

# THE LEGEND OF ZELDA



Pilot

Written by

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A spec script based on:

The Legend of Zelda (c) 1986, Nintendo

The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time (c) 1998, Nintendo

**OVER BLACK**

From far away, a WOMAN'S VOICE cries out.

WOMAN

*Link...*

INT. HYRULE FOREST - NIGHT

LIGHTING CRASHES as we pickup deep in a forest ON FIRE. The camera is first-person FLYING past burning trees on horseback as the voice cries again.

WOMAN

*Link!*

In the distance, past the maze of scorching branches and leaves, we can start to see: A CASTLE.

Lightning CRASHES again revealing a swarm of FLAMING ONE-EYED BATS as our rider raises a sword and SLASHES them away.

EXT. HYRULE CASTLE - NIGHT

Emerging from the flaming forest the horse rears to a stop.

We pan up to reveal LINK [9 years of age] wearing silver knight's armor engraved with the distinctive HYLIAN CREST. He carries a golden sword in one hand and a shield on his back.

Link's eyes show a strength beyond his years but fear takes hold as tries to comprehend the terror in front of him of--

ALL-OUT WAR. Link watches as the KNIGHTS OF HYRULE battle a hoard of GOBLINS, SKELETONS and DEMONS.

Link is frozen in space, watching the carnage in slow-motion as he notices a MAN IN BLACK ARMOR, on a BLACK HORSE, leading the monsters into the battle.

Suddenly a BABY'S CRY cuts through the air as --

A WOMAN on horseback flees the castle. The BABY in her arms.

She's somehow rushing straight through the carnage, heading right toward Link and the forest.

Then, the MAN IN BLACK points at the Woman.

Link watches as a LYNEL [a haunting half-lion, centaur beast] takes his order, draws an arrow and FIRES.

The arrow flies over top of the battle, it's target unaware.

Link's eyes widen, but before he can say anything --

The Woman seems to stare right at him and whispers...

WOMAN

Link...

Right before the arrow can impact --

INT. LINK'S HOUSE - (NIGHT)

Link jolts awake with a GASP. The hardened young soldier now just a scared little boy as thunder crashes out his window.

Where he once wore armor, is replaced with brown and ratty makeshift clothes. He looks dirty, and his house the same.

With only a few meager possessions, Link's house appears to be carved out of a tree. The ceiling leaks from the rain.

Link swallows and stares at his prized possession: A drawing on the wall of the Hyrulian Army. The Knights all wear the same armor as his nightmare, with the same Hylian Crest.

Link hops off his cot and goes to his window with wild eyes, still on edge from what he just saw.

EXT. KOKIRI VILLAGE - NIGHT

Aside from the rain, outside all is well. Kokiri Village is a tight-knit community of tree houses and huts carved into the landscape, surrounded by a lush and expansive forest. The only fire coming from covered torches lighting the roads.

Link does spot one more source of light: A KOKIRI NIGHT GUARD, making the rounds carrying a wooden shield and club. A FAIRY, GLOWS and CIRCLING above the guard's head.

Link stares at the creature, glowing in the dark.

Then he retreats inside as we crane up to the roof of his house. Suddenly he's up there with us, and bounding across the branches into the forest treetops.

Link fearlessly jumps from branch to branch, having followed this route a thousand times before. He swings under a low-hanger, reaches the end and FLIPS off the tree into --

## INT. KOKIRI FOREST - EARLY MORNING

Link lands in the grass with a roll. The tree cover has slowed the rain, leaving an early morning fog.

Link moves quickly toward his prize: Bright green mushrooms at the base of a tree which he puts into a pouch on his belt.

Life as a scavenger is tough. But Link knows how to survive.

Next is a bush with purple berries. He pops one in his mouth.

Then he climbs a branch to grab some red apples and hears as SQUEAKING down below.

A SQUIRREL is nibbling a grounded acorn.

Link slooowly pulls out his SLINGSHOT -- And aims. The Squirrel has no idea.

But then for some reason, Link decides not to shoot.

Suddenly the Squirrel perks up and stops chewing.

Link watches. It's listening.

Then it runs away. Fast. Leaving the acorn behind.

Link registers this. *That's weird...*

Suddenly we're FIRST-PERSON IN THE TREES, MOVING FAST, TEARING BRANCHES APART AND GROWLING --

Link's eyes show he can feel it too: *Something big is coming.*

He hops off the tree and moves quickly, keeping his eyes on the treetops.

## INT. KOKIRI FOREST - CLEARING

Link passes a sign pointing him back to Kokiri Village, when his eyes catch a beautiful blue flower, glowing under a tree.

He looks around, weighing the risk, and decides to go for it.

He's twenty feet away, then ten, when suddenly SNAP!

Link rolls as a HUGE SKULLTULA SPIDER drops down from the trees, just missing its prey. It spins to face him.

The Skulltula is 6ft tall and almost twice the size of Link, with a hard skull shell as protection.

Link immediately pulls out his slingshot as the Skulltula swings toward him on a weblines from the tree tops.

Link aims and FIRES but his seed ammo bounces off the hard Skull face. Suddenly the Skulltula screeches and shoots a web blast at Link which he ducks. The Spider shoots another, and another, but can't hit Link, which makes him smile, cocky.

Until he realizes -- there's web everywhere behind him. He has nowhere to go. The Spider closes in.

Link tries shooting more seeds, but they only gently swing the Skulltula from side to side. It's closing.

The Skulltula screeches and makes a push to grab him but Link KICKS the Spider backward, which pushes him into the web.

His body is caught! He can't get out. The Skulltula closes in until Link notices a FAIRY floating above the Spider.

Suddenly a FEMALE VOICE cries out:

VOICE (O.S.)

Link!

The Skulltula turns around to find the source of the noise, revealing it's soft underbelly giving Link the chance to FIRE a series of seeds with his free hands.

The Skulltula cries and collapses forward, it's legs curling up into itself, dead.

Link finds a green-tunic wearing Kokiri villager with her arms crossed in front of him. This is SARIA [15, hope in her heart, Fairy at her side] and she doesn't look happy.

SARIA

What did I tell you about going  
into the forest alone?

She's lecturing, but Link is still stuck in the web.

SARIA (CONT'D)

You would have been eaten alive if  
I didn't show up!

Link gives up and holds out his hand: *Little help?*

But instead Saria takes the slingshot from him.

SARIA (CONT'D)

And where did you get this? These  
are only for the Night Guards!

Link rolls his eyes and reaches out again: *Hey! I'm stuck!*

SARIA (CONT'D)

Ugh...

Saria grabs his hand and puuuullllls as the web stretches.

Suddenly it releases as they both fall forward with Link ending up on top of her.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Get off me!

Link rolls off and goes straight to the Skulltula. He grabs onto the skull shell and pries it off. He's excited.

SARIA (CONT'D)

I know you have a job but you're not supposed to go this far into the forest. It's dangerous.

Ignoring her, he straps the Skull onto his back.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Are you listening to me?

He's not, and instead trots past her and finds the flower. He smiles as the glow reflects in his eyes. He carefully digs out the ground around it, and puts it into his pouch.

Saria's faux-big sister act clearly isn't working, so she comes out with the real reason she came looking for him:

SARIA (CONT'D)

The Deku Tree asked for you.

*That* makes Link stop. He turns around, worried.

SARIA (CONT'D)

He didn't tell me why. Just that he wants to talk to you. You want to tell me what you did?

He thinks about it... And then shrugs. He finishes packing.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Look, I know you're working hard, but you don't need to take care of the entire village. Just worry about yourself.

It's a heartfelt moment -- until she looks down and realizes Link has the slingshot in his belt again.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Hey! Link!

Link scampers up the tree and out of reach.

EXT. LINK'S HOUSE - MORNING

Link glides through the treetops and climbs over his front door, sliding down his step-ladder like a fireman's pole.

Kokiri Village is bustling with activity now. Like Saria, the Kokiri villagers wear green tunics with pointed sideways ears. They also all appear as teenagers but have lived for hundreds of years, each with a Fairy at their side.

Each has their place in the community, while traveling merchants shout their wares.

Link takes special notice of one of them: A tall blue ZORA [an aquatic dolphin-esque human], offering a variety of fish.

But Link knows where he's headed.

INT. GENERAL STORE - KOKIRI VILLAGE (MORNING)

Link walks into the General Store and finds the burly Kokiri owner, KINO [also 15, hard headed] minding the counter.

KINO

You're early. What do we got?

Link empties his full pouch of all the Mushrooms, Apples and Berries he found on the counter.

KINO (CONT'D)

Jeez kid, did you leave anything in the forest? Hey Kali, get these shelved.

KALI

Yes, sir.

KALI, Kino's Fairy moves each item to his shelves.

KINO

Anything else?

Then Link lifts the Spider Skull onto the counter and puts it down with a THUD. Kali tries to lift it and can't.

KINO (CONT'D)  
You took down a Skulltula? All on  
your own?

Link stares up at him with a smile. *I sure did.*

KINO (CONT'D)  
Hmph... So are you looking for  
Rupees or trade?

Link points to a shelf behind the counter. Kino turns to see  
a WOODEN SHIELD, with a red Kokiri Insignia on it.

KINO (CONT'D)  
A shield, huh? I sell those for  
fifty rupees a piece. You only have  
about... 30 in trade here with the  
skull.

Link opens his pouch and dumps out a few Rupees, which look  
like crystals the size of his palm. But when he gathers them  
up, he only has a few green ones, worth one Rupee each.

KINO (CONT'D)  
Not enough, kid.

Link looks resigned... But then he remembers, in his pocket,  
the blue flower. The glow lights up his face.

KINO (CONT'D)  
Is that a Blue Nightshade?

Kino lifts it up gently, the glow reflecting in his glasses.

KINO (CONT'D)  
You must have been pretty deep in  
the forest to find this...

Link stares at him, hopeful. Then Kino smiles.

EXT. KOKIRI VILLAGE - MORNING

Link emerges from the shop, beaming as he holds the wooden  
shield in his arm. It's circular, about as big as his torso--

*OOF!* Link gets PUSHED to the ground.

MIDO (O.S.)  
Well, if it isn't Mr. No Fairy!

MIDO [15] sees himself as the leader of Kokiri Village. He's  
flanked by two KOKIRI TOUGHS, all dressed in traditional  
green tunics and followed by FAIRIES of their own.



MIDO (CONT'D)  
What are you buying a shield for?

Link stares past him at one of the Kokiri Guards, who looks at Link and ignores him.

MIDO (CONT'D)  
You think you have a chance at  
joining the Night Guard? Please.  
You wouldn't even come close to  
passing the trial.

One of Mido's friends grabs the shield off of Link's back. Link tries to get it back, but they hot potato it.

Suddenly Link pulls out his slingshot.

MIDO (CONT'D)  
Oh, what? Are you gonna shoot me  
with your stolen slingshot? Do it.  
Maybe the Deku Tree will finally  
kick you out of here.

Link's hands are quivering, until Mido's Fairy flies into his eyes and BUZZES her wings in his ear, distracting him long enough for Mido's friends to grab his arms.

MIDO (CONT'D)  
Your little puppy dog act might  
work with the others, but not with  
me. I know what you are. You're a  
rat. You even have the same stupid  
ears. You know... I could probably  
help you get them back to normal.  
All they need is a nice *stretch*.

Link tries to fight back but the other boys are just too strong as Mido reaches over and PULLS his ears sideways.

MIDO (CONT'D)  
There we go! Now you don't look  
like such a *freak*.

Link SCREAMS, it feels like they're about to be torn off.

SARIA (O.S.)  
Let him go Mido!

Mido and his friends get pushed away by Saria who stands in front of Link.

SARIA (CONT'D)  
What's the matter with you?

MIDO

Aw relax Saria, we're just fooling around. What do you care so much about him anyway?

SARIA

Because, Mido, the Deku Tree said we're *all* supposed to take care of each other, including him.

(To Link)

Are you ok?

Link is ok, but he's angry.

MIDO

But he's a leech! I've seen him steal food from the others, but nobody says anything! What could possibly make him so special?!

Saria gets right in Mido's face.

SARIA

Hey! If you can't tell when someone is in trouble, then you're an embarrassment to the village. Don't touch him again.

Saria stares Mido down, who's eyes say he would rather do anything but disappoint her.

MIDO

Saria...

Link grabs his shield from Mido's friend and storms away.

EXT. LINK'S HOUSE - DAY

He starts to climb the ladder up to his house.

SARIA (O.S.)

Link, wait!

He stops. Saria catches up to him.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Don't listen to Mido. He's a jerk.

Link looks past her to see Mido staring at them. He shakes his head and leads his friends into Kino's store.

SARIA (CONT'D)  
But... You've never stolen food  
from the other villagers, have you?

Link stares at her and then looks away. *Guilty.*

SARIA (CONT'D)  
You know you can just ask me if you  
need anything. You're too young to  
be fighting with Skulltula's for  
your breakfast.

Having been talked down to enough, Link rolls his eyes and  
starts back up the ladder.

SARIA (CONT'D)  
Have you talked to the Deku Tree  
yet? You shouldn't keep him  
waiting.

Link looks over and above the treetops and finds the branches  
of a MASSIVE TREE towering over the rest of the forest.

But Link climbs up, leaving Saria below.

INT. LINK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

That night, Link tosses and turns again. Suddenly we're --

EXT. IN THE TREES - NIGHT

In first-person again as we see SOMETHING RUSHING through the  
branches again. Is this another nightmare?

The GROWLING BEAST arrives at Kokiri Village. It's disjointed  
vision looks at Link's House, then the Night Guards walking  
through the village. Then it spots the tall Deku Tree. It  
RUSHES toward it with a GROWL.

INT. LINK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Back in Link's house, he's grimacing. Another nightmare.

EXT. HYRULE CASTLE - DREAM (NIGHT)

Link is back outside the castle. This time wearing only his  
ratty brown clothes. The woods have been fully burned away.

The war is over.

But then the drawbridge opens to reveal a MASSIVE, SPIDERLIKE ONE-EYED MONSTER who ROARS and rushes toward him.

Link draws his shield but the Spider knocks it away and ROARS as it rears up to devour him until--

INT. LINK'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Link flies awake again. Why does this keep happening?

He turns and looks out the window. In the moonlight he can make out the tall branches of the ominous Deku Tree.

He thinks to himself. *It's time.*

EXT. KOKIRI VILLAGE - DEKU TREE ENTRANCE (NIGHT)

Link drops the ground in front of his tree house, the shield on his back.

TEEYA [15, sharp], tonight's Night Guard Soldier, stands in the path leading to the Deku Tree. Then, almost on instinct, she raises her club.

TEEYA  
Who's there?

Link emerges from the shadows, looking embarrassed.

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
Oh, hey. I heard about your scuffle  
with Mido earlier. Did you win?

But Link still has his eyes to the ground.

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
What's wrong? Did you get beat up?

Then Link smiles and holds out the slingshot.

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
You!--I *knew* I didn't lose it!  
(She swipes it from him)  
When did you take it? Last week?  
Let me guess, when I passed by your  
house on my route.

Link's smile grows. Then so does Teeya's, conspiratorially.

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
Your sneaking training is getting  
pretty good, huh?

Link nods enthusiastically. She looks at the slingshot.

TEEYA (CONT'D)

Look. I already paid Kino to make another one. But don't tell anyone where you got this. Understand?

She hands it back to him and he's elated.

TEEYA (CONT'D)

What are you doing up so late?

Link pockets the slingshot and looks past her down the path.

TEEYA (CONT'D)

Oh right, he asked about you... You must be in real trouble this time.

(Link has no idea)

Word of advice? Don't bother lying. The fairies tell him everything.

(Then, realizing)

Which means I'm probably already in trouble for giving you that slingshot...

Sure enough, Teeya looks up to see her own Fairy flying away.

TEEYA (CONT'D)

Aw Tali, come on! Ok, Link, just give it back before--

But Link is already running past her. Teeya thinks.

TEEYA (CONT'D)

I'M ALREADY SORRY!

EXT. THE DEKU TREE'S MEADOW - NIGHT

Link walks the path carved into the forest as the moon shines bright in the sky.

He passes by a pink glowing Fairy, then another, and another, as the branches clear to reveal THE DEKU TREE.

Surrounded by Fairies, the Deku Tree is the biggest tree in the forest with radiant red, yellow and orange leaves. As Link approaches an OLD MAN'S FACE comes to life in the trunk, complete with a greying moustache and eyebrows.

DEKU TREE

Ohhh... Link. Welcome. It's been a long time.

Link swallows, his eyes as wide as saucers as he stands before the magical lord and overseer of Kokiri Village.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)  
What's wrong? You look like you've seen a talking tree.

The Deku Tree laughs at his bad joke, and suddenly Link doesn't feel so nervous.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)  
I suppose you're wondering why I've called you here. My fairies have been watching you.

Link looks at the slingshot, and shuffles it behind him.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)  
You're not in trouble Link. Quite the contrary, they've been very impressed. You've done a lot for the village. They tell me you have designs of becoming a Night Guard, is this true?

Link is sheepish at first. Then, he nods.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)  
Hmm. I see. In that case, I want to offer you trial... As a test of courage and wisdom.

Link watches as part of the tree wall behind the Deku Tree melts away, revealing a hidden path deeper into the forest.

EXT. KOKIRI VILLAGE - DEKU TREE ENTRANCE (NIGHT)

Teeya, watching from afar can't believe it.

TEEYA  
Is he doing the trial?

EXT. THE DEKU TREE'S MEADOW - NIGHT

The Deku Tree's stern face gives one more warning.

DEKU TREE  
Should you complete this test, a prize awaits you. Do your best. Should you succeed, I'll consider your application.

Link walks to where the trees have opened, seemingly alive. He takes a deep breath and crosses the threshold.

The Deku Tree watches and then gives a heavy sigh.

INT. KOKIRI FOREST - NIGHT

He turns back to look at the Deku Tree as the leaves and branches suddenly wrap together and shut behind him. He tries to squeeze through but it's so dense there's no way back.

Link pulls out his slingshot, ready to fire.

He hears OWLS hooting, and bugs CHIRPING.

He comes to a wall with a downed tree trunk, wider than he is tall. He looks inside, and then walks through.

On the other side finds three distinct paths in the trees. Left, right, and straight ahead.

He decides to take the left. Which leads to three new paths.

He takes a right. Three new paths. He turns a corner. Then another. He realizes: He's lost in a MAZE.

INT. KOKIRI FOREST - MAZE (NIGHT)

Link decides to open his pouch and drop a seed on the ground. He takes a left, and drops a seed. Right, drop another seed.

Link keeps walking, proud of himself, that is until he ends up connecting back to the beginning of his seed path...

He clenches his fist, getting frustrated until he hears--

VOICE (O.S.)  
*Hey! It's the flowers!*

The voice, which sounds like a school girl, echoes far down his left, and Link takes off running toward it.

But when he comes to another clearing: Nothing.

VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
*Hello?! Are you even listening?!  
Follow the flowers!*

Link looks down and notices: Only one of the paths has yellow flowers lining the entrance.

He follows one, and again, only one path has yellow flowers.

INT. KOKIRI FOREST - LOG TRENCH

Finally Link emerges to a new area. A single log, hollowed out, this time the length of a football field. He looks and can see a faint light at the end of the tunnel.

VOICE (O.S.)  
*That's iiit. Almost therrre.*

Link starts to walk down the log until--

BOOM. A massive ROCK drops down out of the trees behind him. And starts to roll toward him.

VOICE (CONT'D)  
*Oh, yeah, I forgot about that part!*  
*You should probably run now!*

Link takes off, terrified, as the Indiana Jones-like trap starts to pick up speed.

Link is going as fast as he can.

VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
*Don't look back!*

He looks back and SCREAMS.

VOICE (CONT'D)  
*I told you not to look!*

At blazing speed, the log starts to narrow as Link just manages to jump through the hole --

INT. KOKIRI FOREST - MEETING PLACE

As the ROCK CRASHES into the entrance.

Link collapses and rolls over, out of breath as a FAIRY descends from the skies. This is NAVI, sassy and adorable.

NAVI  
*Finally! You were taking for-  
eeever! He told me not to give you  
any hints but how long is a girl  
supposed to wait, you know? I'm  
Navi, by the way. Nice to meet ya!*

Link raises an eyebrow at this tiny human with wings (think Tinkerbell in *Hook*), glowing pink, circling his head.



NAVI (CONT'D)  
Why are you looking at me like that? You are Link, right? That would be awkward if you weren't. I'm only supposed to help Link, so if you aren't him... What am I saying? Of course you're him. The Deku Tree let you in here. Duh. Are you ready to keep going? There's still a lot more to go.

But Link gets up and walks away from her.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Hey!  
(She flies in front of him)  
Pay attention to me! You're not getting out of here without me, you know! These traps are dangerous!

Suddenly Link steps on a branch which sends a log swinging down toward him which he rolls under, letting Navi get hit.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Ooof!

He smiles and keeps going.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Oh, you think that's funny, huh? Well listen kid, I'm not exactly thrilled about this assignment either but the Deku Tree told me to take care of you, so whether you like it or not I'm here to stay!

Link reaches a new tree wall with three logs, one small, one medium, and one tall.

Then he spots a gap in the trees overhead.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Oh, yeah, this puzzle is toooough.  
But if you don't want my help...

Link tries to climb the wall, but the vines are too tightly wound together.

He tries pull the tall log to the gap, but it's too heavy.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Oooh, is someone not strong enough?  
How will he ever escape?

But then Link thinks. He goes to the small log and pushes it into the medium one, which falls over into the big one, which creates a perfect ramp up to the gap. Link smiles.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Hmph. Lucky guess...

Link climbs up and crawls through the opening.

INT. KOKIRI FOREST - THE ARENA

Link pops through the opening and drops down and Navi follows as the branches immediately seal shut.

NAVI  
WELL! If you don't need my help I guess I can move on. Even if *the next trap is a bunch of giant killer plants...* But I'm SURE you'll figure out how to get past them! Good luck!

Link watches as Navi flies away.

As he walks he notices a bunch of interesting purple flowers, all low to the ground. But as he walks past them, trying to figure out how to get to the next room, we watch as they turn over, and start to *smell* him walking by, opening their mouths to reveal their huge jaws and teeth.

These are DEKU BABAS, (think Venus Flytraps on steroids) and as they all wake up Link realizes there is a LOT of them.

They lash out one at a time looking for a bite but Link manages to dodge them. But he's surrounded.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Oooohhh did you wake up the Deku Babas? That's a *real* shame. They *hate* being woken up.

Link uses his shield to block one of them, then another.

He readies and fires his slingshot, but the Baba swallows the seed whole and licks it's lips.

Then another bites the edge of Link's shield and rips it off his arm.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Uh-oh.  
(Now serious)  
Hey, listen! Their stems are fragile! Shoot the stems!

As another dives toward him Link fires his slingshot, ripping the Baba's stem in half as it cries out, oozing purple fluid.

Link smiles, unaware another is rearing up behind him.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
*Watch out!*

Link rolls as it just misses, putting him right in the middle.

Suddenly Navi rushes into the middle to distract them.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
 Hey, you want a snack?! How about  
 me you purple idiots--?!

*GLOMP.* One of them bites down and swallows Navi whole.

Link is horrified -- until the plant starts to glow, and Navi bursts out in a ray of fairy magic, covered in goo.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
 Ewwwww! Just shoot them already!

Link goes to work, firing his slingshot as the Babas fall --

One by one --

And eventually the last shrivels into the ground.

Suddenly Link bumps into something, and turns around slingshot raised to find Navi in his face.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
 Whoa! Just saved your life.  
 Wouldn't be very nice if you shot  
 me.

He steadies his hands, and then lowers it.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
 What is your problem anyway? I've  
 only really existed for maybe ten  
 minutes, and you're telling me you  
 don't like me. What did I do?

Link puts his slingshot away and grabs his shield. There's a small bite out of it which is disappointing.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
 Is it because I'm pink? I can  
 change color, look. How about blue.  
 Red. Raaainbow.

Then Link finds one of the Deku Baba stems, which has turned into a stiff, wooden Deku Stick. He adds it to his belt.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Wait a second... I know what it is.  
You just hate fairies.

That makes Link stop.

NAVI (CONT'D)

You grew up in Kokiri Village, the only one who didn't have a fairy. It made you different. I bet you've never actually had a fairy be nice to you before.

Link stares into her. She's hitting his sore spot.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Look. I'm going to tell you a secret: We don't have a choice. Ok? The Deku Tree creates us, and he tells who we're supposed to help, so we help that person. And *only* that person. For life.

Link listens.

NAVI (CONT'D)

But now the Deku Tree thinks you deserve one. Actually, what he told me was:

(Doing a bad impression)

*"He's going to need protection. He is a very special young boy."*

(Then back to normal)

So he made me. Just for you. But if you don't want me... Then there's no reason for me to exist, so...

She looks down. Now Link feels guilty.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Look, I don't know what's next for you. He wouldn't tell me. But I want to do whatever I can to help you. Will you let me?

Link stares at her. He sighs, and then nods. Navi swirls around his head, ecstatic.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Yayyy! I promise to be the best fairy ever!

(MORE)

NAVI (CONT'D)  
I'll help you find things, and  
watch over you, and keep you safe  
no matter what!

Suddenly ONE LAST DEKU BABA raises it's head behind Navi as  
Link pulls out his slingshot and FIRES.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
What are you---AUGH!

Link catches his breath as the plant disintegrates. Navi  
breaks out into a huge smile.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
So you DO like me! Awwwwwww--

Navi rips around Link's head making him dizzy when suddenly a  
batch of vines melt away bringing Navi to stop.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Wait, Link! Look!

Link regains his balance to see: A TREASURE CHEST.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Wow!

Link wanders over and runs his hand across it. Made entirely  
of wood, the Kokiri insignia is emblazoned on the front.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Come on! Open it! Open it! The  
suspense is killing me!

Link turns the wooden latch and lifts the lid open and  
shields his eyes as a bright light emanates from within.

Navi floats over his shoulder as Link's eyes light up.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Link... That's...

Link reaches in, and in one motion he lifts the KOKIRI SWORD  
high above his head.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
*The Kokiri Sword!*

The trees part overhead as it radiates in the sun.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Wow! It's so coooooooooool! This  
blade was supposed to have been  
lost years ago in the great war.  
(MORE)

NAVI (CONT'D)  
But it's been hidden here in the  
forest the whole time! And now the  
Deku Tree has given it to you!  
Which makes YOU the--  
(Then, realizing)  
What... You? You're...

Link turns from practicing with it. *Which makes me what?*

Suddenly the trees part, making a new path through the woods.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Uh... I think... I think you should  
talk to the Deku Tree.

Link watches as Navi flies down the path.

EXT. THE DEKU TREE'S MEADOW - DAY

Link emerges from the forest holding the sword, and finds  
himself right back at the Deku Tree's meadow.

EXT. KOKIRI VILLAGE - DEKU TREE ENTRANCE

Back at the entrance, Teeya is elated.

TEEYA  
He made it...

Suddenly Mido and a large group walk down the path.

MIDO  
What's going on? Is Link in there?

TEEYA  
Back up, Mido. Only those invited  
get to speak to the Deku Tree.

MIDO  
I am here to make sure the village  
is kept safe!

Teeya pushes him back.

TEEYA  
So am I.

MIDO  
You can't stop all of us.

EXT. THE DEKU TREE'S MEADOW - DAY

Meanwhile Navi is right in Deku's face, whispering frantic.

NAVI  
*You have tell him--*

DEKU TREE  
*Navi, he's not ready--*

NAVI  
*He's not?! I'm not ready for this!*

DEKU TREE  
*Navi. Trust yourself.*  
(Then, louder)  
*Well done, Link.*

Navi turns to see Link, who also looks worried.

He's worried because he's noticing the Deku Tree looking, somehow, older. His leaves are falling off.

Link watches as the other Fairies swirl around his branches and try to revitalize some of his leaves to healthy green ones. But now they look old, dry. Some are even falling off.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)  
Through your completion of the trial, and obtaining of the Kokiri Sword, you have proven yourself to be a capable Kokiri warrior. Which is why Link, I need to ask for your help.

Link is on edge wondering what's happening while Navi seems to be dealing with an unspoken terror.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)  
Far away, the servants of evil are gaining strength, putting our village, and Hyrule itself, in danger. Perhaps you've begun to feel it's influence. The nightmares...

Link is shocked. *How does he know that?*

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)  
Alas, the evil have already arrived at our village.

Link watches as The Deku Tree's leaves shapeshift to show an image of the massive SPIDER-MONSTER from his nightmares.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)

There is a demon inside me, Link,  
growing stronger every second. Even  
with my fairies, I've become too  
old to stop it. I need you, Link,  
to take the Kokiri Sword and  
destroy it, before it gets too  
powerful.

Link watches as the Deku Tree's trunk starts to open,  
revealing a door to the inside of his very core.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)

Do you have the courage to take on  
this task?

Link looks down at his sword, takes a deep breath and--

MIDO (O.S.)

Hold it right there!

Mido leads the charge as the Villagers storm the meadow.

TEEYA

I'm sorry sir, he wouldn't listen--

MIDO

On behalf of the village, I demand  
Link return the Kokiri Sword  
immediately! That sword has been  
part of our forest for centuries,  
and is supposed to be held by the  
strongest one in the village,  
which, we can all clearly see is  
me!

TEEYA

(Raising a hand)

Uh--

MIDO

Further more, I demand to know why  
this OUTSIDER would be given a  
chance at the Kokiri trial in the  
first place!

SARIA

Mido, stop.

MIDO

Oh, enough Saria! How long are we  
supposed to keep pretending?

Link looks to the Deku Tree. *What's he saying?*



MIDO (CONT'D)

I kept my mouth shut when the Deku Tree told us to let you stay in our village, but there's no way I'm letting you save his life when you're not even a Kokiri!

Link is rocked to his core. Navi flies to the Deku Tree.

NAVI

*Say something!*

But Mido continues on Link, who looks down, all of his worst fears coming true.

MIDO

Oh, don't look so surprised! You haven't noticed you're a *little* different than all of us?! With your stupid ears, or how we have to make you new clothes every year?! You don't even have a fairy!

Now Navi comes to his aid.

NAVI

Hey! He does now you jerk!

MIDO

Navi, of course! The fairy *nobody* wanted for the human nobody wanted either! It's perfect!

(To Link)

I'm the leader of this village, so I'm the one who's going to protect the Deku Tree! Now, give me the sword.

But instead Link gets angry and turns the blade toward Mido, stopping inches from his throat.

SARIA

Link, no!

But Mido smiles.

MIDO

*There's* that human spirit. A true Kokiri would *never* turn their blade on a villager. You still don't believe me? Ask your precious Saria. She was the one who brought you here. I wanted to throw you off the bridge.

Link turns to Saria, begging her to deny it with his eyes.

SARIA

Link... I'm sorry.

On this, Link's entire world splits in half. He looks at the sword and shield in his hands. Then he at the Deku Tree.

DEKU TREE

Link... I'm sorry. I didn't mean for you to find out this way. But you must understand, your coming to our village was foretold by a prophecy--

But feeling heartbroken, betrayed, Link drops his sword and shield on the ground and runs out of the meadow.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)

Link, wait!

Instead Mido picks up the sword and shield, looking awkward.

MIDO

Good riddance. And don't worry dad. I'll save you.

(To the group)

Listen up everyone! I'll be gathering my team--*whoa! Sword's heavier than I thought...* My team will be heading inside the Deku Tree at sundown. If you're coming with me, come to my brother's store to prepare. If you're not? Get out of my way.

Mido leads his flunkies away as Teeya grimaces and follows.

DEKU TREE

Navi, wait. Talk to him. The fate of Hyrule is at stake.

NAVI

Are you serious? You lied to him his entire life, and now you want him to save you? Keep your stupid prophecy.

She flies away as doubt creeps across the Deku Tree's face.

INT. KOKIRI VILLAGE - DAY

Link runs through the village, tears in his eyes, and continues past his house, deep into Kokiri Forest.

INT. KOKIRI FOREST - DAY

He runs deep into woods, past the Green Mushrooms, sending birds and squirrels flying.

Past the signs pointing him back to the village.

He runs all the way to a BRIDGE hanging over a large ravine. The chasm below the bridge is massive as bird cries echo.

He finds another sign, that reads: TO HYRULE CASTLE.

Link takes a step toward the bridge... But then he hesitates.

Even with everything that's happened, he still can't bring himself to leave.

Instead he SCREAAAAAMS.

Which brings Navi floating down behind him.

NAVI

Well that made it easy to find  
you...

Link doesn't even want to look at her.

NAVI (CONT'D)

I'm sorry you had to hear that. I  
know the Deku Tree wanted to tell  
you, he just didn't know how.

(Then)

What Mido said about me was true  
too. Nobody wanted me either. My  
magic was never very strong. The  
Deku Tree wouldn't even let me  
leave the meadow. He just kept  
telling me to practice for when "my  
time" came. Until you showed up, I  
thought I was... A mistake.

Link registers this. He feels the same way.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Has anyone ever told you the real  
story of how you came to the  
village?

Finally Link turns to her.

NAVI (CONT'D)

No, I didn't think so... The Kokiri were all born here. But even though they look like kids, they've all lived here for hundreds of years thanks to the Deku's Tree's magic. The only problem is, they can't leave the forest or they die. But you? You showed up nine years ago.

Link is hanging on every word as we --

CUT TO:

EXT. HYRULE CASTLE - FLASHBACK (NIGHT)

Link opens his eyes and finds himself back in his nightmare, the forest is ablaze as the war rages in front of him.

NAVI

On the night of the Great War, the forces of evil had started to take control over the Knights of Hyrule. Your mother lived at the castle, but when the castle was overrun, she made a break for it. Taking you with her.

Link sees the Woman from the opening, his MOTHER [Late 20's, brave and determined] ride her horse right through the war.

NAVI (CONT'D)

She was planning to cut through the forest before heading to the next village. But she was spotted her.

Link watches as the Man in Black points at his mother. The Lynel draws an arrow, and fires.

It flies through the battlefield--

And we see his Mother's eyes go wide as she GASPS.

EXT. HYRULE FOREST - FLASHBACK (NIGHT)

In first person, we're on horseback as Link's mother rides through the burning forest, as BABY LINK cries in her arms.

NAVI

With the last of her strength, your mother held you in her arms, hoping her horse would take you both to safety. The journey was long. And treacherous...

Suddenly a SCREECH from behind as the camera turns: A GOBLIN RIDER is giving chase into the forest on a skeleton horse.

The camera looks down at the crying babe.

WOMAN

Link...

But then, the wobbly camera looks up. There... In the distance. An opening. No fire.

The Goblin cries again and raises his club. The hunt is on.

EXT. KOKIRI FOREST - FLASHBACK (NIGHT)

Far away, in Kokiri Forest, we see shadowy figures, running around, gathering mushrooms and fallen Apples.

MIDO

Hurry up! We have to get back soon. They could be coming.

SARIA

Sshh, Mido, listen...

Link's CRY echoes through Kokiri Forest.

We see Saria's face, exactly the same, turn to look ACROSS THE BRIDGE at the raging inferno Hyrule Forest. Somehow, the fire isn't catching the Kokiri Forest branches.

SARIA (CONT'D)

I think someone's coming.

MIDO

It could be the goblins!

Saria looks around.

SARIA

Help me.

EXT. HYRULE FOREST - FLASHBACK (NIGHT)

In first-person, Link's Mother's eyes are closing.

Link's CRY wails again as FLAMING BATS soar overhead.

The Goblin Rider is getting close, and winds up to STRIKE--

EXT. KOKIRI FOREST - BRIDGE (FLASHBACK / NIGHT)

But JUST as Link's Mother crosses the bridge --

SARIA

*Now!*

A VINE stretches across, tripping the Goblin Rider and his horse, sending them screeching down into the abyss.

Saria and Mido watch as the Woman's horse, finally safe, comes to an exhausted stop.

Mido swallows.

MIDO

What now?

Saria approaches and GASPS at the sight of an arrow sticking out of Link's Mother.

WOMAN

Please, take my baby.

It's asked as a request, but the Woman thrusts the crying Link into Saria's arms.

SARIA

I--I don't...

WOMAN

His name is... Link...

And on this, the Woman collapses forward onto her horse.

Saria holds this human baby and looks at Mido. All three of them are terrified.

MIDO

We can't keep him! You know the rules! No outsiders!

Saria looks at the innocent child.

EXT. KOKIRI VILLAGE - DEKU TREE MEADOW (FLASHBACK)

Then we see Saria entering the Deku Tree's meadow, Link her arms, flanked by Mido, Teeya and the others.

The Deku Tree, looking healthy, comes to life and considers.

EXT. KOKIRI FOREST - THE PRESENT (DAY)

We're back with Link as he looks around, trying to comprehend the truth of his own life.

NAVI

Your mother became part of the forest that day. You might not have realized it, but she's watching over ever since.

Suddenly Link notices some yellow flowers turn toward him.

NAVI (CONT'D)

I know the Deku Tree lied... But it's not without reason. He sees... *Potential* in you. He's says you're special, some kind of...

(She can't say it)

Look, the point is, nobody wanted me until you came along. Now you might not realize this, but Fairies are partner creatures. Which means if we partner with you, we're partnered for life. The Kokiri can never leave this forest, but you can. And you've already saved my life once, so... If you want to leave and run away forever, I'll come with you. But I know the Deku Tree and the others need you. Whatever you decide, I'll support you either way.

Link stares out across the bridge. To an unknown future.

Then he looks down at the yellow flowers, which all turn back toward Kokiri Village.

EXT. KOKIRI VILLAGE - DUSK

Mido, Kokiri Sword in hand, leads Kino and the others out from the shop sporting new wooden armor, shields and clubs.

Teeya brings up the rear, reluctantly.

TEEYA

Are you guys are sure you want to do this?

(MORE)

TEEYA (CONT'D)

If what the Deku Tree said is true,  
it could be dangerous in there.

MIDO

Listen, Teeya. I'm not about to be  
talked down to by a *Night Guard*.  
Frankly, I'm surprised you're even  
coming on this mission.

TEEYA

I just figured someone should come  
along who actually knows how to  
fight.

Mido turns around and stares her down.

MIDO

Remind me, who was on watch when  
the Deku Tree got attacked? Or had  
her slingshot stolen by a human  
child?

(Teeya says nothing)

Unlike you, I'm doing everything I  
can to protect our village. Now,  
you can either do something useful  
and help me, or better yet, when  
this is over, I'll talk to the Deku  
Tree about making you the new  
scavenger. Either way, keep your  
mouth shut.

On this, Mido turns and storms toward the Deku Tree.

EXT. DEKU TREE - DUSK

Already it looks like the Deku Tree has aged another fifty  
years, his leaves halfway gone. He doesn't have much time.

The Fairies are working overtime, while the other villagers,  
including Saria, are all watching, nervous.

MIDO

I want all of you to listen. I know  
I'm not the most popular. But I  
swear to you, I will do whatever it  
takes to save the Deku Tree, and  
our village.

He looks Saria right in the eyes.

MIDO (CONT'D)

You have my word.



As the group heads into the Deku Tree's open maw, Saria looks at the path, hoping Link will show up. He doesn't.

INT. DEKU TREE - CONTINUOUS

Mido leads Kino, Teeya and the others inside the Deku Tree.

TEEYA

Oh wow...

The inside is even bigger than they could have imagined. A massive series of inner branches, moss hills and vines, lines the walls up to the top.

Many of the walls are also covered in massive spider webs.

MIDO

Stay alert, everyone.

Kino can't believe the scope of it all.

KINO

This thing could be anywhere.

Teeya touches a web on the wall, which is very sticky.

TEEYA

Ugh...

She peels it off her hand with considerable struggle.

Mido looks around. The webs go all the way to the ceiling. His confidence is slowly melting away.

Kino also has his eyes to the ceiling until --

KINO

Whoaaa! Uh, guys? I think I found it.

From BELOW we see what he sees: A TEN FOOT WIDE HOLE bored deep down into the core of the Deku Tree.

MIDO

It's in the roots...

TEEYA

We can't climb down the web, we'll get stuck for sure.

She grabs onto the web, and this time it sticks, too much. It gets on her shield, and her club.

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
Guys, help me out.

As the others SHAKE THE WEB trying to help, we watch as it sends small tremors down, down, down into the hole...

THEN IN CLOSE UP: A SINGLE EYE, feels the tremor. It rolls over itself in the socket. Then the MONSTER disappears.

Back up top, things are getting messier and messier but Mido is still watching the hole.

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
Mido, we got a situation here.

He pulls out his sword and cuts them free when Teeya stops:

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
Sshh! Do you hear that?

We hear a low rumbling sound start to grow louder...

KINO  
Something is coming up!

MIDO  
Battle positions everyone!

TEEYA  
Just be ready!

The guys all line up behind Mido while Teeya takes her own battle stance.

We track toward the hole as the rumbling gets LOUDER, and LOUDER, until POP --

MIDO  
Auuuugh!

A two-foot tall, one-eyed, three legged Spider Monster, or MINI-GOHMA, leaps out of the hole. It's red eye rolls over in it's socket as it finds the group now cowering behind Teeya.

TEEYA  
Seriously? You've got the sword  
Mido! It's just a little guy!

MIDO  
Uh, right.

Mido steps out, sword in hand, as the Mini-Ghoma circles.

Mido lunges but the creature easily dodges and spits at him with a light web on his chest. Mido brushes it off easily.

MIDO (CONT'D)  
That's the best you can do?

But the Mini-Gohma isn't deterred, and cries out to attack.

Mido, confident now, deftly thrusts, spins and JUMPS to lay the death blow on the Mini-Gohma who CRIES out in agony.

THEN: DEEP IN THE TREE, we see MASSIVE LEGS BURROWING, FEEDING off the roots, suddenly stop and emit a DEEP GUTTURAL CRY, not at all happy her baby has been killed.

But back above ground, the party has already started.

MIDO (CONT'D)  
I did it!

KINO  
He did it!

The guys all start cheering as Teeya stops them.

TEEYA  
Guys, shutup and be ready!  
Something else is coming! Something big!

What once was a low rumble has turned into a full-blown earthquake. Dirt falls from the ceiling.

MIDO  
What's going on?!

**PFWOOOOOOOOM!** The ground EXPLODES in a FIFTY FOOT radius as a MASSIVE ONE-EYED THREE LEGGED SPIDER DEMON lands.

This is QUEEN GOHMA.

KINO  
Aaaahhhhhh!

Kino and the flunkies all immediately run away.

MIDO  
H-hey you cowards! Don't leave me!

TEEYA  
Mido, look out!

Teeya jumps and tackles Mido to the ground as Gohma swings a spiked leg, cracking the tree floor beneath her.

MIDO

We have to run, there's no way--!

TEEYA

--You took the sword, so YOU have the responsibility! This is your fight! I'll distract it, you climb onto it's back and kill it!

Teeya runs and we watch as her years of practice come into play. As Gohma watches with her one eye, Teeya runs and uses her Deku Stick to pole vault over a swinging leg.

With it distracted, Mido takes a deep breath and charges.

He leaps onto Gohma's back, but struggles to maintain a grip.

Meanwhile Teeya is doing her best version of a rodeo clown while Gohma gets increasingly frustrated -- and then shoots a massive web blob at Teeya, who JUST manages to avoid it.

TEEYA (CONT'D)

Whoa!

CRASH. Another leg just misses her.

TEEYA (CONT'D)

What's taking so long?!

MIDO

I'm almost there!

Mido climbs to the top, and raises his sword to strike.

MIDO (CONT'D)

Take this!

But before he strikes he looks around at Gohma's back: Egg sacks, everywhere. Which start to wiggle. And HATCH.

MIDO (CONT'D)

Oh no! Oh no!

Six, Eight, Twelve Mini-Gohma's, all coming to kill.

MIDO (CONT'D)

I can't do it!

He Mido leaps off of Gohma, and runs for the exit.

TEEYA

Mido! Mido wait!

Teeya stares up at Queen Gohma as her single-eye rolls over with a gleeful growl as her babies crawl onto her back, the arachnid family eyeing their prey. Teeya's shoulders slump.

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
Deku, I'm sorry...

In first person we watch as Queen Gohma covers her with web.

EXT. DEKU TREE - DAWN

Outside the Deku Tree, Kino and the others are being tended to by the villagers as the sun rises.

KINO  
It's horrible... It's gotta be over  
fifty feet high...

They're interrupted by Mido's SCREAM as he comes running out.

SARIA  
Mido?! Mido?!

Saria stops him. His eyes, frantic. He's in shock.

SARIA (CONT'D)  
What happened? Where's Teeya?

MIDO  
She's... She's... I couldn't...

SARIA  
Mido...

Saria realizes what this means. Mido turns to the Deku Tree.

MIDO  
I'm sorry father! I've failed you!  
I've failed everyone!

Mido throws down the sword and breaks down in tears.

Saria watches as the villagers start to murmur. *"What we going to do?" "We can't even leave the forest!"*

Saria approaches the Deku Tree.

SARIA  
I don't understand... There must be  
something you can do?

But the Deku Tree doesn't speak, as more leaves fall.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Why do you always go silent when we  
need you the most?! These people  
need you to keep us safe!

DEKU TREE

Saria... I'm sorry. I can't keep  
you safe anymore.

That makes Saria tear up.

SARIA

No... No don't say that. There must  
be a way.

DEKU TREE

The only one who can defeat true  
evil... Is a hero with true  
courage. Fortunately... We have one  
in our village.

Suddenly Saria notices the villagers turning around.

SARIA

Wha...

(Then, in awe)

Link...

"THE THEME OF LINK" plays as he strides back into the Deku  
Tree meadow, Navi at his side, an action hero look on his  
nine-year-old face, ready to save the day.

He finds Saria on the ground, who immediately hugs him.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Link, I'm so sorry... I wanted to  
tell you, but... As far as I'm  
concerned you've always been one of  
us.

NAVI

Let's save the apologies for when  
we're done!

Navi flies up to the Deku Tree.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Hang in there old timer! We're on  
the case!

Link approaches Mido, still sniffing on the ground.

He stares him down.

MIDO  
 It got Teeya... It's huge.  
 (But Link keeps staring)  
 Look, I'm sorry ok?! I--

But then Link just points. To the sword.

MIDO (CONT'D)  
 Oh, yeah.

Mido holds it out handle first as Link GRABS AND --  
RAISES IT TO THE SKY.

Then in one motion he slides it into a sleeve on his back.

Navi flies close to Link and whispers:

NAVI  
 Wait, where did you learn how to do  
 that?

Link's heroic persona cracks as he shrugs: *No idea...*

DEKU TREE  
 Link... The monster has burrowed  
 deep, absorbing my power. I fear if  
 it reaches my roots, it could  
 become unstoppable. You must hurry.

NAVI  
 He's going to be fiiiiine! Besides,  
 he's got me at his side, the best  
 fairy in alllll of Hyrule!

DEKU TREE  
 Navi, this isn't the time for  
 jokes.

NAVI  
 Well excuuuuuuse me for trying to  
 add a little levity! Only the fate  
 of the VILLAGE hangs in the  
 balance.

SARIA  
 I believe in you, Link. We all do.

Link looks at the group, even Mido, and nods.

He and Navi start to walk toward the open mouth of the Deku Tree as the yellow flowers turn to follow him while the villagers look on and Link's theme crescendos and maaaaan have we got a finale for you!

INT. DEKU TREE - CONTINUOUS

Link enters the Deku Tree and looks around, then notices the rumbling sound underneath their feet.

NAVI  
No sign of Teeya...

They come upon the now fifty-foot hole, now covered in thick web, Gohma covering her tracks.

Link tries resting his foot on it, and while it bends a little bit, it's thick, like industrial bungee cord.

There is no way through.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Let me check it out.

Navi floats down between the gaps as Link looks around.

Navi gets down to the bottom and spots Queen Gohma BURROWING DEEP, surrounded by her children.

Queen Gohma reaches one of the roots and emits a long needle from her mouth, and PUNCTURES it, absorbing the Deku Tree's power and growing bigger by the second.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Ugh...

Navi comes back up.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
They're at the roots, we need to  
get down there now!

Link looks at the walls. The mounds of grass. Then he notices a yellow flower growing on the ground. It turns to the wall.

As he looks, a vine path starts forming along the walls.

He watches it grow, then smiles. He understands.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Why are you going up?! We're  
supposed to be going down!

Link grabs a vine, and starts climbing. Up. Sideways.

He's very careful not to touch any web.

He reaches the ceiling. He takes a deep breath and starts hanging as he crosses, positioning himself over the web.



NAVI (CONT'D)  
Wait a second. This is nuts!

Link keeps one hand on the vines, as he tries to reach for his sword with the other.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Let the record state that I do NOT  
advise this, and if you get hurt  
it's on you!

Link finally reaches his sword and looks at Navi and smiles.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Ugh... Just be careful.

Link lets go of the vine and does a FLIP as he falls with his sword pointed down.

He falls on the web which catches him, then STRETCHES as his sword CUTS through the first band, which lets him fall and cut through the next layer, then another.

INT. DEKU TREE - QUEEN GOHMA'S PIT

Down below, Queen Gohma is burrowing as far as she can while her babies carry the dirt and wood away.

Suddenly one of them stops, and looks up at the web above them. The last band STRETCHES and SNAPS, sending Link down and SQUISHING the Mini-Gohma, who emits a dying "bleh".

Link rolls and shakes off the spider goo.

NAVI  
Aw, gross!

But then we hear that familiar GROWL and FOOTSTEPS rumbling.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Link, look! That could be Teeya!

Link spots a web-wrapped body plastered to a wall. Until suddenly he and Navi are engulfed in shadow.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Oohh... They're so ugly.

Link turns to look up at QUEEN GOHMA in her final form.

The nine-year-old hero, against a sinister demon.

Link draws his sword as Gohma rises to strike.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
*Watch out!*

Link rolls underneath as Gohma splinters the ground.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Ok, first piece of advice: Don't  
get hit!

Link runs and flips over a long, sweeping leg.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Try and get on top of her!

Then he notices a vine growing down to his height and he grabs it, running sideways in a circle up the wall as Mini-Gohma's chase and jump to grab him.

The Queen rushes to smash into the wall but Link pushes off--  
Sending him soaring overtop of the evil below in *slow-motion*.

He's directly above the Queen when he lets go, spins and YELLS to strike directly into her back.

*TING~~~!* The Kokiri Sword sends sparks as Link realizes:  
Queen Gohma's hide is covered in armor.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Oh no!

Link is shocked as the Mini-Gohmas jump onto the Queen's back to defend her. Link parries them with his shield, until the Queen spins and sends Link flying.

Navi flies down and distracts the Mini-Gohma's.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Hey, look at me you one-eyed  
idiots! Ooooh sparkly!

Navi changes colors in the air as they jump and give chase, trying to eat her like a pack of rabid dogs.

*SKSSSSSH!* Link runs in and spin attacks, killing them.

This enrages Queen Gohma even more as she charges Link, who suddenly, holds his ground.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
Link, what are you doing?! Run!

Link grabs onto his vine, and as just as Gohma is about to smash into him, he grabs and runs up the wall, sending her SMASHING into it like a bull.

This time Link runs down to her legs and chops at the unprotected ankles which causes her to CRY OUT.

Suddenly Gohma spins around and her eye turns RED as she grows two new PINCER ARMS coming out of her back.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Uh-oh.

Link backs up as these crabs like arms reach and grab at him, one grabbing onto his shield and cutting it in half. The other reaches and Link swings his sword but Gohma catches it.

Link tries to hold on but she rips it out of his hands and throws it straight up into the ceiling with a CHUNK.

He's defenceless and Gohma knows it.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Link, no!

Navi flies right into Gohma's eye and she SCREAMS, falling to the ground trying to grab Navi.

NAVI (CONT'D)

Oh, Link, that's it! The eye is her weak spot!

Link reaches down and remembers: His slingshot.

Suddenly GLOMP. A Mini-Gohma eats Navi whole. But then it's stomach starts to turn Rainbow colors and EXPLODES.

Navi's glow starts to fade as she gets woozy.

NAVI (CONT'D)

I... Hate... Being eaten....

Then she falls to the ground, exhausted.

Now it's one-on-one. Link fires his slingshot at Gohma's eye, but she swipes the seeds away with her pincers

Link is backing up but running out of room. Suddenly he notices a yellow flower turn to the face wall.

Branches start extending out of the walls, building a staircase. He runs up and around the circle as Gohma's pincers reach out, grabbing and smashing each step.

He runs across the steps as Gohma climbs up the wall behind him and grabs the sword out of the ceiling *just* as Gohma SMASHES the floor out from under him.

Link is falling, right into her open mouth --

Until he turns in midair and pulls out his slingshot.

She growls as he aims, and FIRES!

BULLS-EYE. RRrrrrraAAAGHHH! Gohma screams as Link bounces off her back and lands right in front of her as her eyeball rolls over just in time to see Link standing right in front of her.

Gohma roars as Link screams and *SLASHES-SLASHES-SLASHES* her eye and STABS HER WITH A FINAL BLOW.

Gohma GROANS as her limbs go limp as she collapses, her body disintegrating and disappearing in a cloud of haunted smoke.

Link puts his sword away runs over to Navi.

NAVI (CONT'D)  
(Weakly)  
My hero...

He smiles and cradles her and looks up at Teeya, entombed in the web. He puts Navi on his shoulder and cuts her loose as she crumbles out, gasping for air.

TEEYA  
...What... Took you so long?!

Link helps her to her feet.

TEEYA (CONT'D)  
Thanks. Looks like your training is over. Now how do we get out of here?

Just then link watches as a group of vines descend down the hole, creating a makeshift elevator.

Link and Teeya and test the strength, but before it lifts:

NAVI  
Link, wait... Look.

At the heart of where Gohma was burrowing, is a glowing green stone. This is the KOKIRI EMERALD.

EXT. DEKU TREE - DAY

Link emerges with Teeya leaning on his shoulder and Navi on the other with the Emerald sticking out of his pouch.

SARIA  
Link! You did it!

Saria rushes him for a hug.

Mido stands with his friends, and doesn't talk.

SARIA (CONT'D)  
And Teeya, you're ok!

TEEYA  
I could use a shower but I'm alive.  
How's the Deku Tree?

Link looks up. There's only a few leaves left.

Navi's glow sparks back up and she slowly floats to his eyes.

NAVI  
Hey old man... You were right. He  
did it.

The Deku Tree GROANS and his eyes open up.

DEKU TREE  
Link... I knew I could count on  
you. You've ended the curse on our  
land, and found the Kokiri Emerald.  
I suspect that's what Gohma was  
sent here to retrieve.

SARIA  
Sent? By who?

The Deku Tree's branches fold and twist into a FACE OF EVIL.

Which Link recognizes and FLASHES to his NIGHTMARE.

The MAN on his BLACK HORSE. The man known as GANONDORF.

DEKU TREE  
Far off in the deserts of Hyrule,  
an evil sorcerer is seeking the  
power of the Triforce. An ancient  
artifact that contains the power of  
the Gods...

The Deku's branches fold into a TRIFORCE shape.

## DEKU TREE (CONT'D)

The Kokiri Emerald is one of three stones necessary to obtain this power... A power that was once wielded by the Hero of Time, who used the Triforce to banish all evil from Hyrule. Now, one hundred years later, this sorcerer is attempting to obtain the Triforce for himself, to bring evil back. But, as prophesied, a new Legendary Hero will emerge to stop him.

Link stares. Somehow, he knows what he's going to say:

## DEKU TREE (CONT'D)

Link... I believe you are that Legendary Hero.

All of the villagers GASP.

But not Saria. She just runs away.

## DEKU TREE (CONT'D)

You must prevent the desert sorcerer from ever obtaining the Triforce. You must take the Kokiri Emerald to the Hyrule Castle, where you will surely meet the Princess of Destiny. Do you have the courage to undertake this quest?

Link thinks about his new future. His life. Then he nods.

Then Mido steps forward.

## MIDO

B-but Great Deku Tree, if Link defeated the monster... How come your leaves aren't coming back?

All of the villagers chime in, worried.

## DEKU TREE

My children... My time has come to an end, but do not grieve for me. Fallen trees must make way for the new. This forest will always be your home.

Mido tears up as reality sets in.

DEKU TREE (CONT'D)  
Navi... I am entrusting Link's  
safety to you.

Even Navi is getting emotional.

NAVI  
You got it, dad.

DEKU TREE  
Goodbye...

And with that, his last leaf falls down, down to the ground.

Suddenly the Deku Tree's eyes close and his face disappears  
as his trunk fades to grey.

Link is sad too, but he holds strength. His mother's yellow  
flowers are all turning him toward the path leading out.

NAVI  
Are you ready?

Link nods and he starts to leave. On the way out, he puts a  
hand on Mido's shoulder, who cries harder.

Then Link leaves without looking back.

EXT. KOKIRI FOREST - BRIDGE

Link looks at the bridge and the sign: TO HYRULE CASTLE.

He notices the flowers, pointing him across the bridge.

He takes a deep breath. It's time.

His footsteps echo on every board, until...

SARIA (O.S.)  
So, you're actually leaving...

Saria steps out from behind one of the pillars.

Navi can tell things are about to get heavy.

NAVI  
We'll leave you two alone.

Navi and Saria's fairy fly off as Link looks up to Saria.

Even though she's older, she's not used to this dynamic. The  
big sister part of her is still worried about Link.

SARIA

Sometimes I come out here and wonder what's across that bridge. What life is like outside the forest. Now you'll know.

She's fighting to find the right words.

SARIA (CONT'D)

I always knew you would leave. I didn't know when, but... From the moment you got here, I knew you were special.

A bird cry echoes in the sky. She tries to keep it together.

SARIA (CONT'D)

I won't be able to follow you. Or protect you. But you'll be out there, protecting us... So I made this for you. So you would always have a piece of the village. And know no matter what, you'll always be a Kokiri.

She holds out a leather package for Link. He opens it up to find a GREEN TUNIC, PANTS and HAT in the Kokiri tradition.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Plus, your clothes now won't last much longer without me doing your laundry.

She giggles through her tears. Link looks up, and smiles.

SARIA (CONT'D)

You stay safe out there. And if you ever need anything--

And Link hugs HER. Wraps his arms around tight. His face shows, he's just as sad and scared as she is.

Saria kneels down and puts her hands on his shoulders as she puts on a brave face for him.

SARIA (CONT'D)

Listen to me. If you ever get scared, or lonely, just remember: You're the Legendary Hero. And I'll be right here waiting when you're ready to come home.

Link looks at her. Then, takes a step back. Turns, and runs down the bridge without looking back.



Saria watches him go without looking back as Navi catches up.

SARIA (CONT'D)  
Navi! Keep him safe.

Navi looks at Saria, understanding her own importance.

NAVI  
I will. I promise.

Saria watches her go. Her world, a little less bright. But her hope for the future, a little less dark.

EXT. DEKU TREE - DAY

Later, Mido and the other villagers hold a funeral at the foot of the Deku Tree.

Saria arrives, and puts her hand on his back.

As they hold a moment of silence they watch as a small green sapling sprouts in the ground.

Hope still exists.

EXT. THE PLAINS OF HYRULE - DAY

Link, the young boy now the supposed hero of destiny, takes his first steps outside the forest.

A sword and shield on his back, clad in his Kokiri Green.

Navi, glowing pink at his side.

NAVI  
This is so *exciting*!

They survey the vast lands of Hyrule. A volcanic mountain colors the sky deep red to the West... A waterfall churns into an Ocean to the East...

And to the North... Hyrule Castle.

Link starts to run toward it as we pull back, wider and wider to reveal the massive scope of the new world open up to him.

A OWL flies overhead.

-- END OF PILOT.