

THE PLANET

A

Script

Written

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE

A spectacular view of the solar system millions of miles away.

A huge space craft approaches the outskirts of the system.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE CORRIDORS

Sporadic flashes of light cut the darkness. The structure of the ship trembles.

The sound of metal clanking and blasts of vapor fill the air. Stalactites of ice take up the corners of the ceiling.

SEVERAL CHAMBERS

The ship is deserted. It seems to be malfunctioning, abandoned and drifting in space.

EXT. SPACE

The space craft cruises by the small planet of Pluto.

SUBTITLE: 4 MILLION YEARS BC

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE CONTROL CHAMBER

A red light pulsates in the darkness. A main frame computer seems to be the only "living" thing aboard.

ON A SCREEN

There's an image of a bluish planet next to strange symbols from a non-human language processed at high speed as the computer collects data.

EXT. SPACE

The space craft cruises by Neptune.

It leaves Uranus behind and gradually approaches the majestic Saturn.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

ON THE SCREEN

The image of Saturn is fuzzy.

IN THE HIBERNATION CHAMBER

Jets of vapor, short circuit sparks and stalactites of ice on the ceiling blur the view of twelve hibernation vaults set at a forty five degree angle against the wall.

The cracked transparent cover of the first vault reveals a skeleton of a being, similar to a human skeleton. The shape of the skull indicates it belongs to another species.

The second vault is also cracked, with liquid dripping slowly from it. A body in advanced state of decomposition can be seen immersed in the liquid.

One by one the next six vaults also reveal dead bodies in different stages of decomposition.

Finally the ninth vault reveals the perfectly preserved body of WES, a male in his thirties with long blond hair and bearded. His hands have six fingers.

The next three vaults also have survivors:

VIC, a dark-haired female in her late twenties, an exotic beauty.

TOR, a tall, muscular male in his thirties.

URI, a short, bald male in his fifties.

EXT. SPACE

The space craft approaches Jupiter.

Slowly the immense planet is left behind.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE CONTROL CHAMBER

The computer processes information at high speed, additional instruments are activated and soon the whole chamber lights up.

Sparks from a short circuit in a panel shut down some instruments.

The planet Mars can be seen from a window.

EXT. SPACE

The space craft cruises by Mars.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE CONTROL CHAMBER

ON THE SCREEN

A distant blue planet is the object of the analysis. The image is sequentially enlarged revealing the planet in detail: Earth.

IN THE CORRIDORS

Lights turn on consecutively. Some don't work, some blink, malfunctioning. Sparks briefly illuminate dark corners.

IN THE HIBERNATION CHAMBER

The room is partially lit. A control panel on the wall processes information. There are twelve red columns on a screen. Eight are steady, four pulsate.

The liquid is drained from the vaults.

Wes' wet body lies steady for a moment. Suddenly his eyes open.

In another vault, the open eyes of a dead body, partially putrefied, reveal terror before death.

Vic's naked body moves. She opens her eyes.

EXT. SPACE

The scorching sun shines in the distance as the space craft heads to Earth.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE BATHROOM

Wes, Vic, Tor and Uri shower naked as if the jets of water were bringing them back to life.

Vic's nudity seems natural for the other male crew members and vice-versa.

They dry themselves in circular jets of vapor next to the showers.

IN THE DORMITORY

There's no room for privacy in this circular chamber. There are several cylindrical beds coming out of the wall next to a closet. Tor and Vic get dressed.

Wes' bed and closet are bigger than the others and placed on a higher deck. He puts on a fancier uniform, opens a small box and takes out a badge showing three triangles above three semi-circles.

Uri, already dressed, enters the room. He's perspiring, outraged, trying to contain his anger. Tor and Vic stare as he kicks open a closet door and throws everything out.

Wes is impassive. He puts on his commander badge.

They speak with a peculiar accent to give some illusion of a distinctive language (or they could speak in their alien language with subtitles in English).

URI

Twenty five cycles.

TOR

What?!

VIC

We left behind the point of return.

WES

We have crossed the boundaries of the known universe.

URI

In our coffin.

TOR

We can turn around and take our chances.

WES

There's no return possible. Dox has set our course.

URI

To where? There's no life out there.

VIC

We should return now.

TOR

(to Wes)

Trespassing the point of return is a violation of our contract. It's a violation of Urizen's code of space exploration. Were you aware of Dox's directive program?

WES

I want everyone in the control chamber.

Wes leaves the room.

VIC

I don't trust him.

TOR

I don't trust Dox or any machine. I could have been one of the dead.

URI

Maybe you should've been. I need my other engineer not security personnel.

VIC

We need to set a course of return immediately.

URI

We'll override Dox after we fix the ship.

IN THE CONTROL CHAMBER

Wes stares at a screen. Dox's red light pulsates nearby. The computer processes information.

Uri enters the chamber.

URI

I need a summary of the ship's damages.

WES

I'm waiting for a report on the time frame and level of exposure of the planet to the energy source.

Uri looks at the screen showing the image of earth.

URI

There's no life out there.

WES

This planet's distance to its star is proportional to ours.

URI

That means nothing.

WES

The question is how long it has been exposed to this level of energy.

Tor and Vic enter the chamber. They approach the screen and stare in silence at the beautiful blue planet.

VIC

Why did Dox cross the point of return?

WES

You're looking at the reason.

VIC

What about the others? What about our lives?

TOR

This is a violation of Urizen's code.

URI

I have a family.

WES

You might be witnessing the most important moment in the history of space navigation. The code was written by law makers with no spirit of adventure.

VIC

Dox suspended the live support of the other eight crew members.

WES

He had a high potential target. Dox is programmed to ration our energy, water and food supply. There might be life in that planet.

URI

We should override Dox.

VIC

And return.

TOR

I want a complete reading of Dox's directive program.

WES

I'm the commander and chief scientist. You are my crew. A doctor, an engineer and a soldier that talk too much. That planet is our only chance of survival. We will do what I say. We will follow Dox's directive program. It's our best chance.

They stare at the screen showing planet Earth.

EXT. SPACE

The space craft flies in the direction of Earth.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE DINING ROOM

The four crew members devour everything on a table filled with bland, processed food.

TOR

I never thought there would be a day I'd enjoy this garbage.

Uri looks at Wes, concerned but fearful of saying anything.

VIC

Still tastes like garbage to me.

URI

We won't reach a stable orbit. We need to override Dox if we want to save this ship.

Wes continues to eat unconcerned. Tor stares at him.

TOR

(to Wes)

We want the password to access Dox's directive program.

Wes continues eating unconcerned.

URI

That planet will be our burial ground if we don't do something.

Wes explodes sweeping off the table with the plates of food.

WES

There's no energy left for this ship!

URI

There's enough for a five-cycle journey. Maybe another exploration vessel will find us.

WES

This is my ship. You want to know Dox's directive program? All the energy left will be used to propel the Rescuer.

URI

No Rescuer has ever returned to Urizen. We stand a better chance in the mother ship.

WES

The Rescuer will deliver the location of this planet. More vessels will one day join us.

VIC

Let's take a vote.

WES

I'm in command, doctor.

TOR

Urizen's space code is clear, commander. Dox took us beyond the point of return. You're the only one with access to Dox's directive program.

WES

There's life out there! Do you realize what this means? Life beyond Urizen. A new world.

VIC

What about our lives commander? What about our families?

URI

This planet's gravity can give us a good swing for the return propulsion.

Tor puts a weapon on the table and stares at Wes.

TOR

You're no longer in command.

Wes pauses a moment.

WES

You can decide whatever you want after the funeral. The ship is yours, soldier.

Wes stands up and puts his commander badge on the table. Uri and Vic look at each other, relieved.

URI

I hate funerals. I've seen too many.

VIC

Funerals should remind us how precious life is.

URI

Reminds me I could be next.

WES

This was a one-way ticket, my friends. That planet is our destiny. We are alive. They are dead. It's that simple. We'll join them some day.

Wes leaves the control chamber.

IN THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHAMBER

Uri, Vic and Tor stand in front of eight metal cylinders lined up on a track. There's a space shuttle docked behind them.

Wes presses a button and joins the others.

One by one the metal cylinders run down the track into a compartment. A door seals the compartment and the cylinder is ejected into space.

EXT. SPACE

The cylinders spin into space.

The space craft is now closer to Earth.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

Wes looks into a periscope-like instrument.

Vic approaches.

VIC

Don't you miss home?

WES

Never seen anything like it. Urizen's atmosphere isn't that perfect.

VIC

Uri is working on Dox.

WES

It's useless. Even with my password.

Disappointed, Vic leaves the room.

IN AN INCLINED MICROCHIP TUNNEL

Uri, tired and sweating, examines small computer components with an instrument.

He plugs a terminal into the mainframe computer and enters a password on a keypad with strange symbols.

IN THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHAMBER

Wes examines a small space craft probe. On the bottom of it there's a spherical camera.

IN AN INCLINED MICROCHIP TUNNEL

Uri replaces a microchip. He turns the terminal back on and receives a powerful ELECTRIC DISCHARGE.

Unconscious, Uri slides down the tunnel.

IN THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHAMBER

Wes works on the probe as the lights shut off.

IN THE DARK CORRIDORS

Walking down the corridor with a flashlight strapped on his chest, Wes turns into another corridor and finds another beam of light.

WES

I see you're not dead.

VIC

Where are the others?

They look at each other in the darkness. She is intimidated by his look.

WES

You can't override or shut down Dox. Power will return soon.

EXT. SPACE

The space craft approaches Earth.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE DARK CORRIDORS

Tor pulls Uri out of the tunnel.

Uri is still dizzy.

URI

I'm okay.

Two light beams approach from down the corridor.

Uri tries to stand up.

TOR

Relax. Let Vic take a look at you.

URI

I said I'm fine.

Wes and Vic join them.

VIC

What happened?

URI

We can't override Dox. We need to destroy the Rescuer, and make Dox create a new directive.

The light returns. Wes is doubtful.

WES

It won't work.

Tor tries to walk away but Wes grabs his arm. With incredible ability Tor twists Wes' arm and throws him down.

Tor disappears down the corridor. Uri follows him. Wes agonizes on the floor.

Vic stares, mesmerized, through a huge window in the corridor, at a clear view of planet Earth.

Wes gets up and joins her.

WES

It's pulsating life.

VIC

Beautiful.

IN THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHAMBER

Tor pounds the controls of a small space craft with a huge hammer, destroying it.

Uri connects a terminal into a main frame connector. He types on a keypad and laughs.

URI

It's working! Dox is confused.

Wes enters the chamber. He stares at the destroyed controls of the Rescuer spacecraft.

WES

Fools. The Rescuer was your only chance.

URI

Wrong. You were our only problem.

Wes pushes the probe with a spherical camera onto a track and locks it into position. He walks to a control panel.

TOR

What are you doing?

Vic enters the chamber.

WES

The probe will go down to the planet's surface.

Tor looks at Uri.

URI

The probe's energy consumption is insignificant.

Wes moves a lever and the probe slides into a hatch.

WES

This planet is our only chance.

URI

Your only chance. We're going home.

VIC

What's down there?

WES

We'll soon find out.

IN THE ENGINE CHAMBER

Uri works on one of two huge cylindrical engines with a terminal connected into the main frame system.

EXT. SPACE CRAFT

The small probe separates from the huge space craft.

Suddenly a rocket-propeller ignites and the probe flies towards the immense blue planet. Some of the continental land can be seen.

The huge space craft orbits Earth as the probe disappears plunging into the atmosphere.

IN THE CONTROL CHAMBER

Wes and Vic stare at a screen. Tor enters the chamber.

TOR

We're in control! Dox allowed the recharging of the mother ship's engines. But Uri said they're in bad shape.

WES

Those engines will never reach propulsion status.

TOR

You're not an engineer. And there's nothing down there.

ON THE SCREEN

There're no images. Just black.

EXT. EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE

Like a comet, the probe cuts the atmosphere at an incredible speed leaving a tail of flame behind.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE CONTROL CHAMBER

Wes checks the readings on a panel.

WES

It won't stand the heat much longer.

Vic and Tor stare at the screen.

Uri enters the chamber.

URI

We might not reach a stable orbit with
one engine.

WES

This ship is a coffin. I'm going down.

Uri checks the instruments for the probe next to Wes.

URI

It's over. Your toy melted down.

VIC

It's in!

ON THE SCREEN

A fuzzy image appears for a second.

They all stare at the screen.

EXT. SKY - DAY

The probe dives through the clouds as the view of the ocean below gradually
clears.

It dives at an incredible speed towards the ocean. Suddenly metal wing blades
open and the probe's diving angle gradually decreases.

The probe cruises above the immense clear blue ocean.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

ON THE SCREEN

A fuzzy image appears for a second. Wes, excited, moves a control lever trying to
bring back the image.

WES

It didn't melt down.

VIC

I saw something.

TOR

Water...

URI

I didn't see anything.

VIC

Water.

ON THE SCREEN

The image of the ocean becomes clearer. Some sporadic bursts of interference cut the screen.

Wes stares closely at the screen.

WES

Water. The cradle of life.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

Land can be seen far away as the probe cruises at high speed above the water.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

On a beach in front of a cliff, different species of bird fill the air. Some return to their nests on the cliff rocks.

A gigantic turtle slowly lumbers across the white sand.

The probe hovers above the beach, slowly descending to the sand.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

Wes, Tor and Vic are mesmerized by the images.

Uri, finally taken by the delightful curiosity of the others, gets closer to the image of the gigantic turtle.

URI

Looks like a Seatank from my homeland.

WES

The water and the air have a chemical composition similar to that of Urizen.

TOR

How could that happen?

WES

This planet has a level of exposure to the source of energy similar to Urizen. It's the key to a pattern of chemical reactions leading to life forms. Our star is bigger, but our planet is further away from it.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

The probe slowly takes off vertically.

EXT. CLIFF - DAY

The probe hovers in front of the bird nests on the cliff rocks.

It arrives at the top of the cliff. In front, there's a sea of green: A dense forest extending to the horizon.

Several huge wild boars graze near the edge of the cliff. All of a sudden they run into the forest.

A LOUD ROAR comes from inside the dark forest. The probe flies to where the sound came from.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The probe flies over the forest close to the tree tops.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

ON THE SCREEN

There's an infra-red image of a lion-like animal running through the forest. The probe follows it.

VIC

What a terrifying roar.

TOR

A hungry predator.

WES

We have to go down. I want to see it with my own eyes.

URI

I'll pass on that.

WES

We're losing it.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Flying close to the tree tops, the probe's left blade wing hits a tree branch, spins out of control and plunges into the forest.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

The crew members stare in dismay at the black screen.

INT. FOREST - DAY

The animal comes to a stop. Sunlight penetrating the dark forest illuminates the wild cat: An enormous saber tooth lion with its huge sharp fangs sticking out.

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

A group of animals gathers in the clearing: CANNIBAL APE-MEN, furious and dangerous creatures, looking like a cross between a furious human and a furious baboon.

They tear apart and devour an animal.

The animal satisfying their hunger is an ape-man of a different race: the X APE-MAN. The features of this race are a cross between a peaceful human and a peaceful chimpanzee. It's still alive.

A cannibal ape-man strikes the X ape-man in the head with his fist.

Plunging his fingers into the X ape-man's eye, another cannibal ape-man takes it out and eats it as a delicacy.

The other terrified eye of the X ape-man loses the last sign of life.

The cannibal ape-men continue the feast with blood dripping from their mouths.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The saber tooth lion approaches the clearing.

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

One of the cannibal ape-men sniffs the air, suspiciously.

All of a sudden the saber tooth lion bursts from the forest and jumps on one of the cannibal ape-men. The others run into the forest.

The saber tooth lion tightens its jaws on the cannibal ape-man's neck as he fights desperately for his life.

The saber tooth lion holds on to its prey which finally succumbs to death.

A saber tooth lioness joins the feast accompanied by her cubs.

They devour the cannibal ape-man and the X ape-man.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE CORRIDORS

The space craft trembles.

IN THE ENGINE CHAMBER

Hanging next to the top of one of two huge cylindrical engines, Uri desperately examines a panel of exposed microchips.

Tor observes him from below.

IN THE CONTROL CHAMBER

Wes checks a control panel.

WES

(into communicator)

The orbit is unstable. We're closing in.

IN THE SHUTTLE CHAMBER

Vic loads the shuttle with additional supplies. The trembling of the space craft increases.

She loses her balance and falls to the floor.

IN THE ENGINE CHAMBER

Uri holds on to the cylindrical engine-rocket as the space craft trembles.

Tor stands below talking on the communicator.

TOR

(to Uri)

We must evacuate the ship. The shuttle is ready.

URI

We still have time. I'm staying.

TOR

I'm going down.

URI

This ship is our only chance.

Uri continues his work testing microchip panels with an instrument, one by one.

EXT. SPACE CRAFT

The space craft drifts in a low orbit. Earth's continental plates can be clearly seen.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

Different animal species graze and wander around the beautiful scenery of the "paradise" planet.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE SHUTTLE CHAMBER

Wes helps Vic load a container into the space shuttle. Tor enters the chamber carrying weapons.

WES

We're not going to a war. We've just found paradise.

TOR

There's no such place. Either we'll be predators or prey.

VIC

Where's Uri? He didn't take the immunization shots.

TOR

He still thinks he can fix the engines.

VIC

Maybe I should stay with him.

WES

You're a doctor not an engineer.

VIC

You really don't care if we ever return home?

WES

I wouldn't risk my life for it.

TOR

Neither would I. And neither will you. By the book we evacuate now.

WES

Uri can still make it in the survival capsule.

TOR

If he doesn't, he doesn't.

Tor loads the weapons into the shuttle. The space craft's TREMBLING increases.

IN THE ENGINE CHAMBER

Inside a narrow tunnel, Uri unscrews a panel. Below him Earth's continental plates can be seen through a window.

Freezing, Uri illuminates the panel with a flashlight. It's completely cluttered with ice and rust.

IN THE SHUTTLE CHAMBER

The shuttle is placed on the launching tracks. The space craft SHAKES TERRIBLY.

EXT. SPACE CRAFT

The space craft roams in a low orbit around earth. Only one of two engines works.

The shuttle leaves the huge space craft.

It plunges into earth's atmosphere.

INT. SPACE SHUTTLE

Wes, Tor and Vic tremble in their seats as the shuttle enters the earth's atmosphere at an incredible speed.

EXT. SPACE SHUTTLE

Cutting through the planet's atmosphere, the shuttle leaves a tail of fire behind.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

A gigantic whale floats in the calm ocean.

INT. SPACE SHUTTLE - DAY

The three passengers, sweating and tense, hold on to their seats. Wes is confident, Vic frightened, Tor desperate.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

The shuttle cuts the sky at an incredible speed going down to the ocean. It gradually levels off, reaching a horizontal trajectory.

The shuttle cruises above the ocean waters, passing by several whales.

INT. SPACE SHUTTLE - DAY

Tor laughs wildly, relieved. Vic takes a deep breath. Wes is fascinated with the outside view.

VIC

This was the toughest entry I've ever had.

TOR

You haven't seen much then. This was easy.

Wes stares out the window, mesmerized.

WES

I've never seen anything like this... Blue water... blue sky... Urizen was never this beautiful...

The shuttle cruises over the ocean.

EXT. SPACE SHUTTLE - DAY

The shuttle gains altitude as it approaches land.

There's a high cliff in front of the ocean. Huge waves slam into the wall of rock.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The shuttle cruises over a forest.

EXT. PLAINS - DAY

The shuttle flies over a mammoth.

A herd of buffalo runs across the plains.

INT. SPACE SHUTTLE - DAY

Wes, Vic and Tor stare out the shuttle's window as it hovers over a clearing next to a waterfall of a crystal clear creek.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - DAY

A deer drinking water runs into the forest, scared, as the shuttle hovers over the clearing.

It reaches the ground. The engine is turned off. A side hatch opens.

Wes comes out, feeling the sun rays on his face.

Kneeling on the ground, he grabs a handful of dirt as if it were gold.

Vic steps out, taken by emotion.

VIC

It's beautiful...

Tor looks around laughing and fascinated. He approaches the creek.

TOR

Water!

He jumps into the crystal clear water of the creek.

Vic joins him in the water.

Wes looks around exploding in curiosity. A huge eagle cruising the sky grabs his attention.

WES

Look at that creature.

Vic and Tor splash water like little kids.

Wes walks to the creek and scoops up the "precious" liquid with his hand.

Vic and Tor pull him into the water.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A deer watches the "bizarre creatures" having fun in the water.

EXT. SPACE CRAFT

One of the space craft turbines works at low power. Suddenly the second turns on at full power and goes back off.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE ENGINE CHAMBER

In front of the control panel, Uri moves a lever slowly.

EXT. SPACE CRAFT

Both the space craft's turbines turn on at full power.

The space craft gains speed in its low orbit around earth. But not for long.

One of the turbines explodes. Both shut down.

The space craft slowly drifts in space.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE ENGINE CHAMBER

The engine chamber is on fire.

Uri puts out the fire with an extinguisher.

IN THE CORRIDOR

The corridor is now inclined. Uri walks at a fast pace. The space craft TREMBLES terribly. He trips, falls and gets back on his feet.

Earth's continental plates can be clearly seen through the corridor window.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - NIGHT

Wes and Vic sit around a camp fire. Wes stares at the stars. Vic looks up.

VIC

Which one is ours?

WES

I don't know. I can't see it.

Wes points to the Capricorn constellation.

WES

That's the Riz constellation... My wife died on a planet near the second star of Riz... We were part of a mining expedition...

VIC

You survived Riz? Amazing. Do you think we're ever going home?

WES

No.

VIC

You're supposed to say yes.

Tor comes out of the shuttle.

TOR

Nothing. We lost contact.

WES

He has our location.

VIC

He'll be fine.

There are different ANIMAL SOUNDS coming from the dark forest.

TOR

I'm concerned about us.

Tor stares at the dark forest.

WES

They're afraid of fire.

VIC

How can you be so sure.

The NOISE of cracking wood coming from nearby makes them apprehensive.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

An X ape-man stares curiously at the space ship and crew members standing around the campfire.

Wes takes a torch from the fire and walks towards the forest.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - NIGHT

Vic and Tor watch Wes.

VIC

Come back, Wes!

TOR

I'm not taking chances with any predators.

Tor picks up a gun.

TOR

I'm sleeping inside with one of these.

Tor walks back to the shuttle. Vic follows him.

Looking curiously into the forest, Wes can't see anything.

He returns to the campfire.

EXT. SPACE

The space craft drifts sideways in a very low orbit. It's closing in.

INT. SPACE CRAFT

IN THE SHUTTLE CHAMBER

The chamber is totally inclined. The walls TREMBLE towards destruction.

Uri struggles to boards a survival space capsule.

EXT. SPACE CRAFT

The space craft plunges into Earth's atmosphere. The fuselage steams with the heat. Friction with the air makes a tail of fire.

The capsule leaves the space craft, diving into the atmosphere at a less inclined angle.

The space craft dives in a ball of fire.

EXT. SKY - NIGHT

The ball of fire cruises the sky filled with stars and a full moon.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The immense ball of fire hits the ground, opening a trail of destruction through the dense forest.

The forest burns around the clearing opened by the space craft, illuminating the night.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The sun rises in "paradise." There's wild life everywhere.

The sun rays reflect from a silver object in the green tree tops.

IN THE TREE TOPS

Uri's survival capsule, badly damaged, is entangled with a silver parachute.

INT. CAPSULE

Uri is unconscious.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - DAY

Wes collects samples of the soil.

Vic takes a bath under the waterfall, naked. Wes looks at her for a moment.

Carrying a powerful high-tech gun, Tor exits the space shuttle.

TOR

I'll secure the surroundings.

WES

There's nothing to secure. Wild life is unpredictable.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

IN THE TREE TOPS

Uri, still dizzy, comes out of the capsule with difficulty.

Evaluating the situation for a moment, he tries to get down but loses his balance, taking a terrible dive to the ground, hitting branches.

Uri slowly recovers. The head of a huge python, sleeping under leaves, makes him get quickly back on his feet.

Scared, he retreats, staring at the python which is digesting its last meal: a huge animal in its belly.

Uri checks a locator instrument, a high tech compass with a red dot flashing on a small screen.

He limps across the forest.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - DAY

Vic took a deep breath as she contemplates the "discovered paradise." Wes walks out of the shuttle.

WES

A capsule was launched before mother ship's destruction. I have a signal.

VIC

Uri's all right. I know it.

WES

He might be injured.

A BLAST in the forest: a mixture of a gun shot with a short circuit sound of electricity.

VIC

Tor.

WES

I'm following the signal.

Tor comes out of the forest dragging a wild boar.

TOR

Look at the fangs on this predator.

WES

You're the only danger around here.

VIC

We have a signal from Uri.

WES

You two stay here. I'm following the signal.

TOR

Nobody goes anywhere alone. I'm going with you.

VIC

I'm not staying here by myself.

Vic follows Wes and Tor into the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Uri walks through the woods. There's a sound of branches and wood cracking far behind him. He stops and looks back.

Uri runs.

A group of wild animals run in pursuit. The species can't be clearly identified.

Uri reaches a clearing, exhausted.

The wild animals are the cannibal ape-men. They stare at Uri in the clearing.

Frightened, Uri stares at the cannibal ape-men coming out of the forest from every direction.

He doesn't move. The cannibal ape-men close in, confident they've got their prey.

Uri tries to run into the forest. A cannibal ape-man knocks him down.

He avoids a ferocious bite from a second cannibal ape-man and escapes into the forest.

The cannibal ape-men scream and chase their prey.

EXT. HILL - DAY

Wes, followed by Vic and Tor, reach the top of a hill, facing a sea of green covering the land all the way to a group of mountains in the distance.

Wes checks on an instrument similar to Uri's locator.

WES

He stopped moving.

VIC
He must be resting.

TOR
Or dead.

Tor looks through high-tech binoculars: a group of mammoth graze near a lagoon.

TOR
Take a look at those creatures.

WES
Fascinating.

VIC
We're wasting time.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes, Tor and Vic walk through the woods. Wes checks the locator instrument.

WES
He's close.

VIC
Uri!

TOR
Uri! You lousy stupid engineer.

They reach the clearing where Uri was earlier.

EXT. CLEARING - DAY

Wes finds Uri's locator. Tor approaches.

TOR
He dropped the locator. Couldn't expect anything else.

Examining the ground, Wes picks up some fur fibers.

WES
There were creatures in this area.

Investigating the surroundings, Vic kneels to the ground.

VIC

Wes. Tor.

There's blood on the ground.

Wes and Tor approach.

VIC

Blood. He must be injured.

Holding up his gun, Tor examines the branches leading back to the forest.

TOR

He's being pursued by a hungry hoard of
beasts.

Wes finds a trail of blood leading into the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Walking at a fast pace, Wes, Tor and Vic follow the trail of blood.

They reach a clearing next to a tree where there's a huge puddle of blood.

Vic's horrified. Tor's angry, ready for revenge.

Wes finds the continuation of the trail of blood. This time it's unmistakable, as if a bloody carcass has been dragged through the forest.

They carefully follow the blood.

Next to a tree, a cannibal ape-man with a bloody mouth eats something. He sniffs the air suspiciously.

Wes, Tor and Vic stare at the cannibal ape-man who screams, threatening. Tor BLOWS him away with his gun.

WES

Don't!

TOR

This isn't time for scientific investigations.

Wes kneels beside the cannibal ape-man. Vic stares at the shot species who resembles their own.

WES
Remarkably similar.

Wes holds the cannibal ape-man's hand.

VIC
Five fingers.

Tor picks up what the cannibal ape-man was eating: a six fingered hand similar to his own.

TOR
This one has six.

Vic's very upset. Wes comforts her.

VIC
He didn't want to come...

Tor finds the continuation of the trail of blood.

TOR
There are others. I'll take care of them.

WES
They're just following their instinct for survival.

TOR
So am I.

Tor follows the trail, gun in hand, ready to shoot.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

A group of cannibal ape-men come out of the forest. One carries Uri's bloody carcass.

They drink water.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

A bigger group of X ape-men, males, females and offspring, eat fruit.

The males rush to the river screaming, slamming their fists on the ground, threatening their enemies on the other side of the river not to dare come closer.

The females take their young ones into the forest.

The cannibal ape-men, outnumbered and already carrying a prey, aren't up to a fight. They scream back but slowly move away alongside the river.

Tor comes out of the forest and guns down the cannibal ape-men.

The X ape-men on the other side back off, scared.

Wes and Vic reach the river.

Fascinated, Wes watches the other race of ape-men fleeing into the forest.

Tor stares at Uri's bloody carcass next to the dead cannibal ape-men. Vic approaches.

TOR

You don't want to see this.

Vic looks anyway, horrified. A cannibal ape-man moves, grabbing her leg. Tor finishes him off.

WES

Killing them won't bring Uri back.

TOR

I'm worried about us.

WES

Please, don't worry about me. This is a scientific expedition. No more killings, unless it's in self defense.

TOR

That's exactly what I'm doing. There are more on the other side ready to eat us for lunch.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

Hiding behind the vegetation, frightened X ape-men stare at the "powerful strangers."

Wes walks into the river and swims to the other side.

TOR

Where does he think he's going?

VIC

He can take care of himself.

TOR

I'm sure that Uri could too.

Vic covers Uri's body with leaves and branches.

VIC

Uri spent most of his life inside a star ship.
Wes was at Riz. His wife died there.

TOR

And he'll be next.

VIC

Compared to Riz this is paradise.

TOR

Death's the same anywhere.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

Wes examines the remains of fruit that the X ape-men were eating.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - NIGHT

Wes and Tor place Uri's body on a pile of wood.

Wrapping a small green branch and a flower in a piece of white cloth, Vic places it on the body.

Tor lights the fire.

They stare in silence as the flames consumed Uri's body.

MOMENTS LATER

Wes, Tor and Vic sit around the campfire in silence.

A wolf HOWLS. Tor throws wood in the fire.

VIC

Those creatures remind me of the katagas of Urizen.

WES

We evolved from the katagas.

TOR

Maybe you did. Not me.

WES

I'm talking about science.

TOR

I believe the scriptures. The founders of Urizen came from the sky.

WES

I'm going back to that river tomorrow.

VIC

I'm going with you.

TOR

We're staying on this planet a long time. We should secure the perimeter with a security fence.

VIC

...Forever ...That's how long.

WES

Perhaps you are right. We can use the waterfall as a source of energy.

TOR

I'm right! It's good to hear that from you at least once in a lifetime.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - DAY

Vic helps Wes lift a pole and place it into a hole. Tor connects two poles with a silver web. They are building an electric fence around the camp.

VIC

I don't like the idea of living in a cage.

TOR

Perhaps you would like to be free and dead.

WES

I'm returning to that river as soon as we're done. I'm also planning to go to those mountains we saw yesterday.

TOR

Suit yourself. I'm shooting down any katagas in sight.

WES

The ones I saw on the other side were eating fruit.

TOR

That'll be their desert after they have you for lunch.

VIC

(to Wes)

I'm going with you.

EXT. TOP OF THE WATERFALL - DAY

One kataga, or X ape-man, watches the "strangers." He picks up some fruit and leaves.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - DAY

Tor places a device under the waterfall. It has several spoon-like spears around an axle. The water propels them turning a generator and creating electricity.

Red lights on top of the fence poles light up.

Wes touches the fence rapidly, receiving a shock.

VIC

It'll scare any predator.

WES

I wouldn't be so sure about that.

Tor jumps into the water.

Wes packs a bag for his exploration expedition. Tor approaches, soaked.

TOR

Relax, Wes. The katagas aren't going anywhere.

VIC

Maybe we should go some other day.

WES

You can do whatever you want. I'll be all right.

Wes leaves the camp. Vic follows him.

Tor relaxes for a moment, dries off, puts his clothes back on, grabs a gun and follows the first two into the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes, Vic and Tor walk through the forest.

Wes kneels next to a tree.

Giant ants devour a dead bird. Wes picks up one of the ants with tweezers and places it in a small container.

TOR

These small creatures are everywhere. I thought we were after the katagas.

WES

This is a different species. The last one had wings.

VIC

Stop calling them katagas. They are not. Perhaps we should name them.

WES

"X." They're the evolutionary counterpart of the katagas.

TOR

They're our enemies if we're planning to survive on this planet.

WES

They're an irrational species. We're not. This is their planet.

VIC

Irrationality is something they have in common with you, Tor.

EXT. HILL - DAY

Buffaloes graze on a hill. Wes, Vic and Tor exit the forest. The buffalo run away.

WES

They think we're predators.

VIC

Look at all that fruit.

Wes walks to a tree filled with fruit, takes one, examines it, smells it and takes a bite.

TOR

Are you crazy?

WES

The Xs were eating this fruit. If they can eat it so can we.

VIC

If this is their source of food they might be around.

TOR

We and everything that moves are their source of food.

They sit on the grass, eating the fruit and resting. A buffalo comes out of the forest.

VIC

Poor animal. They left him behind.

Vic walks slowly towards the buffalo. All of a sudden it runs away.

Ahead, a saber tooth lion darts out of the forest and knocks the defenseless animal to the ground.

Vic retreats. Tor points his gun to shoot down the lion but Wes holds him.

Tor pushes Wes to the ground and opens FIRE, killing the lion.

TOR

Sometimes the best defense is to attack.

WES

I'm the commander of this expedition.

TOR

You were, remember? I'm in charge of security.

Tor approaches Vic.

TOR

Are you okay?

Vic ignores him and helps Wes get up.

WES

(to Tor)

You sure scared every living thing in this area.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - NIGHT

Wes, Tor and Vic sit around the campfire. Vic stares at the stars. Tor reassembles one of his guns.

Wes writes on a small laptop computer that has only a dozen keystrokes with non-human symbols.

TOR

Don't waste your time. We're never getting out of here.

WES

Maybe these notes will.

Noise of BRANCHES BREAKING AND TREES FALLING comes from the forest.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The tree tops move as something huge goes through the jungle.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - NIGHT

Tor, Wes and Vic stand apprehensively.

A mammoth comes out of the forest.

Wes holds Tor's gun.

WES

He's just after water.

The mammoth walks to the river.

A second comes out of the forest closer to the camp fence. It rubs against the fence receiving an electric shock.

The mammoth CRIES OUT furiously.

VIC

We should hide in the shuttle.

Tor aims his gun as both mammoths approach threateningly and walks right through the fence.

Wes and Vic retreat to the shuttle.

Tor fires. One mammoth goes down.

The other mammoth charges furiously. Others come out of the forest. Tor runs and jumps in the river.

The mammoths completely destroy the fencing around the camp. The electric shocks make them even more furious.

One mammoth attacks the shuttle and turns it over.

Wes gets out of the shuttle and leads the mammoth away from it.

Vic gets out of the shuttle and runs to the waterfall, climbing the rocks to the top.

One mammoth pursues Wes into the river.

Wes joins Tor on the other side.

They climb the waterfall rocks joining Vic at the top.

The mammoths calm down and take over the camp.

EXT. TOP OF THE WATERFALL - DAY

The sun rises. Vic and Tor sleep on the ground while Wes stands guard with the gun.

He carefully looks down at the camp. The mammoths are still there, resting. The injured mammoth lies still.

Wes stares at Vic for a moment. An insect crawls up her body. Wes carefully removes it. She moves sideways, sound asleep. He caresses her face.

A mammoth CRY made him turn back to the edge of the waterfall.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - DAY

The mammoths slowly return to the forest following the trail they had opened. The injured one is left behind.

EXT. TOP OF THE WATERFALL - DAY

Wes wakes up Tor and Vic.

WES

Time to wake up.

Tor's back aches.

TOR

I need a real bed.

WES

The long-nose creatures are gone.

VIC

I hope the shuttle is okay.

They slowly walk down the rocks next to the waterfall.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - DAY

The camp is filled with mammoth excrement. The shuttle is turned over.

Wes and Vic check the injured mammoth. It's almost dead.

VIC

I need my medical equipment.

Wes examines the overturned shuttle. Tor examines the wrecked fence.

TOR

I can't fix the this.

WES

Let's turn the shuttle upright.

Wes hooks a cable to the top of the overturned shuttle.

TOR

I hope we can fly away from here.

This place stinks.

WES

The shuttle is made of an alloy that's
light but very strong.

Wes and Tor turn the shuttle back on its base.

INT. SHUTTLE - DAY

Everything is messed up. Wes checks the instruments. They are working. He grabs a metal medical case and exits.

EXT. WATERFALL CLEARING - DAY

Vic quickly takes an injection gun from the medical case and SHOOTs at the mammoth's skull.

VIC

His heart has stopped.

Wes and Tor observe as the mammoth's eyes bulge and then close.

WES

We should have treated him yesterday.

TOR

Tell that to his friends.

VIC

He's gone. Nothing I can do.

Wes looks at the sky. Vultures circle in the air.

WES

Let's get out of here.

TOR

We finally agree on something.

VIC

We should burn the carcass.

Wes stares apprehensively at the forest. A pack of huge wolves with long hair has smelled the fresh carcass.

WES

No sudden moves.

Tor realizes that his gun is next to the shuttle. Other wolves stand in front of the shuttle. They GROWL threateningly.

VIC

The river.

WES

Slowly.

A vulture lands on the dead mammoth, scaring Vic.

The wolves attack.

Wes, Tor and Vic run to the river and jump in.

Some wolves follow them down the stream but soon give up, returning to the banquet.

The wolves devour the dead mammoth.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Wes, Vic and Tor float down the river. Wes swims to the shore followed by Vic and Tor.

They rest on the riverside. Wes starts to laugh.

TOR

What's so funny? We almost got killed.
Twice.

WES

You should've seen your face when you saw
you didn't have your weapon.

TOR

I've got to get it back.

WES

All these creatures are irrational. We have the best and most dangerous weapon.

Wes points to his brain. It starts to drizzle. He stands and helps Vic get up.

VIC

I'm not sleeping outside again.

WES

We'll do just like our ancestors. Back to the caves.

TOR

Now I know how it must have felt to be a kataga, fighting to survive.

WES

There must be caves in the mountains we saw the other day.

TOR

The camp should be clear by tomorrow.

Vic reaches in her boot and takes out a cylindrical object.

VIC

We still got some protection.

Tor takes it and turns it on. It's a red laser beam blade knife. He turns it back off and puts it in his belt.

The rain pours. They run into the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The rain falls through the tree tops. Wes, Tor and Vic walk fast.

IN THE MIDDLE OF BUSHES BEHIND A BIG TREE

A group of X apemen huddle close to each other, rain drops hitting their faces. They patiently wait.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

The rain is intense. Wes, Tor and Vic are soaked and exhausted. Wes examines a rocky formation several feet up the mountain.

WES

There!

Tor and Vic follow Wes up the mountain. Vic slips. Tor helps her.

They reach the rocky formations. There's a tight entrance to a cave.

EXT. CAVE - DAY

Wes carefully examines the entrance.

WES

The cave might be taken.

Tor takes out his laser knife.

TOR

I'm sure they'll excuse us.

Tor enters. Wes and Vic follow.

INT. CAVE

The laser beam barely allows them to see in the darkness. They sit near the entrance.

TOR

I'll secure the area.

Tor walks into the darkness holding the laser beam ahead of him.

Vic hugs her knees, freezing. Wes gets closer and holds her.

WES

This'll keep us warm. Tor! Find something dry we can burn.

Tor stops. Near his feet there's a den where lion cubs are asleep and unnoticed. The cave seems very deep. He returns.

TOR

I can heat up the rocks.

Tor plunges the laser beam knife in a rock. It soon turns red from the heat. They all get close to the rock.

WES

How much energy is left?

Tor looks at the knife's handle.

TOR

Not much.

They wait in silence as the rain continues to pour outside.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

Fighting the rain, a saber tooth lion drags a dead infant X ape-man covered with blood up the mountain.

It stops, suddenly alert, dropping its prey.

INT. CAVE - DAY

WES

I feel like a kataga. This is life. Not what we had back home.

TOR

I would rather be in the sand dunes of Thyhui.

VIC

Why did you volunteer?

TOR

For the money of course.

WES

Money you can't spend isn't money.

TOR

My family will spend it for me.

WES

We're the discoverers of a new world. No one has ever seen what we've seen.

The mother saber tooth lion appears at the entrance of the cave ROARING furiously.

Vic and Tor retreat towards Wes. The lion attacks.

Vic pushes the beast back with her arm. Tor tries to help her. The lion bites Tor in the neck.

Wes kills the lion with the laser beam knife, slicing the beast in half.

Vic helps Tor. Her arm is bleeding. Blood pours from his neck. Wes takes off his jacket and presses it against Tor's neck.

VIC

We have to get him back to the shuttle.

WES

He can't go anywhere like that. I'll bring the shuttle here.

Wes leaves the cave.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

The rain continues to pour heavily. Wes runs down the mountain.

He slips and slides down landing in a puddle of mud.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Branches scratch his face as Wes runs through the forest.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Wes reaches the river. The water level is much higher and the current dangerously strong.

Wes swims diagonally across the river almost reaching the other side

He grabs a branch and pulls himself out of the river with difficulty.

INT. CAVE - DAY

Vic holds the bloody jacket against Tor's neck.

TOR

I'm not going to make it...

VIC

Yes you are. Wes will be back soon.

TOR

If you ever make it back... don't tell my family how I died.

VIC

You'll tell them how you survived yourself.

Vic looks at her bleeding arm.

Tor stares at the eyes of the dead lion.

There's NOISE coming from inside the dark cave.

Vic grabs the laser beam knife, holding it up firmly.

The lion cubs come out of the darkness crying for their mother.

EXT. WATERFALL - DAY

The clearing and the shuttle are gone. Tons of water pour down the waterfall, flooding the area.

Coming out of the forest, Wes goes to the edge of the river, staring at the strong currents.

Lightning cuts the sky, striking a tree nearby. Wes returns to the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Exhausted and defeated by the rain, Wes searches for shelter.

Freezing, he sits under a tree next to a rock and patiently waits.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

The rain stops. The clouds dissipate. The sun shines. A rainbow appears over the beautiful valley.

INT. CAVE - DAY

Tor rests in Vic's arms. She's asleep.

The hungry lion cubs try to feed on their dead mother's tits.

Vic opens her eyes.

Tor is dead.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Wes finds the shuttle in the middle of mud and tree branches on the river bank.

He examines the damage.

Pumping a lever manually, Wes opens the door of the shuttle slowly.

A NOISE in the woods attracts his attention but he doesn't see anything.

Wes enters the shuttle.

INT. SHUTTLE - DAY

Everything is a mess. Water slowly drips through the walls.

Wes checks the instrument panel. Nothing works. The shuttle moves slightly.

There's a THUMP on the fuselage of the shuttle.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Debris coming down the river accumulates around the shuttle: a log, tree branches and a dead deer. It deflects water into the shuttle.

INT. SHUTTLE - DAY

Wes finds the metal medical case and a weapon. Water pours in from the door.

Wes rushes out.

EXT. SHUTTLE - DAY

Wes pushes the debris away with his foot.

Dragging the dead bear aside, he lets the river take it away.

The shuttle starts to tip. More water pours in.

Wes desperately tries to close the door, but it moves too slowly.

A figure in the woods observes Wes trying to save the shuttle.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

The river wins, dragging the shuttle away. Wes jumps off and tries to swim to the shore with the medical case and the weapon.

The river drags Wes. He lets go of the medical case and the weapon, swimming to the shore.

Exhausted, he watches the river swallow the shuttle.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

Vic touches the lion cubs as they drink from a puddle of rain.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Soaked, Wes walks through the woods, heading back to the mountain where he left Vic and Tor.

A figure follows him far behind.

Wes stops and looks back. There are several figures far behind. He runs.

Several cannibal ape-men give chase.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

Apprehensive, Vic watches Wes exit the forest and climb the mountain toward her.

Wes looks back. The cannibal ape-men don't come out of the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Fearful, a cannibal ape-man watches Wes reach Vic outside the cave as if knowing he's near the cave of a dangerous saber tooth lion.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

VIC

What happened?

WES

They're following me.

VIC

They who? Where's the shuttle?

WES

How's Tor doing?

VIC

He's dead.

Wes is disappointed.

Slowly several ape-men come out of the forest.

Wes exits the cave dragging the carcass of the dead saber tooth lion and pushes it down the mountain.

The cannibal ape-men retreat, staring at the dead beast.

A cannibal ape-man fearfully approaches the dead lion.

Wes comes down the mountain screaming.

The cannibal ape-men retreat into the forest.

Wes returns to the cave. Vic stares at him in surprise.

VIC

Tor's body is in the cave...

WES

How's your arm?

VIC

It's okay, for now.

Vic examines the bite on her arm and rolls a piece of cloth around it.

VIC

I need my medical case.

WES

I lost it. The shuttle is gone. We'll have to do our best to survive, just like any of these creatures.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

A cannibal ape-man observes a big fire burning outside the mountain cave.

EXT. CAVE - NIGHT

The fire consumes Tor's body.

Wes throws more wood in the fire. Vic holds tighter one of the lion cubs sleeping on her lap.

Wes helps Vic lie on the ground, moving the lion cubs.

VIC

Watch my back.

WES

I will.

Wes caresses her. She falls asleep.

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

A large number of X ape-men, male/female adults and young ones, pick and eat fruit from trees.

An X ape-man is suddenly attentive, listening and sniffing the air. He screams.

Immediately the females grab their young and climb up the trees.

A large group of cannibal ape-men attack. The X ape-men race for safety in the treetops.

Two cannibal ape-men drag down one X ape-man as he tries to climb a tree.

Several other cannibal ape-men join in to tear their prey apart with their sharp teeth.

IN THE TREE TOPS

Fearful, the X ape-men watch the hungry cannibal ape-men drag the bloody carcass of the dead X ape-man into the forest.

Two cannibal ape-men climb a tree in pursuit of a young X ape-man.

Two adult X ape-men rush down to help the youngster. They furiously knock down the cannibal ape-men who aren't as agile as the X ape-man in the tree tops.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

A saber tooth lion cub licks Vic's face. She's asleep in Wes' arms. He's also asleep. Only hot coal is left in the fire.

Vic wakes up. Staring at Wes asleep she caresses his face. Wes opens his eyes. She smiles.

VIC

You fell asleep. We're lucky to be alive...
Did you at least have good dreams?

WES

...I'm sorry.

Vic rubs her cheek against Wes', looks into his eyes and walks into the cave. Wes followed her.

INT. CAVE - DAY

They hug, half side ways, each other with one of their legs locked in between the other's legs, and sensually rub cheeks.

HOURS LATER

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

They exit the cave half naked. The lion cubs were playing outside. Vic looks to the forest.

VIC

The katagas fear these creatures.

Vic caresses the saber tooth lion cubs.

WES

Very wise of them. How's your arm?

VIC

Infected. I need clean water.

WES

Let's return to the river.

VIC

What if the katagas are still out there?

WES

We'll just have to protect ourselves.

Wes turns the laser beam knife on. It's not as bright as before.

VIC

We can't recharge it.

INT. FOREST - DAY

Wes slowly cuts a small tree with the weakening laser beam knife.

He sharpens the point, making a deadly spear.

Vic, dizzy, sits by a tree. The two lion cubs sniff around. Her arm aches.

One of the lion cubs sniffs a nearby bush. A coral snake tries to slither away. The lion gets closer. The snake strikes. The lion CRIES in pain.

Wes strikes the snake with his spear. He misses. The snake escapes.

WES

Did you see that? A creature with no legs.
But it moves. Never seen anything like that.

Wes turns to Vic. She looks sick.

WES

Are you okay?

Wes and Vic watch the lion cub collapse and slowly die. Wes examines the lion cub.

WES

Dead. The legless creature must be venomous.

VIC

I'm sick, Wes.

Wes touches her forehead.

WES

You have a fever.

Wes ties a piece of string to the spear and hangs it on his back.

Taking Vic in his arms, he carries her into the forest. The other lion cub follows.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Wes cleans Vic's arm wound with water from the river and gives her some to drink. The lion cub drinks from the river.

VIC

The bite from its mother must have contaminated my system...

WES

Your immunity shot will protect you.

VIC

It would have done it by now... I'm weak...
I'm burning inside...

Vic looks at the lion cub.

VIC

Let him go. He may contaminate you.

WES

He won't bite me. You'll be fine.

EXT. MOUNTAIN CAVE - NIGHT

Wes puts a log on the fire. Vic shivers, the fever is worse then before.

It starts to drizzle.

Wes takes Vic into the cave.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Wes embraces and caresses Vic. The lion cub sleeps next to them. The sound of rain fills the dark cave.

EXT. MOUNTAIN CAVE - DAY

A cannibal ape-man carefully approaches the cave, investigating the extinguished fire.

He sniffs it and plunges his hand in the wet, black pile of coal. Hot coal, underneath, burns the hand of the cannibal ape-man who screams, retreating.

Wes exits the cave. The sunlight blinds him for a moment.

Wes and the cannibal ape-man stare at each other, measuring strengths.

The cannibal ape-man screams, bluffing. Wes stands his ground. The cannibal ape-man runs away.

INT. CAVE - DAY

Vic's body shakes. Bubbling white froth drips from her mouth. Wes wipes her mouth with a cloth.

VIC

I'm dying...

WES

You're not. Fight it.

VIC

Take me outside.

WES

I must find your medical case. It's
somewhere in the river.

VIC

No. There's nothing you can do... The
immunity shots won't work... It's too late...
I'm burning inside... Take me outside...

Taking her in his arms, Wes walks out.

EXT. MOUNTAIN CAVE - DAY

Vic feels the sun rays as if they were a potion of life.

VIC

It feels good... The star is a great source of
energy...

WES

The source of life.

VIC

You'll survive...

Vic's eyes close. She's dead.

Wes sits on the ground, holding her body tight against his chest.

YEARS EARLIER

EXT. URIZEN CITY - DAY

A sun shines in the bluish sky. The tone of blue is distinctively different from the
one on earth.

It's a futuristic high rise city built around a space shuttle launching facility.

The facility looks more like a monument, with arches and other architectural
extravaganzas. A CROWD is gathered for a very important event.

A ramp connects a high rise to the launching platform. Wes leads the crew of
twelve to the shuttle. The crowd roars far below. Vic, Tor and Uri are among the
others.

Wes and an URIZEN PRIEST put their six fingered hands together as in a ceremonial blessing.

Vic, Uri, Tor and the other members of the crew do the same.

Wes walks into the shuttle.

MOMENTS LATER

The shuttle rises into the sky.

INT. SHUTTLE - DAY

The crew members hold on to their seats as the shuttle cuts through Urizen's atmosphere.

Vic and Uri are tense. Tor hides his fear. Wes is determined.

EXT. URIZEN'S SPACE

The shuttle reaches a stable orbit. The continental plates of Urizen can be seen below.

The shuttle slowly moves towards the huge space craft.

INT. SHUTTLE

Wes stares at his homeland.

EXT. URIZEN'S SPACE

The shuttle enters the spacecraft.

The sun appears from behind the planet as the spacecraft slowly moves in its orbit.

MOMENTS LATER

The spacecraft's engines light up and it speeds away from Urizen.

One after the other the planets of Urizen's solar system are left behind.

The spacecraft leaves the solar system of Urizen and flies into the immense dark and unknown universe.

BACK TO THE PRESENT

EXT. TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Vic's body lies on a pile of wood. Wes approaches with a torch and lights the fire.

Beneath a full moon, Vic's body burns in the night.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

An X ape-man stares at the fire burning up in the mountain.

MONTHS LATER

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Wes sits by the river, staring at something on the other side. He now wears fur rags, looking like a cave man.

The young saber tooth lion approaches and drinks from the river.

WES

Get out of here, Urizen... You'll scare
them...

Wes pushes the animal he adopted and named after his home planet. The animal swings his paw at Wes, playfully.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

Behind bushes, an X ape-man stares at a basket of fruit lying on the river bank.

Carrying his spear and followed by the young lion, Wes goes back into the forest.

The X ape-man shyly approaches the basket, grabs some fruit and runs back into the forest.

EXT. MOUNTAIN CAVE - DAY

Wes, followed by the young lion, returns carrying the basket of fruit.

He has constructed a hut from branches and leaves next to the cave entrance. Sitting outside, he bites on a fruit.

WES

Taste this, Urizen. It's much easier than hunting.

The lion sniffs the fruit, rejecting the offer with a ROAR. It leaves for the forest.

MOMENTS LATER

Wes lies on the ground, relaxing, with nothing to do or worry about.

A small rock rolls down the mountain, bouncing near Wes. He looks up but doesn't see anything.

Wes turns to find a cannibal ape-man staring at him from a rock to his left, fifty feet away.

Other cannibal ape-men come out of the forest and head up the mountain towards Wes who grabs his spear.

The cannibal ape-men slowly close in, cautiously measuring their prey's strength.

Wes screams and swings his spear trying to show strength and scare them away.

He turns around to find a cannibal ape-man standing on a rock above the cave.

The cannibal ape-man dives on him. Wes skillfully turns the spear which plunges into the attacker.

Wes runs up the mountain with the cannibal ape-men in pursuit.

Up on a rock, he pokes them with the spear, holding them back. The cannibal ape-men surround him.

Attacking, Wes plunges the spear into one of the cannibal ape-men and flees to his left.

A cannibal ape-man strikes him in the back. Losing his balance, Wes rolls down the mountain.

The cannibal ape-men run down the mountain after their defeated prey.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Injured and dizzy from the fall, Wes drags himself away from the approaching attackers and towards the forest.

The cannibal ape-men attack Wes, striking and biting.

Urizen, the young saber tooth lion, returns carrying a dead rabbit. It drops the rabbit and attacks the cannibal ape-men.

The lion bites a cannibal ape-man. The others retreat.

Another cannibal ape-man jumps on the young lion's back and bites its neck. The lion spins the ape-man off his back.

Urizen is badly injured and cannot keep his balance.

The other cannibal ape-men, seeing the injured young enemy, return to kill.

They shred the young lion with their sharp teeth, leaving just a bloody carcass.

They scream celebrating their victory.

The hungry cannibal ape-men feast on the lion like a pack of hyenas.

Injured and covered in blood, Wes stays still, playing dead as the cannibal ape-men surround him.

They drag Wes and the lion's carcass through the woods. Another cannibal ape-man carrying an infant X ape-man joins them.

EXT. CANNIBAL APE-MEN'S HIDEOUT - DAY

Dragging their prey, the hunters bring food home: a rocky cliff formation filled with small caves.

Young cannibal ape-men and females come out of the caves and run down: lunch is served.

The hunters toss the lion's carcass to the ground.

The youngsters devour what is left of the animal. The females wait until their young ones are satisfied.

Wes and the infant X ape-men are dragged to a small cave: they're being "saved for dinner."

INT. CANNIBAL APE-MEN'S CAVE - DAY

Wes opens his eyes. The bloody infant X ape-man lies on his chest. Wes moves him aside.

The infant X ape-man coughs blood out of his tiny mouth. His eyes open slightly.

Wes examines the injured infant X ape-man who is too scared and weak to react.

WES

Hang on, little friend.

Wes' shoulder aches as he tries to move, dragging himself to the cave's entrance.

OUTSIDE

The cannibal ape-men rest, digesting their meal.

Wes pulls the tiny X ape-man by his foot.

WES

We're getting out of here.

He puts the infant X ape-man over his shoulder.

All of a sudden, a cannibal ape-man appears in the small cave entrance, blocking their way and screaming as if sounding an alarm.

Wes shoves his foot into the cannibal ape-man, pushing him off the cliff.

EXT. CANNIBAL APE-MEN'S HIDEOUT - DAY

Screaming caos among the cannibal ape-men. The adult males climb the cliff after Wes.

Wes climbs up the cliff, carrying the infant X ape-man, slips and almost falls.

A cannibal ape-man comes out of a cave above Wes, screaming and showing his sharp teeth.

Wes moves sideways. Below him the other cannibal ape-men close in.

Wes throws rocks at them. One cannibal ape-man is hit on the head and tumbles down the cliff.

The cannibal ape-man above Wes attacks. Wes pushes him off the cliff and almost dives with the attacker who crashes into another cannibal ape-man.

Wes climbs the cliff with the cannibal ape-men after him.

Reaching the top, he almost loses the infant X ape-man who slides off his shoulder.

EXT. TOP OF THE CLIFF - DAY

Wes puts the infant on the ground, grabs a piece of wood and strikes the cannibal ape-men who reach the top. But they are just too many.

Grabbing the infant X ape-man, Wes runs into the forest.

The cannibal ape-men give chase.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Exhausted, Wes runs through the woods, chased by the ferocious cannibal ape-men.

EXT. RIVER CLIFF - DAY

Wes reaches a dead end. A high cliff with wild rapids below. It's too high to jump.

The cannibal ape-men reach the cliff.

Wes has no choice but to jump with the infant X ape-man over his shoulder.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

UNDERWATER

Wes and the infant X ape-man plunge into the river.

IN THE RAPIDS

They are carried away. Wes struggles not to drown.

The rapids reach a waterfall. Wes and the infant X ape-man take another dive.

After the waterfall, the river current slows down. Wes swims to the shore carrying the infant X ape-man.

ON THE SHORE

Exhausted, Wes lies down, coughing water out.

He examines the infant X ape-man and blows air into his mouth. The tiny ape-man coughs out water. His weak eyes stare at Wes who smiles.

WES

What a ride... We're lucky to be alive little friend.

Wes lies on the ground finally resting in safety.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Wes walks towards the horizon, carrying the infant X ape-man on his back. The sun is setting.

EXT. NEW CAMP - DAY

Wes finds a new place under a rock below a steep cliff.

DAYS LATER

Wes cuts a tree using an ax made with a sharp rock.

The infant X ape-man eats a fruit, observing his friend.

WEEKS LATER

Wes plays with the infant X ape-man, spitting fruit seeds at him and hiding behind a pile of logs.

MONTHS LATER

Wes drags a log towards a half built log-house under the rock.

The infant X ape-man chases a rabbit, playing around.

TEN YEARS LATER

Wes, ten years older, places sharp spears in the ground, fixing the third row of a complex defensive fence.

His new hideout is a log fortress built under the rock below the steep cliff.

The infant X ape-man is now a teenager. He attentively observes Wes working.

WES

X, bring me another one.

Wes points to the pile of spears. X, the young ape-man, clumsily drags a spear to Wes.

He takes the spear and finishes the repair.

WES

We're done. Good job X.

EXT. NEW CAMP - NIGHT

Sitting next to a campfire, Wes stares at the stars.

X sleeps at his side. Wolves HOWL in the night. X wakes up scared and runs to the house.

WES

Come back, X. I want to show you where I came from...

Wes is completely immersed in the vision of hundreds of stars.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Wes and X pick fruit from a tree. X eats the fruit. Wes puts his in a basket.

X tries to grab a fruit from the basket but Wes won't let him.

WES

Go get your own.

X steals one anyway. Wes throws a fruit at the excited young ape-man. X grabs a fruit from the tree and retaliates. They get into a fruit war.

ON THE OTHER SIDE

A group of adult X ape-men stare.

WES

Our friends are back.

The X ape-men grab fruit from a basket and return to the forest.

Wes signals X to follow him across the river. The ape-man is afraid of the water. X gets on Wes' back and they cross the river.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes, followed by X, tries to catch up with the X ape-men. They disappear way ahead.

They walk through the woods for hours, but don't find the X ape-men.

Wes and X rest near a tree. Wes hums a song, catching X's attention. He swings his spear to the rhythm of the song. X looks curiously.

Wes hands the spear to the ape-man.

WES

You're getting old enough to learn how to use this.

X cannot hold on to the spear firmly.

Wes shows him how to wrap his hands around the spear and throw it.

X awkwardly holds on to the spear.

WES

That's it. Hold it tight.

X swings the spear almost hitting Wes.

WES

That's not exactly the idea but it's a good start.

Wes shows him how to pound the ground with the spear as if it was an ax.

X tries it. The spear flies behind some bushes. X runs to get it.

HOURS LATER

Wes and X walk back to their camp. It's getting dark. Wes stops. There's a wild boar grazing near a tree.

WES

I'm tired of fruit.

Behind bushes, Wes cautiously approaches the wild boar.

The animal senses danger but it's too late. Wes' spear plunges into its flesh.

EXT. NEW CAMP - NIGHT

Wes roasts the wild boar over the fire. X walks back and forth, waiting for food.

Wes cuts a piece of flesh with a stone made knife and tastes it.

WES

Good. Taste it.

X won't come too close to the fire. Wes brings the food to X's mouth. The ape-man rejects it. Wes eats it.

WES

I was never a big fan of roasted flesh. My
father
loved it.

Wes cuts another piece for the ape-man.

WES

I really miss the crew... Vic, Tor, Uri...

The ape-man chews the crisp roasted meat.

The fire burns in the night. A full moon shines in the sky. The two friends satisfy their hunger quietly.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

An animal walks through the woods. It gets to the border of the forest facing Wes' new camp.

The animal is a cannibal ape-man. He stares at the camp. Other cannibal ape-men approach behind him.

EXT. NEW CAMP - NIGHT

X stares at the dark forest suspiciously and runs into the house.

Wes puts more wood into the fire.

Lighting up a torch, he walks towards the forest.

Still behind the spear fence, he lights up three piles of wood, placed symmetrically behind the fence.

Wes stares at the forest, but doesn't see anything.

EXT. NEW CAMP - DAY

A cannibal ape-man cautiously approaches the surrounding spear fence. The camp fires are down to ashes.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

Wes sleeps on a bed of leaves covered with leather. X sleeps on the ground. He suddenly wakes up.

Screaming, the X ape-man retreats into the cave entrance in the back of the house.

Wes wakes up and grabs his spear.

Looking through a small hole in the fortified front door, he doesn't see anything.

X returns cautiously from the cave.

WES

There's nothing out there, X. At least nothing to be scared of. I mean nothing we can't deal with.

Wes opens the front door.

WES

Grab your weapon, X. You have to learn how to survive. Self defense.

Motionless, X watches Wes grab a stick and strike the floor several times. Wes takes another peek out the door.

WES

Of course if it's more than we can handle. We'll hide in the cave.

Relieved, Wes walks out of the house.

EXT. NEW CAMP - DAY

A coyote sniffs around the extinguished fire, smelling the wild boar banquet they had last night.

Wes stares at the coyote. The animal GROWLS. Wes throws a stone but misses.

WES

Get out.

The coyote becomes more threatening, showing his teeth.

X comes out of the house holding the stick and screaming. He strikes the ground several times, moving back and forth towards the coyote.

Intimidated, the coyote walks away. Wes smiles, surprised.

WES

Good job, X. You won the war with no battle.

X, even more excited continues to strike the ground and scream.

WES

You like it? Stand guard while I finish sleeping. I was having some interesting dreams.

Wes returns to the house. X continues to play around with his stick.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Hiding, the cannibal ape-man observes them for a moment and returns to the forest.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Holding a thin spear, Wes tries to concentrate, looking into the river. He's fishing. His thick "war spear" is always strapped on his back.

X swings his stick around, making a lot of noise. It's his favorite toy.

WES

Quiet...

Wes plunges the spear into the river. Triumphant, he shows the fish to X.

WES

It's a big one!

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

A basket of fruit lies on the river bank.

An X ape-man comes out of the forest, shyly approaching the basket. Others follow. They help themselves.

Wes looks at them. Curiously, X stares at his "brothers and sisters."

Wes slowly crosses the river. The X ape-men become apprehensive. X, follows Wes.

They reach the other side. The X ape-men retreat.

WES

(to X)

Go ahead.

Holding his stick, X doesn't move.

Slowly walking to the fruit basket, Wes throws a fruit to the closest X ape-men. They are less fearful.

All of a sudden, the X ape-men's behavior change. Screaming they climb up the nearby trees.

Apprehensive, Wes grabs his spear and retreats to the river shore, looking around. Nothing happens.

A furious cannibal ape-man bursts out of the forest and jumps on X who screams in fear.

With incredible agility, Wes plunges his spear into the cannibal ape-man's neck and turns around to confront the hungry cannibal ape-men who emerge from the forest.

In rage, X grabs his stick and repeatedly strikes the agonizing cannibal ape-man lying on the ground.

The cannibal ape-men retreat for a moment, intimidated by the demonstration of power, but confident they outnumber the enemy they carefully approach.

Surrounded, Wes and X retreat to the water.

WES

Let's get out of here X.

X screams, stomping his stick on the ground.

The other X ape-men hiding in the tree tops, scream and shake the tree branches, joining X in their "war ritual."

The cannibal ape-men respond with their war cries, but are clearly losing confidence.

A bigger, scarier cannibal ape-man, showing his sharp teeth advances towards X who is still a youngster.

X swings his stick around, but intimidated, retreats.

Wes confronts the "leader" of the cannibal ape-men.

They measure their strengths. Wes keeps the "beast" away poking him with the spear. The others are spectators of the battle.

Wes is confident he can kill the cannibal ape-man, but is willing to spare his life.

The cannibal ape-man screams a terrifying last warning and attacks.

Wes stabs him in the chest. The cannibal ape-man falls to the ground, dead.

The other cannibal ape-men accept the defeat, returning to the forest.

X and the other X ape-men scream for victory. X strikes the dead cannibal ape-man with his stick.

The X ape-men come down from the tree tops, joining X in the lynching of the dead cannibal ape-man. But not for long.

A hungry pack of wolves comes out of the forest.

The X ape-men run away. X and Wes cross the river.

The wolves feast on the two dead cannibal ape-men.

FIVE YEARS LATER

EXT. TOP OF MOUNTAIN - DAY

Wes admires the beautiful valley. X, sitting next to him, is now a fully grown X ape-man. Wes points to the sky.

WES

That's where I came from, X... From the sky... Far away...

Wes lies on the grass, relaxing. They pass time. An eagle glides in front of them.

WES

That's a lucky creature. It can fly anywhere it wants to.

X pokes a line of ants crawling on the ground with a club. He suddenly stands, holding his club in the air.

Wes looks back. A coral snake comes out of some bushes behind him.

Wes moves back. X kills the snake with his club, striking with incredible precision.

Wes examines the dead coral snake.

WES

Beautiful but deadly. Good job, X.

X steps on the line of ants. They bite. X screams and jumps around, trying to brush the ants off his foot. Wes laughs.

EXT. HIGH WATERFALL - DAY

Wes and X walk by an incredibly high waterfall.

EXT. MOUNTAIN CANYON - DAY

Wes and X walk through a canyon.

EXT. BLUE LAGOON - DAY

Deer drink from the peaceful blue waters of the lagoon.

A saber tooth lion dashes out of the woods, capturing a deer. The others run for their lives.

BEHIND BUSHES

Wes and X move carefully around the lagoon, where the lion devours the deer.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes and X head back home. X stops.

WES

Come on. It'll soon be dark.

X walks back. Wes follows but loses the X ape-man from sight.

EXT. CLEARING - DAY

A group of X ape-men eat fruit from the trees.

X observes one of them, a female. He approaches. They gaze at each other for a moment.

The dominant male of the group, noticing the intruder, screams threateningly.

X stands ground, doubtful. The female joins the rest of her group. In a spurt of rage the dominant male X ape-man attacks.

X runs into the forest, chased by the attacker who soon gives up and returns to the group.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Slowing down, X looks back. He's not sure which way to go.

IN ANOTHER POINT OF THE FOREST

Wes looks for X. He finally gives up and heads back home.

EXT. NEW CAMP - NIGHT

The protection fires illuminate the night.

X returns to the camp. He knows exactly how to move across the reinforced rows of spear fences. There's a point with a gate way.

Wes sits next to the main fire.

WES

I don't have to tell you how dangerous it is to stay out there at night.

X walks to the house. Wes grabs his leg.

WES

Dangerous.

X, irritated, breaks free and enters the house. A wolf HOWLS in the darkness.

WES

Everybody eats somebody else on this planet.

Wes throws more wood on the fire and looks up at the stars.

INT. HOUSE - DAY

Wes wakes up. X is gone. Wes walks out slowly.

EXT. NEW CAMP - DAY

The sun blinds Wes for a moment. X is not there.

WES

X!

Wes looks around and gives up, returning to the house.

HOURS LATER

Wes works on the roof of the house. Sweating, he takes a break and drinks water.

Wes looks around trying to spot X, somewhere near the forest.

He sits worried.

Grabbing his spear, Wes goes into the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes searches for X.

WES

X!

He searches for hours.

The sun is setting when Wes returns to the camp.

EXT. NEW CAMP - NIGHT

Wes sits alone, watching the stars, once in a while glancing at the forest, trying to spot X returning.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Holding his club, X reaches a clearing, home of a large group of X ape-man.

He's soon "greeted" by the same dominant male who threatens with screams and gestures.

Confident, X stands his ground.

The other X ape-men get out of the way, realizing that soon there will be trouble.

The dominant X ape-man approaches, staring at the intruder as if it was the last warning.

X swings the club in the air, screams and pounds the ground.

The dominant X ape-man attacks. X swings the club at the attacker but is knocked down by the strong X ape-man.

X gets back on his feet and counter attacks with the club. Struck several times, the dominant X ape-man feels the power of the weapon and retreats.

X approaches the other ape-men instead of finishing the fight. The dominant X ape-man attacks again from behind.

This time X is merciless, striking repeatedly. He loses the club, but continues to strike with his fist.

The dominant X ape-man grabs the club and runs away. X runs after him.

The long chase ends when they run into a group of cannibal ape-men.

X and his rival are now chased by the cannibal ape-men.

EXT. LAGOON - DAY

BEHIND BUSHES

Wes peeks at a group of cannibal ape-men devouring a carcass that appears to be of an X ape-man.

He takes out two stones wrapped in a piece of leather and lights up a torch made of dry bushes with sparks from the stones.

The sound grabs the cannibal ape-men's attention. They stare at the bushes.

Wes comes out of the bushes holding a burning torch in one hand and his spear in the other. Like an experienced "tamer" he threatens the cannibal ape-men.

The cannibal ape-men scream, showing their sharp teeth, not willing to give up their prey easily.

Wes advances. They threaten to attack, but the fire scares them.

WES

Leave or die.

One of the cannibal ape-man stands his ground.

Wes looks at the carcass. It's an X ape-man similar to X, half way devoured. Wes lifts his spear.

WES

I warned you.

Wes strikes. The spear plunges into the chest of the cannibal X ape-man who screams in terrified pain.

The other cannibal ape-men run away.

Pulling out the spear from the agonizing cannibal ape-man, Wes strikes again to kill.

He examines the carcass closely. The X ape-man's face is bloody and in shreds. Near the carcass, Wes finds X's club.

Deeply saddened to lose another friend, he throws the club into the lagoon.

EXT. TOP OF MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

The carcass of the X ape-man wrapped in leather lies on a pile of wood.

Holding a torch, Wes lights the fire, looking at the body of his friend for the last time.

The fire burns in the night. The moon shines in the sky surrounded by a sea of stars.

Wes stares at the dark valley below, alone in the darkness. He lets out a scream of deep pain.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

It's raining heavily. Wes tries to stop the leak in the roof, but it's useless. Water pours in.

Wes retreats to the cave.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

A mud slide causes the entire roof to collapse.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Next to a fire, Wes stares at nothing, waiting for daylight.

EXT. NEW CAMP - DAY

Wes makes his way out of the collapsed house. The sky is dark, strong winds blow. It's cold.

The rain and the mud slide destroyed the surrounding fences. Wes sits on the ground, disheartened.

HOURS LATER

Wes searches through the rubble of the house.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A cannibal ape-man watches Wes. Another joins the first one. Soon there are others.

As experienced hunters, they spread out to surround the prey.

EXT. NEW CAMP - DAY

Wes turns around to the forest. He heard something, but doesn't see anything.

Suspicious, Wes slowly walks into the cave and returns holding his spear.

A large group of cannibal ape-men are out in the clearing. They're confident the prey has nowhere to go.

Motionless, Wes evaluates the situation.

All of a sudden, he dashes through an open flank, running into the forest. The cannibal ape-men give chase.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes runs through the woods confident he can outrun the cannibal ape-men.

They pursue him not far behind.

Knowing his way through the region and having more endurance than the ape-men, Wes leaves them behind.

Seeing he is no longer being pursued, he finally slows down. Wes catches his breath, staring at the land extending to the horizon in front of him.

He walks away from "home."

EXT. VALLEYS AND MOUNTAINS - DAY

Wes walks through beautiful landscapes, determined not to stop.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A large group of X ape-men, including females with their youngsters, gather and eat fruit from several trees.

Some lie on the ground, satisfied with their meal. Two young X ape-man, playing around, chase each other into the woods, away from their mothers.

A female X ape-man sniffs the air, alarmed. It's too late.

Cannibal ape-men on a raid, attack the youngsters. One is bit on the neck and spun around until dead. The other is smashed against a tree.

The cannibal ape-men leave the dead prey, attacking the other X ape-men. Screaming, they flee to tree tops.

More cannibal ape-men appear from other directions, trying to kill as many X ape-men as possible.

An adult X ape-man puts up a fight, but is soon outnumbered and torn apart by the powerful sharp teeth of the cannibal ape-men.

All of a sudden, X bursts out of the woods, screaming and swinging a thick piece of wood. The "dominant X ape-man," not X, was the dead prey at the lagoon earlier.

X cracks open a cannibal ape-man's skull with a powerful blow.

The other cannibal ape-men are intimidated by the unexpected reaction. X strikes in all directions.

The cannibal ape-men retreat for a moment. X pounds the ground with his new club.

Confident they outnumber the powerful enemy, they cautiously try to surround him.

A strong adult X ape-man jumps from the tree tops on one of the cannibal ape-men. X helps him kill the enemy with furious blows.

Other adult X ape-men come down from the trees.

The cannibal ape-men retreat. Lead by X, the X ape-men chase them away.

One of the cannibal ape-men grabs the agonizing infant X ape-man that was smashed against the tree earlier and drags him away.

X chases him and soon catches up, knocking him down. The cannibal ape-man turns from predator to prey as X beats him to death with his club.

Carrying the injured youngster, X returns to the group of X ape-men.

MONTHS LATER

EXT. SNOWY MOUNTAIN CAVE - DAY

It's almost dark. Wes, carrying a torch, freezing and exhausted, examines a rocky formation, searching for a cave.

Carefully approaching a small entrance, he's soon greeted by a furious bear. Wes retreats.

He throws wood and dry bushes in the cave entrance.

The bear sticks its face out again, ROARING and showing its sharp teeth. Wes makes it retreat, poking it with the torch.

WES

Sorry, but I'm taking your home.

Wes piles wood and dry bushes in the entrance.

Holding the torch, he's doubtful for a moment.

WES

It's you or me.

Wes lights the bushes. Soon a huge fire burns in the cave entrance.

Wes waits from a distance.

EXT. SNOWY MOUNTAIN CAVE - NIGHT

The fire is almost out. Wes sits outside, waiting.

Lighting up a torch, he walks into the cave, carefully. The cave is filled up with smoke. Wes coughs.

INT. NEW CAVE - NIGHT

Fanning with a branch of leaves, Wes clears the air of the cave.

A huge grizzly bear and two cubs lie on the ground, dead.

EXT. SNOWY MOUNTAIN - DAY

Covered with the fur of the grizzly bear, Wes carefully approaches a deer, holding his spear.

The deer senses the danger and runs away.

MOMENTS LATER

Wes stalks a rabbit. From a distance he hits the target.

Wes walks through the snow back to the cave carrying his prey.

INT. NEW CAVE - NIGHT

Wes stares at the rabbit, roasting over the fire.

MOMENTS LATER

He cleans every bone of the rabbit, still not satisfied.

EXT. SNOWY FOREST - DAY

Behind a tree, Wes patiently waits holding his spear.

All of a sudden he bursts around the tree, throwing the spear at a moose.

The wounded moose tries to escape limping.

Wes jumps on the wounded animal, furiously stabbing him to death with a sharpened rock knife.

"The predator" drags his prey away.

EXT. SNOWY MOUNTAIN - DAY

Wes drags the moose up the mountain with difficulty, leaving a trail of blood all the way back from the forest.

Starving wolves soon track down the fresh kill.

Wes holds on to his spear, ready to defend his meal. The wolves close in, GROWLING and showing their sharp teeth.

Wes plunges the spear into the closest wolf. The others back off. Wes shreds the wolf with his knife and throws the bloody carcass to the other wolves.

WES

Eat your own flesh, beasts! Leave me alone!

The wolves ignore their dead "friend." They're not into cannibalism. Their eyes stare at Wes.

More wolves arrive, joining the rest of the pack. They try to surround Wes.

He retreats up the mountain, distancing himself from the dead moose.

The wolves are soon on the moose, helping themselves with the "free meal."

Wes returns, counterattacking, poking the wolves away from the moose.

WES

It's mine! Get away!

A wolf bites his leg. Wes kills it with his rock knife. The wolves just keep coming from all directions.

Wes escapes running up the mountain. The wolves chase him but soon give up, returning to "their" kill.

The wolves tear pieces of flesh from the dead moose, satisfying their hunger.

Wes observes them from a distance, conceding his defeat. He checks his leg, bleeding from the wolf bite.

Wes returns to the cave.

INT. CANNIBAL APE-MEN'S CAVE - DAY

The cave is crowded. They sit close together keeping each other warm.

The dominant cannibal ape-man walks among his group. He grabs a youngster from his mother who fights to protect her child.

The dominant cannibal ape-man bites her face and takes the youngster.

He bites the youngster in the neck, shakes him till he's dead and finds a spot to have his meal.

The other cannibal ape-men attack the bleeding mother, biting and tearing a piece of flesh before there's nothing left.

EXT. SNOWY VALLEY - DAY

A long queue of X ape-man walk through the snow. One of them falls to the ground, exhausted and freezing.

The others continue, fighting to keep themselves alive. X, carrying his club, is among this group searching for a warm shelter. Two other X ape-man also carry clubs.

A ROARING saber tooth lion comes out of the bushes to take down an X ape-man who, in terror, manages to escape.

The others use their last energy to run away. The lion pursues the X ape-men, grabbing a youngster.

Carrying clubs, X and another X ape-man try to help the screaming youngster, swinging their weapons.

The lion stands its ground with a paw on its agonizing prey. It attacks and kills the second X ape-man.

X flees for his life, joining the others.

INT. NEW CAVE - NIGHT

Near the fire, Wes examines his leg, washing the wound below the knee with snow. It's very painful.

EXT. SNOWY MOUNTAIN - DAY

Wes limps through the snow.

Tired, freezing, desperate for food, he tastes a leaf of a green bush and spits it out.

A rabbit hops nearby and feeds on some plants. Wes desperately tries to strike it with his spear but misses.

He goes for the rabbit's food, devouring the leaves.

EXT. NEW CAVE - DAY

Wes stares at the valley below covered in snow, feeling the pain of his leg and of the cold winds blowing.

Wes examines his wound. It's infected.

He has the image of defeat, leaning against a rock, passively waiting for winter to take his life away.

YEARS EARLIER

EXT. RIZ CONSTELLATION SOLAR SYSTEM

This solar system is jammed with asteroids, comets, blazing and gassy planets.

A space craft orbits a huge purplish planet.

EXT. PLANET ON RIZ CONSTELLATION - DAY

The sun barely shines through this gassy purplish atmosphere. A rain of blazing asteroids cuts the sky, exploding on the ground.

SPACE EXPLORERS in huge space suits "run" to a space shuttle. The atmosphere is so thick and the gravity so strong that it looks like they are running in slow motion.

They reach the shuttle. One of the explorers, a YOUNG WOMAN, doesn't get in, risking being struck by the rain of blazing rocks.

She searches the horizon trying to find someone.

AT A MOUNTAIN

YOUNG WES climbs down a cliff.

Near the ground he loses his balance and falls as a blazing asteroid explodes nearby.

Wes watches the rain of asteroids cutting the sky. He desperately gets on his feet and runs.

AT THE SPACE SHUTTLE

The engine of the shuttle starts.

Two men come out of the shuttle.

The young woman continues staring into the horizon. They try to drag her inside. She resists. They force her in.

The space shuttle door closes behind them.

The shuttle takes off.

Wes watches the shuttle take off. A blazing asteroid explodes nearby.

Wes seeks shelter under a rock.

EXT. RIZ CONSTELLATION SOLAR SYSTEM

The shuttle approaches the mother ship in the middle of the rain of asteroids.

An asteroid hits the shuttle. It explodes. The blazing hull plunges into the planet's atmosphere.

EXT. PLANET ON RIZ CONSTELLATION - DAY

Wes desperately tries to get deeper under the rock as the blazing rocks fall all over.

MOMENTS LATER

The inferno is over. Wes comes out from under the rock. He stares at the clear purple sky.

BACK TO THE PRESENT

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Perspiring with fever, Wes uncovers his gruesome wound. It's badly infected all the way to his foot.

The tissue is dead, with no blood circulation. He ties a strip of leather tightly above his knee.

Shivering, he grabs a sharp ax made from a rock and runs the cutting blade through the fire.

Gathering energy and courage, Wes aims the ax above the infected area.

He strikes his own body, repeatedly. Blood splatters over his face. The pain is channeled into other furious strikes.

His face can barely contain the pain.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

A terrible scream echoes in the night.

EXT. ROCK FORMATION - NIGHT

A group of X ape-men sits crowded together under a rock formation. They can barely survive the cold of the night, waiting for the sun to come out.

X is among them, sitting next to a dead X ape-man who has lips and eyes frozen.

MOMENTS LATER

The sun slowly creeps up on the horizon. The rays of life shine on X's face.

EXT. VALLEY - DAY

The group of X ape-men roam, searching for food. They eat leaves, roots and insects. The snow has almost entirely melted away. The cruel winter is ending.

EXT. NEW CAVE - DAY

Wes carves a piece of wood with his ax and measures it against his leg.

He stands with difficulty. His left leg has been amputated below the knee.

Wes ties the wood leg in place with a leather rag.

Sitting down, he enjoys the sun rays shining on his face, breathing the soft breeze.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

The snow is gone. Wes limps, holding his spear and carrying the rock ax in his fur belt, searching for food.

A wild boar grazes nearby. Wes' clumsy movements scare the animal.

MOMENTS LATER

Wes' spear misses a rabbit.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Wes cleans the thick dirty roots of a plant and sits on the shore, munching his lunch.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

A cannibal ape-man observes Wes from a distance.

The cannibal ape-man soon has company. Three others have joined him to take down the prey.

Wes returns to the forest limping. He seems to be easy prey.

Wes realizes he's being followed. But it's too late to run. The cannibal ape-men, hiding in the bushes, have surrounded him.

Limping, Wes runs to a tree. Losing his spear, he manages to pull himself up with his strong arms.

The cannibal ape-men come out of the woods, surrounding the tree.

Wes is calm, accustomed to the dangers of this planet.

WES

You're going to have to find something else to eat.

Confident they have trapped a large prey, the cannibal ape-men are patient to make the final kill, walking around, studying the situation.

One of the ape-men stands still, eyes locked on Wes.

WES

I'm not coming down.

Wes climbs further up the tree with difficulty, dragging his wooden leg.

A cannibal ape-man sprints towards the tree, managing to get up to the bottom branches.

Apprehensive, Wes takes out his ax.

WES

New tricks... I still have my old one.

Another cannibal ape-man manages to get up the tree.

Descending from the treetop, Wes counterattacks, striking the ape-man with the ax, slashing his elbow.

The cannibal ape-man screams, showing his sharp teeth.

WES

Get off or die.

A third cannibal ape-man tries to get up the tree but fails.

Wes delivers his threat. The ax crushes the first ape-man's skull and slips out of his hand. The cannibal ape-man falls out the tree.

Below, the cannibal ape-men scream threateningly.

The second cannibal ape-man climbs up towards Wes with difficulty. Wes holds onto the tree branches and strikes the attacker with his wooden leg.

The second cannibal ape-man falls out of the tree, hits the ground hard but is soon back on his feet.

The cannibal ape-men calm down, conceding they lost the first round of a long fight. The one with the injured head, agonizes on the ground.

More hungry cannibal ape-men arrive on the scene.

As soon as the injured one dies, the others tear him apart, fighting for a chunk of meat.

Two manage to drag what is left of the carcass into the forest.

Others with smaller pieces in their mouths, dripping blood, also flee. One takes the bloody arm of his former hunting partner.

Three unsatisfied cannibal ape-man remain, turning back to their original target.

Wes descends to the lower branches, ready to defend his position.

One cannibal ape-man jumps, grabbing the lowest branch. Wes kicks him repeatedly. The branch breaks. They fall to the ground.

The beasts attack. Wes reaches for his ax and swings it to keep them away.

Like hyenas, the cannibal ape-men test the strength of the prey, approaching and retreating.

Wes attacks, slashing one of the cannibal's face.

He retreats into the forest. The cannibal ape-men follow.

AT A FOREST SLOPE

Losing his balance, Wes rolls down a slope, landing with his face near a dozen of ape-men feet.

Head down, he knows his time has come.

The three cannibal ape-men run down the slope after their prey but soon freeze, staring at what is ahead of them: a group of X ape-man, carrying wooden clubs.

Up the slope, more X ape-men surround the enemy. X is among them.

Wes lifts his head, realizing his luck hasn't left him.

The X ape-men attack the cannibal ape-men with their clubs, beating them to death.

Fearful of the once "docile" X ape-men, Wes retreats away from the lynching, dragging himself on the ground.

His eyes soon are locked on X, the X ape-man he saved, raised and lost contact with long ago.

X approaches, recognizing his "master," pounding his club to the ground as if showing he has learn his lesson. Wes stands with difficulty.

WES

X... My friend.

The group of X ape-men runs into the forest searching for more enemies, ready to crush any cannibal ape-man who dares to be in their territory.

X looks at Wes for a moment but follows them.

DEEP INTO THE FORREST

The group of X ape-men run through the forest, screaming.

They come across another unfortunate cannibal ape-man who is mercilessly clubbed to death.

Sniffing the air, X leads the group in the direction of more intruders.

After finding his ax and spear, Wes walks away, leaving the territorial battle behind, as screams of war echo in the forest.

FIVE YEARS LATER

EXT. NEW HOUSE - DAY

Wes, with signs of aging, as his graying hair, sits in front of his new house, feeling the breeze on his face.

A group of X ape-men hang around as if they were at home. A young one approaches Wes, poking him with a stick.

WES

Go play with someone else.

The X ape-man continues. Wes throws the stick as far as he can. The young X ape-man darts after the stick and returns carrying it.

Wes repeats the procedure.

X and a group of X ape-man come out of the forest. One limps painfully, grabbing Wes' attention. His leg is broken.

WES

What happened to you?

The others run towards a basket of fruit. They soon are fighting for the few left.

Wes closely examines the injured ape-man.

WES

It's all right. You're lucky you still have
you're leg.

Wes knocks on his wooden leg. X looks at them.

The fight among the ape-men gets rougher. X intervenes and they respectfully quit the fight.

Taking the injured X ape-man in his arms, Wes walks into the house.

INT. NEW HOUSE - DAY

Wes places two flat pieces of wood on opposite sides of the leg of the X ape-man who screams in pain, trying to move away. Wes holds him.

WES

I'm trying to help, idiot.

Wes stuffs a fruit into the X ape-man's mouth. He ties the wood firmly with leather rags.

EXT. NEW HOUSE - DAY

X opens a jar made of clay and with a wooden scoop drinks the water stored inside.

X walks back to the forest followed by the X ape-men, except the one with the broken leg, still in the house.

EXT. X APE-MEN COLONY - DAY

A large group of X ape-men, including females and infants, sits around in a clearing in front of a rocky formation under a cliff.

X and his group arrive, carrying fruit. Females and youngsters approach and feast on the fruit.

The X ape-men colony is now as big as the cannibal ape-men's colony where X and Wes almost lost their lives.

X walks to the rocks, entering a cave.

INT. X APE-MEN'S CAVE - DAY

It's a huge cave. X walks by a group of females with their babies sucking on their tits.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes and the injured X ape-man walk through the forest.

Wes gathers wood.

They reach the clearing of the X ape-men's colony.

EXT. X APE-MEN COLONY - DAY

Wes walks among the X ape-men, who make sounds as if they were saluting their friend.

The X ape-men curiously surround the injured ape-man with the wooden cast on his leg.

X comes out of the cave, joining his friend.

The sun is setting. Wes feels the cold, rubbing his arms. Most of the ape-men slowly retreat to the cave.

WES

Come on X, let's make our fire.

Wes, followed by X, places dry bushes and wood against a rock.

He takes out two rocks wrapped in a piece of leather and rubs them trying to produce sparks, making several attempts until he manages to light up the dry bushes.

WES

Hail to the fire!

The fire amazes a young X ape-man. Curiously, other ape-men approach.

EXT. X APE-MEN COLONY - NIGHT

Wes and the ape-men sit around the fire, below hundreds of stars and a shining moon. Wes whistles a tune. The ape-men listen, intrigued.

Wes points to the sky.

WES

That's my star. I came from the sky.

The young ape-man finally gathers courage to stick his hand close to the fire. He gets burned and runs away. Wes laughs. The ape-men scream, excitedly.

X carefully picks a piece of wood from the fire, holding the torch in the air. The ape-men stare, fascinated.

WES

My father use to say: "If you play with fire you might get burned." But of course that's what's fun about it.

EXT. X APE-MEN COLONY - DAY

Wes is the only one sleeping outside, between two fires almost burning out.

As an X ape-man approaches, Wes wakes up instantly, holding his spear in an instinctive reflex.

The X ape-man gets scared. Wes puts it down.

WES

It's all right.

The X ape-man plays with the hot coals in the remaining camp fire, poking them with a stick.

Wes walks back to the forest.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

An earthquake shakes the land.

Wes freezes, frightened, trying to keep his balance. It's soon over.

EXT. NEW HOUSE - DAY

Wes sharpens new spears when another earthquake followed by a huge explosion far away shakes the house.

Apprehensive, Wes stares at the horizon where a huge cloud of smoke ascends in the air.

Soon the wind brings ashes from the sky.

EXT. HILL - DAY

Wes climbs up a hill, eager to find out what's going on.

AT THE TOP

Wes looks at the horizon, mesmerized. In the mountains, far away, a volcano spits lava in the air.

He runs down the hill.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Animals run away from the blazing forest.

EXT. X APE MEN COLONY - DAY

The X ape-men move around in panic. The horizon is colored with the red flames of the burning forest.

X leads them away from the fire.

EXT. VALLEY - NIGHT

The volcano continues to pour lava. The entire forest is engulfed in fire, illuminating the night.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Sitting, Wes stares at the burning valley.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

Wes lies in the same place, sleeping. A deer runs nearby. Wes wakes up.

He looks at the valley. Nothing is left. Paradise is now a sea of darkness. The volcano still pours lava down into the burned valley cut by the red streams of lava.

Wes walks in the opposite direction.

EXT. LAGOON - DAY

A group of cannibal ape-men drink water. Others eat the last remains of a wild boar.

The group of X ape-men led by X arrive at the lagoon, thirsty for water.

The cannibal ape-man scream threateningly. The adult male X ape-men pound their clubs on the ground.

The cannibal ape-men retreat. The X ape-men attack, chasing their enemies away.

X returns and drinks from the lagoon. Others join him.

MOMENTS LATER

The X ape-men rest on the ground. Wes comes out of the forest, approaching X.

WES

For the second time I thought you were
dead. Everything is gone.

Wes sticks his head in the lagoon.

WES

Water! Nothing like water.

He lays on the ground exhausted. X sits next to him.

WES

Crazy planet, this one of yours... Heaven and
hell... I miss my home... In Urizen the sky
isn't as beautiful as this one... But there's
always a soft breeze and the smell of Kawi
trees...

X pokes ants with his club, not paying attention to his homesick friend.

All of a sudden the X ape-men get excited. A saber tooth lion comes out of the
forest roaring.

The X ape-men run in the opposite direction. The adult males, holding their clubs,
retreat slowly.

The saber tooth lion walks to the lagoon, interested only in water.

Wes is not fast enough to get out of its way because of his wooden leg, stumbling
to the ground. The saber tooth lion bites his wooden leg.

X attacks with the club. He retreats as the lion turns to him. Other X ape-men
return to help, threatening and screaming.

X strikes the lion. Wes reaches for his spear dragging himself on the ground.

The X ape-men attack with their clubs. The lion runs away.

The X ape-men scream, pounding their clubs on the ground.

Wes smiles, proud of his gang.

WES

And don't come back, you ugly big tooth
bastard!

Wes stands with difficulty.

WES

We better get out of here.

X joins the rest of the X ape-men group, walking into the forest, in the opposite direction of the volcano which still smokes in the horizon.

Wes picks up his spear and follows the X ape-men.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes follows the X ape-men through the forest, far behind.

EXT. HILL - DAY

Wes walks out of the forest. A "new" green paradise is in front of him: a valley cut by a river, surrounded by mountains.

The X ape-men have already reached the bottom of the hill.

Tired, Wes sits at the top of the hill, watching the X ape-men disappear into the forest below.

A young deer emerges from the forest. Wes grabs his spear. They exchange looks. Wes lets the animal go, watching it run down the hill.

Wes' hand releases the tight grip on his spear.

TWENTY YEARS LATER

A hand showing the wrinkles of aging holds on to a spear.

It's Wes, now in his seventies, with white hair and a wrinkled tanned face. He stares at the same unchanged valley.

Putting down the spear, he grabs a thin piece of tree bark laying on the ground.

Sharpening a piece of coal, Wes starts drawing the valley on the white inside of the tree bark.

An eagle glides in front of him. He adds the bird to his drawing. A soft breeze blows his white hair. The sun shines on his face.

EXT. SPARSE FOREST - DAY

Carrying his drawing, Wes walks slowly using his spear as a cane.

A group of X ape-men, males, females and youngsters sit under a tree, resting. X, the oldest of the group, is among them.

The youngsters playfully approach Wes.

WES

I have a surprise for you.

The youngsters follow Wes, pushing and shoving each other.

EXT. TREE HOUSE - DAY

Wes reaches a huge tree with a house built between its huge branches.

He pulls down a wood ladder with the end of his spear and climbs up. One young X ape-man tries to follow him.

WES

No way. You stay down there. I'm not
wasting my time cleaning the mess you
make.

Wes tries to pull up the ladder, but the young X ape-man holds on to it as if it was a game.

Pulling the ladder, Wes manages to lift the youngster off the ground. He releases the ladder and the X ape-man falls to the ground.

Wes pulls the ladder up. The youngster is soon on his feet, wanting to do it again.

WES

I'm getting too old for this.

INT. TREE HOUSE - DAY

The house has drawings on the walls, wood furniture, clay containers and baskets of fruit.

Grabbing a flute made of bamboo and a wood cup sitting on a wood table, Wes drinks water from a clay container and returns to the playful youngsters.

EXT. TREE HOUSE - DAY

Wes plays a simple tune, catching the youngsters' attention. They are mesmerized with the sound.

Wes sits and plays a playful song. The youngsters move and jump around, fascinated.

WES

My grandfather used to play this song when
I was your age.

Wes continues to play.

Adult X ape-men slowly approach the tree house, attracted by the joyful sound they've never heard before.

EXT. VALLEY - NIGHT

The stars and the moon give some light to the valley. A single fire burns in the darkness.

EXT. TREE HOUSE - NIGHT

A torch burns outside Wes' tree house. Wes stares at the stars.

INT. X APE MEN'S CAVE - NIGHT

A group of X ape-men sleep. X finds a spot among them.

A fire burns in a corner near the entrance. An X ape-man stands guard next to the fire, feeding it wood.

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - DAY

A saber tooth lion jumps over a deer and drags it to the ground, biting its neck.

X ape-men carrying wood clubs, emerge from the forest, screaming and stomping their clubs on the ground.

The lion stands its ground to secure its prey. The deer is still alive.

An X ape-man throws a rock at the tooth saber lion.

Releasing the deer's neck, the lion roars, threateningly. The injured deer, under the lion's paws, tries to escape. More rocks hit the lion.

The X ape-men carefully approach, screaming, swinging and stomping their clubs.

An ape-man throws his club at the lion which finally gives up its prey and flees into the forest.

The injured deer also tries to escape but the X ape-men club it to death.

The X ape-men drag the dead deer into the forest.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Sitting on a rock, fishing with a thin plant fiber rope, Wes patiently waits. He feels the fish bite. Another time and the fish is hooked.

Wes struggles to get it out of the water. The pull is too strong. The rope breaks.

WES

Come back here! I'll get you next time.

Grabbing a stick holding a couple of smaller fish by their gills, he walks down the river to a canoe.

Wes stares down the river which extends to the horizon.

AT SEVERAL DIFFERENT POINTS OF THE RIVER

Wes slowly paddles down the river, enjoying the view.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

The river waters flow into the immense ocean. Wes' canoe slowly reaches the ocean.

He stands staring at the immensity ahead of him. The sun is setting.

An ocean wave makes Wes lose his balance. The canoe over turns.

Wes tries to turn the canoe back but another wave makes it sink.

Swimming with difficulty, Wes reaches the beach.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

Wes lies on the white sands, resting. Seagulls glide above him. Relaxed, he has all the time in the world.

A reflection of the sun off metal on the other side of the river gulf grabs his attention.

He swims to the other side.

ON THE RIVER GULF BANK

It's the shuttle, buried in mud. A small part of the fuselage is uncovered and reflects the rays of the sun.

Wes stares at the "relic" of his own world for a moment.

He kneels next to it and digs into the mud, uncovering part of the shuttle.

MOMENTS LATER

Covered in mud, Wes continues to dig with his bare hands, but it's getting tougher.

Wes uses a piece of wood to break hard chunks of mud, uncovering the door.

A sharp pain halts his effort to open the door. Wes rests, he's too old for this kind of work.

Throwing water from the river, he partially cleans the uncovered fuselage.

Wes touches the letters written on the shuttle as if they symbolized the precious memory of his origins.

Exhausted, Wes sits, staring at the partially uncovered shuttle. The sun sets in the horizon.

Tired, Wes cleans himself in the river. The mud dissolves, revealing his old skin and physique.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Wes sits next to a fire, listening to the waves breaking on the beach.

EXT. BEACH - DAY

A crab crawls towards Wes. He's sleeping on the sand next to the extinguished fire.

Wes wakes up. Playfully, he covers the crab with sand but it finds its way out.

ON THE RIVER GULF BANK

The river and ocean waters have covered almost all of the shuttle again. Wes stares for a moment and walks away.

AT SEVERAL DIFFERENT POINTS OF THE RIVER

Wes walks back “home”, following the river.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Wes walks through the forest. The pain in his chest stops him again.

EXT. HILL - DAY

The wind blows his white hair as Wes walks up a green hill.

He sits, admiring the beautiful valley. The sun is setting. Wes lies on the grass.

EXT. HILL - NIGHT

Still lying in the same place, Wes stares at the immense sky, covered with millions of stars. One is his home.

His eyes close.

EXT. HILL - DAY

The sun is rising. Wes is still in the same place, eyes closed. A deer grazes nearby.

A young X ape-man slowly approaches. He touches Wes' peaceful face. Wes doesn't wake up.

The young X ape-man sits beside him, playing with a stick.

MOMENTS LATER

X and other X ape-men, surround Wes. X pushes his head gently.

Wes is dead.

The X ape-men wait for their friend to wake up.

The sun is rising over the valley. A new day has just begun.

EXT. SKY - DAY

Wes and the ape-men are just dots in the mountain.

EXT. HIGH ATMOSPHERE - DAY

The mountain is just a dot on Earth.

EXT. FAR IN SPACE

The planet is just a dot in the universe.

FADE OUT.

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