

LARKIN'S MAGIC & HAIR SERVICE

When a local down-on-his-luck Barber is summoned by a tiny red bird, sent by the Prince, for an emergency hair cut; he and his fairy must travel the land to get to the castle for a rendezvous with royalty.

START ON BLACK:

TAPPING CAN BE HEARD.

CUT TO:

INT. COTTAGE. MORNING.

A tiny red bird is tapping on the window to the cottage.

Three little fairies flutter up in the middle of the small cottage and look at the window. The three of them are all female, their wings flap quickly and their movement are almost otherworldly. One of the fairies, CATELINE, is flying above the other two, she is the leader of the trio. The other two, MALLE and EDA, flutter below her and look at her for guidance. Cateline turns and looks over at a straw bed against the further wall and flies over as the tiny red bird continues to tapping.

Cateline flies over to a man lying on the straw bed, LARKIN, and he sits up in his bed. He swats away at Cateline and she shrugs him off but hovers, safely, right behind him. He places his feet on the floor and sighs as a wine bladder topples onto the floor.

The tiny bird continues to tap on the window, annoying Larkin.

LARKIN

All right, all right, you blasted
bird.

Malle and Eda flutter over to pick up the bladder as Larkin stands up, with Cateline by his side, they move toward the window.

The small cottage is neatly picked up, thank goodness for those fairies. There is a chair in one corner with a mirror in front of it. A few combs and scissors neatly placed in holders along with a tip jar with some coins in it.

LARKIN (CONT'D)

If I meet the demon that created
those infernal Chirps.

Larkin makes it to the window and opens it, the latch falls off.

Cateline sighs and she places her hands together and rubs them as if warming them up, puts her hands out toward the broken latch and closes her eyes as an aura appears around the latch. The broken piece lifts itself up and floats to the window and reattaches itself, fixing the window.

The tiny red bird hops into the cottage and opens its mouth.

RED BIRD

(in Prince Talon's voice)

Larkin, this is your Prince, Prince Talon, no need to kneel, I am not in your presence and you may do so at a later time.

Larkin rolls his eyes as Cateline shakes her head.

RED BIRD (CONT'D)

I only have so many words to fill this message with so I will not continue to bore you. Your skills as a barber are needed immediately. My regular barber has been injured in a battle with a troll. I will pay you handsom-

The message is cut off and the tiny red bird turns and flies away.

Larkin sighs as Cateline snaps her fingers at Malle and Eda. They quickly fly over to a drawer, open it, and pull out a small rectangular stone. Their combined strength lifts the stone up as they fly over to Larkin and place the stone in his hand. It fits nicely in his hand, we can call this an "aCorn VIEWING STONE". On the back is a logo of an acorn

Larkin swipes the stone revealing an image of a tiny red bird as Cateline hides behind him and peers over his shoulder. He pushes on the image and smoke appears to come out of the stone and a new tiny red bird materializes out of the smoke. The smoke dissipates as the bird completely takes form and looks up at Larkin.

LARKIN

Direct Message.

The red bird chirps and turns its head.

LARKIN (CONT'D)

Prince Talon, this is Larkin, the barber. I will be there shortly.

Larkin waves his hand and the tiny red bird flutters away chirping as it flies away and out the window.

LARKIN (CONT'D)

Looks like I'm getting out of the house today, Gracie.

Cateline blinks and looks at Larkin as there is a pause as he waits for a response. We hear a female voice, this is Gracie.

GRACIE

Sounds exciting...

Larkin turns away as Malle and Eda shut the window. He places the Viewing Stone in the air, as if Malle and Eda are going to grab it but they are busy and Cateline rushes to grab it before it falls to the ground. The weight of the View Stone takes her down almost to the ground and she struggles to save it from falling on the floor. Malle and Eda hurry over and help. They place the Viewing Stone back in the cupboard.

Cateline looks up and sees Larkin walking over to his work station. She snaps her fingers and the three fairies rush over to Larkin as he begins to sit down on nothing. They get to him just in time as Malle and Eda pull a stool right underneath of him. He sits on the stool and drags an open black leather bag closer to him.

Larkin reaches into the bag and pulls out a few hair cutting shears. He looks around and looking for something. Cateline realizes what he is looking for and rushes under his bed and pulls out a metal stone. He takes the stone and proceeds to sharpen the shears.

He pauses, grabs a comb and pretends to comb someone's hair; he pulls a strand of invisible hair and proceeds to snip at it with the scissors. Satisfied, he goes back to sharpening the shears.

EXT. LARKIN'S COTTAGE. MORNING.

Larkin walks out of his cottage with Cateline flying out as Larkin shuts the door, she almost doesn't make it through.

As Larkin walks away from his cottage, Cateline turns to look at Malle and Eda staring at her through the window. They both hold each other as if not sure when, or if, they would see her.

Barely hanging off of the side of the front is a sign that reads: "LARKIN'S MAGIC & HAIR SERVICE". Larkin himself is dressed well. He is holding onto his black leather bag and a saddle.

A tiny red bird shoots right by over head, talking like another person. Larkin ignores this.

It happens again with another bird flying in a different direction with a different voice. This happens every so often.

A TROLL waddles over towards Larkin, the Troll has a raspy voice but is uncannily friendly.

TROLL
Good morning, Larkin.

The Troll takes the saddle and continues to waddle in front of Larkin as they walk towards a gray horse that is tied up to a fence. Cateline is keeping up with them.

The Troll begins to put the saddle on the horse.

GRACIE
Do you know the way?

LARKIN
I do.

The Troll ignores Larkin and continues to saddle the horse.

GRACIE
Wouldn't want to get us lost.

The Troll finishes putting the saddle on the horse and takes Larkin's black leather bag and secures it to the saddle.

LARKIN
I won't get us lost.

Cateline investigates the black leather bag and approves. She nods to the Troll.

GRACIE
Not like the last time.

Larkin places his foot in one stirrup and lifts himself onto the horse.

LARKIN
Gracie, don't you worry...

The Troll nods to Cateline as Larkin and the horse begin to ride into the village. She stays right by his shoulder as another tiny red bird glides right by Larkin and is also ignored.

EXT. VILLAGE. MORNING.

Larkin, his horse and Cateline ride through the village. It is early morning, but all the business owners are up and working as more tiny red birds shoot by every so often, some talking like a person and others are silent.

The BAKER is working diligently in his BAKERY, he has a few fairies floating around, males and females, some are helping to kneed dough, others are putting the breads on display, a few others are helping to frost a cake.

One of the male fairies sees Cateline, waves at her and the baker sees this.

BAKER

HEY! What am I paying you for?

The male fairy looks at the Baker and takes a spatula full of frosting and slaps it across the Baker's face. The Baker is enraged and begins to chase the male fairy. The other fairies see this continue to decorate the cake very quickly.

At the ALEHOUSE, BIPEDAL ANIMALS are arguing as they walk out. An OGRE, with a terrible under-bite, pushes the last of the animals, a PIG, out through the door.

OGRE

I don't want to see a single one of you again. Now get out of here!

PIG

Make me!

The Ogre starts to go after the Pig and the other animals all gang up on the Ogre.

Larkin just keeps going, ignoring this as they proceed forward. Cateline hides behind Larkin on the opposite side of his body to shield herself.

Next up, towards the end of the main dirt road leading out of the village, is a small STABLE with a sign that says: "Blacksmith: The Lands Only Domesticated Unicorns". There are a number of horses tied up and feeding. There is also a unicorn among the horses.

The BLACKSMITH walks over with another unicorn and ties it up to the post as Larkin, his horse and Cateline pass right by and towards the forest.

There is a sign post: Forever Forest

EXT. FOREVER FOREST. MORNING.

Larkin, the horse and Cateline are on a dirt path, in the distance are ELVES that are chasing each other throwing mushrooms and acorns at one another.

They come across a tree with thousands of voices. Larkin looks up as Cateline cowers and hides under Larkin's arm. The tree is filled with thousands of tiny red birds. They all have a different voice and are all saying something different. More and more tiny red bird continue to fly to this tree. This must be where messages go to die.

A beautiful Nymph is talking as she stands by a tree. Her skin is a greenish tint, her hair is a dark mossy color and her eyes are a stunning emerald color. Her body is covered by leaves in all the appropriate places. She turns to look at Larkin and smiles at him, but he just ignores her. The horse just keeps walking forward.

The Nymph begins to turn to walk towards Larkin and Cateline swoops over to her shaking her head and waving her hands no. Insulted, the Nymph turns away as the TREE she was talking to opens its mouth that we didn't know was there and angrily snaps at Cateline trying to eat her.

Cateline flutters away to catch up to Larkin.

GRACIE

We're making the next right.

LARKIN

I know the way.

The horse makes the next right out of the forest.

EXT. FIELD. MID-MORNING.

Larkin, the horse and Cateline exit the forest and continue into a field of wheat, there is a path that runs through the field heading right towards a castle in the distance.

As they are walking through the path there are DWARVES harvesting the wheat. In the distance there is a GIANT collecting bundles of wheat.

EXT. CASTLE TALON. MID-DAY.

Larkin, the horse and Cateline finally make it to Castle Talon.

GRACIE

Looks a lot bigger than I remember.

There are two GUARDS at the entrance, the portcullis is down, GUARD #1 points to a sign.

GUARD #1

Can't you read?

The sign says: No Fairies Beyond This Point

GUARD #2

Can't very well bring a magical creature like a Fairy in to see the Prince now can we?

Larkin looks at Cateline and she nods and flies off and sits on a small stone.

LARKIN

I guess we can't.

GRACIE

Also not as nice either...

The portcullis opens up and the Guards get out of the way as Larkin and his horse wander into the castle's courtyard.

Cateline looks over to see Larkin enter into the castle as she sighs and hangs her head.

INT. CASTLE TALON-COURTYARD. MID-DAY.

Larkin and his horse are in the courtyard as a few other guards and Jay, Prince Talon's helper, walk to them.

JAY

Larkin I presume.

Larkin leaps off of his horse and onto the ground.

LARKIN

Yes sir.

Larkin grabs the black leather bag as a Guard takes the reigns of Larkin's horse.

JAY

My name is Jay.

Jay pulls out a Viewing Stone and shows it to Larkin.

JAY (CONT'D)

You come highly recommended as a barber. You have some of the best reviews I could have hoped for. The Prince is in dire need of a hair cut.

Jay motions the way and Larkin follows him as they proceed to enter the castle's keep.

INT. CASTLE TALON-KEEP. MID-DAY.

They enter into the main portion of the castle and into a hallway.

JAY

What did we do before aCorn created the Viewing Stones?

LARKIN

We lived.

JAY

Come on, Larkin, get with the times.

They continue walking.

JAY (CONT'D)

Although, I will say that last update left a lot to be desired. The magic took about a day to reach my Stone.

Jay looks back at Larkin expecting a better reaction but Larkin doesn't budge on his stance. There is a chirping sound on Jay's Viewing Stone.

JAY (CONT'D)

Oh look, I received a Chirp.

Jay presses on the Viewing Stone and creates a tiny red bird and it flies off.

RED BIRD

(with Jay's voice)

This guy Larkin is a piece of work!

The tiny red bird continues to repeat itself until we can no longer hear it.

JAY

Oh, please ignore that.

Larkin rolls his eyes and stays silent as Jay continues to lead the way into a door leading into the castle's keep.

EXT. CASTLE TALON. MID-DAY.

Cateline is sitting on the small stone, kicking a piece of grass, looking quite bored.

INT. CASTLE TALON-BALLROOM. MID-DAY.

Jay ushers Larkin and the guards into a massive ballroom. There is a chair in the middle of the room and in the far distance is Prince Talon staring at himself in a huge mirror holding strands of hair and measuring their lengths.

JAY

Your majesty, I would like to present to you--

Prince Talon turns around and rushes over to Larkin.

PRINCE TALON

No need to kneel. Is this him?

Prince Talon quickly runs up to Larkin with two separate strands of his hair.

LARKIN

My name is Larkin, I am a--

PRINCE TALON

My hair is out of control. Look LOOK!

Prince Talon shows Larking both strands of hair.

PRINCE TALON (CONT'D)

Don't you see? Clearly this one is longer than the rest and I simply cannot have this.

Prince Talon rushes over to the chair and sits down.

PRINCE TALON (CONT'D)

You may begin.

The Prince closes his eyes and leans back in the chair as Larking places the black leather bag on the ground, opens it, he takes out a comb and a pair of scissors. He bends over to begin cutting Prince Talon's hair and upon hearing the snipping of the scissors Prince Talon jumps up screaming.

PRINCE TALON (CONT'D)

NO!

Larkin jumps back.

PRINCE TALON (CONT'D)

Jay. This isn't a barber, he is a barbarian!

Prince Talon consoles his hair as the guards rush Larkin.

PRINCE TALON (CONT'D)

He does not know how to handle a pair a scissors.

JAY

Sir, he came highly recommended on the Viewing Stone.

PRINCE TALON

Get rid of him, at once!

Prince Talon over dramatically walks away as the Guards grab Larkin and the black leather bag and drag him out of the ballroom.

EXT. CASTLE TALON-COURTYARD. MID-DAY.

The Guards rush Larkin out into the courtyard and toss his belonging to the ground.

GRACIE

That was quick.

Jay scurries out of the Keep and into the Courtyard.

LARKIN

I want my payment.

JAY

Due to the fact that you did not complete your task, Prince Talon feels that you should not be paid. Good day, sir.

Jay motions to the guards in the courtyard, turns and walks back into the Keep.

GRACIE

Uh-oh.

GUARD #4

Come on, now, lets keep it moving.

The Guards grab him and push him towards his horse.

EXT. CASTLE TALON. MID-DAY.

Larkin is forced out of the Castle with his horse.

Cateline sees them and leaps up from the small stone she was sitting on waiting and flies over to them with a huge smile on her face.

Larkin guides the horse away from the castle.

GRACIE

I know that look in your eye.

LARKIN

Quiet Gracie.

Larkin squats down and opens the black leather bag and pulls out a broken stick, looks more like an old wand.

Cateline sees this and shakes her head "no".

He waves it around and points it in the direction of the Keep. Nothing happens. Larkin looks at Cateline.

She shakes her head again as Larkin continues to look at her as she crosses her arms and looks away.

LARKIN (CONT'D)

Please.

Cateline sighs and uncrosses her arms. She looks at Larkin and down at the wand and back to Larkin.

She places her hands together and rubs them as if warming them up, puts her hands out toward the broken wand and closes her eyes as an aura appears around the wand. The broken wand heals itself whole. She nods to Larkin.

Larkin motions the wand toward the Keep and the aura shoots off towards the Castle. Once the glow leaves the wand it splits again.

INT. CASTLE TALON-BALLROOM. MID-DAY.

Prince Talon is back to looking at himself in the mirror.

PRINCE TALON

Why won't anyone understand.

He frustratingly sighs to himself as the "longer" strand of hair falls off in his fingers. He lets out a loud gasp. Then another strand falls off. The magically aura rushes into the room and directly at Prince Talon. Suddenly all of his hair falls right off of his head and onto the floor he screams.

EXT. CASTLE TALON. MID-DAY.

Larkin tosses the wand into the black leather bag and looks at Cateline.

LARKIN

Thank you.

Cateline nods as Larkin jumps onto his horse. She motions for him to hold on and points to his pocket. He pulls out the Viewing Stone and she points to it.

Larkin looks at it and smirks. He swipes on the Viewing Stone and summons a tiny red bird.

LARKIN (CONT'D)

Regular message

The red bird chirps and turns its head.

LARKIN (CONT'D)

When you all get a moment, check out Prince Talon's new hair cut.

Larkin waves the bird away, it flies off repeating Larkin's message over and over as it flies away toward a local village.

The horse looks at Cateline and opens its mouth.

GRACIE

What did we do before View Stones?

LARKIN

Quiet Gracie.

Larkin, Cateline and Gracie (the horse) proceed to walk away back to the village where they came from as a flock of tiny red bird shoots right by them.

CUT TO:

BLACK