

THE SWORD IN THE SPRAWL

"Pilot"

Written by
Matthew Scarpa

6220 Bentwood Trail
#304
Dallas, TX, 75252
(469) 441-7527
MatthewRScarpa@gmail.com

ACT ONE

INT. THE SPIKED TAP - DAY

The Tap is a dive bar with monsters filling the tables. There are screens behind the bar itself that are turned off.

CID, 13, a human kid in ratty clothes lays on top of a table with a couple of GOBLINS at it. The table and Cid are covered in spilled drinks. The goblins look angry.

LORRAINE, 17, a half-orc with fiery red hair, a stone prosthetic arm that goes up to her shoulder and draped in a cloak enters the Tap and sits down.

CID

No, I swear! All the way from the top
of the tower!

Cid gets up and pulls up a chair between the goblins. They glare at Cid and lean away from him.

GOBLIN ONE

Yeah, that's a load of bunk.

GOBLIN TWO

Quit lying, Cid. There's no way you --

MAGUS, 40s, a dwarf with an eye patch and braided, red beard SLAMS a cup of orange juice down in front of Goblin One.

GOBLIN TWO (CONT'D)

Magus! Magus, have you been listening
to him?

Magus sits down at the table next to Cid. Goblin one picks up the drink.

MAGUS

What are you yapping about this time?

CID

The tower job. These knuckleheads
think I'm lying!

Goblin Two SLAPS the table.

GOBLIN TWO

Because he is! There's no way this
amateur could get into a tower --

The Goblins at the table all yell. Magus holds up his hand and they fall silent. He motions to Cid.

MAGUS

No, go ahead, finish the story. I want to see how you mess it up.

Cid glares at Magus.

CID

Real vote of confidence, bud.

Cid turns back to the Goblins and clears his throat.

CID (CONT'D)

So! There I was ...

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. KNIGHT'S TOWER - TOP FLOOR - DAY

Cid creeps down a hallway lined on one side with doors that look like they lead to conference rooms. The opposite wall is windows overlooking the Los Angeles skyline.

CID (V.O.)

Infiltrating the Knights of the Round's own headquarters --

MAGUS (V.O.)

You walked in the front door and dove for the elevator when no one was looking, didn't you?

CID (V.O.)

That's not the point. Let me tell my story, old man.

Cid stops in front of a door marked "LIBRARY." He looks out both ways before slipping into the door.

INT. LIBRARY - GROUND FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

The library is several stories high before the bookshelves disappear into darkness. There are stairs that spiral up on both sides of the room.

Cid gingerly closes the door behind him with a CREAK. He turns and his mouth drops open. After a moment, his pocket lights up blue. Cid pulls out a glowing stone.

CID

Okay, what was I looking for here?

Cid looks down at the stone.

CID (CONT'D)

A... book? Yeah, that'll be easy. It's not like this place is eight stories tall! Jeez-a-loo.

Cid puts the stone back in his pocket and heads to the nearest staircase. A light shines from behind him.

CID (CONT'D)

Uh-oh.

Cid spins around. BEDEVERE's ghost. He's blue and transparent, and looks to be in his 60s, with a long cloak over armor and a large book under his arm.

Cid throws his arms up in a terrible fighting stance

BEDEVERE

Can I help you?

CID

Are you... a ghost?

Bedevere examines himself for a moment.

BEDEVERE

(sarcastic)

It would appear that yes, I am a ghost. How very astute of you.

Cid waves his hand through Bedevere several times and chuckles. Bedevere rolls his eyes.

BEDEVERE (CONT'D)

(exasperated)

I suppose I'll be leaving then.

CID

Wait! No, I do need some help! Help finding a book.

Bedevere takes the book out from under his arm and opens it. He flips through a few pages with an intense look. He looks back at Cid.

BEDEVERE

What would it be?

CID

Merlin's spell book?

Bedevere stares with an unamused look at Cid. He CLAPS the book closed and turns away from Cid.

BEDEVERE

(to himself)

It seems there's another one, sire.

Bedevere turns back to Cid. He points straight up.

BEDEVERE (CONT'D)

It's about four stories up, my boy.

Cid immediately heads for the stairs.

BEDEVERE (CONT'D)

Wait!

Cid stops at the first step and turns back to Bedevere.

CID

Yeah?

BEDEVERE

I can't stop you from getting that book, but be warned. There's power in those pages that shouldn't be used.

Cid waves Bedevere off.

CID

Whatever, you're dead. What do you have to worry about?

Cid sprints up the stairs. Bedevere watches him disappear into the stacks, rolls his eyes and fades away. After a moment, the door CREAKS open again...

INT. LIBRARY - STACKS - DAY

Cid thumbs through the spines of books on a shelf that towers over him. His pocket rings and he jumps. He pulls out the glowing blue stone again.

CID

Yeah?

MAGUS (O.S.)

Any luck?

Cid rolls his eyes and goes back to checking the books.

CID

It'd go faster if I wasn't chatting.

MAGUS (O.S.)

Tough. You work for me, so I expect updates while you're working.

CID

Who said I work for you?

Cid stops at a book with a purple spine that reads "ART - MERLIN."

He pumps his fist, then looks down the shelf further. The shelf is completely full of identical purple books. His shoulders slump and his face grows annoyed.

MAGUS (O.S.)

You want to pay Helen back? You work for me or you flip burgers at the McChungus downtown.

CUT TO:

INT. MCCHUNGUS - DAY

A knock-off of McDonald's. A ZOMBIE stands behind the cash register on a counter wearing a red polo and a visor that says "MCCHUNGUS."

ZOMBIE

(slow)

Five dollars.

The Zombie presses a button on the register. It opens with a DING and the drawer hits the Zombie with a THUD. His head pops off and falls to the floor.

BACK TO:

INT. LIBRARY - STACKS - DAY

Cid shudders.

CID

Fine, I found the guy's other books. Now just for his spells.

INT. LIBRARY - GROUND FLOOR - SAME

Lorraine steps into the library. Almost immediately, Bedevere reappears in front of her with a smile. His face droops as soon as he sees who it is.

BEDEVERE

Oh. Miss Lorraine. What errand has sir Reddorick sent you on today?

LORRAINE

You know him, always something new. Do you know where Merlin's spell book is?

Bedevere looks at Lorraine with a quizzical look.

BEDEVERE
You mean the one that young lad was
asking about earlier?

Lorraine squints at Bedevere.

LORRAINE
The who now?

BEDEVERE
The young lad? I didn't get his name.
He seemed awfully new to the whole
"knight" business.

Lorraine scratches her chin.

LORRAINE
Which way is the book?

Bedevere points up like he did for Cid.

BEDEVERE
Fifth floor, dear.

Lorraine takes off up the same stairs Cid ran up earlier.

BEDEVERE (CONT'D)
Would it kill anyone around here to
say thank you?

Bedevere sighs and fades away.

INT. LIBRARY - STACKS - DAY

Cid continues thumbing through the books. He stops on a gap
between "SEALS - MERLIN" and "SWORD - MERLIN."

CID
It's not here?

Cid frantically searches the shelves. He pulls and tosses
books to the floor. Lorraine sneaks up behind him.

CID (CONT'D)
It's not here! Why isn't it here?

LORRAINE
The real question is why are you here?

Cid spins around and screams. Lorraine punches him. Cid falls
to the ground, unconscious.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

You're no knight.

Lorraine picks up Cid and tosses him over her shoulder.

The scene freezes.

GOBLIN ONE (V.O.)

So wait, you were caught breaking into
the Knights of the Round Headquarters?

END FLASHBACK:

INT. THE SPIKED TAP - DAY

Cid has gathered a large crowd now. Monsters of all types
crowd around the table.

GOBLIN TWO

See? I told you he was lying!

The monsters all start to whisper to each other.

CID

Hey, no, I really did get caught!

GOBLIN ONE

Then how did you get out?

The crowd grows louder. Cid looks over to Magus who just
shrugs with a coy smirk.

CID

Well if you'll all just kindly shut up
I'll tell you!

The crowd falls silent.

CID (CONT'D)

Now, where was I?

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. THE SPIKED TAP - DAY

Cid is still surrounded by the crowd. Lorraine stands up at her table and cranes her head to try and see around the throng of monsters.

LORRAINE

Great. He's got an audience now.

Lorraine uncovers her stone arm and taps a rune on it that looks like a speaker icon.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

Commander, we've got an issue.

The rune glows slightly and emits a quiet STATIC sound. Lorraine taps the rune again and it stops glowing.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

Great. Looks like I'm on my own.

Meanwhile, Cid gets up on top of the table.

CID

I woke up in a daze...

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

INT. LIBRARY - GROUND FLOOR - DAY

Cid is tied to a chair. Lorraine stands in front of him and PATS his cheek a couple of times.

LORRAINE

Hey. Get up.

Cid picks his head up and winces. He looks up at Lorraine and screams. He falls backward in his chair. The piece that Cid's hands are tied to CRACKS.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

What?

CID

Sorry. It's just, I thought this was a nightmare for a second. I've never seen anyone so --

Lorraine yanks the chair back up and pulls Cid into her face.

LORRAINE

(furious)
So, what?

CID

(stammering)
So... powerful?

Lorraine lets Cid go and turns away. He feels the crack of the chair and starts rubbing the ropes tying him against it.

LORRAINE

I ought to drag you down to the dungeons, lock you up, and throw away the key.

CID

For what? I didn't do anything wrong!

The rope holding his hands frays out. Lorraine spins back around and Cid stops moving.

LORRAINE

Do you just not know what you broke into? What you're doing?

CID

(coy)
Hmmm... Nope, can't say I do.

Lorraine turns back around and rubs her temples. Cid keeps working on the rope. He notices her arm.

CID (CONT'D)

Hey, neat glove. I know a guy who'd buy it from you for a good price.

Lorraine sighs.

LORRAINE

It's my arm, you jerk.

The ropes SNAP and fall off Cid's hands with a soft THUD. Lorraine spins around. Cid looks at her with wide eyes.

CID

Wow that's really neat, anyways, I gotta go!

Cid jumps up and Lorraine dashes at him. Cid swings the chair at her and she shatters it with her stone arm as Cid runs for the door.

LORRAINE
Hey, get back here!

Cid dashes out the door. Lorraine follows closely behind him.

INT. KNIGHT'S TOWER - TOP FLOOR - DAY

Cid runs down the hall with Lorraine hot on his heels. He stops at a door and dives into it. Lorraine tries to follow, but the door locks with a loud KER-CHUNK!

LORRAINE
You've got nowhere to go! This is the only door into that room!

INT. KNIGHT'S TOWER - ARMORY - CONTINUOUS

Cid leans on the door. The armory is filled with medieval weapons of all kinds from swords and spears to riot shields made of steel. Cid looks around.

CID
Don't count me out, lady! I was trained by the craziest dwarf in The Sprawl! I've had worse!

LORRAINE (O.S.)
Not worse than me!

Cid's eyes light up for a moment, then he jumps away from the door as a loud BANG echoes from the other side and the door shakes.

INT. KNIGHT'S TOWER - TOP FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Lorraine winds up a punch with her stone fist and lets loose. The fist connects with the door and it CRACKS loudly. She grins and winds up another punch.

LORRAINE
When I get my hands on you, you're going straight into the dungeon! No trial, no parole, no nothing!

Lorraine swings at the door again and her fist punches a hole through it with a deafening CRACK! A few Knights stick their heads out of doors along the hall. She peers into the hole...

INT. KNIGHT'S TOWER - ARMORY - CONTINUOUS

Cid sits astride a canon pointed directly at the door with a torch in one hand and the fuse between his legs.

CID

Who said I'd let you catch me?

Cid puts the torch to the fuse and it SIZZLES. Lorraine's face goes pale in the hole.

INT. KNIGHT'S TOWER - TOP FLOOR - SAME

Lorraine dives out of the way as a BOOM goes off. The shot from the canon obliterates the door with another CRACK and flies out the window across the hall with a CRASH!

Smoke pours out of the armory and Cid stumbles out with a cough. He waves the smoke away from his face.

CID

That was awesome! I've always wanted to shoot one of those!

Cid turns and spots Lorraine as she climbs to her feet. His eyes go wide. He turns around.

LORRAINE

You absolute idiot!

Knights of all kinds run out of other rooms in the hall and run at Cid and Lorraine.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

All you've done is make sure everyone knows you're here.

Cid's eyes dart between Lorraine and the approaching knights. Then he turns to the broken window.

Lorraine follows his gaze. She snaps back to Cid and shakes her head.

CID

Well, I do always like an audience when I do something stupid.

Cid dashes at the broken window as the Knights close in.

LORRAINE

No you don't!

Lorraine makes a grab for Cid but just barely misses as he dives out the window. There's a flash of blue light. Lorraine dashes to the window, but Cid is gone.

Below her, people on a busy L.A Street look up. The sounds of the city pour in.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

He said something about The Sprawl. A Dwarf?

Lorraines eyes light up. The Knights around her cluster up and stare out the window as well.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

I know where he's headed!

She shoves her way through the throng of still-confused Knights and disappears.

INT. THE SPIKED TAP - SAME

The Goblins are drinking and laughing when a portal opens up over their table. Cid falls through with a yelp and lands on the table, spilling their drinks.

CID (V.O.)

And that's how I ended up back here.

END FLASHBACK:

Cid's still on the table. The crowd around him is silent.

GOBLIN ONE

So how come no one heard about this yet, then?

CID

Huh?

GOBLIN ONE

I mean, the humans would have to know something's up, right?

The crowd starts to whisper and murmur. Cid just smiles at the Goblin then turns to Magus.

CID

Magus?

Magus sighs and points at the bar. Cid dives from the table behind the bar with a CRASH. The sounds of Cid rummaging through the bar echo out.

MAGUS

Hey! Be careful of the -- He's not even listening.

Cid pops back up with a TV remote and clicks on the TV with a smug smile and crossed arms.

The TV lights up and starts playing a preschool-aged kid's show. Cid spins around and frantically presses the remote a few times. The channel switches to a news channel.

NEWS ANCHOR (V.O.)

-- The scene at West Fifth and Grand
where an explosion rocked the U.S Bank
Tower earlier today on the top floor --

Cid turns back to the group with the same smug grin. They're silent for a moment before bursting into CHEERS and APPLAUSE. Several of them lift Cid up on their shoulders and tote him around the room.

CID

Thank you, thank you!

LORRAINE (O.S.)

Not so fast!

The room falls silent as Lorraine stands up. They all turn to face her.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

You really didn't think you'd get away
that easy, did you?

Lorraine rips her cloak off. The crowd drops Cid.

GOBLIN ONE

It's the fuzz!

GOBLIN TWO

Scatter!

All the monsters take off. Some run out the door, others dive out windows. In a matter of seconds, The Tap is empty save for Cid, Magus, and Lorraine.

LORRAINE

Now, you're going to tell me what you
stole from our library and I'm going
to haul you back in chains!

Cid sits up and starts to back away from Lorraine. He backs into the bar. Magus dashes between them.

MAGUS

As much as he annoys me, I can't have
you taking the kid in, Knight.

LORRAINE

My name's Lorraine. You'd better remember it because when I'm done with him --

Lorraine jabs a finger at Cid.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

I'm coming back for you, Magus One-eye! Now where'd you put whatever it is you took?

Magus looks a bit flattered.

MAGUS

(to himself)

The Knights know who I am? Well isn't that...

Magus' expression sours.

MAGUS (CONT'D)

Terrible. That's actually terrible.

Cid gets up and steps in front of Magus.

CID

I didn't take anything! I was there for some book of spells by Merlin, but it was already gone!

Magus leans over Cid's shoulder.

MAGUS

Gone? What do you mean, gone?

LORRAINE

Gone? What do you mean, gone?

Cid sighs.

CID

Gone, as in someone got to it first. Someone else stole your book, Lydia.

LORRAINE

Lorraine.

CID

Whatever.

Magus scratches his head.

MAGUS

But if the book was already gone, then who else would've known --

Magus' face turns pale.

MAGUS (CONT'D)

Oh no. I know who has the book.

CID

Who?

LORRAINE

Who?

INSET:

GILBERT's (40s) silhouette, incredibly tall and wearing a black, pinstripe suit with a backdrop of The Sprawl. He turns and one of his yellow eyes glows before the image fades.

MAGUS

The most notorious crime boss this undercity's ever seen. Gilbert the Globin.

Lorraine's face turns pale as well. Cid looks between them then busts out laughing.

CID

His name's Gilbert? What, is he from a bad sixties sitcom?

Magus SWATS the back of Cid's head. Cid rubs the back of his head and glares at Magus.

MAGUS

(to Lorraine)

You know about this guy?

Lorraine nods.

LORRAINE

Enough to know that a spell book made by the strongest wizard in history shouldn't be in his hands!

Lorraine points at Cid.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

And thieves like you gave it to him!
For what? Money? A favor?

Cid throws his hands up defensively.

CID

Whoah, hey! Not me! I just do it for the fun of it.

Lorraine's jaw hangs open.

MAGUS

Yeah, he's not that bright. But he's a good kid. Aside from the larceny bit.

Lorraine throws her hands in the air.

LORRAINE

I'm surrounded by morons!

She points at Magus and Cid with her stone arm.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

And you two idiots are going to stay put. I'm going to get that book back and then haul you two in.

MAGUS

Now hold on there, little lady --

Lorraine's stone hand flips up and the joint opens up. A PUFF of smoke and flash of light shoot out of the joint And Magus disappears behind the bar with a CRASH!

CID

Magus?

Lorraine turns the arm to Cid. His eyes go wide.

CID (CONT'D)

No, no wait!

Another PUFF and flash, and Cid disappears as well. Magus hops out from behind the bar wrapped entirely in thick rope, save his head. Cid follows behind him, also tied up.

LORRAINE

You two sit tight. I'll be back.

Lorraine turns towards the door and walks towards it. Cid looks around with a quizzical face.

MAGUS

You can't leave us like this! It's cruel and unusual!

LORRAINE

I'd say you definitely fit the unusual part of that.

MAGUS

You're never going to get that book!

LORRAINE

You can shut up now, loudmouth.

Cid's eyes light up. Lorraine reaches for the door.

CID
No, he's right.

Lorraine stops and spins to face them.

LORRAINE
I already caught you, what's one more thief for today?

CID
Sure you caught us, for now, but Gilbert was the only guy outside us who knew where that book was...

Lorraine walks back over to Cid and gets in his face.

LORRAINE
And?

CID
And he probably doesn't want to let it go if he went through all that trouble to get it.

Magus grins knowingly.

MAGUS
Oh yeah! I'm sure he'll have it locked up tight. Locks, chains, the works!

CID
Exactly! And how are you going to get it then? Are you just going to ask?

Lorraine holds up her stone fist with an unamused expression.

MAGUS
Sure you could do that, or...

LORRAINE
Or?

CID
Or you could have a master thief break you in and make it easy!

Lorraine keeps her unamused eyes on Cid for a moment before she spins back around towards the door. Magus looks panicked.

MAGUS
Hold on, what if --

CID

What if your boss finds out?

Lorraine stops at the door. She sighs and hangs her head. After a moment, she points at Cid.

LORRAINE

Hop over here, pipsqueak. You've got a new job to do.

Cid hops over to Lorraine with a grin. Magus follows behind.

CID

I knew you'd see it my way!

Lorraine grabs a handful of the rope and tears it off Cid with a loud SNAP.

LORRAINE

Don't get smug. You're getting that book back for me. Not you.

CID

Sure, sure. Now there's just the matter of my payment.

LORRAINE

What happened to just doing it for the fun of it, hmm?

CID

Hey, I'm a growing boy! I need to eat!

Magus clears his throat and looks at Lorraine. Lorraine looks him up and down.

LORRAINE

He's your payment. We get that book back, I let him go.

MAGUS

Hey --

Cid sticks out his hand for a handshake.

CID

Deal! He pays for everything anyways.

MAGUS

I don't like --

Lorraine SMACKS his hand with hers. Cid recoils his hand and cradles it as it turns red.

CID

Ow!

LORRAINE

I don't make deals with thieves. Now
let's go, kid.

CID

Actually, it's "Cid."

Lorraine huffs at him and STOMPS out the door. Cid jogs out behind her. Magus looks around with a stunned expression. His face turns sour and he hops behind the bar.

MAGUS

Couple of jerks just left me here.

He tries to grab a glass off the bar with his mouth but he loses his balance and falls to the ground behind the bar with a THUD that jostles the glass. It falls and SHATTERS.

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

Jerks!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. GILBERT'S MANSION - EVENING

Gilbert's mansion would not be out of place in Malibu aside from the fact that it sits atop a skyscraper with The Sprawl's light source hanging just above it.

Lorraine and Cid creep along behind the bushes outside the mansion's windows. They're dark.

CID

So here's the plan. We break in, steal the book, and get out. Sound good?

Lorraine looks at Cid.

LORRAINE

What kind of plan is that?

CID

Look, when you've got a short time frame, you want to make sure you can improvise. No rigid steps.

LORRAINE

I'm about to improvise all over your head you twerp!

CID

Uncalled for and hurtful. Look it's real easy. Just some classic B and E. Quiet and subtle

LORRAINE

We don't have time for subtle if that madman has the book.

Lorraine stands up and winds up a punch aimed at the nearest window. Cid tries to stop her.

CID

No wait, he probably has --!

Lorraine's punch flies and CRASHES through the window. Almost immediately alarms BLARE. Cid SLAPS his forehead.

CID (CONT'D)

Alarm system.

INT. GILBERT'S LIVING ROOM - SAME

The room is decorated with a level of insane luxury. Thick rugs on the floors, massive couches around a crystal table, and a lit fireplace the size of a small car.

Gilbert lounges on one of the couches with a drink in hand. Behind the couch, in the shadows, stands the BLACK KNIGHT with ebony armor and a sword strapped to his hip.

GILBERT

Hmm?

Gilbert's ear pricks up just before the alarms BLARE in the living room. Gilbert sighs. He waves for the Black Knight to follow him and gets up.

GILBERT (CONT'D)

Seems like the rats have found another hole to get in by. Come along ...

Gilbert turns to face the Black Knight.

GILBERT (CONT'D)

I don't think I ever got your name when I hired you.

The Black Knight remains silent.

GILBERT (CONT'D)

I'm going to call you Dave. Come along, sir Dave.

Gilbert turns and strides down the hall with the Black Knight right behind him.

INT. GILBERT'S DOWNSTAIRS HALLWAY - SAME

Cid and Lorraine climb in through the window. The hall is similarly decorated to the Living Room, but with no furniture and unlit. A staircase sits at the far end.

CID

Why would you think breaking the window was the best way in?

LORRAINE

You said "breaking and entering!" I broke, we entered!

CID

But he's rich! Rich people have things that other people want! They don't share well with others!

Cid looks around in a panic.

LORRAINE

That's why you take them!

CID

Do you know what the crime rate is in this city? I do! I'm the reason it's high! Alarms are everywhere!

Gilbert rounds the corner into the hallway with the Black Knight and sighs.

GILBERT

(to Cid and Lorraine)

I know you're there, little thieves. Come on, get closer so I can see you properly and throw you off my tower.

Lorraine steps forward with an angry face and shakes her fist at Gilbert.

LORRAINE

I'd like to see you try, you --

Cid grabs her arm.

CID

Shut up!

He yanks her toward the stairs and they climb out of sight.

Gilbert stares after them with his mouth open. He looks at the stairs, then to the Black Knight.

GILBERT

(annoyed)

Well? Go after them!

He gestures towards the stairs. The Black Knight doesn't acknowledge him and lumbers off after Cid and Lorraine.

INT. GILBERT'S ARMORY - SAME

The armory is large and dark, with weapons and armor lining the walls. In the middle of the room is a pedestal under a light with a book on it. A window is on the back wall.

Cid and Lorraine run into the room and SLAM the door behind them and push against it. Cid looks around.

CID

Lorraine, look!

Cid points at the pedestal. On top of it is a closed, purple book that says "SPELLS - MERLIN" on the cover. Cid walks over to it and circles the pedestal.

LORRAINE

Cool, we found it, but how do we get out now?

A BANG shakes the door and Lorraine staggers off of it before she shoulder checks it again.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

Preferably before whatever is on the other side of this door gets through!

Another BANG.

CID

Look I can't just take it, it's probably booby-trapped or something!

A third BANG and Lorraine flies off the door as it bends inward. She jumps up and joins Cid just outside the light on the opposite side.

The door opens with a slow CREAK. The Black Knight walks into the room with Gilbert behind him. Lorraine and Cid are shrouded by the shadows.

GILBERT

Nowhere to go, little rats. We know you can climb up here, but how well can you fly down?

Gilbert snaps his fingers and the Black Knight advances.

GILBERT (CONT'D)

Throw them off my tower.

Lorraine turns to Cid.

LORRAINE

(whisper)
I don't suppose you have a cannon this time, do you?

Cid shakes his head. Lorraine looks from Cid to the window.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

(whisper)
Then I guess we'll have to improvise.

Cid follows her line of sight and grins. Lorraine turns back to the book and grabs it with her stone arm.

GILBERT

You idiot! Traps! Traps everywhere!

A bear trap pops out from under the book and closes on Lorraine's stone arm, but the teeth SHATTER on impact. Gilbert's jaw drops.

GILBERT (CONT'D)

Well I can't say I expected that. But that just means you get to be a a pin cushion now!

Dozens of weapons float off the wall and point at Lorraine and Cid. Lorraine turns toward Cid and the two dash towards the window.

CID

Got the book?

Lorraine holds up the book.

CID (CONT'D)

Then follow me!

The weapons fly at Cid and Lorraine. Cid dashes and ducks between the weapons. Lorraine follows right behind him and uses her stone arm to swat them away.

GILBERT

This can't be happening! Stop them!

The Black Knight tries to unsheathe his sword, but it doesn't come out. He rips it off his hip and draws it back.

Lorraine turns and sees the Black Knight wind up a throw with his sword. She grabs the back of Cid's shirt.

LORRAINE

Down!

She shoves Cid to the ground as the Black Knight lets loose with the sheathed sword. It embeds itself in the wall next to the window with a deafening CRACK. Cid looks up.

CID

That was --

Lorraine yanks Cid up and breaks through the window. They jump out together.

GILBERT

No!

EXT. GILBERT'S MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Cid and Lorraine hang in the air for a moment above the open city below them. They fall.

LORRAINE

Great, we go from impaled to road
pizza! Wonderful!

Cid pulls out another glowing blue stone like the one from his adventure in the library. He grabs the book and trades it with the stone, then grab's Lorraine's other arm.

CID

Break this! Now!

Lorraine crushes the stone and a blue portal opens beneath the two of them just before they hit the street.

INT. THE SPIKED TAP - SAME

A portal opens up in the Tap and Lorraine and Cid fly out of it with a scream. They sail across the bar and slide to a stop at the far end. Lorraine's eyes are squeezed shut.

LORRAINE

Are we dead? We are aren't we? I'm a
ghost and now I'm stuck with this
idiot forever!

Magus pops up from behind the bar, still tied up and with the remains of several shattered glasses in his beard.

MAGUS

No, I'm not lucky enough to get rid of
you that easily.

Lorraine opens one eye. She pats herself over and sighs. Cid pops up next to her.

CID

Woo! We need to start charging for
rides like that!

Lorraine glares at Cid, then notices he still has the book. She swipes it out of his hand.

CID (CONT'D)

Hey!

LORRAINE

No "hey!" This isn't yours and we had
a deal. This book for your short
friend over there.

Lorraine points at Magus who is trying to pour orange juice into a glass with his mouth. He drops the bottle and it bounces behind the bar.

CID

Okay I know but ...

Cid looks over in time to see Magus knock the glass off the bar with his beard. It SHATTERS. He crouches behind the bar.

MAGUS

Blast it all to smithereens!

Cid looks back to Lorraine.

CID

Can I have the book instead?

MAGUS (O.S.)

I heard that!

Lorraine shakes her head.

LORRAINE

Not in this life.

She hops off the counter and walks towards the door.

LORRAINE (CONT'D)

I'm done here. A deal's a deal, you two are free to go this time. But if I ever catch you again --

CID

Don't worry, you won't. I promise.

Lorraine glares at Cid for a moment who just returns an innocent-looking grin. Lorraine huffs and stomps out of the Tap. She SLAMS the door behind her.

CID (CONT'D)

Because next time, you won't see me coming.

Magus pops up from behind the bar.

MAGUS

Uh, Cid?

Cid turns around. He jumps in surprise.

CID

Right, sorry!

Cid hops off the counter and unties Magus.

INT. GILBERT'S ARMORY - SAME

Gilbert stands in the middle of the armory and sighs. The Black Knight wrenches his sword out of the wall.

GILBERT

Well, I may have lost the book, but at least it wasn't a total wash, sir Dave.

Gilbert reaches into his jacket and pulls out a piece of ancient-looking paper.

GILBERT (CONT'D)

Not by a long shot.

INSET:

The paper Gilbert holds reads "RAISE ARMY - SUMMONING" at the top and is filled with words and images of suits of armor with green mist spilling out of them.

Gilbert chuckles and tucks the paper back into his jacket.

INT. THE SPIKED TAP - LATER

Cid and Magus sit on opposite sides of the bar with glasses of water in hand.

MAGUS

So, another bust job, eh?

CID

(dejected)
Yeah, I guess ...

Cid slumps over but perks back up.

CID (CONT'D)

Wait! Maybe not!

He rustles around and pats himself down, then reaches into his shirt. He pulls out a purple book with "SWORD - MERLIN" on it. He hands it to Magus.

CID (CONT'D)

I snagged this when I couldn't find the spell book. I figured maybe we could sell it?

Magus' eye lights up.

MAGUS

Sell it? Are you crazy?

Magus opens the book and flips through the pages.

MAGUS (CONT'D)

(to himself)

It's encoded, I'll need time
to translate it, but --

CID

Magus? Hey, old dwarf!

Cid SNAPS his fingers in front of Magus' face. Magus shakes
his head and stares back up at Cid.

MAGUS

Do you know what this is, Cid?

Cid shrugs.

MAGUS (CONT'D)

This is Merlin's account of the sword
of kings! The long lost treasure of
Arthur Pendragon! Cid ...

Magus and Cid both stare at the book.

MAGUS (CONT'D)

We may be looking at the only way to
find Excalibur.

END.