

SERPENT

WGA registration number - 1830335

FADE IN.

EXT. WIDE SHOT OF ICE PACK - AFTERNOON

As we fly in low from ocean to ice.

Subtitle:

Chukchi Ice Shelf, Eastern Russia.

We continue to fly low over the ice. We then see where the ice and land merge. We move parallel along the convergence. We then see a Land Rover type vehicle parked just on the edge of the ice and land.

We then pan reveal two people as they walk along a narrow portion of the ice shelf towards the ocean.

EXT. ICE PACK - AFTERNOON

Close in shot of the two people. They are a man and a woman. Both in their 40's, dressed for the occasion. Around them at various locations nearby, are sensory measurement equipment.

The woman, Olga Vostov examines the readings on the device she holds.

As they speak Russian,

Subtitles:

OLGA  
47.34 centimeters.

The man is Nikoli Vostov, her husband.

NIKOLI  
We're off by 8 centimeters from last  
season.

As Olga looks out towards the edge of the ice pack to the ocean beyond,

OLGA  
And the ice shelf is shrinking as well.  
(then adds)  
It was over a kilometers two years ago,  
now?  
(pause for effect)  
The proof is undeniable, Nikoli.

As she walks towards the ocean's edge,

OLGA (CONT'D)  
Any idiot with one eye can this that.

As he follows,

NIKOLI

And in the world of the blind, the one  
eyed woman is queen.

Olga stops, turns to him.

OLGA

You mock me, Husband?

He stops.

NIKOLI

No, no, no, my dearest Olga. I'm just  
saying that you stand alone in a world of  
blind people.

(then adds)

We both do.

OLGA

And it is up to us to open those eyes to  
the truth.

NIKOLI

(mocking salute)

Yes, Comrade General.

As she continues towards the water,

OLGA

You are an ass, Nikoli.

He follows. As they move closer to the edge,

NIKOLI

Maybe we shouldn't get too close to the  
edge, Olga. It may break.

OLGA

Go back if you like, I want to take  
temperature readings.

NIKOLI

With what?

A realization pause as Olga feels for the pouch. Then,

OLGA

Shit!

Nikoli finds humor in the moment.

NIKOLI

Stay here, my Dearest. I'll go get it.

As he starts to walk back,

OLGA  
It's in the blue bag.

Nikoli gives her a gestured wave.

OLGA (CONT'D)  
(sarcasm)  
I love you.

NIKOLI  
Yeah, yeah, yeah.

As Nikoli treks back towards their vehicle, he glances back to see Olga test the ice pack with her weight. He stops in disbelief. He is about to yell to her but decides not to. He then continues his trek.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
Crazy woman.

EXT. LAND ICE PACK CONVERGENCE - AFTERNOON

Nikoli approaches the Land Rover parked just off the ice. He opens the hatchback and begins to rummage through the packs.

Subtitles:

NIKOLI  
Blue bag, blue bag, blue bag?  
(finds the bag)  
Ah, blue bag.

He rummages through the bag, finds the device. Content, Nikoli then begins his trek back to his wife.

Olga see him from her vantage point. She then begins to walk to him.

As they close the distance, suddenly a portion of the ice directly in front of Olga shatters and rises into a large stalagmite type obstacle as if it was struck by something beneath the ice.

They freeze in their tracks.

Subtitles:

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
What the hell.

We pause for effect.

Then, another strike directly beneath Olga. She is thrown clear. Nikoli watches with concern as the ice between them begins to break apart.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Olga!

Nikoli starts to run towards her. The ice in front of him breaks apart. He stops; they are now separated by a quickly growing gap.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Don't move, Olga!

Olga lies spread eagle on what is now her floating life raft made of ice. She and Nikoli look at each other confused.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Are you alright?

OLGA

I believe s..

At that precise moment, the aft end of Olga's ice raft is suddenly lifted out of the water. Against her will, Olga rolls into the sea.

Nikoli quickly navigates the cracked and broken ice between he and her. At water's edge he prepares to jump in. As she treads water,

OLGA (CONT'D)

No, Nikoli. You can't swim!

He stops.

NIKOLI

Then come to me. Get out of the water before you freeze.

Olga is suddenly pulled under the water. Nikoli looks at the spot with confusion.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Olga?

She does not surface. Now with fear,

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Olga!?

She screams in agony as Olga suddenly surfaces a few feet from Nikoli. In desperation,

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Take my hand!

As she reaches for Nikoli, Olga is suddenly and violently slammed repeatedly against the ice edge. Nikoli desperately attempts to grab hold of her.

Panic, fear, and agony grip them both. Nikoli finally gets a firm grip on Olga and pulls hard. She comes out of the water as they fall back on the ice in a heap with Olga on top.

Close in on their faces as they look at each other. We see relief in Nikoli's eyes. We see shock in Olga's.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
Are you alright?

A momentary pause. Olga then attempt to mouth words but cannot.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
What is it?

Olga suddenly coughs blood onto Nikoli's face. As he rolls her off of him,

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
My God, Olga!

Nikoli looks into his wife's eyes. She looks into his.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
Olga  
(shake her)  
Olga, stay with me. It will be alright.  
(Shake her, yells)  
Olga!

A moment later, she dies. Nikoli's eyes glance down towards Olga's torso.

Instantly, there is horror in his expression. This followed by pain and anguish in his voice.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
Oh, God!

We pull back to see that Olga's torso below her rib cage has been torn from her. Her clothes are shredded at that point. Her entrails lead back to the water. Nikoli cries out for his wife as we,

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN.

EXT U.S. PACIFIC COASTLINE - AFTERNOON

Subtitle - 4 years later.

Calm seas; suddenly shattered by the sudden appearance of a speed boat. Four occupants, a man and three women. All about the same age, (college). It's a party atmosphere on the boat as it speeds towards a coastal dock.

EXT DOCK - AFTERNOON

Top of the line luxury vessels are docked in various slippages. We see a well dressed man stand on the dock. Impatiently, he waits. He is William McCabe, (35).

Will to his friends, looks on as the same speed boat approaches. Its occupants move reserve now.

As the boat approaches the dock, the young man throws Will a line which lands at his feet. And there it remains.

The boat docks, the young man disembarks. He is Tanner McCabe. Will's much younger brother.

As Tanner ties the boat,

                                WILL  
 You're late.

As Tanner looks at his watch, the girls disembark.

                                TANNER  
 Not by much. Besides,  
                         (the girls)  
 It was worth it.

Will turns, walks as Tanner grabs his duffle bag off the boat. The girls wait. Tanner addresses them.

                                TANNER (CONT'D)  
 Ladies, I will see you tonight. I have  
 some business to attend with my brother  
 right now.

The girls show disappointment as Tanner steps past them with a conciliatory gesture and quickly falls in line next to his brother.

                                TANNER (CONT'D)  
 You should have come with us, Bro, it was  
 awesome.

                                WILL  
 I'm sure it was little brother, but as  
 always, one of us has to be the adult in  
 this relationship.

                                TANNER  
 Yeah, but even adults have to live a  
 little, Will. I think it's in the bible.

                                WILL  
                         (sarcastic)  
 Really?

INT MCCABE AND ASSOCIATES LOBBY - AFTERNOON

A secretary answers the phone. Cute, petite (20) she is Lucy.

LUCY  
 McCabe and Associates. How may I direct  
 your call?  
 (listen)  
 One moment please.

At that moment a woman walks past Lucy with a folder in her hand. Professionally dressed, (30), she is Meredith Burke. She steps through the door of a conference room.

INT CONFERENCE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Two men sit in business attire at the end of a long table as Meredith steps in. Both in their fifties, they are Carlton West and Herb Braunstein. They both stand as Meredith enters.

MEREDITH  
 Gentlemen, I am so sorry for keeping you  
 waiting.

CARLTON  
 Where's Will?

MEREDITH  
 He's been delayed, but I can assure that  
 he is on his way.  
 (then adds)  
 Would you rather wait until he gets here?

HERB  
 No, we waited long enough.  
 (then adds)  
 Besides, we know who really runs this  
 company don't we?

MEREDITH  
 Thank you, Mr. Braunstein. Can...

HERB  
 Call me Herb. We're all friends here.

MEREDITH  
 Herb.  
 (then adds)  
 Can we get started?

They sit at the table. Meredith hands documents to both men. She gives them a moment to look the documents over. Carlton is a little more intent than Herb as he reviews the data.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)  
 As you can see the preliminaries  
 regarding the foundations are in.  
 (then add)  
 The engineers are confident that the base  
 will be stable...



CARLTON

This time.

They continue to review. Then,

CARLTON (CONT'D)

And how much did this setback add to the cost, Ms. Burke?

A pause for effect.

MEREDITH

The lawsuit itself, five million. Total setback, an additional two.

Herb whistles his contempt.

CARLTON

Seven million dollars?

(then add)

So basically we've increased the original production numbers by.... 7 percent and we haven't put up a damn wall yet?

MEREDITH

That is correct, Carlton.

CARLTON

Mr. West!

(then adds)

And we're definitely not friends yet. Not at this rate anyway.

MEREDITH

With all due respect,

(emphasis)

Mr. West. We did recommend against the extension out over the bay. We knew that would add to the risks.

(then adds)

It was pointed out during the May 10th survey.

Herb gestures Carlton to calm down; he does. Then,

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

In my opinion, Gentlemen, we were lucky this time. The payout for the lawsuit could have been much worse.

HERB

(to Carlton)

And that is what we cannot lose sight of. It could have been a lot worse.

(then adds)

(MORE)

HERB (CONT'D)

We should be thanking, Ms. Burke for her due diligence in this.... unfortunate matter, and move on.

(additionally)

Agreed?

A reluctant pause. Then,

CARLTON

Agreed.

(to Meredith)

My apologies, Ms. Burke. With the delays caused by this, these last few months have been very taxing.

MEREDITH

I completely understand. And please, call me Meredith.

(look to Herb)

We're all friends here.

(wink)

They stand.

HERB

Speaking of friends. I was sorry to hear about the passing of Mrs Burke

(then adds)

Your grandmother was someone that I admired for many years growing up.

MEREDITH

We all did, Mr. Braunstei... Herb. We all did.

(then adds)

And thank you. That is very kind of you to say.

As he references the folder on the table.

HERB

And don't worry about the numbers.

They're fine, right Carlton?

Not convinced is Carlton. Will walks in.

WILL

I'm sorry I'm late. I was delayed with a family matter.

MEREDITH

Is everything alright.

WILL  
 We'll talk.  
 (redirect)  
 So how are we doing here?  
 (to both)  
 Did you look at the numbers?

HERB  
 We did, it's good.  
 (then adds)  
 You guys can go ahead and dot the I's and  
 cross the T's then send the finals to my  
 office.

Herb and Will shake hands.

WILL  
 That's perfect. We will have that over to  
 you first thing.

Herb then slaps his hand around Carlton's shoulder.

HERB  
 C'mon, Carl. You look like you could use  
 a drink.

As Herb gestures Carlton to the door, Meredith and William hold back as  
 she tidies up the documents. When the two men exit,

MEREDITH  
 How'd it go?

WILL  
 Tanner being Tanner of course.

Humor.

MEREDITH  
 Well it's your own fault.  
 (then add)  
 You've always spoiled Tanner, ever since  
 he could walk.

WILL  
 Walk. Hell, I use to change that  
 knucklehead's diapers.  
 (then adds)  
 You'd think my little brother would be  
 more appreciative.

As she starts for the door,

MEREDITH  
 Oh he does, Will. Your brother loves you  
 more than you could imagine.

As Meredith grabs the door handle.

WILL  
 Mere.

She turns to him. We pause for effect.

WILL (CONT'D)  
He'll show.

A ponderous moment.

MEREDITH  
Who cares.

WILL  
You don't mean that.

MEREDITH  
Yeah Will, I do.

Meredith exits.

WILL  
Sure you do.

EXT TEN MILES OFFSHORE - SUNSET

A nice cabin cruiser pulls up along side a fishing boat about the same size, adrift. There are four people on the cruiser. Two men in their forties and two women a few years younger.

The fishing boat looks derelict as the men attempt to tie the two boats together. When they do, one leaps over the gunwale. The boats deck is awash with a few inches of water mixed in with a slight Crimson discoloration. The man is Gary.

GARY  
Ahoy! Anyone on board?

Gary steps forward to the berthing compartment. He looks in. Gary then turns to his friends.

GARY (CONT'D)  
No ones here.

On the cruiser, Tina.

TINA  
Should we call it in?

As he scans the deck,

GARY  
I don't know. I mean it looks like...

Something on the opposite gunwale catches Gary's. A small portion of the edge is jagged. We can see a piece of what looks like fabric material caught on the edge. Gary moves to investigate.

He grabs at the material. There is weight behind it. Gary pulls harder, then stumbles back as the fabric comes lose.

The material is part of a shirt. A shirt with one sleeve intact. A sleeve with a severed arm and shoulder attached.

Gary is startled. Panicked, he leaps back onto his own boat. The four show their own form of shock. Then,

TINA

Should we call it in?

We pause for effect. Then in the distance we hear the sounds of whales. They all look in the direction of the sounds.

A half mile away we see a small group of Killer whales swim as a pack.

Gary looks back to the boat, the arm, then back to the whales.

He then looks at the other man. We pause as, Maybe, is the gesture they convey to each other.

EXT LOCAL BUS STOP - NIGHT

The bus arrives. One person gets off. Late twenties, scruffy, he is Lucas. He carries a duffle bag. We can hear the ocean in the background. Something catches Lucas's eye. It is a billboard sign.

We see an artist's illustrated rendition of a multi storied building perched out over shore line. We see Accommodations for luxury boating. The headline reads -

"Coming Soon, Majestic Resort and Casino"

Lucas shakes his head, walks off.

INT GRANDMA'S HOUSE - MORNING

We see Meredith as she walks up to the front door. She then unlocks the door, steps in. Meredith moves directly to some boxes on the floor. As she starts to sort through one box.

LUCAS(O.S)

You're up early.

Startled, Meredith turns to Lucas who wears a pair of sweat pants. We pause for effect.

MEREDITH

When did you get in?

As he steps to the frig.

LUCAS

Last night.

MEREDITH  
Why didn't you call.

Lucas retrieves a bottle of Coke.

LUCAS  
Wanted to look around on my own.

MEREDITH  
At night?

No reply.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)  
I must admit, I didn't think you'd show.

LUCAS  
She was my grandmother too, Meredith.

As he heads down the hall.

MEREDITH  
Where you going?

LUCAS  
Lock up when you leave.

Lucas closes the bedroom door behind him.

MEREDITH  
(loud)  
Her wake is today; 3PM.

LUCAS(O.S.)  
I'll be there.

INT FUNERAL HOME - DAY

Lucas sits in the corner as Meredith receives condolences from well wishers. As he steps to Lucas,

TANNER  
Lucas Burke as I live and breathe.

As he stands,

LUCAS  
Nice intro, Tanner. But, actually it's  
Bach.  
(then adds)  
And before you ask, it all good.

TANNER  
What's all good?

A moment. Then,

LUCAS  
Nothing, Man. Thanks for coming.

TANNER  
Not my idea, Dude.

As he steps in,

WILL  
Lucas.  
(hand shake)  
Welcome home. It's good to see you.

Tanner sees a girl around his age. He knows her.

TANNER  
Excuse me, Gents.  
(to the girl)  
Hey, Jules hold up.

Tanner leaves as Lucas and Will watch him.

LUCAS  
That kid hasn't changed a bit.

WILL  
Yeah, that's what I'm afraid of.  
(redirect)  
So how long you staying?

LUCAS  
I just got here, McCabe. You trying to  
get rid of me already?

WILL  
I'm actually the one person who hopes you  
stay for a while.

LUCAS  
And why is that?

Will gestures to Meredith. They watch momentarily.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
What does my sister have to do with you  
wanting me to stay a while?

WILL  
(surprise)  
Seriously? When was the last time you  
spoke to her?

LUCAS  
About five minutes ago.

WILL  
Before today, Smart Ass.

Lucas shows contempt towards William.

LUCAS  
I'll see you around, Will.

Lucas walks off. As William watches him, Meredith steps up.

MEREDITH  
What was that all about?

WILL  
Oh, just me and you brother getting  
reacquainted.

MEREDITH  
And how's that going?

William smirks.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)  
Yep, should have seen that coming.

INT CONVENIENCE STORE - DAY

Lucas walks to the cooler, grabs a bottle of Coke. He then stands on line behind two people at the register.

ANGIE (O.S.)  
Lucas?

He turns to see a woman his age dressed in a police uniform. She is Angie Perez. It takes him a moment,

LUCAS  
Hey, Ang.

ANGIE  
(pleased)  
Oh my God, Lucas.

They hug.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
How are you?

LUCAS  
I'm good, I'm good. How 'bout yourself?

ANGIE  
Can't complain.



LUCAS  
 (smirk)  
 So, you're a cop now?

ANGIE  
 (smile)  
 What's so funny?

LUCAS  
 No, nothing, nothing at all.  
 (then add)  
 Its just that...  
 (pause)

ANGIE  
 Just what?

LUCAS  
 Angie, some of the shit we did growing up  
 around here. I would never have thought  
 ....

ANGIE  
 (interrupt)  
 Okay, I get it.

Humor, followed by a pause for effect.

LUCAS  
 It's good to see you again.

ANGIE  
 Likewise.  
 (then add)  
 Why don't you call me later, we'll catch  
 up?

A quick ponder by Lucas. Then,

LUCAS  
 Yeah, yeah I'd like that.

ANGIE  
 Good, I'll see you later.

As Angie walks towards the door.

LUCAS  
 Ang?

She stops, turns to him.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 I don't have your number.

She smiles.

ANGIE

Yeah you do.

She walks away, he realizes.

EXT MAJESTIC CASINO CONSTRUCTION SITE - WINDY DAY

Ocean shoreline, heavy surf. A construction pontoon jets twenty meters out into the water. Cement and dump trucks stand ready as a bull dozen moves past.

EXT PONTOON - ESTABLISH

The site foreman, Garcia (40) walks along the top of the pontoon with contractor, Myles (40). They step up to the spotter, Otis (40). At this moment, Otis is busy with two workers below.

We can see the two below on a scaffold as they struggle to attach securing clamps to the scaffold in the conditions.

As the wind impedes their ability to talk.

MYLES

Otis, how we doing?

OTIS

Not good. We're looking at four to seven foot sea, Mr. Myles. We have to secure the safety clamps before any work can begin.

MYLES

How long?

OTIS

At this rate, all day.

GARCIA

No dice. We're already behind schedule.

(then adds)

Put more people on it if you have to.

MYLES

We need to be careful with this, Mr. Garcia. We already had a man injured on site.

(then adds)

Maybe we should shut it down for a few hours. Let the winds die down.

EXT A MOMENT LATER - ESTABLISH

One of the scaffold securing clamps breaks. Attached to his safety harness, one of the workers falls waist deep into the water. As a result of wave action he is immediately slammed against the scaffold bar supports.

EXT UNDERWATER - SAME TIME

POV: as we slowly pivot back forth as we see the worker struggle against the scaffold ten meters away.

EXT PONTOON - MOMENTS LATER

As he climbs over the side to help,

OTIS

Damn it! Get him outta there!

The second worker struggles to get the first out of the water as Otis moves in to assist.

EXT UNDERWATER - SAME TIME

POV: as we slowly move closer, closer.

EXT PONTOON - CONTINUOUS

They pull the man from the water, but he is hurt, exhausted. Otis looks up to Myles and Garcia. We pause for effect.

GARCIA

Let me speak to Ms. Burke.

By happenstance, Garcia glances out over the water about thirty meters away. Something catches his eye.

EXT THIRTY METERS AWAY - ESTABLISH

The waves obscure the view, but we get a quick sight of a black hump as it moves away.

EXT PONTOON - CONTINUOUS

As Garcia stares.

MYLES

What is it?

He then looks out.

GARCIA

I don't know. Thought I saw something.

They both look; nothing.

GARCIA (CONT'D)

It was nothing.

(then adds)

Shut it down for now. I'll go talk to Meredith.

EXT A HALF MILE AWAY - SAME TIME

POV: through binoculars as we see the construction site. The view then pivots out to sea. We see a few pleasure boats in the surf. The binoculars fall away.

The person behind them, Nikoli Vostov.

INT GRANDMA'S HOUSE - EVENING

As Lucas gets ready to go out, we here the TV in the background.

NEWS CAST (V.O.)

This just in. A grisly discover a few miles off the coast as a boat was found adrift over the channel yesterday.

(then adds)

We are being told that human remains were found on the vessel and that foul play has not been ruled out.

Lucas moves into the living room as he searches for something.

NEWS CAST (V.O.)

Our reporter Candace Knight has the story, Candace?

Lucas finds the keys. He looks for one more item.

CANDACE (V.O.)

Dan, according to Coast Guard reports, the boat was out of Charlotte bay about twenty mile north...

The TV goes dark.

Close-up of the TV remote that Lucas now has. He turns the TV off, drops the remote on the table. Lucas then exits.

INT MEREDITH'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

As Meredith works at her desk, the TV in the background.

CANDACE (V.O.)  
 ...it was last seen five days ago and  
 reported missing three days ago, only to  
 be found by pleasure boaters just off  
 Sunset Point.

Meredith then looks at the TV.

INT HOTEL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

We see Candace on the television. a typically attractive reporter.

CANDACE (V.O.)  
 By all accounts, this is still considered  
 a search and rescue operation,  
 (then adds)  
 But, as you stated, foul play has not  
 been ruled out as authorities try to  
 determine what happened to the  
 experienced three man crew.  
 (additionally)  
 This is Candace Knight, reporting from  
 Sunset Point now back to you in the  
 studio.

"Click"- TV off.

Nikoli stands, walks to the hotel room table. News paper clippings are strewn all over the table.

We see that these are clippings of alleged boating accident.

Nikoli begins to show agitation. He then slams his fist on the table. A second later, the phone rings. He looks at it. Nikoli seems to know who's on the other end.

EXT BEACH - NIGHT

A typical beach scene at night as a group of eight young people enjoy each other's company. Nearby, Angie and Lucas sit on a sand dune. Lucas looks over at the group.

LUCAS  
 The more things change, the more they  
 stay the same.

ANGIE  
 You have a problem with tradition?

LUCAS  
It all depends.

ANGIE  
On what?

LUCAS  
If it's worth keeping, and who your  
keeping it with.

ANGIE  
Fair enough.

Pause for effect.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
I was sorry to hear about your Nan. She  
was good people.

As he looks at the ocean, Lucas nods in agreement.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
Spoke to Meredith a while back.

Lucas gives Angie a glance.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
Well, to be fair. It was while giving her  
a ticket.

LUCAS  
Speeding?

ANGIE  
Jay walking.

LUCAS  
Cool.  
(pause for effect)  
Why did you become a cop?

ANGIE  
So I could shoot people.

Humor.

LUCAS  
No seriously. I would have never thought  
you the type.

ANGIE  
What else was I gonna do.

LUCAS  
Run for mayor?

ANGIE  
Yeah okay, that will go well.

LUCAS  
You never know.

ANGIE  
The job's yours if you want it.

LUCAS  
No thank you. There is nothing here for me.

ANGIE  
So you found something better across the tracks?

LUCAS  
No not really.

Pause for effect.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
How 'bout you? You ever thought about leaving?

ANGIE  
Nah, I'm an old fashioned girl. I don't like change.

Lucas smirks loudly.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
What the hell?

LUCAS  
Ang, it's me you're talking to.

ANGIE  
Yeah, so?

LUCAS  
I was there at Louie Crenshaw's party remember.

She remembers.

ANGIE  
Hello, that was like a hundred years ago.

LUCAS  
It was yesterday for me.

ANGIE  
Yeah I still have those marks.  
(then adds)  
Stupid table. What was I thinking

More humor, followed by a pause for effect. Lucas looks out to sea.

LUCAS  
See that boat out there?

We see running lights against the dark horizon.

ANGIE

Yeah?

LUCAS

I'd give anything to change places with that guy right now.

ANGIE

Why?

LUCAS

Because he's probably looking at us and thinking, those dumb bastards on that beach.

(then adds)

I bet they wish they wish they were me right now.

ANGIE

Yeah well. Be careful what you wish for. You never know.

We see the running lights against the black horizon.

EXT BLACK HORIZON - SAME TIME

A small fishing boat as it takes on water. The boat begins to sink as a lone man yells into his radio. Mid 40's, he is the boat's owner. And, he is scared.

SCARED BOAT OWNER

(to radio mic)

Coast Guard! Coast Guard, this is the lucky Joe!

The boat is slammed from below.

SCARED BOAT OWNER (CONT'D)

Coast Guard, Coast Guard, can anyone read me!!?

(then adds)

This is the lucky Joe just off the channel! Something hit me! I'm going down fast! I need help! Can anyone hear me, over!!?

Pause for a response. The boat is struck again near the man. He is thrown overboard.

He surfaces a few meters away. We see the boat as it begins to capsize. The owner looks on with fear in his eyes.

He then looks to the shoreline. We see just a few distant lights that convey an image of desolation. The owner is truly alone. He then turns back to his now partially capsized boat.



The owner swims to the vessel. He grabs hold of the gunwale, begins to pull himself up. A moment later he is violently pulled back into the water. He disappears for a few seconds.

The instant he surfaces, the owner screams out in pain as something has his from below. He then frantically punches at whatever it is that has him.

He is then slammed against the boat a few time. The man grabs at the gunwale. We see agony in his expression as he attempts to pull him self from the water.

We then hear one last scream of agony as the owner vomits a massive amount of blood.

The fight ends as he is pulled under. We pause for effect as the scene now becomes quiet.

EXT BEACH - MOMENTS LATER

We see no lights on the black horizon.

ANGIE

Uh oh. Looks like someone's getting lucky.

LUCAS

I rest my case.

Pause for effect.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

So now what?

Angie looks at the group. There is alcohol involved. She stands.

ANGIE

C'mon, let's go confiscate some alcohol.

He stands.

LUCAS

We're not planning on getting drunk are we?

ANGIE

Well, I don't know about you. But, I plan on getting absolutely shit faced.

She throws Lucas her car keys.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

You can do whatever you want.  
(wink)

Angie walks towards the group. Lucas looks out to sea before he joins her.

EXT GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE - MORNING

Meredith stands on the porch as she watches the police car pull up to the sidewalk.

We see Angie in the front seat, Lucas in the back. Angie gets out. As she steps around the vehicle.

ANGIE  
Hello, Meredith

MEREDITH  
Officer Perez.

Angie opens the back door, Lucas exits.

LUCAS  
Really?  
(then adds)  
You couldn't like, stop down the street  
and let me out?

ANGIE  
Street cred, Darling.

Angie give him a quick kiss.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
See ya.

As she steps back to the driver's side,

LUCAS  
Try not to shoot anyone today.

ANGIE  
No promises.

Angie leaves as Lucas remains at curb side for a moment. He then walks to Meredith. As he passes her,

LUCAS  
Officer Perez?  
(then adds)  
You've known Angie her whole life. What  
with the officer crap?

Lucas opens the front door. As he steps in,

MEREDITH  
Funeral's today.

LUCAS

I'll be there.

The door closes. Meredith shakes her head, then walks off.

INT BEDROOM - MORNING

Lucas flops on the bed. He stares at the ceiling for a long moment. He turns his head, something catches his eye. We see a small chest against the back wall in the open closet.

Lucas retrieves the chest opens it. We see sport plaques, newspaper clippings, ribbons, and an old football. As he starts to remove items, we then see trophies, followed by a letter. All memento's of a high school football star; Lucas Burke.

The letter is an acceptance notification from a university. The header reads Pacific North University. We then pause for effect as Lucas looks at the letter.

A moment later, it and the contents of the chest are thrown against the wall in frustration.

Lucas then sits on the corner of the bed; disgusted with himself.

EXT MAJESTIC CASINO CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

Will arrives with Tanner in tow. They exit the vehicle. Will's attention out to sea. We see a Coast Guard helicopter and boat a few miles out. Garcia steps to him.

GARCIA

Hey Will.

WILL

What's going on out there?

GARCIA

Some sort of accident.

WILL

Anybody hurt?

GARCIA

Don't know.

(then adds)

Listen, did Meredith talk to you?

WILL

Why do you think I'm here, Garcia?

(then adds)

Now what's this about another injury?

GARCIA

Only slightly this time. He'll be alright. But we did have to shut the site down for the day.

They stop.

WILL

Now see, in there lies the problem.

(then adds)

You're the site manager. You are not paid to shut a multi million dollar project down on a whim.

GARCIA

I know, but...

WILL

No, Garcia you do not. Let me lay it out for you.

(then adds)

Get this site back on track by the end of the week or you are history, got it!

GARCIA

A week?

WILL

Maybe less, we'll see.

Will walks off towards the site with Tanner. Under his breath, Garcia issues a Spanish curse.

INT RIVERLAND HOTEL - DAY

Lucas walks into the Bed and Breakfast type atmosphere of the lobby. An older couple sits at a corner coffee table as Lucas steps to the front desk. A black woman (70) stands behind the counter with her back to Lucas.

LUCAS

Excuse me, is room 1203 available?

She turns, does a double take. They both smile.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Hello, Ms. Abby.

ABBY

Mr. Lucas, lord have mercy.

As she come around to him.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
Child, how yawl doing?

They hug.

LUCAS  
I'm good. How 'bout you?

ABBY  
I'm mis'n your grandma something fierce,  
but other than that, I'm good.  
(then ask)  
When'd you get in?

LUCAS  
Two days ago.

ABBY  
Two days and you just now coming to see  
Ms. Abby. Boy, I ought to slap you upside  
your head.

LUCAS  
I know, I'm sorry. I didn't see you at  
her wake.

ABBY  
Ah, Baby. I didn't want to see your  
grandma that way. It wasn't right.  
(then adds)  
Not for me anyway.

A very quick ponderous pause.

ABBY (CONT'D)  
So how long you staying?

LUCAS  
Until tomorrow.

ABBY  
Tomorrow? You can't stay longer?

LUCAS  
I'd like to, Ms. Abby. But I gotta get  
back.

ABBY  
Ah I understand, I understand.  
(then adds)  
Besides, you don't want to be here when  
the new owners take over.

A curious pause. Then,

LUCAS  
What new owners?

ABBY  
 Didn't Meredith tell you? Some man from  
 across the bay wants to buy the hotel.  
 (then adds)  
 Something to do with that casino going  
 up.

LUCAS  
 No, I didn't know.

A realization pause. Then,

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Listen,  
 (kiss her cheek)  
 You got any of your rice pudding in the  
 oven?

ABBY  
 Give me 'bout an hour?

LUCAS  
 You're on.

As he steps towards the door,

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 I'll be back in a couple.

He exits.

ABBY  
 (smiles)  
 Yeah, I got a feeling you might.

INT COMPANY LOBBY - DAY

Lucas enter, Lucy sees him.

LUCY  
 Can I help you?

LUCAS  
 Where's my sister?

LUCY  
 I'm sorry. Who's your sister?

MEREDITH (O.S.)  
 What are you doing here?

Meredith stands at her office door. Lucas approaches.

LUCAS  
 Why didn't you tell me you're selling the  
 Riverland?

MEREDITH

Because I really didn't think you gave a  
shit.

LUCAS

That's Nan's place. And her fathers  
before that.

(then adds)

We just buried her and you're already  
selling the place?

MEREDITH

(annoyed)

Get in here.

They enter the office, Meredith closes the door.

INT MEREDITH'S OFFICE - ESTABLISH

MEREDITH

Who the hell do you think you are? What  
do you care about what I do or not do!?

LUCAS

That hotel has...!

MEREDITH

Shut up! I'm not finished.

Meredith walks to her desk, sits.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

I haven't agreed to sell the hotel yet.

(then adds)

An offer was put on the table and I'm  
considering it, that's all.

(assert)

And even if I did agree to sell it. You,  
dear brother have no say. You gave up  
that right when you walked out on us and  
changed your name.

Pause for effect.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

You really wanted out that bad?

LUCAS

And what about Abby? What happens to her  
if you sell?

MEREDITH

You don't need to worry about Abby. We  
Burke's take care of our own.

(then add)

Which leads me back to my original  
question. Why do you give a shit?

LUCAS  
(contempt)  
I don't.

Before Meredith can react, Lucas walks out the office. She then gives chase,

MEREDITH  
Where the....?

INT COMPANY LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas walks past Lucy, heads for the exit. Meredith in pursuit.

MEREDITH  
Are you kidding me!?

EXT BUILDING - DAY

As Lucas walks away,

MEREDITH  
(anger)  
Is that all you know how to do, Lucas?  
Run?

Lucas runs headlong into William and Tanner.

WILL  
Whoa, Lucas? What's up, Man?

Lucas does not stop. William turns his attention to Meredith who watches her brother walk away.

INT BAR - DAY

A normal afternoon crowd as Lucas takes a seat at the bar. The bar tender steps up.

LUCAS  
Whiskey, straight.

As he waits, Lucas looks around at the crowd. He sees sports memorabilia on the wall that supports the local high school football team. Lucas is lost in thought as his drink arrives.

He touches the glass, but does not grab hold of it. We then pause for effect.

Lucas then takes out his wallet, throws a ten dollar bill on the bar. He then stands and walks out.



INT WILLIAM'S OFFICE - DAY

Tanner, very comfortable on the couch.

TANNER

What's his deal?

At his desk.

WILL

Who?

TANNER

Lucas.

(then add)

What his deal with Meredith? I mean I know she's like old and shit, but I'd still do 'er.

WILL

You do realize they're brother and sister?

TANNER

Yeah, that's my point. What's the deal with those two?

WILL

Family matter, Little Brother. Stay out of it.

TANNER

Yeah, but there's something not right with them.

(then adds)

I remember you telling me about their parents dying when they were young. Did...?

(question)

Did he kill them?

WILL

What? No!

TANNER

Did she kill them?

WILL

Tan!!

TANNER

Alright, alright. Jeez, it's like pulling teeth around here.

Pause for effect as we settle.

WILL

They use to be pretty close.

(then adds)

You know they are exactly eleven months apart? Almost as close as you can get without being twins.

TANNER

So what happened?

Pause for effect.

WILL

You know he had a football scholarship right?

TANNER

I heard. I also heard he blew it the summer he was supposed to leave.

(then adds)

Something about crashing a car and getting somebody killed?

WILL

Galt Stevens.

TANNER

Who?

WILL

The guy's name was Galt Stevens. They were best friends in high school.

TANNER

So he did kill somebody. Cool.

WILL

Dude, seriously?

TANNER

What? I never met anyone who killed somebody before.

WILL

Can I finish, you knucklehead?

Settle.

WILL (CONT'D)

Galt was also dating Meredith during that summer.

(then adds)

A couple of day before Lucas was supposed to ship out, he went on one last bender with Galt.

(MORE)

WILL (CONT'D)

(finish with)

One thing led to another, and wham! Lucas went to jail.

TANNER

What happened to Galt?

WILL

Buried in Charleston Park.

TANNER

So the college took his scholarship away?

WILL

No. From what Meredith told me some time back, he still had it waiting for him.

TANNER

So what happened? Why didn't he go?

WILL

That's the million dollar question, Numb nuts.

(then adds)

Lucas hung around for a while, but decided one day to call it quits on this town, and he moved away.

(finish with)

Some say he never recovered from the trauma of the accident. But other, including me think it was Galt's death that drove him away.

TANNER

So he ran?

WILL

As far south as you can go without actually needing a passport.

(then adds)

And the only reason he's back is because of his grandmother.

TANNER

That's a screwed up homecoming.

WILL

Yeah, tell me about it.

CUT TO:

EXT DOCK - DAY

Officer Angie Perez waits with a well dressed civilian. (40), he is the city coroner. An ambulance is parked a few meters behind them. The crew has a gurney ready.

A small Coast Guard zodiac is parked at the dock as its three man crew disembarks up the gangway. The lead officer is named Jansen. The two crewmen behind him carry a body bag.

What's inside the bag displaces a mass no larger than a small dog.

As he steps to her,

ANGIE  
Lieutenant Jansen?

JANSEN  
Officer Perez?

Reference the civilian,

ANGIE  
This is, Doctor Galloway from the  
coroner's office.

JANSEN  
Doctor, thank you for coming.

ANGIE  
They said you have something urgent to  
show us?

JANSEN  
You're not gonna like this.

The crewmen place the bag on the gurney.

ANGIE  
What's in the bag?

JANSEN  
Officer, you may want to step back and  
let the Doctor take a look.

ANGIE  
Why what's in it?

JANSEN  
Doctor.

Galloway steps to the bag, unzips, then opens it for all to see. We see as Angie immediately reacts to the sight.

ANGIE

Oh God.

She turns away. We then reveal the partial upper body remains of the man from the water, Tom. His face contorted with the grimace of agony.

Angie steps to the far side of the ambulance, convulses, then vomits.

Lieutenant Jansen steps to her with a clothe. Angie accepts the gesture.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Thank you.

JANSEN

You okay?

ANGIE

Yeah, I fine, thank you.

(then ask)

What the hell? What could have done that?

JANSEN

That's for the coroner to find out. But, I can tell you one thing.

(turn to the body)

We've got a problem out there.

INT MEREDITH'S OFFICE - DAY

The daily paper lands on her desk.

WILL

We've got a problem.

Meredith looks at the paper. The headlines read,

THIS WAS NO BOAT ACCIDENT - The second unexplained incident within a week.

The picture shows the partial remains of Tom's boat as its towed to a dock by a larger Coast Guard vessel.

MEREDITH

What's this?

WILL

Our investors asking questions.

She stands.

MEREDITH

I don't get it?

WILL

I've been getting calls all day on my cell.

(then adds)

(MORE)

WILL (CONT'D)

Apparently this happened just off shore,  
and our money people want answers.

MEREDITH

Why do they care? This has got nothing to  
do with the casino.

WILL

But everything to do with negative  
publicity for the community.

(then adds)

Social media's already eating this up.

Pause for effect.

MEREDITH

So what do you want to do?

WILL

I, want you to work you magic, Meredith.  
We need damage control.

Pause for effect. Meredith then dials her phone desk.

WILL (CONT'D)

Who you calling?

MEREDITH

We need to issue a press release.

She waits. Then,

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

Chief Dawson, Meredith Burke. How you  
doing?

(pause)

That's great. Hey listen, have you seen  
the paper today?

(pause)

You did. Yes, I totally agree. Damned  
reporters.

(pause)

Chief, can you meet me at the Mayor's  
office?

(check watch)

How about an hour from now?

(pause)

Great, I'll see you there.

Call ends. William likes the plan.

WILL

The Mayor? Good, a full court press. I  
like it.

MEREDITH

You just make sure we stay on schedule.

(then add)

I'll handle the PR end.

They leave the office together.

EXT INLET PEER - SUNSET

The end of the peer has clear view of the inlet that feeds out into the open Pacific Ocean. In the distance, we see a defined dorsal fin as it moves parallel to the dock.

It is a Killer whales fin. We then another, and another.

Quiet, lonely, no one for miles as Lucas sits against a dock post. A bottle of soda in one hand, a wallet sized picture in the other. He does not notice the whales.

We close in on the picture. We see it is a photo of a teenaged version of himself and another teen as they stand together.

LUCAS  
(to the photo)  
What do you think, Galt?

Pause for effect.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Screw it.

In the foreground Lucas stands, walks off. In the background the killers submerge.

INT RESTAURANT - EVENING

Carlton and his wife Carol (45), Herb and his lady friend Marie(25), William, Meredith, and Tanner celebrate at the table.

HERB  
I don't know how you pulled it off,  
Meredith. But getting the paper to recant  
that story was genius.

WILL  
Actually, Herb it was simple. No facts,  
no story. Have a nice day.

CARLTON  
Yes, but what about the body they found?

HERB  
Not enough to work with from what I'm  
hearing.

WILL  
And from what I'm hearing, it's gonna  
take the coroner's office weeks to figure  
out what happened to the guy.

TANNER  
What did happen?

WILL  
Who cares.  
(a toast)  
To the Majestic hotel and Casino.

As all toast a folder lands on the table. Nikoli stands just off Meredith's shoulder. He is not happy.

WILL (CONT'D)  
Can we help you, Friend?

NIKOLI  
You people have no idea what you have done.

EXT RESTAURANT - EVENING

Lucas walks up, looks through the window. He sees Nikoli engage the others. He walks in.

INT RESTAURANT - EVENING

Close in on a black and white aerial photo of some type of animal just below the surface of the water. We then see that Meredith holds the photo.

NIKOLI  
I have been working with your government for seven months to prove that there is a danger.

Meredith passes the photo to Tanner as she looks at Nikoli.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
It is conclusive. And it is here it will stay.

TANNER  
What is this? A Killer whale?

NIKOLI  
If only it were that simple.

As the photo makes its way around the table, Lucas steps up behind Meredith. He leans in close to her.

LUCAS  
You got a minute.

Somewhat surprised by his sudden appearance,

MEREDITH  
(to the group)  
Will you excuse me.



They step to the restaurant lobby.

INT RESTAURANT LOBBY - EVENING

MEREDITH  
I thought you were long gone.

LUCAS  
I'm leaving tomorrow. But there's  
something I gotta tell you before I go.

Lucas take a moment to formulate his thoughts.

MEREDITH  
Any time.

Pause for effect.

LUCAS  
I wasn't driving that night.

MEREDITH  
What night?

LUCAS  
The night Galt died. I wasn't driving.  
(then)  
He was. I was the passenger.

Meredith looks at her brother with intent. She then slaps him across the face.

MEREDITH  
How dare you.

Lucas is stunned.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)  
What the hell, Lucas?  
(then)  
Do you seriously think that matters?

LUCAS  
Not anymore.

MEREDITH  
You are such an idiot!  
(then)  
You never understood did you? You never  
understood what that night did to us, to  
our family, did you?

Meredith turns to walk back into the restaurant.

LUCAS  
Meredith, wait don't go.

She stops.

MEREDITH

Don't go?

(then)

I never left, Dear Brother, you did. And the rest of us were left to pick up the pieces and get on with our lives, remember?

Lucas now shows confusion in his expression.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

Exactly.

(then)

Have a safe trip home, Lucas. Be sure to write, not!

She walks away.

INT RESTAURANT - EVENING

WILL

Look Pal, you're starting to get on my nerves.

NIKOLI

Only because your idiocy is going to get more people killed!

WILL

Who... Fucking... Cares?

Just in time.

MEREDITH

Did I miss something?

Nikoli reaches into his pocket. He retrieves a small zip locked bag, tosses it onto the table. There it sits lonely for a few seconds. Tanner then picks it up.

WILL

What's that?

Tanner opens the bag. He then removes the contents. We see that it is a tooth. A purplish white serrated tooth about the size of a shot glass. Tanner holds it up for all to see.

TANNER

Cool

(to Nikoli)

Hey, can I keep this?

Pause for effect. Nikoli then walks away.

TANNER (CONT'D)

I guess that's a yes?

As he grabs it from Tanner,

WILL  
Let me see that.

TANNER  
Hey it's mine. He gave it to me.  
(to all)  
You all saw him.

MEREDITH  
Tanner, shut up.

Will gives the tooth a quick examination. He then tosses it on the table before Meredith. She looks but does not touch.

WILL  
You believe that guy?

Tanner picks up the tooth, holds it to his chest like a makeshift medallion.

WILL (CONT'D)  
(dismissive)  
Of all the frick'n nerve, huh?

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. CASINO CONSTRUCTION SITE - NIGHT

Floodlights dominate the scene.

EXT PONTOON - MOMENTS LATER

The construction pontoon that jets twenty meters out into the water. We see Garcia walk out towards the end of the pontoon. There, we see Myles as he talks to two workers. They stand in front of a commercial diving apparatus. Ropes and air feeds extend over the railing and into the water below. The unit is in operation.

Myles has headphones on, and a mic in hand as Garcia steps to him.

GARCIA  
How's it going?

MYLES  
We're welding the expansion joint coupling to the forth pylon now.

GARCIA  
How many more do you have to do?

MYLES  
Six more.

Myles directs his attention to the mic. Then,

MYLES (CONT'D)  
How ya doing, Billy?

EXT UNDERWATER -SAME TIME

An Acetylene torch flickers brightly as we see a single commercial diver, Billy weld the expansion coupling to the forth pylon.

BILLY  
Almost there. I'll be ready to move to  
the second joint in a minute.

EXT PONTOON - MOMENTS LATER

MYLES  
Roger that.

CUT TO:

EXT ONE HUNDRED METER FURTHER OUT TO SEA - MOMENTS LATER

POV: a few inches above the water line. We see the pontoon in the background.

A dark smooth black shape just breaks the surface as it moves in the direction of the work site. It then disappears under the water.

EXT PONTOON - CONTINUOUS

As he shows a sense of satisfaction,

GARCIA  
Okay, if you need me I will be at the  
hotel.

Myles silently acknowledges him. Garcia walks off. Myles gives the man a quick glance. Then he turns to one of the operators.

MYLES  
Make sure we watch the pressure regulator  
readings. They were a little squirrely  
last night.  
(then adds)  
We don't need any more screw ups.

The operator does so as Myles steps to the railing. He looks down. We can see the reflection of the torch as it pierces the surface. Myles then casually looks out to sea. We see him do a double take.

A quick to the water shows something black and large as its disappears under a white foamed wake.

Myles gives the view a curious look. Then,

MYLES (CONT'D)  
Hey, Billy?

BILLY (V.O.)  
Yeah?

EXT UNDERWATER - SAME TIME

MYLES (V.O.)  
You got your spotlight handy?

BILLY  
Yeah, why?

EXT PONTOON - SAME TIME

MYLES  
Do me a favor. Swing your light around to  
your five o'clock.

EXT UNDERWATER - A MOMENT LATER

BILLY  
And why would I be doing that?

MYLES (V.O.)  
Humor me.

Billy turns on his spotlight. He then shines it out into the darkness.

BILLY  
What am I looking for?

EXT PONTOON - CONTINUOUS

As Myles looks out over the water.

BILLY (V.O.)  
Topside, what am I looking for?

Pause for effect. Then,

MYLES  
I guess it's nothing.  
(then)  
How we doing?

EXT UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS

As Billy moves from the outside of the pylon to an inside position,

BILLY  
The outer couplings are done. Moving to  
the inner ones now.

Billy works his way through a two and a half foot vertical gap and under a half inch horizontal support cable.

BILLY (CONT'D)  
Topside, feed me more cable please.

EXT PONTOON - CONTINUOUS

They do as requested.

EXT UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS

Billy starts his work again. We wait about ten seconds. Then a close up on Billy. He is now curious.

BILLY  
Hey, Myles?

MYLES (V.O.)  
Go.

BILLY  
What'd you see?

MYLES (V.O.)  
What?

BILLY  
The spotlight?

He pauses.

EXT PONTOON - CONTINUOUS

BILLY (V.O.)  
What'd you see?

MYLES  
I don't know. I thought I saw something.

BILLY (V.O.)  
Yeah, what?

MYLES  
Well  
(pause)  
It looked like...

QUICK CUT BACK TO

EXT UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS

A POV close up angle as a large shark like snout teeth and jaws come straight at us from out of the darkness. The 1/2 inch cable stops its momentum a foot from Billy.

EXT PONTOON - SAME TIME

As the structure is suddenly jolted,

BILLY (V.O.)  
(terrified)  
Holy shit!  
(then adds)  
Jesus Christ!

As all are taken by surprise,

MYLES  
(confusion, yell)  
Billy, what the hell did you do!?

EXT UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS

With Billy's spotlight as the light source, we see quick glimpse of the open mouth, teeth, snout, and predator eyes of the serpent as it attempts to seize Billy through the man made barrier.

Billy uses the obstacles to his advantage to gain distance from the serpent. We see as the couplings begin to buckle under the assault.

EXT PONTOON - CONTINUOUS

As the rig begins to buckle to one side, we see Myles and the workers fall toward the water. As they attempt to support one another we can hear a terrified Billy over the comms.

MYLES  
(confused anger)  
Billy, what the hell is going on down there?

EXT UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS

As Billy's feed lines hamper his ability to escape, we see as he pulls out a utility knife. He then frantically begins to cut the feed lines. We still cannot fully see its features, but the serpent is close.

Billy cuts the last line just as the 1/2 inch cable snaps.

EXT PONTOON - CONTINUOUS

As Myles and the workers struggle to get their footing, two additional men join in the rescue. They throw lines to Myles and the others. A portion of the pontoon is suddenly heaved upwards as it is pushed from below.

They are pulled to safety just as the pontoon structure begins to collapse behind them. They run.

At a safe distance Myles and the others stop. Exhausted they look back at the now partially collapsed structure.

In the background we hear the sound of a truck engine as it starts.

They turn just in time to see the vehicle pull away at a high speed in the background as we now see Garcia run towards them in the foreground.

GARCIA  
(disbelief)  
What the hell happened?

As he catches his breath,

MYLES  
Who's in the truck?

GARCIA  
Your God damned diver, Billy!

Garcia pushes his way through them to where the pontoon bridge begins. We pause for effect as he looks at the devastation.

GARCIA (CONT'D)  
You have got to be kidding me!  
(turn to Myles)  
What the fuck, Myles!!?

Exhausted relief as one of the workers collapses in a heap. Myles throws his hands up in a gesture of "what ever".

EXT ANGIE'S FRONT DOOR STEP - NIGHT

Lucas knocks on the door. A moment later we see an interior light come on. Angie opens the door. She looks exhausted as she lets him in.

INT ANGIE'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

We see a glass of wine in Angie's hand as Lucas follows her in. He then see a tall empty bottle on the table nearby.

LUCAS  
What's the occasion?

As Angie plops on her sofa we can see that she seems tipsy. She then confirms it in her speak.

ANGIE  
I had a shit day.  
(gesture to bottle)  
Pour yourself one if you like.

Lucas looks at the empty bottle.



LUCAS

Nah, I'm good.  
 (then)  
 What happened?

ANGIE

I threw up.

Lucas looks at the glass in her hand. Angie sees this.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

No, not that type of throw up.

Angie pauses to formulate her response. Then,

ANGIE (CONT'D)

We got a problem out there.

LUCAS

We got a problem out where?

ANGIE

The guy had no legs, no body, no arms,  
 nothing. And lieutenant Jansen said we  
 got a problem out there.

(stand)

In fact, he was positive.

(slowly pace)

So what the hell did that?

Lucas stands. As he takes the glass from her hand,

LUCAS

Okay, why don't you tell me what  
 happened. Many then we can...

Angie interrupts with a sudden kiss. Lucas does not resist. They stop.

ANGIE

Do you really have to leave tomorrow?

Lucas's expression show as he struggles to answer.

LUCAS

Uuuh?

Angie kisses him with more passion. They stop.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

There's always a later bus.

Angie smiles, then pulls him to the sofa.

INT CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

William and Meredith are seated. They are not happy as we see Garcia and Myles stand before them.

WILL  
 Are you kidding me!?  
 (then)  
 Do you really expect us to believe that  
 bullshit story!?

MYLES  
 That's what Billy said, Mr. McCabe.

WILL  
 (anger)  
 A fuck'n shark!?  
 (to Garcia)  
 A million dollars just crumpled into the  
 ocean last night and you're telling me a  
 god damned shark did this!?

Garcia remains silent as he does not have a reply.

WILL (CONT'D)  
 Just as I thought.  
 (then)  
 Both of you, number one, pack your shit.  
 You're gone. Number two, get a good  
 lawyer.

A brief moment of disbelief from Garcia and Myles. Then,

MYLES  
 Now wait a damned minute. I did see  
 something in the water just before,  
 (pause)

A moment.

WILL  
 Oh, now you saw something too!?  
 (anger)  
 Both you Jackasses, get out of my office,  
 now!

The moment now becomes tense as Garcia gives William a defiant stare. Will sees this.

WILL (CONT'D)  
 What!?

Will stands, then steps to Garcia. The two men look each other eye to eye.

WILL (CONT'D)

Are we going to have a problem here?

We pause for effect. Meredith then stands.

MEREDITH

Alright, everyone just calm down.

(then adds)

What did you see, Myles?

WILL

He didn't see a damned thing! He's trying to cover his ass like this idiot!

MEREDITH

Will you please shut up for a moment!

(again)

Myles, you said you saw something, what?

As William moves back around the table to his chair.

MYLES

I didn't get a good look at it. But it, it looked big.

(then)

It almost got one of my guys last night. And if Billy's right?

(pause)

Then you've better hope someone catches and kills that son of a bitch real soon.

EXT OCEAN - DAY

A chartered fishing boat on choppy seas. We see a man in the vessel' fighting chair as he struggles with the rod and reel. There is something on the end of the line.

The teenaged crew mate assists as the boat captain maneuvers the vessel from his pilot bridge. The seated man's friend is just off his shoulder as we see him cheer is friend on.

EXT CHARTER BOAT - MOMENTS LATE

The man in the fighting chair, Dan (35). He is bathed in sweat as he begins to tire from the fight.

DAN

A Marlin would have breeches the surface by now! What the hell is on the end of this line?

His friend, Mick (35).

MICK  
Might be a tuna.

The boat's captain, Big Joe (45). From his pilot bridge,

BIG JOE  
I'm betting that's exactly what it is.

His teenaged crew mate, Tommy.

BIG JOE (CONT'D)  
Tommy, get the hook.  
(then adds)  
The fish is right under the boat.

As Tommy grapples with the hook, Big Joe comes down to help. The two demonstrate they know what to do as Dan continues to reel the line in.

Big Joe peers straight down into the water. He pauses, sees something below.

BIG JOE (CONT'D)  
It's almost here!  
(then)  
Tommy, get ready with that hook!

The boy moves to a spot next to Joe. They prepare as Dan muscles the line.

DAN  
Mick, help me with this.

Mick positions him self close to Dan. Both men then pull back on the rod and Dan reels the spool.

BIG JOE  
We're close, Guys. Keep going, keep going.  
(then)  
He's almost here. He's almost ....

POV: from a water angle as we look up at Joe and Tommy stare in subtle disbelief.

TOMMY  
Wow!

Dan and Mick pause behind them.

DAN  
What?

Big Joe turns to him.

BIG JOE

You're not gonna believe what we've got here.

Pause for effect.

EXT BOAT DOCK - EVENING

In the background, a small crowd gathers as Dan and Mick bask in the lime light. In the foreground, Lieutenant Jansen pulls up in civilian clothes.

He steps out of the vehicle, then moves to the dock. We see him pause as he looks towards the water next to the boat.

NIKOLI (O.S.)

Lieutenant Jansen.

Jansen turns to see Nikoli approach.

JANSEN

Doctor. Please tell me we can finally put this nightmare to bed.

Nikoli looks at the view with a sense of hope. We close in on his expression as the sense of hope dissipates into despair.

In the water, we see a large great white shark as it begins to be hoisted from the water.

Nikoli turns to Jansen. He then gestures, no to the man. Both now show their disappointment. The crowd does not share their notion.

INT CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Close up, a newspaper headline -

"MONSTER SHARK CAUGHT"

With a picture of the dead great white on the dock. Seated at the table.

MEREDITH

Sounds like someone owes someone an apology.

William stands at the window.

WILL

The insurance company will never buy this. We're better off if we blame the diver.

MEREDITH

What about Garcia?

Pause for effect.

WILL  
You can talk to him. I don't think he  
likes me anymore.

MEREDITH  
Really, you think?

As she starts to leave.

WILL  
How are things going with your brother?  
You guys good?

MEREDITH  
Why?

WILL  
No reason. It's just that with your Nan  
gone, he all you got now. I mean if you  
don't count Ms. Abby?

MEREDITH  
And she's all the family I need.

Meredith opens the door to leave.

WILL  
Are you sure about that?

She stops.

MEREDITH  
Get to your point, Will.

WILL  
It's been ten years, Meredith. The guy  
paid his dues.  
(then)  
Don't you think it's time his sister let  
him know that?

We pause as Meredith ponders the question.

WILL (CONT'D)  
I gotta tell you.  
(then)  
He may be a pain in the ass, but I can't  
imagine my world without my little  
brother.  
(then)  
You should consider that before it's too  
late.

We pause for effect. Meredith then walks out.

EXT AIRBORNE - DAY

A coast guard helicopter cruises over the ocean. We also see a single Coast Guard Cutter cruise below.

I/E. COAST GUARD HELICOPTER - DAY

A pilot flies the craft while Lieutenant Jansen scans the ocean below. In the rear seat, Nikoli does the same.

JANSEN

We're out over the shelf, Doctor. You sure about this?

NIKOLI

Yes, Lieutenant. I do believe this animal's instinct is to retreat to deeper waters during the height of day.

(then)

Then return to shallow waters to feed at sunset.

JANSEN

How can you be so sure?

NIKOLI

Because most of the aggressive shark species hunt during the twilight hours.

JANSEN

So you still think this thing is a shark? It can't be anything else?

Nikoli looks down at the ocean. He see a small family group of Killer Whales.

NIKOLI

I pray that it is.

EXT BUS STATION - AFTERNOON

Lucas rubs the scar along his right temple as he stands in the line as passengers hand their tickets to the driver.

Meredith suddenly appears and nudges him out of line. They stop a few meters from the passengers.

MEREDITH

Why'd you do it?

LUCAS

Do what?

MEREDITH

Galt, you little shit. Why'd you say he was driving?

LUCAS

Because he was.

MEREDITH

Bullshit!

Lucas gives her a look of contempt. He then rejoins the line. Lucas is about to hand the driver his ticket. Meredith pushes him out of line again.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

Oh, you're not getting off that easy, Buddy.

(then)

You throw a bombshell like that out there, and now think you can just walk away? What the hell, Lucas!?

LUCAS

Okay, chill out.

They move further away from the bus.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

I've been trying to find a way to tell you. You and Nan.

(then)

Well, mainly Nan.

MEREDITH

Gee, thanks.

LUCAS

I'm sorry, but I was kinda hoping that she could then tell you.

MEREDITH

You fuck'n coward. Why would you do that to her?

LUCAS

Because Nan knew.

(then)

I don't know how, but she's always known.

MEREDITH

What do you mean she knew?

(then)

The police report confirmed your account. You were driving.



LUCAS

The car rolled four times, Meredith.

(then adds)

We were both thrown clear.

(then adds)

I landed in a field, Galt in the tree line.

(then adds)

For all intent and purposes, dead men don't tell tales.

MEREDITH

Dead men don't...

(disbelief)

Are you frig'n kidding me!?

(then)

You went to jail, Lucas! a convicted murderer!

LUCAS

Involuntary manslaughter actually.

Meredith slaps Lucas. As tears begin to fill her eyes we pause for effect. Then,

MEREDITH

You were right.

(then adds)

Nan did know. She told me you weren't driving, but I wouldn't listen.

(then adds)

As far as I was concerned, Galt was dead, and you were responsible.

(then adds)

You went to jail, and we went on with our lives.

Pause for effect.

LUCAS

Is that why you never visited me in jail?

Meredith gives Lucas a look.

MEREDITH

Don't you dare put this on me.

LUCAS

What? No, I wasn't .... I just ..

(pause)

MEREDITH

Just what?

BUS DRIVER  
Last call!

MEREDITH  
(to driver)  
Shut up!  
(to Lucas)  
Just what?

Pause for effect.

LUCAS  
It was all too much, Meredith.  
(then adds)  
The schools, the scholarships, the  
pressure. I wasn't ready for it. For any  
of it.  
(then)  
Then this happened.

Pause for effect.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
You called me a coward.

MEREDITH  
Look, I didn't mean any...

LUCAS  
You are right, Sis. I am a coward when it  
comes to being the center of attention.  
(then adds)  
I don't have what it takes. I didn't have  
it back then.

MEREDITH  
That's crazy, Lucas. I never saw someone  
so driven. We all saw it. Including...

LUCAS  
... Galt?  
(then)  
Funny, we were having that very  
conversation when he ...

BUS DRIVER  
Hey, Buddy. You coming or what?

Lucas realizes he has to leave. He slings his duffle bag over his  
shoulder.

LUCAS  
Look, I'm sorry I brought this up.  
(then)  
Maybe we can talk more when I get ...

In a fluid motion, Meredith slings her arm under the bags strap,  
removes it from Lucas's shoulder.

Meredith then places it over her own shoulder as she walks back towards the parking lot.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Mere, what are you doing?

MEREDITH

We're gonna finish this conversation.

LUCAS

Where?

She stops.

MEREDITH

Home.

She walks. Lucas watches her as the bus driver steps to his side. They both look at Meredith.

BUS DRIVER

She's smoke'n hot kid. I'd follow her if I were you.

LUCAS

She's my sister.

BUS DRIVER

Oh, sorry.

Pause for effect.

BUS DRIVER (CONT'D)

Well in that case. I'll be back tomorrow.  
Can I get her phone...

As he follows his sister.

LUCAS

... No!

EXT AIRBORNE - LATE AFTERNOON

The Coast Guard helicopter cruises.

I/E. COAST GUARD HELICOPTER - MOMENTS LATER

Jansen and Nikoli scan the water below. The pilot then looks at Jansen. He gives the Lieutenant a nod. Jansen gestures he understands.

JANSEN  
 (to Nikoli)  
 We are bingo fuel, Doc. It's time to go home.

NIKOLI  
 Ten more minutes. I am certain it will ...

JANSEN  
 Doctor Vostov, I'm with you on this.  
 (then adds)  
 But it wouldn't do any of us any good if the two principled people looking for this thing end up as fish food themselves will it?  
 (pause for effect)  
 Tonight we'll watch the boating activities along the coast.  
 (then adds)  
 If it shows up, we'll be ready.

EXT SEA WALL - SUNSET

The sun is low in the sky. We pan down to see a man made rock formation that stands approximately seven feet above the water line. This formation extends about seventy yard out in to the mouth of a port harbor; a protective sea wall.

There is a party atmosphere along the length of the wall as college aged kids celebrate like college kids do. Multiple small boats are moored along the length of the wall on both sides. Some vessels form an artificial pontoon as they are tied together side by side.

People jump from one vessel to the next as well as to the sea wall itself. We see Tanner as he stands on the sea wall next to his boat. The loudest music screams from speakers on this boat. We see Nikoli's serrated tooth around his neck worn as a medallion.

Tanner is among friends, mainly women. His beer bottle empty, Tanner jumps onto his boat, moves to the back, then opens a storage compartment. He retrieves three bottles in each hand then turns to his friends for their approval. They cheer.

Close in on the friends as we see their faces suddenly turn to horror.

The Serpent has arrived -

The beast can be described as having the black and white color pattern of a Killer whale, coupled with the size of a huge easily 25 to 30 foot great white with a bulkier snout. Along its dorsal back we see the distinctive huge dorsal fin, but we also see to either side are two smaller, but longer dorsals that run from the animals gill slits, the length of its body to the massive tail.

The Serpent slams into the side of Tanner's boats gunwale. As the thin fiberglass gunwale shatters, Tanner falls in the direction of the animals snout. He hits the top of the snout as the serpent attempts to seize him.

Tanner pushes away from the animal, but slips as he panics in an attempt to get away from the serpents jaws. His friend manage to grab his hand a moment before the serpent bites on his leg.

A tug of war now ensues.

Both of Tanner's legs are ripped from his body above the thigh.

The serpent retreats back into the water as Tanner's friends pull his limp body back onto the sea wall. He is alive, but in deep shock as we hear screams and wails around him.

INT HOSPITAL - ESTABLISH

Will is a mixture of anger and shock as he walks away from the trauma area.

Meredith stands in his path. Lucas and a uniformed Angie stand behind her. Will stops. We pause for effect.

His expression tells the story. Tanner is dead. Meredith begins to cry. They embrace as Lucas steps forward, puts his hand on William's shoulder.

EXT HARBOR DOCK - DAY

From his vantage point, Lucas looks at the sea wall in the distance. We see Coast guard and local police occupy the location.

Lucas look down the dock. We see Nikoli as he walks briskly away. Lucas follows.

EXT HARBOR PARKING LOT - DAY

Nikoli walks to a parked car.

LUCAS(O.S.)

Excuse me?

The two make eye contact.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

You were at the restaurant the other night?

(then adds)

With my sister and Will. I saw you and him having a heated discussion.

NIKOLI

What can I do for you?

LUCAS  
 The names Lucas Bach.  
 (then adds)  
 And I have a funny feeling you know  
 what's going on here. Am I right?

NIKOLI  
 That all depends, Mr. Bach.

LUCAS  
 On what?

NIKOLI  
 If whether or not you can effect an  
 outcome.

LUCAS  
 Tanner McCabe was a close family friend.  
 (then adds)  
 You're damned right I can.

Pause for effect.

NIKOLI  
 Do you believe in sea monsters, Mr. Bach?

INT COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Close up of the local paper. The head lines -  
 KILLER WHALE KILLS YOUTH.

NIKOLI (O.S.)  
 It's not.

LUCAS  
 Not what?

NIKOLI  
 This animal is not a Killer Whale.

LUCAS  
 So what is it? A shark?

NIKOLI  
 A specimen far more fearsome than any  
 encountered before.

LUCAS  
 How do you know?

Pause for effect.

NIKOLI  
 Four years. Four years I have been  
 tracking this animal.  
 (then adds)  
 (MORE)

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

I tracked from its natural habitat two thousand mile to the north, to here, this place.

(then adds)

And it is here that I will end that chase.

LUCAS

Two thousand mile?

NIKOLI

It's normal hunting grounds in the Arctic are shrinking, almost gone.

(then adds)

In fifty years they will be no more.

LUCAS

Global warming?

NIKOLI

At an accelerated rate.

Pause for effect.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Eighteen months ago I did manage to get your government to listen.

LUCAS

And how'd that go?

NIKOLI

Not well.

(then adds)

Only through a chance encounter was I able to get one person to listen to me. A Coast guard officer named,

LUCAS

Jansen?

NIKOLI

You know him?

LUCAS

I've heard of him.

NIKOLI

With his help we have been able to track its movement to here.

LUCAS

Wait, you're saying the Coast guard knows about this thing?

NIKOLI

A few chosen officers are aware.

LUCAS

So why didn't you kill it already?

NIKOLI  
 We've tried.  
 (then adds)  
 It has proven to be a very elusive  
 creature. Very adaptable.

LUCAS  
 You're saying it's smart?

NIKOLI  
 I'm saying its cunning.

LUCAS  
 So how do we stop it?

NIKOLI  
 As I said, it is foreign to these waters.  
 (then adds)  
 And that is where we will find this  
 animal's weakness.

Pause for effect. Then Nikoli has a realization.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
 We?

INT MEREDITH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

On her sofa,

MEREDITH  
 So how come we've never seen it before?  
 Someone must have known?

As he stands next to Lucas,

NIKOLI  
 It's habitat was under the Arctic ice.  
 Naturally hidden by nature it self.  
 (then adds)  
 The perfect camouflage.

MEREDITH  
 And now that the ice is gone?

NIKOLI  
 It is for the world to now see.

MEREDITH  
 You admire it?

NIKOLI  
 No Ms. Burke, I do not.  
 (then adds)  
 This animal does not belong here. The  
 ecosystem has been disrupted.  
 (then adds)  
 And if nature cannot find a way, then I  
 must.



MEREDITH  
What does that mean exactly?

NIKOLI  
For reasons that are my own, I will kill  
this beast, this serpent.

WILL (O.S.)  
The hell you will.

Will, seated in an adjoining room with his back to us. He stands, then steps to the conversation. Pause for effect.

WILL (CONT'D)  
(to Meredith)  
This fucker's mine.  
(to Nikoli)  
I have deep pockets, my friend.  
(then adds)  
What do we need?

EXT CHARTER BOAT DOCK - DAY

We see Lucas as he prepares scuba equipment next to a moored vessel. Meredith steps to him.

MEREDITH  
I didn't know you dived?

LUCAS  
That's what you get for not liking me on  
Facebook.

Meredith gives him a look.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
I'm kidding.  
(then adds)  
I don't.  
(to the boat)  
He does.

We see Nikoli as he steps from the vessel's cabin to sonar equipment stored on deck. Meredith then steps towards him. Nikoli see her.

NIKOLI  
Ms. Burke.

MEREDITH  
You have everything you need?

NIKOLI  
Yes. Your friend Mr. McCabe has been most  
generous.

Tommy exits the cabin with some cabling for the equipment.

MEREDITH

Yeah we can talk about that in a minute.  
Listen,  
(gesture to scuba gear)  
What's with the scuba gear?

NIKOLI

A secondary precaution, Ms. Burke. Just  
in case.

MEREDITH

In case of what.

As he passes between them.

LUCAS

In case someone has to get in the water  
and shoot a dart in its mouth because  
it's skin is too thick.

MEREDITH

Excuse me?

LUCAS

Yeah, where have we seen this play  
before?

MEREDITH

(to Nikoli)  
He's joking right?  
(then adds)  
I mean I know my brother can be a dick  
but he's not serious is he?

WILL (O.S.)

He is.

Will steps into the scene with a duffle bag.

WILL (CONT'D)

And if that doesn't work.

He produces an AR-15 assault rifle for all to see.

WILL (CONT'D)

Plan B.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT OCEAN - AFTERNOON

Low angle over the open ocean we hear the sounds of whales, Killer  
whales. Slowly a Killer whale's carcass drifts into scene, a juvenile.  
The animal shows trauma to its body.

From below four adult whales suddenly surface around the carcass.

Low growls emanate from the adults as each approach and touch the dead juvenile.

EXT CHARTER BOAT DOCK - AFTERNOON

Meredith and Will stand away from everyone. In the background we can see Lucas, Nikoli, Big Joe, and Tommy as they ready to go out.

MEREDITH

What the hell are you doing, Will?

WILL

What do you think. I'm going out to get the thing that killed Tanner.

MEREDITH

Exactly Will. You're not thinking rationally right now. You really needs to reconsider.

WILL

Oh believe me, Meredith. I'm very rational.

As he begins to walk back to the boat Meredith grabs his arm.

MEREDITH

No, you're not.

(pause for effect)

I loved Tanner too. And believe me, I want to make things right.

WILL

So what would you do?

MEREDITH

Wait.

(then adds)

Let someone do this.

WILL

And in the meantime?

MEREDITH

You bury your brother. Get your head right.

Pause to consider.

WILL

Sorry, Mere. I can't.

Will starts to walk, Meredith grabs his arm.

MEREDITH

Will.

WILL

I said no, Meredith!  
(pause for effect)  
Now please, go home.

As he approaches from a few feet away,

LUCAS

Everything okay here?

As he references Lucas,

WILL

(to Meredith)

This is the person you should be having  
this conversation with.

As Will walks towards the boat.

LUCAS

(to Meredith)

What's up?

Pause for effect. Meredith then hugs her brother. Lucas is subtly confused but soon returns the gesture. She releases him.

MEREDITH

Be careful.

LUCAS

I will.

Meredith walks towards the exit gangplank.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Hey.

She stops, turns to him.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

If it means anything. I'll take care of  
him.

MEREDITH

(smirks)

I have a funny feeling you will, Lucas.  
(then adds)  
That's who you are.

She walks off. Lucas ponders for a moment, then smiles. Content he heads for the boat.

EXT OCEAN - LATE AFTERNOON

About ten miles off the coast line the chartered boat cruises.

INT CHARTERED BOAT CABIN - LATE AFTERNOON

On the table, a topographic sea map of their present coastline. As he points to a spot on the map

NIKOLI

I told the captain to take us here.

Will and Lucas look at one another, then back to Nikoli.

WILL / LUCAS

Okay.

Amateurs ...

NIKOLI

I have reason to believe that this area is where it spends the height of the day.

Will and Lucas look at the map, then Nikoli.

WILL / LUCAS

Okay.

Real amateurs. Nikoli sees this.

NIKOLI

I will explain.

(then adds)

Over ninety percent of all the attacks I have attributed to this beast have happen when the sun is low in the sky, or at night.

LUCAS

Yeah, but didn't you say most aggressive species hunt at that time?

NIKOLI

Yes, but we have to take in effect its telltale characteristic.

WILL

Which is?

NIKOLI  
It's natural habitat, the Arctic.

LUCAS  
Which is two thousand miles away, so why should we care?

NIKOLI  
Because nature tells it to go to that which it is most comfortable. Regardless of habitat.

WILL  
English, Doc.

LUCAS  
(realize)  
Deeper water.

Lucas points to the map.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
The continental shelf drops off here.  
(then adds)  
It goes from seventy five meters to eight hundred in a snap.  
(to Nikoli)  
You think he's down there?

NIKOLI  
I do. And we need to bring him to us. To trick him to the surface.

WILL  
And how do we do that?

The size of a car battery, Nikoli holds up an underwater acoustics microphone.

NIKOLI  
With this, Gentlemen.

EXT CHARTER BOAT DOCK - LATE AFTERNOON

As Nikoli prepares the acoustics equipment, Big Joe and Tommy watch him.

BIG JOE  
So much for using a bucket of chum like the old days?

Big Joe give Tommy a quick sarcastic bump that Nikoli does not notice.

NIKOLI  
Because we don't want every predator in the sea to come. We only want this one.

BIG JOE  
And your collection of Snoop Doggy dog is  
supposed to bring it to us?

Nikoli now senses the sarcasm.

NIKOLI  
Its quite simple. This animal's normal  
prey is on the pack ice.  
(then)  
It hunts by feel.

BIG JOE  
Feel?

NIKOLI  
It hunts by feeling their movement along  
the ice.

TOMMY  
You mean their vibrations?

NIKOLI  
Correct. And what this machine will do is  
simulate the vibrations of a person as  
they walk over pack ice.  
(then adds)  
It is sound, not blood that attracts this  
shark.

LUCAS(O.S)  
Tanner's boat?

Lucas joins the scene.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
The witnesses said that Tanner was  
playing loud music on his boat.  
(then adds)  
Is that why it went for him, the music?

NIKOLI  
The vibrations caused by the music.  
(then adds)  
And the young man's boat was simply  
mistaken for a form of pack ice and he  
prey animal.

As he sits on the gunwale,

LUCAS  
Son of a bitch.

As Nikoli Moves to the transom with the microphone Tommy gives the  
water a look just next to Lucas.

TOMMY  
You sure you want to sit there?

Lucas soon realizes the questions intent. He rises from the gunwale. Big Joe shows his contempt with a smirk.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT CHARTER BOAT DOCK - LATER

In the background the sun sits low on the horizon as Will sits bored in the fighting chair. Four lines feed into the water as Nikoli monitors his equipment.

Big Joe steps from the cabin.

BIG JOE

You guys sure you don't want me to chum the water?

WILL

Yes please.

NIKOLI

Absolutely not!

A stand off. Then,

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Okay, but only a little.

Big Joe grabs the chum bucket from the locker as Tommy moves into position at the transom. Big Joe hands him the bucket. Tommy readies the first pitcher full of chum to go overboard.

An instant later something pulls on one of the lines.

WILL

'Bout fucking time.  
(to Tommy)  
Good job, Kid.

Will readies the pole as Tommy looks at the chum, then places the bucket back on deck. Big Joe steps to the cabin.

BIG JOE

We're up.

A moment later Lucas comes from the cabin.

LUCAS

What do we got?

As he pulls hard on the line,

WILL

I got something. I got something big.

BIG JOE

You want to reel it in nice and easy now. We got plenty of time.



Will reels, stops, reels, stop, reels, suddenly the line goes slack.

WILL  
Really?

BIG JOE  
Don't worry, they do this all the time.  
Take in the slack.

Will does as commanded. Soon,

WILL  
Nah, whatever it was, I think we lost it.

The line goes tight, the poles bends.

WILL (CONT'D)  
Whoa, shit, he's still there!

BIG JOE  
Okay, easy. If he runs let 'im.

The line suddenly dances across the surface.

WILL  
What the hell is it doing?!

BIG JOE  
Keep reeling it in!  
(to Lucas)  
You know how to drive?

Without a word, Lucas climbs to the pilot's bridge. Tommy assumes a position at the transom.

BIG JOE (CONT'D)  
I got it, Tommy.

Tommy steps aside as Big Joe guides the line along the transom. Nikoli steps to Will's side.

WILL  
So, what do you think, Doc?

No reply. As he looks at the water,

BIG JOE  
I see the marker!  
(to Tommy)  
Get a hook ready!

POV:, as we see a dark shape a few meters below the surface.

BIG JOE (CONT'D)  
Here he comes.

As he reels its in,

WILL

It's over, Doc. This Bastard is mine.

POV:, as the shape comes closer. We can see what it is now.

BIG JOE

Ah shucks!

WILL

What?!

All attention is on Big Joe.

BIG JOE

It's a tuna.

WILL

A what?

BIG JOE

It's a tuna, Boys. Pretty nice size too.

(to Tommy)

Give me the hook.

Tommy hand him the hook.

BIG JOE (CONT'D)

I don't know if our freezer's big enough,  
so you might want to call it a day once  
we get it on board.

As Big Joe turns to hook the tuna, the others show their disappointment.

What happens next happens fast.

As Big Joe swings the hook into the fish' flesh the Serpent quickly surfaces from below. The tuna is swallowed whole. The Serpent bites down. It now has Big Joe by the arm.

Big Joe grabs Tommy with his free hand. Both are pulled overboard as the others are caught completely off guard.

The Serpent takes them under just as Nikoli gets to the transom. Will sits in stunned silence in the fighting chair. Pause for effect. Lucas then joins Nikoli.

Lucas moves to dive in. As Nikoli grabs him,

NIKOLI

Are you mad?!!

LUCAS

We have to do something!

The two grapple. Lucas tries to get in the water. Nikoli tries to stop him.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Let me go!

Will helps Nikoli.

WILL

Lucas!

The three fight.

WILL (CONT'D)

Lucas, forget it! Their gone, Man!

It ends. We pause for effect.

WILL (CONT'D)

Their gone.

A realization pause. Suddenly Tommy surfaces ten meters from the boat.

WILL (CONT'D)

Tommy!

Lucas dives in. Tommy swims to the boat. Lucas pauses just as Tommy reaches him.

LUCAS

Tommy, you alright?!

Tommy does his best Michael Phelps impersonation as he swims past Lucas without notice. Lucas quickly follows.

Both reach the transom. Will and Nikoli pull Tommy from the water first. They then grab hold of Lucas, begin to pull him to safety.

The Serpent surfaces directly under Lucas. Jaws agape, Lucas rides the animal's snout as it lifts him up and then over the transom. It's jaws snap open and close as it does.

Lucas, Will, Nikoli, and Tommy fall in a heap to the deck. It is Lucas who is first to his feet. He moves quickly to the pilot's bridge. The Serpent retreats underwater as Lucas guns the boat's throttle. The vessel powers away.

Will, Nikoli, and Tommy look at the water. We pause for effect. Then,

TOMMY

Fuck me.

INT BAR - NIGHT

His hand shakes as Tommy drinks a alcoholic beverage alone at the bar. The bottle sits nearby.

INT ANGIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A knock at the door. Angie answers to see Lucas at her door step. She smiles, he tries to.

INT MEREDITH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Meredith and Will kiss. Clothes quickly begin to come off.

INT HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Nikoli sits and looks at a photo of his wife Olga. Tears begin to stream down his cheeks.

EXT PORT HARBOR ENTRANCE - NIGHT

From a high angle we pan down to see Multiple boats moored in the spacious entrance. Now level with a small cabin cruiser, we see as the vessel is moved by an invisible force for a few meters in the direction to the harbor bridge entrance.

We rise about twenty feet above the boats to reveal the estuary beyond the bridge.

EXT MAJESTIC CASINO CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

The site sits idle as Herb and Carlton look on. They are not happy. Carlton grabs his cellphone.

INT COMPANY LOBBY - DAY

As she answers the phone,

LUCY

McCabe and associates. How may I direct  
your call?

We can hear Carlton yell something inaudible through the phone piece. Lucy takes the phone from her ear.

INT CONFERENCE ROOM - SAME TIME

On the table, the same topographical map as the chartered boat's. In attendance are Will, Meredith, Lucas, Nikoli, Angie, and Lieutenant Jansen. As he leans on the table,

JANSEN

The word is out. People are scared.

NIKOLI

That is good. They stay out of water then.

The intercom buzzes. Will answers.

WILL

Yes, Lucy?

LUCY (V.O)

Mr. West and Mr. Braunstein line one.

WILL

Tell them I'm dead.

Will ends the call.

WILL (CONT'D)

So what's the Coast Guard doing?

JANSEN

We've got patrols out day and night. We can't find it.

LUCAS

You mean it's gone?

JANSEN

Don't know.

ANGIE

Where would it go?

WILL

To hell I hope.

NIKOLI

If we were only that lucky.

LUCAS

You think it's still around, Doc?

Pause for effect.

NIKOLI

Yes I do.

JANSEN

All we can do is keep looking. Monitor the boating channels.

(then adds)

(MORE)

JANSEN (CONT'D)

But, I gotta tell ya that if nothing shows up ...

(pause)

NIKOLI

We understand.

WILL

No we don't.

LUCAS

They call off the search, Will.

WILL

(not pleased)

Oh, great.

Will steps to the window. Meredith joins him, puts her hand around his waist. Lucas notices this.

JANSEN

Well that all I have.

As he prepares to leave.

JANSEN (CONT'D)

(to Nikoli)

If you hear anything...

(pause)

NIKOLI

Of course, Lieutenant.

The two shake hands. Jansen leaves. Lucas moves to the table, looks at the map. He then rubs his hands over his face.

ANGIE

(to Lucas)

What?

All eyes on Lucas, his on the Map.

LUCAS

I don't know. I just got a bad feeling about this.

EXT INLAND ESTUARY - EVENING

A large inland waterway hundreds of meters across with stately home along its banks. Calm, very peaceful.

The Serpent's dorsals momentarily surface in the middle of the estuary. The animal then submerges.

EXT INLAND ESTUARY - NIGHT

Calm, very peaceful. We zoom in on a single family home on the bank.

INT BATHROOM - ESTABLISH

Lucas lie in the bath with his eyes closed. A scene of peaceful tranquility.

The bathroom wall next to him shatters as the Serpents snout crashes through. It seizes Lucas in its jaws.

Angie quickly enters, screams as Lucas is violently pulled back through the gaping hole in the wall.

INT ANGIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lucas suddenly wakes from his nightmare dream. He falls out the bed. Angie lies next to him. She wakes up, turns on the light. Lucas is on his feet, agitated.

ANGIE

You alright?

LUCAS

(unsettled)

Huh? Yeah... yeah, I'm okay.

ANGIE

Bad dream?

LUCAS

What? No, I just thought I saw a spider that's all.

ANGIE

A spider?

Lucas gestures, Yes. Angie then gives him a look of contempt before she rolls back over. We pause for effect while Lucas regains a sense of normalcy.

ANGIE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

How big?

LUCAS

What?

Angie turns to him.

ANGIE

How big was this spider?

LUCAS

I don't know. Tarantula sized.

As she springs from the bed,

ANGIE

What!

She grabs her holster just off the bed, pulls her service gun. Now ready for action,

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Where!?

Taken completely off guard,

LUCAS

No, no, no, I said I thought I saw one! I thought I saw one!

ANGIE

You'd better not be lying to me.

LUCAS

Scouts honor.

Now curious.

ANGIE

You were a Boy Scout?

LUCAS

I had a thing for the hats.

Angie settles. Then, as she references the gun,

ANGIE

I'm keeping this under my pillow.

(then adds)

Just in case any critters decide to pop out.

Lucas gets her meaning. Angie lies back down with her back to him. Lucas leans against the wall. He suddenly realizes the wall behind him and quickly moves to the bed. Lucas lies down Pause for effect. He then gives the wall a glance.

EXT ESTUARY SHORE LINE - EARLY MORNING

The back yard of one of the stately homes. We see a woman (40) as she walks to the waters edge dressed in a robe. She pauses to look out over the water.



The woman removes the robe to reveal a very sexy two piece bikini. She tests the water with her toe, then slowly wades in up to her hips. She quickly submerges and rises again. She then looks out over the water again.

The woman is about to dive in, when,

HUSBAND (O.S.)

Honey!

She turns to her husband who stands on the back porch. About the same age, he is dressed in business attire minus a tie.

HUSBAND (CONT'D)

Have you seen my cuff links?

WIFE

They're on the coffee table next to your phone.

HUSBAND.

Which coffee table?

WIFE

The one next to the stairs.

HUSBAND.

I looked there. I can't find them.

(then adds)

Can you help me please?

She shows subtle frustration as the wife wades back to shore. She then picks up her robe and walks towards the house. We see the husband as he disappears inside.

From a position thirty feet in the water we watch as the wife walks away.

WIFE

My mother was right. You are damned lucky you have me.

Directly in front of us the Serpent surfaces, swims past.

INT MEREDITH'S OFFICE - DAY

Herb bursts into Meredith's office with Lucy hot on his heels.

LUCY

I'm sorry, Ms. Burke, but he wouldn't wait.

HERB

(to Meredith)

Why aren't you returning my calls?

Pause for effect.

MEREDITH

That's okay Lucy.

Lucy leaves.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

Hello, Herb.

HERB

Don't give me that. What's going on with the site? Why isn't anyone out there?

MEREDITH

With all due respect, Herb. The authorities are still doing the investigation into the pontoon collapse.

HERB

Ah, bullshit, Meredith. That's got nothing to do with the rest of the site.

MEREDITH

True, but unfortunately the earth moving equipment does.

Herb begins to pace the office. He is not happy.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

Herb, this is a temporary setback. In a few days we ....

HERB

(interrupt)

In a few days my cost on the project sky rockets.

Herb opens the door.

HERB (CONT'D)

I don't give a damn what happened to his brother. Get over it quick.

(then adds)

You tell McCabe I want to see him in my office today.

Herb slams the door behind him.

EXT BOAT RENTAL DOCK - DAY

Lucas and Nikoli stand on the dock near a small boat. A duffle bag sits on the dock next to Nikoli.

LUCAS

We're not gonna do anything stupid are we?

NIKOLI

I just want to find and radio tag it, that's all.

LUCAS

I don't know, Doc. This has bad mojo written all over it.

NIKOLI

I can find someone else to drive the boat. You do not have to go.

Pause for effect as Lucas gestures his contempt.

LUCAS

Screw it. Let's go.

They board the small vessel. As Lucas starts the engine.

NIKOLI

Don't worry, Mr. Bach. If we are to be sacrificed, I will go first.

Engine started.

LUCAS

That's the stupidest shit I've ever heard somebody say, Doc.

(then adds)

And believe me. I met some real dick heads in my life.

They go.

NIKOLI

What is dick head?

EXT INLAND ESTUARY - DAY

Tranquil.

EXT DOCK GAZEBO - DAY

Carlton's floating Gazebo extends thirty feet out over the water. It is connected to the shore by a fifty foot boat dock. In the background we see his very stately home.

He and Herb have lunch in the Gazebo.

CARLTON

I told you he was reckless. I told you we should have went with the New York project. But, no you would not listen.

(then)

Now look at us. Leveraged to the hilt.

HERB

Yes, I see that now.

Herb throws small pieces of his meal into the water.

CARLTON

We need to break him, his company. We need to put William McCabe out of business, Herb.

HERB

That's a little extreme don't you think?

CARLTON

No it's not.

(then adds)

He and that Bitch have been playing us for fools from the beginning. We need to show them who's boss.

HERB

Hell, why don't you just kill them and be done with it.

(then adds)

We can then sue for infringement of contractual obligations and recoup most of our loses by blaming McCabe and his group.

Carlton gives Herb a look that Herb interprets as,

HERB (CONT'D)

No, that's not a good idea, Carl.

Carlton continues to ponder.

HERB (CONT'D)

Carl?

Carlton reluctantly resigns the notion.

HERB (CONT'D)

Besides, we'd be in civil court for at least ten years making lawyers very rich. And who wants that?

CARLTON

Then we hit them locally. Something personal. Something that will send a clear message.

HERB

Okay. But, I don't think we should go after Will.

CARLTON

What do you suggest?

HERB

The Riverland.

CARLTON

The grandmothers place?

(then)

Doesn't somebody already have that place lined up?

HERB

Yes, they do.

A realization pause.

CARLTON

You son of a bitch.

HERB

And I have no intention of giving, that Bitch, her asking price.

As he slams happily slaps his hand on the table,

CARLTON

This is good. She'll never see it coming.

(then)

Now we need to work on McCabe.

HERB

Well, too bad his brother is no longer among the living. We could have easily framed that little shit in exchange for goods and services.

CARLTON

Any other family?

HERB

None that are worth the effort.

CARLTON

Too bad. Hey, what about the receptionist.

HERB

Lucy?

CARLTON

Yeah.

(then adds)

What if we ....

The wood beneath Carlton's feet suddenly splinters upwards. Both men instinctively stand, back away.

HERB

What the hell was that?

We pause for effect.

This is soon followed by a grinding sound from below. The Gazebo breaks away from its mooring. It is pulled out to deeper water.

EXT CARLTON BACK PORCH - MOMENTS LATER

Carol comes out the home to see the Gazebo as it floats away from the boat dock. She can see her husband and his colleague as well.

CAROL

(to self)

What the hell are you idiots doing now?

She walks towards the dock.

EXT DOCK GAZEBO - CONTINUOUS

The Gazebo floats freely.

HERB

Carl, why is your Gazebo floating away?

CARLTON

Shut up, Herb.

(then adds)

I have no idea.

We then hear a low grinding sound as something rubs against the bottom of the Gazebo. The two men shift their positions to opposite corners. This is soon followed by a series of thumps against the deck.

CAROL (O.S.)

Carlton?

Twenty five feet away, Carol stand curious on the boat dock.

CARLTON

Honey, I need you to go to the boat house  
and get the rope.

HERB

Why don't you just swim to the dock?

CARLTON

You swim to the dock.  
(to Carol)

Did you hear me? I need you to get the  
rope and throw it to me.

Carol goes to the boat house.

"THUMP" to the bottom of the Gazebo again.

HERB

(fear in his voice)  
Jesus, what is that?

A moment later the deck directly below Herb explodes upwards as the  
Serpent's snout penetrate the wood. Herb is thrown over the edge into  
the water while Carlton holds tight to the opposite rail. The Serpent  
retreats back under.

Carlton can only watch as Herb now treads water, just barely.

HERB (CONT'D)

(panic)  
Help me, help me, I can't swim!

Carlton watches as Herb is seized from below. Herb screams out as his  
body is thrashed about like a rag dolls. Carlton contemplates his  
options. He then dives into the shoreline side of the water.

Carol exits the boat house just in time to see Herb as he is pulled  
under. She then see Carlton as he swims frantically to the shoreline.  
Carol then run along the dock to meet him.

Carlton swims like a man possessed. He makes it to the shores edge.  
There he stays on all fours as he pants heavily.

CARLTON

Holy Jesus. Thank you Christ.

Carol reaches him.

CAROL

Carlton?

Carlton silently acknowledges that he is alright. He then turn over and  
lies flat on his back. Carol shows relief. She then glances at the  
water. Her eyes change to horror.

CAROL (CONT'D)

(yells)  
Carlton!

Carlton looks up in time to see the Serpent swim directly at him at a high speed.

Carol is able to get to her feet while Carlton slips as he attempt to gain his footing. The Serpent's monstrous bulk breaches the waters edge as it seizes Carlton in it jaws.

As the animal retreats back into the water with its victim, Carol punches and kicks at it. With a swat from its massive tail, the Serpent send Carol airborne into some waterline foliage. She lands unconscious as we here Carlton's death cries in the background.

EXT CARLTON'S BACK YARD - NIGHT

Emergency crews in the foreground, neighbors in the back ground. Portable search lights probe the estuary from the safety of land. The Gazebo now rests on the shoreline.

Nikoli walks up with Lucas and Angie in tow. They approach Jansen who speaks to another officer. They stand next to two gurneys with body bags draped over them.

NIKOLI

Lieutenant.

JANSEN

Doctor.

(then adds)

Can you please make sense of this? We are almost three miles from the ocean. What the hell was it doing here?

NIKOLI

So it is confirmed?

JANSEN

Oh yeah it's confirmed. Mrs. West and about thirty people saw it live and in living color.

Jansen gestures to the Gazebo.

JANSEN (CONT'D)

Somehow that thing broke free of its moorings and floated out to deeper water.

(Point to bag)

That's where the first victim was taken. A Herbert Braunstien.

(and)

But here's the kicker.

Jansen moves to the spot on the shoreline where Carlton was taken. The three follow him. As he points back to the other body bag,

JANSEN (CONT'D)

It grabbed Mr. West from right here.



LUCAS  
How is that possible?

JANSEN  
I don't know, Dude. I just work here.

ANGIE  
So where is it now?

All eyes now on Nikoli. He stares out into the estuary. Pause for effect.

LUCAS  
Doc?

NIKOLI  
How far is the bridge?

JANSEN  
Just over two an a quarter mile. Why?

NIKOLI  
We need to contain it.

JANSEN  
You think it's still in here?

NIKOLI  
We'll use the bridge pylons as a securing base.

(to all)  
We block its escape. Keep it contained in the estuary.

ANGIE  
I guess that's a yes...

LUCAS  
... How?

JANSEN  
(realization)  
Anti shark netting.  
(then)  
We'll run it along the base of the bridge. I'm on it!

Jansen quickly moves off.

NIKOLI  
There's nothing we can do here now.  
(to Lucas)  
We come back tomorrow with our equipment.

Nikoli walks off. Angie starts to follow. She stops when she notices that Lucas has not moved from his spot. He looks from the water to the people nearby.

ANGIE

You okay?

Lucas takes a moment. He then gives Angie an acknowledged gesture. He follows Nikoli. Angie follows him.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - DAY

A narrow two lane bridge that extends for a quarter mile over the mouth of the estuary. The estuary mouth is less than two hundred yards across at this choke point.

Below at the water lines, crews drape netting from Cason to Cason as two Coast guard zodiacs cruise security.

As they stand on the bridge,

NIKOLI

(to Jansen)

How much longer.

JANSEN

Give it another two hours.

NIKOLI

Good.

(to Lucas)

When they are complete, we will bring in the barge and set up our equipment there.

Nikoli points to the closest shoreline Cason to his position.

LUCAS

Why there?

(then adds)

Why not in the middle where it's deeper?

NIKOLI

Precisely.

JANSEN

Dr. Vostov, are you sure it's still in here.

NIKOLI

Oh, yes very.

JANSEN

That's fine. But, how can you be so sure.

As he looks at the water,

NIKOLI  
Sanctuary.

EXT SHORELINE NEAR BRIDGE - LATER

Meredith watches from a distance as Nikoli and Lucas discuss tactics with Jansen. She is pleased.

MEREDITH  
Welcome home, Little brother.

WILL (O.S.)  
Hey.

She turns, Will walks up.

WILL (CONT'D)  
Been trying to call you. You've been here the whole time?

MEREDITH  
For a while. Needed to take a walk, and I left my phone in the car.  
(then adds)  
What's up?

WILL  
The investigation's over. We can start up again.

MEREDITH  
We have new people lined up?

WILL  
Funny enough we do.  
(then adds)  
A group from New York wants to come on board.

MEREDITH  
New York?

WILL  
Yeah, that's what I said.

They look at Lucas and Nikoli.

WILL (CONT'D)  
Looks like your brother's taking charge over there.

Silent prideful agreement.

WILL (CONT'D)

Not bad for someone who was getting back  
on a bus a few days ago.

(then adds)

You should be proud?

MEREDITH

To have my brother back? Yes.

(realization pause)

Will, I'm sor ...

WILL

No, it's alright. I'm glad he here too.  
For you.

They embrace.

WILL (CONT'D)

See you at the office?

MEREDITH

Give me a minute. I'll meet you there.

Silent agreement, Will then walks off. Meredith returns her attention  
to her brother.

EXT BARGE - AFTERNOON

A 15" x 20" barge platform sits next to the bridge Cason. A cargo net  
ladder is draped down from a bridge attachment to the unit. Nikoli's  
stands on the platform as he adjusts his acoustics equipment.

A Coast guard zodiac piloted by Jansen with an additional crew of three  
pull up to the platform with Lucas. Lucas leaps on to the platform.

NIKOLI

Anything?

LUCAS

Nothing.

JANSEN

We literally went into the weeds looking  
for him, Doctor. There is no sign of him.

Nikoli scan the sky and the estuary.

NIKOLI

Don't worry. This beast will make its  
presence known soon enough.

(to Lucas)

Help me finish this.

They move to the equipment. As they begin their tasks,

JANSEN

Will this really work?

LUCAS

If it's still in here. It's should.

EXT SHORELINE NEAR BRIDGE - NIGHT

Angie, with a small contingent of officers stand and watch. From their vantage point we can see three zodiacs with spot lights strategically scan the estuary.

Behind them, a number of TV crews do their thing.

Angie turns her attention to the shore side Cason. There she sees Lucas, Nikoli, Jansen, and his moored zodiac crew.

EXT BARGE - SAME TIME

As Lucas leans against the bridge Cason, Nikoli paces back and forth. He checks his watch then rubs his ringed finger.

LUCAS

What was she like?

A curious pause.

NIKOLI

Who?

LUCAS

Your wife. What was she like?

Nikoli looks at Jansen.

NIKOLI

(to Lucas)

How did you know I was a widow?

LUCAS

I didn't. I just knew you were married.

NIKOLI

How?

Lucas gestures to the ringed fingered hand. Nikoli silently acknowledges his inquisition. Pause for effect.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

She was an extraordinary woman, my Olga.  
Beautiful beyond belief.

Pause for effect.

LUCAS

Listen, Doc. We don't have to do...

NIKOLI

(interrupts)

She was taken from me.

Lucas looks to Jansen. They have a silent agreement. As Nikoli looks out over the estuary,

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Her love of the environment had no equal.  
There will never be another like her in  
our time.

(then adds)

What happened to my wife was....

(pause for effect)

Was most cruel.

He turns to Lucas.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

You do not steal the world of someone  
like Olga Vostov.

(then)

You listen to them. Because if you do  
not.

Nikoli gestures to the estuary.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Nature will find a way to make us pay for  
our arrogance.

Nikoli quick steps to the edge of the pontoon. He then begins to bang on its edge.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

(to the Serpent)

Come to me you, Bastard!

Lucas and Jansen quickly move to him.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

This is Nikoli Vostov!

Lucas grabs him.

LUCAS

Doc!

NIKOLI

(to the Serpent)

You took my life. You took my Olga!

LUCAS

Doc!!

Jansen grabs him too. As they both pull Nikoli back from the edge of the pontoon,

NIKOLI

(in Russian)

I will have my Vengeance upon you, Demon!

I will have my vengeance!

They slam him up against the Cason.

LUCAS

Jesus, Doc! What the hell?!

They hold him in place as we allow the moment to settle. Then,

NIKOLI

I guess I am done.

JANSEN

For the night, Doctor. We'll pick it up again tomorrow.

(to his crew)

Take him a shore. Come back and pick us up.

The crewmen acknowledge as they then help Nikoli to the zodiac.

NIKOLI

What about the equipment?

LUCAS

I'll take care of it.

(then adds)

You get some rest.

Nikoli boards the vessel. They leave to the shore line. We pause for effect.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

It killed his wife?

JANSEN

Right in front of him. Took her right off the ice.

(then adds)

He's been after it ever since.

LUCAS

Jesus.

Jansen looks at the equipment.

JANSEN

What's the plan with this stuff?

LUCAS

I was planning on leaving it here.

(then)

Who's gonna chance coming out here and messing with it.

JANSEN

Good point.

LUCAS

What are you gonna do?

JANSEN

We'll go upstream for one more pass then call it a night.

LUCAS

(jokingly)

Yeah well, try not to get eaten.

Momentary humor.

JANSEN

We're just doing it for the TV people.

(then adds)

Besides, that thing is back out to sea. I'm positive of it. This is a wild goose chase.

LUCAS

Well regardless. Be careful out there.

Handshakes.

JANSEN

Will do.

INT GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

Lucas looks like someone who did not get a good nights sleep as he sit at the kitchen table. A folder plops down on the table be for him.

MEREDITH

I need you to sign these.

LUCAS

(groggy)

What is it?



MEREDITH  
The hotel.

LUCAS  
The what?

MEREDITH  
The hotel. Or at least a majority stake  
in it.

LUCAS  
(awake now)  
What are you talking about?

MEREDITH  
Nan left us the hotel.  
(then adds)  
I'm giving my portion of it to you.

LUCAS  
Mere, you can't be serious?  
(then add)  
I don't have a clue about how to run a  
hotel.

MEREDITH  
That's the beauty of it. You don't have  
to.

A realization pause.

LUCAS  
Abby?

MEREDITH  
Like I said, we Burke's take care of our  
own.

Lucas is satisfied. He proceeds to sign paperwork. As he does,

LUCAS  
You know I'll probably end up giving her  
my portion as well.

MEREDITH  
I bet Will you'll have that done before  
twelve.

As she walks towards the front door,

MEREDITH (CONT'D)  
I'll be back in a couple of hours to make  
it official.  
(then adds)  
I'd better not lose that bet.

Lucas watches as his sister exits the house. He then turns his  
attention back to the paperwork.

The phone rings.

EXT ESTUARY SHORELINE - DAY

A heavy Coast guard and police presence. A few Coast guard members comfort their colleagues as the mangled hull of a zodiac is pulled onto shore.

INT CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Lucas, Meredith, and Will.

WILL  
Did Jansen have a family?

LUCAS  
Didn't get the chance.

MEREDITH  
So it is still in the estuary.

LUCAS  
Nikoli was right.

WILL  
By the way, where is he?

LUCAS  
Being interviewed.

The intercom buzzes.

WILL  
Yes Lucy?

LUCY (V.O)  
I have a Mr. Kavanaugh on line one.

WILL  
Okay Lucy, give us a minute.

Disconnect.

MEREDITH  
(to Lucas)  
So what are you going to do?

Pause for effect. Lucas then steps to his sister, kisses her on the cheek.

LUCAS  
See you around.

He then exits.

WILL  
Go with him. I can handle Kavanaugh.

Meredith gives Will a silent thank you. She then exits.

INT HOTEL ROOM - ESTABLISH

NIKOLI

Lieutenant Jansen was a good man. He did not deserve die this way.

LUCAS

None of them did.

Silent agreement.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Doctor?

(then adds)

Jansen told me it killed your wife?

NIKOLI

Yes, four years ago. Chukchi peninsula.

MEREDITH

You were on a boat, or ..?

NIKOLI

On the pack ice.

(then adds)

It tracked her through the ice.

MEREDITH

I don't understand.

LUCAS

The doctor has a theory that this shark has the ability to hunt its prey from under the ice packs.

(then adds)

That it can sense the vibration of anything that walks on top of it. And when it zeros in,

(gesture)

Whamo.

Pause.

MEREDITH

(subtle confusion)

Okay, I'll ask the silly question.

NIKOLI

Why is it here?

(then adds)

The ice packs of its natural habitat have receded. Its main source for food has been devastated as a result.

(then adds)

In order to survive, it had to move to new hunting grounds.

(then adds)

And that was how I was able to track it.

LUCAS

How?

NIKOLI  
I followed the reports.

MEREDITH  
Reports?

NIKOLI  
Boating accidents in which people  
disappeared all the way down the  
coastlines.

MEREDITH  
Why boats?

NIKOLI  
Nothing more than mistaken identity.  
(then)  
To this shark the silhouette of a boat is  
no different than that of a floating  
sheet of ice.

MEREDITH  
Great. Another reason to stay out of the  
water.

LUCAS  
(realize)  
The Gazebo.

A realization pause

MEREDITH  
What?

LUCAS  
Holy crap, that's it.

NIKOLI  
I'm sorry?

LUCAS  
Son of a bitch. That's it!

As he ushers them to the door,

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Let's go.

NIKOLI  
Where?

LUCAS  
The bridge. I know how to bring it to us.

They exit.

EXT BARGE - DAY

In the background we see a single Coast Guard zodiac as it sits moored to one of the central bridge Cason's. Two Buoys are strategically placed in the center to block traffic.

On the barge we see additional equipment. As Lucas re-wires, Nikoli looks in the direction of the zodiac. Nikoli turn to look at his acoustics equipment.

NIKOLI

You left my equipment out here the overnight?

LUCAS

With that shark around. Believe me it wasn't going anywhere.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - SAME TIME

Meredith stands directly above them as Angie arrives in a police car. She steps to Meredith.

ANGIE

What's going on?

MEREDITH

My brother and the doctor think they have a way to bring it out.

ANGIE

To where?

MEREDITH

To them there on the barge.

Pause for effect.

ANGIE

And then what?

Pause for effect, realize. Then,

MEREDITH/ ANGIE

Guys!

EXT BARGE - LATE AFTERNOON

Two zodiacs stand guard a few meters from the barge. Lucas and Nikoli stand near the equipment.

LUCAS

We ready?

Directly above them on the bridge police move traffic along as Meredith, Angie, and a small contingent of sharp shooters stand ready.

Nikoli nods. Lucas hits a switch. Gangsta rap blares out from the onboard speakers; loud. Nikoli covers his ears. The crew on the zodiac do as well.

Directly above they are a little more subtle to the noise, but still feel it's effect. Lucas gets the message.

As he lowers the volume,

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Philistines.

Everyone settles.

EXT BARGE - NIGHT

Music plays, the zodiacs have moved out into deeper water. Angie is now on the barge with them. She steps to the edge, looks out over the estuary.

ANGIE  
Maybe it doesn't like rap music?

All eyes to Lucas. We pause for effect.

LUCAS  
Who in their right mind doesn't like rap music?

Not funny. Lucas turns the music off. He then steps to the edge next to Angie.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Strange.  
(then adds)  
I thought with what happened to Tanner, this would have worked.

NIKOLI  
Don't be lulled into a false sense, my Friends. The Serpent is here.

Angie turns to Nikoli.

ANGIE  
How can you be so sure.

NIKOLI  
Because I am.

ANGIE  
Yes, but how?

The serpent lunges out the water within reach of Angie who is oblivious to its presence. Mere inches away Lucas pulls her in time. The serpent's jaws snap shut as a third of its bulk lands on the barge. Its weight causes the platform to pitch ten degrees high.

Lucas manages to grab hold of the cargo netting while simultaneously he still has a grip on Angie. Nikoli falls off the side of the barge while most of his equipment tumbles off the platform entirely.

While this takes place, Angie is a few inches from the Serpent's jaws. She frantically kicks at the beast while it attempts to seize her.

From above, the police shoot at the serpent. They strike it multiple times as it retreats back under water.

The barge levels back into position, and an instant later Angie is at the cargo ladder. As she climbs,

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
Shit! Fuck! Shit! Fuck!

Lucas starts to follow her. He looks back to see Nikoli try to lift his weight back onto the barge.

LUCAS  
Doc!

He quickly moves to the man.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - MOMENTS LATER

As she reaches the top, Angie is helped over by her fellow officers.

ANGIE  
Shit, shit, shit, shit!

Angie then paces uncontrollably. She pulls her sidearm.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
Shit, shit, shit, shit!

Meredith steps to her in an attempt to calm her down.

MEREDITH  
Are you alright?

ANGIE  
Oh mutha fuck no!  
(then adds)  
Did you see it! Did you see that fucker!  
(then adds)  
Mutha fucker tried to eat me!

Angie begins to shake uncontrollably. She then tears up.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
It tried to eat me.

Meredith embraces her. She reciprocates the gesture. They hug tight.

ANGIE (CONT'D)  
Oh god, that sucked!

EXT BARGE - CONTINUOUS

Now out of the water, Nikoli moves back to the edge the serpent just vacated.

As Nikoli stares at the water. Lucas stands cautiously a few feet behind him. As the coast guard zodiacs approach,

LUCAS  
Doc, we did our part. Let the Coast guard handle this now.

NIKOLI  
Wait.

LUCAS  
This is crazy.

As he grabs Nikoli's arm.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Doc, let's go!

Without taking his eyes off the water, Nikoli resists. Then,

NIKOLI  
Look!

They watch as the serpent calmly surfaces like a submarine. The beast then floats suspended in the water meters away.

The crewman who mans one of the fifty caliber guns on the zodiac cocks the weapon, aims at the serpent.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)  
No, no!

As its tail fin sways ever so gently behind it, we finally get to scale the entire length of the serpent against the human who stand before it. The fish is stationary.

LUCAS  
Jesus.

NIKOLI  
He has nothing to do with this.

Pause for effect. Lucas releases Nikoli.



LUCAS

What the hell is it doing?

NIKOLI

I don't know.

(then adds)

I think it's looking at us.

LUCAS

You think it knows it's over?

Pause for effect.

On the lead zodiac,

COAST GUARD OFFICER

Gentlemen, the United State Coast guard  
will take it from here.

(he cocks the fifty)

Thank you for your cooperation.

Nikoli continues to stare at the serpent trans like as we pause for effect. Lucas places his hand on Nikoli's shoulder.

LUCAS

Doc.

This works. Nikoli breaks his gaze. He looks at the two zodiac crews. To the officer,

NIKOLI

Finish this.

Nikoli walks to the cargo netting, climbs. Lucas walks to the netting, pauses. He turns to the serpent.

LUCAS

You weren't so tough.

COAST GUARD OFFICER

(to his crews)

Alright people. You heard the man. Let's  
finish this.

The two zodiacs move to either side of the serpent. They prepare to fire.

The Serpent reacts with blinding speed.

It literally attacks the lead zodiac. It uses its massive jaws and body mass to over power the small boat.

Lucas on the barge, and the people on the bridge react with surprise. Guns are pointed in the direction of the shark and zodiac.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - SAME TIME

BRIDGE POLICE OFFICER  
Don't shoot. You might hit the crew.

Angie steps to the rail. Her sidearm drawn.

ANGIE  
Screw that!

She open fires.

BACK TO:

EXT THE ESTUARY - SAME TIME

The fight between the zodiac crew and the serpent continues as bullets hit the water and its dorsal area.

On the second zodiac, Ensign Nelson Tanoff.

NELSON  
(to Angie)  
Cease fire, cease fire!

The boat moves in to assist the other. The serpent tears a hole into the lead zodiac. The boat begin to sink fast. The second crew move in to rescue the first.

Crewmen jump from one boat to the other. The lead Coast guard officer fall in the water. The serpent seizes the man in its jaws. It shakes him violently back and forth, before finally releasing him.

At a high speed the serpent moves toward the anti shark nets close to the barge. Lucas quickly determines what it wants to do.

LUCAS  
It's going for the Nets!

The shark slams into the netting. Under it shear bulk, the barrier begins to give way. Lucas desperately searches for a way to stop the serpent's escape. He see the lone zodiac as it continues to pull it colleagues from the water.

Lucas turns to the nearby shoreline. He then looks at the cargo netting of the barge. Lucas grab hold of the netting. Lucas then begins to jump in place as hard as he can. As he repeats the task.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
Hey! C'mon you bastard! Come and get me!

We close in on the heavy foot stomp sound that Lucas creates.

EXT UNDERWATER - SAME TIME

The serpent's battle with the netting interrupted by the muffled sound of the heavy foot stomp. It stops.

EXT BARGE - MOMENTS LATER

Lucas continues to stomp. He watches as the serpent backs away from the netting. Lucas stomps faster, harder. As he grips the netting tighter, from above,

ANGIE

Lucas, what the fuck are you doing?

Lucas continues to stomp the barge deck. The serpent submerges. Lucas stops. He scans the black water. The zodiac approaches.

NELSON

C'mon, we're leaving.

LUCAS

No, you go. Get your injured to shore.

As he gestures to the cargo netting,

LUCAS (CONT'D)

I got a way out.

(then)

I'll try to keep it here until you get some help back.

NELSON

What's your name, Dude?

LUCAS

Lucas Bach... er, er Burke. You?

NELSON

Nelson Tanoff.

(then adds)

Hang tight, I'll be back as soon as I can.

LUCAS

I'm not leaving. Make it quick.

Agreed. The zodiac speeds off towards shore. Lucas is now alone as he waits.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Okay, Asshole. Where you?

Lucas stomps the barge deck again.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
C'mon Pal, don't leave now.

The barge shifts as the serpent breaches between it and the bridge Cason. Lucas tries to hold on to the cargo netting as the massive jaws reach higher. He can't hold any longer.

Lucas loses his grip as the serpent's bulk shifts the barge away from the Cason. Lucas centers himself on the barge as it move out into the estuary.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

From their vantage point on the bridge, Angie and the other officers unleash a hail of bullets at the serpent as it goes under. Meredith covers her ears as she stands among them.

NIKOLI  
Lucas, don't move!

EXT BARGE - CONTINUOUS

NIKOLI (O.S.)  
Stay to the center and don't move!

In the center,

LUCAS  
Okay, this was stupid.

The center of the barge suddenly splinters upward. Lucas is thrown to the edge by the force. He is quickly back to his feet. Lucas repositions him self.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

MEREDITH  
Somebody do something!

As a police officer stands next to his car with his radio in hand,

OFFICER  
We have harbor patrol on the way.

ANGIE  
How long?

OFFICER  
They're saying ten minutes.

MEREDITH/ ANGIE  
Really!

NIKOLI  
(to Lucas)  
Look out, behind you!

EXT BARGE - CONTINUOUS

The serpent hits the barge hard along its long side. The animals bulk causes the platform to pitch up. Lucas falls, rolls in the direction of the beast. As he passes it, he manages to grab hold of part of the splintered deck.

The serpent shifts its bulk. It inches towards Lucas who now begins to kick at its massive snout as it now attempts to seize him.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

As all watch, Angie grabs an AR-15 rifle from the officer next to her. On full auto she unleashes into the animal.

EXT BARGE - CONTINUOUS

We see multiple impacts along the dorsal length of it bulk. The serpent convulses as a result. It then stops moving at all. Lucas gives it one last kick. No reaction.

The serpent's bulk then rolls. This causes the barge to roll with it. The barge finally capsizes on top of the serpent.

The scene settles with the now capsized barge. Lucas surfaces nearby. He treads water.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

EVERYONE  
(overlap, yells)  
Run! Swim! Move! Get the, fuck! Hell!  
outta there! You dumb ass! Stupid  
bastard!

EXT ESTUARY - CONTINUOUS

All messages of encouragement received loud and clear. Lucas begins to swim to shore as fast as possible.

EXT ESTUARY BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

As Nikoli moves quickly off scene,

MEREDITH  
Is it dead?

ANGIE

Hell yeah it is.

They hug.

EXT ESTUARY SHORE LINE - NIGHT

Exhausted, Lucas stands in knee deep water as he looks back to the barge as it now sinks. Nikoli arrives after his long run from the bridge.

LUCAS

It couldn't have been that easy?

Nikoli look of relief quickly turns to horror as he looks at the water. The serpent comes directly at he and Lucas.

Nikoli grabs Lucas and pulls with all his might. They both falls as they attempt to get out of the water. The serpent bares down on them. They struggle to get their footing as they try their escape. The serpent bares down closer. They are almost on shore. The serpent opens it mouth. It's jaws ready to clamp down.

Suddenly, from nowhere a zodiac slams into the serpent with a glancing blow. Lucas and Nikoli make it out as the serpent recoils from the sudden interruption. The zodiac is piloted by Nelson Tanoff. He is the lone occupant.

Tanoff swings his craft around. The serpent retreats back into the estuary. Tanoff pulls up to the shore line.

NELSON

You guys okay?

LUCAS

Talk about the Calvary coming to the rescue.

NIKOLI

We are in your debt, Ensign.

Nikoli looks past Nelson.

NIKOLI (CONT'D)

Oh no.

They watch as the serpent heads straight for the netting it weakened earlier.

LUCAS

You think it will get out?

EXT UNDER WATER - MOMENTS LATER

We see as the serpent slams headlong into the weakened netting. The netting gives way to brute force and bulk.

EXT ESTUARY SHORELINE - SAME TIME

LUCAS

Shit!

Tanoff grabs his radio.

NELSON

Falcon one zero to base, falcon one zero to base.

(then adds)

Elvis has left the building. I repeat, Elvis has left the damned building.

(then ask)

Awaiting instruction?

BASE (V.O.)

Stand by, Falcon.

Pause for effect.

LUCAS

Elvis?

Pause to let the name settle in.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

I can see the resemblance.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT COAST GUARD STAGING AREA - DAY

Pan down to a local dock. One Cutter moored. Multiple zodiacs moored together. A few military dressed persons walk in the background as we see Nelson, Nikoli, Lucas, and Angie talk in the foreground. We join a already heated conversation.

NELSON

I can't allow that.

(then adds)

We cannot have civilians on this type of patrol. It's too dangerous.

LUCAS

Then give us permission to go out on our own.

NELSON

No good.

(then adds)

All off shore boating activities has been suspended until we get a handle on this thing.

NIKOLI

Look, Ensign ...

NELSON

Doctor, I'm sorry. My hands are tied.

(then adds)

Now if you would excuse me.

Nelson walks away. We pause for effect.

ANGIE

They're never gonna find it.

LUCAS

They may get lucky.

NIKOLI

Can we rely on luck?

They all look at one another.

LUCAS

(to Angie)

I need a favor.

EXT OCEAN - DAY

The same vessel that Lucas and Nikoli went out previously. This time Angie is with them.

LUCAS

(to Angie)

So let me get this straight. Your boss cleared you to be here?

ANGIE

Not exactly.

LUCAS

You didn't have to come, Angie.

ANGIE

I know.

(then adds)

This is on me.

(MORE)



ANGIE (CONT'D)  
 (pause, then ask)  
 So what's the play?

LUCAS  
 Your bag of goodies.

Near the transom, a small duffle bag.

ANGIE  
 Question?

LUCAS  
 Shoot.

Sarcasm.

ANGIE  
 Very funny.  
 (then adds)  
 If the Coast guard shut down all boating  
 in the area? Where'd you get the boat?

LUCAS  
 Found it.

ANGIE  
 (not convinced)  
 You found it?

Lucas smiles at her.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT FURTHER OUT TO SEA - DAY

The boat floats in the current.

LUCAS  
 We're over the shelf, Doc.

NIKOLI  
 Good. Let us begin.

Lucas taps a button on the console. Music begins to play. He then settles into a spot.

ANGIE  
 So we wait?

Lucas smiles at her. She then reciprocates as the two share a silent moment. Nikoli notices this silent exchange.

NIKOLI  
 Do you wish to be alone?

Angie now begins to settle. The boat suddenly rocked from an impact below. The small vessel shifts as Lucas and Angie falls over the side. The vessel is pulled a few meters away, but then settles. Lucas and Angie treads water.

The serpent surfaces between the boat and the two.

Nikoli tries to start the engine. At water level we see as the beast slowly turns it attention to them.

ANGIE  
Oh god.  
(then adds)  
Lucas!

LUCAS  
Nikoli!

As he attempts to start the engine,

NIKOLI  
Swim!

In the water,

LUCAS  
Where!?

NIKOLI  
(points)  
That way, damn you! Move!

They swim away from the serpent as it casually follows them. From a high angle they swim into then out of scene, the serpent closes in.

EXT UNDER WATER - MOMENTS LATER

As we look at the surface from about twenty feet below, we see Lucas and Angie swim into, then out of scene. The serpent is a few meters behind them.

EXT OCEAN - CONTINUOUS

The boat won't start.

NIKOLI  
(frustration)  
Damn it!

In the water Angie tires. Lucas returns to her. They tread water, wait. Lucas pulls out a small knife. The serpent is close. Less than ten feet.

With less than a few feet the serpent veers off. It does not attack. It passes by its intended victims. As it passes it flicks a torrent of water at them with its massive tail. The serpent then submerges.

ANGIE  
What the hell is it doing?

LUCAS  
 I don't know.  
     (to Nikoli)  
 Nikoli!

On the boat.

NIKOLI  
 It won't start! I think it's flooded!

In the water.

LUCAS  
 Damn it.

Lucas look around. The serpent surfaces away from them. Now they are between it and the boat.

On the boat.

NIKOLI  
 There it is!  
     (then adds)  
 Come now, swim, swim for you lives!

In the water.

LUCAS  
     (to Angie)  
 Move!

ANGIE  
 I can't. I'm dead. I can't go any further. Leave me.

LUCAS  
 Yeah, that ain't gonna happen.

Lucas does a lifeguard retrieval maneuver with Angie. He pulls her in the direction of the boat. He looks back to see the serpent is gone again.

LUCAS (CONT'D)  
 Fuck.

He swims harder, faster. The boat is close. The serpent surfaces behind them. Nikoli sees the animal. As he reaches his hand out to them.

NIKOLI  
 Come, swim, swim damn you!

They swim, the serpent comes faster, Nikoli reaches for them. We repeat the process. They reach the boat. Lucas pushes as Nikoli pulls Angie from the water.

Lucas looks back. It is too late for him as the serpent opens its jaws to seize him.

Suddenly and seemingly out of nowhere a large Killer whale surfaces then seizes the serpent by its gill slit. The mass and momentum of the two animals slam them against the boat.

A moment later another large Killer whale seizes hold of the serpent. The fight is briefly on the surface, then they all submerge.

On the boat.

ANGIE

Lucas!

They look around, nothing. A hand grab the gunwale. Then the other. It is Lucas.

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Oh my god.

She and Nikoli help him onboard. As he collapses on deck.

NIKOLI

Are you alright?

As he Looks out over the water.

LUCAS

What the hell happened? What was that?

NIKOLI

Nature maintaining balance.

LUCAS

Yeah?

(then adds)

Well the next time you talk to her. Tell that Bitch she's alright in my book.

Humor.

LUCAS (CONT'D)

Now let's get that engine started.

As they move to the engine, we pull back to a high angle. We pull back to see a pack of Killer whales cruise the area.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT MAJESTIC CASINO CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY

As Garcia and Myles direct the construction operation, Lucas, Angie, Nikoli, Meredith, and William stand near a peer. Their demeanor seems jovial. Ensign Tanoff steps to Nikoli.

NELSON

Excuse me, Doctor? I have something for you.

Nelson hands him a sheet of paper.

NELSON (CONT'D)

It came through yesterday for the attention of Lieutenant Jansen.

All watch as Nikoli reads the sheet. His expression goes distant, followed by subtle disbelief.

NIKOLI

Thank you, Ensign.

Nelson starts to leave, pauses in front of Lucas.

NELSON

You and I are gonna talk about your last little boating trip, Buddy.

Lucas gestures innocence. Nelson then walks off.

NIKOLI

Excuse me, Ensign Tanoff do you know who will replace Jansen?

That perks the interest of the others.

NELSON

I guess that will be me, Doctor. I'm in Lieutenant Jansen's old office.

NIKOLI

Then I will contact you later. We have much to discuss.

Agreement. Nelson walks off.

LUCAS

Replacement?

Nikoli hands Lucas the sheet. As he reads it.

NIKOLI

Another boating incident up north. They found wreckage.

ANGIE

Any survivors?

NIKOLI

They are still looking.

MEREDITH

Well, let's hope for the best.

Pause for effect. As he walks off,

NIKOLI

Yes, let's hope so.

As they watch him,

MEREDITH  
It's not over is it?

Lucas crumbles the sheet, drops it to the ground. He then follows  
Nikoli.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT BEACH - SUNSET

Lucas stands on the beach with binoculars in hand He surveys the  
horizon. Angie steps to him. They look at each other. He then hands her  
the binoculars. She continues the vigil as we,

FADE TO BLACK.

SERPENT

The End