

**THE HIDDEN PEOPLE**

Episode 2.18

“Resonance”

Written by

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TEASER

184. Bell tower of Church. Bell ringing loudly.

MACKENNA  
(screams in pain)

MAGISTER  
(scream in pain turns to laughter)  
You didn't think I was that easy to  
kill, did--

Magister splits. Explodes.

185. Mackenna's bedroom. Bell ringing reverberates and morphs into an alarm clock going off.

MACKENNA  
Uhhhhh. Shaylee, why did you set the  
alarm clock? Just couldn't get  
enough...I'm going back to sleep.

LILIANA  
Wake up, sleepy head. Did you have  
sweet dreams?

MACKENNA  
(groggy)  
Mom? Ugh. Five more minutes.

LILIANA  
It's time to get up. You have a lot to  
do.

Sound of curtains opening, blinds pulling up.

MACKENNA  
Mooom. The light. It's blinding.

LILIANA  
Ah, yes. The sun of a new day. It's  
even better to live in it than hide  
from it. Up. Up.

Sounds of bed spread pulling back.

MACKENNA

Fine. There better be pancakes.

LILIANA

No time for such things. You have to get to school. Things to learn.

(beat)

I packed your lunch! Peanut butter and jelly. Sustenance to get you through your day.

Grabbing lunch bag, opening bag.

MACKENNA

Mom, you know I'm not a kid anymore.

(beat)

Did you cut the crust off?

LILIANA

I made bread especially for you. No crust.

Sound of bus stopping outside.

MACKENNA

You're the best moth--

Bus door closes

LILIANA

(calling out to moving bus)

I'll be here when you return!

END TEASER

186. Bell tower of Church in finale of season one. Bell ringing quietly.

MACKENNA

What the...? But we...hey, didn't I already kill you?

MAGISTER

(laughs)

You didn't think I was that easy to defeat, did you? No, simple, stupid Mackenna. You are my ant. Living in my ant farm. I'm not really here, though. You know how they say your life flashes before your eyes?

MACKENNA

Yes, but--

MAGISTER

I may have died, but you can't know. You died. Right here. Right now.

MACKENNA

No...that's not...

MAGISTER

(makes church bell noises)

Bong. Bong. Bong.

Bell ringing louder. Magister splits. Explodes.

187. Interior of high school. Bell reverberates and morphs into School Bell.

Mack, Alfie and Nissa walk the quiet hallways.

ALFIE

(snaps fingers)

Mack-pack, come on! We're going to be late.

MACKENNA

Ugh. I don't think I did the homework.

NISSA

Well, it's a good thing this was our group project. Alfie and I built the diorama. You're welcome.

MACKENNA

Thanks, Niss. And Alfie. This is pretty cool.

(beat)

Um, is that a person riding a dinosaur?

NISSA

Yes. This is our revisionist portrayal of the mesozoic era. We really drilled into the hubris that people can do whatever suits them and ignore all other atrocities.

ALFIE

See? Behind the BA man riding the stegosaurus? Uh, right there: those people and animals are huddled in the corner. They're cowering from the T-rex.

NISSA

The white man, who is clearly the only person with agency, is ignoring all others' plights to satisfy his own goals of riding a dinosaur. Clearly the most important thing in the world.

MACKENNA

What class was this for again?

ALFIE

Calculus.

MACKENNA

I don't see how this--

ALFIE

Adds up?!

NISSA

(groans)

I'd like to catch you up, Mack, but I have to stand up for social justice.

Nissa quickly leaves. As Riley steps in.

RILEY

Hey, where's Nissa going? Did I scare  
her away again?

ALFIE

Nah. She's heading over to chain  
herself to the column in front of the  
Principal's office in protest of the  
dress code.

MACKENNA

Sounds about right.

(beat)

Oh, no.

ALFIE / RILEY

What?

MACKENNA

I'm still wearing my pajamas.

ALFIE

Yummy sushi pjs. Nice choice.

RILEY

So very Buffy of you.

MACKENNA

I cannot be seen like this.

Phone buzzes. Phone buzzes again.

RILEY

Oh geez. Check out what everyone's  
sharing.

ALFIE

Oh boy. You've rolled a 1.

MACKENNA

What? What is it?

RILEY

You've been Gossip Girl'd.

MACKENNA

Huh?

ALFIE

You're the talk of the town, um school.

MACKENNA

What?! What does it say?

ALFIE

Okay, it's not that bad. I mean, I wish that anyone was talking about me. I'm just so invisible to everyone.

RILEY

I see you.

ALFIE

Oh. The feels.

MACKENNA

Focus, people. I'm under the microscope here. Give me your phone...

Phone typing noises.

MACKENNA (CONT'D)

(reading)

"Spotted: It-girl Mackenna, aka Mack, Thorne went from Hot to Not with her choice of matchy-matchy sushi pajamas. We've come to expect flannel from Mack, but her choice of jammies leaves us cold. If I were you, M., I'd invest in--"

SANDRA

(over the loud speaker)

Mackenna Thorne, you're in violation of the dress code. Come to the counselor's office immediately.

MACKENNA

Shit.

RILEY

Later, Mack.

ALFIE

It's your phone, now.

Walking to office. Knock on door.

188. Interior of School Counselor's office.

SANDRA

Come in. Well, aren't those pj's cute?

MACKENNA

I really don't understand how I left the house in these. Can we just ignore this day ever happened?

SANDRA

No.

MACKENNA

Please?

Phone rings.

SANDRA

One second.

(to phone)

Hello?

(beat)

Yeah, I'm talking to her right now.

(beat)

No, that is not necessary.

(to Mackenna)

Listen, Mackenna, these pajamas...they're just fabric. An outer covering that expresses who you are.

MACKENNA

I did not buy these. My brother got them for me for Christmas, and I wear them just because they are...well, there.

SANDRA

Ah, but your brother is a part of who you are. Your identity.

MACKENNA

Huh?

SANDRA

You are not just you. You are a collection of identities: daughter, sister, friend, slacker...

MACKENNA

Judgy McJudgerson.

SANDRA

I call it like I see it. You have so much potential, but you keep it all to yourself. You do the bare minimum for class; you barely interact with other humans. Even when you are with your friends, you're not giving it your all.

MACKENNA

How would you know?

School Counselor's voice (accent) morphs into LILIANA.

LILIANA

Because I'm always watching. I know you, my féileacán. You've been cocooning for far too long.

MACKENNA

I'm not trying to "cocoon." I just protect myself. I was so lost and so confused by everything, everyone.

LILIANA

Ah, you said "was." You're not lost anymore?

MACKENNA

Not since Shaylee.

LILIANA

She stretches you. She makes you grow.

MACKENNA

I've never felt like this before. I've never cared so much about a person.

LILIANA / SANDRA

And how does that feel?

MACKENNA  
Wonderful. Empowering. Terrifying.

SANDRA  
I think we are getting somewhere, but  
we're out of time for now. They're  
coming for you.

MACKENNA  
What?

SANDRA  
That call? That was the police. They're  
after you. Go on, girl! Shoo!

Running outside. Up wooden stairs.

189. Bell tower of Church in finale of season one. Bell  
ringing quietly.

MAGISTER  
(laughs)  
You didn't think I was that easy to  
kill, did you?

MACKENNA  
No. Okay? I was fine with running into  
a situation that might kill us both in  
the hopes of keeping everyone safe. I  
was okay to make the sacrifice for the  
other Mackenna. And for Shaylee.

MAGISTER  
Bah. You weren't trying to keep anyone  
safe. You were just angry that I  
threatened you.  
(beat)  
I may have died, but do you think you  
ever left the tower?

MACKENNA  
Does it matter?

Bell ringing louder. Magister splits. Explodes.

190. Interior of SoundScapes. Bell reverberates and morphs into SoundScapes shop bell.

NISSA

Mack, you're late. Again.

ALFIE

Yes. You're late, you're late, for a very important date.

MACKENNA

Okay, white rabbit. I had a rough night. I had this dream that I was back in school...in my pajamas.

ALFIE

Oooh, that is the worst. Well, no. I have this dream where all of my teeth fall out. That is the worst.

Soundscapes shop bell. Liliana is playing the piano in the background.

ALFIE

Welcome to SoundScapes. Today's special: interpreting dreams.

MACKENNA

Thomas?

THOMAS

Come with me.

MACKENNA

What is it?

THOMAS

God, Mackenna. Why can't you just trust me?

MACKENNA

I trust you enough, Thomas. Just tell me because I'm busy with my friends.

THOMAS

It's Mom and Dad.

MACKENNA

Yeah?

THOMAS

They're gone.

MACKENNA

Where?

THOMAS

Gone. Gone.

MACKENNA

No. Mom woke me up this morning. Opened my blinds. It was so bright.

THOMAS

That's not possible. You know that you live in the basement, right?

MACKENNA

I'm so confused. Is Shaylee okay?

THOMAS

Who's Shaylee?

MACKENNA

I think I'm losing my mind. Where's the Magister?

THOMAS

Pull yourself together.

Thomas violently shakes Mackenna.

MACKENNA

Stop shaking me.

THOMAS

Mom and Dad died. You have to come with me.

MACKENNA

Where?

THOMAS

To prison, silly.

THOMAS / SAM  
You know that is where you belong,  
right? Put your hands behind your back.

MACKENNA  
Sam? Were you here the whole time?

SAM  
Be quiet and put your hands behind your back. You are under arrest for the murder of your parents, for Dane, for Liliana, for Shaylee. You have the right to remain--

191. Piano music abruptly stops playing, maybe some wrong notes here. There is a whooshing sound as Liliana breezes up to Mackenna.

LILIANA  
(whispering)  
Pssst. Come with me.

Stepping sideways departure.

Somewhere very still. Little ethereal mixed with nothingness. Stepping sideways arrival.

MACKENNA  
Where did you...? Oh. Right. You were playing the piano.  
(beat)  
Liliana?

LILIANA  
Yes?

MACKENNA  
Am I in hell?

LILIANA  
(laughs)  
Is this what hell is like? I certainly don't know.

MACKENNA

I thought hell would be more flame-y.  
Why are you here? This is not how it  
happened.

LILIANA

How did it happen?

MACKENNA

That is a long story.

LILIANA

For another time, I guess.

MACKENNA

You died.

LILIANA

I did? Well, I guess then this could be  
an afterlife. Did you die, too?

MACKENNA

Maybe?

LILIANA

You would know if you died.

MACKENNA

You didn't know that you died.

LILIANA

Ah. You are quite clever.

MACKENNA

So...how have you been?

LILIANA

Dead, I guess.

MACKENNA

Ha. Ha.

LILIANA

If I'm dead, that means you are my  
legacy. If you're dead, too, my legacy  
was wasted.

MACKENNA  
That's actually a lot of pressure.

Faint ringing of a bell.

LILIANA  
Do you hear something?

MACKENNA  
Not again. Goddammit.

192. Bell tower of Church in finale of season one. Bell ringing quietly.

MAGISTER  
(laughs)  
You didn't think I was that easy to kill, did you?

MACKENNA  
Yep. You died. You want me to think that I died, too. I get it.

MAGISTER  
Well, you are part Hidden. If you took me to the iron bell that could kill me, you would have exploded, too.

MACKENNA  
Ah, but it's that pesky human side of me that gets you every time. You assume that I have your weaknesses, and yet you also assume that I am not as strong as you.

MAGISTER  
No one is as strong as me.

MACKENNA  
So your posturing keeps reminding me, but I'm pretty sure that I took you down. A measly half-human made you go boom.

MAGISTER  
And if you died killing me?

MACKENNA

Worth it. Every bit of it.

MAGISTER

Fool.

MACKENNA

Fool? You were coming after me. Kill or be killed, right?

MAGISTER

You're a fool because you did not fully exploit your given powers. Yes, you are a mere halfling, but with your power from Liliana, you are like a god compared to your human counterparts. You don't need your friends. You don't need Shaylee. They are beneath you.

MACKENNA

I prefer goddess. And "human counterparts"? I don't want to be a goddess if I have to talk like that.

MAGISTER

You're so much bigger than them. Your power emanates from every inch of you.

MACKENNA

Are you complimenting me? Because that is very unlike you.

MAGISTER

You waste your time and energy on nothing of import. "Ooo, I want to save my fake brother. Ooo, I want to save a construct." You are a waste of Liliana's power. You should want to use that power to...I don't know...become Mayor. Instead, you're just pitiful. Not that any of this matters. Because...

Bell ringing louder. Magister splits. Explodes.

193. Bell tower switches to far off train whistle. Breeze in the air. Birds and crickets chirping faintly.

SHAYLEE

This is where it started.

MACKENNA

Where what started?

SHAYLEE

Where I started to fall in love with you.

MACKENNA

Here at this water tower?

SHAYLEE

What's more romantic than a water tower?

(beat)

It was the warm breeze against our skin. The spring air that we breathed in. The stillness as we stared into the horizon. The faint echoes of the train. A beautiful start to our journey.

MACKENNA

Let's go away together.

SHAYLEE

We can't just run away. We have responsibilities to our friends, your brother.

MACKENNA

Come on. Let's just escape into each other. All will be right in the world.

Barghest arrive. Growling starts, far down. Wind picks up. Birds and crickets disappear.

MACKENNA

What the fuck? Did I just jinx it? I did, didn't I? I just couldn't keep my mouth shut.

SHAYLEE

Ooo. Ooo. Do you see them? Puppies!

MACKENNA

Those are certainly not puppies. They are barghest and deadly.

SHAYLEE

Oh, they're just big, cute puppies.

MACKENNA

Are you drunk? I don't trust puppies that are as big as bears.

Loud barghest growls.

MACKENNA

Do you hear them? There is bite with that bark.

SHAYLEE

(pouty)

Mack, I wanna see the puppies.

Shaylee starts to climb up onto the railing, growling still in the background.

SHAYLEE (CONT'D)

(growls goofily back and forth with the barghests)

MACKENNA

Get down from that railing. Stop climbing. Those barghest are monsters. I cannot lose you again.

(beat)

Don't you dare jump, Shaylee.

(beat)

And you're jumping. Shit.

SHAYLEE

Wheee!

Sound of Shaylee landing--can hear growls up close now.

SHAYLEE (CONT'D)

Watch this, Mack! Puppies, fetch!

Sounds of very heavy beasts running.

MACKENNA  
(screaming from the water tower)  
I'm coming. Don't you die on me,  
Shaylee!

194. Sound of Mack landing onto hardwood. No growls. No Shaylee.

She's now in a roller rink. Sound of roller skates and cheesy late 80's/early 90's type music.

MACKENNA  
Nanny Karen? Are we in a roller rink?!

NANNY KAREN  
Ah. My, darlin'. Where did you come from? Put your skates on!

MACKENNA  
You roller skate?!

NANNY KAREN  
You can't lead an old dog to water, but you can teach it new tricks.

MACKENNA  
Oh, Nanny Karen. You're always full of surprises. I'm so glad you're here.  
(beat)  
Though you're making me dizzy. Can you please stop skating? Maybe we can go somewhere quiet?

NANNY KAREN  
(chuckles)

Roller skating sounds stop abruptly. Music stops.

NANNY KAREN (CONT'D)  
Let's have a sit and a cuppa.

Stepping sideways departure.

Interior of a kitchen in a home in England. Cuckoo clock ticking in the background. Water pouring into kettle, flame turned on. Cups and saucers placed onto table.

MACKENNA

Much better. Where are we?

NANNY KAREN

Well, in England, of course. You cannot have a proper tea anywhere else.

MACKENNA

Right.

NANNY KAREN

Scone and cream?

Plate placed in front of Mack.

MACKENNA

Thanks, Nanny.

Mackenna starts shoving food into her mouth while she talks.

MACKENNA

I feel horrible. I'm reliving moments, and I see a bit about what Mom and Dad used to say.

NANNY KAREN

What is that, my dove?

MACKENNA

That I'm selfish. Closed off. Only caring about myself.

NANNY KAREN

That's rubbish. You've grown out of that. All kiddos are self-centered until they realize their place in the world.

MACKENNA

Hmmm. Maybe that's just it. I only recently found out who I really am.

NANNY KAREN / LILIANA  
And who is that?

MACKENNA  
Mackenna Thorne.

LILIANA  
That's not your name.

MACKENNA  
The halfling. Sister to Thomas...well, in the emotional kinda way. Girlfriend to Shaylee...at least, I hope she considers me her girlfriend. And of course, friend to Nissa and Alfie.

LILIANA  
You are selling who you are short. You are my daughter. You have great power and knowledge.

MACKENNA  
And with great power comes yada, yada. Yeah, I get that, but I'm also just a girl in this crazy world trying to keep my friends and family from dying.

(beat)  
This past year, I've been running and fighting, and when I stop to breathe, I think I'm just going to crumble or explode.

NANNY KAREN  
Quite a pickle, indeed. Maybe you don't fully understand your role. You know what you are, but don't know why you are here. Some self-reflection may be in order, but I think I hear something.

Cuckoo clock ticking gets louder as thumping of helicopters come in overhead.

SAM  
Mack Thorne. Come out with your hands up! You've been impersonating the real Mackenna Thorne.

Thumping of helicopters and kettle whistling morph into bell ringing.

195. Bell tower of Church in finale of season one. Bell ringing quietly.

MAGISTER

(laughs)

You didn't think I was that easy to kill, did you?

MACKENNA

Yes. Yes, and it was that easy to kill you, and do you know why?

MAGISTER

You, insolent fool, I have more power--

MACKENNA

Uh huh. I tricked you because you have a blind spot: pride. You couldn't fathom that your wife cheated on you, let alone with a human. You really couldn't fathom a kid could go toe-to-toe with you in a fight. You underestimated me.

MAGISTER

Yes, okay. You got me there. Can I try my speech again? I really think that I can be more imposing.

MACKENNA

What? I mean, no. No, sir. You stay there humble and wait for it to come.

MAGISTER

My death?

MACKENNA

Yes, your big explosion into bright lights.

MAGISTER

Well, at least I end with some drama.

MACKENNA  
Here it comes.

MAGISTER  
I feel it coming...  
(screams overdramatically, pauses,  
screams again)

Bell ringing louder. Magister splits. Explodes.

196. Jail sounds, walking in, handcuffs, mugshot taken.

SAM  
I finally caught you, Mackenna Thorne.  
Well, that's really just your alias.

MACKENNA  
Sam, you know me. The real me. You know  
I'm no killer, and I'm not  
impersonating anyone.

SAM  
Be that as it may, you are guilty, and  
you are the cause for my life being  
seriously messed up. Without you, I  
would still have a job. My partner  
would still be alive. I would have a  
ring finger on my left hand.

(beat)  
That's neither here nor there. You  
deserve time in prison to confront  
everything in your wake, and we cannot  
have two Mackenna Thornes in the same  
prison. That's just confusing. The two  
of you will have to decide who the real  
Mackenna Thorne is.

MACKENNA  
Can I have my phone call?

SAM  
One call. Use that phone over there. It  
is a direct line to Thomas. He's  
worried sick.

Phone dialing.

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
Hello?

MACKENNA  
Hi, Thomas. It's Mack.

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
Mackenna, oh my god. Are you okay?  
We've been looking everywhere for you.  
Where have you been?

MACKENNA  
It's a really long story, and I'm  
really confused. I need your help.

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
Must be Thursday.

MACKENNA  
Excuse me?

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
Mackenna, I'm always there to lend you  
a hand. To be your support system and  
clean up your messes. When things get  
hard for you, you run, and I have to be  
"the responsible one." You're the one  
with super powers. Why don't you start  
taking on some of the heavy lifting?

MACKENNA  
Whoa, Thomas. I really appreciate  
everything you do for me. I have been  
trying my best to use my, uh, super  
powers to stop bad things from  
happening.

THOMAS  
(through phone)  
Well, maybe you need to take it more  
seriously. My girlfriend can now never  
be my wife.

MACKENNA

Come on. Just because she doesn't have a ring finger doesn't mean she can't have a ring.

THOMAS

(through phone)

Right. Everything is just so casual unless it's about you or Shaylee. When it's about Shaylee, ohhh, that's when you finally care.

MACKENNA

It's not like that.

THOMAS

(through phone)

When have you ever cared about anything besides yourself? Do you know how much good you could do for others? Take my real sister.

MACKENNA

(through phone)

Wow, Thomas. I'm sorry that I called you. Stupid phone.

THOMAS

I'll let Shaylee know that you called, because that's probably who you meant to call in the first place.

MACKENNA

(through phone)

Take care, Thomas.

197. Hangs up phone. Footsteps. Jail cell closing.

FETCH

(laughs)

How's little brother doing?

MACKENNA

He hates me.

FETCH

He and I should start a club.

MACKENNA

Hey, I didn't choose to have you kidnapped. I didn't choose to take over your life.

FETCH

Yet here we are. Twins in matching jumpsuits. Mom would be so proud. Oh. Wait. I killed one, and the other killed herself. For you.

MACKENNA

We make quite the team.

FETCH

We are not a team.

MACKENNA

I know, but we probably have some things in common. More than these stylish orange jumpsuits.

FETCH

You are such a horrible imposter of the real me. I would have made the most of my family. I would have cared for them, celebrated their birthdays, gone on family vacations, laughed at Dad's stupid jokes, thanked Mom, played catch with Thomas.

MACKENNA

Huh. You don't seem like the warm and fuzzy type.

FETCH

I'm warm. Not really fuzzy. But I was never allowed to have those connections. I would not have squandered them. Also, I would have been great with the sports. I'm disciplined and competitive.

MACKENNA

I'm sure you would have been a better Mackenna than I was. I'm sorry. I'm sorry that you were not afforded the chance to have my life.

FETCH

I have that chance now. Give me my name.

MACKENNA

Have it. Be Mackenna Thorne. I'm not stopping you.

FETCH

But the police woman said that we cannot both have the name.

MACKENNA

I'll go by Mack and drop the Thorne.

FETCH

No, I must fight you for it.

MACKENNA

Really, just take it. Please. I'll give you my ID, my library card...anything with the name on it. I clearly did the name a disservice.

FETCH

Not acceptable. Reclaim!

Fetch starts hitting Mackenna. Primarily slapping her to goad her into fighting her.

MACKENNA

I'm not going to slap you back.

FETCH

At least put up a fight.

MACKENNA

Ow! Did you just pinch me?

FETCH

What are you going to do? Come on!

MACKENNA  
No.

As she says "no," the sound reverberates and flings Fack back against the wall.

FETCH  
What did you just do to me? How did you throw me without laying a hand on me? Or did you just move so fast that I could not see you?

MACKENNA  
I'm half Hidden and half human. My powers are great and mysterious.

FETCH  
I knew Liliana made you, but I did not realize how powerful you are. Why are you even in this prison?

MACKENNA  
Because it is where I am supposed to be.

FETCH  
That is true. You deserve punishment because you are such a waste. You wasted my life, and now you are wasting your own.

MACKENNA  
Ouch.

FETCH  
I did not touch you.

MACKENNA  
I know. I just meant ouch metaphorically. Like "ouch, you hurt my feelings."

FETCH

Your poor feelings. You know that I and all of the other fetches were not allowed to have feelings. We were tortured every day and night of our existence while you were out here squandering everything. Family, food, friends, Hidden People magic. It disgusts me that you would even say ouch.

MACKENNA

(breaking)

You're right.

198. Stepping sideways arrival.

LILIANA

That's enough.

FETCH

Yes, lady Liliana.

LILIANA

Fetch, stay. You, come with me.

Stepping sideways departure.

Stepping sideways arrival. They step into the cobbled hallways of Arcadia. Hollow, a little echo-y. They walk.

Liliana lights two candles.

LILIANA

That is enough of feeling sorry for yourself. No more wallowing. No more guilt. No more fear. You are my daughter. Daughter of the lady of...all of the special titles I had. You are better than this.

MACKENNA

(sniffs)

I know that I am not the daughter you wanted.

LILIANA

You are my daughter. Want is irrelevant. I put myself at great risk to hide you from everyone. I was there with you throughout your life. I very much wanted you to grow, so I protected you. Perhaps too much. I can do that no more. As you pointed out: I'm dead. Now, you have to be the woman you are meant to be.

MACKENNA

But I don't know what I'm meant to be. I don't have a halfling role model or guide book.

LILIANA

You are focusing too much on the what. Who are you? How will you make your mark? Pass on my legacy?

MACKENNA

I...I don't know. I don't even know where to begin. It was cool when I kinda saved the world. Does that count?

LILIANA

Were you saving the world? Or were you really just saving yourself, your friends from that beast from the In-Between?

MACKENNA

Well, yes. I wanted to save myself and my friends, but the world also benefited. So, yay?

LILIANA

I don't know, but I think the daughter of someone with so many fancy titles would take her role as a powerful force in the world.

MACKENNA

The power comes from the Hidden People, and I don't want to be like them. They are ruthless, power-hungry, and kinda evil. Okay, very evil by my standards. No offense.

LILIANA

None taken. It is your humanity that makes you powerful. You need to lean into that humanity. Look here.

Baby noises. Cries, coos from about 30 babies.

MACKENNA

I...I remember walking through here the last time I was in Arcadia. The nursery of the little fetches. This is so messed up.

LILIANA

These little ones were swapped with changelings made to look like them. The real Mackenna Thorne made your survival possible.

MACKENNA

And made my eternal guilt possible, too. But what about all of these others? They are replaced with changelings. Constructs to trick the parents into not realizing their children were captured and tortured.

SHAYLEE

(soft, dreamlike)

Mackenna.

LILIANA

Yes. Those changelings would not have existed without the Reaping, and these babes would not be here without the Hidden People.

MACKENNA

This is such a horrible ritual. Why do it?

SHAYLEE  
(soft, dreamlike)  
Mackenna.

LILIANA  
Fun and games for some. Power for  
others. Cheap labor for the rest.

MACKENNA  
I cannot accept the torture and abuse.

LILIANA  
Yes. I feel your anger. Lean into those  
human emotions. Empathy. That is your  
human side rising up. That is where  
your strength lies. That strength is  
far more powerful than anything I ever  
possessed. If you could do anything,  
how would you change the world?

MACKENNA  
I would stop the other Mackenna from  
getting replaced by me.

LILIANA  
That is not possible.

SHAYLEE  
(soft, dreamlike)  
Mackenna, come back.

MACKENNA  
But I think I know what is possible.  
Breaking the cycle of fetches and  
changelings. Ending the Unseelie Court.

LILIANA  
Then it's time.

SHAYLEE  
(softly, dreamlike)  
(matching Liliana)  
It's time.

THE END