

WOODHOLLOW'S BANE

Pilot Episode - "Pale Eyes"

written by

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COLD OPEN

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

The pale moon silhouettes a single CROW perched on a tree branch. The crow squawks and takes flight, leaving a few feathers behind.

The feathers fall down near ABIGALE (12) as she frantically runs through the woods. She looks behind her as a MURDER OF CROWS chase, squawk, and dive-bomb near her head. She trips over a fallen tree.

The crows and moon are gone. Abigale stands up and hears growling in the distance. She turns around to find an UNKNOWN CREATURE with two pale eyes as bright as the moon. She can't make out what kind of animal the creature is.

The creature roars and lunges towards Abigale. She screams.

SMASH-CUT TO:

EXT. COUNTRY TRAIL - NIGHT

Abigale wakes up from her nightmare still screaming.

JEBIDIAH
Another nightmare, Abigale?

Abigale's covered in a blanket sitting in the front seat of a supply wagon hitched to four horses.

Her father JEBIDIAH (late 30s) is at the reins. His complexion is a fair bit lighter than hers.

They're traveling down a dark country trail.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)
Sounded like a spooky one!

ABIGALE
It was a monster. And I was being chased by a bunch of crows.

JEBIDIAH
A murder!

ABIGALE
No, I woke up before that.

JEBIDIAH
I mean a murder of crows. That's what a group of crows is called.
(MORE)

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)
A school of fish, a gaggle of
geese, and a murder of crows! Isn't
that neat?

ABIGALE
English is weird.

Jebidiah turns his head and reaches for something on his
left, something out of her eyesight.

JEBIDIAH
Weird, huh? As weird as-

Jebidiah quickly turns around towards Abigale while wearing
his plague doctor mask.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)
This?!

Abigale is unfazed. Jebidiah wiggles his fingers around in a
lame attempt to be spooky.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)
Nothing?

He removes the mask. Abigale laughs and mock-punches
Jebidiah's arm.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)
Oof! When did my little girl get so
strong! I think you broke my arm!
You'll need to take the reins from
here, though I think Unicornelius
might still be mad at you.

UNICORNELIUS, the large white horse in the front-right has a
pine cone stuck under his halter that makes him look like a
unicorn. He blows loudly to make his displeasure known.

ABIGALE
You're a doctor. Don't you have
something in there that can fix it?

JEBIDIAH
No, we need to get all of this to
Woodhollow. I hear a lot of the
villagers there also have abusive
children so there will be no
shortage of broken arms to repair!

Abigale laughs and snuggles into her blanket. She rests her
head on Jebidiah's arm. She falls back asleep.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE**EXT. COUNTRY TRAIL - NIGHT**

JEBIDIAH

Abigale. Abigale, darling, wake up.

Abigale wakes up and sees the woods and fog all around them.
A bridge is up ahead. She stretches and yawns.

ABIGALE

Are we there yet?

JEBIDIAH

No. Up ahead.

Jebidiah points to the bridge ahead. Faint lights and distant
chatter break through the fog.

ABIGALE

Maybe they're friendly? Or ghosts!
Or friendly ghosts?!

JEBIDIAH

Maybe. But we can't take any
chances. Hide in the back and don't
make a sound.

ABIGALE

But-

JEBIDIAH

No buts, Abigale. These parts
aren't safe for children. Just do
as I say, please.

Abigale sighs and climbs into the wagon behind some supplies.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)

Oh, and please be a lamb and hand
me my crossbow?

Abigale hands Jebidiah a CROSSBOW. This knocks the PLAGUE
DOCTOR MASK down towards the front of the supplies.

Jebidiah hides the CROSSBOW under Abigale's blanket.

Abigale readies her SLINGSHOT.

As they approach the bridge, the lights are shown to be
lanterns held by THREE LAWMEN on horses.

LAWMAN 1

What have we here?

JEBIDIAH
Good evening, gentlemen. M'lady.

The FEMALE HORSE whinnies.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)
Just on my way to Woodhollow,
looking to sell some pelts.

The Lawmen inspect the wagon's exterior.

LAWMAN 2
Woodhollow, eh? I'd stay away from
there if I was you, mister.

LAWMAN 1
Surely you've heard of that new
sickness what's been spreading
'round?

JEBIDIAH
Ah, I figured that was just tavern
hearsay.

LAWMAN 3
Ah, nah. It's real. Say it turns
you mad!

LAWMAN 1
Maybe our friend here's already got
it if he thinks anyone in
Woodhollow's gonna want to buy
pelts. They're surrounded by the
Wilds! Think they're short on
pelts, do ya?

The Lawmen laugh.

JEBIDIAH
True, but these are pelts from up
north. Surely I've bagged some
creatures that aren't native to
these parts.

LAWMAN 1
Doubt it. No shortage of monsters
here. But I s'pose I wouldn't
expect a fancy man from the capital
to know that!

Jebidiah stealthily slides his hand under the blanket to grab
his CROSSBOW.

LAWMAN 2

Yeah! Mister high society on his way to sell his wares to the commoners, colonizers, and country bumpkins!

LAWMAN 3

Think you're better than us with your fancy 'indoor plumbing' and 'toothed-brushes'?

Lawman 3 smiles, revealing rotten and missing teeth.

LAWMAN 1

You ain't got a toothbrush, mate?

A beat.

LAWMAN 3

Uh... Look at his horse! He's gone and made it look like a unicorn! We should shift our focus to that!

In the back of the wagon, Abigale silently smacks her head.

LAWMAN 1

Mate, why would you go and put a pine cone on your horse's head?

JEBIDIAH

I like unicorns.

Another beat.

LAWMAN 1

We're just razzin' ya, pal. You're free to cross.

Jebidiah slides his hand away from the CROSSBOW.

JEBIDIAH

Have a good night gentleman.
M'lady.

The female horse neighs. Unicornelius winks at the female horse in crossing. She blushes.

JEBIDIAH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

You still got it, Unicornelius.

As the wagon's horses trot past the Lawmen and their horses, Lawman 3 notices the PLAGUE DOCTOR MASK.

LAWMAN 3
(whispering to Lawman 1)
Boss, wait a tick.

Moments later after the wagon crosses the bridge, Abigale scoots closer to the front.

ABIGALE
They were pretty rude for lawmen!

JEBIDIAH
Those weren't lawmen, Abigale. Stay back there for now.

ABIGALE
Huh?

On the other side of the bridge, the Lawmen are talking.

LAWMAN 1
... he's prob'ly got fancy capital supplies in there. I'd wager those would sell for a high price.

LAWMAN 3
Reckon we should go 'arrest' him then, boss?

LAWMAN 1
Nah, I think he's onto us.

The Lawmen take their uniform coats off and hide them behind some bushes, revealing themselves to be BANDITS.

The Bandits hook their lanterns onto their saddles. Bandit 1 readies his BOW AND ARROWS, Bandit 2 lifts his TOMAHAWK, while Bandit 3 grabs his SWORD.

Bandit 1 kicks the side of the female horse.

BANDIT 1
HYAHH!

The Bandits ride their horses full speed ahead towards the bridge. Jebidiah hears them coming. He hits the reins to speed his horses up.

JEBIDIAH
No!

Jebidiah looks down to see his PLAGUE DOCTOR MASK.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)
Curse my love for startling my
young daughter!

ABIGALE
What?

JEBIDIAH
Nothing dear, but just to keep you
in the loop we're being chased by
bandits.

ABIGALE
WHAT?!

She reaches into her pocket and readies a ROCK for her
SLINGSHOT.

The Bandits have crossed the bridge and are in hot pursuit of
the wagon.

BANDIT 2
Where you going, DOCTOR? I got a
rash that requires your immediate
attention!

The Bandits all laugh. Jebidiah grabs his CROSSBOW. He peaks
around the wagon and just barely dodges a TOMAHAWK thrown by
Bandit 2.

JEBIDIAH
Take one of these and call me in
the morning!

Jebidiah fires the crossbow at Bandit 2. The arrow pierces
the bandit's shirt, flinging him off his horse, and pinning
him to a tree.

The other two Bandits leave him behind as Jebidiah readies
another arrow. Bandit 1 makes his way up to the left side of
the wagon while Bandit 3 sticks to the rear.

Bandit 3 stands up on his horse and gets ready to jump onto
the wagon. Abigale opens up the back of the wagon.

BANDIT 3
What the?!

ABIGALE
Eat rock, loser!

Abigale shoots a ROCK from her slingshot and hits Bandit 3 in
the mouth, knocking out the rest of his rotten teeth.

BANDIT 3
NO! MY REMAINING TEETH!

Bandit 3 falls off of his horse. The horse runs away in a different direction. Bandit 1 lifts his BOW.

BANDIT 1
Pathetic! I'll handle this myself!

Bandit 1 fires an arrow through the wagon. It just barely misses Abigale.

Jebidiah looks to the woods on his left.

JEBIDIAH
Hang tight, Abigale. We're taking
the scenic route!

Jebidiah pulls the reins to steer the horses towards the woods. The last Bandit and his horse just barely avoid them.

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

It's a bumpy ride, but they're making their way through the woods. Abigale peaks out of the wagon, she's terrified.

JEBIDIAH
I'm gonna need you to take the
reins. Can you do that for me?

Abigale nods. Jebidiah lifts her to the front seat of the wagon and hands her the reins.

ABIGALE
Just like we practiced?

JEBIDIAH
Just like we practiced.

Jebidiah goes to the side of the wagon and peaks out to look for the Bandit. He just barely dodges an arrow.

BANDIT 1
You got lucky on that one, doc! The
Wilds are no place for a man like
you! Give up and I might spare you
and your daughter!

Jebidiah and the Bandit fire arrows at each other, but both seem to just barely miss the other. Some arrows hit the wagon, others strike trees.

The horses follow every direction Abigale pulls the reins in without hesitation, perfectly in sync with one another.

She hears a squawk and sees the silhouette of a CROW perched on a branch in front of the moon, just like her nightmare.

ABIGALE

No...

The crow takes flight and joins in with a MURDER OF CROWS behind the wagon.

JEBIDIAH

Oh! A murder! Abigale, it's just like your-

Jebidiah looks down to see a terrified Abigale. He takes over the reins and pulls her close to him.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)

It's okay, Abi.

The crows fly past the wagon, up towards the sky, and turn around after the Bandit.

BANDIT 1

Out of the way, you pests!

The crows dive-bomb, peck, and scratch at the Bandit.

BANDIT 1 (CONT'D)

I SAID OUT OF THE WAY!

The Bandit grabs his lantern and swings it at the crows. The crows fly up into the trees. The Bandit is covered in cuts.

BANDIT 1 (CONT'D)

IF I CAN'T HAVE THAT WAGON NOBODY CAN!

The Bandit uses his lantern to set one of his arrows on FIRE. He shoots it at the wagon, setting it ABLAZE.

JEBIDIAH

NO!

Unicornelius and the other horses panic.

ABIGALE

It's gonna be okay! Hang on!

Jebidiah grabs Abigale and jumps off of the wagon and onto the horses. He grabs a knife from his pocket and cuts the horses loose. All but Unicornelius flee.

Jebidiah attempts to grab some of his supplies from the burning wagon. Suddenly, Bandit 1 points an arrow at him. Veins are bulging through the Bandit's forehead.

BANDIT 1
YOU MAY HAVE BEATEN MY MEN AND
SCARED OFF MY HORSES, BUT I DON'T
FRIGHTEN QUITE AS EASY!

JEBIDIAH
Not even for-

Jebidiah slaps the plague doctor mask on.

JEBIDIAH (CONT'D)
THIS?!

The Bandit PUNCHES Jebidiah, breaking the mask and knocking him down. Before the Bandit can take another step, he's hit in the head with a ROCK from Abigale's slingshot.

ABIGALE
Leave my dorky dad alone!

The Bandit looks over just as Unicornelius BUCKS him in the chest, knocking the wind out of the Bandit and sending him flying a few feet. He stumbles back up as Jebidiah picks Abigale up.

The Bandit points his arrow at Abigale. Jebidiah gets in front to shield her... but nothing happens. They hear the bow and arrow drop. They turn around and are disturbed by what they see.

The Bandit's eyes are completely pale and glowing. His mouth is agape and his breathing is heavy. With very rigid movements he turns around and wanders deep into the woods.

ABIGALE (CONT'D)
What was that?

JEBIDIAH
I think that was the illness...
Woodhollow's Bane.

As the fire from the burning wagon begins to die down, Jebidiah lifts Abigale up onto Unicornelius.

The CREATURE from Abigale's nightmare watches them leave.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO**EXT. COUNTRY TRAIL - MORNING**

Abigale, Jebidiah, and Unicornelius walk down the country trail. They pass an old, damaged sign that reads "WELCOME TO WOODHOLLOW"

Underneath it is a small hanging sign that originally read "POPULATION: 200" but the number has multiple corrections and new numbers that keep being crossed off. It's now covered with a few question marks.

Jebidiah and Abigale look ahead. They've finally reached Woodhollow. The village looks desolate and grey.

ABIGALE

Looks kind of depressing, huh?

JEBIDIAH

Let's not pass judgement,
Abigale... but yes.

Unicornelius neighs in agreement.

EXT. WOODHOLLOW - CONTINUOUS

They're approached by the burly, bearded THADDEUS (40) on a large, brown horse.

THADDEUS

Doctor Jebidiah Jameson, I presume?

JEBIDIAH

Yes, I take it you're Thaddeus
Stone?

THADDEUS

No, Thaddeus Stone was my
grandfather. I'm Thaddeus Stone the
third.

JEBIDIAH

But of course. This is my daughter,
Abigale.

Abigale enthusiastically waves to Thaddeus. He glances at her and then looks back at Jebidiah.

THADDEUS

Quite the complexion she's got. Is
she Wild?

Abigale gives a confused look. A slight hesitation from Jebidiah.

JEBIDIAH

No, just tans well. Much like her late mother. Me on the other hand? Oh I burn up something crisp if I'm in direct sunlight too long!

THADDEUS

Hmm. Didn't think you get much sun up in that cloudy capital. Anyway, allow me to be the first to humbly welcome you to my village, Woodhollow!

Thaddeus stretches his arms out as if to present a thriving town, but the only thing in worse shape than his town are its RESIDENTS. They all seem poor, hungry, angry, dirty, paranoid, or a combination of all of the above.

He motions them to follow as they turn and trot away.

THADDEUS (CONT'D)

Gotta say, Jeb, I'm surprised the capital sent a doctor of your caliber down to little ol' Woodhollow. I suppose we ought to be grateful considering what we've been paying in taxes, but that's a long conversation for another time.

JEBIDIAH

I insisted on going. The reports on this bane truly piqued my interest. I dealt with a similar case when I was just starting in this field.

THADDEUS

Oh? Did you cure that one then?

Another hesitation.

JEBIDIAH

Yes, eventually, but... there were many I couldn't save in time.

Abigale grabs and squeezes her father's hand. He smiles reassuringly at her.

THADDEUS

Hm. Here's where you'll be working.

Thaddeus points to the doctor's office cabin that they're walking towards.

JEBIDIAH
Ah, excellent.

THADDEUS
My wife Tiffany has been 'working'
all week to get your living
quarters ready for ya. She'll stop
by once you get settled in.

Jebidiah hitches Unicornelius to a post outside of the doctor's cabin. Abigale brushes him. Thaddeus and his horse turn around.

JEBIDIAH
Heading off?

A small posse of HUNTERS and TRAPPERS ride past them.

THADDEUS
Yep, me and what remaining men
we've got are headed out on a hunt.
I'd let you tag along, but I doubt
a city boy could handle anything
bigger than a rat.

ABIGALE
Hey! My dad can do anything!

JEBIDIAH
Abigale.

THADDEUS
Oh, I'm sure. I got a boy around
your age, girl. Perhaps the two of
you can play Soldiers and Wildlings
sometime. You two take care now.

Thaddeus and his horse take off with the other men. Jebidiah is taken aback by his comment.

ABIGALE
What's that big, hairy jerk mean?!
Why does he keep calling me those
things?!

JEBIDIAH
Oh, I don't know, dear. I guess
he... maybe that's just how they
talk down here.

Abigale isn't satisfied with that answer, but still follows her dad inside the cabin.

INT. DOCTOR'S CABIN - CONTINUOUS

A bell rings as Jebidiah and Abigale enter the cabin. This gets the attention of MARIE (11) a small girl with big, magnifying glasses. She drops her book.

MARIE

Mom! More sick people!

JEBIDIAH

Oh, we're not sick. We were sent here from the capital.

MARIE

Mom! More tax collectors!

ELIZABETH (mid 30s) steps out from the backroom.

ELIZABETH

Take it down a notch, Marie. That's the Jamesons. They're here to help study and, pray be, cure this awful plague.

ABIGALE

Yeah, Marie. Take it down a notch.

MARIE

You take it down a notch!

ABIGALE

No, you take it down a notch!

ELIZABETH

They're off to a great start.

Jebidiah holds his hand out.

JEBIDIAH

Hello. Jebidiah Jameson. This is my daughter Abigale.

Elizabeth shakes his hand.

ELIZABETH

Elizabeth Harper. My sunshine and bundle of joy Marie.

JEBIDIAH

Nice to meet you both. I didn't realize Woodhollow already had a medical doctor.

ELIZABETH

Oh, it doesn't. Not anymore at least. No, he was one of the first to go. I'm actually just a veterinarian. That's how bad things are. I'm hoping you're my ticket out of this cabin.

JEBIDIAH

'Just' a veterinarian? Doctor to doctor, don't sell yourself short! Why, young Abigale here has always wanted to become a veterinarian.

ABIGALE

Maybe when I was six?

ELIZABETH

Daughters, am I right? Marie, why don't you take Abigale out and show her around Woodhollow. Doctor Jameson and I have much to discuss.

MARIE

Do I have to?

ELIZABETH

You sure do, kid.

The bell rings as Marie and Abigale head outside.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Marie isn't, uh, great with people.

JEBIDIAH

Oh, Abigale is terrible with them!

EXT. WOODHOLLOW - LATER

Abigale and Marie are walking around the village.

MARIE

Uhhh, there's a school over there for the kids. A tavern for the adults. That barn down there is where my mom usually works. So you want to be an animal doctor? I want to be a bug doctor. I like bugs.

ABIGALE

I used to want to be a regular animal doctor, but now I want to be a magic animal doctor. Like on unicorns, mermaids, maybe wendigos?

MARIE

Oh. Do you have friends in the capital?

ABIGALE

No. Do you have friends here?

MARIE

No. Well, actually yes. My friend Dale.

Marie reaches into her pocket and takes out a SNAIL.

MARIE (CONT'D)

This is Dale.

ABIGALE

Hi Dale! Uh, you know snails aren't bugs, right?

MARIE

Of course I know that! They're mollusks. But I still like him.

ABIGALE

... I like him too.

MARIE

Wanna hold him?

ABIGALE

... Yes.

Marie grabs Dale by the shell and is about to hand him to Abigale just as TED (12) snatches the snail.

MARIE

Dale! Give him back, Ted!

TED

If you want your gross bug back so bad, come and get him, bug-eyes!

Ted gets hit in the head with a ROCK and squeals. He sees Abigale standing with a SLINGSHOT.

ABIGALE

He's a mollusk, dumb-eyes!

TED

Well Dale's taking an express trip
to the Wilds! All three of you
losers can live happily ever after
if I don't smash him first!

Ted runs towards the woods. Abigale chases after him, but
Marie stops her.

MARIE

We can't! Kids aren't allowed in
there!

ABIGALE

You stay behind if you want, but
I'm going in... for Dale!

Marie takes a deep breath and nods at Abigale.

MARIE

For Dale.

They run into the woods together.

INT. DOCTOR'S CABIN BACKROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jebidiah reads through some of the notes the previous doctor
wrote about the bane.

JEBIDIAH

Fascinating.

The bell rings.

TIFFANY (O.S.)

Harper! Mrs. Harper! Get out here
at once please!

JEBIDIAH

Friend of yours?

TIFFANY

HA! Nope!

INT. DOCTOR'S CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Jebidiah and Elizabeth come out of the backroom to find
TIFFANY (late 30s) fair, fancy, and furious..

ELIZABETH

Mrs. Stone, how may we help you? Is
that lower back rash back?

Tiffany is temporarily befuddled.

TIFFANY

Why, I... I don't... What are you talking about?

JEBIDIAH

Ah, Mrs. Stone? You must be Tiffany. Pleased to meet you.

Tiffany regains her composure.

TIFFANY

I wish it were under better circumstances, Mr. Jameson, but we have a situation on our hands!

ELIZABETH

The rash has spread to your hands?

TIFFANY

Mrs. Harper! Our children have ran into the Wilds!

ELIZABETH

What?! And you just let them?

TIFFANY

They were too far to hear me shouting for them, but it looked like that girl of yours was picking on my poor Teddy again. She and Ms. Jameson chased him into the woods!

ELIZABETH

Yeah, you know how vicious Marie can be. I'm sure that's exactly how it happened.

TIFFANY

You're clearly not taking this seriously! Mr. Jameson, you have to do something!

JEBIDIAH

Why me specifically?

ELIZABETH

Tiff here is, uh, traditional. We'll go together. Where'd you park your...

She notices Unicornelius' pine cone through the window.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Horse?

EXT. WOODHOLLOW - MOMENTS LATER

Tiffany dramatically and helplessly watches on as Jebidiah and Elizabeth mount Unicornelius and take off towards the woods.

TIFFANY

Your girls better not lay a finger
on my boy!

Jebidiah turns towards Elizabeth when they're far enough away.

JEBIDIAH

Marie didn't strike me as
particularly nasty?

ELIZABETH

Oh, but her little Teddy can do no
wrong. That whole family is awful.
The boy's no exception. I know
that's messed up to say about a
kid, but trust me, he's easily my
least favorite kid in Woodhollow.

EXT. WOODS - AFTERNOON

Abigale and Marie are still chasing after Ted.

TED

You're almost as slow as your
boyfriend Dale!

Abigale stops and slingshots another rock towards Ted. Ted turns around just in time to get hit right between the eyes. He yelps, falls down, and holds back tears.

Abigale and Marie finally catch up to him.

TED (CONT'D)

I let that rock hit me!

ABIGALE

Sure you did.

MARIE

Why?

Ted reaches into his pocket and pulls Dale out.

MARIE (CONT'D)

Dale! Your shell is intact!

Abigale aims her slingshot at Ted.

ABIGALE
Hand over the snail and no one gets
hurt... again.

Ted hesitates for a moment before finally giving in.

TED
Fine! I was just joking anyway.

Ted hands Marie the snail and gets back up.

ABIGALE
So... how do we get out of here?

TED
Pff, like you don't know your way
around the Wilds, wildling.

ABIGALE
What does that even mean?!

TED
Fear not, ladies. My manly
intuition can lead us back to town.

Ted looks around the vast woods.

TED (CONT'D)
I think that way?

ABIGALE
You 'think'?!

Marie looks terrified. Dale retreats into his shell.

MARIE
We're gonna die!

ABIGALE
We're not gonna die! We'll just
hunker down until my dad figures
out I'm missing and comes finds us.

Ted sees where Marie is looking and also becomes terrified. A
big shadow slowly looms over them.

TED
No, we're totally dead!

ABIGALE
Why are you both so-

Abigale takes notice of the shadow and finally turns around.
Fear washes over her as well.

ABIGALE (CONT'D)
Yeah, we're probably dead.

The kids are face-to-face with the CREATURE from earlier and Abigale's nightmare. Completely visible by daylight, the creature is a gigantic dark brown BEAR with huge tusks and other boar-like features.

CROWS are perched on her tusks. Her pale eyes closely observe the frightened children.

The Bear bares its teeth and growls at the kids. She paws and swipes the forest floor as if getting ready to charge. The crows caw and disperse.

The children slowly back away. It appears as if the Bear is calming down, but as Ted turns around and makes a run for it the Bear roars.

It gives chase to the children, shaking the trees with each thunderous step.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE**EXT. WOODS - AFTERNOON**

A single CROW is perched on the branch of a tree. It watches on as Ted, followed closely by Abigale and Marie, run for their lives. The rumbling of the giant tusked Bear shakes the tree, causing the Crow to take flight elsewhere.

Abigale looks back. The Bear takes a sharp turn to the side and maneuvers to get in front of the kids. They stop dead in their tracks as the Bear slowly inches towards them.

Marie takes Dale out and looks at him.

MARIE

I always had a feeling we'd go out
in a blaze of glory together, Dale.

Dale accepts his fate.

The Bear is so close now that her exhales move the kids' hair as well as Dale's eye stalks. It even fogs Marie's glasses.

Abigale locks eyes with the Bear. The Bear hesitates.

ABIGALE

Wait... I think she-

Suddenly, a HUGE NET is thrown over the Bear. The kids scatter away from it as it thrashes about.

The HUNTERS on all sides of the net struggle to keep it steady. Thaddeus readies his MUSKET.

TED

Dad?!

THADDEUS

Thaddeus Stone the fourth?! What
are you doing in the Wilds?!

While Thaddeus is distracted, The Bear rips through the net. She thrashes her tusks, knocking some of the Hunters away.

Thaddeus turns around to take his SHOT, but it merely grazes the beast's ear. Still, she lets out a painful cry.

She gets a good look at Thaddeus and it seems almost as if she recognizes the man. Her roar is so mighty and visceral that it shakes the forest.

EXT. DIFFERENT PART OF THE WOODS - CONTINUOUS

Jebidiah and Elizabeth race through the woods on Unicornelius. They hear and feel the Bear's roar from a distance. They see several flocks of birds and other animals flee from where the sound came from.

JEBIDIAH

Abigale!

Jebidiah pulls on the reins and guides Unicornelius towards that direction.

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

Thaddeus drops his MUSKET and readies his AXE.

THADDEUS

I'll take you on myself, beast!

Thaddeus swings his axe at the approaching Bear, but he's not quick enough as she SWIPES him with her TUSKS. He drops the AXE midair and SLAMS through a tree, snapping it.

The upper part of the tree FALLS and pins Thaddeus down. Strong as he is, he's unable to free himself from it.

The other Hunters watch on in horror as the Bear approaches her victim. Just as the Bear is about to strike, it's hit in the hide with a ROCK.

She grumbles and turns around to find Abigale atop a boulder with her SLINGSHOT in hand.

ABIGALE

Hey! Leave that big, hairy jerk alone!

The Bear growls and slowly walks towards Abigale. A few of the able-bodied Hunters take advantage of the distraction to try to help lift the log off of Thaddeus.

HUNTER 1

I think that little girl just saved your life, Thad.

THADDEUS

Could she actually be a-

Marie and Ted watch Abigale from a nearby bush.

MARIE

Abigale! What are you doing?!

TED
Are you nuts?!

ABIGALE
No! Maybe? I don't know! Kinda?!

The Bear approaches Abigale. Her growls are slowly dissipating. Abigale puts her slingshot away and **reaches a hand out, presenting her palm for the Bear.**

The two lock eyes. The Bear is no longer growling or even showing teeth. **It appears calm.**

Her nose is the size of Abigale's head. She sniffs Abigale's hand. Abigale reaches further out and pets the Bear's snout.

Ted's jaw drops and Marie's eyes look larger than ever before. Even Dale is in awe.

Thaddeus and the others can't believe what they're witnessing.

HUNTER 2
What the?!

HUNTER 1
Is she...

Thaddeus, although still injured, takes one of the other Hunter's MUSKETS.

HUNTER 2
Heyyyy! That's miiiiiine!

Thaddeus points the MUSKET, but can't get steady enough to aim properly. It's unclear if he's aiming for the Bear or for Abigale.

Abigale continues staring into the Bear's eyes.

ABIGALE
You're... looking for something?
Someone?

The moment is ruined in an instant as Jebidiah hops out of the bushes and bumps into Thaddeus.

A LOUD BANG!

The MUSKET fires into the air. Unharmd, the Bear makes a run for it through the woods and fog, shaking the Earth beneath her feet.

THADDEUS

Urgh!

JEBIDIAH

Oops! Sorry, I'm just a clumsy,
dainty capital man!

Thaddeus brushes it off and walks away. Jebidiah suspiciously
watches him go.

ABIGALE

Dad?!

JEBIDIAH

Abi!

Jebidiah and Abigale hug. Unicornelius and Elizabeth come
through the bush. Unicornelius nuzzles Abigale.

MARIE

Mom!

ELIZABETH

Marie!

Elizabeth hugs her daughter.

MARIE

And Dale.

ELIZABETH

Of course. And Dale.

Ted runs over to Thaddeus.

TED

Father!

Thaddeus doesn't even look at his son.

THADDEUS

Thaddues Stone the fourth... You
shouldn't be out here.

Thaddeus watches Abigale and the others talking.

THADDEUS (CONT'D)

(to himself)

We may have some use for you yet,
Wild child.

EXT. WOODHOLLOW - NIGHT

All is quiet in Woodhollow, save for the tavern and the men walking home from their night out.

INT. STONE RESIDENCE - MOMENTS LATER

Thaddeus stumbles inside his cabin. It's much larger than the other cabins. His walls are covered in mounted taxidermy trophies. Some are normal, everyday creatures while others are fearsome and/or mythological beasts.

Still injured, he limps towards a rather large VAULTED DOOR. As he begins to spin the dial for the lock combination, he's approached by Tiffany.

TIFFANY

You're home awfully late.

THADDEUS

Hmm.

TIFFANY

Teddy told me what happened out there today.

THADDEUS

Oh, will you stop calling him that?! His name is Thaddeus the fourth! He's not some stuffed bear!

INT. TED'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ted lays awake in his room as his parents argue.

TIFFANY (O.S.)

He's still a child, Thaddeus!

THADDEUS (O.S.)

And he'll remain one if you keep babying him like you do!

Ted turns on his side, covering his ears with his pillows.

INT. STONE RESIDENCE - CONTINUOUS

Thaddeus finishes dialing the vault door combination.

THADDEUS

I'll be in my study-

TIFFANY

Thaddeus! We're your family! You can't keep shutting us out!

He shuts her out.

INT. BASEMENT STAIRCASE - CONTINUOUS

Thaddeus grabs a lantern off the wall to light the long staircase down.

INT. STUDY - MOMENTS LATER

Thaddeus walks through another door into his study.

THADDEUS
Nothing more detrimental to a child
than an overbearing mother.
Wouldn't you agree?

He shines his lantern over a cage with two crying BEAR CUBS. The Cubs have small, round tusks beginning to grow.

THADDEUS (CONT'D)
You'll bring her to me. Her and the
others. The woods belong to man.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Hushed whispers in the deep forest.

A gathering of GIANT BEASTS is only slightly illuminated by fireflies. The giant tusked brown Bear is in attendance.

A large grey FOX with raccoon features, the size of a horse.

A man-sized black CROW with owl features, perched in a tree.

At the center, a giant white WOLF with antlers and other stag-like features. He's nearly as large as the Bear, but slender. Five scars run across his face.

The Bandit from earlier lays at the center. His eyes still white, his body now completely motionless.

The large, hybrid beasts speak without moving their mouths.

BEAR
This man put to death, yet the one
they call Stone lives? Is his heart
not impure? Why is he not infected
and cast before us?

WOLF
The one they call Stone is impure
of heart, yes. Has taken and
destroyed much. But the dead man's
wickedness was of a different kind.

CROW

If infect the one they call Stone
so soon, may never find cubs.

BEAR

Know where they are! Has them
hidden beneath human's den of
mutilated wood!

FOX

Cannot enter their territory.

BEAR

Our territory, our home! Long
before man! If cannot enter den for
him... then take his cub. Saw him,
smelled him. He wreaks of the one
they call Stone. It is no mistake.

CROW

Make the cub sick?

BEAR

Not the cub.
(beat)
We are not them.

FOX

When cub enters woods next, take
him for you I will.

BEAR

Another cub with him... Different.
Familiar. Wild, but tamed?

The Wolf's ears twitch. He lifts his head, sniffs.

WOLF

Silence... We are not alone.

The beasts all turn in unison towards the direction of-

SMASH-CUT TO:

INT. ABIGALE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Abigale jolts awake in a cold sweat. She looks around the
dark, unfamiliar room.

It wasn't a dream. It was a vision.

END OF EPISODE