

Silmarillion Film Project

Season 5

Frame Story

Gandalf (Incánus) visits Harad. He has a Hobbiton-in-the-south community that he visits there - a coastal town with Black Numenorean origins (Ūrísakal). The leader Azrâindil has two sons. The older brother Abrazân (21) is more of a jock type. The younger brother Arnubên (19) is more studious - more of a wizard's pupil. (Boromir/Faramir dynamic) Incánus is a tutor for the brothers. The Mouth of Sauron is also in the area, trying to recruit support for Sauron by rebuilding his ruined temple. A festival turns into a deadly coup attempt. At the death of their mother the queen, the younger brother accuses his older brother of treason, and Incánus and Abrazân flee to Gondor. Arnubên will go on to become the next Mouth of Sauron.

Episode 1:

Teaser: Gandalf (Incánus) boards a ship in Gondor to Harad, mentioning his travels.

Scene 1: Entrance to Hobbiton-in-the-South - parallels to Gandalf's entrance with hobbits, but also a street preacher in the marketplace. The younger son Arnubên meets "Incánus" and gives a Bilbo-like speech. He brings Incánus in to meet the leader - his mother the queen.

Scene 16: Incánus meets with the leader of the seaport town. The queen reacts with surprise that Incánus, who was an old man last time she saw him, is still around - the Men of the West are long-lived. She introduces her older son Abrazân.

Episode 2:

Teaser: Incánus and the leader Azrâindil discuss the cult of Sauron. The queen has a 'benign neglect' attitude - she dislikes 'foreign' influence, but considers them weak at the moment. She has a greater concern though; her sons are not ready for the challenges of leadership. The elder son Abrazân is not interested in learning about the past, and the younger son Arnubên is not interested in the here and now. They look down on the sons in a courtyard from a balcony.

Tag: The brothers are getting instruction from a terrible instructor - it's boring and about economics or something. The queen calls the instructor out of the room. Incánus begins with a booming voice, reciting a lay about the adventures of the First Age. He turns to face them. Let's start at the beginning though.

Episode 3:

Teaser: Abrazân (older brother) is teasing younger Arnubên for book-reading. Lesson - You can impact the world, but only your corner of it. Your life makes a difference. You have to write your own destiny. (You have to decide what to do with the time that is given to you, but NOT THOSE WORDS)

Tag: Arnubên is reading. Abrazân tosses a ball at his face. Younger brother catches it without looking up; he and his brother exchange a grin. Younger brother closes his book, and they go out and spar together.

Episode 4:

Teaser: A weird event has occurred! A guard reports to the queen that they keep finding piles of dead birds left in abandoned buildings. Incánus, who was there to hear the news, goes to investigate. The elder son Abrazân accompanies him.

Tag: Scene of the crime. Incánus walks around the scene, looking for the altar. Abrazân wants to know...what happened here? Incánus tells him this was no accident, but this was a beginner's attempt at blood magic. Audience sees a flash of the ritual (live bird, knife, chanting). Abrazân is horrified - who would do that?! Incánus says that of all the evil deeds those in service to this master would do, this is the least.

Episode 5:

Teaser: The Mouth of Sauron arrives in the city to petition the queen for 'permission' to rebuild the old temple. The queen receives the 'guest' graciously, and offers to think over it. Incánus and the younger son Arnubên are together at this meeting in court, and Arnubên has a 'Do something! Stop this!' approach. Incánus pulls him aside. Arnubên: You know how this will end! You know what Mordor is! We should put a stop to this right now! Incánus: Your mother knows what she is doing.

Scene 16: Being so heavy-handed will drive people to resent the leader's decisions. You must do the right thing, yes, but in the right time and in the right way. Do not be too eager to deal out death in judgement {not those words!}..... Arnubên: But...you know what is right, don't you? Incánus: Yes, but we cannot force the issue now. Trust your mother's sense of what to resist and how to resist it.

Episode 6:

Teaser: Abrazân, the elder of the two brothers, is engaged in a public debate with a street preacher. His younger brother Arnubên and the Mouth of Sauron are in the audience. Abrazân's debate skills are...not impressive, and his younger brother is frustrated with him and embarrassed by him.

Tag: The Mouth of Sauron, who stands behind Arnubên in the crowd, mentions that while men of action will always be necessary, it is men of words who are most important.

Episode 7:

Teaser: Incánus talks about the history of Gondor while teaching the brothers. Arnubên had a question that brings up Gondor's history - perhaps something about Numenor. Abrazân says they know all they need to know - Gondor was their enemy at such and

such time/place. Incánus replies that everything you've said is true, but you will need allies if you are going to keep Mordor from your gates, and if you hold on to the old enmities, you will be blind to the possibilities.

Tag: Incánus points out that the Men had legitimate grievances against the elves, but even so, chose to join them in the fight against evil, because without doing so, they all would have been destroyed. Abrazân points out, 'Not all of them,' and Incánus agrees, 'Sadly, not all.' Arnubên is troubled.

Episode 8:

Teaser: Abrazân volunteers to check out the Cult of Sauron, see if they are up to no good or planning harm to the city. Arnubên - no, I'll go. Remember the street preacher? Incánus: Take care.

Scene 16: Street preacher introduces Mouth of Sauron. Survival through strength! We must all fight for our land and our people! Arnubên listens.

Episode 9:

Teaser: Incánus is spending time in his favorite hookah bar. He hears the news that the newly-rebuilt Temple of Sauron will be open in time for the annual festival. He expresses concern to the queen and Abrazân about the cult of Sauron should not be allowed to take over planning for the festival. The queen is thoughtful.

Tag: The queen announces a new change to this year's festival. Some people in the audience react with upset that the queen would make changes to their beloved traditions. The older brother hears these remarks.

Episode 10:

Teaser: Frame - Harad - Older son is flirting with a servant girl. His mother the queen sees him and calls him to task. Despite his protests that it was all in fun, she informs him that because of their different stations, the girl is in no position to say no and thus his behavior is scandalous. He retorts that it is surely no worse than the changes she made to the festival. She relates the story of her own arranged marriage to his father - she was reluctant, but had the protection and assurance of her family looking out for her. You may not remember your father, but he was not a gentle man.

Tag: Frame - Harad - Older son asks his mother if she regrets her decision to marry his father. She says of course not - she loves her sons dearly and it all worked out.

But...she would not want her son to put someone else through a situation that they may regret. He has responsibilities, and their people look up to him. If what the people think is so important, why not give them what they want? Why change their beloved festival traditions? She says - it is her responsibility to look out for the people. As I look out for you - and as queen, I look to the happiness of you and your future bride.

Episode 11 - Assassination of Queen

Teaser + Scene 7 - Conversation between Mouth of Sauron and Incánus. She approaches him as if they are equals. He recognizes that she is a slave, and reacts to her show of 'power' with pity and compassion, urging her to turn away. But this is a distraction, because at the same time...cries are heard, and when Incánus tries to leave the room, he is arrested. (*intercut with*)

Abrazân goes to visit his mother. They are talking in her room. Suddenly, people from the cult of Sauron burst into the room! They restrain the prince and stab his mother...with his own ivory-handled dagger. He is then gagged/blindfolded and dragged away.

Scene 15: Funeral of the Queen - Arnubên presides over this solemn occasion. He tells the Council of Elders that he cannot understand what happened. Where is his brother? Why was his mother killed with his brother's dagger?

Episode 12 - Festival

Teaser: Parade through the city during the yearly festival. Arnubên speaking to members of the Council about how the people needed this festival, and it's so good they'll be able to use the Temple of Sauron this year. Abrazân in jail, hearing sounds of festival. A child on an elephant throws trinkets into the crowd. During the parade, members of the Council are 'disappeared'.

Tag: Parade reaches Temple. 'Sacrifice' scene in temple - the young child is mock-sacrificed to Sauron. Guards are distracted; Abrazân escapes the dungeon under the Temple. Witnesses mock-sacrifice of child. Heads back to palace to confront his brother Arnubên.

Episode 13 - Farewell to Hobbiton-in-the-South

Teaser: Confrontation between the Brothers - Arnubên has disbanded the Council, taken control of the City, and accuses his elder brother of treason in the death of the queen. He attempts to kill Abrazân, who gets the upper hand, chooses not to kill his younger brother, and flees.

Scene 16: Abrazân seeks out Incánus in Jail. They flee; the alarm is raised. They find a convenient pen of elephants, steal one, and start a stampede.

Tag 2: Arrival in Minas Tirith by Gandalf and Abrazân. Arnubên on throne of city-state (Ûrîsakal), Mouth of Sauron by his side.