

Lady In The Bay

Fade In:

EXT. GWYNN'S ISLAND - VIRGINIA - DAY

A young boy, HENRY (8), looks out the window of a moving vehicle as it passes a long bridge over the Chesapeake Bay and Piankatank River.

His parents drive past a sign that reads, "Welcome to Gwynn's Island".

HENRY (V.O.) Every summer, my parents would drop me off with my grandparents at their campground on Gwynn's Island in Mathews County, Virginia. It had been in our family since the sixties and my grandfather worked very hard to build it from the ground up.

EXT. GRANDPARENTS HOUSE - GWYNN'S ISLAND - LATER The vehicle pulls up to his grandparent's beautiful home.

HENRY (V.O.) Almost all of our family helped in one way or another, especially my grandmother. She worked every bit as hard as my grandpa.

A young Henry jumps out of his parents' vehicle onto the tiny island surrounded by salt water.

Grabbing a backpack and some other belongings, he waves goodbye to his MOTHER and FATHER before marching his way toward his grandparent's home.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
My grandfather came from extremely modest beginnings. Life for him and many others back then wasn't easy but, in his case, he always made it his prime mission to provide the things for his family that he was rarely afforded in his own youth.

Henry greets his GRANDPA BILLY and GRANDMA at the front door with a round of hugs and kisses, it is evident that they are all close.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
His most passed along lesson was, "If you didn't work, you didn't

(MORE)

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
eat," and that big man liked to
eat a lot.

Grandpa Billy, a very tall and large man, chews on some beef
jerky before offering some to his grandson.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
His ambition and love for his
family helped him not only work
his way out of extreme poverty,
but it also took him to a place
that even he never thought he'd
end up: this tiny place named
Gwynn's Island.

CUT TO:

INT. TRUCK - DAY

Riding with his grandpa in a truck, Henry looks at him with
deep admiration.

HENRY How'd you find
this little island, anyway?

Grandpa Billy smiles at him.

GRANDPA BILLY
With my truck.

Henry laughs.

His grandpa spits a round of chewing tobacco in a spit cup
already full to the brim.

HENRY (V.O.) My grandpa
grew up poor. He said the only
clothes he wore for many years
were made from burlap sacks. He
told us that his standard attire
never changed until he joined the
military. That's where they
finally issued him real clothes,
as he called them. He was
extremely proud of his military
days too.

Henry plays with some of the military pins and patches
proudly displayed on his Grandpa Billy's sun visor. He
watches his grandson closely.

GRANDPA BILLY
Think you'd ever join the
military?

HENRY I don't know.
I've never thought about it.

GRANDPA BILLY
Well...it made me the man I am
today.

EXT. CAR - SCROOCH'S COUNTRY STORE - CONTINUOUS

They pull up towards a little country store on the island
named Scrooch's.

Exiting the truck, Henry follows his grandfather into the
old country store.

HENRY (V.O.) The best
part of my summers spent here
had a lot to do with a man named
Ikey P. Rolfe.

He spots what closely resembles a wooden Indian sculpture,
typically seen outside old tobacco stores.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I never knew how old he was, but
to me, he looked ancient,
really-really Woolly Mammoth
like. Legend has it Ikey was a
descendant of a great Powhatan
Indian Chief.

The wooden sculpture turns out it be a living man, IKEY P.
ROLFE. He leans on the corner of the building with his hat
perched down over his face.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
The first time I met Ikey was
outside a little store named
Scrooch's. It's where my
grandfather always got his
chewing tobacco.

Henry can't take his eyes off of the Native man.

INT. SCROOCH'S COUNTRY STORE - CONTINUOUS

Henry peaks through the store windows at Ikey as they pass
down an aisle of chewing tobacco.

Curious, the young boy wanders off toward the candy aisle to
get a better look at the Indian in the window. His hand hovers

over a large Milky Way bar as he watches Ikey's white hair blowing in the wind. His grandfather whistles for him at the register.

Startled, Henry races back over to his grandpa.

Peeking back over at the window, Ikey has suddenly disappeared. Henry looks around the store, but the Indian is nowhere to be seen. Henry's grandpa hands him a handful of change.

GRANDPA

Go grab that candy bar you wanted,
I'll wait in the truck.

Smiling, Henry grabs the change and sets off for the candy aisle again. INT. TRUCK - LATER

Jumping back up into the truck with his chocolate bar in hand, Henry is flummoxed to see the mysterious Native American man now sitting in his grandpa's truck.

Ikey smiles at him.

IKEY I'm

Ikey. Ikey P. Rolfe.

HENRY

I'm Henry.

IKEY Nice to meet you.

Mind if I catch a ride?

Henry peaks over at his laughing grandfather in the driver's seat.

GRANDPA BILLY Ikey

helps me out around the camp!

HENRY (V.O.) It turns

out, Ikey helped my grandfather
with nearly everything around the
campground. And in a very short
amount of time, Ikey became as
much of a part of our family as
any of the rest of us were.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPER'S HAVEN CAMPGROUND - DAY

Henry watches from a close distance as Grandpa Billy and Ikey work on various projects around the campground.

HENRY (V.O.) My grandpa had to work so hard in his youth that, similar to Ikey, he could do just about anything that ever needed to be done. The main difference between Ikey and my grandfather, though, was that my grandpa always seemed to break it worse than it already was.

Ikey watches in frustration as Grandpa Billy fumbles with the campgrounds plumbing.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Whether it was putting in a pier or clearing a field, my grandfather's multiple attempts at his little projects often drove Ikey nuts.

IKEY Billy, you know that doesn't go there...

Grandpa Billy brushes him off and continues on without a care.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPER'S HAVEN CAMPGROUND - DAY Grandpa Billy swats at swarming pests on his skin.

HENRY (V.O.) In his efforts to hunt down all those ever-biting, pesky mosquitoes, my grandpa put me in charge of a huge bug killing thingamajig.

Ikey helps Henry load some kind of silty jet-black powder in the machines big barrels. An equally black powdery cloud unexpectedly blows back up in their face. The young boy coughs and gags.

After a few attempts, Ikey finally gets the machine working as it should.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
We coughed up greyish phlegmy remnants of that stuff for weeks, but afterward, our mosquito problem was gone.

CUT TO:

EXT. BOAT - PIER - CAMPER'S HAVEN - DAY Henry and his grandpa sit with equipment in a small boat.

Grandpa Billy puts a young Henry in charge of a huge water jet machine, nearly the size of a bazooka.

HENRY (V.O.) I
sometimes questioned if that man
really loved me with some of the
jobs he had me do.

Henry is hooked up to a power cord with raw wire poking out, clearly too close to the water for comfort.

He sticks the end of the large electric machine in the ground and holds on tight as it blasts all of the sand and mud out of the way. Water splashes up in their boat from every direction.

His grandpa gives him a thumbs up.

EXT. GRANDPARENT'S HOUSE - DAY

Henry follows his Grandpa Billy down a line of parked heavy equipment - a dump trunk, a bulldozer, and some tractors.

HENRY (V.O.) My grandpa
owned a lot of heavy machinery
for someone who probably
shouldn't have.

CUT TO:

INT. BULLDOZER - DAY

A young Henry operates a bulldozer himself, pushing over trees and piles of stumps.

HENRY (V.O.)
Evidentially those types of
vehicles didn't require a
license.

Grandpa Billy watches with only a semi-cautious eye as he guides and points out various directions for his grandson. He gives him another proud thumbs up.

CUT TO:

EXT. GRANDPARENTS HOUSE - LATER

Henry stands with his grandmother on the porch as they watch Grandpa Billy and Ikey enter an old dump truck overloaded with stumps and brush.

HENRY (V.O.) On the
days Ikey felt like working,
he'd join my grandpa for a
routine trip to the landfill.

Grandpa Billy starts to pull off, but as soon as he does, the dump bed immediately slams open and digs itself into the ground.

The digging in the ground causes the whole dump truck to stretch out in the air more vertically than any old dump truck ever should. It points straight up to the sky.

Henry and his grandmother watch it all happen from the front porch.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
My grandpa kept a lot of those
spit cups very full in his dump
trucks.

GRANDMA
Billy!

GRANDPA BILLY (O.S.)
My damn tobacco! My damn
tobacco!

They watch in shock as the two old men climb down from the erect dump truck.

Ikey makes his way to the front porch absolutely covered from head to toe in Grandpa Billy's nasty tobacco juice.

IKEY That
damn tobacco...

Henry and his grandmother stifle their laughter.

HENRY (V.O.) Although
the camperly duties never seemed
to end, we always did what we
needed to be done. Ikey was there
most of the time too, provided it
didn't have anything to do with
that old dump truck.

CUT TO:

EXT. GRANDPARENTS HOUSE - GWYNN'S ISLAND - NIGHT

Henry spends an evening fishing with his grandmother.

HENRY (V.O.) Despite
all of my grandpa's little
projects, I was still able to act
like a kid around the island.
Usually, after dinner, my
grandmother and I would go
fishing for about an hour or so
each evening.

He smiles up at her.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
If there was ever anyone that I
could talk to about anything, it
was my grandmother. She had a
very similar past as my
grandfather, so she was pretty
tough in her own right, if not
even more.

Henry gets a huge jerk on his line.

It bends over his fishing rod, dragging his feet towards the
edge of the pier.

GRANDMA
Don't let go!

She grabs Henry around the waist and holds him back.

The young boy reels and reels.

Something bobs its head over the waves, before rippling
itself back underneath the water. Henry continues to
struggle to reel the fish in.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)
Keep going! Keep going!

He finally gets the monster close enough to the pier to
reveal a giant, brown skate with barnacles attached to the
underside of its giant wings.

The rare catch makes one last attempt at freedom and manages
to quickly break the line. The two fall back with a thud.

After a moment, both Henry and his Grandma belly laugh on
the grass together. EXT. BEACH - DAY

Henry, on a solo adventure out, spots a young girl about his age playing by herself in the sand on the beach. He confidently decides to go over and sit by her.

HENRY
I'm Henry.

YOUNG GIRL
Hello.

She smiles up at him with her wavy, blonde hair flowing in the breeze.

HENRY (V.O.) All it
took was hearing that little
blonde girl's voice for the first
time.

YOUNG GIRL
I'm Claire.

Henry stares at her with adoring eyes.

HENRY (V.O.) I was
done. Instantly I fully realized
that I'd never felt this way
before about anyone.

Claire (8) offers him a toy shovel.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It's turns out, Claire's family
actually lived on this island for
a long time. Her parents had been
playing on that little beach long
before my grandfather ever
thought about buying it.

Ikey watches the love-birds from afar with a knowing smile on his face. INT. POST OFFICE - DAY Henry and Claire enter the Island's tiny post office.

HENRY (V.O.) From that
very first day, wherever one of
us went, the other wasn't far
behind. Even if it included
mundane trips to the post office.

Claire meticulously picks up her mail from a rather unfriendly post office teenager named TOMMY.

Tommy hands over a stack of letters with some annoyance, giving Henry the stink eye. Claire grabs the stack of mail with a smile on her face.

As they turn to leave the building, Henry raises his eyebrows at Claire.

HENRY
What's his problem?

CLAIRE Tommy
doesn't like anyone who
isn't from the Island.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

Henry waves Claire off as she takes the mail to deliver to her parents.

Sweating from the hot summer heat, he spots Ikey waving him over.

HENRY (V.O.) I guess
because I started spending so
much time with Claire, Ikey found
it a good time to find a lady
friend for himself, too.

Henry is curious to see his friend dressed super sharp in a nice suit and tie.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I knew Ikey's wife passed away
long before we met him and, with
the exception of my family, I
could imagine he could get
pretty lonely at times.

HENRY What are
you wearing, Ikey?

Ikey wipes some sweat from his forehead.

IKEY
A nice suit!

HENRY
What for?

IKEY I want you to
meet Miss Anna.

HENRY
Who's Miss Anna?

IKEY A nice lady at
campsite seven.

HENRY
Why?

He looks around nervously.

IKEY Truth be told, I
need a sidekick.

Henry smiles at him.

EXT. CAMPSITE SEVEN - CAMPGROUND - LATER

It is such a hot summer day that by the time they arrive at
campsite seven, Ikey is drenched in sweat. He knocks on
Miss Anna's camper nervously.

MISS ANNA, with a thick German accent, and just a little
younger than Ikey, opens the door and see's Ikey in his
moist state.

MISS ANNA Oh my
goodness, are you okay?

IKEY
Hi...

She quickly grabs him by the arm and rushes him inside.

Henry follows.

INT. MISS ANNA'S CAMPER - CONTINUOUS

Miss Anna quickly hands Ikey a towel and a full glass of
iced water.

She watches Ikey expectantly as he gulps down the entire
glass. Swallowing, he looks up at her and clears his
throat.

IKEY My name is Ikey
P. Rolfe. And I really wanted to
introduce myself to you, Miss
Anna.

Miss Anna smiles at him.

MISS ANNA
(in German)
Well hallo!

Ikey smiles back.

HENRY (V.O.) Once Miss Anna realized what his true reasons were for being there, Ikey sounded just as giddy as I'm sure I did the first day I met Claire. In fairness, I guess smitten is smitten no matter what age you are.

Henry studies the older woman's comfortable camper. He notices that she is baking a few tasty treats.

Now noticing the young Henry in her camper for the first time, she quickly fetches him some of the tasty German treats.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Miss Anna was from Germany and she really enjoyed baking. I knew the campground was pretty nice by this point, but not nice enough to make that drive from Germany. It turns out that she retired several years ago and enjoyed her time at the Island so much on a prior visit that she decided to stay and live there year-round.

Henry gladly accepts the scrumptious food.

HENRY
Thank you!

MISS ANNA You know, I have a nephew about your age named Jonas. He's coming to visit in a few weeks. Would you mind showing him around?

With a mouth full of food, the young boy tries to be polite.

HENRY
Of course!

EXT. MISS ANNA'S CAMPER - LATER Miss Anna sends Henry off with a plate of her baked goods.

MISS ANNA Take some of my Fran Brotchen with you back home! They're a sweet, buttery cinnamon biscuit treat from my homeland.

HENRY

Thanks!

Henry waves to Ikey, still drying himself with a towel inside. He leaves them both with a knowing smile.

HENRY (V.O.) That first bite of Fanny Brotto—or whatever you call it—was the tastiest German snack I think I've ever had.

Henry heads down the campground, already digging into the plate of tasty treats.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I quickly began to realize that the campground was really beginning to become quite a gathering place for some pretty colorful characters.

Not long after, the young boy approaches a man named CONWAY as he rounds material for some crab catching.

His three-legged greyhound named POGO sits by the man's side.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
One of those highly colorful characters was a man named Conway. Conway the Crab man. He provided fresh crabs to all the local restaurants and to anyone else who wanted them.

Conway downs an entire beer before cracking open yet another one.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
He spoke with the local Gwynn's Island dialect that I could hardly understand most of the time, especially if he was on his second or third six-pack.

CONWAY
Hey kid. You one of those "Come-here's"?

HENRY Come-here's?

CONWAY You're not from around here.

HENRY

No...but my grandpa owns Camper's
Haven.

CONWAY Ah, so
almost a local then.

He raises his beer can with respect.

Pogo barks at Henry.

HENRY (V.O.) The
Crab Man had a three-legged
greyhound named Pogo.

Conway's dog tries to sniff at Henry's treats.

CONWAY Might wanna
hide those treats.
He'll try anything.

The man laughs before tipping his hat and lugging off a crab
crate towards a boat. Pogo tries to sniff the plate.

Trying to protect his baked goods, Henry starts for the road
again.

Pogo, this time more aggressively, attempts to jump and eat
the treats, knocking Henry over. Henry manages to wiggle
free and starts to run.

HENRY (V.O.) I always
thought that even I could outrun
a three-legged dog, but those
greyhounds are fast, no matter
how many legs they have.

Pogo quickly catches up and promptly starts humping his leg.

In a desperate attempt to break free, Henry throws the rest
of the baked treats on the ground for Pogo. The dog scarfs
them down.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Miss Anna and her
GermanFrankenstein-whatevers
saved me and my leg that day.

Conway whistles from the pier.

Henry looks over at him.

CONWAY Wanna takes
some crabs home for the
family?

HENRY Sure,
I'll take a crab.

From the pier, Conway heaves a bushel basket of live crabs and sets them at Henry's feet. The young boy stares at the pinchy green bay critters.

HENRY (CONT'D)
Thank you...

Conway heads back to the pier, whistling for Pogo.

Bravely, Henry decides to pick up the basket of crabs.

They quickly spill everywhere.

Crafty little green crabs scatter and scramble every which way.

Some chase Henry backwards with their snappy pinchers stretched to the sky. He runs from them.

Many of the crabs quickly spot the bay of water, where they finally decide to jump back in, leaving Henry alone.

HENRY (V.O.)
I decided not to tell anyone that
I was bamboozled by a bunch of
diabolically evil crabs that day.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPGROUND - GWYNN'S ISLAND - DAY

Hanging out with Ikey on the campground, Henry watches as his tanned friend pulls out a harmonica and begins to play a loud, harmonious tune.

Amazed by the pleasant sounds, other campers, including Miss Anna, start to take notice and gather around to listen.

Henry watches his friend play with a big smile on his face.

Suddenly, Ikey stops playing and stares at someone in the gathered crowd. The crowd itself seems to have gone quiet.

Henry turns to see a particular puffy-haired MAN WITH A GUITAR walking towards them.

He smiles at Ikey.

MAN WITH GUITAR
Play some more!

More nervously than before, Ikey obliges and begins playing again.

It isn't long before the Man With the Guitar starts playing and singing along with Ikey, too. More and more people gather around in awe as they listen.

Henry stomps his foot along with the beat.

The people cheer and applaud them when the song comes to an end. The Man With the Guitar nods at Ikey.

MAN WITH GUITAR (CONT'D)
I greatly enjoyed our jam session.

IKEY
Me too, man!

They watch as the puffy-haired man wanders back to his campsite.

HENRY
Who was that?

IKEY
That's the king,
man.

HENRY
What king?

IKEY
Elvis!

Henry stares at at the Man With the Guitar in awe.

HENRY (V.O.) Who knew
Elvis knew about a place like
this!

CUT TO:

INT. GRANDPARENTS HOUSE - NIGHT

Henry, Claire, and Ikey sit down to a celebration at the dinner table.

HENRY (V.O.) One summer night, Ikey told us his birthday was coming up, so my grandma threw him a big party.

Grandma sets down a toy dump truck, standing straight up in the air, right on top of Ikey's birthday fruit cake.

Surrounded by Miss Anna and all his campground friends, Ikey grins from ear to ear in appreciation. He blows out his candles to cheers.

GRANDMA So, how old are ya now, Ikey?

IKEY I'll let ya know when my birthday gets here!

GRANDMA What do you mean?

Ikey laughs.

GRANDMA (CONT'D) Isn't it your birthday today?

IKEY Not today!

GRANDMA Why'd you tell us it was your birthday?

IKEY I just wanted some fruit cake!

MISS ANNA Oh, Ikey!

Everyone laughs.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT The sun is just starting to set over the bay.

HENRY (V.O.) After Ikey's party, he took Claire and I down to the beach to watch the sunset.

The three sit together watching the tide.

IKEY Can I tell you both a secret?

CLAIRE

Sure.

IKEY But it has to
stay between us.

Henry and Claire smile at one another.

HENRY

Deal!

Ikey holds out his pinky finger as they all link in a pinky
promise.

IKEY There's a story of
Gwynn's Island called Lady in the
Bay. Ever heard the name
Pocahontas?

CLAIRE Yeah, she was
the daughter of one of the most
powerful Indian chiefs.

IKEY

That's right. Her tribe, the
Powhatan Indians, inhabited all of
the lands around Gwynn's Island
long ago.

He raises his hand and points to a buoy no more than a
hundred yards out in the bay.

IKEY (CONT'D) That is
where Pocahontas played in her
long thatched canoe when she was
a little girl. Right over there.

The children turn their heads to look out at the buoy.

IKEY (CONT'D) She used
to hunt for treasures out there.
But one day, a terrible storm
came up out of nowhere. Now
Pocahontas was very adventurous,
so she decided to keep playing
through the storm.

CUT TO:

EXT. BAY - GWYNN'S ISLAND - DAY

A YOUNG POCAHONTAS holds onto the sides of her canoe as
waves start to rock her boat.

IKEY (V.O.) All of a sudden, and without warning, a tremendous bolt of lightning came crashing down and struck the tip of Pocahontas' canoe.

It doesn't take long for that little thatched vessel to become engulfed in flames, leaving Pocahontas with no other choice than to try to swim ashore.

Jumping in the water, she attempts to swim, but the waves are too high and the undertow is too great. The Indian child gasps for air.

POCAHONTAS
Help!

At the same time, a young military man named COLONEL HUGH GWYNN, also miraculously in the bay, pulls her into his boat.

Lifeless and limp, the Colonel shakes her shoulders and pounds on her chest until, finally, Pocahontas spits up water. EXT. SHORE - LATER

Colonel Hugh Gwynn carries an exhausted Pocahontas to her father, the Indian CHIEF POWHATAN, back onto shore.

IKEY (V.O.) Chief Powhatan was so relieved and thankful that his beloved daughter was safely back with him that he gave the Island to the Colonel as a gift of gratitude for his honorable actions.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT - PRESENT DAY Claire and Henry stare at one another with puzzlement.

HARVEY Colonel Gwynn...Gwynn's Island!

IKEY Precisely! Thanks to Colonel Gwynn and this beautiful island, Pocahontas went on to live a very important life. She even later married a man named John Rolfe.

CLAIRE
Don't you mean John S-

IKEY

I know what I mean. His name was
John Rolfe.

Something dawns on Henry.

HENRY Ikey, your
last name is Rolfe.

IKEY

Yes sir.

Now it really dawns on both Henry and Claire.

CLAIRE Are you
related to Pocahontas?

He laughs.

IKEY

Follow me!

Without answering, Ikey leads the children to the edge of
the beautiful Chesapeake Bay.

IKEY (CONT'D)

Pocahontas lived such a good
life that she was able to pick
where she went in the afterlife.

He points to the water.

IKEY (CONT'D) She's

out there. Our own lady in the
bay is out there, waiting in
the waters.

The kids stare in awe at the bay expecting to see Pocahontas
herself.

CLAIRE Pocahontas is
still on the island?

IKEY Sure! Pocahontas

chose the waters near Gwynn's
Island as her final resting
place so she could help the
people of the area the same way
that she was helped so many
years ago.

Henry thinks he spots a ripple in the water.

IKEY (CONT'D) If you

ever need her, all you have to do

is believe, and wholeheartedly
seek her out.

EXT. CAMPER'S HAVEN CAMPGROUND - LATER

Henry and Claire walk back to their homes in the late summer evening together.

CLAIRE Was Ikey
really serious about us not
telling anyone about
Pocahontas?

HENRY I mean,
we pinky promised.

CLAIRE True...I just
wish I could tell my family. I
want the Lady of the Bay to
protect them, too.

HENRY Same here...so
how do we let them know about
her without telling them?

Claire thinks for a moment.

CLAIRE What if we
found her ourselves?

INT. FISHING SHACK - LATER

Henry and Claire gather in a rundown and abandoned fishing shack.

With a hole in the floor for fishing, the two young children sit nearest the walls and hatch their plan. Claire meticulously writes down ideas on a notepad.

HENRY What if we
offered Pocahontas some food?

CLAIRE
As bait?

HENRY
Yeah!

CLAIRE You want to
fish for Pocahontas?

HENRY Do you
have a better plan?

Claire smiles.

CLAIRE I should bring
a camera. We need proof.

HENRY
Good idea.

She thinks for a moment.

CLAIRE But how do
we get out onto the bay? We
can't go by ourselves.

Henry thinks about that.

HENRY We could ask
Conway. He goes out on his boat
every single day.

CLAIRE Conway leaves
really early in the morning.

HENRY
Then we get up early, too. And
I'll be sure to get Miss Anna's
Figglesnozzles, or whatever, to
keep Pogo off our legs.

CLAIRE Do you think
Pocahontas would like some of
those?

HENRY I
don't see why not.

EXT. PIER - DAY

The next morning, Henry and Claire wake early and sneak off
to meet Conway the Crab Man at the pier. Henry carries a
plate full of Miss Anna's snacks.

CLAIRE When did Miss
Anna say her nephew was coming?

HENRY She said any day
now. Maybe he can help us catch
Pocahontas.

CLAIRE He's
from Germany, right?

Henry nods.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) I wonder what German kids are like.

HENRY He probably wears lederhosen or something.

The two find Conway readying his boat.

CLAIRE
Conway!

He turns to them.

CLAIRE (CONT'D) Can we go fishing with you today?

CONWAY I don't see why not.

EXT. BOAT - LATER

As they bounce through the waves, Claire keeps on Pocahontas duty with a string wrapped around Miss Anna's baked goods. Henry keeps Pogo off his leg with the some treats.

Drinking an early morning beer, Conway stops the boat and begins to pull in his crab pots from the port side. Henry joins Claire as she waits patiently with her bait.

CLAIRE
Do you want a turn?

HENRY
Sure.

Claire hands Henry the line.

He quickly feels a tug on the other end.

Looking at each other with excitement, they pull up their homemade rig together. Claire gets her camera ready just before the line surfaces.

Instead of Pocahontas, Henry finds various crabs nibbling on the soggy biscuits.

HENRY (CONT'D)
Ahh, man.

CONWAY Whoa! You
caught more crabs than me!

The kids look at Conway's nearly empty crab pots on deck.

CONWAY (CONT'D)
What bait are you using?

HENRY Some German
Frankenfurter dessert thingys.

He laughs before taking another swig of his beer.

CONWAY
Well, I'll be.

MONTAGE:

-Instead of pulling in the Lady from the Bay, Henry and
Claire disappointedly keep catching more and more crabs.

-Conway drives the kids around the Island and some of his
favorite fishing spots.

-As they glide along the water, Henry and Claire can see the
beach and campground where they spend most of their time. -
Conway passes a Marina with huge yachts and sailboats.

-The boat stops right before going underneath a swing
bridge. Even though Conway has a fairly small fishing boat,
a MAN on the top of the bridge opens that giant structure
for them anyway. The Man from above smiles, blows a loud
horn and waves at them as the bridge slowly swings open.
END MONTAGE.

EXT. PIER - LATER

Conway stops at a pier outside a little restaurant to
deliver some crabs.

The kids look at their massive catches with major
disappointment. Pogo humps Henry's leg again.

A NICE LADY from the little restaurant comes out to meet
them.

NICE LADY My oh my!
This will help with the dinner
crowd!

Conway unloads several bushels of crabs for her.

The Nice Lady waves at the Henry and Claire from the pier.

NICE LADY (CONT'D)
Thank you for the fresh
delivery!

They wave back with a smile.

NICE LADY (CONT'D)
May the Lady in the Bay always
bless you on your way.

Henry and Claire watch her walk away out of sight with the crabs.

The kids look at one another curiously. Did she just say what they think she said? EXT. BOAT - PIER - CAMPER'S HAVEN - LATER They pull back into the pier at the campground.

Henry and Claire wave to Conway before stepping off the boat and making their way to the beach. Claire stops at something underfoot.

She reaches down and picks up an old necklace that definitely wasn't there when they first left. It is made out of sparkling seashells, brilliant white sand dollars, with several stone-colored arrowheads attached to it in various places.

All of the precious parts are tied together by an aged leather band. The children study it in astonishment.

CLAIRE
Do you think...?

HENRY Has to be.
You don't find something like
that every day.

Claire puts what they both know is Pocahontas' necklace in her bag for safe keeping. EXT. CAMPGROUND - GWYNN'S ISLAND - LATER

Henry and Claire meet up with Ikey walking the campground towards them.

IKEY Where've
you been all day?

CLAIRE
We went fishing.

HENRY
With Conway.

Ikey raises an eyebrow.

HENRY Shouldn't
you be working with grandpa
on something?

IKEY He went to the
landfill. With that damn dump
truck.

HENRY
Ah.

IKEY So...did you two
catch anything?

The children giggle.

IKEY (CONT'D) Did you
see the Lady in the Bay?

Henry and Claire keep their lips sealed.

IKEY (CONT'D)
Alright, keep your secrets...

The kids smile at one another.

IKEY (CONT'D) I'm
headed to the new museum that
just opened up on the Island.
Wanna come with me?

EXT. MUSEUM - DAY

Henry, Ikey and Claire walk up to the new museum, the
exterior of the building looking pretty much like any
regular house in the area. INT. MUSEUM - CONTINUOUS

Once inside though, the museum is as intriguing as so many
other sights are on their magnificent island.

The three look around at various historical collections from
the past.

One of them catches their eye, a very unexpected Mastodon
tusk.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR (O.S.)
Pretty neat, huh?

The turn to see a nice female MUSEUM DIRECTOR approaching them.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR (CONT'D)
That's a Mastodon tusk.

HENRY
Is that just a fancy word for
Wooley Mammoth?

MUSEUM DIRECTOR Not
exactly. There's a difference
between Wooley Mammoth's and
Mastodon's. Mastodons had
flatter heads and their tusks
grew a little more linear than a
Mammoth's.

HENRY
Very cool.

The Museum Director smiles at him.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR The
word Mastodon actually
translates to the words,
"Nipple Tooth."

IKEY
Nipple tooth?

The children stifle laughter.

IKEY (CONT'D) Why in
the world would anything that
was related to a Wooley Mammoth
be called a Nipple Tooth?

MUSEUM DIRECTOR Because
of its breast-shaped teeth, it
helped crush leaves, and twigs,
and even tree bark so they could
eat. But don't get me wrong, you
wouldn't wanna fight one of those
things.

Ikey shakes his head.

IKEY
(under breath)
Nipple tooth...

MUSEUM DIRECTOR
Did you know Thomas

Jefferson collected Mastodon bones?

CLAIRE
The president?

She nods.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)
Were they really that easy to find?

MUSEUM DIRECTOR
They were all over our little island.

HENRY
Whoa...

Ikey gets distracted by all the Native American items that are so well protected underneath the museum's many glass cases.

There are plenty of arrowheads and ancient sand dollars like the ones on the necklace Claire and Henry found. The kids join him in his curiosity.

IKEY You kids ever heard of the story of the sand dollar?

HENRY
No.

IKEY There are five doves inside each and every sand dollar.

HENRY
Doves?

IKEY Uh huh. The largest dove represents love. The other four represent forgiveness, courage, sympathy, and grace, the key virtues to live by...according to my ancestors.

The kids study a sand dollar in the glass case with its large star on the front side.

HENRY What does the star represent?

IKEY

Home.

They wait for him to continue.

IKEY (CONT'D)

There you have it. The
twelve reminders from a sand
dollar.

Henry thinks for a moment.

HENRY Five doves and
a star make six.

IKEY Sure, and then
there are the five slots on the
front side of a sand dollar.

He points out the slots on the sand dollar.

HENRY That makes
eleven. What's the twelfth?

IKEY

The flower!

They can see the other side of a sand dollar displayed.

HENRY So
what does it mean?

IKEY The great reminder
to never forget to bring your
sweetheart flowers.

Ikey laughs.

Claire shakes Henry's shoulder to get his attention. She
points out a portion of a small thatched canoe in the corner
of the museum. The kids sneak off to inspect it closer.

It looks as if the other parts of that historical homemade
boat are burnt off in some way. Was it Pocahontas' boat?

MUSEUM DIRECTOR

There's a few more exhibits
upstairs if you want to take a
look around.

The kids look at each other before racing each other up the
stairs. INT. SECOND FLOOR - MUSEUM - CONTINUOUS

Henry and Claire come face-to-face with two statues right at the top of the second floor. It's none other than Pocahontas and Colonel Gwynn.

Their eyes go wide.

CLAIRE
There are way too
many coincidences
today...

HENRY It's like she
wants us to find her.

EXT. MUSEUM - LATER

After their visit, the Museum Director waves at them as they make their way back to the campground.

MUSEUM DIRECTOR May
The Lady in the Bay always
bless you on your way.

Henry and Claire smile wide at each other.

They wave back to her.

HENRY AND CLAIRE
(unison) May The Lady in
the Bay bless you on your way!

EXT. SCROOCH'S COUNTRY STORE - LATER

They follow Ikey as he makes his way to the little country store, Scrooch's. Ikey motions for Henry to follow him inside.

INT. SCROOCH'S COUNTRY STORE - CONTINUOUS

Ikey heads straight for the flowers section.

HENRY Flowers for
your sweetheart?

IKEY
Indeed!

Ikey grabs a handful of lilies and hands some to Henry.

Henry looks at them with some confusion.

HENRY I'm not your
sweetheart, old man.

Ikey's eyes give him a non-verbal signal back and forth towards Claire, who patiently waits for them outside. It clicks for Henry.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Oh!

EXT. SCROOCH'S COUNTRY STORE - CONTINUOUS

As the boys leave the store with the lilies in hand, Henry hands his flowers over to Claire. She blushes.

HENRY (V.O.) Giving
 Claire those flowers made me
 realize that I always hoped
 she'd be in my life, and to my
 adolescent self, I truly meant
 forever.

Claire wraps her arms around Henry's neck in a big hug.

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

There are some people who come
 into your life that just seem to
 fit, no matter what age you are,
 or what you've ever been through.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEACH - DAY

On another summer day on the beach, Miss Anna introduces her nephew Jonas to both Henry and Claire.

HENRY (V.O.) Not only
 was Claire one of these people
 for me, but Miss Anna's nephew
 Jonas, who came to visit that
 summer, quickly became one of
 these people for me, too.

Jonas, with his brown eyes and and brown hair, waves at them with a friendly smile.

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

It turns out, Jonas didn't wear
 lederhosen pants at all! Even
 though his mother was from
 Germany, his father wasn't. Jonas
 was just as American as Claire
 and I were.

Jonas quickly fits right in with their little gang as they run off to play on the beach together.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Jonas' father died while serving
in the military, and I guess
things like that make you grow up
quicker than most kids his age.
But he still knew how to have
fun.

EXT. BAY - GWYNN'S ISLAND - DAY

Henry and Claire point out to the waters of the bay as they
clue their new friend Jonas in on the Lady in the Bay.

HENRY (V.O.)
We told Jonas about our search for
Pocahontas on the Island. Once we
filled Jonas in on everything we
knew, he was every bit as
captivated by the Lady in the Bay
and in finding her as Claire and I
ever were. It was even his idea to
(MORE)

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
let Ikey know about the necklace
we found.

EXT. CAMPGROUND - GWYNN'S ISLAND - LATER The

children run towards Ikey with excitement.

Digging in her bag, Claire retrieves and holds out the
necklace they found for him to see. Ikey fiendishly
smiles.

HENRY (V.O.) Ikey
reminded us that Pocahontas loved
looking for buried treasure as
much as she did anything else.
Since we found her necklace, he
recommended that we put it in a
treasure box and bury it at the
farthest tip of the island. One
of Pocahontas' most favorite
places to play when she was a
little girl.

INT. FISHING SHACK - LATER

Henry and the gang sit around the old fishing shack together
as each writes a letter for one another.

HENRY (V.O.) Ikey's
idea not only included burying

the necklace inside of a treasure chest for the Lady in the Bay to find, but he also wanted each one of us to include a letter about each other to let her know why we thought we were deserving of such an honor as personally finding her.

He studies his friends as they scribble away on their papers.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D) I don't know what the others wrote about me because Ikey left strict instructions for us not to let anyone see what we wrote about each other. Ikey even gave us his own letters of recommendation for each of us to include in the treasure.

Henry looks at Jonas before writing on his own piece of paper.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D) I wrote about Jonas first; I wrote about how loyal and brave he was. I also wrote about how he dreamed about joining the military someday just like his father, and how courageous I knew he'd be.

He looks at Claire next before writing her letter.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D) When I wrote my letter about Claire, I didn't think I'd ever stop writing, or at least not until the ink ran out of my pen. I just had so much to say about her. She was the most incredible person I'd ever met.

EXT. CAMPGROUND - NIGHT

Henry, Claire and Jonas sneak out of the campground late at night with flashlights and a red tool chest swaying between them.

HENRY (V.O.) We all snuck out of our houses late that night. If everything went as planned, we'd have plenty of time to bury Pocahontas'

treasure and make it home long
before anyone ever got up.

EXT. TIP OF GWYNN'S ISLAND - LATER

The gang crosses a small shallow inlet to get to the tip of Gwynn's Island.

They quickly help bury the red toolbox together on the beach.

Just as they pat their buried treasure securely with their hands, water from the bay quickly rushes in.

Running to safety, they see that the tide is much too high to safely go back the way they came.

CLAIRE
We're stuck!

HENRY When does the
tide go back out?

CLAIRE
It could be
hours!

JONAS
Well...

Jonas shrugs, calming everyone down.

JONAS (CONT'D)
There's nothing else to do but
wait.

The kids all dig in and sleuthfully watch what they have just finished burying.

As the tide keeps crashing in, it starts to look like the repetitive waves are beginning to dig up their make-shift treasure chest.

Henry squints in the moonlight as he see's what we swears is someone reaching towards their buried treasure.

HENRY
Look!

Whatever or whoever it is seems to be pulling that old, red toolbox towards them with each crash of the tides changing waves.

Then, all of a sudden, with one big tug, something jerks the buried chest out into the bay.

Almost immediately the old, red toolbox is completely out of sight.

CLAIRE
It worked!

HENRY
She got it!

The children cheer together.

HENRY (V.O.) We all
knew that this time we made
contact with Pocahontas, and
that's further than we'd ever
gotten before.

EXT. CAMPER'S HAVEN CAMPGROUND - DAY

With the sun now up, Henry, Claire and Jonas all run toward Ikey after making it back to the campground.

They yell with excitement at him, but he seems a bit preoccupied with Miss Anna.

HENRY (V.O.) We tried
to tell Ikey that we saw the
Lady in the Bay take our
treasure, but...

The gang watches as Ikey twirls Miss Anna around with happiness.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Smitten is smitten no matter how
old you are. Miss Anna and Ikey
had become so close in such a
short amount of time that,
without us kids knowing anything
about it, they decided to get
married.

Miss Anna holds out her ring finger for them all to see.

JONAS You're
getting married?!

EXT. PIER - DAY

HENRY (V.O.) They
didn't wait long, either.

A very happy Miss Anna and Ikey hold each others hands lovingly as they exchange their vows.

Henry, Jonas and Grandpa Billy stand near Ikey as his groomsmen. Claire and Henry's Grandma are Miss Anna's bridesmaids.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Ikey was super nervous during
their vows.

Ikey lets out an embarrassing fart.

His eyes go wide.

The kids giggle in the middle of the ceremony.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
We were kids; what would you
expect us to do when someone
farts
(MORE)

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
all over themselves out of
nowhere?

Ikey tries to conceal his embarrassment, but Miss Anna is quick to dismiss it with a loving touch to his cheek.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Thinking back to the first time
we met Ikey in front of
Scrooch's, I'm so glad that I got
to see what my grandfather saw in
him. He was simply a lonely man
who needed a family.

The wedding party watches them officiate their wedding with a kiss.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Miss Anna was just what Ikey
needed.

Henry smiles up at his tan friend.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
There are some people who come
into your life who just seem to
fit. No matter what age you are
or what you've ever been through.

CUT TO:

EXT. GRANDPARENTS HOUSE - GWYNN'S ISLAND - DAY

Henry stands outside his grandparents house with his belongings packed. Both Grandpa Billy and his Grandma hug him lovingly.

HENRY (V.O.) The summer
and all the time that I got to
spend with my grandparents and my
friends was quickly coming to an
end. Jonas was going back home,
and I was going back to school in
Richmond.

Approaching Claire, Henry gives her another batch of fresh lilies. She holds them close to her chest.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
When I thought about being so far
away from Claire, my heart hurt. I
(MORE)

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 know it was puppy love, but it
 was real love for us nonetheless.
 I knew I would come back to visit
 her every weekend regardless.

Henry, Claire and Jonas all stand in a circle.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 We were the three musketeers that
 summer, who often acted more like
 the three stooges, but it was
 fun.

The three friends wrap each other in a group hug.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 It was more than fun; it was
 family.

Jonas is the first to grab his things.

He looks back at his friends with a tear in his eye.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Jonas would eventually live out
 his dreams and join the military
 right after graduating high
 school.

Claire waves to him.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Claire planned to study to become
 a teacher. As for us, we became
 more serious about each other
 than we probably should have at
 our age.

Henry hugs Claire deeply once more before grabbing his
 luggage and heading towards his parents car.

Hopping in the back seat, he waves at her from the car
 window. He smiles at his grandparents.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 My grandfather even decided to
 make a big change for himself
 too. A month before I graduated
 high school, he sold the
 campground.

Grandpa Billy puts his arms around his wife as they wave to
 Henry.

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

My grandparents bought a house
just down the road from the
campground, though. They just
couldn't leave the island that
they grew to love so much.

His grandmother smiles lovingly at her family.

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

They only lived in that new
house, though, for a month before
we found out that my grandmother
was sick.

She waves goodbye to her grandson.

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

She died on that island shortly
after. My family lost its
matriarch, and my grandfather
lost his true reason for living.

Grandpa Billy waves goodbye.

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

He died almost two months to the
day after my grandmother passed.

The couple walk back inside their beautiful home together.

HENRY (V.O.) I guess I

thought they'd always be around,
but that's the way life is—it
constantly changes and forces you
to change with it.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S BEDROOM - DAY

A now older Henry (18), sits by himself in his childhood
bedroom.

HENRY (V.O.) After

graduation, I didn't really know
what I wanted to do with my life.
With both of my grandparents gone
so suddenly, I kept wondering
what they would have wanted for
me.

He stands, looking at himself in a mirror.

Henry adjusts his military uniform.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 So, following in my grandfather's
 footsteps, I joined the military.
 If he gave credit to the military
 for making him the man he was,
 then I don't believe I could find
 a better path for myself.

EXT. BEACH - GWYNN'S ISLAND - DAY

Henry tries to console a crying Claire (18) on the beach in
 Gwynn's Island.

HENRY (V.O.) Claire was
 heartbroken. She didn't
 understand why I joined. I know I
 should have talked it over with
 her first, but if I would have
 known how bad this was going to
 affect her, I don't know if I
 would have gone through with
 it...
 but it was too late either way.

He holds her and kisses her head.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 I loved Claire and I didn't want
 to lose her, but I had to do
 what I had to do.

Henry wipes her tears.

HENRY Will you come
 see me off at the airport?

Claire shakes her head.

CLAIRE I'm sorry, I
 can't...I wouldn't be able to
 stop crying.

Henry nods knowingly.

CUT TO:

INT. AIRPORT - DAY

Standing with Jonas in the airport, Henry lovingly gives his
 goodbyes to his parents and Ikey. Noticeably missing is
 Claire.

Henry looks for her anyway.

Jonas gives a final hug to his aunt, Miss Anna.

Ikey pulls Henry aside and puts both hands on his shoulders.

IKEY Henry, your
grandparents would be very
proud. I know I am.

HENRY
Thank you, Ikey.

Ikey waves Jonas over.

IKEY Boys, I want
you to have these.

Jonas joins them as Ikey pulls out two eagle feathers.

He hands it to them carefully.

IKEY (CONT'D)
This is one of the highest honors
I can give. In my culture, it
represents courage.

HENRY Thank you, Ikey.
This means a lot.

JONAS
Thank you Ikey.

He gives them a final wink.

IKEY And remember, if
you ever need help, don't forget
about the Lady in the Bay.

Henry and Jonas laugh.

HENRY I don't think
we're going to find her where
we're going, Ikey.

JONAS
Yeah, too much desert for
Pocahontas.

Ikey pats their backs with a wide smile.

He looks to Jonas.

IKEY Taka Anwa.
That's your Indian name. It
means, "Shooting star."

Jonas smiles at his uncle.

HENRY
What's my Indian
name?

It doesn't take Ikey long to thing of one.

IKEY
Mawi Hewa.

HENRY
What does that
mean?

IKEY
"Right heart". Ekiwa Hewa? That's
Claire's. "Left Heart."

Henry nods knowingly.

HENRY
Well...

He places a hand on Ikey's shoulder.

HENRY (CONT'D) At
least it's not Nipple Tooth.

They laugh.

CUT TO:

INT. BASE - MIDDLE EAST - DAY

Henry writes a bunch of letters home from their base in the
Middle East.

HENRY (V.O.) I wrote to
my family and I wrote to Claire
too. My family always wrote back,
but Claire...not once. I could
feel that I broke something
between us.

He stares with sadness at a picture of Claire and himself as
kids on the Gwynn Island beach.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D) I
still thought about Claire every
day, but I couldn't blame her for

anything anymore. It was my
decision to leave the way I did,
(MORE)

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
and I had to live with the
consequences.

Henry turns to a dancing Jonas, bopping around their tent to
music with some fellow comrades.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Jonas felt a little differently
about going to the war than I did.
He was proud and he even seemed
excited, but I, for the most part,
was still numb to the fact. He was
going to honor his father's memory
like I still hoped I would do for
my grandparents, but after awhile,
I think even his eyes were opened
to exactly how evil war really is.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT - DAY Henry and Jonas are on a mission with
two other soldiers.

HENRY (V.O.) On most
of our missions, we were sent
out in teams of four. There was
Jonas and me, and Chappy, our
sergeant.

SERGEANT CHAPPY is a calm and peaceful brown headed country
boy from Valdosta, Georgia.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
He was in charge but, regardless
of his rank, he transferred in
from a desk job, so he didn't
have a clue of what he was doing
either.

CASH, the other soldier, is a short, muscular guy from
Bakersfield, California.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And lastly, Cash, another young
soldier who was crazier than
anyone that was ever allowed to
carry a gun should be. He was a
black belt in something, and he
wanted everyone to know it too. I

didn't see what the big deal was because, hell, we had M-16s.

Cash walks with much more confidence than the others.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
He was already more jagged than the rest of us were. I'm sure that was because this was his second tour and had already seen quite a bit.

Jonas looks around with meticulous precision.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Jonas, because of how well he did in training, was our lookout, which was basically the sniper of the group.

The four-man crew check on their assigned areas.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D) I was what they called a thumper. A thumper is basically a munitions man. There were really two sides to my job—one being to try and find all the landmines that I could and blow them up. And the other was to find the paths of where we thought the bad guys would be coming from.

Cash volunteers to be the point man as he walks out in the open desert to try and stir up trouble if there was any around to be found.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
That crazy Cash would always lead the way and rarely take cover when he really needed to. His overconfident acts were really selfless because he'd always seem to take the immediate pressure off of the rest of us. He was, more or less, a self-nominated decoy while the rest of us completed our parts of the mission.

Henry keeps a good look out as Jonas and Sergeant Chappy move out.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Jonas wasn't too far behind in the

bravery department, if at all. I
knew he wouldn't be either. He was
definitely smarter and more
rightfully cautious than Cash
(MORE)

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
though. Being over there really
made all four of us become as much
like brothers as any brothers ever
were, regardless of our numerous
differences.

With the coast clear, all four boys take a rest.

Cash lights a cigarette.

He watches Henry and Jonas closely.

CASH Is it really
true you guys knew each other
as kids?

HENRY
Yup. We met one summer on Gwynn's
Island.

CASH Where
the hell is that?

JONAS Virginia. My aunt
lived there. His grandparent's
owned the campground.

HENRY Best
times of my life.

SERGEANT CHAPPY
Why's that?

HENRY A lot of
reasons. Mostly because of
Ikey. An old Native American
friend of ours.

JONAS He
married my aunt.

HENRY He made our
summers fun. He convinced us
to find Pocahontas when we
were little.

SERGEANT CHAPPY
Pocahontas?

CASH You don't believe
in that shit, do ya?

Henry laughs.

JONAS
We found her.

CASH And you think I'm
the crazy one...

The boys laugh.

SERGEANT CHAPPY
Did he give you Indian
names?

JONAS Yeah. I was Taka
Anwa..."shooting star."

HENRY
Mine was Mawi Hewa. "Right Heart."

JONAS
His girlfriend was, "Left Heart." The
crew tease him with ooh's at this revelation.
Henry smiles.

SERGEANT CHAPPY
So what's my Indian name?

The old friends think about this for a moment.

HENRY
Chappy Wassa Himata.

Henry looks at Sergeant Chappy.

HENRY (CONT'D)
"Peaceful Big Brother."

He nods with appreciation.

CASH
What's mine?

JONAS
Mutta Suka.

CASH
Hell yeah!

They laugh again.

SERGEANT CHAPPY
What was Ikey's Indian name?

Henry shrugs.

HENRY
Chief Fulla Bulla.

INT. TENT - NIGHT Sergeant Chappy and Cash are fast asleep in the tent.

Jonas and Henry are wide awake, deep in conversation.

JONAS She
still hasn't written?

HENRY
Claire?

JONAS
Yeah.

HENRY Yeah...I thought
I'd be over it by now, but to be
truthful, I don't think I'll ever
fully get over losing that girl.

JONAS I'm still
surprised she never showed
up to the airport.

HENRY
She was just
upset.

JONAS How many times
have you written to her?

HENRY
Hundreds.

JONAS And not a
single response?

HENRY
Not a single
one...

Henry looks to Jonas with sad eyes.

HENRY (CONT'D) What
if I never see her again?

JONAS You
will...you're always gonna go
back to that island.

HENRY
Well what about
you?

Jonas takes a deep breath with a shrug.

HENRY (CONT'D) You
never wanna go back there
again?

JONAS
Of course I do. I just don't if
I'll get to.

HENRY Are you scared
of dying out here?

He sighs.

JONAS If it's my
time to go, I don't mind
going.

Jonas nods at Henry.

HENRY (V.O.) Jonas
had a knowing about
things...it's like he knew
he'd never see that majestic
little Island again.

CUT TO:

INT. HUMVEE - DAY

Sergeant Chappy drives his crew through the desert in a
metal Humvee.

Cash rides in the passenger seat wearing his new nickname,
"Mutta Suka" on his uniform, scratched in masking tape.

In the back, Henry and Jonas ride along the desert roads
towards a new mission. Things are quiet, until...

BOOM.

They run over a roadside bomb.

The car explodes as Cash is ejected from the passenger's
side. Henry and Jonas have the same fate from the back.

Chappy, with barely a scratch on him, quickly unstraps himself from the mangled Humvee. He rushes over to Henry, the closest to him.

SERGEANT CHAPPY

Henry!

Chappy slaps Henry's cheeks to wake him from his lucidity. He's awake, but definitely confused.

SERGEANT CHAPPY (CONT'D)

Come on! Get up!

Snapping out of his confusion, Henry suddenly remembers where they are. Getting up, Henry frantically looks for Jonas.

He finds him.

About fifteen yards from where they were thrown, Henry sees the crimson-red blood splattered all over his friend.

Racing to him, he falls down at Jonas' shaking body.

Henry grips his friends hand tightly.

Coughing up blood, Jonas stares up at him.

JONAS Henry, I see
the star, I see the star...I
see home...

Crying, Henry clutches Jonas until his body goes limp.

He strokes his best friends cold face.

Not knowing what else to do, Henry lays him carefully back on the ground.

Searching through Jonas' pockets, he finds Ikey's eagle feather. He places it carefully in his friends hand.

Crying, Henry finds the eagle feather Ikey gave him in his own pocket.

He places it in Jonas' other hand.

Staring down at his childhood best friend, Henry cries with grief.

Before he has any time at all to process what has just happened, he looks over at Chappy. He's standing over Cash's body.

Chappy looks at Henry to confirm what they both already know. Everyone is dead.

Then, as indescribably painful as it is watch, Chappy puts the end of his own rifle in his mouth. He pulls the trigger.

Terror chills jolt throughout Henry's body.

He screams, tripping and falling trying to get over to Chappy.

But it is no use.

Chappy, their precious, peaceful big brother is gone too.

HENRY (V.O.) Chappy
took his job of taking care of
his little brothers seriously,
and I guess he couldn't live with
the feeling that he wasn't able
to save us all in the end.

A medical unit starts rushing in a few moments later.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I don't know that I could ever
be brave enough to do what
Chappy did—if that's bravery.

They grab Henry and throw him in the back of another Humvee.

INT. HUMVEE - CONTINUOUS Henry

stares blankly out the window.

HENRY (V.O.) I guess
the military thought I might do
the same, though, because they
flew me back to the states that
night on a medical jet.
Apparently that day was a
massacre, only seven of us other
(MORE)

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
than the medical support of our
unit was left.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT Henry, now bandaged up, sits alone in his hospital bed.

HENRY (V.O.) Jonas,
Chappy and Cash were gone. I
never felt life was unfair
before, but I did then. I
couldn't blame God for what
happened because I didn't feel
like he cared enough about us to
be there at all.

The scene of Chappy's death flashes through his mind.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Chappy may have had it right in
what he did.

Shaking, Henry tries to steady his hand.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
War and all of its evil scrapes
off something inside of you that
never heals.

INT. COURTROOM - DREAM SEQUENCE

HENRY (V.O.) I
started having nightmares. The
same one over and over again.

In Henry's dream, he sits in a small courtroom that almost looks colonial.

Everything from the pews, where the onlookers sit, to the juror's chairs and even the judge's bench, are made with deep, dark mahogany wood.

They all display intricate carvings of flowers throughout the wooden areas.

All of the furniture's seating is covered with regal yet aged burgundy leather, with gold beads pinning it down. Everybody who is in attendance is blurry to Henry.

The fuzzy outlines resemble the many people he has cared about in his life. The largest and least visible is the outline of the JUDGE.

Almost as if a haze is starting to lift, a giant gavel slams down with a thud.

JUDGE

GUILTY!

END OF DREAM SEQUENCE.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

Henry wakes up with a start in his hospital bed in a beaded sweat. He see's A MILITARY POLICEMAN standing outside his door.

HENRY (V.O.) I was in
the hospital for weeks, even
though I didn't have anything
physically wrong with me other
than some scrapes and bruises.

He pushes away yet another half eaten tray of food.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Nobody ever came in to do anything
with me other than give me three
meals a day. I guess someone,
somewhere, was waiting to see what
I was going to do next, if
anything.

Henry's parents suddenly walk into his hospital room.

Slowly, his Mother and Father approach his bed.

He turns away from them in shame.

MOTHER

Look at me, Henry.

Henry refuses.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Henry. Look at us.

Henry finally looks up at his mother, then his father, and starts to cry.

HENRY (V.O.) I told
them everything. I didn't want to
put all that on them, but I felt
if I didn't at least try to get
it out, my insides were going to
rot from coming face to face with
those soulless eyes of pure evil.

I knew my parents were all I had
left then.

Both of his parents comfort him on either side of his
hospital bed.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Neither my mother nor my father
left my side for the additional
two weeks they made me stay in
the hospital.

CUT TO:

EXT. HENRY'S HOUSE - DAY Henry steps out of his
parents van and into the yard.

HENRY (V.O.)
After that, the military felt that
I'd had enough. They gave me an
honorable discharge and a bunch of
fake medals that I didn't deserve.

His mother helps him inside the house.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Henry sits on the rooftop of his parent's home in the middle
of the night.

HENRY (V.O.) I stayed
with my parents after that. I
didn't do much but think about
all I had lost. At night, I'd
stare at the stars.

He spots a shooting star.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Sometimes I even hoped that Ikey
had named Jonas correctly and that
those shooting stars were our Taka
Anwa's way of telling me that he
really did make it home.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S HOME - DAY Henry's

Mother answers the phone.

MOTHER
Hello?

HENRY (V.O.) I began
receiving phone calls for the
first time in a long time.
Mostly from Ikey.

His mother hands the phone to him, but Henry shakes his
head.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D) I
loved the man and I was grateful
he was still alive and for all
he'd done for me throughout my
life, but I just couldn't hear
any stories about how everything
was going to be okay.

Henry's father studies him from afar.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
I knew it was killing my
parents to see me that way, but
my Dad knew how to change it.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S BEDROOM - DAY Henry's Father barges into
his room one lazy afternoon.

FATHER I
have a job for you.

HENRY
A job?

FATHER
Building a house.

HENRY What? I don't
know how to do that.

FATHER Sure you do.
Your grandpa put you to work
enough.

Henry sighs.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - DAY Henry meets with a
construction manager named SAMUEL.

They shake hands.

HENRY (V.O.) The house
was going to be built about

halfway between Richmond and Gwynn's Island in a little town named West Point. Everyone knows where West Point is because, if you go south towards the beach on Highway 64, you can always smell the paper mill.

Studying the site, the only thing that has been done to it so far is the foundation. The whole house still needed to be finished.

Henry sighs.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - LATER

Henry struggles to work on the house as sweat beads down his face.

HENRY (V.O.) My first week or so, I'd sloppily get through the day. I wanted to quit, until Samuel pulled me aside.

Samuel pulls Henry aside from the construction work.

SAMUEL You know who we're building this house for, right?

Henry shakes his head. He doesn't.

SAMUEL (CONT'D) It's for the mother of a fallen soldier.

He looks down.

SAMUEL (CONT'D) (CONT'D) The man's unit joined together to pay for a new house for their sergeant's mother as a final gift to him in remembrance.

Henry nods with understanding.

HENRY (V.O.) He was their Chappy, and for me, from the second I heard about what I was doing, it wasn't about me anymore.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - LATER

Henry works harder, very reminiscent of his time with his grandfather on the campground.

HENRY (V.O.) I can say
I worked from that moment on as
as if my grandfather was right
there beside me.

CUT TO:

INT. NEW HOME - DAY

With the home now finished, the SERGEANT'S MOTHER bursts into tears as she enters the house.

SERGEANT'S MOTHER
This is incredible...

Henry hugs her.

HENRY (V.O.) It's
strange because I think I was
helping her in ways just as much
as she was for me. I knew she
lost every bit as much as I did,
if not more. She lost a child,
and, if I thought life wasn't
fair for me, I couldn't imagine
what she had to be feeling.

EXT. HENRY'S HOUSE - DAY Henry

returns to his parent's house.

Spotting his dad in the driveway, Henry gives him a big hug.

HENRY (V.O.) Thanks to
my dad, Samuel gave me more jobs
to do. I started getting a little
better as each house went up,
too. I guess I was letting more
and more of that much-needed
light in.

His father looks at him, placing both hands on his son's shoulders.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It wasn't long until a job came
along Gwynn's Island. Even
though I didn't want to, I did
agree to build the house.

EXT. CAR - GWYNN'S ISLAND - DAY

Henry drives across the same long bridge over the Chesapeake Bay and Piankatank River.

His car passes the sign that reads, "Welcome to Gwynn's Island".

He passes Scrooch's store and the little post office in the middle of the island.

HENRY (V.O.) I had planned to just focus on my job on the island, but those plans changed about midway through the house project. Like so many other things in life, it changes yours plans. This time with one phone call from Miss Anna.

Henry answers from a cellular device.

HENRY
Hello?

He listens.

HENRY (V.O.)
Ikey was sick.

EXT. CAMPSITE SEVEN - CAMPGROUND - LATER

Henry races through the old familiar campground towards Campsite 7, where Miss Anna and Ikey still live.

HENRY (V.O.) I knew Jonas was Mrs. Anna's nephew—and Ikey's too after they got married—but I had avoided seeing them after everything that had happened.

He pounds on the camper door.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
If anyone could make me do what I didn't want to do, it was Ikey.

After some silence, Henry knocks again until a female stranger in the camper next door notices him.

CAMPER Are you looking for Ikey?

HENRY
Yeah, where are
they?

CAMPER They had an
appointment today.

Henry looks down.

CAMPER (CONT'D) But
Ikey did leave me a message.

He looks back up.

CAMPER (CONT'D)
(CONT'D) He said he left his
fishing pole at the tip of the
island. He wants to know if you
could go get it for him.

Henry thinks about this for a moment.

HENRY Do you know when
the tide will be low enough?

CAMPER
4:00!

HENRY
4:00. Thanks!

Before getting back into his car, Henry spots something on
the camper stairs. A sand dollar.

Picking it up, he studies the five slashes on the outside of
the sand dollar, including the stamp of the star.

Flipping it over, Henry see's the flower imprinted on the
other side.

He holds the sand dollar star side up, knowing he has
finally made it home.

Crushing the sand dollar in his palm, he opens his hand to
see the five white doves that Ikey told him would be there.

EXT. SCROOCH'S COUNTRY STORE - LATER

Henry makes a quick pit stop at Scrooch's little country
store. As he pulls up, almost nothing has changed.

It was just as he remembered, with one very big exception.
There was no cigar store Indian anywhere to be found.

INT. SCROOCH'S COUNTRY STORE - CONTINUOUS Once

inside, Henry picks up a pouch of tobacco.

He spots the candy aisle.

As Henry walks toward the candy, he also spots a big black bucket with a bunch of beautiful lilies. He grabs a handful.

And a Milky Way.

EXT. TIP OF GWYNN'S ISLAND - LATER Henry

arrives at the tip of Gwynn's Island.

He walks over the passover to get across the inlet, barely any water tide at all.

As Henry nears the actual tip of the island, there is somebody already there. It's Tommy, the rude post office guy.

He spots him with a fishing rod.

HENRY

Tommy...

Tommy nods his way, but ignores his glances.

HENRY (CONT'D) Do you
happen to know where Ikey left
his fishing rod?

TOMMY

I'm using it.

Henry stares at him.

HENRY

Can I have it?

Tommy shakes his head.

HENRY (CONT'D)

I need it, Tommy.
Please.

Suddenly, the post office man starts to cry.

Startled, Henry doesn't really want to get involved, but he obliges him instead.

HENRY
What's the matter?

Sniffling, Tommy gestures for him to sit on a piece of driftwood. Henry does as he's told.

Tommy pulls out a grocery bag from the other side of the big piece of driftwood and slides it over to him.

TOMMY I
didn't do my job.

Henry is confused.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
There are letters in there. From
Claire. I didn't send them to you
while you were gone...

At a loss for words, Tommy continues.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
I dropped off your letters to
Claire the other day. The one's I
also didn't send...I'm sorry...

Tommy wipes a few tears.

Henry sits there a few minutes not knowing how to feel.

There was nothing he could do to the guy that he wasn't already doing to himself, so Henry does the only thing he knows how.

HENRY It's okay. I
forgive you, Tommy.

After a few more minutes of silence, Henry holds out his hand for the fishing rod.

HENRY (CONT'D) Can I
please have the fishing rod?

Tommy gives it to him easily.

He gets up and leaves quickly, leaving Henry alone.

HENRY (V.O.) I sat in
almost the exact same spot that
we buried that old, red toolbox
so many years ago.

Reaching into his pocket, Henry lays out the flowers and chewing tobacco on the sand next to Claire's letters.

With the sound of only the tide of the bay, the young man suddenly hears that sweet-sweet voice he knows all too well.

CLAIRE (O.S.)

Henry?

Henry looks over just as Claire sits down next to him on the beach. The two say nothing at first.

HENRY I didn't
know...the letters...

Claire stops him.

CLAIRE I know, but
that was then, and this is
now.

Henry smiles, he knows she's right.

Claire lays a head on his shoulder.

HENRY
(whispers) Why
didn't you come to the
airport.

She looks at him.

CLAIRE I did...I
just couldn't make it inside.
I didn't want to say
goodbye...

Henry looks down at the batches of lilies laying in the sand.

He gives her only some.

HENRY
I have to save the rest for
Ikey...

Claire smiles.

HENRY (V.O.) We were on
the Island, together again, and
there was nothing else in the
world around us, except for Mawi
Hewa and Ekiwa Hewa—right heart
and left heart.

EXT. BEACH - CAMPGROUND - LATER

Henry and Claire walk, hand-in-hand, back to the campground where they spent many of their childhood summers. With every step closer, Henry swears he can hear a noise.

A harmonica.

He stops when he sees Ikey playing a familiar tune on the beach.

Looking wonderful and healthy, Ikey stops playing and hugs them both. Ikey looks deeply into Henry's eyes.

IKEY

We're having Gwynn Island's own
Lady in the Bay day, and I've
named you grand marshal.

Henry looks at both Claire and Ikey curiously.

HENRY Wait...are you
even sick, Ikey?

Ikey laughs.

Another one of his old tricks.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Damn, old man.

He grabs Henry by the shoulder.

IKEY

Come on!

EXT. STAGE - GWYNN'S ISLAND - LATER

Ikey leads Henry towards a stage where an audience of the entirety of Gwynn's Island is gathered, including his parents.

Henry even spots Conway and that damn three-legged dog, Pogo.

Ikey holds his hands in the air to quiet the large crowd.

He brings Claire, Miss Anna and the lady from his the next door camper on stage with them. Ikey addresses the crowd.

IKEY There's a reason

I selected this young man as
Gwynn Island's Grand Marshal!
Henry...

He turns to him.

IKEY (CONT'D) You
have courage. You fought for
the ones you loved, and through
that love, you earned and gave
your eagle feather away.

Henry looks down.

IKEY (CONT'D) (CONT'D)
We're proud of how far you have
come, and the houses you've built
for those who have experienced
similar tragedies.

The crowd cheers for him.

Ikey waves over his next door lady camper.

IKEY I want to
introduce Henry to a wonderful
woman named Ruby. Not only is
she my sister-in-law, but she is
also the person who Henry is
currently building a new house
for.

Henry is flummoxed.

Ruby, the lady from the camper, approaches him knowingly.

HENRY
Are you...?

She nods.

RUBY Jonas'
mother. He told me all about
you.

Henry hugs her and Ruby hugs him back, the both of them
crying. The entire crowd claps.

HENRY (V.O.) Before,
I thought it was me who
controlled how much light I
allowed in, but on this day, it
was my my family—who so
lovingly brought me fully back
to life on Gwynn's Island.

Putting his hand on Henry's shoulder, Ikey directs Henry over to Claire. She smiles at him as she holds out her hand.

EXT. FISHING SHACK - LATER

Claire leads Henry to the old rundown and abandoned fishing shack. They walk inside.

INT. FISHING SHACK - CONTINUOUS Across from the entrance, there was Henry's next surprise.

It is the old, red toolbox treasure chest.

Laughing, Henry leads Claire towards the treasure as they open it. All of the true treasures are still inside, unharmed.

They see the necklace made of seashells, sand dollars and arrowheads inside, and also all of the letters that they wrote about each other. Including Ikey's. INT. FISHING SHACK - LATER

Henry and Claire read every single word from each letter as they sit on the floor of that little shack together.

They look up and smile at one another.

HENRY (V.O.) There are some people who come into your life who just seem to fit, no matter what age you are or what you've ever been through, you just know they are, as unexplainable as it may be, a gift from above.

Henry kisses Claire.

HENRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Maybe one day, Claire and I would tell our kids that the Lady in the Bay was actually a really-really old wrinkled, tan man, named Ikey.
P. Rolfe.

FADE OUT.

THE END.