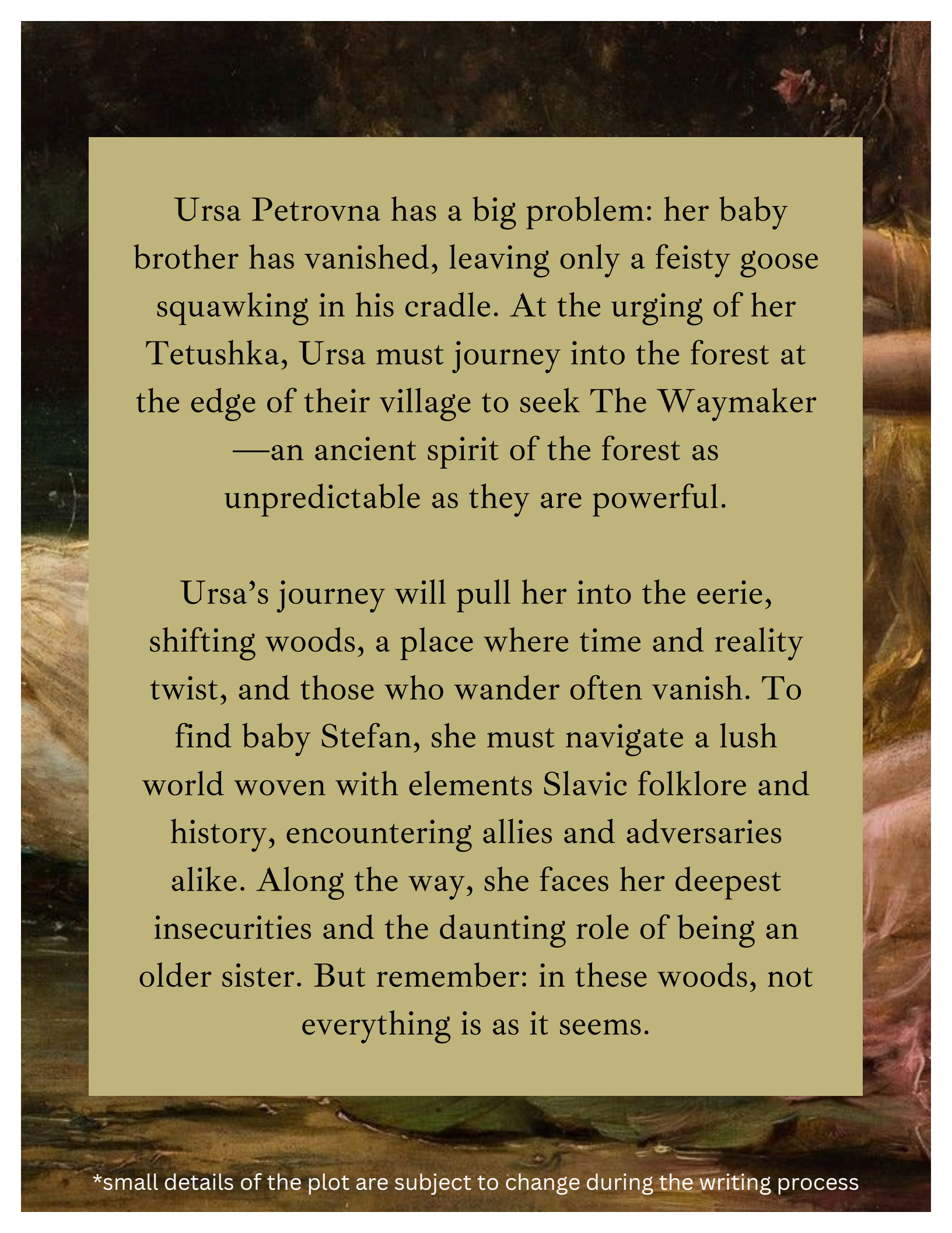


A painting of a woman in a forest, possibly a nymph or a deity, with a large green oval overlay. The woman is depicted in a natural setting, with her body partially visible. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a dense forest. The woman's skin is a warm, golden-brown color, and she appears to be in a state of repose or contemplation. The overall mood is serene and mystical.

# The Waymaker



Ursa Petrovna has a big problem: her baby brother has vanished, leaving only a feisty goose squawking in his cradle. At the urging of her Tetushka, Ursa must journey into the forest at the edge of their village to seek The Waymaker —an ancient spirit of the forest as unpredictable as they are powerful.

Ursa's journey will pull her into the eerie, shifting woods, a place where time and reality twist, and those who wander often vanish. To find baby Stefan, she must navigate a lush world woven with elements Slavic folklore and history, encountering allies and adversaries alike. Along the way, she faces her deepest insecurities and the daunting role of being an older sister. But remember: in these woods, not everything is as it seems.

On the orders of her Tetushka (auntie), Ursa ventures into the forest to beg the help of The Waymaker, an ancient forest spirit, after her infant brother goes missing on her watch and is replaced by an irritable goose. Ursa resents her brother Stefan for taking her father's attention from her



Lost in the forest, Ursa encounters a Vilenjak, a helpful little sprite, named Dimi who says he knows the way to The Waymaker but in order to get there they must travel through the most dangerous part of the forest: The Wildlands. There, time and space begin to collapse and they must keep their wits about them.



Ursa and Dimi come across Brother Vasily, a monk of the Orthodox Church as he is digging his own grave. He recounts the story of Cain and Abel to Ursa, remarking on the holiness of the love between siblings.

He warns Ursa that the devil lives in this forest and he is always searching for souls to corrupt.



Dimi, a natural trickster encourages Ursa to ignore Brother Vasily's teachings, calling them "the ramblings of a religious fool." As they continue on through the forest, they discuss Ursa's home life and her father, Pyotr. Dimi encourages Ursa to reject her father and brother entirely and to live with them forever in the forest. Ursa considers this path before her foot is caught in a magical tree root that threatens to pull her down into the earth.



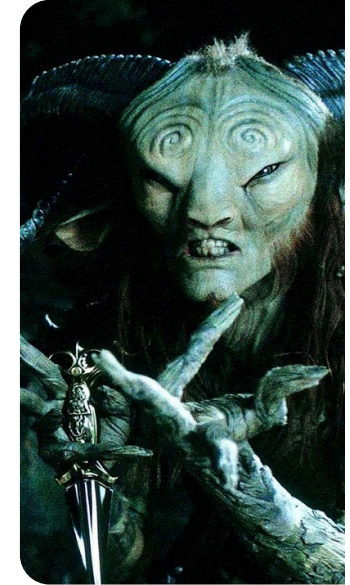
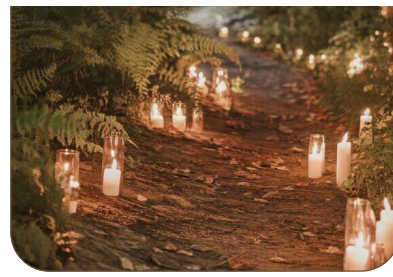
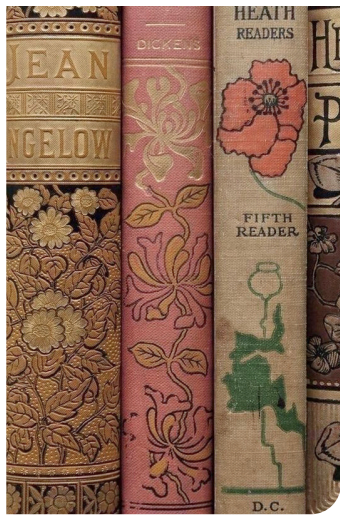
Ursa and Dimi frantically try to free Ursa from the tree root when suddenly Saint Olga of Kiev appears to them. She helps Ursa free herself. Ursa asks Olga's advice about what she should do about her brother. Olga cautions Ursa against turning revenge into a holy crusade, She assures Ursa that she will make the right decision when the time comes.



The Vilenjak reveals themselves to be the devil Ursa had been warned of, intent on capturing baby Stefan's soul and damning Ursa's forever. They offer Ursa the chance to be rid of her brother forever, to return to her house as her father's favourite child. While Ursa is tempted she ultimately resists and rids the devil of his power by rejecting his offer



After bravely denying the devil his conquest, Ursa is rewarded by the forest. The Waymaker reveals himself and thanks Ursa for driving the devil from their forest. They reveal Stefan was with her all along, he'd simply taken a different form: the goose. Ursa returns them both to her father's house where Pyotr has been worried sick for both his children. They all live happily ever after



### THE WAYMAKER

The design of the show should reflect its whimsical nature and roots in the folk-tale tradition. Earth tones, esoteric and historically inspired design elements are all highly encouraged!

