

#FollowMe

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EXT. RIVER - AFTERNOON

TWO MEN are on a canoe sailing on the calm river. MAN 1 takes a compass out.

MAN 2

Are you sure we are heading in the right direction?

MAN 1

Yes.

(putting away the compass)

We should arrive in a couple of hours.

MAN 2

I hope so, these parts are giving me the creeps.

Man 2 notices a rock with a symbol on it on the shore nearby.

MAN 2

Look at that rock over there! Can you make out what is written on it?

MAN 1

No. Let's check it out.

MAN 2

I don't know if that is a good idea.

MAN 1

We're just going to take a closer look at it then be on our way.

EXT. JUNGLE OF THE ROCK - DAY

The two men approach the rock. Man 2 runs his hands on it while Man 1 is looking through a travel guide.

MAN 2

Its surface is so smooth!

MAN 1

I can't find any mention of it anywhere. I wonder if there are other oddities hiding behind the trees.

MAN 2

(worried)

We agreed that we were going to take  
a closer look at the rock, we have.  
Now let's get back on the canoe.

MAN 1

Let's just take a peek at what might  
be hiding behind those trees. After  
that we'll resume our journey.

Man 2 goes in the jungle reluctantly followed by Man 1.

EXT. JUNGLE NEAR THE ROCK - DAY

The adventurers are carefully walking through the jungle.

They begin hearing noises and notice the trees are moving  
strangely.

MAN 1

(with fear in his voice)

You know what, I don't think there  
is anything else to find. We should  
head back.

MAN 2

Agreed!

They turn around. Man 1 stumbles on something and hits his  
head on a big stone as Man 2 is lifted into the air then  
lands on the ground next to him. They get up and start  
running.

EXT. JUNGLE OF THE ROCK - DAY

The two men get out of the jungle screaming. They get back on  
their canoe as fast as they can as two yellow eyes are  
observing them from behind the trees.

EXT. PARIS CHATEAU - DAY

In an affluent suburb of Paris, a small but beautiful castle  
undergoes renovation.

A CONSTRUCTION MAN stands on a ladder by a window on the top  
floor. Through the window we see-

INT. AVA'S APARTMENT, CHATEAU - DAY

AVA MARCHAND, 26, a petite brunette with sharp features, sleeping in a four-poster bed. Her cramped, creaky apartment is decorated in elegant, old-fashioned, neoclassical style - vintage, just like her.

She wakes up to the sound of drilling.

She jumps out of a bed and heads to the cluttered bureau to make a small pot of hot chocolate and dip a piece of brioche.

At the window, she enjoys her breakfast and gazes at the view of the splendid gardens. She is again disturbed by the sound of drilling and sees the construction man.

Although annoyed, she greets him politely.

AVA

Salut!

He nods at her.

She notices the time, pops the last bite of brioche into her mouth, and gets ready.

Ready to head out, she finishes the last of the hot chocolate, and with chocolatey fingers, stuffs some important papers inside a leather backpack.

EXT. PARIS SUBURBS - DAY

Ava, dressed professionally in a skirt suit and a leather backpack, rides a bike to the train station. She locks her bike outside the station.

She takes the train to Paris.

INT. TRAIN - DAY

Ava, seating by the window, gets the book "Archaeological Theory" out of her backpack and starts reading it.

EXT. PARIS STREETS - DAY

Ava walks past the Louvre, stops to admire a long queue of visitors to the famous museum.

Ava on the streets, among other busy Parisians.

EXT. LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Ava enters the "IVOR LUDOVIC COLLECTION' - a private museum in a small, inconspicuous 18th century building.

INT. LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Ava enters the lobby and greets a SECURITY GUARD with a wave, and a polite smile.

AVA  
Good morning Eric!

SECURITY GUARD  
Morning Ava!

She walks past the gallery and enters an employee only area and unlocks the door with a code.

INT. AVA'S OFFICE, LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Her office is an organized mess- encyclopedias, documents, art pictures, coffee mugs and take-out boxes.

She stands in front of an antique mirror and takes out some cards, then rehearses-

AVA  
Monsieur Gillard. I have been working here at the Ludovic Collection for almost 2 years and I am now ready to go out on my own expedition.

She looks in the mirror and sticks out her chest, confidently.

AVA  
Yes, I am ready.

INT. MARC'S OFFICE, LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Ava knocks on the door.

AVA  
Monsieur Gillard?

No answer. Ava sighs then leaves.

INT. LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Ava enters the main gallery and greets a tour guide, JOSEPHINE, 77, Scottish, the old but lively docent.

AVA  
Slow day today, Josephine?

JOSEPHINE  
Isn't it always? I suppose not everyone gets thrilled by 17th century manuscripts detailing the pendulum clock.

AVA  
Remember that one time last summer when we had those American high school students come in? It was a party. And they were so sweet too.

Josephine nods. Ava sighs. Josephine settles back in her corner, almost dozing off.

SILENCE.

A distinguished-looking couple walk in - a YOUNG GENTLEMAN and YOUNG LADY.

Josephine notices them, then groans.

AVA  
(whispering)  
What's up?

JOSEPHINE  
You'll see.

The Young Gentleman approaches a cabinet of relics, and points at a beautiful ancient amphora- a type of container of a characteristic shape and size, descending from at least as early as the Neolithic Period.

YOUNG GENTLEMAN  
(to the young lady)  
Ah yes, this is the treasured amphora belonging to Luxor in Upper Egypt... But what most people don't know is that inside is Cleopatra VII's remains, mixed with her perfume of roses.

As he is speaking, Ava rolls her eyes.

The young lady seems impressed.

Ava and Josephine swap looks, bewildered.

Josephine corrects him, speaking directly to the young lady.

JOSEPHINE

Actually, the amphora is Ancient Greek not Egyptian. And I assure you, it is empty.

YOUNG GENTLEMAN

No no I believe it was a European merchant in the 1600s who bought Cleopatra's mummified corpse and ground it up into a face mask for his wife, so that she may remain eternally beautiful.

The young lady loves this.

JOSEPHINE

Monsieur, if Cleopatra was in this jar, it would be in Le Louvre not in the Ludovic.

YOUNG LADY

C'est vrai!

The young gentleman quickly tries to save himself.

YOUNG GENTLEMAN

Well, I have my own elite sources for this type of information.  
(to his girlfriend)  
You can take my word for it.

JOSEPHINE

But, Monsieur-

YOUNG GENTLEMAN

I said you can take MY word for it.

Ava, triggered by the man's arrogance, comes to Josephine's rescue.

AVA

Actually, Cleopatra's tomb has yet to be discovered. It was most likely destroyed by Emperor Augustus. Furthermore, researches now say that Cleopatra probably wasn't that beautiful. The Romans only labeled her as a seductress.

YOUNG GENTLEMAN

Impossible. Cleopatra was very sexy.

He winks at his girlfriend.

Ava speaks firmly.

AVA

She was probably better known for her wit and intelligence. In fact, there will be a convention in Egypt to settle this very debate.

YOUNG GENTLEMAN

I just remembered that I have a very important meeting to get to.

(to the young lady)

Let's go my dear.

The young gentleman leaves, along with the young lady.

Ava smirks, proud of herself.

MARC GILLARD, the museum curator, a striking Ralph Fiennes lookalike, appears behind Ava, almost a little too close. He seems disappointed.

Ava turns around, surprised.

AVA

Oh, Monsieur Gillard, I didn't know you were already in.

MARC

Did you get Mrs. Robert to sign the release?

AVA

Yes.

Ava runs out of the gallery.

INT. AVA'S OFFICE, LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Ava rushes in her office, gets out a document from her backpack then runs out.

INT. LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Ava hands the document to Marc. He notices chocolate marks on it, but doesn't mention it.



MARC

Why are you driving away our visitors?

AVA

I'm sorry.

Marc gives her a look.

AVA

But the man was completely making up information about Cleopatra VII's mummified remains. It almost gave poor Josephine a heart attack.

Marc sighs.

MARC

You know that 90% of the visitors we get are scholars and savants. They know about the museum through exclusive, academic sources. You have no right to belittle them.

Ava looks at the floor, embarrassed.

Marc softens and gently lifts her face up.

MARC

You're an intelligent woman with a bright future. Who cares if some effete know-it-all shows off? You are in charge of your own success.

AVA

You're right.

MARC

Be nice or the only visitors we'll get will be the ghosts of the family who died here in the fire of 1919.

Ava rolls her eyes.

AVA

Now that would be stimulating.

Marc notes her sarcasm.

MARC

Are you bored, Ava?

Ava pauses, thinking.

AVA

When I am here, I am also in the Acropolis of Athens, the pyramids of Giza, the ruins of Pompeii... I am exploring new languages and cultures and trying to piece history together.

She walks past a case of gorgeous antiquities and then peers at a case of ancient scrolls.

AVA

So Monsieur Gillard, how could I ever be bored?

Marc is unmoved by her monologue.

MARC

Good.

Ava heads to her office.

Marc heads to the exit.

MARC

And there are more files to be archived on our online blog. Have it done by this Tuesday.

Ava groans.

MARC (OC)

We may be historians, Ava, but we have to keep up.

AVA

Wait.

Marc turns around.

AVA

Maybe I am...just a little bit...dying from a lack of stimulation...

Marc smiles. He then gestures for her to follow him. They head to his office.

INT. MARC'S OFFICE, LUDOVIC MUSEUM - SAME TIME

Marc and Ava enter his office. He closes the door.

MARC

I was going to wait until further notice, but I think I can give you a peek of what I have in store for you.

Ava watches him, curious.

Marc approaches his desk and kneels down. He opens a safe and takes out a leather bound case. He gestures for Ava to come close. He opens the case and reveals a SMALL GOLD COIN lying on white satin.

Ava gazes at it. Marc picks it up and hands it to her.

AVA

No gloves?

MARC

No need.

Ava takes it then analyzes it. She notices a faded, intricate design.

AVA

South American?

MARC

Very good.

AVA

What did Numismatist Natale say?

MARC

He said it was Peruvian, but it's inconclusive. No coin like this has ever been encountered.

AVA

I see.

MARC

Find out what you can before the buyer comes for it. I personally believe it to be a simple decorative ornament.

Ava smiles to herself.

INT. AVA'S OFFICE, LUDOVIC MUSEUM - MOMENTS LATER

Ava clears her messy desk and traces the coin's design - a circle with with curved lines on its circumference and a triangle, a square and another circle inside it. She scans the design onto her laptop and traces it to a Peruvian village called "PONCHO COELHO"

She stares at the screen excitedly.

INT. LUDOVIC MUSEUM LIBRARY - NIGHT

Ava sits in the small mahogany library, hovering over encyclopedias, lit by one lamp. She puts a magnifying glass to images of art from Poncho Coelho and notices the design on various materials - clothes, flags, paintings. She types "Poncho Coelho symbol" on her laptop but no search results are found. She seems disgruntled. She pauses for a moment, thinking. Suddenly, she hears the sound of creaking floor boards and looks around. She gets up and explores the library, but finds no one. She sits back at the desk and continues her research. Engrossed in an encyclopedia, suddenly she sees a FLASH and hears a CLICK.

Ava turns around to see STEFAN NAGOL, 25, a JAKE/LOGAN PAUL lookalike - 'dumb' blonde, privileged, well dressed but in a laid back way. His picture is been taken by DAN, 25, a lanky Italian photographer with an artsy vibe, who's using a very expensive DLSR camera.

AVA

Who are you? You can't be here after hours.

Stefan speaks like he expects her to know who he is.

STEFAN

I'm Stefan Nagol.

AVA

Okay...

STEFAN

Vlogger. Influencer. Been on TMZ, Drama Alert, Hot Ones...

(he winks)

'Hygge Hottie', the Danish version of The Bachelor.

She looks at him clueless.

Stefan looks at DAN, 25, a lanky Italian photographer with an artsy vibe. He takes photographs of Stefan from different angles.

DAN

You don't know who he is? Have you been living under a rock?

STEFAN

Or in a museum.

AVA

What are you doing here after hours?

STEFAN

I've come for my coin.

AVA

This is your coin?

STEFAN

Bought it off a monk for €4000 on eBay. He claimed it holds ancient mysteries and is in fact- magic.

AVA

It's a coin. It was probably used as currency in a village called Poncho Coelho in Peru.

Stefan looks excitedly at her.

STEFAN

Well done. It is from Peru! And my assistant and I will be going to Asia to unravel the mysteries that it holds.

He circles her.

STEFAN

We'll need a guide and you seem like a walking Wikipedia page. Would you like to join us?

Ava stares at him in disbelief.

AVA

What makes you think I would ever consider doing that.

He looks at her knowingly.

STEFAN

Because you want an adventure.

AVA

And how would you know that?

STEFAN

A certain museum curator might have mentioned it to me.

Stefan winks.

Ava looks at him suspiciously.

STEFAN

Keep the coin for the night. Maybe it will inspire you.

Stefan is about to exit when he sees a statue of a half-naked woman. He poses dramatically beside it while Dan takes his photo. They exit leaving Ava with a confused look on her face.

EXT. LUDOVIC MUESUM - NIGHT

Ava locks up the museum and gets on a public sharing bicycle-Velib.

EXT. PARIS STREETS - NIGHT

She stops at a Moroccan restaurant and picks up food before taking the train back to the suburb.

INT. AVA'S APARTMENT, CHATEAU - NIGHT

Ava sits on her comfy four-poster bed, eating her dinner of couscous and stew, whilst watching an American TV show on her laptop. She puts her dishes aside, turns off the TV show and starts using her laptop. She watches a video titled "Welcome to Peru". She sighs and then proceeds to google "STEFAN NAGOL". Dozens of search results show up. She first clicks on his Wikipedia page.

AVA

(reading)

Son and heir of the 'Wine and Cottage Cheese King'.

Ava scans Stefan's Instagram and sees he's a total, flashy bimbo - partying on yachts, taking mindless selfies around the world, and kissing gorgeous models in fancy cars.

She goes back to the search page and sees the headline - "INTERNET CELEBRITY DEPORTED AND BANNED FROM IRELAND" She clicks on the link.

AVA  
(reading)  
Instagram star and socialite Stefan Nagol deported and banned from Ireland for indecent exposure, offending the Irish people and violating a sacred space.

She clicks on the video.

EXT. IRELAND, SACRED FOUNTAIN - DAY

Stefan is peeing in a sacred fountain, as people on the other side drink from it.

DAN (VO)  
I don't think people are suppose to pee in there.

INT. AVA'S APARTMENT, CHATEAU - NIGHT

Appalled by what she sees, Ava tries to look away, but is unable. She then clicks on his "APOLOGY VIDEO", noticing the millions of views.

Stefan speaks apathetically and in a daze, almost as if he's drunk/forcing himself to do it.

EXT. STEFAN'S BEDROOM

Stefan speaks apathetically and in a daze, almost as if he's drunk/forcing himself to do it.

STEFAN  
I would like to sincerely apologize to the people of uh... The Holy Wells of Ireland. I didn't mean to cause any harm to your little fountain. It's just... uh... when you gotta go, you gotta go.  
(he lightens up)  
And in tribute, that will be the title of my new song. I sincerely hope it will uh... heal the.. wounds of the Irish people and that you will let me back in your country.

INT. AVA'S APARTMENT, CHATEAU - NIGHT

Annoyed, Ava pauses the video on Stefan's face- looking dumb as ever. She puts her hand on her forehead, disheartened. She takes a deep breath and jumps off the bed. She grabs a jacket, a to-go box, and heads out of her apartment.

INT. CHATEAU - NIGHT

Ava walks down the dark hallway of the castle and then down multiple staircases. She reaches an apartment with a grand door and rings the antique doorbell.

LADY RICARD ,56, opens the door, in a night robe, holding a small, PAMPERED POODLE. Though an aristocrat, she looks rather disheveled and tired. She is not pleased to see Ava at this hour.

AVA

I'm sorry to bother you, Lady Ricard, but... I just wanted to know... when the construction on the East Wing will be completed.

Lady Ricard frowns.

AVA

And I... I... was hoping you could give me some advice on a personal matter.

Lady Ricard, opens the door and lets Ava in.

INT. LADY RICARD'S APARTMENT, CHATEAU - SAME TIME

Ava hands Lady Ricard a to-go box.

AVA

I brought you some couscous.

Lady Ricard accepts it and invites Ava to take a seat. Her apartment is much grander than Ava's. It's more of a castle.

AVA

You know that I'm a historian, Madame. In fact, I'm an old soul, maybe even a monarchist, and in an intellectual sense, maybe even a downright elitist. I rented an apartment in your castle because of the history of your great family and I-



LADY RICARD

Just spill it.

AVA

Well, I'm facing a matter of great conflict. I have the opportunity of working with a rare artifact, but to do so I have to... well debase myself.

Ava looks to Lady Ricard for a reaction, but she says nothing.

AVA

Look, I come from nothing. My dad works in a chocolate factory, my mom worked two jobs while raising my sibling and I -secretary by day, bartender by night. Now I am working my butt off to become a researcher. And I have done my research on you, Lady Ricard, daughter of Lord and Lady Ryszard  
(whispering)  
of La Resistance.

This gets Lady Ricard's attention.

AVA

What would you do in this situation?

Lady Ricard sighs and gets up.

Ava looks at her confused.

LADY RICARD

Would you like a tour?

Ava jumps off the sofa.

AVA

Bien sûr!

Ava follows Lady Ricard and they walk through the castle - dining room, sitting rooms. Ava gazes at the various antiques and portraits of Lady Ricard's ancestors.

LADY RICARD

As you probably already know, my ancestors were knights, spies and high dignitaries; some of them are even considered heroes by some.

They had a very lavish and privileged lifestyle, owned multiple properties around the world, this one included.

She then turns to Ava. She speaks authoritatively but kindly.

LADY RICARD

And me? I am a landscape gardener and landlady, trying to maintain a building that has kept my family in debt for the past 70 years... So it doesn't matter how highly you think of yourself, you still have to deal with what's beneath you. In my case, it is actual dirt, mud and... inquisitive tenants

INT. AVA'S OFFICE, LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Ava steps in the office and makes her way straight to the safe under her desk. She opens it but finds the coin missing.

INT. MARC'S OFFICE, LUDOVIC MUSEUM - DAY

Ava knocks and enters.

Marc sits behind his desk. Stefan stands nearby, well-groomed and professionally dressed. He's getting his make-up done by Dan. He holds the coin in his hand, while doing vocal exercises. He puts the coin back in the case on Marc's desk.

He notices Ava.

STEFAN

Hello, hello.

AVA

Hi, Stefan.

Stefan approaches her and examines her.

DAN

Your hair needs more volume.

Stefan runs his fingers through her hair, adding volume.

Freaked out, Ava backs away.

MARC

Ava, have a seat. Coffee?

AVA  
(seating down)  
No thank you.

MARC  
So I'm sure by now you've made the  
best decision to join Stefan and Dan  
on their journey to Peru-

STEFAN  
(proudly)  
-in Asia.

MARC  
South America.

AVA  
Well, I just wanted to say-

Marc cuts her off, eyes glued to Dan's camera.

MARC  
And you will be an invaluable source  
of information for this expedition.  
We know that whatever you may find  
will be an accomplishment for the  
Ludovic Collection, for Paris, for  
the world.

Ava turns around and sees Marc is being recorded by Dan.  
Outraged, she stands up.

AVA  
Enough! Stefan, Dan, please, could  
you give me a moment with Monsieur  
Gillard.

Stefan and Dan exit.

Ava turns to Marc and speaks firmly.

AVA  
I have no interest in going if  
there's going to be a camera in my  
face the whole time.

Marc tries to convince her.

MARC  
Stefan is the son of the museum's  
biggest donor.

After the fountain incident, the museum founder Ivor Ludovic's great granddaughter Marie refused to accept Stefan's father's donation-vowing to never associate with the Nagol name. If the museum doesn't receive a donation, we will have to shut down and auction off all the artifacts. Now Stefan bought the coin and wants to make videos for his own fame, but associating with him in the right way can lead to greater publicity for the museum, and if Stefan does a good job, Marie might be willing to truce.

Ava considers the information.

MARC

If Stefan goes by himself, he might get arrested or kidnapped or god forbid cause another controversy. Maybe even World war 3!

AVA

I understand, but it's not my job to babysit this man-child.

MARC

It's for the good of the museum. And anyway if you remain here, you will only have more archival work. And I know how much you want to get your hands dirty.

AVA

Fine. I'll go. Only for the museum.

MARC

Good girl. And you never know where this will take you.

Marc winks.

Stefan and Dan enter the room. Stefan looks at Marc.

STEFAN

So, will she be joining me?

AVA

She will...on one condition.

Ava turns to Marc.

AVA  
I get to keep the coin.

MARC  
Agreed!

EXT. AIRPORT RUNWAY - DAY

Ava follows Stefan and Dan towards the private jet.

Dan films Stefan climbing the plane's staircase, dressed in khakis like an explorer, then turning around and waving goodbye to the camera. Unsatisfied, Stefan descends the stairs and goes up again, repeating the process.

Ava rolls her eyes.

AVA  
(mumbling to herself)  
Do it for history, Ava.

INT. PRIVATE JET - DAY

Ava is seated comfortably in her seat. She watches Stefan chatting with Dan about their social media strategy in the row in front.

A FLIGHT ATTENDANT approaches her.

FLIGHT ATTENDANT  
Good morning, Ms. Marchand, would you care for some coffee or tea before we take off?

AVA  
Actually do you have any hot chocolate?

The flight attendant pours and hands her a cup.

Ava relaxes, breathing in the steam from the hot chocolate.

TONY, 37, a Taye Digg's lookalike - bald, broad shoulders, strong and mysterious, African American, in a black suit, takes a seat next to her.

TONY  
Hot chocolate kind of girl?

Ava smiles sheepishly.

AVA

I find that really good cocoa can be much stronger than caffeine.

TONY

Could be true. You're Ava, right?  
I'm Tony.

AVA

Nice to meet you, Tony. Bit overdressed for the Peruvian climate?

TONY

Occupational hazard.

Tony directs his gaze toward Stefan, who heads to the airplane bathroom.

AVA

I didn't know social media stars needed bodyguards.

TONY

The kid gets a lot of hate, but it's mostly bags of flour or pee, never a bullet or a bomb... You know, I was head of security for Anne Hathaway.

AVA

Wow.

TONY

Yeah, I used to protect a national treasure, now I protect an international disgrace.

AVA

That bad?

TONY

(whispering)

He had this online nemesis, I think his name was FEO, who, after the incident challenged him to a boxing match for charity, but Stefan chickened out. I even offered to train him but he couldn't risk getting his beautiful face beat.

AVA

Wow.

TONY

Maybe this time the boy can redeem himself, but I doubt it.

AVA

Why did you agree to come?

TONY

The money's good and my wife wants me to stay safe for the kids. There goes a life of taking risks and saving lives.

Stefan comes out of the bathroom dressed as Nathan Drake. He poses proudly in front of everyone. Dan slow claps, then grabs his phone to take photos. He heads to Ava for approval.

She looks at him in disbelief.

AVA

Stunning.

STEFAN

And this is for you.

Stefan winks and throws Ava a packet containing a costume. The cover shows an image of a sexy woman fighter.

AVA

Lara Croft cosplay? Absolutely not.

Stefan frowns and hands Dan a costume.

STEFAN

Dan, you'll dress up like Tintin, won't you?

DAN

Of course! But I'm going to need a Fox Terrier.

STEFAN

We'll make sure to get you one in Peru.

Stefan then looks at Tony.

STEFAN

How about Indiana Jones?

Tony sighs.

TONY

I am not getting paid enough for this.

Stefan nods understandingly.

STEFAN

Dan, pass me my checkbook.

Tony shakes his head.

EXT. LIMA AIRPORT - DAWN

They enter Lima Airport. Stefan enthusiastically leads the group with Tony close behind him.

Ava notices Dan carrying Stefan's multiple pieces of luggage.

AVA

What does he even have in there? I thought this was going to be Man Vs. Wild.

DAN

Of course, we only carry the necessities - a few things we may not be able to find in Poncho Coelho. You know- dry shampoo, coconut water, ultra light pro hair dryer for the humidity... that type of stuff.

Ava rolls her eyes.

A jeep, driven by a LOCAL DRIVER, pulls up to them. They all get in: Tony in the front next to the driver, Ava, Stefan and Dan in the back.

EXT. LIMA - DAY

Thee jeep drives through the bustling city of Lima- passing a mix of modern and traditional buildings.

INT. JEEP/ EXT. PONCHO COELHO - AFTERNOON

Stefan, Dan and Ava are asleep in the back of the jeep. Tony is awake in the front. The car stops and Tony gets out.

Ava wakes up. She looks around then opens her bag to double check that the coin case is safe.



The car has stopped and she gets out. She looks around at the scenery - short, yellow modern buildings, mostly convenience stores, churches and coffee shops. The city is quite charming- cheery native music even comes out of some of the shops.

Stefan, snoring, wakes up and looks around in a daze. He sees the buildings and gets confused.

STEFAN  
What city is this?

LOCAL DRIVER  
Poncho Coelho.

Stefan sits up, clears his eyes and looks around. He sees a LOCAL COUPLE riding in a convertible. Then he sees some local TEEN GIRLS taking a selfie and eating ice pops.

Stefan panics and gets out of the car. Dan follows behind him.

STEFAN  
This...this can't be Poncho Coelho.

AVA  
There's our hotel.

Ava points at a lovely, serene whitewashed building with a thatched roof, surrounded by lush trees.

Stefan covers his head.

STEFAN  
No no no no! This is not good. Dan!  
What's wrong?  
(yelling)  
This place... it's... civilized!

Stefan begins to cause a scene. People look in his direction.

He takes out his phone.

STEFAN  
Look, my phone has service. My phone didn't even have service when we were in that vineyard in Bordeaux.

Stefan sees an old WOMAN on her phone and approaches her.

STEFAN  
Excuse me, ma'am, do you know what Instagram is? How about Snapchat?

Twitter, Facebook, Periscope?  
YouTube? Twitch?

The woman is startled and looks at him strangely. Ava pulls him away from her.

STEFAN  
What about MySpace?!

AVA  
Can you please not talk about social media for five seconds?

STEFAN  
It's my job!. And I promised my viewers middle-of-nowhere content.

He notices a McDonald's sign in the distance.

STEFAN  
Dear Lord, please let that not be the Golden Arches.

Stefan is absolutely panic-stricken, almost hyperventilating. Dan arrives, pulling out a hand fan from his bag to help him breathe.

He leans on Ava's shoulder.

STEFAN  
Tell me Ava, did they build all of this in the past 24 hours?

AVA  
Stefan, I think you were relying on the images you saw in my encyclopedias. They were highly outdated.

Ava pats Stefan's head. From the corner of her eye, she sees a small flea/farmer's market on a nearby street. She shrugs Stefan away and heads toward the market.

Stefan sighs in despair and mutters to himself.

STEFAN  
What! This is why I only rely on Wikipedia. At least their info is always accurate.

Dan pats him on the shoulder.

DAN

Keep breathing, you are losing color  
in a way that no filter can correct!

Suddenly, a Peruvian TEENAGER approaches Stefan, smiling.

TEENAGER

Stefan? Stefan Nagol?

STEFAN

Oh my God, he recognizes me.

DAN

See, if this was some rural place,  
you'd never meet a fan.

TEENAGER

(broken english)  
Me big fan of you.

The teenager beats his head with his fist.

TEENAGER

We take selfie?

They take a selfie.

TEENAGER

Thank you!

The teenager looks at his phone while walking away.

Stefan speaks privately to Dan.

STEFAN

Yeah, but we better start taking  
some pictures that make it seem like  
I am in the wilderness.

DAN

There's a very leafy green area in  
the hotel gardens. Why don't we  
start there?

STEFAN

Yeah, and I suppose we can get some  
kids to dress in rags and stand  
nearby.

DAN

That could work.

Suddenly, Stefan notices that the teenager is now filming  
him. He nudges Dan.

STEFAN

Wait! I just took a selfie with that kid.

DAN

He's filming us. They have internet in this place? Do you think he understands us?

A look of fear appears on Stefan and Dan's faces.

The teenager realizes he's caught and runs, heading toward the flea market. Stefan follows after him.

STEFAN

Stop! Delete! Delete!

EXT. JEWELRY STALL (FLEA MARKET) - DAY

Ava strolls through the flea market stalls. A FRUIT SELLER offers her a taste of a native fruit.

Then Ava sees an OLD NATIVE GRANDMOTHER selling handmade jewelry and other trinkets. Ava admires the jewelry.

She notices the symbol on a ring and picks it up. She speaks slowly to the Grandmother.

AVA

Hola! Could you tell me what this symbol means to you?

The Grandmother smiles but doesn't seem to understand. Then her NATIVE GRANDDAUGHTER appears and speaks for her in good english.

GRANDDAUGHTER

These necklaces and rings are all handmade by my grandmother. You want to try?

AVA

Actually, I was wondering if you could tell me more about this symbol that seems to decorate your city.

GRANDDAUGHTER

Of course, that is an ancient symbol. It's been used in Poncho Coelho for centuries to protect us from evil.

AVA

Do you believe in it?

GRANDDAUGHTER

I sometimes have my doubts but my grandmother certainly does. It must work, since nothing bad has ever happened to us...so far.

AVA

And where does the symbol originate from?

The granddaughter looks around and then leans forward, whispering to Ava.

GRANDDAUGHTER

It is carved on a rock deep in the jungle. The rock has magical powers and protects us from a-

She is almost too scared to say it. She acts 'monster' out.

AVA

A monster?

GRANDDAUGHTER

Yes, it haunts that part of the jungle. No one knows what it really looks like. Some say it rips people apart with claws, there have been reports of decapitation.

She shivers as she speaks.

AVA

This monster has such an effect on you. You must believe in it.

GRANDDAUGHTER

I have been scared to death with nightly bedtime stories and picture books.

AVA

Aren't you curious to see if it's real?

The granddaughter is hesitant at first.

GRANDDAUGHTER

I would love if my grandmother did not live in fear everyday. And...

I have a passion for butterfly catching which I can't to do because I'm not allowed to go into the jungle of the rock.

Ava leans in and whispers to her.

AVA

If you like we could quietly go together into the forest and find the rock. I have a secret team ready to explore.

The Granddaughter's eyes widen.

GRANDDAUGHTER

Really?

AVA

Yes. All we need to know is the location of the rock.

GRANDDAUGHTER

I could tell you that. It's-

Just then the Grandmother appears, causing the Granddaughter to stop talking. The Grandmother gestures for the Granddaughter to help her with something. The Granddaughter looks at Ava sadly, before leaving, she holds out her hand.

Ava shakes it and the granddaughter sneaks a wooden necklace with the symbol into her hand.

GRANDDAUGHTER

Good luck!

Ava thanks her and continues exploring the flea market.

EXT. MARKET - DAY

Stefan runs through the market, chasing the teenager. The teenager is too quick and turns the corner while Stefan stumbles into a stall of fruit. The teenager laughs and films Stefan crawling among the fruit. The natives surround Stefan in disapproval. Ava walks by Stefan, pretending not to know him. After the teenager is done filming, he turns around to leave and finds himself face to face with Tony, who grabs his phone, and deletes all the pictures and videos of Stefan, then hands the phone back to the teenager.

TONY

Thank you!

Tony walks away towards Stefan.

The teenager smiles sneakily to himself.

TEENAGER  
 (speaking under his  
 breath)  
 Not nice Mister.

He checks his online back up on a cloud storage and smiles when he finds uploads of all the videos and images that had been deleted.

EXT. POTTERY STALL (FLEA MARKET) - AFTERNOON

Ava approaches another stall, belonging to a POTTER - an older man - selling pottery and small artifacts. She sees one of the symbol carved into a small rock. She picks it up and analyzes it. The potter smiles at her. She smiles back. She then boldly speaks.

AVA  
 Good afternoon, Sir. Could you tell  
 me more about the monster that  
 haunts the jungle of the rock?

The potter's smile disappears. He takes the artefact from her and gestures for her to leave. He immediately shuts down his stall.

AVA  
 (speaking to herself)  
 Better target the young people.

BEGIN MONTAGE

Ava speaks to various other natives TEENS/YOUNG ADULTS, in different parts of the neighborhood.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

She speaks to local teen boys playing football.

TEEN 1  
 It's a like a...how you  
 say...dinosaur but with- He flaps  
 his arms.

AVA  
 A dinosaur with wings?

TEEN 1

Yes.

AVA

I thought it was part werewolf part dragon.

Teen 1 looks at his friend, confused. They swap remarks in Spanish. Teen 2 turns back to Ava.

TEEN 2

Yes.

AVA

No, it can't be so many things!

EXT. STREET - DAY

TEEN 3 who was riding a bike stops and speaks to Ava. He speaks in fast Spanish, mimicking a monster. She tries to understand him, taking notes. He makes all sorts of noises describing the monster, but suddenly ends with-

TEEN 3

(mimicking a sheep)

Baaa!

Ava looks at him totally confused.

INT. SMALL SHOP - DAY

Ava is speaking with a YOUNG WOMAN in her early twenties.

YOUNG WOMAN

It got to be a chupacabra.

AVA

A what?

YOUNG WOMAN

(nodding)

Si!

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - DAY

Ava is walking with a BELLBOY.



BELLBOY

(whispering)

A few weeks ago, two backpackers stumbled upon the rock. They claimed that something, couldn't really tell what, attacked them when they went in the jungle and that they barely made it out in one piece.

INT. JUICE BAR - DAY

Ava sits with some COLLEGE-AGED STUDENTS, drinking juice.

They seem smarter and more knowledgeable. They discuss the monster with each other in Spanish. Meanwhile, Ava notices a STRANGE MAN from across the bar staring at her.

One of the students finally turns to Ava and looks at her seriously.

STUDENT

It's a bright green furry creature that hates Christmas.

AVA

That's the Grinch!

END MONTAGE

INT. AVA'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Ava, in PJs, sits on her laptop on the bed, surrounded by books, maps and encyclopedias about Poncho Coelho. She googles: "GOLD COIN AUCTION ANONYMOUS STEFAN NAGOL"

AVA

(reading)

Anonymous buyer who sold the gold coin to Stefan Nagol is rumored to be a Spanish monk.

The only photo of the buyer shows him wearing a brown hood, concealing his face. She zooms in to his face - it's kind of creepy. She suddenly hears a noise. Startled, she looks around. She takes a deep breath and opens a children's storybook that shows a monster with a row of spines reaching from the neck to the base of the tail. She looks at the window and for a second, she sees a face. Creeped out, she jumps out of bed and heads to the window and looks around, but sees no one.

INT. STEFAN'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Tony does a quick sweep of the room, checking for anything suspicious. There are whole boxes of fruit in the corner. (The fruit Stefan knocked over in the flea market which he had to pay for.) Stefan is at the desk, in front of his closed laptop, head resting down in his arms.

Dan appears and sets a small piece of paper down by Stefan's head. Stefan sees it and gets up, breathing a sigh of relief, he kisses the paper.

STEFAN  
Finally! Wi-fi!

Stefan types the wi-fi password from the paper onto his laptop. He checks his social media platforms- his eyes greedy from social media starvation. He sees his name is trending and rejoices, making a fist.

DAN  
Trending?

STEFAN  
Yes! Everyone wants a piece of Stefan-

Stefan notices the hashtag #StefanOverParty.

STEFAN  
#StefanOverParty! What the hell?

Concerned, Dan types on Stefan's laptop, trying to make sense of the situation. First they see a meme, making fun of Stefan in Poncho Coelho. Then they see a vlog posted by Stefan's online nemesis, FEO. They gasp. Dan wants to watch it.

STEFAN  
No, don't click on it. Don't give it more views!

DAN  
Come on. We need to know what he's saying about you.

Dan clicks on the play button.

INT. FEO'S BEDROOM

FEO sits in his comfy bedroom.

FEO

Hey guys, welcome back to my channel. You will not believe what I have in store for you today, but first shout out to Verity Vineyards Vegan Wine for this amazing offer-

INT. STEFAN'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

STEFAN

Ugh. Skip this part. The guy is so undiscerning about his sponsors. What the hell is vegan wine?

Dan fast forwards the video.

INT. FEO'S BEDROOM

FEO

Okay, y'all. Now for the dirt. We all know how Stefan Nagol chickened out of our charity boxing match, because he was worried about his pretty face, yet again, he had only agreed to it to distract everyone from the fact that he peed into the sacred fountain of the Irish Wells. Oh yeah, let me remind you of that-

INT. STEFAN'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Stefan clenches his fist.

STEFAN

I should have boxed him when I could.

INT. FEO'S BEDROOM

FEO

Anyway, Stefan recently posted about traveling to the Peruvian town of Poncho Coelho, which he claimed to be desolate and wild. Well, according to a local source, Stefan is actually in a developed city, lounging at a five star hotel and enjoying all the comforts of the first world. Here's the proof.

Photos of Stefan checking into the hotel, drinking coconut water, standing with Dan, Tony and Ava, along with all his designer luggage.

INT. STEFAN'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Stefan lets out a surprised scream while grabbing the screen with both his hands.

STEFAN  
That darn kid!

INT. FEO'S BEDROOM

FEO  
Stefan even has a bodyguard. How narcissistic and unnecessary is that? That bodyguard must be bored out of his mind! And if you're wondering where he gets all his information from, he's being accompanied by his "little lady ghostwriter" - no better than a middle school history teacher.

Images of Ava are splashed across the screen.

FEO  
And this is all thanks to some worthless relic he purchased at an auction for an ungodly amount of money. Now that is truly wild...and pathetic. #StefanOverParty.

INT. STEFAN'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Stefan stops the video. He covers his head with his hands and groans. Dan goes onto Stefan's page. They see his followers count. Stefan clutches his heart.

STEFAN  
Oh my God. I lost 100,000 subs...I didn't even lose that much after the fountain incident.

He starts to hyperventilate.

DAN  
Calm down, Stefan. Take deep breaths.

STEFAN

Ah! The subscriber count keeps going down! Make it stop, Dan!

Dan tries to comfort him. Stefan gets up.

STEFAN

I need a break.

DAN

Should I make some tea?

STEFAN

Chamomile.

Stefan goes into the bathroom to do his complicated nightly routine involving serums and face masks.

KNOCK on the door.

Tony opens the door. It's Ava in her PJs and robe. She seems uneasy. Tony invites her in.

AVA

Is Stefan here?..I wanted to ask him if he knew anything more about the seller of the coin.

TONY

He's attending his nightly rituals.

From the bathroom, Stefan cries-

STEFAN (OC)

The water is too HOT or it's too COLD. My hair need a perfect 90 degrees Fahrenheit or 32.2 celsius.

Ava rolls her eyes.

Dan comes out of the bathroom, holding a tray of tea. He seems exhausted from Stefan's meltdown.

DAN

He'll be out in about 45 minutes.

Ava doesn't know what to do. She lingers.

Tony asks her to have a seat. He goes to the kitchenette. She looks around nervously.

TONY

Is something on your mind, Ava?

AVA

Well...yes.. I was doing some  
research in my room ...and  
then...this is going to sound crazy  
but... I thought I saw...

She loses track of her words. She looks around, scared.

Tony hands her a cup of hot chocolate.

AVA

I'm just a little on edge.

Tony laughs.

Ava takes a sip.

AVA

Ooh, this has a kick.

TONY

It's Peruvian hot chocolate. Made  
with condensed milk and a blend of  
spices.

Ava becomes less tense, the hot chocolate calming her.

TONY

Believe me Ava, you have nothing to  
worry about.

He walks to the closet and gestures for her to follow him.

She does. He opens the closet revealing handguns, hunting  
rifles and ammunition. Ava gasps.

TONY

Nothing can hurt us here.

Ava smiles.

From the bathroom, Stefan cries out.

STEFAN (OC)

Ah! Spider! Tony! Help!

Tony goes into the bathroom, bodyguard style, pretending like  
it's a big deal. Ava laughs.

INT. HOTEL BREAKFAST ROOM - DAY

Ava enters the breakfast room, cheery, enthusiastic and  
dressed for the day.

She approaches the team seated at a table. Stefan's head is down in his arms. Dan stands next to him.

AVA  
Good morning, Stefan. Sleep well?

He mumbles, without lifting his head.

AVA  
Is he okay?

DAN  
You know what happens when you drop a sponge that's never been used into a sink of water, even if it's clean water.

Ava looks on in confusion.

Stefan raises his head, revealing bright pink eyes.

Ava is stunned, but tries to hide a chuckle. She takes a seat next to him and pats him on the back.

AVA  
It's only going to make you stronger.

STEFAN  
My face is my job Ava.

AVA  
(confused)  
Is it?

STEFAN  
Anyway, Dan, what's the number? Give it to me straight.

DAN  
You are still at 3 million.

STEFAN  
It didn't drop since last time?

DAN  
Nope.

STEFAN  
At 3 million followers, I'm barely relevant.

Dan hides his phone behind his back. Stefan tries to grab it. Dan pushes him away.

STEFAN

Dan. I'm weak!

Dan sighs and admits.

DAN

2,800,000 followers.

STEFAN

Lost another 200,000.

(sarcastic)

Great. I'm ruined.

DAN

Look, I have a plan, we can make a video of you explaining that your nemesis, FEO, was all wrong and that you really are in the wild.

STEFAN

Looking like this?!!

DAN

The pink eye will only prove it!

Stefan puts his head down in his arms.

Ava puts a map of Poncho Coelho on the table.

AVA

Anyway, in a nearby forest, there is a rock where the symbol on the coin is carved. Apparently- and Stefan you're going to love this - the rock is magical and protects the villagers from some kind of evil creature that haunts the jungle. We should check it out.

STEFAN

No! My plan for the day is antibiotics, take some photos of the city looking miserable, sleep, find a flight home and stay away from vlogging until everyone forgets this ever happened.

AVA

Stefan, come on. You came all the way here. You're seriously going to let some minor inconveniences stop you from a little nature hike.



Stefan groans. Ava turns to Tony and Dan who know Stefan will not change his mind.

AVA

Well, I'm going. I came here to find out more about the symbol and I will.

Ava exits.

Stefan gets up and heads to the simple spread of breakfast.

He shields his eyes from passing GUESTS.

He pours himself a half cup of green juice and adds some vitamins to it. He turns away for a second. A waiter takes the juice away. He notices it.

STEFAN

(yelling out to the waiter)

I wasn't done with that!

Stefan hears a chuckle. It's the teenager, filming him this whole time. Stefan sees him, gasps and immediately chases after him. The teen runs.

STEFAN

Hey! Stop!

The teenager runs down the hallway into the lobby.

The teenager sees the hotel MANAGER and turns around. Stefan catches him and grabs his phone, satisfied.

STEFAN

Ah ha! You! You are the one who has been sending all these pictures to FEO. Now let's delete these videos or I will call el policio.

TEENAGER

Calm down, man. Just tryna go viral. You can understand.

Stefan is still angry and won't let him go, then starts looking for the teenager's phone. The teenager starts yelling in Spanish, pretending to be distressed.

TEENAGER

(in spanish)

Help, help. The tourist stole my phone! He is trying to take private photos of me.

A small crowd of GUESTS surround them. Everyone looks disapprovingly at Stefan. A SECURITY GUARD puts his hand on Stefan's shoulder.

Stefan realizes he's in trouble and reluctantly gives the teenager back his phone.

TEENAGER  
#StefanMeltdown.

The teenager smiles evilly at Stefan then runs away.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Ava walks down the street, passing the small shops and churches. She turns around but only sees a few locals going about their day.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Ava buys bottles of water from a small convenience store. She reads from a small note.

AVA  
Oh and do you sell... Voss Artesian  
Water?

The CASHIER shakes his head.

AVA  
How about Smart Water?

The cashier shakes his head.

AVA  
Evian? Fiji? St. Pellegrino?

The cashier The CASHIER just looks at her confused.

AVA  
(half speaking to herself)  
Well, that makes sense because  
regular water is totally fine to  
drink and he is just neurotic. But I  
suppose I'm stuck with him.  
(to cashier)  
Thank you, Sir.

INT. AVA'S HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Ava enters her hotel room, leaving the door open, and drops the supplies on the floor. Tony knocks on the door. She speaks to him without looking at him.

AVA

Oh hey Tony, is Stefan here? I went to like 3 different stores to find bottled water with the right pH level. Please tell me he's going to drink it and not just use it for his hair?

Ava looks back at Tony who motions for her to be quiet. He gestures for her to follow him.

INT. STEFAN'S HOTEL ROOM - SAME TIME

He leads her into his and Stefan's hotel room. A NATIVE PERUVIAN MAN, 38, is in the room, staring at the floor. His features are indigenous, mysterious and alluring. He's fit and casually dressed in jeans and a polo shirt and an old brown leather jacket. He wears a gold chain and a collection of interesting jeweled rings on his fingers. Ancient artistic tattoos cover his arms and neck. He stares at the floor.

TONY

Have you seen this man before?

She shakes her head.

TONY

I caught him following you to the shops and back to the hotel. I noticed him hanging around yesterday. He's unarmed.

The man remains calm in a clearly in awkward situation. He then makes direct eye contact with Ava. She suddenly remembers his eyes from the face from the window. She gasps.

AVA

He was at my window yesterday.

TONY

Alright. Why don't you get the manager to call the police. I'll wait here with him.

The man suddenly laughs.

MAN

My name is Omatogua. I was following you yesterday, Miss Ava. As a humble resident, it is my duty to follow all visitors to Poncho Coelho if I think they are a threat to our sacred city.

AVA

Uh you thought I was a threat?

OMATOGUA

Yesterday, you checked into the public library and demanded to see a collection of private journals and albums belonging to Poncho Coelho. Your fair-headed companion has been going around town filming without a permit and even assaulted a youngster. And you  
(looking at Tony)  
possess weapons that haven't been cleared by our Ministry of Defense.

AVA

Fair enough...But you still have no right to peep into hotel rooms. Honestly!

OMATOGUA

Forgive me, Miss. I was only protecting my sacred village.

AVA

Mhmm.

OMATOGUA

We are a paranoid people, for good reason.

Oma looks around suspiciously. He then explains himself.

OMATOGUA

This is a city that is hundreds of years old and yet has not been visited by many. So naturally I am curious about those who enter.

AVA

I understand. You seem to know a lot about this place.

OMATOGUA

It is my home.

AVA

Then you know about the rock and  
with the symbol on it?

A beat.

OMATOGUA

Yes.

AVA

Could you tell me more about it?

OMATOGUA

There isn't much to tell. It is just  
an ordinary rock with a scribble on  
it.

AVA

Could you takes us there?

OMATOGUA

I can. To the rock, but not beyond  
it.

AVA

When can we leave?!

EXT. PONCHO COELHO HOTEL - EVENING

Stefan and Dan take photos in an area by the hotel surrounded  
by exotic plants and flowers. Stefan itches his leg and tries  
to kill mosquitoes. Stefan sees Ava approaching and groans.

AVA

Hola Stefan! Feeling better?

STEFAN

Mhmm.

AVA

You should try maca. It's said to  
cure fine lines. Thought you might  
be interested.

DAN

Please. He's been consuming maca  
powder in his smoothies since he was  
3 years old.

Stefan remains quiet. Dan puts the camera away. He goes  
towards the hotel then stops. He turns around to take a  
picture of Stefan and Ava, then goes inside.

STEFAN

I think I might have to change my career. Maybe you're right. Social media is the worst. I was thinking of switching to golf. Golf pros have the best parties in the sports world.

He practices a golf swing.

AVA

There's a man named Omatogua who has offered to take us to the rock in the jungle. Won't you come with us?

Stefan shrugs.

Ava leans beside him.

AVA

I get it. It's a tough world and sometimes you can't do what you wanna do without certain people getting in the way.

Ava thinks, then smiles.

AVA

If we were to go, you could make a video in the wilderness and prove FEO wrong which in turn should help you gain your followers back.

Stefan seems pensive for a few seconds, then nods and smiles - a sincere one, for the first time.

AVA

Great!

STEFAN

(lighting up)

It would also be the perfect opportunity for all of us to get into our costumes.

AVA

(quickly)

Don't push it.

EXT. PONCHO COELHO RIVERBANK - DAY

In a secluded part of the riverbank, Oma stands on his canoe.

Tony hops in, along with a small bulletproof suitcase. Dan carries a hiking backpack. Ava follows along, carrying nothing but a notepad. Stefan is in a much better mood. Before stepping onto the canoe, he clears his throat and Dan, carrying a backpack, starts filming him on his phone.

STEFAN

Well, off I go. Into the jungles of deepest, darkest Peru. I have one goal: to encounter this magical rock and perhaps even take on the dark forces that surround it.

Dan does a thumbs up.

STEFAN

Actually, can I redo the first bit? It sounded a little Paddington-y.

DAN

Keep going.

STEFAN

If any one of my fans are in Poncho Coelho, or Peru or even farther, I ask that you come down to the river and cheer me on when I return from my first exploit.

Stefan then grabs the phone from Dan and does a close up shot of his face. He speaks more seriously.

STEFAN

Be aware - this is a highly dangerous journey. If I do not make it back, please-  
(dramatically)  
do cry for me, Peru. And the rest of the world.

Stefan hits upload and posts the video. He puts his phone in his pocket and hops on to the canoe.

He salutes Oma.

STEFAN

Aye, aye, captain!

The canoe floats away.

Meanwhile, on land the teenager has been spying on the team.

He was filming Stephen on his phone up until the canoe departed. The teenager shakes his head, raises his hand in the air and speaks to himself.

TEENAGER  
(in spanish)  
You fools!

He takes out his phone and takes a video of himself.

TEENAGER  
The jungle is dangerous and haunted.  
No joke, Stefan may never come back.  
Enjoy this video because it is the  
last one of Stefan Nagol!

The teenager is sad while filming and posting the video. But then, a faint smile appears on his face.

TEENAGER  
(in spanish)  
At least my video will go viral.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

The canoe floats peacefully in the stream until it reaches deeper waters. Oma stands at the back, rowing. Ava sits by his feet. She looks up at him.

AVA  
Your city is beautiful, Oma.

OMATOGUA  
Thank you.

AVA  
It's a pity that everyone lives in  
fear...of the monster.

Oma peers into the distance, unmoved.

AVA  
Everyone... but you. You aren't  
afraid.

Ava looks up at him, almost provoking him.

AVA  
Do you think there is evil in the  
jungle?

OMATOGUA  
The jungle holds many secrets.



Omatogua looks up at the sky.

EXT. JUNGLE OF THE ROCK - DAY

The canoe reaches the shore. A tall rock pokes out of branches. Ava is the first to jump out of the canoe. She heads to the rock and observes the symbol. Oma and Tony push the canoe ashore while Dan applies hairspray and a final touch of powder to Stefan's face. They all join Ava at the rock. They look at her for her thoughts.

AVA

It's centuries old. Carved out of some sort of very rough material, similar to a relief I had the opportunity of seeing in Turkey, dating back to 38 B.C - Antiochus I shaking the hand of Hercules.

Ava feels the smoothness of the outline of the carvings.

AVA

It's very polished. Someone has been taking care of it.

She looks at Oma, suspiciously. His face says nothing. Stefan smiles, satisfied, and turns to Dan who already has his camera out. Stefan motions Ava to step away from the rock, out of the frame. Dan films him.

STEFAN

And here we have the magical rock! Centuries old and carved out a very rough material, similar to a relieve I saw in Turkey, from 38 B.C - Antiochus I shaking the hand of Hercules.

Ava, shocked at his plagiarism, doesn't bring it up.

STEFAN

The coin please, Ava.

Ava hands him the coin. Stefan holds the gold coin beside the symbol on the rock. The coin shines bright, almost as if it has gained power near the rock. Oma watches.

Ava is busy taking notes and making sketches.

Stefan and Dan excitedly check their footage. They go a little deeper into the forest and look around.

EXT. JUNGLE NEAR THE ROCK - DAY

Stefan and Dan are walking, looking around.

STEFAN

Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

They say in unison.

STEFAN/DAN

360 VIEW!

Stefan does a little jog to get his heart rate up and then throws himself on to the ground. Dan messes his hair slightly and then kneels, filming all around the landscape. Stefan speaks dramatically, his voice hoarser and panting, like he's been on a long expedition.

STEFAN

We are now deep into jungle. Way past the rock with the symbol on it, where no one has ever dared to venture and lived to tell the tale... No one except for me and my man, Danny.

Dan turns the camera around and waves. He turns it back to Stefan.

STEFAN

We'll soon be foraging for berries. Hopefully, ones that aren't poisonous-

Suddenly a medium-sized RODENT-like creature appears near Stefan. Stefan acts as if he knows what he's doing and puts his hand out to pet him. The rodent bites his finger. Stephen yells. He notices Dan is still filming.

STEFAN

CUT! CUT! Did you get that? Erase it immediately. Ow that hurts!

Dan already has a band aid and antiseptic ready.

STEFAN

But let's try to get another shot of me and the thing.

The rodent sniffs Stefan's foot and then suddenly steals Stefan's anklet. Stefan yells. It vanishes into the jungle.

They follow it.

EXT. JUNGLE OF THE ROCK - DAY

Ava is still taking notes and admiring the carving. Oma puts a hand on her shoulder.

OMATOGUA

We must leave. There's a storm coming.

AVA

Sure, let's-

She looks at Tony then notices Stefan and Dan are missing.

AVA

Oh no. Where are the guys?

OMATOGUA

I told you not to go past the rock!

AVA

I know! And I apologize on their behalf! Tony did you see them?

TONY

They went into the jungle. Stefan told me to 'stay out of his frame'.

OMATOGUA

(in his native language)  
Damn it!

Ava, Oma and Tony head into the jungle.

EXT. DEEPER IN THE JUNGLE - DAY

Stefan and Dan chase after the rodent, but suddenly the rodent does a double take and runs toward them.

They wonder what the rodent is running from when suddenly they hear a terrible, evil, vicious ROAR.

STEFAN

Oh my God!.

DAN

What was that!

STEFAN

Where's Tony? Tony!

Stefan and Dan look around for Tony. They then turn around and run toward the shore. They see Oma, Ava and Tony heading toward them.

STEFAN  
Turn around!

Tony notices rustling in the branches. He gets his handgun ready. Oma stops him.

OMATOGUA  
Get back to the boat! Now!

EXT. JUNGLE OF THE ROCK - DAY

Ava, Oma, Tony, Stefan and Dan run back to the canoe. The rodent jumps in along with them. Ava sees it and squeals.

AVA  
Oh a capybara! How delightful!

STEFAN  
Yeah, right! Come on, let's get the hell out of here.

AVA  
What did you see?

STEFAN  
It doesn't matter.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

The canoe sails away from the jungle. Ava looks at the shore, wondering what she missed.

TONY  
I wonder what it was that was after us.

Dan stuffs the camera and phone into a waterproof bag, then into his pocket.

AVA  
Where's the coin.

Stefan checks his pocket. He looks at her clueless.

AVA  
Are you kidding me?

OMATOGUA

Here it is.

Omatogua takes the coin from the capybara and reluctantly hands it to Ava.

STEFAN

I must have dropped it.

Ava looks suspiciously at Oma.

Dark clouds collect above them as the rain pours down. The waves become much rougher. The canoe sways from side to side in the wind. They hold on for life. Thunder strikes and then a giant torrent of water comes flooding toward them and flips the canoe. For a moment, everyone dances lifelessly in the deep, dark waters. Ava opens her eyes and sees a bright yellow light. Gold colored sparks originating from that light come towards her, then surrounds them.

INT. CAVE - DAY

The cave is dark and dingy, the water is a brilliant turquoise. Sunshine peaks through a small opening.

Ava, Stefan, Tony and Dan lay on their backs- half on dry rock, half submerged in the shallow water. Tony is awake, breathing heavily.

Ava comes to- coughing and spluttering water.

Dan slowly gets up to check Stefan. He's about to give him the kiss of life, but Stefan wakes up, coughing. Stefan wakes up and immediately puts his hands on his face. He feels a little blood from a scratch. Dan and Stefan see that they are alive and hug each other. Dan takes out his camera from the waterproof bag and checks that it still works. They rejoice again.

Ava arises to a top rock and has a look around. She unzips her pocket and sees that the coin is safe. She walks along the edge of the rock and tries to see out of the cave. She takes a deep breath and coughs some more water out. Tony gets up beside her.

TONY

Are you alright?

She nods.

TONY

Where do you think we are?

Ava looks around and tries to formulate a thought.

AVA

No idea.

Dan and Stefan join them on the rock. They all swap looks of relief, thankful to be alive. Ava then looks around and notices Omatigua's absence.

AVA

Where is Oma?

Nobody answers.

TONY

Let's hope he is alright.

Ava tries to stay grounded.

AVA

The water is too deep beyond the cave. We need a boat to sail out.

They look at each other helplessly.

They are trapped in the cave.

TONY

Okay, let's split up and try to find a way out. I still have my handgun so we're safe.

STEFAN

How exactly will a gun protect us in this situation, Tony?

TONY

It won't, but at least we won't be defenseless if we encounter another beast.

Ava pats Stefan on the back. The team split up and explore the cave.

Ava ventures deeper into the left side of the cave. She hears a faint sound of water rushing. She slips on a wet rock but catches herself. She follows the sound and finds a waterfall.

Stefan, who's been following close behind her, yells.

STEFAN

A waterfall!

AVA

Shh, don't disturb the rocks.

The others join them by the waterfall. They try to find a place to climb but the rocks are all slippery. Stefan finds one spot on the wall where his foot latches on easily. He climbs the first step.

STEFAN

Over here. It's dry as dust!

The team climb up the wall, trying their best not to slip.

They reach the opening and help each other climb out.

EXT. GONLODA - DAY

They dust themselves off and have a look around. At first they walk through a path covered in trees and branches. It suddenly leads them to a clear vantage point overlooking the city. They find themselves in an uninhabited, ancient Peruvian city, unaffected by time, yet not in ruins. The stone buildings have intact walls and ceilings. Bountiful fruits and flowers cover the streets, yet not a person in sight. A large pyramid with stairs on all four of its sides, stands in the center of the city.

Ava is mesmerized.

AVA

Unbelievable.

She looks at the others, but they seem to be more scared and clueless than amazed. She tries to assure them.

AVA

We seem to have stumbled into some sort of lost, hidden city.

STEFAN

What do you mean? Like Atlantis?

AVA

Kind of... I've only read lightly about it, but there are said to be at least 9 hidden cities in the world, and at least 3 of them are in South America. But nobody has ever found one!

STEFAN

Are you telling me that we actually discovered something?

Ava can't believe it either. Her voice cracks in awe.

AVA

I think so.

Now everyone is absolutely awestruck.

TONY

Alright, let's just take a step back and try to figure this out. There's no way that this is some magical, secret, uninhabited land.

AVA

Come on, Tony, open up your mind. It's not that hard to believe in this. Trust me, I've studied about these places.

Dan tries to reason with Ava.

STEFAN

Let's see if we can find at least one person.

AVA

Fair enough.

TONY

Let's climb the pyramid. Maybe we'll see someone, or at least someone will see us.

DAN

(looking at his phone)  
Or get a signal.

They make their way toward the pyramid.

Stefan then nudges Dan.

Dan looks at him, confused.

STEFAN

Hello? Get the camera out, man! This is gold!

Dan quickly takes out his phone and starts taking photos.

EXT. GONLODA, BASE 1 OF THE PYRAMID - DAY

They are about to go up the pyramid stairs when Dan suggests they take a group selfie.



They position themselves for the photograph. Dan notices on the camera a dark shadow appearing behind them. They all freeze.

STEFAN

Dan, please tell me that's a feature on your phone.

TONY

Shh. Don't move.

They hear a low growl. They all turn around and see a big, 3 feet tall feline looking four-legged hairy and scary BLACK CREATURE with feathers and blue-black eyes approaching them from behind a hut.

The same terrifying ROAR from before.

TONY

Everybody run!

Everyone runs from the creature in different sections of the deserted city. They get separated. The creature runs after Ava. It continues to follow her until she reaches a dead end. Ava shields herself with her arms as it's about to reach her when suddenly a 6 foot YELLOW CREATURE with a tail and yellow eyes jumps between her and the black creature.

Ava uncovers her eyes and sees the yellow creature has pinned down the black creature. The yellow creature turns towards Ava .

YELLOW CREATURE

(in an indistinct voice)

Ava, get back to the cave!

The yellow creature resumes his fight with the black creature.

Ava gets around the fighting beasts, and sees the others approaching her.

AVA

Get back to the cave!

They all head to the cave except for Stefan who is holding Dan's phone and is recording the creatures fighting and tries to take a selfie.

Tony runs back and drags him away to safety. They run toward the cave and jump in, without caring about slippery rocks.

EXT. PONCHO COELHO RIVERBANK - SUNSET

The teenager stands near the riverbank, looking for signs of Stefan and the team. He has two other FRIENDS with him and they join hands and look at each other worried. The teenager takes a poignant photo of the sun setting over the desolate river and posts it on his phone along with the caption "Awaiting Stefan & his team to return to safety". We see an Instagram feed of the post as it gets dozens of likes and hearts and commenters wishing Stefan a safe return. #BeSafeStefan starts trending online.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Inside the cave, the team rest for a moment, believing they're safe.

STEFAN  
(yelling)  
Woohoo!

He takes his phone out to watch the footage. Ava, panting, looks at him in disbelief. Suddenly, the yellow creature charges down the cave after them. They try to run but with the creature on one end and water on the other, they are trapped. The creature slows down and seems to stay low and still. Ava boldly steps toward it. Tony gets his handgun out and is ready to shoot.

AVA  
Put down the gun, Tony.

Tony looks at her puzzled. Ava gets closer to the creature.

STEFAN  
Ava, don't!

Ava gets up close. She sees gold dust emit from the creature's body. She makes eye contact with the creature and feels as if she recognizes it. Tony holds the gun toward the creature at point blank range. The creature closes his eyes and lets out a soft howl. There is a big puff, gold dust surrounds him and then evaporates, and a battered Oma stands in front of them taking the place of the creature. He falls on the floor in pain. At first, everyone is completely dumbstruck. Stefan, drops his phone, so shocked he can't even take a video of this moment.

Ava is the first to gather her wits.

She slowly kneels beside Oma and gravely examines the wound on his side. She looks him in the eye. Unexpectedly, she smiles.

AVA

Alright, Oma. I think it's time for you to tell us your story.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

The team and Oma sit near the opening of the cave. Tony starts a small fire using the gunpowder from all but one bullet. They gather around it to warm themselves. Ava breaks pieces of a meager granola bar and shares it around. They try to make themselves as comfortable as they can.

Stefan takes his phone out and starts filming Oma. Oma, tending to his wound, sits up and then begins his story.

OMATOGUA

The year was 1427, I was the chieftain of the beautiful but simple land of Gonloda.

BEGIN FLASHBACK MONTAGE

EXT. GONLODA - DAY

Gonloda in its prime - the streets are filled with life-merchants, peasants, children and everyone in between. The buildings are much more vibrant and the flora is much lusher.

OMATOGUA (VO)

It was a land growing slowly and steadily, bountiful with fruit and fauna. The people were hardworking, but they could have worked harder.

EXT. GONLODA - DAY

A family celebrates the birth of their child with ancient dances and traditions.

INT. GONLODA, TEMPLE - DAY

A sacrifice is carried out in a temple.

EXT. JUNGLE NEAR GONLODA - DAY

Animals roam around the jungles, fruit grows in abundance.

EXT. GONLODA, TOP OF A MOUNTAIN - DAY

Oma, in ancient native attire looks at his city with pride.

EXT. BIRU, TOP OF A MOUNTAIN - DAY

Oma looks enviously at Biru, the shining city of gold.

OMATOGUA (VO)

I had just returned from the land of Biru with treasures that would have blinded even the wealthiest merchant from Gonloda. Their eyes have only seen the likes silver, pearl and precious stones, but Biru was a land of gold.

Oma looks enviously at Biru, the shining city of gold.

INT. BIRU, THRONE ROOM - DAY

Oma, followed by some of his men, meets with the chieftain of Biru who is seated on a throne made from gold. The chieftain gets down from his throne to greet him.

EXT. BIRU, RIVER BANK - DAY

Oma, along with his men, are about to board a golden boat surrounded by Biru's chieftain, some warriors and some of Biru's inhabitants. A trunk is put at Oma's feet. He opens it to find gold coins similar to the one Stefan bought from the monk.

EXT. GONLODA, TOP OF A MOUNTAIN - AFTERNOON

Oma is looking at the Gonloda, frowning.

INT. GONLODA, CORRIDOR - AFTERNOON

Oma is walking by looking at a golden coin from Biru in his hand, lost in his thoughts. His THREE CHILDREN are playing with their mother, Cusi. They notice him and start gesturing to catch his attention. He continues walking without noticing them. Sad, the children go to their mother's arms for comfort.

INT. GONLODA, ROYAL CHAMBER - NIGHT

OMATOGUA (VO)

I shut myself in my chambers,  
cursing Gonloda for three days and  
three nights when my wife Cusi,  
always the voice of reason,  
suggested we visit the village  
soothsayer to hear of Gonloda's  
future.

Oma is walking in circle angry with a coin from Biru in his hand. Cusi joins him and starts talking to him.

INT. GONLODA, SOOTHSAYER'S HUT - NIGHT

OMATOGUA (VO)

He said Gonloda was far behind in  
resources and wouldn't reach Biru's  
position for another thousand years.  
Enraged, I asked my wife, who has  
magic in her blood and had taught my  
some basic spell, to cast one that  
would transform Gonloda into a city  
of gold, even greater than Biru,  
despite knowing that the dangers of  
such a spell would take a toll on  
her.

Cusi and Oma are seated with a soothsayer who is talking to them. When the soothsayer is done speaking, Oma has a very dissatisfied look on his face. He start speaking to Cusi who then shakes her head. He stands up, then angrily leaves.

Cusi starts crying as the soothsayer tries to console her.

EXT. GONLODA, TOP OF THE PYRAMID - NIGHT

OMATOGUA (VO)

But I was blinded by my jealousy, so  
I decided to try and cast the spell  
myself. All that was required was a  
gold coin from Biru to be placed on  
the altar a top of the pyramid and  
much energy. One night, I went to  
the top of the pyramid in secret and  
cast the spell. For a moment,  
everything turned to gold.

Oma goes up the pyramid, places the gold coin on the altar and casts a spell.

First, gold thunder strikes the pyramid and then the wind changes everything to gold, starting with the pyramid.

EXT. GONLODA - NIGHT

Gonloda inhabitants surprised at the new state of their city.

INT. GONLODA, ROYAL CHAMBER - NIGHT

Cusi notices the city turning to gold. A terrified look appears on her face as she rushes out of the room.

EXT. GONLODA, TOP OF THE PYRAMID - NIGHT

OMATOGUA (VO)

Then, everything turned grey in a dust storm and then all turned to stone.

For a moment, Oma admires the view of his golden city, but then see the edges of the city turns grey.

EXT. GONLODA - NIGHT

The city is turning into stone, as its terrified inhabitants turn to dust.

EXT. GONLODA, TOP OF THE PYRAMID - NIGHT

OMATOGUA (VO)

We survived thanks to Cusi's last minute protection spell, but every around us turned to dust.

Oma takes the coin from the altar. Cusi appears next to him and casts a protection spell around them.

EXT. GONLODA, IN RUINS - NIGHT

The chaos is over, Oma and Cusi stand among stone ruins, alone. In his hand he still holds the gold coin.

OMATOGUA (VO)

I suppose the protection spell had turned us into monsters because that is the only way we could have survived living in this desolate land for so long.

Oma embraces Cusi but suddenly they are both transformed into monsters. They first panic, then slowly, they hug each others as Cusi cries and whimpers. She breaks out of their embrace and starts looking around.

EXT. JUNGLE OF THE ROCK - DAY

AVA (VO)

But you can transform back into a human?

OMATOGUA (VO)

Yes, I can. And the rock is a reminder that I must transform into a human before crossing into Poncho Coelho. However, Cusi will never be able to cross it. Unlike me, she is unable to turn human.

Oma, in human form carves the symbol on the rock.

EXT. GONLODA, IN RUINS - DAY

OMATOGUA (VO)

It took me many, many years, but I finally rebuilt the entire city, the pyramid and the altar in hopes of breaking the curse.

Oma is stacking up stones, as Cusi watches.

EXT. JUNGLE - NIGHT

THREE SPANISH SOLDIERS wander into the jungle, past the rock. They see Cusi and start shooting at her, but miss. They start running.

EXT. GONLODA, TOP OF THE PYRAMID - AFTERNOON

OMATOGUA (VO)

I created a counter spell and I was about to place the coin on the altar to complete the spell, when I heard Cusi roar.

Oma is at the top of the pyramid next to the altar casting a spell, holding the gold coin in his hands. He is about to put the coin on the altar, but then stops and starts looking around worried. He puts the coin in his pocket and quickly runs down the stairs.

EXT. JUNGLE - NIGHT

OMATOGUA (VO)

I ran to her and realized she was about to attack the lost soldiers belonging to the conquistador Francisco Pizarro who had wandered in the jungle beyond the rock. I intervened to stop her from harming them, but in the process I lost the coin.

Cusi is about to attack the spanish soldiers but Oma, still in human form, stops her. The spanish soldiers flee as Oma is busy struggling with Cusi; but one of them sees the gold coin on the floor, picks it up and takes it with him.

Cusi having calm down, Oma and her return to Gonloda.

EXT. GONLODA, TOP OF THE PYRAMID - NIGHT

OMATOGUA (VO)

Without the coin I was unable to finish the spell that would break the curse.

Oma and Cusi are near the altar. An agitated Oma is searching thru all his pockets. Cusi lets out a sad howl.

EXT. JUNGLE OF THE ROCK - DAY

OMATOGUA (VO)

After that, I made sure to keep humans away from the jungle, to protect them and her, as she slowly loses her humanity.

Oma, transforms into a human, and goes past the rock, while Cusi stays behind.

END FLASHBACK MONTAGE

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

A moment of silence after Oma finishes his story. Everyone is absolutely entranced.

AVA

(pensive)

So those two backpackers I heard about in the market... It was you?



Oma nods.

OMATOGUA

I only meant to scare them away  
before Cusi could note their  
presence.

Ava starts checking her pocket.

OMATOGUA

And now after 600 years of wandering  
into your modern world and being  
forced to learn its new ways, I  
finally saw this careless fool  
defiling the sacred Irish fountains,  
then he claims to have purchased my  
coin from a Spanish monk and brings  
it straight to my lap.

STEFAN

(mumbling)

When you gotta go...

DAN

So you knew we were coming!

Oma nods

Ava quietly searches all her pockets.

Stefan feels insulted at first then gets a realization.

STEFAN

So let me get this straight, if  
someone else had bought the coin and  
hidden it in a museum or in their  
underwear drawer, you would never  
have found it. It was all thanks to  
my vlogs! It was all thanks to me!

DAN

Yeah! Stefan is a hero!

STEFAN

Hell yeah!

Stefan rejoices. He sees Ava looking around for the coin. He  
pounces at her.

STEFAN

Ha! Take that! Social media for the  
win!

AVA  
(sarcastically)  
Mhmm maybe some good can come from  
mindlessly keeping up with the lives  
of strangers. Who knew?

Ava then realizes that Oma has been watching her. She looks away from him guiltily. Oma puts his hands out and smiles proudly.

OMATOGUA  
And now, my coin.

Everyone looks at each other.

STEFAN  
I thought Ava had it.

They all turn to Ava who now looking around the cave. Oma approaches her. Stefan puts away the phone and follows behind, listening.

OMATOGUA  
Ava, Where is my coin?

She closes her eyes and takes a breath.

AVA  
I... I don't know. I kept it safe  
this whole time. The last time I  
checked, it was in my zipped pocket.

OMATOGUA  
This is most unfortunate.

STEFAN  
You lost the coin!

AVA  
I swear I didn't!

She pleads with Oma.

AVA  
Maybe someone stole it from me!  
Maybe someone else is trying to stop  
you from restoring Gonloda!

OMATOGUA  
Impossible. There is no other life  
in this city.

AVA

How can you be so sure? We managed to get here, maybe someone else did too.

OMATOGUA

That's because I brought you here.

Oma, raises his voice slightly, but remains calm.

OMATOGUA

I knew this was too good to be true.

Feeling desperate, he exits. Ava sits on a rock, her head in her hands, upset at what she's done. Tony and Dan linger nearby.

Stefan stands away from all of them taking selfies with the fire started by Tony in the background. Ava watches him and then gets a realization. She rushes to him.

AVA

Stefan! Your video!

Stefan looks at her confused.

AVA

Before getting on the boat, you took a video asking your followers to join you. Tell me you didn't post it.

STEFAN

Of course I did. It's the last thing I posted.

Ava looks at him horrified. He then realizes-

STEFAN

Oh my God. You think people will actually come find me?

AVA

I don't know! Do your followers normally do everything you say?

STEFAN

Uhh...

He turns to Dan who nods then to Ava.

STEFAN

I guess so.

Ava gets mad at him.

AVA

Thousands of years have past with no one finding about this city. And you just had to go and post about your trip. Can nothing remain scared with you?

He defends himself.

STEFAN

Hey don't forget the only reason you're invited on this trip is to help me with the vlogs. This isn't some top secret archeological excavation. You agreed to this.

AVA

If it wasn't for me, you would have been stuck in your hotel room.

STEFAN

Yeah, we would have been safe! You're nothing more than an overly-curious middle school history teacher who doesn't know what's good for her.

AVA

And you're an ignorant, entitled brat.

Tony gets between them.

TONY

Look, all that doesn't matter now. We need to find that coin and break the curse right away.

STEFAN

The coin has to be in the cave or up above where the fight happened. Let's split up and try to find it.

DAN

What about the monster?

AVA

Oma will protect us from the monster.

STEFAN

I wonder if he still trusts us.

Stefan gives Ava a dirty look. She sighs.

AVA

Look, I admit I lost the coin, but I swear I tough I kept it safe. Someone must have taken it from me.

STEFAN

Look around, Ava. There is no one here but us...And you thought that I would lose it.

Ava thinks. She then remembers-

AVA

The capybara!

STEFAN

The little rodent thing?

DAN

Yes! It stole Stefan's anklet when we were taking photos by the rock.

TONY

And it was carrying the coin when we were on the canoe. It must like shiny things!

STEFAN

That's ridiculous.

Ava laughs, relieved.

AVA

The only thing that's ridiculous is that you wear an anklet! Come on, we have to find it!

EXT. CAVE - NIGHT

Ava climbs out of the cave. It's pitch black. She can't see a thing. Stefan follows after her.

She hears the bushes rustling and the shadows of the plants seem alive. She whispers to Stefan.

AVA

Perhaps we should go in the daylight. There's no way we'll find that animal now.

STEFAN  
 (trying to sound brave)  
 Yeah, totally. Agreed.

Stefan darts back into the cave.

Ava yanks some large banana leafs off a tree.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Ava drops back in to the cave and hands everyone the banana leafs.

AVA  
 We should all try to get some sleep.  
 We can use these as blankets.

Tony takes some banana leafs and hands one to Oma.

TONY  
 How did you manage to carry all of  
 us here after the boat capsized?

OMA  
 I cast a spell to take you back  
 home, meaning Poncho Coelho, but  
 instead, you ended up near my home.

STEFAN  
 (while yawning)  
 I'm starting to worry about your  
 spell casting abilities.

EXT. GONLODA - DAY

The team, except for Oma, climbs out of the cave and carefully makes its way toward the streets. Tony is carrying his handgun and Stefan and Dan carry spears made out of branches. Stefan examines his spear.

STEFAN  
 I doubt this would kill any kind of  
 creature. It's basically a glorified  
 toothpick.

AVA  
 (whispering)  
 Shh. As long as we're quiet, there's  
 no reason for the creature to attack  
 us.

Suddenly, a figure springs out of the bushes and roars.

Everyone freaks out. It's Oma.

Stefan cries out and shields his face. Tony immediately points his gun at him. Oma stands in front of them laughing.

STEFAN

Not cool man.

OMATOGUA

I spotted the capybara heading towards the eastern ruins.

AVA

What about your wife?

OMATOGUA

She's asleep. We got to find the coin and get back to the cave before she wakes up.

EXT. RUINS - DAY

The team leaves Gonloda and heads toward the ruins

AVA

Oma, why didn't you rebuild your fortress?

OMATOGUA

My duty was to rebuild the city that belonged to the people. I had tried to rebuild a section of the fortress but Cusi would immediately destroy it. Every pillar, every staircase would come crashing down. It would upset her very much.

AVA

I suppose it reminds her too much of the days before her world literally crumbled.

OMATOGUA

It does.

AVA

Has she always been this... unruly?

OMATOGUA

She used to be tamer in the early years of the curse. In fact, she was a beautiful beast.

I would wash her coat and brush her fur, which was as soft as velvet. When she lay in the sunlight, you could see a glimmer of silver and royal blue in her feathers which I would spend days braiding...But now she is untamed and runs wild through the mud and dust.

Ava looks at Oma sympathetically.

They stop at the ancient ruins.

OMATOGUA

Well, here we are. The old fortress.

Stefan steps on something squishy. He grimaces.

AVA

Rodent droppings. The capybara must be close.

Oma leads them through the dilapidated hallways, arches and up the staircases of the fortress, keeping an eye out for the capybara. They then reach a section which seems almost entirely intact, though turned to stone. Oma looks around in disbelief.

OMATOGUA

I don't believe it. These are mine and Cusi's private chambers. They are virtually untouched.

AVA

I guess Cusi isn't the only one who has been avoiding these parts of the ruins.

Oma heads to a large stone vault. Inside are a stacks of engraved stones in the shape of coins. He takes a stone coin and clenches it in his fist.

AVA

These are the treasures from Biru.

OMATOGUA

Yes. All turned to stone.

Oma unclenches his fist and drops the coin.

OMATOGUA

And to think I came so close.



AVA

You still are, Oma. I look around this place and I see there is still hope for it. Look how well it has been preserved! Surely, for good reason.

DAN

How did it manage to stay standing all these years?

OMATOGUA

I'm not sure.

On the other side of the hall, Stefan stands in front of a large group of stone soldiers, waving their weapons in the air. Oma looks at them and smiles.

OMATOGUA

These were our very own guards.

AVA

How are they still standing?

OMATOGUA

I'm not surprised. A commoner would have been dust by now but these are the strongest, fiercest most ruthless warriors in all the land. No spell could end them.

Oma puts his hand on one of the warriors' spear, paying his respect.

TONY

As a man in security, I suspect that there is a secret passageway just behind them.

OMATOGUA

Yes, you're right Tony.

Tony pushes a wall, unveiling the secret passage way.

OMATOGUA

But we never had to use it.

Ava joins Tony at the start of the passageway.

AVA

May I?

Oma nods for her to enter.

INT. SECRET PASSAGEWAY - SAME TIME

It's a dark tunnel. Stefan shines the flashlight from his phone.

AVA  
Seriously? How do you still have  
battery?

STEFAN  
An influencer never runs out of  
juice.

Ava rolls her eyes.

Oma suddenly gasps.

OMATOGUA  
Wait. Shine your light on the wall  
to the left.

Stefan does. The light lands on a small trunk.

AVA  
It looks... wooden.

OMATOGUA  
It has escaped the spell!

Oma charges to the trunk, picks it up and brings it out of the tunnel.

EXT. RUINS - SAME TIME

Oma sets the trunk on a stone table. He feels around it and opens it revealing a pile of dusty leather bound books.

STEFAN  
That's it! Bummer.

Oma opens a book and reads it. Everyone watches him intently.

He throws it aside and walks away.

OMATOGUA  
They are worthless.

Ava picks the book up and scans through it. She picks up another one.

AVA  
They seems to be handwritten  
diaries.

But..it's in the ancient script.  
 Couldn't you translate it for us,  
 Oma? Perhaps, it could give us a  
 clue.

OMATOGUA

I told you they are worthless!

Ava thinks... then realizes. She walks up to him and puts a  
 hand on his shoulder.

AVA

Dear, Oma. You have forgotten how to  
 read.

Oma turns away from her, smug.

AVA

It's not your fault.

OMATOGUA

I spent years learning the languages  
 of your world and in turn have  
 forgotten my own.

AVA

Don't worry Oma, once we lift the  
 curse and cure Cusi, she'll teach  
 you to read again.

Meanwhile, Stefan has been reading the diaries. His face  
 lights up as he makes a connection. He frantically turns the  
 pages of the diary, revealing sketches and graphs. Dan  
 approaches him.

DAN

Why do you look like you know what  
 you're doing.

Stefan pauses for a moment then looks up.

STEFAN

Ava...come here.

Ava goes to him.

STEFAN

Look at this sketch.

AVA

That looks like a statue from Easter  
 Island.

STEFAN

And look at the writing below and all these other graphs and drawings.

AVA

It's a very detailed description.

STEFAN

Or... What if it is an explanation?

Stefan's eyes fill with wonder.

Ava opens another diary.

AVA

Oh my God. These probably explain the mysteries of so many of our ancient statues.

Oma laughs.

OMATOGUA

Mysteries to you. To me, they are history.

AVA

So you know the stories behind Stonehenge?

OMATOGUA

Of course. Help me find the coin and maybe I will share them with you.

STEFAN

Or we can just steal the diaries.

OMATOGUA

I do not advise that.

STEFAN

Who's going to stop us?

AVA

Oma might be right. The script is ancient. It should be written on a scroll or parchment paper. This diary looks like it's from 1912!...Someone from our time must have come here and tried to document these secrets, but failed to release them.

## OMATOGUA

It is information that does not  
belong to current world. Not yet.

Stefan holds the diaries, reluctant to let them go. Ava makes him let go. She puts the books back in the trunk.

Just then they hear chirping. It's the capybara, and lo and behold, he has the gold coin in his little mouth. Ava runs after him into the jungle, followed by the rest. The capybara outsmarts all of them, crawling into small spaces and ducking under low branches. The capybara leads them back to the ruins of Oma's palace. He hides in a small gap in the legs of the stone soldiers. The soldiers are standing so close together, it is almost impossible for the humans to grab the capybara.

Ava squeezes her arm into the gap but can't reach it.

Tony takes out his gun and aims at the capybara. The capybara gives him the cutest look. Tony, feeling bad, lowers his gun.

TONY

I can't hurt him.

STEFAN

You're kidding right?

TONY

Look at his little face.

STEFAN

Well, I hope my future assassin  
isn't cute.

TONY

Do you really think you're so  
important that someone wants you  
dead?

STEFAN

I was once floured in the face at  
VidCon! It could have been anthrax!

TONY

Oh please. They were ten year olds!

AVA

Guys, now is not the time!

(to Stefan)

I mean, I agree with Tony, it's  
insane you think you need a  
bodyguard. But now we have to get  
the coin!

STEFAN

Well, he can't stay in there  
forever.

Just then, the capybara seems to fall asleep, guarding the  
coin in his paws.

AVA

Oh great, let's just wait for him to  
finish his nap.

DAN

He's even cuter when he's napping.

TONY

Isn't he?

STEFAN

Seriously!

Stefan leaves then returns with a long stick. He prods the  
coin from under the capybara. But the capybara just grabs it  
nearer to him.

Ava notices Oma has gone quiet. She eyes him curiously. He  
closes his eyes and thinks hard. He puts his hands out and  
murmurs something.

AVA

What are you doing?

OMATOGUA

(whispering)

I will cast a spell that will turn  
the capybara into stone.

AVA

You can do that!

OMATOGUA

Cusi taught me a long time ago. I  
only hope I remember how.

AVA

But what if you hit the coin!

STEFAN

The coin is magic, dummy. It is  
impossible for it to turn to stone.

Ava scowls at Stefan.

OMATOGUA  
 (thoughtful)  
 I hope.

Stefan looks at Ava, smug.

Oma casts a spell in his native language. A cloud of grey dust surrounds them and the statues. When it finally dissipates, they check to see if the capybara is stone. The capybara seems dusty and is very still. Ava goes closer to inspect it, her arm leaning on one of the soldier's foot. The capybara is still breathing.

Suddenly, the soldier's foot kicks her off. Everyone is in shock. The soldiers have sprung to life! But they stay in a stone-like form, still dusty/grey. They look at each other in disbelief. Some of them stretch, cracking their stiff joints.

STEFAN  
 Holy smokes!

AVA  
 Oma, what have you done!

OMATOGUA  
 I'm not sure. It must have reversed the spell.

STEFAN  
 Dude, seriously go back to magic school.

OMATOGUA  
 I never went to magic school!

STEFAN  
 That explains a lot!

AVA  
 Guys...

The soldiers notices the team and point and warn each other.

They hold their spears to them.

STEFAN  
 Oma, what are they saying?

Oma tries to communicate with them in native language. They look at him confused, then they get angry. They speak back to him.

OMATOGUA

They...they do not recognize me.  
They think I am, that we all are  
intruders.

AVA

Oh boy!

The soldiers aim their weapons at them.

OMATOGUA

Run!

Stefan and Dan drop their spears as the team split up and runs in different directions. Dan and Stefan take shelter behind a large rock. They see two soldiers stop and look for them.

Stefan slowly gets out his phone and takes a selfie with the soldiers behind them.

Meanwhile, the capybara is right beside them. Tired, it puts down the coin. From behind a bush, Ava notices and yells, attracting the soldiers and scaring the capybara. It picks up the coin and runs. Ava chases after the capybara while the soldiers chase after her. The rest chase after the soldiers, but the soldiers are reluctant to leave the fortress. The team make their way out of the ruins into the forest when suddenly- Cusi appears, growling and seething. She only sees the capybara. The capybara runs into Cusi. Her eyes widen in sheer greed. She licks her lips.

STEFAN

Any chance she's a vegan?

OMATOGUA

Only for the past 600 years. But not  
voluntarily!

Cusi opens her mouth, revealing giant fangs. The capybara turns around and escapes her bite just in time. The capybara runs into Ava's arms for safety.

Cusi sees the humans and gets even more furious. She chases after them. The team run toward the cave and jump in, just in time. Ava places a cover of banana leaves over the opening of the cave. Cusi stops in her tracks, confused. From under the banana leaves, Oma sadly watches her.

INT. CAVE - DAY

They relax and pass around bananas and other fruit they stored in the cave.



Ava gets the gold coin from the capybara who is now indebted to her for its safety. She tries to let it go but it clings on to her. Ava approaches Oma and sighs, relieved. She presents the coin to Oma. He takes it in his hand and raises it. He smiles.

OMATOGUA

I am going to the top of the pyramid  
and break this curse this very  
second.

Ava beams with joy.

Oma tries walking but falls in pain. Ava goes to him and notices that he is wounded.

AVA

I don't believe you will manage in  
your current state. Let me go to the  
top of the pyramid instead.

From above the opening of the cave, they hear Cusi growling and scratching at the banana leaves.

DAN

How do you expect to get to the  
pyramid without being gobbled up by  
that monster.

Ava helplessly looks around for ideas.

Tony checks his gun.

OMATOGUA

I won't let you harm her.

Everyone looks at Oma skeptically.

STEFAN

She is a wild animal, Oma.

OMATOGUA

She is my wife!

Ava tries to be sympathetic.

AVA

If she attacks us, then there is no  
hope. But even if something happens  
to her, the coin will break the  
curse and restore all of Gonloda,  
including Cusi.

Oma is unconvinced.

STEFAN

Wait a sec... How sure are you that the spell can be broken? Sorry pal, your record with magic isn't great.

AVA

What if nothing happens?

STEFAN

And what if it does work and then we get sent back to the 1400s!

OMATOGUA

I..I myself am unsure of what will happen or if anything will happen at all...

AVA

What do you mean?

OMATOGUA

Cusi is all that I have left. If there is even the slightest chance of delivering her, I have to take it. I have already put your life in danger, you've done enough already.

Oma looks around, nervous.

AVA

Stefan's followers may be on their way into the jungle. If they decide to go past the rock, they will put both themselves and Cusi at risk. You're so afraid of Tony's gun. You don't know what they may bring once they hear of Cusi: hunting rifles, machine guns, bombs...It will be a war of weapons against magic. Who knows who will win.

OMATOGUA

Magic will always win.

AVA

It hasn't for the past 600 years.

Oma closes his eyes. Stefan pats him on the back.

STEFAN

Considering my subscriber count before we left, I doubt anyone knows where I went.

Stefan gets a realization.

STEFAN

I'm going to die and no one is going  
to see my last post!

EXT. PONCHO COELHO RIVERBANK - EVENING

A crowd of Stefan's followers, both Peruvian and foreigners, surround the riverbank, holding signs and flowers, wishing for Stefan's safe return. A group of daring AMERICAN TOURISTS along with FEO get onto a canoe, ready to find Stefan. The teenager rushes to them and yells at them. Unable to understand him, all they can do is smile and wave. The teenager plunks himself on the end of the canoe, stopping them from setting sail. But he's too light and the canoe floats into the water. He lets go and swims back to safety. The tourists on the canoe, laugh and take photos, unaware of the danger ahead of them.

INT. CAVE - EVENING

Oma sits on a rock away from the rest of the team.

The team forms a circle and talks among each other. They nod and approach Oma.

AVA

Okay Oma, we have a plan. We will place the coin on the altar on top of the pyramid. You will stay back and distract Cusi.

STEFAN

If you love her so much, you should be able to calm her.

Oma thinks about it.

OMATOGUA

Fine, but Tony will leave his gun in the cave.

Everyone looks at Tony. He takes his gun out of the holster and drops it on the ground. Dan sharpens a spear with a rock.

Oma notices.

AVA

That will only be for emergencies.

OMATOGUA

But-

AVA

We promise you that we will not harm Cusi.

STEFAN

Promise.

Oma nods and stands up. He gives Ava the gold coin.

AVA

Thank you for trusting us.

Oma nods.

Stefan goes to a corner and gets ready. He does a few push ups and punches the air, warming up. Dan joins him.

STEFAN

Well, my friend, this is it - the grand finale.

DAN

If we don't make it out alive, I just want to say, I have always admired you, Stefan. I'd give my life for you...You know I am your greatest fan right?

STEFAN

I know, Dan. I know.

Stefan gives him back his phone.

DAN

Well, it is on its last 10%.

STEFAN

The view from the pyramid is going to be spectacular, eh.

Stefan winks.

They both swap sneaky smiles.

They are all heading out of the cave, followed by the capybara. Noticing him, Ava takes him in her arms.

AVA

You should stay here. Much safer than out there. We shouldn't take long.

She puts the capybara back on the ground and joins the others.

EXT. GONLODA - NIGHT

The team makes its way to the pyramid, trying to be as silent as possible.

Oma finds Cusi. He sees her drinking from a pond and spies on her from behind some tall grass. Cusi lifts her head toward the pyramid. She sniffs the air and growls. She heads toward the pyramid. Oma follows behind her. Dan turns around and sees Cusi far behind them. He yells, attracting her attention and making her gain speed.

EXT. GONLODA, SIDE 1 OF BASE OF THE PYRAMID - NIGHT

At the base of the pyramid, Oma catches up to Cusi and stands in front of her. He puts his arms out and whispers to her gently. She stops in her tracks but grinds her teeth angrily.

Oma looks her in the eye and speaks soothingly to her in their native language. He then starts humming a folk tune. She settles down. She lays on her back in a moment of vulnerability. Oma smiles and gets down next to her. He hugs her, she nuzzles against him, purring.

Suddenly, they hear and see a FLASH. It blinds Cusi's eyes and she shrieks. Oma gets up and sees Stefan and Dan standing foolishly holding the phone, taking a photo. Cusi charges toward them. Oma tries to stop her but with one flip of her front paw, she sends him flying towards a wall. He falls to the ground unconscious. The team quickly make their way up the pyramid. Stefan trips on the first step and falls backward. Dan turns around to help him. Cusi picks up speed, leaping into the air toward Stefan. Dan jumps in front of Stefan. GUNSHOT. Cusi falls to the ground. Dan holds Tony's handgun in his hands, shaking.

Everyone goes to Cusi. They look at her lifeless body, shocked.

STEFAN

Dan... What have you done?

DAN

I didn't mean to, I swear. I just wanted to scare her off.

Dan shivers, dropping the gun on the ground. Tony picks it up and checks it.

TONY  
That was the last bullet.

DAN  
I'm so sorry, guys. I am so sorry!

AVA  
Where's Oma?

Ava goes to the unconscious Oma and kneels next to him. She looks back at Cusi and sighs. Oma wakes up.

OMATOGUA  
Did it work? Is the curse broken?

He looks around and sees Cusi's lifeless body on the ground.

Ava backs away from him.

Oma crawls toward her.

OMATOGUA  
No no no no. My Cusi. My heart.

He goes off in native language, crying and burying his face into Cusi's fur. He sees the bullet wound. He looks around and sees Tony holding the gun. His eyes light up in fury. He turns into the golden creature. Ava tries to calm him down.

AVA  
Oma...

Oma charges toward Tony. Ava notices.

AVA  
Tony, run!

Tony tries to make a run for it, but Oma grabs his leg.

Ava grabs Oma's tail.

AVA  
Oma, please.

Oma immediately snaps at Ava, releasing Tony's leg, he almost bites her arm off. His teeth scrapes Ava's arm who lets go of his tail.

STEFAN  
Ava!

AVA  
I'm okay, Stefan.

Tony hits Oma with small rocks. Oma covers his eyes.

TONY

You guys head toward the pyramid.  
I'll pelt him with rocks to distract  
him.

Ava and Stefan run toward the pyramid, but stop when they reach the base to watch Tony trying to fight Oma.

Tony continues throwing rocks at Oma, lightly bruising him.

Oma suddenly opens his mouth and swallows a rock. Tony looks on in shock. Oma looks more ferocious than ever. Tony continues throwing rocks at him but Oma continues to swallow them whole. He manages to knock Oma out with a giant rock, then makes a run for it dragging Dan with him.

Oma lies on the ground in pain.

Ava takes a deep breath and goes after Oma. Stefan yanks her arm.

STEFAN

What do you think you're doing?!

AVA

We have to reason with him. He can understand us.

STEFAN

The man has lost his humanity. It's no use. He'll kill us all.

Ava ignores him and tries to run after Omatogua, but Stefan grabs her by the waist and pulls her away.

STEFAN

We have to go back to the cave.

AVA

The cave?! Why??

STEFAN

There is no way we can climb that pyramid without one of us getting attacked. We have to get out of this godforsaken place, Ava. We have to try and swim back to Poncho Coelho and get help.

AVA

Fine, you can go back if you want.  
But I am getting the coin to the  
altar and break the darn curse.

Ava makes her way up the pyramid. Stefan curses under his  
breath and follows after her.

Oma wakes up and proceeds to looking for Tony and Dan but is  
unable to find them. Noticing Ava and Stefan going up the  
stairs he runs after them.

Stefan looks back and seen Oma coming fast after them and  
lets out a scream.

STEFAN

(yelling)  
He's found us.

Stefan and Ava increase their pace.

EXT. GONLODA, NEAR BASE 2 OF THE PYRAMID - NIGHT

Tony and Dan are into some bushes, taking shelter.

TONY

Are you okay, Dan?

Dan gasps for air.

DAN

Go on without me. I can't. I don't  
deserve it anyway.

Tony takes a seat next to Dan.

TONY

Take deep breaths...Hmm maybe Stefan  
doesn't really need me, eh? You're  
quite the bodyguard.

Dan shrugs.

DAN

Without him, I am nothing.

TONY

Well, bodyguard secret. If I ever  
have to draw my gun, it means I've  
already failed.

DAN

Great.



Things seem to be peaceful until they suddenly hear noises.

Tony checks it out.

DAN

Is it Oma?

TONY

No...It's the soldiers!

(yelling)

Dan, move, move, move!

EXT. GONLODA, SIDE 2 OF BASE OF THE PYRAMID - NIGHT

Dan and Tony rush up to the pyramid, on a different side of the one taken by Ava, Stefan and Oma. Tony throws stones at the soldiers who respond by shooting arrows at them. They start climbing the stairs followed by the soldiers.

EXT. GONLODA, SIDE 1 THE PYRAMID - NIGHT

Ava is almost at the top, Stefan behind her.

STEFAN

How much further!

Ava grunts and keeps going.

EXT. GONLODA, TOP OF THE PYRAMID - DAWN

Ava and Stefan arrive at the top of the pyramid. Suddenly, Oma springs up in front of them. Ava shrieks and grabs Stefan's hand and they run in a different direction. Dan and Tony appear from the other side of the pyramid

TONY

The soldiers are after us.

All four of them are together at the top, trapped between the soldiers and Oma.

TONY

(yelling)

Everybody, duck!

They all get low. The soldiers aim their arrows but they arrows fly over their heads and strike Oma in the arm. Oma shrieks and falls to the ground. He writhes in pain, disabled but not dead.

Tony and Dan approach Oma's body. The soldiers gather behind them. Stefan grabs Ava's arm and runs towards the altar.

Oma's eyes open. Tony and Dan back away. He gets up. Oma, ignoring Tony and Dan, growls as he sees Stefan and Ava running away. He runs thru the soldiers breaking them in pieces and heads toward the altar after them, the arrows still in his arm.

The moonlight shines on the altar. Ava and Stefan inspect it, wondering where to put the coin. Stefan sees a small, coin-shaped hole.

STEFAN

It's like a vending machine.

Ava gets the coin out. Her hand shaking, she drops it. Stefan picks it up and gives it to her.

AVA

I can't..You do it.

STEFAN

No. You earned it.

Ava smiles and puts the coin in. At first nothing happens.

AVA

Jeez! It really is like a vending machine.

STEFAN

Give it a sec.

Suddenly, Oma appears at the other side of the altar.

AVA

It didn't work. Oh God!

Ava and Stefan hug each other in fear. Oma charges toward them. Just as he's about to get them, the coin lights up, and then the altar beams in the night sky. Oma dissipates into gold smoke.

Below, Oma's wife's body crumbles into golden dust until there is no sign of her mass left either. The gold dust surrounds Tony and Dan and all the soldiers. It proceeds to move towards the top of the pyramid. A blinding light shines from the altar to the rest of the city. The night ends and it's bright daylight. When the light dissipates, Ava and Stefan notice that everything is now golden. They approach the edge of the pyramid to look at the golden city in disbelief. Behind them, Tony and Dan call out their names as they run toward them. They all hug each other.

STEFAN

We did it!

Ava notices the scenery.

AVA

And would you look at this place!

Out of nowhere, the capybara makes its return and runs into Ava's hands. Ava pets it.

AVA

I guess you couldn't resist staying hidden with all this shining gold around.

Near the altar, golden dust gathers then dissipates to unveil Oma in ancient native attire, looking younger and happier.

Oma examines his arms and his clothes.

He turns and sees the soldiers, now completely human. They salute him.

FEMALE VOICE (OC)

Omatogua!

He turns around. A beautiful native WOMAN in ancient attire runs to him. Her shiny black hair flows by her slim waist.

Oma's eyes brighten.

OMATOGUA

Cusi!

Cusi and Oma run to each other and embrace. Oma touches her cheeks and looks into her blue-black eyes - the same eyes of the black monster that has loved him for 600 years. He runs his fingers through her hair. Oma, in tears, can't even speak. Ava, Stefan, Tony and Dan watch.

Ava and Stefan look at each other. Stefan puts his hand out for a handshake, rather formally.

STEFAN

It was a pleasure to work with you, Ava.

AVA

And you, Stefan.

They look at each other and then burst out laughing. They hug.

Hearing a faint sound, they all move towards the edge of the pyramid near the stairs. Gonloda's INHABITANTS have reappeared rejoicing, laughing, and hugging each other. The soldiers run to their families. They all see their beloved leaders standing on the pyramid and cheer for him. Oma and Cusi bow.

The team greets Oma and Cusi.

Dan takes Cusi's hand and bows respectfully.

DAN

From the bottom of my heart, my Lady, I am so sorry for shooting you.

Cusi laughs.

CUSI

You have nothing to be sorry about. You were just trying to protect your friend.

OMATOGUA

I apologize for my behavior.

CUSI

Oma and I are indebted to all of you for restoring Gonloda.

AVA

It was our pleasure, Madame. I'm glad he managed to figure out one spell.

Ava curtsies.

AVA

And I must say, your English is perfect!

CUSI

Oma taught me. He took very good care of me.

Cusi cups Oma's cheek. Oma kisses her hand.

CUSI

How can we ever repay you?

Ava and Stefan swap looks.

AVA

Well...

Ava whispers to Oma. Oma nods.

Suddenly, three beautiful NATIVE CHILDREN run toward Oma and Cusi and hug them. The five are together at last. Suddenly, they turn into gold dust, followed by the inhabitants and fade into the skies, guided by the wind.

Dan takes out his phone.

DAN

1%.

STEFAN

This is the best photo we could ever ask for.

Stefan tries to take a selfie then he gets everyone to join him trying to capture the gold city behind them. But it's too late. Oma, Cusi and all of Gonloda evaporate into golden dust. All that is left is the ruins, a glimmer of gold dust on the stones. Even the gold coin turns to stone.

Ava turns to Stefan.

AVA

Shall we go get our reward?

EXT. JUNGLE OF THE ROCK - DAY

The FEO and the american tourists land on the shore and start looking around. They walk toward the rock. They are about to take a photo of it but it disintegrates in front of them. They all stare in disbelief.

EXT. RUINS - DAY

Ava and Stefan climb through the ruins followed by the capybara. They open the door to the secret passageway and get the trunk filled with diaries.

STEFAN

What are you going to do with them?

AVA

I'll go through them and try to make sense of it. I expect all the information will blow my mind. When I'm ready I'll show it to the world.

Stefan nods.

AVA  
I may need your help...To harness  
the power of social media.

Ava winks. Stefan laughs.

STEFAN  
How will we ever explain the magic?

AVA  
I suppose we can't. Leave it as is.

They walk past the vault. Stefan remembers and turns to it.

STEFAN  
You think...

AVA  
No way.

Stefan opens the vault.

The sunlight shines through the vault. The reflecting light almost blinds them. They scream and dance in delight. All the treasure from Biru has turned back to gold. The Capybara jumps inside the vault and starts playing with the gold coins.

EXT. CAVE - DAY

Ava and Stefan head to the cave, carrying the trunk of diaries and the gold in a sack followed by the capybara. They greet Tony and Dan who wait for them. A canoe made entirely of gold bobs up and down in the dark turquoise water, waiting to take them back. Rejoicing, they sail out of the cave.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

They sail out into the river. The sun shines on them and the canoe beams. The team, so overwhelmed in silence. Stefan finally speaks.

STEFAN  
You know...the city of Biru.. it  
reminded me a lot of El Dorado.

AVA  
That's because it is El Dorado.

STEFAN

Oooh!

(pause)

Did anyone think to ask Oma the way  
to El Dorado?

They all freeze, surprised and annoyed that no one thought of it. Stefan looks into the horizon, in thought. Dan looks through the photos on his phone, disappointed.

DAN

Blurry, blurry, blurry.

STEFAN

That last one was okay.

He goes to a photo of Oma and Cusi as creatures fighting.

DAN

You can barely see them. They look  
like stuffed animals.

Stefan takes the phone and plays a snippet of the video of Oma telling them his story when they were in the cave. He then deletes it as well as the photos.

STEFAN

Honestly, Dan, it doesn't matter  
anyway. We have no audience to see  
it. My subscribers, no matter how  
many of them I still got, don't need  
to see them. At least we got to  
experience it for ourselves.

DAN

Right.

Just then, Dan's phone battery dies. Stefan shrugs it off and puts the phone in his pocket.

EXT. PONCHO COELHO RIVERBANK - DAY

On the riverbank, Stefan's fans see a glimmer of gold coming toward them. They all stand up and then cheer as they see Stefan and the team sail toward them in the bright gold canoe. The team disembarks and Stefan is hugged and kissed by his fans who start singing "When you gotta go you gotta go". He blushes and thanks them wholeheartedly.

The american tourists and FEO are standing nearby with a lost look on their faces.

Ava helps the capybara out of the boat, kisses it goodbye, before putting it on the ground. It then runs on the shore with people giving way to it. The capybara disappears behind the trees.

STEFAN

(to Ava)

When you gotta go, you gotta go.

ONLINE

Pictures of Stefan and the team go viral on social media.

Their followers increase by millions. Multiple major vloggers such as Scarce, GradeAUnderA, Keemstar, PhillyD, Pyrocynical and Gloria Borger/PewdiPie talk about his successful expedition. One of the vloggers remarks that Netflix should make a film about him. Meanwhile, FEO makes an apology video where admits he will be taking a break from social media.

INT. FEO'S BEDROOM

FEO

(still in chock)

I just wanted to let you guys know that I will be taking a break from social media for a while...

INT. LUDOVIC MUESUM - DAY

The gold canoe and the gold from El Dorado is unveiled at the museum along with the details of the team's journey. The team stands up front, along with PERUVIAN DIGNITARIES and Marc Gillard. They shake each of their hands and present them with medals. Stefan's FOLLOWERS sit in the crowd and cheer.

Tony is granted a special award in the secret service. He reunites with his WIFE and DAUGHTERS.

A REPORTER interviews Ava and Stefan.

AVA

With the sponsorship of the Historical Archives of Peru and the Ludovic Collection in Paris, I will go back to Gonloda for a formal archeological expedition. Who knows what wonders we will find next!



REPORTER  
Can you describe what you saw in  
just a few quick words?

Ava smiles.

AVA  
Oh, that would be impossible.

The reporter turns to Stefan.

REPORTER  
And what are your plans, Stefan?

STEFAN  
Thank to my father, I have unlimited  
funding for future expedition.

REPORTER  
Ooh! So will you two be going  
together.

The reporter looks into the camera and winks.

AVA  
Perhaps.

STEFAN  
Perhaps.

EXT. DIVE BOAT - DAY

Stefan, Ava, Dan and a Tony are on a dive boat in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Dan takes a video as Ava and Stefan, in scuba gear, dive into the deep blue water. On the boat are Ava's notes and the diaries explaining the secrets of a lost, underwater city.

FADE OUT