# <u>WONDER WOMAN:</u> <u>DAUGHTER OF DESTINY</u>

Story by

Jean Paul Fola Nicole, Christopher Johnson and Edmund Birkin Screenplay By Jean Paul Nicole, and Andrew Birkin

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Based On DC Characters

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4000 Warner Boulevard Burbank, California 91522 © 2012 WARNER BROS. ENT. All Rights Reserved Dream Cast Lol. Never gonna happen. Might as well go all in since I'm "straight" black male nerd living in a complete fantasy world writing about Wonder Woman. My cast

Diana Wonder Woman - Naomi Scott

Ares - Daniel Craig

Dr. Poison - Saïd Taghmaoui

Clio - Dakota Fanning

Mala - Riki Lindhome

IO – Regina King

Laurie Trevor - Beanie Feldstein

Etta Candy - Zosia Mammet

Hippolyta - Rebecca Hall

Hera - Juliet Binoche

Steve Trevor - Rafael Casal

Gideon - James Badge Dale

Antiope (In screenplay referred to as Artemis) - Nicole Beharie or Jodie Comer

Dr. Gogan - Riz Ahmed

Alkyone - Jennifer Carpenter or Jodie Comer or Nicole Beharie

WONDERWOMAN-DAUGHTEROFDESTINY

Out of AN OCEAN OF BLOOD RED a shape emerges. An EAGLE SYMBOL. BECOMING INTENSELY GOLDEN UNTIL ENGULFING THE SCREEN IN LIGHT.

CROSS FADE:

The beautiful FACE OF A WOMAN with fierce pride (30s). INTO FRAME She is chained by the neck and wrists in a filthy prison cell. DAYLIGHT seeps through prison bars. O.S. Battle gongs echo. Hearing gongs faint echo, her EYES WIDEN.

# PRISONER

They've come for me.

This is Queen Hippolyta queen of the Amazons and mother to the Wonder Woman.

## EXT. WALLS OF CITY, ANCIENT WORLD (GREECE) - DAY

Below city gates, thousands of Greeks and Amazons clash. The AMAZONS use some rabid wolves who fight beside them.

On ARTEMIS and THRAX -

Amidst the bloody battle THRAX a bald bruiser of a man, sees ARTEMIS the Amazons finest warrior, chopping her way through Greeks. THRAX RUNS AT ARTEMIS. AMAZONS attempt to intercept THRAX, but his MIGHTY AXE cuts clean through them. ONE AMAZON, tries to evade THRAX, too late. Close-Up on THRAX face as he grabs her by her supple neck. SNAP. SLASH.

## THRAX

Delicious blood.(Laughs) HEAR THAT MEN! The AMAZONS HAVE DELICIOUS BLOOD!

ARTEMIS, after slashing up her current opponent.

ARTEMIS (CHALLENGING THRAX) ---How about you try taste mine. See if it's as sweet as you imagine.

THRAX comes in, grabs at ARTEMIS. Misses.

ARTEMIS P.O.V.

THRAX throws several axe shots at ARTEMIS, each a deathblow and then some. Artemis' bisected helmet limits vision.

#### THRAX

You have a cowards quickness. Stop moving!

Realizing he can't get her, grabs nearest AMAZON. Holds her in place to snap her neck. IT'S IO, a young, inexperienced Amazon whose talents lie more in the mind than on the battle field. We'll discover this later.

#### ARTEMIS

(Concerned) No!

I'm sorry sister!

ARTEMIS without thinking in one quick motion, jumps, ballets grace, twists round Thrax's swipe, spiking Thrax's ribs. THRAX tosses IO aside.

#### ARTEMIS

Protect IO Amazons!

Amazons haste to IO's aid.

SILENCE, THE GREEKS STUNNED.

Hatred in Thrax's eyes. The hatred of having to admire the skill of the one who killed. Blood spits from wound.

## ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

You have fought well, and you die with honor.

#### THRAX

WHHHOOOORRRREEEEE!!

-- Grabs ARTEMIS by the neck literally ready to rip her limb from limb. She tries to struggle free, but his powerful grip is near unbreakable. Then, as sudden as applied, released.

ON ALKYONE --

Alkyone (Bald, tattooed neck, military genius) in archers pose, cat gut string vibrating on bow.

ON THRAX and ARTEMIS --

In hind of his neck sticks arrow and something else. His body begins to ossify, skin turning a silver-greyish hue. THE BIG MAN SLOWLY BECOMES STONE. THRAX NOW IN LEGEND POSE LIKE GREEK HERO STATUE. Murmurs of stunned despondent GREEK INFANTRY. -- A tragedy...

#### ARTEMIS

# MIGHTY THRAX HAS TASTED THE TEARS OF MEDUSA. TAKE THE CITY SISTERS!

Amazons overwhelm the Greeks whose morale has faded.

EXT. GATES OF CITY - MOMENTS LATER

ON AMAZON ELEPHANT --

An Amazon Elephant guarded by an AMAZON contingency drags a GIANT BOX, that measures about twice it's size.

THE ELEPHANT now standing by gates of CITADEL. Amazons yank at ropes hanging off GIANT BOX. The box unfolds, revealing a slingshot with boulder. Elephant maneuvers out the way of device.

SLING. A BOULDER SMASHES THROUGH GATES. GATES shatter on impact. Its velocity so great that --

## INT/EXT. CITADEL - CONTINUOUS ACTION

-- It comes crashing through, smashing sentries, architecture and towering statues of the Greek Gods.

ON ARTEMIS, who catches up to ALKYONE and AVALANCHE of Bellicose AMAZONS flooding through gates of city --

#### ARTEMIS

DO NOT harm The WOMEN AND CHILDREN of the CITY!

ALKYONE

You grow too soft Artemis. This is war.

ARTEMIS

Our humanity must be preserved, even in war.

# EXT. GATES OF THE CITY, BATTLE FIELD - LATER

Thousands of BODIES litter battle field. Dead soldiers armor gleaming in sun light. MARS the Greeks old priest, with an appalling smirk treads over the corpses.

A HALO OF FLAMES WORKS ITS WAY, TIGHTLY UP HIS BODY FROM FEET TO TORSO TO HEAD. Old man MARS, washed away in flames... Replaced by much younger individual. ARES. Adorned in battle armor, cape draped off shoulder in regal manner. Ted Bundy, Bad Boy good looks. Unsavory charisma oozing from his every aspect.

A LONE AMAZON WOLF LICKS WOUNDS OF A FALLEN GREEK SOLDIER, who's still barely breathing. ARES kneels by wolf. Strokes it. IT GROWLS at Ares. On Ares: the devils eyes stare back at wolf, a crimson abyss. Wolf scared off scampers away. Ares dips finger into the soldiers gash, then smells soldiers wound. The soldiers eyes meet ARES, begging for empathy.

# ARES

Do you know my name, soldier?---

The dying soldier shakes his head, no.

## ARES (CONT'D)

I am ARES... The Savage One.

Soldier mouths the word: "ARES"

## ARES (CONT'D)

THE God... I can end your suffering... Give you immortality... Like me.

The Soldier: pleading eyes. Ares kneels by him, sympathetic almost.

## ARES (CONT'D)

You cling to life... But *life* is but a futile hope. A blissful dream we must wake from. But <u>THINK</u>! In the ecstasies of battle, the salvation of war, The paradises of death and destruction, you rise once more to walk along side the immortals. <u>In war, for one brief</u> moment you can live forever.

Ares attempts to leave. The soldier grabs ARES arm pleading. Ares takes the soldiers HAND. Squeezes it, crushing the soldiers bones. **CRUNCH.** ARES shrugs him off, like a Lord might a lowly serf. Gets up. He lets twinkling droplet of soldiers blood run up and down fingers, like a game.

#### INT. ENTRANCE HALL (ARISTOCRATIC HOME) -- LATER

-- A MALE CITIZEN stops at a door --- whatever treasure his soul seeks, lies behind it.

# INT. BEDCHAMBERS -- CONTINUOUS

--- Enters bedchambers. Face darkens.

A Beautiful pregnant woman lays motionless across silk bedspread, arrow sticking from left breast.

At foot of bed, a boy, shining blade pressed against his neck. Pan up: ALKYONE has boy hostage.

## MALE CITIZEN (Sad)

She was pregnant!

#### ALKYONE

You are the Kings cousin. Tell me where my Queen is and your boy shall live!

## INT. HIPPOLYTA'S CELL - LATER

HIPPOLYTA, praying to gods.-- O.S. Hears Fighting. Swoosh of arrows. Scream of guards. A rattling noise. Clanging of metal. Cell door bursts open. Expects worse.-- Instead a familiar face. ALKYONE in tears rushes to embrace Hippolyta.

#### ALKYONE

You are safe my Queen! We've found you!

Alkyone tears up. The Queen rests her head against ALKYONE.

## HIPPOLYTA

Oh, Loyal, fierce Alkyone, what love you have kept hidden in your heart.

A strange scene. The prisoner seems to be comforting her rescuer. A beat.

#### HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D)

You've done well. Now Take me to Herakles!

# EXT. GATES OF THE CITY - BATTLEFIELD

Ares approaches a pile of impaled bodies. Gazes at them, utterly absorbed as if this stack of corpses, were a masterful art work.

Without realizing, behind him, A FISSURE OPENS TO A LUMINOUS BLUE DOORWAY. Then another opens and another and another.

Out from the doorways step SIX MAMMOTH SILVER CREATURES, twice ARES size, their bodies pure armor: "GOD KILLERS". Glowing blue orbs pulsate under GK's helmets.

They surround ARES. He turns, What's happening? ARES Eyes glow red. Lifts hands trying to control "THE GOD KILLERS". Fails. Another doorway opens behind him. HERA (17) steps out. (More youthful than even ARES)

#### HERA

Don't bother. They're forged by Hephaestus. Designed to hold Gods. *Kill them*, if need be.

## ARES (Turns surprised)

Mother, here to lecture? - Or perhaps to admire the splendid vistas MY VASSAL paint for me?

#### HERA

... You delight in such wickedness? THOUSANDS LAY SLAIN.

## ARES

You should be glad -- This proves that pompous brute, father so blindly favors, is unworthy of Earthly Kingdom?

#### HERA

You manipulated him.

## ARES

It was he, who ordered this war.

#### HERA

What you've <u>done</u> is a <u>crime</u>! It can't go unpunished.

The guards seize Ares. HE STRUGGLES, lunges to attack Hera.

#### ARES

Mother, you...

## HERA

--- I'm not your mother!! (a beat)

Said, as if a repressed memory buried deep within her soul. ARES confused.

HERA (Sympathetic) (CONT'D) 'Tis true. Your real mother was an illiterate peasant girl. (MORE) HERA (SYMPATHETIC) (CONT'D) You're A half blood! JUST like your brother Herakles. Most of these mortals you despise are born of nobler rank than the woman who birthed you --- *lets hope* this new knowledge furnishes you with greater wisdom than you now possess. -- Goodbye little Ares.

She gestures for "GOD KILLERS" to take him away. They drag him toward doorway:

ARES You're a liar Mother... I'm NO HALF BLOOD GOD! YOU HEAR ME!... Unhand me at once! (RE: GK'S) I said Unhand me at once! UNHAND ME!!... You WHORE! You'd say anything to undermine me...MOTHER PPPLLLLEAA --

Ares swallowed in vortex. Muffled cries echo in wind. HERA left alone to assess the work of her adopted son.

## INT. THRONE ROOM - LATER

Amazons and Greeks fight in Throne Room. The kings personal IMPERIAL GUARD, surround HERAKLES in A ROMAN CIRCLE.

On HIPPOLYTA, and ALKYONE, who battle in tandem, drawing closer to HERAKLES --

On HERAKLES fights like wild beast with the strength of a 100 men.

On HIPPOLYTA, From periphery, an attacker flanks her and swipes with sword... ALKYONE hurls herself in front of HIPPOLYTA. She is hit. HIPPOLYTA, goes to aid fallen friend. ATTACKER once again goes to hack at QUEEN, but before his blade makes contact, it is blocked by another sword. ATTACKER looks up. It is HERAKLES.

#### HERAKLES

No, she is mine.

Fighting simmers as focus turns to the QUEEN on her knees. HERAKLES, blade triumphant, positioned for killing strike.

> ALKYONE (Examining her wound) Fear not queen, I'll live. Like most men, his aim was inaccurate, and penetration shallow.

The two share a cheeky smile.

## HERAKLES

You refuse my hand Hippolyta?

# HIPPOLYTA

Lets settle this, you and I.

HERAKLES ponders a brief moment, acquiesces.

#### HERAKLES

There's been enough death this day.

A circle forms... Cautionary exchanges... pounding blows stagger the QUEEN. He smirks to unnerve her. His strength superior. HIPPOLYTA fights a more graceful style.

## HERAKLES (CONT'D)

You are most artful with the sword, but I have slain the Nemean Lion, bested the nine headed Hydra, even captured the golden hide of your Goddess Artemis. You have no hope to defeat me.

The GREEK Soldiers clang the flats of their sword against shields to demonstrate approval of Herakles' boastful assertion. It does not break HIPPOLYTA'S focus. She fights like a matador sizing up a snorting bull.

HERAKLES sword buzzes about THE QUEEN.

After several pounding blows the Queen uses quick tricky sword play to disarm HERAKLES of his sword. Defeated. He Looks up. Blade point staring right back at him.

The KING prideful, makes it to his knees. AMAZONS CHANT: "Kill, Kill, Kill, Kill."

## HERAKLES (CONT'D)

A clean death? Know this, I would have treated you as a Goddess!

HIPPOLYTA prepares to oblige him, setting up executioners strike.

## HIPPOLYTA

Too bad, you chose me as your enemy!!

Disruption. A CONCUSSIVE FLASH ATOP DAIS. Tremor rocks room like minor Earthquake.

STUNNED FACES OF THE GREEKS AND AMAZONS --

THE DAIS

GREEKS AND AMAZONS fall to knees in praise.

ZEUS (Gets to the point) Hippolyta, lower your weapon!

#### HIPPOLYTA

Do you know what he has done to us?

## ZEUS

## I care not, my son will be spared.

#### HERA

Hippolyta, hear my word. ARES took form of his most trusted advisor. Then fed him with conspiracies to confuse him, so your armies would war. (Herakles shocked) Herakles. You were tricked and too foolish to see.(A beat)

#### HIPPOLYTA

So, this time HERAKLES was fooled! But how often have we preached the virtues of peace to Mans armies, only to be challenged to war?! How many more abuses, Hera? How many more times must my sisters be violated? How much more MUST WE ENDURE at the hands of Gods and men, without seeking retribution?!

ZEUS huffs finding HIPPOLYTA disrespectful.

#### HERA

Calm yourself HIPPOLYTA. You speak bitterly, when I come to deliver glorious word.

## EXT. BEACH SHORES - NIGHT

The Greeks, in thousands, board boats, ready to leave their former sanctuary.

#### HERA (V.O.)

As punishment for falling for his brothers guile, Herakles, and all mankind, are now and forever, banished from these sacred shores.

GREEKS - LATER

A Greek Soldier and his family look back to bid farewell to their home.

HERA (V.O.) This Island now your home. Your subjects no longer drifters. The Amazon Nation is born.

# INT. SQUARE OF CITADEL - NIGHT

HIPPOLYTA gives assembled Amazons a stirring speech.

HERA (V.O.) You will live apart from all Mankind. And As long as you remain faithful to the Gods and continue to give form to your new home, you shall live as immortals.

## EXT. AEGEAN SEA - NIGHT

Thousands of Greek ships sail across moonlit AEGEAN sea.

ANGLE ON Herakles ship --

Herakles casts sorrowful eyes on his lost Kingdom. BLACK clouds begin to engulf the Island. Enveloped. Gone, just Ocean. HERAKLES and shipmates, astonished.

#### HERA (V.O.)

Here you will be safe. Sheltered from mortal eyes.

#### EXT. THEMYSCIRA - SERIES OF LAPPING CUT SHOTS

SERIES OF LAPPING CUTS:

A. Landscape of Island transforming before US into lush TROPICAL ISLAND Paradise. --- verdant valleys --- B. Amazons Building. C. Amazons - Clearing wooded area. --- D. HIPPOLYTA, crowned with TIARA, looks over Architectural plans and is pleased with what she sees.

#### HERA(V.O.)

You will build a great city in honor of the Patron Goddesses, and in turn, we'll furnish fertile soil each season with fresh crops.

MANS WORLD -- SERIES OF SHOTS

Several shots of mans world evolving over a thousand years. EGYPTIAN PYRAMIDS, THE RISE OF ROME, FIGHTING ON BATTLEFIELDS ETC.

#### HERA (V.O.)

And thus as the centuries pass, man will forget you. His world forever changing. His civilizations will rise and fall,

# EXT. THEMYSCIRA - DAY

-- A vast city evolves, dominating island's landscape.

HERA (V.O.) -- While <u>yours</u> will thrive in everlasting tranguillity.

## EXT. MAIN SQUARE OF THEMYSCIRA -- DAY

Festival. Young ladies of THEMYSCIRA dance about the streets in dyed robes. The plethora of colors hypnotic and dazzling.

## EXT. PALACE BALCONY - MOMENTS LATER

The Queen smiles leaning on balustrade, viewing dancers.

HERA (V.O.) Here you shall never age, never want, never thirst, nor hunger, nor fear.

## EXT. DESERT CAVE - NORTH END OF THEMYSCIRA - NIGHT

A lifeless desert. The mouth of mirky cave. Lighting REPEATEDLY strikes Earth in exact same spot.

#### HERA (V.O.)

You will have only one duty on this Island. A duty King HERAKLES' woefully neglected. In exchange for the Gods eternal favor, we charge you, to guard "DOOMS DOORWAY". For behind it, resides unspeakable evils. You shall be the jailers of its evils, for all eternity. Room saturated in smoky ethylene mist. Rocky walls, statues of mythological beasts. At end of cavernous tomb, large oval double doorway. 150 feet high, and 100 wide.

## HERA (V.O.)

There you will also keep custody of the many criminals who've wrought havoc on this Earth and its many nations.

## INT. CAVE - ARES HOLDING CELL - NIGHT

Behind prison door Grille, shadowy figure gazes out at us. ARES. Eyes burn red, cold and detached.

HERA (V.O.) Chief amongst them, my own son, ARES.

FADE TO BLACK

TITLE: WONDER WOMAN DAUGHTER OF DESTINY

## SLUG: THEMYSCIRA, PARADISE ISLAND 500 YEARS LATER

Words of Hippolyta's V.O are written on black screen.

#### HIPPOLYTA (V.O.)

And so it was that 500 years passed; each Amazon aging but a few years. For 500 years, we lived in peace, as if Patriachs world was but a distant dream. 500 years, we remained dutiful to the Gods, rewarded for protecting the world from the great evils that lay beneath our shores. 500 years, no war, no violence, no death, no change ... Here within the confines of Themyscira our blessings seemed abundant. But was this enough? For many yes. For others, our Paradise became A prison cell we dare not escape. An unrest began to settle over the women of Themyscira. A natural yearning, spread like the plague, threatening to end our fragile peace. (MORE)

HIPPOLYTA (V.O.) (CONT'D) For hundreds of years barren and my sisters longings for children remained just as strong. What could quell the aching of our empty wombs? Only the Gods themselves could answer.

FADE IN:

# EXT. BEACH, THEMYSCIRA - NIGHT

A beach, or more small inlet. Low tide. Figure emerges in distance, walking down beach. PUSH IN ON HIPPOLYTA: Wrapped in purple robe and ornate royal jewelry, she kneels in the sand, a flood of tears exploding from her eyes.

#### HIPPOLYTA

HERA --- HERA!! HEAR MY PLEAS! --- You promised us eternal paradise, but all you've done is curse the Amazons! .

Whilst Knelt, a luminous figure appears far away in the bg. Hippolyta, head in hand, does not notice the figure.

## HIPPOLYTA'S FLASHBACK (DREAM) -- SAME BEACH DAWN

As first day's light touches beach, fatigued HIPPOLYTA cradles CLAY FIGURE IN CAKED ARMS: A PERFECT REPLICA INFANT - wrinkles, fingernails, hints of lips and teeth, so forth.

HIPPOLYTA raises figure with infinite care, standing up so it is hit by a mystical ray of light. Texture of figure grows fainter, lighter. HIPPOLYTA watches figure transform into a weeping baby. Clay becomes flesh. Hippolyta, on the knifeedge of bursting into joyous tears.

BEACH - DAWN

HIPPOLYTA wakes up from a dream. The Clay baby remains lifeless. She understands. The miracle was a dream.

## FLASHBACK END -

Back to scene. QUEEN HIPPOLYTA crouched still teary eyed.

# HIPPOLYTA

Diana.

HIPPOLYTA raises her head astonished:

## HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D)

HERA!

HERA wipes tears from Hippolyta's cheeks. Embraces and kisses her lips. As lips make contact with HIPPOLYTA, HERA presses her hand firmly on HER stomach. A miracle. PUSH ON: HIPPOLYTA'S stomach now PLUMPS.

HERA smiles, disappearing into the thunderous night. HIPPOLYTA rubs and runs fingers sensuously against drum belly, ecstatic. Tears and laughter all at once. The happiest tears. (She is pregnant)

# INT. PALACE HALL WAY, THEMYSCIRA - DAY

Dolly down, following Artemis past tall columns and marmoreal depictions of the Olympians. O.S. Panting and cries of woman in labor. ARTEMIS takes deep breath and Enters --

## INT. QUEENS QUARTERS, PALACE - CONTINUOUS

-- Music to her ears. The cries of healthy baby. QUEEN lies on large bed spread, INFANT CRADLED IN ARMS CRYING. THE BABY IS PRINCESS DIANA (BETTER KNOWN TO THE WORLD AS WONDER WOMAN)

## MOMENTS LATER --

Artemis and Queen sit together with crying Diana. The Queen hands Artemis, DIANA. She awkwardly cradles DIANA who immediately stops crying.

#### MIDWIFE#2

Who knew? The great warrior Artemis so skilled in the art of calming newborns.

## HIPPOLYTA (JOKE)

It appears I will have additional duties for you in the nursery.

The MIDWIVES and The Queen all giggle. Artemis awkwardly plays with Diana.

## ARTEMIS

She is most pleasing to the eye, is she not my Queen?

Establishing Shot: Close up of Diana's pink, wrinkled face.

Establishing shot: Clay Statue of infant displayed in the Queens Quarters. Remarkable likeness to baby Diana (p. 19)

## EXT. HIPPOLYTA'S BALCONY, PALACE THEMYSCIRA - DAY

Hundreds of women gather in square, which Hippolyta's balcony overlooks. Tense atmosphere.

BALCONY -

HIPPOLYTA strolls INTO VIEW onto balcony. She cradles DIANA, softly tucked into pink blanket. -- Hippolyta presents DIANA for all to see.

#### HIPPOLYTA

Let 12 festival days commence!

Loud cheers from the jubilant crowd.

## EXT. QUEENS TABLE, FESTIVAL - BEACH - WARM CLEAR EVENING.

Amazons enjoy performances on stage. Music, wine, food, dancing. The Queen drinks wine from tankard cup with highranking Amazons. She's merry enough, until she looks over at Alkyone's table. The Queen distracted.

# ARTEMIS (Concerned)

How is Diana?

## HIPPOLYTA

Safe... Resting. (Silence)

#### ARTEMIS

What troubles you my Queen?

The Queen looks coyly toward table populated by Alkyone and an entourage. Artemis takes note.

## HIPPOLYTA (Looking at alkyone)

She seems distant... Reclusive... She's not even offered tribute.

## ARTEMIS

Fear not. Fierce Alkyone is troubled by change but she is loyal.

ALKYONE'S TABLE - Mytro 30s, Charis 30s, Philomena 30s.

## ALKYONE (Whispers)

This is a bad omen on Themyscira. (Disgust) --- Do you not know that she is the Gods punishment to us? I've been told she resembles the Clay Statue found in the Queens quarters. The one she molded from Earth. Like Prometheus before us, the Gods spite us for our arrogance, for not appreciating the boon they 've blessed us with. They have sent us a curse, much like Pandora, who herself was formed from the earth to mingle amongst mortals. With the face of the angels, she brings burdensome toil and sickness and death to all Amazons.

#### CHARIS

Her birth was much like Pandora's. She must be a curse.

#### PHILOMENA

Yes the Queen is duped by the Gods.

## ALKYONE

When have the Gods ever shown the Amazons their favor?!! Even the Goddesses blessed the very swords of armies who enslaved us. They have not changed. We must act on the cities behalf -- Destroy the child, even if our punishment be death.

They seal the pact by each blading their palm. -- ALKYONE first and most resolutely. -- Then Philomena and Charis.--Followed hesitantly by MYTRO, who looks to her mates for encouragement. Their hands piled together. BLOOD POOLS AT THE CENTRE OF THE TABLE. -- ALKYONE smiles with wild eyes.

## EXT. ATRIUM, BELOW HIPPOLYTA'S BEDCHAMBERS - NIGHT

Four Amazon Palace Guards lie slain.

## INT/EXT. BALCONY/HIPPOLYTA'S BEDCHAMBERS - MOMENTS LATER

FROM BALCONY ALKYONE'S quartet sneak TO

The Queen lies asleep with DIANA tucked in her arms. Quietly, ALKYONE, slips Diana from under her. DIANA awakens, but does not cry. Instead she grabs ALKYONE'S Index finger, wrapping her tiny palm firmly around it. Alkyone, staring at DIANA'S tiny vulnerable frame, her squinting eyes, and wanting face. Stunned. Without realizing:

# ALKYONE (About Diana)

(Surprised) She's... She's... <u>Beautiful</u>... More radiant than a thousand Suns.

MYTRO

She sleeps like an angel. Perhaps we're mistaken sisters. We can still turn back.

## ALKYONE (Quiet rage)

Never has a demon appeared more angelic.

The Queen Stirs. Alkyone's last chance. Unsheathes her sword.

# HIPPOLYTA (Shocked as she awakenS)

Alkyone, what is the meaning of this?

#### ALKYONE

Sorry my Queen, but she will destroy us all!!

She goes to strike. **Swoosh**. Arrow through Alkyone's shoulder. Sick Howl of a deranged wounded animal. Grimacing lips. --ARTEMIS emerges from shadow. New ARROW already loaded.

## ARTEMIS

GUARDS!!

Seconds later guards purge QUEEN'S QUARTERS. The criminals fall to their knees, arms open, expecting no mercy. Artemis and the other Amazons, hold swords to necks of the criminals.

# ARTEMIS (CONT'D)

Treacherous dogs...

The QUEEN gathers herself, Artemis prepares to decapitate ALKYONE.

# HIPPOLYTA(SHE PREVENTS ARTEMIS)

NO! NO BLOOD SHED!... Beloved sisters, how could you? (A beat) Get them out of my sight. ALKYONE on receiving THE Queen's mercy breaks into sobs. They are escorted from room. HIPPOLYTA holds DIANA tight.

## INT. CAVE - HOLDING CELL - NIGHT

Artemis and a PHALANX leads ALKYONE TO CELL.

INT/EXT. HOLDING CELL - MOMENTS LATER

ALKYONE presses face toward cold steel bars, looking out prison door hatch with wild eyes at Artemis.

## ALKYONE

You're blind Artemis.

Artemis turns back. Alkyone thinks she's getting through.

ALKYONE (CONT'D) Release me. We can do it together, just like we together defeated the Arrogant Greeks... There will be grieving, recrimination even, but we will not live to see it and our people! Our people will go on!

ARTEMIS looks on her with pity and RAGE, then walks off, as Alkyone hums a sinister lullaby. "Hush little baby."

EXT. RAIN FOREST, THEMYSCIRA - DAY (PRESENT)

14 YEAR OLD AMAZON - curly raven black locks, olive complexion, piercing blues, beautiful - sprints through rainforest wearing AMAZONIAN armor, trudging uphill at remarkable speeds as fast as a fully grown male sprinter.

> ARTEMIS (V.O.) The Amazon name was feared by all armies in the known world... Warriors! Trained, mind, body and soul in the very sculpture of war. We are all baptized in the flames of battle. Humbled by the blood of our fallen sisters. We have felt the beating heart of war smother our senses, till it intoxicated the very <u>air</u> we breathed...

EXT. DIANA'S FLASHBACK - BEACH - THEMYSCIRA - MORNING

Artemis OLDER, gives an impassioned pep talk to lineup of young looking Amazons in typical warrior garb. On 14 YEAR OLD AMAZON listening.

### ARTEMIS

...It is often said, one must not fear the enemy. Nothing little sisters could be further from the truth. For fear, makes us respect our enemies... and appreciate all that can be lost by showing them a moments weakness...

EXT. DIANA'S FLASHBACK, JUNGLE ENCIRCLED ARENA FLOOR, THEMYSCIRA - AFTERNOON

Amazons sparring. Artemis stands by coaches bench. Beside her, fatigued, sweaty Amazons who had previously been sparring; now, removing their outer armor or helmets and shifting focus toward the action on the arena floor.

ON SPARRING MATCH. Clio, 18 - not the warrior type, starry eyed and unfocused - spars with the 14 YEAR OLD AMAZON. The mysterious 14 YEAR OLD AMAZON makes quick work of Clio, tagging her with her sword.

#### ARTEMIS

The victory is Diana's... Most Impressive, Diana, well done.

CLIO, frustrated, salutes YOUNG DIANA. Begins walk of shame toward the AMAZON bench. Artemis scrutinizing her with admonishing eyes, like a disappointed football coach:

> ARTEMIS (CONT'D) Focus Clio... More Focus... You're strong but you're aware why you're dead right now, yes?

CLIO responds with a humiliated nod.

EXT. ROCK FACE, THEMYSCIRA - A LITTLE LATER (PRESENT)

ON DIANA, no armor, running toward top of cliff overlooking ocean.

ON CLIO and MALA, blonde (18) in hot pursuit of DIANA tracking movements from her discarded armor. Both worried.

## ARTEMIS(V.O.)

CLIO

(More clear)
War is never to be our hearts
desire... We do not strive to
initiate hostilities, but if
necessary we must always be
prepared to end them ... DIANA! DIANA!

MALA Where is she?

ON DIANA. Still running, Diana ignores Mala and Clio's pleas:

CLIO O.S. DIANA, where are you? Come back! You're not in trouble!

EXT. DIANA'S FLASHBACK, ARENA FLOOR - A LITTLE LATER

DIANA spars with skilled VENELIA, 19, who towers over her, in a David VS. Goliath style clash. The battle becomes brutal.

ON ARTEMIS. Engrossed encourages more savagery.

ON HIPPOLYTA'S BOX. The Queen beaming with pride, reacts to some of Diana's feats, both in fear for her safety and in awe of her aptitude.

ON ARENA FLOOR. Finally Venelia gets the better of Diana, knocking away her sword. Venelia, now confident, lunges at Diana. Diana dodges at lightning speed. Instinctively Diana punches VENELIA'S Shield. A *BOOMING GONG!* rings through Arena. Venelia slides several feet back. Fist mark pocked in Iron Shield.

ANGLE ON THE QUEENS BOX. The Queens countenance, puzzled. Diana's strength in-human.

ARENA FLOOR. Venelia lunges for Diana again... Diana sidesteps her Catching Venelia's fencing arm... Tosses Venelia an impossible distance. She lands awkwardly like road kill. Venelia lets out a guttural howl of pain. Many people, including Hippolyta and Diana, rush to her aid.

The AMAZONS, with Hippolyta and Artemis leading the concerned assembly, gather around VENELIA to comfort the poor child.

#### DIANA

## VENELIA

Sorry. What have I done? What My arm, I can't... (In pure have I done, Artemis? agony)

HIPPOLYTA, fearing for Venelia's welfare, gestures for some medical aid, all the while continuing to provide succor.

The mob look on Diana with distrust. In tears Diana apologetically protests:

DIANA Sorry... I was just... just ... Trying to make you proud my Queen.

DIANA runs off upset into forest before anyone can stop her.

HIPPOLYTA Clio, go with Mala. Let her know she's not in trouble.

ARTEMIS I could track her faster.

HIPPOLYTA No, assist Venelia.

EXT. ROCK FACE - LATER (PRESENT)

DIANA continues to run a little further. Artemis' V.O. Continues, echoing like spirits ringing in Diana's ears. She's trying to run away from them.

> ARTEMIS (V.O.) You train because on the battlefield you cannot rely on favor from the Gods; You train so you can master your own destiny.

--- Diana reaches the summit of the rock face. The echoing appeals of MALA and CLIO heard vaguely O.S. DIANA jumps on tree that overlooking a waterfall. A monkey perches aloft the branch of the tree. She and The Monkey look out into the soothing crystal blue sea toward this incomprehensibly massive world.

PUSH ON DIANA'S DIRTY BUT CUTE FACE. She stares at the familiar shores heightened beauty and grace. A naughty expression creeps on DIANA'S face. Diana performs tremendous *ACROBATIC SOMERSAULT, LAUNCHING HERSELF FROM THE BRANCH*, into the sea. We follow her spear shaped body as she pierces the lapping waves on entry. After a second we realize that:

THE BRANCH --

She merely imagined this leap and is still on the branch with the stoic ape, dreaming of freedom. In a moment as surprising to Diana as to audience:

> MONKEY No jump! Danger for you!

Enter CLIO and Mala --

CLIO and MALA P.O.V: Diana unaware chatters in some monkey language to the ape, who is strangely responsive. CLIO and MALA observe in silence a beat. No longer able to contain themselves, they belly up roaring with laughter.

> MALA (While laughing) Making friends Diana?

> > DIANA

Did you not hear, she was... She was speaking to me?

As if the scene couldn't get anymore raucous Diana's naive defense sends them toppling over.

CLIO What was she saying Princess?

MALA Perhaps that Diana's a monkey and the monkey a Princess.

CLIO

(Trying to be serious) Diana, enough games! Get down from there, before you hurt yourself.

DIANA

No, I'm Princess Of Themyscira, I shall do as I like.

MALA And what do you plan on doing? Staying up there forever?

DIANA I'm going to fly from this Island...

MALA Fly?!... More like die... Now COME

DOWN AT ONCE. You're scaring us.

DIANA Did you not see how the women of the City looked on me... I'm different... Something's wrong with me. MALA Don't be silly Diana, you are our blood. Each Amazon views you a daughter, a sister, a friend.

## DIANA

Don't lie Mala. None of them trust my birth or the Gods who granted it... I want away from here. To discover who I am. Why I am. And not under constant scrutiny.

MALA

Diana you cannot fly, but you can die. Down. Now. lest I report you for your insolence.

DIANA

(Glib) I WILL FLY. ESCAPE SOMEWHERE, YOU NOR THAT TASK-MASTER ARTEMIS CAN FIND ME! Goodbye sisters!

Ridiculously theatrical. Diana prepares to jump.

CLIO

WAIT DIANA!!... What if I could show you something on this Island you have never seen?

## DIANA

Lies!

## CLIO

No tis true... I heard word of it this morning... Antiope and Bethania Told me there is a man imprisoned on the North End of The Island... Not only that! There also exists a doorway to another world. Come down. I'll show you.

Diana mulls over the proposition a moment, then smiles.

DIANA Clio, lead the way, by order of The Princess!

EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE, DESERT - NIGHT

The 3 girls stand before cave. Mala looks worried:

DIANA (SEEING MALA'S CONCERN) Don't be so cowardly sister! Lets go in.

INT. HOLDING CELLS, CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

Mala holds flickering lamp to light their way through Cavern which bends round, going this way and that, like an elaborate Maze. O.S. creepy whispers heard. Mala afraid.

## DIANA

Fear not Mala, we are with you.

Inhuman howls echo through passage emanating from below. They run back tripping over each other.

MALA Great Hera! What was that?

Back through narrow passage, laughter from one holding cell. The girls stop by it.

DIANA

Who is that?

ARES You were wise not to go down there.

ON DIANA,. Moves closer. Curious. At DIANA'S eye level the Cell door hatch. Unlocks bolt. Opens latch -- They see SILHOUETTED FIGURE OF UNKEMPT MAN IN SHABBY OLD ATTIRE. Manacled wrists and feet. Cell, small, decrepid and bug infested.

> DIANA What kind of voice have you, that it be so deep and gravely?

ARES Why, It's a mans voice. You've never heard one like it?

DIANA You're a man?

ARES

I am a man amongst other things.

Looks at DIANA. Eyes begin to shine a blood red hue. DIANA frightened but curious.

DIANA Are you wicked? Cruel like they say?

## ARES

Who says?

ARES shuffles over to hatch. Diana gets a good look at his face. Startled. CLIO sees him: he's attractive in rugged sort of way.

DIANA

My... My sisters.

ARES

Do I appear cruel?... Is it not your sisters who lock me away in this cage, for all eternity? I'm treated no better than a beast.

DIANA

Men are lower than beasts. Tis why the Gods destroyed your world. (And) Now, only we Amazons lord over the Earth.

ARES (Is) That what you've been told?

He chuckles, drawing ever closer.

ARES (CONT'D) They lie to you. What's your name?

DIANA I am Diana. Princess of Themyscira.

ARES Princess?!(Confused) Hippolyta's child?! (Smiles) If only I had known I was to be visited by royalty this evening, I would have worn my finest attire.

For a brief second ARES catches CLIO'S eye. Smirks at her. She's shy, confused and conflicted by the sight of ARES.

DIANA What d'you mean they've lied to me? Mother would never lie to me. ARES Don't tell me about Mothers and their lies. They all lie. It seems all the bitches are good for...

MALA Hold your tongue dog, before I rip it out.

ARES

Oh dear, I've upset you? Well maybe I ought oblige you further. The world of man was not destroyed by the Gods... This island is not all there is Diana... There is more; much, much more... The Gods sent the Amazons here because, like me, you caused them too much trouble. But I, I know my prison well... The Gods named your prison Paradise and you believed them.

DIANA

I do not believe you.

#### ARES

Beliefs?(Laughs... Takes a look and sniff at Diana) -- You are a beautiful one, aren't you?... I would think, since your dominion on Earth just dropped a hundred fold, maybe you ought start looking at the bigger picture Princess. Some years maturity, further lessons in manners, and you might just make a worthy whore for Zeus!

He then goes as if to bite Diana.

MALA Enough! Get back monster!...

MALA swings a dagger towards his face. Ares dodges the stab and chuckles.

MALA (CONT'D) Let us go Princess! You've seen what you came for.

They turn to leave. As they exit:

DIANA (Excited) Is there truth in what he says? Is Mans World still out there? EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE - DUSK

Girls ascend from out of the darkness of cave, looking as if they had travelled the primrose path of Dante himself.

INT. HALLWAY - PALACE - NIGHT

Diana, prepared for bed, walks along corridor stopping at door. She opens the door to --

HIPPOLYTA'S CHAMBERS - CONTINUOUS

The Queen and Artemis seated on richly decorated Davenport. QUEEN and ARTEMIS hastily separate As DIANA'S head pops through the parting.

> DIANA Your highness, I wish to speak with you.

HIPPOLYTA Look at your hair child. It's a mess.

Sits DIANA atop her lap. Combs Diana's tousled hair. Artemis begins attending to things in room.

DIANA I'm getting too old for this...

HIPPOLYTA (Smiles)

Never!

DIANA (Hesitantly) I, I, I've been told something... A sister.. She told me that Man's World is not gone... That you deceived me.

HIPPOLYTA

WHO?!

DIANA Does it matter? Is it true? Did you lie to me?

HIPPOLYTA Not exactly.

DIANA But Did the gods destroy it or did you LIE TO ME?

# HIPPOLYTA

I was going to tell you when you were old enough. I, I wanted to spare you the feeling of being trapped like all of us older Amazons feel from time to time.

#### DIANA

But my Queen that's just it. I do feel trapped here. Sometimes, I sit alone on the beach. I stare at a single star. And *I swear* if I willed hard enough, I could crush it. I feel like there is so much I need to do. So much *I must do...* What is out there? What is outside Themyscira... in mans world?

ARTEMIS(0.S.) Princess Diana! You must not labor your mind with such trifles.

Hippolyta gestures to Artemis for privacy. Artemis Exits.

DIANA Your grace, consider, what if Man's World has changed for the better? Thousands of years have passed... Maybe we should --

#### HIPPOLYTA

No Diana! The Amazons must remain here. Where we are safe. The Gods willed it and I keep their decree.

DIANA

Your highness - !

HIPPOLYTA

Enough Diana!! I grow weary of this discussion. Go to bed.

DIANA

As you wish!

DIANA gets up and walks toward the door.

DIANA (CONT'D) But your highness -

HIPPOLYTA

Yes Princess!

DIANA

No need to trick me with elaborate fictions... I'm your humble servant. I will always love, honor, and, cherish you, Mot...(mother) Mmy Queen.

HIPPOLYTA nods, sincerely acquiescing.

Moments Later: Alone in bedchambers Hippolyta stands before bust of wise Athena:

HIPPOLYTA Athena you have gifted her wisdom beyond her years. I pray, please do not take her away from me just yet...

EXT. CAVES - MORNING

Clio leans on a large rock reading book of poetry. A line in book talks about love. Clio - dissatisfied - looks to sky.

EXT. CAVES (PRISON ENTRANCE) - LATER

Clio sneak past two prison guards slumbering in the heat wave helmets tipped over eyes.

INT. CAVE, ARES HOLDING CELL - MOMENTS LATER

CLIO Nervous fidgeting. Hesitantly pulls down hatch of Ares cell. Peers through opening. Ares sleeping. Out of nowhere, Ares takes deep sensuous sniff:

ARES Good morning. Seems like a tiny sunbird has come a'fluttering about my cage.

Ares sits up and smiles. Clio looks a bit taken aback.

ARES (CONT'D) Don't be startled. No harm will come to you...

CLIO Yes, well, I was just checking on you. Are you in need of anything? ARES (Suggestive) Thirsty! Anything watery to wet my lips?

Ares, shackled, shuffles over approaching cell door.

CLIO Stay, back! I will fetch you some water, worry not, but stay back!

CLIO unsheathes dagger. He notices book in her other hand.

ARES What is that you're reading?

CLIO Poetry by Sappho.

#### ARES

Ahh Sappho of LESBOS, in whose ear Aphrodite herself often whispered words of love. Is that standard gear of all Amazons? Or just hopelessly romantic ones?

CLIO Do not make a fool of me.

ARES I tease you not. You think I do not admire the words of the poets?

#### CLIO

I think you admire nothing more than the sounds emanating from your flapping mouth!

## ARES

Really?

ARES smiles. CLIO looks at him gingerly. Frustrated she marches off. We follow her ---

ARES (0.S.) (CONT'D) (Alluring, seductive tone) With sorrow and pain, you left your father's golden palace...

Hearing these wonderful words of SAPPHO, she gives pause. ALMOST against her own will, turns back:

## CLIO (Whisper)

And yoked to your shining chariot swift, lovely sparrows moving their thickfeathered wings through the sky's bright ether.

## ARES (O.S.)

....and yoked to your shining chariot swift, lovely sparrows moving their thickfeathered wings through the sky's bright ether.

Now again, she stops before his cell; their eyes meet.

CLIO ...If man be so evil, how can you sing such words of love and beauty?

ARES

My thoughts precisely... You're quite charming, you are... Stay with me a little while... Please!

ARES face softens. An expression remarkably artless.

INT. ARES HOLDING CELL - NIGHT

PUSH IN ON Hippolyta stands in the cell with a grim expression. She presses the star in the center of her tiara. It glows.

## EXT. PALACE ENTRANCE - NIGHT

DIANA 19 (In human years), radiant handsome young lady, sits on marble steps. Along comes Io on horseback. Look of urgency. She calls out to DIANA, who smiles greeting her.

> MALA Diana, Diana!! Come! We must escort you somewhere safe.

Hoof beats of her mares trot slow to a tap by steps.

DIANA What are you speaking of Mala? I am here waiting on Clio's arrival.

MALA Princess... Evil has befallen Themyscira. Ares has escaped. And CLIO left mortally wounded.

DIANA Don't be ridiculous, why would she visit that monster alone? A brace around Diana's wrist glows. A HOLOGRAM OF HIPPOLYTA materializes out of thin air before Diana and Mala.

HIPPOLYTA Bring Diana to me.

DIANA visibly upset:

EXT. ARES HOLDING CELL -- LATER

Diana arrives at Ares holding cell, blood smeared across swung open steel door.

INT. ARES HOLDING CELL -CONTINUOUS

Splatters of blood across rocky wall. Lying on cell bed wrapped in white linen, Young Clio, face bruised and pale, body mutilated, plump belly. Hippolyta sits beside body caressing Clio's hair. MALA grief-stricken erupts in tears.

> MALA Look upon our sisters poor face. Mauled as if by some animal.

Diana leans down over CLIO'S bruised but peaceful face. A book of poetry lays on top her frozen body. DIANA opens, to read it. On first page, Clio's poem:

DIANA She was with child??!!!

HIPPOLYTA Tis true. Bastard slay his own unborn child!

Diana, in a gag reflex holds in the need to throw up.

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) DIANA! CHILD!

Diana crouches down beside her friend, closing her eyes

DIANA Sweet dreams of love be yours big sister.... (A beat) Where is he? Gone. At sea ---

DIANA

Well if he has gone to sea, we must follow him.

HIPPOLYTA

Revenge will not bring her back Diana. He has gone to Mans World, where his wickedness belongs.

DIANA

You're soft.

Hippolyta could hit her but stops herself.

HIPPOLYTA You blame yourself?

HIPPOLYTA

DIANA If it was not for my foolhardy behavior, she never would have -

- You cannot blame yourself child.

DIANA Well how come I do then?

DIANA storms out punching the cell door off its hinges. Hippolyta marvels at her power.

EXT. BEACH - FUNERAL PYRE - NIGHT

MALA stands before body of CLIO. She places two coins on Clio's eyes. Accepts a torch, and sets the pyre on fire. ANGLE ON ARTEMIS and IO -

ARTEMIS She should be here.

IO Poor child is grief stricken. Remember Artemis, she does not know death, like most us AMAZONS.

The sky darkens as the beach air grows thick with blackened billows of smoke.

INT. PALACE - OUTSIDE DIANA'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

A palace aid exits DIANA'S room, as HIPPOLYTA stops by to check on her. HIPPOLYTA gestures to aid: "Can I go in?" The PALACE AID gestures - no. O.S. Bitter sobs heard.

#### INT. QUEENS QUARTERS, IN BED - LATER

The Queen clearly restless. O.S: haunting voice : "HIPPOLYTA, HIPPOLYTA, come to me." Hippolyta woken by the ghostly calling wipes cobwebs from her eyes.

MOMENTS LATER: HIPPOLYTA looks into LARGE ENCHANTED MIRROR, catching glimpse of what appears an apparition, hands stretched out. HIPPOLYTA focuses her eyes:

# HIPPOLYTA

HERA?!

HIPPOLYTA puts her hand out. It sinks through Liquid metals reflective surface. -- HIPPOLYTA steps through mirror into --

EXT. COURT YARD (CLOUD PALACE), MOUNT OLYMPUS - TWILIGHT

The court is situated in a palace whose rooms connect like some magnificent mandala painting. Pulsating stars burst forth like dancing ghosts. HIPPOLYTA next to HERA, now 50.

## HIPPOLYTA Is that you HERA?

MIDDLE AGED HERA(Warm smile) Yes Hippolyta. It is I. Welcome to Mount Olympus.

HIPPOLYTA gives bob of deference in respect, HERA lifts her up.

MIDDLE AGED HERA (CONT'D) HIPPOLYTA you were deceived.(Frank) Diana was not just born out of generosity from the Gods. The child was born of destiny. She has purpose.

HIPPOLYTA Purpose? What purpose?

MIDDLE AGED HERA To correct our mistakes. Will you ever forgive me Hippolyta? HIPPOLYTA For what exactly?

MIDDLE AGED HERA Imprisoning you in paradise.

HIPPOLYTA So you beg my forgiveness to cajole from me my blessing? Well I refuse -

MIDDLE AGED HERA I love her too! But she too feels tremblings of her destiny.

HIPPOLYTA Why didn't you tell me?

MIDDLE AGED HERA To ensure her survival. If aware of her gifts she may have neglected her training.

## HIPPOLYTA

Enough this nonsense! I am not risking my daughter's life on some fool errand to martyr herself for The Gods. Now. I wish to wake from this horrid dream.

Bows to HERA, then walks away.

TITLE: MODERN DAY, MAN'S WORLD

INT/EXT. STEVE TREVOR'S F-22 RAPTOR, SKY OVER MEDITERRANEAN SEA - DAY

STEVE TREVOR (30s) handsome, three-day stubble, is embroiled in a dog fight with F-18.

The F-18 is on the chase.

STEVE TREVOR jerks his joystick sending his jet screaming skyward, to avoid enemy lock, until, OUT OF NOWHERE: *shimmering vortex*, of the most brilliant blue light, opens up the sky, swallowing STEVE TREVOR and F-18 whole.

EXT. BEACH, THEMYSCIRA (MODERN DAY) - SUNNY DAWN

IO, Mala (20s, same actor) and Diana 20s (same actor as 19) sit gazing into yonder.

DIANA The sea is too foggy. You can hardly see the horizon.

MALA What's to see?

DIANA Nothing I suppose.

IO Does something trouble you Diana?

DIANA No tutor, continue your lesson...

**BOOM**. Sound of gently ROLLING SURF interrupted by loud deafening explosion, roaring in sky above. Diana and Mala Look up. A vortex of staggering magnitude bursts out of thick clouds filling half the morning sky.

EXT. VORTEX, THEMYSCIRA - SAME TIME

ON STEVE TREVOR. A beam of light opens up a window into an alien world.

EXT. SKY, THEMYSCIRA - STEVE'S P.O.V.

Now at about 5000 feet, he can make out tiny little island kingdom, as he descends down over Themyscira's seas. Awestruck. So beautiful, it stuns him a second.

INT/EXT. STEVE'S JET - SAME TIME

## STEVE TREVOR

What the?

Entranced, until his Console begins beeping wildly, radar tracking incoming missile. Sidewinder sails through vortex followed by enemy F-18. Steve slams down button... A small cylinder releases, heat flair... The heat seeker snakes after decoy.... Exploding over Themyscirian sky.

ON DIANA, IO, and MALA. They stare in terror at Sky on fire.

EXT. BEECH - THEMYSCIRA - MORNING

The F-18 rattles off *round of artillery-fire clipping* Steve's wing. Steve's wing erupts in flames and smoke, spinning out of control, plunging toward sea.

THE VORTEX CLOSES BEHIND JETS.

ON IO, MALA and DIANA, Watch STEVE'S jet spin out of control.

MALA What is that Diana?

DIANA I do not know! Come sisters!

They make haste toward the shoreline.

ON STEVE TREVOR --

STEVE TREVOR lets off strafe, (shooting backwards) Just as THE ENEMY pulls chute, ejecting from jet.

THE ENEMY'S PLANE DROPS VIOLENTLY TO SEA.

STEVE also slams eject button. Seat straps wind up. He's blasted out of plane. Uncomfortable expulsion.

DIANA P.O.V: Two men emerge out of sunny sky on parachutes. They float down a little distance from Shoreline.

ON STEVE TREVOR - OVER THEMYSCIRIAN SEA.STEVE drifts momentarily. He's fading away from injury. He sinks toward surf.

ON THE BEACH. Some Amazons on horseback led by Artemis gallop toward the scene.

ON STEVE TREVOR AND THE ENEMY. STEVE TREVOR thunderously crashes into sea.

The other man "THE ENEMY" lands on sea front, parachute covering eyes.

ON ARTEMIS.

ARTEMIS

CHARGE!!!

ON DIANA. Instinctively leaps into the sea to save man from drowning.

ON STEVE TREVOR.Sinking deeper. Yanked hard to surface of sea.

ON DIANA AND STEVE TREVOR. DIANA pulls him towards shore and onto the beach. He immediately coughs up water. IO and mala whisper behind her:

MALA It's a man. But how is this possible?

Diana, now taken aback, stares in amazement at man.

ARTEMIS (O.S.) GET AWAY FROM HIM PRINCESS!!

He looks at Diana dazed:

STEVE TREVOR

ANGEL!

She smiles, but then is distracted by:

ON THE ENEMY. THE ENEMY (30s) Ottoman, removes parachute, sees charging AMAZONS. He grabs .226 from holster, blasting.

ARTEMIS AND AMAZONS. One Amazon falls. Her horse injured by gunfire.

ON DIANA and THE ENEMY:

DIANA

STOP!

Hearing DIANA, THE ENEMY, scared, prepares to fire on DIANA.

ON ARTEMIS. A look of pure horror. She watches frozen.

ON DIANA and THE ENEMY. His trigger finger presses down. Blam. Blam. Blam. Blam. Blam. Blam.

THE ENEMY flies back, shot in the chest. Diana doesn't understand. Looks down on Steve.--

ON STEVE TREVOR. Gun drawn. He acted off pure instinct to make sure his Angel was safe. He drifts off.

INT. STEVE'S BED (ISLE OF HEALING), THEMYSCIRA - DAY

STEVE TREVOR awakes, lying bear chest and bandaged. Looks over railings of bed at advanced medical technology. Women in Ancient Greek dress. HE attempts to sit up, abdomen too wounded, slumps back down. STEVE TREVOR (Mutters) Vegas?!(Winces. In pain) How long I been out?

DIANA (To one of the guards) Prepare some more healing spirits for the foreigner.

A sentinel follows DIANA'S orders, exiting the room. STEVE TREVOR now notices DIANA sitting to side of him. The rest were cute, but this ones an absolute knockout.

> STEVE TREVOR (Casual) Foreigner??!(Confused) Uh nurse? Sorry, names Steve... Lt. Colonel Steve Trevor. United States Army...(Smiles RE: Diana)... And what's yours name Princess?

Diana is taken back by this. PHILIPUS 30s (Black) and the guards are mortified. Whispers back and forth, Then PHILIPUS:

PHILIPUS See! He knows Diana to be Princess and admits collusion with some invading army! Clearly no coincidence Diana! This is the hand of Ares. Once again he's blinded man, turning their envious gaze upon us. Tell now villain, what wicked designs do you have on us?

Her sword now pointed at STEVE TREVOR.

STEVE TREVOR That thing real?

PHILIPUS provocatively waves sword over STEVE TREVORS groin.

DIANA (Authoritative)

Out. Now!

PHILIPUS abstains from her threats, taking heed:

PHILIPUS The Queen will not be pleased I left you in the company of this... this... this thing.

DIANA Well till you receive such orders, I am in charge. Now Leave! PHILIPUS and Guards reluctantly leave the room. Nurse comes back with clay bowl of hot broth. Hands it to DIANA who then gestures for her to leave.

DIANA (CONT'D) Here. Have this.

She hands him brew, assisting him up as she does. In bowl, purple liquid.

DIANA (CONT'D) It's good for you. We already used the purple ray to heal your wounds. You were bleeding.

STEVE trusts her. Drinks. We see his bruises fade.

STEVE TREVOR Better! (Surprised) What is this?

## DIANA

Our Island produces many flowers with healing properties. IO our finest scientist synthesized them into a healing remedy for you. (A beat) How did you know I was Princess of Themyscira? Have your people been turned by Ares against us?

STEVE TREVOR Ares? Who's Ares?(Looks around) Where am I?

Studies him a beat. He's not lying.

## DIANA

You're telling me the truth. You have no idea where you are, do you? (A beat, Steve nods) You're on Themyscira. Home of The Amazons. We are a peaceful people, who wish to be let alone... Away from the corrupt rule of Patriachs world.

STEVE TREVOR Patriachs World?

DIANA The world of mortals, ruled by men.

STEVE TREVOR You're kidding me, right? Amazons are an ancient myth. DIANA

Whatever you've been told in Mans World, we Amazons are quite real.

STEVE TREVOR Great! So you're crazy as well.

DIANA Hmm! I was told about mens manners.

Artemis bursts into the infirmary with Philipus and a Phalanx of Amazonian guards. Diana and her share hostile looks.

ARTEMIS What possible business do you think you have with this invader?

STEVE TREVOR Good... so you're in-charge?...

ARTEMIS Shut your mouth foreigner. You will speak when spoken to.

STEVE TREVOR Excuse me?!

## DIANA

I'm not a child anymore Artemis! Or am I to be coddled forever like some eternal infant?

### ARTEMIS

If you continue to behave like one... As for you. (To Steve) You are summoned to the Royal Court. There your crimes will be adjudicated on and fate decided.

STEVE confused.

DIANA Then I shall act as his council.

## ARTEMIS

As you wish Princess...

EXT. ROAD TO PALACE - AFTERNOON

A convoy of Amazons escort STEVE TREVOR. Women crowd streets. STEVE TREVOR surveys streets dumbfounded.

Not one male face, or woman over 40. Steve taken aback by magnificence of Palace.

JUMP CUT:

INT. THRONE ROOM (GREAT COURT) - LATER

The Great hall full to the brim with animated spectators. Philippus acts as prosecution, Diana as defence for Steve:

PHILIPPUS -What mission has Ares sent you on? To invade, and destroy us?

STEVE TREVOR (Notably frustrated) That man you speak of. His army murdered thousands of innocent people... Women, Children --

### PHILIPPUS

Hear word Sisters! The prisoner incriminates himself- confessing The Outside World's brutality and that women and even children have become fodder for mans savage conflicts.

Applause from the crowd. Hippolyta slams staff down, to demand order in the court.

### DIANA

But, my Queen -

### ARTEMIS

Princess, you have no experience of Mans unruly heart. They are sublimely wicked... Deceitful... Clever --- And cunning most of all. How are we to know saving you was not part of a ruse to gain our trust?

# DIANA

But!

## HIPPOLYTA

Diana! Enough from you child. Artemis and Philippus are wellversed in the ways of man. You will heed to their wisdom.

STEVE TREVOR (DEFIANT) Okay, just hang me now. Artemis, without a thought, leaps off Dais and uppercuts STEVE in already injured abdomen. DIANA separates the two.

DIANA

That's enough.

HIPPOLYTA (Disapproving)

ARTEMIS!!!

ARTEMIS still vexed, backs off, as Diana tends to a winded STEVE TREVOR.

DIANA Can you not see he does not understand our customs?!!

## HIPPOLYTA

Sorry for Artemis' behavior. It is NOT the Amazon way. But the question remains foreigner, WHY are you here?

STEVE TREVOR I TOLD YOU, I DON'T KNOW!

DIANA

My Queen, we must return him to his world and discover how he came to Themyscira.

### PHILIPPUS

Nonsense! Far too dangerous... I say incarcerate him... Maybe sometime languishing in our dungeons shall loosen his tongue.

DIANA NO! I FORBID IT!

General Confusion. How can Diana forbid anything?

## PHILIPPUS

(Puzzled and Angry) DIANA!! Was it not a man that condemned Clio - your heart, your sister - to bloody death? Yet you so ardently defend this one?

## DIANA

So did I suffer at our sisters loss. Did you all not witness me sink under the load of my despair?... But still sisters, we cannot condemn this man!

## PHILIPPUS

And one as studious as you; Who has tirelessly consulted the history books. Read through the archives --all the accounts by our slaughtered sisters of mans mischiefs? What have you to say for our fallen sisters?

### DIANA

Yes... I have read the archives... And still --- I say --- we cannot and will not condemn this man.

PHILIPPUS WHY PRINCESS?!! WHY?!!

## DIANA

For we are Amazons!... And... If we condemn an entire race, vindicating our actions on blind prejudice ... take a mans freedom on account of the crimes of his ancestors... Then we abuse our powers sisters, and we're no better than the world we extricate ourselves from. This is not and shall never be the Amazon way... We Amazons should shine as a light... A beacon of justice... Forever honest in heart, forever truthful in soul, forever merciful in action, forever inspiring the world. This is my truth sisters. Harm this man ... But take my life first.

Diana's stirring speech has moved the Amazons AND Steve.

## HIPPOLYTA

My daughter.

STEVE TREVOR (Surprised) Daughter?!!

HIPPOLYTA (Pauses a beat) Sisters... Over the millennia, the voices of the Gods have grown more distant. As if Olympus itself has been swallowed up by the clouds... With the Gods gone, we Amazons choose our own path... And sisters, I while not ageing in flesh, grow old in mind. HIPPOLYTA (PAUSES A BEAT) (CONT'D) It nears the time that my natural successor Diana take her place as Queen.

DIANA But my Queen, what shall happen to Steve Trevor?

## HIPPOLYTA

Your words were most sagacious. We must somehow Escort him back to Patriachs World. Discover how he found us.

## DIANA

And how will you decide the most suitable Amazon?

### HIPPOLYTA

There will be a contest to determine the most qualified Amazon.

Music to Diana's ears. The possibility of escape.

DIANA

Your highness forgive me - but I wish to delay my ascension to the crown - instead I'd like to be included in tomorrows tournament.

A beat.

## HIPPOLYTA

# ARTEMIS

No!

DIANA (CONT'D) But your highness!

HIPPOLYTA I wish not to quarrel DIANA. You have never faced real combat. Your training is insufficient for such a dangerous mission!

No!

DIANA

But! --

HIPPOLYTA Your fate is to be Queen... That is enough.

The Queen exits. Diana cowed by her authority.

EXT. COLOSSAL AMPHITHEATER - ESTABLISHING - (DAY)

AERIAL SHOT:

Exceeds the size and beauty of the Roman Colosseum.

EXT. AMPHITHEATER, IMPERIAL BOX/ARENA - DAY

ARENA FLOOR: The Queen addresses an array of 200 Amazon Gladiators, wearing monochrome shades of silverish gold armor.

HIPPOLYTA Our heralds have done well to spread word of our tournament today.

Stadium packed to capacity. With curious onlookers.

ON ROYAL BOX -

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) To those warriors who stand before us...

EXT. ARENA FLOOR - (PAST) EARLIER.

A glorious procession to open the event.

EXT. ARCADE - (PAST) EARLIER.

The Amazon warriors march in strict formation through Arcade toward the narrow entrance of the Amphitheater.

ROYAL BOX -

HIPPOLYTA To their courage, their unyielding spirit, we Amazons salute you...

ANGLE ON ARENA FLOOR. The Amazons, as one, salute; crossing their forearm as crowd roars in applause. Hippolyta gestures for silence. A hush amongst her loyal subjects.

> HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) It is time to decide your destinies and the destiny of Paradise Island.

ARENA FLOOR. As the Queen continues her speech, we dolly across frontline of the Amazon Warriors, the expression in their eyes.

Drumming simmers, trumpets sound. Thousands and thousands of clamorous spectators. Row after row of cheering faces.

ARENA FLOOR - A BIT LATER

INT. DIANA'S QUARTERS (HER WINDOW), ROYAL PALACE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

DIANA spots MALA, sneaking around GARDENS beneath ROOM, trying to get her attention.

MALA (Whispers) Let me up Sister.

MOMENTS LATER:

DIANA aids MALA through window... LATER: MALA sits with DIANA on bed.

DIANA What are you doing here MALA?

MALA I heard about what happened in the royal court today. That you are forbidden from taking part in tomorrows Games.

DIANA Our queen feels my training insufficient.

MALA Nonsense. We must prove her wrong. Right, little sister?...

DIANA

How?

MALA Enter the contest!

DIANA (Humoring Mala) And how shall I enter the contest?

MALA Why... You shall take my place of course.

## EXT. ARENA FLOOR - LATER

## FIRST CONTEST: TRIDENT FIGHT

MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 (Silver Armor), battles with GLADIATOR#1. Whirling three pronged sticks at each other, as if prosthetic extensions of their own being.

MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 feint, blocks, SWEEPS GLADIATOR#1. Slamming her quarterstaff into the sand, forking foes weapon. Kicks GLADIATOR#1 square in face, she's out.

ON THE IMPERIAL BOX. THE QUEEN is seated to front of imperial box, while IO and Philippus, and Artemis and STEVE TREVOR sit either side of her. STEVE TREVOR engrossed.

# ARTEMIS Queen, I believe we have a braggart in our midst... Should be quite the treat to observe such demonstration of Amazonian skill.

INT. DIANA'S QUARTERS - ROYAL PALACE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

MALA and DIANA continue their conversation.

DIANA You really think she won't recognize her own daughter?

## MALA

Have you not read the ancient scrolls defining the games?

DIANA

(Joking) No, but I suspect they are a massive bore.

## MALA

Not thrilling.(Jovial) But one edict impressed me most little sister. - ---For the most worthy warrior to be chosen, each Amazon must mask their identity... To preclude any Amazon vying against a friend from hesitating or sympathizing with a cherished sister.

Diana's face lights up. A mischievous grin.

SECOND CONTEST: AMAZONIAN WRESTLING

Two unusually muscular Amazonian warriors - GIGANTA AND THE CAT - stand in centre of large chalk circle imprinted on ARENA FLOOR. Their armor, much lighter than other GLADIATORS, no Helmets.

ANGLE ON IMPERIAL BOX

# STEVE TREVOR What's happening?

ARTEMIS Final contest. Wrestling match with Giganta and The Cat. It is said Giganta has been blessed the strength of Herakles and Cat the balance of Atlas.

Artemis excited. The Queen pensive. Steve seeing the greatest spectacle of his life.

ON ARENA FLOOR. MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 enters chalk circle. GIGANTA and THE CAT immediately pounce on her throwing a ferocious flurry of combination strikes and counter strikes... GIGANTA leaps at The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2, who dodges into roll over, collecting hand full of sand...

The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 releases the hand full of SAND like GUIDED MISSILE straight into Giganta's eyes. GIGANTA blinded attempts to wipe sand from eyes. As The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 follows the sly attack with super kick... MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 reverses take down attempt by THE CAT with a belly to belly suplex... Somehow THE CAT still lands prostrate. Incensed, the Cat moves in quick, pouncing on all fours at The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2. THE CAT gets hold of her POWER-BOMBING HER outside perimeter of chalk circle... White-Robe referee calls the victory, waving red flag.

One opponent remains. The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#1 enters.

INT. FLASHBACK - MALA'S QUARTERS - NIGHT (LITTLE LATER)

DIANA opens MALA'S cupboard. Hanging on display, armor of MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#1. Diana smiles realizing the implication.

MALA Good luck little sister. My heart, My loyalty and my love are with you. Diana tightly embraces Mala.

EXT. ARENA FLOOR - LATER

The sun sinks lower, shadows on the sand lengthen, as The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#1 we now know is DIANA, enters Chalk Circle.

Giganta and The Cat go into action. The CAT and GIGANTA swing blows and shin kicks that could BREAK trees. DIANA dodges several attacks. CAT flies in at DIANA, but DIANA uses her own momentum to fling her to ground, like some rank amateur.

THE ROYAL BOX. Everyone gets to their feet perplexed. THE CAT is on her back, floored. Impossible.

ARTEMIS Most impressive. I cannot imagine who this gladiator is.

Hippolyta looks troubled. Something isn't right.

ANGLE ON SPECTATORS. Stunned. Then an EXPLOSION of cheers.

A stand-off. Diana gestures, "Come on!!"...

DIANA Will you stand down? Or do you wish further humiliation?

GIGANTA runs at her, with a "Never Surrender" expression. DIANA shakes her head: "Mistake!"

> DIANA (CONT'D) Humiliation it is then!

Giganta, throws rapid punches and kicks. Diana catches Giganta's mightiest kick swinging her with tremendous strength in the direction of The CAT... The CAT rouses from earlier, only to have GIGANTA'S huge mass plow into her, sending both Amazonian Legends across the chalk line.

The crowd silent. A hearty applause slowly but steadily emanates from stunned crowd, reaching fever-pitch... The Cat returns to circle raising Diana's arm up, in victory, turning her to face each side of applauding stadium.

An AMAZON adjudicator waves a white flag. Which gets the Queens attention.

ANGLE ON THE ROYAL BOX -

HIPPOLYTA Not yet STEVE TREVOR. Both Gladiators lasted over a minute, entitling them to settle victory in a final round. The ancient art of Arrows to Bracelets.

ON ARENA FLOOR. Diana stands side by side with The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2. Enter 8 archers standing 20 yards from DIANA and her opponent.

Two centre archers step forward, advancing 3 steps in front of the rest of the line. DRUM ROLL.

ARCHER 1

Ready?!

DIANA

### MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2

Victory or Death!

\_\_\_\_\_

Victory or Death!

Both DIANA and the MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 cross their bracelets with an echoing clang.

The two centre Archers aim and fire. Pin point accuracy. Missiles fly at astounding speed. Diana and her opponent, deflect them easily. This pattern continues till they form an eight-line firing squad. Both dodge or deflect all arrows.

ANGLE ON THE IMPERIAL BOX -

ARTEMIS It appears we've reached a stalemate. How shall we proceed?

INSERT On HIPPOLYTA'S LAP: Engraved box.

HIPPOLYTA (To her advisors) Come with me.

Steve Remains seated as the advisors exit The Imperial Box to lower ground level. Hippolyta glances back at Steve.

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D)

You too Steve.

ARENA FLOOR - CONTINUOUS: The Queen enters arena. Approaches the two victorious Gladiators, who ceremoniously bow before her.

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) You have fought with great skill today. Delighted and entertained a whole arena.

Cheers from crowd. Queens voice now more grave and serious.

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) But as you know, this contests purpose was not to delight, nor entertain... However gifted you are. (Smiles proudly)

## DIANA

Thank you, your highness.

### MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2

Thank you, most gracious Queen.

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) ... But a champion must be chosen. The dangers you've faced today are trivial to the trials you will confront in Mans World.

IO holding the box, reveals its contents. It is Steve Trevors .45. IO presents the weapon to captivated audience.

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) The weapon IO holds in her hands: a weapon the foreigner forged in Mans World. This weapon in its swiftness and lethal effect, makes a mockery of the bow and arrow. To deflect it, will test you to your limits.

The Queen nods to IO.

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) You're sure IO?

IO (Taking aim) Yes, I've studied the mechanism well. It's quite simple to operate.

IO releases safety, points at Diana. The assembled Amazon's noticeably unsettled:

STEVE TREVOR This is crazy? You can't --- !

HIPPOLYTA --- Any Amazon not prepared for death is not qualified for this mission. IO proceed. Steve continues to try and protest but is knocked out by Artemis with a single pressure point blow.

Diana goes up first... Beneath her helmet her eyes focused with zen-like concentration -- IO pulls trigger -- Diana's wrist becomes a blur... Her reaction speed almost nonvisible. She swats the bullet with her bracelet, surprising even herself with the quickness of her instincts. --

Hippolyta nods for The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 to come forward. --She does -- Her confidence has waned. Visibly shaken by the speed of the bullet -- Trembling, yet she won't back down. --

> HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) There is no shame in submitting Great warrior.

MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 (Defiant) VICTORY OR DEATH!

Hippolyta gives IO signal to fire. -- IO fires. -- The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 freezes -- Slow motion. -- Eyes shut Resigned to her fate --- But before tragedy occurs, Diana leaps in front of her deflecting the bullet. -- The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 collapses to knees.

> DIANA Sister, your life is spared. Be proud. You fought with great courage, today.

The MYSTERIOUS AMAZON#2 unmasks, Venelia:

VENELIA (Smiles) Yet, once again you have bested me little sister.

Diana helps her to her feet. Venelia knew it was Diana. Hippolyta witnesses this exchange. Finally it dawns on her. The uneasy feeling she's been having.

> HIPPOLYTA (Grief and disbelief) DIANA?!!

DIANA (Unmasks) Yes my Queen... It is I.

Hippolyta stares at daughter, horrified. She confronts Diana:

HIPPOLYTA Y-you've disobeyed me. Betrayal. Tears pour from her eyes.

### DIANA

No. You are wrong. This is my right... The right of every Amazon. To choose their destiny. What you fought for... To be free... I honor you as my queen. Remain loyal to you as our leader. Love YOU as MY mother. But I will not, will not, permit you be master of my fate!

Falls to knees in front of Hippolyta, hugging her waste.

DIANA (CONT'D) Step aside mother!

Hippolyta looks longingly to advisors for support. Artemis puts hand on Hippolyta's shoulder.

ARTEMIS Diana speaks truth, my Queen. Destiny has chosen her.

DIANA Step aside mother!

The Queen falls to knees in convulsive sobs. Then begins to kiss Diana about the brow and hug her.

HIPPOLYTA I -I step aside... I step aside my love... I step aside.

She Squeezes Diana tight, signifying her near inability to let go.

A shimmering light, pours off Diana's body. The luminous energy pulsates beneath her skin, until she's consumed. Dematerializes. Hippolyta embracing the air, recoils in horror. Confusion AND Concern. Where DIANA knelt imprinted in the sand an eagle (The Wonder Woman insignia).

FADE OUT:

EXT. BEACH - AFTERNOON

DIANA materializes on tiny inlet where she was conceived. Diana, wearing only simple white robe. Beach empty. To her front, a sword buried deep into sand, two Vambraces (wrist bracelets) Greek Lettering carved into them, and A mystical Lariat, encircled around the weapons, glowing and burning, like metal taken fresh from furnace. Diana retrieves sword. Waves, assessing its handling. Light and flexible. Next, the Vambraces, which snap open as she picks them. Puts around her wrist and both snap shut. Surprised. Finally the Lariat. As she does:

## OLD WOMAN O.S. Amber Nectar sweet, dear?

Turns. OLD HERA waddles over on beach waters (now 80 years old), Holding out a box of glowing green chewing sweets. Diana confused:

# OLD HERA Oh dear! You must forgive my manners! Even they seem to suffer the ravages of an ailing mind... Hera, Queen Of Olympus... Amber Nectar sweet? (Holding out sweets)

Diana humble curtsy. Kneeling and Bowing head.

OLD HERA (CONT'D) Rise! (Smiles. Diana doesn't accept sweet) No sweet tooth anymore Diana, you surprise me. You always had one as a child.

Hera now on beach sands beside Diana, gently raises her, inspecting like proud mother.

DIANA These weapons? (Addressing the weapons she found) Are they from you?

### OLD HERA

You carry weapons of the gods... made of divine materials. All indestructible... Most powerful of all the Lariat of Hestia... Within it burn the ember fires of truth... Only your heart can unlock its full potential as a weapon for good.

DIANA

My heart?

OLD HERA A gift Diana... From the Gods. DIANA

I don't understand -

## OLD HERA

- The Gods have made mistakes. Many perished... Olympus crumbled... I'm dying Diana...

Takes Diana's hand and walks along the beach.

### DIANA

But I was taught the Gods were Immortal... Like the Amazons.

OLD HERA

Nothing is forever Diana. Nothing. Everything ends, perishing. Crushed under the weight of time. Or, sometimes, just sometimes, is destined to *transform*, reborn as something greater...

## DIANA

I do not understand... You speak in riddles Hera.

## OLD HERA

You are young now Diana- but time, time is a funny thing. Thousands of years, lived... Yet still, as I near my natural end, apprehension overcomes me... Still I feel there's so much more to be done... Still my regrets outweigh my reliefs... See dear, with age one is liberated from vanity. And now, now I see just how frightful a burden life must be for mere mortals?... That's why we gave them you...

DIANA (Unsure) ... Because my destiny was to be...

### OLD HERA

Champion of the Gods...

#### DIANA

Champion of the Gods...

DIANA (CONT'D) This is too much, Hera... I know nothing of the outside world.

OLD HERA Your choice Diana... Champion a just world or leave it be. (MORE) OLD HERA (CONT'D) You must make that decision... But know this. I sense him. My son the War-God hides in Mans World plotting the Destruction of us All...

DIANA (Angry) For Clio he is as good as dead!

OLD HERA Balance cannot be restored by vengefulness.

DIANA But my honor can!

## OLD HERA

Young warrior, remember this. Iron fists have succeeded in governing whole nations, but with courage and LOVE- you may inspire the spirits and hearts of whole worlds. (Stumbles. Diana assists her)

## DIANA

Thank you Hera.

### OLD HERA

Do not thank me yet, Diana... You will discover your gifts soon enough but one last parting gift from me.

O.S Hera's voice echoes whispering Ancient Greek incantation. Sign of New World in sky above. Boeing airliners fly overhead... Diana looks to horizon.-- Unfamiliar sea vessels.

> OLD HERA (V.O) (CONT'D) My gift to you. Inspire them Diana. Teach those who seek a better world. Let them know, they are not alone.

Looks back to thank Hera... Hera Gone ...

HIPPOLYTA O.S. DIANA! We've been looking everywhere for you -- (Stops, surprised by --)

Diana turns, sees Hippolyta, Steve Trevor, Artemis etc. Search party stare stunned. REVEAL: Diana dons WONDER WOMAN costume.Diana Smiles.

EXT. FOREST PATHWAY, THEMYSCIRA - NIGHT

Darkness. --- Trees silhouetted against the sky. Thunderous clap of hoof beats against soil. Sound intensifying like strum of a tatoo. ---- See the muscular legs of several of the galloping beasts, bouncing off wet leafs raking up turf.

> IO (Sounds weak) We'll be there soon my Queen. I beg your patience...

DIANA IO you appear faint. Perhaps a brief respite to recover?

IO No your Grace. We must press on... Follow me... Hurry... HEE-YAH...

IO and the Amazons, spur their Mounts on.

EXT. TEMPLE OF APHRODITE/BROAD FLAT PLANE - EARLY EVENING

The convoy come to a halt infront of temple of APHRODITE. EYES astonished at what they see: just beyond the crepidoma steps of APHRODITE'S TEMPLE, THE ENEMIES F-18.(p. 57)

The entourage alight their horses. Walk toward F-18, lips agape.

DIANA By Athena's Great Wisdom!! How is this possible IO?...

STEVE approaches jet, beginning a rudimentary inspection.

STEVE TREVOR (To IO) How the fu...? (Cuts off) IO I worked day and night but by augmenting it with our medical technology I was able to restore the navigational mechanics of their weapon... (To Queen) (MORE) IO (CONT'D) I even redesigned their weapons systems, replacing them with the Clio Cannon. I thought it may come in handy on your mission.

Both the Queen and Diana nod in appreciation of IO's effort.

LATER: Diana and Steve Trevor prepare to board the jet. CLOSE-UP: HIPPOLYTA. Saddened. A thought crosses her mind. Hippolyta catches up to Diana.

HIPPOLYTA One last parting gift, Diana.

Removes her Tiara, and crowns her daughter with it.

HIPPOLYTA (CONT'D) I wear now as a crown, but once I wore as a standard in battle for fair luck. Now It shall adorn you as both. Who are you Diana?

DIANA I am Diana, Princess of Themyscira, Island of distinguished Warriors, Poets and Scholars. And most of all, I am AMAZON.

HIPPOLYTA (Nods agreeing) Keep Faith. Trust Aphrodite's love that it will guide you. Fight with honor. And failing that... (Smiles) My love... Atleast fight to win...

They embrace. DIANA gives final bob of deference to her mother. Makes her way to jet, following Steve up the boarding ladder. A SINGLE TEAR SLIDES DOWN HIPPOLYTA'S CHEEK.

UP TITLE: Modern World, Present Day: Sierra Leone - Freetown

O.S. - HIP-HOP BLAZES.

EXT. LANDING STRIP, FLATLANDS(JUNGLE) - DAY

TWO armored Vehicles are parked outside REAR CARGO BAY of ILYUSHIN-76 PLANE(marked: CALE INDUSTRIES). FOOT-SOLDIERS loiter around immediate area.

INT. ILYUSHIN-76 - CABIN (BAKUNIN'S OFFICE) - SAME TIME SEE

ANGLE ON: AFRICAN WAR LORD, Colonel Fawaz, 40s, DOUR MAN, GRIM AND STONEY-EYED, SCAR ON LEFT CHEEK, sitting in plush CABIN. FAWAZ checking UKRAINIAN Marked RPGs.

> COLONEL FAWAZ 10 most wanted fugitives. Impressive , Mr. Bakunin.

BAKUNIN VOICE (Southern accent) Won't be a problem!

COLONEL FAWAZ (Smiles a beat) With my help and discretion.

BAKUNIN Guess that doesn't come cheap?

REVERSE ANGLE: Bukanin is synonymous with Ares. Bakunin smiles at comment.

BAKUNIN (CONT'D) An apology for the inconvenience.

ON cabin table, a suitcase. Bakunin Opens SUITCASE. Six metal cylinders inside.

Bakunin takes a Cylinder. CAREFULLY unwinds its top and withdraws contents - plastic vial. In vial, floats red liquid.

BAKUNIN (CONT'D)READ Devils Blood. Enough to make wormwood look like little league -(Fawaz unsure) I can assure you it's a very prudent investment, Mr. Fawaz.

Enter, KAIGAN and THEBES, BAKUNIN'S MUSCLE. Thebes brings over M7A2 Gas Grenade. They exit. Bakunin pries open filter of canister. Installed inside mixture chamber, in cooling solution, a single floating red bubble of Devils Blood. Hands grenade to Fawaz. Fawaz admires the dancing globule.

> COLONEL FAWAZ Biological warfare? My soldiers. Most are just boys.

BAKUNIN Every boy has to grow up one day. Fawaz considers.

EXT. SECRET LAB - UNIT B - KAZNIA - DAY

A guarded nondescript base in the middle of no where. A car drives in. The man in the car shows credentials to guards.

TITLE: KAZNIA - UNIT B - BASE OF VENOM

INT. BASE, UNIT B - LATER

DR. GOGAN (20s) strolls into frame with DR. POISON/PROFESSOR HANS MARU in black uniform (40s). Behind them shaved head soldiers in black follow. They walk past military style accommodation, each housing more shaved head soldiers in black, sleeping on bunks.

> DR. POISON Wasn't expecting you so early.

DR. GOGAN I came to ensure you're prepared for the Generals.

DR. POISON The Generals?

DR. GOGAN Yes, we've seen to your travel arrangements already, Dr. Maru.

DR. POISON Well we're all in good odor around here...

(Dr. Gogan - Nods Yes) I can assure you, our work. The latest results are incredibly exciting.

DR. GOGAN Excellent. Orders can come in any time now.

DR. POISON Well then. A tour? You'll be more than satisfied with the progress we've made... They won't abandon us now. Perhaps destiny itself brought us here. Gods be damned, hey?

They stop at a high tech prison cell. The prisoner, Aisha (Early 40s). She's petrified.

The guards open. She backs away.

AISHA

No.

DR. POISON

Take her.

The guards move on her as she wrestles and screams in protest.

INT/EXT. F-18, FLYING OVER AMERICAN AIR SPACE -NIGHT

Ariel shot, THE F-18, Coming down out of clouds over ATLANTIC SEA. --- Diana in wing-seat, staring ahead as The Worlds Greatest Nation looms. The United States Of America. Even from this distance the brightly lit City Scapes are striking.

STEVE TREVOR Nearly home, Angel.

DIANA

Home?

STEVE TREVOR Gateway City.

DIANA

Gate Way!...
 (awe, then a thought)
The lights Steve, how do they burn
so brightly? It is as if the Earth
be on fire, beyond the shore!

Steve looks at America through her eyes.

EXT. REMOTE AIRPORT, FOR CHARTERED FLIGHTS ONLY (GATEWAY CITY) - NIGHT

The F-18 makes a smooth landing on runway.

INT. PRIVATE HANGAR, AIRPORT - F-18

Steve pops canopy.

Diana and Steve emerge from cockpit down the boarding ladder.

Diana looks around her mysterious surroundings.

Diana and Steve walk down High Way, Thumbs stuck out, as a truck whooshes by them. Diana stunned and scared by velocity.

DIANA

By Hades!

STEVE TREVOR Careful, Diana.

EXT. HIGHWAY - TRUCK

A gas guzzler barrels down the road toward Diana. She flags down the Truck. Truck begins to slowly pull up.

EXT. TRUCK, WIDE - TRUCKER

The truck is driven by a TRUCKER donning a pair of Aviators, a handle-bar mustache, and cowboy hat. Roles down window.

TRUCKER Where you folks headin'?

EXT. SKYBOURNE BRIDGE (12 LANE), HEAVY TRAFFIC - GATEWAY - NIGHT

TWIN SCRAPERS, Towering 2/3 of a mile high, rising out of the harbor, on either side of bridge, reaching right into the clouds of the city. A holographic billboard projecting a series of "Cale Industry" adverts, connects Twins.

INT/EXT. STEVE'S BMW - SAME TIME

Diana's eyes widen as SKYBOURNE BRIDGE enters into Embacidina Island.

Twin skyscrapers catch Diana's attention.

STEVE TREVOR (Catching Diana's awe) Somethin' ain't it? -

Diana too overwhelmed to listen.

DIANA It's beautiful, terrifying. I wonder what power source man has invented to sustain such a world? STEVE looks up, seeing these stunning monuments with fresh eyes, almost as if for the first time.Read:CS

DIANA (CONT'D) Tell me Steve, those tall buildings. Are they temples? Monuments to your Gods?

We soar over the scene, as Diana is driven into Embacidina.

INT. LAURIE TREVOR'S HIP APARTMENT - NIGHT DIMENSIONS

This is the condo of free spirited, LAURIE TREVOR, (Mid-20s) on the chubby side, but cute, hip and adorable. She sits on the couch, half-reading a book - Named "Wonder Woman - The Life And Times Of Norma Rockwell Trevor". In background News Broadcast:

ANCHOR WOMAN The phenomena which has so far baffled the scientific community is set to cause even more shock-waves as we can now confirm inhabitants living on the Island. --

LAURIE TREVOR

(Re: T.V.) Trippy.

Buzzer Sounds. Laurie not sure who it is.

INT - FRONT DOOR/15 FLOOR LANDING - CONTINUOUS

LAURIE OPENS TO REVEAL, Steve Trevor, and Diana. Laurie's gaze immediately meets Diana, donning bizarre WW outfit, frigid body trembling from draft air on Landing.

DIANA (Gregarious Smile) Greetings, sister.

A quizzical countenance slowly forms on Laurie's face.

INT/EXT. BALCONY, LIVING ROOM - LATER

STEVE and LAURIE on the Balcony. Laurie keeping close eye on Diana through the sliding doors as Diana hovers around livingroom, checking out all the modern artifacts.

> LAURIE TREVOR You've sure got some nerve, man.

She punches his arm, then gives him a big hug.

STEVE TREVOR How you been coping Lou Lou?

LAURIE TREVOR (Suspicious) What d'you want from me Steve?

STEVE TREVOR Spend time with you. Re-connect.

LAURIE TREVOR

And?

STEVE TREVOR And, and I need a favor.

She gives a "Had to be something!" look.

LAURIE TREVOR Is she in some kind of trouble?

STEVE TREVOR

I can't...

LAURIE TREVOR Oh my god She is? Is this some super secret spy stuff? What's with the sword?

STEVE TREVOR Look she's a friend... you remember that mk ultra stuff you studied in psych class.

LAURIE TREVOR No way. It was the Government wiped her mind.

STEVE TREVOR (Gives serious look) That's why, no questions, sis.

Laurie Peers at Diana, pressing buttons on LAURIE'S HIFI. MUSIC blasts.

LAURIE TREVOR Cool. I thought she was just home schooled! Steve Trevor prepares to leave. Laurie and Diana now dressed in sweats await Steve's departure.

STEVE TREVOR Won't be long, Diana.

Steve leaves. The second the door slams:

LAURIE TREVOR Okay hot stuff you're coming with me!

DIANA But Steve advised we...

LAURIE TREVOR Quiet down now, lets get you into something skimpy.

Slaps Diana on the ass. Diana gives a naughty smile.

INT/EXT. STEVE'S BMW, TWO LANE, GW CITY OUTSKIRTS -NIGHT

STEVE TREVOR roars round curving two-lane BLACK-TOP. Steve Trevor stoic look. Briefcase beside him.

EXT. GW MILITARY INTELLIGENCE HQ, GATE WAY CITY - LATER

ARIEL SHOT: A heavily guarded sprawling complex reminiscent of CIA or FBI Head Quarters in Virginia. Steve's 3-series approaches the front GUARD HOUSE.

SUPER: GATEWAY MILITARY INTELLIGENCE HQ

ANGLE ON FRONT GATE: Gate Opens.

EXT. ELECTRONICS STORE WINDOW DISPLAY, GATEWAY CITY - NIGHT

Diana dressed hip and modern, stops in front of storefront bank of massive HD television sets. CAPTIVATED BY IMAGES.

ON TELEVISIONSCREEN - We begin channel surfing, skipping through various modern TV programs until finally we stop on a NEWS BULLETIN. The News Anchor says something to the affect: "Another chemical attack in Bialya has lead to mass demonstrations in the capital. Increased pressure is being put on the International Community to mount a military intervention." The News Anchors voice fades as horrific shots of modern warfare in the wartorn streets of Bialya blend together in some hellish slideshow, as Kaznian armies attack unarmed civilians and clash with Bialyan militia.

### DIANA

# Be this a play?

A homeless man (40s) walks up behind Diana. He seems moved by Diana's concern.

## HOMELESS MAN

I was there!

Diana turns to him and looks him over, not comprehending his shabby appearance.

HOMELESS MAN (CONT'D) You couldn't spare an old vet a couple of bucks could ya? Could do with something to eat.

DIANA Why haven't you eaten?

He shrugs his shoulders. Diana notices two other poor souls standing nearby who also are clearly homeless.

## INT. BODEGA - MOMENTS LATER

Diana walks into the Bodega with the Homeless Man and 4 other homeless people. Laurie is at the counter just about to pay the Cashier for some goodies. Laurie regards Diana a beat confused then breaks out of her trance.

> LAURIE TREVOR Got some yum, yums from the dega.

DIANA (to the disinterested Cashier) Is this how you treat your war heroes? Instead of statues they are gifted starvation. Feed these soldiers at once...!

CASHIER

Who are you?

DIANA I am Princess of... (Cashier confused. Realizes she has no sway here)

LAURIE Cousin, from outta town. Excuse us.

Laurie gives the homeless people some cash and they thank her. Then they walk out.

Diana looks perplexed and confounded.

LAURIE (CONT'D) (Offers Diana) Ice Cream?

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET, GATEWAY CITY - MOMENTS LATER

Laurie and Diana having left the Bodega walk outside... Diana looking enthusiastic about the night...

Diana unwraps the Ice Cream bar Laurie gave her; softly takes a nibble. Her face lights up.

DIANA By Zeus! What manner of divine sweet is this sister?

Laurie smiles, confused.

EXT. GLAMORADA (BARS AND CLUBS DISTRICT), GATEWAY CITY - LATER

As Diana and Laurie walk across the road Diana notices some scantily dressed prostitutes on prowl for Johns.

DIANA Aren't they cold in those exposed clothes?

LAURIE TREVOR Nah - poor girls - they're just working it?

DIANA

Working it?

Diana looks at particular prostitute curious (Call her BATTERED GIRL) as her pimp, (call him GANG LEADER) shoves her into a car. Diana weary and disturbed by the sight.

SCREEN (HIDEOUT) - BLACKED OUT FIGURE

BLACKED OUT FIGURE, broadcasts from hidden location.

BLACKED OUT FIGURE Our sword shall strike down on those who have stolen our land. We are VENOM, the children of the dark, we have been shown the way by our leader. Stop financing our enemies, clear the occupied territories or a storm of blood will wash away your children.

Pause image.

INT. GW INTELLIGENCE HQ - UPPER LEVEL - SITUATION ROOM --

CIA agent GIDEON HOBBES 30s, carries a tablet in hand. Stands before a large MOUNTED plasma showing image of the hidden figure.

Steve Trevor, Etta Candy 30s, mousy, nerdy type, unaware of her own allure, GENERAL GERARD KHOLER 50s, and, GENERAL WILLIAM DARNEL late 50s along with others attend.

## GIDEON HOBBES

Video transmission was sent out last week. And several others like it followed. Same basic threat. Either we tuck our <u>dick</u> between our legs, and pull all troops and peacekeepers from Bayalia's East Bank or VENOM unleashes hell. Steve.

STEVE TREVOR We've already had four confirmed chemical based attacks, which they claim responsibility for.

GIDEON HOBBES Special forces in Amman say...

STEVE TREVOR Yeah I can finish this one. But thanks Gideon...

## GIDEON HOBBES

No problem.

## STEVE TREVOR

Over in Amman they've been gathering intel from captured Kaznian defectors, who say these threats are not idol. According to our intel someone has been trading American arms and chemical weapons with Bayalian fighters, raising suspicion that CIA funding is behind them.

GENERAL WILLIAM DARNEL Christ. What are these clowns tryna do? Blow up the world?

### STEVE TREVOR

Or destabilize the region, turn Kaznia's satellite states and militant terrorist groups against us, by staging an American coup. May even bring Russia into the fray. We already believe they've supplied arms to VENOM.

GENERAL WILLIAM DARNEL With our drone bases outside the capital targeted last month, one attack on American soil and military intervention will be unavoidable!

GIDEON HOBBES - Which brings us to this man -

- TAP -- On Plasma: Picture of Ares/Bakunin, with Angolan warlord.

GENERAL GERALD KHOLER

Who is he?

## GIDEON HOBBES

'Nother major player. Gunrunner-Travels under the name Bakunin. Last name unknown... Specializes in transporting chemical weapons to terrorist hot spots all over the world. Went off the radar two years ago. But drone images popped up of a dead ringer in Kaznia recently. So far he's our best lead.

# GENERAL GERALD KHOLER So how do we find this asshole?

EXT. CLUB INSOMNIA, GLAMORADA - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

The ultimate Glamorada night scene. A long line of hip locals and cool couples queue to get in.

INT. BAR, CLUB INSOMNIA - NIGHT

Parties in full swing and Diana seems to be enjoying herself, yet still mystified by the general hubbub of the venue. Sweaty patrons bounce around, behind a crowded bar. Laurie talks loud over music.

> LAURIE TREVOR This DJ is life... Couldn't you just rip his pants off.

DIANA I have sufficient strength.

LAURIE TREVOR Boy, you're a hoot. So what brought you here Diana?

DIANA

You.

LAURIE No. Not here. I mean here. To Town.

DIANA Destiny brought me. I'm here to stop a great war that is coming.

LAURIE Right! Yeah my brother said... So what's going on with you and my brother?

DIANA I'm not sure.

LAURIE (A beat, both confused) You're confused? Well guys can do that.

DIANA Tell me about <u>guys</u>?

# LAURIE TREVOR

What?

DIANA

Tell me about guys? Your impression of them?

LAURIE (Confused) You mean my brother, specifically?

DIANA No your brother seems a good man. But men in general... D-do you deem them Wicked? Cruel? Untrustworthy?

LAURIE TREVOR (Odd question) Might need a few more shots for that... Do you?

Diana shrugs.

LAURIE TREVOR (CONT'D) I dunno, suppose we can all be lousy-jerks when we wanna be. Men or women.

DIANA Yes. I suppose there is much virtue in what you say.

LAURIE Shots? Trust me, looking the way you do, those *guys* are buying.

Couple of guys approach Diana. Diana doesn't know what to do.

INT. SITUATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Satellite Image of Ceyhan, Turkey on Mounted Screen.

GIDEON HOBBES Tomorrow, the buys going down here.

TAP -- Satellite image of compound.

GIDEON HOBBES (CONT'D) An old abandoned metal foundry, run by Turkish Crime boss Gultan Hazan.

TAP -- Image of Gultan Hazan. Then satellite image of area.

GIDEON HOBBES (CONT'D) -- At 0632 Assault Force Delta will hold a four corner perimeter around target building, before our boys move on the compound and seize the dealers inside. Alpha are under strict command to bring Bakunin out alive. Bakunin's not leaving the target building unless in our custody.

GIDEON HOBBES takes seat with colleagues. Opens floor for discussion. A beat...

STEVE TREVOR Too bad we don't got more info on the target! Money certainly ain't his game... So what is?

GENERAL GERARD KHOLER You kidding? For scum like this, motivations always money. Someway. Somehow.

GENERAL WILLIAM DARNEL Don't be cryptic, Steve. You gotta theory, spit it out.

GIDEON HOBBES Yeah. Cut to the chase Steve.

STEVE TREVOR This guy spooks me.

GENERAL WILLIAM DARNEL

Me too!

STEVE TREVOR We must have some info on the target.

GIDEON HOBBES Nope. He's pretty much a mystery man.

ETTA CANDY Well actually, uh, I did a little digging on the target.

GIDEON HOBBES I appreciate your enthusiasm, Agent Candy... But I hardly think, you found anything the CIA didn't... Gideon's reluctant.

# STEVE TREVOR Don't underestimate Agent Candy. It'll be your first mistake.

Steve gives a little smile of encouragement to mousy Etta Candy who takes the floor.

ETTA CANDY Well from the scant information I dug up, it's hard to square the facts from the fancy, sir. But I know ---

# INT. UKRAINE - ARMS WAREHOUSE - COLD AFTERNOON

Ares/Bakunin and a high level Ukrainian military commander 50s, stand in front of a truck being loaded by warehouse guards with Ak-47s. You hear them both speaking Ukrainian, ARES/BAKUNIN smiles, before handing over an envelope to the cornel. The cornel opens and is pleased with the contents.

ETTA CANDY V.O. -- his arms trafficking days began trading in the former soviet bloc. Did "good" work there. Turns out in a wilderness full of paranoid bureaucrats, cocky mavericks, feral gangsters and shady con-artists, Bakunin managed to distinguish himself as someone...

EXT. BURMESE, TORTURE CAMP - JUNGLES - DAY

Militia chop down plants obstructing their track through the Jungles. They are carrying boxes of guns.

ETTA CANDY V.O. ... who could be trusted to move major stockpiles through border control, without making much of a noise about it... His exploits started to become the stuff of criminal folklore...

Bakunin enters the camp. He sees a few prisoners hung upside down from trees. He is so entranced as a prisoner begs for his life he forgets where he is. Bakunin looks oddly sorrowful at this sight. Someone calls Bakunin's name O.S. He immediately snaps out of his daze and walks toward the beckoning voice.

EXT. RWANDA - HOTEL FORECOURT - BAKUNIN

Bakunin sits amidst mainly white guests. Some clearly journalists, others on business, being served by well-groomed black servants.

ETTA CANDY V.O. ... Spent his more recent years roaming conflict ridden regions in West Africa. Seemed he had a real nose for sniffing out the ever looming threat of civil unrest.

Rifles shots heard in the background. People begin to panic accept Bakunin, who seems calmed by the experience.

ETTA CANDY V.O. (CONT'D) Everywhere where aggressions had cooled, or tensions simmered down, within a few months of his presence, the place descended into hell on Earth.

Some Toyota trucks, loaded with Militia appear rumbling down the long driveway. The convoy of Militia begin to shoot toward those running in the Forecourt. Plumes of smoke in the background rise over the city.

A SOLDIER early 20s approaches ARES, points a gun to his head.

SOLDIER Why don't you run like the rest of the cowards?

ARES eyes glow red as he smiles at the boy whose now frozen. Another soldier passes the scene, grabbing the reluctant soldier, as if to get him to move along.

> ARES Run along now, boy. Spread my gospel of death.

ON SOLDIER. The SOLDIER runs off confused.

ETTA CANDY V.O. Then once his work was done, poof, gone like a whisper. Like a Ghost! INT. SITUATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Room is flabbergasted by her depth of knowledge. Gideon Hobbes tries to contain an expression of utter embarrassment.

GENERAL WILLIAM DARNEL Your boys know any of this Hobbes?

Hobbes face red with embarrassment.

GENERAL WILLIAM DARNEL (CONT'D) Good work Etta. Too bad we can't use any of this for leverage.

GENERAL GERARD KHOLER What you worried for General? It's an easy snatch and grab.

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET - GATEWAY - NIGHT

DIANA and LAURIE TREVOR, going home. Both look slightly drunk.

LAURIE TREVOR (Yawns out of nowhere) Goddamn City! Isn't there one cab left in this whole godforsaken Town?

Diana Stops to ADMIRE the VAST outline of Urban Sprawl and Skyscrapers making up the glittering city scape.

FLASH BACK EXT. STREETS - THEMYSCIRA, AFTER FIRST ARES MEET (P.25-28)

Girls ride on horseback toward Royal Palace, which gleams in the distance.

DIANA Do you think it's true then? There's another world out there?

MALA What if there is? CLIO

We were so young when we came to this Island, what if we were deceived? ... If there is, just imagine, what could be.

#### MALA

But what more could one wish for? Eternal peace is surely preferable to the turmoil the elders suffered in Patriarchs world?!

# DIANA

I often dream it. That this can't be all there is. Would not just a single adventure aboard the Argonauts ship be worth more than a thousand years of eternal peace, where all days remain the same?

### CLIO

Diana your heart is truth. Just imagine what adventures lie beyond our shores?

#### MALA

I think too much book learning and poetry has corrupted your young minds.

CLIO

Now you're just sounding like Artemis.(Smiles) But think Mala. What does freedom mean if none of your choices have consequence? That is life on this island. I yearn for more than peace, I yearn for more than paradise, my heart yearns for love.

#### DIANA

And, you have it sister.

As the picture fades we see Diana grab Clio's hand and hold it tightly.

BACK TO SCENE

DIANA Looks at Laurie. Laurie hauntingly turns into Clio.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Clio!

DIANA My Qu... Our Mother never let us leave home.

LAURIE Confused.

DIANA (CONT'D) She was like my sister

LAURIE TREVOR She couldn't come along?

DIANA She was murdered... A man did it. He escaped justice.

LAURIE TREVOR Wow. Oh my god. Starting to understand your trust issues with men. When did she...?

DIANA Long ago. (Misses her)

LAURIE TREVOR I miss mom too. Well! I say mom. She acted more like *my* troublesome little sister...

DIANA She died? (Laurie nods) I'm sorry to hear that. How did you lose her?

LAURIE TREVOR

Cancer.

DIANA

Cancer?

# LAURIE TREVOR

Yeah. I was only 19 when she passed. She was this total bad ass crusader pilot chick. Flew all over the place. Mainly, anywhere she could like help people. She'd film these amazing documentaries. The war zones were the worst though. I mean I really hated it. But Steve always knew how to comfort me. (MORE)

### LAURIE TREVOR (CONT'D)

"Don't worry. Mommy'll be back soon." But on the nightly news, all the bombs dropping, the chaos. For days I'd just cry and cry and cry. God, I'd feel so stupid and selfish. I didn't wanna share her with anyone, but I knew in my heart she was right. Someone had to give those poor people a voice.

#### DIANA

She sounds like a courageous woman.

LAURIE TREVOR Boy you don't know the half of it. I thought she was invincible... Then... Cancer.

#### DIANA

In my culture, the souls of the bold and noble are never lost. They are possessed by their children. Even in the ones who don't know it.

# LAURIE TREVOR

This city just gets so lonely. Especially with Steve gone all the time. Maybe I just need a man to warm me up at night.

#### DIANA

Or a sisters love.

Diana smiles and holds her hand. Looking at the city.

Diana's train of thought interrupted by O.C. Shriek of terror.

DIANA (CONT'D) What was that?!!

LAURIE TREVOR Oh nothing. Just a bad neighbourhood around here. We really ougtta go Diana. ---

Again O.C. Scream and pleas of terror. More clear. It's close. Diana Goes to investigate.

OLD TRAMP O.C. Hey leave her alone! She ain't done nothing. What's wrong with you boys? -- Diana, walks up to ally, Laurie close behind her. Diana/Laurie P.O.V. Diana and Laurie look down ally.

EXT. STEAM FILLED SIDE ALLY - CONTINUOUS

GANG LEADER from p. 90 beats up on BATTERED GIRL. The homeless watch. One brave homeless man, OLD TRAMP, confronts GANG.

OLD TRAMP Hey, that's enough now! You wanna kill her?!

GANG LEADER turns around, viciously punching him in the face: GANG LEADER slaps GIRL#1 in the face.

BATTERED GIRL DIANA Baby, I'm sorry! I'm sorry! Please - Someone has to help them!

DIANA fast tracks to pack as Laurie reluctantly strolls behind trying to hold her back.

LAURIE TREVOR Diana, what're you doing? It's dangerous down there. We can just call the cops on these losers.

Diana confronts GANG LEADER and thugs.

DIANA

STOP!

The THUGS laugh.

DIANA (CONT'D) Heed my warning villain, For it is my last. *Leave THEM ALONE*.

GANG LEADER Is this bimbo for real? Go -- away--This ain't none of your business.

Stand off. Diana's surrounded. GANG LEADER takes swipe. DIANA's reaction, quick. Disarms Gang Leader, pounded in the kidney, rips head back, trips foot, plunging skull to concrete. Knockout. She takes defensive position. Tipsy, so fights almost drunken master style. Also, careful not to seriously injure, just humiliate.

They engage Diana using various weapons, bats, bottles, and flashing blades.

One-By-One she takes out all six thugs, in a style so brutal yet controlled it's almost beautiful, even biting a shark like gash into chubby flesh of one of the attackers hands. At points she DISPLAYS brief flashes of her superpowers. A ballet of humiliation ensues humbling her opponents, as she dashes, punches, kicks and flips, till 6 lay unconscious.

ANGLE ON Laurie Trevor and tramps watch in awe.

ON GANG LEADER: comes to. Picks up knife, but bravadoes gone. Trembling in fear.

> GANG LEADER (CONT'D) Stay away from me! You hear me! Stay away! You're crazy. Stay away!

Diana, blood runs down lip, from bite, like crazed vampire. Very intimidating.

> DIANA Look at you... pathetic! ... Do you know I have mastered so many ways of inflicting agony on an enemy that I can be playful with you?-

Superhuman speed, disarms him. Grabs knife. Hurls it into brick wall like a warm knife through butter. Same instant, she holds him up by throat, lifting him clean off ground, dangling in air.

> DIANA (CONT'D) -Try out new methods just for fun!

GANG LEADER Please don't hurt me! What the hell are you?

DIANA (Fury) You presume greater might entitles you to impose terror on the weak! Perhaps I ought share your philosophy!

Gang Leaders Eyes Widen. Urine drips down jeans; faints.

A hand reaches out to Diana's shoulder. No thought. Slaps UNKNOWN assailant down, tossing GANG LEADER aside as she does... To DIANA'S surprise, UNKNOWN ASSAILANT is BATTERED GIRL, scared as hell of Diana.

> BATTERED GIRL Please don't kill him!

BATTERED GIRL (CONT'D) He's sorry! Ain't y'baby? Please! (GL Nods)

DIANA ...Kill him?

BATTERED GIRL Just... Just get outta here freak. You're scaring us...

GIRL#1, helps up GANG LEADER. Walks away. ANGLE ON: Diana, shocked, doesn't understand.

--- FLASHBACK - HIPPOLYTA'S BALCONY - MIDDAY

Young Diana, and, Mother on balcony. Diana listens intently.

# HIPPOLYTA

Be glad you're not in Mans World Diana. Even the purest of souls in time, will be corrupted and consumed by it's violence. I pray you never LEARN Diana - Man's World - can make villains of us all.

Close-up on YOUNG DIANA'S face: Diana doesn't understand.

END FLASHBACK----

ALLY - CONTINUOUS

Diana head bowed down in disgrace. Ashamed.

Laurie strolls past one of the HOODLUM's in a heap, he tries to get up.

# LAURIE TREVOR How d'ya like that!

Laurie kicks him in the stomach, WHUMF - floored again.

Laurie approaches Diana from behind. Can't tell she's upset yet.

LAURIE TREVOR (CONT'D) See Diana, man. I told ya. We totally creamed those pricks. Just like Kato and The Lone Ranger, me and you - Or wait. Is that Green Hornet? Whatever - -- DIANA in tears-- mascara running, looks up at Laurie.

LAURIE TREVOR (CONT'D)

Diana -

# DIANA

I wanted so bad to ignore it. Pretend. But the bright lights are an elaborate facade, a veil of Maya-- It's hidden well... but... but beneath the shadows the people of this world suffer great indignities. (Looks around her at the homeless. Old. Weak) They're kept away from sight, but they're everywhere aren't they? -- I wanted to help her.

Looks around her at the homeless. Old. Weak. Poor. Tired. Scared.

LAURIE TREVOR Hey come on now Diana, it's OKAY!

DIANA They're scared of me Laurie. I'm scared of me.

#### LAURIE TREVOR

Hey Diana! What you just DID now, I can't SAY I fully understand it. But I'm not scared. People just need to know you Diana, and they won't fear either...

Diana looks exhausted. Laurie props her up.

LAURIE TREVOR (CONT'D) Come on sweetie. Pick yourself up. We're going home.

Laurie Trevor holds her and escorts her out of ALLY.

LAURIE TREVOR (CONT'D) (Walking off screen) I know I weren't supposed to ask Diana, but where you from?

DIANA A long way away sister! Steve sits in his BMW thinking.

# FLASHBACK INT. INFIRMARY, WAR-ZONE - DAY

STEVE TREVOR dressed in an air fighter jumpsuit, looks outside at a queue of desperate people lining up to receive bread. The sight of starving huddled mass is sad and disturbing to him.

A BAYALIAN REBEL, 20s, joined by YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR, attractive, female, 30s, gesture for STEVE to come with. STEVE follows through double doors into attached infirmary room.

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR We couldn't take him to an interrogation room, as you requested... You'll see why.

STEVE TREVOR distracted as he passes patients with array of horrific injuries. Patients ages 9 to 90.

Abrupt halt at foot of patients bed. PROFESSOR IBRAHAM NAZIR, mid-thirties, body mummified in bandages and plaster. He mumbles something nonsensical in (Turkish) maybe:

> BAYALIAN REBEL <How's your Kaznian American?>

STEVE TREVOR <I know a little. Does he speak English?>

BAYALIAN REBEL (Not a hint of pity) <The American is here. Tell him what you know. And speak English>

STEVE TREVOR kneels down on the bedside next to him.

IBRAHAM NAZIR American?...

STEVE TREVOR Yes sir, I am.

IBRAHAM NAZIR Our final hour cometh American! STEVE TREVOR I came here to find out about VENOM's hideouts, their leaders, I thought...! -

IBRAHAM NAZIR Try not to think too much- we've developed a weapon.

STEVE TREVOR What weapon?

IBRAHAM NAZIR (Cough, cough) The Devils Blood! A blood red mist that possesses the souls of men.

STEVE TREVOR'S eyes role back.

IBRAHAM NAZIR (CONT'D) Believe AMERICAN. I work in facility. UNIT B. with Professor HANS MARU... You know him, yes?

STEVE TREVOR, peaks up hearing this name.

STEVE TREVOR

Dr. Poison?

IBRAHAM NAZIR Out of this prison we ran covert human trials, testing various unreleased biological and chemical strains on live ---

Interrupted. Mortars followed by yellow/white mist shatter through hospital window. Panic. O.S Gunshots ring. Screams-

STEVE TREVOR GAS. Get Out of here!

IBRAHAM NAZIR Finally great leader, you have come for me!

An orderly hands STEVE TREVOR gas mask, infirmary fills with poisonous clouds. Steve puts MASK on a FRIGHTENED LITTLE BOYS FACE. Hoists boy up and cradles him in arms. Looks to YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR, who also is holding a young patient.

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR

Come with me!

A mad dash through swinging double doors, as bullets shatter windows.

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR THERE'S NO TIME FOR HIM... I HAVE SOMETHING YOU MUST SEE, BUT YOU MUST COME NOW!

EXT. ABANDONED STREET, MANHOLE (BAYALIA) - LATER

Shielded behind bullet-riddled wall, a Manhole. Emerging out of it, STEVE TREVOR, and THE YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR.

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR It took years to build these underground tunnels, but it's worth it. At times we live like rodents, but we still live.

In distance they see whole Village in flames as the rabid attack by KAZNIAN forces continues.

EXT. RENDEZVOUS AREA, MAKE-SHIFT RUNWAY (BAYALIA) - AFTERNOON

US army pilots, BIRDIE 30s female AND SKEET 30s Male, organise last minute checks on their F-22 raptors. STEVE'S ride, another raptor, parked next to F-22's.

MOMENTS LATER -

STEVE now prepared to board stands by his F-22 ready to climb the boarding ladder, the YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR, with him.

STEVE TREVOR So what are you going to do?

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR Move to another town, where I'm needed.

STEVE TREVOR The Town, it's still under attack.

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR And you're on an Intelligence Mission. (Beat) Wasn't sure I could trust you with this. But--

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR hands him a military grade flash drive and a vial with red liquid.

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR (CONT'D) This is a copy of Nazir's files. Encrypted. We couldn't crack it.

STEVE TREVOR

Unit B?

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR The secret detention facility he spoke of. Where he did his "work". This blood sample. Study it. Dr. Poison has gone rogue, and he is planning something horrible.

STEVE TREVOR appreciative. She looks at him, kisses him.

YOUNG BAYALIAN DOCTOR (CONT'D) Wanted to do that for a while, now... Don't forget us!

STEVE TREVOR

Won't.

EXT. KAZNIAN/BAYALIAN BOARDER AIRSPACE, 8000 FEET - AFTERNOON

STEVE TREVOR in formation with F-22's, over another Bayalian town under siege by the Kaznian's.

5 F-18 hornets dart through sky at hyper speeds hot on their tail.

INT/EXT. STEVE'S F-22 - CONTINUOUS

STEVE TREVOR (Head set) 5 bogeys on our tail, coming up skyboard! Closing in!

SKEET This is a restricted fly-zone for Kaznian fighters!

STEVE TREVOR You wanna tell them that Skeet?

BIRDIE They're coming in close for the gunrange. Going supersonic.

STEVE TREVOR Skeet, Birdie, look lively.

Some fancy aerial maneuvers as the teams vie for position.

F-18'S join together attempting to snare STEVE and his comrades. *BOOM.* F-18'S Cannon blasts smash SKEET'S wing... His Raptor disappears into clouds.

STEVE TREVOR (CONT'D) SKEET. Goddamit!

STEVE and BIRDIE sink below clouds in an attempt to conceal themselves. Below clouds nothing but empty water.

EXT. SKY OVER MEDITERRANEAN SEA - CONTINUOUS

STEVE can't find BIRDIE. 3 F-18's continue chase on him.

INT/EXT. STEVE'S F-22 - CONTINUOUS

STEVE TREVOR BIRDIE, where are you?... Can you hear me BIRDIE?... Where the hell are you?

All the while STEVE pulls every dirty trick in the book to avoid F-18's. Eventually STEVE TREVOR gets the drop on one, mowing him down with a side-winder. Boom.

F-18 nearly in position to lock on STEVE, ready to trigger. STEVE quickly loops over at incredible speed, as missile is released missing him, now positioned behind the enemy coming straight up his ass. No hesitation. STEVE has a lock, fires heat seeker. The side-winder hits target. Boom, a shower of flame AND debris; STEVE and last F-18 race past, barely avoiding blast wave.

> STEVE TREVOR (CONT'D) Whooooh!... OK, OK... Not free yet STEVE. Keep y'head in the game. Lets punch it.

OUT OF NOWHERE: *shimmering vortex*, of the most brilliant blue light, opens up the sky, swallowing STEVE TREVOR and F-18 whole.

# END FLASHBACK

INT. STEVE'S BMW - UNDERGROUND PARKING LOT - GW INTELLIGENCE HQ - NIGHT

Steve and Etta sit in Steve's BMW in quiet parking lot.

ETTA CANDY Dr. Poison?

STEVE TREVOR I know. Sounded way-out-west to me to, but he was sure.

ETTA CANDY

But he's dead.

Steve takes out his briefcase, opens it up. Takes out the Flash Drive and Blood Sample.

ETTA CANDY (CONT'D) What is it, Steve?

STEVE TREVOR For blood work.(RE: SAMPLE) Encrypted!(RE: FLASH DRIVE) But nothing you can't handle. Get the blood to Dr. Dominguez. Give me a call with the results.

## ETTA CANDY

Please?

Hands Etta the Flash Drive and the Blood Samples.

STEVE TREVOR You know you drive me crazy Candy --

ETTA CANDY Nice try. Good night, Steve.

EXT. SECURITY CHECK POINT - GW INTELLIGENCE HQ - NIGHT

Steve's BMW pulls up to exit out of The Security Check Point. We

FADE OUT:

As he leaves the compound.

INT. ROW OF CONTAINMENT CHAMBERS, UNIT B - SUBTERRANEAN

Dr. Poison slides ID card into ID scanner and enters 7 digit code. Steel shutter springs open on containment chamber, revealing Aisha. Hospital Gowned in claustrophobic air-locked cell, catatonic and paralyzed by fear.Dr. Gogan mortified by the sight.

> DR. POISON A test. Before we show the Generals.

Dr. Poison surveys his prey a long beat like she was an amusing zoo animal. DR. POISON (CONT'D) Prisoner, please stand up. (She ignores or can't hear) Prisoner, I said, please stand up. (Frustrated) Aisha! We want to speak with you about your daughter. This gets her attention. She rushes to plexiglass partition. AISHA You can help me, then! There's been a terrible mistake. You see -Begins crying, slapping at partition. Dr. Poison Presses his hand against hers on the glass sympathetically. AISHA (CONT'D) DR. POISON Shiane committed no crime... I'm going to need you to It was me, all me... Not Settle down, Aisha... You're her... But she was brought confused. We are not the in... Arrested... Brought authorities. I assure here with me! you your daughter is fine. But settle down PLEASE. By now Aisha is hysterical... AISHA (CONT'D) I'm THE CRIMINAL, SHE'S JUST A CHILD. DR. POISON (THE MONSTER RELEASED) I'M SPEAKING HERE... ARE YOU LISTENING? (Silences her) Composes himself. DR. POISON (CONT'D) Thank you Aisha. Now, I want you to listen to my instructions very carefully. Do you believe you can benefit from listening to my instructions -- carefully?

Aisha NODS - Yes, hopeful.

DR. POISON (CONT'D) (Friendly smile) Kaznian's of honest repute are fast becoming an endangered species, of sorts... Humanity in general suffers the burden of ordinary men... We are conducting some very important experiments here, to combat this pandemic. It's an experiment for which I believe you and your daughter may prove extremely beneficial(A beat) Your daughter, would you sacrifice your life so hers may be spared?

AISHA

Let her live... Take me.

DR. POISON You'll be reunited... But not why I enquired...

DR. POISON PRESSES CODE INTO CELL SCANNER - RED GAS from VENTILATION DUCTS vomit down filling cell. Aisha disappears behind thick red smoke. She's coughing, in agony. Projectile vomit splatters against screen as Dr. Gogan looks on in horror. Dr. Poison disturbingly enjoys scene.

MOMENTS LATER. Deranged Red eyes peer through the mist. Inhuman Growls. A transformation has occurred in cell.

INT. LAURIE TREVORS APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Steve Trevor sleeping on cramped couch clutching thick folder.

ON DIANA. Enters living room, Laurie closely in tow. Both look worst for wear, eyes fogged with sleep.

STEVE stirs dropping his folder. Pictures scatter, strewn across floor. DIANA goes to assist STEVE in gathering papers. STEVE kneels by DIANA plucking up the fallen gallery, immediately noticing DIANA's been drinking:

> STEVE TREVOR Somebodies been boozing? (Notices spec of blood on her forehead. Examines her knuckles) This from a fight?

Looks at Laurie angrily.

LAURIE TREVOR Bro, knock it off already! It's way too early for a domestic! (Collapses into the sofa)

STEVE TREVOR What happened?

LAURIE TREVOR We got in a fight. Now can you make yourself useful? Juice or coffee would be good.

STEVE TREVOR You?... You got in a fight?

LAURIE TREVOR Yeah. Some punks needed straightening out.

STEVE TREVOR Some? Plural?

DIANA She was very brave Steve Trevor.

STEVE TREVOR Oh you... You were brave?

### LAURIE TREVOR

Krav Maga classes. A girl has to know how to defend herself in the city.

STEVE TREVOR So, now you're sorting guys out who need sorting. YOU? You who can't sit through ET without sobbing.

LAURIE TREVOR That's a sad sad movie, and you cried too.

STEVE TREVOR Did not.

LAURIE TREVOR

Did too.

# STEVE TREVOR

Come here! (Hugs and ruffles her hair. She resists but loves it) You okay Diana? STEVE TREVOR You told her? (Diana nod - yes)

Diana, continues to leaf through papers coming across photo of BAKUNIN in ANGOLA with African War-Lord.Diana shocked.

DIANA This picture... Where did you get

it from, Steve?

STEVE TREVOR You told her. But we agreed.

## DIANA

You may see the virtue in deception. I personally do not. Now Steve; please focus, where did you get this from?

STEVE TREVOR Base. Why? You recognize him?

#### DIANA

Yes, this is the War God. Responsible for the death of my sister, Clio. If he operates freely in this realm, we're all in grave danger!

STEVE TREVOR Wait. This is Bakunin. An arms trafficker and he won't be free for long. Not after tonight, anyway!

Diana by now seems completely sobered by the situation.

#### DIANA

You mean your armies intend to engage him?(Steve nods - yes). How? When?

STEVE TREVOR Tonight. He's bagman' for a Turkish job to Kaznia. We got Seals -

#### DIANA

We must leave at once. Your men won't survive a confrontation with Ares.

DIANA and STEVE look at LAURIE, whose out of her depth. Diana rises, ardent and firm in her convictions.

STEVE TREVOR

(Still skeptical) You're just a little rattled Angel. Take a breather, relax! Run me through this guys background. Maybe we can bolster our efforts ---

DIANA

I'm here to do a job. Kill the wargod. It is my destiny.

STEVE TREVOR Maybe your destiny is to become something better than a killer.

DIANA You're going to take me to him so I can finish what he started. Or, I go alone. (Steve unsure/Diana picks up file) Fine. Alone it is then. (Sees map)

Diana stalks past Steve.

STEVE TREVOR OKAY, so what's your brilliant plan, Diana? What you wanna do? Waltz into a war-zone, waving a sword?

DIANA It's a sharp sword.

STEVE TREVOR You're a babe in the woods here, and you're gonna get yourself hurt!

Diana rips the map out of the file and tracks past Steve and Laurie to collect her gear.

LAURIE TREVOR Maybe - listen to her, Stevo.

Steve, grabs Diana attempting to restrain her. DIANA immediately trips and pins him against the wall. Tries to release himself from pin. Can't.

I'm touched by your concern, Steve. Really I am. But I promise, villainy possesses many more masks than mankind is aware of... If Ares has convinced you he is mere mortal, you've fallen for a demons hoax. Escort me... Take lead... That way, there, you can protect me from any unforeseen dangers.

Steve reluctantly agrees.

INT. ANOTHER STORAGE UNIT (STEVE'S SPY UNIT) - NIGHT6

SUPER: UNIT B INSIDE UNIT CHECK BOX

INT. ZONE 4 -BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS STORAGE /ASSEMBLY LINE-AFTERNOON

DR. POISON and DR. GOGAN waltz into frame, wearing HazMat suits. DR. POISON, proudly points toward the heart of STORAGE AREA A STAINLESS STEEL VIRAL REACTOR WHERE DEVILS BLOOD CULTURE IS MANUFACTURED:

> DR. POISON Millions may perish. But we will live.

DR. GOGAN Such a horrible thing. War was much simpler when I was a boy.

DR. POISON

(Thoughtful)

As a boy - I saw our nation ravaged by chemical warfare. I remember, Rivers - where we drank - silted with silver clouds of toxic salts floating over them. I remember, the Hungry Infants cry. For, Infectious yield's became so contaminated they made a pollutant of their mothers milk...

(A tear falls from cheek) And finally I remember holding their broken bodies in my arm. Watching my family, perish slowly. Painfully. ANGRILY. Till I was left alone to bear their hatred. (MORE) DR. POISON (CONT'D) I realized at that moment, this world has always been a world of absolutes my boy -- that demands by its very nature, absolute solutions.

Dr. Poison, passionate, looks deep into Dr. Gogan's eyes, then leaves him to contemplate the terrible truth of what he is to become. A harbinger of mass eradication.

INT. STEVE'S SPY UNIT - NIGHT

Steve and Diana prepare. Diana in WW costume, is packing her weapons into a big black leather bag.

STEVE TREVOR Put on these!

Steve throws some black combat fatigues at her.

DIANA You sure? I will be at a severe disadvantage against -

STEVE TREVOR We're not engaging the target. We're just pulling our guys out. Quick and Quiet... That outfit. It's too loud.

DIANA

But -

STEVE TREVOR Are you gonna follow my orders? Cause that's the only way this is gonna work -

DIANA Just get me there…

Steve turns around and Diana is completely nude. About to put on her black combat fatigues.

DIANA (CONT'D) Something wrong Steve? You've gone all red.

STEVE TREVOR No! Nothing Angel. Just'uhmm. Get ready okay.

Continues checking his equipment.

# SUPER: CEYHAN, TURKEY.

EXT. FARM LAND, CEYHAN (TURKEY) - STEVE'S F-18 - NIGHT

F-18 makes a graceful descent on to grassland, as an anxious shepherd dog barks loudly at it.

As Steve and Diana alight the jet, the dog dashes toward the intruders ready to attack. Steve tries to protect Diana, but she quickly steps in front of him and growls at the dog. Once she gains her respect, she starts softly petting her. The dogs temper cools.

#### DIANA

Relax girl. We mean you no harm.

Steve about to relax, until we hear the cock of a gun. The dogs master an Old FARMER, steps from behind a timber pile, cocking a shotgun.

STEVE TREVOR Think that trick'll work on him?

EXT. CRIME WAREHOUSE, CEYHAN (TURKEY) - NIGHT (ESTABLISHING)

A shadowy warehouse, for back door deals sheltered by a warren of dilapidated buildings.

INT. GULTAN HAZAN'S OFFICE, CRIME WAREHOUSE - SAME TIME

Bakunin is in meeting with GULTAN HAZAN (late 40s) fat. Several armed men around them.

Another roster of security line second and third floor catwalks. The meeting shielded on all sides by a labyrinth of large shipping containers.

Bakunin has THEBES and KAIGAN (clutching falcon aluminum briefcase) behind him. Bakunin seems hopelessly outnumbered by Gultan's Security Staff.

GULTAN HAZAN (Mid anecdote) ... So crazy rat bastard, say me back "Don't take me. Take my second eldest. He's a rat too."... You believe that cockroach sonnofabitch, BAKUNIN? (Amused) I admire the cockroaches. They're survivors. Like Gods.

ON WAREHOUSE SECURITY: Scan across line of Warehouse Security. Stop at SHIFTY looking security man, wearing raybands.

HE IS INSIDE MAN, P.O.V. SHOT: hidden spy camera in sunglasses recording the meeting.

INT. J.O.C. - SAME

SUPER: J.O.C. Joint Operations Centre

GIDEON HOBBES, impatiently watching images broadcasting from INSIDE MANS hidden cam.

INT. GULTAN HAZAN'S OFFICE - DISTRICT WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Kaigan's aluminum briefcase is opened in front of Gultan Hazan. Inside, several units of Devil's Blood vials.

GULTEN HAZAN Serious Gear. How much for whole shipment?

BAKUNIN 10 million wire to Zurich account. 40 mil for the Caymen's.

GULTAN HAZAN 50 million? Heavy cost.

GULTAN HAZAN takes Uzi from beneath table placing it within reach and aiming it in BAKUNIN'S direction.

#### BAKUNIN

A heavy cost we already agreed on.

GULTAN HAZAN laughs, snaps his fingers. A soldier brings a leather briefcase to him. Placed in front of Bakunin. Opens it. Microprocessors.

GULTAN HAZAN You sell these for me. Trident System Processors. Missiles Guide themselves. Plus ten Million on my end.

ON INSIDE MAN: Carefully adjusts glasses 3 times and -

INT. J.O.C (JOINT OPERATION CENTRE) - SAME

- GIDEON sees this, gazing at surveillance footage.

GIDEON (Over Walkie) Sleeper signalling for the come in. Lets ready Nelson. Repeat, Lets ready Nelson.

INT. BUILDING A (FOR ALPHA) - ALPHA TEAM - STAIRWELL

Alpha Team SEALs stealthily descend stairwell of Building A. ALPHA TEAM leader counting his men as they pour down. Hears GIDEON through earpiece:

> ALPHA TEAM LEADER Copy that! Alpha ready to go Nelson.

INT. GULTAN HAZAN'S OFFICE - WAREHOUSE DISTRICT - MOMENTS LATER

### GULTAN HAZAN

(A beat) You know - in my village where I come from - when I was little boy, I learn hard way, that a man in business like ours needs *family*. For protection. Insurance policy, no?

Gultan peels back shirt displaying a number of stab wounds, tattooed across chest. Deep gashes healed. BAKUNIN smiles.

GULTAN HAZAN (CONT'D)(CONT'D) To hold me up to ransom for 50 million with so little backup is an insult and a fool's errand.

### BAKUNIN

You're right!

ALL of GULTAN HAZAN'S men trace their rifles on Gultan. BAKUNIN produces a diamond from breast pocket. Flicks it GULTAN'S way.

> BAKUNIN (CONT'D) ... A snack for your boys, from old Freetown.

KAIGAN manoeuvres to rear of Gultan. Gultan, grabs UZI in anger, swings toward Bakunin.

Before he can take shot FACE SLAMMED hard into table by Kaigan. Blood squirts from Hazan's swollen nostrils.

INT/EXT. HUMVEE STREET, WAREHOUSE DISTRICT - NIGHT

Two, HUMVEE DRIVER#1 and HUMVEE PASSENGER#2 quietly meditate. Frozen hush rising over the dry soothing Arabian night. They are hidden and out of sight.

Steve and Diana pull up in a VOLGA beside the Humvee.

Steve recognizes driver.

CUT TO:

STEVE TREVOR (Raps at their window) Hey... Hey...

HUMVEE DRIVER#1, shaken by STEVE, pulls his side arm.

HUMVEE PASSENGER#2 Lower your weapon. (Roles down window) He's with us... 'The hell you doing out here Steve?

DIANA is behind STEVE. HUVEE DRIVER#1 and #2 check her out.

STEVE TREVOR Where's the target building?

HUMVEE#2 Coupla blocks from here. (Points direction) You gone nuts? Who's she? (About Diana)

STEVE TREVOR Never you mind, she's fine... Got new info on the target. Get C.O. on the horn right now. We're aborting mission!

INT. JOINT OPERATION CENTER, TENT - SAME TIME

GIDEON observes mission ON-SCREEN: Images from Observation bird of ALPHA TEAM entering building. Splitting into two teams. Team A takes first floor catwalk, Team B second. A voice buzzes out of his walkie:

HUMVEE#2 Um, sir, I've got Lt Cournel Steve Trevor and his, uhmm, companion here.

GIDEON His companion? Civilian -

HUMVEE#2 Yes. They'd like to speak to you.

INTERCUT BETWEEN STEVE AND HUMVEE and GIDEON in J.O.C.

GIDEON What the hell is this? Over.

STEVE TREVOR Gideon, I have new intel on the target!

GIDEON (Cracks up) This you Steve?

GIDEON (CONT'D) Yes, it's me and I'm requesting immediate abort, okay. We are outgunned, repeat we are outgunned.

SGT. STEELE (In disbelief) Do me a favor hotshot, you and your sweet heart don't get in our way!

STEVE TREVOR With all due respect sir, you have no idea what you're dealing with. I have new Intel on the...

DIANA (O.C)

Enough!

Steve turns. Diana vanished.

STEVE TREVOR Goddammit Angel! (To Humvee Drivers) Look after my ride... That's an order soldier.

Steve goes after her.

INT. GULTAN'S OFFICE WAREHOUSE - AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME

GULTAN'S smug demeanor utterly evaporated, replaced by queasy look of unease. Ares eyes glow red.

GULTAN HAZAN My God. What kind monster, are you?

BAKUNIN A quiet one... For while others speak, I silently observe. When they act I secretly plan. Then finally once they're rested... I suddenly strike.

Signals to Kaigan. SNAP. Gultan's neck, gruesomely twisted, instant death. Lays motionless on table.

INT. GUARDS ROOM - WAREHOUSE (SECOND FLOOR) - MOMENTS LATER

Crashing through door --

INT. FIRST FLOOR CATWALK - CONTINUOUS ACTION

-- It's Diana. SECURITY DOOR bursts open, hurtling at vast velocity toward FIRST FLOOR GUARDS. (GULTAN'S SECURITY or GUARDS REFERRED TO AS BADGUYS, NOW ON) Full on shoot-out at Diana.

On ground floor BOOM. Explosion. GIDEON's team enters the mallee and starts shooting.

CUT TO:

GROUND FLOOR. ON ARES, THEBES AND KAIGAN: They see eruption of gunfire.

ARES Leaving now. Get the chips... Suspect we'll be making a dramatic exit.

THEBES and KAIGAN grab the gear. They start toward rear exit.

CUT BACK:

Diana, spots ARES leaving, distracted.

DIANA caught in cross hairs of gun battle. Twists past a BADGUYs shot, throws him several feet to the ground over railing. Follows him diving head first.

ON DIANA: TWO, BADGUYS#1 and #2 spot DIANA, themselves having taken haven behind CONTAINER just opposite.

Swings his gun her way. DIANA sidesteps, so quick it's like she vanished in thin air.

Just as quick she's re-materialized between BADGUYS#1 and #2. and makes quick work of them.

3 More bad guy's see this and start for her direction.

ON FIRST FLOOR and SECOND FLOOR. SEALs rain down tear gas grenades, filling GULTAN'S OFFICE with WHITE PLUMES OF GAS.

For a moment the blaze of GUNFIRE is quieted. Coughing BADGUYS breath heavy, swallowed up by smoke.

STEVE TREVOR ON FIRST FLOOR: in GAS MASK, uses confusion to push past ALPHA SEALs at security door.

SCOPES DIANA and BADGUYS APPROACHING her position. Launches himself over First Floor railing. BODY crashing into CONTAINER. CAREENS off container in DIANA'S direction.

LANDS prone. Injured. Instinct takes over. Rises to feet, draws quick spraying a burst from .45 dropping 3 silhouetted BADGUYS like flies. Swiftly moves to DIANA'S cover spot. STEVE, removes GAS-MASK, placing on her.

> STEVE TREVOR 'The hell? We agreed. I take lead, remember?

DIANA sucking in air a beat. Takes off mask.

DIANA Must you use that weapon? We shouldn't kill these men, there must be another way.

STEVE TREVOR What? The Amazon way?

DIANA I don't kill unless I have to.

STEVE TREVOR

And ARES?!

DIANA I said, unless I have to. STEVE TREVOR Well that's gratitude for you... (Waits for some kind of thanks. Diana too jacked) D'you think we might debate the downsides to modern warfare a little later?

Bullet blasts ricochet past them in fearsome gongs.

DIANA Perhaps you're right. (A beat) And, Thank-you Steve.

STEVE TREVOR (Heart melted) Y'gonna turn me inside out lookin' at me that way angel!

INT. WAREHOUSE ROOM#2 (ARES) - MOMENTS LATER

Ares and posy head past maze of containers towards WAREHOUSE exit. OPEN A SECURITY DOOR to new area.

INT. WAREHOUSE EXIT ROOM#3 - CONTINUOUS ACTION

Waiting on other side, FOUR SEALs. Glowing Hindu dots tracing ARES, THEBES and KAIGAN, from fitted Carbines. Bakunin nods at KAIGAN.

CLOSE-UP: The whites in KAIGAN'S corneas blacken, so his eyes become one giant black pupil.

In a matter of Seconds, KAIGAN and THEBES waste 3 highly trained tough guys, like they were nothing.

Only one SEAL remains. He is disarmed by KAIGAN. Kaigan clutches, his neck in tight sleeper. ARES removes black balaclava, to reveal SEALs face. Tears drip from his cheek.

ARES (To SEAL) Fear. I deserve that. It's what you owe me soldier. But only in *death*, shall you completely honor your debt to me.

ARES punches through SEALs chest. THICK BLOOD splatters on ARES expensive suit.

ARES (CONT'D) Worry not, the Ferryman has already counted and recorded all your valorous deeds *in life*.

INT. GULTAN'S OFFICE (ROOM 1) -

Mass confusion. It's become a bullet factory.

BADGUY fires rocket at SEAL occupied FLOOR#2.

ON FLOOR#1 and #2 CATWALK:

SEAL#1

GRENADE!

TOO LATE. BOOM! CATWALK foundation explodes, tangles and capsizes, into FLOOR#2 CATWALK, crushing and trapping SEALs.

ON DIANA AND STEVE - STILL IN GULTAN'S OFFICE (ROOM 1)

DIANA pulls off GASMASK. She's had enough.

DIANA

How many?

STEVE PEERS behind cover to see:

STEVE TREVOR I don't know. Can't count. ---

DIANA HOW MANY STEVE?

STEVE TREVOR Eight! Maybe nine left.

DIANA SPRINGS UP:

STEVE TREVOR DIANA, STAY THE HELL DOWN!!!

DIANA front flips on top CONTAINER as if floating in the air. Lands. Spots BADGUY tracer lazers through haze of smoke. Their positions compromised. She leaps off -

Landing before BADGUYS who look at her Confused. Mistake. DIANA becomes a blur, a Flash.

Disarming, Subduing, concussing 12 BADGUYS in 30.5 Seconds flat.

SEAL#2 What the hell was that?

ON DIANA:

DIANA Counted 13, Steve. Now lets go. He's getting away!

DIANA throws STEVE gas mask. She has tunnel vision, in hot pursuit of ARES.

STEVE TREVOR What *did you just do*? (Astounded. Follows her)

# INT. WAREHOUSE EXIT ROOM#3 (AT EXIT DOOR) - SAME TIME

ARES, and Posy walk up to exit. A dozen or so BADGUYS with security dogs man the doors. Rottweiler's with blood on their breath. Ares flings a human heart in their direction, and the hungry beasts scramble and fight over it. BADGUYS look at ARES/BAKUNIN hand soaked in blood. He lets a hungry Mutt lick it up.

> BAKUNIN Damn Entrails. (A beat) What you boys waiting for? Someone's following us. Release these mutts.

BADGUY#1 (As they exit) Y'Sure Boss? We're surrounded ---

Ares backhand slaps BADGUY#1 with hand drenched in blood and dog spittle. Knocks him out his boots. Impact literally may have killed him.

ARES (Exits) Yes. <u>I'm sure</u>.

The bad-guys release the dogs (about 20) - they salivate flocking off together, searching for prey.

EXT. WAREHOUSE BACK EXIT - (THE DISTRICT) - CONTINUOUS ACTION Ares, Thebes and Kaigan outside greeted by a military circus.

OBSERVATION BIRD PILOT (Hovering over scene) Surrender now. You are completely surrounded. REPEAT, SURRENDER NOW. YOU ARE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED.

INT. J.O.C. (GIDEON) - SAME TIME

Watching on monitors.

GIDEON Good boys. Got 'em wrapped up. Bring' em in...

EXT. WAREHOUSE BACK EXIT - (ON ARES, THEBES AND KAIGAN)

ARES They presume to attack me with weapons of war!! Mere instruments of my will!!

ARES: EYES GLOW RED with BLOOD LUST. Focused on Black Hawks. Lifts hands. Ares commands BLACK HAWKS to turn toward Snipers Nest. No one understands.

INT. J.O.C. (GIDEON) - SAME TIME

GIDEON What the hell is going on?

INT. PILOT BAY, BLACK HAWK - SAME TIME

BLACK HAWK PILOT watches in horror as his navigational and armament subsystems go berserk, out of his control.

BLACKHAWK PILOT It's not me, sir. 'The hell is happening?!

His flight controller jerking around, as if possessed, while he tries to finesse it in place. Spooked.

BLACKHAWK CABIN PASSENGER Get it under control ranger.

BLACKHAWK PILOT You hearing me? It ain't me. Both BLACKHAWKs facing BRAVO TEAMS nest. Both fire CANNONS, blowing the centre Building B1 and B2 to bits.

INT. J.O.C. (GIDEON) - SAME TIME

## GIDEON

# What the...? He's gone nuts.

Speechless. Cigar tumbles from lips. Ash splatters.

EXT. WAREHOUSE BACK EXIT - (THE DISTRICT)

ON BLACKHAWKS. BLACKHAWKS release two AGM-114 Hellfire missiles. One snakes toward OBSERVATION BIRD. BOOOOM!

GIDEON (Loses visual) ) LOST Visual? Get visual back online NOW!

The OTHER thuds under HUMVEES, heaving THEM upward in thunderous K-BOOM. FEAR. PANIC.

ON THEBES: Eyes churn a tawny molten hue. Skin on hands begin to peel, charring and smoking, before exploding in a blaze. Exposed tissue, burning like grilled meat.

ARES sees HUMVEE drivers trying to escape.

ARES

(Cold, Sadistic) THEY DESECRATE HALLOWED BATTLE GROUNDS WITH THEIR COWARDICE! --BURN THEM. BURN THESE ANTS ALIVE!

THEBES, obliges. A spew of LIQUID FLAME pouring from eyes and hands incinerates every SEAL it comes in contact with.

ARES commands GUNSHIPS into an aerial tail spin. GUN PODS spitting rapid fusillade.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DIANA, STEVE, SECURITY DOGS

Diana and Steve continue through the maze after Ares.

They turn a corner and are welcomed by 20 barking rottweiler's ready to kill. Steve panicked. Diana looks on at the scene with no fear.

INT. WAREHOUSE EXIT ROOM#3 - BAD GUYS GUARDING EXIT

BADGUYs peer through door, having heard the commotion outside.

Suddenly a low growl is heard behind them, intensifying.

On Diana, Steve and army of dogs. Badguys turn to see Diana and Steve backed up by the security dogs.

On The BADGUYS. Bemused, they murmur to each other in Turkish, then train their weapons on Diana. The Badguys start shooting. Steve takes cover.

On Diana. She points to the guards and the dogs follow her orders, attacking their former masters.

One mutt locks his jaws on a Badguy who lets out a cowardly scream.

Diana takes out BADGUY after BADGUY as if they were mere mall cops deflecting bullets and fighting in tandem with her army of hounds. NOTE: she never once strays from her direction toward the exit door.

Steve, still taking cover, takes a few well-aimed shots, dropping a few Badguys as -

- DIANA exits warehouse.

EXT. WAREHOUSE BACK EXIT - (THE DISTRICT) - ARES AND HUMVEE

Ares, opens HUMVEE door. Miraculously one lone HUMVEE DRIVER who's survived cowers beneath the dashboard of HUMVEE.

ARES, opens the door, looks down on him. Eyes dim from glowing red.

#### BAKUNIN

Don't be shy!

Shepherds him out. Kaigan surprised by this uncharacteristic show of clemency.

ARES He's a trained killer. One more wolf amidst the lambs.

They enter HUMVEE, CUT TO them sprinting off in it down dirt track road.

ON DIANA, catches site of ARES next to Thebes, as Kaigan chauffeurs, screaming down rutted road. -- Diana quick pace accelerates after them on foot. Keeping up at atleast 3/4 of their speed.

ON STEVE: Steve exits building. Sees Diana going after Humvee. "

What the hell?" look forms on face seeing pure destruction around him. Dawns on him. "DIANA'S in REAL DANGER".

QUICK SUCCESSION OF SHOTS: Steve finds motorbike. Gets on. Punches it, hauling ass after Diana.

EXT. (TWO LANE) DIRT ROAD - EAST OF THE DISTRICT - SHORT TIME LATER

ARES humvee, speeds away from District swirling up dirt.

ON DIANA, chasing ARES Humvee on feet, first a dot, then becoming ever more pronounced gaining fast, like T-1000 on steroids.

INT. J.O.C. - MOMENTS LATER

Still has lost visual.

GIDEON Has anyone got eyes on The Target?

INT. STEALTH BLACK HAWK - SAME TIME

Flying high, EAST, over ARE's Humvee.

STEALTH BLACKHAWK PILOT I have tracking on Targets Humvee. What's the order, sir.

INT. J.O.C. -

GIDEON

(Mad) Hell... Who is this guy?... Alright, I want all gunships going in heavy. Ravens on the stalk. NUKE THE SONNOFABITCH IF YOU HAFTA...

STEALTH BLACKHAWK PILOT Roger that. Ravens Going weapons hot.

EXT. EAST OVER THE DISTRICT - CONTINUOUS ACTION

Swarm of 20 Stealth Black Hawks garrisoned high over the district begin to swerve in hypnotic uniformity on ARES position.

Diana right on tail of Ares HUMVEE. Leaps. Slams down hard on roof, nearly sliding off, from velocity of vehicle.

Starts punching roof and ripping reinforced armor plate roof with bare hands. Rivets pop. Roof opened up like a tin can. Serrated edges, Jagged like sharks teeth.

INT. ARES HUMVEE - CONTINUOUS ACTION

Ares not intimidated but confused. He scents an alluring fragrance.

ARES (Looks up at DIANA) Impossible. GODS BLOOD. The Amazon Princess.

Ares Looks up to see DIANA with bloody palms holding on to the jagged edges of metal, tangled wires and sparking electronics.

She drags her hand through the open jaws of the roof, trying to grab hold of ARES. Thebes comes to ARES defense, pushing Diana off with a few well placed blows. DIANA Grabs his arm torques it against a jagged shard of roof.

INT. STEVE TREVORS MOTOR CYCLE - SAME TIME

Chasing a safe distance behind, Steve watches this spectacle with increased disbelief... But then a distraction... Overhead he sees: arcing in low over their position, a throng of Stealth Gunships... THE RAVENS.

STEVE TREVOR No... No... No...

Knows what's next... Slams into gear blasting a full 100 mph after DIANA.

ON LEAD GUNSHIP TARGETING SCREEN: target acquisition zoning in on ARES HUMVEE with Diana fighting on top.

ON KAIGAN: NOTICES GUNSHIPS (RAVENS) closing in on him. He swerves again yanking DIANA violently.

KAIGAN We have another problem. ARES No... we don't... Now get rid of her... NOW!!!...

With all his force, THEBES hits DIANA square in the face then pulls her gripping fingers off. Diana tumbles backward off accelerating HUMVEE.

ARES eyes, turn RED. Fist squeezed into a ball, burning dark energy flowing off them. Reflected in Ares eyes lead gunships targeting computer screen.

INT. GUNSHIP - SAME TIME.

ON TARGETING SCREEN: hellfire missile activates without pilot noticing. Gunship pilot pulls trigger. Nothing happens.

LEAD GUNSHIP PILOT # Primary weapons systems jammed... requesting backup fire.

Then a mortified look of horror on LEAD GUNSHIP PILOT as he sees targeting consoles warning beep. Hellfire Missiles detonation activated. Tries to release it.

LEAD GUNSHIP PILOT #1 Hell fire is armed but not releasing. Shit. Hellfire is armed but not releasing...

BOOM! Voice Muffled as his chopper becomes a ball of flame in the air. HELLFIRE detonated while still in .114 Canon.

IN SHOT: as ARES damaged ride bolts off all 20 choppers go up in flames, nose diving, raining from the sky. They crash into dust, landing over Diana's haplessly positioned body.

She's COMPLETELY ENGULFED in a raging inferno. Flame and Metal sweeping across scorched Earth.

ON STEVE: Pulls up by the wreckage. Gets off bike. Runs to flaming wreckage.

REVERSE ANGLE ON WRECKAGE: But wait. A creak. Movement of one of the metal corpses. DIANA pushes past BURNT DOWN REMAINS OF GUNSHIP with relative ease. She has a RAVEN PILOT slung over right shoulder. She walks toward STEVE. She drops wounded RAVEN PILOT before collapsing to the ground.

STEVE runs up to her. Cradles her in his arms, she's burnt bad, real bad, but she's alive...

DIANA I tried to save them. (fading) Hera forgive me... I failed you Steve...

STEVE TREVOR (Mixed Emotion) Angel...

As she BLACKS-OUT into unconscious, so do we.

INT. MH-6 LITTLE BIRD, FT. DETRICK - RAINY NIGHT

ETTA CANDY, sat in cabin, typing on her laptop which has Steve's FLASH DRIVE connected to it.

ON SCREEN IN BIG BOLD LETTERS: FILE ENCRYPTED, ACCESS DENIED.

Etta disappointed looks out side-window as rain splatter taps gently against it.

EXT. HELIPAD, FT. DETRICK - LATER

The MH-6 makes graceful descent on to helipad. Etta -

EXT. HELIPAD - FT. DETRICK (DAN CROZIER BUILDING) - CONTINUOUS

- Exits, in pouring RAIN, stepping out on to helipad, to meet Dr. Alana Dominguez(40s), panic in her eyes.

ETTA CANDY Well, would you look at you. Dr. Dominguez. Last time I saw you musta been -(Interrupted)

Dr. Dominguez drags Etta's arm; Two ladies haste toward entrance of building.

DR. DOMINGUEZ (Panicked) - Sorry. No time for catching up right now Colonel... Something just came in you gotta see.

INT. EXT. BLACKHAWK, STREET - FREETOWN - DAY

Drifts low over bomb-ravaged city. Crumbling buildings, occupying the narrow streets.

RANGER#1 (Early 30s), #2(Youngest) and #3 (senior) sit in the Super Six Fours belly surveying the streets below.

RANGER#1 Hate this damn place. Sick'a everything. Sick'a these damn skinnies.

RANGER#3 Sure they love you.

RANGER#1 Where peace-keepers, they ought'ta.

RANGER#3 You see any peace on these streets?

As Ranger#3 retorts a low rumble catches RANGER#2's ear. Scans scene.

A horde of the DEMONIC CREATURES track through a narrow street below in eerie unison.

Chopper flies past. Creatures beyond visual. Gone.

RANGER#2 (Thinks he's hallucinating) You see that?

RANGER#3

What?

He wasn't hallucinating, a flock of DEMONIC CREATURES change direction all at once and begin tight chase on BH.

RANGER#2 WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

RANGERS instinctively train their rifles on the flock, instantly recognizing there's something wrong. Pilot begins ascending.

One DEMONIC CREATURE Leaps from the center of the flock, an impossible distance in the air, catching BH's right hand skid. Holds on. Causes whole body of chopper to rock.

RANGER#3 Get outta here god damn it.

R#2, kickS at DEMONIC CREATURES head. Demonic creature seizes R#2s leg dragging him down while letting go of skid.

R#1 and R#3 watch as R#2 free falls some 50 from the chopper into the pack of demonic creatures. Pilot turns making a steep incline away from the horde.

RANGER#1 Never seen anything like that. You ever seen that before?

Ranger#3 shakes head - no. #3 starts filming scene.

INT. COMMAND CENTER, FT. DETRICK - NIGHT

--- Video by Ranger#3 just one of several videos streaming on DISPLAY SCREENS, HUGE and WALL- SIZED. The screen is trifurcated, so that side-by-side each flat-screen broadcasts different parts of THE WORLD where demonic creatures clash with military and locals.

IMAGES alternate on each FLAT SCREEN, like a flood of insane 70s George Romero B-Movies, come to life.

FORT D scientists discuss what they are seeing.

A stunned Etta and Dr. Dominguez stand on the ramp way of the command center. Dr. Dominguez in mid-speech:I

## DR. DOMINGUEZ

5 major cities... All hit... All today... All in war-torn territories occupied by NATO bases.

### SCIENTIST#1

All reporting the exact same events happening this morning... Loud explosion... They wake up to see what's going on... A bright red cloud hangs heavy over their town...

### SCIENTIST#2

Next thing they know all hells broken loose and they're under siege by the cast of Night Of The Living Dead.

DR. DOMINGUEZ You used to work here. What're your instincts on it?

## ETTA CANDY

My guess. And this is just on a gut feeling. It's the end of the world as we know it.

DR. DOMINGUEZ Don't even joke! I was raised Catholic, remember?

ETTA CANDY

You said a red mist, right? Maybe some sorta aerosoled pathogen. But what kinda pathogen is capable of doing this? -- Wait, wait. What about the sample Steve gave me?

DR. DOMINGUEZ The blood sample. -

ETTA CANDY He mentioned something to me about a new strain of biological weapon. Devils Blood.

DR. DOMINGUEZ Catchy name. You really think it has something to do with this?

EXT. US MILITARY BASE, DESERT - TURKEY - ESTABLISHING -NIGHT

Aerial shot of a sprawling military city in the heart of the desert. Jet fighters, black hawk choppers, lined in neat rows on tarmac, backing hangers. An elite security force protects all areas of the base.

INT. INFIRMARY, US MILITARY BASE - NIGHT

Diana is lying unconscious on a gurney. Military Medics standing over her, IV in her arm.

MEDIC#1 Any lingering tissue damage is merely superficial?

NURSE#1

With the physical trauma her body suffered, she should be dead. 'Never seen anything like it. Her body seems to be regenerating damaged tissue, like stem cells.

INT. INTERROGATION, US MILITARY BASE - SAME TIME

STEVE TREVOR sat across from GIDEON. Intense look. Enter black female soldier, FEMALE INTERROGATOR.

FEMALE INTERROGATOR Found y'bag. Had a sneak peek at y'luggage too. Nice sword.

GIDEON

So who is she?

STEVE TREVOR I wanna know how she's doing first?

FEMALE INTERROGATOR Doing Good... Surprisingly good. Not a scratch on her. Care to explain that Colonel!

STEVE TREVOR (relieved) She's a tough girl.

# FEMALE INTERROGATOR

I'll say. Seems ain't much soft about her. According to our boys, she knew BAKUNIN. Wanted him all for herself and didn't care who got in the way. They say you and her blew the mission in there.

## STEVE TREVOR

I warned you, you were unprepared to capture the target!!... You blew the mission the minute you didn't listen to me.

FEMALE INTERROGATOR Tell me!... What connection she have to the target? She personal

with'im? You in bed with the enemy Trevor?

Look of disdain on Steve's face.

# INT. INFIRMARY - SAME TIME

Diana wakes. Notices she's RESTRAINED. Pulls at wrist-restraints, trying to free herself, to no avail.

MEDIC#1 She's moving... Nurse, get me ---(sedative)

DIANA Where am I? DIANA, puts a bit more effort and breaks her restraints with ease. THE DOCTOR tries to inject her with a sedative. She pushes him aside.

Armed soldiers peek up.

DIANA (CONT'D) MEDIC#2 Where's STEVE?! YOU MUST LET Calm down, you're in ME GO! I MUST FIND ARES! hospital. You've been injured. What's your name?

> DIANA (CONT'D) I AM DIANA PRINCESS OF THE AMAZONS!... LET ME GO NOW!

INT. INTERROGATION - SAME TIME

Soldiers rush by the Interrogation Room. Steve hearing the commotion. Gets-up.

STEVE TREVOR What was that?

GIDEON How bout none of your damn business buddy. You'll answer my questions now or I swear I'll have your rank for this.

STEVE attempts to get past GIDEON who blocks his way. STEVE punches him clean out. EXITS INTERROGATION ROOM.

INT. INFIRMARY - CONTINUOUS ACTION

STEVE enters. Soldiers aim guns at DIANA. She's out of bed and in her fighting stance, bracelets still on.

> STEVE TREVOR HOLD YOUR DAMN FIRE! SHE'S WITH ME.

STEVE gets in front of DIANA to protect her.

STEVE TREVOR (CONT'D) LOWER YOUR GUNS NOW! I'm your superior. Down now!

GIDEON enters nursing a sore chin.

SGT. STEELE (Angry) Get'em both outta here!... NOW! STEVE TREVOR Diana. Come with me. We'll be outta here soon.

EXT. REMOTE HARBOR FOR COMMERCIAL SHIPPING, TURKY - NIGHT ARES and entourage prepare to board FREIGHTER moored to pier. KAIGAN's mobile buzzes. Pick's up. Listens a beat.

KAIGAN

Brother Ares, one of our moles has eyes on the Amazon princess. She's telling them everything.

ARES

Diana!

## INT. INTERROGATION - NIGHT

DIANA and STEVE in interrogation room. ARMED SOLDIERS act as body guards for GIDEON, who is impatiently pacing the room. FEMALE INTERROGATOR leads the interrogation.

> FEMALE INTERROGATOR -- And the arms dealer BAKUNIN?... Oh I'm sorry... ARES! Escaped from the prisons on your Island? ---Above the doorway to purgatory... That's your story right? Or is it hell? I forget... You keepin' Elvis up in the hood too, cause I done know that's a conspiracy.

DIANA (Turns to Steve) Who's Elvis. Is he a criminal in your world? (Steve endeared smiles)

GIDEON Look, little lady! Enough with the games. You're in a lotta trouble right now! You deliberately sabotaged a government mission.

DIANA The fate of the whole world hangs in the balance. Fools! We are all in trouble. STEVE TREVOR As unbelievable as it seems, she's telling the truth Sergeant.

SGT. STEELE You're careers over Trevor. I'm gonna personally see to that.

EXT. BOAT DECK - NIGHT

Boat still anchored. Ares talks with Thebes and Kaigan.

THEBES What do we do BROTHER ARES? The AMAZON. SHE MAY BE TROUBLE.

ARES (PONDERS) Go. Pay your respects to The Amazon Princess. I'll keep her distracted. Even here I can smell the stench of her vengeful heart. - I'll find her.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

DIANA You are wasting precious time.

STEVE TREVOR She's right about this guy! I feel it in my gut.

GIDEON I always thought you were a cocky little prick, Steve. But this twilight zone crap! This - this is beautiful man.

STEVE TREVOR If you've got a personal beef with me -

DIANA slams her fist on the table, causing it to shatter in half.

ALARMED, the soldiers all ready themselves to fire.

STEVE steps in front of DIANA and the room freezes in time.

INT. PASSENGER CABIN - FREIGHTER SHIP - NIGHT (SAME TIME)

ARES sits fold legged on the floor, inside CABIN. He is focused. Concentrating. Eyes shut. He is chanting in ANCIENT GREEK. The cabin trembles --- As the room bursts into brilliant blue light -

EXT. ASTRAL PLANE - CONTINUOUS

A rush of illuminated souls appear before our eyes, levitating toward the heavens... Doorway to mystical world.

Ares opens his eyes. Glowing blood red, a single soul before us becomes crystallized. Diana.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM (REAL TIME) - NIGHT

Security train guns on Diana:

STEVE TREVOR Are you nuts? She's unarmed.

They lower their weapons. STEVE turns to Diana:

STEVE TREVOR (CONT'D)

You alright?

Looks in DIANA'S eyes. Eyes glowing red. She's in a trance.

STEVE TREVOR (CONT'D)

Diana!

GIDEON What's going on?

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM (DIANA'S MIND) - CONTINUOUS

ARES approaches from behind frozen GIDEON clapping with a smile on his face. Everyone else in the room frozen apart from Diana.

DIANA (ANGRY)

ARES!

Diana tries to punch him but goes right through him. Whilst startled, he lifts her chin gently then viciously backhands her.

ARES ASTRAL PROJECTION my dear. You can't touch me here. NOW AMAZON! - Points for Diana to kneel and pay respects. Diana defiant.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM (REAL TIME) - CONTINUOUS

DIANA remains frozen as if in a vivid daydream she can't snap out of. STEVE doesn't have a clue.

> STEVE TREVOR There's just nobody home.

FEMALE INTERROGATOR Catatonic maybe? In shock from the explosion?

GIDEON Or some-kind of special anti interrogation technique...

STEVE TREVOR (Thinking to himself) Come on Angel. Give me a clue. What's going on in there?

Steve clutches her hand worried. She squeezes back.

DIANA (In trance. Struggles) Bb-aaaa-ggggg!

STEVE TREVOR (Confused) Bag? Bag! (A beat. figures it out) Her bag! Where'd y'stash it.

GIDEON Her bag? Hangar 23. Weapons storage. Why?

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM (DIANA'S MIND) - CONTINUOUS

### DIANA

Murderer. Even your own mother regards you a cruel, heartless monster.

ARES

A MONSTER? My mother - that whore - would have abandoned me to Tartarus while still resting in the crib.

DIANA Release me from thy bonds War-God, and I shall kindly abandon you from Earthly Existence.

ARES Smart tongue. Careful princess, I don't pluck it from your lips and keep it (as) an Amazonian treasure.

Diana about to retort. Ares snaps his fingers, back turned to DIANA. DIANA'S lips bound together.

ARES (CONT'D)

NO!

Until her lips disappear from her face, silencing her. ARES snaps his fingers once again and the room fades away.

DISSOLVES INTO:

INT. THRONE ROOM, AREOPAGUS (ARES ROCK) -

Diana kneels on UNHOLY ALTER. Chained by the neck and arms to the rock and bone wall behind her. Stunned. Confused. Where am I?

Ares sits on his throne wearing a skull mask disguising his face. He removes it. Ares wears the majestic Golden and lilac robes of a Roman Caesar. Stands. ARES walks toward Diana, swinging his sword, back and forth, like a walking-stick. Ares finally steps onto the Alter and confronts Diana, Lifting her chin with his sword.

DIANA, wears a skimpy raven black robe. DIANA, struggles to escape her bondage.DIANA continues to try and break free. Still no fear. ARES comes closer. His armor impressive. Godly.

ARES (From thoughtful to cruel) I cannot kill you here Diana! But I can cause you unimaginable pain. UNIMAGINABLE. That is not a threat!

EXT. SECURITY GATE, US MILITARY BASE - TURKEY THEBES's dressed in a hooded robe walks up to security gate.

> GUARD#1 Hey you, identify yourself!

Thebes ignores. Continues forward.

THEBES I smell GODS BLOOD upon these grounds. WHERE ARE YOU KEEPING THE AMAZON PRINCESS!!

GUARD#1 Keep talkin' freaktard! I'll drop y'ass where you stand.

THEBES approaches the guards.

GUARD#1 (CONT'D) Stop! Or I will shoot you in the face.

Guard#1 opens fire. Doesn't faze Thebes. Thebes, removes the robe, revealing GODLY GREEK ARMOR. THEBES face is partly charred so you can see blood, skin and tissue, right down to the skull. His face begins to conflagurate, like a volcanic eruption.

THEBES grabs GUARD#1's face with burning hand, like he was gripping a basketball. GUARD#1's face burning alive. THEBES takes a sword from his SCABBARD as he continues to torture GUARD#1.

# guard#2

Oh my god!

Guard#2 watches as Guard#1's body stops jerking, THEBES tosses him aside like garbage.

GUARD#2 sets alarm off, then opens fire on THEBES.

THEBES jumps high in the air, sword aimed for decapitation.

Close on GUARD#2 as he gives almost comical scream of terror.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM (REAL TIME) - MOMENTS LATER

Loud horns alert the base as STEVE wonders what's going on. Explosions are heard, shooting, faint screams.

GIDEON The hells going on out there? A soldier enters interrogation room.

SOLDIER An attack on the base... Gotta get everyone outta here now!

GIDEON Well you heard the man, move it... Trevor we'll finish this up later.

STEVE TREVOR What about Diana?

GIDEON Your problem, not mine.

### FEMALE INTERROGATOR

(A beat, looks at her) You're sweet on her. And boy can I ever see why. But you know what's even more beautiful than a looker like her, Steve? (Explosion tremors room) <u>Life</u>. So you comin'?

STEVE TREVOR I may be a scumbag. But I'm not an asshole. (Looks at Diana) Hope you're on to somethin' angel. Be right back.

GIDEON and the interrogator exit. -- STEVE reluctantly follows, knowing leaving Diana for now is her only chance.

EXT. MILITARY BASE - THEBES

THEBES casually strolls around measuring his enemies who fire on him from all directions.

THEBES takes a bullet from his arm. Looks at it. It has blood on it, but is partially melted. Thebes shrugs off bullets.

THEBES opens fire, spewing up a tremendous fire ball guiding it with his eyes, that seems more like a flaming crude oil spill, incinerating everything it comes in contact with.

EXT. KAIGAN, MILITARY BASE FENCE - MOMENTS LATER

KAIGAN clears fence in one leap. KAIGAN'S feet hit the dirt inside the base and he runs towards Hangar 23.

INT. THRONE ROOM - AREOPAGUS (ARES ROCK) -

Ares clutching Diana by the chin.

ARES (Grabs hold of collar around Diana's neck) Yes, you are fetching... No denying that... More so, than even your mother.--(DIANA continues her desperate attempts) ... For Clio you hate me. Rightly so. But we must move beyond childish vengeance and achieve far nobler purpose. Together. Punish the true villain of this Earth. Man.

DIANA What is it you speak of? Or, do you simply speak of wind madman?

ARES Let me show you.

Puts his hands over DIANA'S eyes.

INT. HALLWAY BASE - STEVE TREVOR

STEVE trying to find his way to Hangar 23. STEVE gets the attention of a young soldier. Everyone is in a state of panic.

STEVE TREVOR Kid. Hangar 23? Quick, where is it?

Soldier points Steve in the right direction.

EXT. ROMAN COLISEUM, ARENA FLOOR - 66 BCE

Diana (in Gladiatorial armor) awakens to: A clash of iron comes crashing down toward her helmet. She parries with a sword instinctively blocking what she now knows is an axe, coming from a larger Ethiopian female Gladiator. Terrifying. The Ethiopian gladiator roars continuing attack on Diana who falls back helpless.

> DIANA Stop this IMMEDIATELY Ares! Where have you taken me?

ARES narrates to Diana's battle.

ARES(V.O.) Long after I was imprisoned in your dungeons, man continued his aggressions. Glorious Empires erected in the name of advancing civilization... Empires that demarcated the world between barbarian and human. Empires that enslaved, Tortured, and murdered millions. Empires that dragged MOTHERS from their orphaned children... Just so they could perform in stadiums like this.

Diana has been fighting off her assailant and finally gets the better of her. She takes her down and puts a sword to her throat. The crowd becomes electric and begin chanting: "Kill! Kill! Kill!"

ANGLE ON THE GODS BOX. Emperor Ares signals with a thumbs down for Diana to kill her helpless opponent.

INT. HANGAR 23, WEAPONS STORAGE DOOR - STEVE TREVOR

Steve, shoots lock on security door. In background, a helicopter plows into hangar, skidding right into Nose of a Jet. Boom. Steve crashes through door of -

INT. WEAPONS STORAGE, STEVE TREVOR - CONTINUOUS ACTION

To avoid the blast. ---- Worried Steve searches racks for weapons. Grabs some grenades and grenade belt.

Then he sees it. DIANA'S BAG laying on a table. Her instruments on display. Chucks stuff in bag. Zips up leaving the hilt of sword hanging out. Rushes out to -

INT. HANGAR 23 - KAIGAN - CONTINUOUS ACTION

- exiting room, he comes out to see:

Kaigan wipe out six armed security staff. Kaigan catches sight of Steve Trevor. Steve draws his .45 On Kaigan.

STEVE TREVOR Don't be a Cowboy.

KAIGAN Where's The Amazon Princess? Kaigan charges at Steve who shoots. Blam, blam, blam, blam, Snap! Steve fits new clip. Kaigan, wham, hits some machinery collapsing on tarmac.

# STEVE TREVOR Taken like a true champ.

Steve goes to exit hangar. From behind, Kaigan rises.

INT. KENNEDY SPACE CENTER - FLORIDA

The year is 1969, Diana and ARES watch in a crowd of enthusiastic onlookers as The Apollo 11 Space Rocket launches into the sky. DIANA dazzled stares as it takes off.

ARES

Now look Diana. Look on the glory of the modern world. While I drink of it's conflicts, civilized man marvels at his own mastery of nature. Why, this age sees man build machines that process information faster than a God can think.

EXT. WAR ZONE - ARES AND DIANA

A city lays in ruins. Diana observes in horror as she walks over a sea of fallen victims. ARES walks along with her casually eating a bag of Cashew's while speaking.

> ARES (CONT'D) ---And yet still, those who benefit from the bounty of modern technology are but a mere fraction compared to those condemned to intolerable conditions.

As a soldier guns down an unarmed family.

EXT. ALAMOGORDO BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE - PREDAWN

We are in the bunker with a young Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer. Diana and Ares in white coats stare with Binoculars out of the bunker into the warm New Mexico Desert night.

> ARES Man's history is one written in blood, dust clouds, ashes and death... Even the atom... One of the basic constituents of life has been turned into a weapon against it.

In the darkness of twilight, suddenly a tremendous outpouring of brilliant and terrifying light, turns night to day as a mushroom cloud rises. ---In the flush of raw power, we see the bones of millions disintegrate into blood and dust.

INT. HANGAR 23 - KAIGAN AND STEVE

Kaigan on his feet.

KAIGAN I said, where is the Amazon Princess?

Steve turns dumbstruck. Kaigan still alive.

STEVE TREVOR Beats me. I just work here.

They move towards each other, sizing each other up. Steve minds his surroundings. Slings THE BAG behind a stack of steel drums.

Steve strikes first and dirty as they begin dueling in a maze of debris, sparking wires and heavy machinery. Steve handles a few of Kaigan's tremendous blows, answering back with some fancy moves of his own. Then Kaigan gets the better of him with a kick that sends him flying several feet in the air before slamming down hard into some crates. -- As Kaigan slowly and ominously draws closer to Steve:

> KAIGAN Hmm! Not bad for a mortal.

INT. GREAT HALL - AREOPAGUS (ARES ROCK) -

She is back in chains disquieted by what Ares has shown her. Ares stands above her.

DIANA Why do you show me these terrible things?

ARES Because... You must know... You may choose to continue being my enemy, but I have long forsaken being yours...

DIANA And what would you prefer us be instead, War-God? ARES

Perhaps allies... Bonded... Together we can maybe redeem this world... Let the muses sing once again... Sing of glorious days of battle when heroes still stood on this Earth... Perhaps, if we declare a truce Diana, you and I... We can even avenge your fallen sisters.

DIANA

How?

### ARES

We together can rouse mankind from his vacant slumber. I shall unburden him of his fragmenting dreams of peace and cleanse the world of his rotting civilizations... Wage a war on this Earth the likes of which humanity has never seen... A WAR THAT SHALL RAGE ON THIS WRETCHED ORB FOR A THOUSAND THOUSAND YEARS.

INT. HANGAR 23 - KAIGAN AND STEVE

The two men fight brutally, Kaigan rocks Steve with a stout right that staggers him. Steve pathetic, on his knees, in surrendering pose as Kaigan unsympathetically gazes down at the wounded animal. Steve begins clinging to Kaigan trying to drag himself up to his feet; as he does, he tags a SMALL DEVICE to Kaigan's shirt while he's distracted.

> STEVE TREVOR So you don't punch like a pussy, I'll give you that much.

KAIGAN You've lost soldier. Tell me where the Princess is and perhaps I'll let you walk away.

Steve makes a futile attempt to take Kaigan down, but is reversed and thrown into the steel drums where he hid Diana's bag.

> KAIGAN (CONT'D) You amuse me soldier. But I am through playing games with you.

Kaigan's corneas blacken again. Steve struggle to his feet. We now see what THE DEVICE was, an infer red light emits from it, glowing on Kaigan's shirt.

> KAIGAN (CONT'D) If you choose to die with honor, to defend the Amazon, who am I to stand in the way of such noble sacrifice.

Kaigan charges, jumping several feet in the air on Steve's position. --- Steve grabs a grenade from his belt, pulls the pin in his hand. A flood of gas spills from the cup of the Grenade obscuring Steve in a veil of smoke. --- All we can see is the infer-red light through the smoke. Then O.S the gasp of a dying man.

TIGHT ON Kaigan as the smoke clears. His eyes filled with sorrow and pain. -- PULL BACK REVEAL that Steve has impaled Kaigan, straight through the heart, with Diana's sword. ---He pulls the sword out. As Kaigan bravely slumps down:

> KAIGAN (CONT'D) Well played soldier.

INT. GREAT HALL - AREOPAGUS (ARES ROCK) -

ARES

Trust Diana, war is the one thing that makes all men equal... This garish peace-time civilization mutilates him... All his talk of progress and reason and enlightenment; mere selfflatulence. You'll see... He knows who he really is. All men are violent beasts at heart... That's why they guard their miserable cage, like a hound still guards the master who flogs him...

#### DIANA

You are most adept at adorning lies with the semblance of truth, War-God. But I see now ... Hera was right. You TRULY ARE insane -

Ares smacks Diana with great force across the face. --- Spits her bloody spit in Ares face.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - SAME TIME

STEVE hobbles in looking like he's gone 10 with the world champ. Checks on DIANA who remains in trance. Tosses Diana's gear to the floor. Opens. He begins searching items for something that might help Diana. The Lasso catches his attention. It glows dimly.

INT. GREAT HALL - AREOPAGUS (ARES ROCK) - SAME TIME

DIANA (CONT'D) What are you up to, ARES?

ARES

Worry not, Amazon. You won't be here to witness the glorious reckoning that's coming. You spit on my hand. Reject me... By the time this is over... that Island of mannish pigs - you call sisters will regret your spurn. I'll have'em hunted. Weeded out and violated for my amusement... Just like that dead bitch, Clio.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM -

The Lasso now glows brightly. Steve takes hold of the Lasso and suddenly he's transported to -

INT. GREAT HALL - AREOPAGUS (ARES ROCK) -

- Kneeling right in front of Diana. Steve stares back at Ares incredulously.

STEVE TREVOR So what's your gimmick 'sposed to be dick-head? Liberace?

DIANA Quick. Hand me the lariat Steve.

Places the Lasso in DIANA'S hand.

Ares begins to fade like an apparition. Steve confused, but before he can figure it out -

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - (REAL TIME)

- DIANA's eyes begin to dim, revealing her normal kind eyes. She snaps out of trance.

DIANA

Steve!

STEVE TREVOR Angel, we gotta get outta here, now!

The room trembles again from the commotion outside.

DIANA What was that!

STEVE TREVOR Ares men attacked the base! It's like they're not human. Something else. One-of-em's virtually wiped out a whole company.

DIANA Then it was a distraction!

DIANA begins to gear up for battle.

DIANA (CONT'D) STEVE, get who you can to safety!

STEVE TREVOR What about you?

DIANA I know how it works now!

STEVE TREVOR Know how what works?

DIANA (Mysterious)

Me.

STEVE TREVOR But what if you...? -

DIANA

I won't.

EXT. MILITARY BASE - ESTABLISHING - MOMENTS LATER

Ariel view of base. Injured and dead troops scattered about the place. A helicopter has torn through the roof of the command center.

EXT. MILITARY BASE GATE - THEBES

THEBES is slicing through Humvees and Tanks with his sword, flames flicker and spark from blade. The remaining troops scramble. THEBES

COWARDS! Doesn't, but one of you, seek a warrior's death?! NOT ONE OF YOU HAS THE COURAGE TO challenge me?!

ON DIANA who saunters in as Wonder Woman.

## DIANA Servant of Ares?

## THEBES THE AMAZON PRINCESS?

DIANA Yes... But you can call me angel. (Winks)

THEBES charges at DIANA his sword bursting into flame as their swords clash with such force DIANA'S feet sink into the ground.

DIANA pushes THEBES back then kicks him in the chest... DIANA gives a war cry... Lunges at THEBES with her sword...

Mano A Mano the two duke it out in a super-powered gladiatorial duel for the ages, until, he smashes her sword from her hand... Swings to decapitate her. She crabs. Blade barely misses her face as she stumbles to the ground. THEBES stands above her victorious.

> THEBES I have bested you Amazon. Yield.

## DIANA Athena, guide me!

DIANA, kicks at Thebes knees buckling him. Roles to the side. He again attempts to finish her slamming his sword toward her as it erupts in flame.

DIANA grabs her Lasso, whips THEBES in the face who winces from the impact. She flips to her feet. Again he chops with the sword which she catches in her lasso. She quickly wraps the lasso around the blade, flinging it away.

She ropes him and sweeps him with such swiftness it almost looks like it was done in the same instant. As she stands above the vanquished Thebes she stomps him square in his face, dirty style... HE LETS OUT A SICKENING HOWL.

The lasso bursts into glorious flame, constricting like a snake, slithering up Thebes's body. Tries to break free but he cannot move.

DIANA'S eyes begin to glow the color of the lasso. THEBES roars in agony.

DIANA (CONT'D) (Voice echoes like she is speaking from a thousand voices) I see now demon... YOU ARE THEBES... born from the carnage and flames of a thousand Earth wars.

The lasso blazes singeing DIANA'S palms. But she has no pain. THEBES however continues to suffer.

DIANA (CONT'D) Within this lasso burn the fires of truth. In it's grip you cannot lie... Tell me demon... WHERE IS ARES and what does he plan for this realm?

THEBES attempts a feeble laugh but DIANA yanks harder causing him again to roar.

DIANA (CONT'D) Speak now demon. In Hestia's name, I compel you.

THEBES

I have failed my brother Ares! BUT I WILL NOT BETRAY HIM.

THEBES body goes up in flames. Diana retreats from the eruption. WE see the lasso still glowing, but now laying in ashes.

DIANA You already have, demon!

She surveys the chaos.

P.O.V. Someone stealthily lurks in the background watching Diana. They pull their gun out, aiming for DIANA.

DIANA senses something, she turns. Reveal, ARES MOLE: is THE FEMALE INTERROGATOR. Her eyes glow red. She aims her gun at Diana. Grins.

FEMALE INTERROGATOR Say hello to Elvis for me.

As she's about to take her shot, a silhouetted figure swipes her head with the butt of his rifle knocking her clean out. It's STEVE who staggers over still busted up from earlier. Diana races to assist him. INT. BIO LAB, FORT D - NIGHT

Etta and Dr. Dominguez Dressed in biosafety suits, look at video monitor (IMAGE OF BLOOD CELLS) hooked up to an electron microscope.

EXTREME CLOSE UP of healthy blood cells.

DR. DOMINGUEZ

Before.

THE IMAGE CHANGES.

CELLS completely degraded. DR. DOMINGUEZ adjusts console to heighten magnification.

DR. DOMINGUEZ (CONT'D)

After.

ETTA CANDY The cells are completely ruptured.

DR. DOMINGUEZ Same male victim... We'll need a more comprehensive PCR Catalyst test to really understand what we're dealing with. This is kinda crude but what it does on exposure is like nothing I've ever seen.

ETTA CANDY Do you think this is our guy?

DR. DOMINGUEZ Good candidate. We won't know till we get cerebral tissue samples from our African base.

ETTA CANDY But the red mist, devil's blood, can't be a coincidence.

DR. DOMINGUEZ I can tell you one thing without a PCR analysis, this is very sophisticated and very nasty work. It's eaten healthy blood cells alive. No one could survive with this in'em for very long.

ETTA CANDY

How long?

DR. DOMINGUEZ We're talking 48 hours... 4 days Tops.

EXT. DIANA AND STEVE TREVOR, MILITARY BASE - NIGHT

Steve leans up against vehicle. Diana assists STEVE. Injured bad, but he puts on a brave face for her.

DIANA You're hurt Steve?

DIANA takes a satchel off her belt.

DIANA (CONT'D) Take this... Drink it with water. Rub it in your wounds. It'll help you heal quickly.

STEVE TREVOR Where are you going?

DIANA Venom? Does the name mean anything to you?

STEVE TREVOR Yeah. My units been investigating them.

DIANA And Devil's Blood?

STEVE TREVOR Yeah. Yeah. How -

DIANA

I saw all of it in the mind of that deranged creature. Like some terrible dream I could not stop... He plans to attack Gateway city Steve.

STEVE TREVOR What? When?

DIANA

Tonight... VENOM are targeting American bases all over the globe. Gateway City --

# STEVE TREVOR

Is where peace talks between the Kaznian and Bayalian representatives are taking place next week. But what's his end game?

### DIANA

He's using VENOM. Their Masters. He wants to level the playing field of modern warfare, by eliminating All nuclear threat. He feeds off the psychic energies of war. Once all nuclear weapons are under his control...

### STEVE TREVOR

... All the Great Powers'll be militarily neutralized at once. Peace time fractured by the end of mutually assured self-destruction --

#### DIANA

Over night turned into a world at war. Mobilized forever -- Any peace based on the threat of destruction is no peace at all and he plans to expose that.

Said as if she is putting it together herself

INT. PASSPORT CONTROL (BOOTH), GATEWAY CITY AIRPORT - NIGHT

Dr. Poison and Dr Gogan pass unassumingly through customs area.

DIANA (V.O) All he has to do is ignite the flame, then watch the world burn. First, tensions will soar. Fear will drown out mens capacity for reason.

Dr. Poison arrives at the IMMIGRATION OFFICER booth and provides him with a British Passport. He checks it -DIANA (V.O.) IMMIGRATION OFFICER -scapegoats will be sought. - Welcome to Gateway city Dr.

Marston.

He stamps the passport.

IMMIGRATION OFFICER I hope you'll enjoy your stay. Dr. Poison walks off with an impassive expression.

EXT. GATEWAY CITY STREETS - NIGHT

Looks like a party or Halloween. A carnival of colorful costumed party people head to bars shit-faced.

DIANA (V.O.) - families will mourn and demand blood from their leaders.

INT/EXT. BLACK VAN, GATEWAY CITY STREET - SAME TIME

DR. Poison and Gogan observe the bombast and cheer of the spirited night from the back seat. American VENOM agents ride with them. Some wear GAS masks others have the MASKS over their heads. ALL RACES and CREEDS.

DR. POISON Time to show the Generals.

Back to street. TILT UP fireworks.

DIANA Enemy territories even suspected of hosting hostiles

INT. DECK, ARE'S FREIGHTER SHIP - NIGHT (NOTE: THIS COULD BE A BOAT, AS LONG AS DECK IS BIG ENOUGH FOR A BATTLE)

Ares stares with glowing red eyes into the dark Atlantic Ocean.

DIANA (V.O.) Will be bombed until grievers lusts for retribution are sated.

VARIOUS IMAGES -

NEWS PROGRAM: A city being bombed. PULL BACK REVEAL it's on a Shop Television. or ALT Demonic creatures reeking havoc in different cities.

DIANA (V.O.) Millions of innocents will perish, just to unseed the few.

BACK TO SCENE

DIANA Then once total power is accumulated, Ares will usurp control of the worlds nuclear arsenal, and sit back on his throne, as all hell breaks loose. STEVE TREVOR Okay. Okay! We gotta get to the plane and get back to Gateway before -DIANA But Ares is at sea. STEVE TREVOR And Venom? (Diana ponders) DIANA You should go, warn Laurie and as many as you can. STEVE TREVOR But I need you. You can do much more than I can. DIANA What about Ares? What about my sister. STEVE TREVOR DTANA At the cost of how many lives? -- Retribution?! STEVE TREVOR You're better than that. DIANA STEVE TREVOR - It was my fault she died -- Better than retribution -

> DIANA (SMILES) You still believe in me? Even after

> STEVE TREVOR I've got to kiddo, you're our hero.

DIANA Kiddo? (smiles) You know I'm thousands of years older than you. STEVE TREVOR In wisdom, sure. But not where it counts.

DIANA And where's that Steve?

STEVE TREVOR In your journey. Your capacity to save tomorrow.

DIANA Get the plane Steve. You won't be able to follow me.

STEVE TREVOR (Chuckles) Follow you?

Diana, gives him a heart felt kiss on the cheek. Almost romantic. He blushes. Mutual smile.

DIANA

Keep faith Steve.

DIANA then stands up. Unsure of herself she begins to glide hovering a few metres off the ground. STEVE'S eyes widen with wonder as Diana gracefully takes off into the clouds.

> STEVE TREVOR ...She is an angel... (smiles)

> > CUT TO:

EXT. SKY - NIGHT

Diana zips through the Arabian sky, eyes open at first, but then a sense of serenity over takes her and she shuts them. She was so concerned with her mission that she hasn't taken time to ponder on how far she's come.

Tears up. Overwhelmed by the beauty of flight and her emotions.

## DIANA Sorry Clio!

The star on her Tiara begins to glow.

INT. TEMPLE OF APHRODITE, THEMYSCIRA - NIGHT

Hippolyta prays to Aphrodite. Her bracelet glows. A GLITCHING HOLOGRAM OF DIANA appears on the alter before her like some majestic warrior Goddess.

DIANA HOLOGRAM M-m-mother I-I- n-n-need you. Bad connection.

EXT. WAR BOATS, SHORE OF THEMYSCIRA - NIGHT

AMAZON soldiers BOARD ADVANCED WARSHIPS.

INT. THE BRIDGE, WAR BOAT - THEMYSCIRA SEA - SAME TIME

ARTEMIS leads a fearless fleet of AMAZONS prepared for battle.

ARTEMIS holds her palm over a small PURPLE FLOATING SPHERE. The helm. It glows and a red dot appears on world map. The dot rotates like a compass till it finds it's way under her palm. The boat starts moving.

EXT. FLEET OF DOZENS OF AMAZON WAR BOATS AT SEA - CONTINUOUS ACTION

A flotilla of advanced war vessels go from 40 to 500 knots in seconds, vanishing before our eyes.

INT. PLATFORM, GATEWAY SUBWAY STATION- NIGHT

PACKED with commuters wearing party costumes, waiting for the next train.

Through this sea of people, we see our VENOM TERRORISTS, in costume and gas masks, blending in.

EXT. WONDER WOMAN, ENTRANCE TO SUBWAY - SAME TIME

Slow and steady WONDER WOMAN descends from the sky. Lands in front of entrance. People look at her in awe.

VARIOUS PEOPLE "They must be filming a movie. Like some special affect.", "Her costumes fly, yo!", "Did you see her honey?" "It's definitely kicked in. I swear, I just saw that chick, fly dog." WONDER WOMAN Please. You mustn't go down there. It's not safe.

They won't listen, and she doesn't have time. She hastes down the escalator.

INT. BRIDGE, ARES BOAT - NIGHT

Captain keeping an eye on the RADAR SCREEN. Suddenly notices seven blips coming their way. Moving at impossible speed. Turns to crew man.

> CAPTAIN Something's wrong.

## CREW MAN

Torpedoes?

CAPTAIN Don't think so. Warn the boss... And get some boys on the deck, now.

Captain grabs binoculars to survey what's coming.

EXT. PORT SIDE BRIDGE WING - CONTINUOUS

He looks through the binoculars to find,

CAPTAIN P.O.V. Amazon War boats, coming in at 60 knots. So quick you hardly see.

# CAPTAIN

Incoming.

EXT. DECK - SECONDS LATER

BAD GUYS FIRE AT THE AMAZON WAR BOATS, with submachine guns.

(CONT'D)