

Rodinia

written by

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ACT 1

Fade In:

EXT. LETHE GARDEN- EVENING

RODINIA, a teenage girl in simple clothes, born in winter with scars on her hands and feet, stands before a grave.

RODINIA

That's it for me today, Mom. I miss you so much.

[Gameplay] Rodinia walks through the snow back into her her home. She is able to see her town before everything changes.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RODINIA'S HOME - EVENING

A quiet old man, FATHER, drinks alone by a crackling fire. A TODDLER, sleeps nearby and a young girl hums to herself while playing in the corner.

FATHER, a grizzled man with strained voice and a body all too familiar with the aches and pains of hard labor.

FATHER

Must you go every day, Ro? It's been five seasons. Come sit by the fire. Enjoy the warmth of the family you still have.

A BANG is heard from outside, startling everyone.

The BABY begins crying and another is quick to follow as the door bursts open.

FATHER (CONT'D)

Ro-

An arrow strikes Father directly in the chest before he can continue. SHOUTING and FOOTSTEPS are heard from outside.

Rodinia grabs the baby with one arm and her sister's hand with the other. She rushes them towards the back door, to the garden grave.

CUT TO:

EXT. LETHE GARDEN- EVENING

The home begins to burn and people can be heard on the other side dying from what sounds like a battle.

Rodinia takes her siblings out of the garden, away from the fighting.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LETHE GARDEN- EVENING

A transitional visual effect indicates that a change in the timeline has occurred.

RODINIA, a teenage girl born in winter with scars on her hands and feet, stands before a grave.

RODINIA

That's it for me today, Mom. I miss
you so much.

Rodinia walks through the snow back into her her home.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. RODINIA'S HOME - EVENING

A quiet old man, FATHER, drinks alone by a crackling fire. A TODDLER sleeps nearby and a young woman sings to herself in the corner.

ANACHRONISIA, or Ana, a tall woman dressed royally in extravagant colors and frills, beckons to Rodinia.

ANA

Five seasons and not a single day
missed. Your love is a precious
gift. Come. Join me by the hearth
and we can warm each other.

Rodinia walks towards the fire, following Ana.

The warmth of the fire grows and the two embrace one another. The warmth grows further until it is out of control and the building is aflame.

FATHER

Ro-

An arrow strikes Father directly in the chest before he can continue. Shouting and footsteps can be heard from outside. Ana grabs the baby.

Rodinia grabs Ana's hand and leads her outside.

Embracing each other, the two watch as their home collapses from the flames and screaming is heard on the other side.

RODINIA

What? No. Not again. Not like this.

ANA

I'm sorry. It has to be again.

Ana dissipates, taking the infant with her.

Rodinia runs out of the garden, away from the noises of battle.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LETHE GARDEN- EVENING

A transitional visual effect indicates that a change in the timeline has occurred.

RODINIA, a teenage girl born in winter with scars on her hands and feet, stands before a grave.

RODINIA

That's it for me today, mom. I miss you so much.

Rodinia walks through the snow back into her her home.

DISSOLVE TO:

A middle aged couple sit by a crackling fire. Both look lovingly towards Rodinia as she enters.

FATHER

Every day for five seasons, Ro?
What is it in that garden that
compels you?

MOTHER, a middle aged woman similar in appearance to Rodinia, but with more command in her posture and love in her voice.

MOTHER

Your father's right, love. Come
join us by the fire before you
catch a cold.

RODINIA

Mmm...mom?

A loud CRASH can be heard outside.

RODINIA (CONT'D)

No, mom. Get out. Both of you. Run now. PLEASE.

Rodinia runs towards the front door as it breaks.

Two arrows fly through. One at each of her parents, killing them instantly. The noises of battle can be heard all throughout the town.

Rodinia runs towards the other buildings, rescuing people along the way. She shifts the burning rubble, freeing room for others while simultaneously trapping the invaders.

STRANGER, a man clad in half of an archaic armor suit with a burned face, mourning the deaths of his family.

STRANGER

Ro...Rodinia? Why is this happening? Has our home of Lethe not seen enough suffering?

The Stranger is drug away by an invader, leaving a trail of blood and ash in the snow.

Rodinia runs back towards the garden, grabbing whatever supplies she can find. As her home burns down, she runs away from the fighting.

At a safe distance, Rodinia falls to her knees and begins to CRY.

FADE OUT.

ACT 2

Fade IN:

EXT. INTHE RIVER CROSSING TO DISTRICT 5 - DAY

RODINIA, now a young woman in her twenties wearing a more modern set of clothing with painted hair and a full pack of belongings, steps off a boat onto the a small dock in a crowded district.

RODINIA

Where to go, what to do, I wonder.

Rodinia follows the flow of the crowd, seeing several shops along the way and getting stuck in a crowd trying to enter a closed gate.

EXT. INTHE RAVEN'S GATE - AFTERNOON

GHASTLEY, a very well dressed tailor with a strong build and plenty of scars on display.

GHASTLEY

You're not the first to be blocked by that damned gate and you won't be the last.

RODINIA

Are you talking to me?

GHASTLEY

You're the one come from Lethe, eh? Real tragedy I hear. It seems you need a place to stay and perhaps some work as well. Those be heaving hands of yours, by any chance?

RODINIA

How do you know who I am?

Ghastley beckons for her to follow as he walks back to his shop.

Rodinia follows Ghastley, down into a poor neighborhood filled with miscreants. She fend off a number of pickpockets until she reaches his shop.

GHASTLEY

I've got a job for you, if you need it. Real simple work, but it comes at a cost.

RODINIA

A cost? I'm afraid I haven't got much money. Wait. Aren't you supposed to be the one paying *me* for the job?

Ghastley CHUCKLES.

GHASTLEY

A sharp one, eh? Nae, this price is not a cost of money.

RODINIA

It seems I haven't got another choice.

GHASTLEY

Nae lass. You always have a choice. Don't you ever forget it.

Ghastley motions towards the Raven's Gate

GHASTLEY (CONT'D)

This here gate was built by the first Hedrogon when he conquered the city. DIDN't care much for the locals, I reckon. Yet the dynasty lays dead a thousand times over and teh gate still stands.

RODINIA

What are you getting at?

Ghastley reaches a small apartment and fumbles through his belongings until he finds a key.

GHASTLEY

This here key is yours if you are willing to deliver a parcel for me.

RODINIA

That's it? Just deliver a parcel?

GHASTLEY

Yes, well it's the least I can offer for the child of Lethe. Think it over.

Ghastley looks towards his shop, seeing customers waiting outside.

GHASTLEY (CONT'D)

Now if you'll excuse me, I have customers I need to attend to.

A number of religiously dressed patrons follow him into his shop.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. INTHE DISTRICT 6 - NIGHT

Rodinia spends the remainder of the day exploring the area. She sees a lot of poverty and helps where she can, tending to the wounded and poor however she can before she decides to agree to Ghastley's task.

GHASTLEY

Good. All you have to do is cross the market place once more and deliver this parcel to the guard in front of the gate.

Ghastley hands her a knife.

GHASTLEY (CONT'D)

In case you need to open anything, cut horizontally.

Rodinia crosses through the market place, narrowly avoiding death from a card sliding down the sloped road.

RODINIA

It's quiet here. So different from earlier.

SHADY MERCHANT, a figure of man keeping his face hidden by the wide brim of his hat.

SHADY MERCHANT

Oh is that parcel for **me**? It's about time one of Ghastley's hands paid me a visit.

The Shady Merchant approaches menacingly, keeping most of his figure in the shadows.

Rodinia fends him off with the knife, slashingly wildy into the air as the atmosphere of the road grows darker and her pace slower.

FOOTSTEPS can be heard all around her in alleyways and on rooftops, but she cannot see anything other than silhouettes moving in the dark.

RODINIA

Why did I agree to this?

Loud jumps can be heard as several armed attackers come from the shadows. Each is dressed as a religious apostle of a different god. Rodinia poses for battle, ready to defend her life.

CUT TO:

EXT. INTHE RAVEN'S GATE - DAY

A transitional visual effect indicates that a change in the timeline has occurred. The player is now controlling a different character.

ZURI, a young woman with some features matching Rodinia's but otherwise very nouveau clothing and a much more confident gait.

Zuri runs through a busy market, chased down by a number of zealots. She takes shelter behind a merchant's stall but he reveals her position and tells her to scam. This alerts Ghastley, now a local politician.

GHASTLEY

God's be damned. You're back?

Ghastly turns to the zealots chasing Zuri and gives them a stern look.

GHASTLEY (CONT'D)

You're safe now. Tell me, Rodinia.
How did you survive?

ZURI

Rodinia? You knew my mother?

GHASTLEY

Blast it. I knew it was too good to
be true.

Ghastly looks at Rodinia closely.

GHASTLEY (CONT'D)

The daughter of Lethe had a
daughter in Inthe. What a miracle!
But you are not safe here. Quickly,
go to the overside.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

A transitional visual effect indicates that a change in the timeline has occurred. The player is now controlling a Rodinia again.

EXT. INTHE RAVEN'S GATE - NIGHT

Rodinia fights and evades the apostles, realizing that she is under equipped to deal with them. She evades as long as possible until she is cornered.

A transitional visual effect indicates that a change in the timeline has occurred.

CUT TO:

EXT. INTHE RAVEN'S GATE - NIGHT

Rodinia evades the apostles entirely, this time discovering an alternate route she can take. She delivers the package to the guard who tells her to get away quickly. Unable to return to Ghastley, Rodinia takes shelter in a nearby temple.

BANG. A loud explosion is heard followed by SHOUTING for help and medical assistance. The gate is blown up and all of the guards are out patrolling the streets.

CUT TO:

INT. INTHE TEMPLE OF GAIT

Rodinia wanders through the temple until she finds a room with a pool of water. In the reflection of the pool of water, she sees images of her haunting death at the hands of the gods for the crime of birthing a child immune to their influence.

As Rodinia steps away from the pool, GAIT steps out of the water and approaches her with an ethereal jaunt.

GAIT, an awkward figment stepping through time from one partial body to another, floating barely and changing his form with each step forward.

GAIT

Oh, but you knew your fate was to die, didn't you?

Rodinia stands in silence, staring at the monstrous figure before her.

GAIT (CONT'D)

3239 days. That's what you're wondering, isn't it? Now the question is - how much of it can you actually control?

RODINIA

B-b-but why? What did I do to deserve this?

Rodinia's stance breaks and she begins to break down.

Gait speaks angrily with the might of a god, causing all body fragments of his past steps to appear again and speak in unison.

GAIT

Don't. The Daughter of Lethe does not cry or ask why. She only does. Strength is her power and-

The reflection shows the visual effect indicating a change in timelines.

GAIT (CONT'D)

Time. Time is on your side. You may not think it, but the power is yours to command. Control time, for your life is forfeit. I only meant to give you seconds and you've stolen minutes already.

Rodinia leaves the temple with the active ability to revert time in minor amounts. She prepares her journal and heads towards the Market Bridge.

CUT TO:

A TRANSITIONAL VISUAL EFFECT INDICATES THAT A CHANGE IN THE TIMELINE HAS OCCURRED. THE PLAYER IS NOW CONTROLLING A ZURI AGAIN.

EXT. INTHE MARKET BRIDGE - DAY

Zuri travels the Market Bridge. She sees a lot of suffering on the bridge, but also basks in the wonder of all of the possibilities in the city. Several contemporary items appeal to her, but she has no money. While traveling, she notices that she is being followed by a man in a mask, THE UNPUNISHED. She combats him in the middle of the market, causing chaos.

THE UNPUNISHED, a strong man clad in an archaic armor that appears to be burned on his skin. He wears a fractured mask with one part representing his wife and smaller part representing his daughter.

MASS TALK AND TRADE is heard from the market, but it swiftly turns to a CROWD PANICKING when combat begins.

As Zuri faces defeat from the masked assailant, he fumbles his executing blow.

THE UNPUNISHED

That face. That's the same face I saw all those years ago. I...I can't.

The Unpunished takes several steps back and can be attacked, and finished, at any time.

THE UNPUNISHED (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry, Ro. My family didn't deserve to die for you, but neither does yours. Child..please forgive me.

The Unpunished and Zuri make their way to the bank of Inthe, but are denied entry for not owning any vault. Zuri solves a puzzle reanimating the STATUE atop the steps.

STATUE OF HEDROGON, is a fully detailed statue of the first emperor and acts with his personality, which is primarily defined by a belief in his own divine superiority, even as a statue.

The statue unlocks the bank and Zuri heads in, seeing a collective of religious zealots forming behind them.

CUT TO:

INT. BANK OF INTHE - UNKNOWN

Various portals take Zuri into an endless nightmares cubic maze. Upon completion, Zuri discovers that she must choose between rescuing her mother against her will or finding the journal she came to get. As she steps forward to grab her mother, the Unpunished pushes her aside to take her place.

THE UNPUNISHED

Please. Allow me. I cannot return to my family knowing I was willing to split yours apart.

The Unpunished frees Rodinia from her eternal punishment and takes on the punishment for himself.

Zuri, aware she may only choose one, decides to take the journal as well. She steps out of the bank into the steps.

CUT TO:

EXT. INTHE BANK STEPS

The statue of Hedrogon is empowered with an apocalyptic gift from each of the gods.

Zuri fights the combined might of the apocalyptic powers of all of the gods. The city is damaged in the process as Zuri does whatever she can merely to survive the encounter.

RODINIA

Sorry, child. It must be done.

Rodinia, with the last of her power, sends Zuri and the Statue into the future, protecting the city.

RODINIA (CONT'D)

I will always love you.

The final component of Zuri's story is revealed to the player.

FADE TO BLACK.