

VEIL OF THE HINDERLANDS

Written by [Your Name]

FADE IN:

EXT. HINDERLANDS – TWILIGHT

A dense, mist-choked forest stretches endlessly. Gnarled trees claw at the sky. The fog glows faintly with hidden magic.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

They call it the Hinderlands... a place where the veil between worlds runs thin. Few enter. Fewer return.

INT. FOREST CLEARING – CONTINUOUS

A young traveler, EIRA (20s, sharp-eyed, cautious), pushes through the fog. A crude map is clutched in her trembling hand.

She hears a RUSTLE. Whirls. Nothing.

EIRA

(under her breath)

Keep moving. Just keep moving.

She presses forward. The mist shifts—revealing faintly glowing RUNES carved into a massive stone arch.

Eira gasps.

EIRA

The Gate...

She steps closer, hand hovering just above the carved surface.

Suddenly—A SHADOW leaps from the fog. A beast with glowing eyes and twisted antlers: a HINDERBEAST.

It snarls.

Eira stumbles back, fumbling for a dagger.

EIRA

Stay back...

The beast lunges. Eira slashes desperately—SPARKS fly where steel meets its hide. The beast ROARS.

Suddenly, a FLASH of light. The beast reels. Standing in the mist is KAEI (30s, weathered, mysterious), cloak flowing, staff glowing faintly.

KAEL

(to Eira)

If you value your life, stay behind me.

He slams the staff into the ground. Energy ripples outward. The Hinderbeast SHRIEKS and vanishes into mist.

Eira collapses, breathing hard.

EIRA

Who... who are you?

KAEL

A guide. Nothing more.

EIRA

A guide doesn't summon lightning.

Kael smirks faintly, then turns toward the archway.

KAEL

You're seeking the Veil. Aren't you?

Eira hesitates, then nods. Kael studies her, expression unreadable.

KAEL

Then you should know... the Veil does not part without cost.

The mist thickens around them, whispering like voices.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Beyond the arch lies a truth forgotten... and a darkness waiting.

Kael steps forward. Eira follows, fear and determination in her eyes.

They cross the threshold together—into the UNKNOWN.

FADE OUT.