

E2 - The Mad Forest

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:26] Menel

All right. Got a new sword in the process.

[00:32] Menel

If the demon commanders
were the gatekeepers...

[00:35] Will

Yeah. The lord of the forest is ahead.

[00:44] Menel

We're going in.

[00:45] Will

Got it.

SIGN The Faraway Paladin

SIGN The Lord of the Rust Mountains

SIGN The Mad Forest

[02:26] Will

That big tree is...

[02:28] Menel

Yeah. The Lord of Holly that rules
over this forest's winters.

[02:43] Menel

Words of Creation?

[02:44] Will

That's... a curse.

[02:48] Will

They're blasphemous words.

[02:49] Cernunnos

What has happened to my gatekeepers?

[02:52] Menel

What do you think?

[02:54] Cernunnos

I see, I see.

[02:57] Cernunnos

I presume, then, that you are the
Faraway Paladin, Sir William,

[03:02] Cernunnos

and you are the one called
Meneldor of Swift Wings.

[03:07] Will

General...

[03:08] Will

Cernunnos.

[03:10] Cernunnos

If the two celebrated heroes have come here,

[03:13] Cernunnos

we need not waste time.

[03:18] Cernunnos

I will see that you die right here.

[03:24] Will

A few days ago, on the summer solstice...

[03:27] Will

I saw snowdrops blooming out of season,

[03:31] Will

and that's where it started.

[03:34] Will

*Crown Prince Ethel of Whitesails asked
me to find out why it was happening,*

[03:39] Will

so we came here, where we found...

[03:49] (Flashback) Will

What in the world...

[03:51] (Flashback) Menel

The forest...

[03:53] (Flashback) Menel

The forest has gone mad.

[03:58] (Flashback) Menel

This entire forest region is
ruled by two ancient trees,

[04:03] (Flashback) Menel

the Lord of Oak and the Lord of Holly.

[04:05] (Flashback) Will

Ancient trees?

[04:07] (Flashback) Menel

They're twin brothers.

[04:09] (Flashback) Menel

The Lord of Oak rules from the winter
solstice to the summer solstice.

[04:12] (Flashback) Menel

The lord brothers yield the royal authority
to one another at each solstice,

[04:16] (Flashback) Menel

keeping the four seasons turning
throughout the forest.

[04:19] (Flashback) Will

Then...

[04:20] (Flashback) Menel

The transfer of the royal authority
may have stagnated for some reason.

[04:26] (Flashback) Menel

If it's been thrown off right
on the summer solstice...

[04:29] (Flashback) Menel

It must be the Lord of Oak.

[04:33] (Flashback) Menel

Great Lord of Oak, ruler of the forest,

[04:37] (Flashback) Menel

why do you refuse to transfer the
royal authority to the Lord of Holly?

[04:41] (Flashback) Oak

Nay, children of man.

[04:43] (Flashback) Oak

It is the Lord of Holly who will
not accept the transfer of power.

[04:50] (Flashback) Menel

Why not?

[04:51] (Flashback) Oak

I do not know.

[04:53] (Flashback) Oak

My communication with the
Lord of Holly has been severed,

[04:56] (Flashback) Oak

and the transfer of power
cannot be performed.

[05:00] (Flashback) Oak

The royal authority is great.

[05:02] (Flashback) Oak

If it does not lie with the correct
owner at the correct time,

[05:06] (Flashback) Oak

it will only foster the spread of evil.

[05:08] (Flashback) Oak

It may be only a short time before
this forest suffers a fatal collapse.

[05:14] (Flashback) Menel

Then, give it to me.

[05:16] (Flashback) Will

Menel?!

[05:17] (Flashback) Menel

Lord of Oak, entrust your
royal authority to me.

[05:23] (Flashback) Oak

I cannot.

[05:25] (Flashback) Oak

It may have been possible for
the true fae from days of old,

[05:29] (Flashback) Oak

but because you carry human blood in
your veins, you would not last a month.

[05:33] (Flashback) Oak

Your soul would be destroyed.

[05:36] (Flashback) Menel

One month is no problem.

[05:39] (Flashback) Menel

He and I will resolve this
whole matter in that time.

[05:42] (Flashback) Oak

Why would you go to such lengths?

[05:46] (Flashback) Menel

Because I swore I'd live
my life looking forward

[05:49] (Flashback) Menel

to atone for my sins.

[05:51] (Flashback) Menel

Through a friend who saved the
soul of the one who saved me,

[05:55] (Flashback) Menel

I made a vow to the great goddess.

[05:57] (Flashback) Menel

No greater reason than that.

[06:11] (Flashback) Oak

This trial is a secret rite
known only to this forest.

[06:16] (Flashback) Oak

You, agent of the goddess of light,

[06:20] (Flashback) Oak

do not have the right to participate.

[06:24] (Flashback) Will

I realize that.

[06:25] (Flashback) Will

I'll wait here, for days if I must.

[06:32] (Flashback) Menel

I won't make you wait for days. Don't worry.

[06:43] Will

I don't know what happened in there,

[06:46] Will

*what hardships Menel went
through, or what he overcame.*

[06:53] Will

But...

[07:11] Will

*That was how Menel received
the royal authority.*

[07:20] Will

Menel, you ready?

[07:21] Menel

Perfectly. You handle the rest.

[07:24] Menel

Lord... Lord of Holly!

[07:27] Menel

Twin brother who rules from the summer
solstice to the winter solstice!

[07:31] Menel

I bestow upon thee the power I received
from your lord brother, the Lord of Oak,

[07:35] Menel

the power that makes a king!

[07:56] Cernunnos

You will regret that.

[07:58] Cernunnos

To think you had already
won over the Lord of Oak!

[08:02] Will

We will defeat you. For this forest...

[08:05] Will

By the light of Gracefeel,
goddess of the cycle of death and rebirth!

SIGN From smoke to flames

[08:14] Cernunnos

De fumo ad fla—

SIGN Be Silent, Mouth

[08:16] Will

Tacere, Os!

[08:20] Menel

It went off anyway?

[08:23] Cernunnos

Well done, well done.

[08:41] Cernunnos

Are you really human?!

[08:52] Holly

I am the Lord of Holly.

[08:55] Holly

For your bravery and valor in
eliminating those insolent invaders,

[08:58] Holly

and for performing the transfer
of the royal authority,

[09:02] Holly

I commend you and thank you
from the bottom of my heart.

[09:05] Holly

I must first restore order
to this maddened forest.

[09:25] Menel

He uses that insane power like
it's just another hand or foot.

[09:30] Holly

Child of both elf and man,

[09:32] Holly

you will be like me one day.

[09:36] Menel

Huh?

[09:37] Holly

You forged a contract with
my brother, the Lord of Oak.

[09:42] Holly

Though only briefly, you held within
yourself the authority to rule the forest.

[09:47] Holly

The human and fae blood and power within
you is already inclining toward fae,

[09:52] Holly

bringing you closer to being a suitable
vessel for a Lord of the Forest.

[09:57] Will

Huh?

[09:58] Menel

I had no intention of doing any of that.

[10:01] Holly

That is what it means to entrust
the royal authority to another,

[10:05] Holly

young sprout.

[10:09] Holly

Worry not.

[10:11] Holly

This does not mean you will
transform right away.

[10:14] Holly

So long as you do not neglect your training,

[10:16] Holly

then perhaps after well

over a hundred years,

[10:20] Holly

you will become a new Lord of the Forest.

[10:23] Menel

Can I refuse?

[10:25] Holly

It is not impossible.

[10:26] Holly

If you wish it, you may still
die as a child of man.

[10:30] Holly

Give it plenty of thought.

[10:32] Holly

And you, child of man, disciple of light...

[10:36] Will

Yes?

[10:37] Holly

There is something I must tell you.

[10:41] Holly

Do you know of the mountain range to
the west whose rocks have turned red?

[10:47] Will

You mean the Rust Mountains?

[10:51] Holly

In a future that is not so distant
for you children of man,

[10:54] Holly

the Fire of Black Calamity will break out.

[10:59] Holly

The flames will spread, and may even
consume this land in its entirety.

[11:05] Will

You mean...

[11:06] Holly

Those demon beasts came here from
the Rust Mountains, as well.

[11:11] Holly

That land is now a nest of demons.

[11:14] Holly

A land where the enormous
Lord of Hellfire and Miasma sleeps,

[11:19] Holly

making his bed from the riches
of the mountain people.

[11:22] Will

Lord of Hellfire and Miasma?

[11:25] Holly

Whether you choose to fight
it or accept it, be prepared.

[11:29] Holly

That day is not far off now.

[11:31] Holly

This is both a warning and an act of duty.

[11:35] Holly

Child of man, young sprout,

[11:39] Holly

I promise you a bountiful
harvest this autumn.

[11:44] Will

The Fire of Black Calamity...

[11:49] Ethel

I truly asked too much of you this time.

[11:52] Ethel

Or perhaps I should say "again"?

[11:55] Menel

I'll say. You put us to work every
damn time something happens.

[11:59] Ethel

Well, the paladin here is a
retainer of mine, after all.

[12:03] Ethel

And if I send for Sir William, I get
a fine hero like you along with him.

[12:07] Ethel

A real bargain!

[12:09] Menel

I'm not some bonus from a market stall!

[12:12] Ethel

But you are the paladin's friend.

[12:15] Ethel

Just as a friend fights for his friend,

[12:17] Ethel

a knight fights for the people
and for his lord.

[12:21] Ethel

Am I wrong?

[12:22] Menel

Service, devotion, loyalty...

[12:25] Menel

It all sounds nice on the surface,
but what's the reality?

[12:29] Menel

If you burden someone too
much, you breed discontent.

[12:32] Menel

So what if, the next time you really need them, they don't want to help?

[12:35] Ethel

That's true. I wouldn't want the paladin to run away from me.

[12:39] Ethel

So I must make sure to compensate him generously so he sticks around.

[12:43] Menel

Exactly. It's important to have that kind of attitude.

[12:48] Menel

That makes him feel good about demonstrating his loyalty.

[12:51] Ethel

I'll give you money and whatever goods you want later.

[12:55] Will

Leave it to Menel.

[12:56] Ethel

That aside, Sir William...

[12:59] Will

Y-Yes? What is it?

[13:01] Ethel

I have a big favor to ask of you.

[13:04] Ethel

Would you give Meneldor here to me?

[13:07] Will

Huh?

[13:08] Ethel

He's a talented fairy user as well as a masterful hunter.

[13:12] Ethel

Plus he's a half-elf who doesn't age, and he doesn't hesitate to tell me off.

[13:17] Ethel

Yes, I want him. I truly want him.

[13:20] Will

Your Highness, Menel isn't property.

[13:26] Bagley

I apologize for the wait, Your Highness.

[13:29] Ethel

Thanks for coming, Bagley.

[13:31] Will

It's good to see you again, Bishop Bagley.

[13:34] Bagley

Hah. Victorious again, I suppose?

[13:38] Bagley

My word, hero... After all the flattery
for your peerless acts of valor,

[13:41] Bagley

I thought perhaps you'd have gotten
cocky and lost at least once by now.

[13:46] Ethel

Now, why don't you give us
your report on this incident?

[13:50] Will

"The Fire of Black Calamity will
break out in the Rust Mountains.

[13:55] Will

The flames will spread, and may even
consume this land in its entirety."

[14:00] Will

That's what the Lord of Holly told me.

[14:03] Ethel

I thought the matter of the demon
beasts and demons had settled down...

[14:07] Ethel

Now we have an unknown
"Fire of Black Calamity"

[14:09] Ethel

and "Lord of Hellfire and Miasma"?

[14:11] Ethel

I'm also concerned about

[14:13] Ethel

the story you once told me about the demons'
High King sealed in the City of the Dead.

[14:18] Ethel

It's just one disturbance
after another, isn't it?

[14:22] Ethel

Honestly... Never a dull
moment on this continent.

[14:25] Bagley

Hunter, what sort of power does
this Lord of the Forest have?

[14:31] Bagley

Can this prophecy of his be trusted?

[14:34] Menel

Call me by my name, old man.

[14:36] Bagley

Are you in any position to talk?!

[14:39] Will

Um, could you two please get along?

[14:42] Bagley

With this insolent brat?
Spare me your jokes!

[14:45] Menel

I hate pompous oafs like him.

[14:49] Ethel

But he makes a fine business
partner, doesn't he?

[14:54] Bagley

Well, I do admit that he is talented.

[14:58] Menel

I wouldn't be sitting at the
same table with you otherwise.

[15:06] Menel

Look here.

[15:07] Menel

The Lords of the Forest rule the entire
region adjacent to this ley line.

[15:11] Menel

It can be a spirit dwelling
within a great tree or rock,

[15:15] Menel

an aged beast that's acquired intelligence,
or one of many other forms,

[15:18] Menel

but they've all lived for
at least a century or two.

[15:22] Menel

They're known as the
forest's heart and brain,

[15:26] Menel

and they know everything that
happens in their domain.

[15:29] Menel

If a prophecy comes from
a Lord of the Forest,

[15:31] Menel

there's probably solid
grounds to back it up.

[15:33] Menel

You can consider it a forecast.

[15:37] Bagley

This seems like a matter we should
treat as a high priority.

[15:41] Ethel

Yes.

[15:43] Ethel

The Rust Mountains,
the ruined dwarf capital,

[15:47] Ethel

is a nest of demons now, eh?

[15:49] Will

That sounds great!

[15:52] Will

In other words, we can go
as crazy as we want, right?

[15:56] Will

We know where the problem is located.

[15:58] Will

A desolate, hostile land where there's
no fear of harming bystanders!

[16:01] Will

In other words, this is a case meant for me!

[16:06] Ethel

Yes, I suppose you're right.

[16:10] Ethel

Would you take care of this matter, paladin?

[16:14] Will

Of course.

[16:16] Bagley

Good grief...

[16:17] Ethel

If a Lord of the Forest
promised a bountiful harvest,

[16:21] Ethel

we can probably assume we're
safe until autumn, at least.

[16:24] Ethel

The first step is to gather information.

[16:26] Will

I'll talk to my troubadour friend and
the dwarfs living in Torch Port.

[16:32] Ethel

Can I entrust all of this to you?

[16:34] Will

Yes.

[16:35] Ethel

This matter will remain a secret
between the four of us for now.

[16:40] Will

Not a problem. I'm sure it'll all work out.

[16:43] Ethel

When you say that, it makes

me feel like it really will.

[16:46] Bagley

Hmph! Don't get cocky after all this
hero treatment and let your guard down!

[16:54] Bee

About the Rust Mountains?

[16:56] Will

Yeah. I want to learn all I can about them.

[17:01] Bee

A troubadour's song doesn't
come free, you know.

[17:04] Bee

What'll you pay for my information?

[17:05] Will

U-Uh...

[17:07] Menel

If we end up having to go
to the Rust Mountains,

[17:09] Menel

we'll tell you any stories
we pick up there first.

[17:11] Menel

Is that good enough?

[17:13] Bee

Okay! It's a deal!

[17:17] Bee

Two hundred years ago, the Rust Mountains

[17:19] Bee

were known as the Iron Mountains.

[17:23] Bee

It was home to the Iron
Country, where the dwarfs,

[17:26] Bee

mountainfolk who followed the god of
fire and technology, Blaze, lived.

[17:31] Bee

It was a powerful country that
was once included in the Union.

[17:36] Will

The Iron Country...

[17:38] Bee

But it was lost in the great
uprising two hundred years ago.

[17:42] Bee

To stop the advance of the demons,

[17:45] Bee

the dwarf monarch of the mansion on the rock

[17:47] Bee

led many powerful warriors to fight them,

[17:50] Bee

but they all died in battle on the mountain.

[17:52] Bee

Much blood was shed, many
weapons were dispersed,

[17:56] Bee

and the mountain became the demons' nest.

[17:58] Bee

Then, at some point, the area became
known as the Rust Mountains.

[18:03] Menel

Because that's what happens when iron dies?

[18:05] Bee

The details of what happened in that
battle didn't survive, even in song.

[18:10] Bee

There's really no information
about it at all.

[18:12] Will

Why?

[18:13] Bee

Because all the dwarf warriors
and citizens were wiped out.

[18:17] Bee

And...

[18:19] Bee

The fate of any dwarf who fled the country

[18:22] Bee

was just too cruel to speak of.

[18:25] Menel

Half a year ago,

[18:27] Menel

we took in some dwarf
refugees at Torch Port.

[18:31] Menel

I'll never forget it.

[18:33] Menel

All of their eyes looked utterly exhausted.

[18:36] Menel

It made me realize that if we'd
taken one wrong step somewhere,

[18:38] Menel

that could've been us.

[18:41] Will

Menel...

[18:42] Bee

Everyone knows what befalls people who are driven out of their homeland.

[18:47] Bee

That's why none of them want to talk about their home mountain,

[18:51] Bee

or what happened in that final battle.

[18:53] Will

So that's why...

[18:55] Bee

So that's all I can tell you. I'm sorry.

[18:59] Will

No, you were a big help.

[19:02] Bee

But you know, Will...

[19:03] Bee

If you were to talk to them with the understanding you have now,

[19:08] Bee

they just might talk to you, if no one else.

[19:12] Will

All right. Thanks.

[19:19] Menel

This way.

[19:26] Will

The fairies' path...

[19:28] Will

Is this the right way?

[19:30] Menel

Yeah, I can tell. I mean, I can tell *now*.

[19:33] Will

Because of the royal authority?

[19:35] Menel

Apparently. Not that I asked for it.

[19:38] Will

You know, if you and I get separated, I'm done for.

[19:42] Menel

Don't worry. I won't lose you.

[19:45] Menel

If you stray away, I'll drag you back.

[19:46] Will

You can do that, too?

[19:49] Menel

I was planning to train myself to do this...

[19:51] Menel

But hey, whether you get it free
or work for it, power is power.

[19:55] Menel

It's all the same once you
make it a part of yourself.

[19:59] Will

It's amazing, though. You're going
to be a Lord of the Forest someday?

[20:04] Menel

In two or three hundred years, if not more.

[20:08] Menel

It's probably somewhere in that realm.

[20:12] Will

I'll be long dead by then.

[20:15] Menel

True.

[20:16] Menel

Maybe I'll be your gravekeeper

[20:19] Menel

while I watch where your kids
and grandkids end up...

[20:22] Menel

I guess everything will
have settled down by then.

[20:26] Will

You've been planning to do that?

[20:28] Menel

Yes, I have.

[20:30] Menel

I have all kinds of debts to
you that I can never repay.

[20:35] Menel

All half-elves have to make a
life-altering decision at some point.

[20:40] Menel

To live as an elf, almost like the fae
for perpetuity alongside the earth and water...

[20:45] Menel

Or to live the human life, like a
flickering fire or a gust of wind.

[20:51] Menel

That's the fate of those
born with both bloodlines.

[20:58] Menel

I want to see what becomes
of all your accomplishments.

[21:03] Will

I might not be able to
do anything that great.

[21:06] Menel

You're already enough of a legend.

[21:09] Menel

And you'll keep making more legends,
all with that spacey face of yours.

[21:14] Menel

I'll be fighting by your side,
and if I survive until your life ends...

[21:19] Menel

Yeah... It might not be so bad to wrap it
all up by fading away into the forest.

[21:24] Menel

After I say some awesome line to make
myself look good in the end, of course.

[21:30] Will

You'll be a legend.

[21:32] Menel

As will you. Doesn't sound bad, right?

[21:35] Will

Yeah.

[21:43] Will

Amazing... That distance should've
taken days to cover...

[21:47] Menel

Pretty handy, aren't they?

[21:48] Will

It's a little scary that you
use them so easily, though...

[21:58] Will

We've made it back to our Torch Port home.

SIGN The Last King

Revision #1

Created 2024-11-10 21:11:14 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-11-10 21:11:14 UTC by whimsee