

REMINISCENCE

===== MEMORY 1 =====

1. EXT. ROAD, NEAR THE MANOR - DAY

The vision is a little blurry and jumpy. This one is an old memory. It feels like some parts/details might be missing.

ATANAS, 10, runs on the side of the road. A manor is visible in the distance. There's SOMEONE behind her, pushing a child's bike. Atanas is playing around.

It cuts to a vision of GUINEVERE, also around 10, in the garden of the manor. She looks at Atanas. Both girls exchange a look.

VOICE
(in the distance)
Atanas, let's go!

2. EXT. ROAD, OUTSIDE OF A HOUSE - DAY

The memory becomes a little clearer. It's not quite as old as the previous situation. It's still a little jumpy but it feels more continuous.

Atanas, older now - around 14, walks home. She stops outside her home. We can hear voices inside. Atanas listens. People are arguing inside.

3. EXT. FOREST - LATER

Atanas walks in the woods, without a real purpose. She's clearing her mind, killing time. Staying away from her home.

We get a glimpse of the manor through the trees.

Atanas stops at the edge of the forest. She studies her surroundings.

An older Guinevere is sitting on the porch, just outside the manor. She writes in a notebook and doesn't notice Atanas.

Atanas doesn't move. She just looks at her.

4. EXT. CHURCH - DAY

This memory is clear. It's much less older. It's continuous and not jumpy - but it's still atmospheric and contemplative.

Atanas, 20, observes the church on the other side of the road. People are gathered outside the opened doors, all dressed in black. Atanas is captivated by the show of emotions. A woman in the crowd looks up into Atanas' eyes. Guinevere and Atanas exchange yet another look.

VOICES (OFF SCREEN)
 (scattered and heard from
 a distance)
 ...a beloved husband...was like a
 father...hard worker...days always
 spent in the forest, caring
 for...be missed...

The hearse leaves the front of the church, people following
 behind on foot.

5. EXT. MANOR - DAY

Atanas walks the path up to the stairs leading to the manor
 looming over her. She's never been *this* close before.

GUINEVERE (OFF SCREEN)
 (far in the distance)
 ...help around the domain?

Atanas stops by the door. She rings the doorbell.

ATANAS (OFF SCREEN)
 (far in the distance)
 ...spent most of my time there... I
 know every inch, every details of
 this forest.

The door opens and reveals Guinevere. Both women take a
 moment to study each other before Guinevere waves Atanas in.

Atanas follows.

GUINEVERE (OFF SCREEN)
 (far in the distance)
 ...predecessor...irreplacable. He's
 left a gap around here...

6. INT. LIVING ROOM, MANOR - MOMENTS LATER

***This part of the memory starts to feel much more like
 reality, less like a memory. It's less contemplative.***

Atanas is sitting, facing Guinevere. She holds a cup of tea
 but it's awkward. Guinevere studies her. The distance between
 them is too big.

GUINEVERE
 (reality comes in full
 speed)
 ...on a daily basis. The woods
 stretch out pretty far out. Only
 what is visible from the manor is
 maintained. Everything else's left
 to the hands of Mother Nature.

Atanas doesn't know what to do with her cup. She's focused on Guinevere but looks around her to find somewhere to put it down.

GUINEVERE

If it were up to me, I'd leave it
all to her but--

Atanas stops looking around her.

ATANAS

Who else would it be up to?

Guinevere stops too. Silence fills the room. Atanas squeezes her cup.

GUINEVERE

What do you mean?

ATANAS

If it's not up to you...then who is
it up to?

Guinevere opens her mouth to answer but doesn't. She stays silent.

ATANAS

I'm so--

GUINEVERE

Your predecessor.

Atanas nods.

GUINEVERE

He loved his job so much, I trusted
his judgement. He cared about this
place and these woods.

ATANAS

I understand. I didn't mean
anything by it.

Guinevere waves a hand.

GUINEVERE

Can I ask you something?

ATANAS

Sure.

GUINEVERE

You're from the village, aren't
you?

Atanas nods. Still awkward with her cup in her hands.

GUINEVERE

You grew up here.

Atanas nods again.

GUINEVERE

You... I've seen you before.

Atanas squeezes the cup again.

ATANAS

Yes. I've always spent most of my
time around here.

Guinevere holds Atanas' gaze.

GUINEVERE

Did you ever meet him?

Atanas shakes her head.

ATANAS

But I understand it must be hard
for you to find replacement.

Atanas looks around again to find somewhere to put her cup
down.

ATANAS

I have no intention of erasing the
memory you have of him.

(beat)

I mean, if you wanted me to work
here.

Guinevere stands and stops in front of Atanas. She holds a
hand but Atanas is confused. She understands then that
Guinevere noticed her looking around. She hands her empty
cup.

GUINEVERE

It's a dreadful task, looking after
this place. You'd be up for it?

ATANAS

I know these woods better than
anyone els--

Guinevere raises a eyebrow.

ATANAS

(mumbling)

Right. Not erasing him.

(louder)

I know these woods so well, I could
walk around them with my eyes
closed.

Guinevere puts the cup down on a table nearby. She turns around and rests her back around the table. She looks at Atanas.

GUINEVERE

That wouldn't be necessary.

There's a hint of a smile behind her eyes. Atanas smiles back.