

PILOT
LEGENDS OF UMBRIA 1X01

Written by

Lucas Immanuel

Created by

Lucas Immanuel

EXT. THE RAINFOREST AT UMBRIA'S EDGE - DAY

Sprinting. A powerful orange blur thunders through the brush. It skids to a stop, angelic music swirls: it's KAPLAN, Tigress protector of Umbria. She roars! From her back three children in battle worn medieval armor. The eldest, CARLOS (13) examines a parchment map. The middle LILY (9) sheaths a broadsword and begins to clear the brush. The youngest, ARTHUR(6) cradles the unconscious ferret MEEKMICHEEP, a miniature cape and rapier in his hand. Arthur places Meekmicheep on Kaplan's back.

ARTHUR
(to Meekmicheep)
Good bye little friend.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)
Will he be okay?

Kaplan speaks softly and powerfully.

KAPLAN
Meekmicheep has fought bravely for Umbria. He will be sad to have missed the farewell. But he will live.

Lily gasps; beyond the brush she uncovers a WOODEN DOOR sandwiched between two trees. She turns back to Kaplan.

LILY
The door...

CARLOS
Mom and Dad.

ARTHUR
Home.

Carlos turns.

CARLOS
(to Kaplan)
It's our last time here, isn't it?
In Umbria?

KAPLAN
Yes, my child. Defeating the dark witch taught each of you what you needed. It is time for Umbria to serve another, and another to serve it.

Kaplan pads over to Lily.

KAPLAN (CONT'D)

Lady Lily the Wise. You learned knowledge and integrity in the face of danger. May your guidance be a light to those around you.

To Carlos.

KAPLAN (CONT'D)

Sir Carlos the Noble, your bravery in defending your siblings sets you apart from all others. May you keep your courage, for all of our sakes.

Finally to Arthur.

KAPLAN (CONT'D)

And Sir Arthur the Kind. You have found compassion for all that live in Umbria and beyond. May you bring joy everlasting.

The kids are chocked up, each give Kaplan s heartfelt hug, who nuzzles them back...

...and then finally they turn to the door.

CARLOS

Are we ready?

Lily and Arthur nod, as Carlos opens the door.

FADE TO WHITE.

INT. OFFICE - MORNING

The words of the previous scene fade in, forming the page of a book. It closes, revealing the reader: an older ARTHUR (35) who places it beside six other volumes, each reading LEGENDS of UMBRIA with various subtitles.

A Title Card: **29 years later, present day**

On Arthur's desk: a contract, eight inches thick, from GENERIC STREAMING COMPANY. Sitting across from him is an EXECUTIVE, plastic smile barely hiding smug victory.

ARTHUR

I just don't understand the point.
Peter's films-

EXECUTIVE

Those films were inaccurate to your original story. Your childhood fantasies turned books were constrained by the film format.

The executive slides the contract.

EXECUTIVE (CONT'D)

Just sign it Arthur.

Arthur flips through the contract, finally hovering at the signature page. His pen drips ink onto the page. After a sigh he bites the bullet and **signs**.

The Executive scoops the contract and hands it to a CRONY behind him, who returns a file folder. The Executive places it on Arthur's desk.

EXECUTIVE (CONT'D)

The current draft of the pilot. Remember Arthur, you signed an NDA so no sharing, no matter how excited you are!

The suits file out.

ARTHUR

(to himself)

As if...

Arthur opens the folder and LIGHTS A CIGARETTE. At top a note: "By reading this you forfeit all creative control and license rights herein". Arthur groans. He tucks the folder in his coat when the phone rings: caller ID: "**Dad**". Arthur stamps the cigarette and composes himself.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Hey Dad. What's Up?

DAD

(on phone)

Hey son, I haven't been able to reach Carlos. You talked to him?

ARTHUR

Dad you know what he's like, he's probably-

EXT. SKYSCRAPER - AFTERNOON

CARLOS

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHH!

Carlos (32) plummets down the side of the Skyscraper! Clad in an insectoid FLY COSTUME, antenna dangling, hands duct taped to plungers, he flails wildly. Below the falling Carlos a CLEANER opens a window, squeegees it spotless. Desperately Carlos sticks his hand to it. **It grips!**... leaving a filthy smear. The cleaner glowers.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Tell me you got that on camera Pam!

Up above PAMELA (27), fly costumed and holding a phone to video and gives a thumbs up.

PAMELA

Human Fly strikes again!

The phone rings. Caller ID: "**Mom**".

PAMELA (CONT'D)

Carlos, it's your Mom!

She answers the phone and throws it down. Carlos catches it with his free suction cup.

CARLOS

Hey Ma!

DAD

(on phone)

It's your Dad Carlos. I borrowed your mother's phone.

CARLOS

(disappointed)

Oh...

(to Cleaner)

Could you push the end call button for me?

The cleaner glares and finishes wiping the smudge.

DAD

Wait listen son! I know you and I aren't on the best of terms but it's your mom's birthday tonight.

CARLOS

Hmmph.

DAD

If you come I promise I won't make a scene...

CARLOS

Uh-huh

DAD

And... you can have the bike.

Carlos loses his grip and resumes falling! He catches a second pane to which the Cleaner, now a floor below, groans exasperatedly.

CARLOS

W-what!? Little Red?

DAD

I'm too old to drive her now, and your Mom doesn't exactly want me on it. I know it's hard to come back but I hope-

CARLOS

(to Phone)

I'll be there Dad!

(to Pamela)

Pam let's get out of here!

An awkwardly long pause.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Dad you're gonna have to hang up my arms are full.

INT. CRIME SCENE - LATE AFTERNOON

Camera flashes! Police tape! Fingerprinting! Lily (36), decked in full CSI gear dusts for prints. Above her PARTNER (28) shines a flashlight.

PARTNER

I just don't understand why you don't want the job. Better pay, easier work, a comfy chair.

LILY

I'm needed here. And besides if I leave you get stuck with some idiot who makes you get coffee every day.

PARTNER

You do make me get coffee.

LILY

Not every day.

Her partner gestures to the officers in charge, chatting inaudibly.

PARTNER

All I'm saying is they made you,
but you don't need them.

Her phone rings. Caller ID: Dad.

LILY

Maybe.

CUT TO:

EXT. FREEWAY - EARLY EVENING

Lily speeds down the highway, the city melting into forested countryside. Her phone is buckled in the passenger seat.

DAD

(on phone)

Hahaha. I should go Lily. When will
you be here?

LILY

On my way right now Dad.

DAD

Everything ok? It's unfortunate the
days line up...

LILY

I'll be fine Dad. I just hope that
Mom likes the gift I got her.

A landscape appears, showing the adorable scenic cottage: MOM
AND DAD'S HOUSE.

DAD

(sarcastic)

Hahaha, I'm sure she'll never guess
what it is.

EXT. MOM AND DAD'S - DUSK

We zoom past Lily to Pamela and Carlos, who pull into the sprawling gravel driveway slowly. The house lights are off.

INT. PAM AND CARLOS' CAR - SAME

CARLOS
Headlights off! Headlights off!

They go dark.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
Ok here's the plan. I go inside,
talk about the weather and whatever
garbage, and get out of here as
quickly as humanly possible.
Meanwhile you sneak into the garage
and get Little Red ready to go.

PAMELA
I don't like being your lackey
Carlos.

CARLOS
You got a better plan?

Carlos unbuckles and starts to step out.

PAMELA
Why not just wait for your Dad to
give you the bike?

CARLOS
Because my family are jer- hey hey
hey!

He notices that:

EXT. MOM AND DAD'S

Arthur has arrived.

ARTHUR
Carlos?

CARLOS
Haha, yeah.

He frantically gestures for Pamela to sneak to the garage.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
What up? Still doing the whole
writing thing Arthur?

He playfully daps Arthur's shoulder.

ARTHUR

I don't believe it. I mean why? Dad didn't promise you something stupid like-

CARLOS

Psssh- no.

Lily pulls up and steps out as **a wave of realization crosses Arthur**. In the background Pamela barely slips into the garage before Arthur turns to point to it.

ARTHUR

He promised you the stupid motorcycle, didn't he?!

CARLOS

No, c'mon.

LILY

What's happening?

ARTHUR

Arthur's here!

LILY

Wait did Dad promise him the stupid motorcycle?

ARTHUR

He did!

CARLOS

Pssh, no he didn't.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Ok fine! Yes Dad promised me Little Red. **But!** I was gonna go anyway.

LILY

Uh-huh.

CARLOS

And! I got Mom a gift.

Carlos holds up a gift box. It's wrapped... inelegantly.

ARTHUR

This time.

LILY

Have you even been to this house?

CARLOS

Well I mean-

Lily raises her hands.

LILY
Let's... just go inside.

ARTHUR
Agreed.

CARLOS
Agreed.

INT. GARAGE - NIGHT

Pamela slinks into the garage where a cherry red hog sits:
LITTLE RED. She smiles.

INT. HOUSE ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Lily unlocks the door, creaking open in the dark.

LILY
Uh... Mom? Dad?

ARTHUR
Where are they?

Carlos pushes past the younger siblings.

CARLOS
The geezers can't have gone far.
I'll check upstairs.

He starts walking to the left. The others shake their heads.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
It's the other way, isn't it.

ARTHUR
There's no upstairs here Carlos.

INT. GARAGE

Pam searches for the keys to the bike but can't find them.
Exasperated she flips the kickstand and starts wheeling it
out.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Lily sweeps the room. On the mantle are a dozen pitch black
picture frames. She pushes a button on one, and a family
photo lights: it's DIGITAL. The photo has the siblings as
kids in medieval costumes, their parents clearly bemused.
Lily places an identically rectangular wrapped gift to the
right in a conspicuous gap.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Carlos finds covers strewn on the ground, a large circular dent in the floorboards.

CARLOS
(to self)
What on earth...

ARTHUR
(off screen)
Uhhh guys? Get in here!

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The others enter; Arthur stands awestruck. Standing in the kitchen: the door through which they left Umbria now attached to their fridge.

CARLOS
What is- wait

LILY
Is that-

Arthur pulls the executive's script out of his coat.

ARTHUR
(reads)
Interior. Kitchen. Day. The three children find an ornate wooden door pulsating glowing light.
(to the others)
But we made that up as kids.

LILY
And it clearly was a ripoff of Chron-

CARLOS
How is it here? Is this like... stunt marketing?

ARTHUR
No... I think

Arthur goes to open the door but Lily steps in the way.

LILY
Wow, hold on. Don't be stupid.

CARLOS

What if it's fake and a bomb or something.

ARTHUR

What if it's *real*.

He turns

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

What if we can go back! To Umbria! Don't you remember, when things were better? Don't you want to go back to that?

The other siblings hesitate.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

I'm gonna try.

Arthur turns the knob. Brilliant white light bathes the siblings, the kitchen, and spills out to:

EXT. DRIVEWAY

Pam has wheeled the motorcycle out. The light practically blinds her.

PAMELA

What on earth-

INT. KITCHEN

Light and Sound build and build... then cease. Beyond the door: the inside of the fridge.

ARTHUR

I guess-

A GUST sucks out the back of the fridge! Beyond: a forested expanse! The suction drags items from the kitchen, the living room, everything in! The siblings clutch to walls to hold on but they're slipping. From the living room the digital picture frames get dragged through. Outside Pamela and Little Red are sucked inside too, crashing through the window and the into the fridge!

CARLOS

Pam!

PAMELA

CAAAAAaaarrlllloooooossss!

Arthur, then Lily, and finally Carlos are sucked through. The Fridge slams shut. Quiet. **Title Card.**

EXT. RAINFOREST - DAY

Carlos skids to a halt just short of a cliff. His siblings lie around, Lily picks up a non-broken picture frame, Carlos gathers food from the fridge. Below the cliff, Pamela and the motorcycle have fallen.

EXT. BELOW THE CLIFF - DAY

Pamela recovers herself and picks up the bike.

PAMELA
(shouting)
Carlos, you ok?

CARLOS
(distant)
Yeah! Is Little Red?

PAMELA
What about m-

A shadow grows over her. "Standing" there is a human sized, green, disembodied HAND. It walks on fingers like legs. The monster rears up!

EXT. RAINFOREST

PAMELA
(distant)
AAAAAAAAAAHHHHH!

CARLOS
Little Red!

The trio sprint the cliff edge. Distantly Pamela and the motorcycle are tight in the grip of the hand. Arthur catches a glimpse.

LILY
You brought your girlfriend with you?!

CARLOS
Did you know we'd be coming here?!

The siblings reach a vista: Umbria in full splendor... they shake off awe and head down a path only for a TRAP to catch all three, suspending them upside down from the tree above! In the distance Pamela and the bike are dragged into a cave.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Pam!

LILY

Well just great.

From the canopy dozens of ferrets descend. They climb over the siblings, examining them before congregating beneath. The three spit ferret hair, and recover just in time for the creatures to blow bugles, heralding a THRONE with a wisened MEEKMICHEEP.

ARTHUR

Meekmicheep?

FERRET 1

Silence witch-spawn! You dare speak the king's name!

FERRET 2

What manor of wizardry...

The ferret pokes a stick at Lily. The digital picture frame falls and sticks in the ground, activating. The family photo appears. The rats gasp; Meekmicheep laughs.

MEEKMICHEEP

Sir Arthur, Sir Carlos, and Lady Lily. I thought I recognized you. Welcome back to Umbria.

EXT. FERRET VILLAGE - DAY

The furry populace parts as the human trio follow Meekmicheep's envoy.

MEEKMICHEEP

In the years of your absence we have built a community in this valley. All based off the ideals you taught us.

A ferret hands them thimbles of orange liquid.

MEEKMICHEEP (CONT'D)

Our village's top alchemists have spent years to recreate the Hi-C you spoke of. We hope you find it pleasing.

The siblings' gaging betrays they don't. The group arrives at:

INT. MEEKMICHEEP'S HUT - DAY

They sit. Meekmicheep waives off his advisors.

MEEKMICHEEP

In the years you three were here in Umbria you taught us much of your world. Anything we can do that you've returned it shall be done. But I must ask: why have you returned. Did not Kaplan decree the last visit your final?

LILY

We have the same question.

MEEKMICHEEP

I see. There must be a reason. It's been so long, many of our youngest no longer believe in Earth. In you.

ARTHUR

So it's true, we're really back... in Umbria.

MEEKMICHEEP

The feeling is mutual.

CARLOS

Hate to interrupt the bromance here but my girlfriend and my motorcycle got kidnapped by that hand thing and-

MEEKMICHEEP

A hand?

LILY

Big green hand, about a meter and a half tall. Ran off into the nearby cave.

MEEKMICHEEP

Then she is already dead.

EXT. STAINED GLASS TOWER - NIGHT

The tower spirals to the sky, blotted by a fierce purple thunderstorm. A bridge extends from the base, across which the hand carries Pamela and the Motorcycle.

MEEKMICHEEP

(v.o.)

What you describe is a Yesil.
Cursed minion servant of the Dark Witch. Your friend would be in the glass tower south of here by now. Inside an impermeable orb, only destructible by killing the Yesil and through which only non-living things can pass.

INT. MEEKMICHEEP'S HUT

MEEKMICHEEP

Tomorrow they'll transport her to the Witch's lair.

ARTHUR

But if all this is real we defeated the Witch. Lily stabbed her through the heart.

MEEKMICHEEP

She has a successor. Her progeny.

LILY

So we did nothing.

MEEKMICHEEP

You brought peace to Umbria for many moons. But with the brightest light comes the strongest shadow. It was inevitable a new tyrant would rise. Usually Kaplan sends us new champions, children of your world, but we haven't seen her since you left.

CARLOS

Are they going to kill Pamela?

MEEKMICHEEP

If she's lucky. If not, she'll become one of the witch's minions.

CARLOS

Then she's gone.

Carlos storms out the tent. Lily follows.

EXT. FERRET VILLAGE

Carlos fast walks, Lily chasing behind.

LILY
Wait!

Carlos doesn't respond, she catches up and grabs his shirt.

LILY (CONT'D)
Wait.

CARLOS
I'm going home.

LILY
Carlos, Pamela is still-

CARLOS
Not my problem.

LILY
You have a chance-

CARLOS
She got herself in this mess. Don't care.

LILY
You will Carlos.

A beat.

LILY (CONT'D)
Trust me.

INT. MEEKMICHEEP'S HUT

Meekmicheep shuffles over to Arthur. He places a hand on Arthur's face.

MEEKMICHEEP
You look terrible Arthur.

Arthur laughs.

ARTHUR
So do you.

They sit back. Arthur chokes up.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I never got to say
goodbye. We were friends for so
many years that when you got
knocked out... I never could figure
out what to say, even in the books.

MEEKMICHEEP

Books?

Arthur pulls out the script.

ARTHUR

I wrote a book about our adventure.
Well books. Popular enough it's
getting some adaptation by some
hotshot Hollywood writer.

He chuckles and hands the script to Meekmicheep, who flips
through.

MEEKMICHEEP

You remembered all this?

The other two siblings return.

LILY

We're gonna get this idiot's
girlfriend, you in?

She thumbs at Carlos.

CARLOS

Just like the old days.

Meekmicheep hold up the script. Arthur's words mimic it.

ARTHUR

Yeah... Yeah. Let's do this.

ARTHUR

(on the page)
Yeah... Yeah. Let's do this.

EXT. TOWER OVERLOOK - NIGHT

The siblings and Meekmicheep lie belly down, passing a
spyglass between themselves.

MEEKMICHEEP

The first thing you all need to
know is that the tower is tall.

EXT. TOWER - NIGHT

An omnipotent view of the tower.

MEEKMICHEEP

(v.o.)

500 feet of stained glass just to reach the bridge, another 200 in the tower itself.

EXT. BASE OF THE TOWER - NIGHT OF THE INFILTRATION

The siblings stand at the base of the tower.

ARTHUR

(v.o.)

So we need to get up somehow *without* being spotted.

CARLOS

(v.o.)

Sounds like a time for-

The siblings grip plungers and put on black costumes.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

(v.o.)

The HUMAN FLY!

INT. PLANNING HUT - DAY

LILY

Do you even have your stuff?

Sheepishly Carlos reveals the outfit superman style under his shirt, and unwraps his gift for Mom: two Human fly suits.

ARTHUR

Were you going to expect Mom and Dad to-

CARLOS

They're hard to shop for!

EXT. TOWER - NIGHT OF THE INFILTRATION

The trio scale the tower.

EXT. BRIDGE - NIGHT

Speeding glimpse at the bridge leads into:

INT. TOWER - NIGHT OF THE INFILTRATION

The three bust down the door, a mess of stairs and doors lie within.

MEEKMICHEEP

(v.o.)

Thankfully we're far from the Witch's domain, so your Yesil is probably the only one there. But the glass spires are labyrinths, you'll need some way to track it. Somewhere within, your friends is in that orb.

LILY

(v.o.)

A Yesil is just a big hand, right?

Lily reaches into an extinguished TORCH POST. She takes some ASH and spreads it on the ground, revealing a massive FINGERPRINT. The trio dungeon crawl, scattering ash as they go and following the fingerprints.

INT. REST HUT - NIGHT

Arthur lies down and closes his eyes. The hut flap opens, Meekmicheep carrying two thimbles of liquid.

MEEKMICHEEP

You awake?

Arthur sits up.

MEEKMICHEEP (CONT'D)

I realized you're old enough now.

ARTHUR

Oh I can't. Been sober for 6 years.

Arthur goes to light a cigarette, which Meekmicheep looks at skeptically. He sighs and throws it away. Meekmicheep tosses the thimbles too, sits and nods at the open script.

MEEKMICHEEP

I was reading that this morning. They really butchered my character.

ARTHUR

I haven't actually read through to be honest.

Meekmicheep goes to the script.

MEEKMICHEEP

Ahem. "The rugged Rodent raises his rapier to the sky. 'Scrapideep is my name, and I'm the greatest pirate this land has yet seen!"

Both laugh until their sides hurt.

ARTHUR

(through crying laughter)
Why did they change your name?!

MEEKMICHEEP

I have no idea!

The laughter subsides. Meekmicheep flips to the end.

MEEKMICHEEP (CONT'D)

Bit I also saw, the final battle ends differently...

ARTHUR

Really?

MEEKMICHEEP

Well it turns out I had a trick up my sleeve, and I blindsided the witch. I don't get knocked out.

He looks up.

MEEKMICHEEP (CONT'D)

They wrote the goodbye.

Meekmicheep hands Arthur the script.

MEEKMICHEEP (CONT'D)

I was wondering... could you read it?

Arthur smiles.

INT. TOWER - NIGHT OF THE INFILTRATION

The siblings follow the trail of the Yesil.

ARTHUR

(v.o.)

"The rat, or rather *ferret* looks up tears in his eyes. The boy kneels down, pets him, and speaks softly. 'Goodbye friend. In all my time in Umbria you were my truest companion.'"

INT. TOWER DEPTHS - NIGHT OF THE INFILTRATION

The siblings reach an ominous hallway, lined with torches.

ARTHUR

(v.o.)

"I'm going home for good. It hurts me as much as you. But I know that your adventures will continue. Years and years will pass, when I'm old and gray, I will know that here, in this land beyond mine, *Meekmicheep* still slays dragons."

The siblings arrive at massive double doors.

LILY

Everyone remember the plan?

CARLOS

Let's get back Pam!

ARTHUR

"And the *ferret* replies"

MEEKMICHEEP

"You're gonna kick the world's ass."

They throw open the doors.

INT. YESIL'S LAIR - NIGHT OF THE INFILTRATION

Dust clears. The room is illuminated by a glowing translucent orb, within sits Pamela and the Motorcycle. Carlos sprints up.

CARLOS

Pam!

PAMELA

Carlos!

CARLOS

Oh thank goodness you're all right!

PAMELA

You all need to get out of here,
it'll be back any second-

BOOM. From dark of the ceiling falls the Yesil. It roars, Lily and Arthur charge! Carlos talks to Pamela but he's looking away.

CARLOS

Ok it worked.

PAMELA

What?

CARLOS

We need Little Red. Can you push it out?

PAMELA

No, no! You're here to rescue me!

The Yesil and younger siblings clash. They're holding it back but not for long.

CARLOS

I am, but we need the motorcycle!

PAMELA

Of all the lousy, no good,
underhanded, scummy-

Carlos finally looks at Pamela.

CARLOS

Pam I know. I'm sorry. Please.

Pamela hesitates, and then sighs.

PAMELA

My mom was right you know.

She pushes the bike through the permeable membrane of the orb. Carlos smiles, then wheels the bike. He opens the gas tank and stuffs the screenplay, rolled up, inside.

CARLOS

(to Arthur)

Now!

The other siblings retreat. Arthur uses his lighter and sets fire to the script. The Yesil is charging as they roll the bike towards it.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
I gotta *hand* it to you Yesil.

The bike reaches the Yesil. The Script reaches the end of its fuse.

CARLOS (CONT'D)
Your look on a scale of 1 to 6 is
at least a *high five*.

The bike EXPLODES taking the Yesil with it! Where it was, a large hole streams light into the lair. Pamela is freed from the orb, the perpetual thunderstorm gives way to dawn.

All four look to the horizon, the full Umbria lying ahead. A beat. Then, the corpse of the Yesil twitches, and then groans and then a low voice grumbles from it.

VOICE
Ha. Hah. Ha. Ha...

PAMELA
Is it still alive?

VOICE
After all this time. Kaplan sends
you.

LILY
Who are you?

A magical energy lifts from the hand. It forms a swirling PORTAL. Beyond are two adult humans. MOM and DAD.

PAMELA
Who are those people?

CARLOS
Those are our parents.

The viewfinder pulls out, showing their parents are trapped at the center of Umbria.

VOICE
See you soon.

CUT TO BLACK.