



Phases

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The green inferno pervades the entire forest. With your mask removed, you watch the living flame spread from trunk to trunk, ghostly fingers of fire grasping them like blades of grass.

“Shannon!” Lamar yells, all care thrown to the wind. *The dreamer will hear him, and swallow you whole.*

Then, you hear a chilling scream, echoing somewhere from your left. Chilling, and real.

“This way,” you shout, but before you can take a step, the same scream emanates from somewhere behind you, amidst the deafening blaze and crackling wood. You spin around and rush into the fire, ignoring its unearthly sting.

Shannon’s figure is clearly silhouetted ahead, at the top of a mound. Your heart skips a beat and you ready a strip of cloth in hand - if you can just blindfold her, everything will be all right...but then you glimpse the outline of something huge behind her.

“Down!” you cry.

Instantly, Lamar and Penny drop beside you, curled up, eyes screwed shut and arms covering their faces. You do the same, sobbing as you ignore Shannon’s cries. Then, silence.

Cautiously, you climb to your feet. The flames have disappeared. You approach Shannon, slumped against a tree trunk at the top of the hill with the Somnus resting in one open palm and a list of cryptic instructions in other. Her vacant eyes blink, and her chest rises and falls, but she only stares blankly into the darkness of her own mind.



'Knife' is to 'blade' as 'fork' is to this	Intelligence; babysit
A 'capa' or 'muleta' manoeuvre	Juno's Greek equivalent
A term that can follow 'tabula'	Kind of fungus (US spelling)
A windy or grating tone of voice	Long for; need
Absurd poet Ogden	Longest measurements of time after eons
An address in German meaning 'mister'	Metal strap fastened by a pin
An annoying or impolite child	Non-SI unit of loudness
An ensemble of actors	Of a benign or moderate manner
As 'see' is to 'eyes', this is to 'ears'	Of little or no more value than
Ashen; fade	Of no practical worth; debatable
Band of Norse troops and court guards	Of one's complexion, pink
Banned item (with "do's") (contraction)	Of the moon, to become smaller
Blow so as to dent; force	Of words, an action or state of being
Bubbly chocolate bar	Olfactory organ
Cavities on either side of the head	One born in Belgrade
Chest; circumstance	Provide by measure; dole
Clear fluids from plants or animals	Pulse; hit
Declines (as contraction); accustomed	Revulsion; dislike
Department of US space research (abbreviated)	Second person archaic form of 'have'
Does wrongly or mistakenly	Sign on as an employee
Dry earth; gossip	Slow down; exhaust
Edge-sharpening tool	Sound wave lacking harmonics
Edibles, or to snack on these	Speed; score
Enrobes; wears	Spelling variant of 'eyrie' or 'airy'
Erodes; chews	The set of cards dealt to a player
Evoke a goose or car	They betray people, or eat cheese
Extremely	They sting and produce honey
Feeling; atmosphere	Toothpaste flavour
Funeral service	Tricks; prisoners
Got up; flower	Urgent; disastrous
Has 'soft' and 'easy' as antonyms	Ursine mammal; carry
Hold or own	Whack to the head (slang)
Home for striped insects	What E stands for in QED
Hoof; imperial measurement	Widespread term for the Epinephelus genus
Inferior amount; tiny arachnid	Word 'red', 'silver', or 'sugar' can precede