

HOUSE OF THE DRAGON SPEC

Written by
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EXT. GOD'S EYE - DAY

The shores of the God's Eye, a tranquil and sacred lake surrounded by lush greenery. ALYS RIVERS(40s), a mysterious and observant woman, is knee-deep in the water, diligently scrubbing clothes.

Alys glances up at the sky and notices a peculiar cloud formation shaped like a dragon. She squints, captivated by the ominous sight.

A group of HANDMAIDENS, fellow servants of Harrenhal, join Alys by the water. They gossip and share the latest rumors as they work.

HANDMAIDEN 1

The Blacks are gathering strength.
They'll come for Harrenhal soon
enough.

HANDMAIDEN 2

Harrenhal may not withstand them.

HANDMAIDEN 3

Lord Strong will fight back, won't
he? He's a formidable lord. He will
stand against the Blacks.

ALYS RIVERS (O.S.)

No he won't.

The handmaidens look over at Alys, contempt in their eyes.

ALYS RIVERS (CONT'D)

Lord Strong values his own skin
more than this castle. He won't
resist the Blacks for long if they
bring a dragon.

A thunder clap in the distance causes the handmaiden's to scream and Alys to smile.

ALYS RIVERS (CONT'D)

We best head in. The Gods are
telling me a storm is coming.

The handmaidens exchange worried glances as Alys walks away.

EXT. HARRENHAL - COURTYARD - DAY

A foreboding view of Harrenhal, its towers reaching toward the sky. The air is thick with uncertainty as Alys walks along, haunted by the dragon-shaped cloud over her head.

INT. SIMON'S CHAMBERS - DAY

Alys lies naked massaging the old SIMON STRONG(60s) head as he tries to sleep, a goblet of wine still in his hand.

SIMON

I wish I never had to dream. That I
would never be reminded of once
being young...

He opens his eyes at a the sound of thunder.

SIMON (CONT'D)

Or at war.

ALYS RIVERS

Dreams can hold premonitions of the
future my lord.

SIMON

Then why do I keep seeing myself
looking like a young man and
fucking like one too.

Simon spanks Alys's butt.

SIMON (CONT'D)

(laughing)

The future taunting me?

ALYS RIVERS

The Gods are simply reminding you
who you once were-

They hear a roar that clearly was not thunder. Simon jumps in fear and spills the wine on a nearby map. Alys remains calm and whispers into Simon's ear.

ALYS RIVERS (CONT'D)

So you don't dare forget who you
are now.

EXT. HARRENHAL - DAY/STORMY

The garrison scrambles to their positions as the roar of a dragon can be heard over head.

INT. HARRENNHAL - DAY

A guard knocks on his door just as Simon Strong opens it.

GUARD

My lord, the Blacks are here.

Alys looks at the map of Westeros, which is now stained black in peculiar spots around King's Landing such as Rook's Rest, Tumbleton, and Harrenhal.

SIMON

Ready the battlements, I will join
you all momentarily.

Simon closes the door and goes to down his goblet, but quickly realizes it's empty.

ALYS RIVERS

Lord Strong, I hope you remember
who you are.

He gives her an uncertain look.

EXT. HARRENNHAL BATTLEMENT - DAY/STORMY

Simon, now clad in an armor he can barely walk in, takes his place up on the battlement.

SIMON

Ready yourselves men! We all knew
this day would come.

Dozens of crossbowmen and archers get in position. They aim at the sky and scan it for a dragon. The roars are growing louder and closer, but no dragon can be spotted.

Simon notices many of his men are shaking, compromising their aim. He himself is shaking with fear as well. He steadies and his right hand and takes a deep breath.

Suddenly, a loud roar erupts from behind them.

Simon and the other men swing around to see CARAXES perched on the Kingspyre Tower. His rider, DAEMON TARGARYEN(40s), looks down at the men below.

The men slowly begin to throw down their weapons and bend the knee. Alys, who is standing next to Simon, offers him her hand to help the old man get to his knee. He takes it and surrenders Harrenhal by doing so.

Daemon smiles and Caraxes roars.

CUT TO THEME SONG - HOUSE OF THE DRAGON

EXT. DRAGONSTONE - DAY

We see the island of Dragonstone. It is surrounded by Valaryon ships.

INT. DRAGONSTONE HALLS - DAY

CORLYS VELARYON(60s) hurries past several guards, moving faster than expected for someone who needs a cane.

INT. COUNCIL ROOM - DAY

Corlys enters and sees BARTIMOS CELTIGAR(60s) talking with other advisors.

CORLYS
Where is the Queen?

INT. OUTSIDE CHAMBER ROOM - DAY

MAESTER GERARDYS(50s) exits the Queen's bedchamber right as Corlys arrives.

CORLYS
Is she awake?

GERARDYS
Her Grace needs her rest Lord Corlys. The past few days have been quite taxing.

Corlys ignores him and goes right inside.

INT. CHAMBER ROOM - DAY

Corlys enters to see QUEEN RHAENYRA(30s) sitting on her bed with her back turned to him.

CORLYS
Your grace...

RHAENYRA
What news of bloodshed do you bring me now Lord Corlys?

CORLYS
Daemon has taken Harrenhal.

RHAENYRA

At what cost?

CORLYS

None. There was no blood. There was no fire. Once Lord Simon Strong saw Daemon and his dragon flying overhead, he struck his banners and surrendered the castle without a fight.

Rhanenyra turns to face Corlys. Her eyes are tired and red from crying.

RHAENYRA

A bloodless victory?

CORLYS

The best kind. With Harrenhal flying our banners, it'll be a rallying point for your supporters in the Riverlands your Grace. Once King Daemon has formed a sizable host, we will march on King's Landing and with my ships in the gullet, the capitol will be cut off entirely.

RHAENYRA

And what then?

CORLYS

We wait. Word from our spies within King's Landing is the blockade has been successful. Merchants are getting angrier. Peasants are getting hungrier. If we siege the city, it won't take long for them to turn on the usurper.

RHAENYRA

Another bloodless victory.

CORLYS

We can only hope.

RHAENYRA

I no longer hope for such things.

CORLYS

Your grace?

RHAENYRA

My son is dead by their hands! I do not want to see this war end with Aegon bending the knee unless it is to place his head on the executioner's block.

CORLYS

As a father who has watched both his children die, I know your anger well.

RHAENYRA

If they were taken the way my sweet Luke was, you would want to see those responsible burn, would you not?

CORLYS

I cannot deny the temptation, but I must caution you my Grace. News of the Green's executions of your supporters in court have done more to rally those to your side than anything else.

RHAENYRA

The Greens shed blood while we shed tears.

CORLYS

Their deaths will not be in vain as long we stay true to our cause.

RHAENYRA

Cowardice is our cause?

CORLYS

Honor is our cause your Grace. The Greens have broken oaths and committed the most egregious act against the laws of Gods and men. Only after we have shown all of Westeros who you really are, will they submit to your rule.

RHAENYRA

Who I really am? I am their Queen! That is all they need to know.

CORLYS

Until you sit the Iron Throne, you are not that to them.

RHAENYRA

Then let me ride Syrax and I will
take it myself!

RHAENYS enters, fresh from a patrol on her dragon.

RHAENYS

You can take the Iron Throne your
Grace, but keeping it will be whole
another matter if you burn King's
Landing to the ground.

RHAENYRA

We would not be in this
circumstance if it were not for
your hesitation at the Dragon Pit.

RHAENYS

I could have burned all the Greens
then, yes. But that wouldn't have
stopped the war. There are many
across the realm who will never
accept a woman on the Iron Throne.
Especially one who got there by
kinslaying. If you want the Seven
Kingdoms to accept you as its
ruler, you must not go down this
path.

RHAENYRA

And what path would that be?

RHAENYS

Fire and blood.

RHAENYRA

I rather like that path. It seems
to be the fastest way to victory.

RHAENYS

A bloody victory your Grace.

RHAENYRA

Well, we haven't had one of those
yet.

Corlys clears his throat. The two women turn to face him.

CORLYS

Our victory at Harrenhal isn't the
only good news I bring.

CUT TO:

EXT. WEIRWOOD - DAY

WILLEM BLACKWOOD(20s), a tall but rail thin knight is weeping under a weirwood tree where his father, SAMWELL BLACKWOOD(40s), has been hung. Several of his bannermen approach him.

BLACKWOOD 1

Brackens haven no honor my lord.
The coward would have never faced
your father in a fair fight.

Willem wipes his tears away and unsheathes his sword.

INT. TAVERN - DAY

A lively tavern full of soldiers singing songs and drinking ale. This is a victory celebration.

AMOS BRACKEN(30s) is laughing and drinking alongside his comrade. He has a less then willing looking women sitting on his lap.

AMOS

Samwell Blackwood, the bloody fool
sent a raven to Stone Hedge and
challenged me personally to a duel
right here at the Red Fork. He said
it would settle our differences
without the need of wasting our
bannermen's lives.

BRACKEN 1

Blackwoods love their duels. Lets
them kill without consequence.

AMOS

I only accepted in hopes that the
boy would be among the dumb
bastard's retinue. Our brother
Jerrel was murdered by the little
shit spawn of Lord Blackwood years
ago. All for the hand of that bitch
queen.

BRACKEN 2

To King Aegon!

The tavern cheers for King Aegon.

AMOS

When he showed up alone I almost couldn't believe it. I had full army behind my back. He just had a horse. There was no need for a duel. The outcome was already decided.

BRACKEN 3

We strung the bastard up!

The tavern roars with cheers.

WILLEM(O.S.)

Lord Bracken...

The Brackens look over to see Willem standing before them. He is alone.

WILLEM (CONT'D)

You owe my family a duel.

The Brackens stand up all at once and unsheathe their swords.

AMOS

You're as dumb as your father if you came here alone.

WILLEM

And you're as dishonorable as your brother for what you did to him. Face me at the Red Fork and let us settle this personally. There's no need for your bannermen to die with you.

AMOS

You confuse your dumb arrogance with honor boy!

WILLEM

Honor is keeping one's word... one's oath. You broke your oath to Queen Rhanyra and you broke your oath to face my father in single combat. You have no honor.

The men look ready to rush him, but Amos signals them to stop.

AMOS

You alone boy?

WILLEM

I have my bannermen near, but I'm
not so much a coward to need them
standing behind me in single
combat.

Amos laughs.

AMOS

You're no coward, I'll give you
that boy.

WILLEM

Like father, like son.

Amos gives him a shit eating grin.

AMOS

You better hope not.

EXT. RED FORK - DAY

The two stand under the shadow of a windmill by the Red Fork.
Amos's bannermen flank him as he displays his skill with his
sword to an unimpressed Willem and the many peasant
onlookers.

Willem looks towards the sun and then steps deeper into the
windmill's shadow.

AMOS

They say you killed my brother with
a single stroke of your blade.

WILLEM

My father taught me a quick death
is a merciful one. I showed your
brother mercy.

AMOS

I showed your father none.

Amos charges Willem as his bannermen cheer. Willem puts the
visor of his helmet down and prepares his stance.

He deflects Amos's first strike easily and follows up with a
slice to Amos's legs and torso. Amos falls to his feet and
his bannermen immediately rush in to intervene.

Willem kills three of the bannermen easily and is able to get
his blade pointed right on a fourth's throat. The Bracken
thug backs up as Willem slowly inches closer with his sword
ready and waiting to pierce the man's throat.

The other Brackens look unsure of rushing the armored and deadly Blackwood.

BRACKEN 4
You can't win a battle with a duel
boy. You're surrounded and
outnumbered.

WILLEM
Oh, I'm not surrounded.

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

We see a line of archers.

ARCHER
Nock!

We see a line of archers nock back their arrows.

BACK TO:

EXT. RED FORK - DAY

Willem pushes the Bracken just outside of the windmill's shadow.

WILLEM
And this isn't a duel...

BACK TO:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

We return to the archers.

ARCHER
Draw!

The archers draw their arrows back. They look ready to loose when...

ALYSANNE(O.S.)
Wait!

BACK TO:

EXT. RED FORK - DAY

We return to Willem and the Bracken bannerman.

WILLEM

It's a trap.

Willem steps forward and the Bracken bannerman steps back. The windmill's blades intermittently cast shadows on the bannerman's face.

BACK TO:

EXT. WOODS - DAY

ALYSANNE BLACKWOOD(20s) steps out in front of the archers with a torch.

ALYSANNE

You boys forgot a step.

BACK TO:

EXT. RED FORK - DAY

Brackens press in. The thug with Willem's blade at his throat smiles.

BRACKEN 4

You call this a trap? You'll die for this boy!

WILLEM

Not if I stay just under the wind mill's shadow. At least, that's what sister told me.

Willem presses the tip of his blade toward the Bracken's throat, pushing him ever so slightly out of the wind mill's shadow.

Other Bracken bannermen look up to see a large volley of burning arrows coming right for them.

Some get caught in the spinning blades of the wind mill, setting them on fire.

The rest land across the Red Fork, setting the small river town ablaze. The Bracken thug at the edge of Willem's blade is struck by a weirwood arrow that just clears the wind mill blades to hit him square in the head.

Bracken bannermen and villagers alike flee the fire and chaos by running into the blood red river banks of the Red Fork. Blackwood bannermen emerge from the woods and begin to slaughter the fleeing Brackens.

Willem lifts his visor to survey the scene. His eyes begin to well with tears at the sight of innocents being caught in the middle of the fray.

AMOS (O.S.)
(weak)
Tears?

Willem watches innocent women and children scream and panic as their village is ravaged. He turns to face the wounded Amos.

AMOS (CONT'D)
No wonder you fight for a woman.

Alysanne steps into view.

ALYSANNE
He fights with them too.

Alysanne puts a weirwood arrow through Amos's neck. Willem glares at his sister.

WILLEM
You swore to not use fire sister.

ALYSANNE
It's time you grew up little brother. Father is gone.

A Bracken bannerman set ablaze rushes at the two siblings. He gets an arrow to the heart from Alysanne. She turns back to face Willem.

ALYSANNE (CONT'D)
And we are at war.

Willem, tears still in his eyes, lowers his visor and joins his bannermen in battle.

EXT. RIVER TOWN - DAY

We follow Willem's brutal path through the battle as he dismembers and kills every Bracken he faces with ease. The Blackwoods win the battle, but completely destroy the town in the process. We see Willem look up at the burning wind mill as his men cheer their bloody victory. Tears are still in his eyes.

BLACK BANNERMAN (V.O.)
A raven just arrived Your Grace.

INT. HARRENHAL COURTYARD - DAY

We see Daemon in a cloak looking over his new stronghold. His bannermen flank him as he looks over the defenses.

BLACK BANNERMAN
The Blackwoods slaughtered the
Brackens and raised Queen Rhanyra's
banner over the Red Fork.

DAEMON
Brackens and Blackwoods killing
each other happens every moon's
turn. To them we are merely the
latest reason to do so. Have they
committed to rallying at Harrenhal?

BLACK BANNERMAN
They are marching on Stone Hedge
first Your Grace.

DAEMON
Send a raven back and tell the
Blackwoods if they do not answer
their Queen's cause within the
fortnight, I'll land Caraxes on
Stone Hedge and burn that shit heap
to the ground and them all with it.
This war is not over their blood
feud.

Daemon saddles his horse.

DAEMON (CONT'D)
It is over ours.

BLACK BANNERMAN
Yes Your Grace.

Daemon mounts his horse.

BLACK BANNERMAN (CONT'D)
When will you be returning to
Harrenhal?

DAEMON
In a fortnight.

Caraxes roars from atop the kingspyre tower. Daemon smiles.

DAEMON (CONT'D)
He's in charge while I'm gone.

Daemon sets off on his unknown mission. The handmaidens watch as they work, Alys Rivers among them.

HANDMAIDEN
Where do you think he is off to?

ALYS RIVERS
To break the laws of Gods and men.

INT. RED KEEP SEPT - DAY

QUEEN ALICENT HIGHTOWER(30s) prays in the sept.

ALICENT
Mother protect all children during
these uncertain times. I pray for
your for mercy on my family and its
young children as we...

A lady in waiting enters the sept. Alicent stops her praying upon the sound of her footsteps.

ALICENT (CONT'D)
(irritated)
Yes...

LADY IN WAITING
It's the Queen your Grace.

INT. ROYAL APARTMENTS - DAY

QUEEN HELAENA TARGARYEN(20s) is mumbling to herself and hiding her face from her mother.

ALICENT
Darling, please let me see you.

LADY IN WAITING
She claims one of her bugs did it.

ALICENT
I'll be the judge of that. My
darling, please look at me.

HELAENA
The scorpion's kiss... It was the
scorpion's kiss.

Helaena turns to face her mother and reveals a large swollen
bruise on her left eye. Alicent puts her hand on her
daughter's cheek and sheds a tear.

ALICENT
My child...

Helaena rejects her embrace.

HELAENA
It was the scorpion's kiss.

She goes back to her mumbling. Alicent looks angry now.

ALICENT
Where is the king?

INT. TOWER OF THE HAND - DAY

We see a pair of hands grab a quill and wet it with ink.

OTTO HIGHTOWER(50s) is writing a letter, then another, and
then another after that. He wets his quill and writes, and
writes, and writes.

FINALLY someone spills his ink all over the letter he is
writing.

Otto looks up to see his grandson and King, AEGON
TARGARYEN(20s). He is visibly drunk.

AEGON
The Blacks have taken Harrenhal and
slaughtered our supporters at the
Red Fork, and yet here you are,
writing another damn letter! You
must spill blood grandsire, not
ink!

Otto calmly cleans up the mess that Aegon just made and gets
another piece of parchment.

OTTO
It is you who spilled the ink your
Grace.

AEGON

Must I be the one to spill blood as well!

OTTO

How much have you had to drink Your Grace?

AEGON

Stop speaking to me like I am a child! I am your KING!

OTTO

Then start acting like one!

Otto stands up and towers over his grandson who does his best not to look intimidated.

OTTO (CONT'D)

Aegon, 1st of his name, did not conquer the Seven Kingdoms with just fire and blood alone and neither will you, 2nd of his name.

AEGON

Conquer? I am already their king!

OTTO

Your brother's kinslaying, which you so foolishly chose to celebrate rather than punish, has driven many to Rhanyra's cause.

AEGON

My brother rides Vhegar, the largest dragon in the world. I could order him to put the entire realm to the torch if they need convincing.

OTTO

If your brother leaves King's Landing upon the back of Vhegar, the city will fall to the Blacks overnight. They have more dragons than we can muster and the entirety of the Velaryon fleet. That dragon alone is what keeps them from trying.

AEGON

So we do nothing and let them encircle us?

OTTO

We rally our supporters...

Otto sits down and wets his quill. He addresses a letter to the Prince of Dorne.

OTTO (CONT'D)

And our enemies.

Otto notices Alicent standing in the doorway. Aegon slowly turns to face her.

AEGON

Mother, I'm shocked to see you
outside the sept. What sweet
pleasure do I owe to my loving
Queen mother?

Alicent does not hesitate to walk across the room and smacks the ever living shit out of Aegon.

AEGON (CONT'D)

Mother! I am your King!

ALICENT

You do not dare call yourself a
king after what you did to your
queen! If you ever lay another hand
on her, I swear to the gods I will
have you killed and put Aemond on
the throne in your place!

AEGON

Aemond on the throne? The son you
refuse to speak to for what he did
to defend your cause!

ALICENT

Our cause!

AEGON

No, I did not ask to be your living
banner mother!

Alicent strikes him so hard she draws blood. The blood spills onto the letter Otto was writing. Alicent turns to face her father with no less fury in her eyes.

ALICENT

And what schemes are you concocting
while the Blacks surround us
father, hmm?

OTTO

A letter to Prince Qoren of Dorne
to ask for his support. Old enemies
make great new allies in times like
these.

ALICENT

You're asking for Dorne's help?
That's foolish even for you father.

OTTO

Their alliance with the Triarchy
may be our only way to counter the
Velaryon fleet.

ALICENT

And what of the Black's dragons?
They have six to our three in
King's Landing. Vhegar alone cannot
be enough to deter them once they
have rallied all their supporters.

OTTO

We will be prepared.

ALICENT

How? How will we prepare for
dragons!

Alicent has a sudden realization.

ALICENT (CONT'D)

The scorpion's kiss...

Alicent storms out. Otto looks to Aegon, who is in the corner
holding his bloody nose.

OTTO

You wanted blood spilt Your Grace.
There you are. Blood's been spilt.

Otto rewets his quill and continues the letter from where he
left off.

EXT. RED KEEP COURTYARD - DAY

SER CRISTON COLE(30s) is training in the court yard. He is
rather ruthless despite it just being training exercises.

ALICENT(O.S.)

Ser Criston?

Cole turns to face the Queen's voice and falls to a bow.

COLE
Your Grace?

Queen Alicent stares at him for a moment and gestures for him to accompany her. Some in the courtyard give pointed looks at the two. Cole notices and likes the attention.

INT. RED KEEP HALLS - DAY

Queen Alicent and Cole walk the halls together.

ALICENT
I hear they call you Kingmaker now.

COLE
To place a crown on a king's head
does make one a Kingmaker by some
more generous definitions Your
Grace.

ALICENT
They're saying you did more than
that.

COLE
I did do more than that Your Grace.

Alicent stops and looks around at those watching them. They look away when her gaze falls on them.

ALICENT
I need you to do something for me.
Something very important. It'll
take you out of the capitol for
sometime.

COLE
Just give me an army and tell me
the spot on the map.

ALICENT
You'll be marching with no army Ser
Criston.

COLE
Your Grace, we are at war. Where
else would my skills be needed?

ALICENT
It's my understanding you have some
experience with the Dornish.

COLE

I do your Grace - killing them mostly, but my mother was from Sunspear.

ALICENT

Good, I need you to go there on a mission for me.

COLE

You want to go on a mission to Dorne your Grace? And you don't want me to kill anyone?

ALICENT

Dorne is the only one of the Seven Kingdoms to ever claim a dragon's life in battle and the weapon they did so with, they've spent the last century crafting to perfection.

COLE

You speak of a scorpion Your Grace.

ALICENT

A weapon like that would do us well against the Blacks here in King's Landing.

COLE

If we have enough of them.

ALICENT

Dorne should have plenty to sell.

COLE

I won't let you down Your Grace.

ALICENT

No, you won't.

Cole nods and goes to leave.

ALICENT (CONT'D)

Where is Prince Aemond? I hear he spends all his time training with you in the courtyard.

Cole nods.

COLE

Half of his time he spends with me
Your Grace. The other half, he
spends with her.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRAGON PIT - DAY

VHEGAR roars as more cattle is given to her to feast on by
the Dragonkeepers.

PRINCE AEMOND TARGARYEN(20s) watches as Vhegar scarfs the
livestock down.

DRAGONKEEPER

(in High Valyrian)

She eats an entire caravan worth of
livestock a day. With the blockade,
we will soon have no more to feed
her Your Grace.

AEMOND

(in High Valyrian)

She cannot be deprived. Her size is
her advantage.

DRAGONKEEPER

We are trying your Grace, but once
we run out of livestock, we will
have to switch to horses.

AEMOND

We have plenty of those around.

DRAGONKEEPER

Yes Your Grace, but once we run out
of those we will not having
anything else big enough in large
enough quantity to satiate her
appetite. She may...

AEMOND

She may do as she wishes if you do
not keep her fed. You best keep her
fed.

DRAGONKEEPER

Y-yes Your Grace.

AEMOND

Now get her off the ground. We
don't want her to grow fat and old
like Balerion.

Aemond turns to leave as the dragonkeepers try to get a very hangry Vhegar off the ground. They succeed at the cost of a dragonkeeper who is eaten whole by Vhegar before she takes flight. The blood splatters on the dragonkeeper who was talking to Aemond.

AEMOND (CONT'D)

You best keep her fed.

Aemond keeps on walking.

EXT. KING'S LANDING SKYLINE - DAY

Vhegar takes flight across King's Landing. Her large shadow casts across the city streets.

EXT. FLEA BOTTOM STREETS - DAY

Vhegar's roar causes peasants to duck and cover. A peasant boy, CHIP(6), does not cower. He looks up excited. A scared vendor notices the boy's elation.

VENDOR

You a foolish little boy not to
fear them.

CHIP

Dragons serve the king.

VENDOR

Aye, the green ones do. But one day
that dragon overhead won't be
green. It'll be black as ash and
spewing its hellfire on us all.

CHIP

I'm not afraid of fire.

VENDOR

Foolish little boy who is your
father? If he be dead I might have
to be the one to beat some sense
into ya.

CHIP

You wouldn't want to do that. My father is the greatest killer in all the city.

INT. CHEESE'S SHOP - DAY

We see dozens of rat skulls hung on the walls of a dingy shop. There's even a rat king hung on the wall like a trophy. This is the home/shop of CHEESE(30s) a filthy man who is working on a mouse trap. Chip enters.

CHIP

Father, I saw one! I saw one, I did!

CHEESE

You saw what son?

CHIP

A dragon! It was flying right over me head.

CHEESE

Did you gather from all the traps?

CHIP

It was bigger than anything I'd ever seen!

CHEESE

Chip, answer me please.

Chip calms down.

CHIP

Of course Father. Every trap in Flea Bottom was sprung and-

Chip dumps his bag full of dead rats on the table.

CHIP (CONT'D)

Every rat got its cheese.

The father turns away from his work bench and gives his son a large, toothless smile.

CHEESE

That's my boy.

(CONT'D)

INT. RED KEEP DINING HALL - DAY

Criston Cole enters the dining hall to find King Aegon getting drunk with members of the city guard.

AEGON

Once the war is over, I'll make it
the street of silk will run from
here to the Wall.

The men roar in approval. Aegon notices Ser Criston Cole.

AEGON (CONT'D)

Ah... Kingmaker. Take a seat.

Cole sits down.

COLE

I must not be long Your Grace. I
have urgent matters to attend to.

AEGON

My mother can wait Kingmaker.

Aegon pours Cole a drink.

COLE

It's not your mother I am keeping
waiting Your Grace. There's an
entire caravan ready for me by the
stables.

AEGON

You leaving me Kingmaker?

COLE

Your Queen Mother has asked me to
set out on a diplomatic mission to
Dorne. I shall be gone for a great
while. A moon's turn at the very
least.

AEGON

My mother ordered you to go to
Dorne? For what purpose?

COLE

Weapons acquisition Your Grace. She
hopes I can convince the Martells
to a large sale of scorpion
armaments.

Aegon laughs.

AEGON

You would really waste your
precious time like that for my dear
mother?

COLE

I am a member of the Queensguard. I
will do anything the Queen mother
asks of me.

AEGON

Anything?

COLE

It is my duty Your Grace.

AEGON

Well I believe it if you're willing
to go all the way to fucking Dorne
for her.

Aegon and the city guards laugh.

AEGON (CONT'D)

You may be gone for so long Ser
Criston, that we might end up
winning the war before you get
back.

The city guard cheer.

AEMOND (O.S.)

He would return sooner on dragon
back.

They all turn to see Prince Aemond enter the hall.

AEMOND (CONT'D)

Send him and I on Vhegar. We'll be
back well before the moon's turn.

Aegon looks amused.

AEGON

And leave King's Landing with one
less dragon. And mother thinks you
are the smarter one.

AEMOND

Mother doesn't think much of me at
all.

AEGON

For now... She'll get over the dead
Strong boy after we win. They all
will.

Aegon grows giddy and looks around at the guards.

AEGON (CONT'D)

You all want to hear the story of
how it happened. How Aemond One Eye
became Aemond the Kinslayer?

The men all cheer in approval. Aemond looks uncomfortable.

AEGON (CONT'D)

Come on brother, don't be shy. Tell
em.

Aemond composes himself and sits down. Aegon pours his
brother a drink.

AEMOND

I'm not proud of what I did.
Kinslaying has always been an
abhorrent offense against Gods and
men.

AEGON

So are bastards.

The men roar in agreement.

AEMOND

He was still our nephew. Killing
him did little to aid our cause.

AEGON

Save us the politics Aemond. Gods
know I hear enough of it at court.

AEMOND

Our nephew arrived to Storm's End
after I had. At first, I was going
to let him go. Even though that boy
had taken my eye, I was not going
to upset Lord Baratheon in his own
home. He was soon to be my father
in law after all.

GUARD

Did you actually kiss each of his
daughters to decide on which one
you preferred?

GUARD 2

I would have taken more than a kiss.

AEMOND

I did not. Those are just salacious rumors meant to paint me as some deviant hellbent on subverting every custom of decency. I am a man of honor. I took his eldest daughter as she would be first to flower and left it at that. One of the Baratheon girls though did seem offended I did not have eyes for her.

AEGON

Eye...

Aegon and the gold cloaks laugh. Aemond gives him a hard look. Ser Criston is the only other person in the hall not amused by Aegon's joke.

AEGON (CONT'D)

I jest brother. Please... continue.

AEMOND

I don't remember her name. She wasn't pretty enough. Though, I do remember what she said to me after Lucerys fled into night. She said-

INT. STORM'S END - DAY

BORROWS BARATHEON(40s) sits on his throne while three of his daughters, CASSANDRA, ELLYN, MARIS, and FLORIS, kneel before him. Borrow's Maester whispers a message into his ear.

BORROWS

"Was it an eye he had taken or one of your balls." Did one of you dare say that to Prince Aemond!

FLORIS

(crying)

No father, I swear it. I said no such thing.

ELLYN

(crying)

Please father, we know nothing of this accusation.

CASSANDRA
It was Maris.

Maris gives her a side eye.

CASSANDRA (CONT'D)
Only she would have the mind for
words as vile as that.

BORROWS
Maris, is this true?

MARIS
The story is little more than a lie
the prince made up to help absolve
himself of the guilt of what he
did.

BORROWS
You accuse the prince of lying
then?

MARIS
Lying is hardly beneath him.

CASSANDRA
And neither is kinslaying sister.

MARIS
What is that supposed to mean?

BORROWS
Girls...

CASSANDRA
It means you need to learn who's
side we are on.

BORROWS
Girls...

MARIS
You can't even wait for the bedding
ceremony before you start licking
the Prince's balls Cassandra.

BORROWS
Maris!

MARIS
Sorry, ball, can't forget what I
said about that one testicle of
his.

BORROWS

Cassandra, strike your sister.

Cassandra smacks Maris hard. Maris looks pissed, but keeps her composure.

MARIS

I truly said nothing to the prince father. You punish me for his crime and his alone.

BORROWS

Maris, you said those words because the prince said you did.

MARIS

But-

BORROWS

Floris.

Floris now is the one to smack Maris.

BORROWS (CONT'D)

The prince who rides the largest dragon in the world is not someone to publicly call a liar. Especially after we all saw what he did over our home. Do I make myself clear Maris?

Cassandra gives Maris a smug look. Maris bows her head.

MARIS

Yes father...

INT. RED KEEP DINING HALL - DAY

The men all roar with laughter at the conclusion of Aemond's story.

AEGON

Leave it to a woman to start a fight a man must finish. Gods help us if we ever see one sit the Iron Throne.

The men all jeer. Aegon lifts his chalice up for a toast.

AEGON (CONT'D)

To my brother, Aemond the Kinslayer!

The men all cheer and Aemond gives a Aegon a look you would not want your brother giving you after calling him kinslayer. Aemond turns to Cole.

AEMOND

We can ride out on Vhegar and reach Dorne over the morrow.

COLE

Bringing a dragon to Dorne might not be the most diplomatic course of action Your Grace.

AEGON (O.S.)

What are you talking about.

Aegon drunkenly crashes into the middle of their conversation.

AEGON (CONT'D)

A dragon is the most powerful weapon in diplomacy.

COLE

You don't use weapons in diplomacy Your Grace.

AEGON

Then why show up with a sword and shield? Why not then arrive to Dorne barefoot and naked and see how they receive you?

COLE

Bringing a dragon to Dorne would be seen as inflammatory Your Grace.

AEGON

Not if it had a king atop it.

COLE

Your Grace?

AEGON

You can't leave King's Landing brother. Vhegar is the only reason why the Blacks have dared not move on us yet. Sunfyre, however, is faster of wing and far more discreet.

AEMOND

Are you suggesting you'll go to Dorne?

AEGON

Not suggesting. I'm a king. I don't make suggestions.

EXT. DRAGON PIT - NIGHT

The Dragon keepers are getting SUNFYRE, Aegon's golden dragon, saddled up for the long ride. Aegon looks on with his mother.

ALICENT

The caravan sent ahead of you should be at Bronzgate by now. Try not to get too ahead of them if you can help it.

AEGON

Don't you worry mother. I'll be very careful up there with your Ser Criston

ALICENT

Ser Criston is not who I'm worried about.

AEGON

If you worry for me mother, you shouldn't have made me a king.

Aegon walks off to get ready for his trip.

ALICENT

You have left your brother in charge?

Aegon stops and turns back toward his mother.

AEGON

Of course, he is the protector of the Realm in my absence.

ALICENT

And what is he in case you do not return.

AEGON

If I do not return then I am still absent and he is still protector.

Alicent looks conflicted.

AEGON (CONT'D)

Oh mother, are you worried you may
have to see the very thing you
threatened me with?

(a beat)

King Aemond the One-eyed kinslayer.
It's got a nice ring to it, I'll
give it that.

Alicent gives Aegon a pained look while he looks at her with
amusement.

INT. ROYAL APARTMENTS - NIGHT

Prince Aemond enters the royal apartments, but no one is
there. He looks around confused before a devilish smile forms
on his face. He leans down and pulls up the bedspread to
reveal JAHAEYES, JAHAEA, AND MAELOR. They giggle at them
being found.

JAHAEYES

Uncle Aemond, you found us!

AEMOND

I may only have one-eye children,
but that does not make me blind.

The kids giggle and Aemond gives them a reassuring smile.

AEMOND (CONT'D)

All right, out from under there you
little dragons.

He pulls them out from under the bed, but after pulling
little Maelor out, he sees there's a fourth body under the
bed. It's Queen Helaena. She's mumbling to herself.

JAHAEYES

(whispers in Aemond's ear)

It's the beast beneath the boards
again.

Aemond frowns, but quickly covers it up with a smile.

AEMOND

Run along children, I'll keep your
mother company.

The children do as their uncle commands and leave to go play.
Aemond gets to his belly and crawls under the bed with
Helaena. She hides her face.

HELAENA
(mumbling)
The beast beneath the boards.
There's a beast beneath the boards.

AEMOND
Sweet sister...

Aemond tries to touch her.

HELAENA
No brother, we can't!

AEMOND
Helaena, you need to come out. Your
scaring the children.

HELAENA
It's too late! It's all too late!

AEMOND
What are you?

Aemond notices the swollen eye as he pulls her out from under
the bed.

AEMOND (CONT'D)
Who-

Aemond knows the answer already.

HELAENA
The scorpion's sting...

Aemond gets up in anger and storms off.

INT. DRAGON PIT - DAY

Prince Aemond storms into The Dragon Pit.

DRAGONKEEPER
Are we under attack?

AEMOND
Where is she?

DRAGONKEEPER
Is it the Blacks?

Aemond grabs the dragonkeeper.

AEMOND
My dragon! Now!

Vhegar roars out from deep within the Dragon Pit. Prince Aemond follows her roars.

INT. DRAGON PIT INNER TUNNELS - NIGHT

The tunnels are a vast cavernous space where the dragons burrow. The air is tense and smokey, filled with the heavy presence of the mighty creatures.

Aemond's eyes search the smoke until he spots VHEGAR, his she-dragon, clad in over a thousand thick iron chains, not a single one still in the ground or walls where they were cemented. His dragon senses her rider and lets out a deep growl.

PRINCE AEMOND

Vhegar, we have another eye to take.

Vhegar hisses.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRAGON PIT - NIGHT

Vhegar bursts through the opening of the Dragon Pit, her scales glistening in the moonlight. Aemond rides atop her with a grace.

INT. QUEEN'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Queen Alicent awakens to roars and a panicked handmaiden rushing into her room.

HANDMAIDEN

Your Grace, it's the Prince!

The queen rushes to her window to see her son flying away on Vhegar.

SKY - ABOVE KING'S LANDING - NIGHT

Aemond and Vhegar soar through the sky, the city sprawling beneath them.

INT. QUEEN'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT

Alicent sheds a tear as she watches her son.

HANDMAIDEN

Where is he going your Grace?

ALICENT

To condemn us all for his sin.

INT. CHEESE'S SHOP - NIGHT

Chip wakes up upon hearing the dragon roar and rushes up to his father's shop roof. The screams of scared and panicked people are what wake Cheese.

CHEESE

Chip? Chip, where are you!

CHIP (O.S.)

Up here father, up here!

EXT. ABOVE KING'S LANDING - NIGHT

As they gain altitude, Vhegar lets out a mighty roar, her wings beating powerfully. Suddenly, amidst the majestic flight, a large object falls from Vhegar. It's her shit!

CUT TO:

KING'S LANDING - NIGHT

The dragon-sized shit descends like a comet, drawing gasps from the citizens below.

EXT. CHEESE'S SHOP ROOF - NIGHT

Chip is watching with glee in the moonlight. A shadow grows over him.

CHIP

Father, I think it-

(giggles)

I think the dragon just took a-

The dragon shit hits the boy. It's as large as one might imagine, filled with the skeletons of horse and cattle. It crushes Chip and puts a hole in the roof.

INT. CHEESE'S SHOP - NIGHT

Cheese who is descending a latter falls as his shop's roof nearly caves in on him. He lands hard on the floor among countless dead rats, many smashed and bloody.

CHEESE

Boy! Boy, where are you?

Cheese looks over towards a putrid smell. All life leaves his eyes when he sees the boy.

CHEESE (CONT'D)

Chip?

EXT. KING'S LANDING STREETS - NIGHT

A crowd looks up at Vhegar as she fades into the distance, roaring as she does. One hooded onlooker is on a horse.

SMALL FOLK 1

(looking up)

What in the Seven Hells was that?!

SMALL FOLK 2

I think it took a shit.

The crowd of peasants all laugh.

Off in the distance we hear a man scream. This is draws the hooded onlooker's attention.

CHEESE (O.S.)

My boy!

Cheese emerges into the streets screaming as he holds the corpse of his boy. Chip's body is smooshed in and caked in dragon feces. The boy is clearly gone, but Cheese does not understand.

CHEESE (CONT'D)

Help me, help my boy please.

SMALL FOLK 3

By the Gods!

SMALL FOLK 2

The boy's dead!

One peasant pukes at the sight of the boy's corpse. The onlooker gets off their horse and approaches. While others recoil at the boy, the hooded onlooker draws in.

CHEESE

Please help him. Please!

The hooded onlooker's face is revealed to be Daemon Targaryen.

DAEMON

There is nothing that can be done
to save your boy...

Daemon looks up at the Red Keep and then back at Cheese.

DAEMON (CONT'D)

Only to avenge him.

END.