

CANNIBAL HOLOCAUST III

by

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The following screenplay is fully protected under the WGA  
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FROM BLACK, A TITLE CARD FADES IN, then DISAPPEARS:

The following is based on a true story...

We HEAR the sound of children's laughter.

FADE IN:

EXT. AMAZON CITY OF MANAUS -- DAY

A group of young boys are playing stick-ball on a makeshift sandlot field, in a jungle clearing on the outskirts of the city of MANAUS.

The Pitcher throws the ball to the Catcher, right past a swinging boy....another young boy runs.....he's thrown out at second base.

Childish BANTER overlays the action. The air is alive with teasing and name calling.

SUBTITLE:

Manaus, Brazil - 1987

The ball is hit high and soars over the Right Fielder's head and into the surrounding jungle.

Little MANUEL is slow to recover it, despite impatient pleas from the other boys.

He enters the tree line and turns back towards his friends, still moving.

MANUEL (PORTUGUESE)

Ok, I'm going, already...

He trips and falls flat on his face. He flips over, and slowly brings his head, followed by his eyes, upwards.

The boy turns white as a sheet.

Little Manuel SCREAMS bloody-murder and bolts out of the jungle, just as fast as his little legs can carry him.

We then SEE what he was looking at: a gruesome display of HUMAN and ANIMAL REMAINS, supported by the surrounding trees and vines.

MAIN TITLE APPEARS:

Cannibal Holocaust III

Bits of rotten flesh still cling to some of the bones. In the mess there are three skulls: two intact and one in several pieces. It's an altar, or perhaps a warning of some sort.

The boy's SCREAMS FADE into CAR HORNS and TRAFFIC SOUNDS, from the following scene.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREETS -- DAY

SUBTITLE:

New York City, NY - 1985

HEAD CREDITS ROLL over a MONTAGE: STEVEN BYRD, a college student in his early twenties, hails a cab. He is dressed to suit the times. Definitely not a "punk", closer to a new-waver, if anything.

As he rides around the city, we SEE all the iconic landmarks of New York. He ends his cab ride at the Ferry. He walks up on NYU campus.

EXT. NYU LECTURE HALL -- DAY

He ends his journey in front of a lecture hall. There is a sign on the exterior door that reads: ADV. ORNITHOLOGY III, SPECIAL PROBLEMS

He tosses his cigarette, opens the door, and ENTERS.

INT. NYU LECTURE HALL -- SAME

Steven walks into the balcony of the lecture hall from the back stairs. He comes up the railing and LOOKS down into the hall.

There are many empty seats, relative to hall's large size. Steven counts the students with his eyes. Including himself, there are FOURTEEN students in all.

The students are in their mid-twenties and most are dressed conservatively.

Steven makes his way over to a group of students that are sitting together in an upper section.

One of them, SAM, spots Steven, and calls out to him from across the hall.

SAM

Over here, Steve.

Steven DESCENDS the right hand side stairs and takes a seat in-between Sam and a young lady. She is sort of the valley-girl type, and judging by her outfit, a major Madonna freak.

Greetings are exchanged.

STEVEN

Hey Sam, Dave, ladies. Did I miss anything? Good evening, sweetie.

He kisses the young lady lightly on the cheek.

LISA

Hi. You didn't miss much, the Professor was going over last week's test. He stepped out to get something. We're on a break, I guess.

STEVEN

This is going to be short, right Lisa?

Obviously, given their exchange Steven is involved with LISA on some level.

LISA

Yeah, this the last class before we leave.

STEVEN

Six weeks in the Amazon. Bird watching. Fun.

Another student, sitting a few down from Lisa, leans in.

DAVID

Not just bird watching dude, itinerary says we get four days and three nights in beautiful-

DAVID pauses and picks up some papers.

DAVID

(reading)  
-beautiful Brasilia!?

Steven looks back at his girlfriend.

STEVEN

Great. One more elective. Remind me again, why did I sign up for this class?

LISA

For me. And the last two.

STEVEN

Oh yeah- right. Thanks.

LISA

Ah, come on, you needed another elective, right? What better place to earn credit than the Amazon.

LISA kisses Steven lightly on the cheek. They both smile.

DAVID

(to Steven)  
Yeah, and I signed up cause you did. Summer would be boring up here, without you all.

LISA

Whatever Dave, you just want to go so you can get pussy. That's all you fucking care about. Pervert.

DAVID

Look who's talking. Your woman  
got a nasty mouth.

LISA

Madonna says it.

DAVID

Yeah, well, whatever. And, hey  
if I happen to run into a girl  
and we hit it off, that's not  
my fault. Always wanted to tag  
me a foreign broad. I hear the  
women are hot-hot-hot in Brazil.  
Anything goes, ya know?

Another girl chimes in.

LINDA

Just don't forget why we are  
going.

LISA

Yeah, well keep your little  
pervert hands away from my stuff.

STEVEN

Hey be nice.

LINDA

Most of us need this trip to finish  
our degrees, everyone except  
for you and David. So just don't  
mess things up, ok?

SARAH

It's a free trip-

MARY cuts her off.

MARY

With the professor getting us the  
grant and all.

SAM

The Center for Field Research  
grant.

LINDA

Earthwatch Institute.

An ELDERLY MAN enters into the hall at the bottom. He pushes a small cart containing bags of books and other reference materials. He moves very well for his apparent age.

The class quickly settles down.

He seems to have choose his clothing based on comfort, rather than style: a faded blue button up shirt with a painfully overfilled pocket protector is complemented by faded bluejeans. His shoes are well-worn moccasins. His dark gray beard matches the hair poking out from underneath his safari hat. This is PROFESSOR JAY HAMILTON.

He leans his book cart against the wall, and steps up to the podium.

PROFESSOR

Ok. Now, as I said before, and as you all probably already know, we are just a few days away from our trip. The next time we meet will be at the airport. I hope you've spent the last few weeks learning how to properly raise your tents and breaking in your hiking boots. I know I've said this before, but this is going to be a rough trip. Plenty of jungle trekking.

The Professor turns and walks over to his cart. He removes a slide show reel and places it on a projector on the table. He switches it on and then walks over to a light panel and darkens the room.

PROFESSOR

Since this is our last regular class session before our trip,

I thought we'd watch a slideshow.

The Professor picks up the controller. He takes a seat at the front of the lecture hall. He turns to the class.

PROFESSOR

We have spent the previous class sessions discussing the ornithological aspects of the Brazilian rainforest. Today, I thought we might go over a few of the different indigenous peoples we will encounter.

A Hand rises.

PROFESSOR

Yes, Daniel?

DANNY stands.

DANNY

There will be wild Indians running around the forest? Won't that be a bit...dangerous?

He takes his seat.

PROFESSOR

Oh no, well, yes kind of, but, save for our guides, we'll be alone in the jungle.

Another hand rises.

PROFESSOR

Yes, Linda? What is your question?

LINDA

What about lost tribes? We will be venturing deep into the rain forest, there's nobody out there?

The Professor chuckles.



PROFESSOR

There is no concrete evidence supporting the existence of "lost tribes". Hollywood and tabloid twisting and embellishment of misunderstood cultures, is all.

LINDA

But what about cannibal tribes? I've heard they still exist, deep in the jungles.

PROFESSOR

Only stories and rumors. Stone Age tribes do not exist anymore. It's nineteen eighty five. Maybe several decades ago, but not anymore.

She reluctantly sits, still not satisfied.

PROFESSOR

It's in the cities that'll we'll encounter the Indian groups. New York is a melting pot, yes, but most, if not all of you, are, shall we say, privileged? I know of a few students at this university who had never seen a black, until they arrived here in New York City. Maybe even some of you in this very class? Yes? It is important to be tolerant of other's beliefs, no matter how strange or trivial you perceive them to be. We surely don't want to offend anyone while we are there. We will not only be representing the school, we will be representing our country. Ok? Ok. Now, most of these native Indians in Brazil are all very civilized now, living in government housing projects and working for the State.

Another hand rises.

PROFESSOR

Yes, Sarah?

SARAH

They all live on reservations?

PROFESSOR

Yes, something like the Native American reservations we have Here in the U.S. Now, if there are no more questions, I'll continue.

He CLICKS the FIRST slide: Indians in chains, led by WHITE MEN.

PROFESSOR

Life for Indians of Brazil was, difficult, to say the least. European settlers, arriving by the thousands in the eighteen hundreds, forced many Indian groups into slave labor camps. These camps later evolved into State run facilities. The few that remained in the jungle, were eventually all driven out by loggers and miners. Currently Indians do not have rights and Brazil is one of only two South American countries that does not recognize tribal land ownership.

LINDA

Are they still upset?

PROFESSOR

No, no. Some still harbor malcontent towards outsiders, yes, but many of the locals set aside their differences when it comes to money. They believe all Americans are wealthy, and will bend over backwards to make sure we have a pleasant stay. So again, we have nothing to worry about. I only mention these things because I want to prepare you kids for

anything you might hear down  
there. Ok?

He CLICKS the next slide: a rather large grass hut in the  
jungle, surrounded by a group of Indians and two white  
Christian missionaries.

PROFESSOR

Ok, these are the Yanomamo  
Indians.

He CLICKS the next slide: Yanomamos in hard hats, dressed  
as coal miners.

PROFESSOR

They are the most prevalent of the  
Indian groups. They work as day  
laborers, guides, and in the many  
factories and mills throughout  
Brazil.

He CLICKS the next slide: Yanomamos farming.

PROFESSOR

Although the Yanomamo live  
"modern" lives, many still keep  
ties to their traditional ways,  
by growing crops in gardens  
around their housing projects.

He CLICKS the next slide: CU Yanomamos farming.

PROFESSOR

They grow around sixty crops.  
Twenty of which are for food,  
and the rest for medicine, making  
everyday objects, or for ritualistic  
drug use.

DAVID

(to Steven)

Did he just say they grew weed?

STEVEN

I think so, I know they grow  
coca plants and-

LISA  
Shut up, I can't hear.

PROFESSOR  
Do you have a problem with the  
Yanos, Miss Nelson?

Steven and David try not to laugh.

LISA  
No, Mister Hamilton, no.

PROFESSOR  
Good, because we are using  
Yanomamo as guides up the river.

He CLICKS the next slide: Makuxi Indians.

PROFESSOR  
The second largest indigenous  
group we will encounter is the  
Makuxi. The Makuxi used to be  
jungle dwelling tribe..

He CLICKS the next slide: Makuxi Indians on a river boat  
with a party of WHITE MEN.

PROFESSOR  
...but now they live very similar  
the to the Yanomamo; virtually all  
of the Makuxi populate the larger  
cities and the government  
established villages that sit  
adjacent to the river.

He CLICKS the next slide: a map of Manaus.

PROFESSOR  
Now for some maps. Ok. This  
first one is of Manaus. You can  
see it is situated at a major  
river junction. Just East of this  
is where the colony of Andean  
teals lives. These birds have  
been nesting here for the past  
four years. It is our job to find  
out why.

He CLICKS the next slide: another map.

PROFESSOR

This is a more detailed map. As you can see there are several high cliff areas near major water sources. By now, we all very well aware that the Teals have historically nested on the western side of Brazil, near Peru.

He steps from the behind the slide projector, still holding the clicker.

PROFESSOR

It seems the birds are moving their nesting sites East, every few years. We have six weeks to find out why.

He CLICKS the next slide: frontal view of a dilapidated hotel. The aging sign reads: HOTEL AMAZONIA.

PROFESSOR

This is a shot of the hotel we will be stationed out of in Manuas. Every ten days we get to come back to the hotel, for two days to get, refreshed. There will be three hotel stops.

He CLICKS the next slide: Brasilia beach front, crowded with tourists and street vendors.

PROFESSOR

The last four days will be spent relaxing and properly recording and reporting data in beautiful Brasilia.

He switches the slide projector off. He walks over to a light panel and brightens the room.

PROFESSOR

Now are there any final questions?

There is no answer from the class. Students begin to gather up their books and bags.

Professor walks back to the podium.

PROFESSOR

Ok. I guess I'll see you all at  
the airport.

The students begin to RISE from their seats.

PROFESSOR

Tomorrow, eleven-A.M., sharp. I  
hope you're all well rested.

INT. AIRPORT GATE/SEATING AREA -- MORNING

Steven is seated next to Lisa, who is reading a newspaper.

Sam, Linda, and the other students are seated in the  
benches opposite them.

Sarah and Mary, are discussing a magazine.

The Professor is talking with a ticket agent at the  
counter.

P.A. SYSTEM announces departing flights.

David ENTERS, wearing a safari hat and a Hawaiian T-shirt-  
in sharp contrast to the others.

He is carrying two large bags and very expensive still  
camera around his neck.

DAVID

Hey guys.

STEVEN

Thought you'd never make it.

DAVID

I was late getting up.

David looks around.

LISA  
Yeah, and I bet I know why.

STEVEN  
Shut up.

LISA  
Did ol' Billy-boy need some  
mornin' lovin'?

STEVEN  
Shut up, will ya?

DAVID  
We're just friends, Liz.

LISA  
Ha! More like fuck buddies, if  
you ask me.

DAVID  
We're roommates, that's all. Just  
cause he's gay, doesn't mean I am.

LISA  
Better watch out, I read that fags  
are what's causing this new AIDS-thing.  
Niggers and Fags. Better watch out.

STEVEN  
Hey. That's enough. Ok? Come  
on, ya'll. Jee-whizz ya'll.

David tries to change the subject.

DAVID  
I see everyone's here.

STEVEN  
Nice camera.

DAVID  
What? Oh this? Yeah man. It's my  
dad's. Gonna get me some shots of  
bare breasted tribal bitches, like  
in National Geographic.

LISA

Sure you are.

LINDA

You know, last night at dinner Sam's uncle was telling us about the headhunters down in South America. He said there were tribes that still practice ritualistic cannibalism.

SAM

Oh please, not that crap again.

DAVID

Nah, I read somewhere that stuff is true.

SAM

Like a few hundred years ago.

DAVID

What about those Italian flicks? What was the one we saw three weeks ago? It was playing in that grind house down on forty-third? Remember?

STEVEN

Oh yeah. "Make Them Die Slowly". Sick man, wicked sick.

DAVID

Yeah, but the title on the screen said something else. What was it? When it started, I mean.

STEVEN

Yeah, I know what the fuck you meant. Um...oh. "Cannibal Ferox".

DAVID

That was it. "Cannibal Ferox". Killer Shit man.

SAM

Good, huh?



DAVID

Gory as hell. Give that new Romero flick, "Day", a run for it's money man.

LISA

All the cannibal tribes are extinct, right?

LINDA

Well, maybe. I read that there were over thirty-two un-explored regions of the Amazon. And any one could be home to a lost cannibal tribe.

SAM

That's all speculation. The Professor said himself that the Indians are more civilized then ever. There are no more stone age groups.

LINDA

Believe what you want.

SAM

Well, even if there are still cannibals in the wilds of Brazil, I doubt they'd want to eat you.

LINDA

(jokingly)

Fuck you. I'm one hundred twenty pounds of New York prime baby.

Linda pats her bottom. Sam LAUGHS.

SAM

In all seriousness, I really don't think you have anything to worry about. The Professor will be there and we'll have guides. Don't forget, you have big strong men like Steve and myself to protect you. We'll be fine.

Linda forces a smile.

The Boarding Call is announced on the intercom. The Professor joins the group.

PROFESSOR

Come on everybody, that's us.

The students gather up their bags and head for the gate.

INT. AIRPLANE -- NIGHT

Most of the passengers are sleeping. A Flight Attendant carefully negotiates the aisles.

Steven and Lisa are seated together in a window section. He shifts in his seat.

He opens his eyes to find Lisa reading a book.

STEVEN

Can't sleep?

LISA

Huh? Oh, yeah, well I'm too excited to sleep.

(holds a up a picture)

Isn't the Andean teal gorgeous? I can't wait. Such a beautiful bird.

STEVEN

Yeah, beautiful, um where are we?

LISA

Let's see.

Lisa sorts through her papers until she comes to map.

LISA

(pointing to the map)

Well, we should be somewhere over Venezuela about now.

DETAIL INSERT of Map.

DISSOLVE into the jungle canopy. The PLANE flies overhead.

EXT. HOTEL AMAZONIA, MANAUS -- DAY

Three beat-up taxi cabs stop in front of the hotel. The students and Professor exit. The drivers begin removing the luggage.

The city is part touristy Rio, part river slum town. The streets are filled with people, bicycles, and cars. There are street vendors everywhere, selling produce, fish, meat, and all kinds of tourist junk.

PROFESSOR

I'm going to check us in. Nobody  
run off, ok?

The Professor tips the drivers and enters the hotel.

The students are overwhelmed with all the activity going on around them. It's almost as though the city itself is a living breathing thing.

Steven lights a cigarette. Lisa and David do the same.

A female student, Mary, is apparently disgusted with the way the city looks. Another female, Alberta, removes a compact from her bag and begins fixing her makeup. The other students are sitting on or near their bags.

STEVEN

So this is Brazil, huh?

DAVID

Fucken rad, dude.

David's eyes follow a very affectionate couple through the crowd.

SAM

Yeah, you could say that.

DAVID

Maybe he'll let us go exploring  
later?

SARAH

I doubt it.

The Professor emerges from the hotel and walks over to the students. He is carrying room keys.

PROFESSOR  
Ok students follow me.

He turns towards the hotel.

INT. MANAUS BAR -- MORNING

Steven, Lisa, and David enter a local bar.

They are temporarily stopped by the smell of refuse, urine, and alcohol. The bar has old revolution posters on the walls and a worn down pool table in the corner. A three-bladed ceiling fans runs at half speed. The bar does not appear safe at all. There are no tourists, only a few locals.

The Students approach the bartender, a greasy sweaty man, mid forties. He is too busy wiping a glass to look up at the Americans.

LISA  
Steve, lets leave, I don't like  
the looks of this place.

STEVEN  
It will be fine, honey. The  
Professor said we could visit  
the market.

LISA  
This isn't the market. I don't  
want to get into trouble on our  
first day.

STEVEN  
No one will find out. We are  
just going to get a beer. Relax.

He stares at the BARTENDER, awaiting eye contact before speaking. Nothing. He cautiously addresses the Bartender, in his best Portuguese.

STEVEN (PORTUGUESE)  
Hello?

No response. Steven SLAMS his fist on the bar.

BARTENDER

What the fuck do you want?

(looking up, he speaks in ENGLISH)

Oh, Americans! Please, sit. What can I get for you?

DAVID

What the fuck did he just say?

Lisa leans in.

LISA

He said: sit down.

DAVID

I understood that, stupid.

STEVEN (PORTUGUESE)

Three beers, please.

BARTENDER

It'll be thirteen reias.

STEVEN (ENGLISH)

How much? I mean, ah, um, custará cervejas, por favor?

A LARGE Portuguese SAILOR steps up behind David. He is noticeably upset with the American's presence.

The Bartender sees the large man and takes several careful steps backwards.

SAILOR (PORTUGUESE)

Fucking whites don't belong here.

The Sailor puts his hand on David's shoulder.

SAILOR

We hate whites, I hate whites.

David leans in close to the man. He speaks through his teeth.

DAVID (ENGLISH)

I don't know what you said, but  
you better take your nasty fucking  
Portuguese river rat hands off me.

David brushes the Sailor's hand from his shoulder and takes  
a few steps back.

Steven grabs David by the arm.

STEVEN

He said he doesn't like whites. I  
think you better leave him alone.  
He looks pissed.

LISA

Yeah, good idea. Start a fight  
with him. Let's go guys.

BARTENDER

In this city, you better be  
careful, not many people like  
outsiders, especially white  
outsiders.

SAILOR (PORTUGUESE)

Get the fuck out, now! This place  
is not for you. No whites allowed.  
Not while I'm drinking here.

David turns to Steven with a blank expression.

STEVEN (ENGLISH)

He says we should leave this  
bar.

DAVID

Before what? We get hurt?

David laughs.

DAVID

Fuck him!

Sailor immediately counters the insult with a lightning-  
fast right PUNCH that knocks David flat on his back.

SILENCE.

The other patrons stop for a second and look, then they resume their activities.

SAILOR (PORTUGUESE)  
Get the fuck out of here!

Steven gets up in the Sailor's face. Lisa helps David to his feet.

STEVEN (ENGLISH)  
Fuck you, you leave.

....The Sailor pushes Steven backwards and breaks a beer bottle over the counter....He brandishes it at the boy.

SAILOR  
(mocking, ENGLISH)  
Fuck me?  
(PORTUGUESE)  
Fuck you!

....The Sailor LUNGES at Steven with the broken bottle.....

....BANG-BANG, BANG....The Sailor's HEAD shatters in a million pieces.

Blood and brain matter coats everything in sight; Lisa, Steven, David, and the surrounding bar area.

A MILITIA SOLIDER is now standing where the Sailor was.

More armed Militia rush into the bar. They fire their weapons into the ceiling. The patrons quickly exit.

SOLIDER (ENGLISH)  
Are you ok?

LISA is almost hysterical. Steven tries his best to console her. He uses the underside of his shirt to clean her up.

STEVEN  
Yeah, I think so. Thanks.

SOLIDER

You should be more careful.  
Manaus is a dangerous city.

DAVID

No shit.

INT. CENTRAL MARKET ALLEYWAY, MANAUS -- AFTERNOON

Four students are leaving the Market, headed for the hotel. They are carrying all sorts of stuff; from fresh fruit, to tourist memorabilia.

There are two men, JOEY and Danny, and two females, ALBERTA and BETHANY.

JOEY

That was cool, huh?

ALBERTA

Yup.

BETHANY

My kid brother will love this  
t-shirt.

She holds up a very colorful "Brazil" t-shirt.

JOEY

You think so? He likes birds  
too?

BETHANY

Yeah. He sure does.

ALBERTA

Hey look, another beggar.

The group SEES a hooded Brazilian huddled down against the fence bordering the alley. They approach the person.

DANNY

What's your trick? Gonna play  
a flute or something? Dance maybe?

BETHANY

Dan. Be nice.



She bends down to the person.

BETHANY

Excuse me. I'm sorry. He can be so rude sometimes. I have some change.

She digs through her pockets. She comes up with a few coins and offers them to the vagrant.

The person looks up. We can now SEE that she is a female, possibly mid-thirties, but her face is much older. She smiles up at Bethany.

Bethany smiles back.

The Woman reaches out slowly for the coins, then suddenly grabs a hold of Bethany's arm.

BETHANY

Hey. Ouch. Let go please. Hey. Hey!

DANNY

Drug addict street bitch! Let go of her.

Danny rushes forward....He tries to pry the Woman off....

DANNY

She's fucked up on PCP or something.

He loses patience and KICKS the Woman....she lets go of Bethany....

....Alberta SCREAMS....

....the Woman leaps to her feet....she turns to Joey, who is frozen....

....she smiles....then SPITS a mouthful of blood in Joey's face....he hits the dirt, screaming....

....Danny SWINGS his shopping bag at the Woman....he nails her on the side of the head, sending her reeling....

....Danny turns around....in an instant, the Woman is on his back, biting and tearing at his neck....Danny flails his arms....

....Bethany beats on the Woman....She's able to get the Woman off Danny, but only for a second....

....The Woman is knocked to the ground and springs right back up to her feet....

....She goes straight for Danny's arm...hHer teeth sink into that tender flesh....Danny lets out a hellayshish scream....

....She tears a huge chunk of flesh out, as Bethany pulls her off....

....Danny jumps on top of the Woman and beats the shit out her....

ALBERTA

Stop it! Stop it! Stop it!

JOEY

Goddamnit! This is so, so, fucked up!

Danny hits the Woman so hard, her head splits open.

JOEY

Christ!

He suddenly stops himself. Dan slowly rises to his feet and surveys the damage around him.

BETHANY

Shit Daniel. What the hell?

She looks at his arm.

BETHANY

Are you alright?

ALBERTA

What about that woman?

BETHANY

She attacked us.

Bethany wraps the Brazil t-shirt around Danny's wounded arm.

People begin to walk into the alley, from the far end. The students SEE this.

DANNY

Thanks. Lets, ah, lets get the fuck outta here, ok?

BETHANY

Yeah.

The Four students take off, back into and through the Market.

INT. CENTRAL MARKET, MOVING -- SAME

ALBERTA

Slow down, will ya?

The group stops, on the side of a fruit pavilion.

DANNY

Fuck. Ok. Think.

JOEY

We are not telling the Professor what happened.

BETHANY

Why?

ALBERTA

I can't get into trouble. I can't fail. You know that. I can't fail this class.

JOEY

I think it's pretty obvious why not. Dan just killed a native.

DANNY

You don't know she's dead.

BETHANY

Yeah, I think she was.

DANNY

Well, what about my arm?

BETHANY

Not to mention the marks on your neck.

ALBERTA

You should probably get a rabies shot or something.

JOEY

Fuck! Ok, listen, we're going to tell the Professor that we were playing with some kids. Ok? There are a million kids running all over this city. In every lot they are kicking a soccer ball around or playing stickball-right? Remember the car ride in? All the kids?

BETHANY

Ok, so? We played ball with some kids.

JOEY

And it got out of hand. We're not use to the way they play. It got rough.

DANNY

That's it?

JOEY

That's it.

ALBERTA

Sounds good to me.

JOEY

Beth? Whatcha think?

BETHANY

I think we are going to pay for

this. Karma, you know? God is mad at us. You did what you had to do, maybe more. But, covering it up is wrong.

JOEY

Look, we say we got into a fight and killed a local, this trip is over. Done. Finished. We are going straight back to New York. Jail, maybe even. Is that what you want?

BETHANY

No, but-

JOEY

We are in Brazil. The fucking Amazon baby. We're here to study the nesting habits of one of the world's most beautiful avians, the Andean teal. An opportunity like this only comes along once in a lifetime.

BETHANY

This doesn't feel right.

ALBERTA

If this trip ends, there won't be another one. The school wouldn't have it.

DANNY

I need some shots or penicillin or whatever, but I need it quick, you know? I'm down.

JOEY

You'll get fixed up. The Professor will arrange a doctor. Whatcha say, Beth? Can this be our secret. Just between the four of us?

ALBERTA

Please. I can't fail. I have to succeed. Please.

JOEY

For Alberta's sake, for the sake of

the class?

After a few tense seconds, Bethany nods.

INT. MAIN STREET, MANAUS -- LATE AFTERNOON

The FULL GROUP is walking through the crowded streets. The students are wearing their backpacks and toting various camping gear.

DAVID is last in line and is lagging behind. He is snapping photographs of the area.

A WOMAN dressed in rags approaches him. She is obviously a prostitute.

WOMAN (PORTUGUESE)

Hey, John Wayne, you lookin cute today? What's your name.

She smiles and grabs his arm.

DAVID (ENGLISH)

Look, lady, I don't know what the fuck you said, but I have to be somewhere. I don't have any money.

David turns away.

DAVID

Fucken beggars.

The Woman grabs his arm again and turns him around. She unbuttons her tattered blouse.

WOMAN (PORTUGUESE)

You like my tits? Nice and big, huh?

David stares, awestruck. He's caught off guard.

WOMAN

You want to suck 'em, don't ya?  
Huh, little John Wayne American?

The Woman moves her hand through David's hair and smiles at him.

WOMAN

Wanna fuck?

He comes to his senses.

DAVID (ENGLISH)

I think, I know what you want.  
Thanks, but ah no thanks. Ah, no,  
uh, obrigado.

David backs away, but his retreat is halted by the crowd.  
The Woman keeps smiling and moves towards him.

He raises his hands to block her....

....Just as she is about to reach David, a large Indian  
walks up behind the Woman and STABS her....

....The Woman SCREAMS as the Indian repeatedly stabs her,  
over and over again....

INDIAN MAN (PORTUGUESE)

I kill you, I kill you now. I knew  
I'd find you here. Who's this-your  
new boyfriend?

....He looks up towards David....

INDIAN MAN

How many times did you fuck my  
wife?

....David, shocked and scared, darts through the crowd and  
disappears....

....The Man turns back to his bloody wife, lying on the  
pavement. Her clothes are soaked through....

....She slowly crawls away, spitting up blood and  
whimpering....

INDIAN MAN

You dishonor my name! You fucking  
whore! Die, bitch, die!

....The Indian kicks the woman in her side a few times....he stomps on her head....he crushes it after a few blows....

....He DROPS to his knees and begins to sob, uncontrollably...

....A curious crowd starts to gather in close around him. People lean in and our view is BLOCKED....

....The people suddenly stand upright and start moving backwards....

....Inside the crowd, we can now SEE the Indian lifting his wife's body over his head....

....He hurls it across the street....it crashes through the plate-glass window of a storefront....

....The crowd scatters....

....The man instantly removes a revolver from his pocket puts it flush with the side of his head....

....He screams and squeezes the trigger....

....BANG!....

....The man's head rocks to the left, then to the right, then out of FRAME; at the same time throwing a lengthy Red blur to the left....

The Red spray from the exit-wound splashes a few onlookers in the face....they scream.

The Crowd's screams FADE into boat HORNS and other harbor SOUNDS, from following the scene.

INT. MANAUS CITY BOAT DOCK -- DAY

The Class arrives at the dock, which is bustling with activity. Boats are coming and going. Fisherman and poachers are unloading their catches.

The Professor spots the Harbor Master's quarters, a small spindly shack with a window in the front.



PROFESSOR

Ah, over here students.

Beside the shack are several Yanomamo Indians. They are smoking and talking amongst themselves.

The Professor walks up to the window with a face full of enthusiasm.

The Harbor Master is reading a skin mag. He's a grungy looking man, hasn't shaved in weeks. There are clipboards on the walls and a small black and White TV is on, with the volume off. A lone fan sits in the far corner.

PROFESSOR (PORTUGUESE)

Hello, how are you? My, the river is high today? Been like this all week?

No response.

The Harbor Master doesn't look up from his magazine.

PROFESSOR

We have reservations. Ah, Temos reservas.

The American accent gets his attention. He looks up and scans the Professor. The HARBOR MASTER flips through a clipboard beside him.

HARBOR MASTER (PORTUGUESE)

Yeah, sure.

(leans out the window)

Hey Itari, Honju, get a couple of burros ready, now. You're going to Amazonia!

TWO YANOMAMO INDIANS raise their heads up.

PROFESSOR

São bons guias? Are they any good?

HARBOR MASTER

São os melhores. The best senãr.

PROFESSOR

Yeah sure.

THE YANOS begin to prepare the boat and pack mules.

David ENTERS, running and drenched in sweat.

STEVEN

Ah welcome back, Cotter. We  
thought you'd swam back to New  
York.

PROFESSOR

Stay close. This city can be  
dangerous. Where were you David?

DAVID

No where.

The Professor glares at David.

DAVID

I mean I went back to the hotel..  
..to get my flashlight.

PROFESSOR

Well, try and stay with the group  
from now on, ok?

DAVID

Ok.

Steven pulls David aside.

STEVEN

What happened to you? You look  
fucked up man.

DAVID

I was taking pictures, and this  
woman came up to me, and-

STEVEN

Ok, ok, that's all I want to hear.

Steven walks away from him.

DAVID

Wait man, you don't understand.

Steven continues walking, without acknowledging David.

INT. AMAZON RIVER, RIVERBOAT, MOVING -- EARLY EVENING

The Class is aboard a boat traveling upriver. The boat is large, with sleeping quarters, a galley, and has storage areas below deck.

In addition to the students and their guides, there are also a few locals, hitching a ride into the jungle.

Most of the class is gathered on the main deck, observing the river; the other boats and wildlife.

The PROFESSOR attempts to make small talk with the two guides.

PROFESSOR

It is a nice day for a boat trip.  
É um dia amável para uma viagem  
de barco.

ITARI and Honju glance at each other and then look back at the Professor.

ITARI (PORTUGUESE)

Yeah, sure, whatever.

Itari looks back at the river in an attempt to end the conversation. The Professor catches on and turns towards the students behind him.

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)

You know, besides the Nile, this  
river is the longest in the world.  
Look, see those?

(he points to the trees)

Those are Amazon egrets, very  
common. Do you remember them from  
my lectures?

DETAIL INSERT of Birds.

PROFESSOR  
Look at the egrets.  
(he points again)  
Everybody see them?

NOBODY answers. Sarah and Sam decide to speak up.

SARAH  
Yes, Professor.

SAM  
Uh-huh.

His piece said, Sam gingerly walks away. He joins Linda by the rear railing, watching the small fishing boats go by.

SAM  
Nice out here, huh Linda?  
Gorgeous countryside.

LINDA  
Oh hey Sam, yeah, it's ok.  
Hot, but beautiful.

SAM  
Yeah, sure is. Hey..um you ok?  
You seem kinda worried, is  
something troubling you?  
(pause)  
It's not the cannibal thing again,  
is it? I told you that's a bunch  
of bologna.

LINDA  
Yes, well, I mean no. It's  
something about the jungle.  
Something...strange is out there.  
I can feel it Sam.

SAM  
Ah, come on babe, the only  
strange thing is, these damn birds  
keep shifting their nests. And  
we're gonna find out why. Maybe  
win the school something nice.

LINDA

Like another grant?

He puts his arm around her. His voice is more sincere then before and he takes a different angle.

SAM

Listen, I'm here. Ok? I'll protect you.

Linda smiles. Sam just can't keep it up.

SAM

Like the Professor said, this is nineteen eighty-five. There's no boogeymen or headhunters anymore.

Her smiles fades. She's angry now.

STEVEN (O.S.)

We're fixing to eat, come on.

SAM

We better go. It'll be ok. There's nothing to worry about.

INT. GALLEY, RIVERBOAT, MOVING -- DUSK

Sam and Linda descend the stairs into the dining room, which consists of a few and picnic tables, lit by oil lamps. Most everybody is already seated.

SAM

So what are he having?

A rear door opens and two Cooks bring four platters containing whole cooked fish. The students react with mild, but contained, disgust as the Cooks deposit the steaming fish on the table.

DETAIL INSERT of sunken in eyeballs of a large fish.

LAUGHTER (O.S.) from the following scene.

INT. BUNKS, RIVERBOAT, MOVING - NIGHT

It is David, Sam, Steven, GREG, and Joey, laughing.

The boys are sitting in their bunks, talking and smoking pot. Joey is just finishing a story.

JOEY

..and get this...it was her  
sister's!

The room erupts with more laughter.

STEVEN

What a bitch man. You know, Joe,  
your alright man. Never got to  
know you, back in class.

JOEY

Thanks dude, um pass that joint  
Sam.

SAM

That's some good shit. You can't  
get grass like that back in New  
York.

GREG

New York. Feels like a million  
miles away.

STEVEN

It is man, well almost. Hey Dave,  
remember that time me and you  
hooked up with those two chicks  
from St. Rita's?

David looks up. He's been real quiet since they got on the boat. He's still a bit shaken about the stabbing he witnessed.

DAVID

Huh? Yeah...I guess so.

STEVEN

Those chicks were wild man.  
Remember the tits on that blonde  
one? Fucken out to here.

He gestures with his arms.

STEVEN

Hey, Dave?

SAM

You ok man? You've been quiet ever since we boarded this boat.

GREG

If you can call it that. More like a raft with sidewalls.

STEVEN

Yeah, you haven't been your usual loud and obnoxious self. What happened this morning?

DAVID

Huh? Nothing. I don't want to talk about it.

STEVEN

Ah, come on, you couldn't wait to tell me earlier. David here, met a girl.

JOEY

Oh really, what happened?

GREG

Was she hot? Did she-

The Sound of approaching Footsteps, (O.S.), interrupts Greg.

SAM

Put it out. Put it out, now.

They snuff out the joint and scramble to hide the evidence.

The Professor KNOCKS on the door. Without opening it, he speaks.

PROFESSOR (O.S.)

'Bout time for lights-out. We have a long day ahead of us.

STEVEN

Ok.

SAM

Yes sir.

We hear him walk away (O.S.)

DAVID

Yeah, I'm beat. I'm going to bed  
guys.

STEVEN

Ah, come on, tell us about the  
broad back in town.

GREG

Yeah, what'd she look like?

David rolls over in his bunk.

SAM

Guess he don't feel like talking.

STEVEN

Maybe he's just being a little  
bitch?

SAM

Leave him alone. Hey, listen,  
don't worry about it. Say, did I  
ever tell you guys about the  
time...

JOEY

Who's got that joint?

The other boys continue their discussion.

David looks out the small port window. He stares at the  
crescent moon's reflection shimmering on the water.

INT. RIVERBOAT, MOVING -- DAY

David appears on deck, from his sleeping quarters. It's  
past noon, but he's just waking up.



Everyone else is out and about, lounging in the sun and chatting.

Most of the local passengers are gone. We reason they were dropped off in the night or early morning.

LINDA

Good morning sleepy head.

PROFESSOR

Glad you could join us.

DAVID

Nobody woke me up?

SAM

We tried to get you up for breakfast, but you just rolled over and told me to fuck off.

PROFESSOR

Language, Sam.

SAM

Sorry, Professor, but that's what he said.

PROFESSOR

I don't care, we are in mixed company.

SAM

Sorry.

DAVID

How much longer?

LINDA

A couple more days, right Professor?

PROFESSOR

Yes. From Manaus, it'll take two full days on the river and then one day trekking through the jungle before we reach the nesting sites. And our campsite.

LISA

Didn't you read the itinerary?

David dismisses her and walks over the edge and leans on the railing. He stares off into space. Steven soon joins him.

We notice that there are no boats on the river. The class must be venturing deeper and deeper into the jungle.

STEVEN

Hey man.

DAVID

Hey.

STEVEN

Listen, man. I'm sorry about last night. I mean, I get worked up sometimes, around the guys. I was just bustin' your balls, is all.

DAVID

Yeah, it's fine, don't worry about it.

The boys stand in silence for a few moments. David speaks up.

DAVID

Lisa seems to be handling things fine.

STEVEN

What do you mean?

DAVID

What happened in the bar, that guy getting shot.

STEVEN

Yeah, well, she kinda freaked out back at the hotel room. She got over it by convincing herself it didn't happen.

DAVID

No way.

STEVEN

Yes way. She kept repeating: he didn't die, he didn't die. Over and over again.

DAVID

Right on man. Hey what's that?

He is pointing to a group of canoes on the bank, several hundred yards up river.

STEVEN

Don't know, can't see from here.

The Riverboat chugs forward....

DAVID

(to the others)

Hey, there's somebody up there.

The others gather around the bow.

The riverboat gets closer....

The Riverboat is now within a hundred feet of the canoes, centered on the River, about fifty feet from the shoreline.

As they move closer, the scene becomes clearer and clearer....

....One canoe is almost filled with empty turtle shells....The CAPTAIN immediately realizes what the men are....

CAPTAIN (PORTUGUESE) (O.S.)

Poachers! We go on by, no problems.

....Another canoe has six small cages, each containing three or four snakes....

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)

Ah, he said they were probably poachers.

....A third canoe has fresh panther skins....

BETHANY

Really?

Morbid curiosity takes over and the students lean over the edge, trying to get a better look....

....In-between the canoes, there is a sizeable group of Poachers, in the act of slaughtering LIVE sea turtles!

The site is horrific.

The Poachers use machetes to remove the heads, hands, and feet of the animals....then they split the shells in two and remove the entrails....

Nerves cause headless turtles to violently twitch and shake, each time the blade makes a cut.

SARAH

Oh my God!

BETHANY

I can't watch.

LISA

I think I'm going to be sick.

DAVID

Fuckin' gnarly man.

MARY

That's horrible!

PROFESSOR

Come on kids, you don't want to see that.

Everybody moves away from the edge, except for Steven.

The Poachers glance up, see no threat in the worn down riverboat, and continue their work.

INT. AMAZON RIVER BANK -- LATE AFTERNOON

DETAIL INSERT of boat keel hitting the sandy bank.

Two Crewmen step out of the boat and walk it in. They set up four wooden planks creating a walkway between the boat and the shoreline. They begin transporting the class's equipment.

DETAIL INSERT of a weak plank. It creaks and bows as Crewmen carry heavy objects off the boat.

The students get out and walk onto shore.

Three Crewmen are struggling with the pack mules....One is stubborn and refuses to budge....

PROFESSOR

Greg, you and Steven see if they need any help with the mules.

GREG

Yeah sure.

Steven nods.

The two students go over and help the Crewmen remove the mules....

....They get two animals across.....The third mule is giving them trouble....He kicks and thrashes his head as they cross the planks....

....Suddenly the weak board gives way!....

....both men and mule fall into the water....

....it's a wild frenzy of splashing, hoofs, feet, arms....

....GREG tries to catch himself and inadvertently grabs the metal edge of the boat....

....His other arm is holding on the reins....The mule wins the tug-of-war....

....Greg tumbles into the water, minus three fingers, which are still hanging on the side of the boat....

....A Crewman is kicked square in the head by the mule....His skull cracks open like a ripe melon....

....The animal has broken a leg and flops around, stomping the other men....

....The water is rapidly turning red....

....From his position on the boat, the CAPTAIN reaches down and comes back up with a double barreled shotgun....

....He empties it and the animal's neck and head come apart like a firework exploding in the sky....

....Several girls are screaming, while the injured are pulled from the water.

INT. RIVERBOAT, DOCKED -- LATE AFTERNOON

GREG is lying in a bunk, with the Professor standing over him. His hand is crudely bandaged.

PROFESSOR

Looks like your going back with the boat.

GREG

I'm sorry.

PROFESSOR

Nothing to be sorry about. You need stitches. Back in Manuas, they'll fix you right up. We'll be coming back to the city once every ten days, so we'll pick you up next time we return.

Greg sits up and looks across at the crewmen in the adjacent bunks.

One laying with eyes open, his chest is crushed in and he's covered in blood. The other man has his head completely bandaged.

GREG

What about them?

PROFESSOR

Ah, never you worry. They'll be fine. Probably a few broken ribs, and a concussion, nothing major. You take care of yourself. We'll see you in ten days.

The Professor exits. The Captain strolls in and examines the injured crewman.

GREG

Is he going to be ok?

CAPTAIN

He's dead señor. They're both dead.

He covers "chest wound" with the sheet and walks over to the other man.

CAPTAIN

The only thing holding his head together are these rags. It's a bad omen, my friend-two deaths at the beginning of an expedition. There are evil spirits at work, I tell you.

He gets up and starts to exit, but before he does, he blows out the lantern.

CAPTAIN

I'll let you know when we reach Manaus. Get some sleep.

INT. RIVERBANK -- LATE AFTERNOON

The Professor walks off the boat. The planks are retrieved by onboard crewmen and the Riverboat pulls away from the shore.

The Professor joins his remaining students. Everyone is noticeably distraught.

PROFESSOR

Well, Greg will be fine. He's going back to Manaus for

stitches.

LISA

Why did they shoot that horse?

STEVEN

It was a donkey. And it had a broken leg and was going wild.

LISA

That's no reason to shoot the poor animal. It's just as bad as those poachers back there.

MARY

Oh, I know, tell me about it.

PROFESSOR

I know it was hard to watch, but that was the only humane thing to do.

SARAH

What about the Indians that were hurt?

STEVEN

Yeah, his chest was all gnarly lookin'.

DAVID

One dude's head was smashed.

PROFESSOR

I'm sure they'll be alright. From what I could tell, they suffered only minor injuries. I don't mean to sound insensitive, ladies, and men, but we need to get going.

INT. AMAZON RAINFOREST -- NIGHT

A few hundred yards inland, the group stops for the night.

PROFESSOR

Well, this looks like a good place to camp. Is everybody in



agreement?

(to the two Guides) (PORTUGUESE)  
Secure the mules and bring my  
brown bag, please.

SAM (ENGLISH)  
We're staying here tonight?

PROFESSOR  
Yup. We'll go the rest of the way  
tomorrow. We will get started at  
first light, so get a good rest.

THE CLASS finds suitable tent spots on the ground and  
begins unpacking their gear.

The Yano guides sit near the mules smoking pipes.

After a while, everyone is relaxed and at ease, it seems a  
little time has calmed things down.

INT. AMAZON JUNGLE -- DAY

The Group is once again back in the jungle. They approach a  
rocky area. The Professor nearly walks right off the edge  
of a high cliff.

Itari grabs his shirt and the Professor stumbles backwards,  
kicking dirt and a few small rocks over the edge.

PROFESSOR  
Thanks.

They are on top of a wide ridge, spanning two valleys. The  
Professor consults the map. He looks back towards the Yano  
guides.

PROFESSOR (PORTUGUESE)  
(pointing to the left valley)  
Ah, we go left, correct? To see  
the birds?

ITARI (PORTUGUESE)  
Yeah, yeah.

The Professor tucks his map away and motions for the group to follow him. They find a more gradual slope and descend down the ridge towards the left valley.

EXT. MANGROVE FOREST -- DAY

At the bottom, the jungle floor gets wetter and wetter, and gradually turns into a large Mangrove Forest, fed by surrounding tributaries and branches of the Amazon river.

The Professor stops and looks around, as if lost.

PROFESSOR

(to himself)

This can't be right. Where's  
The Trail? It should be here.

He turns towards the guides.

PROFESSOR (PORTUGUESE)

Where exactly are the cliffs? The  
nesting cliffs?

The single file group slowly grinds to a halt.

ITARI

They're coming up soon. The birds  
are near.

HONJU

The river is high this season.

PROFESSOR

The river is high, huh?

ITARI

(pointing to the trees)

The river is high.

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)

High, huh? Great.

The guides nod.

In the middle of the line, Lisa turns to Steven.

LISA

Steve, what are they saying?

STEVEN

Something about the river being too high. They can't seem to find the trail to the nesting sites.

LISA

Great.

The Professor turns to his class.

PROFESSOR

We can't take the mules through the mud. We'll leave them here, and most of the heavy stuff. Just take some water and whatever you need for the day.

The Mules are unloaded and tied to the trees. After everyone has what they need, the Professor speaks up.

PROFESSOR

Come on kids, this way.

The Professor cuts through a low hanging vine. And enters the muddy Mangrove forest. The group follows.

INT. MANGROVE CLEARING, AMAZON JUNGLE -- DAY

THE GROUP is gathered in a clearing deep inside the mangrove forest. They are standing in mud up to their knees.

The Professor addresses the group.

PROFESSOR

Everyone listen up. It seems the trail leading from the riverbank to the nesting sites is underwater. You can't see it now because of the trees, but about five hundred yards behind us are the cliffs where the teals have been nesting.

The Students gaze dumbly upwards.

PROFESSOR

The forest is too dense to make our way through, so we must find an alternate route to the cliffs. We are going to spilt up into groups. We will go up and down this bank until we find the path. It's not all underwater. Ok? Ok. Steven, David and myself will go with Itari. Sam, Joey, and Dan will go with Honju. Ladies you'll stay here.

The MEN set off into the jungle.

Sarah, Susan, MARY, Lisa, Linda, Bethany, Marisol, and Alberta are alone.

Alberta looks to make sure the men are all gone.

ALBERTA

You think they're gone?

MARY

Why?

Alberta removes a joint from her day-pack and holds it up for Mary to see.

ALBERTA

This is why.

Mary's smile widens and she gets SARAH's attention who quickly joins her friends.

Linda, Bethany, and SUSAN follow.

Lisa and MARISOL are reluctant.

MARISOL

Your not going to smoke that out here, are you?

LISA

Where did you get that?

ALBERTA

From a guy at the hotel. Wanna  
smoke?

SARAH

Sure do.

MARY

Hell yeah, spark it up, honey.

MARISOL

The Professor will smell it; we'll  
get into trouble.

BETHANY

Relax, Marisol. Everything is  
groovy, babe.

SARAH

Yeah, relax. Don't be so fucking  
lame.

ALBERTA

The guys are too far away to  
notice. There's nobody else  
around for miles.

A PAIR of EYES in the bushes goes un-seen by the girls.

Alberta lights her joint and passes it to Sarah.

INT. HONJU'S PATH, AMAZON JUNGLE -- DAY

Sam is struggling to keep up with Joey and Danny, and  
Honju, who is in the lead.

They wade through the mud looking for a way through the  
thick mangroves. Honju suddenly stops.

The River is straight ahead.

The men realize they went the wrong way. They walk out of  
the trees and onto the riverbank.

The river is there alright, but the surrounding area looks  
different.

JOEY

Great, the fucking river again.  
Did we just go in a circle?

DANNY

Nah Joe, this doesn't look right.  
I don't remember this bend in the  
river.

SAM

I think we came in down there.  
(he points)  
We didn't come this way.

JOEY

Honju, um, which way do we go?

DANNY

He doesn't speak English.

JOEY

(slowly)  
Which way do we go?

Honju looks at Joey with a blank stare.

DANNY

You're stupid man.

SAM

Ah, hell, let's just go this way.

Sam turns and cuts the vine in front of him. He walks  
underneath it. Joey and Dan exchange glances.

Honju walks between them and follows Sam.

DANNY

I wonder how the Professor's group  
is doing?

JOEY

Come on, let's go.

INT. ITARI'S PATH, AMAZON JUNGLE -- SAME

Itari hacks through a vine.

The Professor looks at his map, then at the path ahead. Steven is behind him, followed closely by David.

STEVEN

Are we close?

PROFESSOR

Should be close, yes.

DAVID

I think I can hear the birds from here. Listen.

STEVEN

I don't hear anything, come on.

DAVID

No, listen man.

SCREAM (O.S.)

STEVEN

What was that?

PROFESSOR

I don't know. But it was not a bird.

MORE SCREAMING (O.S.)

DAVID

That sounded like the girls!

David runs in the direction of the Screams. He is followed by Itari, the Professor, and Steven.

INT. MANGROVE CLEARING, AMAZON JUNGLE -- DAY

David breaks through the trees....He stops cold in his tracks....

....About twenty feet in front of him, David SEES Alberta being viciously sodomized by a native....

....When the native pulls back, we can SEE his genitals are dripping with blood....

....Susan is lying on the ground, weeping....Her pants and underwear are around her ankles....The sunlight filtering through the tick mangroves makes the blood on Susan's bottom and thighs glisten....

....The other girls are in tears, kept at bay by two natives holding spears....

....One of the spear-holding Natives is smiling as he urinates on the crying girls....

....David RUSHES up to them....

....David WRESTLES with one of the natives...

....The Native slashes at David with a spear.....David is slashed across his right arm.....He wrenches in pain and falls to the ground....

....Steven picks up a log and knocks the native off Alberta.....He stands over the native on the ground and begins hitting him in the head with the big log....

....The Professor is stabbed in the left shoulder by a spear and falls....

....THE OTHER MEN arrive and are literally shocked to SEE what is going on....

....Dan is frozen with fear....

....Joey and Sam begin struggling with the natives....

....Sam swings at a native but misses.....The spear blocks his hand.....The native brings the bottom of his spear up.....It catches Sam underneath his chin and flips him backwards....

....The native runs....

....Itari THROWS a knife that lands into the back of the escaping native....He falls, dead....



....Honju appears and smoothly SLICES off the head of the third native with his machete....Blood shoots out of the open neck....the headless body tumbles to the ground....

....The severed head comes to rest at the feet of the screaming girls, sending them into complete hysteria....

....Steven is kneeling, still pounding the native with that tree log. The poor man is obviously dead.

Finally, the Professor pulls Steven off and hurls him to the ground.

PROFESSOR

For God's sakes, calm down Steven.

Alberta is sobbing loudly, almost uncontrollably. Susan is lying on the ground in the fetal position, shaking.

The others girls attempt to console them.

Steven gets to his feet and pulls himself together- the Professor snapped him out of whatever fit he was in.

Bethany tends to David on the ground.

The Professor steadies himself against a tree. He tears a piece of his shirt and wraps it around his bleeding shoulder. Sam kneels down and examines the native that Steven beat.

SAM

(calmly)

I think you killed him.

(looks up at Steven)

Hey, I think he's dead.

Steven doesn't respond.

JOEY

What the fuck are we going to do?

Fucking crazy guides.

David is pissed. He snaps at Joey.

DAVID

If it weren't for the guides,

we'd be fucked, Joe. And what about you, Dan? Why didn't you help?

DANNY

Jesus, what did you want me to do? Kill them like our fucking guides did? Or your psycho friend over there.

(points to Steven)

I can't go to jail in Brazil! You know what they do to you in jail down here? You know what they do to Americans? You know what they do to honor students? Huh? Do ya?

SAM

You could have helped.

DANNY

Steven didn't have to kill him. My God people, what has gotten into you?

BETHANY

Fuck you, you're one to fucking talk. Remember the alley?

DANNY

Shut the fuck up.

MARISOL

They were going to kill us!

DANNY

Oh come on, Marisol. I'm sorry for Alberta and you all, but this is fucking nuts. Three men are dead because of us.

LINDA

Shut the fuck up, you weren't here, you did see the look on those guys faces.

SUSAN

They raped me! Oh god!

MARY

Yeah Suzy, and now they're all dead. Serves those fuckers right.

DANNY

They are dead! Not breathing! It's our fault. It's fucking your fault.

SAM

Fuck you! The girls are the fucken victims here, Daniel.

DAVID

Dude, they pissed on our chicks man.

PROFESSOR

Calm down, everyone. Give me a second to think.

The Professor removes one of his last few cigarettes from his pocket. His hand is shaking so bad, it takes him a few tries to light the thing.

LISA

Those bastards got what they deserved.

DANNY

They're dead!

PROFESSOR

Everyone be quiet, let me think for a second.

STEVEN

What's there to think about? Nobody's going to believe us, not here, not in the fucking jungle.

SAM

What are you saying?

STEVEN

I'm saying, we should bury them and move on. Forget anything ever

happened.

LINDA

Forget? For Christ sakes, Alberta and Susan were raped and three men are dead, Steven. I can't forget that, and neither can they.

JOEY

I agree with Steve.

DANNY

What?

JOEY

We can't carry three bodies through the jungle- not with David or the Professor's injuries. We can't leave them here either. By the time the authorities got here, animals would have devoured all the, um, evidence.

DANNY

Both of you are out of your fucking minds! Pretending nothing happened is just fucking crazy man. We can't just leave. We have to tell someone.

BETHANY

Alley?

Danny glares at her.

PROFESSOR

(calmly)

They're right.

Danny's is floored by the Professor's response.

DANNY

What?

PROFESSOR

They're right, well not completely. We have to get out of

the jungle. We have two students  
that were...raped, another one with  
a bad cut, and then there's me.

He takes his hand away from his shoulder. Blood pours out  
through the large stain in his shirt. He quickly replaces  
his hand.

SAM

Oh Jesus, Professor.

PROFESSOR

But we are not going to drag  
three bodies through the goddamn  
jungle. Once we reach Manaus,  
I'll report this to the local  
authorities. Rest assured, there will  
still be plenty of remains here when  
they come to check things out. It is  
justifiable homicide. They  
attacked us.

DANNY

I can't believe I'm hearing this  
shit.

PROFESSOR

I have to think of my students.  
You kids come first. Everything  
else is second. Ok?

STEVEN

What the fuck do you want to do  
then? Huh, Dan? Stay here? Make  
fucking camp?

DANNY

You're a fucken psycho man!

STEVEN

Fuck you!

DANNY

Whatcha you gonna do? Kill me  
too?

MARY

Does anyone care what Alberta or Susan thinks?

EVERYONE turns towards the injured girls. They've calmed down a bit and stopped crying.

JOEY

So what's it going to be?

SARAH

Joey!

ALBERTA

I say we let them rot here.

SUSAN

Let the fucking jungle have 'em.

DANNY

This is not right.

ALBERTA

I think it's more then fair.

PROFESSOR

Look people, we have got to try and make it back down river. There is no way David or myself can last more then a few days in the jungle with our wounds. David, can you walk son?

DAVID

I'm fucked up pretty bad, but not that bad.

PROFESSOR

Good. Ok, let's see-

SARAH

Hey, um where are the guides?

Everyone looks up. The Professor glances around. No Yano guides in sight.

BETHANY

Shit.

DANNY

Good riddance.

BETHANY

No, it's not them I'm worried  
about, it's-

PROFESSOR

Our supplies. Joe, come with me.  
Everybody else, stay here.

The Professor and Joey move off towards the spot where the  
mules and gear were stored.

EXT. MANGROVE FOREST -- SAME

DETAIL INSERT of cut rope tied to a tree.

The Professor and Joey SEE that everything is gone.

JOEY

(panicking)

Where are the donkeys and our  
stuff? They didn't take off,  
did they?

The Professor is speechless.

JOEY

They didn't leave us out here,  
did they? What are we going to  
do? Professor?

PROFESSOR

Come on. Let's get back to the  
others.

INT. MANGROVE CLEARING -- SAME

The Students are milling around, trying to make sense of  
what just transpired.

Susan and Alberta have cleaned up a little and Bethany has

bandaged David's arm.

The Professor and Joey APPEAR.

SAM

Well, did you find them?

JOEY

Nope, and they took our gear.

DAVID

Bummer man.

STEVEN

Fuck!

BETHANY

What are we going to do?

PROFESSOR

We're going to gather up whatever  
supplies we have left and move  
down river. Ok?

Bethany nods.

INT. MANGROVE FOREST -- LATE AFTERNOON

The Group slowly moves through the thick mud of the mangrove forest.

Everyone is exhausted, both physically and mentally.

EXT. MANGROVE FOREST -- DUSK

They finally come out of the wet mangrove forest into the jungle, but in a different place than before.

The Professor breathes a sigh of relief. They continue through the jungle until they come to a small clearing between two ancient trees.

INT. CLEARING AMAZON JUNGLE -- EVENING

The Professor drops his bag to the ground.



PROFESSOR

We'll camp here tonight. It's getting dark and too dangerous to continue on.

MARY

Oh thank God, I don't think I could've gone any farther.

SARAH

Me neither, I'm beat.

PROFESSOR

Let's get a fire going.

The students begin to get settled, silently.

Joey walks out into the center of the clearing and begins sweeping debris away with his foot.

The Professor gathers up kindling and firewood and arranges it in the area Joey cleared.

PROFESSOR

Who's got a light?

INT. CAMPSITE -- NIGHT

Professor is sitting next to the fire, staring into the flames. He's in deep thought and appears troubled. Steven walks up behind him. Everyone else is asleep.

STEVEN

Hey.

PROFESSOR

Huh? Oh, hello Steven. Have a seat. I was just sitting here thinking.

Steven sits and lights a cigarette.

PROFESSOR

You happen to have an extra one of those?

STEVEN

Yeah.

He hands the Professor a cigarette and lights it for him.

PROFESSOR

Thanks.

STEVEN

You know, they say those things  
will kill you.

PROFESSOR

Yeah, well, they haven't proved  
anything yet. Anyway, I'm more  
worried about those Indians  
back there.

Curiosity fills Steven's face.

STEVEN

What do you mean?

PROFESSOR

Well, I don't want to alarm the  
others,  
(glances over his shoulder, then  
back at Steve)  
...but those men were Awá.

STEVEN

Awá. Yeah, so?

PROFESSOR

Those men that were killed today  
were Awá warriors. Nobody's seen  
Awá dressed like that in  
centuries, let alone this deep in  
the jungle. It's, it's completely  
unheard of.

Steven misses the point.

STEVEN

Really? Shouldn't we be excited?  
I mean we just proved the last two  
hundred years of history was

wrong. Awán tribes still exist in the jungle.

PROFESSOR

It may not be such a good thing. They were a very primitive and wild tribe. Awá were widely known for cannibalizing their dead and captured enemies.

Steven's face turns PALE.

FEAR takes over and all he can spit out is three words.

STEVEN

Oh my God.

PROFESSOR

The Awá had a long running battle with the more advanced Yanomamo, almost wiped them out. And they would have, if it weren't for the arrival of the Portuguese. The Yano's immediately befriended the Europeans, and became a valuable asset to the settlers. Together, they mounted a huge effort to wipe out the Awá, which of course were no match for rifle bullets. Many Awá were enslaved, more were killed. They were thought to have given up their, uh, primitive, ways.

Suddenly, AN GLOWING ORANGE ball of flames WHISTLES through the trees and CRASHES into a low hanging branch behind the Professor.

He and Steven hit the dirt.

The Ball of Fire comes to rest in front of the men. They exchange glances as both realize what is happening.

They are being bombarded with FLAMING HEADS!

Another head CRASHES into the ground next to the Professor.

We recognize it as belonging to one of the missing guides, Itari.

INT. CAMPSITE -- MORNING

Steven awakes suddenly. It is daylight and he is the first one up. He rubs his eyes.

STEVEN  
(relieved)  
It was all a dream.

He flops back down, rolls over, and is face to face with a head, still smoldering.  
Most of the flesh has been burned off. He leaps up.

STEVEN  
Shit!

Steven jumps up and backwards and bumps into a dead monkey hanging from the trees. He spins around and comes face to face with the ghastly thing.

STEVEN  
Shit!

Steven whirls around, and then SEES that there are thirteen dead monkeys, each with its belly split open, suspended from the low-hanging branches by their own entrails. He stumbles around knocking into the monkeys.

He backs up and bumps into one of two large donkey heads, sitting atop poles on the outer edge of the campsite.

STEVEN  
Shit!

The noise awakens David and he sits up.

DAVID  
What's going on? Oh shit.

TIME CUT:

INT. CAMPSITE -- MORNING

DETAIL INSERT of machete blade hitting an intestine wrapped

around a tree branch.

A dead monkey falls to the ground, near the Professor who's holding the machete.

PROFESSOR

This is the last one. Put it with the others.

Joey takes the monkey away.

Marisol is crying, presumably over the monkeys.

SARAH

Those weren't...human skulls, were they?

MARY

Looks like it to me.

Steven rolls a skull over with his foot.

STEVEN

They look a lot like our missing guides. See the teeth?

The Professor puts an end to the morbid discussion.

PROFESSOR

Ok, we've got to get going. No sense in staying around any longer then we have to.

JOEY

Yeah, let's get the fuck out of here.

The PROFESSOR carefully shoulders his bag and walks through the trees. The others follow behind him.

INT. AMAZON JUNGLE -- DAY

THE GROUP is slowly moving away from the campsite, through the dense jungle. Danny takes the lead, accompanied by Sam; both boys chopping away at the brush with their machetes.

Further down the line, Linda stops.

LINDA

Does anyone still have water? Can  
I have some?

The Professor removes a half-full bottle from his bag and  
tosses it to Linda.

PROFESSOR

(to Linda)

That's all I have so only take a  
few sips.  
Who else has water left?

DANNY

I have some.

STEVEN

I have about half a bottle.

PROFESSOR

Well, we have to make it last, we  
still have at least five or six  
more hours to go.

LISA

I keep thinking of those poor  
little monkeys.

SARAH

And those donkeys. That was awful,  
seeing their heads up on poles.

MARY

Who would do such a thing?

JOEY

Figured you could handle it, with  
all those crazy movies you guys  
watch. I thought you guys liked  
that stuff. Scary, weird shit.

SAM

It's a little different when it's  
happening to you. And it was sick.

DAVID  
Poachers, maybe. Right?

JOEY  
Poachers wouldn't do that.

STEVEN  
It was friends of those men that  
were killed.

MARY  
Oh my God, they're after us?

SARAH  
Why didn't they just kill us?

SAM  
They were toying with us.

SUSAN  
Thirteen dead monkeys, thirteen  
of us.

LINDA  
I knew this was a bad idea.

STEVEN  
What the fuck were we supposed to  
do? Tell them we were sorry? These  
Indians only understand one thing  
- violence. They were the ones  
who attacked the girls. They  
started it.

DANNY  
(glares over his shoulder at Steven)  
What about us coming into their  
home, their jungle? I mean, we  
didn't destroy their villages and  
forests, but white people like us  
did, and continue to do so every  
single day.

Danny SUDDENLY disappears into the ground with a yelp.

The Others rush forward and find Danny in the bottom of a  
tiger trap; a large, grass covered deep pit with sharply

pointed sticks lining the bottom. Danny is impaled by several of these sticks and is obviously dead.

The group crowds around the hole.

JOEY

Holy shit!

BETHANY

Oh my God.

DAVID

Fucken gnarly man.

A SPEAR POINT punches through Joey's T-shirt. He spits up blood and lunges forward slightly, then FALLS to his knees as the spear is pulled back.

The others turn and find themselves surrounded by twenty Awá warriors, in full battle dress, each one holding a razor sharp spear.

EXT. AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- DAY

The Group is lead out of the jungle by the Indians, to a large rocky outcropping. There are six warriors guarding the entrance to the cave. The bodies of Danny and Joey are brought along as well.

As the Group enters the cave, they begin the long descent down the narrow pathway to the base of the cave.

INT. AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- DAY

The Professor stops and looks around.

The Awán cave is huge. It has several large rocky shelves housing families, as well as small huts lining the floor.

It seems the whole village has gathered. The sheer number of Awá people is overwhelming.

A Warrior pushes the Professor from behind in an effort to make him start moving. He continues on, all the while scanning the cave with his eyes, trying to make sense of it all.



The Awáns seem very advanced for cave dwellers. They have primitive irrigation and sewage systems, using bamboo pipes that run all over the walls. There are two freshwater wells, as well as a livestock pen with pigs and chickens. On a far wall stands a sturdy bamboo cage, presumably for larger animals.

An altar with candles and human remains sits the far corner, apparently a tribute to a deity.

To the left of the altar, there are seven extravagantly dressed Awán men, seated in seven carved thrones.

The captured Americans reach the cave floor. The Warriors line up the group in front of the men in the thrones.

They suddenly find themselves surrounded by Awá children. A warrior shoos them away with his spear. The curious villagers all gather around, but maintain a safe distance from the outsiders. One of the elders stands up and addresses them.

Since "Awán" is a lost language, and does not exist in print, we and the class will HEAR the Awán Indians SPEAK one of the many other the South American languages.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

I am Tatoktok, leader of Awá!

Bethany leans over to the Professor. Tatoktok walks up to the Americans. Warriors accompany him on either side.

BETHANY (ENGLISH)

What did he say?

PROFESSOR

It's not a dialect I'm too familiar with, but I believe these are the Awá and he is the Chief, or leader of this tribe or group.

Tatoktok turns to the warrior on his right.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

(laughs)

That one's nice and fat, eh?

SARAH (ENGLISH)  
What's going on?

PROFESSOR  
He says I'm fat.

STEVEN  
They aren't going to eat us, are they?

Two warriors grab the Professor and throw him on the ground, in front of Tatoktok.

The Students are utterly terrified.

MARY  
Try and reason with him,  
Professor.

SAM  
Tell them we mean them no harm.

PROFESSOR  
I'll do the best I can.

The Professor attempts to communicate.

PROFESSOR  
Please, ah Fabor no ta eridá nos.  
Nos deseá abo nò, ah, um, harm us.  
Ami ta profesor Hamilton. These  
are my students.

Tatoktok continues to inspect the group with his eyes.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)  
Nice white women, eh? They will  
service us well. We'll breed the  
white out of them!

WARRIORS CHEER.

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)  
He says, he says, ah, that the  
white women will, um, service  
them well.

LISA

What did the Professor just say?  
What are they talking about?

SAM

Shut up. You'll get us killed.

PROFESSOR (AWÁN)

What do you want with us?

Tatoktok LAUGHS.

TATOKTOK

We want the land back that your  
white fathers took. You shall pay  
for their mistakes with your  
blood! Your souls belong to me,  
now.

BETHANY (ENGLISH)

What does he want?

PROFESSOR

Ah, well, he said he wants  
retribution for the land our  
people took.

STEVEN

I didn't take shit from him.

BETHANY

What does he want?

PROFESSOR

Us.

The Professor stands to plead for the lives of his  
students.

PROFESSOR

Please don't kill us, ah, fabor no  
ta mata nos. Nan ta so muchanan,  
only children.

Tatoktok smiles. He turns to the warrior on his right.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)  
Masaguri, take his thumbs.

The Professor looks puzzled, he can't make out the translation.

MASAGURI steps up to the Professor. They both lock eyes and two warriors grab the Professor's arms. They spread his hands out on the rocky floor and Masaguri uses his knife to remove the Professor's thumbs. Blood pours out and the students reel in horror.

The Professor SCREAMS. Bethany tries to help him.

Tatoktok laughs at his pain. Masaguri hands the Professor's thumbs to the chief.

TATOKTOK  
Ah! Another gift from the Gods.  
This is their power. We have it  
now, my good people!

Tatoktok holds up the thumbs to show his people. The crowd cheers.

TATOKTOK  
They will protect us.

STEVEN (ENGLISH)  
You sick fucks. What did you do  
that for?

A Warrior ELBOWS Steven in the stomach and he falls.

The Professor tries desperately to collect himself.

PROFESSOR  
Don't try to be a hero, just keep  
your mouth shut. They are in charge.

BETHANY  
What's happening? Help us Professor,  
tell us what he said?

PROFESSOR  
He says my thumbs are a gift, and  
they will offer protection for his

people.

Tatoktok turns around and shows the other elders the thumbs. They nod in agreement. He turns to Masaguri and begins barking orders.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

Put the white devils in the cage.

The Warriors herd the captured Americans over to a primitive, but effective, cage made of bamboo and secured to the rocky walls.

TATOKTOK

Prepare the dead whites. Tonight,  
we dine on white people!

THE CROWD CHEERS.

INT. FOOD PREP AREA, AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- EVENING

AN ASSEMBLY LINE of women are preparing the bodies of Danny and Joey.

The older women wash the bodies, then the LIMBS are removed and set aside.

The HEADS are removed and given to a group of young men. They shave the heads, remove the eyeballs, and set the heads into a container.

The older women then open up the TORSOS and remove the ORGANS, which are set aside in a dish. The women work over wooden troughs, set at an angle to drain into wooden bowls below. The women are careful to collect all the blood they can.

The TORSOS are rinsed out and filled with vegetables and some of the original organs. They are then sewn back together, by another group of women.

Younger women separate the remaining ORGANS. One of the women hands her daughter a kidney and motions for her to share with her brother. She runs off.

Young men then carry the food to the fire area where older men are preparing the flames. The limbs and torsos are

wrapped in wet palm leaves and set deep in the fire.

Five Awán men approach the cage.

INT. BAMBOO CAGE, AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- EVENING

Steven is up against the bars, gazing in awe at the scene before him. He snaps out his trance when he spots the five men advancing on the cage.

STEVEN

Here they come.

Steven backs away from the cage door.

Everyone looks up.

One man opens the door and two men enter. The students are terrified. The men shove the group against a wall with their spears.

Marisol and Alberta are quickly snatched up and dragged out of the cage.

MARISOL

No, no. You can't!

ALBERTA

Let go, damn it!

SAM

What are you doing with them?

The Awán responds by slamming the blunt end of his spear into Sam's stomach.

Linda rushes to Sam.

The natives exit the cage backwards, all the while keeping their spears pointed at the Americans. After the last native exits, the door SHUTS and is secured.

Steven KICKS the door.

STEVEN

God damn it!

EXT. FOOD PREP AREA, AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- EVENING

The group watches from the cage as Marisol and Alberta are dragged, kicking and screaming, up a rocky embankment towards the cooks.

The girls' hands are bound and Marisol is tossed at the feet of a large native holding a machete.

Two more natives hold onto Alberta. Marisol gets on her knees and BEGS for her life. Alberta is SOBBING loudly.

MARISOL

Please, please don't do this!

The Awán stands over her looking down. There is no emotion in his face. A woman sets a large wooden bowl directly in front of Marisol.

A male native comes up behind Marisol, GRABS her hair, and jerks her head back.

She manages a short yelp, before her throat is cut ear to ear.

Alberta screams.

The natives tilt Marisol's body forward over the bowl. Once most of the blood has drained, the man with the machete swings once. Marisol's head comes right off.

Her body and head are taken over to where the women were preparing the other two bodies. They begin to PREPARE Marisol as they did the others.

The Awán with the machete turns his gaze towards Alberta and approaches her.

INT. BAMBOO CAGE -- SAME

Steven stands up against the bars, watching.

The Professor and other students are huddled in a back corner of the cage. They are all too far back to see what is going on, but they can hear it.

They HEAR Alberta BEG for her life.

ALBERTA (O.S.)  
Please don't! For Christ's sakes,  
don't!

Steven watches as the Awán with the machete slaps Alberta down. She is still very insistent on being let go.

ALBERTA  
Oh God! Please I never did  
anything to you. Please!

Steven SEES the Natives pull Alberta's head back by her hair. He quickly turns his head.

The group HEARS Alberta's final gurgled scream. (O.S.)

SILENCE.

Steven stumbles slightly and moves towards the others.

Linda has managed to bandage the Professor's hands using pieces of the groups' T-shirts. He is still in a tremendous amount of pain, but hides it well.

David, on the other hand, makes no effort to conceal his suffering. Fever has set in. Bethany tries to quiet his moaning.

SAM  
We have to try and escape.

Susan is startled by this statement. It seemed to come out of nowhere.

SUSAN  
Oh, God! We're all going to die!

SARAH  
Don't say that. Christ, there is  
always hope!

SAM  
If we don't get out here soon,  
there will be no hope left.



STEVEN

He's right. I've been thinking about escaping ever since we got here.

MARY

What is that smell? It's the smell of people cooking, isn't it? Jesus H. Christ.

Mary moves towards the front of the cage but is stopped when Sam jumps up and blocks her.

SAM

Nope, don't need to see anything.

Sam gently nudges her back. She begins to cry.

LISA

I definitely agree, we need to escape. This is not the place to be, but we can't take the Professor and David, not the way they are.

LINDA

What are you saying? That we should leave them here? Fuck that.

PROFESSOR

She has a point. We would not make it more than a few miles, as a group. David and myself would only slow you kids down. Better that you leave us here and send help to come back for us.

LISA

See, there you go. He said leave him here.

Linda is getting upset.

LINDA

You always have to get your way.

Lisa is angered by that statement.

LISA

My way? What the fuck are you  
talking about? This situation is  
not my way, not in the least bit.  
You're fucking wrong!

LINDA

I'm wrong? Fuck you bitch!

Linda CHARGES at Lisa and they exchange punches. The girls  
fall to the ground and wrestle with each other.

Sam and Steven pull them apart and separate the girls.

Lisa jerks her arm away from Steven and takes a seat in the  
corner. She begins to weep.

SAM

Calm down, ladies.

LINDA

I am calm. It's her that needs to  
relax. Fucking bitch.

STEVEN

That's enough, Ok? God people.  
Shit, here they come again.

Two Awáns carrying a tray, approach the cage. They BANG on  
the bars with their spears. The students quickly huddle  
together in the back.

The two Awáns carefully open the cage door.

One enters the cage and places the tray on the floor. He  
then exits the cage and the door is secured. Both men EXIT.

The tray is full of unwanted fat, tendons, and sinew.

MARY

What the fuck is that?

SARAH

I think I'm going to be sick.

STEVEN

That? That, ladies, is dinner,  
I think.

SAM

They want us to eat our friends?

STEVEN

It appears that way.

DAVID

Fuck man.

MARY

This is crazy, I can't deal with  
this, I, I just can't, I fucking  
can't take it anymore.

Sam SLAPS her across the cheek. Mary steadily regains her  
composure.

PROFESSOR

Look, you people need to pull  
yourselves together. Get a grip,  
ok? We are held captive by a lost  
cannibal tribe. They have killed  
and eaten four of your classmates.  
They will kill and eat the rest  
of us, not necessarily in that  
order, if we cannot escape. Those  
are the facts. You have to accept  
them if your going to survive.

Steven raises his head and announces from across the cell:

STEVEN

We'll escape tonight.

He swiftly KICKS the tray over.

TIME CUT:

INT. BAMBOO CAGE -- NIGHT

The Awáns are sleeping soundly in their beds. The main fire  
is down to cinders. Two warriors are guarding the main  
entrance. Nobody is watching the cage.

We then begin to notice a slight sawing sound. It's so quiet that the sound is almost indistinguishable from the background noise.

Steven is using a discarded bone to cut through the twine that holds the cage together.

LISA  
You almost done?

STEVEN  
Yeah, Sam come here. Hold this.

SAM  
Ok.

Sam takes hold of a bamboo bar while Steve finishes cutting the twine.

STEVEN  
Ok, it's cut, pull it off.

Steven and Sam carefully and quietly remove two bars from the cage.

They quietly stack them on top of four other bars they have removed.

STEVEN  
I think we can fit through. Who's coming?

SAM  
Someone should stay with the Professor and David.

STEVEN  
You volunteering?

SAM  
Yeah, guess I am.

BETHANY  
I'm staying too. I can't leave David.

LISA

Suit yourselves. Come on, before  
they wake up.

INT. AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- SAME

Steven, Lisa, Susan, Mary, Sarah, and Linda quietly make their way across the cave floor. They slowly ascend up the long pathway and stop a few feet from the main entrance.

They DUCK behind some rocks.

Steven THROWS the bone into the opposite direction. The two guards leave their post to investigate the noise.

STEVEN

Perfect. Let them get around the  
corner and we'll be off.

Lisa sees her chance and takes off.

STEVEN

Wait, they'll see you!

Lisa turns towards Steven and steps right into a snare attached to a nearby tree. She is lifted off the ground and slung into the air. She dangles upside in mid air.

The two GUARDS come up to her and quickly SLICE off her head.

The escapees GASP in horror.

They regain their composure and start to get up, and then suddenly find themselves surrounded by a large force of warriors, all holding spears.

INT. BAMBOO CAGE -- MORNING

Steven awakes suddenly to the sound of SCREAMING.

Steven SEES Mary standing in the middle of the cage shaking and screaming hysterically. The others awake.

Lisa's head is SITTING on a pole directly in front of the Cage.

It has been placed there as a warning to any would-be escapists. Her dead eyes STARE back at the group in the cage.

Sam attempts to console her. He puts his arm around her and walks her to the rear of the cage. They sit.

SAM

It's ok, it'll be ok.

MARY

No it won't! Oh Sam, we're all going to die down here, aren't we?

SAM

I don't know. But I do know we have to try to make the best of things. No sense in loosing our heads.

Sarah forces a smile.

SUSAN

(to Sarah)

Don't say it.

MARY

How can we make the best of it, Sam? Huh?

PROFESSOR

I'll try to reason with them.

Susan helps the Professor to his feet.

SAM

Yeah, you can barely move. And you tried reasoning with them, and they cut off your fucking thumbs.

PROFESSOR

Well, it might be safer to bring one of you along.

BETHANY

I'll go.

PROFESSOR

Maybe I can get them to just release one of us. The plan is still the same. If someone could get back to Manaus, they might be able to save the rest of us.

Sam bangs on the bars.

SAM

Hey! Assholes, we want to talk.

Two GUARDS standing outside are slow to realize what he is saying. They exchange puzzled expressions with each other and slowly approach the cage.

SAM

That's right motherfuckers, we want to talk.

PROFESSOR (AWÁN)

We want to speak with the Chief. Tell him we want to return your land. We want to make a deal.

The two Guards look at one another, then back at the Professor.

INT. AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- SAME

The Professor and Bethany are escorted by five Awá warriors to the center of the cave. They stop near the high elders' chairs. The Awá motion for the Professor and Bethany to stay put and two of them approach the Tatoktok.

The men exchange a few inaudible words with the Chief. They return to the Professor and Bethany. The men move them forward, in front of the Chief.

TATOKTOK

They tell me you want to talk?  
Give my back my land, huh?

PROFESSOR

Please, ah Fabor e bida di un di mi. They're only children. Nan ta

asina hoben. Bethany here is only  
twenty-three years old.

Tatoktok laughs.

TATOKTOK

Hah, you're all gifts from the  
Gods. Reconciliation for centuries  
of abuse. Why would we let you go?

BETHANY (ENGLISH)

What did he say?

PROFESSOR

He says you're not children to the  
Awán people. We are gifts from  
their gods, and asks why should he  
let us go?

BETHANY

Why? This is insane. We didn't do  
anything.

PROFESSOR (AWÁN)

They're only children, please!

Tatoktok is angered by this statement and SLAPS the  
Professor across the face.

TATOKTOK

Whites took Awán land. Whites just  
like you took Awán land. You will  
pay for their crimes with your  
blood.

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)

He's upset about his land being  
taken by white men, like me, like  
us.

BETHANY

I'm not a man, that's not all he  
said.

PROFESSOR

He said we will pay for their  
crimes, with our, ah, blood.



(to the chief)

Please Chief, I'm sorry for pa kí mi blancous ta na bo hende, ami realmente ta, really. But ma bo warriors brigen nos muhenan. Nos tábatin nò chòis. No choice.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

No choice? Your people took our land and now, you killed our young braves! You belong to me now.

BETHANY (ENGLISH)

He sounds pissed.

PROFESSOR

He says we belong to the Awá. Please, fabor, lagá nos bai, let us go.

The Chief is very upset with the Professor's persistence.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

Ok, old man. You have challenged me. It is law that we resolve this dispute.

Tatoktok motions to one of his warriors.

TATOKTOK

Bring me two white boys. Bring the wounded one and the silent one.

The Warrior Exits.

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)

What did you just say? What's happening, ah, ta bai nia hasi ku?

Another warrior hits the Professor in the stomach with the blunt end of his spear. The Professor falls.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

Whites talk too much, Thanks. Take the boys to the Ring of Honor.

Tatoktok and his entourage exit.

INT. RING OF HONOR, AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- SAME

The Awáns are gathered around a large sandy area, bordered by a tightly woven bamboo fence. At one end sits Tatoktok and his Elders.

The Professor and Bethany are held by spear point on the ground, next to the Chief.

Three Awán warriors shove Steven and David into the ring. They toss in two knives and exit. Tatoktok stands.

BETHANY (ENGLISH)

What's happening Professor?  
They're not going to make the boys  
fight, are they?

PROFESSOR

It looks that way.

Tatoktok stands and address the crowd.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

My Awá, listen up. These whites  
have disgraced our good people,  
killed three of our young braves.  
Now, the fat white chief wants  
me to set one child free.

BETHANY (ENGLISH)

What's he saying Professor?

PROFESSOR

Um, I can't make it all out, we  
have disrespected their people.  
The Awá are fair, um something  
about the white's leader, myself  
I suppose, wants them to set one  
free.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

What should I do?

THE CROWD ERUPTS.

TATOKTOK

Bring in the white boys, let them fight, it is the only honorable way. When one is left standing, the High Council will consider releasing the whites. Am I not a fair leader?

THE CROWD ROARS.

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)

I'm having trouble making it all out, but I think he says the men will fight, and then they will think about letting us out of the cage.

BETHANY

Think about it? What are they supposed to do, kill each other?

PROFESSOR

Yes. I'm afraid so.

BETHANY

Tell him, he can't do this, please.

PROFESSOR

(to the chief)

You can't be serious, David has a fever, ha keintura í ta debil. He's banda morto anyway. Fabor no ta.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

Quiet! You have questioned my authority. Your warrior children must defend your name. If they don't fight for your honor, all the whites will die now.

Tatoktok laughs.

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)

He says he will kill us all right now, if they don't fight. Apparently some obscure right of some sort.

BETHANY

That's awful, Professor.

Tatoktok KICKS the Professor in the head with his heel and temporarily shuts him up.

Tatoktok smiles and turns to Steven and David.

Steven and David exchange a quick glance, then turn towards the chief.

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

Begin.

THE CROWD CHEERS.

DAVID (ENGLISH)

I can't do this, Steve.

Steven slowly shakes his head, considering his options. He is quickly reminded of the rush he felt while killing the Awán man. A wicked grin comes over his face and his mood changes.

He slowly picks up one of the knives....He turns towards the chief....

....Tatoktok nods....

....Steven KICKS the second knife towards David and takes a few steps back....

DAVID

What the fuck are you doing? Drop the knife.

....David reaches down and picks up the second knife. He backs up....

STEVEN

Drop your fucking knife!

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

Fight.

CROWD

Fight, Fight, Fight.

DAVID (ENGLISH)

I don't want to do this!

PROFESSOR

Fight. Or they'll kill us all,  
now. Fight.

STEVEN

Put your fucking knife down now!

DAVID

Fuck you!

STEVEN

Fuck you!

DAVID

Fuck you!

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

Fight!

....Steven LUNGES at David....

....David sidesteps and dodges him....

....David elbows Steven on the back as he runs past....

....David turns and SLASHES at Steven....he CUTS Steven  
across the chest....

....Steven covers his wound and stumbles backwards....he  
regains his balance and sees the blood on his hand....

....Steven CHARGES at David and runs right into him....they  
both fall....

....The CROWD leaps to it's feet....

....Steven withdraws his knife from David's chest and straddles him....

....He raises the knife above his head....

....David coughs up blood....

....Steven hesitates....

TATOKTOK

Kill him.

CROWD

Kill, Kill, Kill!

PROFESSOR (ENGLISH)

Do it. Do it or we'll be dead.

Kill him!

....Steven brings the knife down and stabs David....blood sprays on Steven's face....

....David screams....

....The crowd roars....

....Steven STABS David again, spraying more blood on his face....

CROWD (AWAN)

More!

....Steven STABS David again and again....

CROWD

KILL!

....Steven is COVERED in blood and is totally out of control....He stabs David repeatedly....

....He's lost it. Too much violence, the loss of his girlfriend, now his best friend, at his own hands. It's too much....

....Steven HOWLS like a wild animal.

INT. FIRE PIT -- EVENING

The bodies of David and Lisa's are roasting on the fire. One native checks the corpses. He nods to another native and they remove the bodies from the fire. Young men carry the bodies over to a large hut.

INT. DINING HUT -- EVENING

The young men ENTER with the bodies and set them on palm leaves in the center of the room.

The DINING HUT is filled with Awá and they all take seats on the floor. Tatoktok and the high elders sit in throne chairs at the far end.

Steven is dressed in a loincloth, crouched on the floor near the chief's throne. A rope around his neck keeps him tethered to the chief's chair.

TATOKTOK

Enjoy this gift from the Gods.  
Eat, eat my Awá!

The Awáns tear into the bodies and begin to eat. Meat is passed around the group and finally some gets to the chief.

Tatoktok tosses a piece of cooked flesh at Steven's feet. He greedily snatches it up. Steven rips into the piece of meat, nearly swallowing it whole.

Four Awá women ENTER with David's severed head on a platter and present it to the chief. Tatoktok nods his approval.

The Women remove the pre-cut top of David's head.

Tatoktok smiles.

One woman scoops out the brain and hands it to another woman who sets it in a wooden bowl. She carries it to the chief and hands it to him and BOWS. The other women BOW. They turn and exit.

Tatoktok smiles at the brain in his lap. He stands.

The Awá all turn their heads towards the chief.

Tatoktok bites into the brain.

The Awáns CHEER.

Tatoktok hands the brain to the Elder next to him. He bites into the brain and passes it on. When the last elder takes his bite, the brain is tossed to Steven, who quickly devours what is left.

INT. BAMBOO CAGE -- NIGHT

Sarah stares at a tray full of scraps, unwanted meat, leftovers. She does not look happy.

LINDA (ENGLISH)

Oh, when will this end. I'm so hungry.

MARY

Me too. But I'm not going to eat a person.

SAM

I hate the idea, but we have to eat.

SUSAN

How are supposed to?

Sam picks up a half-eaten hand. He inspects it.

Sarah picks up a handful of tendons and sniffs at them.

SAM

Try not to think about it. It's like eating a hotdog, just don't think about what's in it, ok? Just close your eyes and do it.

Sam picks off a small piece of flesh from the hand and closes his eyes. He quickly pops it into his mouth.

MARY

I think I'm going to be sick.

Mary dashes over to the corner and vomits. Linda rushes over to help her friend.



SARAH

I'm so fucking hungry. It's been almost a week since we last ate.

Sarah looks at the tendons in her hand. She shakes her head and shoves them in her mouth.

She cries while she chews.

Sam shares the cooked hand with the Professor, who is too weak to get up. The Professor's wounds have become infected and gangrene has set in.

SAM

Here, try to eat this Professor.

INT. RING OF HONOR -- NIGHT

THE WHOLE VILLAGE is gathered in and around the ring. The floor is lined with woven grass mats. A small group of men beat a primordial rhythm on their drums. There is a large fire in the center of the ring.

Beside the fire stands a high platform, which contains seven chairs and a long narrow table. The top is currently occupied by six young women who dance wildly to the drumbeats.

The music stops and the crowd SITS.

Tatoktok and the High Elders APPEAR and ascend the platform.

The Elders and the chief are dressed in extravagant robes and huge ornamental headdresses.

The Dancers EXIT.

INT. TOP, CEREMONIAL PLATFORM -- SAME

TATOKTOK (AWAN)

Tonight we will celebrate, for Kinshasa the blood God, has blessed us.

The crowd cheers.

Tatoktok removes a decorative knife from his waistband and holds it into the air.

TATOKTOK  
We honor you, Great Kinshasa.  
Please accept our humble  
offerings.

The crowd cheers.

TATOKTOK  
Bring in the offerings.

INT. RING OF HONOR -- SAME

Young men and women, dressed in white robes, ENTER the ring with different animals. They stop in front of the platform and BOW to the chief.

They have brought him a large snake, a panther, a macaw, and a caiman.

A woman screams. (O.S.)

Two beautiful teenage girls in white robes APPEAR.

They drag BETHANY into the ring. Her hands are bound behind her back.

BETHANY (ENGLISH)  
Let me go!

The girls push Bethany to the ground and make her bow.

BETHANY  
Take your fucking hands off me!

A warrior slaps her across the mouth.

The drum beats resume.

Tatoktok motions with his hand and the snake is brought up to the platform by a young woman....She struggles a bit but manages to make it to the top....

INT. TOP, CEREMONIAL PLATFORM -- SAME

....The young woman holds the snake's body while Tatoktok GRABS the snake's head....

....Tatoktok cuts a small slit in the animal's throat....the snake thrashes about....he immediately presses his lips to the wound and gorges himself on the BLOOD....it begins to run down both sides of his mouth. There is so much blood, he nearly chokes....

....Tatoktok breaks the seal and spits a mouthful of blood into the fire....he takes his seat....

The crowd cheers.

....The young woman takes the snake and lays it on it's side, on the narrow table on the platform....

The TABLE has a deep groove running the length. It connects to a wide bamboo pipe running down the side. The piping runs underneath the table. At the base sits a wooden pot.

....An ELDER steps forward....he removes a knife and cuts the snake down it's length....he holds up his bloody knife....

The crowd cheers.

....The young woman rubs her hands over the snake and pounds it with her fists....blood begins to collect in the groove, then flows down the bamboo pipe and into the pot below....

....When enough blood has collected, the Elder TOSSES the snake into the fire....

....The Elder takes his knife and cuts the young girl's throat....he leans her forward and the blood FLOWS into the groove, through the piping, and into the pot....

....After the girl is drained of blood, her body is thrown into the flames....

....Tatoktok motions for the second offering....

....THREE YOUNG BRAVES carry a panther up the

platform....the animal has been bound to a pole by its hands and feet....

....They set the panther on the table....

....The SECOND ELDER steps forward and removes his machete. He holds it up for the crowd to see....

The crowd cheers.

....With one blow from the long knife, panther's neck separates....a geyser of blood shoots out the wide gash....the big cat twitches....a second hit completes the beheading....the blood is coming out with so much force that the Elder has to tilt the carcass and point the neck downwards to collect it all....

....After a few long seconds, he sits back down, with the panther head in his lap....

....The warriors who brought the cat up there, toss it's body into the fire....they TURN, bow to the elders and Tatoktok, then turn and face the crowd....they lean forward over the table....

....The THIRD ELDER steps forward and removes his machete....he shows it to his peers, then to the crowd....he calmly walks up behind the three young warriors and chops their heads off; one, two, three....most of the blood jets out and down onto the crowd below....

....From the ground, the streams of blood look like three red waterfalls flowing off the platform above....

....He then pushes the bodies into the fire....he takes his seat and uses the heads as foot rests....

....A YOUNG AWA woman brings a macaw up to the platform....the bird has a ropes around one leg but can still fly....it flutters and squawks in a feeble attempt to escape....she ties it to Tatoktok's chair....she bows to the chief and elders and then to the crowd....she leans forward over the table....

....The FOURTH ELDER steps up behind the girl....he removes his machete and shows it to the other elders, then the crowd....the young woman reaches behind and pushes her robe

up, exposing her genitals....

....The fourth elder takes his machete and raises it over his head....the young girl tenses up....the machete crashes down and lands about two inches into the tender flesh, less than an inch from her tail bone....

She cries out in pain.

....He begins working the huge blade downward, with a sawing motion....he then turns the blade vertical and works his way inwards.

....The blood flows and runs into the pot below....

....He cuts deeper and deeper, finally he reaches the stomach cavity....the girl's organs spill out on the platform deck....

The crowd roars.

....The Elder lops off the dead girl's head....some blood sprays out of her open neck, but not much. Most was already liberated and now covers the platform and the Elder....

....He takes the severed head in his hands and holds it up to the crowd....he brings it back down to eye level and pushes his thumbs into the eye sockets....

The Elder yells a war cry.

....He SLAMS the head against his own forehead, smashing it to a million pieces....he staggers backwards and is helped to his seat....

....Tatoktok and the FIFTH ELDER TOSS the headless body into the flames....they take their seats and motion for the next offering....

....TWO YOUNG BOYS carry the bound caiman up to the top of the platform....they set the hog-tied reptile on the table and stand at either end, holding it down....

....The FIFTH ELDER stands and holds his knife up to the crowd....

The crowd cheers.

....The ELDER turns and SHOWS his knife to the chief and other elders....they nod....he WALKS up to the withering caiman and stabs it in the back of the head....

....The caiman shakes violently....the elder leans forward and put his mouth to the incision....he sucks out a mouthful of blood and SPITS it onto the people below....he takes his seat....

The crowd cheers.

....The YOUNG BOYS holding the caiman, flip it over on it's back and cut along the length of the belly....blood and entrails bubble out....they turn it back over and let the blood drain....

....The caiman is thrown into the fire....

The crowd cheers.

....The boys who carried the caiman up, stand at opposite sides of the platform....

....The SIXTH ELDER stands....he holds his knife up....

The crowd cheers.

....The Elder walks to the boy on the left....he takes his knife and makes two incisions, one on each side of the boy's chest....the young man remains motionless....

....The Elder reaches up and grabs two large hooks, which are attached above the platform by vine ropes....

....He inserts the hooks into the two cuts he made....he walks over to the other boy and does the same....

....The Elder sits....

The crowd cheers.

EXT. BASE, CEREMONIAL PLATFORM -- SAME

....The teenage girls holding Bethany see this, and push her up to the top of the platform....

....Bethany kicks and screams....

BETHANY (ENGLISH)

Let me go, damn it! Stop!

INT. BAMBOO CAGE -- SAME

The flames of the fire in the Ring can be seen from across the cave.

Sam, Susan, and the Professor intently stare out through the bars. Sam helps steady the weak Professor. They can see the elevated platform from their cage.

SUSAN

Is that Bethany? What's happening?

PROFESSOR

Yes, I believe so. It's some kind of ceremony. I don't know what, though.

(he motions with a nod)

See how the chief is dressed? I believe this may be a holy celebration to these people or a ceremony to honor one of their deities.

SUSAN

Oh God, I can't watch this.

Susan steps away from the bars.

SAM

They're going to kill her, aren't they Professor?

Silence.

Bethany screams (O.S.)

SAM

Oh God. Come on, Professor.

Sam helps the Professor to the rear of the cage and they sit.

The students LOOK at each as they HEAR Bethany scream again.

Linda covers her ears with her hands.

Susan weeps.

INT. TOP, CEREMONIAL PLATFORM -- SAME

THE TEENAGE GIRLS lay Bethany on top of the table on her stomach....

....They pull her hands and arms under the table and tie them to the table legs....Bethany's chin is resting in the groove....

....Bethany begs for her life, but her pleas go unanswered....

BETHANY

Please don't. Please, I, I'll do anything you want. I give you money. I'm rich, my parents are. Please don't! God, no.

....The teenage girls carefully remove Bethany's clothes....

....They step back and turn to the chief and elders....

....They bow....

....The SIXTH ELDER STANDS....

....He removes a knife and a heavy spiked club from his belt....

....The Elder holds his knife up in the air....

The crowd cheers.

....The Elder hands his knife to one girl and the club to the other....

....The teenagers show the items to the crowd....



The crowd cheers.

....The teenagers walk to opposite ends of Bethany....

....The Teenager with the knife takes her place at Bethany's head, while the girl with the club takes position near Bethany's feet....

....The teenager with the knife makes a thin cut along both sides of Bethany's spine, from her neck to tail bone....

....Small trickles of blood run from the wounds, down her sides....

....Bethany cries out....

BETHANY

Oh God!

....The other takes the club and begins to violently molest Bethany....

....Her pace quickens and the blood flows....

....Bethany screams....

....She finally passes out from the intense pain....

The area between her legs looks nothing like before, it's now a bloody mess that resembles torn and tangled ground beef.

....The Teenager continues to pump away....

....Each time she pulls back, blood and small chunks of Bethany fly backwards....

....The girl with the knife removes Bethany's scalp....

....She shows the ragged, bloody scalp to the Chief and elders and then to the crowd....

....She puts it on her head and begins cutting away at Bethany's love handles....

....She removes a large portion of flesh and holds it up....

....She BITES into the raw flesh....

The crowd cheers.

....Bethany comes to....She realizes what is happening....

BETHANY

Oh God. They're eating me!  
Oh Jesus, help me, they're  
eating me alive!

....The other girl stops her pumping and removes the club  
from within Bethany....

....She pushes the other teenager aside and WHACKS Bethany  
over her scalp-less head a couple of times....

On the third hit, Bethany's head CRACKS wide open....

Newly exposed brain matter quickly turns from gray to red  
and oozes down the side of Bethany's face....

....The girl reaches inside and begins to feast on the  
brains....

....Tatoktok motions for the girls to stop, and they  
oblige....

....They walk over to the edge, display a wicked smile and  
holding hands, both leap into the flames....

SCREAMS are heard.

....The elders all stand....

....Tatoktok raises his arms and gazes upon his people....

The crowd cheers.

....Two elders drag the large pot out from under the  
table....

....Tatoktok takes a wooden ladle and fills it with  
blood....he puts it up to his mouth and drinks....

....He scoops out a another ladle-full and THROWS it on the

encroaching crowd....

The crowd cheers.

....Tatoktok sloshes more blood on his people....

....The two boys with the hooks in their chests, are pushed off the platform by the elders....

....Their chests are ripped open by the force of the fall....

....The entrails spill out onto the crowd below....

....Their lifeless bodies dangle from the hooks....

The Crowd goes WILD.

....Four elders lift the heavy blood pot over their heads and dump it out on the crowd....

INT. RING OF HONOR -- SAME

....The Crowd is covered in blood and begins to dance....

....The music plays louder and louder....

....The Awáns dance feverishly around the ring, as if under some ancient spell....

....All inhibitions are lost as blood soaked clothes are torn off and flesh turns from pale to red....the crowd moves as one, dancing, fucking, licking, and sucking like wild animals in the ring....

....Primordial chants, coupled with SCREAMS of passion can be heard echoing throughout the high cave walls....

EXT. AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- DAY

The remaining few- Susan, Mary, Sarah, Sam, and Linda, are working in a field, at the base of the Awá cave. They all have vine ropes around their ankles and are tethered to one another.

They dig with their hands into the hard soil. Seven Awán warriors stand guard.

LINDA

Is this what they meant by letting us out?

SAM

This sucks. We've been out here all day. How much longer are they going to keep us out here?

SARAH

I'm getting pretty worn out too. My hands are killing me.

INSERT Sarah's bloody fingertips.

SUSAN

What is wrong with that field?

Susan points to a well maintained farming plot behind a thin tree line.

SUSAN

Why can't they use that? Why do we have to till this area?

MARY

It's punishment. It has to be.

A Young Awán woman YELLS. (O.S.)

SUSAN

What was that?

MARY

I don't know and I don't want to find out.

More yelling. (O.S.)

The students SEE a young pregnant woman being dragged by her hair out of the cave by five older women....

....They tie her up to a wooden post at the base of the cave....

SAM  
What are they doing?

LINDA  
Some obscure right. I can't bare  
to watch.

SARAH  
So much violence here. It's almost  
too much.

SAM  
We'll get out of here soon, trust  
me. The first chance I get, I'm  
taking it.

....The Guards tug on the ropes and jerk Sam off his  
feet....he falls taking Sarah with him....the others  
balance themselves....

SAM  
Ok, ok, I'll get back to work.

He continues to watch out of the corner of his eye.

....The Pregnant Woman SCREAMS and YELLS throughout the  
whole ordeal....

....Her clothes are torn off....

....The other women spread her legs and reach up inside her  
and remove the baby....

....We can SEE it is under-developed and was removed  
prematurely....

....The women hold the fetus up, mumble a few inaudible  
words, then begin smashing it on the rocks, staining the  
ground red....

....They STOMP on it and then KICK it off into the  
bushes....

MARY  
Jesus. That is awful.

....An Awán man appears holding a spear....

....The end is red hot and smoking....

....He walks up the young woman tied to the post....

....He takes the spear and burns a design into her breasts....

....He takes a step back to look at his "art", then exits....

....The other women then beat her with stones until she is dead....

A frantic Awán BOY RUNS up to the Guards and the students.

BOY (AWAN)

Come quick, the Elder says bring  
the white children! Hurry, it's  
the white chief.

The Guards tug on the ropes and pull the students towards the cave.

SAM (ENGLISH)

Guess it's time to go inside.

SARAH

Thank God.

MARY

Finally.

INT. GRASS HUT, AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- SAME

The students are escorted to a small grass hut and find two Awán women kneeling down beside the Professor. There are a few Awán men standing around him as well. They all move back when they see the students.

SAM

Professor. Are you ok?

The Professor coughs and shakes.

SARAH

Oh Professor.

PROFESSOR

I'm dying, kids. I'm glad you're here.

Mary begins to cry.

SAM

What can we do?

There is genuine concern in his voice.

PROFESSOR

Promise me that one of you will get out and tell the world what happened here.

Susan bursts into tears, she can't help it.

SAM

I promise. I'll get out here. None of us will forget what you did, Professor. Professor? Mister Hamilton? Hey!

The Awán women wail. The Professor's eyes roll back into his head and he expires.

The Awán men remove the Professor's body from the cave.

SAM

Where are you taking him? Hey. I'm talking to you.

The Awáns EXIT.

SAM

Hey. You motherfuckers!

SAM'S POV: A Blunt spear SMACKS him square in the face.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. BAMBOO CAGE -- EVENING

Three Awán men drag Susan out of the cage. They shut the door and attempt to secure it but Susan is KICKING and YELLING.

Sam is lying in the corner with a bleeding nose and busted lip.

SUSAN

No. No, wait, please no. Help.  
Someone help me!

Susan grabs a hold of the bars.

She looks inside at her friends. The expression on that poor girl's face is almost too much.

The Group just stares back, teary-eyed; there's nothing they can do.

The Awán men try to pull her free but she won't let go of the bars.

An Awán man steps forward and CHOPS Susan's hands off. Blood sprays out from her stumps. The men pulling her, let go.

She SCREAMS, runs around in a circle, then faints. The men drag her off.

TIME CUT:

EXT. BAMBOO CAGE -- NIGHT

DETAIL INSERT of Susan's severed hands, still gripping the Cage bars.

Two Awán men slide a tray full of scraps under the cage. It skids across the rocky floor and comes to rest at the feet of Sam.

MARY

I can't do this.

LINDA

Yes you can. I know your starving.



Just try.

Linda picks up a piece of flesh and hands it to Mary.

MARY

Oh God.

Mary reluctantly takes the flesh and slowly brings it to her mouth. She closes her eyes and takes a bite.

LINDA

See that wasn't so bad.

Sam and Sarah dig through the scraps with a small stick. He hands her a piece.

SAM

Here's a decent one.

SARAH

Thanks.

Sam lifts up half of a femur and sees a four-fingered hand underneath.

MARY

That's the Professor? I can't do this.

Mary runs into the corner and vomits. Sarah stands but Sam grabs her arm and stops her.

SAM

Leave her be. We'll save some for her. She's gotta eat sometime.

The students finish their meal in silence.

TIME CUT:

EXT. BAMBOO CAGE -- MORNING

Two guards approach the cage. They BANG on the bars with their spears. The students awake and immediately back away from the door.

SAM  
 Ok, we're up. What is it this  
 time, work detail?

They open the door and MOTION for the students to exit.

SARAH  
 Where are they taking us?

LINDA  
 I don't know, probably outside for  
 more work.

MARY  
 Well I'm sure we'll find out in a  
 second.

They shove the students.

SAM  
 We're coming, you don't have to  
 shove.

The door shuts.

EXT. AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- DAY

The students are digging in the field again. Two Awán  
 guards oversee the work.

Five Awán men and four Awán women approach the group.

Steven follows behind on a LEASH, held by one of the Awán  
 men.

MASAGURI (AWAN)  
 Prepare the white women for the  
 ceremony.

The Guards untie the students. Two men take Steven and Sam  
 off into the forest. The others take the girls into the  
 cave.

SAM (ENGLISH)  
 What's going on? Steven?

No response.

INT. AMAZON JUNGLE -- DAY

The two Awán men tie Sam's ankle to a tree. The men and Steven hide in nearby bushes.

SAM

What the fuck? Where are you going? Hey.

INT. GRASS HUT, AWA CAVE COMPLEX - SAME

Sarah, Mary, and Linda are in a grass hut. There is an Elder, dressed in a ceremonial robe, standing in the middle of the room. Three Awán men stay close by.

ELDER (AWAN)

We blessed the women, please  
Kinshasa, rid the white girls of the  
white ghost in inside.

The Elder walks up to the girls....he dips his thumb into a bowl of blood and marks each girl on the forehead....

MARY (ENGLISH)

What was that for?

....The Awán men grab Mary and PUSH her into the corner....

....They smack her around a bit, then bend her over a stool....

....One Awán man rips off her ragged clothes and begins to brutally rape her....

MARY

Stop. No you can't! No!

....She cries out louder, but the only response she gets is a donkey-punch in mouth....

The Elder EXITS.

SARAH

Leave her alone! No, no!

....The other Awán man holds Sarah and Linda back with his spear....

....Linda drops to her knees and weeps....

....Sarah is dazed. All she can do is sit and stare at her friend....Mary stares right back.

INSERT of Mary's face. Her head jerks back and forth, with each thrust from behind.

Tears run down her face and her eyes glaze over....

INT. AMAZON JUNGLE -- SAME

Sam sits next to the tree. He plays in the dirt with a stick. His other hand is behind his back, working on the rope around his ankle.

Suddenly he jerks his head up. He hears...something.

....He stands and gazes upwards through the trees....

SAM  
What is that?

FAINT SOUND of an airplane. (O.S.)

SAM  
Is that what I think it is?

LOUDER SOUND of an airplane. (O.S.)

....Sam SEES a small twin-engine plane overhead....

....A huge smile breaks on his face....

....Almost simultaneously, a large jaguar SLAMS into SAM, knocking both of them O.S.....

SHOCK CUT TO:

INT. GRASS HUT -- SAME

....Mary lies in the corner, weeping....

....Linda sobs as two men violently rape her....

....The third man watches intently....

....Sarah sees her chance....

....She cautiously PICKS up a spear, and STABS the third man in the back....

....She pulls it out....she quickly RUNS the spear into one of the men behind Linda....

....Sarah has trouble removing the spear this time....

....The other Awán man pulls himself out of Linda and GRABS his spear....

....Sarah WRESTLES with the man....

INT. AMAZON JUNGLE -- SAME

....Sam rolls the dead Jaguar off of him....

....There is a spear in the animal's side....

....Steven is standing over Sam....

STEVEN

Can't have our "bait" getting torn up. Thanks for helping us. That panther will be good food. Ok, on your feet.

....Sam swiftly removes the spear from the big cat....

....He THRUSTS it into Steven's leg....

....Steven screams and falls....

....Sam slices the rope around his ankle....

....The Awán hunters advance on Sam....

....Sam drops to his knees over Steven....

....He stabs Steven in the chest....

....Sam reaches inside and with his fingers, he tears the chest open....

....Steven coughs up blood then goes quiet....

....The hunters stop COLD in their tracks....

SAM

Look. See this?

....Sam removes some entrails and SHOVES them into his mouth....

....He chews hard and WAVES his arms in the air....

....The two hunters run....

....Sam SPITS out most of what he put in his mouth and picks up a spear....

....Sam exits....

EXT. AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- DAY

....Sam runs up to the two men guarding the cave....

....He STABS one guard and the other one runs....

....Sam darts down the path to the base of the cave....

....An Awán man rushes at Sam, but he slashes the man across the chest....

Sam HEARS the girls yelling (O.S.)

....He runs towards the sounds....

SAM

I'm coming. I'm coming, girls.

INT. GRASS HUT -- SAME

....Sam ENTERS the grass hut and SEES Sarah struggling with the Awán man....

....Sam RUNS his spear into the man's side and LIFTS him off Sarah....

....Sam SPLITS the man's head with the blunt end of his spear....

....Sarah picks up a spear....

SAM

Come on, we got to get out of here.

....Sam grabs Linda's arm and they all exit....

EXT. GRASS HUT -- SAME

The students make their way up the path, leading out of the cave. Sam and Sarah are in the lead, followed by Linda and Mary.

....An AWÁN man PULLS on Mary's hair, jerking her backwards, to the ground....

....Sarah TURNS and STABS him with her spear....

....Linda tries to help Mary up....

....Another man LUNGES at Linda....

....Sam knocks him off the narrow pathway with his spear....

....Sam helps Mary up and they all RUN....

....Two Awán men jump in front of the students....

....Sam kicks one man in the stomach....

....He kicks him again in the head and the man falls off the pathway....

....Sarah knocks the other man off the pathway with her spear....

The students run....

INT. AMAZON JUNGLE -- DAY

The fearless four dash through the trees. Mary is in the

lead, followed by Sam, Sarah, and Linda.

SAM  
Come on, hurry up.

SARAH  
I'm running as fast as I can.

MARY  
Run, come on.

....A LARGE bed of wooden spikes SPRINGS up from the ground and impales Mary, killing her....

....Sam, not paying attention, runs right into her, puncturing his right arm....

SAM  
Fuck!

LINDA  
Oh my God!

Sarah SLOWLY pulls Sam off of the spikes.

He cries out in pain.

LINDA  
Mary! Oh, Mary.

SARAH  
We've got to get out of here. Put pressure on it, Sam.

Sam covers his wound with his hand and Sarah LIFTS him up to his feet.

The students run....

EXT. AWA CAVE COMPLEX -- SUNSET

Awán warriors spill out of the cave by the hundreds.

Tatoktok stands on top of a huge rocky ledge above the cave entrance.



TATOKTOK (AWAN)  
Bring me my whites! Bring them  
back to Awá!

THE WARRIORS SCREAM and charge into the forest....

INT. AMAZON JUNGLE -- NIGHT

Sam stops and try to catch his breath.

SAM (ENGLISH)  
Wait up a second, will ya?

Sarah halts and leans against a tree.

LINDA  
How far do think we are? From  
the cave, I mean.

SAM  
A good distance away. We got a  
decent head start. It would of  
taken them a while to organize  
the men.

SARAH  
You think they're after us?

SAM  
I'm sure of it.

LINDA  
Well, let's not waste any time,  
then.

SARAH  
You up for some more running, Sam?

SAM  
Don't worry about me. Let's go.

They exit.

TIME CUT:

INT. AMAZON JUNGLE -- NIGHT

The students are WALKING now. They are completely exhausted.

LINDA  
How much further?

SAM  
Just a little bit longer. We should be close to Manaus.

SARAH  
It's so dark, the moonlight barely shines through the trees.

LINDA  
I can't see where I'm going.

....A SPEAR flies through the jungle....

....It sticks into a tree, inches from Linda's head....

....Linda screams....

SAM  
Run. Fucking run!

....The STUDENTS dart through the trees, all around them are the sounds of a hundred footsteps....

....Small figures flank them through the dense jungle as they run here and there....

....Sam cuts through vines and runs into a clearing. The others follow closely behind....

INT. CLEARING, AMAZON JUNGLE -- NIGHT

The beleaguered party enters the large clearing. There are no overhead trees and the moonlight illuminates the huge open area.

The students stop.

SILENCE.

No one is behind them....

Sam holds his spear out, guarding the two girls....

....he points it at the trees....

His arms are shaking and he's sweating buckets....

....the trees sway in the light breeze....

....A WARRIOR YELLS. (O.S.) His voice pierces the relative darkness.

....Sam pivots his body towards the sound, spear in hand, outstretched....

Suddenly, the trees part.

....THREE HUNDRED Awán warriors converge on the area....

....they halt, just yards away from the students.

BEAT.

....Sam YELLS....

....the Warriors YELL....

....they charge the three remaining students....

....Sam plunges his spear into the closest man, he falls....

....Sarah bravely SWINGS her spear....

....it catches another warrior on the side of the head....

....Sam SWINGS his spear left, then right, knocking warriors down as he goes....

In the moonlight, the blood turns black.

....a hatchet crashes into Linda's skull; her body twitches and convulses as she falls to the soft earth....

....warriors drag her shaking body off into the massing

crowd....

....from within the crowd, we HEAR Linda's blood curdling screams of agony as they literally tear her apart, limb from limb....

....warriors continue to pour out of the trees, overwhelming the small group....

....Sam fights furiously, but to no avail....

....a sea of tan skin, sharp teeth, and blood stained spears quickly engulf the two fighters....

....Sam and Sarah's screams FADE into the pale moonlight....

Only the sounds of slashing, gnawing, and chewing can be heard....

A final, gruesome MONTAGE of the Warriors devouring the students: ripping, tearing, cutting, and eating raw flesh; an unrecognizable bloody head is speared and then hoisted above the crowd; blood stained mouths sucking on intestines; fingers searching through the many pieces of a shattered skull; men fighting over limbs.

SLOW TILT UP towards the Night Sky....

....the grotesque sounds begin to mingle with faint dance hall music....

....our view slowly moves up, then over, the trees boarding the clearing....

....just over the tree line, lies the city of Manaus, in all it's glory.

HEAD CREDITS ROLL over an overhead view of Manaus, with bright nightclubs below and the full moon shining above.

FADE TO BLACK.

SECONDARY CREDITS RUN OVER BLACK. Underneath the credits are newspaper articles about the incident. The credits make them hard to read, but we can make out the headlines:

NYU STUDENTS & NOTED PROFESSOR MISSING

SEARCH EXPEDITION TO COMMENCE

SEARCH CREW RETURNS-FOUND NOTHING, COMMUNITY FEARS WORST

NYU UNDER INVESTIGATION-UNSAFE PRACTICES

BRAZIL: PARTIAL REMAINS FOUND-COULD BE MISSING NYU PARTY

REMAINS IDENTIFIED-PART OF NYU PARTY, MISSING SINCE 1985

3 BODIES RECOVERED, 10 STILL MISSING, PRESUMED LOST

AFTER 2 YEARS CASE CLOSED ON NYU GROUP

GREG KINGSLEY, SURVIVOR, TO PEN NOVEL

THE END.