HOOK 1

Episode SFX come in underneath Narrator.

001 NARRATOR

The Kingdom of Thuringia. 1227 A.D. While Elizabeth mourns the sudden loss of her husband, her brother in law Henry, wastes no time securing his power in the kingdom. He threatens Elizabeth's future and the future of her children, the rightful heirs of the Wartburg throne. Will Elizabeth and her family lose their position in the castle, or will Henry be put in check by the people of Thuringia?

2 INTRODUCTION

002 NARRATOR

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004 NARRATOR The Merry Beggars presents...

TRANSITION WITH MUSIC.

INT. CASTLE - DAY 5

DRAMATIC MUSIC. HENRY BARRELS DOWN THE HALL. GUARDS FOLLOW BEHIND.

005 DUCHESS SOFIA Henry, no! Soldiers in the queen's bedroom? She is still grieving. We are all grieving!

Side 2

006 HENRY

START >>> Am I the only one here with a clear mind, Mother?

> 007 DUCHESS SOFIA Son, this is not the way.

008 HENRY

With Ludwig gone, we cannot allow Elizabeth to jeopardize our kingdom any longer.

BANGING ON WOODEN DOOR

009 HENRY (CONT'D) Elizabeth! Open up.

THE DOOR GENTLY OPENS.

010 ELIZABETH Henry? Guards?

011 HENRY

Get out. You don't live here anymore

012 ELIZABETH What do you mean?

BABY CRIES

013 ELIZABETH (CONT'D) Shhh little one.

014 HENRY

You must leave the Wartburg Castle.

015 DUCHESS SOFIA Henry, with the winter frost - the baby! They have no where to go!

016 HENRY

Do not interfere, Mother. Elizabeth, you carelessly doled out money from our treasury. You let the stores of our granaries run dangerously low to feed mere derelicts.

017 ELIZABETH

We have been given many blessings. It is our responsibility to share.

018 HENRY

Share? You squandered our resources. Ludwig let you have your way, but not anymore. I'm in charge now.

019 ELIZABETH Ludwig's son is his rightful heir.

020 HENRY

I am the oldest living male of this family, and you and your children are no longer welcome here.

021 ELIZABETH Ludwig would be furious if he-

022 HENRY

Ludwig is not here. Now go and live with one of your beloved beggars, if they'll take you.

023 ELIZABETH

I will not allow you to throw my children out of their home and into the cold. You cannot -

024 DUCHESS SOFIA Henry, they are Ludwig's children. Our own blood.

LITTLE SOPHIE AND LITTLE HERMANN RUSH IN.

025 LITTLE SOPHIE Mama, Mama!

026 LITTLE HERMANN We heard shouting.

027 JUTTA

My lady, I could not stop them.

028 ELIZABETH

(Adamant, whispered) Henry, they will die in the frost.

029 HENRY

Fine. The children may remain, for now. But you, Elizabeth, must leave << END immediately. And take the baby.



030 LITTLE HERMANN Mama, no!