

6 CONTINUED:

Xena riding briskly into village. In one continuous fluid long shot she goes immediately to one building and enters but comes out again seconds later looking a bit perplexed. She tries another place with the same apparent result. She leaves Argo at a stable and sets out hurriedly on foot, retracing their steps, tracking.

CUT TO:

7 EXT. ROAD - DAY

Finally she thinks she spots a trace on the road and follows it into the trees.

CUT TO:

8 EXT. FOREST - DAY

Reading signs; a struggle. She finds Gabrielle's staff and when she picks it up it leaves fresh blood on her hands.

CUT TO:

9 EXT. SHIP - NIGHT

GABRIELLE

"My beloved, I still reach out for you. How could you leave me?" But the spectre was not her lover. It was Morpheus who can take any pleasing shape. And she cried out, "Wait for me. I will come with you," and she followed even though it would mean her own death by drowning.

XENA

But she must have known it was just an illusion.

GABRIELLE

Oh, yes, I think so. But it didn't matter.

XENA

It's a powerful emotion.

GABRIELLE

Yes--it is. She couldn't bear the aloneness anymore. The Cretans give it a happy ending. The gods are moved by their devotion and turn the lovers into a pair of white doves who will always fly together.

XENA

Gabrielle, sometimes there is no happy ending. The gods never grant any favors

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