

"AFRICA"

by

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AFRICA

FADE IN:

EXT. MOTEL (1980) - DAY

A well-groomed man is standing in front of a motel room window. His name is JACK DONOVAN.

Jack is breathing heavily. The look on his face is a mixture of surprise and anger.

Through the window curtains, the back of a naked woman is revealed.

The look on Jack's face transitions to sadness. He turns around and walks away.

EXT. MOTEL/PARKING LOT - DAY

Jack walks up to a parked cabriolet.

He sits in the driving seat and slams the car door shut.

Jack is looking at a paper bag with groceries on the passenger seat. He empties the bag on the seat and grabs a bottle of whiskey. Jack opens the bottle and takes a drink.

He puts the bottle of whiskey in his lap and starts the car. The car radio starts playing a song.

Drives away.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/ROAD - DAY

Jack's car pulls over on the side of the road. Jack gets out of the car. He is carrying the bottle of whiskey. The bottle is wrapped in the paper bag.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/YARD - DAY

The grass is green and freshly cut. All over the yard, there are recently planted small trees, bushes and flowers.

Jack is walking through the yard. He is walking on a path that leads to the porch.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/PORCH - DAY

Jack gets to the porch. There is a small table by the front door. Next to the table, there is a wooden chair. Jack sits on the chair.

He takes the bottle of whiskey out of the paper bag and tosses the bag aside.

Jack drinks from the whiskey. He puts the bottle of whiskey on the small table.

He stares ahead. With his left hand fingers, he starts to rotate his wedding ring. Jack takes the ring out, looks at it for a moment and throws it out in the yard.

EXT. YARD - DAY

The ring lands on a small tree's branch.

EXT. PORCH - DAY

Jack sits back on the chair. He grabs the bottle of whiskey and starts drinking.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/ROAD (1985) - DAY

The front yard of Jack's house looks abandoned.

Neighbor's houses and yards look well maintained, with green yards and recently painted porches.

EXT. YARD - DAY

The ring is embedded in the tree's branch.

Loud music is coming from Jack's house.

EXT. PORCH - DAY

Jack is barely standing up. His hair is long. His face is haggard covered with overgrown beard. He is skinny with a big belly and torn clothes.

Jack is dancing on the music coming out from an old gramophone.

The gramophone is placed on an old wooden chair.

With one hand, Jack is holding an almost empty bottle of alcohol and with the other hand, he is holding a wooden stick.

Jack is using the wooden stick as a drumstick. He is banging on the wooden boards of the house and porch, switching to the windows and empty bottles of alcohol. Jack is mumbling as he is trying to sing along.

He stops dancing and banging with the wooden stick.

Jack's eyes are red and he is wobbling. He drops the wooden stick.

With effort, Jack drinks the remaining alcohol from the bottle.

Jack throws the bottle towards the road.

He falls face down on the wooden floor.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

A car is approaching.

The bottle lands and breaks on the road.

The car tires are squealing as the driver is trying to avoid the broken glass.

The car pulls over on the side of the road.

In an angry manner, a man named WADE gets out of the driving seat.

WADE

That's it! I've had it with this asshole!

A woman named SHIRLENE gets out of the passenger seat.

SHIRLENE

You show him, Wade!

Wade yells.

WADE

You hear me, Jack Donovan! You drunken bastard!

A bottle flies near Wade and smashes on the road.

WADE

That idiot is done lost his mind!

Another bottle smashes on the road.

WADE

Shirlene, go inside and call the cops.

SHIRLENE

Like they gonna do something...

WADE

Go now, Shirlene! Before I do something!

SHIRLENE

What you gonna do, Wade? You all talk!

WADE

Don't get started on me, woman! Go inside and call the goddam cops!

SHIRLENE

No need you yelling at me, Wade! I'm going!

As Shirlene is rushing to the house, another bottle flies towards the road heading straight for Wade's head.

Wade turns around, sees the bottle and ducks.

The bottle smashes on the curb.

Pieces of broken glass fly in all directions.

Some of the broken glass hits Wade's car.

Wade's face is turning red.

WADE

Not my baby...

Wade is checking the front of his car for scratches.

Wade turns around. His face is red. He yells in anger.

WADE

I'll kill you, Donovan! I'll kill you with my bare hands!

Wade starts walking towards Jack's front yard.

Distant police siren can now be heard. Wade stops and looks to the right.

In the distance, approaching police car is revealed.

EXT. WADE'S HOUSE - DAY

Shirlene comes out of the front door. She yells.

SHIRLENE

Police is already coming!

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Wade turns towards Shirlene and yells back.

WADE

I ain't blind and I ain't deaf!
Although, I wish I was... so I
don't got to listen to you, or even
see you, Shirlene!

EXT. WADE'S HOUSE - DAY

Shirlene slams the front door of the house behind her and starts walking towards Wade.

SHIRLENE

What did you say to me? What did
you...

The wailing sirens of the police are now loud.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Both Wade and Shirlene are looking at the police car as it is approaching

The police car pulls over, and stops by the side of the road, next to Jack's property.

Two police officers get out of the vehicle at the same time.

One of the police officers named JAMES walks slowly towards Wade and Shirlene. The other police officer named LARRY stays by the car. He leans on the opened car door.

James looks at the broken glass scattered all over the road.

JAMES

What's going on here, Wade?

Wade yells angrily.

WADE

What does it look like, Jim? Your
buddy has gone nuts again!

JAMES

Calm down, Wade. Take a breath.
Tell me what happened.

Wade ostentatiously takes a deep breath and exhales.

WADE

Happy now?

JAMES

Wade...

WADE

How long have we known each other?
Hell, we were buddies once. All of
us!

Wade points at Jack's house.

WADE

Then that guy... That guy loses his
shit for something that happens
every single day.

JAMES

I know, Wade.

WADE

Yeah, you know! It happened to you
once, remember?

JAMES

It wasn't the same...

WADE

Maybe. But still, going on a bender
for 5 years... I've been driving
all night from my folks' place to
get here, just so he can throw
bottles at me and my wife. Not to
mention by baby...

Wade looks at his car, then back to James.

WADE

He's driving us crazy, Jimmy! We
tried to help but it's one thing
after the other.

Shirlene steps forward.

SHIRLENE

The other day he was pissing in the
middle of the road.

WADE

Oh, yeah. Right where you are
standing, Jim.

James looks down and takes a step back.

WADE

I know you are his best buddy,
Jimmy. I know that you are trying
to help. But you are not here! We
are! And we are not gonna stand
this anymore!

JAMES
I get it, Wade.

Wade takes a step towards James.

WADE
No you don't! If you don't make
this stop, I'm a file a complaint
against you! I don't want to do
that but this stops one way or the
other. Do your job, goddammit!

Wade's words make James angry.

JAMES
Alright, that's enough! Get inside!
Both of you!

Wade gives James a disapproving look.

WADE
Let's go, Shirlene.

Wade and Shirlene start walking towards their house.

James turns around and walks up to the police car.

His partner is standing next to the opened door of the
passenger seat.

JAMES
You stay here, Larry. I got this.

Larry is chewing gum.

LARRY
You sure, Jim?

JAMES
Yeah. Oh, and whatever you hear, do
not come over there.

LARRY
But Jim...

JAMES
Don't argue with me. Unless you
hear gunshots, you don't come
there! Got it?

Larry makes a gesture of surrender with his hands.

LARRY
I got it. I got it.

Larry gets in the passenger seat and closes the door.

James starts walking towards Jack's house.

EXT. PORCH - DAY

James gets to the porch.

Jack is sitting down on the wooden boards with a back against the house.

James goes to Jack and sits next to him.

They sit in silence.

James looks at Jack.

JAMES

If you wanted to see me, you could have called.

Jack remains silent, looking ahead.

JAMES

I'm not coming here anymore. Not for this. I'm getting re-assigned and I'm not coming back here as a police officer.

Jack looks at James, then straight ahead again.

James looks around.

JAMES

I really love what you have done with the place.

James takes a deep breath and runs his hand through his hair.

JAMES

I don't get it. I just don't get it. You were just married and she cheats on you. And it hurts, I bet it does but why...

Jack turns to James and interrupts him.

JACK

No, you don't get it. It's not about her. What happened... it opened my eyes to the world of men. The world of people. The ugliness that I see... You see it too.

(MORE)

JACK (cont'd)

Everybody does. You are part of it and you just block it. You don't want it to destroy your perfect little life!

JAMES

So, am I ugly, too? My wife? My kids?

JACK

Let me tell you a story, Jimmy. Years ago, I was outside this burger place. Waiting on a line to get a burger. There were other people there, too. There was this guy, who was not on the line, a few feet away. He was smoking. I was hungry, waiting, looking around. Suddenly, this beetle flies over, then lands on the ground a couple of feet away from the guy. The thing was huge and it was so beautiful. I've never seen this kind of beetle before. And I didn't get to look at it for long. You know why, Jimmy? The guy just stepped on it. He crushed it on purpose. Just because it was there, or I don't know why... I wanted to strangle him but... I didn't even say a word. I just stared at him with hate. I fucking hated that guy. I still do.

Jack puts his hand on James' shoulder.

JACK

And to answer your question, you are ugly, too. Your kids are ugly and your wife was screwing half the football team back in high school.

James gets up and yells in anger.

JAMES

You son of a bitch!

James leans down towards Jack and grabs him by the clothes. James picks Jack up and pushes him towards the wooden boards of the house wall.

JAMES

You god damn son of a bitch!

JACK

Your buddy Wade over there got the
clap from her, remember?

James holds Jack with one hand and with the other punches
him in the face.

Jack's upper lip is starting to bleed. Jack laughs.

James punches him two more times.

Jack is bleeding from both lips and his nose.

James looks at Jack with a fist up, about to punch him
again.

James lets go of Jack and puts his fist down.

Jack slumps down on the floor with his back against the
wall.

James is breathing heavily.

JAMES

You are not worth it... You
miserable son of a bitch.

James starts tucking in his shirt.

JAMES

You are a scared little man...
afraid to live in the real world.
That's why you live like this. Like
a fucking asshole!

James laughs.

JAMES

Hell, you are not even man enough
to end it.

James takes a step towards Jack and points at him.

JAMES

If you really believe all that,
then why the fuck are you still
here? I know you got a gun. Put a
bullet in that thick skull of yours
and it'll all be over.

James gets closer to Jack and leans over him.

JAMES

No more ugliness, right?

James takes a few steps back and checks his clothes, making sure he looks presentable.

JACK

They should give you a medal,
Jimmy. Telling people to kill
themselves. Police work at its
finest.

JAMES

I'm not here as a police officer,
asshole. If I was, you'd be riding
in the back of my car. I was here
as your friend. Every time...

James takes a deep breath and exhales with relief.

JAMES

No more.

With a smile on his face, James turns around and starts walking towards the road.

Jack looks devastated.

In the background there is a sound of a car starting, then driving away.

Jack manages to stand up with effort.

Jack opens the front door and gets in the house.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE/BATHROOM - DAY

Jack is standing in front of a mirror with his hands on the edges of a ceramic bathroom sink.

Jack is looking at his haggard face in the mirror. As he keeps looking, Jack becomes angrier and angrier.

Jack smashes the mirror with his right hand and then starts to hit the sink. He keeps hitting until a big piece of the ceramic sink breaks off.

Jack steps back and sits down on the bathroom floor with a back against the wall.

Jack's hand is battered and bleeding from a big cut.

Jack looks at his hand. His eyes start to fill with tears.

He closes his eyes and the tears run down his face.

Jack remains with eyes closed for a few moments, then he passes out.

His face and body become relaxed.

Jack's right hand slips on the floor and starts bleeding there, creating a small but growing pool of blood.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE/BATHROOM - NIGHT

Moonlight coming from the bathroom window shines on Jack's face.

Jack wakes up.

Jack stands up with effort and flips the bathroom light switch.

He sees the pool of blood on the floor, the broken sink and mirror.

Jack looks at his hand. The bleeding has stopped. Blood has soaked through his clothes.

Jack walks to the sink and looks at himself in the mirror.

Jack stares at his reflection in the broken mirror.

As Jack is looking at himself, he starts to get angry. He is breathing heavily.

Jack's breathing calms.

JACK

No more...

INT. HALL - NIGHT

Jack exits the bathroom and starts walking through the hall.

The house is dark, illuminated only by the soft moonlight.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jack enters his bedroom.

He lies on the bed with his bloody clothes and falls asleep.

INT. JACK'S HOUSE/KITCHEN - DAY

Jack is sitting on the kitchen table. He is eating scrambled eggs. His right wrist and part of his hand are wrapped in a bandage.

Jack's face is shaved. He has a new shorter haircut, obviously done by himself.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/PORCH - DAY

Jack exits through the front door.

He takes a deep breath, smelling the air.

JACK
Good morning, assholes.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/GARAGE - DAY

Jack is struggling to open the garage door. The door gets stuck as he tries to bring it up.

JACK
Come on, you piece a...

The garage door opens. A car covered with a sheet is revealed.

INT. GARAGE - DAY

Jack pulls the sheet and his cabriolet is revealed. The car appears to be in perfect condition.

Jack gets in the car. He puts the key in the ignition.

Jack attempts to start the car but without success.

JACK
Don't you do this to me now!

Jack makes another attempt to start the car and this time it is successful.

JACK
That's my girl!

Jack puts the car in gear. His foot presses hard on the gas pedal. The car takes off fast.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DAY

The car is speeding out of the garage.

The driveway looks dirty and overgrown with vegetation.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

Wade is cleaning the hood of his car. He is wiping it carefully with a rag.

Wade hears the roaring engine of Jack's car.

Wade looks up towards Jack's place.

WADE
What in the hell...

Jack's car jumps out of the driveway on the road, turns and stops fast next to Wade and his car.

Wade looks stunned.

Jack looks at Wade.

JACK
Hey, Wade!

WADE
What?

JACK
Fuck you!

Jack turns ahead, puts the car in gear and drives away fast.

Wade is looking stunned.

WADE
No. This is not good...

EXT. LIBRARY - DAY

Jack arrives in his car. He pulls over and parks the car.

Jack gets out of the car and starts walking towards the front steps of the library.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Jack is standing in front of the information desk. He is looking at the back of a provocatively dressed woman. The woman is picking up scattered sheets of paper from the ground.

The woman notices Jack. She puts the sheets of paper away and walks to Jack.

The woman is young and attractive. She is chewing gum.

Jack is staring at her breasts.

On the left side of the woman's top, there is a name tag with "SALLY" written on it.

Sally makes a hand gesture and as she is chewing gum, she says.

SALLY
Up here, sweetheart.

Jack looks her in the eyes with a big smile.

JACK
I don't think there is much in
there.

Jack points at her breasts.

JACK
On the other hand, down there...

Sally interrupts Jack.

SALLY
Hey!

JACK
What? Night job doesn't make
enough? Or maybe it's the night job
that got you on probation? Somebody
makes you come here, am I right?

Sally looks a bit confused for a moment, then realizes what
Jack is hinting.

Sally becomes upset.

Jack looks concerned.

JACK
Wait. I'm sorry...

Sally looks like she is about to cry.

JACK
Don't...

Sally smiles, chews her gum, then laughs. Her laugh is
really loud and annoying.

SALLY
Got you, asshole!

An old woman named MAMIE comes out of the back.

In a sweet voice, she says.

MRS. MAMIE
What are you two children fighting
about?

Mrs. Mamie grabs Sally gently by the hand.

MRS. MAMIE

I told you that a library is not a place for laughs and games, sweetheart.

SALLY

But he...

MRS. MAMIE

Now, now. Go in the back room and sort those files. Just like I showed you.

SALLY

But granny...

MRS. MAMIE

And what did I tell you about chewing gum?

Sally takes out the gum from her mouth. She gives Jack a mean look. Sally starts walking towards the back room.

Jack is checking out the back of Sally as she is walking away.

Jack notices Mrs. Mamie giving him a stern look.

JACK

Ahem. You got a nice...

Mrs. Mamie interrupts Jack.

MRS. MAMIE

Listen to me asswipe! I do not tolerate the likes of you in my library!

Mrs. Mamie reaches down and whips out a long stick.

Jack gets startled and takes a step back.

Mrs. Mamie points with the stick to a sheet of paper on the wall.

MRS. MAMIE

These are the rules. If you follow the rules, we will be just fine. If not, I got a 12 gauge shotgun in the back!

Jack looks at the sheet of paper with the rules.

JACK

Yes, I can see the rules.

Mrs. Mamie attitude changes to calm and warm.

MRS. MAMIE

Now, my name is Mamie. How can I help you, son?

JACK

Well, I want to build a ship.

MRS. MAMIE

A ship?

JACK

That's right.

MRS. MAMIE

Are you building it by yourself?

JACK

I sure intend to.

MRS. MAMIE

Then perhaps, you mean something more like a boat?

JACK

A boat will be too small.

Mrs. Mamie puts her glasses on.

MRS. MAMIE

Oh, look at that! Aren't you ROY'S boy? Jake, was it?

JACK

It's Jack.

MRS. MAMIE

Oh, yes. The drunk!

Mrs. Mamie clicks her tongue.

MRS. MAMIE

What a shame! You were such a good boy...

Jack yells.

JACK

Do I look drunk to you?

Mrs. Mamie grabs the stick and points to the sheet of paper with the rules.

MRS. MAMIE
Don't raise your voice to the
librarian!

Jack yells again.

JACK
Fine!

MRS. MAMIE
Remember the shotgun I told you
about?

Jack takes a deep breath, exhales and asks in a calm manner.

JACK
Are you going to help me or not?

Mrs. Mamie puts down the stick.

MRS. MAMIE
I will help you, son. However, I
don't think you know much about
ships and boats.

Mrs. Mamie exits the information desk area.

MRS. MAMIE
Follow me, son.

Jack follows Mrs. Mamie to a nearby section with magazines.

Mrs. Mamie pulls out one of the magazines, looks at it and
hands it to Jack.

MRS. MAMIE
Read this.

Jack looks at the magazine.

JACK
This is not what I'm looking for.
It's not going to teach me how to
build a boat...

Mrs. Mamie gently grabs Jack's forearm.

MRS. MAMIE
Baby steps.

Mrs. Mamie lets go of Jack.

MRS. MAMIE

You go ahead and sit on that table over there. While you read, I will prepare your library card. I am assuming, you do not have one?

JACK

No.

MRS. MAMIE

Alright. Go now. Sit on that table and look at the magazine.

Mrs. Mamie starts heading back to the information desk.

Jack walks to the table and sits down.

He puts the magazine on the table.

Reluctantly, he starts to turn the pages of the magazine.

Jack starts to turn the pages fast and with anger.

He looks at the information desk where Mrs. Mamie is holding the stick.

Jack puts on a fake smile and starts to turn the pages slowly, while still looking at Mrs. Mamie.

As Jack is about to turn the next page, he looks at the magazine. His fake smile disappears.

Jack pick up the magazine with both hands.

JACK

This is it.

Jack stands up. Still holding the magazine with two hands, he walks to the information desk.

Jack shows the magazine to Mrs. Mamie.

JACK

This is what I want. Big enough to cross the ocean but not too big for one man to handle.

Mrs. Mamie looks at the magazine, then at Jack.

MRS. MAMIE

Cross the ocean? Have you lost your mind, son?

JACK

Perhaps I have. Are you going to help me or not?

MRS. MAMIE

And how exactly do you expect me to do that?

JACK

I need books that will teach me how to build a boat like this, how to operate it. Will you help me?

MRS. MAMIE

Under one condition.

Jack points at the sheet of paper with the rules.

JACK

I'll follow the rules. There will be no trouble from me.

MRS. MAMIE

Not that. Well, that too but one other thing. I don't trust you going home with books from this library. You are a drunk. God knows what you will do. You will read them here. And you will not show up drunk!

JACK

That's more than one condition.

Mrs. Mamie takes off her glasses.

MRS. MAMIE

Here is another one. Don't get smart with me! By the looks of you, I may be old but I can still take you.

Jack makes a gesture of surrender with his hands.

JACK

Whatever you say...

MRS. MAMIE

Now, go back to your table and wait for me there.

Jack goes back to the table and sits down.

MONTAGE

- 1) Mrs. Mamie is bringing books to Jack. Mrs. Mamie puts the books on the table in front of Jack.
- 2) Jack is reading a book. There are a few other books on the table. He is turning a page. Mrs. Mamie is bringing him a cup of tea.
- 3) Jack is reading a book. There are more books on the table.
- 4) With his left hand, Jack is pressing on the pages of a book. He is reading from the book and writing down something in a notebook. There are small stacks of books on the table.
- 5) Big stacks of books are on the table. Jack's eyes are in his notebook as he is writing in it. Without taking his eyes of the notebook, Jack reaches for a ruler but knocks down a stack of books. Jack looks at the information desk where Mrs. Mamie is holding the stick, giving Jack a stern look.
- 6) On the table, there are stacks of books. In the middle of the table, there is a big sheet of paper. Jack is sleeping with head on the sheet of paper. Drawing tools are scattered all over the sheet of paper and the table.
- 7) Sally is wearing a provocative outfit. She is watering plants. She is bending over. Jack is looking at her through cracks between the stacks of books. Suddenly, his view is blocked. Jack raises his head and sees Mrs. Mamie in front of him holding the stick.

END OF MONTAGE

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Jack is standing up by his table. The table has stacks of books on it, Jack's notebook, drawing tools and rolled sheets of paper. Jack grabs one of the rolled sheets, expands it and hold it up with both hands.

JACK

I can do this.

Jack rolls the sheet of paper. He collects the rest of the rolled sheets of paper and grabs his notebook.

Jack walks to the information desk. Mrs. Mamie is there.

JACK

I guess I will be on my way.

MRS. MAMIE

Son, even if you somehow manage to build this boat... You will die out there. The ocean is not a place for an alone man. Where are you going anyway?

JACK

It doesn't matter. Away from here...

Mrs. Mamie gets out from behind the information desk.

MRS. MAMIE

Good luck to you, Jack Donovan.

JACK

Good luck with your granddaughter.

MRS. MAMIE

Well, you do your best. Oh, who am I fooling...

JACK

You are not that bad, Mamie. For a human being that is...

Mrs. Mamie and Jack look at each other.

Jack starts walking away.

EXT. LIBRARY - DAY

Jack walks down the front steps of the library.

Jack gets to his parked car. He puts the rolled sheets of paper and the notebook on the passenger seat.

Jack walks around the front of the car, opens the door and sits in the driving seat.

Jack starts the car.

JACK

Now comes the hard part.

Jack drives away.

EXT. ROAD INTERSECTION - DAY

Jack stop at a red light. He looks to his right.

On the sidewalk, there is a LITTLE BOY, standing next to a small DOG.

The little boy lights a firecracker and throws it next to the dog.

The firecracker explodes with a loud bang and the small dog runs scared.

The boy laughs.

The boy runs after the dog and quickly catches up to the dog. The dog lies down shivering.

Jack gets angrily out of the car.

A YOUNG MAN whose car is stopped behind Jack's car sticks his head out of the window and yells.

YOUNG MAN

Hey, where are you going, asshole!

Jack turns to the young man, points at him and yells.

JACK

Shut the fuck up before I take your eyeballs out and feed them to your mama!

The young man puts his head back in the car and rolls up the window.

Jack starts walking towards the boy on the sidewalk.

The boy reaches into his pocket and takes out another firecracker.

Just as the boy is about to light the firecracker, Jack grabs the boy and lifts him in the air.

JACK

You sadistic little asshole!

Jack puts the boy down.

JACK

Give me that!

Jack takes the firecracker and the lighter from the boy.

JACK

You want to have fun? Let's have some fun!

With a crazy look in his eyes, Jack lights the firecracker, then tosses the lighter aside.

Jack puts the firecracker in the boy's hand.

With his left hand, Jack squeezes the boy's hand, making sure the boy can't let go of the firecracker. With his right hand, Jack holds the boy by the shoulder.

Jack brings the boy's hand with the firecracker close to the boy's face.

JACK

You want boom boom in your face,
you little fuck!

The little boy starts crying, turning his head to the left, trying to avoid the sparks from the burning fuse.

Jack quickly takes the firecracker from the boy's hand and throws it away.

The firecracker explodes in the air.

JACK

Oh, that was close! You want to try
another one?

The boy cries.

JACK

No?

Jack grabs the boy by the shoulders with both hands.

JACK

Then you listen to me you little
cockroach! If you do anything bad,
uncle Jack is going to come out of
nowhere and do it to you, only ten
times worse! You got that?

The little boy is scared and remains silent.

Jack shakes the boy.

JACK

Speak you evil fuck!

LITTLE BOY

Yes, sir.

Jack releases the boy.

JACK

Good. Now get!

The boy starts running away.

Jack turns to the dog. The dog is lying scared.

JACK
You okay, little buddy?

Jack goes to the dog, bends over and pets the dog.

JACK
You'll be alright.

Jack leaves the dog and starts walking towards his car.

Cars are honking as Jack car is blocking the traffic.

Jack turns around and sees the dog following him.

JACK
You can't come with me. Not where I
am going.

The dog wags his tail, then sits down and stares at Jack
with sad eyes.

JACK
You've got to be kidding me.

The dog whines.

JACK
Alright then. Come on.

The dog gets up and starts following Jack.

Jack gets to the car and opens the door to the passenger
seat.

JACK
Get in.

The dog gets in the car. Jack closes the door.

Jack gets in the car.

Jack starts driving.

JACK
You got a name, buddy?

Jack looks at the dog.

JACK
What should I call you, huh?

The dog barks.

JACK
Alright then, you shall be named
BARK. Do you like that?

The dog barks.

JACK
You have no idea what I'm talking
about, do you?

The dog barks two times.

Jack drives away.

EXT. "DONOVAN'S AUTO REPAIR AND TIRE" - DAY

Jack arrives and parks the car.

Jack gets out of the car.

JACK
You stay here, Bark!

Jack looks around. The place is busy with working employees.

One of the nearby workers named PAT notices Jack and walks
up to him.

PAT
How's it going? My name is Pat.

Pat offers his hand for a handshake. Pat's hand is dirty
with motor oil.

Jack looks at Pat's hand.

Pat realizes that his hand is dirty.

PAT
Oh, sorry about that.

Pat takes out a dirty rag from his back pocket and starts
wiping his hand.

PAT
We are having a busy day out here.

Pat walks closer to Jack's car.

PAT
I see you got a nice vehicle there,
sir. So, what's wrong with this
beauty?

JACK
Nothing. Is Roy here?

PAT
He sure is. Up there in the office.
You take those stairs...

JACK
I know the way.

PAT
Alright. You sure you don't want me
to take a look at the car?

JACK
I'd appreciate it if you stay away
from it.

Pat takes a few steps back.

PAT
Alright then. I'll be getting back
to it.

Pat walks away.

Jack starts walking towards the exterior stairs leading to
Roy's office.

EXT. ROY'S OFFICE - DAY

Jack's hand is up in a fist, about to knock on the office
door. He hesitates for a moment. Jack puts his hand down and
grabs the door handle. He opens the door, revealing Roy
standing up by the window and speaking on the phone.

Jack enters the room.

INT. ROY'S OFFICE - DAY

Roy is on the phone facing away from Jack.

ROY
I've been waiting on these parts
for days now!

Roy turns around and sees Jack.

ROY
No more excuses!

Roy walks to his desk and hangs up the phone.

ROY

When I woke up this morning, I had this feeling... Like I knew this is going to be a shitty day.

JACK

Good to see you too, father.

Roy gets behind his desk and sits on his chair.

ROY

Let me guess. You ran out of money?

Roy lights a cigarette.

ROY

I hate to say this son but if you want to be a drunken loser, you gonna have to pay for it yourself.

Jack walks to the desk. He takes a pen and a piece of paper.

ROY

What are you doing?

Jack writes on the piece of paper and slides it to Roy.

JACK

This is what I need.

Roy looks at Jack and then at the piece of paper.

Roy laughs.

ROY

You planning on building a pool, filling it with whiskey and drowning in it? Is that it?

JACK

Do I look drunk to you?

Roy yells angrily.

ROY

You look like shit!

Roy stands up.

ROY

How dare you come in here, asking me for money! I gave you your own shop to run! And you, you ran it into the ground then sold it. And

(MORE)

ROY (cont'd)
for what? So you can drink yourself
stupid every day for the last five
years!

Jack sits down on a chair opposite Roy's desk.

JACK
I am not here to argue with you.

Roy sits down and takes a drag on his cigarette.

JACK
I'm building a boat and I'm
leaving. Look at this as a loan.
When the boat is ready, I will give
you the house. It's worth more than
I'm asking for.

Roy stares at Jack, then draws from his cigarette and
exhales.

ROY
You've lost your mind, boy. Just
like your uncle GILROY. He'd talk
to the birds, remember? That's what
the drink does to you.

JACK
Uncle Gilroy was crazy long before
he was a drunk.

ROY
Before the drinking, your uncle
Gilroy was a great man.

Jack stands up and yells.

JACK
Uncle Gilroy was an asshole! He'd
beat his own family!

Jack leans over Roy's desk.

JACK
I see two people in this world of
men. The asshole and the one who
justifies the asshole's actions.
Sees the good in people...

ROY
What about those who fight the
assholes?

Jack steps back, then starts walking around the room yelling.

JACK

You can't fight the assholes! There are too many of them! And you can't beat them unless you become one of them! In the end, there is always going to be one asshole left!

ROY

For God's sake Jack! You can't be this angry all the time.

JACK

But I am! That's why I don't want to be here anymore. And I can't off myself like my good friend Jimmy suggested. I can't let the assholes win! But I also can't be here anymore. I need to go away! I don't know where and I don't care.

Jack sits down.

JACK

I just want to leave. Will you help me do that, father? If you don't, I'll just sell the house. I'll buy some cheap land and build the boat there. I'll live in a fucking tent if I have to!

ROY

Do you even know how to build a boat, Jack?

JACK

I do.

Roy puts out the cigarette. He opens a drawer and takes out his checkbook.

Roy grabs a pen and writes in his checkbook. He tears the check out of the checkbook, then stands up and hands it to Jack.

ROY

Take it. This is almost everything I've got saved.

Jack takes the check.

JACK

I will pay you back.

ROY

No. I don't want your house. Just take it and get out. I am done with you.

Roy lights another cigarette.

ROY

Build a boat, drink through it... I don't care. You don't come back here unless you want a job. That I can give you. Anything else, I already have.

Roy walks to the window and smokes his cigarette facing away from Jack.

JACK

I'm not coming back here, father.

Roy remains silent.

Jack walks to the office door and leaves.

Roy is by the window. He is looking out. He takes a draw from his cigarette and exhales.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/ROAD - DAY

Jack is waiting on the sidewalk. Bark is sitting close to Jack's feet.

A bulldozer and two dump trucks are arriving. All vehicles stop.

The BULLDOZER DRIVER gets out carrying a clipboard. He approaches Jack.

BULLDOZER DRIVER

You Jack Donovan?

JACK

I am.

The bulldozer driver hands Jack the clipboard.

BULLDOZER DRIVER

Sign here.

Jack takes the clipboard, signs and gives it back.

INT. WADE'S HOUSE/KITCHEN - DAY

Shirlene is cooking a meal.

Wade is looking out the window. Wade yells.

WADE
Shirlene!

SHIRLENE
What?

WADE
Come and see!

Shirlene goes to the window.

SHIRLENE
What is he doing?

WADE
I told you he is up to no good.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/ROAD - DAY

The dump trucks and the bulldozer are leaving. The dump trucks are full of vegetation mixed with soil.

Jack's yard has been leveled and cleaned from vegetation.

Jack is standing on the sidewalk as the vehicles leave. He is looking at the leveled yard.

In the yard is Bark. The dog is digging.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/YARD - DAY

A truck is parking a huge boat trailer on the right side of the yard.

Jack is standing on the path directing the TRUCK DRIVER to back up a little more.

Jack makes a sign to the driver to stop. The truck stops. The driver gets out of the truck and walks up to Jack.

TRUCK DRIVER
Boy, that is some big ass trailer.
What do you need this for anyway?

JACK
A big ass boat.

EXT. WADE'S HOUSE - DAY

Wade is coming out of the front door. He has a cup of coffee in his hand.

Wade is about to drink from the cup of coffee when he notices the big boat trailer. Wade yells.

WADE

Shirlene!

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/ROAD - DAY

A fleet of trucks is arriving. The leading truck pulls over and stops. The rest follow and stop as well.

A man gets out of the leading truck. His name is BRAD STERN.

EXT. PORCH - DAY

Brad Stern knocks on the front door of Jack's house. He is holding a clipboard.

Jack opens the door.

STERN

We are ready to unload Mr. Donovan.

Jack walks out of the house and closes the door behind him.

JACK

You got everything?

STERN

All that you asked for is on those trucks.

Jack and Stern start walking towards the yard.

EXT. YARD - DAY

Jack and Stern are on the yard's path facing the left side of the yard. Behind them, on the right side of the yard is the boat trailer. Jack and Stern are standing next to each other and are looking at the clipboard. Jack is pointing at the clipboard.

JACK

I want these...

Jack points at the yard.

JACK

... over there at the back. I am going to need them last.

STERN

Alright.

JACK
Wait, you got the tarp, right?

STERN
Like I said, if it's on the list...

Stern points to the trucks by the road.

STERN
...it's on those trucks.

JACK
Right, we need to cover all of it.
Don't want it to get wet.

Stern nods approvingly.

Jack is looking at the clipboard.

JACK
Where are the tools?

STERN
Uh, let's see.

Stern looks at the clipboard. He lifts up the first page, looks at it for a moment, then lifts the second page up. Stern points to the third page.

STERN
Here.

JACK
Alright, I want these...

Jack points towards the road.

JACK
...over there. Close to the road.

STERN
I see. Well, wouldn't it be better
if there are closer to the house?

JACK
I want them to be closer to that
house.

Jack points at Wade's house.

Stern looks at Wade's house, then turns to Jack and smiles.

STERN
I see. Let's get started then.

Stern and Jack start walking towards the road.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/ROAD - DAY

The left side of Jack's yard is filled with stacks of materials and tools covered with tarp.

Jack and Stern are standing on the sidewalk. Jack signs the clipboard and hands it to Stern. Stern takes it and looks at the yard.

STERN

Boy, this looks like a lot of work.

Stern turns to Jack.

STERN

Are you sure you want to do this alone? I can send you a couple of my guys to help you out. I won't charge you much.

JACK

I got it.

Jack offers his hand for a handshake.

JACK

Thank you for the help.

Stern shakes Jack's hand.

STERN

Don't mention it. Boy, I don't know what's with you and whoever lives over there...

Stern looks at Wade's house.

STERN

It's not going to be pretty.
Building a boat in your front yard.
All that noise...

Stern starts laughing as he is walking to his nearby parked truck.

Stern gets in the truck.

Jack watches the trucks leaving.

Wade is yelling. His face is all red.

WADE

What are you up to now, you drunken
crazy no good son of a... asshole!?

JACK

Nice to see you too, Wade.

Jack turns around and starts walking towards his house.

WADE

Don't you turn your back on me! I'm
warning you, Donovan!

JACK

Have a pleasant evening, Wade.

STERN

I'm calling the cops. I bet my left
nut there has to be something
illegal in all of this.

Jack stops walking.

He turns around and starts walking towards Wade.

JACK

I will tear your nut off, shove it
down your throat, rip your throat
out and shove it in your ass, so
you can shit your nut through your
throat you goddamn son of a bitch!

Wade starts walking backward.

WADE

Wait a minute, Jack.

Jack stops walking and stares at Wade.

JACK

I'm going to build a boat. And when
I build it, I am going to leave. In
the meantime, I will take great
pleasure in annoying you any way I
can. You got that, Wade?

Wade looks scared.

WADE

Sure thing, Jack.

Wade starts walking towards his house. He looks back at Jack
every few steps.

Jack turns around. A subtle smile comes across his face. Jack starts walking to his house.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/YARD - DAY

Jack is standing in front of a stack of materials covered with tarp. He has rolled paper plans in his back pocket. Jack grabs the tarp and removes it from the stack. A stack of wooden planks is revealed.

Jack lifts one of the planks with effort and puts it on his shoulder. He starts walking carrying the plank. After a few steps, Jack appears to be in pain. He puts the plank down on the ground.

Jack rubs his shoulder. He takes off his shirt. Jack's body looks weak. He is skinny with a big belly. Jack folds the shirt and puts it over his shoulder. Then he lifts the plank and puts it on the shirt. Jack is walking towards the road with the plank on his shoulder.

Jack gets to the stacks located close to the road. He puts the plank down. Jack starts to remove the tarp from what appears to be a tall stack. A carpenter's workbench is revealed.

Jack walks to another shorter stack located nearby and removes the tarp. Various tools are revealed. Jack grabs a hand saw. He takes the saw to the table and puts it on it.

Jack lifts the plank and puts it on the table as well.

He goes back to the tools. Jack is looking for something. He grabs a tape measure.

Jack goes back to the table and puts the tape measure next to the saw. He takes the rolled up plans from his back pocket. Jack unrolls the paper plan. He looks at it for a moment, then rolls up the paper and puts it back in his back pocket.

Jack grabs the tape measure and starts to measure the plank. He is holding the tape measure with one hand and checking his pockets with the other hand. Jack takes out a pen. He makes a mark on the plank. Jack puts the pen and the tape measure on the table.

Jack picks up the saw. He looks at his reflection in the saw. His eyes are revealed on the saw's blade surface. Jack is staring into his own eyes.

Jack puts the saw's blade on the mark he made with the pen.

With one hand Jack is holding the plank. With the other, he is holding the saw.

Jack takes a deep breath and drives the saw forward.

TIME LAPSE

-- Jack is cutting with the saw at a normal pace. His muscles start to get bigger and define. The fat on his belly starts to disappear. Jack's face starts to look better.

-- In the background, on the trailer, the beginning of the boat's skeleton is revealed. The skeleton starts to grow and take shape.

-- It is night. Jack is sleeping on a camping chair. Behind him, the moon is moving across the horizon. As the moon moves, it reveals the shape of the boat in the background.

-- The boat is getting build at a fast pace. Jack appears on different location working on the boat.

-- Jack is hanging on a rope on the port side of the boat. He is holding a hammer. Jack hammers a nail.

-- Jack is hanging on a rope starboard. He is sweating as he is sanding.

-- Day changes to night and night changes to day. Each day reveals the boat getting closer to being finished.

-- Summer turns to winter. Winter turns to summer. The boat looks nearly finished.

END OF TIME LAPSE

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/YARD (1986) - DAY

The bow of the boat is revealed, then Jack's legs are revealed as he is standing on the deck. He is holding a beer bottle. As Jack brings the beer bottle up to take a drink, his upper body is revealed. Jack looks strong and healthy.

The entire finished fifty feet sailboat is revealed.

Jack sees a pickup truck approaching. He drinks from the beer bottle then puts it down on the deck.

Jack climbs down a rope ladder port side.

The pickup truck pulls over by the side of the road. Roy Donovan comes out of the truck. Roy starts to walk towards Jack.

Roy gets closer to Jack. He looks at the boat. Roy walks to the boat. He puts his hand on the hull. Roy runs his palm along the surface.

Roy takes a long look at Jack, noticing the physical transformation.

ROY
Gave up the drink, did you?

JACK
Not really. You want a beer?

ROY
Sure.

Roy lights up a cigarette.

Jack grabs two beers from a cooler sitting on the ground nearby. Bark is lying down next to the cooler. He opens the beers.

Jack hands Roy a beer. Roy takes the beer and drinks from it.

ROY
Did you build this all by yourself?

JACK
I had a little help placing the engine. Other than that, did it myself.

Roy looks up at the boat.

ROY
So, it has an engine and sails?

JACK
It has both.

ROY
How big is this thing?

Jack takes a sip of his beer.

JACK
Fifty feet.

ROY
Fifty feet. How far can this thing go?

JACK
As far as you are willing to take it.

Roy takes a drag from his cigarette. He throws the cigarette on the ground and puts it out with his shoe.

ROY

What are you doing, Jack? This is crazy. Let's just sell this thing. You will come work for me, get your life back together. And you don't have to pay me back the money. Use it to fix the house.

Jack stares at Roy.

Jack finishes his beer, then puts the empty beer bottle on the ground next to the cooler. He takes a new beer from the cooler.

JACK

You will have the keys to the house soon enough.

Jack turns his back on Roy and starts walking towards his house.

ROY

Jack, I don't need the house.

Jack remains silent and keeps walking towards his house.

ROY

Will you at least let me know when you are leaving?

Roy sighs, then finishes his beer. He goes to the cooler and puts the empty beer bottle next to Jack's.

ROY

(to himself)
God damn it, Jack.

Roy looks at the boat, then he starts walking towards his truck.

EXT. JACK'S HOUSE/ROAD - DAY

Jack and Stern are standing on the sidewalk. They are watching a man named BOBBY back up a truck towards the trailer with the boat.

STERN

This is my best driver. Bobby is the real deal.

JACK

What's with his eye?

STERN

An accident.

JACK
What kind of accident?

STERN
A few years ago, on the highway. It
was on the news.

JACK
What the...

Stern interrupts Jack.

STERN
Don't worry about it. He's my best
guy. He'll get the job done.

JACK
I need that boat to reach the port
intact, Brad.

STERN
And Bobby is the man to do it.

Bobby gets out of the truck. He has a black eye patch on his
right eye.

BOBBY
I see all kind of trouble. Boat's
too big. Gonna knock out a few
houses!

Bobby starts laughing loudly.

JACK
(to Stern)
What is he talking about?

BOBBY
Boat is gonna do just fine on a
straight road but on the turns lies
the problem.

JACK
What are you saying? Will you get
there in one piece or not?

Bobby walks up to Jack.

BOBBY
Will do. But next time, don't build
a boat in your front yard. Right,
good man?

Bobby starts laughing loudly again.

STERN

Alright, let's hook up the trailer
and get going.

Jack looks worried.

People are starting to gather, watching the three men and
the boat. Wade and Shirlene are amongst the spectators.

WADE

It's never going to float!

Shirlene slaps Wade on the shoulder.

SHIRLENE

Oh, come on, Wade!

EXT. PORT - DAY

The boat is sliding down from the trailer in the water. As
the boat hits the water, it makes a big splash. The water is
splashing into a crowd of people watching the boat.

Kids are having fun. Adults are displeased with being wet.

The boat tilts at a big angle, it stays tilted for a moment.

Jack, Stern and Bobby look concerned.

The crowd is still, staring at the boat.

The boat straightens up. The crowd cheers.

Stern and Jack are expressing relieve.

Wade and Shirlene are in the crowd.

WADE

I'll be damned!

Bobby is once again laughing loudly.

STERN

I'll go call for the trucks.

JACK

Tell them to hurry up.

BOBBY

Don't you want to wait a while and
see if it floats?

Stern and Jack look at Bobby.

BOBBY

What? It's not out of the woods,
yet!

EXT. JACK'S BOAT - DAY

The boat is docked. Jack and Stern are standing in the cockpit. The cockpit is spacious and flat. Two men are getting out from the interior of the boat through the companionway and approach Jack and Stern.

WORKER #1

It's all loaded and secured.

STERN

Good work, boys.

WORKER #2

I'm not sure about those chickens
being there.

JACK

I'll deal with it.

WORKER #2

Anything else, you want us to do?

STERN

We're good. Drive the trucks back
and call it a day.

WORKER #2

Alright.

The workers start to leave.

Stern is holding a clipboard. He is writing with a pen.

STERN

...and check! That's all of it.

Jack reaches into his pants back pocket and takes out a check. He hands it to Stern.

JACK

The last one. You earned it.

Stern takes the check and looks at it.

STERN

It sure is good doing business with
you.

Stern puts the check in his shirt's front pocket.

STERN
Listen, you never told me. Where
are you hoping to go exactly?

JACK
Does it matter?

STERN
I'm curious, that's all.

JACK
Give me back that check and I'll
tell you.

Stern smiles.

STERN
I am not that curious.

Stern offers his hand for a hand shake.

Jack and Stern shake hands.

STERN
Well, see you when I see you, Jack
Donovan.

Stern gets off the boat.

Jack notices James in police uniform, his father and a woman
named EMMA approaching.

Jack is agitated.

Wind starts to blow and the sky begins to darken.

Jack gets off the boat. Roy, James and Emma walk up to him.
Emma stays a little behind the two men.

JACK
Are you fucking kidding me! What is
she doing here?

JAMES
Take it easy, Jack.

JACK
Stay out of it, Jimmy! I bet this
was your idea!

Emma steps forward.

EMMA

We ran into each other. He told me what you are up to. I needed to come, Jack.

JACK

What you need to do is leave.

EMMA

No! I feel like this is all my fault.

It starts to rain.

JACK

Well, guess what? I don't give a fuck how you feel. Now get the fuck out of here before I lose my shit.

JAMES

Calm down, Jack!

JACK

What are you going to do, asshole, arrest me?

JAMES

Why do you have to be such a dick to me all the time?

JACK

Because you are a shitty friend.

JAMES

I'm a shitty friend?

JACK

Forget it. I don't want to argue with any of you. You make me sad and angry. All I want is to leave. And maybe, just maybe, I will find some fucking peace out there, even for a fucking day.

The dog barks. Jack turns to take a look at Bark. The rain gets stronger.

EMMA

Let's go somewhere inside and talk.

JACK

Fuck off!

ROY

Son, please. Look at this weather.
You are not going anywhere, at
least not today.

JAMES

This is pointless.

Jack reaches into his pocket and takes out two sets of keys.

JACK

The house and the car are yours.

ROY

But you love that car.

Jack puts the two sets of keys in Roy's hand.

JACK

Goodbye, father. Take care of
yourself. And you two, you can go
fuck yourselves!

Jack gets on the boat. He takes a moment and looks at Roy,
James and Emma standing on the dock. The rain and the wind
are beating on Jack's face.

Roy, James and Emma are staring back at Jack.

Bark whines.

Jack turns around. He goes to Bark and lifts the wet dog up.

JACK

Come here, boy. Let's get you
inside and then I'm going to get
this boat moving.

Carrying the dog, Jack opens the hatch of the companionway
and gets inside. He closes the hatch behind him.

Lightning strikes.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/DECK - DAY

It is a sunny day. Jack is sitting on the deck with a bottle
of whiskey in one hand. He has a short beard and his face is
a little red from sunburn. The dog is lying next to him with
a head on Jack's leg. The water is calm and there is no sign
of land nearby.

Jack takes a sip from the whiskey, then puts the bottle
down. He s Bark.

JACK
Well, this is fucking boring.

The dog looks sad. Bark lifts his head, then puts it back on Jack's leg.

JACK
How about some chicken?

Bark lifts his head with interest.

JACK
You like that, don't you?

Jack is getting up.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/COCKPIT - DAY

Jack is standing in front of a smoking grill with tongs in his hand. Bark is sitting nearby looking at Jack.

There is a cage with 5 chickens in the cockpit. There are four hens and one rooster. They are clucking. One of the hens is brown with a black tail. The rest are white. The brown hen is very noisy.

Jack is using the tongs to turn the chicken.

Jack looks at the cage with the chickens.

JACK
You better settle down or...

Jack picks up one of the pieces of chicken with the tongs and lifts it in the air so it is visible from the cage.

The hens stop clucking.

JACK
Well, what do you know!

The brown hen starts clucking again. This time louder.

In an angry manner, Jack walks to the cage with the chickens.

JACK
Listen to me you little asshole!
You have been driving me crazy for
the last two weeks.

The brown hen clucks.

JACK
 Shut up when I'm talking to you!
 The only reason you are not on that
 grill are those delicious eggs
 you've been laying almost daily.

Jack clicks the tongs.

JACK
 But guess what?

Bird shit lands on Jack's shoulder.

JACK
 What the...

Jack looks up. There is a bird in the sky above the boat.

JACK
 (pointing at the bird in
 the sky)
 Hey, fuck you, too!

Jack looks at the hen and points at it with the tongs.

JACK
 This is not over!

Jack puts the tongs on the grill and takes off his shirt.

Jack takes a sip of whiskey. He grabs the tongs and starts turning the chicken.

The chickens start clucking.

JACK
 Oh, give me a break.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/DECK - DAY

Jack's beard is bigger. He is standing on the deck looking through binoculars.

A dark sky is revealed in the far horizon.

Bark is whining.

JACK
 Let's get you inside.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/COCKPIT - DAY

It is windy. Jack is on the wheel. He is turning the wheel.

Jack looks up. The sky above him is dark on one side and clear on the other.

The wind stops. It starts to rain.

Jack let's go of the wheel and goes to the right. He looks at his clothes.

JACK
What the hell!

Jack looks at the left side of the boat where it is raining.

He goes to the left side of the boat, then he comes back to the right side. His clothes are wet.

Jack goes in the middle of the boat, trying to find the place where half of his body is out of the rain and half is getting rained on. Jack finds the perfect balance and spreads his hands.

JACK
Whoa!

The rain subsides. Jack looks to the left. The rain is withdrawing into the ocean. Jack smiles.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/DECK - DAY

Jack is sitting on the deck. Bark is sitting next to him. Both are watching the sunset.

INT. JACK'S BOAT/CABIN - NIGHT

Jack wakes up abruptly. Bark is sleeping in Jack's bed. There is a loud scratching sound.

JACK
This anchor is driving me crazy.
I'm not going out there.

Bark is not moving.

JACK
Hey!

Jack pets Bark. The dog lifts his head with effort.

Jack lifts Bark and puts him in his lap.

JACK
What is it, boy?

Bark gets off Jack and lies on the bed.

Jack looks worried. He pets Bark.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/COCKPIT - DAY

Jack is carrying Bark. He puts him down.

JACK
Stay here in the sun.

Jack pats Bark.

He places a bowl with water and a bowl of food next to Bark.

Jack offers the food to Bark. Bark lifts his head with an effort, smells the food and puts his head back down.

JACK
Come on, boy. How about some water?

Jack offers the bowl with water to Bark. Bark lifts his head and drinks from the water.

JACK
Good boy.

Jack pats Bark.

JACK
Good boy.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/DECK - DAY

Jack's eyes are red.

In his arms, he is holding something wrapped in white cloth.

He throws it over the gunwale into the ocean. Jack watches it floating away.

A tear runs down Jack's face.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/COCKPIT - DAY

Jack's beard is bigger. He is sitting with his back against the companionway's hatch. Jack has a bottle of whiskey in one hand. He looks sad.

Jack takes a sip from the whiskey. He puts the bottle down.

Jack's eyes are red. He looks to the side. His eyes become wide open. Jack stands up and walks to the boat's edge. He puts his hands on the gunwale.

Jack puts one leg over the gunwale, then the other leg over as well.

He is standing on the edge, holding on to the gunwale behind him.

Jack let's go with one hand. He brings his arm forward.

In front of Jack, a huge number of dolphins are revealed swimming in the ocean.

The wind picks up and the boat leans to the side. Jack extends his arm and body forward as he is trying to touch the dolphins.

The dolphins are jumping and singing.

Jack goes over the gunwale, back in the boat. He looks towards the dolphins' direction. They are now becoming lost in the distance.

Jack smiles for a moment, then sadness comes back on his face.

INT. JACK'S BOAT/CABIN - NIGHT

Jack is standing in front of a mirror. He is finishing shaving.

Jack washes his face, then dries his face with a towel.

He sits on his bed.

JACK

I'm going to miss you, boy.

Jack lies on the bed and turns off the light.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/COCKPIT - DAY

The chicken cage is open and there are no chickens in it.

Jack's beard is short.

He is chasing the brown hen around the cockpit.

JACK

Come here!

Jack tries to catch the hen. The can slips away.

The hen clucks.

JACK

Don't you dare talk to me like that!

The hen jumps overboard.

JACK

Shit!

Jack goes to the edge. The hen is drifting away.

He looks around, then goes inside the boat. Comes back with a rope.

Jack puts the rope down and takes off his shirt. He ties the rope to the gunwale, then to his waist and jumps into the water.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

Jack swims after the chicken. As he gets close to the chicken, the rope ends and he can't go any further. He tries to reach the chicken but it is just out of his reach.

JACK

Come here, you little fuck!

The chicken clucks.

JACK

I promise I won't eat you! Just come here...

The chicken swims to Jack's hand. He puts the chicken on his head.

JACK

Stay there.

Jack starts to swim towards the boat with the chicken on his head.

He gets to the boat. He grabs the chicken and throws it on the boat.

Jack starts climbing.

EXT. COCKPIT - DAY

Jack gets in the boat. Water is dripping from his clothes. He is panting. He sits down.

The chicken walks back to the cage.

JACK

That's it. You go lay me an egg.

The chicken clucks.

Jack looks at the chicken. He starts laughing hysterically.

He gradually stops laughing. He becomes abstracted.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/DECK - DAY

The sun is close to setting. The sun disk appears large on the horizon. Jack and the hen are sitting on the edge of the boat. Their silhouettes are visible against the sun disk.

The water is calm. There is very little wind.

Jack's beard is bigger. The soft, reddish light of the setting sun shines on Jack, the hen and the side of the boat.

INT. JACK'S BOAT/CABIN - DAY

Jack's face is shaved. He opens the door to the storage room. He pulls on a cord and a light comes on. The storage room appears more than half empty.

He grabs a can of beans and a bottle of wine.

Jack looks around. He grunts.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/COCKPIT - DAY

Jack comes out from the companionway carrying a fishing rod. He looks at the cage with the hen in it.

JACK

What are you looking at?

The hen clucks.

JACK

I know, I know. I'm not a big fan of fish, either.

Jack goes to the edge of the boat and starts to extend the fishing rod.

JACK

I know that it's good for you. I guess I ate too much of it when I was a kid. My mother loved cooking fish. With time, I lost my appetite for it. Too much of anything is no good. But what do you know? You eat your own shit, don't you?

Jack reaches into his pocket and takes out a small box. He opens the box and inside a small fish lure is revealed. Jack takes out the bait and ties it to the end of the fishing line.

JACK
The thing is, if we keep this up,
we are going to run out of food.

Jack casts the fishing rod.

JACK
Guess who I'm eating next if that
happens?

The hen clucks loud.

JACK
Shut up! I should have brought
something to drink.

Jack puts the rod down with the tip propped on the gunwale.

He is walking away.

The fishing line starts to get taken. The reel makes a sound. Jack turns around. The fishing rod goes overboard into the ocean.

JACK
Shit!

Jack goes to the edge and looks for the fishing rod. There is no sign of it.

He sits down with back against the gunwale. He puts his hands on his head. Jack takes a deep breath and exhales.

JACK
Fuck it. Let's get that drink.

Jack stand up.

INT. JACK'S BOAT/CABIN (1987) - DAY

Jack's beard is big.

Jack opens the door to the storage room. He turns on the light by pulling the cord.

On one of the shelves, there is a bottle of whiskey left. Jack grabs the bottle. He pulls the cord and the light goes off.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/DECK - NIGHT

It is a full moon. Jack is drunk. He is barely standing up, holding an almost empty bottle of whiskey.

Jack is mumbling. He is staggering.

Jack falls on his ass. He drinks from the bottle and passes out.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/DECK - DAY

Jack awakes to a loud sound. The boat is shaking. Jack gets up.

AFRICA/GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

The bow of the boat hits the sand and digs in. Jack is sent flying out of the front of the boat and hits the sand face down.

Half of Jack's body is in the dry sand. His legs are in the wet sand where the waves can reach them.

Behind him, the boat starts to lean to the side. Sounds from objects sliding along the deck can be heard. The boat stops moving.

Jack turns his head to the side and moans. He tries to lift his body with his arms but gives up. Jack relaxes and passes out.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH (LATER) - DAY

Jack opens his eyes. He lifts his head. Half of his face is red from sunburn. The other has sand stuck on it. Jack frowns and spits out sand. He cleans his hair from the sand.

Jack stands up and turns around. A beautiful beach at a small bay is revealed. After the sandy beach, there is land with trees and vegetation. Close to the beach, there is a small lagoon.

Jack starts to clean his neck from the sand.

JACK

Ow! Ow! What the...

Jack touches his face.

JACK

Ow!

Jack looks up at the sun.

JACK

Where the fuck am I?

Jack looks at the boat stuck in the sand.

JACK

Shit.

Jack is looking around.

He starts walking towards the boat. He yells.

JACK
Chicken, are you alive? I'm coming
for you. Now you are silent!

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/COCKPIT - DAY

Jack climbs into the boat. He looks around and sees the cage. The cage has moved from the impact. The cage's door is open.

As the boat is at an angle, Jack reaches the chicken's cage with effort. He moves it and sees the hen behind it. The hen appears dead.

Jack lifts the hen.

JACK
No...

He brings the hen close to his chest.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack is sitting down at the tree line, next to a bulge in the ground. He looks sad.

JACK
I am sorry for all the times I
threatened to eat you.

He looks at the bulge in the ground.

JACK
I am sorry. I guess, if I didn't
get drunk, you would be alive right
now.

He gets up.

JACK
And I wouldn't be stuck here. I
know what you are thinking! I'm
being selfish. Well, I don't even
know where I am! The boat is
fucking useless. And to top it all,
I am talking to a dead chicken!

Jack yells angrily.

JACK
What the fucking fuck!

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

It is raining. The boat's sails are inflating from the wind.

Jack is sitting under a tree. He is wrapped in a tarp.

Lightning strikes. Thunder cracks very soon after and very loud. Jack is startled.

Jack looks miserable as the rain falls on him.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

The sun is shining. Jack is sleeping on the ground, wrapped in the tarp.

Jack opens his eyes. He unwraps the tarp and gets up.

He is looking at the boat stuck in the sand.

INT. JACK'S BOAT/CABIN - DAY

Jack opens the door to the storage room and pulls the cord. The light comes on.

Cans of food are on the ground. Jack puts a big black sack on the floor and opens it. He starts putting the food in the sack.

Jack exits the storage room carrying the sack. He is walking carefully, trying not to slip on the tilted floor. He places the sack on the bed. Jack puts clothes in the sack.

He is standing in front of the mirror. He runs his fingers through his beard, then he touches his hair.

Jack grabs a pair of scissors.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack places the black sack under a tree near the beach. Jack turns and looks at the boat. His face is shaved. His hair is shorter. Jack sighs as he is looking at the boat.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - NIGHT

Jack is sitting next to a fire. Behind him is the tree. Under the tree, there is a pile of bags, boxes and other luggage, covered partially with a tarp.

Jack is staring into the fire. He is startled by animal sounds coming from the land.

He opens a can of beans. He is eating it with a spoon.

Jack is uneasy, he is looking around as the animal sounds become louder. He gets up.

JACK
Go away! This is my territory now!

Jack puts the can of beans with the spoon in it down on the ground. He makes a few steps forward. The sound of his pants unzipping can be heard.

Jack is marking his territory.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

The sun is shining. The fire is out. There is smoke coming from the embers.

Jack is sleeping. He opens his eyes.

He is looking at a small baby turtle crawling close to his face. Jack is startled.

JACK
What the fuck!

Jack rubs his eyes. He leans towards the baby turtle.

JACK
Come here, little buddy.

With two fingers, Jack grabs the baby turtle and places it in his palm.

JACK
I would keep you but I haven't been very lucky with my pets lately.

Jack gently places the baby turtle on the sand.

JACK
Go on.

He nudges the baby turtle with his forefinger.

JACK
Get going little buddy.

The baby turtle starts to move slowly. Jack smiles as he is looking at the baby turtle.

Jack takes his eyes off the baby turtle and looks around. A large number of baby turtles are crawling all around him.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/LAGOON - DAY

Jack is swimming in the middle of the lagoon.

His beard is small. He dives in.

Jack explores the bottom of the lagoon. He picks up a beautiful shell.

He emerges from underwater. He looks at the shell.

Jack takes a deep breath and dives back in.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack's beard is bigger. He opens the black sack. There are three cans of food left. Jack takes one of the cans.

He opens the can of food and sits on the ground. Jack is looking at the ocean as he is eating the food. He looks concerned.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/OCEAN - DAY

Jack's beard is big. He has lost weight. He is waist deep in the ocean water, holding a handmade spear.

He walks slowly, looking at the water.

Jack tries to spear a fish. He misses.

He yells in anger.

JACK

Fuck!

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack gets out of the water in an angry manner. He throws the spear on the beach.

The tip of the spear gets stuck in the sand. The spear slowly starts to move, then fall down.

Jack sits on the sand. He is panting. He looks around.

There is a crab crawling on the sand nearby.

JACK

I guess you will have to do.

Jack gets up.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - NIGHT

Jack is sitting by the fire. He is trying to break the body of the crab. Animal sounds are coming from the land.

Jack yells.

JACK
Fuck you, too!

The animal sounds get louder. Jack stands up and yells.

JACK
You know what? I am tired of this
shit! Tomorrow I am coming for you!
I know you can hear me! If I can
hear you, you can hear me!

Jack sits down. He breaks the body of the crab and eats the small amount of meat.

JACK
I can't live on this poor creatures
anymore.

Jack lies on his side and stares at the fire. The flames illuminate Jack's face.

JACK
I don't want to be here anymore.

Jack sighs.

JACK
I don't want to be anywhere.

Jack closes his eyes. The animal sounds can be heard in the background.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack's face is clean shaved.

Jack is standing on the beach facing the land. He is leaning on a stick. Jack is carrying a bag with a strap going over his shoulder.

He turns around and looks at the boat stuck in the sand.

Jack looks forward at the land and starts walking towards the vegetation.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/TROPICAL RAINFOREST - DAY

Jack is sweating. His clothes are drenched. Jack is getting out of dense vegetation. He is using the stick to make way.

Jack is walking among tall trees.

He stops and takes out a canteen from his bag, then puts the bag down.

Jack opens the canteen and drinks. He looks up.

There is a monkey sitting on a branch. The monkey starts jumping from branch to branch.

Jack stares at the monkey as it is moving.

The monkey stops and stares at Jack.

Jack puts the cap on the canteen.

JACK
Come down, little buddy. You will
make a delicious dinner.

The monkey squeaks and disappears into the branches.

Jack yells.

JACK
Asshole!

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/TROPICAL RAINFOREST - DAY

Jack's beard has grown slightly. He is sweating.

Jack slaps his neck with his palm. He looks at his palm.

JACK
How do you like me now, asshole!

He wipes off his palm on his clothes.

JACK
Am I that delicious?

It starts to rain. Jack looks up, then he looks around.

He goes to a big leaf. He takes out his canteen and starts collecting the water dripping down the leaf's surface.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack is emerging from dense vegetation. His beard is a little bigger.

The tree savanna is revealed with green grass, scattered trees and bushes.

Jack looks around. He takes out the canteen from his bag and drinks water. He puts the canteen back in the bag.

Jack is walking into the tree savanna.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/TREE SAVANNA - DAY

The sun is shining. Jack is walking. He is sweating, panting and looks exhausted.

He looks around and sees a tree nearby.

Jack is by the tree. He puts his bag on the ground and sits down in the shade. He looks forward and freezes with goggling eyes.

A huge male LION with a big mane in a stalking position is revealed in front of Jack. The lion has blood on his face.

Jack stands up slowly.

The lion is walking slowly towards Jack.

Jack is staring at the lion. He takes a step back.

The lion roars and charges at Jack.

The lion jumps on Jack and knocks him on the ground.

The lion's front paws are on Jack's shoulders, pinning him down to the ground. The claws are extended out of the paw and are piercing Jack's flesh through his clothing.

The lion is growling, showing his teeth to Jack.

Jack is staring at the lion with eyes wide open.

The lion roars loudly at Jack, then continues growling at him with teeth out.

Jack's eyes become watery. He is looking into the lion's eyes.

JACK

What are you waiting for?

The lion stops growling and closes his mouth.

JACK

Do it!

The lion is staring at Jack.

The lion's claws retract within his paws.

He gets off Jack and starts walking away.

Jack sits up and yells.

JACK

Where are you going, you fucking
coward!?

The lion stops walking and looks back at Jack.

The lion huffs. He turns forward and starts walking away.

Jack stands up. He is watching the lion walking away and
disappearing in a patch of tall grass.

Jack points in the lion's direction.

JACK

You... Ahh.

Jack is in pain. He looks at his wounded shoulder.

He takes off his shirt with effort. The wounds on his
shoulders are bleeding.

Jack walks up to the tree and sits in the shade. He is
checking his wounds.

He is startled by sounds coming from the tall grass.

The grass is moving. The lion comes out of the grass
dragging a half-eaten antelope.

Jack is looking at the lion dragging the antelope.

JACK

What the...

The lion releases the antelope. He looks at Jack.

The lion licks his lips, then walks away and disappears in
the tall grass.

Jack takes out a knife in a leather sheath from his bag.

He walks carefully to the antelope. He takes out the knife
from the sheath and quickly cuts a piece of meat from the
antelope.

Jack looks around and carefully backs away from the
antelope.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/TREE SAVANNA - NIGHT

Jack is sitting by a fire not far from the tree. He is cooking the antelope meat on a stick.

Jack is startled by the sound of moving grass.

The lion emerges from the tall grass. He walks up to the half-eaten antelope.

The lion sniffs the air, then huffs. He lies next to the antelope and bites into it.

JACK
It's called smoke.

The lion lifts his head. His face is bloody.

JACK
You know, from the fire.

The lion licks his lips, then bites back into the antelope.

Jack looks at his meat cooking on the flames.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/TREE SAVANNA (LATER) - NIGHT

Jack is finishing eating his meat. He is licking his fingers.

JACK
That was delicious.

The lion is next to the antelope. He is staring at Jack.

JACK
I guess I should thank you.

Jack looks at the lion. The lion keeps staring at Jack.

JACK
Why are you looking at me like
that? Are you saving me for later?
Is that it?

The lion licks his lips.

Jack gets up and puts out the fire by throwing some dirt in it.

The lion sits up.

JACK
Easy now. I'll be over there by the
tree.

Jack walks up to the tree and sits next to it.

The lion lies down. He keeps staring at Jack.

Jack puts his back on the tree's trunk.

JACK

I am so tired.

Jack looks around and finds the knife. He takes it out from the leather sheath and holds it in his lap.

JACK

It is not polite to stare.

Jack closes his eyes for a moment.

He is startled by howling hyenas.

The lion keeps staring at Jack.

JACK

This will be a fun night.

Jack closes his eyes.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack is sleeping.

Jack opens his eyes. He quickly gets up and looks around. He is holding the knife.

The lion is gone. The remains of the antelope are gone as well.

JACK

Did I dream...

Jack walks up to the spot where the antelope was. He sees the dried blood.

JACK

I guess not.

Jack looks around.

JACK

I should be getting out of here.

Jack quickly goes back to the tree.

He gathers his things in the bag. He puts the strap of the bag over his shoulder. The sound of moving grass can be heard. Jack turns around.

The lion is dragging another antelope. He drags it up to the same spot. The lion lets go of the antelope and looks at Jack.

Jack gets out from the shade of the tree.

The lion walks away from the antelope.

The lion lies down nearby and starts licking his paws.

Jack reaches into the bag and takes out the knife. He puts the bag on the ground. He takes out the knife from the leather sheath and throws the sheath over the bag.

The lion keeps licking his paws.

Jack walks up slowly to the antelope. He squats near it. He looks at the lion.

The lion is still busy licking his paws.

Jack quickly cuts out a piece of meat from the antelope.

Jack goes back to the tree and sits down.

The lion stops licking his paws and gets up. He walks to the antelope and bites into it.

Jack is staring at the lion.

The sky darkens.

Jack looks up. Thunder can be heard.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/TREE SAVANNA (LATER) - DAY

It is raining. Jack and the lion are sitting under the tree. There is a good distance between them.

Water is dripping down from the leaves and falling on Jack and the lion. They look miserable.

Jack looks at the lion.

JACK

Believe me, I am not enjoying your company either. Especially the smell of your wet fur.

The lion shakes his head. Water from his mane reaches Jack.

JACK

That's just... Oh, shit!

Jack quickly reaches into the bag and takes out the canteen. He reaches into the bag again looking for something.

He takes out a piece of old candy bar wrapper. Jack looks at it.

JACK
It should do.

Jack walks out from under the tree into the open.

He is trying to gather the rain drops with the wrapper and direct the water into the canteen.

JACK
That's it. Get in there.

The rain starts to subside.

JACK
No. Don't stop. It is not full yet!

The rain stops.

Jack shakes the canteen.

He takes a sip and puts the cap on the canteen.

JACK
Well, I guess half full is better than empty.

The lion gets out from under the tree and shakes. Water from his fur sprays in each direction.

The lion walks up to a small puddle and drinks water from it. He stops drinking and heads towards the antelope.

Jack watches the lion walking up to the antelope.

The lion lies next to the antelope and viciously bites into it.

JACK
Okay, that reminds me I really should be moving on.

Jack is under the tree gathering his belongings into the bag.

He puts the strap over his shoulder. He takes one last look at the lion eating the antelope and starts walking in the opposite direction.

Jack is walking. He stops.

Jack turns around. The lion is revealed behind him. He has a bloody muzzle.

JACK
What do you want?

The lion licks his lips.

JACK
You are saving me for later, aren't you!

The lion sits and keeps staring at Jack.

JACK
Just go away.

Jack starts walking away.

The lion catches up with Jack and starts walking by his side.

Jack sees the lion and stops walking.

JACK
What is wrong with you?

The lion sits and looks up to Jack.

JACK
You know what? Fine! Follow me around, eat me... I don't care.

Jack starts walking. The lion follows.

JACK
I don't even know where I'm going. I was going away from you...

The lion shakes.

Water from the lion's fur lands on Jack's face. He stops walking.

JACK
You are kind of an asshole, you know that?

The lion grunts.

Jack wipes the water off his face and starts walking. The lion follows.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack and the lion are walking. A very small river is revealed in front of them.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA/RIVER - DAY

Jack and the lion get to the river. The water is muddy. The lion starts drinking.

JACK
Are you blind? I wouldn't even swim
in that.

Jack sits down.

The lion lifts his head up and starts sniffing the air.

Jack looks around.

JACK
What is it?

The lion runs off.

Jack gets up and watches the lion disappear into the vegetation.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA/RIVER - NIGHT

Jack is sitting by a fire. He is cooking a piece of meat on a stick.

Jack is startled by the sounds of moving vegetation. He gets up and looks around.

The lion emerges from the vegetation. He is walking with effort and limping with his rear leg.

The lion gets closer to Jack and lies down. He is breathing heavily.

Jack puts down the stick with the meat. He walks up to the lion. He is keeping distance.

JACK
Hey, how are you?

The lion keeps breathing heavily.

JACK
Did you get hurt hunting? Wait
here.

Jack goes to the fire and takes the stick with the meat. He gets back to the lion.

JACK
Let's see if you will like this.

Jack tears off a small piece from the meat. He carefully gets closer to the lion and throws it in front of the lion's muzzle.

The lion sniffs the meat and eats it.

JACK
You like that?

Jack sits down. He tears off another small piece from the meat and throw it to the lion.

The lion eats it.

JACK
You want another one?

The lion licks his lips.

Jack tears off another small piece. He is about to throw it.

JACK
Just don't get used to it. I am not
your personal cook.

Jack throws the meat.

The lion eats it. He looks at Jack and licks his lips.

Jack tears off another piece but this time eats it himself.

JACK
One for me.

The lion huffs.

JACK
What? You don't like that?

Jack tears off another piece. He throws it to the lion.

JACK
One for you.

He tears off a piece and eats it.

JACK
One for me.

Jack tears off another piece. He gives it to the lion.

JACK

Your turn.

Jack tears off a piece for himself and eats it. He tears off one for the lion and throws it. The meat lands on the lion's forehead.

JACK

Sorry about that.

The lion moves his head around, trying to get to the meat. The meat falls on the ground and the lion eats it.

Jack looks at the remaining meat. He splits it in half and throws one half to the lion. Jack eats the other half.

JACK

That's it. No more.

The lion licks his lips.

Jack shows his empty hands to the lion.

JACK

See?

The lion puts his head on the ground and stares at Jack.

Jack gets up.

JACK

I'll be by the fire. You rest here.

Jack walks up to the fire and sits down. He looks at the lion.

The lion keeps staring at Jack.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA/RIVER - DAY

Jack is asleep on his back.

The lion is pushing his muzzle against Jack's feet and sniffing them.

The lion moves upward and is sniffing Jack's legs.

He is now sniffing close to Jack's crotch.

Jack wakes up in a panic.

JACK

What the...

He quickly gets up and backs away from the lion.

JACK

Don't you do that again!

The lion starts running around Jack in a playful way.

JACK

I see that you are up and running.

Jack rubs his eyes.

The lion keeps running around in a playful way.

JACK

Knock it off.

Jack looks towards the river. He walks up to the water.

The river is smaller but the water is less muddy.

Jack washes his face.

He looks up and sees two female lions in a stalking position approaching from the opposite bank.

Jack backs away slowly.

He looks behind him and sees the lion is opposite another two female lions.

The sounds of growling lions can now be heard.

Jack looks in front of him and sees the two female lions crossing the small river.

The lion gives a powerful roar.

Jack turns around and sees the lion chasing away the two other female lions.

The two female lions in front of Jack split up and start circling around him.

Jack is trying to position himself but one of the lions is always behind Jack.

The lion behind him jumps on Jack's back and drives one of her front paws claws across Jack's back.

Jack is knocked down.

The lion comes back and attacks the female lion that knocked down Jack.

The female lion escapes and runs away with the other female lion.

The lion gives a powerful roar.

The female lions disappear into the vegetation.

Jack is lying on the ground. The lion starts to walk nervously around Jack. The lion pushes him with his muzzle.

Jack does not move.

The sky darkens. Thunder can be heard. It starts to rain heavily.

The lion is standing next to Jack's lifeless body.

The lion gives a powerful roar.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA/VILLAGE - DAY

It is raining lightly. The ground is muddy.

With his teeth, the lion is dragging Jack by his clothes. They are at the edge of a village.

In the village, a little boy named KUMBA is running around.

Kumba sees the lion dragging Jack. He stops for a moment and stares.

Kumba starts to run and yell.

KUMBA
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
Lion! Lion! Lion!

A man named UMARO comes out of a hut.

UMARO
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
What are you yelling, Kumba?

Kumba gets to Umaro. The boy hides behind him.

Umaro turns. He leans over the boy and grabs him by the shoulders.

UMARO
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
What is it, Kumba?

Kumba is breathing heavy.

KUMBA
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)

Lion.

Kumba points.

Umaro turns and looks towards the direction where Kumba is pointing.

Umaro lets go of Kumba. The boy hides behind him.

The lion is gone. Jack is lying in the mud.

UMARO
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
Go inside.

KUMBA
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
No!

UMARO
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
Do as I say, Kumba!

Kumba runs inside the hut. He peeks from behind the door frame.

UMARO
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
Close the door!

Kumba closes the door.

Umaro starts walking towards Jack.

Kumba opens the door slightly and peeks.

Without turning back, Umaro yells.

UMARO
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
Kumba!

Kumba closes the door.

Umaro walks up to Jack. He looks at the ground around Jack.

There are lion's paw prints in the mud and tracks from Jack's body being dragged.

Umaro bends over and touches one of the prints located close to Jack.

He touches Jack's neck, checking his pulse. He turns towards the village.

There are people outside the huts looking at Umaro.

Umaro waves, urging someone to come.

INT. VILLAGE/HUT - DAY

Umaro and a man named TUNDE are carrying Jack through the door of the hut.

They place Jack face down on a bed.

An old woman named NURIA enters. She leans on a cane and is carrying a bag. Nuria is accompanied by two young women called BINTA and NAZYY.

Umaro and Tunde leave.

Binta and Nazyy go to Jack. They cut his shirt with a knife and expose a big wound.

Nuria comes and looks at the wound.

The claw marks run through Jack's entire back.

Nuria is gesturing to the young women, urging them to leave.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Binta and Nazyy are coming out of the hut.

Umaro and Tunde are standing nearby.

A woman named MARY is approaching. Kumba is by her side.

Mary gets to Umaro and Tunde.

MARY

(in French)

What is going on? Kumba told me a story about a lion dragging a strange man.

Tunde turns to Umaro.

TUNDE

(in French)

A lion?

UMARO

(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)

Don't worry your head with lions, Tunde. Go tend to your chickens.

Tunde leaves.

MARY
(in French)
Is it true?

UMARO
(in French)
Kumba, go play.

Kumba grabs Mary's arm.

KUMBA
(in French)
But I want to stay.

UMARO
(in French)
Why are you making me repeat
everything I say to you?

Kumba smiles and runs away.

MARY
(in French)
Is it?

UMARO
(in French)
It is a foreign man. With a big
wound on his back. It looks like it
was done by a lion.

MARY
(in French)
The lion attacked him here? In the
village?

UMARO
(in French)
I think a lion brought him here.
There were tracks in the mud. I
know how it sounds. I am not sure
what to think, Mary.

Mary looks at the hut. She starts walking towards the
entrance but Umaro stops her.

MARY
(in French)
I want to see.

UMARO
(in French)
Nuria is with him. You know how she
gets.

INT. HUT - DAY

Nuria is finishing applying medicine on Jack's wounds.

NURIA
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
You are not a smart man. Letting a
lion jump on your back. Stupid.
Stupid man.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Nuria comes out of the hut. She turns to Mary and Umaro.

NURIA
(in French)
The stupid man is not to be
bothered.

Nuria starts walking away. Binta and Nazyy follow her.

UMARO
(in French)
Will he live?

Nuria continues to walk away.

NURIA
(in French)
Maybe. It is his fight now.

Mary and Umaro look at each other.

INT. HUT - DAY

Jack is lying on the bed. He is motionless.

His eyes are closed.

INT. HUT - DAY

Jack opens his eyes. He is in pain. He gets up with effort.

Jack sits on the edge of the bed. He tries to reach his back
but stops because of the pain.

The medicine on his wound has dried. As Jack is moving,
parts of it crumble and fall off.

He gets up and heads towards the door.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jack exits the hut. He looks around. There is nobody outside.

He starts walking with effort. He is in pain. More medicine crumbles and falls off.

The sound of laughing children can be heard.

Jack stops walking and looks around.

INT. SCHOOL - DAY

Jack enters the school. Mary is in front of a group of children. She is holding a book.

MARY
(in French)
Who wants to read the next
paragraph?

Mary looks at Jack.

Jack is staring at her.

The children turn around and stare at Jack.

KUMBA
(in French)
It's the stupid man.

The children laugh.

Jack gives a crooked smile.

MARY
(in French)
Stop it, Kumba!

Mary heads towards Jack.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Mary and Jack walk out of the school.

MARY
(in French)
Let me walk you to your hut. You
should be resting.

Jack stops walking and turns to Mary.

JACK
I am sorry. I can't understand you.

Mary stops walking and looks at Jack.

MARY
You are an American?

JACK
Yes. What is this place? How did I
get here?

MARY
You don't remember at all?

JACK
I remember there were lions.

MARY
One of the boys saw you. He says
that a big lion dragged you here.

Mary points.

MARY
Over there. At the edge of the
village.

Jack looks in the direction Mary is pointing at.

JACK
The lion...

MARY
What?

Jack turns to Mary.

JACK
Nothing.

Mary and Jack stare at each other for a moment.

MARY
I am Mary.

JACK
Jack.

They are startled by yelling.

NURIA
(in French)
Stupid man!

Nuria is approaching Jack and Mary. She is accompanied by
Binta and Nazyy.

MARY
You are in trouble.

JACK
What? Why?

INT. HUT - DAY

Binta and Nazyy help Jack lie on the bed.

Jack is lying on the bed. He lifts his head and looks around. Nuria hits him on the head with her cane.

JACK
What the fuck?

NURIA
(in French)
Stupid man, lie down and don't
move.

JACK
What is she saying?

MARY
Try not to move.

Nuria is gesturing for everybody to leave.

Binta, Nazyy and Mary start to leave.

JACK
Wait! Don't leave me with this
crazy woman!

Nuria hits Jack on the head again.

NURIA
(in French)
No talking!

Mary stops at the door and turns to Jack.

MARY
Just do as she says.

Mary leaves.

JACK
But I don't know what she's
saying...

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Mary comes out of the hut.

JACK
 (from inside the hut)
 Oww...

Mary smiles.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Mary and Umaro are walking. Kids are running around.

Mary looks at Jack's hut.

UMARO
 (in French)
 How is he?

MARY
 (in French)
 I don't know. She won't let anyone
 near him.

INT. HUT - DAY

Jack is lying in the bed on his back. His beard is trimmed.

Nuria enters.

Jack sits up.

NURIA
 (in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
 This fight is over, stupid man.

With one hand she is leaning on her cane, with her other hand, Nuria is gesturing, inviting Jack to go outside.

NURIA
 (in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
 New fights await you.

Jack looks at the door, then at Nuria.

JACK
 I can leave?

Nuria keeps inviting Jack to go outside.

NURIA
 (in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
 Go on.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jack comes out of the hut into the open.

Jack's back is revealed. The wound has healed. He has a giant scar of the lion's claws running throughout his entire back.

Nuria comes out of the hut and starts walking away.

JACK
Hey! Hey, wait!

Nuria stops and looks back at Jack.

JACK
Thank you.

Nuria nods approvingly.

She turns forwards and starts walking away.

NURIA
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
Stupid man...

JACK
I heard that. I am not sure what it is but I know it's not good.

Nuria smiles and keeps walking away.

JACK
(to himself)
Crazy old...

Jack notices Mary approaching.

Mary walks up to Jack.

MARY
I heard that you are finally being released today.

JACK
I guess I am. I can't be sure. That woman is...

MARY
Wait until you meet her husband. He is the chief. Come, I'll take you to him.

JACK
Now?

MARY
Yes, everyone has gathered.

INT. IME'S HUT

Jack is sitting down next to Mary, Umaro, Tunde and other people from the village.

In front of them is the chief. His name is IME. He has gray hair and a beard.

Ime is staring at Jack.

JACK

Am I supposed to do something?

MARY

You can introduce yourself. Umaro will translate.

JACK

My name is Jack. I am from America. The United States. My boat crashed on the coast. I think it is in that direction.

Jack points.

Umaro translates.

JACK

Now that I think about it, I am not certain where I am. I am pretty sure I'm in Africa, but where exactly...

Umaro translates.

Ime stares at Jack.

Ime smiles. Some of his front teeth are missing. He starts laughing.

People from the village start laughing with Ime.

Ime stops laughing. The people from the village stop laughing as well.

Ime points at Jack.

IME

(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)

Tonight we celebrate! In honor of the stupid man!

People start to cheer and laugh.

JACK
What is happening?

UMARO
There will be celebration in your
honor, Jack.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jack, Mary and UmARO walk out of Ime's hut.

JACK
I hope I am not being disrespectful
but I don't want a celebration in
my honor. I appreciate what you
have done for me. I really do but I
think I'll be moving on.

UMARO
I am sorry, Jack. Ime is not well
in the head since accident.

JACK
What happened?

UMARO
He fall from tree.

JACK
What was he doing up on a tree?

UmARO looks pensive.

UMARO
Maybe not well before accident.

JACK
Look, I'd appreciate a little bit
of food and some water and I'll be
on my way.

MARY
Jack, please. These people don't
have a mean bone in their body. If
they offended you...

Jack interrupts Mary.

JACK
It's not about that.

MARY
Then stay. One night. You can
always leave tomorrow.

Jack and Mary are staring at each other.

UMARO
I can show you the tree?

Mary smiles.

MARY
You see?

Jack looks at Umaro.

Umaro smiles. Umaro looks at Mary.

UMARO
(in French)
What?

Jack looks at Mary.

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

People have gathered around a fire. They are eating, drinking and talking. Kids are running around.

Jack is sitting next to Mary and Umaro.

Kumba runs by, pretending he is an airplane.

UMARO
(in French)
Kumba, come here.

Kumba keeps running around.

Umaro gets up and catches him.

UMARO
(in French)
Stop running. Come meet Jack.

Umaro lifts Kumba and brings him in front of Jack. Umaro puts Kumba down.

UMARO
This is Kumba.

JACK
Nice to meet you, Kumba.

Kumba quickly hides behind Umaro.

UMARO
First, he shy. Then, like fly on shit. You can't escape him.

MARY

Stop it, Umaro.

Umaro laughs. Kumba runs away.

MARY

He found you, Jack. He saw a lion dragging you. What happened?

Umaro sits down.

JACK

I was attacked by two lions. And there were other two but... There was this other lion. He was different. He was following me around.

MARY

Stalking you?

JACK

No. I think he wanted to be... I can't explain it. It is crazy...

Jack sees Nuria approaching.

Nuria hands Jack a small container.

NURIA

(in French)

For your scar, stupid man.

Nuria parts Jack on the shoulder and leaves.

JACK

What is that?

MARY

It is for the scar.

JACK

No. The other thing. I keep hearing it and people are laughing.

MARY

It's nothing.

JACK

Tell me.

MARY

Okay. Please, try not get angry. They call you "stupid man".

Umaro giggles.

JACK

What? Why?

MARY

Because you let a lion get you from behind.

JACK

How is that funny?

MARY

It's not. It's just that... You have to be constantly aware of your surroundings here. Of nature. And not let creatures sneak up on you.

Jack gets up angrily and yells.

JACK

So I am the stupid man?

Everybody gets quiet.

MARY

They are just having fun, Jack. It's not a big deal.

JACK

Well, fuck that!

Jack storms away.

MARY

Jack! Wait!

Mary gets up.

MARY

(in French to the villagers)
I'll talk to him.

Umaro gets up.

UMARO

(in French)
I'll come with you.

MARY

No, stay here.

Mary follows Jack.

INT. HUT - NIGHT

Jack is angry. He is breathing heavily.

Mary enters.

MARY

What is wrong with you? These people saved your life!

JACK

Yeah? Why? So they can call me the stupid man and laugh at me in my face?

MARY

Why are you so angry all the time?

JACK

Please go away.

MARY

It's just a silly nickname.

Jack calms down and sits on the bed. In his hands, he has the container that Nuria gave him.

Mary sits next to Jack. She takes the container from him.

MARY

Take off your shirt.

JACK

What?

Mary shows him the container.

MARY

Can you reach every spot on your back?

Jack takes off his shirt and turns his back towards Mary.

Mary looks at the scar. She opens the container. She takes a little bit of the cream on her finger tip and starts applying it on the claw marks.

JACK

This will remove the scar?

MARY

Have you seen it?

JACK

They helped me see it with mirrors
today.

Mary keeps applying the cream.

MARY

Then you know this thing is not
going away. It will reduce it a
little.

JACK

How did you end up here?

MARY

My father traveled a lot. He'd take
me with him. I saw a lot of the
world. The good and the bad.
Somewhere along the way, I decided
I wanted to be a teacher. When I
was a child we visited this place.
For some reason, it stuck with me.
I came back and I just stayed. How
about you? Where were you going on
that boat?

Jack turns to Mary.

JACK

I'm tired.

They stare at each other.

MARY

Okay.

Mary hands Jack the container with the cream.

Jack takes it.

MARY

I'll see you tomorrow.

JACK

Good night.

Mary leaves.

Jack sits on the bed.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jack is walking away from the huts. He is in a hurry.

A woman yelling can be heard in the distance behind him.

Jack stops and turns around to look.

Nuria and Mary are in a hurry, heading for one of the huts. Other people have gathered around the hut.

Jack turns and starts walking away again.

He stops. He is hesitant. He turns around and starts walking towards the hut.

INT. KUMBA'S HUT - DAY

Kumba is lying with eyes closed in his bed. He is sweating. Mary is sitting on the bed. Her hand is on Kumba's forehead.

MARY
(in French)
He is burning.

Mary is touching Kumba's cheeks with the back of her hand.

Mary stands up and turns to Nuria.

MARY
(in French)
Can you help him?

NURIA
(in French)
We need medicine.

MARY
(in French)
We have nothing left?

NURIA
(in French)
Not what we need.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jack gets to Kumba's hut. Umaro and other villagers are standing in front.

JACK
What's going on?

UMARO
It is Kumba. He is very sick.

JACK
What happened? He was fine last night.

Mary and Nuria come out of the hut.

Mary is upset.

MARY
(to Jack)
What are you doing here?

Mary starts walking away.

Jack catches up with her.

JACK
Stop. What's going on?

Mary stops walking and turns to Jack.

MARY
What do you care? I saw you! You
were leaving. And now Kumba is
dying...

JACK
Can't Nuria do something?

MARY
We don't have the right drugs. The
nearest place that may have them is
very far away. And it's not even
certain. He doesn't have the
time...

Mary starts walking away.

JACK
Wait! I have a cabinet full of all
kinds of drugs back on the boat.

Mary stops walking away and looks back at Jack.

MARY
Do you know what you have?

JACK
No, I had a guy do it for me. But
there is a lot in there.

Mary walks up to Jack.

MARY
Can you go get them?

JACK
I'll go.

MARY
Take Umaro with you.

JACK
No, I'll do it alone.

MARY
You need to hurry, Jack.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack is running. He is approaching a patch of tall grass. He slows down and starts walking. He is panting and sweating.

Jack stops. He is trying to catch his breath. He is leaning over with hands on his knees. Jack looks up.

The lion emerges from the tall grass.

Jack straightens up.

JACK
You've got to be kidding me.

The lion starts to walk towards Jack.

JACK
Stay there!

The lion picks up the pace.

Jack starts walking backward.

JACK
No, not this again.

The lion runs and jumps on Jack in a playful manner.

The lion paws land on Jack's shoulders. The lion licks Jack's face.

JACK
Ugh...

Jack loses balance and falls on his back.

The lion is over Jack licking his face.

JACK
Stop it!

The lion gets off Jack and starts walking around in a playful manner.

Jack sits up.

The lion gets close to Jack and sits down. The lion stares at Jack.

Jack gently puts his hand on the lion's mane.

JACK

You saved me. I don't know why you did it...

Jack gets up.

JACK

I don't have time for games. I have to go. I need to get medicine for this little boy.

Jack starts walking. The lion follows.

JACK

Okay, I guess you are coming.

Jack and the lion disappear into the patch of tall grass.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack is running. The lion is running by his side. They are approaching the tropical rainforest.

Jack and the lion are now at the edge of the dense vegetation. The lion is sitting down. Jack is leaning with hands on his knees. He is breathing heavily.

JACK

You better stay here. I don't think you are going to like in there.

The lion is staring at Jack.

EXT. TROPICAL RAINFOREST - DAY

Jack is making his way through the dense vegetation. The lion is following Jack.

Jack pulls a branch of a bush and passes by it. He lets go of the branch. The branch hits the lion in the face.

The lion moans.

Jack turns around.

JACK

Oh, shit. Sorry about that.

The lion grunts.

JACK

I told you, you are not going to like it in here.

Jack continues making his way through the vegetation. The lion follows.

JACK
I don't know why I bother talking
to you. You never listen.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack and the lion are walking on the beach.
They get to the boat.

JACK
Stay here.

The lion is watching Jack climbing the boat.

INT. JACK'S BOAT/CABIN - DAY

Jack opens a cabinet.

The cabinet is full of drugs. Jack looks around the cabin.

Jack opens another cabinet and takes out an empty bag.

Jack is in front of the cabinet with the drugs. He opens up the bag and starts filling it with the drugs.

EXT. JACK'S BOAT/DECK - DAY

Jack comes out of the cabin.

A loud dense scratching sound can be heard.

Jack looks overboard and sees the lion standing on his back feet, scratching his front paw's nails on the bow of the boat.

Jack yells.

JACK
Hey, knock it off!

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack is climbing down carrying the bag. The lion keeps scratching his nails.

Jack comes down and walks up to the lion. The lion keeps scratching. His claws leave deep marks into the wood.

JACK
I said stop it!

The lion stops scratching and looks at Jack.

JACK
I built this with my own two hands.

Jack points to the claw marks.

JACK
Look at what you've done!

The lion gets off the bow and stares at Jack.

JACK
Don't look at me like that.

Jack starts walking towards the tree line.

JACK
Sad eyes do not exonerate you from
your transgressions.

The lion yawns, then starts following Jack.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

The sun is rising. Jack and the lion are sleeping next to each other.

The lion stretches his legs and pushes Jack's back with his paws.

Jack wakes up. He lifts his head and looks around.

Jack gets up. He looks at the rising sun.

JACK
We need to go.

The lion is still lying sleepy on the ground.

Jack picks up the bag with the drugs and starts walking away.

JACK
Are you coming?

The lion gets up. He shakes the dirt off his fur and starts walking after Jack.

The lion yawns.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack and the lion are close to the village.

Jack is sweating and breathing heavily. He stands in front of the lion. He puts the bag down.

JACK

You can't be following me in there.

The lion sits down.

Jack breathing calms. He puts his hand on the lion on the mane.

JACK

I'll see you around.

Jack picks up the bag. He turns around and starts walking away.

Jack is walking away. He stops, turns around and looks at the lion.

The lion is still sitting, staring at Jack.

Jack turns forward and continues walking.

The lion is sitting, looking at Jack as he is walking away.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jack is walking, carrying the bag.

The village is silent. There is no one outside.

Umaro comes out of a hut. He has a wound on his forehead. He is leaning on a cane. He is limping as he starts walking towards Jack.

Jack sees Umaro and heads towards him.

Jack gets to Umaro.

JACK

How is Kumba? What happened to you?

UMARO

Kumba died. Only hours after you left.

JACK

No...

UMARO

It is not your wrong, Jack.

Umaro points at Jack's bag.

UMARO
Is that medicine?

JACK
Yes.

UMARO
Your journey was not for nothing.
Others are sick and some injured.

JACK
What happened?

UMARO
Bad people come, Jack. They
criminals. From war. They come in
village and rob. They beat. They
kill Tunde. They take Mary...

JACK
What? Where?

UMARO
To their village. They take women
to violate them. Jack, you must
understand. This people very bad.

Jack begins to get angry.

JACK
Where is their village?

Umaro points southwest.

UMARO
In that way. I never go there. They
been here time ago and they left
that way again.

JACK
That's almost where I came from. I
did not see anybody. When did this
happen?

UMARO
Yesterday.

JACK
Tell me everything you know about
these people.

INT. UMARO'S HUT - DAY

Umaro sits on the bed. He puts the cane on the bed. With effort, he reaches under the bed and pulls out a chest.

Umaro opens the chest. He takes out a shotel - a long, curved, sickle-shaped sword in a handmade leather sheath.

Umaro offers it to Jack.

Jack puts down the bag with the medicine. He takes the sword.

UMARO

They are not many but always surprise us.

Jack takes the shotel out of the sheath and looks at it.

UMARO

They beat all man so we cannot fight. Tunde... He always fight.

JACK

I'm sorry.

UMARO

They have blades. They don't have guns. No bullets left. You see gun, you don't fear.

JACK

That's good.

UMARO

They savages, Jack! You cannot have reason with them! You must kill!

JACK

I've never killed a man before.

UMARO

You will go there, yes?

Jack nods in agreement.

UMARO

Then you must prepare to kill.

Umaro takes the cane and gets up.

UMARO

Come. Let's take the medicine to Nuria.

Jack puts the shotel back in the sheath.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

People have gathered around Jack and Umaro. The women appear worried. The male villagers have different injuries.

Jack is carrying a bag with a strap going over his shoulder. He has the shotel strapped to his waist.

Umaro hands Jack a small bag.

UMARO

Some food for your journey.

Jack takes the food and puts it in his bag. He looks around at the people.

JACK

I don't know if I can do this.

Umaro puts his hand on Jack's shoulder.

UMARO

You are her only hope, Jack. You cannot hesitate.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack is running. The lion emerges from a patch of tall grass opposite of Jack.

Jack stops running.

The lion starts running towards Jack.

JACK

Oh, no...

EXT. TREE SAVANNA (LATER) - DAY

Jack is on the ground. The lion is on top of Jack, licking his face.

JACK

Stop it. I don't have time for this shit.

Jack is trying to get up. In a playful manner, the lion grabs him with his paws and rolls. The lion ends up on his back with front paws close to his chest. Jack is on top of the lion. The lion quickly rolls over and stands up. Jack ends up on the lion's back.

The lion starts walking.

JACK

Wait...

The lion starts to pick up the pace.

Jack almost loses balance. He grips his legs around the lion's body and puts his arms around the lion's neck.

The lion starts to run faster with Jack riding on his back.

JACK

Stop...

Jack falls off the lion on purpose and rolls on the ground.

He sits up. The lion approaches in a playful manner.

JACK

Stay away from me.

Jack stands up. He dabs the dust out of his clothes.

The lion gets closer to Jack, sits down and stares at him.

JACK

What is wrong with you?

Jack starts walking away. The lion is still sitting. He is looking at Jack as he walks away.

Jack looks back at the lion.

JACK

Are you coming?

The lion stands up and follows Jack.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack looks tired. He is walking with the lion by his side.

JACK

This is crazy. I know it is but I
am so tired. You look like you have
been napping all day.

Jack stops walking. The lion stops walking and looks at him.

JACK

What am I doing...

Jack takes a deep breath and exhales. He walks up to the lion.

Jack carefully tries to mount him. The lion is standing still as Jack is mounting him.

Jack is on the lion's back. The lion is standing still.

JACK
Okay, I'm still alive. Now come on.
Move it.

The lion is not moving.

JACK
This is insane.

Jack gently taps the lion two times on the back.

JACK
How do I get you to move?

The lion remains still.

Jack taps the lion harder on the back and yells.

JACK
Go!

The lion quickly charges forward. As Jack is not holding to the lion, he is thrown off and falls on his ass.

JACK
I did not think this through.

Jack gets up.

The lion comes back.

JACK
Let's try something else.

Jack detaches the sheath with the shotel from his belt and puts it on the ground.

He takes off the belt. He walks up to the lion and carefully puts the belt around the lion's mane.

JACK
If you eat me now, I wouldn't blame
you.

The lion licks his lips.

JACK
I was kidding.

Jack puts the belt's tip through the buckle, pushes the tongue through a punch hole and puts the belt's tip through the loop.

JACK

Okay.

Jack picks up the sheath with the shotel from the ground.

He carefully mounts the lion.

Jack holds the belt with one hand and the shotel with the other. He uses the shotel's handle to tap the lion and yells.

JACK

Go!

The lion charges forward.

Jack manages to hold on to the belt.

JACK

Holy shit!

Jack is riding the lion.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

The lion is running fast through the tree savanna with Jack riding on his back.

In the distance, a herd of antelope is revealed.

The lion deviates and runs towards the herd.

Jack sees the herd.

JACK

Oh, no...

The lion starts to run faster.

Jack jumps off the lion's back and rolls on the ground.

He sits up and watches the lion running away.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - NIGHT

Jack is sitting by a fire. He is cooking a piece of meat on a stick. The lion has a bloody muzzle. He is sitting close to Jack.

The lion is looking at the cooking meat.

JACK
Don't even think about it.

The lion licks his lips.

JACK
I just watched you devour an entire
antelope. How are you still hungry?

Jack takes the meat out of the fire and looks at.

JACK
I guess you can't resist my
cooking.

Jack puts the meat back close to the flames.

JACK
It needs a little more.

Jack looks at the lion.

JACK
Do you think she's alive?

The lion looks at Jack.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack is sitting under a tree with back against the trunk. He is using a knife to sharpen the end of a long wooden stick. The lion is lying in the shade close to Jack.

Jack looks around.

JACK
Where are these people? It's been
days.

Jack keeps sharpening the spear.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

Jack and the lion are hiding in a patch of tall grass. They are looking at the violent tribe's village.

The village is very small. There are five huts. Men are walking around. In the center of the village, there is a wooden pole. Mary is tied to it.

JACK
Look. She's alive.

EXT. VIOLENT TRIBE'S VILLAGE - DAY

Mary is sitting on the ground with her back against the wooden pole. She has cuts and bruises. Her clothes are torn. Her hands are tied to the pole.

Jack rides into the village. With one hand he is holding the belt around the lion's mane and the shotel, with the other he is carrying the spear.

The lion stops running, raises his front paws in the air and gives a powerful roar.

The tribe men turn towards Jack and the lion.

Mary turns and looks at Jack.

The lion puts his legs down on the ground and charges forward towards a man standing nearby.

Jack jumps off the lion.

The lion jumps on the man and tears off his face.

Jack is running towards a man who appears to be in shock and remains still. Jack puts the spear through the man's neck, then pulls it out. The man falls on the ground.

Jack looks at him.

Jack is dazed.

He turns towards the lion. He sees the lion jump on a man, knock him down and bites into him.

Jack sees Mary tied to the pole. He starts running towards her.

A man is trying to intercept Jack. As he is running, Jack drives the spear through the man's chest and leaves it there.

Another man approaches Jack. Jack stops running. He takes out the sword, swings and the blade gets stuck in the man's shoulder. Jack pulls and the curved blade cuts off the man's entire arm.

Jack screams from pain.

The tip of a spear is piercing Jack's calf. Jack turns around. A man takes out the spear from Jack's calf.

Jack is breathing heavily. He looks around. Men are surrounding him.

Jack looks at the lion. The lion is being surrounded as well.

The lion gives a powerful roar and attacks.

EXT. TREE SAVANNA - DAY

The lion is walking with effort. He has drying blood on his paws.

The lion has a big cut on his back leg.

There is blood drying on the lion's face and mane.

Jack and Mary are revealed riding on the back of the lion.

Mary is behind Jack. She is barely holding on to Jack with a hand on his shoulder. She looks exhausted. She has many small cuts and bruises and a big cut on her shoulder. Her clothes are torn and dirty.

Jack has blood on his face and clothes. He is holding the belt around the lion's neck with one hand. On the other hand, he has a big cut on his forearm.

Jack's calf is bleeding from a big cut.

Mary looks very exhausted.

The lion starts limping.

The lion makes an effort to remain standing but his legs give out and he lies down on his stomach.

Mary falls down on the ground. Jack turns around.

JACK

No...

Jack gets off the lion. He lifts Mary. She is unconscious. Jack checks the pulse on her neck.

Jack stands up with effort and puts Mary over his shoulder. With one hand he is holding Mary on his shoulder. Jack leans and with the other hand, he grabs the belt around the lion's neck.

Jack pulls, trying to lift the lion. The lion does not want to move.

Jack tries again.

JACK

Get up!

The lion does not want to move.

Jack falls on his knees.

He looks up at the sky. He becomes angry.

Jack cries out as he is trying to stand up with Mary on his shoulder and pulling the lion up by the belt.

Jack is getting up. The lion is making an effort to get up.

Both Jack and the lion manage to stand up.

JACK

That's it. Keep going.

The lion grunts. He starts walking forward. He is limping. Jack is also limping as he is walking forward. He is still holding the belt in one hand and Mary over his shoulder with the other.

Jack and the lion are walking slowly, with great effort.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jack is carrying Mary. The lion is following Jack. They appear exhausted.

People start to come out of the huts.

Umaro comes out of his hut. The wound on his forehead is almost healed. He is not limping anymore.

Umaro approaches with caution.

Men with spears approach the lion from behind.

Jack stops walking.

JACK

A little help here.

Jack turns and sees the men with the spears.

JACK

Get back!

The men keep their distance.

UMARO

What is this, Jack?

JACK

I can't hold her anymore. Somebody take her.

UMARO
There is a lion behind you.

JACK
I know that. He is a friend.

UMARO
A friend?

JACK
He is the lion Kumba saw dragging
me here. He helped me get her back.
He is hurt.

Jack gets dizzy.

JACK
Promise...

Jack is losing balance. Umaro rushes to Jack and takes Mary.

JACK
Help them...

Jack falls on the ground and loses consciousness.

The lion walks up to Jack and lies next to him.

UMARO
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
Bring a big piece of meat and get
the chickens out of the chicken
coop.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Jack's face is shaved. His wounds are healed. He is walking
with Umaro.

UMARO
I am sorry, Jack.

JACK
I think it's time.

UMARO
I don't like see you go.

JACK
I don't know what else to do.

They walk up to the chicken coop. The lion is revealed lying
inside. The lion lifts his head and sees Jack and Umaro.

The lion gets up and walks up to them.

Jack and Umaro are looking at the lion.

UMARO
You need to have patience.

JACK
I've been patient. Maybe being away
from here will help.

UMARO
Jack...

Jack looks at Umaro.

JACK
What?

UMARO
What she gone through. Maybe she is
never the same. You have to accept
it, Jack.

Jack looks at the lion.

UMARO
I am glad he is leaving. He eats as
five men.

The lion licks his lips.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Umaro and Nuria are watching Jack, Mary and the lion walking
away from the village.

NURIA
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
The lion man.

Umaro looks at Nuria and smiles.

UMARO
(in Guinea-Bissau Creole)
I liked "the stupid man" better.

They start laughing.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack is carrying a log on his shoulder.

He puts the log down on a clearing near the tree line. He
looks at the beach where Mary is sitting on the sand. She is
facing away, looking at the ocean. Jack takes a deep breath
and exhales.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/LAGOON - DAY

Jack and Mary are sitting next to each other. Their legs are in the water. Jack's beard is small. His hair is longer. Mary has a scar on her shoulder.

Jack nudges Mary with his shoulder. Mary looks at him. Jack turns to Mary and looks at her.

They kiss.

Jack goes in the water.

He is standing in front of Mary. He grabs Mary by her hands and gently pulls her into the water with him.

Jack and Mary are in the water looking at each other.

They kiss and start taking off each other's clothes.

EXT. GUINEA-BISSAU/BEACH - DAY

Jack comes out of a small wooden house. He is holding a beer bottle. He drinks from the beer bottle, then stares ahead. He smiles.

He walks down the steps of a small porch.

Jack's feet step on the sand.

He is walking on the beach.

Jack stops walking. He sits down and puts the beer bottle in the sand.

Mary, holding a small CHILD is revealed. Jack touches the nose of the child. Mary looks at Jack and smiles. Jack looks at Mary and smiles back.

Jack stands up and starts walking towards the lagoon.

Jack stops walking and leans forward. The lion is sleeping on the ground. Jack puts his hand on the lion's chest. The lion wakes up. Close to the lion, there is a lioness nursing her cubs. The lion gets up.

Jack starts walking away. The lion follows.

The sailboat is revealed. The boat is no longer stuck in the sand. The boat is docked not far from shore. There is a small boat on the sand.

The sun shines on Jack's face as he walks.

He stops and sits down. The lion sits next to Jack.

Jack looks at Mary and the child in the distance. Jack looks forward at the sun. The sun is close to setting.

In the distance, part of the sky darkens. Thunder can be heard.

The lion yawns. Jack looks at the lion, then at the sun. Jack smiles as he is watching the setting sun.

The silhouettes of Jack and the lion are visible against the sun disk.

FADE OUT.

THE END