

Episode 5 – The Lie That You Believe**Scene 10**

The fourth day. Place: A great river.

EORIK.

It was the fourth day. We were now traveling with Martina the crow. She would fly off to scout the way ahead and she would fly off to the right and to the left, keeping an eye out for trouble on either side. The little animals she encountered told her that the sound of Joe's whistle was now carrying even further than before. How could that be, I wondered. Maybe weird things happen when you stop whiffing false bliss blossom!

KAYTAIYA.

Joe. What do you make of the whistle?

JOE.

Don't look at me, I'm not doing anything different than I usually do.

EORIK.

At midday, we came to a great river. The drawbridge was in the raised position. And the controls on our side of the river were rusted. Martina flew to the other side. We waited together on the river bank.

FRECKLES.

Even if the controls on the other side of the river are not rusted, I'm not sure I could operate them. Look at these, these would take two hands. And the current is so fast I don't think I could make it across.

KAYTAIYA.

No one is putting you in a river again, Freckles, believe me. Look! Martina's coming back!

MARTINA.

Good news! The controls on the other side are fine. No rust. But it would take more than these claws of mine to work them.

KAYTAIYA.

We need someone who is small, with hands. Eorik, that's you!

EORIK.

"Oh boy!"

KAYTAIYA.

Next, we need somebody to fly him across. Little Plane, that's you!

LITTLE PLANE.

But Kaytaiya, I can't fly.

KAYTAIYA.

Martina, please share with Little Plane the observations you have shared with me.

MARTINA.

Little Plane, no one knows more about flying than a crow. Furthermore, I can see. When I look at you, I can see there is nothing wrong with you that would prevent you from flying. Nothing physical, that is.

LITTLE PLANE.

No, you're wrong. Because of me, the king lost his son. I shouldn't have been trying to show off with that triple roll. I was bad. Now I'm broken. I'm being punished.

KAYTAIYA.

You were trying to entertain a little boy. There was an accident. You did nothing wrong on purpose. A bad thing happened, but you are not bad. Little Plane, we need you to fly! We need you to be who you really are. You are going to have to live up to your name!

LITTLE PLANE.

But I don't have a name!

KAYTAIYA.

Yes, you do. Ravenna says King Visalio wrote it under your right wing. He planned to tell you after your first flight, but he never got the chance. Look and see.

LITTLE PLANE.

S-P-R-T. My name is Sprrt?

KAYTAIYA.

Spirit! Your name is Spirit. He left out the l's. He said it would be your secret name, only he and you would know. And that's what has been coming to you in your dreams and saying, "Fly!" Your own spirit! Your true self! It knows that a lie has entered your mind to trick you and keep you down. You are under the spell of a lie.

LITTLE PLANE.

This is hard. How do I know that you are not the lie?

KAYTAIYA.

You must learn to recognize the truth from lies. What is the nature of a lie? Listen, I will have it speak for itself.

KAYTAIYA.

You're afraid that you're defeated
You can always count on me
To take you by the hand and steer you wrong
Fear needs friends to feed it
I've got the recipe
I'm the falsehood in your neighborhood
I'm **the lie that you believe**

Now this world could be of pleasure
And possibility
But I keep that from you all along
Planting seeds that you deserve
The fate that you receive
I'm the falsehood in your neighborhood
I'm the lie that you believe

FRECKLES.

I cultivate the blackest pearl
From a particle of doubt
And I set it in your soul

KAYTAIYA and FRECKLES.

I can turn your pulse to panic
Constrict you when you breathe
It's easy to convince you you're not strong
Just the joker in the deck
Got something up my sleeve
I'm the falsehood in your neighborhood
I'm the lie that you believe
I'm the falsehood in your neighborhood
I'm the lie that you believe.

LITTLE PLANE.

I think I understand. I will try. Get in, Eorik.

{Sounds of Little Plane's engine starting and propellers whirring}

[Ad libbing of characters on the ground cheering Little Plane on.]

EORIK.

The Little Plane and I were off, flying over the river that sparkled in the sun. Quickly we reached our goal, landed, and taxied to where the controls of the drawbridge waited.

"This crank isn't rusted but it really resists being pushed. Umph. And I've got to hold this part in with my other hand. Ugh! I'm not pushing it. It's pushing me! Little Plane, roll up against me. Yeah, like that."

LITTLE PLANE.

Don't worry, I've got your back!

EORIK.

"You've got a sense of humor!"

LITTLE PLANE.

I guess I do!

EORIK.

"Okay, I'm going to think of something really bad and that'll give me anger and power."

LITTLE PLANE.

No, Eorik, think of something really good. I thought of bad things for three years and it didn't give me one bit of power.

EORIK.

"All right, something really good then. [Shouts.] Zintauran Lemon Cake! Push! Push! It's moving!"

LITTLE PLANE.

You did it! The bridge is going down!

EORIK.

"We did it! Let's go back. Ok, I'm in."

{Plane engine/propeller noise}

LITTLE PLANE.

Eorik, have you ever just had to do something?

EORIK.

"Well, I just had to stay after school and write on the blackboard. Do you mean like that?"

LITTLE PLANE.

No, I mean like this. Hold on tight!

EORIK.

"Whooo. Whoooo. Whoooooooo. What was that?"

LITTLE PLANE That was a triple roll. I knew I could do it. Eorik, something about that accident just does not make sense.

End of scene 10

Scene 11

Evening of the seventh day. Place: Foothills of the Zintauran Mountains.

EORIK.

We traveled for three more days. One day the land was pleasant prairie land, one day it rained so hard I couldn't see much at all. The third day we went through a vast desert wilderness as the sun beat down on us. Joe's whistle blew. The wilderness animals had told Martina it was traveling over one hundred miles. Sometimes I fancied I heard Queen Ravenna's voice chanting above the sound.

RAVENNA.

[Chanting.] Blow train blow! Blow thy best! Find him if he does exist!

EORIK.

It was evening and we had come to the foothills of the Zintauran mountains. If we left before the dawn of the next day, we should just reach the Big Planes before Cete's planes would arrive. I tried to sleep but was too excited. No one could settle down. Kaytaiya and Martina got up and walked off in one direction, and Freckles went off in another.

KAYTAIYA.

And that's why they call it the wilderness!

MARTINA.

Wild and not much there...that we can see, at least.

KAYTAIYA.

I wish you didn't have to go right back through it again, Martina.

MARTINA.

If I don't turn around now I may never make it home. I miss my young ones and Martin. But I'm worried about you Kaytaiya. You don't look well.

KAYTAIYA.

I'm just a little tired, that's all.

MARTINA.

Come closer, let me take a good look at you. I see. Kaytaiya, you are more than just tired. Your cat body is losing its vitality. It cannot support you for much longer. It was not built for a long life, just for this journey.

KAYTAIYA.

I've been feeling it, but trying to tell myself it was just my imagination.

MARTINA.

No, you are not imagining. But so close to Zintaurus! Hold on 'til tomorrow, Queen Ravenna can restore you to your true self.

KAYTAIYA.

No, she cannot. She could send us, but she couldn't bring us back. She could change me into a cat, but I don't think she could change me back again. She can only start things. Martina, I'm afraid. I don't even know if I can make it across the mountains tomorrow.

MARTINA.

Dear child. All heroes must pass through doubt and crisis. You have been magnificent. You rallied Joe to action. You restored Little Plane to flight. You have kept Freckles with us and I believe he still has a part to play. Kaytaiya, this plan of Queen Ravenna's, have faith in it. It is from the Rock of Truth, true and good. Play out your part. Keep going. Keep your face toward the true and the good.

KAYTAIYA.

I will play my part. Zintaurus must live. But I want to live too! As my true self again. *[Aside.]* I have more reason now than ever.

MARTINA.

When Martin calls my name like it is the most important thing in the world, that is what allows me to be my true self. To be who I really am. Is there anybody waiting for you in Zintaurus to do that?

KAYTAIYA.

There is no one. There is someone I care about. He's right here. Freckles. But he doesn't know how I feel. He doesn't even know I'm a dog! And he can't say my name anyway!

MARTINA.

I see. You are a deserving child. May you get your heart's desire. May love find a way. Now, good night, I will leave you to your thoughts.

EORIK.

Martina returned to our camp. Kaytaiya and Freckles remained away, in different places, in their own thoughts, and unaware of each other.

KAYTAIYA.

There's a place where friendship ends and love begins
I think I've reached that place, my friend
With my true face unknown to you
No, not a clue
I fight to keep these feelings in

Flying this false flag
Once my tail would wag
But now I hold it high
Oh, who am I?

K-a-y like kayak
T-a-i like tail
Y-a like I told ya
Now you cannot fail

And **now you have my name**

How I long to hear you say my name

Oh, I would give you all of me

If we were more the same

More the same

FRECKLES.

There's a cat who let me in, a special friend

What will become at journey's end?

I know that I want her by me all my life

But a cat could never make a dog a wife

KAYTAIYA.

It's so impossible

You'd run off until

You were just a speck

If you suspected

K-a-y like kayak

T-a-i like tail

Y-a like I told ya

Now you cannot fail

FRECKLES.

And now I have your name

How I wish that I could say your name

Oh, I would give you all of me

If we were more the same

More the same

KAYTAIYA.

Once I had a bark and now I purr

Once I had a heart

And now that heart is yours

And now you have my name

Could you ever really say my name

I would give you all of me

FRECKLES.

I would give you all of me

KAYTAIYA and FRECKLES.

I would give you all of me

If we were more the same

More the same

{Sound of the two of them separately walking}

KAYTAIYA.

Oh! Freckles! What're you doing up?

FRECKLES.

Oh. You know. Just thinking. How about you?

KAYTAIYA.

Me too. Just thinking. *[Pause. Then excitedly.]* Freckles, quick, say my name!

FRECKLES.

[Gives it his best. Is closer to being able to do it, but still can't.] I can't. But I feel close!

KAYTAIYA.

I feel close too, Freckles. *[Recovering, awkwardly.]*

I mean, I feel that you are close... to being able to say my name!

FRECKLES.

I understand. Well, we'd better get a few hours sleep. You're looking tired.

EORIK.

Kaytaiya and Freckles came back to camp. They were walking closer to each other than usual. Then, sleep. Then, oh... was I dreaming? I saw a hooded figure approach our camp. It stopped and seemed to take us all in. Whoever this figure was, it inspired some kind of wonder in me that I could not move or call out, only watch, as it moved forward again, slowly, towards the Little Plane. Was this Cete, come to dash Queen Ravenna's plan? No. I did not sense evil intent. I sensed a wonder in that hooded figure that was matching my own. When it reached the flatbed car, it placed one trembling arm on the Little Plane's body and sighed.

GHOST OF VISALIUS.

[Sighing multiple times like he is remembering, understanding, coming back to his senses.]

EORIK.

I closed my eyes, rubbed them, opened them, and the figure was gone.

End of Scene 11