

PROPHECY OF A MINDREADER

Screenplay by
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Based on the book
Prophecy of a Mindreader

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EXT. BUS STOP - MORNING

It's a cold and windy morning. JIMMY, 14, blonde and anxious, stands alone at the bus stop. He leans against a large green pole to partially hide from the cold. The Zyfred Academy's golden "Z" sits on top of the pole.

Jimmy hears his mom talking in his head, or "reading" to him. He answers back with telepathy, so his lips don't move.

JIMMY'S MOM (O.S.)
How's the bus?

JIMMY (V.O.)
Apparently, it's late. I'm still standing outside.

JIMMY'S MOM (O.S.)
Isn't it a little windy outside?

JIMMY (V.O.)
More than a little.

JIMMY'S MOM (O.S.)
Do you wanna come back inside?

SKREEEEEECCCHHHH!

A screeching sound announces a bus coming in at top speed.

JIMMY (V.O.)
Nope, it's here. Bye, mom.

The bus skids to a stop, jolting the passengers. The bus is emerald green like the pole, with a golden "Z" as well. The four decker bus towers over Jimmy.

JIMMY'S MOM (O.S.)
Give this school a chance. Don't worry about making friends.

JIMMY (V.O.)
I'm not worried, mom, okay? Bye.

The double doors open and a Goblin BUS DRIVER with bumpy green skin, a square, bald head, large pointy ears, and coal-black eyes sits in the driver's seat.

BUS DRIVER
Welcome aboard!

Jimmy climbs onto the bus.

INT. ZYFRED ACADEMY BUS - MORNING

Jimmy steps onto the bus. He looks at the bus driver. They stare at each other for moment.

BUS DRIVER

I bet you don't have many friends.

JIMMY

(to himself)

Unbelievable.

Jimmy looks away and starts for the stairs. He is stopped by a LOUD WHISTLE.

BUS DRIVER

Hey! Mind Reader! Freshman like you are down here.

Jimmy turns and nods to the bus driver, then makes his way down the aisle. The bus is enormous and crowded. You can hear the racket from all four levels bouncing around the bus.

The first level is also huge. There are booths along both sides. Silver tables flank the center aisle with tall blue benches between them. There is a bowl of fruit on every table, except for one.

CAMILLE, a pretty Sorceress with long, flaming-red hair, sits at a table with a bowl of candy in front of her. Her legs are outstretched on the bench. A yellow hardcover book hides her face. Jimmy walks by, trying not to bump her.

CAMILLE

Hey!

Jimmy jumps, startled by her high pitched voice.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)

Wanna a piece of candy?

JIMMY

A...Are you sure?

She lowers her book, revealing lovely pale skin with small brown freckles and thick black glasses framing emerald eyes.

CAMILLE

If I wasn't, I wouldn't have asked.

Jimmy is stunned for a moment, but quickly gathers himself and sits down on a bench opposite. Camille swings her legs around and sits upright.

Jimmy uses Telekinesis to put his trunk up on the shelf.

JIMMY

What have you got here?

Tommy hides his hands in his lap. They feel sweaty.

CAMILLE

Marshmallow Melts, Gummy Slugs,
Orange Bursts. I don't like fruit.

JIMMY

Sweet or sour Gummy Slugs?

Camille looks up and scoffs.

CAMILLE

Sweet and sweet only.

Jimmy wipes his hands on his pants.

JIMMY

Nice, I'll take some Gummy Slugs.

Jimmy reaches in at exactly the same time as Camille. Their hands touch. Pause. Then quickly retreat.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

Oh, I'm....

CAMILLE

No, that's okay.

They both laugh. She grabs a Marshmallow melt. He grabs a Gummy Slug.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)

What's your name? I don't think you said it.

JIMMY

Jimmy.

CAMILLE

Okay. Nice to meet you, Jimmy. I'm Camille Laroy.

JIMMY

Nice to meet you.

They chew in silence, then both start talking, then stop.

JIMMY (CONT'D)

So, do you have a favorite book?

CAMILLE
Uh, don't ask me that.

JIMMY
Why? What do you mean?

CAMILLE
Because I love so many books! I can't just pick one. Know what I mean?

JIMMY
Yeah. Because if you pick one, then later you'll think of all the ones you could have chosen.

CAMILLE
Exactly!

JIMMY
Okay, okay. Forget I asked that. So what about genre? Do you prefer a certain type of book?

CAMILLE
I prefer historical fiction. But I've read a few human books lately. Did you like The Extraordinary Adventures of Princess Elena and Prince Jonathan?

JIMMY
No, not really.

CAMILLE
What?

JIMMY
I just didn't like it. I thought Alexander Mayhew's action sequences were boring.

Camille gasps.

CAMILLE
I can't believe this. You didn't think the battle scene with the ice and fire dragons was amazing?

JIMMY
No.

He laughs.

CAMILLE
Not even when the Ashmen came out?

JIMMY
No. I didn't think they were cool.

She rolls her eyes, exasperated.

CAMILLE
Oh my staffs, I can't believe this.
They're the best part of the book.

JIMMY
No, the best part of the book was
when it ended.

She laughs.

CAMILLE
Shut up.

She acts like she's going to slap his hand, but she reaches for another Marshmallow Melt instead. They both laugh.

SABRINA (O.S.)
Hey!

SABRINA, a petite Sorcerer with auburn hair and yellow green eyes, pokes her head out of the crowded booth across the aisle. She has one hand on her knee and the other holds her long golden staff with a shimmering diamond on top.

CAMILLE
Yeah?

SABRINA
Is he bothering you?

CAMILLE
Uh, no.

Sabrina runs her fingers through her hair, showing off her dazzling earrings and dozens of shiny rings. JASON, a broad shouldered Sorcerer with wavy golden hair pops his head out. He sees Jimmy and laughs.

JASON
Hey, Sabrina, you know who that is?

Sabrina shakes her head.

SABRINA
Jason, this is not the time.

She looks over at Jimmy and stares for a moment.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

Oh my staffs! You're Jimmy Osan,
William Osan's son, aren't you? the
disgraced former Mind Reader
Advisor.

He looks away from Camille as he nods "yes."

SABRINA (CONT'D)

Seriously, girl? You're sitting
with William Osan's kid? Come on,
sit with us. You're way better off,
Sorceress.

Camille settles deeper into her seat, her chin raised high.

CAMILLE

That's okay. I'd rather sit here.

JASON

Are you joking? His father tried to
destroy the Chain of Powers.

SABRINA

He's right. I'm sorry, what's your
name?

Camille sits up straight. Sabrina stares at her.

CAMILLE

Camille Laroy. And you are?

SABRINA

Sabrina. That's Jason.

CAMILLE

Nice to meet you.

SABRINA

Do you really want to sit with some
Mind Reader whose father nearly
destroyed the kingdom? You're
better off with your own kind.

CAMILLE

William Osan didn't nearly destroy
the kingdom. Did you even pay
attention in history class?

SABRINA

Excuse me?

CAMILLE

The only thing William Osan did was propose the unification of the Chain of Powers, not a superiority amongst creatures.

JASON

Yeah, that's a problem.

CAMILLE

It was a failed bill, that's all it was. There was no war, no fighting, no dramatics. And Jimmy here is, well... he's just his kid. So why don't you just leave him alone?

Jimmy gets a huge smile on his face.

JASON

You've got to be kidding me.

Camille shifts herself to face Jason and the other Sorcerers.

JASON (CONT'D)

You're going to defend some random Mind Reader you've just met who just happens to be William Osan's son? What makes you think that's a good idea?

CAMILLE

Yet you want me to sit with you guys even though I just met you? Is that a good idea?

Sabrina twirls her staff and it flickers light.

SABRINA

We're Sorcerers. He's not. He doesn't understand you. Jason and I know you better than he ever will.

Sabrina twirls faster. Camille stares at the staff.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

Come on, Camille, you know we're right.

CAMILLE

Well...

SABRINA

You don't really want to sit with Jimmy Osan, do you?

Sabrina twirls faster. Camille is now entranced.

CAMILLE

I...uh...

Jimmy jumps up. He kicks Sabrina's staff, knocking it over and stopping the trance. The light stops.

JIMMY

Enough. She doesn't want to sit with you.

SABRINA

Watch it, Jimmy. No one touches my staff but me.

JIMMY

I don't care. Stop using Sorcery manipulation to try and gain a friend. That's pathetic. Just leave her alone.

Sabrina steps up face to face with Jimmy.

SABRINA

Did Daddy teach you not to be afraid of Sorcerers? Oh, come on, Jimmy. That's why your father is dead. He's the reason...

He bows up at her and gets in her face.

JIMMY

SHUT UP! Just shut up!

JASON

Hey!

Jason jumps out of his seat and pushes Jimmy back.

JASON (CONT'D)

Did you just touch my girlfriend?

Jimmy looks around. The entire bus is now craning their necks to watch.

JASON (CONT'D)

What? Too scared to answer me? Too scared of me, Osan? That's right, you better be.

Jason clamps a large hand on Jimmy shoulder and squeezes.

JASON (CONT'D)
 Don't you ever touch or insult my
 girlfriend. Got it?

Jimmy nods.

JIMMY
 I didn't do either. And, your
 breath smells like onions.

Camille laughs. Jason looks over at her, then back at Jimmy.

JASON
 What did you say to me?

Jason bows up to Jimmy. Jimmy bows up, though much smaller.

The bus slams to a stop. They all fall into each other.

BUS DRIVER (O.S.)
 What is going on back there?

The bus driver comes down the aisle.

BUS DRIVER (CONT'D)
 Alright, tell me what happened.

SABRINA
 He touched my staff.

Sabrina points at Jimmy.

CAMILLE
 Well, he shoved Jimmy.

Camille points to Jason.

SABRINA
 Because this little Mind Reader
 touched my staff.

Jason starts to push Jimmy, who pushes back. The bus driver
 steps between Jason and Jimmy.

BUS DRIVER
 That's enough! That's enough!

He looks over at Jimmy.

BUS DRIVER (CONT'D)
 Well?

JIMMY
 What?

BUS DRIVER

Did you touch this Sorceress's staff?

JIMMY

Uh...well, she was...

BUS DRIVER

It's a yes or no question, Mr. Osan.

JIMMY

How do you know my name?

BUS DRIVER

You look just like your father. And you are starting to act like him. Did you or did you not touch this Sorceress's staff?

JIMMY

Yes.

The bus driver turns and walks back to his seat.

BUS DRIVER

Alright, Mr. Osan, you have detention.

CAMILLE

Detention? We're not even at school yet.

BUS DRIVER

School bus, darlin'. It counts. Now you have detention too, missy.

The bus driver gets to his seat, sits down, and takes two pieces of white paper and a pen out of his shirt pocket. He writes on them, folds them in half, and blows on them.

The two folded papers sprout fluffy white wings and flutter toward Jimmy and Camille.

Jason and Sabrina snarl at Camille and Jimmy, slide back into their seats and start gossiping with their friends as the bus jolts forward.

CAMILLE

Can you believe this? They didn't even get detention.

Camille slips back into her seat. She looks over and sees Jimmy grabbing his stuff.

CAMILLE (CONT'D)
Wait, where are you going?

JIMMY
I'm gonna move.

Jimmy uses Telekinesis to move his trunk to the floor.

JIMMY (CONT'D)
I don't want to be a nuisance to you. I'm really sorry about this. I guess I'll, uh, see you around.

CAMILLE
No...what? No, Jimmy. It's okay.

JIMMY
No, it's alright. I already got you detention. I'll see you then.

Jimmy waves the detention slip as he turns and walks away. He uses Telekinesis to pick up his trunk and move to the back of the bus. Camille calls after him.

CAMILLE
Jimmy. Come back.

He keeps walking to the back of the bus.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. LONG CORRIDOR - DAY

PRINCIPAL MENDEX, unusually tall and thin, leads Jimmy and Camille down the long corridor. Jimmy looks down at Camille's staff, partially hidden by her side. It is shiny and gold with a large emerald on top. As they approach the door at the end, Principal Mendex taps his staff on the floor.

TAP! TAP! TAP!

In an instant, a giant ring with dozens of bronze keys appears at his hand. He takes the key ring from midair and pulls out a key. He unlocks the door then taps his staff to make the keys disappear.

TAP!

The open door reveals a dark stairway dimly lit by a single light bulb dangling from a wire. The staircase is metallic black and looks as if it is spiraling down into a dark abyss.

They step inside.

INT. SPIRAL STAIRCASE - DAY

Principal Mendex leads Jimmy and Camille down the long spiral staircase. At the bottom, they get to a door with a plaque that says "TEXTBOOK VAULT" in all capital letters.

TAP! TAP! TAP!

Principal Mendex makes the keyring appear again and plucks out a different key. He unlocks the door to another dark room before stepping in and illuminating it with a tap of his staff.

TAP!

INT. TEXTBOOK VAULT - DAY

Principal Mendex moves over so Jimmy and Camille can walk into the room. The room is packed full of bookshelves, crammed with textbooks in different colors and sizes. Each of them is heavily coated with dust, creating a silver film over the piles of books.

Principal Mendex walks over to a big maple table that holds dozens of thick books.

PRINCIPAL MENDEX

As you can see, our librarian has failed to finish organizing the Textbook Vault where we store all the textbooks over the summer holiday.

Jimmy sneezes.

JIMMY

AAAAACCCCHHHUUUUUUU!

Principal Mendex stops and stares. He continues.

PRINCIPAL MENDEX

Most of the shelves have been organized properly from oldest to newest. Each bookshelf belongs to a different subject and each row belongs to a year: freshman, sophomore, etc. You will clean and arrange each book until they are all properly in...

JIMMY

AAAAACCCCHHHUUUUUUU!

Principal Mendex looks at Jimmy, furious that he unintentionally interrupted him again.

TAP!

Camille taps her staff and a box of tissues floats in front of Jimmy. He takes one from the box and blows his nose. Finished, he looks for a trash can.

TAP!

Camille taps her staff and the tissues flies into the trash.

CAMILLE
Keep the box.

JIMMY
Thank you.

PRINCIPAL MENDEX
Well, it seems to me that you both know what to do. You two shall return to my office when you are finished. Understood?

Camille and Jimmy nod.

PRINCIPAL MENDEX (CONT'D)
Good. And no fun. This is detention.

TAP! TAP!

He taps his staff and disappears in a cloud of yellow smoke.

JIMMY
Whoa!

CAMILLE
What? Have you never seen a Sorcerer disappear?

JIMMY
No!

CAMILLE
Transportation spell. Sorcerers use it to get from one place...

JIMMY
AACCHHHOO!

She hands him the floating tissues.

CAMILLE

Forget it. We should get this done quickly.

JIMMY

Thank you...ACCHHOOO!

CAMILLE

I'll just cast a spell to do it for us. Maybe I'll cast another spell to clean this place up too.

JIMMY

That might be too quick. I could put the books on the shelves using Telekinesis. Then you can use your Sorcery to organize and clean them. That won't take too long, but it'll take long enough to show Principal Mendex we did something.

CAMILLE

He doesn't have to know how long it actually took. Just how long we are down here. We could just hang out.

JIMMY

Even better.

They smile at each other. The books start floating in the room, moving around to different shelves.

TAP! TAP!

Camille taps her staff on the floor. Black and gray feather dusters appear nearly everywhere, busily dusting off every inch and corner of the room.

Jimmy hears his mom "reading" to him.

JIMMY'S MOM (O.S.)

First day of school and you already got detention and befriended a Sorceress.

JIMMY (V.O.)

I couldn't say no to the candy.

JIMMY'S MOM (O.S.)

Or a pretty girl.

JIMMY (V.O.)

Mom, Stop. I'm busy.

JIMMY'S MOM (O.S.)

Sure you are. Go have fun with your
new friend.

Jimmy looks up and smiles at Camille, who is staring at him.

CAMILLE

Um...not to be rude, but are you
Reading?

JIMMY'S MOM

Yeah. I was. It was my mom. What
gave it away?

CAMILLE

You got very quiet all of a sudden.

JIMMY

Sorry about that.

CAMILLE

That's okay.

JIMMY

So how does a staff work, exactly?

CAMILLE

Each Sorcerer gets their own staff
when they are born, which grows as
we grow.

JIMMY

That's cool.

CAMILLE

The staff only works for the
Sorcerer whom it was made for,
which means it can only be touched
by that Sorcerer.

JIMMY

What happens when someone touches
your staff?

CAMILLE

Nothing, really. The magic isn't as
strong, so no Sorcerer would bother
touching another Sorcerer's staff.

JIMMY

What if you lose it?

CAMILLE

Can't happen. You can use the summoning spell to summon the staff to you. There is no reason to carry it with you other than to show off.

JIMMY

Is that why Sabrina had hers?

CAMILLE

Yeah, and to try and entrance me.

JIMMY

Did you have to learn spells?

CAMILLE

Yeah. Of course. My parents and teachers taught me. Why? Didn't you need to learn how to Read?

JIMMY

No, not really. I mean, it was a little weird when I first heard my mom's voice in my head, but I knew immediately what to do next.

CAMILLE

And what about Telekinesis?

JIMMY

Same thing, really. I've sort of had the power my whole life. What about the stone on your staff? Is that for decoration.

She laughs.

CAMILLE

No, it's for our Gem Spin, or our special power.

JIMMY

Cool. What's yours?

CAMILLE

Fire.

JIMMY

Fire? Awesome. Did you inherit that from your mom and dad?

CAMILLE

I don't know. I was dropped off at an orphanage when I was five.

JIMMY

I'm sorry. I...

CAMILLE

It's okay. It's was a long time ago. A Mind Reader named Viv adopted me and raised me like her own. I didn't fit in anywhere, but I had Viv. And lots of books.

JIMMY

As you saw, no one wants to be friends with William Osan's son. And even so, their parents would never allow it.

CAMILLE

That's horrible.

JIMMY

It was, but I learned to ignore it. I had my mom and, of course, lots of good books to read.

Camille stands up. The books are all cleaned and filed away perfectly. She reaches out and helps Jimmy stand up.

CAMILLE

I would be honored to be your friend, Jimmy.

JIMMY

Thanks, Camille, me too.

POOOFFFFFFF!

Principal Mendex appears in a cloud of yellow smoke. He looks around the room. It is spotless. The books are perfectly ordered and cleaned.

PRINCIPAL MENDEX

It's fine. Next time, I'll be sure to ban spells and telekinesis.

He pulls out two brass keys, holding one in each hand. When Camille and Jimmy reach for the keys, he drops them on the floor.

PRINCIPAL MENDEX (CONT'D)

It's detention. It's not meant to be fun. Enjoy the walk up.

TAP! TAP!

Principal Mendex disappears in a cloud of yellow smoke. Jimmy and Camille each bend down and grab a key off the floor.

They walk to the door. Camille tries her key. It doesn't work. Jimmy tries his key, it works.

Jimmy opens the door and follows Camille up the spiral staircase.

THE END