

Nemeton

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NEMETON

OVER BLACK SCREEN:

"Misty are the beings who share with us the light of the stars and the warmth of the sun." -- Conrad

FADE IN:

INT. THE CAIRN CATHEDRAL - NIGHT

Hewn from the living rock. Beautiful and majestic. Ethereal, magical light drifts through the chamber. Nearly silent echoes, sounds of breathing and muted conversations, reverberate around the cathedral.

At the apex of a great granite staircase is a beautiful stone altar. Like a statue, a hooded figure, ANEXANDER, dressed in ancient Druid garb, face concealed, stands at the altar. Prays silently.

A beautiful young girl, SIOBHAN, pregnant, flanks Anexander.

CATHBAD, dressed in the same manner but with his hood down to reveal his face, moves to Anexander. They speak in Gaelic, Subtitled.

CATHBAD

Anexander?

ANEXANDER

Cathbad, bring him to us. Take Gwernach with you for safety.

Cathbad nods reverently and leaves to his prayers.

EXT. ARCHEOLOGICAL DIG - DAY

Dark light from the somber afternoon sky bathes the darkened interior of the great stone structure.

Professor JOHN LANGLEY, sixties, a shaggy beard and a ruddy complexion, totally engrossed in his work, picks at the stone face with a metal tool. He is oblivious to the two men, Cathbad and GWERNACH, as they approach.

CATHBAD

Professor Langley?

Langley is startled.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

May I help you?

GWERNACH

You will come with us, Professor.

Langley slowly stands as a bird flies overhead. The bird becomes an airplane flying high above.

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

DAVID HARRON, mid-thirties, attractive, sitting in first class, picks up the phone, inserts his credit card and dials.

DAVID

Beth? It's me. How are you, sweetie?
... No, everything's Okay. I'll be home tonight. I love you.

Presses star button and redials.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Josie! I'll be back tonight ...
No, I'll get a cab. Just make sure that Bernie gets that assignment finished before I get back. And talk to George. Make sure we get the environmental meeting set for tomorrow ... Right. Bye.

The FLIGHT ATTENDANT hands him a drink as he hangs up the phone.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Oh, thank you.

Takes a sip, picks up some papers and begins to read. A moment passes. His eyes fall upon Professor Langley's book. He opens it and begins to read.

INT. UNIVERSITY LECTURE HALL (DREAM SEQUENCE) - DAY

Professor Langley, younger, stands before a great desk in front of a lecture hall full of students. A younger David sits in front. Langley is quite melodramatic.

LANGLEY

Where are they? Where did they go?

He waits for a moment. Uncertainty appears on the faces of the students.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

We know they existed.

DAVID

Okay, Professor, I'll bite. Who are they?

Langley smiles.

LANGLEY

Well, David ... And all of you, though man has existed in his present state for more than fifty thousand years, the oldest recorded civilization is barely seven thousand years old.

DAVID

The Sumarians.

Langley nods and smiles.

LANGLEY

They ruled as a theocracy. Religion and government as one.

Another student, STUDENT ONE, chimes in.

STUDENT ONE

We know about the Sumarians, Professor Langley.

LANGLEY

I'm sure you do. Their laws were the basis for the laws of many civilizations: Cretans, Egyptians, Chinese, Greek.

Moves to the desk. Picks up the clicker that controls the slide machine and clicks an image to the screen at the head of the lecture hall.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

Their ritual horn and their account of the great flood which destroyed all evil have been carried over into the genesis of every known religion.

DAVID

The flood? What about the flood?

INT. AIRPLANE (FLASHBACK) - DAY

David jumps as he spills his drink onto his lap.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT (V.O.)

The Captain has informed us that we are about to land. Please place your trays in the upright ...

David nods and eyes the wet spot on his pants.

DAVID

Thank you, Professor. I'm all wet again.

EXT. ENVIRONMENT TODAY CORRIDOR - LATER

A tired and disheveled David shuffles down the corridor with an overnight bag in one hand and a tape recorder in the other. As he passes an office, he hears familiar voices.

BERNIE, one of David's assistants, argues with JOSIE CARTER, David's secretary.

BERNIE (O.S.)

I don't care what he says, Josie. I can't run this.

JOSIE (O.S.)

He'll get you to do it when he gets here.

INT. JOSIE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Shocked, Bernie and Josie stop their argument as David enters.

BERNIE

David! Welcome back!

JOSIE

Hi, David. Welcome home.

DAVID

Thanks. And you can run it, Bernie.

BERNIE

Of course I can.

DAVID

Josie?

JOSIE

On your desk.

DAVID

Great. Coffee?

JOSIE

On its way.

David nods and smiles weakly as she exits.

BERNIE

David we need ...

DAVID

Later, Bernie.

David exits without another words.

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The office is expensively apportioned. David drops his things on the sofa and heads to his desk. He begins to wade through the mass of correspondences. One catches his eye and he immediately opens it. We can HEAR Langley's voice in V.O.

LANGLEY (V.O.)

David, as I have told you ever so often, the evidence is still somewhat sketchy. But there is every indication that what I believe - what we believe in - is, in fact, actuality.

David, a quizzical look.

LANGLEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

It does, I admit, contradict all the accepted concepts of migration and human development. Who was it who said that "the greatest study of mankind is man?"

David takes a sip of coffee.

LANGLEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I'm getting closer! So far, nothing definite. But I know. I know! Vaguely disquieting here. Will move on regardless if this silence prevails. Forgive my haste. You must arrive by solstice. Imperative!

David slowly puts the letter on the desk a quizzical look on his face as Josie enters. David refers to the letter.

DAVID

Josie, when did this arrive?

JOSIE

Wednesday, I think.

DAVID

Any phone calls from the U.K.?

JOSIE

You get calls every day from there.

DAVID

Aberdeen, Scotland.

JOSIE

Not Aberdeen. Alec Silvers has been calling.

David rolls his eyes.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Says it's urgent.

DAVID

Always is with Alec.

EXT. OUTDOOR CAFE - LATER

ALEC SILVERS, fifties, very distinguished and well-dressed, sits at a table with David. Almost eaten lunches litter the table.

DAVID

There was one reason I left advertising, Alec. And I managed to escape with my morals intact.

ALEC

You became born again boring. Writing papers on your latest campaign to keep Aborigines aboriginal.

DAVID

You're going to insult me now?

ALEC

You did manage to make enough money and enough of a reputation in the business to buy yourself ...

David glares. Alec waves an apology.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Build yourself some credibility for your crusades.

Aggravated, David places his fork down hard on the table.

DAVID

Something wrong with that?

ALEC

I need you, David. You're the key to this whole campaign.

DAVID

The world of advertising can't live without me?

Alec smiles and nods as he takes a sip from his drink.

DAVID (CONT'D)

So, you need my credibility.

ALEC

We both know I can hire twenty idea men to knock out a campaign on how the oil companies are trying to save the environment.

DAVID

Where do I come in?

ALEC

You care, David. You're passionate and they know it.

DAVID

Not about that.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Alec follows David.

DAVID

At least you didn't ask what it'll cost to get me.

ALEC

I was getting to that. I told them I could deliver you, David.

DAVID

You had no right do that.

ALEC

I need you.

DAVID

You shouldn't have done that without asking.

ALEC

David, please ...

DAVID

I have enough on my plate now. I haven't even seen Beth in two months.

ALEC

Look, you can do pretty much what you want with your ecological interests.

DAVID

Thank you.

ALEC

But just between you and me, wouldn't you love to have a hundred million minds to mold ... Just once more?

David looks off into space without answering.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Look, David, you deliver a plea for understanding and a general acceptance of the energy companies and their policies ...

DAVID

And you deliver a spokesman whose integrity is above reproach.

Alec smiles and nods.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You never give up, do you, Alec?

ALEC

I always get what I want, David. You know that.

DAVID

Not this time.

David turns and walks away.

ALEC

You can't do that!

David does not turn back.

DAVID

Thanks for lunch. Maybe one day you might come up with something worth worrying about.

ALEC

You mean one day you'll need me?

David hails a cab.

INT. BETH MORGAN'S BEDROOM - LATER

In a semi-lit room, David, and his girlfriend, BETH MORGAN, attractive, late-twenties, passionately reacquaint themselves.

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Josie checks in David's office. She looks at a telegram that she had earlier placed on David's desk.

INT. BETH MORGAN'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The bedroom is now dark and both Beth and David sleep soundly as the phone RINGS. Beth's hand sleepily moves toward the phone, picks it up and holds it to her ear.

BETH

Hello?

Beth, not pleased, passes the phone to David.

BETH (CONT'D)

Josie.

DAVID

What time is it?

BETH

Time to be sleeping.

David listens, then bolts straight up in bed and turns the light on.

DAVID

Telegram? Who's it from?

Upset, Beth stands and puts her robe and heads for the bathroom.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Thank you, Josie.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

Just leave it on my desk... I'm sure Beth'll understand the intrusion. Night.

David hangs up and turns to Beth.

BETH

Beth does not understand. I'd like to get some sleep. I have an early morning.

DAVID

That was Josie.

BETH

I know it was Josie. Can't she keep work at work? I haven't seen you in, what, two months? I just want to spend a night alone with my boyfriend.

DAVID

Langley's missing.

BETH

Oh, my God. I'm sorry, David.

She sits next to him on the bed and puts her arms around him.

DAVID

I told Josie to call as soon as she heard anything from him.

BETH

I'm sorry to be such a bitch.

DAVID

You're not a bitch. You just haven't learned how to go back to sleep easily.

Beth kisses him.

BETH

You better get dressed and get down to the office.

He gives her a questioning look.

BETH (CONT'D)

You won't sleep with this on your mind. Go. Get out of here.

DAVID

I'll see you at lunch. Love you.

They kiss deeply and romantically.

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE - MORNING

Groggily, David a telegram in his hand and the phone to his ear, stares off into space. David turns from his desk and casts his eyes out the window to the cityscape as the sun begins to rise.

He jumps out of his skin as Josie slips into the office with a cup of coffee in her hand.

JOSIE

Morning.

Takes coffee and sips it.

DAVID

Could've used you last night.

JOSIE

Contrary to popular opinion, I do have a life.

DAVID

Goodie. Listen, I need you to ...

JOSIE

Aberdeen, Scotland. Made the reservations as soon as I saw the telegram. And Beth said she'd bring the books you wanted over in a bit.,

DAVID

Thank you, Radar.

GEORGE MARTIN, mid-forties, breezes in with a practiced smile on his face.

GEORGE

David must be back. Everything's gone crazy. You ready, David?

JOSIE

Alec's on two.

David Nods to Josie.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

For what, George?

GEORGE

Environmental meeting? They're waiting.

DAVID

Environmentalist? Today? Can't do it, George. Too much to do.

GEORGE

Are you kidding, David?

DAVID

Tell Alec I'll get back to him, Josie.

GEORGE

David!

JOSIE

He's called five times today.

GEORGE

You *said* to make the meeting for today, David.

DAVID

You can handle it, George.

George controls his anger.

GEORGE

We waited two God damn months while you were on your African adventure, David!

DAVID

He called five times this morning?

GEORGE

They want to meet with *you*, David.

Josie slips out of the office as David picks up the phone.

DAVID

Alec!

GEORGE

David!

DAVID

Hold on, Alec.

GEORGE

This is your meeting, David.

DAVID

Give me a minute.

George nods, mutters something under his breath and nearly storms out of the offices.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You have five minutes, Alec.

ALEC (V.O.)

I think I liked it better when I couldn't reach you.

DAVID

Me too.

ALEC (V.O.)

Ha ha.

Josie enters and places the airline tickets on David's desk.

JOSIE

Confirmed flight. Nine-forty-five tonight out of Kennedy.

She quickly exits.

DAVID

Thanks.

ALEC (V.O.)

I need an answer, buddy. Deadline's here.

DAVID

You never did take no for an answer.

ALEC (V.O.)

I have a forty million dollar account sitting in my lap and I need you.

DAVID

I hope it goes well for you.

Josie sticks her head in the door.

JOSIE

They're waiting, David.

ALEC (V.O.)

I'm in a bind here, David! I need a favor.

DAVID

I understand that, Alec. But I can't do it. I told you.

ALEC (V.O.)

One of these days you're going to need a favor from me, friend.

Josie enters and gestures as she becomes more emphatic.

DAVID

I have to go, Alec.

David quickly hangs up before Alec can say another word and heads for the door with Josie.

JOSIE

Must be hard to say no to an old friend.

DAVID

Don't you start.

INT. ALEC'S OFFICE — CONTINUOUS

Alec sits across from the Chairman of the Board of the agency, HOWARD NORTHRIDGE, a stern man in his last fifties. He stares at Alec.

ALEC

He's playing hard to get, Howard.

Howard stares at him hard.

ALEC (CONT'D)

I'll find a way.

HOWARD

Make it happen.

Alec nods, subserviently, as Howard exits.

INT. ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE ROOM — CONTINUOUS

The Environmental people sit around the conference table. George sits at the head of the table.

GEORGE

I'm sure he'll be here in a minute. You can imagine, spending that much time on a plane, then jumping right back into the fire can take...

David swoops into the room with Josie in tow.

DAVID

Glad you could all make the meeting.
I hate to do this, but I have to go
to Europe later today.

George goes white in the face as all those gathered look
shock and agitated and begin protesting.

ENVIROMENTALIST #1

But, David, we need to discuss this
campaign.

David pushes George forward.

DAVID

I understand that, and I leave you
in the very capable hands of George
Martin.

George even more shock.

ENVIROMENTALIST #2

What could possibly pull you away
from a meeting that's this important?

Josie maintains her calm. She goes to George and hands him
a glass of water, which he nearly gulps down in one shot.

DAVID

I've been called away to research
something that will answer all your
questions.

ENVIROMENTALIST #3

This trip deals with matters germane
to this meeting?

David heads for the door.

DAVID

I wish I could say more, but I really
have to go. I'll be conferring with
George on a fairly constant ...

ENVIROMENTALIST #1

We came here to talk to you, David.

DAVID

I'm sorry. George, take over.

As David exits the conference room, the assembly jumps to
their feet and slings AD LIB objections toward David then
toward George.

INT. CORRIDOR — CONTINUOUS

Josie follows David back to his office.

JOSIE

You made a great impression in there.

DAVID

Think I pissed them off enough?

JOSIE

You're out of George's will.

INT. J.F.K. AIRPORT GATE - NIGHT

David and Beth sit together near the gate. David furiously goes over his papers and arrangements.

BETH

You sure you have everything?

DAVID

Think so. Thanks for going to the library to get the books.

BETH

I'm trying to figure out how to explain to the New York Public Library that their books are going to Scotland.

DAVID

Tell them it's a cultural exchange.

BETH

I'll tell them that when they start charging me overdue fees.

DAVID

I'll be back before then.

BETH

I really wish we had more than a few passing moments together before you go off again.

That statement stops him cold.

DAVID

You know I have to go.

Beth begins to tear up. Then controls herself.

BETH

Are you going to tell me what all these books are for, or do I have to read about it in your next book?

DAVID

You know about Stonehenge?

BETH

Druids?

DAVID

Exactly, and who were the Druids?

BETH

Okay, teacher, tell me.

DAVID

No one knows much about them. Except the stories of human sacrifices and animal worship.

BETH

What's your point?

DAVID

Langley left no real clues. About the Druids, about his work. Just questions. How can I find him if I can't figure out what he was after?

INT. AIRPORT RESTAURANT - LATER

Their dinner sits, half-eaten, in front of them as David and Beth continue their conversation.

DAVID

You would have loved Langley. This crazy old caricature of an English professor. Tweed jacket. Ivory pipe. Disheveled salt and pepper hair. Glasses halfway down his nose.

But he got me interested in people. How they think, where they come from. Where they're going. We had some great times together. I thought advertising would be my whole life.

BETH

You made a lot of money at it.

DAVID

Set for life by thirty. Leaving that life to go back to school was the toughest thing I ever did.

P.A. ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Attention, ladies and gentlemen, Aer Lingus Flight three one four to Aberdeen, Scotland is ready for boarding. Thank you.

DAVID

And the best decision I ever made.

INT. AIRPORT BOARDING GATE – MOMENTS LATER

David and Beth move to the gate.

DAVID

Advertising is only concerned with motivating people.

BETH

And separating them from their money.

DAVID

Yeah, that's it.

Both of them laugh.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Langley let me see the world in a whole new way. But though my environmental writing brought me recognition, we gradually lost touch.

BETH

I'm sorry.

DAVID

He still sends me letters from time to time. But I'm too busy to write back. Always too damn busy.

They stop at the end of the boarding queue.

BETH

Feeling a little guilty, Mr. Harron?

David's guilt shows on his face, as they stop at the back of the boarding line.

BETH (CONT'D)

David, what is this grand mystery all about?

DAVID

Langley has been hanging onto this theory that some ancient cult still exists somewhere.

BETH

A cult?

David reaches the front of the line, ready to board.

DAVID

I'm worried that he may have found them.

BETH

Or maybe they found him.

A look of increased worry covers David's face. He kisses her passionately. David heads toward plane.

BETH (CONT'D)

Take care. I love you, David.

EXT. AIRPORT - MOMENTS LATER

The plane takes off into the darkness.

INT. AIRPLANE - NIGHT

David sits in the semi-darkness, Langley's book in his hands. He smiles.

INT. LANGLEY'S OFFICE - DAY - FLASHBACK

Running around the office like a maniac, Langley typifies the stereotype English professor David described. David follows him around the room.

LANGLEY

Some fools worship there at Solstice.

DAVID

Stonehenge?

LANGLEY

Stonehenge isn't the answer, David. It's part of the question.

(MORE)

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

No one seems to get the big picture. But see, David, scientists get an idea in their heads. They think they're right, and they let nothing new in.

DAVID

I know.

LANGLEY

We have the chance to do what no one has ever done... what no one seems to be capable of seeing or even understanding. It's waiting to be understood, David.

DAVID

I don't understand, Professor.

LANGLEY

You will, my boy. Halliwell, and Morton can stake their reputations on celestial observations, I can certainly risk advancing one of my own!

DAVID

Where do we start, Professor?

Langley smiles as puts his hands on David's shoulders and looks deep into his eyes.

LANGLEY

We're going to rewrite history, David.

INT. LANGLEY'S OFFICE - NIGHT (END FLASHBACK)

David stands in the darkened office. Langley's housekeeper, MISS MCCORMACK, an elderly British woman, enters sheepishly.

MISS MCCORMACK

Mr. Harron, I'm about to turn in. Is there anything you require?

DAVID

Oh, no, thank you, Miss McCormack.

She begins to look at all the writings on the blackboards that line the office, strange symbols, double-headed axes, columns, chariots, rising and setting suns, and also, a reference to someone named ROSS.

MISS MCCORMACK

Do you understand any of this, Mr. Harron? I surly don't.

DAVID

I don't either. So far, it's as much a mystery as his disappearance.

Miss McCormack holds back tears. David sees her distress, and goes to her.

MISS MCCORMACK

Oh, please, don't fuss over an old woman like me. I'll be just fine. Mr. Harron, you just call on me if you need anything.

DAVID

I'll do that. Thank you, Miss McCormack.

MISS MCCORMACK

Good night then, sir. It's different this time, Mr. Harron.

David, a questioning look.

MISS MCCORMACK (CONT'D)

I'm worried this time.

Without another word, she leaves. David goes back to the blackboards.

INT. EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

Seeing PROFESSOR SALLIS, and a comely student, MISS EMBRY, sitting inside the office, David knocks on the door.

SALLIS

Mr. Harron, come. Your picture doesn't do you justice.

DAVID

Thanks.

SALLIS

Miss Embry, will you excuse us?

She smiles and exits.

SALLIS (CONT'D)

Let's take some air.

EXT. EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY CAMPUS – MOMENTS LATER

David and Sallis walk together amongst the throng of students and staff.

SALLIS

John was always going off on his wild goose chases with little or no notice. We're used to his antics here. So, no, Mr. Harron, I'm not the slightest bit worried.

John Langley has done everything he possibly could in the last three years to destroy any shred of credibility he spent a lifetime to build.

DAVID

What are you talking about?

SALLIS

He's managed to alienate every friend and colleague who ever knew him by pursuing his insane theories, in the face of overwhelming evidence to the contrary.

DAVID

Sorry to have bothered you, Professor.

As David shakes his hand and to move off, Sallis softens.

SALLIS

Please don't think too harshly of me.

DAVID

Professor Langley is a great man.

SALLIS

And that's all the more reason for me to feel the way I do. We came up through the rigors of academia together. When a old and dear friend opens himself up to ridicule, it hurts personally.

DAVID

Some of the greatest minds in the history of academia were ridiculed until they were proven correct, Professor.

INT. LANGLEY'S OFFICE - DAY

Sallis looks over the symbols on the blackboards as David follows behind him.

SALLIS

I have no idea what he's after.

DAVID

What about this? Ross. Ross?

SALLIS

Any idea how many people have that surname in the British Isles alone? I don't know what help I can be, Mr. Harron. I hope you find him.

DAVID

Thank you, Professor.

INT. PUB - NIGHT

David sits at the bar and motions for the pub keeper, DUNDEE, to pour a draft.

DAVID

I'm trying to find a friend. Professor John Langley. Heard he comes here often.

DUNDEE

At times.

An old man, REG taps the bar with a coin.

REG

Old Langley is it? Can tell you a thing or two about that crazy bastard. He won't be coming back. If you get my meaning?

HARVEY DONNELLY, sits quietly next to him, nursing his draft.

DAVID

No, I don't.

DONNELLY

Go ahead, Reg. Tell him.

REG

Why do you want to know?

DAVID

He was my professor. I'm worried.

REG

I don't think there's any harm, Mr. Donnelly.

DONNELLY

None at all, Reg. Langley was always going on about his *old boys*.

REG

Cretins, he called them.

DONNELLY

He was mental, if you ask me.

REG

No one was asking you, Harvey.

David moves to their side of the bar.

DAVID

Mind if I buy you two a drink?

REG

Right neighborly of you.

DONNELLY

But we couldn't impose.

Reg casts an irksome glance Donnelly's way.

REG

But if you insist. Dundee, two pints!
We're going to tell the yank about
the crazy professor.

David smiles as he heads to the table with Reg and Donnelly.

REG (CONT'D)

As I was telling you, old Langley was always on about old places and strange religions. *Ancients* he used to call `em.

DONNELLY

Heathens I call `em. And I told him so. Didn't I, Reg?

REG

You did, Mr. Donnelly. Langley was messing with cults and idols.

DONNELLY

It was only a question of time till something terrible happened to him.

REG

Just a question of time it was.

DONNELLY

No, the Crazy Professor will definitely not be comin' back.

David takes a long, nervous draw from his beer.

INT. LANGLEY'S FOYER - LATER

David enters and Miss McCormack comes in with a package in her hand.

MISS MCCORMACK

The professor left strict instructions: If anything happened to him, I was to send this parcel to you in America. Since you're already here and all.

David excitedly takes the package from her and feverishly opens it as he heads for Langley's office.

LANGLEY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

David opens the package to find a cassette tape player inside. He presses play, and Langley's VOICE LEAPS out.

LANGLEY (V.O.)

David, if you're listening to this, you've affirmed my judgment of you. Of all my students, you alone had the burning curiosity which could be satisfied with nothing less than the truth.

LANGLEY'S OFFICE - FLASHBACK

Langley stands at his desk with a microphone in hand.

LANGLEY

Some time ago, David -- under the most mysterious of circumstances -- the most astounding artifact, one I never dreamed existed, fell into my hands.

He picks up a large, gold, ornately decorated shield.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

The Shield of Achilles! I recognized it immediately by its vivid description in Homer's "Iliad." I know you're as shocked as I was.

But it's true, David. I've run every possible test. It dates roughly to twelve-fifty B.C. The very time Achilles lived -- if he did live at all.

David, if Achilles actually lived, then so might have Hercules, Jason, Helen of Troy! But, David, there's something different from Homer's description.

The shield seems to have been altered. Deliberately. Five new elements appear. A double-headed ax. Two columns side-by-side. A twisted horn with the sun rising behind it. And one word: Kaballa.

INT. LANGLEY'S OFFICE - END FLASHBACK

David stands at the blackboard pondering the symbols as the Professor's voice drones on in the b.g.

LANGLEY (V.O.)

I tried dating the added elements, David. They date to roughly 350 B.C. The time of Alexander the Great.

David flashes a look at the player.

LANGLEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

But now, David, after a lifetime of study, the find of the century is literally dropped into my lap! The question is... why? And then, who?

DAVID

Who is right. Who the hell is Ross?

LANGLEY (V.O.)

I know I told you once that Stonehenge was not the answer, more the question. What I found there last December at solstice was far from what I expected.

David looks at the calendar. It is June 20th.

LANGLEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

But it confirmed that I am on the right path at least.

EXT. STONEHENGE - NIGHT

David, at the perimeter, amongst a throng of people, walks toward Stonehenge, a smaller cassette player hanging from his belt, the ear phones in his ears.

LANGLEY (V.O.)

David, picture those symbols in your mind's eye. I'm convinced that Stonehenge figures into this somehow.

Stonehenge is filled with Druids and people.

LANGLEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

If what I've deduced from the Shield is correct, then we stand on the verge of contact with the living past. Can you possibly understand what that means?

David throws up his hands.

LANGLEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I cannot reveal more to you on this now, David. I know I'm close, very close. No matter what the risk, I must pursue this.

As Solstice approaches, David searches the crowd for a familiar face, Langley's.

DAVID

Where are you, Professor?

David pushes his way through the crowd to a group of changing Druids dressed in Druid garb. Audible sighs from the crowd as, off in the distance, the first rays of morning sun creep over the horizon.

David turns to see the first rays of crimson glow as the sun's light reaches out toward the Heel Stone. Cheering and laughter explode from the gathering as the Druids gathered rejoice at the coming solstice.

DRUIDS

Oh Bringer of Light, we welcome you!

Flashbulbs pop as viewers take pictures. David frantically follows the shadow of the Heel Stone as it touches the upright Sarsen Stones that make up the structure of Stonehenge.

His breathes frantically as he searches the column, not only the place where the shadow fell, but the entire eastern face.

David fixes on the DRUID LEADER standing with the others. He pushes his way through the crowd to where the Druids stand, as they continue to chant.

DAVID

Sir, I have to talk to you!

The Druid Leader ignores him.

DRUIDS

Bring us out of the darkness into
the Eternal Light of Time!

David reaches for leader.

DAVID

What do you know about John Langley?

The Druid Leader glares at, and pulls away from David.

DRUIDS

Oh Bringer of Life, we thank you for
taking the Darkness of Winter.

David follows him.

DAVID

Where is he? Dammit!!!

The Druids move off, leaving David frustrated. Then, over the sounds of the crowd an enigmatic figure stands sentinel. It is the silhouette of Cathbad.

CATHBAD

You must find your own way, Mr.
Harron.

David closes in on him. He squints, attempts to see who it is.

DAVID

How do you know who I am?

Cathbad does not move, but the crowd halts David's forward progress.

CATHBAD

Look to the Western Gate.

DAVID

Where's Langley? Who's Ross?

CATHBAD

Ross is the key that unlocks the Gate.

DAVID

Where is it?

The crowd covers Cathbad for a moment, and when David finally reaches the place where Cathbad was, he is gone.

DAVID (CONT'D)

What the hell?

David scans the crowd but does not see Cathbad. As David turns around and surveys the area, we see that he is alone at Stonehenge.

INT. JOSIE'S OFFICE - DAY

Beth enters the office with a concerned look on her face. Josie jumps up.

JOSIE

How are you?

BETH

It's been three days.

JOSIE

I haven't heard from him either.

BETH

David may take off at the drop of a hat, but he always calls.

Josie goes back to her desk and looks through her notes.

JOSIE

Let me see.

INT. LANGLEY'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Miss McCormack has the phone to her ear. Josie in VOICE OVER.

MISS MCCORMACK

He was here, Ms. Crater.

JOSIE (V.O.)

Call me Josie, please.

MISS MCCORMACK

All right, Josie. Mr. Herron's gone off searching for the Professor.

JOSIE (V.O.)

Has he called?

MISS MCCORMACK

No, Josie.

JOSIE (V.O.)

Do you know where he went?

EXT. STONEHENGE - LATER

David sits at Stonehenge watching the shadow touch the Sarsen Stone again.

On a small laptop, he compensates for the changes in the earth's movement over time to see if the shadow finds the symbol of an ancient Cretan double-headed ax on a different part of the ancient structure.

As he turns to leave, still perplexed, he finds on a column to his left, another symbol. A strange rectangle, bowed out on top to form a curve. David studies it hard.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - DAY

David enters and goes to the desk.

DAVID

Any messages?

The FRONT DESK CLERK, looks up as he remembers the message.

HOTEL DESK CLERK

Yes, Mr. Harron. Just came in.

David, reads it and his face goes red.

DAVID

Thank you. Night.

Just as David exits, the Druid Leader enters, dressed in modern clothing and carrying his suit cases.

HOTEL DESK CLERK

Checking out, Mr. Conner?

He replies with an Irish accent.

DRUID LEADER

I am.

HOTEL DESK CLERK

How was Solstice this year?

DRUID LEADER

Exhilarating as always. Except for the loonies. There was this one who would just not let go. Some daft American.

INT. DAVID'S ROOM – CONTINUOUS

David sits before his laptop computer, logged onto the Internet. There are four Email messages from Alec Silvers.

DAVID

Give up, Alec.

David ignores the mail and enters an address. In a box on the screen, a face appears. It is a friend of David's, FRANK PRENTICE.

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Prentice here. Hey, David.

DAVID

Hi, Frank. I need you to do some research for me.

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Can't you do that yourself? You obviously have Net access.

DAVID

You're the best, Frank. This is slow access, and I have to be mobile.

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Alec would shit kittens if he knew I was even talking to you. You know how pissed he was you didn't come to work for us again.

DAVID

He's not going to find out, is he?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

What do you need to know?

DAVID

I need every reference you have on the word, Kaballa.

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Kaballa? K-A-B-A-L-L-A?

DAVID

Yes.

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Okay, David. I'll leave it in your box.

DAVID

Thanks.

Frank's picture disappears. David sits back in his seat. He looks at the sheet of paper and dials his phone.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Hi, Beth, it's me, David.

BETH (V.O.)

David, I've been worried sick. Where are you?

DAVID

England now. I'm sorry I didn't call.

BETH (V.O.)

I've been so upset.

DAVID

I know, and I feel like a shit. But this is so strange.

INT. BETH'S BEDROOM - INTERCUT

BETH

Now I'm really worried, David.

DAVID

Don't be, sweetie. I'm a big boy.

BETH

If you're trying to make me not worry about you, David, you're failing. Did you find what you're looking for?

DAVID

Not really. I feel like a rat in a maze.

BETH

I love you, David.

DAVID

I love you, too. It's late. You better get to sleep. I'll e-mail you.

INT. SALLIS' OFFICE - DAY

David stands at the window as Professor Sallis examines the printouts David received from Prentice.

DAVID

That's all of it.

SALLIS

What do you make of it?

DAVID

I really don't know what John has gotten himself into this time. Some sort of cabal. Have you heard of the Western Gate?

SALLIS

Now where have I heard that before? Let me see.

He goes to the bookcase.

SALLIS (CONT'D)

It was in *The Book of the Taking of Ireland*.

DAVID

It's in Ireland?

SALLIS

The book is a little known compendium of Irish folklore and legend that dates back to the First Century. Here it is. It really should be in a museum. Please be very careful with it.

He pulls the ornate, fragile tome from the shelf and hands it to David, who opens it slowly and looks inside.

DAVID

More clues. Just what I need.

INT. LANGLEY'S OFFICE - NIGHT

David sits down at the desk with the book. On the desk is new desktop.

He wades through email messages from Alec and one from Prentice. He clicks that one. Frank's face appears on screen.

DAVID

Are you ever away from that computer?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

I'm looking for a date.

DAVID

Wonderful. What'd you get?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

The word Kaballa goes back to ancient times.

DAVID

How ancient?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Sumeria?

DAVID

Jesus!

PRENTICE (V.O.)

The root word is Cabal. It means conspiracy or group of plotters. The Holy Stone of Islam is housed in a shrine called the Cabal. The ancient Hebrews had a sect of scholars who ruled secretly. They called themselves the Quballah.

DAVID

They're all the same word? A conspiracy?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Different spellings. Same word. There was one other reference: Horse.

DAVID

Kaballa means horse?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Actually, any four-legged equine, primarily represented by Equus Cabalus. The common horse.

DAVID

Latin?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Greek. The Greek word for horse is Hippos, actually Ikkos. Which comes from Ikkor, meaning Life-Blood. Or Genesis.

DAVID

How does that lead to horse?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Here's something. In German, it's Pferd. French is Cherval, from which we get the word Chivalry. And in Old Norse and Early Anglo-Saxon it was Hross.

DAVID

Ross?

PRENTICE (V.O.)

Right. H-R-O-S-S. Hross.

David simply stares off into space.

EXT. EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

David, like a college student, runs up to Professor Sallis.

DAVID

Professor!

SALLIS

David, I've been meaning to talk to you.

DAVID

Hross and Kaballa mean the same thing.

SALLIS

Amazing. And I have some more good news for you. *The Western Gate* is a long forgotten reference to the southwest coast of Wales.

DAVID

Wales?

SALLIS

And you might be interested to know that the original name for the book, *The Taking of Ireland is Lebore Gabala Erenn*.

EXT. OPEN OCEAN - DAY

A boat comes into view. Standing on the bow is David, his hair windswept and his face full of anticipation.

EXT. STREET IN ROSSLARE, IRELAND - DAY

David walks down the street and looks at the local Inn. He stares at the edifice for a moment, then enters.

INT. THE INN - MOMENTS LATER

David walks to the front desk. The MANAGER, an elderly, but spry man, welcomes David.

MANAGER

What can I do for you, sir?

DAVID

Trying to locate my friend. Name's Langley.

MANAGER

Langley? Yes, hired a car here.

INT. DAVID'S RENTAL CAR - DAY

Anticipation on David's face as he rolls around a bend in the road and passes a large mound of earth. Ahead, he sees a sign that reads: DROGHEDA.

INT. CAR RENTAL AGENCY - LATER

David stands across the counter from the rental clerk.

RENTAL CLERK

He asked about the Mound.

DAVID

The Mound?

RENTAL CLERK

Newgrange. Great old relic. Pre-Roman. Some sez it's older than Creation. Wouldn't know myself.

DAVID

How do I find it?

EXT. NEWGRANGE MOUND - LATER

David stares up at the great Mound. David enters the main passageway. He is oblivious to the fact that Cathbad and Gwernach follow him. They step forward and confront him.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY

On a different boat, David stands, flanked by Cathbad and Gwernach. Off in the distance is their destination, a small Island.

EXT. ACHORA ISLAND WHARF - DAY

Cathbad and Gwernach lead David from the boat. Dead fish floating in the shallows.

DAVID

Where are we?

Cathbad and Gwernach remain silent.

EXT. SMALL FISHING VILLAGE - LATER

Cathbad and Gwernach lead David through the village. People stare at him strangely. He approaches an old fisherman.

DAVID

Where am I? Do you have a name for this place? You must have a name for this place.

The man barely acknowledges David. A cute little girl stands near him.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Hello, sweetheart. What's your name?

Cathbad comes back to David.

CATHBAD

Come, Mr. Harron.

EXT. MOUNTAIN PATH - DAY

David follows Cathbad and Gwernach as they climb the rocky mountain face.

DAVID

Where is Langley?

No answer.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Who is Ross? Answer me, dammit!

They enter a small opening in the rocks.

GWERNACH

Mr. Harron, you really must come with us if you ever hope to see your friend again.

David, somewhat reluctantly, enters the cave.

INT. THE CAIRN GROTTA - CONTINUOUS

Near-total darkness. David is seized by a momentary panic. After a moment, he becomes fascinated by the intricately carved walls.

His two silent guides suddenly disappear through an opening in the rock face and, as David rushes forward to catch up with them.

INT. FURTHER DOWN IN THE GROTTA - CONTINUOUS

David is awed by the place. Cathbad and Gwernach motion for David to follow them. The grandeur of the cave builds as he enters farther in.

In awe, David moves through the cave. A form appears in the shadows and moves into a shaft of light. David turns to see Langley appear from the darkness.

DAVID

Professor!

LANGLEY

Hello, David.

DAVID

Where've you been, Professor?

LANGLEY

Much has happened, David.

DAVID

Professor, I've been going crazy trying to find out if you were dead or alive!

David points to Cathbad and Gwernach.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Then they came along.

Langley David leads him through the grotto.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Why all the goddamn clues and symbols?
Why not just tell me, for Christ's
sake?

LANGLEY

Would you have come? I think not.
No, my boy, you had to solve this
mystery for yourself.

DAVID

But what does all this mean? Is
there really a Shield of Achilles?
And where in the name of God are we?

LANGLEY

In the name of the *Goddess*, David.

DAVID

You found her?

LANGLEY

After all these years.

DAVID

And these people. Are they the living
descendants of the Mother Goddess
civilization?

A broad smile slowly stretches across Langley's face as he
nods.

DAVID (CONT'D)

That's incredible, Professor.

LANGLEY

You must be starved.

INT. DINING AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Sitting at a large stone table, also cut from the rock floor,
Langley and David sit at a rather lavish spread.

LANGLEY

We're on a small Island in the North
Atlantic, called Achora. The locals
call it The Cairn.

David stops eating and looks off into the depths of the cave.

DAVID

The Shield? Where is it?

Langley smiles impishly.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Professor, don't get me wrong. I mean I'm really happy for you, but, what in the hell is all this about?

LANGLEY

The additional elements. I misinterpreted them. Thought it was a sinister plot. Regardless of the approach, the only common link was the word Kaballa. The oldest mystic theosophy. The basis for the Old Gods. The Occult.

Heaps on more food on David's empty plate.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

Eat, David. You'll need your strength.

DAVID

I need answers.

LANGLEY

Of course you do.

INT. CORRIDOR - LATER

Langley leads David along.

LANGLEY

When I made the connection with Horse, I told myself that it was nonsense. Horse? And the horn? Was it to be taken literally? Or as a symbol of power?

DAVID

The horn's been sacred to every ancient society.

LANGLEY

But there was no reason why.

DAVID

Where does Ross fit into all this?

Langley smiles impishly.

INT. ANOTHER CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS**LANGLEY**

Ross was a way of getting you here.
I played on your innate curiosity.

DAVID

We're prisoners here!

LANGLEY

We're far from being prisoners.
They had to be sure about us.

David raises a questioning eyebrow. Langley stands near a large, ornate doorway, cut from the stone. He puts his hand on the door, wonder and passion in his eyes.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

Beyond that door is the wonder of
the age. Nothing in your life could
possibly have prepared you for this.

David, now steeped in anticipation, glares on at Langley.

INT. ALEC SILVERS' OFFICE - NIGHT

Alec sits at his desk, talking to David on the speaker phone.

ALEC

Cute story, David. Now are you going
to get your ass back here and help
me?

DAVID (V.O.)

Look, Alec, this is important!

ALEC

More important than a multimillion...

DAVID (V.O.)

Dammit, yes, Alec! Yes!

The line goes dead. Alec is taken aback by David's tone.

EXT. THE CAIRN DOCK - DAY

Alec, the wind blowing his carefully combed hair, jumps off the boat and goes to David.

ALEC

The Ad man cometh.

DAVID

Welcome, Alec.

ALEC

Well, this is an impressive load of bullshit.

David just smiles.

EXT. STONE PATHWAY – CONTINUOUS

David leads Alec up the path.

ALEC

You're going to walk on water now?

David smiles enigmatically.

STONE OUTCROPPING – CONTINUOUS

Langley stands facing out to sea. David moves forward and leads Alec to him.

DAVID

Alec, this is Professor Langley.

Alec shakes Langley's hand. Suspicion fills his eyes.

ALEC

The prodigal professor. What a splendid fossil you've found, David.

LANGLEY

It's a pleasure to meet you, too, Mr. Silvers.

Alec just nods as he eyes the old man.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

Mr. Silvers, do you know the basis for all civilizations?

ALEC

You brought me here for a history lesson, David?

DAVID

I'll leave you two alone.

LANGLEY

Please, Mr. Silvers. You must understand some things. Religion is the answer to my question.

ALEC

What question ...

LANGLEY

The first priest-kings ruled in the name of their gods. Religion. Government. Combined. Modern man has existed in his present state for more than 50,000 years, yet the oldest recorded civilization is barely 7,000 years old.

INT. GROTTO CORRIDOR - LATER

Langley leads the bored Alec.

ALEC

Fascinating, professor.

Alec notices the men and women, dressed in robes.

LANGLEY

They were called the Sumarians. Their laws and religion were the basis for every other society in the world. Four thousand years before the ancient Greeks destroyed Troy, the Sumarians flourished. Then vanished.

Alec looks at the relics lining the cave. One is a twisted horn. Langley stops with him.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

The ritual horn. The account of the flood. Evil destroyed. They've been carried through every known religion. There is a commonality.

ALEC

This is all very...

LANGLEY

You came here for a reason, Mr. Silvers. Not just because of an old friend's request.

ALEC

He didn't exactly request.

INT. OUTSIDE THE GREAT CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

Langley stops outside the large, stone doors.

LANGLEY

Alexander the Great came here. He met the living descendants of the Cult of the Mother Goddess.

ALEC

Get to the point, Professor?

LANGLEY

It's taken nearly 7,000 years to bring us together, Mr. Silvers. Surely you can wait just a few more moments for your answers.

With seemingly no effort, Langley, pushes the great stone doors aside.

INT. GREAT CHAMBER — CONTINUOUS

Alec's mouth goes agape as he views the chamber. The doors close behind them. Before them is the great altar. Anexander stands at the altar.

David walks up and joins them as Anexander turns, still hooded, flanked by Siobhan, and descends one of the stone stairways as if floating.

ALEC

You used to be the best ad man in the biz, but you know you can't...

DAVID

For once in your life, Alec, shut up.

The Druids gather around Anexander as he stands at the base of the altar. Anexander slowly pulls back his hood.

Shock fills Alec's face. Slowly, Anexander moves forward into the light. His face is vaguely equine, a combination of horse and man. His straw-colored hair is long and flowing, and in the middle of his forehead is a large, twisted horn.

ANEXANDER

I am Anexander. With my brother, the Minotaur, Protector of the Goddess, I welcome you. Questions fill your eyes, Mr. Silvers.

DAVID

I know what you're thinking, Alec.

ALEC

It's a little early for Halloween,
isn't it? Is this a joke?

LANGLEY

It's a link with Man's beginnings.
Anexander is from a race older than
our own.

ALEC

The missing link?

ANEXANDER

I don't believe I was ever lost, Mr.
Silvers.

LANGLEY

Not missing. Simply linking the
past with the present.

Anexander moves off, without a word. With almost royal
respect, the rest follow.

ALEC

This is ridiculous! Ancient races?
Living legends?

DAVID

It's true, Alec.

ALEC

My brother the Minotaur? You must
be crazy!

ANEXANDER

Part of our religion, Mr. Silvers.
Dim shadows of a long ago past. Of
course, I never knew him.

ALEC

Knew him?

LANGLEY

Gods and demigods, mythological
monsters? You mean all of them
existed?

ANEXANDER

Not all of them, Professor. Some
were man's attempt to explain what
he could not understand. But *He*
existed.

Alec remains at a standstill for a moment, as if people should
wait for him.

ALEC

How could the Minotaur exist?

Anexander continues on without turning.

ANEXANDER

As I exist.

Anexander exits the Great Chamber.

EXT. STONE OUTCROPPING – CONTINUOUS

Anexander, flanked by David, Langley, Cathbad and Gwernach, looks out to sea. Ever present, Siobhan stands nearby.

ALEC

What are you guys trying to pull?

ANEXANDER

Your mind simply refuses to accept the repudiation of everything you've ever learned.

ALEC

It's too much to believe.

ANEXANDER

Then accept me for what I am.

ALEC

What exactly are you?

ANEXANDER

Another species, Mr. Silvers. I have no mystical properties. I'm much like you. But in a form both pleasing and awesome to your species.

Anexander leads Alec off from the rest.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

I know the effect I have on people. But have not the ability to exploit it.

A quizzical look from Alec.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

For eons we were hunted, persecuted. Not out of hatred. We realized that. It was our beauty, and the...

DAVID

Innocence?

Anexander turns, nods and smiles.

ANEXANDER

If we had been repulsive to the eye,
or great in number, we might have
been left alone.

A little DRUID GIRL walks up with a plate of food. Anexander takes a piece and eats it. He compassionately runs his hand over her head and smiles.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

It is because of our so-called beauty
that we perished.

ALEC

Not all of you, obviously.

Rain clouds roll in, and the CLAP of distant thunder breaks.

ANEXANDER

A few of my ancestors survived.
Their kind have always been cherished
by men. Now we are almost extinct.

Anexander moves off by himself to a higher point on the outcropping. Slowly, drops of rain begin to fall.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

We allowed ourselves to be protected.
Hidden away in citadels of Men and
worshiped as gods.

ALEC

But you're not gods?

Anexander turns and shakes his head slowly.

DAVID

But they weren't men either.

With a final CLAP of thunder, the rain increases to a deluge.

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

A grand feast sits on the table. Anexander eats sparingly, while Langley ravenously wolfs down his food.

ANEXANDER

We are the Genesis of many of your
myths and legends. And as the legends
grew, man began to wonder if the
Unicorn had ever really existed.

Langley drips food from his mouth.

LANGLEY

You see, the conquering Akkadians from the north misinterpreted the symbols of the man with the shape and horn of an animal!

And since that time, all mention of the word Unicorn has conjured up a feeling of mystery and awe, dating back to the account of the Great Flood.

ALEC

Noah?

LANGLEY

Gilgamesh actually. The flood destroyed all evil and preserved every animal except the Unicorn.

ALEC

So that's where the myth started?

David smiles at Alec as Langley rises from his chair, crosses to bas relief ornately carved into the wall.

LANGLEY

Is it any wonder that Alexander the Great was so touched by these people with their "Living God" as proof of their beliefs? To Alexander, it must have seemed the final proof of his own divinity, being chosen by the gods to preserve and protect the only real god he'd ever seen.

Alec whispers to David.

ALEC

He's a bit melodramatic.

David laughs a little.

LANGLEY

Knowing that his time was short, and that, after his death, men would come to destroy this peaceful place and its living god, Alexander swore his men to secrecy and altered the precious...

Langley motions to the shield.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

...Shield of Achilles to elevate the Horn and Kaballa above the Greek symbols. When he lay near death, he had the shield returned to Siwa to await the next Son of Ammon in the land of the Gods. And there it remained. Until it was needed again.

The group falls silent as Langley takes his seat. Alec takes a long deep breath and thinks about what he's heard.

ALEC

Great. Wonderful dinner. Are you all finished? How can you believe any of this bullshit, David?

ANEXANDER

You must understand, sir, that all I have told you was put down by the scribes long ago and passed on, in secret, by the Druids, who were the self-appointed protectors of the Nemeton.

ALEC

The what?

DAVID

Ancient Celtic for Sanctuary.

LANGLEY

You were awake during my lectures.

INT. CLASSROOM AREA - LATER

Children dressed in Druid robes sit on pillows on the floor and listen to their teacher as Anexander leads the group through the area. The children pay almost as much attention to Siobhan as to Anexander.

ANEXANDER

The Children of the Nemeton, who brought you here, have taken the words of my ancestors, their unspoken sense of disillusionment and hope, and applied them as lessons in their daily lives. By now, I'm afraid, more a litany than a religion. But my people understand these things. I do not pretend to.

ALEC

I'm still clueless.

ANEXANDER

If I seem alien to you, Mr. Silvers,
I assure you, I am a simple creature,
it seems both blessed and cursed by
the Goddess to live and die in
darkness.

He looks to Alec, then to David, then to Langley.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

I am soon to come of age.

DAVID

Thirty years?

Anexander nods, sadly, and stands. He goes to the beautiful
statue of the Goddess.

ANEXANDER

And on that day, when the face of
the sun becomes one with the hand of
the Goddess, I am more than just the
living heritage of my species. On
that day, I become the sole protector
of my people. Of their welfare and
their way of life.

INT. ANEXANDER'S STUDY - LATER

Anexander sits at an ornate, stone desk in front of a window,
open to the night, the ocean behind him. As Alec enters and
moves toward Anexander, Siobhan stands and exits.

ALEC

I'm trying to understand this. What
you said tonight. Why am I here?

ANEXANDER

Your world, Mr. Silvers, has brought
mine to the brink of disaster. The
skies rain death on our crops. Into
the sea that now destroys our
fisheries. I fear, Mr. Silvers,
that your society is destroying ours.

ALEC

I've gotta tell you, you'd make a
great ad man.

ANEXANDER

I am an ancient, Mr. Silvers. And I
am alone. There is much for me to
know, much that I do not understand.

Anexander stands and looks out the window.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

But there remains so much that I do not understand. I need your aid in saving my people. By using the one resource we possess.

Alec moves toward Anexander.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

So I must seek it myself, outside the confines of my safe home. And with your help, Mr. Silvers.

ALEC

Let me get this straight. You're a genuine, honest to God -- Goddess -- Unicorn, and you've somehow managed to survive 7,000 years of Man's wars, pestilence and sheer stupidity, and now you want help from me?

Anexander nods.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Anexander, my world is not a world of peace. I'll admit that it scares the hell out of me most of the time!

ANEXANDER

I do not have the luxury of fear, Mr. Silvers. What I must do is preordained.

EXT. STONE OUTCROPPING -- LATER

David and Alec stand together.

ALEC

You know the media will eat him alive. When they're done with him there'll be nothing left but a pile of bones and that ridiculous horn of his.

DAVID

You've been looking for a way to legitimize those fuel companies of yours, right? Picture this:

David pretends to put up a poster.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Save The Earth. Those companies would underwrite that campaign if Anexander were the figurehead. Hundreds of millions, maybe billions of dollars, Alec.

Anexander, Langley, Cathbad and Gwernach approach.

ALEC

Anexander, why not just announce your existence to the British or even the Irish government and get subsidized?

Anexander turns and looks gravely at Alec, then regains his regal bearing.

ANEXANDER

What would you have us do? Would you become the possession of one country or another after seven thousand years of Freedom?

Everyone stands silent for a moment.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

With your help, and that of the Goddess, we will follow our own path.

Alec moves directly in front of Anexander. The realization floods his face as his eyes meet Anexander's.

ALEC

You really are what you say you are.

Cathbad steps forward. Concern covers his face as Siobhan moves to Anexander's side and takes his hand.

CATHBAD

Has it not always been true?

Anexander ignores Cathbad's emotional outburst.

CATHBAD (CONT'D)

Shall it not remain so until the twilight of the Goddess, and without endangering my lord?

ANEXANDER

Cathbad and his brethren are convinced of my folly. Yet they are forsworn to speak truthfully, and truly they have seen the salvation of the Nemeton in this.

CATHBAD

Be not so quick to turn aside from wisdom, Lord.

ANEXANDER

Good friend, I do take your counsel most seriously. And yet I am doubtless that there is no choice left for me.

CATHBAD

But, by the will of the Goddess, I've sworn to protect you.

Anexander whispers to Cathbad.

ANEXANDER

This is the will of the Goddess.

EXT. STONE OUTCROPPING - DAY

David looks out over the ocean. Langley, smoking a pipe, moves slowly to him.

LANGLEY

You haven't slept?

A long pause hangs heavy in the air.

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

Are you going to help him?

DAVID

It's what he wants, isn't it?

LANGLEY

Yes, of course it is. I suppose.

DAVID

Of course it is. Look, Professor, what other chance do they have?

LANGLEY

Be careful what you ask for, David.

DAVID

It's what they believe in. What *he* believes in.

LANGLEY

And you and I, David. What do we believe in?

(MORE)

LANGLEY (CONT'D)

Do you know what it will do to organized religion to suddenly encounter an intelligent creature that predates man? Every existing belief system will feel challenged.

DAVID

What do you mean?

LANGLEY

Organized religions all over the world may very well feel threatened by what we're about to do.

DAVID

Why should they be?

LANGLEY

The scientists who built the atomic bomb had no real clue what power they were about to unleash on an unsuspecting world, David.

DAVID

Anexander isn't a bomb.

LANGLEY

But he is, David. We have no idea what we're about to do. And like those scientists so many years ago, we may not be able to control what we're about to unleash.

DAVID

After all the mystery trying to find you, bringing Alec here, now you're trying to stop me?

LANGLEY

I just want you to think a bit more on this, David. So far, *they've* controlled and orchestrated everything.

DAVID

You brought me here.

Langley nods.

LANGLEY

Who really discovered whom?

David reflects on the statement for a while, then turns to face up to the summit.

There he sees Anexander standing alone, in the rising sun.

INT. NORTHRIDGE'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Alec, exhausted, sits on the sofa. All around the office are sketches of the Anexander campaign. Howard Northridge sits behind his desk.

NORTHRIDGE

Will anyone believe this, Alec?

ALEC

When they've seen the evidence.

NORTHRIDGE

But will they *believe* the evidence?

Alec goes to the liquor cabinet and pours himself a stiff one. He motions to Howard to see if he wants one, but Howard declines.

ALEC

Probably not. But by then it won't matter.

Alec sits again.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Most of the people out there want to believe in something.

NORTHRIDGE

David comes with the deal?

Alec smiles and raises his glass. He stands by the sketches.

ALEC

Tomorrow the whole world will know.

NORTHRIDGE

I hope it works.

ALEC

It has to work.

NORTHRIDGE

Security?

ALEC

Company jet took him to the Long Island Estate. A private chopper will bring him directly to Lincoln Center tomorrow.

NORTHRIDGE

If word of this leaks before your conference ...

ALEC

It won't.

NORTHRIDGE

What about the doctors?

ALEC

Even the medical people can't believe it. They can't refute The evidence.

NORTHRIDGE

But they'll try.

ALEC

They'll have to. Same with the clergy. But what we're going for is for the people to accept him.

NORTHRIDGE

But what about Anexander?

ALEC

If Anexander comes off as exactly what he is, a beautiful, mysterious, miracle, with no claims to religion or politics, then the people will accept him.

NORTHRIDGE

We'll have to address the money issue sooner or later.

ALEC

By then we'll have reached our objective.

EXT. LINCOLN CENTER - DAY

Throngs mill about, and enter the building.

INT. LINCOLN CENTER BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Beth enters and sees David - dressed in his tuxedo - talking to a TECHNICIAN. A SECURITY GUARD stops her. David sees her, and motions for the guard to let her come. She throws her arms around him and kisses him.

BETH

David! When did you get back?

DAVID

About two weeks ago.

Beth instantly becomes totally pissed and hurt.

BETH

Two weeks?

DAVID

I don't have time to explain now.
Beth, it's amazing. You'll understand
in a few minutes.

BETH

David!

David kisses her.

DAVID

Trust me.

He smiles in an almost scary way as he let's her go and heads off. He looks back.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I'm glad you're here.

David disappears, leaving Beth to wander around backstage.

INT. LINCOLN CENTER BACKSTAGE CORRIDOR – CONTINUOUS

Beth heads down the corridor, bathed in a strange, haunting, ethereal music, a chant. She finds the source of the music.

INT. LINCOLN CENTER DRESSING ROOM – CONTINUOUS

Beth goes to a partially opened door, and looks in. She stares deeper into the room and sees Anexander's reflection in the mirror.

Anexander pulls his hood up over his head, and turns toward the door. Beth fades into the shadows. Cathbad opens the door for Anexander and they all head out of the room.

INT. BACKSTAGE CORRIDOR – CONTINUOUS

Beth is in complete shock as the entourage passes by.

INT. LINCOLN CENTER MAIN STAGE – MOMENTS LATER

A single spotlight illuminates the lectern.

The background DIN lowers as David enters and goes to the lectern. In the wings, Alec and Howard watch with guarded nervousness.

DAVID

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.
Thank you all for coming.

Camera FLASHES fill the room. Behind David, on a large scrim, are images of wildlife, beautiful vistas, blending into logos of the major oil companies.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Man's stewardship of Planet Earth
has been anything but kind or prudent.
Pollution threatens us all. Famine
is in the headlines almost ever year.
It's happening everywhere. It's
happening now. And nothing can stop
it. Except us. If we want to.

One Reporter leans to another.

REPORTER

What the hell is he talking about?

The other reporter shrugs her shoulders as.

Images of Anexander begin to appear on the scrim.

DAVID

I am about introduce you to someone
whose existence will seem impossible.
Please, keep an open mind. Try to
accept the miracle you will witness
today.

From the shadows, with his hood still on Anexander approaches. An air of mystery fills the theater as the drama unfolds. David smiles and turns.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Ladies and gentlemen, I give you,
Anexander.

He gestures grandly and steps back from the light as Anexander takes his place in the pale spotlight. The audience members sit still, steeped in anticipation.

Anexander stands silently, drinking in the moment. Then, slowly, carefully, removes his hood. Astonished, incredulous stares.

IN THE AUDIENCE Howard leans to Alec.

HOWARD

The show begins.

THE AUDIENCE calms for a moment.

ANEXANDER smiles a friendly smile.

ANEXANDER

I thank you for coming to see me.
And I bid you peace. I come to you
from an ancient race. Different
from your own, but similar in many
ways. Yet we are all facing the
same fate. The same technology that
has freed Mankind has brought
destruction to my people. As well
as your own.

IN THE AUDIENCE the reporters sit transfixed on Anexander.
REPORTER #1 leans to the other.

REPORTER #1

Is that a horn on his head?

ANEXANDER CONTINUES to address the gathering.

ANEXANDER

But why is it we only listen when it
is too late? Why must the most
valuable things we love and cherish
be sacrificed before we face the
truth?

Anexander looks to David, then scans the others, Howard and
Alec, then fixes on Beth for a moment. They exchange an
emotion through the ether.

REPORTER #2 leans back to Reporter #1 and **REPORTER #3**.

REPORTER #2

Did I miss Halloween?

REPORTER #3

What the fuck is this?

ANEXANDER as if he can hear the reporters, looks to them.

ANEXANDER

This Earth of ours is not unlimited.
It cannot withstand constant abuse.
With the extinction of the Earth, so
goes the extinction of Man.

Without another word, Anexander heads for the wings.

Security people crowd around him and rush him past Beth, who stands transfixed. Leaving Alec behind, Howard heads off with the rest as:

David takes the stage, almost having to shout over the AD LIB questions from the reporters.

DAVID

In order to have any lasting effect, any antipollution concept to clean up the Earth would have to be implemented on a global scale!

Until now, this has been only a dream. But, now, ten percent of every product bearing Anexander's likeness will go into an independently administered non-profit *Save-the-Earth* fund.

The major oil companies will be contributing matching funds. The time may have finally come when we can guarantee tomorrow for our children.

And starting tomorrow, you, ladies and gentlemen of the press, will be part of some of the most amazing events in the history of this Planet!

As the reporters jump from their seats, flinging more AD LIB QUESTIONS at David, he blasts off toward Alec and Beth. Alec puts his arm around David and leads him off, with Beth in tow.

ALEC

Well, you've really unzipped it now.

DAVID

Better check your own.

INT. HOSPITAL EXAMINATION ROOM - NIGHT

DR. MARION RICHARDS, moves to Anexander, who is dressed in a patient's robe. Dr. Richards has a needle in her hand and is ready to do a blood draw.

DR. RICHARDS

This is going to hurt a bit.

Anexander winces a bit as the needle goes in.

INT. HOSPITAL MRI ROOM - LATER

Anexander is moved into place in the MRI and the test begins. The machine BANGS loudly as the exam takes place.

MRI CONTROL ROOM - LATER

The cross-section of Anexander's image appears on the screen. The doctors stare in disbelief as they look at it.

INT. BETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David and Beth lie in bed together.

BETH

I don't know what to make of all this. Is it real?

DAVID

You saw *it*.

BETH

I saw him.

DAVID

The doctors are running tests tonight. X-rays, genetic tests, brain scans.

Beth nods and falls back on the pillow.

BETH

I feel sorry for him.

DAVID

Anexander made his choice.

BETH

David, are you back?

David leans over and kisses her. He then picks up the TV remote control.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - NIGHT

DAN RATHER sits at his desk with his script in front of him. The FLOOR MANAGER signals and Rather begins.

RATHER

Good evening, and welcome to CBS News. I'm Dan Rather. Is he the missing link? A new sentient species?

(MORE)

RATHER (CONT'D)

Or an elaborate hoax? For more on this incredible, breaking story, we go to Marjory Mitchell.

INT. PLAZA HOTEL SUITE — CONTINUOUS

Reporter MARJORY MITCHELL sits with Langley.

MITCHELL

I'm here with Professor John Langley. Professor, you're the one who made this amazing discovery. The whole world is waiting. What is Anexander?

LANGLEY

Ms. Mitchell, science teaches us to question, to collect information. To decipher, disseminate, distill that information into an acceptable series of probabilities.

INT. PROFESSOR SALLIS' STUDY — CONTINUOUS

Sallis watches Langley on TV.

LANGLEY (V.O.)

Then, if no one comes along to challenge these probabilities, we congratulate ourselves and sit back and soak up the praise.

SALLIS

Do you ever just get to the point, John?

LANGLEY (V.O.)

We should never stop questioning.

INT. PUB — CONTINUOUS

Reg and Harve sit at the bar, eyes glued to the TV.

LANGLEY (V.O.)

And if, as every schoolboy has been told by Mr. Conan Doyle, a fact arises to confound and destroy your precious theory, when all other facts fit so securely together, then that one single fact must be reckoned with.

Reg turns to Harve.

REG

Man never did make sense.

INT. LANGLEY'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Miss McCormack sits in front of the television, knitting.

LANGLEY (V.O.)

We must either accept the obvious,
that the theory is wrong, or disregard
the conflicting fact, that small
piece of truth, and climb back into
the comfortable cloister of science.

Miss McCormack smiles broadly.

INT. ADVERTISING AGENCY BOARD ROOM - DAY

Alec, Howard, and some of Howard's people, sit around the
board room table, watching Langley.

LANGLEY (V.O.)

Anexander exists. He simply is.
The wonderful fact of him must be
reckoned with. The theories are
wrong.

Howard turns the VCR off and addresses Alec.

HOWARD

What are we going to do about that?

ALEC

He's an anachronism. He'll write
his book, have his fifteen minutes
and that'll be it.

BARRY PHILLIPS, very GQ, leans back in his chair as David,
tired and worn, enters and takes a seat.

BARRY

What about control? Can we contain
this? Will it get away from us?

ALEC

We have it contained, Barry.

BARRY

I'm still worried, with loose cannons
out there like Langley.

ALEC

We're not exactly selling statues and medals. It's not as if we don't have just about every possible outlet for any exploitation item we can dream up.

BARRY

What about the Ecumenical Council?

ALEC

Anexander doesn't want any more followers. He won't even allow anyone inside the Cairn, let alone join his religion.

DAVID

That was part of the deal. As a matter of fact, Howard, he's seriously considering an answer to all these charges that he constitutes a threat to organized religion or that he uses mind-control on the kids.

BARRY

Yeah, right.

DAVID

He has no religious or political agenda whatsoever, Barry.

HOWARD

As long as it stays that way, we'll be fine. Issue a statement to that effect first, Barry.

ALEC

As long as he's not a threat to anyone, we can use his name on anything.

DAVID

Is that all you care about... selling?

ALEC

That includes your precious campaign, David. Don't forget that his image is the major selling point.

BARRY

Do you think we ought to draw the line someplace?

ALEC

You mean Unicorn Flakes?

DAVID

Unicorn Flakes?

ALEC

We're not asking Anexander to eat them on Television. They make them; we sell them.

HOWARD

David, this campaign is very delicate. We need to keep Anexander's face out there.

DAVID

But Unicorn Flakes?

ALEC

The more contact with him the better. We can have his face in eighty million kitchens before year's end.

DAVID

Is that all we want? Eighty million kitchens?

ALEC

Ten cents of every dollar goes to clean up and preserve the environment. Isn't that why you and Anexander - isn't that why we're all here?

David is uncertain. Howard stands and walks over to David.

ALEC (CONT'D)

David, we paid Anexander a lot of money for his likeness. His people will be taken care of for more years than we all have left. Do you understand?

David takes a moment to think, then nods. Howard heads for the door, but talks back to Alec.

HOWARD

License the Flakes. Comic books, clothing franchises, action figures. But use discretion.

BARRY

Saks wants permission to put horns on their mannequins.

Howard thinks for a moment, looks at the exasperated David.

HOWARD

Do it. Tastefully.

BARRY

Naturally.

ALEC

And we have David booked on the talk show circuit as a prelude to the big day.

HOWARD

Good. Alec, this is your baby. Bring it up wisely.

He turns and exits. David stares coldly at Alec.

INT. GERALDO SHOW - DAY

GERALDO walks up to center stage and faces David.

GERALDO

We have with us today, David Harron, a well-respected writer in the field of ecology and the environment. Now, he's found a Unicorn.

Geraldo looks incredulously at David. Behind David is a large picture of Anexander.

GERALDO (CONT'D)

A real Unicorn?

DAVID

In the flesh.

GERALDO

I just have to say one thing. Will they ever let me live down Al Capone's vault?

Huge laughter from the audience. David smiles.

GERALDO (CONT'D)

David, do you expect us to believe that Anexander is what he claims to be? A real, human-like Unicorn?

DAVID

You've seen the medical reports.

INT. THE SALLY JESSIE RAPHAEL SHOW - DAY

Raphael moves forward, adjusting her glasses.

SALLY

Of course they could be "Doctored."

A MURMUR of laughter runs through the crowd at the pun.

DAVID

Absolutely true. Don't you think I had the same doubts you have now? And I didn't have doctors to tell me that he's genuine.

Sally laughs as the audience LAUGHTER dies.

RAPHAEL

I get one every once in a while. How did you find him?

DAVID

Anexander found US, Sally. He and his people might have remained a secret for another seven thousand years if their sanctuary had not been endangered by an ecological crisis.

RAPHAEL

Why now? Why so urgent?

DAVID

Anexander feels it's urgent.

RAPHAEL

Why a Unicorn?

DAVID

Because he is one. I admit it's a dramatic discovery, but then, I doubt if we'd be talking right now if we'd discovered the last Siberian tiger instead of the last Unicorn.

The audience LAUGHS.

INT. OPRAH WINFREY'S SET - DAY

OPRAH laughs with the rest of the audience.

OPRAH

All right.

(MORE)

OPRAH (CONT'D)

Assuming Anexander is who and what he says he is, how do you characterize him?

DAVID

Characterize him?

OPRAH

Is he another race, another kind of being? Exactly what is he?

INT. NORTHRIDGE ADVERTISING BOARD ROOM - NIGHT

Howard, Alec, and a number of others watch the set.

DAVID (V.O.)

To me, he's exactly what he says he is, the last descendant of a race of beings like himself who have hidden from the outside world for nearly seventy centuries.

Oprah brings up an AUDIENCE MEMBER.

AUDIENCE MEMBER #1 (V.O.)

What about money? Where's that go?

DAVID (V.O.)

Ten percent of all proceeds go to a worldwide fund, administered by an impartially selected board of directors.

A second AUDIENCE MEMBER is brought up.

AUDIENCE MEMBER #2 (V.O.)

What are they going to use all that money for?

DAVID (V.O.)

It's for large-scale environmental improvement projects. Save The Earth is non-profit, and the books are wide open to anyone.

OPRAH (V.O.)

Anexander must be getting paid.

DAVID (V.O.)

Anexander's fees go into a general fund to alleviate conditions on his Island. No part of the earnings goes directly to him.

OPRAH (V.O.)

So you're saying he's doing this strictly for the good of his own people?

DAVID (V.O.)

Save the Earth is not a charity, Oprah. It's multibillion dollar business. People WILL make money. But a lot of good will also be done.

Howard turns the set off.

HOWARD

That was impressive.

ALEC

For this, he's the best spokesman we could ever find.

HOWARD

Okay, the stage is set. Pull the pin on the Meadowlands and let it rip.

INT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM BEHIND STAGE - NIGHT

There is no hint of what is to come. Alec stands near the entrance to the stage. The ASSISTANT DIRECTOR comes up to him.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Mr. Koppel wants to talk to you, Mr. Silvers.

ALEC

Delighted.

Anexander stands a few feet away, flanked by the Druids and Siobhan, and also surrounded by a large group of security personnel. TED KOPPEL walks up to Alec.

TED KOPPEL

All right, Mr. Silvers. The panel's in place on the stage. And we'll call for Anexander in a few minutes.

ALEC

Fine. That's great. He'll be ready.

TED KOPPEL

Here is a final list of the people involved and some of the questions.

ALEC

Fine.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Mr. Koppel, we need you near the stage.

TED KOPPEL

All right.

Koppel shakes Alec's hand and moves off with the A.D. as David moves up urgently, leaving Beth near the door.

ALEC

Ah, David, good of you to join us.

Alec waves to Beth.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Hello, Beth.

She waves back.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Have you seen Langley?

DAVID

No I haven't.

ALEC

His speech on TV was brilliant.

David is nonplussed.

DAVID

What is this?

ALEC

Pay per view, twenty-nine Ninety-five per house, and a percentage of the gate. Advance pay is already up to thirty million homes. Think of it, David.

DAVID

I can already feel this getting out of control.

ALEC

David, Ted Koppel's the moderator. Like you, he's absolutely above reproach. There's also a distinguished panel of doctors and religious leaders. It's incredible.

DAVID

You didn't even consult me!

Alec lies.

ALEC

I left a message on your machine.

David sees through the lie as an ASSISTANT DIRECTOR goes to Alec, then motions for Anexander.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Mr. Silvers, we need Anexander in position. It's almost time.

Smiling quietly, Anexander moves forward and goes to David

DAVID

Are you Okay?

ANEXANDER

I am fine, David. Why would I be otherwise?

A SOUND MAN moves up and adjusts Anexander's mike.

DAVID

Knock `em dead.

ANEXANDER

Why would I want to harm anyone?

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

We have to go.

DAVID

Just be yourself, Anexander.

ANEXANDER

Who else would I be, David?

DAVID

It's just a saying, Anexander. A figure of speech.

Anexander ponders for a moment, then as if he had just discovered the secret to the Universe...

ANEXANDER

Oh, an idiom! How charming.

Anexander sees Beth. His face lights up.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

Ms. Morgan. It is a pleasure to see you again.

BETH

How do you know me? We haven't been introduced.

ANEXANDER

Oh, David must have mentioned you to me. And we did meet in passing.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Please, Mr. Anexander. We have to go.

Anexander ignores the P.A.

ANEXANDER

You will stay for the show?

BETH

Wouldn't miss it.

ANEXANDER

I am so pleased.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

We have to go. Now.

The production assistant leads Anexander to the main stage door. David turns to Alec as Anexander moves through the passage to the stage.

DAVID

My ass is on the line too, you know.

ALEC

I'll send a messenger next time.

EXT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM GRANDSTANDS - NIGHT

In the packed stands, Vendors move through the crowd selling light sticks made in the shape of unicorn horns. The kids instantly activate them and place them on their heads.

From far away, it looks like a wave of light sweeping through the crowd as more and more light sticks are activated.

Giant Television screens line the stadium and cameramen, both fixed and mobile, make themselves ready.

EXT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM STAGE - NIGHT

In the middle of the field is a large, ornately decorated stage. The audience comes right up to the stage, but security blocks them.

From the rear of the stage is a long, covered concourse that leads from the player's entrance.

In the dark, Ted Koppel moves to his place as do the other guests. Anexander's chair sits up high above the others. The SOUNDS of the crowd fills the air as they take their seats.

Lights go up in the stands and a CHEER goes up in the crowds. Spotlights run the stadium and the theme MUSIC GOES UP. A light comes up on Ted Koppel. Cameras move in for their shots.

The FLOOR MANAGER moves in and starts a countdown. Then cues Koppel.

TED KOPPEL

About once in every decade or so, some fantastic revelation captures the imagination of the world. In recent memory, we've witnessed everything from Man's first step into space, to the tearing down of the Berlin Wall.

Turns to different camera.

TED KOPPEL (CONT'D)

But nothing in our collective consciousness has had the impact of Anexander. A Unicorn, allegedly descended from a race of beings that flourished on the Earth some seven thousand years ago before the dawn of recorded history.

Is he genuine, or a monumental hoax? During this next hour, on this Pay-Per-View special from the Meadowlands Stadium in New Jersey, we will meet and talk to Anexander, presumably - at least according to the medical evidence - the world's only living Unicorn!

Anexander moves out onto the stage to a THUNDEROUS applause and amazing MUSIC. His eyes show complete shock and amazement at the warm reception. Slowly, lead by an A.D., Anexander takes his seat.

Attendants hush the crowd. Above the crowd, and behind the stage, huge televisions show Anexander on screen.

TED KOPPEL (CONT'D)

Well, it's a pleasure to welcome you, Mr. Anexander.

ANEXANDER

Just Anexander will be fine, Mr. Koppel.

TED KOPPEL

Well, all right then, call me Ted.

ANEXANDER

Splendid. This is wonderful... Ted.

TED KOPPEL

Anexander, I'd like you to meet our distinguished panel. From Israel, Dr. Abraham Learner, a noted researcher and expert in biblical and ancient cultures ...

DR. ABRAHAM LERNER nods.

TED KOPPEL (CONT'D)

From Oxford University in England, Professor Stuart McManus, a widely respected anthropologist.

PROFESSOR STUART MCMANUS nods.

TED KOPPEL (CONT'D)

From the Arch Diocese of New York, and a biblical scholar who has written many books on ancient cultures, Cardinal Richard Contino.

CARDINAL RICHARD CONTINO.

TED KOPPEL (CONT'D)

And a widely regarded geneticist and medical doctor from John's Hopkin's University, Dr. Marion Richards joins our panel to give us the results of Anexander's medical tests.

DR. MARION RICHARDS nods.

TED KOPPEL (CONT'D)

I'd like you all to meet Anexander.

Anexander and the panelists nod to each other.

TED KOPPEL (CONT'D)

In light of our guest's most prominent feature, why don't we start with Dr. Richards. Doctor, first of all, what did you and your medical colleagues find in your tests?

DR. RICHARDS

Well, we did an extensive battery of blood tests, MRI's, as well as a complete physical examination, which included genetic testing.

TED KOPPEL

And what were your conclusions?

DR. RICHARDS

Beyond any shred of doubt, the horn is growing out of Anexander's skull. Genetically, he's close to being human, but I believe he is not.

Dr. Lerner is aggravated. He bullies his way to take the floor.

LERNER

That's all very interesting. Anexander, from what we've read about you, and the society from which you come, you and your people worship a deity call the Mother Goddess?

ANEXANDER

Yes, that is true.

LERNER

You, in fact, are the central figure or "priest," if you will, of this religion?

ANEXANDER

That would be correct.

LERNER

Do you consider yourself some sort of god?

ANEXANDER

No, Dr. Lerner, although such claims are not unknown in history. The DaLai Lama of Tibet claims direct descendants from God, as does the Emperor of Japan. I wonder... might I have a glass of water, please?

TED KOPPEL

It's right next to you.

ANEXANDER

Oh, thank you.

He drinks quickly.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

Even the Pope of the Catholic Church is said to inherit rule of the Church directly from Saint Peter.

FATHER CONTINO

You equate yourself to the Pope?

Anexander is shocked.

ANEXANDER

Of course not. Unlike them, I am simply descended from a race of beings like myself. I am a priest, as you say, because it is my life's work, as it has been for my kind through the centuries. I am neither God nor man. Perhaps that statement is descriptive of all priests.

TED KOPPEL

True enough, it seems. Professor McManus? Your question?

MCMANUS

I'm curious about the reports I've received about young people around the world who want to join your cult of the Mother Goddess.

ANEXANDER

Professor, we are not a cult. We are a religion. The oldest of all religions, it seems.

MCMANUS

Fine. But how do you answer the charges that you're soliciting converts to your ... Religion?

ANEXANDER

It is not my purpose to convert anyone to anything. Except perhaps to raise everyone's consciousness about the fragile nature of this planet that is home to all of us.

MCMANUS

I understand your concern for our planet. But what about these charges?

ANEXANDER

My worship, our beliefs, are thousands of years older than others of the worlds religions. And I do not ask anyone else to embrace seven thousand years of tradition overnight or, indeed, at all.

MCMANUS

What about this movement?

ANEXANDER

I do not know of any movement, sir. It is true of young people throughout the ages that they seek constantly for change, and cleave to anything which offers even the glimmer of hope for something better.

CONTINO

You mean to tell us it's not in your plan to solicit converts to your religion?

INT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM CONTROL BOOTH - NIGHT**ANEXANDER (V.O.)**

My people will allow no one, young or old, to embrace their religion. The young people of the world will have to find peace without the Goddess or me.

Alec leans to an assistant.

ALEC

Tell the director to get more coverage of little kids. Really little. And beef up security at The Cairn. I'm talking about gunboats!

David moves up to Alec.

DAVID

What are you doing, Alec?

ALEC

You aware of the danger to the Cairn?

EXT. THE CAIRN - DAY

A fleet of gunboats assume protective positions around the Cairn. Residents of the Cairn look out in wonder.

DAVID (V.O.)

So you're going to make it an armed camp?

ALEC (V.O.)

They'll be a naval presence only, David.

EXT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM MAIN STAGE - NIGHT

Anexander takes a long drink from his glass of water and then focuses on one of the little girls in the front row. He smiles at her. She smiles back.

TED KOPPEL

Father Contino, do you have anything more?

CONTINO

I don't know about my colleagues, but I have difficulty with the visual image you present. In my tradition, horns have always had a sinister connotation.

ANEXANDER

You mean *Satanic*, Father?

CONTINO

Yes, as a matter of fact, I do.

ANEXANDER

On the contrary, Father. Your traditions are filled with sacred references to horns. Even to the Unicorn.

CONTINO

Excuse me?

ANEXANDER

The image of Satan or Lucifer with horns is a relatively recent manifestation.

CONTINO

Is that so?

ANEXANDER

Indeed. The Old Testament account of Moses' descent from Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments describes him by saying "he sent forth horns."

CONTINO

So why do we think otherwise today?

ANEXANDER

Somewhere in antiquity, a nameless translator may have taken the Latin word Cornu, horn, to be Corona and changed it to Crown.Or Halo, perhaps.

MCMANUS

So it's all just a translation problem?

ANEXANDER

Whenever you translate, there is the possibility of misunderstanding. As for my own appearance, my people may very well have regarded it as the touch of the Goddess.

LERNER

Alright, let's cut through this! What about claims made on your behalf, extravagant claims, I might add, that your Mother Goddess worship is the oldest on Earth ...

ANEXANDER

Our religion ...

LERNER

... And that it's the wellspring of ALL other religions?

ANEXANDER

If you'll let me ...

LERNER

... That you, and the ancient culture you come from are guarding secrets of the Universe?

Anexander is shocked by the venom of Lerner's sudden attack. He is almost in tears.

ANEXANDER

...I made no...

LERNER

It's as though, by your sudden emergence, you are trying to refute all of the world's religions!

TED KOPPEL

Dr. Lerner, you've made some accusations here and asked some probing questions. Please let Anexander answer.

ANEXANDER

Thank you, Mr. Koppel. I was not sure that he truly wished to hear the answer. Dr, Lerner, my only purpose for appearing at all is to help save my people from virtual extinction. I have made no claims whatever about myself, or my religion.

INT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM CONTROL BOOTH - NIGHT

Alec, David and Beth stand near the monitors. Anguish covers David's face. Tears fill Beth's eyes. Alec turns to the director.

ALEC

Make sure you get shots of that little girl.

DAVID

This is a slaughter, Alec! How could you have allowed this?

A voice INTONES from O.S. It is Langley.

LANGLEY (O.S.)

Have faith, David.

David turns quickly and sees Langley, who stands with the Druids and Siobhan. Alec is a bit annoyed.

DAVID

Professor!

LANGLEY

Anexander will be fine.

They all look back to the screens.

ANEXANDER (V.O.)

Despite my notoriety, I truly am an insignificant being, incapable of the claims and motives you ascribe to me.

EXT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM STAGE - NIGHT

Anexander looks directly into Lerner's eyes.

ANEXANDER

I have come with only one simple message... that of understanding, and a plea for sanity.

Tears appear in his eyes.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

Believe what you will about me, Doctor, but we both inhabit a troubled planet, and so we are both brothers.

Lerner speak quietly venomously.

LERNER

Brothers? What makes you think that millions of *human* beings will give up their beliefs because of anything you have to say? This is a hoax! A well-produced hoax.

TED KOPPEL

You've seen the medical evidence, Doctor.

LERNER

And I also saw an Alien Autopsy! I didn't believe that either!

Anexander is totally blown away by Lerner's words. He struggles to hold back the tears. He looks back to the little girl in the audience.

EXT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM GRANDSTAND - NIGHT

The little girl gives him a great big smile.

ANEXANDER (V.O.)

What I know of existence comes from books.

Anexander's face takes the place of the little girl.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

From the minds of others. So if my manner is too correct, too formal, I hope you will be patient with me.

INT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM CONTROL BOOTH - NIGHT

Alec, Langley, David and Beth watch the monitors as Anexander stares directly into the Camera.

ANEXANDER (V.O.)

My words, like myself, come from a different age. Yet, surely, if I exist, then the same spirit who created us all... must have meant it to be so.

Tears begin to fall from Anexander's eyes. Soon, everyone in the control booth, with the exception of Alec, begin to cry.

TED KOPPEL

So, the great Unicorn debate rages on. And millions, perhaps billions, of dollars go on being spent on posters, toys, all sorts of Unicorn products. And all this somehow seems to have overshadowed the real issue...

INT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM CONTROL ROOM - NIGHT

Alec, Beth and Langley watch the monitors. Alec smiles broadly.

TED KOPPEL (V.O.)

Is Anexander a Unicorn? And if his story really is true, then Mankind has an opportunity to communicate with history itself. And we may just miss that chance while we all sit around wondering what we really believe. Good night from the Meadowlands Stadium. Thank you for watching.

The graphics and theme MUSIC come up.

ALEC

Thank God that's over.

INT. MEADOWLANDS STADIUM STAGE - NIGHT

Ted Koppel and the guests exit the stage. Ted Koppel, tears in his eyes, walks by Anexander and shakes his hand. Professor McManus walks up, his eyes filled with tears. He takes Anexander's hand.

MCMANUS

May I shake your hand, Anexander?

ANEXANDER

I would be honored.

Lerner, incensed, blasts by them.

EXT. MANHATTAN STREET - DUSK

David, in a tux, and Beth, in a very smart dress, step out of a limousine and move through the throngs. Children wear Unicorn horns and in every store there are Unicorn products.

Plastered all over the buses and cabs are images of Anexander.

DAVID

God, you can't go a block without seeing his image. It's like the whole world has unicorn fever.

Billboards show his image also.

BETH

This is what you wanted, David.

DAVID

I don't know what I wanted.

They approach a building and enter.

INT. BALLROOM - NIGHT

David and Beth enter as other guests and the caterers move through the room. Alec detaches himself from the company of what are obviously two huge security guards and approaches.

ALEC

David! Great! We have a little time before the festivities begin. Hi, Beth. I wasn't expecting to see you tonight.

Looking around the room, David notices all the dressed-up security guards. A couple make eye contact with him.

BETH

I wouldn't miss it.

ALEC

David, you should see the numbers on last night. Through the roof.

DAVID

I'll bet.

ALEC

You two will sit with us at the head table.

BETH

Are you sure it's Okay?

ALEC

David and I are being called the architects of the Save-The-Earth Foundation. You're his friend.

David and Beth exchange troubled looks as Alec moves them to their seats.

ALEC (CONT'D)

I have to go and get this thing started.

They look out as the ushers move people to their seats in an orchestrated manner. The lights begin to DIM as Alec's voice BOOMS out over the loudspeaker.

ALEC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Ladies and gentlemen of the media, and honored guests.

Alec is at the podium.

ALEC (CONT'D)

If you'll please take your seats, we will be delighted to start this evening's proceedings.

People in the gathering are ushered to their seats.

ALEC (CONT'D)

The two hundred of us gathered here at this moment should feel honored to take part in one of the great adventures of Mankind. We are privileged to be witness to the dawning of a New Age. The Age of Hope...

The lights begin to dim as the audience MURMURS.

ALEC (CONT'D)

...The Age of Caring...

Lights are almost completely out.

ALEC (CONT'D)

...The Age... Of Anexander.

The lights go out completely. The image of a beautiful young girl fills the entire screen in front of the room. AS the child reaches out to touch a butterfly, we hear the quiet, soothing VOICE of Anexander.

ANEXANDER (V.O.)

This world of ours is very special.

The image of the girl dissolves to show a waving field of flowers, rivers, sunsets, birds, trees, people, etc.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Filled with wonders beyond number,
with miracles too numerous to count.
And yet this, the most beautiful of
worlds, is in danger.

Alec looks up with pride at the screen.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Not from pollution and famine and
war and starvation ... But from all
of us who try to tell ourselves that
these problems will go away.

The images continue on screen.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

They will not. But WE will ... If
we don't start caring ...

Beth and David stare up intently at the screen.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

About life ... About each other.

The image on the screen dissolves to a large image of Anexander's face, but we cannot see his horn.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

In a world that can create miracles...

Anexander's horn shows slowly on the screen.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

...The greatest miracle of all...

On the screen, a child's hand reaches out to another person over Anexander's face.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

...Is the simple act of one being touching another in love.

Anexander fills the screen from the chest up.

ANEXANDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I have come to you from across the centuries to tell you that miracles are still to be found and treasured ... And to ask you to join together with me to preserve the miracle...of life.

The screen goes to black as the LOGO of the SAVE-THE- EARTH foundation appears along with the phone number.

The audience sits in stunned silence as the lights go up. Beth and David smile broadly. Alec bathes in the glory. Alec looks at David. To David, Alec mouths the words.

ALEC (CONT'D)

We're home.

David smiles weakly as Beth looks at the now-empty screen.

INT. PLAZA HOTEL ELEVATOR - NIGHT

David and Beth stand together.

BETH

Don't you think it's too late?
Suppose he's asleep.

DAVID

He likes you, Beth.

BETH

But it's so late. He might get upset.

DAVID

You're not afraid of him, are you?

BETH

I just don't want to bother him.

The door opens.

DAVID

Come on. He'll love it.

INT. PLAZA HOTEL CORRIDOR - NIGHT

David and Beth walk down a corridor lined with security guards. They come to Anexander's door. A guard in a three-piece suite, NORMAN, stands sentinel.

NORMAN

Good evening, Mr. Harron, Miss Morgan.

DAVID

Norman.

BETH

How do you know me?

NORMAN

We have complete files on anyone who could possibly come in contact with Anexander.

David and Beth exchange glances.

NORMAN (CONT'D)

You can go right in. He's expecting you.

Norman turns and punches a code into the door panel. The door opens automatically.

INT. ANEXANDER'S HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

David and Beth enter the rooms. The suite is dimly lit.

BETH

He has better security than the President.

DAVID

Best money can buy. There are still people who would like to see Anexander dead.

Out of the darkness, Anexander's voice FLOATS to them.

ANEXANDER (V.O.)

To my people, death is a necessary part of the cycle of life.

Beth and David both jump. They are totally startled. Anexander moves out of the shadows.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

Forgive me if I startled you.

DAVID

It's all right.

ANEXANDER

Miss Morgan, it's a pleasure to meet you again.

BETH

It is for me, too.

ANEXANDER

How kind of you to share your evening with me. May I offer you something?

Anexander, flanked by Siobhan, leads them to another area of the suite where there are places to sit.

DAVID

I'm fine.

BETH

Just water for me, please.

Anexander nods to a Druid Priest and speaks to him in Gaelic.

ANEXANDER

Water, please, for Miss Morgan.

The Priest moves off.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

Cathbad has told me, as his father told my father before him, that the soul, as well as the Universe, is indestructible. Although both fire and water will one day prevail over them.

The Priest brings the water, in an ancient gold goblet, and hands it to Anexander. He hands it gently to Beth. Beth drinks as Anexander motions for them to sit.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

In my reflections on this, I have often wondered why it is that water, from which the Goddess caused all life to spring, should someday be the means of ending it.

David and Beth attempt to fathom the meaning of his words.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

And it occurs to me that, in this way, life and death are merely opposite ends of the same thread. A thread which twists and turns through time until beginning and end have no meaning and each death brings forth new life.

BETH

That's beautiful, Anexander.

He is pleased with her response.

ANEXANDER

It is inevitable.

DAVID

You should have been there tonight, seen the looks on their faces.

ANEXANDER

Did something in their faces please you?

DAVID

Very much, Anexander.

BETH

Are you happy here with us, Anexander?

ANEXANDER

For this moment, in this place, I am content. It is kind of you to be concerned.

Turns to David.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

While it is true that I am a stranger here, living among strangers, yet I am not alone. For my friend David has had the great kindness to share with me the gift of your friendship as well, Miss Morgan.

Anexander reaches out and touches Beth's hand.

EXT. NEW YOUR STREET - NIGHT

Beth and David move arm-in-arm down the street.

BETH

He's ... Amazing.

David smiles, but is aware that there is something different in Beth's voice.

DAVID

Are you Okay?

BETH

I'm fine. It's just that, Alexander is... I don't know.

DAVID

I felt it too. He has a calming effect.

BETH

Almost as if there's nothing out there that can hurt you.

David smiles and nods.

BETH (CONT'D)

Will he be alright, David?

DAVID

Of course he will. Can you imagine what kind of effect he's going to have when that television spot gets going? They'll be no stopping us.

Stops short.

BETH

Us? What about him?

DAVID

I'm talking about him. All of us who really give a damn about this planet.

BETH

I know, David. I'm sorry.

They look soulfully at each other for a moment, then David puts his arm around her and they walk off.

INT. RESTAURANT IN EDINBURGH - DAY

Dressed formally, Sallis, Langley and some of their colleagues sit at a large dinner.

SALLIS

I for one never doubted you for a moment. Your theories are totally brilliant. When will we get to meet Anexander?

LANGLEY

I really don't think that will happen.

SALLIS

Why not?

LANGLEY

It's a long story. Let just enjoy our dinner.

INT. NORTHRIDGE ADVERTISING BOARD ROOM - NIGHT

Alec turns the television off and turns to the people in the office, Barry, Staffers (MONICA, RICK), Artists, Account Execs and others. Alec goes through papers as he listens.

ALEC

Okay, I know you're all tired and under a lot of pressure, but we have to keep the momentum going. Updates, Monica?

MONICA

Licenses granted to General Foods, Kenner Toy Corp, Marvel Comics, and Proctor & Gamble.

ALEC

Filmation Group?

MONICA

We killed the cartoon series, but they still want to buy development rights.

ALEC

Options?

MONICA

Five years. Three spinoffs.

ALEC

Make sure we get approval. And make it seven years with no spinoffs we don't approve first.

Monica makes a note of it. Alec motions to Barry.

BARRY

Press and media are still screaming for anything they can get, and we keep getting requests from foreign dignitaries for an audience ...

ALEC

You already know the answer to that.

BARRY

I keep telling them, but ...

ALEC

How are your groups coming, Rick?

RICK

We have to guarantee at least a three hundred mile exclusivity.

ALEC

Get back to me on that. Jackie?

JACKIE

Volunteers are great. Meeting with the section leaders. Statewides are linking up this week.

ALEC

Literature?

JACKIE

Should be ready by Thursday. I've got the staffers and the National Chairperson coming in later today. And you're scheduled to meet with them after they've been briefed.

ALEC

Great. Cancellations?

BARRY

President and V.P. They asked for rain checks.

ALEC

Send it. You all know what you have to do. Everything's got to come off perfectly tonight. All the sponsors, all the power. They all get to see what they're paying for tonight.

They all know the meeting is over and get up to go. Alec stands up and motions to a large, ominous, very well-dressed man, JONATHAN PETERS.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Oh, folks, this is Jonathan Peters.
He's our new head of security. He'll
bring everyone up to speed on new
security measures. That's all.

INT. BETH'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Beth sits at a vanity clad only in a slip, a hair brush in
her hand. She stares intently at her reflection for a moment.

BETH

But why?

David's voice BOOMS from the bathroom.

DAVID

Because they want to see for
themselves.

Beth turns to the bathroom.

BETH

What kind of answer is that?

David enters from the bathroom dressed in pants, his shirt
open, drying his face with a towel. He senses Beth is on
edge.

DAVID

The truth Beth turns back to the
mirror and puts the brush down. She
stares into the mirror again.

BETH

Whose truth?

David puts his hands on her shoulders and looks at her
reflection.

DAVID

What is it, Beth? Beth?

BETH

It's just that it seems so cold. So
impersonal. Calculated.

David turns her around.

DAVID

Anexander calculated it. Planned
it.

Beth says nothing.

DAVID (CONT'D)

What's troubling you?

Beth turns back to the mirror.

BETH

Nothing. Everything! Maybe it's that no one else seems troubled. It's as if I'm the only one who can see it coming.

David sits on the bed behind her. He's upset.

DAVID

I know what you're feeling. Langley felt it at the Cairn. I felt it at the Meadowlands the other day.

BETH

I'm not sure any of you feel anything anymore.

DAVID

I'm sorry you feel that way.

He stands to leave. Beth realizes that he's leaving. She's scared.

BETH

David? David!

She runs to him and hugs him.

BETH (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I don't know why I said that. I know you care. It's just his eyes. His face. I keep seeing them.

DAVID

Beth, have you looked at my face? My eyes?

BETH

David, what's happening to us?

DAVID

I love you, Beth.

BETH

I love you too.

They kiss and David carries her to the bed. They lie, down still kissing, and lay locked in each other's arms for a few moments.

BETH (CONT'D)

You never did answer my question.

DAVID

What question?

BETH

Why does Anexander have to be there tonight?

DAVID

Can we just forget about this for a while?

She sits straight up.

BETH

I can't. I think about him all the time.

DAVID

Him? You're thinking about him? You're hung up on him. Aren't you?

BETH

No, David! I love you! It was just a lot simpler before you brought him here.

DAVID

Life isn't that simple! It doesn't just get handed to you.

BETH

It got handed to you.

DAVID

What?

BETH

Anexander. That's how you found him.

DAVID

That's NOT how it happened!

BETH

Yeah, right! You even said he found you.

David seems totally shocked at this attack.

DAVID

Okay, let me think. We make love.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

We're getting dressed. You ask me a simple question, and all hell breaks loose. Where is all this coming from?

Beth gets up and walks into the bathroom.

BETH

Forget it.

DAVID

Beth, you're scaring me.

EXT. NEW YORK STREET - NIGHT

Beth walks ahead of David.

BETH

You wouldn't understand!

DAVID

God, why do women always say that?

Stops short.

BETH

Look, it's not you. And it's not us. Ever since Anexander came, everything's different.

DAVID

Different? Different?

BETH

Maybe I should be glad to be so close to it all. He considers me his friend. But every time I look at him I ...

DAVID

What?

BETH

David, can't you see what's going on?

DAVID

I guess not.

BETH

What's going to happen to him?

DAVID

Whatever happens, it's always been his choice, Beth.

BETH

Not anymore. The P.R., the fan clubs, the cheap tie-ins ...

DAVID

They're all part of it. They had to do it to make it work. He knew that going in.

BETH

Did he? Like the broadcast the other night? You knew how bad it could get. But he didn't. He trusted you. I trusted you.

DAVID

What could I have done?

BETH

David, you were the one who presented Anexander to the world.

DAVID

But I didn't create him!!!

BETH

Didn't you?

Beth turns to hail a cab as David stands alone on the sidewalk.

INT. ALEC'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Alec works on some papers as Howard enters.

HOWARD

How's everything going?

Alec jumps out of his skin.

ALEC

Dammit, I didn't see you come in.

Howard smiles at him as he goes to the liquor cabinet and pours a drink.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Everything's on schedule. These are the revised lists.

Alec hands him the papers, but Howard hardly looks at them.

HOWARD

I was more concerned with our guest
of honor.

ALEC

He's fine, Howard. Fine.

Howard sits.

HOWARD

What about his attitude?

ALEC

Excuse me?

HOWARD

Come on, Alec. You haven't sensed
a change?

ALEC

I don't follow you.

HOWARD

Am I being obtuse?

ALEC

Just not following you.

HOWARD

Strange damn people. They're always
speaking that strange gibberish.

ALEC

It's Gaelic, Howard, ancient Irish.

HOWARD

Whatever. Well, if you're not
worried, why should I be? You might
want to ask Anexander anyway.

ALEC

I'll do that.

INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Alec walks up to the door. Norman and another well- dressed
security guard wait there on duty.

ALEC

He's alone?

NORMAN

Except for the Druids. Quiet in there.

Norman uses the electronic keypad to open the door.

INT. ANEXANDER'S SUITE - NIGHT

Alec can hear only faint sounds of speaking as he enters the suite. He sees Anexander and Cathbad whispering. Siobhan weeps softly to the side.

ANEXANDER

Erenn tabrach nemet. Ikush lugal erenn.

CATHBAD

Nur etain, Equitas! Killikallek erenn.

ANEXANDER

Ikush, Cathbad. Ikush Lugal.

They fall suddenly silent as they become aware of Alec's presence.

ALEC

I hope I'm not disturbing you.

ANEXANDER

My priests and I were speaking of things worlds away. Have you come about tonight?

ALEC

I just wanted to see if everything was alright with you. I know you weren't planning on this party.

ANEXANDER

I was not planning on a great many things which have taken place as a result of this campaign.

Anexander moves into light.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

Yet my friend, David, has explained to me that they were necessary. I will try not to appear too uncomfortable.

ALEC forces a smile.

ALEC

That's great. I'll leave you now.

Anexander nods as Alec exits. Cathbad stares at Anexander in silence.

INT. PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

The party is a whirl of activity, as sponsors pull glasses of champagne off waiter's trays. Anexander moves through the throng, flanked by his body guards and some of his priests.

Women almost throw themselves at Anexander.

WOMAN #1

Is it true that you're attracted to virgins?

Anexander is shocked.

WOMEN #2

I bet you're hung like a horse too.

The bodyguards move Anexander away from the vulgar women. They move right past Barry, who walks toward David, who is standing alone with a drink in his hand.

BARRY

David. Wonderful party, huh?

DAVID

Yeah. Just wonderful.

BARRY

Where's Beth?

DAVID

She's here.

BARRY

You hear some of these women? I've never heard a hornier bunch of filthy rich, middle-aged sluts in my life.

David sees Anexander standing with Alec and an obscenely wealthy older woman.

DAVID

That's very interesting, Barry.
Maybe you can score.

David moves off toward Anexander.

On the other side of the room, Alec is trying to extricate Anexander from the older woman as a man comes up, MR. EVANS, an Oil Conglomerate owner.

EVANS

My little girl is having her seventeenth birthday party next week. I promised her you'd come.

ANEXANDER

I'd be...

ALEC

I'm sorry, but Anexander does not make personal appearances.

EVANS

He'll make an exception...

ALEC

No exceptions.

EVANS

Can't speak for himself?

Alec forces Anexander away.

EVANS (CONT'D)

Listen, you freak! I'm paying a lot of money to make you famous! Who in hell do you think you are saying no to me?

As Alec moves Anexander away, Peters moves in to talk to Evans. With the assistance of some rather large men in tuxedos, he quietly moves Evans away.

Beth moves up to David, who is struggling to get through the crowd to Anexander.

BETH

Can't you do something?

DAVID

What do you think I'm trying to do? Anexander! I've got to talk to you!

Alec signals for the security force to move Anexander out. David is angered as the security forces move in to block his way to Anexander. Both Beth and David stand there shocked.

INT. EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY LECTURE HALL - NIGHT

One of Langley's students holds the phone for him, and Langley quickly takes it from him.

LANGLEY

David! What a pleasant surprise.

DAVID (V.O.)

How are you professor?

LANGLEY

We've come a long way together, David?

DAVID (V.O.)

Maybe too far.

LANGLEY

What?

DAVID (V.O.)

I said ...

A STUDENT comes up to Langley and points to his watch.

STUDENT

Professor?

LANGLEY

Oh, David, they're waiting for me.
What did you want to tell me?

DAVID (V.O.)

I said, it's gone too far, Professor!

LANGLEY

Of course... of course.

DAVID (V.O.)

Do you think I was wrong?

LANGLEY

No, of course not, boy!

DAVID (V.O.)

I'm not so sure.

LANGLEY

David, what are you talking about?
I can barely hear you!

DAVID (V.O.)

It's... I don't know.

LANGLEY

David, I'm becoming concerned.

DAVID (V.O.)

Me too. I'll let you get back to your party, Professor.

There is an audible click as David hangs up.

LANGLEY

David ... David!

Langley looks at the phone with a worried look on his face.

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE - DAY

David sits at his desk with the phone in front of him, his face drawn and sullen. Josie enters.

JOSIE

David?

He looks up, slowly.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, but Harris is on the phone again. What should I tell him?

DAVID

Tell him just a little longer.

JOSIE

I know it's none of my business, but what's wrong?

David cannot get the words out. Josie does not want to pry.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Oh, Alec's on line three.

David nods and picks up the phone as Josie exits.

DAVID

Hello, Mr. Houdini. Nice disappearing act last night.

ALEC (V.O.)

I had no choice, David.

DAVID

No choice? What the hell are you talking about?

ALEC (V.O.)

David, come to my office. We'll talk about it.

DAVID

Now?

ALEC (V.O.)

For fuck's sake I came all the way to Ireland for you!

The phone CLICKS. David looks at it for a moment, then hangs up.

INT. ALEC'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Howard stares out the window over the city, a drink in his hand and a haggard look on his face. David stands across the desk from him.

ALEC

He wants to go home.

DAVID

And?

ALEC

Well, I tried to explain to him that it's impossible right now.

Anexander is escorted into the office. Anexander turns to David. He is quiet but forceful.

ANEXANDER

What I was trying to say is that my work is finished here.

DAVID

Anexander.

ANEXANDER

Hello, David. My priests have informed me that tens of millions have been amassed; more than enough to sustain my people for the foreseeable future.

ALEC

But you can't leave now. We're in the middle of the campaign! We have a contract.

ANEXANDER

The campaign does not require my physical presence to continue.

DAVID

Contract or not, they can't keep you against your will.

ALEC

David, you don't know what they can do if they want to.

DAVID

What are you talking about?

ALEC

With the money invested in this, they'd never let him go.

Peters, who has obviously been monitoring the conversation, enters the room. He has his typical, icy cold demeanor.

PETERS

That's enough, Mr. Silvers.

Alec goes stone cold quiet. Frozen with fear.

DAVID

In other words, Anexander's a prisoner?

ALEC

No one's talking about prisoners.

David takes Anexander by the arm.

DAVID

Come on, Anexander.

Peters cuts them off.

PETERS

Not so fast, Mr. Harron. You're leaving. Anexander stays.

DAVID

Who the hell do you think you are?

PETERS

We know who you are, Mr. Harron. Where you live. Your associations. Even that you and Ms. Morgan made love last night and where.

DAVID

You son of a bitch!

David, with Anexander, pushes toward the door, but Peters restrains him.

PETERS

That's it.

Other bodyguards open the doors and force David through. Peters to bodyguards

PETERS (CONT'D)

Escort him out!

DAVID

I still work here!

The doors close. Peters turns to face Anexander and Alec. Anexander, for the first time, displays intense, controlled, anger. He turns and walks away. Alec is clearly scared.

INT. DAVID'S OFFICE - DAY

David blasts in, followed by George.

DAVID

As soon as they get here, George.

GEORGE

They're asking for a firm commitment.

DAVID

When the galleys get here, George.

Josie enters.

JOSIE

Alec Silvers' secretary says he's in conference.

DAVID

Bullshit. Let me talk to her.

David picks up the phone.

DAVID (CONT'D)

This is David Harron. Where's Alec?

Alec's secretary, SUSAN, answers.

SUSAN (V.O.)

I'm sorry, but I told...

DAVID

I know he's not in a conference!
I've been trying to get him for days.
Now GET Him!!!!

David waits for a moment.

ALEC (V.O.)

All right, David. So you know how
to yell. What do you want?

DAVID

Anexander. I'm worried about him.

ALEC (V.O.)

He's fine; just too busy.

DAVID

That's why I haven't been able to
get in touch with either of you?

ALEC (V.O.)

That's the way he wants it, David.

DAVID

You're a liar. I want to talk to
him.

ALEC (V.O.)

Just accept it, David.

Alec hangs up.

DAVID

Alec? Damn you!

Josie enters with a sheaf of papers in a manila file.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Josie, get me legal. Galleys?

She nods and hands them to him.

JOSIE

Jeff's already on.

Josie reaches for galleys.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

I'll give these to George.

David hands the galleys back.

DAVID

I feel like Colonel Potter.

Picks up phone.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Jeff, I need you to get court orders to search Northridge Advertising Agency. And the suites at the Plaza. They're holding him against his will. And go over my contracts with them. Oh, check out what our recourse is under international law.

Beth enters as David hangs up.

BETH

Hello, David.

DAVID

Beth. How have you been?

She's strangely quiet and reserved.

BETH

All right, I guess.

DAVID

Don't you have to work today?

BETH

I just didn't know who to talk to. I've been trying to get through to Anexander since the party.

She sees the pain this causes in David's eyes.

BETH (CONT'D)

Don't be angry with me, David.

DAVID

I'm not. I've been trying to reach him too. I missed you.

They hug.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Let's get out of here.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

David and Beth sit across from each other, half-eaten meals in front of them.

BETH

They wouldn't even talk to me.

(MORE)

BETH (CONT'D)

Fucking Peters. He told me Anexander didn't want to talk to me. Do you believe that?

DAVID

No, I don't. I have my legal department working on it.

Two people, DINER ONE and DINER TWO at the next table talk a little louder than they should.

DINER ONE

Did you hear that Anexander has disappeared?

DINER TWO

They say he went home.

David turns to diners.

DAVID

What did you say?

DINER ONE

Anexander's gone.

Diner One shows him the paper.

DINER ONE (CONT'D)

It's in the paper.

David looks at the paper, shows it to Beth. Then, without a word, he takes her from the restaurant.

INT. NORTHRIDGE ADVERTISING RECEPTION AREA - DAY

David and Beth blast into the reception area and confront the RECEPTIONIST.

RECEPTIONIST

Good afternoon, Mr. Harron.

DAVID

Hi, I'd like to see Alec Silvers.

RECEPTIONIST

I'm sorry. Mr. Silvers has left the city for a few days.

DAVID

Uh huh. When did he leave?

RECEPTIONIST

This morning.

DAVID

I talked to him this afternoon!

The Receptionist is unruffled.

RECEPTIONIST

I must have been misinformed. Let me check.

Receptionist picks up the phone.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)

Mr. Harron's here. Yes... certainly.

Receptionist turns to David.

RECEPTIONIST (CONT'D)

Mr. Peters will be down in a moment.

DAVID

Of course he will.

Beth and David back off from the counter.

BETH

There must be a way to get inside.

DAVID

You see all these cameras?

Peters appears, his face fixed in a cold, icy glare.

PETERS

You don't listen very well, do you, Mr. Harron?

DAVID

I've always been a slow learner.

PETERS

We have accelerated programs for problem students.

He motions for other bodyguards to usher them out. David looks into the cameras as he is forced out. He holds up the papers and shouts at the cameras.

DAVID

Alec! I know you can hear me. Take a look! By tonight it'll be all over the country!

Peters and his group force them more urgently.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You'll never get away with it!

INT. ALEC'S OFFICE - DAY

Alec looks intently at the monitors as Peters enters the office.

ALEC

Where the hell is he, Peters?

PETERS

We're looking.

ALEC

Northridge is crawling up my ass.
You should never have lost him!

Peters glares at him.

ALEC (CONT'D)

How could you let it happen? Where
was security?

PETERS

The head priest is the only other
one missing. The others aren't
talking. They're like rocks.

ALEC

Someone must be helping them. You've
got to find him! You got to find
him now!

PETERS

I know my job, Mr. Silvers.

Peters leaves quickly.

INT. NEW YORK STREET - DAY

Beth walks on ahead of David.

DAVID

Beth, wait up. Where are you going?

BETH

As far away from here as I can.

She hails a cab. It pulls over.

DAVID

Come back to the office. We can work out a plan.

BETH

David, it's over. It's out of control.

DAVID

We can find some way to help him!

Beth is on the verge of tears.

BETH

You can't even help yourself, David.

She hugs him tightly, kisses him on the cheek, then breaks and heads for the cab and gets in, as the tears start.

BETH (CONT'D)

I love you, David, but I just can't do this anymore.

INT. ALEC'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Half asleep, Alec sits behind his desk. The clock on the desk reads: 3:41 A.M. Howard enters and stands in front of the desk. There is a cold, almost murderous rage in his eyes.

ALEC

Howard?

HOWARD

They found him.

Alec bolts straight up to his feet.

ALEC

Thank God! Is he Okay?

HOWARD

It was a hoax, Alec.

Alec goes white. Howard motions for them to bring Alexander in.

ALEC

But we've all seen the medical tests!
We've seen him for God's sake!

Almost too weak to walk, Siobhan, crying, and the Druids, escort Alexander down the corridor. He emerges into the light.

Where his horn had been is now just a swollen, purplish, slowly bleeding hole.

ALEC (CONT'D)

Where is it?! What did you do with it?!

ANEXANDER

It was never there in the first place.

Howard turns icy.

HOWARD

It was surgically implanted! All the little islanders were in on it. So was your buddy, Harron.

Alec becomes enraged. Alec turns to Anexander.

ALEC

We'll sue you for everything!

HOWARD

No we won't, you stupid bastard! If just one word gets out about this, we're all ruined. We'll go to jail. Understand? Now get that ... thing out of here.

After Anexander is taken away, Howard turns to Alec.

HOWARD (CONT'D)

Nobody sees him. Not now. Not ever.

Howard's words hang like daggers in Alec's ears.

HOWARD (CONT'D)

Get rid of him! Tonight!

Alec starts breathing heavily.

INT. FREIGHT ELEVATOR - NIGHT

Seeing Alec already inside, David enters and shuts the door.

DAVID

New office? You've really worked your way up in the world, Alec.

ALEC

This is bad, David.

He presses the UP button and the elevator lurches and moves.

DAVID

What? First you're on their side,
now you're on Anexander's?

ALEC

We both know I've always been on my
side. Until now.

DAVID

Right. So now you're a hero?

ALEC

I'm scared to death, David. You've
got to get Anexander away before
they kill him!

David turns to him like a lead weight has just hit him in
the face.

INT. ANEXANDER'S SUITE - NIGHT

David moves slowly through the suite. He sees Anexander on
the bed, Cathbad standing next to him. David kneels beside
him and takes his hand. There is a peaceful look in
Anexander's eyes, just below the festering wound.

ANEXANDER

Everything was real but me, David.

DAVID

No unicorn?

ANEXANDER

To be one with the Universe, and one
with God, you must first have the
courage to be one... with yourself.

Tears fill David's eyes.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

To do the right thing... when it is
far too easy to do nothing at all.

DAVID

We have to get you out of here.

ANEXANDER

But I've already told them about me.
There is no reason for them to hold
me now.

DAVID

You don't understand!

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

As long as they thought you were a Unicorn, you were safe.

ANEXANDER

And a prisoner of my own creation.

David nods his head.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

But if I'm not a unicorn...

DAVID

They can't take a chance that someone will see you without your horn! That the whole world will find out they've lied about you.

Anexander begins to see the truth.

ANEXANDER

I thought by exposing my existence, I was making myself a sacrifice for the preservation of my people. How foolish I was.

A revelation appears in his eyes.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

My sacrifice must be complete. I see that now...

DAVID

We're wasting time.

David tries to help Anexander off the bed.

ANEXANDER

There is no need to involve yourself any further, David.

DAVID

I got you into this.

ANEXANDER

No. I did this, my friend.

DAVID

A friend would have stopped you. I'm getting you out of here.

With Alec's and Cathbad's help, David lifts Anexander from the bed.

ANEXANDER

Whatever happens, David, don't let them hurt my children.

INT. PLAZA HOTEL CORRIDOR - NIGHT

The guards see them with Anexander and attempt to stop them. For the first time in his life, Alec puts himself in danger by trying to stop the guards, giving David and the others time to get away.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Confronted by a driving rain storm, David and Cathbad nearly succeed in carrying Anexander out of the hotel, but Anexander's weakened condition allows their pursuers to catch up. They grab Anexander, but David knocks them over.

Suddenly at peace with his fate, Anexander pulls free from his pursuers. His momentum carries him back into the path of a speeding taxi. Anexander is struck hard, blasting him some distance before stopping.

Alec and David both free themselves and race toward Anexander. Siobhan runs to her Lord's side and begins to cry.

Peters and his men look on in shock, then quickly move to surround Anexander's broken form. In tears, David cradles Anexander's head in his arms. He cries out to the crowd that has gathered.

DAVID

Somebody get an ambulance!

Peters and his men, knowing how badly they've screwed up, just exchange glances.

ANEXANDER

No, my friend.

DAVID

Just lie still.

Cathbad, tears in his eyes, kneels next to Anexander as the rain begins to abate.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Goddammit! Someone get some help!

ANEXANDER

Perhaps it is better this way.

DAVID

No, dammit! Nothing's better this way.

ANEXANDER

Do not grieve, my friend.

Anexander takes Cathbad's hand.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

The prophecy is fulfilled.

DAVID

Anexander, I'm so sorry.

Anexander closes his eyes. After a moment, he opens them. Fear fills his face.

ANEXANDER

David... ask them to forgive me.

His eyes seem to fill with a look of peace.

ANEXANDER (CONT'D)

Oh, David. My... children...

With that, he is gone. David looks around at all the faces in the crowd. Alec's shows compassion. Peters, disdain. Cathbad's, Siobhan's and the other Druid's eyes are filled with tears.

INT. HOWARD'S OFFICE - DAY

Alec sits across from Howard.

HOWARD

It might just be better this way.

ALEC

How so?

HOWARD

They already think he's missing.

ALEC

People saw him, Howard. Without the horn.

Howard picks up the phone.

HOWARD

Get me Peters.

Barry enters urgently.

BARRY

Turn the TV on!

Howard reaches for the remote.

HOWARD

What channel?

BARRY

Pick one!

David's face appears on the screen at a press conference. He looks warn and haggard.

DAVID (V.O.)

...and Anexander of the Cairn, whom you've all come to know and love, is not a unicorn. He never was.

There's a loud UPROAR from those in attendance. Howard and Alec look on in stunned silence.

INT. PRESS ROOM - DAY

David stands before a bank of microphones and cameras and press people. He tries to calm the crowd.

DAVID

Wait, please! Listen.

They quiet.

DAVID (CONT'D)

He only did what he thought was right for his people. And he's paid for it with his life.

EXT. TIMES SQUARE - DAY

Rain pelts the mass of onlookers as they watch the big screen TV, with loud speakers carrying David's anguished words..

DAVID (V.O.)

In order to preserve an ancient, more simple way of life, he allowed himself to become a symbol of beauty and love. And I knew the truth, and said nothing.

The crowd is shocked. ANGRY MURMURS fill the air.

INT. DR. LERNER'S STUDY - DAY

Lerner sits in his study watching the television. A look of glee fills his eyes.

DAVID (V.O.)

And it occurred to me that this might be the way to finally join us together in a common cause.

INT. LANGLEY'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Langley watches intently.

DAVID (V.O.)

I'm not asking you to condone what I've done. Just a little understanding about the nature of this planet we call home.

David is almost in tears.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Because of Anexander, we've all been witness to a kind of--modern miracle. The problems...

Langley takes a long drink of brandy.

LANGLEY

Oh my God.

INT. PRESSROOM - DAY

Beth watches the TV monitors with tears cascading down her face.

DAVID (V.O.)

...The squabbles, the territorial imperatives that have kept us apart for so long and made us all strangers to one another, were reduced to their proper insignificance by the intrusion of something beautiful into our lives. And for just a little while, everyone everywhere, was touched by it.

EXT. OCEAN NEAR CAIRN - NIGHT

Through subdued light, we see the defensive ships move off.

DAVID (V.O.)

Because of all of you, a proud race
of people will be able to survive
the pain of the modern world.

INT. PRESSROOM - DAY

David is barely holding it together.

DAVID

And who was really hurt? For one
moment in time, Anexander brought us
together. As one world.

David looks sternly into the camera.

DAVID (CONT'D)

The fuel companies, the advertising
agencies, manufacturers, and all the
people involved with Anexander, they
had NO knowledge of this ...

INT. HOWARD'S OFFICE - DAY

Howard, Alec and Barry, flanked now by Peters, listen. They
are completely shocked by his statement. Alec whispers.

ALEC

Thank you, David.

HOWARD

He let us off the hook!

PETERS

He just saved his own fucking life.

DAVID (V.O.)

It was my doing. Alone. And whatever
your judgment of my actions may be,
I still have to answer for the death
of my friend.

Howard seems to get a soul.

HOWARD

Mr. Peters?

PETERS

Yes?

HOWARD

You're fired.

David chokes back tears again.

DAVID

I'm sorry if I broke my faith with you. But I've learned that sometimes it's harder to keep faith... with yourself.

Peters, seething with anger, exits the board room.

INT. PRESS ROOM - DAY

David sums it up.

DAVID

Progress usually comes at a terrible cost...

David looks up and sees Beth standing at the rear of the press room. Tears of hurt, anger and resentment cascade from her eyes. David smiles back tears.

DAVID (CONT'D)

And a world that has no place for magic, and hope, and Unicorns, may be too high a price to pay.

When David looks back, he sees Beth turn and exit the room.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE OF NEWS AGENCY - DAY

The mob nearly tears David apart as he attempts to get into the waiting limousine. The cops do everything they can to stop the crowd. One of the COPS opens the door for David. A look of rage and anger fills his eyes.

COP

Go ahead and run, you bastard!

As David enters the limousine, he looks off toward a little boy wearing a glowing unicorn horn on his head. The boy takes the horn off and drops it into the gutter. We see it float away in the rain.

EXT. OPEN BOAT NEAR CAIRN - DAY

David stands on the bow, looking out over the ocean. He seems devastated, totally alone.

INT. GROTTO OPEN AREA - DAY

Cathbad looks compassionately at David. The People of the Cairn wail softly in mourning.

CATHBAD

You must not blame yourself.

DAVID

I'm just trying to figure out if there wasn't some other way.

CATHBAD

Look around you, David. Look at the Children of the Nemeton. What do you see in their eyes?

David looks at them.

DAVID

The anguish I brought them.

CATHBAD

Not anguish, my friend. Sadness, perhaps for the loss of our Lord. But also joy and hope for our future.

DAVID

I still don't understand.

CATHBAD

Only by his sacrifice could the prophecy come to pass. They know that. As we have known it all along. Since the beginning of time.

DAVID

You're saying that Anexander had to die? But you tried to stop him.

CATHBAD

Of course I did, because I loved my friend and Lord more than my faith.

Cathbad points to his heart.

CATHBAD (CONT'D)

But in here, I knew the truth. I think Anexander recognized it too. At the end. I saw it in his eyes.

A sad smile appears on his face.

CATHBAD (CONT'D)

How many of us can hope to end our lives as content?

DAVID

Do you really expect me to believe
that he had to die to save you?

Cathbad leads David away to another part of the Grotto.

CATHBAD

Whatever you choose to believe, it
cannot alter the facts. He is gone,
and we *have* been saved. The Gods
choose their own ways, as you well
know, my friend. You sacrificed
yourself and your friend Langley,
too.

DAVID

I had to do that to protect you.
And for me, that was worth it. The
rest of the world will hate you now,
but they'll ignore you too. So I
guess you got what you wanted.

David looks around at the others.

DAVID (CONT'D)

But I've still got to know... was
all this sacrifice really worth it?

Cathbad smiles a sad. Knowing smile.

CATHBAD

Come with me. Judge for yourself.

INT. GROTTO ANTI-CHAMBER - DAY

Sitting in a lovely chair, facing the open sea in a room
carved from the living rock, Siobhan nurses her newborn child.

Siobhan smiles up at David and Cathbad as they enter the
chamber. At Cathbad's gentle insistence, David slowly
approaches and looks down over her shoulder into the baby's
face, in total shock.

David tries to smile as he feels the tears welling up in his
eyes. He then sees Langley come out of the shadows, a look
of hope and resolution on his face.

There, in the baby's face, are the same features as
Anexander's... His clear eyes, his vaguely equine cheekbones
and... His horn.

David is transfixed, as his emotions begin to take him over.
He falls to his knees and starts to cry.

FADE OUT