MERMAIDS

A SCREENPLAY

By

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WGA REGISTERED # 1484562
INT. APARTMENT BEDROOM  DAY

BRANDON, 32, lays on his bed. He reads a book, ‘MERMAIDS, Do They Exist?’ His apartment is modest.

He looks at his watch, jumps up,

KITCHEN – CONTINUOUS

goes to the refrigerator, opens the door. Inside is a part eaten TV dinner, almost empty container of milk, a package with one piece of ham in it, a bottle of water and an old package of bread. He picks up the bread, looks inside, mold. Disgusted, he throws it in the garbage, eats the ham, grabs the water.

There are a stack of bills on his table. He sits and stares at them. He picks one and opens it. It is a overdue bill from his car finance company. He tosses it back in the pile.

BEDROOM – CONTINUOUS

He puts his open zippered bag filled with his clothes on the bed, starts to zip it up, looks at the Mermaid book, pauses, unzips the bag, puts the book in, zips it up. He walks out.

CUT TO:

INT. DOCTOR OFFICE  PATIENT ROOM DAY

KYLE, 31, dressed in a doctor’s white smock, holds a stethoscope on a 75 year old male PATIENT’S bare chest who sits on an examining table.

KYLE
Breathe deep Bob.
(Bob inhales)
Deeper.
(Inhales again)
Very good Bob, you’ll live, put your shirt back on.
BOB
But Doctor, I told you I’m having pains in my chest, there must be something.

KYLE
Bob, were you here last month with the same complaint? And did I not run tests on you? Nothing has changed Bob, keep taking your meds, you’ll be fine.

BOB
But Doctor..

KYLE
Bob, you come here because you trust me so trust me now when I say you’re ticker is fine. I’ll see you next month.

CASHIER DESK – CONTINUOUS

Kyle hands an OLD WOMAN a prescription. DIANE, the receptionist, sits behind the counter.

KYLE
Two of these a day will keep the doctor away. Diane will take your insurance card.

OLD WOMAN
Thank you Doctor, see you next month.

Kyle smiles, looks at his watch, walks away.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE  DAY

DEREK, 31, dressed in a suit, leans back in his chair behind a desk, closed door, he talks on the phone. Very nice office, nice view of Miami waterfront.
DEREK
The order is almost ready Mr. Adler.
(pause)
Yes sir, I know I said it would be out 2 days ago but...
(pause)
I know, but as I told you, we received our supplies late.
(pause)
No, no, you don’t have to go somewhere else, we’ll have it out by Friday.
(pause)
Yes sir, we’ll call. Thank you for your patience Mr. Adler.

He puts the phone down, sighs, leans back in chair, looks out the window, lost for a moment in the view. He looks at his watch, picks up the phone.

DEREK
It’s time Rose, no more calls.

He gets up, packs some papers into a briefcase, walks through the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE DAY

SEAN, 31, hammers nails into a framed window he is finishing. The house is in the framing stage. He looks at his watch. The FOREMAN places a window in the opening as Sean screws it in place. They have on hard hats.

FOREMAN
Sean, you know we’ve been slow, I guess we’ve laid off 6 guys in the last month.

SEAN
This conversation can’t be good.

FOREMAN
No, this economy has killed us. You do good work Sean but this
is it. I’ll call you when we pick up another job.

(BEAT)
You knew this was coming.... didn’t you?

SEAN
Yeah, I guess, I just didn’t want to think about it.

Done with window, Sean picks up his tools.

FOREMAN
I’m really sorry Sean. Beer before you go?

SEAN
(looks at watch)
Thanks but can’t.

PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Sean gets into his car, drives off.

CUT TO:

EXT. MIAMI BOAT DOCK 2011 DAY

DEREK
Dad, I can’t thank you enough for letting us use The Mystic, we’ll take good care of her.

DAD
You’ve been a good student and become a good captain Derek. You guys have been planned this trip for a long time, you deserve a vacation. You have enough supplies to last?

DEREK
Yeah, we’ll only be gone for 2 - 3 weeks, we have rations for three so we’ll be good. We’ll also be fishing so who knows how much extra food
we’ll have.

DAD
Charts, maps, flashlights, back up batteries, beer?

DEREK
Got it all, especially the beer part.

DAD
Water, medicine, gas, bait..

DEREK
Dad, stop, we’re prepared!

DAD
You still have to be careful, you know, bad weather, pirates, mermaids, sea monsters, The Bermuda Triangle.

DEREK
Triangle Schmiangle, but I wouldn’t mind seeing a mermaid. Everything else we’re prepared for.

DAD
(concerned)
Don’t take the Triangle lightly, weird stuff, you never know.

Derek looks seriously at his Dad, then..

CUT TO:

EXT. THE MYSTIC DECK CONTINUOUS

BRANDON
C’mon D, we gotta go. Mermaids are waiting, Aye mate, Pirate gold!

SEAN
Yeah, we got places to go, people to see, beer to drink.
KYLE
Mysterious women, waiting,
......for us.

DOCK - CONTINUOUS

DEREK
The crews anxious Dad, we gotta take off.

DAD
Alright son, be careful and have a great time. I love you Derek, see you soon.

DEREK
Love you too Dad, see you in a few weeks.

They hug and Derek gets on the boat, soon invisible.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOAT CONTINUOUS NIGHT
They sit in the galley, eat dinner, drink beer.

SEAN
Did you tell your Dad we were heading straight into The Bermuda Triangle? On a mermaid mission?

DEREK
Not directly but he probably knows. I don’t need him to worry about us more than he already does.

BRANDON
Pass the shrimp over here buddy. Thanks. Man this is great, Life is good!

He holds a shrimp in front of his mouth.
Brandon (Con’t)
Over the teeth and through the gums, look out belly here I comes. Aahhhhh, mmmmmmmmm, good! It’s nice to get out of the rat race.

He holds up a spoon like a microphone.

Brandon (Con’t)
It’s been a tough fought game folks, 3 quarters of players beating the crap out of each other, now, with 10 seconds left it looks like Freedom will defeat Stress.

Kyle
No whining patients, no office staff to deal with and, no bitching girlfriend.

Derek
Yeah, right, says the Doctor making 300k a year.

Kyle
Yeah right says the vice president working for his millionaire dad, and engaged to a beautiful woman.

Derek
I worked my way up just like anyone else. I can’t help it if beautiful women want my body.

Derek holds up both arms and flexes his muscles.

After all, I am a superior physical specimen.

Kyle
Stop before I puke! Please, I know from experience that’s not all they want. Besides, you started higher and moved
faster!. Two years, gimme a break!

SEAN
You guys are messed up. I was making 40k, now I’m unemployed. Give me a break and stop whining.

BRANDON
Really! Reeeally!! All of you can eat my dog! We all graduated together, I’m laid off, no income, no savings, no girlfriend…….. no life. Pulllelease, stop whining, you don’t know how good you all have it. I’d love to be making 40 grand a year.

SEAN
I know someone at the lumber yard, I can try to get you on.

BRANDON
Yeah, what?

SEAN
Well, they have these big piles of sawdust, all around the yard, you seen them?

BRANDON
Yeah, I thought they sold them to nurseries, or something.

SEAN
You’ve seen the stacks of 2 x 4’s?

BRANDON
Of course, get to the job.

SEAN
You go in the morning, eat the sawdust, in the afternoon you crap out 2 x 4’s.
They all crack up laughing

BRANDON
Bite me Sean.

DEREK
I’m trying to get you on
Brandon, it just takes some
time, the economy sucks.

BRANDON
I know, I’m here to testify!
Can you guys believe we’re
here, we’ve planned this for
two years.

KYLE
That calls for a toast boys!

They all raise their beers.

KYLE (CON’T)
To freedom, to loose women, to
an open sea filled with
mermaids,

BRANDON
To Pirate gold.

KYLE
and to the best group of
friends a guy could have.

They all chant ‘here, here’ and down their beers.

CUT TO:

EXT. NASSAU BOAT DOCK   DAY

They are docked at the boat dock, an ATTENDANT gasses it up. They stand on the dock.

DEREK
All right mates, I’ve arranged
to have her docked over there
for the night. We can eat right
up there, actually I see about
four places to eat. Let’s try to stay together but if we lose anyone, we can stumble back to the ship on our own. Remember, we leave at dawn!

SEAN
Let the games begin!

They all head up to bar.

CUT TO:

INT. BAR  NIGHT

Typical busy bar scene, Brandon and Sean dance to the live REGGAE BAND with the locals, Derek and Kyle sit at the table, littered with shot glasses.

A local woman, TRISTA, sits with them.

TRISTA
So where you guys go from here?

DEREK
One to two hundred miles northeast.

TRISTA
(concerned)
Why? There’s nothing there plus that heads you straight into the Triangle.

DEREK
That’s why we’re going. Maybe do some fishing but we have charts of some disappearances we want to check out. It’s kind of like climbing a mountain, we want to do it because it’s there.

TRISTA
People get killed on those mountains. You Americans think the stories you hear are all made up? I tell you they’re
not, you’re playing with fire.

DEREK
Why do you say that?

TRISTA
Because you don’t hear everything, only what ‘they’ want you to hear.

DEREK
And you hear more?

TRISTA
In this part of the island, we all know each other. We’ve had more fisherman disappear than anyone knows about. You never hear about it, you never will.

KYLE
Why?

TRISTA
Tourists man, tourists. They boat, fish, stay in expensive hotels, eat at expensive restaurants. You’ll never see that story in your American papers.

DEREK
Sounds kind of crazy but I guess it makes sense. So how many have there been?

TRISTA
I’m not sure of the exact numbers but it’s been going on since before I was born. My own father disappeared when I was 15 years old.

(looks around)
They don’t want us talking about it. Bad for business.
KYLE
Interesting, a conspiracy. Who might 'they' be?

TRISTA
You hear talk.

DEREK
Your father, what happened?

TRISTA
Like so many others, the sea fed us. He knew the stories of the missing, he knew the risk, but you know, it didn’t matter. We are a poor country, my father had to fish to feed us. He went out with three other men one morning and never returned. They never found their bodies, or their boat. Just like that, BOOM!!

She smacks a shot glass loud on the table, Derek and Kyle listen so intent it scares the crap out of them.

TRISTA (CON’T)
Gone forever.

DEREK
What does your people think has taken all these men?

TRISTA
No one knows. (Pauses) But I tell you there is one thing many fisherman have seen.

KYLE
What? (no answer) C’mon, what have they seen?

TRISTA
No laughing OK? I really mean it man, no laughing.
(BEAT)
Mermaids.

KYLE
You mean like mermaids from...

TRISTA
Yes man, mermaids. The farther out they went, the more they saw.

DEREK
And you believe this?

TRISTA
Hell man, I don’t know. Why would so many of them tell the same story? You’ll never see me on a boat out there.

DEREK
That’s some wild stuff Trista. Let’s drink up, we have to get out of here early.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOAT NIGHT

The boys have just finished dinner and sit on the deck under a beautiful night sky, almost full moon.

KYLE
What do you think about our conversation with Trista last night?

DEREK
She believed it. Really, I’m hoping we see one.

SEAN
What are you guys talking about?

KYLE
You know the girl that was
sitting with us?

SEAN
Yeah, I remember her, barely.

DEREK
Your lucky to remember anything drunk boy. Do you remember taking off your shirt on the dance floor?

SEAN
No, but damned if I could find my shirt this morning.

DEREK
There you have it. The woman you were dancing with looked hot in it. Besides, she probably needed it more than you.

SEAN
Crap, that was my Tommy Bahama shirt. So what did you guys talk about?

KYLE
Oh you know, the regular stuff, The Triangle, missing fisherman, mermaids.

SEAN
Mermaids?

BRANDON
Hey, hold on, don’t move!

They look at each other, Brandon jumps up, goes into the cabin, returns with a book in his hand and a small pen flashlight. He sits back down.

DEREK
All right, what’s the mystery book?

BRANDON
I forgot I had it in there.
(holds up book)
‘MERMAIDS, Do They Exist?’
Timely topic, eh. Listen,

SEAN
Educational. I swear, of all the books you could read..

BRANDON
Shuddup man, I’ve been preparing for our trip.

SEAN
You live in a fantasy world.

DEREK
Let him talk, I want to hear it.

SEAN
Whatever!

BRANDON
Listen,
   (shines light on book)
This mermaid stuff has been going on forever.
   (he reads)
“Mermaids have been seen through the centuries in every part of the world. In the First Century AD, Pliny the Elder wrote about ‘women with rough scaly bodies, like fish’. In the Fifth Century AD, Physiologus described the mermaid as ‘a beast of the sea wonderfully shapen as a maid, the upper body of a woman and the lower body of a fish, split at the naval.’”
First century man! Pliny the Elder, wild stuff!

SEAN
Pliny this!
   (downs his beer)
BURRRRRRRRRRRPPP!!
BRANDON
Nice, you pig! Listen, 
"In 1608 Discoverer Henry 
Hudson’s crew spotted a mermaid 
alongside their ship. He wrote 
'she was looking earnestly on 
the men, she was spreckled 
like a macrell with long black 
hair, white skin and a woman’s 
breasts.'
Henry Hudson dude!

KYLE
Go on.

BRANDON
"In 1614, British explorer John 
Smith spotted a mermaid in the 
waters off the Caribbean, 
'swimming about with all 
possible grace'. Thinking at 
first it was a woman, he wrote 
'her long green hair imparted 
to her an original character 
by no means unattractive’ 
then confessed 'I had already 
begun to experience the first 
effects of love'. Then the 
creature suddenly rolled, 
revealing that from the waist 
below the woman gave way to 
the fish.'
These guys were explorers, 
they didn’t write it unless 
they saw it.

SEAN
Explore this. 
(chugs beer) 
BUUURRRRRPPPPPPP!

DEREK
What can I say, our resident 
Burpmeister! 
(to Brandon) 
So, what you’re saying is, 
uhh, you believe in Mermaids?
BRANDON
Hell, I don’t know, I want to.
Personally, I’d love to splash around with a mermaid.

SEAN
You’d like to splash around with any living female, as long as they can fog a mirror.

BRANDON
It has been awhile.

DEREK
I tell you what Brandon, when we get back I’ll take you to God’s waiting room, you can have your pick.

BRANDON
Where’s that?

DEREK
Miami Beach, home of a bazillion old women, all looking for a young stud like you.

They are jarred by a loud bang on the bottom of the boat. Their empty beer bottles rattle.

KYLE
What the hell was that?

DEREK
Grab the flashlights.

They grab two large flashlights,

BOAT DECK – CONTINUOUS

All four look into the water. Flashlights on. They see nothing.

BRANDON
I don’t know what the sam hell that was but it’s gone.
DEREK
I see something, it’s pretty deep.
Shine the other light over here.

KYLE
What the hell!

They see a blurry figure.

DEREK
Looks like a big shark, maybe a dolphin.

They see what looks like a mermaid tail swim off with a large dolphin. They are all quiet. Derek stares at Kyle.

BRANDON
I know, there’s no such things as mermaids.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOAT DAY

Brandon and Sean sit in the back of the boat in fishing seats, poles in holders. Derek and Kyle sit, watch them, all drink beer.

KYLE
So what do you think about last night?

DEREK
I think our imaginations are running wild.

KYLE
Yeah, you’re probably right. But first Brandon’s mermaid stories, then, all I could think about is what Trista said.

DEREK
Yeah I know, me too. But we all know, there’s no such thing as mermaids, there’s no such thing as mermaids.
KYLE
How far out are we now?

DEREK
Two hundred miles from Nassau.
We should hit our coordinates first thing in the morning.

Sean’s line tugs, he jerks it a few times, the line becomes slack. It jerks again, he yanks the pole hard,

SEAN
I got a big one boys!

Brandon jumps out of his seat and straps Sean in his chair. Derek and Kyle jump up to watch.

SEAN
Fresh dinner tonight boys.

The fishing pole is bent almost in a U shape, ready to break. The line then releases.

SEAN
Damn!

It bends again, starts to pull the idle boat in the water.

BRANDON
What the hell! Godzilla!

After 20 seconds, the line snaps.

DEREK
Welcome to the Bermuda Triangle.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOAT DAY

Early morning, calm water, clear skies. They sit on the deck, drink coffee, Sean stands next to the rail, looks out to sea.

BRANDON
That was wild yesterday, what kind of fish could pull a boat
through the water?

SEAN
A damn big one!

DEREK
That was weird, I’ve never seen anything like that.

BRANDON
Yeah it was and I don’t want to see anything like that again.

SEAN
Hey guys, come here, it looks like a big school of dolphins, about a hundred yards out.

They all go to the edge of the boat and watch as a bunch of dolphins jump in and out of the water.

KYLE
That’s fantastic, it’s like they know they’re entertaining us.

DEREK
They’re beautiful!

As they watch, the dolphins form a circle, their heads above water, they stare at the boat, motionless except for the movement by the small waves.

SEAN
What the hell are they doing, getting in formation to attack us? This is way too weird.

DEREK
I don’t know, maybe they’re pissed cause you tried to pull one of them in yesterday.

As they watch, a woman’s head appears in the middle of the dolphins, shoulders up. They all look at each other.

BRANDON
Guys, am I seeing things? Have
one of you slipped me a drug?

DEREK
Then I’m on the same drug, I’m getting the binoculars.
(He returns, looks)
This is really weird. I can see the dolphins but I can’t see her.

He takes the binoculars away, sees the woman, looks through them again, no woman, takes them away, sees woman.

KYLE
That’s impossible, I can see her clearly, let me look.

Same routine, same results. He hands the binoculars to Sean, Derek and Kyle look at each other.

As they stare at the dolphins, the woman disappears, the dolphins start to swim away.

They watch them until they disappear into a heavy, large fog bank, not visible before.

BRANDON
Where in the hell did that come from?

DEREK
I don’t know, it wasn’t here before the dolphins, it was clear. This is freaking weird.

KYLE
It’s moving toward us.

DEREK
Roger that. I’m going to start the engines, we’ll head straight into it, out the other side.

BOAT CONTROL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They are now in the fog, so thick they can’t see over the boats deck. They gather around the radar.
SEAN
Nothing.

DEREK
No, there shouldn’t be, it’s clear from here to the Cayman Islands.
(pulls out charts)
We should be right about here.  
(points)
Nothing around for hundreds of miles.

BRANDON
We’ve been in this crap for an hour, what’s going on?

SEAN
You all wanted a Bermuda Triangle adventure, you should watch what you wish for.

KYLE
Guy’s, the fogs lifting.

BOAT DECK - CONTINUOUS

They all go outside to watch. Once the fog has completely lifted, they see about a mile in the distance two islands. Even from where they are, the islands look lush and green.

BRANDON
What the hell……

DEREK
Looks like two islands to me.

BRANDON
But there aren’t……

DEREK
...supposed to be any islands in this area, I know. I’m going inside and radio the Coast Guard.
BOAT CONTROL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Derek goes inside the cabin, first thing he see’s is the radar and all gauges are out, nothing lit up.

He presses the button on the radio, no power. He continues punching, gets angry. He turns the engine key, nothing.

DEREK
Dammit, what the hell is going on!!!

BOAT DECK - CONTINUOUS

Derek rushes outside. All three guys stand by the rail, mesmerized. Derek joins them.

KYLE
We have company.

All around the front 2 sides of the boat are around 20 dolphins, some jump, some are still, some with their heads above water, doing dolphin squeeks at them.

SEAN
I wish I knew what they were saying.

DEREK
They’re saying we’re in deep shit because they know we have no power.

KYLE
What do you mean we have no power?

SEAN
Yeah, what are you saying Derek?

DEREK
You know, like in dead! No radio, no radar, no engines, nothing.

BRANDON
Then why are we moving so quickly toward that island?
They all look down at the front, water ripples from the bow like the engine is running, the stern of the boat leaves a trail.

SEAN  
Not good!

As they continue to drift toward the north island, they start to hear beautiful, angelic, mesmerizing singing come from it.

They soon fall into a panicked trance as the singing gets loud. They are now 600 yards from the north island.

BRANDON  
It’s the most beautiful singing I’ve ever heard.

SEAN  
Like angels calling me from the heavens.

DEREK  
It’s a trap, don’t you remember the stories, they lure you to shore to die. Plug your ears! (sticks fingers in ears) Kyle, plug your ears!

KYLE  
But the music Derek, so sweet, I’ve never heard anything like it.

All of a sudden, the boat changes directions, a drastic turn moves them toward the south island. Derek fights to keep the singing out, but cannot, trance like, he falls under its spell, removes his fingers and joins the other three.

All four now stand together, they look toward the north island, their eyes open and close, happy but trance like looks on their faces. Sean then realizes they are moving away from the island.
SEAN
I have to go to the singing.

KYLE
I know.

Sean and Kyle dive into the water and swim toward the north island. The other two are silent, they just watch. Brandon dives in, Derek, follows.

CUT TO:

EXT. OCEAN CONTINUOUS

They are about 20 - 30 yards apart, still swimming. They have all swam about a hundred yards. They get tired. One by one, they disappear beneath the water.

CUT TO:

EXT. OCEAN UNDERWATER CONTINUOUS

The water is clear and bright, it sparkles. They slowly sink, eyes open but blurry, paralyzed, alone, as if in a dream. Each of them sees the dolphins come toward them.

DEREK’S POV: Derek sees something swim toward him, not sure what it is, he tries to swim away but goes nowhere. There is now a MERMAID/LORELEI in front of him but with his blurred vision he can’t tell what it is.

She pulls his head to hers, he tries to fight it, gives in, she blows in his mouth. Instantly, his vision clears and he can breathe. He screams, scared of the beautiful mermaid. As she continues to stare at him, she smiles, he calms down.

She reaches her hand out, he grabs it as a dolphin swims up next to him. She puts his hand on the dorsal fin, then grabs his other hand and puts it on the fin.

She starts to swim away as the dolphin follows. They pick up speed and are soon near the south island. As they approach the beautiful underwater mountain terrain, Derek sees an underwater cave opening they are headed to.
They enter the cave, which is dark but not pitch black, as Derek sees the walls zoom by, it gets brighter, as he is about to go out of the water, he blacks out.

CUT TO:

EXT. ISLAND - CONTINUOUS

Dazed, Derek awakens. He opens his eyes to blurred vision, as he adjusts his vision clears. He lays on his back, stares, finally sits up, looks around.

There are clear skies above him, the island is a tropical paradise, it rises to around two thousand feet high, sloped, like a football stadium. All around are lush green plants, hanging fruit, bird sounds, a lagoon is in front of him. He is surrounded by the island.

He sees Brandon and Kyle sit next to a fire, they eat soup from a huge clam shell bowl using a smaller clam shell as a spoon.

KYLE
Bout time you woke up.

DEREK
Where are we?

BRANDON
Heaven.

DEREK
No, really, where are we.

KYLE
Heaven.

DEREK
C,mon guys, really.

KYLE
OK pooh head, on the island we saw.

DEREK
How did we get here?
KYLE
I’m not sure about you, but I cruised here on the fins of a dolphin.

DEREK
I thought it was a dream.

He looks down, tries to remember. LORELEI walks over, hands him a bowl of soup. She looks to be around 40.

LORELEI
It wasn’t a dream. Here, this will warm you up.

He takes the soup and just stares at her.

DEREK
Well, I guess if this isn’t a dream then you’re right boys, we are in Heaven.

LORELEI
You’re not in Heaven, you’re on Atargatis Island.

DEREK
Atar, Atarga.....

LORELEI
Atargatis Island. I brought you here after you tried to drown yourself.

DEREK
I just remember, a, uhh, mermaid?

LORELEI
(sits by the fire, eats)
Yes, that was me.

DEREK
You don’t look like a mermaid, from the waist down anyway.
KYLE
She is D, in the water a swimming,
streamlined, beautiful half
woman half fish, but once out
(he points)
Just a beautiful woman.

DEREK
This is fantastic, what is it?

BRANDON
Seaweed and fish eggs, absolutely
delicious.

DEREK
How organic.

LORELEI
The only true meat we eat is
shark, we do that because
they’re a threat to us, one of
the few things that can kill us.

DEREK
We always thought mermaids were,
uhh, a myth.

LORELEI
It’s to our advantage for the
world to think that. In the last
thousand moons, we let ourselves
be seen too often, caught too
often. Humans were even known
to eat us. We almost became
extinct. We found small islands,
like this, where we can live,
untouched by the world.

KYLE
But your island is obvious,
how do you hide it?

LORELEI
You didn’t see it did you?
It’s not on your maps or charts
and invisible to human eyes,
even your modern machines. We
choose who we want to see us.

BRANDON
So you’re like a magician?

LORELEI
Not quite, our magic is real. We are descended from the Greek Gods and those powers have been passed down to us. Through many thousands of moons, we have refined those powers, strengthened them, until today we are powerful. But, we choose to live as we did in the time of our ancient gods.

DEREK
Wait a minute, where’s Sean?

KYLE
He didn’t make it with us, he’s on the other island Derek.

DEREK
Is he OK?

LORELEI
He’s alive. The North Island is home to the Siren’s. Since ancient times, they have used their singing to lure ships and crews onto the rocks.

DEREK
Right, I remember now, the singing. It put us in some kind of trance, like someone else was controlling us.

LORELEI
Those that survive are put into a life of slavery, only kept alive to serve them. That, and of course, to give them children. Those that refuse are sometimes eaten, sometimes
kept alive, at the discretion of their masters.

BRANDON
Talk about this ‘give them children’ thing.

KYLE
You’re a slut puppy Brandon.

LORELEI
That’s why the Siren’s brought you hear. Like us, the only way they can continue our species is to mate with human men. We can only breed females so it’s necessary for us to find human men to continue our existence. When the Sirens lure a ship here, we fight over the men.

BRANDON
I’m really liking this.

LORELEI
No, you wouldn’t, they’re evil. Once they breed with a man, they put him in chains and he remains in those chains until he dies.

(BEAT)
That’s why we must have men.

DEREK
So how are we going to get Sean back?

LORELEI
Enough questions for now. You all need rest, we’ll talk more at dinner tonight. Let me show you your quarters.

Lorelei leads them down a path, thick with beautiful tree’s and plants. As they walk, they see different WOMEN stare at them, they talk with each other, they giggle.
EXT. HUT CONTINUOUS

They approach a hut, made of bamboo and various other leafy plants. Inside is a cot covered with blankets made of shells and shark skins.

There is a large clamshell bowl and water pitcher, a sponge, small wooden table with chairs, very ornate wine goblets, all ancient.

LORELEI
This is your hut, I think you’ll find it quite comfortable.

BRANDON
Yeah, I stayed in a Holiday Inn, just like this. Where’s the shower?
   (picks up goblet)
This is old, where did it come from?

LORELEI
Shipwrecks. We’ve salvaged things from them for centuries.

BRANDON
You got any more of this old junk lying around?

LORELEI
Please, rest until it’s time to eat, I’ll send someone for you.
   (to other 2 guys)
Come with me, I’ll show you 2 our ‘guest quarters’.

CUT TO:

EXT. ERATO ISLAND DAY

In contrast to the Atargatis Island, Erato, Island of the Sirens, has half the vegetation, many bare spots filled
with dying trees, lots of rocks and boulders. Everywhere are huts, all made from shipwrecked boats.

On one side of the lagoon is a huge, old wrecked upside down pirate ship, the front end gone, the ship half gutted.

Inside the ship are chairs, tables, various other furniture, all embedded with gold. Inside, eight beautiful WOMEN sit in chairs, four on each side. In front of each one, a MAN kneels, they are of various colors and nationalities, each has a chain around his neck, dressed in ragged shirts and pants, no shoes.

At the head is NEMERITIAS, ruler of the island, a beauty with long black hair, she sits in a ornate chair, adorned with gold.

Next to her is her daughter, CHIRON, very beautiful, innocent appearance. Chiron smiles at Sean, who kneels at her Nemeritas feet, a chain around his neck held by another MAN.

    NEMERITIAS
    What do they call you?

    SEAN
    Sean, where am I?

    NEMERITIAS
    I’ll ask the questions Human.

    CHIRON
    Mother, he just got here.

    NEMERITIAS
    You’ll have to excuse my daughter, she is not yet in the ways of our people. But that will all change soon.

    CHIRON
    Mother, please, don’t. He doesn’t seem like the other men.
NEMERITIAS
He’s a human man, just like the others. We shall see if he is different.

Sean and Chiron lock eyes, she smiles, smitten.

NEMERITIAS
But just to answer you, you’re on the Island of Erato, home of the Sirens, resting place of children of the Greek Gods.

SEAN
My friends, are they here?

NEMERITIAS
No, but they will be joining you soon. The Gods have smiled upon you, otherwise your body would be sleeping with the crabs. If it wasn’t for that, that, witch Lorelei, I would have all of you now.

SEAN
Why am I in chains, I haven’t done anything?

NEMERITIAS
Because you’re human. We have certain ‘needs’ for human men and once you fulfill those needs, we allow you to live, to serve us, for the rest of your life.

SEAN
Sounds like my ex, notice I say ex, girlfriend. But just to answer you, I’m not staying here the rest of my life, let alone serve you.

NEMERITIAS
You humans are so arrogant when you get here, but after you’ve been here a time, so humble,
almost pleased.

SEAN
Pleased?

NEMERITIAS
Yes, pleased to be alive. All will be revealed to you soon. Take him to his quarters.

PATH - CONTINUOUS

TREY leads Sean and down a path.

SEAN
What in the crap is going on here? One minute I’m drinking beer in a boat with my buddies and before I know it I’m in the land of OZ, though I will say the wicked witch is a babe. And these chains, where am I going to go, we’re in the middle of the ocean.

TREY
Do you remember how you got here?

SEAN
All I remember is singing, sweet singing, then, jumping in the water, nothing after that.

TREY
What I heard was there was a battle over all of you and somehow the mermaids got your friends, you were unlucky.

SEAN
Mermaids?

TREY
Yes, the other island you saw, the mermaids live there, the sirens here.
SEAN
Mermaids, sirens, are you for real?

TREY
You’re here aren’t you? The outside world doesn’t believe in any of it, that’s why we’re stuck here.

HUT - CONTINUOUS

The hut is furnished with a shipwrecked cot, chairs, etc. Trey locks the chain to a ring attached to the hut, a wooden side of a ship. They sit.

SEAN
How long have you been here?

TREY
Eight years, it’s not bad at first, they choose women for you. They have to breed with human men, it’s the only way they can have children. All the women are beautiful. You just don’t want to refuse them, not good.

SEAN
OK, OK I’m getting it. Not so bad, I can do that. What then?

TREY
When they’re done using you, you become a servant, gather wood, prepare the food, clean their huts, anything that needs done. Then, when you get old, no longer useful, they feed you to the sharks. If you refuse to do what they want, then you’re shark bait now. There’s only seven of us left, that’s why they lured your ship here.
SEAN
What about getting out, escape?

TREY
Don’t think we all haven’t thought about it. A man tried to escape about, I think it was around three years ago. Had an elaborate plan, worked on it for a year. They took all of us outside, to the rocks, to show us his eaten corpse. All that was left of him was his head and neck. Gruesome.

(BEAT)
What year is it now?

SEAN
2011. My friends will come up with a plan, they aren’t going to leave me here to rot. How many of these ‘sirens’ live here?

TREY
I’ve been able to count 26, maybe 5 kids running around. It’s not just their numbers, they have some kind of power, make you do things, control your thoughts, control you.

SEAN
So they’re typical women!

TREY
You have to be starving, let me get you some food. I’m Trey, nice to meet you Sean. We’ll talk more later.

CUT TO:

EXT. ATARGATIS ISLAND NIGHT

Dinner is served. The dinner area is set up in a beautiful setting, next to the lagoon, lit by torches. Long tables
hold clamshell bowls of various soups, small fish, clams, etc. A huge cooked shark, partially cut, is in the center of the table on a weaved mat.

The table is set with miscellaneous pirate stuff, plates, silverware, goblets, knives, a large jug of rum. A large cooking pot sits nearby, over a fire. A waterfall is 100 yards away.

The three guys sit with 20 MERMAIDS, various colors. Lorelei sits at the head of the table.

DEREK
Lorelei, this food, awesome.
And this rum, wow, how old?

LORELEI
300 years.

BRANDON
300 years! You’ve been around that long?

LORELEI
Longer, most of us have lived for many hundreds of moons, except the children.

BRANDON
Damn, you look good for an old broad! If you live so long, why aren’t there more of you?

LORELEI
We die from ‘unnatural causes’.

KYLE
Such as...

LORELEI
Mostly sharks. Even though we have our dolphins to protect us, a large pack of sharks can defeat them. Sometimes we get caught, eaten. Some of us have been captured by the sirens. Worse yet, they put us in a
cage and after the sun has had 5 cycles, we lose our powers, become human. We have to be in the water within those 5 cycles to survive.

DEREK
Becoming human, what a bummer! So why the constant battle with sirens?

LORELEI
Human men. Both the sirens and us need humans to breed with to continue our species.

Brandon smiles at TREENA, she sits across the table.

BRANDON
Well, I’m ready to go to work!

LORELEI
They want us dead so they can have all the human men they lure and trap. With the sirens, the men never leave, they die there.

DEREK
And us?

LORELEI
You work with us, we work with you. You’ll be free to go.

KYLE
The key work being, ‘breeding’?

LORELEI
Yes, a human man’s dream. Almost, like you say, a one night stand but for as many nights as you choose.

Brandon jumps up, reaches across the table, extends his hand.
BRANDON
I’m Brandon.

TREENA
(very shy)
Treena.

All three men then inspect the women at the table. There are 4 LITTLE GIRLS. The women stare back, many look down, they talk to each other. All are beautiful, some black, some light skinned.

LORELEI
Many of the women have never been with a man, they’re very shy. But we need children.

DEREK
Will you help us get our friend, Sean, back.

LORELEI
It is very dangerous, if they catch you, you are there for life. If they capture us, we die. We haven’t tried to rescue someone, too dangerous.

DEREK
I’m not going to let Sean sit there and rot, die.

LORELEI
We’ll think of something. Meanwhile, enjoy your dinner, We’ll show you our wonders tomorrow.

CUT TO:

EXT. ERATOS ISLAND DAY

Sean sits at a dinner table, set up similar to the mermaids except they eat dolphin.

Nemeritias is at the head of the table, her daughter Chiron sits next to her, opposite Sean.
Chiron smiles at Sean, they flirt. STEVEN and SETH are attending to everyone.

NEMERITIAS
I have you here for a reason, we don’t usually allow men to sit with us. My daughter Chiron, has never been with a man. Because of that, she has not yet been transformed into one of us.

SEAN
Transformed how?

NEMERITIAS
She does not yet have our powers, she has, say, more human traits, weaker in mind, in body.

SEAN
Wow, human traits, what a burden!

NEMERITIAS
(angry)
We did not choose to be who we are, just as a shark or a snake did not choose what they are, as you did not choose who you are. That choice was made long ago by our Gods and I cannot change that. We are all creatures of our God.

SEAN
OK, so what’s your point?

NEMERITIAS
I have been waiting for many moon cycles, thousands of sun cycles, to find the right man for Chiron. We have had many men come but, I never felt that sense, a powerful draw, to
any of them. I know that feeling, I had it with Chiron’s father long ago.

SEAN
OK, so what’s your point?

NEMERITIAS
Watch your words or you’ll soon be food for my sharks! You are like Chiron’s father when he came here, insolent, defiant. You will soon change, you will be happy to be alive, grateful to be here.

SEAN
Seriously, I’m already happy to be here. Wonderful food, beautiful women, life is good!

Nemeritias looks at Sean quizzically, like, is he being serious?

NEMERITIAS
You’re different than the others Sean, a more, ahh, free thinker, defiant. I get the same feeling with you that I had with him. I want you to be the one.

SEAN
The one what?

NEMERITIAS
The one that gives my daughter a child.

SEAN
WOW! ME? You know, I’m nothing special, I don’t have rich parents, I don’t know who my ancestors were, hell, I don’t even have a job. I’m not the one for this. And I snore!
NEMERITIAS
I’m not asking you. Seven cycles from tonight. Until then, you and Chiron will spend time together, she will show you our island, reveal our culture. Seven cycles Sean.

SEANS HUT - CONTINUOUS

SEAN
Well, I guess things could be worse than having to sleep with a beautiful woman, eh Trey.

TREY
Sean, I hate to tell you this. Their tradition is that once the daughter of the queen becomes pregnant, they have to kill you.

SEAN
What!

TREY
Yes Sean, they have to kill you so that you can never sleep with another of them. They know men are weak, they can’t have you ‘screwing’ up their ‘royal’ bloodline. I’m sorry Sean.

SEAN
Then I’m not doing it.

TREY
That won’t save you, if you refuse, you’re shark bait.

SEAN
Oh my God! I’m doomed! Derek, where are you!
EXT. ATARGATIS ISLAND DAY

Lorelei, Treena, MAYA and KEELA walk with the 3 guys to the lagoon.

LORELEI
Derek, I had a dream last night.

BRANDON
Yeah, me too, cold beer.

LORELEI
Our dreams reveal the future, reveal what is to be. It’s our way of becoming prepared. We knew you were coming, we were ready for you.

BRANDON
Can you tell me who’s going to win the World Series this year, I could get great odds!

LORELEI
You men are so predictable. I had a dream about Sean, he’s in great danger.

DEREK
What kind of danger?

LORELEI
I’m not sure, he has seven cycles, maybe fourteen.

DEREK
What the heck is a cycle?

LORELEI
Each time the sun comes, it’s one cycle.

KYLE
A day, a week, all the same as
a cycle.
Did your dream tell you how we can get him back?

TREENA
Chiron.

DEREK
Chiron, what’s that?

LORELEI
Chiron is the daughter of Nemeritias, Queen of the other island, Erato. Why do you say Chiron Treena?

TREENA
She swims alone, I see her, in the cove of the rocks.

DEREK
I get it, I get it. We get her, trade her for Sean, you’re brilliant Treena.

Treena smiles, looks down.

LORELEI
I don’t know, that’s very dangerous.

TREENA
She has not been with a man, she doesn’t yet have her powers.

LORELEI
How do you know this?

TREENA
I sense it, it is true. I sense something between us, something...........powerful.

LORELEI
Then it’s possible we can do this. We must make plans, soon.
LAGOON - CONTINUOUS

LORELEI
Are you ready to see our other world?

KYLE
I’m ready, let’s do it.

The three women go up to each man, put their hands on each man’s head, pulls them close, puts their mouths on them to blow their magical power into them.

Brandon thinks Treena is kissing him and starts to kiss back. She smacks his head.

TREENA
Save that for later, just open your mouth, be still.

All three women blow into the men’s mouth for about 5 seconds, the men feel the change.

They finish and the 3 women walk into the water, swim underneath, then appear back up with their shoulders at the water line.

The men look at each other, run and dive into the water.

Once under, they swim around, see the women have turned into mermaids, all 3 surface.

BRANDON
That’s incredible, I can breathe under there, see as good as an eagle. You three look different under water.

LORELEI
It’s our natural form. You will be able to see and breathe under water, just like us so don’t be scared. Just go with it.

10 dolphins then appear around them.
MAYA
Your rides are here. Hold on to their fins and they’ll take you with us. If there’s any trouble, stay with them, they’ll protect you.

One DOLPHIN goes to Brandon, pushes him with his beak. Brandon rubs him.

TREENA
That’s Sgeek, he likes you. A good sign.

LORELEI
Let’s go.

UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS

All 3 men grab the fins and go under water. They shoot through the cave and are soon in open water. The mermaids stop, the men let go and stare at their surroundings.

It’s a beautiful sight, lush vegetation, tropical fish all around. Giant fish swim up to the guys, they’re scared but pet the fish.

A huge swarm of small tropical fish circle Kyle, they play. Though they cannot talk underwater, the guys sense what the mermaids want. The mermaids swim off, the guys know to follow.

They swim, hold on to the dolphins. Along the way they see other wonders of the sea. They pet a giant sea turtle, an octopus comes up to Brandon and rubs him with his tentacles.

Other amazing things can be inserted here, crabs, lobsters manta rays, etc.

They soon arrive at an old pirate shipwreck, the guys point to it, they want to explore. They go in through a big, open gap in the side. There are old pirate artifacts, swords, goblets, silverware, etc. The guys pick up different things, inspect them.
Brandon goes into a small opening, dark, and enters an open area, now full of light, looks like the Captains quarters. He looks around, inspects the area, picks up a gold necklace with a medallion attached. The date on it is 1695. He puts it around his neck and continues to inspect.

He then sees a small door, opens it. Behind it is an open treasure chest full of various types of gold jewelry and coins. He grabs a few coins and puts them in his pocket, swims back to the others. He shows the other 2 guys what he has found and points to where they are. Derek inspects his chain. He mouths ‘WOW’.

Lorelei appears, they sense they have to go. They swim to the other mermaids, surrounded by the dolphins.

ABOVE WATER – CONTINUOUS

They all now have their heads above water, about 200 yards from the island.

KEELA
   Let’s play!

As Lorelei watches, 3 mermaids and 3 dolphins dive under. The guys look under to watch. Each mermaid has a dolphin next to her. They swim deep until the guys can’t see them, then they appear, headed straight up, fast.

Each mermaid, dolphin by their side, break through the water and fly about 12 feet high then dive back in.

They do it again, this time jumping toward each other. They pass each other, one on the bottom, one in the middle, one on top. The guys laugh in wonderment.

MAYA
   Now you try it.

The guys look at each other, nod their heads like ‘what the heck, let’s try’.

They swim under, kick as hard as they can, shoot to the surface. They break through, try to jump, they don’t even leave the water. The mermaids giggle.
Lorelei then points to the dolphins to go to the guys. The dolphins swim over, each guy grabs a fin and dives under.

The dolphins go deep, the guys hold tight with both hands, then shoot to the surface.

They each break water and fly about 10 feet high. The guys hoot and holler, thrilled. Brandon lets go on top and flops back in the water.

DEREK
That was incredible, let's do it again!

KYLE
Nice flop Brandon.

BRANDON
Piss off boys, I’ll do it.

LORELEI
We have to go, now!

UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS

They all look where Lorelei stares. In the distance are a pack of 6 various types of large sharks, big teeth, headed to them, moving fast. Each guy grabs a dolphin and all of them take off, fast. The other dolphins surround them.

Derek looks back, the sharks gain. The dolphins pick up speed, Kyle can barely hold on. He loses his grip, slips off. He is now alone, the sharks head straight at him. 3 continue to him, 3 head toward the others.

Kyle is alone, a sitting duck. The sharks are 10 feet away, mouths open. Kyle screams, muffled by water. The lead shark is ready to bite down.

Out of nowhere, a dolphin smashes into the center belly section of the lead shark. 2 other dolphins hit the other 2 sharks, like torpedoes. All 3 sharks are stunned, they float, unable to move.

Around the other mermaids we see the same scene, the other 3 sharks float, temporarily paralyzed.
The attacking dolphin swims to Kyle and he grabs the fin. As they take off, the other sharks start to wake up.

Kyle joins the others and they safely bomb back through the cave into the lagoon.

CUT TO:

EXT. ERATO ISLAND  DAY

Chiron and Sean sit near a waterfall by the lagoon.

SEAN
Why is it you and your people know so much about the outside world?

CHIRON
The men we capture, they educate us about your world. We even speak most languages of the world.

SEAN
You seem so different Chiron, not like them.

CHIRON
It’s because I have not had a child, I’m not like them, yet. It hurts me to see what they do to the men. They’re trapped here, like animals in a zoo.

SEAN
Then stay like you are, don’t have a child.

CHIRON
It’s not my choice Sean, the God’s chose, it’s always been this way. You can’t fight the Gods, or my mother.

SEAN
Do you want to change, to become one of them?
CHIRON
I cannot think that way, I just expect it, everyone here changes.

SEAN
So you want to eat human flesh, feed men to the sharks?

CHIRON
Don’t be morbid Sean, I told you, it’s not my choice.

SEAN
You do have a choice Chiron. For centuries women have defied tradition and went on to rule nations. In fact women dressed like men and served alongside with pirates, forbidden back then.

CHIRON
Yes, I have heard stories.

SEAN
You can leave Chiron, I can help you escape. There’s a wonderful world out there, freedom, no one telling you what to do, loving who you want.

CHIRON
There is no escape from here, many men have tried.

SEAN
I have 3 friends on the other island, with their help we can come up with a plan. I just have to figure out how to contact them.

CHIRON
There’s an area where I swim. It’s the only time I’m ever
alone. I have seen a mermaid watching me, from the other island.

SEAN
So you’re saying you’ll do it?

CHIRON
No, I’m not. I’m just saying there may be a way for you to escape.

SEAN
So you know what happens to me when you become pregnant?

CHIRON
Yes, I do. It saddens me, I like you Sean.

(BEAT)
Enough for now, let’s take a swim.

They both run into the water, she changes into a mermaid. They romp around, play.

They now face each other, Sean pulls her close and kisses her. She is awkward at first, then passionately kisses him back.

Chiron looks away to a thick patch of trees.

TREES - CONTINUOUS

Nemeritias, hidden, watches Sean and Chiron.

CUT TO:

EXT. ATARGATIS ISLAND DINNER AREA NIGHT

Derek and Keela, Brandon and Treena, Kyle and Maya sit on benches around a fire. The guys drink wine. Children play.

KYLE
That was quite an adventure today, we were lucky to get back here.
LORELEI
Yes it was, we were very lucky.

DEREK
I’m not going back, I don’t want to be a meal for a damn shark.

LORELEI
They weren’t going to eat you, they were going to take you to the sirens. They aren’t going to stop.

KYLE
So how are we ever going to get Sean back?

LORELEI
I have thought about this, I have a plan but it involves a great amount of risk.

DEREK
What’s the difference, we have no way to get back home, we’re stuck here, our boat’s gone.

LORELEI
You’re boat is safe, it’s well hidden on the south side of our island, they will never find it.

All 3 guys look at her in disbelief.

BRANDON
You’re kidding, why haven’t you told us that before?

LORELEI
You didn’t ask.

DEREK
So you’re going to let us go?

LORELEI
I told you when you got here
you can go, if you work with us.

Brandon looks at Treena and smiles.

BRANDON
I’m ready to go to work.

DEREK
You’re a pig Brandon!

BRANDON
OINK, OINK!

MAYA
What does that mean?

2 LITTLE GIRLS run over to Brandon, 8-10 years old.

BRANDON
And what are your names little fishes?

ALISON
I’m not a fish, I’m a mermaid!

ISABEL
Yeah, me too! Do that sound again.

BRANDON
Tell me your names, then I’ll do it.

ALISON
I’m Alison,
(holds out hand)
nice to meet you.

ISABEL
I’m Isabel,
(holds out hand)
very nice to meet you.

He shakes both of their hands.

BRANDON
Wow, what manners. OK,
OINK, OINK, OINK OINK OINK!

The little girls crack up.

ALISON
Do something else.

ISABEL
Yeah, something else, PLEASE!

He holds his 2 hands together and makes it appear he is separating his thumb. The girls giggle.

ALISON
Again, another one! PLEASE! Pretty please.

BRANDON
OK, just one more.

They put their hands together, full of anticipation.

BRANDON
Gene Gene built a machine,
Joe Joe made it go,
Art Art let a fart and blew it all apart.

The girls don’t laugh, look confused.

ALISON
What’s a fart?

LORELEI
(rolls her eyes)
Some things you girls don’t need to know, now run off and play.
(looks at Brandon)
Human men!

DEREK
Nice job Brandon, way to represent us.

BRANDON
C’mon, I was just playing.
Lighten up dude! Anyway, I got this nice piece of gold history, (looks at medallion) should set me up when we get back.

LORELEI
We have no use for gold here, we have everything we need.

BRANDON
It comes in pretty handy in our world. How can we get back to the shipwreck I got this from so we can get the rest?

LORELEI
You don’t need to, come.

They grab torches and walk up a dark path. Ahead is a cave. They walk in.

CAVE – CONTINUOUS

They walk through the dark tunnel. After 30 yards, they enter a large cavern. The light illuminates giant mounds of gold and jewels, some piled high, some strewn around. The 3 guys stand there dumbstruck.

KYLE
WOW! Is it all real?

LORELEI
I imagine. It came from all the pirate ships that have gone down through the centuries. We have found it useful for trading with human men.

BRANDON
Let the trading begin!

The 3 guys go over and lift handfuls of gold, stare at it, inspect different pieces. They put necklaces and medallions around their necks. Kyle puts one around Maya’s neck, she smiles.
DINNER AREA  -  CONTINUOUS

LORELEI  
So Gentlemen, you have your gold, you have your ship, I think it’s time to start.

BRANDON  
I agree, let’s get to work.

DEREK  
What about Sean, we’re not leaving without him.

LORELEI  
Yes, I know, we will have to act soon. But for now, for tonight, I have arranged for each of you to be with one of us. Brandon, you will be with Treena, Maya will be with Kyle and Derek, you will have Keela.

Treena and Brandon snuggle as do Kyle and Maya. Treena is smitten with Brandon. Keela walks over sits next to Derek.

LORELEI  
All of you must drink this potion.

She hands a small ancient bottle to each of them.

LORELEI  
This is a powerful potion that will guarantee the birth of a child. Its secret comes from the ancient gods to ensure the survival of our species. Drink.

They all drink it, a few make a face.

BRANDON  
Do you have the recipe for this, I could make a fortune. I can see it now:

"Have you been feeling a bit
sluggish lately, no energy, no time to make babies? Have you been to the fertility clinic with no results? Has your doctor told you it’s hopeless? Welll wait no more.

Brandon gets up, holds out bottle and walks around to each of them, they crack up as he talks:

Ancient potion, never before available, will now guarantee your spouse, or girlfriend, will have a child. That’s right folks, this potion has been brought to you straight from the kitchen of Venus, Goddess of Love. But wait, that’s not all. Be one of the first 100 callers and we’ll not only include free shipping, but we’ll double your order. That’s right folks, 2 bottles for the price of 1, at no additional charge. Act now while supplies last. Guaranteed to make your tools tingle or your money back!

LORELEI
Funny guy Brandon. Enough foolishness, go, now.

They get up, grab each others hand and each walk off as couples to their separate huts.

CUT TO:

EXT. ERATOS ISLAND CAMPFIRE NIGHT

CHIRON
I’ve been thinking about what you said.

SEAN
Which thing?
CHIRON
Having a child, becoming one of them. I no longer want to but, I’m confused. I don’t want you to die Sean, you’ve shown me there’s much more in life I can experience. I want freedom.

SEAN
Does that mean you have feelings for me?

CHIRON
Yes, but, I don’t know these feelings.

SEAN
Welcome to the human world where we’re all confused by feelings. I also have strong feelings for you Chiron.

They passionately kiss.

CHIRON
I have a plan Sean but it’s dangerous. It’s the only way I can think of to get you out of here, alive.

SEAN
OK, let’s hear it.

CHIRON
I told you about the mermaid that watches me when I swim, well….

CUT TO:

EXT. PIRATE SHIP HALL NIGHT

Nemeritias sits with Sean and Chiron at the table.

NEMERITIAS
It is time. In 2 cycles, the moon will be full. You then
have 2 cycles to be successful.

SEAN
What if it doesn’t happen in those 2 cycles?

NEMERITIAS
Then you would be the first.
No talk of such foolishness.
Now go.

CUT TO:

EXT. COVE OF THE ROCKS ERATOS ISLAND DAY

Chiron dives from 100 feet into the cove, plays, enjoys the underwater fish and scenery.

She looks across to Atargatis Island, sees Treena watch her. She looks around the cove to make sure no watches her, then swims toward the other Island. 2 Sharks start to follow her and she motions them back, they retreat.

She gets near the island and is surprised to see Treena in the water, she waits for her.

OCEAN SURFACE - CONTINUOUS

CHIRON
I am Chiron, daughter of Nemeritias, Queen of Eratos Island.

TREENA
I know who you are, I have watched you for many cycles. Why have you come?

CHIRON
The men on your island, we hold their friend, Sean. He’s in great danger.

TREENA
Yes, we know. Why do you care?

CHIRON
We have become close. There’s
very little time.

TREENA
You know I could take you now. Why have you put yourself in this danger?

CHIRON
I told you, we have become close. I have a plan, he must get away, or he dies.

TREENA
You know there is only one way.

CHIRON
Yes, I do. I’ll be back in 1 cycle.

She swims off, Treena just stares.

EXT. ERATOS ISLAND DINNER AREA  NIGHT

They sit at the dinner table, other men stand to the side, wait for orders. Sean is absent.

NEMERITIAS
One more cycle and everything will be perfect. Are you ready Chiron?

CHIRON
Yes mother, I am.

NEMERITIAS
Chiron, I sense anxiety, fear, what is it?

CHIRON
It’s Sean mother, I have feelings for him, I don’t want to see him die.

NEMERITIAS
He is just a human. Once you
are with child, you will no longer feel confused. You will have new powers, new visions, rule the island under me. I have waited many moons for this Chiron.

CHIRON
I don’t want to rule over humans mother. I don’t want to hold them captive, kill them like a common animal.

NEMERITIAS
I will excuse your weak mind. Neither of us have a choice. What do you want to do, battle against us, battle against me?

CHIRON
That’s the point mother, I don’t want to battle against anybody.

NEMERITIAS
So you would have the mermaids take us over, control us? Let them keep the men so we perish?

CHIRON
I just want to live my own life, a life where I choose to do what I want.

NEMERITIAS
You are a Siren Chiron, descended from the Greek Gods. You are not a mermaid, you are not a human, you are one of us. It is the way it will be. Now leave me before I lose control. You anger me.
SEAN’S HUT – CONTINUOUS

SEAN
I missed you, where have you been?

CHIRON
Trying to find a way to keep you alive. My mother senses my weakness, I must be careful. You must be ready Sean.

SEAN
OK, so what’s the plan?

CHIRON
I am working on it, but know that both of us will be in danger.

SEAN
You are going to do this, for me? Put yourself in danger?

CHIRON
I told you, I care about you.

They kiss, fall onto the floor, entwined together, rub each other. After a few moments, she jumps up,

CHIRON
No Sean, not now.

SEAN
Then it may be never.

CHIRON
Then that is how it shall be!

She walks away.
EXT. OCEAN  DAY

Chiron is in the Cove of the Rocks. She swims around, seems to play. She takes a final look around and swims toward Atargatis Island. She meets Treena.

TREENA
Are you ready?

CHIRON
I am.

TREENA
Come.

They swim.

EXT. ATARGATIS ISLAND DINNER TABLE

The whole group sit at the dinner table, just finished dinner.

LORELEI
You have put yourself at great risk. Why?

CHIRON
I’m not even sure, I have confused feelings. It’s Sean, he has shown me a different choice, a new way.

DEREK
How is Sean, is he safe?

CHIRON
Sean is safe, though when my mother finds I’m gone, he will be in great danger. We must act.

LORELEI
What is it you propose?
CHIRON
There is only one way for him to escape. I am now your captive, you must trade me for him. It’s the only way.

LORELEI
And your mother, she will agree to this?

CHIRON
Without me she cannot continue her bloodline. I am not ready to change, with Sean gone, she must wait for another man.

TREENA
But your feeling for Sean...

CHIRON
I must give that up if Sean is to live, there is no other way.

DEREK
You care for him that much?

CHIRON
Yes, he has changed me. I never knew that such a feeling could exist, with a human.

KEELA
Is it true, the men on your island are kept in chains?

CHIRON
Yes. Once they have made us with child, they are kept in chains, become servants. If they refuse, they are fed to the sharks, or eaten.

BRANDON
I told you guys things could always be worse. Fish food, ughhh, what a thought. I gotta tell you, I like being the one
putting the bait on the hook.

CHIRON
Human men do not live long on our island. Some even kill themselves when they see there is no escape. That is why we must continue to trap more, it has been going on for thousands of moons.

DEREK
Let’s get back to Sean, how are we going to do this?

CHIRON
Tomorrow, when the sun is at it’s highest point in the sky, we must meet between the 2 islands. Sean will be with them....

All sound fades, we see all of them make plans.

Lorelei writes a letter on old parchment type paper. She then rolls it up and ties it.

She looks over to where a Pelican is standing and stares at it, as if transmitting a message. The Pelican flies over to the table and sits.

LORELEI
This is Pouch, he will deliver our message.

She holds up the paper, Pouch opens his mouth, she drops it in. He flies away.

BRANDON
Now that is one well trained pelican. How did you do that?

LORELEI
We communicate with all living creatures and those in the sea. It’s a power passed down to us.
BRANDON
If I only had that power, I could...

LORELEI
You do have it, you just don’t feel it. The parrot, (points) send him your thoughts, tell him to come.

Brandon stares, concentrates. The parrot doesn’t move.

BRANDON
He’s not listening.

LORELEI
You’re not concentrating. Close your eyes, see him come to you.

Lorelei closes his eyes and puts her fingers on his forehead.

LORELEI
Think, concentrate, see him come.

Brandon concentrates, almost trance like. Lorelei removes her fingers.

LORELEI
Open your eyes.

He opens his eyes and there is the parrot in front of him, it stares. Brandon is shocked, quiet, the parrot then climbs onto his arm.

LORELEI
Brandon, meet Jack.

The parrot squawks.

LORELEI
He’s hungry, take him to the fruit trees.
Brandon and the parrot walk off.

KYLE
That’s amazing, I’ve never seen anything like it. You gave him that power, I know it.

LORELEI
Humans have great powers, unknown to them. If you think it is not, then it is not. If you think it is so, it is so.

KYLE
"Now introducing, Kyle the Great, Master of the Universe".

LORELEI
I would like to talk to Treena and Chiron, alone.

All the others leave.

LORELEI
A very long time ago, I was with child. Much to my surprise, I was given a gift, I held 2 baby girls, not one. This had not happened with our kind in thousands of moons.

TREENA
Mother, you never told me.

LORELEI
Quiet Treena, I had reason. Word of this spread quick, not only on this island, also the island of the Sirens. Because many felt I was favored by the Gods, there arose a great jealousy against me and, with some, a great hatred. But I felt I was blessed by the Gods, I was ‘protected’, the Gods would watch over me.
(This could be a flashback)

I became careless, I didn’t sense the evil near me, I didn’t feel my dreams.

CHIRON
You had warning dreams?

LORELEI
I did. In my weakness I ignored them. That is why when the Sirens came, they easily cast a spell. They came in the dark of night and took my baby. Her name was Tina.

TREEMA
I felt her mother, you should have told me.

LORELEI
Why would I tell you when I know it would only bring you pain? I suffered for so many moons, I never wanted to forgive myself. But I devoted myself to you Treema, you brought me back. I gave up all hope of ever seeing Tina again.

TREEMA
So why are you telling me now, with her here?

LORELEI
My child was taken to Nemeritias. She was unable to conceive a child. Her jealousy was great.

CHIRON
What are you saying, you lie, I was born of Nemeritias!

LORELEI
Nemeritias took the child, cut both of them with a knife and
mixed her blood with the child's.
The child was raised a Siren.

CHIRON
What are you saying, you lie!

LORELEI
No Chiron, you are the child
she took from me. You are a
mermaid, not a Siren. You know
it to be.

CHIRON
(eyes well, then tear)
You lie to me! This cannot be!

LORELEI
In your heart Chiron, you know
It is true. You're actions,
your thoughts, they are not
those of a Siren. What do you
feel led you back here?
Why do you think Treena has
watched you, known your
thoughts, known your heart.
It is because you are one with
her, one with me.

As Chiron and Treena weep, Lorelei grabs each of their
hands, puts them together in the middle of the table and
places her hand on top.

LORELEI
We are one again.

CUT TO:

EXT. ERATO ISLAND DAY

Scoop the pelican flies to the island. He reaches the
mountain edge and starts his descent. He gets to the open
end of the ship hall and drops his package.

Nemeritias sits inside. One of the men sees the letter
drop, runs out, grabs it and hurries it to Nemeritias. She
slowly rolls it open.
INSERT LETTER:

If you want your daughter back, bring Sean, in 1 cycle, when the sun is at the high point.

NEMERITIAS
All of you, if you want to live, go and find my daughter, she is somewhere on the island. Do I need to explain to you what will happen if you do not find her? Now go.

The MEN hurriedly run out. They search every area of the Island, caves, Cove Of The Rocks, huts etc. Seth and Steven return and meet near the dinner area, they hide off in the bushes.

SETH
I think we should wait here until the others return. No sense in dying one by one.

STEVEN
(Australian)
Did you see anything mate?

SETH
No, nothing, we’re screwed.

STEVEN
She’s just pissed, she’s never had her ‘Queenness’ authority challenged.

SETH
You know what, I almost don’t care if she kills us. I’ve been here 8 years, you know how many we’ve seen die. I’ve lost hope. My wife’s probably remarried, my kids won’t know me, I just don’t care.

STEVEN
Yeah you’re right, if we don’t do something, we are going to
die. I’m not sure what’s going on now, but something has happened. This may be our time.

SETH
The boat I was on is full of spear guns. It’s only 50 yards off shore.

STEVEN
Might as well be 500 yards, we’d never make it. I can’t stay under water that long.

SETH
If something is going on here, all of the sharks will be gathered in one area. You know Joshua, the man from Bahama?

STEVEN
Yeah, why?

SETH
He’s the one I hired to take my group diving. You know what he specialized in?

STEVEN
What?

SETH
Free water diving. That man could stay under water like he had air tanks on. If there are no sharks, he can get the guns, we’d have a chance.

STEVEN
Yeah, and go where?

SETH
It’s only 500 yards over to the mermaid island, at least we’d be safe there, they may even help us get away.
STEVEN
Yeah, 500 yards of giant teeth looking for a meal.

SETH
You want to get out of here or continue to be a buttboy?

STEVEN
Well, when you put it that way mate. OK, let’s talk to Joshua.

CUT TO:

EXT. ATARGATIS ISLAND DINNER AREA  DAY

Chiron and Treena sit at the table and watch Brandon play with Alison and Isabel in the water.

In the water is an old life preserver with the name ‘HUNTERS GALLEY’ on top. The 3 have a coconut, they play basketball. Brandon shoots, it bounces of the edge. Alison grabs it. Brandon defends. Alison sets it in front of her, Brandon moves to get it.

BRANDON
Hey, you shoot it at the hoop, not lay it down. OK, I’ll take the points.

He moves to get it. As he approaches, Alison leans back and splashes her tail, the coconut flies over Brandon’s head to Isabel who drops it in, she smiles coyly.

ISABEL
Like that?

Chiron and Treena clap.

BRANDON
No fair. Alright, my turn, you defend.

TABLE - CONTINUOUS

CHIRON
This island is so different,
peaceful, the way it should be.

TREENA
We are just a different kind
Chiron, we have no need to
control others, we are at peace
with all in our world.

CHIRON
I know, I feel it, I belong
here. I don’t want to go back
Treena. But Sean....

TREENA
Our mother makes plans with
the elders, she knows how you
feel about Sean.

CHIRON
You know Nemeritias will not
give him up easily, there will
be a battle.

TREENA
Yes, we all know. But the look
of peace in our mothers eyes.
(BEAT)
She will not let you be taken
Chiron. Just because we are
peaceful does not mean we
cannot battle. That is the
weakness of Nemeritias.

CHIRON
Yes, it’s true, she feels she
can defeat any enemy, conquer
any force of others.

TREENA
She will soon see this is not
so. We will protect you Chiron,
you are one of us.

CHIRON
I want to be called Tina again.
TREENA
OK. Tina. See this bracelet?

Treena holds her arm out to TINA, she inspects it.

TINA
It’s beautiful!

TREENA
I have worn it since I was a child, never taken it off. Come, I want to show you something.

TREENA’S HUT - CONTINUOUS

Treena pulls out a hidden bag, slow, unwraps it, pulls out a bracelet exactly the same as hers.

TREENA
Mother gave me this after we talked yesterday. She has kept it since I was a child, it was her hope for your return. Hold out your arm.

Tina holds out her arm as Treena places the bracelet on her. Tina cries, they hug.

CUT TO:

EXT. ERATO ISLAND NIGHT

In the various huts, Sirens sleep, men sleep, they have chains around one ankle.

Seth is sneaking through the trees and bushes, he arrives at Steven’s hut. Steven waits, awake. Seth unlocks the ancient padlock.

STEVEN
How did you get the key?

SETH
(holds up bent fork)
Let’s roll!
They sneak through the trees, they are now at JOSHUA’S hut. He is around 48 Y.O. Latin type, Bahamian. They shake him. He is groggy.

SETH
Joshua wake up, wake up.

JOSHUA
Go away man, leave me be.

SETH
Something’s going on, we need you, hurry.

Joshua awakens, alert. Seth unlocks his padlock, they run off into the dark.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH CONTINUOUS

SETH
She’s out there, about 50 yards. You remember the spear guns?

JOSHUA
Of course man, why?

SETH
Chiron is missing, they’ll be gone. We need those guns.

JOSHUA
Follow me man.

STEVEN
The boats out there Joshua.

JOSHUA
You want those guns? Shut up and follow me man.

They head down the beach and soon enter thick brush. They fight their way through it, guided by the almost full moon.
They enter a clearing, walk through 20 yards, enter another area of thick brush.

They approach a huge tree, branches extend far out over the water. The branches touch the water and are filled with vegetation, one cannot see in or out.

In the water is an old pirate rowboat, oars tucked inside. In the middle of the boat is a box. Steven and Seth just stare, in shock.

SETH
How did you do it?

JOSHUA
Five years man, five years I sneak, risk my life.

STEVEN
Why haven’t you told anyone?

JOSHUA
Get real man, if anyone knew and they were tortured, they would turn me over to save their life. I know how it is.

SETH
Then why haven’t you left?

JOSHUA
The time hasn’t been right, I get only one chance, so I be waiting for that time.

SETH
The boat, where..

JOSHUA
From the water man. I find her, pull it up with rope, do the repairs. It solid as an oak tree, nothing can hurt her now.

Joshua jumps in the boat, the other 2 follow.
They crouch down around the closed box. Joshua opens the top, the box is filled with 6 spear guns.

They each pick one up, below the guns are a bunch of spears. Steven holds one up.

STEVEN
Hellooow there beautiful!

CUT TO:

INT. ERATO ISLAND  SHIP HALL  DAY

Nemeritias is in her chair, discusses plans with 8 other WOMEN. Trey and another man stand, wait for orders.

NEMERITIAS
Tomorrow, when the sun is high, we meet in the middle, between our 2 islands, I take my daughter back.

WOMAN #1
So you’re going to give them the human?

NEMERITIAS
I am going to make them think this. Once I have my daughter, I will take him. He will not be free, he must give my daughter a child, it must be him.

(to Trey)
Bring me the human!

Trey runs out.

A dead MAN has been placed on the floor, face down. Sean stares at him, a bit shocked.

NEMERITIAS
You see Sean, I do not need to have a reason for a human to die.

SEAN
I see that. Why am I being
kept in a cage?

**NEMERITIAS**
Bait. Chiron has been taken by the mermaids, we are to meet tomorrow to trade you.

**SEAN**
Really!

**NEMERITIAS**
However, you won’t be going anywhere. You will return here with me and give my daughter a child. Whether you live or die after that will depend on you.

**SEAN**
And if I give her a child, will you set me free? I promise, I won’t tell anyone.

**NEMERITIAS**
We will see. But I want to warn you, when we go, you will not try to escape, you will be unable to. When I breathe into you the power to survive, you will be helpless, you will so long for Chiron to be with you, you will do anything to return here, to be with her.

**SEAN**
You know I care for your daughter, very much.

**NEMERITIAS**
Yes, I have seen it, I have watched the two of you. That is unfortunate for you, we do not take on ‘mates’ here. You have a job to do, you will do it and then I shall decide your fate.
SEAN
Wow, that sounds promising.

NEMERITIAS
A last warning Sean, should anything go wrong tomorrow, you will not survive. Do you understand me?

SEAN
(mocks)
Yes your highness.

NEMERITIAS
We’ll see how your humor is after this. Take him away.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAGE CONTINUOUS

Trey locks him back in the cage.

TREY
You know what we talked about before Sean?

SEAN
Yes, I do.

TREY
Then know that nothing has changed, after Chiron, you still die.

SEAN
Yeah, I know, I’ll work on it.

CUT TO:

EXT. ATARGATIS ISLAND DINNER AREA  DAY

Everyone sits at the dinner table, they talk.

LORELEI
You all have your positions, we have decided what each of
us will do, now we only hope the Gods will be with us.

DEREK
There’s only one problem, you have left us behind.

LORELEI
It’s too dangerous, there is no reason for you three to be involved in this.

KYLE
I’m sorry but it’s our friend, we have to be there.

BRANDON
Yes, Lorelei, we are not asking, we insist.

TREENA
Brandon, it’s too dangerous, what do you know of underwater battle? Besides, if she knows you’re there, she is going to try to capture you, I don’t want that!

BRANDON
Are you saying you care, you would be sad if anything happened to me?

TREENA
Why are men so impossible!

KEELA
(to Derek)
You’re really safer her.

DEREK
Listen, if we are there, it will throw her plans off, she won’t expect that. There’ll be more confusion, you know, more indecision.
BRANDON
Besides, when you blow us,

Derek and Kyle cover their faces.

oops, you know, breathe into
us so we can be underwater,
can’t you give us some of your
special powers, maybe become
invisible, shock them in the
water, something?

LORELEI
The most we can do is give you
the power to communicate under
the water, you can know what
we think, the creatures of the
sea will hear you, obey you.

KYLE
So it’s settled, we go to
battle!

TINA
Not quite, there’s something I
haven’t spoken of. My mother,
er, Nemeritias,
(looks at Lorelei)
I have to get used to that,
she has a special power, one
you humans must avoid at all
costs. She can stun you by
her stare, if she does this
you will be unable to move.
You only have a second or two
to turn away. If she looks at
you, do not look back. It’s
fatal.

BRANDON
Ah, fatal vision, I have an
answer for that.

TINA
I’m not joking, do not look
at her.
LORELEI
Well, we have some special powers of our own that she doesn’t know about. So, it’s settled. Dinner is almost ready, let us enjoy the rest of our night.

BRANDON
Treena, I need to get to our ship, how long would it take?

TREENA
Not long but I shouldn’t without mother permission.

BRANDON
It’s really important Treena, we’ll be back before anyone knows it.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAGOON UNDERWATER CONTINUOUS

Brandon starts to head out the main cave, Treena points in another direction. They swim to what seems a dead end, then Treena enters a small hidden cave.

They swim about 100 yards when Brandon sees it getting lighter.

They surface. There sits The Mystic at a dock inside a giant cave.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOAT DOCK CONTINUOUS

BRANDON
What a beautiful sight! Who built this dock?

TREENA
I don’t know, it’s been here as long as I can remember.
BRANDON
Wait here.

THE MYSTIC - CONTINUOUS

He jumps on board, looks around, rubs the steering wheel, so happy. The ship is the same as when they left.

He opens up a hatch and pulls out a bag, opens it and smiles, inside are 4 spear guns with plenty of spears. He zips it up. He turns and Treena is there, he jumps.

BRANDON
You just scared the crap out of me.

TREENA
So this is the vessel that will take you away from me. I should burn it.

BRANDON
You know we can't stay here forever.

TREENA
You don't like it here?

BRANDON
It's not that Treena, I love it here. It's just not our world. There's so much more out there than just an island.

TREENA
I've heard.

BRANDON
There's nothing stopping you from coming with us, with me. You know how I feel about you. No mermaid law says you have to stay forever, if you don't like it you can come back.

TREENA
I don't think mother would ever
allow me to leave. It would break her heart.

BRANDON
So you’re saying you would consider it if your mother gave you her permission?

TREENA
I don’t know what I’m saying. My feelings, I have never felt this way before. It is like, like...

BRANDON
Love Treena, we call it love. It makes your heart feel joyful, like, uhh, like getting a dog, no, no, it’s like you getting a baby dolphin for the first time. It’s joy Treena, pure joy.

TREENA
Yes, I have seen it on the faces of women that have had a child. It changed them.

BRANDON
Exactly. It’s that type of joy only it’s for another person.

TREENA
Then it is love I feel for you Brandon.

They hug, he whispers into her ear.

BRANDON
And I for you Treena.

CUT TO:

EXT. ERATO ISLAND  SEAN’S CAGE  NIGHT

Sean sits, depressed, dejected. He hears a noise in the bushes, sees nothing. Steven has snuck up behind the cage.
STEVEN
Mate, don’t turn around.
(Sean nods)
There are three of us, we’re escaping tomorrow. We have a boat and spear guns. We are going to be following Nemeritias but we’ll be far enough behind she won’t know we’re there. If the mermaids don’t get you, look for our boat.

Sean continues to look down, he whispers.

SEAN
She already told me I’m going to be under a spell, I’ll want to come back here.

STEVEN
Don’t worry mate, we’ll take care of that. If you get in trouble, just remember, we will be there.
(Sean nods)
I’m late for dinner. Later mate!

CUT TO:

EXT. DINNER AREA - CONTINUOUS

Seth, Steven, Joshua and Trey finish their dinner. Trey looks around, cautious.

TREY
You know this whole thing, getting Chiron back, is happening tomorrow?

SETH
I figured it was soon.

TREY
Yes, they’re taking Sean to trade for Chiron, but Nemeritias has no intention of
letting him go. He will still end up dead.

STEVEN
You know, I feel bad for Sean but we have our own worries, like staying alive, right mate?

TREY
Yes, I’d like to stay alive, for now.

SETH
I can tell you this Trey, when all this goes down, we’ll be in our huts, safe from all the blowout, right boys?

JOSHUA
You got that right man!

STEVEN
Absolutely.

TREY
Alright guys, sack time for me, I’ll see you tomorrow.

Trey walks away.

SETH
I don’t for one second trust that SOB.

STEVEN
No, he has too much freedom around here, he always seems to be around her.

JOSHUA
So tomorrow it be boys. This is the chance I be waiting for. Think about it, tomorrow at this time we be sitting with the mermaids, on our way to freedom.
SETH
Or inside a sharks belly.

JOSHUA
Don’t think like that, we have a boat, we have weapons, we take care of ourself.

SETH
I wish I felt as positive as you.

JOSHUA
I be here too long to worry about this man. My mind be ready, I can’t take it here anymore, I just as soon be dead.

(BEAT)
I keep that word, freedom, out of my head these 10 years, never let it in. Once that tiny little word creep into you head, it just get bigger and bigger. It start out the size of a pebble, then it become the size of a boulder, until you no longer able to carry it around. Then, when you think you got a chance, it no longer matter, you ready to die. I be ready now man.

CUT TO:

INT. SHIP HALL CONTINUOUS

NEMERITIAS
You spoke with them?

TREY
Yes, I don’t think they have anything planned.

NEMERITIAS
Do you understand the position we are going to be in tomorrow?
All of us will be gone, my sharks, all of my defenses.

TREY
Yes, I understand.

NEMERITIAS
You must watch all of the men, especially those three. I sense they are going to try something. I will hold you responsible for all of them. I have given you my trust, do not fail me.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNDERWATER DAY

Lorelei is still, she waits. Behind her are 10 mermaids, five each side of her, in an arc. 10 dolphins surround them. Behind all of them are the three guys. Behind Lorelei is Tina.

The area is exotic, 40’ deep, reefs, tall seaweed for hiding places, tropical fish swim around, crabs and lobster scurry about. There are sting rays buried in the sand, as if they wait for orders. Eels look out from holes in the reef, big teeth. Medium size jellyfish and sea cucumbers swim around. A porcupine fish swims by. An octopus eats a crab, perhaps a sign. This is the calm before the storm.

Lorelei looks behind her to ensure everyone is ready, the three guys give her the thumbs up signal, each of them hold a spear gun. They wait.

They see in the distance Nemeritias comes. As she advances, 10 sharks surrounded her, 12 Sirens.

Nemeritias and her Sirens all have dark brown or black tails, Lorelei and her mermaids all have green or blue tails.

In the back is Sean, a chain around his neck, attached to a shark, the looped chain behind the sharks head, held in place by its fins.
Nemeritias stops her group 50 feet from Lorelei. They stare at each other. Lorelei then swims to the middle as Nemeritias swims to meet her. They stop in front of each other. They communicate by their thoughts.

NEMERITIAS
It’s been many moons Lorelei.

LORELEI
We have no reason to communicate. We want nothing to do with your evilness. We came for the human, you came for Chiron.

NEMERITIAS
Lorelei, such hatred, and after all these years.

LORELEI
And you know why it is so, don’t you.

NEMERITIAS
That was a long time ago, we must let the past be.

LORELEI
Enough of your mindless chatter, bring me the human.

Lorelei turns and signals for Chiron to come. Chiron swims and stops behind Lorelei.

Nemeritias signals to a Siren next to Sean. The Siren takes a key, first unlocks the chain on the shark, then Sean. Sean swims over and stops behind Nemeritias.

Sean and Chiron’s eyes lock, they swim to each other and embrace.

LORELEI
Sean, it is time, your friends await you, come.

Sean stares at her, trance like. The three guys swim over, their backs to Nemeritias.
DEREK
Sean, you’re free, time to come home.

Sean just stares, confused.

BRANDON
Sean, dude, the beers waiting, we’re going home!

Two Sirens grab Chiron, they pull her toward the sharks. Sean stares, then starts to follow Chiron. Brandon grabs him.

BRANDON
Sean, no, you’re coming with us.

Sean struggles free of Brandon and starts toward Chiron.

SEAN
No, I have to be with Chiron! Leave me alone!

LORELEI
You witch! You’ve put him under your spell!

NEMERITIAS
He is free to do what he wants. Take them away!

Siren #1 & #2 grab Chiron and start to swim away, Sean follows.

The mermaids rush toward them, sharks cut them off. The dolphins shoot over into the middle of them, the sharks are chasing the dolphins, the dolphins swim away, leading 4 sharks away from the Sirens and mermaids.

Treena swims over to a Siren #1 beside Chiron, Chiron struggles to break free, Treena, like a guided missile, smashes her head in the Siren #1’s back, knocks her away.

Siren #1 turns and faces Treena, opens her mouth and exposes shark like teeth. Treena leans back, swooshes her tail and sends the Siren #1 into a spin. A dolphin then smashes into the Siren #1, she floats, knocked out.
The three guys, each holding onto a dolphin, are ready to join the fight. Nememitias sees them, her eyes widen, she starts her stare. Small, radar like waves move toward the guys. Very quick, they reach into their bag of spears and put reflective sunglasses on. The radar waves hit the glasses and bounce off. They high five each other.

In the distance, 2 sharks have cornered 4 dolphins. It is a grassy area, the sharks open their mouths for the attack. Out of the grass shoot 2 giant octopus, they swim on top of the sharks and wrap their tentacles around the sharks mouths, slowly forces them closed, the sharks thrash about.

The dolphins swim away and head straight back to the sharks, 2 headed for each one. They smash into the sharks, the sharks are stunned, they float, helpless.

2 sharks and Sirens #2 & #3 still surround Sean and Chiron, keep them in place.

Other groups of mermaids and Sirens fight.

Nememitias signals the Sirens #2 & #3 that surround Chiron to move toward the island. They start to swim. 2 more sharks join them.

Lorelei sees this and rushes over. Nememitias turns and holds up her hand, extending her fingers. Radar like waves hit Lorelei, knock her into a spin, momentarily stuns her. A shark rushes to Lorelei, mouth open to eat her.

Just as the shark is upon her, 2 dolphins smash into its side. The shark floats.

Off to the side, a shark chases Treena, closes in. He is close enough to snap at her tail. He snaps twice, she jerks away at the last moment, she tires, the shark almost has her.

Keela follows the shark, in just the nick of time she lands on the sharks back and wraps her arms and around it. He stops, tries to shake her off. Just as she jumps off, before the shark can move, 2 dolphins smash into the shark, knock him 5 feet away. He floats.

There are now 6 of the 10 sharks floating, 4 Sirens left.
The three guys move in on Sean and Chiron, spear guns ready. As they approach, 2 sharks rush them. No dolphins are around. As the sharks approach them, all 3 fire their spear guns, hit the 2 sharks, blood flows.

The sharks are not slowed, they continue. The guys grab the 2nd spear gun and fire again, they hit. Still not slowed down, they clumsily try to reload, not enough time.

From below, 4 dolphins come out from their hidden area in the grassy seaweed, charge the 2 sharks, hit them, they float.

Nemeritias is now with Sean, Chiron, 2 sharks, 4 Sirens. They are surrounded by 6 floating mermaids and eight floating Sirens, not dead but unconscious.

The remaining mermaids, dolphins and Lorelei stare at them, have them surrounded. Nemeritias has a look of calm, confidence.

Lorelei approaches her.

LORELEI
It’s over Nemeritias, turn them over to us.

NEMERITIAS
My daughter goes with me!

CHIRON
I’m not you’re daughter, you have lied to me all this time, you stole me from my mother! I’ll never go with you!

NEMERITIAS
It’s not true Chiron, she is the one that has lied to you!

CHIRON
Then why does my sister wear this?

She holds up her arm and shows her bracelet. Treena holds up her arm and shows the matching bracelet.
CHIRON

It’s all been a lie, my life, you. None of it was real. You’re evil, Nemeritias.

NEMERITIAS

Then you shall all die!

Nemeritias raises both hands and shoots out powerful waves. As she moves her body in a circle, the waves hit everyone around her, send them into spins and tumbles. She spares no one, her waves hit even Chiron, Sean, her sharks and Sirens.

They are lay motionless around her, passed out.

Out of nowhere, spears zing by her. She looks around, everyone is still passed out, she cannot tell where they come from. The spears continue to zing all around her, just missing.

She looks up and sees the bottom of a boat and smiles. She sends her shock waves up, they hit the boat, it rocks and rolls.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOAT CONTINUOUS

In the boat are Seth, Steven and Joshua, holding on for dear life. The boat rocks left and right.

STEVEN

Hold on mates, she’s goin’ over!

The boat flips, throws all overboard. All 3 swim back and cling to the overturned boat.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNDERWATER CONTINUOUS

Nemeritias sees what has happened, smiles and heads toward Lorelei, who slowly regains her senses but is still stunned. Nemeritias moves toward her, on the attack.
She is now next to Lorelei, opens her mouth and exposes shark like teeth. Lorelei is too stunned to move, shakes her head sideways.

Just as Nemeritias is ready to bite, she is struck by a spear, it stuns her, then another, blood flows everywhere.

She looks behind her, it is Joshua, 10 feet away. She slowly sinks to the bottom, dead.

CUT TO:

EXT. ATARGATIS ISLAND DINNER NIGHT

Everyone is there, the guys, the kids, Seth, Steven and Joshua. They eat a huge shark. There are several separate conversations going on, the tables buzzes with chatter and laughter.

LORELEI
I didn’t get to say it yet Joshua but thank you for yesterday, you saved my life.

JOSHUA
It was my destiny. You gave us the opening we needed to get out. I be happy I was the one who did it. 10 years of misery from that bitch.

LORELEI
Where will you go?

JOSHUA
Back to Nassau, I have family there, I’m sure they all think I’m dead.

CONTINUED:

TINA
When are you leaving?

SEAN
2 Days, you know I want you to come.
TINA
I can’t, you know that. It would break my mothers heart, I have to get to know her, we have a lot of time to make up.

SEAN
But what about us? You know I love you.

TINA
Sean please, I can’t. You can return some day and see your child.

SEAN
Oh sure, I’ll just sit out there waiting for the fog to thicken.

TINA
You won’t wait, we’ll know you’re coming.

SEAN
This just isn’t right, it’s my child too. I’ll take you to court, they’ll force you to come.

TINA
Mothers a judge, we can do it right here. I think she’ll give you visitation.

SEAN
Well then, I want alimony.

TINA
What’s that?

SEAN
(laughs)
Payback! I’m gonna miss you Baby doll!
CONTINUED:

BRANDON
What about us Treena? You know how I feel about you.

TREENA
And I you, but I’m not a human, Besides, I’m going to have a child to take care of.

BRANDON
I know, my child. What am I supposed to do, never see her?

TREENA
You can stay here Brandon, life’s not so bad.

BRANDON
I’d miss having a steak, with beer, watching the super bowl, world series, Miami Beach, my God Treena, you would love Miami Beach. You have to come! I’ll give you a good life there, so much you haven’t experienced.

TREENA
You know what happens if I’m out of water for 5 cycles of the sun.

BRANDON
That could never happen. Where I live is surrounded by water. It’s beautiful Treena, we could build such a life together, raise out daughter together.

TREENA
Brandon, don’t, please.

BRANDON
I’m not giving you up Treena, I’ll talk to your mother.
CONTINUED:

All the guys are drinking rum.

DEREK
So what are you going to do Steven?

STEVEN
Back to Australia mate. I’ve got people there. A lot of missed time to make up with my family. I never thought I’d get out of here. A freaking 10 year fishing trip. Never again.

SETH
Yeah, same with me, a lot of time to make up. You?

DEREK
I’m not sure. We’ve only been gone 3 weeks but it’s changed the way I look at life. You only get one shot, I’m not sure I want to spend it in an office, there’s so much more.

KYLE
Same with me Derek. Being in an office listening to people moan and complain is going to be hard to take. And Sally, my girlfriend, she’s gone. See ya, wouldn’t want to ‘beee ya’!

SETH
I will say the sceneries nice here. I’ve never seen so many Babylonian Babes in one place!

KYLE
I know, if we could just come back once a year.
DEREK
(stands)
A toast, to all of you beautiful women that have helped us get out of here, to an unforgettable experience, one that won’t be soon forgot, and to freedom, a word that has taken on new meaning!

Everyone claps and cheers!

CUT TO:

EXT. DOCK DAY

Everyone is at the dock to say goodbye. The couples hug, everyone talks, chatters.

Steven, Seth and Joshua watch from the boat deck.

BRANDON
This is it Treena, last chance.

TREENA
(cries)
I love you Brandon, so much!

CONTINUED:

DEREK
Lorelei, can we ever come back?

LORELEI
No, I’m sorry Derek, once you go through the fog, you’ll remember nothing about your journey here. No one does.

DEREK
Bummer! What about the Sirens?

LORELEI
It will take the Sirens a long time to get back to normal life, for them anyway.
DEREK
Hopefully, a few hundred years.
So we won’t remember, what if we ever get back to the area, say, by accident. How will you know we’re coming?

LORELEI
(points to head)
Here.
(hand on heart)
And here.

DEREK
(hugs her)
You’re a sweetheart Lorelei,
I’m really going to miss you.

Alison and Isabel run to Brandon, each one hugs one of his legs. He picks both of them up, they have tears in their eyes.

BRANDON
I’m going to miss you two munchkins!

They both hug him tight. His eyes well, he puts them down. One by one, they walk onto the ship, each taking a final glimpse. All are now on board.

DEREK
Lorelei, I forgot, we have no power.

BRANDON
A minor problem.

LORELEI
Don’t worry, we’ll get you out there.

Isabel and Alison loosen the ropes, the boat starts moving towards the cave entrance.

All wave goodbye.
Brandon stares at Treena, tears stream down her face, he watches until they are out of the cave.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE MYSTIC CONTINUOUS

STEVEN
This ship moves good for not having any power mate.

DEREK
Yeah, I wish we could duplicate it!

THE MYSTIC INSIDE - CONTINUOUS

All of them stand inside, look at the treasure box full of gold.

BRANDON
I guess I won’t have to worry about paying my bills anymore.

KYLE
None of us are have to worry about anything like that, ever.

STEVEN
(looks outside)
What the hell is that mates?

They see ahead of them the thick fog bank.

DEREK
That’s what’s taking us home.

They approach the fog.

ATARGATIS ISLAND - CONTINUOUS

TREENA
Mother I don’t know what to do!

LORELEI
Look to your heart Treena.
TREENA
But mother, I would miss you so, and Tina, she just returned, there’s so much we have to learn about each other.

TINA
I will always be in your heart, we will see each other again.

LORELEI
(puts her hand on Treena’s heart)
We will never be apart Treena, we will always be here.

They all hug each other, tears fall from all.

TREENA
Thank you mother, I love you.

LORELEI
Hurry, be off!

Treena runs down a path and dives into the water.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE MYSTIC CONTINUOUS

All of them are at the rear of the boat, they watch the islands slowly disappear. They see, in the distance, a large wave as it moves toward them.

KYLE
What the hell is that?

BRANDON
I don’t know but it’s moving fast.

They enter the fog, they can no longer see around them. They all sit. The fog starts to get light. Derek runs inside.
THE MYSTIC CONTROL ROOM – CONTINUOUS

Derek stares at the gauges. The needles jump, the radar beeps. Derek turns the key, the engine starts. All of the men clap and yell. They are now out of the fog.

THE MYSTIC DECK RAIL – CONTINUOUS

Brandon stands on the deck, looks out to sea, sad. He feels hands on both his shoulders.

BRANDON
Stop messing with me Sean!

The two hands cover his eyes, turn him round, he grabs the hands and pulls them off.

BRANDON
Treena!

They hug and kiss.

BRANDON
I was so sad, I never thought I was going to see you again!

TREENA
I know, I felt it, it was very powerful, I had to come.

BRANDON
You must be a vision, Lorelei said we wouldn’t remember anything.

TREENA
What, and forget about me! I took care of that. You remember me Brandon?

BRANDON
Ahh, the power of the mermaid!
EXT. BOAT DOCK  NASSAU DAY

They are all on the dock, say goodbye. Steven and Joshua have a big brown bag of gold each, nothing more. Seth stays for the return trip to Miami.

STEVEN
Well, this is it mates, I’m goin’ home. I got your number, we’ll stay in touch.

JOSHUA
We owe you our lives, I will never forget any of you.

They all hug, Steven and Joshua walk away.

EXT. DIRT ROAD  CONTINUOUS

Joshua walks down a road, shanties and small business around him, a poor section of town. People stare at him, whisper to each other. He nods his head to some. He continues until he finds a small, rundown house.

He stops and stares, walks up to the front door, hesitates, turns the door knob, steps inside.

INT. HOUSE  CONTINUOUS

He closes the door, stares at Trista, doing dishes. She senses him, stops what she is doing, slowly turns around with a bowl in her hand. She sees Joshua, drops the bowl.

TRISTA
(screams)
Stay away from me, you’re dead, I don’t believe in spirits, go away!

JOSHUA
I’m not dead daughter, I’ve
just come back.

Trista, very slow, walks to him. Fearful, she pushes his shoulder, then the other one, squeezes him arm. She has uncontrollable tears.

TRISTA

Papa!

They embrace.

CUT TO:

INT. DEREK’S FATHERS HOME  DAY

Dad, Derek, Brandon, Treena, Kyle and Sean sit on the patio, drink beers, eat cheeseburgers.

DAD

So you guys had quite an adventure, I’m anxious to her about it.

DEREK

You probably won’t believe it Dad.

DAD

I can’t wait. Brandon, I see you brought someone new back, where did you guys meet?

BRANDON

Atargatis Island.

DAD

Ata, atgaa

DEREK

Atargatis Island Dad.

DAD

Where’s that, never heard of it.

DEREK

Not really sure, behind a fog
bank somewhere, next to Erato Island.

DAD
Never heard of either, I’ll have to look them up.

DEREK
You won’t find either of them on a map.

DAD
OK so you want to be mysterious, I’ll go with that. Treena, unusual name, I like it. What do you do Treena?

Treena looks at Brandon, confused.

BRANDON
(finishes a long drink of beer)
Ahhhh, that’s good.
(pauses)
She’s a mermaid.

Treena looks at Brandon, they both smile.

FADE OUT.