

This Merlin Episode Transcript provides a full dialogue log off Episode 06 of Season II “Beauty and the Beast - Part 2” of the [BBC series Merlin](#).

All other information you need connected to this particular Episode can be found in the [Merlin Episode Guides S02e06](#).

Besides the Merlin Episode Guides there are also Image Galleries for each episode.

For Screenshot galleries of this episode check out the [Merlin Episode Captures S02e06](#).

For High resolution Promotional Stills of every episode check out the [Merlin Episode Stills S02e06](#).

Transcript

KILGHARRAH

In a land of myth and a time of magic, the destiny of a great kingdom rests on the shoulders of a young boy. His name: Merlin.

—

[INT. KING’S PALACE, CATRINA’S CHAMBERS - NIGHT] [Queen Catrina relaxes in her chambers.]

JONAS

You look positively foul. Does the enchantment hold?

TROLL (CATRINA)

It works a treat. Uther is like a puppet on a string.

JONAS

What about the boy, Merlin? He knows your secret.

TROLL (CATRINA)

Leave him to me. *cackle*

[Uther enters, Jonas bows and exits.]

JONAS

My Lord.

UTHER

Darling, we are alone at last. What's wrong?

TROLL (CATRINA)

I'm sorry. It's not you. I want this more than anything. This has been the happiest day of my life.

UTHER

Then what is it?

TROLL (CATRINA)

When I was forced to flee my home, the one thing I was able to take with me was my family seal.

UTHER

Yes, you showed it to me when you first arrived.

TROLL (CATRINA)

It's the only surviving link I have to my father, and now it's gone. Stolen from my chambers.

UTHER

Who could've done such a thing?

TROLL (CATRINA)

Oh no, please, I don't want to cause any trouble. Not on a day that should be filled with such joy.

UTHER

Catrina, who took your seal?

TROLL (CATRINA)

It was Arthur's servant, Merlin.

—

[EXT. KING'S PALACE, BATTLEMENTS - DAY] [Arthur walking past the battlements with the palace guards.]

ARTHUR

Search the stables. You, check the kitchens. And alert the guard on the south gate!

GUARD

Search in there. This way!

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Sir Leon and guards enter.]

SIR LEON

Where's Merlin?

GAIUS

Where he always is at this time: working for Arthur. What's this about?

SIR LEON

We've come to arrest him, by order of the King.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, ARTHUR'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Merlin goes about his duties. Arthur enters.]

ARTHUR

You need to get out of here. The King's ordered me to arrest you.

MERLIN

What?

ARTHUR

Catrina's accused you of taking her seal.

MERLIN

But I didn't.

ARTHUR

I don't want to know, and you haven't got time to explain. If you value your life, you'll leave Camelot right now.

MERLIN

Arthur, she is a troll, and she's trying to set me up.

ARTHUR

We've been through this.

MERLIN

I'm telling the truth. I saw her.

[Guards knock on the door.]

ARTHUR

I don't care. You need to leave, Merlin.

[Guards knock on the door.]

GUARD

Sire!

ARTHUR

Go. Go!

[Merlin exits the back way before guards enter the Prince's room.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL CHAMBER OF DOOM - DAY] [Arthur stands before Uther and Catrina.]

ARTHUR

I fear he may have slipped through our net.

CATRINA

You're very quick to give up the chase.

ARTHUR

That is because I know my quarry is long gone.

UTHER

How can you be so certain?

ARTHUR

Well, despite appearances, Merlin isn't stupid. He must've got wind that we were looking for him and left.

CATRINA

Outwitting your army in the process.

ARTHUR

It appears so.

CATRINA

I thought your men aspired to the same high standards that my father instilled in you.

UTHER

When I led the army, they did.

ARTHUR

We don't even know if he's still in Camelot. He could be anywhere.

CATRINA

And that's a good enough reason to give up?

ARTHUR

No, I'm not. It's just that I believe our resources would be better...

UTHER

I've had enough of your excuses. We both have. I want the boy found.

ARTHUR

Sire. My Lady.

[Arthur bows to each of them and exits.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE - DAY] [Troll eating somewhere in the castle.]

TROLL

My plan to undermine Arthur is underway. Soon Uther will detest the sight of his own son.

[The Troll stops and sniffs the air.]

TROLL

What's that, then? What is that smell?

JONAS

A treat. To celebrate. Fresh from the stables.

TROLL

Oh, Jonas, you do know how to treat a lady.

—

[EXT. FOREST - DAY] [Guards are out looking for Merlin in the woods. They find a scarf and an old campfire.]

GUARD

Alert the rest of the guards!

—

[EXT. LOWER TOWN - DAY] [Guards return to Camelot and Gwen talks to Gaius in the street.]

GWEN

They found Merlin's trail. They say he's heading for the northern borders.

GAIUS

I'm sure he'll outrun them.

GWEN

What if he can't? Uther won't show him any mercy.

GAIUS

Try not to worry, Gwen.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Gaius returns and knocks on a barrel full of grain, Merlin emerges.]

MERLIN

That was comfortable.

GAIUS

A necessary evil, I'm afraid. They picked up the trail that we left, but it won't fool them for long.

MERLIN

Then I'd better get busy.

GAIUS

And Merlin, be careful. The guards are still searching for you.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, CORRIDOR - DAY] [Catrina itches as she walks back to her chambers, Merlin spies on them through a grate in the wall.]

JONAS

Mistress, it is time.

TROLL (CATRINA)

Do I have to?

JONAS

You must keep up the pretence!

TROLL (CATRINA)

I hate being like this! So clean! It's revolting. I can't keep it up. This skin, this face! I just want to claw it off!

JONAS

Think of all the money, and the power. Soon it will all be yours.

[Merlin sees her take the potion. The troll skin disappears. Merlin runs to hide when Catrina exits.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL CHAMBER OF DOOM - DAY] [Arthur stands before Uther and Catrina.]

UTHER

There's something important that I...we wish you to address. For too long, the people have had it easy. They've grown fat off our indulgence of them.

ARTHUR

How so?

UTHER

We provide peace, protection, food. They give us very little in return.

ARTHUR

Most of our people are poor. They survive on the few crops they're able to grow.

CATRINA

That is what they would have us believe.

ARTHUR

It's what I see every day.

UTHER

We're introducing a new tax.

CATRINA

The people must for the sanctuary that Camelot provides.

ARTHUR

You can't. The majority are barely able to get by as it is.

UTHER

Those who refuse to pay it will be arrested and publicly flogged.

ARTHUR

We've lived this way for years. You've never suggested anything like this before.

CATRINA

Maybe not to you, but the King confided in me that he has been considering this for some time, haven't you?

UTHER

Yes, I have. You are to begin the collections at once.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, CATRINA'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT] [Merlin sneaks into Catrina's chambers while Jonas is sleeping.]

MERLIN (whisper)

Tospringe.

[Merlin takes the potion bottle.]

—
[INT. KING'S PALACE , PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT]

MERLIN

I saw her drink some of this potion and a patch of troll skin on her arm disappeared.

GAIUS

It must be pretty powerful magic to physically change her like that.

MERLIN

Could you make a potion that looks and tastes the same as this?

GAIUS

I don't know. Yes, I suppose so, but without the troll magic, it wouldn't have the same effect.

MERLIN

Exactly. If I can replace this potion with one that isn't magical.

GAIUS

Ah, so Catrina will keep taking it, but it'll no longer work.

MERLIN

And she'll turn into a troll. Think you can do it?

GAIUS

I don't know.

MERLIN

We have to make the switch before morning or Jonas will notice.

GAIUS

Then it's going to be a long night.

—
[INT. KING'S PALACE, CATRINA'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT] [Catrina enters her chambers warily.]

UTHER

My Lady.

[Catrina is unpleasantly startled.]

CATRINA
My Liege.

UTHER
I brought you flowers picked from the royal garden.

CATRINA
Oh, well they're...they're lovely.

UTHER
Not as lovely as you.

CATRINA
Achoo!

UTHER
Are you all right?

CATRINA
I'm sorry. I don't think I can keep this up any longer.

UTHER
Keep what up?

CATRINA
The lie. I can't keep pretending like this. I'm beginning to wonder if you're really the man I thought you were, the man I fell in love with. The man I married was firm, strong, in both mind and body.

UTHER
Trust me, I am all of those, and more.

CATRINA
I fear for Camelot. Arthur has not taken after his father. He is too weak to make the hard decisions.

UTHER
Then it's lucky I'm in such rude health.

CATRINA

Lucky, indeed, but what if some tragedy were to befall you?

UTHER

Let me worry about Arthur.

CATRINA

No, I can't. Your love for him has made you blind to his faults.

UTHER

I judge Arthur the same as the rest of my men. If he excels, he is rewarded. If he fails, he is punished.

CATRINA

Well, so long as you're sure of that.

UTHER

I am. Now let me take your mind off this. I promise, our first night as husband and wife will be one to remember.

[Catrina breathes on him to knock him out.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT] [Gaius replicating potion.]

MERLIN

What's in it?

GAIUS

Nothing too potent. Rat's guts.

MERLIN

Nice.

GAIUS

Toad paste. Take two toads, grind them up...

MERLIN

No, I get the picture.

GAIUS

Horse dung. Crushed sheep's eyeball.

MERLIN

Oh, lovely.

GAIUS

Pond scum. Three wolf spiders. And what potion isn't complete without a dash of sheep's brain?

MERLIN

Sounds delicious.

GAIUS

Good, 'cause you're going to taste it.

MERLIN

No way.

GAIUS

It's completely harmless.

MERLIN

Er, no. *gags* That is...ugh. That is disgusting.

GAIUS

Yes, to you, but not to a troll.

MERLIN

I can't even believe you let me put that in my mouth.

GAIUS

Yes, well, try the original.

MERLIN

Oh...

GAIUS

Just a small amount. And be sure to spit it out.

[Merlin gags and spits.]

GAIUS

Does it taste roughly the same?

MERLIN

Yes! It's horrible.

GAIUS

Are you sure? Because if there's too big a difference, Catrina will notice.

MERLIN

It tastes exactly the same.

GAIUS

Well, let's hope she thinks so, too.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, CORRIDOR/CATRINA'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT] [Merlin sneaks past patrolling guards in Catrina's corridor and puts fake potion back in her chamber.]

MERLIN

Tospringe.

[Merlin hears someone coming and hides in wardrobe. Jonas enters and sits. Merlin notices he left the cupboard door open.]

MERLIN

Fýrbendum fæst.

[Jonas investigates the cupboard noise.]

—

[EXT. LOWER TOWN - DAY] [Arthur takes a walk. He sees guards wrestling with a man.]

ARTHUR

What do you think you're doing?!

GUARD

He's refusing to pay the King's tax.

MAN

You- you ask for too much.

[Gwen comes out of her house.]

MAN

I've given all I can.

GUARD

That's not enough!

[The crowd stares at Arthur imploringly.]

ARTHUR

Let me see.

[Arthur looks in the money pouch and hands it to the man.]

ARTHUR

Release him.

GUARD

The King said...

ARTHUR

Release him. Give them back their money. All of it.

[Arthur leaves and people smile and bow to him.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL CHAMBER OF DOOM - DAY] [Arthur standing before Uther and Catrina.]

UTHER

I gave you a direct order.

ARTHUR

The people cannot afford to pay the tax.

CATRINA

Don't tell me you're naïve enough to take them at their word?

ARTHUR

We have their loyalty, their goodwill. Do not forsake that by making unreasonable demands.

CATRINA

Is it so unreasonable for a king to expect his subjects to obey him?

ARTHUR

They'll starve!

UTHER

Nonsense. They've grown too soft. Remember, these are your subjects, not your friends.

ARTHUR

And why can't they be both?

UTHER

Because we rule the people, not the other way around.

ARTHUR

I think you're wrong.

UTHER

I beg your pardon?

ARTHUR

I said you're wrong. Without the people there is no Camelot. We're as much their servant as they are ours.

CATRINA

You allow him to address you in this manner?

UTHER

No I do not. It will not be tolerated. You will take your men down into the town and go to every house collecting the payments I demand.

ARTHUR

I will not.

UTHER

Get out of my sight.

[Arthur bows and exits.]

UTHER

How can he do this to me? My own son? After all the sacrifices I've made for him!

CATRINA

Oh, you are tense.

UTHER

Is it any surprise? The lack of respect he shows me.

CATRINA

Oh, I'm sorry. Did that hurt?

UTHER

No, of course not. No, it's...but your hands are surprisingly strong for one so delicate.

CATRINA

Arthur carries a heavy burden. It can't be easy holding all that responsibility at such a tender age.

UTHER

I'm afraid that's the way it has to be. After all, I cannot rule Camelot alone.

CATRINA

Well, you don't have to. You married me, remember?

UTHER

How can I forget?

[Uther tries to kiss Catrina.]

CATRINA

I'm sorry, I can't. I'm too worried about you. With Arthur letting you down the way he has, how will you cope? Like you said, you can't rule Camelot alone.

UTHER

I have you by my side.

CATRINA

Oh, I may be your queen, but I have no power.

UTHER

Why not?

CATRINA

Well, the people wouldn't respect me as they do Arthur. I'm not heir to the throne.

UTHER

Would it put your mind at rest if you were?

CATRINA

Oh, it would. It most definitely would.

UTHER

Then you shall be. The ceremony will take place this afternoon.

[Catrina breathes on Uther to knock him out.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, CATRINA'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Merlin still hiding in wardrobe. Catrina!Troll enters.]

TROLL (CATRINA)

Jonas, it's time for my potion.

JONAS

Are your plans progressing as you'd hoped.

TROLL (CATRINA)

Yes, not a moment too soon.

[Catrina!Troll seems to notice something and walks over to wardrobe only to look in the mirror.]

TROLL (CATRINA)

I must admit, though, that crown will look rather fetching. All that gold, and them lovely

jewels.

CATRINA

Now, would you care to accompany your queen?

[They exit. Merlin comes out of hiding and exits.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, ARTHUR'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Arthur pouts in his chambers. There's a knock at the door.]

ARTHUR

Come in. Guinevere!

GWEN

I saw what you did earlier. The people owe you a debt of gratitude.

ARTHUR

The people owe me nothing. My father's still going to impose the tax.

GWEN

Will he not be persuaded?

ARTHUR

Not by me. He can't stand the sight of me.

GWEN

That's not true. The King loves you.

ARTHUR

You should've heard the way he spoke to me.

GWEN

I'm sure he was angry, but you're still his son. Everyone appreciates what you did. They know you tried, and they won't forget that.

ARTHUR

Maybe he's right. One day I will be the King of Camelot, and I cannot be a friend to the people as well as their ruler.

GWEN

That's not true, and you will prove it when you become King. You've a kind heart, Arthur. Don't ever change. Not for anyone.

[A knock at the door. Leon enters.]

SIR LEON

The King has sent for you.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL CHAMBER OF DOOM - DAY] [Arthur enters. The full council is assembled.]

ARTHUR

Father?

UTHER

I'm relaxing your duties, revoking your title.

ARTHUR

What?

UTHER

We live in dangerous times, I cannot allow you to undermine my authority.

ARTHUR

You've always welcomed my counsel in the past.

UTHER

You stood against me for all the people to see.

ARTHUR

I'm sorry. Any future grievance I have will be held in private.

UTHER

No, it's too late for that.

ARTHUR

Father, this is...

UTHER

You are to be disinherited, with immediate effect. You are no longer Crown Prince of Camelot.

GAIUS

Sire, Arthur is your son, your natural heir...

ARTHUR

Gaius...You've always taught me to be true to my heart, and that's all I've ever tried to do. To be the man you wanted me to be. Someone you were proud to call your son.

UTHER

My decision is final.

[Arthur leaves.]

UTHER

Queen Catrina will be named as rightful heir to the throne. The ceremony will begin forthwith.

[Sir Leon begins the slow clap.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Merlin enters.]

MERLIN

We've done it! Catrina's drank the fake potion. What's wrong? What's happened?

GAIUS

Uther has disinherited Arthur and made Catrina his heir.

MERLIN

So if Uther dies, she will rule Camelot.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, HALL OF CEREMONIES - DAY]

GEOFFREY

We are gathered here to bear witness to the naming of Queen Catrina as the rightful heir to Camelot. Are you willing to take the oath?

CATRINA

I am.

GEOFFREY

Do you solemnly swear to govern the people of Camelot, to uphold the laws and customs of the land?

CATRINA

I...do. *itches*

GEOFFREY

Will you, to your power cause law and justice in mercy to be executed in all your judgments?

CATRINA

I will.

GEOFFREY

Will you, to the utmost of your powers...

[Catrina checks her arm and sees troll skin.]

GEOFFREY

...maintain the laws...

CATRINA

Yes, yes.

GEOFFREY

I'm sorry, you-you must let me finish. The wording must be exactly right to be binding.

CATRINA

Well, get on with it then. I mean, really, where did you dig up this old crone from?

UTHER

She's right. Get on with it.

GEOFFREY

Will you, to the utmost of your powers...

CATRINA

Yes, yes.

GEOFFREY

...maintain the laws and customs...

CATRINA

I will, I will.

GEOFFREY

...of the land, and serve the people of Camelot?

CATRINA

Yes! Just shut up and give me the crown!

[The court gasps. Geoffrey presents the crown to Catrina.]

CATRINA

Will you just hurry up!

[Catrina grabs crown and jams it on her head while running out of the Hall of Ceremonies.]

UTHER

Catrina!

[Uther follows her into the Red Ribbon Corridor followed shortly by Morgana, Jonas, and Merlin. Catrina tries to find a way to escape.]

UTHER

Catrina!

[Guards point him toward the Council Chamber of Doom.]

UTHER Catrina!

[Merlin magically closes the council chamber doors so Catrina can't escape.]

UTHER

Whatever's the matter?

CATRINA

I'm sorry...[hides troll arm.] I don't know what came over me. I, I just suddenly felt so hot. I, do you know, I think I need to be on my own, alright?

MORGANA

Are you alright?

CATRINA

Yes, yes, I'm, I'm fine. Really, thank you. I just...

MERLIN

Fýrbendum fæst.

[Merlin's spell locks the door.]

CATRINA

Come on. Come on.

TROLL (CATRINA)

Open!

ARTHUR

Let me.

[Arthur sees Catrina's troll arm and backs away.]

ARTHUR

What's that?

[Catrina begins to transform.]

MORGANA

What's happening? Somebody help her!

[Catrina completely transforms.]

ARTHUR

You're a troll!

TROLL

gasp

[Uther's reverie is broken.]

UTHER

How dare you speak about her like that!

ARTHUR

What is wrong with you? Look at the state of her!

MORGANA

I don't believe it.

[The troll rips open the door and exits with a snarl.]

ARTHUR

She just ripped a door off its hinges. Doesn't that tell you something?

UTHER

Enough!

ARTHUR

She's a troll! A giant...grey...

MORGANA

Stinking.

ARTHUR

Stinking troll!

UTHER

Stop it! Haven't you hurt her feelings enough? Insult my wife again, it'll be the last thing you ever do.

[Morgana and Arthur stare slackjawed at Uther as he picks up Catrina's shoes and crown and exits.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, CATRINA'S CHAMBERS] [Uther goes to his troll wife.]

UTHER

I'm so sorry that you had to hear those terrible things.

TROLL

He- he- he's just taking time to adjust. He'll soon get used to having a stepmother around.

UTHER

How could he compare such beauty with a troll?

TROLL (shrug)

Search me. I washed my face and everything.

[Uther kisses her forehead.]

TROLL

What is it?

UTHER

It's just your scent, it's- it's so...fragrant.

TROLL

Hmm. Well, it's er, it's mostly...dung.

UTHER

And such a sense of humour, too. I was so blessed it was my castle you came to. That I may look upon this vision every day.

TROLL

Well, beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

UTHER

And I shall behold it.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL CHAMBER OF DOOM] [Council members enter to approach Uther.]

UTHER

I wasn't aware we were due to convene the council. What's this about? Come on. Someone speak up.

GAIUS

I'm afraid it's your wife, Sire.

UTHER

Yes, what about her?

GAIUS

It's a rather delicate matter, Sire.

UTHER

Gaius, you've been my trusted advisor for many years. You can speak as you will.

GAIUS

I don't suppose it's escaped your notice, Sire, but we just...just wanted to make absolutely certain. You do realise your wife is a troll, Sire.

UTHER

I beg your pardon?

GAIUS

At least that's the way she looks to us. What with the warts, and the nose...

SIR LEON

And the smell.

UTHER

The smell? What?

GAIUS

She also has, what appears to be, a set of fangs.

UTHER

What?

SIR LEON

I wouldn't really say they were fangs. More like tusks.

GAIUS

Yes, they are more like tusks. Not that we're saying that's necessarily a bad thing. I just thought I ought to point it out to you in case it had passed you by.

UTHER

The next person to insult Queen Catrina will be charged with treason, and beheaded

according to the laws of the land.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS]

GAIUS

Uther must be enchanted. It's the only explanation.

MERLIN

Which is why we have to find a way to break it.

GAIUS

You won't find anything in your magic books. Troll enchantments are too strong.

MERLIN

Then what are we going to do?

GAIUS

You must speak to the dragon. If there's a way to break Catrina's hold on Uther, he'll know it. But be careful, dragons and trolls have been close allies in the past.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL DINING CHAMBER OF DOOM - DAY] [Troll dines with Uther.]

UTHER

Is everything to your satisfaction?

TROLL

Er, no. This thing's got to go for a start.

[Troll points at her chair, tries to get up, but her large bum is stuck in it.]

TROLL

It's made for midgets! Too hard, too clean! Not my taste at all.

UTHER

What can I get you instead?

TROLL

Ah. I was walking through the grounds this morning, and I couldn't help but notice that your stables have just been mucked out. It seems such a waste to throw away all that lovely dung.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, DRAGON'S CAVE] [Kilgharrah laughs heartily at Merlin's news.]

MERLIN

This isn't funny.

KILGHARRAH

Oh, it is, it is. The thought of Uther marrying a troll! Was it a very public affair?

MERLIN

Public enough.

[Kilgharrah laughs some more.]

MERLIN

Don't laugh! If she can't be stopped, Arthur won't become King. Albion will never be born.

KILGHARRAH

I'm sorry. You are right, of course.

MERLIN

How can we break the enchantment?

KILGHARRAH

These are not trifling tricks. Troll magic is very powerful.

MERLIN

There has to be a way.

KILGHARRAH

The only way you could break this enchantment is if Uther were to cry tears of true remorse.

MERLIN

How do we make him do that?

KILGHARRAH

That I can't answer. Uther's heart is cold as stone. He's never been sorry for anything.

MERLIN

Thanks, I think.

KILGHARRAH

Young warlock, it was some time ago you promised to set me free. The help I give is not unconditional.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL CHAMBER OF DOOM - DAY] [Troll eats, sitting on dung heap, while the council looks on in disgust. She hands a piece of dung to Uther.]

TROLL

That is for you. Now, tell them about our plan, beloved. Plan.

UTHER

We're introducing further taxes.

SIR LEON

Sire, we can't. The people've given all they can.

UTHER

You told me that before, and yet our coffer is full.

SIR LEON

Your people are already going hungry.

UTHER

Are you questioning my orders?

SIR LEON

It's just, if we take more, they'll starve.

UTHER

Who are you to tell me what's best for my people? You will collect more taxes, or you will lose your head.

TROLL (cackles)

Lose your head. (cackles) Lose his head.

UTHER

I understand Bayard of Mercia wishes to honour our marriage with a visit.

SIR LEON

Yes, Sire.

TROLL

Oh, good! Now, tell this Bayard we expect gifts. Lots of lovely shiny gold.

SIR LEON

I- I think at this time it might be wise to...

TROLL

belch

SIR LEON

...to respectfully decline his offer of a visit.

UTHER

Whatever for?

SIR LEON

I'm still not sure that we can trust Bayard.

UTHER

Nonsense. He is a friend of Camelot. You will send our reply . It will be an honour to feast with him.

TROLL

Honour.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS - DAY]

MERLIN

The dragon said he had to cry tears of true remorse to break the enchantment.

GAIUS

Well, that's not going to be easy. Uther's heart's closed to everyone.

MERLIN

Well, not everyone. Arthur.

GAIUS

Then there's only one course of action we can take. Uther must see his son die.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, ARTHUR'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Arthur goes to bed and blows out the candle.]

MERLIN (whisper)

Arthur! Arthur!

[Arthur bolts out of bed and grabs a sword from his bedside table.]

ARTHUR

Who's there?

[Merlin pops out from under the bed.]

MERLIN

Merlin.

ARTHUR

You're back.

MERLIN

I never left.

ARTHUR

You mean to say...

MERLIN

Yes.

ARTHUR

You've been under there this whole time.

MERLIN

No. Course not. No.

ARTHUR

'cause if you were...

MERLIN

I wasn't, I swear. So your, er, your stepmother is a troll, then.

ARTHUR

If you say "I told you so"...

MERLIN

I wasn't going to. I wouldn't. But it's true that if you had listened to me earlier, then...Sorry. Gaius and I believe your father's been enchanted, now we found a way to break the spell, but we need your help.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, ARTHUR'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT] [Arthur, now fully dressed, consults with Merlin and Gaius.]

ARTHUR

So your great plan is to kill me?

MERLIN

No. Well, yes. It...not exactly. It's...Gaius has made a potion that gives the appearance of death without the actual dying bit. It's fine. There's nothing to worry about. It'll only bring you to the brink of death.

ARTHUR

Oh, only to the brink.

MERLIN

We haven't got a choice.

GAIUS

We have to make your father cry.

ARTHUR

He doesn't care about me anymore.

GAIUS

Nonsense. That's Catrina's influence. I've known your father for many, many years. There's

never been anyone or anything he's treasured more than you. It's perfectly safe. A single drop of the antidote will reverse the effects immediately.

ARTHUR

Antidote. What antidote? You didn't say anything about the antidote!

MERLIN

Er...I didn't think it was important.

GAIUS

The potion will lower your heart rate and breathing. For all intents and purposes, you will be dead.

ARTHUR

And the antidote reverses the effects?

GAIUS

Yes. If it's administered in time.

ARTHUR

If it isn't?

GAIUS

You will be dead.

ARTHUR

You just said it wasn't important!

MERLIN

Erm...yeah, I suppose it is a bit important.

GAIUS

Merlin will have the antidote. Once I have administered the poison....er, the potion, he'll have half an hour to get it to you.

ARTHUR

Don't be late.

MERLIN

Am I ever?

GAIUS

Are you sure you want to go through with this?

ARTHUR

It's the only way to save Camelot.

[Arthur rolls his eyes and drinks the potion, waits, shrugs, then passes out.]

GAIUS

Time to break the bad news to Uther.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, CENTRAL CORRIDOR - NIGHT] [Merlin peeks around a corner and jogs down the corridor. Jonas drops a vase on Merlin's head and the antidote bottle falls down the Griffin Staircase and breaks. Uther goes to Arthur's Chambers to find his "dead" son.]

UTHER

My boy.

[Merlin wakes, finds the broken bottle.]

UTHER

It was my fault. I pushed you away.

[Merlin soaks up the antidote with his neckerchief. Troll finds Uther cradling his "dead" son.]

UTHER

My son. My son.

TROLL

Come away. There's nothing you can do for him now.

UTHER (cries)

I killed him. I killed my only son!

TROLL

No, no, no, no. Nu meht þú begalan. Nu meht þú...

[Troll pulls on his arm and Uther finally turns around, tears streaming down his face.]

UTHER

Catrina? What kind of trickery is this?

TROLL

How I've suffered these last weeks. Allowing you to touch me! Having to share a bed with you!

UTHER

Ugh.

TROLL

It's repulsive.

UTHER

I know the feeling.

TROLL

Ooh, I've been looking forward to this.

UTHER

Guards! Seize....it!

[Merlin brings antidote sopped neckerchief to Arthur and squeezes out one drop to revive him. Arthur tries to attack Troll.]

TROLL

Is that any way to treat your dear old stepmother?

[She throws Arthur then fights off Uther and guards. Jonas goes for Arthur, Arthur runs him through. Troll goes for Arthur again.]

MERLIN

Fléoge hrægl.

[The spell pulls the rug out from under Troll; she lands on her back. Arthur runs her through.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL DINING CHAMBER OF DOOM - DAY] [Uther and Arthur at dinner.]

UTHER

Ahem I'd like to thank you for exposing this attack on our state. Once again, magic was used to strike at the heart of Camelot.

ARTHUR

You mean, your heart. How many nights did you share a bed with a troll?

UTHER

Obviously I was under its spell.

[Arthur sniggers.]

UTHER

I did many things that I...regret.

ARTHUR

Father, I really don't want to know the details. (laughs)

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, CORRIDOR - DAY] [Arthur finds Merlin walking down the corridor.]

ARTHUR

Merlin. I want you to know that I never doubted you. Alright, maybe I did, but it's your own fault. You've got a suspicious look about you. Shifty. Like you've got something to hide.

MERLIN

I am an open book.

ARTHUR

I don't believe that for a second. However, I do know that without your help, I'd still have a troll for a stepmother. Well, thanks. Whoa. What are you doing?

MERLIN

I thought you were going for a hug.

ARTHUR

No.

MERLIN

No.

Source: Transcribed Film and TV Scripts