

El Nagual
by
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FADE IN:

EXT. WOODED HILLS - DAY

Two MEXICAN CHILDREN, GATO (10), and JOSE (8), run around chasing each other throughout the withering sun dried woods. Both of the children wear heavily worn hand-me-down jeans and faded silk-screened t-shirts.

GATO
(in Spanish)
"I AM GOING TO GET YOU."

Jose looks back and laughs and continues to run forward as fast as he can.

As he continues to look back, he trips over a FALLEN SIGN POST and slides to a stop face first in the dirt.

JOSE
Me vale...

Gato catches up with him and stops. Jose slowly makes it to his knees. Gato catches his breath.

GATO
(in Spanish)
"Stand up, you're fine. Don't be such a girl."

Jose makes it to his feet and wipes himself off. As he wipes his face clean, something catches his eye off in the distance.

JOSE
(in Spanish)
"Whoa, look at that."

Jose points over to a rusted chain link fence that has a large rusted lock on its gate.

Behind the fence, an enormous building stands disheveled. On the facade of the building a painted mural depicts people wielding pick axes, lying dead on rock floors, and screaming. Two hefty smoke stacks stretch from the building's roof toward the cloud scattered skies.

A large pile of rocks that are covered with dried vines, dead plants, and decaying moss seal an entrance to the ominous building.

Gato's eyes widen with delight at the sight of the building and the enticing rock pile.

He runs up to the chain link fence and looks for a way in. Jose follows along.

JOSE (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
"What is it?"

GATO
(in Spanish)
"It's a playground."

Gato finds a spot below the fence where the ground and the chain links of the fence do not meet.

He raises his eyebrows at Jose and nods toward the gap.

Gato crawls through the gap and comes up on the other side of the fence.

Jose stands frozen in front of the fence as he stares at the mural.

GATO (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
"Well come on."

JOSE
(in Spanish)
"I don't know about this."

GATO
(in Spanish)
"What do you mean you don't know?
Just come on."

Jose squints as he focuses on one of the screaming faces in the mural.

A look of pain is present on the painted screaming face.

JOSE
(in Spanish)
"Those people...they don't look
happy."

GATO
(in Spanish)
"Who cares? It's just a painting to
scare the adults away. Why do you
think they made the gap in the
fence so small? It's so that only
children like us can play here.
It's our playground, nobody
else's."

Jose nods in agreement as he tries to fully understand what
was just said.

Gato bends down and picks up a stick. He takes the stick and
points it at Jose as if it were a sword.

GATO (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
"If you want my mountain, you will
have to fight for it!"

Gato runs over to the rock pile and climbs up on top of it.
He stands guard and beckons Jose with his stick.

Jose smiles, picks up a stick, and holds it up to Gato.

JOSE
(in Spanish)
"The mountain will be mine!"

Jose crawls through the gap, charges the rock mound, climbs
up, and the two clash sticks.

After an exchange of blows, Jose WHACKS the stick out of
Gato's grasp.

Gato hunches over and shakes the sting out of his hand.

Jose raises his stick to initiate his final blow.

GATO
(in Spanish)
"Damn, you broke my fingers dick."

Jose immediately drops his stick and nears Gato.

Jose does not see Gato's smile.

GATO (CONT'D)

Raaagh.

Gato lunges at Jose and the two wrestle around. They near the edge of rock pile and fall off.

They land on their sides.

JOSE

Ahh...

ETHEREAL WHISPER (O.S.)

...Salva me...

Gato abruptly stops and looks toward the rock pile.

GATO

(in Spanish)

"What was that?"

Jose tightens his grasp on Gato and looks at the rock pile.

Silence.

Jose loosens his grip and looks back at Gato.

JOSE

(in Spanish)

"Shut up Gato. Your not scaring anybody."

GATO

(in Spanish)

"I scared you."

Gato puts Jose in a headlock and the two go back to wrestling.

ETHEREAL WHISPER (O.S.)

...Salva me...

Gato stops wrestling and looks back at the rock pile. Jose continues to wrestle.

GATO
 (in Spanish)
 "Cut it out."

Jose stops and Gato stands.

GATO (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 "I swear somebody said something...
 Something's in there."

Jose stands.

ETHEREAL WHISPER (O.S.)
 ...Salva me...

Jose's eyes widen as he turns toward Gato for guidance.

JOSE
 (in Spanish)
 "Let's get out of here Gato...I
 don't want to know what's in there.
 I told you we shouldn't come in
 here."

Jose turns to walk away. Gato grabs his arm.

GATO
 (in Spanish)
 "Hold on. There could be somebody
 in there that needs help."

JOSE
 (in Spanish)
 "Then let's go get Sombra, he can
 help."

Jose sees Gato ignore him and walk toward the rock pile.

JOSE (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 "You do what you want, I'm
 leaving."

Jose walks off.

ETHEREAL WHISPER (O.S.)
 (louder)
 ...Salva me...

GATO

"Jose, WAIT!...Let me go see what
it is so we know what to tell
Sombra."

Gato walks toward the rock pile. Jose steps forward.

JOSE

GATO!

GATO

(in Spanish)

"SHUT UP already. Nothing's going
to happen."

Gato reaches the rock pile and wipes away some of the
decaying moss.

He finds a small slit about three feet in height and one foot
in width in between to large rocks. He looks in.

ETHEREAL WHISPER (O.S.)

...Salva me...

Gato, startled, takes a step back.

JOSE

(in Spanish)

"C'mon Let's go!"

Gato approaches the slit for a closer look.

He looks in again and sees something flicker in the sunlight.
Gato's eyes brighten and a smile stretches across his face.

GATO

(in Spanish)

"JOSE! I think I found gold!"

Gato reaches into the slit shoulder deep trying to grab the
gold.

He stretches his arm in as far as it can go.

GRASP.

Something grabs a hold of him. He tries to pull away but is
unsuccessful.

GATO (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
 "JOSE! HELP ME! SOMETHING'S GOT ME!
 JOSE!"

Gato continues to try and pull away as tears begin to run down Jose's face.

Jose walks backward toward the fence.

JOSE
 (in Spanish)
 "Look Gato, don't play around!
 YOU'RE SCARING ME!"

Gato, now in tears of sorrow and pain looks back at Jose.

GATO
 (in Spanish)
 "I'M NOT PLA--"

A DEEP GUTTURAL GROWL.

Gato's body is instantly pulled through the slit, leaving behind only his head which rips off at the neck and falls face up due to the small opening.

JOSE
 "GATO!"

Jose runs backward for a moment and falls. He immediately gets up, crawls through the gap, and runs off.

Loud ANIMAL LIKE FEASTING echoes throughout the woods.

The sign that Jose tripped over earlier is seen. It Reads,
 "NO ENTRAS!"-- *DO NOT ENTER!*

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA - DAY

The picturesque town of Tlalpujahu is situated on a large hill filled with small houses made of wood and stone that have tile work present on their exteriors.

The roads are made of brick which have long been unkempt and the unbounded wall surrounding the town primarily consists of heavily cracked stone.

Many small churches populate the town, but none compare to the one seen at the highest point of the hill. It is a grand late-baroque style quarry stone church with a monumental clock tower that stands orgulous under the blinding sun.

In front of the church's extravagantly sculpted west front, stands a large quarry stone statue of a crucifix and a life size statue of a robed woman with arms outstretched. Wild flowers litter her base as well as melted candles that have become disfigured piles of wax under the blazing heat of the sun.

Crucifixes are plastered throughout the entire town. They are on arched walkways, above doors to houses, and attached sporadically to the outside wall.

Beautifully stylized blown-glass spheres, varying in size, decorate the town as well. They are placed on houses, walkways, and on the fronts of churches.

For as large as the town is, the amount of people is oddly scarce.

Jose walks past the quarry stone church and through the town in a lifeless state MUMBLING to himself.

He passes various townspeople who stop their leather-work, pottery, glass-blowing, straw-weaving, and feather-working, to watch him.

Jose continues his zombie-like walk until he comes to a house that rests in the center of the town.

SOMBRA'S HOUSE

SANTIAGO (33) and RODRIGO (37), wear like uniforms, badges, and mustaches.

The two of them stand outside smoking and sweating under the heat of the sun.

Jose walks up to them and stares at them blankly.

SANTIAGO

(in Spanish)

"Sombra! Come look at this."

SOMBRA, a large man (44), exits the house with food in hand and uniform unbuttoned. His undershirt is stained with both sweat and food. Food is caught in his thick bushy mustache and he wipes off the juice that runs down his chin.

SOMBRA
(in Spanish)
"What happened to you?"

Jose points to the wooded hills.

JOSE
Ga...Ga...Gato. Gato. Gat--

SOMBRA
(in Spanish)
"--What happened to Gato? Tell me."

Jose blinks and shakes his head.

Sombra stops chewing with his mouth full and looks at his deputies.

EXT. WOODED HILLS - EVENING

Jose is followed by Sombra, Santiago, Rodrigo, and a beautiful MEXICAN WOMAN (31).

They approach the rusted chain link fence.

SOMBRA
(in Spanish)
(to himself)
"...The mines..."

Santiago, who is at the back of the group, picks up the "NO ENTRAS!" sign and replants it.

Jose points to the rock pile.

JOSE
(in Spanish)
"There."

WOMAN
(in Spanish)
"How many times have I told you two to not play in these hills?"

The woman lightly smacks Jose in the back of his head.

They move closer to the fence, but Jose stays put.

Rodrigo takes the lead and looks through the links of the fence.

No signs of Gato are present, but he sees that a large rock has been pushed over leaving a gaping black hole that now serves as an entrance to the building.

RODRIGO
(in Spanish)
"Sombra. Come look at this."

Sombra fumbles with a ring of keys and unlocks the gate of the fence. He walks in.

SOMBRA
(in Spanish)
(to Jose)
"Come show me where Gato was."

Jose shakes his head and refuses to walk any further.

He points over to the hole.

WOMAN
(in Spanish)
"Jose tell me where your brother is. This isn't funny anymore. If he told you to do this--"

Jose bursts into tears.

JOSE
"...Gato..."

Tears well up in the woman's eyes. She bends down and hugs Jose.

Sombra crouches down and examines the strange foot prints that lead away from the building's entrance.

He looks up at Santiago and the two share an understated glare.

EXT. MEXICAN PLAINS - NIGHT

Wind sweeps the sand across the desolate desert surface. Dried bushes and the occasional grouping of rocks are the only things present for miles.

A pack of five WILDCATS feast on a family of RABBITS under the glow of the white moonlight.

Two of the wildcats fight over a rabbit and rip it in half.

As the two of them fight, another wildcat lifts his head and smells the air.

Suddenly, an ARROW flies through his neck. He goes limp and falls to the ground.

The wildcats flinch and retreat.

Two armed male hunters, CHRISTIAN (24) and CASTILLO (32), come out from behind a grouping of rocks and block the retreating wildcats' way.

Their dress is ragged and worn, yet practical, and their hair long and tousled.

Castillo is a mexican behemoth of man. His face has long gone unshaven and his build is like that of a bull dozer.

Christian wears a beaten cowboy hat that covers the eyes of his clean shaven baby face. Christian is lean, good looking, and his American skin stands out compared to Castillo's dark complexion.

Christian and Castillo release the strings of their bows and let two arrows loose.

Castillo hits one of the wildcats in the leg while Christian's arrow whizzes over the other wildcats' heads.

CHRISTIAN

Shit.

The wildcats turn around and run away from Christian and Castillo, only to be met by two other mexican hunters. The rugged but exotically beautiful FLORA (20), and the scruffy, chisel jawed, SALVADOR (38).

However, the injured wildcat does not retreat. He runs and attacks Castillo while he reloads.

The wildcat jumps up and sinks his teeth into the Castillo's arm causing him to fall backward to the ground.

CASTILLO

Christian!

Christian tosses his bow aside and pulls out two small hand axes from the holsters on his hips.

He WHIPS them at the injured wildcat in unison.

They both stick into the wildcat's side causing him to release Castillo's arm and fall over.

CHRISTIAN

Bingo.

Flora, aims her dual-crossbow and lets a bolt fly loose.

The bolt connects with the middle of one of the wildcats' heads. He goes limp and his body slides to a stop across the rock surface.

She takes aim again, shoots, and nails another wildcat through the ear. The wildcat falls lifeless as she reloads.

The remaining two wildcats charge at the Flora and Salvador.

Flora exchanges glances between the advancing wildcats and Salvador as she reloads.

FLORA

Papi.

SALVADOR

It's under control mija.

Salvador draws a small two foot blade from a sheath on the side of his leg and a long sword from a sheath on his back.

He stands focused and ready.

The wildcats draw near.

As the two remaining wildcats jump up at them, Salvador throws his small blade through one of the wildcats' throats and decapitates the other wildcat's head in one swift motion.

Both bodies fall to the ground.

CHRISTIAN

SAL!

Salvador and Flora run over to Christian and Castillo.

Christian dresses Castillo's wound.

FLORA

They catch you sleeping?

CASTILLO

Catch me sleeping? Christian could not hit a pinche elephant with an arrow.

CHRISTIAN

Hey, we all know that I'm no good with those damn oversized rubber bands. So let's not act surprised.

SALVADOR

How bad is it?

CASTILLO

Well it's no good...That pinche gato was hungry man.

Christian tightens the bandage and Castillo flinches.

FLORA

Pobresito.

SALVADOR

Flora! Knock it off.

Salvador looks around and sees nothing but the barren plains.

He looks down at Castillo's dressings and sees that they are already soaked through with blood.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

(to Flora)

Go get the horses. We don't have much time.

(to Castillo)

Can you still ride?

Castillo nods.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA TOWN MEETING GROUNDS - NIGHT

Torch light illuminates the large burlap tent like structure that is used as a town hall. Sombra stands in front of a group of townspeople.

TOWNSPERSON 1

(in Spanish)

"WHAT ARE WE DOING SITTING HERE?
WHY AREN'T WE LOOKING FOR HIM RIGHT
NOW!?"

Random townspeople voice their agreement.

SOMBRA

(in Spanish)

"We looked for him all day long. We
can't do anything in this darkness.
We will continue to search for him
at first light, that is the best we
can do."

An old man known to the townspeople as PABLO (64), sits in the back of the crowd and chugs down a swig of tequila.

PABLO

(in Spanish)

"That won't do a thing...That boy
is already dead...And that's the
honest truth."

Gato's mother lets out a yell of sorrow and neighboring WOMEN comfort her.

SOMBRA

(in Spanish)

"Pablo! What would make you say
such thing! Have some respect for
the love of god!"

Pablo takes another swig of tequila.

PABLO

(in Spanish)

"I'm sorry Sombra. Please...
continue, continue."

SOMBRA

(in Spanish)

"We are going to need men to cover the north, south, east, and western parts of the hills tomorrow morning. Santiago is going to cover the central region and all of us will then work our ways toward him when--"

Pablo's head falls back with eyes closed.

PABLO

(in Spanish)

"--I HAVE SEEN IT WITH MY OWN EYES!"

SOMBRA

(in Spanish)

"SEEN WHAT!?"

Pablo whips his head forward and looks at Sombra with the best of his ability.

PABLO

(in Spanish)

"Oh don't play stupid with me... You and everyone here knows of what I speak... I'm talking about the protector of gold...the monster of the hills... the NAGUAL!"

Sombra and the townspeople exchange glances.

PABLO (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

"And we all know that there is nothing we can do about it...Only pray to God for an angel of destruction, a savior of lands, a killer of demons...and while we're at it, a solution to this fucking poverty!"

Pablo swigs another shot of tequila and wipes his mouth.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA TOWN OUTSKIRTS - DAWN

Daylight breaks as Flora, Salvador, Castillo, and Christian ride on horse back. A HAWK flies low above Flora and two DOGS resembling wolves run beside the group.

Castillo grows pale and sweats profusely. His head bobs back and forth between consciousness. Flora rides beside him and holds his horses reins.

The horses all carry rolled up blankets, furs, poles, pots and leather water canteens.

Salvador pulls on the reins of his horse and stops. The group follows and stops as well. Salvador points off in the distance.

SALVADOR

What's that over there?

Christian pulls out a primitive looking telescope and looks through it.

He sees the town of Tlalpujahua.

CHRISTIAN

Looks like a town.

SALVADOR

Let's move.

Salvador rides off in the direction of the town. The rest follow.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA TOWN - DAY

The hunter's ride into the town as the townspeople perform their daily crafts and chores.

The townspeople stop their work and look up at the hunters as if they were heaven sent angels.

The hunters stop and look at each other with confusion. The hawk lands and rests on Flora's shoulder. The dogs sniff around and sit by Salvador's horse.

One of the local WOMEN drops to her knees, clasps her hands, and shakes them at the skies.

TOWN WOMAN
Gracias a Dios!

CHRISTIAN
What'd she say?

FLORA
Thank God.

CHRISTIAN
For what?

TOWN WOMAN
(to townspeople)
Los Angeles Jegaron! Los Angeles
Jegaron!

The townspeople pass the word around.

The townspeople then slowly approach the hunters.

Salvador dismounts his horse.

SALVADOR
(in Spanish)
"We have a friend who needs help."

Some of the women assist Castillo off of his horse and walk him off.

Sombra passes Castillo and the women, fights his way through the awe struck townspeople, and approaches Salvador. Rodrigo and Santiago follow behind.

SOMBRA
(in Spanish)
"What happened to him?"

CHRISTIAN
(to Flora)
Did he just say something about
cheese?

SOMBRA
An Americano eh? I hope you have
more sense then the last gringos
that passed through here.

Christian looks at Flora with question.

SALVADOR

Our friend was bitten when we were clearing out some wildcats last night.

SOMBRA

Oh, so you're hunters...People around here think you're... angels.

Sombra eyes the hunters.

SOMBRA (CONT'D)

...You do not look like angels to me.

SALVADOR

Maybe that's because we are not angels.

SOMBRA

Right...well then if you are not Angels, would you mind letting me know who has ridden into my town and disrupted my people's work?

SALVADOR

I am Salvador...And that is my daughter Flora...Christian... And the two dogs there are Leon and Tigre.

SOMBRA

And the bird?

FLORA

We call her, Angel.

Flora giggles and Salvador looks back at her.

SALVADOR

The bird has no name. She does what she pleases. Sometimes she is with us, sometimes we don't see her for months. We have an understanding.

SOMBRA

An understanding eh?...And who is the bitten one?

SALVADOR

Castillo.

SOMBRA

Well senors, and senora, I am Sombra, Sheriff of Tlalpujahua. These are my deputies Rodrigo and Santiago. Not too bright, but they are both good men...Welcome to our town. Mi casa es su casa.

SALVADOR

Thank you, but we are just passing through. We will pay you for your help and be gone by morning.

SOMBRA

But why the rush? Stay, relax.
 (to Santiago and Rodrigo)
 (in Spanish)
 "Grab the horses and give them food."

Santiago and Rodrigo grab the reigns of the horses as Flora and Christian dismount. They walk the horses off. The dogs find a spot in the sun and lay down.

Sombra puts his arm around Salvador and begins to walk with him.

SOMBRA (CONT'D)

If you are hunters, you are always looking for work no?

SALVADOR

It depends on the kind of work.

SOMBRA

Well, the paying kind of course...You hungry?

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA TOWN MEETING GROUNDS - MID DAY

Salvador, Flora, Christian, Sombra, Santiago, and Rodrigo all sit at a large table.

The table has a large assortment of food upon it consisting of pozole, taquitos, rice, salad, and cactus slices.

Everyone eats.

SOMBRA

The food's good no? We may not be rich, but we are always well fed. As you probably can tell.

Sombra pats his belly.

Flora sees that most of the townspeople stare at her while she eats.

FLORA

Why is everyone watching us?

SOMBRA

(with mouth full)

I told you. They think you are angels.

CHRISTIAN

I promise you Sheriff, that if there's one thing we ain't, it's Angels.

Salvador eyes the townspeople.

SALVADOR

What is the population of this town?

SOMBRA

About two thousand.

SALVADOR

It seems as if this town could house thirty times that amount.

SOMBRA

And it did; at one point, before the mines were closed.

This grabs Christian's attention.

CHRISTIAN

What kinda mines we talkin'?

SOMBRA
Los Minas Dos Estrellas.

CHRISTIAN
In English por flavor.

SOMBRA
The mines of two stars. It was the largest mineral producing mine at the beginning of the century. Silver, iron, copper, you name it. But gold was always the most abundant. At one point it employed over six thousand workers.

CHRISTIAN
(to himself)
...Now that's a lot gold...

FLORA
So what happened?

SOMBRA
Let's just say that after a series of unfortunate events, the mines were closed more than sixty-years ago and Tlalpujahuá became the ghost town that you see before you today.

The hunters exchange glances.

Salvador sees some of the MEN of the town put up rusted barbed wire fences in front of their homes and around their animal pens.

SALVADOR
What aren't you telling us Sombra?

SOMBRA
...Are you superstitious Senor Salvador?...Do you believe in legend?

SALVADOR
....I believe in God.

SOMBRA

So then you must also believe in the Devil...But the real question is, have you ever seen the Devil? Has he ever whispered in your ear or made you do something against your will? Because if he has, you can find him here.

FLORA

He must like the heat.

Sombra points out the wooded hills.

SOMBRA

That is his playground. He teases us with those pinche hills. There is enough gold in those hills to run two cities. But you see, he is greedy. He does not want to share his gold...The Europeans were the last to try and take it. And as you can see we do not have one European among us.

CHRISTIAN

Let me get somethin' straight. You're tellin' me that you want us to hunt the Devil?

SOMBRA

Hunt the Devil? You must be loco Americano. Nobody hunts the Devil. I want you to hunt his pet...El Nagual.

SALVADOR

It looks like your people have adapted fine without the gold. Why not let him have the hills and go about your lives.

SOMBRA

Because he has begun to kill again. We had forgotten about the beast, trapped in the mines for all those years, but two days ago he killed a child right in front of his baby brother...And now he is out there on the prowl once again. So you see, its not about the money amigo...its about our survival.

FLORA

So where is he now?

SOMBRA

Now if I knew that senorita, we would not be sitting here feeding our faces.

CHRISTIAN

So then what do you know about this Nag-wal?

SOMBRA

Too much and nothing at all. You see all we know is what has been told to us through stories of our father's fathers. Who is to say what is real and what is just legend?...That is why we need hunters like yourselves to hunt out the truth and destroy the beast...And I ask that you do so before the annual feast for Our Lady of Mount Carmel. People prepare all year for this celebration. It is what keeps some of the older ones still going. To take this feast from them will be like taking away their vitality... So what do you say? Will you hunt the Nagual?

CHRISTIAN

What's gonna happen to all the gold if we kill it?

SOMBRA

Amigo, if you kill this beast...you will need two more horses before you ride out of here to carry your share alone.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA TOWN OUTSKIRTS - SUN DOWN

Castillo sits around a fire as the other hunters set up camp. The dogs play off in the distance.

CASTILLO

They want us to hunt what?

CHRISTIAN

Some type of Devil dog my man. But that ain't the real kicker. Get this; them hills out there are filled with gold. We kill this dog, we get his gold, and then we retire to one of them big cities, filled with women, and well...well women.

FLORA

Like you would even know what to do with a woman if she were right in front of you.

Flora cleans her dual-crossbow.

CASTILLO

Do we even have proof this creature exists?

SALVADOR

No...But I see the fear in the eyes of those people in that town. That alone is proof for me.

CASTILLO

And so how do we hunt an animal that we know nothing about?

Flora looks down the barrel of her dual-crossbow.

FLORA

Just like we have all the others.
We track him, we study him, then we
kill him.

Flora pulls the trigger and dry fires her weapon.

CASTILLO

Yes but all the others have been
simple minded creatures of this
world. But a beast in allegiance
with the Devil; this is something
we know nothing about.

SALVADOR

I know of a man who may be able to
help. He is a curandero. A mystic
man of wisdom familiar with those
not of this world.

CHRISTIAN

Well let's get this rancho here.
Time is money Sal.

FLORA

Cu-ran-dero.

CHRISTIAN

Rancho, curandero, pendejo; same
difference. What's your problem
anyway? You been on my case all
day.

FLORA

Please. Don't flatter yourself.

CHRISTIAN

Whatever you say sweetheart.

CASTILLO

(to salvador)

How long until we can get the
curandero here?

SALVADOR

He can be here within a week's
time. But I won't send for him
unless we are sure that we want
commit to the hunt.

CHRISTIAN

Now you know I'm in Sal.

FLORA

To turn down a chance to hunt down
the unhuntable would be a shame no?

SALVADOR

Castillo?

CASTILLO

What about you? What do you say
hefe?

SALVADOR

Well...I believe to live in fear is
no way to live at all.

CASTILLO

...Then let us walk through the
valley of the shadow of death.

Salvador eyes the group.

SALVADOR

Then we are all sure that this is
what we want?

Everyone nods.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

So be it.

Salvador whistles. The hawk flies down and lands on his
shoulder.

He takes out a piece of paper, and writes something on it.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

From here on out we must be more
focused than ever before. We must
always think as a whole, breathe as
a whole, and fight as whole. If
this beast is half the monster that
these people fear, then there will
be absolutely no room for error.

He ties the piece of paper onto the hawk's talon and whispers into it's ear.

Salvador raises his arm and the hawk flies off.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

So it is done.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

Darkness obscures a MAN'S upper half.

He stands in front of an old abandoned shed that has long been forgotten.

An orange glow of a cigarette pierces the darkness when the man takes a drag.

ELSEWHERE IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF TLALPUJAHUA

Moonlight highlights a WOMAN who walks through the outskirts of the town.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA OUTSKIRTS

The man turns when he hears a branch snap behind him.

MAN

(in Spanish)

"Maria, is that you?"

Silence.

The man looks around.

A FIGURE jumps out and latches on to him.

The man jumps back.

MARIA

(in Spanish)

"Now I have you in my arms and you have no where to run."

MAN

(in Spanish)

"God damn woman! Don't play around like that."

MARIA
(in Spanish)
"Oh, did I scare you. Poor baby..."

Maria kisses the man passionately. His face is now obscured by the back of her head. When he caresses the back of her head, a wedding ring sparkles in the moonlight.

He runs his hand down her back and swings her leg onto his hip.

MARIA (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
"I want you, right here, right now."

MAN
(in Spanish)
"Ask and you shall receive."

The man kisses her neck. Maria moans with pleasure.

He undoes his belt and unzips his pants.

Something obscures the moonlight behind them and engulfs them in darkness.

A SCALY THREE FINGERED HAND with sporadic splotches of fur, shoots forward and grabs hold of Maria's head as another HAND of the same nature reaches around and SLITS her throat with a razor sharp elongated nail.

Blood sprays from Maria's neck as she drops to the ground.

GRASP. One of the hands takes hold of the man's neck.

GROWLING.

The man is lifted into the air and choked until a SNAP is heard and his twitching legs go limp.

His lifeless body drops to the ground.

The large silhouette shoots down to his knees and enshrouds the man's body.

The silhouette and the enshrouded man pulsate slowly.

Their shadows contort and interfuse into one.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA OUTSKIRTS - DAWN

In front of the abandoned shed where the man and woman were previously murdered, A large cocoon resembling a Venus fly trap, pulsates under the day's first light. Its exterior is coarse and a layer of ooze runs down its sides.

CRACK. The top of the cocoon splits open.

EXT. WOODED HILLS, MINE ENTRANCE - DAY

Salvador, Sombra, Castillo, Flora, Christian, Santiago, Rodrigo, and the two dogs Leon and Tigre stand at the mouth of the mine.

The sheriff and his deputies carry rifles that are tucked under their arms.

Santiago stands off under the shade of a tree that stands about twenty feet from the group.

When he shields his eyes from the blinding sun, a gold wedding ring gleams in the sunlight.

SOMBRA
 (in Spanish)
 (to Santiago)
 "What's the matter with you today?
 You have a fever or something?"

Santiago does not respond.

Salvador sees abnormal foot prints going into and going away from the mine entrance.

He places his hand inside one of the enormous four toed reptilian footprints.

Salvador and marvels at the size of the footprint.

SALVADOR
 He has been back here.

Castillo looks at the pushed over rock that once sealed the mines.

CASTILLO

How does an animal who has been trapped so long suddenly muster enough strength to push over a boulder of this size?

Salvador looks over at the boulder as his eyes wander into thought.

SALVADOR

...The child...

SOMBRA

Gato? What does the boy have to do with anything?

SALVADOR

Not a boy...A meal.

Christian whistles.

CHRISTIAN

If a small boy can give this thing enough strength to break through solid rock, I would not want to come across him after he's gobbled up a full grown man, know what I mean?

Christian looks over at Sombra and eyes his belly.

Sombra notices Christian's eye-line and shields his belly with his hands.

SOMBRA

Y..Y..You think he is here now?

Flora peeks her head into the mine and looks back out as she loads her dual-crossbow.

FLORA

That is what we are here to find out.

Salvador stands.

SALVADOR

Arm up.

Flora has her weapon ready.

Christian pulls out his hand axes and twirls them around in his hands.

Castillo pulls out his solid steel staff that has a three foot serrated blade at one end and large curved pick at the other.

Salvador draws his long sword, and unbuttons the sheath to his smaller blade that rests on his leg.

CHRISTIAN

(to Flora)

After you darlin'.

Flora rolls her eyes and enters.

The rest of the group follows behind..

Sombra peeks back out and sees Santiago.

SOMBRA

(to Sombra)

Vamos pendeho! Pero hoy!

Santiago awkwardly turns to look over at Sombra.

Sombra motions him to come forward.

Santiago walks toward the mine entrance.

INT. MINE - DAY

Sombra throws a large switch that illuminates the string of lights that hang from the ceiling of the tunnel in domino fashion.

SOMBRA

Still works.

The dogs lead the way as the group follows behind them down the somber dank tunnel.

At the end of the tunnel they come to a large dome like room that has two tunnels leading opposite ways.

The dogs pick up scents leading into each tunnel.

SALVADOR

Castillo. Go with Sombra and his deputies, take Tigre with you.

SOMBRA

Is it wise to split up?

SALVADOR

We will find out soon enough...Keep your eyes and ears open and your mouths shut. No one makes a move until you are sure what your next one will be. Understood?

Sombra and Castillo nod.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

Okay...Let's get on with it then.

Salvador, Flora, Christian, and Leon enter a tunnel on the left while Castillo, Sombra, Santiago, Rodrigo, and Tigre enter a tunnel on the right.

LEFT TUNNEL

Salvador leads behind Leon as Christian and Flora follow behind him. The tunnel slants downward and the ground is covered with small rocks, making it difficult to gain secure footing.

CHRISTIAN

You know Sal, you might as well have sent Castillo down that tunnel alone. That sheriff and them deputies are gonna be more of a nuisance than any help to him. Hell, I bet if they saw a rabbit down in these tunnels, they'd shit themselves right there on the spot.

SALVADOR

Like you did your first time out?

Flora laughs.

CHRISTIAN

Hey, now I was just a kid Sal. And it wasn't no rabbit either, that was the biggest God damn bear I've ever seen.

Leon picks up on a scent and picks up his pace. The group takes notice, and follow behind.

Leon stops a ways down outside of what looks to be a room.

He looks back at Salvador.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

What's he got?

SALVADOR

Something is in that room. Stand ready.

The group enters the room. Christian and Flora cover their noses.

CHRISTIAN

God damn. Sure smells good in here.

Salvador looks on the ground and sees something. He crouches down and a dusty ray light illuminates a puddle of blood. He dips his finger into the puddle and rubs it between his fingers.

SALVADOR

Still fresh.

Salvador rises and walks in further.

Flora sees the remains of the mauled Maria in the corner.

FLORA

Dios mio.

Salvador walks over and examines the scant remains.

RIGHT TUNNEL

Tigre leads followed by Castillo and Sombra. Rodrigo and Santiago follow behind.

They come across a large drainage pit in the floor.

Sombra looks down and can not see the bottom.

SOMBRA

How do you suppose we get past
this?

Castillo looks around for a solution. As he does so, the eyes of Santiago glow red.

Santiago's breathing pattern increases and a heavy film of saliva appears on his snarling teeth.

He SHOVES Castillo into the pit.

CASTILLO

Que Diablo!?

Castillo falls forward.

He instinctively flips his staff around and his pick catches the opposite ledge of the pit, making him slam into the inner side wall.

Santiago BACK HANDS Rodrigo into a wall making him lose his rifle and rendering him unconscious.

Tigre BITES into Santiago's leg.

Santiago SNARLS at Tigre and KICKS him to the other side of the drainage pit.

Sombra fidgets with his rifle and breaks the light bulb above him doing so.

He aims blindly and fires off a SHOT.

At the same time, he is BACK HANDED by Santiago into the pit.

Castillo CATCHES Sombra by his ankle, preventing his fall.

SOMBRA

(in Spanish)

"I don't want to die! Please God,
don't let me fall, DON'T LET ME
FALL!"

Sombra's gun shot has knocked Santiago off of his feet and taken off his ear.

Santiago stands and let's out a BELLOWING ROAR that echoes throughout the caves.

LEFT TUNNEL

Salvador promptly rises from inspecting Maria's remains.

CHRISTIAN

What the...?

FLORA

Castillo.

The three run out of the room.

RIGHT TUNNEL - DRAINAGE PIT

Santiago stands up and morphs into his true beastly form.

Not much is seen due to the low light, but his clothes rip apart and fall to the ground.

His outline is about ten feet tall and splotches of fur are seen surrounding the red eyes that glow and glare back at Castillo.

SALVADOR (O.S.)

CASTILLO!

Castillo's name echoes throughout the tunnel. The Nagual turns and runs toward the entrance of the tunnel.

CASTILLO

EL NAGUAL! HE'S COMING YOUR WAY!

RIGHT TUNNEL - CORRIDOR

Salvador, Christian, Flora, and Leon enter the tunnel and make their way toward Castillo.

CASTILLO (O.S.)
HE'S WOUNDED!

Salvador stops the group.

They stand guard.

Christian looks at Flora and Salvador.

They both stand cool and focused.

Christian closes his eyes, takes a deep breath, and exhales.

The Nagual runs full speed at Salvador and his group.

Flora sees the glowing red eyes come toward her.

FLORA
THERE!

Flora fires both rounds of her dual-crossbow. The Nagual
GRUMBLES.

CHRISTIAN
I DON'T SEE HIM, I DON'T SEE HIM!

The Nagual lunges and plows through the group, knocking them
over.

Salvador manages to slice the Nagual with his sword as he
falls to the ground.

The Nagual HOWLS and runs off. Leon gives chase.

Salvador sits up.

SALVADOR
CHRISTIAN! GO HELP CASTILLO!

They all get up from the ground. Christian runs off toward
the pit.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)
Vamanos Flora!

Flora and Salvador run off after the Nagual. As Flora runs
she reloads.

The two come across Leon who is sniffing in circles in the
dome like room.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)
He lost his scent.

Flora looks on the ground and notices some blood.

FLORA
Papi.

Flora points down to the blood. The two look down at the blood trail and it slowly fades away in front of their eyes.

Salvador bends down and touches where the blood was.

He looks up with remonstrance.

SALVADOR
He's gone.

RIGHT TUNNEL - DRAINAGE PIT

Christian swings a rope in Sombra's direction. Castillo has his eyes closed and seems to be in a trance like state.

CHRISTIAN
You got to grab the fuckin' thing
if you want out.

SOMBRA
I can't, I can't.

CASTILLO
Either grab the rope or we BOTH
FALL!

Christian swings the rope toward Sombra again. Sombra grabs hold.

CHRISTIAN
Now wrap it tight around your
wrist.

Sombra does so.

SOMBRA
Don't let me go Americano. Please
don't let me go.

CHRISTIAN

I'm not going to let you go! You ready?

Castillo lets go of Sombra's ankle and he quickly swings toward Christian.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

SHIT!

Christian's footing slides and Sombra let's out a girlish yelp.

Christian puts his foot up and braces himself on the wall.

Salvador, Flora, and Leon arrive.

Castillo climbs up his staff and lays down on the other side of the drainage pit exhausted.

Flora crouches down and assists Rodrigo who comes to. Rodrigo jumps back at the sight of her, but relaxes when he notices who it is.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

SAL! Help me pull this fat fuck up.

Salvador grabs hold of the rope and they pull Sombra to the surface.

SOMBRA

Gracias amigos gracias. I don't care what you say, you are angels.

He hugs Christian and Salvador.

SOMBRA (CONT'D)

I thought for certain I was dead.

CHRISTIAN

Well you damn well should be.

SOMBRA

It all happened so fast...It...it was Santiago.

SALVADOR

Santiago?

SOMBRA

Si the Nagual. It was him. It was Santiago.

CHRISTIAN

So your tellin' us that this beast can--

FLORA

(to herself)

--Shape shift.

CHRISTIAN

Oh this is fuckin' great...That wasn't in the deal. That's gonna up the--

SALVADOR

--Christian, enough.

(to Sombra)

How did he get to Santiago?

Sombra shakes his head.

SOMBRA

No se. Didn't you get him?

SALVADOR

No. He escaped...Let's go. There is nothing more we can do here.

Flora stands Rodrigo up and puts his arm around her for support.

Salvador picks up Sombra's rifle and hands it to him.

CHRISTIAN

Hey Castillo! You comin', or you gonna nap a little first?

Castillo lies still and raises his hand, middle finger extended.

EXT. HUNTER'S CAMP - EVENING

Sombra takes the frying meat off of the fire and places it onto the various plates that rest in front of the hunters and Rodrigo, who all sit at a table.

Tigre lays bandaged at the base of Salvador's chair.

SOMBRA

My mother's recipe. You won't find
a better flavor.

SALVADOR

Where was Santiago last night?

SOMBRA

Who knows. He was probably off with
his girlfriend. Never had the balls
to leave his wife.

FLORA

(to herself)

...The girl in the mine...

SOMBRA

You found Maria?...Pobresita. Her
mother had just died months ago
from pneumonia.

CASTILLO

Well at least they are together
again.

Sombra looks over and sees the sun going down.

SOMBRA

So uh. Senor Salvador, how are--

SALVADOR

--We will find a way Sombra. There
is always a way.

CASTILLO

This beast took a shot in the face
with a rifle, two bolts in his
chest, was sliced with a sword, and
still managed to escape with out a
trace?

SALVADOR

He must have some kind of advanced
healing process or an immunity to
pain.

CHRISTIAN

No, he felt the pain alright. We heard that sucker squeal every time he was hit...But I'll tell you what; what's got me itchin', is this whole hoo doo voo doo shape shftin' shit.

FLORA

If he got to Santiago, he can get to any of us.

SALVADOR

That is why everyone sitting here at this table tonight will always stay together from here on out until this beast is slain.

SOMBRA

You can't be serious.

CHRISTIAN

Why, you got somethin' to hide sheriff?

SOMBRA

I have a town to run, people to look after. They need me to be there to help with the preparations of the feast for Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

SALVADOR

You will have no town left nor any other feasts to prepare for if you do not cooperate. You either stay here with us, or we ride out of here at first light tomorrow morning.

SOMBRA

Okay, okay, whatever it takes.

SALVADOR

Christian. Set up a tent for our new guests.

(to Sombra)

(MORE)

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

Tomorrow we will pick up anything that you may need from your home as well as all the rope, metal, and wire that your people can find.

SOMBRA

For what?

SERIES OF SHOTS:

TLALPUJAHUA - EARLY MORNING

A hand binds together a bundle of rusted barbed wire with twine.

Castillo tosses the bundle up to Christian who stands on the back of a trailer filled with sharpened sticks, rope, traps, arrows, and other bundles of rusted barbed wire.

Christian situates the bundle.

WOODED HILLS - DAY

Flora stands up in a tree aiming a stationary bow that has been mounted to a large branch. She pulls back the bow string and locks it in place.

She looks down to Rodrigo, who has assembled a trip wire between two trees.

Flora motions down to Rodrigo. Rodrigo triggers the trip wire. The bow that Flora stands behind, as well as bows that have been mounted to other surrounding tree tops, all dry fire.

Flora smiles and gives Rodrigo a thumbs up.

TLALPUJAHUA OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Sombra helps Salvador out of a pit that contains various sharpened sticks and rusted barbed wire. The two of them pull a burlap sheet over it and cover it with dirt. Other pits surround the one that they have just covered.

WOODED HILLS - DAY

Christian carefully spreads leaves all over the ground. Castillo comes up behind him and pushes him.

Christian falls forward and triggers a net to spring forth from the ground. The net captures Christian and pulls him up into a tree. Castillo laughs and Christian flicks him off.

WOODED HILLS BORDER - DAY

Flora and Rodrigo pull back two different large horizontal spiked branches and lock them in place.

Flora activates a trip wire and a series of these spiked branches all whip forward at different times in domino fashion.

WOODED HILLS - DAY

Christian and Castillo finish placing the last of many large rocks that rest on top of a suspended net that has been tied to four large tree tops at its corners.

TLALPUJAHUA - DAY

Salvador walks on top of the town wall while Sombra feeds him coils of barbed wire from below. Salvador attaches the barbed wire to the top of the wall.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA - LATE AFTERNOON

Salvador, Flora, Castillo, and Christian surround a quarry stone water well unwinding.

CHRISTIAN

Yup...ain't nothin' like givin'
people a false sense a security.

FLORA

Don't be such an ass.

SALVADOR

If we can supply these people with peace of mind so that they can enjoy their celebration, so be it. Who are we to tell these people to abandon their tradition?

CHRISTIAN

I'm just sayin'--

Sombra approaches the hunters. He carries folded clothes with him.

SOMBRA

--There you all are. Some of the women didn't want you to feel left out, so they made you these.

Sombra passes out the clothes to the hunters.

Christian unfolds his shirt.

It is a long-sleeve cotton shirt that has embroidery present around the neck line and on the cuffs of each sleeve.

SOMBRA (CONT'D)

They are our ceremonial outfits. Worn every year on the third Sunday of every July for as long as I can remember.

CHRISTIAN

They look...great.

Flora shoots Christian a glare.

FLORA

They are beautiful Sombra. We will wear them with honor.

Flora looks at Christian.

Christian mimics Flora's last lines of dialogue behind Sombra's back.

SOMBRA

I'm sure that that would make them very pleased...

(MORE)

SOMBRA (CONT'D)

Let's just hope our friend doesn't
show up to spoil the night's fun.

SALVADOR

You let us worry about that Sombra.
You have other things that need
your attention.

SOMBRA

It's not that easy.

SALVADOR

Nothing ever is.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA CHURCH FRONT - NIGHT

The people of the town are gathered in front of the late
baroque style church wearing their ceremonial outfits.

Glass lanterns, in the shape of spheres, are strung together
by rope and suspended in the air.

Tables of crafts and food are seen set up all around the
church front surrounding a small elevated stage.

Three JUGGLERS walk around juggling different items.

A very tribal looking CLOWN wearing a feather crown makes
animal shaped balloons for the kids of the town.

Some MEN sit in a drum circle and send resonant sounds of
BEATING DRUMS into the air.

A GIRL walks by handing out floral head dresses. She comes
across Flora and places one her head.

Flora sits next to Salvador, Christian, and Castillo on a
small stone wall.

Castillo notices a BEAUTIFUL WOMAN checking Salvador out.

CASTILLO

Hey hefe, looks like you got an
admirer.

Castillo points the woman out to Salvador.

The woman does not mind and smiles at Salvador once their
eyes meet. Salvador smiles back.

Christian takes a bite of some pozole.

CHRISTIAN

You know, this stuff happens to be damn good.

(to Flora)

Maybe you should uh, jot down the recipe or somethin' and whip some up while were out on the road those chilly nights.

FLORA

Or maybe I should kick you in the face.

CHRISTIAN

Only if you promise to kiss it afterwards darlin'.

Christian winks at Flora, and she actually smiles at him.

The GRAND DOORS to the church swing open.

Everybody stops what they are doing and watches with intent.

A PRIEST (58) pushes a cart that has a cloaked object on top of it. He pushes the cart up a ramp and onto the small stage.

The townspeople whisper among themselves.

The priest motions for the people to quiet down.

FATHER MONTEZ

(in Spanish)

"I want to welcome everybody to the annual feast for..."

Father Montez removes the cloak from the cart and reveals...

...An aged painting on the face of a large slab of stucco. It portrays a heavenly woman who is bowing her head beneath a weighty gold and silver halo. She shelters two nuns and two friars beneath an ample red-lined cloak, which is held up at the sides by a male and female saint.

FATHER MONTEZ (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

"...Our Lady of Mount Carmel."

The townspeople clap.

Christian is last to clap.

CHRISTIAN

(to Salvador)

How am I supposed to understand
this guy?

SALVADOR

I'll fill you in later.

FATHER MONTEZ

(in Spanish)

"This sacred painting has survived
for over three hundred years.
Floods could not wash away its
surface, fires could not melt away
its spirit...Some may say these are
miracles, others may say that it is
the power of fate; but whatever the
case may be, we are truly fortunate
to hold such a blessed artifact
among us. All the evil in the world
could try and destroy us, but with
the power of Our Lady backed by the
power of God, evil will never stand
a chance.

Random townspeople voice agreements.

FATHER MONTEZ (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

We who have stayed in Tlalpujahu
have understood and appreciated
these sacred grounds of which
saints once walked. And for that
reason alone, I want to reassure
all of you that God watches over
these lands and protects them. Let
us now pray and offer our thanks to
God."

The townspeople all clasp hands and bow their heads in
silence.

FATHER MONTEZ (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

"Now without further ado, it is time for our annual scapular presentations...This year we have felt that it would be more than Christian to present this year's scapulars to those who are battling the evil among us. So may Senor Salvador, Senor Castillo, Senor Christian, and Senora Flora come up to the stage please."

The townspeople clap.

The hunters wait to see what the other will do.

SOMBRA

What are you waiting for? Get up there.

Salvador stands and makes his way to the stage. The other hunters stand, and follow behind.

Once they arrive at the stage, the clapping subsides.

FATHER MONTEZ

(in Spanish)

"On July sixteenth, of twelve fifty-one, St. Simon Stock begged the Blessed Virgin for help for his oppressed people. She appeared in front of him with one of these in her hand."

Father Montez holds up a scapular. It is a long segment of brown woolen cloth. At one end of the cloth is the image of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. On the other end is the image of a crucifix.

FATHER MONTEZ (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

"She said to him, "Take, beloved son this scapular of thy order as a badge of my confraternity...whoever wears this scapular until death, will not suffer everlasting fire"... I present these now to you noble warriors."

Father Montez places the scapulars around each hunter's neck.

FATHER MONTEZ (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

"May the Blessed Virgin forever
watch over you and save you from
the depths of hell."

SALVADOR

Gracias Padre.

The townspeople clap.

FATHER MONTEZ

(in Spanish)

"Now let us DANCE AND BE MERRY!"

The crowd cheers, the drums rumble, and fireworks explode in the sky.

The drums beat to a distinctive rhythm. The townspeople gather into two opposing lines, males on one side, females on another.

The woman that was eyeing Salvador before comes over and drags him into line.

Salvador reluctantly follows.

Christian eyes Flora and nervously smiles.

Flora grabs his hand and pulls him over to the others while rolling her eyes.

FLORA

Come on.

The townspeople initiate their ceremonial dance.

Salvador, Flora, and Christian try their best to follow along.

Castillo, Rodrigo, and Sombra stand off by a food table watching the dance.

Sombra feeds his face.

SOMBRA

(to Castillo)

Come on. Go dance. Relax.

CASTILLO

Oh no...One of us has to stand guard.

Castillo looks at his fellow hunters and sees that are truly enjoying themselves. He also sees that Pablo has arrived joining the dance in a drunken stupor.

A smile comes to Castillo's face.

CASTILLO (CONT'D)

You know...you have very beautiful people here sheriff. They have a warmth and kindness to them that I have not seen in quite some time.

SOMBRA

Thank you Senor Castillo...But we are who owe thanks to you and your friends. You are doing a very honorable service for these people. You have chosen good company.

CASTILLO

It's more like they have chosen me...You see, Salvador has been more of a father to us all then a compatriot...He took me in when the people of my village shut me out. He offered me food, when others were letting me rot...And Christian; he raised him like his own when his mother died and his father turned to the bottle. We have become like blood...

(thinking aloud)

I would die for that man.

The song ends as all of the men raise their female dance partners from their "dipped" positions.

The drummers start another song.

Salvador and his beautiful dance partner stand face to face inches apart.

They are lost in each other's eyes.

WOMAN
(in Spanish)
"You did much better than I
expected."

SALVADOR
(in Spanish)
"I had a good partner."

Flora and Christian also stand face to face.

CHRISTIAN
Now that wasn't so bad now was it?

FLORA
You talk to much.

Flora goes in for a kiss, but is interrupted by...

...A BELLOWING ROAR.

The townspeople SCREAM in fright as they look toward the church tower.

The Nagual is falling too fast to get a a good look at him.

He takes down the string of glass lanterns before landing on the stage.

The lanterns shatter on the hard rock surface. Some of the light bulbs survive the crash, and flicker on and off in strobe like fashion.

Chaos ensues among the townspeople. They run off in all directions.

SALVADOR
(to Christian and Flora)
GRAB YOUR WEAPONS!

Castillo makes his way toward the stage, weapon drawn.

The brief flashes of light brief glimpses shots of the Nagual.

From what can be seen, he stands on two legs, hunched over. He is well over three hundred pounds and has reptilian skin accented by sporadic splotches of fur.

Tracers of his red glowing eyes linger in the air.

Father Montez sees the Nagual going for the sacred painting.

FATHER MONTEZ

NOOOOO!

He runs full speed toward the Nagual and the painting.

Salvador spots Father Montez running toward the Nagual.

SALVADOR

FATHER! NO!

FATHER MONTEZ

(to Nagual)

(in Spanish)

"Go back to the fires from which
you came!"

Father Montez pulls out a crucifix and holds it up to the Nagual.

Father Montez is BACKHANDED by the Nagual and is sent crashing into the church doors.

The Nagual lifts the stucco painting high into the air and shatters it on the ground.

He ROARS again and runs off into the night.

The hunters reach the stage and watch as the Nagual runs off. They look at each other with disbelief.

SOMBRA (O.S.)

He's dead.

The hunters turn and see Sombra cradling Father Montez in his arms.

The hunters lower their heads in shame.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA CHURCH FRONT - EARLY MORNING

Various townspeople clean up the previous night's disaster. Some WOMEN weep while picking up the pieces of the once invincible stucco painting.

Christian, Castillo, Rodrigo and Flora also aid in cleaning efforts, but Salvador sits lost in thought.

Sombra walks over with a pan of scrambled eggs and tortillas.

SOMBRA

Senor Salvador, you must eat.

Salvador looks at the eggs, then up to Sombra.

SALVADOR

That's just it...Why didn't he eat?
His sole purpose was to destroy the
painting, but why?

The hawk lands on the shoulder of Salvador. Salvador is taken
aback.

DIEGO (O.S.)

Think of what the painting
represented.

The attention of the group is drawn to an approaching OLD MAN
who looks to be in his seventies. He carries a staff adorned
with feathers, dream catchers, and crystals that hang from
the staff's tip. He is bald, but he does have long thin white
hair that hangs from the sides of his bald scalp. He wears a
simple cream colored gown and he has many different necklaces
that hang from his neck. This is DIEGO.

Salvador smiles and stands with arms outstretched.

SALVADOR

Diego...It has been an eternity.

Diego and Salvador hug.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

How was your journey?

DIEGO

What does it matter? I'm here
aren't I?

Diego spots Flora and walks over to her. He examines her face
and touches it lightly.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

My God look at Florita...The child
is now a woman.

(to Salvador)

Just like Gabriella no?

Flora smiles and puts her head down.

SALVADOR
I tell her everyday.

Diego looks around at the others.

DIEGO
And who are your friends?

SALVADOR
This is Sombra, sheriff of
Tlalpujahua, and his deputy
Rodrigo. And these are my
companions, Christian and
Castillo...Everyone meet Diego.

CHRISTIAN
The cunanalo.

DIEGO
Cu-ran-de-ro.

Diego laughs and takes a seat.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
So the Nagual has risen again ah?
The Nagual, the Nagual, the
Nagual...I couldn't even tell you
how long it has been since I last
heard that name. The Nagual, the
beast that drove the Europeans from
Mexico. I assume Sombra has told
you the history of this fascinating
creature.

SOMBRA
There have been so many, I wouldn't
know which one to tell.

DIEGO
Well the right one of course. How
do any of you expect to know which
course to take without knowing
which courses have been taken?

CHRISTIAN
I thought that's why we sent for
you.

DIEGO

And it is a good thing you did.
Within a month this whole town
would have been wiped clean...

Christian chuckles in disbelief.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

...Oh, but you think you are strong
hunters that can slay any animal of
this land, ah? Well, this may be
true, but the one thing that must
always be remembered about the
Nagual, is that it is not of this
land.

WOODED HILLS - NIGHT

The shadowed shape of the Nagual crouches on top of hill
feasting on a body in front of large blood red moon.

DIEGO (V.O.)

Your guns and blades may injure or
delay, but they will never kill
him. No one knows how to kill him,
why do you think he is still around
today?

A large group of MEN battle with the Nagual. They try and put
up a fight, but the Nagual is too strong for them.

One by one, he destroys all of the men and ROARS at the sky.

DIEGO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Do you honestly think that you are
the first band of men to take on
the Nagual?

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA CHURCH FRONT

FLORA

What could spawn such a creature?

DIEGO

Human greed...but last night's events have confirmed for me what I have long considered.

He has the attention of all who listen.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

He is doing much more than protecting the lands gold...He is exacting revenge on the people of Tlalpujahua.

SOMBRA

Revenge for what?

DIEGO

Revenge for abandoning the religion that once was and converting to Christianity...I believe this creature was created by the Aztec Gods as recourse for shutting them out of the lands they created.

EXT. WOODED HILLS - DAY

Large drilling machines are seen manned by EUROPEANS. Many of them are seen looking at plans, measuring land, and digging into the earth.

DIEGO (V.O.)

In 1903, when the Europeans heard that the hills harbored a fortune in gold, they came to the hills of Tlalpujahua and began to construct a mine. The townspeople warned them, and told them that the gold was not to be touched, but they ignored their warnings and proceeded to dig more than ten miles into the earth.

EXT. WOODDED HILLS - DAY

Carts of gold roll out of the huge massive mine complex and are dumped into larger carts that are guarded by well dressed armed Europeans. The workers who push the carts out of the mine, look over worked, under fed, and lifeless.

DIEGO (V.O.)

The Europeans became very wealthy, but their new found wealth came at a price. Little by little, all of the miners started to die off in the most unfortunate of ways.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

INT. MINES

DIEGO (V.O.)

Some broke through walls and fell to their deaths.

Three MINERS pick at a section of wall with their mining picks. The wall collapses and the three of them fall forward into a large pit, dying upon impact.

INT. MINES

DIEGO (V.O.)

Others began to hear voices that drove them mad.

A MINER sits huddled in a corner crying. He covers his ears and tries to shake the VOICES out of his head. Realizing that the voices are their to stay, he takes a pick axe and slams it into his forehead.

INT. MINES

DIEGO (V.O.)

And then there were those who broke
open pockets of dead air who were
suffocated where they stood.

Two MINERS break through a section of wall and hit a pocket
of dead air. The miners drop their pick axes and desperately
gasp for air until they finally pass out and fall over.

DIEGO (V.O.) (CONT'D)

But nothing killed more than the
great flood of 1937.

EXT. MINES - DAY

An immensely heavy thundering rainstorm hammers down on the
mine. Water is rushing down through the hills and funneling
into the mine. WORKERS are feverishly constructing make shift
dams, trying to block the heavy streams of run-off water from
entering the mine.

DIEGO (V.O.)

Although an unseasonable rainstorm
had plagued the mine for weeks, the
miners were forced to keep on
producing gold.

INT. MINES - DAY

Various Miners are ankle deep in water picking away at the
walls of the mine.

DIEGO (V.O.)

And then it happened.

EXT. MINES - DAY

The makeshift dams crumble, due to the force of the gathered water, and the water floods with great speed into the mines picking up anything in its way.

INT. MINES - DAY

The water continues to flood throughout the mines gathering each miner and carrying them to their deaths.

DIEGO (V.O.)
The flood killed over five hundred
workers that day.

Dead bodies float on top of the various bodies of water that are found all throughout the mines.

DIEGO (CONT'D)
And in this death, is where the
Nagual found life.

In a deep far off section of the mine, a pool of water begins to boil vigorously.

As the water begins to calm and the steam clears, a large Kodo Dragon like head slowly pokes above the surface until only a set of large red glowing eyes are seen.

EXT. MINES - NIGHT

The large carts of gold are spilled over. Various BODIES litter the entrance. Surrounding entrance structures have fallen.

We hear a BELLOWING ROAR that echoes throughout the rainy hills.

DIEGO (V.O.)
The surviving Europeans abandoned
the mines that very day, and never
returned.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA CHURCH FRONT

DIEGO

The Nagual feasted on all of the dead bodies in the mine and grew stronger after each feeding. But soon enough, he ran out of bodies to eat and his hunger grew stronger. So then people here in Tlalpujahua began to report animal mutilations and strange howling sounds at night.

A look of remembrance comes over Sombra's face.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Children started to go missing and men would leave to find them and never return. Finally they found help in a local curandero and had him perform an ancient tribal ritual to lure the beast back into the mines. Once the beast had entered the mines, the townspeople blew it up. It came crumbling down, sealing the curandero and the Nagual inside.

FLORA

The curandero gave his life for his people.

DIEGO

As will I.

SALVADOR

I can not let you do that Diego.

DIEGO

Why not? I have lived my life and a good one at that.

FLORA

So why end it now?

DIEGO

I have had my loves, and had my triumphs, there is nothing left for me here mija.

FLORA

What about us? We're still here.

Diego smiles at Flora lovingly, then looks at Salvador.

DIEGO

This is the only way Salvador. It is in our oath as curanderos to always preserve life, even if it means sacrificing our own. If we don't destroy it for good, people will never stop becoming victims of his carnage. Once everyone here is consumed, he'll move onto another town, than another, and so on, and believe you me; he will never stop.

EXT. HUNTERS' CAMP - NIGHT

Christian sleeps sitting up outside next to a dying fire. His head bobs forward and he opens his eyes. He pours water from a canteen into his hand and washes the sleep from his face.

He grabs a nearby pouch and opens it. He takes out a rolling paper and some tobacco and rolls himself a cigarette. He lights the cigarette and looks up at the stars.

He looks over and sees something approaching him in the distance.

He looks closer and sees the form of a man.

CHRISTIAN

What in the hell...?

He readies his hand axes, gets up, and sneaks behind a tent.

The figure comes closer.

Christian's breathing increases.

The figure nears.

Christian jumps out, hand axes drawn.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Stay right there mother fucker!

The figure walks forward and the moonlight catches his face.

SOMBRA

Christian? It's me, Sombra.

Sombra continues to walks forward.

CHRISTIAN

I said stay put! I swear to god
I'll send one of these flyin' right
into your God damn neck if you take
another step.

SOMBRA

Okay, relax, I won't come nearer.

CHRISTIAN

What the hell were you doin' out
there?

SOMBRA

I had to take a shit.

CHRISTIAN

Bullshit!

Castillo, Salvador, Flora, Rodrigo and Diego slowly wake and filter out of their tents at different times.

SALVADOR

What's going on Christian?

CHRISTIAN

I was sittin' here smokin' Sal, and
this guy came walkin' up from
nowhere.

SOMBRA

Something wasn't sitting right in
my stomach. I had to relieve
myself.

SALVADOR

We had agreed to notify those
standing guard.

SOMBRA

He was asleep! I had no pinche
time! i would of shit myself!

CHRISTIAN

I don't like it Sal, not one bit.
He's lyin', he's the fuckin'
Nagual, I know it!

Christian cocks his arm. Castillo and Flora arm themselves.

CASTILLO

Calm down hermano! We have to be
sure.

SALVADOR

Give us proof that you are who you
say you are.

SOMBRA

What?

Flora takes aim and Salvador draws his sword.

SALVADOR

It would be in your best interests
to start talking.

SOMBRA

Okay, okay...I am sheriff of this
town and, and, we have been hunting
the Nagual and, and, oh!...
Castillo saved my life.

CASTILLO

The Nagual saw me save his life.

Castillo steps forward and tightens his grip on his staff.

Rodrigo goes back into his tent and comes out with his rifle
drawn.

SOMBRA

Wait! Wait!...I am a fat fuck! I am
a fat fuck! Christian called me a
fat fuck!

Christian smiles in agreement and holsters his axes.

The rest of the group lower their weapons and take sighs of
relief.

A loud YELP is heard off in the distance along with LOUD
BARKING.

DIEGO

Los perros.

Salvador, Flora, Castillo, Rodrigo, Diego and Christian run off toward the dog sounds.

Sombra drops to his knees, does the sign of the cross, and kisses his thumb.

He looks up to the sky with his hands raised.

SOMBRA

Gracias Dios...Gracias.

A shadow comes over him. He looks back.

EXT. WOODED HILLS BORDER - NIGHT

Salvador, Flora, Castillo, Rodrigo, Diego and Christian come across Tigre and Leon.

Leon has been gutted and mauled. Tigre has a nice size chunk bitten out of his side.

Flora approaches the dogs as the others stand guard.

FLORA

Ay no...

She picks up the head of Tigre and pets it. He pants and blinks for a bit, then all of the sudden he stops breathing and his tongue goes limp.

The others search the vicinity.

DIEGO

The Nagual is gone for now, he has had his midnight snack.

CASTILLO

I hope he enjoyed it. For it is his last one.

Castillo spits on the ground.

EXT. NEAR HUNTERS' CAMP - DAWN

Another cocoon. It is hidden behind some trees just outside of the hunters' camp.

CRACK. The top splits open.

EXT. MINE ENTRANCE - EVENING

Diego spreads some kind of salt on the ground in the formation of circle. Salvador and Castillo drive large bundles of incense into the ground on both sides of the salt circle.

Sombra looks on and watches Diego closely.

CHRISTIAN

(to Sombra)

Don't worry sheriff, after tonight your beast will be gone and we all be rollin' in the gold.

Sombra turns, looks at Christian expressionless.

SALVADOR

Focus on one thing at a time
Christian.

Flora and Rodrigo rig sticks of DYNAMITE to random places on the outside of the mine.

Diego sprinkles some water on the incense, salt circle, his staff, and himself.

DIEGO

I'm ready.

SALVADOR

Where do you want us?

DIEGO

Out of sight. Once I begin my
trance it can not be broken. The
Nagual will sense an urge that will
draw him to me. He will be confused
and he will try to fight. Let him
do so, do not try to interfere.

(MORE)

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Once you have seen the both of us enter the mine, blow it. And don't fall for any of his tricks. If you here me begging for help and release do not listen, it will only be the Nagual drowning in his own desperation.

SALVADOR

You do not have to go through with this.

DIEGO

I know I don't compadre, but it is something I want and must do.

SALVADOR

So this is it?

Flora begins to tear.

DIEGO

Si...I have finally come to the end of my days...Now listen to me. You are a born leader like your father. Always keep his mistakes close, and be sure never to repeat them. After your time here is done, we will meet again, and I expect you not to disappoint me...It has been an honor knowing you Salvador. May God watch over you and all who you love.

SALVADOR

Gracias Diego. Gracias por todo.

Salvador hugs Diego.

FLORA

You don't have to do this, we could find another curandero, he could do the ritual, he cou--

DIEGO

--Calmate hija. Do not worry, I will be with your mother.

(MORE)

DIEGO (CONT'D)

And I will be sure to tell her what a strong and beautiful woman you have become. She will be so proud to learn that her daughter Florita fights by her father's side and watches over him day and night. You see mijita it's okay, we will all see each other again. Now be strong and help me kill this beast. You have the heart of a lion, do not be afraid to use it.

Flora nods as she cries and hugs Diego tightly.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

As for the rest of you, never entertain thoughts of doubt, and do not fear to trust what is right. But most importantly, be sure to seal these mines wisely and permanently.

Diego walks over and places himself within the salt circle.

DIEGO (CONT'D)

Let it begin.

Salvador hides behind a tree that is located on one side of the mine entrance. Flora crouches behind a rock that is near Salvador.

Sombra and Christian hide behind a large rock that is near the mine entrance across from Salvador and Flora.

Rodrigo and Castillo are both hide behind trees that are relatively near the large rock that Christian and Sombra stand behind.

Diego lights the bundles of incense and begins to chant.

As he chants, a thick mist begins to form.

The hunters try to spot each other but the mist becomes too thick. They are not able to see further than five feet in front of them.

The eyes of Sombra begin to glow red and saliva drips from his snarling teeth.

Christian hears Sombra rustling around.

CHRISTIAN
(whispers)
Keep it down sheriff. You're gonna
sell us out.

Sombra turns and SNARLS at Christian.

Christian sees the glowing red eyes.

Sombra disappears into the mist.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)
Oh fuck, I knew it!

A large ROAR is heard and Diego's chant becomes a gargled
mumble until it ceases altogether.

SALVADOR
NO!

CHRISTIAN
LET'S MOVE!

Christian disappears into the mist.

FLORA
BASTARD!

Castillo and Rodrigo run into the mist.

Salvador and Flora run into the mist as well.

SALVADOR
Meet at the center!

The mist begins to subside.

CHRISTIAN
I can't see shit! FUCK!

One by one the hunters find each other and situate themselves
back to back into a circular formation.

CASTILLO
We're missing Rodrigo.

Rodrigo fires off a shot. The hunters flinch.

SALVADOR
STAY PUT! Wait till the mist
clears.

The mist fades away.

The group quickly observes their surroundings.

Salvador looks up.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)
There.

The Nagual stands upright on top of the mine entrance back lit by the bright rays of the sun. He stands more than ten feet tall and looks like a hideous cross between a Kodo Dragon and a Werewolf.

His scales are moist and his sporadic splotches of fur vary in length.

Two jagged curved horns point outward toward his large open jaw, and saliva drips from his sharp jagged teeth.

Christian tries to swallow the lump in his throat.

CHRISTIAN
...Holy...

He holds Rodrigo up with one hand.

Blood spills out of the slit on Rodrigo's neck.

Flora gasps when she sees Diego's body laying next to his severed head in the center of the salt circle.

Remnants of Sombra's clothing lie scattered near the dead body.

The Nagual SNARLS at the group and tosses the body of Rodrigo at them.

Salvador and Flora evade the body, but it knocks Castillo and Christian off of their feet.

The Nagual jumps off of the mine entrance and lunges at the hunters.

Flora shoots him twice in the stomach and Salvador throws his short blade that sticks in his chest.

He pulls the bolts and the blade out and tosses them to the side.

The Nagual continues his advance.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

D...D...DUCK!

Christian whips his hand axes at the Nagual.

They connect on both sides of the his thick neck.

The Nagual ROARS and pulls the axes from his neck, and tosses them aside.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Oh fuck.

Christian back pedals and falls to the ground. His sweat blinds him.

The Nagual lunges forward, grabs Salvador, and lifts him into the air.

Salvador draws his sword and slams the hilt of his sword down on the Nagual's head.

SALVADOR

AAAARRGH!

Upon impact, a HISS is heard and smoke arises from the spot on the Nagual's head that was struck by the hilt.

The Nagual releases Salvador and lets out a SCREECH of pain.

He turns and runs off, covering his head with one of his hands.

Christian nervously laughs and rises once he can no longer see the Nagual.

CHRISTIAN

I think you burnt his ass Sal. You
see him run away like a little
(in the direction the
Nagual ran)
BITCH?

Salvador looks down and studies the hilt of his sword. He sees burnt blood crusted onto it.

After a beat, Salvador looks up.

SALVADOR
 (to himself)
 ...Gold...

CASTILLO
 Gold?

SALVADOR
 My sword, the handle is plated with
 gold.

FLORA
 (to herself)
 ...The one thing that he wants left
 untouched, is the one thing that
 can bring about his destruction...

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA TOWN MEETING GROUNDS - NIGHT

Groggy townspeople fill the meeting grounds. Flora,
 Christian, and Castillo, stand behind Salvador.

SALVADOR
 It pains me to say this, but your
 sheriff is dead as well as his
 deputy.

The townspeople exchange glances of fear and worry.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)
 The Nagual has been more powerful
 and intelligent than we had ever
 expected. We have tried to kill him
 and we have failed. We have tried
 to trap him, and have been
 unsuccessful.

TOWNSPERSON 1
 Then we are all going to die!?

The townspeople bicker among themselves and work themselves
 into a panic.

SALVADOR

Quiet! If you all live the rest of your days inviting the angel of death into your homes, then there is no doubt that he will come. Death has chased me my whole life and he has never been able catch me. And it is because of my will to live and my passion for life that I stand here today in front of all of you...And yes, we are all going to die, but not here, and not to this beast.

TOWNSPERSON 2

But you said yourself that you can not kill him.

SALVADOR

I said that we had tried to kill him. And that was before we found his weakness. And this is why we need help from all of you. We need people who are willing to go into the mine with us and extract his gold.

TOWNSPERSON 1

You want us to go into the home of the beast? You must have all gone crazy!

SALVADOR

The mine is no longer his home. I guarantee you that he will not risk spending another moment in his old sanctuary no matter how strong his desire may be. He knows that if he were to enter those mines again, that they will most likely come crumbling down behind him, sealing him in once again. The Nagual now fights for the same that we fight for, survival. Now what you have to ask yourselves, is who desires it more?

TOWNSPERSON 2

What will be done with the gold?

SALVADOR

It will be used to aid in the final
destruction of this evil that has
been present in this town for much
too long.

The Nagual's ROAR is heard far off in the distance.

The townspeople look off in the direction of the roar.

One townspeople stands.

TOWNSPERSON 1

What you ask of us deals heavily
with the sacrifice of our
people...A matter this serious must
be dealt with and discussed amongst
ourselves.

Townspeople voice their agreements.

TOWNSPERSON 1 (CONT'D)

If you seriously want us to
consider your plea, then you will
give us time alone to come to a
decision.

SALVADOR

Fair enough...But take into
consideration that the sands of
time run thin in this town.

EXT. MINE ENTRANCE - DAY

Flora stands above the mine entrance open eyed as she scans
the surrounding area.

Castillo and Christian also stand guard on both sides of the
mine entrance with weapons drawn and eyes peeled.

Salvador stands outside of the mine handing out torches to a
group of about fifteen townspeople who walk into the mine
pushing a cart and wielding pick axes.

INT. MINE

Townspeople pick away at the walls all throughout the random tunnels of the mine.

Many of them look back over their shoulders from time to time.

Salvador walks throughout the mine as he observes the townspeople and hands out water.

He approaches one MINER and stops.

SALVADOR

Any luck?

MINER

Nothing. It is hard to tell what areas have been dried and what areas still hold promise.

SALVADOR

I'm sure we'll find something. I just hope we can find enough before sun down.

INTERCUT AS NEEDED:

EXT. SKY

The sun slowly going down behind the horizon.

EXT. MINE ENTRANCE

Flora, Christian, and Castillo standing guard becoming bored and tired as the day goes on.

INT. MINE

Townspeople picking away at the walls of the mine. Salvador helping out.

END INTERCUT

EXT. MINE ENTRANCE - LATE AFTERNOON

Flora stands on top of the mine entrance and watches the sun sink down behind the horizon.

Christian and Castillo pace in front of the mine entrance.

FLORA

We have to move. We only have about fifteen minutes left of sunlight.

CHRISTIAN

(to Castillo)

How much gold you think we're goin' to walk away with, I mean seriously?

Castillo's eyes do not blink as he scans the area.

CASTILLO

Those are the least of my worries Christian.

CHRISTIAN

You scared man?

CASTILLO

Not scared. Just uncomfortable.

CHRISTIAN

There ain't nothin' to be scared about, we got this thing licked brother.

CASTILLO

Last I knew, that beast is still out there, and he is probably watching our every move; even as we speak.

Flora spots something in the distance.

FLORA

Heads up.

CHRISTIAN

Oh shit.

Christian stumbles a bit as he grabs onto the handles of his hand axes.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Where?

FLORA

I see movement in the east.

Christian pokes his head the mine.

CHRISTIAN

YO SAL! WE NEED TO MOVE! LIKE
YESTERDAY!

INT. MINE

Salvador whistles and gets the attention of the mining townspeople.

SALVADOR

Let's go. We leave with what we got. And listen up, whatever happens out there, we stay focused on getting back to the town and nothing else.

MINER

What the hell is that supposed to mean?

Salvador eyes the townspeople.

SALVADOR

The sun has gone down.

The townspeople exchange glances.

CHRISTIAN (O.S.)

NOW OR NEVER SAL!

EXT. MINE ENTRANCE

Salvador and the townspeople sprint out of the mine. Salvador pushes the cart that is filled with rock covered gold nuggets.

CHRISTIAN
Is that all gold?

SALVADOR
SPLIT UP AND DON'T STOP MOVING!
CASTILLO, TAKE LEAD!

Castillo runs in front of Salvador and the cart. Christian and Flora run off in different directions. The townspeople split up into three different groups and follow behind each hunter.

EASTERN SECTOR OF WOODED HILLS

Trees zip past the Nagual's sight.

He runs through the woods with great speed and focuses in on Flora and the townspeople who follow her.

Flora spots the Nagual's movement.

FLORA
STAY IN A LINE, AND DO EXACTLY AS I
DO!

Flora changes direction.

The Nagual jumps out in front of her about twenty yards away.

Flora walks sideways and the Nagual mirrors her.

She exchanges glances between the tree tops and the Nagual.

She looks up one last time and stops.

The Nagual waits for her next move.

FLORA (CONT'D)
I'm all yours.

Flora whips out her dual-crossbow and fires.

The bolts connect with the Nagual. He ROARS and charges Flora and her group of townspeople. Flora reloads.

FLORA (CONT'D)
STAY STILL! Do not move until I
move.

The townspeople exchange glances and see that the Nagual is greatly gaining speed.

The Nagual triggers a trip wire.

ARROWS fly out from the tree tops and stab into the Nagual.

The Nagual ROARS and looks to see where the arrows have come from.

FLORA (CONT'D)
NOW!

She runs off and the townspeople follow.

The Nagual pulls out the arrows and runs off after them.

A HAND AXE whips around and nails the Nagual in the back.

The Nagual turns around and sees Christian running through the woods followed by his group of townspeople.

CHRISTIAN
LET'S ROCK AND ROLL BABY!

The Nagual runs after Christian and the townspeople who follow.

CENTRAL SECTOR OF WOODED HILLS

Castillo, Salvador, and a group of townspeople run through the forest.

Salvador struggles with the cart.

The cart hits a thick fallen branch. The cart flips forward and all of the gold nuggets spill out.

Castillo looks back and stops.

CASTILLO

Chingao.

SALVADOR

(to townspeople)

KEEP GOING, WE'LL HANDLE THIS!

The townspeople hesitate, but eventually run off.

Castillo and Salvador flip the cart back over and begin to fill it with the scattered nuggets.

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTOR OF WOODED HILLS

Christian and the townspeople continue to run from the Nagual.

They approach a clearing.

CHRISTIAN

RUN AROUND THE CLEARING!

The townspeople split up and run around the clearing. Christian continues forward.

He looks behind and sees the Nagual right on his heels.

He dive rolls across the clearing, makes it back to his feet, and runs off.

He looks back at the Nagual.

The NET springs forth from the ground and traps the Nagual, pulling him high into the air.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

HA! I GOT YOUR SORRY ASS!

The Nagual bursts out of the net and lands on all fours.

He stands and GROWLS at Christian.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Oh shit...KEEP MOVIN', DON'T LOOK
BACK!

The townspeople look back and see Christian running toward them followed by the Nagual.

Christian passes Salvador and Castillo and he stops.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)
SAL! HE'S HEADED THIS WAY!

Castillo and Salvador look behind and see the Nagual approaching cautiously.

CASTILLO
He's here.

Castillo stands up and draws his staff.

CASTILLO (CONT'D)
Christian. Fill the cart.

SALVADOR
What are you doing Castillo?

CASTILLO
I'm going to settle something.

CHRISTIAN
Don't be stupid, we can't take him.

CASTILLO
I have a surprise for him.

Castillo runs toward the Nagual.

The Nagual sticks out his chest, opens his arms, and ROARS.

SALVADOR
CASTILLO!

Castillo looks back at Salvador and winks.

Christian runs after Castillo, but Salvador stops him.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)
Let him go.

CHRISTIAN
Sal! He's gonna get killed!

Castillo stabs his staff into the ground and catapults himself toward the Nagual. He lands his foot in the center of the Nagual's chest.

The Nagual stumbles backward. Castillo looks back at Salvador and Christian.

CASTILLO
I'LL SEE YOU TWO LATER!

Castillo whips his staff into the air.

The Nagual lunges at him and knocks him on his back.

His staff slices the suspended NET above that holds the large rocks previously placed by Castillo and Christian.

The ROCKS funnel out on top of the Nagual and Castillo.

CHRISTIAN
CASTILLO!

Christian tries to run forward but Salvador tightens his hold and pulls him back toward the cart.

Tears run down Christian's face.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)
GET THE FUCK OFF ME!

Christian breaks Salvador's hold.

The last rock falls from the sky and lands on top of the large pile that hides the bodies of Castillo and the Nagual.

Christian kneels and looks on at the pile.

Salvador continues to throw nuggets into the cart.

Salvador readies the cart.

SALVADOR
C'mon. He won't stay down forever.

He pulls Christian to his feet, and runs off.

Christian eventually follows.

The large rock pile is seen.

The rocks begin to move.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA TOWN MEETING GROUNDS - NIGHT

Salvador, Christian, Flora, and the townspeople all stand present.

SALVADOR

Sit, sit, everyone can relax. The Nagual was badly injured tonight, he will need time to heal before he is able to hunt again.

TOWN WOMAN

And how can you be certain?

CHRISTIAN

BECAUSE WE STOOD BY AND WATCHED ONE OF OUR OWN DIE FOR YOUR SAFETY!

SALVADOR

CHRISTIAN! That was his choice, do not blame them. They have lost just as many as we have, in fact even more.

Flora comforts Christian.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

I want to thank all of those who slaved themselves in the mine today. We got what we went for and all of you came back alive. Hopefully your risk will pay off, and your minds finally be put at ease. However, we do need further help from you to rid this beast from these lands.

The townspeople exchange glances.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

We need assistance from all of you who are familiar with the art of smithing. We need to clean and melt the gold, construct weapon molds, and forge the weapons themselves. If any gold is left over, you can consider it yours. Once the weapons are constructed, the Nagual will be slain.

Pablo takes a swig of tequila and stands up.

PABLO

My father constructed the blades used in the last battle of the Nagual years ago. When I was a kid, he taught me everything there was to know about his craft, but I was too busy being a piece of shit to care. He left me all of his tools when he died, and they have been left untouched ever since. But I think that it just might be time to dig up the past in order to ensure a future no?

SALVADOR

So you will help us?

PABLO

Well I don't see why not.

Pablo takes another swig of tequila, holds the bottle up to the group, and smiles.

EXT. PABLO'S HOUSE -EARLY MORNING

Pablo slides open the door to his shed. Blanket covered items are seen inside.

Pablo enters the shed followed by Salvador, Christian, and Flora.

Pablo begins to remove the blankets exposing the various black smithing equipment.

PABLO

I wonder if you truly believe that this beast can be killed.

SALVADOR

He seems to have a weakness to gold. It burns him once exposed to his blood.

PABLO

We all have our weaknesses no? It does not necessarily mean that we can be killed by them.

SALVADOR

It is the only hope we have.

PABLO

Ah...hope. The fuel of champions.

He begins to situate the equipment throughout the shed.

PABLO (CONT'D)

So then you want me to make weapons of gold eh? Tell me, have you ever seen weapons made of gold?

The hunters look at each other.

PABLO (CONT'D)

The answer is no. And do you know why there have never been weapons made of gold?

CHRISTIAN

Be--

PABLO

--Because it is too soft. If you were to clash steel against gold, the gold would break in half like a stick of butter.

FLORA

So then--

PABLO

--But if one were to make weapons of steel, then plate them with gold, one would have both the strength of one and the desired purpose of the other. I can't see the gold coatings lasting very long, but if you kill this Nagual fast enough, it should not be a problem.

Pablo makes final adjustments to the black smithing equipment.

PABLO (CONT'D)
Now...where is the gold?

SERIES OF SHOTS:

EXT. PABLO'S SHED - DAY

Salvador, Christian, Flora, and Pablo sit as they scrub, pick, and chip at the gold nuggets.

PABLO
Don't worry about getting all of
the rock off. It will filter out
after the boil.

Christian slips and stabs himself with a small pick.

CHRISTIAN
Son of a...

INT. PABLO'S SHED

Flora and Christian empty the remaining nuggets left in the cart into a large boiling cauldron.

Pablo stirs as Salvador carries in large thick steel sheets.

PABLO'S SHED

Pablo hammers out the shape of sword from a piece of orange glowing steel. When he finishes, he throws it on top of a pile of small axe heads.

PABLO'S SHED

Sparks fly as Flora sharpens steel bolts on a large pedal powered grinding wheel. She rises a bolt in front of her face and checks its tip.

PABLO'S SHED

Salvador and Pablo pour the liquid gold from the large cauldron through a large filter into a large tub that rests above a coal fueled fire next to another large tub that is filled with water.

PABLO'S SHED

Salvador, Christian, and Flora tie their steel weapons to hooks that hang above them, from a assembly line styled track, with wire.

PABLO'S SHED

Pablo dips and plates the steel weapons in the tub of liquid gold with the use of an elaborate rope and pulley system.

EXT. PABLO'S SHED - AFTERNOON

Sunlight reflects off of the gold blade that Salvador holds up. He brings it back down and wraps a thin strap of leather around the handle.

Christian fastens his gold axe heads to wooden shafts.

Flora places feathered wooden plugs onto the ends of her golden bolts.

Pablo lays back in a hammock drinking his tequila.

PABLO

Soon the sun will fall and our
fears will rise, only to be calmed
blades of gold...

Pablo laughs.

PABLO (CONT'D)

You know these people believe in you only because they have no choice. I wonder what would happen to them if you were to be defeated.

CHRISTIAN

Well you don't have to worry about that pops, this God damn Devil dog won't even know what hit him.

Christian whips one of his completed hand axes and sticks it into a nearby tree.

PABLO

I hope so gringo, I hope so. I would love to be able to lay right here every night until my days have ended...The breeze across my face the creaking of the tree lulling me to sleep...

SALVADOR

And you shall Pablo. You deserve it. These weapons are a thing of beauty. Your father would be proud.

PABLO

Yes maybe he would be...and yet maybe he would think I was repeating his same mistake of giving the warriors of this land a false sense of hope, making them believe that they can defeat the undefeatable...But what do I know eh? I'm just a drunk old man.

FLORA

A drunk old man who still worries about his fellow man. And maybe you are right, maybe we are walking into the jaws of death; but I guarantee you that if I die tonight, this pinche Nagual is coming with me.

Flora shoots a bolt at the tree. It splits the handle of Christian's hand axe in half and sticks into the tree.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA TOWN MEETING GROUNDS - SUNDOWN

Salvador, Flora, and Christian stand in front of the townspeople.

SALVADOR

We have come to the end. By sun rise tomorrow the mine will be clear of danger and the hills once again yours. The Nagual's reign of terror will be no more and the angel of death will have to find a new home.

Some townspeople smile while others still remain skeptical.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

I want to thank all of you for your strength and trust. You have accepted us as one of your own and you will forever be remembered by all of us no matter where our paths may lead.

The beautiful woman, who danced with Salvador, stands.

FEMALE

I speak for all of us here in Tlalpujahuia when I say that you will always be welcome to our town. We will tell stories and sing songs about the angels who rode in and destroyed the Nagual.

SALVADOR

There is still a possibility that we may fail...But what you people need to realize is that there has never been a difference between us and you...We are not God sent warriors, we are just people who fight for what is right and who choose to believe that we are backed by the power of the divine...

The townspeople exchange glances.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

So if by some reason we do not come back before sun rise, you must promise yourselves that you will not stay locked in your homes in fear for the rest of your lives, but yet that you will come together and fight as one until this evil has left this land...And yes you may die, but we all die. But it is what we do in life that matters in the end.

PABLO

Amen to that amigo.

Salvador nods to Pablo and sees the sun dropping behind the horizon.

SALVADOR

It is time.

Salvador nods to Flora and Christian. The three turn and walk off toward the hills.

A townspeople stands.

TOWNSPERSON 1

"MAY GOD BE WITH YOU WARRIOR ANGELS!"

Que Dios te compana, peliadores Angeles!

EXT. WOODED HILLS - NIGHT

Moonlight highlights a cloaked COUPLE who kiss each other in front of a tree.

The Nagual sees the couple and makes his way toward them.

He stands tall behind the couple blocking the moonlight, causing a shadow to engulf the couple in darkness.

The Nagual goes in for the kill but is met by a GOLD BOLT that penetrates his stomach and burns him.

The Nagual ROARS and steps back pulling the bolt from his stomach.

CHRISTIAN

Now that's gotta hurt.

When he steps back, the moonlight highlights the faces of the couple. They whip off their cloaks. It is Flora and Christian.

Christian whips a gold hand axe at the Nagual, but the Nagual swipes it away.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)

Fuck.

The Nagual back hands Christian and sends him flying.

The Nagual runs after Christian.

Flora aims.

FLORA

(to herself)

...Come on...

She shoots another bolt.

It hits the Nagual in the back.

FLORA (CONT'D)

(to herself)

...Gotcha...

The Nagual ROARS and stops, pulls out the burning bolt, then retreats.

Flora runs over and helps Christian to his feet. She reloads.

CHRISTIAN

The bastard blocked my shot.

The Nagual sees the trees zip past him.

He sees Salvador drop down in front of him and swipe at his feet with his sword.

The Nagual jumps and avoids the blow.

He runs off.

Salvador gives chase and Flora and Christian follow behind.
The three come to a clearing and stop.
They situate themselves so that they stand back to back.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)
Where'd he go?

FLORA
He's hiding.

SALVADOR
Keep your eyes open. He's probably
right in front of us.

Christian spots something move in a bush.

CHRISTIAN
There.

Christian runs over and investigates the bush.

SALVADOR
Christian, wait.

Christian sees a coyote run out of the bush and turns back
toward Salvador and Flora.

CHRISTIAN
Relax Sal. Just a coyote.

Something grabs the back of Christian's neck.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)
What the fu...!?

The Nagual BURSTS out of the bush.

He lifts Christian into the air.

FLORA
CHRISTIAN!

Flora takes aim and puts her finger on the trigger.

The Nagual tightens his grip and places a long sharp finger
nail to Christian's throat.

SALVADOR

Flora! WAIT!

The Nagual uses Christian as a shield.

CHRISTIAN

(almost crying)

I fucked up Sal. I fucked up, I'm
sorry.

SALVADOR

No you didn't, just stay still.

CHRISTIAN

Take the shot Flora. He's gonna
kill me anyway.

The Nagual backs up.

Flora looks at Salvador.

SALVADOR

Do not shoot.

CHRISTIAN

Flora SHOOT!

SALVADOR

Shut up Christian!

(to Flora)

Do not listen to him. We'll get him
out of this.

Flora tears as she exchanges glances between Christian and
Salvador.

CHRISTIAN

FLORA! TAKE THE FUCKING SHOT!

SALVADOR

DO NOT SHOOT!

Flora's vision becomes blurred by the tears in her eyes.

CHRISTIAN

DO IT!

SALVADOR

Flora, listen to papi. He's just
scared. Please baby do not shoot.

FLORA
Christian. I...I...

CHRISTIAN
TAKE THE FUCKING SH--

Flora lets a bolt fly.

It strikes Christian in the shoulder.

CHRISTIAN (CONT'D)
--AHHT!...heh...You missed.

The Nagual ROARS, and slits Christian's throat.

As life escapes Christian he manages to smile at Salvador and Flora before going limp.

The Nagual throws Christian toward them. The body lands at their feet.

FLORA
NOOOO!

Flora shoots another bolt and hits the Nagual in the neck.

The Nagual ROARS in pain and pulls the burning bolt from his neck.

He runs off.

Salvador turns Christian's body over.

He stares at Salvador with his blank eyes. Salvador closes his eyes.

Flora drops to her knees, weeps, and pulls the bolt from Christian's shoulder.

FLORA (CONT'D)
I'm sorry Christian...I couldn't do
it...I couldn't tell you.

She kisses Christian's forehead.

Salvador gets up and pulls Flora to her feet.

SALVADOR
Come on mija, let's go.

The two run off after the Nagual.

Flora and Salvador pick up on the Nagual's blood trail.

They follow it and it leads to...

EXT. MINE ENTRANCE

The Nagual stands above the mine trail waiting for Salvador and Flora.

Flora runs forward. Salvador grabs her.

SALVADOR

Wait. It's a trap.

The Nagual gets on all fours and lets out an BELLOWING ROAR.

Flora takes aim.

Flora shoots.

The Nagual jumps over the bolt and lands in front of Flora.

He swipes her dual-crossbow out of her hand and grabs her.

He lifts her into the air.

FLORA

PAPI!

The Nagual bites into her side.

Salvador pulls out his knife and drives it into the Nagual's side.

The Nagual BACK HANDS Salvador and sends him flying.

He whips Flora around like a chew toy and tosses her aside.

Salvador comes to and sees the Nagual coming toward him.

The Nagual pulls out the burning blade from his side, licks the blood from the blade, and whips it at Salvador.

Salvador rolls and avoids the blade.

He gets to his feet and draws his sword.

The Nagual flicks his wrists and the nails of his claws extend.

SALVADOR

AHHHHH!

Salvador and the Nagual run at each other and CLASH sword on nails.

As they battle, they move closer to the mine.

Flora desperately crawls toward the side of the mine. A large blood trail follows behind her.

The Nagual SWIPES at Salvador and slices his stomach.

Salvador swings his sword and SLICES the Nagual's chest.

The Nagual KICKS Salvador in the chest and sends him flying backward.

Salvador looks over at Flora and sees her light a match.

She lights a WICK and moves away as fast as her body will allow.

Salvador stands up.

The Nagual ROARS.

BOOM!

The dynamite blows up the mine and sends rock and the Nagual flying.

Salvador is knocked back by rock shrapnel and the force of the blast.

Salvador comes to.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

FLORA!

Flora does not respond.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

FLORA!

FLORA (O.S.)
(with difficulty)
I'm okay.

The Nagual BURSTS up from underneath a pile of rocks.

The Nagual ROARS and spots Salvador.

Salvador sees the Nagual coming. He looks for his sword, but it is out of sight.

Salvador tries to stand but a large rock shard is lodged in his leg.

The Nagual limps over to Salvador.

Saliva drips from the Nagual's mouth.

Salvador sees the Nagual but his vision becomes unfocused.

Salvador tries to walk, but the disorientation of his vision and the pain in his leg cause him to fall onto his back.

He sees the stars above go in and out of focus.

The Nagual nears.

Salvador lifts his head and sees the Nagual.

SALVADOR
You will never last...I'm just the
first of many that will give our
lives until we finally take yours..

Salvador's head falls back and he sees the stars.

The stars become blocked by the Nagual's head.

Saliva drips on Salvador's face.

GALLOPING is heard.

The Nagual looks away from Salvador and looks in the direction of the galloping.

PABLO
HYA, HYA...

Pablo rides on the back of an armored HORSE that has three gold joust like poles attached to its chest by a leather harness. The horse also has a steel helmet on his head in the shape of an opened jawed beast.

Pablo pulls on the reigns of his horse.

The horse JUMPS over Salvador and the gold poles pierce through the Nagual's chest.

The Nagual SCREAMS in pain as the poles continue to burn.

The horse keeps running with the impaled Nagual until the poles slam into a tree; pinning the Nagual between the horse and the tree.

The Nagual looks at Pablo and GROWLS.

PABLO (CONT'D)

Ah. You remember me don't you? I'm glad I found you. I had forgotten to give you this.

Pablo draws a gold blade from his saddle and SLAMS it through the Nagual's throat. The blade goes through the Nagual's neck and sticks into the tree.

The Nagual tries to roar but only a DROWNING GURGLE comes out.

PABLO (CONT'D)

And he has a brother too.

He pulls another blade from his saddle and DRIVES it down through the top of the Nagual's head.

The Nagual's eyes lose their glow and his tongue hangs limp out of the side of his mouth.

Pablo dismounts his horse and runs over to Salvador.

He lifts Salvador's head and pours tequila into his mouth from a canteen.

Salvador coughs and comes to.

SALVADOR

Pablo?

PABLO
Hola compadre.

SALVADOR
...Flora...

Pablo stands and looks around. He sees Flora and makes his way over toward her.

Flora holds her side and looks up at Pablo.

FLORA
...Papi...

PABLO
He'll be okay. But what about you?

Pablo sees her wound and pulls out a large cloth from his bag.

FLORA
I'll be okay.

He pours some tequila on her wound. She winces in pain.

PABLO
Pain is good, it means you still
can feel.

He wraps and dresses Flora's side.

Salvador stands with a stick that he uses as a crutch.

He walks over to Flora.

SALVADOR
Florita...You okay?

FLORA
Si papi, I'll be fine.

They embrace.

SALVADOR
(to Pablo)
You saved our lives.

PABLO
Well I figured you've been saving
ours for long enough.

Salvador motions over to the Nagual.

SALVADOR

What are we going to do about him.

Smoke rises from all of the Nagual's wounds.

PABLO

I still have a tub of gold. I was thinking we could make some soup. You hungry?

Salvador smiles and puts his arm around Pablo.

SALVADOR

I'm starving.

EXT. TLALPUJAHUA ENTRANCE, MONTHS LATER - DAY

The bandaged Salvador and Flora attach items to the saddles of their horses.

Townspeople are gathered around. Pablo stands in front of them all. A large badge is seen on his shirt.

PABLO

You sure you don't want to stay? Your wounds have not yet fully healed.

SALVADOR

I think we will be carrying these wounds with us for a while Pablo...Thank you for everything.

PABLO

No thank you...You have forever changed this town and its people...including me.

Pablo takes a swig from his canteen and offers some to Salvador.

PABLO (CONT'D)

You want some?

SALVADOR

Sure why not...Salud.

He takes a sip and is confused.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

It's water.

PABLO

Of course it's water, what else
would it be?

Flora laughs. Pablo winks at her.

FLORA

I'm going to miss you Pablo.

PABLO

And I you. But come back any time.
This place is just as much your
home now as it is any of ours.

Salvador and Flora mount their horses. Two town WOMEN come
forward, one being Salvador's beautiful dancing partner.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN

We wanted to give you these.

They hold out two woven blankets that contain beautiful
stitch work. They give them to Salvador and Flora.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN (CONT'D)

It gets cold at night.

SALVADOR

Thank you. Hopefully they will be
as warm your hearts.

The woman blushes. Salvador and Flora harness them to their
saddles.

PABLO

Where should we put this?

Pablo holds up an open bag. Gold shines in the sunlight.

SALVADOR

I think we can find room.

Salvador takes the bag.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

Well, I guess this is it. Words can not express the gratitude that we owe you.

PABLO

Likewise amigo, likewise. By the time you come back through these parts, this small town just might just be city by then.

SALVADOR

I'm sure it will.

Pablo and Salvador shake hands.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)

Until next time Pablo.

PABLO

Adios Salvador.

Pablo walks over and hugs Flora.

PABLO (CONT'D)

Adios Florita.

FLORA

We'll come back soon.

PABLO

I know mija...Well, what are you waiting for? There are others who grow hungry and stand defenseless.

Salvador and Flora turn their horses toward the town entrance.

SALVADOR

ADIOS TLALPUJAHUA.

FLORA

QUE DIOS TE CUIDE.

Salvador and Flora kick their horses and ride off.

The townspeople wave and send good-byes.

PABLO
(to himself)
...Alli van los Angeles...

EXT. DESERT PLAINS - SUNDOWN

Salvador and Flora ride toward the setting sun. Flora stops her horse. Salvador takes notice and stops as well.

SALVADOR
What's wrong?

Flora grabs her side.

FLORA
I'm hungry.

SALVADOR
We just ate.

FLORA
Well I'm hungry again.

SALVADOR
Okay, relax.

Salvador looks around and sees a thick grouping of trees.

He motions over to them.

SALVADOR (CONT'D)
C'mon, let's see what we can find.

Salvador kicks his horse and rides off toward the woods.

Flora does the same.

As Flora rides, her eyes FLASH a red glow as a wicked smile stretches from ear to ear.

FADE TO BLACK.