

SCENE 3

(ALPHEA & BORIS each yell, shocked, as he jumps around and she stabs at him with her sword - this goes on for awhile - 4 or 5 times.

BORIS

What are you - what are you - what are you DOING here in -- in the middle of NOWHERE?

ALPHEA

WHAT ARE YOU??

BORIS

I'm ME.

ALPHEA

No - I'M me! I'm Alpheia.

BORIS

I'm Boris!

ALPHEA

What ARE you?

BORIS

I'm a -- I'm a --

[MUSIC CUE: (Underscore) Lush, Golden Cage theme

(BORIS looks up and sees the cage for the first time)

Woah!

ALPHEA

Woah - what??

BORIS

Woah... Woah!!

#6A&B - Golden Cage Reprise & Let Me Explain (Alphea & Boris)

[MP3] 06A&B - Golden Cage Reprise & Let Me Explain (Alphea & Boris) GC-2020 [12:11 →]

(BORIS)

THE GOLDEN CAGE
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(The music changes dramatically and becomes over-the-top operatic recitative)

ALPHEA

YOU!
MISTER WHATEVER-YOUR-NAME IS
LET ME EXPLAIN SOME OF YOUR RIGHTS!
AND THE FIRST ONE IS

... is that this ledge is unreachable, insurmountable, remote, hidden --

(BORIS races around the cage -- looking, touching)

BORIS

(Underscored Lush music) I found it!!!

ALPHEA

Stop! *(Underscore stops abruptly)* Nobody can reach this ledge.

BORIS

(Underscored Lush music) I FOUND it!!!

[13:04 ←]

ALPHEA

Nobody could possibly be here! We're 500,000 feet in the air on the edge of sheer, granite cliff. The icecaps form at 20,000 feet. At 40,000 feet you have to fight the flesh-eating dragons.

(BORIS crawls up onto the cage, exploring it - and ALPHEA watches him and hurls her words wherever he crawls).

BORIS

I FOUND IT!!!

ALPHEA

At 50,000 feet there's so much snow that even snowmen get lost. At 60,000 feet nostrils freeze on the first breath. At 70,000 feet it starts to get hotter. So hot that -

BORIS

Where's the door?

ALPHEA

It gets so hot that eyeballs melt. At 80,000 feet the floods begin. At 90,000 feet -

BORIS

How do you get in?

ALPHEA

You're not even listening to me.

BORIS

Do you need a key or something? Where do you put it?

ALPHEA

Wait a minute... I've read about this ... *(She races back to the book and leafs madly to a page)* "Extensive time alone may breed hallucinations."

Wait .. you're just a figment of MY imagination. Well, then pay attention to me. I'm a prisoner here for five gazillion years, some figment finally shows up and can't even carry on a decent conversation. Tell me how you got here.

BORIS

Well, I was just -- I was just trying to figure that out.

(Lush underscoring) But it doesn't matter anymore. I'm here. I'm here! *(underscoring ends)* How did YOU got here?

ALPHEA

I ... I ... don't remember HOW. I've always been here. I'm just *here*. But YOU just got here. The only way you could possibly get through the icecaps, the floods, the snow, the dragons is if ... if ...

BORIS

I flew.

ALPHEA

(ALPHEA races back and leaps through the book)

“With aggressive delusions, you may be better off pretending they’re true.” So ... you flew.

BORIS

Of course. I’m a birdman - like you. *(He peers through the bars)* What species are you, anyway?

(ALPHEA is stunned for a split-second, she cocks her head to look at BORIS, who cocks his head to look at her, they peer at each other, shifting their heads like birds)

ALPHEA

I’m not a birdman.

BORIS

OK, fine, fine - I get it you’re a bird-woman.

ALPHEA

I’m NOT a birdperson

BORIS

You’re not a birdperson. You’re NOT a birdperson. And you’re here. Inside the cage.

[MUSIC CUE: Here I Am (Alphea & Boris)

ALPHEA

I know I’m inside the cage! You don’t have to rub it in!