

This sample comes from the pilot spec script of our planned series called FALL OF THE WYVERNS. The series takes place on two fictional continents called Solovion and Orealis. This scene showcases one of the five or six main protagonists, ELIAS GIFFARD, who is on his way home after fighting in the long war at VIXEN'S HOLLOW in the south. As he wanders along the road, he finds himself face to face with raiders. Utilizing his sarcastic sense of pride and skills in combat, he is the kind of character who finds amusement in situations of severity. ELIAS is a character who has never lost in a fight, but there is a part of him that fears he may one day. After this scene, he arrives at home to find out that his brother has gone missing. In the same vein as Akira Kurosawa's YOJIMBO, ELIAS' arc begins a desperate search in his "dual-kingdom" home to solve the mystery. I hope you enjoy the scene, along with the character and world building within this medieval setting.

FALL OF THE WYVERNS

"Pilot"

Written by

The Benoit Brothers

EXT. DIRT COUNTRY ROAD - MORNING

ELIAS "ELI" GIFFARD (19) walks alone confidently on foot, his medium length, dark brown hair drifts softly in the breeze. His facial hair is jagged and thin, emphasizing his youth.

He has just returned from a few long years fighting a ten long year battle in the south, but his arrogant strut seems contrary to this.

He wears sternly aged armor that is coated in a black and red design, albeit faded. At the center chest plate, a silently solemn lion is etched into the steel.

Tied around his arm is a red Phoenix stitched beautifully onto a cloth. Over his shoulder are all the belongings he owns.

Despite being so far north of Vixen's Hollow, the weather is rather sunny and the green grass shimmers from the morning dew. Elias' breath reveals a soft fog stream as he strolls along the dirt road.

Elias whistles softly as the birds chirp loudly. His feet crunch on the grounded rocks and chewed earth.

Suddenly the birds cease to sing and Elias notices immediately, stopping his whistling.

A branch cracks in the distance as Elias examines his surroundings.

Elias stands strongly.

ELIAS

(shouts)

Live to fight another day like a
coward, or come out and face me.

Elias remains still, awaiting a sign. This moment feels humorously long.

Three bandits, RULF (32), PETER (22) and GAVIN (20) walk out from the nearby woods and onto the road. They are dressed in loose filthy rags and Gavin appears to have some bruises and cuts to his face. Gavin is the tallest of the group, while Rulf is the brawniest and considers himself the leader of the pack. Peter is thin and scrawny, almost malnourished, with short black hair.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Ah gentlemen.

(BEAT)

(MORE)

ELIAS (CONT'D)

I was starting to wonder if you were going to show yourselves at all.

Rulf steps forward, Peter and Gavin follow him. He pulls a dagger out from his back sheath. It is a beautiful dagger with jeweled embroidery and minimal use in appearance.

Elias notices the dagger and stares at it puzzled.

RULF

I will gladly take this dagger and plunge it into your chest.

ELIAS

It is nice to see a man who puts his dagger where his mouth is.

PETER

No respect at all you little shit.

ELIAS

No respect? This is coming from a couple of thieves who would kill an elderly woman just for mere coin. Those who prey on the weak, do so because they are weak.

Rulf becomes agitated at Elias' arrogance and wishing to appear tough.

RULF

Enough talk! About time someone taught you not to talk like that when you're outnumbered.

ELIAS

That is the perfect time to do so wouldn't you agree?

RULF

You aren't very smart, are you?

ELIAS

(shrugging)
Depends on the eye of the beholder.

RULF

How about we take out both your eyes instead.

Elias tosses his bag off to the side of the road. He leans into a readied stance and places his hand on his lower back where his short blade is holstered.

ELIAS

Do you know who I am?

RULF

A spineless little shit who is all talk in his fancy armor.

ELIAS

Can we get this over with already?
I really must be on my way.

Rulf shouts and runs at Elias. Peter and Gavin both pull out daggers of their own, however, theirs are dull and rusty.

Rulf lunges at Elias first, swinging with all his might. Elias sidesteps Rulf, grabbing his arm and disarming him of his dagger. As he does this, Elias swings around and plunges Rulf's own dagger into his back.

Rulf gasps for air as he turns to his comrades. Peter stops in his tracks.

He gurgles as he reaches for his throat, eyes wide with fear. Blood comes up from his mouth and spits out as Rulf tries with all his might to breathe. He wheezes and wheezes as he collapses.

Rulf lands face first into the dirt, dead.

Peter and Gavin stare in fear at Elias.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Who wants next? Come on, it will be over soon.

Peter walks slowly toward Elias, with his dagger ready. He runs with his arm extended and the blade out. Elias grabs his arm and trips Peter, flipping him onto his back and knocking the wind out of him.

Elias stabs the dagger into Peter's heart. He then quickly pulls the blade back out, leaving Peter motionless.

Elias rises and looks at Gavin.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

There it is.

(BEAT)

The fear creeping in. The thief who not just moments ago feared nothing, now stands in the wake of his own falsity. That fear you have, embrace it and never forget that feeling.

Elias moves toward Gavin.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Now I am obliged to return to Virelith where you will face punishment for your crimes. So I give you two options. Either die here...

(BEAT)

Or die before the king's justice.

Gavin falls to his knees in tears, dropping his dagger.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

So an honorable death it is then. The better choice.

CUT TO:

Elias walks over to Gavin and tosses his bag onto the ground. He leans over and opens the knapsack. Gavin notices the patch on Elias' arm.

GAVIN

You were in the Vixen's War?

Elias pulls out a bundle of rope and begins to tie Gavin's arms up.

ELIAS

Indeed. Just coming back from deployment today.

GAVIN

No wonder we did not stand a chance. So the stories are true.

ELIAS

Unfortunately for the both of us, they are.

He finishes tying Gavin and stands him up.

ELIAS (CONT'D)

Now move.

Elias pushes Gavin and they begin to move north again.

GAVIN

Are you not going to bury the dead?

ELIAS

This world we live in.

(BEAT)

(MORE)

ELIAS (CONT'D)

It is an unforgiving place. They shall remain on the path north. I pray you understand why I give them such disrespect, for they would have paid my corpse the same respect, would they not?

Gavin is silent for a moment before speaking again.

GAVIN

So if you are not taking me to Amorda, that must mean you are from Virelith?

ELIAS

Enough talking.

GAVIN

I shall have more than enough silence when they behead me. What more harm could conversation do me?

There is a brief, awkward silence. Elias looks over at Gavin.

ELIAS

Fine then.

GAVIN

So are you from Virelith my lord?

ELIAS

I'm not your damn lord.

(BEAT)

And yes, born and raised.

GAVIN

What reason brings you here besides that?

ELIAS

As a means to escape what feels like a lifetime of lingering entrapment.

GAVIN

Memories of the war?

ELIAS

Yes and no.

GAVIN

In a sense, you're making an effort to become celibate.

(MORE)

GAVIN (CONT'D)

Perhaps the whores got the best of you during your time away.

ELIAS

Sorry to dampen your spirits thief, but I do not take my woes to a brothel or the open thighs of a whore. I find myself in these lands for more than merely pleasure or in the pursuit of flight from it.

GAVIN

Apologies, I did not mean to offend. I simply wished to understand what brings you back here aside from the end of the war.

ELIAS

None that concern you.

GAVIN

Just be wary of these kingdoms sir. The times have been dire and harsh for the poor, but I see a time of prosperity in the wake of this madness.

ELIAS

A time of prosperity.

(BEAT)

Every hell will freeze over before such a thing occurs in this world. Only the rich and powerful experience such false realities. Everyone else, must suffer at their hands. Everyone.

Elias and Gavin walk up through a clearing. In the distance are two kingdoms in close proximity to each other. To the left is Virelith, and to the right is Amorda.

Both kingdoms appear vastly large from afar and surrounded by high walls. Enormous trees of orange and red color surround and encompass Virelith, as there is the massive and dark Woods of Maul out past the western walls.

The two move left toward the Kingdom of Virelith.

FADE OUT: