

EXT. DESERT

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TORM is pulled out of a dream/nightmare about her sister. (Mechanical ants, tubeheads, tubed torsos. copper skull.)

TORM

Sister!

Torm IS CONFUSED BY HER SURROUNDINGS

KING

Good, you're not dead: I thought I killed you!

king holds out a strange food.

TORM

No thank you. How long have I been out?

KING

Four days.

TORM

What happened?

KING

I blasted all the pirates to hell and almost you with them.

TORM

My bag? Where is my bag?

KING

Behind those rocks. You must have something they want really bad for them to send so many after you.

TORM moves quickly to her bag. and checks the contents

KING (CONT'D)

Is everything in order?

TORM

YES.

KING

To bad!

TORM understands his meaning.

TORM

Because the pirates will be back.

KING

Because the pirates will be back.

TORM checks compass like a phone looking for a signal: walking in different directions holding it up, but the king's anti-detection devices interfere

KING (CONT'D)
 you won't get a reading...I've put up an iron
 emitters to blind us from the pirates' patrols

She tries in spite of king's info. the compass it doesn't show anything. She puts it away and takes out king's vial

TORM
 Thank you again for saving me. You always seem to
 be there just as I need saving.

Torm gives the King his vial.

KING
 Where did you find this?

TORM
 In the forest where we first met.

KING
 Forest? Impossible. I've been in this desert
 longer than you've been alive.

TORM
 Don't you remember cutting my ropes? You dropped
 this and I ran after to find you, but I couldn't.

He looks at his vial, then at Torm, then ponders.

KING
 Oh world break my heart and bring me better
 dreams. I would be lost without this.

TORM
 What is it? Is it a breath vial?

KING
 a compass to her soul.

TORM
 Her?

KING
 My everything that is, was and ever will be. my
 wife. The reason I've been in the desert so
 long.

King takes hold of a vial around his neck.

KING (CONT'D)

The only thing left of her.... her final breath. Until I felt the warmth of this vile I never believed in a soul. I accepted that there was a hand around every sun waiting to turn out every light that was ever made. But when this vile gets warm I know she is near; when it grows cold I move to find where her soul roams. But with every year looking to grasp any light that might be her, her image grows dimmer in my mind and I fear I'll not be able to recognize her her face is just a few grains from sunset.

Kings eyes are closed with tears running down his face. TORM moves close to the king. TORM gathers a tear. King quickly opens his eyes. TORM mixes a tear of her own with the kings and puts them on a small contraption.

TORM

My sister has shadow fever. She is the reason I am here. the fever violently takes over the entire body, painfully strangling every nerve, but as it grows, it sends a chemical trigger to the mechanism in the brain that controls dreaming. So The only consolation for knowing the person you love is going to die a painful death,

She gives the king the plate

TORM (CONT'D)

is knowing they had beautiful dreams.

Torms compass sends a message. she goes to it.

He look down at the plate and see's it has a picture of his wife on it. Small smile with tears.

KING

time started to fade your face but you have been returned before that sunset.

KING LOOKS at torm with warm eyes.

KING (CONT'D)

I don't know how you did this. But whatever you are seeking in this desert I will help you find it.

Torm holds up her compass and sees a tree.