## ATLIT YAM: THE CITY LOST IN TIME

Written by

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Based on the book "Atlit Yam: the city lost in time"

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A sunny day, OVERFLYING VINEYARDS in Volterra, Italy.

FADE IN:

VOICE (V.O.)

And suddenly, I was in the vineyards, extending for about two acres until they reached the edge of a lake. It was the famous plantations of my uncle, Luke Blake, just outside Volterra, Italy. I used to spend my summer vacations there, joining him after my parents passed away, when he accepted to be my guardian.

(pause)

But he was never around. He only took it upon himself to finance my Chemical Engineering studies at Yale University, when I started a new life in Manhattan. Never heard from him again. Sometimes he would send me letters, two or three times a year, when the Christmas and New Year holidays were approaching.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAIN CABIN - NIGHT

A SCREECH OF TRAIN RAILS fades those images, revealing...

AIDEN (27), a young man with brown eyes and dark hair.

He's on a train cabin packing his belongings in his suitcase.

CUT TO:

EXT. GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL - MOMENTS LATER Aiden gets into a cab.

I/E. CAB - NIGHT

CAB DRIVER

Where to?

AIDEN

Fifth Avenue, across the street from Parson's School, please.

CAB DRIVER

Sure.

They go all across the Fifth Avenue to Aiden's apartment.

Aiden gets out of the cab and enters the building.

CUT TO:

INT. AIDEN'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

He walks into his apartment, turns on the lights and picks up the correspondence. Among the envelopes, a black one with his family's white stamp stands out. Aiden looks surprised.

LUKE (V.O.)

"Good morning Aiden, or evening, depending on when you open my letter. How are you? I know it's been too long since you've heard from me, and I'm sorry about that, but this is important, something I can't say through ink and paper. I need to see you and fast, this can't wait, so meet me Wednesday at 8:30 PM to see The Phantom of the Opera at the Majestic Theater on Broadway. I booked you a ticket, it's inside the envelope. I'll be waiting for you there. Be punctual. Love, Luke."

AIDEN

Today is Wednesday...

CUT TO:

EXT. MAJESTIC THEATRE - NIGHT

Aiden hands his ticket to a woman wearing a Phantom of the Opera MASK.

WOMEN

Orchestra section, row AA, seat 101. Enjoy.

AIDEN

Thank you.

INT. MAJESTIC THEATRE - HALL - SAME TIME

Aiden enters the theater, which is full of people. He is LOST.

He walks to a man working in the place.

AIDEN

Excuse me, could you please tell me which door I should go?

MAN

Sure, go ahead through the door on the right.

AIDEN

Thanks.

MAN

With pleasure, Mr. Blake.

He proceeds through the door and is just in time for the show.

INT. MAJESTIC THEATRE - AUDITORIUM - SAME TIME

He sits between a person with an overcoat and a hat and another one with messy, white hair and wearing a black suit.

He recognizes him: it is his uncle LUKE (46).

AIDEN

(surprised)

Luke?

LUKE

You took too long, nephew. Don't you remember me anymore?

The Phantom of the Opera plays in the background.

AIDEN

It's just that with all the darkness, and the time that's passed since we last saw each other, I didn't know what you were going to look like!

LUKE

I see you got my letter...

AIDEN

Yes! What's this all about? Are you in some kind of trouble?

LUKE

Yes and no. It's a complicated thing that I'll tell you about later, I promise. But right now there's some stuff we have to worry about.

AIDEN

What kind of stuff?

LUKE

Well, you see, you remember the kind of job I had?

Aiden looks confused.

AIDEN

Of course you do. You have a vineyard in Tuscany. Why are you asking me this?

LUKE

(in mysterious way)
Because that's not the work I've
been doing all my life. That
business only masks what I really
do. Do you remember that your
father and I were passionate about
history and mysteries?

AIDEN

Yes... and that my grandfather told you stories of treasures scattered all over the world that no one ever managed to find. But what does that have to do with anything?

LUKE

Patience. For now I just need you to remember that you are not safe, there are people who want to get you and me. And I'm sorry to tell you that it's all my fault.

AIDEN

(concerned)

Your fault? People who want to get us? What the hell are you talking about?

LUKE

(anxious)

I'll explain everything later, but for now you have to listen to me. Tell me, has anyone talked to you lately? I mean unknown people? Or have you received any strange emails, letters or calls recently?

Aiden looks at him concerned.

AIDEN

Well, no, I don't think so... (pause)

Although, when I entered the theater a man called me by my last name. I thought he had seen it on the ticket, but he never took it.

Luke gets nervous and looks around for anything suspicious. He recognizes the man sitting next to Aiden.

LUKE

(whispering)

We have to go... Now!

Luke and Aiden stand up and move forward to the door.

AIDEN

(confused)

Where are we going?!

Aiden looks back and sees the suspicious man following them.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Hey, that man is following us.

Luke looks back quickly and both speed up. The mysterious person follows closely.

LUKE

Hurry! We have to get to the front door, someone is waiting for us!

AIDEN

Who?!

INT. MAJESTIC THEATRE - HALL - SAME TIME

They reach the auditorium. The place is a complete mess: the food stall smashed, lights broken, blood spots in several places.

LUKE

(anxious)

I don't like this at all...

Luke walks to the theatre entrance but it's LOCKED.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Dammit!

AIDEN

(nervous)

What happened here?!

LUKE

We have to get out of here, now! There must be an exit in the back.

They turn around and see the MYSTERIOUS PERSON standing behind them, staring at them from the shadows.

AIDEN

Who are you?

MYSTERIOUS MAN

You're asking the wrong person... So this is the famous Aiden? Your uncle knows very well who I am.

NIKOLAI (57) steps forward into the light, revealing his face: blue eyes, almost hairless, with a scar starting at the top of his head and ending at the right end of his lips, dividing his face in two.

LUKE

Nikolai...

AIDEN

(confused)

Who?!

NIKOLAI

I'm an old family friend, you might say. Let's say Mr. Blake has something that belongs to me and refuses to give it back.

LUKE

Those copies don't belong to you! We found them first.

NIKOLAI

Well, "found" is a word out of context, don't you think? I'd prefer "steal"...

AIDEN

(confused)

Steal? Uncle, what's he talking about?

NIKOLAI

Oh, you haven't told him yet, have you? Well, if you want I can answer that question for you... You see, your uncle must have told you that he has a great job, a legal one above all. Probably a teaching job, or an archaeologist, or maybe a businessman. But that doesn't matter, because it's all a lie.

LUKE

(yelling)

Shut up, Nikolai!

NIKOLAI

But he needs to know the whole truth Luke, about the robberies, the death of your brother and his wife, how you make a living from your work and so on...

LUKE

I will tell him in proper time, but you need to leave right now, or I swear....

NIKOLAI

What? What are you gonna do this time? Give me another scar? Send your killers against mine? Please, we're past that. Now it's time for you to give me what you stole or I swear your nephew will pay for it...

Nikolai draws a gun, pointing it straight at Aiden's head.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

I warn you.

AIDEN

Oh, shit...

LUKE

What are you doing? We're in New York, in a theater. It wouldn't be the wisest thing to fire a gun in here, everyone will hear you.

NIKOLAI

I don't care about that. By the time they hear and come running, you two will be dead, and I'll be gone.

(pause)

So what's it gonna be? Your nephew or the copies? I guess you know patience isn't my strong suit.

LUKE

All right, I'll give it to you, but first put the gun down, otherwise there's no deal.

NIKOLAI

Always trying to negotiate. You never change.

Nikolai puts the gun on the FLOOR.

LUKE

Old habits... (pause)

Now!

Luke pushes Aiden to the side. Nikolai picks up the gun and a black van RAMS THE THEATER DOORS. With the crash, shards of glass fly through the air, nailing one in the Russian's right arm.

Suddenly, the side door of the van opens. **EMILY (26)**, a BEAUTIFUL WOMAN with braided blonde hair and blue eyes steps out of it. She is wearing a black leather jacket and pants.

**EMILY** 

What are you doing lying there? This is no time for a nap, Professor. Get up!

She pulls out her gun, much bigger than Nikolai's.

Luke lifts Aiden by the arm. They are both stunned.

AIDEN

(in panic)
What just happened?!

LUKE

Are you all right? You have a small cut on your forehead...

Nikolai stands up with difficulty.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Come on, we have to get out of here as soon as possible.

I/E. VAN - SAME TIME

Luke and Aiden get into the van.

Inside the van there are <u>no seats</u>, only weapons, tools, clothes and a spare tire. In the front are two men: the DRIVER **NICK (24)** with blond hair, glasses and thin. His COMPANION **JOEY (32)** with dark brown hair and muscular.

AC-DC's song Thunderstruck is playing in the background.

JOEY

(looking to Aiden)

So this is the package?

Nick backs up and gets out of the theatre. He drives down the street.

AIDEN

Luke... Who are these people?

LUKE

This is my team, Aiden. Meet Emily, Nick and Joey.

Luke INTRODUCES them as he points them out one by one.

LUKE (CONT'D)

When we get to safety I'll tell you everything, I promise, but now we have to go.

**EMILY** 

Yes, we spot many Russians around the theater. They are surely after us.

NICK

(maneuvering)

Be patient, I will lose them.

JOEY

Nick, you don't just lose three vans in the Fifth Avenue.

Joey points to the vans chasing them.

NICK

Well, you can try if you want. Take the wheel...

JOEY

You know I prefer shooting!

NICK

So could you please shut your mouth? Even if it's just for a few minutes, until we get there!

AIDEN

Are they always like this?

LUKE

Most of the time... Now, let's get that wound taken care of.

Luke looks again at the cut on his forehead.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Emily, could yoù pass me the first aid kit?

**EMILY** 

Since when do we have one?

LUKE

Since always... It's next to the toolbox. It's black with a white cross.

Emily finds it. There's only duct tape and a pen.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Joey?

JOEY

Yes?

LUKE

Weren't you supposed to take care of the first aid kit?

JOEY

Maybe...

LUKE

Well, we'll clean your wound when we get there. Now we must...

CUT TO:

BANG! Luke is interrupted by a ENEMY SUV HITTING the left side of the van. Aiden FALLS on top of Emily, and Luke hits a large wooden box.

Just as they manage to get on their feet, another enemy SUV HITS THEM AGAIN on the right side.

EMILY

What was that?! Russians?

NICK

Yes. We have to do something, otherwise we'll never get out of here!

LUKE

Aiden, are you okey?

AIDEN

My head... What happened?

Nick keeps driving and Joey starts SHOOTING at the SUVs.

NICK

(shouting)

We have to do something right now! I can't lose them if they're six feet away from us!

Two SUVs approach <u>from the sides</u>, allowing some enemies to CLIMB into the van's roof.

We hear FOOTSTEPS on the van's roof, followed by a SCREECHING NOISE that turns into SPARKS. They are DRILLING through the roof to get inside.

AIDEN

Holly shit!

EMILY

I'll take care of it. Professor, I'm gonna need you to make room. I don't want your nephew to end up napping again.

Luke grabs Aiden and take shelter behind some boxes. Emily takes a ROPE from a box.

AIDEN

(shouting)

A rope?! What are you gonna do with a rope? Make them jump?

EMILY

You'll see...

The van's roof opens up and a MAN ENTERS. He walks to the Blakes. Emily grabs both ends of the rope and jumps onto the enemy's back, CHOKING HIM. He is UNCONSCIOUS.

EMILY (CONT'D)

That's what you do with a rope.

Two more men ENTER through the hole. One moves straight to Luke and Aiden. Emily tries to stop him, but the other one grabs her by her hair and PUSHES HER to one side of the van. He is CHOKING HER with his hands.

EMILY POV: the Blakes try to defend by throwing things. Emily's vision is BLURRY. She starts closing her eyes, but suddenly she SPOTS A SHADOW that knocks down the Russian.

It is JOEY. He grabs the enemy by the head and, without thinking, BREAKS HIS NECK.

JOEY

Are you all right?

Joey helps her to get up.

**EMILY** 

(coughing)

Yes... Thank you.

LUKE

(shouting)

A little help over here!

Joey grabs the Russian by the shoulders while Emily opens the van door.

**JOEY** 

Ready?

**EMILY** 

Ready!

Joey pushes the man towards Emily and she KICKS HIM OUT of the van.

JOEY

Perfect. Now we need to get rid of one more SUV.

AIDEN

I have an idea.

Everybody look at Aiden surprised.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

What?

JOEY

Just a second ago you were screaming for help.

AIDEN

I panicked, okay? I'm gonna need a glass bottle, a piece of cloth and alcohol or... fuel.

EMILY

You want to make a Molotov bomb.

AIDEN

Exactly.

**EMILY** 

How do you know about that?

AIDEN

When you study Chemical Engineering and you want to impress girls....

**EMILY** 

You make bombs?

AIDEN

Well... It sounded better in my head...

Everybody grabs for what he needs.

JOEY

Here's the bottle and Nick's scarf.

NICK

(yelling)

Hey!

LUKE

And here's fuel.

As Aiden takes the can, they are once more HIT by the SUV, causing almost all of it to SPILL all over the ground.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Hurry, there's still some left in the can.

Aiden wets the piece of cloth and fills the bottle with fuel.

AIDEN

I need a lighter, matches, something to ignite the bomb.

JOEY

Here.

Joey offers his lighter. Aiden LIGHT IT UP.

AIDEN

(in panic)

What now?

**EMILY** 

We give it away!

She takes the bottle and THROWS it to THE FRONT WINDSHIELD of the enemy SUV, causing a HUGE EXPLOSION. The driver LOSE CONTROL and spin around, CRASHING into a large fountain.

JOEY

Yeah! That's what I'm talking about!

The group shouts victoriously and speed up.

CUT TO BLACK.

EXT. ONAWA, MAINE - MOMENTS LATER

They arrive at a HUGE CABIN in the middle of the forest.

AIDEN

(confused)

Where are we?

LUKE

Maine. It was my father's property. Nick, park the car in the garage. The rest of us, let's find the key. Should be somewhere...

Everyone searches through the potted plants and under rocks for the key. Joey finds it inside the wilted ferns.

JOEY

Is this it?

LUKE

Perfect.

Luke takes the key and opens the door.

INT. LUKE'S CABIN - NIGHT

Everybody enters and Luke pauses briefly to look around, nostalgic. Everything is covered in dust, with white sheets on top of the furniture.

AIDEN

Did you lived hear?

LUKE

This... Was my home after my father's death.

Luke moves forward and leaves his backpack on a table.

LUKE (CONT'D)

(pointing to)

The bedrooms are down the hall to the right, the bathroom to the left, and the kitchen over there. When you're done settling in, we need to explain everything to Aiden. He deserves it.

NICK

Sounds good.

One after the other move towards their rooms. Luke sits on a chair, watching the house.

CUT TO BLACK.

They all gather in the living room. An awkward silence fills the room.

**EMILY** 

Well Aiden, you'd better have a seat. This is gonna be a long one.

AIDEN

All right...

He sits down in a dusty chair.

LUKE

As Nikolai said earlier, the vineyard was just a cover for all this not to be revealed, so to speak.

AIDEN

What do you mean by not to be revealed...?

LUKE

Well, you may have noticed that we don't deal with salesmen or mere collectors. Our job includes risking our lives for history.

AIDEN

No kidding...

JOEY

History... And money.

LUKE

Let me finish. Ever since I was a child, I had a weakness for ancient history, treasure times, wars from centuries ago, those kinds of things.... That's why I decided to study archaeology. But as time went by, I felt that it didn't satisfy my hunger for solving those mysteries. So after five years of teaching at the university, I quit my job. That was before your grandpa passed away.

AIDEN

Grandpa Tom? I thought you weren't speaking to each other.

LUKE

And so it was from the moment he tried to stop me from studying Archaeology. But as I told you, it hasn't been very easy for me. A couple of years later, I moved to Italy and started living in the vineyard, which brought me a lot of money.

Luke pauses briefly and continues.

LUKE (CONT'D)

But one day a couple of men in black suits knocked on my door. They were U.S. Government agents, from a department that is in charge of maintaining order in areas that most people don't seem to care about. They proposed me to work for them, researching historical artefacts, which in the wrong hands could become very dangerous.

AIDEN

Artifacts? What kind of artifacts?

Joey shoots him a withering look.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

All right, I'll stop talking.

LUKE

Anyway, I had to have a team to carry out the missions, so that's when met them. One specialist in weapons, another in technology, and a pretty face who can take care of herself. The dream team, until one mission went wrong and our own government tried to kill us.

(pause)

But that's another story for another day. What's important is that we show you what we're after.

AIDEN

Assassinate you?! And how did you escape?

LUKE

Another story for another day I said, so now let's move on to the most important thing...

He rolls out a world map on the table.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Our main target is in Athens, Greece.

He points geographically to the place.

AIDEN

What's there?

**EMILY** 

There is nothing more and nothing less than the <u>Antikythera</u> <u>Mechanism</u>.

AIDEN

(confused)

The Antiky... What?

LUKE

Antikythera. Nick, will you?

Luke offers him the head of the table to continue with the explanation.

NICK

Sure.

He gets a SMALL PROJECTOR from his bag and connects it to his laptop. He starts with his explanation while the images SCROLL on a wall.

NICK (CONT'D)

Well, the <u>Antikythera Mechanism</u> is believed to have been originated in Corinth, in 200 BC.

The image shown is of the mechanism, made up of GEARS and being the size of a COMPUTER.

NICK (CONT'D)

It left the port of Rhodes on a ship until it wrecked in a storm, causing the mechanism to sink to the bottom of the ocean. Over the years, most of the fragments that composed it were obtained, and are based on zodiacal inscriptions, the cycle of Meton, and stuffs like that.

AIDEN

(more confused)

Right, stuffs like that...

NICK

It was used to predict, among other things, astronomical positions, eclipses and to calculate periods in the calendar to establish the exact date of important events, such as the Olympic Games.

JOEY

The Olympic Games are that old?

NICK

Yes. According to our research...

AIDEN

You mean the copies?

NICK

Exactly... This mechanism will take us back to <u>Jerusalem</u>, to the <u>Templars</u>...

**EMILY** 

In other words, the Middle Age.

AIDEN

Templars? Who are they? And why Jerusalem?

LUKE

Who were they, rather...

NICK

They were known as <u>The Order of the Poor Knights of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon</u>, one of the most powerful Christian military orders for two centuries.

LUKE

Was founded by nine French knights, led by <u>Hugues de Payens</u>, after the first Crusade, and its purpose was to protect Christians on pilgrimage to Jerusalem. They built fortresses around the Mediterranean Sea and the Holy Land.

NICK

Until <u>Clement the Fifth and Philip</u>
<u>the Fourth</u> eradicated them because
they believed they worshipped
Satan.

AIDEN

And that was true? Did they really worship the Devil?

**EMILY** 

We don't know. That's what most people believe.

Everyone is silent for a moment.

NICK

Anyway, those who survived stayed in the <u>Al-Aqsa Mosque</u>, called at that time the Temple of Solomon, in Jerusalem.

(MORE)

NICK (CONT'D)

In that place, they found the Antikythera Mechanism, which led them to <a href="Atlit.">Atlit.</a> Israel, where they maintained an outpost until 1291.

(pause)

In that place is <u>Atlit Yam</u>, <u>currently submerged</u>. A city dating back to 6900 B.C., in the Neolithic period... It is believed that it ended up under water due to natural disasters. We believe that a treasure is hidden in there.

**JOEY** 

But when we went there, there was nothing but rocks with algae, fish, and strange stones placed in the shape of a circle.

LUKE

But we did discover a peculiar shape in the center of those stones, as if an object was missing for a secret door to open. It is believed that in the center was a kind of altar that the pagans used for their rites.

NICK

After several years of countless research and findings, we came to the conclusion that the <u>Voynich</u> <u>Manuscript</u> has the answer.

AIDEN

The what?

JOEY

The Voynich Manuscript. For God's sake Aiden, don't you have any knowledge about history?

AIDEN

No Jace, of course not. At most, I could tell you how America was discovered, but don't ask anything more than that.

JOEY

(angry)

It's Joey, not Jace.

Joey hits the table with his fist.

NICK

As I was saying, this manuscript was written in unknown languages. They called it a Voynichese language. It is believed to be a combination of several languages in the same text, and its drawings have multiple translations, such as nuclear energy, constellations, cells, plants, etc.

AIDEN

Either I got lost again, or I can't find any connection between all this...

LUKE

Well, the connection is that, according to research and myths, it is believed that under the altar where they practiced rituals at that time, there are signs that lead to a catacomb with buried treasures. And no, we are not crazy.

AIDEN

You guys have seen a lot of Indiana Jones movies....

JOEY

It's likely.

LUKE

Just take our word for it.

AIDEN

(pause)

Assuming what you are saying is true, and that following Dora the explorer's map leads you to a pirate treasure... wouldn't the place be flooded?

NICK

Not necessarily. If the rock covering the entrance is hermetic enough, there could be water inside, of course, but only a couple of meters. The problem is that it could never be proven because none one could never open it.

AIDEN

And why not to use explosives?

**EMILY** 

Because that might damage what's underneath.

LUKE

Besides, we don't know how thick those rocks are. We could detonate a lot of bombs and not get a scratch on them.

AIDEN

So how you would open a rock?

NICK

I'm glad you asked, because that leads me to... The altar. It cannot be opened by simple methods, so we're gonna need some kind of key to open it. That led us to think that the Templars might know the answer. Since the dates on the manuscript matches the Templars, and we still don't know how to read it, we assume that it started with Bacon and Jacques de Molay.

AIDEN

Roger Bacon? As the philosopher?

JOEY

No, like Kevin Bacon.

AIDEN

(surprised)

Really?

JOEY

Of course not!

LUKE

The two of them met on a trip to Paris... Jacques to be burned alive in front of Notre Dame and Bacon to attend the University of Paris. We think their paths crossed and Jacques decided to tell all about the submerged city before he died, so Bacon listened to him and wrote the manuscript, but in an encrypted way.

AIDEN

And since you don't know what language it's based on, what can we do?

LUKE

Nick has been studying the copies, but we need to see it very closely. Just to be sure.

AIDEN

How close?

EMILY

Too close...

LUKE

It's located at Yale University.

Everyone takes a pause.

AIDEN

So, let me get this straight....
First we must recover the Konechy
Manuscript, written by a
philosopher in an unknown language,
located at the university I
attended. Then, we must find a way
to "borrow" the Antipireta
Mechanism, which is like a very old
computer... Together with the
ancient book will open a secret
door in the submerged city of Atlit
Yam. All this while trying not to
get killed by some Russian, right?

LUKE

You're right, but there's just one thing missing...

He takes a deep breath.

LUKE (CONT'D)

We need you to go in and steal it for us.

CUT TO BLACK.

AIDEN

What?! You're fucking crazy, you know that?

LUKE

I've already been told that a couple of times.

AIDEN

Just a couple of times?! There's no way I'm stealing a 700 year old book from a university, Luke, keep it in your head. I won't do it.

Emily looks at him with anger.

**EMILY** 

I told you it would be useless to ask him.

LUKE

Emily, stop it.

AIDEN

(angry)

I'm sorry, but who do you think you are? This is a family discussion, and last time I checked, you weren't on the list, so shut your mouth. Just because I don't want to steal doesn't make me useless.

**EMILY** 

Then we should thank you, because you're gonna get us killed!

Everyone stared at each other, unblinking.

AIDEN

You saved me just because I'm useful to you now, so that later you can forget about me like all these years, right?

LUKE

Aiden, I told you I didn't tell you about this life for your pro...

AIDEN

Protection... You already said it.

LUKE

You saw what happened to us with the Russians, and that's nothing compared to what we go through every time we launch on a mission. AIDEN

And why me? Why can't they use their super spy devices and get the manuscript?

NICK

Because we can't access without a university membership pass, one like you have... The cards are created with a special chip that is not easily made.

**JOEY** 

We'd waste a lot of time getting the right one.

AIDEN

Well, I won't do it. Deal with it.

LUKE

Aiden...

AIDEN

No! Stop that! I agreed to meet you because you are family, but only by blood.

Aiden grabs his coat and walks to the door.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

The only emotion I felt for you all these time was hate, for abandoning me, for letting me spend my birthdays alone, for not bothering to pick up the phone and ask me how I was doing. But I'm over all that, because you're not worth it. I'm leaving this damn place.

JOEY

You don't have a ride.

AIDEN

(shouting)

I'll walk!

Aiden gets out and slam the door.

CUT TO BLACK.

EXT. ONAWA, MAINE - AFTERNOON

He walks down the road in the  $\underline{\text{middle of the woods}}$ . It's foggy and it's too cold

He hears a RUSTLING OF BRANCHES. Turns around but can't see anything, it's too dark.

Keeps walking, until the SAME NOISE is heard.

AIDEN

Hello?! Who's there?

NICK

Easy, it's me.

He comes out from behind some trees.

AIDEN

(catching his breath)
Nick?! You scared the shit out of
me!

NICK

Sorry. Who did you think I was?

AIDEN

I don't know, my uncle maybe... Although I've come to the conclusion that he doesn't care much about me.... Why are you following me?

NICK

(smiling)

Well, your uncle sent me, actually. The one who doesn't care about you.

AIDEN

What does he want?

NICK

He thinks it's better that he's not the one looking for you because of, well, what happened...

AIDEN

Well, you can go back and tell him I'm gonna keep walking.

NICK

So your plan is to walk to Canada? Because, that's where you're heading...

Aiden looks around, lost.

AIDEN

Well, it's just that... I have a... very distant relative in Canada.

NICK

No shit. Living near Turpan?

AIDEN

In fact, a couple of kilometers away from there...

Nick starts laughing.

NICK

Aiden, Turpan is in China.

AIDEN

Oh, crap...

NICK

Come, let's go back. It's very cold out here. If you want, you can walk to Turpan after dinner.

He looks at him for a few seconds.

AIDEN

Fine... Let's go.

CUT TO:

INT. LUKE'S CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

They enter the cabin and see food ready on the table.

Everyone is seated waiting for them. Luke is not in the room.

NICK

Who deserves my blessing?

Nick approaches and sits down.

EMILY

Joey, actually. I didn't know he was such a good cook.

JOEY

That's because you never tasted my risotto alle zucchine.

EMILY

(surprised)

And he knows Italian. Who knew? You surprise me more and more every day Joey.

NICK

Come on Aiden.

Emily brings a chair over to him.

EMILY

Sit with us.

AIDEN

Uh, thank you.

He looks at Emily surprised and takes a seat.

EMILY

What? I don't bite.

NICK

Occasionally...

**EMILY** 

Oh yeah? Like that rabid animal that bite you when you accidentally got locked in the vet's office with... What was Joey?

JOEY

A canary.

**EMILY** 

Right, a canary. And you called animal control because it was attacking you.

They tell the story with laughter.

NICK

That's a lie! It was a bird of prey, at least three feet tall. It was Luke's fault, he gave me that straw hat that looked like a nest!

Everyone starts laughing.

AIDEN

Three-foot-tall bird of prey? I can't believe it.

NICK

I'm serious! For sure it was a condor...

JOEY

Nick, you're getting more and more ridiculous. Please shut up.

NICK

Well Joey, since we're telling stories....

**JOEY** 

Oh no, don't you dare!

NICK

Why don't you talk about that time you ended up marrying a Muslim woman?

JOEY

Oh, you're dead, Nick!

Joey starts  $\underline{\text{chasing Nick}}$  around the table and they start a food fight.

Luke enters the room.

LUKE

Joey? Nick?

They both stop and leave the pieces of food on the table.

NICK AND JOEY

Yes?

LUKE

What are you doing?

They both talk at the same time.

NICK

Uh, well, I was...

JOEY

It's just that Nick...

Luke raises his hand and they shut up.

LUKE

Go back to your seats and finish eating, we're getting up at five in the morning tomorrow. We've got to get out of this place.

(MORE)

LUKE (CONT'D)

(pause)

And Aiden, we're gonna drop you off at the nearest town we can find. We're in a hurry so we can't detour all the way to New York.

Everyone is silent.

AIDEN

Actually uncle... I decided to go along and help you.

**EMILY** 

Really?

AIDEN

Really. But I'll just get you guys in. I won't steal anything.

LUKE

All right.

AIDEN

And we won't murder anyone!

Luke walks over to Aiden and hugs him.

LUKE

Whatever you think of me, I know I made mistakes. I didn't tell you anything about this because you had a good life, one worth living with a great future in it. I am sorry.

AIDEN

We'll find a way to get back to the way it was, don't worry.

LUKE

I don't want us to go back to the way it was. I want us to start a new life, together.

They smile at each other.

NICK

How sweet...

JOEY

Until you ruin the moment...

EMILY

Well, we're leaving early tomorrow, aren't we?

JOEY

Yeah. Hopefully we won't run into any Russians or anything like that.

AIDEN

So who are those people anyway? Are they like you?

NICK

Ha! Those people are far from being people.

EMILY

They are mercenaries, hired killers, traffickers, collectors. People who use the worst methods to reach their goal, no matter who gets in their way...

Immediately, an uncomfortable silence invades the place.

LUKE

Well, they are bad people. That's the important thing. Now let's get some rest.

NICK

Aiden? I'm gonna need your <u>college</u> membership pass.

AIDEN

What for?

He reach into his wallet and gives it to him.

NICK

I'm gonna make a copy of that chip.

He pulls out an electronic reader and plugs it into his computer. He scans the chip.

NICK (CONT'D)

I'll create another pass for Emily.

AIDEN

Right. And how long will it take?

NICK

Done.

He hands the two passes to Joey.

NICK (CONT'D)

Take good care of them, big guy. Don't lose them.

JOEY

Of course I won't.

EMILY

See how much time we save by having your pass?

AIDEN

Yes, I see...

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - EARLY MORNING

Everyone gathers with their bags, ready to leave.

Nick's not there.

**EMILY** 

Is everyone ready? Where's Nick?

LUKE

Has anyone seen my backpack?

JOEY

Guys, where's Nick? He's always the first one ready.

Luke walks toward Nick's room.

**EMILY** 

Nick?!

AIDEN

Isn't he sleeping?

LUKE

(shouting from Nick's room)

No! Come here!

Everyone goes to Nick's room.

INT. NICK'S ROOM - SAME TIME

LUKE

They've got him.

JOEY

What?! Who?

Luke shows a note and begins to read it out loud.

LUKE

"As you can see, your dear friend is not at home. If you want him back alive and in one piece, bring me the Voynich Manuscript, or all you'll get will be his fingers. You have until tomorrow to meet me at the abandoned factory. Luke knows which one I'm talking about.
N. N. "

AIDEN

¿"N. N."?

LUKE

Nikolai Novikov. I'm gonna kill him.

Luke crushes the note with a clenched fist.

JOEY

Alive and in one piece?

EMILY

Do you know what factory he's talking about?

LUKE

Yes, I do. A while back the Russians and I fought in a factory, not far from here. That's when I gave him the scar.

JOEY

How could they have captured Nick with us sleeping next door? We must have heard something...

Aiden grabs a piece of white cloth under the bed.

AIDEN

I think I know how they did it...

He smells it and immediately pushes it away from his face. Emily walks over to smell it. **EMILY** 

It's chloroform. It's used to knock someone out in seconds. That's why we couldn't hear anything, because there wasn't any noise.

JOEY

We have to trade the manuscript for Nick's life!

**EMILY** 

But we can't just give them the manuscript. We have to come up with a plan. The minute we give it we're dead, and you know it...

LUKE

I agree. We can't hand over the manuscript, but we can't go in empty-handed either.

They start thinking.

AIDEN

I think I have a solution.

**EMILY** 

Do you?

AIDEN

Yes, I do. If I get everything I need, I could create a distraction.

LUKE

What kind of distraction?

AIDEN

A termite.

JOEY

And what would they do? Eat the wood?

AIDEN

Not that kind of termite! Like a bomb. But I need supplies...

LUKE

What do you need?

AIDEN

I need iron and aluminum oxide, both in powder. And I'll also need some ignition compound.

(MORE)

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Something like potassium chloride and sulfuric acid.

LUKE

Okay, but how big is going to be the bomb?

AIDEN

Way too big.

JOEY

Perfect. I'll drive.

Joey grabs the key and everyone leaves the cabin.

CUT TO:

I/E. VAN - MOMENTS LATER

Aiden gets in the van with al the materials in bags.

**EMILY** 

There's no risk that that could explode in here, right?

AIDEN

Of course not. Separate they're harmless, but once they're mixed, there's no going back.

**EMILY** 

Good to know.

LUKE

Now we have to go to the university.

JOEY

Yeah, it's only a couple of hours away.

Joey speeds up.

CUT TO:

Joey parks a block away from Yale University.

AIDEN

Well, this is it, isn't it?

**EMILY** 

Are you having second thoughts?

AIDEN

(nervous)

No, not at all...

His hands are sweating.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

How am I going to identify the manuscript?

LUKE

It's an old book, with a gray cover. Its pages are yellow and most of them are torn.

AIDEN

So, just like any other old book...

JOEY

Exactly.

**EMILY** 

Don't worry, I'll go with you.

LUKE

But the book isn't gonna be easy to steal... It's in a glass cabinet with motion sensors, because it's the only one in the world. If they are triggered, the alarm will sound, leading to disaster.

JOEY

Not to mention Nick will die and the Russians will kill us all.

AIDEN

Wait, I thought we agreed not to steal anything...

LUKE

That's why Emily is going with you.

**EMILY** 

You agreed not to steal anything, I never agreed to that.

Aiden gasps.

AIDEN

So, I have to find an old book that looks the same as the rest and open the door for the person who's going to steal it, in broad daylight, from a glass booth with motion sensors. If we set off the alarms we'll get Nick's fingers and then they'll kill us.

**EMILY** 

Yup. If you miss, we have to go to plan B, and it's gonna be a lot more complicated.

JOEY

Plan B? Do we have a plan B?

EMILY

Luke will come up with one while we execute plan A, right?

LUKE

I'm gonna do my best. Aiden, Emily will go with you. You're going to need her help. We'll be in the van, talking to you on these microphones.

Luke hands them a SMALL HEADSET. They put them in their ears.

JOEY

Have these too.

Joey hands their PASSES and Aiden grabs them.

EMILY

Let's go.

Emily grabs her black backpack and they get out of the van.

CUT TO:

EXT. YALE UNIVERSITY - DAY

They walk to the BEINECKE RARE BOOK LIBRARY, next to the university. It has a square base with no windows.

AIDEN

What's in the backpack?

EMILY

You'll find out.

They reach the glass doors with passing machines on them.

EMILY (CONT'D)

How does this work?

He shows her how it's done.

AIDEN

You have to show your ID to that screen for a few seconds. Then it says your name and opens the door.

MACHINE

Blake, Aiden.

The glass door opens and he enters.

Emily shows her ID pass.

MACHINE (CONT'D)

Kennedy, Lindsey.

The glass door reopens and she walks through.

INT. BEINECKE RARE BOOK LIBRARY - DAY

AIDEN

Lindsey Kennedy?

EMILY

Nick has terrible taste when it comes to choosing names. Don't ask.

They move forward.

AIDEN

I hope your plan works.

EMILY

(smiling)

It's going to work.

The most exotic books are shown everywhere.

AIDEN

Where could it be?

EMILY

I have no idea. There's an office. Let's ask.

While walking, Aiden sees **BERNADETTE** (70) behind the office desk, wearing a blue jacket and pink pants. She is reading a magazine about crosswords and word search puzzles.

Aiden stops and hide behind an exhibition. Emily does the same.

AIDEN

Oh no...

**EMILY** 

What? Russians?!

AIDEN

Worst... That woman, I know her... Unfortunately.

EMILY

Great, go ask her where we can find the manuscript.

AIDEN

Are you out of your mind? You don't just go and ask her something.

**EMILY** 

What are you talking about?

AIDEN

That... being behind the desk is a mix of Bin Laden with Hitler... In the shape of an ogre!

EMILY

Stop talking nonsense.

She stands up and walks towards her.

AIDEN

Wait! What are you doing?

He follows her to the desk.

EMILY

Excuse me, hi. We wanted to know...

Without looking up, she INTERRUPTS her and asks them in a rude manner:

BERNADETTE

What do you want?

EMILY

We are looking for the Voynich Manuscrip.

BERNADETTE

Can't you read?

They look for a sign, but there's nothing.

AIDEN

Read what if there's nothing...

The woman look up angrily. She is only missing one word to complete the game.

BERNADETTE

They don't pay me to put up signs, do they?

EMILY

No, you are paid to provide information.

BERNADETTE

(shouting)

That's what I did: "READ AND SEEK".

AIDEN

But there are no signs!

BERNADETTE

Then get lost, it's not my problem.

EMILY

We just want to know where to go... It can't be that hard.

BERNADETTE

Exactly, it can't be that hard, so go and find out how to get there.

AIDEN

But...

WOMAN

Out!

AIDEN

(yelling)

OKEY!

He grabs Emily's arm and walk down a hallway. They take the stairs to the top floor. They reach the door with the word "Manuscripts" on it.

INT. MANUSCRIPT ROOM - DAY

Inside thy see an uncountable amount of books, most of them piled up on shelves. The oldest and most important ones are locked in GLASS CABINETS. All of them have a lot of dust.

We hear jamming sounds through their headphones.

LUKE (O.S.)

Piece of shit... How does this thing work?

JOEY (O.S.)

I think we should press here, but I don't understand that yellow...?

LUKE (O.S.)

Yellow light ... Yeah, me neither.

JOEY (O.S.)

Maybe if we press this they can hear us.

LUKE (O.S.)

Shit, how does Nick handle all this crap?

AIDEN

Guys, we can hear you...

**EMILY** 

For a while now...

LUKE (O.S.)

Oh... Well, that's good. Carry on then, we just wanted to check the microphones.

They keep on their search for a while.

**EMILY** 

Where could it be?

AIDEN

I don't know. Let's keep going, it can't be far.

There is an awkward silence as they slowly move down a hallway.

Aiden sees an ENGAGEMENT RING on her finger.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

So... Who's the lucky one?

EMILY

I'm sorry?

AIDEN

The ring on your finger.

**EMILY** 

Oh, no one.

AIDEN

Then why the ring?

**EMILY** 

I don't like to talk about it.

Aiden is silent for a few seconds, until he speaks again.

AIDEN

Okay, so what do you like to do?

**EMILY** 

Finish my work quickly and without complications. In silent.

AIDEN

Any hobbies?

EMILY

Martial arts, learning a different language, things like that.

AIDEN

How many languages do you know?

EMILY

English, Spanish, Russian, French, Latin, a little bit of Chinese and Arabic... I guess none other.

AIDEN

(surprised)

You guess none other?

EMILY

Well, when you're raised the way I was, you learn a lot of things.

AIDEN

How were you raised?

Emily looks away.

LUKE (O.S.)

You sure are good with ladies, Aiden.

They keep walking until they reach THE MANUSCRIPT at the end of a hallway, inside a glass cabin.

AIDEN

Well, here it is.

JOEY (O.S.)

Did you find it?

AIDEN

Yes. What do we do now?

LUKE (O.S.)

Emily, look for the device. It should help you disable the sensors instantly. But you must hurry, it will last at most five minutes.

Emily sets her backpack on the ground and takes a very STRANGE CUBE OBJECT with a button and a small screen.

AIDEN

What is that thing supposed to do?

LUKE (O.S.)

That "thing" has an adhesive on it so you stick it near the sensors. It's supposed to create a frequency that alters the electronics nearby and makes them inactive for a few minutes, but it only works once.

AIDEN

(anxious)

It's supposed to? Only once? What if there's a mistake and we have to do it again?

LUKE (O.S.)

There can be no margin for error on this type of job, Aiden. Once you hit the red button, the show starts. Until the five minutes are up, your microphones will be turned off. We'll be cut off.

**EMILY** 

Okay, here I go.

She places the device next to the sensors and presses the button. A FIVE-MINUTE COUNTDOWN appears on the screen.

EMILY (CONT'D)

We must take it out now. If the clock reaches zero, we'll lose our chance. Make sure no one shows up.

Aiden goes back to the beginning of the corridor to keep watch. Meanwhile, Emily unlatches the glass cover.

We hear footsteps approaching. Aiden run towards Emily.

AIDEN

(running towards Emily)
Quick! Cover it!

Emily covers the manuscript again. A man approaches.

ADOLF NICKLEN (O.S.)

Aiden?

They turn around and Aiden sees his old professor ADOLF NICKLEN standing behind them. Emily stands in front of the device, trying to cover it.

AIDEN

Professor? I didn't recognize you! How have you been?

They shake hands.

ADOLF NICKLEN

Perfect! How have you been?

AIDEN

Fine, just fine. Living in New York at the moment.

ADOLF NICKLEN

Oh, you are far from home...

AIDEN

Yeah, I was just...

(pause)

Celebrating my honeymoon!

He grabs Emily's shoulder and pulls her closer to him.

ADOLF NICKLEN

Oh my God!

AIDEN

This is Emily, my fiancée!

Emily GLARES at him with her hateful gaze and plays along.

**EMILY** 

Hi, nice to meet you.

ADOLF NICKLEN

Adolf Nicklen, the pleasure is mine. What a beautiful stone I see here.

Aiden looks behind Emily: only TWO MINUTES LEFT.

AIDEN

Professor, I almost forgot. Earlier today in the lab I saw Josh McGonnal, and he kept bragging about his amazing project to prove the existence of life on Mars. I think someone should prove him wrong, and the right person to do that is you, right?

ADOLF NICKLEN

Oh, that awkward professor. You are right. I'll put him in his place. Thanks so much for the warning Aiden, I'd better hurry. Miss Blake, nice to meet you.

He continues on his way.

Emily and Aiden look at each other, relieved.

AIDEN

That was a close one.

EMILY

Miss Blake... For God's sake. You couldn't tell we were cousins? I have to remember to kill you when we finish this.

She pulls the glass top off again. Only ONE MINUTE AND TWENTY-FIVE SECONDS LEFT.

AIDEN

Ready?

**EMILY** 

I'm ready.

She sets the crystal down on the floor.

Aiden carefully picks up the OLD BOOK and carries it out of the cabin. She helps him put it INTO THE BACKPACK and then puts the glass back in its place.

They solved everything with barely four seconds to spare.

LUKE (O.S.)

Are you there? Communication just came back on.

AIDEN

We are here.

JOEY (O.S.)

Did you get it?

EMILY

Guys, we got it!

We hear Luke and Joey shouting victoriously.

A guard appears and sees the empty glass booth.

**GUARD** 

(shouting)

Hey! Stop right there!

AIDEN

Oh shit...

LUK E (O.S.)

What's going on?!

EMILY

I told you to keep watch!

AIDEN

How am I supposed to do that if I have to help you with everything?!

JOEY (O.S.)

You guys better run, now!

The guard run towards them. She grabs the backpack and GIVES IT TO AIDEN.

**EMILY** 

Let's get out of here, now!

They start running in the opposite direction of the guard.

AIDEN

What are you going to do?!

**EMILY** 

Plan B! Let's go to the right! The emergency exit will be there. When we reach it, you'll go ahead and I'll distract the guard.

They keep down the hallway.

AIDEN

What's going to happen to you?

**EMILY** 

I'll get to the van, don't worry. Now let's go!

In the corner she takes the right hallway, but Aiden TURNS LEFT.

Emily stops and sees Aiden on the other way.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Your other right!

Aiden stops.

AIDEN

Damn it!

He goes back and takes the hallway on the right. There see the EMERGENCY DOOR.

She opens the door and HE GETS THROUGH. She closes the door and SMASHES THE HANDLE from the inside.

I/E. BEINECKE RARE BOOK LIBRARY - DAY

They stare at each other for a few seconds, until the GUARD APPEARS behind Emily.

**EMILY** 

(through the window)

Go... Now!

Aiden runs down the fire escape stairs and runs to the van.

INT. MANUSCRIPT ROOM - DAY

The guard is about five meters away from her.

**GUARD** 

Stop right there!

She runs to another hallway, on her left.

The place is like a labyrinth: too many corridors, and some with dead ends.

She reaches a narrow path with a large book in a glass cabin BLOCKING HER WAY.

**EMILY** 

What do I do now?

LUKE (O.S.)

Emily, what's going on?

EMILY

I have no way out Luke.

LUKE (O.S.)

All right, take it easy. It's just a security guard. Knock him out and come to the van.

EMILY

All right.

She waits for the guard, but HE DOESN'T SHOW UP. Emily goes back the way she came.

She sees through the shelves the guard TRYING TO OPEN THE EMERGENCY DOOR.

She picks up the Gutenberg Bible and throws it at the guard's head. He hits the ground and crumbles to the fire alarm.

More guards appear.

She runs to a door that leads to an INTERNAL BALCONY.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Shit...

She looks back and sees SIX GUARDS.

**GUARD** 

You have nowhere to go.

**EMILY** 

Are you sure aboutthat?

INT. BEINECKE RARE BOOK LIBRARY - DAY

She runs to the internal balcony and JUMPS, landing on the office counter.

She dislocates her shoulder and cuts her left arm.

Emily manages to get back on her feet and barely MOVES TO THE  $\mathtt{EXIT}.$ 

EXT. YALE UNIVERSITY - DAY

LUKE (O.S.)

Emi...ly? Is it...b...?

The microphone is DAMAGED.

EMILY

Guys?! Hello? I can't hear you. Stay where you are, I'm on my way.

She throws the mike.

BLOOD RUNS through her t-shirt. She slows down so as not to arouse SUSPICION.

Everyone looks at her and a guy approaches her.

**GUY** 

Are you all right?

She ignores him and keeps walking. She spots the van.

A guard hold her by her shoulder.

**GUARD** 

Stop right there, young lady!

She grabs his hand and bends his arm. The man kneels down in pain. She hits him with her knee and knocks him UNCONSCIOUS.

Joey drives the van through the middle of the university until he reaches Emily. Luke opens the door.

LUKE

Get in, quickly!

She gets in and Joey speeds off, leaving the guards behind.

INT. VAN - DAY

AIDEN

Are you okay?

EMILY

Never been better.

She takes out her hand and shows a DEEP CUT on her arm.

LUKE

Aiden, bring me the first aid kit! (pause)

Lucky for you I filled it in the cabin.

Aiden hands it to him. Luke takes the surgical instruments.

LUKE (CONT'D)

This is gonna hurt liké hell.

**EMILY** 

Been there, done that...

Luke starts SEWING UP the cut and she screams in pain.

LUKE

There, good as new!

EMILY

(in pain)

Actually, there's something else you need to do... I think my shoulder is dislocated.

LUKE

All right, hold still.

Luke grabs her shoulder and takes a deep breath.

AIDEN

Oh God, I can't see.

JOEY

(driving)

What you'll hear is the problem...

LUKE

I'll count to three... One...
Two...

CRACK! The bones settle into place.

**EMILY** 

Ahhhhh!!!!!

(takes a deep breath) What happened to three?!

LUKE

No one expects it on two.

JOEY

Well, at least the police aren't chasing us.

AIDEN

And we have the manuscript.

LUKE

Now, to save Nick.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. ABANDONED FACTORY - AFTERNOON

NICK POV: Everything looks BLACK. We hear laughter and footsteps APPROACHING.

NICK

Hello?! Who's there?

NIKOLAI (O.C.)

Hi Nick, how you doing? It's been so long since our last face to face meeting....

NICK

Who are you?

NIKOLAI (O.C.)

Don't you recognize my voice? I know it's changed a little since we last met, but I never thought it would change that much. You offend me.

He reaches over and REMOVES HIS BLINDFOLD. Nick is tied up on a chair.

He sees NIKOLAI with a big smile on his face.

CUT TO:

NICK

What do you want?

NIKOLAI

Well, let's just say I hope your friends have found the message we left in the cabin. Of course, if they didn't we'll kill you anyway.

NICK

That's comforting. What did you ask in exchange? A new lair? Because this one sucks, and so does your housekeeping. It smells like fuel all over the place...

NIKOLAI

I asked the Voynich Manuscript, what else?

NICK

Do you really think they're going to trade years of research and risking their lives just for me?

NIKOLAI

I really think so, yeah...

NICK

You are wrong. I can be replaced, our treasure cannot.

NIKOLAI

Are you telling me you wouldn't do the same for them? You'd let them die?

Nick doesn't answer.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

That's what I thought. But hey, everything must come to an end, right?

NICK

Yeah, starting with you.

NIKOLAI

Is that what you think?

Nikolai walks around Nick.

NICK

That's what I know.

NIKOLAI

Well, only time will tell, won't it?

NICK

I guess so...

Nikolai leaves the room and a man enters to GUARD Nick.

NICK (CONT'D)

Can I have some water?

MAN

Shut up!

Nick breathes heavily.

NTCK

Please, I haven't had a drink since yesterday. I'm really thirsty.

MAN

I told you to shut up!

He points the gun at him.

NICK

Okay, okay, okay. I'll shut it.

CUT TO BLACK.

EXT. ABANDONED FACTORY - AFTERNOON

The factory is huge with gigantic windows. It is located next to railroad tracks, rail cars and containers.

The team is hiding behind some trees.

LUKE

Well, does everyone know the plan?

JOEY

Aiden prepares the bombs and places them...

AIDEN

When I detonate it all the Russians will run that way.

LUKE

I'll distract Nikolai, while...

EMILY

Joey and I rescue Nick.

AIDEN

Here Luke, I did this too.

He gives him a BOTTLE WITH A MIXTURE inside.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

When you throw the bottle, it will take a few seconds to mix, but it will be a nice blast.

LUKE

Perfect, let's go.

Aiden moves to the north side of the building and PLACES THE EXPLOSIVES in some abandoned train cars.

He takes cover and...

INT. ABANDONED FACTORY - AFTERNOON

BOOM! A loud bang is heard and the walls shake.

Nikolai enters the room with his GUN DRAWN.

NIKOLAI

What is that?

NICK

I think I have an idea.

NIKOLAI

(to the guards)

Get them! Go! I want them alive.

Nikolai's men grab their weapons and leave the building. Nikolai stays to watch Nick.

JOEY

(whispering)

Nick! Over here!

Nick looks everywhere until he spots Joey and Emily hidden.

NICK

(whispering)

About time!

JOEY

(whispering)

Shh! Don't worry, we'll rescue you! Stay quiet!

Nick nods and hangs on.

Nikolai grabs him by his throat.

NIKOLAI

Are those your friends?

NICK

Why don't you go out and check?

NIKOLAI

You know Nick? You're funnier than I thought...

NICK

Oh, yeah? I look like Ronald McDonald to you?

NIKOLAI

No, no like that clown...

NICK

Then to what?

NIKOLAI

You look more like... a dead man.

He hits him in the face with the butt of his Beretta 9mm.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

(screaming)

Why don't your friends show their faces?! I'm going to count to three, and if they don't show up, I'll give you a hole in your head.

He points it between Nick's eyes.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

One!

NICK

They're gonna kill you, you know?

NIKOLAI

Two!

He squeezes the hammer. Nick closes his eyes tightly.

LUKE

Three!

Luke throws the bottle near some BARRELS. It begins to mix. Nikolai sees and TAKES COVER behind some construction materials.

Emily and Joey appears behind Nick and cuts the ties.

NICK

Is that a bomb?!

JOEY

That's right. Today the Russians burn.

NICK

No! You don't understand! Don't let it...

BOOOM! The bomb explodes and part of the BUILDING COLLAPSES.

CUT TO BLACK.

The only thing Nick hears is a very loud BEEPING SOUND.

NICK (CONT'D)

(coughing)

Is everybody okay?

He can't see anything. The room is full of fire, smoke and dust. Nick scrambles through the rubble and stands up.

NICK (CONT'D)

(shouting)

Emily?! Joey?!

EMILY (O.C.)

(shouting and coughing)

Over here!

Nick walks through the rubble to Emily. A wooden board collapses on top of her arm.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I can't get it out!

NICK

Here, let me help you.

Nick takes an iron bar and lever it up.

NICK (CONT'D)

Hurry! I can't hold it much longer!

Emily CRAWLS OUT of there and the wooden board falls.

Nick helps her stand up.

**EMILY** 

(coughing)

Thank you.

NICK

Come on, we have to find the others.

We hear NOISES from a pile of rubble.

As they remove the first bricks, the buried person pulls out his GUN and points it at them.

NICK (CONT'D)

Joey?!

JOEY

Oh, it's you guys.

**EMILY** 

Were you expecting someone else?

JOEY

Actually, yes. I wanted to take advantage of that hiding place to shoot some Russian.

NICK

Well, if you want we can come back later.

**JOEY** 

No, it doesn't make any sense now. Let's look for the rest.

CUT TO:

Luke and Aiden run up to them.

AIDEN

Guys! You're safe!

NICK

We have to get out of here now, the place is about to collapse!

LUKE

(thirsty for revenge)

What about Nikolai? Has anyone seen him?

NICK

He doesn't matter, let's go before we all end up buried!

They run and get out of that place.

EXT. ABANDONED FACTORY - MOMENTS LATER

When they reach the van the whole place COLLAPSES.

**EMILY** 

What now? That didn't went as planned...

LUKE

Now we'll go somewhere to take a shower. Then we'll take a plane.

JOEY

Plane?!

AIDEN

Where are we going?

LUKE

Athens.

CUT TO BLACK.

I/E. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

JOEY

Room 666... Wonderful way to end the day.

NICK

Don't be such a pussy, Joey.

JOEY

You're the pussy Nick.

LUKE

Enough, both of you. Now come on in, I'm not getting any younger.

They enter the room.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

There is armchairs, tables and two rooms, one with three beds and the other with a KING-SIZE BED.

LUKE

(on purpose)

Joey and Nick, you are with me on the three beds.

**EMILY** 

What?!

NICK

(whispering to Joey)
This is gonna get interesting.

Joey, Luke and Nick take their beds. There is an awkward silence.

Emily looks Aiden, pissed off, and sits on one side of the big bed. Aiden does the same but on the other side.

CUT TO:

## HALF AN HOUR LATER:

Luke returns with new clothes and hands it over.

Everyone is waiting covered with TOWELS OR ROBES.

LUKE

I came back. Here. You need these.

JOEY

Great. I can't take this bathrobe anymore.

**EMILY** 

Oh, Nick. I almost forgot. I have a present for you...

She pulls the MANUSCRIPT out of her backpack and hands it to  $\mbox{him.}$ 

NICK

(astonished)

I can't believe it!

He grabs it and runs to the sofa, reading as much as he can. He has a big smile on his face.

JOEY

I want to read.

He SNATCHES the manuscript out of Nick's hands.

NICK

Joey, don't! Give it back!

Nick takes one end of the manuscript and Joey takes the other. They start pulling until PART OF THE BINDING COMES OFF.

A CRYSTAL falls from inside the manuscript.

NICK (CONT'D)

What have you done?!

Luke grabs the crystal. Nick and Joey keeps fighting.

LUKE

What's that?

**EMILY** 

It looks like some kind of emerald.

AIDEN

What's it for?

LUKE

We'll see what this strange crystal is all about later. When you've finished changing, go down to the hotel restaurant. I'll meet you there. I'm going to reserve the table. Don't be late.

NICK

I don't know. But this is all your fault!

Nick throws a punch, but his towel comes undone, leaving him NAKED.

Luke gasps and leaves the room.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Everyone sits down and orders their dinner.

**EMILY** 

Well, what's next?

LUKE

What's next is to get some invitations to the fundraising party for the National Archaeological Museum of Athens. There they will be auctioning several possessions from that place.

AIDEN

How do we do that?

LUKE

Well, it won't be easy. Only people with a lot of money get the invitation. So, this is where Nick comes in.

NICK

Me?

LUKE

Yes. You'll be in charge of doing what you do with computers, creating fake IDs for us, and with lots of zeros in our bank accounts.

NICK

Piece of cake.

LUKE

You'll also be in charge of creating a great resume to get Joey accepted as an auctioneer.

NICK

Auctioneer? Joey? Well, that's gonna be a tough one.

**JOEY** 

I can do that. Body language and communication are my second talent.

AIDEN

What about the first one?

JOEY

(in a mysterious way)
That's a secret.

LUKE

Next, we'll need a distraction for the guest of honor: Dylan McPebrish. He's in charge of finding all the auction items that are stored in a room next to the Antikythera Mechanism. If he is lurking around the place, it will be impossible to do the job.

AIDEN

And the job is to steal that mechanism, right?

LUKE

Yes Aiden.

JOEY

And what's gonna be that distraction?

LUKE

Emily.

**EMILY** 

Excuse me?

LUKE

The man is known for his... taste for women. You'll have to keep him busy long enough for us to steal the mechanism.

**EMILY** 

Guys... All right, I'll do it.

LUKE

Nick will access the museum's security cameras and alarms in case anything goes sideways.

AIDEN

And what will I do?

Everyone looks at him.

LUKE

You will go with us to the airport. There I will buy you a ticket to New York.

AIDEN

What?

LUKE

You said you were just going to help us get into the university. You've done more than enough, and we're very grateful, but you can't come with us, it's too...

AIDEN

Dangerous... Yes, you said it... But you know what? Since we met in the theater, I've done more things than I thought I'd ever be capable of, like lying, stealing, creating explosives and tearing down abandoned factories. So don't talk to me about danger. I'm going.

Everyone looks at each other, doubtful and amazed.

LUKE

Are you sure?

AIDEN

Very.

LUKE

Very well...

AIDEN

Perfect. So, what will I do?

LUKE

You'll be the driver.

AIDEN

The driver? No way. I'll be at the party. I'm sure you need someone else in there.

LUKE

I just need Joey the auctioneer, Emily the distraction, and me, her chaperone.

AIDEN

But you're too old to be her chaperone. She needs someone her age like me. You'll look very suspicious.

Waiters arrive with the food.

JOEY

It's about time!

WAITER

Bon appetit.

LUKE

Thank you very much.

Everyone starts eating.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Well, anyway. Aiden will stay in the van and only come in case of an emergency. Understood?

AIDEN

Fine...

NICK

When is the event?

LUKE

One week from today. Tomorrow the plane leaves for Athens.

JOEY

Is it possible that we will have unexpected visitors?

LUKE

Most likely. We don't know if Nikolai is alive or not.

**EMILY** 

Anyway, the Russians are not the only problem.

LUKE

Emily, we talked about this.

NICK

(confused)

What are you talking about?

LUKE

You'll know when the time is right.

EMILY

Luke, this is the time.

Luke slams his hand on the table. Everyone is in silence.

LUKE

Okay, I'll tell them...

(pause)

We think Kira may be working with Nikolai.

NICK

What?!

Joey chokes with chicken.

AIDEN

Hold on a second. Who is she?

**EMILY** 

Kira Galeniens. She does dirty work.

AIDEN

What kind of work?

JOEY

Murder, basically anyone who gets in her way.

NICK

I thought she died. Or so I heard.

JOEY

I don't understand. If she's alive, why didn't she try to find Emily first?

EMILY

I don't know.

AIDEN

Who is this Kira working for?

**EMILY** 

Oh, this is the best part.

Everyone stares at Luke.

LUKE

The Yakuza...

Aiden's silverware slips out of his hands and hits the plate.

AIDEN

You guys are insane. Are you messing with the mob now?

NICK

I can't believe you kept all that a secret. We're supposed to be a team, you know that?

LUKE

(ashamed)

Yes, Nick, I do. I was gonna tell you guys...

NICK

I'm not hungry anymore.

He stands up and stares at Joey.

JOEY

I am.

NICK

(angry)

Now Joey!

JOEY

Fine...

Joey and Nick get out of there.

**EMILY** 

Well, I guess we should rest for tomorrow...

AIDEN

I wonder if you'll ever stop lying.

He leaves the restaurant.

LUKE

Aiden, wait!

EMILY

Sooner or later they were going to find out.

LUKE

I thought I could trust you. Guess I was wrong...

**EMILY** 

You were going to put the whole mission in jeopardy. Our lives even, all because of your ego. It's time for you to open your eyes and stop lying, Luke. You can't live hiding things from your team and pretend it's for our own sake!

LUKE

I can try!

He yells at her and all the customers turn around, causing an awkward silence.

**EMILY** 

Aiden is your family. The only one you have left. And we're your team. But you just let it get out of your hands, messing everything up. As usual...

She leaves the restaurant. Luke raises his hand.

LUKE

Check, please.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. AIRPORT - MORNING

The team is sitting at the airport waiting to be called to board the flight.

JOEY

Do you guys want to go to McDonald's? We have plenty of time.

NICK

I'm not hungry.

EMILY

Neither am I.

Joey looks at Aiden.

AIDEN

I'll go with you.

JOEY

Attaboy! Luke?

LUKE

No thanks.

Joey and Aiden stand up and walk towards the stores area.

CUT TO:

JOEY

Look! A tech stuff store. Nick would love it.

Aiden laughs.

JOEY (CONT'D)

What?

AIDEN

"Tech stuff"...

JOEY

Well, I'm not the expert on that. Nick is.

AIDEN

How did you two become so close? Did you two meet before?

JOEY

Just a few months before your uncle put the team together.

(MORE)

JOEY (CONT'D)

The thing is, I'm not very good with technology, and he's not very good with guns or fighting. But together, I don't know, it's like nobody can stop us. And we're always there for each other.

AIDEN

It must feel good to have someone to have your back at any time. I only have one guy who all he does is lie.

**JOEY** 

Don't be so hard on him. He's just doing what he thinks is right.

AIDEN

So you don't blame him for lying to you?

JOEY

I don't like people lying to me. That's for sure. But I also know it's not easy to be in Luke's shoes. He's constantly dealing with his past and protecting us in his own way.

AIDEN

In a very weird way.

JOEY

Maybe, but it's what kept us alive all this time.

AIDEN

Yeah, maybe you're right.

JOEY

Oh, I know I am. Like when I tell you that you're the most obvious person on the planet.

AIDEN

What do you mean?

JOEY

Emily?

AIDEN

Who?

Aiden looks away.

JOEY

Please. You don't have to pretend with me. It's all over your face.

AIDEN

Do you really think I have feelings for her? For God's sake, you have no idea.

JOEY

Well, if that's the case then I won't tell you what she told me about you.

AIDEN

What did she said? Come on, tell me.

JOEY

Ha! See? You care.

AIDEN

Well, I never said I didn't care. We're... kind of... almost friends. That's all. Besides, she doesn't seem like the kind of person who could ever have any feelings.

JOEY

Yeah, Emily can be cold as ice. But if you knew her well, you'd understand.

AIDEN

What do you mean?

JOEY

It's not my secret to tell. If she wants to, she'll share it with you. In the meantime, let's go eat.

AIDEN

Okay.

They walk until they reach the food court.

They buy their breakfast and sit down at a table.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Do you think it's wise to eat hamburgers for breakfast before a flight?

JOEY

I have a steel stomach. Nothing to worry about.

AIDEN

I won't sit next to you on the plane, just in case.

JOEY

Your loss.

They lose track of time. It's almost time for takeoff.

CUT TO:

**EMILY** 

Hurry up! There's two minutes left.

AIDEN

We're ready to go.

They get in line to board.

JOEY

Hey, Aiden?

AIDEN

What?

JOEY

I think I need to go to the bathroom.

Joey starts gagging.

AIDEN

Steel stomach, huh?

JOEY

It wasn't a good idea to eat that hamburger.

AIDEN

Well, you can't leave now.We're about to board. Hang on a little longer, the flight can't last long.

JOEY

I don't think I... can.

The line moved forward. The lady takes their tickets and indicates their seats: Nick, Luke and Emily in the middle, Joey and Aiden by the window.

INT. PLANE - DAY

They settle into their respective seats and the plane takes off.

JOEY

Aiden, I need a toilet.

AIDEN

Hey man, you decided to eat that burger. Just like I decided not to sit next to you when you throw it back, but it didn't work out for me.

JOEY

Don't name any food or I'll puke all over you.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT (V.O.) (through the loudspeakers)
In a few moments we will give you our menu options; you can choose between chicken with salad, soup or a special menu for vegetarians, vegans or celiacs. Thank you very much for your attention.

JOEY

Move it!

Joey unbuckles his belt and runs to the bathroom.

CUT TO:

INT. GRANDE BRETAGNE HOTEL - EVENING

Luke talks to the receptionist. The rest wait in the hall.

A few minutes later Luke approaches.

TIUKE

We have a problem... Well, Emily has a problem.

**EMILY** 

What do you mean?

LUKE

You wanted a room to yourself, right?

EMILY

That's right.

LUKE

Well, there was a misunderstanding and that room is occupied by other quests.

**EMILY** 

Oh, great. Where am I gonna sleep then? Because I'm not sleeping with Aiden and his snoring again.

AIDEN

I don't snore!

EMILY

Yes you do!

LUKE

I had a little chat with our friend at the front desk and told him that we should be ready for the museum party, since we were honored guests of the owner himself.

**EMILY** 

And..?

LUKE

And, I think he realized how important that event is, because he gave me the Presidential Suite, free of charge.

**EMILY** 

(astonished)
You're joking.

JKIIIG.

LUKE

Nope.

Luke hands her the room key.

EMILY

Yes! I have the suite and you don't!

She grabs the key and heads for the elevator.

JOEY

What?! That's not fair, Luke.

LUKE

She's a lady, she needs her space.

JOEY

But what about Nick? She needs her space too.

NICK

Ha ha. Very funny Joey.

LUKE

Come on, let's go to our room.

They take the elevator.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

LUKE

Okay, settle in and let's start phase two of the job. I'm gonna call Emily to come down.

Luke takes his phone.

AIDEN

All right.

Nick sets up his computer and starts typing. Luke hangs up.

LUKE

Done. She's on her way.

NICK

Aiden, plug this cable into the printer. I'm getting some blueprints of the museum facilities.

AIDEN

On it.

The blueprints are printed out and displayed on the table.

LUKE

Well, we have the museum plans. Let's start to...

Someone knocks on the door.

LUKE (CONT'D)

That must be Emily. Aiden, open the door for her, please.

He goes and opens the door.

**EMILY** 

About time.

She enters.

AIDEN

You're welcome.

**EMILY** 

Well, what did I miss?

LUKE

We were just getting started. This is the map of the museum. We wasted too much time with the flight and Nick's kidnapping.

JOEY

Did you hear that Nick? You're a waste of time even when you get kidnapped.

NICK

Shut up Joey, we adults are trying to do useful things around here.

He keeps typing.

LUKE

Well, as I was saying, we only have a few days to go and study every inch of that place.

JOEY

What's the plan then?

LUKE

Emily and Aiden will go as tourist to the museum and pay attention to every part of the building. Where the cameras are, how many guards and where they are, everything. And especially pay close attention to the room where the Antikythera Mechanism is located.

**EMILY** 

I know how to do my job, thank you.

LUKE

I was talking to Aiden.

AIDEN

(concerned)

Good, cause I have no idea what to

LUKE

Meanwhile Joey, with Nick's help, you'll study the blind spots from the outside. That'll help us keep a low profile in case something goes wrong.

AIDEN

What are you going to do?

LUKE

I'm gonna take care of our party outfits. Let's go.

They obey and Emily goes back to her room.

CUT TO:

## AN HOUR LATER:

Aiden is sitting on a chair, ready to go.

NICK (O.C.)

(from the shower)

Aiden?

AIDEN

Yes?

NICK (O.C.)

Can you check if Emily is ready? Women take a thousand years.

AIDEN

Okay. What's her room?

NICK (O.C.)

499!

Aiden leaves his room.

CUT TO:

EXT. EMILY'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

He knocks on her door.

EMILY (O.C.)

Who is it?

AIDEN

Who else?

EMILY (O.C.)

Oh, one second.

She opens the door in a BATHROBE.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Come in.

AIDEN

Wow, don't you want to put some clothes on?

**EMILY** 

Just come in.

She GRABS HIS HAND and pull him inside the room.

INT. EMILI'S ROOM - SAME TIME

AIDEN

Wow...

The place looks like a MANSION.

Aiden is speechless as he looks the place.

AIDEN (CONT'D) I can't believe it.

**EMILY** 

Sweet, isn't it? But that's not the best part. Look in the back.

Behind is a large dining room with a huge table and windows.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Come here, follow me.

AIDEN

Does this place ever end?

**EMILY** 

Almost there.

On the way he comes across a statuette of a naked man who appeared to be in agony.

AIDEN

Disturbing.

**EMILY** 

This way. Come on!

Emily takes him by his hand again. Aiden gets nervous.

They sit on her huge bed and stare at the place.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Not bad, huh?

AIDEN

Not bad at all...

EMILY

And look how big is the bathroom.

AIDEN

But, I've already saw it.

**EMILY** 

No, not this one.

AIDEN

How many are?

They enter and see the marble-covered place with a HOT TUB.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Too bad it's only for a few days, right?

**EMILY** 

Yeah, too bad. But well, c'est la vie.

AIDEN

La vie est très difficile.

EMILY

Oh, my, oh, my. I thought you didn't know another language.

AIDEN

In college I had to choose at least two languages. I remember something. Aiden and Emily SLOWLY APPROACH. Aiden steps forward to KISS HER, but the place is soaking wet and he instantly SLIPS and FALLS ON TOP OF HER. They land INSIDE the hot tub.

**EMILY** 

Aiden?

AIDEN

Yes?

**EMILY** 

(shouting)

Get off me!

She pushes him away as he tries to stand up.

AIDEN

I'm trying!

We heard footsteps approaching.

LUKE

Well, well, well...

EMILY AND AIDEN

(at the same time)

Luke?!

Behind him, Nick and Joey appears.

JOEY

Guys, if you wanted a moment alone, all you had to do was ask.

Nick grabs his cell phone and TAKES A PICTURE.

NICK

(laughing)

This will go down in history.

**EMILY** 

(furious)

Oh Nick, you're dead!

(pause)

Aiden! Get off me!

AIDEN

I'm trying, but it's too slippery!

LUKE

Guys, help the couple, please.

**EMILY** 

Shut up Luke!

Nick and Joey laugh and help them to get on their feet. They wait in the dining room for Emily.

JOEY

Hey, Aiden...

AIDEN

What?

JOEY

Did she give you a tour of her room in his robe?

Aiden throws at him a pillow off the couch.

Emily shows up in a light blue shirt and jeans.

EMILY

Well, someone explain to the rookie how to gather information.

NICK

It's basically observing and remembering what you observe.

JOEY

Yeah, pretty much.

AIDEN

Okay, but should I write it down?

LUKE

Your notepad is your memory. You can mark the security systems on a map if you want, but nothing more.

**EMILY** 

Yes, it would be weird if someone were writing things down all the time, don't you think?

AIDEN

Yeah, I guess so...

LUKE

Don't worry. Everything will be fine.

**EMILY** 

(sarcastically)

Yeah, just like in the library.

LUKE

That was a big screw up. You can't make that mistake again. Now go, we've got a tough week ahead of us.

Everyone leaves, but Emily grabs Luke and stay behind.

EMILY

Luke, how did you get into my room?

LUKE

I asked the secretary to give me an extra card. He charged me four euros but it was worth it.

**EMILY** 

Yeah, I figured ...

They grab their stuff and leave the room.

CUT TO:

EXT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - DAY

At the entrance there are two guards controlling the visitors and their belongings with a metal detector.

**EMILY** 

Take the path on the right, I'll take the one on the left. Pay attention to all the security measures from here until you get to the mechanism. I'll do the same.

AIDEN

Got it, the right path.

**EMILY** 

Meet me in the "Bronze Collection" section, where the mechanism is on display.

AIDEN

Okay, good luck.

**EMILY** 

You too.

They enter the museum.

CUT TO:

INT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - DAY

Emily goes to the information booth and picks up a map.

On the tour she sees statues of warriors and animals, sculptures and other exhibitions.

She spots four cameras and a fire alarm button inside the main hall. She marks it down on her map.

Emily takes the hallway on the left and he takes the hallway on the right.

## HALF AN HOUR LATER:

She spots two more security cameras and a guard lurking around as she moves forward till an enormous opening labeled "BRONZE COLLECTION". She walks through the inner rooms, each with a security camera and a guard walking through them.

She approaches the mechanism exhibit and sees Aiden sitting on a bench reading the museum brochure.

Emily walks from behind and sits down next to him.

**EMILY** 

Studying for later?

AIDEN

I just got tired of waiting for you. It seems that the student beats the teacher.

EMILY

(laughing)

Not even close. What did you find?

AIDEN

(looking his map)

I have seven cameras from the entrance to here, with four guards patrolling and two fire alarms.

**EMILY** 

I have eleven cameras, one alarm and four guards.

AIDEN

A lot of security.

EMILY

That's true. We will need to plan this carefully, cause at the party it's gonna be a lot harder. We have to change Luke's plan.

AIDEN

Maybe... Come, let's take a look at the mechanism before it closes.

They walk to the cabins of the different gears of the mechanism.

EMILY

Each cabin has very thick glass and alarms inside.

AIDEN

This mission is getting harder and harder...

EMILY

All right, let's go back, we'll think about it at the hotel.

They head to the exit.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

All gather in the hotel room.

LUKE

Well, let's all take a deep breath and think.

NICK

Tell me everything you could find about the museum.

Joey reaches for the blueprints of the museum and spreads them out on the table. On top, he leaves a pile of sheets and photos of all the OBJECTS that are being auctioned, their value and the corresponding minimum price.

LUKE

Where did you get all that?

JOEY

I have my sources...

Let me guess: your source is about 5'5", brunette, and drinks a lot. Pretty close, huh?

JOEY

(smiling)

Almost on target buddy.

AIDEN

What was that?

LUKE

Joey has a weakness for brunettes.

AIDEN

Why doesn't that surprise me?

**EMILY** 

Okay, enough with the games. We've got a job to do.

NICK

Emily's right. So, what did you find out?

She picks up a red marker and a black one.

**EMILY** 

Well, I counted eleven cameras, here, here and here.

(as she tags)

Then, over here are the fire alarms, and these are the routes that the guards take.

She marks everything on the blueprints.

NICK

Perfect. Aiden?

He takes the markers and does the same but on the right side of the map.

Everyone takes a few minutes to think.

NICK (CONT'D)

In conclusion, it's more convenient to go right, with less cameras.

LUKE

I agree with Nick.

AIDEN

The party is on the lower level, right?

**EMILY** 

No. It's on the first floor.

AIDEN

So how are we gonna get to the mechanism?

LUKE

We have to change our game plan...

Everyone is in silent.

NICK

I got it!

(pointing to)

Here are the stairs, and we will be here, in the biggest room where the event will take place.

LUKE

There will be guards controlling who goes in and out of there.

NICK

That's when Joey comes in.

JOEY

(confused)

Me?

NICK

Yeah. You'll be the distraction.

JOEY

I love that part, but wasn't that Emily?

NICK

Change of plans. I'll make sure you're on the buffet staff list.

LUKE

How will you do that?

NICK

It's handled electronically, so there shouldn't be a problem. Aiden and Emily will go as a couple. Luke, you'll be a billionaire that Joey will beat up. LUKE

Excuse me?!

JOEY

(smiling)

This just keeps getting better and better...

NICK

Joey will be a waiter, and if he hits a billionaire, there will be a scandal.

LUKE

Distraction...

NICK

Exactly.

AIDEN

But how will they know my uncle is a guy with a lot of money?

NICK

He will introduce himself to many people as Joseph Lockwood, the billionaire.

(while typing)

He will also participate in the auction and buy any item.

He starts preparing the identities.

EMILY

Why is he the billionaire?

AIDEN

Because you will be my partner. You won everything with that.

NICK

Done. I added a couple of zeros to your accounts.

LUKE

Nice.

NICK

Don't be happy, they're fake. Now Joey, I'll put you on the list. You'll be Mr. John Bono Lovi.

Everyone laughs except Joey.

JOEY

No other name?

NICK

Sorry, Bruce Wayne was taken.

JOEY

(joking)

I'd settle for Britney.

NICK

Are you sure? Because I can change it right now if you want.

JOEY

No, thank you. I'm good.

NICK

That's what I thought. And you two, you're going to be Lucy and Jack Fields. Maiden name: Smith.

AIDEN

Nothing suspicious...

JOEY

So, the plan... How does it go?

NICK

I'm already in the museum system. I can see and hear what they can. Joey will be the first to arrive, as he will be in charge of setting up the place. Once the guests are in the museum, Luke will enter. He will make himself known to the people inside and talk about how much money he has. Then the two of you will arrive. Once the auction starts, the real party will begin.

JOEY

That's when I hit Luke.

NICK

Not yet. First we have to wait for a couple of items to be sold, and Luke will have to buy one.

LUKE

Why?

So you don't look like a fraud. You're a guy with a lot of money on an auction. If you don't buy any items, it'll look suspicious, don't you think?

LUKE

Yeah, okay...

JOEY

So I hit him, right?

NICK

No, not yet.

LUKE

You really want to hit me, don't you?

JOEY

Maybe...

LUKE

Any grudges you've been holding?

JOEY

You won't make me talk, boss.

EMILY

Let's move on, please.

NICK

When Luke buys the item, he'll be taken to a special room to deposit the money. Before you do, Joey chases you down, beats you up and steals your almost purchase.

JOEY

Yes! Wait, there will be guards there. How will I escape?

NICK

I have an escape route for you. Don't worry about it.

JOEY

Okay.

LUKE

Hey, big guy. Easy, all right? I'm an old man.

EMILY

You're an old man when it suits you Tuke.

AIDEN

That's true.

LUKE

Yeah, yeah. Shut up, both of you.

NICK

Well, when Joey makes his move, all the guards will go after him. Then you two will go down unseen and take the mechanism.

**EMILY** 

What about the alarms?

NICK

I'm still working on that, but if I can't disable them, you will have to run like hell.

AIDEN

But there are many pieces... We'll never get them all out in time, we'll have to make many runs.

NICK

That's why you'll take some toys to the party.

EMILY

I like that idea.

LUKE

Well, we've got the plan. It's late, all of you go get some rest, tomorrow we'll continue with the arrangements for the party.

Everyone listens and clear the room.

CUT TO BLACK:

INT. HOTEL - DAY

The bedroom phone rings. Joey picks up.

JOEY

Hello?

MUSEUM MANAGER (O.S.)

Mr... John Bono Lovi?

JOEY

(angry)

Yes, that's me...

MUSEUM ATTENDANT (O.S.) Good morning, Mr. Bono Lovi. I'm in charge of the organization of the auction at the museum. I wanted to remind you that you must be here today at four o'clock in the afternoon, precisely, in order to organize the preparations for tonight's party.

JOEY

Of course, I'll be there.

MUSEUM MANAGER (O.S.)

All right then. I'm gonna need your measurements and address, please.

**JOEY** 

What for?

MUSEUM ATTENDANT (O.S.)

To send your suit for tonight, of course.

JOEY

(furious)

A suit? I'm going to kill him...

MUSEUM MANAGER (O.S.)

Excuse me?

JOEY

I mean, yes, yes, right away.

Joey shares his measures and the conversation ends.

JOEY (CONT'D)

(shouting)

Nick?!

NICK

(brushing his teeth)

Yeah?

JOEY

You didn't say anything about me having to wear a suit!

You have to wear a suit?

JOEY

Oh, for God's sake! Don't act surprised. Your joke was lame.

NICK

Joke?

AIDEN

Relax, I'm sure it's not that bad.

JOEY

We'll see... They'll send it up here in an hour.

CUT TO:

I/E. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Someone knocks on the room door.

Joey opens it and a man with a PACKAGE is standing outside.

DELIVERY GUY

Delivery for... John... Bono... Lovi?

JOEY

Sorry, there's no one with that name.

DELIVERY GUY

You're sure? This is room 182, right?

JOEY

It is.

DELIVERY GUY

So this package belongs to a person in this room, named John Bono Lovi. It's not you?

JOEY

Nope.

DELIVERY GUY

Well, I'm sure this man's mother loved rock.

Luke arrives at the door.

DELIVERY GUY (CONT'D)

Excuse me, do you know any John

Bono Lovi?

Joey glances at Luke so he doesn't say anything.

LUKE

(smiling)

Yes, I know him.

DELIVERY GUY

Then this is for him.

He hands the package to Luke.

LUKE

Thank you very much.

Luke hands the package to Joey

LUKE (CONT'D)

John? For you.

DELIVERY GUY

John?

LUKE

Yes, this is John Bono Lovi.

The man looks at him angry and confused.

JOEY

Hi. I'm John. Thanks for the attention. Luke will give you your tip.

LUKE

Screw you Joey.

DELIVERY GUY

Joey? Ain't your name John?

JOEY

John Joey Bono Lovi, my pleasure.

Joey shakes his hand.

DELIVERY GUY

I think I'd better go.

LUKE

Yeah, good idea.

The man turns around and rushes to the elevator.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Joey and Luke enter the room and he leaves the box on the table, unwilling to open it.

NICK

What are you waiting for?

JOEY

What if it's a bomb from the Russians and if I open it we explode?

LUKE

Joey, you know damn well what it is. Open the box.

JOEY

Fine, I'll do it. But if we die it will be your fault.

He tears the tape around the box and opens the cover.

NICK

Well... It could be worse.

JOEY

Who in their same mind would call this a suit?

AIDEN

Try it on. See how it looks on you.

Joey tries it on: black pants and apron, red vest, white shirt underneath and a red bow tie.

JOEY

You've got to be kidding me.

AIDEN

You look adorable.

JOEY

Shut up Aiden.

AIDEN

I'm just saying.

Aiden takes a picture of him with his cell phone.

JOEY

Oh, don't you dare!

AIDEN

Revenge, Joey.

**JOEY** 

I can't believe I have to wear this. Someone murder me.

NICK

I'll gladly do it.

JOEY

Shut up you too, this is your fault!

NICK

My fault?

Joey looks at his watch.

JOEY

Okay, I'll dress like this just this fucking time... Nick, give me the toys you promised.

NICK

Coming right up.

He gets up and reaches for a black bag. He opens it and starts taking out DEVICES and gives them away.

NICK (CONT'D)

Here, it's for you.

JOEY

An iPod? You know nobody uses iPods anymore, right?

NICK

Modified iPod. You see, each button has a specific function. With it you will be able to listen to distant conversations, transfer the electronic IDs of each guest so you know who they are, you will be in contact with us permanently, among other things.

JOEY

Can I listen to music?

Yes, but due to the modifications there are only four songs: Don't Stop Believing, My Heart Will Go On, Black Dog and We Will Rock You. There wasn't much space available in the memory.

JOEY

I hate you Nick.

NICK

I know. Oh, one more thing.

JOEY

What, the iPod doesn't have games on it?

Emily enters the room.

NICK

The iPod can become explosive. If you hold down the middle button for five seconds, you have one minute for it to explode with a magnitude of four meters range.

**JOEY** 

Now that's what I'm talking about! Finally you did something worthy.

He takes the device and puts it inside his bag.

EMILY

Why does Joey get to keep all the best stuff?

NICK

Don't worry, everyone will get something.

AIDEN

What will I get?

NICK

You and Emily will take this.

Nick offers them a METAL SPHERE with a RED BUTTON.

AIDEN

This thing is going to save our lives?

This thing, it's nothing less than what's going to deactivate the alarms in the mechanism room, if I'm not mistaken.

**EMILY** 

If you're not mistaken?

NICK

Well, it's several calculations including the type of alarm, where it should be placed to affect only those in that room and not in the whole museum, among other things.

JOEY

Why should it affect only those in that room?

NICK

Because if it affects the central panels, which are in the security office with two guards watching all night, they will notice something is wrong and they will go snooping, and we don't want that. But if it only affects that room, I'll be able to handle it from my computer.

LUKE

All right. We've solved the alarm problem. The camera problem is missing.

NICK

The cameras inside the museum move at a ninety-degree angle, where they stay still for seven seconds in each corner. I can make the cameras last one minute instead of seven seconds, but I won't be able to beat them by more than that.

AIDEN

Can we do it in one minute?

**EMILY** 

In one minute we'll set up the device and wait for it to work. Once it's installed, we'll steal the parts and leave in a minute.

You'll have to move without being seen by the cameras. If you go over that minute, the cameras will move again every seven seconds, and you will have to move through the blind spots.

AIDEN

Okay, but I still don't understand one thing.

NICK

(frustrated)

What now?

AIDEN

How are we supposed to carry the mechanism parts to the car? They must be heavy. We can't carry all the parts by ourselves.

NICK

Simple, inside your suit will be a large folded bag in which you can store everything you need. No one will notice you're carrying it. Put the parts inside, and each of you take a handle. Between the two of you, if my calculations are correct taking into account the weight and strength of each one of you, you will be able to do it easily.

AIDEN

Great.

NICK

I'll be parked two blocks from the party, here.

He marks the spot on the blueprint.

NICK (CONT'D)

Once you get the parts, get back in the van and we'll head back to the hotel. Have these little wireless microphone headsets. Never turn them off. If you do, I will assume something bad happened and I will be forced to intervene.

Everybody take one and save it.

EMILY

Okay, I'll go change.

Emily leaves.

LUKE

John, you should be going.

JOEY

Very funny Luke. I'm on it.

Joey ties his bow and leaves the room.

NICK

Oh, Aiden, one more thing.

AIDEN

What?

NICK

If something goes wrong, hold this.

Nick offers him a metal cube.

NICK (CONT'D)

It will spread a cloud of smoke, try not to breathe it. It's only for emergencies, we should try to be as cautious as possible.

AIDEN

Great.

NICK

Remember, the cube is for smoke and the sphere is for alarms.

AIDEN

Got it: the cube for the smoke and the sphere for the alarm.

He takes the cube and everyone leaves the room.

CUT TO:

EXT. EMILI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Aiden exits the elevator and knocks on Emily's room door.

EMILY (V.O.)

Who is it?!

AIDEN

Aiden!

EMILY (V.O.)

It's open. Come in!

Aiden enters his room.

INT. EMILI'S ROOM - SAME TIME

AIDEN

Emily?!

**EMILY** 

Over here!

Aiden follows Emily's voice. She is sitting on the bed, putting on her black heels.

AIDEN

How do you guys manage to walk in those...?

**EMILY** 

It's something you'll never have to worry about, right?

AIDEN

Luckily.

She walks to the mirror and tries to close her dress, but doesn't reach the zipper on her back.

**EMILY** 

A little help?

Aiden FREEZES, unable to speak as he looks at her.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Aiden...? Are yoù there?

He clears his throat and approaches.

AIDEN

Uh, yeah, yeah, sure...

He places one hand on her waist and the other on the zipper, and slowly pulls it up. Then, he delays a few seconds as he pulls his hand out.

She turns around.

**EMILY** 

Thank you.

Aiden takes a look at her. She is wearing a beautiful RED DRESS, ankle-length, and her hair is tied up.

She picks up her purse and looks at him.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Shall we?

AIDEN

Let's go. Luke rented us a chauffeured limo. It's waiting downstairs.

**EMILY** 

(surprised)

A limo? Are you kidding me?

AIDEN

Nope.

**EMILY** 

Finally, he picks a classy vehicle.

AIDEN

You bet.

They walk to the door and get out of the room.

CUT TO:

EXT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - NIGHT

They arrive at the museum and Joey opens the limo door for them. He holds out his hand to Emily, helping her out.

JOEY

May I take your coats, please?

AIDEN

We're not wearing coats, mister...

JOEY

(angry)

John. John Bono Lovi.

He points to his name written on his vest with a fake smile.

EMILY

Mr. Bono Lovi. What a beautiful name.

JOEY

Enjoy the party.

AIDEN

Thank you very much.

They get out and he slams the door of the car.

They walk to the entrance. Two guards take care of the identifications, while two others check the people with a metal detector.

**EMILY** 

What about Nick's device?

AIDEN

I have no idea. Nick? Are you there?

NICK (V.O.)

Don't worry, it won't detect it.

**EMILY** 

Are you kidding me? This thing is metal, and that's a metal detector.

NICK (V.O.)

Trust me.

AIDEN

Are you sure?

NICK (V.O.)

Do you want me to give you a tech class, or would you rather hurry up and try not to be seen talking to me out of your ear?!

FMTT.V

All right, let's go Aiden.

They advance towards the guards.

GUARD 1

Good evening. Your names, please.

AIDEN

Lucy and Jack Fields.

They look up the names on their electronic tablet.

GUARD 1

I'm sorry, the names don't appear
on the list.

EMILY

But, that's impossible...

AIDEN

(whispering)

Nick? What the hell is going on?

NICK (V.O.)

They updated their list at the last moment. Give me a minute.

AIDEN

(whispering)

You have five seconds!

GUARD 2

I'm sorry, miss, those names do not appear.

AIDEN

Excuse me, would you mind checking again?

GUARD 1

All right, sir.

AIDEN

Lucy and Jack Fields. F - I - E - L - D - S.

NICK

Done.

GUARD 2

Oh, here you are. My apologies. You're at table number seven. Please come in.

**EMILY** 

Thank you very much.

They advance to the METAL DETECTOR, where there are two other guards.

GUARD 3

Sir? Go ahead, please.

Aiden walks through the metal detector, without raising suspicion.

GUARD 3 (CONT'D)

All right. Now you, miss.

Emily walks and passes through without a problem.

GUARD 4

All right. Step to the back. A lady there will check your purse.

**EMILY** 

Okay.

She walks towards the woman.

WOMAN

The purse please.

She hands it over. After checking it, she gives it back.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Thank you. You can go in now. Next, please!

INT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - NIGHT

They walk to the event hall. The place is full of numbered tables with waiters offering food. There is a classical band on stage and pictures of the most precious objects hanging from the ceiling.

**EMILY** 

How beautiful!

Aiden looks at her.

AIDEN

Yes, very...

She puts her arm around his and looks at him.

**EMILY** 

Shall we?

They move to the center of the dance floor. There are already many couples dancing *Unchained melody*.

AIDEN

(embarrassed)

You should know ... I can't dance.

**EMILY** 

You should know I can't either.

AIDEN

I think this is gonna turn out into a disaster.

They smile at each other.

EMILY

Let's go make a fool of ourselves.

He takes her by the waist and pulls her CLOSER to him. She puts one hand on his shoulder and the other on his hand, and they start DANCING.

The song ends and Can you feel the love tonight, by Elton John, plays.

Joey appears, along with other staff members, handing out masks for the dance.

JOEY

I saved the best ones for you two.

**EMILY** 

Joey, what's this for?

JOEY

It's a surprise from the owner of the museum. A masquerade ball.

They take the masks and put them on. Aiden's black with silver details around the edges, and hers is white with gold details.

JOEY (CONT'D)

I'm off. I have to deliver spanakopita. See ya.

Joey keeps on his way.

AIDEN

Let's go.

EMILY

Where to?

AIDEN

To dance?

Aiden stretched out his hand and she takes it.

**EMILY** 

(smiling)

Okay.

They start dancing.

A man in a dark gray mask approaches them. Underneath, part of a scar is visible.

MASKED MAN

May I?

He stretches out his hand towards Emily.

Aiden looks at her.

AIDEN

Sure.

The MASKED MAN takes her by the hand and leads her to the dance floor. He places his hand on her waist and they begin to dance.

Aiden walks over to a table to eat snacks, watching Emily from the distance.

EMILY

Are you going to tell me your name?

MASKED MAN

When you tell me yours.

**EMILY** 

Lucy...

MASKED MAN

I mean your real name.

EMILY

What do you mean?

MASKED MAN

Come on, we both know that's not your name... Emily.

Emily FREEZES. She tries to get away from him, but he grabs her TIGHTER.

Aiden LOOSES SIGHT OF THEM among the dancing couples.

MASKED MAN (CONT'D)

Do you really want to make a scene?

EMILY

Who are you?

MASKED MAN

Are you sure you don't know me?

He lifts his mask for a few seconds and Emily recognizes  ${\tt NIKOLAI.}$ 

CUT TO BLACK.

NIKOLAI

It must be the first time you find yourself in a situation where you don't know what to do...

**EMILY** 

Let go of me!

NIKOLAI

If I were you, I wouldn't try anything. You see, right there is your boyfriend...

They look at Aiden at the table.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

And over there is Kira. You remember her, don't you?

He points to a brunette woman in a yellow dress, sitting at a table, smiling at Emily.

EMILY

What do you want?

NIKOLAI

Oh, isn't it obvious? You see, I know that you have the Voynich Manuscript, and that you are here in search of the Antikythera Mechanism. What you will do is come with me.

**EMILY** 

And if I don't?

NIKOLAI

Kira will kill your boyfriend and then I'll let her alone with you. She's wanted that for a long time.

**EMILY** 

You will never risk in public.

NIKOLAI

Wanna bet?

Emily thinks for a few seconds.

**EMILY** 

Okay, I'll do it.

NIKOLAI

Perfect. Let's go somewhere more... private.

He DRAGS her by the arm to a secondary door at the side of the hall.

CUT TO:

Luke approaches Aiden.

AIDEN

It's been a while since I've seen you. Where have you been?

LUKE

Making me famous. You, on the other hand, I see you still can't keep a woman.

AIDEN

What do you want me to do? A man asked her to dance, I couldn't say no.

LUKE

Why not?

Aiden is silent.

AIDEN

Have you tried the spanakopita yet?

LUKE

Who's she dancing with anyway?

AIDEN

I don't know, he didn't say his name.

The event organizer comes on stage and grabs a microphone.

EVENT ORGANIZER

Welcome, ladies and gentlemen! Please be seated, as the auction will begin in five minutes. On the tables there is a small whiteboard with a black marker, for when you want to buy, write down what you bid. Good luck!

Everyone walks to their respective tables and takes a seat.

Aiden sits down at his table, removes his mask and sees if Emily appears, but SHE'S NOT THERE.

Luke sits down next to him.

LUKE

Is this your table?

AIDEN

Yeah, yours too?

Aiden looks around.

LUKE

Yeah... Hey, what are you looking for?

AIDEN

Have you seen Emily?

LUKE

Not since the dance... Something wrong?

AIDEN

She should be at this table, but I don't see her anywhere.

LUKE

Maybe she went to the bathroom. You know how women are.

AIDEN

Yeah, maybe...

The auction BEGINS. The first item up for auction is a bronze handle with a horse image in the middle.

AUCTIONEER

We start at twenty-five thousand dollars. Who will give more?

MAN 1

Thirty thousand!

MAN 2

Forty-five thousand!

AUCTIONEER

Who'll give more than forty-five thousand, anyone?

(pause)

Auctioned in three, two, one...

(MORE)

AUCTIONEER (CONT'D)

Sold to the gentleman at table fourteen! Congratulations!

Everyone applauds. The winner goes up on stage, holds the museum owner's hand for a photo, and is taken to another room to arrange payment.

Emily is still absent.

AUCTIONEER (CONT'D)

All right, now we'll move on to a gold wreath with ivy leaves. We'll start with one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

WOMAN 1

One hundred and seventy thousand!

MAN 3

Two hundred thousand!

LUKE

Four hundred thousand!

Aiden turns and looks at Luke holding up high the white board and a big smile on his face.

ATDEN

Are you out of your mind?!

LUKE

Relax. They're fake dollars.

AIDEN

And what if you have to pay that in the end?

LUKE

I'd go to jail, I guess.

AUCTIONEER

Who'll give more than four hundred thousand dollars, anyone?

(pause)

Sold in three, two, one.... Sold! Please sir, come to the stage.

AIDEN

Couldn't you buy something cheaper?

Luke complies and walks to the stage to take his picture. When he's done, he's taken to the room to make the PAYMENT.

It's not long before Joey FOLLOWS HIM.

AUCTIONEER

Well, now we continue with...

The auctioneer is interrupted by a PUNCHING NOISE. We hear Luke SHOUTING.

Joey RUNS behind the stage with Luke's recent purchase.

**GUARD** 

Get him!

Five guards RUN AFTER Joey.

Aiden sees that the guards in the hall are not moving.

AIDEN

What are you waiting for? Get him!

They look at him and do as he says, leaving the door UNGUARDED.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Nick? Are you there?

NICK (V.O.)

Always buddy. What's up?

AIDEN

Can you locate Emily's signal? She's not at the dance and I haven't seen her in a while. If she doesn't show up, we'll have to improvise like hell.

NICK (V.O.)

Yes, of course. It'll take time, since there are a lot of signals.

AIDEN

All right, while you take care of that I'll go get the... Oh no.

NICK (V.O.)

What happened?

AIDEN

She's got the device, and the distraction won't last forever.

(pause)

Do you think you can cause a blackout in the whole building?

NICK (V.O.)

I'm sure I can, but it will be very suspicious. Tell me when and I'll do it, but you should know it can only last a few minutes.

AIDEN

All right. Stay on the line.

NICK (V.O.)

Of course.

AIDEN

Luke? Are you there?

LUKE (V.O.)

Here I am, with a fucking bloody tissue on my nose. What's going on?

AIDEN

Emily didn't come back. Nick will send you the coordinates of her last location, can you get there?

LUKE (V.O.)

Yeah, sure. I'm on my way.

AIDEN

Joey? Do you copy?

JOEY (V.O.)

(agitated)

Here Joey!

AIDEN

I need you to activate the explosive.

JOEY (V.O.)

Now?!

AIDEN

Now!

JOEY (V.O.)

All right!

(pause)

Device activated in the toilets!

AIDEN

Great. Nick? I need that blackout.

NICK (V.O.)

You got it.

At the same time, an EXPLOSION is heard and the LIGHTS GO OUT.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - BASEMENT -NIGHT

Emergency generators operate in the basement, providing light. They are in a room full of boxes and old furniture.

Kira takes a chair and places it in the middle of the room. They sit Emily down and TIE HER UP with duct tape from a box.

NIKOLAI

Now where is that toy Nick gave

**EMILY** 

What are you talking about?

Nikolai TIGHTENS his grip on her arm.

EMILY (CONT'D)

All right! It is on my right ear.

He takes the HEADSET.

EMILY (CONT'D)
You should break it if you don't want him to hear us.

Nikolai thinks for a few seconds.

NIKOLAI

Something tells me I shouldn't do that...

He leaves the headset in a corner of the room, untouched.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

Well, Emily. Here's the thing. You remember that Kira loves daggers, don't you? You should know that better than anyone.

**EMILY** 

Let's cut to the chase, shall we?

NIKOLAI

Why? Do you have somewhere else to be?

EMILY

Now that I think about it, yes. I should be looking for a treasure instead of being here with you and your psycho dog.

Kira grabs her DAGGER by the edge and tries to hit her, but Nikolai grabs her arm and stops her.

NIKOLAI

Well Kira, we don't want to rush the fun, do we? Surely Emily will tell us what we want to know.

EMILY

Go to hell.

NIKOLAI

Why are you making everything so difficult? Sooner or later you'll tell us what we want to know.

Nikolai approaches her and removes the hair from her face.

Emily looks him in the eye and hits him in the face with her head. Nikolai's nose starts to bleed.

KIRA

May I?

NIKOLAI

Go ahead.

She  $\underline{\text{TAKES THE DAGGER AND RUNS IT THROUGH EMILY'S LEFT HAND}}$ , accidentally cutting a bit of the duct tape. Emily screams out in pain.

KIRA

Shut up!

Kira HITS Emily again. Blood runs down her lips.

Emily tries to FORCE herself free, but she cannot.

NIKOLAI

They must have heard the screams. Go and check.

Kira obeys and goes out to patrol the hallway. Nikolai picks up his cell phone.

**EMILY** 

What's wrong? Cell phone trouble?

NIKOLAI

He turns and walks out into the hallway.

Emily tries again to move her hand, trying to break the tape. She pulls but the pain is too much. Takes a deep breath and pulls harder again to one side, managing to BREAK IT.

With difficulty she manages to free her other hand and feet, but before she can stand up, she hears footsteps approaching.

**EMILY** 

Shit.

She looks around, trying to find a way out, but there's only a reinforced window with iron bars. She walks over to the boxes and starts going through them.

All she can find are pillows, a statue's head and a small harp. She unties two STRINGS from the instrument and puts them together, wrapping them around her hands. She hides by the door and waits.

Nikolai enters the room and Emily jumps in from behind and places the strings around his neck, squeezing tightly.

NIKOLAI

(breathing heavily)
What's your plan Emily? Huh? Are
you gonna kill me?

**EMILY** 

Only if you cause trouble. You will be my ticket to get out of here without your dog following us.

NIKOLAI

Kira will be upset when she finds out you're holding me prisoner.

**EMILY** 

Do you think I care? Call her! Now, or else...

She squeezes harder.

NIKOLAI

All right! I'll take out my cell phone!

Nikolai takes his cell phone from his pocket and calls Kira.

**EMILY** 

Put it on speakerphone.

He obeys and Kira's voice is heard.

KIRA (V.O.)

What's going on?

**EMILY** 

Nikolai's dog, hi. Get your ass here quickly, or your owner dies.

KIRA (V.O.)

Oh, you're dead, bitch.

EMILY

You should hurry up. I'm already seeing blood.

The call ends.

NIKOLAI

You know she'll tear you apart, right?

**EMILY** 

Shut your mouth.

Her hand bleeds more and more.

NIKOLAI

You should change sides. Work for  $\operatorname{me}$ .

**EMILY** 

Oh, yeah? And join your little psycho team?

NIKOLAI

You'd rather be with the loser team?

EMILY

Who says we'll lose?

NIKOLAI

Well, catching you was very easy... Something tells me you're getting soft.

**EMILY** 

You have no idea what you're talking about.

NIKOLAI

What's his name? Aiden?

**EMILY** 

Shut up.

NIKOLAI

I wonder how he'll feel when Kira drops your head in his house.

**EMILY** 

Shut the fuck up.

Kira appears through the door with a revolver in one hand and a dagger in the other.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Put all your guns on the floor!

She looks at Nikolai, without obeying. As a consequence, Emily starts to pull the ropes bit by bit.

NIKOLAI

Kira, drop everything!

Kira drops her weapons.

EMILY

Sit on the chair and tie your feet.

As she approaches the chair, Emily walks with Nikolai towards the gun on the floor.

KIRA

How's your hand?

**EMILY** 

Better than your owner's neck is gonna be if you don't listen.

Emily pushes the Russian towards Kira and quickly grabs the gun, aiming it at them.

KIRA

What now?

EMILY

Now, Nikolai is going to tie you up.

She throws the duct tape to Nikolai.

CUT TO:

INT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - MECHANISM ROOM - NIGHT

AIDEN

Nick, can you hear me?

NICK (V.O.)

Loud and clear.

AIDEN

I'm a few steps away from the mechanism.

NICK (V.O.)

Okay.

AIDEN

Hey, Nick?

NICK (V.O.)

Yes?

AIDEN

Do you think you can give me some light to see where I'm going?

NICK (V.O.)

Oh, yeah, sure.

Above Aiden a light turns on in the ceiling. As he moves forward, the first one goes out and a second one turns on, and so on until he reaches the mechanis.

Once in there, a single light is activated above the mechanism parts. Aiden takes the bag inside his suit.

AIDEN

Nick, you were able to solve the alarm problem, weren't you?

NICK (V.O.)

Without the device it's impossible, I'm sorry.

AIDEN

Oh, shit. Damn it Emily, where are you?!

NICK (V.O.)

Calm down Aiden. We'll figure this out, okay?

AIDEN

Nick, how far is the nearest emergency exit?

NICK (V.O.)

About... Fifty meters from where you are now. Why?

AIDEN

I need you to park as close as possible. I'll grab the pieces of the mechanism and run to the van.

NICK (V.O.)

Aiden, that's suicide. You won't make it in time. Joey's already out of the museum, on his way here. You no longer have a distraction.

AIDEN

It doesn't matter. Without Emily and the device it's impossible, and we'll never get a chance like this again. I'll put everything in the bag and drag it if I have to.

NICK (V.O.)

Okay, I'll be outside that exit. Hurry up, the blackout will be gone soon... Good luck.

AIDEN

Thanks. I'll need it...

Aiden looks for a fire extinguisher on the wall and uses it to break the glass in the cabins. All the alarms TURN ON.

He puts all the pieces inside the bag and moves towards the exit. The bag is very heavy, so he starts DRAGGING the bag down the hallway. The lights come back on.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Shit!

With all his strength he goes towards the emergency exit, but one of the pieces gets lost on the way.

He leaves the bag and goes back to pick it up, until we hear many footsteps approaching rapidly.

NICK (V.O.)

Aiden, you'd better hurry, now!

Aiden places the DEVICE in the middle of the hallway and he activates it. In seconds the hallway turns into pure white SMOKE. He puts the missing piece back and keeps on his way.

CUT TO:

INT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - BASEMENT - NIGHT

NIKOLAI

It's a waste of time Emily. Let us go and I promise not to hold a grudge against you.

He speaks while tying Kira's hands with the duct tape.

**EMILY** 

You wish. Get that chair in the corner, bring it next to your dog and sit down.

He obeys.

KIRA

You're going to die for this, do you hear me? I'm going to kill you!

**EMILY** 

You should give your pet the antirabies vaccine Nikolai. Now, put your hand on hers.

NIKOLAI

Oh, you're going to take pictures of us and post them on Instagram? See my wife might get mad...

EMILY

Which one? Now, since you have your hands in the right place, you're going to see that karma is a bitch.

Emily finishes her sentence and runs the DAGGER through the middle of BOTH OF THEIR HANDS. They scream out IN PAIN.

Emily grabs her mask and runs off. She drops the gun down the hallway and puts on her mask.

At the end of the hallway she finds an emergency exit.

EXT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - NIGHT

She comes out and sees a lot of cops and reporters, but she can't find the car or the team.

In a corner she throws her mask in a trash can and steals a jacket that was on a bench. She WRAPS her hand in it, so as not to raise suspicions about the blood and keeps walking.

CUT TO BLACK.

EXT. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF ATHENS - NIGHT

Aiden gets out and sees the car parked. Luke opens the door.

LUKE

Get in!

Luke stretches out his arm and helps him with the bag. Aiden gets in and looks for Emily, but she's not in there.

JOEY

Do you have all the pieces?

AIDEN

Where is Emily?

NTCK

Aiden, do you have all the pieces?!

AIDEN

Yes! Where the hell is Emily?!

They look at each other, without giving an answer.

LUKE

Nick, get us out of here.

NICK

I'm sorry Aiden. We don't know.

AIDEN

What do you mean you don't know? Didn't you look for her?

LUKE

Her last position was in the basement.

(MORE)

LUKE (CONT'D)

When I walked in, all I could see was shards of glass, her purse, smashed furniture, and... blood. A lot of blood.

AIDEN

What?

LUKE

The man who approached, who was he?

AIDEN

I-I don't... I don't know. The only thing I could spot was... Oh no.

LUKE

What?!

AIDEN

No, no, no, no, please, don't. Tell me it wasn't him.

LUKE

Aiden! Who was him?

AIDEN

The man, he had a scar on his face. I could see it running down the mask.

JOEY

What about it?

AIDEN

What man has tried to assassinate us multiple times and has a scar on his face?

LUKE

Nikolai...

AIDEN

I'm an idiot. It's all my fault.

NICK

Aiden, it's not your fault, do you hear me?

AIDEN

He's going to kill Emily and it's my fault.

Hey, take it easy. Nobody's gonna hurt anybody.

AIDEN

How do you know that?

LUKE

Because, if they kidnapped her, it's because they need something. Most likely they want information, so they need her alive.

AIDEN

But she's not going to tell them anything, which means they're going to torture her to death.

NICK

Then we'd better hurry.

Nick speeds up.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAWN

Nick types on his computer.

AIDEN

How could you let this happen?

LUKE

Aiden, I didn't...

AIDEN

This is your fault! I asked you if you could take care of her and you said yes.

JOEY

Aiden, calm down a little.

Joey stands between Aiden and Luke.

AIDEN

Don't tell me to calm down, Emily's probably dead and it's all Luke's fault! Just being a liar wasn't enough, was it? You had to add "murderer" to your list.

How can it be my fault if you were the one with her?!

There was a sudden BANG on the door. Joey PULLS OUT HIS GUN and points it at the door, moving slowly forward. The BANG is heard again.

EMILY (O.C.)

Open up!

Joey lowers the gun and everyone looks at each other. Aiden rushes to the door and opens it.

AIDEN

Emily!

They help her into the room and sit her on a sofa. She is very weak.

NICK

What happened to you?

**EMILY** 

Nikolai, that happened. Along with Kira.

LUKE

So it's true, they're alive.

**EMILY** 

Ask my hand...

She unwraps the blood-covered jacket, showing the wound.

JOEY

Oh, my God. Blood.

LUKE

What did they do to you? Aiden, get the first aid kit. Joey, get something with alcohol from the fridge, and don't drink it!

They obey without hesitation.

AIDEN

Here it is.

Luke takes the first aid kit and looks for the necessary equipment. Joey appears with a large bottle of vodka.

Joey, take this gauze and soak it in alcohol. This is gonna hurt, I'm not gonna lie.

**EMILY** 

I'm used to it.

Luke looks at her for a few seconds and Joey hands him the vodka-soaked gauze. She takes a deep breath.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Do it.

He placed the gauze over the wound and she screamed.

AIDEN

Don't you have something for the pain?!

NICK

Do you think this is a hospital?

AIDEN

It won't be long now Emily, hang in there.

LUKE

Okay, now we need to sew up the wound.

JOEY

Do you think she's gonna hold on? It must be about twenty stitches.

LUKE

She has no choice... Ready?

Emily grabs the bottle of vodka and drinks plenty.

**EMILY** 

Ready.

He starts to sew up the wound, but she can't help yelling every now and then.

LUKE

Nick, hand me the bandage.

Nick does and Luke wraps her hand.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Done. Go get some rest.

She nods and lies down with her dress on the first bed she sees.

Aiden approaches Luke.

AIDEN

Hey, I'm sorry about the way I treated you. I just...

LUKE

Aiden, I understand you, I really do. We all overstep sometimes and you were just worried. I'm sorry too.

They both hug.

JOEY

So, what now?

LUKE

Gather the parts of the mechanism. We have to put it together.

NICK

That's... not gonna be possible.

AIDEN

Sorry, what?

NICK

Look, the parts we recovered are from the mechanism, right? Through years, there were parts that were lost or corroded. It's impossible to fit them back together without their original shape.

JOEY

So we did this for nothing?

AIDEN

I can't believe I robbed a university, built a Molotov, destroyed a factory and kidnapped the mechanism... For nothing!

Aiden sits on the couch and covers his face with his hands.

NICK

I never said we can't take profit out of this.

What do you mean?

NICK

Look, the pieces are useless in their current form, right?

JOEY

Exactly.

NICK

So, we can build our own mechanism, with the old parts and adding new ones.

JOEY

I don't follow.

AIDEN

How do we do that?

NICK

With a mixture of plaster and copper for the pieces, using a 3D printer to know exactly the weight and size of each one.

JOEY

I still don't follow...

NICK

It will take time, but I can do it.

AIDEN

I can help you with that.

LUKE

Okay, let's do that.

Luke takes money from the safe and gives it to Nick.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Here.

NICK

Thank you. Let's go Aiden. We need to find a store that sells those materials.

AIDEN

Right behind you.

NICK

You don't speak Greek by chance, do you?

AIDEN

Not even close.

They leave the room.

CUT TO:

# A FEW HOURES LATER

Aiden and Nick return to the hotel room. They place a white sheet on the table and set the mechanism and the materials on one half and the 3D printer on the other.

Joey and Aiden apply the plaster mixture for the foundation while Nick uses the printer, leaving exact copies of the mechanism's parts.

The fake mechanism is ready. Luke checks the result, but stops when he notices something.

LUKE

Guys, I think there's a piece missing.

AIDEN

You're kidding, right?

LUKE

I wish.

JOEY

Why would you say that? Are you trying to hurt my feelings?

LUKE

Look! See that gear? The biggest one of all?

NICK

Yes, I see it.

LUKE

Well, for the mechanism to work, that gear must be connected to this one, the smallest gear of all. But there is no kind of contact between them. AIDEN

So, without that piece we're screwed, right?

LUKE

Exactly.

JOEY

Aiden must have left it at the museum during the chase.

AIDEN

No, I didn't. We counted thirty-two pieces at the museum. When I got back from the party I counted them again. Same result.

Nick picks up the Voynich Manuscript and begins to read.

After a while he shouts and everyone gets closer. Emily is awakened by the noise.

NICK

I think I know where it is!

LUKE

Where?!

NICK

Paris. Notre Dame Cathedral to be precise.

AIDEN

Why there?

NICK

Jacques de Molay was burned alive in front of the cathedral because he supposedly believed in Satan, right? But at that time Pope Clement V was against the suppression of the Templars. Philip IV, king of France at the time, put pressure on Clement to have the order abolished due to charges of heresy. He had no choice but to accept the decree. In his last words, Jacques spoke of "God", "Court of God", "sins" and so on.

JOEY

What's up with that?

NICK

My thought is this... What if some faithful Templar, like Clement, hid the missing piece somewhere related to God?

LUKE

What makes you think that?

NICK

Well, we know that the Templars were loyal to the Pope, and they were finding out what the mechanism could do. Philip found out about that, so he wanted to have the artifact for himself. He decided to accuse the Order of heresy and sacrilege, and Clement V had to accept the charges, so he would not arouse suspicion. By this time, Jacques could trust no one but the Pope; his Order had been infested with spies and all of France was after him. So, the poor man offered the last piece of the mechanism to the Pope, who decided to take care of it until his last breath, so that Philip would not be able to make the mechanism work.

JOEY

So...?

NICK

So, I think that if he left any clue on how to find it, it must be in Notre Dame. It's the right place: that's where they burned the Templar, who defended the Pope and believed in God, and besides, that's where everyone went to pray, especially Clement.

Everyone looks at Nick thinking he's crazy.

Emily approaches from behind.

**EMILY** 

I think your idea isn't that crazy.

AIDEN

Emily?

NICK

How are you feeling?

EMILY

I'll live. I stood back there long enough to hear everything. I think you're right, except for one small detail.

NICK

Which one?

**EMILY** 

You see, Clement V died about forty days after Jacques died, right?

NICK

That's right.

**EMILY** 

Well, in that short time that he had, where could he have hidden the piece? I mean the exact place.

JOEY

She's right. The cathedral is huge.

LUKE

Also, at that time Notre Dame was still under construction. And then it went through several renovations.

NICK

Well, I guess we'll have to go up there and find out.

LUKE

Nick, do you have any clues about the strange emerald we found in the Voynich Manuscript?

NICK

What I managed to decipher is not much. The book talks about a strange stone that is supposed to reveal a hidden message.

AIDEN

A hidden message?

**EMILY** 

This is getting easier and easier.

What does it mean?

NICK

I don't know, but we have to find out.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARIS - DAY

#### FLIGHT MONTAGE:

They arrived at the airport and took a cab, driving along the Arc de Triomphe, the Champ de Mars surrounding the Eiffel Tower and the Luxembourg Museum, until they reached their destination, the Notre-Dame Saint Michel hotel, located in the Quartier Latin.

INT. NOTRE-DAME SAINT MICHEL HOTEL - DAY

At the hotel reception, Luke talks to the receptionist and the rest wait in the lounge.

Luke approaches.

LUKE

Here we go, two rooms.

He hands one key to Emily.

EMILY

Great.

LUKE

We'll meet back here in half an hour, okay? We need to get to the cathedral as soon as possible.

Everyone nods and goes to the elevator.

CUT TO:

EXT. NOTRE-DAME CATHEDRAL - MOMENTS LATER

They arrive at Notre Dame Cathedral.

**EMILY** 

It's beautiful.

It's huge.

They all walk forward and go through the double wooden doors.

INT. NOTRE-DAME CATHEDRAL - DAY

As they enter, there are multiple windows all over the place.

LUKE

Well, let's get moving. Let's not waste any more time.

JOEY

All right.

Everyone starts looking everywhere. Luke, Aiden, and Emily walk toward the high altar, and Nick and Joey head to the west front.

Joey and Nick find three wooden doors, side by side. Above them, statues of kings can be seen.

JOEY (CONT'D)

What if the piece is hidden inside one of the statues?

NICK

No, that's impossible. All of them have been restored, because the original ones were destroyed.

JOEY

Damn.

They keep walking until they reach the Chimera Museum and then to the Emmanuel bell, but find nothing.

They advance until they meet the rest of the team.

AIDEN

Did you find anything?

JOEY

Nothing. You guys?

**EMILY** 

Same. We're doing something wrong.

NICK

I agree. We checked every inch of the building and didn't find anything.

Maybe, because we're not looking for the piece...

AIDEN

What do you mean?

LUKE

I think we're here to find a clue, which will then lead us to the missing piece.

AIDEN

But how are we supposed to find a clue in this place? Anything can be a clue.

LUKE

True enough. But not just anything is related to Clement V. Let's take a look: Jacques was burned alive in front of the cathedral, which was under construction at the time. Before dying, our Templar gives the missing piece to the Pope and tells him to protect it. What if Clement, seeing that death was stalking him, decides to entrust the object to another trusted person?

JOEY

But to whom?

LUKE

That's what we should be looking for. Clemente was smart, maybe too smart. He knew that the piece could not fall into French hands, so he must have hidden it in plain sight, well, he didn't have too much time to invent the perfect hiding spot.

Everyone begins to look around again.

AIDEN

Let's think, it can't be that hard.

**EMILY** 

I got it! What's safer than keeping the secret to yourself?

AIDEN

I don't get it.

Neither do I.

EMILY

Think! Nick, where was Clement V buried?

NICK

Uzeste, Aquitaine.

**EMILY** 

Well, then that's where we should go!

JOEY

Are you sure?

**EMILY** 

No, but it's our best and only option...

Everyone looks at each other.

LUKE

All right. Let's go back to the hotel and rent a car. Our next stop, Uzeste.

CUT TO BLACK.

I/E. CAR - EVENING

They arrive at Uzeste. They go through the streets and houses with medieval look.

LUKE

(driving)

Well, where to now?

NICK

According to my GPS, the Uzeste Collegiate Church is a few blocks ahead.

Luke keeps driving until they reach an ancient building.

JOEY

Is this the church?

NICK

It looks like it...

Let's go.

They get out of the car and walk through the big red door.

INT. UZESTE COLLEGIATE CHURCH - MOMENTS LATER

A group of people are taking a guided tour of the place, so they the team blend in and follow them.

They walk around while listening to the descriptions and history of each object inside. When they reach the TOMB OF CLEMENT V, they stop while the tourist continue their way.

The tomb is made of white marble, and behind it is a sculpture of the Virgin and the child.

AIDEN

What now?

NICK

Well, according to Emily the missing piece is inside the tomb.

**EMILY** 

If I'm right you owe me ten bucks.

NICK

Deal.

They shake hands.

AIDEN

We're going to desecrate a tomb?

EMILY

It wouldn't be our first time.

AIDEN

(sarcastically)

Oh, I feel better now.

LUKE

Whatever we do, we should wait until all the tourists and staff get the hell out of here.

**EMILY** 

He's right. Let's find a place to hide. I'm sure they'll check the place for people before they close.

Everyone walks around looking for a place to hide.

Aiden walks and finds a chain with a sign that says "PASSAGE INTERDIT", blocking an entrance.

AIDEN

Emily?

Aiden points to the sign.

**EMILY** 

Forbidden entry. It wasn't that hard, Aiden.

She goes under the chains and keeps going. They all follow her, passing some old stone stairs to the top of the tower, where there is a small wooden door.

They enter a small room, full of dusty furniture and spider webs everywhere. Joey starts sneezing.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Shhh!

JOEY

(whispering)

It's the dust. I'm allergic.

NICK

Since when?!

He sneezes again.

LUKE

Shut up, both of you, or we will get caught!

AIDEN

He's right. Let's hide over there until they close the place down.

They hide behind some old furniture.

CUT TO:

### A FEW HOURS LATER

Joey keeps sneezing.

JOEY

I'll go take a look.

LUKE

Okay, but come back soon!

Yeah, yeah...

He stands up and walks out the door.

CUT TO:

### TWENTY MINUTES LATER

AIDEN

I don't like this.

**EMILY** 

Yes. He should be back by now.

NICK

I'm going to see what's going on.

Nick turns on his cell phone flashlight and quietly approaches to the door. The floorboards crackle each time Nick moves forward.

LUKE

Be careful!

Nick turns to look at them, nods, and moves forward again until they lose sight of him passing through the door.

Nick's footsteps are heard, as he moves forward, until a heavy BANG is heard.

NICK (O.C.)

Damn it!

AIDEN

Are you all right?

NICK (O.C.)

Yeah! I tripped. I'm... Ahhhh!

Hearing his screams, everyone turned on their cell phone flashlights and ran to Nick. They burst through the door and they bump into Joey.

EMILY

Joey! What happened?

AIDEN

Where's Nick?

Well, I was hiding here behind the door and when Nick came in I scared him. But things went not as planned...

LUKE

Joey... Where's Nick?

NICK (O.C.)

Down here!

We can hear him yelling from the bottom of the stairs.

JOEY

Yeah... He fell down the stairs...

EMILY

(pissed off)

Are you kidding me?!

AIDEN

What happened to letting us know if there were still people inside?!

JOEY

Oh, I'm sorry. There are no walls on the coast.

NICK (O.C.)

(yelling)

You're an idiot Joey! Besides, it's Moors, not walls!

LUKE

Enough of this bullshit. We've got work to do.

Everyone goes down and helps Nick to stand up.

They advance to CLEMENT V'S TOMB.

NTCK

Well, what now?

LUKE

Now let's see what's inside.

He tries to push the lid of the tomb, but it's too heavy.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Joey, go get something useful to open this.

Right away.

LUKE

Emily and Nick, shine your light this way.

They obey and illuminate the tomb.

Joey returns with a piece of iron.

AIDEN

Where did you get that?

JOEY

Part of the building is under renovation. I don't suppose anyone will mind if we borrow it.

LUKE

Works for me.

He takes the tool and places it between the tomb cover and the base. Everyone pushes and runs the lid off until it touches the ground.

Inside are parts of the skeleton along with the clothing he has from the day of his burial.

AIDEN

I think I can now add "desecrating a grave" to my list.

NICK

Hi Clement the Fifth! Hurry Joey, take me a picture!

Nick poses next to the skeleton with a big smile and Joey takes a picture of them.

LUKE

Well, now we must look for the missing piece.

NICK

I'm not touching it.

**EMILY** 

Neither am I.

AIDEN

I'm about to throw up.

How brave, everyone...

JOEY

Maybe it's under his tunic.

NICK

Alb, not tunic.

Luke and Joey investigate among the corpse.

LUKE

And no, it's not here.

JOEY

Inside his hat?

NICK

(takes a deep breath)
Jesus Christ Joey, it's called
precious miter! Not hat.

JOEY

It's the same thing. Anyway, it's not here.

AIDEN

Wait a minute... Where's his ring?

Nick places his hand on his forehead.

NTCK

It's called papal ring, Aiden!

**EMILY** 

It's true. It's not here.

LUKE

Well, it should be.

NICK

Well, the papal ring is an image of St. Peter fishing in a boat. Of course, every pope has his own design, but Clement V was that one.

JOEY

Wait a minute. Near the entrance I saw a window with a man fishing.

AIDEN

Let's go!

Everyone runs to the entrance and sees the window.

EMILY

You see what I see, don't you?

AIDEN

If you're talking about it looks like St. Peter's is fishing in a purple sea, then yes...

**JOEY** 

That's impossible. When we arrived, the glass was blue. I swear.

They start looking at the stained glass of the apostle.

NICK

I got it!

JOEY

Of course you do...

NICK

There are few gemstones that, due to light, change their color. A clear example is tanzanite. At that time, rare minerals were much more common than now, and sometimes they were used in the tombs of important people, such as kings or Popes. If I am not mistaken, this material can be polarized.

AIDEN

Polarized? Like car windows?

NICK

Exactly! You see, this kind of material changes from blue to purple, depending on the light passing through it. We've already seen these two colors, but we missed one: red.

EMILY

But if blue appears when it's daytime, and purple when it's nighttime, when can we see red?

NICK

That's the problem. Red appears just when what's called "horizontally polarized light" happens.

EMILY

So, we have to focus the light source coming through the glass in a certain way, right?

NICK

Yes!

LUKE

We could use the cell phones flashlights.

NICK

Okay. Gather all the flashlights.

Joey takes all the cell phones.

NICK (CONT'D)

Perfect.

LUKE

Joey, go outside, on the other side of the glass and point this way.

He obeys. After a few seconds, a light is seen coming from outside of the place, through the window. The light reveals a SERIES OF JUMBLED NUMBERS AND LETTERS:

# EAABBB18 AGDHBCB6 BADB

**EMILY** 

I don't understand.

AIDEN

What does all this mean?

JOEY (O.S.)

Well, clearly it's not the piece.

NICK

(sarcastic)

Do you think so?

LUKE

It could be some sort of lead that could lead us to the piece.

NICK

Well, I'm gonna write this down and see what I can come up with.

AIDEN

Good thinking. Let's get out of here. The color will change with the sun and the clue will be gone.

**EMILY** 

All right.

Nick writes down the clue. Joey enters the building and helps them put the grave cover back where it belongs. They leave the place.

CUT TO BLACK:

INT. EMILI'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

After a shower, Emily changes the band on her hand.

Someone knocks on the door.

**EMILY** 

Who is it?!

She shouts from the bathroom.

AIDEN (O.S.)

Aiden!

She walks to the door and opens it.

I/E. EMILI'S ROOM - SAME TIME

**EMILY** 

Hi... Do you need something?

He's silent for a few seconds.

AIDEN

(babbling)

Oh, hi. Uh, no, I don't need anything. I mean, I do...

(takes a deep breath)

Luke wants me to give you this. He knows you didn't have dinner, so he thought to give you something.

He offers a big tray with a lot of food.

**EMILY** 

Oh, thank you very much.

She takes the tray.

AIDEN

See you tomorrow.

Aiden turns around and starts walking to his room.

**EMILY** 

Aiden!

Aiden retraces his steps and looks at her.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I'm not very hungry, and this is a lot of food. Have you eaten yet?

AIDEN

(smiling)

No, not yet.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Well, come in then. Let's eat together.

He enters her room.

INT. EMILI'S ROOM - SAME TIME

They put the tray on the bed and start eating.

AIDEN

The meat is delicious.

**EMILY** 

You're absolutely right.

AIDEN

So, tell me, how's your hand?

**EMILY** 

Getting better. It still hurts, obviously, but less and less. The painkillers Nick gave me are helping.

AIDEN

Glad to hear that.

There's an awkward silence as they eat.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

So, you never told me how you ended up with my uncle, Nick and Joey.

EMILY

Well, it's a long story...

AIDEN

Nick is still trying to figure out the clue we found, and he hasn't made much progress, so I have time.

**EMILY** 

Okay... I was born in Kansas, but my parents died during my first months on a car crash, so I was kept in orphanages until I ran away from one in Illinois when I was eleven.

AIDEN

Sorry to hear that...

**EMILY** 

It's okay. From then on, I stole for a living. One day I saw a wealthy couple passing by, so I started following them through the streets to steal the man's wallet.

(pause)

When I had my hand in his pocket, I tripped by accident, so they caught me. Luckily they decided not to press charges and let me go.

AIDEN

That doesn't sound like you...

They smile at each other.

EMILY

After two days, I saw that couple again. I was so mad with myself for tripping, I decided to try again. I followed them to their mansion and get in through the window. I took a beautiful ring with a diamond in it, but I triggered the silent alarm. There were cops everywhere.

AIDEN

For sure doesn't sound like you at all.

**EMILY** 

The owner said he was impressed by my skills, and asked me where my parents were.

(MORE)

EMILY (CONT'D)

I told him all about them, and he and his wife decided to adopt me.

AIDEN

Oh, it wasn't so bad after all. Whose house was it?

**EMILY** 

Luke's...

AIDEN

Is this a joke?

EMILY

(laughing)

No... Your aunt Lucy and Luke offered me food and shelter, and allowed me to be part of their family.

(pause)

Until six years later when she passed away and left me her ring. Then your uncle decided to sell the mansion and started doing small jobs.

AIDEN

What kind of jobs?

EMILY

Moving objects from one place to another, collecting them, things like that. In those kinds of jobs, that's when we met Nick and Joey. They were our competition, so to speak. They needed someone to lead them, and we needed the brains of the group and the muscle, so we proposed to them to team up, and they agreed.

AIDEN

And how did Nikolai and Kira fit in?

**EMILY** 

Well, that was on a job in Berlin, before the team was born. Your uncle told me that he, along with other colleagues, were on a treasure hunt, but they didn't know that so were Nikolai and his people.

(MORE)

EMILY (CONT'D)

After a few months of collecting evidence, they arrived at a cave deep in the forest. Once inside, the Russians placed C4 explosives all over the place.

AIDEN

Oh, no...

EMILY

When it all went off, your uncle had stayed in the car just in case. But when he heard the explosion it was too late. The whole place collapsed with his teammates inside. Nikolai had wiped out his team.

Aiden looks down.

AIDEN

And Kira?

**EMILY** 

After several jobs, we crossed paths with Nikolai once more. At the time, your uncle was thirsty for revenge, so we snuck into his hotel room to take care of him.

AIDEN

Take care of him? You mean kill him, don't you?

**EMILY** 

Yes. I didn't know why your uncle wanted to kill him back then, but I owed him my life, so I helped him anyway. When we broke in, he was having dinner with a woman. We surprised them, but she knew how to fight back. She took a gun and started shooting. Luke got shot in the shoulder and I in the leg, but I hit her in the stomach with my pocketknife. What I didn't see coming was that she also had her knife. She stabbed me through my shoulder.

She shows her scar.

AIDEN

That must have hurt.

EMILY

Like hell. Luke had to pull me out of there and rush me to the hospital. I barely made it out alive.

AIDEN

I'm sorry.

**EMILY** 

You don't have to.

Emily's cell phone rings and she picks up.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Hello?

She stands up.

EMILY (CONT'D)

That's great! See you in the morning.

The call ends.

AIDEN

Who was it?

**EMILY** 

Nick. He cracked the clue! They are coordinates leading to the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

AIDEN

That's great!

Aiden stands up and they hug, but quickly walk away.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry! Excitement, Í guess.

EMILY

(with laughter)

Yeah, I guess so...

AIDEN

Well, I think it's getting late. I should go to my room.

EMILY

Oh, yeah, sure... We should rest for tomorrow.

He takes his coat and opens the door.

AIDEN

Have a good rest, and...
(with laughter)
Sorry again for the hug.

**EMILY** 

It's okay.

He leaves the room and closes the door.

She gathers the tray and lies down on the bed.

Someone knocks on the door again. She stands up and opens it. Aiden is standing outside.

AIDEN

You know what, I'm not sorry.

He KISSES HER. She hugs him tightly and kisses him too.

They close the door to the room.

CUT TO BLACK.

EXT. AL-AQSA MOSQUE - DAY

**JOEY** 

Holy shit, it is so hot!

NICK

Oh no... He's complaining already.

LUKE

Knock it off! Let's go inside.

They walk through the entrance.

INT. AL-AQSA MOSQUE - DAY

**EMILY** 

How beautiful!

NICK

The architecture is incredible. Did you know it can hold about five thousand people?

JOEY

Unbelievable Nick. Tell me another interesting fact...

NICK

Well, in one of its outer areas is the Wailing Wall.

JOEY

I was kidding.

NICK

I know.

LUKE

Well, let's start looking. We have to be quick. We don't know where the Russians are...

They all look for signs of the Templars.

Aiden and Emily are DISTANCED, not speaking to each other. Nick can tell.

NICK

What's going on between you two?

EMILY AND AIDEN

Nothing.

NICK

Yeah, sure.

## AN HOUR LATER:

Luke takes the EMERALD and inspects it, trying to find a clue.

JOEY

Wait a minute! I think I saw something.

AIDEN

What?

JOEY

Don't you see it?

He points to one of the rooms.

NICK

See what, Joey?

JOEY

(pointing to)

Look over there!

(MORE)

JOEY (CONT'D)

There's an inverted red cross on the white wall at the back of that room.

LUKE

What about it?

Luke holds the stone OVER HIS EYE, inspecting the place through it.

JOEY

And then in the next room is the same cross, just slightly tilted to the right. That's been happening in every room we've been through. In each one there is an inverted cross in the mosaics, pointing north.

LUKE

The Dome of the Rock.

JOEY

Exactly! Wait, what?

AIDEN

What is the Dome of the Rock?

**EMILY** 

(pointing to)

That temple with the golden domed roof.

NICK

Well, that clue is worth following.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOME OF THE ROCK - DAY

They walk up to the Dome of the Rock and enter.

INT. THE DOME OF THE ROCK - MOMENTS LATER

They walk around every corner, but find no clue. Luke uses the emerald again and sees through it.

AIDEN

Well Joey, I guess the one time you find a clue, it turns out to be a fake one.

LUKE

I wouldn't be so sure.

JOEY

What do you mean?

LUKE

Come over to where I'm standing.

They all walk toward him and stand side by side.

NICK

Where is the clue?

LUKE

Nick, what is this place?

NICK

This is the Sanctum Sanctorum. It is a very holy place. It is said that the Ark of the Covenant containing the Ten Commandments was preserved here.

LUKE

Exactly. There was no writing on the outside of the ark, was there?

NICK

No, of course not.

Luke points to a painting on a wall.

LUKE

The painting about the Ark over there, can you see it?

**EMILY** 

Yeah, of course.

LUKE

If you pay attention, you can see some strange markings surrounding the golden chest through this emerald.

NICK

What?

Nick snatches the stone from him and uses it to see.

NICK (CONT'D)

This is unbelievable! There's a sentence written...

Everyone passes the emerald around and sees the painting.

JOEY

Please tell me someone can read French.

NICK

It's Latin you idiot!

AIDEN

Even I knew that.

Emily takes the stone.

EMILY

"Templi pauperes equites. Et non erunt in occultis, ut pauperiores erit nummorum."

AIDEN

Meaning?

**EMILY** 

"Poor knights of the temple....
There will be no secret to being a poorer millionaire."

NICK

"Poorest millionaire?" What does it mean?

JOEY

I don't know Nick. If I did we wouldn't be standing here, would we?

NICK

I think I have an idea. This place has a golden dome, right?

LUKE

Yes.

NICK

Well, it's golden, like gold. There's our first clue.

AIDEN

I don't understand.

**EMILY** 

Actually, the dome is covered in gold-plated copper....

(MORE)

EMILY (CONT'D)

That's why 'poorest millionaire'. Because it looks like gold but it's not.

AIDEN

So, we have to go to the dome?

NICK

Exactly.

They walk to the dome. Luke takes a pair of binoculars from his backpack and takes a look.

LUKE

No way...

**EMILY** 

What?

LUKE

I know where the missing piece is...

AIDEN

Where?!

LUKE

On top of the dome...

They all look up and, with the binoculars, they manage to spot the piece.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Well. I think we can assume that we have to climb to the top.

**EMILY** 

The problem is how do we get up there?

Everybody thinks about how to get to the dome. They walk to different directions, going around the building.

Aiden notices a construction site. He calls them all together and they gather.

AIDEN

I think I found a way to get up there.

NICK

How?

AIDEN

Behind the north corner there is a section of the building under renovation.

LUKE

What about it?

AIDEN

There's a crane...

They approach the crane. There are no workers.

LUKE

Does anyone know how to operate a crane?

NICK

Joey knows how to operate anything, right?

**JOEY** 

I can try...

LUKE

That's good enough for me.

They go through the containment barriers. Joey climbs into the cabin and closes the door. He presses buttons and moves levers, until he lowers the lift arm.

JOEY

(shouting)

Who wants to go for a ride?

NICK

Well, I vote for Emily.

AIDEN

Me too.

LUKE

I'm gonna try to get some cabs to get us back to the hotel. Try to get the piece without getting killed.

**EMILY** 

You're all gentlemen.

She climbs up the twenty-foot metal arm and walks slowly to the end.

As she climbs, tourists take pictures and stare at her.

Emily reaches the end and waves to Joey to lift the crane arm. Joey does his best and manages to get the end of the crane as close as possible to the edge of the dome, about two meters away.

She has to jump.

AIDEN

Will she make it?

NICK

Yes, she will.

Emily takes a few steps back to make a run for it. She sprints and makes it all the way to the other end. She climbs to the top and grabs the MISSING PIECE.

JOEY

Yes!

Aiden's cell phone rings and he picks up.

AIDEN

Hello?

LUKE (V.O.)

Aiden! Get out of there now! The police are surrounding the place!

He hangs up.

AIDEN

We have to go, now!

NICK

What's going on?

AIDEN

The police are com...

We hear sirens.

NICK

Oh God...

AIDEN

Emily! You need to get down from there now!

Five patrol cars arrive from all directions. The officers get out and draw their weapons.

POLICE

Get down on the ground!

Aiden and Nick lie down with their hands behind their backs. A cop handcuffs them and locks them inside the car.

Four cops, while holding Joey, pull one of the crane's levers, causing the end to move a couple of feet further away.

Emily spots Luke in the crowd, waving.

**EMILY** 

Oh, no...

She approaches the edge.

A policeman picks up a megaphone and speaks to her.

COP

Lady! Put your weapons on the ground and your hands in the air where I can see them!

She waves to Luke and directs him to a specific location. Luke gets her message and heads that way.

Emily slides down the dome to the entrance's roof and THROWS THE MISSING PIECE towards Luke. He catches it, unnoticed by the police.

POLICE

Stop moving and get down from the building!

She has no choice but to do so. She jumps off the roof of the entrance and the cops catch her.

CUT TO:

INT. CELL - MOMENTS LATER

They are locked in a cell with a strange man.

**EMILY** 

This is great.

AIDEN

It's definitely the first time I've ever been arrested.

NICK

Not me.

AIDEN

Really?

NICK

Really. I've been locked up for hacking bank accounts, several Times Square signs and Mark Zuckerberg's Facebook account. Among others.

JOEY

Well, well. Nick, you're such a naughty boy.

DRUNK MAN

I've been locked up... too many times.

**EMILY** 

And who are you?

DRUNK MAN

Larry... Or was it Arthur?

A guard approaches, followed by Luke.

**JOEY** 

Man! It's about time!

LUKE

I can't believe how expensive you guys are. I've already paid your bail. Let's get the hell out of here.

NICK

I'll back you up on that.

The guard opens the gate and everyone leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. KING DAVID HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

They place the mechanism on the table and Luke puts the missing piece. The mechanism starts working by itself.

The gears move, producing a SCREECHING SOUND. In a few seconds, they stop.

AIDEN

What just happened?

NICK

Well, each gear has a purpose. For example, this one here indicates the moon phase, this one the zodiacal signs, or that one over there is the Olympic disk.

JOEY

So?

NICK

So, there must be something wrong. We have to arrange them to activate some kind of code maybe?

**EMILY** 

I guess the key must be in the manuscript.

NICK

I'll get to work.

Nick reaches for the manuscript and begins to read.

AIDEN

Do you even know what you're looking for?

NICK

I'll know when I find it.

**EMILY** 

Let's see, at that time they must have written instructions on how to open the secret passage of Atlit Yam. But how exactly did they find it? The city is old enough for the Templars to have even existed in that time when it went underwater.

AIDEN

And how do we know it really exists?

LUKE

Because it's written in the manuscript, Aiden.

AIDEN

So we just trust it?

NICK

I found something here!

EMILY

What?

NICK

Look at this.

He points to a page of the manuscript showing symbols.

NICK (CONT'D)

En, Pi, Theta and Lambda?

LUKE

Runes?

NICK

(pointing to)

These are the same as those shown in the gears.

LUKE

Emily? Any thoughts?

**EMILY** 

Well, in theory they are runes, but they can also mean many things, like letters of the Greek alphabet, or mathematical symbols...

JOEY

How will we know their real meaning then?

NICK

Well, we know it has to do with the manuscript... Here the symbols are on this sheet that talks about stars and constellations.

**EMILY** 

Well, if that's the case, and this has to do with stars, I think the most accurate translation would be... "Vega rises in the night", "Gemini begins to rise", "The setting of the Hyades in the night" and "The Pleiades rises in the morning". In that order...

JOEY

I think my head just exploded.

AIDEN

That doesn't make any sense...

Everyone thinks for a moment.

EMILY

No... If they're not... In the right order!

NICK

What do you mean?

**EMILY** 

Well, all those meanings have something in common: stars at certain times of the day. If we order those symbols depending on the time those events happen from Atlit, it could mean something.

JOEY

It's worth a shot.

Nick searches his computer for those stars with Aiden watching behind.

AIDEN

So, Gemini would go first, right? She starts to rise.

NICK

Right. Then the Pleiades would follow.

JOEY

But, it doesn't make any sense, because the Pleiades, if they rise in the morning you wouldn't be able to see them.

NICK

You can see them if it's daytime in the opposite hemisphere you're at the moment.

JOEY

Oh, I see.

AIDEN

So, then comes the Hyades in their setting at night, right?

NICK

Right. And lastly, there would be Vega.

LUKE

That rises in the night.

AIDEN

Exactly.

Luke arranges the gears in the established order. The mechanism STARTS WORKING AGAIN.

The RIGHT SIDE OF THE BASE OPENS, revealing a hand-carved STONE in the shape of a sphere.

LUKE

What is that?

Nick picks up the sphere.

NICK

Guys, I think we found our key to Atlit Yam.

AIDEN

Are you sure?

NICK

Its shape is just like the one we saw in the stone circle. It has to be.

LUKE

Well, I guess now we have to find our way to Atlit Yam, the underwater city.

JOEY

We have to get scuba diving equipment.

NICK

I'll make a call.

Nick stands up and grabs his cell phone.

LUKE

That's right. We won't be able to do much without something to keep us underwater.

EMILY

You know how to dive, don't you?

AIDEN

I can try.

LUKE

Don't worry, she'll teach you.

JOEY

And if you run out of air, she can give you mouth-to-mouth.

EMILY

Shut up, both of you.

Nick ends his call.

NICK

Okay, I just got off the phone with a man who can take us to Atlit, but there's a problem.

AIDEN

Of course there is, there's always one when it comes to us!

LUKE

What problem?

NICK

There are protests and violent demonstrations on the city's airport. Our only route is through the Syrian Desert, around Jordan. It will take us near the place, but then he cannot go any further.

AIDEN

And how will we get to the city?

NICK

The man gave me only one option.

JOEY

Which one?

NICK

By camel.

JOEY

(sarcastically)

Great. This trip just keeps getting better and better.

CUT TO BLACK:

EXT. TUDMUR, SIRIA - DAY

Luke appears with a boy and five camels behind him.

LUKE

(angry)

Can you believe it? I had to pay \$580 each!

AIDEN

You would have offered Emily. They'd probably give them to us for free.

**EMILY** 

Ha ha. Very funny.

JOEY

Now how do we get on?

NICK

I think they have to lie down...

The boy touches them with a long stick and they lie down.

JOEY

Oh, they stink!

EMILY

Like you...

They all get on and the camels stand up. They move towards the desert.

CUT TO:

EXT. SYRIAN DESERT - MAGIC HOUR

The sun is hiding and they decide to make camp.

Aiden, Luke and Nick set up the tents, while Joey and Emily prepare the campfire.

JOEY

So... You and Aiden, right?

**EMILY** 

Sorry?

JOEY

Come on, Emily. You don't have to pretend with me.

EMILY

I have no idea what you're talking about.

AIDEN

Everyone knows.

**EMILY** 

Do they?

JOEY

(smiling)

Yeah...

EMILY

It doesn't matter, nothing more is going to happen between us.

JOEY

Why not? You're the perfect couple, like queen and king at the prom, beauty and the beast, Bonnie and Clyde...

**EMILY** 

Because, can you imagine the problems if we were together? We wouldn't be able to concentrate while doing work; always worrying about each other. You just can't.

JOEY

I disagree...

Aiden shows up and Joey and Emily end their conversation.

AIDEN

What are you talking about?

JOEY

Camels...

Everyone sits around the campfire.

CUT TO:

## THE NEXT DAY:

Back on top of the camels moving through a large canyon, Luke leading them.

They arrive at a location and exchange the five camels for a JEEP. They keep to Atlit.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Luke hides the manuscript under the couch and the gears inside the closet.

LUKE

Well, it's late. Emily, go to your room and keep the key safe.

He gives the key to Atlit Yam to her.

**EMILY** 

Of course.

LUKE

The rest of you, let's go to sleep. Tomorrow will be a big day.

AIDEN

Okay.

JOEY

I'll need a new ass with those shitty camels.

Emily leaves the room and they go to sleep.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

LUKE

Is everyone ready?

AIDEN

Yeah.

JOEY

So are we.

NICK

Where's Emily?

LUKE

She went out earlier. She said she's waiting for us with a surprise on the beach.

NICK

A surprise?

LUKE

Yeah, that's what she said.

JOEY

Let's hope it's a good one.

They grab their backpacks and leave the room.

EXT. ATLIT BEACH - DAY

They walk along the beach looking for Emily.

AIDEN

I don't see her.

NICK

Neither do I.

LUKE

(pointing to)

Over there!

JOEY

I can't believe it.

They look out to the horizon and see that Emily is on a small yacht docked at the pier with scuba gear on it.

**EMILY** 

(yelling)

Are you guys coming or what?!

Everyone looks at each other in wonder.

JOEY

Last one in gets to watch the boat!

Everyone starts running towards the yacht. Nick is the last one in.

## **FLIGHT MONTAGE:**

The yacht sailed through Atlit Bay, following the Mediterranean Sea to the submerged city.

I/E. YACHT - MOMENTS LATER

LUKE

Emily, how the hell did you get all this?

EMILY

I have a friend, who has a friend who knows someone.

LUKE

I thought so... By the way, where did you hide the key?

**EMILY** 

Inside a can of coke, in the fridge.

AIDEN

Why not in the safe?

EMILY

Very suspicious.

LUKE

Good.

NICK

We are here! You can see some ruins.

JOEY

That's great! Let's dive.

AIDEN

Wait. What?

**EMILY** 

What did you expect? Hold your breath until you explode?

AIDEN

I've never done that in my life. I'm gonna end up drowned.

Emily grabs a full set of scuba gear.

**EMILY** 

Look, it's simple. This is the tank that contains a gas mixture, and it attaches to the vest. This here is the regulator, which is where you breathe. You put it on the tank, and then you open it up to let the air flow through.

NICK

Here is your mask and fins.

AIDEN

Thanks for the introduction to the basic scuba course, but I still think I'm gonna drown.

LUKE

Don't worry, we'll go in pairs. Joey and I will go together, and you'll go with Emily.

Luke takes the key.

AIDEN

Okay.

They all get suited up and stand on the edge of the yacht. Nick stays behind to watch.

JOEY

Don't worry Aiden. If you don't drown due to equipment failure I'm sure Nikolai will take care of it.

AIDEN

Wait! Failure?

Joey pushes him and Aiden falls into the water.

**EMILY** 

Damn it Joey...

She jumps in and the rest do the same.

INT. MEDITERRANEAN SEA - DAY

Aiden panics, not knowing HOW TO MOVE with the diving gear. Emily takes him by the hand and helps him.

Schools of fish are seen everywhere as they DESCEND to the ruins.

They inspect the rocks and reach the STONE CIRCLE. Luke places the key in the center.

Everyone waits around the stone. A few seconds later, a bubble bursts out of some rocks behind them, followed by a landslide. A <u>PASSAGE OPENS</u> up.

They stand there, floating, surprised by what just happened. The cave is totally dark and very deep. Luke waves them to go to the surface.

I/E. YACHT - DAY

They board the boat and abandon their diving gear.

AIDEN

Can someone tell me what the hell just happened?

NICK

What happened?!

JOEY

I don't know, but we definitely have to go back.

NICK

Hello??

LUKE

Yes, but tomorrow. We don't know how deep it goes.

EMILY

I agree, we should be well equipped for everything.

NICK

I'm waiting...

JOEY

Yes, several tanks per person, waterproof weapons just in case...

AIDEN

Who do you think you'll cross paths with? Moby dick?

Nick, without anyone paying attention to him, quickly ACCELERATES the yacht for a few seconds and slams on the brakes, causing everyone to slip.

**EMILY** 

Nick, what the hell?!

NICK

Now that I have your attention... What happened down there?!

LUKE

(smiling)

We made it.

NICK

Don't fuck with me...

LUKE

We made it!

NICK

We made it?!

**EMILY** 

We made it!

Everyone celebrates and hugs each other. Nick starts the yacht and they return to the hotel.

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Walking down the hallway, Nick, Luke and Joey enter their room. Before Emily enters hers, Aiden approaches.

AIDEN

Emily?

**EMILY** 

Yes?

AIDEN

I just wanted to thank you, for everything today.

**EMILY** 

Aiden, it's okay, you don't have to...

AIDEN

No, really. Thank you. If it wasn't for you I'd be drowning right now.

**EMILY** 

(smiling)

You're welcome.

He walks over and kisses her on the cheek, very close to her lips. Emily watches as Aiden enters her room. She takes a deep breath, and opens her door.

INT. EMILI'S ROOM - SAME TIME

As she turns the doorknob, she sees that it is open. The lock had been FORCED. She grabs her ankle knife and enters. The room is a mess, broken furniture, clothes scattered everywhere, shattered glass. She steps through the glass on the floor and heads for the fridge. She opens the can of coke and the key is still there.

As she touches the key someone HITS her from behind. She FALLS DOWN.

**EMILY POV:** She sees in a blur as black boots approach. Everything goes BLACK.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. EMILI'S ROOM - DAY

Emily's cell phone rings, but no one picks up. Someone knocks on the door, but there is no answer.

We listen the rest of the group talking behind the door.

AIDEN (O.C.)

What do we do?

LUKE (O.C.)

(pushing)

The door is open, but there's something behind it...

JOEY (O.C.)

Let's push it harder.

NICK (O.C.)

All right, one, two, three...

Everyone pushes the door and moves a desk that is blocking the way. They all look at the SHATTERED ROOM.

LUKE

What the hell?

AIDEN

What happened here?

Aiden walks over to the refrigerator.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Luke?!

LUKE

Oh, no...

AIDEN

Blood...

NICK

This can't be happening again.

JOEY

What do we do now?

The can of coke is on the floor open, without the key.

LUKE

Let's go to the tunnel. That's where they're headed.

CUT TO:

I/E. YACHT - DAY

Luke drives the yacht towards the submerged city. Joey opens a large black handbag.

JOEY

Hey, guys? I got you a present.

NICK

What's that?

He opens the bag and begins to take out a harpoon, knives, flares and other weapons.

NICK (CONT'D)

Oh, Joey, you're a genius!

JOEY

Merry Christmas!

Everyone grabs their weapons and equips themselves. Joey and Nick fight over the only spear.

LUKE

Both of you calm down! Settle this like a man.

JOEY

Okay...

Joey punches Nick in the face and knocks him OFF THE BOAT.

AIDEN

That must hurt...

LUKE

Joey!

JOEY

What?

LUKE

That's not what I meant.

**JOEY** 

Well, but I made it, didn't I?

Joey jumps out of the boat after grabbing the spear.

AIDEN

(sarcastically)

This is going to end well.

Aiden jumps into the water.

LUKE

Good Lord...

Finally, Luke jumps in and they dive to the tunnel.

CUT TO:

INT. TUNNEL - MANY MILES LATER - DAY

They dive through the tunnel with flashlights on. Joey carries a heavy bag.

They reach a CENOTE, where the sun's rays reach through a large opening in the roof. They come out of the water and see lots of scuba gear.

NICK

Those aren't ours.

LUKE

We have to hurry.

They abandon their scuba gear and continue through the cave, until it splits into THREE PATHS.

JOEY

Now, which way?

Everyone takes a minute and thinks.

AIDEN

What's that?

Aiden walks to the right entrance and picks something up.

JOEY

What did you find?

AIDEN

Emily's ring.

NICK

She's leaving crumbs for us.

LUKE

That's my girl.

(pause)

Come on, let's go!

CUT TO:

## HOURS LATER

Everyone moves forward exhausted.

AIDEN

We were walking for hours...

NICK

My feet have blisters.

JOEY

My blisters have blisters.

LUKE

Look at that! Light!

They run to the tunnel exit. There was a <a href="HUGE UNDERGROWTH">HUGE UNDERGROWTH</a> JUNGLE, with waterfalls and birds flying around.

JOEY

Where the hell are we?

NICK

Well, according to my GPS we're in Jordan, only thousands of feet below.

AIDEN

Is that possible?

LUKE

I guess so.

JOEY

But how can sunlight get down here?

NICK

There are many mountains in Jordan, most of them with unexplored parts.

(MORE)

NICK (CONT'D)

For thousands of years, the wind caused a lot of erosion in areas like these. Those openings in the roof could have been their work. That's why the sun's rays can be seen from here, and so much vegetation.

AIDEN

Well, what now?

LUKE

Now we have to find Emily.

They wander through the dense jungle with a machete, until they find footprints.

AIDEN

Where will they lead us?

NICK

Well, without knowing the diameter of this large cave I couldn't tell you. What I can tell you is that Atlit Yam dates back to over 6000 BC. Since then, this place could have been modified naturally too many times.

AIDEN

I meant the footprints.

NICK

Oh, right...

JOEY

So, the only thing left to do is to follow the trail.

LUKE

Yes. As soon as they get their hands on the treasure, Emily will be useless to them. We must hurry.

They continue their journey.

Nick spots strange ruins in the distance.

NICK

Look!

LUKE

The tracks should lead us there. I'm sure...

They continue in that direction, until they reach some tall columns. A large tree grew in the middle.

They hear some shouting.

NICK

What was that?

LUKE

I think we need to find out.

JOEY

Look, there's smoke over there.

Joey points to a large cloud of smoke dispersing in the sky.

LUKE

Let's keep going, those must be the Russians.

They keep going and arrive at the Russians' camp. They hide behind some plants and watch.

JOEY

Do you see what I see?

LUKE

Yes, I see it.

Emily is tied to a tree, muzzled. Next to her is Nikolai and Kira, along with a group of mercenaries. They are looking at an old MAP on a table, surrounded by explosives, guns and motorcycles.

AIDEN

How the hell did they get vehicles all the way out here?

LUKE

Who knows? They've got too much money invested in this search.

JOEY

So do we, but we walked for a day....

NICK

What do we do now?

LUKE

We need Emily to see us.

AIDEN

I have an idea. Joey, give me your watch.

JOEY

What for?

AIDEN

Just give it to me!

Joey hands it over and Aiden plays with the sun. He brings his REFLECTION up to Emily's eyes and she spots them.

LUKE

Perfect. She knows we're here. Now it's time to rescue her.

NICK

How are we gonna do that? There must be about thirty Russians there.

JOEY

And Nikolai and Kira are worth about thirty more each, so we'd be fighting against sixty men and thirty women with daggers.

AIDEN

What are they looking for on that map?

NICK

Is it possible that it's a map of this place?

LUKE

I don't think so Nick. They've never been here before, just like us.

AIDEN

Then who could have written it? It doesn't make sense.

NICK

But maybe we're not the first ones to make it here. Remember that before us there were the Templars and Bacon.

AIDEN

Besides, the manuscript is missing several pages, isn't it?

LUKE

Yes, that's right. They could have found the remaining pages.

NICK

Well, then we'll worry about the map. First we must find a way to save Emily.

JOEY

I thought of something, but it's kinda dangerous. Very, actually.

AIDEN

What?

JOEY

Well, there's boxes full of explosives, right?

LUKE

Yeah, so?

JOEY

We should boom them!

NICK

Joey? If you boom those boxes, Emily wouldn't be left alive.

AIDEN

We should come up with a plan, a real one...

LUKE

What if we cause a distraction?

JOEY

Like what?

AIDEN

The bikes! Joey and Nick take the motorcycles and start driving to get their attention.

LUKE

Meanwhile, we'll rescue Emily.

JOEY

Okay. Let's get to work.

Luke and Aiden sneak through the bushes and hide behind Emily. Joey and Nick hide behind the explosives.

NICK

You know how to start a vehicle without its key, don't you?

JOEY

No. Do you?

NICK

No...

JOEY

Great, great. This is gonna be fine.

NICK

We will need the keys then.

They notice two guards standing next to the motorcycles, with the keys in their vests.

NICK (CONT'D)

Well, big guy, it's your time.

JOEY

For what?

NICK

To take those two men down.

Joey smiles. He picks up a log and approaches the guards from behind. He raises his two arms and hits them with all his strength. They pass out.

JOEY

Yeah!

NICK

There you go!

They take the keys and get on the bikes. They start them up and ride off at full speed. They turn around and ride yelling through the middle of the camp.

**JOEY** 

(yelling)

Suck it, Nikolai!

The Russians watch as both motorcycles pass by, not understanding what is happening.

NIKOLAI

Get them!

They all chase after Joey and Nick on motorcycles. He and Kira stay behind searching.

LUKE

(whispering)

It's our turn.

They approach Emily and CUT the rope with their knives. She is free. They go back to take cover in the plants.

**EMILY** 

Oh, thank God!

AIDEN

Are you all right?

She hugs Aiden and, without thinking, kisses him.

LUKE

Guys, later! Let's get out of here!

**EMILY** 

Wait a second.

She sneaks up on Kira and Nikolai, approaching from behind.

AIDEN

What is she doing?!

LUKE

I have no idea...

AIDEN

Once we manage to rescue her, she gets into trouble again.

LUKE

She does...

AIDEN

That's because you raised her.

Nikolai walks away from the table towards some boxes, and Emily takes advantage and kicks Kira on her back. She GRABS THE MAP and runs over to Luke and Aiden.

EMILY

Let's go!

They run towards the jungle.

On the way they cross paths with Joey and Nick, almost bumping into each other.

JOEY

Are you gonna stay there?

Joey and Nick hold out their hands and the rest get on the bikes.

**EMILY** 

It's good to see you guys again.

We hear engines approaching.

LUKE

Well, what are you waiting for? Let's find a safe place.

NICK

Let's move!

They speed up and leave the place.

They reach a small CLEARING. They cover the bikes and sit down.

JOEY

I think we lost them.

LUKE

Emily? Show me the map.

She hands it to him.

NTCK

These are the missing pages of the manuscript!

AIDEN

Look! Here there are plains, forests, even small mountains...

NICK

This place is massive.

JOEY

Where do you think the treasure is?

AIDEN

Do we even know what the treasure looks like?

LUKE

No.

AIDEN

Oh, right.

It must be hidden in here.

Luke points to some ruins.

EMILY

I don't think so. I heard Nikolai and Kira talking about a secret place.

AIDEN

A secret place? Inside a cave thousands of miles beneath Israel and Jordan? Where its entrance is due to a master key that is placed to access a submerged city? I am sick.

**EMILY** 

Well, they called it "the place hidden in plain sight". That's what I heard.

JOEY

The place hidden in plain sight?

LUKE

What could it be?

NICK

Well, back then it was very common to send hidden messages in letters. For example, the letters could only be seen when the ink touched the water, or...

Nick stops talking.

EMILY

What Nick?

NICK

No, but that's not possible.

AIDEN

Nick! Say something!

NICK

I just, I don't know if what I'm thinking can be true or not. Emily, did they happen to have some kind of heat source illuminating the map?

EMILY

Yes! A candle.

NICK

Then it may be true. You see, since ancient times they have created messages invisible to the eye with liquids containing citric acid, for example, lemon.

JOEY

Did they write secret messages with lemon juice?

NICK

Exactly. But they can only be seen when there is a heat source in it, so a combustion is produced that leaves traces of carbon, which makes the letters go dark, making the hidden text visible.

LUKE

Then we must heat the map.

Nick nods and takes MATCHES out of his backpack. He begins to light underneath the map. As the light passes under the map, HIDDEN PATHS LEAD TO A WATERFALL.

**EMILY** 

(smiling)

The ex marks the spot, right?

LUKE

Of course it does.

CUT TO:

They reach the small waterfall in the middle of the jungle.

**EMILY** 

Is this the place?

NICK

No, we have to go a few more miles upriver. To the cliffs.

JOEY

I still can't get my clothes to dry, and you want me to swim again?

NICK

Yes.

JOEY

Great...

They leave the bikes and get into the knee-deep water.

NICK

This way! It won't be long now.

They arrive at the waterfall's source, over some cliffs. They inspect the place.

AIDEN

What is that?

Aiden points to the falling water.

JOEY

Water...

Aiden looks at him.

AIDEN

I mean what's behind, Joey....

We see some strange markings behind the water. They come closer, getting inside the OVERHANG WATERFALL.

**EMILY** 

What now?

NICK

Now, we find out what the rocks want to tell us.

JOEY

That's it. We lost him. He's talking to rocks.

AIDEN

Do you know what they are?

NICK

I think they're runes.

LUKE

And what do they mean?

NICK

Well, I recognize some of them. Several are in Old Norse, like these ones here, meaning "God", "water", "man" and "wealth". I don't know what the rest could mean.

NIKOLAI (O.C.)

Do you want me to translate it for you, Nick?

The group turns quickly, frightened. The Russians are on the other side of the water holding knifes, swords and assault rifles at them.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

The rest means "day", "journey" and "sun". And if you put them all together, you have the prophecy.

Everyone stares blankly.

LUKE

What are you talking about?!

NICK

Well, if Nick had explored the map properly, he'd realize that there are two hidden messages: one that shows you how to get here, and the other that explains every word of the prophecy.

NICK (CONT'D)

That's a lie! There was no such message!

KIRA

Then how do you explain what's written on the back of the map? Take a look for yourself!

Nick takes the map UPSIDE DOWN and lights it up again with matches. The  $\underline{\mbox{PROPHECY APPEARS}}.$ 

NICK

It is in Latin.

Emily takes the map and translates.

EMILY

"To reach eternal wealth, man will have to embark on a journey in the cursed day, crossing the waterfall of life until he reaches the Sun, where God will be waiting."

Everyone is stunned, without understanding anything.

NIKOLAI

Do you believe me now?

NICK

What does it mean?

NIKOLAI

Well, that's something I can't reveal.

(pause)

Get them!

Nikolai's men move in, still aiming at them. The team KNEELS DOWN, with no chance to fight, and their weapons are taken away.

CUT TO BLACK.

Nikolai, Kira and some mercenaries are by the cliffs, studying the runes. The team is on their knees in the water, far away without being able to hear what they are saying, with four men controlling them.

Nikolai looks annoyed.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

(shouting)

Bring him!

Kira approaches with a man and grabs Nick by the HAIR.

NICK

(yelling)

Ahhhhhhh!

JOEY

(yelling)

Let go of him!

They all point their guns at him.

KIRA

Keep your mouth shut or you'll have
a hole in your skull. Got it?

Joey nods and everyone lowers their guns. Kira continues on her way with the man dragging Nick.

As they reach Nikolai, they are seen talking and hitting him, trying to get him to do something for them. Nick stands next to them, and they begin to look at the runes.

**EMILY** 

(whispering)

Can anyone hear anything?

(whispering)

Nothing.

EMILY

(whispering)

I have an idea.

Emily starts to unroll the bandage from her hand very slowly, without the guards seeing her. In a few seconds, she jumps behind a guard and chokes him with her bandage. Joey, Nick and Aiden beat the rest, knocking them unconscious.

Nikolai notices and grabs Nick by the arm, but before he can hurt him, Emily grabs the assault rifle from one of the guards and shoots Nikolai in the arm. Nick pushes him off and runs to his team.

JOEY

(yelling)
Hurry up, Nick!

Nick is running at full speed while Kira and the rest are behind him.

AIDEN

Emily, shoot!

**EMILY** 

I don't have a clear shot! They're too close to Nick.

AIDEN

Damn it! Let's go!

They run towards Nick, to the center of the water. <u>ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE</u>.

CUT TO BLACK.

## A SERIES OF RHYTHMIC CUTS:

The metallic sounds of knives clashing and gunshots are heard from all sides. The water is  $\underline{\text{DYED RED}}$  and there are bodies floating.

**EMILY** 

Aiden!

Emily watches as two mercenaries HOLD AIDEN UNDERWATER, drowning him. She runs to help him, but a hitman cuts her off and struggles with her.

Joey sees Aiden and runs to help him. He grabs one of the guards by the head and snaps his neck. He grabs his gun and shoots the second one. Aiden stands up, coughing water.

JOEY

Are you okay?

AIDEN

(breathing hard)

I'll live...

They hear a lot of gunshots towards them. They close their eyes and when they open them they search for holes in their bodies, but there are none. They turn around and see a dead man falling into the water. Behind him is Emily with her gun in her hand.

**EMILY** 

You're welcome.

They see Luke fighting Nikolai by the waterfall, and on the other side of the river is Nick being chased by five men.

EMILY (CONT'D)

(shouting)

Nick! Run this way!

He listens and changes direction, moving closer and closer towards Emily.

She points her AK-47 rifle at Nick.

EMILY (CONT'D)

Nick! Dive!

Without thinking Nick jumps to the bottom of the water. She shoots the men, leaving their bodies in the water. Nick comes out of the water.

NICK

Thanks! I almost thought that...

He is interrupted by a bullet in his left arm.

JOEY

Nick!

Emily shoots the mercenary. Joey and Aiden run to help him.

JOEY (CONT'D)

You're gonna live, dudé!

NICK

I think I'm starting to hate this damn place.

AIDEN

Amen to that...

Everyone takes a breath and looks around. Kira is nowhere to be seen.

**EMILY** 

Joey, get Nick out of here.

JOEY

But...

**EMILY** 

Do it! Without his arm, Nick is dead. He will need someone to help him. Go to the entrance, we'll meet you there. Besides, someone has to stop the bleeding.

**JOEY** 

Okay. Good luck...

**EMILY** 

Aiden? You and I will go help Luke.

AIDEN

Let's go!

Joey and Nick run to the opposite side from Emily and Aiden.

Before they reach Luke, Emily and Aiden slow down. Kira STANDS IN THEIR WAY, looking at Emily with a smile. She has a knife in each hand.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Shoot her!

Emily grabs her gun and fires, but she has NO MORE BULLETS. Kira smiles and slowly walks towards them.

**EMILY** 

Fuck!

AIDEN

What do we do now?!

**EMILY** 

Aiden? Go!

AIDEN

There's no way I'm leaving you!

EMILY

Aiden! Look up ahead! Nikolai is about to slaughter your uncle!

They look over and see Luke being BRUTALLY BEATEN.

AIDEN

But...

**EMILY** 

Go! I can handle her.

She grabs her knives.

EMILY (CONT'D)

I'll distract her so you can get to him.

Aiden thinks for a moment and runs to a side, surrounding Kira.

Aiden walks away and watches as Emily and Kira FIGHT TO THE DEATH with their knives. He keeps running faster and faster until he trips over a body and falls into the water. As he gets up, he sees that the dead man is still holding a SWORD.

AIDEN

God, that's gross...

Aiden opens the body's fist and grabs his sword. He takes a look at it and keeps running towards his uncle.

When he reaches the ruins, Luke is passed out over some rocks, with a deep cut on his head. Nikolai holds his sword up, about to run him through. Aiden approaches from behind and puts the tip of his sword in his back.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Drop it!

Nikolai slowly drops his sword in the water and turns around. He looks Aiden straight in the eye and drops to his knees.

NIKOLAI

What are you gonna do boy? Are you gonna run me through? I thought you weren't a killer...

Aiden's hand SHAKES, hesitating.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

Are you really going to protect the man who abandoned you all your life?

Aiden looks at him, not knowing what to do. Luke opens his eyes.

NIKOLAI (CONT'D)

He abandoned you Aiden! He left you behind because he thinks you're a burden!

AIDEN

Shut up!

Nikolai, stealthily, takes his sword again and clashes with Aiden's sword. He stands up.

NIKOLAI

No mother, no father... Where was your uncle all this time? He never did anything for you...

AIDEN

You know what? You're absolutely right... But there is something he did do for me.

(smile)

He paid my fencing classes!

Aiden fights Nikolai, CLASHING swords very fast, going back and forward.

Luke tries to sit up, but he's dizzy. He puts his hand on his wound and sees it full of blood.

Nikolai throws a strike and Aiden blocks it and kicks him in his chest.

Luke manages to stand up and  $\underline{\text{LEANS HIS BLOODY HAND ON THE}}$  RUNES.

Nikolai backs up and Aiden hits him in the head with the hilt. Nikolai falls into the water.

Aiden looks back to Emily, just as Kira drives her dagger into Emily's abdomen.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

(screaming)

Noooo!

Aiden tries to run towards her but Nikolai grabs him and pushes him away. He swings his sword and cuts Aiden's hand. He drops his sword.

## THE WATER BEGINS TO MOVE TOWARDS THE CENTER.

Nikolai brings his sword to Aiden's throat.

NIKOLAI

What now, boy?

AIDEN

(pause)

Now you'll die.

Luke picks up a big rock and hits him in the head. Nikolai falls to the ground.

LUKE

Glad to see me?

NIKOLAI

You never die, do you?

LUKE

Not as long as you live.

Luke takes Aiden's sword and points it at Nikolai.

KIRA

Back off!

They turn around and Kira holds Emily with a knife at her throat.

LUKE

Emily!

**EMILY** 

Luke, kill him!

KIRA

Drop the sword!

EMILY

Go through him!

AIDEN

Uncle, drop the sword!

THE WATER RUNS WITH MORE FORCE and speed, forming a WHIRLPOOL in the center.

What the ...?

AIDEN

Luke? What's happening?

LUKE

I have no idea...

Everyone looks at the whirlpool, not understanding what's going on.

Emily takes advantage of the situation and hits Kira's face with her head and runs towards Luke and Aiden.

AIDEN

Look!

Aiden points towards Joey and Nick, standing at the water's edge in the distance, waving his arms for them to see.

The water rushes forward with greater force, almost dragging them down. Luke, Aiden and Emily hold hands.

**EMILY** 

Nick! Joey! Find something to get us out of here!

They nodded and went deeper into the jungle.

The water washes everyone away. Luke HOLDS ON TO A ROCK, and Emily and Aiden to it. The water DRAGS NIKOLAI AND KIRA to the bottom of the whirlpool and disappears.

Joey and Nick get into the water holding on to a vine.

AIDEN

Hurry!

Joey holds out his hand. He is inches away from Luke, but the VINE CUTS OFF and the WHIRLPOOL SWALLOWS JOEY AND NICK.

**EMILY** 

(screaming)

Nooo!

The whirlpool gets more and more INTENSE.

LUKE

(scared)

Guys! I'm slipping!

AIDEN

Whatever happens, hold on!

Luke slips and the WHIRLPOOL SWALLOWS THEM to the bottom as well.

CUT TO BLACK.

The current drags them and makes them spin around in the water, causing them to let go of each other's hands.

The water calms down and the WHIRLPOOL DISAPPEARS. They can't hold their breath any longer so they swim as fast as they can to the SURFACE.

They are breathing heavily, gasping for air. Only Luke, Emily and Aiden are seen floating in a vast amount of very deep water. It looks like an ocean. Land is visible in the distance.

AIDEN (CONT'D)

Where the hell are we?!

LUKE

I don't know! Swim to shore!

Everyone swims and reaches the shore. There is fog everywhere and a path.

They catch their breath.

Emily brings her hand to her wound.

AIDEN

Emily!

EMILY

I'm fine, it's just a scratch.

LUKE

Let me see it.

She pulls her hand out and there's a deep cut and a lot of blood.

LUKE (CONT'D)

We must get you help.

AIDEN

But where? We don't even know where we are.

LUKE

Can you walk?

EMILY

(with difficulty)

Yeah...

LUKE

Okay. Let's follow this path and see where it takes us. Hopefully we can find a doctor.

Aiden and Luke grab Emily, each on one side, and help her walk down the trail.

CUT TO:

EXT. MEDIEVAL VILLAGE - AFTERNOON

They come to a small, medieval-looking village.

They sit Emily on a wooden box and walk over to the locals. They stop a lady dressed in rags with a basket in her hands.

LUKE

Excuse me, do you know of a hospital near by?

WOMAN

(confused)

Hospital?

LUKE

Yes, we need a doctor.

WOMAN

Oh! I see. I'm sorry. We don't have any healers in this place.

AIDEN

Are you kidding? We need a doctor now or she could die!

WOMAN

(pointing to)

You can talk to that man over there.

(whispering)

I'm sure he can give you some potion for a good price.

LUKE

That kid?

He points to a boy asleep on the ground, surrounded by chickens.

WOMAN

Yes, but don't tell him it was me who gave you the information! He's threatened to turn me into a crow before...

LUKE

Ma'am? Where are we?

WOMAN

In Loarre.

LUKE

(with laughter)

Excuse me, for a moment I thought you said Loarre...

WOMEN

That's what I said...

LUKE

Loarre, as in Aragon Kingdom?

WOMAN

That's the one.

The lady leaves. Luke remains paralyzed, not knowing what to say.

AIDEN

Luke, what's wrong?

LUKE

But a few minutes ago we were in Jerusalem. That's impossible...

AIDEN

What is Loarre?

LUKE

It's a small place in Spain.

AIDEN

Wow, I didn't think the cave was that long...

LUKE

No, Aiden, you don't understand... The cave is not that long...

AIDEN

So how do we get to Spain?

That's the problem... We are not only in Spain, we are in Aragon's Kingdom, in 1291...

CUT TO BLACK.