"AQUANOR CHAPTER 1: CAPTAIN OF THE IVORY RAPTOR"

Ву

Trent Feehan

FADE IN:

1 INTRODUCTION: THE TALE OF THE LIFE SPRING

MAP OF AQUANOR

A worn map of the known world of Aquanor is displayed on screen, illuminated by an unseen candle.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Legends of the world of Aquanor hark of a place unseen by man for generations. A place where the entire ocean originates, and where life on the aqueous world began.

Camera zooms in on the southern part of the map, where a sketch of a plateau is surrounded by ice caps with the words "THE LIFE SPRING" written under it.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

The LIFE SPRING. An ancient land only known by myths and tales told by civilizations across the sea. Many explorers and sailors of Aquanor seek to find this legendary place, but all have failed.

Camera moves away from the LIFE SPRING drawing and moves to show the continent of AHGILA at the center of the map.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Though the existence of this legend can only be in the hearts and minds of Aquanorians, the one who will discover it will go down in history.

Camera starts to slowly zoom into the bottom left island chain on the map, centering around the pinpoint with the words "MARAUDER'S BAY" written above it.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

This is the tale of a pirate captain, who fought the world itself to solve the mystery of the Life Spring and solidify himself as a legend.

Camera stops right above the pinpoint, with it being at the center of the screen in full view.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

This is the tale of Captain John Jonah Jaxon, and the crew of the Ivory Raptor.

The camera now zooms headfirst into the pinpoint, with the screen turning white. A triumphant, adventurous theme plays. The title "AQUANOR" is burned into the screen.

The text disappears immediately, with the etching style subtitle now appearing saying "CHAPTER 1" in smaller text on top and "CAPTAIN OF THE IVORY RAPTOR" in larger text on the bottom.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

2 THE INTRODUCTION OF CAPTAIN JAXON

MARAUDER'S BAY - AFTERNOON

It is afternoon. A peaceful, ambient melody plays throughout the scene to establish the 1700s era setting of the series. The camera shows an atoll with a port town and a bay crowded with ships. It then cuts to a street in the town showing a bustling road in front of an open tavern.

INT. MARAUDER'S BAY TAVERN - TABLE

It cuts to the tavern with patrons crowding the bar and tables. A lone pirate captain with a songbird perched on his shoulder has a sign-up paper presented away from him. A bar goer approaches him.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Welcome lad, how may I help you?

BAR GOER 1

Aye, I 'ad interest in joining yer crew?

CAPTAIN JAXON

(ecstatically) Well, you've come to the right place! So, what do y' need to know?

BAR GOER 1

Yeah, so how much will I be makin, and uh, what will I be doin?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Ah, so the wage is...uh, fair ...

BAR GOER 1

Fair?

CAPTAIN JAXON looks to the side briefly. He then regains eye contact after a brief pause.

CAPTAIN JAXON

(stammers) Say, y' want position of first mate? You'll be getting about one share plus 5 percent!

BAR GOER 1

5 percent? Hmm. Bit of a stretch. Right then, I'll take it.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Great! So job description, let's see…you'll be first mate so you'll essentially be barkin orders at everyone, you'll be my go-to counsel, and for general goals you and the crew will help me plunder the Infinite Sea while we find the Life Spring…

The bar goes completely silent. What follows is uproarious laughter from everyone, including the bar goer CAPTAIN JAXON is conversing with.

BAR GOER 2

The Life Spring ??! Really ?!

BAR GOER 1

Are you daft?! What's next, will we be fishing for mermaids too?!!

The patrons of the tavern proceed to laugh.

Oi! It's a fair goal! I don't see the problem here you'd be getting paid for it!

BAR GOER 3:

Aye? How much if I sell you a kraken tentacle then?

The patrons of the tavern proceed to laugh again.

CAPTAIN JAXON

(angered)

Oh piss off! The lot of you! I'm the only pirate with big enough balls to find the damn place anyway! I'll become the greatest sailor on Aquanor while you lot will drink yer livers to the grave!

CAPTAIN JAXON sits down. He slams his head on the table after the laughter subsides. the songbird hops off CAPTAIN JAXON and sits on the tabletop.

DISSOLVE TO:

3 ARATA MEETS THE CAPTAIN

INT. MARAUDER'S BAY TAVERN - TABLE

Time passes, and CAPTAIN JAXON, bored by the lack of interest in him, is playing with his songbird. A boy approaches the table sheepishly.

CAPTAIN JAXON

(To songbird) Eh Sylvie, I should just get a crew of birds. they mock me less. Plus they're better at singing...

ARATA

Excuse me? You were signing up for crewmates?

CAPTAIN JAXON sits up.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Whaddya want boy? Come here to mock Captain Jaxon and his fool's errand of a quest?!

ARATA

No, no! I just was wondering ... can I help you find it?

CAPTAIN JAXON

...Pardon?

ARATA

I read about this. You're one of those great explorers, right?

CAPTAIN JAXON briefly looks left and right with just his eyes.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Uh...sure?

ARATA

Yes! So, you'll really find it? The Life Spring?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Sure as the tide, boy.

ARATA

Okay! I want to join your crew!

CAPTAIN JAXON

That's it! Welcome aboard! What's your name, lad?

ARATA

Arata Tanaka, captain.

CAPTAIN JAXON and ARATA shake hands.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Alright, uh, Arata. Captain John Jonah Jaxon. How would you like to be my first mate?

ARATA

(ecstatically)

First mate? Really ?!

Of course! You're the first member of my crew after all! You'll get to keep the ship running plus a uh...5 percent addition to your share.

CAPTAIN JAXON quickly shifts his eyes at Sylvie and then back at ARATA.

ARATA

5 percent?....WOW!

CAPTAIN JAXON

I know right! Deal of a lifetime! Welcome to Captain Jaxon's hearty crew!

ARATA

Yes!....So now what?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Hmm...just wait for more recruits. Once we get a real crew brewing people will be in lines to join us!

CUT TO:

4 AIDAN MEETS THE CAPTAIN

INT. MARAUDER'S BAY TAVERN - TABLE

An hour passes. CAPTAIN JAXON is blankly staring at the ceiling in sheer boredom and ARATA is sitting patiently at the table. Sylvie is fiddling with her wing.

ARATA

Does it ... usually take this long?

CAPTAIN JAXON:

(sighs, then pauses) Arata you can run the stand while I get a drink. Watch my bird.

ARATA

Watch your what?

7

CAPTAIN JAXON gets up from his seat and walks away to the bar. Arata blankly stares at Sylvie, but Sylvie is not fazed due to being a bird.

CUT TO:

INT. MARAUDER'S BAY TAVERN - BAR

CAPTAIN JAXON arrives at the bar, where the bartender is filling up mugs for the patrons and a gruff, ashy man with an open seat next to him. The man is looking down and keeping to himself, while the other intoxicated patrons are snickering at the captain.

CAPTAIN JAXON sits down.

BARTENDER

What'll it be?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Cutlass rum.

BARTENDER

Alright.

The bartender walks down the bar to interact with some barrels to prepare JAXON'S order. The gruff man looks up when CAPTAIN JAXON mentions Cutlass rum. He turns to the captain.

AIDAN

Say ... I didn't know anyone else drank Cutlass.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Constant mockery begets Cutlass.

AIDAN

You're tellin me.

AIDAN turns back around and looks at the bar. CAPTAIN JAXON remains looking forward with a tired expression. After slightly looking back at the captain, AIDAN turns toward him again.

AIDAN

I mean, it's just that I don't know anyone that drinks Cutlass. It's a rough brew so hardly anyone ever wants it.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Well, I like the brew at it's roughest. A drink called "sundew" or "gentle morning" isn't good enough to wash the life outta me.

AIDAN

Wise words.

AIDAN looks away briefly, but he is still turned facing CAPTAIN JAXON. He looks back.

AIDAN

The only man I ever knew who could tolerate Cutlass was my father. Got a lot of wenches, too. You wouldn't happen to ...?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Heh...I, er, got to know a few.

AIDAN

Really?

The BARTENDER walks over and hands CAPTAIN JAXON a filled mug. He walks away. CAPTAIN JAXON turns 180 on his stool with his back leaning against the bar and the filled mug in his right hand.

CAPTAIN JAXON

See the whole thing with women, for me at least, would be rank of the features. All scoundrels say it's the bosoms or what have you. But for me...

CAPTAIN JAXON takes a swing.

CAPTAIN JAXON

The quality of a wench can be defined by the legs.

AIDAN

The legs? Those are the best part mate!

Well said! You've got culture, matey. Captain John Jonah Jaxon at your service.

CAPTAIN JAXON extends his left hand for a handshake. AIDAN shakes it.

AIDAN

Aidan Murphey.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Murphey? That's a Tahnian name. You from there?

AIDAN

Ah, yeah.

AIDAN picks up his drink and takes a swig.

AIDAN

The great Island of Fire. Good memories. Those damn Monts made me and my family leave though...

CAPTAIN JAXON

The Monts. I've had my fair share of encounters with their kind. Bloody savages the lot of them.

AIDAN

Amen to that.

CAPTAIN JAXON

I heard that Monts were birthed from the ocean and mountains having an abominable child that reproduced like a plague.

AIDAN chuckles.

AIDAN

Nah, it was just the mountains. The Monts just crawled from the depths like demons and popped out of the mountains like hell-ridden daisies!

CAPTAIN JAXON and AIDAN laugh. The captain puts his mug down on the bar.

Say, Aidan. You're a good man. I need people like you on my crew. How's about you join? I can promise good pay, and you could be a good boatswain.

AIDAN

A bosun? I mean, I could use a job but...I don't know.

CAPTAIN JAXON looks to his side for a moment.

CAPTAIN JAXON

You know, we are pirates. And being pirates, I'm sure we could raid a Monty ship here or there.

AIDAN immediately stands up.

AIDAN

Count me in.

CAPTAIN JAXON stands up as well.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Welcome to the crew.

DISSOLVE TO:

5 MARAUDER'S BAY - ARATA AND AIDAN MEET

INT. MARAUDER'S BAY TAVERN - TABLE

ARATA is playing with Sylvie at the table in the previous scene. CAPTAIN JAXON and AIDAN walk up to ARATA, who stops playing with the bird and stands upright.

ARATA

Uh, captain! sir!

CAPTAIN JAXON motions his hand.

CAPTAIN JAXON

No need for any o' that Arata. I got us a bosun.

AIDAN extends his hand to greet ARATA.

AIDAN

Pleasure to meet you. Aidan.

ARATA

Uh, Arata.

They shake hands.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Hopefully, we can amass some more recruits now that we got more members.

CUT TO:

6 MARAUDER'S BAY - AIDAN AND ARATA TALK

INT. MARAUDER'S BAY TAVERN - TABLE

CAPTAIN JAXON and Sylvie are now interviewing a small group of patrons while AIDAN and ARATA are sitting at a table behind them.

The camera briefly focuses on CAPTAIN JAXON interacting with a RANDOM PATRON he's interviewing.

CAPTAIN JAXON

And you've sailed before, right lad?

RANDOM PATRON

Yeah, with the Ahg navy. But I got, uh, (annunciating) "dis-missed" for uh, "dis-orderly con-duct"

CAPTAIN JAXON

"Disorderly conduct"? (small pause) You, sir, are going to fit right in.

The camera then shifts behind the captain to focus on AIDAN and ARATA.

AIDAN

So, (takes swig) the Mezuo Isles? Long way huh?

ARATA

Yeah. I wanted to see the world. I joined Captain Jaxon so I could go on an adventure myself instead of reading about one.

AIDAN

Adventure? Well spirit is an important thing to have, no doubt there. (places down mug) I got roped in because I was promised we could bust some Mont skulls.

ARATA

Mont? What does Mont mean?

AIDAN

(darts head) You're kidding.

ARATA looks down embarrassed.

ARATA

I didn't leave the house much.

AIDAN

Oh. I see. The only thing you should know about Monts is that they are the most vile, conniving, soulless living beings you will ever find on Aquanor. They are nothing but bad news, and meeting one would be (sternly) the worst thing to ever happen to you.

ARATA nods with a shocked expression. AIDAN continues to drink.

DISSOLVE TO:

7 NEW BLOOD'S TALK AND WILLIAM'S INTRODUCTION

EXT. MONTIBIAN SHIP MAIN DECK - AFTERNOON

The camera gives an overlook of a glimmering ship sailing in open sea. The sails have a luster that slightly reflects the sun, and the hulls are a dark golden paint coat. The flag flies an etching of a mountain range with the words "MONS IMPERIUM" over the top and a royal seal across the bottom. The camera cuts to the main deck of the ship, where it is crowded with navy workers, but the focus is a young boy drinking from a flask sitting down by himself. A trio of NAVYMEN approach him, ominously towering over him. The boy looks up.

NAVYMAN 1

New blood. It's time we talked.

NEW BLOOD

(frightened) Um..uh..

The group of NAVYMEN begin to laugh.

NAVYMAN 1

Oh sorry! I couldn't resist mate! Mind if we sit down?

NEW BLOOD

Uh..yeah.

The three NAVYMEN all sit down around NEW BLOOD. They are now far more relaxed, and on the same eye level as the boy is.

NAVYMAN 2

So, new blood. You were the one we picked up a few days ago. Came in from the colonies, right?

NEW BLOOD

Yeah, but I'm originally from the hills.

The NAVYMEN all look around at each other saying "ooh"

NAVYMAN 3

Ah, farmer. Can probably imagine why you moved.

NEW BLOOD

Yeah. (takes drink from flask) My father didn't make much from the harvest, so we moved to Ahgila to get some better soil.

NAVYMAN 1

Hm. Farm life mustv'e been tough with the land crisis and all that. Can't imagine.

NEW BLOOD then sits up.

NEW BLOOD

Oh, but he's doing well now. I could finally join the navy after he started making mint again.

NAVYMAN 3

Yeah, must be a good bloke. My father inspired me a lot too, may he rest.

NAVYMAN 2 turns around and smirks. He then turns back to NEW BLOOD and taps him on the arm.

NAVYMAN 2

Heh, new blood, check him out.

NEW BLOOD leans forward to see WILLIAM tying a rope close by. His uniform gives the idea that he is in lower rank than the NAVYMEN.

NEW BLOOD

The cabin boy?

NAVYMAN 1

Oh this is good! Get this: that one wants to be in the Mountain Guard!

NEW BLOOD

(Snickers) Really? But he's so..

NAVYMAN 3

Yeah! Bet his mother is taller than he is!

WILLIAM throws down the rope he is interacting with as the NAVYMEN are chuckling to themselves. He turns around to face the group.

WILLIAM

Talking behind a man's back is cowardly.

15

NAVYMAN 2

Aw yeah William? (stands up) You fixing to join the Guard when your shorter than a gimpy dwarf?

The NAVMEN behind NAVYMAN 2 laugh. NAVYMAN 2 is much taller than WILLIAM is.

WILLIAM

I can join the Guard! How about I show you my qualifications? (puts fists up in fighting stance)

NAVYMAN 2

(cracks knuckles) Oh, this'll be good.

NAVYMAN 3

(shouts) Get 'em mate!

NAVYMAN 2 throws a wild swing forward, but his height makes him overshoot. WILLIAM lands two jabs on NAVYMAN 2's stomach. The jabs push him back. More of the crew aboard the ship notice the fight and start to gather around. NAVYMAN 2 proceeds to slug WILLIAM in the face, knocking him to the ground. He proceeds to kick him a few times.

A man with an official looking uniform walks through the crowd to where the fight is ensuing.

MONT CAPTAIN

ENOUGH! What's all this?!

NAVYMAN 2 backs from WILLIAM and stands in an upright stance. WILLIAM gets up and does the same.

NAVYMAN 2

Sir, William's harassing the new recruit! I had to do something!

WILLIAM

Lies! I was-

MONT CAPTAIN

Mocking the new recruit, are we? (walks up to WILLIAM) Not the kind of character the Guard's looking for, William!

WILLIAM

Ι-

MONT CAPTAIN

Shut it! You'll be happy to know I'll let you build back some of that character when you swab the entire deck tonight!

All of the crew personnel look around at each other, with NEW BLOOD and the other NAVYMEN snickering.

WILLIAM

Tonight? How will I see?

MONT CAPTAIN

You've got the moon, don't you? Plenty of light! Now get back to your stations the lot of you!

ALL THE NAVYMEN

Aye, sir!

WILLIAM

Aye, sir...

The crowd disbands and resumes to their stations. NEW BLOOD and the NAVYMEN all return to work. WILLIAM walks away from that area

DISSOLVE TO:

8 THE CREW SPLITS

EXT. MARAUDER'S BAY TAVERN - MIDAFTERNOON (3PM)

CAPTAIN JAXON, ARATA, AIDAN, and various CREW MEMBERS are all gathered outside of the bar the previous scenes took place in. It is midafternoon, and the marketplace outside of the bar is relatively crowded.

CAPTAIN JAXON is walking back and forward, examining the assembled crew.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Alright we seemed to have acquired a good enough crew...(mutters) first mate, bosun, carpenter, quartermaster...

CAPTAIN JAXON goes silent, and stares forward as if he had a realization.

ARATA

Captain?

CAPTAIN JAXON

We seem to be without a quartermaster ...

AIDAN

Not to fret Cap'n, sure there's some cretin in here that'll fit the bill

CAPTAIN JAXON pauses and has his hand over his mouth in a thinking pose.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Nay, we need someone good with numbers for this...doubt it'd be any of these drunks. Hmm...

AIDAN

Shall we split and search?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Alright. Crew, meet at Sully's Ship Harbor in a good hour from now, I shall see if we can't get ourselves a quartermaster for our crew. If any of ye know anyone good with math, please do share.

The CREW all look at each other and say nothing. The camera cuts to CAPTAIN JAXON's face, which portrays annoyance.

CAPTAIN JAXON:

...see you in an hour.

CREW MEMBERS

Aye sir.

CUT TO:

9 BENJAMIN MEETS THE CAPTAIN ...?

MARAUDER'S BAY MARKETPLACE - MIDAFTERNOON

CAPTAIN JAXON is looking around the marketplace. He's indistinctly chatting with a storekeeper. He then turns his head to see BENJAMIN and SALESMAN in the foreground debating. He walks over and listens in.

The SALESMAN is holding a filled bottle.

SALESMAN

5? You can't be serious lad. This is Kinokan sake, and your price of 5 hardly comes close.

BENJAMIN leans on the store stand with his left elbow.

BENJAMIN

My good man, the exports of sake from Kinoko are 3 for every bottle. Is it truly blasphemous to suggest I bring down the price then?

SALESMAN

What's in your 'ead boy? I payed good coin to get this and you're buyin at bloody 5? How is that profit?

BENJAMIN drops his head down in annoyance and defeat. He sighs, and tilts his head back up.

BENJAMIN

What say 7 then?

The SALESMAN pauses.

SALESMAN

Done.

BENJAMIN begrudgingly drops coins on the stand, and the SALESMAN hands BENJAMIN the bottle. BENJAMIN turns to his right to leave, but sees that CAPTAIN JAXON is blocking his way. He looks down at BENJAMIN's bottle and looks back up.

CAPTAIN JAXON

So, sake huh? Didn't know yer tastes were so ... proper.

BENJAMIN

Come again?

BENJAMIN attempts to walk around the captain to walk away, but CAPTAIN JAXON just proceeds to turn and follow. They continue the conversation walking down the street.

CAPTAIN JAXON

I'll be brief. You seem to be short on coin, and yer good with crunching numbers, what say you take a job where you can count some easy pay, aye?

BENJAMIN

I do not realize it permissible at this present juncture.

CAPTAIN JAXON stops very briefly while BENJAMIN keeps walking to comprehend what the heck BENJAMIN just said.

CAPTAIN JAXON

...What?

BENJAMIN then stops and turns around to face the captain.

BENJAMIN

Oh, sorry sailor. Forgot your vocabulary was limited. No.

BENJAMIN turns around and begins to walk away, assuming the conversation is over. CAPTAIN JAXON follows him. He resumes the chat while BENJAMIN is looking forward.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Look, son. I haven't even described the job yet. You're obviously in need of coin due to that little spout and I'm offerin' pay. So what's the problem?

BENJAMIN

Apologies, sir, but I don't throw in my lot with your kind.

CAPTAIN JAXON stops walking.

CAPTAIN JAXON

(raises voice) My kind?

BENJAMIN, with an irritated look, stops and turns to face the captain.

BENJAMIN

I'm not a sailor, or buccaneer, or "scallywag" or whatever hogwash you're trying to shanghai me into. Might I ask what your destinations are?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Oh, all sorts of ports! We'll sail the entirety of the Infinite Sea!

BENJAMIN

Hmm...alright. Any scientific interests that I could be appealed to?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Um...well...we are planning on discovering uncharted territories in the...southern...portions.

BENJAMIN

Territories? In the south? What, may I ask, are you expecting to find down there?

CAPTAIN JAXON

... The Life Spring?

BENJAMIN exclaims in a brief, awkward laughing fit.

BENJAMIN

Ha! The Life Spring! I knew you were off of it! You are after some sort of fairy tale!

CAPTAIN JAXON

It is not a fairy tale! Does it matter anyway I'll offer pay for it and you'll get to see all of your pretty ports and sciences and what have you!

BENJAMIN

Too late, "matey." I'm not about to join you on some fool's errand to chase a myth. The answer is still no.

CAPTAIN JAXON throws up his arms in frustration. He storms past BENJAMIN and proceeds to march off.

Fine then!

BENJAMIN then proceeds to walk away in a different direction but pauses to look in the direction where CAPTAIN JAXON walked off. He has an intrigued look on his face.

CUT TO:

10 THE CREW ASSEMBLES AT THE HARBOR

EXT. SULLY'S SHIP HARBOR - EARLY EVENING (4PM)

CAPTAIN JAXON walks up to a large building on the harbor area, with several docks protruding from the building out into the water with large ships docked to them. In front of the building, ARATA, AIDAN, and the other CREWMATES the captain recruited are all waiting.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Any luck sailors?

The CREWMATES all look around at each other, but after a brief silence AIDAN looks to the captain and shrugs.

CAPTAIN JAXON

(Sigh) Guess I'll be taking duties of quartermaster then.

ARATA

Pardon, captain, but why are we gathered here?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Ah yes! (walks to front doors) Sully's Ship Harbor. This here is where we'll be getting our vessel!

AIDAN

(raises eyebrow) I was under the impression you already had one.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Eh…semantics. Ol' Sully already owes me one from the galley I stole from the Monts.

The CREWMATES all exclaim in awe at that statement.

22

RANDOM CREW MEMBER

Woah! You stole an entire Monty ship?!

AIDAN

(grins) Nevermind. You've still got my approval.

CAPTAIN JAXON, with an arrogant look on his face, slowly paces in front of the doorway with a proud stance.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Oh yeah, it was nothing. The Monty crew were tough, but fighting them off with one cutlass, a pistol with but one shot, and a pinch of gunpowder I managed to fight off the crew, and looking to make the easiest loot in me life I decided to procure the vessel from the fighting men of the Montibian Navy. Hardly a challenge.

ARATA

Amazing!

CAPTAIN JAXON

Wait out here men. I'll speak with Sully and return with our new ship.

CAPTAIN JAXON goes inside the building, with the rest of the crew looking at each other and talking to themselves.

CUT TO:

11 CAPTAIN JAXON MEETS UP WITH SULLY

INT. SULLY'S SHIP HARBOR - OFFICE

CAPTAIN JAXON enters a rustic room, with a worn looking man writing on a parchment with ink and pen. CAPTAIN JAXON walks toward him, thinking he's not aware that he entered, but the man begins to speak without looking up.

SULLY

Jaxon. How long has it been?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Oh, a bit. How's business Sullivan?

SULLY

(pauses, then looks up) What are y'here for, mate?

CAPTAIN JAXON

The owed ship.

SULLY

For that one Mont ship you stole while the crew were drinking in town?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Calumny. There were 2, perhaps 3, cabin boys aboard at the time. Matters not, I still got you the ship and now I need be compensated for it.

SULLY

Right you are. I assume you want a ship matching in size? Don't you need a crew to manage that?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Yeah. (looks at entrance) I've got one.

SULLY peers over desk to look out the window, where he can see a couple of the CREWMAN. CAPTAIN JAXON looks where SULLY is staring, then looks back at SULLY.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Crew's nothin' if you haven't got sails to put them on.

SULLY

Yes...what galley will you be procuring then?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Take me out to the harbor. I want to see 'em.

SULLY

Of course.

SULLY gets out of his chair, and pulls open an unseen large door that leads to the harbor. CAPTAIN JAXON and SULLY proceed outside.

12 CAPTAIN JAXON OBTAINS HIS SHIP

EXT. SULLY'S SHIP HARBOR DOCKS - EARLY EVENING

SULLY and CAPTAIN JAXON walk along the harbor with several ships docked. SULLY is presenting each one they pass by while the captain observes them.

SULLY

You've got the Baleful Gull over here, not my first pick, some Mont galleys here, repurposed of course, and some old Ahgilan ships.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Mont ships may have power but they no nothing of speed. In the business of piracy, I've found that getting away is usually better than fighting.

SULLY

Shall you examine the Ahgilan models then?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Hmm...

He eyes the group of ships at the end of the harbor, but a particularly white one catches his eye. It is at the very end on the left.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Hmm...what about that one?

SULLY

Oh. Good eye. That Ahgilan beauty was fashioned for half a lifetime I hear. Lot of sail but good distribution of gun and barrel. Beautiful white coat. Complete with some nice decoratives.

CAPTAIN JAXON

What's her name?

SULLY

The Boorish Eagle.

The Boorish Eagle? A ship like this with a name like that?

SULLY

Oi I won it in a bet I didn't birth the damn thing.

CAPTAIN JAXON and SULLY walk up to the Boorish Eagle and walk on board. CAPTAIN JAXON goes directly to the helm and grasps it.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Blimey.

SULLY

Have you come to a decision?

CAPTAIN JAXON

I'll take it, but I'm not keeping the name.

SULLY

Fair enough.

CUT TO:

13 THE CREW SEE THE SHIP AND BENJAMIN'S APOLOGY

EXT. SULLY'S SHIP HARBOR DOCKS - EARLY EVENING

Cut to CAPTAIN JAXON leading the CREWMATES to the Boorish Eagle. They all gaze in awe.

ARATA

That's our ship?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Aye. I call her the Ivory Raptor.

AIDAN

Is it cause of the bird aesthetic?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Perhaps.

ARATA

It's amazing!

To CAPTAIN JAXON's surprise, someone approaches from the main area of the harbor. It is BENJAMIN from the marketplace.

CAPTAIN JAXON

What are you doing here?

BENJAMIN

Sir? I...wanted to apologize for earlier.

CAPTAIN JAXON has his arms folded and says nothing.

BENJAMIN

Truth is, I have been shortening on coin as of late. I would like a job that lets me see Aquanor, and well, I didn't realize how close your offer was to that. Even if the endgame is a tad far-fetched. The offer still stands?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Hmm...

CAPTAIN JAXON turns around to deliberate to himself, while the crew look at BENJAMIN and wonder what happened between them. After a moment, CAPTAIN JAXON turns around to look at BENJAMIN.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Right then. You can take quartermaster. But let's get something straight lad your little rebuttals aren't something I'm prepared to deal with on my vessel. I'm the captain, and as such you will do what I say when I say, is that clear?

BENJAMIN

Aye, sir.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Good.

CAPTAIN JAXON extends out his hand.

27

Captain John Jonah Jaxon. What say to a fresh start aboard the Ivory Raptor?

BENJAMIN, seemingly distrusting of making contact with CAPTAIN JAXON's grimy hands, bows as to not engage in a handshake.

BENJAMIN

Benjamin Tahoma, at your service.

CAPTAIN JAXON shows slight irritation to BENJAMIN's rejection of the handshake, but simply pulls his hand back and turns around.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Alright then, all hands on the Raptor and prepare to make sail! Step lively!

EVERYONE

Aye, Captain!

All the CREWMATES board the Raptor and scatter to do various tasks. Benjamin awkwardly meanders around CAPTAIN JAXON to climb aboard. CAPTAIN JAXON and SULLY talk indistinctly as the scene fades out.

DISSOLVE TO:

14 CAPTAIN JAXON ATTEMPTS TO TEACH

EXT. IVORY RAPTOR MAIN DECK - EVENING (5PM)

The camera shows that the Ivory Raptor has departed the harbor and is sailing around the bay area. It cuts to the main deck.

CAPTAIN JAXON is standing behind the helm. He turns around to look at BENJAMIN and ARATA standing side by side.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Now, who among you know a thing or two about seafarin'?

BENJAMIN and ARATA look at each other, then look at the captain in silence.

...Well, no time like the present. Arata, you are second-incommand. As first mate you will assist with the helm, keep the crew at their work, and lead the lads in sea-shanties to pass the dead days at sea.

ARATA

Um...question: am I supposed to ... know any shanties?

CAPTAIN JAXON

...Aye.

ARATA

Uh...

CAPTAIN JAXON rolls his eyes briefly. He holds his index finger out to his bird for her to climb on, then presents the bird to ARATA.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Look, if ya need the tunes for some of em, Sylvie here loves singing them in repeat, but you're gonna hafta pick up a thing or two if you're gonna be on my crew, boy.

BENJAMIN

(scoffs) You rely on your pet bird to remember shanty tunes?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Zip it, Quartermaster.

ARATA

Okay! I'll learn the songs for the crew, Captain!

ARATA holds Sylvie and walks off to the main deck. CAPTAIN JAXON briefly turns to shout at ARATA as he walks away.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Shanties! They're called shanties! Learn the nautical terms for things while you're at it too, boy!

He turns around to face BENJAMIN.

29

Quartermaster, you'll be sharing leadership duties with me. Your duties will be more of keeping stock, makin' sure we've got enough coin and drink, and so on. And...so forth.

BENJAMIN

You don't sound to sure of yourself, Captain. Are you sure there's any stock, coin, or drink for me to keep in the first place?

CAPTAIN JAXON

I'll have you know we just started our adventures and we'll be fillin' the hulls with swag and rations soon enough.

BENJAMIN

Uh-huh. And how do you propose to pay and feed the crew in the coming days, hmm?

CAPTAIN JAXON

...I'm working it out.

BENJAMIN

Is that so? Captain, I'm the kind of man who believes the plan for failure is having no plan at all. If you thought sailing willy-nilly into open sea right as you got your men was a good idea then perhaps some lessons in leadership is needed.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Stow it, Ben! I've been at the sail longer than you've known how to read, boy. I would appreciate the assistance from you, quartermaster, rather than the lip!

CAPTAIN JAXON moves closer to intimidate BENJAMIN. BENJAMIN is unfazed.

BENJAMIN

It's Benjamin, not Ben, Captain.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Off with you!

BENJAMIN walks away to the main deck. CAPTAIN JAXON sighs, and returns to the helm.

DISSOLVE TO:

Some time passes, and CAPTAIN JAXON is still at the helm, with a defeated expression on his face. AIDAN walks up to the captain.

AIDAN

Captain, where are we to weigh anchor?

CAPTAIN JAXON eyes shift from AIDAN to look at BENJAMIN on the lower deck, who is talking with ARATA. He lets out a sigh, then looks back at AIDAN.

CAPTAIN JAXON

It's better to make port back at Marauder's Bay. We'll need to stock up on rations for the coming days.

AIDAN

Aye, sir.

AIDAN walks down to the lower deck with CAPTAIN JAXON resuming the helm. ARATA finishes his indistinct conversation with BENJAMIN and looks up at the helm. He hands BENJAMIN Sylvie and goes up to the captain.

ARATA

Cap'n, something the matter?

CAPTAIN JAXON breathes in and bounces back to a jovial tone.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Trifles my boy. How's your shanty progress coming along?

ARATA

Well, Aidan taught me "The Lavish Tahnian" and Sylvie tweeted a tune that went (random musical line), so about that well.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Well, it's progress ...

ARATA

Cap'n?

CAPTAIN JAXON

To be frank, I have sailed for many years, I know what I'm doing in that regard, but leadership hasn't been...a strong suit of mine. I knew how to understand and relay orders, but giving them is new to me.

ARATA

I think you're a great captain, if it means anything!

CAPTAIN JAXON looks to the side, with a remorseful expression.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Wish my old crew told me something like that ...

DISSOLVE TO:

15 THE MONTS DOCK NEAR MARAUDER'S BAY

INT. MONTIBIAN SHIP - CAPTAIN'S CABIN

The scene fades to the Monty ship, where it cuts to NAVMAN 1 entering the MONT CAPTAIN's cabin. He opens the door, walks forward, and stands to attention as if he is expected. The MONT CAPTAIN is writing something on a visibly messy desk.

NAVYMAN 1

Cap'n?

MONT CAPTAIN

Tell the crew we're weighing anchor near Marauder's Bay. We'll lay the ship in irons and resume sail tomorrow morning.

The NAVYMAN pauses to comprehend what the MONT CAPTAIN said.

NAVYMAN 1

Sir, a pirate port?

MONT CAPTAIN

We haven't much choice lad! We're in spitting distance of enemy territory and Marauder's is the only safe water in this area. Dismiss!

The NAVYMAN averts his gaze as he is scolded. He immediately regrets pressing the orders.

NAVYMAN 1

Aye captain.

INT. MONTIBIAN SHIP - BELOW DECK

The camera then follows NAVYMAN 1 as he leaves the cabin and makes his way below deck to an area of hammocks where the other NAVYMEN, including the NEW BLOOD, are having a conversation. NAVYMAN 1 walks up to them and sits down.

NAVYMAN 2

Well?

NAVYMAN 1

Cap'n says we're anchorin near Marauder's Bay.

NAVYMAN 3

Marauder's?! Is he daft?!

NAVYMAN 1

Look, I didn't press the matter but it's better than docking in Ahgilan territory! I'm not ready to be blasted to hell by the Ahgs!

NEW GUY

Um...Marauder's Bay? Is that not good?

NAVYMAN 2 lounges back in his hammock.

NAVYMAN 2

It's just a pirate port. Bunch of scallywags and the like. Not keen on docking near there for the night though.

While the NAVYMEN are conversating, WILLIAM passes by them with a mop. NAVYMAN 3 leans back and notices WILLIAM.

NAVYMAN 3

(Chuckles) Oi Will! Be sure to swab the really tall spots on the mast too!

The NAVYMEN and NEW BLOOD all laugh hysterically. WILLIAM doesn't even turn to face him while he says that, for he merely responds by scoffing and continuing to walk by.

NEW GUY

I still don't believe any of you. Him? In the Mountain Guard?

NAVYMAN 1

Hardly a chance of that. Maybe he'll make it in as a stewardess!

The NAVYMEN laugh even more hysterically, so much so that WILLIAM hears them as he walks to the upper deck.

WILLIAM

(To himself) Heathens.

The scene shifts to an overlook of the Monty ship approaching the area in front of Marauder's Bay and cutting to the anchor being dropped.

CUT TO:

16 THE CREW SPOT THE MONTS

EXT. IVORY RAPTOR MAIN DECK - TWILIGHT (6PM)

The Ivory Raptor is approaching a crowded harbor at Marauder's Bay. CAPTAIN JAXON is overseeing the crew from the upper deck, while AIDAN is leaning over the railing not too far from the captain staring at the harbor before the ship.

CAPTAIN JAXON

All hands, prepare to dock.

AIDAN

That's strange.

What? What is?

CAPTAIN JAXON walks over to AIDAN.

AIDAN

All the dockgoers are looking at something, across the bay.

CAPTAIN JAXON sees the people on the dock staring across the bay, and once the rest of the Raptor crew notices they turn around to see what they're staring at. Once everyone turns around, they see a glistening ship sticking out like a sore thumb from the shaded evening sky at the entrance of the bay area. The sun setting behind them is reflected on the surface of the distant ship's sails.

BENJAMIN

That's quite the shiny ship on the horizon. Hurting my eyes just looking at it.

CAPTAIN JAXON squints at the distant, shiny ship, and stares as if he has seen it before.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Wait a minute...

CAPTAIN JAXON pulls a telescope from his coat, and stares through it. In the telescope's first person view it shows the details of the golden sails and grey hull, including the brutish sailors manning the ship. The view ships up to the crow's nest, where the flag with the words "MONS IMPERIUM" is spotted. CAPTAIN JAXON raises his gaze and closes the telescope.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Monts!

The Raptor crew, with the exception of ARATA, all collectively react to CAPTAIN JAXON's discovery. ARATA just looks around at his fellow crew with a confused expression.

BENJAMIN

Impossible. We're square in the center of the Ahgilan island chain, there's no way the Montibians would be this far in.

AIDAN slams his fist on the railing.

AIDAN

Bloody Monts! They have the balls to be here, this far in friendly waters! Scoundrels!

ARATA runs toward the captain and looks at him from the lower deck, seeking to understand what is going on.

ARATA

Captain, is that a problem?

CAPTAIN JAXON doesn't make eye contact with ARATA as he still stares aggressively at the Monty ship.

CAPTAIN JAXON

No. As a matter of fact ... this is perfect.

He runs down to the lower deck and signals his crew to gather round.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Look alive men! An opportunity has presented itself! As pirates we need to start off our career with plundering and I just so happen to know where to begin. We are going to plunder that Monty ship across the bay!

The crew is startled by CAPTAIN JAXON's statement.

ARATA

Huh?

BENJAMIN

What???

AIDAN

Yeah! That's where it is!

CAPTAIN JAXON

Get the lifeboats ready, we'll make our way across the bay area at midnight.

BENJAMIN walks forward to the captain.

Are you daft?! You've had this crew for not even a day and already you want to raid a Montibian galleon?! Do you have any idea how well-armed they are?!

CAPTAIN JAXON

Aye, I do, Ben-ja-min! That's why were hitting them at night, so we don't have to get an idea of how (mockingly) "well-armed they are!"

BENJAMIN

This is suicidal! We're going to be obliterated!

CAPTAIN JAXON

Not! If! We're undetected!

ARATA runs forward to get the captain's attention, as to diffuse the arguing of CAPTAIN JAXON and BENJAMIN.

ARATA

What's our plan captain?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Okay, here's what we'll do ...

The scene fades as CAPTAIN JAXON's plan is left unknown.

DISSOLVE TO:

17 THE CREW BEGIN THEIR PLUNDERING

EXT. LIFEBOAT - NIGHT

It is now pitch black, around the late hour of midnight. A full moon is slightly illuminating the bay, with the main deck of the Monty ship being lit by a single lantern held by WILLIAM. WILLIAM is scrubbing the main deck with a mop.

On the pitch black water, CAPTAIN JAXON, ARATA, AIDAN, BENJAMIN, and a few other CREWMATES are rowing a lifeboat to the broadside of the Monty ship. CAPTAIN JAXON is standing proudly at the bow of the lifeboat, while the rest are rowing behind him.

Any plan on if any Montibians see us?

CAPTAIN JAXON

They should all be asleep by now. No reason to fret. Mont or not, sailors can't do much at night.

The lifeboat makes contact with the hull, and the crew prepares themselves to board. They are silent. CAPTAIN JAXON taps on AIDAN's shoulder for him to start climbing to the main deck.

CAPTAIN JAXON

(Whispering) Okay, go.

AIDAN stands from the lifeboat and begins to climb onto the main deck. ARATA follows him once he is halfway up the ladder on the side of the ship. The camera cuts to a view from the main deck towards AIDAN poking his head up. His eyes widen, and he turns to face the crew below.

AIDAN

(Whispering) Wait, wait! Go back! Go back!

AIDAN starts to climb down, and ARATA impulsively scurries back down to the boat. CAPTAIN JAXON is darting his head with a confused look as AIDAN descends. They still whisper.

CAPTAIN JAXON

What is it?

AIDAN

Mont, on the main deck.

CAPTAIN JAXON

What?

CAPTAIN JAXON then climbs the ladder, and peers his head to see the main deck, where the camera shows a lantern-lit deck with WILLIAM mopping. BENJAMIN looks up at the captain.

All of them asleep huh?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Slight error!

CAPTAIN JAXON climbs down to the bottom, and turns to face the crew on the lifeboat.

CAPTAIN JAXON

A minor hiccup, we can still maintain our cover if we…take him out. Aidan?

AIDAN

With pleasure.

AIDAN proceeds to climb back up, while the rest of the crew await below.

BENJAMIN

This is madness! What if they catch him?

CAPTAIN JAXON

Quit your grousing! Aidan will take care of it!

CUT TO:

EXT. MONTIBIAN SHIP MAIN DECK - NIGHT

The camera cuts back to the main deck view, where this time, AIDAN fully climbs aboard. He carefully moves toward the center mast where WILLIAM is. WILLIAM perks his head from his monotenous swabbing, which alerts AIDAN. He turns around and waves forward the lantern.

WILLIAM

Who goes there?

The lantern illuminates the area of the deck where AIDAN would be, but upon it being shown he is nowhere to be found. He scans the area and goes back to lowering his guard.

WILLIAM

Hmm...

He turns around, only to find AIDAN standing right behind him. AIDAN proceeds to grab his head and slam it against the mast, knocking WILLIAM out cold. An audible thud is heard as this happens. AIDAN quickly catches the lantern before it can drop to the ground.

CUT TO:

The crew all look up to the deck once they hear it.

BENJAMIN

What was that?

BENJAMIN stands up, as CAPTAIN JAXON begins to climb. He follows next, and soon the rest of the crew make their way on deck. Cuts to the crew climbing onto the main deck and going to the center mast where WILLIAM lies unconscious and AIDAN standing there with the lantern.

BENJAMIN

Blazes! What did you do?!

AIDAN

What? It's just a Mont.

CAPTAIN JAXON

He might just be passed out. Curses.

CAPTAIN JAXON looks at AIDAN.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Restrain him to the mast while we plunder the hull.

AIDAN

Aye aye, captain.

CAPTAIN JAXON leads the rest of the crew downstairs, while AIDAN muzzles WILLIAM's unconscious body with a rag and ties his hands to the mast. AIDAN turns around and sees a bell on the end of the main deck. He turns back around and follows the crew below deck.

18 THE STEALTH MISSION BECOMES A BATTLE

INT. MONTIBIAN SHIP - LOWER DECK STORAGE

The camera cuts to the crew passing barrels from the storage, while the Mont crew are all sound asleep further down. ARATA and CAPTAIN JAXON are handing the stored barrels to BENJAMIN and various CREWMEN, who then hand it to AIDAN to load onto the lifeboat.

CUT TO:

EXT. MONTIBIAN SHIP MAIN DECK - NIGHT

The camera pans to WILLIAM while AIDAN is making his rounds. He slowly wakes up, and immediately realizes what's going on. Realizing his muzzle, he looks to the bell nearby, so he reaches for a concealed knife in his boot to cut the rope his hands are tied with. The camera shows WILLIAM sawing the rope that is keeping his arms bound to the mast.

The camera cuts to the crew assembling back on deck. CAPTAIN JAXON looks around.

CAPTAIN JAXON

(Whispering) That's about all we can fit on the longboats. Let's abandon shi-wait. Where's the...?

He is immediately interrupted by the loud sound of a rapidly tolling bell, where then the camera cuts to WILLIAM distressingly ringing it. With his free hand, he pulls the muzzle from his mouth.

WILLIAM

(Shouting) All hands! Pirates! On the main deck!

BENJAMIN

Bollocks.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Oh to hell with it!

CAPTAIN JAXON unsheathes his sword and runs toward WILLIAM. WILLIAM proceeds to run to the forward deck and pull a

sword out of an open barrel. Sounds can be heard from below deck, and when the rest of the crew turns around, they see the NAVYMEN and the MONT CAPTAIN emerge.

NAVYMAN 2

What the-?

MONT CAPTAIN

Pirates! Attack!

A fight ensues, with the crew fighting off the navymen and the MONT CAPTAIN and CAPTAIN JAXON sparring with WILLIAM near the bow of the ship.

The camera shifts around every individual crew member. AIDAN is sparring with the MONT CAPTAIN and a large MONT NAVYMAN, while AIDAN is left to swing desperately at incoming Monts with BENJAMIN avoiding the conflict altogether.

CUT TO:

AIDAN is expertly fending the Monts off. After a few clashes, he knocks the MONT CAPTAIN off his feet and steals his cutlass. He then goes on to fight multiple Monts at once while dual wielding his and the MONT CAPTAIN's swords. He is visibly enjoying the battle.

CUT TO:

BENJAMIN is running around the deck, while some lesser Mont grunts pursue him. He resorts to throwing whatever is lying around him at the Monts, who struggle against the projectiles. It even results in BENJAMIN pushing them back.

CUT TO:

ARATA is wildly swinging his sword at the Monts in desperation. There is no form or technique, it is pure flailing. It seems to be working, as the groggy NAVYMEN cannot handle the rapid swings of the sword and resort to defending or retreating.

CUT TO:

With the camera establishing what the crew are currently doing, CAPTAIN JAXON is then given the attention as his

42

fight with WILLIAM has actual form and choreographed attacks. WILLIAM is, however, fencing with every but of might while the captain is gallantly fending him off one handedly. The captain even jumps on the railing while dueling WILLIAM just to show off. Every attack WILLIAM makes against the captain is thwarted. It proceeds to a sword lock.

WILLIAM

Heathen! You cannot beat the Montibian Empire!

CAPTAIN JAXON

I can with pitiful technique like that!

CAPTAIN JAXON proceeds to kick WILLIAM in the abdomen as his arms are occupied holding up the sword lock. He then runs, as WILLIAM is left stunned by the captain's attack.

CUT TO:

The camera cuts to AIDAN maniacally laughing as he's beating Monts left and right.

AIDAN

Ahahah! Is that all you got Monty trash?!

ARATA cuts down the last Monty goon defending against him.

ARATA

Captain! There's too many!

CAPTAIN JAXON

To the longboats! All hands back to the Raptor now!

NEW BLOOD is shown to be hiding under the steps to the helm. He is squatting with his hands over his head.

NEW BLOOD

What is happening?!

The crew fend off the monts as they jump overboard and row away on the lifeboat, with the loot inside. The camera cuts to the remaining Monty crew, who tiredly look around confused.

NAVYMAN 1

Captain?

MONT CAPTAIN

They're escaping!

WILLIAM finally gets himself together after his hit. He runs to the main deck.

WILLIAM

Oh for crying out loud, everyone on the long lines!

NAVYMAN 3

The hell you giving us orders for, shrimp?

MONT CAPTAIN

All hands on the long lines, fire on my mark!

NAVYMAN 3

Yes sir!

WILLIAM groans.

CUT TO:

19 THE DESPERATE ESCAPE AND RETALIATION

EXT. LIFEBOAT - NIGHT

The crew aboard the lifeboat are furiously rowing away towards the Ivory Raptor, which is anchored nearby. With a slight distance between them and the Monty ship, they see the ship slightly turn and hear the sound of cannon fire.

ARATA

Captain! They're firing at us!

CAPTAIN JAXON

Not good! NOT GOOD!

Explosive splashes of water erupt around the lifeboat as the Monts shoot at them. Their aim is poor, as it is the dead night and the NAVYMEN are barely awake and caught flatfooted by the pirates.

We're going to be blown to oblivion!

CAPTAIN JAXON

Row faster! We just need to make it back to the Raptor!

The crew row with all manner of desperation as the monts cease fire and turn the ship to start chasing them. Being a large boat, the Monty ship is faster, and starts to catch up.

AIDAN

She's on our stern!

CUT TO:

EXT. IVORY RAPTOR MAIN DECK - NIGHT

As the Monty ship closes in, the lifeboat reaches the Ivory Raptor, and the crew climbs aboard with haste. The camera cuts to the Raptor's main deck, where the crew on the lifeboats scatter to stations and CAPTAIN JAXON is left to catch his breath. A random CREWMATE stationed on the Raptor runs up to him.

CREWMATE

Captain, do we ha-

CAPTAIN JAXON

Not now! Everyone on starboard guns, fire on my mark!

CUT TO:

EXT. MONTIBIAN SHIP MAIN DECK - NIGHT

The camera cuts back to the deck of the Monty ship, where the Monty NAVYMEN are looking forward, and the MONT CAPTAIN is at the helm.

MONT CAPTAIN

Run up the sheets!

The entire crew is looking rapidly at the darkness ahead of the ship. They appear to have lost track of the lifeboat.

MONT CAPTAIN

Where did they go?

WILLIAM looks to the silouettes of the masts among the bay against the night sky, and can make out the slight movement of one in particular. His face expresses shocking realization.

WILLIAM

Oh no.

CUT TO:

The camera immediately cuts to CAPTAIN JAXON motioning his arm while next to various CREWMEN manning the cannons on the upper deck.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Fire!

CUT TO:

The CREWMEN fire at the Monty ship, and plaster the Monts' main deck. WILLIAM jumps into the bay to avoid the massacre. The Monty ship is blown bit from bit, and the crew aboard as well as the ship itself are destroyed. The Monty ship is blown and begins to sink into the water.

CUT TO:

WILLIAM emerges from the water and clings to a barrel. He spits out a spray of seawater and is out of breath.

WILLIAM

Bloody Monts.

DISSOLVE TO:

20 REFLECTION AND SAILING ONWARD

EXT. IVORY RAPTOR MAIN DECK - SUNRISE

It is now dawn. A plume of smoke is emerging from the mouth of Marauder's Bay, with the camera panning down to the Ivory Raptor sailing towards the open ocean. The camera cuts to CAPTAIN JAXON walking down to the main deck as the crew is rummaging through the loot. BENJAMIN is not participating, as he is sitting down and staring at the deck.

CAPTAIN JAXON

(Exhales) well, that was exciting.

BENJAMIN darts his head up and stands.

BENJAMIN

Exciting? We almost died!

CAPTAIN JAXON

Welcome to the pirate's life, Benjamin.

AIDAN looks in some of the opened barrels and turns to the captain.

AIDAN

Captain! We got extra rations from the Mont loot! Some coin too!

CAPTAIN JAXON

Well how about that?

The captain walks to the loot, and the crew gather around as he closes the barrels. He turns to face them.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Mates, you've shown grit and wit I haven't seen in a sack of scallywags since years ago!

AIDAN

Felt good to blast some Monty scum to the depths.

ARATA

We did great!

CREWMAN

Aye, captain!

BENJAMIN

We nearly died.

The CAPTAIN paces around the group.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Well I hope you're ready for more escapades of that! More Mont scum to punish! More adventures for the books! More times we nearly die! That's the kind of work ye can expect on the Ivory Raptor!

BENJAMIN

Fantastic.

REST OF THE CREW

Aye aye, captain!

Sylvie the bird flies and perches onto CAPTAIN JAXON's shoulder. CAPTAIN JAXON turns to look to the ocean from across the front of the ship.

CAPTAIN JAXON

Full sail lads! To the horizon!

The crew scatters to their stations, with BENJAMIN doing it with visibly less enthusiasm. The camera pans away from the deck and shows the Ivory Raptor sail towards a rising sun.

FADE OUT:

Credits roll.

[END]