

BATONE

(sickeningly sweet)

Whatever would I do without you, Dresden.

(pacing)

Hiding their granaries from me, eh? Those petty villagers don't know what they're dealing with. I think they need some *assistance* with their harvesting.

DRESDON

(proudly)

I'd be honored to hel--

BATONE

(calling out)

Mayoket! I require your services!

ENTER MAYOKET, a Sasquatch-like monster, who strides in DSL.

DRESDON glares at MAYOKET, irritated.

MAYOKET pushes past him, smirking.

BATONE

Mayoket, gather your minions. Raid the northern region. Pillage their houses, and set fire to their granary.

MAYOKET

Majesty, if you don't mind my asking, what granary is there to destroy? You've burned them all.

DRESDON

Actually, the log--

BATONE

(quickly)

--The bog by the log has a latch with a hatch --

DRESDON

I think you meant to say the *log* by the *bog*, has a hatch with . . .

BATONE

The log with the latch has a bog with a hatch. Yes, that's exactly what I meant to say.

MAYOKET

I think I know what log you mean.

BATONE

Destroy it!

MAYOKET

As you wish, magnificent one.

BATONE

I knew I could count on you Mayoket, my most trusted servant. Now go!

PLAY TRACK. HF #5 - The Attack

LIGHTS DIM

SCENE 3- ATTACK ON THE VILLAGE

INSTANT SCENE
CHANGE

LIGHTS UP ON
VILLAGE SCENE

Track #5 continues.

The VILLAGERS unfreeze

HANNAH, ever alert, stands up, looks around for a moment, and yells out a warning of an attack.

HANNAH

Invaders! Everyone to safety! Hide!

Track #5 continues.

JHON runs to hide behind the log.

MAYOKET and his MINIONS rush in and attack the village, flipping over booths, tearing fabric, and brandishing "torches."

The VILLAGERS scramble to get away and then flee.

HANNAH manages to hold her own with her sword against Mayoket and all but one minion. Their fight takes them off SL.

The sneaky remaining MINION runs with his torch towards Jhon and the log. The MINION does not see Jhon hiding there.

JHON, fearing for the safety of the grain, tries to muster enough bravery to rise to the occasion. He and the MINION face off, but, too nervous for a real fight, JHON falls to the ground and kicks out with his feet spastically. He accidentally knocks the torch from the minion's hand onto the log. The log "bursts into flame."

VO

Fire! The log by the bog is on fire!

***Track #5** continues, ending with the sound of exploding flames crackling wood.*

HANNAH, rushing into the scene to fight the remaining MINION, sees the burning log, chases away the MINION, and quickly looks around for a solution to the fire. She notices Jhon's cloak is wet from the bog.

HANNAH

Give me your cloak! Now!

JHON, dazed and confused, takes off his cloak and trips on his way to give it to Hannah. The cloak wraps around Hannah, almost causing her to fall over. HANNAH quickly frees herself and uses the cloak to beat out the flames, saving most of the grain in the log from destruction.

*Off-stage "fire" lighting dims. **Track #5** ends with fire noise fading off.*

JHON

(in awe)

Now why didn't I think of that . . .

HANNAH glares at Jhon, furious at his foolishness. She still has Jhon's cloak in her hands.

JHON shrinks back, ashamed.

A few VILLAGERS enter cautiously, some COUNCIL MEMBERS and the COUNCIL LEADER among them. The VILLAGERS begin picking up their booths and what's left of their goods. The COUNCIL members head over to inspect the log.

COUNCIL LEADER

Hannah, is everyone safe?

HANNAH

As far as I know.

COUNCIL LEADER

And the hidden grain? Did they find it?

HANNAH

Not to my knowledge. But the log was partially burned. We can still salvage most of the grain.

COUNCIL LEADER

Most of it?

HANNAH

Unfortunately--

(glaring at Jhon)

--the edge of the log caught fire.

COUNCIL LEADER

(missing Hannah's glare)

They went straight for the log with their torches!

HANNAH

Not exactly. . .

COUNCIL LEADER

Well, what *did* happen?

HANNAH

(dryly)

I'm not sure. Perhaps *Jhon* can enlighten us.

The COUNCIL MEMBERS turn to stare at Jhon. He shuffles forward nervously.

JHON

Well, I was trying to fight off one of the invaders who was approaching the log . . .

COUNCIL LEADER

With what? Your bare hands?

(Council members laugh.)

JHON

No, actually, my -- (gulps) -- feet.

(More laughter)

COUNCIL LEADER

(speaking over the laughter but keeping his composure)

You're always getting into trouble. What happened *this* time?

JHON

(pausing slightly to think of an excuse, then bursting into high drama)

I . . . I was by the log trying to hide --

(realizing he sounds like a coward, he points to Hannah.)

-- just like Hannah said --

(Hannah snorts in annoyance)

JHON

(continuing the high drama)

-- and then this *thing* came at me from out of nowhere with a torch, heading straight for the log. Of course I wanted to save the grain, so I tried to fight him off, but I was knocked down. I was trapped against the log with this thing with nowhere else to go. And then my feet just started kicking! They kicked right at the thing's hand, the hand holding the torch. All of a sudden, do you *know* what that torch did? It flew right out of that thing's hand and landed on the log. The nerve of that torch! I don't really know what happened after that, but all I can say is --

COUNCIL MEMBERS glare at Jhon in disbelief.

HANNAH

(interrupting and taking control of the situation)

The point is, *I* was able to fight off the invader and then put out the flames.

JHON looks around nervously for something to redeem himself. He grabs his cloak from Hannah's hands.

JHON

But not without my wet cloak!

COUNCIL MEMBERS and HANNAH glare at Jhon. COUNCIL MEMBERS confer with each other quickly.

COUNCIL LEADER

It has been decided that a council meeting will be held tomorrow at first light. At that time, we will determine your *punishment*, Jhon, for the grain we lost and your *reward*, Hannah, for saving the rest of the grain, the villagers, and their goods. Until tomorrow then.

COUNCIL MEMBERS and COUNCIL LEADER exit.

HANNAH goes back to her post to stand watch.

JHON plods off, defeated, cloak in hand.

PLAY TRACK. HF #6 - Bell