

Screenplay

OPENING SMOKE

As we go through the clouds of smoke, we hear the voice of Empress JASEMINE KALDWIN (37) reading her letter to CORVO ATTANO (40) who is far away on the mission.

JASEMINE KALDWIN (OFF)
Corvo, if only there was someone else I trusted to send, so that you could remain near. But there is no one else, and the Spymaster was right to insist that I send you...

The plague has taken so many and we must find a cure. When you are near, my heart is at peace.

Emily and I will count the days until you return. Hurry home and bring good news.

EXT. WRENHAVEN RIVER/DUNWALL TOWER (CORVO). DAY

The boat with Corvo, CAPTAIN CURNOW (44) and OFFICER (45) of the City Watch is being lowered down from a whaling ship

CAPTAIN CURNOW
Steady hand. That's it, watch it!

SHIP CREW MEMBER
Cast off line!

CAPTAIN CURNOW
Casting off. We're away!

The boat lands on the water.

CAPTAIN CURNOW
(to officer piloting the boat)
Take us straight to Dunwall Tower. Lord Corvo has news for the Empress and we've come a long way

OFFICER
A long way to bring bad news. The sailors say there's a curse on us. Black magic!

CAPTAIN CURNOW
Superstition. For all we know there's a cure for the plague by now.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICER

Maybe. We live in strange times.
Sending the Empress' bodyguard away
for a couple of months, that's
unusual.

CAPTAIN CURNOW

Well, this was important. We need
help with the rat plague.

The boat enters the /// and stops

CAPTAIN CURNOW

Hold there! We're going up

WORKER 1

Lock is sealed. Ready!

WORKER 2

Turning on the pipes, and... she's
rising!

The water starts filling the /// and so the boat is rising
up

CAPTAIN CURNOW

Home at last!

WORKER 2

Steady pressure! And - stop! Shut
'er down!

CAPTAIN CURNOW

The Empress will be waiting for
your news, Corvo.

Corvo and Captain Curnow are leaving the boat, heading
towards outside.

CAPTAIN CURNOW

It's been good traveling with you,
Corvo

CORVO

Captain

Corvo passes two officers of the watch, as one greets him
welcome. EMILY KALDWIN (12) is showing up all excited to see
Corvo. She runs and jumps on him for a hug

EMILY KALDWIN

Corvo, you're back!

(CONTINUED)

CORVO

I am?

EMILY KALDWIN

(hug)

Will you tell me about your trip,
pleeease? Were there any whales.

CORVO

(lifts her up)

In time, sweetheart

EMILY KALDWIN

Wait! Let's play hide and seek
first. I'll cover my eyes and you
hide!

CORVO

Emily-

EMILY KALDWIN

You have time! Mother is busy
talking to that nasty old
Spymaster.

CORVO

My kingsparrow, this is urgent.
People in the city are dy-

(changing his mind)

You know what, a few extra minutes
won't hurt, right? Come on, let's
play

EMILY KALDWIN

(smiles)

Okay, here we go! Come on, run with
me

CORVO

I am trying, you're fast

EXT. WRENHAVEN RIVER/DUNWALL TOWER (DAUD). DAY

As we hear Emily asking Corvo about his trip, we see DAUD
(50) with the couple of his assassins (whalers) sneaking in,
killing one guardsman.

EMILY KALDWIN (OFF)

Did you see any monsters while
traveling to the other isles? My
nanny says the big Ocean is full of
them, but I think she says that to
scare me.

EXT. WRENHAVEN RIVER/DUNWALL TOWER (CORVO). DAY

Corvo and Emily are running down the stairs, reaching the area below the bridge.

EMILY KALDWIN

While you were gone, mother seemed very sad. I think she missed you

CORVO

Well, we're always sad when we miss someone, right?

EMILY KALDWIN

Later, will you give me more climbing lessons? Someday I'm going to climb up to the rooftop.

CORVO

Rooftop? That's unusually ambitious

EMILY KALDWIN

Let's see if you're still good at this. I'll hide my eyes and count, and at the end of the countdown, I'll try and find you.

CORVO

Okay, ma'am

EMILY KALDWIN

Okay, I'm going to count to 10. Find a place to hide!

CORVO

At once

Emily covers her eyes and starts counting, as Corvo finds a bad place to hide.

EMILY KALDWIN

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10, here I come

(she finds Corvo)

I see you. Did you really think you can hide there?

CORVO

Damn, you got me

EMILY KALDWIN

Let's play one last time, please Corvo?

(CONTINUED)

CORVO

Okay, one last time. Then we're up

EMILY KALDWIN

Okay, and find a better hiding place this time. I'll count to 10

CORVO

Okay

Corvo finds a better place. Emily eventually gets bored.

EMILY KALDWIN

I'll find you... Okay you win. We should go now, so Mother can see you too

Corvo waits a bit longer, but Emily starts making noises of impatience.

CORVO

(approaches Emily)

Strange how easily you can get bored when you loose, don't you think?

EMILY KALDWIN

(starts running)

Let's go! Come on!

CORVO

(laughs)

Of course

Emily and Corvo run upstairs, meeting ANTON SOKOLOV (50) and High Overseer HUGH CAMPBELL (58)

EMILY KALDWIN

Did you see any pirates?

CAMPBELL

Welcome home, Lord Protector

CORVO

Mr Campbell

SOKOLOV

Stop moving Campbell. And you Corvo, welcome back from wherever you've been.

(CONTINUED)

CAMPBELL

They sent him all around the Isles
to beg for aid

SOKOLOV

Waste of time. My elixir will
banish the plague from this city.
Now keep still a moment, High
Overseer Campbell

EMILY KALDWIN

I'm not so sure that painting looks
like Campbell

Corvo spots a bottle of wine, approaches Campbell and takes
the bottle.

SOKOLOV

What are you doing? I needed the
bottle to draw the eye away from
Campbell

CORVO

(looks at Sokolov)
Say what?

SOKOLOV

I suppose I can paint him without
the cider, though in truth he is
always close to the stuff

CAMPBELL

It was a fool's errand Corvo. The
plague comes from inside us. We
must all strengthen our faith

SOKOLOV

High Overseer, I must ask you to
hold your pose

Corvo walks away, making his way to the Empress Jasmine who
is talking with ROYAL SPYMASTER (60).

OFFICER

She'll see you at once

JASEMINE KALDWIN

They're sick people, not criminals

SPYMASTER

We've gone beyond that question,
your Majesty. They're-

(CONTINUED)

JASEMINE KALDWIN
They're my citizens, and we will
save them from the plague if we
can. All of them.

SPYMASTER
Very well

JASEMINE KALDWIN
We will not speak of this again.

EMILY KALDWIN
Mother, Corvo is back!

JASEMINE KALDWIN
Thank you Emily
(to Spymaster)
Leave us, please

SPYMASTER
(bows)
As you wish your Majesty
(approaches Corvo)
Corvo. 2 days early. Full of
suprises, as usual

CORVO
Hiram

Spymaster leaves, as Corvo's eyeballing him hard.

SPYMASTER
Follow me, Captain. We should leave
them alone.

JASEMINE KALDWIN
It's a fair wind that brings you
home to me. What news have you
brought?

CORVO
Better see yourself, your Highness.

JASEMINE KALDWIN
(opens the letter and reads)
I hoped that one of the cities had
death with this before. Knew of
some cure. This news is very bad.
We're at the breaking point.
(drops the letter)
Cowards! They're going to blockade
us. They'll wait to see if the
plague turns the city into a
graveyard

(CONTINUED)

EMILY KALDWIN

Are you okay mother? You seem sad

JASEMINE KALDWIN

Yes, don't worry darling. Mother is
fine