

*Note: Everything in here is an outline for what may have happened. The way I usually wrote the scripts was that I had an idea in mind for a while, and then I would outline a story as I was getting close to needing to draw it, and I would edit and smooth it out in the process of drawing it. What you are about to read, however, is a very general overview of things that I had in mind. In the event that Bardsworth is someday finished, some, all, or none of these things may happen. The stories were always written by the characters as I began to flesh them out, especially the funny ones or the ones revolving around relationships. So this is mostly the "meat" of the story, the overarching plot if you will. But this should give some sense of closure to many of you.*

Following Mike's conversation with Human Fawn, he makes the decision – ignoring her advice – to ask out Megan when he returns home on summer break. Mike runs into Keira in the hallways the following school day, and they have an awkward start to the conversation. Mike begins to apologize, but Keira tells him that no apology is necessary, and that she is the one who should be sorry for attempting to kiss him so soon after his and Crystal's break-up. She tells him to just take things easy for a while and enjoy the fast approaching summer vacation. She says all of this with a smile on her face, but it's apparent that she's sad on the inside.

Mike bumps into Charlie, and Charlie pulls him aside and tells him that Rayner finally wants to set a meeting with him. Mike agrees, but is curious about all of the secrecy behind it, and Charlie is not forthcoming with the details. The meeting takes place before summer vacation, and Charlie leads Mike away from the school on foot, with

Fawn in tow. They meet up with Rayner and Penny in the woods, where Rayner talks a little about himself first, but not before swearing Mike to secrecy. Fawn is wary of this, but Mike – being Mike – plunges forward.

Rayner first reveals that he is Fitzpot's son, and Mike is understandably surprised. He goes on to say that because of a complicated past and his rebellion against the Wizard's Court, Rayner and Fitzpot's relationship is strained to say the least. Mike asks about how Rayner is rebellious, and Rayner explains that the inner circle of the Wizard's Court, which is tied to Bardsworth University in unknown ways, forbids someone from learning both wizardly studies and bardic studies to an equal degree. The university is instructed to allow students of one path to taste the other, usually with the intention of instilling a dislike of it, but to keep students from delving into both deeply. When Mike asks why, Rayner asks him, "Have you ever heard of a trimagus?" Mike says no, and Rayner asks him if he's ever had anything strange happen with regards to his magic. Mike hesitates, and then tells him about what happened in the demon kingdom. Rayner explains that a trimagus is a rare occurrence, and that all mentions of it have been swept under the rug to keep it a secret. Mike asks how Rayner knows, and Rayner evades the question for the most part, but does reveal that he is one. He then explains that a trimagus is capable of processing magic energy – which he calls "ordered magic" - as well as the energy that feeds a bard's talents, or "The Gift" as they call it. In addition, a trimagus also draws energy from wild magic, and having a spirit bond with a fairy is the third piece of the puzzle, the "tri" in "trimagus". However, Rayner adds, Mike might be something different. When Mike prompts Rayner to explain that

further, Rayner evades the question and says he wants to study Mike some more before making a judgment.

As an afterthought, before he leaves, Mike asks Rayner how he was able to get into bard classes when the university doesn't allow it. Rayner smiles and tells him that unbeknownst to the Wizard's Court, he practically runs the administration of the school. He tells Mike not to worry about it and to enjoy his summer vacation. Mike mutters, "Why does everyone keep telling me that?"

We cut to the end of the school year. Kris opts not to join Mike this year, as he has some things to take care of. He doesn't elaborate and Mike just shrugs it off. He returns home with Fawn – who of course is happy to see Whiskers – and settles into the "normal" world of parents and abusive sister. He does eventually meet with Megan, and after some small talk he musters up the courage to ask her out. She's surprised and then drops the bombshell that she's seeing someone. Mike angrily asks why she didn't mention that in her letters and why it felt like she was leading him in that direction. Megan defends herself and says that she didn't mean to and that she just wanted to be friends with him. Unable to deal with the situation, Mike storms off, returns home, and Tammy finds out what happened. That evening after Megan's shift at the library ends, Tammy catches Megan's attention by slamming her into the wall and growling, "If I ever see you near my brother or find out that you even spoke to him again, you'll have to go through every medical book in that library to stitch yourself back together. Understood?" Megan fearfully agrees and Tammy stalks off. Before Megan can gather her wits, someone else steps out of the shadows and says, "I can help you with that, my

dear." The stranger stretches out her hand and touches Megan's head, casting a spell on her. "Do you believe in magic and fairies, or anything that Mike Cosley has told you about?" Megan responds, "Magic? Fairies? What are you talking about? And I haven't spoken to Mike since high school. Who are you?" The stranger just smiles and says, "Nobody." Then she walks away, leaving a very confused Megan.

We cut to Kris, who is on a journey home. He meets his step-brother Trevor a ways from his house, and it's a joyful reunion. Trevor assures Kris that both his father and step-mother are gone for the time being, and Kris walks with him back to his house. Once inside, he starts having flashbacks that leave him shaken, but he forces himself on. He scours his father's library for something, anything, that mentions the trimagi. After days of searching, though, he finds nothing. He decides that its time to contact Kellen and set up a meeting with Rayner.

Back to Mike. He is miserable, and Fawn has all but given up on trying to cheer him up. He contemplates his break-up with Crystal, his encounters with Keira and Megan, the conversation he had with Rayner, and what happened in the demon kingdom. All of these thoughts and emotions begin to take a toll on him, and he finally wakes up one morning to find Human Fawn standing in his bedroom, looking very confused... but not as confused as Fawn herself. Between the three of them, they assume that Human Fawn's manifestation was a combination of Mike's high levels of magic energy plus his turbulent emotions. They decide to give Human Fawn the name Michelle, as she is basically the female version of Mike, and they confront Mike's

parents about it. Amusingly, Mike's parents take the news in stride, having been immersed in all the strangeness for two years at this point. They all agree that it's best if Michelle stays in Mike's world for a little while, because nobody is sure how the school or the Wizard's Court will feel about a magically created person... or what they'd do to her.

Back to Kris. He meets with Kellen at Kellen's shop, and the wizard tells him that he spoke to Mr. Faloway and arranged a meeting at his house. A little trepidatious, Kris travels to Rayner's house and is greeted by Penny. She shows him in and brings him to Rayner, all set up to be dramatic. It's lost on Kris who just wants to get down to business. Kris asks about Mike without mentioning names, but Rayner reveals that he knows who Kris is talking about, and mentions that he met with Mike earlier on. "But," he says, "I didn't tell him everything." He decides to tell Kris, though, because Kris has a good grasp on advanced knowledge of magic. Rayner's theory is that Mike is an omnimagus, even rarer than a trimagus. Not only can Mike draw energy from the three places a trimagus can – ordered magic, "The Gift", and a Spirit Bond with a fairy – but he can draw energy from other places as well, so long as he makes an emotional connection with them. "That was why he could do what he did in the demon kingdom," Rayner says. "He was drawing wild magic from Francis because of the emotional bond he had made with him." Kris is astonished, but finds himself more interested in why Rayner is so interested in it – and why the Wizards Court banished him. Rayner explains that it was his poking around into trimagi in the first place that got him in trouble. He had realized early on that something was different about him, and he couldn't find anything in the wizarding

textbooks. So he researched in other places – namely, the songs, poems, and stories of bards. It was there that he began to find hidden messages, all from the era of Kamius Morclimer. He and Charlie, who he had become friends with, embarked down a rabbit hole of research – until somehow the school caught wind of it. Unfortunately for those who came for him, Rayner's power had grown so much that he was able to escape them – by ripping a hole between the dimensions of their world and Mike's world. The tear was too weak and healed itself, however, leaving Rayner stranded. He couldn't reopen it because Penny had been left behind, and so his Spirit Bond had been severed. So he continued his research, but from the other world. And it was there that he learned quite a few secrets.

The first was that holes between the dimensions were not uncommon. In fact, they occurred sporadically in nature. And this was how humans came to populate Rayner's world. In the beginning, according to the magical races, it had only been elves, fairies, and demons. But humans began to make their ways through these doors, and began to populate the world, eventually forgetting through the generations where they had originated from. Their "forgetfulness" was in part aided by the elves. That was the second secret – the elves had been manipulating humans for centuries. They had learned about trimagi early on and realized that only humans had the capability of doing it. Because they were the originators of ordered magic, they wanted to be the more powerful of the races, and so they erased the histories of the humans, and they began to seek out those who displayed the qualities of trimagi and "made them disappear". Kris asks Rayner how he figured this all out, and Rayner tells him that the third secret is that there is a population of humans from their world

living in Mike's world, keeping tabs from afar and keeping the histories alive and pure. One such family was the Morclimers. In the bardic stories, Kamius and Katarina just disappeared with their daughter one day and were never heard from again. It turns out that they had crossed the dimensions to hide in Mike's world because their daughter, Trianna, began to exhibit the qualities of a trimagus and the Wizards Court had caught on. But as a family they developed a way of detecting people who were from their home world, and they stumbled upon the secret society of folks who were there protecting the history of their world. "Once I had been in Mike's world for a while, I began to develop the theory that the Morclimers had gone there as well, and that was why they had completely vanished," Rayner says. He spent time wandering around and trying to develop his own method of detection, but he himself was found first. He was then told what had happened, and he decided that something needed to be done rather than just hiding out in another world. Someone agreed with him, and it happened to be Kamius Morclimer's great granddaughter, Johana. The two became fast friends, and believers that the Wizards Court needed to be toppled and rebuilt. Rayner decided to return to his world for a time and study different types of magic before returning with a plan. It was during that period of study that he formulated the hypothesis that an omnimagus could exist, but he wasn't able to find any potential candidates... in his world, anyway. When he returned to Mike's world, he and Johana searched for a candidate, and found one in Mike Cosley. "So it was you who brought him here," Kris breathes. "But if you and your father don't get along, why did you make the dimensional tear straight into his house?" Rayner explains that he had watched Mike for quite some time, and built up a character study of him. He had the feeling that once Mike learned about magic he would

want to study it. And, despite his feelings on his father, Fitzpot would make an excellent mentor – for a time. He would also keep Mike safe because he knew what happened to people who were suspected of being trimagi. "And all of that is to somehow include Mike in your war against the Wizards Court?" Kris asks, appalled. Rayner responds that it will ultimately be Mike's decision, but that he wants a chance to tell Mike everything he just told Kris. But Rayner wants Mike to have more of a solid foundation of magic before he trains him to take it a step further. So he asks Kris to keep Mike on task in learning, and he'll make sure that Mike stays safe. Kris, of course, makes a sarcastic remark in typical Kris fashion.

Kris and Mike return to school, but neither tell the other what happened over summer vacation. It's obvious both are not happy to be lying to the other, but they both feel that it's the right thing to do. Mike, having faced rejection from Megan, decides to take a chance with Keira, only to discover that she is now dating Lazlo. When Mike bemoans this to Cheri while working together at Inspiration, Cheri lets Mike have it, telling him that Keira has been pining for him since day one and he is an oblivious oaf for never noticing, and is now whining about her dating someone else.

Crystal now has her natural Brunette hair coloring. She tells Mike that she's decided to stop being a rebellious kid and wants to start acting like a responsible adult. The two seem a little more at ease with one another, but it's obvious that there is a bit a tension still.



On the first day of classes, Mike walks into an invisible wall and immediately suspects Danyel, but remembers that Danyel is no longer in school. Confused, he falls victim to a few more pranks before discovering that Danyel had a protégé – a young (human) girl named Delilah. Outwardly, Mike acts frustrated and exasperated, but in private he's almost happy to have an arch nemesis once again.

Mike continues on with taking both wizardly studies courses and bardic studies courses. This year, having much of his positivity and optimism stripped away, he finds himself focusing much better just to distract himself from his social life. Kris notes this and becomes wary, knowing that this is what Rayner wants – for Mike to accumulate more knowledge.

At some point in the semester, Keira mentions that she has a singing performance and that Lazlo was supposed to play guitar for her, but due to other obligations he couldn't. Mike, rather frightened yet eager to help, offers up his services, at which Keira is elated. Mike learns the melody, but doesn't hear the lyrics until the performance. When he does, it's a bittersweet song about a girl who falls in love with a young man who never notices her, almost as if she is invisible to him. After the performance, full of guilt, Mike runs out of there and sneaks off of campus to take a walk in the darkness. Fawn finds him, sensing his intense feelings – and so does Raven. This is where they discover that somehow Mike formed another Spirit Bond.

Eventually, there is to be an incident (*I never really figured out what would happen, but I toyed with the idea of Mike's emotions going so out of control that he sets fire to the woods while out for another*

*walk*) that finally alerts some of the higher ups in the university to take notice. All of Rayner's manipulations are discovered and the Wizards Court is called in to deal with Mike. Mike is whisked away one night under the cover of darkness and finds himself in a darkened courtroom. Here, he is told that because of his dangerous abilities, he will be stripped of his magic and memories, and banished back to his world (although they don't know that's where he's from – except for Fitzpot). Fitzpot looks on sadly, but does nothing to help. Luckily, the place erupts in a frenzy of magic as Rayner, Johanna Morclimer, and a host of others including Charlie leap in to rescue Mike. They manage to get him out of there, losing a few people in the ensuing battle. At one point, Fitzpot confronts Rayner, but when he is sure that no one is looking, he tells Rayner to flee and protect Mike.

When Mike's disappearance is finally noticed by his friends – they are given the excuse that he returned home to his family in a nearby town, which they all know is bogus because they know Mike's secret – they band together to find out what happened. Kris fills them in on everything Rayner told him, and they decide to go to Rayner's house. However, when they arrive, it's been abandoned because...

...Rayner and his friends have taken Mike back to his world, but in a secret location. Rayner finally divulges to Mike everything, and tells Mike that he needs to make the decision to be involved in righting the wrongs done by the Wizards Court over the centuries, or to return to his family and live out his days of a "normal life". Mike, having been emotionally battered and bruised in the past year or so, finds himself a little too eager to join in on the rebellion, but does it anyway. He begins training with Rayner and Johana.

The Wizards Court is now quite shaken. They had thought they had been keeping close enough tabs on Rayner, but now realize that he had been fooling them all along and growing more powerful right under their noses. They decide to start sweeping through the university for more possible suspects. Suddenly, the halls of Bardsworth University are crawling with Enforcers, the "police" of the Wizards Court. Students are taken away on the flimsiest of charges and interviewed, sometimes accused. Teachers protest that it's disrupting the education of the students, and some are taken away on charges of being sympathizers. Kris and the others lay low, but stay alert. Eventually, Fitzpot makes contact with Kris via the dream bridge and tell him that while it may be too little too late, he will stand up to the Wizards Court when the time comes, but until then he will be an inside contact to keep Kris and the others informed.

Mike's training with Rayner and Johana goes better than his education at Bardsworth. However, Fawn and Raven worry about Mike and try to talk to him about it, but it's almost as if he's a different person – serious, humorless, and most of all determined. When they finally get him to crack, he says that it's because things went so poorly for him before that he wants to be a different. After a heated discussion, Fawn and Raven finally point out to Mike that their Spirit Bonds formed with that older version, and if he continues being the way he is, the Spirit Bonds will fail and he'll lose his power anyway.

Mike takes a break and heads home to talk with Michelle, who is fitting in nicely in normal life. She helps him come to terms with where he is at the moment, and that he doesn't need to change, but to

accept what happened to him in the past and learn from it. As a stepping stone, he goes off to find Megan to apologize for how he acted, but he finds that she has no memory of talking with him beyond high school. When he returns to Rayner, he mentions this and Rayner reveals that Johana wiped Megan's memory in order to keep Mike safe. Angered, Mike argues with Rayner about that, eventually pointing out that that type of manipulation is no less terrible than what the elves have done to the humans of his world. This angers Rayner, but in time he comes around to accepting that Mike was right and he apologizes for it.

Professor Merrit, annoyed and angered by the Wizards Court's heavy presence on the campus grounds, finally takes a stand against one of the Enforcers. The Enforcer doesn't appreciate it, and takes Merrit in for questioning, but not before she activates the ring she wears around her neck. This signals Rayner, who leaps into action to find out what's going on. When he discovers what's been happening at the school – his usual informants were silent for fear of getting caught – he decides that the time has come to finally engage in the war.

The "rebellion" launches an attack on the Wizards Court folks stationed in the school. The Enforcers prove to be a formidable force, but many of the teachers and students who are tired of the situation join in. At one point, Rayner is about to take on an Enforcer while injured, but Fitzpot blindsides the Enforcer and saves Rayner's life. After a tense exchange, Fitzpot wearily admits that he was wrong in the past and apologizes to Rayner. (It is revealed that Rayner's mother, Selina, was a bard with whom Fitzpot fell in love, but he was

forced to sever ties with her when he was inducted into the inner circle of the Wizards Court for her safety and his. He didn't know at the time that she was pregnant, and she remarried after Rayner was born. Rayner showed an aptitude for magic and wanted to enroll at Bardsworth, so Selina told him about Fitzpot and then contacted him to get Rayner in. While Fitzpot did this favor and was happy to find out he had a son, Rayner held Fitzpot in contempt for choosing his career over Selina. This was the rocky foundation that was only made worse as Rayner slipped further away in his quest against the Wizards Court, which Fitzpot believed in... until now.)

Fitzpot also reveals that unfortunately the Wizards Court will retaliate in a much harsher fashion. They had apparently been amassing a fighting force for many years for just such an occasion that someone would try to overthrow them. Mike says, "So then we need our own army."

Mike begins to gather together a hodge-podge army with the help of his friends. He tracks down Danyel with Crystal; he and Kris re-enter the demon kingdom and convince Clan Gurikaas, with Praak's help, that they owe him; he and Fawn convince the fairies to gather other fairies; he tracks down the grumble, Temek, with his new abilities and cashes in on his "favor" by bringing the grimbles into the fight. Finally, Mike goes home and talks to Michelle about joining, but he tells her he understands if she just wants to live out a normal life. After waffling a bit, she agrees, although is unsure of what she can do. During all of this, the students and teachers are told to go home, although many of them stay (including Professor Merrit and Malcolm).

Finally, the Wizards Court's army marches on the university and are met with a surprising force comprised of many different creatures. Fairies protect everyone with magic while making their own attacks. The grimbles – led by Danyel – use every trick in the book to surprise and throw off the enemy. The students and teachers do their own part – the wizards use magic and the bards fight with anything they can get their hands on, singing all the while. Finally, as a last attack, an army of demons rushes into battle, swinging the fight in the "rebels" favor.

*(This is really about as far as I ever got in what I wanted to do. I always knew there would be a huge climactic battle, but from this point on I'm making up the ending as I go. Take it with a grain of salt.)*

There is a final showdown as a halt is called to the battle and Lazarus Shamwell, the elven leader of the Wizards Court, requests to speak with leaders of the rebellion. He meets with Rayner, Mike, Johana, and Fitzpot – who insists on being involved. Shamwell asks them what they want, and Rayner says in no uncertain terms that the Wizards Court as it stands be disbanded. Shamwell refuses, on the grounds that if no one was to watch over the use of magic, anything could happen. "Like suppressing the appearance of trimagi? Like manipulating the history of humans in our world? All to keep magic controlled and the responsibility of it in the hands of elves?" Shamwell is surprised that Rayner knows the truth, but doesn't deny any of it. Instead, he insists that everything that was done, had been done for the good of all. Rayner doesn't buy it and again demands that the Wizards Court be disbanded.

Too late to notice that it was a trap all along, the Enforcers close in on the leaders of the rebellion. Mike, Rayner, and Johana are able to defend themselves, but Fitzpot is caught off guard and very nearly killed by a magic blade – until Francis appears from nowhere and takes the hit, saying with a smile, "I am your bodyguard, after all." Mike, being bonded to Francis, reacts badly and sends the Enforcers flying, leaving an appalled Shamwell to watch unsteadily. Mike babbles about maybe being able to heal Francis, but Fitzpot tells him sadly that the blade's wound would not be healed easily because of the damaging enchantment. Francis tells Mike not to worry, and that he should have died for his clan back during The Challenge. "This time I'm dying for the good of my *real* family," he says with a smile, and closes his eyes.

Mike turns to Shamwell, energy swirling and crackling around him, his anger causing quakes and minor storms around the area. His friends appear and plead with him not to take Shamwell's life in anger, but Mike isn't listening. Fawn, Raven, and Joy try to talk sense into him, but he continues stalking towards the elf. Finally, a hand touches his shoulder and manages to get his attention. It's Michelle. And she tells him – as a part of him – that in taking Shamwell's life, he will take the final step in abandoning who he once was. And to remind him who he was, Michelle hugs him and there's a flash as she merges with him once more. The scene shifts to the interior of Mike's mind, and he asks, "What did you do?" She tells him that she merged with him once more to hopefully instill the essence of who he was, which made up a part of her, back into him. "But you had a life! You were happy! I... I don't know if I'll be able to make you... 'real' again!" he cries. But she just smiles and says that if Francis can make a great sacrifice for an important cause, so can she. Mike sobs, realizing that

Michelle is right, and they hug for a long silent time – or so it seems. In reality, it was a split second, and Mike stops in front of Shamwell, his anger abated. "Call off your army," he says in an even tone. "Or you will see what an omnimagus can do." Shamwell, a powerful wizard in his own right, seems ready to back down and then launches a surprise attack on Mike – which he brushes aside easily. After a few more failed attempts, a fearful Shamwell returns to his people and the battle is called off. There is cheering and hugs and folks being helped by other folks. In the midst of it all, Mike rejoins his friends and thanks them. Finally, it's just him and Keira, and they kiss. "So what do we do now?" Keira asks. "Finish school, I guess," Mike responds with a shrug.

The epilogue takes place six years later. Mike is teaching a class on the lore of trimagi. When he finishes, he spots Kris in the back and embraces his friend, asking him how he's been. Kris has been traveling, studying wild magic and documenting how races of magic do what they do. He begins bantering about things that Mike doesn't understand, stops, and smiles, saying, "I'm doing well, Mike." They walk together and Kris asks how the others are doing. Mike says that Crystal returned home to learn the ropes of ruling Loria, and was courting Malcolm. Kris raises an eyebrow at that, and Mike shrugs, saying that apparently Malcolm had had enough of anger during the Battle of Bardsworth, and was now much calmer and easygoing. As they talk, they pass a large statue of Francis holding a plate of cookies. Mike mentions that Cheri and Lazlo are doing well as traveling minstrels, much in the same vein that Kamius Morclimer used to be. Finally, Keira meets up with them, obviously pregnant. Kris remarks how weird it is to see her not running and leaping, and



she laughs, saying that there'll be a little one doing just that in no time.

Kris asks how the new Wizards Court is doing. Mike says, "Well, Fitzpot is just about ready to retire, saying that he's getting too old to do this anymore, but I think it has more to do with not wanting to be in the middle of Rayner and Professor Merrit's sniping each other." "They're still not getting along?" Kris asks. "Oh, no, that's how they get along," Mike says with a smile and a roll of his eyes. He says that Johana Morclimer is a more than able leader as the head of the court and fit into the role very easily. And he adds that Kellen is doing a great job, too. "Thank you for taking him on my recommendation," Kris says, then pauses. "And how are you taking to it?" Mike admits that he never thought about any kind of leadership role before, but that he's warming up to it. "Well, you better get used to being a leader," Keira says, poking him in the belly. "Because you'll have a little follower soon enough." She leaves the two of them, saying that she has a voice class to prepare for.

Kris asks about Mike's sister, and he smirks. "She asks about you from time to time." "I was, uh... thinking about maybe heading to your world to do some research. I mean, uh, on magic stuff," he adds and blushes. Mike cringes and says, "Okay, the less I know, the better. But you have my blessing, for what it's worth."

At some point, Fawn, Raven, and Joy visit Mike. It's made apparent that Joy is now Spirit Bonded to Mike as well, and alluded to that maybe he's bonded to more of the sisters. Raven is much happier, although still her sarcastic self.

Later in the day, Mike enters his living quarters, throwing a satchel down on a chair and then looking into a full length mirror. Instead of his reflection, he sees Michelle, smiling at him. "You've done good for yourself," she says. "No," he says with a grin. "*You* have." Keira happens to walk in at that moment and says, "Who are you talking to?" Mike responds, "An old friend. Now, where are those cookies your mother sent us?"

The End

(Or is it?)