

ROBIN HOOD

Series One, Episode Seven

Brothers in Arms

written by Joe Turner

directed by Declan O'Dwyer

**This is not an official copy. This was typed up by a fan
of the show strictly for personal enjoyment.**

CAST

Robin Hood	Jonas Armstrong
Marian	Lucy Griffiths
Guy of Gisborne	Richard Armitage
Sheriff of Nottingham	Keith Allen
Little John	Gordon Kennedy
Much	Sam Troughton
Allan A Dale	Joe Armstrong
Will Scarlett	Harry Lloyd
Djaq	Anjali Jay
Edward	Michael Elwyn
Lucky George	Charles Dale
Tom A Dale	David Abelson
Megan	Caroline O'Neill
Eleri	Rachel Cairns
Harri	András Tóth
Sergeant	Zoltán Seress

Scene One

Locksley.

Lucky George flips a coin high into the air and catches it, attracting the attention of the people of Locksley gathered around him.

LUCKY GEORGE

Now... good people of Locksley, I have bad news. Ah, but there is good news as well. OK, now the bad news is the Sheriff's tax man is in Clun. He's not far and he'll be here soon. But the good news is I, me, Lucky George, am here, with you, in Locksley.

The crowd cheer. Will peers round the corner of a cottage, keeping out of sight.

Now, I will give you good hard cash for any jewellery, trinkets... Anything of value I will turn to pennies. Those pennies will pay the tax man and that will keep you out of the Sheriff's jail! So help me to help you. Be lucky. Come to Lucky George.

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Sherwood Forest. A road through the forest.

Two outriders and Lucky George's carriage travel through the forest.

DRIVER

We should have gone round. I hate these woods.

Inside the carriage, Lucky George is dozing. Outside, Allan jumps in front of the outriders and holds up his hand. The others crest the hill.

ALLAN

Smiling: This, my friends, is an ambush.

The gang run down the hill. Much and Will pull the two outriders off their horses. Little John jumps up on the seat of the coach and knocks the driver off, and remains bent over so Robin can jump on his back and onto the top of the carriage. Once up top, Robin drops inside, ripping through the canvas cover, but Lucky George is ready with his sword. Robin puts up his hands.

LUCKY GEORGE

Quietly: Come to exchange some valuables for cash? Lucky George loves a deal.

ROBIN

A deal with the Sheriff?

LUCKY GEORGE

Ah... now why would you say that?

ROBIN

I'm sorry, George, your luck's run out. I'm closing down your business.

Lucky George chuckles, and Robin smiles in return.

LUCKY GEORGE

With my sword at your throat? I don't think so. Call your men off.

ROBIN

No, I don't think so. You're surrounded. *Starts to lower his arms.*

LUCKY GEORGE

Ah! Keep your hands up!

Robin raises his hands up higher than before and Little John, standing on top of the carriage, reaches down for them.

ROBIN

If that's what you want...

Robin jumps and Little John pulls him up onto the top.

LUCKY GEORGE

Oi! Come back here!

Lucky George scrambles out the door in the back as Robin does a back somersault off the top and lands perfectly on the ground. Robin ducks George's many thrusts and swipes, dancing around. Then when Robin has his back to the carriage door, Lucky George thrusts, appearing to catch Robin's side and driving the point into the wood. Robin sputters and doubles over, appearing to have been stabbed. The gang gather round in shock. Lucky George looks wildly at them in fear.

LUCKY GEORGE

Now look, lads...

Robin drops his head forward with a groan. Lucky George lets go of the sword stuck in the door, glances at a gaping Much, then grabs the hilt again, but Robin clamps it between his arm and side and stands up, perfectly fine.

ROBIN

Only joking.

Robin punches Lucky George to the ground and starts laughing. Much is not at all amused, but Little John laughs heartily and the others smile in admiration.

Let's see if he's lucky enough to make his own way home.

DJAQ

Or are you afraid of looking too pretty?

ALLAN

Looks at Djaq. I know that voice. Stands.

Outside the carriage.

Robin and Much stand with their arms folded. Robin smiles, totally entertained by Tom's boastings.

MUCH

Playing along: Oh, surely Robin Hood couldn't take on all of us?

The carriage door opens and Tom stands up.

TOM

Robin Hood wouldn't be scared of you.

The carriage door closes and Allan and Djaq come around the wagon, Allan still wearing the pearls.

You're girls compared to him and his men.

ALLAN

Tom?

TOM

Allan!

MUCH

Wha—? You know him?

Allan walks between Robin and Much to Tom, his pearls swinging.

ALLAN

He's my brother.

TOM

Thank heavens you're here.

Allan chuckles and vigorously slaps Tom's face, knocking him sideways. Robin mouths an "ooh." Allan pulls him upright again.

ALLAN

My purse? My sword? My horse?

TOM

I can explain. My nose! What kind of thing is that to do to your brother? *Turns to his companions.* Is this broken?

ALLAN

Turns to Robin. I say whip him to within an inch of his life.

TOM

If you touch me again, Robin Hood will string you up from the tallest oak in Sherwood Forest!

Robin looks at Megan, turning his head and scratching behind his ear to hide his smile, as Megan smiles back at him. Much is smiling, too, enjoying the game.

ALLAN

This is Robin Hood, you idiot!

Allan hits the back of Tom's head, making him stumble towards Robin.

TOM

Holding the back of this head: We beg your forgiveness, Robin of Locksley.

Robin nods, smiling, trying not to laugh.

We are humble thatchers.

Allan stands, hands on hips, staring. Tom puts his hand briefly on Robin's shoulder.

Times are hard. We had to thieve or else face starvation.

Robin nods with lips pursed so he doesn't smile at the lies.

My friends here...

Robin looks at them as Tom takes Robin's knife from his belt.

I have to look after them.

ALLAN

Don't believe a word.

TOM

Please, have a heart. Help us out here. We'll work for you. We could join your band of worthy outlaws.

ROBIN

Nods, then looks at Tom's companions. What do you two have to say?

TOM

They can't speak, lord. They've had their tongues cut out.

ROBIN

Why?

TOM

For praising your work. They were overheard.

ROBIN

Looks about incredulously, then shakes his head. Let them go. Steps to Megan. You have your necklace. Gives it back to her. We are not the Sheriff. We do not horsewhip thieves.

Megan is visibly disappointed. Robin steps back to Tom with an idea.

Are you really thatchers?

TOM

Nods. Of course. The finest in all England.

ROBIN

to Megan: You shall have a new roof!

Megan smiles.

to Tom: Free of charge. *to all:* By the way, I found some lost property in the forest.

Will and Djaq bring forward a large chest.

Anyone lost any valuables recently? Take what is yours, courtesy of Lucky George.

MEGAN

If I'd known that I would've sold this necklace this morning.

Will and Djaq open the chest and the peasants mumble joyously and look inside.

TOM

to Robin: I think we could be useful to you. *Holds up Robin's knife. See? Did you notice?*

Robin swipes at the knife, taking it, as Allan steps over. Robin is annoyed, Allan shocked.

If I can steal something from under the nose of the great Robin Hood, think what I can achieve of mere mortals, eh? *Looks to Allan. Allan?*

ALLAN

Shakes his head, astounded, then looks at Robin. Look, he's an excellent pickpocket. And he's got a big mouth, I know, but his heart's in the right place.

ROBIN

And he's your brother.

ALLAN

Look, if you had a brother and he'd done something wrong, you'd give him a second chance to make it up, wouldn't you?

Allan glances at Tom, who turns to Robin. Robin digs in his pocket and holds up some tags, swinging them in Tom's face.

TOM

Thank you, Robin. You will not regret it.

ROBIN

You will earn these tags. *Points at them with the hand holding the tags. You are on probation. Turns to the wagon.*

Tom turns to Allan, who raises his eyebrows. Robin turns back to Tom.

Why are you still standing there? This woman's roof! Get to it!

ALLAN

Slaps the back of Tom's head. Go on!

Tom shuffles off, holding the back of his head. Robin scoffs.

to Robin: I'll keep an eye on him.

Robin nods. Megan steps over to Eleri.

MEGAN

Slipping the necklace over Eleri's head. My necklace is now yours, Eleri.

Megan smiles at her daughter and Harri, Eleri's fiancé.

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Scene Three

Nottingham Castle. Courtyard.

Gisborne is rushing up the stairs when one of his men lead Eleri and Harri towards him.

GUARD

These two wanted to see you, sir.

GISBORNE

Gruffly: I'm late as it is. *Stops at the top of the steps and turns around.* What do you want?

ELERI

We seek you blessing and permission to marry, my lord.

GISBORNE

Sniffs. Slowly stepping down the steps: And what are you prepared to pay for my blessing and permission? *Motions to Eleri with his finger.* Come closer.

Eleri and Harri step forward.

Looking at Eleri: Just... you.

The guard holds his arm in front of Harri. Eleri stops, looks up at Gisborne, glances back at Harri, then goes up the steps to face Gisborne.

Sees the necklace. Nice. *Sniffs. Fingers the necklace.* This?

ELERI

Shakes her head. My mother gave it to us as a token on our engagement. It's the only thing of value I have in my family.

GISBORNE

Oh, that'll do nicely. *Looking spitefully at Harri over Eleri's head:* Turn around.

Gisborne pulls off a glove with his teeth as Eleri slowly turns around. Harri tries to step forward, but is stopped by the guard. Gisborne unties the necklace, takes it off and continues inside, leaving Eleri standing.

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Scene Four

Nottingham Castle. The Great Hall.

The Sheriff is slumped in his chair. Gisborne is standing at his right side. Lucky George is standing before them.

SHERIFF

Slams the table with his fist. An outrage! An innocent man robbed whilst going about his legitimate business?

LUCKY GEORGE

I need more guards.

GISBORNE

Out of the question.

SHERIFF

You shall have them.

Gisborne scowls at the Sheriff.

LUCKY GEORGE

About half a dozen should do. Oh, er, I need a new carriage and all.

Gisborne scoffs.

SHERIFF

Of course. See to it, Gisborne.

Gisborne turns his head in disbelief. Lucky George heads for the stairs.

Chuckles. The man's worth his weight in gold, hm? He makes a profit, we get our taxes. It's good. A public-private partnership.

Gisborne paces in front of the Sheriff.

What happened, Gisborne?

Gisborne stops and stares at nothing. The Sheriff leans towards him on the table.

Robin Hood must have known George's whereabouts.

Only once, once, he risked the forest and immediately he's robbed. Coincidence? Hm? Clue: no. Hood knows more about our business than we do. The question is... *sits back...* how?

GISBORNE

I don't know.

SHERIFF

Well, I do. We have a spy amongst us. And do you know what we have to do to catch a spy?

TOM

Looks up at Allan, then takes the flask out from behind him.
Sorry. Old habits.

Much roughly swipes at it, taking it, scowling at Tom. He stands up and goes to find another place to sit away from Tom.

Stands to face Allan. The old gang back together.

ALLAN

How did they lose their tongues? No lies.

TOM

For spitting at some guards.

Tom chuckles, then Allan.

Seriously: It'll be different this time. I won't let you down again, I promise.

Allan side-slaps and clasps Tom's hand, then pulls him into a hug, which turns into a bit of a wrestling match.

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Scene Six

Nottingham Castle. The Great Hall.

Gisborne stands behind Marian and puts the necklace on her, stroking her neck as he takes his hand away.

GISBORNE

Do you like it?

MARIAN

Unemotionally, hesitantly: Yes, I do, but...

GISBORNE

It's simple silver.

Gisborne walks around to face her. Edward stands nearby, watching, then two of Gisborne's men escort him away.

You have no need of gold or gaudy jewels.

MARIAN

But really, I cannot accept it.

GISBORNE

Why not? Have I insulted you?

Marian glances away.

Sighs. You do not like it. It's too plain, too simple. Take it off.

MARIAN

No! I-I like it. I will treasure it.

GISBORNE

It's a gift of friendship.

MARIAN

And I am very grateful.

Edward is escorted up the stairs as Gisborne's sergeant comes down.

SERGEANT

You wanted to see me, sir?

Gisborne, bothered by the interruption, turns and walks over to the sergeant while Marian listens surreptitiously.

GISBORNE

Cancel the guard for the consignment from Rotherham.

SERGEANT

No guards?

Scene Eight

Sherwood Forest. A Road.

Marian is riding her horse down the road when Robin jumps out at her, startling her horse and causing it to rear.

ROBIN

Holds up his hands to the horse. Whoa! Whoa! I wish you no harm!

The horse rears again and Marian tumbles off its back, luckily landing on her feet.

But I will relieve you of your valuables.

Marian walks around to the horse's head, glaring at Robin. She grabs the bridle and calms the horse as Robin leans on his upright bow with his roguish grin.

Sorry. I thought you were some rich noblewoman looking to donate your fancy jewels to a good cause.

MARIAN

Not amused: You knew it was me.

ROBIN

Charmingly, mischievously: You shouldn't be riding alone through the forest. There are some very unsavoury characters about. Outlaws, you know.

Marian ignores him, tending her horse. Robin notices the necklace and picks up the dangling end.

What's this?

MARIAN

Slapping his hand away: Don't touch!

ROBIN

Looking at the necklace: It's very pretty. Have I seen it before?

MARIAN

No. It was a gift.

ROBIN

Curiously: From whom?

MARIAN

Does it matter? I should be going. *Turns to her horse.*

ROBIN

I don't know. Does it?

MARIAN

Turns her head towards Robin. Quickly: No!

ROBIN

Turns his head aside as he knows. Jealously: Gisborne.

MARIAN

What?

ROBIN

Just a guess. Am I right?

MARIAN

As it happens.

ROBIN

Looks at necklace again. Interesting.

MARIAN

Why interesting?

ROBIN

I have seen it before... around the neck of a young girl from Locksley. It was given to her by her mother.

MARIAN

Yes, and...?

Robin reaches for the necklace.

ROBIN

And here it is

Marian takes her hand off the bridle to knock his arm away. Robin tries again and lifts the end of the necklace.

around your neck. Lets go of the necklace.

MARIAN

Confused: What? Gisborne stole it from the girl?

ROBIN

Well, I can't imagine she gave it to him willingly. But it's not like you stole it from the poor girl yourself.

Marian thinks a bit as Robin leans his chin on his bow.

With jealous sarcasm: And you obviously like it.

Marian sighs in frustration and starts to remove the necklace.

And it is certainly a special and thoughtful gift from a man that clearly means a lot to you.

Marian takes the necklace off and hands it to Robin.

MARIAN

Take it back to the girl.

WILL

Nettlestone. More guards and a new carriage.

ROBIN

Hm. So he is engaged with the Sheriff.

WILL

The villagers are falling over themselves to give him their stuff. And they're selling cheap because they think you're going to give everything back.

ROBIN

First thing in the morning, we find him and take his toys away. For good.

ALLAN

Calling to Robin from the other side of camp: Robin!

Robin jogs over to him.

I've lost my brother.

ROBIN

Facetiously: It's a big forest.

MUCH

They must have gone east.

ALLAN

He didn't tell me where he was off to, though. I've got a bad feeling about this.

ROBIN

Sighs. Fetch the horses. East is towards Knighton.

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Scene Ten

Knighton Hall. Stable. Interior.

Marian has a horse saddled and is putting a scarf over her nose and mouth.

At the edge of the estate.

Tom is crouched in the bushes with his companions.

TOM

Nice house means rich pickings. *Hands a club to a companion.* Come on. *Pulls a scarf over his face.* Round the back.

Stable.

Marian puts her Nightwatchman's mask on then, pulls her hood over her head. She is about to mount her horse when she hears Edward chasing the outlaws out of the house.

Knighton Hall. Exterior.

EDWARD

... have the gall to rob this house! Get away from here!

Marian pulls her sword out of the saddle's sheath and runs outside. Edward has his sword and blocks once, but then is punched to the ground by the hilt of Tom's sword. Marian comes running out and swiftly knocks Tom's sword aside twice, then gives him a mighty kick to the chest, sending him backwards as Edward sits up, shocked but impressed. She turns to the first companion, blocks his club with her sword and kicks him back, then turns to the second companion. She blocks his staff low and twists it over and round in front of him, knocking him off balance. She turns and elbows him in the back, in time to face Tom again. As he's reaching back to swing, she kicks him in the chest, then grabs his shoulder and pushes him to the ground. Edward sits up, still watching in astonishment. She blocks the club again, then swings at the man, who ducks and knocks the sword from her hand. The man with the staff tries to take her feet out, but she steps on the pole and brings her other foot up to kick his friend, then quickly turns back to the staff, grabs it with both hands and pulls it from his grip, sending him tumbling to the ground. For good measure she stabs him in the chest with the end before turning to the other companion, who wrestles her for control of the staff. She does a half spin around, turning the staff over their heads, and flips herself over his back to her feet. She pulls the pole away and knocks him upside the head with it just as Tom engages her again. She holds the end of the staff under her arm and parries Tom's sword, then gives him a mighty heave to the chest as Robin, Much and Allan come round the corner of an outbuilding on horseback. She changes her grip on the staff, slaps Tom's back with it, then takes his feet out from under him as Robin stops at her

side.

ROBIN

Stop!

Robin slides off the saddle and strides over to Tom.

What is going on?

TOM

to Robin: Thank goodness you're here. *to Marian:* This is Robin Hood and you're in big trouble, mate!

Marian shakes her head angrily at Tom, then rushes to her father.

ALLAN

Hoarsely, angrily: What are you doing?

Allan slaps Tom upside the head, then he and Robin step over to Edward.

I am so sorry.

EDWARD

These men were robbing my house.

TOM

Sheathes his sword. Yes, we're robbing his house. That's what we do! We're trying to show the top man what we can do!

ALLAN

Steps to Tom. In Tom's face: These people are our friends!

TOM

Now you tell me. I thought they were—

ALLAN

Interrupting. You don't think! You can't think!

Allan slaps him upside the head again.

ROBIN

to Edward: Are you hurt?

EDWARD

Only my pride. These are your men?

ROBIN

Not for much longer, I promise. *Steps to Tom.* Apologise. Apologise for the disturbance.

Tom doesn't move.

Now!

ALLAN

to Tom: Do as you're told.

Tom reluctantly obeys and Allan slaps his head again. Allan steps back and receives an angry glance from Robin before they follow Tom to the door.

TOM

to Edward, quietly: Sorry.

ROBIN

Louder.

TOM

Glances at Robin, at bit piqued. Louder: Sorry.

ROBIN

to Edward: I knew nothing about this. They will be punished. You have my word.

ALLAN

Robin, I'm so sorry...

ROBIN

Just take them away!

Allan grabs Tom and turns him away. Marian gently pulls on Robin's arm and heads for the stable. Robin follows. They step inside as Much watches.

Stable.

Marian takes off her hood, mask and scarf.

MARIAN

There's a consignment of silver coming down the Great North Road. I was on my way to intercept it.

ROBIN

With disbelief: You?

MARIAN

Yes, me. It is unguarded so as not to attract attention. A simple cart.

ROBIN

A bit jealously: And how do you know this? Another present from Gisborne?

MARIAN

Ignoring his tone: Look, I need to stay with my father. If you want it, you must hurry.

ROBIN

Nods. Thank you.

Robin runs outside to Much.

Much! The North Road.

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Scene Eleven

Sherwood Forest. The Great North Road.

Robin and Much cut through the trees towards the road where two nondescript men are pulling a cart. Robin shoots an arrow into the cart and the men immediately stop.

ROBIN

Dismounts. Sorry about that. We arrived as quickly as we could.

Robin walks over to the cart, pulls out his knife and strikes its handle against the lock. The lock breaks and Robin opens the chest to discover a treasure of worthless stones. He throws the lid back and sighs.

A decoy. What's the Sheriff up to now?

He looks at the silent men, then turns to Much.

MUCH

Well... it looks like we've all had a wasted journey.

Robin leans exasperatedly on the cart.

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Scene Twelve

Nottingham Castle. Sheriff's quarters.

A chest of silver sits near the fireplace. The Sheriff picks up a handful of coins.

SHERIFF

Well done, Gisborne. *Lets the coins slide from his hand back into the chest. Hood wanted silver... walks to another chest on the other side of the fireplace, the arrow still stuck in its side...* instead he got this. *Chuckles as he picks up some rocks, drops them back in and dusts his hands. Pulls the arrow out.* So, who did you tell?

GISBORNE

My sergeant.

SHERIFF

Circling behind Gisborne: Anyone else?

GISBORNE

Quietly: No.

The sheriff whips the back of Gisborne's legs with the arrow.

SHERIFF

You're sure?

GISBORNE

Only my sergeant. It must be him.

SHERIFF

Taps the arrow in his hand, then turns to Gisborne and points at him with it. Make him suffer.

GISBORNE

Oh, I will.

Gisborne turns and leaves.

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Scene Thirteen

Sherwood Forest. Outlaws' camp. Evening.

ROBIN

to Allan: You know I agreed you should make up with your brother.

ALLAN

Yeah?

ROBIN

I've changed my mind.

ALLAN

He was trying to impress you. And he didn't realise who he was robbing. It's just a big house. He doesn't think. Anyway, you don't have to trust them, you have to trust me. I should've kept an eye on him.

ROBIN

Yes, you should have.

ALLAN

Look, when have I ever asked you for anything?

Robin raises his eyebrows at him.

All right, apart from saving my life. He has made a lot of mistakes, I know, I tried to help him. Look, I was like him once. Out of control. But I've changed... because of you, because of being here. If you could give him a second chance—

ROBIN

Interrupting: He's had a second chance.

ALLAN

But if here was with us, with decent men, he could change. Now if I take control, properly, you won't have to worry about him.

Robin stares uncertainly at Allan.

Please? One more chance?

ROBIN

He stole from you and you still defend him.

ALLAN

Shrugs. He's my brother.

ROBIN

Reluctant to agree, sighs. One more chance.

ALLAN

Smiles. Thank you.

Allan walks over to Tom and his companions.

Last chance. Do you understand?

TOM

Nods. All right.

Allan walks away and Tom looks at a companion, who smiles.

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The next morning.

Much kicks Allan awake.

MUCH

Get up!

Much kicks him again.

Get up!

Allan sleepily turns his head as Will comes up behind Much.

They've gone.

ALLAN

Still half asleep: Gone?

WILL

And they've taken everything.

Robin stands on Much's other side.

ALLAN

Everything?

ROBIN

Clothes, money, horses. Everything.

ALLAN

Shakes his head. I will kill him. I'm gonna kill him. Bury him, dig him up and kill him again! *Grimaces.*

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Scene Fourteen

Sherwood Forest. Lucky George's carriage.

Lucky George has stopped in the forest for a break. Tom leads his laden horse near Gisborne's borrowed coach, where Lucky George is dozing in the doorway, his hat over his face. Tom hands off the horse to a companion and strides towards George, drawing his sword.

TOM

In the name of Robin Hood, hand over the money and we won't harm you. *Points sword at Lucky George.*

LUCKY GEORGE

Sits up. Whoa! Son! Don't even think about it. There's half a dozen guards relieving themselves in the forest behind you.

TOM

Do you expect me to believe that?

LUCKY GEORGE

Well, turn around. See for yourself. *Puts his hat over his face again and settles back.*

TOM

Do I look like I was born yesterday?

Lucky George sighs and Tom looks behind him to see six guards coming out of the trees, adjusting their belts. The guards draw their swords and surround him.

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Scene Fifteen

Sherwood Forest. Outlaws' camp.

Will returns to camp, solemn.

WILL

They're to hang.

Everybody unhappily ponders this.

MUCH

They have lied to us, stolen from us. They're nothing but trouble.

LITTLE JOHN

Let them hang.

Everybody looks at Little John.

ALLAN

I agree.

Everybody turns to Allan.

MUCH

You do?

ALLAN

My brother had more chances than he deserved.

ROBIN

Does he deserve to die?

ALLAN

Do we? We go to Nottingham, we'll end up joining him on the scaffolds.

WILL

They took some of our tags. Sheriff's crowing, thinks he's got Robin Hood's men. Now it's like he's daring us to rescue them.

Robin looks up, trying to make a decision.

ALLAN

My brother was never part of this gang, was he? We trusted them and they let us down. That's it. We'd be fools to walk into a trap for them.

All are silent.

Does anyone disagree with me?

Again nobody speaks.

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Scene Sixteen

Knighton Hall. Exterior.

Robin walks up, checking for anyone watching, holds his fingers to his lips and whistles. He glances back again, waiting for Marian to appear at her window.

MARIAN

Chuckles. What do you want?

ROBIN

Holds his hands out to the sides. To talk!

MARIAN

So talk.

Robin jumps up and grabs a horizontal metal bar connecting the stable to a post below Marian's window. He curls his feet over his head and pushes himself up onto the bar, then steps to the loft of the stable beside him and walks over to the window. Marian is smiling slightly, watching his progress. Robin tries to enter window.

Sits on the sill. Playing hard to get. Ah, you can talk from there.

Robin grins at her, staring into her eyes.

What?

ROBIN

Nothing.

MARIAN

You were looking at me.

ROBIN

That's just the way my eyes were pointing. *Sighs.* I'm sorry about yesterday. How's your father?

MARIAN

I hear your men are going to hang.

ROBIN

They're not my men.

MARIAN

They were your men last night.

ROBIN

Sighs. The Sheriff is hanging them in my name, hoping I'll turn up to rescue them. But my men think it's a trap. Has your good friend Guy of Gisborne said anything to you?

MARIAN

I think he was a little preoccupied. But I will go to the castle to see what I can find out.

ROBIN

Shakes his head. If I do not rescue them, people will think I cannot protect my men. Do I risk us all to save them?

MARIAN

Looking Robin in the eye: You are a good man, Robin. Nothing will change that.

Robin stretches his neck up to her for a kiss, but she puts her hand on the side of his face and stops him.

Playfully: Nn-nn.

Robin is frustrated.

That won't help you make your decision.

ROBIN

It might!

MARIAN

It won't!

She smiles at him a moment, then Robin sits on the edge of the loft and grabs the bar to let himself down. He turns to give her one last look before disappearing. Marian chuckles at him before going back inside.

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Scene Seventeen

Nottingham Castle. Exterior corridor by the dungeon door.

Marian is waiting at the top of the stairs to the dungeons as Gisborne comes up. Screams of torture are heard in the background.

GISBORNE

Sees Marian and stops. Marian.

MARIAN

Sir Guy.

GISBORNE

So you did not like it after all.

Marian is puzzled.

The necklace.

MARIAN

No, I do! It's at home.

GISBORNE

You didn't think to wear it?

MARIAN

It is very precious to me. I would not want to lose it.

More screams come from the dungeons. Marian looks down the stairs.

GISBORNE

Come away. This is not for your ears.

Gisborne leads Marian to the cloister.

MARIAN

What is it?

GISBORNE

Do you know the worst crime a man can commit?

MARIAN

Murder.

GISBORNE

Betrayal. My sergeant swore loyalty to me... and then he stabbed me in the back. *Folds his arms and leans on the half wall.* He hasn't admitted it yet, but he will.

MARIAN

Admit what?

GISBORNE

We set a trap to flush out a spy. An unguarded cart.
Someone told Robin Hood.

MARIAN

Solemnly, hiding her guilt: But what if it wasn't him?

GISBORNE

My sergeant was the only one that knew. He was the only
one I told.

MARIAN

Please, Sir Guy. Do not do this.

GISBORNE

Turns to face her: You understand loyalty?

MARIAN

Y—

GISBORNE

Interrupting: The importance of loyalty?

MARIAN

Yes, I do, but—

GISBORNE

Interrupting: So he must pay for his crime.

*Gisborne walks away, leaving Marian concerned for the fate of
the innocent sergeant.*

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Scene Eighteen

Sherwood Forest. A hidden store in the ground.

Will and Djaq lift the camouflage cover off a pit in the ground.

MUCH

Yes, but did Marian say it was a trap?

ROBIN

She didn't know!

Djaq nods to Will and he jumps into the cache.

MUCH

Well, then we cannot go.

Robin turns his head in frustration.

We cannot risk our own lives for three worthless rascals.

ROBIN

Firmly: We're going to Nottingham.

Will tosses a bundle to Little John.

I'll see you there.

Little John glares at Much.

MUCH

Master, surely... Why are we—

ROBIN

Interrupting: For family! For Allan's brother. *Glances at
Allan.* We do not let the Sheriff hang our family... no
matter how unreliable they may be.

ALLAN

Robin... God bless you, my friend.

ROBIN

Don't mention it, my friend.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

LUCKY GEORGE

Pushes Tom away. Get off me! This was clean on!

Lucky George slaps Tom's hand away, then he and the Sheriff leave.

TOM

Calling after them: Robin will save us. He'll be here!

SHERIFF

Without turning around: Oh, no he won't.

† †

Scene Twenty-One

Nottingham Town.

The gang in cloaks make their way through the town, heading for the castle gate. Eleri catches up Much and pulls on his arm. Much turns around, startled.

MUCH

Whispers: What are you doing?

ELERI

Whispers: I must speak to Robin.

MUCH

Why? What's happened?

ELERI

Lord Gisborne took the necklace from me and made me tell— *Sees two guards coming up behind Much.* Kiss me.

Eleri grabs Much's head and gives him a long kiss as the guards walk past. Much is surprised as Eleri looks back to see if they are gone. She turns back to Much and sees his astonished face.

Sorry.

ROBIN

Whispers: Much!

MUCH

Bewildered from the kiss: Ah... tell me what happened.

† †

Another part of town.

Much catches up Robin as he peers round a corner, spying on two sentries at a side entrance to the castle.

MUCH

We have a problem.

ROBIN

We have many problems... most of them guard-shaped. Come on.

Much follows Robin and speaks to him. Robin carries his bow and quiver wrapped up and tied in a blanket.

MUCH

Remember the necklace? Lucky George has got it. And Gisborne knows you gave it to Eleri.

ROBIN

What? How?

Allan is shocked; Marian holds in her emotions; Much expresses his dismay.

Oh, it was very moving. First there was... disappointment... tinged with confusion... soon to be replaced by anger and then tears, just before they realised that it was the final, fatal drop. *Feigning sadness:* It was very moving, very touching.

Allan shakes his head, tears in his eyes, seething in anger.

Yes! *Calling out to the crowd:* I wish you could have seen that, Hood!

Allan starts, but Djaq puts her hand on his arm.

Well, thank you very much. *Starts to step down, then adds as an afterthought:* Oh, will, er, will one of you tell Robin Hood if you do see him? Thank you. Eager, smiling faces. Good. *Steps down off the gallows and up the steps, whistling.* All in a day's work. *Chuckles.* *At the door:* Sheriff coming through!

The doors close behind him. Marian leaves the cloister, going down the exterior corridor. Much sees her leaving.

MUCH

Robin?! Marian!

Robin gathers his bow and quiver as Much puts the guard's helmet on and heads down.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Nottingham Town.

Allan and Djaq have found a secluded dark spot just off the street. Djaq is giving instructions to a young man.

DJAQ

You have come for the belongings of the hanged man, Tom A Dale. You are his cousin. Bring them here quickly.

The boy runs off and Djaq notices Lucky George's new coach go by. She caresses Allan's arm and lets him cry.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Nottingham Castle. West exterior corridor.

Robin pulls Marian by the hand into the corridor, then tosses his guard's helmet to Much, who is already laden with his master's bow, scimitar and the blanket.

ROBIN

Gisborne knows you gave me the necklace. He knows you

betrayed him. You are in grave danger.

MARIAN

In denial: No...

ROBIN

I will get it back for you. He'll be leaving for Knighton Hall, now.

MARIAN

Alarmed: My father...

ROBIN

Wait for me.

MARIAN

I can't leave him!

ROBIN

Marian, you cannot go home now. It is too dangerous.

MARIAN

He is weak already. He cannot defend himself. If...

ROBIN

Interrupting: Marian, look at me. Look at me. Give me time. I will get you the necklace.

Marian turns and leaves. Much steps forward to hand Robin his things and they hurry off to the side gate where Little John and Will are waiting for them. Robin and Much shed their uniforms.

ROBIN

Will, go and find Allan and Djaq.

Will puts up his hood and leaves. Much hurries after him.

to Little John: We need to find Lucky George. He has to be here.

Robin pulls his hood over his head and follows Little John out into town.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Scene Twenty-Three

Knighton Hall. Interior.

Gisborne faces Edward across the table, both seated. Gisborne is patiently holding in his temper, but not his contempt.

EDWARD

What do you want?

GISBORNE

Spits food out onto his plate. Maybe some salt.

EDWARD

Where's Marian?

GISBORNE

Good question.

EDWARD

If you've hurt her... if you've done anything to her...

GISBORNE

Acidly: You'll what?

Edward stares at him, then Marian bursts in the door and sees them.

Speak of the devil.

MARIAN

Breathlessly: Sir Guy. We were not expecting you.

GISBORNE

I know! Sorry. I just popped in for a little chat.

Marian turns into the main room.

Where have you been?

MARIAN

At the hanging. *Steps back to Gisborne.* Can we get you something to drink?

GISBORNE

I don't think so.

Marian stands, waiting, trying not to look alarmed. Gisborne stands and steps over to her.

Show me your necklace.

MARIAN

What necklace?

EDWARD

Stands and goes over to Gisborne. If I may say, Sir Guy—

Gisborne furiously backslaps Edward. Marian is shocked.

GISBORNE

Show me your necklace!

Marian is fearful now.

† †

Scene Twenty-Four

Nottingham Town.

The boy hands Djaq Tom's things and leaves just as Will finds them. He checks behind him, then approaches them.

WILL

Robin is looking for you. *Squats down to them and pulls back his hood. Looks at Allan.* I'm sorry.

Allan snuffles and nods in appreciation.

DJAQ

to Will: Give us a moment.

Will stands, puts his hood back on and steps away a few paces, but within listening distance.

to Allan: I had a brother, a twin. He was killed in your Crusades.

Will looks back at her in astonishment. Allan's eyes cast down.

I became him. His name was Djaq. *Puts her hand on her heart.* He still lives here, inside me... *puts her hand over Allan's heart...* like your brother lives inside you.

ALLAN

Scoffs slightly: That's what I worry about.

DJAQ

Picks up the bundle of Tom's things. Don't you want to take a look?

ALLAN

Look at what? A sack of rags. *Reaches in.* It's not much to show for a life.

Allan frowns, then pulls out the necklace and holds it up to Djaq. They both look at Will, who turns around to see it.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Scene Twenty-Five

Knighton Hall. Interior. Main room.

MARIAN

You would have me prove my innocence?

GISBORNE

Show me the necklace.

MARIAN

Have I committed a crime?

GISBORNE

A bit more demanding: Show me the necklace.

MARIAN

I will not. This is the end of our friendship. How can I be friends with somebody who demands proof of my innocence without stating my crime?

GISBORNE

You betrayed me to Robin Hood. You gave him the necklace. You told him of my plan. And now, you will pay the price.

MARIAN

You have no proof.

GISBORNE

And you have no necklace.

MARIAN

It is upstairs.

GISBORNE

No, it's not.

MARIAN

It is in my bedchamber. I will fetch it for you.

GISBORNE

Through his teeth: Don't waste my time.

MARIAN

Gently: Please. Let me prove myself to you.

Gisborne glares at her, then reluctantly steps back to let her pass. Marian steps slowly but boldly upstairs.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

Scene Twenty-Seven

Knighton Hall. Marian's bedchamber.

Marian is overturning furniture and making a mess when Gisborne appears in the doorway and leans on the jamb.

GISBORNE

Trying to make it look like a robbery?

Marian whirls around, fearful.

Sarcastically: Oh, my! Robin Hood's broken in and stolen [*kicks something out of the way*] the necklace! *Faces Marian. Quietly, sadly:* I thought we were friends.

MARIAN

So did I.

GISBORNE

The only reason you paid me any attention was to feed information to my enemy.

MARIAN

That's not true.

GISBORNE

Why persist with lies? You're dead anyway.

Marian face shows fear, then she crosses to window, her back to Gisborne.

You still do not have the courage to tell me the truth? *Sits on a chair behind him.*

MARIAN

Voice breaking throughout: The truth? The truth is this country is being choked to death. The truth is honest people are being forced to lie and cheat and steal. And if you really want to know the truth...

Outside, Robin edges towards the window from the loft, his back to the wall.

... then you should know that I—

Marian glances down as Robin holds out the necklace to her.

GISBORNE

What?

Marian takes the necklace from Robin's hand. Robin looks up at her expectantly.

MARIAN

I have something to show you.

She slowly turns around to face Gisborne, holding the necklace up. He stares at it incredulously and walks over to her.

GISBORNE

It's not possible.

Marian shoves the necklace into his hand.

MARIAN

Feel it! It is real! And you owe me an apology.

GISBORNE

Staring at the necklace in his hand: I'm sorry. I was wrong. *Suddenly fearful for her:* Marian, I told the Sheriff that you betrayed us.

MARIAN

Tell him you were mistaken.

GISBORNE

He's expecting news of your arrest.

Robin is still outside the window listening with concern.

MARIAN

Show him the necklace.

GISBORNE

No necklace will persuade the Sheriff. How could he trust you after this? I... I cannot protect you.

MARIAN

You must! It is proof!

GISBORNE

You have already defied the Sheriff once. Suspicion will cling to you and your father. You must prove your loyalty beyond all doubt.

MARIAN

Desperately, very quietly: How?

Gisborne grabs her shoulders.

GISBORNE

Marry me.

Robin whirls his head towards the window, not wanting to believe his ears.

It's the only way. As Lady Gisborne, I could protect you. What do you say?

MARIAN

You leave me no time to think.

Scene Twenty-Eight

Sherwood Forest. Eleri and Harri's wedding.

Robin is presiding over the ceremony. A tall pile of roll-sized cakes stands on a table between Eleri and Harri.

ROBIN

I now pronounce you man and wife. You may kiss the bride.

Eleri and Harri lean over the table and give each other a brief kiss. The guests applaud. Robin unenthusiastically claps, too. Someone throws rice over the couple, and Robin smiles a bit as he, too, is part of the shower. Robin steps back to let Little John approach.

A gift!

Little John holds up Lucky George's coat, complete with all its hanging trinkets.

LITTLE JOHN

From Lucky George.

ELERI

Takes the coat. Thank you... for everything.

Will congratulates and hugs Harri as Robin steps away. Much has wasted no time digging into the pile of cakes.

MUCH

With mouth full: Oh, I love a wedding. And this is one of the best cakes I have ever tasted.

Robin glances dejectedly back at Much, then up, wondering if he'll ever have a wedding of his own.

† † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

.END OF EPISODE SEVEN.