

Evergreen
by
Iphigeneia Kotsoni

Iphigeneia Kotsoni
Proairesiou 2
+306944305947

INT. HOUSE. DAY

Little skillful hands look for black seeds in a clay plate full of wheat. They belong to a girl around 10 (ANA).

Ana picks up the plate and crosses the room. She walks barefoot on the floor made from dry mud. Her clothes are simple made from linen.

The sudden CRY of a BABY makes her stop. She puts down the clay and goes to a little wooden cradle and rocks it gently. The Baby continues to cry, Ana picks him up.

LOUD VOICES from outside make her move towards the door.

EXT. HOUSE. DAY

Outside people gather in the middle of a prehistoric village. Houses built from wood and mud surround them.

And old blind woman (GRANDMOTHER) sits next to the door and listens to the people who sound upset. They are in circle and in the middle stands a woman (THONA) They are all dressed with leather and linen clothes. The woman wears a strange leather coat.

ANA

Tse ko? (What's going on?)

GRANDMOTHER

Camo etra. Biri nou kante
noodi...(A stranger arrived. A
woman from the north..)

Ana looks toward the crowd. She can see the woman she's taller than the others. She looks strong but tired.

Ana doesn't notice a young woman of the village (LIIA) next to Grandmother looking at her with disgust.

LIIA

Is the porridge ready?

Ana looks at her scared. Liia takes the baby and pushes Ana inside the house.

LIIA (CONT'D)

Little snake..

Liia turns and looks at the woman.

LIIA (CONT'D)

What does she want?

GRANDMOTHER

A woman walking alone in the
forest... Very bad sign.

She stares for a moment at Grandmother. Liia looks more angry than scared.

THONA O.S.

I saw their footprints everywhere
in the forest. They don't care
about hiding them. They come from
the North, and they are hungry..

EXT. VILLAGE. NIGHT

Men and Thona sit around a fire. Women stand in a bigger circle around them.

Ana walks around with a jar serving whoever asks for it. She can't help to stare at the strange woman.

THONA

In the mountains white cold dust
fell from the sky.

A murmur starts between the women.

THONA (CONT'D)

And that was a legend even for
the oldest. The rivers dried and
the nights are cold.

A young man (ULI) sitting next to the CHIEF looks restless. Ana tries to pour him some wine but he pushes her away. He turns to the Chief.

ULI

And why should we listen to a
woman? How come she speaks like
us?

THONA

I am a Suuli. We travel a lot.

ULI

We? And where are the others?

The crowd seems to agree with him. The Chief lifts up his hand and they all stop.

CHIEF

Suulis are our brothers. They are
travellers, we are farmers we
mean no harm to anyone.

The Chief pauses for a bit.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

What makes us different from the
other creatures is that we learn.
(MORE)

CHIEF (CONT'D)

We learn from our ancestors, we
learn from each other.

A wolf howls far in the woods.

CHIEF (CONT'D)

We saw the signs too. For 3 moons
the sun hid behind clouds. And
the birds left the lake and went
South. The fishes are scarce and
waterdrops are everywhere in the
morning.

THONA

You have to leave..

The Chief stops her.

CHIEF

We heard what you had to say. You
can sleep here tonight but you
must leave with the early sun.

The Chief stands up. Everybody bows touching their forehead
to the ground.

As the Chief leaves they all stand up and leave too.

EXT. VILLAGE. NIGHT

Thona sits next to the fire smoking a pipe. Ana collects
the dishes under a tree.

Thona drinks the last drop of her wine. Ana sees it and
approaches her with the jar. As she pours the wine, Thona
looks at her smiling.

THONA

It's late. Your parents will be
looking for you.

ANA

They are not my parents.

Thona shows her to sit down. Ana sits.

THONA

What's your name?

ANA

Ana.

THONA

Pretty name.

They stare at the fire for a moment.

ANA

I'd like to travel like you. To leave this village one day...My mother was tall like you..

THONA

The woods are dangerous for someone who doesn't know how to read the signs. Many died trying to find food and shelter. There are fearless tribes out there looking for the weak. Wolf packs loom in the dark.

ANA

I want to see places, I want to learn things!

Thona smiles.

THONA

What would you like to learn?

ANA

I don't know... How many tribes are out there?

THONA

A lot. And there were more. Tribes that disappeared.

ANA

How do you know that?

THONA

So much knowledge is lost. Or kept by the few. Kept by the guardians of the black stones.

A tweeting of a bird makes Thona look up.

ANA

The black stones?

Thona raises her hand to make her stop. Another tweet from the other side answers to the first.

Thona jumps up and throws a piece of leather on the fire.

She grabs Ana and they start running in zigzag trying to avoid the arrows that fly around them.

Ana pulls Thona in a new direction and as they enter the thick forest Thona falls on her knees and she moans with pain.

Ana helps her up and they disappear in the dark. The SCREAMS from the village follow them.

The loud VOICES become...

EXT. FOREST. DAY

Sweet tweet of birds. Thona lays next to a spring. She looks very pale. Ana cleans her wound.

The wound looks pretty bad, like a strange disease creeping up.

ANA
We can put ash on it, I saw
Grandma doing it.

Thona moves a bit but she is in pain and sits back.

THONA
Ana sit down, I need to talk to
you.

Ana sits as close as possible. Thona is exhausted she whispers. A wolf howls somewhere in the forest.

THONA (CONT'D)
Do you remember the guardians?
And the black stones?

ANA
Yes.

THONA
I have one of those. And I have
to give it to you because before
the sun goes down I won't be in
this world anymore.

ANA
How do you know that?

Thona takes out from her belt a small ball wrapped in linen. She puts it in Ana's hands.

THONA
The wolves will show up any time.
You must run.

ANA
No!

THONA
Whatever you hear do not turn
back!

Ana starts to cry.

THONA (CONT'D)
When I finish what I have to say
you must run like a Suuli.
Promise?

Ana nods. Thona opens her arms and hugs her.

THONA (CONT'D)
You must climb up a hill.

EXT. MOUNTAIN.DAY

Ana arrives to a peak. She looks exhausted.

THONA O.S.
Be sure nobody follows you.

Ana checks for movement. There is nobody around. She wipes her last tear and sits on the grass next to a rock.

She takes out the wrapped stone and slowly unwraps it.

The black glossy egg shaped stone lies weightlessly in her little hands.

THONA O.S. (CONT'D)
Put the stone to the sunlight.
That will wake it up.

Ana puts the stone on top of the rock next to her. As she pulls away the morning sunlight hits the stone.

For a moment nothing happens. Then an ELECTRICAL NOISE makes Ana jump up. A little red light appears and turns to green a second later.

THONA O.S. (CONT'D)
Maybe you will be the one who
will understand the message of
our ancestors..

Then a FEMALE VOICE starts to talk.

FEMALE VOICE
(in English)
Battery full. Scanning for
satellites, 3 active found.
Updating automatically. Saturday
17 February 2945. The weather
promises a sunny weekend with
some potential showers on Sunday.
Temperatures will be between 21°C
and 32°C. Your current location
is Montmartre, Paris, France.

THE END