROOM - MINUTES LATER

A kettle whistles on an open flame. Anjali takes it off and pours it into a chipped mug and adds the last pinch of medicinal tea from a tin. She carries it over to SAMUEL (72), who lies on a thin mattress across the room.

SAMUEL

I told you not to worry, Anjali.
I'm just a little under the weath--

Samuel doubles over with a hacking cough.

ANJALI

Here. You'll be better in no time,
Samuel. I promise.

Samuel sips and smiles at Anjie warmly.

SAMUEL

Thank you, my dear. I don't know
what I'd do without you.

(Beat)

When we lost your mother, I thought
this whole town was doomed. But you
are a real healer, just like her.

ANJALI

Get some rest.

Anjie forces a smile. Samuel leans back with a groan, closing his eyes. Anjie joins Tysa and Carlitos across the room.

TYSA

How's he doing?

ANJALI

He's hanging in there. But that was the last of my mom's medicine.

Anjie pulls a guide to herbal medicines out of her satchel and opens to a bookmarked page with a picture of OSHA LEAF.

ANJALI (CONT'D)

And, um, my mom's notes said the only place it grows is up in the mountains.

TYSA

You mean like Moon Valley? You can't be serious. That place is full of radioactive waste.

CARLITOS

It's even worse than that. My brother said it's cursed. A bunch of black magic witches live there. They'd eat you for breakfast.

The rumble of bikers grows outside.

ANJALI

How would they know? No one's ever been up there.

EXT. BRIGHT VALLEY, STREETS - CONTINUOUS

Cyclops and his gang tear down the street.

INT. SAMUEL HOUSE, SAMUEL'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The bikers pass by outside the window. Tysa glances out nervously.

TYSA

I should probably get home. My parents will be freaking out.

CARLITOS

Yeah, I told my brothers I'd be home by now.

TYSA

You gonna be okay, Anjie?

ANJALI

Sure. Of course.

TYSA

Promise me you won't go to Moon Valley.

ANJALI

I'm not gonna do anything stupid.

Tysa and Carlitos hurry out the front door.

EXT. SAMUEL'S HOUSE, FRONT PORCH

Tysa glances through the window at Anjie, still at Samuel's bedside. She's not convinced. Hendo rides after the convoy. Tysa waves to him and he pulls over.

INT. SAMUEL'S HOUSE, SAMUEL'S ROOM

Anjie tests Samuel's breathing with an ancient stethoscope. Samuel coughs. He opens his eyes and smiles at Anjie.

SAMUEL

You're still here.

ANJALI

I'm not going anywhere.

SAMUEL

I had the most marvelous dream that you were studying magic with a group of witches.

Anjie is suddenly frightened.

ANJALI

Samuel. Don't say things like that.

SAMUEL

Oh, come on now. Witches ain't all bad, like some people say. You know your mother cured half of Bright Valley with her magic.

ANJALI

I know that, but-- They don't. And besides, she never taught me.

SAMUEL

Well, I must be an old fool. Because I always thought you had magic coming out your ears.

Samuel succumbs to another fit of coughing. Anjali watches over him with increasing worry for his health.

ANJALI
I may not have magic, but I'll find
a way to make you better. I
promise.

EXT. ANJALI'S ROW HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Anjie leaves Samuel's front door and takes the rickety old porch stairs directly around the corner to her apartment (which sits directly above his).

INT. ANJALI'S APARTMENT, KITCHEN -

The door clicks unlocked and Anjie enters holding her keys. Her kitchen is sparse and dilapidated, but clean. She opens a cupboard. There's a single heel of bread. She attempts a bite and exaggerates her pain. She carries it into her bedroom.

INT. ANJALI'S BEDROOM

Anjali passes a little shrine to her mother.

ANJALI
Hey, mom.

Anjie lifts up a floorboard, revealing a secret hiding place. There's a dorje, a mala necklace, and most prominently, her mother's ancient SPELLBOOK. She pulls it out and blows off the dust. She flips through the pages.

ANJALI (CONT'D)
Ah, who am I kidding.

She glances out her bedroom window, in full view of the dark mountains of Moon Valley.

ANJALI (CONT'D)
Forget this.

Anjie snaps the tome shut and slides it into her satchel.

EXT. ANJALI'S ROW HOUSE

Anjie kicks her bike to life and shoots off down the road.

EXT. BRIGHT VALLEY, STREETS

Anjali zooms down the empty streets.

EXT. EDGE OF TOWN

Anjie pulls up and idles, gathering her courage. Before lies an open wasteland, and beyond that, the looming mountains. We hear Hendo's motorbike approaching from the other direction. He rides up casually beside her.

HENDO

Wassup, Anjie, where you headed?

ANJIE

Oh, hey Hendo. Wassup to you, as well. Anyway, good talk. I gotta split so I'll see ya--

Anjie lowers her goggles and revs her engine. Hendo grabs her handle bar to prevent her from leaving.

HENDO

I know you're headed to Moon Valley. Tysa told me. I'm sorry, I can't let you go.

ANJIE

Not you, too.

HENDO

I'm serious, Anj. It's off-limits, Cyclops's orders.

Despite being a tool, Hendo seems to genuinely care about Anjie's well-being. She appears to reconsider and turns her bike back towards Bright Valley.

ANJIE

Fine. Still think you're a better rider than me, Hendo?

HENDO

On this stallion? Duh.

ANJIE

Race you to Tysa's?

Hendo turns his bike around.

HENDO

Now you're talking my language.

ANJIE

On the count of three. Three ...
Two ... One!

Hendo takes off a hair before Anjie's one-count. Anjie follows him but bangs an immediate u-turn, spraying dirt. She whips off down the road to Moon Valley.

ANGLE TO - Hendo roars down the empty streets.

HENDO

You're not gonna catch me like tha--

Hendo glances over his shoulder.

HENDO (CONT'D)

Huh?

Hendo skids to a stop.

EXT. ROAD TO THE MOUNTAIN

Anjie races down the dirt track to Moon Valley. Hendo thunders up behind her on his bigger motorcycle, scowling.

HENDO

Give it up, Anjie! You're never
gonna lose me on that old thing!

EXT. OFF-ROAD TRACKS

Anjie veers off the main road onto a single off-road track. She weaves around boulders, thickets of cacti, and dead trees. Hendo matches her turn for turn, surprisingly nimble on the bigger ride. The single track widens. Anjie attempts to cut in front of Hendo to prevent him from passing, but he slips by and pulls even with her.

HENDO

Who's the better rider now?

ANJALI

Bye, Hendo.

Hendo glances up just in time to see a steep dirt jump on his side of the track.

HENDO

Wha-whaaa?

Hendo launches off the jump and soars into the air, turning upside down, a mask of comical terror on his face. Hendo crash-lands in a dried up pricker bush next to his bike.

ANGLE TO - Anjie follows the dirt track back to the main road. She pauses to make sure he's okay.

HENDO (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Yooooooooooooow!

ANJALI
Take a hint, dude.

Anjie continues towards the mountain.

EXT. MOON VALLEY, ENTRANCE - LATE AFTERNOON

Anjie pulls up to a narrow cleft in the rock at the peak of the mountain. The chasm is barricaded by barb wire, rusted fencing, and ominous signs proclaiming: TOXIC, HAZARDOUS MATERIAL, STAY OUT, and one, BEWARE OF DOG. The moon rises in a lavender sky. She stares into the foreboding darkness.

ANJALI
Moon Valley.
(Gulps)
Boy, I hope I'm right about this.

Anjie glances over her shoulder. Bright Valley glints in the dusky plain miles away.

Anjie pries open a gap in the barb wire, draws a deep breath, and squeezes through.

EXT. THE CHASM - CONTINUOUS

Anjie walks several yards into the gloom, holding her breath. Finally, she gasps. She winces, waiting for the poison. She opens one eye and breathes again.

ANJALI
It's not poison. It's fresh.

Anjie smiles and takes a deep breath.

EXT. UPPER VALLEY - CONTINUOUS

Anjie clammers down boulders in a widening chasm. Something brushes against her.

ANJALI
GET OFF ME!

She swats at her attacker. It is only a leafy tree branch.

ANJALI (CONT'D)
What the? A tree? They still exist.

Anjali steps back into another branch and spins around.

ANJALI (CONT'D)
No way.

The twilit forest of Moon Valley unfurls before her.

EXT. DECIDUOUS FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Anjali glides through a wood of flowering trees, babbling brooks, and flitting insects. She laughs in amazement.

ANJALI
Wow.

EXT. THE POOL - CONTINUOUS

Anjie steps through the lush undergrowth to the banks of a glassy pool, moon reflecting off its surface.

ANJALI
This is enough water for all of
Bright Valley.

Fish jump in the center of the spring. Anjali cups the water up to her mouth and sips. Anjie notices a familiar plant not far away.

ANJALI (CONT'D)
Huh?

A sprig of OSHA LEAF sticks out of the soft earth. Anjali crouches beside it, comparing it to the picture in her guide.

ANJALI (CONT'D)
Samuel's medicine. Mom was right.

Anjie snaps off a sprig. As she gathers a second, she notices a BOOTPRINT. She looks around: more bootprints, scraps of litter, a fish skeleton.

EXT. BRIGHT VALLEY, ABANDONED HOUSE - TWILIGHT

Solomon sips a glass of wine and gazes at the mountains, still sitting on the edge of the empty fountain. Cyclops and two other BIKERS ride up with Hendo.

BIKER #1

Hey boss! This kid said some girl
took off for that valley.

SOLOMON

How auspicious.

Solomon grins wickedly up at the mountains. We can see clearly that the broken mask he wears over half his face is hiding a wicked scar. His eye glows red beneath.

EXT. BRIGHT VALLEY, STREETS

Cyclops and his gang peel out of Bright Valley, headed for the mountain, whooping, hollering, and waving their weapons.

EXT. MOON VALLEY, FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Anjie peers into the gloom. Up ahead, she spots a faint source of light. She creeps closer through the darkness, carefully parting branches. She freezes. Just ahead, playing cards and drinking around a small fire, are a trio of bikers.

BIKER #1

Go fish.

BIKER #2

But I caught the last one.

BIKER #3

He meant the cards, you dummy.

Anjie covers her mouth in horror. She retreats backwards.

EXT. THE POOL

Anjie picks up speed as she gets clear of the gang. Just as she starts to run, she hears a distant sound and halts.

EXT. UPPER VALLEY - CONTINUOUS

Carrying torches and weapons, the gang stomps through the roots and rocks. Their footfalls echo across the valley.

EXT. THE POOL

In the distance, Anjie sees the firelight and beams of light. She gasps in fright. She's trapped. She steps back and forth, torn between fleeing into the forest, or trying to escape back to her bike.

ANJALI

Shoot shoot shoot, what do I do?

As if to answer her prayers, her satchel pops open, exposing the top of her Spellbook. The voices and sounds of the gang draw closer.

ANJALI (CONT'D)

If you're out there, mom...

Anjie flips to the Spell of [Adi Shakti]. Arcane symbols line the page. She reads in a shaking voice.

ANJALI (CONT'D)

For healing, protections, and ...
Good enough.

(Clearing throat)

I bow to the primal power. I bow to
the original power, the source.

EXT. FOREST

The gang storms through the forest, trampling flowers and snapping branches.

EXT. THE POOL

Anjie continues her spell in a shaking voice.

ANJALI

I bow to the all-en... all-
encompassing power, the infinite
power--huh?

Anjie looks up into the blinding beam of by a flashlight and hugs her Spellbook tight. Cyclops faces her across the clearing, flanked by Clem, Finch, Hendo, and a host of other bikers. The trio of bikers from camp block her escape. They carry clubs, makeshift weapons, and torches.

CYCLOPS

Look what we have here. A
trespasser.

ANJALI

You're the ones that shouldn't be here! You could have shared this place. Instead you treated it like your own private dump.

CYCLOPS

Cry me a river. There's only two types of people in this world. The strong, who get what they want, and the weak. It's about time you learn your place.

Cyclops reaches for the Spellbook. Anjie backs away from him.

ANJALI

You'd better back off! I'm a witch and I know witch-stuff. One word, and I'll turn you into mud.

CYCLOPS

BAHAHAHAHA! That's a good one! All that nonsense about witches is just to keep the riffraff from sticking their noses in our business.

Cyclops grabs the Spellbook out of Anjie's hands, throwing her down. She lands hard on a rock.

ANJALI

Agh!

EXT. THE LUNAR ROAD

Silhouetted against a great white moon, an elk, HEHAKA, lifts its head and massive pointed rack as if hearing Anjie's cry.

EXT. THE POOL

Cyclops gives the book a quick look.

CYCLOPS

So you actually thought you could do magic? That's rich.

Cyclops snaps the book shut and throws it into the pool.

ANJALI

No.

EXT. THE LUNAR ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Hehaka gallops down a glowing path, stirring up white light with every hoofbeat. Masked in shadow, ROSEBUD "ROSE" WAKIYA (40) rides on his back.

EXT. THE POOL - CONTINUOUS

The bikers laugh. Anjie gives Hendo a pained look.

ANJALI

Hendo?

Hendo hangs his head in shame. Cyclops cracks his knuckles.

CYCLOPS

Too bad. I heard you weren't a half-bad healer. But we can't have people knowing about our secret.

Anjali's eyes widen in fear. The wind blows. The moon flashes overhead. Cyclops steps forward, fists balled. Hoofbeats sound in the shadows at the edge of the forest.

ROSE (O.S.)

Back away from the girl.

The bikers back away as Hehaka steps out of the forest with Rose on his back. Rose is a tall, serious woman with a scar on her cheek, wearing jeans and a leather riding jacket. She carries a bow and quiver.

FINCH

What in tarnation?

Rose draws an arrow with a strange, bulbous arrowhead.

ROSE

I said back away.

CYCLOPS

I don't know who you are, freak, but you crashed the wrong party. Let her have it, Clem.

CLEM

With pleasure.

Clem points the barrel of the shotgun at Rose. Before he can pull the trigger, she looses her arrow. It lodges straight down the barrel of the shotgun.

This is no normal arrow. The arrowhead is a seed and the fletchings are leaves. Plant magic takes over--roots burst out of the breech, wrapping around the trigger. A tuft of leaves bursts from the muzzle. Clem pulls the trigger.

CLEM (CONT'D)

What the?

The shotgun backfires a cloud of smoke into his face. The bikers gasp and recoil. Rose steps in front of Anjali.

ANJALI

A real witch.

CYCLOPS

Real dead, is what you are!

Cyclops swings his bat. Rose ducks smoothly and trips him with a spinning low kick.

ROSE

We've let you make a mess of this place long enough. Time's up. Leave now and never return.

CYCLOPS

Don't just stand there! There's thirty of us and one of her!

The gang closes in on Rose and Anjali with grim resolve.

ROSE

That's funny. All my friends here have been dying to meet you.

Rose's eyes flash with magic, wind rustles through the forest, and small orbs of whitish light rise up around her. She stretches her fingers and they shoot off in all directions into the forest. The bikers are momentarily confused, but apparently unharmed.

CYCLOPS

Get her!

The bikers resume their advance.

FINCH

It takes more than some mumbo-jumbo to scare us!

GANG MEMBER

What the?

A CEDAR NYMPH emerges from the tree line and the gang halts. She is followed by dozens more, deathly silent.

ROSE

Let me introduce the spirits of
Moon Valley. Spirits.

The bikers cower and back off. Clem and Finch drop their weapons and embrace each other, quaking in terror.

CLEM AND FINCH

Oh no!

BIKERS

Get out of here! That's real magic!

The bikers flee, scrambling over each other. A nymph steps directly between Cyclops and Rose. Cyclops grits his teeth.

CYCLOPS

Cowards! You're not so tough.

He slams his club into the side of her head with a woody thunk. The nymph's head cocks sideways with the force of the impact, but she's otherwise unfazed. Vines begin to grow from where the club's spikes have lodged in her skull. They weave around the wooden handled, decaying it instantly. The vines catch Cyclops's hands before he can let go.

CYCLOPS (CONT'D)

No--Augh!

Cyclop rips his hand free of the vines and runs away.

EXT. MOON VALLEY, ENTRANCE - NIGHT

The gang leaps back on their bikes, hidden some distance away. Cyclops struggles with his injured hand. He inspects it covertly. It is tainted by some kind of magic.

EXT. MOON VALLEY, SPRING

The sound of the motorcycles echoes back to Rose and Anjali. Rose dismisses the nymphs.

ROSE

Thank you, my friends.

The nymphs bow in unison and vanish backwards into the forest. Rose sighs.

ROSE (CONT'D)
Some people just don't know when to quit.

ANJALI
Who are y--? Ouch.

Anjali cringes with pain.

ROSE
Hold on.

Rose holds out her hand to Anjali's injury. The same glowing orb circle around the wound, then enter one by one.

ROSE (CONT'D)
My name's Rose. And you're Anjali, right? Saumya's girl?

ANJALI
You knew my mother?

ROSE
A little. We know everyone like us. Now, how's that feel?

ANJALI
Better. Perfect.

Rose waves her hand, summoning the spell-book from the spring. It swims over to her, as if alive. The water rushes out of its pages, leaving it dry and undamaged. Rose flips open to the summoning spell Anjali was working on.

ROSE
Better stick to the basics, for now. But if you really want to learn magic, we can help you.

Rose hands Anjali the book and puts her hand on her shoulder.

ANJALI
You mean ... Go with you?

ROSE
You're not ready for that, either. But we can find you a teacher. Now that the secret is out, this Sanctuary will be in constant danger. We'll need someone to watch out for it.
(Beat)
Well?

Rose holds out her hand to Anjali. Hehaka snorts playfully.

ANJALI

Of cour--

As Anjie places her Spellbook back in her bag, she finds the Osha Leaf for Samuel.

ANJALI (CONT'D)

Samuel. I promised.

(To Rose)

I'm sorry, but someone is counting on me.

ROSE

I understand.

Rose glances into the night.

ROSE (CONT'D)

I have to go. There are many other Sanctuaries to take care of.

Rose leaps onto Hehaka.

ANJALI

Will I ever see you again?

ROSE

We'll be here when you need us.

Rose and Hehaka disappear into the forest. Anjali clutches her spell book to her chest, gazing after her.

ANJALI

Us...?

EXT. SAMUEL HOUSE, SAMUEL'S ROOM - NEXT DAY

The kettle whistles. Anjie pours it into Samuel's old mug. But this time, she adds a thick clump of Osha Leaf. She blows it cool and helps Samuel drink it. He's obviously stronger.

ANJALI

Feeling better?

SAMUEL

Much.

(Beat)

But enough about ole Samuel. Everything alright with you?

The old building shakes with a gust of wind.

ANJALI

I have to run to the market before
the storm comes.

SAMUEL

I'm here if you need me.

Anjali gives Samuel a big hug.

EXT. BRIGHT VALLEY, MARKET ALLEY - MINUTES LATER

As Anjie walks through the shaded alley, vendors close-up
their stalls, murmuring amongst themselves.

VENDORS

Here she comes. She's a witch.

In his haste, a vendor bumps his stand and sends an apple
rolling across Anjie's path. She picks it up for him.

ANJALI

Excuse me--

The vendor slams down a metal door in front of his stand.
Anjie sighs and slips the apple into her satchel.

At the end of the alley, Anjie is nearly run over by Tysa on
her bike. Tysa barely catches herself from toppling over.

TYSA

Whoa!

ANJALI

Tysa!

They share a fleeting glance. Tysa appears conflicted. Before
either can speak, a nearby barred window clangs as Cyclops
bangs against it from the inside.

CYCLOPS

Hey! You! What did they do to me?

Cyclops sticks his hand through the bars. It is infected by
the nymph's magic, tree bark and green buds growing on his
skin. Anjie backs away in terror.

CYCLOPS (CONT'D)

What did they do?

ANJALI

I- I don't know.

Tysa is already riding away.

TYSA
Sorry, Anjie!

Anjie hurries away from Cyclops. The wind whips up the sand into a proper storm.

INT. ANJALI'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Anjali locks her front door and slides against it wearily.

INT. ANJALI'S ROOM

Anjali sits down at her desk. She flips open her spell book to the summoning spell. She stares absently out the window and startles at a loud knock at the front door.

I/E. FRONT DOOR/ ANJALI'S PORCH

Anjie opens the front door a crack.

ANJALI
Hello? Is anyone there? This better
not be a prank!
(Beat)
Anyone?

INT. KITCHEN

Anjie closes the door again. She shrieks in fright. Solomon leans against her kitchen counter. Beneath his heavy overcoat is a frilly collared shirt, the garb of Old World nobility.

SOLOMON
Hello, Anjali.

He takes a bite of her apple.

ANJALI
Who--who are you?

SOLOMON
I require your help to get in touch
with a mutual friend.

ANJALI
You need to leave. Right now.

Anjie turns to run. Solomon flicks his wrist and the lock clicks on the door.

SOLOMON

It's really quite something that she came to your rescue. It should be no problem to get her to show up again.

(Beat)

We just need you to get really, really scared.

The kitchen chair drags across the room. Anjie gasps as it scoops her up. A rope winds through the air and ties her arms down. Solomon rips another bite out of the apple.

END OF EPISODE