Plot Threads

Abusive, loving Grandfather:

Roa’s Illness: TB cough, worsens, dies. Grandfather gets dramatically more abusive, depressed, isolated

Saskia’s Illness: TB

Themes

Illness

Core Question: What makes a monster?

**Hoar (Past):** Treated as a monster. Decides he must be one.

**Hoar (Present):** Treats self as a monster. Chooses not to be one, in spite of everything forcing his hand.

**Gili (Past):** Can’t see own monstrosity

**Gili (Present):** Can’t see own monstrosity

**Crater (Past):** Thinks he might be the monster? Thinks monsters are worth loving

**Crater (Present):** Monsters exist. They are worth redemption.

**Parseek (Past):** War makes monsters

**Parseek (Present):** Monsters exist. Chooses to be one to fight.

**Sorena:** War makes monsters. Chooses to be one to fight.

**Svelsa:** Treated as a monster. Chooses to be one.

Core Problem

**Hoar (Past):** Finding his place in the world. Earn love

**Hoar (Present):** Prove he is not a monster by saving Svelsa

**Gili (Past):** Gain control over and love from Hoar/everyone

**Gili (Present):** Gain control over and love from Hoar/everyone

**Crater (Past):** Prove he’s not a screw up. Keep his word

**Crater (Present):** Atone for breaking his word. Redeem himself and get forgiveness

**Parseek (Past):** Azil deserve to be punished

**Parseek (Present):** Protect the town from Vendigores

**Sorena:** Hunt down last remnants of Ruhiel and destroy them

**Svelsa:** Fool the world until she becomes strong enough to protect herself

Core Character Development

**Hoar (Past):** Found out he’s a monster. Chooses to live alone.

**Hoar (Present):** Pushed to the human edge and chooses not to give in to the rage.

**Gili (Past):**

**Gili (Present):** Realizes at the end she can’t control everything

**Crater (Past):** Becomes the brave man he always wanted to be. Not what he wanted.

**Crater (Present):** Forgives himself

**Parseek (Past):** Perfect life to war. Certainty in self is shattered

**Parseek (Present):** Choose absolute, brutal safety over uncertain risk.

**Sorena:** Hates all things Azil. Belief in mission broken by Hoar who shows her she’s part Azil. Azil can be human.

**Svelsa:** Abused child given the choice between monster and human. Chooses monster

Scene Breakdown

Pre-scene (Setup emotions, get audience invested)

Introduce Hoar and Song

There have to be other Azil in the village outskirts.

Svelsa represents not a monster. Hoar tried to make Svelsa not a monster.

Sorena vs. Hoar. Redemption vs. Safety, good vs. good

Svelsa was built by Ruhiel as a seed. Ruhiel the smith. Orturiel took over, rapid shift to war, created monsters to fight. Build god killers. Something that punches through the walls of angel’s monster’s (still no modification to mental capacity, just switching bodies. Repulsion at the idea of such a thing) and takes them over. Ruhiel fell, Orturiel rose. Sorena fought in the war with Mograthi, became friends with Saskia Jr. When Saskia died, Sorena almost died too, got her heart, eyes and a few other organs. Received her face? Sorena opens by exterminating a village. Wishing she’d exterminated the village? Judgement call. Killing the thing that had originally been human. Found a weapon left over by Ruhiel, tried the merciful thing. Weapon escaped. Forced it into the Golemel, shot it. There should be nothing up there, Going to have to return to Orturiel. Empty handed.

Second scene, exterminating the village. Visible punishment from Orturiel on her. Hardened heart.

Meant to be extermina

**Inciting Incident**

Hoar saves an Azil from death. Out of character act (Azil’s are monsters, he is a monster, be who he is (false) and abandon her and live a selfish, solitary life). Brings her back. Except she is a monster, and starts to do things.

Gili and he make a deal to kill Svelsa if she proves monstrous, Gili immediately brings in. Parallel to Gili’s deal with Parseek to kill Hoar if he becomes monstrous. Would use Crater as the weapon, made him promise on his honor (implied a target of Parseek, not really). During the wolf baiting at the harvest festival.

**Crash Point**

Svelsa discover’s Gili’s plan, kills and eats her. Drain the blood first, upside down like they would an animal. Setup. Hoar teaches Svelsa to slaughter an animal. Tortures it instead.

Tries on clothing. Wears wife’s old clothes, Hoar doesn’t like it. Tries on daughter’s. that works.

Town gathers to lynch the Azil monsters, feed them to the wolf they have tied up for baiting

Svelsa and Hoar together. Irony of Hoar, the loaner, missing society, the trader, the

Climax

**Past**

Hoar, Crater and Gili grow up together. Hoar is heart, Crater is gut, Gili is head. Grow up in a divided village, Azil as second class citizens though relatively peaceable. Gili goes to become a Veever. Crater a Trader, Hoar remains home. Hoar marries Saskia, a Vaicour woman, Gili returns and is jealous (liked Hoar?) Crater is jealous (lusted after the Vaicour. Crater gets over it quickly, Gili doesn’t. Parseek and Gili begin a relation (romantic or alliance?). Saskia dies, Gili becomes overbearing, unwanted Aunt figure raising her against Azils, Crater the loving uncle. Unification comes, Saskia Jr. goes to war with Crater, Gili and Parseek. Gili convinces Parseek not to make a fuss. Hoar remains home with the promise that she will be ok. Builds her a room, plays his Svelsa, writes songs.

Lina convinces Crater to lie and say that Saskia stayed on the delta. He finds out from Parseek that Saskia disappeared, (assumed dead. People were disappearing all over) during the conflict. Vows not to speak to them again. Dives into depression and reclusion. Hoar still longs for love, starts a relation, just a small thing with Ulma. Lina disapproves, Crater approves and is burning on secret guilt helps him out as much as possible hiding it from Parseek.

**Future.**

Hoar saves Azil. Lina nurses back to health, Crater loves, Hoar knows. Svelsa trends toward monstrosity, might kill everyone

**A Man in Wolf’s Clothing**

Scene List

Past:

**Hearthside Song**:

Purpose: Introduce hero (Hoar), major characters (Grandfather, Roa, Gili, Crater, Parseek). Introduce hero’s problem. People (Azil) are monsters.

Introduce our hero; Hoar. Moment of humanity. Moment of misunderstanding. Bond, bond, bond. Introduce his problem; Azil are monsters

**Killing foxes**:

Parents have died. Don’t know what to do or say. Hoar’s grandfather teaches him to kill, he fails. Grandfather is upset, harsh to the boy. See that Grandfather didn’t mean it, only wanted him to grow up strong enough to survive. Grandfather is grieving the loss of his son.

**Stealing Syrup:**

Stealing syrup from Azil/Parseek. Going to pin it on the Azil. Sets up Hoar as desperate for friends, glad to have them. Introduce Crater and Gili/Lina as characters. Set up tensions that will run throughout the book. Consequences for Crater and Gili less than for Hoar. Parseek catches them, steals the Svelsa. Hoar attacks him to get it back. Provoked, but unwarranted response. Gili sees it as him protecting her, starts her infatuation with supposed power/Hoar.

**Roa’s time of dying:**

Hoar is out with Gili and Crater again. They complain about their punishment. Gili makes overture which Hoar doesn’t get. People are treating them different. Avoiding Hoar. Whispering. There will be trouble over this. Hoar says goodbye, gets home and Roa is sick. Hoar Holding her hand. Grandfather plays all the songs she loves as she slips out, asleep. Take her to the meadow.

**Festival day wolf baiting:**

Bait a monster until it fights. Then call it justice. Set on harvest festival day. The crowds have all come out to sing, and drink and feast. A wolf is tied up in the square, its paws and nose bloody from the tooth pulling and claw. Large, lean wolf like dogs are waiting nearby. Crater goes to try and court Saskia, makes an ass of himself, gets too interested in the wolf fight. Hoar leaves, he doesn’t want to see the wolf fight. Saskia leaves too. He’s the only one who doesn’t want to watch the wolf fight and he’s playing his Svelsa to drown out the yelping. Start talking, becomes obvious she likes him. Before the scene climaxes with a kiss, Gili intervenes. She talks about how Hoar is an Azil, Backfires. Hoar and Saskia go off together.

**Traversing a washed out bridge. (short)**

Crater is supposed to be angry at Hoar. Isn’t. laughs it off, infuriating Gili who has to pretend like she doesn’t care. Lots of better people in Kirch. Leave to become a Veever/Trader.

**Gili in the dog houses**

Has a “terrible” first boss. Gains fondness for dogs and study. Fundamental skills.

**Hoar drops eaves**

Overhears Gorgem coming over one night, warning Saskia against marrying an Azil. Tells horror stories. Hoar realizes what he’s doing. Any children of his might be, what a life he’d inflict on his wife.

**Death of a grandfather**

Watching the sunset over the city, tells his grandfather that he won’t marry Saskia. Grandfather convinces him otherwise. Live, love, make mistakes. Happy Hoar’s an Azil. Reveals he’s dying. Dies up in the mountain. Has Hoar do it, quick and clean (Fox). Dies with a smile on his lips, toughen up his grandson. Seriously fucks up Hoar.

**Triumphant Return**

Gili and Crater come home to find Hoar married and a child on the way. Gili’s crushed, Crater’s so pleased. Do I get to be the uncle? Hoar and Crater good friends together.

**Hoar holds his son**

Holding sleeping son. Joyful and jealous that he’s not an Azil. Little boy wakes with a cough. Dies.

**Saskia’s Death**

Gili tries to save Saskia. Hoar is furious and horribly sad. Gili unsure if she let the woman die or not. Trouble she quickly buries. Hoar doesn’t blame her.

**Irina Growing up**

Gili plants the lie, unknowingly, that Azil are bad. Crater plants the seed of bravery and glory. Talking about Hoar unthinkingly that damn Azil. Azil are stubborn and mosnterous. She doenst’ mean it, but that’s how Saskia takes it.

**Recruitment**

Crater signs up, Gili signs up, Hoar remains. Irina joins too, Crater and Gili promise to protect her

**Warzone**.

Crashing down of Ideals and beauty. Irina bleeding out. An Ursar stoops over her, Crater shoots but can’t stop it. Burns a gasoline tank to eat the soul. Ambiguous death. Ursar burns gasoline tanks and takes off Crater’s forearms. Gili saves him, and attaches new arms. In the aftermath.

**Homecoming Lie**

Crater and Lina tell Hoar that Irina decided to lie and say she is down on the delta. Hoar sad, but accepts his friends lies.

**Revelations**

Parseek reveals the lie. Hoar is furious. Kicks down the door to Gili’s, Crater and Gili are both there. Demands to know what happened. (Gili is fixing up Crater’s arms). Hoar breaks Gili’s stuff, hits Crater. Crater still downs him (combat training). He leaves, vowing never to see them again.

Present:

**Seeds**

Sorena arrives too late to kill Vendigores buried in Lower Ravnassil. Parallel abusive childhood of Svelsa with Hoar’s childhood. Saskia to little Hoar as Hoar is to Svelsa. Establish that they can jump bodies.

**Blizzard Rescue**

Introduce our hero again, as a resourceful, clever person. Dressed like a wolf monster. Considers killing the Azil he finds, decides not to. Chooses not to be a monster (incongruous internal image). Dangerous pass they go through later where Svelsa will confront Hoar.

**Surgery**

Hoar and Lina verbally spar while treating the Azil’s injuries. Ominous portents over how Parseek will react. I’ll never speak to you again flashback (cut?). Hear some of the things Svelsa is mumbling. Lina considers killing her (not overt) mercy/safety. Hoar flat out refuses (reference Veever murder before). Lina snaps back at him, getting seriously riled up (one touch, Gili, Hoar. Hoar pulls away). Makes a deal, after listening to what the wounded woman is babbling. If she goes, then they must kill her. No other option. Hoar reluctantly agrees.

**An Honest man**

Hoar goes to Parseek, and sells him the Svelsa for food to survive the winter. Knows why Parseek visits him every month.

**A whiff of gunpowder**

Bargaining with the Trader. Mention town that was destroyed as if it was still there. Trader has a sweet heart there, planning on sweeping her off her feet. Introduce Parseek, Crater rivalry. More opinion on Azil

**Wolf playing Dress up**

Wear wife’s clothing, Hoar doesn’t like it. Wear’s daughter’s clothing, Hoar thinks it fits better. Svelsa recovers very quickly, completely. Frighteningly quickly. Plant seeds of sociopathy. Slaughter of the goat worries Hoar enough that he accepts Gili’s deal, if and only if he makes the final call. She accepts, choosing to ignore this condition when it comes to it. Combine dress up with Gili interaction.

**Kitchen visit/Crater visit**

Hoar visits Ulma, bringing a gift (something he’s made). She is angry with him but doesn’t explain why. Painfully obvious to audience, but Hoar doesn’t get it. Completely misinterprets why. Tries to be sweet and is shut down. Leaves angry and confused (or sure in the wrong direction). Crater goes to see Hoar check if he’s alive or goes to find the mysterious rumors about Svelsa? Meets Svelsa, she is growing into a woman. Expectation reversed, leaves on a positive, good note.

**All strung up**

Hoar teaches Svelsa how to butcher an animal. Parseek comes by. Inclination of the deal that was struck. Makes Svelsa suspicious.

**No Music**

Hoar is out someplace pre-established for music, not playing.

**Digging his own grave**

Hoar’s been having chills (It’s because of Svelsa, nothing else) missing his music. Gili comes by, talks worrying things about Svelsa’s recovery. Hoar doesn’t want to believe her. Says he’s digging the grave for himself. He’s got the chills. She rejects this and correctly blames Svelsa.

**Crater Confrontation**

Sweet gift brought for Svelsa. Romance budding. Svelsa being creepy. Hoar returns unexpectedly, is angry at Crater. Reveals final piece of Lina/Parseek’s deal (inadvertently) to Svelsa in shouting match. Crater leaves angry and guilty. Hoar is angry and regretful. Not my daughter again. Svelsa sees that humans can’t be trusted. Crater and Gili both broke her and Hoar’s trust. Decides to kill Gili.

**Lina’s murder**

Svelsa discovers Lina’s part in the plan to kill her, but thinks that Hoar has said no? Kills and eats her. Strings her up, carefully draining her blood to weaken her so she can switch bodies. drains her blood and is discovered by Parseek (one other), who knows how to kill Azil and Ursars. Old, gimp leg Parseek is a total badass. Kills energy source (fire) immediately. Svelsa reaches for anything, the fat, the sugar, but fails. Doesn’t know how. They weren’t trained in that. Parseek breaks her legs and drags her by the hair to the city square calling all the village gathering a crowd who realize what happened to the butcher’s daughter. This is harvest festival day (again), where everyone gathers. They are dragging the wolf out, muzzled to be killed by hunting dogs. Svelsa is thrown to the wolf, but there is a bonfire Hoar escapes (climbing), saves Svelsa again (doesn’t’ know she killed Lina). DOESN’T POSSESS WOLF. TAKES ONE OF VEEVER’S DOGS. Hoar misinterprets the situation, sees Parseek trying to kill Svelsa (sees her as daughter) and rushes in to save her. Gives her a source. She swaps bodies. Dog does Svelsa thing, and he recognizes it. She saves him.

**The Great Escape**

Crater, best shot in the village, shoots and misses as Hoar and the she wolf flee. Parseek realizes what he’s done, drags him back to see what happened to Lina.

**Hoar’s Surgery**

Swaps places, Gili/Svelsa must perform surgery on Hoar to save him.

**Transformations**

Svelsa consumes all the blocks of syrup as fuel, hugely damaging Parseek. Makes a transformation to something part human, part animal. Bestial representation of becoming a monster. Hoar considers trying to kill her, then she does something human and reassures him. Warped father/daughter love relationship.

**Burning the Cabin**

Hoar returns. Poking through the ashes. Svelsa says they don’t need the humans. Azil will protect Azil. Azil can rely on Azil. Hoar feels horribly guilty over the pact he made with Gili, but doesn’t tell Svelsa.

**Hoar’s**

**Hoar visits with Ulma.**

Rejected apology, hurtful words. Hoar accepts the rejection stoically. Calls him a monster. Walks away in anger. (Doesn’t do what a monster would do). Ulma tries to apologize but Hoar doesn’t forgive easily. He leaves, in the dead of night.

**Grandfather’s Grave**

Hoar has final confrontation with Svelsa/Gili over his grandfathers grave. Heart to heart, lies uncovered. Hoar asks Svelsa to kill and bury him?

1. Sorena stops the uprising

Another one of Ruhiel’s monsters has surfaced. Sorena, Orturiel’s creature. Hates herself the monster she is, the weapon she is, and will be used to clean the world (belief Agent Serenity). Killing another beast like Svelsa, getting the communication from Orturiel? Talking to an underling. Still missing one. Ursars eat enemy troops to steal tactical information, to become perfect spies. Horrifying.

1. Svelsa Saves Hoar

Hoar slips (dangerous area, search parties going further each time) waiting for Svelsa to save him. She doesn’t. Where were you? Knockdown, drag out fight between Svelsa and Hoar over attacking the village, killing Parseek and taking revenge. Admits that he’d agreed to kill her if need be. Fight between Gili and Hoar too. Have the built up all the emotions, everything and coming clean for the first time. Hoar sees that Svelsa is a monster, and realizes he doesn’t want

1. Goes to warn the Azil’s that Svelsa is coming

Finds a murdered man tortured (orturiel style, strung up an bled). Thinks he’s too late, rushes to festival day (harvest festival again) to do what, kill Svelsa (be a monster)? After all he’s done?

1. Climax

Hoar confronts Parseek, makes amends? Faces the village, speaks in front of everyone. Blasted by Sorena, not Svelsa. Must fight her? Really? Decides ultimately not to. Decides to try to help others get away, not to kill. To talk? Anything but. Mortally wounded. Svelsa arrives to kill Parseek, ends up fighting with Parseek against Sorena. Crater (crackshot) helps too! Sister vs. Sister. Gili vs. Saskia. Svelsa eats Hoar too. (You’ve lost a lot of blood. I’m dying. Plays Svelsa for her at last, think’s he’s playing it for his daughter. He’s delirious, loves everyone, not a monster chose the right path. Love and dying. No. Not letting you die I need you to reach the Azil. End.

??. Sorena kills the child

Introduce child. They’re a cancer. See what they can do.

Bullet through Irina’s brain

Horrific burns to Sorena’s face, lungs, eyes, chest and lungs. Replace larynx, eyes, face, lungs and heart with Irina’s. Left with a Hazel Eyes and a scar in the middle of her forehead where the bullet went through. Chose to leave it.