



SHADOWS BEYOND

Screenplay by Gregory Mandarano
Story By Gregory Mandarano & David Max Bluestein

GregoryMandarano@aol.com

FADE IN:

THE TRAVELER

a gas giant planet made of neon orange and violent streaks of purple drifts through the empty darkness of space.

OLD MERCUTIO (V.O.)

Behold! The Traveler! Lost amongst the stars since time immemorial, it gathered its companions across the void of heaven. But that's not where our story begins...

And then... from behind it... emerges

AQUARIA

a slightly larger water planet. A lush blue paradise.

OLD MERCUTIO (V.O.)

Once upon a time, Aquaria was ruled by two great races. Mankind and the Paradox, a benevolent race of telepathic dragons. It was our only golden age...

It twinkles with the lights of two distinct civilizations.

Two great cities on opposite polar continents.

OLD MERCUTIO (V.O.)

But deep in the hearts of men lurked fear. Fear for the dragons and their technology. And when the Paradox sought to unify the two with a new species, a hybrid race... mankind erased the Paradox from existence.

THE LIGHTS GO OUT ACROSS AQUARIA

OLD MERCUTIO (V.O.)

But when man had no more enemies left to conquer, they divided into two factions and turned upon themselves. Fear once again poisoned their hearts and corrupted their souls.

Mushroom clouds erupt across the face of the watery paradise.

OLD MERCUTIO (V.O.)

And to their folly Aquaria was broken.

AQUARIA BREAKS INTO PIECES

Its waters spill away and create A RING around the Traveler.

The two great cities become TWO GREAT ASTEROIDS that drift apart like islands in the Ringed Sea.

OLD MERCUTIO (V.O.)
And yet... somewhere far, far away... one last ember of hope remained...

Shadowed from the life giving radiance of the Traveler, the outer waters of Aquaria FREEZE into a great RING OF ICE.

OLD MERCUTIO (V.O.)
A chosen one... one prophesied to one day return. To bring peace and unity to a planet forever divided by mankind's fear... or perhaps she would bring war.

FADE TO:

EARTH

sparkles like a sapphire against the light of the sun.

VIVIAN VALENCIA

an eleven year old Asian girl with straight, neon red hair, and violet eyes, focuses only on drawing in her JOURNAL.

A NUN and her CLASSMATES all stare at her... totally silent.

SUPER: "HER LADY OF GRACE BOARDING SCHOOL"

Vivian draws hearts around *JIMMY* written over a dozen times.

SUPER: "JAKARTA, INDONESIA - 1939"

WHAM!

A ruler comes SMASHING down on Vivian's desk, SNAPPING her from a daydream and back to the angry glare of the Nun.

THE NUN
Vivian! Vivian Valencia! Are you listening to me!

Vivian looks up, eyes filled with dread and embarrassment.

THE NUN (CONT'D)
Always drawing in your book and never paying attention! Tell me Vivian! What's more important than the **HISTORY OF THE ENTIRE WORLD!?** What do you say class? Shall we find out?

The Nun tries to grab the Journal but Vivian won't let go!

THE NUN (CONT'D)
Insolent child! Give that here!

The page gets RIPPED from the Journal! The Nun holds it up.

THE NUN (CONT'D)
Where's Jimmy? Looks like you have a
secret admirer! What's this on the back?
Look class! Vivian's drawn a portrait!

Vivian turns beet red as they all see her drawing of Jimmy.

THE NUN (CONT'D)
You really are quite the artist!

Everyone laughs at Vivian's expense... Everyone but Jimmy...

FADE TO:

A MONKEY'S HAND

pulls a plum from its branch and THROWS! It narrowly misses a
black RAVEN perched nearby. Raven flaps and SQUAWKS angrily!

The Monkey laughs.

Vivian sits alone in the busy courtyard below, drawing in her
Journal pictures of the Monkey and Raven's confrontation.

MOTHERS and FATHERS reunite with their children. Vivian
stares as one of her Classmates gets hugged and kissed.

But when she turns back to the tree, the animals are gone.

YOUNG GIRL (O.S.)
Vivian. Guess what.

Vivian looks up to find a small GROUP OF GIRLS her age.

YOUNG GIRL (CONT'D)
Jimmy wants to get a better look at that
drawing you made of him.

VIVIAN
He does?

YOUNG GIRL
He's waiting in the chapel for you now.
If you hurry, you might catch him!

Vivian gathers her things and rises.

VIVIAN
Wow! Thank you!

They giggle as she rushes off. Dark clouds loom overhead.

VIVIAN PUSHES INTO THE CATHEDRAL

clutching the charcoal drawing of Jimmy in her hand.

SPLOOSH!

WATER RAINS DOWN on her from an overturned bucket, drenching her clothes and ruining the picture. Its charcoal lines run.

She looks up to find JIMMY laughing down at her.

Vivian RUNS from the cathedral and out through the courtyard.

Tears flood her eyes. The wind picks up. A storm approaches.

VIVIAN CRIES INTO HER PILLOW

The walls of her bedroom are lined with fanciful paintings and drawings of a magical world inspired by her dreams.

There's Aquaria and Traveler. Flying dragons, monkeys in tuxedos, reptile men, pirate ships, and more.

Vivian's rustled from her sobbing by her TINY CAT MARYANNE.

VIVIAN
Not now Maryanne...

Maryanne nuzzles her neck and mews. Vivian stops crying.

With a sigh she rolls over, cuddles her cat close, and pulls out her Journal. Fastened to its cover is a colorless **GEM**.

She flips through the pages and stops on a picture of TARA:

a pale lady with long dark hair and a white wedding ring.

Vivian rubs her fingers along Tara's face.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)
I wonder what she was like...

She snuggles Maryanne under the blanket and falls asleep...

VIVIAN DREAMS

of being chased through a shrouded mist. Footsteps echo behind her. She runs and runs but they're getting closer!

VIVIAN STARTLES AWAKE

to the sound of rumbling thunder. She's in a cold sweat.

CUT TO:

A PAINTBRUSH

drags across the canvas as Vivian works on a painting of two scary men staring up at her bedroom window.

TAP TAP TAP TAP!

Vivian looks to the window, where the Monkey from before is perched on the ledge. A torrent of rain falls from the sky.

VIVIAN

Oh you poor thing! You're soaked!

The Monkey KNOCKS ON THE GLASS! TAP TAP TAP TAP!

VIVIAN (CONT'D)

Do you want to come inside?

Vivian gets up from her chair and the Monkey climbs away.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)

Wait! Come back!

She opens the window and looks down to the street, where an expensive foreign car is parked below.

TWO MEN IN WHITE SUITS talk with the HEADMASTER, who looks up and points directly at her!

Vivian ducks down and hides. The Men look but she's gone.

Her eyes turn to the fresh painting on her easel. It depicts THIS EXACT SITUATION. The two Men STARING up at her window!

Two Men with frightful dragon-like eyes...

THUNDER rattles the room. Terrified, Vivian grabs her Journal and her cat and stashes them in a carry bag.

VIVIAN RUNS OUT INTO THE HALL STAIRWELL

and looks over the railing. The Men are climbing the steps!

THWAP! A PLUM smacks her in the head! Vivian looks up and sees THE MONKEY waving its hand and beckoning her to follow.

She races up the steps and pushes her way out onto

THE ROOF

where the storm's wind and rain rages around her.

She spots the Monkey on the ledge. It WAVES and climbs out of sight. Vivian rushes over and finds a rope down.

She hesitates at the edge, but when the Men BURST through the door, she HOLDS HER BREATH, grabs the rope, and CLIMBS DOWN!

The Men look all around and there's no sign of her...

But when they check the ledge... They spot her RUNNING across the courtyard! She's chasing after the Monkey towards

A HEDGE MAZE

where Vivian struggles to keep up as it turns out of sight.

VIVIAN

Wait! Wait for me! Wait!

Vivian stops at a three way intersection. She turns left, turns and turns again... and comes FACE TO FACE WITH

THE RAVEN

It's perched on a branch and SQUAWKS angrily at her.

Vivian SCREAMS in fright and runs. She races into

A CENTRAL CLEARING

The Monkey stands over a sewer grate, trying to pry it open.

VIVIAN

In there? You want me to go down there?

She kneels in mud and OPENS THE GRATE, but when the Monkey jumps in, her cat JUMPS OUT of her bag and runs away!

VIVIAN (CONT'D)

Maryanne! Where are you going! Come back!

The Monkey screeches and beckons her to follow... And for half a moment, Vivian's torn between the choice...

VIVIAN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I can't leave her! Maryanne!

Vivian chases after the cat! Off she runs

BACK INTO THE MAZE

only to get lost. Footsteps approach, just like in her dream!

She turns a corner and finds ONE OF THE MEN HOLDING MARYANNE!

The cat HISSES and SCRATCHES his face! He lets go and grabs at his eye in pain. Maryanne safely scurries away.

But when he looks up... HIS EYE IS A DRAGON'S EYE!

Vivian SCREAMS! He removes his other human-eye contact lens.

She tries to run, but he GRABS HER, takes hold of her chin, and forces her to look into his *hypnotic eyes*...

She drifts off into a magical sleep... ..

CUT TO:

THE MAZE CLEARING

where the two Men place Vivian's body on the muddy ground.

The Monkey HISSES at them, but when a SHADOWY FIGURE steps out from the maze, the Monkey runs away into the sewer.

The figure is

LORD ZOMA

a tall man in a textured sleek black combat jumpsuit with a reflective metallic helmet that covers his face.

Zoma raises his arm and Raven swoops down and lands on it.

It shuffles its wings while Zoma whispers in its ear.

Raven TAKES FLIGHT! Up, up into the stormy sky, where it GROWS IN SIZE, and lands back on the ground... GIGANTIC

and large enough to ride...

Zoma picks up Vivian's body and climbs onto Raven's back.

UP THEY FLY! Up into the heart of the storm, past lightning strikes and terrible rain clouds, disappearing into darkness.

FAR OUT OVER THE OPEN OCEAN

Raven descends from the clouds amongst the turbulent waves!

Zoma pulls from his cloak a metallic JOURNAL and flips it open to a blank paper page that's STITCHED into the metal.

He produces an ornate pen from his sleeve and PRICKS HIS FINGER on the pointy tip. ONE DROP of metallic blood pools.

Zoma DIPS THE PEN in his blood, and draws onto the paper page a picture of A PYRAMID BENEATH THE WAVES...

Then draws himself into the picture...

DEEP BENEATH THE WAVES

A small stone pyramid sits nestled in an underwater cavern.

Luminescent purple moss covers everything.

With a WHOOSH of magic energy Zoma, Raven, and Vivian appear.

Zoma climbs the steps

INTO THE PYRAMID

and rips from his Journal a picture of the Traveler, complete with the watery blue rings of Aquaria encircling it.

When Zoma places the page on a central stone altar...

BOLTS OF LIGHTNING zap down, and in a wave of electric fire the paper DISINTEGRATES.

Magic energy explodes outward! It races through the pyramid like a circuit board, gathers at its apex, and LAUNCHES UP!

Zoma opens his Journal and draws himself upon his Raven...

HIGH UP IN THE SKY

where Zoma finds himself on the Raven's back, with Vivian nestled safely in the giant feathers beside him.

A GOLDEN LASER ascends from the ocean rising up to the sky!

The storm clouds part, and Raven flies up! Up, up, and away until they reach the clouds and enter the pillar of light...

VIVIAN'S EYES FLUTTER OPEN

and she discovers herself on the back of the giant Raven.

The Rings of Aquaria loom far below her as they fly through an icy blue mist... Vivian struggles to stay awake...

But falls back into her magic sleep...

AS THE RAVEN FLIES

Zoma closes his eyes in meditation... and finds himself

STANDING IN A DARK ROOM

where RED EYES stare at him from behind impenetrable shadows.

They belong to SARO whose voice pitches randomly in tune.

MASTER SARO (O.S.)

*Cross distant seas the raven flies, and
raven's eyes will tell no lies.*

ZOMA

I have her. She's with me now.

MASTER SARO (O.S.)

*It's only good that binds your fates, at
Port Kefka your ship awaits.*

ZOMA

What should I tell her?

MASTER SARO (O.S.)

*No matter where your wind propels, it's
on her path you must not dwell. For some
secrets should not be sung, since
Vivian's time has not yet come.*

ZOMA

As you command, my master.

THE RAVEN COMES TO A LANDING

beside a futuristic snow-base near an endless bridge of ice.

Zoma picks Vivian up into his arms and climbs to the ground.

The giant Raven flies into the air where it MAGICALLY SHRINKS and swoops back down, tiny. Zoma removes his helmet.

His long black hair flows in the wind as the Raven lands on his shoulder and TRANSFORMS INTO A TATTOO on his neck.

FADE TO:

VIVIAN AWAKENS IN AN EXTRAVAGANT ROOM

complete with 18th century furnishings and A BANQUET OF FRUITS AND PASTRIES like she's never seen before.

She hungrily consumes a delicious looking chocolate puff before trying to open the SOLID GLASS DOOR. But it's locked.

She peers out into a hall where A MAN stands guard.

Vivian searches the room, pulling open drawers and opening cabinet doors, but nothing seems to be of use to her.

She pulls out a chair at the table, sits down, and sighs.

But when her gaze focuses in on a particularly blue berry...

Vivian pulls out her Journal and opens to a blank page.

CUT TO:

BOWLS OF CRUSHED BERRIES

line the table as Vivian uses them to finger-paint a picture of Aquaria like she witnessed from the Raven's back.

But when she sees Zoma enter the hall through the glass door,

SHE OPENS UP HER JOURNAL and flips to a page showing:

ZOMA. Exactly as he is now. Standing right in front of her.

His sharp face and pale features contrast with the darkness of his jet black eyes. And when their eyes meet... He smiles.

ZOMA

It's nice to finally meet you Vivian.

Something about his disposition sets her at ease.

VIVIAN

Who are you? Where have you taken me!

ZOMA

My name's Zoma... Wait. Don't you know who I am? Don't you recognize me?

VIVIAN

I've seen you! And this place before... But they were only dreams!

ZOMA

Dreams?

VIVIAN

Fantasies.

ZOMA
Fantasies! Vivian... Do you know who your
parents are?

VIVIAN
I don't...

Zoma SLAPS the table in annoyance. Vivian jolts in surprise.

ZOMA
Those peasants! How could they not have
prepared you for this!

VIVIAN
Peasants?

ZOMA
What have they been teaching you in that
school of yours! Don't you even know who
you are?

VIVIAN
You know who I am?

Zoma settles himself and stares into her eyes.

ZOMA
You, my dear, dear sweet Vivian, are
royalty. And not just any, mind you, but
a princess! A princess above all others.
One day, perhaps, even to be a Queen!

He leans forward and smiles gallantly.

ZOMA (CONT'D)
And I... I am your half brother.

Vivian is at a loss for words.

ZOMA (CONT'D)
As a newborn you were stolen away and
hidden on Earth. Hidden to keep you safe
from those who meant you harm. You were
supposed to be prepared. You were
supposed to be ready.

VIVIAN
My *half* brother?

ZOMA
You'll recognize our father. Saro.

Zoma reaches for her Journal and turns it to a picture of

MASTER SARO

Clothed in dozens of red and white kimonos, Saro wears a kabuki mask with a half-man half-demon face.

Silver and gold bells dangle from an enormous jester's cap covering **straight, neon red hair** that falls to his feet.

Just... like... Vivian's...

ZOMA (CONT'D)

He is your father. And this... This journal is proof that your royal blood has kept you connected with your planet. Yes Vivian. Yes. Your drawings are far, far more important than simple dreams!

VIVIAN

But those men... The ones with the eyes. Who are they?

ZOMA

They are yours Vivian. *Your* people.

Zoma gives her a **GOLDEN HAIRPIN**.

ZOMA (CONT'D)

Take this gift from our father. An ancient symbol of our heritage as Paradox royalty. An ancient symbol unique only to members of our family... Your family...

She admires it... then clutches it close to her heart.

Zoma stands and tosses a purple dress onto the table.

ZOMA (CONT'D)

Get dressed. We're leaving.

VIVIAN

... I want to go home. Maryanne needs me.

ZOMA

I am taking you home... Home to meet our father.

VIVIAN

I'll go there myself. Don't believe me?
I'll walk! I'll walk no matter how far!

Zoma laughs and laughs. With a remote control he opens the window and points towards a distant star in the night sky.

ZOMA

When you can walk *there*, you can walk home. But for now you're coming with me.

Zoma exits, leaving Vivian alone to process her emotions. With a thought, she flips through her Journal and pauses... on a picture of...

A MONKEY IN A TUXEDO.

FADE TO:

A MONKEY IN A TUXEDO

hides his fancy evening wear by donning a brown woolen cloak.

This is MISTER MERCUTIO, a little Capuchin Monkey that's part of the pirate crew captained by none other than the infamous

CAPTAIN JAMES CLARKE a.k.a. JC

a dashing handsome man with sandy brown hair and sea blue eyes. A lifetime at sea kept him in peak physical condition.

JC WHISTLES a song as he LOWERS THE SAILS of the small catamaran that he's beached against a rocky shoreline.

Beside him stands

DARRYL CREWS

A large muscular black man with a kind face and a MONKEY TATTOO on his leg. He is JC's first mate and best friend.

DARRYL

(singing to JC's whistling)
*They dug his grave with a silver spade,
 To my way hay, storm along, John!
 His shroud of finest silk was made,
 To my aye, aye, aye, Mister Storm-along!*

Darryl loads up a canvas bag with ASSAULT RIFLES.

DARRYL (CONT'D)

*They lowered him with a silver chain,
 To my way hay, storm along, John!
 Their eyes all dim with more than rain,
 To my aye, aye, aye, Mister Storm-along!*

Mercutio climbs onto the railing and tugs at the shirt of

MARY MEADOWS

a blonde haired, blue eyed aristocrat's daughter who manages to look out of place in her dressed-down traveler's cloak.

MISTER MERCUTIO (YES HE TALKS)
You'll be wanting one of these lass.

She turns around to find him offering up a SILVER CROSSBOW.

MARY
No thanks.

MISTER MERCUTIO
If things get hairy, you'll be wishing
you had one like it to keep you safe!

A CELL PHONE in Mary's pocket CHIRPS. She takes it out.

MARY
Would you excuse me for a moment?

Mary steps onto the beach for some privacy, as

JC hammers down a stake to keep the anchor in place.

Darryl looks to sea where dark clouds linger on the horizon.

DARRYL
Rough weather out there.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Well then! We'd better hurry! Don't want
to get caught out in a sandstorm. Not in
these threads.

Mary discreetly shares a video call with her father JACKSON.

JACKSON (ON THE PHONE)
Are you out of your mind? I don't care
how important that statue is to our
island. You're putting yourself at risk.

MARY
I'll be fine. They're harmless.

JACKSON (ON THE PHONE)
But they're pirates!

MARY
I know who they are dad. I hired them.
Look, I've gotta run. I'll be home soon.

JC tosses the hammer aside and wipes his brow.

JC
All good. Let's go.

They leave the boat behind and trudge across the rocky shore.

FADE TO:

WAVES OF SAND

get blown by strong winds across a barren desert landscape.

Darryl, JC, Mercutio, and Mary make their way towards

SA'ALAMARKEE PLATEAU CITY

a sprawling desert town where crowded dirty marketplaces are side by side with fancy cars and upscale gated mansions.

As JC and Darryl walk ahead, Mercutio watches Mary approach

A RICH COUPLE in fancy jewelry SHOUTING AT A SCARED MERCHANT

She pickpockets from them a ring... An earring... A watch.

Mercutio's thoroughly impressed as Mary saunters over to him.

MISTER MERCUTIO
I say! Who'd have thought the girl had skills? If you're that quick with your fingers why bother with us? Surely you could handle this job by yourself.

MARY
And miss out on your sweet company Mister Mercutio? Never!

Mercutio balks as Mary kneels and pets his cute furry head.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Stop it now! Enough of that! Let's see the haul lass. That ring looked mighty sparkly. It's my cut. Fair shares now.

Mercutio climbs up her arm, but she sets him down and turns her attention back to the Merchant who's visibly shaken.

MARY
I'll take one of those apples. Here.

She hands him a coin, and when the Merchant turns Mary slips the stolen jewelry into his side pocket. Mercutio's SHOCKED!

Mary takes the apple and leaves. Mercutio scurries after her.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Now what'd you go and do a fool thing
like that for Mary? Some pirate you are!

MARY

You want your cut? Here!
(she tosses him the apple)
I've got bigger fish to fry.

CUT TO:

THE COURTYARD OF AN OPULENT VILLA

where inside the poshest party of the year is taking place.

SECURITY GUARDS take invitations from well-dressed VISITORS.

IN THE ALLEY NEARBY

Mary and JC have removed their desert clothes to reveal her fancy evening gown and his lavish tuxedo.

Mercutio dons a tall top hat and cane and follows after them.

MARY

Mister Mercutio! You sure do dress up!

MISTER MERCUTIO

Are you kidding me? **I never wear the same outfit twice!**

JC

(loud whisper)
Mercutio! Get back there! You know you can't come in!

MISTER MERCUTIO

Bugger that! I want to party!

JC

Darryl.

DARRYL

Mercutio.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Captain!

DARRYL

Mercutio!

MISTER MERCUTIO

Mary! Just get me something shiny in there? IT'S ALL I'M ASKING FOR... Please?

MARY

Sure thing M M. You got it.

Mercutio groans as he watches them go. He turns to Darryl.

MISTER MERCUTIO

This is soooooooooooooo unfair.

DARRYL

Too bad. Now do something useful and grab me those night-vision goggles from the bag... Might be some fruit in there too.

Mercutio's spirits brighten. Darryl chuckles softly.

CUT TO:

THE LUXURIOUS BALL ROOM FLOOR

where couples dance to a Waltz played over massive speakers.

JC stealthily points out an OLD ARISTOCRAT to Mary.

JC

That's him. You sure you're up for this?

Mary adjusts her bra and grabs a drink from a passing waiter.

MARY

Stop asking me that.

THE OLD ARISTOCRAT

laughs into his drink alongside some POMPOUS GENTLEMEN when he spots Mary admiring a painting nearby.

They MAKE EYE-CONTACT for half a second. She WINKS then turns her back to him and looks closer at the painting. He grins.

THE PAINTING

portrays the golden GODDESS TARA holding the hands of a young girl with straight, neon red hair and violet eyes.

The Aristocrat sidles up beside her, and drowned out by the sounds of the Waltz, she flirts with him and shakes his hand.

As they talk, Mary removes from her hand an invisibly thin plastic glove, crumples it up, and hides it in her palm.

JC WATCHES MARY

from far across the dance floor... Mary fixes her hair.

JC
(into his watch)
I'll be damned. She's giving me the signal already. Keep an eye out for any movement from the guards.

MISTER MERCUTIO (V.O.)
(apple-eating-crunches)
Aye... aye, aye Captain!

JC makes his way towards her, when he's intercepted by

A PUSHY OLD LADY

who gets in his way and grabs his wrists. The music stops.

OLD LADY
No no no. You can't get away that easily!

JC
(nervous)
Excuse me?

OLD LADY
Not without a dance!

She drags him out onto the ballroom floor. He groans.

JC
I can't dance.

THE DUCHESS (OLD LADY)
Nonsense! Everyone must dance with the Duchess of Weshlester! It's a rule!

A NEW SONG begins over the speakers, and they start dancing.

IN THE ALLEY OUTSIDE

Darryl slaps a small TV MONITOR on its side. Sizzling static transforms into a video feed from JC's watch.

The Old Lady's nose and puffy lips are in High-Def close-up.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Great Gribulor's ghost! Change the
channel! I say! This is making me sick.

DARRYL
What do you suppose he's doing in there?

MISTER MERCUTIO
It looks like... he's dancing.

DARRYL
Uh oh... This ain't gonna end well.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Why? What's the matter with... his...

A DARK SHADOW from behind them OVERTAKES the TV monitor.

Grrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrroooooowwwwwwwlllll.....

MISTER MERCUTIO (CONT'D)
... dance... ing?

They turn to find a HORSE-SIZED BOAR snarling down at them.

A DOZEN GRIZZLED HARDY SEA-FARING PIRATES are there too.

MISTER MERCUTIO (CONT'D)
Uhhhhh. Hello fellahs! Want some apples?

In unison - they all grab hold of Darryl and Mercutio.

MARY GENTLY REMOVES THE ARISTOCRAT'S HAND

from her shoulder, smiles politely, and hides her distaste.

Mary spots JC dancing with the Duchess and rolls her eyes.

MARY
So tell me more about this Goddess Tara.
Who's the girl with the red hair?

THE OLD ARISTOCRAT
No one knows. Some say it's her daughter.
Why don't we discuss it further in my
study. Over some wine perhaps?

Mary watches as JC trips and falls, but still he dances on.

MARY
He's so irritating.

THE OLD ARISTOCRAT

What?

MARY

She sounds fascinating!

JC FINALLY MAKES HIS WAY TOWARDS MARY

looking no worse for the wear. But when he reaches her she turns away, and tosses the crumpled glove on the floor.

JC tries to look as inconspicuous as possible while he bends down, picks it up, and makes a hasty retreat.

CUT TO:

A GLOWING COMPUTER PANEL IN A DARK HALLWAY

gets pried open by JC --- BZZT! PLACE YOUR HAND HERE!

JC takes out Mary's plastic glove and presses a few invisible buttons. Lights zip across its computerized surface and glowing FINGERPRINTS appear. JC gets his hand scanned, and

THE WALL SLIDES OPEN

to reveal a room's wealth of treasures. JC enters the vault and walks past chests of gold coins showing no temptation.

From a tiny shelf on the far wall, amongst a wide assortment of fancier, more valuable artifacts, he picks up a little stone statue of a sea turtle no larger than a pine cone.

JC EXITS THE VAULT

and the doors close silently behind him.

He pockets the statue with a smirk.

JC

I don't see what all the fuss was about.

DARRYL AND MERCUTIO GET FORCED TO THEIR KNEES

as the Grizzled Pirate Crew presents them to

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

the legendary Pirate Warlord! Despite his old age, his body still holds the vim and vigor of his rambunctious youth.

THE WINGS OF A BAT TATTOO wrap visibly around his neck.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Admiral Murdock!!!

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
The one and the same!

MISTER MERCUTIO
Soooo... What brings you to Sa'alarkee?

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
Where's James Clarke!?

MARY TOSSES HER DRINK

in the Old Aristocrat's face! He wipes it away, surprised.

MARY
You pig!

THE OLD ARISTOCRAT
What? What did I say! What?

SHE RUNS AWAY THROUGH THE CROWD

MARY
(into her bracelet)
Is there any activity out there? Are we good? Hello? Darryl? This stupid thing.

Mary spots the Duchess and sneaks up beside her. One moment she has on a pretty gold bracelet, and the next... It's gone!

MARY (CONT'D)
You owe me one Mister Mercutio.

JC appears and takes her gently by the arm.

MARY (CONT'D)
Have you spoken to Darryl? I couldn't get through.

JC glances around in a nervous panic.

JC
Party's over. Time to go.

IN THE COURTYARD OUTSIDE

Mary and JC rush down the steps and come face to face with Admiral Murdock and his Grizzled Pirate Crew.

JC

Alright. No need to gloat. You win.

He pulls out the statue and offers it up to him.

JC (CONT'D)

All we got was this. Take it. It's yours.

MARY

What! No! You can't! That belongs to me!
It was stolen from my island and now I'm
stealing it back!

JC points out Darryl and Mercutio: swords at their throats!

Mary GASPS! Murdock laughs and laughs.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

I've no need for your pitiful trinkets!
I've come for the girl! Hand her over!

JC

Wait. What!? The girl!? Who's she to you?

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

You Inner Sea idiot! Don't you know a
President's daughter when you see one!

Mercutio SCREECHES IN SURPRISE! Mary's secret is out...

THE DUCHESS (O.S.)

THERE SHE IS! RIGHT THERE!

EVERYONE LOOKS to the front door, where Security Guards have
gathered around the Duchess: who's POINTING RIGHT AT MARY!

THE DUCHESS (CONT'D)

She's the one who stole my bracelet!

Mister Mercutio can't believe it! HE'S SO HAPPY!!!

But the SECURITY CHIEF spots the Pirate Crew and freaks out!

SECURITY CHIEF

Holy Smokes! Code Red! Code Red!

He aims his BLASTER RIFLE and starts firing! PEW! PEW! PEW!

Bolts of energy CRASH across the steps blasting them to
pieces! Everyone scatters! Darryl and Mercutio escape!

THE DUCHESS

What are you doing! Stop! I'm not even sure it was her!

SECURITY CHIEF

Don't you know who that is! That's Old Man Murdock - The most wanted man alive! Get inside! Now!

She screams and races in, SLAMMING THE DOOR behind her!

A BATTLE BREAKS OUT!

Pirates dive for cover and start a shoot-out with the Guards!

Mary takes out her phone, but it gets BLASTED by a laser!

JC fights his way through a group of Pirates and hops into a

SECURITY VAN

He starts up the engine as Mercutio, Darryl and Mary pile in.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

unloads his pistol at the van as it speeds off!

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

Don't let them get away!

PIAO CHOW (O.S.)

Look out!

Murdock gets KNOCKED ASIDE from a laser meant for his face.

PIAO CHOW

a burly Pirate with a BOAR TATTOO

TRANSFORMS HIS PEG LEG to a tripod, and holds up a CHAIN GUN!

ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZTTTTT!

The Guards and the Villa are laid to waste! Murdock rises to his feet, faces the van, and spreads out his arms.

AND DOWN FROM THE SKY FLIES A GIGANTIC BAT!

IT SWOOPS over Murdock and chases after the van...

INSIDE THE VAN

Darryl and Mercutio are fonts of excitement while JC drives.

DARRYL

Why didn't you tell us Mary? What gives?

MISTER MERCUTIO

Wow... In our own crew! Who'd of thunk it!? The President's daughter herself...

Mary hides her face in embarrassment.

FADE TO:

MARY'S FATHER: JACKSON MEADOWS

The President of Demos sits at a long table across from

EVELYN DAVENPORT, a beautiful middle-aged brunette with pale skin, a sharp jaw-line, and a DOVE TATTOO on her right cheek.

JACKSON

I don't care who you are, or how successful your damned corporation is! You're a fool! A fool and a coward!

She remains as still as stone while Jackson SHOUTS at her.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

Look at you! At how short sighted you are! You think your prominent tattoo makes you special! You can't save us! You're nothing! You're worthless!

Jackson THROWS his coffee mug against the wall and stands.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

I'm the savior of Demos! Not you, me! Me!

The Traveler's visible through the wide windows of the corporate office... until DARK CLOUDS obscure its light...

JACKSON (CONT'D)

I'll protect us from Armada! All you are is a cancer that feeds off greed! All you care about's the all mighty dollar! ALL YOU WORSHIP IS YOURSELF!

THE DOORS BURST OPEN! And in flies A HUGE FLOCK OF DOVES!

Like a CYCLONE they SWARM around Jackson. He tries to fend them off, but in the confusion CRASHES THROUGH THE WINDOW!

And falls away screaming...

Davenport rushes to the ledge as the birds fly away, and watches Jackson plummet towards the ground...

DAVENPORT STARTLES FROM HER DREAM IN A PARKED LIMOUSINE

to the sound of Jackson rapping on the window.

She rolls it down reluctantly.

JACKSON

Sorry did I wake you? I just wanted to let you know that your speech is pointless. That's right Evelyn. No matter what you say to the nation today, they'll never listen to your deluded fantasies of a pirate threat and jeopardize my anti-Armada initiative. You've totally failed.

Davenport shows not the smallest sliver of emotion, and watches in silence as he boards a helicopter and flies away.

FADE TO:

MURDOCK'S GIANT BAT

dive-bombs the van as it speeds down the street. JC swerves left and right as its thick claws SCRAPE IN THROUGH THE ROOF.

Sections of the city TRANSFORM to accommodate for the wind of A SANDSTORM that's approaching them from straight ahead!

JC floors it and drives INTO THE STORM! Mercutio SCREAMS when

THE VAN PLOWS THROUGH A WINDOW INTO A CROWDED MALL

STARTLED SHOPPERS SCATTER as the van speeds through the aisles and crashes to a halt by a SPORTING GOODS STORE.

JC

Go on! Get what we need double time!

Darryl and Mercutio race off into the store.

MARY

What are we gonna do?

JC

Not we. Me. You stay put Princess.

MARY

I'm not a Princess!

He tosses her a blaster rifle and hops out of the van.

JC

You know how to use one of these? Here.
It's easy! You point. You shoot.

MARY

Wait! Where are you going!?

JC

To make us a way out!

THE GIANT BAT SHRIEKS as it approaches the van! JC unleashes a few laser shots with his rifle and leads it away from Mary.

The VAN SHAKES as the Bat lands beside it, screams after JC, and takes off again towards him. Mary presses the door lock.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK PUSHES INTO THE MALL

followed by the rest of his Grizzled Crew. He spots the van.

MARY PEERS OUT THROUGH THE VAN'S WINDOW

as she watches Murdock and his Crew approach.

PIAO CHOW RIPS THE VAN'S OPEN DOOR OFF ITS HINGES

and tosses it away. Murdock looks inside... But it's empty.

MARY HOLDS HER BREATH

as she lies flat on the ground underneath the van.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (O.S.)

Spread out and find them! They can't have
gotten far!

JC RUNS THROUGH THE NOW EMPTY MALL

firing wildly back at the Bat as it chases him down.

Far above him the PROTECTIVE DOME is all that shields the mall from the SANDSTORM raging outside. JC pushes into

THE DOME CONTROL ROOM

and starts pulling levers and pushing switches, when he spots the Bat FLYING FULL SPEED TOWARDS THE GLASS WINDOW.

INSIDE THE SPORTING GOODS STORE

Darryl and Mercutio are hard at work combining bicycles, parachutes, and other supplies into a flying contraption...

WHEN THE LOLLIPOP in Mercutio's mouth falls away...

MISTER MERCUTIO

M - mu - mu - muh - mur - mur...

Darryl follows Mercutio's gaze to Murdock entering the store.

DARRYL

I'll get this out of here, but I need you
to cause a distraction.

MISTER MERCUTIO

A dis - dis - dis - dis - dis...

MERCUTIO HANGS BY HIS HAND

from an overhead lamp. His other hand's curled into a fist!

MISTER MERCUTIO

Dis is your last chance Murdock! Leave us
be, or face the consequences!

Murdock aims a pistol and FIRES - but Mercutio's too quick!

He jumps from lamp to lamp as Murdock misses again and again.

Murdock snaps his fingers, and a GROUP OF PIRATES give chase.

Mercutio lands on a display crate of golf balls, bends over,
and MOONS THEM ALL! They charge! He jumps!

GOLFBALLS GO EVERYWHERE and the Pirates trip to the ground.

Murdock watches helplessly as Mercutio disappears from sight.

JC'S RIFLE GETS KNOCKED AWAY

by the talons of the Giant Bat! It grapples him to the floor.

He struggles against its weight as his CHEST GETS RAKED by
its sharp claws. Screaming, he balls his fist and UPPERCUTS!

POW! The Bat's knocked unconscious! JC climbs out from
underneath it, presses the last button... and looks up.

THE DOME STARTS RETRACTING.

MARY HOLDS HER BREATH AS

the GIANT BOAR sniffs her out... But it soon walks away...

She releases her breath and turns to IT STARING RIGHT AT HER!

THE SANDSTORM'S WINDS RAGE THROUGH THE MALL

as JC runs towards Darryl and Mercutio and the flying device.

JC
Where's Mary!?

DARRYL
I thought she was with you!

Mercutio points! Through the wind and sand they make out Mary being carried away by Murdock and his men.

JC starts towards them, but Darryl holds him back.

DARRYL (CONT'D)
Captain! No! You'll get yourself killed!

JC
We can't leave her behind!

DARRYL
We'll get her back JC. Just not today.

THE PIRATES SPOT THEM and start shooting! LASERS FLY PAST!

JC
Ok... Ok! Let 'er rip!

They pile onto the flying machine. Mercutio pulls a rope.

PARACHUTES EJECT AND CATCH THE WIND!

Up, up they fly! Away from the Pirates and into the storm.

FADE TO:

VIVIAN'S PURPLE DRESS RUSTLES IN THE WIND

of a passing train. It stops with a WHOOSH of steam.

DAVENPORT (V.O.)
President Jackson would have you believe
that pirates aren't a threat.

Zoma and TWO HENCHMEN in Demos Military Uniforms commandeer a train car and lead Vivian inside.

ZOMA KICKS HIS FEET UP AND WATCHES A TELEVISION

as they ride the train out of the station. Vivian's amazed by the dozens of TV MONITORS all showing Davenport's speech.

VIVIAN

Wow a theater on a train! What movie's playing? I hope it's a good one! Wow is that REALLY IN COLOR!? Wow!

Vivian stares at Davenport, CAPTIVATED by her dove tattoo.

DAVENPORT (ON TV)

But I ask, who's more dangerous? Armada? An enemy which hasn't attacked in a hundred years? Or criminals that kill, pillage, and steal from us every day?

ZOMA

Sit still this isn't a movie. It's live.

DAVENPORT (ON TV)

I give you a threat far more credible. Far more immediate. I give you, Rith Fei.

A NEWS REEL shows images of the pirate RITH FEI.

OUTSIDE THE TRAIN - CLINGING TO THE WINDOW

a tiny ROBOTIC SCARAB BEETLE watches Vivian. Its antennae broadcasts a signal. Its camera eye clicks... IT FLIES AWAY.

DAVENPORT (V.O.)

This self-proclaimed king has unified the Western Pirates, and even now, raises a mighty fleet he could use against us.

THE TRAIN CROSSES AN ENDLESS ICE BRIDGE

The Traveler looms in the sky above them, and the ice rings of the Inner Sea approach, visible through every window.

VIVIAN PULLS OUT HER JOURNAL

and flips through the pages as she watches the news reel.

DAVENPORT (V.O.)

If we let the President keep our navy on the Armada border, then this man... Rith Fei... could be the doom of us all...

Vivian finds Rith Fei's picture in her Journal...

FADE TO:

A TINY WOODEN SHIP

floats in the calm crystalline waters of a blue lagoon.

RITH FEI, an Asian man with a worn face and calloused hands, pulls off his shirt to reveal a big BEAR TATTOO on his chest.

ZHUN FEI, his ten year old son, has a DOG TATTOO on his arm.

Rith DIVES INTO THE WATER, and Zhun dives in after him.

THEY EMERGE INTO A MURKY CAVE

where a SICK OLD MAN coughs in his sleep on a bed of corals.

A PURPLE OCTOPUS TATTOO coils around his neck and face.

ZHUN FEI

Is that the oracle? That man?

Rith laughs at his son's remark, steps forward, and kneels.

He opens a sack and holds up three different items:

RITH FEI

The heart of a Gargan Fish! One satchel
of gold! One jug of wine!

Zhun watches in amazement as the items FLOAT UP INTO THE AIR!

THE ORACLE (O.S.)

One minute... One question answered...

RITH FEI

Oh great Oracle -

THE ORACLE (O.S.)

- One second...

The heart DROPS... and DISAPPEARS! Zhun's confused... until:

A HUGE OCTOPUS breaks its camouflage and appears before them.

THE OCTOPUS

Mmmm! Tasty! Alright. I'm done. Go on.

RITH FEI

Please! Tell me of the prophecy of the
one true Pirate Khan! Has the time come?

THE OCTOPUS

Yes. The Chosen One has returned to
Aquaria. Go to the place of your birth.

A TENTACLE LUNGES and wraps around Zhun's arm! ACID BURNS!

THE OCTOPUS (CONT'D)

His fate and hers are intertwined, but it
is her choice, and hers alone.

Zhun screams! It releases him... but leaves a pocked scar...

THE OCTOPUS (CONT'D)

If she does not choose to marry him and
complete the prophecy of Khan, then the
prophecy of Paradox will be fulfilled...

Rith stares at the scars on Zhun Fei's arm... They mirror the

CLOUDS ON THE HORIZON

as he steers his tiny boat towards a distant island.

RITH SITS AT THE DINNER TABLE ACROSS FROM

his wife MEILI and their son Zhun. They eat in silence...

THE OCTOPUS (V.O.)

And should anyone force her decision...
Aquaria's fate will be left to the dark.

Zhun sets his spoon down with a CLANK.

ZHUN FEI

What if I don't want to get married?

Rith takes his soup bowl, AND POURS IT OUT ON THE TABLE!

RITH FEI

I may not be able to force *her* choice,
but I can sure as hell force my own son!

Rith storms out! Meili and Zhun share a moment of quiet.

MEILI

How'd you get that scar on your arm?

ZHUN STARTS CRYING! Meili's heart melts. She hugs him close.

MEILI (CONT'D)

There, there. Every king needs a prince
Zhun Fei. And one day you will be Khan...

RITH STANDS BESIDE HIS POLAR BEAR ANIMAL COMPANION

as he addresses the THOUSANDS OF PIRATES in the square below.

RITH FEI

I was born with my hands in the dirt!
 These hands! I grew up knowing nothing
 but peace! And I was only five years old
 when Demos came to Big Leaf Island...

A HUSH falls. Zhun's in the crowd below, watching his father.

RITH FEI (CONT'D)

They bombed my village on accident! They
 killed my family to hide their mistake!

The crowd GROWS ANGRY and BOOS in unison. Zhun looks nervous.

RITH FEI (CONT'D)

My grandfather was a potato farmer. My
 father was a potato farmer. But I am your
 Khan! And now I lead you BACK TO BIG LEAF
 ISLAND! Back to Demos! Back to victory!

ZHUN FEI RUNS ALONG THE EMPTY DOCKS

as the ROARING CHEERS of the distant crowds echo even there.

A BLACK WOODEN SHIP WITH A DOG-HEAD'S BOW

is the only ship there with a crew on deck. Zhun boards
 AND GETS TACKLED to the ground by a BIG BLACK WOLFHOUND!
 They wrestle and play. His SCARY FIRST MATE appears.

SCARY FIRST MATE

Your orders Captain?

ZHUN FEI

Raise anchor. We're going to war.

Zhun scratches his Wolfhound behind the ear. Woof!

FADE TO:

A LABRADOR ON ITS HIND LEGS

juggles three oranges while an OLD CLOWN cranks a calliope.

Vivian struggles to draw everything and everyone as she's led
 by Zoma and his two Henchmen through the crowded streets of

PORT KEFKA

and towards the docks, where A MASSIVE MODERN BATTLESHIP
 dwarfs the hundreds of wooden ships docked beside it.

THE ROBOTIC SCARAB BEETLE

swoops past Vivian, flies up to the sky, and heads

OUT TO SEA WHERE A METAL PIRATE SHIP

rises up from underwater beneath a massive dark shadow.

DOZENS OF PIRATE SHIPS float nearby, just outside the shadow.

CAPTAIN KANG, the zealous First Mate of Murdock's Pirate Fleet, emerges from below deck with a big walkie-talkie.

The scarab lands on Kang's shoulder.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (OVER THE MIC)
Don't forget Kang! We need proof the red-head's dead or Armada doesn't pay!

CAPTAIN KANG
You really sure about this Admiral? What about the prophecy?

Kang watches MURDOCK'S PIRATE SHIP sail past his fleet.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (OVER THE MIC)
That children's fairy tale!? Any good pirate believes only in what he can see for himself! I believe in science! Not your mystical mumbo jumbo!

CAPTAIN KANG
Aye sir!

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (OVER THE MIC)
Now do your duty! I'm off to Niflheim!

Kang places his walkie-talkie on a silk cloth, and turns to

A MASSIVE MECH-SUIT rising from below deck on an elevator.

Kang climbs in its cockpit, presses some buttons and launches

THE TWO GIANT MISSILES strapped to its back. PFWOOOOSH!

The missiles sail through the air... past...

A COLOSSAL DRAGONFLY HOVERING DIRECTLY OVER THE SHIP.

It dives down into the water and follows the missiles.

FADE TO:

THE IRON BARS OF MARY'S PRISON CELL

cannot be moved, no matter how much she keeps trying.

Murdock enters with a bottle of rum offers it to her.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

(somberly)

Willy tried to bend those bars too. Died.
Eight years ago... To the day...

MARY

My father never negotiates with pirates.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

Willy begged too. In the end.

Mary spits in his face.

MARY

JC will rescue me! You'll see!

Murdock sighs and turns his back to her.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

Who'd you think I ordered to kill Willy?

MARY

That's a lie! JC's not a killer.

He bursts into laughter, his former mirth returning.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

Not a killer? Not a killer!!!

Murdock turns to face her, completely deadpan.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (CONT'D)

Your precious Captain was a gladiator! A
champion! He's slain men by the hundreds!

A POD OF NARWHALS BREAKS SURFACE

alongside the catamaran piloted by JC, Darryl, and Mercutio.

JC LOOKS THROUGH A SPYGLASS as they follow Murdock's Ship
towards A MASSIVE STORM on the horizon.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (V.O.)

And I bought him for a bag full'o silver!

A BAG OF SILVER SPILLS OUT ONTO THE COBBLESTONE STREET

as panic spreads across the marketplace. Zoma stops.

VIVIAN
What's going on?

TWO MISSILES SCREECH through the sky over the Port.

THEY SLAM INTO THE GROUND AND BURROW DOWN

into the dirt... And out from the pit left in their wake...

ENDLESS SWARMS OF FLYING SPIDERS FLY UP INTO THE AIR AND OUT
across the town to a chorus of horrified screams.

ZOMA UNSHEATHES A GLISTENING METALLIC SWORD

and cuts a flying spider in half. CIRCUITRY SPARKS!

ZOMA
That's Armada technology...

His two Men in military uniforms come to attention.

ZOMA (CONT'D)
I've got this. Get Vivian to safety.

ZOMA RUNS THROUGH THE STREETS TOWARDS THE BATTLESHIP

slicing the spiders to shreds, when

SIX GIANT INSECT LEGS

burst from the water and EMBRACE THE BATTLESHIP.

The massive vessel gets crushed and pulled under the waves.

THE PORT WATCHES IN TERROR

as Kang's Dragonfly climbs up from the sea.

KNOCKING OVER SHIPS it enters town in a RAGE OF DESTRUCTION.

Zoma draws a second sword.

CUT TO:

DAVENCORP TOWER

looms over the cacophony of shorter skyscrapers in:

SUPER: "REPUBLICA: THE CAPITOL OF DEMOS"

DAVENPORT POURS MILK INTO HER TEA AS

an EXTREMELY FORMAL LUNCH is shared with a group of OLD WOMEN at a long dining table. Windows overlook the city below.

WAITERS BOW and back away as her SMARMY ADVISOR approaches.

He whispers in her ear. She sets down her cup, and stands.

THE DRAGONFLY TERRORIZES PORT KEFKA

from the POV video feed of some panic-stricken CITIZEN.

DOZENS OF PIRATE SHIPS FIRE CANNONS at escaping ships... when

FLYING ROBOT SPIDERS land on the camera. It falls to the floor and captures the Citizen flailing in a spider pile.

The video feed cuts out... Davenport smiles.

DAVENPORT

Deluded fantasies huh? Inform the staff to prepare a petition. If this doesn't force Jackson to return our fleet from the de-militarized zone, nothing will.

SMARMY ADVISOR

Wait... What's this?

He activates a view-screen that shows A SMALL DOT LEAPING ACROSS THE ROOFTOPS as it chases after the Dragonfly.

He zooms in: MAGNIFIES ON ZOMA! Davenport's eyes narrow...

DAVENPORT

Is that... an Armada soldier!

SMARMY ADVISOR

This is great! We'll leak this footage to prove Armada's helping us fight pirates!

DAVENPORT

That would only complicate matters.

She holds out her palm and gets handed a cell phone.

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

Kefka Defense Command? This is Evelyn Davenport. I'm sending you a video feed. That Pirate Soldier's your real target there! Eliminate with extreme prejudice!

Davenport ends the call and hands the phone away.

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)
Make sure no footage survives.

MARY SITS ALONE IN HER CELL

staring at the bottle of rum. After a long sigh she grabs it.

She carefully unwraps the tin foil, and BOPS the bottom of the bottle on the wall. THE CORK POPS OUT half an inch.

Mary grips the cork with her teeth, and SLOWLY twists... POP!

KAAAASSSSMAAASSSHHHH!!!!

A NARWHAL SMASHES IN THROUGH THE WALL!

MURDOCK PUSHES INTO THE ROOM WITH A GROUP OF PIRATES

and watches through the hole in his ship's hull:

Mary and JC riding a Narwhal away to freedom.

THE BRONZE BUTTON ON MERCUTIO'S FULL DRESS UNIFORM SPARKLES

as he gives Mary a SALUTE when she boards the catamaran.

JC grabs the wheel and steers the ship TOWARDS THE STORM.

HIGH UP ON A ROOFTOP

Zoma races alongside the Dragonfly. He's ready to jump WHEN

A BLAST OF MISSILE ORDINANCE DESTROYS the roof ahead.

Zoma stops on a dime and looks down at A GROUP OF TANKS with their CANNONS pointed up into the sky.

ZOMA
Watch it down there! You almost hit me!

A SOLDIER points up at Zoma, who waves back down at him.

THE SOLDIER
There he is! Fire!!!

The TANKS ALIGN THEIR CANNONS directly at Zoma.

ZOMA
Uhh... What?

CHARCOAL DRAGS ACROSS PAPER WHILE

Vivian traces the Dragonfly from within the safety of an SUV.

She glances out the window where Zoma's Henchmen combat an endless wave of spiders... and spots in a nearby alley

MASTER SARO

staring out at her from the shadows.

VIVIAN

Father? ... Father!!!

His red clawed draconic finger rises up to his masked mouth.

Shh! He beckons her to follow and disappears into the alley.

ALL FROM VIVIAN'S POINT OF VIEW

She exits the car and chases down the alley after him...

But Saro ever remains just out of her reach...

He secrets her away past crashing concrete, spider swarms, panicked crowds, gun fire, and explosions rocking the city.

Dust and debris pass through Saro as if he were a hologram.

THE CATAMARAN'S BARELY HOLDING TOGETHER

as JC pilots it through a tempest of rain and wind.

JC

You've been lying to me this entire time!

MARY

You're one to talk!

MISTER MERCUTIO

Wave! Wave!

JC

What's that supposed to mean!?

MARY

You know exactly what it means, CHAMP!

MISTER MERCUTIO

WAAAAAVVVVEEEEE!!!!!!

A WAVE SMACKS the boat and Mercutio goes FLYING OVERBOARD!!!

But Darryl catches him mid-air by the tail, and reels him in.

MURDOCK'S SHIP crests the wave AND APPEARS ALONGSIDE THEM!

He's on deck with his crew and they've got BOARDING PLANKS!

JC pilots his ship towards A CYCLONIC WATERSPOUT!

JC
HOOOOOLLLLLL OOOOOONNNN!!!!

He ties a rope round Mary's waist, then his waist... as
BOTH SHIPS CRASH INTO THE CYCLONE and get tossed to the sea.

VIVIAN FOLLOWS MASTER SARO

onto a wooden ship where she slips unnoticed into the

CARGO HOLD

as the CREW raises anchor. By the time she corners Saro in
the back of the dark chamber... HE HAS DISAPPEARED.

Vivian hides as the Crew loads in cargo and blocks her in.

AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF THE DEFEATED DRAGONFLY

that lies sprawled across several city blocks

Zoma dusts himself off.

ZOMA
Pathetic... That wasn't even a challenge.

With a sigh he takes stock of the wrecked port town.

ZOMA LIFTS ONE OF HIS MEN

up from a pile of rubble. Destroyed Tanks are everywhere.

ZOMA
Where's Vivian?

With his dying breath the Man points towards the harbor...
where hundreds of ships all sail away in every direction.

THE STORM HAS PASSED

and Mary wakes up on the wide planks of their wrecked boat.

JC, Darryl, and Mercutio are asleep but safe.

She rubs her eyes and searches the empty horizon...

RITH FEI'S ENORMOUS PIRATE FLEET

sails both the water and the sky.

IN THE CONN OF RITH FEI'S FLAGSHIP

a SONAR OFFICER detects some red dots on his view-screen.

AROUND A CIRCULAR TABLE

Rith meets with Zhun and a number of other PIRATE CAPTAINS.

ZHUN FEI

Please, father. Let me lead the attack.

Rith cracks a smile and laughs at his eager son.

RITH FEI

The day will soon be yours, Zhun Fei. But not this day.

He pulls from his pocket A CIRCUIT BOARD and holds it up for the Captains as if it were a precious gem.

RITH FEI (CONT'D)

Hide the fleet in the clouds. I'm doing this alone.

RITH FEI BOARDS AN ARMADA SUBMARINE

with his Polar Bear and a contingency of PIRATES.

INSIDE THE SUBMARINE'S DARK COMMAND ROOM

Rith sits on strange chair clearly not meant for humans.

He places THE CIRCUIT BOARD into a socket on the chair's arm and all the LIGHTS ACTIVATE as the submarine whirs to life.

A CROWN OF WIRES extends from the chair and rests on Rith's head. They pulse blue and green as they read his thoughts.

A holographic view of the sea appears in front of him.

THOUSANDS OF WOODEN PIRATE SHIPS

take to the air and disappear into the clouds overhead...

as the submarine below them plows over the waves...

ON THE DOCKS OF THE FROZEN PORT TOWN OF NIFLHEIM

A MERCHANT CREW unloads their ship's cargo.

Behind a broken crate in the back of the hold, amidst a pile of empty bottles and candy bar wrappings, they find:

VIVIAN fast asleep on the floor. Her eyes blink open!

THE MERCHANT CAPTAIN RISES FROM HIS DESK

and examines Vivian's hair as his Crew presents her to him.

GRUFF CREWMAN

This is her, Captain. The stow-away...
What should we do with her?

VIVIAN'S WRISTS AND ANKLES ARE SHACKLED IN LIGHT CHAIN

as the Captain drags her through the icy streets towards

A MASSIVE BUILDING MADE OF ICE: THE ICE ARENA!

AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER PATROLS THE WATERS

In his stateroom - ADMIRAL HARPER, the old and confident Demese Naval Officer, sets down his coffee in surprise.

ADMIRAL HARPER

Come again?

NERVOUS OFFICER (OVER THE MIC)

Unmistakable sir! An Armada submarine!

ADMIRAL HARPER

What!? HERE!? Right off the Demese coast!

NERVOUS OFFICER (OVER THE MIC)

Bearing one eight zero and approaching!
Contact is submerging!

A JET GETS FLUNG BY A SLINGSHOT

across the Carrier's deck and TAKES FLIGHT!

Depth charges drop from TWO DESTROYERS flanking the Carrier.

VIVIAN'S NEON RED HAIR GETS RUSTLED BETWEEN FINGERS BY

CAPTAIN SHINING, the rough and tough Lord of the Ice Arena.

THE MERCHANT CAPTAIN (O.S.)

No way. I'll take no less than fifty.

Shining stares at her. But she is cold. Defiant. He smiles.

VIVIAN'S PUSHED INTO A FROZEN UNDERGROUND CELL

The GUARD locks the door and walks off down the icy hallway.

She lifts up a blanket and finds ROACHES! Though startled at first, she's too cold to complain, and bundles herself up.

A CREEPY OLD VOICE (O.S.)
Hey... New guy. What are you in for?

Vivian's visibly freaked out... but inches towards the voice.

A CREEPY OLD VOICE (O.S.)
That's ok. Be the silent type. You'll be silent forever after tomorrow.

VIVIAN
Why's that?

A CREEPY OLD VOICE (O.S.)
A girl? So how'd the pirates capture you?

VIVIAN
I wasn't captured. I'm a *stow-away*...
It's just...

A CREEPY OLD VOICE (O.S.)
What? What's that now?

VIVIAN
What's a *stow-away*?

The Creepy Voice giggles in hysteria, as

A HORRIBLE ICE-SCORPION-CREATURE gets wheeled by in a cage.

Vivian cowers in the corner. She pulls out her Journal and tries to paint, but her water-colors are all frozen...

A JESTER'S BELLS jingle in the hall... Vivian turns to see

MASTER SARO

pass through the iron bars like a ghost. She shows no fear.

MASTER SARO
When ink runs dry in fire or ice, one drop of blood will quite suffice. Much power flows within our line. Yes just one drop will be quite fine.

VIVIAN
Saro? Am I really your daughter? Truly?

MASTER SARO

*What's mine is yours your blood contains,
a unique fate flows through those veins.
Keep close your book it binds your soul,
your mother's gift it makes you whole.*

VIVIAN

My mother? You know her? Can I meet her?

MASTER SARO

*Your paths will cross take that to heart,
and just for now our paths must part.
With great danger you must contend. Be
careful or your life could end. Your
enemy might be your friend.*

Vivian watches helplessly as Saro backs away and vanishes.

After a long moment of silent reflection, she PRICKS HER FINGER on a sharp piece of iron. RED BLOOD POOLS...

And she starts painting Saro's red mask in her Journal.

HIGH IN THE SKY ABOVE ADMIRAL HARPER'S CARRIER FLEET

Zhun stands on the deck of the flagship. All around him THE THOUSANDS OF SHIPS IN THE FLEET hover silent in the mist.

Zhun watches through A LONG TELESCOPE as far beneath them:

ONE BY ONE EVERY SHIP AND PLANE IN THE DEMOS FLEET EXPLODES

A LONE FIGHTER JET survives... and it SPOTS THE PIRATE FLEET!

ZHUN FEI LOWERS THE TELESCOPE

and unholsters a shoulder mounted rocket launcher.

SCARY FIRST MATE

We can't let him get away. He'll tell.

ZHUN FEI

I know. I know.

Zhun approaches the rails and FIRES! The missile trails down after the Jet... It tries to turn away... KAPOW! Vaporized.

Zhun pumps his fist in celebration.

ZHUN FEI (CONT'D)

Yeah! Did you see that? Yes! First shot!

DAVENPORT STORMS UP THE STEPS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE

towards a large gathered crowd of PRESS and CAMERAMEN.

SHE CLEARS HER THROAT IN FRONT OF A BOUQUET OF MICROPHONES

DAVENPORT

The cowardly Pirate attack on Port Kefka cannot be ignored! This petition's signed by sixty percent of the House of Commons!

(she holds up a CD-ROM)

More than enough to call for a vote of no confidence and force Jackson to...

(she starts to lose the crowd)

recall the fleet... from Armada's... ???

A wave of panicked rumor passes over everyone present.

Her Advisor pulls her away and hands her a tablet computer.

ON SCREEN: THE BURNING WRECKAGE OF ADMIRAL HARPER'S FLEET

THE HEADLINE: ARMADA SUBMARINE DESTROYS ONLY FLEET IN PORT

DAVENPORT RUNS AWAY - INTO HER LIMOUSINE - AND SPEEDS OFF

CUT TO:

JC HAMMERS NAILS INTO A BROKEN PLANK OF WOOD

as he and Darryl construct a new parasail from the wreckage.

Even in close quarters, Mary and JC do their best to COMPLETELY AVOID EACH OTHER. They don't even look.

Mary rests her feet in the water. Mercutio comforts her.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Cheer up Lass. You can't fault him for hiding the truth. Everyone has secrets they keep... From family. From friends.

(he play slaps her)

Some they even keep from themselves.

She turns to face him... something in the tone of his voice.

MISTER MERCUTIO (CONT'D)

JC didn't choose this life. It's been there with him from the start. It's been in his blood... Even if he denies it.

MARY

What do you mean?

He climbs up onto her lap and sits down.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Once... upon a time... a ship that sailed
the stars crashed into a hidden lake.

A FUTURISTIC PIRATE SHIP SINKS BENEATH THE WAVES

as a HANDSOME ELF-LIKE MAN drifts to the shore half-drowned.

MISTER MERCUTIO (V.O.)

Only one of its crew survived. A young
man, saved by the princess of a nearby
town. She nursed him to health in secret.

A YOUNG LADY turns him over from the mud. He coughs up water.

THEY SHARE A BOWL OF SOUP

in a dark wooden shack surrounded by thick jungle.

MISTER MERCUTIO (V.O.)

She learned he wasn't of this world, but
of an ancient race called Travelers.

She watches him with loving wonder as he tells her a story.

MISTER MERCUTIO (V.O.)

His home was the mystical city of Lanka,
and his people traveled the heavens. Some
say they were the very first Pirates...

THEY KISS BENEATH A WATERFALL

MISTER MERCUTIO (V.O.)

And in secret she went to him every day,
and in secret they soon fell in love.

SHE SCREAMS INTO HER FANCY BEDROOM PILLOW

inconsolably crying. Her MOTHER tries in vain to comfort her.

MISTER MERCUTIO (V.O.)

But she was promised to another, a
prince, and when her father learned of
their affair, he had him imprisoned in
his darkest cell... forever...

THE YOUNG LADY HIDES HER PREGNANT STOMACH UNDER A CLOAK

and sneaks away from her village into the jungle.

MISTER MERCUTIO (V.O.)
 And so the princess fled her home and was
 never seen from, or heard from, again...

TEARS HAVE FLOODED MERCUTIO'S EYES

He rubs his nose, sniffles, and wipes his tears away.

MARY
 Don't cry. Oh Mister Mercutio. Don't cry.

MISTER MERCUTIO
 The lady who vanished... She was JC's
 mom. And when she gave birth... she died.

With Mercutio's emotion, Mary can't help but believe it.

She glances over at JC who's completely oblivious.

MARY
 But that would make him?

MISTER MERCUTIO
 A child of the stars...

JC reveals a silver flute AND PLAYS A MELODY TO THE OCEAN.

MARY
 Wow... That's beautiful.

MISTER MERCUTIO
 Hold on... Mary! Hold on!

MARY
 What's that M. M.?

MISTER MERCUTIO
 That means hold on!

As the music plays, THE WHALE TATTOO on JC's arm glows...

AND UP FROM THE WATERS BELOW - A POD OF BLUE WHALES

breaks surface, LEAPS to the air and TAKES FLIGHT!!!

Darryl and JC lasso the tail of a flying whale...

The PARASAIL CATCHES WIND - And up they fly! Up to the sky!

MURDOCK SPOTS THE FLYING WHALES THROUGH HIS TELESCOPE

amidst the chaos of his Crew repairing his damaged ship.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
Those fools are headed to Niflheim!

PIAO CHOW
Captain?

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
Even if James Clarke reaches the Outer
Sea first, he'll never outrun us! Not
when we rejoin the fleet! We'll overtake
him in the shadows, take the girl, and
claim her bounty for ourselves!

His pirate crew CHEERS and fires rifle shots into the air.

JC SPOTS THE FROZEN ISLAND OF NIFLHEIM ON THE HORIZON AND
detaches from the whale. Their catamaran GLIDES TO THE ISLAND
AND COMES TO A LANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF TOWN

JC tosses Mercutio a small pouch, who looks in and SCREECHES!

JC
I know it's short. It's all that's left.

Darryl notices Mary and JC exchange a few private glances.

DARRYL
Don't worry Captain! We'll make it work.

He grabs Mercutio by the scruff of his neck and walks off.

JC rummages through his remaining supplies while Mary looks
around at the rustic wooden village built in the ice.

MARY
What's this town called again? Niflheim?
I've never been this far east before...
I've never even been to the Outer Sea
before! What's it like?

JC throws her a nasty look

JC
Cold.

and turns away, back to his search. She huffs, annoyed.

MARY
Look! If you're gonna give me attitude -

JC finds what he's looking for! He instantly cheers up.

JC

- You hungry? I'm hungry. Come on! I know the best place in town for dinner.

JC takes Mary's hand and leads her across the snowy street.

A CANDLELIT TABLE IS ALL THAT SEPARATES MARY AND JC

as a FANCY WAITER carefully watches JC sip his wine.

JC nods, more wine gets poured, and the Waiter leaves.

MARY

Listen... I just wanted to say -

JC

- No need to apologize. It's fine.

MARY

I wasn't going to! ... Hey. Can we start over? We both! ... Let's just start over.

JC

Hi. I'm James. But you can call me JC.

MARY

Hi James... You can call me Mary.

Mary sees her reflection in a mirror and gets self-conscious.

JC

What brings you to a dump like this Mary?

MARY

Oh, you know. Recovering stolen artifacts. Running from pirates. Chasing down storms. Same old same old.

JC stands up somewhat abruptly.

JC

Could you give me a minute?

MARY

Oh, umm. Sure.

He walks away... and when he's just out of sight...

Mary spills some water onto her hands and pretties herself up in the mirror. She cleans her face and fixes her hair.

FADE TO:

MARY RESTS HER CHIN ON HER FIST

the bottle of wine half drained... Finally she gets up.

MARY

This is ridiculous.

MARY WANDERS THROUGH THE BACK OF THE CROWDED RESTAURANT

and finds JC placing bets at an automated telling machine.

She watches him with increasing disdain as he counts out his last five gold doubloons and inserts them into a slot.

MARY

Unbelievable! You didn't bring me here for dinner! You came here to gamble!

JC

It's not what you think! Well ok, it is, but it's not that simple!

MARY

Seems simple enough to me. You want to be left alone, FINE! Have it your way! What are you betting on anyway?

JC

Tonight's arena matches...

Mary's demeanor instantly softens.

MARY

You mean... like gladiators?

JC sighs and turns to face her. Their eyes meet. He smiles.

JC

Yeah... Like gladiators.

Mary moves closer to him... HE LEANS IN FOR A KISS... but

SHE LEANS OVER HIS SHOULDER and points at the video screen.

MARY

That red haired girl. There. Who is she? She looks straight out of a painting...

JC turns back to the machine and opens a picture of Vivian.

JC

One of the gladiators. She's a hundred to one long shot. It's a bad bet, Mary.

Mary erupts into a fury.

MARY
YOU'RE GAMBLING ON LITTLE GIRLS!?

JC grabs her by the arm and forces her to sit.

JC
Will you keep your voice down!

MARY
You're not really gonna sit there and
lecture me, are you?

JC
What do you expect me to do about it?

If looks could kill, JC would be dead by Mary's glare alone.

VIVIAN GETS PULLED ALONG BY HER SHACKLES IN A CHAIN OF

PRISONERS through an X-RAY SCANNER manned by a SLEEPY PIRATE.

One by one each Prisoner stops. BZZZZZT! Gets waved through.

But when Vivian enters the scanner the Pirate startles awake.

ON SCREEN: Vivian's bones are etched with thousands upon thousands of tiny animal carvings. Every bone. Every one.

SHINING ENJOYS A LAVISH SPREAD OF WINE AND WOMEN AS HE

entertains GUESTS in a private box overlooking the ARENA.

A PIRATE DOCTOR hands him a MEDICAL REPORT ON VIVIAN that shows her tattoos in close-up imaging.

JC AND MARY SIT IN ATTENDANCE AT THE ICE ARENA AS

a crowd of hundreds of UNSAVORY CHARACTERS fill the stands.

A LARGE SCOREBOARD displays THE ODDS for each contestant.

Mary watches with surprise as the odds for RED-HAIRED-GIRL shift from 100:1 down to 7:1. SCORPION'S at 1.1:1

She turns to JC, PISSED!

JC
It wasn't me. I swear! Honest!

She crosses her arms... He flags over a VENDOR.

VIVIAN AND THE OTHER SOON TO BE GLADIATORS GET

marched into a weapons locker where they make their choice.

For herself, Vivian chooses a small shield and a dagger, then

FOLLOWS THEM ON THE LONG WALK TO THE CENTER OF THE ARENA

where the CHEERS of the crowd fall to a silent hush as

they STARE DOWN AT THE LITTLE GIRL beside a dozen MEN.

HUZZAH! The CHEERS return! Louder than ever!

SHINING STEPS OUT ONTO HIS BALCONY

and fires a flare! Beneath its fiery red glow...

IRON GATES OPEN AND RELEASE

THREE GIANT ICE SCORPIONS! They scurry out into the Arena.

VIVIAN FALLS TO THE SNOWY FLOOR

and gets left behind as the Gladiators charge into battle.

MARY'S ON THE EDGE OF HER SEAT

while JC holds his hand to his ear... listening to...

DARRYL AND MERCUTIO

who've taken the FIVE MEN in the ARENA CONTROL BOOTH HOSTAGE!

Mercutio ushers them into the corner with a small shotgun.

DARRYL

We're ready Captain!

JC (OVER THE MIC)

Do it!

Darryl mans the controls and PULLS DOWN EVERY SINGLE LEVER.

GIANT ANTS, SABRETOOTH TIGERS, AND OTHER SAVAGE BEASTS WATCH

in primal ecstasy as ONE BY ONE THEIR CAGE DOORS OPEN!

CHAOS BREAKS OUT ACROSS THE ARENA'S CROWDS

as an uncontrollable horde of monsters OVERRUNS THE ARENA!

JC AND MARY FIGHT PAST THE FLEEING CROWDS

and jump down onto the Arena floor.

VIVIAN HUDDLES BEHIND HER SHIELD

as she watches the Gladiators get overwhelmed.

A SCORPION approaches... She SCREAMS! It STARES RIGHT AT HER!

... But it turns away... completely ignoring her!!!

Vivian watches as A HEAVILY MUSCLED BARBARIAN smashes the Scorpion to a pulp with his mighty battle hammer. But then

RILED UP IN A FRENZY he approaches Vivian to SMASH HER NEXT!

SHE CLUTCHES HER SHIELD and cowers behind it... when

A HUGE TIGER KNOCKS the Barbarian down and drags him away.

Vivian nervously looks up... and discovers MARY

kneeling beside her with her hand outstretched.

Vivian's eyes focus in on the CAT-TATTOO on Mary's wrist...

and SHE TAKES MARY'S HAND!

DARRYL AND MERCUTIO HOLD THE BEASTS AT BAY

and lead JC, Mary, and Vivian out of the arena to safety.

FADE TO:

ADMIRAL MURDOCK AND HIS GRIZZLED PIRATE CREW

stomp through Niflheim towards the smoldering Ice Arena where

GUARDS STRUGGLE TO CORRAL

the last remaining monsters back into their pens.

Murdock watches A VIDEO REPLAY of Mary rescuing Vivian.

PIAO CHOW KICKS DOWN THE DOOR TO SHINING'S PRIVATE BOX

and they find him counting his winnings at a table.

Coins spill everywhere as Murdock's Crew GRABS HIM.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

Where'd you get the girl!? The red head!

CAPTAIN SHINING

I bought her... She was a stow-away.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

How am I not surprised! Kang has utterly failed! But his loss shall be our gain!

His Crew shouts in agreement while Murdock circles the table overflowing with coins... But Shining's more concerned about

VIVIAN'S MEDICAL REPORT. Murdock takes notice and reads it.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (CONT'D)

Well! Well! Looks like her bounty's worth way more than Armada's offering! We'll take her alive and jack up the price!

He hands the report to Piao Chow, and tosses Shining a coin.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (CONT'D)

Captain Shining is it? For your trouble.

CAPTAIN SHINING

Uhh. Thanks.

Murdock turns and leaves as his Crew roughs Shining up.

FADE TO:

DAVENPORT CYCLES THROUGH THE TELEVISION CHANNELS

All are EMERGENCY BROADCASTS discussing the Armada threat.

She turns off the TV and tosses the remote aside.

DAVENPORT

Leave me.

TEN ADVISORS in three piece suits lift their briefcases and make a hasty retreat from her luxurious living quarters.

Davenport pours herself a glass of white wine, drops in a few ice cubes, and takes a seat beside an Aquarium tank.

She raps her fingers on the glass. Inside's a SILVER OCTOPUS.

But it slithers away and hides from Davenport's gaze...

With a sigh she shuts off the light and leans back...

Sipping her wine in the dark...

She remembers back to a day long since past...

FADE TO:

EVELYN DAVENPORT IS A LITTLE GIRL

as she roams the shadowy corridors of her family's penthouse.

She pilots a tiny REMOTE HELICOPTER down the hall while her DOVE COMPANION rests on her shoulder. It coos peacefully...

But when the HELICOPTER CRASHES the Dove TAKES FLIGHT

and disappears into a nearby room. Evelyn freezes in fear...

The room is unnaturally dark... Her Dove enters the shadows.

EVELYN'S FATHER (V.O.)

Although you're my daughter my office is private, and should you disobey there's no way you can hide it.

But the Dove is just within hands reach...

EVELYN FINDS HERSELF STANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DARK ROOM

chasing after the Dove. It leaps onto a desk and its feet

ACTIVATE A VIEW SCREEN. Her hands clasp around the Dove.

EVELYN

Got ya!

The screen shows:

A CORPORATE BOARD MEETING IN A SHADOWY CANDLELIT ROOM

At the far end of the table, shrouded by an impenetrable darkness, a Stygian figure towers over everyone else.

THE MONITOR CUTS OUT

and Evelyn's confronted by her MENTOR, a muscular but astonishingly well dressed elderly gentleman.

He grabs her by the chin and forces her eyes to meet his.

EVELYN'S MENTOR

Some things are not meant to be seen by little children.

EVELYN

I'm not so little anymore.

EVELYN'S MENTOR

Then prove it.

ON A ROOFTOP GARDEN OVERLOOKING THE CLOUDS

The Ancient Gateways of Evelyn's family lead to a sand circle where Evelyn and her Mentor face each other AND BOW.

Evelyn pulls an Odachi Sword from its sheath.

Its FIVE FOOT BLADE is longer than she is tall, but somehow she's able to wield the massive weapon with precision.

Evelyn RUSHES FORWARD AND ATTACKS! And though her Mentor is unarmed, one by one he dodges each of her swings, all the while instructing her in a steady, monotone voice.

EVELYN'S MENTOR

Make friends with the powerful... Avoid their hatred above all others... Do your best to seem merciful, faithful, humane, religious... Never reveal any weakness... Never reveal the truth.

He grabs her Odachi and tosses it out of the ring with ease.

Evelyn catches her breath, and HE SLAPS HER!

EVELYN'S MENTOR (CONT'D)

What are you doing? Fight me!

EVELYN

But my sword -

EVELYN'S MENTOR

- Your true weapon lies within!

She raises her fists and they fight HAND TO HAND. She blocks!

EVELYN'S MENTOR (CONT'D)

Fortresses are dangerous don't isolate yourself! Isolation can be deadly!

HE SLAPS HER AGAIN but she counterattacks AND LANDS A PUNCH!

They both stop. Both equally surprised she landed a blow.

He holds a hand to his eye... His contact lens dislodged

EXPOSING THE DRAGON'S EYE

of her Mentor's Paradox eye... It adjusts to natural light.

CUT TO:

EVELYN DAVENPORT'S EYES BLINK OPEN

as she's startled from her memories by the lights coming on.

Her Smarmy Advisor pushes in with the smuggest of smiles.

SMARMY ADVISOR

My sincerest apologies. I have a thought.

She sits up and rubs at her tired eyes.

DAVENPORT

What time is it?

SMARMY ADVISOR

What if we kidnapped his daughter?

DAVENPORT

Excuse me?

SMARMY ADVISOR

Jackson's daughter. Intel reports that she's in Pirate waters. We'll offer a bounty and use her as leverage.

DAVENPORT

Leverage? Really?

SMARMY ADVISOR

He'll have no choice. He'll pay her ransom and we'll leak the story! Then he'll have to admit the Pirate threat.

DAVENPORT

And if she's hurt? Or worse? What then?

SMARMY ADVISOR

Then he'll hate them and we still win. Well, the greater we. It's for the greater good. You know Rith Fei. You've read the reports.

DAVENPORT

I've heard enough. Get out of here.

SMARMY ADVISOR

Trust me madam. It's the only way.

DAVENPORT

No! And I'll hear no more speak of it!

SMARMY ADVISOR

But... But I expected you to agree -

She rises gracefully and strides away towards the window.

DAVENPORT

- You expected me to parley with pirates?
To compromise my ethics? My morality? Did
you really expect me to stoop so low?

Her Advisor is stunned.

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

Get out!

(he still doesn't move)

I said GET OUT!

She grabs a vase and THROWS IT AGAINST THE WALL! CRASH!

He scurries away with his tail between his legs.

Evelyn Davenport turns back to her window... gazes out across
the clouds that obscure Republica's city scape...

And laughs...

DARRYL AND MERCUTIO

lead JC, Mary, and Vivian across a SNOW FIELD towards

A FROZEN LAKE

where they all climb aboard the

ICE GLIDER

that's waiting for them. It's even smaller than the
catamaran, and it's made of metal with TALL CANVAS SAILS.

JC

Really? This was the best you could find?

Mercutio takes THE MOST UTMOST OFFENSE to this remark.

He puffs up his chest and starts MARCHING TOWARDS JC, when
Darryl lifts him up and stuffs him in his backpack.

DARRYL

Best let him cool off a bit. Sorry bout
that Captain.

RATATTTATATTTATATTTATATATTATTA!

All around them the Ice Lake's assaulted by machine gun fire.
But there's nothing but ice in every direction...

MERCUTIO SCREECHES!!!

And out from Darryl's backpack his finger points up!

Up to the sky!

WHERE MURDOCK'S SHIP'S DESCENDING UPON THEM FROM THE CLOUDS

Murdock looks down through his telescope at the Ice Glider...
Then up to their destination: An Ice Bridge to the Outer Sea.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
AT THE READY!

A LINE OF CANNONS rises up from the deck beside Murdock.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (CONT'D)
FIRE!

ALL AROUND THE ICE GLIDER - CANNONBALLS EXPLODE

as JC hoists the main sails and their glider TAKES FLIGHT!
Explosions rock the ground where they were only seconds ago.

JC
I can't believe they're still after us!

DARRYL
I know right! Damn Mary! How much is that
bounty of yours anyway?

Mary hasn't the slightest clue. Darryl shakes his head.

POW! POW! POW! One by one Mercutio hands MORTARS to Darryl.

They launch at Murdock's ship AND RELEASE A WALL OF SMOKE!

Mary clings to Vivian and shields her from the icy winds and
ear shattering sounds.

Vivian's eyes are closed... But her hand grips Mary's tight.

MURDOCK LAUGHS AS THE GLIDER REACHES THE ICE BRIDGE

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
BOARDING PARTY!!! He can't escape us now!

PIRATES fastened to ropes and chains prepare to jump!

THE PIRATE SHIP'S SHADOW OVERTAKES THE ICE GLIDER

Darryl looks up and UNSHEATHES A SWORD! So does Mercutio!

DARRYL
We'll never outrun them! Captain they're
coming! Above us! Captain look out!

THREE PIRATES DROP beside them! A FRANTIC BATTLE BREAKS OUT!

While JC and Darryl handle two of the Pirates, the third one approaches Mary and Vivian with a big rope lasso.

THE THIRD PIRATE
That's it. Give us a bundle!

He throws the lasso and WRAPS THE ROPE round both of them!

But MARY SLICES IT OFF with a long knife.

THE THIRD PIRATE (CONT'D)
Have it your way.

He readies a battle axe and adjusts his grip on the handle.

MARY
Stay away from us! Get back!

BANG! The Pirate gets BLASTED off and over the rails by

MERCUTIO and his FUTURISTIC SILVER CROSSBOW!

He spins it around and offers it to Mary. She takes it.

MORE PIRATES START TO RAPPEL DOWN FROM ABOVE

JC has no choice. He grabs the wheel and STEERS TOWARDS

THE SIDE OF THE ICE BRIDGE WHICH

drops away into empty space and out of Aquaria's gravity.

MASSIVE WIND STORMS spiral and cyclone near its icy edge.

MURDOCK'S SHIP FOLLOWS HIM INTO THE WINDSTORM

and both ships are taken by a HUGE UPDRAFT AND SPIRAL AWAY!

BOTH SHIPS ARE OUT OF CONTROL AND CRASH OFF THE SIDES OF

the Ice Bridge and race down into the infinite void beyond.

ROCKET THRUSTERS EMERGE FROM MURDOCK'S SHIP

and blast it back up onto the Ice Bridge!

WHILE JC'S ABLE TO CATCH THE WIND

and their tiny Glider flies into the cracks of an icy ravine.

MURDOCK WATCHES HELPLESSLY FROM THE DECK OF HIS SHIP

as the Glider disappears where he can't follow.

FADE TO:

THE GLIDER FLIES OUT FROM THE UNDERGROUND ICE RAVINE

and lands in the half-frozen waters of the Outer Sea.

STRIPES OF SHADOW line the horizon where the Traveler's light is obscured by the waters of the Inner Sea far above them.

Thousands of glaciers and islands lead off to the darkness.

FADE TO:

WITHIN THE COVE OF A FERTILE LAGOON

The Pirate Ship Dread Orca sits anchored.

Though wood and canvas, the mighty ship is patch-worked with assorted scavenged technologies from Demos and Armada.

MERCUTIO LOWERS HIS TELESCOPE

and jumps up and down on Darryl's head in celebration

as their Glider sails into the lagoon and towards the ship.

A CREW OF THREE DOZEN STANDS READY ON DECK

while JC and the rest of them climb up over the rails.

Mary watches as JC is given a FANCY HAT by one of the Crew.

He fastens it on and fixes his shirt.

JC

No time for reunions lads! Raise anchor
and set sail North for the straights!

FINNSTERNIS, an old Pirate Librarian with a cybernetic eye monocle and a long grey beard steps forward.

FINNSTERNIS
Trouble Captain?

JC
It's Murdock.
(turning to Mary)
Finnsternis here will get you two
situated. We'll talk later.

JC heads for the wheel as Darryl BOISTEROUSLY LAUGHS
alongside a crowd of other laughing Pirates.

MARY LINGERS IN THE DOORWAY OF A LAVISH BEDROOM

while Vivian and Mercutio sit on the floor drawing together.

Mary half-shuts the door and leans close to Finnsternis.

MARY
Have you ever seen anything like her?

FINNSTERNIS
Not in all my years. Where is she from?

She shrugs and sighs, somewhat exasperated.

MARY
I don't even know her name... She hasn't
spoken since Niflheim.

FINNSTERNIS
She'll be all right. Mercutio will take
care of her... If there's nothing else...

MARY
You ever hear of the Goddess Tara?

FINNSTERNIS LIGHTS AN OLD OIL LAMP FOR MARY

and the tiny Library gets illuminated. Books line the walls.

Mary takes off her coat and puts it on a strange coat-rack.

FINNSTERNIS
You'll find what you're looking for
here... somewhere...

Mary pulls over a LARGE TOME. POOF! Dust flies into her face.

FINNSTERNIS (CONT'D)
I'll leave you to it then...

She sits and studies the book as he leaves... Meanwhile

ABOVE ON DECK - HIGH UP IN THE MAIN MASTS

a ROBOTIC SCARAB crawls in the rigging. JC's far below...

The Scarab's sharp claws slowly slice away the ropes almost to the point of breaking...

The ropes trail up and away - HOLDING TIGHT TO THE SAIL that CATCHES THE WIND as the Dread Orca heads out to sea.

ONLY A FEW ISLANDS AWAY IN ANOTHER HIDDEN COVE

Murdock's ship sits anchored beside

MURDOCK'S FLAGSHIP

A massive wooden behemoth with a TALL CLOCKTOWER rising between two of its seven masts. Bats perch in the belfry.

Several dozen smaller Pirate Ships sit anchored nearby.

IN HIS STATEROOM OVERLOOKING THE COVE AND HIS FLEET

Murdock speaks with Davenport's Smarmy Advisor on a large TV.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
You must take me for a fool!

SMARMY ADVISOR (ON TV)
Twice the ransom then! Before and after!

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
What's the point of paying her bounty just to pay her ransom?

SMARMY ADVISOR (ON TV)
I'm paying you not to ask that question. And I need assurances. The girl. She's not to be harmed or the deal's off.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
I can do you one better!

SMARMY ADVISOR (ON TV)
Oh?

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

The President's daughter! The next time I see her I'll give you a call! You can watch when she's strung from the boom!!!

THE SMARMY ADVISOR'S FACE PALES

as Admiral Murdock laughs and the video feed cuts out.

He sits there in shock, astonished at how poorly that went.

EVEN WORSE FOR HIM - DAVENPORT HAS WATCHED THE EXCHANGE

from a computer console beside three other ADVISORS.

A video of his conversation with Murdock replays on screen.

Davenport shakes her head and sighs in utter disappointment.

THE SMARMY ADVISOR GETS DRAGGED AWAY IN HANDCUFFS

FADE TO:

MARY SHUTS A BOOK IN FRUSTRATION

sets it on a growing stack, and opens up another...

She shivers and looks to the coat-rack... *It's blinking.*

Mary rubs at her eyes and adjusts the flame on her oil lamp.

Nope. Still blinking. She gets up and inspects it... Some kind of odd Armada technology with no relatable purpose...

Finnsternis pushes in with a pot of tea and some crackers.

MARY

What's this?

FINNSTERNIS

That's an old Armada beacon. Command ships use them to control the captains of their smaller vessels.

MARY

And it's just sitting here in the corner?

FINNSTERNIS

Ehh. Salvage like that's common out here. Most of the Dread Orca's built from the stuff.

Mary realizes the table's a BIG PROJECTION TV on its side.

MERCUTIO RUNS HIS HAND ALONG AN ARRAY OF COLORED PENCILS

picks out a light blue one, and hands it to Vivian.

MISTER MERCUTIO
I forgot I even still had them.

VIVIAN
They're perfect... Thank you.

Mercutio watches Vivian draw a turbulent ocean...

when he spots a blue light coming from under her Journal.

He crawls his way closer... the **GEM** on the cover is glowing!

The glow STOPS when Vivian turns and looks right at him.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Where'd you get that shiny book from?

VIVIAN
My journal? Umm... Well.
(she goes back to drawing)
It was in with my things that they gave me at school. But I think... I think it once belonged to my mom... But I don't know... I never met her...

MISTER MERCUTIO
That's so sad... So... unusual...

Mercutio's intrigued... Vivian suddenly GIGGLES HYSTERICALLY!

MISTER MERCUTIO (CONT'D)
Huh? What's so funny?

VIVIAN
It's just... It's just...

MISTER MERCUTIO
What is it. Your mother?

VIVIAN
I just still can't believe how you talk!

Mercutio is straight up INSULTED!

MISTER MERCUTIO
Nothing's wrong with my accent! I happen to think my vernacular's spectacular!
(Vivian laughs harder)
What! Is something wrong with my voice?

VIVIAN

But Mister Mercutio! You're a monkey!!!
Monkeys aren't supposed to talk!

MISTER MERCUTIO

I'll have you know I'm the best speaker
in the crew! They all LOVE my speeches!

VIVIAN

I'm sure they do Mister Mercutio. I'm
sure they do... Hand me the brown please.

Vivian starts drawing a monkey in her Journal...

Mercutio watches as the **GEM** on its cover glows green...

THE SHIP LURCHES TO A STOP

when THE MAIN SAIL FALLS! JC BARELY DIVES AWAY UNINJURED!

Darryl inspects the fallen rigging and finds the cut rope.

He brings it to JC and shows him the clean sliced edges.

UP IN THE CROW'S NEST

a PIRATE'S toothpick falls away when he spots

THE CLOCKTOWER OF MURDOCK'S FLAGSHIP GLINTING ON THE HORIZON!

CROW'S NEST PIRATE

Murdock! It's Murdock! Murdock!

JC GRABS THE CUT ROPE FROM DARRYL

and tosses it overboard into the sea.

JC

We've got to get Mary back to Demos.

DARRYL

We'll never outrun him in open waters.

JC pats Darryl's shoulder, and turns to face his men.

JC

All right you scurvy dogs! Listen here!
It's either Murdock's cannons and an icy
grave, or little bit of night! Now tell
me! WHO AMONGST YOU'S AFRAID OF THE DARK?

THE CREW (IN UNISON)

WHO! WHO! WHO!

JC
WHAT'S THAT!? I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

THE CREW (IN UNISON)
WHO! WHO! WHO!

JC
Raise the masts and turn us into the
wind! Today we sail the dark zone!

The Crew CHEERS IN COURAGEOUS CELEBRATION and gets to work.

GAINING ON THEM FROM THE HORIZON

Murdock watches through his telescope as JC changes course.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
BEST LIGHT THE KEG FIRES! HO!! HO!!

HIS CREW (IN UNISON)
HOOOOO!!!!!!

FLARES LIGHT THE SKY OVER MURDOCK'S FLEET

and SIGNAL FIRES ignite and spread across the ships...

They turn towards the shadows beyond as night caves in...

FADE TO:

FAR FAR AWAY IN THE INNER SEA

Rith Fei's submarine leads his epic fleet over the waves.

They sail unopposed across the waters beside

RESORTIA MEGALOPOLIS

the Las Vegas of Demos that's lined with Casinos and Hotels.

PANIC SPREADS ACROSS THE ISLAND

as everyone tries to flee at the same time. TRAFFIC JAMS!

ON THE DECK OF THE FLAGSHIP

Zhun Fei, his Hound, and the Pirate Captains stand before a

HOLOGRAM OF RITH FEI from within the submarine's conn.

Beside him is a HOLOGRAM OF HIS POLAR BEAR TOO.

Far off in the distance HELICOPTERS EXPLODE IN THE SKY while waves of fresh missiles launch from their pirate ships.

RITH FEI (AS A HOLOGRAM)
It's just as I expected. There isn't a fleet to oppose us in a thousand miles.

ZHUN FEI
Please father! I beg you! Spare the lives of these innocents. They are helpless before our glory! Let them live...

RITH FEI (AS A HOLOGRAM)
Just like a child to be so short-sighted!

ZHUN FEI
This isn't tactical! It's personal!

RITH FEI (AS A HOLOGRAM)
Wrong! Wrong! It's political! A statement must be made! The corrupt decadence of Demos must be set ablaze so all the world can see! Even the mightiest can fall under the weight of a unified people...

Zhun Fei's WOLFHOUND growls at Rith's BEAR. It SNARLS back.

ZHUN FEI
Captains! My father's vendetta is known to you all... Do not let this happen!

RITH FEI (AS A HOLOGRAM)
Pay him no mind Captains. Turn for the wind and when the coast is clear. Launch.

THE PIRATE CAPTAINS (IN UNISON)
Khan! Khan! Khan! Khan! Khan!

The holograms DISAPPEAR. Zhun Fei storms away in a huff.

PANICK-STRICKEN PEOPLE ON THE SHORES OF THE ISLAND

CHEER IN CELEBRATION as the Pirate Fleet turns away from the coast and disappears over the horizon... That is... until...

LINES OF FIRE AND SMOKE STREAK UP FROM THE HORIZON

and start curving back down towards the city...

ROWS OF TELEVISION MONITORS

show RIOTS AND LOOTING across the streets of Republica.

THE HEADLINES: RESORTIA MEGALOPOLIS DESTROYED! ARE WE NEXT!?

A NERVOUS AIDE STRAIGHTENS JACKSON'S TIE

as he recites lines under his breath.

A PRODUCER (O.S.)
 Alright Mister President. You're on.

Jackson takes a deep breath, and walks out before the Press.

The moment he appears he's inundated by SHOUTING QUESTIONS!

A DOZEN OF DAVENPORT'S ADVISORS WATCH IN SILENCE

as she cries with her back turned to the conference table.

DAVENPORT
 I was right... I was right all along.

A BRAVE ADVISOR
 Madam. This is the break we need. Jackson-

She turns to him, fury replacing her sadness.

DAVENPORT
 - How can you be so cavalier! People are
 dead! And we might be next!

A BRAVE ADVISOR
 Yes! And now when you call the
 opposition, Jackson will recall the
 fleet! They'll protect us.

DAVENPORT
 Rith Fei... I know this man. I've studied
 him. He's sailing straight for his
 home... Straight for... Big Leaf Island.

A murmur of unease and fear spreads across the board room.

ONE ADVISOR
 That's where my wife lives!

ANOTHER ADVISOR
 It's like right next door!

DAVENPORT
 The fleet will never return before Rith
 reaches Republica. We've run out of time.
 Something has to be done. Now.

A BRAVE ADVISOR
But... What else is there left to do?

DAVENPORT
Something drastic...

DAVENPORT STORMS UP THE STEPS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE

flanked by TWO DOZEN of her ARMED PERSONAL SECURITY FORCES.

THEY PUSH THROUGH THE HALLS PAST PRESIDENTIAL POLICE

All eyes are on the DOVE TATTOO on her cheek...

And all are UNWILLING TO SHOOT as Davenport strides along with the utmost resolve, showing no signs of fear.

JACKSON STANDS UP FROM BEHIND HIS DESK

and struggles to retain his dignity when

DAVENPORT AND HER ARMED GUARDS

push into the room and ready their rifles at him.

DAVENPORT
President Jackson! By the articles of the Constitution I'm placing you under arrest for Treason against the state!

JACKSON
Under whose authority? You're not a member of Congress! Get out of my office!

DAVENPORT
Your inept leadership brought this country to the brink of disaster! I say no more! I will not stand for it!

JACKSON
You dare threaten your Commander in Chief at the eve of war! Your hubris is unfathomable! Who'll lead if not for me?

DAVENPORT
I will. I'll lead us.

JACKSON
You! You're nothing more than a glorified saleswoman! You know nothing of war! Your very nature goes against it.

DAVENPORT

BUSINESS IS WAR! I've stood on the
corpses of my competitors for years, and
now I'll do what's necessary to protect
my people. Something you've been
unwilling to do from the start.

(to her Guards)

Take him! Now!

But the Guards hesitate... and Jackson senses his victory.

JACKSON

You see. Even your own men are unwilling
to risk their lives on you... A girl. Did
you really expect A WHOLE NATION to stand
behind you? Hmph. You're pathetic.

Davenport looks to her Men... They avert their eyes...

But outside the window... perched on a ledge...

Evelyn Davenport spots a sitting dove...

With renewed resolve she RIPS A RIFLE FROM A GUARD'S HANDS
and aims it at Jackson. He's as surprised as everyone else as
DAVENPORT, THE VERY EMBODIMENT OF PEACE, FIRES!

The force of the laser sends JACKSON BACK THROUGH THE WINDOW!

AND DOWN THE SIDE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE'S TOWER

The perched dove flies away...

A MASSIVE FLOCK OF DOVES - HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS

POUR THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR OF CONGRESSIONAL HALL!

DAVENPORT STANDS ON STAGE BEFORE A PACKED CHAMBERS

as the doves swoop all around her and rest on the podium.

DAVENPORT

All my life I've been trapped by my name.
A name synonymous with both corporate
greed and entrepreneurial spirit. But
today! Today I come before you not as a
CEO, not even as a woman, but as a
CITIZEN OF DEMOS! A CITIZEN OF REPUBLICA!

(she pauses for applause)

And beyond names... Are not each and
every one of us bound by our spirit?

(MORE)

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

Bound by what makes us true to ourselves?
And look at me! At my spirit! Take a good
long look. And tell me! What do you see?

ASSORTED CONGRESSMEN

Peace! A dove! Hope! I see hope!

DAVENPORT

You see the face of your new President!
You see the face of your salvation!

The crowd erupts into a cacophony of cheers and ovation!

AND IN THE SKIES ABOVE THE CONGRESSIONAL HALL

Thousands of doves take to the air in every direction.

DAVENPORT (V.O.)

And as your President I will issue a plea
to the people! Send forth your spirits!
Send them forth and together we will
unite! Together we will be victorious!

JC SNORES AS HE LIES FAST ASLEEP ON HIS HAMMOCK

in the Captain's Stateroom of the Dread Orca.

Mary tip-toes in and PUSHES HIM OFF! He THUMPS to the floor.

MARY

Oh, I'm sorry! Did I wake you?

He looks up at her, more pleased to see her than upset.

JC

Whatever you want make it quick. I need
some more rest before the caern.

MARY

The what?

JC

The caern. It's an old pirate tradition.
Bad luck to sail night without one. Real
bad. And we could use the other kind.

MARY

So umm. Have you ever heard of Goddess
Tara? I found this picture here...

Mary shows JC a book with the picture of Tara and Vivian.

JC

Hey. That girl looks just like her. How is she doing, anyway?

MARY

Mercutio's with her. I wanted to show her but she's resting... What does it mean?

JC

I don't know Mary... I just don't know.

VIVIAN SNEAKS OUT OF HER BEDROOM

and makes her way on deck, where she finds the Pirates are

PREPARING FOR A FEAST BENEATH THE DARKNESS OF NIGHT

They all give her space as she walks the length of the rails and takes a seat on the bow... She pulls out her Journal...

But changes her mind and puts it away... And instead...

She lies herself back... and looks to the starry night sky.

Mercutio crawls alongside her and takes a seat too.

His feet dangle over the side of the ship.

MISTER MERCUTIO

You don't think it's too scary out here?

VIVIAN

It's not scary... it's beautiful...

MISTER MERCUTIO

I bet you never thought you'd see the stars before...

VIVIAN

Huh? The stars? What about them?

MISTER MERCUTIO

Count yourself lucky. Night only happens out here where the sea eclipses the Traveler. Yup. Them inner sea folks don't know what they're missing. Sure the Traveler's beautiful, but the stars... The stars are where the Heavens are...

VIVIAN

But Mister Mercutio. Where I'm from,
every day we have night! I mean, after
every night there's a day! You know!

MISTER MERCUTIO

Really? Well... Where are you from?

VIVIAN

I guess... I guess I'm from the stars...

MISTER MERCUTIO

You are? Which one?

Vivian looks up at the millions of twinkling white lights...

VIVIAN

I don't know... How many are up there do
you think? A million? TWO million?

Mercutio climbs up her shoulder and GIVES HER A BIG HUG.

MISTER MERCUTIO

I'm not sure Vivian... But I'll help you
keep count til we find the right one...

EVERY LAST ONE OF THE DREAD ORCA'S CREW ENJOYS THE FEAST

An endless assortment of cooked meats line a lengthy table.

And at the center of them all sits JC and Mary enjoying a
meal and a fun conversation with each other.

Vivian toys with a *still-alive-squid* in her soup, her eyes on
Mercutio as he piles SCOOP UPON SCOOP of potatoes on a plate.

WHEN SUDDENLY DARRYL TURNS ON THE JUKEBOX

and an up-beat up-tempo song plays over the speakers!

VIVIAN

Come on Mister Mercutio! Let's dance!

ALMOST READY TO EAT it's the last thing Mercutio wants, but
he gets dragged off anyway as Vivian dances away with him.

A group of other Pirates all get up and join in on the dance.

JC fumbles with something in his pocket while

Mary watches Vivian having fun with a content smile...

JC

So listen, Mary. I didn't just ask you to dinner to gamble. I mean I did, but there was something else too...

MARY

Huh? What are you talking about?

JC produces the sea-turtle-statue and sets it on the table.

No words are necessary. MARY GRABS HIM AND HUGS HIM!

She releases him, all smiles and thoroughly happy.

For half a moment JC expects a kiss, but instead she lifts him up and pulls him out onto the dance floor.

JC

No! I told you. I can't dance!

MARY

Come on! I'll show you! It's easy!

Vivian watches while Mary teaches JC how to dance...

And once JC finally starts getting good at it...

MERCUTIO SWITCHES THE MUSIC TO A SLOW SONG!

JC stops dancing... but Mary puts his arms around her...

And soon only the two of them are left dancing on deck...

FINNSTERNIS TUNES THE KNOB OF AN OLD TELEVISION STATION

and fiddles with an antenna... WHEN ON COMES THE DEMOS NEWS!

MERE INCHES SEPARATE JC AND MARY

as they dance and gaze into each other's eyes...

VIVIAN SITS BESIDE MERCUTIO AND DARRYL

as they watch JC and Mary inch closer...

And just when it seems like they might kiss...

FINNSTERNIS TAPS MARY ON THE SHOULDER.

His sympathetic stare and soft whispers stops Mary cold.

JC tries to comfort her, but she says something back to him in anger, then rushes away and disappears below deck.

Darryl shuts the music off with a loud sigh.

MISTER MERCUTIO

What do you suppose all that was about?

MARY SHUTS A BEDROOM DOOR BEHIND HER

then leans back against it, clutches her knees, and cries.

With a sniffle and wipe of her sleeve, she pulls out from her hair an ornate GOLDEN HAIRPIN and holds it over her heart.

FADE TO:

MARY IS A YOUNG TEEN AT HER MOTHER'S WAKE

She stands only feet from her Mother's displayed body, while her father Jackson kneels at the coffin sobbing quietly.

Within Mary's memories, she hears the SOUNDS OF:

TIRES SCREECHING - HORNS HONKING - THEN A LOUD CRASH!

Jackson turns, looks to Mary's eyes, and holds out his hand.

Mary panics and runs away! Out past all of the other GUESTS.

MARY SITS ON THE STREET CURB OF THE CHURCH

crying alone as she rubs her badly bruised elbow, when

Evelyn Davenport sits down and puts her arm around her.

DAVENPORT

There, there. My sweet, sweet child.
Don't cry. Your step mother loved you
very much, and she'd want you to be
happy. Even now, in death, there is a
sort of sweet release. She's at rest now.
At peace. And some day, some day long
from now you'll both be together again...

Mary sniffles and hugs Davenport close.

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

Did you know I knew your birth mother?

MARY

You did?

DAVENPORT

I have something here that belonged to her. Something I want you to have... To remind you of the importance of family.

Davenport offers Mary the GOLDEN HAIRPIN. She takes it.

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

There's only one other like it in all the world... And that one belongs to -

They're both interrupted by ZOMA, who steps out from the CHURCH behind them in a fancy black tuxedo.

ZOMA

Madam CEO. I'm afraid to tell you your attention is needed elsewhere.

Davenport hugs Mary again and rises.

DAVENPORT

We'll talk again soon.

Mary and Zoma's eyes meet... His dark black eyes...

CUT TO:

VIVIAN SNEAKS IN THE BEDROOM AND SNAPS MARY OUT OF HER MEMORY

Mary stuffs the GOLDEN HAIRPIN away in her coat.

VIVIAN

Hi... I heard... Umm... I'm sorry...

Vivian sits down beside Mary... and holds her hand.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)

You thinking about your dad?

MARY

Actually... My mom...

VIVIAN

I never knew my mom...

Mary holds her close and runs her hands through her red hair.

They both drift off to sleep.

FADE TO:

VIVIAN LIES ON HER BEDROOM FLOOR DRAWING TARA IN HER JOURNAL

when Mercutio pushes in with a plate of bite-sized cakes.

MISTER MERCUTIO

It's late. You should get some sleep.

VIVIAN

But it's been night like all day already.

His eyes immediately fall to the **GEM** in her Journal.

It's illuminating the room with a soft pink light...

Mercutio sets the cakes down and looks at Vivian's drawing.

MISTER MERCUTIO

What's that? Have you seen her before?

VIVIAN

Yeah. Well in my memory I think. And not a dream like the others. That's my mom.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Really? I've seen her before too. She lives on the island back where I'm from!

Vivian transforms into a font of excitement.

VIVIAN

Mister Mercutio ARE YOU KIDDING ME RIGHT NOW! REALLY! We've gotta go there!

Mercutio ushers her into bed and cuddles up with her.

MISTER MERCUTIO

We will I promise! I'll talk to JC myself about it first thing in the morning...

VIVIAN

Wow... Do you know what her name is?

MISTER MERCUTIO

Her name? Hmm... I don't remember... I think I saw it on a wall somewhere...

DAVENPORT WAITS IN A DAVENCORP ELEVATOR

alongside her CHIEF ENGINEER. Down, down they go...

CHIEF ENGINEER

Yes. This is the final batch now.

DING! The doors open up to reveal a MASSIVE ASSEMBLY LINE in full production as:

THOUSANDS OF FLYING DRONE-MACHINES of different shapes and sizes are outfitted with weapons upgrades. Missiles and guns.

As she walks the long cat-walk overlooking the facility...

Davenport activates her phone and holds it up to her ear.

DAVENPORT (INTO THE PHONE)

My fellow Demese. Today, in my first act as your new Commander in Chief, by executive order, I have commandeered and appropriated all drones in Republica for military use.

IN THE SKIES ABOVE THE DAVENCORP MANUFACTURING PLANT

Thousands upon thousands of FLYING DRONES launch up into the sky in an endless wave of whirring metal.

DAVENPORT (V.O.)

This drone army is our last hope. Our last chance to keep the Pirate horde at bay long enough for our fleets to return.

IN THE STREETS OF REPUBLICA

People POINT UP AND CHEER as the Drone Army flies overhead.

DAVENPORT (V.O.)

We will triumph! We are the Demese of Demos! We will not yield to terrorism!! We will not yield to fear!

OVER THE SHORES OF THE DEMOS COASTLINE

The Drone Army meets with A SECOND ARMY OF SPIRIT ANIMALS.

Whales! Eagles! Griffins! Creatures of all different types!

DAVENPORT (V.O.)

And together, with our combined spirits and technologies, we will persevere!

Flying through the air and swimming across the waves, the two armies join together and head out towards the sea...

BUT NOT VERY FAR AWAY - OUT IN OPEN WATERS

Kang's fleet of ships rally around his giant metal flagship.

KANG'S IN HIS MECH-SUIT ATTACHED TO A MASSIVE SPEAKER SYSTEM

He taps the mic and a BONE-SHATTERING SHRIEK echoes. OWWWW!!

CAPTAIN KANG (OVER THE SPEAKERS!!!)
 RIGHT NOW. AT THIS VERY MOMENT. THE
 PIRATE KHAN LEADS HIS ARMY TO WAR! AND
 TOGETHER, WE WILL WATCH OUR ENEMIES
 DESTROY THEMSELVES AND GROW RICH OFF
 THEIR SALVAGE!
 (pause for machine gun fire)
 RAISE ANCHOR! TODAY WE SAIL FOR BIG LEAF
 ISLAND!

To a flurry of celebratory cannon fire, the fleet sets sail.

JC AND HIS CREW WAIT ON DECK IN SILENCE AS THE DREAD ORCA

approaches the misty wall dividing night and day.

Mary shows Vivian the picture of Tara in her book.

MARY
 Her? That's your mother?

VIVIAN
 Wow! Yes! That's her! See...

Vivian opens her Journal to a picture of Tara.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)
 I never met her. I only dreamed her... I
 don't even know her name.

MARY
 I think... It's Tara... But she's --

THE SHIP PASSES THROUGH THE MIST

and the Crew SHOUTS and GROANS in a shared frustration.

Murdock and his fleet are waiting for them on the horizon.

JC
 Blast! That devil cut us off! All right!
 Turn us about men and back to the night!

VIVIAN
 No! You can't! You promised to take me!

JC
 I'm sorry but you'll just have to wait!
 That fleet's in the way and we'll never
 get past them.

DARRYL
 Never? We *could* always jump the rings...

JC

Are you crazy! You should know more than anybody how risky that is!

VIVIAN

Yes! Let's jump the rings! You can do it!

MISTER MERCUTIO

Actually, Captain. My island can *only be reached* by jumping the rings, but I can show you right where to land.

JC

I can't believe I'm hearing this. You know how long it took me to build this ship? I'm not about to throw her away all because some kid's a little impatient!

Mary grabs JC by the arm and pulls him aside in a huff.

MARY

Show some damn consideration.

JC

But Mary... It's dangerous.

Her angry demeanor becomes more demure as she shifts tactics.

MARY

Come on. You're an incredible pilot. Best I've seen. If anyone can do it, you can.

She puts her hand on his chest and bats her eyes at him.

MARY (CONT'D)

Think about it. The first to ever jump the rings? You know how famous you'd be?

JC can't help but smile. He's wrapped around Mary's finger.

MURDOCK WATCHES THROUGH HIS TELESCOPE

as JC's Crew dumps their cargo overboard and into the sea.

The Dread Orca's picking up speed towards... THE ICE WALL.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

He's reckless... I'll give him that...

PIAO CHOW

Sir?

Murdock pauses... .. THEN THROWS HIS TELESCOPE OVERBOARD!

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
Dump it! DUMP IT ALL!!!

ALL ACROSS MURDOCK'S FLEET: MEN CRY

as they pile gold bars on barges and set them adrift.

THE FLEET SPLITS IN TWO AS HALF THE SHIPS DUMP THEIR CARGO

and race after JC, while the other half collects the barges.

THE DREAD ORCA GAINS SPEED RIGHT TOWARDS THE ICE WALL

Darryl ties JC's hands to the steering wheel. HE HOLDS ON!

VIVIAN
Aaaaahhh!!! We're going to crash!

WHOOSH! The ship gets caught by a huge updraft and launches UP, UP AND AWAY INTO THE SKY! UP AND OVER THE ICE WALL!

The Dread Orca BARRELS THROUGH THE ATMOSPHERE out to space!

But not too far behind...

MURDOCK AND A DOZEN SHIPS HAVE JUMPED THE RINGS AS WELL

and are still closing in on them...

FADE TO:

MONKEY ISLAND LOOMS LIKE A FLOATING ASTEROID

in the void between the rings.

THE DREAD ORCA DRIFTS THROUGH SPACE AS IT COMES TO A LANDING

in the watery vapors encircling the island...

A PLANK GETS EXTENDED FROM THE DECK OF THE SHIP AND ONTO

the sandy golden beach. Mary and Vivian disembark, but when Darryl and JC follow, MERCUTIO STOPS THEM IN THEIR TRACKS.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Sorry fellahs! Only female humans are allowed on the island. Rules are rules.

JC
We'll fire the cannons if Murdock shows up, and meet you round the other side.

Mercutio adjusts his explorer's hat, pulls out his machete, and leads Mary and Vivian into the thick jungle.

WHEN THEY EMERGE FROM THE JUNGLE INTO A HIDDEN GLADE

they are confronted by HYPERION, a VERY OLD white monkey nearly a whole three feet tall with a shiny stick on a belt!

He stands proud, with an air of sophistication and nobility.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Hyperion...

HYPERION
Welcome back Mercutio. Why have you come?

MISTER MERCUTIO
This little girl's looking for... Uhh...

MARY
Tara.

Hyperion grows quite curious and approaches Vivian.

HYPERION
You... You know Tara?

VIVIAN
Tara's my mom.

HYPERION
And I am Tara's guardian. Don't believe me? Here... I can prove it...

Hyperion pulls out a SPARKLY WHITE RING and gives it to her.

HYPERION (CONT'D)
That was Tara's wedding ring. Keep it.
Give it away. It's your choice.

Mercutio doesn't mind the sound of that. It IS pretty shiny.

VIVIAN
Can you take us to her?

HYPERION LEADS THEM THROUGH A MONKEY VILLAGE

populated with houses of wood and stone and living trees.

The MONKEYS spot Mercutio and immediately CROWD AROUND HIM!

They babble and cheer in a monkey-language as Mercutio pulls out a bag and hands each of them a shiny silver doubloon!

The Monkeys DRESS VIVIAN in an elaborate feather headdress, and cover both her and Mary with hand-woven leaf cloaks.

THEY WALK PAST A GIANT TREE

where a procession of Monkeys are laying to rest the body of a dead Monkey in a graveyard built from the tree's big roots.

A PIRATE SCARAB BEETLE FLIES IN THE AIR UP ABOVE THEM

Its camera-eye zooms in on Vivian, its antennae transmitting

A VISUAL FEED OF MARY, VIVIAN, AND MERCUTIO ONTO A TELEVISION

where Murdock and Piao Chow watch and listen.

Through the window of his stateroom Monkey Island approaches.

HYPERION LEADS THEM INTO THE ELDER'S SHRINE

where they discover a GIANT STONE STATUE of the Goddess Tara.

Mercutio rubs his head in confusion when he spots an ancient STONE-STATUE OF HIMSELF! EXACTLY AS HE'S DRESSED RIGHT NOW!

He takes off his explorer's hat. It still has the price tag!

JUST LIKE ON THE STATUE!

MISTER MERCUTIO

But I only got this hat last week!

THE MONKEY ELDER (O.S.)

And yet, three hundred years ago, elder scribes knew you paid eight ninety nine.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Master Elder!

THE MONKEY ELDER hobbles over with a cane as old as him.

THE MONKEY ELDER

Vivian. It's nice to see you again.

VIVIAN

You know me? We've met before!? Really!

THE MONKEY ELDER

I was there when your mother named you Vivian. Listen up, and I'll tell it like it is. Mercutio is your guardian, destined to defend you during your trial.

VIVIAN
MY TRIAL! WHAT! NO! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!

THE MONKEY ELDER
I mean your greatest trials.

VIVIAN
Ohhhhhh ok. Wow! How about that Mercutio!

Mercutio is stunned, and Mary can't believe it either.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)
What about my mom? Where is she?

THE MONKEY ELDER
Tara lives in Lanka our sacred homeland.
Now Vivian! I know what you're thinking!

At this news, Mercutio is not surprised.

THE MONKEY ELDER (CONT'D)
But before you choose to go to her
there's something you must understand.

The Elder points his stick at a FABULOUS MURAL PAINTING of:
Vivian and Mercutio in a snowy forest by an Ancient Gateway.
And in the painting... HE'S STILL WEARING HIS EXPLORER'S HAT!
Mercutio faints and Mary rushes to his aid.

THE MONKEY ELDER (CONT'D)
You are part of an ancient prophecy
Vivian. One where you must choose between
two opposing sides. Two opposing people.
The Pirates... and the Paradox.

VIVIAN
But Saro. My father. He's a Paradox.

THE MONKEY ELDER
And your mother was a pirate!

MISTER MERCUTIO
Yarr!! You hear that! I knew the lass had
it in her! A pirate through and through!

VIVIAN
I have to choose between my parents!??!

THE MONKEY ELDER
Uhh... Indirectly...

VIVIAN

I can't do that! I can't choose!

THE MONKEY ELDER

If you don't then Aquaria's doomed to the definite darkness of Galactic Night...

They all shudder at that statement's unknown implications.

VIVIAN

Uhh. Can I *VISIT* my mom? AND THEN choose?

THE MONKEY ELDER

I'm afraid that's impossible. The only way to go to Lanka is if I sink the island, and return it to the Traveler.

MURDOCK'S CRYING LIKE A BABY AS HE WATCHES THEM TALK

ON TV: Vivian cries into Mary's arms, inconsolable.

THE MONKEY ELDER (ON TV)

I will if you ask me to Vivian, but then you'll never be able to return, and all of your friends will freeze in the night.

OFF TV: Murdock sobs in his hands. Utterly moved by emotion.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

IT'S ALL TRUE! ALL ALONG IT'S BEEN TRUE!
WHAT A CHOICE! THAT POOR GIRL!!!

Piao Chow hands him a tissue. PFFFFFFHHHHTTTT!!!!

PIAO CHOW

But Captain! How can you be so sure!

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

You barnacle bottomed bilge drinker.
Don't you know? *Monkeys never say lies.*

PIAO CHOW

So what are your orders Captain?

He shuts off the television and wipes his nose.

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

Call off the attack. We're gonna parley.

Piao Chow kicks his foot disappointed and walks out.

PIAO CHOW

(sad)

Aye aye Captain... Orders are orders.

THE MONKEY ELDER PATS VIVIAN ON THE CHEEK AND SMILES

THE MONKEY ELDER

Smile now. It's not too bad. I have a gift for you. You can't visit your mom... but you can still see her...

The Elder THWACKS his cane on the statue and a SECRET PASSAGE

LEADS THEM THROUGH TO A GLOWING TEMPLE MADE UP OF MANY DOMES

A Giant Mendut Temple Tree grows from the central dome and canopies the garden with long vines and giant leaves.

THEY ENTER THE CENTRAL TEMPLE DOME WHERE VIVIAN FINDS

HER MOTHER TARA! ASLEEP ON A CENTRAL STONE ALTAR!

Neon-green leafed vines coil over her. Tiny waterfalls spill into ponds that stream and flow, spiraling around the altar.

Vivian cries and cries as she tries to shake her Mother from her magic sleep... but all to her avail... it can do no good.

VIVIAN

Mom it's me! Mom it's Vivian! Please wake up please! It's your daughter Vivian! Can you hear me? Wake up! Mom! Please!

THE MONKEY ELDER

Her soul is in Lanka. She cannot awaken.

Mary can't handle it anymore.

She rushes to Vivian's side and takes her into her arms.

At first she struggles, but soon they're both crying.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Vivian! Hey Vivian look! Look!!!

Vivian looks up and discovers:

THERE'S A **JOURNAL** JUST LIKE VIVIAN'S IN TARA'S LAP!

She grabs it and opens it up! And inside! On the first page!

A drawing of **A LOCK!** ... And all the other pages are blank.

THE MONKEY ELDER

Vivian. That book is for you alone. And the key's in a place only you can reach. Vanaranalanila's Sister Temple on the Inner Sea. Near Demos. You can't miss it.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Ohhh! Big Leaf Island! Don't worry! I know how to get there! Everybody does! That place makes great bananas.

BOOM! BOOM! KABOOM! BOOM! BOOM! KABOOM!

THE DREAD ORCA FIRES A LINE OF CANNONS TO THE SKY AS

Murdock's fleet lands on the waters nearby... Out of reach.

THE MONKEY ELDER HAS BECOME UNHINGED! HE SCREECHES AND EEPS!

Mercutio struggles to calm him down.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Master Elder! Will you relax! It's fine! Everything's fine!

THE MONKEY ELDER

But the cannons! We're under attack!

MISTER MERCUTIO

Noooo... It's just the signal! It means that Murdock... uhh... the Pirate that's been chasing us... uhh... found us...

Mercutio starts to panic too.

THE MONKEY ELDER

EEE! EEE! EEE! I have to sink the island!

THE MONKEY ELDER PULLS A GIANT LEVER

and the entire island starts to shake.

THE MONKEY ELDER

Vivian! You must choose before it's too late. Will you abandon Aquaria to the night and come with me... or will you stay and face your true destiny?

Vivian looks to Mary and Mercutio. She smiles. Choice made.

VIVIAN

They're my friends! I can't leave them.

THE MONKEY ELDER

Then hurry! Run to your ship! Run before
it's too late!

AN IRRITATED PIRATE CAPTAIN GRUMBLES ON THE DECK OF HIS SHIP

as he watches JC's ship escape, with Murdock giving chase.

IRRITATED PIRATE CAPTAIN

Orders shmorders! Let's land and loot!

HIS CREW CHEERS and start tying ropes to their waists.

The ship takes flight! And sails over the island...

The Captain looks through his telescope and spots:

VIVIAN RUNNING THROUGH A FIELD FOLLOWED BY HER FRIENDS

IRRITATED PIRATE CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

Great grogsnarfing harbor hogs! The girl!

VIVIAN AND MARY CHASE AFTER MERCUTIO

MISTER MERCUTIO

It's not far! He'll pick us up over here!

When DROPPING DOWN ALL AROUND THEM

a group of IRATE PIRATES and their Captain appears!

Before anyone can even react, HYPERION APPEARS TOO!

Only he appears from OUT OF NOWHERE IN A PUFF OF SMOKE!

HYPERION

Get going! I'll fend off these louts!

IRRITATED PIRATE CAPTAIN

A monkey! What's a monkey -

Hyperion's stick TRANSFORMS and becomes five feet long!!!

And yet... The Pirates aren't sure if they're scared or not.

That is until Hyperion knocks them all down with one strike!

HYPERION

What are you waiting for! Hurry!

Mary PICKS UP VIVIAN and runs away with her in her arms.

AS THEY RACE THROUGH THE JUNGLE

Ropes fall down from the sky... but these ropes lead up to

THE DREAD ORCA

where JC and Darryl pull them up to safety.

EVERYONE REUNITED - THE DREAD ORCA JUMPS THE RINGS AGAIN

and Murdock's fleet follows after them towards THE INNER SEA.

MONKEY ISLAND SINKS THROUGH THE WATERS AND FLOATS TOWARDS

the Traveler... The Pirate Ship that remained spirals away, lost to the vacuous void between the rings forever... Adrift.

FADE TO:

ZOMA MEDITATES IN A CLOUD ON TOP OF HIS STEALTH JET

When a vision of Master Saro appears standing before him...

MASTER SARO

*Some wooden ships you must defeat for
Captain Kang's amassed a fleet. His metal
ship becomes a reef. He rides a mech so
make it brief.*

ZOMA

Where must I go master?

MASTER SARO

*At Big Leaf there'll be quite some fun.
No questions please just get it done. Now
you must jet and I must run.*

Saro fades. Zoma hops in the Jet's cockpit and it FLIES OFF!

THE DREAD ORCA FLIES THROUGH SPACE TOWARDS THE INNER SEA

with Murdock's fleet chasing close behind them.

WIND RUSHES over the deck and everyone struggles to hold on.

AND AT THE CLIMAX OF THE JUMP

when the air calms in a moment of celestial beauty...

JC sweeps Mary up into his arms... AND KISSES HER!

She's left standing with her eyes closed as THE ICE WALL OF THE INNER SEA approaches at a thousand miles an hour.

JC grabs the ship's wheel, and at just the right moment

THE DREAD ORCA'S SAILS CATCH THE WIND

and they ride the updraft up and over the Ice Wall!

THE PIRATE FLEET BEHIND THEM HITS THE WALL AND EXPLODES

All except for Murdock's flagship and two others that catch the wind and safely reach the Inner Sea...

ON THE WATERS OFF THE COAST OF BIG LEAF ISLAND

Rith Fei's submarine speeds towards the Flying Drone Army.

With a flicker of energy, the submarine cloaks and VANISHES.

LIGHTS BLINK ON THE NEURAL INTERFACE OF RITH'S COMMAND CHAIR

A PIRATE HACKER analyzes the drone's carrier signal wave.

PIRATE HACKER

Captain! We're in! But we'll only have a minute before their override kicks in.

RITH FEI

Skew their targeting by half a mile!

RITH'S ARMADA SUBMARINE UNCLOAKS IN THE CENTER OF THE SWARM

The thousands of Drones LOCK ON with their missiles and FIRE!

KAAABOOOM!!! Half a mile from Rith's submarine: Armageddon.

LED BY ZHUN FEI - THE PIRATE FLEET DESCENDS FROM THE CLOUDS

and joins Rith Fei in battle against the Drone Army.

IN THE SKIES FAR ABOVE BIG LEAF - ABOVE EVEN THE CLOUDS

The Dread Orca and Murdock's tiny fleet are on the descent.

JC and his Crew all watch through telescopes as

THE SUBMARINE HOISTS THE GOLDEN FLAG OF THE PIRATE KHAN!

MURDOCK PULLS PIAO CHOW'S TELESCOPE OUT OF HIS HANDS

and watches EVERY SHIP IN THE FLEET HOIST THE SAME FLAG!

ADMIRAL MURDOCK

Look Piao Chow! Look! It's Rith Fei! The Khan! He sails to his ultimate fate!

PIAO CHOW
Uhh... So what should we do about it?

ADMIRAL MURDOCK
RALLY THE FLAG OF THE PIRATE KHAN!!!!!!
TO BATTLE! TO BATTLE! TO VICTORY!

A CROW'S NEST PIRATE
Admiral! Kang's fleet on the horizon!

KANG PACES THE DECK OF HIS FLAGSHIP WITH HIS WALKIE TALKIE

CAPTAIN KANG
Say that again Admiral!

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (OVER THE MIC)
The prophecy! It's true! We need to
protect the girl from Armada not kill
her! Our people's fate depends on it!

CAPTAIN KANG
What are our orders then?

ADMIRAL MURDOCK (OVER THE MIC)
Defend the island and rally the Khan!

Kang activates his LOUD SPEAKER and taps the mic. EEEEEEE!!!

CAPTAIN KANG (OVER THE SPEAKERS!!!)
ALL HANDS! NEW ORDERS! NOW HEAR THIS! NIX
THE SALVAGE WE'RE CLAIMING A BOUNTY! ARM
THE NUCLEAR CANNONS! WHEN WE REACH BIG
LEAF WE'RE TURNING THE SEA TO GLASS!

Smoke from the distant battle rises up over the horizon.

THE DREAD ORCA FLIES OVER THE CENTER OF BIG LEAF ISLAND

where a giant stone temple rises from the overgrown jungle.

MISTER MERCUTIO
There Captain! Set us down there! Right
on the edge of unexplored territory!

Mercutio straps his trusty explorer's hat tight to his chin.

VIVIAN
No Mister Mercutio... This is something
we have to do alone.

JC
Are you nuts!

DARRYL
But you're just a kid!

MISTER MERCUTIO
That does sound pretty risky.

VIVIAN
But it's our destiny!

Mary puts her hands on her hips.

MARY
I don't care what your destiny is young lady. There's nothing you can say, and nothing you can do, that'll ever convince us to let you go down there alone.

CUT TO:

MARY, JC, AND DARRYL WATCH AS

Mercutio and Vivian sail a tiny Dinghy down to the island.

DARRYL
That kid sure has a way with her words.

FROM THE DECK OF ONE OF MURDOCK'S SURVIVING SHIPS

A GREEDY PIRATE nudges an UGLY PIRATE and points to:
Vivian's tiny ship making its landing.

GREEDY PIRATE
Wanna be rich?

THE GREEDY PIRATE AND HIS UGLY FRIEND

sneak into a Dinghy of their own and go sailing after her.

ZOMA'S SLEEK JET SKIMS THE WAVES AT A THOUSAND MILES AN HOUR

With a crack of his knuckles, Zoma OPENS THE COCKPIT, climbs up into the IMPOSSIBLE WINDS, and TAKES A KNEE ON THE ROOF.

Up from the Jet he produces A FEATURE-LESS SNIPER RIFLE.

Liquid metal creeps along its surface and extends the barrel.

CLICK! *Liquid metal* bullets fire rapidly in perfect silence.

MILES AND MILES AWAY OVER THE EDGE OF THE HORIZON

CREW ACROSS the dozens of ships in Kang's fleet are getting

VAPORIZED by waves of unseen projectiles. EVERYONE PANICS!

PANICKING PIRATE
AaaahHHH! We're under attack!!! Ahhh!!!

A PANICKING PIRATE runs past stacked barrels of GUNPOWDER.
KABOOM! Scattered explosions everywhere set the fleet ablaze!

ZOMA HOPS BACK INTO THE COCKPIT

takes hand of the controls and SWITCHES TO MANUAL.

KANG WATCHES THE DEVASTATION BEING WROUGHT TO HIS FLEET

from the deck of his flagship. With a click of his remote control, his Mech-Suit DESCENDS BELOW DECK, and so does he.

ONCE AGAIN MERCUTIO CUTS AWAY THICK JUNGLE WITH HIS MACHETE

as Vivian follows closely behind him, swatting at mosquitoes.

Mercutio STOPS when he emerges to a STEEP CLIFF that drops a thousand feet into a river of crocodiles.

Vivian pushes forward oblivious AND BUMPS INTO MERCUTIO!

who gets KNOCKED OFF THE CLIFF!

VIVIAN
MERCUTIO!

She leans over the edge to find him HOLDING ON FROM A VINE.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Vivian. I can't stress this enough.
Watch. Where. You're. Going.

AS THE BATTLE BETWEEN RITH'S FLEET AND THE DRONE ARMY RAGES

JC pilots the Dread Orca down onto safe waters nearby.

He and his Crew watch in surprise as Admiral Murdock's three ships RAISE THE FLAG OF THE PIRATE KHAN and enter the fray.

MARY
JC. I don't get it... Isn't Murdock from the East? Why would he help Rith Fei?

JC
As greedy as he is, Murdock's still a pirate.

(MORE)

JC (CONT'D)

He knows all too well that a legend's unfolding before his eyes. He just chooses to be part of that legend.

MARY

And us? What about us?

JC

What could we do? We'll wait here til it's over and look for Mercutio's signal.

MARY

But we've got to do something! That mad man Rith Fei killed millions of people! What if he wins! Vivian's part of that legend too! We can't let him get his hands on her! I won't let him! I won't!

JC grabs her and holds her as she cries in frustration.

JC

Ok! Ok! I'll think of something. Hey Darryl! Got any bright ideas on how we could take out an Armada submarine?

MARY

What did you just say?

JC

What? What did I say? What?

Mary pushes JC away and smiles. She's had a stroke of genius.

CANNON FIRE GETS LAUNCHED HAPHAZARDLY IN EVERY DIRECTION

as a WATCHFUL PIRATE scans the waters with his telescope.

WATCHFUL PIRATE

Hmm... Nothing out there 'cept waves and-

He spots Zoma's Jet speeding STRAIGHT TOWARDS THEM!

WATCHFUL PIRATE (CONT'D)

What in thheeeeAAAAHH!!!!

His wooden Pirate Ship EXPLODES INTO SPLINTERS as

ZOMA PILOTS HIS JET DIRECTLY THROUGH THE WOODEN FLEET

One by one he swerves, swoops, and smashes into every ship.

SOON ONLY THE METAL FLAGSHIP REMAINS AMONGST THE WRECKAGE

And when the Jet comes to a hovering stop over its deck...

Zoma hops down... Nearby Pirates panic and DIVE OVERBOARD!

CAPTAIN KANG OPENS A BOTTLE OF FIZZY SODA WHILE STARING AT

his command room's gigantic computer monitor. His CREW watches in awe as a replay shows Zoma's Jet decimating them.

FREAKED OUT PIRATE
THIS GUY'S CRAZY! WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO!?

CAPTAIN KANG
Close the door you powder wetting parrot.
(he takes a casual sip)
It's *impenetremable*.

ZOMA WATCHES AS A MASSIVE METAL GATEWAY COMPOSED OF THICK

cylinders of hard rolled steel CLOSES RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM.

He walks up to it... and KNOCKS. BANG! BANG! BANG!

VIVIAN AND MERCUTIO STAND LOOKING OVER THE WIDE RAVINE AT THE

PATH on the other side which leads directly to the TEMPLE.

SHE LEANS AGAINST A TREE AND DOODLES IN HER JOURNAL

while Mercutio works on tying some vines into a ladder.

With colored pencil she draws a picture of the tree... when

A BIG BEETLE lands on the Journal! And when she SWATS IT AWAY

the tree smudges... KABOOM! WOOD CHIPS FLY EVERYWHERE!

CrrrrrrrrrASSSSHHH! The tree falls to the ground.

Mercutio dusts himself off and looks at the Journal.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Vivian! What did you do!?!??

VIVIAN
Whoaaaa....

VIVIAN DRAWS A PICTURE OF A BRIDGE ACROSS THE RAVINE

and when they look up... their eyes fill with wonder...

The bridge has appeared... just like in her drawing...

JC, DARRYL, AND FINNSTERNIS FOLLOW MARY INTO THE LIBRARY

where they look at her like she's lost her mind.

MARY

Here it is! This is it right here!

She pulls away all the clothes from the coat-rack.

JC

My coat rack?

MARY

This is what we'll use to beat him!

JC

Sure Mary... with my coat rack.

MARY

It's not a coat rack! Well alright it is, but it's also a! A! You tell him Finn!

FINNSTERNIS

It's a neurally activated synaptic wave -

MARY

- We could use it to hack the submarine!

JC

Hack, the submarine?

MARY

Yeah! What do you think? Can we do it?

DARRYL

Actually... I think she's onto something.

JC can't believe it... The coat rack!?

KANG CONFIDENTLY DRINKS HIS SODA AS THEY WATCH ON SCREEN

Zoma gently placing his palm on the impenetrable door...

Its metal silently DISINTEGRATES and turns to dust.

CAPTAIN KANG

Ok... Let's try closing ALL the doors.

AS ZOMA RACES THROUGH THE HALLS OF THE FLAGSHIP

continuous groups of GUARDS with rifles engage him in combat, but one by one Zoma LEAPS PAST THEM, never slowing down.

In a continuous ceaseless run Zoma passes through a series of SECURITY DOORS, all closing as fast as they can manage.

When THREE PIRATES confront him in a hall of closing gates, Zoma takes a moment to pause before knocking them each out.

With seconds to spare, he DIVES beneath a shutting door into

THE SHIP'S SPACIOUS CARGO BAY

where over a HUNDRED PIRATES have gathered... They spot him.

Zoma takes the opportunity to casually do a few stretches...

And for a long moment of silent tension, nobody does nothing.

Finally... with a laugh... Zoma starts walking forward...

VIVIAN AND MERCUTIO ENTER A SMALL TEMPLE IN THE SHADOW

of the larger temple... but the path is blocked by STONE.

MISTER MERCUTIO

It's a dead end!

VIVIAN

No it isn't!

MISTER MERCUTIO

It's not?

VIVIAN

No... It's the way in.

Vivian draws a picture of the wall... THEN PUTS IN A DOOR!

And before their very eyes... an Ancient Gateway appears...

MISTER MERCUTIO

Are you sure it's safe?

VIVIAN

Ummmm... You first?

Mercutio reaches uuuupppp for the door knob... and turns...

VIVIAN AND MERCUTIO ENTER A SCARY DARK ROOM

She tip-toes behind him, their way lit only by the HEAD LAMP on Mercutio's explorer's hat. Dead vines hang from above.

CLICKETY CLICK! Vivian steps on a trap.

FWOOOOSHH!!! MOLTEN LAVA SPRAYS OUT from pipes in the walls.

The fiery heat SETS THE VINES ON FIRE! The room's set ablaze!

MISTER MERCUTIO
Hurry Vivian! HurrriyyyyeeeeeEE! EEE! EEE!

The lava pours towards their feet... as Vivian DRAWS:

A BIG BLUE SNOWFLAKE! SUDDENLY AN ICY WIND BLOWS!!!!

The fires all get BLASTED AWAY by a billowing mist! The lava freezes over, and the room returns to pitch, black, darkness.

The Journal's **GEM** GLOWS BRIGHT BLUE! ... and all around them

Snow falls upon a wintery wonderland.

Lush green pine forests with snowy tops extend forever in every direction... and right before their very eyes...

Another Ancient Gateway appears. Mercutio is flabbergasted...

MISTER MERCUTIO (CONT'D)
Vivian... This is the painting...

Vivian takes him by the arm.

And together... hand in hand... they walk through the door.

JC PILOTS THE DREAD ORCA INTO THE NAVAL BATTLEFIELD

as Darryl sets up the coat-rack to an array of wires and TVs.

His ENTIRE CREW stands on deck, weapons at the ready...

But even as THE BATTLE RAGES IN HIGH INTENSITY all around...

Neither the Drones, nor the Pirates, ever attack the Orca...

It's as if their ship is THE EYE OF THE BATTLE'S STORM...

MARY
Why aren't they attacking?

JC shrugs.

ONE OF RITH FEI'S PIRATE SHIPS SAILS ALONGSIDE THE ORCA

Their CAPTAIN and CREW shout cheers to JC.

THE CAPTAIN
YARRRRRR!!!!!! GLAD YOU COULD JOIN US!

JC smiles and cheers right back at them!

JC
YARRR!!!!

JC throws the rest of his silent Crew a stern glance.

JC'S CREW
YARRR!!!!

A DRONE FLIES OVER THE DREAD ORCA

its camera scans Darryl and the coat-rack... then flies off.

IN A WHIRLWIND OF MARTIAL ARTS PERFECTION

Zoma flawlessly incapacitates Pirate after Pirate.

And when he reaches the center of the PIRATE SWARM

he unsheathes his Two Silver Katanas... They BACK OFF.

With a crack of his neck, Zoma FANS HIS ARMS OUT AND

The Katanas Explode in a wave of shrapnel!

When the dust settles only Zoma remains standing.

He walks towards the final door dragging his hands out behind him as the dust FLOATS TOWARDS HIM: Reforming the Katanas...

KANG THROWS HIS SODA BOTTLE INTO THE GIANT COMPUTER SCREEN

and it explodes in a short circuit of smoke and electricity.

CAPTAIN KANG
So! This treacherous rapsCALLION wants to do things the Old Aquarian way... Very well. Ready my retinue! I'M GONNA POUND THIS POX FACED PRIVATEER TO A PULVERINE!

VIVIAN AND MERCUTIO EMERGE INTO A GRAND COURTYARD

where cliffs and rice terraces surround the giant temple.

They head towards the entrance, when suddenly

The Greedy Pirate and his Ugly friend surround them.

UGLY PIRATE
I told you they were coming this way.

Mercutio tosses his explorer's hat and puts up his fists.

MISTER MERCUTIO
You want her? You'll have to get through
me first!

They laugh and laugh and laugh and draw their long swords.

GREEDY PIRATE
(dead serious)
Yarr.

They LUNGE FOR MERCUTIO... AND HE ACTUALLY PUTS UP A FIGHT!

Vivian watches in amazement as he ducks, jumps, flips, leaps,
dashes, dives, kicks, punches, and bites his way around them.

But he's just a monkey after all, and soon they get their
hands on him, and beat him down into a pulp!

VIVIAN
Mercutio no!

The Ugly Pirate turns to Vivian and REACHES OUT HIS HAND!

She backs away. He creeps closer. She draws him... POW!!!

VIVIAN PUNCHES HIS PICTURE!

The Ugly Pirate LAUNCHES BACK INTO THE SKY AND TAKES FLIGHT!

CUT TO:

FLYING DRONES SWOOP PAST A DOZEN PIRATE SHIPS

as THE BATTLE RAGES across the waters.

The Ugly Pirate ZIPS RIGHT PAST the fastest flying ship.

UGLY PIRATE
AAAAAAAAAaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhhh.....

BACK TO:

THE GREEDY PIRATE WATCHES THE DISAPPEARING DOT IN THE SKY

then BACKHANDS the Journal out of Vivian's hands.

He BINDS her hands with rope as she stares at Mercutio.

He's not moving...

GREEDY PIRATE
What? You think he's gonna save you?

Vivian starts to cry.

MARY WATCHES OVER DARRYL'S SHOULDER AS

the coat-rack comes online and connects to the submarine.

RITH FEI IS STILL ATTACHED TO THE BLINKING NEURAL INTERFACE

as he pilots from his command chair.

HOLOGRAPHIC DISPLAYS show the battle unfolding in real time.

RED for Pirates. BLUE for Drones. There's more RED than BLUE.

A swarm of BLUE closes in on Rith's position...

JC AND HIS CREW WATCH IN AMAZEMENT AS

The Armada Submarine SURFACES in front of them and

LAUNCHES A WAVE OF MISSILES AND LASERS TO THE SKY.

Countless Drones EXPLODE raining shrapnel onto their ship.

His Crew can't help but CHEER the Khan's success!

JC

Darryl! How much longer!?

DARRYL

Not long Captain. One minute! Tops!

JC

Well you better hurry up! One more minute
and the Khan's gonna have his victory.

CROW'S NEST PIRATE (O.S.)

CAPTAIN! OFF THE PORT BOW! LOOK!

Everyone turns to find A MASSIVE PIRATE SHIP swooping past...

KACRASH!!!! A POD OF FLYING WHALES SMASHES THROUGH THE SHIP!

WHALE SONGS fill the air! Everyone turns to JC.

JC

It wasn't me!

And that's when they see it...

THE ARMY OF SPIRIT COMPANIONS has arrived!

All sorts of creatures, great and small, flying and swimming!

The Animal Army enters the battlefield attacking the Pirates!

ZOMA TAKES A MOMENT TO ADMIRE THE SMALL FLEET OF

parked helicopters and jet planes in Kang's hangar bay, when

ONTO THE BALCONY OVERLOOKING THE BAY

A DOZEN PIRATE SOLDIERS in heavy-duty hydraulic power suits march out from the darkness. Each aims a massive mortar gun.

Zoma looks up and rolls his shoulders, cracking bones and loosening his stance in a cocky display of confidence.

THE SOLDIERS UNLEASH HELL

and Zoma makes no attempt to avoid or deflect the shots.

All around him a series of fiery explosions billow flame and smoke up to the air in a cataclysmic upheaval of hot metal.

Flashes of a violet opalescent shield shimmers around Zoma.

He remains perfectly unharmed.

Their weapons smoke and cool as THE PIRATES JUMP OUT of their hydraulic suits and FLEE IN TERROR BACK INTO THE DARKNESS.

Clang. Clang! CLANG. CLANG! CLANG!! CLANG!!! CLANG!!!!

Zoma turns to find KANG IN HIS MECH-SUIT RUNNING TOWARDS HIM!

The LONG BARREL OF A GIANT CANNON cradled in the Mech's arms.

KAAAAAAAABOOOOOOOMMMMMMMMM!!!!

A horizontal column of hellfire's unleashed in Zoma's face.

Kang comes to a metal shrieking stop and drops the cannon.

And when the smoke clears...

Zoma's shield is gone. His suit tattered. His helmet broken.

ZOMA

I'd like to see you try that again.

The arms on Kang's Mech transform to cannons and take aim.

CUT TO:

HYPERION SITS MEDITATING ON A MOUNTAIN TOP

as Monkey Island makes its descent into the Traveler...
when A VISION OF TARA appears floating in the air.

TARA
Hyperion... Vivian is in danger. You must
do what you can to help her.

HYPERION
But it's too late... I can't. I won't.

TARA
My time for needing a guardian is done.
My daughter is all that matters now.
Goodbye Hyperion... And thank you.

Her spirit disappears... Hyperion rises and looks to the sky.

THE TRAVELER LOOMS OVERHEAD!

With tears in his eyes, Hyperion raises his arms and

ALLOWS HIMSELF TO TRANSFORM INTO A FLURRY OF FLOWER PETALS

They float up into the air as his spirit's taken to the wind.

AS VIVIAN SITS ON THE GROUND IN TEARS

the Greedy Pirate flips through the pages of the Journal.

GREEDY PIRATE
Hmm... How's this thing work?

Vivian's sobbing gets interrupted when she sees

A SINGLE GLOWING LOTUS PETAL falls upon Mercutio's body.

The Pirate laughs as he stares at a picture of Saro.

VIVIAN
Mister Mercutio?

GREEDY PIRATE
I told you already! He's dea-

He lowers the Journal to find: MISTER MERCUTIO

standing tall... uninjured... glowing with magic... holding
Hyperion's white staff... AND NOW HIS FUR IS TOTALLY WHITE!

GREEDY PIRATE (CONT'D)
- what the!

THWACK! Mercutio's stick hits his head and KNOCKS HIM OUT!
 The magic glow fades as Vivian RUSHES RIGHT INTO HIS ARMS!
 Mercutio starts crying like a baby.

VIVIAN
 Oh Mister Mercutio! Don't cry!

MISTER MERCUTIO
 It's just... It's just...

VIVIAN
 What? What is it? What?

MISTER MERCUTIO
 None of my wardrobe matches with white!

His tears turn to giggles and soon they're laughing together.

IN THE AIR AND ON THE WATER THE BATTLEFIELD IS TOTAL CHAOS

Darryl cheers and high-fives Mary.

DARRYL
 Captain! We're in!

JC
 Ok! Do what you can to disable that sub!
 Try turning off its engines!

Mary watches in suspense and Darryl presses a few buttons...

When the coat-rack OVERLOADS in a crackle of electricity.

PFWWWOOOOSH!!! It goes up in flames!

RITH GRABS AT HIS NEURAL INTERFACE IN HORRIBLE PAIN

The crown of wires sparks with electrical fire!

RITH FEI
 AaaaahhhhhhH!!!!

Consoles across the Command Room EXPLODE!

RITH FEI'S ARMADA SUBMARINE SINKS BENEATH THE WAVES...

JC
 Darryl Crews! You did --

KABOOOOOOOomm!!!!!!! A GEYSER OF WATER EXPLODES TO THE SKY!

Black oil and flame rises from where Rith's submarine was.

JC (CONT'D)
Darryl! What did you do!?

ZHUN FEI SCREAMS IN PRIMAL AGONY ON THE DECK OF THE FLAG SHIP

as he watches the destruction of his father's submarine.

ZHUN FEI
FATHER NOOO! What happened! Who did that?

The Scary First Mate hangs up his cell phone and approaches.

SCARY FIRST MATE
Captain! Right before it was scuttled, we detected an overload signal. It sunk him.

ZHUN FEI
From where? The Drones?

He shakes his head... and points towards the Dread Orca.

ZOMA DODGES AN ENDLESS SERIES OF ATTACKS FROM KANG'S MECH

trying to get close enough to strike with his dual katanas.

But every time Zoma gets in close FLAMETHROWERS lash out, and he's forced to dive away and regroup to a flurry of bullets.

And when the bullets run out... Zoma stops and faces Kang.

CAPTAIN KANG
Ha ha ha! You sure are fast!

Zoma holds out his katanas... They turn *liquid* and fuse together into a large Odachi Sword.

CAPTAIN KANG (CONT'D)
But that's! That's not possible! That's -

Zoma spins the sword's hilt in his hand and approaches him.

ZOMA
- Paradox essence steel.

CAPTAIN KANG
Th-th-th- that makes you...

Zoma smiles... then DIVES AND TUMBLES between the Mech's legs
AND CHOPS ONE OF THEM OFF!

It tumbles away amidst an explosion of circuitry.

The Mech falls helpless to its back! Kang watches in horror as Zoma rises to his feet and turns back to face him.

CAPTAIN KANG (CONT'D)
You're supposed to be extinct!

ZOMA
You first.

But to Zoma's displeasure, Kang starts laughing maniacally.

ZOMA (CONT'D)
Something funny about your defeat?

CAPTAIN KANG
You can stop me, but you'll never stop my nuclear cannons!

Zoma doesn't like this one bit. He climbs up on top of the Mech and holds the point of his big sword down at it.

ZOMA
What do you mean?

CAPTAIN KANG
Big Leaf and your precious red-headed Chosen One. They're about to go bye bye!

Kang pulls a lever and a SPEAKER emerges from his suit.

SPEAKER VOICE
NUCLEAR LAUNCH IN FIFTY NINE! FIFTY -

Zoma releases his hold as dread realization crosses his face.

CAPTAIN KANG
Bye bye! Bye bye! Bye bye!

VIVIAN AND MERCUTIO ENTER THE INNERMOST SANCTUM OF THE TEMPLE

where a fancy gold-etched pink Ancient Gateway is flanked by TWO STONE STATUES OF TARA - each with different hand symbols. The door's overgrown with weeds and covered in dust.

VIVIAN
Whatever it is, it must be through there.

MISTER MERCUTIO
This room's clear! You may proceed.

Vivian uses the Journal to summon some *rain* and *wind* that blows away the dirt and cleans off the door... revealing...

A BIG PINK GEM! Mercutio's jaw drops and his eyes go wide.

He runs over and GRABS IT! but it just doesn't budge!

VIVIAN & MERCUTIO (TOGETHER)
Something's wrong.

MISTER MERCUTIO
What? You can't get the gem off either?

VIVIAN
Every time I draw the door open... the picture just disappears.

One by one, picture by picture, Mercutio watches Vivian try to draw the door open, only to have the image disappear.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)
What's going on!? WHY ISN'T IT WORKING!?

PANIC AND BATTLE BREAKS OUT ACROSS THE DECK OF THE DREAD ORCA

As Zhun Fei's flagship COMES ALONGSIDE AND STARTS BOARDING!

Ropes get tossed! Planks lowered! POOF! Smoke bombs detonate!

As Pirates from both Crews draw swords and engage in battle

JC finds himself confronted by an ANGRY Zhun and his Hound.

ZHUN FEI
I'm Zhun Fei! First Khan of my name! Who are you!?

JC
Captain James Clarke of the Dread Orca.

ZHUN FEI
Good.

Zhun Fei unsheathes his scimitar... His Hound growls.

ZHUN FEI (CONT'D)
Now I can tell my mother the name of the man I killed to avenge the Khan's death.

JC pulls a sword of his own and backs away.

JC
I can't fight you! You're just a kid!

ZHUN FEI
I told you already! I'M NOT A KID! I'm
the Khan!

Zhun lunges at him and they start their duel!

THE LIQUID METAL OF ZOMA'S ODACHI ABSORBS BACK INTO HIS BODY

as Kang continues to laugh from within his overturned Mech.

Zoma closes his eyes, and after a moment of silent meditation

PLACES HIS BARE PALM AGAINST THE MECH'S METAL BODY.

CUT TO:

ZOMA TRANSFERS HIS MIND INTO KANG'S

where they stand facing each other under an empty purple sky.

CAPTAIN KANG
Ahh! It hurts! What are you doing!

Kang watches in terror as Zoma's mental body approaches.

ZOMA
I'm taking over your fragile mind!

Black scales appear behind Zoma's flickering skin and face.

Serpentine eyes with VERTICAL DRACONIC PUPILS stare at Kang.

CAPTAIN KANG
No! Get back! No! AAAAHHhhhh... ---

BACK TO:

ZOMA PULLS KANG'S UNCONSCIOUS BODY OUT OF THE MECH

and tosses him aside into the rubble of the hangar bay.

ZOMA
That guy talked too much.

SPEAKER VOICE
WARNING! WARNING! NUCLEAR CANNON OVERLOAD
IN TWENTY NINE! TWENTY EIGHT! TWENTY -

He turns away from the Mech and puts on his glove.

SPEAKER VOICE (CONT'D)
-PILOT MISSING! AUTOMATIC MODE ACTIVATED!
ACQUIRING TARGET!!!

Zoma groans as THE MECH STANDS UP on one leg and FACES HIM.

ZOMA
 Seriously?

VIVIAN GRABS THE ANCIENT DOOR AND TRIES TO FORCE IT OPEN

She shouts in frustration and pounds her fists against it!

VIVIAN
 Mom! Mom! If you're in there! Open up!

Mercutio watches in wonder as the **GEM** on her book glows red.

MISTER MERCUTIO
 Vivian! Look Vivian! Look! Your journal!

She turns and sees. The color fades from red to nothing...

MISTER MERCUTIO (CONT'D)
 Vivian. Are you mad? Are you angry?

VIVIAN
 Yeah!

MISTER MERCUTIO
 And the gem glowed red...

VIVIAN
 But this one's pink!

MISTER MERCUTIO
 Hmm... Of course... The picture of Tara.
 When you drew it, yours was pink too.

Vivian kneels beside Mercutio and opens her Journal.

VIVIAN
 This one? This one of my mom.

MISTER MERCUTIO
 What were you feeling when you drew it?
 Can you feel that way again?

VIVIAN
 I don't know... I can try...

She draws a picture of Tara... but the **GEM** glows blue...
 and her picture disappears...

VIVIAN (CONT'D)
 It's not working! Why isn't it working?

MISTER MERCUTIO
Try drawing something else.

VIVIAN
Like what?

MISTER MERCUTIO
Try... something that makes you happy.

Vivian thinks for a moment... and she draws:

HERSELF at a table... with Darryl, JC, Mary, and Mercutio.

Her **GEM** glows pink... and the door clicks open.

JC DOES HIS BEST TO FEND OFF ZHUN WITHOUT HARMING HIM

as they sword fight their way across deck... Zhun whistles.

And his Hound JUMPS JC FROM BEHIND!

JC struggles under the weight of the beast...

IT BITES INTO HIS NECK! He starts losing consciousness... as

HE WATCHES A GROUP OF PIRATES DRAG MARY AWAY!

JC
Ahhhh!! Mary!!

When suddenly... his skin GLOWS with a golden light...

Streams of white energy flow into his wound, and the Hound's forced to release its bite... It backs away whimpering...

JC starts to rise... a strange power flowing through him.

BABAM! The Scary First Mate BASHES JC's head with a HAMMER!

JC gets smashed to the floor... his power fading...

THE MECH HOPS FORWARD ON ONE LEG AND RAISES ITS ARMS FOR A

POWERFUL GROUND SHATTERING SMASH AIMED RIGHT AT ZOMA'S HEAD!

But when the strike hits... Zoma vanishes like a hologram...

AND RE-MATERIALIZES IN THE AIR ABOVE THE SUIT!

His re-formed Odachi cleaves the robotic creation in half.

It explodes in a shower of black oil and fiberoptic entrails.

SPEAKER VOICE
OVERLOAD IN NINETEEN! Eeeiiigghhh... ---

Zoma regains his balance... .. and starts RUNNING!!!

VIVIAN ENTERS THE HEART OF THE TEMPLE

where a GOLDEN ALTAR sits illuminated by a beam of light.
Mercutio tip toes in through the doorway and watches, as
Vivian nervously approaches the altar... and discovers...
a piece of paper with one edge ripped as if torn from a book.

MISTER MERCUTIO
What is it? Vivian what is it!

VIVIAN
I think... a page from my mom's journal.

Vivian stares down at the paper...

Wonder and fear coursing through her...

As she stares at a picture only she can see...

MISTER MERCUTIO
Well what does it say!!!

Vivian folds the paper and hides it in her pocket.

CLICK! BANG!

They look down at A METAL LOCK that has fallen to the floor.

Understanding passes over Vivian's face.

She opens Tara's Journal... The lock is gone! She hastily
flips through an endless assortment of drawings and images.

Vivian hesitates on a picture of a purple dragon...

LIQUID METAL BULLETS SHOOT FROM HIS RIFLE AS ZOMA

paces through the disintegrating security doors one by one.

ZOMA
Seven... Six...

ZOMA HOPS INTO THE COCKPIT OF HIS JET

and closes it behind him.

ZOMA
Three... Two...

ZOMA'S SLEEK JET TAKES TO THE AIR AS

ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZTTTT crackle..... BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM!!!!

KANG'S FLAGSHIP TRANSFORMS INTO A GREEN MUSHROOM CLOUD

And as Zoma's jet zips to the sky... The flames overtake it.

ZHUN FEI HOLDS UP HIS SWORD AS TWO PIRATES HOLD JC DOWN

when suddenly... A SUPER BRIGHT GREEN LIGHT FLASHES!!!

Everyone grabs for their eyes, totally blinded.

On the horizon... A GREEN MUSHROOM CLOUD rises up to space.

WHOOOOOOOSSSSHHHHHH!!! WIND BLASTS THE ENTIRE BATTLEFIELD.

Pirates get flung overboard. Drones and ships get ROCKED!

BOOOOOOM!!! A GIANT BUT DISTANT EXPLOSION SHAKES THE TEMPLE

Dust and debris drizzle down from the ceiling overhead.

MISTER MERCUTIO
Come on! We've gotta get out of here!

VIVIAN
Wait. I've got a better idea.

Vivian opens her Journal, and starts drawing a picture of:

JC's Ship... The Dread Orca...

CUT TO:

VIVIAN AND MERCUTIO STAND ON THE DECK OF THE DREAD ORCA

as the battle wages around them. Vivian is frozen in panic!

Everywhere she looks people are fighting... and dying...

And when she sees JC HURT ON THE FLOOR... Her GEM GLOWS RED!

VIVIAN OPENS HER JOURNAL and in a frenzy starts drawing the PURPLE DRAGON she saw in her mother's book...

Blood drips from Vivian's nose and splatters onto the page AS

A HUGE PURPLE DRAGON APPEARS ON DECK!!!!!!

IT ROARS IN A FURY! PFWOOSH!!! PURPLE FIRE SPRAYS EVERYWHERE!

Zhun Fei grabs his sword and CHARGES THE DRAGON!

He leaps onto its back and starts fighting it! For a moment, it even looks like he might win! That is... until...

The Dragon GRABS ZHUN FEI in its claws and TAKES TO THE SKY!

The Pirates retreat to the flagship and chase their Khan.

VIVIAN FAINTS!!! And Mary and Mercutio race to her side...

ZOMA WATCHES THE BATTLE UNFOLD FROM ATOP A CLIFF ON BIG LEAF

when A VISION OF SARO appears floating before him...

MASTER SARO

*The hour is ripe to play for keeps,
you'll board their ship while Vivian
sleeps. Her friends must die before she
wakes. And make it fast. You know the
stakes.*

ZOMA

But master... Why -

MASTER SARO

*Do not ask for I'll not say. You have
your task you must obey, as you are mine.
They're only prey.*

JC, DARRYL, MERCUTIO, AND MARY CROWD AROUND A SLEEPING VIVIAN

when ZOMA APPEARS on the far end of the deck.

Everyone watches in surprise as he takes off his helmet, and starts a slow deliberate walk towards Vivian.

One by one JC's Pirate Crew tries to stop him, and one by one Zoma effortlessly tosses them overboard.

ZOMA

Really? Come on! Surely ONE OF YOU can do better than that! No? Too bad.

JC

Who the hell are you?

ZOMA

Why I'm Zoma. Vivian's older brother.

Now Mercutio faints.

MARY

You can't make her come with you! I know the prophecy! It's her choice! I won't let you take her!

Zoma laughs. Darryl tries to fight and gets KNOCKED ASIDE.

ZOMA

You want to keep my sister from her true heritage? Who do you think you are?

MARY

I'm her friend.

ZOMA

Well friend. I truly am regretful that it had to come to this. But sadly, I'm afraid I'm going to have to kill you all, and take Vivian with me just the same.

VIVIAN'S HEART POUNDS SUPERNATURALLY HARD

as flashing colors of Magic Power erupt from her body!

Her hair fans out and she rises into the air!

Everyone's taken completely aback by surprise! Even Zoma!

Vivian's EYES OPEN with Pure White Light bursting out through them like the eyes of a deity...

SHE STRETCHES OUT HER ARMS - AND IN A BALL OF LIGHT

Vivian transforms into her Adult Goddess Form!

Rings of light hang round her like halos, and she's draped in a magical red and white silk dress with gold armor.

VIVIAN BATTLES ZOMA and overwhelms him with her power!

His gloved fingers LEAVE CLAW MARKS IN THE WOODEN RAILS as he struggles to hold on against her power...

But he gets BLOWN OVERBOARD and into the sea...

EVEN AS THE BATTLE RAGES ALL AROUND THEM

Everyone's eyes are on Vivian... She SCREAMS as if in pain...

Then points to the sky... and UNLEASHES A WAVE OF ENERGY!

IT BLASTS OUT ACROSS THE BATTLEFIELD!

DESTROYING PIRATE SHIPS AND FLYING DRONES ALIKE!

JC'S SHIP STARTS TO CRACK AND SHAKE

JC

Marryyy!!!! Dooo ssoooometthiinng!!!!

Mary grabs Vivian's leg and shakes her but get KNOCKED ASIDE!

When suddenly...

THE SPIRIT OF TARA ARRIVES IN A GLOWING MAGICAL AURA

She passes into Vivian's body... and calms her energy...

Sentience comes to her eyes... but it belongs to Tara...

Vivian looks to Mary. Their eyes lock. Both are crying.

MARY

... ... Are you... Tara?

TARA (AS ADULT VIVIAN)

My light... It's fading... Please... Look
after my daughter... Keep her safe...

MARY

I will! I promise!

Tara's spirit EXITS VIVIAN AND DISAPPEARS!

WITH A PULSE OF LIGHT VIVIAN TRANSFORMS back into her child
body... and gently floats down into Darryl's waiting arms...

IN A MOMENT OF PEACE JC AND MARY TAKE STOCK OF THE BATTLE

The Drones and Animals have won!

Murdock's fleet has taken to the sky in retreat!

And Zhun Fei and his Pirates are sailing away back West...

Back towards the Dragon disappearing over the horizon...

MERCUTIO LEADS A GROUP OF PIRATES INTO A DINGHY

MISTER MERCUTIO

Come on men! There's salvage to be had!

DARRYL LAYS VIVIAN DOWN IN HER BED TO SLEEP

shuts off the light and leaves the door open a crack for her.

MARY LEANS BACK ON THE SOFA IN JC'S STATEROOM

and stretches out her legs with an achy sigh.

JC looks out the window... out at the calm waters...

and shuts it... .. as unseen beneath him:

RITH FEI CLIMBS UP THE SIDE OF THE SHIP TOWARDS THE WINDOW

His Polar Bear waits in a paddle boat below.

JC FILLS TWO GLASSES WITH RED WINE

and hands Mary one of them. She takes a long happy sip.

JC

So Mary. I was thinking...

MARY

Mmmm... Can we not talk for a moment? I really just need some silence...

JC

It's just... your father's funeral. I thought I might go with you...

Mary opens her eyes and looks up at him IN TOTAL SHOCK!

JC (CONT'D)

It's just a thought!!!

But Mary spills her wine... and points behind him...

JC turns to find RITH FEI standing with a drawn dagger.

THEY IMMEDIATELY FIGHT A QUICK BUT BRUTAL BATTLE ACROSS THE

stateroom. Within seconds the place is trashed...

But Rith's the superior fighter! And when JC's guard is down

RITH STABS JC!!! THEN PUSHES HIM OUT THE WINDOW! SPLASH!

MARY RUNS FORWARD AND JUMPS THROUGH THE WINDOW AFTER HIM!

SHE DIVES down into the water...

Rith watches as blood pools back up to the ocean's surface.

He gives his Bear a nod. The Bear SALUTES BACK, and jumps in.

Rith shuts the window.

NOW ALONE IN THE CAPTAIN'S STATEROOM

Rith grabs a sword from the wall and opens JC's desk...

Amongst other flags he finds... THE FLAG OF THE PIRATE KHAN!

Rith takes off his shirt...

ON THE DECK OF THE DREAD ORCA

Mercutio and Darryl are SCREAMING at each other!

DARRYL

I'M THE ONE WHO GETS TWENTY PERCENT! NOT
YOU! YOU'RE JUST A MONKEY!

MISTER MERCUTIO

VIVIAN DESERVES A CUT TOO! SHE'S A
PIRATE! IT CAN'T ALL COME FROM MY SHARE!!

Their argument pauses when they see RITH FEI emerge with the

FLAG OF THE PIRATE KHAN TIED AROUND HIS NECK LIKE A MANTLE!

UNDER THE WATER MARY GRABS HOLD OF JC

when they spot the Polar Bear swimming towards them!

Mary and JC's eyes meet... And there... underwater...

Facing down certain death... She kisses him...

JC'S WHALE TATTOO GLOWS!

And up... up from the deep... UP SWIMS A NARWHAL!

It battles with the Bear as JC and Mary surface safely...

But there are SHARKS APPROACHING DRAWN BY THE BLOOD!

JC positions himself in front of Mary.

RITH IS NEARLY UNSTOPPABLE AS HE DEFEATS EVERYONE THAT FACES

him in a sword fight across the deck TOWARDS THE FLAG POLE!!!

Mercutio LEAPS ON RITH'S HEAD and bites at his ear, but gets
SWATTED OVERBOARD and into the ocean!

Caught in a rage, DARRYL BULL RUSHES RITH and they wrestle!

They fight with every man watching them, both giving and
taking a beating as weapons are drawn and lost.

UNDERWATER JC STABS AT A SHARK IN DEFENSE

but a thrashing tail KNOCKS HIM UNCONSCIOUS!

Another Shark BITES JC'S FOOT AND STARTS CHEWING!

Taken by a rage of her own... Power Surges through Mary.

HER EYES TRANSFORM INTO CAT'S EYES WITH VERTICAL PUPILS.

Her fingers fan out like claws and she RAKES THEM across the sides of the Sharks who get HALF-TORN APART and SWIM AWAY!!!

AT THE BASE OF THE FLAGPOLE RITH GETS THE ADVANTAGE

and KNOCKS DARRYL BACK with a powerful uppercut!

He pulls off the FLAG OF THE KHAN and straps it to the pole!

SQUEAK! SQUEAK! SQUEAK!

Rith Fei starts HOISTING THE FLAG UP THE POLE!!!

TAP TAP TAP. Rith turns into A HARD LEFT HOOK!!!

Darryl has KNOCKED RITH FEI UNCONSCIOUS!

He lifts Rith up over his arms and THROWS HIM OVERBOARD!

SSSSPLAASSSHHHHH!!! A WHALE SURFACES BESIDE THE BOAT

and bumps JC, Mary, and Mercutio back up onto the deck.

DARRYL

Captain! You're injured!

JC

No time for reunions! Raise anchor!

RITH'S POLAR BEAR HOLDS ONTO THE BACK OF JC'S SHIP

as its sails take to the wind!

JC (V.O.)

And set sail for Republica!

VIVIAN AWAKENS ON THE GRASS IN THE FAIRY VILLAGE OF SHAMBHALA

Quaint wooden houses all sit empty beneath a purple sky.

Vivian stands and looks all around in a state of wonder.

Everything is silent but for the SOUNDS OF RUNNING WATER.

There are wells, buckets, streams, and open shallow ponds.

VIVIAN ENTERS AN EMPTY HOUSE

VIVIAN
Hello? Hello? Anybody home?

There's no dust to be found anywhere... Books on a shelf have mysterious markings on the binding... She opens one up...

And all of its pages are blank.

VIVIAN EXITS THE HOUSE AND STOPS BY A POOL OF WATER

She looks down into it and sees:

AN IMAGE OF HERSELF - SLEEPING IN BED ON JC'S SHIP

Vivian kneels and reaches her hand towards the vision...

WHEN A BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT FROM THE BRIDGE DISTRACTS HER

She follows it, and on the bridge a GLOWING ORB OF LIGHT
TRANSFORMS INTO HER MOTHER TARA!

Vivian runs forward to hug her!!! But Tara's body is mist...

Tara looks down at Vivian whose eyes are flooded with tears.

VIVIAN
Mom! Where am I? Where are you?

TARA
My darling Vivian. You are in Shambhala,
a halfway point between all worlds.

VIVIAN
But I want to be with you!

TARA
Vivian. There's little time. You must
listen. In seconds Vanaranalanila reaches
Lanka, and you and I will part forever.

Vivian can barely speak. She tries but out comes only a moan.

TARA (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry Vivian. You're far too young
to have such a burden, but when I am
gone, it's up to you. You must be strong.

VIVIAN

But what am I supposed to do?

TARA

Saro. Your father. Dangerous darkness lurks within his heart. You must be careful. But still. He's not all bad. Vivian... I believe in you. And when the time comes you must believe in yourself.

Tara's hand reaches out to Vivian... And their palms touch...

Tara fades away into nothing... leaving Vivian all alone.

Vivian pauses on the bridge and looks down into the water...

And there, in the waters beneath the bridge, she sees:

A REFLECTION OF HER BOARDING SCHOOL IN JAKARTA!

CHILDREN PLAY IN THE YARD ON A BEAUTIFUL SUNNY DAY...

Vivian kneels... and gazes down at the vision...

MARYANNE'S THERE TOO. A NUN POURS MILK FOR HER IN A SAUCER.

It's so close she could almost reach out and touch it...

A SUPERNATURAL WIND PICKS UP AND THE PURPLE SKY DARKENS

BANG! BANG! BANG! As if a giant were pounding on a massive metal door, a rhythmic banging echoes out... growing louder.

RAIN FALLS FROM THE SKY IN A TORRENT

AND VIVIAN STANDS ALONE ON HER BRIDGE GETTING SOAKED

as she's caught between the choice of Jakarta...

and crossing the bridge back to the village...

CUT TO:

VIVIAN WAKES UP SAFELY IN BED BACK ON JC'S SHIP

She rushes to the window and sees peaceful blue waters...

Vivian opens her Journal, and when she comes to the picture she drew of herself with JC, Darryl, Mary, and Mercutio...

A picture of her new friends...

Her new family...

MARY LEANS AGAINST THE RAILS OF THE DREAD ORCA

as she watches Republica approach on the horizon.

Her ornate **GOLDEN HAIRPIN** is clutched over her heart.

Vivian approaches and tugs at Mary's shirt...

But when Mary turns VIVIAN'S EYES FALL ON HER **HAIRPIN**!!!!

Vivian's struck speechless as Mercutio wanders over.

MISTER MERCUTIO

That's really shiny! Is that for me?

MARY

Sorry... This one belonged to my mom.

MISTER MERCUTIO

You mom huh? Hey umm... That reminds me... What ever happened to that bracelet you stole from the Duchess?

Mary breaks out into laughter.

MARY

Oh Mister Mercutio. You're incorrigible.

She thinks it's funny. But he is simply NOT amused.

MARY (CONT'D)

It's in with my coat. Go ahead. Take it.

MISTER MERCUTIO

Well it's about time!

Mercutio races off... as

Vivian starts crying like a baby.

Mary takes her into her arms in a great big hug.

MARY

Vivian... Oh Vivian! It's ok! It's ok...
I'm here now... It's ok... I'm here...

Vivian wipes away her tears and smiles up at her.

VIVIAN

I love you.

Mary's heart melts.

MARY

I love you too Vivian... Hey... I know.
Why don't you come climb the crow's nest
with me? It's a great view up there!
Would you like that? I bet it'd be fun.

VIVIAN

Yeah... Ok... Yeah sure...
(sniffling)
I'll meet you here in a minute. I just
gotta get something from my room.

Vivian turns on a dime and runs away crying.

VIVIAN PUSHES BACK INTO HER BEDROOM

and RIPS FROM HER JOURNAL the picture of her friends...
She hastily scrawls something on the picture in pen...
With tears in her eyes... SHE SETS THE PICTURE ON HER PILLOW
Then takes out her **GOLDEN HAIRPIN**... and places it on top.
With renewed resolve... Vivian sits back down at her Journal
AND DRAWS A PICTURE OF ZOMA AT THE WINDOW... She looks up!
And there at her window... peering in at her... is Zoma.
Vivian picks up her Journal and stands.

VIVIAN

I've chosen. I want to meet my father.

To Zoma's laughter she opens the window... and reaches out.
Zoma takes her hand...

MARY PUSHES INTO THE BEDROOM LOOKING FOR VIVIAN

when she spots the **GOLDEN HAIRPIN** on the pillow...

She picks it up and compares it to her own...

THEY ARE IDENTICAL!

DAVENPORT (V.O.)

There's only one other like it in all the
world...

That's when Mary sees the picture...

She picks it up and stares close... It's been signed:

VIVIAN (V.O.)
For my sister. Love Vivian.

Tears fill Mary's eyes...

FADE TO:

THE ARMY OF FLYING DRONES AND ANIMAL SPIRITS

swoops over the shores of Demos to A CHEERING CROWD!

ACROSS THE STREETS OF REPUBLICA - IN EVERY SHOP WINDOW

Televisions show Davenport being interviewed by a REPORTER.

REPORTER (ON TV)
 They're calling you the Savior of Demos!
 What's next for your Presidency?

DAVENPORT (ON TV)
 There is no doubt. This is a great
 victory that we've achieved against the
 Pirates... but I urge caution.

REPORTER (ON TV)
 How so?

A TV MONITOR PLAYS THE NEWS BROADCAST IN AN ELEVATOR

as Vivian and Zoma ride to the TOP FLOOR.

DAVENPORT (ON TV)
 I'm calling for another emergency session
 of Parliament tomorrow. There I'll
 address the entire nation, and explain to
 us all what fate lies in store for Demos.

Zoma shuts off the TV Monitor with a snicker.

VIVIAN
 So what's he like?

ZOMA
 (uncharacteristically serious)
 Our father is NOT to be trifled with, or
 to be taken lightly. Be on your best
 behavior. For both our sakes.

Vivian gulps... The elevator door opens into:

AN ORNATE MARBLE ROOM WITH A GOLDEN EAGLE WALL STATUE

Zoma leads Vivian straight past the SECRETARY'S desk, and in through a large golden door that closes behind them.

INSIDE THE OFFICE

An UNSEEN PERSON watches the News from behind a large chair.

Zoma and Vivian make the long walk up to the desk...

The TV gets shut off.. the chair spins around... and

EVELYN DAVENPORT STANDS UP TO FACE THEM

Zoma KNEELS DOWN, and ushers Vivian to do the same...

... And after a long moment of silence...

Davenport turns away... steps behind a silk screen curtain...

AND DISROBES... But through the silk... Vivian sees flashes of a WHITE DRAGON TATTOO across Davenport's back.

And when Davenport emerges in a feather white dress...

Its low-cut back makes the TATTOO plain to see.

DAVENPORT

Hello Vivian... ... You know it's polite to say hello back.

Vivian stands up... almost too confused to speak...

VIVIAN

But... You're a girl!

Davenport laughs...

DAVENPORT

I can slip off this human form as easily as I slipped on my dress.

VIVIAN

YOU'RE SARO!? You're my father? Really?

Davenport nods with a secret smile.

DAVENPORT

Your father I am.

ZOMA

Master Saro... You'll be pleased to know Kang barely! -

She silence Zoma with a finger...

VIVIAN

How come you have two tattoos? I thought... people in uhh... Aquaria are only supposed to have one?

DAVENPORT

My, my. You are quite the inquisitive little girl aren't you. You see...

She circles the desk and kneels down beside Vivian.

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

Long long ago... the humans killed all of our ancestors. Me and my children are all that's left. All part of a race halfway between human and Paradox... So we have two tattoos. One for each bloodline.

ZOMA TAKES OFF HIS SHIRT AND TURNS

to reveal A BLACK DRAGON TATTOO draped over his back... its wings almost merging with the RAVEN TATTOO's WINGS.

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

But you Vivian... you are part me, and part Traveler, like your mother. And as your true power still lurks within you...

Davenport opens Vivian's Journal to a blank page...

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

You must use this to bring it out...

VIVIAN

My journal?

Davenport takes a pen from her desk, AND PRICKS HER FINGER.

DAVENPORT

With this ink... Just one drop...

She pools one drop of her blood into an ink well...

And gives it to Vivian.

Zoma's eyes are on Davenport's blood with unusual hunger...

She smiles... He holds out his hand... and one drop falls...

It absorbs into Zoma's skin and he SURGES WITH POWER.

Vivian dips her quill in the ink well... and it's magic!
The ink's like a rainbow and it changes colors randomly...

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)

Here... Let me help you get started.

She takes the quill and draws VIVIAN WITH A BARE BACK.

Then hands the quill back to Vivian.

VIVIAN

What should it be?

DAVENPORT

Anything at all. It's your choice.

With a thought... Vivian dips the quill again and the ink
 glows GOLD... She puts it to the page...

And starts drawing A GOLDEN DRAGON TATTOO...

Davenport watches with a sharp smile as...

THE TATTOO appears on Vivian's back... in real life...

FADE TO:

ZHUN FEI FASTENS THE TOP BUTTON OF HIS FORMAL PIRATE SUIT

as he stares in a mirror. His Hound chews on a Dragon Claw.

ZHUN LOOKS OUT OVER THE BALCONY

where THOUSANDS OF PIRATES CHEER UP AT HIM from below!

ZHUN FEI

My great grandfather was a potato farmer!
 My grandfather was a potato farmer! But
 my father! MY FATHER WAS YOUR KHAN!

THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE SHAKES THE BUILDING!

ZHUN FEI (CONT'D)

AND NOW! AS YOUR NEW KHAN! I'll sail us
 back to Demos! Back to Republica! And
 together! Together we will unite the West
 and East under a new Pirate Empire!

FADE TO:

OLD MERCUTIO SITS UNDER THE SHADE OF A BIG MENDAT TEMPLE TREE

He's surrounded by a group of YOUNG MONKEYS...

YOUNG MONKEY

But then what happened Master Mercutio!?
It can't end like that!

but there's also...

A GROUP OF CHILDREN WITH **STRAIGHT, NEON RED HAIR**...

BOYS AND GIRLS...

All sitting cross-legged... all listening to his story...

OLD MERCUTIO

I know, I know. Even the best stories can
leave us all with lots of questions.

Old Mercutio stands up and leans on his white stick as he
paces between his eager students...

OLD MERCUTIO (CONT'D)

What ever happened to Vivian, and JC, and
Mary, and all the other heroes and
villains? Hmm?

His eyes look to each of them... From one CHILD to the
next... from one MONKEY to the next...

OLD MERCUTIO (CONT'D)

Well? What do you think happened?

The Children and Monkeys all look to each other...

as they puzzle over the question...

FADE TO:

DAVENPORT WATCHES FROM THE BACK OF HER OFFICE

as Zoma helps Vivian with the design of her tattoo...

Satisfied... Davenport takes out her Key Ring and

UNLOCKS A SECRET DOOR IN HER OFFICE... It leads into

A FUTURISTIC GLASS ELEVATOR

Davenport locks it behind her and presses a button.

Down... Down it descends... Down through the underground...

Then down through an underwater sea...

Down past bottomless caverns of ice...

Down... Down... Down into

A HIDDEN PARADOX BASE THAT HUGS THE ICE BENEATH THE RINGS

The vastness of open space looms beneath it...

THE ELEVATOR STOPS AND OPENS UP INTO

the hallway of the Paradox facility...

DRACONIC SOLDIERS salute her as she walks past. She enters

A FUTURISTIC LABORATORY

where in the center of the chamber...

SARO IS TRAPPED INSIDE A CYLINDER OF ICE!!!

Tubes and wires drill through the ice where they

ATTACH TO DIFFERENT PARTS OF SARO'S FROZEN BODY!

Thick Silvery Liquid drips from a multitude of tubes...

All combining into a single spout that drips...

Drop... after drop... after drop...

down into a Black Metallic Inkwell...

A LARGE WHITE METALLIC BOUND JOURNAL

sits open on an altar nearby... open to a blank page.

A Blood Red Quill lies beside it.

Davenport drags her fingers across the open page...

When a DRACONIC SCIENTIST interrupts her.

DRACONIC SCIENTIST
Madam... You should know...

DAVENPORT
Yes? What is it?

DRACONIC SCIENTIST
He's waking up...

DAVENPORT
Fine... That's fine...

She turns away from him and walks towards Saro...

DAVENPORT (CONT'D)
Everything in the overworld is proceeding as planned... But you're going to need to work faster if we're to be ready by the time *Galactic Night* arrives.

DRACONIC SCIENTIST
I assure you. We're right on schedule. We've even been given a promising new test subject. One recovered from the battle that took place up above.

Draconic Soldiers DRAG RITH FEI across the laboratory...

INTO A WHITE MEDICAL CHAMBER

Rith is awake, but weak, and does not struggle as the Soldiers strap him down onto a table.

DAVENPORT DISMISSES THE SCIENTIST WITH A WAVE

DAVENPORT
Go ahead... Do what you must...

The Scientist bows and flees from her into the chamber.

Finally alone...

Davenport takes a long moment to breathe...

and as she stares into the frozen eyes of Saro... ..

A CRACK APPEARS IN THE ICE

CUT TO BLACK:

ROLL CREDITS

CUT TO:

THE UGLY PIRATE HURDLES THROUGH SPACE AT TREMENDOUS SPEED

as the Traveler fades into the distance...

UGLY PIRATE
AAAAAAAaaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhhhhh!!!!!!!!!!!!

FADE TO BLACK.