

CUT TO:

EXT. PALACE PATIO - SUNSET

BOT removes the dying leaves from a plant. In the back, BAN sits on the edge of a small terrace, reading the journal.

A windchime sits perfectly still. A pile of weeds and withered leaves gather at BOT's feet.

BAN
(to Bot)
Do you still remember our promise, or will you pretend to have forgotten it?

Bot stops handling the plant. She gains an amused smile.

BOT
Which promise?

BAN
The promise to cure sorrow, misery, death. I was almost there. What was so wrong with what I built?

BOT
You built a bridge across the sea. Tell me: where does the water go?

The deity slides over and goes to kiss Bot's forehead. Bot just stares at her.

BAN
I miss you. I miss how we used to talk. Can you stop being wise and just talk to me?

It takes a moment for the words to reach their destination. Bot's years of discipline and resolve melt away for an instant, as her eyes choose to betray her humanity.

BOT
I don't have the answers you seek. We could talk for aeons and you'd still hear only what you wish to hear.

BAN
Your voice. That's all I want to hear.

(voiceover)

EXT. OVERGROWN RUINS - DAYTIME

BOT (O.S.)

A hundred aeons are but a moment. The same sun circles the sky, the same silence sets at night. The same stories I heard yesterday or an eternity ago.

Bot walks through an overgrown path. She carries a little pot, with a blue flower in it.

BOT (voiceover)

You can only lose what you cling to, so letting go has been my freedom. Freedom is the condition to happiness, and still I root myself to your command. What is my reward?

Bot sits at the edge of a ruined window, looking over the trees at the bottom of the hill. The flower beside her. In her lap the journal. In her hands, a pen.

BOT (voiceover)

I've watched you collect dreams and sorrows, explore countless continents, and build beautiful palaces in which you carefully sampled every emotion, thought, and fear. When you're ready, I'll help you pack their essence and guide you out.

BOT (voiceover)

We're not meant to be eternal, my dear god. We're infinite.