

**GALAVANT**

By

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**A NOTE FOR THE READER:**

*This script will read a little differently.*

*While still a comedy, the world of this piece is a classic "fairy tale" one... filled with heroes and princesses and villains and maybe even a dragon or two. Think "The Princess Bride" meets "Monty Python" meets classic Disney. And because of that familiar Disney construct... Alan Menken's musical numbers will sprinkle in organically throughout. They aren't written yet, obviously, but these "songs" will be placed into the script, with the story points covered in prose.*

*Hopefully this prose can give the reader a sense of the material that will be covered in the songs. And if not, hopefully having written the word "prose" three times in this opening "note to the reader" will make this script seem more highbrow than it actually is.*

We start with, you guessed it...

**A BACKSTORY SONG: "GALAVANT"**

Once upon a time, there was a hero named Galavant.

ON GALAVANT (28):

Basically the coolest guy ever. Galavant's got a sword, and a horse, and a Ewan McGregor-esque head of hair.

**A lyric might go something like:**

*Galavant was gallant/Galavant was class/If you messed with Galavant/He'd surely beat your ass.*

ON MADALENA (25):

A knockout. She's got a killer dress, and a killer smile, and she too has a Ewan McGregor-esque head of hair (if Ewan McGregor grew it out for a while).

**Lyric:**

*If there's one thing Gal'd been missing/It'd been a gal to share his den/But then came Madalena/The Kingdom's only perfect ten.*

ON GALAVANT AND MADALENA:

As they fall madly in love. They do all the things 15th century youngsters do when they fall in love: frolic in forests, dance at dances, kiss for abnormally long periods of time.

It's clear they're going to get married and have really good-looking babies together.

ON KING RICHARD (40's):

He has a mustache which indicates that he is mean. And as it turns out, he is.

**Lyric:**

*There was only one real problem/A king from a nearby land/Took notice of Madalena/And asked her for her hand.*

You can imagine where this is going: the King is into Madalena, she's not into him, so the King (and his main henchman Gareth, 50's, badass), kidnap Madalena.

ON GALAVANT:

Discovering Madalena, gone. Devastated. He picks up a sword, determined to rescue her: wherever she may be.

**Lyric:**

*So that's our basic set-up/One man would soon prove the greater/And that's where we pick up our story/Two or three weeks later.*

INT. CASTLE - TWO OR THREE WEEKS LATER

MADALENA paces back and forth across the room. She looks miserable. She's wearing an ORNATE WEDDING DRESS.

She looks out the high castle window.

DOWN BELOW

It's quiet. GUARDS chat and mill about, casual.

BACK INSIDE

Madalena SIGHS. Just then...

VOICE (O.S.)

Is everything alright, my Princess?

Madalena wheels around. Before her stands:

KING RICHARD ENMIAS (still mustached, still mean).

MADALENA

(obedient)

Yes, my King.

KING RICHARD

I would think so. In just moments we will marry and you will instantly become the richest and most powerful woman in the land.

MADALENA

Yes, my King. Very exciting.

KING RICHARD

And then tonight, you will join me in my bed.

MADALENA

Yes, my King.

A beat.

KING RICHARD

We're going to do it.

MADALENA

Yes.

KING RICHARD

We're not going to just sit in bed and open gifts and talk about how fun the wedding was, okay? We're doing it.

MADALENA

Of course, my King.

He nods, feeling better. Takes a little bow.

KING RICHARD

My lady.

He EXITS. At the door he pulls his henchman GARETH aside.

Gareth has a shaved head and one HUGE SCAR underlining each eye. He's Scottish. He's scary as hell.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

(sotto)

Have you found Galavant yet?

GARETH

We're working on it.

The King grabs Gareth by the neck, pushes him against the wall.

KING RICHARD

Work harder.

They stay like this for a long beat. Gareth glares. The King immediately realizes, lowers his hands.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

(instantly emotional)

I'm sorry, I just know Galavant's going to show up here and ruin my wedding day, Gareth. I really think she likes him more. Do you think she likes him more?

GARETH

Yes.

KING RICHARD

Why? Why do you think that?

GARETH

Because you had to kidnap her to get her to marry you.

The King notices other GUARDS snickering, steadies himself.

KING RICHARD

(strongly)

Just find Galavant.

(then, whispering)

Please. I mean, it'd be really great if you could find him.

The King storms out for show.

**RE-CUE OPENING SONG: GALAVANT!**

INT. FOREST - CONTINUOUS

Chased by a SMALL ARMY of the King's men, GALAVANT weaves his ways through trees. He rides a beautiful BLACK HORSE.

Through the forest, he weaves. Two GUARDS descend on him from either side. Without breaking his horse's stride, Galavant KNOCKS OFF BOTH GUARDS from their horses.

And not only can Galavant defeat half an army by himself... he can SING while doing it! He picks up the OPENING SONG...

**Lyric:**

*I'm a man of action/Don't need to rave and rant/True love won't be denied here/Not from Galavant!*

He's so cool, TWO CHASING GUARDS pick up the chorus!

GUARDS  
 (singing)  
 Galavant! He's Galavant!

GALAVANT  
 (re: them singing)  
 Hey, thanks for that, guys.

GUARD #1  
 You're welcome. We're big fans.  
 Plus, it's a really catchy son--

BAM, BAM. Galavant disposes both of them with his sword.  
 Takes off. The music swells.

EXT. CASTLE - THIRTY MINUTES LATER

Galavant nears the castle. He gets off his horse, grabs his sword, begins marching toward the castle.

GALAVANT  
 (top of lungs)  
 MADALENA!!!

INT. CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Madalena jumps, picks up the SONG!

MADALENA  
 (singing)  
 Galavant!?

EXT. CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

A man on a mission, Galavant marches toward the castle, discarding guards one by one with minimal effort. The uber-steady uber-hero.

GALAVANT  
 Madalena!

INT. CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Madalena runs to the window.

MADALENA  
 (singing)  
 Galavant!

Behind her, the door bursts open. KING RICHARD and GARETH RUSH INTO THE CHAMBER, looking concerned.

DOWN BELOW

Galavant smiles. He grabs a vine, hanging from the castle and begins climbing. Gravity is no match for this man. With great skill and fluidity, he crests the tower and ENTERS THE WINDOW...

INT. CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Galavant sees Madalena in full and lights up.

GALAVANT

My lady.

MADALENA

My man.

He smiles. But then the camera shifts around her, revealing:

GARETH standing across the room, ready for a fight. King Richard hides behind Gareth's wide shoulders.

Galavant and Gareth exchange greetings.

GALAVANT

Gareth.

GARETH

Galavant.

Galavant turns to King Richard. The King nods. Gareth gathers his sword to advance but then:

GALAVANT

Alright, hold on. Now, Gareth and I can surely fight all night to an even draw if that's what you want. Hell, you can send all your men to help him if you so desire. But I'll fend them all off. Because here's the thing:

Galavant lays down his sword.

GALAVANT (CONT'D)

I love her, Richard. She is the first thing I think of in the morning, and the last thing I think of in the eve. And you can offer her great fame, and you can offer her great fortune, but only I can offer her great love. And that is what she chooses.

MADALENA (O.S.)

Actually...

Galavant turns. Madalena stands there, sheepish.

MADALENA (CONT'D)

Gal... I'm sorry. I just... I don't know... I've been thinking a lot about it since he kidnapped me and... I'm gonna go with the fame and the fortune. It just seems like an easier life, you know? I'm really sorry. I hope we can be friends.

And just like that, all the wind goes out of Galavant. Literally. Gareth punches him in the stomach, sending the stunned Galavant to his knees.

He can't even talk. His whole world has suddenly turned on its axis.

King Richard's boots CLOMP against the floor as he approaches.

Gareth hands Richard his SWORD, butt side up. Richard nods, smiles.

KING RICHARD

Goodnight, sweet Prince.

He SLAMS the BUTT OF THE SWORD into Galavant's head. But Richard is a pussy and it doesn't knock Galavant out.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

Dammit to hell! Gareth, would you just do it please?

Gareth shrugs, grabs the sword, and delivers the blow.

GARETH

G'night, Wanker.

BAM! Everything goes BLACK.

**CHYRON: FIVE YEARS LATER**

INT. GALAVANT'S HOUSE - MORNING

A 15th Century run-down bachelor pad. Dishes everywhere. The place hasn't been cleaned in years.

And neither has Galavant. He's unshaven, uncleaned, and he's put on a lot of weight since we last saw him.

It's morning. He's drinking. Heavily.

The mighty has officially fallen.

A scrawny young man ENTERS. This is Galavant's squire, SID (23). Think the kind of Jewish that non-Jews get a kick out of. Think Jay Baruchel.

SID  
Good morning, Sir.

Sid opens the shades, lets some light in. Galavant GROANS. Sid takes the bottle of booze out of Galavant's hand.

SID (CONT'D)  
I see we're getting an early start this morning.

Sid puts away the bottle, starts tidying up.

GALAVANT  
What do you want, Sid?

Sid turns, takes a deep breath, addresses Galavant formally.

SID  
Sir, when you hired me to be your squire, it was the most exciting thing to ever happen to me. Best squireship in the land, my parents completely plotzed. But ever since Madalen--

GALAVANT  
(sharply)  
Don't say her name.

Sid re-thinks.

SID  
Ever since... that happened... you've not been yourself and...  
(then)  
You need a job, Sir. You're completely broke. You can't afford me anymore.

GALAVANT  
I'll write you a letter of reference.

SID  
You can't afford this place.

GALAVANT  
Never liked the layout.

SID  
You literally cannot afford another bottle of drink.

This gives Galavant pause.

SID (CONT'D)

There is someone here to see you.  
She's waiting outside and she brings  
with her an opportunity. I would beg  
you to meet with her.

GALAVANT

I'm not going to--

SID

And here she is!

Sid opens the door. In walks a BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN (27).  
Unlike Magdalena, her beauty is more real, less practiced.  
She's tough, athletic. Think Jennifer Lawrence. I'm sure we  
can get her.

SID (CONT'D)

May I present, the Princess Isabella  
Maria Lucia Elisabetta of Valencia--

GALAVANT

That's a mouthful. Speaking of which.

He retrieves his bottle, pours a drink. Isabella looks at  
Sid, confused. Sid smiles ("that crazy guy").

ISABELLA

(slight accent)  
Squire, excuse us.

Sid bows, nods at Galavant ("don't blow this") and exits.

GALAVANT

It's not a great time, Princess.

Isabella looks around the shithole, confused.

ISABELLA

You are Galavant? Slayer of dragons,  
protector of innocent, defender of the  
less fortunate?

GALAVANT

Galavant's fine. The rest of it never  
fits on the business cards.

She looks him over, confused.

ISABELLA

Sir Galavant, I have traveled long and  
far to seek your favor.

(MORE)

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

Four months ago, my peaceful Kingdom of Valencia fell under attack from a rival land. My people were taken captive, my entire family either killed or imprisoned--

GALAVANT

Terrible, just terrible. Well, you've got a nice way about you, I'm sure you'll land on your feet. Nice meeting you, door's on the wall.

She doesn't move.

ISABELLA

My Kingdom is...

(correcting)

Was a peaceful nation, but it was also a wealthy one. Before being captured, my father hid me in the cellar and handed me the priceless Jewel of Valencia. He told me that if I found chance of escape, I should travel here, to find Galavant. He said only Galavant could save us.

She holds forth a BURLAP BAG. Removes the stunning JEWEL OF VALENCIA.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

I hid in that cellar for months, as my family was slaughtered and imprisoned above me. I now offer you this jewel, all my country has left to offer, if you will travel with me to Valencia and help me dispose of our invaders.

She gets down on her knee.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

I throw myself at your mercy, Sir Galavant. Please: save my people.

Galavant burps.

GALAVANT

I'm sorry, I got distracted... what did you say after I said "nice meeting you, door's on the wall?"

She looks up, stunned.

ISABELLA

Who are you? Because the man before  
me is certainly not the man of legend.  
The man they sing songs of.

GALAVANT

Oh, I most certainly am.

**CUE SONG: (GALAVANT REPRISE).** This is a sadder take on the  
"Galavant" song that we opened with.

The song is basically a duet: Isabella reminding Galavant of  
his former glories, Galavant responding by explaining his  
current state of affairs:

**Lyric:**

*ISABELLA: Galavant slays dragons/Brings comfort to the  
poor/Galavant would never/Show the needy to the door.*

*GALAVANT: Galavant is broken/The saddest man around/He  
carries with him heartache/And an extra twenty pounds.*

The song ends... Isabella storms out.

EXT. GALAVANT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Isabella storms past a hopeful Sid. Sid's face drops when he  
sees the look on her face.

ISABELLA

That man is an animal!

SID

Wait! Princess Isabella Maria Lu...  
(then)  
Lucia? Was it Lucia? Something -ia  
of Valencia!  
(then)  
Princess!

As she storms off, we focus in on the Princess of Valencia's  
outraged, flushed face and we...

FLASHBACK TO:

The Princess of Valencia's face (dirtier, more worn) as TEXT  
comes across the screen:

**CHYRON: CASTLE OF VALENCIA. 2 MONTHS EARLIER.**

INT. VALENCIA CASTLE CELLAR - DAY

Exactly as she described to Galavant: Isabella hides in a barren cellar from her captors, listening to voices above.

The voices are slightly muffled but still audible.

VOICE (O.S.)

Orange.

VOICE #2(O.S.)

Orange who?

We PAN UP, through the floor, into...

INT. VALENCIA CASTLE GRAND HALL - DAY

A really handsome JESTER (25), in full costume, does a "set" in front of our old bad guys: King Richard, the now "Queen" Madalena, Gareth, and assorted SOLDIERS and COURT MEMBERS.

JESTER

(again, flat)

Orange.

KING RICHARD

(bored)

Orange who?

JESTER

Orange you glad I didn't say banana again?

Silence. No one laughs. Except...

MADALENA

(clapping)

Wonderful! Another wonderful routine, Jester!

(then)

Wasn't he wonderful, Husband?

KING RICHARD

I'm not seeing it, Baby.

MADALENA

(annoyed)

Perhaps his humor flies over your head then.

KING RICHARD

"Orange you glad I didn't say banana again?" I think I followed the thread.

The King turns to Gareth.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)  
I don't know what she sees in him.

Gareth watches as Madalena makes secretive goo-goo eyes at the handsome Jester. The Jester secretly blows her a kiss.

GARETH  
No idea, my King.

Madalena stands.

MADALENA  
I will go compliment the Jester. And while I do, Husband, perhaps you can make some progress convincing the King and Queen of Valencia to tell you where their jewel is hidden.

KING RICHARD  
I've tried everyth--

MADALENA  
Yes, well, I did not travel across an ocean to invade a Kingdom, take it over, only to fail to obtain what we came here for.  
(then, quietly)  
Galavant would not have stood for this.

The King's face drops. He stands. Looks his wife in the eye.

KING RICHARD  
What did you just say?

She matches his intensity.

MADALENA  
I said:  
(then, in his face)  
Galavant. Would. Not. Have. Stood.  
For. This.

She breaks her death stare.

MADALENA (CONT'D)  
Find me the Jewel, would you, dear?

She walks off, calling after the Jester.

MADALENA (CONT'D)

Oh Jester, join me in my chamber,  
would you? I'd love to hear a little  
more about how you craft a joke.

The King is left with Gareth.

KING RICHARD

(blind)

She really gets a kick out of that  
damned jester. Maybe it is going over  
my head.

GARETH

(knowing)

Oh, it's going over your head alright.

King Richard slumps.

KING RICHARD

Oh Gareth! I try so hard to please  
her. I invade a Kingdom for a jewel,  
I respect her vow of chastity--

Gareth rolls his eyes.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

And yet every day I have to hear it,  
over and over again:

(imitating)

"Galavant would not stand for this."

**CUE SONG: "IT AIN'T EASY BEING KING"**

The basic idea: no matter what King Richard does, the threat  
of Madalena leaving him for Galavant is always on his mind.

**Lyric:**

*I'm a King by birthright/I control half of Japan/But all I do  
is worry/She still loves another man.*

By the time the song ends, King Richard is in a state of  
complete emotional distress.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

I never should have let Galavant go  
that day. I felt bad for him. She  
really blind-sided the poor bastard.  
But I have not slept solidly in five  
years. And I will not sleep until I  
know he is dead.

GARETH

Rumor has it, he's become a drunkard.  
But he is still the greatest warrior  
in five Kingdoms, Sir. Men follow him  
anywhere. To attack Galavant on his  
own turf would lead to certain defeat.

KING RICHARD

(little boy)

I know! Darn it! So frustrating!

The King stands.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

Get me the King and Queen of Valencia.  
They are telling us where that jewel  
is.

He storms off, stops.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

"Orange you glad I didn't say banana  
again?" It's not--

GARETH

Not funny at all, Sir.

The King nods, agreeing.

KING RICHARD

Let's go find her that stupid jewel.

PAN DOWN:

BACK THROUGH THE FLOOR to the hidden Isabella - who nervously  
clutches the Jewel (in its burlap bag) to her chest.

FLASH FORWARD TO:

THE JEWEL. Still in that burlap bag, now sitting on a table.  
We are back to the present day in...

INT. GALAVANT'S HOMETOWN TAVERN - EVENING

Isabella sits at a table in the corner of the tavern with the  
bag. She's sadly nursing a beer.

She looks across the room, watching...

GALAVANT.

He's sitting at his usual spot at the bar, half-cocked.

GALAVANT  
Tommy! Another please.

The BARTENDER approaches.

TOMMY  
Sorry, Gal. Gonna have to cut you  
off.

GALAVANT  
Tommy, I'm fine. I'm not riding, I  
walked.

TOMMY  
No, it's just...  
(then)  
They cut you off, Gal. You haven't  
paid your tab in months. Until you  
do... I'm sorry.

GALAVANT  
Tommy! Come on! It's me! Gal! I--

TOMMY  
Hey, Gal. C'mon. You're embarrassing  
yourself, man.  
(then)  
Get it together.

Tommy walks off to another customer.

ON GALAVANT:

At a real low point. He looks at his empty glass. Catches  
his puffy reflection. What has he done to himself?

And then... through the reflection in his glass he sees,  
across the tavern...

ISABELLA. She quickly looks away when he catches her eye.

Galavant SIGHS, stands, approaches her:

GALAVANT  
Can I buy you a drink?

ISABELLA  
(annoyed)  
No.

GALAVANT  
Good, you can buy me one.

He pushes her chair over, roughly, and sits next to her. Isabella instinctively backs away from him, repulsed.

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. VALENCIA CASTLE CELLAR - AFTERNOON (TWO MONTHS EARLIER)

The in-hiding Isabella presses forward against the cellar ceiling, trying to hear exactly what's going on above.

INT. VALENCIA CASTLE - AFTERNOON

Up above, King Richard and Gareth stand in front of The KING AND QUEEN OF VALENCIA (Isabella's parents).

You could not cast a more lovely KING AND QUEEN of VALENCIA. Who are our most beloved older actors: Alan Arkin and Sally Field? Sure, picture them. And don't forget: they're Jennifer Lawrence's mother and father.

The King and Queen look unkempt and exhausted. King Richard paces in front of them:

KING RICHARD

I have tried to be kind to you, have I not?

KING OF VALENCIA

You pillaged our peaceful Kingdom, killed half our army--

KING RICHARD

BUT I HAVEN'T KILLED YOU! ISN'T THAT RIGHT!? I HAVEN'T KILLED YO--

His voice cracks.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

Gareth, my throat's horribly scratchy, some tea please?

GARETH

Some tea for the King!

A SERVANT scurries off.

KING RICHARD

(to Queen and King)  
I'm not a yeller.

QUEEN OF VALENCIA

We beg you to show mercy to our people, good King--

KING RICHARD

Yeah yeah yeah, we've done this.

(then, quietly)

Look, here's the thing. My wife REALLY wants that jewel of yours. Now I know she can sometimes come off a little... what's the word?

KING OF VALENCIA

Evil.

QUEEN OF VALENCIA

Cruel.

KING RICHARD

No, that's not it. It's more...

KING OF VALENCIA

Sadistic?

QUEEN OF VALENCIA

Vicious?

KING RICHARD

You really just have to get to know her.

(then)

Anyway, why don't we do this: you tell me where the Jewel is, we pack up shop, stop all the pillaging, killing, yada yada - everyone's happy.

The King of Valencia stands.

KING OF VALENCIA

The Jewel of Valencia is priceless.

KING RICHARD

(bored)

I know, I know.

KING OF VALENCIA

It is the symbol of Valencia. It has belonged not to us, but to our people, for thousands of years.

KING RICHARD

Totally understand, totally empathize, can I have it?

KING OF VALENCIA

Never.

**CUE SONG: "THE JEWEL OF VALENCIA"**

The King and Queen of Valencia sing a lovely duet explaining the deep meaning of the Jewel of Valencia to them, while King Richard (on the other side) sings about how much easier his marriage would be if he could just have it.

In the end, they refuse to tell King Richard where the Jewel is.

**Lyric:**

*KING AND QUEEN OF VALENCIA: The Jewel to us is priceless/Part of our brotherhood/Should we just hand it over/It would not look very good.*

*KING RICHARD: I appreciate your passion/I don't want to make this worse/I swear if it would satisfy her/I'd just buy the Queen a purse.*

The song ends. King Richard SIGHS. They King and Queen of Valencia will not turn the Jewel over.

KING RICHARD

It's about to get very ugly in here.  
This is so not how I wanted to do  
this.

THE SERVANT approaches with tea.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

Ooh, thank you.

He takes a sip.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

Mmmm. Is there lemon in there?

SERVANT

Yes my King. Twist of lemon.

KING RICHARD

Delightful. Just delightful.

King Richard turns to Gareth.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

Kill the King, make her watch.

Gareth unsheathes his sword, steps forward, and just then we hear...

ISABELLA (O.S.)

NO!

Gareth and the King FREEZE. They turn toward the sound of the voice.

Gareth approaches a corner of the room where he discovers, on the floor...

A TRAP DOOR.

Gareth and The King share a confused look.

CUT TO:

INT. GALAVANT'S HOMETOWN TAVERN (PRESENT DAY)

Galavant drinks and eats greedily. Isabella watches him in horror.

GALAVANT

Mmmm. Mmmm, mmmm, mmmm. Haven't had lamb in ages.

(calling out)

Tommy! Another round please. Don't worry, it's all on Princess Something-Or-Other.

Galavant turns to her.

GALAVANT (CONT'D)

Thanks again for the drink.

ISABELLA

(correcting)

Drinks.

GALAVANT

Right. Thanks again.

He eats. She watches.

ISABELLA

May I ask you something?

GALAVANT

You keep buying, I'll chit the chat out of you.

ISABELLA

My father used to tell stories of you. Of your skill in battle. Of your heroism. Of your goodness.

GALAVANT

It's your dime, Princess, but is there a question in there somewhere?

ISABELLA

What happened to you?

Galavant looks up. She's looking at him, earnestly. She really wants to know.

And there's something about her face, the Jennifer Lawrence-ness of that face, that makes him drop the wisecracking drunkard act for a minute.

GALAVANT

My parents were people of massive appetites. They loved everything. They loved food. They loved...

(motioning at his drink)  
drink.

(then)

Most of all, they loved each other. Ironically, they also hated each other. They fought, violently, every day - didn't have time for much else, in fact. And so, at eight years old, I swore off love. Devoted myself to doing something better with my life than wasting it on "love." So I read. I learned languages. I trained. All the time other young men spent chasing girls, I spent that time bettering myself.

(beat)

But I came from a family of "lovers," and you can't fight genetics. So, when it inevitably happened to me, when I fell...

ISABELLA

You fell hard.

Galavant nods.

GALAVANT

I fell hard.

ISABELLA

And her?

GALAVANT

She fell softer, as it turned out.

Isabella smiles. A moment of connection between them. Galavant, uncomfortable with any sort of connection, returns to his food.

GALAVANT (CONT'D)

And you? Is there a Mr. Princess Blah-Blah-Blah out there?

ISABELLA

There was going to be.

(beat)

He's gone. They killed him.

Galavant looks up. Something triggers in him - an instinct to help, maybe - but he fights it.

GALAVANT

I wish I could help you, Princess. But I'm out of the damsel in distress game at the moment. Here's some advice: keep your jewel. Start a new life for yourself. You'll be okay.

ISABELLA

(quietly)

I listened from below as he ordered my parents to their death. And I screamed - I couldn't help myself - God help me, I screamed. They gave chase and I ran. And when I escaped, I promised myself I would never hide again. I followed my father's order: "Find Galavant. Only Galavant can save us."

(then)

And after coming all this way, after finding you, your advice is that I should just turn a blind eye, as King Richard destroys my Kingdom and everyone I've ever loved?

(then)

What?

Galavant is staring right at Isabella. There's fury in his suddenly clear eyes.

GALAVANT

Did you say *King Richard*?

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. VALENCIA CASTLE - AFTERNOON (TWO MONTHS EARLIER)

KING RICHARD watches as Gareth pulls Isabella out from the trap door by her hair.

KING OF VALENCIA

Isabella!

ISABELLA

Father!

Gareth snatches the BURLAP BAG from Isabella's hand, tosses it to King Richard. Isabella runs to her parents, hugs them.

King Richard pulls out the JEWEL from the bag. Beams. And just then...

QUEEN MADALENA peeks in.

MADALENA

Any luck on the Jewel, Richard?

Richard starts to turn, excited to share the news...

KING RICHARD

Actually, my dear...

MADALENA

I know, I know. You're working on it. Well, why don't you stop working on it, start acting like Galavant, and *do* something already.

A body blow. King Richard slowly retracts the Jewel, hiding it from his wife.

KING RICHARD

Will do, my Queen.

Gareth looks at King Richard, surprised. MADALENA EXITS.

King Richard turns back towards Isabella, starts thinking.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)

She's a pretty young thing, isn't she Gareth?

GARETH

Eh. Little plump for my taste.

KING RICHARD

But her face. She's got a good face, no?

GARETH

I suppose. But if she's that plump after hiding in a cellar for four months, imagine how plump she was four months ago.

KING RICHARD  
 She's pretty, Gareth! Just say she's  
 pretty!

GARETH  
 Fine, she's pretty.

King Richard approaches her.

KING RICHARD  
 You love your parents, don't you my  
 Dear?

ISABELLA  
 Leave them be! Leave them be or so  
 help me God, I'll kill you myself.

KING RICHARD  
 And spunky.

GARETH  
 Chunky if you ask me.

KING RICHARD  
 Gareth, stop it! I'm trying to do  
 something here. God!

He returns to evil King mode.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)  
 I never want to hear the name Galavant  
 again. If we can't beat him on his  
 turf, we will bring him to ours. I  
 will kill him, in front of Madalena,  
 and then deliver her precious jewel to  
 her. Then we'll see if she can't find  
 the key to her damn chastity belt!

He turns back to Isabella.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)  
 If you want your parents to live, you  
 will travel to find Galavant. Tell  
 him you want to hire him.

GARETH  
 They say he is a recluse, My King. A  
 drunkard. He will never come.

KING RICHARD  
 Yes, he will!

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. GALAVANT'S HOMETOWN TAVERN (PRESENT DAY)

King Richard's VOICE covers the action as Isabella talks to Galavant:

KING RICHARD (V.O.)  
Tell him that I, King Richard, have taken over your Kingdom. Offer to pay him, with the Jewel.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. VALENCIA CASTLE (TWO MONTHS EARLIER)

King Richard continues scheming.

KING RICHARD  
And when that doesn't work, I want you to tell him this...

He stops.

KING RICHARD (CONT'D)  
I feel like you should write this down.

ISABELLA  
I will remember it.

KING RICHARD  
It's kind of long, I'd really just be more comfortable if you wrote it down.

ISABELLA  
I will remember it.

KING RICHARD  
Fine.  
(then)  
You tell him that King Richard...

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. GALAVANT'S HOMETOWN TAVERN (PRESENT DAY)

Isabella continues:

ISABELLA  
... is a cruel, vicious man. Four months, I hid in that cellar. He and his Queen slept right above me.

Galavant grimaces at the image. Isabella notices.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. VALENCIA CASTLE (TWO MONTHS EARLIER)

The King continues...

KING RICHARD

You tell him that every night, you  
would listen...

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. GALAVANT'S HOMETOWN TAVERN (PRESENT DAY)

Isabella continues...

ISABELLA

...as he screamed at his Queen. The  
most vile things. And each night he  
would storm out, and I would be left  
with only the sobs of that poor Queen.  
She cried the same thing every night:

Galavant leans in.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

I made the wrong choice. I'm so  
sorry, gals. I'm so sorry.

(then)

She must have left some maidens back  
home, never knew what she meant: "I'm  
so sorry, gals."

Silence. Galavant looks up slowly. Dramatically.

GALAVANT

I'm so sorry, Gal. She was saying  
"I'm so sorry, Gal."

Galavant stands. Music SWELLS. His eyes are clear. Our  
hero has returned.

GALAVANT (CONT'D)

We leave tomorrow at sunrise. Pack  
lightly. There's a long journey  
ahead.

Galavant storms away. We are left with Isabella, watching  
him go.

Mission accomplished, but the victory slightly hollow.

**RE-CUE: OPENING SONG (GALAVANT)**

During this song, we recap the story (much as we started) checking in on all our players:

- Isabella, feeling guilty back at the tavern. She steadies herself by looking at a photograph of her parents, reminding herself why she's doing this.
- The King and Queen of Valencia. Imprisoned. Waiting.
- Queen Madalena, fooling around with the handsome Jester.
- King Richard, watching as Gareth practices swordplay maneuvers. He's readying himself for Galavant.
- And of course, Galavant. This morning, for a change, it's he who actually wakes up his squire, Sid! They begin loading up horses (with Isabella) as they embark on a hero's quest...

**Lyric:**

*And so our story's started/Our hero's on his way/Heading  
toward the trap that/Young Isabella laid.*

*A long way till they get there/It's slow going by wagon/But  
rest easy knowing next week/He puts a beat down on a dragon.*