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Screen Reading

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Title:	XXXXXX
Author:	XXXXXX
Locale:	Castle in England
Circa:	5 th century AD
Format:	Screenplay
Length:	108 pages
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LOGLINE

AAA as a youth is fighting the cruel and merciless KING VVV to be instated as King and avenge his father's fall. AAA has to convince LLL and GGG to help him as they battle the King and his WIZARD MMM.

SUMMARY

AAA is a young son of the KING UUU trying to kiss his princess GGG in the castle. The castle is stormed by VVV, who overthrows the old King. AAA escapes and GGG is sent away in a different direction. Two years later AAA runs into LLL, once the best knight, who is now working for an unnamed enemy. They fight with ADVISOR WWW who is loyal to AAA. In the woods, GGG pays a SPY info on LLL and then poisons him. Back in the cave, LLL befriends WWW and tries to escape by trying to kill him. AAA intervenes to stop him. LLL claims GGG killed AAA's BROTHER KAY. Back in the castle Vortigern is scowling that AAA is alive and tells GGG. GGG goes in the woods to seek out WIZARD MMM to help find LLL. MMM tries to read her mind, but GGG fights him off. At a graveyard, WWW takes a bottle out and the GREEN KNIGHT appears. The Green Knight tries to avenge the King

VVVV's betrayal by killing WWW. Green Knight and WWW fight and the Knight disappears before answering where the WIZARD MMM is. GGG hands out coins to beggars in the city street. She meets the OLD WOMAN and asks about returning a knight to her. AAA meets GGG but rejects her hug since she had to kill his brother Kay. GGG promises to bring the white dragon. AAA and GGG battle by horse back. Suddenly, they are almost hit by lightning. A FIRE SERPENT forms and tries to kill them. They retreat to a farmhouse, where GGG tries to kill the Fire Serpent with water. They jump in a river and finish off the Fire Serpent. AAA takes GGG to his cave hide out and locks her up. Next day, AAA's crew has set up a tent base camp. WWW has disappeared somewhere. LLL is with GGG trying to impress her. LLL doesn't allow her to touch his arm. She tries to kiss him, but LLL realizes she is trying to poison him and pushes her away. LLL says they should work together. WWW enters MMM's cabin. MMM uses vines to tie WWW down. Back at camp AAA is talking to Weak knight PERCIBAL when the explosives blow up the armory. LLL and GGG set the fire. LLL says he will kill AAA; GGG shoots a crossbow to stop him. GGG suggests AAA consider her to overthrow King VVV. AAA tries to kill her with an axe. LLL jumps AAA to fight him. GGG tries to shoot them both with arrows. LLL offers to work together to fight GGG. AAA tries to persuade them both to join his army. AAA is able to pin them both down to force them to surrender again. They sit down at the first round table as equals. GGG and AAA discuss how the King VVV is planning on attacking the countryside. AAA says they should take a stand against the King VVV. Back in MMM's cabin, WWW tries to persuade MMM of AAA's good intent to overthrow King VVV. At camp, AAA, GGG and LLL start to unveil the secret powers driving them. AAA suggests killing MMM, so he can't conjure up the red dragon. At the castle, VVV instructs his Saxon army to attack any villager not swearing allegiance to King VVV. At the camp, GGG, LLL and AAA prepare for battle. They burst into MMM's cabin and free WWW. GGG fires her crossbow at MMM. LLL and AAA try and fail to strike MMM. MMM reveals he was the secret driver of their earlier missions by crow, stone and ghosts. MMM strikes and everything goes black. MMM conjures up dreams for GGG, LLL and AAA as a defensive move. AAA awakes in MMM's cabin to see LLL grabbing his arm and GGG cradling a ghost. The three face MMM to fight. GGG stabs AAA in the shoulder. LLL rushes to GGG, but realizes he's enchanted and runs out. GGG pleads to MMM to resurrect AAA. MMM throws a sword toward AAA. WWW jumps in front to save AAA. AAA stands to face MMM to the death. MMM

disappears by magic spell. GGG is fleeing in a field. LLL catches her, kisses her and suggest they flee from the battle. GGG refuses since she still wants to save her father in the castle. GGG gets back to the castle and talks about AAA's plan to overthrow him. MMM is there at King VVV's side. King VVV tosses GGG in the dungeon with her father. LLL brings a book to the Old Woman and pleads with her to leave; she refuses. AAA back at camp states his cause to overthrow King VVV. At the castle, King VVV drags out GGG's father to be burned alive. GGG breaks free and fires an arrow into the castle and blows up the exterior wall. AAA's army rushes into the fold. Saxons try to kill her father, but GGG kills the Saxon and frees her father. AAA and GGG battle the Saxons in the court. AAA and GGG enter the throne room to kill the King, but MMM appears. MMM strikes AAA with lightning and calls up the Red Dragon. The Red Dragon forces AAA's army to retreat. King approaches to lecture GGG. GGG strikes MMM with a sword killing him she thinks. The King runs away from GGG and she gives chase. AAA's knights are losing the battle below. The King surprises GGG and stops her attack. MMM conjures up a tornado to attack AAA. MMM taunts AAA to give up. GGG is taunted by the King for betraying him. The Red Dragon lands in the square below. Suddenly, the WHITE DRAGON appears with LLL riding him. The dragons battle in the skies. AAA is able to get to MMM and strike him down. LLL jumps from the White Dragon to the Red Dragon to mortally wound him. King is trying to kill GGG; she claws his face. She spits the poison ball into the King's mouth, and he dies. LLL charges the Saxons with the dragons' help. As MMM dies, he tells how he prepared AAA to assume the throne. MMM disappears before AAA can cut his neck. LLL prepares to kiss GGG. She runs to AAA as he enters the court. LLL has run away to ride the White Dragon into the sunset. AAA tells GGG of his dream of a new castle. The Old Woman enters the throne, patches up MMM's broken staff and becomes young again. She laughs.

COMMENTS

The dialogue is well structured as all dialogue is a battle, verbally or physically. The verbal and physical battles translate well to a visual format like film. Audience will instantly understand it is a King AAA type of tale with classic sets like a castle, woods, camps, and caves. There is some good character flaws like GGG, afraid

to betray King VVV or LLL getting over his jaded view of serving another king in battle. So these characters have a good character arc. We are unsure sure why VVV decided to overthrow the original king, but not a big problem for the villain as he is defined by his cruelty and torture scenes. The plotline and story are very familiar to King AAA's world, so we are not seeing a lot of changes from the original King AAA tale. There is nice foreshadowing with the Fire Serpent for later Red Dragon and enchanted dreams of three lead characters by MMM. The dialogue is kind of modernized version of the Middle Ages, so dialogue may need to be crafted to be more historically correct. Other historical issues include inaccurate use of gunpowder in 5th century as gunpowder didn't come until 1200s, although general film audience probably doesn't care. The tempo and pacing is fast paced in the plot and you can visualize each set in your head. The characters are constantly bickering and trying to kill one other to work for or against the King VVV, so it follows good scene buildups with cliff-hangers. There is a confusion as to why characters constantly flip flop allegiances to AAA. Why does he keep having to convince them? The story could be trimmed back in the number of betrayals to 1-2 times. The tornado scene is a bit unbelievable for England, but again audience will not likely care since its magic. Dragon battle scenes would likely cost a lot in CGI. The castle set may be expensive to build out if no castle is found to film on set. There would be a lot of costume designs for middle age England. GGG struggles to cozy up to AAA, is almost seduced by LLL and finally settles for LLL seems a bit a of stretch for a character arc. The audience may not respond so well to cliché King AAA theme, due to the many versions of this tale in cinema already. The story may be better with a new twist to the story like time-travel blend into the theme.

CONCLUSION

Although this is well structured and has good fight and dialogue scenes, it relies upon the cliché King AAA story, which may not sell as well in today's market.

RATINGS GRID:

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Very Good</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Needs Work</u>
Artistic			X		
Commercial			X		
Premise				X	
Story			X		
Main Characters			X		
Minor Characters				X	
Dialogue				X	
Visual Elements	X				
Title			X		

SCRIPT WRITER: SHAWN CARTER

PASS/CONSIDER: LOW CONSIDER