

Sidney Mills: Wonders of the Sea

written by

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First Draft

INT. CAPTAIN PIKE'S QUARTERS - DAY

Close-up shot of an aqua-colored landscape that looks like an ocean. Zoom out, and we see that it's an aqua-colored shimmery ore on the table of CAPTAIN PIKE's quarters (charismatic, short, bearded, pirate captain). The captain reaches for the ore and twiddles it in his fingers. A man across from him called QUARTERMASTER BURNES (tall, slim) is skeptical about the ore.

CAPTAIN PIKE

This right here... will change everything.

QUARTERMASTER BURNES

Aye, captain, I don't doubt your intelligence. However, this wee rock doesn't look like it possesses magic powers.

(beat)

Are you sure you want to trust what that old hag at the port said?

The captain puts the ore in his inner coat pocket and looks at the quartermaster intensely while tapping at his pocket.

CAPTAIN PIKE

Aye, I believe it. Since I got a hold of this darn thing, I've been compelled to go after the Rocky Isles. That's where I lost my brother, and since I got this darn thing, I've been getting dreams of continuing his voyage. There's something out there. I just know it. Since I got this darn thing, I'm certain more rocks like this are out there.

(Burnes is rolling his eyes)

That's where my dreams are leading me. And sinc-

QUARTERMASTER BURNES

Since you got that darn thing, we've stopped going after easy loot that passes us by. Our men won't be as understanding about your great quest as I am, cap'n. Why don't we sail here,

(points at a place on the map that's on the desk)

(MORE)

QUARTERMASTER BURNES (CONT'D)

Looting from oriental waters will
make the trip seem worth it to the
crew.

The captain sits in his chair behind the desk as he ponders
this suggestion. Then growls in approval.

EXT. CAPTAIN PIKE PIRATE SHIP DECK - DAY

SIDNEY MILLS (15, a bubbly teenage boy(?), clumsy) and JOHNNY
MILLS (18, fit, self-assured, confident) are mopping the deck
while the rest of the pirates around them are stressed and
yelling complaints.

PIRATE 1

I came here to get rich! We passed
so many merchant ships, is the
captain afraid or something 'cause
it's getting on my dang nerves!

PIRATE 2 (KILLER)

I came to kill some bloody cowards.
I'll be damned if the cap'n passes
up the next ship.
(bangs swords together)

PIRATE 3 (JIM)

We all know that's not the truth,
KILLER.

The other pirates begin to chuckle.

PIRATE 4

JIM's right! Killer, you just wanna
get back to ya lady friend at the
port don'tcha?

The pirates begin to holler. Sidney and Johnny, who are
watching the conversation, give each other a curious look.

KILLER

You all laughin' now but she was
the most majestic thing on that
shoddy island.
(points his sword at
everyone laughing)

JIM

If that's so, then why was a fine
lass like that not already tied
down?

KILLER

(gives a sinister smirk)
I don't ask the ladies I want if
they're already taken. If I want
her, I'll just take her for meself.
I'm a pirate, after all, am I not?

Sidney and Johnny look at each other eerily. Sidney gets scared and puts her bandana down on her head. Johnny mops a little closer to her and says in a low voice.

JOHNNY

You don't gotta be scared, Sid.
I'll protect you, always. You just
have to lay low and keep your
identity a secret.

Killer is smirking at all the men hollering at his story until his sight lands on Johnny and Sidney whispering to each other. He narrows his eyes at them.

KILLER

Hey, you two!

SIDNEY

Eep!

Johnny stands at attention while Sidney gets frightened.

JOHNNY

Yes sir!

KILLER

What're you two whispering on about
over there? You don't think I'm
funny, is that it?

JOHNNY

No sir, we're just cabin boys
mopping the deck, sir!

Killer gives Johnny a look and then looks at Sidney standing next to him. He gives her a look over from head to toe. She's standing in an awkward, unconfident, and dorky position with both feet pointing towards each other and bent knees.

KILLER

Ah, that's good. Why don't you twos
join our little conversation then?

Killer walks behind the two of them and puts his arms around their shoulders. He glares at Johnny on his right, their faces inches apart.

JOHNNY

Well- we, uh, have some chores to do-

Suddenly, Sidney is jolted forward by Killer's pat on their back. Sidney stumbles and is pushed into the center of the rowdy pirates.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Sid!

Johnny jerks forward to follow Sidney into the crowd, but Killer pulls him backward.

KILLER

(growls)

Where do ya think you're going, runt?

Now in the middle, Sid looks like prey surrounded by many predators. Johnny sneers and gets nervous as he watches.

PIRATE 4

Next port we make it to, we're doing you a real big favor-

PIRATE 5

We're gonna get you a lass to fall in love with.

Johnny grimaces. Sidney, who is now in the center of all the pirates' attention, is sweating buckets.

SIDNEY

(wheezes out in a feminine voice)

'Preciate you looking out for me.

(clears her throat with a cough and begins to sound more masculine)

But I'm not interested.

Sidney steps backward.

PIRATE 6 (JACK)

Why not?

A deep voice exudes from behind Sidney. Standing behind her is JACK (buff, 30's, bearded, intimidating), the alpha among the pirates. Sidney is left speechless as JACK now blocks her exit, and the pirates begin to huddle around her.

Johnny steps in to defend his sister, his overprotective nature overshadowing his fear of the intimidating group surrounding him.

JOHNNY

This isn't an interrogation cell,
okay? Just leave him alone. We
minded our own business.

SIDNEY

(low voice)
I can take care of myself.

KILLER

Aye, listen to the lad your brother
can take care of himself!

The pirates gather in closer, encompassing Johnny and Sidney like a pack of feral dogs.

Sidney steps backward and steps on the broom.

The broom hits the ropes, causing a sandbag to hit a plank. This causes a bucket situated on the plank to catapult into the air, landing on her head. Sidney is now soaked in water.

The pirates erupt in laughter. Johnny grips Sidney's shoulder.

JOHNNY

(whispering)
I told you to keep a low profile,
didn't I?

Sidney shrugs Johnny off and storms off to get changed.

SIDNEY

I'm going to change. Please leave
me alone.

Jack looks at Sidney with a scary glint in his eye.

JACK

(to Johnny)
Clean this up!

Johnny picks up a mop and begins wiping up the water spilled. Jack and Sidney exit, Johnny not noticing.

JOHNNY
 (mumbling to himself)
 I told Sidney to keep a low
 profile, and what does she do? Make
 a fool of--makes a mess.

Johnny looks up, and Jack is gone. Johnny looks around.
 Sidney shrieks, offscreen. Johnny runs in the direction of
 the shrieking.

INT. CAPTAIN PIKE'S SHIP/CABIN - DAY

Jack is standing in front of the door, Sidney is standing
 with a bandaged torso, clutching a thin jacket. It is obvious
 that Sidney is a girl.

JACK
 You--you're a lass?

Sidney stumbles in her speech, unable to answer. She is
 paralyzed in fear.

Johnny enters, crashing into the cabin, barely having a
 handle over his foot movement.

JOHNNY
 Sidney!

Johnny attempts to restrain Jack away from Sidney. Jack
 pushes Johnny away, causing him to hit the wall then fall.

Jack snatches the bandana off of Sidney, revealing her female
 identity. He drags her by Hair out of the cabin.

EXT. CAPTAIN PIKE PIRATE SHIP DECK - DAY

Jack drags Sidney onto the deck before the rest of the crew.
 A commotion erupts due to her true identity being revealed.

SIDNEY
 (shouting)
 Johnny! Help!

Johnny enters the deck but is restrained by two crew members,
 Killer and Jim. Captain Pike arrives on the deck and chuckles
 with crossed arms.

CAPTAIN PIKE
 What do we have here?

PIRATE 1
 A girl.

Pirate #2 whistles.

KILLER

She's no princess, but she's still female.

Johnny attempts to strike Killer but is unsuccessful, due to his restraints.

CAPTAIN PIKE

That's enough, boys.

The crew continues to chatter amongst themselves.

CAPTAIN PIKE (CONT'D)

(shouting)

I said, that's enough!

The crew obeys their captain, discontinuing their conversations completely.

CAPTAIN PIKE (CONT'D)

Until I figure out what to do with her, she stays in the cell. Man or woman, liars, don't have happy endings on my ship.

The crew chatters in agreement.

JOHNNY

You better not touch her. You just leave her alone!

JACK

Who's gonna make us, Sunshine? You?

Quartermaster Burnes whispers into Captain Pike's ear.

CAPTAIN PIKE

(to Quartermaster Burnes)

A duel?

Quartermaster Burnes nods his head.

QUARtermaster BURNES

(to Captain Pike)

It's the only way to deal with her.

Captain Pike clears his throat.

CAPTAIN PIKE

Attention all! I have decided that a duel is required to release the lying lass.

JOHNNY
 (gasps in shock)
 It's not her fault!

CAPTAIN PIKE
 Exactly right, boyo. You and Jack
 will cross swords.

Jack grins like a feral animal.

JOHNNY
 And if I win?

Captain Pike and the rest of the crew laugh.

CAPTAIN PIKE
 If you win, not only will I be
 shocked, but you and your sister
 will be spared.

Johnny swallows.

JOHNNY
 And if I lose?

SIDNEY
 Johnny, no!

CAPTAIN PIKE
 You'll both be chum.

SIDNEY
 Don't do it, Johnny! Please! I beg
 you, don't do it!

JOHNNY
 (to Sidney)
 I don't have any other option.

Sidney shuts her eyes, distraught.

EXT. CAPTAIN PIKE PIRATE SHIP DECK - HIGH NOON

Captain Pike and Quartermaster Burnes emerge from the crowd walking towards a circle drawn in chalk. Inside the circle are Jack and Johnny, both wielding swords.

CAPTAIN PIKE
 You step even a mouse whisker
 outside this circle, and you're
 out.
 (to Johnny)
 Consider yourself dead.

Johnny's face remains stoic.

QUARTERMASTER BURNES
 Raise your swords in the air.
 (takes out a gun)
 Once I fire, you start. Does
 everybody understand?

Johnny nods.

JACK
 Let's get started.

Quartermaster Burnes shoots the gun into the air, he and
 Captain Pike retreat into the crowd.

Jack and Johnny hit each other's swords.

INT. CAPTAIN PIKE'S SHIP/CELL - HIGH NOON

SIDNEY
 (screaming)
 Johnny! Johnny!

Sidney kicks the door with great force.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
 (screaming)
 Johnny! Can you hear me? Johnny!

Sidney slams her body against the door so much that she
 bounces back against the wall.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
 (screaming)
 Johnny, can you hear me?! Johnny!
 (whimpering)
 Johnny.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
 (softly)
 I need you.

INSERT FLASHBACK:

EXT. BOAT - FLASHBACK

Five years ago, Johnny, Sidney, and their late father,
 GEORGE, are on a boat out at sea. He is teaching his children
 to fish.

GEORGE

Lower your rode below, relax your
shoulders, and close your eyes.
Become one with the ocean.

Johnny closes his eyes.

JOHNNY

Become one with the ocean.

Johnny lowers his rod into the ocean.

George turns to Sidney.

GEORGE

Give it a try, sweetheart.

Sidney nods her head.

SIDNEY

Become one with the ocean.

Sidney closes her eyes then lowers her rod into the ocean.

Johnny's rod begins tugging. A sizeable fish is grabbing onto
the bait. Johnny opens his eyes and grins.

JOHNNY

It's a fish! I think I caught one!

GEORGE

Great! Now lift and reel her in!

Johnny lifts and reels the fish in. George looks at his son
with pride as Sidney looks at her brother with confusion. The
fish lands onto the deck, writhing.

George, Johnny, and Sidney cheer.

SIDNEY

What's wrong with my rod?

GEORGE

Nothing, you just have to patient.

George looks over at Johnny. He makes eyes at him,
encouraging him to help his sister.

JOHNNY

Hey Sidney, let me show you
something.

Johnny guides her hands over the rod, lowering it further. A
fish begins to tug on the end of Sidney's rod.

Sidney squeals.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
That's it! That's the idea! Now
real her in!

Sidney reels the fish in, smaller than Johnny's, but an accomplishment nonetheless.

GEORGE
Good job, Sidney!

JOHNNY
Yeah, she's going to be great over
a fire.

Sidney grins, ear to ear.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. CAPTAIN PIKE'S SHIP/CELL - NIGHT

Sidney is still curled up in the corner of the cell.

SIDNEY
(softly to herself)
Johnny.

INT. CAPTAIN PIKE'S SHIP/CELL - LATER

A slither of moonlight illuminates Sidney's still body. Her eyes are drained, and her mouth is slightly parted.

SIDNEY
(groggy)
Where are you?

Sidney hears footsteps and lifts her head in disbelief.

Johnny is by her side, his white shirt soaked with blood.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
(with excitement)
Johnny? Is that you?

Sidney lifts her body.

Johnny kneels and embraces Sidney. Their hug is long and warm. They both close their eyes.

JOHNNY
I'm so sorry, Sidney.

SIDNEY

For what? I'm just glad you're
alive.

JOHNNY

I should have never let you work
here.

SIDNEY

It's okay. I just wanted to be with
you.

Johnny shakes his head.

JOHNNY

I'm a terrible big brother.

Sidney nestles her face into Johnny's chest.

INT. MEAL ROOM - NIGHT

Captain Pike, Quartermaster Burnes, Jack, Killer, Jim, and
the rest of the crew are drinking ale and celebrating.

KILLER

Aye, we got a lass on board!

Killer and three other pirates toast with their goblets of
ale. They sing a vulgar sea shanty in their drunken state.

All cheer.

EXT. HARBOR - DAWN

Fog is blanketing the harbor. The morning mist is blinding
the rising sun and ocean. A large black ship with dragon wing
sails emerges in the distance.

INT. MEAL ROOM - DAWN

Many pirates are slumped on the table while others are
staring off into the distance, drunk out of their minds.

A dockworker bursts into the pub.

DOCKWORKER

(shouting)

Ship! Ship!

Captain Pike shakes his head, regaining consciousness, then looks over at the ship through the window. He SEES Chinese letters on their flag.

CAPTAIN PIKE
Orientals! It's a ship of
Orientals!

All of the unconscious pirates are now awake, attempting to make sense of their Captain's shouting.

QUARTERMASTER BURNES
(to the Captain)
It's like what the shaman said on
the island. They're the guardians
of its secret. They won't let us
live if they know we know about the
ore.

Captain Pike bangs his fist onto the table.

CAPTAIN PIKE
Prepare for battle, men!

EXT. CAPTAIN PIKE PIRATE SHIP DECK - DAWN

The morning fog remains thick, blanketing both Captain Pike's less superior ship and the much bigger black ship.

Captain Pike's crew sees a glowing bright, teal eye shining through the mist. There's a pause as the crew is mesmerized by the sight. Suddenly, the one bright teal eye becomes hundreds, and now they are terrified. The silhouette of the pirates on the black ship is also outlined.

The black ship begins to bridge with theirs.

A horn can be heard in the distance, and several warriors' cries as they begin to jump on the ship. The crew begins to fight against the Mongolian/Chinese pirates, screaming and slashing their weapons haphazardly.

The Mongolian/Chinese pirates are bigger, faster, and more athletically built than the British pirates.

These Eastern strangers are killing many crew members, eyes rolling back, swords being plunged into their hearts, blood painting the wood.

A pirate stabs Killer in the chest then thrusts him overboard, his body catapulted into the water below.

CAPTAIN PIKE

Burnes! Burnes, where are you?

Out of the corner of Captain Pike's eye, he sees Quartermaster Burnes dead, covered in blood and motionless. The Captain's eyes widen with alarm, his heart races.

A buff Mongolian pirate takes his sword out and points it at the Captain's neck.

The Mongolian pirate backs Captain Pike into the corner, his back ultimately facing the vast and unpredictable ocean.

CAPTAIN PIKE (CONT'D)

Let me speak to your captain.

CAPTAIN LI-NA, the charismatic leader of the Mongolian pirates, wounds Jack, the crew's final member. Jack's body thumps against the deck. We ZOOM into her eyes.

Captain Li-Na tosses a compass to QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI, a kindhearted but practical man.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei, compass in hand, goes below deck presumably following its directions.

Captain Li-Na walks over to Captain Pike, who is quivering, fearing for his life.

Captain Pike stares at Li-Na's glowing teal eye.

CAPTAIN PIKE (CONT'D)

So it's true.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Captain. How would you like to die?

CAPTAIN PIKE

(screaming)

No! I won't die! I'm too close to finding out everything.

Captain Pike takes out a dagger. Before raising it above his hip Captain Li-Na kicks the dagger out of his grasp and stabs him fatally in the chest. When Captain Pike's body hits the deck, the ocean ore falls out of his pocket, his eye looks through the ore, through it we SEE Sidney and Johnny being carried out by the lieutenant.

JOHNNY AND SIDNEY

(screaming)

Let us go!

Captain Pike sees something shocking through the ore and gasps one last breath, then dies. His corpse frozen on the bloodstained deck.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAWN

Sidney and Johnny who were previously below deck in a cell, are carried onto the black ship by two of its muscular crew members, who have a tight grip on their writhing bodies.

Sidney LOOKS back at Captain Pike's ship, a floating wooden graveyard littered with bloodstained corpses.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELLAR - MORNING

Sidney and Johnny are tied up and sitting in the cellar corner.

Sidney groans then throws her head back.

SIDNEY

Great! Locked up again, only this time we know our captors even less.

JOHNNY

I've never seen people like them before.

SIDNEY

Me neither, I don't know what they're like.

Sidney smiles at Johnny.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

At least we're together.

JOHNNY

Well, that's enough. We don't know anything about these people, our fate is completely in strangers' hands.

SIDNEY

Captain Pike and Quartermaster Burnes weren't exactly our neighbors. God rest their souls.

JOHNNY

Well, at least we knew them long enough to figure out their motives and personalities.

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Judging by how these people seized us, they are goal-orientated and greedy.

SIDNEY

Greedy? What do you think they want?

JOHNNY

I don't know, but something our ship has or had.

SIDNEY

What if they kill us like they did our last ship?

JOHNNY

If they wanted us dead, we would have been dead. These people have something else in mind. Whatever it is, I don't want to be around for it. We need to get out of here.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - MORNING

Captain Li-Na, Quartermaster Wang-Zei, FIRST MATE TOMORBATAR (a brash and straightforward man), and other members of the black ship's crew are standing around for a meeting.

QUARTEMASTER WANG-ZEI

Captain, I think we should allow the boy to live at least until we get to the sea demon.

TOMORBATAR

Slaying him will not help us. It's not enough.

Tomorbatar stomps over to Quartermaster Wang-Zei and grabs the compass from his grasp.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)

He's jamming the compass and ruining our chances to find the bigger ones.

Captain Li-Na and Quartermaster Wang-Zei exchange glances.

QUARTEMASTER WANG-ZEI

(softer)

You know, if we keep them together, their bond will strengthen.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 No, he dies now. We'll find another
 to capture.

The crew turns their heads between Captain Li-Na and
 Quartermaster Wang-Zei.

Tomorbatar sighs.

TOMORBATAR
 Captain, I agree with the
 quartermaster. He has a point. We
 could make this work.

Captain Li-Na looks at the quartermaster and first mate. She
 sighs.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 Alright.
 (to the crew)
 Men, the children will stay aboard
 our ship. No one is to make any
 comment about our plan to the girl.
 Anyone who defies this rule will be
 severely punished, and most
 importantly, we will be going after
 the sea demon once more.

CREW (O.S.)
 Hurray!

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELLAR - MORNING

CREW (O.S.)
 Hurray!

Sidney whimpers.

JOHNNY
 What's wrong, Sidney?

SIDNEY
 Do you hear that?

JOHNNY
 Sure, they're cheering. Pirates
 always scream "hurray" or "cheers."
 It's what they do.

SIDNEY
 I think they're going to eat us.

JOHNNY

Eat us?

Sidney whimpers.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

They're not going to eat us. They don't eat people.

SIDNEY

How do we know that for sure? We know nothing about these people.

JOHNNY

I'm pretty sure they're not cannibals. They don't seem like savages; they seem like sophisticated but menacing people.

SIDNEY

I don't want to die.

JOHNNY

You're not going to die, Sidney. Now stop whining so I can figure out a way to get out of here.

SIDNEY

We better do it soon.
(mutters)
Before they eat us.

The door slams open, Tomorbatar enters, standing as a strange menacing character before Johnny and Sidney.

Johnny and Sidney scream at the top of their lungs.

TOMORBATAR

(growling)
Stop!

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Johnny and Sidney are standing on the deck with mops and buckets by their side.

TOMORBATAR

If you value your life, you will clean the deck, and I mean spotless! If I see a spec of dirt, both of you are history. Understand?

JOHNNY AND SIDNEY

Yes.

TOMORBATAR

Good. What did they call you on your last ship?

JOHNNY

Johnny.

Sidney looks less confident in saying her name.

SIDNEY

Sid.

Tomorbatar nods. Johnny glances at Sidney.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - DAY

The captain and quartermaster are seated across from each other. Between them is a well-worn map.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks out the porthole at the mass ocean their ship is navigating.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

The sea can be such a beautiful and unpredictable place.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I don't find it unpredictable at all. You should find what you're looking for if you navigate it correctly. Eventually.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei smirks.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

Somedays, I feel like we're never going to see our home again.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Don't say that, Wang-Zei. We will be home soon. I promise.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

The sea is keeping our loved ones from us. She taunts us every day.

Captain Li-Na gets up from her seat and walks over to the porthole. She looks out of it.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

That British ship better have not
been a waste of time, Li-Na.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Of course it wasn't. It had exactly
what we were looking for.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Sidney is mopping the deck. Without her knowledge, Captain
Li-Na is approaching from behind.

The captain checks the barrels of food taken from Captain
Pike's ship.

Before the captain can say anything, Sidney accidentally hits
her in the face with the end of the broom.

Captain Li-Na winces.

Tomorbatar looks over, face covered in dread.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Sidney leans her mop against a pole. In an effort to do so,
she accidentally kicks over a bucket of water.

The bucket of water spills, and an incoming crewmate, holding
a barrel of fish, slips, and falls.

The barrel of fish flies into the air, one of them landing on
Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar.

Sidney blushes, embarrassed and disappointed in herself.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

TOMORBATAR

Let's see if the two of you monkeys
can handle rigging duties.

JOHNNY

I'm sure two monkeys will do a
better job.

Tomorbatar glares at Johnny then exits.

Johnny tugs at one of the ropes, Sidney follows.

Sidney tugs at the rope so hard that it sends her flying into the air.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
(screaming)
Sidney!

Tomorbatar enters running then looks up at Sidney.

TOMORBATAR
(gruff)
What happened here?

On her way up into the air, Sidney hits Captain Li-Na, almost knocking her into the ocean below. The captain saves herself by grasping onto the edge of the ship.

Tomorbatar looks over at the captain, struggling to hold on.

Tomorbatar runs over to Captain Li-Na and grabs her, pulling her back onto the deck.

Sidney is extremely flustered when the two look at her from below.

SIDNEY
I don't know why I'm so clumsy
lately. I'm usually a good worker.

Tomorbatar and Captain Li-Na glare at Sidney.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Johnny and Sidney are standing by Tomorbatar.

TOMORBATAR
What is something the two of you
can't ruin?

Johnny and Sidney look over at the ship's wheel, Tomorbatar looks at them looking at the wheel.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)
Oh no, you don't! You two aren't
going anywhere near that wheel!

Tomorbatar pushes Johnny and Sidney towards the food cargo.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)
You guys are counting inventory.

END MONTAGE.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Quartermaster Wang-Zei approaches Sidney and Johnny.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Come with me. You must familiarize
yourselves with this ship. It is
your first day, after all.

SIDNEY
But Tomorbatar may be upset with us
if we left.

JOHNNY
Yeah. He gave us this job.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
I outrank him. He's only a first
mate. I'm a quartermaster. He can
deal with me. You need an afternoon
off from chores.

Sidney and Johnny look at each other.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)
Don't cause any trouble when I give
you a tour. But, I don't think you
will. I don't see you as hostages
or prisoners. I see you as good
luck charms.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - DAY

Sidney peaks into the forgery she sees XIU (a petite woman
working in the forgery) for the first time. Xiu is working
away wearing goggles and a hood.

Xiu picks up her scissor tongs.

Sidney jumps back, frightened.

Sidney looks over at the knick-knacks on the table, the ones
Xiu built. Sidney inches in.

SIDNEY
Those are really cool. I love stuff
like that. I used to collect a
bunch when I was a kid. I still am
a kid, but you know what I mean.

Xiu grunts, annoyed, she continues working.

XIU

I appreciate the flattery, but I am on the brink of discovering a new theory. Imagine spirits burned by fire!

Sidney exits.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Johnny evaluates the sails; he is very fascinated with them. His eyes are taking in everything.

Johnny runs his fingers along the ropes and looks at the gears intently.

HAI (a chubby crew mate around Johnny's age, that appears friendly) enters.

HAI

Interesting stuff, right?

JOHNNY

Yes. It fascinates me so much.

HAI

I know a thing or two about it. I could show you around. My name's Hai, by the way.

Johnny smiles at Hai.

JOHNNY

Johnny. The right rope combination can create a beautiful glide in the ocean.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Watch this.

Johnny moves the rope around.

HAI

Hey, don't touch that.

The boat sails nicer. Hai smiles.

HAI (CONT'D)

That was impressive.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Tomorbatar is making fun of some crewmates, Sidney looks on.

Tomorbatar and Zhang sword fight playfully, Tomorbatar wins.

Bao takes the sword and fights Tomorbatar playfully. The fight ends in a draw.

Tomorbatar looks over and sees Sidney.

Captain Li-Na enters, drunk. She wobbles around, holding the bottle.

The crew looks on and laughs.

BAO
Fight with us, Li-Na!

Captain Li-Na waves them away.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Go! Get to work!

Captain Li-Na burps in Sidney's face.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
You're Sid no more. On this ship,
you are Sidney. No one can hide
anything from me on this ship.

SIDNEY
(confused)
Yes, Captain.

Sidney is repulsed and scrunches her face up. The crew laughs.

TOMORBATAR
(yelling)
Sidney, Johnny, get back to work!
You heard the captain!

Captain Li-Na exits to her cabin.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CORRIDOR - DAY

Quartermaster Wang-Zei walks down the corridor.

The black ship's COOK, emerges from the cabin.

The quartermaster and the cook look at each other, awkwardly and longingly.

The cook cracks a smile.

COOK
She's not in the best mood. Good
luck.

The quartermaster enters the cabin as the cook exits down the kitchen corridor.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - DAY

Captain Li-Na lets out a furious and deep growl. She is severely frustrated.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters cautiously while observing the captain's body language.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
Are they giving you a hard time?

Captain Li-Na sighs.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
They're such a bother. I saw them
lounging around.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei shakes his head.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
I suppose I'm responsible for that.
I allowed them to take a break.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
They're disasters! Both of them!
They can't even mop a lousy deck.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
It takes time for kids to adapt.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
I was never so foolish as a child.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
I imagine you were always a unique
individual.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
My main concern is them slowing us
down. If their shenanigans get in
the way of our mission, we're going
to have to get rid of them!

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
You know we can't do that.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
(frustrated)
I know! You don't have to remind me, Wang-Zei. That sea demon isn't going to fight itself.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
I hate to say it--

CAPTAIN LI-NA
(interrupting)
Then don't.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei sighs; he is growing impatient with Li-Na's callous attitude.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Our good fortune will strengthen if we encourage the girl and the boy to grow closer.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
From what I gathered, they're thick as thieves. The boy has even told his sister to go under a more masculine sounding name. He cares for her safety deeply.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
You know what I'm trying to say. We must do all things necessary to inspire them to stick together. No division; they must mop, clean, walk and do everything together.

Captain Li-Na scoffs then puts her hands in her pockets.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)
So when the time comes -- you know -- when the boy must 'go,' our good fortune will--

CAPTAIN LI-NA
(interrupting)
Yes. Yes. I know. The girl will be devastated, no doubt.
(voice softening)
Her grief will consume her, then eat her whole.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
Grief is inevitable. Death is
inevitable. And what follows death
is grief.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
(ignoring the
quartermaster)
Love comes in many forms. Some of
it is given to us from birth, like
the love for a parent or sibling,
then some of it we have to work
for, like a pet or a friend or a
husband. The love given to us is
the worst type.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
Why is that?

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Because when it's taken away, it
can't be given back.

Silence cloaks the room like a seaside rainstorm.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei surveys the room and spots ale in the
corner, the bottle is almost gone.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei observes Captain Li-Na. As she looks
off to the distance, a tear falls from her eye.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
(firmly)
Stop drinking and pull yourself
together. If you have second
thoughts, let me remind you that
our plan will be in jeopardy.

Captain Li-Na hardens her stare then directs it at the
quartermaster.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Remember who you're speaking to.
I'm still the captain. Not you.

The captain and the quartermaster stare at each other.

The compass on the captain's desk begins to glow,
illuminating a brilliant teal aura. The captain and
quartermaster direct their eyes to it.

The compass begins to shake, the captain and quartermaster
look at each other.

They look back down at the compass. As they do this, the boat begins to rock.

The captain and quartermaster look at each other once again.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

JOHNNY
Two doubloons.

SIDNEY
What are you on about?

JOHNNY
I bet you two doubloons that something catastrophically terrible has happened or is about to happen.

SIDNEY
You don't have two doubloons. Besides, they could be celebrating?

Johnny looks at Sidney critically.

Sidney sighs.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
I know. At least we'll die together.

The boat rocks back and forth amongst the restless waves. Above the sky is being painted gray.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Johnny and Sidney enter, running.

The pair stop. The boat is becoming too unstable to stand on. As a result, the two of them fall to the ground and hold onto nets around them.

The waves crash violently. The wind picks up and rocks the boat like a light piece of plywood. The sails flap in the wind.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na and Quartermaster Wang-Zei enter from the cabin, their monocles omitting a brilliant teal.

The two stop and stare at the reptilian creature emerging from the waves. Its tentacles move around like an octopus's.

Tomorbatar enters.

TOMORBATAR

Let's not make any mistakes.

Captain Li-Na looks down at her ring, illuminating teal from the stone. The quartermaster, first mate, and the remainder of the crew are all equipped with this ring.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The crew is equipped with weapons that match their rings. These weapons are made of ocean ore, a teal gem from the sea spirits.

One of the tentacles from the demon extends towards the deck, several crew members draw their swords and slash at the tentacle.

The creature is injured and throttles back. That does not stop its strategy. Two of its tentacles extend out, one towards the crew and one towards the boat's wheel.

Tomorbatar sees the tentacle surging towards the wheel and runs at full speed toward it, sword drawn. Right before the tentacle can manipulate the wheel, he slashes it.

The crew fight against the tentacle. Two of the members are knocked to the ground, and one is grabbed and thrown overboard.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(to the quartermaster)

Go to the junk.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei nods then exits to the junk boat.

Captain Li-Na charges towards the tentacle bothering her crew.

Captain Li-Na slices the tentacle horizontally then diagonally. Her final movement is stabbing forward into the tentacle's center. It falls into the ocean.

MONGOLIAN CREW #1

Thank you, Captain.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 Just keep yourselves alive. Wang-Zei and I are going to finish this fight.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na joins Quartermaster Wang-Zei, who is perched over the ship's wheel.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 Let's waste no time.

They sail towards the sea monster, weapons drawn and face hard.

The sea monster extends three of its tentacles towards the junk boat. One of them hits the boat, causing it to rock.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
 He's not wasting any time.

The sea monster waves one of its tentacles over the boat, the captain and quartermaster follow its movements.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei strikes his sword through the tentacle. As a reaction, the creature uses its other tentacle to rock the boat.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 (growling/lecturing Wang-Zei)
 You just made it upset.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
 What do you expect? I'm not trying to dance with it!

Captain Li-Na cuts two of the tentacles at once, soaring through the air then landing back on the boat.

The sea monster leans back and screams in pain. Its remaining tentacle wraps around Captain Li-Na, lifts her up, causing her to drop her sword.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)
 (screaming)
 Li-Na!

Captain Li-Na wiggles around restlessly in the sea monster's grasp.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

One crew member shoots an arrow at the tentacle holding the captain.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

The arrow just missed the captain, the creature cries.

The sea monster lowers its tentacle in pain, when low enough, Quartermaster Wang-Zei strikes it repeatedly.

The sea monster is dying and cries as it descends into the ocean. Its grasp is loose, and the captain is free. Finally, it explodes like a pufferfish.

Captain Li-Na falls through the sky and lands on the junk boat.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei rushes over to Li-Na.

Captain Li-Na groans in pain and holds her abdomen.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Captain, are you okay?

CAPTAIN LI-NA
I'll be okay. It just had a tight grip.

The captain and quartermaster's monocles glow as they watch the ore fall in a trajectory motion onto the main deck.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
Let's go and see if our crew is intact.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Various crew members are bleeding and suffering from major injuries, with no casualties. The illuminating ore has fallen in the middle of the deck.

Sidney walks over to the ore with caution, then picks it up, tucking it away.

Johnny races over.

JOHNNY
What is wrong with everybody?

Sidney and Johnny look around at the injured and bloodied bodies.

Captain Li-Na and Quartermaster Wang-Zei enter, covered in blood and scratches.

Sidney directs their attention to their entrance.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Don't just stand there. Clean this mess up!

SIDNEY

What happened to everybody?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Don't make me ask twice!

SIDNEY

Everybody is bleeding, but I didn't see a shark or any other type of predator. What was everyone fighting?

JOHNNY

The boat kept shaking. Your weapons were flying into the air but Sidney and I did not see what was creating these waves.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei points to his eyepatch monocle.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

You won't be able to see monsters without one of these.

Sidney and Johnny laugh nervously amongst themselves, part anxiousness, part disbelief.

A crew member screams in pain in the distance.

Sidney and Johnny look at each other, fear settling in both pairs of their eyes.

Without anybody noticing, Sidney peeks at the ore she tucked away in her pocket.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(to Johnny and Sidney)

You know where the mop and buckets are.

(to Wang-Zei)

We need to get the Doctor out here immediately.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei nods. They both exit.

Sidney inches closer to her brother.

JOHNNY
What is it?

SIDNEY
(low voice)
I saw something.

JOHNNY
What?

SIDNEY
Shh!

JOHNNY
(whispering)
Sorry. What?

SIDNEY
I saw extra boats on this ship.

JOHNNY
You did?

SIDNEY
Shh!

JOHNNY
(whispering)
Sorry. You did?

SIDNEY
(low voice)
Yes. I've never seen boats like
them before. They have sails that
look like dragon wings. You know?
Like the books father gave us.

JOHNNY
(low voice)
Are they any good?

SIDNEY
I think the Captain and
Quartermaster just used them to
fight those imaginary monsters. Or
not-so-imaginary monsters.

JOHNNY

Monsters are already terrible. Now we have to worry about monsters we can't even see.

SIDNEY

This brings me to my next point. We have to get out of here.

JOHNNY

I have a feeling that once the Captain discovers we're bad janitors, we're going to become shark food.

SIDNEY

I don't know where we are. I don't even know who these people are.

JOHNNY

This is a sophisticated ship. There has to be a map around here somewhere.

Tomorbatar enters, Johnny and Sidney end their conversation instantaneously.

Tomorbatar picks up Sidney, she squeals.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Hey, where are you taking her?

TOMORBATAR

Not to worry.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - DAY

Tomorbatar drags Sidney down the hallway.

SIDNEY

Let go of me!

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - DAY

The blacksmith is working away at equipment.

Tomorbatar enters, dragging Sidney in.

SIDNEY

Why did you bring me in here?

Tomorbatar lets go of Sidney.

TOMORBATAR
Empty your pockets.

SIDNEY
Why? I'm no thief.

TOMORBATAR
Empty your pockets, Girl.

Sidney sighs and takes out the ore she stashed away.

Tomorbatar snatches the ore from out of her hand.

SIDNEY
I didn't steal it. I found it.

Tomorbatar tosses the ore in the air and playfully throws it back and forth between his hands.

TOMORBATAR
Enough to make yer own seer.

SIDNEY
What is that? A 'seer'?

TOMORBATAR
It gives you sight out here.

SIDNEY
(to herself)
The monsters.

TOMORBATAR
Yes. That's why we wear the patches and the rings, so we can touch and feel them. Over there is the blacksmith who forges our weapons and equipment needed for our voyages.

Sidney inches over to the blacksmith, XIU, who is masked and identity is concealed.

Sidney looks at the rings being forged.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)
(to Xiu)
She'll be needing her own seer.

SIDNEY
(confused)
I will?

Xiu takes off her mask, revealing a friendly smile.

XIU
Coming right up!

Xiu begins to forge an eyepatch incorporating the ore's teal blue glass. Sidney is mesmerized by the process and the beauty of the ore.

XIU (CONT'D)
This eyepatch goes with any outfit!

Xiu chuckles to herself.

XIU (CONT'D)
I'm Xiu, by the way.

SIDNEY
(timidly)
Sidney. Sidney Mills.

XIU
(imitating a British
accent)
British? Cute!

Sidney smiles slightly.

Xiu finishes forging the eyepatch.

XIU (CONT'D)
Here it is! Now you'll be able to
see the spirits.

Xiu hands the eyepatch to Sidney. Sidney stares at it in awe. She has never seen anything like it before.

XIU (CONT'D)
We're all connected. People,
spirits, the ocean, even though
sometimes it seems like we're
worlds apart. That's how we all
find each other. The spirits of the
ocean drop magical ore, also known
as Auzarilite. The ore connects us
to the ocean and the spirits, so
the ore is essentially the bridge
connecting all of our worlds.
Having it on your eyes allows you
to see the spirits. Having it on
your hands lets you touch them, and
having it on your weapons allows
you to slay them. That was how the
Captain could slay the one that
just rocked the boat.

Xiu begins to twirl an ore in her hands, then gaze intensely into it.

XIU (CONT'D)

Long ago, a human used their words to defeat the first ocean spirit. They did this by convincing them to pass over to the other side. When it did, it dropped an ocean ore. That human realized that the ore was fatal to spirits, so they mined it into a weapon. This weapon forced spirits to pass over, which brings good fortune to the slayer and their loved ones too. They say that the ocean rewards humans who slay spirits because it relieves the ocean of the burden of holding onto lonely and bad thoughts, which the spirits carry.

Sidney examines the eyepatch further.

XIU (CONT'D)

They also say that the spirits take monstrous shapes and forms depending on the level of corruption they are harvesting. Sometimes they can even look like one of us.

SIDNEY

Human? They can look human?

XIU

Mhmm. The more they indulge in dark thoughts, the larger and more demonic they become. That creates harsh environments that even regular people can see. You've seen them before, I bet, whirlpools, bad storms.

SIDNEY

Those are spirits?

XIU

Told 'ya we're all connected.

Sidney looks over to a table of unfinished rings, the rings Xiu was working on when Sidney and Tomorbatar first entered.

SIDNEY

These rings let you touch them?

XIU

Yes indeed! Wang-Zei requested them himself, although he already has an ocean ring, so I was a little confused at first.

SIDNEY

Can I have a look?

Xiu looks over at Tomorbatar.

TOMORBATAR

(to Sidney)

Just don't break anything!

Xiu smiles at Sidney.

Sidney walks over to the table and picks up a jeweled box, examining it carefully.

XIU

Pretty? Right?

Sidney opens the box carefully. It is filled with necklaces and bracelets made from piercing amethyst and ocean ore.

SIDNEY

Beautiful. It seems the quartermaster likes pretty things.

Quartermaster Wang Zei enters, leaving the door open behind him, the commotion from above deck filtering in.

Sidney closes the jewelry box.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

Xiu, is it ready?

XIU

Yes.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei treks over to Sidney and snatches the box out of her hands.

Wang-Zei opens the box and examines it. He closes it once again.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

And the ring?

XIU

Not finished yet.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
When it is, give it to the Girl.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks at Sidney, Sidney looks away.

The quartermaster exits.

Xiu hands Sidney her eye patch.

XIU
This is all yours.

SIDNEY
Thank you.

Sidney walks towards the exit.

XIU
Where are you going?

SIDNEY
To find the quartermaster. I have
to thank him.

TOMORBATAR
You don't have to do that.

SIDNEY
I want to.

Just before Sidney exits, Xiu calls after her.

XIU
Your ring will be ready sometime
this week.

Sidney smiles then exits.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MESS HALL - NIGHT

The crew, still injured, eats dinner. As they do this, they discuss how angry they are that Johnny and Sidney are onboard.

CREW #1
It's all their fault!

CREW #2
Yeah, we had no idea the spirit was
anywhere nearby.

CREW #3
We're lucky none of us were killed.

CREW #1

The compass is jammed because of
him.

CREW #3

I know the captain has her plan,
but I don't want to be part of it
if it means me being killed
senselessly.

The cook enters.

COOK

The next batch of fish will be
ready soon.

The crew rejoices.

COOK (CONT'D)

At least fish are predictable. You
put it over a fire, and it cooks.
Not like people. Sometimes you put
people over a fire, and they burn
and perish.

The cook exits.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - NIGHT

Sidney walks down the corridor cautiously, observing every
nook and cranny.

She looks around for the quartermaster, lifting herself from
distraction and curiosity.

Sidney comes to the Doctoral bay.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MED BAY - NIGHT

Captain Li-Na is sitting with ale in her hand by an injured
crew member, who is wrapped up in bandages and sleeping. The
candlelight by his bed illuminates the captain's face, which
is contemplative and serious.

Sidney enters then stares at the captain, half intimidation,
half confusion.

Captain Li-Na looks up from her ale. The look in her eyes
transforms into a sea of defensiveness.

SIDNEY
 (stuttering)
 I'm looking for the quartermaster.

Captain Li-Na raises an eyebrow.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
 (stuttering)
 I just want to thank him. I'm not
 bothering him. I don't want to
 bother him. I don't want to bother
 anybody, me or my brother Johnny.
 He did a really nice thing for me,
 and I just thought it would be nice
 to--

Captain Li-Na stares at Sidney hard and judgmentally.

Sidney swallows.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
 Thank him.

Captain Li-Na frowns.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 For what?

SIDNEY
 He had a ring made for me. He knew
 I'd need it.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 (sarcastically)
 Wang-Zei is always on top of
 things.

Captain Li-Na looks at the seer in Sidney's hands. She points
 at it sloppily because she is slightly intoxicated.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
 I suppose he helped you with that
 too?

Sidney shakes her head innocently.

SIDNEY
 Tomorbata--

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 (interrupting)
 Of couuurrrsee.

Captain Li-Na gets up from her seat, ale in hand.

Captain Li-Na holds onto Sidney's shoulder, using her as a crutch to keep her standing upright.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

We all work together, you know? The ship cannot sail without the help of everybody. Wang-Zei is rational, and Tomorbatar is strong. Without them, this crew wouldn't survive half a day.

Captain Li-Na laughs, completely drunk.

Captain Li-Na stumbles out of the med bay, Sidney follows.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - NIGHT

Captain Li-Na is stumbling down the hallway, Sidney follows closely behind her.

Captain Li-Na almost drops her ale. Sidney saves it from falling.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - NIGHT

Captain Li-Na stumbles over to her chair then drops down into it. Before Sidney places the ale down, she stares at an extensive map of the seas.

Sidney studies the map carefully, taking in every marking and word. She shakes herself out of her trance and places the ale down.

SIDNEY

If you don't mind me asking, why are you captain instead of Wang-Zei?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Why? Does he seem more capable than I do-?

SIDNEY

(splutters)

No, ah it's not that- it's... well, that's not what I'm saying. You just said that Wang-Zei is rational and Tomorbatar is strong, so if they are so good at what they do, why are they not Captain?

Captain Li-Na does not answer.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
 I guess I should be asking... How
 did you become Captain?

Captain Li-Na chuckles.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 I'm not entirely sure myself.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MESS HALL - NIGHT

The injured crew enters for dinner. They seat themselves.

The crew begins to chatter happily. They are anticipating
 their celebratory meal.

The cook enters, a sad expression on his face.

COOK
 Can I have your attention?

The crew discontinues their conversation and looks over to
 the cook.

COOK (CONT'D)
 Your celebratory dinner has been
 canceled.

The crew breaks out into panic and anger.

COOK (CONT'D)
 The inventory was not counted
 properly, so we have less food than
 we thought due to human error.

CREW #1
 That's garbage. We earned that
 meal!

COOK
 I'm sorry.

The cook exits.

CREW #1
 It's those British kids. Ever since
 they came aboard, there's been
 nothing but issues.

CREW #2
 No, we're stuck with fish stew--
 again. I'm tired of fish stew!

INT. BLACK SHIP/KITCHEN - NIGHT

The cook stirs the fish stew.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - NIGHT

Johnny sits on a bucket, bored. Nearby Hai recites a poem to another.

HAI

(reciting a poem)

Like a spider, it crawls in the
dark/its feet are silent but
vision's sharp/it makes no sound it
has no smell/It leaves no time for
a proper farewell.

CREW #4

How do you remember all of this?

HAI

Shush! I'm not done yet.

Johnny rolls his eyes, Hai does not notice, but Crew #4 does.

HAI (CONT'D)

(reciting a poem)

It comes at night, it comes at
dawn/The terrible thing's a
reaper's pawn/You cannot hide, you
cannot bargain/As it comes the
world will darken.

CREW #4

Where's the casket? That's a
depressing story.

HAI

It's not a story. It's a poem.

CREW #4

A poem is a story.

Johnny yawns.

Crew #4 scowls at Johnny, then nudges Hai.

HAI

What?

Crew #4 motions towards Johnny. Crew #4 and Hai walk over to Johnny.

Crew #4 kicks the bucket from underneath Johnny. He falls to the ground and groans.

A bunch of the crew members join in and surround Johnny, their seers and rings prominently shown.

Johnny looks up at them, confused.

CREW #4
Stop sitting around all day and
make yourself useful.

JOHNNY
I'm not the one listening to
poetry!

Crew #4 scowls.

CREW #4
You little--

JOHNNY
(interrupting)
I've completed all of my errands
for today. You can check with the
First Mate.

CREW #4
You've forgotten something.

Johnny is perplexed.

Crew #4 takes rosin from one of the other crew members then throws it in between Johnny and him.

CREW #4 (CONT'D)
Shine my shoes.

Johnny glares at Crew #4, angry and fed up with his treatment on the ship.

The crew erupts in laughter.

Johnny gets up and tries to leave, but the crew blocks him.

Johnny grunts, the crew continues to laugh.

Johnny's body suddenly freezes up, and his limbs buckle in. He is experiencing an episode of post-traumatic stress disorder. He remembers the crew of Captain Pike's ship and how they would surround him when he and Jack were having their duel. As well as the time they would surround him and Sidney in a threatening manner.

Johnny grabs his hair and begins to force his eyes shut while suppressing a scream.

Tomorbatar and Wang-Zei enter. They give each other a knowing look then walk over to the spectacle.

TOMORBATAR
(shouting)
Attention!

The crew stops laughing and looks over at Tomorbatar and Wang-Zei.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)
It has come to my attention that
you men did not enjoy your
celebratory meal.

CREW #1
Yeah, thanks to the kids.

TOMORBATAR
No more of that.

Tomorbatar holds up a goblet of ale.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)
So I stole me some of these. Now,
who wants to see if they can beat
me to a drinking match?

The crew erupts in enthusiasm. Johnny begins to transition back to a normal state. He begins to stand upright and takes his hands away from his head.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei walks over to Johnny as the crew follows Tomorbatar to the mess hall.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Follow me.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Johnny exit together.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - NIGHT

Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Johnny are at the wheel of the ship.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Hold onto the wheel. Tight but not
so much that you are digging your
fingernails into it.

Johnny laughs softly, then grips the wheel perfectly.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)
I see it in your eyes.

JOHNNY
Me?

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
And back there with the crew. You
have gone through a lot.

Johnny does not respond.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (V.O.)
That is why you are attached to
your sister Sidney as a spirit. You
have not passed on because of it.

Johnny looks out to the black ocean with intense sorrow, not
having heard the quartermaster's last piece of dialogue as
that was in the quartermaster's head.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Holding this wheel has always had a
way of centering me. I'm sure it
will do the same for you.

Johnny looks at Quartermaster Wang-Zei longingly.

Hai enters, his entrance creates a creaking sound causing the
quartermaster and Johnny to turn around.

HAI
I'll just--uh--take the wheel when
you're done with that! Yep--all
that soul searching is good for the
uh--soul.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei rolls his eyes then exits.

JOHNNY
(half to himself and half
to Wang-Zei)
Thank you.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - NIGHT

Sidney is whistling while pacing the hallways. She is trying
to act naturally but fails because she is too nervous.

Sidney skips then hops into her and Johnny's cabin.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - NIGHT

Sidney slams the door behind her. She scans the empty room then takes the rolled-up map from underneath her shirt.

Sidney holds it to her chest then sighs.

INSERT FLASHBACK.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - FLASHBACK

Sidney is standing by the map as Captain Li-Na tells a story, caught up in her own world.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Tomorbatar has a habit of saying things he shouldn't. He said I drink too much in front of my crew. That makes me look really stupid and incompetent. The nerve of some people! You know?

SIDNEY

Mhmm.

Captain Li-Na is seated and working on a mahjong puzzle at her desk. Sidney is watching her, standing by the map and looking at it periodically.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I have played with this puzzle since I was a little girl, and no one has ever beaten me. Not even on this ship.

Captain Li-Na smiles at Sidney. She looks back at her with surprise.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

Want to give it a try? Try and beat the undefeated?

Sidney shakes Captain Li-Na's hand.

SIDNEY

You hold that title near and dear to your heart, so I won't tarnish it.

Captain Li-Na snatches her hand away then glares at Sidney.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - FLASHBACK - LATER

Captain Li-Na is sleeping deeply and is snoring.

Sidney creeps towards her desk. Once she makes her way to the map, she looks at it longingly, her eyes glistening. She shakes herself out of her episode of awe and directs her attention to the captain in deep slumber.

Sidney inches closer towards the map, slowly and cautiously, when she hears footsteps, offscreen.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - NIGHT

Johnny enters from behind. Sidney turns around and screams in Johnny's face, startled.

Johnny shakes his head.

JOHNNY

Be quiet. It's just me.

SIDNEY

I'm sorry, but you scared me. But be prepared to forgive me--

Sidney shows Johnny the captain's map.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

I've got the map!

JOHNNY

How did you manage that?

Sidney smiles mischievously.

SIDNEY

I stole it.

Johnny snatches the map from Sidney's grasp.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

(confused)

Are you upset with me?

JOHNNY

Of course, I am! Why would you steal the captain's map? How am I supposed to protect you if you do reckless things like this?

(MORE)

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

You're supposed to be keeping a low profile!

SIDNEY

(angry)

That was before! Now our plan is to get the heck out of here, isn't it? Well, I got us a map, what have you been doing?

Sidney grabs the map back from Johnny.

Johnny sighs. He is very frustrated.

JOHNNY

You're ridiculous, Sidney. The map being gone makes us the number one culprit.

Johnny rubs his head in an effort to soothe his growing headache.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

I'll come up with a plan, so in the meantime, lay low. Do you understand me?

Johnny snatches the map back from Sidney.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

(low/threatening voice)

I mean it.

Johnny stomps out of the cabin then slams the door behind him.

Sidney folds her arms, and tears begin to form in her eyes. She is frustrated and at her wit's end. Finally, she lets out a scream.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - NIGHT

Captain Li-Na is still sleeping. Carefully Johnny walks over to her desk and places the map back in its rightful spot.

Johnny begins to exit the captain's quarters when he stops suddenly.

He has a sudden urge to turn around. Johnny does so and notices a glowing compass between all of the clutter on the captain's desk.

Johnny inches towards the compass, like it is drawing him near. He reaches for it, realizing that it is a navigator for the sea.

The closer Johnny's hand gets near it, the more it begins to shake. It is shaking so much that one of the bottles falls.

Captain Li-Na opens her eyes, then wipes the drool from her mouth. During her recollection, Johnny exits unnoticed.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - NIGHT

Johnny's back is against the captain quarter's door, and he is panting nervously.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - NIGHT

Sidney is sitting in the corner, pouting when Johnny enters. She looks over at him noticing his blood-drained complexion.

SIDNEY
(mockingly)
Boo!

Johnny looks over at Sidney, perplexed.

JOHNNY
What are you doing?

Sidney gets up and starts shaking around like a ghost.

SIDNEY
It looks like you've seen a ghost,
Johnny. What happened?

Johnny smiles.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
Okay, now you're just freaking me
out.

Johnny squeezes Sidney's shoulders and looks her dead in the eyes.

JOHNNY
I've got a plan.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Hai is observing his surrounding with a spyglass.

Hai pauses on a port town in the distance, then lowers his spyglass.

HAI
(shouting)
Port ahead! Port ahead!

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

As Johnny narrates, he walks with Sidney to the back of the ship in an effort to confiscate the rope ladder.

JOHNNY (V.O.)
Listen to me carefully and do exactly as I say. We can't make one mistake because our future will cease to exist if we do. Based on the markings on the map you took from Captain Li-Na and from my time steering the ship, we should be making it to land by tomorrow afternoon. That means there will be enough commotion on deck for us to hop on a junk boat and sail around the island this ship is landing at. Once we sail around the island, we will be free once and for all. To make our getaway, you have to make sure the rope ladder is at the front of the ship. Right now, it is at its rear. I saw it last night on my way back to our cabin.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Crew #1 and #2 speak to one another as Sidney sneaks past them in the background.

CREW #1
Finally! I can put my feet on soil.

CREW #2
You knew what you were getting into when you joined this crew.

CREW #1
I know, I know, can't I just say how I feel?

CREW #2
Sorry, maybe I'm just hungry, and I'm taking it out on you.

CREW #1
There will be plenty of food at the
port.

CREW #2
And ale!

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Crew #3 and #4 are by the junk boat unrolling the rope
ladder.

Sidney enters, then walks over to them.

Crew #3 and #4 look up, annoyed that she is disturbing them.

SIDNEY
Maybe you guys should unroll the
ladder at the front of the ship?

Crew #3 and #4 ignore Sidney and continue with their work.

Xiu enters and walks over to them.

XIU
Sidney, what are you doing back
here?

SIDNEY
I've never been back here. I was
exploring.

CREW #3
She's trying to make suggestions.

CREW #4
Yeah, trying to tell us how to do
our jobs. English superiority,
that's what it is.

XIU
Calm down. She's young; they're
curious. Anyway, we need to get to
town as soon as possible.

CREW #4
You got some business in town, Xiu.

XIU
You bet, I've got some goodies to
buy.

Crew #3 and #4 smile and shake their heads.

XIU (CONT'D)

What's taking you so long? Shops
have closing hours.

CREW #3

This little girl was bothering us,
that's what's taking us so long.

Xiu looks to Sidney, who is now very nervous.

JOHNNY (V.O.)

We can't make one mistake because
our fate will be sealed if we do.

SIDNEY

The real reason why I was giving
you guys such a hard time is that I
didn't want our ship to get bad
luck.

CREW #3

What are you on about?

SIDNEY

You don't know?

XIU

About what?

SIDNEY

It's bad luck to unroll rope
ladders at the rear of a ship.

CREW #3

Is that a British thing?

SIDNEY

Yes. And it comes from experience.
The day my former crew unrolled a
rope ladder at the rear of the ship
was the day you guys came.

Xiu, crew #3, and crew #4 look at each other, puzzled.

XIU

It's better to be cautious about
these things. We have good fortune,
and we don't want to put that in
jeopardy. You heard her boys.

Sidney subtly lets out a sigh of relief.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - DAY

Johnny is sneaking through the hallway en route to the kitchen as he narrates.

JOHNNY (V.O.)

We're going to need food and drink for our voyage, so I'll sneak into the kitchen and pack us enough vitals to live off of. Meanwhile, you will do your best not to raise any suspicion. If you are on your best behavior, we will have more freedom at the port. If we suffer a slip-up, we will be supervised like children, making our getaway close to impossible.

INT. BLACK SHIP/KITCHEN - DAY

Johnny is packing items from the kitchen into a shallow bag he is holding.

Johnny stops when he hears a crew member approaching, he runs to the pantry and hides in it.

Crew #3 and #4 enter.

CREW #4

At the rear of the ship, the rope would be closer to the boats. I don't appreciate doing extra work.

CREW #3

No.

The cook enters.

CREW #4

We have enough to do as it is.

COOK

What's going on?

CREW #4

That union jack brat made us lug the rope ladder all the way to the front of the boat.

COOK

If the captain treated them like the prisoners they are from the beginning, we wouldn't be having any of these issues.

INT. BLACK SHIP/PANTRY - DAY

Johnny grimaces.

INT. BLACK SHIP/KITCHEN - DAY

CREW #4

The captain's been slipping lately.
I think she's distracted.

Crew #4 looks over at the pantry and inches towards it.

INT. BLACK SHIP/PANTRY - DAY

Johnny's breathing intensifies. He is afraid of being exposed.

INT. BLACK SHIP/KITCHEN - DAY

Crew #4 almost opens the pantry when Crew #3 grabs his attention.

Crew #3 holds up a jar of pickled vegetables and laughs.

Crew #4 smiles, then joins in the laughing.

INT. BLACK SHIP/PANTRY - DAY

Johnny lets out a sigh of relief.

INT. BLACK SHIP/KITCHEN - DAY

CREW #3

(to the cook)

Doesn't this bring back memories?

The cook frowns.

CREW #4

You tried to have us poisoned until the captain set you straight.

(MORE)

CREW #4 (CONT'D)

What kind of sea cook doesn't know how to pickle vegetables for long voyages? The captain made you eat the rotten vegetables you were going to serve as punishment.

Crew #3 smirks.

CREW #3

I bet all this talk of the captain being incompetent made you gleeful. We still know the ranks around here, and you should too. Hurry up and finish counting what you need so we can escort you to the port.

Crew #3 and Crew #4 exit.

The cook smashes his fist on the counter.

INT. BLACK SHIP/PANTRY - DAY

Johnny exits the pantry.

INT. BLACK SHIP/KITCHEN - DAY

Johnny cautiously walks through the kitchen, the cook is secretly hiding behind the door, but Johnny does not see him. All he sees is the door left ajar.

Johnny exits.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - DAY

Johnny walks down the hallway, relieved that he got out of the kitchen without problems.

INT. BLACK SHIP/KITCHEN - DAY

The cook steps out from behind the door he was hiding behind. Secretly listening to Johnny's movement in the room.

The cook walks over to the pantry where Johnny was hiding and opens it.

INT. BLACK SHIP/PANTRY - DAY

The cook inches towards a covered crate.

The cook lifts the piece of cloth covering the crate. He sees that meat is missing.

The cook picks up the remaining meat.

COOK
It's time to put this to use.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - DAY

Johnny sneaks into the forgery. He sees Crew #5 and Crew #6 dressed up as Xiu in a blacksmith's apron.

They are posing kind of seductively and twirling in the aprons, but not too much that it is inappropriate.

CREW #5
I'm Xiu, I'm a tan skinned princess
that makes cutesy jewelry!

JOHNNY (V.O.)
We may run into trouble while at
sea. We will need something to
protect ourselves.

Johnny crawls to the sword rack then grabs two.

He exits, crawling.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - DAY

Johnny shudders at the image of what he just saw.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - DAY

Sidney enters and looks over at the captain's desk. She stares at the compass.

Sidney inches towards the desk when Wang-Zei enters.

Sidney turns around abruptly. Her eyes are wide with alarm.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
What are you doing in here, Sidney?

SIDNEY
The captain.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei raises an eyebrow.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

Her dinking. I'm very worried about her drinking, so I was in here looking for alcohol so I can dump it into the ocean.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Ale is expensive. Don't you dare dump it into the ocean.

Sidney and Wang-Zei chuckle together.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

She wasn't always this way. This ships' last captain passed away, and it was particularly hard on Li-Na.

SIDNEY

Death is inevitable, but the most painful thing in this world.

Quartermaster Wang Zei looks at Sidney, sympathy in his eyes.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

Mine and Johnny's father died, so I know how it feels to lose someone that means the world to you. Somebody you look up to. You feel lost and empty.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Yes. That's how she feels.

SIDNEY

I feel so sorry for her. Being alone is the worst feeling in the world.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - DAY

As Johnny counts inventory for their voyage, Sidney is seated observing the stolen compass in her hand.

SIDNEY

I wonder how alone she's going to feel once this is gone.

JOHNNY

We need it.

SIDNEY

I guess you're right.

JOHNNY

It's time to go, grab the food,
I'll take everything else.

Johnny and Sidney pick up their belongings and make their way to the door.

Johnny opens the door. The cook is standing there with his arms crossed. Johnny and Sidney are surprised.

The cook sniffs.

COOK

Times up, thieves.

SIDNEY

We--

Johnny puts his hand up, signaling Sidney to stop talking.

JOHNNY

We cannot lie. Father always told us never to lie. Sir, we took it, but it was only because we needed it. We'll be lost without it.

The cook looks at Johnny, confused.

Johnny lets out a nervous laugh.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

We're not talking about food, are we?

The compass begins to shake violently behind Johnny and Sidney.

Johnny and Sidney turn around. The compass is shaking so much it falls to the ground.

The cook laughs maniacally.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Are we missing the joke here?

COOK

You are a thief Johnny, and your thievery doesn't make Captain Li-Na look very good. It was her decision to keep you and your sister on this ship. Nobody else wanted you around.

(MORE)

COOK (CONT'D)

The two of you were only supposed to be prey about to be killed, not crewmates; that was all her.

JOHNNY

I don't understand.

COOK

Let me make it easy for you; nobody wants you here but her.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

The crew is gathered around along with Captain Li-Na, Quartermaster Wang-Zei, Johnny, Sidney, and the cook.

Captain Li-Na looks Johnny up and down.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Lock him up and make sure our best guard is on duty.

The cook frowns.

COOK

Why not lock them both up?

Captain Li-Na looks at Sidney.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

We will only have one of the two constitutes as our prisoner. That's how it will stay.

The guards take Johnny, they exit.

Sidney is distraught. She lowers her head and tries to hold back the tears forming in her eyes.

EXT. PORT TOWN - DAY

The port town is a cultural cocktail of Caribbean and Singaporean influence. There are quite a few people out shopping, walking, and conversing. Amongst those people are Xiu and Tomorbatar. Xiu is holding a lot of tools and steel.

XIU

Give me a hand and help me take this to the ship.

TOMORBATAR

Couldn't you have gotten one of the other guys to help you? They lug around stuff for a living.

XIU

I tried getting them, but they all wanted to explore the town. We haven't been on land in a while, can't blame them.

Tomorbatar smirks.

TOMORBATAR

They may sail the seven seas and fight spirits, but they're still boys at heart.

Xiu chuckles then looks over at the shaman tent.

Xiu gasps.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)

What is it?

XIU

I want my fortune told!

TOMORBATAR

Why would you want to put yourself through that?

Xiu hands Tomorbatar her items then runs over to the tent.

Tomorbatar sighs then walks over to the tent to join Xiu.

EXT. PORT TOWN - DAY

Captain Li-Na and Quartermaster Wang-Zei are walking when CAPTAIN ZHAO, enters.

Captain Zhao smiles.

CAPTAIN ZHAO

Li-Na! Wang-Zei!

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Hello, Captain Zhao.

CAPTAIN ZHAO

I have been hearing a lot about you lately. Your reputation is well deserved.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Is that a good thing or bad thing?

Captain Zhao chuckles.

CAPTAIN ZHAO
You saved our butt once from a
swarm of evil spirits. Do you
remember that?

CAPTAIN LI-NA
It was no problem.

CAPTAIN ZHAO
I want to repay the favor.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
No it's alright. Really.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei nudges Captain Li-Na.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Li-Na is too proud to accept that.
She is too proud for help. You can
count on me to cash in that favor.

Captain Zhao and Quartermaster Wang-Zei laugh together.

EXT. BLACK SHIP - NIGHT

The ship is sailing. The clouds above are gathering,
suggesting heavy rain and winds.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - NIGHT

Xiu is putting the finishing touches on Sidney's ring.

Sidney sighs, Xiu looks over.

XIU
You know, the fortune-teller told
me that I would find the love of my
life onboard.

Sidney does not respond.

XIU (CONT'D)
(chuckles)
I doubt it. Between us girls,
there's not been a reason for me to
fall for any one on this ship.

Sidney does not respond.

SIDNEY

There's no reason for anything.
People just act the way they do
because they want to. No reason.
Everybody is a jerk to my brother--
(voice breaking)
And there's no reason.

Sidney gets up and storms out.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - NIGHT

Captain Li-Na is at the wheel. The weather is only getting worse; the air is wet and cold.

Suddenly, a giant wave comes over the boat and knocks Captain Li-Na over. She is on the ground, dizzy, and her head is bleeding.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - NIGHT

The crew struggles with the ropes. The wind and rain are harsh, and Quartermaster Wang-Zei is not there to help.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - NIGHT

The ship rocks back and forth because of the rain and wind.

The crew grabs buckets to collect water, for it is weighing the ship down.

EXT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - NIGHT

A guard is standing on duty, guarding Johnny's cell. Sidney is stalking closely, watching him.

CREW VOICE (O.S.)

We need you, quick!

The guard exits in a hurry, abandoning his post and not noticing Sidney.

Sidney runs over to her brother's cell.

JOHNNY

Sidney?!

Sidney eyes the cell door and notices it's lock. She finds a nearby crate and repeatedly smashes against the lock until the door budes open.

SIDNEY

This is our chance to escape.

JOHNNY

If they don't get this ship under control, escaping will be the least of our worries! I have to help them.

SIDNEY

Help them? They imprisoned you!

JOHNNY

I have to think of you. You're a part of them now.

As he makes his way above deck, Sidney trails closely behind when suddenly he turns around.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

I want you to stay here. Keep safe.

SIDNEY

(gulps)

Okay.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - NIGHT

Johnny emerges, immediately hit with rain and wind.

Crew #1 and Crew #2 scoop him up. He wiggles around in their grasp.

JOHNNY

Wait! I can help! I sail ships to earn my living, you can trust me. I wouldn't put my sister in jeopardy
I-

Johnny's cut off because one of the men decides to cover his mouth.

CREW #1

Stop your squabbling! You broke out of your cell!

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks over at the commotion. Hai enters.

HAI
Wait a second.

Crew #1 and Crew #2 look at Hai with confusion.

HAI (CONT'D)
We could use him. He's an
experienced sailor. I've seen him
with my own two eyes.

Crew #1 and Crew #2 look at each other.

HAI (CONT'D)
We need all the help we can get
right now.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei nods at the crew, signaling to let
Johnny go.

Crew #1 and Crew #2 let Johnny go.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
We need help on the ropes. Send him
there.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - NIGHT

Xiu and Tomorbatar are carrying Captain Li-Na to the middle
of the ship.

They lean the captain against a pillar, the rain and wind
hitting her face.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - NIGHT

Johnny and the other crewmates are holding down the rigging
system. Sidney enters.

JOHNNY
(to Sidney)
What are you doing here?

SIDNEY
I couldn't leave you behind. I'm
sorry.

JOHNNY
Then help would you? Hold on tight
and pull down, shift all of your
body weight onto the rope.

Sidney fetches the rope, tight grasp, shifts her body weight, and pulls down.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Good, but now I'm going to need you to tell Wang-Zei which direction to steer the ship in.

SIDNEY

Are you crazy? He won't listen to me!

JOHNNY

Just tell him to steer right, and tell him it's coming from me. If he doesn't, that would make him a fool!

Sidney nods then exits.

Johnny continues to manipulate and hold onto the rigging system when a wave knocks him to the ground.

A stack of heavy cargo is about to fall on him when Tomorbatar blocks it and helps him up.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Thank you.

TOMORBATAR

Are you crazy? Did you tell Wang-Zei to lead us into a storm?

JOHNNY

We're actually steering right, not directly into it.

CREW #3

Tomorbatar, it's true. We wouldn't do anything like that.

Sidney enters, Johnny turns to her.

SIDNEY

Where did you learn all of this stuff?

JOHNNY

Dad.

Sidney smiles slightly.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

He taught me because of you.

SIDNEY

What do you mean?

JOHNNY

When you were little, you fell into the water. I was sailing the boat when it happened.

SIDNEY

I don't remember.

JOHNNY

You were very young. But from that day on, I swore to always protect you.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - MIDNIGHT

With the exception of two crew members keeping watch over the sea and deck, the ship is still but not peacefully so; there is an eerie feeling like a barren plain before a tornado.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - MIDNIGHT

Captain Li-Na gathers bandages from the desk and begins applying them to her bloodied head. Once she is done, she looks over at the compass on her desk, the one she confiscated from Sidney and Johnny's room earlier that day.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - MIDNIGHT

Captain Li-Na picks up the compass and tosses it in her hand. She begins pacing around her quarters, touching and glancing the cloth around it and items from her nomadic village.

Captain Li-Na looks at the compass.

Captain Li-Na HEARS footsteps at her door, she stiffens her back.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(loudly)

Who is it?

TOMORBATAR (O.S.)

Tomorbatar, I have dinner for you.

Tomorbatar enters and places the food on her desk. He turns to her.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)

You haven't been coming down to eat, so I thought I'd bring you some dinner. With your injury, you need nutrients more than ever.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Thank you.

Captain Li-Na walks up to the food.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

I'm reminded of home.

Tomorbatar smiles.

TOMORBATAR

We all are--thinking of home, I mean.

Captain Li-Na nods and chuckles.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

We've left people behind. It's only normal that we'd be thinking of them.

TOMORBATAR

Some more than others.

Captain Li-Na frowns.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Is there something on your mind?

Tomorbatar waves his hand defensively in front of his face.

TOMORBATAR

I've been hearing some things from the dining area, and word around the ship is that you're not going to lead us into defeating the sea demon. They say things like, 'I thought you of all people would want to avenge our captain and go after the biggest spirit so we can finally return home in glory!'

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Hardly a dinner conversation.

TOMORBATAR

I haven't said those things. But I suspect Wang-Zei is letting the rumors get to him.

Captain Li-Na does not respond.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)

Goodnight Captain.

Tomorbatar exits.

Captain Li-Na gazes fiercely at the compass. She clutches it tight.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - LATER

The wind picks up, and the waves stir mischievously.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks out over the ocean then turns to the two crew members on watch.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

Watch for the sea spirits. I have a bad feeling about tonight.

The crew members nod.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - LATER

The two crew members are working on the deck.

Crew #1 picks up a pail of water and begins to throw it into the ocean when he freezes, his eyes fixated on the beauty of the waves. Its movement is seductive and slow. The subtle illumination of the water is mesmerizing.

Crew #1 squints his eyes. He feels like there is something in the water.

A splash of water hits the ship's hull. This splash of water confuses the crew member because it projects out of the water in a shark-like fashion, not like a drop of water. To show this on screen it goes in and out in invisibility. Letting the audience have Crew #1's perspective and a perspective of someone who can see the spirits.

Crew #1 falls in, screaming, the pail falls behind him on the deck. In reality, the shark-like spirit pulled him in, but since Crew #1 cannot see spirits without his seer on he believes he fell into the ocean.

Crew #2 looks over at the fallen pail and the spilled water.

Crew #2 picks up the pail then looks over the ship's edge.

CREW #2
(shouting)
Hello?!

Several crew members emerge onto the deck, gathering around Crew #2.

CREW #4
Who was screaming?

CREW #2
Tay. He must have fallen in.

All of the crew members put on their seers and rings.

CREW #3
He can still be alive, but he won't be for long if the weather gets any worse.

CREW #2
Be careful, Zhang.

Zhang nods then jumps into the ocean.

CREW #4
They won't have enough energy to swim back. I'll get the junk.

Crew #2 nods.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters, out of breath.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
(breathlessly)
Why did Zhang jump into the ocean just now?

CREW #2
To go after Tay. He fell in. We're preparing the junk now.

EXT. UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS

Zhang swims, diving deeper into the ocean. He looks around then squints.

He SEES a reflection of Tay's white shirt.

Zhang reaches out for Tay when a group of sharks gather around his lifeless body then consume him.

Zhang tries to wail but ends up swallowing air bubbles.

Zhang swims up to the junk.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Zhang emerges, holding onto the edge; he coughs.

ZHANG
(screaming)
Sharks!

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

The junk boat is released by the black ship, slapping against the ocean waves.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei leads the crew members down the rope ladder, and they jump onto the junk.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei throws a rope at Zhang, who is trying to stay afloat in the water.

While Zhang is trying to grab hold of the rope, a shark bites him, he screams in pain.

Zhang looks down and sees that he has lost a leg.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei brings Zhang in closer. He is screaming uncontrollably.

Zhang makes it onto the junk boat, panting and screaming.

ZHANG
(pained)
Tay is dead.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks at the other crewmembers.

Zhang screams in pain.

The few crew members there, climb the rope back to the black ship except for Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Zhang.

The sharks circle the boat.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks at the rope then at Zhang.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei sighs, then rips off some of his loose clothing. He wraps his rags around him, bandaging Zhang's wounds.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na looks at the chaos happening at sea.

Tomorbatar gives the telescope with ocean ore on it to the captain. Xiu follows Tomorbatar.

Captain Li-Na looks through the telescope at Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Zhang's situation.

Captain Li-Na turns to Tomorbatar and Zhang.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

The boy is attracting bad fortune
to the ship.

(shouting to Wang-Zei)

Spirit and living sharks are
surrounding the boat Wang-Zei!

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei nods then takes his ocean ore enhanced weapon out.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na stands behind the spyglass. She is instructing Quartermaster Wang-Zei.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(shouting)

Counterclockwise, they're circling
the boat in a counterclockwise
motion.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei slashes the ocean in a counterclockwise motion.

One of the sharks looks Wang-Zei in the eyes then charges at him.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

CAPTAIN LI-NA
(shouting)
Forward! Quick!

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei slashes forward, killing some sharks, half of which are spirits and the other half real. The remaining sharks continuously attempt to tip the boat over.

Zhang screams.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na hands the spyglass to Tomorbatar.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Continue to instruct Wang-Zei.

Tomorbatar nods as the captain walks over to the rest of the crew.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
(to the crew)
Unroll the rope ladders halfway down the hull. I need you now for those of you who have it in your hearts to stand up.

Captain Li-Na takes out her weapon then turns to the ocean. Using her seer, she charges towards the spirits then hits them.

As she hits them, they evaporate away and drop ore.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

The sharks continue to circle the boat.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The spirits charge towards Captain Li-Na.

The crewmates behind her look at each other overwhelmed.

The crewmates follow Captain Li-Na.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na and the rest of the crew descend from the rope ladder.

Once they place their feet on the junk, they are overwhelmed by the sharks and spirits.

Captain Li-Na nearly falls over because of the sharks rocking the boat. Crew #3 helps her.

Captain Li-Na smiles at Crew #3.

The sharks near the junk boat are floating upwards. They are dead. The remainder of the sharks swim away.

Captain Li-Na and Quartermaster Wang-Zei sigh simultaneously. They are relieved.

Wang-Zei picks up Zhang and props him over his shoulder.

Wang-Zei climbs up the rope ladder, the others on the junk boat follow.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Wang-Zei, Zhang, Captain Li-Na, and the rest of the crew enter from the junk boat.

Crew #3 turns around and sees the ocean illuminated due to the ores that have dropped from the shark attacks.

CREW #3

There's more!

Piranha-like spirits mixed with monkey and fish elements climb the hull of the boat. They are smaller than the sharks but move just as fast, if not even faster. They have shark-like teeth and compare to a male calf's size.

Crew #3 is so frightened that he falls over. The spirits continue to rush towards him. He crawls towards Quartermaster Wang-Zei.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei hands Zhang to Captain Li-Na.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Kill them all, and under no circumstances let them go below deck.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei nods then turns around with a fierce gaze.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
Prepare yourself Men!

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Johnny is lying on his hammock. Sidney enters in a frenzy and slams the door behind herself.

SIDNEY
They're screaming about monsters,
Johnny! Monsters!

Sidney whimpers.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
How do we get out of this now?

Johnny gets up from the hammock.

JOHNNY
Blimey! They just gave me my
freedom back and now there's
monsters out there?! I'd rather be
back in my cell!

SIDNEY
Monsters kill Johnny. Monsters
don't sing and dance. We have to
find a way out of here.

JOHNNY
We have to protect ourselves. We
need to get our swords back.

Sidney concentrates.

SIDNEY
Ordinary swords won't work against
these monsters.

Sidney runs over to her side of the cabin, takes out her seer, and puts it on.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
Earlier, Xiu told me that only
weapons made from ocean ore will
defeat them. And this eyepatch here
let's me see them. That's why we
couldn't see the monsters earlier.

Sidney traces her finger over her bare hand.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

There's a special ring I'll need as well. It'll allow us to touch them.

JOHNNY

Lead the way.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The crew members fight the spirits with their suitable weapons. Their techniques are swift and precise.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei slashes at the creatures, and they evaporate before him.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MED BAY - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na enters with Zhang over her shoulders.

Captain Li-Na locks the door behind herself.

The Doctor is sterilizing Doctoral instruments then turns around.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

He's in bad shape.

Captain Li-Na lays Zhang on the cot.

Captain Li-Na hands the Doctor a dagger.

The DOCTOR (kind and dependable demeanor) looks at the dagger with surprise.

DOCTOR

What's this for?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

If something were to happen, you have a weapon to protect yourself with. Don't forget to keep the door locked.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na runs down the hallway.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na enters, she sees that Johnny and Sidney's room is empty.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
My crew is dying because of him--
the girl will thank me for this
someday.

Captain Li-Na storms out.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - CONTINUOUS

Johnny and Sidney enter the forgery at the same time.

The hybrid spirit creature sneakily crawls in after them from the corridor, ignoring Johnny and going after Sidney.

Sidney runs to the table where the rings are. The creature creeps its way toward Sidney. Johnny spots it.

JOHNNY
(yelling)
Sidney, watch out!

Sidney looks around, eyes the creature then dodges it's lunge attack at her. Sidney squeals in surprise.

Captain Li-Na enters behind Johnny. He does not see her. Sidney does not see her either because she is on the other side of the room, and a divider full of weapons cuts through the room, blocking her vision.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
It is you who should watch out!

Captain Li-Na slashes at Johnny, but he dodges her attacks.

JOHNNY
(yelling)
Captain, what are you doing? You
must be possessed, why are you
trying to kill me?!

Captain Li-Na laughs at the irony.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
It's time you told your sister what
you are so we can all move on!

Captain Li-Na slashes once again, and Johnny misses her attack once again. He flees the forgery and runs out.

Sidney comes face to face with a spirit, but she does not have her ring. This means she cannot touch the creature, but it can touch her.

Sidney kicks the spirit, but like a ghost, her foot goes right through it.

The spirit creature bites Sidney's foot, Sidney lets out a bloodcurdling scream.

A thud is heard moments after Xiu enters.

Sidney, haphazardly, manages to reach for a ring on the table and puts it on.

Sidney eyes up the weapon rack. She falls en route there. Her leg is still injured.

Sidney crawls backward in a crab motion; along her way to the weapon rack, she throws whatever is in her path at the spirit creature. The items with ocean ore in them hit the creature instead of going right through it.

Xiu impales the monster with nearby furnace tongs made of ocean ore. She strikes it in the head.

Sidney and Xiu make their way out of the forgery.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Johnny is in the middle of the corridor with pirates coming from both ends; Xiu and Sidney also enter.

JOHNNY

She tried to kill me!

Captain Li-Na enters, everybody's eyes go to her.

Captain Li-Na's expression goes from wide-eyed to expressionless.

Sidney looks at Captain Li-Na in shock.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(to Johnny)

We'll talk about this later.

(to her crew)

This fight isn't over. Try to capture one of the spirits alive before they all run.

The crew continues to stare at her, unresponsive.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
That's an order!

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Tomorbatar, Xiu, and some of the crew members are gathered around a spirit monster tied to the main mast.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters and looks at all of them with a stern gaze.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
I know what you're thinking. We're not replacing this thing for Johnny.

Captain Li-Na enters and rolls her eyes.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
This creature is easier to compel and is not attached to a living human.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Johnny will not be replaced.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Don't you see Wang - He's bringing too much bad fortune, it's putting our own crew in danger! He won't just get his sister killed, but us too!

Quartermaster Wang-Zei scoffs.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
(sincerely)
Tay's death is unfortunate, and we'll pay our dues to his family when we return home. That's if we can get back home. Suppose we can use Johnny as bait.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
That may not be enough. With Zhang's condition and Tay being dead, we may lack the strength to go after the sea demon.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
(coldly/viciously)
We need Johnny, and that's final.

The captain and quartermaster stare at each other intensely. So intense to the point Captain Li-Na's pupils are shaking.

The crewmembers exchanged glances.

Captain Li-Na looks around then swallows.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
You're right.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks to the captain with confusion.

Captain Li-Na draws her sword equipped with ocean ore and slices the creature from the jaw to the brain. She pulls the sword out of it.

The spirit evaporates, sprinkling small ocean ore on the floor.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei frowns.

Captain Li-Na turns around, facing the quartermaster.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
Have you done what I asked?

Quartermaster Wang-Zei nods. All but the captain leave the room.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - DAY

Sidney is standing outside the captain's quarters with a furious expression, handcuffed and her head down.

Captain Li-Na enters.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Having your neck down like that can
put a strain on your back.

Sidney does not respond.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
When I was about your age, I had a
spasm in the middle of dinner. I
was so embarrassed. My mother told
me it happened because my neck was
always down.

Captain Li-Na smiles, but it disappears once she looks at Sidney's downtrodden expression.

Captain Li-Na lifts Sidney's chin with her index finger.

Sidney looks away.

Captain Li-Na moves Sidney's face to face hers. Sidney shuts her eyes.

SIDNEY

You can try, but I'll never do as you say. I don't trust you. I hate you.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

There's a reason for everything I do. You must have learned that. Out at sea—all of your time here and on Captain Pike's ship. Never doubt your Captain.

SIDNEY

(sarcastically)

Captain Pike? I'm surprised you remembered his name.

(normal voice)

You slaughtered him like he was a nobody. Why should I trust you anyway?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Don't you want to know why I would like to kill Johnny?

Sidney glares at Captain Li-Na. Captain Li-Na sighs.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

Sidney, would you care to play a game? As I tell you?

INT. BLACK SHIP - LATER

Captain Li-Na and Sidney are playing a game of mahjong.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I like you, Sidney. I appreciate you a lot. I have a younger sister just like you waiting at home. How much do you love your brother?

SIDNEY

Very much. You know that.

Captain Li-Na nods.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

You need to sacrifice one of your tiles to gain a better outcome.

SIDNEY

Is that all you see people as? Things to give up on as long as you get some reward out of it? Is that why you enjoy slaying spirits so much? Don't you think they're here for a reason and should be allowed to find their closure?

In silence, the pair finish the game.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

Hey, I won!

Captain Li-Na looks at Sidney with disbelief.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

(arrogantly)

What, because this game requires luck and strategy you didn't think I had a chance? You think I'm an incompetent and dumb British brat?

Captain Li-Na's face turns callous.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(shouting)

Wang-Zei!

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

Get her out of here! Now!

Quartermaster Wang-Zei grabs Sidney and escorts her out.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS- CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei throws Sidney out then slams the door, enclosing him and the captain.

Sidney goes up to the door and eavesdrops.

INT. BLACK SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na and Quartermaster Wang-Zei speak in low voices.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
We're getting close to the demon,
but we are running out of luck.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
What makes you think that?

CAPTAIN LI-NA
I never lose at mahjong.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
What does that have to do with
anything?

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Have you spoken to Johnny?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
Yes, and he has accepted our
proposal.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
(sadly)
He shouldn't have to die.

INT. BLACK SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Sidney gasps at the door.

Sidney closes her mouth.

INT. BLACK SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na and Quartermaster Wang-Zei hear Sidney's gasp.

They look at each other.

INT. BLACK SHIP - CONTINUOUS

Sidney freezes due to the silence on the other side of the
door.

Sidney backs away from the door then creeps away slowly.

Finally, Sidney runs off.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - DAY

Sidney enters to find Johnny in a fresh outfit. He is
mourning Tay and is dressed for his funeral.

Sidney opens her mouth to speak, and Johnny looks at her. She decides not to speak.

Sidney opens her mouth to speak again.

SIDNEY

You look great. I haven't seen you dressed up in quite some time.

Johnny looks at Sidney with sad and heavy eyes.

JOHNNY

We should respect their customs.
Get dressed, Sidney.

Sidney nods.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - DAY

Johnny is waiting outside the cabin. Sidney enters from the room, dressed in a clean outfit for Tay's funeral.

Johnny and Sidney make their way up the deck.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

All of the crew are gathered on the deck to honor the life of Tay.

His makeshift casket is in front of the crowd. On one side is Captain Li-Na, and on the other side is Quartermaster Wang-Zei. Tomorbatar and Xiu are in the front, with their heads down and lips closed.

By Captain Li-Na is a gourd with lit incense and candles. Next to Quartermaster Wang-Zei are beef jerky and ocean ore one-a-while blanket.

It begins to rain. Johnny and Sidney enter and stand in the back, next to the cook.

The cook coughs into his handkerchief, Sidney sees blood.

Crew #1 blows the conch horn.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

What Tay contributed aboard this ship was appreciated—appreciated so much that I will always consider him a valuable member of our crew.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

His body may have passed on, but his soul remains alive in these sails. His soul also lives on in his son, who waits for his father's items so that he can arrange a proper burial. Tay was brave and selfless, and we will avenge him by slaying the sea demon. That's what he would have wanted.

The deck is blanketed with a respectful silence until Zhang enters, hobbling in with his one bandaged leg. He has a walking stick lodged underneath his armpit.

Zhang lifts his walking stick and points it at Captain Li-Na.

ZHANG

This is all your fault!

Everyone directs their attention to Zhang.

Captain Li-Na frowns.

ZHANG (CONT'D)

Tay died because of you! You have been hiding things from the girl to protect her when you should have considered the crew. You speak about your crew and how much we mean to you, but your actions don't match your words.

The crew splits in half, reminiscent of Moses splitting the water, leaving Johnny, Sidney, and the cook staring at the crowd.

ZHANG (CONT'D)

How come we're the ones who have to keep it a secret from him? He's our prisoner!

CREW #4

You tried to have him killed before we got the sea demon.

The cook nods at Crew #2.

CREW #2

You might as well have tried to kill us. Isn't that so lads?

The crew murmurs in agreement.

COOK

Li-Na has her priorities out of order; that's the problem. She doesn't know what's more important to her, that girl, or our mission. The crew has spoken, and it is the quartermaster's job to be the bridge between the crew and captain. Those in favor of jailing the captain until we find a replacement after killing the sea demon say "I."

The majority of the crew says, "I."

In response, the cook smiles sinisterly.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei motions to take Captain Li-Na to the cell.

Captain Li-Na takes off her hat, surrendering, then tosses it Tomorbatar.

Tomorbatar catches the captain's hat and looks at it.

TOMORBATAR

(abruptly)

Jail me too!

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks at Tomorbatar with confusion.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)

If you jail Li-Na, I'll sit beside her in that cell.

Two crew members escort Captain Li-Na out, and Quartermaster Wang Zei follows her exit with his eyes, heavy with emotion.

QUARTEMASTER WANG-ZEI

(to himself)

You have to have seen this coming
Li-Na.

Captain Li-Na turns to Quartermaster Wang-Zei, twisting her head behind.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(through her teeth)

You will regret making a sacrifice
that isn't honest and true.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
 You shouldn't have tested my
 determination to see this mission
 end.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

SIDNEY
 We should be happy, Johnny.

JOHNNY
 Why's that?

SIDNEY
 The people that tried to kill you
 are being locked away. Now you will
 be okay. We will be okay.

Sidney looks down, startled.

Johnny takes hold of Sidney's hand then smiles at her
 reassuringly.

JOHNNY
 Yes, we will be okay.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

CREW #2
 This ship is completely out of
 order! We were promised victory,
 and now it seems like the only
 solution to our problems is jumping
 overboard!

The crew chatters in agreement.

CREW #3
 What are we going to do without a
 captain?

Xiu storms up to Quartermaster Wang Zei. As she does this,
 the cook smiles to himself, satisfied with the chaos he has
 caused.

XIU
 You have lied to all of us the
 entire time. You called all of us,
 including the captain and
 Tomorbatar, friends.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
Do not raise your voice at me!

XIU
Ha! Now you think you're the boss
of me. You're not! You're not
anything but a little weasel.

Sidney, Johnny, and the cook advance towards Xiu, the
siblings behind the cook.

Xiu stomps towards the triad, Johnny and Sidney flinch.

Xiu grabs the cook by the collar.

XIU (CONT'D)
What have you done to sway Wang-Zei
against his friends?

The cook smiles mischievously.

COOK
He is only doing what the captain
was not capable of.

The cook looks down at Xiu's gripping hands. Xiu lets go of
the cook's collar. The cook chuckles.

COOK (CONT'D)
Wise choice.

Xiu looks back at Wang-Zei.

XIU
(to Wang-Zei)
Things will only get worse from
here on out, not better.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - LATER

Wang Zei, the cook, Zhang, and Crew #2 are standing around.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
We are getting closer and closer to
the sea demon, but our fortune is
running out faster than I can
count.

COOK
What do we do, Wang-Zei?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
We must slay Johnny--at once.

Crew #2 clears his throat.

CREW #2

How many of our men will take
junks, with Zhang being injured?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Three, four tops.

ZHANG

Is the ship even ready?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

It will be-- if we get started as
soon as possible. Now that I am
doing two jobs at once, I am going
to need the diligence of all of
you. Is that clear?

They all nod.

COOK

Zhang, I must say that your courage
to speak against the captain was
eye-opening. I didn't know you had
it in you.

The men look at the cook with deadpan eyes.

COOK (CONT'D)

That was a joke, everybody.

ZHANG

If you don't mind me asking, why
are you and the captain fighting?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

The last captain of the ship,
before Li-Na, led us on a similar
path. His plan was not honorable.
That is why only the three of us
knew about it. He did, I did, and
Li-Na did. The spirit found out
what we were truly planning and
fled before the fight even began.
All of this was conducive to not
having enough good fortune and our
former captain perishing in the
fight. We were forced to retreat.

(pause)

Li-Na spoke with him last, they
were very close, and he told her a
confession that she later told me,
and now you all know too.

Zhang and Crew #2 are shocked and gaze at Quartermaster Wang-Zei.

ZHANG

You must tell us who the spirit was that was in Johnny's place during the last voyage. What became of them?

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

That's one piece of information I never discovered. I suspect Li-Na might know but she's never said a word about it.

The cook is bored and expressionless.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei turns to the cook.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

See to it that the captain and Tomorbatar receive their meals.

The cook nods then walks towards the exit.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

Serve Li-Na beef and some drink and double Tomorbatar's portions. He stress eats.

The cook stops then turns around.

COOK

Very well, Captain.

The cook turns back around then rolls his eyes. He sees Johnny wanting to enter the Captain's quarters on his way out.

The cook and Johnny stare at each other.

COOK (CONT'D)

You must be quite pleased that your would-be-killer is now jailed.

JOHNNY

Quite.

COOK

(mockingly singing)
She deserves the worst if you ask me.

Johnny enters, and the cook exits.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is walking towards the forgery.

When Sidney comes to the door, she hears aggressive banging and pounding.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - CONTINUOUS

Sidney enters; Xiu is hammering aggressively, obviously angry.

Sidney stops, wondering if she should bother her, but continues to prepare to get her attention.

Sidney inches closer, flinching at Xiu's hammering.

SIDNEY

That poor hammer, it's gonna have a headache once you're through with that.

Sidney laughs at herself.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

Just kidding, hammers can't get headaches, but people can. Do you want to talk?

Xiu does not respond, and she continues working.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry for not listening to you sooner, and I don't want to make that mistake again.

Xiu puts her tools down.

XIU

What do you need, Sidney?

SIDNEY

The strange thing is I already got what I wanted because the captain is in jail, but I still feel like Johnny isn't safe onboard. I'm starting to believe that the captain isn't the only person who wants him dead.

Xiu looks at Sidney in a very matter-of-fact way.

XIU

Do you recall anything gruesome happening to your brother?

SIDNEY

The day before your ship attacked Captain Pike's, Johnny was in a duel.

Sidney furrows her brows, confused.

XIU

In any case, you might want to speak to Johnny about it.

Sidney shakes her head.

SIDNEY

Johnny is so happy that the captain is away. I would hate to bring up any painful memories.

Xiu completes her project she has been banging away at. It is a key.

Sidney looks over at the key, confused.

XIU

The only other person that will be honest with you is Captain Li-Na. Nothing happens on her ship without her knowing about it.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

JOHNNY

From one man to another, I want to know why my sister remains uneasy even though you put that wench in her place?! In a cell where she belongs.

Wang-Zei bursts out laughing, amused by his false arrogance.

Johnny struggles to keep his face and is successful.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

I agree, Li-Na was out of line trying to "end" you, but her reasons were noble.

JOHNNY

What noble reason could there be to
kill someone who causes no trouble?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

There could be many reasons Johnny;
nature, protection--

Quartermaster Wang-Zei puts his finger in the middle of
Johnny's forehead.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

Foresight.

Johnny moves away from Wang-Zei.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

I'll save the boring conversation
and cut to why Li-Na felt she
needed to do what she did or wanted
to do. You, Johnny, are a spirit.
You were dead before we even met
you.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - DAY

Captain Li-Na is sitting in the cell, put away in fear of a
revolt/mutiny.

Captain Li-Na looks down, sadly and contemplatively.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na is seated in her cell, looking off to the
distance. Three guards are standing, watching the captain and
Tomorbatar, who is in the cell next to Li-Na.

TOMORBATAR (O.S.)

(singing)

Days at sea are not for me. I want
to kiss the sand./I want to dance
and sing all day and kiss a lady's
hand./

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(shouting)

Shut up, why don't you?!

(to one of the guards)

Hey, Momma's boy, could you do
something about his singing?

The guard does not respond.

Sidney enters. The guards stop her from entering.

SIDNEY
I need to speak with the captain.
It is very important.

GUARD #1
I'm sure.

TOMORBATAR
(singing)
If you don't let the girl through,
I will hit you with my shoe.

The guards chuckle but straightens his face immediately.

GUARD #1
We'll be waiting here, don't make
it long.

Sidney walks up to Captain Li-Na's cell.

SIDNEY
I need the truth now.

Captain Li-Na chuckles weakly.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
You're not ready for the truth
Sidney.

SIDNEY
Yes, I am; that's why I'm here.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
We only kept you alive as a spirit
because the more you attach
yourself to Sidney and this world,
the more valuable you become after
death. Once we kill you, you will
give us good fortune, enough to
fight this bigger spirit.

Johnny frowns, disappointed.

JOHNNY
I understand.

Johnny sighs.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

I just want to get home to protect my family. What value is there in a dead man?

Johnny smiles, full of self-pity.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELLAR - CONTINUOUS

CAPTAIN LI-NA

When you love somebody, you'd do anything for them.

SIDNEY

I know that I'd do anything for Johnny.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

And he'd do anything for you. He already has.

SIDNEY

I know that.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

No, you don't.

Sidney looks at the captain with confusion.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

All of this is for my sister.

SIDNEY

Does your sister know that you planned on killing an innocent boy?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Innocence is a one-way street. Good intention is a two-way street.

SIDNEY

If you have good intentions, then you are innocent.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Not necessarily.

Guard #1 enters.

GUARD #1

Time's up.

Sidney looks at Captain Li-Na longingly, then exits with the guard.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Johnny is on his cot, looking up at the ceiling, depressed.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - MORNING

SIDNEY

Johnny, I wish I could be stronger.
I wish I wouldn't be such a little
kid, but--I'm scared.

JOHNNY

Sidney, whatever it is, I'm here
for you. I'm your big brother, and
it doesn't matter if you're scared
because I can get rid of everything
you are afraid of.

Johnny and Sidney look each other in the eye, complete understanding but silent sadness blanketing the cabin.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - MORNING

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar are speaking but are in two different cells.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Everything is about to happen, and
there is nothing we can do to
prevent it.

TOMORBATAR

It's funny, all this time I felt
like I was doing something good,
but now, it feels like I'm doing
something--

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Terrible.

TOMORBATAR

For lack of a better word.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I feel the same way. Now I am
finally starting to second guess
myself.

TOMORBATAR

You? The captain?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Yes.

Captain Li-Na lets out an effortless laugh.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

Me, the captain. That boy is going to die for a sacrifice, and there is nothing I can do. To be used as a pawn is not a noble death.

TOMORBATAR

That boy is a spirit.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

That spirit has a sister who is going to miss him like crazy. Just like I miss my sister, only I can return home to her.

TOMORBATAR

The battle ahead of us isn't going to be a morning walk either.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I can only hope that it goes well. Now I don't know.

TOMORBATAR

Everything is so unsure.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

But at the same time, everything is about to happen. The future is uncertain. It always is.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - MORNING

The crew is preparing for battle, and Johnny is looking at the preparations.

Crew #1 is fumbling with some rope. Johnny walks over and untangles the ropes.

Crew #1 smiles at Johnny weakly.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MESS HALL - MORNING

Johnny and Sidney are seated with the rest of the crew eating the cook's grand feast; among it are some of Johnny and Sidney's favorite foods.

SIDNEY

Look, Johnny, it's all your favorite foods.

Johnny swirls the food around with a knife, disinterested. His mind is on something else.

CREW #3

Looks like with those two away, we can let our hair down.

The crew raises their glasses.

CREW #2

To freedom!

ALL

Freedom!

CREW #4

And victory!

ALL

Victory!

The crew begins pushing each other around, intoxicated and recklessly.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters and scans the mess hall with intense judgement.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

(shouting)

I will not have drinking this close to the day of the battle! What is wrong with all of you?

Quartermaster Wang-Zei goes up to the table, picks up a glass, and sniffs it.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

Is this what you're all up to when I'm gone?

CREW #1

Our last captain would have been okay with it. We're just celebrating.

The cook walks up to Wang-Zei.

COOK

Wang-Zei, maybe you should go easy on them, you know? You were just awarded captain, and just as fast as you were given it, it can be taken away.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

You are one to talk! You cannot give me advice on leadership or human relations. You sure know nothing about respect!

The cook grimaces.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MESS HALL - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is eating, and Johnny continues to play with his food. She listens in on the crew members, gossiping about them.

CREW #2

(whispering)

We won't have to deal with them much longer.

CREW #3

(whispering)

Yeah, their bodies will be great fishing--chum?

Crew #2 and Crew #3 snicker among themselves, then look at Sidney and Johnny.

CREW #2

One of them has to be a goner.

Sidney holds her head; she is getting dizzy.

Crew #4 walks over to Johnny.

CREW #4

(sings song)

Here Boy, have one of these. They make the bad thoughts go away.

Sidney stands, knocking the glass of alcohol over.

CREW #4 (CONT'D)

You little brat! That stuff isn't the easiest to come by, you know?

(MORE)

CREW #4 (CONT'D)

If you haven't noticed, we are out at sea and are about to battle a spirit, and you're knocking things over like a toddler. You and your brother have been nothing but trouble since we captured you!

Sidney stares at the glass. She sees her reflection but not her brother's.

Sidney gasps and begins to hyperventilate.

Johnny grabs Sidney's hand.

JOHNNY

Sidney, remember when father took us boating--he told us to make the best of our situations? I want to help the crew defeat the sea demon, and there's something else I need to say to you.

SIDNEY

(interrupting)

No, no, no, no, this can't be happening!

JOHNNY

Just listen to me!

SIDNEY

No!

Sidney exits, running.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - CONTINUOUS

Sidney enters and stomps up to the Captain and Tomorbatar. The guards stand there in bemusement.

SIDNEY

Why couldn't you tell me the truth?
(crying)
You didn't tell me Johnny is a spirit-- and that he's dead.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

You needed to see him for who he was instead of what you wished he would be. I had to let you find out yourself that he wasn't actually alive. It's a part of growing up.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

He can't be your dependable older brother forever. Sometimes your brother needs to depend on you. That is why he's a spirit.

SIDNEY

Why didn't you just tell me the day I stepped foot on your ship?

TOMORBATAR

She thought it would make it easier for you to accept what he's become. To discover the closure you need.

SIDNEY

Well, what does she know? All she does is drink all day to drown in her sorrows about the last captain. You second guess all your decisions, and you act like you know more than me, but I don't think you do! I think you're just as lost as I am.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Like hell I am! What do you know about me?

SIDNEY

Nothing--I was wrong. I thought someone as honorable as you would be able to tell me the ugly truth, not just use me to keep Johnny attached to the living world.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

The truth has been in front of you the whole time.

TOMORBATAR

How can he handle his fears when he's burdened with the thought of you and yours? Oceans spirits can only dwell here when their thoughts are so consumed with the living and having to leave something behind. How can he ever expect to pass on peacefully when you're selfish and not letting him move on?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Your brother has protected you for so long that he can't imagine leaving you behind to fend for yourself. Show him how strong you are and can be for his sake. That's the least you can do for him.

Sidney shakes her head and groans; she is in disbelief.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MED BAY - CONTINUOUS

The doctor is treating Zhang.

The cook enters, he clears his throat to make his presence known.

The doctor turns around.

DOCTOR

Hello. Are you here about--

COOK

Yes.

DOCTOR

Ah. I thought so. You should go through with your plans.

ZHANG

What are the two of you planning?

DOCTOR

Nothing for you to worry about.

COOK

Yes, all you have to know is that somebody will be saying their final goodbye very shortly.

Zhang looks at the cook and doctor suspiciously.

DOCTOR

You better not say a word.

The doctor disinfects Zhang's leg, he groans in pain.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - CONTINUOUS

JOHNNY

I knew since last night. Wang-Zei has given me a noble way to pass on.

Sidney sniffles.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Please, Sidney, I need you to be strong.

Sidney begins to cry.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Don't cry for me, Sidney.

Johnny and Sidney hug.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

It's going to happen tonight. The coordinates are unpredictable, and we could come in contact with the sea demon anytime. I have accepted my fate.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - SUNSET

Johnny is dressed in ceremonial black as Sidney looks out at sea, bathed in the rosy light of dusk.

Sidney turns to look at Johnny.

Crew #1 shakes Johnny's hand.

CREW #1

Thank you.

Crew #2 shakes Johnny's hand.

CREW #2

Thank you for your sacrifice.

Crew #3 shakes Johnny's hand.

CREW #3

Thank you.

Xiu shakes Johnny's hand. Johnny grips Xiu's hand.

JOHNNY

Can I ask a favor from you?

XIU
Whatever you need.

JOHNNY
Sidney has a knack for learning skills. Could you teach her some practical forgery skills? They will come in handy later.

Xiu nods.

XIU
I'd be honored to.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar sit in their cells as they listen in on the guards.

GUARD #1
We're missing the ceremony right now. It's going to be big.

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar look up.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is still looking at the sea; Hai approaches her.

HAI
Johnny is great. He is a hard worker, everybody else would be complaining, but he just kept working. Without a complaint, that's amazing. You don't see that a lot. He is a really good sailor and the only person who puts up with the other crew mates' abuse.

Sidney does not respond.

HAI (CONT'D)
He does it because he loves you.

SIDNEY
My entire life, I looked up to Johnny as protection. He was always my big brother, the person I could count on the most. But now I finally realize he never had anyone to come to if he felt scared. I'm so selfish.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Sidney.

Sidney turns around, facing Wang-Zei.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)
The killing strike will be swift
and painless.

SIDNEY
Wang-Zei?

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Hmm?

SIDNEY
May I do the honors?

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks at Sidney with surprise and
disgust.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
The captain told me that her one
regret was not getting proper
closure with the former captain.
She used his death as a pawn to
secure her position as captain. I
don't want to make the same
mistake.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei does not respond.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
Please, just this one request, I
won't bother you ever again.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei nods his head, agreeing.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is standing over Johnny with a sword in her hand. The
rest of the crew is gathered around them, watching in awe.

Johnny shakes his head.

JOHNNY
Not you, Sidney; you can't be the
one to do this.

SIDNEY

For once, let me do something on my own. Listen to me. The first thing I want to say is that I love you more than anything in the world. You've taken care of me for as long as I can remember and I trust and love you more than anybody.

Tears form in Johnny's eyes.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

Now I'm going to apologize to you.

JOHNNY

What do you have to be sorry for Sid?

SIDNEY

I never took a second of my life to consider how it felt to be you. The older brother who always had to look after his clumsy, accident-prone sister. It must have been hard and sometimes near-impossible. That's why you're here Johnny; you need me. You need someone to depend on.

Johnny conceals his tears by shifting forward and looking down, letting his bangs cover his eyes.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

Ever since Dad passed away, you took on the role of my protector. So the last thing I want to say to you is

(voice breaking)

Thank you.

Johnny lifts his head, crying uncontrollably.

Sidney begins to sob.

Johnny and Sidney laugh then hug each other.

Suddenly, Johnny's body begins to disappear. The crew looks shocked.

Johnny's body glitters like diamonds and stars then floats away into the sky. Ocean ores drop onto the deck.

Sidney drops to her knees. She is shaking and crying as she picks up the ocean ore. The sword drops to the ground.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei drops his head as Hai walks over to Sidney and puts his hand on her shoulder.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - MORNING

Sidney is sitting in the corner, looking down at the floor numbly.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

I understand that you are grieving,
but you must re-shift your focus in
order to begin training.

Sidney lifts her head.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

For the fight, I suggest you visit
the Doctoral bay to prepare.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MED BAY - MORNING

Sidney is speaking to the doctor who is disinfecting instruments.

SIDNEY

I didn't know emotions could be so
strong. I didn't know they had the
power to make your body ache and
your head hurt. Yesterday I ate,
dressed, did some chores, and
slept. But today, I cried since the
moment I woke up. Breakfast was
salty, and there were so many tears
in my eyes I couldn't see the
clothes I was putting on. I found
it hard to get up, and I couldn't--
I can't--close my eyes without
seeing his face.

Sidney begins crying.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

(crying)

It hurts. I just want it to stop.

DOCTOR

Sidney, everybody deals with grief
differently.

(MORE)

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Losing a loved one is an intense loss, but the only way to move on is to erase the sadness you are feeling. If you don't, it will become a hindrance to your well-being. Look after yourself first and foremost because putting your love into another human being just sets you up for the inevitable. Now, if you don't mind, there are real patients with physical ailments that I must treat. A good place to start is keeping your mind busy.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - MORNING

Sidney enters with two plates of food.

Sidney throws the plates at Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar.

All jump at Sidney's abrupt action.

SIDNEY

Act like pigs, eat like pigs.

Sidney exits.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

A) Quartermaster Wang-Zei swiftly strikes the flour sack with a sword. Sidney follows.

B) Quartermaster Wang-Zei climbs up the mast halfway; he looks over to see that Sidney had done the same.

C) Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Sidney fight each other with swords. They are both very skilled.

D) Sidney rolls under Wang-Zei then strikes him in the back. He turns around and smiles slightly.

E) It is sundown, and Sidney tucks her sword away. Wang-Zei and Sidney shake hands.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - AFTERNOON

The crew is preparing for the final fight, creating chaos on deck. They are assembling the ship into a giant obstacle course. They add planks, monkey bars, and ladders.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Sidney looks on in awe.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters behind Sidney.

QUARtermASTER WANG-ZEI
Impressive, isn't it? They failed to slay the demon last time because they were like sitting ducks on a deck. With everything spread out, the monster won't know where to attack. You will be fighting alongside me, on the front lines. Since you took care of Johnny instead of me, you acquired the most good fortune.

SIDNEY
What does that mean?

QUARtermASTER WANG-ZEI
You will be my shield for lack of a better term, which means now is not the time to be afraid.

SIDNEY
I'm not afraid anymore, and I will be damned if I will allow my brother to die in vain.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - LATER

XIU
Come over here a second!

Sidney walks over to Xiu; she raises a crossbow weapon.

XIU (CONT'D)
I'll teach you how to make it.
Follow me to the forgery.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - CONTINUOUS

Sidney puts the finishing touches on the cross-bow then lifts it up.

Xiu smiles, proud of Sidney.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The crew is secretly drinking; the cook is distributing it.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - FLASHBACK

Wang-Zei and former CAPTAIN SAO, the black ship's former captain, are having a conversation.

Captain Sao opens his mouth to speak but closes his mouth. He is visibly anxious.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Do you have something to say?

Captain Sao shakes his head.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

I've had enough of this. We need to slay this demon and return home.

CAPTAIN SAO

I'm not doing all of this for the village or even to return home.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

What do you mean?

CAPTAIN SAO

I have been the captain of this ship for fifteen years, and now, after this kill, I am going to discover the truth, and the truth is back home. You're a good man, Wang-Zei, and I trust you enough to tell you what I know after this mission. But I warn you; you may not take it well.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - FLASHBACK

Wang-Zei has left, and Captain Sai is standing, looking off to the distance.

Li-Na enters; at the time, she is a quartermaster.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Did you need me, Captain?

CAPTAIN SAO

I have something very important and shocking to tell you.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Okay.

CAPTAIN SAO

The cook--he's not what you think.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I don't understand.

CAPTAIN SAO

The cook--he's a spirit.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

What?

CAPTAIN SAO

I had to tell you because we need a good fortune.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Does that mean--

CAPTAIN SAO

(interrupting)

Yes. We must kill him to harvest his good fortune for the battle. Li-Na, you have been an outstanding quartermaster.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Thank you, Captain Sao.

CAPTAIN SAO

Can I trust you to keep this secret?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Yes, Captain.

CAPTAIN SAO

Good. I can always count on you.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CABIN - FLASHBACK

A couple of minutes have passed since the last scene; Captain Sao is furious and is pacing back and forth around the cabin.

Captain Li-Na enters.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Captain, I'm sorry. I can't find him anywhere.

Captain Sao slams his fist on the desk, Li-Na winces.

CAPTAIN SAO

That pathetic coward. I should have known.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

If it were up to me, I would have tortured him until he complied. He wouldn't have the energy to run away. Well, technically, he would be as close to death as a spirit could be.

Captain Sao shakes his head, disapproving Li-Na's approach.

CAPTAIN SAO

You are too impulsive, Li-Na. You cannot be this way when dealing with spirits.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I may not know spirits, but I know the strategy, and it would be wise to turn back today without the cook's sacrifice.

CAPTAIN SAO

(snarling)

No, it has to be today. I am so close to discovering the truth about the sea demon I can't turn back now. It is calling to me. It is written all over the stars and in the sea. The voices of celestial beings sing to me; they tell me that I can't. I know you or anybody else doesn't hear them, but they won't leave me alone. It must be important.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I will lead the crew into victory against the sea demon. I promise.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Sidney is walking along the deck. She is contemplative and downcast. The weather matches her mood. Clouds are gathering, and it looks like there will be a storm.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters and grabs Sidney by the arm.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Remember what we practiced. There's
no room for error because one
impulsive mistake can lead to
death.

SIDNEY
It's here.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

The giant spirit sits before the black ship. It opens its mouth, and it is colossal. Inside the mouth are transparent human spirits.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (V.O.)
A creature like this feeds on human
spirits. That's what you see. They
feed on people's misery and those
who have never gotten closure.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Sidney looks at the spirits with deep sorrow.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Not a second to waste! Let's go! Prepare for battle.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The crew members are putting on their rings and gathering their weapons. This is done uniformly like a dance. There is a lack of chaos because Quartermaster Wang-Zei has prepared them very well.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Aim for the mouth and avoid its
attacks. Remember, do not try to
fight it; aim to kill.

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

Five miniature junks are sailing towards the giant creature. Hai operates the lead junk.

Hai narrows his eyes, concentrating on the giant spirit.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Sidney leads Wang-Zei and two other crew members. They run up the steps and onto the forecast deck.

The spirit's tentacle surges towards the four; they all duck avoiding its force.

SIDNEY

That was a close one.

CREW #3

Don't speak too soon.

The spirit's tentacle surges towards them again; Sidney, Wang-Zei, and Crew #3 duck, avoiding the tentacle.

Crew #4 is hit and falls below onto the main deck, onto a crate to cushion his fall. He grimaces.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Sidney climbs up a ladder and jumps onto a rope, gripping it and swinging back and forth.

Sidney swings over to a contraption attached to the sail closest to the sea monster.

Wang-Zei jumps towards the rope then grips it. He swings over to the contraption to meet Sidney as he lands successfully.

Crew #3 jumps onto the rope but ends up swinging on an angle; causing him to dangle

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

The ship moved; that's why he's dangling.

Sidney examines Crew #3 dangling on the rope.

SIDNEY

Rock back and forth. Forward and back.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei grabs Sidney's arm then whispers in her ear.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

(whispering)

There's no time for that; we'll go without him.

Sidney stares at Crew #3, who is rocking back and forth, his situation not improving much.

Sidney nods, agreeing reluctantly.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - DAY

Captain Li-Na picks the key out of the splattered food.

Captain Li-Na uses the key to free herself. She then runs over to Tomorbatar's cell and frees him.

TOMORBATAR

Where did you get that?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

If it were any smaller, it'd be in my stomach right now.

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar exit.

INSERT FLASHBACK.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - FLASHBACK

Captain Li-Na and Sidney are playing mahjong.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Most likely, Wang-Zei will go against me in the end.

SIDNEY

Really?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

When that time comes, I will need your help.

SIDNEY

For what?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

For now, act like you are on his side.

SIDNEY

I don't understand.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

You will understand soon enough.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - FLASHBACK

Xiu hands Sidney a key, the key that sets Li-Na and Tomorbatar free.

XIU

The guards will suspect you are up to something once you're close to the cells. You will have to get this to them without the guards knowing.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - FLASHBACK

Sidney looks around as she slides the key into the food she throws at them.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CELL - FLASHBACK

Sidney throws the food at Captain Li-Na.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - DAY

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar look and see that the guards are gone.

TOMORBATAR

We need to be prepared for battle.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

We must split up. You go to your quarters, and I will go to mine, there we will gather everything we need.

TOMORBATAR

Better I go to the forgery, everything I need is there.

Captain Li-Na nods, the two of them exit in opposite directions of each other.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na is rummaging through her quarters and gathering her things; the cook enters unnoticed.

The cook closes the door behind himself, Li-Na stops and turns around.

The cook chuckles.

COOK
Missing something?

Captain Li-Na laughs sarcastically.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
This is no surprise. You are as repetitive as you are calculating. It is in your nature to be a nuisance. I pity a pathetic creature like you.

COOK
Pity me? Save it, Li-Na.

Captain Li-Na scoffs.

COOK (CONT'D)
At first, I didn't want to hurt you. At first, I was remorseful about Captain Sao's death, but I do not regret anything now, thanks to your attitude.

The cook inches closer to Li-Na.

COOK (CONT'D)
Actually, I am happy to be the one who kills you.

Captain Li-Na looks at the cook with a dead expression.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
I will be the one to finish you off once and for all.

Captain Li-Na's limbs get loose, causing her to wobble.

Captain Li-Na grips her desk, the cook smirks.

COOK
You don't seem to be feeling well. How about a game? Mahjong? If you beat me, I'll tell you where your seer, rings, and weapons are.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Deal.

Captain Li-Na holds her head. She is seeing double of the cook.

Captain Li-Na closes her eyes in an attempt to regain herself, and when she opens them, she sees the room is dim and eerie. The mahjong board is already set up.

Captain Li-Na walks over to the mahjong board. She goes to sit down but falls on her knees instead.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
(frustrated)
What did you do to me?

The cook takes out a vial and chuckles. He wiggles the vial back and forth.

COOK
This stuff can make even a beast
see the wildest of hallucinations.
How many things in this room you've
touched will--

The cook moves his arms around sporadically as his eyes roll backwards.

COOK (CONT'D)
Cuckoo, you'll get. I spread the
concoction everywhere.

The cook sways his head to the corner where there is an empty jar with tiny bits of liquid at the bottom—the same concoction.

Captain Li-Na sniffs the air then laughs.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
What a silly, childish prank, and
it won't stop me from winning.

The cook sits down, the game begins.

The cook moves his first piece.

Li-Na presses her finger down, the piece jolts and screams up, on impact.

Li-Na winces, then gasps. Sweat falls from her forehead.

COOK
You look pathetic.

The cook moves his piece.

COOK (CONT'D)

You will die trying to live. The more you touch the piece, the more you'll experience unbearable pain.

Captain Li-Na's eyes widen; the hallucination is causing her to see the room transform into a sea of blood.

Captain Li-Na screams but continues to play, moving her piece.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - FLASHBACK

The crew is fighting the sea demon successfully; precise swordplay, experienced footwork, and everything in between.

Captain Sao falls from the sea demon to the ship's deck. He is severely injured.

Li-Na hurries over and leans over him, deeply concerned.

CAPTAIN SAO

(strained)

My sword.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Yes?

CAPTAIN SAO

(strained)

Please grab it; it is still in the monster's back.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

It's too late to go back for it.

CAPTAIN SAO

(muttering)

Wang Zei--the sword.

Captain Li-Na begins to tear up.

INT. BLACK SHIP/HALLWAY - FLASHBACK

Li-Na is waiting in the hallway outside of the Doctoral bay.

The doctor enters from the Doctoral bay.

DOCTOR

I am sorry.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - FLASHBACK

Wang-Zei, Hai, Tomorbatar, and the rest of the crew are standing, waiting for news.

Li-Na enters and shakes her head.

They lower their heads, saddened by Captain Sao's passing.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Hai, sail us away from the monster.
We will avenge him another day.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - FLASHBACK

As the ship sails away, the sound of an eerie whale wail is heard.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MESS HALL - FLASHBACK

The crew is surrounding Wang-Zei, who is seated.

CREW #1

Where do we go next?

CREW #2

Yeah, it feels like we're sailing
off to nowhere.

CREW #4

What are we asking him for? Li-Na
should be our new Captain!

Li-Na and Wang-Zei look at each other.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Rather than fight about who is
captain, Li-Na and I shall take
your votes. We will elect the
position.

Tomorbatar nods his head.

TOMORBATAR

That seems fair.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MESS HALL - FLASHBACK

Tomorbatar is keeping track of the tally. Some have opted to vote early, and Wang-Zei is currently in the lead.

CREW #2

Li-Na honestly wouldn't be the right choice. Sao favored Wang-Zei over her.

Li-Na turns and glares at Crew #2.

Captain Li-Na exits.

Wang-Zei looks up at her exit.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - FLASHBACK

Xiu is forging a weapon.

Li-Na enters.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Forge me a sword! Just like Captain Sao's.

Xiu looks at Li-Na, confused and startled.

XIU

Li-Na, I don't know if that's a good idea. A weapon is an extension of one's personality; replication is like taking somebody's identity.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

If you don't obey me, I will request a duel for the captain position. If that duel happens, I will take Wang-Zei's life.

Xiu sighs then nods her head.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

I'll need it within the hour. You better get to work.

Li-Na turns around. She feels like somebody is watching; she is correct in her assumption.

Li-Na looks at Xiu one last time then exits.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - FLASHBACK

Li-Na is standing before the crew.

Li-Na holds up the sword Xiu made for her.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Our former captain entrusted me with his weapon. It is a great honor that I am able to hold it. It may shock most of you, but his last words were--that he wanted me to be captain. This is not a ruse for me to win; that is bad taste. However, I could not keep his last words selfishly to myself.

The crew chatters among themselves.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

I guess the answer is obvious then.

CREW #4

Li-Na for Captain!

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - FLASHBACK

Captain Li-Na enters and twirls around. She is very happy with how everything has turned out.

Captain Li-Na skips over to the desk and runs her fingers along the desk.

Captain Li-Na's finger stops at a piece of paper that has Captain Sao's writing on it.

Captain Li-Na looks at the piece of paper longingly, and her smile turns into a frown.

Captain Li-Na picks up the paper and sees that it is coming from out of the journal.

Captain Li-Na reads the journal.

"SHAMAN NOT TELLING US EVERYTHING?"

"DOES THE SEA DEMON REALLY NEED TO BE KILLED?"

Captain Li-Na wrinkles her brow, confused.

The cook knocks on the door, off screen.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Go away.

The cook enters, Captain Li-Na lunges to kill the cook.

COOK

If you kill me, my accomplice on this boat will reveal the truth about that wanna-be sword of yours.

The cook eyes the sword at Captain Li-Na's side.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

How do you know?

COOK

Hmm.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

How do you know it's a fake?

COOK

You didn't see me, but I was there. You and Xiu had an--interesting conversation.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

What do you want? Tell me who your accomplice is.

The cook smirks then walks around the quarters.

COOK

My request is quite simple. I want to live and experience the human spirit a little longer.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

You don't get it. It's inevitable; you will turn into a monster spirit as soon as your thoughts become corrupt and detached from human emotions.

COOK

Me? A monster? Why I don't think that would suit me. A liar like you maybe, but not me.

The cook smirks.

Captain Li-Na draws her sword and holds it to the cook's throat.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Blackmail doesn't work on me. I'll kill you and whoever your accomplice is, who is probably just as cowardly as you are. So I'm not worried.

The cook frowns.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

I doubt Captain Sao told you anything.

COOK

You're right; he hasn't. However, being in this room allows you to research as much as possible, but if me and my accomplice rat you out, you'll be in a jail cell, or worse, your crew will kill you.

The cook looks at Captain Li-Na with certainty.

Captain Li-Na puts her sword down and nods, understanding.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

You have a deal.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - DAY

COOK

Oh my, it looks like my piece is just running away from yours!

The cook giggles maniacally.

Captain Li-Na is noticeably disorientated.

Captain Li-Na moves her foot forward; she is electrocuted.

Captain Li-Na moves her foot back; she is electrocuted.

Captain Li-Na moves her hand to strike the cook, and she is electrocuted.

Captain Li-Na puts her hands back down. When she looks down at them, they appear twisted in unnatural swirls.

Captain Li-Na gasps.

Captain Li-Na wipes her forearm over her forehead. She looks down after wiping away sweat and sees that the epidermis is gone. All she sees is bone.

Captain Li-Na grimaces at the sight of it.

COOK (CONT'D)

What is it, Li-Na? Feeling uneasy?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Mmm.

COOK

I can't hear you.

Captain Li-Na smirks.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

It's over.

COOK

It certainty is.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Indeed, you won. I will not allow a rookie move to be made.

Captain Li-Na falls to the ground.

COOK

How does a do-over sound?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Sounds like a fantasy.

Captain Li-Na musters the strength to get back up and walk over to her desk.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

I'm afraid I have lost. That means-
- I won't get my weapons back. I
suppose I can't kill you, right?

The cook looks at Captain Li-Na suspiciously.

Captain Li-Na opens a drawer. In the drawer, we see Captain Pike's ore from the beginning of the film.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MED BAY - DAY

Zhang is sitting down as the doctor speaks.

DOCTOR

I plan on leaving this ship. If you would care to join me, make sure to go by the kitchen and pack a bag.

ZHANG

But a pirate fleeing from a ship is like a soldier fleeing from the battlefield. It would make me a coward.

DOCTOR

Better a coward than a corpse.

The doctor looks over at the jar of the concoction he gave to the cook.

The doctor smirks.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

This ship is a sailing graveyard.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Sidney and Wang-Zei are running, Sidney leading the way.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Sidney!

Sidney stops.

SIDNEY

Yes?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

You have to jump into its mouth.

SIDNEY

What? I will die.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

You will not die the mouth is missing teeth. Besides, the only way to kill the beast is to get inside it. Our harpoons cannot puncture its scales.

SIDNEY

I don't know if I can. Johnny fought so hard to preserve my life and for me to just throw it away--

Sidney begins to run but turns around.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

There must be another way, Captain.

Sidney exits, running while endlessly dodging falling wood and tentacle attacks. The quartermaster huffs in frustration.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Sidney enters on another side of the boat, up with the sails, a few of the crew members ambush her by giving her insults for abandoning the mission. Hai enters.

HAI

Leave her alone.

Tomorbatar enters, holding onto his seer. Hai points at him. The crew member's gaze follows.

Xiu enters, standing next to Tomorbatar.

SIDNEY

(to Hai)

Thank you.

Hai nods.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

Why didn't I have to wear a seer to see Johnny?

Tomorbatar looks down at his seer.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

I've been wondering for some time, but it never seemed like the right time to ask.

Zhang enters unnoticed.

HAI

We're in the middle of a battle, but humans can see human spirits if they choose to be seen by humans. But demon spirits have no choice but to be invisible to the naked eye.

Tomorbatar looks over at Zhang.

TOMORBATAR

Zhang, I do not hold you responsible for me and Li-Na being jailed. May I speak with you later?

Zhang nods.

Tomorbatar points at Wang-Zei.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)

I have a score to settle with that one.

He points at Wang-Zei, who is floating from the top of the sail by moving a spirit monster beneath his feet.

Wang-Zei stands on the spirit's back.

Wang-Zei rides it back onto the deck.

SIDNEY

How is he doing that?

XIU

Our village shaman has given four seafaring generals, each a special manipulation over the spirits.

SIDNEY

Like a special identity?

Xiu nods.

XIU

Wang-Zei can move the ocean spirits' bodies at will. Tomorbatar can summon spirits to himself. Li-Na can compel them to do her bidding, and Captain Sao could feel their moods. Their emotions.

SIDNEY

(Incredulously)

Why didn't they use these powers when we were in trouble?

XIU

Their powers attract the worst luck, and it would take an immense amount of good fortune to balance it out. Hence, they only use it when completely necessary. Otherwise, the crew may be caught in the crossfire of bad fortune. You were the first one; besides Captain Sao, where the crew has witnessed a situation of a spirit passing over solely by one's words.

Sidney's eyes widen, aware.

XIU (CONT'D)
I'm proud of you, Sidney Mills.

Sidney smiles slightly.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Tomorbatar charges towards Wang-Zei with the power of a bull.

Wang-Zei is still only moving his hand, controlling the spirits like a puppet master.

The spirits wound Tomorbatar.

Tomorbatar goes to strike one of the spirits, but Wang-Zei moves the spirit away as he does so. Like a game of cat and mouse.

Tomorbatar summons an ocean spirit. When the ocean spirit attacks Wang-Zei, he dodges it and strikes Tomorbatar.

Tomorbatar screams due to intense frustration.

Wang-Zei cackles with self-satisfaction.

Tomorbatar goes to strike Wang-Zei once again. He dodges it successfully, moving the spirits and himself away.

Tomorbatar throws his ax down and raises his fists.

Tomorbatar runs in a circle around Wang-Zei. As he does this, the spirits Wang-Zei is controlling chase him.

TOMORBATAR
You can only make them go where you
want them to go, but you cannot
make them run faster than their
limit.

The demons continue chasing Tomorbatar. He then drifts to the radius of the circle, making his way towards Wang-Zei.

Tomorbatar goes in for a punch, aiming for Wang-Zei's face.

Wang-Zei looks at Tomorbatar in panic. His eyes widen.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei drops his sword.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei uses his other hand to place a demon spirit right in front of him.

Tomorbatar looks on, shocked.

The spirit evaporates away, but Tomorbatar still moves to strike it.

It is too late; the spirit chases Tomorbatar and catches up and claws Tomorbatar.

Tomorbatar goes flying across the deck.

Tomorbatar struggles to get back up; he whistles.

The spirits surround Tomorbatar, still and unmoving.

Tomorbatar punches each one of them, about seven or eight.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei grimaces.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
(to himself))
Lucky.

Tomorbatar brings in more spirits, killing them all.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei glares at Tomorbatar with intense aggression.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei holds up his sword, and with his other hand, he has the spirits behead themselves on his sword. Making them do all the work for him.

Tomorbatar screams and attacks Wang-Zei, swiftly.

Tomorbatar makes his way to Wang-Zei's face; a second ago, he was a couple of feet away. This shows how much his speed has progressed.

EXT. BLACK SHIP - DAY

A storm is brewing over the ship and ocean landscape. The clouds are charcoal grey, heavy with moisture, and a green undertone, suggesting lightning.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Quartermaster Wang-Zei manipulates the spirits towards Tomorbatar; he slays them successfully.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks on, shocked.

Tomorbatar goes to strike Quartermaster Wang-Zei, unsuccessfully.

Tomorbatar laughs maniacally.

TOMORBATAR
I'm only getting stronger with
every passing second.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei moves back a few feet.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)
Running so fast, Wang-Zei?

Multiple monster spirits are moving towards each other; they make one giant spirit. It resembles a chimpanzee/shark hybrid. It has a chimpanzee's body and a shark's face.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei brings the spirit closer to himself, moving them like puppets.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei stands in front of the monster.

The monster holds onto Wang-Zei. The monster sprouts another pair of arms.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei picks up his sword and throws it towards the giant monster.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei smiles as the spirit smirks.

The spirit situates itself in a fighting stance.

The spirit and Wang-Zei move together when slashing Tomorbatar's shoulder blade.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na grabs the ore and prepares to attack the cook.

The cook's eyes widen. The cook disappears, invisible to the naked human eye.

Captain Li-Na prepares to use the ore.

The cook chuckles.

COOK
You don't have enough good fortune
to use your powers.

Captain Li-Na puts the ore to her eye, trying to track the cook's whereabouts, he is visible to her now.

COOK (CONT'D)

Admit Li-Na this is the end of the road. There will be no more ocean adventures. No more of your manipulation.

Captain Li-Na pauses, she has found the cook but he is in the middle of an attack.

The cook strikes Captain Li-Na and she falls over.

COOK (CONT'D)

I abandoned being Captain Sao's puppet because I didn't want to pass over to the other side.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

You were afraid?

COOK

Hmm. You think you're tough. You caused another issue because of your cowardice.

The cook is extremely angry, so angry that he begins transforming into a half demon spirit.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Your true self. You don't care about Captain Sao's death anymore. Grief and empathy are gone from your heart and all that is left is this- this hideous beast before me.

The cook's transformation is complete. Half of his face is twisted with a single red dot as his eye on one side of his face.

Captain Li-Na struggles to go after the cook but she is still moving around haphazardly.

Captain Li-Na is bumping into shelves, causing things to fall on her.

Captain Li-Na trips over various items, items that were not there previously.

The cook moves about, a gust of wind following him.

Captain Li-Na is thrown off balance because of this wind. She is in a bad state, near death, until she gets an idea.

Captain Li-Na looks over and spots a lit candle. She grabs it and spreads it over to the mahjong table.

The table immediately catches fire and lights up. The flames dance across the cabin, on the walls.

The cook inches away from the walls. The cook looks around with fear, the flames reflected in his eyes.

While the cook is distracted, Li-Na puts the ore to her eye and unleashes a quick attack. A quick 360 turn, she slashes the cook.

The cook is gone, and the room is full of smoke, but Li-Na is panicking.

Captain Li-Na covers her mouth with cloth from her skirt then runs over to the porthole.

Captain Li-Na opens the porthole and sighs a breath of relief.

The ship shakes, the storm is brewing.

Off-screen, there is a bunch of yelling and grunting.

Captain Li-Na stumbles her way to the door. She opens it and sees Tomorbatar and Wang-Zei fighting.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Commotion surrounds Hai as he is steering the boat.

Sidney enters.

SIDNEY

I have a plan.

HAI

You do?

SIDNEY

For the monster, I decided to attack it underneath. In its belly where there aren't any scales.

HAI

That's a good idea but I won't be able to get this ship any closer.

SIDNEY

I don't need it to. I plan on using one of the junks.

HAI

You can't do that alone.

Sidney looks over at the crew then runs over to them.

SIDNEY
(shouting)
May I have your attention?

The crew looks over at Sidney taking a brief break from the commotion on deck.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)
I need your help. I know many of you don't want to help me, but Johnny gave his life for this mission, so I think you owe it to him. You owe it to me.

CREW #5
Our lives would be on the line.

CREW #6
Yeah, and our captain didn't even give it. A little kid is giving it.

Hai joins Sidney.

HAI
Which captain? As far as I can see one captain couldn't even get Sidney to trust him enough to risk her life. Right now, Sidney is willing to do it, and Li-Na is God-knows-where. She is probably drunk off her ass.

The crew look around, they are somewhat convinced.

SIDNEY
Look, I know you men don't trust me, but my brother did work side by side with you for a while. He got you out of the storm because he was clever and brave. I'm asking you to trust me because you trusted him.

Some of the crew laugh and some raise their hands.

Sidney nods her head at Crew #5 and Crew #6 who are raising their hands, their names are LEE and BAO.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Lee and Bao help situate the junk. Sidney stands by.

Lee and Bao hold onto the sail to keep themselves steady.
They sail steadily to the underbelly.

LEE

Thanks to your good fortune, we are
making good time.

Sidney smiles.

LEE (CONT'D)

Johnny would be proud of you right
now.

BAO

We'll have to go under and poke it
with a spear to slay it.

They make it to the sea demon.

Sidney and Bao nod at Lee.

Lee lifts up the spear.

Lee leaps then stabs the monster's underbelly.

The sea demon roars and starts squirting out black goo, like
squid ink but thicker.

The ink spreads everywhere, then finally spurts out something
that looks like an eyeball. Scales are growing out of an
eyeball, like eyes on a potato.

Sidney jumps out of the junk and into the water.

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

Sidney swims under water. She makes her way underneath one of
the monster's tentacles.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Lee and Bao jump in after Sidney.

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

Sidney's head is above the water.

Sidney looks around, and her face melts into disappointment.
They are trapped by barriers, its tentacles, making it appear
like a pond within an ocean.

One of the tentacles explodes on Sidney, blinding her in the left eye temporarily.

Sidney dips her head back underwater.

Lee and Bao shout, then poke their weapons up at the sea demon's belly, but the ink is blocking them. The ink has a rubber consistency.

Lee and Bao push, Leo uses both hands and Bao just one, but now they are stuck. They are stuck underwater.

Sidney gasps for breath underwater.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Xiu and other crewmen are looking at Sidney in the ocean. They are all very worried.

Xiu exits, running.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - CONTINUOUS

Xiu enters, running.

Xiu grabs the scissor tongs and picks up flaming timber, she exits holding it.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MED BAY - CONTINUOUS

Xiu enters, holding the flaming timber with the scissor tongs. The doctor is packing items in a rush.

XIU

I need something flammable.

The doctor fumbles around the room, looking for something flammable.

Xiu grabs a large glass jar.

XIU (CONT'D)

This'll do!

The doctor turns to Xiu.

DOCTOR

No!

It is too late, Xiu has left.

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is underwater, she has on a monocle eye patch.

Sidney looks at the bottom of the ocean; it is pitch black while the above it is sparkling.

SIDNEY (V.O.)

Am I dead?

Sidney concentrates more on the pitch blackness of the ocean floor, it transforms into the sky. It resembles it exactly.

SIDNEY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Am I drowning?

Suddenly, Sidney is pulled out of the water by Bao who is still holding one hand on the goo.

Sidney is snapped out of her hallucination, she shakes her head.

SIDNEY

If Lee doesn't get air soon, he is going to drown.

Sidney goes back underwater.

Sidney tries pulling Lee's arms down, it is hopeless.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Xiu readies the junk.

Xiu climbs down the ladder, holding the fire carefully.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Crew #3 and Xiu are in the junk.

CREW #3

Be careful Xiu.

Xiu nods.

CREW #3 (CONT'D)

Bring Lee and Bao back.

XIU

And Sidney.

CREW #3

Yes of course. The girl too.

Crew #3 climbs back up the ladder, exiting.

Xiu rows close enough to the sea monster where she can throw the glass jar.

Xiu throws the glass jar as hard as she can towards the sea monster.

The inflamed glass jar soils the ink from the monster.

Xiu tosses the flaming torch towards the monster and it erupts onto the ink.

XIU

Burn in this life and the next.

The ink begins to squirm and breaking into glob circles.

Xiu grabs onto Bao, then Lee, then Sidney.

Bao, Lee and Sidney are on the boat, panting and writhing in pain.

Xiu looks at Bao and Lee's arms, there are burns showing that their arms were on fire.

Xiu evaluates Bao, he is not breathing.

Xiu turns Bao on his back and pounds his stomach with a two handed hammer.

LEE

Hey, watch it.

Lee grunts and grabs his stomach painfully.

Sidney looks on at Bao, alarmed.

Xiu lowers her head then shakes it.

LEE (CONT'D)

It can't be.

Tears form in Sidney's eyes.

SIDNEY

(voice breaking)

This is all my fault.

Lee begins crying.

Bao spurts water out of his mouth, he is alive.

Lee smiles, Sidney lets out a sigh of relief.

XIU

Bao, I'm glad you're okay.

Bao tries to move his hands, they are not moving.

Xiu evaluates Bao's hands. They have severe burn marks so much to the point that his skin is melted from his elbow downwards, on both arms.

BAO

Am I okay?

LEE

You're alive.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

Captain Li-Na follows Tomorbatar and Wang-Zei on deck. She has a blue aura glowing around her.

All of the spirits freeze because of this blue aura, a human spirit evaporates.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Stop it! Stop fighting, you're being stupid! You're wasting each other's time.

Crew #3 enters.

CREW #3

What are you doing here?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

What are all of you doing? Letting a little girl do a man's job?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

How will you take responsibility for trying to delay this mission from happening? You foiled our plans from the start!

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I will do what must be done to regain my crew's trust because that's what's important. I will slay the beast alone.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
I understand that is a great risk,
but I will take it.

TOMORBATAR
I will go with you. Your strength
is greater than mine because you
killed a human spirit, but I can
still help.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Thank you.

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar walk over to where the junks are kept.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI
(shouting)
Come back with that demon killed,
or don't come back at all.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar descend into the junk boat.

SIDNEY
(shouting)
Wait!

Sidney who was previously catching her breath with Hai on deck is now climbing down the ladder then swims over to the junk.

Captain Li-Na grunts. Tomorbatar shakes his head.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
(sarcastically)
Twice with help and the girl still
can't slay this sea demon.

Sidney climbs onto the junk.

They begin to sail towards the sea demon.

TOMORBATAR
You are too impulsive, Sidney.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Being like that will get you
killed.

TOMORBATAR
We've seen it happen before. We're
a lot older than you are.

Captain Li-Na glares at Tomorbatar.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)

Well, I am.

SIDNEY

You're going to want me to stay.

CAPTAIN LI-NA AND TOMORBATAR

Why?

SIDNEY

I've acquired a lot of good fortune. From Johnny and you will also need someone who can get you back to the black ship.

Tomorbatar and Captain Li-Na look at each other and then nod.

Sidney sighs.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

You probably think I'm a burden. Don't you? This was a horrible idea.

TOMORBATAR

Then surprise us the way Johnny did. But please, don't spiral in a time like this.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

You can join us but stay out of our way.

Tomorbatar looks up.

TOMORBATAR

It's time.

The sea demon wails.

Tomorbatar, Captain Li-Na and Sidney look at each other.

Captain Li-Na uses her power so that the spirits in the water can stay put.

Tomorbatar jumps out of the junk and swims towards his ostrich-like spirit monster and mounts it.

Captain Li-Na nudges Sidney.

An ostrich-like spirit is waiting by Sidney, Captain Li-Na motions towards it. These spirits look like dolphins but they can get taller and sprout ostrich legs.

SIDNEY

These beasts have the most unique appearance.

Sidney pets the spirit. Sidney looks closely because it is growing fur on it.

The spirit sprouts up, its ostrich legs sprouting out

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

And abilities. How are they doing this?

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar laugh.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

The creative makeup in a monster spirit is often a reflection of the last free thought it had as a human spirit before it turned.

TOMORBATAR

These guys probably thought of a man who could walk on water before they turned.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(mumbling)

We've been seeing a lot of these spirits lately.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Hai is steering the ship closer to the sea demon.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters, visibly frustrated.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

Hai, what are you doing?

HAI

I'm sorry Captain Wang-Zei, but I have to do what's right. We can still help Li-Na, Tom and Sidney.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei grunts.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The crew members grab rope and tie it to the spears.

The crew members are throwing the spears into the ink holes. They are unsuccessful. They keep missing.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei enters. He uses his powers to make some weaker spirits float in the air.

The crew members now throw the spears at these spirits.

The spears go through the monsters body and straight into the ink holes with the extra boost of luck. The spirits' faces are fearful as they are now targets floating in the air waiting to be speared.

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

The spirit monsters begin sprinting on water towards the sea demon.

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

A tentacle surges towards Sidney.

The sea monster leaps to dodge the tentacle.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Hurry up!

TOMORBATAR

Or you'll be sorry.

Sidney looks around, she cannot see Li-Na or Tomorbatar.

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar are on their monsters, ascending above the demon. The sea monsters are walking on the demon's back.

Sidney looks on, sweating profusely,

SIDNEY

Eeyah!

Sidney, on her spirit's back, makes it to the top of the monster. By the time she makes it to the top, Tomorbatar has already impaled the demon.

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar are holding onto the spear.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Good. You made it! Get off the
beast.

Sidney hops off of the spirit.

SIDNEY

What's going on?

Captain Li-Na strikes the demon's eyes.

Sidney screams.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

Was that really necessary?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I'm going down this demon's face to
blind it. I could use all the luck
I can get right now. So yes.

Captain Li-Na grits her teeth.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

It was necessary.

Sidney holds onto the harpoon as the cold and wind pick up,
whipping her face relentlessly.

Tomorbatar strikes the demon with his axe several times.

Captain Li-Na ropes down and strikes the demon in its eyes
once again.

Black goo begins bleeding out of the demon. Tomorbatar
notices this and steps back.

Sidney watches the black goo spill into the sea.

The sea demon is acting erratically, tossing itself side by
side.

Captain Li-Na looks down.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

The life--it's leaving his body.

TOMORBATAR

Time to ride.

Tomorbatar takes the harpoon out, all three prepare
themselves to ride.

The sea demon starts sinking in the water below, Captain Li-Na, Tomorbatar and Sidney jump off the demon just in time before it submerges completely underwater.

Captain Li-Na, Sidney and Tomorbatar are on their spirits, and watch on from afar. The demon sinks.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na, Sidney and Tomorbatar are back on the black ship with the rest of the crew.

The chunks of the monster, slashed so bad, fall into the ocean, splashing and spreading water everywhere.

Out of one of the chunks flies Captain Sao's sword.

The sword lands next to the black ship on a junk. Other weapons have landed there as well.

The crew hurries over to the junk to collect the weapons.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei and the crew members go through the weapons.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks at the pile confused.

One of the crew members knocks the pile over slightly, Captain Sao's sword falls into the ocean.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks into the ocean, Captain Sao's sword is floating.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

Huh?

Wang-Zei uses his powers to make a spirit float from beneath the sword so that it is carrying it and floats it right to him on deck. He retrieves the sword. Captain Li-Na enters.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

Li-Na, that looks exactly like your sword. You said that Captain Sao gave you his sword?

The crew cheers in the background.

Captain Li-Na looks at Wang-Zei's face.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks at the sword and sees that the hilt of sword is cracked.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei reaches out and takes a crinkled note out of the crack in the hilt.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei opens the note and reads it.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

CAPTAIN LI-NA
You're quiet. What did the note say?

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Explain yourself.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
What do you want?

Captain Li-Na looks at the crew, past Wang-Zei.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
We should be celebrating.
(shouting)
The victory I promised and delivered!

Tomorbatar grunts.

TOMORBATAR
Enough of the secrets! No more things in the darkness.

Tomorbatar grabs the note from Quartermaster Wang-Zei.

TOMORBATAR (CONT'D)
(reading aloud)
I have been a seafarer for fifteen years. I would hate for it to all be in vain. We are a pawn to a bigger conspiracy. The spirits have spoken to me. They tell me that we are fighting on the wrong side. The shamans have lied to us. I know this might be hard to believe, Wang-Zei, but I have chosen you to continue investigating the truth if you are reading this. The spirits are not our enemy.

Tomorbatar, Wang-Zei, Sidney, and the crew turn to Captain Li-Na.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

The truth is in the note, and I am guilty of lies-- but I did it for a reason. Look what we achieved today by my hand.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks down, hurt.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

I should have never trusted you.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks at Captain Li-Na.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

You have no honor.

HAI

Whether it was a lie or not, Li-Na has gotten us to this point. Look! The sea demon is dead.

BAO

I have a question. Why didn't the demon release ocean ore like the rest of them? Look! We still see its carcass in the ocean, like a whale.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei raises his hands in an X-formation over his head.

The crew looks up and sees a black glob about to land on Wang-Zei, but he summoned spirits to stop it from happening. A mini force field was created.

Unfortunately, two more globs of ink hit the sail, and the further part of the ship, his force field was not large enough.

SIDNEY

(low voice)

Oh no.

Tomorbatar nods.

Everyone watches the black globs form into a layer of skin, and the monster is back in another form.

BAO

What do we do, Captain?

CREW #4

Wang is our Captain now!

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Whether I'm Captain or not, I still have the fight in me! No one can stop me from slaying that sea demon.

Xiu cracks a smile.

XIU

You have to admit, that was pretty cool.

TOMORBATAR

What's the plan? I'm coming too.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

The plan is for me to go into the belly of the beast.

Tomorbatar chuckles.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

Literally.

TOMORBATAR

What?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I'm going into the monster's mouth to kill it. It's a dangerous job, and I don't have enough good fortune for it.

SIDNEY

With me, you would.

TOMORBATAR

Absolutely not.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Out of the question.

SIDNEY

This was the plan the quartermaster originally came up with. I've trained for it. I believe in myself and my ability, and I am ready.

Captain Li-Na and Tomorbatar look at each other.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Okay. You can come.

BAO

What should we do, Wang-Zei?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Tomorbatar, Li-N, and Sidney are no longer a part of our crew. If they choose to slay the demon, that is their choice. My crew will have no part in it.

SIDNEY

You can really hold a grudge.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei glares at Sidney.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Sidney, this is no joking matter. We are on our own.

TOMORBATAR

Li-Na is right. This could be a death sentence for us. Are you still prepared to come?

HAI

I don't think it's a good idea, Sidney, but your family has a habit of making bad decisions. You're not one to break tradition.

TOMORBATAR

We need a strategy.

Captain Li-Na summons the dolphin, ostrich spirits once again. They are on deck.

The spirits nuzzle Sidney, she giggles.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

XIU

What if they need our help Wang-Zei?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

That ocean will be their grave.

XIU

This isn't you. You're not this heartless.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei crinkles the note in his hand and furrows his brow.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

(yelling)

Then what is this about? Is it not heartless to keep Sao's final words from me?

Xiu looks down solemnly.

XIU

I did not know such a note existed. If I did, I would not have kept it from you.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

It does not matter, and she lied about such a trivial thing. For what? For power. Pathetic. No. Maybe envy. Not only is it selfish, but her arrogant nature always causes us problems. I say it's good riddance if she just disappears.

XIU

I have to tell you the truth, Wang-Zei.

Wang-Zei looks at Xiu with confusion.

XIU (CONT'D)

After Captain Sao passed away, Li-Na came to me in the forgery. She asked me to create a replica of his sword. She wanted to fool you and everybody else that she was supposed to be the next Captain.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

(angry)

How could you keep this from me?

XIU

There's no excuse. I'm sorry. Now I know that I have lost your trust. I will have to live with the consequences of hurting a friend. But right now, I will not allow any more of my friends to get hurt. I couldn't put my feelings aside for a second to realize how much bigger the consequences would be if I ignored the danger that threatened us right now. I have to join them, Wang.

Xiu walks over to Li-Na, Tomorbatar, and Sidney.

XIU (CONT'D)
Sorry for intruding, but I think I
have a plan that could work.

Xiu looks on enlightened.

INT. BLACK SHIP/FORGERY - LATER

Xiu's eyes are full of anxiety. Tomorbatar is by her side.

XIU
Now.

Tomorbatar nods and summons a spirit into the room.

Tomorbatar grabs its neck, it snarls.

Xiu grabs a candle in a metal frame with her scissor tongs.

Xiu lights the spirit on fire.

The spirit burns away and dies; it turns into ore.

TOMORBATAR
Well, that was grim. How long have
you been burning spirits down here?

Xiu runs to her desk and frantically grabs materials. She also lights lanterns.

XIU
This is the first time I have done
something like this. I didn't think
it would work. Spirits are not
immune to fire, and it takes that
particularly type two minutes to
burn completely. We will have to
burn a spirit deep inside the
monster's mouth then the fire will
burn its insides.

TOMORBATAR
And you're absolutely sure this
plan won't fail?

Xiu nods, certain.

EXT. OCEAN - SUNSET

Sidney and Captain Li-Na are riding a spirit together.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I know what the plan is. Xiu instructed us to farm as much good fortune around the demon until Tomorbatar gets here with the final weapon.

Captain Li-Na slays a couple of spirits hanging around the sea demon.

Captain Li-Na begins to slay another spirit when it opens its mouth. Inside its mouth, she sees a glimpse of a human spirit. The human spirits look like ghoulis humans.

SIDNEY

(calling)

Captain!

Captain Li-Na slays the spirit then makes her way towards the demon.

Part of the demon's outer skin touches Captain Li-Na.

Captain Li-Na winces, electrocuted with mental pain.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

(faintly)

Are you okay?

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na is dizzy and holds her head. They are still riding together—Sidney behind Li-Na.

Monsters surround the pair.

Sidney prepares her crossbow.

Sidney shoots the arrows but runs out quickly.

The monsters are inching in closer, relentless, not giving up.

Sidney holds Li-Na steady with one arm, and with the other, she makes a fist with the ring.

She rests her fist on the monster's head and jerks its neck upwards. She is guiding it so that it climbs into the demon's mouth.

Captain Li-Na shakes her head out of her funk and helps Sidney, doing the same.

Captain Li-Na and Sidney dismount the spirit they are riding together. They ascend on top of the large sea demon.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Are you crazy? Tomorbatar is not even here yet!

SIDNEY

I was left with no choice. Besides, this is the only part of the sea demon with no black ink.

(murmuring)

You know the stuff that made even you freak out.

The sea demon's mouth is very large, about the size of a mansion foyer. Its throat is like a tunnel or cave entrance.

Captain Li-Na and Sidney look at each other, amazed.

Captain Li-Na and Sidney look closer. The throat is filled with human spirits clinging to the lining, which are like walls- Walls filled with black ink, like the monster's outer layer.

SIDNEY (CONT'D)

I was wrong. I guess black ink is all over this thing.

Captain Li-Na takes her weapon out and gets into a defensive stance.

Sidney puts on a brave face.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Do not touch the walls.

SIDNEY

What did you feel when you touched it?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Pain.

Sidney gulps.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

HUMAN SPIRIT #1

It hurts.

HUMAN SPIRIT #2

It hurts. Please save us.

HUMAN SPIRIT #3

Are you God?

The spirits are drooling, except for human spirit #3, Captain Li-Na walks over to human spirit #3. He is dressed similarly to Captain Pike, he is Captain Pike's dead brother.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I'm no God. Why haven't you turned into a monster?

HUMAN SPIRIT #3

I don't know, but please kill me. I came to these waters looking for treasure, but that was the biggest mistake I could have ever made. This demon hurts me. It makes me relive all of my memories, including those of suffering. The loved ones I've left. I cannot bear it.

Sidney looks on, genuinely scared and uneasy.

Captain Li-Na slays human spirit #3.

SIDNEY

That must be awful. Being inside this demon for so long and feeling constant suffering.

Sidney looks around, hundreds of human spirits hanging around. Sad, suffering.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

We have to kill them now—all of them.

SIDNEY

I dropped my weapon.

Captain Li-Na hands Sidney her dagger.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Stab them in the heart and don't look into their eyes. Make it quick and move onto the next.

Sidney nods, they continue down the corridor together.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na and Sidney are walking down the corridor together. It is not a straight line but a winding path, like walking through despair and limbo. Not certain enough to be Hell.

At a fork in the path, Captain Li-Na and Sidney separate, accidentally and unknowingly.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na is walking when all of a sudden she almost walks over Captain Sao, in spirit form.

Captain Sao's spirit's eyes are black, and he is unable to speak.

HUMAN SPIRIT #4

He's been the loudest since he got here.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I can't hear him!

HUMAN SPIRIT #4

Listen carefully.

It is quiet, and Li-Na hears a hum, louder than the others.

HUMAN SPIRIT #4 (CONT'D)

You must kill him, so he does not suffer any longer.

Captain Li-Na prepares to kill Captain Sao's spirit when he shouts out:

CAPTAIN SAO

(pained)

No! The shamans created a lie—a lie for us to follow.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Wh--

CAPTAIN SAO

Listen to the sea demon. It has the answers. The sea monster is not evil; the shamans are. They are the real evil ones.

Sidney wails off-screen in the distance.

With all of his strength, Captain Sao's spirit musters up a smile.

CAPTAIN SAO (CONT'D)

I am ready now.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I am so sorry for everything I have done. I lied about your final words, and that is unforgivable.

Sidney screams off-screen in the distance.

Captain Li-Na kills Captain Sao's spirit.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)

I will come back for the rest of you.

Captain Li-Na exits.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is being grabbed by human spirit #6, making her fall into the walls.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Let go of her!

Sidney drops her dagger.

Human spirit #6 and others pull Sidney in.

SIDNEY

(screaming)

Please! I want to help you spirits!
I want you to go in peace! Just let me pick up my dagger, and I promise I'll free you!

The spirits do not listen and continue to pull Sidney into the wall.

Black goo touches Sidney, and her eyes become hazy.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

No!

Sidney faints, and the spirits pull her in. Captain Li-Na runs to get her but misses. Sidney is completely in the walls. Captain Li-Na turns around and looks for Sidney.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
Scream Sidney! Scream!

INT. MEMORY - FLASHBACK

Johnny and Sidney's father smiles.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Sidney screams and emerges from the walls, clawing out with her bare hands.

INT. MEMORY - FLASHBACK

Sidney's father, George, is dying in a storm as he is sailing out at sea. Johnny holds onto Sidney.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is clawing.

SIDNEY
You can't show me a greater pain!

INT. MEMORY - FLASHBACK

Johnny is wailing as he is slashed on the boat with his father.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

SIDNEY
You don't know my pain! I won't let
you win this time!

Sidney begins using her mouth and clawing at the same time. She spits out the goo.

The openings where she bit it close up again.

Sidney grips the openings and separates them, pulling harder.

Captain Li-Na grabs Sidney out.

Sidney clings onto Li-Na, shivering.

Captain Li-Na swings her sword at the spirits that pulled Sidney in. She kills them.

Captain Li-Na looks at Sidney; one of her eyes is black.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
One of your eyes is black.

SIDNEY
Oh yes. About that-- Xiu was
telling me that it might be from
the monster spraying ink on me
earlier.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
No. That's not it.

Captain Li-Na looks at Sidney's eye closer. A creepy and
googly eyeball slides into Sidney's cornea; it looks right at
Li-Na.

Captain Li-Na gasps and jumps back.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
Stay calm, but there is a spirit
inside of you.

Sidney screams.

SIDNEY
(screaming)
Get it off me! Get it off me!

Captain Li-Na chuckles.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
The spirit isn't harming you,
Sidney, and like you said, it goes
away, and your vision comes back.

Sidney nods, then shivers.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
It probably trusts you.

Captain Li-Na frowns, recollecting Captain Sao's words.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
The spirits are not our enemies.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - SUNSET

Tomorbatar and Xiu are on the boat. Tomorbatar is holding the
candles and rum.

TOMORBATAR

We're out of luck. There is no way
I can get into the monster's mouth
with a candle lit.

Tomorbatar and Xiu look over at Wang-Zei on the black ship. He is cross-armed at the ship's wheel. Wang-Zei is looking straight at the demon; Zhang is next to him, looking at it with a spyglass.

XIU

I will speak to Wang-Zei. We need
him.

Xiu climbs up the ladder.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

Xiu walks up to Wang-Zei and Zhang.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei turns around, facing Xiu.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

That should be enough time. That
should be enough time for Li-Na to
realize that she cannot make
decisions alone. She cannot fight
without her crew.

Tomorbatar enters.

TOMORBATAR

I hate to break up this moment, but
Li-Na and Sidney are waiting for
me.

Wang-Zei walks over to the ship's rail, as close to the
monster as possible.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

It's a sharm spirit. What we need
to do is stab its mouth while it is
closed by putting the sword through
the roof of it. It will not be able
to snarl or bite. I only have
enough fortune left over for one
ride. We must go together.

Wang-Zei lifts the spirit up. It is a shark/lizard hybrid.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)

Tomorbatar, grab one of its legs.

Xiu hands Tomorbatar the candle. Xiu hands Wang-Zei torches, wood with a white cloth wrapped around it.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI (CONT'D)
What is this for?

XIU
You will have to spread the fire as much as you can on the inside.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei thinks for a second, then nods.

XIU (CONT'D)
(sadly)
It's not your job to do it. You know that Wang? Li-Na must do it. She will be at risk the least. She might even come back to life because of her fortune.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Do not worry, Xiu.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei hands the torch to Tomorbatar.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Tomorbatar exit, riding the spirit towards the demon.

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Tomorbatar are riding the spirit, flying into the sea demon's mouth against the sunset.

They fall in. The sea monster evaporates and drops ore as Wang retrieves his sword.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Sidney! Li-Na!

TOMORBATAR
Li-Na! Sidney!

Captain Li-Na and Sidney enter. Wang-Zei and Tomorbatar are uneasy when looking at the human spirits. Wang-Zei and Li-Na nod at each other, coldly, greeting each other.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
They are human spirits.

Sidney looks at the items Tomorbatar brought.

SIDNEY

What are these going to do for
Xiu's plans?

TOMORBATAR

She wants us to engulf this beast's
insides with flames.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

No. I will stay behind.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

You two have done enough. I should
have been the one to make this
sacrifice from the start.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei walks back down the tunnel and lights
a fire with the torch, starting with the walls.

Sidney swiftly runs towards the cave.

Sidney grabs the torch from Wang-Zei.

SIDNEY

Get back to the ship. I will finish
the job.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Come back!

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Don't be stupid!

TOMORBATAR

Please, Sidney! Don't!

Li-Na, Wang-Zei, and Tomorbatar run towards Sidney but
realize they will be trapped. They make their way back to the
opening. The ground begins to rumble like an earthquake.

SIDNEY

No can do Captain Li-Na, Captain
Wang. I'm going to finish what my
brother started. Don't you worry
about me. I'll finish the job.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is running down the tunnel. As she does this, she is
coughing and wheezing from the smoke.

SIDNEY (V.O.)

I'll admit that I'm not the strongest, and I'm not the smartest, but I learn quickly. My brother put his life on the line to save mine. I want to return to him, having lived a life as courageous as he was. I'll go back to you, Johnny, not as useless and cowardly me, but someone who would make you proud.

It is getting really hot due to the flames and Sidney is running. Sidney is sweating profusely. Sidney comes to a crossroads, and she does not know what to do. The human spirits assemble to light up a route for Sidney to follow. Sidney runs along the path, lighting the wall with the torch as she does this.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na, Tomorbatar, and Quartermaster Wang-Zei are at the entrance- the mouth. They see the path to where Sidney is engulfed in flames. The monster wails upwards. The three begin to climb up the lining of the monster like a mountain, over a fire pit at its throat.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is sliding down a tunnel that gets narrower and narrower, an epic sight.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na, Quartermaster Wang-Zei, and Tomorbatar are still climbing.

Captain Li-Na looks behind herself and sees flames.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI

She may not make it.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

There's always a way out of a burning situation.

Captain Li-Na climbs faster and finally makes it to the top, first.

EXT. SEA DEMON - NIGHT

Captain Li-Na is on the monster's scaly back. She is in a trance and is sweating profusely as the ink on its back still sends shockwaves to her nerves.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Tomorbatar and Wang-Zei are still climbing. Tomorbatar makes it to the top next but he did not build up tolerance with the black ink so he falls into the ocean upon touching it.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

TOM!

There's a splash sound and a beat of silence but then-

CREW (O.S.)

He's safe!

XIU (O.S.)

We got him!

EXT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na looks out to the ocean with fear in her eyes when she sees Xiu on a junk, sailing towards the monster.

Captain Li-Na smiles.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

(shouting)

Hold on a little longer, Wang-Zei,
unless you want the same fate as
Tom.

Captain Li-Na takes out her sword and lunges forward sprinting on the monster's back.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei looks on as Li-Na does this, inspired.

EXT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

CAPTAIN LI-NA (V.O.)

Captain Sao always told me that he
believed in the power to compel a
spirit by force.

(MORE)

CAPTAIN LI-NA (V.O.) (CONT'D)

If I hear out the spirit's concerns, I will have a greater outcome. I never understood that until now.

INT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei raises a free hand and lifts the spirits in front of Li-Na.

EXT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na is running on its back.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Spirit of the ocean, we have ignored you for far too long! I have heard your plea and intend to do right by you and the spirits who dwell here. But to help you, we need to live. Let my comrade live, and we promise not to return until we find out why spirits are trapped in this realm. Whatever lies we've been told, and whatever secrets have been hidden from us, I swear we'll discover the truth behind it all.

CAPTAIN SAO (V.O.)

Your power isn't to compel spirits. Your power is to impel them.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (V.O.)

What is the difference? I tell the spirits what I want to be done and they do it.

CAPTAIN SAO (V.O.)

When you motivate the spirits to believe in your cause and they help you without being forced to. That's when you know you've taken full advantage of your power. Until that happens, you may believe you have the edge on them but you don't.

Captain Li-Na has her eyes closed, she is kneeling on one leg and has her palm on the spirit's back. She is trying to connect with it.

INT. SEA DEMON/TENTACLE - CONTINUOUS

Sidney is backed against a wall. Flames surround her, dancing and taunting her.

EXT. SEA DEMON - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na can now see where Sidney is as if she's in the spirit's body.

Captain Li-Na finally makes it to the tentacle where Sidney is inside.

Captain Li-Na slices the end of the tentacle off, revealing Sidney in the tunnel.

Captain Li-Na and Sidney fall into the water below.

EXT. OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

The sea demon explodes. This creates a ripple wave where the rescue junk and Xiu are pushed away, and so is Wang-Zei.

Li-Na and Sidney remain barely visible in the water.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Xiu and Tomorbatar are in the junk watching the aftermath of the explosion. A gigantic ocean ore surrounds them. It looks like an isle of stones and pillars in the middle of the sea. They are black rocks with cracks omitting an aqua color. That is the ore.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The injured crew is on the deck.

BAO

Did you find him?

Xiu and Tomorbatar enter. Xiu shakes her head, no. A death horn is blown, honoring Wang-Zei. A giant wave hits the boat, and they are all knocked over. Hai recovers himself and looks out the spyglass.

HAI

That's unbelievable.

The crew member with the horn tries to blow it again, but another wave hits, and he is knocked over.

HAI (CONT'D)
 (whispering with
 excitement)
 It's a wave crashing with another
 wave.

The man blows the conch horn again, but this time Hai sees Wang-Zei through the spyglass.

HAI (CONT'D)
 IT'S WANG-ZEI! HE'S ALIVE!

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

The injured crew gets up and cheer.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - CONTINUOUS

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 Come, help Wang-Zei!

Quartermaster Wang-Zei is shivering.

XIU
 The Doctor is gone. He abandoned
 the ship.

Li-Na is visibly frustrated then turns to Tomorbatar.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
 Take care of that, would you?

Tomorbatar nods then exits.

XIU
 Looks like hypothermia.

Xiu looks at another ship, appearing.

XIU (CONT'D)
 Look!

They all look at the ship belonging to the other captain from the port. CAPTAIN ZHAO waves at them.

INT. BLACK SHIP/MED BAY - MORNING

Li-Na, Sidney, Tomorbatar, and the other captain are sleeping.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei awakes then clears his throat.

They all wake up.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

I have an announcement to make.
What Li-Na did calls for death. Her
betrayal of Captain Sao and the
crew is unforgivable.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

I do not want to accept the
consequences, but my trust among
the crew has been tainted. I
betrayed the crew when I hid the
truth about Captain Sao's final
words. When I tried to slay Johnny
early and when I stole Captain
Sao's sword.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

That's three death sentences.

SIDNEY

But she--

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

The next person to speak will have
their tongue cut off.

A beat as everyone goes silent.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

A quick death will do.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

So quick to die? I'm not finished.
There is a crew member among us
that is the reason why we were able
to defeat the monster. You, Li-Na,
saved her life. Sidney, would you
like Captain Li-Na to live?

SIDNEY

Of course.

Sidney hugs Captain Li-Na.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Were these theatrics really
necessary?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

It's for all of the stress you
caused me.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Captain Li-Na laugh.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Some of the crew will not be happy.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei frowns.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

Li-Na, your arrogance knows no bounds.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Sure, but who doesn't have a thirst for power? Who won't claw and cheat to get it? I couldn't stop drinking because my thoughts were muddled and inconsistent with who I used to be. My mind rejects thoughts of betraying the crew, so who better to be a part of this than someone like me?

XIU

We all fit on this ship of misfits.

INT. BLACK SHIP/CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS - DAY

Li-Na and Wang-Zei are standing in front of the desk. Sidney enters.

SIDNEY

You wanted to see me?

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Yes. Wang-Zei?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

You can tell her.

Captain Li-Na smiles.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

We have decided to run the ship as co-captains. Together we will discover what Captain Sao was trying to say to Wang-Zei before he--perished. If I had not been so stubborn and narrow-minded, all of this would not have happened.

SIDNEY

It can't possibly be all your fault.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

If Wang had been fairly elected Captain, the secrets Captain Sao had been hiding in the quarters would not be ash right now. I was so intent on keeping trivial things a secret instead of seeing what should have been right in front of my eyes.

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

That was the past. Now Captain Sao's sword and note are with us. We will surely discover the secrets he wanted to share.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Captain Li-Na look at each other and nod. Sidney is smiling, beaming.

SIDNEY

What's our next destination?

QUARTERMASTER WANG-ZEI

We figured our answers are home.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

We're finally going home, Wang.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

The doctor is on the boat trying to escape with his belongings. The doctor sees something approaching underwater, and he is alarmed. Tomorbatar is shown; the doctor is now calm. Tomorbatar climbs onboard.

DOCTOR

(nervously)

I was looking for Wang in these waters.

Tomorbatar looks at the stolen food.

TOMORBATAR

I know what you've been up to. Zhang gave you up. I don't hold it against you, but you will get what you deserve. You should be more frightened of me than any monster. A monster will attack you for the sake of itself. I'm here to pass judgment on your deeds. A more frightening fate awaits you.

Tomorbatar picks the doctor up to throw him.

DOCTOR
(scared)
No! Stop! Wait! I can't swim!

Tomorbatar throws the doctor overboard. Tomorbatar rows back to the black ship.

EXT. BLACK SHIP DECK - DAY

The black ship is anchored and hidden in a lagoon surrounded by lush forest.

EXT. JUNK BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na, Sidney, and the rest of the crew board the junk boat and sail through the marsh until they disembark on the rocky land.

EXT. ISLAND - CONTINUOUS

The crew walks back to their village through the dry and rocky landscape.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei dangles the ocean ore necklace in front of his face, evaluating it. He is behind everybody else, lost in his own world.

Tomorbatar joins Wang-Zei in the back then pats him on the back affectionately.

Tomorbatar exchanges a friendly smile to the quartermaster.

Xiu clasps her hands behind her back then rocks on the back of her heels.

XIU
Oh, I bet she'll love it!

Quartermaster Wang-Zei blushes, Xiu and Tomorbatar walk ahead.

TOMORBATAR
You said that because you made it,
didn't you?

Xiu chuckles.

EXT. ISLAND VILLAGE - LATER

A farmer is tending to his land when he sees the crew entering. He straightens his back then smiles.

EXT. ISLAND VILLAGE - MOMENTS LATER

The crew encounters the farmer.

FARMER

Welcome back, Li-Na and Wang-Zei.
As a welcome-back present, I will
give you some horses and food so
you can settle back in easily. For
your crew as well. I will send word
around that you all have arrived.

The farmer calls an eagle, which lands on his index finger.

He takes a piece of parchment from out of his pocket and ties
it to its foot.

The farmer extends his arm then the eagle flies off.

Captain Li-Na smiles.

FARMER (CONT'D)

You know the shaman predicted you'd
be back before the start of winter.
I had that message prepared for
quite a while now, but I never
thought I'd use it so soon. I guess
she's not so crazy after all. Well,
thank you for your service and
sacrifice. Our livestock is nice
and fat, and our crops are abundant
here thanks to your good fortune.
This winter won't be so harsh.

EXT. ISLAND VILLAGE - SUNSET

The crew arrives, the villagers are lined up,
enthusiastically prepared to greet them.

EXT. ISLAND VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS

Crew #1 and Crew #2 hug their parents.

EXT. ISLAND VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS

Quartermaster Wang-Zei hugs his pregnant wife and child.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei takes out the necklace he was looking at and gives it to his daughter.

QUARtermaster WANG-ZEI
Remember when Dad said he went
looking for treasure? Well, I've
found it.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei puts it around his daughter's neck then looks at her endearingly.

His daughter squeezes his cheeks then hugs him.

Quartermaster Wang-Zei hands his daughter a ring with ocean ore.

EXT. ISLAND VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS

Tomorbatar and Xiu walk over to their loved ones.

Tomorbatar hugs his girlfriend while Xiu is embraced by her three older brothers.

BROTHER #1
Did you find a fella out at sea, or
are you going to end up dying
alone?

XIU
I missed you too, and no, I'm not
in a relationship.

BROTHER #1
Of course not. Who would want you?

BROTHER #2
I'm glad she doesn't need some guy
taking up all her time.

BROTHER #3
Aw, I was hoping you and Koh would
get along.

Crew #3 (KOH) looks over at Xiu in a creepy way from behind a tree. KOH was the one in Xiu's apron earlier during the montage scene. Xiu looks over at KOH, then shudders.

EXT. ISLAND VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS

Captain Li-Na looks over at Sidney, who is standing and looking around awkwardly.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
(shouting)
Sidney!

Sidney walks over to Captain Li-Na.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
Let's go for a walk.

EXT. ISLAND VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS

Sidney and the captain walk deep into the village, past children playing and people carrying out their daily lives. Occasionally they get a glance, but that's about it.

Villager #1 enters with a basket full of flowers and hands it to Captain Li-Na.

VILLAGER #1
For the good fortune, Captain.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
Thank you.

Sidney smiles.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
I thought you might need a place to stay with Johnny gone. Would you like to stay with us?

SIDNEY
I couldn't possibly intrude, Captain, but if you're absolutely sure, I'm not in the position to decline your generosity.

Captain Li-Na chuckles.

CAPTAIN LI-NA
You don't need to be so formal.

SIDNEY
Who is "us," by the way?

CAPTAIN LI-NA
My sister and our butler.

They stop at a large gate guarding a miniature Asian-style palace fit for a noble family. Sidney looks at it in awe.

SIDNEY

You live like a baroness would in my country.

Captain Li-Na smiles.

CHEN, Captain Li-Na's sister, who is about Sidney's age, enters, the BUTLER is standing underneath the door frame.

INT. ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

The captain, butler, Chen, and Sidney are gathered in the foyer.

Sidney looks around, amazed by the splendor of the home.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Once you learn our native language, you and Chen can become the best of friends--or even better--, sisters.

The butler walks over to the captain.

Sidney and Chen shake hands.

SIDNEY

(smiling)
I'm Sidney Mills.

Chen smiles.

CHEN

Chen.

BUTLER

(to Sidney)
Li-Na and other high-ranking officers are meeting with the shaman.

The butler slightly motions Captain Li-Na towards her room to get ready.

CAPTAIN LI-NA

Home for an hour and I already have a meeting.

Captain Li-Na shrugs her shoulders.

CAPTAIN LI-NA (CONT'D)
Duty calls. Chen, show Sidney her
room.

Chen nods as Captain Li-Na and the butler exit.

SIDNEY
The meeting seems urgent, is
everything alright?

Chen looks at Sidney blankly.

Chen rolls her eyes then exits; Sidney follows.

INT. ESTATE/SIDNEY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CHEN
Do you want to play mahjong?

Sidney smiles and nods. Chen chuckles.

CHEN (CONT'D)
I've never lost a match.

Sidney smirks.

SIDNEY
Neither have I.

The girls sit down, legs crossed, on each end of the table,
the mahjong game on top of it.

Sidney and Chen stare down at each other. Chen nods.

Sidney smirks then slams a playing piece down onto the board.

EXT. TENT - NIGHT

Captain Li-Na enters through several gates until she comes to
a tent. Captain Li-Na enters the tent.

INT. TENT - NIGHT

Sitting around in a semi-circle are officials; amongst them
are Quartermaster Wang-Zei and Tomorbatar.

The quartermaster and Tomorbatar nod at Captain Li-Na,
greeting her.

The SHAMAN sits at the center, everybody is facing her. She
is wrinkly and shrunken over. She is missing a lot of teeth.

The shaman stands as Captain Li-Na joins in the semi-circle.

SHAMAN

Our wonderful navy, foot soldiers,
farmers, and miners, welcome.

The shaman turns to the miners and foot soldiers.

SHAMAN (CONT'D)

You must clear the east of spirits
and hunt for the Fuji Ore.

The shaman turns to the farmers.

SHAMAN (CONT'D)

Graze the pasture in the wetlands.
The north is forbidden to cross so
as not to cross to the nearby
kingdom, and the south is forbidden
as many spirits lay there looking
for souls to feed on. My seafarers,
continue your voyages on the sea
and hunt spirits.

Tomorbatar groans. Captain Li-Na and Quartermaster Wang-Zei
frown.

SHAMAN (CONT'D)

I will allow for a month's break
since the sea demon supplied us
with an abundance of good fortune.
I must warn you; this is your duty.
This village is under the king and
my protection. But, if there is not
enough Fuji Ore shipped to our
location, you will all suffer a
horrible future full of doom.

Everybody is shaken, especially the miners and foot soldiers.

SHAMAN (CONT'D)

You are all dismissed.