

**THE HIDDEN PEOPLE**

Episode 1.17

“Chirality”

Written by

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184. Entire scene is a phone conversation, filtering either Dusty alone or both characters.

Phone RINGING (internal). ANSWERED after multiple rings.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
(beat)  
Yes?

DUSTY  
Hi! This is Dusty from White Cliffs Credit Union. Is this Mackenna Thorne?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
(beat, very tentative)  
Yes. This is...I am...her.

DUSTY  
Well, Mackenna, I'm just calling to wish you a happy birthday!

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
(beat, suspicious)  
Why?

DUSTY  
Well, at White Cliffs, we like to think of our members as more than just customers. You're really like family to us. So on a special day like this, we want to reach out to say that you're important to us.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
We are...family?

DUSTY  
Sure are, Mackenna! You've been part of the White Cliffs family for, let's see...it looks like you opened your account almost ten years ago! That's a long time.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I was not made aware of our connection, Dusty. I have not been...prepared for this.

DUSTY

Well, I wasn't working here when you first opened your account, but we've probably seen each other during one of your visits. You go to the Conley branch, don't you?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Yes, Dusty. I am a resident of the township of Conley. It is outside the city limits of the village of Conley. This is my home. Where I reside.

DUSTY

Me, too! I live in the township. Saves a lot on taxes, doesn't it?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

(beat)

Yes, Dusty. I also prefer to save a lot on taxes.

DUSTY

Have you ever thought about upgrading? Or refinancing? We have great rates, and I see that you don't currently have a mortgage with us.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Yes, Dusty. I have been upgrading recently. Because this is what people do. They upgrade. As a person, I have also been upgrading.

DUSTY

Well, do you mind me asking what your current rate is? I can probably beat it.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

My...rate?

DUSTY

Your interest rate.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

My interest rate? I would rate my interest as...high. I am highly interested.

DUSTY

Ha! Well, if your rate is high, we should schedule a meeting where I can share some of our services with you. We can meet at your local branch, if that's convenient.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I would...I am not...what would be the normal response to this?

DUSTY

I'm sorry?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I'm sorry.

DUSTY

Well, stop in or give me a call if you change your mind. Regardless of whether you increase your business with us, you're still an important member of the White Cliffs family. You should be receiving your birthday gift in the mail today.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

You want to give me...a gift?

DUSTY

Between you and me, it's a calendar and a pen, but I'm supposed to just say gift.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Yes, Dusty. I have never received a calendar and a pen. I accept your offer and await the terms.

DUSTY

No strings attached, Mackenna.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Nothing is free, Dusty.

DUSTY  
It's...it's just a calendar and a pen.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
And you would give me such gifts...for  
nothing?

DUSTY  
Well, yeah. It's your birthday. I'm  
sure whatever you got last year has to  
be better than a calendar and a pen.

**WHOOSHY TRANSITION SOUND**

185. Training room. Fetches SPAR in the background. Iron  
blades CLANG and CLASH in the foreground. An intense fight.  
Blades cease connecting. Fetch SLAMS to the ground.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
(frustrated yell)

MAGISTER  
Enough.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Yes, Magister.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
No!

Blades CLASH.

MAGISTER  
Fetch!

All sparring ceases.

LILIANA  
Answer him.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
(still pissed)  
Yes, Magister.

MAGISTER

Why did he beat you? Again?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

He is taller.

MAGISTER

And how did his height help him? It makes him easier to topple.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

He has a scythe. Given to him by his master. I have this training sword. The blade is chipped, and the handle is worn smooth.

Fetch HURLS the blade to the ground.

MAGISTER

If you want to wield such a scythe, you must earn that privilege.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

He has done nothing to earn his.

LILIANA

How his master prepares him is none of your concern.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

But he has an advantage when it is time to reclaim.

LILIANA

Advantage? Girl, he develops a reliance on a tool to survive. And if he is stripped of that tool? Can he stand on his own?

FETCH (AUGUST)

I can, lady.

LILIANA

No one asked you, fetch.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Allow me to kill him for his insolence,  
lady.

MAGISTER  
(laughs)  
Ever resourceful.

LILIANA  
This minor transgression does not merit  
death, fetch. It's not as if he planned  
an escape. Still, punishment is in  
order.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
I will be better, lady.

MAGISTER  
Away. Tell your master that you have  
disrespected the lady Liliana.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
(shaky)  
Yes, Magister.

Fetch WALKS away.

186. LILIANA  
Do not stare so longingly, fetch. The  
weapon is not your path to victory.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Yes, lady.

MAGISTER  
Do you believe yourself incapable of  
success without trinkets?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
A scythe is no trinket.

MAGISTER  
Fetch, you have been prepared by the  
greatest rulers the Unseelie Court has  
ever known. You are the first fetch in  
centuries that we have prepared.  
(MORE)

MAGISTER (CONT'D)

Liliana waited for nearly a millennium to select her next fetch, and she selected you. Billions of potentials, and you were her choice. Your dominance comes not from weapons or gimmicks. It is your destiny, imparted to you by royalty and divinity.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I understand, Magister. Forgive me.

MAGISTER

Your doubt is forgiven, fetch.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Thank you, Magister.

MAGISTER

But you disobeyed my command to cease your battle.

LILIANA

Come forward.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Magister, it was an error in judgment brought upon by the fight--

LILIANA

Come. Forward.

Slow, tentative STEPS. PUNCH.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

(cries out in pain)

MAGISTER

Pick up your sword.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Magister?

LILIANA

Every hesitation deepens your disobedience.

PICKS UP sword.

MAGISTER  
Attack me.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I...but Magister...

MAGISTER  
Why do you not obey?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Attacking the Hidden People is  
forbidden.

LILIANA  
And what of disobedience?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Disobedience...is also forbidden.

MAGISTER  
Attack me.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
(cracking)  
I...I do not understand.

LILIANA  
You were given a command.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
(crying)  
But...obedience is disobedience...I do  
not understand. Do not make me disobey.

LILIANA  
You were given a command.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
(desperate)  
Please, lady. Please, Magister.

MAGISTER  
Do you see your weakness?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Yes, Magister.

LILIANA  
Do you see your failure?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Yes, lady.

MAGISTER  
Do you understand why your family  
replaced you? This sad, whimpering  
thing?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Yes, Magister.

LILIANA  
Tomorrow marks twenty-seven years since  
your replacement.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Yes, lady.

LILIANA  
I wonder. Should we allow this  
disobedient fetch to participate in the  
gauntlet?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
No, please, lady. Please. I beg your  
forgiveness. I have prepared all year  
for tomorrow.

MAGISTER  
Perhaps forcing her to wait until next  
year would teach her obedience.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Magister, please. I will never disobey  
again.

MAGISTER  
You have brought this on yourself,  
haven't you?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I have. I am foolish and too quick to anger. I am a vile and sad thing. I am not worth your care. I am sorry that I have made you punish me.

MAGISTER

Why are you so desperate for the gauntlet, fetch?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I want to be found worthy. So I can reclaim.

MAGISTER

And why were you not worthy last year?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I...I failed.

MAGISTER

You crawled back with both legs broken and your face sliced open.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I will not fail again. You will find me worthy of reclamation. You will set me loose to hunt the imposter and reclaim.

MAGISTER

Will I?

LILIANA

She can wait another year. I am unconvinced.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

But lady, please, I will--

MAGISTER

Silence.

LILIANA

Fetch, you will learn your place--

MAGISTER

Both of you will learn your place.

(beat)

You may participate, fetch. But if you are broken again in the gauntlet, reflect on your failures and shortcomings with every inch you drag yourself.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Thank you, Magister. I do not deserve your mercy.

MAGISTER

No. You do not. Away.

Fetch WALKS away.

LILIANA

That was ill-advised.

MAGISTER

Oh?

LILIANA

She disobeyed you before fetches and Hidden alike. And you reward her?

MAGISTER

Inconsistency is the key to training them.

LILIANA

Inconsistency breeds disobedience when they hold the possibility of mercy.

MAGISTER

The possibility of mercy is hope. And so long as I am both the source and the target of their hope, I control them entirely.

LILIANA

She is not ready to reclaim.

MAGISTER

That is for the gauntlet to decide.

## MUSICAL TRANSITION

187. FETCH (KELLY)  
Your hand looks bad.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
It's fine.

FETCH (ERIK)  
Are you sure? You shouldn't enter the gauntlet wounded.

FETCH (AUGUST)

I said I'm fine.  
(beat)  
It's her fault.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I wasn't the one who spoke to Liliana  
out of turn.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
If you had kept control of yourself, my hand would be whole. And your lip wouldn't be busted.

wouldn't be busted.  
(beat)  
Right. Look away. We can all see that  
you were punished, too.

FETCH (KELLY)  
A busted lip isn't going to prevent her from completing the gauntlet. Your hand, though...

FETCH (ERIK)  
Don't fret for him. It's his choice.  
Let him die if he wants

FETCH (KELLY)  
Oh, I'm not fretting. It's just...if I  
don't make it through this time, I want  
one of you here for the next year.

FETCH (ERIK)  
You'll make it through.

FETCH (KELLY)  
I didn't last year.

FETCH (ERIK)  
Almost no one made it through last  
year.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Nine of us did.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
A powerful number.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
What of it?

FETCH (KELLY)  
Can you two turn anything into an  
argument?

FETCH (ERIK)  
A number. They just turned a number  
into an argument.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Perhaps only nine will make it through  
again.

FETCH (KELLY)  
There are eighty-one of us remaining in  
our cadre. Even if some are held back  
from entering, surely more than nine  
will succeed.

FETCH (ERIK)  
Last year was the first we were  
eligible. We've trained all year. We  
are far more ready this time.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Speak for yourself.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Not feeling confident?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Reclamation is a difficult task, and earning that privilege is even more difficult. I am realistic about my chances.

FETCH (KELLY)

You should be, too. With that hand.

FETCH (AUGUST)

Enough with the hand.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

You were right. Your injury is my fault. If I am able to make it right for you, to correct my mistake, I will. Even if it costs me the gauntlet.

FETCH (AUGUST)

I...thank you. It may not come to that.

FETCH (ERIK)

Thinking of sitting this one out after all?

FETCH (AUGUST)

I'm...not really sure. The best plan might be to wait until next year, enter at full strength.

FETCH (KELLY)

Now who's not feeling confident?

FETCH (AUGUST)

And you are?

FETCH (KELLY)

Ha! Certainly not. Like I said, I just want one of you to still be here with me for another year.

FETCH (ERIK)

So you're not planning on completing the gauntlet, but you're planning on surviving it again?

FETCH (KELLY)  
I don't plan to fail that  
spectacularly.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
But you haven't planned at all.

FETCH (KELLY)  
What?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
An entire year, and we haven't planned  
anything.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Speak for yourself. I've been training  
daily.

FETCH (ERIK)  
We all have. Even you.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I'm not talking about training. We can  
all fight, run, jump...all of which  
will be tested. But training isn't a  
plan.

FETCH (KELLY)  
The gauntlet is different every time.  
How can we plan?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Our masters have trained us well, but  
they have withheld the secrets of  
completing the gauntlet, to ensure the  
fidelity of our results. So we do  
something they never trained us for.  
Something they would never expect.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Out with it.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Should we work together?

FETCH (ERIK)  
Together?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Choose the same paths? Face the same  
obstacles?

FETCH (KELLY)  
Together.

FETCH (ERIK)  
This could work.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Reclamation is a solitary task.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
But does the gauntlet need to be?

FETCH (KELLY)  
She's right. If we help each other, we  
could certainly solve the puzzles,  
defeat the guardians.

FETCH (ERIK)  
We can all complete the gauntlet. We  
can all reclaim.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
This feels wrong. Like it circumvents  
the test.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I was taught to exploit any advantage.

FETCH (ERIK)  
As was I.

FETCH (KELLY)  
I'm with you. We can all make it  
through.

FETCH (ERIK)  
I'm with you, too.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Fine. I agree. We should work together.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Could it be that we are stronger  
together? Is that the key to completing  
the gauntlet?

FETCH (AUGUST)  
How would this even work?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
We each have different strengths. Your  
master is Niamh, and she has given you  
the scythe, an iron weapon that can  
dispatch any constructs in the way. And  
his master is Ailsa, who taught him to  
forge barghest. How many do you have?

FETCH (ERIK)  
Four, now.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
And her master is Hereward, one of the  
sentinels. He will have the plans for  
the gauntlet. Has he perhaps shared  
anything with you? Told you of the best  
path?

FETCH (KELLY)  
No. Are you suggesting I steal the  
plans from my master?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Of course not. Hereward will be meeting  
with the Court all night in preparation,  
but I wouldn't suggest stealing from  
him.

FETCH (KELLY)  
It could be dangerous, but if I just  
got a look, memorized the best route...

FETCH (ERIK)  
I can go with you and keep a lookout.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Are you sure? Is it worth the risk?

FETCH (AUGUST)

The gauntlet is a risk, anyway. Why not take a calculated risk now to stave off greater risk later? And then we can reclaim.

FETCH (KELLY)

Fine. I'll do it. Let's go.

FETCH (ERIK)

We'll be back soon.

Two fetches WALK away.

188. A few seconds pass.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

What will you do? When you are set loose to reclaim?

FETCH (AUGUST)

I will kill the imposter. Quickly. No sense in dragging it out. Then, I will judge those who replaced me. I want to know why.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I'm going to kill them all.

FETCH (AUGUST)

You don't want to know?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I don't care.

FETCH (AUGUST)

I get that. I need to know. It keeps me awake at night.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

The only thing that keeps me awake is my hatred for them. All of them.

(beat)

Soon, I'll sleep easy.

FETCH (AUGUST)

Your anger is your weakness.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
It gives me strength.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
It blinds you.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I see my goal clear enough.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
I hope that's true, for this plan to  
work.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I just want to complete the gauntlet.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
And what will you do with your freedom?  
Your name?  
(long beat)  
I know what I would do.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
You've thought about it?

FETCH (AUGUST)  
You haven't?!

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I haven't exactly made a plan for the  
future.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
See? Your hatred has clouded your path.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
So you have a plan to leave this place,  
start a new life?

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Of course I do. Isn't that what  
reclamation is?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I'm just trying to survive another day.  
Every day.

FETCH (AUGUST)

Perhaps, when we all have our names, we will look back to this moment and laugh at our doubts.

(beat)

Well, I've never seen you laugh, but I could imagine it.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I imagine many things.

(beat)

Laughing isn't one of them.

### **MUSICAL TRANSITION**

189. Four fetches WALKING.

FETCH (AUGUST)

Tell me the route again.

FETCH (KELLY)

Don't you trust me?

FETCH (AUGUST)

If you fall, I'm still taking advantage of this intelligence.

FETCH (KELLY)

We enter through the hedge maze outside the south hall. If we stick to the tunnel, we can get to the royal garden, where we face a guardian. We can take the passage from there to the study, and the bridge will lead us to the throne room.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

That's all?

FETCH (ERIK)

The study and the bridge were marked with some sort of challenges, but we couldn't decipher what sort.

FETCH (AUGUST)

We can be prepared. This is still far more than anyone else in the cadre knows.

FETCH (KELLY)

At least four are making it out this year.

FETCH (ERIK)

The south hall is just ahead. Hurry.

Fetches WALK a bit more then STOP. Door OPENS.

FETCH (KELLY) / FETCH (ERIK)

Master?

FETCH (AUGUST)

(whispering)

Why are all of our masters here?

LAIRD NIAMH

Fetches. Come forward.

Four fetches WALK a short distance.

LAIRD NIAMH (CONT'D)

You stand before the Magister and the lady Liliana. With them the sentinel Hereward, the inquisitor Ailsa, and I am Niamh, a laird of the Unseelie Court. Kneel before your masters.

FETCH (ERIK)

(whispering)

What's going on?

FETCH (KELLY)

(whispering)

Is this part of the gauntlet?

MAGISTER

Silence.

LILIANA

Fetches. You are accused of breaking  
your bonds and betraying the sanctity  
of the gauntlet.

FETCH (ERIK)

Lady, we have not--

AILS A

Not another word, fetch. You will  
answer when questioned. That is all. Do  
you understand?

FETCH (ERIK)

Yes, master Ailsa.

LILIANA

Hereward's fetch. Did you steal the  
plans from your master?

FETCH (KELLY)

I did not, lady.

LAIRD NIAMH

Do not lie to her, fetch. Do you know  
who she is?

FETCH (KELLY)

Yes, Laird Niamh.

LAIRD NIAMH

Then you know to show her respect. Do  
not lie again.

LILIANA

Did you steal the plans?

FETCH (KELLY)

I stole nothing, lady.

LILIANA

Did you look at the plans?

(long beat)

Do I need to remind you that an  
inquisitor is present?

FETCH (KELLY)  
I...I did look at the plans.

LILIANA  
Why?

FETCH (KELLY)  
We sought to gain an edge in the  
gauntlet.

LILIANA  
We?

FETCH (ERIK)  
Lady, if I may, we simply wanted an  
advantage. We have all been trained to  
exploit every advantage.

AILSA  
You have also been trained to respect  
your master, the Court, and the  
sanctity of its traditions. This  
includes the gauntlet. I know you have  
been so trained because I trained you.

FETCH (ERIK)  
Yes, master Ailsa.

AILSA  
Did you also take part in spying on the  
plans for the gauntlet?

FETCH (ERIK)  
I did, master Ailsa. I apologize for my  
transgressions.

LAIRD NIAMH  
My own fetch goes along with this  
heresy? Why?

FETCH (AUGUST)  
As the others have stated, we sought an  
advantage.

LILIANA  
Together? The gauntlet is a challenge  
for solitary fetches.

MAGISTER

What of our fetch? What role did you play in this scheme?

FETCH (AUGUST)

We did everything at her behest.

MAGISTER

I did not ask you, Niamh's fetch.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I ordered nothing. He suggested we work together.

FETCH (AUGUST)

She lies!

MAGISTER

Silence. Laird Niamh, if your fetch speaks out of turn again, remove his face.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

He first stated we should work together. She first stated that she could look at the plans. He offered to help her. I questioned everything.

LILIANA

You. Is this true?

FETCH (ERIK)

No, lady. She lies.

LILIANA

And you?

FETCH (KELLY)

She lies. Everything was her idea.

LAIRD NIAMH

Magister, should we settle this?

MAGISTER

Please.

LAIRD NIAMH  
Inquisitor Ailsa. Please find the truth  
for us.

AILSA  
Yes, Laird Niamh.  
(beat)  
Hereward's fetch. Whose idea was it to  
look at the plans?

FETCH (KELLY)  
Well, it was mine, but--

AILSA  
She speaks true.

FETCH (KELLY)  
--but she suggested I steal them first.

AILSA  
Did you?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
No. I questioned whether Hereward had  
shared the plans with her. When she  
asked if I was proposing she steal  
them, I said that I was not.

AILSA  
She speaks true.  
(beat)  
Laird Niamh's fetch. You stated that  
you did everything at her behest. Is  
this true?

FETCH (AUGUST)  
It is.

AILSA  
He speaks false.  
(beat)  
Did you order this treachery?

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I did not.

AILSA

Did you suggest it?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I did not.

AILSA

She speaks true.

LILIANA

Explain yourself, fetch.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I only questioned them at every step.  
He first stated "we should work  
together."

AILSA

She speaks true.

LILIANA

So you had no intention of breaking  
your bonds?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

No, lady. I accompanied them in the  
hope that I might be able to report  
their betrayal to you.

MAGISTER

Laird Niamh. You seek to become an  
alder of the court. Act accordingly and  
decide their punishment.

LAIRD NIAMH

Sentinel Hereward's fetch. Inquisitor  
Ailsa's fetch. You have colluded to  
undermine the sacred gauntlet, and you  
have violated the privacy of a sentinel  
of the Court. You are sentenced to  
labor under the watch of the drudges  
for the duration of your lives. You  
shall never undertake a gauntlet or  
reclaim.

FETCH (KELLY)

Please, no.

FETCH (ERIK)  
Master Ailsa, I beg for mercy.

AILSA  
Mercy is not mine to give, fetch.

LAIRD NIAMH  
The Magister and lady Liliana's fetch has walked with traitorous fetches but otherwise committed no offense. She is free to undertake the gauntlet. My fetch has transgressed for suggesting teamwork. He is barred from the gauntlet this year.

FETCH (AUGUST)  
Master Niamh, permit me to speak. She tricked us.

LAIRD NIAMH  
Silence. What could she possibly gain from that? Be thankful your punishment is not more severe.

LILIANA  
Yes, Laird Niamh. One might think his punishment is rather light.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Masters. If I may, his crimes are deeper.

MAGISTER  
Really.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
When we were alone, he stated that he had a plan to escape.

LILIANA  
Did he?

FETCH (AUGUST)  
I did not, lady.

LAIRD NIAMH

That is absurd. Why would he plan to escape if he were about to undertake the gauntlet?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I do not know, Laird Niamh. But when I asked if he had a plan to leave this place, he said "of course I do."

AILSA

She speaks true.

FETCH (AUGUST)

That is a twisting of my words.

AILSA

He did speak the words, though.

MAGISTER

Laird Niamh?

LAIRD NIAMH

Fetch. You have not only colluded against the gauntlet, but you have also broken your bond of loyalty to those of us who have sheltered, fed, and taught you after you were replaced. You...are sentenced to death.

FETCH (AUGUST)

This is her doing! She did this!

MAGISTER

Take them from my sight.

(beat)

Not you, fetch.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Yes, Magister.

Three fetches and three Hidden WALK away.

LILIANA

I don't believe that she had nothing to do with what transpired.

MAGISTER

A pity that the inquisitor just stepped away. Tell us, fetch. What should happen to you?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I should complete the gauntlet. On my own. And when I do, I humbly request the scythe of the treasonous fetch and the barghest of his companion. To aid in my reclamation.

MAGISTER

You found multiple traitors in our midst. For that, your requests are granted.

LILIANA

She should not participate in the gauntlet. She gained information that will aid her.

MAGISTER

She did not see the plans. How much could she know?

FETCH (MACKENNA)

I thank you for your kindness and generosity, Magister.

MAGISTER

Go, fetch. Enter the gauntlet. When you return, we will speak again of exactly your role in this. If Liliana is correct, and you are not blameless, your reclamation will be delayed. And you shall face my wrath.

FETCH (MACKENNA)

Yes, Magister.

Fetch WALKS.

FETCH (MACKENNA) (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Hedge maze. Tunnel. Garden. Study.  
Bridge. Throne Room.

(beat)  
Reclamation.

**WHOOSHY TRANSITION SOUND**

190. Back to entire scene as a phone conversation.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
I was not given gifts at my last  
birthday. I had to earn them.

DUSTY  
Oh. Well, that's...I'm sorry, that's  
just not right. You shouldn't have to  
earn your birthday presents.

FETCH (MACKENNA)  
Gifts make you soft, Dusty. Weak. I am  
not the weak Ma--

(beat)  
I am not weak. All of you people  
walking around, given everything.  
Money, toys, gadgets, family...love.  
These things make all of you weak. I  
have earned everything that I have. I  
have been bloodied and broken for these  
few things. Because twenty-eight years  
ago today, I was replaced. I have shown  
them the error of their decision, but I  
do not regret my life. I am so much  
stronger than all of you. And I am  
ready. Ready to be free. Ready to sleep  
easy. Ready to laugh. Ready to be  
Mackenna Thorne.

Line goes DEAD.

THE END