EXT. OCEAN - DAY

The SOUND of PAPER rustling fills the air.

Thousands of THICK FLIP-BOOKS with the words "COME TO THE Kingdom" surround a large castle on the front.

They fall from the sky.

A sudden GLIMPSE of hard steel.

A PUFF of hot steam.

SPLASH!

Strong arms cut through the murky water(GIDEON) urgently. He GASPS for breath as he drags a bleeding body behind him.

GIDEON
Just a little further dad, hold on!

GIDEON keeps swimming as FLIP BOOKS continue to fall.

EXT. KAR'S BOAT DECK - DAY

Eye Glasses flash in the dingy light.

KARS (O.S.)
What's...

ROUGH HANDS(KARS) snatch a flip-book out of the air and begins flipping the pages.

INSERT-FLIP BOOK

PAGES FLIP

INT. THE VILLAGE - DAY

PAGES flip.

A handsome man(KING ABEL) in his 30s with thin glasses and an even thinner physique, appears.

He walks through the village stopping to shake hands with well dressed villagers as he gets closer to the reader.

Something about him seems very sinister.

Words appear underneath him representing his speech.

KING ABEL
You've found it! Your search is over, you're home.

(MORE)
I know you've been all over the world, scouring the globe for a place like this. The wars ravished our planet to its very core, but here in the Kingdom the land is pristine. It's a beautiful place unblemished and unharmed by man. No radiation my friends, just a lush jungle filled with trees! You won't be forced to eke out a living out there on the harsh unforgiving seas. Come on in, settle down, kick off your boots! Here you can live the life we were all meant to live. No poverty, no pirates, just good people. Unfortunately because of limited space we can't let everyone in, we only accept the best, but that could easily be you! So welcome to the Kingdom, live your life as it was meant to be, on land. We'll open the gate for you!

(He opens his arms welcomingly)

After all, this is your home!

The HANDS sling the propaganda book over the deck of the old rusty schooner, and into the OCEAN.

KARS

What a load of-

He stops as he notices a speck approaching on the horizon.

EXT. OCEAN/LAND OF THE CHANCERS - DAY

--SPLASH!

The sun glistens off of the ocean surface, revealing countless wrecked ships just beneath.

GIDEON is swimming frantically towards KARS' vessel.

HIS FATHER is trailing behind him, barely holding on, as fountains of blood and gastrointestinal fluids spurt from his stomach.

KARS peers over the boat rail curiously.

GIDEON

Hey! Hey!

KARS hesitates.
GIDEON gets closer but starts sinking—fast.

GIDEON (CONT’D)

Help!

KARS goes into the cab of his boat and emerges stuffing a rope inside a huge gun.

He fires the gun.

The rope lands by Gideon who quickly grabs it.

KARS attaches the rope to a steam powered crank, presses a button and it begins reeling him in.

STEAM permeates the air as GIDEON is dragged in.

GIDEON (CONT’D)

Thank you.

Gideon collapses on the deck.

KARS checks the father's pulse.

Nothing.

KARS quickly and unceremoniously kicks the father overboard.

GIDEON (CONT’D)

No!

GIDEON tries to get to his feet, but he's in pain.

He can only watch has his father's body sinks to the bottom of the ocean.

KARS

Be calm boy!

GIDEON

(Enraged)

Calm? Calm! Do you know what you have done?

KARS turns towards the cab of his boat.

KARS

(Gruffly)

Yes.

RIIIIIING!

An alarm sounds, KARS looks towards the sky.
KARS (CONT’D)
Get inside, now!

Kars walks back inside.
INT. KAR'S BOAT-SAME

GIDEON limps into the room.

This place would make DaVinci jealous. Steam powered machines and blueprints litter the floor.

Other inventions are piled high on desks and shelves.

GIDEON
Who do you think you are?

Kars ignores him, grabs a screwdriver, and starts tinkering with an invention that looks like a strange lamp.

GIDEON (CONT'D)
Hey!

KARS
(distractedly)
Busy.

GIDEON
Make time!

KARS
In a moment...

GIDEON begins looking around. He grabs a small machine and throws it against the wall.

KARS (CONT’D)
The Steam Current Manipulator! What is your--

GIDEON rushes KARS and grabs him.

GIDEON
Why!

KARS struggles to remove GIDEON's hand from his neck to no avail.

KARS
My tolerance for your foolishness is running extremely low.

KARS lashes out with a kick forcing GIDEON to step back and release him.
GIDEON
Ah!

KARS immediately rushes over to his baby, the Steam Current Manipulator.

KARS
Ohh no, the Steam Current Manipulator! This took me forever to-

GIDEON
Focus!

KARS picks up the pieces of his invention.

KARS
You are going to have to learn the rules, FAST.

GIDEON
There are no rules out here.

KARS
Oh there are rules HERE.

GIDEON
I'm not following your rules old man!

KARS
They aren't MY rules!

GIDEON
Then who's are they?

KARS stares at GIDEON incredulously.

KARS
You...you have no idea where you are do you.

GIDEON
(Sarcastically)
While dragging my dying father I kept my compass and map in my other hand.

KARS gestures to a map on the wall.

A long red line ends in a circle around the coordinates 20 degrees south 47 degrees east.
One of the CASTLE FLIPBOOKS is beneath it, GIDEON grabs it and flips through it.

GIDEON (CONT’D)
We...we were that far off course?
That can't be right.

KARS
Believe it, you're in Madagascar kid.

GIDEON
(Confused)
Dad...never wanted to come here...

Kars looks mildly alarmed as a figure approaches from behind GIDEON. Gideon turns to look and--

--SWISH!

GIDEON ducks under a hastily swung pan and stumbles backwards into a shelf knocking inventions everywhere.

KARS
Damn it Setzer! Stop it!

SETZER, a neurotic, sweaty, nerdy looking man, pays no attention and swings again.

SETZER
We're not taking in anymore strays!
Get outta here!

SETZER swings again, barely missing the already exhausted GIDEON and wiping out another shelf.

KARS
Damn it man! You're destroying everything!

SETZER
Then help me!

He swings again, GIDEON ducks this and give him a one-two combination to the rib cage.

This sends SETZER CRASHING into another shelf.

KARS
For christ's--

KARS looks around and sees a rope. He dashes over to it.
SETZER swings repeatedly and GIDEON jumps back each time slower than the last.

KARS pulls the rope--

--WOOSH! FSSSH!

Steam erupts from a cannon like structure in the wall burning and blinding both SETZER and GIDEON.

SETZER Ahhh!
GIDEON Ahhhh!

STEAM blankets the entire room.

CLANG! CLANG!

INT. KARS' BOAT - MOMENTS LATER

Gideon slowly wakes up, eyes blurry, and finds himself bound to a chair. KARS is still working on his project.

KARS Ah you're awake. Sorry Setzer heard a commotion and with his impeccable sense of timing, was able to get here just in time.

KARS gestures to GIDEON's left. Tied up next to him is SETZER.

SETZER Why the hell am I tied up?

KARS Because you were destroying the lab!

GIDEON Dumb ass.

SETZER merely stares back at him coldly. Then he turns to KARS.

SETZER How long do you plan on keeping this one Kars? Is he X'd?

KARS I don't think so, he's only just arrived.
SETZER
If he's not X'd what the hell do you want to keep him here for? Let him go out there with the rest of the chancers.

Gideon struggles against the ropes.

SETZER rolls his eyes.

SETZER (CONT’D)
Would you untie me!

KARS
(Distracted)
Not now...I'm busy.

KARS continues to tinker with the lamp.

SETZER
Hey!

GIDEON
Look I'm calm he's the one still acting crazy.

SETZER
Shutup!

GIDEON
You shutup!

KARS
Come now children, stop fighting or I'll leave you there all day.

GIDEON and SETZER fall uncomfortably silent. After a moment KARS turns around.

KARS (CONT’D)
Now, you, Where's your vessel?

GIDEON
I don't know.

SETZER
You don't know?

GIDEON stares right at SETZER.

GIDEON
We were attacked by pirates, they stole the ship. So I don't know.
KARS
Did they follow you?

GIDEON
After they gutted my father they left us for dead. Look I don't know what this Kingdom is or what your plans are. Honestly I couldn't give half a shit less. If there's land, I'm going to find a way to it. Untie me and I'll be gone.

SETZER
You're not getting untied until you prove you-

GIDEON
I don't have to prove a damn thing!

SETZER and KARS exchange a glance. KARS gets up and goes over to SETZER and begins untying him.

KARS
You were sea farers?

GIDEON nods while staring pointedly at SETZER.

KARS (CONT'D)
Any other hospitable land out there?

GIDEON
If we had, you think I'd be here?

KARS finishes untying SETZER and moves to GIDEON.

KARS
Well welcome to the moat of the chosen...we're actually a few feet behind it today. Come outside kid, I'll show you.

He finishes untying Gideon.

GIDEON gets to his feet and begins to follow KARS out of the door. SETZER begins to move behind him.

--BAM!

Gideon immediately punches Setzer in the face, effectively knocking him out.

GIDEON
Name's not kid. It's Gideon.
KARS goes over to SETZER and waves his hand in front of his face. SETZER lets out a GROAN. KARS looks up at GIDEON reproachfully.

GIDEON (CONT’D)
What? He shouldn't have swung at me.

KARS
You've got a bit of an anger issue don't you...

GIDEON
I'm working on it.

They leave the room with Setzer still lying on the floor.

EXT. BOAT DECK - DUSK

Kars and Gideon walk over to the stern and stand by the large telescope.

KARS
Just look out there.

GIDEON
What.

KARS
Just look.

Gideon looks into the telescope.

It's very blurry, he tries to adjust it using a knob on the right side.

KARS (CONT’D)
Eh, that parts electric, hasn’t worked since the last bomb dropped.
Here.

Kars grabs the telescope and places a handmade wooden container with a lens inside of it on the end.

GIDEON peers back into the telescope.

A huge island with giant metal walls that stretch higher and higher upwards into the sky, looms in the distance.

Around the island millions of hopefuls float in their boats with hands outstretched to the unyielding walls.

GIDEON
What...is that?
KARS
That's the dream.

GIDEON looks around the island at the many, many boats surrounding it.

GIDEON
Why are all of those people outside?

KARS
They're Chancers.

GIDEON
Chancers?

KARS
Everyone believing they have a chance to get in goes to the arena to show off their skills. The best are let in.

GIDEON
Who decides that?

KARS
We don't know, but once a year those big gates open and two names go up on that board there.

KARS grabs the telescope and aims it upwards towards the top of the wall and zooms in.

Archers with golden masks and green suits line the walls.

The masks have eye holes on the top and the bottom.

GIDEON
The whole island is protected? I don't like putting on shows for people. There's gotta be another way in.

KARS looks at him oddly.

KARS
Ah, you haven't met the scanners.

GIDEON
The what?

KARS
Wait for it.
After a BEAT.

GIDEON
Wait for wha-

RIIIING!

An alarm sounds off emanating from the island.

Doors fly open all along the wall.

Giant, darkly colored, metal suits of steam powered armor climb out of the holes.

The armor is huge and imposing.

LARGE BLACK DOMES cover the entire head of this monstrosity. They are clearly comprised of a two way mirror type of glass.

Think a mixture of Big Daddy from Bioshock and the robots from Code Geass.

A feeling of dread seems to emanate from their very core.

Setzer runs out onto the deck holding his head and stumbling.

SETZER
Scanners! Move back!

KARS
Oh calm down we’re fine, the line’s right there.

Steam shoots out of the sides of the large metallic arms and legs.

They leap high into the air and propel themselves forward through the air with bursts of steam.

GIDEON
Those are robots? But that’s-

KARS
Impossible? True, there are people in there. We call them scanners.

GIDEON
Scanners.

KARS
The Kingdom releases them every hour on the hour to check on things.

(MORE)
KARS (CONT'D)
They watch the matches and pass silent judgment before going back into the Kingdom.

One of the Scanners is drawing closer to Kars' ship.

SETZER
Uh...Boss.

Kars waves him off impatiently as he moves to the front of the boat.

KARS
Quiet, we’re exactly where I wanted to be today.

SETZER
You’re too close this time!

Kars gets all the way up to the bow and stands silently, watching as the Scanner grows nearer, and nearer.

Setzer and Gideon exchange a terse glance.

SETZER (CONT'D)
Boss!

Kars looks back.

KARS
Quiet!

He looks back and the scanner is gone. Kars stares out into the distance.

A Beat--

BOOM!

The scanner emerges in a giant blast of steam and ocean water from right in front of the boat.

It floats in the air not even an inch from Kars’s face.

Water flows down its metallic body as it hovers there.

Kars stares into the giant glass helmet of the scanner unafraid of this huge monstrous armor.

Slowly it turns and heads away.

Kars comes down from his post.
SETZER
That was too close. There was no need!

KARS
They should look into the face of the man who will beat them. I want
them to see it coming.

SETZER
You keep antagonizing them they’ll stop you before your brilliant plan
gets underway.

GIDEON
What was that all about?

SETZER
He’s a bitter old man, that’s what it’s about. You’re risking
everything for what?

KARS
If you are ever rejected for any reason. Say you have a cold one day
and the scanners catch on, you are never allowed in no matter what.
You even have to watch what you say because somehow people make
unflattering comments about the Kingdom, no matter how prized they
are in the matches, get X’d. We still don’t know how they are
listening to conversations without electrical devices. That’s why I
had to push your father over so quickly. If they had seen you with
him you’d be just like us. X’d for life.

SETZER
And if they see anybody they X’d inside the land of the chancers
they eject them, and I don’t think your body can handle being flung at
A hundred miles per hour through the air Kars!

KARS
I know where the land ends! Don’t tell me what I can’t handle either.

GIDEON looks out as the last of the scanners goes back into
the Kingdom.
GIDEON
You plan on getting in there even though you've been X'd?

KARS
Yes of course.

GIDEON
And the only other way in is to suck up to them, say what they want to hear, and put on a show for them.

KARS
Right.

GIDEON
Huh...screw 'em, and scre you, I'll keep lookin' on my own.

KARS
My boy it's more than that! You see that’s the last remnant of hope! Nobody should own all the hope in world and serve it only to the super strong or intelligent. We all should have our taste. Which is why we need as many people as we can gather.

GIDEON
I don't do groups. You can trust yourself, and sometimes even that's shady.

KARS
If you want to get on that island, it's going to take a small army, listen to my plan at least.

SETZER
Here we go...

GIDEON
Fine, go for it.

KARS shoves SETZER aside.

KARS
You see nobody to my knowledge has ever traversed this entire area to see if there are any weak spots.

(MORE)
I’ve estimated it would take about a year to sail around the entire island checking for spots such as this.

SETZER
There are no weak spots. We’d be wasting our time.

KARS
So sitting in this spot is more productive?

SETZER
It's entirely less dangerous!

GIDEON
Some things are worth the risk.

KARS
Exactly my boy! Exactly!

SETZER
It's absurd to think they’d have this establishment up for this long and still have any spots that are weak enough for an old man and his assistant to stumble upon.

GIDEON
One thing I’ve learned, people talk, a lot. Maybe if I go check up on the Chancers, I’ll hear something.

KARS
Now see there’s a good idea.

SETZER is clearly displeased. He looks GIDEON up and down.

SETZER
Fine, take the lifeboat, just stay out of trouble.

EXT. OFFERING STAGE - NIGHT

Gideon dodges a punch aimed directly at his face.

He then returns the attack with a harsh three punch combination!

The crowd SCREAMS.
Boats are surrounding a huge old war ship turned into a floating stage.

Rusty pipes protrude from the ship, the stage itself is where the airplanes used to land.

Just one long, dirty, runway covered in filthy water.

People hang from ropes suspended from their ships to get better views.

CROWD
Captain! Captain! Captain!

Gideon’s opponent (Captain) is a well built, larger man in his mid twenties. He wears no shirt, a buzz cut hairdo, and his eyes dart about like a wild dog.

He revels in the roar of the crowd as he wipes the blood from his mouth and turns to face them.

CAPTAIN
Yeah!

He turns back to Gideon who is patiently waiting on him.

Gideon makes a polite gesture, inviting Captain to continue the fight.

Captain is enraged and charges SCREAMING at Gideon.

Gideon calmly evades his wild punches, parries them and punches him directly in the throat.

Captain clutches his throat and coughs up blood.

Then GIDEON kicks Captain across the ring.

The crowd ERUPTS! Captain is down and out for the count. Two men rush onto the stage and drag Captain off.

GIDEON turns to face the crowd.

CAPTAIN shrugs off the men and sprints at GIDEON, he tackles him and begins flailing his arms trying to hit him.

GIDEON pushes him off and punches him in the face.

GIDEON
Son of a-

He punches him over and over, taking out all his frustration and anger on CAPTAIN.
It takes four men to pull him off of CAPTAIN who's face is already swelling up.

GIDEON realizes what he's done and steps back in disgust.

They pull Gideon over to the podium and present him with a large medal.

HOST
Well...uh...What's your name kid?

GIDEON
Gideon.

HOST
Ladies and Gentlemen...Gideon!

The crowd gives a thunderous ovation. People are screaming while hanging haphazardly from the ropes.

Gideon watches as they wake up Captain and he stumbles off with his people.

HOST (CONT’D)
For pulling a major upset over the favored Captain, Gideon will receive a medal. This medal is sanctioned by The Kingdom itself so that people will know he is a top contender for entry!

The crowd explodes in applause once again. The host hands Gideon a gaudy medal with a large castle on the front.

Gideon takes the medal and stares at it.
He flings it to the ground with disgust.

The crowd GASPS.

The Host is so shocked he stumbles backwards.

HOST (CONT’D)
What are you-

GIDEON
I'm nobody's pet.

The CROWD begins to BOO and throw objects at GIDEON. Unfazed, GIDEON continues.
GIDEON (CONT’D)
I want the Kingdom to know the best
is here tonight, but I won't be
parading around wearing their
insignia like a proud puppy, and if
I get in, it will be on my terms,
not theirs. I know there are those
that feel the same way. Find me.

GIDEON turns and exits the arena making sure he grinds his
foot into the medal as he leaves.

The CROWD BOOS and throws things at him as he leaves.

A small crippled child(MARTY) with a soft hat on, suspenders,
and tattered shoes, hobbles down a rope and into a wooden rowboat.

EXT. BAR DECK - NIGHT

Gideon walks on the deck and stares at all of the signs
covering the hull of this ship.

NO SCANNERS!

ENTRY ONLY IN THIRTY MINUTE INTERVALS!

NO EXIT UNTIL AFTER SCANS ARE COMPLETE!

THIS MEANS YOU!

The ship is completely covered, there is no way to see into
it. MUSIC from a live band is LOUD and audible even outside.

Gideon opens the door and it shuts behind him.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

Dive bar doesn’t begin to describe how dilapidated this bar
is. Broken bar stools and pool sticks litter the floor.

The one pool table a few people are attempting to use is
literally held together by duct tape and pliers.

The bar is jumping with music from the LIVE BAND. People
grind and dance in the center of the dance floor.

Inside the bar are just as many signs as outside, saying
exactly the same things.

Gideon ignores the people and slumps down on a bar stool. The
bartender(Herb) a chubby man in his forties is cleaning a
glass at the end of the bar.
GIDEON
Hey what’s good here?

HERB saddles him with a no-nonsense look.

HERB
Weak, or strong.

GIDEON
Make it strong.

The door FLIES open casting light in the dingy bar. HERB looks over.

HERB
Marty, it's kind of close to scanning time you know? What do you want?

In the doorway stands little Marty.

MARTY
(Points at Gideon)
I want to talk to him.

HERB
Hmph. Alright hurry up and shut that door.

GIDEON
What do you want kid?

MARTY hobbles over to the bar stool next to GIDEON.

MARTY
You said to find you.

GIDEON surveys young Marty unimpressed.

GIDEON
I need info—you got something to tell me?

MARTY
Maybe, what's in it for me?

GIDEON
Don't play with me kid I've had a long day.
(To HERB)
That drink?
HERB
After you're done with him, He'll drink that thing before you realize I've poured it for you.

MARTY
Don't say stuff like that, you'll mess up my gig.

GIDEON watches MARTY suspiciously.

HERB
Sure sure.

MARTY
(To GIDEON)
You're going to try to get in without them knowing aren't you.

GIDEON
I need to know if there are any weaknesses.

Marty looks at him like he's the dumbest thing this side of the equator.

MARTY
There aren't any weaknesses.

GIDEON
And you know this because...

MARTY
(smugly)
What you think there's some big hole in the back?

GIDEON
Where's your dad?

MARTY
You can talk to me.

GIDEON
I'd rather talk to an adult about this.

MARTY
He's dead. They shot him down, shot me in the leg. I've been dealing with the Kingdom my entire life, I think I'm capable enough to pass on information.
GIDEON surveys the youngster with a new respect.

GIDEON
Any ideas on how to get in?

MARTY
Not really sure, I've heard whispers about an underground tunnel, things, bein' seen under the water. But short of having a scanner suit there'd probably be no way to hold your breath long enough to get in.

GIDEON
I might know someone who can work something out...anybody else around here know anything?

MARTY
If they know they won't tell you, They all believe eventually their day will come and with the scanners somehow being able to listen to our conversations they won't risk talking to you, not after that display at the arena.

GIDEON
Not even here?

MARTY
Especially not here, hell even Herb thinks he's gonna get in one day, ain't that right Herb?

HERB
Hittin' the gym on Monday!

GIDEON
They've really got everyone under their thumb...Never was one for succumbing to pressure.

MARTY
So what are you going to do?

GIDEON stands up.

GIDEON
Not sure, probably check out that underground tunnel idea.
MARTY
I'd ask to come but, I can't swim anymore, and having an X with you would probably get you killed that much quicker.

GIDEON
If I got in-

MARTY
I'm not even sure anybody should really want to get into a place like that. I mean I'm trying because my dad swore it was a better life...

GIDEON
But you're not so sure?

MARTY
They watch everyone suffering out here, barely making it...how good can they really be?

--BAM!

CAPTAIN and a gang of six Lackeys burst through the door. The LACKEYS are all men.

A tough female (LENA) walks in behind them looking disgusted.

LENA is beautiful but she wears a no nonsense look on her face that lets you know not to hit on her while she is in this bar.

CAPTAIN points at GIDEON.

CAPTAIN
You lil’ slug!

MARTY quickly limps off.

Captain marches over to Gideon angry as all hell, he grabs Gideon by the shoulder and spins him around so they can face each other.

CAPTAIN (CONT’D)
Nobody beats me!

GIDEON SIGHS in exasperation.

LACKEY #1
He probably drugged you Cap’
His crew forms a semi-circle around Gideon. The bartender pours Gideon a glass of homemade scotch, no ice.

HERB

On the house.

Gideon nods his thanks and grabs the cup.

CAPTAIN

Yeah that’s it did you drug me? Huh put a lil powder on your hands? I felt a lil’ off boys! I told you didn’t I?

LACKEY #2

Yeah, yeah you did boss. Yep I remember you sayin’ it.

GIDEON

Look you lost, better luck next time.

CAPTAIN

How long do we have until the next scan?

LACKEY #1

About thirty minutes.

CAPTAIN

That’s plenty of time boys.

GIDEON

For what?

Captain throws a punch, Gideon moves back and grabs his arm, slamming it on the table.

Then he grabs Captain’s head and slams it into the bar.

Captain’s Lackey’s Rush Gideon and grab him.

Gideon kicks Lackey #1 in the face then Stomps on the others foot causing the lackey(#3) to release him and HOWL in agony.

He elbows LACKEY #3 in the face sending him flailing backwards into the dance floor.

The dancers scatter but the music keeps pumping.

Gideon gets back to the bar and downs the scotch before turning and breaking the glass on Lackey #4’s head.

Lackey #5 tackles Gideon taking him to the floor.
Captain rushes over and they both begin beating him.

CAPTAIN
We've got him now!

LENA shakes her head.

LENA (Sarcastically)
Woo you're such a great fighter.

CAPTAIN
Shut up LENA, nobody asked you!

LENA leans back on the wall and gives him a look that would terrify an Orc.

Gideon spins on the ground, blocks one of Captain’s punches and flips him off and out of the bar door.

Gideon kicks Lackey #5 off of him and bolts towards the door.

LENA steps aside and holds out her hand as if to say go right ahead.

GIDEON rushes out of the door.

EXT. BAR DECK - NIGHT

Gideon sprints along the deck of the “Bar-Boat”. He leaps off into his boat and unties it.

Captain and his Lackey’s rush out of the bar looking frantically for Gideon. They spot him and run towards him.

CAPTAIN
You little slug! Don’t run!

Gideon hits a button on the back of the boat and a steam engine propels him through the water.

A couple of the Lackey’s jump from the boat to try and catch him, they end up flailing uselessly in the water.

LACKEY #1
We lost him.

CAPTAIN
No we didn’t, only one man around here has boats without paddles.

EXT. KARS’ BOAT DECK - NIGHT

Kars and Setzer stare furiously at Gideon.
KARS
You did, WHAT?

SETZER
Why would you even go into the offering stage?

GIDEON
I thought I’d find some info.

SETZER
But you didn’t.

GIDEON
I did! Well I found out that there is a rumor-

SETZER
(angrily)
You were trying to find a way in by yourself weren’t you!

GIDEON hesitates just long enough to let them know this is the truth.

SETZER (CONT’D)
You son of a bitch!

GIDEON
Hey! I came back!

SETZER
Because you had to! Because you knew there was no way you could do it without us!

GIDEON
Get out your fucking feelings, I’m here now, figure it out.

SETZER is about to speak again but KARS holds up his hand stopping him.

KARS
An underground tunnel...interesting...I may...I might just have the thing to find out about that.

GIDEON
See!

SETZER
You shouldn't have fought you were supposed to stay unseen!
KARS
Why would you fight?

GIDEON
I figured if I did well enough, I might meet someone with information. It worked I made some connections.

SETZER
Oh you made connections! And now they’ll probably be headed right here.

GIDEON
They couldn’t see where I was going.

SETZER
Are you daft? Until the fallout clears nobody has an engine!

GIDEON
So?

SETZER
I didn’t see you paddling back!

GIDEON
They couldn’t see where I was going.

KARS
They don’t need to, that’s a steam powered engine, there aren’t too many people outside of the Kingdom that know how to make those, of them I’m the best so they’ll be here soon. We need to lift anchor and-

CAPTAIN
(O.S)
Too late.

Captain stands in the doorway with his six Lackeys and LENA who looks like she has had about all she can take of this mess.

CAPTAIN is holding the large medal that Gideon won.

CAPTAIN (CONT’D)
You left your medal, thought we’d return it.
He slings the medal into a table breaking several inventions and tearing a few blueprints.

GIDEON
Man what is your problem! You lost, suck it up, and move on.

CAPTAIN
Move on? That tournament would have put me in the Kingdom for sure. I’ve been the Kingdom’s favorite for months now, and you come out of nowhere and unseat me? Now they probably thinkin’ I was there by some fluke and they’ll never let me in! All because some punk wanted to cheat.

SETZER
You cheated?

GIDEON
Of course I didn’t!

Captain grabs a piece of equipment from the floor and hurls it at Gideon.

Gideon dodges but the equipment breaks and Kars lets out a YELP.

KARS
Hey! Knock it off!

GIDEON
Look calm down!

CAPTAIN
This is my life! And you screwed me over! For what? You didn’t even want to be let in!

CAPTAIN is about to charge CAPTAIN but KARS jumps in the way.

CAPTAIN (CONT’D)
Move!

KARS
Look if you’re as good as you say you are we might have another way for you.

Captain momentarily calms down.
CAPTAIN
What do you mean, "another way"?

KARS
Well thanks to officer friendly over there, I've came up with a theory.

GIDEON
I don’t think there are any weak points...

RIIIIIIIING!
--the alarm sounds notifying everyone of the return of the scanners.

GIDEON
Listen-
Setzer and Kars motion violently for Gideon to shut the hell up.

KARS
(whispers)
Give me one night, I think I can solve two of our issues with one invention.

Gideon stares unabashedly confused.

Kars goes over to him and pushes him out the door.

KARS (CONT’D)
One night! Everybody out!

CAPTAIN gestures silently to his lackeys and turns to KARS.

CAPTAIN
You've got one night old man.

EXT. KAR'S BOAT DECK - DAWN

GIDEON wakes up and stretches. Mid-yawn he's snatched by KARS.

KARS
(excitedly)
Come on!

Kars is positively giddy with delight. He walks Gideon over to the lowest part of the boat and stops by the side rail. Kars points at the water, Gideon looks and sees nothing.
CAPTAIN the LACKEYS and LENA are also on the deck

    GIDEON
    I don't--
    --SPLASH!--

--Kars shoves his head underwater. Gideon is plunged beneath and looks frantically but still sees nothing.

He pushes his way back to the surface.

    GIDEON (CONT'D)
    Hey! You trying to drown me?

    KARS
    (whisper)
    Quiet! Setzer get the lamp come on!

Setzer brings over a lamp with a long tube, one of Kars many inventions.

    KARS (CONT'D)
    Underwater lamp, works on wood,
    it's the only way to see down there
    now...watch this.

Kars lights the lamp and lowers it by the tube into the water.

He points back to the water and Gideon places his head underwater again.

    --GLUB!

Gideon is so shocked by what he now sees he releases air and has to come back up for breath to continue watching.

He puts his head back underwater

    GIDEON'S POV

The light bounces off of the large underwater coral reef directly under the boat.

The Reds, blues, and orange colors of the reef reflect the light. Schools of fish scatter everywhere as the lamp passes them.

Then suddenly a strange, long, slender figure with a helmet similar to the scanners but on a smaller scale...swims into the light!
As soon as it leaves the light it disappears!

Several times, these underwater scanners pass in and out of the light.

They are clad in mirror outfits that reflect everything around them making them invisible to the naked eye, chameleon style, unless light hits them directly.

The scanners go up to the hulls of different boats and press their heads against them.

Suddenly they begin to disperse, moving rapidly they disappear one by one into hidden tunnel-like structures in the reef.

Gideon pulls his head back up.

    GIDEON
    Wow...

    KARS
    Did you see where they went to?
    Woo!

CAPTAIN rushes over and sticks his head under the water. He comes up rather quickly drenched.

    CAPTAIN
    Where who went?

    KARS
    Quiet!
    (To Gideon)
    Well?

    GIDEON
    Yeah, the reef...

    KARS
    Precisely my boy the reef! See the hatches on the walls are too high for a climb but these...well nobody else has lights to see them so they probably aren’t as well protected.

    GIDEON
    We can get in...

    KARS
    Yes!

KARS does a little JIG of happiness and retires into his room.
The rest of the company stare around at each other.

LACKEY #1
Whoa wait...we’re talking about breaking into the Kingdom...

SETZER
(pointedly)
Yes, yes we are, since yesterday, your point?

LACKEY #1
What if we’re not that crazy.

The rest of the company stare at each other.  

GIDEON grabs LACKEY #1, punches him in the face and holds him over the rail.

GIDEON
Then none of us are leaving here alive.

KARS levels a harpoon gun at GIDEON and LACKEY #1

KARS
Gideon, step aside please.

GIDEON releases LACKEY #1 and steps aside

CAPTAIN
Is that a gun? How the hell did you get a gun?

SETZER
Boy you never really know what you’re getting yourself into do you guy?

KARS
I made it obviously.

CAPTAIN
Ok ok! He’ll be fine! Put it away man!

KARS holsters his gun, sufficiently convinced that they will not be ruining his plans.
KARS
Oh, and we leave at dawn. So I
suggest you prepare your mind
because whatever you came here
with, is what you’re going into the
Kingdom with.

Kars walks back inside followed by Setzer and Gideon. Captain
tries to follow.

GIDEON (O.S)
Hey you don’t have inside
privileges until you find a way to
fix all the stuff you broke. All of
you stooges outside! Go on!

CAPTAIN and his crew head back outside with Gideon close
behind, he's carrying a candle.

GIDEON (CONT’D)
I’ll just watch them.

As Captain and the Lackeys huddle together at the stern of
the ship.

LENA stands away from them as Gideon stares out at the island
which now looks even bigger and more foreboding.

The land of the chancers is bustling tonight. Sounds of the
BAND can be heard floating out over the sea.

LENA quietly watches as Gideon grabs a piece of wood from the
ships deck and places the candle on top of it. He lights it
and places it in the water.

GIDEON’S POV

The candle floats on under water currents toward the island
where the yells of the people at the matches can be heard
even past the line.

EXT. KAR’S BOAT DECK - DAWN

Lackey number four is tied up and is struggling against his
bonds. Kars appears with what looks to be a small armory and
camping equipment strapped to his body.

Everything is waterproofed, covered in plastic bags.

He's got breathing apparatuses, camping backpacks and a few
steam powered harpoon guns. He studies the man tied up on the
deck. Setzer soon follows.
KARS
What's going on with him?

CAPTAIN
He tried to leave.

KARS
And you stopped him?

CAPTAIN
With Gideon’s help.

KARS
Well thank you.

He walks over to Lackey #4.

KARS (CONT’D)
What’s the matter? Ain’t got the stomach ‘fer it?

The lackey looks at him furiously.

Kars reaches out with his foot--

--and kicks him overboard.

CAPTAIN
NO!

KARS
We can’t risk it.

CAPTAIN
We could’ve left him tied up by the time he got loose--

KARS
He would have then went and told the next scanner he saw that there were people inside who shouldn’t be.

GIDEON
(To Setzer)
What’s up with him and kicking people overboard?

Setzer shrugs.

SETZER
It’s his thing.
CAPTAIN
(To Setzer)
But how can he be so...cavalier about it? He just killed a man.

SETZER
Don’t let him fool you. He acts so quickly because he hopes he’ll be able to forget, he never does.

KARS
Come people! The Kingdom awaits!

Kars tosses the masks to all of the remaining participants and throws the remaining mask back into the cabin.

SETZER
Strap on the masks, take only deep breaths and hold them in. There's only four gulps in there so be careful.

The ALARM sounds signifying the return of the scanners. The scanners emerge from the holes on the side of the wall and leap into the air.

They drop the pamphlets advertising the kingdom everywhere.

KARS
Enough talk! Let's go!

Kars puts on his mask, drops the lamp in the water, tosses a gun to Setzer and Gideon and dives in.

CAPTAIN
(Grumbling)
Why didn't I get a gun.

The rest follow Kars off the boat and into the water.

EXT. UNDERWATER-KARS' BOAT - DAWN

The light bounces off of the underwater Scanners. They move swiftly between the tunnels and up towards the bottoms of various boats.

Captain startles and jerks back as one passes right by him. He's troubled...Why didn't it see him?

Kars points to a tunnel that is opening.

The group presses on as quickly as they can avoiding actually touching any of the Scanners that they can see.
Lackey #1 (Brandon) just misses brushing past a Scanner as they get to the tunnel. SETZER grabs him and shakes his head holding up his gun.

Setzer and Kars go into the hole followed by Lackeys #1, 2, 3, 5, 6, Lena and Captain followed up by Gideon.

As soon as Gideon goes through the hole it gets eerily quiet. The darkness in the tunnel is suffocating, only the tiniest sliver of light from the lamp above makes it through.

Kars turns--

--and witnesses a scanner explode through the left wall and send Brandon hurtling through the right wall.

If they weren't moving fast before they are now!

The group (sans Brandon) takes off down the dark tunnel. Another scanner bursts through a wall and drags Lackey #2 down through the bottom of the tunnel sending rocks and debris flying through the underwater caverns.

A rock hits Lackey #3's breath mask. He tries to swim back the way he came. As soon as he gets to the tunnel entrance an underwater scanner snatches him.

A SCANNER attacks LENA, She pulls a knife from her belt and stabs it through a joint.

The joint collapses. She stabs it in another joint and speeds off!

The remaining members of the group see light up ahead. Gideon tries to take a breath but he's out of air!

Another scanner comes up to grab Lackey #5, Gideon spins around forgetting his problems and fires the harpoon.

--Direct hit! The force of the harpoon through the Scanners chest pins it to the wall.

Lackey #5 speeds off towards the light.

Suddenly Gideon is grabbed from behind and slammed into the wall. All of his remaining breath is knocked out of him.

GIDEON grapples with the SCANNER as he tries to reload his gun.

SHWOOSH! A harpoon goes directly through the scanners mask and it immediately falls limp.
Gideon stares into the mask and sees an extremely mutated and distorted human face with an extremely long tongue lolling about back and forth.

He shakes his head and shoots for the light.

EXT. THE KINGDOM-FOREST - DAWN

Gideon explodes from the hole sending water spraying everywhere and gasping wildly for air. SETZER, KARS, LACKEY #5 and LENA, are lying on the ground.

SETZER
Almost didn't make it.

GIDEON
(Gasping)
Almost...don't count.

CAPTAIN
My people are almost all gone! If you had given us all guns.

KARS
It would've been a waste of guns even if those extra guns existed. I only have the three, besides your men didn't even see them coming. The only one with any foresight was the girl.

CAPTAIN gets in Kars' face.

CAPTAIN
You-

BOOM!

A Scanner surges up from the depths of the tunnel and completely crushes Lackey #5. Lena takes off for the shelter of the trees.

SETZER
Run!

They all follow Lena into the forest.

As soon as they hit the woods the Scanner stops as if confused...then it walks on down the path.
BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Scanner after Scanner burst up from the tunnel landing in the exact same spot and following the same route as the first one.

Gideon, Kars, Captain, and Lena are now the only ones left. They watch quietly until the Scanners pass.

LENIA
So old man we’re in the Kingdom...Now what?

KARS
We head towards the middle, blend in-

GIDEON
(Interrupting)
I don't think it's that easy.

KARS
Don't be so negative.

CAPTAIN
Three people just died! I think we're entitled to be a little pessimistic about your plans.

GIDEON
No I mean...did anyone else...see inside the Scanners helmet?

The silence is telling. They stare at Gideon expectantly.

GIDEON  (CONT'D)
They aren't, well they are but...

KARS
Out with it man!

GIDEON
I don't think we're dealing with something as simple as we thought. It didn't look like it was human anymore. It was...changed somehow. It was more...primal.

The rest of the crew stare at him.

CAPTAIN
Well whoop-ti-do. This is quite the picnic we're on.

(MORE)
There is a soft RUSTLING in the leaves of the trees.

KARS
Quiet!

CAPTAIN
Don't--

LENA grabs CAPTAIN and covers his mouth.

LENA
(Hisses)
We are not alone.

The forest is still. Then there's another RUSTLE from behind them.

The team whirls in the direction of the noise.

--CLICK--

Kars reloads his harpoon gun and aims it--

---a GIANT SCANNER over ten feet tall explodes from the underbrush!

Vines hang off of its rusty body.

KARS fires his harpoon gun, it hits the helmet leaving a tiny crack and bounce.

The SCANNER turns, and charges full speed at KARS.

LENA and GIDEON drop their packs and run at the SCANNER. They flank him and jump on to opposite sides of its body.

The SCANNER skids to a stop mere inches from completely obliterating KARS. It slams its arms on the ground to help it stop and its legs rear up into the air.

GIDEON and LENA just barely hang on.

It spins its arms around and around roughly throwing LENA into a tree. GIDEON goes sailing as well into a large bush.

The SCANNER turns its gaze to SETZER. Strangely, it hesitates.

CAPTAIN picks up a few rocks from the ground.
CAPTAIN
   Hey! Ugly!

He slings rocks at the SCANNER who turns towards him.

CAPTAIN (CONT’D)
   Ohh...

It shoots out steam and prepares to charge.

CAPTAIN turns to run when--

--GIDEON leaps from the bush onto the SCANNER'S back and
climbs up running along its back. He LEAPS onto the head.

SETZER loads his harpoon gun.

    SETZER
    GIDEON!

He fires the gun aiming a little high. GIDEON catches the
harpoon and stabs it again and again right at the crack!

The crack widens into a small hole, the humanoid creature
within appears maddened and frail.

The SCANNER shoots off steam and shakes off GIDEON yet again.

He TURNS right into LENA throws a knife right through the
hole and through the forehead of the creature inside.

Blood pours out of the hole drenching GIDEON directly beneath
him.

    GIDEON
    Ahhh!

The SCANNER shakes violently and collapses to the ground.
GIDEON just barely dives out of the way.

It shoots off one last LOUD burst of steam before falling
apart.

LENA and GIDEON get up. GIDEON spits out blood and
reluctantly extends a bloody hand to Lena.

    GIDEON (CONT’D)
    Good work.

Lena ignores him and extends her hand past his to wipe it on
his shirt.

GIDEON can do nothing but stare after her.
SETZER
So...are you always so smooth?

GIDEON
Shutup.

SETZER walks over to the now disabled scanner.

SETZER
Doesn't look as fresh as the others does it.

He looks inside curiously. The face of the being inside is distorted.

SETZER (CONT’D)
What is-

He looks closer, a look of recognition crosses his face right before a look of horror.

SETZER jumps back and falls to the ground.

GIDEON
You saw it?

GIDEON runs over and helps SETZER up.

SETZER
He...He...

GIDEON
He?

KARS peers into the SCANNER suit. He immediately recognizes the body inside.

KARS
Alright let's move. We'll stay close to the path and follow it inland. It seems the scanners will ignore us even a foot off the beaten path.

CAPTAIN
Right except the big ones.

GIDEON
This one looks like it's been out here without maintenance for awhile. I doubt there are others.

CAPTAIN
Right 'cuz you know everything.
If you say so.

LENA
If we can get a move on? Scientist. What are these things surrounding us?

KARS
Trees, this is a forest. Ah the young ones...don't even know the beauty of land yet spend their whole life trying to get to it...

CAPTAIN
Save it, as soon as we find this city I'm getting away from you old man.

KARS
I do have a name! Quit calling me old man I'm not even that old!

SETZER
Well...

KARS
What?

SETZER
(Quickly)
Nothing!

They all begin heading deeper into the center of the woods making sure to stay close to the trail.

KARS pulls SETZER aside.

KARS
Let it go.

SETZER pulls away.

The vast expanse of the jungle stretches out before them.

The trees are so densely packed it seems that they are growing into one another. Steam rises from the jungle as the group makes their way forward.

INT. KINGDOM THRONE ROOM - DAY

A slender, sinister looking man in a lab coat and crown (Abel), paces back and forth in the enormous throne room lined with gold and antiquities.
This is the man from the pamphlets, however unlike the pamphlets he has a scar across his left eye which is clearly now blinded.

Three unnaturally large minions tower over the King.

They are all holding their own signature weapon.

Larry holds a large Scythe, Lexies(Female) has two double edged swords, and Crixus has a giant double edged battle axe. They all stand guard on the inside of the door.

There is a KNOCK on the door.

LEXIES
Sir?

ABEL
(Lazily)
Uhh...Crixus...you answer this one.

CRIXUS gives a knowing smile.

CRIXUS
Yes sir.

He throws open the large door and pauses. CRIXUS swings his battle axe in an upward motion, VIOLENTLY slinging the visitor(Chris Carson) into the room.

CARSON huddles on the floor bleeding and holding his stomach and crying.

ABEL waits for a moment before speaking.

ABEL
Well it must be important so out with it.

Carson gathers himself as much as he can.

CARSON
I have reason to believe, one of the Chancers, and some of the X'd have somehow discovered a way past the scanners and are now on the island.

ABEL looks at CARSON intently.

ABEL
This is a very serious issue. How did you come by this information? Mr...?
CARSON
Chris, Chris Carson sir, your highness.

ABEL hops off his throne and prances over to CARSON. He lifts him up ignoring Carson's HOWL of pain and puts his arm around him like an old friend. ABEL steers Carson towards the throne.

ABEL
Ah my dear Mr. Carson. How did you find out about this, breach?

CARSON
I work in the factory, a few of the Scanners, well they came back busted up.

ABEL
Which happens from time to time.

CARSON
Yes sir definitely that's what my boss said but...these were the underwater scanners. Two had been shot with some sort of harpoon. We may need more bodies. There are people going to check the tunnel they came from but it seems that whoever they fought won that battle.

ABEL
So it would seem. Well thank you for this information Mr. Carson. Crixus?

Crius lets the slightest grin of pleasure cross his lips as he steps towards Carson. CARSON looks mortified as CRIXUS pulls him away from ABEL.

CARSON
(Desperately)
Sir! Please! I thought that if the news I brought was important enough, you might spare me from the toll.

ABEL goes back to lounging on the throne.
ABEL
Ah...well Carson you have been invaluable to the Kingdom in this matter, truly you have...but you see, rules are what this Kingdom is based off of. Now it's a very slippery slope indeed that I'd find myself tumbling down if I let you avoid the toll. Why, then everybody would expect to be able to waltz in here and say whatever THEY felt was important and think nothing of it. It's all about consistency, consistency dear boy is what separates a civilized people from barbarians! You don't think me a barbarian do you?

CARSON
(Trembling)
No sir but...maybe a smaller fee?

ABEL
(Ignores him)
So while I do thank you for your valuable time and information...you DID disturb the king, and the toll. (to Crixus) is death.

CARSON
Please! Your highness!

He crawls up to ABEL and begins kissing his feet.

CARSON (CONT’D)
Take an arm a leg both of them please your highness!

Crixus laughs, grabs CARSON and tosses him in the air.

He swings his axe--

BAM!

The axe catches Carson in the midsection and slings him far, far against the opposite wall.

ABEL
Why that must be a record distance Crixus. Good job!

Carson's body slides down the wall.
ABEL (CONT’D)
Lexies and Larry, go check out that tunnel. Crixus take Mr. Carson down to the chambers, as he said we will need bodies to replace those damaged scanners.

The other two guards kneel as CRIXUS heads over to CARSON

LEXIES Yes Sir!

LARRY Yes Sir!

ABEL (CONT’D)
And Larry! Take this.

ABEL reaches into his robe and pulls out an odd looking wooden whistle. He tosses the whistle to LARRY.

ABEL (CONT’D)
For the drones.

LARRY nods curtly, turns and walks out the door with LEXIES.

They leave through the front door and SLAM it shut.

CRIXUS picks up CARSON.

ABEL (CONT’D)
Make sure he lands on the third belt.

CRIXUS
Yes sir!

CRIXUS heads for the door.

ABEL
Oh and Crixus? Be a dear and have Holly send out the drones, K?

CRIXUS
Shall we warn the villagers this time?

The question slightly aggravates ABEL, but he relents.

ABEL
(Reluctantly)
I guess they’ve been good. Give them a heads up I suppose. Release the drones tomorrow night.

CRIXUS
Yes sir!
Crixus kneels, stands and leaves out a door in the back.

INT. KINGDOM CASTLE-HALLWAY - SAME

SOLDIERS stand guard all throughout the fantastically decorated hallway as CRIXUS carries the body of CARSON.

They all do a salute of a fist across the stomach as CRIXUS walks by.

Two soldiers throw open a door and CRIXUS walks inside to the far end of the room.

Three holes that look like an oversized laundry shoots have been built into the wall.

CRIXUS casually tosses CARSON inside the third hole.

The body tumbles head over heels, down, down, down, through the darkness until--

--BAM! He lands on a conveyor belt. We pull back to reveal that we are--

INT. KINGDOM CASTLE-LAB BASEMENT - SAME

STEAM permeates the air of the enormous dark damp room as strange, methodically driven people with golden eyes push bodies down three different conveyor belts.

The basement has an eerie, gothic vibe. The silent people add to the fear that this room would cause any sane being.

Discarded rusty equipment and dead rotting bodies litter the floors.

All three of the belts have seemingly endless broken, bloody, and decaying bodies on them.

The people working the first two belts methodically inject the body with syringes.

The people working the third belt use syringes with tubes descending from the ceiling.

At the end of the first two conveyor belts are cages. One cage is labeled WORKERS.

One of the bodies from the first belt falls through the opening into the hole after finishing the injection process.

--BOOM!
It hits the bottom of the cage and jumps up in WRITHING AGONY.

DRONE
   Ahhhhhhh!

After a moment, it calms down and begins stumbling around like a zombie.

A WORKER inside pushes the body to the side as another follows it doing the same.

However this one grows a second pair of eyes on its chin, they are green like night vision goggles..

The WORKER places a golden archer mask on the second body.

Almost immediately a body on the second belt finishes its own horrific injection process.

It hits the bottom of the second cage labeled DRONES.

It LEAPS into the air SCREAMING as if it were alive and on fire!

Suddenly as if a switch was flipped its tongue grows and rolls out of its mouth almost down to its chest and it freezes for a moment before immediately getting into line behind the others in the cage.

Carson’s body draws closer to the door at the end of the third conveyor belt.

There are many more injections on this belt and already the body is beginning to twitch with unnatural energy.

BOOM...BOOM...BOOM...

At the end of the last conveyor belt is a large room with a locked door that RUMBLES and SHAKES VIOLENTLY, as if something huge were inside, maybe several “things”.

Disturbing SCREAMS emanate from inside these walls.

The faint sound of...laughter, the kind of laughter that would send chills up your spine rather than make you want to join in.

As soon as CARSON gets to the door a HISSING sound is heard inside and the door STOPS SHAKING.

Two of the workers swing the door wide and CARSON falls inside.
As soon as the door closes the RUMBLING and SCREAMS START again.

EXT. JUNGLE - DUSK

KARS, GIDEON, CAPTAIN, and LENA trudge through the unforgiving forest. KARS stares happily at his surroundings.

GIDEON pulls SETZER aside.

    GIDEON
    (Quietly)
    Wha'ts going on with you? That creature has you shook?

    SETZER
    I'm fine.

    GIDEON
    You sure? We're going to need everybody completely focused and you seem way out of it man.

    SETZER
    Didn't you say you could do this alone? Don't bother me with this, I said I'm fine.

GIDEON gives him a long look, then he backs off and gets to the front of the group.

BUZZ! Bugs, gnats and mosquitoes swarm.

CAPTAIN jumps back and SLAPS his neck.

    CAPTAIN
    How far can this place really be? You'd think by now they'd be all over the island.

    KARS
    They've only been letting in two people a year for quite some time now, I'm sure the population is well under control.

    CAPTAIN
    Whatever these things are they're eating me alive.

    KARS
    What, mosquitoes? Small price to pay for the beauty that lies around us!
CAPTAIN
Right, beauty.

SETZER
What about that place there?

SETZER gestures to a clearing up ahead.

KARS
I don't know, what do you think G?

GIDEON
Shouldn't we get a little more away from the path, just in case someone comes looking for us?

LENA
He's right, we took out a few of those scanners, they'll probably be heading down the same path to figure out how it happened.

CAPTAIN
But we don't know what's inside there.

LENA
We dealt with one thing, we'll deal with the rest.

KARS
Good attitude! Deeper in then!

The TEAM goes into the forest a ways traversing over fallen trees, swatting bugs, and squeezing through the overgrown brush.

Finally they get to a small clearing.

KARS (CONT’D)
This looks like a good enough place! We can set up here.

They remove their packs and begin setting up their sleeping bags.

SETZER
Captain weren't you supposed to be the favorite to get in next year?

CAPTAIN
(Proudly)
Yes.
KARS
(Derisively)
What happened? Everyone with man parts got sick?

CAPTAIN
You wanna step into the ring old man?

KARS
With pleasure.

LENA
This should be good.

GIDEON
Captain wasn't that hard to beat, my money's on Kars.

CAPTAIN
You cheated! Old man winter over there probably made you something to beat me!

SETZER
Actually we told him to get information, not to fight. You lost fair and square.

CAPTAIN
Bull.

He rolls over into his sleeping bag.

SETZER
(sarcastically)
Aww. I'm mad now, nobody talk to me! Grow some balls man.

The rest of the team laugh, even LENA cracks a small smile.

CAPTAIN
(Conceding)
Oh shut-up.

GIDEON
I heard if you get accepted into the Kingdom the woman who goes in with you becomes your wife.

CAPTAIN
Yeah, that's true.
GIDEON
Who was the woman?

CAPTAIN gestures over to LENA who looks away DISGUSTED.

SETZER looks knowingly at GIDEON but says nothing.

GIDEON (CONT’D)
That seems pretty controlling...if they're that manipulative from the beginning, why does anybody want to get in?

LENA looks at GIDEON as if he were the stupidest creature to walk the earth.

LENA
Seriously? You don't get that?

GIDEON
It just seems-

LENA
We weren't meant to live out there, on the sea, on a boat every day. Fish everyday, The Kingdom offers us what life should be. Land, a place to stay where we don't have to drift.

SETZER
But most of us have been drifting all our lives. I for one was never going to pander to these people to let me in.

LENA looks at SETZER sympathetically.

LENA
Then you are a fool. Our lives on the sea have no meaning. It’s a futile existence. Here we have something solid, something real.

GIDEON
But this place...it doesn't feel right. That thing we saw earlier inside the scanner-

KARS
He's right, there's something going on here that they didn't advertise in any of those flip books.
LENA
If that's the case, then we'll just fix it.

KARS
Quite the can-do attitude you have. Let's just hope we don't run into any more of those giant scanners.

GIDEON
And that we don't get caught and kicked out.

SETZER
Or killed.

KARS
Or all of the above.

GIDEON
Right.

CAPTAIN
Syphilis sucks too.

SETZER
Go to sleep man.

The sounds of the jungle, CRICKETS, OWLS, ETC. Get louder as the TEAM gets in their sleeping bags and doze off.

EXT. KINGDOM JUNGLE/TUNNEL ENTRANCE - DAWN

A mouse skitters on the ground searching for food. Ah, a small piece of bread, it scurries over to it--

BAM! A giant boot crushes the mouse centimeters from the bread.

WE PULL BACK to REVEAL LARRY with his boot still on the now dead mouse. He looks extremely serious as he bends down and picks up the piece of bread.

The mouse's tail twitches as LARRY brings the piece of bread up to his face.

LARRY
What is food doing all the way out here? Scanners don't eat...

LEXIES steps behind him and puts her arm around his chest.

LEXIES
Rebels?
They tend to stay away from the tunnels...I think we may actually have an infiltration on our hands...the only question is how many and where are they now.

LEXIES kisses him on the cheek.

LEXIES
Take a look over there.

She points to several footprints along the side of the path.

LEXIES (CONT'D)
They don't know how to cover tracks...They really must be from the outside. This should get interesting.

LARRY
So glad I came in with you...

They kiss.

LARRY (CONT'D)
Well, let's go get 'em.

They trudge off in the direction of the footprints.

EXT. JUNGLE - SAME

CAPTAIN wakes up and rubs his eyes. He looks around and everyone is GONE!

He jumps up.

CAPTAIN
GUYS!

There's no answer.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)
Guys? Seriously this-

GIDEON (O.S)
We're over here fool.

CAPTAIN quickly grabs his things and runs over to KARS.

SETZER
(Grinning)
Scared?
CAPTAIN
That's not funny this is life or death.

GIDEON
We were two feet away quit crying and look at this.

Gideon points out an area of damaged trees and dried blood.

CAPTAIN
What-

LENA
Something is out here. It came pretty far off the path to get whatever this was.

GIDEON
It did more than injure them.

GIDEON pushes aside a large leaf revealing a mutilated body. It's been ripped limb from limb.

CAPTAIN
Aw man! What the hell did that?

KARS
Keep an eye out for it, We should all have one shot left-

CAPTAIN
The ones who have guns.

KARS
(Ignoring him)
So if we see it we can protect ourselves.

GIDEON
Ok, let's find this "town" you were talking about.

LENA
It may be closer than you think.

GIDEON
Why do you say that?

Lena points at a MAN wearing raggedy clothing and carrying a makeshift spear(YOKUL) standing and staring boldly at them. The TEAM stares right back at him.